



The Castro County News

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, Aug. 1, 1991



FRONT ROW, FROM LEFT: Lucy Nelson, Patti Cartwright, Prissy Boothe, Carla Nutt, Linda Fitzgerald, Doris Holland, Kay Conyers, Karen McSpadden, Tonya Schulte, Renae Josselet, Therese Robel, Georgie Wall. BACK ROW, FROM LEFT: Dolores Ivey, Nancy Fuller, Mark Bain, Robert Jones, Ray Bain, Rex Wooten, Joe Don Hadley, Shirley Hollums, Renee Ball, Kara Schulte, Kathy Welch.

*Castro
County,
you're
No. 1
with us!*



The First State Bank of Dimmitt

SINCE 1907

"We're People Like You, Serving People Like You"



"THE GOOD OLD DAYS"



The 'good old days' are right now—
as we celebrate Castro County's
100th Anniversary.

We're proud of our history and
we're proud of the people who have
brought us this far, but the best
time is right now as we work
together for an even better future.

We're also proud to have served you
since 1932.



Dimmitt Consumers, Inc.

Danny Rice, Manager

217 E. Bedford

647-4134



CENTENNIAL PLAZA DESIGNER
... Robert Hawkins of Hart

Hawkins dubs gazebo project 'second wife'

By FREDA MCVAY

When Robert Hawkins accepted the responsibility as chairman of the Centennial Plaza project last year, he probably never thought that by the end of July he would be referring to it as "my second wife."

In fact, there's a good chance he had no idea how much work he had let himself in for.

But if you've watched him work during the last few months, there's no doubt it has been a "labor of love" for the Hart farmer and contractor, and a source of great pride for the dozens of other volunteers.

The actual groundbreaking for the project was April 8, but months of planning had preceded that event. Hawkins and other members of the Centennial Commission began by studying a variety of styles of gazebos in the area, and not being completely satisfied with any of them.

"My wife and I were visiting in Albuquerque, N.M., for the balloon festival when we saw the gazebo there in Old Town," Hawkins recalled. "I thought that it was closest to what we wanted."

Next came the actual designing of the plaza. Hawkins' son, Phillip, seemed a logical choice, since he had had three years study as an

architectural engineer at Texas A & M.

"I shot pictures of the area in the northwest quadrant of the square, and even got up on top of the court house to get an angle from up there," Hawkins said, "then I sent it off to Phillip and asked him to design it for us."

Six weeks later, Hawkins reported, he got all the material back with a note from his son saying, "Daddy, I can't do it—I just don't have time."

At this point, Hawkins decided to do it himself. The self-styled mechanical engineer said he has designed farm machinery and other machines, "so I figured I could do this."

Making a few changes in the basic design of the gazebo in Albuquerque, Hawkins began working on the plaza's circular design.

"Sometimes I'd wake up at 2 a.m. and have an idea, so I'd jump up and draw it out," Hawkins laughed.

He said that part of the project took him "about three weeks." Then the actual labor began. Hawkins gives a lot of credit to the men and women who have volunteered their time and services throughout

(Continued on Page 16)

1:1

By Don Nelson

The two boys grinned, gritted and grunted as they tugged and pushed against each other. It was a territorial game they were making up in the late-evening shade under the gazebo roof.

As Robbie Hawkins and I sat on a nearby bench and talked of brick, granite, shipping dates and deadlines, the boys sparked a memory that had all but disappeared in the recesses of my mind.

Of the days when Charles Simon, Jimmy Manning, Richard Wood, Robert Benton, J. C. Newton, Tom Miller, Jim Jowell, Wayne Clark, Tommy Sherrill and I would tire of sliding down the fire escape of the big red school house and wander to the little gazebo on the south edge of the school yard and make up our own games.

Of the times we would shinny up the posts, reach into the soffits and raid the pigeons' nests. Of the beautiful white squab I brought home one day, which I petted and fed by hand, and continued to pet and feed for years as he made his roost under our back-porch eave. (I learned for sure he was a "he" after he disappeared once—for so long that I thought he surely was no more—and then reappeared on his eave one late-summer day with his

mate and two offspring)....

Of the day when I managed to get onto the gazebo's roof, and leapt dramatically into space as Captain Marvel did at the Rio on appointed Saturday afternoons, and learned for myself that discretion is, indeed, the better part of valor....

I didn't learn until years later that that little wooden bandstand at the school yard had once stood on the courthouse square.

I didn't even remember that it was four-sided until I saw it again recently in a picture of the county's second courthouse.

And I could have had no inkling that one day I would be in on planning and building its successor, back on the courthouse square.

(In those carefree days I had no long-range plans, other than becoming president, or maybe even a cowboy. Certainly not Captain Marvel.)

And eleven - something years later, in May 1990, I had no thoughts other than the matter at hand when I excused myself from the meeting, repaired to the men's room, and returned to discover that I had just been elected.

When the time came for the

(Continued on Page 9)

Tractors are recovered

A former Friona policeman and a Mexican national have been charged in federal indictments in connection with the recent theft of around 15 tractors from throughout the area.

Two of the tractors were taken from Castro County in the string of thefts, which took place mainly between March 15 and May 15, and those two, owned by Donald Gilreath and Carl Jones of the Flagg area, have been returned to Dimmitt.

Mark Ancira, 36, formerly of Friona, and Pedro Payan, age 45 to 50, were indicted in the federal court in Dallas for interstate transportation of stolen property. Ancira faces 18 counts and Payan 15.

Castro County Sheriff Lonny Rhynes announced last week that the arrests were made through cooperative investigation efforts of area police, sheriffs' departments, the Dept. of Public Safety, the FBI, US Customs agents, and the US Border Patrol, as well as Mexican law enforcement authorities.

Most of the tractors had been taken across the border into Mexico, crossing over from Columbus, N.M., using falsified sale papers. They were then transferred to Payan, who deals in used implements in Mexico.

Payan was apprehended in June in the US, waiting to take one of the stolen vehicles across the border. He has refused to waive extradition, and so is being held without bond. A second tractor was found in the back yard of Ancira's Deming, N.M. home at the time of his arrest.

With the help of Mexican authorities, another 10 tractors were located in Mexico and were seized to be returned to the US. Nine of them traveled in a caravan across the border at Presidio July 23.

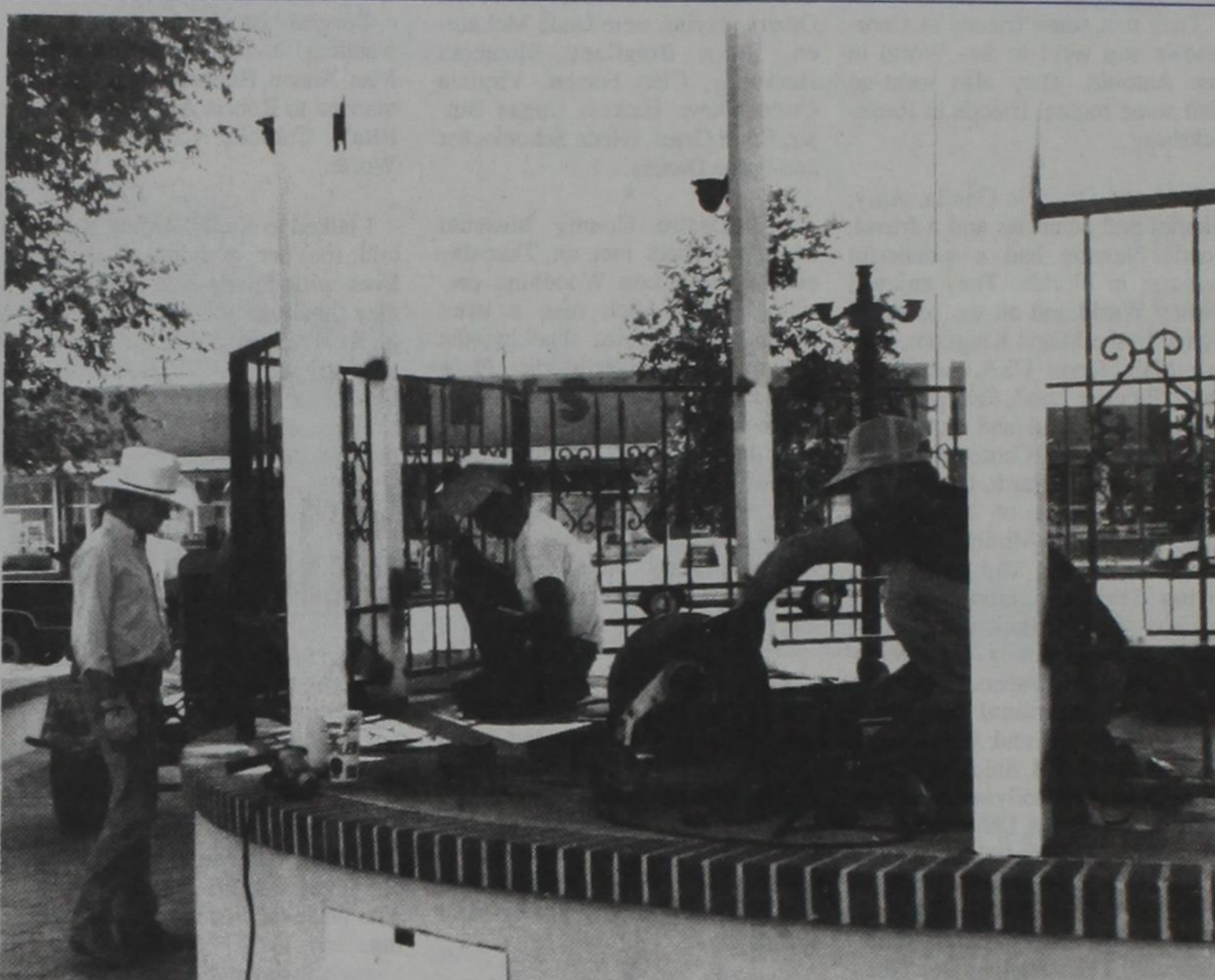
Ancira became a suspect in the lengthy investigation after he had been stopped two separate times and thefts were reported in the vicinity shortly afterward.

Rhynes said area law enforcement personnel formed a task force in May on the tractor thefts, and exchanged information and compared evidence. DPS Trooper Jerry Johnson of Lubbock acted as coordinator of the effort. Others who Rhynes said were instrumental in the investigation and arrests included DPS Trooper Archie Blackwell of Midland, Border Patrol Special Agent Wayne Weimers of Presidio, and Sheriff Rick Thompson of Presidio County.

"Individually, we could not have caught these men and gotten the property returned, but working collectively we were able to succeed. All involved did a super job of collecting evidence and sharing information," Rhynes said.

Rhynes said the tractors, valued at from \$12,000 to \$50,000, were sold for around \$10,000 each in Mexico, most of them to Mennonite farmers. One tractor suffered a broken block, but the two from Castro County were returned in fairly good condition, although some accessories had been removed and additional operating

(Continued on Page 9)



ONE STEP CLOSER—Scotty Abbott examines the metal work by Larry Robb and Rick Bagwell on the gazebo railings. Other Dimmitt Young Farmers

were on hand Monday to help install the railings and bench supports.

Photo by Danette Baker

Absentee voting ends Monday

Voters may cast absentee ballots through Monday in the state constitutional amendment election, and the special election allowing taxpayers to vote on tax exemptions for the Castro County Education District.

The special elections have been set for Aug. 10.

Absentee voting in Dimmitt will take place at the Dimmitt City Hall from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with Oscar Wylie serving as absentee clerk. Dimmitt residents who wish to obtain an application for ballot by mail must request one from Wylie at 201 E. Jones, Dimmitt, Texas 79027, before Friday.

Hart residents will vote absentee at the Hart School Business Office. Applications for ballots by mail should be requested from Absentee Clerk Nancy Bowden at P.O. Box 490, Hart, Texas 79043.

In Nazareth, residents may vote absentee in the superintendent's office at the school from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Aug. 6. Absentee ballots by mail should be requested by Monday from Barbara Schulte, absentee voting clerk, at P.O. Box 189, Nazareth, Texas 79063.

Voters will decide the fate of two constitutional amendments adopted by the 72nd Legislature.

According to the Texas Research League, Proposition 1 would make the property tax exemption policy of the newly-created county education districts consistent with that of other taxing jurisdictions. At the same election, voters in each county education district will be asked to approve (contingent on passage

of the amendment) exemptions from county education district taxes and taxation of non-income producing tangible personal property.

Proposition 2 would authorize the Higher Education Coordinating Board to issue up to an additional \$300 million of state general obligation bonds to replenish the college student loan program.

In addition to the constitutional amendment election, voters in the county will vote on three tax exemptions which have been drawn up by the newly-formed County Education District.

The County Education District was created from recently passed legislation concerning the school

financing in Texas. Under the new laws, Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth school districts will be lumped together into one taxing unit that will have to adopt a common tax rate.

Everyone used to be a resident of just one school district, but now they will be residents of two—their regular district and the County Education District, so in essence, taxpayers will be paying taxes to two school districts.

Each county education district is governed by a board of trustees composed generally of one trustee from each school district within its boundaries. The county education

(Continued on Page 9)

Hart Days '91 kicks off this week

New events will team up with "old favorites" for this year's Hart Days Aug. 5-10, and planners are hoping that the celebration will be the best ever, in honor of Castro County's 100th birthday.

In addition to the traditional parade, the carnival, pageants and other activities, this year's Hart Days will include a Little Dinner Theater Aug. 8, and a Blind Volleyball Tournament Aug. 9.

The contestant lists for the "Miss Hart" and "Simply Irresistible" pageant have been finalized, with 11 high school girls vying for the title of "Miss Hart" at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the elementary school gym.

Sandy Farris, chairman of the pageant committee, announced the following entries:

Christi Neinast, Tanya Leible, Debra Barefield, Catrina Waller, Shiela Aalbers, Shea Bennett, Kristi Davis, Mandy Davis, Lisa Reyna, Erica Beanes and Traci Knox.

"Simply Irresistible" entries, in the 4-7 years old division, were announced by Gloria Ponce, chairman. They are Rachel Malone, Amanda Carrasco, Amber Ponce, Isaias Ponce III, Kelly George, Melanie Davis, Mallory King, Blake Jones and Zack Jones.

Stanley Dyer, coordinator of the week-long celebration, announced that Aug. 9 will be the deadline for entries in the annual parade, which starts at 10 a.m. Aug. 10.

"County and Country," theme of the parade, will reflect not only the centennial year, but also the renewed patriotism in the U.S. since the Gulf War. Entries will compete for trophies and ribbons in six

divisions, floats, bicycles, antique cars, antique farm equipment, "walking people," and riding clubs.

Persons interested in being in the parade may phone 938-2143 for further information. Entries will gather at 9 a.m. that Saturday on Ave. A for judging.

One of the new events, the Little Dinner Theater, is slated for Aug. 8, and sponsored by the Hart Golden Group. A meal of brisket, red beans, potato salad, bread, apple pie and drinks will be served in the HGG Center.

The Happy Hatters, a women's musical group from Dumas, will provide the entertainment. A limited number of tickets is available at \$10 each, until 150 tickets are sold. Tickets are available from any HGG board member or Fina Vaughan.

Another new event, a "Blind Volleyball Tournament," is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 9, sponsored by Chi Psi sorority. The

(Continued on Page 16)

Weather

Readings recorded at 7 a.m. daily for the preceding 24 hours.

	Hi	Lo	Pr.
Thursday	68	57	
Friday	75	58	
Saturday	83	62	
Sunday	85	61	
Monday	88	58	
Tuesday	89	58	
Wednesday	92	58	
July Moisture			5.23
1991 Moisture			12.97

KDHN RADIO
US Weather Observer

On the Go with Mary Edna Hendrix, 647-3343

A family picnic was held recently at the Farwell Park to honor Ruby Byrnes of Farwell, formerly of Dimmitt, and her brother, Amos Newby of Lubbock. Byrnes and Newby are the only two surviving children born to Fred and Julia Newby. Among those attending from Dimmitt were Stan, Jackie and Rala Byrnes.

Howard and Maretta Smithson took a few days off and visited with their family and friends in Wichita Falls, Dallas and Temple.

They met some friends in Georgetown and went to Sea World in San Antonio. They also went to visit some mutual friends in Fredericksburg.

Paul and Ortensia Garcia, Amy, Gabriel and Michelle and a friend, Tessie Newton had a wonderful vacation in Florida. They enjoyed Disney World and all the beautiful sights. In the Magic Kingdom, they saw Main Street USA, Adventure Land, Frontier Land, Fantasy Land, Mickey's Starland and Tomorrow Land. At Epcot Center they enjoyed Spaceship Earth, Universe of Energy, Wonders of Life, Horizons, World of Motion, Journey into Imagination, The Land, The Living Seas, and attractions and exhibits from Mexico, Norway, China, Germany, Italy, the American Adventure, Japan, Morocco, France, International Gateway, United Kingdom and Canada. At the Disney MGM Studios Theme Park, they saw Hollywood Boulevard, the Magic of Disney Animation, Backstage Studio Tour, Here Come the Muppets, Let's Make a Deal, the Backlot, The Great Movie Ride, the Monster Sound Show, Superstar Television, Star Tours and Indiana Jones Epic Stunt. At Discovery Island they enjoyed all the exotic birds, animals and reptiles and 250 species of plants. They had fun at the Disney Village, Marketplace and Pleasure Island, where there is shopping, entertainment and dining. Most of the other places have food and entertainment as well.

The Garcias stayed at the Disney's Port Orleans Resort, the newest in accommodations, and it has all the charm of New Orleans and its French Quarters. There is a huge swimming pool, landscaped gardens, open air restaurant, a river landing where boats transport guests to nearby shopping and dining at the Disney Village and Marketplace, and Pleasure Island.

Out-of-town visitors at the Museum last week were Ronnie and Nancy Burks, Alison and Rochelle, all of Dallas, who were here visiting with Charles and Opha Burks; Misti and Clint Howell of Oklahoma City, who

came with Charlene Howell, Inez Lee, April and Christy Morgan (The Howells also visited with C.D. and Linda Fitzgerald); Amy and Tasha Newton of Lubbock, who came with Robbie Calhoun.

Louise Mears was hostess to the Thursday Bridge Club that met at the Senior Citizens Center for lunch and a day of bridge. Louise reported the group enjoyed a delicious lunch, which included fresh corn. Susie Reeves won high score and Louise won second high score. Others playing were Dude McLaurin, Helen Braafladt, Elizabeth Huckabay, Cleo Forson, Virginia Crider, Neva Hickey, Dugan Butler, Edith Graef, Oleda Schumacher and Ferne Dickey.

The Castro County Museum board members met on Thursday evening with Lon Woodburn presiding. Clara Vick read a letter from another Italian thanking the Texans for a wonderful visit. Plans were made for the parade and open house at the museum, which will be held during Castro County's Centennial Harvest Days celebration. Cheese and crackers, Rice Krispie treats and iced tea were served to Lon and Mary Woodburn, Clara Vick, Madge Robb, Dale Winders and Mary Edna Hendrix.

Bob Smith and his wife, Thelene, have been visiting his sister, Mrs. Rials and other relatives in Dimmitt. Bob is a professor at San Bernardino College in California.

Graham, Karen, Gabe and Britanny Sheffy of College Station, have been visiting Dorothy Sheffy for a few days.

Katie, Curt and Bruce Bills of Earth (children of Randy and Joyce Bills) were visiting Rex and Darlene Wooten and Amy over the weekend.

The Centennial Singers presented their first gospel concert on Sunday evening at the First Baptist Church. Members of Lee Street Baptist Church were special guests for the services.

Some of the special music was provided by Don Webster and his brother, John; a quartet by Jerry Jansa, Bill Murphy, Charles Axtell and Richard Young; Vicki Barns; Karon, Barbara and Jimmy Moss; Al and Kathy Webb; and Ed Freeman.

William and Rosetta Bellinghausen returned home Sunday. They, along with Rosetta's niece, Maria Rosarin Petracconel, spent a week with David Bellinghouse and

his wife and children in Grand Prairie. On Saturday, they all went to New Waverly to attend the wedding of Colby Oldham, who is the grandson of Rose Acker. Rose has been in Huntsville this week, assisting Alice, who is preparing for the wedding.

O.A. (Shorty) Oldham of Dimmitt, grandfather of Colby, also is in Dallas visiting with his son, Eugene, and he also attended the wedding.

Several people have received wedding invitations from Rubye Mae Annen Hubbard, who will be married to Robert A. Musser, in St. Rita's Catholic Church in Fort Worth.

I talked to Emily Ramey and she told me her granddaughter, who lives with Edwin and Norma Ramey (her aunt and uncle) in Chicago received word that she has been awarded another \$10,000 scholarship. She plays soccer at Quincy College, where she is classified as a sophomore this year.

Sunnyside By Teeny Bowden, 647-5703

Ezell and Verba Sadler got home from Hubbard Creek Lake Monday night. She seems to be OK from her fall, except she is still having headaches.

Gale and Verna Sadler were supper guests of Teeny Bowden Monday night. She brought them up-to-date on several of the special meetings.

Gale and Verna Sadler left Wednesday to attend Joshua week at Glorietta.

Eddie and Patti Guffee of the Llano Estacado Museum in Plainview had dinner with Clara Vick and Teeny Bowden Tuesday, at K-Bob's. They also visited with Madge Robb.

The Guffees were very pleased with the history book and Eddie was quite surprised at the large picture of himself with the mammoth. He and Ray Joe Riley both thought the pictures were large. Even Teeny thought the tribute to herself was large and much more than deserved.

James and Joan Norrell returned home July 21, from visiting with South Carolina relatives. They received word Saturday night that his brother-in-law, Ronald Snyder had died unexpectedly. He had been on a kidney machine and had been doing well with his new transplant surgery.



WHICH WAY TO THE SWIMMING POOL?—This unidentified county denizen seems to be checking traffic before pulling out from his parking place. The county has had balmy weather for the

past weeks, 68 to 92 and the lows moving slightly from 57 to 61. The forecast is calling for more of the same, with no rain in sight. Photo by Linda Maxwell.

Together We Can

grandchildren from Friona were visitors in the Sunday night services. They still have Albert whom they adopted while here, and several others, but are no longer keeping foster children, because they are not allowed to discipline them. They said to tell everyone hello.

Hart Days Arts & Crafts Show

Saturday, Aug. 10
8 a.m. until ?
Old Hart Lumber Building
Downtown Hart

We Salute

Robert Hawkins

As the parades and summer celebrations draw closer, the "Centennial fever" is really going around. Several projects already have been completed. For instance, the Centennial Quilt in the courthouse foyer is a beautiful tribute by our talented quilters. Other projects are being completed, such as the "Year in the Life of Castro County" photo collage, and the second half of our own Centennial Mural on West Etter Street, across the street from the bank.

Final planning sessions and rehearsals are underway for the Centennial Hart Days celebration Aug. 5-10, the Centennial Pageant Aug. 11-12, and the County Fair and Centennial Harvest Days in Dimmitt Aug. 16-17.

The main focal point of this special year is the Centennial Plaza, being built as a permanent tribute to all the people of our county. And the individual most responsible for its existence is Robert L. "Robbie" Hawkins of Hart.

As a member of the Centennial Commission, he took on the task of designing the plaza. He and his fellow commission members visited and brought back photos from other such projects throughout North Texas and New Mexico — especially gazebo designs. (Our gazebo, incidentally, is a scale-model replica of the one that stands in Old Town, Albuquerque.)

Once the gazebo design was chosen, Robbie designed the plaza around it, with three walkways, benches, park lamps, Centennial trees, etc. He did all the measurements and grade surveying, contacted builders, got bids and compiled cost estimates. His own Hawkins Dirt Co. did the site preparation — for a bid of \$1. Ever since he first fired up his big front-loader, things haven't been the same on the courthouse square.

The plaza is now almost complete, and every square foot of it has Robbie Hawkins' fingerprints on it. He has given total dedication and commitment to the project.

And it has been well worth his efforts. It's a beautiful plaza, and is a meaningful tribute to our county and our people.

Robbie, we're glad you're part of Castro County — especially in this Centennial year!

The First State Bank
of Dimmitt

We're People Like You
Serving People Like You

Member FDIC

Medicare Assignment Accepted

24 Hour Service

CARE

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Vada and Rick Wilcox now offer Dimmitt and the surrounding area a full line of home medical equipment.

Current technology equipment backed by a staff with many decades of experience, assure you of unequalled service.

Partial list of equipment:

Electric Hospital Beds	Trapeze Bars
Lightweight Wheelchairs	Standard Wheelchairs
Patient Hydraulic Lifts	Commode Chairs
Folding Walkers	Canes
Oxygen Systems	Breathing Machines
Nebulizers	Compressors

Much More!!

Phone: 647-5452
Address: 614 W. Bedford

Free Delivery

Free Insurance Billing Service

Holy Cross sponsors teen dance

The Men's Holy Cross Society is sponsoring a teen dance, Saturday, Aug. 3, from 8 p.m. until midnight at the Expo Building.

"Kat" Rock and Roll Show from Amarillo will provide music. Admission will be \$3.50 per person and is limited to junior high and high school students.

Nazareth

By Uirgle Gerber

Sister Celestine Marie has returned to St. Scholastica Convent in Fort Smith, Ark., after spending some time here with her family. She was here for the funeral of Earl Backus. She spent several days with Evelyn Backus and Robert and Mary Verkamp.

Marie Venhaus has returned to Dumas after spending several days with relatives. She also attended the Backus funeral.

Rosella O'Hanlon of Tipton, Okla., and her children, Robin and Ryan, spent the weekend here with her mother, Adeline Pohlmeier.

Alma Conrad spent several days in Dumas with her family, Clyde and Angie Venhaus.

Our sympathy to Willie Faye Huseman and her family during the illness and death of her mother, Bennie Faye Hicks. Funeral mass was read at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Amarillo and burial followed in Memory Gardens in Amarillo.

Dwayne, Nan and Cody Davis spent the weekend in Abilene at a food show sponsored by the Independent Grocers.

Liz Matos of Amarillo was the honoree at a baby shower Sunday afternoon at the new home of Kevin and Christine Acker. Many relatives and friends of Liz and her husband, Greg Matos, attended the shower. It was hosted by Christine Acker, Elaine Wilhelm, Faye Wilhelm and Mary Lynn Olvera.

Keith and Karleen Hoelting were honored Sunday evening on their 10th anniversary with a surprise party at the home of Carl Dean and Mary Kleman. A basket of unlabeled tin cans were given to the couple, but how did two "empty" cans get mixed in with the rest?

Going to Dallas this weekend were Lucille Drerup, Eihel and Dan Schmucker, Joe, Imogene and Tracy Drerup, all of Nazareth; Danelle Barber of Lubbock; Jim and Evelyn Ball of Plainview; Tammy Drerup of Bryan and Wade Drerup of Irving. They all attended the wedding of Gayle De Cardenas, daughter of Arthur and Grace De Cardenas of Dallas, and Shawn Harris of Dallas. They were married at St. Patrick's Catholic Church and a reception followed in the church hall.

Congratulations to Dwayne and Terry Huseman of Amarillo on the birth of a girl, Mindy Ann, born on July 9. Grandparents are Gary and Fredda Boyer of Amarillo and Artie Huseman of Nazareth.

Leon Huseman and his wife of Dallas, Monica Young and her son, Phyllis Price and her daughter, all of Lubbock, spent the weekend with their mother, Artie Huseman. After attending mass at Holy Family Church Sunday morning, they visited with Virgie Gerber and her family.

Kathleen Mattingly of Logan, Iowa is here visiting her sister, Marilyn Birkenfeld, and other family members. She enjoyed attending the wedding of her niece, Kelly Schilling, to Chris Gerber on Saturday afternoon. On Sunday they visited her nephew, Father Darryl Birkenfeld, in Hereford and also with Wirt and Irene Albracht. Father Ed Karasek, pastor of the Catholic Church in West Texas, which is close to Waco, also visited in the Birkenfeld home. He was a classmate of Father Darryl's from the seminary in Santa Fe, N.M.

Relatives from Nazareth attended the wedding mass Saturday morning for Sandra Jean Gerber, daughter of Glen and Vickie Gerber of Dalhart, to Jeffrey Todd Chado, son of Stanley and Virginia Chado Jr. of Amarillo. The two were wed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Amarillo. A reception followed at the Harvey Hotel in Amarillo.

Many friends and relatives attended the wedding of Chris Gerber and Kelly Schilling on Saturday afternoon in Holy Family Church with Rev. Neal Dee, officiating. A reception and dance were held in the Community Hall.

Urban Ball spent a few days with his sister, Esther Braddock in McKinney. They enjoyed a Texas

Ranger's ballgame on Friday evening when Kenny Braddock's 7-year-old son, Wade, had the honor

of throwing the first ball at the game.

Keith and Karleen Hoelting and children Mandy and Brett vacationed in Arlington recently. They enjoyed a few Ranger ballgames and the Wet and Wild Park.

Some members of the Florence and Lucille Schacher family enjoyed a get-together Sunday at the home of J.C. and Jocelyn Pohlmeier. Visiting here from California are Virgil and Rosalie Davis and their sons, Eric, Kevin, Paul and Craig.

Evelyn and Dean Hill and Evelyn's friend, Nada Williams of Lubbock, visited with Meta Stork and other family members Sunday.

Members of the Leonard Gerber family and Marla Ramaekers enjoyed Sunday at Lake McKenzie. The day was spent visiting and boating.

YES members train at Tech

Five county YES (Youth Exchanging with Seniors) project members met at Texas Tech recently for a two-day training session. Those attending were Danna Beck, Yvonna Hays, Martha Jo Hyman, Kalina Pohlmeier and Carolyn Osborn.

A total of 20 counties in the Texas Panhandle make up the YES project. Castro County has recently joined the pilot program. In the future, project coordinators hope to implement the program in other parts of the county.

Ten students from Dimmitt, who are members of the National Honor Society, 4-H or FFA have received intensive training for this project. Youth are matched with Senior Citizens to provide services like letter writing, running errands, light housekeeping, yard work and such. There is no charge for the services. This opportunity allows trained students to give back to the community various tasks and services for senior participants.

Hays and Hyman are coordinating student service hours. Call any of the above people or the Extension Office, 647-4115, if you know of someone who would like to participate in this free program.

Another training session is scheduled soon for students in Hart, Nazareth or Dimmitt who are interested in the project. Call and register at the Extension Office.

Shot clinic set

An immunization clinic offering vaccinations against several childhood diseases will be held in Dimmitt on Friday, Aug. 9, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Castro County Expo Building.

Vaccinations offered include polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella and mumps.

The Texas Dept. of Health is charging money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount of money charged will be based on family income and size and the ability to pay.

SPS, Extension Service plans cooking school

School-age children are invited to attend "Rappin' Recipes," a cooking school scheduled for Wednesday at the Hale State Bank in Hart.

Two class times are available — 10-11 a.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. — and are limited to 15 students each.

"Don't miss this," said Carolyn Osborn, CEA - Home Economist. "There will be free demonstrations, recipes and tasting."

The cooking class is sponsored by SPS and the Extension Office. Call 647-4115 for reservations.

Fair books available

Harvest Days fair books are now available at the Extension Office.

"Decide what category you want a ribbon in and 'Go For It,'" said Carolyn Osborn, CEA-Home Economist.

Persons may have a fair book mailed to them by calling the Extension Office, 647-4115.



WATER SPORTS, DIMMITT STYLE—Who says you need 75 horsepower to tow a water skier? Kenny Ebeling does the job with

one horse at the water-filled excavation along Highway 86 west of town in June 1984. The skier is Gay Mayhew. Photo By Don Nelson

Harvest Days events planned

The 1991 Castro County Harvest Days activities kick off Sunday, Aug. 11, with the opening performance of the Centennial Pageant, and activities continue throughout the week, culminating with a street dance on Saturday night, Aug. 17.

This year's celebration will incorporate the county's 100th birthday celebration into each activity.

The Centennial Pageant, a community variety show featuring local musicians, actors, dancers and more, will be held Aug. 11 at 2:30 p.m. and on Aug. 12 at 8 p.m. Both performances will be held at the Dimmitt High School Auditorium. Bill Sava directs the program.

Admission to the Centennial Pageant will be \$3 per person, if tickets are purchased in advance or \$4 at the door. Children 5 years old and younger will be admitted free of charge.

The county fair and annual quilt show will be open to the public from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Aug. 15 and entries in each show must be turned in at the Expo Building that day. Anyone interested in entering a quilt should contact Yvonna Hays at 647-5214; and those wishing to enter the fair should contact Carolyn Osborn or J.D. Ragland at 647-4115.

On Friday, Aug. 16, the arts and crafts show opens at 9 a.m. and will remain open until 6 p.m. The fair exhibits and quilt show also will be open.

Senior Citizens will be honored with tours of all exhibits from 10 to 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 16.

Several events have been planned throughout the afternoon including a "Good Food and Exercise Tips" program, given by Cinde Sides Ebeling from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; "Window Panes to the Past," presented by John Green, education director of Panhandle Plains Historical Museum, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.; a style show featuring new fall styles, presented from 3 to 4 p.m., directed by Kosy Komer of Hart; a program entitled "Pet Talk," given by Jay Rapp, sponsored by Dimmitt Veterinary Clinic and Merrick Pet Foods; and a pet show from 5 to 5:45 p.m.

At 6 p.m. a Centennial Plaza Dedication Concert, featuring the Centennial Singers, will be held. At 7:30 p.m., a Cowboy Poet and Musicians Program entitled "Spur Jingles and Saddle Songs" will be held at the Dimmitt High School Auditorium. Admission to the program will be \$3 per person.

Saturday's (Aug. 17) activities kick off with the opening of the fair exhibits and arts and crafts show at 9 a.m. (and continuing until 5 p.m.)

The annual Harvest Days parade will begin at 10 a.m. and this year's parade theme is "Once in a Lifetime."

Registration for the Early Settlers Reunion is slated to begin at 10 a.m. at the Senior Citizens Center, 218 W. Jones, in Dimmitt.

After the parade (about 11 a.m.), the official dedication of the Centennial Plaza is planned.

From 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., a Centennial Car Show and Swap Meet will be held at the First State Bank parking lot.

Outdoor games including a pillow fight, parachute jump, dunking board, horseshoe pitching, water polo, pumper teams, spur and bit making and a great duck race will be held throughout the afternoon (from 12 noon to 4 p.m.)

The Castro County Museum will hold an open house from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at the museum and everyone is invited to attend. The new

county history books will be available at the museum.

The Top of Texas Cloggers will perform from 3 to 4 p.m. and after that prizes will be awarded for the costume contest.

An art show and authors reception, sponsored by the Art Club, will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. at Rhoads Memorial Library.

Trophy presentations for winners in the car show will be given out at 5 p.m. at the bank parking lot.

A barbecue supper, catered by Dyers Barbecue of Amarillo, will

be held from 6 to 8 p.m. The meal is being sponsored by the Dimmitt Promenaders and advance tickets may be purchased from a member of the group for \$6 for adults and \$4.50 for children. Tickets at the door will be \$6.50.

A square dance, with Gary Smith serving as the caller and Bill Harman calling the rounds, will be held at the Expo Building at 8 p.m.

A steet dance to the music of Nazareth's Rough Riders Band, will be held east of the courthouse from 9 p.m. to 12 midnight.



OUR SCALES WEIGH SAVINGS



CHEE-TOS
ASSORTED, REG. \$1.79

\$1 39



COCA-COLA, DR PEPPER OR 7-UP
ASSORTED, 3 LITER

\$1 79

LUZIAN FAMILY		
TEA BAGS24 CT. PKG.		\$1 99
NABISCO TEDDY GRAHAMS, ASSORTED		
BEARWICH'S11 OZ.		\$1 99
QUAKER CEREAL		
TINY TOON9 OZ.		\$2 39
G.M. UNDER COVER BEARS, ASSORTED		
INSTANT OATMEAL8 CT. PKG.		99¢
FISHERBOY		
FISH STICKS8 OZ.		89¢
SHURFINE WHOLE KERNAL		
CORN10 OZ. PKG. 2 FOR		89¢
TAKE HEART ORIGINAL SALAD		
RANCH DRESSING8 OZ.		\$1 39
ASSORTED		
GATORADE16 OZ. BOTTLES, 4 PACK		\$1 99
GLADE		
COUNTRY POTTERYEACH		\$1 99
DIXIE, 5 OZ. SIZE		
KITCHEN CUPS100 CT. PKG.		\$1 39
BATH SIZE		
VEL BAR SOAP4.5 OZ.		89¢
WITH FEEDER		
PURINA CAT CHOW4 LB.		\$2 99
BABY SHAMPOO OR BABY OIL, 14-15 OZ.		
JOHNSON & JOHNSON		\$2 99

THRIFTWAY

WE ACCEPT FOOD STAMPS...WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT



AFFILIATED FOODS INC.
MEMBER STORE

SPECIALS GOOD AUGUST 1-7, 1991

DOUBLE COUPONS 7 DAYS A WEEK!

Thriftway will double the value of manufacturers coupons 50¢ or less. This excludes coupons from other retailers, excludes cigarettes and tobacco coupons. The refund is not to exceed the value product.





CLASSIFIEDS



The Castro County News

647-3123 PO Box 67, Dimmitt, TX 79027
 Published each Thursday in Dimmitt, Texas, by the News Publishing Co.,
 108 W. Bedford. Second Class Postage paid at Dimmitt, Texas. Publication
 Number 092980.
 Subscription Rates — One year \$16.00; school year \$13.50; six
 months \$9.00.



Member of the Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association,
 Panhandle Press Association and National Newspaper Association.

1—Real Estate, Homes & Land

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."
 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising or real estate advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that the dwellings advertised in the newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

REDUCED TO \$65,000. Four bedroom, isolated master with fireplace, sundock, 2-1/2 bath; large den with utility room; large kitchen, dining; formal living; 2-car garage; nice storage building. 718 Oak. 647-3548. 1-16-tf

Jay Cross Investments

TEACHER'S SPECIAL: Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, nice living area and den or office area. Lots of closet space, loads of storage and a storage building. \$3,000 of custom drapes are a bonus. \$55,000 in SW Dimmitt.

OWNER FINANCING: Three bedroom, one bath home, close to schools. One car garage. Owners say sell this one!

NEW LISTING: Three bedrooms, one bath, siding, corner lot. Large fenced yard. Reasonably priced.

FOUR BEDROOMS, one bath, excellent location. Recently remodeled. Fenced yard. Reasonably priced.

CALL for more information.
 Jerry Cartwright, Broker/Owner
 810 W. Halsell 647-2604

FENCE TO FENCE GRASS (AND ALL HEADED OUT)

9-1/2 sections, northern panhandle, well-watered by mills, sub, springs, and dirt tanks. All-weather road, located in super-good country, owner financing considered.

PARMER COUNTY
 Choice 567 acres, four 8-inch wells, 12-tower sprinkler, Balance U.G. pipe, good help house, owner financing.

Please call for details on combination feedlot/sprinkler/grass in Dimmitt, Earth, Springlake area.

TONY R. GABLE, 806-276-5341
SCOTT LAND CO.
 Dimmitt, Tx. 79027
 BEN G. SCOTT, 806-647-4375
 day or night

LARGE FAMILY ROOM with Ben Franklin wood burning stove, three car carport, lots of storage in this nice affordable three bedroom, two bath home located on two lots.

EXTRA NICE HOME with three bedrooms, two baths. This home has large kitchen den combo with Jenn Aire range, storm windows, ceiling fans, siding on all woodwork, lots of extras with beautiful yard. Nice location.

HOME IN THE COUNTRY, near Dimmitt on 10 acres. Three bedroom, two bath home located on pavement.

REASONABLY PRICED small three bedroom brick home with two car garage.

SMALL FEEDLOT on pavement on 132 acres.

TWO two bedroom homes. Make good starter homes or rent property.

GREGORY REAL ESTATE
 BILL GREGORY, Broker
 Phone 647-5421
 505 SE 3rd, Dimmitt

1—Real Estate, Homes & Land

PRICE REDUCED

1008 Oak—Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, large den with fireplace, double-car garage, refrigerated air and sprinkler system. By appointment only, 647-4383.

FOR SALE: Three bedroom, one bath home to be moved. Call 945-2545. 1-35-tf

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 715 Oak. Three bedroom, 1-3/4 baths, brick with steel siding trim, heat pump, double-car garage, covered patio. By appointment only, 647-3453. 1-46-tf

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 1634 Sunset Circle. Three bedroom, two bath, fireplace, low equity, assumable loan, will consider renting or lease-purchase agreement. 647-4712. 1-14-3tc

FOR SALE: 592 acres—537 in grass and rest in cultivation. Asking \$165 an acre. Location—3 1/2 miles northeast of Nazareth. 945-2649. 1-6-tf

FOR SALE: 2 bedroom house in Nazareth with one-car garage, steel siding and eaves, reasonable price. 945-2649. 1-4-tf

HOUSE FOR SALE: Three bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, fenced yard, two-car garage. Little down and take up payments. 647-3758. 1-15-2tc

NEW HOMES, 100% financing to qualified buyers. New loan program. 1-800-872-7412. 1-15-3tc

NICE OLD BRICK HOME, corner lot, wood floors, two bedroom, one bath, two-car garage, large basement. For sale or lease. 1-655-2955 or 647-3400. 1-15-tf

RECENTLY REMODELED three bedroom with office, 2-1/2 bath, double garage and storage building. 1616 Sunset Circle. By appointment only. 647-3630. 1-16-1tp

1/4 SECTION, three miles east and 1/2 mile south of Nazareth. Land lays perfect. No waste acreage. Two irrigation wells with correcting underground pipe. Also a domestic well. Natural gas and three phase electricity available. Commodity basis—cotton, 41.5, wheat 45.2, milo 46.5, barley 5.5. Call 806-828-3012. 1-16-2tc

HOUSE FOR SALE: 1008 W. Grant. Double car, drive and carport. Two bed, one bath, fireplace, separate utility room, patio, fruit trees. Double carport in back with storage house. Fenced in yard. 647-5429. 1-16-tf

OWNER SAYS SELL Price reduced on this lovely three bedroom in super location. Only \$43,000.

COUNTRY LIVING at its best. Three bedroom, 1-3/4 baths, two-car garage, fireplace, beautiful landscaping. Good buy at \$50,000

POSSIBLE LEASE PURCHASE on this two-bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, two-car garage in excellent location, \$42,500.

SUPER LOCATED commercial building. \$29,000.

SECTION OF between Dimmitt and Hart on **SOLD!** three wells.

PERFECT **SOLD!** N SE of Dimmitt. Two wells.

GEORGE REAL ESTATE
 S. Hwy. 385 647-4174
 Mary Lou Schmucker
 Office Mgr. and Sales
 945-2679
 Reta Welch.....647-5647
 Jimmie R. George, Broker

2—For Rent

TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT FOR RENT
 647-3215 or 647-5762

Azteca Complex APARTMENTS
 910 E. Jones
 ★ NOW LEASING ★
 1, 2 or 3 Bedrooms
 We have Rent Assistance for qualified tenants (agricultural workers)
 For more information, call (806) 647-3406 Night 647-2677
 Miquel Velasquez, Manager

2—For Rent

DIMMITT SENIOR CITIZENS APARTMENTS
 622 N.W. 5th
 "Now Taking Applications"
 June 1st Occupancy
 Call 647-2638
 S&S Properties Equal Opportunity Housing

TWO AND THREE BEDROOM, one bath, fenced, unfurnished. Deposit. References. 1-354-9771 and leave message. 2-45-tf

HAZARD TRAILER PARK: Trailer spaces for rent. Water and sewer paid. 945-2501. 2-18-tf

MOBILE HOME LOTS for rent. Water furnished. Call 647-4409. 2-1-tf

STORAGE SPACES for rent. Call 617-3447 or 647-2577. 2-1-tf

RENT TO OWN
 NEW TV'S, VCR'S & APPLIANCES
 No credit checks.
KITRELL ELECTRONICS
 647-2197 Dimmitt

3—For Sale, Misc.

BATTERIES for sale, new and used. This week's specials: Used batteries, \$16.00 exchange; new Exide Cutting Edge lawn mower and garden tractor batteries, \$27.49. Call C&S Battery & Electric at 647-3531 or come by 301 SE 2nd. 3-8-tf

CLOSE-OUT PRICES on discontinued patterns in Oneida stainless, Franciscan pottery and Fostoria crystal. Prices starting as low as \$1. Parsons Drug, 107 E. Bedford, Dimmitt, 647-3392. 3-27-tf

TWO CEMETERY LOTS for sale in Westlawn Memorial Park. For more information, write Cemetery Lots, P.O. Box 67, Dimmitt, TX 79027.

REDUCE: Burn off fat while you sleep. Take drug-free Opal and E-Vap Diuretic available at Parson's Drug. 3-14-5tc

AVON to buy or sell. Call 806-364-0899. 3-11-8tp

CRAWFORD SOYBEAN seed for sale, 50 bushels. 647-4674. 3-11-tf

CARPPTS-PATIO COVERS: Free estimates, financing. Plainview, 10 X 20 carpet, \$585. 1-800-762-3599. 3-29-tf

Piano For Sale
 Wanted: Responsible party to assume small monthly payments on piano. See locally. Call credit manager 1-800-447-4266.

6—Automotive

MY PERSONAL DEMONSTRATOR - 1991 Taurus LX. Fully-equipped including leather and moon roof. J.R. Brown, 647-2115, or 647-3250. 6-52-tf

FOR SALE: 1979 Ford XLT pickup LWB, 460, AT, PS, PB, Runs and looks Great. 304 Wester Circle. 647-3138, days; 647-2623, nights. 6-15-tf

1979 Buick Riviera
 55,000 miles. Loaded, sharp.
1989 Chevy Silverado
 1/2 ton, well equipped, 27,000 miles.
Scott's Trading Post
 S. Hwy. 385 647-3414

FOR SALE: 1979 Customized Dodge Van. Chrome wheels, CB and stereo. 647-2431. 6-14-4tc

FOR SALE: 1990 Ford Temp GL. All the extras. Low mileage. 647-2431. 6-14-4tc

6—Automotive

New Chevrolets and Oldsmobiles (ALL New Vehicles)
2%
 Over Factory Invoice With Rebates To Buyer
STEVENS CHEVY-OLDS
 Hereford, Texas
 1-800-299-CHEV
 (Invoice may not reflect actual dealer cost.)

7—Business Opportunities

LIQUOR STORE and beer and wine business for sale. Owner retiring. For more information, contact owner at 647-2643 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday; or Sunday at 647-2614. 7-6-tf

8—Services

WILHELM CUSTOM FARMING: Laverne, 647-5425; Henry, 945-2518. Subsoil and conventional plowing. 8-51-tf

HENDERSON TV & APPLIANCE: sells and services televisions, satellites and appliances. 647-4342. 8-1-tf

ROOFING SYSTEMS: For quality hail resistant roofing, call Robert Duke at 647-5517. 8-44-tf

AMARILLO-AREA PREGNANCY Crisis Center Hotline. Call collect, 0-354-2244. Also, Methodist Mission Home, 24 hours, toll-free, 1-800-842-5433. 8-4-tf

ARTISAN FENCE GENE SANDERS
 352-4188
 ANY TYPE FENCE & REPAIRS

CUSTOM SWATHING AND BALING: Call Roy Schilling, 647-2401. 8-11-10tc

IS SOMEONE ELSE'S DRINKING affecting your life? AIAAnon can help. Call 647-2577. 8-45-tf

YARD CLEANING, mowing and rototilling. Call Sam Raper Jr., 647-4415. 8-1-tf

JOE'S TREE TRIMMING. Clean yards, power rake. Hart, Texas 79043. 806-938-2170. 8-48-tf

BARB'S K-9 GROOMING. Now in a new location, 703 N. Donley, Tulia. 995-3711. 8-48-tf

FOR ALL YOUR CARPENTER NEEDS, for home repairs and remodeling, call James Cobb, 647-5320. 8-4-tf

ROUND-UP APPLICATION
 Pipe-wick mounted on hi-boy.
 Row crops and vol. com.
 30" or 40" rows.
Roy O'Brian, 265-3247

CUSTOM FARMING or lease tractors. Call 276-5724 or 647-2508. 8-16-4tp

QUALITY SWATHING and round baling. Call 1-764-3328 or 1-764-3315. 8-16-13tc

8a—Students Wanting Work

WANT TO DO: odd jobs. 647-4723 8a-11-tf

NEED A BABYSITTER? Will keep any age. Dependable 14-year-old. \$1.50 an hour per child. Call Carrie Sheffy at 647-4682 or 647-3444. 8A-10-tf

TEACHERS! We will help you get your classrooms ready for school. Call Addison at 647-3249 or Pete at 647-2435. 8A-16-4tx

WILLING TO DO odd jobs of any kind. 647-5748. 8a-8-tf

9—Help Wanted

WANTED: Enthusiastic part-time local salesperson for a fast-growing supply company. If interested please call 1-296-0080. Send resume to P.O. Box 1117, Plainview, TX 79073. M.F, EEOE. 9-16-1tc

A DAILY SALARY of \$300 for buying merchandise. No experiences necessary. 1-379-3684. 9-16-2tc

TRACTOR DRIVERS needed for silage packing. Call 647-5477 or 647-4449. 9-16-2tc

WAREHOUSE POSITION open at Lexington, N. Highway 385. Call 647-2164. 9-16-2tc

DEADLINES
Display and Classified Advertising.....Tuesday Noon
Agriculture, Business & Industry News.....10 a.m. Monday
Sports, Social and Church News.....Monday Noon
Community Correspondence.....Monday Noon
Personal Items.....5 p.m. Monday
General News, City and County.....Tuesday Noon

Editor and Publisher.....Don Nelson
 News Editor.....Anne Acker
 Associate Editor.....Linda Maxwell
 Advertising Composition.....Paula Portwood
 Page Composition and Photo Lab.....Deana McLain
 Bookkeeping.....Anne Acker, Paula Portwood

9—Help Wanted

SECURITY OFFICER WELLS FARGO GUARD SERVICES

immediate openings for full and part time security officers for work in local area. No experience necessary, will train. Ideal for retirees, housewife, or people just needing a supplemental income. Must be at least 21 with good references, transportation, phone, no criminal history. Good company benefits. Apply in person. Applications may be picked up at American Fructose main gate in Dimmitt.
Wells Fargo Guard Services
 3610 Ave. Q Suite 226
 Lubbock, Texas 79412
 E.O.E.

9—Help Wanted

SALES REP HYDROTEX—a national sales company seeking sales person to call on commercial, industrial, agricultural accounts in the DIMMITT and surrounding area. Excellent commissions and bonuses. Training available. EOE. For information call:

1-800-999-4712
 PART-TIME SECRETARIAL position. General office duties. Send resumes to Box 155, Dimmitt. 9-15-2tc

10—Wanted, Misc.

I WOULD LIKE TO BUY your used gold jewelry—broken, worn out or otherwise. Call 647-3250, evenings 10-1-tf

WANT TO BUY PICKED green beans to can. 647-3447. 10-15-2tc

TexSCAN
 Statewide Classified Advertising Network
 Advertise in 293 Texas newspapers for only \$250.
 Reach 3 MILLION Texans. Call this newspaper for details.

MAKE A FRIEND...FOR LIFE! Scandinavian, European, Yugoslavian high school exchange students...arriving August...**HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!**
URGENT! Visa deadlines! Call now! American Intercultural Student Exchange. Toll-free 1-800-SIBLING.

BECOME A PARALEGAL Join America's fastest growing profession. Work with attorneys. Lawyer instructed home study. The finest paralegal program available. Free catalogue. 800-362-7070 DEPT. LJ722.

MOBILE HOME BUYER: FUQUA homes. Low prices. Single, double & triplewides. See our 3 + 2 doublewide FUQUA bargain, \$26,900, delivered w/air. Visit factory outlet. 1-800-275-1161.

DEER HUNTERS SPECIAL: 50 acres, \$595/acre, wooded, excellent hunting, county road, Texas veteran or owner financing, prime acreage. Fox Real Estate, 500 Buchanan Dr., Burnet, Texas. 512-756-6066.

\$ LOCAL ROUTE \$ Handling Frito Lay, Nabisco, etc. Full company support. Census shows earnings of \$39,000 NET per year. Requires cash investment of \$18,320. 1-800-225-9733, Operator 2.

IMMEDIATE OPENING. Lucrative sales opportunity for reliable, hardworking person. Must have own transportation. Excellent monthly income. FAX resume to ACEF PRO-motions. 409-634-9460.

GEOS CORPORATION IS EXPANDING its environmental network. Only dedicated individuals experienced in retail petroleum and convenience store sales apply. P.O. Box 3289, Lufkin, TX 75903. 409-634-9432.

TRAVEL WITHOUT LEAVING home, share a dream. See the world through the eyes of a foreign exchange student. Host families needed immediately. Call IEF 1-800-365-0555.

LAND BONANZA! 4% fixed interest. Only five weeks left. Average 10-acre, 0-down, \$92-monthly, 360-months, most areas. Homesites, getaway, hunting, or great investment. 1-800-275-REPO.

HOTEL - 1-800-6-MOTEL-6 (Ext. 400) We'll pay you to run your own business: Motel 6 seeks live-in management teams for nationwide opportunities. Free, furnished one bedroom apartment, paid utilities, paid training, generous health and retirement plans. Must have no dependents and be willing to relocate. Call 1-800-666-8356. Ext. 400. EOE.

COVENANT TRANSPORT. Hiring tractor trailer drivers; •1 yr. O.T.R. experience; •Single 19-22c; •East coast pay; •Incentive pay; •Benefits package; •Minimum age 23; •Teams 27-31c. 1-800-441-4394.

ANYONE HAVING KNOWLEDGE of anyone injured at any time in the past by free fall of persons or property from FMC (Linkbelt) crane, please call 1-800-544-0481.

SHARE AMERICA! Walls must fall! Visa deadlines here! AISE high school exchange students await family call for August. 31 countries/local representative. Just food, bed, sharing! Exciting! Rewarding! Relevant! Lifetime! 1-800-SIBLING.

LOOKING FOR 7-PEOPLE who want to earn an excellent income while contributing to the well-being of the planet, organic biodegradable products, call 512-620-1051.

HAPPY JACK FLEAGARD: All metal patented device controls fleas in home without chemicals or exterminators. Results overnight! At farm feed drug & hardware stores.

LOOKING FOR A LATE model conventional, cabover, or work truck? I have over 2,000 power units in stock and deal in volume. Call Jim at 1-800-827-7690 and find out how much money you can save.

FRIENDLY HOME PARTIES has openings for demonstrators. No cash investment. No service charge. Highest commission and hostess awards. Three catalogues, over 800 items. Call 1-800-488-4875.

ADOPTION: PROFESSIONAL COUPLE with lots of love and affection seeks newborn to share our happy & secure home. Medical expenses paid. Confidential. Call collect 718-897-2545.

NEED CASH??? Receiving mortgage payments? We buy owner financed mortgages locally and nationwide. Ask for Donna at Diversified Funding Corporation today!!! Call 1-800-950-4112.

ADOPTIVE PARENTS TO BE: Sandy & Jim, caring, affectionate couple with love filled home. A bedroom saved for someone special. Medical expenses paid. Confidential. Call collect 914-591-3246.

12—Notices

I WILL NOT BE responsible for any checks or charges by Dina Ballard.
KELLY BALLARD
12-13-tfc

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 647-4594.
12-16-5tc

14—Cards of Thanks

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Earl G. Backus would like to thank everyone who expressed their love and concern by sending cards, flowers, food and their prayers during the loss of our husband and daddy.
14-16-1tp

15—Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Castro County Commissioners Court will accept bids to patch and seal coat Cemetery Road, Hart, Texas, Precinct 1. Bids will be opened on Aug. 12, 1991, at 10 a.m. at Commissioners Court. Bid forms and information are available at office of County Judge, (806) 647-4451. Castro County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive formalities. Hart Cemetery Association is requesting information on seal coating of parking lot adjoining the road and by the Cemetery fence to be done at the same time. Information on this can be obtained by calling L.C. McLain at (806) 938-2210.
MRS. M.L. SIMPSON JR.
COUNTY JUDGE
15-15-2tc

BID NOTICE

Castro County Commissioners Court will accept bids for reconstruction of First Street, Hart, Texas, Precinct 1. Bids will be opened on Aug. 12, 1991, at 10 a.m. at regular meeting of Commissioners Court. Bid forms and information are available at County Judge's Office or call (806) 647-4451. Castro County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive formalities.
MRS. M.L. SIMPSON JR.
COUNTY JUDGE
15-15-2tc

BID NOTICE

Castro County will accept bids to patch and seal coat First Street, Hart, Texas, Precinct 1. Bids will be opened on Aug. 12, 1991, at 10 a.m. at the regular meeting of Castro County Commissioners Court. Bid forms and information are available at office of County Judge, (806) 647-4451. Castro County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive formalities.
MRS. M.L. SIMPSON JR.
COUNTY JUDGE
15-15-2tc

15—Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Castro County Commissioners Court will accept bids until 10 a.m., Aug. 12, 1991, for painting inside the courthouse. Latex enamel to be used on walls and ceilings with oil base on trim. Minor repairs will need to be included in the bid for preparation of painting. Glidden, Jones - Blair, Sherwin Williams or the equivalent of top-line paint will be used. Bidder will be responsible for clean-up and disposal of all trash connected with job. Approximate time frame for completion of job to be included in the bid. Any other information can be obtained at the county judge's office or by calling (806) 647-4451. Castro County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive formalities.
MRS. M.L. SIMPSON JR.
County Judge
15-15-2tc

LEGAL NOTICE

The City of Dimmitt Administrative office is accepting quotes on a new office copy machine through Friday, Aug. 9, 1991. Quotes should be mailed to P.O. Box 146, Dimmitt, Texas 79027, or delivered to 200 E. Jones Street. For additional information contact Reeford Burrous or Jo Hamilton. Quotes will be reviewed at the regular Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 19, 1991. The City reserves the right to reject any and all quotes.
15-15-2tc

LEGAL NOTICE

THE ESTATE OF JIMMY BUCKLEY, DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CASTRO COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JIMMY BUCKLEY, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of JIMMY BUCKLEY, Deceased, were issued to me, the undersigned, on the 23rd day of July, 1991, in the proceedings indicated below my signature hereto, which proceedings are still pending, and that I now hold such Letters. All persons having claims against said estate, which is being administered in the County Court above named, are required to present the same to me, at the address below, given before suit upon same are barred by the general statute of limitation, before such estate is closed, and within the time prescribed by law.

My residence and mailing address is Steve Buckley, P.O. Box 875, Dimmitt, Texas 79027.
STEVE BUCKLEY,
Independent Executor
of the Estate of
JIMMY BUCKLEY, DECEASED
15-16-1tc

Locals to be honored at centennial events

Local authors, artists and poets will be honored at separate events in August in celebration of the Castro County Centennial.

Local artists will be honored with an art exhibit Aug. 14-20 in Rhoads Memorial Library.

Sponsored by the Amateur Artists' Club, the show will be open to anyone from Castro County who wants to show, according to Frances Frazier, president of the Amateur Artists' Club. She added that club members are working on

some special paintings featuring local landmarks for the show.

Those interested in displaying work in the show should contact Frazier at 647-4340.

During the same week, a cowboy poets presentation is planned for Aug. 16 at the Dimmitt High School auditorium. Titled "Spur Jingles and Saddle Songs," the event will feature Alvin Davis, director of the Texas Tech Ranching Heritage Center in Lubbock, as the program emcee.

Those interested in the local program as poets or advertising sponsors may contact Tammy Wilhite at 647-3669.

An authors' tea will be sponsored by the Dimmitt Book Club Aug. 17, honoring all local authors. The tea will be held at Rhoads Memorial Library.

Anyone with information on local authors is asked to call librarian Cindy Pottorff at 647-3532.

Those to be honored will include

authors living here now or who lived here in the past. Writers who have had articles published in magazines or professional journals, and those who have published theses, will be included, along with those who have written books.

Book club members will serve refreshments and prepare a display of the works of the authors. The writers or a member of their families will be invited to attend the tea.

Stubblefield jumps to higher rank

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This story was brought to the News by Sylvia Stubblefield, Tom Stubblefield's mother. The article was published in the June 26 issue of *The Aschaffenburg Forum*).

All eyes were cast toward heaven June 15. Everyone was waiting for a Lance soldier's free fall through the sky.

At 3,500 feet above Fiori athletic field, Tom Stubblefield was passed a baton decorated with the chief warrant officer 2 crest by Col. Stuart Watkins, a close friend stationed in Frankfurt.

After a perfect stand-up landing under his black, blue and pink parachute, Stubblefield was officially promoted from warrant officer 1 to chief warrant officer 2 by Lt. Col. Dwight Gray, commander of 3rd Battalion, 12th Field Artillery.

Stubblefield is the son of Ted and Sylvia Stubblefield of Dimmitt. What better way to jump to a higher rank than by parachute?

Plummeting thousands of feet, only to be hoisted aloft with the pull of a parachute cord isn't something that just happens overnight.

It all began 20 years ago when Stubblefield started sport parachuting.

He has continued to perform

bigger and better leaps ever since.

When most college students want to put a twist on graduation, they usually wear bikinis or cut-off shorts under their "cap and gown."

But Stubblefield had to go one further when he graduated in 1979—he decided to jump out of an airplane and float down to the campus with all his friends and family watching.

Since that time, Stubblefield has done about 1,400 exciting jumps—including a jump into the Mighty River Raft Race last summer.

PRICES EFFECTIVE JULY 28-AUGUST 3, 1991

501 W. BEDFORD DIMMITT

HOMOGENIZED ALLSUP'S MILK GALLON \$1.89

FAMOUS ALLSUP'S BURRITOS 2 FOR 2.89¢

TORTILLA CHIPS AND JALAPENO CHEESE SAUCE NACHO PRONTO 6 OZ. SIZE \$1.29

HERSHEY'S MILK CHOCOLATE ALL VARIETIES HERSHEY CANDY BARS 3 FOR \$1

PEPSI ALL TYPES PEPSI-COLA 6 PACK CANS \$2.09

SAUSAGE & BISCUIT EACH 59¢
SHURFINE FROZEN ORANGE JUICE 16 OZ. CAN \$1.29
GARDETTO'S SNAK-ENS 6 OZ. PKG. 99¢

ALLSUP'S

ALL FLAVORS OCEAN SPRAY JUICES 10 OZ. BTL. 59¢
BAR-S FRANKS 12 OZ. PKG. 69¢

COOKED FRESH 24 HRS. A DAY	HOT FOODS MENU	AVAILABLE AT ALL ALLSUP'S LOCATIONS
BARBECUE BEEF SANDWICH	99¢	9 PIECE BOX CHICKEN \$4.99
BARBECUE PORK RIBS (LB.)	\$3.99	BEEF & CHEESE CHIMICHANGA \$1.19
BARBECUE WHOLE CHICKEN	\$3.99	(MEAD) CORN DOG 69¢
ALLSUP'S BURRITO	79¢	DELICIOUS HAMBURGER 59¢
BREAKFAST BURRITO	99¢	WILSON HOT LINKS 99¢
BURRITO BEEF & SALSA	\$1.19	SAUSAGE ON A STICK \$1.59
DELICIOUS CHEESEBURGER	79¢	SAUSAGE & BISCUIT 79¢
CHICKEN FRIED STEAK	\$1.59	SAUSAGE, EGG & BISCUIT \$1.09
3 COUNT CHICKEN STRIPS	\$1.49	SAUTEAYA SAUSAGE \$1.09
W/POTATO WEDGES/ CHICKEN (2 PCS)/BISCUIT	\$1.99	4 COUNT STEAK FINGERS \$1.00

CALL-IN ORDERS WELCOME

CHECK OUR WEEKLY SPECIALS

PEPSI 2-LITER BOTTLE 79¢

MARDI GRAS PAPER TOWELS JUMBO ROLL 69¢

BATHROOM TISSUE ANGEL SOFT 4 ROLL PKG. 99¢

HUNT'S HICKORY OR ORIGINAL BARBECUE SAUCE 18 OZ. 79¢

CRISCO SHORTENING 3 LB. CAN \$1.99

FOLGER'S COFFEE 13 OZ. CAN \$1.99

SHURFINE DOG FOOD 25 LB. BAG \$4.99

\$1000⁰⁰ WINNER WILLIAM HATCHER, ROSWELL, N.M.
\$100⁰⁰ WINNERS GABRIEL MENDOZA, FLOYDADA, TX. LUPE ZAMBRANO, VERNON, TX. MISTY ROSS, LOS LUNAS, N.M. THOMAS FRANKLIN, ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.
GAS FOR A YEAR WINNERS ROCKY SMITH, PADUCAH, TX. JESUS MALDONADO, HEREFORD, TX. JOY HILL, JAL, N.M. SHANNON ROSS, SPRINGTOWN, TX. DEL FRED WAUNEKA, GALLUP, N.M. USA CLARDY, QUITAQUE, TX.

PLAY TODAY Convenient Cash™ Pick Up Your FREE Instant Win Scratch-Off Game Ticket Over 325,000 Chances to win CASH, FREE PRODUCTS & FREE FOOD Enter Our Second Chance Sweepstakes and Cruise The Caribbean OR Be one of 9 lucky people who will win FREE GAS FOR A YEAR*! (*8 Gallons a week for 52 weeks) 7 Day Cruise For Two Can Be Yours (a \$5000 Value) With \$300 Spending Money!

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Nazareth Texas Community Development Program

The City of Nazareth is currently making plans to apply to the Texas Department of Commerce for Texas Community Development Program funds. Two public hearings to solicit the input of the community in the preparation of the Community Development Program will be conducted.

The first public hearing will be held at City Hall, 2nd & St. Joseph Street at 8:00 p.m., August 5, 1991 to discuss housing and community development needs, use of past TCDP awards, amount of funds available and eligible activities. The City encourages individual citizens and citizen's groups to make their views known at these public hearings and welcomes the full participation of its citizens in the development of this TCDP application. General information on the TCDP program will be available. Citizen comments may be delivered in advance to City Hall at any time. Groups representative of persons of low and moderate income may request technical assistance in developing TCDP proposals by contacting the person listed below.

The second public hearing will be held at City Hall, 2nd & St. Joseph Street at 8:00 p.m., August 19, 1991 to allow citizens an opportunity to comment on the proposed project, amount of funds requested and estimated amount proposed for activities that will benefit low/moderate income persons.

More detailed information on proposed activities, amount of funds and proposed location of activities will be available for inspection at City Hall after the second hearing. Handicapped individuals who may have difficulty in attending these meetings should contact City Hall to arrange for assistance. Para residentes necesitados de interpretes, favor de comunicarse con la municipalidad antes de las audiencia publica.

For further information, contact Leona Acker, City Secretary at the City Hall at 945-2285.

People

Gerber and Schilling wed in double-ring ceremony

Kelly Schilling and Chris Gerber exchanged wedding vows Saturday in a formal, double-ring ceremony at Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth with Father Neal Dce, pastor, officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rodger Schilling of Dimmitt. Parents of the groom are Mr. and Mrs. Francis Gerber of Nazareth.

Music was provided by vocalists Greg and Glenda Birkenfeld, and pianist Marcia Hoelting.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a white satin floor-length gown accented with embroidered laces which were richly embroidered in pearls and sequins. The fitted bodice of white chantilly lace over satin was designed with a basque waistline. The sweetheart neckline was edged in beaded lace and the entire bodice was overlaid in appliques which were embroidered with pearls and sequins. The back of the bodice was created with a low vee, and it also was enhanced with appliques. The Victorian sleeves were full at the top and gathered midway between her shoulder and elbow. The lower part of the sleeves was fitted. Appliques accented with pearls accented the sleeves. A large butterfly bow of satin marked the waistline in the back. The skirt was edged with scalloped lace and the skirt flowed into a chapel-length train.

She wore an elbow-length veil featuring a circlet of silk flowers and pearls. A pouf accented the back of the halo.

She carried a bouquet of coral and white roses, which was decorated with coral and white lace bows.

Shari Penquite of Earth, sister of the bride, was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Ramona Schulte and Annette Schmucker, both of Nazareth; and LaDale McCallister of Lubbock, all friends of the bride.

The bridal attendants wore tea-length dresses of coral taffeta, fash-



MRS. CHRIS GERBER
... nee Kelly Schilling

ioned with puffed, gathered sleeves. The gowns featured bows, which marked the back waistlines.

Best man was Stanley Gerber of Nazareth, brother of the groom. Groomsmen included Kyle Schilling of Dimmitt, brother of the bride; Ricky Backus and Mark Kleman, both of Nazareth, friends of the groom.

Guests were seated by Jey Penquite of Earth, the bride's brother-in-law; Jon Wych of Lubbock, brother-in-law of the groom; Rus-

sell Hoelting and Chris Schmucker of Nazareth, both friends of the groom.

Candles were lighted by Karen Farst and Vicky McKenzie, both of Lubbock.

Nikki Schulte, cousin of the bride, registered guests.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Nazareth Community Hall. A dance was held later in the evening, with music provided by the Rough Riders Band of Nazareth.

After a wedding trip to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, the couple will make their home in Ulysses, Kan.

The bride is a graduate of Nazareth High School and she received a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Texas Tech University.

A graduate of Nazareth High School, the groom holds a bachelor's degree in ag economics from Texas Tech University. He currently is employed with DeKalb Pfizer Genetics in Ulysses.

HHS class sets 15-year reunion

Hart High School's Class of 1976 has scheduled its 15-year class reunion Aug. 10.

An ice cream get-together will be from 4-6 p.m. in the Community Room of Hart Bank. At 9 p.m. the group will gather at the Barry George home for visiting and live music.

Interested persons may phone Carol Armstrong Satterwhite at 792-9768 (work) or 745-9608 (home).



THE CENTENNIAL SINGERS are making this special year a musical one as they travel to the county's communities and special events to perform. Here, they sing the title song from the patriotic musical, *Liberty*, at the July 4 Picnic. They also are presenting a program of old-time gospel hymns at the county's churches on Sunday and Wednesday evenings on request. Their next ap-

pearance will be at the annual Hart Days Sing-Along next Wednesday night, and they will perform at the Centennial Plaza dedication concert in Dimmitt Aug. 16. The Singers are directed by Richard Young, youth and music minister of the First Baptist Church of Dimmitt, and accompanied by Walter Maynard.

Photo by Danette Baker

Bridal shower honors Williams

Angela Williams, bride-elect of Chad Davis, was honored Saturday with a bridal shower at the home of Mrs. Donnie Nelson.

Guests were greeted by Mrs. Nelson, the honoree and her mother, Colleen Williams, and the prospective groom's mother, Doricell Davis.

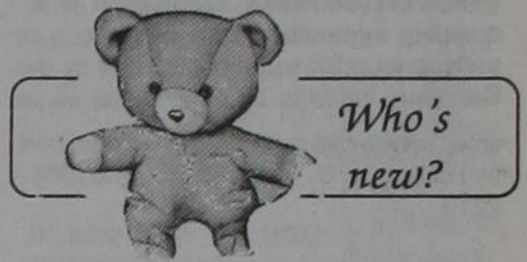
An ecru linen and lace cloth covered the table, which held a pedestal crystal punch bowl, crystal cups and saucers and candleholders

and a silver coffee service. A pink and blue silk floral centerpiece accented with ivy which trailed onto the table, completed the decor.

Guests were served French pastry with a flower on each plate, Hawaiian lemonade and coffee.

Serving guests were Maggie Paxton and Shellie Nutt.

Special guest was the bride's mother, Colleen Williams, of McAllen.



Who's new?

Plains Memorial
Ruben and Loretta Mendoza of Dimmitt are the parents of a baby girl, Stephanie Rae, who was born at 2:15 p.m. on July 19 at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt. She weighed in at 9 lbs., 2 oz. and was 21 inches long. She joins big sister Erika, who's seven years old; and Adam, who's four. Paternal grandparents are Jesus and Mariade Jesus Mendoza of GTO, Mexico. Maternal grandparents included Reyes and Ramona Sandoval of Dimmitt.

Liz Murphy of Galveston is the mother of a baby boy, William Jeddiah Murphy, who was born at 7:44 p.m. on July 14 at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt. William weighed in at 8 lbs., 12 oz. and was 21 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Dr. Bill Murphy of Dimmitt and Charlyne Murphy of Abilene.

Blanca Lydia Munoz and Pablo G. Rangel of Dimmitt are the parents of a baby girl, Vanessa Juliana Rangel, who entered the world at 2:05 a.m. on July 16. She weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz. and measured 22 inches in length. She joins siblings Obeth and Celsar. Paternal grandparents are Felis and Clara Rangel of Mexico. Maternal grandparent is Refugio Munoz of Mexico.

Republicans set social

All Republican primary voters, and independents are invited to a "pot luck" summer social Aug. 3, at the Gary Hardee home.

Jennifer Sava, Girls State Repre-

sentative and Casey Summers, Boys State Representative will tell about their experiences. Bonnie Maynard and Mac Thornberry, State Republican Executive Committee members from this district will update those present on the GOP.

The group will also discuss the proposed constitutional amendments.

Ice cream social set

A Centennial Ice Cream Supper will be held Saturday, Aug. 17, at Summerfield.

The ice cream social is slated to begin at 8 p.m. and will be held at the Summerfield Baptist Church's fellowship hall.

The event will be sponsored by the Summerfield Community and it is open to everyone in the county.

Each family attending is asked to bring either a cake, cookies or freezer of ice cream.



The Sweet and Simple Aid to Dieting. It's a Classy idea-eating cookies for Appetite Control. Fiber Classic Cookies - Rich Source of Fiber • Zero Cholesterol • Amazingly Satisfying • Totally Convenient Nutritious & Delicious.

Parsons Rexall Drug
107 E. Bedford, Dimmitt

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Allen Williams request the honour of your presence at the marriage of their daughter
Angela Michelle
to
Chad William Davis
son of Mr. and Mrs. John Robert Davis
Saturday, the third of August
nineteen hundred and ninety-one
at six o'clock in the evening
Saint Stephen United Methodist Church
4600 Southwestern Street
Amarillo, Texas

Reception immediately following

You are invited to a
Wedding Shower
honoring
Brenda (Schinkus) Campbell
Saturday, August 3
10 to 11:30 a.m.
in the home of
Darlene Stanton
1605 W. Bedford, Dimmitt

Selections at Coleman Pharmacy, Parsons Drug, Running M Bath Shop and The Village Shop.

You are invited to a
Bridal Shower
honoring
Molly Gay Waggoner
bride-elect of
Joe Setliff
Saturday, August 3
10 to 11:30 a.m.
in the home of
Dorothy Nutt
1001 Maple, Dimmitt

Selections at Parsons and The Village Shop

Because you have shared in their lives by your friendship and love
Michelle Ann Schulte
and
Rex Vincent Acker
along with their parents
Mary Ann Schulte and David Schulte
and *Charlotte Acker*
invite you to share in their joy when they exchange marriage vows and begin their new life together on Saturday, the tenth of August nineteen hundred and ninety-one at three o'clock
Holy Family Church
Nazareth, Texas

Reception, Meal, and Dance following

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE

1/2 Off
All Spring and Summer Merchandise
★
One Rack
75% Off
★
Spring and Summer Infants' Wear
1/3 Off
★
Tots and Teens
101 E. Bedford • 647-2650

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE



NAZARETH'S MUSICAL HERITAGE remains alive today with the hometown country and western band, The Rough Riders. The Rough Riders will join with the Nazareth Knights of Columbus in sponsoring a benefit outdoor concert on Aug. 10. Proceeds from the event will benefit the KC's State

Deaf Program. The Rough Riders, (pictured from left) Raymond Falcon, Dwayne Schulte, Marcia Hoelting, Greg Birkenfeld, Glenda Birkenfeld, David Bownds and Bruce Ehly. The annual concert will be headlined by Les Taylor, a former lead singer of the band, Exile. *Courtesy Photo*

Police Calls

Gary Lee Stringer, employee of Monterey Construction, advised police of three separate vandalism incidents that caused more than \$200 in damage.

Last Tuesday, Stringer said someone broke the window of a 1974 blue Ford van, which was parked on the south side of Dimmitt High School.

That same day, he told police

that a window on the south-west corner of Richardson Elementary was broken.

On Wednesday, the third incident occurred, also at Richardson Elementary. An unknown suspect apparently threw a rock through a window of the building's new wing.

Dimmitt Police arrested a 19-year-old Dimmitt male and a 17-year-old Dimmitt female early Sunday morning for assault and family violence.

The suspects advised police they had assaulted each other before officers arrived.

Raul Jackson, clerk at the Fast Stop gas station, informed police that on Saturday night, a truck driver had pumped \$30.00 worth of diesel into his semi-truck and drove off without paying.

Sunday night, an employee of Allstate Security summoned police to the Star Dance Hall in reference to a fight. A 46-year-old Dimmitt man was arrested and booked at the county jail for disorderly conduct.

Police arrested a 23-year-old

Dimmitt man Sunday morning on charges of criminal trespass.

A 34-year-old Hale Center remained booked in the county jail last Tuesday on a theft warrant.

Last Wednesday, an 18-year-old Dimmitt girl was arrested for burglary of a vehicle.

A one car roll-over Sunday morning caused more than \$500 to an 1980 black and silver Mercury owned by Ramon Paul Nieto, 19, of Earth. No one was injured.

Department of Public Safety trooper issued Nieto a citation for failure to maintain liability insurance.

Dimmitt police investigated a two-car collision last Thursday night on 700 W. Cleveland.

Dan Heard of Dimmitt backed into a 1985 blue Chevy suburban owned by Joe Anthony Beames of Dimmitt. The vehicle was unoccupied at the time of the collision.

Police issued Heard a citation for backing unsafely.

Suds and Sounds

Nazareth's outdoor concert to benefit KC's Deaf Program

Nazareth's annual "Suds and Sounds" outdoor concert will be held Saturday, Aug. 10, from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Nazareth Community Ballpark.

The Suds and Sounds concert will be co-sponsored by the Nazareth Rough Riders Band and the Nazareth branch of the Knights of Columbus. All proceeds from the charity event will benefit the Knights of Columbus State Deaf Program.

Admission charge will be \$10 per person and gates will open at 2 p.m. Barbecued sandwiches and soft drinks will be sold, and coolers and refreshments will be allowed. Glass containers will be prohibited. Those attending may bring lawnchairs, as seating is limited.

This year's show will be headlined by Les Taylor, a former lead singer of the country band Exile. Taylor recently has launched a solo career with his album on Epic Records entitled *That Old Desire*. The voice behind the hit singles *She's Too Good to Be True* and *It'll Be Me* (Radio and Records' Song of the Year in 1986), Taylor is now performing solo and has released a new hit single, *I've Got a Mind To Go Crazy* plus a curret duet single with Shelby Lynn, entitled *Very*

First Lasting Love.

Preceding Taylor's show will be performances by four bands including Slow Motion of Amarillo, a country and western band; and the Moondogs of Hereford, a rock-and-roll and country band. The Rough Riders also will perform.

A strong musical heritage has been molded and kept alive in Nazareth for the past four generations.

It began with fiddle players who were among the first settlers in the community in the early 1900s and advanced to brass bands and home singing parties in the 1920s and 1930s. Eventually a full-fledged western swing band, Melody Six, was formed in the 1950s and 1960s

and the western band sound is still alive today with the Rough Riders.

The seven-member Rough Riders group have either been born in Nazareth or have lived there for many years. As a tribute to the community's musical heritage, the Rough Riders organized the Suds and Sounds concert more than eight years ago. Throughout the years, many popular country bands have graced the outdoor stage, including Canyon and Zaca Creek.

An added attraction to the event will be the addition of a 2,400-square-foot wooden dance floor, constructed by Wilhelm Carpentry of Amarillo (owned by Stephen Wilhelm, a former Nazareth resident).

Kalina Pohlmeier advances to state

Kalina Pohlmeier's first place in the district contest secured her a spot at the State 4-H Fashion Show in Nacadoches, Aug. 22-24.

The Nazareth High School student designed and constructed a drum major uniform to wear during the fall as she directs the band, said Carolyn Osborn, CEA-Home Economist.

Pohlmeier won the senior division at the district contest held July

23. Other county 4-Hers participating in the district contest were: Jessica Kern (second place), Susan Book (third place), Mitchell Brockman, Kaci Schulte, Denia Durbin, Karmen Pohlmeier (first place), Margie Durbin, Brandi Rice, Janay Johnson, Tisha Rice, Lena Durbin. Lyndy Mitchell and Rachel Wall, both of Hart, also qualified, but were not able to attend the contest.

Senior Citizens Menu

Senior Citizen Menus
MONDAY: Steak and gravy, fresh corn, salad, dessert, bread, tea and coffee.

TUESDAY: Pork chops, green beans, mashed potatoes, salad, bread, dessert, tea and coffee.

WEDNESDAY: Beef tips over rice, fresh cooked carrots, beets, salad, bread, dessert, tea and coffee.

THURSDAY: Barbecued ribs, beans, potato salad, dessert, bread, tea and coffee.

FRIDAY: Chicken strips, fresh squash, green salad, bread, dessert, tea and coffee.

Summer Clearance
 FURTHER MARKDOWNS
Savings Up To 60%
KRISTI'S
 614 Broadway, Plainview

Dr. Morris Webb
OPTOMETRIST
 Office Hours 9-5
 Monday through Friday
 647-4464
 300 W. Bedford, Dimmitt

JEWELRY & WATCH REPAIR FOR THE DIMMITT AREA

- Ring Sizing Two Day Service
- Remounting and Diamond Setting
- Full Line Watch Batteries
- Neck Chains Repaired
- Jewelry Appraised For Insurance
- Faster Service

Holmberg Jewelry
 "FAMOUS FOR DIAMONDS"
 Serving the Clovis Area Over 49 Years
 312 Main, Clovis 88101 (505) 762-9376

FOR "BEST VALUE" CRUISES and TOURS

HTC

HEREFORD TRAVEL CENTER
 119 East 4th St., Suite 2
 Hereford, Texas 79045
 806-364-6813
 800-225-0190



GRAND OPENING!

Thursday: Door prize—Country bath basket with accessories. Ribbon cutting at 9:45 a.m.

Friday: Door prize—ceramic Christmas tree.

Saturday: Door prize—ceramic ducks and eggs.
 Drawing each day at 5 p.m. Need not be present to win.

10% TO 50% OFF ALL CERAMICS AND SUPPLIES
 Over 1,600 molds available.
 Firing done. Glaze your own on premises.

Henderson Ceramics
 Located in **Henderson TV & Appliance**
 S. US 385
 647-4342

Halloween items, too!

100th CENTENNIAL T-SHIRTS
 S, M, L, XL.....\$10
 XXL.....\$11

CENTENNIAL CAPS
 Golf and Baseball styles, white.....\$10

HISTORICAL CALENDARS
 "Centennial Moments" Desk Calendars.....\$5
 available at
MERLE NORMAN STUDIO—111 E. Bedford, Dimmitt
THE COMPANY STORE—Hwy. 194, East of Hart
BLUEBONNET SAVINGS BANK—216 N. Broadway, Dimmitt
KOSY KORNER GIFTS—405 S. Broadway, Hart
HOME MERCANTILE—Nazareth

IT'S DOUBLE VALUE TIME AT DAIRY QUEEN!

\$2.99

FULL MEAL DEAL™
 1/4 lb. Hungr-Buster, french fries, drink & a small sundae.

\$1.99

FUN BUNCH MUNCH™ KID'S MEAL
 A meal just for kids! Your choice of hot dog, Hungr-Buster® Jr., corny dog or two steak fingers, plus drink, french fries and a DQ treat. And a fun prize!

ON SALE JULY 29 - AUG. 18, 1991

THIS WEEK'S DQ VALUE

© Reg. U.S. Pat. & Tm. Off. Am. D.Q. Corp. TM Reg. U.S. Pat. & Tm. Off. D.Q. Corp. © Tm. D.Q. Corp. - At participating Dairy Queen stores. *Precooked weight.

Sports

Southwest Outdoors

with Mel Phillips



Any fishing tournament, open to the public, that does not have a polygraph will sooner or later attract a scoundrel who will cheat the honest fishermen. Polygraphs may cost the promoter a little money but, it is one of the best ways to have an honest fishing tournament.

Both Redman and B.A.S.S. have partner-draw systems that help protect against cheating. Open tournaments for individuals are risky, but handled properly and honestly are great fun. Watch out for those tournaments that do not protect against the cheaters. As the tournament director of Fun Tournaments, I insist on honest competition and wouldn't put my name on any open fishing tournament without a polygraph. Think about it.

The Dallas Cowboys are at camp; can dove season be far behind? Early reports indicated that the dove season should be excellent, but count on an early cold front pushing our birds to the south. It happens three out of four years.

One of the best gifts to give a young hunter is a hunter safety course. Effective Sept. 1, all hunters born between Sept. 2, 1971, through Aug. 31, 1975, must have completed a certified hunter education course to hunt legally in Texas. Call the Texas Parks and Wildlife at 1-800-792-1112 for the nearest safety class.

Don't just send the youngster to

the course, take it with him/her. Make it a special event by adding a trip to the gun range to sight in the rifles. The hunter education course will take some 10 hours, but the memories of those first hunts will last a lifetime. Every hunter and fisherman fondly remembers the thrill and anticipation of their early trips. Why not make the end of the safety course even more special by having a victory dinner or presenting the new hunter with that first gun?

If you haven't been to the gun range, it is time to go. While there, check out the newest concept in target shooting: sporting clays. Using a little imagination, the boys at the range can have the clay birds coming at you, going straight up, bouncing on the ground, or can send a darting pair of mini targets that would make even the elusive white-wing dove a little jealous. Sporting clays are fun and, by improving your shooting, will make this year's first trip even more productive.

Tip of the week: Tired of trying to read the little + or - signs on the old boat battery? A can of red paint can make charging the batteries lots easier. Just spary some on the positive post side of the battery. This idea really comes in handy when setting up the charger in the dark of the night.

Tournament scheduled

The annual "Dandies and Darlins" partnership golf tournament gets underway with a practice round Friday at the Castro County Recreation Association.

As many as 60 teams may be competing in this year's tournament, according to golf pro Bill Glenn. At press time 50 teams had entered from the area, including teams from Lubbock, Amarillo, Hereford, Canyon, Wheeler, Friona, Tulia, Vigo Park, Farwell, Vega and Littlefield.

The one-man, one-woman scramble will be flighted according to the lowest handicap, Glenn said. Entry fee is \$100 per team, including carts. Deadline for entries is Friday night, or when 60 teams have been signed up.

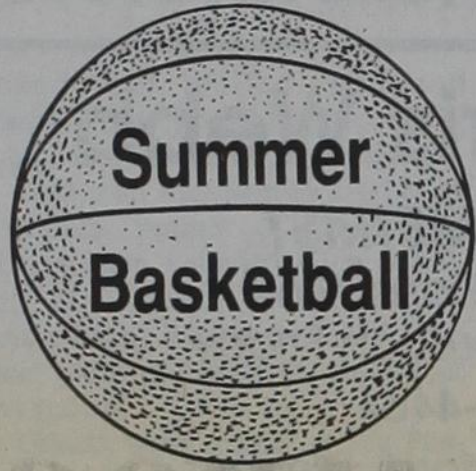
Play will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday morning, and dinner will be served at the club Saturday night. The final round of the tournament will be played starting at 9 a.m. Sunday.

Commodities distribution

Panhandle Community Services has rescheduled their commodities distribution from Aug. 21 to Aug. 7, at the Expo Building.

Doors will open at noon.

Plaques • Trophies Engraving
SHEFFY'S WESTERN & CASUAL
Dimmitt



Girls' Standings

Bulls	14-1
Spurs	10-5
Pistons	8-7
Blazers	8-7
Celtics	7-8
Lakers	6-9
Suns	4-11
Jazz	3-12

JULY 22

Bulls 84, Celtics 50

SCORING: Bulls—Bradley 28, Bennett 20; Celtics—Schumacher 24, P. Thomas 12.

Jazz 79, Suns 46

SCORING: Jazz—Grand 39, Field 14; Suns—Farris 20, Wethington 10.

Blazers 68, Pistons 40

SCORING: Blazers—Edwards 21, Stewart 16; Pistons—Bossett and Farris 8.

Spurs 81, Lakers 62

SCORING: Spurs—Pohlmeier 18, Nelson 15; Lakers—Derrick 12, Smithson 11.

JULY 23

Bulls 80, Suns 64

SCORING: Bulls—Bradley 30, Acker 13; Suns—Wethington 11, Dunn 10.

Celtics 72, Spurs 68

SCORING: Celtics—Schumacher 20, Klemman 14; Spurs—Pohlmeier 22, Stewart 15.

Blazers 78, Jazz 54

SCORING: Blazers—Johnson 15, P. Thomas 14; Jazz—Grand 15, Klemman 14.

Lakers 73, Pistons 51

SCORING: Lakers—Huseman 30, Smithson 18; Pistons—Bradley 19, Josselot 14.

Track Results

TAC REGIONAL TRACK MEET at Maverick Stadium UT at Arlington

July 13 and 14

400-yard dash: 4. (Prelim) Dirkston Sherman, 1:13; 6. (Prelim) Billy Scroggins, 52.88.

Long Jump: 8. Jennifer Vick, 14-2. **Shot Put:** 7. Ramiro Rosalez, 37-0. **100-meter dash:** 5. (Prelim) Jennifer Vick, 14:50.

100-meter dash: 6. (Prelim) Dirkston Sherman, 14.45.

High Jump: 6. Brandon Smith, 4-8; 7. Kalem Thomas, 4-8; 7. Jennifer Vick, 4-4; 2. Billy Scroggins 6-0.

200-meter dash: 8. (Prelim) Dirkston Sherman, 27-80; 7. (Prelim) Jennifer Vick, 29.80.

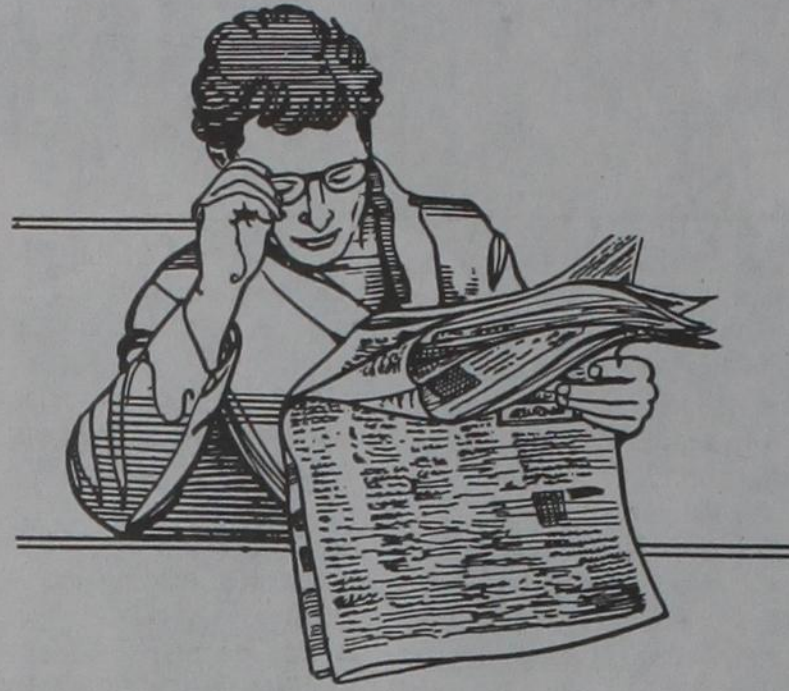
Amateur Art Club schedules meeting

The Amateur Artists Club will meet at 1 p.m., Tuesday at 1000 Oak to finalize plans for the Harvest Days Art Show.

Anyone interested in displaying artwork during the Harvest Days celebration, Aug. 14-17, is invited or should contact Frances Frazier at 647-4340.



Anyone needing beans or peas snapped is invited to have them done here at Canterbury Villa. Our ladies here love to do this for others and are rather good at it. If anyone needs this done, please call Linda Rasor, Sharan Leinen or Regina Steffens at Canterbury Villa, 647-3117.



As good as a letter from home . . .

With just a little thoughtfulness and a phone call, you can have the local newspaper sent to the student in your family, or to the family member who is now living or stationed elsewhere. It's a welcome gift that keeps on giving—52 weeks a year. If you wish, the News will send the recipient an attractive gift card in your name.

One of the best things about a newspaper gift is the cost—it's only \$16 for a year, \$13.50 for a school year, or \$9 for six months.

To initiate a gift subscription, just call the News office at 647-3123 and give us the complete address. Your recipient will begin receiving the News immediately, and we'll bill you later. Or, you may mail the address with a check to the Castro County News, P.O. Box 67, Dimmitt, Texas 79027.

They'll enjoy reading about their hometown happenings in the News . . . and they'll think of you every time they do!

The Castro County News

Radio Shack SINCE 1921 AMERICA'S TECHNOLOGY STORE DEALER

HOT AUGUST VALUES

VHS Hi-Fi Stereo VCR With Remote
Save \$150 **299⁹⁵** Reg. 449.95 #16-617
■ Rich Stereo Sound Quality That Rivals CD
■ On-Screen Programming ■ 1-Year/6-Event Timer

36-Watt Under-Dash CD Player
Save \$100 **249⁹⁵** Reg. 349.95
■ Easy to Install—No Need to Remove Your Dashboard or Existing Stereo
■ Great for Pickup Trucks ■ Anti-Shock
#12-1941

Hear Exciting Real-Life Action With Our 200-Channel Scanner
Save \$100 **229⁹⁵** Reg. 329.95 #20-135
■ Get Police, Fire, Ambulance, Aircraft, Trains, Ham Radio and Lots More
■ Keyboard Access to 32,000 Frequencies Including 800-MHz Police Band

Great Buy On a Personal Printer
Save \$160 **199⁹⁵** Reg. 359.95 #26-2848
■ Versatile Triple-Mode Printing
■ Up to 240 cps ■ Push Tractor Feed

Personal Cassette
Cut 40% **39⁷⁷** Reg. Separate Items 65.90 #14-1071/33-1000
■ With Headphones
■ Dolby™ B NR

Mobile CB
29% Off **49⁹⁵** Reg. 69.95 #21-1509
■ Get Directions, Help Or Just Chat
■ Never Drive "Alone"

6 x 9" 2-Way Car Speakers
43% Off **39⁹⁵** Reg. 69.95 Pair #12-1715
■ 80 Watts Capacity
■ 2 1/2" Tweeter

Audio Tapes
40% Off
60-Minute **149** Reg. 2.49 #44-940
90-Minute **179** Reg. 2.99 #44-941

Sleek Trim-Fone
Cut 29% **24⁹⁵** Reg. 34.95
■ Desk or Wall
White, #43-585. Almond, #43-586. Gray, #43-587

Data Memory Calculator
47% Off **7⁹⁵** Reg. 14.95 #65-934
■ Pocket Electronic Phone Directory

KITTRELL ELECTRONICS
103 E. Bedford, Dimmitt A Radio Shack Dealer 647-2197
SWITCHABLE TOUCH-TONE/PULSE phones work on both tone and pulse lines. Therefore, in areas having only pulse (rotary dial) lines, you can still use services requiring tones, like alternative long-distance systems and computerized services. FCC registered. Not for coin or party lines. We service what we sell. Dolby™ Laboratories Licensing Corp. Most battery-powered equipment excludes batteries.
Most Major Credit Cards Welcome
Sale Ends 8/17/91

The Castro County News is available in **HART** exclusively at **Ralph's Express Mart** 194-168 Intersection

1:1

(Continued from Page 1)

official commissioning of the Centennial Commission, the commissioners in their wisdom saw fit to commission Bill Sava as my co-chairman.

It was a good move. Not only does Bill run the pageant, and not only is he one of my best friends, but he's a postmaster, and accustomed to accounting for every penny. I enjoy planning and organizing and promoting, but usually I can't be bothered with tracking the till. It has been a good working partnership.

After being appointed, Bill and I, along with Delores Heller—who somehow knew she was going to be in the thick of this Centennial thing—sprung for the tuition and attended an all-day seminar in Lubbock on Project Management. (After this is over, I think I'll get that workbook back out and recount its advice. All I remember offhand is that Donald Trump renovated the Central Park ice-skating rink for several hundred thousand dollars after the City of New York had poured millions into it to no avail.)

I'd like to say the gazebo was my idea. But it wasn't. It was Judge Polly Simpson's.

I'd like to say the Centennial Plaza was my idea. But it wasn't. We stole the concept from Swisher County.

(Also, I learned later that our county's Texas Sesquicentennial Committee had had the idea for a gazebo and plaza back in '86. And the Mayor's Council on City Beautification had also toyed with the idea.)

I'd like to say the sale of engraved granite tiles to finance the Centennial was my idea. But it wasn't. We filched that one, too—from Potter and Swisher Counties.

After agreeing to try to build a gazebo as our "centerpiece" project, the Centennial Commission voted to build the plaza around it—partly because Polly didn't want me ripping up the main entrance walkway to her courthouse and laying a bunch of red-granite tiles there.

So you can see how democracy sometimes works. You steal an idea here and an idea there, and you counter a left-field proposition with another proposal. I was in on the whole magilla.

I really did not want to straggle the construction of the Centennial Plaza. And most others on the commission really-really did not want to. Then Robbie Hawkins came forward. Thank goodness.

One of the best things we did was to give him the project and get

out of his way. The Lord, you know, designed the horse and a committee designed the camel.

All that the rest of us did was to scout the countryside and shoot pictures of granite tiles and plazas, figure the costs and options, and send off for the gazebo design book which I don't think ever came.

(The gazebo design? Yeah, we stole that, too. If you're ever in Old Town, Albuquerque, and get the feeling that it's *deja vu* all over again, well...)

Robbie has scaled and drawn, and measured, and re-measured, and agonized over, and lived with the plaza all summer. He has pushed, and argued, and driven workmen up the wall, and done the dirty job none of the rest of us wanted to do, until now it's almost finished.

And what we have is the prettiest, most usable little plaza anywhere—a fitting tribute to what we were, what we are, and what we aspire to be.

Something has been on my conscience that I need to share with you. I treated some folks on the Dimmitt School Board unfairly in my column a couple of weeks ago.

I seldom tee off on local governing boards, because during the years I spent covering their meetings, I learned to appreciate those people who are willing to take on the responsibility of serving.

When I teed off on the school board, I was tired and mad.

I was tired physically and mentally (you can check the size of this edition, if you need to know why). And I was tired of having heard from reliable sources over a period of years that this school administrator or that coach or teacher were under the gun—on a "hit list," if you will.

I was mad because still another good friend in the schools had just resigned.

But I fired with a scattergun and spattered some innocent people.

For one thing, my column may have given the impression that Army Salinas resigned under pressure. He didn't. He told me that he was resigning because the offer—a better salary and an athletic directorship—was too good to turn down.

And for another thing, that "hit list" isn't the work of the school board. It's the work of a faction of disgruntled people who have their own gripes about this or that—you'll find them in any school district—and who have been active and vocal about it.

So I want to apologize to Army

and Ann, and to the school board, for the harm that my heat-of-the-moment remarks may have caused them.

But I don't apologize to those who write the anonymous letters or draw the cartoons.

All of us on the News staff hope you enjoy reading our Centennial Edition as much as we have enjoyed creating it.

When we started planning the project months ago, we set as our sales goal enough advertising to make 100 pages feasible, not knowing whether our county could actually support a special edition of this size—more than twice as many pages as our previous largest edition.

More about Tractors . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

time had been put on the machines.

Rhynes noted that the local two victims will reimburse J & H Equipment Co. of Dimmitt for transporting the vehicles back home, and are also asked to pay a \$1,200 "recovery fee" per tractor to the commandant of the Mexican police who aided in getting the tractors returned.

"It's still cheaper than replacing such an expensive piece of equipment," Rhynes said.

Rhynes noted that John Deere tractors were favored by the thieves, because there is a John Deere factory in Mexico and replacement parts would be readily available.

Presidio Sheriff Thompson told Rhynes that it is unusual for stolen property to be recovered from inside Mexico, particularly anything as large as a tractor. He commented that he had not seen anything that

Without the advertising support, a special edition is dead in the water.

But thank goodness, we got the support—from our county's businesses, industries, governmental bodies, churches. . . .

If you like what you see and read in this edition, it was those advertisers who made it possible. Their support enabled us to do everything with this issue that we had hoped to do.

Also, we bugged a lot of people over the past several months for old pictures, information, details and histories. And we got complete support there, too.

Thanks to all of you.



ALMOST FINISHED—Although some bricks and mortar remain in the high school's foyer, Assistant Principal Lyman Schroeder said the remaining construction won't affect classes, which begin Aug. 26. All exterior work is completed, and the construction crews are now detailing the interior, he said. Schroeder said every teacher should have a classroom by the first class day.

Photo by Danette Baker

J & T Construction

of Dimmitt

is your area authorized agent for

"Cellular 3"

Call 647-3716, 647-5135 or 647-2516

More about

Absentee voting . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

district is strictly a taxing entity and authority to manage the public schools is retained by each local school district's board of trustees, according to the Texas Research League.

The maximum tax rate the County Education District can charge is 72 cents per \$100 of assessed evaluation. That figure is based upon state property tax values. If a school district's normal tax rate is set at \$1 per \$100 of assessed value, then the school district will have to tax 28 cents per \$100 to make up the difference. The actual dollar amount taxpayers owe won't change that much, it will just be divided and paid to two different taxing entities.

According to information published by the Texas Research League, property taxes levied by the county education district will be combined with state aid to fund the total cost of the foundation school program (Tier 1). The Commissioner of Education will calculate the amount of property taxes which each county education district must raise as its share of foundation program costs. The county education district then will be required to adopt the tax rate necessary to raise

this local fund assignment.

The Tier 1 taxes collected are to be distributed to component school districts on the basis of each district's share of the county education district's taxable property, with the provision that no district may receive funds in excess of its foundation program costs.

The exemptions voted on will help determine at what the County Education District's tax rate will be set.

These exemptions are:

* 1. Exemption of 20% of the market value of a resident's homestead.

* 2. Exemption of \$10,000 of the market value of a resident's homestead for individuals who are disabled or who are 65 years of age or older.

* 3. Taxation of tangible personal property other than manufactured homes that is not held or used for production of income.

Polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on election day, Aug. 10. Dimmitt voters may cast their ballots at the Dimmitt City Hall, Hart voters may vote at the Hart school cafeteria, and Nazareth voters may cast their ballots at the Nazareth High School Home Economics Room.

Church Directory

New Hope Memorial Baptist
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt
Rev. Claude Mullins

Sunnyside Baptist
Sunnyside
David Fletcher.....647-5712

First United Methodist
Hart
Perry Hunsaker.....938-2462

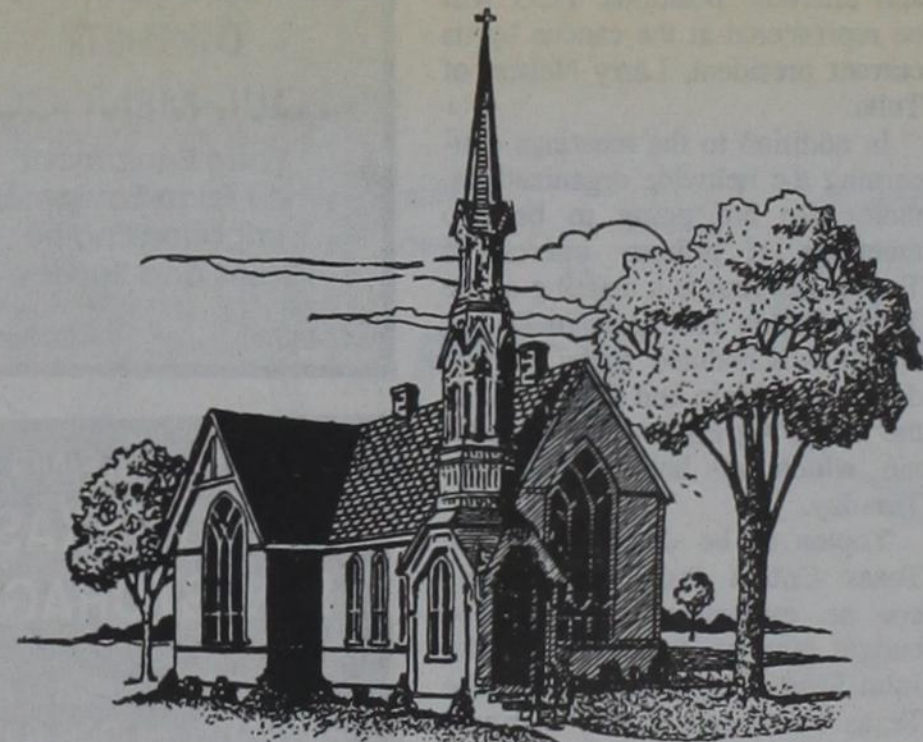
La Asamblea Cristiana
400 NW 5th, Dimmitt
Ruben Velasquez

First United Methodist
110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt
Vernon O'Kelly.....647-4106

Iglesia De Cristo
E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt
Pedro A. Gonzalez

Immaculate Conception Catholic
1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt
Norbert Choong.....647-4219

Primera Iglesia Bautista Mexicana
301 NE 7th, Dimmitt
Eduardo Acevedo.....647-4373



And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth to you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. Genesis 3:17-18

Church of God of the First Born
611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt

Immanuel Baptist
501 SE 3rd, Dimmitt
James Alexander

Rosa de Saron
411 NE 6th, Dimmitt
Maria Castaneda.....647-5598

St. John's Catholic
Hart
Norbert Choong.....647-4219

Church of Christ
SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt
Benny Baker.....647-4435

Rose of Sharon Temple
407 NE 4th, Dimmitt

First Assembly of God
300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt
Claude Hendricks.....647-5662

First Baptist
1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
Paul Kenley.....647-3115

Lee Street Baptist
401 SW 2nd, Dimmitt
Don Webster.....647-5474

Church of God of Prophecy
309 NW 4th, Dimmitt
647-3403

First Christian
600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
David Keller.....647-5478

La Iglesia De Dios Del Promojenito
East Halsell Street, Dimmitt

Presbyterian
1510 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
Rev. Edward D. Freeman.....647-3124

Holy Family Catholic
Nazareth
Neal Doe.....945-2616

This directory is sponsored by these businesses:

American Fructose—Dimmitt
"Attend the Church of Your Choice"
647-4141

Associated Insurance
Max & Karen Newman
Tami Griffith
301 SE 2nd, Dimmitt—647-3176

Castro County Pump Co.
S. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt
647-5404

Dale's Auto & Salvage
200 N. Hwy. 168, Nazareth
945-2223

Dimmitt Consumers
"Your Co-op Supplier"
217 E. Bedford, 647-4134

Dimmitt Equipment Co.
White Farm Equipment Irrigation Engines
411 SE 2nd—647-4197

Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply
200 E. Bedford—647-3286

Dimmitt Ready Mix
Commercial, Residential Concrete
Backhoe & Ditching Service
718 E. Bedford—647-3171

Farm Bureau Insurance
304 N. Broadway, Dimmitt
647-5106

Flagg Fertilizer Co.
Farm Chemicals
Stark Bros. Trees & Shrubs
Flagg Intersection—647-2241

Foskey Funeral Home
Mike Foskey, Jerri Lilley, Tom McGill
208 W. Halsell, Dimmitt—647-5171

Hart Producers Co-op Gin
Monty Phillips, Manager
938-2189

Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.
Lumber, Hardware, Housewares,
Flooring, Garden Supplies
109 N. Broadway, Dimmitt—647-3161

K-Bob's Steak House
"The Place to See Your Friends After Church"
204 W. Bedford, Dimmitt—647-4164

Red-X Travel Center
Open 6 Days a Week
Attend Church on Sunday
320 S. Broadway, Dimmitt



MINUTEMAN SYSTEM

FURNITURE CLINIC

Complete Furniture Restoration

Weldon Smith
(806) 995-3606

123 N. Maxwell
Tulia, Texas 79038

Stripping
Refinishing
Mirror Silvering
Veneering

ABI Agriculture Business Industry



SAFE DRIVERS — Twenty-two Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative employees were recently recognized by Nationwide Insurance Company for driving cooperative vehicles a combined total of 250 years without an accident. The employees honored and their years without a vehicle accident are from left: Jim Holmes (16), Harold Finch (21),

David Spain (7), Steve Louder (15), Dan Higgins (13), Larry McNutt (4), Mike Bridges (12), Steve Horrell (2), Dean Reinart (8), Ed Vaught (5), Lorn Nixon (16), Tommie Weemes (29), Dick Montgomery (19), and Sam Garrison (20). Not shown are: Gene George (4), Don Rieves (17), Mike Veazey (11), Paula Welty (10), and Seve Landers (2).

Courtesy photo

Cotton Talks

Topics ranging from boll weevils to budgets will be discussed this week as a veritable onslaught of cotton industry officials descend on Dallas and San Antonio for a number of different meetings.

According to Lubbock-based Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., there actually will be four separate meetings held during the week of July 29—three in Dallas and one in San Antonio.

The full week of meetings is indicative of the numerous important items scheduled for discussion.

Perhaps the most complicated of these meetings will be the Cotton Incorporated meeting in Dallas. The purpose of the meeting is to develop a budget for Cotton Incorporated's upcoming fiscal year. The Cotton Board will ratify the final budget at a separate meeting. The challenge facing the CI Board will be to develop two separate budgets in order to have an appropriate one ready to be submitted to the Cotton Board after the Cotton Research and Promotion Referendum results have been announced. The fact that the referendums outcome will not be announced until around Aug. 23, makes formulating the two budgets necessary.

"The work we do in Dallas will be important to the entire cotton industry," explained PCG president Larry Nelson. "In addition to the

Field day scheduled

Texas A&M Agricultural Research and Extension Center, in conjunction with the North Plains Groundwater District will present its annual field day, Wednesday, Aug. 14 at the North Plains Research Field Station near Etter.

Morning activities begin at 8:15 a.m. with registration followed by the program designed to qualify people for three continuing education units needed for renewal of commercial, non-commercial and private pesticide applicator licenses.

Texas A&M Agricultural scientists from Amarillo, Lubbock and College Station will report on a variety of topics ranging from control techniques for crop diseases and weeds to insecticide resistance in greenbugs.

Beginning at 1 p.m., Dr. John Sweeten, Extension Agricultural Engineer, will discuss water quality implications of manure utilization as a fertilizer for crops.

Reports on wheat grazing studies and wheat genetics research will be provided by Dr. Steve Winter, Agronomist and Dr. Mark Lazar, Molecular Geneticist.

Dr. Michael Hickey, Soil Chemist, will discuss aspects of corn phosphorus research.

Implications of the 1991 Farm Bill will be addressed for North Plains producers by Dr. Steve Amosson, Extension Economist. Research displays, chemical storage and disposal demonstrations and a field tour completes the afternoon schedule, according to Mr. Cecil Regier, Research Scientist in charge at Etter.

The field day will be sponsored by Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas Agricultural Extension Service and the North Plains Ground Water District No. 2.

proposed Cotton Incorporated budget, the Texas Caucus will be held Friday to select new representatives and alternates to the National Cotton Council, Cotton Incorporated and the Cotton Board."

The caucus will begin at 1 p.m. on Friday and voting representatives of certified producer organizations from Texas will find several positions up for reappointment. Besides the regular representatives and alternates that are due for reappointment this year, Texas will see the addition of several new positions. The new positions will increase Texas' level of representation in two of the three organizations. Texas gains two delegate positions to the National Cotton Council and one director position on the Cotton Incorporated Board.

Overall, Texas will be selecting representatives to fill a total of six National Cotton Council delegate and alternate positions and nominations for two Cotton Board member and alternate positions. PCG will be represented at the caucus by its current president, Larry Nelson of Tulia.

In addition to the meetings concerning the beltwide organizations, there also are going to be two meetings of primary interest to Texas. The first is a meeting of the Texas Cotton Producers in Dallas, which is scheduled today (Thursday) and Friday; and the second is the Texas Ag Forum in San Antonio, which was held Monday and Tuesday.

Topics to be discussed at the Texas Cotton Producers meeting are an evaluation of proposed budget cuts by State Comptroller John Sharp, that would abolish the Texas Food and Fibers Commission and move all pesticide regulation authority out of the Texas

Dept. of Agriculture. Also to be discussed are bollweevil eradication and a review of the Cotton Incorporated state support committee's activities to date.

The Texas Cotton Producers is made up of representatives from the nine producer organizations that represent Texas cotton farmers.

The Texas Agricultural Forum was held in San Antonio Monday, and it was held in conjunction with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service's Specialists Association meeting. The discussion dealt with the economic situation which currently exists in Texas. The impact of alternative taxing policies on Texas commercial agriculture, a budget update from a representative of the State Comptroller's office, and a discussion of the Extension Service's direction and responsibilities to the Citizens of Texas were included.

DIMMITT EQUIPMENT CO.
Farm Equipment
White Farm Equipment
Irrigation Engine
Sales and Service
647-2573 P.O. Box 576

NOW LEASING WEST TEXAS MINI-STORAGE
Lock it and leave it!
647-3427 or 296-6372

Insured Certificates of Deposit

1 year • 6.3% • \$5,000 minimum deposit
3 year • 7.2% • \$5,000 minimum deposit
5 year • 7.9% • \$5,000 minimum deposit

Stop in or call today for all the details.

Ike Stevens
508 S. 25 Mile Ave
Hereford, TX 79045
364-0041
1-800-755-4104

Federally insured up to \$100,000.
CDs available from institutions nationwide.
Issuer information available on request.
May be subject to interest penalty for early withdrawal.
Effective July 30, 1991. Subject to availability.
Simple interest.

Edward D. Jones & Co.
Member New York Stock Exchange, Inc. and Securities Investor Protection Corporation

Wool referendum is set Aug. 19-30

The US Dept. of Agriculture has scheduled a referendum for wool producers to decide whether to continue a market promotion and improvement program.

The referendum has been scheduled for Aug. 19 through 30.

Keith Bjerke, administrator for the US Dept. of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) said the proposed program, similar to one approved in 1986, would continue to authorize deductions from producer price support payments.

If the referendum is approved by a majority of either the producers voting or the producers who own a majority of the sheep represented in the referendum, deductions from wool price support payments would be established at a rate not to exceed 35 cents per hundredweight of unshorn lambs for calendar year 1991.

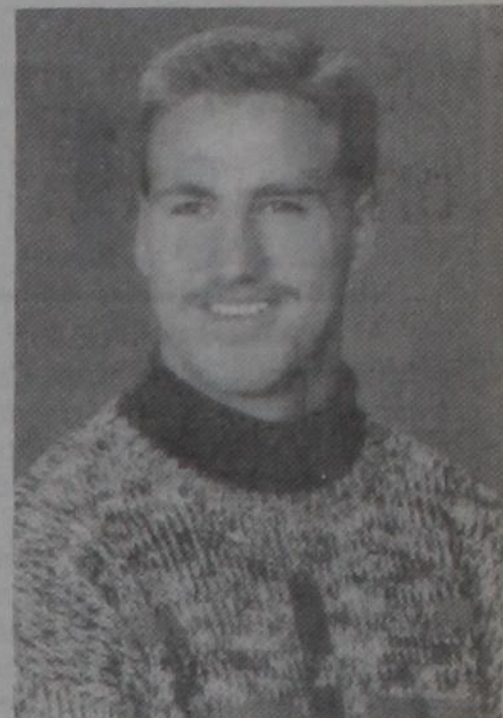
For calendar years 1992 through 1995, the deductions may increase up to an additional one cent per pound of wool marketed and up to an additional five cents per hundredweight of unshorn lambs per year.

The amounts deducted will be

used by the American Sheep Industry Association to finance advertising and sales promotion programs for wool in domestic and foreign markets, and for information programs for producers on production management and market development and improvement.

ASCS offices will distribute ballots in early August. Completed ballots must be returned, in person, to the county office, or be post-marked by Aug. 30.

To be eligible to vote, a person must have owned sheep or lambs six months old or older for at least 30 consecutive days in 1990. A cooperative may vote on behalf of its members, but if it does so, its members are then ineligible to vote in their own capacity.



KENNY KERN, who graduated from Texas Tech University in May with a bachelor of science degree in agriculture engineering, recently accepted a position as a loss prevention consultant for Factory Mutual in Dallas. Kern will travel to Boston, Mass., in a few weeks, where he will undergo further schooling. The son of Walter and Rita Kern of Nazareth, Kern is a 1987 graduate of Nazareth High School.

Courtesy Photo

Attention Farmers

Custom Harvesting

Save money on your harvest expense!

- In most cases, we can harvest and deliver it for 35¢ per #100.
- 10 years experience.
- References available.
- Satisfaction guaranteed.
- Case IH 1680 and supporting equipment.

Bloomer's Custom Harvesting, Inc.
Call 915-344-5585 and leave message.

PUBLICATION COPY - COMMERCIAL AND SAVINGS BANKS
CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF CONDITION (Including Domestic and Foreign Subsidiaries) STATE 030 (9/91)

LEGAL TITLE OF BANK: <161> The First State Bank of Dimmitt
PO Box 929 Dimmitt, Texas 79027-0929

STATE BANK NO. 2896-34
FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT NO. 11 13 10294

CITY: Dimmitt COUNTY: CASTRO STATE: Texas ZIP CODE: 79027-0929 CLOSE OF BUSINESS DATE: June 30, 1991

ASSETS		Dollar Amounts in Thousands		Bill	Mill	Thou	
1. Cash and balances due from depository institutions:	a. Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin			5	151	1.a.	
	b. Interest-bearing balances			1	198	1.b.	
				36	108	2.	
2. Securities				2	150	3.c.	
3. Federal funds sold & securities purchased under agreements to resell in domestic offices of the bank & of its Edge & Agreement subsidiaries, & in IBFs:	a. Federal funds sold					3.d.	
	b. Securities purchased under agreements to resell					3.e.	
4. Loans and lease financing receivables:						4.a.	
a. Loans and leases, net of unearned income		54	711			4.a.	
b. LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses		1	515			4.b.	
c. LESS: Allocated transfer risk reserve			0			4.c.	
d. Loans and leases, net of unearned income, allowance, and reserve (item 4.a minus 4.b and 4.c)				53	196	4.d.	
5. Assets held in trading accounts						5.	
6. Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases)				1	134	6.	
7. Other real estate owned					694	7.	
8. Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies					0	8.	
9. Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding					0	9.	
10. Intangible assets					113	10.	
11. Other assets					2	893	11.
12. a. Total assets (sum of items 1 through 11)				101	637	12.a.	
b. Loans deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j)					0	12.b.	
c. Total assets and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823(j) (sum of items 12.a and 12.b)					0	12.c.	
LIABILITIES							
13. Deposits:	a. In domestic offices				92	683	13.a.
	(1) Noninterest-bearing			18	373	13.a.(1)	
	(2) Interest-bearing			74	310	13.a.(2)	
	b. In foreign offices, Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and IBFs				0	13.b.	
	(1) Noninterest-bearing				0	13.b.(1)	
	(2) Interest-bearing				0	13.b.(2)	
14. Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase in domestic offices of the bank & of its Edge & Agreement subsidiaries, & in IBFs:	a. Federal funds purchased				400	14.a.	
	b. Securities sold under agreements to repurchase				0	14.b.	
15. Demand notes issued to the U.S. Treasury					0	15.	
16. Other borrowed money					0	16.	
17. Mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases					0	17.	
18. Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding					0	18.	
19. Subordinated notes and debentures					777	19.	
20. Other liabilities					93	860	20.
21. Total liabilities (sum of items 13 through 20)					93	860	21.
22. Limited-life preferred stock and related surplus					0	22.	
EQUITY CAPITAL							
23. Perpetual preferred stock and related surplus (No. of shares outstanding	0					23.	
24. Common stock (No. of shares a. Authorized	150,000					24.	
	b. Outstanding	150,000				24.	
25. Surplus (exclude all surplus related to preferred stock)					3	300	25.
26. a. Undivided profits and capital reserves					2	998	26.a.
b. LESS: Net unrealized loss on marketable equity securities					21	26.b.	
27. Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments					7	777	27.
28. a. Total equity capital (sum of items 23 through 27)					7	777	28.a.
b. Losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j)					0	28.b.	
c. Total equity capital and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j) (sum of items 28.a. & 28.b)					0	28.c.	
29. Total liabilities, limited-life preferred stock, equity capital, and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j) (sum of items 21, 22, and 28.c)					101	637	29.
MEMORANDA: Amounts outstanding as of Report of Condition date:						MEMO	
1. a. Standby letters of credit. Total					1	081	1.a.
b. Amount of Standby letters of credit in memo 1.a. conveyed to others through participations					0	1.b.	
NOTE: This report must be signed by an authorized officer(s) and attested by not less than three directors other than the officer(s) signing the report. If we, the undersigned officer(s), do hereby declare that this Report of Condition has been prepared in conformance with official instructions and is true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge and belief.							
SIGNATURE OF OFFICER(S) AUTHORIZED TO SIGN REPORT		DATE SIGNED					
NAME AND TITLE OF OFFICER(S) AUTHORIZED TO SIGN REPORT		July 26, 1991					
DOE D HADLEY, CASHIER		AREA CODE/PHONE NO.					
		(806) 647-4151					
We, the undersigned director(s), attest the correctness of this Report of Condition and declare that it has been examined by us and to the best of our knowledge and belief and has been prepared in conformance with official instructions and is true and correct.		SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR					
SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR		SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR					
SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR		SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR					
STATE OF TEXAS		County of CASTRO					
I hereby certify and subscribed before me this 26th day of July 1991		day of July 1991					
My commission expires 4/7 1993		Signature Notary Public					

The First State Bank of Dimmitt
Member FDIC

USDA requests comments on new feed grain program

Keith Bjerke, executive vice president of the US Dept. of Agriculture's (USDA) Commodity Credit Corporation is asking for public comment on the 1992 feed grain acreage reduction program (ARP). Bjerke said the Commodity Credit Corporation is seeking public comment on whether the corn ARP should be 5%, 7.5%, 10% or 12.5%, and whether the ARP for sorghum and barley should be 0%, 5%, 7.5% or some other percentage within those ranges. For oats, the law requires the 1992 ARP to be 0%.

Details will appear in the July 15 *Federal Register*. Comments may be mailed to Director, Commodity Analysis Division, USDA/ASCS, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, D.C. 20013. Comments must be received by Aug. 28 to be assured consideration.

All comments will be available for public inspection in Room 3744-S in the South Building of the US Dept. of Agriculture, 14th and Independence Avenues, SW, Washington, D.C. during regular business hours.



WINDOWS TO THE PAST—The reason this sturdy old barn east of Nazareth has so many windows is that it was built before electricity was available, and lots of windows were needed for light. George Schacher Sr. built the barn in 1928 for his horses, and later used it to house sheep. Still later, it was used as a milking barn, according to Johnny Schacher, who now lives on the place. Photo by Deana McLain

Contel, GTE merge phone operations

Today, Contel telephone operations nationwide, with the exception of Contel of California, will begin doing business as GTE Telephone Operations. Customers will be greeted with "Hello, this is GTE, may I help you?" when calling Contel and items such as signage on buildings and public telephones, stationery, telephone bills and company vehicles will gradually be changed. Contel of California, which is not changing to the GTE name, includes all of Contel's local exchanges in California, Nevada and the western half of Arizona. Also

not changing to the GTE name is the former Contel Western Region headquarters in Bakersfield, Calif. GTE Telephone Operations, the largest of GTE Corporation's three business groups, provides local phone service through 18.4 million access lines in portions of 40 states and two foreign countries. In addition, GTE Telephone Operations markets telecommunication products and services internationally, and supplies computer software and data processing nationwide. Revenues in 1990 totaled \$15.4 billion. GTE Telephone Operations has approximately 114,000 employees.

State Capital



By Lyndell Williams
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION
AUSTIN — Lawmakers in special session took giant steps to reorganize certain state agencies, okayed bonds for new prisons, and found a way to pay themselves an extra \$85 a day. Meanwhile, more than 400 anti-tax citizens threw tea bags on the Capitol steps at a "Texas Tea Party" to protest growing plans for a small sales tax increase this summer.

Senators in committee passed about 30 percent of Comptroller John Sharp's plan to cut spending and raise fees.

The House approved the sale of \$394 million in state bonds to build 11,300 prison beds and merged 12 health and human services boards under the oversight of a single, governor-appointed commissioner.

House members also created a super state environmental protection agency, a merger of several smaller agencies, to be run by a commission-appointed chairman. The Senate version lets the governor name the chairman.

End-Run for Dollars
House Administration chairman Edmund Kuempel, R-Seguin, sent House members a memo advising they could file for an additional \$85 per day in expenses.

The Constitution provides for lawmaker salaries and per diem, but a recent opinion by Attorney General Dan Morales, a former state representative himself, holds it does not bar legislators from paying themselves an allowance for living in Austin.

Some lawmakers said it's an end-run around the Constitution and they won't take it; others said they desperately need the additional expense money.

Lawmaker Confusion
Without doubt, there is a certain sense of confusion among rank-and-file lawmakers as the leadership pushes its program at emergency speed.

Several lawmakers and other players have voiced concerns about creating problems in the future.

Rep. Gary Watkins D-Odessa: "What did we do?" after winning a vote on a higher education issue.

• Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-

Highlights

Houston: "If the leadership is going to write the proposals and the committees are there to pass them, then what are the rest of us doing here?"

• Rep. Dan Kubiak, D-Rockdale: "Too much is presented too fast. Over \$2 billion is camouflaged in new fees and taxes."

• Sen. Cyndi Krier, R-San Antonio: "It's a terrible way to run a Legislature."

• Rep. Troy Fraser, R-Big Spring: "Democrats are trying to ram things down our throats."

Budget Talks Legal

A Calhoun County grand jury Wednesday found no wrongdoing on the part of the governor and legislative leaders who met privately last month on Matagorda Island to discuss the state budget.

The late June meeting, which included Gov. Ann Richards, Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock and House Speaker Gib Lewis, might have violated provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Common Cause complained.

Sens. John Montford and Bob Glasgow and Reps. James Hury and Jim Rudd also attended the meeting. The lawmakers present, all Democrats, constituted a quorum of the Legislative Budget Board.

Calhoun County Attorney Jack Whitlow presented the complaint to a 12-member grand jury. The case was no-billed by the panel, meaning no action will be taken.

"The decision was up to the grand jury, and they chose not to proceed," Whitlow said. "I wasn't real surprised after researching the legal background of the situation."

Meanwhile, Whitlow said the Open Meetings Act is vague and difficult to enforce, and he plans to seek the governor's help in clarifying the law.

Other Highlights

• The Associated Republicans of Texas has asked Attorney General Dan Morales to issue an opinion interpreting a 1978 constitutional amendment that requires an estimate of state economic growth before the budget is written. The group said the all-Democrat Legislative Budget Board has ignored the provision, which ensures that

state spending does not outpace personal income growth.

• Gov. Richards has enlisted her two Texas Racing Commission appointees to try to persuade horse and greyhound track owners that the panel regulates to stay out of the lottery debate. *The Dallas Morning News* reported last week. The governor has agreed to support a tax cut for greyhound racing tracks in the current special session, her staff said.

• Comptroller Sharp, a Democrat, spurned an invitation from Texas Republicans to switch parties, claiming the GOP has only offered "years of bull" to voters.

• Rep. Sue Schechter, D-Houston, wrote an editorial on behalf of the New Texas Reform Group, a group of legislators she said will battle until rules of the Texas House are changed. Schechter said the Legislature lacks integrity and the process must be changed.

• The Texas Highway Commission voted to add "The Lone Star State" slogan to license plates starting in 1992. Many Texans requested "The Friendship State," but Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi, who sponsored the resolution, said "Friendship" was "too wimpy."

Armed Forces Hometown News

Scott Andrew Acker, son of Francis and Beatrice Acker of Dimmitt, recently enlisted in the Air Force's Delayed Enlistment Program.

Acker, a 1991 graduate of Dimmitt High School, is scheduled to attend Air Force basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio on Dec. 10.

According to Sgt. Tex Roberts, the local Air Force recruiter, Acker will earn credits toward an associate degree in applied sciences through the Community College of the Air Force upon completion of basic training and technical training school.

Wheat shortcourse scheduled for today

A wheat shortcourse will be held in Friona today (Thursday) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The course will be held at the Friona Community Center and it will include programs on variety performances in 1990-91, wheat herbicides, management of insects and mites, wheat disease management, marketing opportunities for 1991-92, Texas Wheat Producers Association update and stocker cattle opportunities.

Those attending will qualify for continuing education credits for Certified Private Applicators Licenses.

There will be a lunch provided, which will be sponsored by the Texas Wheat Producers Association and Sherley-Anderson Elevators.

Anyone interested in attending should call J.D. Ragland at the County Extension Office.

County 4-Hers seek oldest club member


The Dimmitt/Bethel 4-H Club is looking for the oldest Castro County 4-Her.

To qualify as the oldest member, the individual must have been born in Castro County and participated in the county's 4-H activities.

The 4-H organization started the first county club in 1936.

Anyone who might qualify as the oldest 4-Her, may call Mac Annen at 945-2258, or Niccola Furr at 647-2520 or 647-4257.

Together We Can



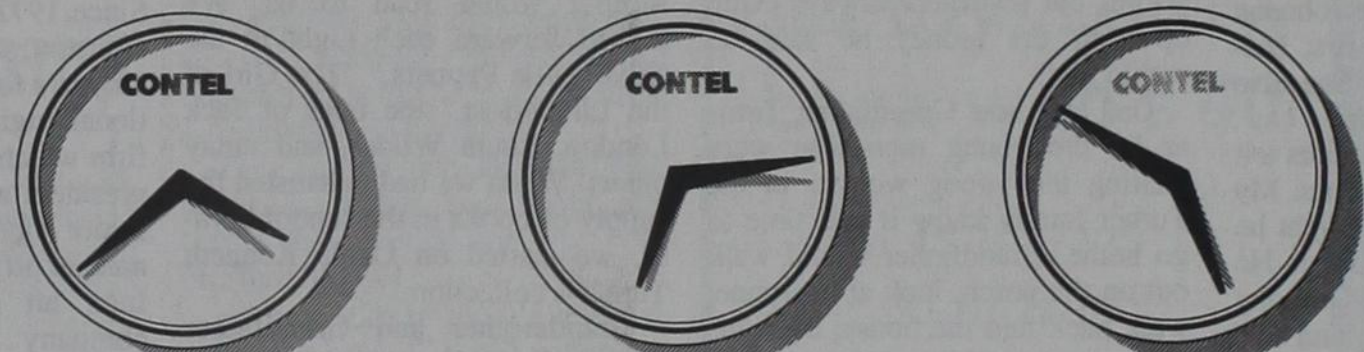
Amarillo Livestock Auction Co.

JACK HOWELL
FIELD REPRESENTATIVE & AUCTIONEER

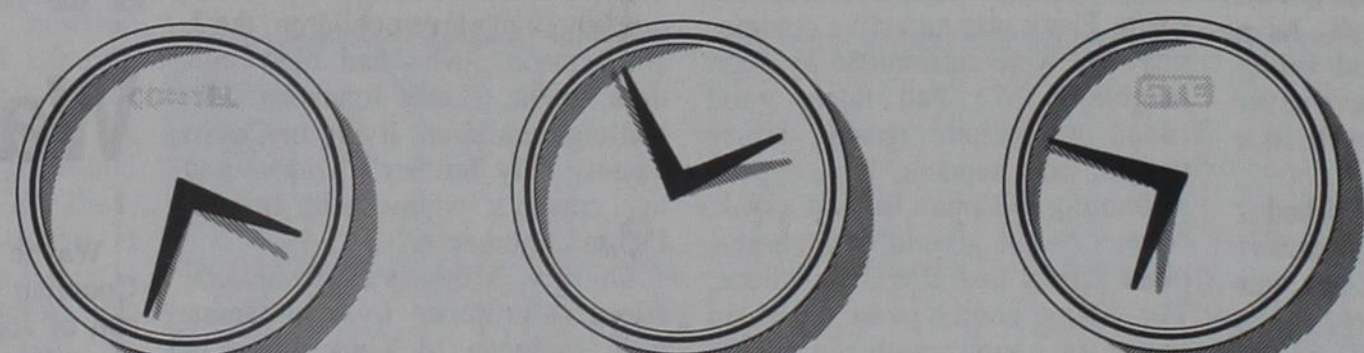
RESIDENCE: 806/647-4232 HCR 4 BOX 128
DIMMITT, TEXAS 79027

Our commitment to both buyer and seller:
To make **THE BEST** available market better.

Let me assist you in consigning your cattle.



TIMES MAY CHANGE.



QUALITY DOES NOT.



AUGUST 1, 1991

WHEN WE SAY HELLO WE'LL SAY GTE.



THE POWER IS ON

Center Pivot Insurance

If Disaster Strikes Your Major Investment...



ARE YOU PROTECTED WITH REPLACEMENT COST COVERAGE?
Broadest Coverage Available:



Lightning



Wind/Tornado



Theft or Vandalism

AND...MORE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR A QUOTE, CALL RONNIE PARKER AT

PLAINS
Insurance Agency



647-5366 or 1-800-749-4396



Castro County Centennial FAMILIES

1891
✦
1991



THE GRAND BAND OF DIMMITT—The Hyatt family performs after a parade on Jan. 23, 1916. Music was the center of entertainment for the

family, which included Mable Hyatt (Kimbell), Oscar Hyatt, Frank Hyatt, George Miller and Walter Hyatt.

Courtesy Photo

The Turner Family

My maternal grandfather and grandmother, John E. and Rosa Ely Turner, came to Castro County in 1890. My paternal great-grandfather and great-grandmother, William Slover and Paralee Shadle Slover, came to Castro County in 1898. My grandfather and grandmother, J.A. Johnson and May Slover Johnson, had just married in Montague County and they moved to Castro County shortly after her parents moved there. My dad, Claude Johnson, was born in Tulia, because that was the nearest doctor. My mother, Dora Turner, was born in Dimmitt, and Dad and Mother lived in Dimmitt all of their lives, except for a few months when they lived in Canyon.

Both the Turner and Johnson families played an active role in settling Castro County. The Turners were charter members of the First Baptist Church, and my Grandfather Johnson was an early sheriff. Members of both families served in many other positions and offices, such as county clerk, commissioner, judge, school board member and teacher, and postmaster.

My dad's sister, Myrtle Johnson Beards, played on the first basketball team in Dimmitt. She also played two years in Canyon.

I love to listen to my parents tell stories about their early years. My dad was a cowboy, and thought he could ride any horse around. He could ride most of them. One day he was rounding up cattle and one of the steers turned and hit the horse, knocking both the horse and Dad down. Dad just laid there, not moving. Aunt Myrtle and Aunt Minnie (Johnson Hyatt) ran out thinking Dad was dead. When they got near him, he jumped up, got on another horse and rode off. As a child I remember my Dad riding horses, and to this day, I have never seen another man sit so well in a saddle as my Dad did.

Aunt Myrtle said that Dad had it made. He was the oldest and had five sisters before another boy was born. (There subsequently were two more children, a boy and a girl.) He would con the girls into doing his work, and, because they all pampered him, he did just what he wanted to do.

Dad and Mother told about riding to school when snow was so deep you could not see the fence posts. When Aunt Myrtle was five, she and the school teacher were stranded at the school during a snowstorm for a whole day. She recalls that the teacher permitted her to write on the blackboard, and do whatever she wished. Dad rode a horse several miles through the snow, guiding himself by feeling for the fence posts, to rescue her and the teacher.

Dad and Mother told about the snow blowing for days and days where you could not see anything. Men would cut their fences so the cattle could try to find shelter. Many cattle were lost during these times.

My parents told of the many pranks that were pulled at school, and how the boys would have to sit at the front of the room with dunce caps on. There was a Mr. Woodley who lived in Dimmitt who was blessed with an oversized nose. The kids taunted him by saying, "God knows all, and Mr. Woodley is all nose."

Dad and some of his young buddies (one of whom was the late Sid Sheffy, I believe) "batched" on a ranch north of town. They came in late one night and thought they saw a man in a white shirt standing in the corral. Thinking he was going to steal the horses, they challenged him, then threatened to shoot if he didn't answer them. When he didn't respond, they shot, and heard Willie the Mule bray out in pain. Only then did they realize that the "man in the white shirt" was Willie.

Entertainment took many different forms, and Halloween offered ample opportunity for boys to be boys. One year a group of young men took a buggy apart and reassembled it on top of a building. Getting it down was a real challenge. Family lore has it that Dad participated in this shenanigan. Also, many people awoke on Nov. 1 to find their outdoor privies had been overturned or moved from the premises entirely.

My mother told of the many times the church needed money and Grandfather Turner would volunteer to give more than they could afford, but somehow always came up with the money he said he would give.

Dad told how Grandfather Turner let the young men who were visiting the young women in the Turner family know it was time to go home. Grandfather would walk out on the porch, look at everyone, walk back into the house, clear his throat, and pull out his bed. Dad said that when Mr. Turner did that, they knew they were to leave RIGHT THEN.

We lived at Flagg as I was growing up. We had a lake to play on, horses to ride, and miles to roam. Flagg was an active community. We were surrounded by good neighbors. We had many good times at weiner roasts, house parties, box suppers, pie suppers, swimming in Conan Ballard's tank, "dinner on the ground" and various other school and church functions. The Flagg church was the main source of contact with our neighbors. I was baptized in the Conan Ballard tank, as were many young, and not-so-young neighbors. I am told that in earlier times, Elmer Dixon's tank was used for that purpose.

All of the Claude Johnson children except the youngest, Jimmie, went to the Flagg school. The Flagg school was consolidated with Dimmitt in 1945. I started the third grade at Dimmitt, and Jimmie went

all 12 years there.

There remains an unsolved mystery concerning the Flagg school. In 1943, on a normal school day, something fell from the attic. We were all convinced that someone was hiding up there. We were herded out of the building and onto the playground, where we spent the afternoon. When the bus from Dimmitt came, some of the high school boys crawled into the attic to investigate. They reportedly found chicken bones and orange peels, but no intruders. I don't think anyone ever knew if, indeed, someone had been hiding there.

Our favorite time when I was growing up was when we all gathered around the kitchen table, with the old lamps and lanterns, and our parents helped us with our homework. We all feel sure that Mother taught us more at night than we learned at school. Mother's favorite subject was algebra. She helped all eight of us pass algebra. Dad could always come up with the correct answer first, but he could not explain how he arrived at it. So Mother would do the explaining.

After we did our homework, Mother would read to us. We looked forward each night to the "Five Little Peppers," "The Girl of the Limberlost," the tales of Jack London, Laura Wilder, and many others. When we had exhausted the supply of books in the school library, we started on Uncle Kenneth Turner's collection.

Grandmother and Grandfather Turner, Great-Grandmother Slover, Grandmother and Grandfather Johnson, my parents, my eldest sister, Rosa Mae Shepard, and brother, C.J., are all buried in Castro Memorial Cemetery. There are no direct descendants of the Turners, who had eleven children, the J. A. Johnsons, who had nine children, or the Claude Johnsons, who had eight children, living in Castro County. My brother's widow and my cousin's widow still live in Dimmitt, however.

Of my brothers and sisters, Alene (Martinson) lives in Grant, Neb.; Imogene (McKinney) lives in Bridge City; Laquita (Thacker) lives in Lawton, Okla.; and Melba (Smith) Jimmie and I live in Lubbock. We are a close family, and get together often. We have all prospered in our chosen fields, and are grateful for the love and encouragement of two fine old Castro County families.

(As told by Beverly Johnson Russell of Lubbock).



OUT FOR A RIDE on Jan. 23, 1916, was this group of people in an old-time car. Pictured are Claude Johnson, Mable Hyatt (Kimbell), Jessie Walker, Dora Hyatt, George Miller, Frank Hyatt, Oscar Hyatt and Minnie Johnson.

Courtesy Photo

The Hobratschk Family

Martin Gerhardt Hobratschk was born Sept. 15, 1907, in The Grove, one of 12 children born to Andrew and Selma Hohle Hobratschk. The Hobratschk name is of German-Slavic origin, tracing its roots to East Germany.

Martin married Ida Marie Woythe Sept. 15, 1935, in Vernon. In September, 1947, the Hobratschks moved to Dimmitt.

Ida Woythe Hobratschk was born Aug. 4, 1911, in Lexington. She moved to Vernon in 1927 with her parents, Ben and Lydia Woythe, her two sisters and three brothers.

When the Hobratschks first arrived in Dimmitt in 1947, there were very few paved streets, and the sidewalks on Main Street were "board" walks, rather than cement.

The two-story, red brick school house was still in use, dust storms seemed to be an every day occurrence, and the land south of the old high school was cow pasture as far as the eye could see.

Martin and Ida had three children, Betty, Glenn and Larry. Betty was born April 15, 1940, in Vernon, graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1958, attended Texas Tech, and married Lee Jones in Dimmitt Feb. 11, 1961. They had three children, Kirk, Tanya and Craig, and resided in Dimmitt until 1970, when they moved to Hereford. Lee died March 27, 1987.

Glenn was born July 5, 1944, in Vernon, and graduated from DHS in 1962. He graduated from Tech in 1966, received his CPA license, and married Marsha Mullins that same year. They have two sons, Martin Glenn II, and Monty Garth. Since 1972, the family has lived in Houston, where Glenn worked for 15 years for CRSS, Inc., an international engineering and construction firm which he served as senior vice president and treasurer. He is now senior vice president and chief financial officer of NaTec Resources, Inc., an environmental services company dealing primarily with clean air technology in Houston.

Larry was born June 26, 1948, in Dimmitt. "Hobie," as he was nicknamed in school, graduated from DHS in 1967 and played football for the Dimmitt Bobcats. He at-

tended Texas Tech and Lubbock Business College. He married Beverly Clark in 1969, and they have two daughters, Rachael and Mabelle. They have resided for several years in Edna, where he is engaged in welding and rice farming.

Martin Hobratschk was a construction welder for years in and around Dimmitt. He welded the irrigation pipe for many of the first irrigation wells in Castro and surrounding counties. He died Jan. 23, 1960, and is buried at The Grove.

Ida was employed by the Dimmitt School Cafeteria for 15 years, and has been a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Hereford for 44 years.



Ida Hobratschk



STOP FOR A BITE—The Dixon family takes a break from wheat harvest to eat lunch.

Photo courtesy of Irene Bradley

N.B. Stokes Family

N. B. ("Stacks") and Ioma Stokes moved to Dimmitt with their brood, Jim, Ronny, Donny, Sue and Lee, in August, 1957. Stacks opened the Gulf station on East Bedford, and Ioma stayed home with the children, Lee only having been born the preceding April, and Sue being only 4 years old.

Stacks had a major heart attack that winter, and even though Ioma and Ronny tried to run the station, they were unable to, and had to shut down in April, 1958. Ioma went to work for her brother, Dr. Carl Page, and Ronny went to work after school at Bladman Drug Store, later known as Parsons Rex-all Drug, where he worked until graduation from high school.

Upon his recovery, Stacks went to work at White's Auto, and eventually became a custom farmer before a stroke in 1977 left him

disabled. Stacks was active in the Masonic Lodge, the Eastern Star, Scottish Rite and Khiva Temple Shriners. He served as Worthy Patron two years.

Ioma served as Worthy Matron in the Eastern Star. She has worked at the Plains Memorial Hospital, most recently as home care provider. She is retired and lives in Dimmitt.

Of the children, Jim joined the Army in October, 1957, and was never around Dimmitt to any great extent. He married the former Gwen Dunn in 1960, and they had two sons, James Eric, who now lives in Reno, Nev., and Jason.

Ronny graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1961 and attended school in Weatherford, Okla. After living in southern California for a year, he returned to Dimmitt and married Brooka York, a home economics teacher at DHS. They have two sons, Carl and Glenn, and live in Opelika, Ala., where Ronny is a court reporter.

In civic endeavors Ronny has been a Jaycee, and was awarded Jaycee International Senator status in 1977. He is a past president of his local Lions Club; he is a 25-year member of the Masonic Lodge, a Scottish Rite Mason and a Shriner; and is an active member of the local Elks Lodge, serving as an officer for the past four years.

Four of the Stokes children graduated from DHS and worked at different places of business in Dimmitt.

Don joined the Navy after a year at Texas Tech and served in Vietnam. He stayed on the West Coast until the death of his father in October, 1983, then came home to help his mother. He worked for the food services company at West Texas State, then was transferred to Pasadena City College in 1987. He died May 26, after an illness.

Sue finished high school in 1971 and attended South Plains College in Levelland. She married Quincy Hawkins of Hart in 1972, and they have two sons, Jeremy and Justin. She has worked for H & S Produce for 16 years. Quincy is part owner of Hi-Way Garage at Hart.

Lee finished high school in 1975. He worked in Amarillo and married Lisa Burrows in 1980. They have a daughter, Apryl Mae Stokes, and live in Albuquerque, N.M., where he works for a grocery chain.

The family says they have all enjoyed living in Dimmitt, and there are "no better people anywhere."

Wayne Collins Family

Wayne is the original Castro Countian in our family. He is the son of Joe and Katy Collins, who farmed near Flagg for many years. He grew up with his two brothers, Jim and Ted, in the Flagg community and was graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1956 and from Texas Tech in 1965.

Wayne and Darlene Fox were married in Lubbock in 1959, while he was a student at Tech. Their three children, Joe, Suzan and John, were born there.

After working at NASA in Houston and farming in Kansas, the family moved to a farm in Castro County, west of Flagg, in 1974. The family moved into Dimmitt in 1978, and Darlene began teaching in the Dimmitt schools.

Many activities have filled the years! Joe was involved in basketball, track, band, DHS Student Council (president), and graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1978.

Suzan was involved in basketball, track, band (drum major), and graduated in 1981.

After his eighth grade year, John was killed by a fall from his horse in August, 1979. A memorial scholarship continues in his memory.

Joe graduated from Texas Tech and later married another Tech graduate, Laura Shelton. They have two children—Amber Nicole, born March 11, 1989, and John Joseph, born Feb. 6, 1991. They currently

reside in Quantico, Va., where she is a flight attendant for American Airlines and he is a captain (select) in the Marine Corps. He recently returned from Saudi Arabia, where he served as an aide to Gen. Chuck Krulac.

Suzan graduated from McMurry College, where she was Homecoming Queen her senior year, and from West Texas State University. She is a registered nurse in a critical care unit in Phoenix, Ariz., where she and her husband, Jeff, live. Jeff is a graduate of the US Naval Academy and the Texas Tech School of Medicine, and is an orthopedic surgery resident.

Wayne was elected to the Dimmitt Board of Aldermen in 1979, and was elected mayor of Dimmitt in 1983, the position he still holds. He also is serving this year as president of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission.

The family has owned and operated radio station KDHN since 1984.

The family was greatly honored this past year when Wayne was named Citizen of the Year at the annual Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce banquet.

We have all been influenced by the presence of the Methodist Church and by our family and friends in the area. Now, we're all proud to be Castro Countians!



Castro County Centennial FAMILIES

1891
◆
1991



THE BOB MURDOCK FAMILY gathers for a family picture after the wedding of Debbie Murdock and Doug Smith. Family members, pictured from left, are Pam Murdock, Bob Murdock, Debbie and Doug Smith, Wanda Murdock and Brad Murdock.

Courtesy Photo

The Bob Murdock Family

Bobby, Wanda, Debbie and Brad Murdock moved to Dimmitt in May, 1966, from Littlefield, where they had lived for four years. They had previously lived in Plainview, where they were married Oct. 20, 1956.

They bought a nearly new three-bedroom home, and were thrilled to start their life together in a home of their own. Bob was employed with Eaton Stationary Company and Wanda was employed with the Credit Bureau. Bob later worked for Cloverlake Dairy, and Wanda, for the City National Bank. Bob started to work for Southwestern Public Service Co. in January, 1961, and is still employed there.

Deborah Jo ("Debbie") was born July 18, 1958, and Bradley Dale ("Brad") was born June 13, 1964.

Bobby is the son of R. L. "Bob" and Zona Murdock, both deceased. He was born in Sudan and moved to Littlefield at an early age. Among his good friends and neighbors was Waylon Jennings, the country and western singer. Bobby graduated from Littlefield High School and attended Lipperts Business College in Plainview, where he met and married Wanda.

Wanda moved to Hart in 1946 from Lockney, where she was born to W.H. "Herschell" and Nellie Felder. Her two brothers and sister are Dub, Barbara (now Mrs. Jack Godfry) and Jerry, who died in March, 1988.

After moving to Dimmitt, Bobby joined the Jaycees, Volunteer Fire Department and coached Little League baseball and basketball. He has been Kids, Inc., president and Fire Chief. He is a member of the Kiwanis Club and has served as president. He was selected Chamber of Commerce "Citizen of the Year" in 1983.

Debbie graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1976. She was a twirler for the Bobcat Band for two years, and was active in basketball, track and tennis. She was a regional qualifier in track in the 80-yard hurdles.

She attended West Texas State University, graduating in 1982. She played on the Fast Pitch Softball Team for WTSU and was an R.A. for McCaslin Hall, and an active member of the Buffalo Belles. She is employed by Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, Inc., brokers in Amarillo. She married Doug Smith on Nov. 4, 1989, in Amarillo.

Brad graduated from DHS in 1982. He was a drummer for the Bobcat Band, making all-Region drummer from the seventh through twelfth grades. He was a Lyre Club officer, played tennis and was on the junior varsity football team. He was active in FFA, raising lambs and pigs, and made the national FFA band which played for the national convention in Kansas City. He also was a drummer for the "Rough Riders" of Nazareth.

Brad attended South Plains College and West Texas State University. He joined the U. S. Air Force in November, 1986. He married Pam Kilmer, who was also in the USAF, June 6, 1987, at Alconbury AFB in England, where they lived for three years. They returned to the States in January, 1988, to Homestead AFB, Fla., where they now live.

Now a sergeant, and a munitions specialist and inspector, Brad has just returned from a four-month tour of duty in Operation Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf.

Bob and Wanda are very support-

ive of the DHS Bobbies and Bobcats basketball teams, attending most of the games at home and out of town. They also enjoy watching softball in the summer months, as Debbie is an active player in Amarillo. Her team plays in tournaments in Amarillo, Lubbock, San Angelo, Steam Boat Springs, Colo., and Abilene, to name a few. The Murdocks feel that the girls cannot play without their support and attendance, and Wanda is even on their roster for all tournaments.

Bob and Wanda attend the Church of Christ.

The Smothermon Family

Delbert Bailey Smothermon was born April 11, 1936, in Olustee, Okla., the youngest of four sons and five daughters born to Thomas Samuel and Vassie Exlina Smothermon. One sister, Dorothy Smothermon Sheffy (Rex), also resides in Dimmitt.

Delbert attended school in Prairie Hill and Victory, Okla. In November, 1961, Delbert came to Dimmitt and was employed by Kenneth Jackson Ditching Co. In 1963 he met Jackie Arlene Winkles and they were married Jan. 3, 1964, in Dimmitt.

Jackie was born Aug. 29, 1945 in Lubbock. After attending schools in Ralls and Daingerfield, she came to Dimmitt in September, 1963, with her parents, Joseph Henry and Frances Alvena Comer, and four brothers.

Delbert and Jackie had four sons. Terry Dewayne was born Dec. 10, 1961, in Lone Star. He graduated from Dimmitt High School and joined the U. S. Army, serving in Germany. On Aug. 22, 1985 he married Cynthia Ann Mixson of Dimmitt. They have three children: Christopher James, born March 24, 1982; Andrea Nicole, born Dec. 31, 1985; and Baylei Diane, born March 20, 1989.

He is currently back in Hanua, Germany, after a five-month deployment to Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm. Cindy and the children are living in Bronte, near her parents, J. R. and Ricki Mixson, formerly of Dimmitt. Terry made sergeant while serving in the Gulf war.

Michael Del Smothermon was born June 28, 1965, in Dimmitt. He graduated from DHS in May, 1983.

After one semester at Sul Ross University, he served in the U. S. Navy for five years, then entered the Sheriff's Academy in San Diego, Calif. He married Norma Lee Robbins on Feb. 10, 1990, and they live in Indio, Calif., where he is a deputy with the Riverside Sheriff's Dept.

Mark Joel was born Sept. 18, 1967, in Hereford, and graduated from DHS in May 1986. Known to his friends as "Smo," he was active in all sports. He attended McMurry University in Abilene and Texas Tech. He and was recently engaged to Tracy McLean, formerly of Dimmitt, and is employed with Affiliated Warehouses in Amarillo.

Jason Kyle was born Aug. 11, 1970, in Plainview and attended Dimmitt Schools. He married Michelle Leigh Hucks of Dimmitt June 28, 1987, and they have three sons: Zjhon Tyler, born Oct. 16, 1987; and twins Joshua Kyle and Skyler Dane, born June 28, 1989. Jason is in the U. S. Navy at Millington, Tenn., where he is in advanced training in aviation ordnance. Following graduation, he will be stationed at Long Beach, Calif., where Michelle and the boys will soon join him.

Jackie, an LVN, worked at Plains Memorial Hospital in years past, and was a bookkeeper with Easter Farms Gin for 10 years. She is currently a bookkeeper for Frye Farms during the summer months, and Hereford Gin in the fall. She is a member of First Baptist Church in Dimmitt and teaches Sunday School.

Delbert was employed by Kenneth Jackson Ditching for 21 years, had Dimmitt Radiator Shop for two years, and worked several years for E. M. Jones Ditching. In January, 1989, Delbert began a family business, Smotherman Ditching, in the Easter community one-fourth mile from their home.



The C.J. Johnson Family

C.J. Johnson was born in Dimmitt on July 4, 1921 to Claude and Dora Johnson. He was their second child, having a sister Rosa Mae, who was 11 months older than he. He was delivered by Dr. Mayes Miller.

C.J. was a second generation Dimmittite, since his mother Dora Turner was also born in Dimmitt. Claude also would have been born here, but there was no doctor here at that time and so his mother was taken to Tulia, where he was born.

C.J. is the grandson of Arch and Mae Johnson who came to Castro County in 1897 and John and Rosa Turner who came here in 1890.

C.J. started school in Canyon, where his dad was the highway supervisor. They moved back to Dimmitt and he went to school at Flagg until he started high school. Then he rode the bus to Dimmitt and graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1940.

Omega Moore was born in Gould, Okla. and moved to Castro County in 1939. She went to school at Springlake until March of 1940, when her family moved into the Dimmitt school district. She is the daughter of the late Porter and Charity Moore.

Omega and C.J. met at school in 1940 and he worked for his dad on the farm in the Flagg community for the next year.

They married the next year, Aug. 30, 1941 in Clovis, N.M. and lived in Flagg with C.J.'s parents until after harvest that year. Then, they moved to Dimmitt and he went to work for Russell Buckmaster.

Sept. 18, 1942 was a banner day for the Johnson family — their first son, Kenneth Eugene (Gene) was born in the old hospital above the bank on the corner of Broadway and Bedford.

Pearl Harbor had already been bombed and the family feared C.J. would be drafted any day.

In May 1943, the Johnsons moved to Wiggins, Colo. to work for a potato farmer. They lived with C.J.'s sister and her husband, Alene and Manfred Martinson until Dec. 23, 1943 when they moved back to Dimmitt to help C.J.'s grandfather, J.A. Johnson on his farm.

They moved into Dimmitt with Omega's mother and father just before their second son was born on April 3, 1944.

He was born in the old hospital above the bank. C.J. had gotten his draft card and was given an extension until June 1, 1944 when he left for Fort Sill, Okla., the induction center. He trained in Little Rock, Ark. at Camp Joseph T. Robertson Army Base and on Nov. 4, left

Dimmitt for the west coast, then on to Europe. He landed in Italy.

He suffered a leg injury in training and was sent to the hospital in Mercede, France. The next day his platoon moved to the front lines. He was transferred from Mercedes to Nice, France and served as a registered mail clerk there until Feb. 1946 when he came home.

He saw several county boys, as well as Panhandle boys in Nice since it was an rest and relaxation base.

C.J. went to work for Choc Lay at the service station when he came back and on March 5, 1947, the Johnson family was blessed with a daughter, Carol Lynn, who was also born in the old hospital above the bank.

In June 1950, another son was added to the Johnson family. Russell was born in the barracks hospital not long after it was moved in. It was a pretty neat place after having to go upstairs for so long to the hospital. We lived in Dimmitt until 1923 when we moved to Sunnyside and worked for Roy Axtell until the Fall of 1958.

The Johnson children went to school in Springlake and although the two oldest boys started school in Dimmitt in the two-story red brick school (where the city park is now).

Gene started in 1948 and Keith in 1950. Both their dad and their

grandmother and granddad Johnson had gone there before them. In 1958, the family moved to the Bridges place, east of Sunnyside and lived there until 1960 when they moved to Five Point.

About six weeks after they moved, the tornado hit Sunnyside.

In February 1963, the Johnsons moved to Dimmitt. Omega started working at the hospital the year before — on Dec. 4, 1964.

C.J. farmed for two more years after the family moved into town, then he started working for Western Amonia, which later sold to Goodpasture. C.J. began a new job for Consumers at that time and later worked for Castro Co. Grain. He worked there until it sold to Dimmitt Agri Industries.

He died Dec. 25, 1989. Omega worked full-time for Plains Memorial Hospital until Dec. 25, 1989 and still does occasionally.

Four generations of the Johnson family was born in Castro County: Dora Turner Johnson, Sept. 6, 1901; C.J. Johnson, July 4, 1921; and the Johnson children, Gene, Sept. 18, 1942; Keith, April 3, 1944; Carol Johnson, March 5, 1947 and Russell, June 27, 1950.

The last generation includes two grandchildren: David Dennis born June 11, 1966 and Chrene Johnson, Sept. 4, 1970.

Dorothy's
says
"Happy 100th
Castro County!"



Gabriel Shopping Center, Plainview, TX

Lordy, Lordy
Look who's 40!

Is it true,
Can it be?

Susie Bradford,
Yessiree!



OUTSTANDING SERVICE

We've built our reputation on it since 1983, and we plan to continue providing it in the future. Our customers deserve nothing less.

Happy 100th Anniversary
Dimmitt and Castro County!

Gary's Engine & Machine

207 SE 3rd, Dimmitt • 647-4354



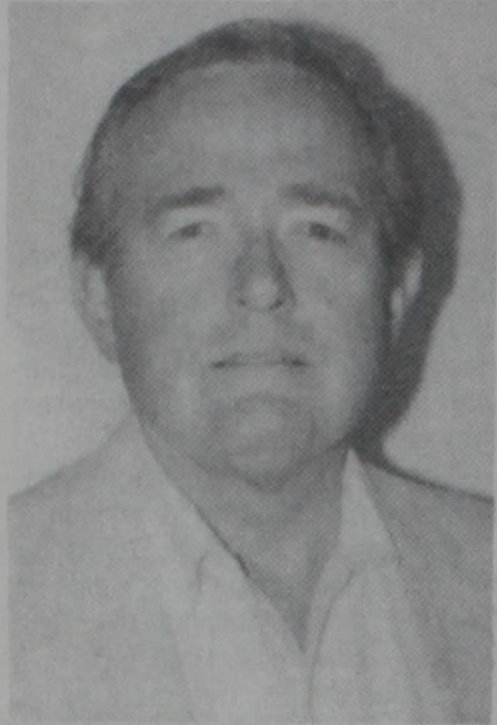
Castro County Centennial NOTABLES

1891



1991

Castro Countians have made, and are making, significant contributions to society at all levels and in many fields. Here are some of them.



Dr. Gerald P. Alldredge, Albuquerque. Physicist. Principal staff member, Albuquerque Technology Center of BDM International, Inc. Currently chief engineer in designing security system for the train in the Rail Garrison Basing System for the Peacekeeper ballistic missile, San Bernardino, Calif. Former physics professor and researcher at Southern Illinois University, the University of Texas at Austin, University of Missouri and Northeast Missouri State University. Has held appointments as visiting researcher at Argonne National Laboratory, the Technical University of Denmark, the British Atomic Energy Research Establishment and the University of California. Has published approximately 60 articles and has presented more than 40 papers at national and international conferences.



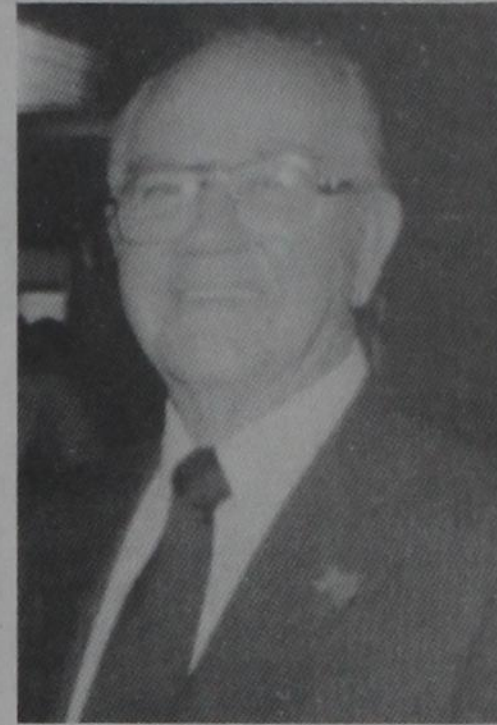
Charles Lee Heck, Forest Hills, Pa. Nuclear physicist with Westinghouse Electric Corp. Principal engineer and technical leader for development of advanced mathematical techniques and software used in building full-sized nuclear power plant control-room simulators. Formerly associated with the General Electric Nuclear Energy Business Group in San Jose, Calif., working in fields of nuclear methods and transient methods development.



Kenneth Cleveland, Dimmitt. High school boys' basketball coach and athletic director. Inducted into Texas High School Coaches Balfour Hall of Fame, 1988. All-state basketball player, Coleman High School, 1951. Co-captain and all-Southwest Conference guard, University of Texas. Has guided 10 Dimmitt High School teams to state UIL tournament since 1966, including three state champions and three state finalists. Chosen by Texas Association of Basketball Coaches to coach the North All-Stars in the annual North-South All-Star Game, 1976. Named Class AAA Texas Basketball Coach of the Year, 1983. Has produced 26 all-staters in last 28 years, including several who are now coaching.



Teeny Bowden, Sunnyside. Historian, author and genealogist. Author of *This Land We Hold*, 1971, a history of Castro County, and *Louder & Louder & Louder*, 1990, genealogical research book. Co-editor of *Castro County, Texas, 1891-1981*, and *Castro County, Texas, 1891-1991*. Longtime Sunnyside community correspondent for *Castro County News*.



Joe Cowen, Dimmitt. Retired insurance and real estate agent. One of Dimmitt's most tireless civic workers since 1947. Served as third president of the Castro County Chamber of Commerce, and has headed the PTA, Lions Club and other civic organizations through the years. Revived the annual Castro County Old Settlers' Reunion after World War II. State Democratic Committeeman, 1952. Texas delegate to National Democratic Convention, Chicago, 1956.



Jack Copeland, Washington and Houston. International investment banker, specializing in energy industry. Chairman of Copeland Consulting International. Consultant to Administration, Congress, foreign governments and 150 US and foreign corporations on energy policy and financial restructuring. Active in Republican Party fundraising. Vice-chairman of Republican Convention Gala in New Orleans, 1988. Co-chairman of Victory '88 in Texas and California. Member of National Republican Party's Team 100. Former executive board member, Republican Congressional Leadership Council. Former trainer of Dimmitt Bobcats, Hardin-Simmons Cowboys, Ohio State Buckeyes and New York Titans before beginning investment banking career. Founder of Bear Creek Recovery Center, Dallas. Member of governing boards of oil and oil service companies, educational institutions and public service organizations.



Ray Robertson, Dimmitt. Farmer, businessman, inventor, conservationist. Co-inventor with his brother Jack of the augur-equipped grain trailer now known as the Grain Kart, 1956. Co-owner with his son Jeff of Robertson Dirt Co., conservation service. Director of Texas Farm Credit Bank, 1977-86; vice-chairman two terms.



Mauriene Smithson Matthews, Plainview. Reading teacher in Resource Program, College Hill Elementary School. All-state post guard at Dimmitt High School, 1950 and 1951. All-time all-state post guard, Texas Girls Basketball League. Member of national championship women's basketball teams at Wayland Baptist University, 1954 and 1955. Honorable mention All-American, 1954 and 1955. Member of Pan-American Team, 1955.



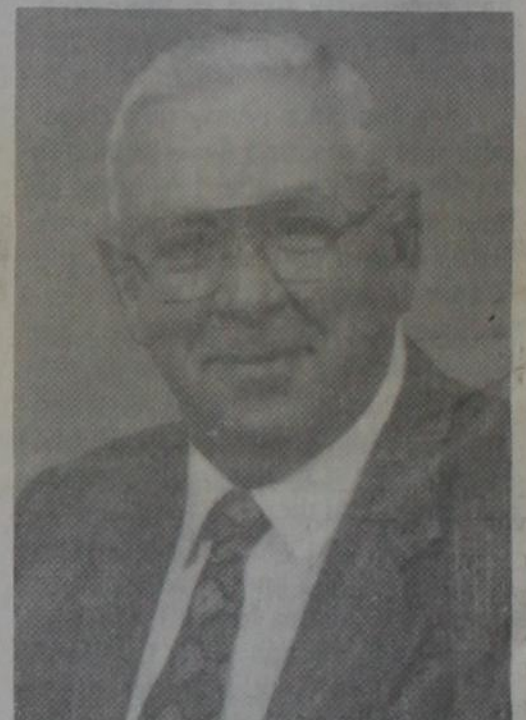
Lois Cleavinger Wales, Dimmitt. Environmental activist and advocate for agriculture at state and national levels. Former state president of Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE). First woman member of Texas Corn Producers Board.



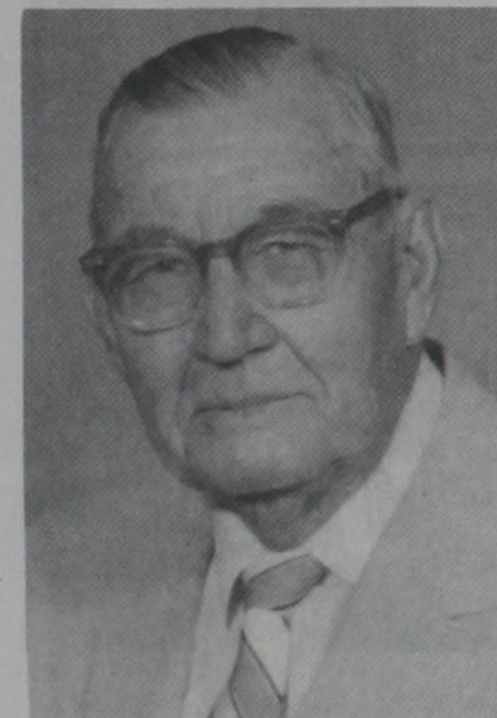
Pat Tate Truelove, Amarillo. Member of Dimmitt High School's state championship girls' basketball team, 1950. All-American at Wayland Baptist University, 1951. Selected to 10-member US team to play and tour South America to promote women's basketball on Olympic card, 1952. Most Valuable Player, Atlanta Peaches professional women's basketball team, 1953. Member of NBC professional team, Nashville, Tenn., 1954. As chairman of the Women's Sports Committee of the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, helped found the National Women's Invitational Tournament, 1968. Installed as 34th member of the Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame, 1974.



Ray Joe Riley, Sunnyside. Registered plant breeder, farmer, stockman, inventor. Developer of first sorghum sedan grass hybrid, 1955. Developer of Rilcot cotton variety, 1959. Co-founder of Estacado Industries, Inc., 1972. Co-inventor and patentee, with Don Ethington, of synthetic irrigation fuel process and nitrogen fertilizer manufacturing process. President, Plains Cotton Growers, 1973-74. National chairman, US Cotton Producers & Ginners Delegation to International Universal Cotton Standards Conferences, 1974. Member, Texas Education Agency Board of School District Evaluation Appeals, 1975-77. Member, Legislative Interim Advisory Committee on Taxes, 1979-81. Vice-chairman, US Cotton Board, 1989.



Howard Smithson, Dimmitt. Farmer and agribusinessman. President of Texas Young Farmers, 1975. Secretary of National Young Farmers Association, 1976. Served as finance chairman for National Institute of Young Farmers when Texas hosted national convention in San Antonio.



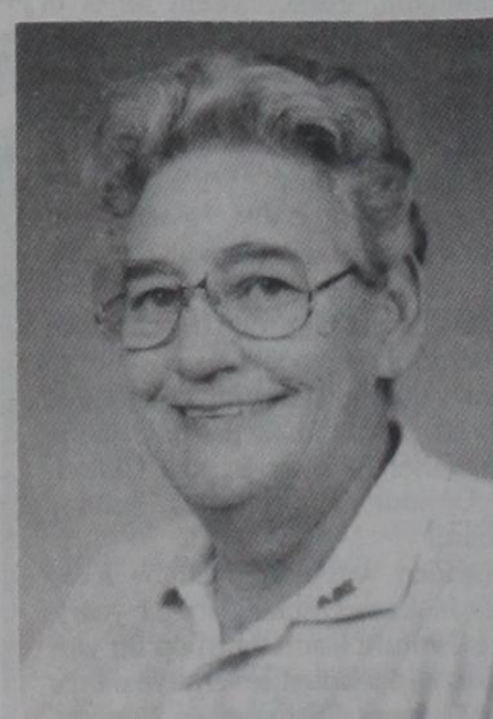
B. M. Nelson, Dimmitt. Retired newspaper publisher. Advocate for progressive growth of Dimmitt and Castro County since 1943. Co-founder of Castro Co-op Hospital (now Plains Memorial), 1946. As part-time manager of Castro County Chamber of Commerce in 1956-57, conducted the necessary survey work and made industrial contacts to launch vegetable industry here. Co-founder of Castro County Vegetable Growers Association and Dimmitt Produce Co. Served numerous terms as County Democratic Party chairman and delegate to State Democratic Convention. Advocate through the years of civic projects, bond elections and governmental action to provide street paving, public swimming pool, county recreation center, baseball parks, expansion of school facilities, sugarbeet allotments for county, establishment of corn milling plant, retail business development.



Lillamae Hunter, teacher, author, historian. Author of *The Moving Finger*, 1957, a history of Castro County.



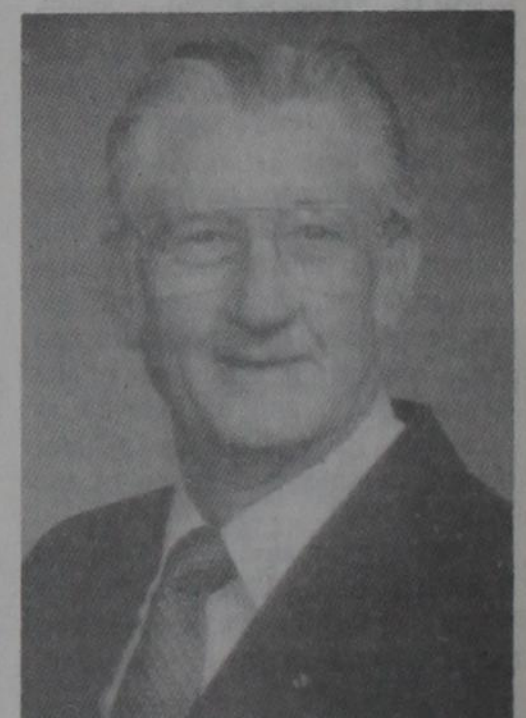
Margaret Axtell, educator, author, benefactor. Author of *Will Rogers Rode the Range*, 1972. A former teacher at Springlake and Olton and school superintendent in Fallon County, Mont., she married Dwight Axtell of Sunnyside in 1931. In 1948, she and her husband donated their 1,415-acre irrigated farm and all equipment to Boys Ranch. After retiring to Arizona in 1952, she worked through her church and various charities to benefit children in need, taught illiterate adults to read and write, and conducted research for her writings.



Lometa Odom, Plainview. Junior high school science teacher. All-state post forward on Dimmitt High School state championship girls' basketball teams, 1950, '51, '52. Named to All-Time All-State Team, Texas Girls Basketball League. All-American at Wayland Baptist University, 1953, '54, '55, '56. Inducted into Helms National Hall of Fame, 1967. Inducted into Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame, 1970. Inducted into Texas High School Basketball Hall of Fame, 1982.



Carl King, Dimmitt. Farmer, agriculture spokesman, political activist. Organizer of Texas Corn Growers Association, 1970; Texas Corn Producers Board, 1980; American Corn Growers Association and American Corn Growers Foundation, 1987. Former Democratic state committeeman for 31st Senatorial District. Originator of the USDA's Payment in Kind (PIK) program for subsidized production control. Starting with a seven-county commodity association headquartered in Dimmitt, has built a statewide organization to finance research, development, marketing, disease control and new uses for Texas corn. His American Corn Growers Association is the fastest-growing commodity group in the US, with increasing influence on federal legislation and import-export policies.



Ralph Smith, Dimmitt. Retired bandmaster, Dimmitt Public Schools. Inducted this year into Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame. President, Texas Bandmasters Association, 1969. President and national board member of Phi Beta Mu, bandmasters' fraternity. Author of nine books on marching bands and designer of marching grid layout sheets now published and widely used. Twenty-year member of University Interscholastic League State Music Advisory Committee; state chairman in 1977 and 1978. In his 31 years at Dimmitt High School, his bands garnered 28 sweepstakes trophies, appeared on national TV and in more than two dozen festivals in several states.



Castro County Centennial NOTABLES

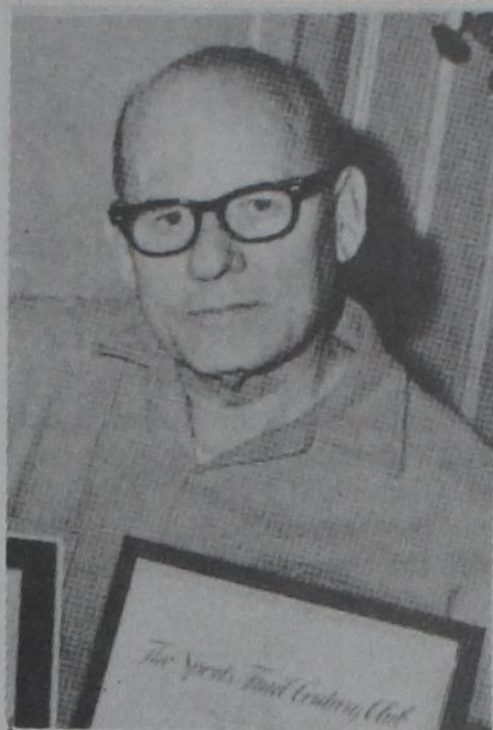
1891
◆
1991



Edwin (Goose) and Edgar (Unk) Ramey, Dimmitt's most celebrated twins. Raised on a farm east of Dimmitt, they, their father and brothers planted first wheat crop, brought first wheat header and later first combine to county. Unk was a pioneer implement dealer, local historian and folklorist. Goose was a farmer, rancher, historian, naturalist, beekeeper, weather recorder and folklorist. Both were Masons and Shriners; Goose served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas. Goose gained regional reputation as an authority on Canada geese, US coinage system, beekeeping, Panhandle history and weather, and was much in demand as a public speaker. His nickname was so widely recognized that he once received a letter addressed only with the drawing of a goose above the words, "Dimmitt, Texas." Goose was cited by National Weather Service for having kept the official day-to-day rainfall records for Dimmitt for more than 50 years. He could recite from memory the exact dimensions of a windmill tower or the components for an accurate homemade rain gauge. The Ramey twins shared a distinctive accent and embodied the folklore of this region.



Junior Coffey, Seattle, Wash. Professional horse trainer. All-state running back and all-state basketball player for Dimmitt High School, 1961. All-American running back, University of Washington. Fullback, Green Bay Packers and Atlanta Falcons, National Football League.



John Blaine, coach, teacher, school administrator. Inducted into Texas High School Coaches Hall of Fame, 1970. Coached three state championship girls' basketball teams, one state championship boys' team and eight all-staters in seven seasons at Dimmitt High School. In 1951-52, his boys' and girls' basketball teams both won state championships with identical 36-0 records and his football team compiled a 10-1 record while advancing to the regional finals, making him the winningest coach in team sports in the nation that year. In 1950-51, his boys' track team finished as state runners-up, with the mile relay team setting a new state Class B record.



Jack and Mary Flynt, Dimmitt. Flynt, retired insurance underwriter, served as state commander of the American Legion in 1966-67 and as national American Legion commander in 1981-82. Mrs. Flynt served as president of the Texas American Legion Auxiliary in 1966-67.

ALSO:



Mary Behrends Reeves, Lubbock. University administrator, teacher and student advisor. Director for external relations, College of Home Economics, Texas Tech University since 1988. Assistant dean of students, Texas Tech, 1979-88; served as administrative advisor to Student Association, honor societies, student and university committees. Winner of Top Tech Staff Award, 1984. Vice-president and publications chairperson, Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators, 1979-88.



Bascom Nelson, Jr., Beeville. Builder and inventor. Founder of Universal Fabricators, custom steel-building company. Inventor of concrete home construction system, Lock Shield padlock protector and other products. Designer and builder of lunar habitat frame prototype for NASA.



Donald Wright, Dimmitt. Farmer. Outstanding Young Farmer of Texas, 1969.



Helen Estes Richardson, Dimmitt. Teacher, school administrator. Born and raised in Castro County, she was the oldest child of Percy Estes, pioneer farmer, and Lenna Greer Estes, one of the county's first school teachers. Both her father and her youngest brother, Robert, served as county judge. Her other brother, Army Capt. Greer H. Estes, was the first Dimmitt man killed in action in World War II (July 8, 1944, at St. Lo, France); the American Legion post in Dimmitt is named after him. Supporting herself by teaching while attending college, she earned bachelor's and master's degrees; later served as principal of Dimmitt's South Elementary School 17 years. Upon her retirement, the school was named after her. Named an Outstanding Woman of the Texas Panhandle.

T. A. Singer, Dimmitt. Businessman, civic worker. City's leading booster in 1940s and '50s. Owner of West Texas Telephone Co. and City Drug; onetime co-owner of *Castro County News*. Founder of the International Parks Highway Association, he led the movement to have a series of state and federal highways from the Mexico border to Saskatchewan, Canada, designated as US Highway 385.

Cleophus Shellabarger, Sunnyside. Farmed with his brother-in-law, Dwight Axtell. Believed to be the inventor of the irrigation tube.

Cliff Cooper, entrepreneur. Raised on a dryland farm near Hart. As a young businessman in California, he put together the engineering team that devised the Wintroath irrigation pump to tap the Ogallala underground aquifer. Co-founder of Big T Pump Co., with Leroy Aven of Hart and Hilary Aven of Hereford. Later became a pioneer entrepreneur in the rocketry and space industry. Named one of the 10 Outstanding Young Men of America by the United States Jaycees. Served as president of the US Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Hilma Carrell, Dimmitt. Educator. Former outreach representative of West Texas State University and Amarillo College.

J. W. (Jim) Carter, Flagg. Pioneer rancher. Drove a herd of cattle here from Buffalo Gap, near Abilene, in 1884 to become the first permanent settler in Castro County, along with his wife and their three small children. Established the 7-Up Ranch on 75 acres of land, making his headquarters on the northern slope of the Running Water Draw in what is now the Flagg area. For six years the Carter family and their employees were the only residents of the county. Helped organize the county in 1891. Folklore has it that when local residents and passing cowboys couldn't provide enough signatures for the organization petition to the state, Carter gave first names to several of his horses and put their names on the petition, enabling the county's official establishment.

Percy Parsons, Dimmitt. Funeral director. Member of Texas Funeral Commission. State committeeman, Texas Funeral Directors Association.

Rev. Stanley Crocchiola, Canadian. Catholic priest, historian, author, artist. A native New Yorker and former professor at St. John's College, Father Stanley served Nazareth's Holy Family Parish from 1967 to 1982. Author of biographies and histories on New Mexico towns, Panhandle railroads, Texas churches and other subjects. Founder and first instructor of Nazareth Art Club. Originator of the Holy Family Parish Christmas Pageant, 1972.



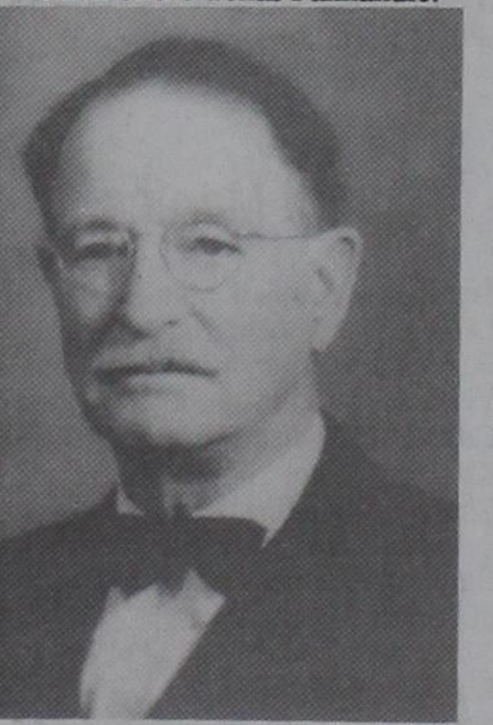
Fawayne Murphy, New York, New York. Tenor in Metropolitan Opera Co. since 1965.



Fred Bruegel, Jr. Dimmitt. Grain and feed dealer, civic worker. Past president, Texas Grain & Feed Dealers Association. Lifetime senator, Junior Chamber International.



Kent Hance, Austin. Attorney, educator, public servant. Appointed to WTSU Board of Regents, 1972. Named Outstanding Professor at Texas Tech University, 1973 (business law). State senator, 1975-79. Congressman, Texas 19th District, 1979-85. Elected chairman of Congressional Freshman Caucus; named Best Freshman Congressman by *Texas Business* magazine. Author of largest federal tax-cut bill in nation's history, 1981. Democratic candidate for US Senate, 1984. Twice a Republican candidate for governor. First Republican ever to serve on Texas Railroad Commission (appointed by Gov. Bill Clements in 1987; elected to full term in 1988). Railroad Commission chairman, 1989-90. First American ever to attend a meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) by invitation. Co-founder of Texas Boys' Ranch, Lubbock. Former member of Governor's Energy Council, Governor's Oil Spill Advisory Committee, Texas High Speed Rail Commission, Wayland Baptist University Board of Trustees. Currently a member of Interstate Oil Impact Commission and Texas Mining Council.



Mark Cowser, the county's first attorney. Founder of Cowser Abstract & Title Co. Moved here in 1909, less than a year after passing his bar exam, when Dimmitt's population was about 40. First county attorney, at a salary of \$25 per month, working in what he termed "the finest court house I have ever been in, outside of San Antonio." Castro County at that time included the area which would later be organized into Bailey County; Mr. Cowser traveled by motorcycle to cover the territory and attend to his official duties. Was instrumental in the orderly definition, sales and transfer of much of the county's original property.

Ivan Sinclair, Washington, D.C. Appointments secretary and later itinerary planner for President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Rayphard Smithson, Dimmitt. Farmer. Outstanding Young Farmer of Texas, 1964. Lifetime senator, Junior Chamber International.



Jack R. Miller, Dimmitt. Attorney. State district judge, 64th Judicial District.



Don Ethington, Dimmitt. Inventor and retired executive of Goodpasture, Inc. Holds two US patents for electrothermal reforming and several foreign patents for chemical waste abatement. Co-author of numerous scientific papers.

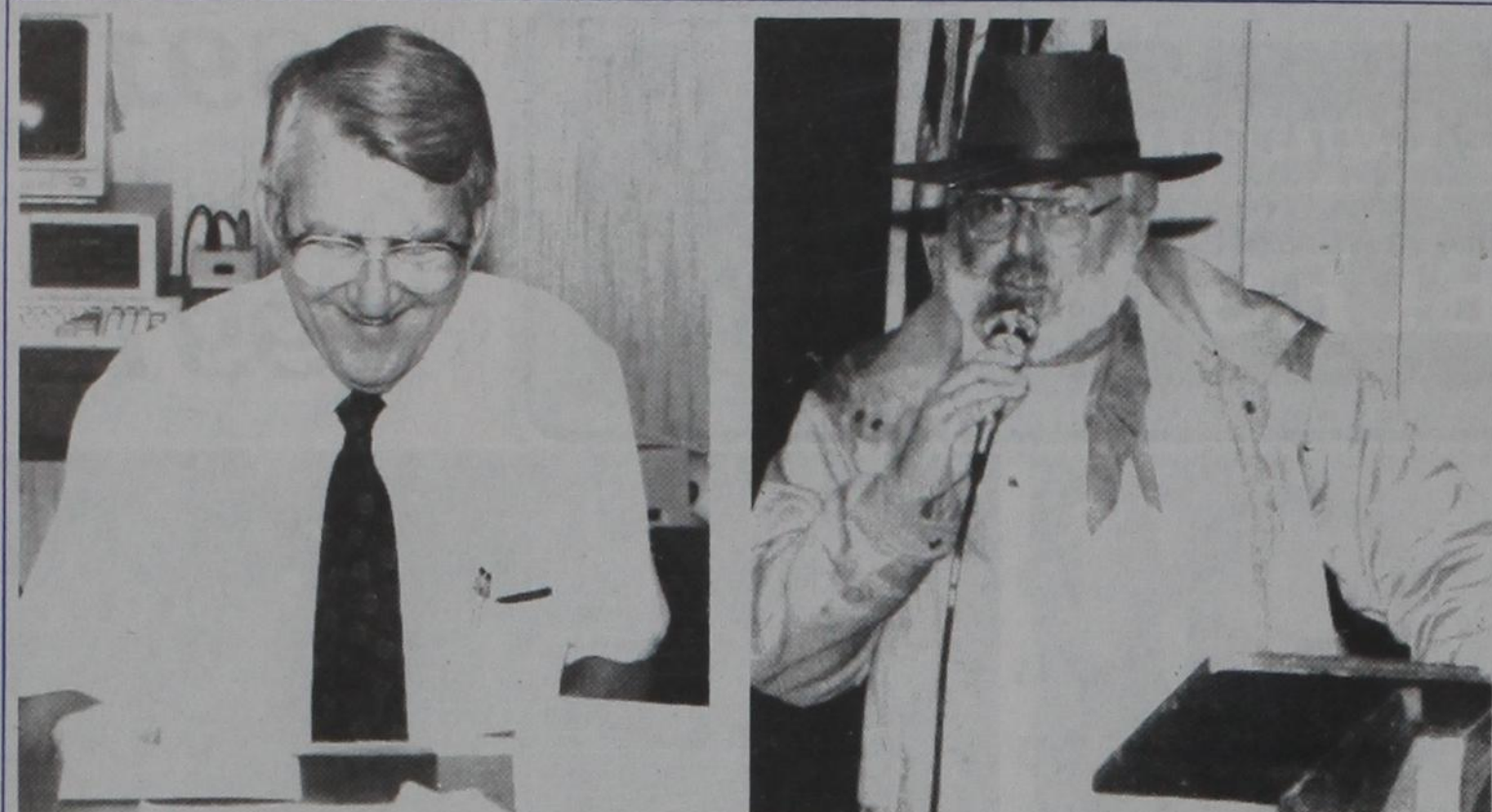


bodyworks
by
beth

Congratulations to Castro County on our 100th Anniversary.

Good wishes for another 100 happy, healthy years!

call 647-2247 Come join us!



CENTENNIAL ORGANIZERS — Don Nelson (left) and Bill Sava, drew the honor of serving as co-chairmen of the Centennial Commission, which has been responsible for planning and organizing events and financing for this year's Centennial activities and projects. In addition to their work with the Centennial Commission, both are members of the Centennial Singers and both will perform in the Centennial Pageant Aug. 11 and 12. Sava directs the pageant, which is being dedicated this year to the county's 100th birthday celebration.

More about

Hart Days '91 . . .

(Continued from Page 1)
 tournament will be held behind Butch Martinez' service station in Hart. Sheets will be hung over the net to prevent teams from seeing each other, and water balloons are used instead of a volleyball.
 Points are scored when the balloon is burst by one of the teams. The first team to get 15 points, or the team with the most points after 20 minutes, will be the winner. Teams must have both male and female players.
 The number of teams will be limited to eight, with six players minimum and eight maximum per team. Entry fee is \$2.50 per team member. Winners will receive "Hart Days Champion" T-shirts.
 Aurelia Perez at Hart Bank will take entries through Friday. She said businesses are encouraged to get teams together.

Hart Days will begin Monday when the E&B Funtime Rides carnival rolls into town and sets up for a five-day run. The pageant is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, and the annual sing-along will begin at 8 p.m. Wednesday at the football field.
 Thursday's activities include the Little Dinner Theater at 7 p.m. Several Friday activities will include the Fun Pet Show beginning at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 9 at the bank parking lot. Also scheduled for that Friday will be the annual Kids Games, sponsored by Xi Mu Iota at 6:30 p.m. at the football field.
 Honored pioneers Everett and Bea Cole will be featured in the Saturday morning parade, and the

Good Neighbor Club will have a bake sale and hospitality room beginning at 9 a.m. in City Hall.
 After the parade, the Zealot Club will sell homemade ice cream at the announcer's stand, and the Lions Club will continue to sell its famous Lionsburgers Friday and Saturday. The United Methodist Church Women will be selling homemade pie to go along with the Lionsburgers.
 The Lions are also sponsoring a horseshoe tournament after the parade, and the Hart Fire Department will have Bingo both Friday and Saturday. Chi Psi's Cow Patty Bingo is scheduled for the east bank parking lot following the parade.

More about

Hawkins dubs gazebo . . .

(Continued from Page 1)
 the summer, especially in the laying of the bricks and tiles.
 After Hawkins built the poles that hold the top of the gazebo, Ed Harris Lumber Co. built the top. Dimmitt Ready Mix poured the concrete for the plaza, and Danny Newton did the electrical work. Percy Parsons obtained the granite and engraving on the tiles.

But lately, Hawkins' "second wife" has been getting all the attention. The plaza has 13,000 bricks in 2,888 square feet of brick surface, and approximately 500 square feet of tile area, with 577 tiles sold.
 One of those tiles was purchased by the designer himself, and has special significance. It reads, "Plaza

design by Our Lord & Robert Hawkins."
 In spite of his months of dedication, it doesn't take long for Hawkins to respond in the negative when he's asked if he would take on such a project again.
 "As soon as I can get divorced from this 'second wife,' I'm sure not going to marry another one!"

Parsons and Bill Birdwell have been two consistent volunteer "laborers" working with Hawkins, and the Future Farmers donated their time to work on the gazebo's rail and benches. The county commissioners are providing the materials and the FFA members are doing the labor.
 Hawkins seems to have a long history of service to the Castro County area. He was born in Tulia, but his family soon moved, first to Nazareth, then to Hart in 1941. He played basketball and tennis at Hart High School, and went to regionals in tennis in 1950.
 He married his wife, Leta, May 10, 1952, and the couple has four children, David of Irving, Theron of Bakersfield, Calif., Phillip of Dallas, and Lesa of Plainview.
 The family has been active in the First United Methodist Church of Hart, where Hawkins has been song leader since 1962. Over the years the Hawkins family has been active in Scouting, sports and other activities relating to the children when they were still at home.

CENTENNIAL NOTEBOOK

THE BIG PARADES are rapidly approaching. The Hart Days Parade will be Saturday, Aug. 10, followed a week later by the Centennial Parade in Dimmitt Aug. 17. If you plan to have an entry in the Hart Days Parade, phone 938-2143. And if you plan to enter the Centennial Parade, notify the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce office at 647-2524.

THE DIMMITT YOUNG FARMERS installed the railings and bench supports on the gazebo Monday, bringing the Centennial Plaza another step closer to completion. However, project chairman Robert Hawkins said a lot of "detail work" remains to be done on the brick walkways. He has called a work party for Saturday, starting at 8:30 a.m., and said two brick saws will be in service to speed up the work. Also, the final shipment of red-granite tiles is scheduled to arrive Monday, Hawkins said, so volunteers will be needed Monday to set them in place, starting at 9:30 a.m.

THE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION needs one or two volunteers to sell Centennial souvenirs at the Hart Days celebration Saturday, Aug. 10, and at the County Fair Friday and Saturday, Aug. 16 and 17. Also, volunteers are needed to help with the hamburger lunch and registration at the Antique Car Show in Dimmitt Aug. 17 after the parade. If you can serve, please call the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce office, 647-2524.

Obituaries

Norman C. Brown

Rosary for Norman C. Brown, 61, of Summerfield were recited Monday in Rix Funeral Directors.
 Mass was celebrated Tuesday in St. Anthony's Catholic Church with Monsignor Orville Blum, pastor, officiating.
 Burial was in West Park Cemetery.
 He died Saturday night in Amarillo's St. Anthony's Hospital after an illness.
 He was born in Rhineland and moved from Santa Rosa, N.M., to Hereford in 1965. He married Catherine Fetsch June 24, 1958, in Munday. He was master machinist for Holly Sugar Corp. and a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church.
 Survivors include his wife; seven daughters, Sandra Harrison and Brenda Rusher, both of Hereford, Deborah Johnson, Linda Hartman, Rebecca Brown and Barbara Brown, all of Summerfield, and Dianna Fearn of Lincoln, Kan.; two sons, Martin and Raymond, both of Summerfield; his mother, Mary Brown of Rhineland; two brothers, Robert of Forth Worth and Gene of Rhineland; three sister, Bertha Kilpatrick of California, Margie Karpan of Washington and Lorene Brown of Rhineland; and six grandchildren.

Ethe S. Cryer

Services for Ethe S. Cryer, 95, of Topeka, Kan. were held last Thursday in Lowman United Methodist Church Chapel. Burial was in Me-

morial Park Cemetery by Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home.
 Mrs. Cryer, born in Indian Territory, ran a boarding house with her parents in Borger. She graduated from Clarendon College and received a lifelong teaching certificate. She taught school in Kirkland, Clarendon, McLean, Borger and Amarillo. She had lived in Borger since 1941 and moved to Amarillo in 1955. She moved to Artesia, N.M. in 1962 from Amarillo. She moved to Topeka in 1966 from Artesia.
 She married Curtis A. Cryer in 1917 in Kirkland. He died in 1962. Cryer was the superintendent of Dimmitt schools in the late 1920s and early 30s.
 She was a member of Lowman United Methodist Church, a lifelong member of Society of Christian Service and a delegate to the Methodist General Conference each June.
 Survivors include a daughter, Jane Logan of Topeka; two grandsons; and two great-grandchildren.
 The family requests memorials be made to Courtyard Terrace, 1821 S.E. 21st St., Topeka, Kan. 66607 or to Lowman United Methodist Church, 4000 Drury Lane, Topeka, Kan. 66604.

James Ernest Ford

James Ernest Ford, 65, of Thomasville, Ga. died July 20.
 Graveside services were July 23 at Laurel Hill Cemetery with the Rev. Tedd Bass, officiating. Arrangements were by Kirkland Croy Hughes Funeral Home.

Mr. Ford, born in Hereford, moved to Thomasville 24 years ago from Amarillo. He retired from the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Thomasville. He married Virginia Hatcher in 1961 in Amarillo. He was a past president of the Thomasville Lions Club and a member of Dawson Street United Methodist Church. He received a master's degree from West Texas State University in Canyon. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II.
 Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Shari Kaye Ford of Charlotte, N.C., and Shelly Ann Ford of Atlanta; three brothers, George Ford of Pampa, Joe Ford of Houston and Lee Ford of Amarillo; and four sisters, Rosa Lueb and Margie Ford, both of Amarillo, Patsy D'Herde of Beeville and Betty Richert of Dimmitt.
 The family requests memorials to the American Heart Association or the Cancer Society.

Zonell Maples

Services for Zonell Maples, 75, of Dimmitt were held Sunday in the First Baptist Church with the Revs. Vernon O'Kelly, pastor of First United Methodist Church, and Paul Kenley, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating.
 Burial was in Castro Memorial Gardens Cemetery under direction of Foskey Funeral Home.
 She died Friday in St. Anthony's Hospice in Amarillo.
 She was born in Lockney and had lived in Castro County since 1917. She attended school in Hart and Sunnyside and graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1937. She was county clerk for 24 years. She was a member of First Baptist Church and the Eastern Star.
 Survivors include a son, Tom of Nicoma Park, Okla.; a daughter, Judith Tate of Amarillo; a brother, J.R. Brown of Dimmitt; six grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.
 Pallbearers were DeWayne Brown, Blair Brown, Ware Brown, Blake Brown, Jim Blackwell, Mike Blackwell, Elmo Blackwell and Scott Bagley.
 The family suggests memorials to St. Anthony's Hospice and Life Enrichment Center, Box 950, Amarillo 79176.

EXTRA

25%

OFF

YELLOW TICKETS

SPRING & SUMMER CLEARANCE

Reg. Price **\$20** Sale Price **\$16** Extra 25% Off **\$12**

Hot Summer Days Bring Hot Savings on Selected Spring and Summer Fashions!

• Sandals • Knit Tops • Swimwear • Shorts • Related Separates

Does not include athletic shoes. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken. No rainchecks. Sorry, no layaways. All sales are final. Selection will vary by store.

ANTHONY'S

Sale Prices Effective through Tuesday

"HOWLINGLY FUNNY!"

— CBS-TV, Dennis Cunningham

What about BOB?

PG

Now Showing

Friday, Saturday and Sunday: 8 p.m.

Admission: \$3.00 647-3454

*In appreciation
of our past . . .*

*In anticipation
of our future.*



The Centennial Commission
invites you to the
Dedication Concert
Friday, August 16, at 6 p.m.
and the
Dedication Ceremony
Saturday, August 17, at 11 a.m.
of the
Centennial Plaza

*Built and dedicated to honor
the people of Castro County.*

Charles Axtell;
Jerome Brockman; Brenda Bruton; Gwen Bryant;
Robert L. Hawkins; Delores Heller, Secretary; Gloria Hernandez;
Fred Kuntz; Helen Kuntz; Janet Mitchell; Don Nelson, Co-Chairman;
Bill Sava, Co-Chairman; Carolyn Sides; Polly Simpson; Reta Welch; Francis Wilhelm



Castro County Centennial HERITAGE

1891
★
1991

Sheriffs once 'hung' in courthouse

By DANETTE BAKER

Along the paneled wall in the Castro County Sheriff Department once hung 16 mugshots of the county's most notorious law-abiding citizens.

With help from Helen Richardson and Edwin "Goose" Ramey, former Castro County Sheriff Jack Cartwright began a sheriff photograph collection in 1975.

"I just thought it would be all-right to have them all," Cartwright said, adding that he secured nearly all of the pictures before he resigned.

Two years later, then-sheriff Granville Martin completed the set and hung it on the sheriff's office wall.

Since 1987, the collection has hung in the barracks building at the Castro County Museum.

Although the collection is a story itself, greater still is the history that lies behind the steel grey eyes of the photographed men.

Earliest records indicate that citizens elected C.I. Bedford in 1891, when the county was organized.

However, it seems Bedford couldn't leave his job at the office, because he didn't have one. Bedford began his term before the first courthouse was built.

According to an account by George Dolan in the *Castro County History Book, Vol. 1* Bedford brought prisoners home with him and kept them overnight. Bedford handcuff himself to the prisoners if he thought they might give him trouble. Dolan was a Bedford-family relative.

Commissioners Court minutes from Dec. 23, 1891 recorded a \$300.00 salary for Bedford.

County check stubs from May 9,

1892 show Bedford was paid \$13.65, for boarding and guarding prisoners.

In addition to upholding peace, the sheriffs (Bedford through Jack Cartwright) also served as county tax accessor and collector.

A county-wide vote on Oct. 21, 1958 separated the two offices.

Perry G. Cox served next, beginning in 1893, but was dismissed about a year later because county citizens began withdrawing their support of him.

Apparently some of the people disapproved of his laziness in stopping cattle rustlers, according to an Aug. 18, 1977 *News* article.

Citizens reported that Fred and Oscar Cordel, well-known cattle rustlers, always had a quarter of beef at their camp, but there were never any hides hanging on the fence to dry, according to the history book.

The same book noted that several citizens called to Cox's attention that "every low thief that passed through the county stopped at the Cordel place."

However, one Sunday morning when most people were at church, rustlers raided the town and stole all the milk calves from the pens, the history book said.

The next morning, the citizens who had signed Cox's bond withdrew their names, saying he did not qualify. Judge L. Gough couldn't get anyone else to sign the bond so he dismissed Cox, according to the history book.

When the Commissioners Court met to appoint a new sheriff, only one name was mentioned — Ira Aten.

The former Texas Ranger served from May 1893 until November

1895, when he accepted a job as form of the Escarbada Division of the XIT Ranch.

Although his term lasted but half that of his predecessors, Aten set out to clean the county of the undesirables, the history book related.

In 1893, Aten broke the Cordel ring when he and a JA Ranch cowboy followed the group to their ranch on the Washita. Aten arrested

Bob Burkett and a man named Thacker, two cowboys who were guarding the 300-head herd that belonged to residents in Castro, Randall and Armstrong counties, according to the history book.

Despite the numerous indictments against the Cordels, they were never convicted.

However, Aten decided to try another method to rid the county of the rustlers. He arrested them for sporting a gun, although such was a common practice, the history book recounted.

A year before his resignation, Aten succeeded in his goal—the Cordels and other cattle rustlers had virtually left Castro County.

On Nov. 12, 1895, J.E. Boyce filled the position Aten vacated. Boyce served until 1900 when county residents elected Frank Vaughan.

Vaughan served until 1904.

From 1904 to 1908, Press Burnam wore the sheriff's badge. Later, his brother Bill Burnam also served in that capacity from 1922 to 1926.

Three other men served terms between the brothers: Roy F. Barber, who served from 1908 to 1914; J.H. Flanagin from 1914 to 1918;

and J.A. Johnson, from 1918 to 1922.

Flanagin also served another term from 1930 to 1934.

J.A. Johnson, who was foreman at the Flagg Ranch for a short time, experienced what law-enforcement officers today term "a scam."

Johnson investigated an unusual case called "burial of calf bones." According to the history book, a woman known as Mrs. Morgan, claimed her husband died when their house burned.

From her story, county citizens took collections for his burial, and performed a Masonic funeral for his "remains." Johnson captured Morgan; she confessed to the ordeal and was sentenced to five years in the state penitentiary, the history book said.

Later, he continued his law-enforcement duties as deputy during Flanagin's second term.

C.G. Maples served as sheriff from 1926 to 1930.

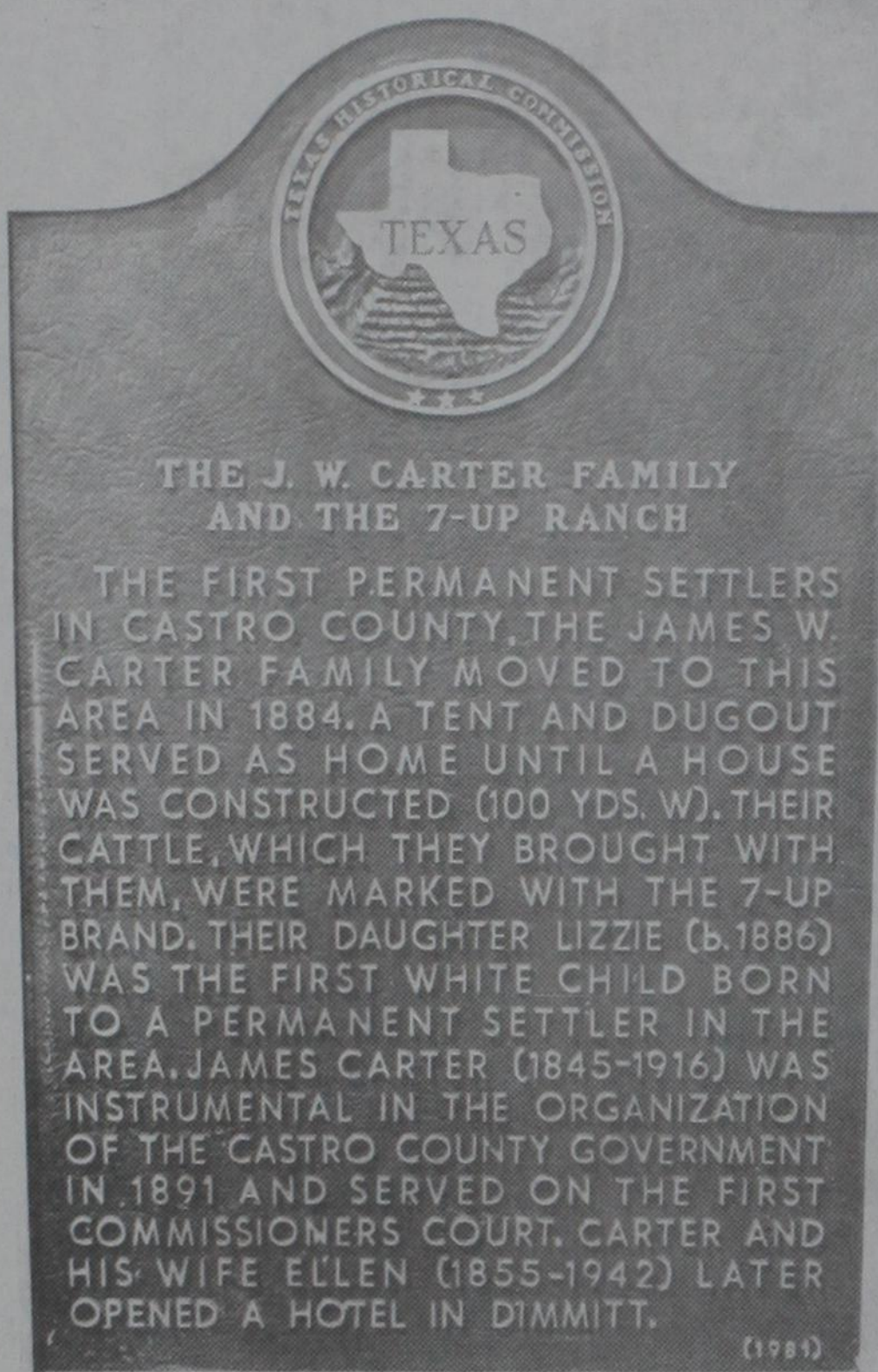
"Dad spent many long hours gone (from home)," Dorothy Elder recalled.

Although young at the time, Elder said she does remember the late-night phone calls that summoned her father. She was in the third grade when Maples took office.

"I remember he'd tell momma it was another family disturbance (when Maples left late at night)," she said "Then dad would come back home because by the time he got there the woman had changed her mind (about filing charges)."

Like his predecessor, Garland Brown, the county's next sheriff, had his share of family disturbances.

(Continued on Page 3)



THE FIRST OFFICIAL MARKER—This historical marker, the first official one in Castro County, was dedicated on July 4, 1981, on the north side of Running Water Draw on FM 1055; six miles west of Dimmitt on Highway 86, then 10 miles south on FM 1055. The marker commemorates the first family in Castro County, the J.W. Carters, and the 7-Up Ranch.

Let the fireworks begin! as we celebrate Castro County's 100th Anniversary

Our lives are lighted with the joy of knowing each one of you, and with the pride of serving our customers well.

We've been in business for 33 years, continuously, under the same ownership, and we look forward to many more years of working with you.

North Gin of Dimmitt

Jim Bradford, Manager

North Highway 385 647-5338

Early day tornadoes wreak destruction, death on settlers

Several tornadoes have ripped through the county through the years, but two stand out in most peoples minds as being extremely "deadly" in their destruction.

In 1929, storm clouds gathered over the county and became threatening by mid-evening.

Orthel C. Sumner, a former res-

ident of the Flagg community, gives an account of the first tornado on record to strike in the county. It was two miles southwest of Flagg. He tells of how his family headed for a cellar as the clouds grew threatening, how they waited out the storm, then found the destruction after it passed.

"I recall standing with Dad at the door (to the cellar) observing more than one funnel formation with their accompanying clouds of dust. They seemed to be moving in our direction from the west. It was time to dover up, so down we went into the dark recess, thankful for the protection. My father attached a stout rope to the cellar door and hung on to it with grim determination.

"Soon the wind and rain pelted the cellar door in violent fury. The downpour began to wash away the sod on the cellar roof, and a small crack appeared at the top. Light came streaming through. It seemed that giant fingers were frantically pulling the roof apart—the noise was frightful. My father clung desperately to the door rope as outside forces seemed determined to rip it off. We huddled and prayed that the little cellar would withstand the terrible onslaught. Suddenly the storm passed and quiet returned.

"The cellar door was opened. My father came out, looked around, and reported all buildings were standing, but that the grandparents house was turned slightly on its foundations. Water stood everywhere—deep water—as the storm had dumped an enormous amount of rain."

Sumner explained about the destruction of houses in the surrounding area, and about discovering the body of Mr. Cassidy, who was killed by the violent storm. Sumner and his father searched through the destruction of the Cassedys' house and its surroundings and found a cellar in the middle of it all. Inside the cellar were Mrs. Cassidy and Lee Meeks, a young man who had been helping with the farm work.

Both were injured, but they wanted to know where Mr. Cassidy was. He was later found some distance from the cellar.

"These neighbors were believers in what is to be will be. They did not believe in the necessity of seeking refuge for personal safety. Their cellar had been built to store canned goods and other foods. When the tornadoes swept in, these people did not recognize the need to seek protection. The young man somehow managed to grab onto the lady and drag her into the cellar. He had only a fleeting glimpse of the man before the place became a whirling mess."

Tornadoes touched down in Dimmitt twice in 1929 and Mrs. Percy Hart recalls one at Hart that sucked a windmill pipe straight up out of the ground, and also claimed two lives. The Hart twister blew a house away and killed the man and his wife who were there.

In 1950, a small twister passed through Sunnyside, but it dims in comparison with the one that struck the small community on April 12, 1960.

That night, a devastating tornado ripped a mile-long path of destruction through Sunnyside, taking three lives, injuring 60 and causing an estimated \$200,000 structural damage.

One of those who died in the tornado was Nona Beth Phelan, 12, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Phelan, who died when her family home was destroyed.

Another fatality was T.R. Hogan, 51, owner of Hogan Gin at Sunnyside. Apparently, Mr. and Mrs. Hogan had been playing dominoes in the home of friends across the road when they decided to return home due to the worsening weather. If this is what happened, they must

have been caught outside when the twister hit. Mr. Hogan was found near the Baptist Church and Mrs. Hogan was found near their home. Their car was lying in a field about a quarter of a mile away.

The third fatality was J.B. Kidd, 55, of Plainview, who was attending an Associational Baptist Brotherhood meeting at the Sunnyside Baptist Church that evening. He was apparently killed when he stepped out of the church to seek shelter elsewhere.

The tornado destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lilley, smashed the Sunnyside Store and ruin the Phelan home. The offices and storeroom of Sunnyside Grain and Supply were shattered, although the elevator itself escaped serious damage. A new part of the Sunnyside Baptist Church — the concrete block auditorium — was totally demolished. The old frame-and-stucco part was left standing, but it was a shambles. The twister destroyed almost everything in Sunnyside from Powers and Blacksmith south.

From Sunnyside, the twister went on north-northwest. It reached the Sam Gilbreath farm and lifted up, passing over the home occupied by John Gilbreath, then touched down several miles further on and smashed a home on the Roy Cluck farm.

Total distance covered by the

torando where it touched the ground was about six or seven miles.

On Sunday, Oct. 17, 1971, residents along a 12 mile swath in the Hart area experienced a destructive night when eight or more twisters were sighted in the area. The Paul Armstrong farm, located southwest of Hart, suffered the greatest damage that night. One tornado would pass over, followed by another and another and the twisters struck five farms and barely missed a dozen others.

Other twisters have been sighted in recent years, including one at Nazareth on May 29, 1980, which destroyed the Kent and Teresa Birkenfeld mobile home and Lawrence Schmucker's barns, other buildings and machinery.

That night, a swirling cloud mass that produced as many as four "funnel tails" at one time slashed a two-mile path of destruction west and north of Nazareth, striking at least nine farms, homes and businesses.

No one was killed or injured in the storm, which observers say spawned as many as 14 funnels as it roared over the Dimmitt and Nazareth areas.

Many funnels have been sighted during the last decade, but luckily, no one was killed and only minor injuries were reported; although damage estimates have varied.

More About

Sheriffs . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

"When he first went in office, we (county) didn't have a lawyer," J.R. explained. "The couple would call dad to referee their squabble."

Garland was elected in 1934 and served 14 years. He was the second-longest office holder.

"Dad (Brown) never carried a gun," said Zonell Maples. "He was a quiet man, he just went about his business and took care of the county."

Her brother agreed. "He rarely carried one (gun)," J.R. Brown said. "He didn't like to. If he carried one, he concealed it. Dad liked to be real low-keyed."

However, J.R. remembered one of his dad's firearms.

"He had a little .22 automatic that he fashioned a little device on so he could carry it inside his shirt and it would never be seen," he said.

J.R., who was 13 when his dad took office, recalled his father's term.

"We didn't have much crime," J.R. said. "Oh, occasionally some one would turn in a bootlegger and dad would have to get after them."

He recalled one instance vividly.

"One time dad had raided a still and came home with a hundred-pound sack of mash (which he had confiscated for evidence) tied to the front of his car and drove it into the garage," he recounted. "That was the sweetest smelling car and garage for about two weeks."

Occasionally the sheriff's office received a call that a fugitive was headed toward Castro County.

"Dad really liked that," J.R. said.

"He'd really perk up." When the days were slow, J.R. said his dad would climb up to the top of the courthouse and survey the county from the cupola with his binoculars.

"He probably knew everybody that was making whiskey," he said, explaining that although the stills were well concealed — usually disguised as a junk pile — Garland could spot the smoke from his lookout.

Garland died before his term ended and on April 27, 1947, E.D. "Peck" Wyer was appointed to fulfill Garland's term.

Houston Fowlkes held the office from 1948 to 1954. He was a deputy in 1935 during Brown's administration and served in that capacity for almost 14 years. He was a long-time Sunnyside farmer before his five-year term.

Bootleggers and scam artists plagued the 16th county sheriff.

About two years after Cartwright was elected, a group of men posing as cesspool cleaners worked their way into Castro County.

In an April 12, 1956 News article, Cartwright warned county dwellers about the men, who charged \$300 for a \$100 cleaning job.

"It blew over pretty quick," Cartwright said. "Fortunately not many were taken in by it."

As the years passed, bootleggers were usually just passing through the county and traded it along the way, he said.

Another News article (April 26, 1956) reported Cartwright apprehended four known bootleggers.

Between the four men, 640 quarts of beer, 173 pints of wine and approximately 88 pints of whiskey were confiscated, the article said.

"We never had much trouble arresting one (bootlegger)," Cartwright said. "I guess he knew he'd be out again soon."

Since Bedford's administration, a few crimes are much alike, said Lonny Rhynes, Castro County sheriff.

"They had cesspool scams, then lighting rods, now it's with credit cards," he said.

Rhynes served as deputy under Granville Martin from 1976 until 1980. Currently, Martin serves as Cottle County sheriff.

Other than the financial scandals, the crimes faced by the county's 18th sheriff surmount those before him.

"The majority of cases now are felonies dealing with theft," Rhynes said. "The, last eight months, child abuse has closed in on the lead."

"The day I took office, the daily population in the jail averaged one person," Rhynes said. "Right now, there are 15 in there (on July 11)."

Although the severity of crimes may have escalated from those in the past, Rhynes agrees with former-sheriff Brown's attitude on firearms.

"I don't like to carry one (gun)," Rhynes said. "But it is a tool of the trade. Like a carpenter carries a hammer, it is there if you need it, but anyone who thinks of a gun as a status symbol shouldn't be in law enforcement."

Although he describes the position as "the thrill of his life," Rhynes cautions that the challenge of law enforcement is not for everyone.

"There have been times I've wondered why I want the responsibilities," he said, the first being when five men escaped shortly after he took office.

But Rhynes said the constant challenge and day-to-day experiences keep him attracted to the position.

To date, Cartwright holds the record for 21 years in office.

When asked how long he intends on staying in office, Rhynes remarked, "As long as the people of Castro County will let me."

Jack rabbit drive was held in 1925

A "rabbit posse" was organized in early 1925 to try and rid Castro County of its jack rabbit population.

The county became overrun with jack rabbits, which fed on small grains and could damage up to 10% of a field per night.

Farmers became frustrated with the "pesty" critters and decided to do something about it, so a "jack rabbit drive" was organized.

It was a one-time event, and people from miles around came to help out.

On April 1, 1925, people gathered and constructed a huge pen of wire netting with long wings that made a V from the gate. It was built in the northeastern part of Dimmitt and was designed to trap the rabbits if they entered it.

The drive started at dawn, with men walking about 30 feet apart, along the county line. The "hunters" were manned with clubs, because guns were banned, except if they were carried in automobiles that followed the hikers.

At the given signal, the men advanced forward, but the rabbits fled in advance. The rabbits began to dart through the "hunters," and a few were clubbed to death, but most escaped to freedom.

There had been a shortage of meat in California, so the Castro County farmers had intended to trap and send the rabbits to California to be butchered. But things

didn't work out that way.


At the end of the drive, a lone jack rabbit was thrown into the pen so the day wouldn't be a complete failure.

A beef had been donated to help feed those "hunting" the rabbits and it was cooking over an open pit while the "hunt" progressed. There also was a bread truck from which fresh bread was to be served.

A "cloud" appeared on the horizon, though.

A dust storm blew in and landed dirt all over the barbecue and the "crowd started getting ugly," according to the late Edwin "Goose" Ramey's account of the event. He added that a group of people "got into the back of the truck and began opening the loaves of bread, then threw them into the crowd."

Although the day was a total loss because only one rabbit was captured, everyone had good memories of the time and laughed about it for years to come.



Proud to be a part of Castro County's medical progress!

Dimmitt Medical & Surgical Clinic

405 NW 3rd
647-5255

Buster Tidwell started serving Castro County growers in 1959, and in 1989 Todd Hatla and Gary Wise bought into the company, with Todd as president and general manager. We plan to continue helping the county's farmers make this one of the top agricultural spots in the state.

Congratulations to all in Castro County on your 100th Anniversary.



Tidwell Sprayers, Inc.

N. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt
647-5183



Viva! Ole!

We're proud to help celebrate Castro County's 100th Anniversary.

Serving you since 1978

El Sombrero Restaurant

Floyd Lopez, Owner
South Highway 385, Dimmitt



Our

POW

Legacy

*I prisionieri italiani
ai compagni che non
torneranno*

Hereford P.O.W. Camp Sett. 1945

The words are engraved in a marble plaque that's imbedded in the concrete floor of the entranceway to the small prayer chapel.

*The Italian prisoners
to the comrades who will not
return.*

Hereford P.O.W. Camp September, 1945

By DON NELSON
Publisher

The Chapel

It has been vandalized for 42 years, its beautiful windows knocked out, its doors torn away, the sculptured cross above the altar ripped off the wall and carted off, the altar and walls defaced by carved initials.

But those who defaced it have failed to destroy its dignity. Like a Roman ruin, it still proclaims the nobility of its original purpose, and gives silent testimony to the skilled artisanship and loving care with which it was built.

In mid-1945, when the war was in its final throes, a group of the Italian prisoners asked for, and received, permission to build a monument in memory of the five among them who had died in this place half a world from their homeland.

The prayer chapel was erected at the prisoners' burial ground, a quarter-mile east of the camp. Three were buried on one side of the monument and two on the other. Reports vary on how they died. Local sources say that one of them had developed gangrene from a broken leg while being shipped here; that another was mistakenly shot by a guard while on a work detail; that one was murdered by a fellow prisoner, reportedly in a fight over a piece of candy; that one succumbed to pneumonia; and that one fell from a moving truck and died of a broken neck.

Working without machinery, the prisoners built the 15x15 chapel largely by hand. They used their own money to buy the sand, gravel, clay, cement, wood and glass they needed. They had workshops for some of the off-site detail work. But mainly, it was a matter of men, imagination, materials and skilled hands.

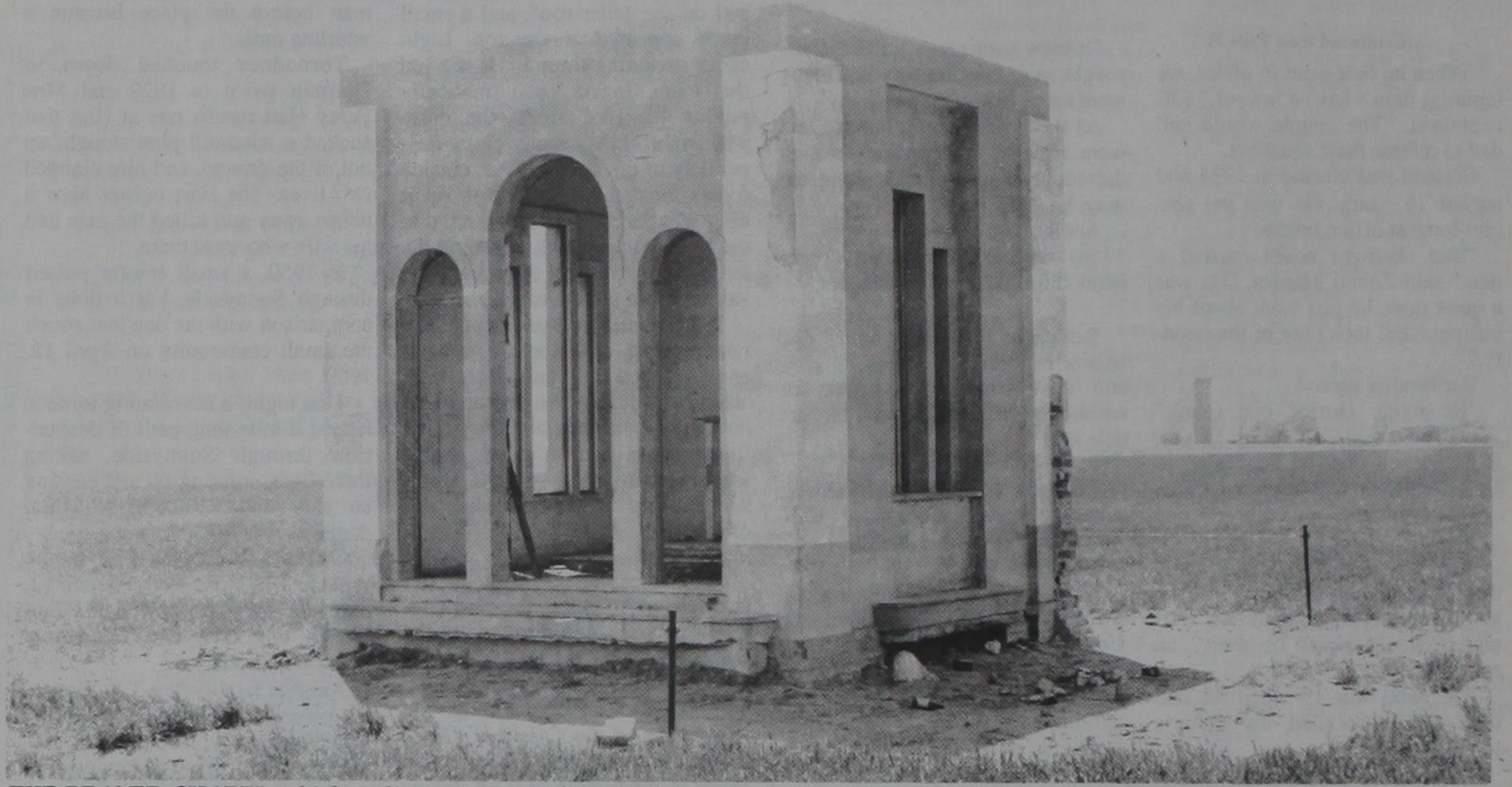
The walls, which average 18 inches in thickness, they constructed of brick and concrete, with plaster facings on both the interior and exterior. The bricks are said to have been hand-made of camp clay.

On the entry (east) side, they built an arched double-door, flanked by narrow arched windows. In both the north and south walls, they built three vertical oblong windows—a large one flanked by two smaller ones.

The wood window mouldings are still restorable. They're 1-1/2" thick and 2" wide, with the window grooves dado-troughed in, and



INSIDE THE CHAPEL, despite years of vandalism, one can see the meticulous craftsmanship that went into the construction of the memorial. The Italian prisoners worked their plaster for the walls and altar until it approached the smoothness of granite and marble. (Photo by Don Nelson)



THE PRAYER CHAPEL which Italian prisoners of war built near the end of World War II in memory of their five comrades who were buried on each side of it now stands vandalized and neglected, but is being stabilized by the Castro County Historical

Commission. The 14x14 chapel originally had a concrete apron on all four sides, and stands on a concrete foundation sunk four feet into the ground. It also had glass French doors in front and glass windows all around. (Photo by Don Nelson)

the corners and splice-joints rabbeted and fastened with wood screws. For the transom-arch of the doorway and the arches of the east windows, the wood was perfectly bent and rabbet-jointed. Evidently, the windows were framed and then set in place, then the frames were secured by interior facings of molded concrete, 1-1/2" thick.

They fine-sifted their sand for the plaster on the interior walls, then floated and troweled it until it had the smoothness of granite. Their finish work on the altar approached the smoothness of marble.

Above the altar table, they placed a sculptured cross, and a prisoner named Rinaldi (who was later to attain national acclaim as an artist in Italy) painted a beautiful mural showing Christ's body being cleansed following the crucifixion. The name "Rinaldi," engraved in the plaster behind the altar table, is still legible.

Their little prayer chapel was a work of art. The bodies were exhumed in 1957 and shipped back to Italy. But their memorial, supported by a solid concrete foundation four feet deep, remains.

That's where the returning ex-POWs will gather with local friends Saturday afternoon at 2:30. Undoubtedly, they'll be chagrined when they see what vandals have done to the chapel through the years. But they can take heart in the restoration work that already has been started by the Castro County Historical Commission.

classrooms, music building, vo-ag shop, etc. The American mess hall—decorated with murals on the walls—became a school cafeteria at Hereford. Many of the barracks were used by the housing authority in Hereford to create the "labor camp" for farm workers. Other buildings were purchased by individuals and converted to homes, shops, barns and workers' quarters. Many of the buildings are still in use.

The War Dept. used massive amounts of concrete to secure the barracks at the camp on piers sunk four feet into the ground, and on foundations, slabs and sidewalks. As a result, much of the ground—especially on Hodges' land—was unusable after the war.

All three of the original landowners bought their land back after the war. The land which W. N. Hodges owned was farmed by his son Aubyn until two years ago, when Charles Schlabs bought it. Schlabs has set aside access space around the memorial chapel east of the compound area, which has become an official historical site and is being renovated by the Castro County Historical Society.

The chapel, the stem of the water tower, a building or two, several stretches of barbed-wire fence and tons of concrete refuse are all that remain of the camp site today.

Acknowledgements

Information for these articles was obtained from a paper written by Lucielle Henegar of Hale County, published in *Hale County History*, quarterly of the Hale County Historical Commission, Vol. XVI, No. 4 (November 1986), "The Hereford Prisoner of War Camp—Volume 1", along with her reference sources; from papers, newspaper clippings and letters compiled for the same publication by Mrs. Louise Hooper Harper in "The Hereford Prisoner of War Camp—Volume 2" (February 1987); from a talk by Grant Hanna of Hereford, former mess sergeant at the Hereford POW Camp; and from discussions with Charles Schlabs of Easter, Castro County Historical Commission President Teeny Bowden, and other members of the Historical Commission.

The Camp

Its official name was "Hereford Military Reservation and Reception Center," but it was popularly known from the outset as "The Hereford Prisoner of War Camp."

Located 4-1/2 miles southwest of Hereford, the POW camp was actually inside the northern boundary of Castro County. It was the second-largest POW camp in Texas, covering 800 acres which had been owned by L. B. Holland, W. N. Hodges and H. D. Robbins. It was Holland, a Washington lobbyist, who proposed the site to the War Dept.; the government used condemnation proceedings to acquire Hodges' 331 acres for the "fair market price" of \$49.77 per acre and 75 acres of Robbins' lake-bottom land for \$18.40 per acre. Holland was paid \$43.42 per acre for his land.

The camp was authorized June 30, 1942, and construction started the following month. The camp, built at a cost of \$2 million, had 90 barracks buildings and was designed to hold 5,000 prisoners.

The 300 construction workers built the headquarters barracks and cafeteria first so they would have places to sleep and eat. Hereford had a population of 2,300 and Dimmitt 940 at the time, and neither town had enough accommodations for the large construction crew.

Most of the camp was completed by mid-November "at a speed almost unbelievable," and the first prisoners arrived in mid-April.

The barracks were divided into four compounds—one for officers and three for enlisted men—plus the separate headquarters compound. The compounds were separated by a barbed-wire fence, and a catwalk extended above the center of each compound. Around the perimeter of the camp were two 9-ft. barbed-wire fences 10 ft. apart, with a 110-volt hot wire along the outside fence. Nine guard towers were built at strategic corners, overlooking the "no man's land" between the perimeter fences, which was flood-lighted at night. Guards in the towers were equipped with 50-caliber machine guns. The prison complex took up about half of the 800-acre site.

The headquarters compound and prison area had their separate hospitals, kitchens and cafeterias. A tall concrete water tower topped by a tank, an entryway with guardhouse, paved access roads and a sewage treatment system in the nearby lake-bottom completed the camp facilities.

Except for one curious and unauthorized addition: an American officers' swimming pool on the north edge of the camp, built above ground with "surplus" cement scotched by the construction workers and officers.

The camp was "home" for approximately 7,000 prisoners of war and 1,000 American soldiers during its service from April 1942 until January 1946.

After the war, many of the buildings comprising the "American hospital" at the camp were purchased by the new Castro Co-op Hospital, moved to Dimmitt and remodeled to become the county's first public hospital—the forerunner of Plains Memorial. Other camp buildings were purchased by the Dimmitt Independent School District and converted into elementary



INTRICATE PAINTINGS by Italian prisoners of war decorate the walls of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Umbarger. All nine former prisoners who worked on the church project have since returned to Umbarger at least once to renew the close friendships they made there during their "labor of Christian brotherhood." (Photo by Eddie Guffey, director of Llano Estacado Museum in Plainview, courtesy of Castro County Historical Commission)

The Prisoners

No one seems to know how many Italian men were interned in the Hereford POW Camp during its three-year existence; estimates range from 5,000 to 10,000. At the time it was closed down, the prisoner population was 3,999.

Most were enlisted men, and many of these were just youngsters when they were captured. Some of them had been in battle as little as 45 minutes when they were captured in North Africa. A minority were hard-line Fascists, devoted to Mussolini and his vision of a "modern Roman Empire." But most were young men from the farms, villages and shops of Italy, devout Catholics, who had been drafted into service and really didn't have a taste for war, which they felt (correctly) would ruin their country.

Another, smaller, number of them were Italian officers who practiced the standard custom of the career military man—non-cooperation with one's captors. Although many of these officers were apolitical, they were grouped with the Fascists because of their non-cooperation. Generally, the men were separated into "Black Shirts" (Mussolini's men) and "Red Shirts" (king's men) and placed in different compounds because of their political differences, to maintain order in the camp.

The ones seen the most by the people here were the enlisted men who worked on the farms, roads, elevators, railroads and city work crews in the area. They were given the choice of working for 10 cents an hour, redeemable in PX coupons—about the same pay scale as American soldiers—and many of them jumped at it. They were carted throughout the area in truckloads of 15 or more, usually singing as they went. They quickly gained a reputation of being happy-go-lucky, and skilled, efficient workers. Many of them formed lifetime friendships with local farm families, who said they couldn't have gotten their crops in without the help of the Italian prisoners.

The officers didn't work. For most of the life of the Hereford POW Camp, the US subscribed faithfully to the POW policies spelled out by the Geneva Convention: that prisoners would be fed above subsistence level; that officers would be treated and paid in keeping with their rank; that all prisoners would be treated with dignity and not be tortured. So the main chore of the captured Italian officers, in their separate compound, was to fight daily boredom.

One of the most-remembered characteristics about the Italians was their artistic nature. The camp's carpenters would give them scrap pieces of metal or wood, and they would come up with violins, guitars, chests, furniture, carved airplanes, rings, medallions—many of which they would give to local residents as gifts. Some of them were, indeed, trained artists and artisans, and would go on to achieve fame in their country after the war.

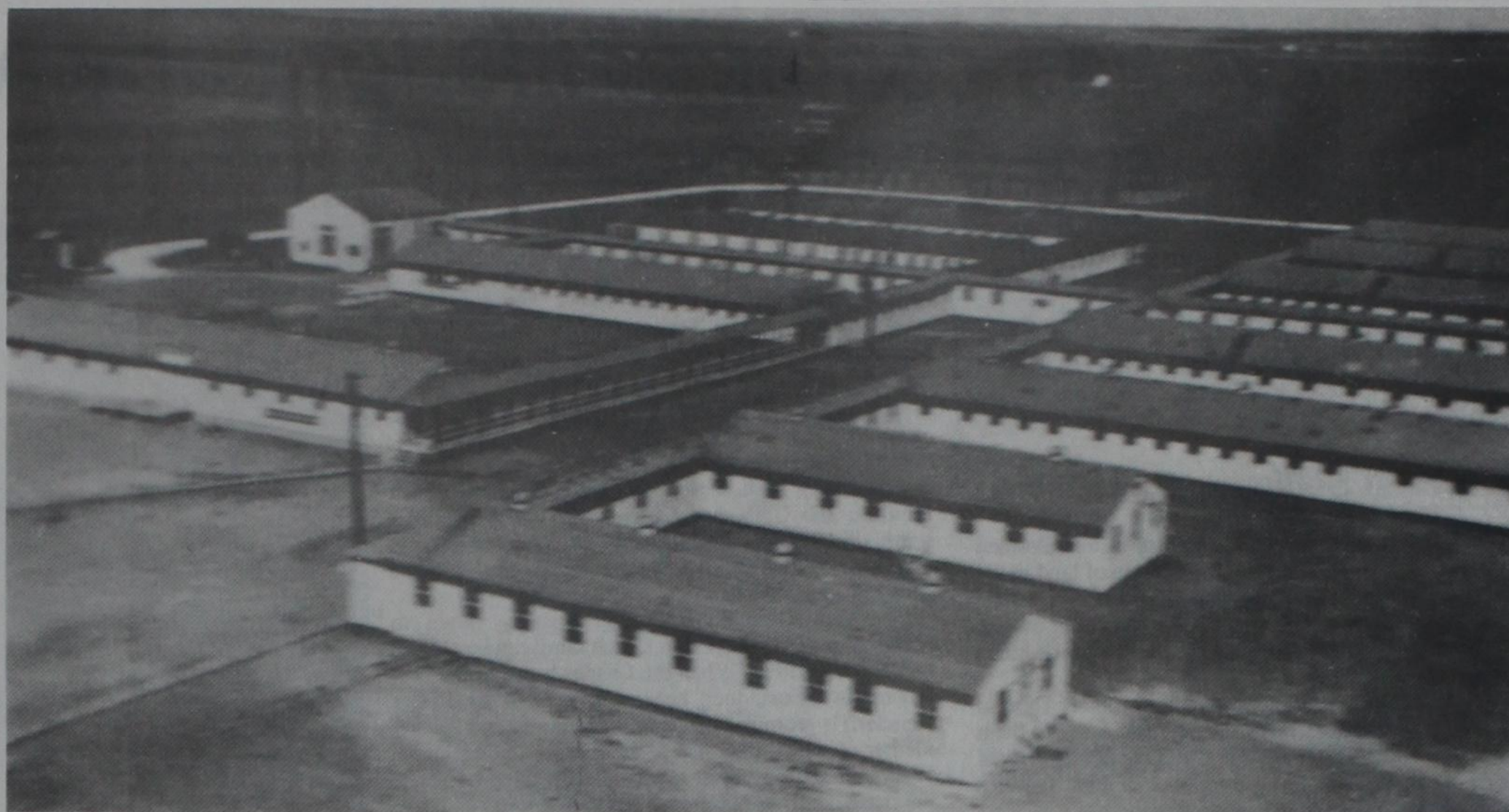
To help maintain morale and minimize the problems that can result from boredom, camp officials provided them with several workshops and playing fields, and allowed them to build a theater which they named the *Teatro Gloria*. They staged elaborate plays and musicals, writing their own scripts and fashioning their own backdrops and costumes.

They also operated their own cafeteria, with their own cooks, and ate essentially the same food as the Americans in the headquarters compound. They turned their cafeteria into an artistic showplace, with murals between the windows, and kept it immaculately clean and scrubbed, with their table condiments (salt, pepper, sugar, vinegar, oil, apple butter) kept in perfect alignment. They grew much of the camp's food on land surrounding the compounds; their favorite foods were said to be American beef and light bread, catsup, tomatoes, spaghetti and apple butter.

But for the officers, the camp's generous food policy came to an abrupt halt in April 1945, after Mussolini's death and Hitler's suicide, when Allied soldiers came upon the notorious German death camps. In retaliation, the US government ordered rations cut severely for Axis-power POWs. The "starvation order" wasn't as severe for the enlisted men at the local camp, since they needed a working ration, but most of the officers wouldn't see a decent meal again until the following Christmas, when they were about to be repatriated. According to Gen. Franco Di Bello, who was a first lieutenant at the time of his imprisonment here, officers' rations during their last nine months here were cut to four slices of bread and a bowl of vegetable-and-herring soup per day. Some of the officers were reduced to catching grasshoppers and rattlesnakes, and accepting jackrabbits shot by a friendly guard, and frying them in hair oil to survive, Gen. Di Bello wrote later.

One prisoner, a Fascist naval officer, escaped and made it to southern New Mexico before being recaptured 27 days later—the longest escape in the camp's history. More would have escaped if camp guards had not discovered an elaborate tunnel while retrieving a soccer ball from under an officers' barracks. The tunnel, eight feet below ground level, was equipped with an air-tube made of tin cans, and ran 500 feet into an adjoining field. While digging it, the officers would simply carry dirt out in their pockets and scatter it around the compound's garden area; no one noticed the slowly rising elevation of the garden. The tunnel reportedly was just a few feet from completion when it was discovered. A second tunneling effort was discovered and stopped later when guards checked to see why some of the prisoners refused to move an organ in the church to clean behind it.

There was only one riot in the camp's history. That occurred the day 1,000 German prisoners of war bound for a POW camp at Roswell were shipped by mistake to the local camp. Germans and Italians did not care for each other. The Germans were placed in a separate compound, but that didn't stop the prisoners from getting



THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL at the Hereford POW Camp. Many of the buildings in this hospital complex were used after the war

to construct the new Castro Co-op Hospital, the forerunner of Plains Memorial Hospital. (Photo courtesy of Charles Schlabs).

at each other with whatever they could throw. They ripped wood from the catwalks and were destroying part of the camp when the Americans—guards, cooks, everyone on hand—were issued billy-clubs and sent into the compounds to quell the riot. The Germans were shipped out 48 hours after they arrived.

From the day the first 144 Italian prisoners arrived—marching and singing *Rosemunda* (*Roll Out the Barrel*) from their train stop at Summerfield up the road to the camp (not knowing their guards hadn't yet been issued any ammunition), they were allowed—even encouraged—to write postage-free cards and letters to their families. When they started getting letters back, they were devastated by the news of the destruction and widespread starvation that the war had caused back home.

Many met and visited with American relatives while interned here. A few of them returned to this area to live after the war, and many have returned through the years to visit and renew acquaintances.

St. Mary's Church

In mid-July, 1945, Rev. Achille Ferreri, an Italian-American priest from Youngstown, Ohio, who was the military chaplain at the Hereford POW camp, helped organize an exhibit of prisoners' artwork. The public exhibit for area residents was held at the camp in mid-August.

One of those attending was Father John Krukkert, priest of St. Mary's Church in Umbarger. He was so impressed by the prisoners' art that he negotiated with the authorities to have them paint murals on the blank walls inside his church. It was believed to be the only cooperative project of its type in the US.

The Italian officers agreed to do the work as long as it was understood that their efforts would be considered individual acts of Christian brotherhood and not a form of cooperation with their captors. They refused any monetary pay for their project.

The project started Oct. 15, 1945. Father Ferreri drove the original three officers—Lt. Franco Di Bello, a career army officer and amateur painter; Maj. Cattanei, a painter and artist; and Capt. Gambetti, an architect with wall-painting experience—to Umbarger in his car. It was the first taste of unguarded freedom they had known in years. The highlight of the day came when the officers—who had been on a starvation diet for six months—were served a "magnificent lunch" in Father Krukkert's dining room.

"It was a great day . . . the first in years that gave me the pleasant feeling of coming back to my normal status of free and dignified individual," Di Bello wrote 41 years later.

The Italians set to work, and Father Krukkert assigned different families of the parish to provide meals for them daily. The parishioners responded as if for a church dinner, preparing some of their best dishes. The prisoners were overwhelmed by the food and friendliness.

After outlining the scope of their work, the original three officers called in six others, including two specialists in wood carving and two in leaded-glass window mounting.

With the war already over and their time before repatriation growing short, the Italians worked 14 hours a day, six days a week, on the project. Meanwhile, St. Mary's Parish held services in the church basement.

What resulted was a beautiful, custom-painted set of murals and carvings that still decorate the interior of St. Mary's Church.

The sanctuary was reopened for worship and the artwork was dedicated on Dec. 8, 1945, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The nine Italian prisoners were the guests of honor and the Archbishop of Amarillo delivered the dedication address.

"The entire community was there and the atmosphere all around was of deep, unforgettable emotion," Di Bello wrote later. "It was our farewell with the wonderful people of Umbarger."

Near the entranceway of the church is a bronze plaque inscribed, in Latin:

Italici Milites, in maximo novissimo Bello captivi, hoc opus perfecterunt ad Dei gloriam enarrantam et memoria remotae infelicis Patriae honorandam.

Translation: "Italian soldiers, prisoners in this total and modern war, performed this work to praise the glory of God and to honor the memory of their unhappy, far-away country."

The plaque also bears the artists' names: Gambetti, Di Bello, Cattanei, De Cristofaro, Gorlato, Mareto, Sanvito, Moretti, Zorzi.

The prisoners were repatriated to Italy less than a month after they completed their "labor of Christian brotherhood." But all nine of them returned in 1955 to revisit the church and their Umbarger friends.

"We had a little fury in the back of our minds—we kinda hated them at first. But when you stopped to think that they were somebody's son, somebody's father, you realized they were human beings just like we were. Several of us had fought in foreign countries ourselves. That helped us to give in to the fact that they were caught up in a situation they had no control over and they were just doing the best they could."

—Aubyn Hodges

The Pilgrimage

Gen. Di Bello and 15 other former Italian POWs returned to Castro County on a pilgrimage in April 1988 and at that time, Carla Vick of the Castro County Historical Commission told them of the commission's plan to restore the vandalized chapel, which is located just inside the northern Castro County line, a mile west of the 25 Mile Avenue (FM 1055). The tall, thick stem of the POW camp's water tower near the white chapel helps to identify the site.

As soon as she mentioned the word "funds," the former POWs came forward with donations—mostly \$100 bills. In all, they gave \$1,140 to the cause.

Mrs. Vick presented the men with a thick scrapbook of pictures, clippings, letters, worksheet records, etc.

They, in turn, presented a commemorative plaque, which was placed at the memorial chapel.

Mrs. Vick also presented the Italians with strands of the prison camp's barbed wire, beribboned with the red, white and blue of the US and the red, white and green of Italy.



A NEW LOOK is apparent in the graceful lines of the refurbished prayer chapel at the Hereford Prisoner of War Camp. The little chapel has been painted white, its entranceway and windows have been rebuilt, and its interior has been restored to resemble its original state, including a bas-relief "Pieta" scene behind the altar. The cross above the altar is visible through the right window. The chapel, built in 1945 by Italian prisoners of war to honor their dead comrades, was dedicated in June 1989 by 24 former POWs from Italy.

The Restoration

In November 1981, the Castro County and Deaf Smith County Historical Commissions jointly applied for two official Texas Historical markers for the Hereford Prisoner of War Chapel. The marker for Deaf Smith County was placed on US Highway 60, and the one for Castro County was placed on US Highway 385. The markers were dedicated on May 30, 1983.

At the Texas Historical Commission's annual Preservation Conference in Brownsville in April 1988, the Castro County Historical Commission was presented an award of merit for their efforts toward restoration of the POW Chapel.

The restoration project got underway in April 1988, when forms were made and a 2-1/2 foot concrete slab was run at the back and on both sides of the chapel around the original foundation.

The restoration project was completed and the chapel was formally dedicated in June 1989, with former prisoners of war from Italy taking part.

The chapel was painted white, its impressive paned windows have been rebuilt, and the interior has been restored to resemble its original appearance, complete with a bas relief *Pieta* scene behind the altar table. A walkway from the access road to the chapel is flanked by exposed-aggregate borders. The walkway and chapel are enclosed by a high protective fence made of four-point barbed wire from the original camp.

Two flagpoles stand in front of the refurbished chapel—one for Old Glory and one for the flag of Italy.



THE WATER TOWER'S concrete cylinder, minus its tank, stands as a lone sentinel over the other remnants of the Hereford POW Camp. The tower's wooden ladder is still intact, although the screening for the ladder's safety tunnel is gone. The tower is now unsafe to climb. Rising out of the native grass in foreground are the concrete piers, sunk four feet into the ground, which supported many of the camp's buildings.

Church was center of life for early Nazareth settlers

The small German Catholic community of Nazareth was settled in the late 1800s when the McCormick brothers, V.A. and J.A. moved to Castro County and filed on a section of land near the town's present location, and life in the small settlement soon became centered around church services.

That holds true today, almost a century later. Holy Family Catholic Church is the only church in the small community and it, along with the school, remains one of the focal points of most of the residents' lives.

The First Settlers

The McCormick brothers were traveling salesmen and V.A. was the first to file on a section of land in the new settlement. At that time, a person had to live on a section of land for three years before he could own it, so J.A. built a dug out that was the McCormick home for the next three years.

The two brothers wrote to another brother, Thomas (or T.P.) and their friends in New York and told them about the new land. In 1892 T.P. and his family arrived at the new settlement and a number of Irish families soon filed on land and began moving there.

After a very long period without a priest to say mass, the settlers were getting upset, so T.P. wrote to the Bishop of Dallas, and Father Thomas Blakney, pastor at Henrietta, responded to the letter.

Father Blakney said the first mass in Nazareth in the Lassiter home, which was located about 12 miles east of Nazareth along the present Highway 86. Then he celebrated mass several times for the little settlement in a dugout provided by the McCormicks.

The first entry for Castro County in the mission register of the Henrietta Church is dated Feb. 23, 1893, under the name of Wynne, Castro County. The reason the town name read Wynne, was because a man named Billy Wynne delivered the mail from Tulia to the McCormicks and sometimes the settlement was known by his surname.

The Lassiter house was home to T.P. and his wife, Frances because she couldn't accept a dugout for her home when she arrived in the new colony. T.P. first moved the family to a house in Tulia, 15 miles east of their dugout, and at a later date, they moved to the Lassiter house, which was eight miles east of their dugout, while their new home was being built four miles east of the present-day site of Nazareth, and one-half mile south of Highway 86.

One room in the new home of the T.P. McCormicks was set aside for the celebration of mass when a priest visited the community.

The early Irish settlers—around 30 families—had come to West Texas and located south and west of the McCormick homes.

From 1892 to 1894, a severe drought hit the area and the year 1893 was particularly dry, inviting a plague of grasshoppers which jumped into the colony and aggravated the already taxed patience of settlers who had been battling the drought. Many people forfeited their claims because they had used up the limit of their resources and were facing starvation.

Although the settlers endured many hardships in the early days, the thing they found the hardest to handle was the absence of a church and priest. Some settlers stayed, but many moved on, and T.P. realized that the Catholic Irish settlers were no longer coming to his settlement, so he decided to move his family where there was a church and a school.

He made the long journey to a settlement of Rhineland in Knox County and met Father Joseph Reisdorff, who advised T.P. to return home and wait until he had an opportunity to come and look over the possibilities of establishing a Catholic Church there.

Father Reisdorff arrived in Castro County in June 1902, and after discovering the productivity of the land, purchased a plat for \$2.50 an acre, then returned to Rhineland to close out his affairs.

Settlement is named

Father Reisdorff arrived in the new colony on Aug. 21, 1902, and moved in with the T.P. McCormicks, then set about naming the new colony.

He wanted it to have a Biblical name, preferably in relation to the Holy Family—Jesus, Mary and Joseph—and eventually he named it Nazareth, for the town in which the Holy Family settled.

In order for the settlement to flourish, Father Reisdorff began plotting the town of Nazareth in 1904. In the early days, the town was governed by the church trustees and the priest.

Father Reisdorff advertised his new colony by inserting ads in German newspapers published in various sections of the US. He appealed to German people because he found they were "diligent, hard working people who usually succeeded in their efforts."

German settlers arrive

German settlers read the article in the German "Landman" and soon flocked to the new colony from Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Indiana, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Oklahoma and other states. Some families even came from East Texas, where Father Reisdorff had lived before he moved to Nazareth and soon the original Irish settlement was changed to a German settlement and the German heritage is still strong today.

By the time the first German settlers started arriving, the only Irish settlers left were the McCormick families; the Gallagher family, who lived 20 miles north of the McCormicks; and the Kelishor family, who had settled at Arney, 10 miles north of the McCormicks' homes.

The first German family to actually move to Nazareth was the Wendelin Litsch family, who arrived in December 1902. When the Litschs heard of the new colony in Texas, they became interested by Father Reisdorff's promises of a Catholic church and school, neither of which they had at their home in Oklahoma. Wendelin started out in a wagon with three horses to purchase land at Nazareth. Later, his wife and five children came by train to Canyon, where he met them in the wagon, then they traveled to Nazareth, where they lived west of T.P. McCormick's land.

Also among the first German families to arrive were the Thiers, Wilhelmina and her seven children and a brother, Joseph Doerr; the Ben Husemans, the Louis and John Husemans and the Henry Lange family.

The Thiers moved into a house one-half mile from the site where a new church—the first Holy Family Church—was being built and Father Reisdorff used the home as his residence and chapel.

The original plat for the first church was five acres and was situated in the middle of the plat which was laid out for the original town of Nazareth.

By 1905, more German people were coming to Nazareth and the church was enlarged. Another addition was constructed in 1907, under the guidance of Father Bonaventure Binzegger.

A Growing Community

In order to make the settlement grow, Father Reisdorff realized things would have to be made available to the settlers—like a mail service.

So the first official post office was opened in the T.P. McCormick home, four miles east of Nazareth.

On June 11, 1903, Louise Their applied to change the site of the post office to Nazareth and a small room in her home was used for the post office. The mail was picked up at Dimmitt several times each week, either by a horseback rider or by a person in a horse and buggy.

A blacksmith shop was opened in Nazareth in 1904 by Ben Huseman, one of the very first settlers to come to Nazareth after reading Father Reisdorff's article in an Indiana newspaper. It was located on the south side of Leo Street and east of St. Mary's Ave.

The first general store was opened in 1905, across the street from, and to the north of the blacksmith shop. It was a two-story building and the Heidegerken family lived on the second floor. (The first member of the Heidegerken family had arrived at the new settlement in 1902 from Minnesota). Later, the Heidegerkens built a two-story home diagonally across the street from the store and it was used as a home, cafe and hotel.

With more people coming to the new settlement, there was a need for a windmill and a public watering tank in the town, so one was placed north of the store.

Nazareth was connected to the world in 1908 when the telephone company was formed. Each family who wanted a phone bought interest in the company. At a later date, the people sold their interests in the company to a group of men, who after a period of time, owned the company.

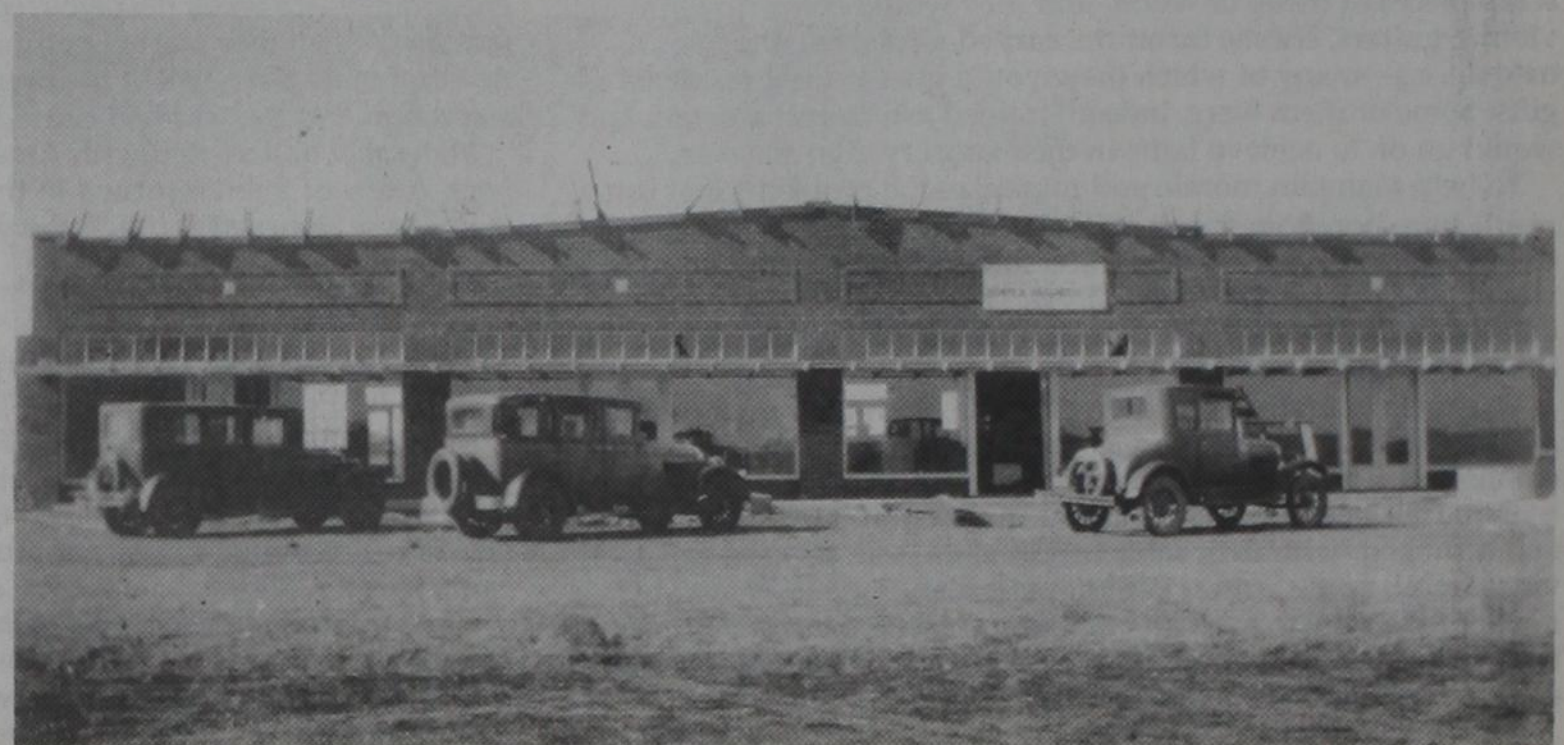
Nazareth Common School District No. 4 was organized on Feb. 10, 1902, but the first classes weren't taught until 1904, when Louise Their taught school in the church with a curtain drawn in front of the altar. A school building was under construction at that time. The Benedictine Sisters began teaching in the public school in 1917 and continued teaching in Nazareth until 1990.

Through the years, the church, school and community have pooled their resources to get the city streets paved, a new big community hall and community ball park built, and more.

Nazareth didn't become an incorporated city until 1973, and currently is governed by a mayor and two city commissioners.



THE FIRST NAZARETH HOME was built by T.P. McCormick and Father Joseph Reisdorff lived here with the McCormicks when he first arrived in Nazareth. Father Reisdorff offered mass in a room in the McCormick home until a church was built. The house was located four miles east and one-half mile south of the present-day site of Nazareth.



EARLY-DAY STORE FRONT — An implement Grocery was operated out of another part of the building along with Dowden Hardware Co. Hart in 1927 while Attaway Grocery and Hawkins

Whether
in the
air



or
on the
ground



We're glad to
serve the growers of
Castro County and
we salute you on your
100th Anniversary!

Pro-Ag, Inc.

Max Ellison

106 E. Halsell, Dimmitt 647-4312




Wishing Castro County
a Happy 100th!

Irrigation is an important part of Castro County's history, and since 1965, Nelson Drilling & Pump Service has done its part to keep those pumps working. Dan and Hazel Nelson, owners, appreciate all their customers and pledge to continue the same level of service in the future.

Nelson Drilling
& Pump Service

Tulia Highway, Dimmitt • 647-3300





THE HART HOTEL—This building, which is located north of today's Pay and Save Grocery in Hart, served as a tourist hotel and cafe in Hart in 1927.

First 'talkie' shown in 1929

(Editors Note: The following article appeared in the June 14, 1929 edition of the News. The Castro Theatre was located in the block east of the Jones-Rawlings building, according to Madge Robb. She said she remembered watching picture shows there in the 1930s.)

Announcements of the all-talking pictures in Dimmitt for next Monday and Tuesday has caused many visitors to Dimmitt to remark complimentary concerning the rapid growth and progress of the city. Manager Lawson has announced George Bancroft, a Dimmitt favorite with movie fans, in "The Wolf of Wall Street," Paramount's latest one hundred percent all-talkie. This picture recently played to capacity houses in the Paramount House, the Greater Palace, at Dallas, and press notices from that city claim it one of Paramount's best pictures of the year, as well as Bancroft's best vehicle in many months.

The Castro Theatre has been wired at a great expense, and it is hoped that every person in Castro County will take this opportunity of celebrating with Manager Lawson and Dimmitt in the inauguration of the latest thing in movies and of which probably no other town of this size in Texas can boast.

Due to a late change in dates, a slight change in the days to be shown here was necessary, but it is expected that large crowds will visit Dimmitt's first all-talkie.

In the same edition, an advertisement announced the show's cost at 25 and 50 cents for Monday and Tuesday, June 17 and 18.

Another ad from the theatre's manager also appeared in the June 14 edition.

To the Citizens of Dimmitt and Castro County

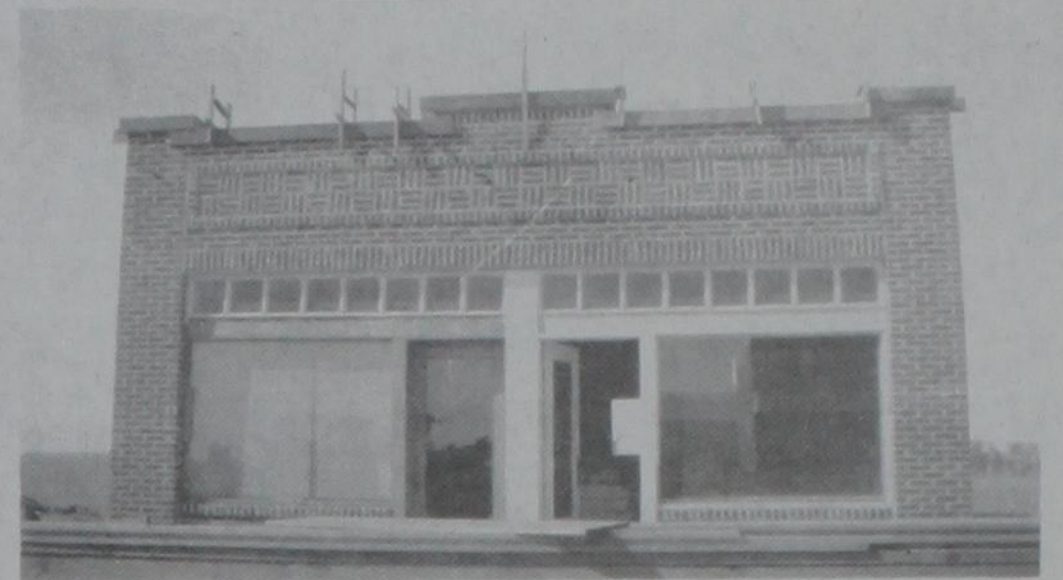
I wish to make the following statement:

On June 17 and 18, the "Wolf of Wall Street," the first all-talking picture to come to your city, is to be shown at the Castro Theatre in Dimmitt. I urge every one to see it, as it is probably the first and last one to be shown here, since complaints have been made against Sunday shows, and Sunday and Monday are the only open dates for Dimmitt in all talkies.

I most certainly regret to have to make this announcement, but as long as these conditions exist it is impossible to bring all-talking pictures to Dimmitt, as they are much more expensive than silent pictures. I would like to see everyone assist in putting the show and town over, but since Sunday shows have been prohibited, it will be necessary for Dimmitt to be content with the silent drama, and we assure you that the best pictures of this class will continue to be shown at the Castro.

Don't miss this all-talking picture, "The Wolf of Wall Street"

Johnie Lawson
Manager Castro Theatre



THE HART CAFE AND BARBERSHOP once was housed in this building, which now is the home for Farmers Tire and Supply. Mrs. Stark operated the early-day Hart Cafe while Pat Patterson ran the Hart Barbershop. Later the building also held Hart Laundry and another barbershop.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We appreciate your business in the past and look forward to serving you in the future.

**We wish
Castro County
a Happy 100th Birthday!**

Wayne Proffitt and
J.D. Parker, Owners

**Dimmitt Welding
& Electric**

E. Hwy. 86 • 647-3128

Early pioneers battled destructive prairie fires

No history would be complete without a story about the dreaded prairie fire which rolled across the plains, eating up everything in its path.

One of the most destructive of these fires started on the George Abbott place in March 1903.

There was an unusually high southeast wind one day when a new cook at the Abbott place hurriedly started a chip fire to cook the noon meal.

A more experienced cook would have started a "chip fire" more slowly for fear of starting a prairie fire because the sparks from a chip were considered most dangerous, even on a very windy day.

After starting the fire, the cook stepped outside for a bucket of water and discovered that a spark from his fire had set the prairie on fire.

This was about 12:30 p.m., and by 4 p.m., the fire had reached the caprock near Silverton. It burned all the grassland in its path and covered an area 60 miles wide, reaching the canyons.

Percy Hart recalled seeing rolling cow chips on fire. These would cross cow trails, wagon roads and other obstacles that ordinarily would have checked the fire.

For safety, Mr. Hart placed his family on an island surrounded by water in the draw, while he fought to save his house, barns and livestock.

Because of the smoldering chips, the Harts carried water until mid-

night in an effort to save their belongings.

Many cattle, horses, antelopes, prairie chickens, quail and other wildlife were killed by the fire.

A caravan of freighters from Swisher County caught in the wake of this fire, lost their teams because of fright, while the people themselves suffered from breathing the hot, smoke-filled air.

Many other fires raced across the prairies in the early days, and all left destruction and charred remains in their wake.

**Congratulations,
Castro County,
on your 100th
Birthday!**



We've been filling your cattle-feeding needs since 1989, and look forward to many more years of serving you.

**LS
Feeders,
Inc.**



938-2151
Hart

**Congratulations
Castro County!**

*We don't want all the insurance . . .
just yours!*

Try us!

Todd Pepsorth, Owner
Betty Eby and Erma Vasquez

**Pepsworth Insurance
Agency 938-2604**



**Congratulations
Castro County!**

Proud to be serving you since 1977.



**Stone's
Motor Service**

Earl Stone, Owner
3rd & Hwy. 145, Hart 938-2207

The Place

at 106 NW 3rd, Dimmitt

**Happy
100th Anniversary
Castro County!**

*Serving lunches,
sandwiches and desserts
since March 18, 1991.*

Owned and operated by Rubie Lee

Happy 100th Birthday Castro County!

We started out as American Cyanamid in 1964. In 1973 we became Riverside. We have been Terra International, Inc. since 1977.

Whenever you need ANY agricultural chemicals, fertilizers or seed, just remember Terra. We've got it all.

Terra

Terra International, Inc.

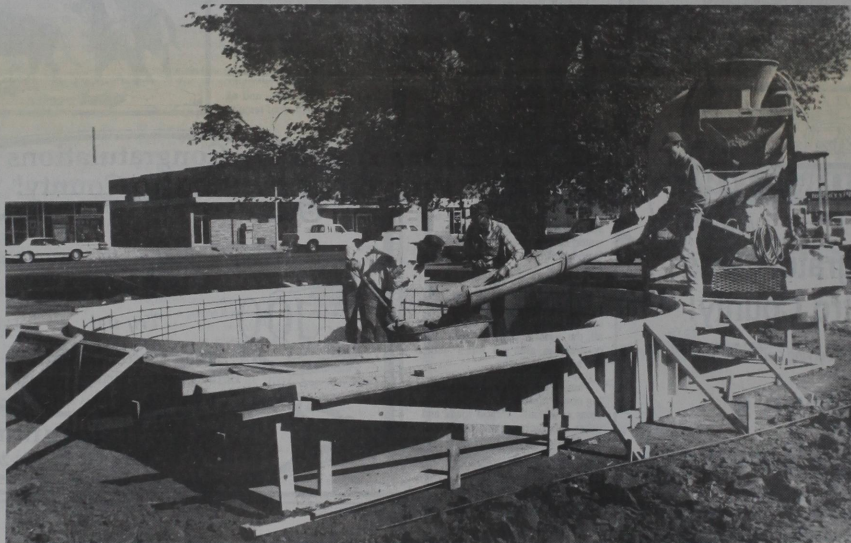
Hwy. 385 North, Dimmitt • 647-4125

Hubert Backus, Area Manager; Jim Hoelting, Location Manager; Norman Gerber, Salesman; Mark Gerber, Plant Operator; Mick Gerber, Assistant Plant Operator; Al Maurer, Nazareth Satellite Operator; Julene Gerber, Secretary



We Are Proud . . .

. . . to have provided all the concrete work for the Centennial Plaza, and for many other homes, businesses and industries in our county. We plan to continue serving Castro County well into its second century!



Anthony Kirby • Leon Gunn • Vaden Kirby • Troy Kirby • Keith Acker
Carl Henderson • Joe Reyna • Raul Olvera • Roger Rodriguez
Dean Kirby • Domingo Montiel • Valentine Olvera Jr.
Doyle Williams • Joe Langford • Troy Langford

Dimmitt Ready Mix

Concrete Work & General Construction

Serving Castro County Since 1959



Castro County Centennial Early Days

1891



1991

Aten-McClelland gunfight recalled

Even Castro County wasn't without its showdowns during the late 1800s.

One recorded shootout occurred on Jones Street. The argument causing this show of arms stemmed from a debate on the selection of a county seat.

Ira Aten, a former Texas Ranger who moved to Castro County to homestead a place near the XIT ranch, proposed that Castro City (a site south of Dimmitt) be chosen as the official county seat.

Aten moved to Castro County on Dec. 1, 1890, when it was still unorganized.

Texas Ranger Jim Mull in 1983 gave an account of Aten's life during a dedication ceremony of a historical marker on the courthouse square about the shootout. Here's a portion of his history about Aten:

"Ira knew that the county where he had located would probably be organized within a few months. A town called Dimmitt already had sprung up within its borders. Logically, the community looked forward to becoming the county seat, but trailing the homesteaders were the usual land agents and politicians who started running for office the minute they landed in the Panhandle.

"Two slick adventurers had chosen Castro County for a fat living in a lean land. Leading a politician ring was Andrew McClelland, a lawyer who had announced for county judge in the first election, still to be called. Paired with him in the booming real estate business was his brother, Hugh. The McClellands were recent arrivals from Tennessee, and had never cast a vote in Texas. Grouped around them was a crowd of drifters anticipating posts in a courthouse yet to be built.

"Ira was outraged when he estimated the sky high profits that the brothers were making from the sale of lots in Dimmitt. Their sales pitch was Dimmitt's prospects as a county seat, and they claimed that it would outgrow Amarillo once the railroad had been extended into the county. Their prices were enormous for this section, where ground had been literally dirt cheap.

"Many citizens were opposed to the high-handed McClellands, but up to now, none had dared to try to organize a counter-faction; the brothers' marksmanship was understood to equal their ambition. All that was changed when an authentic Texan, with a Ranger record, joined the ranks of the nesters.

"With funds realized from the sale of some steers, Ira bought a tract of ground and had it mapped out as a town site he christened Castro City. Ira offered lots to settlers at much lower prices and on longer time payments than could be had from the McClellands in Dimmitt. At the same time, he announced that Castro City would compete with Dimmitt for the county seat when the election was called.

"The reaction of the brothers was quick. They called a public meeting

in the schoolhouse to denounce Ira Aten as an irresponsible Johnny-come-lately. Ira attended, listened to their abusive harangues, then took the floor to expose the McClellands for what they were.

"In the middle of the former Ranger's speech, Andrew McClelland jumped from a bench and shouted, 'You're a liar, Aten!'

"Two minutes of taut silence passed. Finally Ira answered.

"Neighbors," he said to the audience, "I did more fighting in the Texas Rangers than I ever want to talk about. But no Ranger ever started a fracas where women and children were present. Mr. McClelland has publicly called me a liar. I'll be asking him to repeat that statement—after the election."

"He strode out of the schoolhouse, mounted his horse and rode back to his dugout. Next day Potter County officials met in Amarillo to call an election for Castro County. Heartened by Ira's example, the anti-McClelland forces nominated a ticket headed by a settler named Gough for county judge. During the campaign, Ira spoke and electioneered for the slate. Ten days before the poll, some worried residents of Dimmitt came to Ira's dugout.

"One of them said, 'We want to make you a proposition. Our town is already built; yours is something on a piece of paper. If you'll withdraw Castro City from the county-seat race, we'll back the Gough ticket against he McClelland one.'

"Ira answered immediately. 'All right men, that's a fair trade. Castro City's buried before it was ever born.'

"The settlers went to the polls in November, 1891, 11 months after Ira Aten's arrival in the county. They gave the ring candidates the worst electoral trouncing ever suffered by any clique of roving politicians in the Panhandle. Hugh, the homesteader, crushed Andrew McClelland in the race for county judge....

"Ira waited till he was informed that Castro County's first officials

had been sworn in by a district judge from Amarillo. Then he buckled on his .45 and rode to Dimmitt."

On arriving, he saw Andrew McClelland standing in front of a store. Aten dismounted, walked up to Andrew McClelland, and reminded him of his calling Aten a liar at the meeting. When asked if he still felt the same, Andrew McClelland answered that he did, but was unarmed and therefore unable to protect himself.

Andrew McClelland was told to get his gun while Aten waited.

Hurriedly returning, Andrew McClelland fired the first shot, and Aten returned the fire, wounding Andrew McClelland in the left arm, and caused him to spin to the ground. Aten holstered his gun, he told Andrew McClelland to get to his feet, that they were now even.

Then the sound of a bullet caused Aten to turn. He saw Hugh McClelland duck behind a small wooden store building. Aten drew and shot toward the corner of the building, heard a cry, and knew he had hit his mark.

The new sheriff, C.I. Bedford, was now on the scene. Without contest, Aten walked up to Bedford and surrendered himself. Aten remarked that he was Bedford's first arrest and also suggested that a doctor be sent to tend the McClellands.

In Ranger Mull's account, it says that Judge Gough helped Ira and filed charges against the McClelland brothers, who quickly closed their land business and returned home to Tennessee.

In April, 1892, Aten's trial was set to be heard in Swisher County. Since the McClelland brothers did not appear as witnesses, Aten was acquitted of the charges filed against him.

Ranger Mull's history of Aten's life continued with his appointment as sheriff. Here's more of that account:

"On Feb. 3, 1892, Ira married Imogene Boyce and brought her back with him to Castro County.

"In the fall of 1892, a horde of range thieves descended on Castro County from New Mexico. Thousands of cattle were stolen from the ranches. Dimmitt soon became a have for outlaws from New Mexico, Oklahoma and South Texas. The new sheriff of Castro County took no action at all against these outlaws and the citizens of Castro County called on Ira to take up the fight.

"Ira, remembering a pledge to his wife not to carry a badge as a lawman, refused to become involved. Finally, in March 1893, while Imogene was in Austin, the sheriff of Castro County was removed from office and the people pleaded with Ira to take the job.

"Ira became sheriff of Castro County during March 1893. Imogene, upon hearing of this, wrote Ira that she would not return to Castro County until he resigned. After an inter-family council, Imogene returned to Castro County, buckled on two six shooters and took on the job as county jailer.

"It didn't take Ira long to get started in his new job, and in less than a year, Castro County was back under law and order.

"In January, 1895, Ira resigned from the sheriff's department because he was unable to make a living for his family on a sheriff's wages, and became superintendent of the XIT Ranch's Escarbada Division, with over 600,000 acres under his control.

"Ira died on Aug. 5, 1953, at the age of 90, and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in El Centro, Calif.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information compiled from Castro County Diamond Jubilee history book and feature stories printed in the Aug. 12, 1976 and July 7, 1983, issues of the *Castro County News*.)

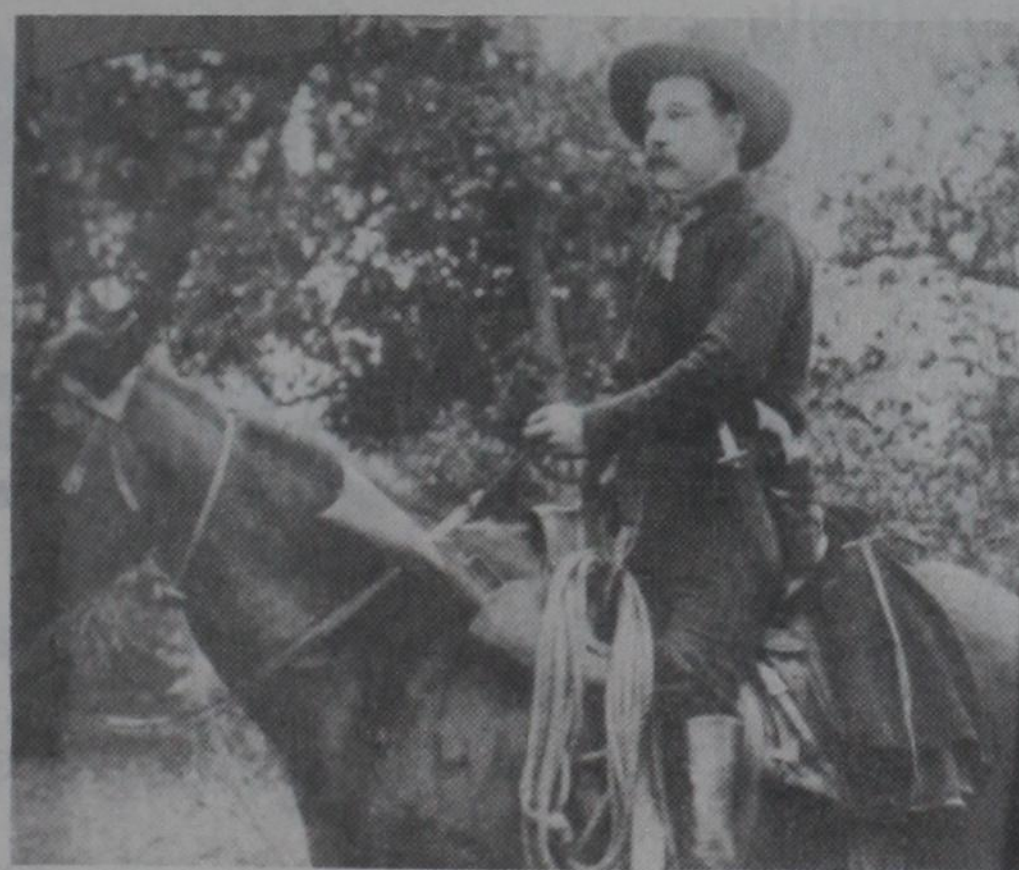


TAKE THAT!—Deputy Sheriff Ron Jenkins, portraying Ira Aten, draws a bead on Hugh McClelland in a re-enactment of the Jones Street Shootout of 1891 following dedication ceremonies in 1983 for a new historical marker commemorating the event. In the background, on the porch of Mrs. M.B. Fowle's Dry Goods Store, Earlene West portrays Mrs. Fowle and C.J. Johnson portrays his uncle, Kenneth Turner, who was a witness to the shootout.

We're proud to be a part of
Castro County's past . . .
and look forward to a bright future!
Happy 100th Birthday Castro County

The Company Store

938-2128 1-1/2 miles east of Hart on Hwy. 194



IRA ATEN AS A TEXAS RANGER
... Later to become county sheriff, XIT foreman

100th
Anniversary!

**Congratulations,
Castro County!**

*As you look into the past,
we wish you clear vision for the future.*

Dr. Morris Webb, Optometrist

Happy 100th Birthday
Castro County

Founded in 1947 to do collectively what no individual could do alone, the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce has been helping our merchants and other members work together to build a bigger, stronger community. Our emphasis has continued to be improving our town, whether through beautification, economic development or involvement in community projects. We challenge all to join us as we work together for a stronger future as well.

Chamber of Commerce

115 W. Bedford 647-2524

It's A STAMPEDE!

of Good Wishes on Castro County's 100th Anniversary!

We are proud to have been a part of that 100-year history. A recent report shows Castro County is second in the state in commercial cattle-feeding operations, and Dimmitt Feed Yards is responsible for a large part of the figures that put us on top. Our loyal customers have enabled us to continue to offer our safe, efficient services in cattle feeding since we first started in 1966.

We look forward to many years of continuing service to our customers and to our community.

Dimmitt Feed Yards





WITT-RAWLINGS HOTEL
...opening day in 1930

Early hotel building now home for insurance agency, tenants

One of the oldest remaining structures in Castro County today is the old "Rawlings Hotel Building," located in the 100 block of North-east Second Street in Dimmitt.

Today, the building's ground floor houses the offices of Traditions, Jones - Rawlings Insurance, H&R Block and the Retail Merchants Association; while the second story has been made into a few apartment units.

The building was originally constructed in 1930 by W.B. Howard.

Mr. and Mrs. Witt bought the land for the hotel on July 15, 1930, and 10 days later Witt signed a contract with Howard for building the "Witt Hotel."

The original building was designed with two stories and had 30 rooms on the second floor. The hotel lobby, a coffee shop, offices and other businesses occupied the first floor space.

Witt operated the business until he sold the building to Arthur Haddaway of Fort Worth on Dec. 20, 1936. Mrs. Witt died sometime before 1942, according to Tina Rawlings, and that's when Witt closed the hotel.

The Rawlings family moved to Dimmitt in 1936 when Witt was still operating the coffee shop.

Rawlings said that it was in 1942

that the state highway department decided to pave the main streets in Dimmitt.

"At that time I believe there were no streets paved," Rawlings said. "There wasn't lodging enough for the paving crew, so it was in 1942 that I rented the second floor of the hotel to house the workers."

Rawlings and her husband, Jimmie, purchased the hotel building in 1945 from Haddaway. The coffee shop was owned and operated by several different people during the transition including Garnet Holland and Melton (Red) Richardson.

"Red's cook, Dutch Bleeker, awakened everyone in the hotel each morning at 5 o'clock by turning on the nickelodion," Rawlings remembered. "There was no insulation between the walls to block the sound. I called Red one morning at his home and asked him to have his cook refrain from this disturbance of the hotel guests, but I don't believe she ever did stop. Soon after this he closed the coffee shop and it stayed closed until sometime after 1951 when I re-opened it."

Rawlings said business at the hotel was good for a number of years after she and her husband opened it.

In addition to traveling salesmen,

workers and travelers passing through Dimmitt, they had business from the cattlemen who sent their cattle to the county to graze on wheat, which Rawlings said was "bountiful at that time."

"The cattlemen sent men to oversee their herds. Each year after the cattle were taken off of the wheat, it would not be long until wheat harvest. Naturally, we had good business from the harvest crews of different kinds. We enjoyed good business from the vegetable shippers for a number of years."

"Later, when our harvest season came about, the work crews brought their own living quarters. Also, the farmers planted less wheat and more corn and other crops."

"Then, when the Colonial Inn was opened, it took most of the business away from the Rawlings Hotel," Rawlings said.

Jimmie died in 1977 and in 1978, Rawlings closed the hotel.

On March 23, 1981, the hotel building was sold to Ben Holcomb, who stripped the second floor of the building and made it into apartments.

Danny and Sandy Lewis bought the building from Holcomb in the fall of 1989 and now live in one of the apartments.

Hart residents relate memories of 'Uncle Mose'

A legend that lingers in the hearts of Hart residents who have "been around for awhile" lives on in the memory of one described as "a giant of a man"—everyone's "Uncle," Mose Ewers.

Perhaps the story is true that "Uncle Mose" once had a sweetheart who died before they could be married. Maybe he just preferred being a bachelor. There is no question, however, that he was loved by many and remembered by all who knew him.

Mose Ewers moved from Hale County to Castro County in 1907 to land just one mile north of the present townsite of Hart. He loved beauty and planted shrubs and flowers around his place.

He planted a large orchard and fruit from it was given to friends and neighbors.

"He had it announced at church one morning that everyone should come and help themselves to fruit," Lena Maples recalled. "'Uncle Mose' was one of very few. The present generation will never know anyone like him," she said.

"Uncle Mose" was indeed a giant of a man, in both physical stature and the regard of his fellow men and women. Recollections vary as to his height. Some say he was "well over six feet tall" and another will say he was "almost seven feet."

"He was one grand person," recalls Nina Jobe Brown. "I guess he was what you'd call a Good Samaritan."

"You know, 'Uncle Mose' never helped himself but he helped everybody else. He heled the other fellow all the time and he wouldn't take anything for it," recalls Morris Jobe.

Winnie Scott Hankins smiles and describes him as "Our best friend. He was so good to everybody."

"Everybody liked him," agreed Lucy Henderson Kanady, "especially children. He always noticed them, they especially liked him."

He was "the biggest, roughest man," recalls Maples, "but a wonderful fellow. He was really a good neighbor."

Maples remembers a long ago time when so many were ill during an epidemic of flu and "Uncle Mose" went around to check on them.

"Uncle Mose" would ride around and see about the neighbors. Then he took it one year. One of the Rice boys sat up with him. When his fever broke, "Uncle Mose" said, 'Boys, I'm hungry. Go get that side of fresh ribs and bring it in and cook them' and he crawled right out of bed and ate a hog's bait. Nothing could keep him down."

Morris Jobe and Nina Brown recall when their own family was stricken with the flu.

"It must have been 1918," Brown recalls. "Maude was living in Tulia. She'd married Charley. He went to the first World War and Maude came home. She had the flu when she got here and gave it to all of us except Brother (Ewell) and Morris."

"They had to fix us something to eat. All we could eat was butter-milk. I want you to know," Brown laughs, "they strained it through a dish rag."

Jobe laughs at the memory. "'Uncle Mose' said, 'I'll hold that dish rag and y'all pour that milk in there.' Then he'd take it and pull it through his fingers to strain it all through. Dad saw him doing that and got well real quick."

"I'll never forget that first buttered biscuit he brought me," said Brown. "It was the best thing I'd ever eaten."

Zella Scott Rice remembers a bit of mischief "Uncle Mose" encouraged with a group of fun seekers.

"Carl (Hankins, Zella's brother-in-law) had a watermelon patch and he'd threatened 'Nobody better get in my patch.' We knew he didn't really care but that made it more fun for us to do so."

"Uncle Mose" suggested we get us some melons one night, so after they'd gone to bed, a bunch of us went out there and ate watermelons. There were Ewell (Jobe), Vernie (Carl's sister), myself, John (Scott, Zella's future husband), my brother Herman, Fred (Carl's

brother) and 'Uncle Mose'."

Laughing, Rice remembers that when Hankins looked out the window towards the watermelon patch the next morning and noticed the mounds of rinds piled up in a heap, his first impression of what he was seeing led him to exclaim to his wife, "My goodness, Winnie, I believe that old mare is dead."

"He thought she had gotten into the watermelons and had eaten enough to kill her," Rice said.

Highway 86 is paved to the east

Paving of Highway 86 from Dimmitt west to the Parmer County line, was completed in August 1949 by Ernest Lloyd Construction Company of Fort Worth.

With the completion of the local paving project, the last gap in the highway from Estelline to Bovina was closed. Grade and drainage work on the unpaved portion of the highway was completed in the winter of 1948.

The highway paving program in Castro County was ushered in before World War II when Highway 86 was paved from Tulia to Dimmitt. Then all other highways in the county were completed before work was resumed on the initial job of paving the east-west thoroughfare.



FOR OUR ANNIVERSARY

WE'RE CELEBRATING TWICE!

100 years for Castro County
and
10 years for us!

Owners Don and Karen Sheffy and daughter Carrie

SHEFFY'S
Western & Casual Wear

AT THE HAT CREAMING—BOOT FITTING CORNER
647-3444
119 SE 2nd, Dimmitt

100 YEARS

Congratulations
"Castro County"

from your friends at

MultiVision
CableTV

"Where the Customer is #1"

Here's to a century of hard work, community spirit, family values and Texas pride!

**BLUEBONNET SAVINGS BANK FSB
SALUTES THE PEOPLE OF
CASTRO COUNTY.**



Over the past 100 years, the people of Castro County have prospered working side-by-side to create a better quality of life for future generations.

Bluebonnet Savings Bank FSB of Dimmitt salutes our friends

and neighbors in Castro County, and we are proud to live and work with Texans who understand the importance of hard work, family values and respect for the land around us. Together, the next 100 years can be the best ever!



BLUEBONNET

SAVINGS BANK FSB

DIMMITT — 216 N. Broadway, (806) 647-2118



INVESTING IN OUR TEXAS

Roquet anyone?

Former resident recalls unusual early-day entertainment

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This story was submitted by former Dimmitt resident, Farren Broadstreet. It is about a roquet court which was built and used for entertainment during the early days. He decided to "jot down a few things from his own remembrances." He adds that this isn't a true history, just events and things that he remembers. He now lives in Corpus Christi.)

By FARREN BROADSTREET

No history of Dimmitt and Castro County would be complete without the story of the community roquet court.

I imagine everyone that can remember it thinks that it was part of the Broadstreet homestead, so let me now correct that thought with this little story.

My dad, John Broadstreet was working at Ramey-Harman Implement and had to run over to McMahon Blacksmith for a bit of welding on a spring day in 1942 or '43. You may remember that the business was across the street and north of Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co.

I saw Dad cross the street, so I sprinted over to listen in on all the "man talk." That was very important for a boy of eight or nine and besides that, the blacksmith shop was my second home.

At the time, my favorite song was the sound of Mr. McMahon beating out a plow point on the anvil. He had a great beat; I'm sorry you missed it.

I had a big smile on my face when I found out that C.G. Maples and Edd Bleeker were there. You see, C.G. always talked to me just like I was one of the guys and he was never in too big of a hurry to explain his latest project. Back then he was always making something. It's too bad C.G. never got channeled in the right direction or he could have been a great inventor.

Clem, who was C.G.'s dad, didn't understand that he had no real interest in cattle or farming.

Edd Bleeker lived too far from New York—he would have made a great stand-up comedian. Every comment was a one-liner and he never cracked a smile.

The four of them began complaining about the lack of anything to do, what with the war on, gas not available, etc.

Edd Bleeker told them about a game he had played in the city park at Lubbock. It was something similar to croquet, but it was more manly, less genteel and definitely not a woman's game. You took a squat stance like a baseball batter, aimed like a pool shooter and used a mallet with a 10-inch handle. The game appealed to all four of them and besides, Edd had a rule book at home with a layout of the court on the back page.

Now the first problem was where to put the court. We lived in the old Reynolds place—that was how all houses in Dimmitt were designated in the days before street signs and

numbers. (That meant we lived in the house built by Carlos Reynolds. It was two blocks north of the square on the northeast corner, across from the Olen Rice place. That meant Olen still lived there. When they moved, then it would become the old Rice place. See how it worked?)

Anyway, at the time, there was nothing behind the old Reynolds place but pasture land all the way to the Fort Worth and Denver Railroad tracks, so naturally, there was no road or street on the north side of our house. (You see, back then they didn't build a street unless it went somewhere.) Now let me give you the logic that prevailed at that time: No one would complain if the people used the street that nobody needed and besides, the people owned that land. Sure enough, no one ever complained.

Now this logic made things simple, and as this was a city street then of course Edd would take the city road grader over and smooth off that part of the street necessary for the court and the parking.

The next part was getting a small donation of a few 2 x 4s from Ward Golden at Higginbothams. Ward was an easy touch to help with anything that sounded like sports. Besides that, C.G., O.B. and Dad were good customers and there was also the thought that those three could have made life miserable for anyone because they were all prone to mischief.

Old tire treads made great wall bumpers. John and C.G. cut the wood, made the walls and laid out the court. O.B. made up the wickets and posts at the blacksmith shop. C.G. dug out his lathe and started making mallets. Just imagine it—there were about a dozen custom-made mallets—no two were alike and no one paid him a dime.

Now the hard part came. You see, at that time all the men in Dimmitt worked the same hours, daylight to dark, so naturally, a full-time outdoor hobby would require lighting. After much discussion about who and how the electric bill would be paid, it was decided that the question should be put to Archie Bussey. Now Archie was the local pole climber for the power company and as the statute of limitations has expired, along with most of the participants, I will explain.

A loop was installed at the pole to the back of our house and a breaker box was mounted on the side of the house. By "loop" I mean the line looped around the meter. (A belated thank you to the electric company from most of the men of Dimmitt at that time.) The funny thing about it is, I don't believe Archie ever played one game there, but that's the way things went back then. I do know he wasn't paid one dime for the work he did.

During this preparation time, O.B. was busy at the blacksmith shop making wickets and posts, C.G. was building custom-made

mallets with hard rubber ends for striking the ball and soft rubber on the other end for roquets and those soft, just right shots.

Everyone had their favorite, but I do believe C.G. made them all and they were there at the court for anyone to use. C.G. claimed ownership of only one—his favorite.

Benches were built at the sides of the court, first intended for the many spectators that came to watch.

Then the games began. Players came out of the woodwork. It would be easier to list the men who didn't play than to list those who did, as it eventually became a county-wide event.

So many games were to be played and so many wanted to play that it became an unspoken rule that losers dropped out and winners stayed on. It behooved you to become good if you wanted to play. Practice was the "in" thing.

As the court was part of our house, I naturally became witness to most of the games, but most importantly, to most of the local men. I discovered character in men I knew by name, but not by their nature under the pressures of competition.

Let me cover a few (of the men) beginning with the four that started the organized madness.

John Broadstreet, father to me, loved to win, was a good loser, but really enjoyed causing discomfort and even anguish to his opponent, especially if it happened to be his good and lifelong friend, O.B. Winkle.

Now to all who can remember him, O.B. was a good player and he had to be, because he hated to lose more than any man I have ever known. He replayed every game after it was over, trying to remember the unlucky break that was the cause of his loss. Sometimes it was the dry court, or the wet court, the light or the blind luck of his opponent. In defense, seldom was it the poor play of a partner.

C.G. Maples was by nature good at anything he attempted. He enjoyed the competition, played with a calm, seemingly careless abandon and he usually won.

Edd Bleeker was a hard one for me to figure. He was very skilled, calm and never got rattled. I know he must have hated to lose, yet it never seemed to bother him. He probably played more than anyone that came there and was always the last to leave at night.

Tournaments became the big thing. Entry fees were paid, brackets were drawn up and partners were drawn for or chosen.

When partners were drawn for, men became deep friends with others who had previously been just acquaintances. Sometimes, however, enemies were made.

Sometimes betting on the side did occur, although I don't think it was of a serious nature.

Speaking of betting, I can remember when it rained and the farmers had some time off. I used to perch on a side bench and watch many a game played by Joe Butler, G.L. Willis and Sam and "Punk" Gilbreath. It was rumored that they bet on their games. I never knew for sure, but I do know there were never any other players waiting to play the winners.

Punk and Joe seemed to have a bit more intensity to their playing and I recall them as the two better players. Usually, they went head-to-head with one of the others as partners. I know that G.L. and Sam usually had more fun.

Next to Higginbotham - Bartlett there was a drugstore owned and operated by one "Stub" Jones. He surely had another name, but I assure you no kid alive then knew anything other than "Stub." We all assumed it came from the perpetual cigar stub that hung from his mouth. He may have had a way of removing it to sleep, but I will bet he learned to eat with it in his mouth. Now Stub was the biggest teaser in town as far as the kids were concerned but still his place was the town hangout.

All tournament pairings and brackets were always posted on the mirror behind the soda fountain for all to see, therefore, that is where all games were replayed the day after.

As is often the case with big

teasers, it turned out that Stub wasn't a great player and was definitely not a great loser. Most of the best shots Stub made were with the side of his foot while everyone was watching the next shooter. For each poor loser, there is always one constant nemesis. Dimmitt was no exception.

That nemesis was one B.M. Nelson, a friend of Stub's and apparently self-appointed minister of honesty.

B.M. was the newspaper of Castro County, not just the editor, but the newspaper, and as such I would like to be able to say he was the guardian of honest and fair play in all sports events; however, this was not the case.

B.M. got more delight in catching Stubby while he was trying to cheat than the ethics of journalism called for, in fact, he absolutely delighted in such. Finally, B.M. discovered his true joy and that was over-correcting Stub's wayward foot shots.

You see, after Stub kicked the ball forward about six inches, B.M. would manage to sneak around and kick it back about 12 inches. Justice served. Everyone watched Stub like a hawk and I may be the only one who knew B.M. was gaining justice his way. God, how B.M. loved it. How those two remained friends, I'll never know.

Eventually, the game became county-wide. The Hunter brothers from Jumbo, the Sadlers from Sunnyside, the Drerups from Nazareth and others from Hart, Flagg and all parts of the county. Often, no spectator seats were left vacant and no parking places were left on the side lines. Lights would burn until after midnight nearly every night. The last persons to leave put the balls and mallets in the bin by our house and turned the lights off.

We kids knew we played until supper time, then the men took over. We got pretty good ourselves. Besides myself, there was Stanley Fulfer, Junior Fulfer, Lonnie Rice, Kenneth Fulfer, Bob Mooney and Carl Jowell just in the block. Bill, Ray and Ray Murphy, Thomas Finley, Jesse Burch, Elmo Blackwell

and Kenneth McDermitt filled out my age group while Dub Parks, Jo and Thomas Earl Harrison filled out the older group. Many good times were had by all.

I will always remember one session in particular. There was no great skill involved and no great competition, but . . . well, let me explain.

One afternoon I was just messing around by myself when a car pulled up, so I just backed off to let them play. Lester Gladden, Elmer Youts, Earl Harrison and Elvis Burch got out to give me a lesson or better yet, an education.

None of them were in the class of expert except in the art of having fun. I don't care who made the good shot, they all applauded. They joked, they teased, they tried their best to win, but above all, they enjoyed it. I do not know which team won, and you know, I think that is what that original foursome really meant for it to be about.

That little rectangle of dirt on a future Dimmitt street really represented Castro County at that time.

It was started by an implement mechanic, blacksmith, city road grader and a farmer. No meetings were held, there were no elections, no committees, no fundraisers, no study's, no taxes were raised and you didn't have to be a member to play. Most of all, no one objected. Any maintenance that needed to be done was just done. If you were there, you did it. If you weren't there, no one cared. To the best of my knowledge, there was never a drink taken around the court and as I think back, there were some real two-fisted drinkers around. I watched many an hour of play and I never saw money change hands around the court. There were no posted rules, no supervisors other than a gentleman's unspoken mutual agreement about conduct beyond reproach, and not once was there even a hint of a fight.

As long as the court existed, there was not one instance of vandalism, even to the extent of not returning the equipment to the bin and turning the lights off.

Could such a thing take place in Dimmitt today?

You know us... we serve you!

We've been around a long time. You might say we've grown up with you. We were here when you needed help getting a crop planted, or help financing that new equipment. We stood beside you and your family through good times and bad.

We're still here. By now, you know us very well and we know you. Our manager Ann Armstrong, loan representative Mark L. Kleman, and secretary Janet Morgan have served you for many years.

We know you by name and you know us. Our children go to the same schools. We shop together and pay the same taxes.

Isn't it great to have a Production Credit Association that understands you and your needs?

And we're wishing Castro County a

Happy 100th Anniversary!

Production Credit Association

Ann Armstrong, Manager
Mark L. Kleman, Loan Representative
Janet Morgan, Secretary

647-3169

N. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt





Celebrate!

**Castro County
is turning
100!**

Harry and Debra Jones opened Harry's Package Store in April, 1991, in the building formerly occupied by Green's Package Store, located east of Dimmitt on Highway 86.

We have been proud to serve you for the past few months and hope to continue to grow with the county in the future.

Harry's Package Store
Harry and Debra Jones, Owners



Museum preserves the



THE MARK COWSERT FAMILY, CIRCA 1911: From left are Jack, Ruth, Aunt Bertie (Mrs. Cowsert's sister) and her children, Minta, Mary, Ray, Mark, Helen behind Mary, and Josephine in front.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The facts reported in this article were gathered from past issues of the *Castro County News* and the museum history album.)

The dreams of a few citizens at the 1971 Old Settlers Reunion became reality in the spring of 1976 when 27 people met in the city hall community room and decided to form a museum association.

In 1975, Judge Weldon Bradley appointed a Castro County Historical Survey Committee consisting of Mrs. Helen Richardson, chairman, Mrs. Clara Vick, Mrs. Florene Leinen, Mrs. Teeny Bowden, Mrs. Sid Sheffy, Jack Cartwright, Father Stanley Crocchiola and Kent Birdwell.

The group urged county residents interested in preserving the county's history to meet at the city hall on Jan. 15.

Although writing a county history was essential, the group concentrated on the possibility of organizing a museum.

The museum idea took prece-

dence, and the group discussed renovation of the Old Flagg Ranch Headquarters, which first served as the J.W. Carter home.

Other suggestions included one of the quonset barns at the fair grounds, the Dimmitt Catholic Church (which was for sale) and the Walter Haynes building.

On Jan. 12, Robert Duke, Lon Woodburn, Mr. and Mrs. B.M. Nelson, Bryce Dowell, Allie Mae Willis, Teeny Bowden, H.C. Nelson, Jack Cowsert, Jim Elder, Helen Richardson, Jack Cartwright and Clara Vick met with the commissioners' court, requesting the quonset building.

However, the commissioners related that the quonset building was used by the FFA and 4-H organizations at the county stock shows.

In their Jan. 22, 1976 meeting, the group chose a name, temporary officers and board members.

Jim Elder was elected president; Helen Richardson, vice-president; and Clara Vick, secretary-treasurer.

In addition, Mrs. Henry Sears

and Mrs. George Turrentine of Hereford informed the group on how the Deaf Smith County Museum was organized. Sears was a promoter of the Deaf Smith project. Turrentine gave information on how to catalogue, store and exhibit items.

After several episodes of rejected locations, temporary president Jim Elder told the group on Feb. 12 that his sister, Mrs. Charlie Hastings, had agreed to sell two and one-half acres and the old Gilbreath home for \$18,000. The offer seemed ideal.

Later, the Hastings family offered the entire five-acre plot.

With the Gilbreath home for a museum, the group decided to move the Carter home in later as an exhibit.

"We didn't have the funds to move it (Carter house) at the time, so we (museum association) thought we'd wait and get it later when we had the time and money," Vick said.

Before the home was moved, the structure burned.

"But that's part of a good lesson," she said. "Looking back, we should have gotten the money and moved it."

On March 8, 1976, the museum association decided to accept Hastings' offer of \$36,000 for the five-acre tract with \$6,000 down and seven and one-half percent interest payable over a 10-year period.

"There's two special days for us," Vick said. "June 3, 1976 and Feb. 19, 1986 — the day we bought and paid for our museum."

The association adopted by-laws and elected nine directors on March 25, 1976. They were Clara Vick, Teeny Bowden and Eules Waggoner for three years; Bryce Dowell, Weldon Bradley and George Bagwell for two years, and George Sides, Robert Duke and B.M. Nelson for one year.

Nelson was elected president; Dowell, first vice president; Robert Duke, second vice-president; and Clara Vick, secretary-treasurer.

In February 1977, the association learned of the Manpower Training Program, a division of the Texas Panhandle Community Action Cor-



IN THE PARLOR of the Castro County Museum house was this square grand piano, donated by Maurine Bice, former Dimmitt resident. The piano had originally been a gift to her grandmother in 1895. The sheet music was donated by Myrtle

Sheffy, and dates back to the early 1900s. The coffee urn on the left and the picture album on the right on the top of the piano were donated by Clara Vick. They were brought to this area from Michigan by her family, the Norrises.

poration, that funded community workers.

Mrs. Madge Robb was employed to open the museum from 1 to 5 p.m. each weekday, through the Manpower funds.

Later that year, a representative from Green Thumb Inc., a public service employment and training program sponsored by National Farmers Union, picked up the salary tab for museum worker Robb, and now pays Mary Edna Hendrix.

Throughout the association's history, the same faithful names recur. Presently, Lon Woodburn serves as the association's president. Other officers are: Dale Winders, first vice president and Clara Vick, secretary-treasurer. The late H.C. Nelson served as second vice president.

Madge Robb, George Bagwell, Ralph Lambright, Don Moke and Jim Wright serve in the board of directors.

Marguerite McLain, Ed Drerup, Alice Anthony, George Bagwell, Bryce Dowell, Dale Winders, Helen Richardson, Clara Vick, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lambright and Frank Robbins raised \$745.

George Sides' team collected \$1,640. His team consisted of: Jim Elder, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cartwright, Jack Cowsert, Robert Duke, Mrs. and Mrs. Eules Waggoner, Mr. and Mrs. Lon Woodburn, Percy Hart, Mrs. Oleta Raper and Dean Sanders.

"We sold them to whoever we ran into in the coffee shops or on the street," Elder said. "Everyone was pretty excited about the museum."

In addition, the association sold brand displays for \$25. Of the more than 600 brands registered in the county, 36 are displayed at the museum.

The museum also sells life memberships for \$500 each.

Fundraising

With a location cited, the association realized funds were needed to pay for readying the museum.

After several ideas of how other museum associations raised funds, George Sides suggested a campaign for donations.

Those members present divided into two teams to sell charter memberships.

The group decided that the losing team would treat the other team to steak dinners.

B.M. Nelson's team of Mrs.

House and Property

The museum association purchased the five-acre tract of land and the Gilbreath house from Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Hastings of Lubbock.

Hastings is the son of J.R. Hastings, the original owner of the land.

J.R. sold five-acres to Jeff T. Gilbreath in March 1909 for \$325. B.M. Nelson's team of Mrs.

to farm in 1903 then later moved to town in 1909 when he opened a general merchandise store.

The white slat-wood home had no bathroom fixtures, but at that time, there was no running water either.

The home changed owner and occupants several times before the museum association acquired it. Gilbreath moved back to the farm in fall of 1910 and sold the house to Mark Cowsert on Oct. 10, 1910 for \$1,300.

The Cowserts lived in the home about two years. Records show the increasing value of the property — Cowsert sold the home and acreage for \$1,800 in October 1912 to George W. O'Brien and wife, Geneva. The O'Brien's in turn sold it W.J. and Helen Slover in August 1914 for \$2,000.

The next year, Slover sold the place for the same price to George Douglas, who owned it until E.V. Elder bought it in February 1930 for \$4,665.

Elder conveyed ownership to his daughter, Rubye Elder Hastings and her husband, Charles, in 1941 for \$500.

The Hastings lived there until the 1950s, when they moved to Moore County.

In 1957, Mr. and Mrs. Oran Follis rented the house. Lucille Follis continued to live there after Oran's death.

The land itself changed ownerships several times also.

Patented by the state of Texas to Thornton Jones Jan. 23, 1894 as a part of a 160-acre tract, the land was described as survey 22 block M on the waters of Trinity Creek, a tributary of Red River.

On Nov. 30, 1901, C.F. Kerr bought 320 acres of land, which included survey 22. Kerr came to Dimmitt in 1897 to teach, but at the end of the year, he was elected county judge and served three terms.

This ad was pulled from the June 11, 1942 edition of the *Castro County News*.

Vote for an "All-Out War Effort" in the Texas RAILROAD COMMISSION



LESTER BOONE

A Tarrant County pledges

"All-Out War Effort"

BOONE has called attention to the importance of the Texas Railroad Commission in the United Nations war effort . . .

He calls attention to the fact that for more than one year only two members of the Commission have attended meetings.

HE PLEDGES HIMSELF TO ATTEND ALL COMMISSION MEETINGS

Political Adv. Paid for by Lester Boone

We want to wish you a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** Castro County as you turn **100!**

We've planted our roots deep in Castro County, and look forward to a growing future. Since 1985, we've been one of the few true commercial apple orchards in the High Plains area. We started with 1,000 trees and now we have 3,000. Fresh-pressed apple cider and pick-your-own tomatoes and peppers are also a big part of our business.

Maxwell Orchards

Dale and Elsie Maxwell, Owners

North on US 385

CONGRATULATIONS TO CASTRO COUNTY FOR 100 YEARS OF HISTORY

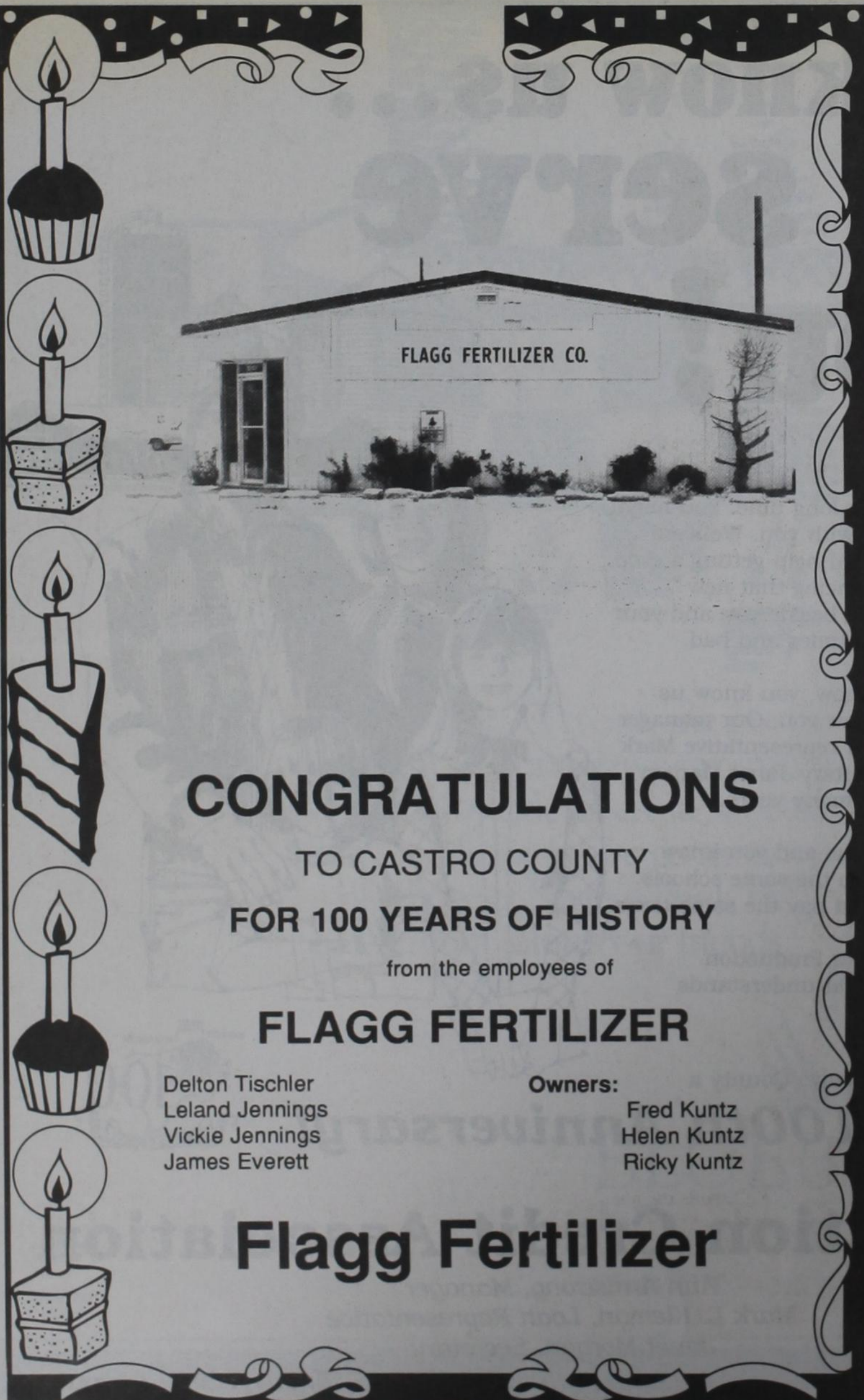
from the employees of

FLAGG FERTILIZER

Delton Tischler
Leland Jennings
Vickie Jennings
James Everett

Owners:
Fred Kuntz
Helen Kuntz
Ricky Kuntz

Flagg Fertilizer



past for future generations



COUNTY JUDGE B. D. WOODLEE used this desk. It was brought by Percy Estes, and his daughter, Helen Richardson, donated it to the Castro County Museum. It is displayed in the living room. All the office equipment on the desk came from Cowser Abstract.

Kerr and wife, Eula, sold 120 acres of the 160 to O.B. Hoover on Feb. 20, 1907 for \$2,000. Hoover sold it the same day to Max Roberts for \$3,000. Roberts sold 120 acres to J.R. Hastings on Dec. 1908 for \$3,120. He then sold five acres to Gilbreath.

Exhibits

To date, more than 500 exhibits grace the Gilbreath home.

Catalogued as the first item, Mrs. Maurine Bice donated a 92-year-old concert piano bought by her grandfather, Mark Allen, the day her mother was born.

Allen bought the piano in Boston in 1885. It was shipped to Albany by train and then by wagon to Throckmorton, where the family lived.

Leta Allen married Eck Smith and they had two children: Mark and Maurine. After Smith's death she married E. S. Parks, who had two children Jo (Gregory) and Wade. They moved to Castro County in 1925. Maurine married Tom Bice after the family moved to Dimmitt.

This ad was pulled from the June 11, 1942 edition of the Castro County News.

WE BUY IRON
EVERY DAY IN THE WEEK!
Weighed at Kimbell Elevator in Dimmitt.
WILL PAY TOP PRICES.
BILL ROBERSON

Dr. R.F. McCasland
DENTIST
Heard and Jones Building
TULIA, TEXAS

This ad was pulled from the Jan. 28, 1943 issue of The Castro County News.

BOYS' LIFE
There is a tremendous need for a clean, wholesome and educational, yet entertaining boy's publication. That's why, for 30 years, the Boy Scouts of America has published **BOYS' LIFE**. It's the magazine you will be glad to give your son... or a friend's son.
Only \$2.00 a year... \$4.50 for 3 years
Send your order to:
BOYS' LIFE, No. 2 Park Ave., New York
Or to your newspaper office or local agent



ANTIQUE TRACTORS from County Judge Weldon Bradley's collection are on display at the Castro County Historical Museum. Although they're a far cry from the air-conditioned powerhouses of today, they were considered marvels in their time. From left are a

1924 Fordson, a 1926 IHC 15-30, a 1947 John Deere "D," a 1926 Farmall, and a 1926 Rumely Oil Pull. The historic old tractors are lined up on the back of the museum lot.

July 27, the windmill was pumping water again.

Helen Richardson donated the large rolled-top desk used by B.D. Woodlee when he was judge of Castro County (1916 until 1922) when he opened an insurance and real estate office.

Woodlee and his wife came to Dimmitt in 1905 to teach school. Percy Estes bought the desk and it was used in the masonic lodge until replaced. Then, it was in Richardson's home.

The late Es Noble made arrangements with Bob McLean for the bank vault used in the first three bank buildings in Dimmitt by the First State Bank. However, getting the vault to the museum proved quite difficult, according to the museum history album.

George Sides, his sons and two employees, Frank Sepeda and Jesse Mendoza, went to investigate and found the vault too heavy to budge with manpower. Buster Cooper at Farmer's Supply loaned them a tractor with a three point rear-end tractor lift and three men (Leon Sandavol, Gary Butler and Michael Goolsby to help move the heavy Mosler safe.

Noble, a retired vice-president of the bank, cranked the vault open and revealed the six inches of plate steel around the vault and a steel-cone fitted door a foot thick.

He explained that the hammer and chisel marks above the top of the door were the attempts of robbers, who at two different times using tools they had stolen from the nearby blacksmith, had tried to break in.

Amidst all the items donated, the museum association longed for a kitchen stove to complete the furnishings. David Bellinghausen of Nazareth was trying to get a kitchen range ready, but had sent word early in the week that he couldn't finish it.

Late in the evening of Aug. 19, Bud Steiert and his daughters brought in a large Rival coal stove they had gotten out of storage in their basement.

It had a warming oven, water reservoir and a baking oven. It had been used by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Steiert, who came to Castro County in 1907.

The stove had some rust on it, but several volunteers began the task of refinishing it.

"I tell you, we looked like we had been through a chimney and back," Vick said.

Open House

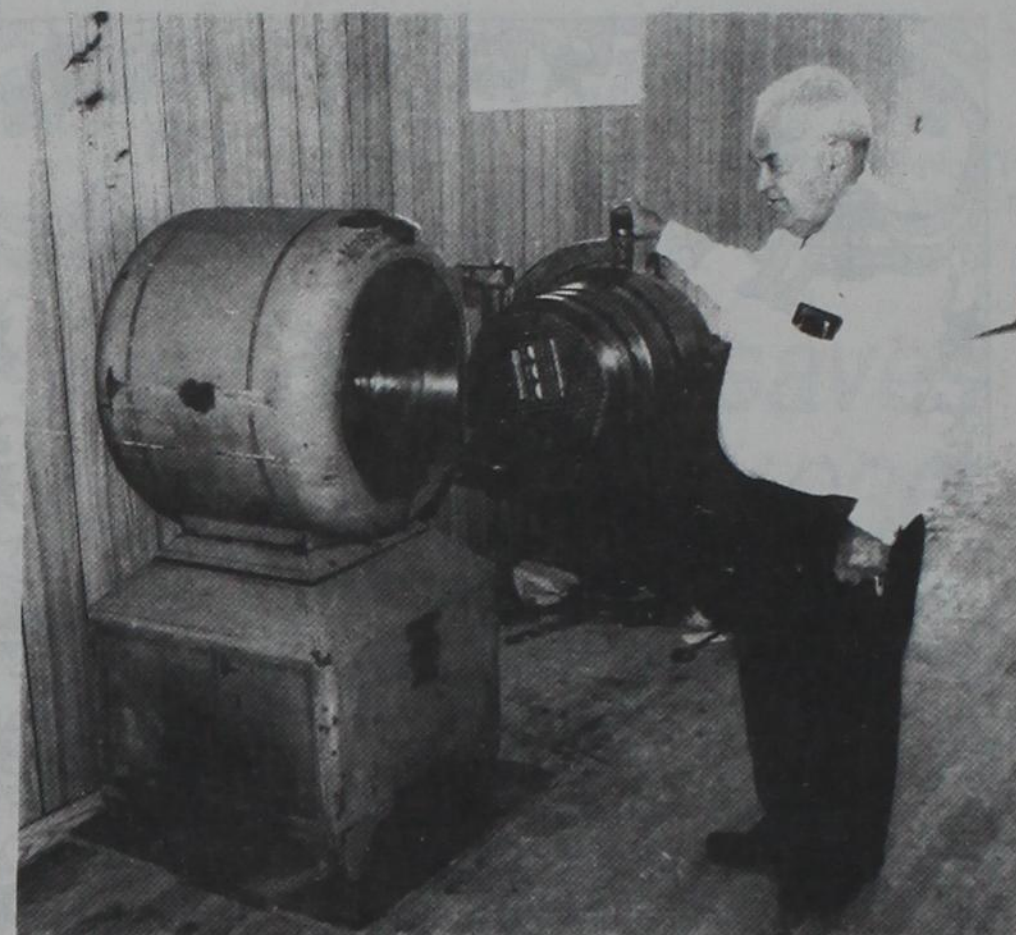
The morning of Aug. 22 found everyone furiously putting the finishing touches on everything, Vick said.

The register listed 331 visitors that day, but Vick said several hundred more were there.

"The line of people was amazing," she said. "People were mingling everywhere...we even had some directing traffic."

Charter memberships, which totaled 923, ended at midnight on this day.

"We're so proud of what is there (at the museum), but none of it would have been possible without the gracious generosity of the people," Vick said.



ONE OF THE EXHIBITS at the Castro County Historical Museum is an old Mosler safe dating back to the 1920s, on loan from the First State Bank of Dimmitt. This photo shows the late Ester Noble, one-time vice-president of the local bank, opening the safe with a crank to show what a safe-cracker would be up against—six inches of plate steel around the vault and a steel-cone fitted door a foot thick. Still, Noble recalled, would-be burglars tried pounding their way into the safe in the 1920s, using tools stolen from a nearby blacksmith shop. But they only succeeded in knocking paint from the top front of the vault before they gave up.

Millions of Americans wear Castro County wool.



Estacado Industries, Inc., is proud to have been a part of Castro County's diversified economy since 1972, when we constructed our modern lamb feedlot at Sunnyside.

Since that time, we have fed more than two million head of lambs and shipped them to slaughter plants in Texas, California, Colorado, Illinois, Nebraska, New Jersey, South Dakota, Iowa, New Mexico, Canada and Old Mexico.

During that same time we have shorn and marketed more than eight million pounds of wool.

And we have provided a market for more than half a billion pounds of Castro County feed products.

We join in celebrating the Centennial of a great county—ours!



Estacado Industries, Inc.

Route 1, Dimmitt

647-5136-7

Corporate officers and directors: Ray Joe Riley, Milburn Haydon, Edwin L. Dawson, Eddie O. Haydon, Edd C. McLeroy, Dr. Don Beerwinkle.

Happy 100th Birthday Castro County
We are proud to be a part of the community!

George's Exxon

402 N. Broadway

647-4641

Names link county towns to heroes, pioneers

By DANETTE BAKER
... And yet they think that their houses shall continue for ever and that their dwelling places shall endure from one generation to another; and call the lands after their own names.

Prayer Book

As Henri Castro rode horseback across the 160 miles of desolate prairie land, he probably never imagined the possibilities that lay ahead for the land that would be named after him.

Castro described the only visit to his namesake in a diary entry dated July 1843, according to the Castro County history book. He described the seven-day trip: "went without seeing a settlement or a dangerous animal, were herds of deer and wild horses."

More than 100 years ago, a 30-square-mile tract of untouched land

lay nestled amongst the vast open prairie of the Texas Panhandle. Then, in 1845 — 31 years after Texas joined the Union — the Texas Legislature placed an imaginary fence around the land and named it Castro County.

In 1876, the Legislature created 54 new counties from northern Bexar County and named each for early Texas heroes.

Castro, a Frenchman, served as Consul for the King of Naples, Italy, to Providence, R.I. in 1827 and one year later became an American citizen.

In 1841, Castro helped the Republic of Texas accrue a \$7 million loan through La Fite and Company of Paris, France; the next year, he was appointed Consul General from the Republic to his native country, France.

Because of his involvement in the Republic government, the Texas Legislature granted him a

colonization contract. With it, he established Castrovilla — named for him — in 1843 on the Medina River near San Antonio.

Likewise, the county seat was named for a Panhandle visitor.

About 15 years after Castro County was named, town organizer H.G. Bedford dubbed the county seat "Dimmitt" after the Rev. W.C. Dimmitt, a close friend, relative and business partner, according to the Castro County history book.

Their friendship began with the Civil War. Dimmitt, a native Kentuckian who was sympathetic to the southern cause, refused to serve in the Union army, according to the history book. So, he organized Company K, 10th Kentucky Partisan Rangers, serving as first Captain. Bedford served as a scout in the army, and their friendship began.

After the war, Bedford married Dimmitt's niece, Fannie Browder, then encouraged him to join in the West Texas land developments. Thus, the business partnership formed.

Organization of Dimmitt came in 1890 when the Bedford Town and Land Company, of which Bedford and Dimmitt were parties, developed a section of land near the county's center.

According to the history book, Dimmitt's only excursion to the county was the 1890 buying trip.

In the late 1880s, homesteaders in the southeast portion of the county named the second largest town for a retired school teacher turned rancher and mailcarrier: T.W. Hart.

"Mr. Hart rode to Kress about once a week for the mail, then riders would come from the other towns around and carry it on," said Sarah Hart, whose husband Joe, is the late T.W.'s grandson.

"He had the horses (from his ranch), and would give those who came a fresh horse to ride back on, then they'd trade back the next time," she said.

When time came to name the town, Sarah said several suggested "Hart", after T.W.

Another rendition in the history book relates that several names were submitted but rejected. Therefore, postal officials suggested "Hart" and the name was accepted by the settlers.

In the spring of 1892, Thomas Patrick McCormick of Hornsville, N.Y., arrived at his unseen homestead, about 10 miles north of Hart.

Although now known as Nazareth, pioneers disagree on the original name of the McCormick community. Some call it Wind, others Wynne for Billy Wynne,



THIS OLD HOUSE—More than a century ago, the J.W. Carter family settled southwest of Dimmitt and established the county's first homestead. Carter brought wood from Colorado City in 1883 to

erect his family a home. Later, the weather-worn structure served as headquarters for the Flagg Ranch, founded in 1904 by C.T. Herring.

Castro County File Photo

Sears

Authorized Catalog Sales Merchant

In July of 1969, the first Authorized Catalog Sales Outlet for Sears was opened in Dimmitt by Tom L. Persons. The store was located at 110 W. Jones. Persons passed away in 1977, and in 1978, his wife sold it to Jack and Clara Patton of Dimmitt. The Pattons sold it to E.B. and Evelyn Noble in 1980. The Nobles relocated the business to its present building at 108 SW Second Street in 1984. Mr. Noble passed away in 1986, and in 1988 Evelyn sold the business to Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Brockman, who, along with Margaret Womack, have operated it up to the present.

A hallmark of the local outlet has been its personal service and good customer relations.

The Brockmans and Mrs. Womack want to thank all their loyal customers who have continued to help them and their business have an important part in the life of the local community.

They extend their best wishes for a
**Happy 100th Birthday
 For Castro County!**



We're proud to be a part of Castro County's great cattle industry!



There has been some sort of cattle business in Castro County for more than 100 years.

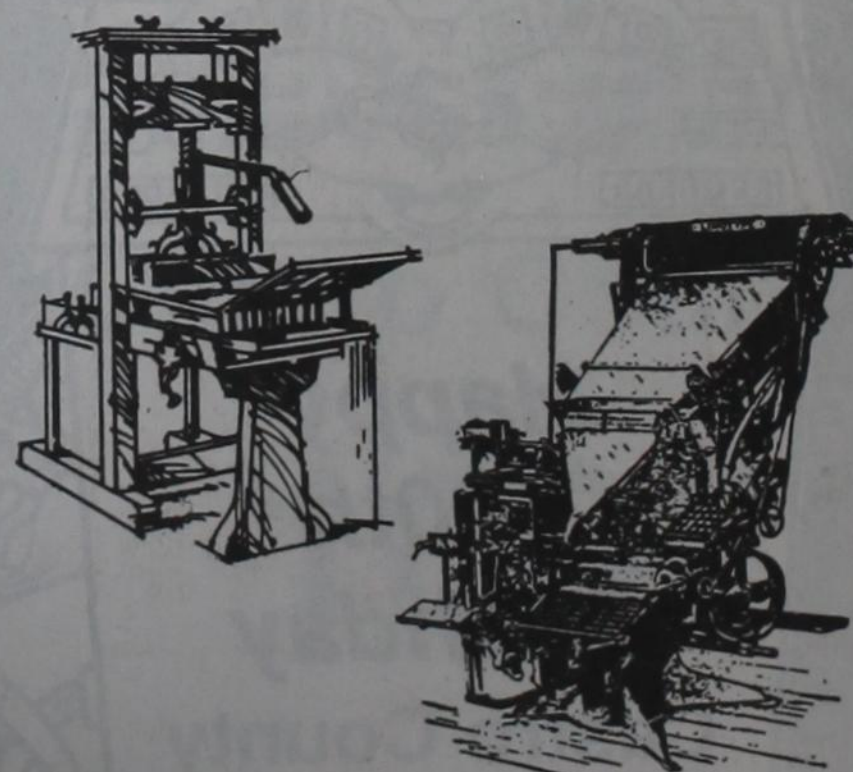
Grass and wheat pasture cattle have since advanced to the commercial feedlot ear... Americans still enjoy eating good beef.

**Rafter 3
 Feedyard, Inc.**

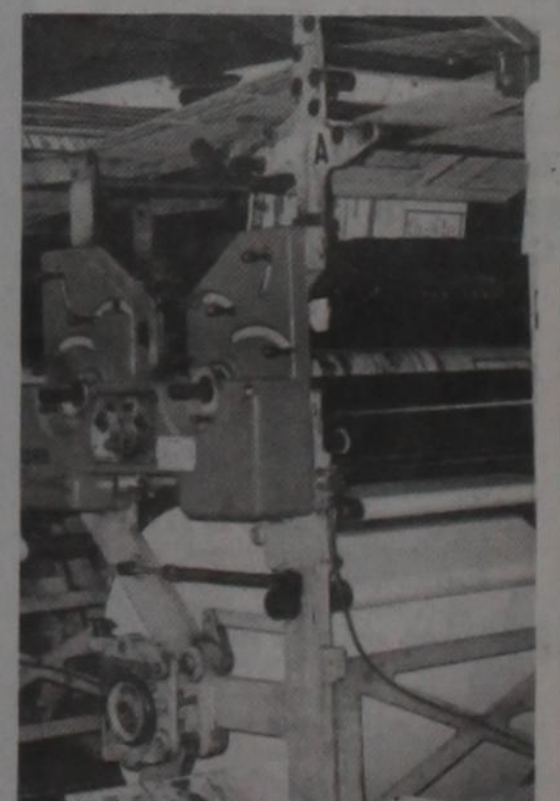


100 Years of Progress in Printing

*Congratulations
 Dimmitt and Castro County
 on the progress you've made.*



We're proud to have printed this centennial Edition



Palo Duro Offset Printing

4th St. & Hereford Hwy., Canyon

655-0611

Dorothy's pigtails

By RICHARD O. THOMAS

This incident occurred in the spring of 1936 in Dimmitt's old two-story elementary school, long since demolished, and I remember that the classroom was on the southwest corner of the top floor.

I think it's about time to confess to something I did while in the sixth grade. Not that it was so horrible, but it really did happen, and perhaps some of you will enjoy reading about it.

In the days before ball-point pens, we had a little round hole in our desks in which we set our ink bottles, and of course the lid was off whenever we were using a pen. Sitting in front of me one day was a girl, Dorothy Graham who had pig-tails. So what did I do, but dip one of them into the inkwell. Of course, she knew right away what I had done, so she turned around in her chair, picked the bottle up and threw the ink right at my chest. Since I didn't think that was a nice thing for her to do, especially since I was wearing my favorite sweater, I slapped her right back.

There followed a very quick trip to the principal's office, where I got not only a stern lecture, but a good whipping and orders to get myself home and not come back

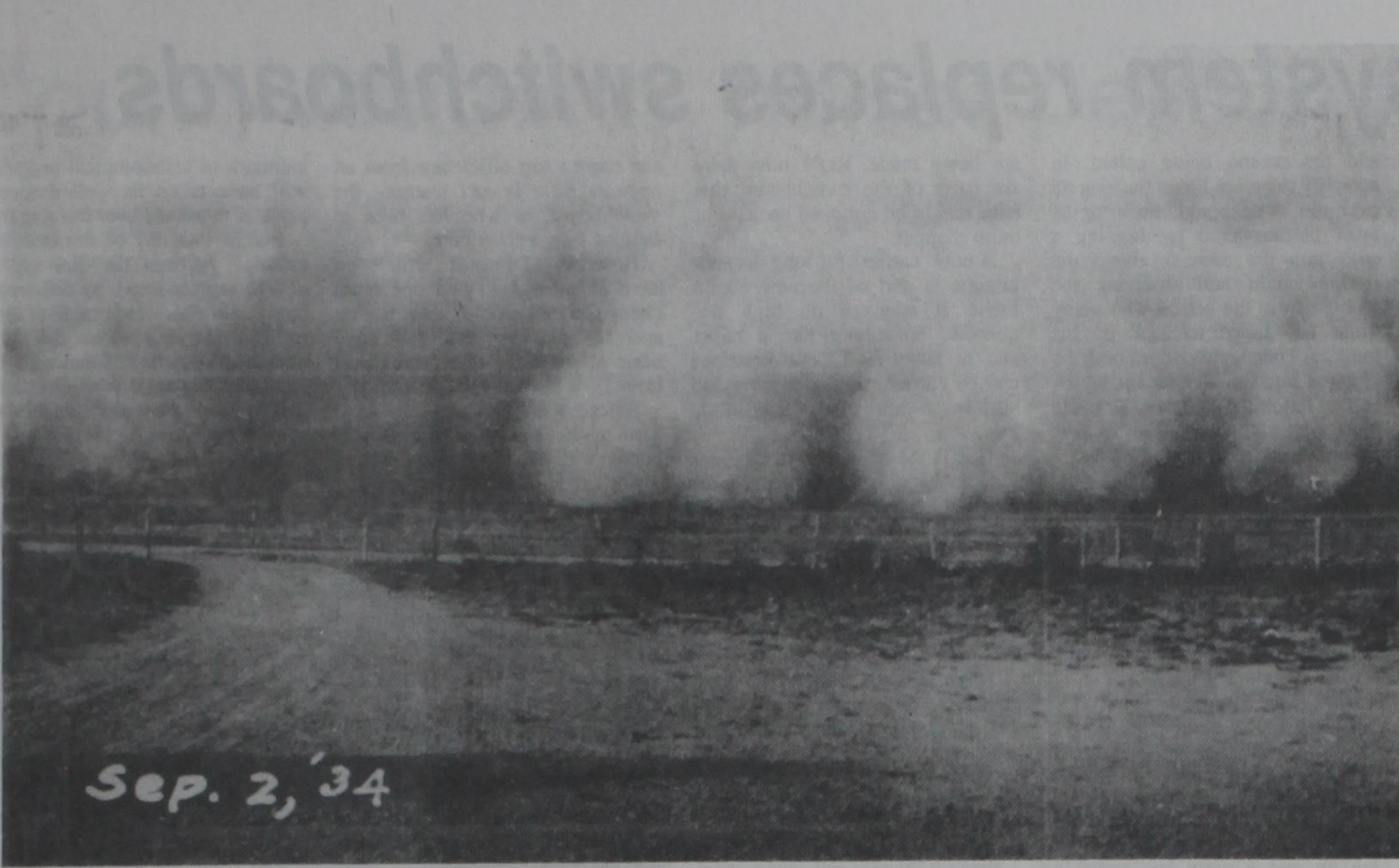
the rest of the day.

When I got home, all ink covered and, I'm sure, crying like crazy, and told my side of the story to Mother, right away she took off for the school to give that mean old principal a piece of her mind. The very idea, treating her child like that!

But you can all guess what she found at school — an entirely different story. So when Dad got home from work that night, there was probably another spanking for me, though I really don't remember that detail. Needless to say, I wasn't very popular with Dorothy for a long time after that.

Interestingly, we moved from Dimmitt a year later, and I never saw Dorothy again, but while I was at Texas A&M, she was at Baylor University in Waco, so we arranged for a date up there. Another Aggie and I left College Station, hitchhiking to Waco, but got stuck in Marlin for four or five hours, less than thirty miles from Waco, and had to call and cancel the date. So I never did see her, but I'm sure she remembers our time together in the sixth grade in Dimmitt, Texas.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dorothy Graham is now Dorothy (Mrs. Ted) Sheffy of Dimmitt.



Sep. 2, '34

ROLLING DUST CLOUD ATTACKS COUNTY ... During 1934 "Dust Bowl"

'Dust' covered everything in 1930s

The infamous storms of the "Dust Bowl" days in Castro County in the 1930s made farming impossible and threatened lives.

All efforts to raise any type of crop during 1934 and 1935 were fruitless.

It all began on April 14, 1934, when a large black cloud appeared to the north. The citizens of Castro County first discounted it as being anything other than a bad "norther,"

but soon realized it was no ordinary cloud.

As it came nearer, there were distinguishable currents of dust rolling along the ground and within an instant, the storm's effects were upon the area.

Lights had to be turned on in the

Brooms were first manufactured items in Castro County

Castro County's first manufactured product was the broom.

Wendelin Litsch and Ben Huseman, two of the early settlers of Nazareth, bought a broom-making machine just after the turn of the century to utilize the straw from broom corn, one of the first crops in the area.

Brooms manufactured at Nazareth were sold there as well as in Hereford, Tulia and Dimmitt.

houses due to the sunlight being blocked. But even in the homes, visibility was limited severely. Night and day became indistinguishable, the food served at meals was covered with dust and all bedding and furniture in the houses were so covered that the patterns in the materials could not be seen. The residents resorted to using damp cloths over their mouths and noses to gain some relief in breathing.

The cloud finally passed on, but the air remained dust-filled. The huge task of cleaning faced the townspeople; all linens were changed, furniture had the dirt beaten out of it, and the sand was swept—or in some cases, shoveled—from the houses. The fields had been blown completely out, and there was no hope for a crop after this devastating storm.

The dust storm lasted 40 minutes, but the darkness lingered for three hours.

On May 10 of the same year, the

winds came from the west at a speed of up to 100 miles per hour. This was a different type of storm. Dust was lifted by the wind until it blotted out the sun and completely fogged the land. Two days later, New York and the eastern states were enveloped for five hours by the dust.

Except for two days in February, 1935, the dust continued to blow throughout the remainder of 1934 and 1935.

The unusual black rolling sandstorms caused the land to become a desolate expanse, with sand completely covering roadways, fences, outbuildings, and equipment. Tumbleweeds would pile up against any object that would deter their rolling and the sand covered the weeds to hide fences and vacant buildings.

The early settlers, relieved when the storms finally subsided, agreed that it was a time they hoped never to see again.

Four-year-old saves baby sister in 1936

Calmness and quick thinking on the part of four-year-old Lloyd Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. C.S. Smith, enabled him to save the life of his 22-month-old sister, Mary Cathryn, in 1936.

The girl had fallen into a stock tank on the Singer farm, eight miles northwest of Dimmitt and her brother saved her from drowning.

The two children, together with an older sister, were playing in the yard. The smaller girl had gone to the stock tank to get a bucket of water and when she didn't return, the four-year-old boy went to hunt for her.

When he reached the tank, which had almost two feet of water in it,

he found his baby sister lying under the water. Quickly, he reached in and pulled her to the surface; then called for help.

When the parents reached the child, she appeared to be lifeless, but after use of artificial respiration she regained consciousness and was rushed to Dr. Cogswell's office for treatment.

A June 4, 1936 story in the *Castro County News* indicates that the child was recovering and there was no indication of ill effects from the experience.

1891 1991



Congratulations
CASTRO
COUNTY

It has been a pleasure
to serve you for 10 years!

Gerber Welding
& Repair

205 Wheat, Dimmitt
647-5726

HOORAY FOR
DIMMITT
IT'S OUR
HOMETOWN

Let's Talk Community Pride.

Sure, we're your local telephone company. We're proud of that. We're proud of our community, too. We live here.

Our kids, like your kids, go to neighborhood schools. We sit together at PTA meetings. We drive the same streets. We bump carts at the supermarket. We vote in local elections. Like you, we share community problems and we share community pride. We think there's much to be proud about.

We're more than your local telephone company. We're neighbors.

CONTEL of Texas

Telephone dial system replaces switchboards

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This story by Penny Nelson was published in the Nov. 12, 1959, issue of the News, just before West Texas Telephone Co., which served Dimmitt, implemented updated dialing systems.

By PENNY NELSON

In a short while, the constant flashing of small lights on the switchboard at the West Texas Telephone Company office will cease, and the intricate, everchanging criss-crossed pattern of circuit cords which connect Castro County citizens with their requested numbers will no longer exist.

In the place of this mechanism will be a far more complicated dial system.

The person who sees for the first time the series of impulses he sets off when he picks up his phone and casually asks for a number, and realizes that some 40 or 50 people are doing the same thing at almost the same instant, comes to view his telephone with new respect.

Until he makes a person-to-person visit with the operators and switchboard, there are but three factors involved.

First of all, there is the intended conversation of the person making the call, the intermediary operator

and the person being called. In actuality there are lights flashing all over the switchboard. Each signal must be answered by lugging a cord into the number above the flashing light and receiving the number from the patron who many times has failed to look up his number. Then another cord must be plugged into another socket which is the requested number. For the most part, this operation is performed almost in the form of a reflex action.

If one watches the board long enough, he sees that many conversations last for some length. Sometimes the board becomes more and more crowded with closed circuits until at last there is not a spare cord left with which to answer new flashes.

This situation can cause an unfortunate delay in placing an incoming call or the accidental disconnecting of one already in progress. The disconnection occurs when the switchboard is heavily loaded, there are more lights coming on and a party has ended a conversation. The operator quickly reaches to disconnect the number to accommodate the new request and because of the multiplicity of connections, pulls the wrong cord from the board. This is a mishap that will happen to any operator at some time or other, no matter how deft her hands are.

Any switchboard service is limited because it can only service a certain number of calls at a time, but with the new dial system, a patron need only pick up a directory and dial the number he wants, regardless of the number of other calls being placed. In order to give this kind of service, a tremendous amount of new equipment is being installed that resembles, somewhat, the complex nervous system of the human body. One peek behind the switchboard at the jungle of terminal blocks, wires, coils of wires, trunk lines, fuses, switches, etc., and the classic remark, "What hath God wrought?" comes to one's mind and is as significant, if not more so, than it was on that day in March 1876, when it was spoken by Alexander Bell's helper. Along with the installation of the dial system comes the problem of keeping up the service while changes

are being made. Right now there are parts of the switchboard that have had to be removed because of these changes.

A new "carrier" for long distance circuits is part of the new equipment. It operates on high frequencies something like a radio, and as many as 12 conversations can be carried on at one time and with much more clarity than in the past.

This is the busy time of the year for the telephone people as it is for all other businesses in Dimmitt and Castro County. With the harvest seasons there is an influx of people into business establishments there are highways crowded with cotton trailers and there seems to be more auto traffic, too.

There is more work to be done than there are people to do it and the telephone switchboard is no different.

Operators have stated that it is not uncommon during the early morning hours to have all the circuits tied up at once.

When asked what they wish most that people would do to facilitate their use of the phone system, they stated that it would be a great help if everyone would use his directory, and try to remember that when he places a long distance call, most generally, it is received by a local operator and she in turn must transfer it to the long distance operator.

When the long distance operator is on the line, she must have the same information that has been given to the local operator. Actually, the person placing the call should ask for long distance to begin with and save themselves the trouble of having to repeat the same information.

As in other businesses, there is always a turnover in personnel at the phone office. Frequently, when an operator has become efficiently trained, which takes a minimum of three to four months, and can only be done by actual work at the switchboard, she for one reason or another decides to terminate her work as an operator and the training of a new one must begin all over again.

Elton Singer, one of the owners of the company, stated that their operators are all good, but no one

can expect top efficiency from an operator who is just learning the switchboard, or who has been in training only a short time.

However, Dimmitt will soon have a dial system and one more change toward more mechanization and modern progress will have been effected on one more local level.

Before many more years have gone by the "old fashioned" switchboard which at one time was a

hallmark of technological progress, will have taken its well deserved place in museums over the country.

But in this day of miniaturized missiles, perhaps the dial system will be replaced, too, by one small, complexly compact miracle of electronics that will make the huge amount of equipment that runs the local dial system look and be as the dial system makes the switchboard system look now.

Who knows?

First train pulls into Hart in November, 1928

The first Fort Worth and Denver trail pulled into Hart on Wednesday, Nov. 21, 1928, and many believe it's one of the most important events in the city's history.

Three passenger cars were filled with officials of the Fort Worth and Denver Railroad Company including F.E. Clarity, vice president and general manager.

A lead story in the Nov. 21, 1928, edition of *The Hart News* tells the story of the "day the train came to town."

"The coming of the Fort Worth and Denver Railroad into Hart and this part of the country is another great step forward, perhaps the greatest and most important to date. No community can grow and prosper without adequate transportation, and in years past Hart has been entirely dependent upon highways for all transportation facilities, making a handicap well nigh insurmountable."

The account tells that school was to be dismissed so that students might march, en masse, to the station to help greet the special trains.

The first depot agent was Jack Hall the arrival of the railroad to Hart came after years of promoting, planning and labors of a number of Hart Supporters. Fort Worth and Denver had declined to consider Hart until 1925 when an inspection of the area was made and Hart was approved.

The first schedule was for the train to run every day and remain overnight in Hart. It had one coach and the freight. This was soon changed because the demand for grain cars was so great. Several passengers also rode the train to Dimmitt or Plainview.

A test run with a locomotive to try out the road was made prior to the special day and young L.J. Rice was given a ride on the test run by Bob Morris, civil engineer.

This ad was pulled from the June 11, 1942 edition of the Castro County News.

'YOU CAN GET IT FIXED IN DIMMITT AT THE M'MAHON SHOP

Good Work, Honest Dealings, Fair Prices, and Real SERVICE - ALWAYS.

McMahon's Blacksmith Shop



THE FIRST GAS PUMP in Dimmitt was installed in 1926 by Sid Huckabay at his feed and produce store. It was a hand-operated Gulf pump. Here, standing proudly in front of the new pump, are Huckabay's wife, Iva, and their three-year-old son, Bob. Sid Huckabay also started the first ice house here, in partnership with Joe Gollehon; and Iva Huckabay opened Dimmitt's first beauty shop.

Thank You, Castro County!

We at Coleman Health Mart Pharmacy share a lot in common with the county we have chosen as our home.

Even though our county is 100 years old, it's still one of the youngest counties in Texas, with a progressive attitude. Even though Garland Coleman is a second-generation registered pharmacist, Coleman Pharmacy here is still fairly young—established here in 1977.

After only eight years here, we built our new building at 201 NW Second St. in 1985.

At the same time, we affiliated with the Health Mart association of independent drug stores and pharmacies, to provide our customers with the best values in quality products.

The progress we have enjoyed would not have been possible without you.

Thank you, Castro County!



Garland and Susan Coleman with sons Garland III, Ben and Daniel; Connie Nelson; Chole Ortiz; Mary Ann Rodriguez; and June Ewing.



Coleman Pharmacy

Garland Coleman, RPh
Susan Coleman, June Ewing, Connie Nelson, Mary Ann Rodriguez, Chole Ortiz

201 NW 2nd, Dimmitt

647-3151

County residents, horses petition for organization

Did you know that several horses names were on the petition to organize Castro County, which was sent to the Oldham County Commissioners Court in the late 1800s? Well, they were.

The early settlers felt like they were getting little return from their tax dollars because they had to travel to Tascosa for judicial purposes and official business and law enforcement and administration under Oldham County was of little benefit to them, so they decided to draw up a petition to organize the county.

But there was one problem with their idea.

One hundred and fifty signatures of residents were needed to ask for organization, and the early settlers knew there were not that many people in the county.

All residents in the county signed the petition, but there weren't enough signatures.

Castro County Texas, 1891-1981, quotes Mrs. C.G. Mapes, and other old timers, who revealed that the settlers asked all the cowboys on neighboring ranches to sign, but they still didn't have enough names.

Next they asked people passing through town to sign, and when they still couldn't come up with enough names, J.W. Carter, the first settler in the county, gave surnames to his horses—Joe, Sam, Bob, etc.—and added the names to the list until it bore the needed 150 signatures.

The history book says that while the petition was being circulated, developers of different town sites were competing for the location of the county seat and each used the railroad as a reason for the county seat to be used at their town site.

The Bedford Town and Land Company, which was organized in Grayson County on March 4, 1890, was the largest of these development companies and members were E.S. Jones, E.F. Halsell, G.M. Etter, R.R. Dulin, A.R. Andrews, J.B. Stinson, R.L. Belsher and W.L. Bean, parties of the first part; and W.C. Dimmitt, H.G. Bedford and J.W. Hinton, parties of the second part.

If these names sound familiar today, just drive through Dimmitt and look at the street signs. You'll find most of the names on signs.

The promoters bought the E.L. Pierce section of land near the center of the county on May 27, 1890, and promptly built a large hotel on the block southeast of the courthouse square.

Castro County was named for Henri Castro, who was born in France in 1786.

In 1876, 31 years after Texas was admitted to the Union, the legislature created 54 new counties from the northern part of Bexar County and each one was named for a Texas hero. Most of them had never seen their namesakes.

The county is 30 square miles with 900-plus miles of level prairie.

After a debate between Castro City and Dimmitt, Dimmitt was chosen as the county seat and it's located about two miles west and one mile north of the geographical center of the county.

The first settlers

The history book says that the Abstract Book of all original Texas Land Titles in Castro County lists 45 men who owned land in Castro County before J.W. Carter bought his 72 sections of land, but none of the men lived here.

The Abstract Book lists the first land patented in Castro County was to John Alexaner on June 6, 1877, for Section 5, Block M-10A, and the southeast corner of this section is marked by the original Summerfield Monument. On the same date, land was patented to C.B. Buck, R.T. Higginbotham, Henry and John E. Corwith, Henry Clipper and F.J. Agnew.

Carter shows up on the books in February 4, 1884, according to the Castro County History Book. The entire 72 sections of land were Block T, R.M. Thomson, Block T3 R.M. and T.A. Thompson and Block T4, T.A. Thompson. The dates extended to 1891 and 35 patents were issued in February 1884.

In 1884, Carter moved his wife

and their three children, James, Ellen and John, from Buffalo Gap (near Abilene in Taylor County) to Castro County.

The family made their way from Taylor County to Castro County in wagons, bringing with them carpenters, lumber and all necessary supplies and tools to build and equip a four-room house.

They also brought with them a year's supply of groceries, which included 1,000 pounds of flour, a barrel each of brown sugar, white sugar and molasses, 500 pounds of bacon, beans, hominy and coffee.

According to *Castro County, Texas, 1891-1981*, the Carters established ranch headquarters on the north side of Running Water Draw in the southwest part of the county, about 14 miles south and west of Dimmitt.

Carter fenced 18 of the 72 sections for a horse pasture and that was the first known fencing to go up in the county.

Their house was built by digging into the side of Running Water Draw at the top of the slope. Their home was a two-room dugout, with another two rooms on top and a roof of lumber and it had an east entrance.

The Carters brought 1,000 head of cattle when they moved to the county, and they returned for 1,500 more later and the increase from the heard brought the total to 3,000 head, which he raised on open range. He branded with a 7-UP and his ranch was dubbed the 7-UP Ranch.

They hauled coal from Colorado City, went to the breaks for wood, sometimes, but used surface coal (cow chips) most of the time, according to the history book. When the railroad came to Amarillo in 1887 they began to buy their supplies there.

Sometime between 1885 and 1895, Carter hauled lumber from Amarillo and built the house that many have assumed was the original residence. It was built to the east of the half-dugout.

Carter had tried to help out some friends in Amarillo, giving them security, but by 1895, his 52,000-acre 7-UP Ranch was encumbered with a \$50,000 debt. In an attempt

to save part of his land and cattle, Carter bought into the store the men owned, but he learned their was a \$100,000 note against it. The history book reveals Carter was forced to sell the land to pay his creditors on May 4, 1895, and the highest bidder was the Scottish American Mortgage Company Limited with an offer of \$47,650.

The Carters also had to give up the house they had built. The old house stood until 1978 when it was burned to clear the way for a farming operation by the new owner.

The Carters built a 30-room hotel in Dimmitt, the Castro Hotel, (where the telephone company is located today) and the history book says it was the first to have water piped into it and it had a bath and hot water. The water system also furnished the barber shop and drug store.

Mr. Carter died in 1916 and his wife, Ellen, died in 1942. The couple is buried in Castro Memorial Gardens.

After their death, the hotel was sold to J.E. Hyatt and later it was moved to Plainview.

The first mortgages

Carter is listed as the first mortgagor in the county, marked in the *Register of Chattel Mortgages and Liens on Personal Property* on July 23, 1890. The mortgagee or trustee was A.H. Wood—First National Bank of Amarillo. It was for 891 head of stock cattle with an N brand on the left side and an O on the left hip—various marks. There were three 60-day notes for \$2,500, \$699.40 and \$4,405.16.

The book lists the second mortgage on December 18, 1890, also to Carter. The mortgagee was R.L. Brown—J. Gorgon Brown. It was for 750 head of mixed stock cattle on the Carter Ranch branded with a circle cross on both sides and a mark under each ear.

Homesteads

Castro County, Texas 1891-1981 says the first application for a homestead in Castro County is recorded for Homer Beach and is

dated July 29, 1890.

Since this was before the county was organized, it was addressed to the District Surveyor of Oldham Land District.

Other homestead applications filed in 1890 were J.W. Douglass, S.F. Flores, S.L. Richardson, C.H. Harlan, Mrs. M.B. Fowle, W.E. Jones, A.R. Ferguson, J.E. Turner and C.J. Ivy. They are the homestead that were filed before the county was organized. Field notes were found on the survey of W.E.

Jones, S.F. Flores, J.E. Turner and C.H. Harlan. They were made by D.B. Beard, district surveyor of Oldham Land District with C.A. Sharp and W.F. Harlan as chain carriers. R.F. Powell was deputy surveyor of Castro County. The field notes were dated Sept. 9, 1890.

None of these homesteads were proven because they aren't recorded in the General Land Office in Austin, according to the history book.



*We're hanging
in there with you
Castro County!*

**HAPPY 100th
ANNIVERSARY**

It's been
a pleasure
serving you
since 1959



**Alvin's Drive-in
Cleaners**

104 NW 3rd647-3225



M. E. Cleavinger Sr. (shown here with his son, Jess, in 1913) hauled freight between Springlake and Plainview in the early days in this Avery truck. Note blade-type metal mud grips on rear wheels.

The Cleavinger family settled in this area shortly after 1900. M. E. Cleavinger Sr. was the father of Norman, M. E. Jr., Jess, Elmer (Dutch) and Gene Cleavinger and Beulah Cleavinger Miller. He was the grandfather of Jim, Orville and Ronald Cleavinger, Carole Dyer, Norma Dawson and Lois Wales.

We're proud to have been a part of Castro County during its first century.

**Happy Birthday,
Castro County**

from

C&S Battery & Electric

301 SE Second St., Dimmitt

Jim Cleavinger

647-3531

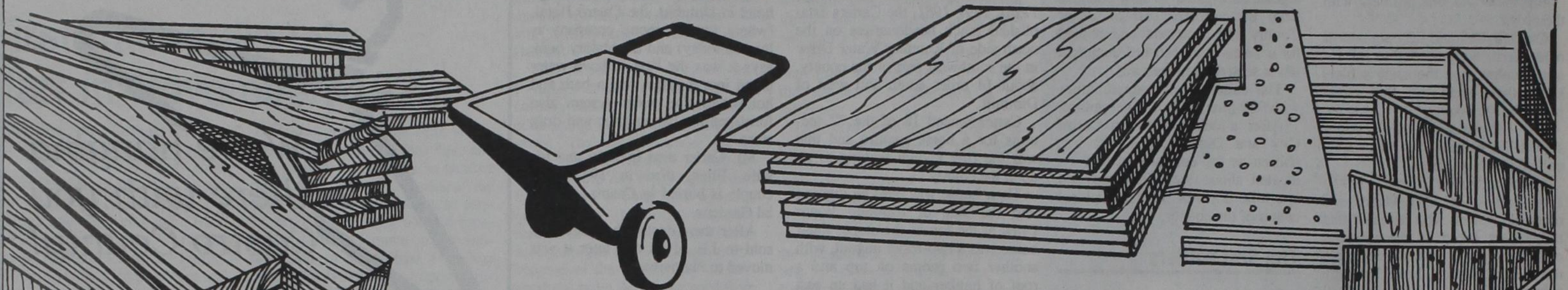


With the formation of our Cooperative in 1937, we began actual service to our customers in 1938, bringing electric power at the lowest possible cost to subscribers in Deaf Smith, Castro, Parmer and Oldham counties. We have increased our lines of service from zero up to more than 3,000 miles of line during those years. We are proud to have been a part in the history and development of

Castro County
and we say
Happy 100th Anniversary!

**Deaf Smith Electric
Cooperative**

Hereford, Texas



Your Home . . .

and your barns, and your horseshoes, and your horseshoe nails, and your rope, and your fencing, and your windmill, and your stock tanks, and your cattle prods, and your batteries, and your lumber, and your hammer and nails, and your bolts and nuts, and your screwdrivers, and your pliers, and your saw, and your linoleum, and your windows, and your screens, and your kitchen cabinets, and your faucets, and your pipe, and your paneling, and your paint, and your switches, and your outlets, and your insulators, and your storm windows, and your carpet, and your vacuum cleaner, and your hoe and rake, and your wheelbarrow, and your lawn mower, and your shovel, and your grain scoop, and your truck tarp, and your lawn sprinkler, and your hose, and your drill, and your wood stain, and your lacquer, and your varnish, and your brushes, and your thinners, and your wrenches, and your punches, and your screen, and your caulking, and your glass, and your putty, and your putty knife

probably came from

The Higginbotham-Bartlett Company

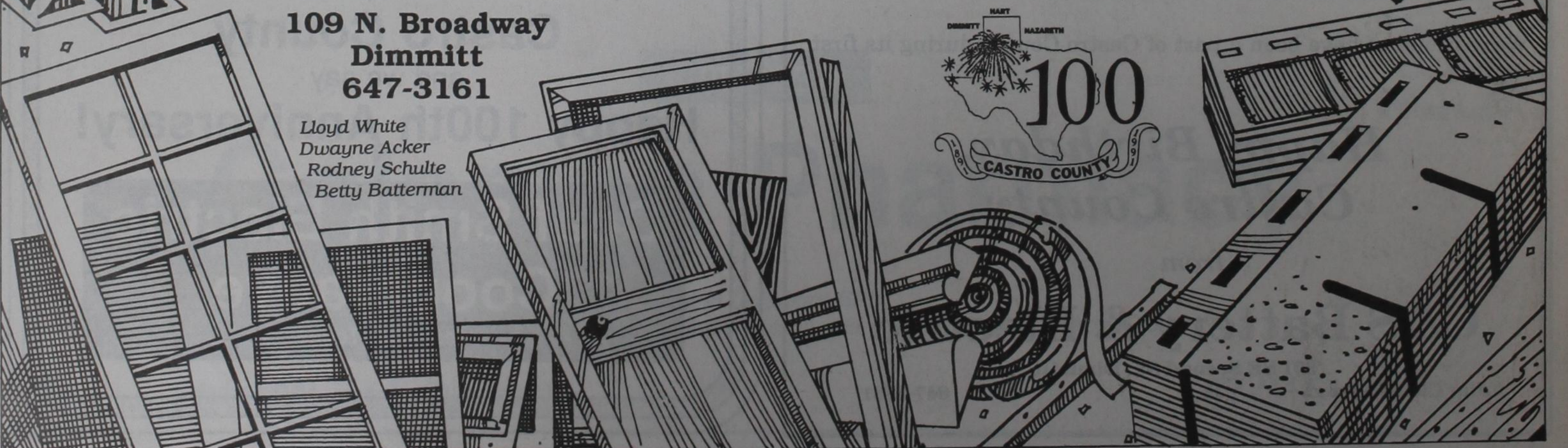
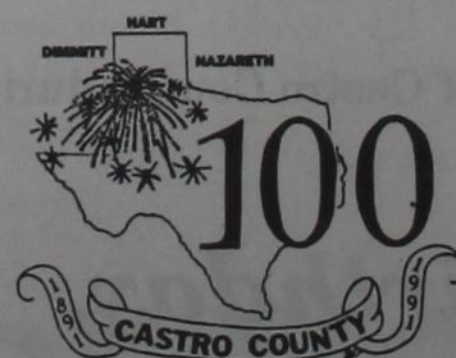
The folks in Castro County depended on the Panhandle Lumber Co. to supply their building and hardware needs until 1936, when the landmark business was purchased by The Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.

Higginbotham-Bartlett has had only four managers during its 55 years of service here—Ward Golden, George Howell, Frank Welch and Lloyd White.

We're proud of Castro County's progress during its first century, and of the role our company has played in it.

**109 N. Broadway
Dimmitt
647-3161**

*Lloyd White
Dwayne Acker
Rodney Schulte
Betty Batterman*



Hart family recalls trip to county

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This story was reprinted, with permission, from the Oct. 7, 1976, bicentennial edition of *The Hart Beat*.)

When the T.W. Hart family moved to Castro County in 1899, it was not a trip made by wagons, the conventional transportation of that day. Instead, their box house was placed on skids and moved from Swisher County with five-year-old Percy and three-year-old Nina "at home" all the way.

Coming west for his health, T.W. Hart had filed on one section of land in Swisher County, complying with the Homestead Act. When the Texas Legislature amended the Act to allow a person to file on four sections of land, T.W. relinquished his Swisher claim and selected four adjoining sections of Castro County land.

The two-room house was pulled by a team of horses with the move taking two days. All the family's household goods were left in place so they were right at home during the journey, as well as when they arrived at their new place south of where one day a town would be named after the head of the pioneer family—Hart.

Their house was put in place near Running Water Draw, when a few months later, other early settlers persuaded Hart to open a post office in his home.

The post office was established about 1900, but postal regulations demanded a new name for the post office be submitted to headquarters in Washington, D.C. The submitted names were not approved, and a postal official inquired, "Why don't you call it Hart?"

They did and that's how Hart got its name.

Mail service was provided by a carrier riding horseback to Dimmitt three times of the week.

"Part of the time," Percy Hart remembers, "the carrier would go on to Olton. We kept a mule and a horse for relay. He'd come here on his own horse, leave it and go on to Olton on the relay. When he came back, he'd swap again at our place."

"I don't know how they did it in those days—it was a hard trip. People were just more rugged then, I guess."

One of the early carriers is still remembered by Percy.

"He always carried coffee with him, and of course, it would always be cold. We'd offer to heat it up for him, and he'd always refuse, saying, 'I like cold coffee—hot coffee makes you cold.'"

T.W. and Lillian Hart received income from the number of cancellations they had. Few letters were written, Percy remembers. Sometimes the proceeds might run \$12 or \$15 per quarter of the year.

Along with the post office, the Harts stocked a few staple groceries which had to be hauled from Plainview, Hereford or Canyon. Enough supplies were purchased to last six months. They included such things as flour, corn meal, pinto beans, soda, baking powder, a few canned goods, lard, tobacco and snuff.

Not long after the railroad had reached Hereford, T.W. made a trip for supplies and was caught in a snow storm. It was snowing when

he left on the homeward journey that morning and he was able to cover just seven or eight miles.

He reached the Axe place just south of the Deaf Smith County line where he stopped to wait out the storm. He stayed a couple of days and when the snow had stopped, he was ready to resume his journey.

Although there had been little wind to drift the snow, it stood 12 to 18 inches on the level, making it impossible to travel by wagon. T.W. rode one horse and led another, stopping to change horses at intervals to rest the one he had been riding. He traveled from the Axe place to Dimmitt, spent the night there and made it home the next day.

Planning to be gone from home just three days, he had been gone seven. His long exposure to the sun's reflection on the snow-covered world had almost blinded him. Lillian put Percy on a horse and sent him to Arthur Edwards for help.

The first needs, however, that faced the newcomers, was to find water. The Harts hauled water in barrels from the Hutson place about four miles away. Percy doesn't recall if water was hauled for stock or whether they watered at the draw.

It wasn't long before T.W. arranged for his own windmill. It was just 40 feet below the surface that water was reached. A well at the same site today (1976) is set at 150 feet, Percy says.

Soon after getting settled, T.W. bought cattle and marked them with the Hart brand. A pasture was fenced so they could keep the milk cow and a couple of saddle horses.

"If you didn't have a fence around your pasture, you were afoot," Percy recalls. Horses would join neighbors horses or herds of mustangs.

T.W. Hart had his own system for keeping up with his own stock.

Percy recalls, "We had it arranged that the cattle had to come down a lane to reach the wagon where the fed, salt and water was. It was mine and Nina's jobs to stay at the wagon."

"The Longhorns belonged to the Spade Ranch, but roamed all over the country. They were afraid of us and when they'd come for water, we'd raise up from the wagon and they'd be frightened away. If they couldn't get water, they wouldn't stay around to graze and wouldn't eat our grass."

Percy recalls there were probably no more than 10 acres of land broken when his family came to the county and very few persons had settled here at that time. He remembers there was one settler on the Iley Scott place and another about eight miles away.

Later on, three more daughters were added to the Hart family—Ruth, Fannie and Annie Dee. Soon after Annie Dee was born, Lillian became ill with blood poisoning and died. Her mother took the baby and cared for her until her own death five years later.

The Hart children attended Lone Star school, which was located about a mile south and one mile

east of their home. It was later moved nearer to their home, on the Tump McLain place, and was finally moved into "Old Hart."

T.W. Hart taught school at Lone Star for a short time, a profession not new to him since he had taught in Grayson County. Miss Elmina Robinson was one of the first teachers at Lone Star.

She and T.W. married in 1916 and later became the parents of a daughter, Mary Madeline.

Gathering cow chips was the responsibility of the Hart children. The chips were used for fuel both in winter and summer. Coal was used very sparingly because it had to be freighted from Canyon.

"When we could find a place where cattle had bedded down, we could find plenty of fuel," Percy remembers.

"We had beds all over the place and there wasn't a closet in the house—not even in the new five-room house that was built in 1908. There'd be a curtain strung across the counter and the whole family hung their clothes there. We had a nail on the wall to hang our coats with a lower nail for the little ones to reach."

Percy, as a young man, began "batching" and worked for a cattle buyer from Missouri, Mr. Piggott, who stayed in the Hart area for two years and lived with Percy during one of those years.

"He had four sections of pasture on the Red Barn Place. When the market was right and the cattle were right and everything was right, we'd go over and cut out a car load or maybe two. We'd ship them to Kansas City."

Percy vividly remembers Mr. Piggott sending him near Running Water to get two milk pen calves.

"I asked him why didn't he buy 40 or 50 head. I'd rather drive that many than two milk pen calves. I told him, 'I don't know if I can get them or not.' He said, 'Get 'em if you can.'"

"Well, I knew I was going to get them when I went down there and I knew how I was going to get them. I'd connect them together! Why, you couldn't drive two milk pen calves! One would go one way and another, the other."

Nina married Ray Jones. She died in 1945 and was the first person buried in Hart Cemetery.

Ruth married Fred Hamm, whose parents came to Castro County in 1905. She died on their 50th wedding anniversary, Dec. 22, 1973.

Percy served in World War I and has never known any other place as home since arriving in Castro County as a five year old. He was married in 1926 to Edna Livesay Horton. They have a son, Joe Percy Hart, who lives just a short distance from the "home place." Joe Percy and his wife, Sarah, have three sons, Vic, Marlin and Gary; and a daughter, LaDonna.

Did cowboys dance in the first courthouse?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained from *Castro County History, Vol. I*.)

By KATHLEEN LATHAM

The cowboys held dances on the second floor of the first Castro County Court House built in 1892.

"They probably did hold the dances there because that was the only place in town where they could have," Lon Woodburn said recently. "Cowboys would come from ranches all around and from a few of the ranches here in Dimmitt, but not from any further than Hereford. The XITs, they couldn't come that far over here."

The second floor of the ornate wooden court house had been built without partitions, perhaps with this community service in mind. The court house also served for church services, singings, picnics and reunions as well as business.

The court house was struck by lightning during a storm and burned to the ground in 1906.

"My father was county commissioner then, and I'm pretty sure they weren't having a dance the night lightning struck and the court house burned down," Woodburn said.

Despite calls to several Dimmitt and Castro County history aficionados as well as a few relatives of people who might have been at the dances and some people "in the know" in general, no more details were forthcoming about the dances that were held in the first county courthouse between 1892 and 1906.



Dimmitt Printing and Office Supply

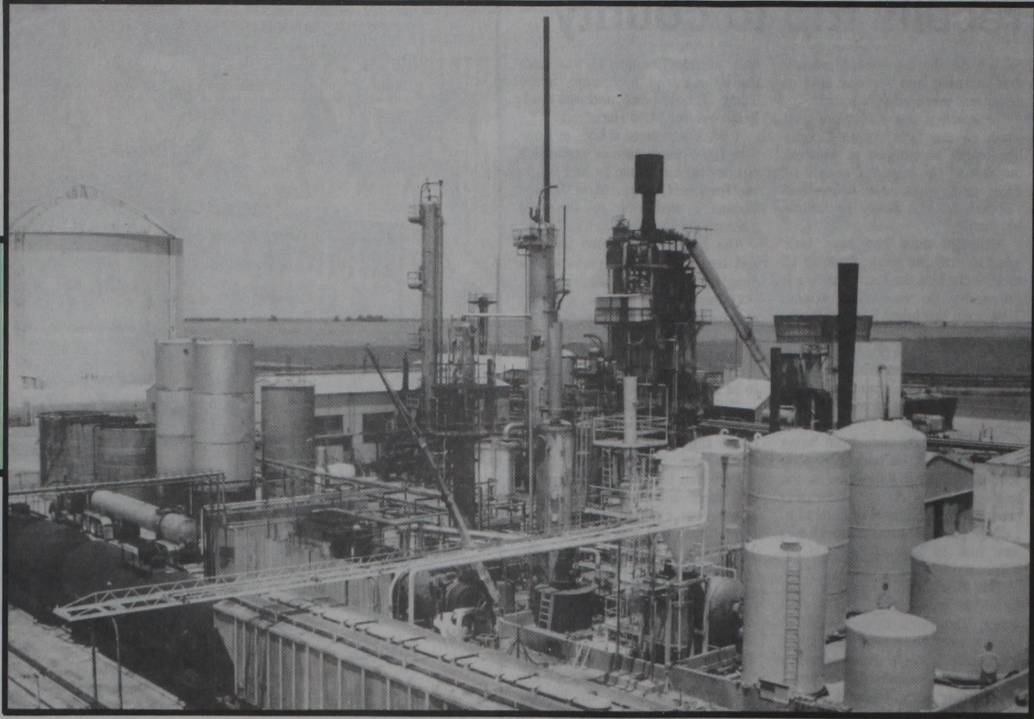


We began serving customers in Dimmitt in June of 1972, when Dimmitt Printing and Office Supply opened under the ownership of Roger Malone and was located at 118 S. Broadway. In January of 1976, the business was moved to its present location, 200 E. Bedford, and Mickey Bishop became a partner in the business in 1978. In 1982, the growing business established a branch office in Hereford, First Printing and Office Supply. The company became a Xerox affiliate in 1983.

Employees of the Dimmitt operation are Ann Widick, Ricky Fudge, Frank Ramos and Gloria Ortiz.

For the last several years we have printed voting ballots and many other important forms and items vital to the lives of the people of Castro County.

We're proud to be part of the history of this county.



Now, Castro County Celebrates 100 Great Years

and . . . It's Time To

Look To New Horizons

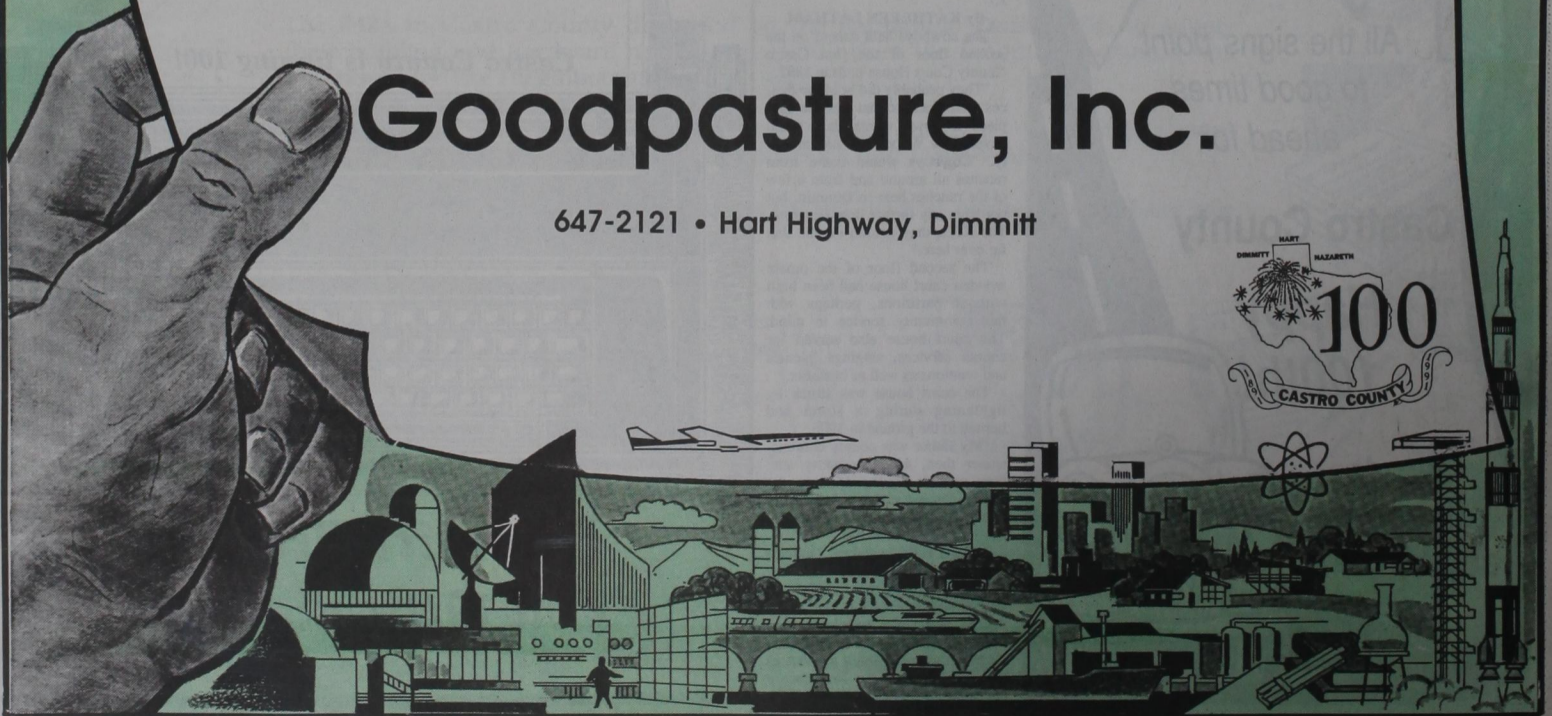
With anticipation and hope, let's move forward and upward, using the future as our stepping stone to greater accomplishments the next 100 years in Castro County.

There is no "impossible dream" when hard work, dedication and foresight exist. The people of Castro County can profit from past achievements and take on goals that can become a reality.

We're making progress every step of the way . . . let's look to new horizons with the prospect of brighter tomorrows; greater accomplishments and envisioned dreams fulfilled.

Goodpasture, Inc.

647-2121 • Hart Highway, Dimmitt





COLORFUL TRIBUTE—What was once the blank wall of a lumber storage shed along the 100 block of West Etter Street in Dimmitt has been transformed into a historical mural as a special Centennial project by the First State Bank of Dimmitt. Artist Bob McClellan of

Morton used old photos and paintings to create a "time line" gallery of portraits, with workmen in the foreground. Bank President Ray Bain said another mural will be painted on a companion building in right background. *Photo by Don Nelson*

Cover Picture

Models for the "pioneer family" on the cover page of this Centennial Edition are Harold Bob and Ruth Bennett and 5-year-old Gina Irons, all of Hart.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett both were born and raised in Castro County—he at Hart and she at Dimmitt—and both are now well-known professionals here. He is in the farming, cattle and feed businesses, and has served as the Amarillo District director of the Texas Dept. of Agriculture. Mrs. Bennett teaches fifth grade in Dimmitt Middle School.

Gina, who represents the coming century in the photo, is the daughter of Kent and Ginger Irons of Hart.

Photo is by Ginger Irons, owner of Ginger's Photography of Hart, using a 6x7mm Mamiya portrait camera. The scene is on the Preston Upshaw farm near the Running Water Draw southwest of Hart.

Happy
100th
Castro
County!



We've been providing you with parts and performing automotive and tractor repairs since 1960, and we look forward to serving you in the future.



**KERN
SUPPLY,
INC.**

Nazareth • 945-2211

Residents mail candy to soldiers overseas

Nov. 30, 1960

"I think we're going to have enough candy, and we've got plenty of money for mailing."

That was the good word Wednesday from Reta Welch of Bethel, chairman of the 1969 "Christmas Candy for GIs" program, after candy makers from 8 to 80 had helped assure that all of the county's servicemen will have plenty of sweet treats for Christmas.

Members of the Bethel, Flagg and Mulkey home demonstration clubs, plus several individual volunteers, started wrapping 450

pounds of homemade candy and canned peanuts into 90 five-pound packages to be mailed to 66 county servicemen throughout the world.

Since this is 10 fewer servicemen than last year, Mrs. Welch said, less candy and mailing money were needed for this year's project.

Of the 66 servicemen on the mailing list, more than half are stationed overseas. 28 of the men have San Francisco APO addresses, meaning they are stationed either in Vietnam or elsewhere in the Pacific or Orient.

The servicemen with San Fran-

cisco APO addresses will receive a double helping — two five-pound boxes apiece, to eat and share with their buddies.

The candy will be mailed Friday and will reach the servicemen at their far-flung posts well before Christmas.

To pay the postage, Castro Countians had contributed \$112 to the candy project fund at the First State Bank, "and several people have told me since then that they were going to donate money," Welch said.

"The VFW told us that what we

needed in money, they'd make up," she added.

Candy makers ranged from eight-year-old Blue Birds to one great-grandmother. The largest group contributions of candy were 40 pounds by the Dimmitt High School homemaking girls and 32 pounds by the girls in the junior high CVAE program.



Have a

GOODYEAR

and let's keep rolling along . . .
right into the next century, Castro County,
as we celebrate our first 100 years!

We've kept you rolling since 1975, supplying Goodyear tires and performing on-farm tire service, and we plan to continue serving you in the future.



PAXTON Tire & Service

603 SE 3rd & Hwy. 385, Dimmitt

Phone 647-4121



Castro County Centennial PERSONALITIES

1891
★
1991

Farmer, Rancher, Aviator

George Bagwell relives early days in county

By DANETTE BAKER

Shortly before his 17th birthday, George Bagwell saw Castro County for the first time.

Although he ventured to the area almost a century ago, the white-haired man recalled the 76-mile trip from Floyd County like it happened yesterday.

On April 26, 1917, Bagwell, his father and four neighbor boys "who wanted to come along for the experience," herded 250 head of Hereford cattle northwestward and began the 10-day trek to a section of ungrazed grassland 10 miles west of Dimmitt.

Even though mother nature has a tendency to keep Panhandle residents second guessing, Bagwell said they were lucky to have favorable weather the entire trip.

"Oh, it got cold enough to make a little ice in our water buckets at night," he said. "But we had good warm bedrolls."

But the cowpuncher had little time to think about the cold. Each night, Bagwell sacrificed four hours of sleep to ride night herd on the cattle.

"We'd take shifts, two men at a time — one riding counter-clockwise, the other clockwise — and just make a circle big enough to surround the herd," Bagwell said, talking the process through with his hands. "We had to ride night herd on 'em because some of the old cows wanted to turn around and go back."

Otherwise, the trip remained uneventful, he said.

"We only had momma cows and calves in the herd, no bulls," Bagwell said. "They (cows) don't have a tendency to stampede."

On May 6, just as the evening sun kissed the horizon, the group reached their destination.

"There was nothing but knee-high, green-tinged grasslands as far as you could see," Bagwell said. "The only other landmark was a prairie trail west from Dimmitt."

However, the next morning the situation looked a little differently. Overnight, a 5-inch blanket of snow covered the once-green grasses.

Lack of grazeland sent the Bagwells north. Because settlers had broken most of the land around Floyd County for farming, Bagwell's father bought the ungrazed land near Dimmitt to feed his stock.

George stayed in the county, with his older brother, Jim, until wheat harvest—mid-August—then returned to the homeplace. For the next two years, he traveled between the two farms in Floyd and Castro counties helping his father and Jim with the crops and cattle.

Four years later (1923), George permanently settled in Castro County.

"There wasn't enough land for

all of us (George and his two younger brothers) in Floyd County," he said. "I was the oldest at home, so I left."

In 1927, George rented a section of land and began his own farming operation.

But hardships plagued his endeavors.

"We had our share of blizzards and bad weather. But you didn't pay much attention to it, though. Even through the blizzards you still had to feed and water the livestock," he said.

However, the worst situations came in the '30s—during the Dust Bowl days.

"At three o'clock in the afternoon, it'd get so dark you couldn't see your hand before your face," he said with a hearty laugh.

"You don't know what a dust storm is," he said, comparing the storms of the 30s to the so-called sandstorms today.

In the Castro County history book, Bagwell recounted another such day during the Dust Bowl.

"The winds blew so much dirt into the house, we had to scoop it out with shovels," he said.

As the pioneers faced crop failures from the drought and blowing dirt, fate threw another twist into their lives: the Great Depression.

"But the drought hurt us a lot worse than the Depression, because we couldn't raise crops enough to feed our animals, so we had to feed of them," Bagwell said.

Frustrations of the past crept into his voice as he explained the situation.

"In the spring we'd get enough (rain) to plant a crop, it would start growing. Then another (rainfall) would follow it up and it would get up to about so high," he said, demonstrating with his hands.

After a short pause, he said: "Then, we'd watch it burn up."

Despite disappointments in the crops, George said the '30s hold special memories.

For entertainment, most social events revolved around church or community gatherings. In the summer of 1932, he met Ruby McClung at a Bethel social.

After a year of courtship, they married.

"On June 16, 1933," he said as he looked at Mrs. Bagwell with a newlywed twinkle in his eye.

He met his other "love" in the fall of 1930: a World War I vintage Swallow airplane. George rode the train to Wichita, Kan. and purchased the red and orange aircraft for \$995.

After five and one-half hours of instruction, he flew it home.

Years later, George made a memorable trip back to Wichita. A farmhand from Medford, Okla. wanted to go home for a class reunion, George said.

About an hour into the three and one-half hour trip, one side of the plane began to tip, so George made an emergency landing in a cow pasture.

"When I got out, I saw it was the shock-cord (a rubber rope that acts as a spring), so I tied up the side with a piece of old rope," he said. "We flew on to Medford, then the

next day on to Wichita (Kansas) for a part."

Problems developed on the return trip also, George recounted.

"The engine began missing and I thought I knew what it was," he said.

Because he had been teaching his hired hand how to fly, George turned the controls over to him and crawled out onto the wing.

"Sure enough, there was a spark plug just about ready to pop out of the hole," George said. "So I screwed it back in and it (engine) began hitting again."

As he inched back to the cockpit, George said the look on the boy's face was priceless.

"He had a grim look on his face—like he was too scared not to fly the thing. But I don't think anything could've pried the joystick out of his hands—they were turning white from the pressure," George said.

When George took over the controls, he said the boy turned to him and asked "Why'd you do that?"

"Oh, I didn't want to ruin that nice wheat field," George replied.

In retrospect, George said his farming required far more risks than any flight he took.

When he began, all the land was dry-farming. But later, he drilled irrigation wells.

Sometimes he questions that movement.

"I paid for the land while dry-farming and on irrigation it's about all I could do to keep it," he said.

Since World War II, farm prices have steadily declined, George said.



GRANDFATHER TIME—George Bagwell points to the detail work on one of the 16 grandfather clocks he has made. Bagwell also makes cradles, rocking horses and various other wood projects.

Photo by Danette Baker

"Right now, the prices of our products are below cost of production," he said. "For farmers nowadays, the government subsidies... are the only profits."

For example, the price of wheat falls about 60 cents lower than the cost of production, he said.

George said the county's continuous productive agriculture results from the farmers' flexibility.

"It's only when you change to crops like beets, that haven't been overproduced, that you keep a steady price and have a chance to make profits," he said.

Consequently, George said it's hard to encourage anyone to select farming as a vocation.

"Oh, with some backing, a young man could make a living, but he'd have a rougher go at it than I did," he said.

On the other hand, George said there's something to gain from farming. Along with some genetics help, he attributes his 91 healthy years to hard work — the fruits of working the land.

But for the last 19 years, George has traded his farming tools for woodworking ones.

Since his retirement from farming, in 1972, George has created wooden treasures from the trunks of discarded trees.

"Oh, I'll have someone call and

tell me they cut down a certain kind of tree, and ask if I want it," he said. "I hardly turn one down, most every kind of wood is useful."

With such lumber, George has built 16 grandfather clocks, seven baby cradles, seven rocking horses and numerous plates and bowls.

"I always wanted to try my hand at building a clock," George said. "The first few (clocks), I cut the wood from the trunks, but now I mostly order kits to build them. It's harder to find a good log long enough (to cut a clock)."

In addition, George used his woodworking skills to restore more than 45 horse-drawn plows.

"I began with an old Georgia stock that Dad brought from Indian territory to the Plains in 1906," he said.

Then through searching neighbors' junkpiles, George said he found more plows to restore.

"After I got started, different people would bring me the plows to rebuild," he said.

An incident in the early '20s inspired George to continue with his hobby. One day some young people were at his home and questioned the use of such awkward-looking instruments.

"So I decided to preserve a few of these old things to show them their heritage," George said.



THIS IS THE WAY WE PLOW THE FIELD—before the tractor inventions, says George Bagwell. He has restored 45 horse-drawn plows and keeps a

few of them at his home west of Dimmitt. Bagwell has donated several such plows to the Castro County Museum. Photo by Danette Baker

It's a banner year!

Join us in celebrating
Castro County's
100th Anniversary.

We think the people of
Castro County are among the finest
and we're proud to serve you.

Fast Stop
Food & Gas

419 N. Broadway, Dimmitt

647-3446

You've Come
A Long Way

Since the days when 12 miles an hour was flying.
Since baling wire was the only tool kit you needed.
Since the day of the shade tree mechanic.
If something is wrong with your transportation,
let our expert mechanics fix it.

Proud to serve Hart and Castro County

Hi-Way Garage, Inc.

Hwy. 145, Hart • 938-2169

Happy
100th
Birthday
Castro
County!

In 1969, we took over from Castro County Mutual,
changing the name to Germania Farm Mutual
Insurance, and we plan to continue the same
level of good service in the future.

Luke Acker, Agent
Mona Acker, President of Chapter 260

Germania Farm
Mutual Insurance

Nazareth • 945-2505

Ramey twins' exploits add color to county's history

By ANNE ACKER

Edwin Ramey winged a big Canada honker in 1913 and nursed it back to health, starting a hobby that eventually earned him the nickname of "Goose."

The late Goose Ramey lived with the philosophy that wild geese can be tamed by kind treatment, feeding and loving care, and his reputation with the birds earned him acclaim.

Goose and his twin brother, Edgar, who picked up the nickname Unk from his niece and nephew (and the name caught on in the town until everyone used it), were born on Jan. 14, 1890, in Alto.

When the twins were 14 years old, their family packed up and moved to the Panhandle. Goose traveled on a Santa Fe train to Hereford, then joined the rest of his family on a mule-drawn wagon to their new home, six miles east of Dimmitt.

The twins older brother, Bunyon, had come here in the fall of 1902 to buy land for a new family home. He and a younger brother, Alford, had built a house on the land in the summer of 1903, so that when the rest of the family got here they could move directly into their new home.

Bunyon paid \$2.75 per acre for Section 337, Block M-6, midway between Dimmitt and Nazareth.

In a feature interview with *Castro County News* editor Don Nelson in February 1984, Goose said the deed called for 640 acres, more or less.

The first-ever wheat crop in Castro County was planted by the Rameys in 1907 and it made 18 bushels per acre, which they sold for \$1 per bushel. They bought the first mechanical header ever operated in the county, a McCormick driven by six mules, in 1909. In 1919, they purchased the first combine that was ever shipped into Amarillo, a McCormick model drawn by an eight-mule team with an Armstrong motor to run the machinery.

In a feature interview with *News*

Publisher Don Nelson in February 1984, Goose talked about why the area wasn't settled very fast.

"This was big, wide, barren country when we came here and you couldn't hardly run fast enough to get hold of a dollar," said Goose. "That's the reason it wasn't settled any faster. Lots of people wanted to file on land here, but it cost \$20 to do it, and they didn't have the \$20. There wasn't 10 acres to the section plowed up when we came here. There weren't any wire fences."

He also told Nelson that "the younger generation runs out of money and goes to the bank to borrow more. That was a lost art in those days; we just didn't do that. The Dimmitt bank didn't start until March of 1907, and started with a \$12,000 capital. I've seen men carry that much in their hip pocket since."

The twins got most of their education at home, then spent a year of formal education at Clarendon College.

After school, Unk became involved in the farm machinery business in Dimmitt and Goose ran the farm.

Unk served as the second mayor of Dimmitt from 1929 to 1932 and was instrumental in setting up the first public water system here.

Goose became president of the school board, master of the Castro Masonic Lodge and a member of the board of directors of the Masonic Children's Home of Fort Worth.

Although Goose said having a twin was wonderful in some ways, it was embarrassing at times.

In a Jan. 5, 1965, interview with Fred Tripp of the *Amarillo Citizen*, Goose recalled at least one "embarrassing" incident when he was mistaken for his brother.

He said Unk was working at the store and people would mistake Unk for Goose. Goose was on the school board at that time and teachers would go into the store and tell Unk about their troubles, thinking he was Goose. Goose said Unk would listen until they (teachers)



GOOSE'S TALES—Edwin "Goose" Ramey eyes the picture of himself and reads the article about his life experiences. The magazine article, which was shown to a *News* reporter in the 1980s before Ramey died, featured many of Ramey's pet projects including bee keeping, his care of geese and his weather records.

File Photo

were finished, then say they probably ought to speak to his brother about it.

But there were times when the Rameys enjoyed being identical twins—like when they wanted to "exchange" dates.

James Austin Dollar once told a story about the Ramey brothers and their girlfriends, and said the twins would probably try to deny it.

"They looked so much alike and talked so much alike when they were young that sometimes they could switch dates and get away with it. And the girls wouldn't even realize it.

"The twins would keep each other clued in on the conversations they had carried on with this girl or that one, so they would know what to talk about.

But finally, one of them left something out—either forgot it or didn't want to clue his brother in on it—and the girl tripped the other one up. So that ended that. The word got around pretty fast among the girls, I think, about what the Ramey boys were pulling.

The Ramey twins' activities kept things interesting in the Panhandle for 73 years, while they were active in everything from weather reporting and forecasting, historical efforts, politics and after-dinner speaking to "goose-ology" and bee-keeping.

"The first wild geese I ever saw in this country was in 1913," Goose recalled. "We had a little patch of sorghum and they got to feeding on it. I hid in a sorghum shock and broke one's wing. I nursed him back to health and got him to mate with a tame goose and I raised some half-breeds."

After that, he learned all he

gallery of his farm house, Buddy would roost nearby.

"From Buddy's flights after Goose's cars, he made some observations on the speed of this bird. Buddy could cruise at 70 miles an hour and he could hit 90 miles per hour for short flights. Buddy could fly just as fast as the average Canada goose.

"One day, Buddy followed his master to Dimmitt. The mule goose was flying low over the pickup as Goose drove into town. This was during a season for hunting wild geese. A boy happened to be waiting in a lumberyard to go goose hunting with his father. The boy had a gun. He was new to the country and didn't know about Goose's pet goose. He shot Buddy out of the air. Goose nursed the mule goose for months, but Buddy finally died."

This is just one of the many colorful stories that have been told about Goose and his pet projects through the years.

Goose always had a weakness for bees, but never could buy any because they couldn't ship them. In 1938, he bought seven hives of bees from a man in Hereford.

Goose had been honored several times. During his lifetime he was awarded the US Weather Bureau's John C. Holm award for his observation and recording of local weather and he was named the Castro County Citizen of the Year in 1970.

In the Oct. 7, 1976, bicentennial issue of *The Hart Beat*, Goose said his family came to Castro County in an immigrant car from Madril, Okla. The cost he believes was \$67 and the trip from Madril to Hereford and on down into Castro County took seven days.

"Nowadays you can make the trip in seven hours. . . . Nearly everyone who came any distance came in immigrant cars. When you got to Hereford, all the neighbors came in wagons and teams to help haul you out," "Goose" reminisced. "There weren't any hogs or chickens in the country when we came. We brought a little coop of chickens, a young gilt, two horses and two mules. Twenty-five or 50

Ode to Goose Ramey on his 90th Birthday

By VICKY FISHER

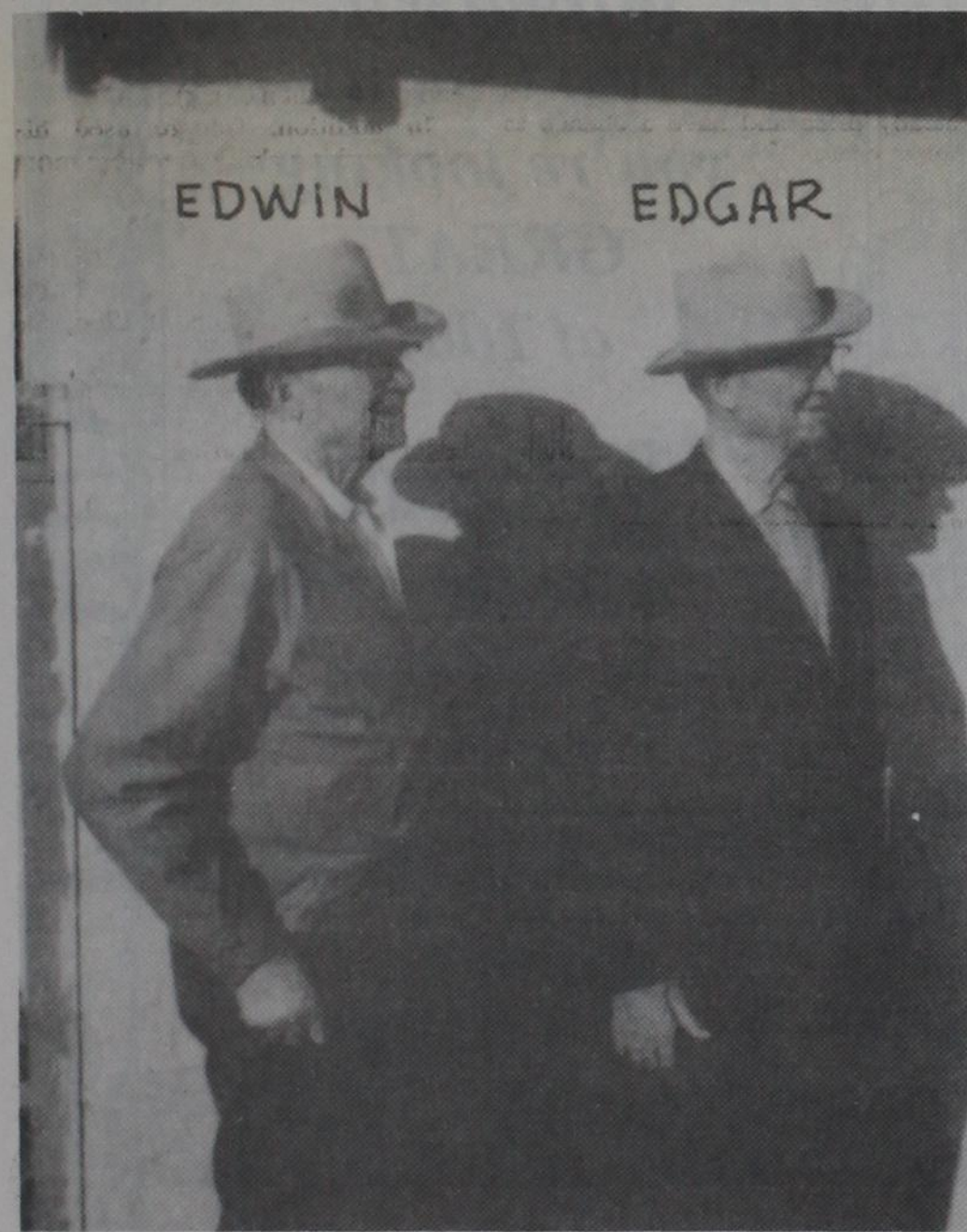
Here's to the "Goose" of the grandest style,
Who warms our hearts with his wit and smile.
His example in life and zest for living
Leads us to be more loving and giving!
His wealth of knowledge and expertise
Spans currency, bees, weather and geese.
On football, Coach Landry could even take notes!
He even keeps abreast of what is new
While sharing the past with me and with you!
What a privilege, Goose, to share this fun.
And we're all looking forward to number 91!

acres was a big farm in those days. There was no market for nothing you raised! You just raised what you needed to feed your stock," Goose said.

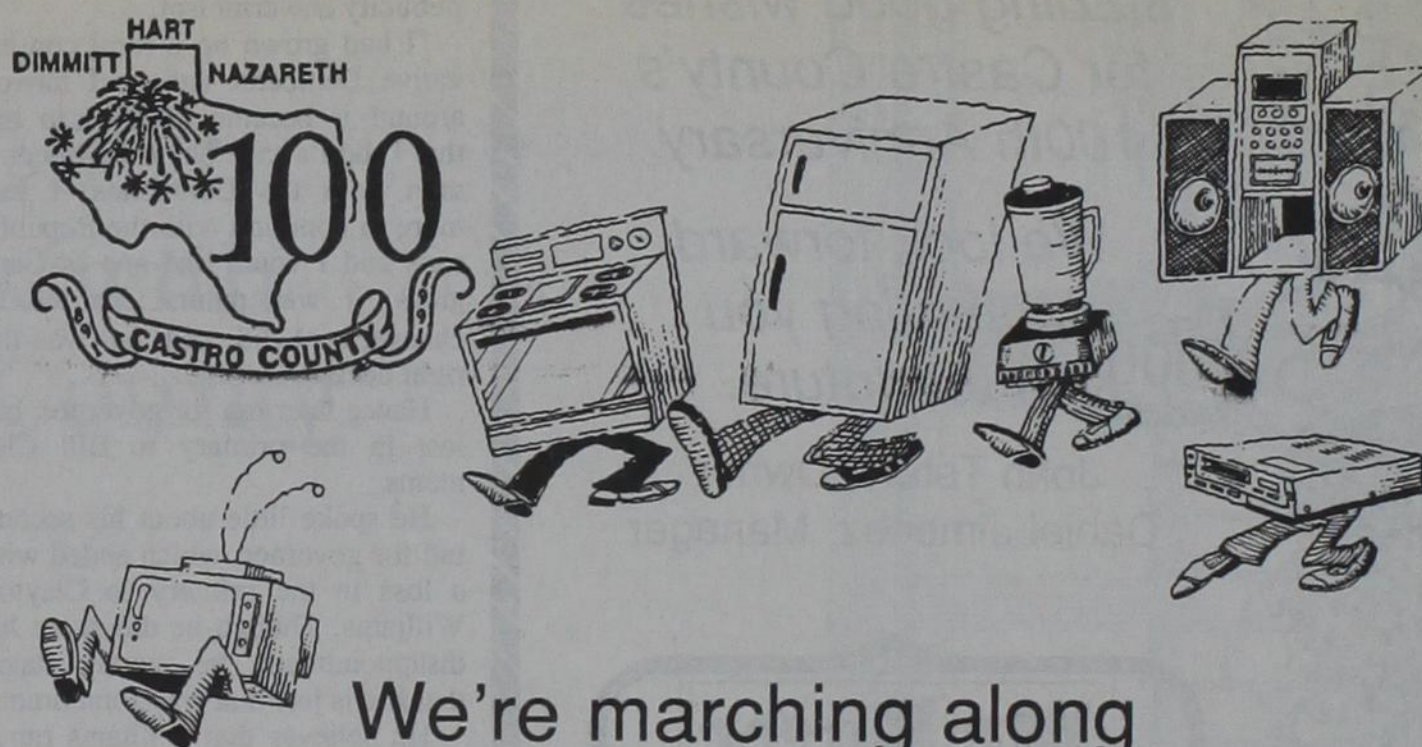
He talked about cooking in the early days, saying it was done on a coal range until butane arrived in the late 1940s. He would talk about how his mother never had the opportunity to live in a house with running water, saying she had to pack water back and forth from the windmill to the house and the "outdoor John" because there was no bath tub.

Goose ran the farm after he married Lena Tate in 1917, and they had two children—Decimae and Robert Jordan. Lena died on June 4, 1973 and "Goose" died in August 1985.

Unk married the former Edith Buchanan of Hereford and he retired from the farm implement business in 1944. He died June 13, 1977.



THE RAMEY TWINS
Edwin "Goose" and Edgar "Unk"



We're marching along to wish Castro County a **Happy 100th Birthday** and we invite all our friends and customers to jump right in and join the celebration!



Kittrell Electronics

103 E. Bedford, Dimmitt

647-2197

Just calling to say . . .

Happy 100th Dimmitt and Castro County



Helping you to communicate since 1980, we plan to continue serving you in the future.

Jim Waggoner, Owner

W&W Communications

110 SW 2nd, Dimmitt • 647-3215



From Dimmitt to the State Capitol

Kent Hance was two-time gubernatorial candidate

By ANNE ACKER



KENT HANCE

When Dimmitt people talk about "hometown boys making good," one name that crosses a lot of people's minds is that of Kent Hance, former chairman of the state railroad commission, congressman and state senator, and two-time gubernatorial candidate.

Early in his political career, a Democratic Hance held a seat in the Texas Senate, then served in Congress for six years, then ran for a seat in the Senate, but was defeated. After that he switched to the Republican party and later ran for governor, but lost in the primary to Bill Clements. He made a second stab at the governorship of Texas, but lost in the primary to Clayton Williams.

Hance was born in 1942, in Dimmitt, and participated in the usual activities of a Texas farm boy while growing up.

"I loved growing up in Dimmitt. It was a thrill for me," Hance said.

He recalled a statement US Sen. Phil Gramm made to him several years ago in which he (Gramm) credited Hance for having the "best people skills of anyone" he knew, but Hance is quick to give the credit to the people in Dimmitt.

"I think that says something about where I grew up. People from smaller towns are friendlier because they have to get along with everybody. You see the same people on a day-to-day basis and you have to deal with them all of the time, so you have to be able to get along with them."

While growing up in Castro County, Hance lived out on a farm until he was 14 or 15, then his family moved into town.

"I drove tractors during the summer and I always had pigs and sheep that I showed in 4-H and the Future Farmers of America," said Hance.

He not only helped his parents on the farm, but also kept busy with

other jobs such as paperboy, working at a grocery store and as a service station attendant at the age of 16.

Teachers had quite an influence on him, starting with his mother, who taught him how to read before he began school.

"I had good teachers who were real dedicated and worked with me," he said.

One of those good teachers was his high school basketball coach, who always encouraged him to do more than he ever thought he could, better than anyone thought he could.

"I remember I was giving my civics teacher some trouble and she said, 'You know, you're either going to be a great public official or president of Hell's Angels.' I got a big chuckle out of that," he said.

Hance forewent the Hell's Angels route and explored an interest in politics that began before junior high school.

"We had a television we had just gotten and I watched the 1952 presidential campaign—I thought it was very exciting."

In high school, the student body elected him president and that

fueled his interest in politics.

After graduating from high school in 1961, Hance attended Texas Tech University where he assumed leadership roles as a member of the student council and student body vice president. He then enrolled in law school at the University of Texas at Austin, which gave him the opportunity to work in the state legislature, peaking his political interests.

After graduating from law school, he moved to Lubbock where he taught business law at Texas Tech University, and also practiced law. Gov. Preston Smith named Hance to the board of regents of West Texas State University in 1972, making him one of the youngest men in Texas to serve in such a capacity. In 1973, he was named Outstanding Professor at Texas Tech.

His political career began in 1974, when he ran for and won the race for state senator against a 16-year incumbent.

During his first term in the senate, Lt. Governor Bill Hobby placed Hance on two of the most powerful committees, finance and state affairs.

In 1978, he entered the 19th Congressional District race, winning the general primary against George W. Bush Jr. During his first week in Washington, he was named chairman of the Freshman Caucus and later was named Best Freshman Congressman by *Texas Business Magazine*.

One of the things Hance says he really feels good about is his part in the passage of President Reagan's tax bill in 1981, which provided the largest tax cut in the nation's history. He authored the bill which was passed.

While a member of the US Congress, Hance served on the Ways and Means Committee, the Agriculture Committee and the Science and Technology Committee.

Leaving Congress after six years of service, he ran for a seat in the Senate. He lost this race on the Democratic ticket, and not long after he switched to the Republican party, a move that received much publicity and criticism.

"I had grown up a rural conservative Democrat and as I moved around it became obvious to me that I didn't have anything in common with the Democrats. I had more in common with the Republicans and I voted like one in Congress. It was natural for me to change, so I did, and that was the right decision for me."

Hance later ran for governor, but lost in the primary to Bill Clements.

He spoke little about his second bid for governor, which ended with a loss in the primary to Clayton Williams. Though he did share his disappointment, he merely stated that life is just that way sometimes.

He believes that Williams ran a good media campaign and that it was virtually impossible to compete against 10 million dollars.

"If someone's got 10 million and you've got 3.5 million, in this day and time with television being the dominant factor in deciding elec-

tions, you can't overcome that. It made it impossible.

"I've always enjoyed campaigns. I like people. It's a challenge to get legislation passed. I really enjoy putting legislation together."

On Aug. 24, 1987, Gov. Bill Clements appointed Hance to the Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates the oil and gas and transportation industries in Texas. In November 1988 he won the election to become the first Republican ever to serve on the commission. He was elected chairman of the commission in January 1989.

As a member of the railroad commission, Hance was involved in the Middle East crisis by attending OPEC meetings and keeping the departments of state and energy briefed on what is happening. Hance was the first American to attend an OPEC meeting and since the first one, he has attended several times.

When his term on the railroad commission expired in December 1990, Hance went back to practicing law in Austin, but as far as leaving public service for good, former Texas Governor Bill Clements told Hance to never say never.

"I don't know what I'll be doing in say 10 years of so. I'll keep my options open. I enjoy public service. I felt like I understood how it worked, how to get things done, and I enjoyed it."

But there was a down side to politics for Hance—he had very little time for himself and his family.

"Things are going real well for me right now. When I was in politics, I didn't have any time to do what I wanted. This year we went to the Final Four and I also went to a Desert Storm Parade here in Austin—as a spectator for the first time in many years. When I was serving in public office, I was always riding in parades and when you are riding in one, you don't get to see everything that's going on—you just get to see people as you pass by. It's a lot more fun to watch one."

"When you're in Congress, every waking minute of the day is taken and you just have to try and set aside time to do what you want to do. Now I've got weekends to relax and enjoy life and it's great. The general public really has no conception of the sacrifices people in public office make. It's a big commitment," Hance said.

Hance was appointed to the Governor's Energy Council by Gov. Clements in September 1988 and in 1990, Gov. Clements appointed him to the "Governor's Oil Spill Advisory Committee." Hance also served on the "Texas High Speed Rail Commission." He presently serves on the Interstate Oil Impact Commission and the Texas Mining Council.

He served as a member of Wayland Baptist University's board of

trustees from 1982 to 1990 and served the state and his community as one of the original incorporators and founders of Texas Boys' Ranch in Lubbock.

On the personal side, Hance enjoys playing dominoes (something he picked up while growing up in Dimmitt), walking to stay fit, and attending football and basketball games—past times that traditional Texans have participated in for years. He especially loves South-west Conference football.

"I yell for the Texas Tech Red Raiders 11 games out of the year and I yell for UT 10. I've got more loyalties at Tech (among them a daughter who is a Texas Tech law student)."

Today, Hance is a practicing attorney in a partnership with a professional corporation with offi-

ces in Washington, D.C. and Austin — Hance and Gamble. The corporations deals in international law and handles a lot of federal and state agency-type work.

"I just finished negotiating a contract for one of our clients and the Kuwait government for work in rehabilitation."

Hance is married to the former Carol Hays of Dimmitt and the couple have two children, Ron and Susan.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this feature on former Dimmitt resident Kent Hance was obtained through an interview with Hance and from his biographical sketch. Additional information was obtained from a freelance article submitted to the News by Adrienne Jones

Sending a VARIETY of good wishes for Dimmitt and Castro County on heir 100th Birthday!

PERRYS

Tom Gray, Manager
112 S. Broadway, Dimmitt
647-5292

Take a look at yourself, Castro County—you're looking GREAT at 100!

Kasual Kuts

Elsa Garcia, Owner
110 N. Broadway, Dimmitt
647-2104

We're serving up sizzling good wishes for Castro County's 100th Anniversary.

We look forward to serving you in the future.

John Teters, Owner
Daniel Jimenez, Manager

Mr. Burger

302 S. Broadway, Dimmitt
647-3688

Jones Electric

Hart • 938-2477

Cecil Ray Jones has served you for 35 years.

Happy Birthday Castro County

We're proud to serve you!

Louise Jones has operated Kosy Korner for 10 years

Kosy Korner Gifts

Hart • 938-2300

Let's PRODUCE a great Centennial celebration to honor our favorite county!

★ HART DAYS — AUG. 5-10 ★

H&S Produce

Hart • 938-2121

HATS OFF

to all our friends
and customers
in Castro County.

Congratulations on your
100th Anniversary and best wishes
as you start the next century.

Serving you since 1952,
we're proud to work with
the people of Castro County.



**Castro
Co-op Gin, Inc.**

Dimmitt

647-3355



George Abbott gained fame with 11 fiancees

By ANNE ACKER

As Ripley said, you can believe it or not, but George Abbott, a former foreman for the old XIT Ranch in Castro County, had two wedding rings made for Mabel Shive and himself from engagement rings returned to him by 11 former fiancees.

Was Abbott just unlucky in love?

Nobody really knows for sure, but he was known as a person "who loved fun and the ladies, and wherever he might be, there seemed to be plenty of both," according to a memorial tribute to him, published in 1981 *Castro County History, Vol. 1*.

The story was submitted by one of Abbott's four surviving granddaughters, Bobby Graham Henson, who lives at Happy today. In the story, Henson describes her grandfather as being "a magnificent specimen of manhood, standing six-foot, three inches in height and weighing more than 200 pounds." She says he was "quite a tease" and "quite a character." Abbott's three other surviving granddaughters are Mable Anne Graham Packer of California, Bettie Jean Graham Osborne of Dallas and Billie Graham Chaplowe of Stratford, Conn. He is also survived by 10 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

The story Henson wrote for *Castro County History, Vol. 1*, tells of Abbott's fondness for the ladies, illustrated by the true story of the 11 engagement rings which were returned to him from his various girlfriends when he became engaged to Shive. Seven of the returned rings were used to make two gold bands which served as his and Shive's wedding rings.

Shive was the woman who caught Abbott's roving eye and held it. In 1903, in her parents' home, she and Abbott were married.

Six years later their first child, Nettie Mae, (Henson's mother) was born; and then 20 months later they celebrated the birth of a son, GT. Their happiness as a family was shortlived; however, as Mable caught pneumonia and teamed with complications from another pregnancy, it claimed her life.

Abbott said the death of his wife was "the hardest blow that he could have had."

And the man had been through some hard times, having run away from home early in his youth and encountered many obstacles while trying to "seek his fortune."

Abbott was born in Walla Walla,

S.C. on Aug. 31, 1871. Later, his family moved to a place near Granbury, but it wasn't long before Abbott felt the call of the west and headed out to "seek his fortune."

According to information in the county history book, Abbott's first job was that of following a sod plow on the old Spur Ranch at a salary of \$10 per month. Abbott felt like the pay was fine, but the sod plow was a little too much for a boy who had run away from home to be a cowboy, not a farmer, so he headed west again. When he arrived in Plainview, he heard about a job at the XIT Ranch.

Abbott tried his hand at every kind of work on the ranch, but mainly concentrated on being a "windmill" until he quit in 1896. He had filed a claim to four sections of land four miles east of the present community of Sunnyside and when he quit the XIT in 1896, he built a small house on this section—the same stretch of land he had promised himself he would own the day he traveled from Plainview to the XIT in search of his fortune. (The land was sold in 1982, according to Henson, and today the sections of land today are owned by Harold Smith and W.G. Sanders, both of Hart.)

A Presbyterian Settlement called Shive, settled by Mable's parents, was established and it wasn't long before Abbott noticed Mable, the eldest Shive daughter.

In the county history book's memorial to Abbott, it tells how Abbott taught Mable to dance under the pretext of learning to play "ring games," because the Presbyterians frowned on dancing. The feature also says Mable made a "church-goer" out of Abbott and recounts the story of how Abbott almost broke up a church meeting one night.

According to the story, the preacher asked everyone for a favorite Bible verse and each repeated his choice. When George's turn came, he said, "Love thy neighbor as thyself," then, in a stage whisper meant for Mable's ears alone, he said, "specially his oldest daughter." The problem was, his voice was clearly audible to the farthest bench in the church.

Henson said her grandfather was "quite a character" and told a story she remembers hearing about his antics. When he would attend a community or church social function, he and some friends would get the "credit or blame, depending on who you talk to," for "swapping the blankets wrapped around babies and the parents would go home

with the wrong babies."

But after he married Mable, he settled down. After their wedding, Abbott and Mable worked together on the farm during the six years before their daughter was born.

This excerpt from *Castro County History, Vol. 1* tells how Abbott was injured one day while working with Mable on the farm.

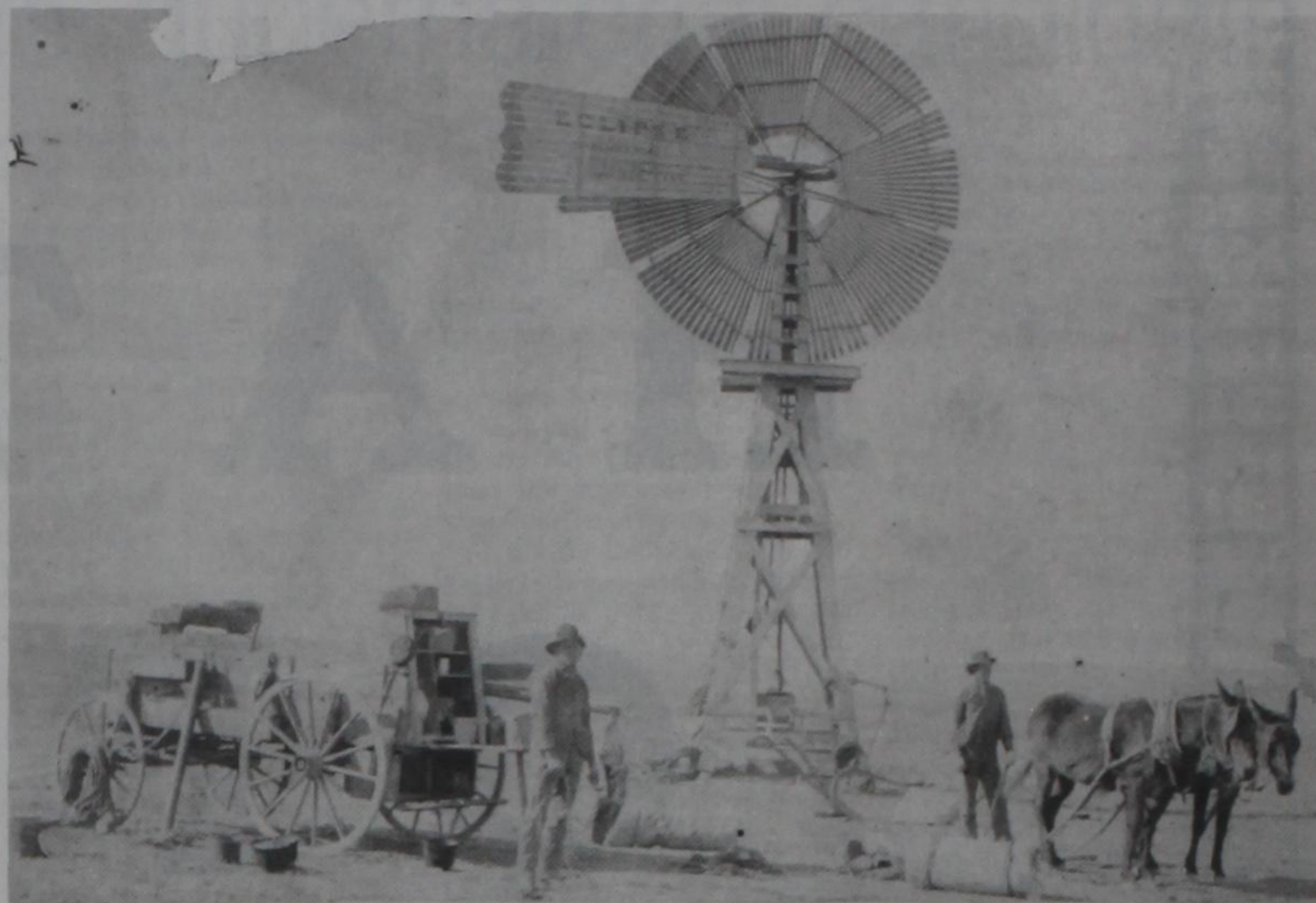
"In order to take Mable with him, George made the buggy do the work of a saddle horse. One day it was necessary to rope a cow, and as he had done many times, he threw the lariat from the buggy. He caught the cow, but in throwing her to the ground, George injured himself severely. There followed a long period when the strong man hovered between life and death . . . Ligaments in his back had been torn loose, causing the formation of fluid in his pleural cavity. Although four doctors attended him at one time, there seemed nothing could be done. From something over 200 pounds, his weight fell to 73 pounds and everyone gave up hope when suddenly the fluid began to drain. After 11 hours of unconsciousness, he opened his eyes, blind from weakness, and asked why they hadn't lighted the lamps."

The births of their children and Mable's death followed. After that many couples were hired with the idea "that the man would work on the ranch while his wife cooked and cared for the children," but the idea didn't work out very often.

Abbott eventually packed up and moved his family to Weatherford to be near his sister, Kate Shaw, and his father. The family wasn't happy there, and soon moved back to the Panhandle, where Abbott built a house and helped organize the Abbott School for his children to attend.

Sadness again befell the family when GT was diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1924. After three years, he died at the age of 16. After that, Abbott's relationship with Nettie Mae, which had always been close, became his whole life. She later enrolled in Wayland College to finish high school and attend college, and Henson wrote that it became accepted procedure for the two to double date.

Abbott had grown up with a girl named Stella Milburn, daughter of Albert and Hattie Milburn who lived in Parker County near Weatherford. She was several years younger than he. They went their separate ways, but met again when he returned to Weatherford once.



WORK ON AN EARLY-DAY WINDMILL OUTFIT . . . By George Abbott (left) and George Anderson in 1893

The couple were married in Weatherford on April 12, 1929, and moved back to Castro County.

When he died in 1954, Stella moved back to Weatherford where she lived until her death in 1960.

Nettie Mae married Walter Graham, whom she had met at Wayland, on June 4, 1929, and they moved to his ranch just across the northeast Castro County line in Randall County. Henson was the first of their children to be born.

Henson said her grandfather was always aware of the trouble in the lives of those around him and had a special relationship with people in the German community of Nazareth.

In her memorial tribute to Abbott, she wrote:

"Among his most devoted friends were his German born neighbors at Nazareth. He liked them and understood them, and when they had troubles, they felt free to discuss them with him. If they had litigation in the courts, they were glad to have him on the Grand Jury since he was able to mediate for them, and the case was seldom brought to trial. During World War I, when disloyalty was seen by some in everyone who had a German sounding name, he suffered with them, and shielded them when he could, knowing there were no more loyal Americans in the country."

He helped out many of his neighbors. When the Sunnyside Baptist Church was built in 1925, he was a member of the building committee, even though he'd only been a member for a few months. He was a member of the school board, also.

Abbott suffered a cerebral hemorrhage in 1946 and never recovered, although he lived until Nov. 1, 1954.



George and Stella Abbott

**It's been a
"HOLE"
Century!**

We've been satisfying
your "sweet tooth"
since 1982, and
we're still rolling 'em
out just for you.

The Sweet Shop
103 NW 4th, Dimmitt • 647-4253



THE ABBOTT FAMILY—Members of the George Abbott family include (front row, from left) George and his daughter, Nettie Mae and her husband, Walter Graham; and (back row, from left) the Graham's oldest daughter Bobby and her husband, Nolan Henson.

Get in the
SWING of THINGS
for Castro County's
100th Anniversary!

We're glad to serve you
and appreciate your business.

Denny Heiman, Owner
Ramona Schulte, Rex Minshew, Lydia Schacher,
Elaine Kern, Elias Bermea

The 19th Hole
BEER & WINE
and
The 19th Hole Cafe
Nazareth • 945-2606

Wife accepts husband's role as county judge

By ANNE ACKER

As Mrs. M.L. Simpson Jr., serves out her third term in office as county judge, she jokingly says that her late husband is looking down on her and that he's laughing at what she's doing.

That's because he held the office she now holds, until he died in 1981. Since that time, Mrs. Simpson, known to her friends as Polly, has served as county judge.

"I always tell everyone that M.L. is looking down on me from Heaven and he's saying, 'Oh, look at what she's having to do now,' and he's laughing about it. But I don't think that's very funny," Simpson said, although she chuckles at the thought, anyway.

Mrs. Simpson said she really loves being the county judge, although when she took over for her husband, she knew little about what the judge did.

"I really love this job. It's all a real big challenge for me. I like having court, but I think the biggest challenge I've got is juvenile court, where I'm dealing with young people."

Mrs. Simpson sadly relates the story of the first juvenile case she heard, and she says that it's one of the things that has stood out in her memories of her job through the last decade.

"My very first juvenile case was a little boy—he looked like he was about six years old. I wasn't sure he was even old enough to be in the courtroom, but he was. I was really worried about that. After hearing the case, I recessed court for a minute and went back to the office before I made my decision. I walked in, closed the door and started to cry. I called the attorneys in and said, 'I can't do this. I'll just have to take him home with me tonight.' They told me he might do away with me if I did that."

She stops and thinks about that for a while, then says, "But he was so young. It's really hard dealing with kids. The younger they are, the harder it is. I always try to help them, put them on probation and talk to their parents. It's really sad to see them come through court."

"I've really enjoyed being judge, but I probably never would have been if it wouldn't have been for M.L."



THE SIMPSON JUDGES
... Polly and M.L. Simpson Jr.

Mrs. Simpson was the oldest child of Jack and Aileen Smitherman and she moved to Castro County in 1937 with her family. They settled near the Hart area and she attended school in Sunnyside.

She married Charley Sanders in 1948 and they had four children before he died in 1959.

She met M.L. Simpson Jr. while attending a Parents Without Partners meeting and the two started dating and eventually married.

M.L. was born in the Jumbo Community and he went to school there. His parents were longtime pioneers of Castro County and they had been dairy farmers. He graduated from high school in Dimmitt. He had four children from a previous marriage (his first wife died) and Polly had four, and although the couple had great experiences with their "joint venture," they agreed that "eight is enough."

Mrs. Simpson related the story of her first date with M.L., adding that she didn't know who he was the first time he called her.

"My boys and I had a paper route at Hart and we got up early every morning to deliver the papers. One morning after we returned home the phone rang—it was about 5:30

in the morning, I guess. This fella said, 'This is Simpson in Dimmitt.'

"I didn't know who he was, so I asked him, 'Who?' and he just said, 'Simpson in Dimmitt.' Finally, I figured out who he was and that I had met him at the Parents Without Partners meeting.

"He asked if he could come and take me to lunch and I said it would be okay. Then I called my sister, who had insisted I attend that meeting, and said, 'I can't believe he's coming here.' I really was a nervous wreck and I was beginning to wish I would have told him no. I told her (sister) I could barely remember him.

"Well, we went out and from then on we started dating, although most of our dates included our kids. We all went to Ruidoso one weekend, and we just had a good time and a good life together," Mrs. Simpson said.

When the couple announced they were getting married, Mrs. Simpson said her father had reservations.

"He (her father) thought I was crazy for getting married. He told me I'd lost my mind and that I'd never be able to raise eight kids. But they all turned out really well and they all graduated from high school here."

The Simpsons moved Polly's house from Hart to M.L.'s farm north of Dimmitt, adding a basement so they would have enough room for everyone.

He was a dairy farmer and the boys worked in the barn with him while the girls and Polly took care of the house.

"I think it was easier to raise kids in the country than it was in town," Simpson remarked.

In 1979, a group of people approached M.L. about running for county judge. They were unhappy about the way things were going and they wanted someone new in the judge's office.

"We discussed it and talked to different people about it and final-

ly, M.L. decided he would run," Mrs. Simpson said.

He'd (M.L.) already missed out on the primary election, so he had to run as a write-in candidate in the general election. This was in June or July—I can't remember exactly. I really didn't encourage him to run because I thought it would be very hard to enter as a write-in, but he wanted to do it, so I supported him.

"He started campaigning and I guess he went to probably every house in Castro County. He came back feeling encouraged and said he felt like he could win.

"The election came and when it was over, he'd won by 12 votes. After that he retired from the dairy farm before he took office in January."

Mrs. Simpson recalled the day he was sworn in as county judge with a shiver, saying "Snow was on the ground and it was a very bad day, but we were so excited. Every child we had was here and every grandchild, too. We had a big crowd. There were probably 40 family members here."

She said M.L. had a "really good time" being judge and he was active in everything he could become involved in.

"He was on the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission Board and every time there was a meeting (like the West Texas Judges Conference, etc.) he always seemed to be on a committee."

The couple enjoyed life while he was judge, but then bad news rocked the family.

M.L. started feeling ill in October 1981 and he went to a doctor in Amarillo to find out what was wrong. After undergoing diagnostic tests, the doctor told Simpson he had spots on his lungs and would need to return for more tests.

"All week long we prayed that everything would be alright," Mrs. Simpson said, with a catch in her voice. "We went to the doctor and they ran more tests, then discovered that he had cancer. We put him in the hospital and he had one chemotherapy treatment, but he couldn't handle it, and he never took another one. He came home, but his health was dropping fast. We put him back in the hospital, but he didn't get any better."

"We brought him home for Christmas and he lived until Dec. 24. When every one of the children got to the house, he passed away," she sadly remembered.

After that, people approached Mrs. Simpson about stepping into her husband's shoes as county judge.

"Heavens, I didn't know what to do. I was grief stricken and really, I didn't know what I was doing. I talked about it with Joe Bob (Sanders, her oldest son) and finally I decided I would try it. There were probably 20 people applying for the job, and they took applications for the appointment.

The commissioners called me in to their meeting after they interviewed each of the applicants and they said they'd decided to give me

the job. But one commissioner said, 'I didn't vote for you Polly, but I'll support you 100%.' That was Jimmy Howell, and he turned out to be one of my best supporters and he still is.

In January, right after she took office, Mrs. Simpson had to announce for election. After that, she started campaigning, but she remembers that it wasn't easy.

"I went to Hart one day and when I got to the first house, I went to the door and the lady there said, 'Oh Polly, I'm so very sorry about M.L.' I started crying, but I tried not to let her see me. When I got to the car, I just burst into tears and I came home. I told Joe Bob that if that's what I had to do, I'd never win."

"That year I had five Democrats and one Republican running against me and everyone said I couldn't win the primary without a run-off, but when the votes were all counted, I'd won. I faced a Republican on the ticket in November and I beat him, too. I didn't have an opponent last time.

"Everybody asks me if I'll run again, and if my health is good, I probably will. I want Castro County to grow and be financially sound when I leave office."

She said the formation of senior citizens centers in Hart and Na-

zareth while she was in office is one of the things she is proudest of.

She said one of the most exciting things she's taken part in since she's been in office has been the plans for the Centennial celebration.

"I'm really sad that M.L. isn't here because he would have loved all of this. He would have been taking pictures of everything. And he would have been so excited about the gazebo," she said. (During his lifetime, M.L. was known for his photography, especially wedding photography. He would also take pictures of the band throughout the year and then at the band banquet, he'd present a slide show of their achievements throughout the year and he's had music along with it.)

During her years as county judge, Mrs. Simpson has been elected president of the Panhandle Judges and Commissioners, and she said she feels like that was a real honor. She also has been elected a director of the West Texas Judges and ads that if she stays in office for four or five more years, she'll get to be president of the group.

"I've got lots of special memories and I've made so many friends. I'm a people lover and I feel really loved here."



City Council

SEATED, FROM LEFT: Councilman Wayne Proffitt, Mayor Wayne Collins, Councilman Lloyd White. *STANDING, FROM LEFT:* Councilmen Roger Malone, Don Sheffy, Robert Jones, Richard Stahl, Larry Gonzales.

It's Dimmitt's 100th Anniversary, Too

Dimmitt and Castro County have been partners together for a century.

When it became known that Castro County would seek to organize, the Bedford Town & Land Co. bought a section of land in the center of the county and mapped out streets and lots for a proposed county seat. They named it "Dimmitt" after one of the partners in the company, Rev. W. C. Dimmitt.

The first building in the newly plotted townsite was a hotel built by the Bedford Town & Land Co. southeast of the square, where the City Hall stands today.

The first postmaster was appointed in January, 1891.

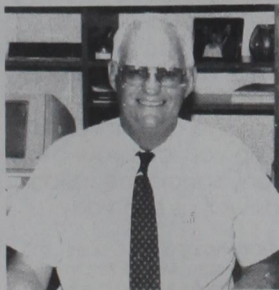
After a squabble between backers of the new Dimmitt townsite and a proposed new townsite called Castro City, Dimmitt was designated as the county seat by petitioners in 1891.

Since then, the City of Dimmitt and Castro County have been engaged in a partnership that has seen dynamic progress.

Throughout its first century, Dimmitt has earned a reputation as a progressive community. And our city has been fortunate enough to have civic leaders and elected officials with the vision and know-how to make our dreams of progress come true. For many years, Dimmitt was the fastest-growing city in the Texas Panhandle, in percentage of population growth.

In many ways, Dimmitt is a model city. Look at the municipal airport, the hospital, the schools, the industries, municipal services, bond rating, civic involvement by our residents, and compare these with other cities our size.

After 98 years as a General Law City, Dimmitt became a Home Rule City two years ago with the adoption of our City Charter. We believe this charter will provide the vehicle for another century of growth and progress.



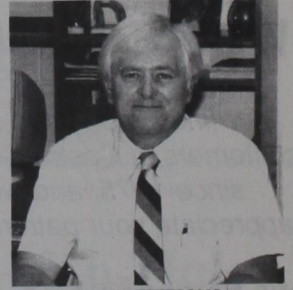
REEFORD BURROUS
City Manager



JAMES KILLOUGH
Director of Public Works



JO HAMILTON
Director of Administration



GARY THURMAN
Chief of Police



100 The City of Dimmitt



Castro County Centennial SCHOOLS

1891
★
1991



EARLY-DAY DIMMITT STUDENT BODY
... In front of red brick school, located where city park is today

Bayne starts schooling before county organized

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the History of the First Seventy-Five Years of Castro County, Texas and the Castro County History, Vol. 1.)

The history of Dimmitt schools is closely tied to the history of Castro County. Four years before the Dimmitt School District was organized in 1892, students were already learning their ABCs from Miss Lizzie Bayne.

Miss Bayne began teaching the three J. W. Carter children in their home in 1888. With more families settling near the present location of Dimmitt, she started a "subscription" school in the fall of 1891—probably for the Tate, Beach, Dyer and Turner children.

Miss Lou Belsher became the first teacher in the newly organized Dimmitt School District in 1892. That first fall, school was held in one of the two stores in Dimmitt at that time while a white frame school house was being built between Third and Fourth Streets on Belsher Street, named for Miss Belsher's father.

County records indicate that L. Gough received the first check written on Dimmitt School District, or any school district in the county.

The first eight grades were taught to the 36 students enrolled in the Dimmitt school in 1896.

The white frame school house was used until the red brick building was constructed in 1910. That year the tenth grade was added. Four students were graduated at the first graduation exercises in May, 1910. Dimmitt school offered 11

grades for the first time in 1911.

Students attended the little red brick school, located at the site of the present city park, from 1909 until 1952. The bricks from the little red brick school were bought and used in the A. J. Kemps' and Howard Scoggins' homes on Lee Street.

The new high school at Seventh and Jones Street was completed in 1929. The building is now the east part of Dimmitt Middle School.

Dimmitt Independent School District, along with Hart and Nazareth, became consolidated in the 30s thanks in part to the increased enrollment from smaller communities in the county.

Despite World War II, enrollment increased. Barracks from the POW camp near Hereford were brought in to be used as classrooms. Although a new grade school building was completed in 1952, students continued to overflow into the barracks.

In a continuing building program, South Elementary School, which housed the first four grades, was finished in 1956. Within a few years, new classrooms and another cafeteria were added to the building. But high school and junior high school classes were still taught in the barracks.

Classes were moved into the new high school in 1963.

In 1975, North Grade School and the old high school building were combined as Dimmitt Middle School with additional classrooms and offices.

Later that year, South Elementary School was renamed Helen Richardson Elementary School,

upon Richardson's retirement.

She was born in Castro County and grew up watching her mother, Lenna Estes, teach children in their home and in little rural schools. She graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1929, and started teaching at the Big Square School after attending West Texas State for a year.

Through the years, she kept returning to school until she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1937, and later, a Master of Education degree in 1955.

During a 44-year career, Richardson taught three generations of Dimmitt pupils, including great-grandchildren of her mother's former students.

Because of Richardson's dedication to education, and of those like her, the Dimmitt schools continued to prosper.

The late 70s saw the addition of four tennis courts, a new ag farm, and a vocational agriculture and industrial arts building.

Improvements were also made to the high school library and the football and track stadiums.

By 1980, over 1,700 students were enrolled in the Dimmitt Independent School District.

Computers for students and administration, a new science lab at the high school and construction of a building to house the severely handicapped at the middle school were some of the 80s' highlights for the Dimmitt schools.

Enrollment peaked at 1,752 students in 1985-86. Current enrollment in the Dimmitt Independent School District is 1,667 students.

Early-day small schools were consolidated to form Hart ISD

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained from the Oct. 27, 1976, issue of The Hart Beat, published during Castro County's Bicentennial celebration.)

There are no Hart school records for the years prior to 1951 when the school was destroyed in a 2 a.m. blaze that has been described as "the worst in the county's history."

But some of the history has been resurrected through the collective memories of those who attended the numerous small "houses of education" during those early years.

In 1921, Killough and Lone Star were consolidated and became "Hart School C-1," denoting it as the first consolidation in Castro County.

Wise School, named for the family on whose land it was located northeast of Hart, was started soon after 1900, according to personal recollections of persons who attended Wise.

Killough, also named for the early settler who provided land, is believed to be the earliest school. It was originally located about one-half mile south of the present townsite of Hart.

The small one room, unpainted frame structure was built in 1902. Lumber was hauled from Hereford by wagon and a wood-coal heater in the middle of the room furnished heat in the winter. Handmade tables each served as desks for two students.

Held in the upstairs room of the Hamm home, a school serving the children northwest of Hart in 1916 or 1917, was named Mulkey School, after young Mulkey Hamm died of acute appendicitis. The site

still is referred to as Mulkey.

Mulkey's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Hamm moved to Castro County in 1905 and lived in a small two-room house with a lean-to until they built their own home in 1907.

After moving into the new home, they discovered they needed a school for the children in their community.

Approximately 12 children were enrolled in the school.

A school in Cleo or "Ragtown," served the boys and girls who lived near Sunnyside; and Struve was the school attended by those living further south of Hart.

For some years, school was held at Valley View, and a number of pioneers attended there part time.

In 1927, a townsite company was organized to promote the sale of lots for the town of Hart. The school was located on the site. That year, Frank Shotwell was superintendent and four women were teachers. The name of Mrs. Faye Allen is the only teacher's name found during that period.

Constructed of brick, the school boasted an auditorium in the basement where community functions were held and all denominations met together for church services.

A new townsite company was organized in 1928 and the town of Hart moved three-quarters of a mile to the northwest.

Businesses moved to the new location, but the school was not moved until 1936 when it was relocated at the present site. Superintendent that year was a Mr. Strickland.

The new building consisted of nine classrooms, a gymnasium, bookroom and superintendent's of-

fice. When a fire destroyed the building in 1951, additional rooms had been added to the building, plus the construction of a school lunch room and work shop and a home economics cottage. The lunchroom and home economics buildings were not destroyed.

Insured for \$50,000, the building replacement costs were estimated at \$150,000.

When the new high school was completed in 1953, it included 10 classrooms, a study hall, gymnasium, six restrooms, four dressing rooms adjoining the gymnasium, showers and lockers in the main corridor. The gymnasium was to be used as an auditorium with a seating capacity of approximately 500.

When school bells rang in September 1964, students in junior high and high school had another new building in which to attend classes.

School board members had accepted bids totaling \$321,644 at a meeting in October 1963 for the construction of the building deemed vital due to increased enrollments each year. Construction began Oct. 25, 1963, and was completed in time for the next school year.

Recent years have seen the addition of other buildings including a new reading room, band hall, field house. The school district also renovated an old dwelling for a Coordinated Vocational Academic Education laboratory.

The 80s saw a renewed emphasis on academics and athletics. New science and computer labs were added along with new classrooms, tennis courts and a track.

Thier began first school in 1904

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the History of the First Fifty Years of Holy Family Church, the History of the First Seventy-Five Years of Holy Family Parish and the Castro County History, Vol. 1.)

Nazareth School District 4 was organized Feb. 10, 1902, two years before the Rev. Joseph Reisdorff, leader of the settlement, began plating the town of Nazareth.

When Louise Thier, the first Nazareth school teacher, started the classes in 1904, they were held in the small church that had been paid for with the assessment of \$50 on each section of land in the new colony, whether the owner resided at Nazareth or not.

By 1905, the one-room "green school" was built on church property. From 1910 to 1915, the Olivette Benedictine Sisters taught in the school. In 1915, the Benedictine Sisters of Fort Smith, Ark., took charge of the church school.

In 1910, using surplus money that had accumulated in the general fund provided by the state, school trustees bought two acres of land a mile east of Nazareth for a public school. Nazareth Public School was completed in 1913.

The 1913 school census showed 86 pupils attending both the parochial school and the public school. Many of the students roomed and boarded in town during the week, staying with friends and relatives in order to be closer to school.

In 1916, Nazareth Public School was changed from a primary school to an intermediate school. Later this school house was moved.

The first public school built within the townsite of Nazareth was opened for classes in the fall of 1917. This two-room school was built just west of the present grade school. According to old records, 1917 was the first year Sisters received pay from the state.

By 1923, the number of pupils had increased to 163 thanks to additions of land from Arney and Wise school districts. Another two-room school building was constructed to accommodate the growth. The new school found many uses over the years from the first school cafeteria to the band house.



NAZARETH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL—First and second grade students attending Nazareth Schools in 1928, benefitted from a new classroom—this one, which was located beside the Holy Family Church. On the left, students play on a swing and see-saw on the school's playground.

Courtesy Photo

Higher grades were added to the public school system in 1924. In total, 11 grades were taught with seven grades in the grade school and four grades in the high school. Adult evening classes in vocational agriculture were taught for a while in the little green school house.

The four-year high school was phased out in 1930, and the common school district returned to a two-year high school with grades one through nine. In 1935, the Nazareth Common School District reverted back to an 11-grade school with 169 students enrolled.

By 1928, the church had built a new parochial school just west of the church, and the first one-room school building was sold and moved to a new location.

Although another room was added to the first public school building in 1936, a new brick school was constructed by the Public Works Administration in 1939. The new school had six classrooms, an office, and a combined auditorium and gymnasium. By 1940, the new school was classified as an accredited public school with 12 grades, and the parochial first and second grades became part of the public school.

In conjunction with community interest in Nazareth schools, a number of parents in the parish formed the first PTA unit in 1938.

Baseball is mentioned frequently in histories about Nazareth. As early as 1909, the first baseball team was organized in Nazareth. However, baseball was not added to official school activities, which included softball, volleyball and basketball, until 1955.

In 1955, the Nazareth Common School District became the Nazareth Independent School District. All grades were taught in the same building. Additions were added to accommodate a homemaking department, science laboratory and separate gymnasium.

Records indicate an enrollment of 231 students with nine teachers in 1956. The curriculum was enlarged to include home economics and vocational agriculture, and football was added to the list of official school activities. The 50s also saw a return of adult evening vocational agriculture classes.

In 1961, band was introduced to the school. Funds for a new cafeteria were raised through a \$50,000 bond issue in 1962.

The 60s saw more improvements added to the school buildings. Classroom additions for the first and second grades were made to the new cafeteria. Lights were added to the football field. A vocational agriculture building and field house were constructed after a new \$120,000 bond issue passed in 1965.

In 1970, kindergarten was added to the Nazareth school system. By 1976, total enrollment in the Nazareth School System was 354 students.

A new building program in 1989 included a new athletic complex and remodeling the field house. A "multi-purpose classroom" was also added in 1989.

In 1990, NISD won the Governor's Excellence Award.



DEDICATION ceremonies at the new Blue Ridge School were held in 1918 with many students present. Early records indicate the school probably was originally named Hogge, and it was located

three miles east and two miles south of Arney. It is believed that when this new building was constructed, the name of the school was changed to Blue Ridge.

Courtesy Photo



Money shortage forces consolidation of community subscription schools

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained from the *Castro County History, Vol. I.*)

From teachers living on ranches to "subscription" schools, wherever the need arose in the early days of Castro County, concerned settlers devised means to provide their children with an education.

Subscription schools were supported financially by the students' parents and concerned patrons. These schools developed anywhere teachers' salaries and facilities did not warrant state funds.

In 1911, Castro County had 22 schools. Nineteen schools existed in the county in the 20s.

Before 1911, it is almost impossible to count earlier schools accurately because there were so many "pockets" of education throughout the county in addition to the regular schools.

Nicknames made some of the early schools hard to keep track of. Some of the schools carried two names at the same time, and some of the community schools completely changed their names through the years, as Shive, "Ragtown" and Cleo did. A few of the schools in Bailey County were under Castro County supervision.

Other than a check written to L. Gough on the Dimmitt School District no other activity appears in county ledgers until 1899. Schools continued to be organized or closed depending on need.

Because of economic conditions during the 30s, the smaller communities could not meet State Department of Education requirements, and they began to bus their children to the larger schools in Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth. The increased enrollment in the larger communities eventually led to a consolidation of school districts in the county.

As the schools started consolidating into the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth districts during the depression and dust bowl days, tax money remained scarce. Although economic conditions were better during World War II, there was a

shortage of teachers who sought higher paying jobs in government and industry. By 1945, the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth Independent School Districts had absorbed all other schools in Castro County.

Not everyone was happy about the consolidation. Smaller communities struggled to keep their identities after their schools, focal points of the community, closed. Some of the small communities had issued bonds to finance their buildings on 40-year terms. The independent districts helped pay off existing school debts of the smaller communities who owned their school buildings.

Besides Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth, there have been schools in each of the following ranches and smaller communities: Frio, Shive/"Ragtown"/Cleo, Wise, Big Lake, Arney, Killough, Summerfield, Hogge - Eaton/Lone Star, Rance, Stiles-Big Square, Roush, Abbott, Red Tower, Lynch, Ax-Lakeview, Sunnyside, Hamm-Mulkey, New Castle, County Line, Jumbo, Sheppard Ward and Flagg.

Although "Lorena" and "Union" are names of schools in Castro County, existing in 1899 and 1902 respectively, nothing more is known about either of these schools.

State invents first tax loophole in 1876

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained from the *Castro County History, Vol. I.*)

When the State of Texas created the public school fund in 1876, it unwittingly created the first "loophole" for taxpayers.

The state designed a land apportionment plan not only to create a perpetual public school fund but also to encourage railroad expansion throughout the state.

The state intended to raise monies for the perpetual public school fund by taxing every other section of land. For taxing purposes, even-numbered sections were considered school lands and odd-numbered sections were considered railroad lands.

The state encouraged railroad expansion throughout the state by giving 16 odd-numbered sections for every mile of railroad line laid. That left only even-numbered school lands that could be filed on by early settlers.

With only a filing fee of \$16.50, a settler could file on school land, and payment for it was not due for 40 years.

The prospective taxpayers would

not pay the taxes levied. They claimed that until the 40 years was up, they did not own the land and, therefore, did not owe taxes.

Other collection problems plagued the state's perpetual public school fund. Settlers were required to live on the land for at least 3 years to get the 40-year payout offered by the state. During the early years, life was hard and many settlers could not hold on to their land. Many settlers either sold out or gave their claim back to the state.

Despite these problems, the state managed to create the perpetual public school fund, of which only the interest could be used. While the available interest was apportioned among the counties on a per capita basis, it would be many years before more than a few schools in the state would have the necessary facilities and equipment to qualify for state funds.

The early "subscription" schools in Castro County were a direct result of their failure to qualify for state school funds because they did not meet state requirements for school facilities and equipment.



HELEN ESTES RICHARDSON was a vital part of the Dimmitt School System for many years, having taught 42 years of her 44-year teaching career here. She said she taught pupils in all grades, with the exception of kindergarten and 12th grade. She was principal of Dimmitt Elementary School twice,

serving in that capacity for 17 years. Upon her retirement in May 1975, Dimmitt Elementary School was renamed after her—Helen Richardson Elementary School—and it is still known by that name today. *Castro County History, Vol. I*



SUNNYSIDE SCHOOL ... Educated a portion of our county's youth until 1945

It's our Anniversary



Before



After

Look what can happen at

GINGER'S
PHOTOGRAPHY

413 Broadway, Hart • 938-2694

Model: Mandy Davis

Naz students boast six gold medals in state UIL events

By KIM DOBMEIER

Nazareth's success in sports has spoken for itself in the past 20 years, but students from Nazareth also have excelled in other areas of competition as well, mainly academics.

Many students from Nazareth High School have captured the gold medal in the state in University Interscholastic League academic meets while competing in everything from shorthand and speaking to journalism events.

With the exception of two out of the past 14 years, a NHS student has competed at the state UIL academic meet. Out of those 14 years, there have been six state champions and many medalists.

It all started in 1877 when Gail Kleman won the state Shorthand contest. She was the first person from Nazareth to win a gold medal in an academic event at the state level.

Kleman says it was a valuable learning experience for her. She added that it helped her throughout college, not only to get jobs, but also in her study skills.

"Competing in UIL gave me a very disciplined attitude. I had to practice everyday, so that developed my study skills greatly," Kleman said. "It also developed my listening skills, and that was very useful in college and jobs that I had."

Speaking is another event in which students from Nazareth have competed. Although there only have been two champions in the speaking events, which are Persuasive and Informative Speaking, there have been three other competitors that have placed in the top four at state.

In 1979, Darryl Birkenfeld won the Persuasive Speaking contest. Then in 1987, Russell Acker won the Informative Speaking contest.

In 1984, Nazareth sent two students to state in journalism and since that time, there has been a competitor at state in a journalism contest every year except in 1985.

The gold medals didn't come along until 1986, though, when Alan Birkenfeld won the Editorial Writing contest.

In 1988, Stacy Albracht (now Wilhelm) won the gold medal in Feature Writing. That was her second trip to state in journalism. She qualified in the News Writing contest in 1987.

The last state champion from Nazareth was Cindy Albracht, who captured the gold medal in News Writing in 1990 after finishing second in the event at state in 1989.

But these are not the only champions from Nazareth High School.

Many other students have competed on the state level in Spelling, Science, Headline Writing and more, and they have placed near the top each time.

Other students placing in the top

four at the state contest through the years follow:

1982: Denise Acker, fourth, Persuasive Speaking.

1983: Mary Jean Huseman (now Wilhelm), fourth, Spelling.

1984: Anne Birkenfeld (now Acker), second, News Writing and fourth, Headline Writing.

1985: Russell Acker, third and Dwight Acker, fourth, both in Informative Speaking.

1987: Alan Birkenfeld, third, Editorial Writing; and Russell Acker, third in Ready Writing.

1988: Lorelea Acker, third, News Writing.

1989: Cindy Albracht, second, News Writing.

1990: Lorelea Acker, fourth, News Writing.

1991: Kim Dobmeier, second, News Writing; and Kalina Pohlmeier, fourth, Editorial Writing.

Omega Leavitt, math and computer teacher at NHS, helps students with the UIL speaking events and she thinks that working with UIL "helps the student's self-esteem" no matter what event they compete in.

"I believe it will make students' lives better no matter what they compete in," Leavitt said. "UIL also helps in regular school work. Journalism, spelling and writing events help the students express themselves in English class, just like math and science contests help the students develop those abilities for their normal schoolwork."

"It is a very good experience for the kids," Kleman said. "And it will help them a lot in college as well as in later life."

Swift Band wins two Sweepstakes

The Nazareth Swift Band achieved its most successful year in 1987, when it captured the school's first Sweepstakes Award and qualified 17 members for the all-region band.

The Swift Band, which includes band members from the seventh grade through senior class, earned first division ratings in each of three competitive events — marching, concert and sight reading, to earn the Sweepstakes Award. In 1987, the band performed under the direction of Bernie Tackitt.

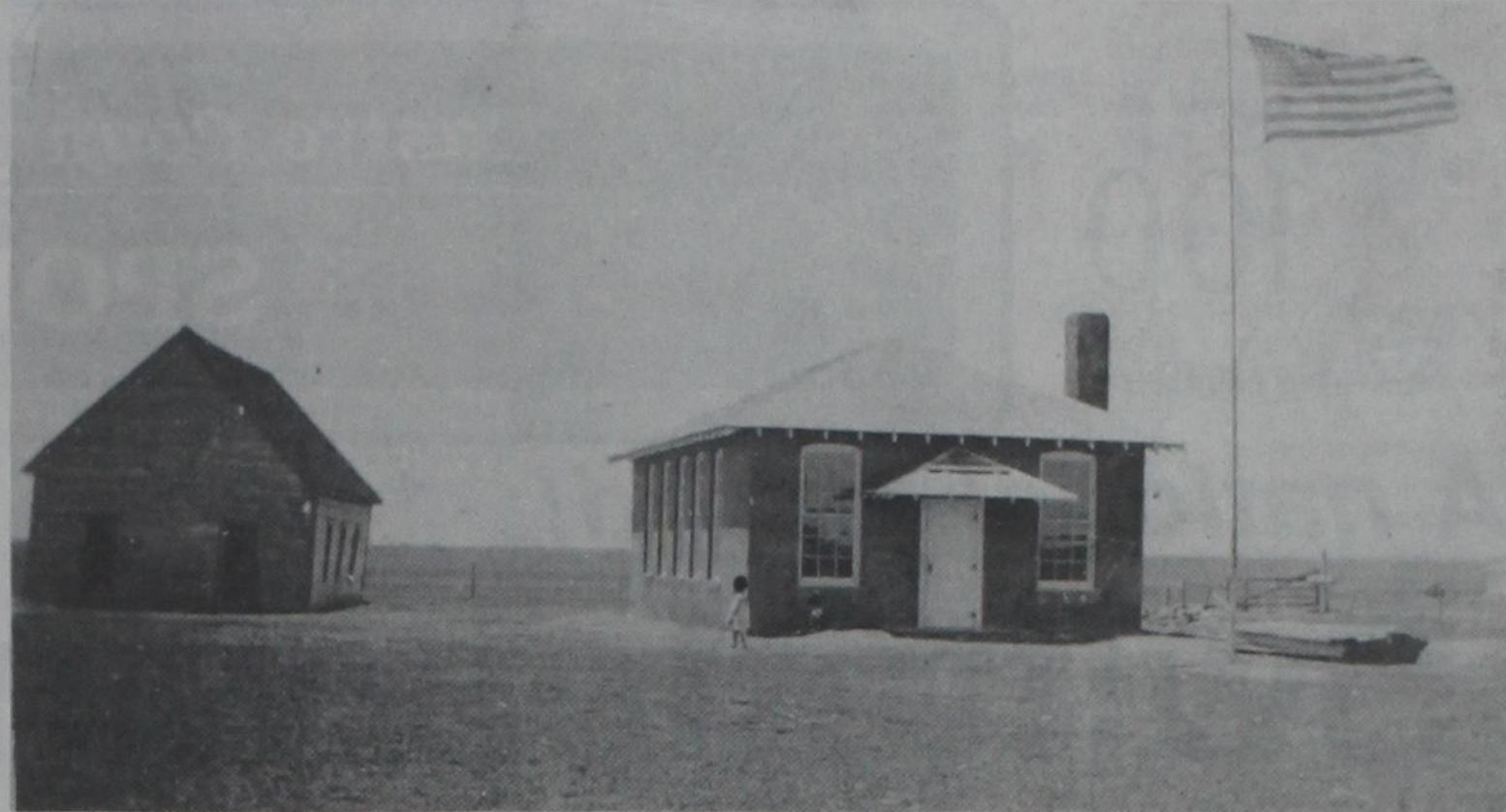
The Swift Band repeated its Sweepstakes Award in 1991, performing under the direction of Roger Myers.

Carson makes all-state at Hart in '77

Sharla Carson of Hart was named all-state in 1977.

Carson, a 5-8 guard, was named to the all-state third team, despite the fact that her team didn't make the playoffs.

She also earned "Most Valuable Player" honors as a guard in the Golden Spread All-Star Tourney.



THE FIRST SCHOOLS AT BETHEL, pictured here on the left, was built in 1909 and the first classes were held in 1910. It was located near the present-day site of Bethel. Classes were held here

until 1918, when the second school, pictured on the right, was constructed. Classes were held here until it burned in 1931.

Courtesy Photo

Bobcat band earns sweepstakes

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for the following article was obtained from the *Castro County History Book, Vol. 1 and the News.*)

By DANETTE BAKER

When someone mentions the word "band" in Dimmitt two words come to mind: Ralph Smith and success.

But the Smith musical history began years before Ralph came to the area.

J. Ralph Smith of Hereford, Ralph's father, introduced the music regalia to Dimmitt in 1926, in the form of a municipal band.

Eventually, the music concept integrated with the Dimmitt school system. Nolan Froehner served as the band director from 1947-51. Paul Jordan directed the band from 1951-52.

Then Ralph began his 31-year tenure, in which the Bobcat Band garnered 28 sweepstakes trophies, and won many festivals and other awards.

Between 1952 and 1979, the Bobcat Band won 25 University Interscholastic League Sweepstakes Awards and 27 First Division awards in UIL marching.

Other awards include: two-time sweepstake winners at the Borger Festival, Outstanding Band at the Buccaneer Festival in Corpus Christi, Outstanding Band at the Tri-State Music Festival in Enid, Okla., and the Featured Band in the Battle of Flowers Band Festival in San Antonio (three times).

The band also performed during half-time at the football game between the Air Force Academy and the University of Washington, which was televised nation wide.

During the next three years, Smith directed the Bobcat band in three additional sweepstakes

awards.

In 1989, under the direction of present band director Michael Johnson, the Bobcat Band won their 29th sweepstakes award.

Between Smith's retirement and Johnson's term, two other men have lead the Bobcat Band: Cody Myers, 1983-85 and Todd Parker, 1985-88.

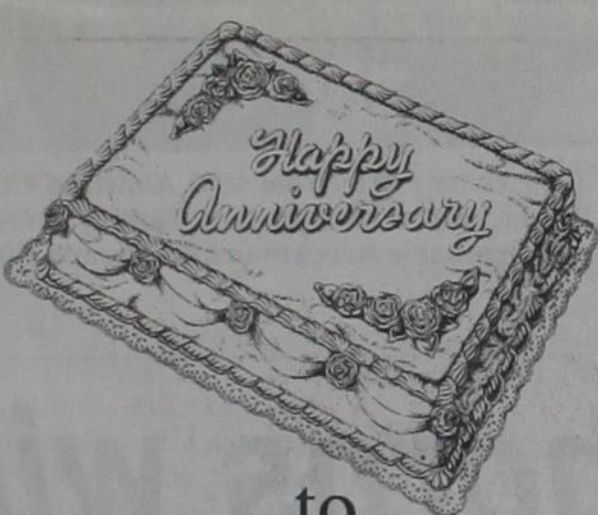
Hart students compete in state UIL literary meet

Three Hart High School students have achieved success on the academic level by competing in the state University Interscholastic League's literary meet.

In 1987, two HHS students advanced to state, but didn't place in their respective contests.

They were Joey Flores, who qualified in Shorthand; and Joel Wilson, who competed in Debate.

Melinda Wilson was the last Hart student to qualify for state in an academic event. She competed in Feature Writing in 1988.




to

Castro County

on their 100th!

Lakeview Gin

Tulia • 627-4227



Congratulations, Castro County!



We can keep you covered with our carports and patio covers.

We now have 10'x20' carports priced as low as \$585

We also have a new toll free number (1-800-873-3271) to serve you better.



7105 Olton Rd., Drawer 369, Plainview, TX
Call Now: 1-806-293-9526

Ford

The Model T (1908-1927) made a big difference in the way early-day Castro Countians got around. You didn't even need a road.

Ever since the classic "T," Ford cars and trucks have been a part of virtually all of our families, and the local Ford dealership has been a regular stop-in place for dependable service.

TOURING CAR

\$290

Touring	\$290
Runabout	260
Coupe	520
Tudor Sedan	580
Fordor Sedan	660

Closed cars in color. Dismountable rims and motor extra on open cars. All prices f.o.b. Detroit.

Every ounce of material used in building Ford cars must measure up to Ford standards of quality—reinforced by Ford standards of workmanship and inspection.

That is why Ford cars give such long and satisfactory service.

The Touring Car with added beauty and finer riding comforts, is representative of the unusual value available in Ford cars.

Ask the nearest Authorized Ford Dealer to show you this car.

Ford Motor Company
Detroit, Mich.



We're proud to continue that tradition at Wallace-Brown Motor Co., where we sell and service the cars and trucks that are rated No. 1 in quality in the US.

We're proud, too, to be your neighbors and friends during this landmark year in our county.

1926 Advertisement for the Model T

HAPPY CENTENNIAL!

Wallace-Brown Motor Co.

S. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt 647-2115



Castro County Centennial

SPORTS

1891



1991

A national record!

Swiftettes win 12 state titles

If there is anything that can prove the theory that success breeds success, the Nazareth Swiftettes basketball program might be at the top of the list.

The Swiftettes have enjoyed success for many years and have reached the top of the heap in girls' basketball 12 times since 1977, winning a dozen state championships—a national record.

It all started back in 1976 when a group of talented girls traveled the long road between Nazareth and Austin, to Gregory Gym to compete in the school's first state tournament. That group came up short in the semifinal game, but they started a tradition that continues today.

Since that first trip, the Swiftettes have made the trip to Austin 13 times and have finished first 12 times and second another time. The only two times the Swiftettes haven't made it to state since 1975 another Panhandle team—Sudan—has beaten them out in the Region 1-A finals and then gone on to win the state title themselves.

That's a pretty impressive record for a tiny West Texas school that today sports a high school average enrollment of under 80.

Cathy Wilson, an all-American guard from Wayland Baptist University, took over as Nazareth's head coach in 1976 right after graduating from WBU, and guided that first group to Austin. That team included Elaine Schulte, Rachelle Pohlmeier, Cheryl Hartman, Karen Schulte, Glenda Gerber, Lynora Braddock, Vera Birkenfeld, Rosemary Schulte, Cindy Schacher, Carol Hochstein, Beverly Heck, Colleen Gerber and Germaine Pohlmeier.

For a lot of schools, just getting to the state tournament would have been a thrill, but it wasn't for that group. They wanted more. And next year they got it.

Eight members of the 1976 team returned to provide inspiration as the team captured school's first state championship. Team members that year were Glenda Gerber, Doretta Ramaekers, Ladonna Brockman, Cindy Schacher, Marlene Huseman, Dianne Hochstein, Michelle Acker, Rosemary Schulte, Colleen Gerber, Karen Schulte, Rachelle Pohlmeier, Cheryl Hartman, Lynora Braddock and Germaine Pohlmeier.

The tradition continued with another state title in 1978, then another in 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982 before Sudan halted the string in 1983. But in 1984, a new group of girls with a vision posted an undefeated record and got the tradition back on track winning the school's seventh state title. Only two girls graduated that year and the 1985 team was stronger than ever and continued the unbeaten string, eventually winning another state title. The Swiftettes hit a "cool

streak" for two years, finishing second in state in 1986 and losing in the regional finals to eventual state champion Sudan in 1987 before finding its way back to Austin in 1988, starting its current streak of state titles (four-in-a-row).

And all that with five different coaches.

After her 1977 team won state, Wilson left Nazareth to coach at Slaton and George Cox took over at the helm.

He guided Cheryl Hartman, Karen Schulte, Glenda Gerber, Doretta Ramaekers, Colleen Gerber, Lynora Braddock, Germaine Pohlmeier, Michelle Acker, Ladonna Brockman, Dianne Hochstein, Lori Gerber, Sharon Gerber and Paula Maurer to win the school's second straight state title, then left to pursue other interests.

In the meantime, Joe Lombard, decided to take a chance in coaching and accepted the position at Nazareth. He stayed for seven years and guided six teams to state championships.

His teams added to the string of championships through 1982 with teams that included:

1979—Glenda Gerber, Colleen Gerber, Marlene Huseman, Michelle Acker, Dianne Hochstein, Doretta Ramaekers, Lori Gerber, Sharon Gerber, Becky Hoelting, Leona Kleman, Roxanne Birkenfeld and Danelle Schmucker.

1980 — Doretta Ramaekers, Michelle Acker, Dianne Hochstein, Sharon Gerber, Roxanne Birkenfeld, Danelle Schmucker, Liz Wilhelm, Brenda Hoelting, Karen Birkenfeld, Rhonda Hoelting and Sharon Birkenfeld.

1981 — Sharon Gerber, Lori Gerber, Roxanne Birkenfeld, Liz Wilhelm, Danelle Schmucker, Brenda Hoelting, Karen Birkenfeld, Rhonda Hoelting, Sharon Birkenfeld, Annette Hoelting and Deanna Hoelting.

1982 — Roxanne Birkenfeld, Brenda Hoelting, Danelle Schmucker, Liz Wilhelm, Karen Birkenfeld, Annette Hoelting, Sharon Birkenfeld, Rhonda Hoelting, Shari Schilling, Renee Ramaekers and Leona Gerber.

Then in 1983 the streak was halted—just briefly—by the Sudan Hornets.

The 1983 Swiftettes defeated Sudan twice in district play, and both teams breezed to the regional finals, but Sudan finally found enough power to defeat the Swiftettes and claim the Region 1-A spot in the state tournament.

But the 1984 group — Renee Ramaekers, Shari Schilling, Leona Gerber, LaDawn Schmucker, Ramona Heiman, Kelly Schilling, Debbie Schmucker, Cece Kern, Annette Schmucker, Anita Huseman, Sheila Acker and Gail Birkenfeld — were a determined bunch. They not only came back to win state the next year, but they did it

with an unblemished record of 35-0.

"It made us mad," said Shari Schilling in describing how the team felt after losing in 1983. "We didn't ever want to feel that way again."

After the team won the championship, LaDawn Schmucker said it was a team joke at the first of the year that they would go undefeated after losing last year. Midway through the season, the team made it a much-wanted goal.

"We never dreamed that it would happen at first," said Renee Ramaekers.

"We will always remember this year," said Schmucker.

Schmucker had another year to add to her list of memories, though. She was just a junior on the 1984 team and in 1985, her team would once again go undefeated and claim the state crown.

The 1985 team, coached by Lombard, included Schmucker, Leona Gerber and Ramona Heiman, all returning starters from the 1984 team; Kelly Schilling, Debbie Schmucker, Anita Huseman, Annette Schmucker, Gail Birkenfeld, Missy Brockman, Traci Hill, Cece Kern and Sheila Acker.

In 1986 Lombard accepted the position as Canyon High School's head girls' coach and he was replaced by Sandy Oliver (Heiman), who had been his assistant at Nazareth.

Under her tutelage, the Swiftettes advanced to state in 1986, but lost in the championship game to Snook. In 1987 history repeated itself when Sudan beat the Swiftettes in the Region 1-A title game.

But in 1988, the Nazareth crew started another string of state titles which is unbroken at four-straight today. Each year's toughest competition has been in district, as always, but the teams are different. Sudan isn't the main obstacle standing in Nazareth's way—now it's Happy. For the past three years (1989, 1990 and 1991) the Happy Cowgirls and Swiftettes have faced off in district and in the regional championship game, with the Swiftettes winning eight of the nine confrontations. The Cowgirls were able to end Nazareth's 152-game winning streak in district in 1991 by claiming a buzzer-beater victory in Nazareth in the second District 5-A game.

But the Swiftettes still managed to win that Class A trophy, the fourth in a row and 12th overall—a national record.

Coach Oliver, who married Nazareth's Wayne Heiman, resigned as head coach in 1990 in order to devote more time to her family and another Lombard protege, Denese Skinner, was hired as the girls' head coach and she continued the winning tradition instilled by her predecessors.

Members of the 1988-1991 teams were:

1988—Rachel Huseman, Traci Hill, Missy Brockman, Bobbi Hochstein, Barbie Steffens, Stephanie Brockman, Shana Birkenfeld, Jenny Brockman, Darla Leavitt and Tami Ball.

1989 — Stephanie Brockman, Tammy Drerup, Shanna Birkenfeld, Jenny Brockman, Dana Schulte, Nikki Schulte, Monica Kleman, Tami Ball, Marla Ramaekers, Darla Leavitt, Stephanie Farris and Janay Johnson.

1990—Darla Leavitt, Tami Ball, Dana Schulte, Monica Kleman, Stephanie Farris, Peggy Huseman, Jodi Johnson, Janay Johnson, Jill Pohlmeier and Noel Johnson.

1991 — Noel Johnson, Janay Johnson, Jodi Johnson, Monica Kleman, Stephanie Farris, Peggy Huseman, Jill Pohlmeier, Natalie Schmucker, Nicole Kleman, Kristin Brockman and Jenny Jones.



THE CHAMPIONSHIP MOMENT — Moments like this one, captured after Nazareth won its 10th state girls' basketball title in 1989, were common throughout the 1980s, when the Swiftettes captured seven of the school's dozen titles. Celebrating the

1989 victory are (from left) Assistant Coach Leslie Storer, and senior players Tammy Drerup, Jenny and Stephanie Brockman and Shanna Birkenfeld.

File Photo

1976 Longhorns win regional in football

The Hart Longhorns of 1976 fielded the most successful football team in Castro County history, when the group captured the Region 1-A championship before losing in the North Texas Championship game.

The Longhorns success started in 1972 when the team qualified for the playoffs for the first time in the school's history.

Hart beat New Deal 28-13 in bi-district, but lost 6-21, to Clarendon in the regional championship game. The loss to Clarendon was the Horns first loss of the 1972 season, and they finished with a 9-1-1 mark.

Stanley Dyer was one of the main cogs in the Hart starting lineup that year and he earned all-state honors as a linebacker for the second straight year.

"Stanley Dyer is by far the best linebacker I have had the privilege of coaching," Hart Head Coach Lonnie Phillips said after the 1972 season. "He's always in on the tackle or at the point of the ball every time."

Dyer also doubled as a fullback in 1972 and he was joined in the backfield by tailback Jimmy Brown, who scored two touchdowns to lead Hart to its victory over New Deal in bi-district.

The team missed out on the playoffs in 1973, but the Horns were back with a vengeance in 1974 and qualified for bi-district, only to lose the game to Petersburg by a 24-0 count. The team finished with an 8-3 overall record under Phillips guidance.

The Longhorns qualified for the state playoffs again in 1975, but again they were eliminated in bi-district, this time by New Deal.

The 1975 team averaged 334-1/2

yards per game on offense and Barry George was one of the team leaders offensively. From his position in the backfield, he rushed for 953 yards on 165 carries and scored nine touchdowns and six two-point conversions throughout the season.

The 1976 team was by far the most successful in the Hart Independent School District history.

The Horns breezed through the regular season under the tutelage of first-year Head Coach Bill Taylor, then beat Petersburg in bi-district and Memphis for the regional championship.

"Our kids have set their sights on going farther than any other Hart team has gone," Taylor said after the Petersburg game, and little did he know that that was exactly what would happen.

In the bi-district game against Petersburg, the Horns were down with just a minute-and-a-half left in the game, but they weren't going to give up. The offensive unit drove 87 yards in four plays to score the

winning touchdown late in the game.

That moved the Horns into the regional championship game against Memphis and the team pulled out a come-from-behind victory to claim the title. Tight end Bryan Irons caught the winning touchdown pass from quarterback Eliazar Castillo with 34 seconds left to give his team a 14-12 win.

The Horns played Seagraves for the North Texas State Championship, but lost the contest, 6-26.

After that the Horns hit a dry spell and didn't make another playoff appearance until 1990, when they faced Seagraves in a Class AA bi-district tilt.

The Horns were on top and it looked like they would win the contest, but Seagraves scored on a last second play to win the game, 14-10, and that eliminated the Horns from the playoffs.

The team finished the 1990 season with an 8-3 record with Head Coach Alan Cherry at the helm.

Swiftette all-staters

Here's a list of the Nazareth High School girls basketball players that earned all-state, academic all-state or all-state tournament honors in the school's history.

1976: Elaine Schulte and Vera Birkenfeld.

1977: Karen Schulte, Cheryl Hartman and Rosemary Schulte.

1978: Cheryl Hartman, Colleen Gerber and Lynora Braddock.

1979: Glenda Gerber, Doretta Ramaekers and Lori Gerber.

1980: Sharon Gerber, Roxanne Birkenfeld and Doretta Ramaekers.

1981: Lori Gerber, Sharon Gerber, Roxanne Birkenfeld and Sharon Birkenfeld.

1982: Roxanne Birkenfeld, Annette Hoelting and Karen Birkenfeld.

1983: Rhonda Hoelting and Sharon Birkenfeld.

1984: LaDawn Schmucker, Shari Schilling, Leona Gerber, Renee Ramaekers and Ramona Heiman.

1985: Leona Gerber, LaDawn Schmucker, Ramona Heiman and Kelly Schilling.

1986: Gail Birkenfeld, Ramona Heiman and Kelly Schilling.

1987: Rachel Huseman and Missy Brockman.

1988: Darla Leavitt, Missy Brockman, Rachel Huseman, Stephanie Brockman and Traci Hill.

1989: Darla Leavitt, Jenny Brockman, Stephanie Brockman and Shana Birkenfeld.

1990: Monica Kleman, Noel Johnson and Darla Leavitt.

1991: Noel Johnson and Janay Johnson.



Bobcats hold AAA record for state trips

By DON NELSON

If you don't go to state, then it hasn't been a successful season.

No other Class AAA school in Texas has a boys' basketball tradition quite so impressive. But the Bobcats have been such a basketball dynasty for so many years, and have been to Austin so many times, their fans have practically come to expect it.

And for almost half a century, DHS's coaches and players have given them good reason to.

In the past 47 years, Dimmitt High School has produced no fewer than 37 all-staters and placed two coaches in the Balfour Hall of Fame in Houston, the ultimate honor for a high-school coach.

DHS has had only five boys' varsity basketball coaches over the last half-century. Three of them—John Blaine in the 1940s and early '50s, Johnny Ethridge in the late '50s and early '60s, and present coach Ken Cleveland since 1961—have created dynasties.

Blaine's 1944 Bobcats were the first team to go to state. That team finished third in the eight-team tournament and produced Dimmitt's first all-stater, Bill Birdwell. Other starters were Tom Mayfield, Howard Cook, Kenneth Jackson and John Curtis.

Blaine's Bobcats went again in 1948, when the starters were Lewis Martin, Carl Jowell, Lonnie Rice, Junior Fuller and Jack Ziegler. They defeated unbeaten Sinton, the tournament favorite, in the first round, but lost 41-40 in overtime to unbeaten Mount Vernon in the second round, finishing third.

Then, in 1952, Blaine and his Bobcats racked up a dream year—an undefeated 36-0 season and Dimmitt's first state championship in boys' basketball.

Starters on the 1952 team were Bill Gregory (all-state), Glenn Brown (all-state), Marvin Axe (all-state), Douglas Dennis, Weldon Warren and Wesley Smith.

Not only did the 1952 Bobcats win the Class A state championship; after doing so they had to play the Class AA champion, Bowie, in what promoters called a "divisional championship" game. Bowie had towering Temple Tucker, who would go on to play for TCU, but the underdog Bobcats won the game by six.

That was the year Blaine also coached the Bobbies to a 36-0 undefeated season and the state championship (Mrs. Blaine went with the boys' team to the regional tournament while he was at the state tournament with the girls' team), and guided the Bobcat foot-

ball team to a 10-1 record and the regional finals to become the winningest coach in the US in high-school team sports that year.

As a result, Blaine would be inducted into the Balfour Texas Coaches Hall of Fame in 1970.

When Blaine moved to Sundown after the '51-'52 school year, Leo Fields coached the Bobcats until the late 1950s, when Johnny Ethridge took the helm.

Ethridge, a former point guard for TCU, guided the Bobcats to the state championship game in both 1960 and '61.

Both teams lost in the finals, but those Ethridge teams wrote a new chapter in the Texas high school record books. Junior Coffey of Dimmitt became the first black player to appear in a UIL state boys' basketball tournament in 1960, and in '61 became the UIL's first black all-stater.

"I was on the campus at Southwest Texas State in San Marcos, going to summer school, when I read this little piece in the *Austin American-Statesman* that Johnny Ethridge had accepted the coaching job at Amarillo High School," Cleveland said. "I didn't walk, I ran to the nearest phone and called Paul Hilburn (Dimmitt superintendent).

"I knew Dimmitt was a basketball town—I had watched them play in the state tournaments ever since high school," Cleveland said. "It was just the kind of town I wanted to be in."

Cleveland—an all-stater at Coleman and an all-Southwest Conference guard at Texas—had been out of college just two years, coaching at Sonora, when he was hired as DHS's new boys' cage mentor in 1961.

He's been here ever since.

Cleveland's first team here advanced to the regional finals in '62, losing to Perryton, 47-52.

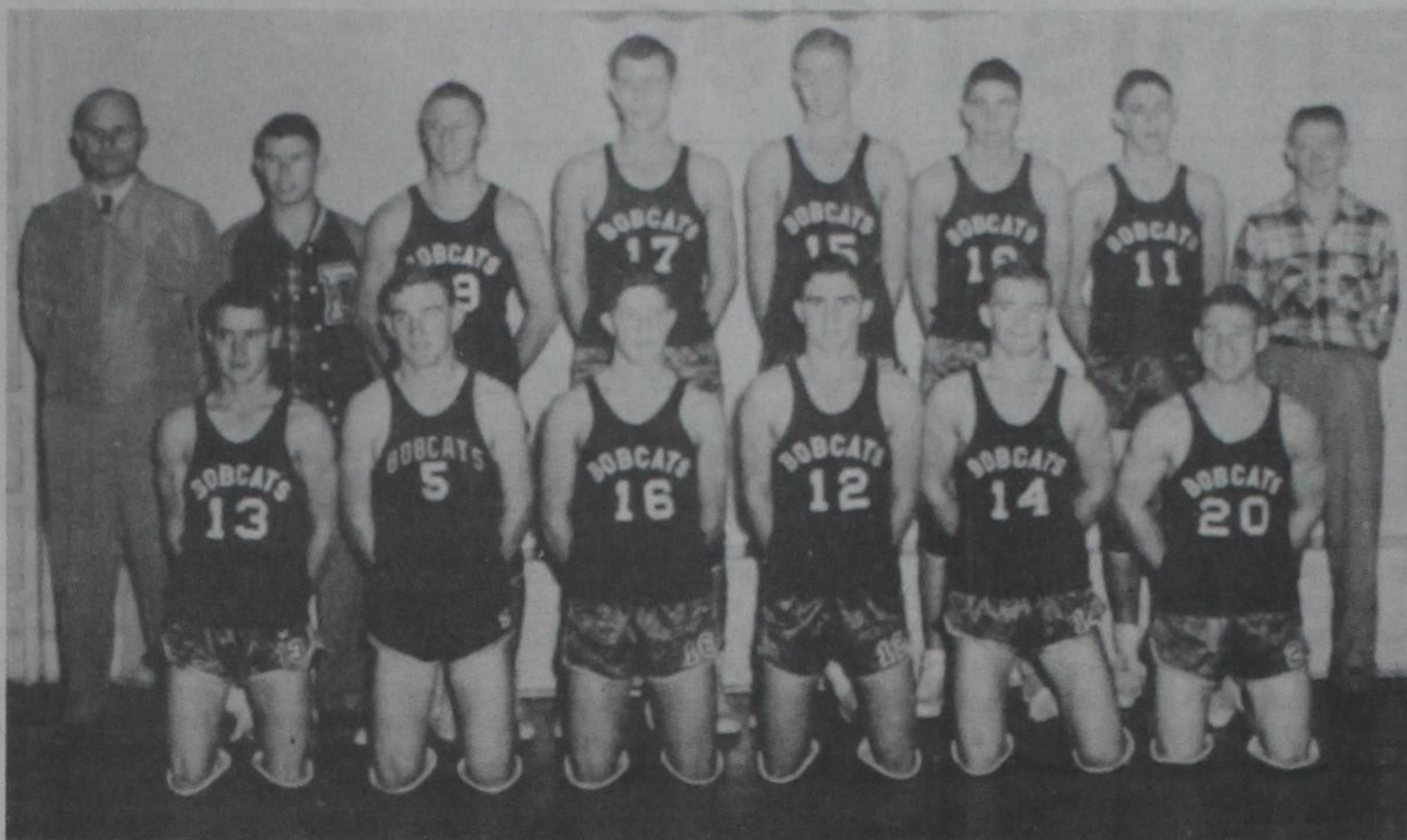
In 1963, Cleveland produced his first all-stater, Michael Calvert. He would be the first of 28 so far. That '63 team won district but lost to Denver City in bi-district.

After making it to the regional finals again in '64 and '66, Cleveland's 1967 Bobcats hitched the bus to Austin—his first trip as a coach, the school's sixth time in boys' basketball.

That team finished as state runners-up, losing to Hardin-Jefferson of Sour Lake in the state championship game, 51-59.

The Bobcats' next trip to Austin was in 1971, when they lost in the first round to Hughes Springs, 45-56.

That made seven trips to state,



THE 1952 BOBCATS won Dimmitt High School's first state boys' basketball championship—and they did it in spades, posting a perfect 36-0 record and defeating Class AA state champion Bowie after capturing the Class A title. In FRONT ROW, from left, are Weldon Warren, Jimmie Howell, William

with one state championship.

"Dimmitt, Darnit, Wants It," the headline in the *Austin American-Statesman* said when the 1975 Bobcats made the school's eighth appearance in UT's old Gregory Gym.

Well Dimmitt, darnit, dunnit that year. The team that included Steve Myatt, Jim Birdwell, Craig Williams, Wayne McKee, Brad Sanders, Travis Hampton Jr. and Johnny Hampton defeated Kountze in the first round, then knocked off Van Vleck, 49-42, in the finals to capture DHS's second state boys' championship, and Cleveland's first.

championship, and Cleveland's first.

Cleveland was given the top honor by his peers the 1976 when he was named to coach the North All-Stars in the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches' annual meeting.

In the '70s, if the Bobcats wanted to get to state, they had to get past Morton or Friona first. The 1975 state champs, for instance, had to defeat Friona in a triple-overtime district playoff for the right to advance.

The same thing happened in 1977, when the Bobcats went 28-3 and the Indians won state again.

Dimmitt's next trip to state was in '78—and it was a heartbreaker. Going up against a superb Whitehouse team in the championship game, the Bobcats had it won until a freaky series of disasters—including a four-point play—occurred in the final seconds to give Whitehouse a 60-59 victory.

Then in the early '80s, Lady Luck finally smiled on the Bobcats again. The '82 team of Kevin Cleveland, Phil King, Jeff Watts, John King and John Smith captured the state title with a thrilling last-second victory over Linden-Kildare, 60-59.

And the following year, Cleveland had what has probably been the premier team of his career, and one of the best Class AAA teams in the history of Texas high school basketball.

"The Awesome Bunch"—Kevin Cleveland, Jeff Watts, John Smith, John King and Fermin Gonzales—posted a perfect 38-0 record against all comers in all classes and won the 1983 state championship with a convincing 81-54 victory over New Boston in the finals.

Four of the five starters on that team—Cleveland, Watts, Smith and King—made all-state.

Despite losing the entire varsity squad to graduation, the Bobcats of 1983 went back to state for a third year in a row, and played state champion New Boston to a point, 59-60, in the first round.

After losing to Seminole in the regional finals in '85, the Bobcats returned to Austin in '86, '87 and '88 to set a new UIL Class AAA record for number of appearances in the state tournament—15.

The '86 Bobcats lost a heartbreaker to Cleveland, 56-57, in the championship game. The '87 team suffered a disastrous 29-59 loss to Hughes Springs in the first round, and the '88 team lost to powerful Sweeny, 53-67, in the first round.

In 1988, Cleveland joined John Blaine in the Balfour Texas High School Coaches Hall of Fame—a rarity for a still-active coach.

It's been—gosh—three years now since the Bobcats have finished a season in Austin.

And as the county enters its second century, Dimmitt's spoiled fans are probably wondering how many times they can do it again between now and the year 2091.

Bobbie all-staters

Here's a list of the Dimmitt High School girls' basketball players that earned all-state, academic all-state or all-state tournament honors in the school's history.

- 1930: Lillian Harp and Zonelle Brooks.
- 1931: Frankie Senters, Zonelle Brooks and Evelyn Blanton.
- 1932: Frankie Senters, Ona Fay Smith and Elaine Dyer.
- 1950: Lometa Odom and Mauriene Smithson.
- 1951: Lometa Odom, Mauriene Smithson.
- 1952: Lometa Odom and Mitzie Wilson.
- 1954: Margaret Odom, Mary Nelson and Mary Ann Witt.
- 1955: Margaret Odom and Shirley DeLozier.
- 1976: Maria Winders and Beth Cleveland.
- 1977: Beth Cleveland and Nita Parker.
- 1979: Lori Dyer and Vicki Cleveland.
- 1989: Renae Josselet.
- 1990: Renae Josselet.
- 1991: Halley Bradley.

(This list was compiled from *News'* records, and the omission of any names is unintentional. If any names have been omitted, we would appreciate knowing. Just call us at 647-3123.)



Best Records of the Century, BOYS' BASKETBALL

- 1983 Dimmitt Bobcats.....38-0
- 1952 Dimmitt Bobcats.....36-0

Coach of the Century JOHN BLAINE

- Dimmitt High School, 1951-52
- Boys' Basketball.....36-0
- Girls' Basketball.....36-0
- Football.....10-1

Bobcat all-staters

Here's a list of the Dimmitt High School boys' basketball players that earned all-state, academic all-state or all-state tournament honors in the school's history.

- 1944: Bill Birdwell.
- 1948: Carl Jowell.
- 1952: Bill Gregory, Marvin Axe and Glenn Brown.
- 1960: Hal Ratcliff.
- 1961: Junior Coffey and Jim Ratcliff.
- 1963: Michael Calvert.
- 1966: Bob Bradford.
- 1967: John Howell.
- 1969: Jerry Brady.
- 1970: Bobby Baker.
- 1971: Mark Wohlgenuth and Kent Bradford.
- 1972: Danny Ebeling.
- 1974: Paul Langford.
- 1975: Craig Williams, Wayne McKee, Jim Birdwell and Steve Myatt.
- 1976: Jim Birdwell.
- 1977: Keith Crum.
- 1978: Rocky Rawls, Jim Bradford and Jeff Bell.
- 1979: Mark Summers.
- 1982: Kevin Cleveland; Phil King and Jeff Watts.
- 1983: Kevin Cleveland, John Smith, Jeff Watts and John David Kiung.
- 1984: Brad Holcomb and Dwight McDonald.
- 1985: Pat McDonald.
- 1986: Pat McDonald and James Alexander.
- 1987: James Alexander.
- 1988: Warren McDonald and James Alexander.
- 1989: Emilio Arce.



END OF A PERFECT SEASON — Dimmitt's 1982-83 Bobcats climaxed a perfect 38-0 season by capturing the Class AAA state championship March 12, 1983. Here, Kevin Cleveland draws a roar from the state tournament crowd of 8,500 as he hoists the state championship trophy and game net over his head following the

Bobcats' 81-54 victory over Van Vleck in the title game in the Frank Erwin Special Events Center at UT-Austin. Four members of the team which the *News* dubbed "The Awesome Bunch" made all-state. It was Dimmitt High School's fourth state championship in boys' basketball.

NHS has won 17 state tennis titles

Kim King is queen of Texas tennis is how the News headline read in May 1973, when Kim King brought home Nazareth High School's first state championship in athletics, and her victory started a tradition that continues today when current headlines could read, *Nazareth tennis players reign supreme—again.*

It all started back in 1973 when King brought home the school's first state championship by winning the Class B singles title in tennis and since then the school has added 16 more state championship tennis trophies to its trophy cases.

King may have started a new chapter in the school's history with her victory in May 1973, but the story continues today as Adrian Farris, a sophomore, won the school's 17th state tennis title by claiming the Class A singles crown in May.

King played on the University of Texas courts in Austin in 1973 and that's where Farris claimed his single's title just a month ago.

In 1973, King, who was then a junior in high school, defeated two other regional champions to win Nazareth's first state title in athletics.

Meanwhile, NHS's boys' and girls' doubles teams fought their way into the championship matches before bowing in the finals and finishing as state runners-up.

Despite the fact that Celeste—a perennial state tennis contender—won both doubles championships, NHS finished with the highest point total in the tournament.

With 15 points for a championship and 10 for a second place, Nazareth generated 35 team points to Celeste's 30.

King started her state tourney climb by defeating Tivoli's Suzie Farris, 6-3, 6-4, then topped Forestbur's Carolyn Conway 6-2, 6-3 for the championship.

Nazareth sophomores Patti Hochstein and Delphine Wethington won a tough match in the first round to advance to the championship match in girls' doubles. There they found the defending state champions, Celeste's Deborah Stutzer and Sharon Gray, to be a little too much, dropping the title match 3-6, 4-6.

The boys' doubles team of Richard Birkenfeld and Glen Ehly had a tough climb throughout, but almost pulled a state championship out of the hat before losing the final match.

After winning the state match, King said "I didn't know whether to laugh or cry after it was over. I think Nazareth getting three teams into the state finals surprised everybody, especially Dad," she added, referring to then NHS Supt. Joe King, who was the tennis coach and King's father.

"Dad helped us a lot," she said. "He gave us the initiative and he always evaluated us after a match and told us what we did wrong. And he encouraged us during a match. He put a lot of faith in us and that helped our confidence."

In 1974, King repeated as state champion her senior year while Hochstein and Wethington returned to the state meet, but lost out in the semifinals.

The doubles team had been denied at the state tourney for two straight years, but they were young and still had one more chance. And that was all they needed.

The third time proved to be the charm for the Hochstein-Wethington duo, who finally won the Class B state doubles championship in 1975. Another doubles team from Nazareth entered the scene that year and qualified for state—Rosemary Schulte and Rachelle

**Best Records of the Century,
GIRLS' TENNIS**
Nazareth High School, 1973-1991
3 State Titles, Girls' Singles
9 State Titles, Girls' Doubles

Pohlmeier.

Although Schulte and Pohlmeier were denied in their first appearance at Austin, they returned to the tournament two years later and didn't lose a single set enroute to a Class A girls' doubles title. That was in 1977.

A year earlier, Danny Gerber qualified for the state tournament and he was the first Nazareth boy to compete in the state meet.

Karleen Kleman and Doretta Ramaekers teamed in 1978 to claim the Class B girls' doubles title, bringing the trophy home to Nazareth for the third year. Glenda Gerber qualified in girls' singles that year and made it to the state finals before losing out. The Nazareth's boys' doubles team of Derwin Huseman and Wayne Heiman made their first appearance at the Class B state tournament that year, also.

Ramaekers teamed with Glenda Gerber to win her second straight Class B doubles crown in 1979. The Nazareth boys also were well represented at state in 1979, sending two doubles teams to Austin—Norman Gerber and Perry Brockman, and Jimmy Huseman and Stanley Hoelting.

After many tries at the state meet, the Nazareth boys managed to bring home a state championship in tennis in 1980.

Gerber and Brockman returned to Austin in 1980 and were determined to come back with a trophy and that's just what they did. The duo won the school's first boys' tennis state title—the Class B boys' doubles crown.

In 1981, Nazareth jumped to Class A, but that didn't stop the Swifts and Swiftettes from winning.

Gerber graduated in 1980, but Brockman still had another year left, so in 1981 he teamed with Calvin Schulte and the two won the Class A state championship in three matches, without dropping a set.

That year, three girls qualified for state, but didn't come away with first place honors.

Roxane Birkenfeld and Sharon Gerber came close, though. The two finished as state runners-up in Class A girls' doubles. Brenda Hoelting qualified for state in girls' singles, but was eliminated before the finals.

She got her chance for a state title the next year, though. Hoelting and Birkenfeld teamed in 1982 and captured the Class A doubles title, the school's seventh girls' tennis championship.

A freshman entered the scene in 1983 and promptly qualified for state, making it all the way to the Class A championship match before she lost out. She was Ramona Heiman, younger sister of former state qualifier, Wayne Heiman, and before her high school career was over, she would have three gold medals around her neck. Leona Gerber, whose brother, Norman, won state earlier, also qualified for state in Class A girls' singles in 1983, but she was eliminated in the semifinals.

So, Gerber and Heiman teamed up in 1984 and 1985 and won back-to-back Class A girls' doubles crowns.

Gerber graduated in 1985 and in 1986, Heiman teamed with cousin Traci Hill and the duo won another Class A doubles crown.

Hill's parents had a double reason to be proud spectators at Austin that year—Traci's brother, Todd, and his partner, Kenny Kern, also captured the Class A boys' doubles title that year, winning after a three-hour duel in the championship match.

Kern and Hill won the championship again in 1987 and another girls team entered the race and also won bragging rights in the state—Traci Hill and Stephanie Brockman, the younger sister of Perry Brockman, who teamed up with Norman Gerber and Calvin Schulte to win state championships in boys doubles earlier.

Traci Hill and Stephanie Brockman qualified for state again in 1988, but the duo were upset in the finals and had to settle for second place.

Stephanie Brockman went out on her own in 1989 and succeeded in capturing the Class A singles title. Tami Ball and Jennifer Brockman represented Nazareth in the Class A doubles tourney, but were eliminated in the semifinal round.

The decade of the 1990s looked bright with the emergence of Adrian Farris, who, as a freshman, competed in the Class A state tournament, working his way into the championship match before bowing out.

Farris got a second shot in 1991, though, and this time he didn't miss a beat enroute to his first Class A singles title. And he did it without losing a set. And he only lost two games along the way.

That's pretty impressive—especially when he's still got two years left in his high school career.

And with his talent and the talents of others like Jodi Johnson, who played in the Class A girls' singles tourney in this year as a junior; and junior Natalie Schmucker, who teamed with senior Stephanie Farris this year to qualify for state in Class A doubles, the future still looks bright for Nazareth's tennis program.

... with more state championships to come.



TIRED BUT HAPPY—Swiftettes celebrate after winning Nazareth High School's third straight girls' cross country state championship in 1985-86. Team members include (from left) Rachel Huseman, Gail Birkenfeld, Kelly Schilling, Debbie Schmucker, Linda Birkenfeld, Monica Kleman and

Stephanie Brockman. Swiftettes won handily, 38-110, over the runner-up Sudan Lady Hornets. Three Swiftettes finished in the top 10 in team scoring including Linda Birkenfeld, fifth; Schmucker, sixth; and Huseman, 10th. Also placing included Schilling, 11th; and Gail Birkenfeld, 12th.

Naz girls win five state titles in cross country during 1980s

Five straight state championships in cross country highlighted the running efforts of Nazareth High School athletes during the 1980s.

The Swiftettes fielded their first cross country team in 1980, and three years later, in 1982-1983, the first girl advanced to the state cross country meet at Georgetown. She was Leona Gerber, and she placed 20th.

When the cross country program was implemented in Nazareth in 1980-81 by then girls basketball coach Joe Lombard, "We Run For Fun," was the motto the team lived by. That motto was adopted by other teams through the years.

That's because the teams didn't take the sport seriously in the beginning, despite winning state championships.

Lombard initiated the cross country program because the meets are held at the start of the school year and it soon became a conditioning workout for the girls' basketball team because most of the cross country competitors were members of the basketball team.

They carried their success in basketball over to cross country and before long, the runners' reputation for success spread across the state.

The five-year streak started in the 1983-84 season.

Nazareth's girls won their first state championship that year with the help of Debbie Schmucker, Renee Ramaekers, Shari Schilling, CeCe Kern, Kelly Schilling, Gail Birkenfeld and Leona Kleman.

The Swiftettes repeated their performance in 1984-85, when Ladda Schmucker, CeCe Kern, Kelly Schilling, Debbie Schmucker,

Leona Gerber, Bobby Hochstein, Missy Brockman, Rachel Huseman and Gail Birkenfeld made the long trip to Georgetown and returned home with a gold trophy and medals.

Linda Birkenfeld paced the 1985-86 and 1986-87 teams, by finishing fifth and third at the state meet, respectively. Her teams won state both years, to give Nazareth four straight championships.

Members of the 1985-86 team were Linda Birkenfeld, Rachel Huseman, Gail Birkenfeld, Kelly Schilling, Debbie Schmucker, Shana Birkenfeld and Stephanie Brockman.

In 1986-87, team members included Nikki Schulte, Marla Ramaekers, Barbie Steffens, Rachel Huseman, Shana Birkenfeld, Stephanie Brockman, Missy Brockman, Bobbie Hochstein and Linda Birkenfeld.

The Swiftettes of 1987-88 captured Nazareth's fifth consecutive—and to date, their last—state championship in cross country.

Girls running for Nazareth that year included Missy Brockman, Rachel Huseman, Shana Birkenfeld, Barbie Steffens, Darlene

Heck, Nikki Schulte, Linda Birkenfeld, Jenny Brockman and Janay Johnson.

The next year the streak ended, but the Swiftettes still qualified for state and placed third, paced by Christy Birkenfeld's ninth place finish. Although the Swiftettes haven't managed to bring home another gold trophy in cross country since the 1987-88 year, they have sent a team to the state championship every year.

The 1989-90 and 1990-91 teams managed to bring home silver medals with second place finishes.

The boys' cross country teams were not without success, either.

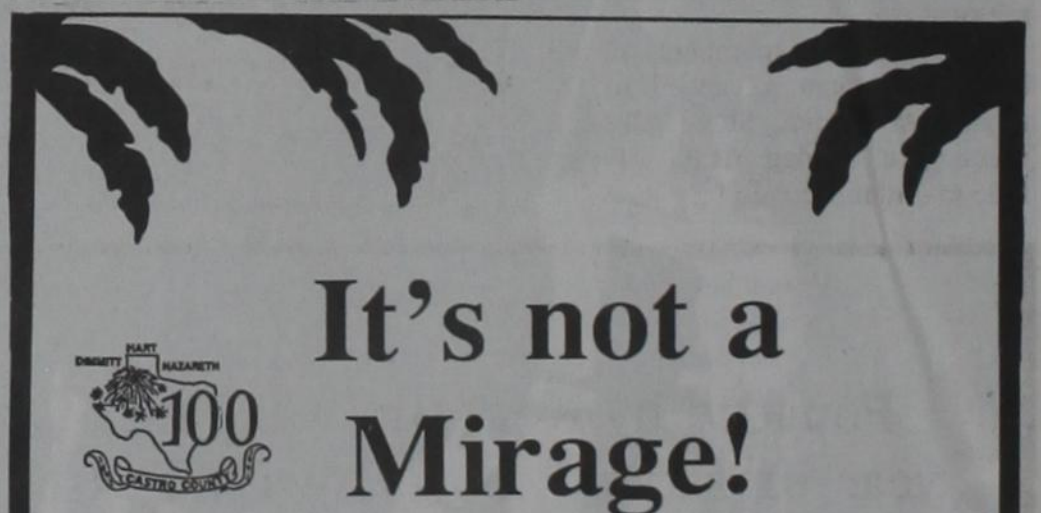
Joel Birkenfeld was the lone boy competing in the sport in 1983-84, but he qualified for regional.

In 1989-90, the boys entered their first cross country team in meets, and they proceeded to claim second place at district and advanced to regional. That was as far as the team would advance.

The boys advanced to regional again in 1990-91, but couldn't manage to nail down a state berth.

Happy 100th, Castro County!

**Best Record of the Century
GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY**
Nazareth High School,
1983-84 to 1987-88
5 Consecutive State Championships



Castro County really did make it to the century mark, and we're looking forward to the next century, continuing to do business with you as our family has since 1964.

Oasis Package Store
George Book, Owner
Nazareth • 945-2646



Fathers and Sons

FATHER: Bill Birdwell, Dimmitt High School's first all-stater in boys' basketball (1944).
SON: Jim Birdwell, Dimmitt's first second-generation all-stater (1975).

FATHER: Robert Wesley Smith, starter on Dimmitt High School's first undefeated boys' basketball team (36-0) in 1951-52.
SON: John Smith, starter on DHS's second undefeated boys' basketball team (38-0) in 1982-83.

FATHER: Kenneth Cleveland, Coleman High School all-stater and career basketball coach.
SON: Kevin Cleveland, Dimmitt High School all-stater and career basketball coach.

Hart netters display talents at state meet

The decade of the 1980s saw the Hart Longhorn and Lady Horn tennis teams advance from the regional tournament to the state tourney for the first time in the school's history.

In 1985, a girls' doubles team and a boys' singles player added another chapter to the school's net history when they advanced to the state tournament.

Castillo went a step farther by finishing third in the state meet, and although another singles player and two doubles teams also have finished third in the state meet since then, Castillo was the first.

In 1986 Ammons returned to the state meet again, this time as a singles player. She finished third.

Also that year, Martin Castillo

and Andy Castillo teamed up to finish third in the boys' doubles tournament at state.

The Castillos competed at state again in 1987, but this time they didn't place in the top three.

In 1988, Andy Castillo teamed with Blair Brown and the pair captured the bronze medal at the state doubles tournament.

The most recent success story about Hart tennis players is April Bennett, who qualified for state as a singles player this year—and she's only a sophomore. That means she's got another two shots at a gold medal.

Hart also has hopes for April's younger sister, Shea, who has been winning tournaments herself.

**Best Records of the Century,
BOYS' TENNIS**
Nazareth High School, 1976-1991
1 State Title, Boys' Singles
4 State Titles, Boys' Doubles

**Best Record of the Century,
GIRLS' BASKETBALL**
1952 Dimmitt Bobbies.....36-0
1984 Nazareth Swiftettes.....35-0
1985 Nazareth Swiftettes.....34-0

Swifts claim first state basketball title in 1986

The fourth time proved to be the charm for the Nazareth Swifts in 1986.

After three previous unsuccessful bids for the state championship in Class A boys' basketball, the Swifts finally captured the elusive crown in 1986.

Nazareth's boys earned their first trip to the Class A state championship in 1980, but lost in the state semifinals to West Lamar, 50-53. Team members that year were Jeff Schmucker, John Steffens, Bryan Huseman, Calvin Schulte, Dale Hoelting, Dwayne Acker and Gary Book, and they were coached by Bud Birks.

That group reached a milestone in Nazareth's boys' basketball history just by getting to state, but three teams in the middle of the decade would top that.

For three straight years, from 1984-86, the Swifts advanced to the state title game, but they only managed to win one championship—in 1986.

In 1984, Coach Joe Lombard

(who was doubling as head girls' and boys' coach at the time) guided Mark Huseman, Randy Leavitt, Scottie Book, Johnny Schmucker, Marvin Schmucker, Sidney Gerber, Eric Wilhelm, Ricky Backus, Chris Gerber and Russell Hoelting, through the regular season, bi-district and area rounds, and the regional tournament to earn a spot in the state tournament with a 32-2 record. After winning the state semifinal game, the Swifts were beaten in the championship game by perennial Class A champion, Snook, 30-39. They finished the season with a 33-3 mark.

But the Swifts were back again next year and this time the road to Austin was a little harder to travel. The Swifts won the Region 1-A title again, but it was a tough battle throughout the tournament. Things definitely didn't let up once the Swifts reached the state semifinals, either. They managed to pull out a 44-42 win over Munday in the contest, but then dropped the cham-

pionship game to LaPoyner by a heart-breaking 43-45 decision.

Members of the 1985 team were Billy Steffens, Kenny Kern, Kevin Hoelting, Randy Leavitt, Russell Hoelting, Chris Gerber, Craig Huseman, Ricky Backus, Darryl Hoelting, Todd Hill and Chris Schmucker. Lombard was the head coach.

Then came the boys of 1986.

They captured the school's first-ever and only state championship in boys' basketball.

The group edged Laneville 57-47 in the state semifinals, then beat Archer City 53-49 in the title game. Darryl Hoelting sank clutch free throws in the final stanza of the title game to keep the Swifts in the lead.

In addition to Hoelting, other team members were Randy Leavitt, Billy Steffens, Kevin Hoelting, Chris Schmucker, Craig Huseman, Todd Hill, Kenny Kern, Marlon Backus, Gregg Gerber and Kyle Schilling. Johnny Hampton coached the championship team.



THE TOP OF THE HEAP—Senior members of the 1986 Nazareth Swifts basketball team raise the state championship trophy in celebration after they won the school's first boys title. The team finished

as the most successful boys team in the school's history, winning the state championship with a 28-6 record. Johnny Hampton coached the Swifts that year.

File Photo

NHS lines up first full gridiron schedule in 1957

Nazareth High School first ventured onto the gridiron during the 1956-57 school year, when a game or two was played, but the school didn't officially adopt football as a "full season" sport until 1957-58.

Dan Schmucker said he remembers playing one game against Spade before football was officially listed as a sport at NHS and he said the Swifts lost by quite a good margin.

After that a team was organized for the next year, Fred Scott was named coach and they played nine games. They won their season opener over the Petit Eagles, 27-7.

A lot of the early six-man games which the Swifts played, were played at Hart on the nights when

the Longhorns were off, or when they were out of town. Hart's field was wider and longer than the regulation six-man fields were supposed to be, so tapes were rolled out and nailed down to mark off the sidelines and end zones.

In 1960, the Swifts captured the school's first district championship in football (in six-man play) and advanced to the playoffs.

In 1960-61 Nazareth was promoted to an eight-man lineup and they played that way for four years before switching to an 11-man format.

The eight-man football team won district and bi-district in 1963, but lost to Darrouzett in regional play.

Jimmy Hoelting was named an

all-state end that year.

During this time, football was played on the community baseball facilities, which had been located along Highway 86, just east of the city.

Hoelting said the school allowed the Swifts to play three 11-man practice games that year, but the team still competed as an eight-man team in the playoffs. James Gibson, who now coaches at West Texas High School, was the head coach for the Swifts in 1963-64.

The football field located at Nazareth's school was used for the first time during the 1964-65 season, when the school switched from eight- to 11-man football.

Naz golfers achieve district success

Golfers in Nazareth have enjoyed success through the years, with several teams and individuals advancing to regional.

The boys' team in 1986 was just one spot shy of advancing to the state meet. They finished third at regional, just one spot short of earning a state berth. Billy Steffens and Dezane Schacher each placed third at district, in the boys and girls meets, respectively.

Nazareth adopted a golf program in 1979 and since then the boys' team has advanced players to regional nine times. The girls sent golfers to regional for seven years.

The first year a girls' team advanced to regional was 1991. Before that, only individuals placed and district and advanced on to the regional meet.

In 1980, two members of the boys' golf team advanced to regional. At district, Steve Albracht winning a sudden death playoff hole to claim second place medalist

honors. Teresa Brockman was the first girl to earn a spot in the regional meet.

Nazareth qualified its whole boys' team for regional in 1981 for the first time in the school's history. That team finished seventh at regional.

There wasn't a golf team fielded in 1982, but in 1983, another team was created and it won the district title for the first time. Dale Albracht placed second. Liz Albracht qualified for regional with a third place district finish in the girls' meet. At the regional tournament,

the 1983 team placed 12th.

In 1984, Liz Albracht once again finished third in district while the boys team placed second in district and eighth at regional.

Albracht repeated as a medalist at district while the boys' team qualified for regional again in 1985.

The boys' qualified teams for regional in 1987, 1990 and 1991 while the girls' team qualified in 1991.

No Nazareth golf team or individual has advanced to state, to date.

**Best Record of the Century,
BOYS' TRACK & FIELD
Dimmitt Bobcats, 1950-51
State Runners-up**

Swift all-staters

Here's a list of the Nazareth High School boys basketball players that earned all-state, academic all-state or all-state tournament honors in the school's history.

- 1979: Jeff Schmucker.
- 1980: Jeff Schmucker.
- 1982: Calvin Schulte.
- 1984: Johnny Schmucker and Mark Huseman.
- 1985: Chris Gerber, Ricky Backus and Russell Hoelting.
- 1986: Darryl Hoelting and Randy Leavitt.
- 1987: Kenny Kern.

The first black athlete to play in a University Interscholastic League state boys' basketball tournament was Junior Coffey of Dimmitt High School in 1960. His team finished as state runner-up to Linden-Kildare.

HHS votes to organize football team

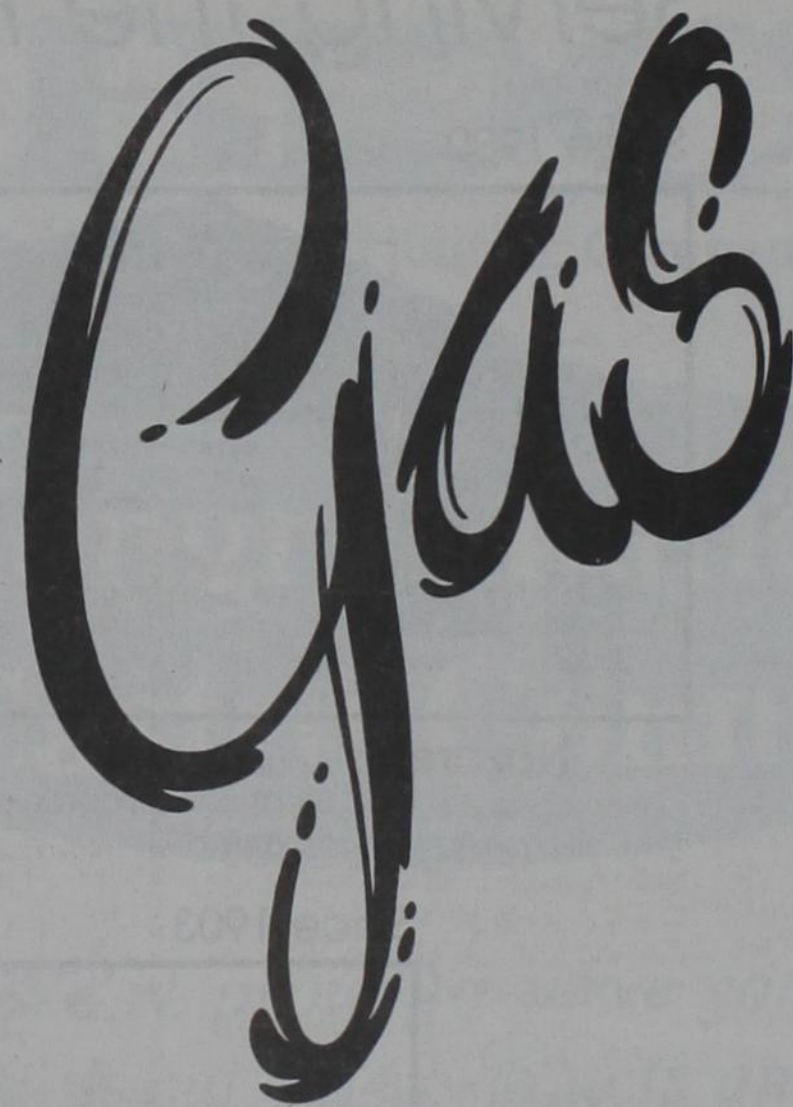
Hart High School joined the ranks of other District 3-B schools by deciding to field its first football team in December 1954.

The school officials and townspeople had contemplated such a move earlier, but not until the December 1954 meeting of the board was the decision made which gave Hart its first football team in the history of the school.

Seven games had already been scheduled for the 1955 season, but only after the board sanctioned the move did the tentative gridiron slate become official. Two more games were scheduled to give the school a completed schedule which included games against Kress, Whitharral, Anton, Amherst, Plains, Bovina and Farwell. All of the games counted as conference tilts.



Happy Birthday



... the energy of the future

Natural gas first became available in Castro County about 1930, and through the years has been proven to be the most efficient of all the major energies.

As Castro County enters its second century, there's still more natural gas underground than we have used so far. And new recovery technologies and energy-saving appliances will mean still more ... as will your continued wise use of gas.

Clean, efficient, economical gas is truly the energy of the future.

Happy Centennial, Castro County. We're glad to be serving you!

ENERGAS

Efficient Gas Energy for West Texas

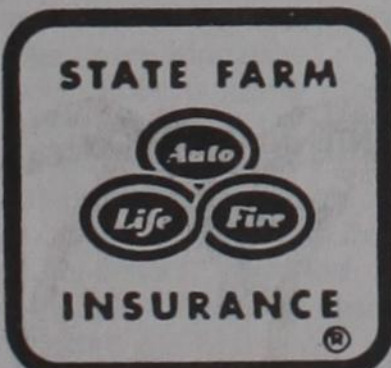


Founded by Kent Birdwell, our agency is in its 40th year of service to you, with Russel Birdwell taking over in 1991.

Through the years, we have continued to offer efficient, friendly service through the State Farm Insurance Companies.

As this century lapses, we want to renew our policy of good wishes for Dimmitt and Castro County.

Happy 100th Castro County!



Russel Birdwell Insurance

116 E. Jones, Dimmitt • 647-3427

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.

State Farm Insurance Companies
Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois

Bobbies own seven state title trophies

By DON NELSON

Dimmitt's Bobbies were winning state championships long before the Bobcats ever earned their first one.

In fact, the Bobbies captured seven state titles over a 25-year period of the county's first century.

Dimmitt had some crackerjack girls' basketball teams in the 1930s. They did most of their playing on outdoor dirt courts, and played half-court offense and defense, with six girls on a team—three on each end of the court.

The Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) organized the state playoffs in those days.

The Bobbies—originally called the Whirlwinds, then Bobcats, and later Bobbies—advanced to the state tournament for the first time in 1930, with Henry Loter as their coach. The state tourney was held in Celeste that year, and the team made the trip by train, with much hoopla at Hart, Plainview and other towns along the way as they rode down and returned home.

That team lost to Athens in the championship game, and produced Dimmitt's first two all-staters—Lillie Bell Harp, a guard, and Zonell Brooks, the jumping center. The squad also included Ethel Womble, Ona Fay Smith, Alyne Creager, Leona Hastings (third team all-state), Louise Houtchings, Evelyn Blanton, Elfreda Murphy, Irene Waggoner, Effie Elder (captain and second team all-state), Ruth Waggoner and Willie Mildred James.

The Bobbies captured their first state championship the following year, defeating Mengus, 30-26, in the 1931 title game. All-staters on that team were jumping center Zonell Brooks, outside forward Frankie Senters and guard Evelyn Blanton. At least one existing record also shows Ona Fae Smith to have been an all-stater on that team.

Dimmitt repeated as the state girls' basketball champions in 1932, defeating Celeste, 42-34, in the title game. Senters repeated as an all-state forward, and was joined on the all-state team by teammates Ona Fay Smith, a forward, and

Elaine Dyer, a guard.

The Bobbies went to state at least twice more in the 1930s, winning consolation under Coach Troutman in 1935 and losing to Ropesville in the second round in 1936, under Coach LeRoy Landers. Girls on those two teams included Ina Dee Merritt, Florene Meek, Kitten Smith, Pauline Rothwell, Lucille Dyer, Billie Dyer, Mary Alice McLean, Marjorie Butler, Marie Langford, Helen Dixon and Mildred Lust.

Just as Dimmitt High School had ushered in the '30s with state-class teams, so it did in the '50s. In fact, the Bobbies were the dominant team in Texas girls' basketball during half of that decade.

It was the team of 1949-50 that started the Bobbies on their Fabulous Fifties championship path that led to national fame for their school and their coach, John Blaine.

These girls were the first in a girls' state tourney to use the one-handed push shot—a technique used previously only by boys. That's partly because they grew up practicing against the boys—who also had a state-class program going under Blaine by that time.

After barely missing out on a trip to state in 1949, the 1950 Bobbies not only won a berth in the state tournament, but captured the championship over 15 other teams from schools of all sizes.

Starters on the 1950 championship team were forwards Pat Tate, Mona Simmons and Lometa Odom (all-state) and guards Mauriene Smithson (all-state), Phyllis Behrends and LaNelle Walthall.

This team, like all the Bobbies teams of the '50s, brought a faster game to the state tournament than many of their opponents were accustomed to seeing. Still playing the six-girl, half-court game and restricted to two bounces on dribbles, the Bobbies seldom let the ball touch the floor. It was pass-and-move, pass-and-move until there was an opening for a shot or a feed.

After surviving a fierce shootout against their powerful "neighbor-

hood" rivals, Cotton Center, in the semifinals, the Bobbies went up against defending state champion Seagoville in the championship game. Although the Dragonettes had all their players back from the previous year, the Bobbies defeated them by 15 points, with subs playing most of the final quarter.

The Bobbies were decimated by the graduation of four starters, but Blaine built the next year's team around Odom and Smithson and captured another state championship. Starters on the 1951 team were Odom at post forward, Smithson at post guard, Johnnie Godfrey and Mary Nelson at outside forwards, and Katy Coke, Decimae Dennis and Mitzi Wilson at outside guards.

Odom and Smithson repeated as all-staters in 1951. In fact, both later were named to the All-Time All-State Team of the Texas Girls' Basketball League, and would later become all-Americans at Wayland College, along with Pat Tate and Margaret Odom.

The 1950 and 1951 teams both won the mythical "national championship" in high-school girls' basketball by defeating the Iowa state champions in post-season games. The 1950 interstate game was played in the Baylor Field House in Waco, and the 1951 game was in the Drake University Field House in Des Moines, Iowa.

1952 saw the best year in the history of Dimmitt High School girls' basketball—an undefeated season. That state championship team had eight "regulars"—Mitzi Wilson, Decimae Dennis and Katy Coke at guards, and Lometa Odom at post forward, and Shirley Markley and Mary Nelson sharing time with Yvonne Bearden and Darlene Cates at the outside forward positions.

Odom set an all-time single-game individual scoring record in the Bobbies' second-round game against Penelope in 1952. Despite playing on a bad ankle that X-rays later showed was broken, she scored 78 points as the Bobbies won the game, 96-54. That was probably an all-time team scoring

record in those days, too.

Odom was chosen as an all-stater for the third year in a row, and Wilson was named the all-state post guard that year.

For many years, high-school girls' basketball was coordinated by the Texas Girls Basketball League (also known as the McCamey League, after its founder). The league was headquartered at Baylor University, and state tournaments were played in Waco.

But about 1950 the University Interscholastic League—which ran all other high-school sports and literary competitions—organized a girls' basketball program and urged all public schools with girls' programs to switch.

Dimmitt High School resisted for several years, as long as the Bobbies were the defending state champs of the McCamey League—which still was the stronger program—although the handwriting

was on the wall.

After the 1952 season, the Blaine era ended when the Hall of Fame coach resigned to accept a coaching position at Sundown. He was succeeded by Leo Fields. After the Bobbies failed to make it back to the state tourney in Waco in 1953, Fields' first year here, DHS quietly made the switch to the UIL program.

The following year, the Bobbies went "back" to state—although to Austin this time, to their first UIL tourney—and won it all. They came from behind in the state championship game to defeat Granbury, 66-60, for the 1954 title. Post forward Margaret Odom set a single-game scoring record with 48 points in that game, and a tournament scoring record with 109 points in three games.

Named with Odom to the 1954 all-state team were guards Dalvia Howard and Mary Ann Witt and

forward Mary Nelson. Finishing out the Bobbies' 1954 starting lineup were forward Darlene Cates and guard Sonya Lowe.

In 1955, the Bobbies went back to Austin and won their last state championship—their fifth in six years. Team starters were Margaret Odom (all-state) at post forward, Darlene Cates and Ann Spear at outside forwards, Shirley DeLozier (all-state) at post guard, and Sonya Lowe and Mary Ann Witt at outside guards.

Since their six-year domination of Texas girls' basketball in two leagues, the Bobbies have produced several other state-class teams—notably under Van Kountz and Jimmy Hoyle in the 1970s—and they have a state-class program now under Coach Richard Wood.

The magical state championship has eluded the Bobbies since 1955, but their fans keep hoping for a return to those glory years.



THE 1952 BOBBIES posted the best record of any of Dimmitt High School's five state championship teams of the 1950s, finishing their season with a 36-0 mark. In FRONT ROW, from left, are Darlene Cates, Mary Ann Witt, Katy Coke, Connie McRee, Mary Nelson, Yvonne Bearden, Decimae Dennis

and Shirley Markley. STANDING, from left, are Coach John Blaine, manager Margaret Odom, assistant manager Dalvia Howard, Jacqueline Cartwright, Lometa Odom (all-state), Braunita Cole, Mitzi Wilson (all-state), Peggy Alley, Barbara Clark and manager Carolyn Campbell.

Serving the People of Castro County

Since 1900



Nazareth: Angela Acker
Stephanne Dobmeier
Beverly Hill

Since 1903



Hart: Erma Kennedy
Betty Ritter
Betty Sanders
Gwen Snttker

Since 1891



Dimmitt: Claude Annen
Shorty Barlow
Twila Bingham
Gene Broadstreet
Art Cano
Floyce George
Jim Hakala
Mack Henson
Donna Reinart
Bill Sava
Sue Tischler



The United States Postal Service

"Helpin' People Keep In Touch"

Special Castro County Centennial Cancellations Available As Shown:



CENTENNIAL STATION
AUGUST
10
1991
HART, TX 79043



CENTENNIAL STATION
AUGUST
16 & 17
1991
DIMMITT, TX 79027



CENTENNIAL STATION
SEPTEMBER
2
1991
NAZARETH, TX 79063

DHS gridgers don't stray far from home

By DON NELSON

When they played their first two football games in 1929, they were called the Dimmitt Cubs. The rest of that year, the Castro County News called them the Daring Demons. The following year, they officially became the Bobcats. They've been the Bobcats ever since.

Dimmitt High School has produced some exceptional football teams through the years, but no Bobcat team has ever advanced past the regional finals.

DHS fielded its first team in 1929, and lost its first game to Turkey, 0-28. But the next week the school recorded its first football victory by downing Muleshoe, 12-7.

That first team later defeated Tulia 6-0, but lost the rest of its games — to Farwell, Lockney, Farwell, Tulia and Muleshoe, although the scores of those losses weren't publicly reported.

Starters on that first football team were Ed Bills, Spurgeon Webb, Winifred Fuller and Elbert Newton in the backfield, Greer Estes and Thelbert Newton at ends, Gaston Jackson and Glenn Maples at tackles, Marvin Rocky and Don Malone at guards, and Truett Boothe at center.

In 1934, the News printed a Page 1 story that said DHS would field a football team for the first time "in several years," but no game results were ever reported.

In 1935, DHS played a full 10-game schedule and went 4-5 in its first nine games. The result of the final game of the season, against Claude, wasn't recorded.

First District Title

1943 was a banner year for Bobcat football. That year, Supt. John Blaine—a former player at West Texas State—was "conscripted" by the school board to coach the team. He introduced the T formation, installed senior Bill Birdwell as the Texas Panhandle's first T-formation quarterback, and the Bobcats won the school's first district championship in football.

Other starters on that team were Raymond Mobley at right halfback, Troy Stewart at left halfback, John Curtis at fullback, Kenneth Jackson at left end, Jim Dyer at left tackle, Bill Gladman at left guard, J. A. Bagwell at center, Marvin Cryer at right guard, Ray Aldridge at right tackle and Glenn Godfrey at right end.

After a 7-14 loss to Olton in their first game, the 1943 Bobcats held the rest of their opponents scoreless, defeating Lockney 32-0, Dumas 24-0, Friona 13-0, Tulia 19-0 and Hereford 45-0 for the district title. The team lost to the powerful Phillips Blackhawks in the bi-district championship game.

J. O. Seale, vocational ag teacher, did double duty as football coach in 1944, and when World War II ended in 1945, Velton Sargee was hired as head coach and athletic director. After records of 4-6 in 1945 and '46, Sargee's 1947 team posted a 9-1 record, losing only to Tulia, to finish second in district. The Bobcats were district runners-up again in '48 with an 8-2 record. Quarterback Lonnie Rice, halfback Jack Ziegler, linebacker Junior Fullmer and guard Jack Miller were all-district players on that team.

Sargee was succeeded by Jess Wright Jr. in 1948. That year's Bobcats climbed to the No. 1 ranking in the region, only to be toppled by Hale Center by a margin of two first downs, and finished as district runners-up.

John Blaine resigned as superintendent in 1949 to return to full-time coaching, and built a successful football program that climaxed with his teams of 1950 and 1951 going into the playoffs.

The 1949 Bobcats posted a 9-1 record, losing only to Olton to finish as district runners-up.

Bi-District Champs

The 1950 Bobcats were the first DHS football team to win a bi-district championship and advance to the regional finals. They outscored their opponents 350-63, including five shutouts, and recorded the school's record high score in a 92-6 victory over Springlake.

The 1950 Bobcats finished their regular season with a 7-1-1 record, tied with Olton and Sudan for the District 3-B title. After winning the coin toss, they defeated New Deal 52-7 in bi-district, then lost to Happy, 0-13, in the regional championship game.

The starting lineup on the 1950 team included Gene Easley, Jack



THE BEST D.H.S. FOOTBALL record was compiled by the 1951-52 Bobcat team, which went undefeated to the Region I-A finals, where they suffered a disputed 19-20 loss to Abernathy. In **FRONT ROW**, from left, are Bill Gregory, Marvin Axe, Milton Bagwell, Roy Murphy, James Dobbs, Donald Wright and Wesley Smith. **MIDDLE ROW**, from left: Assistant Coach Aubrey Lester,

Glenn Lust, Douglas Dennis, Jack Hodges, Don Ziegler, John Gilbreath, Jimmie Howell, Weldon Warren, Glenn Brown, Bill Hunter and Coach John Blaine. **BACK ROW**, from left: Manager Jack Copeland, Maxie Warren, Franklin Brown, Edgar Dennis, Wayne Smithson, Bobby Jones, Elmo Blackwell and Paul Stanford.

Dyer, Glenn Brown, Weldon Warren, Douglas Dennis and Jack Hodges in the backfield and Jimmy Cluck, Jim Jowell, Donald Wright, Bill Murphy, Marvin Axe, David Behrends, Don Nelson and Bill Gregory in the line. Easley was the region's high scorer and earned all-regional honors along with Murphy, Jowell and Behrends.

Best Season

The 1951 Bobcats posted a record that's still the best in DHS's football history. They went undefeated all the way to the Region I-A championship game, where they lost to Abernathy by a point.

That team outscored its opponents 382-65 during the nine-game regular season, then defeated Canadian 25-6 for the bi-district title before suffering a disputed 20-19 loss to Abernathy in the regional championship game.

Halfback Glenn Brown was the region's high scorer and was named to the all-regional team along with quarterback Douglas Dennis, tackle Marvin Axe and end Bill Gregory. Other team members were Weldon Warren (all-district halfback), Roy Murphy (all-district center), Milton Bagwell (all-district guard), Jack Hodges, Bill Hunter, Glenn Lust, Jimmie Howell, Wesley Smith, Donald Wright, James Dobbs, Elmo Blackwell, Paul Stanford, Don Ziegler, John Gilbreath, Bobby Jones, Franklin Brown, Maxie Warren, Wayne Smithson and Edgar Dennis.

The team manager for both the 1950 and 1951 Bobcats was Jack Copeland, who went on to become the trainer for the Hardin-Simmons Cowboys, the Ohio State Buckeyes and the New York Titans, forerunners of the Jets.

After a 3-7 season in 1953, the Bobcats won the district championship in 1954 under Coach Leo Fields, losing to McLean, 49-13, in bi-district.

The 1955 and '56 teams both went 5-5, then Coach J. D. Covington guided the Bobcats to district titles in 1957, '58 and '60. The

1957 team tied Lockney 13-13 in bi-district, but lost on first downs and finished with a 9-1-1 mark.

The Coffey Years

Covington's district championship teams of '58 and '60 featured the school's first black athlete, Junior Coffey, who was to go on to become an all-American at the University of Washington and play for the Green Bay Packers and Atlanta Falcons.

The 1957 district championship team's members were Carlos Barnes, Truman Touchstone, Keith Lowe, Jimmy Curtis, James Collins, Zay Gilbreath, Jerry Hyatt, Norman Nelson, David Bradley, Marion Oakley, Boyce Tate, Jimmy Tate, Cary Johnson, Mike Bailey, Houston Frye, Quinfred Oakley, Coyce Wilkinson, George Frye, Berle Hyatt, Leon Gunn, Jack Ragland, Gordon Thanisch, Jerry Cluck, Hal Ratcliff, Jerry McGowan and Gary Cleaver.

The 1958 district champions posted an 8-2 record, then lost to Abernathy, 20-26, in bi-district. The roster included Coffey, James Collins, Carlos Barnes, Stanley Nelson, Ben Holcomb, Mike Bailey, Norman Nelson, Myles Sadler, Jerry Hyatt, Jimmy Slough, Gordon Thanisch, James Ragland, Jimmy Curtis, Don Warren, Jerry Blackwell, Hal Ratcliff and Romero Garcia.

The 1959 team compiled an 8-2 record also but didn't get to go into the playoffs, losing to Tulia 14-16 and to Canyon 12-14 in their final two games.

The 1960 champions finished the regular season with a 7-3 mark, then lost to Olton, 12-15, in bi-district.

Members of the 1960 squad were Coffey, James Cowell, Donnie Nelson, Kelton Cates, Stanley Nelson, Roy Battles, Darless Goolsby, Gene Bradley, Howard Cummings, Mike Burkett, Jimmy DiCuffa, Jim-

my Chavers, Mike Chaney, Michael Calvert, Dwight Cathy, Jimmy Barber, Mike Goodwin, Kenneth Odum, Stanton Calvert, Leroy O'Brian, Wayne Meachum, James Powell, Aaron Hutto, Charley Flores, Glenn Boozer, Jim Ratcliff, Harold Golden and Jim Cowser.

mark before disaster struck. After rousing down nine opponents by an aggregate score of 274-50, the '74 Bobcats saw their dream of an undefeated season shattered in a 14-28 loss to Olton in the district championship game, with star runningback Robert Mayberry hobbled by a sprained knee.

It was one of the most exciting teams ever to wear the purple and white of DHS, and probably the best team Dimmitt ever had stay home from the playoffs.

Team members were Brad Sanders, Travis Hampton, Robert Mayberry, Gene Veals, Cliff Parker, Robert Horton, Lance Loudder, Dusty Dobbs, Rick Wright, Shannon Truelock, Larry Duke, Harold Love, Randy Porter, Robert Calhoun, Kenny Smith, Larry Robb, Ronnie Lawson, Kyle Touchstone, Thompson Mayberry, Leon Sandoval, Keith Goldsmith, Mark Welch, Greg Burks and Mark Cluck.

Three players on that '74 team—Robert Mayberry, Gene Veals and Rick Wright—went on to play college football.

In 1975, the Bobcats finished 4-6 under Bobby King.

Last Playoff Year

The last trek into the playoffs

On the Wane

DHS football waned for several years after that as the Bobcats posted records of 5-5 in '61, 4-6 in '62, 2-7-1 in '63, 1-7-2 in '64, and 1-9 in '65.

Coach Brown L. Smith brought the Bobcats back to prominence in the late '60s, posting marks of 5-4-1 in '66, 6-3-1 in '67, 8-2 in '68 and 7-3 in '69 and '70. But none of these teams, as exciting as they were, could crack the playoffs.

After Smith's '71 and '72 teams both finished with 3-7 records, Deane Wright led the Bobcats to a 6-4 mark in 1973.

Best Team Not To

In 1974, Wright led a fabulous Bobcat Wishbone-T team to a 9-0

record and the district championship. That team lost to Floydada, 8-29, in bi-district.

Offensive and defensive starters on the '76 district championship team were Lane Loudder, Donnie Carpenter, David Malone, Joe Aleman, Kevin Hucks, Reggie Washington, Larry Bossett, Dennis Veals, Jody Minnick, Louis Perez, Brad DuLaney, Scott Armstrong, Jim Wright, Ricky Hunter, Steve Anthony, Gary Nutt, Eddie Chavers, Tommy Kenworthy, Thompson Mayberry and Tony Washington.

Under Coach Jerry Vance, the Bobcats finished 5-5 in '77 and 4-6 in '78. Under Coach Wayne Garner, DHS posted marks of 3-7 in '79 and 2-8 in '80, then the Bobcats went 3-7 under Coach Mike Major.

The 1982 team, coached by Gene Griffin, finished in a second-place tie, and Griffin's 1983 Bobcats finished 4-6. Under the four-year tenure of Coach Clifford Smith, DHS posted records of 6-4 in '84, 5-4-1 in '85, 2-7-1 in '86 and 2-8 in '87.

Coach Army Salinas guided the Bobcats to a second-place tie with a 7-2-1 record in 1988 and posted a 5-4-1 mark in '89 and a 7-3 showing in '90.

1983 Lady Horns capture Hart's only district title

First Ever are the words engraved on the one and only gold basketball in the Hart High School trophy case, and that trophy, which is for the district championship, belongs to the 1983 Lady Horns.

The Lady Horns of 1983 were the most successful basketball team in the history of the Hart schools.

They won district, then played Plains in the bi-district round, but they lost that game by four points.

The team finished the season with a 21-5 record and four girls made the all-district team while their coach, Ken Hoskins, was coach of the year. The all-district players included Linda Washing-

ton, who also received "Most Valuable Player" honors in district; Robin Bowden, Grace Bonsal and Melissa Kittrell.

Other team members included, Neomi Ponce, Nena Castillo, Linda Washington, Susie Reyna, Diane Montiel, Lori Sarabia, Robin Bowden, and Sheryl McLain.

To date, this is the only district title won by a Hart basketball team—boys or girls.



BUDC

Budweiser Distributing Company

Congratulations Castro County!

We're proud to serve you with our fine products and wish you the best both now and in the future.

DRINK RESPONSIBLY



"Making friends is our business"

Bobcat all-staters

Here's a list of the Dimmitt High School football players that earned all-state in the school's history.

- 1960: Junior Coffey.
- 1966: Mike Bruegel.
- 1970: Randy Schumacher.
- 1982: Jeff Watts.

Bobbies' cross country teams won regional titles

Two third place finishes—one by an individual and the other by a team — are the highlight of the Dimmitt Bobbies cross country history.

The Bobbies have advanced to the Class AAA state meet as a team since 1988-89, and this year (1990-91) they managed to pull out a third place team finish.

The year before (1989-90), Dimmitt's Halley Bradley had finished third overall with a time of 12:20, the best of any Dimmitt runner.

Renea Harman started the state qualifying string off when she competed at the meet as an individual in 1987-88. She finished 12th overall with a time of 13:18. Harman competed on each of the state-qualifying teams between 1988-91.

In 1988-89, the team finished eighth overall and Harman paced them with a 27th place showing. Other team members included Heather Moore, Christina Velasquez, Beatrice Ramos, Becky Rodriguez, Sydelle McDonald and Kim Spring.

Bradley's third place finish in 1989-90 was the best on that year's team, which included Harman, Christina Velasquez, Rosie Enriquez, Becky Rodriguez, Monica Garcia and Beatrice Ramos.

Bradley again paced the Bobbies at the 1990-91 meet, recording an 11th place finish in a time of 12:37. Team members were Renee Garcia, Selma Montalvo, Bradley, Monica Garcia, Amanda Flores, Angelica Garcia and Harman.



QUARTERBACK SNACK — Sundown quarterback Rocky Winn spent most of the 1983 zone playoff game trying to avoid a hungry Nazareth defense. Swifts (from left) Frank Wortham, Billy Huseman and Francis Kern deflect a pass, then move in for the kill. The 1983-84 team finished the season with a 10-2 record and made it to the regional playoffs before being eliminated from the state title chase by Knox City. *File Photo*

In 1983-84 season

Swifts football team qualified for regional

A group of determined boys rushed, passed and tackled their way to Nazareth High School's first-ever playoff berth in the school's 11-man history during the 1983-84 season.

That team, coached by Ken Cole started a three-year run in which the Swifts made it into the state playoffs, and that crew was the most successful team in the school's history.

After earning the playoff berth, the 1983-84 Swifts won a 2-A North Zone Playoff against Sundown (33-14), then upset perennial playoff contender, Wheeler, by a 20-14 count in the bi-district round. Next up for the "Cinderella" Swifts was the regional round and Knox City, but that's as far as the Swifts would go in the playoffs, losing 20-6.

But that team still holds the record for the most success by a Nazareth team.

Prior to the Knox City game, the Swifts had shut out five opponents and gave up an average of 5.3 points per game. They finished the year with a 10-2.

Francis Kern earned all-state second team honors for his work on the defensive line that year.

In 1984-85, the Swifts operated under a new head coach, Rex Minshew, and they breezed through the 10-game regular season scheduled with an unblemished record to win the district title, then won the zone championship by a penetration.

The Swifts tangled with Whiteface in the zone championship and after four full quarters, the teams had battled to a 20-20 tie. Nazareth

advanced to the bi-district round by one 20-yard penetration.

Wheeler got revenge for the 1983-84 season defeat at the hands of the Swifts by beating Nazareth in the bi-district round in 1984-85, 25-0, ending the Swifts season with a 10-1-1 record.

"Our toughest games during the year were probably Valley and Whiteface — and of course, Wheeler," Minshew said after the bi-district clash. "I felt all along that we could make it into the playoffs, but I didn't know we would go undefeated during the regular season."

From the 1984-85 team, Chris Gerber was one of two players from a Class A school that was named to the 53-player 1984 All-Texas Super Team's defensive backfield.

The next year Nazareth also got past district and into the zone playoff, but that was as far as the 1985-86 team would go. They lost to Amherst 22-13 in the zone playoff matchup to finish with a 9-2 season record.

The Swifts didn't make it to the playoffs again until 1990-91, but one team between the years deserves a lot of credit—the Swifts of 1987-88.

That team finished the year with an 8-1-1 record and just barely missed snaring the second playoff berth from their district. The Swifts breezed through their pre-district without a loss, but lost to Vega in district, the team that won the district championship. That was the Swifts only loss of the season.

The second playoff spot wasn't

decided until the last game of the regular season, when Nazareth traveled to Happy.

After a hard-fought battle, the teams had battled to a 16-16 tie, but Happy had advanced inside Nazareth's 20-yard line one too many times and was given the playoff nod by a penetration.

"The guys did an excellent job all year long," Minshew said following the Happy loss. "There weren't many people around who thought we'd finish the season at 8-1-1. We didn't have a lot of great talent, but the kids played well together. I couldn't have asked for a better group of kids (to work with)."

Three Swifts from the 1987-88 team earned all-state honors including quarterback Chris Schmucker, first team; wide receiver Heath Schulte, first team; and wide receiver Brad Hoelting, second team.

The Swifts finally got back into the playoff hunt in 1990-91 when they closed out the regular season with a 7-3 record and finished second in their district behind state-ranked Farwell. Rick Price was the head coach.

The Swifts took on Wheeler in bi-district, but were eliminated from the playoffs when the Mustangs won 21-6.



First Dimmitt football team is fielded in 1929

The first team ever to take to a football field wearing Dimmitt High School uniforms, was fielded in 1929.

Parker, Glenn Maples, Elbert Newton, Thelbert Bills, Winfred Fuller, Heavy Newton, Edwin Holland, James Booth and Greer Estes.

The team practiced at the athletic field west of the high school building under the guidance of Coach Loter.

Since it was the first year for Dimmitt to field a high school football team, officials "encountered some difficulty in mustering sufficient material for a strong squad. This was not the lack of material, but rather a reluctance on the part of the boys in venturing into the sport" because it was new.

Principal Roberts and Coach Loter urged that all students interested should report to all meetings and after enduring "exhaustive teaching and practices," they would soon know the intricacies of the game.

The first-year schedule follows:
 SEPT. 13: Dimmitt at Tulia.
 SEPT. 20: Turkey at Dimmitt.
 SEPT. 27: Muleshoe at Dimmitt.
 OCT. 4: Farwell at Dimmitt.
 OCT. 11: Anton at Dimmitt.
 OCT. 18: Tulia at Dimmitt.
 OCT. 25: Dimmitt at Amherst.
 NOV. 1: Dimmitt at Turkey.
 NOV. 8: Dimmitt at Muleshoe.
 NOV. 15: Amherst at Dimmitt.
 NOV. 22: Dimmitt at Farwell.

The following is a list of the squad as selected at the initial 1929 practice and organization meeting: Pat Hardy, Junior Rothwell, Bill Webb, Marvin Rockey, Don Malone, Oattie Malone, Jack Crump, Clyde Tisdale, Young Cooper, Jack



Best Record of the Century, FOOTBALL
 1976 Hart Longhorns
 State Quarterfinalists



We Get The Job Done

And we're glad to serve you as we have since 1983 with the best in heating and air conditioning.

We're wishing Dimmitt and Castro County a Happy 100th Anniversary!

Bryant's Sales & Service

210 W. Bedford

647-3149

Life seemed simpler in the old days ...



Today, things aren't very easy for the farmer. Production costs are up—prices for your products are down. We can't promise to turn the calendar back to the "good old days" ... but we may be able to provide some solutions. Come see us—we care!

And we wish all our friends in Castro County a Happy 100th Anniversary.



FIRST NATIONAL BANK

P. O. BOX 47 • TULIA, TEXAS 79088
 PHONE 995-2301 MEMBER F D I C TIME & TEMPERATURE 995-2351



HIGHEST STEP EVER — Hart Longhorn captains Gary Jackson and Bryan Irons (45) hoist the first regional championship trophy ever won by a Castro County team. The Horns beat Memphis,

14-12, in 1976, to win the Region 1-A championship, but fell to Segraves in the state quarterfinals, 6-26. *File Photo*

We're proud
to be
serving
you . . .



Commissioners' Court

SEATED: County Judge Polly Simpson, Commissioner Harold Smith, Precinct 1.
STANDING, from left: Commissioners Jeff Robertson, Precinct 3; Vincent Guggemos,
Precinct 4; Dale Winders, Precinct 2.



County Department Heads

FRONT ROW, from left: Tax Assessor-Collector Billy Hackleman, County/District
Attorney Jimmy Davis, Constable James Dobbs, Sheriff Lonny Rhynes. BACK ROW,
from left: Auditor Shirley Brockman, Treasurer Oleta Raper, County/District Clerk Joy
Jones.

during our
county's
Centennial
year!

THE ELECTED OFFICIALS OF
CASTRO COUNTY





Castro County Centennial PERSONALITIES

1891
◆
1991

Hart farmer's collections include 'magical' lamps, miniature tractors

By KATHLEEN LATHAM

When someone first says Aladdin lamps, it might conjure images of magic genies and flying carpets.

However, to collector Paul Brooks, Aladdin Lamps is the name of a company that has manufactured oil-burning lamps for almost 70 years.

Brooks is a collector - from Aladdin Lamps to peddle tractors, from promotional mirrors and wall clocks to toy tractors.

Brooks, a Hart resident, has more than 60 Aladdin lamps in his antique oil-burning lamp collection.

The oldest lamp in Brooks' collection was made between 1922 and 1928, and it is one of the first Aladdin lamps. Each design was produced in limited, numbered quantities, so it is easy to know which year a lamp was made in,

Brooks said. "Scarcity more than age determines the value of anything you collect," Brooks said.

"That one sold for \$5.45 in a 1934 catalogue, while now it could sell for anywhere from \$100 to \$1,500," Brooks explained.

The Aladdin Lamp factory is still in operation and does a big business in Central America where electricity has not reached the more remote regions and power outages are frequent. The light from one lamp gives off the same amount of light as a 60-watt bulb, according to Brooks.

Brooks may be better known for his collection of peddle tractors than for any of his other collections. His collection includes more than 100 of the tractors children used to peddle down driveways and dirt roads in imitation of the real

thing. Made from tin and cast aluminum, the peddle tractors resemble the original working tractors. The oldest in Brooks' collection was made in 1947.

Brooks also has several trailers that children could attach to their tractors to pull behind. A child lucky enough to have one of these tractor-trailer sets might have pulled the same things other children pulled in their little red wagons: their dog or a little brother or sister, or even the groceries.

The collection consists of replicas from many tractor manufacturers including Farmall, Moline, Massey-Harris, Allis-Chalmers, Oliver, International Harvester and John Deere.

"Most all of the clocks are related to farming," Brooks said.

Manufacturers' names advertised on the face of the clocks range from Amalie Motor Oil to Peppard's Hybrid Seed to Aeromotor Windmills. All of the clocks are electric, and some have neon lights.

"I rebuild them myself, and I've never failed to make one run," Brooks said.

The oldest clock in his collection is about 50 years old. The oldest of his many toy tractors is about the same age.

Brooks calls them "little" tractors to differentiate the toy tractors from his collection of peddle tractors.

"These are not really toys. They're 1/16-scale models that salesmen could have carried with them to show their wares," Brooks said.

Raised in Lamesa, Brooks and his wife Irene have lived in Hart for 42 years. He farms about 4,000 acres in Castro and Lamb counties.

"I work on the collections during the evenings," Brooks said, "repairing and rebuilding the little tractors and the wall clocks."



LITTLE GREEN TRACTORS—Paul Brooks stands beside his John Deere tractor collection. The replicas are made from tin and cast aluminum. Courtesy photo



WHOA MULE—Edgar Dennis draws his mule team and spring wagon to a halt near Dimmitt. The brown mule is Ruth, and the gray mule is Rascal. Photo by Kathleen Latham

Dimmitt native keeps western heritage alive with early-day transportation, gun collection

By KATHLEEN LATHAM

Two mules pull the "spring wagon" away from the barn, the shiny appointments on their harnesses reflect the sun's rays. The lone driver, with cowboy hat pulled low to shade his eyes from the glare, directs the mules with soft-spoken voice commands as well as the reins.

Is it the 1800s? Is this the opening of a western movie? No, it is Dimmitt rancher Edgar Dennis ready for another wagon train.

Dennis and his team may be seen around the country from the Fourth of July Celebration in Muleshoe to Abilene's Ranch Rodeo to the Cheyenne Frontier Days.

Dennis, a Dimmitt native, believes in keeping his western heritage alive. As well as riding and showing his mules and antique spring wagon, Dennis' interests include his herd of registered short-horn cattle and a museum-quality

gun collection.

Dennis, the youngest of three children, was born on his parents' ranch in 1937. The herd of registered shorthorn cattle are descendants of the herd Dennis' grandfather had brought to Texas from the British Isles in 1894. Currently the herd includes 20 mother cows plus calves and bulls.

"The registration is important," Dennis said. "I can trace my herd back through the years."

In college during the mid-50s, Dennis became a special whip artist featured in the Hardin-Simmons Cowboy Band.

"In 1958, I got to see the world when I traveled as the feature whip artist in the USO Bob Hope-type shows," Dennis said.

In 1959, Dennis went back to Dimmitt to farm and ranch equipped with a degree in business administration from Hardin-Simmons.

"I started my gun collection while I was at Hardin-Simmons," Dennis said. "Now, I have over 30 antique guns in the collection."

Dennis' gun collection, which is kept in a special vault in Hereford, includes an 1852 Smith and Wesson army officer's pistol. His rifle collection ranges from a little boy's squirrel gun to a big-bore, big-calibre buffalo rifle.

Dennis has two Winchester '73s, known as the gun that won the West, and a model 1866, which was the first year of production for Winchester.

A Colt rifle and a Winchester pistol are among his favorite guns.

"Winchester built a few pistols, and Colt built a few rifles," Dennis said. "Then, they got together and agreed not to compete."

"From then on, Winchester only made rifles and Colt only made pistols."

At one point, the two companies got along so well together Winchester and Colt made matching rifles and pistols.

"The rifle and the pistol both shot the same shell," Dennis said. "It was a lot easier if they didn't have to carry different ammunition for the rifle."

While Dennis' gun collection has never been on official display for the public, he said that he would not mind putting a few in cases at the bank or some other safe place.

In the meantime, Dennis shows his mules and antique spring wagon several times a year at rodeos and other western celebrations.

"The difference between a spring wagon and a buckboard is that the buckboard bed was built solid on the carriage and the seat had springs while the spring wagon bed was on springs and the seat was not," Dennis explained.

Dennis, who has been riding and training mules for 15 years, has been invited to Cheyenne's Frontier Days two years in a row.

"They have the largest collection of authentic horse-drawn vehicles in the world," Dennis said, "and they invite teams from all over the states to join in their three-hour parade."

Dennis rode a mule in the Texas Sesquicentennial Wagon Train that traveled the 500 miles from Sulphur Springs to Fort Worth in 1986.

"It can be a hard day," Dennis said. "After you feed and water the mules, it takes about one hour to harness the mules and get hooked up to the rig, and approximately two hours to make camp at the end of the day."

Every year since the Sesquicentennial wagon train, there have been two to three smaller wagon trains which are spin-offs of the original in '86. Dennis joined one of these trains out of Canadian for about a week.

"It's called the J. W. Jines Ride," Dennis said. "We met in Canadian and rode the Canadian river breaks for 140 miles to Perryton."

The team and wagon can average about four miles per hour or about 20 miles a day, according to Dennis.

"The idea is to keep the team moving at a good, steady walk so they can go all day," Dennis said.

Dimmitt postmaster describes town as 'right place'

Dimmitt Postmaster Bill Sava believes he has been in the right place at the right time—and Dimmitt is that "right place."

Sava, a third-generation Italian American, has earned the reputation of having "the right stuff" for this right place, with his patriotic presentations and community activities in the last few years.

His performing career didn't begin until he was 42 years old, he said, and his daughter wanted him to be in a school production.

"I found out that there's a lot of ham hiding behind this postmaster," Sava said with a laugh.

Animated and personable, Sava punctuates most of his comments with spontaneous laughter that leaves a listener with the feeling he doesn't take himself too seriously, but that he loves every minute of what he does.

After his "debut" in his daughter's play, Sava started participating in the Lions Club follies for Harvest Days.

"I discovered I liked making a fool of myself," he admitted, as his eyes twinkled above a neatly trimmed salt-and-pepper beard.

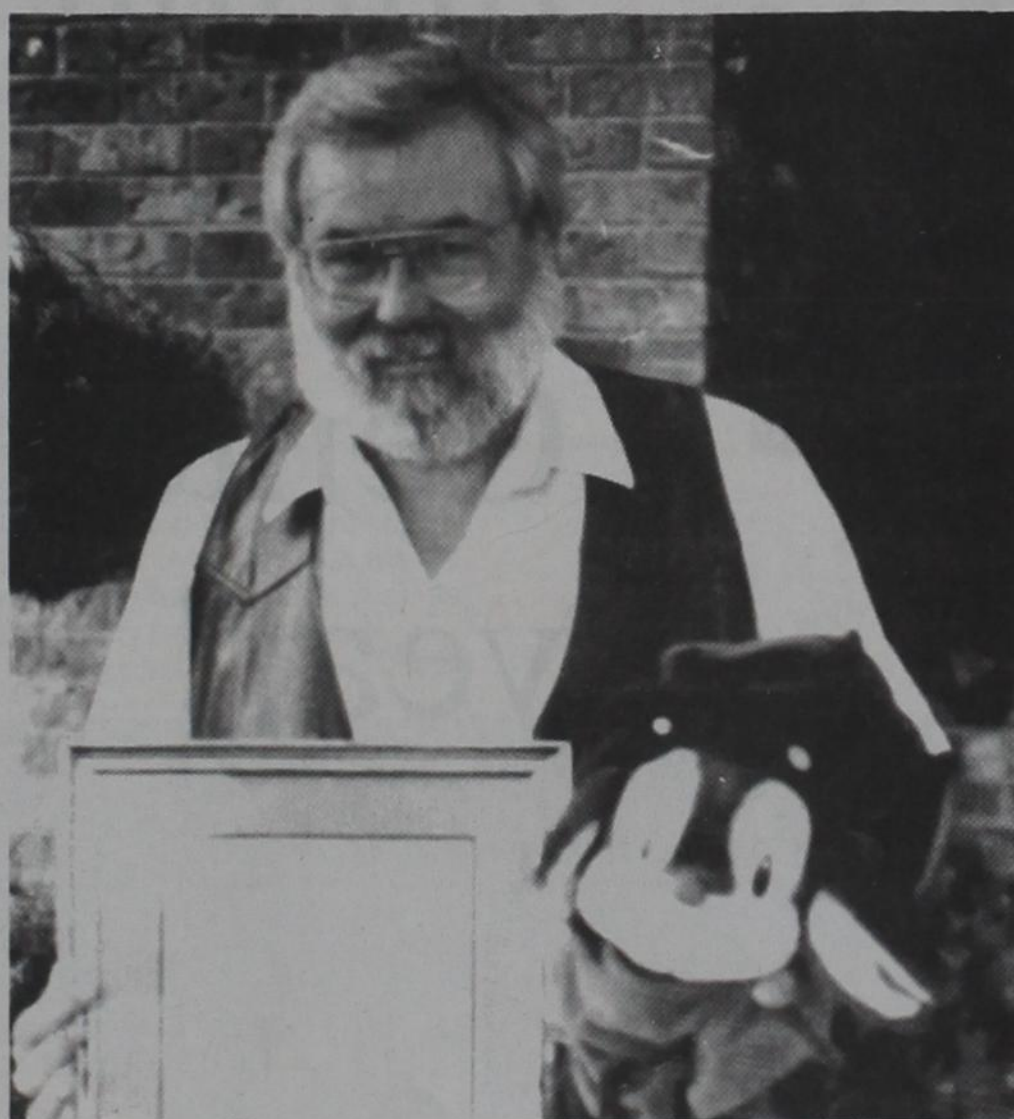
From the follies Sava established the Harvest Days Players, to present the story of Dimmitt and Castro County in the form of a play. He naturally sought long-time Dimmitt resident "Goose" Ramey to get some of his stories from the early days.

"Goose told me it didn't matter if the stories were completely true," Sava said.

"There's nobody left who knows the truth but me," Goose told the postmaster. "If we get it wrong, there's nobody to dispute it."

So Sava wrote his first play, "The Life and Times of Mr. Goose." He and 26 other Dimmitt area residents began rehearsing the play after Sava "doctored it up" with some singing and dancing.

Ramey, whose health was failing, was invited to the Methodist Church, where the group had been practicing, to the final dress rehearsal. After the rehearsal, everyone was eager to hear Ramey's reaction to the play.



SAVA AND FRIEND—Bill Sava and his "friend," Fival, who Sava uses in his patriotic programs, proudly display his grandfather's citizenship papers, which serve as a constant reminder of his heritage and the opportunities America has provided. Photo by Freda McVay

"The play was fine," Ramey told them. "But I didn't know me and Mrs. Ramey was so talented."

"Goose" Ramey died prior to the first performance in Dimmitt, but the group continued to do the Castro County historical play, and "took it on the road," Sava said.

They did the play in the foyer prior to a performance of "Texas" at Palo Duro Canyon, and at the Goodnight birthday party at the Panhandle-Plains Museum, as well as for the Texas Wagon Train when it came through Dimmitt.

Sava said the cast finally said, "We will never do this again!"

Undaunted, Sava continued to write short skits, and said he had begun to think about "some of the things that seemed to be going wrong

in America," and how things had changed since his grandfather had come to this country as a stowaway on a boat from Italy.

Sava's oldest son had been accepted to the Air Force Academy, and Sava reflected on the changes that had occurred in his own family in just four generations.

The grandfather had been caught hunting on private property in Italy before the turn of the Century, and stowed away on a boat to escape jail. When he arrived in New York City he couldn't speak English or write his own name. Sava's father had to learn English to be able to start school, but was so self-conscious about the way he talked, that he was reluctant to speak in front of people. The family had moved Texas

because of the grandmother's health, and Sava went to school in Texarkana, and speaks with no trace of an accent.

Sava says he really began to think about this country, and his family's opportunity to go from a grandfather who couldn't sign his own name to a son graduating from the Air Force Academy.

He took his own family story and combined the narrative with the singing of "God Bless America," "America the Beautiful," and "God Bless the USA."

Once again, Sava said, it's a matter of being in the right place at the right time. He was scheduled to do his patriotic program for the first time for the Dimmitt Lions Club, and it happened to be the same day that the Supreme Court had ruled on the flag-burning issue.

"I ended up getting a standing ovation—from my friends!"

As word was spreading about Sava's performance that night, operation Desert Shield started, and Sava found himself in demand throughout the area.

"I've done it 35 or 40 times now," Sava said, "for all kinds of groups in Hereford, Nazareth, Hart, Tulia, Plainview, Friona, Easter and Dimmitt." He is scheduled to do the program for the Oklahoma Division of the officers of the U. S. Post Office Aug. 25 in Oklahoma City.

Sava has added some to the original program, including a paraphrased passage from the Air Force Contrails that says, in effect, "war is an ugly thing, but the ugliest thing is the apathy that says nothing is worth fighting for."

Sava has had other experiences connected with his latent talents, including a statewide song competition to commemorate the Battleship Texas.

Avie Lewis, music teacher at the Middle School who "writes the notes down for my music," encouraged Sava to enter the contest, so he wrote a song called "Raise a Flag High in the Bright Texas Sky."

Out of several dozen entries, Sava's

song was picked in the top 12, and he went to Houston for the final competition. He was quite surprised at the calibre of composers who made the final cut; but, as usual, was unperturbed by the stature of his competitors.

"I didn't win, but I wasn't embarrassed—or subdued—by the 'big names' who were there," Sava said.

In spite of his new-found fame, Sava is similar to many other Dimmitt residents in his participation in community activities. He sings in the church choir and has coached softball and basketball teams, been a Scout leader and taught religious classes.

He also has coached an Odyssey of the Mind group for five years, first for the 6-8 grade group, and now for the high school group. His teams have placed no lower than third all five years, and won first in the state and fourth in the nation his first year as coach.

In addition, he is a member of the Centennial Singers and is co-chairman of this year's Centennial Celebration.

He and his wife, Jacque, attend St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Hereford. They have four children, Debra Bridenbaugh, who teaches in Amarillo; Greg, now a 1st Lt. in the Air Force, stationed in Rapid City, S.D.; Scott, a senior at West Texas State University; and Jennifer, a senior at Dimmitt High School.

Sava is quick to sing the praises of Dimmitt and its people, pointing out how much talent he believes is in the area.

"It's all these people who have made me look good," he said. "And I have a very good time."

Sava said he ended up in "the right place at the right time" by landing in a community that has a combination of a lot of talent, and not much to do.

Sava laughed again. "There are thousands of people who have more talent than I do, who don't have the opportunity that I've had—that's one thing Dimmitt has done for me."

Early-day entertainment

Annen remembers 'dancing all night'

By KATHLEEN LATHAM

What did they do for entertainment in the early days?

"There wasn't much, and what there was, you had to make!" Nazareth resident Raymond Annen recalls with a twinkle in his eye.

Annen and other Castro County residents would go to dances, play dominoes or, in one instance, challenge the prize fighter in a traveling show.

"We danced all over this Caprock," Annen said. "We would pile into the wagon, going to different farms for the dances."

Annen's brother-in-law, Daniel Fehr, was one of the fiddlers.

Most houses were pretty small - just three or four rooms. So, they would clean out one room for dancing and use the kitchen to keep the babies warm, Annen said.

"And you had to be able to dance all night, because there was no place to sleep and it was too far to drive home," Annen added.

The early dances were for square dancing which did not take up as much space as "round" dancing, according to Annen.

"In fact, with so many trying to dance in a small place, sometimes we had to draw numbers," Annen explained. "Odd numbers would dance one dance, and even numbers, the next."

Not all the "dancing places" were furnished and small. There was an empty house on a farm near Hart they were allowed to use for the dances.

"All we had to do was just make sure to close the doors and windows before we left," Annen said.

"Uncle Bill" Todd's ranch on the Swisher County line was also used for big dances.

"Uncle Bill" built a big two-story house and a big barn," Annen said. "They accidentally built the barn in Swisher. So, those dances were really held in Swisher County."

ty."

The Todd barn was a large structure with a strong second floor which "Uncle Bill" would let them use for dances before he became worried about cigarettes and fire.

Cecilia Husman attended the last dance that was held at Todd's ranch. She had come with an older couple who suggested that Annen take her home since it was more on his way.

"We had known each other before, but, from then on, we were a couple," Annen said.

Annen said every Thanksgiving they would go to Arney and play dominoes "until they couldn't see."

"We had contests, and gave out prizes to the winners - something that would please the ladies like candy or flowers," Annen said.

People used the Fourth of July celebration in Dimmitt as a chance to see all the people they did not see the rest of the year.

"There was always plenty of watermelon, and we made lemonade in the stock tank," Annen said. "We played the usual games - horseshoes, sack races, dunking for apples."

"They had a bigger 'toadstool' in those days where the German big horn players would play with the bands on the Fourth of July in the late 40s," Annen recalled. "Three of them - not in the same year - were struck by lightning."

Other entertainment included going swimming in what became the Nat Ballroom in Amarillo.

"They put a floor over the pool and made it into a ballroom for 'round' dancing," Annen said. "In the late 20s, we used to go over there for the dances."

Annen said traveling shows provided some of the entertainment, but not very often since they were usually just trying to sell something.

"One day, a prize fighter came through with one of the shows,"



CECILIA and RAYMOND ANNEN
...married in 1930

Annen said.

"If you could last five minutes in the ring with him you would win. So, Alfred Schecker said he was faster than that old boy, and he could out run him for long enough to win. And he did!"

Annen, the youngest of 13 children, was born in Mansfield in

1908.

"Dad was tired of black mud and cotton, so he bought some land in Rosco," Annen said. "He went out in the field in Rosco, saw the black mud and moved the family to Lubbock."

"One day, we got in the model T and drove to Dimmitt. Dad looked

it over and bought two sections. I'm still living on one of them," Annen added.

It was 100 miles exactly from the courthouse in Lubbock to the Annen property land, and it took three days to drive from Lubbock to Dimmitt with the wagons when the Annens moved to their land outside of Nazareth in 1916.

"We used buggies and cars to go to school in Nazareth until the 1918 blizzard," Annen said. "The snow was knee deep and you could make the trip only on horseback."

The snow lasted a month. During that time, Annen and his brothers would skin the dead cattle for \$20 a head.

"They used cottonseed cakes to feed the cattle during the winter, but they couldn't get it to them through the snow, so a lot of cattle starved," Annen said.

Annen attended school on the John Gordon ranch during his last years in school.

In 1920, an Ozark stump marking the Ozark Trail was raised in the middle of the main intersection in Dimmitt. In the early 30s, with people getting tired of going around the stump and because they were expecting a highway to be put through in the near future, Annen, his brother Tom and Goose Ramey pulled the stump down and moved it to the site of its current location on the corner of the courthouse square.

"We roped it and pulled it down with an old model T onto a pile of

dirt so it wouldn't break," Annen said. "We put up a scaffolding, put it in the new hole and watered it down so it would settle."

Cattle buyers would come to Castro County, but the ranchers still had to drive the cattle as far as Happy to pick up the train in the early days.

"The last time we made that trip, we got there early so we wouldn't have to wait in line to load the cattle," Annen recalled. "The problem was that Mr. Irlbick knew hogs, he didn't know cattle. He slapped the back of one of them to hurry it out of the corral and stampeded the herd all over a section and a half."

Annen, his brother Frank, his brother-in-law Daniel Fehr and Albert Backus practically rode their horses to ground trying to head off the cattle.

"It was one o'clock at night before we got them herded up. And we still had to shovel sand into the cattle cars and load the cattle," Annen said. "The next day, we headed home pacing the horses."

Annen has described his settling down with Cecilia as "deciding to sow wheat in '28 and '29, and fooling her in '30!"

Annen and Cecilia were married in 1930. Cecilia Annen was born Cecilia Husman in Nazareth in 1905 and was the first child baptised in the old wooden church. In 1990, she was honored for being the oldest woman born in Castro County.

McLains describe earlier customs

By KATHLEEN LATHAM

Thirty-three years is not a long time as history goes, but to Ira McLain, it made a family once and forever "newcomers," Marguerite Bennett McLain recalls, laughingly.

Ira came to Castro County with his family, the J. C. McLains, in 1904. The G. R. Bennett family came to Hart from Floyd County in 1937. Therefore, the Bennetts would always be "newcomers" to Ira.

Could you still be a "newcomer" after almost 50 years? It sounds like Ira would probably have said so just to tease his daughter-in-law.

Marguerite's husband Laurence was born in Castro County only seven miles from the Lamb County line. The grandson of early settlers John and Daisy McLain, Laurence played the violin at dances. That's where Marguerite and Laurence met, despite the fact that her father G. R. did not believe in dancing.

Marguerite has written about the early days and has a great admiration for the people from that time.

"It's their sacrifices, the kind of life they lived and their moral character that makes them so admirable," Marguerite explained.

Marguerite described life in the 30s and 40s as centered around the home and church. Social life centered around the church.

"School centered their activities around the homes," Marguerite said. "Things started changing when they no longer let children out of school to help pick the cotton."

Not all changes were for the worse, Marguerite said.

"I got my first pair of long slacks in 1940, despite my father's objections, because it was going to be so cold on the trip we were taking," Marguerite recalled. "My father was on the school board, and we were going to Vincennes, Ind., to pick up the new school busses."

Marguerite was graduated from Hart High School in 1942, the last of the 11th grade seniors. The very next year Hart High School had 12 grades.

"I was 15 years old, and I was valedictorian - but there were only four in our class," Marguerite said.

Despite protests that she is not a feminist, Marguerite was the first woman to serve on a school board or a hospital board in the county.

"My idol was Myrtle Scott, whose husband Ily donated the land for the city of Hart," Marguerite said. "She learned to fly after she was 50, and she traveled around the world twice. And she admitted to a wig and two facelifts."

Not all changes over the years have been for the better, Marguerite continued.

In those years, cowboys and farmers only wore their boots for work, Laurence said. They would wear their nice shoes for dancing.

"Now, you have to have boots and hats to dance," Laurence added.

"I miss Cel Kendrick tipping his hat to me," Marguerite said.

An anonymous Hart resident said recently, "In Hart, if you're not a McLain or a Bennett, you're not anybody."

If what that one resident said is true, Marguerite Bennett McLain must truly be a somebody because she is both a McLain and a Bennett.





Happy
100th
Castro
County!

**ROUGH
RIDERS
BAND**

945-2222 • 945-2271



**FORD
MERCURY**

100

**Congratulations,
Castro County on your
100th Anniversary!**

We're proud to serve our customers from Castro County and wish you the best for the future.

Call our toll-free number 1-800-749-1329 and ask for Rick Wilcox.

Tulia Ford-Mercury
901 NW 6th, Tulia • 995-3537



**HAPPY 100th
ANNIVERSARY**
Dimmitt and Castro County

*We've covered your carpeting
and furniture needs since 1977,
and appreciate your patronage.*

Larry and Susie Gonzales, Owners

**Modern Carpet
& Furniture**
Dimmitt • 647-3452



Castro County News

VOL. I, NO. 5

DIMITT, CASTRO COUNTY, TEXAS

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1925.

STATE HIGHWAY TO VEGA TO BE NAMED DELEGATES BELIEVE

Judge Ray L. Shetty, with a delegation from neighboring towns returned Friday from Austin where they presented data and a petition to the State Highway Commission asking that the road leading from Plainview to Vega be designated as a state highway.

This road leads north and south through Castro county and touches Runningwater, Dimmitt and Hereford.

Judge Shetty is highly pleased with the results and is confident that this route will be turned into a state Highway just as soon as the Commission can pass on it. It will probably be a few months before the petition can be passed upon, according to Shetty, due to the large number of petitions submitted at the last meeting.

This highway will mean thousands of dollars to Castro County each year because it will turn thousands of tourists through our county, who otherwise might go another route and because sixty per cent of the traffic of the county uses this road.

SECOND SURVEY BY SANTA FE BEING MADE THIS WEEK

A full corps of surveyors for the Santa Fe Railway Company were working towards Dimmitt the first of the week on the second survey for the line which is to be constructed between Plainview and Dimmitt by that company.

The survey party was ten miles out of town today and are scheduled to be back here for the latter part of the week.

NEW ABSTRACT FIRM MAY OPEN DIMITT OFFICE

Dimmitt may have another abstract office soon, if present plans materialize.

A. B. Seay, former county clerk and abstractor of Motley county, was here last week looking out a location for an abstract business and seemed to be highly pleased with the outlook for Dimmitt and Castro county. Mr. Seay is also considering Silverton for a location but seemed to be a little better pleased with developments here than at that place.

Mr. Seay stated that he was not a bit discouraged over the dry weather which we are having. He has been on the plains for a number of years and states that there is no use for the people here to be alarmed over the situation. He still has much faith in the plains territory.

Dimmitt citizens are always glad to welcome a man to this place of Mr. Seay's ability and one who is not easily discouraged by adversity and one who has a vision of future possibilities for Castro county.

MISS KIMBELL IS PLEASING HOSTESS

Miss Kimbell is a very popular young lady who has been a great help to the community in many ways. She is a very kind and generous person who has been a great help to the community in many ways.

Fined for Show

Rev. Douglas Morgan Heath, vicar of St. John's church, was fined \$20 for staging a play in the parish church without a license.

Prize for Her



Miss Dagnia Oakland, of New York, selected by the Veterans of Foreign Wars as the Buddy Poppy Girl to head the sale of poppies made by disabled veterans.

Girl Tells How She Turned Sleuth, Finds "Double" and Frees Brother



MRS. HELEN SAUERMAN BOWMAN WHO SAVED HER BROTHER, LEO (UPPER RIGHT), FROM A LIFE IN PRISON AND CAUSED THE CONVICTION OF HARRY HILL (LOWER RIGHT), ON A CHARGE OF MURDER.

By HERBERT WALKER
DETROIT, Mich., May 7.—"I believe you are innocent and I'll work until I die to set you free." A sister's loyalty has saved her brother from a life behind prison bars.

She lived the life of the underworld. She invaded the haunts of bootleggers and hi-jackers. She subjected herself to extreme danger.

But she found her brother's double, the real slayer. She got affidavits and a hotel register showing that someone was in Kalamazoo at the time of the murder.

She induced Melvin Brown and Homer Noid, who confessed that they were members of the gang which visited Dombrowski's home to admit that Sauerman was not in the gang.

"Fin Harry Hill," they said. But police laughed. They believed Hill to be a phantom character.

"It's a frame-up and it will come out some day," Sauerman told his sister before being taken away to begin his life term.

From that time on until her brother was freed from prison Mrs. Bowman did not rest. Every night after finishing her work she sought clues to the whereabouts of Harry Hill.

"I first went to Escrow, near here. Hill is known as the lieutenant of bootleggers and hi-jackers," she says.

"By mingling with these characters of the underworld for several days, I found that a Harry Hill once lived in Battle Creek. I heard that Hill's sweet-

VICTORY CROWNS BOOSTERS FIGHT FOR W.T.C.C. MEET

(FROM AMARILLO DAILY NEWS)
(BY STAFF CORRESPONDENT)

MINERAL WELLS, May 6.—The 1926 convention of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce belongs to Amarillo. Abilene withdrew from the contest on the roll call immediately after Amarillo had voted. When San Antonio's name was called, that city cast its 339 votes for Amarillo and moved that the election be made unanimous. Resulting in a demonstration that shook the municipal auditorium. This took place just a few minutes before 5:00 p. m. The selection of the convention city was made this afternoon on account of the heavy rain.

Selection of Amarillo as the 1926 convention city was generally conceded, but it was a great fight and the boosters never missed an opportunity to push Amarillo. The Amarilloans arrived in the auditorium at 12:30 o'clock and staged demonstrations for two hours before the afternoon session began.

The selection of the convention city is always the great feature of the convention every year. The nominating speeches are usually given, and the ones today were remarkably well given and brought forth round after round of applause.

Just before the afternoon session began Miss Katy Myrtle Parks, sponsor of the Old Gray Mare Band of Brownsville, stood on a table on the stage, waved Amarillo boosters and led a demonstration. The Pullman porters, a negro quartette, gave several numbers.

Milo Atkinson Offers Wichita Falls
Rev. Milo Atkinson of Wichita Falls, formerly of Amarillo, placed Wichita Falls in nomination for the 1927 convention. After Amarillo has the convention in 1928, he said he wanted it to meet "at home" again, or in Wichita Falls.

Introduction of officers and directors was then made by Col. C. C. Walsh, retiring president, after which Mayor Charles E. Coombes of Abilene placed that city in nomination for 1926. His address was a classic in wit, and entertained the vast audience which packed the convention hall.

Marvin Jones Nominates Amarillo
Amarillo's nomination was made by Congressman Marvin Jones, instead of A. E. Boyd of Brownsville, as had been previously announced. He promised the convention that the next year would be the greatest ever held. He said he wanted the people of West Texas to see all of West Texas and that it was necessary to make a trip to Amarillo and the Panhandle to see all of it.

For weeks I watched his garage, thinking that Harry Hill would come there. Many a night I parked in front of his brother's home watching for the man whose arrest I believed would clear my brother.

"I did manage to learn that Hill often came to Chicago. By this time I convinced the police that Harry Hill was not a phantom, but a real character and probably the real murderer of Dombrowski."

November, my long search was rewarded with the arrest of Hill in a Chicago Y. M. C. A. He was getting small there through a friend, who roomed in the building.

"I spent every cent I could get in the man hunt. We mortgaged a home we had in the country and moved into a small, cheap house in Detroit, but it was worth it."

"My brother had no bitterness in his heart. At Marquette he has been a model prisoner, and he is determined to start life anew."

Nominations Brings Applause
Nominations of Amarillo brought forth another big demonstration, with Miss Parks, the sponsor of the Old Gray Mare Band, riding on the old gray mare band through the convention hall. She was followed by the bands of Brownwood, Memphis, Canyon, Plainview and Canadian through the convention hall, after which the Amarillo boosters followed in a goose-step march. Representative Chiswood of Sweetwater represented the nomination of Amarillo, and his remarks were also received with genuine applause. He told the audience that Amarillo is 130 miles from the Texas border, and that that section belongs to the convention "people of West Texas," he advised.

San Antonio Nominates
San Antonio was next nominated by...

Florida went for Amarillo. Fort Worth cast its 1321 votes, one half for Amarillo and one-half for San Antonio on \$25 each. Hereford, Hale, United Homeville, Haskell, Koberly, Knox City, Lockney, Lubbock, Littlefield and La Mesa voted solidly for Amarillo.

Half the towns had then voted. I brief rest was taken and Clarence Crosby of Lamesa read a poem. In the meantime it seemed that something was going to happen. Towns were being skipped on the roll call. Muleshoe, Memphis and Midland voted for Amarillo. Mineral Wells divided 114 votes between the two cities. Munday, Pos City, Plainview, Paducah, Quanah, Ranger, Ralls, Spur, Seymour and Sweetwater voted for Amarillo. San Angelo gave its 221 votes to Amarillo amid demonstration.

San Antonio Votes Amarillo
Then San Antonio was called. San Antonio cast its 339 votes for Amarillo moved that the election be made unanimous and the race for the convention had ended, amid a tremendous demonstration. Taboka, Vernon, Vega, Wichita Falls, Tulla, Shamrock and many other cities never had a chance to vote.

Col. Ernest O. Thieme, secretary of the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, expressed the gratification of Amarillo in winning the convention and promised the best entertainment that has ever been given and that, without reflecting on any of the past conventions, he said.

William Ochs, of San Antonio, in a spirited address and tribute to the boosters of Texas cast 250 votes for Amarillo and 250 for the 1927 convention.

San Antonio Nominates
San Antonio was next nominated by...

Castro County Has Never Had Murder Conviction; Only 3 Divorces During 33 Years

The showing Castro County has made in criminal court records since its organization in 1891 has been nothing short of phenomenal and bears out the often quoted statement that "Castro gets only the higher class of citizenship."

Since the county was organized there has never been anyone convicted of murder in the county and three have been sentenced on felony charges. The doors of the jail swung open nearly the year round and Sheriff Bill Bowman is never bothered with the "blue boarders" common to so many counties in Texas. The jail room is now being used as a county depository for legal books, and Judge Shetty states that he is never bothered with delinquent visitors (after the school holidays). Through it all are confident enough to get in he will furnish them plenty of reading material.

Castro county holds another marvelous record, in the number of divorces that have been issued here since the organization of the county which gives rise to the expression, "When they marry in Castro county, they stay married." There have been only three divorces issued during the history of the county, the last one being over five years ago and it is doubted if there is another.

Many counties get publicity through the columns of the big daily newspapers because some prominent family has been robbed or murdered, or because some prominent society woman and her husband are divorced, or because some rich business man is duped with his pretty stenographer. Castro county is making herself conspicuous throughout Texas by the absence of these crimes, and she is a daily credit to her law, respecting citizens and is trying to build up a reputation that will stand out as an accomplishment.

If this trend is kept up, it won't be many years before Castro county will build up the reputation of being the modern "Paradise" of Texas where young people will come, get married and live happily ever after.

Gold-Tipped Boon
HARRIS.—Almost large feet with toes...

1925 Buddy Poppy Girl



Miss Dagnia Oakland, of New York, selected by the Veterans of Foreign Wars as the Buddy Poppy Girl to head the sale of poppies made by disabled veterans.

CASTRO FARMER LEARNS POULTRY IS PAYING "CROP"

Miss Noble's living 7 and a half acres of Nixcocks, finds the poultry business very profitable and says that it is one of the best ways for a farmer to stay out of debt.

Mr. Nobles has around 250 laying hens and since the first of February he has sold 23 cases of eggs besides the ones used for the family. The eggs have averaged around \$1 per case, which means \$275 during the three months period for the flock.

While the flock has been very profitable, Mr. Nobles believes that the egg production could be greatly increased by scientific feeding and care of the birds. This is just one of the many farmers of this county who has learned that the laying hen is of vital necessity to the successful farmer.

This is the front page of the oldest copy of the *Castro County News* known to be in existence. Dated May 8, 1925, it was the fifth edition of the paper. This copy was found in the wall of a farmhouse being torn down, and was saturated with oil or grease, which darkened the paper and made the print almost impossible for the reproduction camera to "pick up." The historic copy is housed permanently at the Castro County Historical Museum.

B.M. Nelson recalls many changes

By LINDA MAXWELL

On the day B.M. Nelson was born he says his dad went fishing, and when his family later moved to Rogers, they traveled by covered wagon.

Those are only two of the stories he has to tell from a life that has had considerable impact on the history of Dimmitt and Castro County through the 48 years he has lived here.

When I asked him when he was born, he said he didn't really know what time of day, he couldn't remember that far back; so when I asked him what day it was, he replied, "My Dad caught a fish that day, my mother said. It was Feb. 3, 1906, in Ferris, Texas, that's just southeast of Dallas."

I asked him how old he was when he came to Castro County.

"I thought you were going to say how old was I when I was born," he wise-cracked. "How old was I when I came to Castro County? I was 37, blue eyes and brown hair. What else you wanta know? That oughta be enough."

But it's not enough for a man who established the reputation of *The Castro County News*, was a charter member of the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce, helped establish a hospital and vegetable industry here, led a drive to sell memberships so that Dimmitt Wheat Growers could obtain a \$10 million loan to build the corn mill, and worked to bring the agricultural housing project to Dimmitt.

B.M. Nelson came to Castro County in 1943, "trying to find a place to make a living." He already had 18 years of experience in the printing business, starting with two weeks under supervision in Rogers, Texas. He also worked at printing in Paducah, then published newspapers at Roaring Springs, Amherst and Olton, before taking the opportunity to lease the *Castro County News* from T.A. Singer and Pete Whitlow, with an option to buy at the end of a year.

There weren't any paved streets in Dimmitt when the Nelsons arrived—B.M. and his wife, Viola, and three children, Bascom, Don, and Mary. Their arrival represented a considerable boost in the population of 940.

The businesses around the courthouse square included a service

station, the Rawlings Hotel, and adjacent to the hotel, a hardware store, then a variety store. On the north side of the hotel was a drug store. Also around the square was a small six-stool cafe, and there was a coffee shop in the hotel.

"Walter Griffiths had a grocery store, and Buster Cooper had a tractor parts store," B.M. recalled. He said the bank had been in the building now occupied by Cowsett Abstract, and on the second floor was Dr. Cogswell's hospital. He included a lumber yard, McMahon's blacksmith shop and a machine shop on the list.

What Dimmitt did not have when the Nelsons moved here was available housing, so the family of five lived in an apartment in the back of the newspaper shop for the first year, then rented a house for a year. In 1945 they were able to build a home at 211 Southwest Third, where B.M. continues to live today.

"I guess we came here at an opportune time—just about the end of the war, and irrigation had just barely started," B.M. said. "And when the war was over, industry started to booming."

"We've always had a progressive population, always willing to support, promote and finance whatever was deemed good for the community."

"I've seen the city grow from 940 to a little over 5,000 population. The business district of the town grew in proportion to the residential areas. We've always had progressive businessmen who supported and financed development, and in that process, we saw the production of the county increase probably several times over, due to irrigation and improved, modern types of farming," B.M. noted.

B.M. says he has seen many changes through the years.

A reduction in the number of cotton gins, grain dealers and auto dealerships are reflections of the general economy.

Along with the changes in the business climate, there have also been changes in politics, according to B.M.

"Some way, somehow—I don't know how—I got the reputation for being a Democrat," he said with a grin. A staunch Democrat, he does admit to voting for a Republican at

least once—when Gen. Eisenhower ran for President.

"That was the first time that the people of Castro County realized they could vote Republican," B.M. quipped. "Since that time, Castro County has been a swing county. It's voted Democratic, and it's voted Republican."

B.M. has been a member of the Dimmitt Lions Club for as long as he has lived in Dimmitt, and that club has been instrumental in many of the improvements that have come to Dimmitt, including the first street paving program in the city.

Transportation has changed a lot through the years, according to B.M., with distances being shortened by good roads and better cars.

Of course, there were virtually no paved roads and precious few cars in 1913 when 7-year-old B.M. rode in a covered wagon from eastern New Mexico to Rogers.

"I heard my mother say the trip took a month and a day," B.M. reported. "We camped out the whole way, except one family along the way came out and made us come in the house with them."

Pretty exciting stuff for a 7-year-old. B.M. was the youngest of three boys. He said the family had everything they owned packed in the covered wagon.

"We spent a night in the wagon yard in Seminole, and we spent a few days during rainy weather in a wagon yard in Coleman," he recalled.

Along the way, they came to a pretty long bridge over a creek.

"It shook pretty bad," B.M. remembered, and after they had crossed it, "We looked back and saw a sign on it that said 'This bridge condemned.'"

B.M. said it was a wet year, and there were places that were impassable, so the family would have to go around or wait until the roads dried out.

"We got within eight miles of Rogers, and Dad put our wagon in a man's barn, turned the team out in his pasture, and we walked down a railroad track the rest of the way to town," he recalled.

I asked him what kind of schooling he had had.

"Haphazard," he shot back with a laugh.

The first school he remembers

attending was a one-room school west of Lake Arthur, N.M. He graduated from Rogers High School in 1925, and went straight into the printing business.

"The Castro County News has come very far. I'm thankful to have had the opportunity to grow with the development of the city and area," B.M. said. "We were fortunate to be able to help with the phenomenal growth that took place in this county. There may be a slow down in the economy and there may be different means of doing business, but the growth should continue."

"I don't know what the future will be like or what the main resources will be, but the people who are here are capable to see that the growth will be orderly."

"The enthusiasm and support being given to the Centennial Plaza and Gazebo project bodes fair for the continued development of Castro County. This celebration is not a political thing. It's for all the people of Castro County, celebrating the 100th birthday of the county and paying homage to all of the old settlers from the time it was established until now, and its history all through those years has been good," he said with feeling.



B.M. NELSON
... relaxing at home.

Remember when...

a dollar's worth of gas would take you everywhere you wanted to go—in a car you still remember with a smile? We'd like to help you find a car you'll enjoy just as much. We're proud to have served you in the past, and look forward to getting you where you want to go in the future.

Happy 100th Anniversary!

Scott's Trading Post
647-3414

Harvest Days Schedule

CASTRO COUNTY HARVEST DAYS — DIMMITT, TEXAS — AUGUST 11-17, 1991

DATE & TIME	EVENT	SPONSORED BY	CONTACT & LOCATION
SUNDAY, AUGUST 11			
2:30 P.M.	Centennial Pageant (Community Variety Show)	Dimmitt Chamber	Bill Sava, Director DHS Auditorium Delores Heller 647-2524 Tks: \$3 - Door \$4 - 5 yrs. under Free
MONDAY, AUGUST 12			
8:00 P.M.	Centennial Pageant		
AUGUST 12-17			
E-B Fun Time Rides Carnival			
Dimmitt Chamber - Cotton candy & all the trimmings			
South of the Expo Building			
THURSDAY, AUGUST 15			
11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Fair & Quilts Entries Due at the Expo	Castro County Fair & Quilt Association	Yvonna Hays 647-5214; Carolyn Osborn 647-4115; J.D. Ragland - Expo 403 S.E. 4th
FRIDAY, AUGUST 16			
9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Arts & Crafts Booths Open	Castro County Fair Association	Booths, Dimmitt Chamber/Expo 403 S.E. 4th 647-9275
10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.	Special Seniors Honor Hour	Y.E.S./4-H (10% Discount for Seniors Over 65 During This Hour)	Expo Building
11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.	"Good Food & Exercise Tips" (with samples)	Cindy Sides Ebeling	Expo Stage
1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.	"Window Panes To The Past"	John Greene, Education Dir. Panhandle Plains Historical Museum	Expo Stage
3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Previews of FALL Style Show	Kozy Korner, Hart	Expo Stage
4:30 P.M.	"Pet Talk" with Jay Rapp	Dimmitt Veterinary Clinic/Merrick Pet Foods	East of Expo
5:00 P.M. - 5:45 P.M.	Pet Show - Bring Your Pets		East of Expo
6:00 P.M.	Plaza Dedication Concert	Centennial Commission	Centennial Plaza
7:30 P.M.	"Spur Jingles & Saddle Songs" Cowboy Poet & Musicians Program	Dimmitt Chamber	Tammy Wilhite 647-3138, DHS Auditorium - Tickets \$3
SATURDAY, AUGUST 17			
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.	Fair, Arts & Crafts Booths	Castro Co. Fair Association - Expo, 403 S.E. 4th	J.D. Ragland/Carolyn Osborn 647-4115
9:00 A.M.	Parade Judging Begins	Dimmitt Lions Club	Marvin Bryant, CH.
10:00 A.M.	Parade Begins	"Once In A Lifetime"	
10:00 A.M.	Early Settlers Reunion Registration	Senior Citizens Center, 218 W. Jones	Garnett Holland 647-5544
AFTER PARADE ABOUT 11 AM	Centennial Plaza Dedication		Centennial Plaza, Judge Polly Simpson 648-4451
11:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Centennial Car Show/Swap Meet	Gary Bruegel Memorial Scholarship Fund - DATA	First State Bank Parking Lot 647-2524/Don Moke, Jessie Sepeda
12:00 NOON	Chowtime - Food at the Fair: Hamburgers, Fajitas, Ice Cream, Snow Cones, Funnel Cakes & more		All Around the Expo Area
12:00 NOON	Early Settlers Reunion Lunch	Senior Citizen Center, 218 W. Jones	Garnett Holland 647-5544. Bring a covered dish & join us
1:00 P.M.	4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment (Memorial)	Fair Association & Chamber	Expo Area
12:00 NOON - 4:00 P.M.	Outdoor Games: Pillow Fight & Parachute Jump, Dunking Board, Horseshoe Pitching, Water Polo & Pumper Teams, Spur & Bit Making, Great Duck Race	Local Organizations	Expo Building Area
12:00 NOON - 5:00 P.M.	Museum Open House (Volume II Castro Co. History Book Available)	Castro Co. Museum Association. Visit with Jim Gough in the afternoon	404 W. Halsell 647-2611
2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Art Show & Authors Reception	Art Club	Rhoads Memorial Library, 105 S.W. 2nd, Francis Frazier, Cindy Pottorff
3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Top of Texas Cloggers	Fair Association	
4:00 P.M.	Costume Contest, Prize Drawings		Expo Stage
5:00 P.M.	Car Show Trophy Presentation		First State Bank Parking Lot
6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.	Barbeque Supper at the Expo Catered by Dyers	Dimmitt Promenaders Tks. - Advance \$6 Children \$4.50 Door \$6.50	Expo Building, Bill & Ann Henderson
8:00 P.M.	Square Dance (Expo)	Gary Smith - Caller; Bill Harman - Rounds	Expo
9:00 P.M. - 12:00 P.M.	Street Dance featuring The Roughriders Band	Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce	East of Courthouse

Happy 100th Anniversary



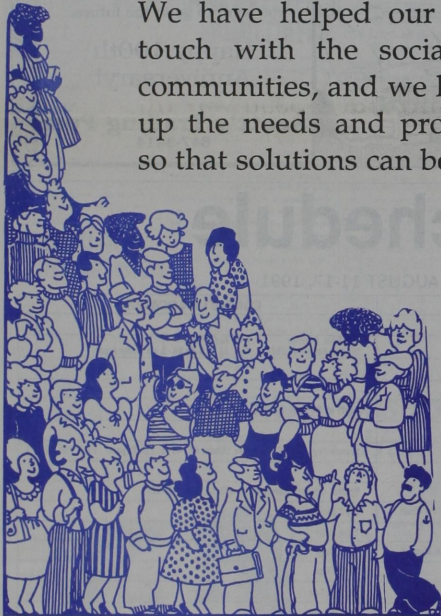
Since 1925, *The Castro County News* has been a vital part of the history of our county, and we are proud to continue contributing to its growth.

As a member of the economic community of Castro County, we have tried to do our part to encourage our citizens to trade at home by advertising the goods and services of local merchants.

We have tried to encourage involvement in the political process through keeping our citizens informed and providing an open forum for expression of many differing viewpoints.



We have helped our citizens keep in touch with the social events of our communities, and we have tried to hold up the needs and problems that arise, so that solutions can be sought.



Our number one job is to report the news, but since we're human, we make mistakes, and we sometimes don't see things quite the way someone else might.

We appreciate our many advertisers, our loyal subscribers, and each one who trusts us to "get it right," and we pledge to do our best as we enter a new century together.

Together, We Can

Don Nelson, Publisher
Anne Acker, News Editor and Bookkeeping
Paula Portwood, Ad Composition and Bookkeeping
Linda Maxwell, Associate Editor
Deana McLain, Page Composition and Photo Lab
Freda McVay, Reporter
Danette Baker, Reporter
Kathleen Latham, Reporter



The Castro County News





Castro County Centennial THIS LAND

1891
✦
1991

The sweetest sugar made

Local milling plant converts corn to syrup

The next time you sit down to enjoy a soft drink or any other food that contains high fructose corn syrup, you could be enjoying a part of Castro County.

The high fructose corn syrup product is produced locally at the American Fructose—Dimmitt, Inc. plant.

The vast majority of the corn grown in America is "field" corn, and in today's modern farming, the kernels of this corn are stripped from the cob by harvesting machinery and only the kernels enter the grain handling system.

A typical bushel of this corn

weighs 56 pounds. Some of this weight is moisture remaining from the cornfield, while the remaining parts—starch, oil, protein and fiber are all recovered by refiners for use in other products.

The corn kernel, sliced in two, reveals its component parts including the starch, hull and fiber, gluten and germ.

The germ, the elongated oval-shaped portion, contains most of the oil and some of the protein. The side portions of the kernel are yellowish and slightly translucent, containing the gluten, the primary protein portion. The water which is

scattered throughout the kernel picks up some of the protein and other important nutrients. The remainder of the kernel is white and almost powdery and contains most of the starch. The whole kernel is covered by a fibrous layer called the hull, which is nature's protection for the valuable contents.

Refiners use the shelled corn which has been stripped from the cob during harvesting.

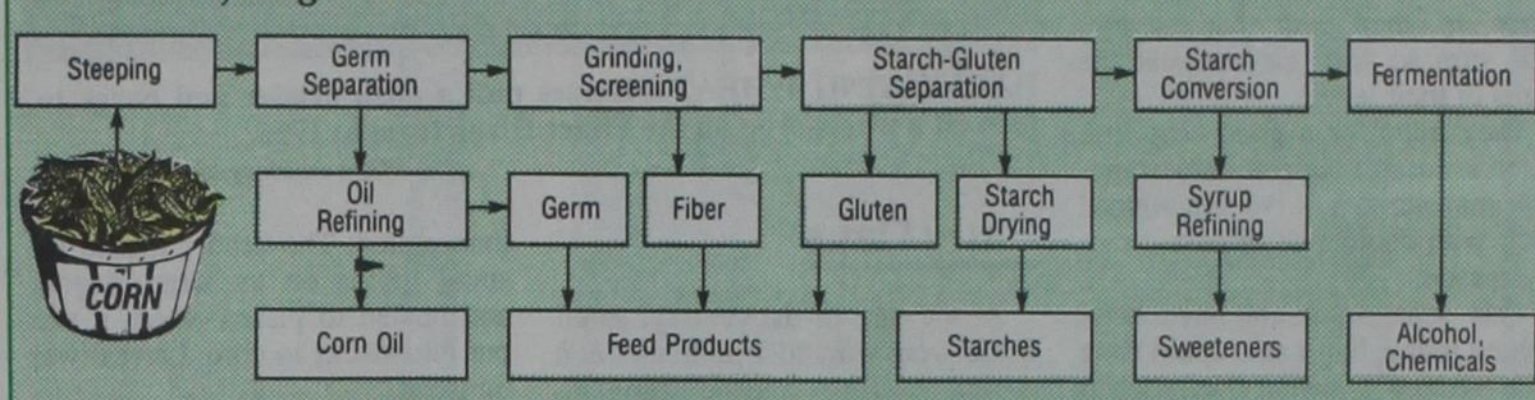
Corn sweeteners are the most important refined corn products and modern science has made possible a variety of corn sweeteners which have replaced sugar and lessened America's dependence on foreign final product has the same sweetness as sugar produced from beets or cane.

This syrup is used widely in soft drinks, bakery products, candies or preserves.

The "55 Refinery," like the 42 Refinery, is a centrally-controlled facility using the latest in ion exclusion technology.

Production of enriched syrups is accomplished by separating the dextrose and fructose fractions of the 42% fructose syrups, then blending the fructose fraction back

The Corn Refining Process...



to the desired fructose concentration.

The resulting 55% fructose product is purified through an ion exclusion exchange process and adjusted by evaporation to a suitable dry solids concentration.

This syrup is used widely by soft drink bottlers.

The plant supplies its own steam for heat and evaporation with three boilers. Also in this area are a water treatment station, air compressors and water cooling towers.

At various process points, the product is sampled and analyzed by the Quality Assurance Laboratory for maintaining good process control.

The plant has a maintenance force which includes varied skilled workers such as mechanics, welders, electricians and instrument men. Accounting, traffic, purchasing, personnel and process engineering groups also are located at Dimmitt.

sugar supplies.

The second major refined corn product is ethanol, which is gaining increasing acceptance as a cleaner burning option for motor fuels. The third major corn product is starch.

And each is produced at the American Fructose plant.

It all starts in the millhouse, where the starch is separated from the other corn components.

Initially, the corn is soaked (or "steeped") to soften it and remove the soluble portion. The soaked corn then is processed through a series of mills, screens, separators and driers.

At each of these steps one of the lesser components (by-products) is removed. These by-products generally are used in the local cattle feeding markets.

The final millhouse product is corn starch, which can be dried and sold either in bulk trucks or bulk rail cars. Most of it will be pumped to two refineries to serve as feed stock for syrup production.

The expanded Dimmitt millhouse produces more than 700 tons per day of by-products in addition to 1,000 tons per day of starch.

The starch then is transferred to the "42 Refinery," which is a centrally-controlled facility where 42% high fructose corn syrup is produced. This is accomplished by treating the starch slurry with a series of enzymes, or complicated substances which produce chemical changes.

The first two enzymes break down the starch into dextrose, which is bland sugar. The dextrose syrup is purified through filters, carbon and ion exchange before isomerization.

The isomerizing enzyme then rearranges about half of the dextrose into fructose.

After further purification and concentration in evaporators, the

Corn wet milling plant is one of county's major employers

When Dimmitt Agri Industries constructed a corn wet milling plant here 20 years ago, Castro County's reputation as a grain sorghum county changed almost overnight to the "main corn producing county of Texas."

Now owned by American Fructose — Dimmitt Inc., which is a subsidiary of American Maize Products Co., the plant is one of the major employers in the county, according to information obtained from a 1989 Community Survey, which was researched and printed by Southwestern Public Service Co.

The Dimmitt plant is the only corn wet milling plant in Texas and the southwest. The plant produces 42% and 55% high fructose corn syrup with the major by-products being dry starch and co-products for livestock feeding. Its products are sold throughout the United States.

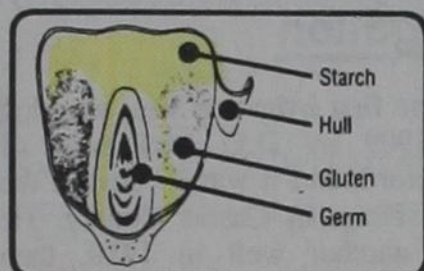
Constructed by Dimmitt Agri Industries in 1970, the Dimmitt plant was leased by Amstar Corp. of New York in 1973. Then in 1984, American Fructose acquired the plant.

American Fructose makes high fructose corn syrup, corn starch and other corn derivative products at its wet milling facilities here and at its plant in Decatur, Ala.

At these two plants, the company annually produces more than a billion pounds of crystal-clear syrup, which is marketed under the trade names Tru-Sweet 42 and Tru-Sweet 55. Both products are used for sweetening soft drinks.

Tru-Sweet 42 also is sold to a variety of food and confection manufacturers for sweetening candies, canned fruits, ice cream, jams and jellies.

American Fructose sells corn starch to the paper and corrugated industries. The company also sells co-products of the corn wet milling process, such as corn germ, which is used to make corn oil; and corn gluten feed and corn gluten meal, which are used for feeding poultry and livestock.



The Initial Phases

Dimmitt Wheat Growers (now Dimmitt Agri Industries) notified its stockholders of its plans for a corn wet milling plant in Dimmitt in January 1968, and groundbreaking ceremonies were held in August of that year. Construction, however, didn't begin until January 1969.

Originally, the mill processed some 10,000 bushels of corn per day into syrup, starch, oil and high-protein cattle feed.

It employed about 70 people and stockholders were members who owned corn contracts.

Dimmitt Wheat Growers formed a new management corporation, Dimmitt Management Co., Inc. (DIMACO) to operate its new corn milling plant, market the plant's products and oversee the cooperative's elevator and farm store operations.

After completing the mill, Dimmitt Wheat Growers changed its name to Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc., in order to market the products, starches, corn syrups, gluten meal, germ and steep water.

Construction continued through July 1971, when the final chapter of construction was completed with the start-up of the refinery, which starts with the new material produced by the wet process corn mill. Through the use of chemicals and enzymes, it produced corn syrup.

Amstar Corp. Leases Plant

The Dimmitt plant was acquired by Amstar Corp. in 1973 and Amstar proceeded to develop the plant's technology for production of high fructose corn syrup, which culminated in a major \$30 million expansion project in 1977.

Included in the project was the construction of a modern, automated syrup refinery, specifically designed for 42% high fructose syrup production. In addition, the daily grind capacity of the plant (the amount of corn per day used) was increased from 10,000 bushels to 35,000 bushels.

A second expansion in 1981 provided capability for the production of the 55% enriched high fructose corn syrup. Sophisticated technology and advanced instrumentation were combined to produce a high quality 55% fructose product.

American Fructose Takes Over

American Fructose purchased the Dimmitt plant from Amstar in November 1984.

In 1989, American Fructose undertook another \$30 million expansion project designed to increase the plant's grind capacity to 54,000 bushels per day. A refinery expansion also was included, with a finished capacity that now produces more 42% and 55% high fructose corn syrup. The plant has the capability of producing dry starches as well as sweeteners.

"We're especially pleased with what went on . . . particularly the capital expansion in Dimmitt, a project that will have a long-term, positive impact on the company," said William Ziegler, III, chairman and chief executive officer, in American Fructose's 1990 summary and annual report.

In the same report, another American Fructose official, Patric J. McLaughlin, president and chief operating officer, said he feels things are definitely looking up for the company.

"With Dimmitt on line for the full year . . . we may be beginning our most productive and eventful year to date. The high fructose corn syrup market is still growing and naturally, we expect to grow with it. That's why we renovated Dimmitt (plant). Dimmitt was definitely a big plus this past year. In the short run, it increased our operating costs, but over time, it will give us the capacity to grow with the high fructose market.



We've got the
Music!

and we're ready to celebrate!

Happy 100th Dimmitt and Castro County

We started broadcasting Dec. 5, 1963, and Wayne Collins bought the station Dec. 14, 1984. FCC authority has been granted for 24-hours-a-day broadcasting when the station is ready for it.

The KDHN call letters were taken from the three towns in Castro County—Dimmitt, Hart, and Nazareth, demonstrating from the beginning the station's commitment to the entire county.

We are proud to serve Castro County and the surrounding area.

County farmers grow food for nation, world

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for the farming history was obtained from longtime county farmers Lon Woodburn and George Bagwell; president of the Texas Corn Growers Association, Carl King; and from historical publications including *Castro County History, Vols. 1 and 2*; and *The Holy Family Parish: The First 75 Years*.)

Every morning Castro County farmers wake with the sun, tending to livestock, then working their fields or harvesting their crops, often until sunset and sometimes later.

They pray for rain to bring their crops up, then pray that the rain will stop so they can harvest the fruits of their labors.

They hope for a good crop, but when it doesn't happen, they somehow manage to survive and bounce back with another crop next growing season.

This scenario could have been written today, but it also could have been written a century ago when the county was first settled.

Farming has been the livelihood of Castro County residents for 100 years, first with products like kafir corn, red top cane, hegari and oats; and later with grain sorghum, wheat, cotton, corn, sugar beets, soybeans, potatoes, onions, carrots, lettuce, cabbage, cantelopes and cucumbers. The crops raised here are shipped throughout the nation and are exported to other countries, providing food for the nation and world.

The vegetable industry has been virtually eliminated today, but the sorghum, wheat, cotton, corn and soybeans are still the mainstay of the county's farming economy.

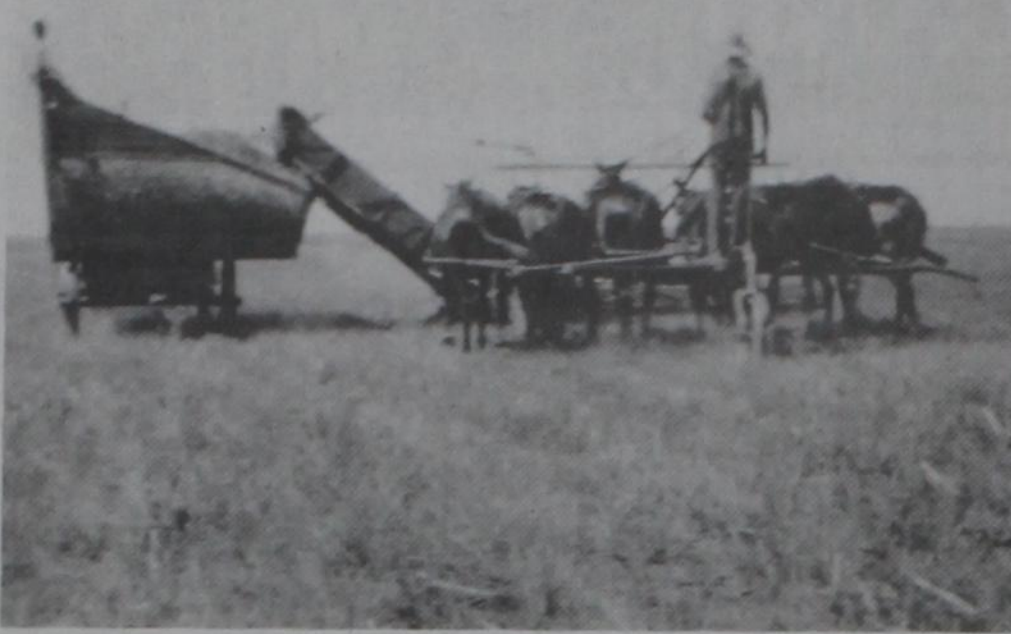
Potatoes are the largest vegetable crop raised in the county and because of the region's climate, the High Plains potato producers grow the first Russet baking potatoes of the season.

Small sweet onions, large Spanish onions and other varieties of the vegetable were grown here in abundance, but the crop's popularity has waned in recent years.

Other vegetables that have been raised here include green bell peppers, jalapeno peppers and chile peppers.

Black-eyed peas have been raised as an alternate crop, planted only if a farmer suffered a loss of some or all of his cotton due to bad weather.

In recent years, many other vegetable crops have emerged including spinach, yellow squash, asparagus, cabbage, carrots, beets and tomatoes. Pumpkins, watermelons and cantelopes also are grown locally.



HARVESTING WHEAT—Horses pull a push header and barge to harvest a wheat crop on the Elmer Dixon farm in 1926.

Photo courtesy of Irene Bradley

Early Days

At the turn of the century, small fields were worked with horses and mules pulling double shovels, walking sod plows, one-row middle buster planters, two-row sod planters, harrows and one-row riding cultivators. Broadcast bombers, single-row binders and knife sleds were used to harvest the crops.

The grain and forage produced from these crops were fed to stock, cows, hogs and chickens.

As more settlers moved into the county in the early 1900s, more land was put into cultivation. The kafir corn, wheat and oats were the staple crops for county farmers from 1908 to 1915 and small plots of corn were planted for hog feed and for making corn meal. The wheat was used to make flour.

Around 1910, a new type of grain sorghum, called goose-neck maize, was planted. It was more drought-tolerant than kafir corn and the yellow-orange grain sorghum was more nutritious.

The new maize had one drawback, though. It had to be harvested by hand because the head grew from the stalk in a U-shape and it didn't harvest well with the row or broadcast binder.

The arrival of the thrashing machine in 1906 was a major occurrence here. Some of the early machines were powered by horses using gearboxes and tumbling shafts. Some were powered by stationary steam engines, which were moved by horses from one farm to another. Within a few years a steam-driven tractor was used to operate the thrasher.

Early-day farmers enjoyed growing wheat because it was easy to raise and it wasn't long before the header for wheat and oats harvest made its appearance. The header was pushed by six horses rather

than pulled. The header loaded the small grains on to barge wagons and hauled to places where it was put into stacks to cure. Later it was thrashed.

Kafir corn was easy to harvest with a row binder, broadcast binder or by hand heading. Some farmers used a small sickle machine mounted on the side of a wagon box and powered by a chain driven sprocket attached to the wagon wheel.

An early day farmer, A. Iten, who lived in the Cleo Community once gave a testimony to encourage people to come to Castro County in 1917.

In his testimony, Iten said he had grown maize, kafir, sorghum, feteria, Indian corn and millet successfully for eight years, without failure.

"I have had no failures. My grain crops had averaged around 30 bushels per acre every year. In 1915, my maize and kafir averaged 56 bushels. I have made as much as 35 bushels of millet seed per acre, but the average will not be more than 20 bushels," Iten added that he felt like Castro County could become the "greatest wheat growing section in the nation."

The Ramey Brothers, Edgar "Unk" and Edwin "Goose," purchased and brought to the county in 1919. The first combine was powered by a gasoline engine and it cut a 12-foot swath and thrashed the grain at the same time. It was pulled by a team of eight horses, hitched four tandem.

Gasoline- and kerosene-powered tractors entered the picture by the late 1920s and had replaced the horse by the 1930s.

The Depression

The depression and drought of the mid 1930s forced farmers to make changes in the way they worked their land and how they raised their crops.

The October 1929 stock market crash and the drought of the early 1930s affected everyone's way of life.

Feed for livestock was becoming scarce and the government started killing cattle in an effort to reduce the animal numbers.

Gradually, the government wormed its way into the farming industry, setting up farm programs. Farmers could either join the government programs or remain independent, but the situation was desperate. Federal loans were offered to farmers at low interest rates. Some crops were farmed out in order to reduce surplus and raise prices.

"We've had this farm program

ever since the depression, but we were getting a reasonable price for farm products," said George Bagwell, longtime Castro County resident and farmer. "During the '50s prices were real good and people made a little money."

"Then the prices of our production started going up and it's been going up ever since until now it's too high for what farmers get. We are getting less on a parity basis today for farm products than we got during the depression years when wheat was 75 cents per bushel," he said.

Bagwell added that farm prices have dropped since World War II, because the government has been on a "cheap food policy."

"Now the prices for our farm products are below the cost of production. Right now, if a man can get the government payments and break even on his crops, he's lucky. The only thing he's really earning, is that government payment for leaving out part of his land. That's the only thing on which he's making any money," he said.

Conservation practices were established during the depression years and they included contour listing, which left stubble for ground cover, and chiseling helped stop wind erosion.

That's when most of the grassland in the county was broken out and planted in wheat, cotton and milo. Farmers in the central and southern parts of the county grew a lot of cotton while the main crop in the north and northwestern portions of the county was wheat.

During the 1940s, cotton gins started to appear in Dimmitt, Hart, Flagg, Nazareth and Sunnyside; while grain elevators were erected in Dimmitt, Hart, Summerfield and Sunnyside.

Irrigation

The first irrigation well was dug in 1909 by D.L. McDonald of Hereford, and it was located in the Frio Draw in Castro County. He dug another well in 1910, then began to grow vegetables, row crops and alfalfa.

According to Lon Woodburn, a longtime Castro County resident and farmer, irrigation soon became more of a necessity because farmers planted crops that needed more moisture, and fields held less moisture because the crops were planted on top of the furrows. He added that milo, wheat, gooseneck maize and red-top cane were more adaptable crops for the amount of rainfall received in Castro County each year.

After farmers discovered the advantages irrigation offered, wells started popping up everywhere. The first ones were drilled in the southern and eastern portions of the county in the 1930s and most were dug to a depth of around 200 feet, depending on the location, because the water table varied in depth.

Irrigation became an accepted practice in the 1940s as more people started to dig wells. R.E. Cade, who lived two miles east of Sunnyside, was one of the first farmers to drill a well in that area and water there was 60 to 70 feet deep at that time.

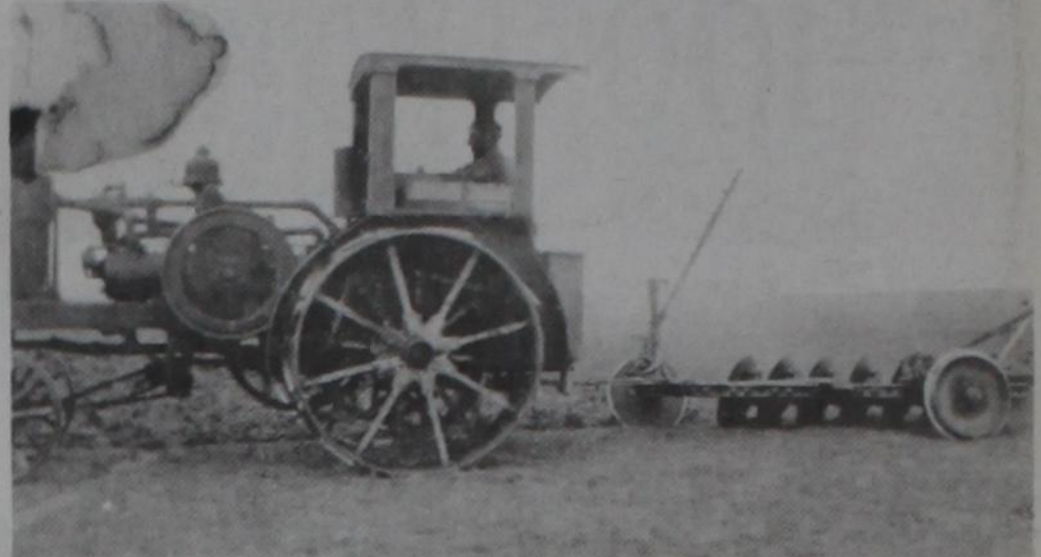
Early irrigation wells were not cased to the bottom, and some only had one joint of casing at the top to prevent contamination of the water. The casing was used to protect the pump and keep the formation around it from caving in and ruining the well.

Rotary drilling rigs that had been used in oil fields were brought to the area around 1940 and they revolutionized water well drilling. These wells were cased from the top to bottom with steel casing.

Irrigation wells started appearing throughout the county during a 10-year period ranging from 1945-55. The southern and northern parts of the county were developed first because the water table was 75 to 100 feet deep; and then the central and western part of the county drilled, but had to go deeper—to 180 or 200 feet—to find water. Sand also was a problem in the central and western areas, and many of the wells were sanded down as they were being developed. After drillers learned to modify the casing perforation in the mid 1950s, good wells were being developed.

The development of irrigation revolutionized the farming industry in Castro County, enabling farmers to grow more advanced row crops such as corn, sugar beets and soybeans instead of just sorghum and cotton.

"When this (farmland) was dryland, it was tougher going in a



PLOWING SOD
... Earl Lust in 1926

way," Bagwell said. "I paid for my land dry farming, and with irrigation, about all I can do is keep it. It's too expensive now."

"Feedlot operators can yell about feeding milo all they want, but they prefer to use corn if they can get it at the price they want," he said.

King added that corn is the "most staple crop known to mankind and it's all around good stuff."

However, King was quick to add that wheat also is an excellent crop, also.

"Wheat is good — take flour tortillas. I really prefer them to corn, but Mexican people like corn better."

Grain sorghum, which was one of the most popular crops grown in the middle of the 20th century, today is used mostly for feeding livestock in the US. In some areas of the world, sorghum is used in place of corn or wheat because one of its values is that it requires less extensive care than corn.

Cotton also has been billed as one of the most important crops in the area and High Plains-area cotton gins, cottonseed oil mills and textile mills utilize the locally-produced cotton crop to produce fiber for fabric, cottonseed oil for food, cottonseed meal for animal feed, cottonseed linters for upholstery and paper and plastics from the seed.

Castro County's 100th Anniversary

A big part of our county's history is tied in with agriculture, and our business depends on it, too.

We appreciate the patronage of all our customers and look forward to serving you into the future.

Bennett Grain, Fertilizer & Cattle

Hart • 938-2388



ELMER DIXON drives his team of horses which are pulling a one-row binder to his field in 1922. *Photo courtesy of Irene Bradley*



FIRST BALE—W.S. Dixon hauls the first bale of cotton to Hereford, where it was marketed in 1911. Dixon raised the cotton crop 30 miles south of Hereford in Castro County. He raised eight bales from his 30-acre crop. *Photo courtesy of Irene Bradley*

Happy 100th Anniversary Castro County!

We have it in writing!
From one of the oldest continuous businesses in the county—since 1909.

Clara Vick, Owner and Manager
Johnny Vick, Assistant Manager

Cowser Abstract & Title Co.
Dimmitt • 647-3154

Castro County
1891-1991 **Courthouses**



EARLY-DAY COMMISSIONERS POSE AT SECOND COURTHOUSE
...Built in 1906, torn down in 1930 to make way for the present one



CASTRO COUNTY'S FIRST COURTHOUSE

...struck by lightning on Aug. 26, 1906 and burned to the ground in minutes

100 YEARS OF PROGRESS

Symbolizing our county's 100 Years of Progress are the courthouses that have served us since Castro County was first organized and chartered by the state in 1891. From our first woodframe courthouse that served as a community center, dance hall and poker hangout...to the second courthouse which served us well for 30 years...to the Austin-stone structure that has doubled in size since it was built in 1939...all help symbolize the history of our people, the dynamic progress of our county and our hopes for the future.



PRESENT-DAY COURTHOUSE

...completed in 1939. In 1966, it was expanded to the south for more space. The gazebo was constructed in 1991 approximately where one stood on the courthouse lawn when the second courthouse existed.

Corn growers' organization sprouted 'roots' in Dimmitt

By ANNE ACKER

Today's farmers are faced with many hardships — production, financial and political problems. Politics seem to dictate the lives of the farmers and that's the reason many of today's producer organizations were created—to give the farmers a voice on the national and state levels.

The Texas Corn Growers Association (TCGA) and American Corn Growers Association (ACGA) are two such groups. Both were started and are operated under the guidance of Dimmitt's Carl King, a longtime corn farmer and resident of Castro County.

TCGA was formed more than 20 years ago in Dimmitt, but the first meeting didn't take place until the group was chartered on Dec. 15, 1975. Since that time, the group has held 19 meetings.

King serves as president of the Texas Corn Growers Association and is chairman of the American Corn Growers Association, which was formed out of the state organization almost four years ago.

"I have been president of Texas Corn Growers since it was first formed," said King. "I believe there were less than five people at the first meeting, but it (TCGA) has since grown to be a large voice in agriculture, not only in Texas, but across the United States as well."

The TCGA is chartered by the State of Texas under the Texas Dept. of Agriculture; however it is not a state agency. The Texas Corn Producers Board, which was formed from the TCGA, is a state agency.

The Texas Corn Producers Board was formed 10 years ago and it is composed of 15 members. At its inception, the board covered a seven-county area in the Panhandle-Plains area, but in 1990, it was expanded and now is a statewide organization that serves all corn farmers in the state from its Dimmitt-based office.

Also born out of TCGA was the ACGA. The ACGA also is headquartered in Dimmitt and has an office staff in Washington, D.C. to serve its membership, which includes corn growers from 24 states. The organization hopes to expand its membership to 15,000 by the end of the year, King said.

King says one of the biggest challenges facing the organizations is getting their story and ideas to the American people.

"We (agriculture producers) are the largest single industry in America, and yet we are walked on the most," King said. "Farming is the lifeblood of the nation and people need to recognize that because if the farmer goes under, so does the nation."

King said that's what happened in the 1930s when the country was going through the "Great Depression."

"When they let agriculture go on the blink, the rest of the country went under with the depression. That's what started it all."

"The main reason Texas Corn Growers was formed was to cooperate with other farm organizations with similar goals and ideas. We are a participant in the US Feed Grains Council," King said. "The reason ACGA was formed was because the other national organization that we had representing our producers did not coincide with our political philosophy on what we needed in farm legislation."

"We believe in trade, but we

believe in fair trade," King said. "We are very active in the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) negotiations that are going on now, along with the North American Treaty Alliance, which is between Canada, Mexico and the US. Our job is to see that the farmer doesn't come up with the short end of the stick on these trade negotiations and this is a tough job within itself. We don't believe we should be exporting our products below the cost of production, and that's what has happened to us for many years."

Through the work of the TCGA, the Energy Users Association was established to prevent the overcharging of electricity and natural gas use by corn producers. The TCGA helped charter the Texas Farm Bargaining Association to bargain with food processors.

"We participate in, and support farm coalitions," King said. "We have provided regular financial assistance to the Farm Crisis Hotline. Class action lawsuits have been successfully litigated supporting fair treatment of producers under a variety of circumstances."

The goals of the TCGA are to improve farm income by pronouncing a supply management concept for agriculture, especially corn.

"We believe we should have a higher loan rate to get our money out of the market. At the same time, when you have a large carryover, you must cut back on supplies. When you have a surplus of grain, prices are cheap, as we have experienced for many, many years," King said.

Prior to the organization of the Texas Corn Producers Board, TCGA helped organize international trade teams for promotional corn sales of Texas corn and also participated in international trade shows to promote Texas corn.

"We have promoted corn in every angle, from attempting to get corn grit plants, to getting corn food processors within the vicinity such as Frito-Lay, Azteca, Texas Sesame and others."

The organization hasn't restricted its actions to corn growers, either.

"We helped organize a task force to prevent dumping and storage of high-level nuclear waste in productive farm communities (such as Deaf Smith County)."

King said he feels like one of the group's biggest achievements was writing the grain portion of the Payment in Kind (PIK) Program, which was presented to the Secretary of Agriculture and then was adopted by the administration.

The TCGA actively supports research related to integrated pest management and has lobbied for



Carl King

Section 18 clearances for the use of Azodrin for five years, until it was banned by the Environmental Protection Agency. After Azodrin was banned, the TCGA worked for and obtained a clearance to use Capture and Comite to combat spider mites.

Another one of the greatest challenges facing the TCGA today, King says, is ethanol production.

"We actively promote decentralization, farmer-owned ethanol production, and have fought to maintain the state motor fuel sales tax exemption for gasoline-ethanol blends. We are a member of ethanol groups in Washington and we have worked and helped accomplish the Clean Air Act, which was passed by Congress in 1990. We are working to get an ethanol bill passed that will enhance the producer. It will not cost the Texas taxpayers any money; it will come out of the rural development fund."

"I have devoted most of my life to agriculture," King continued. "When I was growing up, we didn't have irrigation. I've seen how that changed the farming industry and I've seen it grow from a minimum of production to a maximum of production with the help of irrigation."

King credits a lot of the farming success in the area to the Ogallala Aquifer, from which the irrigation

water is pumped, saying if it wasn't able to grow the corn and beets that for the aquifer, farmers wouldn't be they do today.

We've faced many
RISKS
during our 100 years of history in Castro County, and we've helped our customers face some of those risks with confidence since 1988.

We appreciate your business
and say
Happy 100th Anniversary!

**DeWayne Brown
Insurance**

Hart • 938-2266



Carrying On The Legacy

It was cattle that got Castro County started, when J. W. Carter drove his herd from Buffalo Gap in 1884 and settled in what is now the Flagg community.

From a single herd, to larger operations like the Flagg Ranch, to the gigantic XIT, cattle helped build our county and its communities.

As range land was turned into family farms, cattle continued to play an important role in our economy. Wheat became the main crop because it provided winter pasture as well as a summer cash crop.

Then, with the advent of high-efficiency feedlots, our county became part of the "Cattle-Feeding Capital of the World."

G. L. Willis, Sr., started ranching in Castro County in 1915, and G. L. Willis, Jr., established Willis Cattle Co. in 1938. We are involved in all phases of the cattle industry here, and work with farmers, ranchers, buyers, sellers and feeders. We have ridden out the good times and the bad with our co-workers in the industry here.

We feel a close kinship with those cattlemen who first settled here a century ago. And we're proud to be carrying their legacy into Castro County's second century.

Willis Cattle Co., Inc.

G. L. Willis, Jr.

WW Cattle Co.

Gene Bradley, Mike Baca & Andy Rogers



Al's Liquor Mart
of Nazareth is proud to
have served Castro County
since 1960 and we
appreciate your business.

*A century of history
is something to celebrate!*

Al's Liquor Mart
Tom and Lillian Cameron, Owners
Nazareth • 945-2660



Cattle-feeding industry here is one of the state's largest

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the *Castro County History, Vols. I and II* and *1991 Fed Cattle Survey* provided by Southwestern Public Service Company.)

The cattle industry in Castro County has survived "blue northerners," grasshopper plagues, prairie fires and "black duster" sandstorms to become a part of the cattle-feeding capital of the world.

Some things are meant to be, and the cattle industry in Castro County is one of those things.

The cattle industry had its official beginning in 1883 when J. W. Carter, the county's first settler, purchased land in Castro County.

Carter bought 72 sections for 79 cents an acre. Carter brought 1,000 head of cattle with him when he moved to Castro County and returned for 1,500 more head later. After breeding, the total number of cattle Carter raised was 3,000 head, and each was branded with a 7-UP after his ranch, which was known as the 7-UP Ranch.

In 1887, Carter brought an additional 15,000 head from Taylor County to Castro County's open range territory.

Cattle was the only saleable commodity early-day settlers had, and the animals were driven to the nearest railroad, then were shipped to market, where they were sold for \$7 to \$15 a head. Calves sold for \$5 to \$7 a head. Most settlers only made between \$80 and \$250 on their herds.

In addition to Carter's 7-UP Ranch, other early ranches in the county included C. C. Slaughter's and Ramrod Johnson's Circle S, the Running Water Cattle and Land Company's Circle Cross and Capitol Freehold Land. With assets of more than \$15 million, the Cattle Company's XIT stocked its three million-acre ranch with more than 110,000 head of cattle in 1887.

The root of survival for the cattle industry is the native grasslands in the area — Buffalo Grass, Blue Gama, side oats gama and mesquite. But in order for the cattle to feed off of the grasslands, moisture is needed to help the grasses grow.

And the weather and rainfall didn't always cooperate.

Over the years, the cattle industry in Castro County survived many natural as well as man-made threats, but the early years seemed to create the worst obstacles for newcomers to Castro County.

In 1888, a "blue norther" of the kind that J. Frank Dobie wrote about descended on the county. During the two-day blizzard, the wind chill factor was 50 degrees below zero, and many cattle did not survive. The XIT lost over 3,000 head during the storm.

Only four years later, a grasshopper plague passed through Castro County leaving the land without any means to feed the cattle. For nearly two years ranchers had fought drought, and then the grasshoppers destroyed what few crops and range-land vegetation remained.

In 1894, only two years after the grasshopper plague, arson on the XIT caused the great prairie fire that destroyed over 3,000 square miles of range land and several thousand head of cattle.

The disasters continued in the 30s with the black duster sandstorms that turned Castro County into a desert covered with sand. Cattle could not graze because all vegetation was buried under drifts of sand.

With one disaster after another, many of the early settlers moved on.

Of those that stayed on, a few farmers and ranchers began to construct small feeding pens and fed their cattle on the farm.

With the onset of irrigation and the increased production of grain sorghum in the county in the 1940s and 1950s, the number of farmers and ranchers feeding their cattle on the farm grew.

Among the early cattle feeders in Castro County were Clem Maples, Bill Graham, Roy Hackleman, Lewis Coke, Homer Hill, Lloyd Farris, Roy Cluck, John Jarrett and Roy Bennett, according to information from Jimmy Cluck, which was published in *Castro County History, Vol. II*.

Large commercial feedlots started springing up in the county in the late 1960s, and soon they mushroomed into one of the county's biggest industries.

Today, feedlots in Castro County feed almost 600,000 head of cattle per year. That ranks the county as the second-largest cattle-feeding county in the area for 1990, according to the 1991 Fed Cattle Survey released by Southwestern Public Service Co.


A total of 591,349 head of cattle were fed out in Castro County in 1990 by its 13 major feedlots with capacities over 5,000.

The survey lists 13 feedlots with a capacity of 5,000 or more in the county which have a capability of feeding almost 272,000 head at a time. Bar G Feedyard, located in northwest Castro County, can hold the most head of cattle at one time, with a lot capacity of 70,000 head. Dimmitt Feedyard's pens, located west of Dimmitt, can handle 45,000 head; while Rafter 3 Feedyard, west of Dimmitt, can hold 34,000 head.

Other feedlots (with more than 5,000-head capacity) in the county are Seven X Feedyard, located in the extreme northwestern corner of the county; Hill Feedyard, Cluck Cattle Co., Smith Cattle Feeders, Great Plains Cattle Feeders, Inc. S, LS Feeders, Inc., 3K Cattle Feeders, Sunnyside Cattle Co., Bridges Cattle Co. and L&N Feedyard.

Feedlot Name	Site No.	Capacity
3K Cattle Feeders	63	9,000
Bar-G Feedyard	67	70,000
Bridges Cattle Company	127	5,000
Cluck Cattle Company	64	15,000
Dimmitt Feedyard, Inc.	65	45,000
Great Plains Cattle	72	12,000
Hill Feedyard	68	20,000
LS Feeders	66	10,000
L&N Feedyard	69	5,000
Rafter 3 Feedyard	49	34,000
Seven X Feedyard	70	24,000
Smith Cattle Feeders	73	15,000
Sunnyside Cattle Co.	71	8,000





**Happy
100th**

**to Dimmitt
and Castro County!**

We want to convey our very best wishes as we begin a new century together.

We've been bringing you the best in fashions and gift ideas since 1968, and we look forward to serving you in the future.

Bettye Butler, Owner
Gail Bruegel, Cindy Adams and Janice Shelton

The Village Shop
204 W. Bedford, Dimmitt
647-2450



We want to communicate our very best wishes to Dimmitt and Castro County on your 100th Anniversary!

We're glad to have been serving you since 1984.


Tri-State Communications, Inc. \$
1-800-365-1839



Congratulations Castro County on your 100th Birthday!

We're proud to put a part of Castro County into and on every bag of potatoes we sell. We've been in business since 1977, and look forward to a "growing" future!

Smith Potato, Inc.
Hart • 938-2166

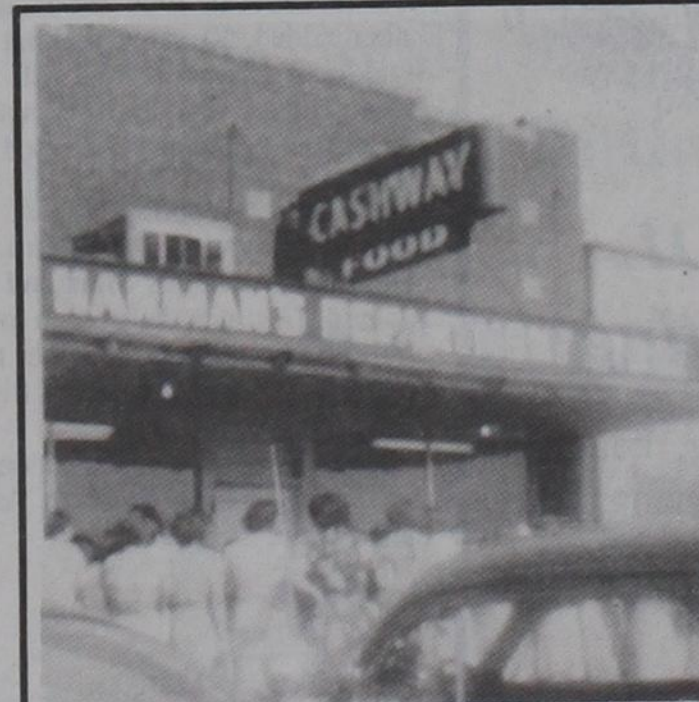


Founded in 1950 by S.L. Harman Sr., Harman's Dept. Store in Dimmitt has continued in the same family since that time, with S.L.'s son, Bill Harman, and grandson, Billy Harman, continuing the same customer service and fine line of clothing and accessories.

The business started in a structure next door to its present location at 100 S. Broadway, moving into the new building in 1956.

Just before the grand opening Aug. 31, 1956, S.L. said, "We have great faith in the future of Castro County and believe our new building was a fine investment."

Bill and Billy continue to have faith in this city and county as a good place to do business, and appreciate your patronage through the years.



Happy 100th Birthday Dimmitt and Castro County!

HARMAN'S
100 S. Broadway, Dimmitt • 647-4638



We're so cotton-pickin' happy about Castro County's 100th Birthday!

We're served you for 35 years and look forward to many more.

Monty Phillips, Manager
Nancy Mathis, Office Manager

Hart Producers Co-op Gin
938-2189



LON WOODBURN DEMONSTRATES a "go-devil," part of the farm implement exhibit at the Castro County Museum. Behind Woodburn is an example of the first "cotton-puller," the first farm implement to replace hand picking and pulling. Both implements were pulled behind mules.

Photo by Kathleen Latham

Tractors changed methods of farming, Woodburn says

By KATHLEEN LATHAM

The tractor replaced mules on the Woodburn farm in 1936 but it was not necessarily an improvement, Lon Woodburn recalled recently.

"My father warned me that it would pack the ground, and it did," Woodburn said. "But I had to have one."

With the advent of the tractor, methods of farming changed, Woodburn said. They had to plant on top of the furrows, and crops planted on top of the furrows meant they had to switch to a cultivator instead of a "go-devil" to take weeds off.

Since the cultivator could not get all the weeds as effectively as the go-devil, farmers started summer plowing.

"Of course, back then we only had the thistle which could be plowed under. We didn't even have the old careless weed back then," Woodburn said. "Now there are so many more new weeds, they had to bring in chemicals to kill them."

Irrigation became more of a necessity because farmers planted crops that needed more moisture and fields held less moisture because of planting on top of the furrows. Milo, wheat, gooseneck and red-top cane were more adaptable crops for the amount of rain in Castro County than the corn that is seen today, Woodburn said.

"Corn has broke more people," Woodburn said. "It needs the water.

But water 20 times and you have to go to the bank. By the time you've watered five times, you've already lost your money. Water three times and shut it off if you want to make any money for your trouble."

Circular irrigation is cheaper because it gives more control over the flow and position of the water, Woodburn said.

As a boy, Woodburn started his farming with the go-devil pulled by two mules. The go-devil was on skids and had knives along the sides. It allowed for farming down in the furrows which helped hold moisture in the soil.

"Plus, a go-devil got rid of all the weeds and saved the plants while wrapping the cotton in dirt around the stalk," Woodburn said.

Despite technological advancements in farm machinery, the fingers on new machines are just like the ones on the original go-devils, Woodburn said.

"They haven't been able to improve on that," Woodburn said.

During the 40s when gasoline was scarce, mules took over for the tractor on the Woodburn farm and they had to use the little 6-foot combines.

"We would still use the tractor to list with it, to dig the big, deep furrows," Woodburn said. "Using the little 6-foot combines with the tractor, it would pay for itself for renting out."

Despite his complaints about tractors in general, Woodburn said

he has had his John Deere tractor from Germany since 1963.

"I've had this tractor for 27 years," Woodburn said. "It's a good piece of machinery, and I always put it in the barn."

In 1951, Woodburn married Mary Raper of Vernon. The next year they planted three acres of cotton. He and his wife, Mary, expected to get two bales per acre. While Mary pulled and Lon drug the sack, they gathered 52 pounds before giving up and bringing in the machinery.

The new farm machinery and different crops have necessitated changes in other areas as well, Woodburn said.

"In the early 50s, I finally put in an irrigation well and then got hauled out 3 years in a row," Woodburn said. "I had to go to the land office, and it took 10 years to pay off or lose the farm."

Woodburn was born in Dimmitt in 1915. He attended classes in the old red brick school house and gradually took on more chores at the farm through the years.

"We had to take the grains to Hereford in the early years because we didn't have a grain elevator," Woodburn said. "Even the people in Flagg had to take their grain to Hereford."

Dimmitt got its first grain elevator about the same time it got the railroad, Woodburn said.

In 1933 Woodburn left Dimmitt to go to college in Canyon.

"I had \$8 to pay for college and that was a lot of money back then," Woodburn recalled. "I got all the way over there, and they said they couldn't take me because I had to have \$30."

Woodburn said the college's decision changed his life.

"If they had taken me, I would have been an ag teacher, and I wouldn't be here on the land now," Woodburn said. "Look what I would have missed. This land has supported me all my life."

Woodburn's family bought their farm in 1907. In 1909 Woodburn's father added 50 acres making the Woodburn farm a total of 222 acres. Today, Woodburn farms the same acreage his family farmed.

Currently, Woodburn has 160 acres in cultivation. Woodburn and neighbors Dr. James Sims and Joe Richard Hastings help each other with the farming, and together they operate a successful farming triumvirate.

Woodburn has been president of the Castro County Museum Association since 1985.

Cattle industry is leaning toward 'healthier beef'

By KATHLEEN LATHAM

"The trend in the cattle industry is toward 'healthier' beef," Dimmitt cattleman G. L. Willis Jr. said recently.

"In the last few years, we've seen lots of exotic breeds introduced into the industry," Willis added. "Crossbreeding the limousin and charolais breeds with the angus and hereford breeds has resulted in more muscle and bigger gainers."

Limousin and charolais are less fleshy than angus and herefords, Willis said.

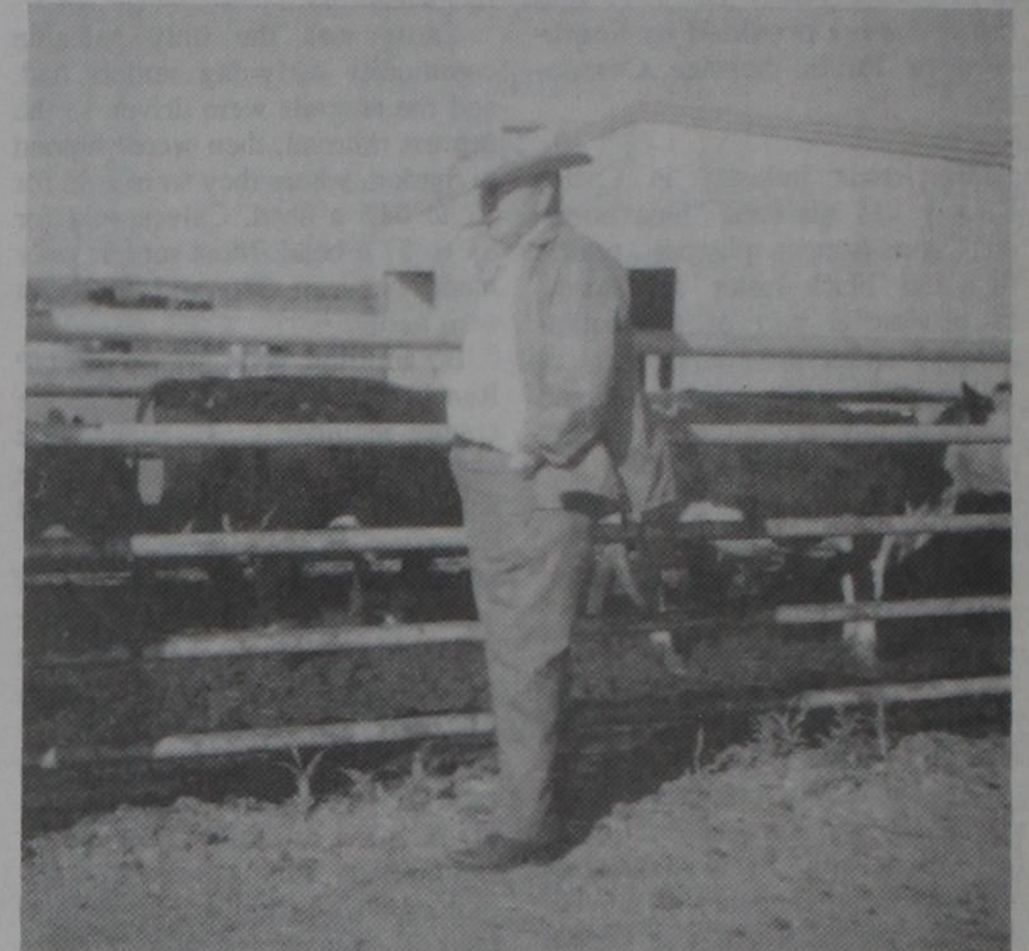
"We don't feed them as long anymore, and the beef is trimmed closer," all with an eye toward keeping beef popular in today's health-conscious market, Willis said.

Most of the calves for Willis' current operation come from the eastern United States, like Kentucky, Mississippi, Arkansas, Willis said.

Calves are brought in weighing 3-400 pounds and are put out to graze until they reach about 700 pounds.

"At 700 pounds, we bring them into the feedlot," Willis said. "We feed them for 120 to 140 days, which puts about 4-500 more pounds on them."

Willis said the two biggest recent innovations in the cattle industry are cross breeding and steam rolling grains.



G.L. WILLIS, JR. surveys cattle cared for in Dimmitt Feedyard's pens on Oct. 5, 1969. Willis and four other men built Dimmitt Feedyard in 1966, and they operated it for 15 years.

Courtesy Photo

"Nutritionists helped design the steam-rolling process," Willis said. "They steam it and roll it which makes the feed more palatable."

Willis' father came to Castro County in 1915, buying land just south of Dimmitt. Willis was born three years later.

Throughout the years, Willis maintained ranches in Texas and New Mexico. He has a ranch in Deaf Smith County and keeps grassland in Castro County. In 1966, Willis, along with A. J. Kemp Jr., Jim Elder, A. C. Hays and Bob McLean, built Dimmitt Feedyard, which they operated for 15 years.

All the ranches used to be "cow and calf" operations, Willis recalled.

"These turned into more of a yearling deal, and now you see more feedlots," Willis said.

Willis' sons-in-law, Mike Baca, Gene Bradley and Andy Rogers, run the Rafter 3 Feedyard.

"They keep about 38-40,000 head," Willis said. "Corn and wheat are the principal feeds they use."

The bigger part of local grains, mostly corn and wheat with some milo, are used in local feedlots, Willis said. Most of the grain at the milling plant is shipped in from the north.

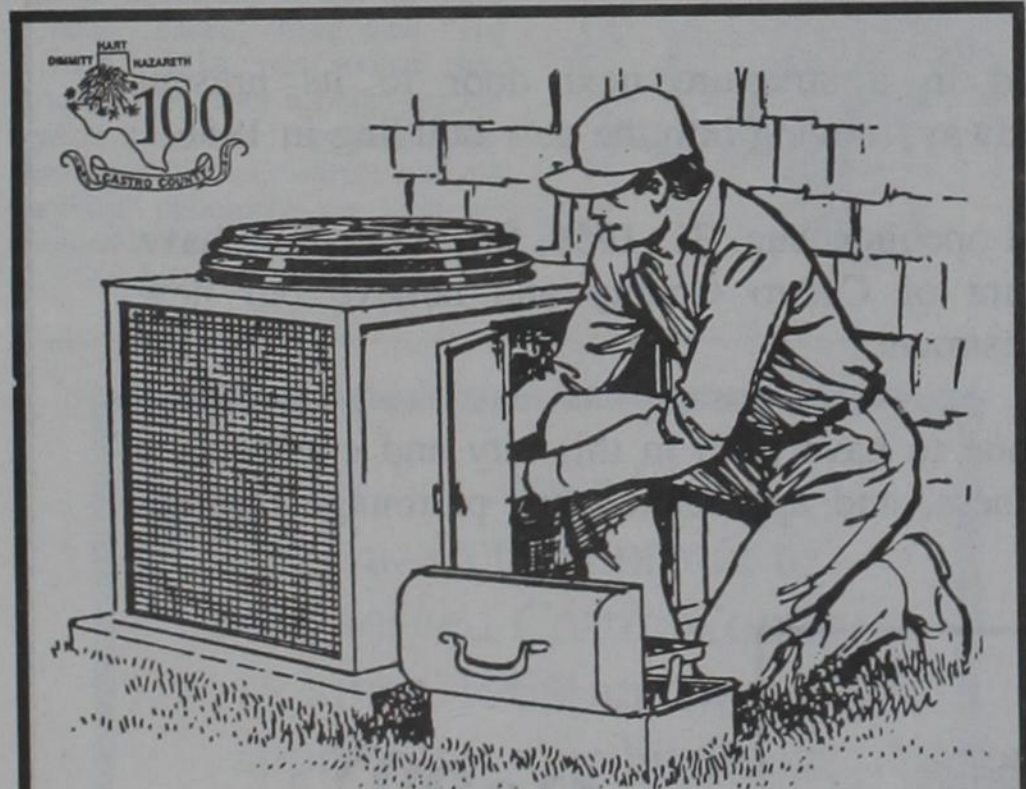
Some early-day brands registered in Castro County

J.W. Carter	⊕ ... OR B
G.T. Abbott	A/A
W.S. Easter	--E--
T.W. Hart	J
G.L. Willis	+
A.V. McCormick	⊂
George Arney	A
Walter W. Hogge	~
F.B. Stiles	U
S.Y. Birkenfeld	MB
J.P. Flores	o°
W.A. Randal	⊕
B.T. Hinton	HA
J.H. Williams	S
R.C. Harlan	TA
Press Burnam	AD
W.R. Griffith	P + horse



Happy 100th Castro County!

Garner Ball Photos
Dimmitt • 647-3140



KEEP YOUR COOL
while you're celebrating!

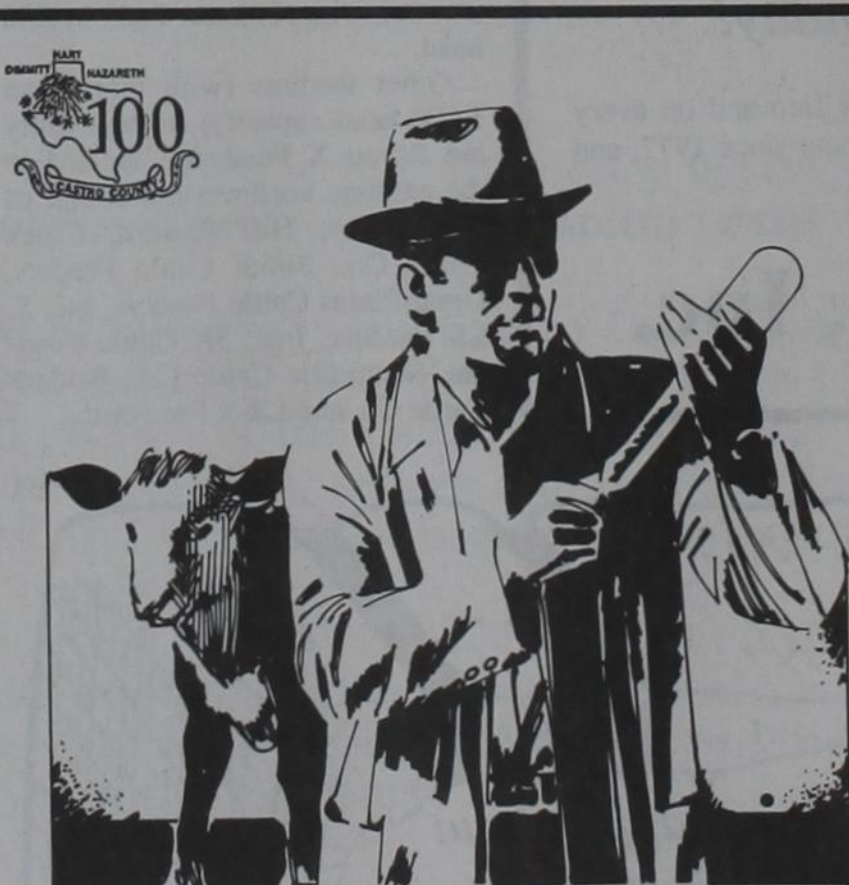
Call us for all your air conditioning, heating and electrical needs. We've been serving you since 1976.

Happy 100th!

Jerry and Connie McGuire, Owners

McGuire Refrigeration

206 E. Bedford, Dimmitt • 647-5627



We've been handling your livestock feed and supplies since 1988, and we appreciate the opportunity to serve our many customers.

We'd like to take this time to say
Happy 100th Anniversary

Nazareth Feed & Supply

Dwight Acker, Owner
Nazareth • 945-2291



THE "CORNER DRUG STORE" was always one of the favorite spots of county residents in the early 1930s and one of the most popular was Reynolds Drug Store, which was owned by Carlos and Annie

Reynolds. It was located on the corner where Harman's Dept. Store is today. Iva (Reynolds) Huckabay and Erceen Umberson (brother-in-law of Carlos) were the clerks.

Bauman opens garage; is Hart's first mechanic

Frank Bauman moved to Hart in 1928 and with his father, Joseph Bauman, built a garage and became the town's only mechanic.

Born in Okarche, Okla., the son of Joseph and Mary Bauman, Frank was 28 years old when he moved to Hart. He had a brother and seven sisters.

Joseph had built the family home, which today is located at 302 Seventh Street, and when it was completed, his wife, Mary, joined him and her son, Frank.

Frank, Joseph and Mary lived in the house for many years. On Sept. 13, 1929, Mary died, but Joseph continued to live there until he died on Sept. 28, 1934. Frank married Martha Huseman on May 26, 1930, in Nazareth.

A dealer for Dempster implements, Frank also operated a Phillips 66 wholesale dealership in connection with his garage and farming interests.

In 1943, Frank closed the garage to work at Pantex near Amarillo, but he returned to Hart and re-opened the garage in 1945.

For a time, his son, Joseph Bauman, worked with him. Then Joseph Bauman (Frank's son) and Lyndall Warren took over and operated the garage. (Lyndall had



THE FRANK BAUMAN GARAGE, located in Hart, was the first garage with a mechanic service in Hart. Constructed by Frank Bauman, with the help of his father, Joseph, the garage was operated until 1943. Bauman re-opened the garage in 1945 and for a time, his son worked with him. Later it was operated by his son and son-in-law, Joseph Bauman and Lyndall Warren.

married Frank and Martha's daughter, Patsy.)

Frank bought farmland west of Hart and farmed for several years. After he returned, he leased it out. He died on Oct. 21, 1973, and Martha died in March 1990.

Martha had worked part time at the post office in Hart (from 1946 to 1947), and worked at Brooks' Grocery Store for a year. She also

worked for Lindsey Gin Company as a bookkeeper and weigher, and held a similar position for Co-op Gin in 1956 and 1957. She worked at Hart Gin Company, also.

In addition to their son and daughter, Joseph and Patsy, Frank and Mary Bauman had a second daughter, Antoinette Bently, who now lives in Dimmitt. Joseph lives in Lubbock.

Interest in irrigation developed in 1935-36

Castro County farmers started showing interest in irrigation during 1935 and 1936, and several farmers installed irrigation systems during that period.

An April 30, 1936, story printed in the *Castro County News*, revealed the interested in irrigation projects showed a marked increase in the county during the previous 12-month period.

A number of farm owners had drilled irrigation wells and installed pumping equipment in the shallow water areas of the county in 1936.

The article indicates that the majority of the new wells were dug near the Frio Community. Farmers who resided in that area who installed the then experimental devices were Henry Allman, Mr. Bur-

sine, A.C. Hawks, J.E. Andrews, J.E. Springer and others.

C.G. Maples, W.A. Hunter and Sons and O. Stephens also installed irrigation plants on their farms in the Jumbo Community in 1936.

Hunter and Sons opened two wells on their land, W.E. Durree and R.E. Cades at Hart installed

plants and another project near Summerfield was installed by Mr. Muncy.

The 1936 story said that irrigation projects were "more or less experimental," and it was expected that it would be quite a while before the country would be irrigated on a large scale.

County farmer invented machine to pick up cotton left by stripper

A machine designed to pick up cotton left by strippers was constructed by R.E. "Bob" Steffens of Nazareth in 1961.

Steffens, who worked on the machine for several years, still has some work to do on it, but it picked

up as much as a hundred pounds and more per acre of cotton normally plowed back under. Although he had a patent pending, Steffens said he didn't plan to produce the machine commercially when he was interviewed by the *News* in 1962.

Part of the work on the machine required Steffens to go to Victoria to have a sheet of quarter-inch steel rolled into a cylinder.

At first appearance, it was a complex machine, although the principle is simple. Pulled by a tractor and operated by a power takeoff, it was essentially a drum rolling against the direction of pull several inches off the ground.

On the drum were attached scores of small saw segments which are attached to the surface of the drum at one end. As the drum rotated, the saw segments dropped their loose ends they rotated to the bottom, dragging their teeth along the ground, snagging loose cotton bolls and scraps. The cotton was carried up and over on the surface of the drum by the saw segments where it was brushed off and carried through a chute back to the trailer.

In the 1962 interview, Steffens said he was still encountering some difficulties and he planned to work on his machine some more.

There are other machines, which were still in the experimental stage, which did this type of work, but most had design limitations which had kept them off the market.

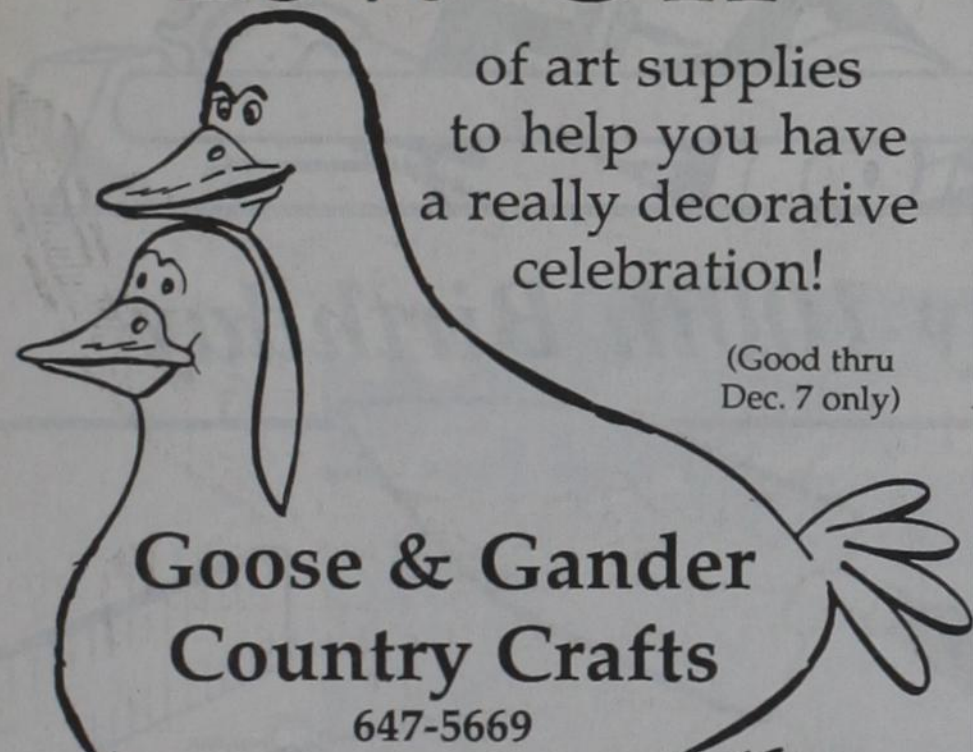
Steffens farmed seven miles north and a half of a mile west of Nazareth.

During the Centennial Year, we're offering

25% Off

of art supplies to help you have a really decorative celebration!

(Good thru Dec. 7 only)



OH BABY

Have we got a new century for you!

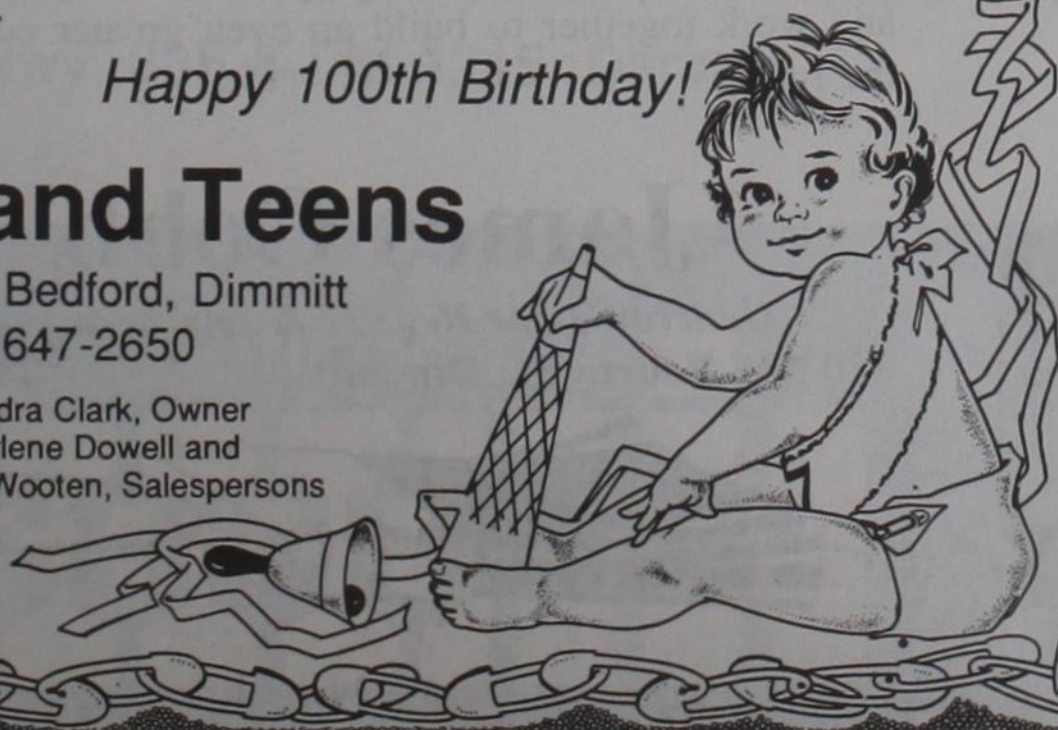
As we complete the first century for Dimmitt and Castro County, we'd like to say, we're glad to serve our customers growing needs. We've been serving you since 1975.

Happy 100th Birthday!

Tots and Teens

101 E. Bedford, Dimmitt
647-2650

Sandra Clark, Owner
Darlene Dowell and
Darlene Wooten, Salespersons



Congratulations, Castro County!

We've been offering our fine products since 1983, and we're proud to serve you!

Ramirez AND SONS

Hereford



We're a "growing yard," starting with young cattle and letting them grow and fatten. We perform pre-conditioning, cattle feeding and custom processing.

We're proud to be a part of Castro County since 1988, and want to wish all a Happy 100th Birthday!

LN Feed Yard

Fred Lookingbill, Owner; Kelly Lookingbill; Sandy Lookingbill
647-5427



A mammoth discovery

Frio Draw yields animal skull and tusks 10,000+ years old

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this article was taken from a series of stories written by News Publisher Don Nelson in 1988, when the archeological discovery was made.)

Every time there's a heavy rain, you can expect a stretch of unpaved road that runs down the southern slope of the Frio Draw to wash out.

That's what it did in the spring of 1987. Rainwater rushing toward the draw carved tons of earth out of the road and its adjoining ditches. Some of the erosion cuts were four or five inches deep.

That's where of Castro County's most memorable, and largest, archeological find was unearthed.

Lying exposed in the ditch run-



—Ellis Owen, Prehistoric Animals

ning along the west side of the road was a cluster of gigantic teeth.

The teeth were sent to Dr. Jack Hughes in Canyon, professor emeritus of archeology at West Texas

Slate University. Also contacted about the teeth was Dennis Lomas, who had helped unearth several prehistoric animals near Portales and Clovis. Dr. Hughes and Lomas both were fairly sure the teeth were those of a mastadon.

Later, when the POW Chapel was being restored, Lon Woodburn, a member of the Castro County Historical Commission, took Eddie Guffee, director of the Llano Estacado Museum in Plainview, to the spot where the teeth were found.

Guffee spotted the tip of a tusk and that's when the excavation process started.

After work was completed at the chapel, Guffee and Woodburn started digging out around the tusk, and Guffee said he didn't expect to find more than the tusk, but the farther we dug, the more of the mammoth they discovered.

They kept digging farther, following the tusk to the skeletal tuskcap, then uncovering the second tusk, and finally digging down to the Skull.

Guffee notified the Texas Historical Commission that he had a confirmed archeological discovery and was about to excavate and that the finding was on public land. That brought it under the jurisdiction of the Texas Antiquities Commission.

The excavation team started digging May 13, 1988, and worked most of the day to enlarge the area of the dig and mark off the site in 30-inch squares.

Archeologists and museum scientists from Plainview, Lubbock and Austin carefully unearthed the ancient skull from a washed-out bar ditch along a dirt road half a mile north of the Frio Draw channel. The base of the skull was about seven feet below road level and 10 feet below the surface of the field alongside the bar ditch.

From the curvature of the tusks, the scientists tentatively identified the skull as that of an adult *Mammothus imperator*, or Imperial Mammoth, a 12,000-lb. prehistoric cousin of the elephant. They said the shaggy animal, which stood 13 ft. high at the shoulder, roamed this area during the Pleistocene Age, grazing on lush plants on the alluvial plain here when rainfall was about 40 inches a year and the climate was much cooler than it is today.

They said the skull is at least 10,000 years old and could be as old as 130,000 years.

Once the skull was excavated, it was loaded onto a hay mattress on Don Moke's flatbed trailer. The skull was stored overnight in the Precinct 3 barn, then it was towed to Plainview, where it was restored. The two-ton skull and tusks was unailed in an Imperial Mammoth exhibit at Wayland Baptist University's Museum of the Llano Estacado in Plainview in April 1989, and it is on permanent display there.

In preparing the find for the permanent exhibit, the fossilized bone was cleaned, patched and stabilized to prevent further deterioration.



EARLY-DAY RESIDENT—The skull of the first prehistoric mammoth ever discovered in the county lies exposed below an eroded bar ditch of a dirt

road near the Frio Draw. The Imperial Mammoth skull was discovered in 1988. Photo by Don Nelson



FINAL TOUCHES—Wayland Baptist University's art professor, Candace Keller, puts finishing touches on the display area for the Imperial Mammoth Exhibit at the Llano Estacado Museum

in Plainview. The exhibit houses the restored and preserved skull and tusks of an Imperial Mammoth, which was discovered near the Frio Draw in Castro County in 1988.

Keep on Truckin', Castro County!

We're proud to have served you for the last nine years.

HART HAZARETH DIMMITT CASTRO COUNTY 100

Joe Drerup, Owner

JOE'S TRUCKING

Nazareth • 945-2205

HART HAZARETH DIMMITT CASTRO COUNTY 100

Let's Celebrate!

We've taken care of your pets and stock since 1969, and we appreciate your patronage. We look forward to the start of a new century for Dimmitt and Castro County. Happy 100th Birthday!

Dimmitt Veterinary Clinic and Dimmitt Veterinary Supply
N. Hwy. 385 • 647-2149

Serving the Hart area since 1963!

J. B. Allensworth, Manager
Saul Miller, Butcher; Juanita Allensworth, Produce;
Gloria Ponce, Checker & Bookkeeper;
Sylvia Tonorio, Checker; Ricky Godino, Stocker;
Chris Jones, Checker & Stocker

HART HAZARETH DIMMITT CASTRO COUNTY 100

Pay-n-Save
QUALITY AND SERVICE

Hart 938-2312

HART HAZARETH DIMMITT CASTRO COUNTY 100

Happy 100th Birthday

Thank You, Castro County!

We started our business here four years ago to provide remodeling, painting, carpentry, fencing and home repair services.

The people of Dimmitt and Castro County have been very good to Bonnie and me, and a pleasure to work with.

We appreciate your business and your friendship.

Let's all enjoy our county's Centennial together, and work together to build an even greater county in the future!

James Cobb
General Home Repairs & Improvements
310 NW Fourth St., Dimmitt 647-5320

We're Still Young and Growing



1969—Charlie Hays (foreground) retires and turns over the keys to his brother and longtime partner, Jim. Jim's sons—David, Doug and Norman—all are now associated with the company.

We've been serving the farmers of Castro County for 42 years with agricultural equipment that traces its lineage back to Cyrus McCormick.

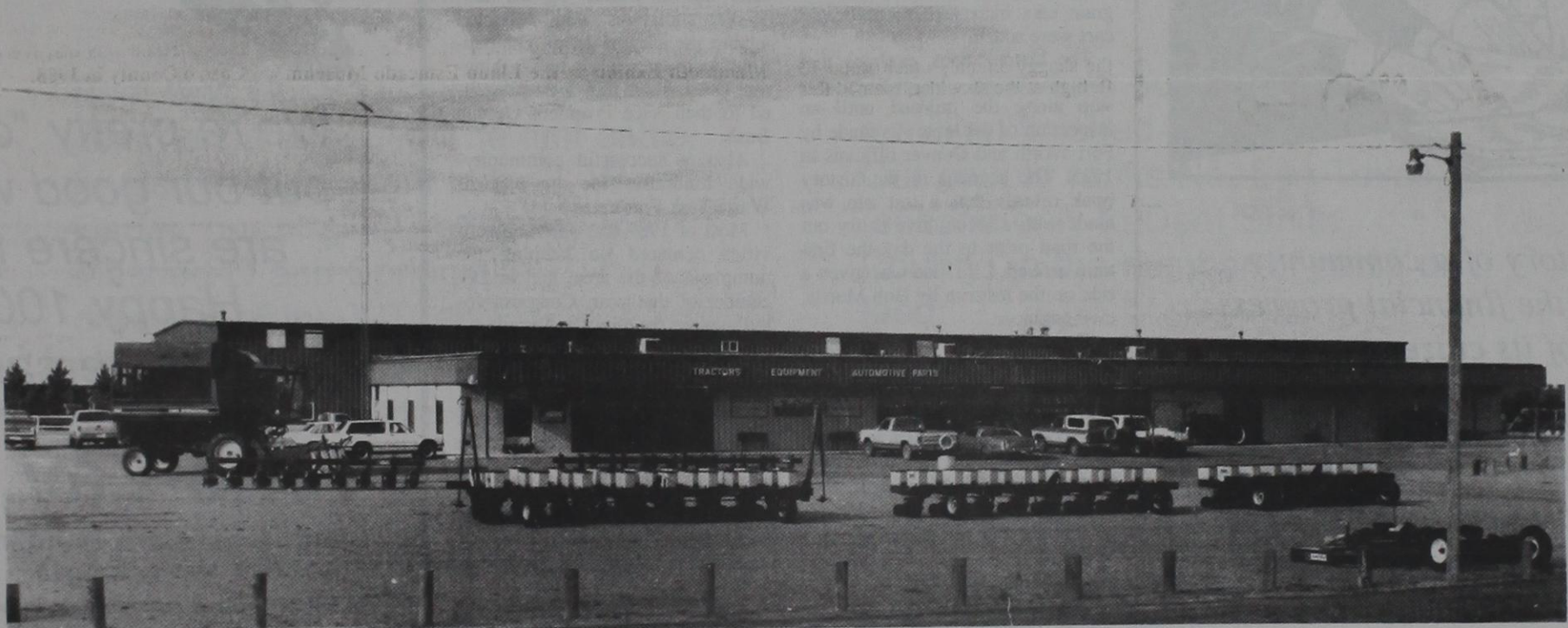
Hays Implement Co. got its start in March 1944 when A. C. "Charlie" Hays bought the International Harvester dealership here from Edgar "Unk" Ramey and Ernest Harmon. Two years later, Charlie's brother Jim became a partner. Jim became the sole owner in 1969, and his son David, became the manager in 1975. Jim's second son, Doug, joined the firm in 1976, and his youngest son, Norman, joined in 1979.

We moved in our present 32,000 sq. ft. building at FM 3215 and US 385 in 1976.

Ours is the oldest continuous farm-implement dealership in Castro County. But we feel like the youngest, because our major brand, Case International, is the newest in America.

Also, we're still adding new products and services. We've expanded to include name-brand automotive parts and a complete True Value Hardware Store.

We're proud to be serving this great area, and we are happy to pay tribute to those who have made our county great. Happy 100th Birthday, Castro County!



Our present building, completed in 1976



Hays Implement Co.

Serving Castro County Since 1944

Hwy. 385 & FM 3215, Dimmitt

647-2151

case

True Value
HARDWARE STORES®



THE FIRST TRAIN which arrived in Castro County was greeted by a throng of curiosity seekers when it stopped in Hart and Dimmitt on Nov. 21, 1928. The first train which stopped here

was operated by Fort Worth and South Plains Railway and it included three passenger railroad cars carrying officials from the company.

First train arrives here Nov. 21, 1928

Trains are wonderful. . . . To travel by train is to see nature and human beings, towns and churches and rivers, in fact, to see life.

Agatha Christie
*Flirting, Coward
Banns Up, Marriage*

Three passenger railroad cars filled with officials from the Fort Worth and South Plains Railway pulled into the city of Hart on Nov. 21, 1928, then made its way to Dimmitt, where hoards of people awaited its arrival at a small railway station.

The arrival of the train marked the completion of the first railroad

through the county, and also a major milestone in our history.

After all, if it weren't for the railroad, which today is owned by Burlington-Northern, we probably wouldn't have the major industries we do today such as American Fructose Corp., Goodpasture, Inc. and Cargill, Inc. and the major grain handling facilities would have to rely on trucking to ship their products.

When the train first arrived here in 1928, Hart was just a small struggling village with a store, church, school, a new filling station and three or four houses.

The first railroad was known as the Fort Worth and South Plains Railway, a company owned by the Burlington System. Later it became the Fort Worth and Denver Railroad, then Burlington-Northern.

The first three passenger cars which pulled into Hart and Dimmitt in 1928 carried officials of the railroad company including F.E. Clarity, vice president and general manager.

Schools were closed so the students could greet the special trains.

One story in *Castro County History, Vol. 1*, about the "day the train

The celebration held when the train arrived was one of the biggest in the history of the county and it started early that morning with a breakfast served in the courthouse. The celebration continued into the night, as special trains continued arriving.

Jack Hall was the first depot agent at Hart and the first train schedule called for the train to run every day and remain in Hart every night. The history book says the early train had one coach and the freight car, and as the demand for grain cars increased, more freight cars were added.

The history book explains that Hart was denied consideration as a stop along the railroad until an inspection of the area was made by Fort Worth and Denver officials in 1925. The account in the history book reveals that a test run was made with a locomotive to try out the road prior to the day the first train arrived. L.J. Rice was given a ride on the test run by Bob Morris, civil engineer.

The railroad ran from Estelline to Plainview to Lubbock, and the new branch ran from Plainview to Hart and Dimmitt and back.

According to the history book, many residents used the train regularly, including Hazel Merritt, who saved her parents a trip to Canyon by riding the train home each weekend.

Local WIFE group works to promote family farm

In November 1985, a few local women met with a group of women from the Hale Center area to learn about a new farm organization for women—Women Involved in Farm Economics.

The group decided to organize a local chapter of WIFE that day and Lois Wales was elected as president while Sue Boozer was named secretary-treasurer.

In January 1986 WIFE was officially organized with Charlene Hunter being elected vice president and Carolyn Watts earning the title of reporter.

The purpose and intent of WIFE was discussed and adopted at the first meeting.

WIFE is a grassroots organization that strives to achieve profitability for agriculture through education, legislation and communication, according to Wales.

The group's purpose is to promote family farming and provide rural America with a better standard of living, and to be a good ambassador for agriculture.

It didn't take long for the group to realize there were many issues and projects that needed attention. Many long hours were spent on preparing for the National WIFE convention that was held in Lubbock. Other projects during the group's first year were working on farm credit stress in family farming, new labor laws in agriculture and working to keep the first high level nuclear waste dump from being put in Deaf Smith County.

The local chapter became very active in sponsoring informative programs about the dangers and problems associated with the high level waste dump site, and the many implications it would have for the agriculture industry here if the Hereford site was selected. Many letters and phone calls were made to Washington, D.C. and Austin, in an effort to halt the project.

For one month, WIFE teamed with Texas Corn Growers Association and sponsored a booth at the state fair in Dallas. At the fair, 55,000 signatures were collected against the nuclear dump. The petitions were later taken to Washington, D.C., where they were presented to then Vice President George Bush.

Also, a successful community-wide fundraiser for the Nuclear Waste Task Force was held.

Most of 1989 was spent on activities centered on keeping the dump out of the area, and in December of that year, Congress voted to place the dump in Nevada.

In Nov. of 1987, Wales, Pat Bagley and Marie Winders attended a WIFE-sponsored ethanol conference in Denver, Colo., and that meeting kicked off a new project that is ongoing today.

Mary Emma Matthews took over as president that year while Bagley was named vice president, and Nell Ingram was elected secretary-treasurer.

The chapter worked on ethanol

issues among others and many meetings were attended, showing off the benefits of ethanol products.

At the meetings, breads, cakes and cookies were baked and served to guests to promote ethanol because distillers dried grain, which is a by-product of ethanol, and is composed of fiber and protein, was added to the baked goods to enhance the flavor and nutrition.

The chapter has promoted ethanol at the state fair by setting up displays in the Texas Corn Growers Association's booth for the past three years.

Many letters, phone calls and testimonies have been given in an attempt to getting an ethanol industry started in Texas.

There are four major cities in Texas that must have a plan to clean up their air by 1992 and WIFE believes ethanol is the solution, Wales said. She adds that an ethanol industry also could help rural economic development.

Many issues have been ad-

ressed by the local WIFE chapter, including organizing a plastics recycling project in the City of Dimmitt, a project that is still being promoted today.

The current WIFE president, Bagley; Ysleta Ball, vice president; and Wales, secretary-treasurer, and the rest of the group are fighting the addition of a plutonium plant or uranium enrichment plant to the Pantex Plant in Amarillo.

"This could destroy our clean water, air and soil, and could eliminate the agriculture industry—all for the sake of a few new jobs," Wales said, adding that it is the WIFE chapter's goal to educate and build an awareness in the area about the implications of the "so-called expansion of Pantex."

Wales stressed that the local WIFE chapter is committed to the importance of the family farm and it strongly believes that a good agricultural economy will insure a better future for America.

Congratulations

We're pretty "corny,"
but our good wishes
are sincere for a
Happy 100th
Anniversary!

Frito-Lay, Inc.
Southwest Corn Handling Division
364-3811



*The history of a community
is tied to the financial progress
of its citizens.*

*We're grateful to have played
a part in helping our customers
through the years, and we look
forward to future advances as well.*

Dillon-Gage, Inc.
Dimmitt • 647-5116



*We're getting 'wired'
for a great new century!*



We are glad to have served our many customers in Castro County since 1985. Thank you for your patronage.

Danny and Donna Newton, Owners
Lannette Flores, Secretary
Robert Green, Electrician
Roy Gonzales, Plumber

**Newton
Electric**

Dimmitt • 647-2536

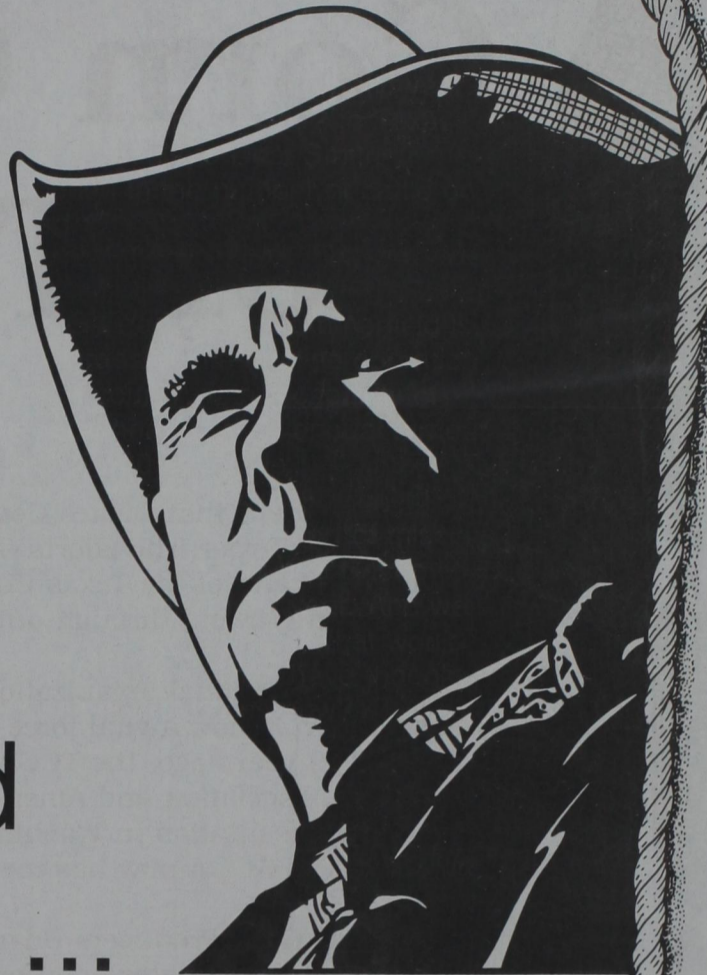
**Congratulations,
Castro County!**

*We're bidding
for high hopes
for your future,
and we appreciate
the opportunity
to serve you.*

TULIA LIVESTOCK AUCTION, INC.



Route 3, Box 3, Tulia, TX 79088
806-995-4181



If they could see us now ...

Beef was Castro County's first commercial product. The first cattle herds here—brought in by J. W. Carter, our original settler, by the Mashed-O and Springlake divisions of the XIT, and others—provided grass-fed beef for northern markets.

Cattle continued to be raised and fed on a small scale through the years until the 1960s, when the advent of large feedlots brought about a rebirth of the cattle industry here.

Today, Castro County's large feedlots (5,000 head or more) have a total capacity of 272,000

head, and turn out more than half a million finished cattle each year. Our county ranks No. 2 in Texas (second only to Deaf Smith County) in the number of cattle on feed.

Bar-G Feedyard in Summerfield is the largest cattle-feeding operation in the county, with a capacity of 70,000 head and an annual turnout of 179,000 fed cattle.

We're proud to be a part of this dynamic industry during Castro County's Centennial year. And we can't help wondering: What would those first cattlemen have thought if they could see us now?

Bar-G Feedyard

Summerfield

357-2241



Corn Capital of Texas!

It's no accident that Castro County is one of the top corn producing counties in Texas. The efforts of the Texas Corn Growers' Association since 1970 and of the Texas Corn Producers' Board since 1980 have aided corn growers through-out the area and state.

Begun as a regional organization, the Texas Corn Growers Association is now a vital force for corn growers throughout Texas. And 3-1/2 years ago, the TCGA spawned the American Corn Growers Association and American Corn Growers Foundation, for better representation in Washington and better markets at home and abroad. The ACGA now has members in 24 states.

The Texas Corn Producers Board introduced a statewide check-off program that generates additional funds for research, development and promotion of Texas corn. Significant progress is being made through this program.

We work constantly with state and federal governments and agencies for legislation and clearances that will benefit Texas corn producers.

We're proud to call Castro County the "Corn Capital of Texas."

Texas Corn Growers Association

Texas Corn Producers Board

*Headquartered in
Castro County*





Castro County Centennial CHURCHES

1891
✦
1991

Church of Christ organizes congregation in 1921

Although gospel preaching had been done in Dimmitt by O. M. Reynolds as early as October, 1917, the small band of Church of Christ members organized in September, 1921.

Original members were Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Willis Sr., Charlie "Dad" Mapes, Mr. and Mrs. Norwood, Minnie and Alfred Grant, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Love, Mrs. John Carter, Mrs. Lennie Cauldwell, Mrs. Hightower, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Luther Ramsey and Mr. and Mrs. John Roberson.

In 1922 lots were purchased one block east of the present location and building. Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Gregory, the T. W. Malone family, and Mrs. Ola Murphy moved to Dimmitt in 1925 and gave impetus to the work. The congregation met in a two-room residence and later in a school building. Still later, it met in a room in the courthouse. In 1927 a building was constructed on the lots. It was the second church building in the city.

In 1925 Jack and Ethel Summers, together with their four small children, Elbert, Elouise, Trellis and Ola, moved to the Cleo community eight miles south of Dimmitt. Earl Smith came from Amarillo to preach for the church in Dimmitt on Sunday mornings, and in the afternoon went to the Cleo community to hold services in the school house for the small group there.

Brother O. M. Reynolds held his final meeting, his eleventh in Dimmitt and his fourteenth in the county, on Friday night, May 30, 1930. Reynolds held the distinction of

conducting more meetings in Dimmitt and Castro County than any other evangelist of the Church of Christ.

Through the years, great preaching has been done in gospel meetings by other evangelists such as M. Norvel Young, James Baird, Hugo McCord, Bobby Hoover, John Gipson, Norman Gipson, Avon Malone, Stanley Shipp, Earl Danley, Richard Rogers, John Bannister, Doyle Wells and King Burney.

In the 1930s the membership of the Dimmitt church was strengthened by the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Davis and their son, Ulys, who helped provide leadership. In 1932, A. O. Gregory and J. W. Davis were selected to serve as the first elders of the congregation. Jack Summers was added as an elder in 1939.

By the early 1940s the membership numbered about 100, and it grew to 200 by 1948. Truvis Campbell was added as an elder in 1949. Other men who have served as elders through the years are Homer Herring, Sisco Cathey, Carlos Calvert, Eldon Minchew, Bill King, Elbert Summers, Trellis Summers, Jack Miller and Dean Wiseman.

A building fund was begun in 1950, and in 1952 lots were purchased at the corner of West Fourth and Bedford. The present building was built in July, 1953, with additions made in 1955 and 1964.

Evangelists who have served the congregation and the years they arrived are Earl Smith, 1928; Thomas McDonald, 1934; E. H. Garner, 1936; L. E. Carpenter, 1939; Morgan Sturgess, 1942; D. C. Lawrence,

1944; H. C. Winnett, 1949; Linwood Bishop, 1951; T. J. Finley, 1953; D. C. Lawrence, 1955; M. B. McKinney, 1961; Ronnie Parker, 1965; Viggo Ulrich, 1975; Dale Wells, 1977; Greg

Harper, 1986; and Benny Baker, 1990.

Associate ministers have been Paul Smith, 1958, Travis Looper, 1963, Joe Wilkerson, 1983, and Jason Gossett, 1989.

Mission work has been a major thrust of the 4th and Bedford church since 1956, when the congregation agreed to oversee the work in Copenhagen, Denmark, and furnished the support for Earl Danley. Jorgen Donslund, a converted Dane, began preaching full time in December, 1958. Bent Oddershede became the second Danish preacher in 1962. Americans who have preached in Copenhagen are Cline Paden, Clinton

Davis, Earl Danley, Ronnie Parker, John Cathey, Bob Burgess and Bob Eubanks.

In January, 1974, the Dimmitt church began sponsoring a radio program to Tapachula, Mexico, and funded three campaigns in the area. Jack Miller, Trellis Summers, Lonnie Bell, Dale Wells, Dean Wiseman and Joe Valdez have all made trips to this mission field. The church also supports Jose Salas in Chiapas,

Mexico. Other missionaries supported by the congregation are Sammy King and Sam Coy.

In 1963 a work among Dimmitt's Mexican Americans was begun by Valente Morin. A meeting house was built at the corner of East Third and Lee Streets in 1968. Ministers for this congregation have been Max Zamorano Jr., 1966, Miguel Zuniga, 1972, Joe Valdez, 1981, and Pedro Gonzales, 1987.



ORIGINAL CHURCH—The first Church of Christ congregations met in residences, school building and the courthouse before this building, on the corner of Third and Bedford Streets in Dimmitt, was constructed in 1922. *File photo*

Glory to God!

Our Present Church

In October 1917, O. M. Reynolds held a twelve-day meeting in Dimmitt. From that meeting and other efforts, our church began meeting regularly in 1921.

From 1921 to 1927 our congregation met in private homes and public facilities.

Then, in 1927, we built our first church building at Third and Bedford. In 1953 the congregation moved into the current facilities at Fourth and Bedford.

In 1964 our congregation helped found—and continues to support—the Iglesia de Cristo at Southwest Third and Lee.

The Fourth and Bedford Street Church of Christ is happy to be a part of the 100-year history of Castro County. Our congregation also would like to welcome back to Dimmitt those who have been part of the 70-year history of our church, as we celebrate 70 years of service to our Lord and this community.

Our First Church

Charter Members
Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Willis, Sr.
Charlie "Dad" Mapes
Mr. and Mrs. Norwood
Minnie and Alfred Grant
Mrs. Hamilton
Mrs. Love
Mrs. John Carter

Fourth and Bedford Street Church of Christ

Dimmitt, Texas

We Salute

Castro County on its 100th Birthday as well as all who have fought for our country and county.

VFW

Castro Memorial Post #8056 and Auxiliary
For Over 30 Years

Sunnyside Baptist marks 70 years of service

By TEENY BOWDEN
 The Sunnyside Baptist Church was organized Aug. 10, 1921 with ten charter members.
 After they were pronounced a church by the presbytery, Rev. G.I. Brittain, chairman, preached a sermon, and seven candidates were received for baptism.
 Before 1921, everyone in the community, regardless of denomination, worshipped at the Congregationalists at Old Springlake; or at the Sunnyside school, where occasionally a preacher held services.
 During 1920 and 1921, several Baptist families moved to the community. When a lost man expressed his desire for a church in the community for his children, the Baptists decided to reorganize a church. They met in the schoolhouse until 1925.
 Virgil Lemons, the first pastor was called Aug. 12, 1921 and a Sunday School was organized two days later. In September, the church was accepted into the Staked Plains Baptist Association. A B.Y.P.U. was organized in 1922 and a W.M.U. in 1924.

In the summer of 1925, the church met in family's homes because the school building was being renovated.
 Jeff Gilbreath, a member of the First Christian Church, donated a two-acre tract of land across from the school for the church. It was a one-room wood, frame building.
 Wires with curtains hung over them were stretched across the building, dividing it into four classrooms. Howard Bridges and "Dad" Johnson hauled the lumber for the church building from Sudan in their Model T trucks. The \$2,500 building was debt-free and dedicated on Sept. 6, 1925.
 The lake on the J.I., Phipps place was the first baptistry; others were Running Water Draw and ground tanks such as the Tuckers.
 At the end of 1925, there were 75 members and in 1930, the services went to half-time.
 In 1942, the church building was wired and stuccoed, and full-time services were begun. Rev. C.W. Thomas was called as pastor Sept. 22, 1946 and was the first pastor to live on the field. He and his wife,

Grace, and son Paul lived in the teacherage across the road until August 1947 when a ready-built four-room frame house was moved to the church property. It was replaced in 1959 with a three-bedroom house.
 In July 1947, a barracks building was purchased from the Hereford Prisoner of War Camp for a Sunday school annex.
 In 1944, a W.M.U. was reorganized. A Sunbeam Band was organized in 1948; Girl's Auxiliary and Royal Ambassadors in 1950-51. The Brotherhood was organized in 1955.
 In 1946, the church had its first Vacation Bible School, and has continued with the event annually, except in 1960.
 In May 1952, the church voted to build a new 32'x72' cinder block auditorium. It was connected at the entrance of the original building by a hallway. The auditorium was dedicated to the Lord on Aug. 17, 1952.
 In Feb. 1960, Sunnyside Baptist joined the Llanos Altos Association.
 On Tuesday night, April 12, 1960, approximately 140 men from the Staked Plains Association were at Sunnyside for a Brotherhood Meeting.

Most of the men had finished eating supper and were visiting in small groups scattered about the building when suddenly, there was a warning of an approaching tornado. The men sought cover in the old light-plant cellar and Weldon Bradley's basement — the original basement of the Sunnyside School. The few men who remained inside the church building hid under pews.
 The new cinderblock church auditorium exploded; the east Sunday school wing collapsed, and the parsonage was blown to the northeast corner of the lot and almost destroyed.
 The pastor, Murle Rogers, not knowing his wife and son were safe in the cellar, went to the parsonage looking for them, and had to seek safety in a closet.
 When the storm subsided, only the original building remained intact. One of the 140 men at the church was killed. The injured were taken to Dimmitt.
 On April 20, 1960, the church voted to tear down the old building and rebuild. The parsonage was replaced with a similar model.
 The first services were held in the new building Jan. 8, 1961. Dedication ceremonies were held on Sunday, April 16, 1961 with three former pastors conducting the services: Brittain in the morning, Rogers in the afternoon, and Rev. M.D. Durham in the evening.
 The first music director hired was Lonnie Follis in 1965.
 A library was established in 1962 with a fund given in memory of Bill Shirey, who was killed in a car-train accident. Mrs. L.B. Bowden was elected librarian on Feb. 3, 1963.
 The church celebrated its 50th anniversary on Aug. 22, 1971 with an all-day celebration and historical pageant.
 On Feb. 12, 1975, Rev. Raymond Jones was called as pastor. He served until 1981.
 The greatest number of baptisms was 26 in 1930, mostly the results of a three week revival. Only three years show no baptisms — 1929, 1935, and 1945.
 Since 1981, Sunnyside Baptist

Church has had three pastors: Rev. Richard Clymer, from Nov. 22, 1981 to July 1, 1983; Rev. Bentley Gwyn, May 6, 1984 to Nov. 1, 1987; and Rev. David Fletcher, Jan. 24, 1988 to present.
 The church has declined in numbers since 1981, but not in spirit or determination. There have been no building programs, but carpet has been installed for the first time in the life of the church.
 Recently, Doris Armes of Gruver, Debra's mother, painted a beautiful scene in the baptistry.
 The church has had some remarkable experiences and growth to God's work through the Cooperative Program. Our commitment today is even stronger because of the things we have experienced.
 For several years, the Sunnyside Baptist Church was among the top ten in Texas with their per capita giving to missions through the Cooperative Program. In 1984, with 68 resident members, we were ninth in the state in per capita giving.
 Throughout the years, the church has increased their donations to the Cooperative Program. Currently, it gives 14 percent.
 One special blessing from the years of service, is that a former

Sunnyside Baptist Church member is now a foreign missionary in Tanzania. Gale Sadler was born and raised in the community and church.
 He met Verna Mae Lewis of Missouri when they both were students at Texas Tech. After other areas of work, they both felt the call for special service at a State Evangelism Rally and surrendered to missionary service.
 Their first assignment was in Moshi, distributing literature throughout Tanzania. Currently they are in the Capitol city of Dar es Salaam.

This ad ran in the Aug. 10, 1944 edition of *The Castro County News*.

For more miles
 FROM YOUR
War Weary Car

We invite you
 to visit us for

Conoco Gas & Oils

WE APPRECIATE YOUR
 PATRONAGE

Conoco Service Station
 ERNEST PENN, PROP

Presbyterians build 'little white church'

By EDWARD D. FREEMAN
 The Presbyterian Church was organized by the Presbytery of Dallas, of the Presbyterian Church U.S., who were good at planting churches, but neglectful in servicing them.
 In 1917, they built the first church building in Dimmitt. The little white church was located where the First United Methodist Church now stands. Although it was the only church building in Dimmitt, the church was dissolved in 1942 because of lack of pastoral leadership.
 On Oct. 11, 1959, the Presbytery of North Plains, of the United Pres-

byterian Church in the United States, reorganized a Presbyterian Church in Dimmitt which met for several years in the basement of the courthouse. The present church, at 16th and Western Circle Drive, was built in 1962. The church celebrated its 25th Anniversary, Oct. 7, 1984.
 Pastors who have served this church are: Herman Boles, Oct. 28, 1959 to Aug. 31, 1961; Arthur Burr Morris, March 23, 1962 to January 1966; Michael Kennedy, Jan. 22, 1967 to Dec. 31, 1969; Edwin Manning, Aug. 10, 1970 to July 1, 1979; and Edward DeWitt Freeman, April 1, 1981 to present.

Presbyterian Organization

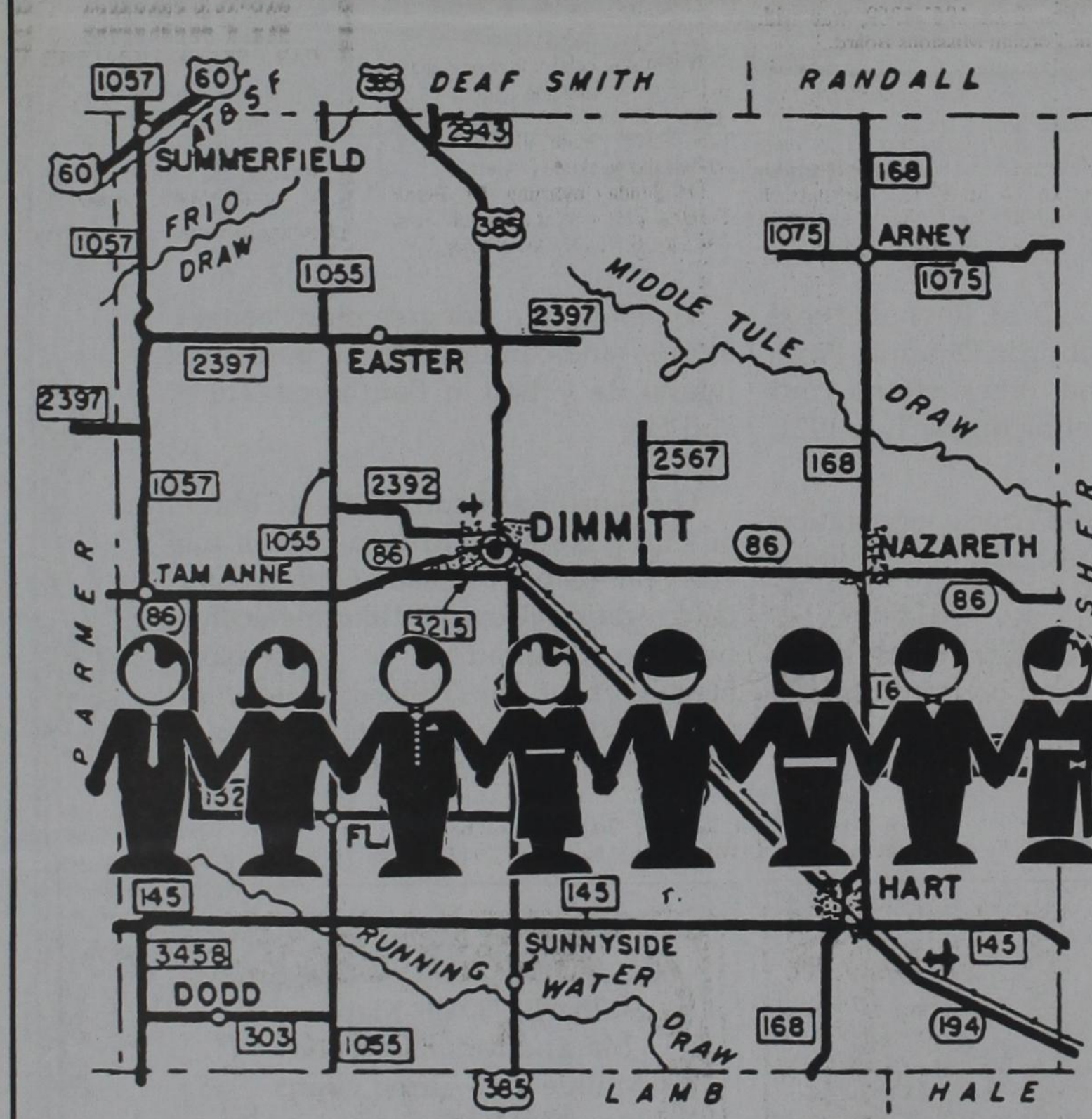
(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following information was obtained from *A Religious History of Dimmitt, Texas 1891-1959*, by D.C. Lawrence.)

On Sunday, Oct. 20, 1901, the Presbyterians of Castro County, according to previous appointments, met at Dimmitt with Rev. J.D. McFerrin, D.D., and proceeded to the organization of a Presbyterian Church with the following results.

The following named persons were enrolled: Mrs. A.E. Shive, R.L. Shive, Mrs. Ada H. Owens, Mary Blanch Owens, Barclay T. Bell, Mrs. Lillian A. Bell, Barkley T. Bell, Jr., Grayson Bell, Miss Hester Bell, Mrs. Kate Copes, Miss Lalla Hill, and Miss Q.B. Hill.

Officers elected were: B.T. Bell, R.L. Shive, A.J. Owen as Elders; Grayson Bell, Deacon.

On Oct. 20, 1901, the session met. Present were: J.G. McFerrin, D.D. Moderator; and ruling Elders, R.L. Shive, A.J. Owens, and B.T. Bell, who was elected clerk of the session.



"Anyone who does God's will is my brother, and my sister, and my mother."

(Mark 3:35)

Best wishes to our extended family,
 the residents of Castro County!

Holy Family Parish

Nazareth

Baptist Church is older than county

From an old, wooden store to the steeple-topped brick building First Baptist Church members now call home, throughout the years, the place of service may have changed, but their dedication to a century-old commitment remains constant.

However, this weekend, FBC members will once again move the place of services — this time to the Castro County Expo Building — as they celebrate the church's centennial.

For 100 years ago, on June 7, 1891, the 17 people organized what eventually became First Baptist Church.

Elder G.W. Capps, pastor of the Amarillo Baptist Church, assisted the group and served the church one Sunday each month.

First meetings

Some members of the first families recall the church meeting in an old store building having Sunday School as they sat on the tongues of covered wagons. The wagons also served as the families' homes until they could build houses.

Around turn of the century, worship services were held on Sundays in the red brick school building — presently where city park is located.

In May of 1897, church members petitioned for membership in Llano Estacado Baptist Association. In 1908, they joined the new Tierra Blanco Association. However, in 1961, associational boundaries were reset, and the church moved into the Llanos Altos Association.

As early as 1897, the church sent messengers to Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Tank baptisms

Because there was no sanctuary, most baptismal services took place in a water tank on the Carter place, east of Dimmitt. In 1899, Pastor J.D. Clark baptized 10 young people there. The Carter place was used for baptismal services for many years.

The early church was strict in the discipline of members, according to church records. A person's fellowship was withdrawn if he or she was guilty of drinking, dancing, lying, cursing or contempt of the church. Of course, they were warned and given an opportunity to repent.

In the early 1900s, J.R. Gollehon and J.O. Ayers led the music. Gollehon first served in the Community Church and later in the Baptist Church. Noel Gollehon organized the first program in 1935 and served as director for 22 years.

The Union Church

Almost 13 years after the Baptists organized, the first church building was erected. Community members, along with the Presbyterian Mission Board raised the funds necessary to build the church.

Although the Presbyterians owned the building, they shared the white, slat-wood facility with the Methodists and Baptists. Each group was responsible for services on alternate Sundays.

FBC records show the Baptist pastor came the fourth weekend of each month.

Women organize

Baptist womens' work was begun in 1909 — with a group of women whose purpose was to study the Bible and collect funds for a church building.

In 1909, the women of Dimmitt Baptist Church organized a society. Ten women were present: (Mrs) N.J. Lovelace, T.H. Beach, J.W. Slover, T.A. Turnbow, J.E. Turner, G.J. Stapleton, B.J. Ramey, B.D. Woodlee, U.A. Tate and Miss Nellie Turner.



THEN—The Bedford Street complex served as the First Baptist Church home from 1930 until 1970, with additions being made in 1949 and 1955. Courtesy photo



FIRST—The old Union Church, which was shared by the Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists from 1904 until 1929, stood on the lot where the present-day Methodist Church is located. Courtesy photo

Mrs. Tate and Mrs. U.T. Gollehon, Mrs. J.M. Gollehon and Mrs. J.R. Gollehon were added in January 1910. Dues were 10 cents per month.

The society held regular meetings until November 1911 — the last recorded minutes available.

However, three years later, the organization was revived. On Sept. 14, 1914, U.R. Triplett, pastor, asked the women to meet and reorganize.

Mrs. U.R. Triplett was elected president; Mrs. G.J. Stapleton, vice president and Mrs. Bruce McLean secretary. The group was comprised of mainly those women in the first organization.

On Nov. 28, 1921, they were officially recognized as the Womens Missionary Society by the Hereford WMS. Members elected Mrs. R.G. Shuford as president, Mrs. J.E. Turner vice president, Mrs. U.L. Pickett secretary-treasurer.

When the Townsite Company was organized, a town lot was given to the church. In 1921, WMS bought adjoining lots for \$48 each.

On Sept. 9, 1928, 78 people met in a tin building, which also served as the school's gym, to organize a Baptist Sunday School and become a full-time church.

Church is named

That same year, they adopted a \$3,000 annual budget and the name "First Baptist Church."

Later church members decided their town lot was too close to the public square and sold it on Sept. 26, 1928. The church accrued \$2500 from the sale — with \$2163 from lots purchased by WMS.

The next year, FBC had purchased a tract of land at Fifth and Bedford, and in March broke the ground for a new church building.

Construction began in July on the three-story educational building, the first of the three-phase project.

First building

On July 21, members held a fund-raising rally at the site. Although all materials and labor on the building had been purchased, an additional \$14,000 was needed to complete the structure.

FBC members on the building committee were: Sid C. Huckabay, G.L. Musick, B.A. Fuller, chairman, and W.T. Gollehon, church treasurer.

Jim Maynard, architect of the building, was first to be baptized in the new building, according to Kathryn Easter Vardell, who was the second.

WMS projects contributed to the building funds. The women cooked lunch for railroad workers, and the Lion's Club. They also sold vanilla.

To buy furnishings for the church, Mrs. Ruby Maples said that she and Mrs. Lena Ramey drove from farmhouse to farmhouse soliciting farm products such as eggs, butter, chickens and vegetables.

These were sold to the Poultry and Egg Co. and proceeds were donated to church.

"The first farm Lena Ramey and I visited, the farmer gave us the prettiest Buff Orpington hen I ever saw," Maples said.

The car contest

Ramey said one of her favorite projects was when the Baptist women won a new car, sold it and used the proceeds to purchase chairs.

Seems that, the Baptist women were in competition with the Catholic women at Nazareth. Both groups entered a subscription contest sponsored by the Castro County News, in which the first prize was a Chevrolet sedan — valued at \$700. The WMS, entered under Mrs. O.B. Trimble, WMS president.

Although Miss Pohlmeier's class (from Nazareth) stole the lead several times, the WMS ladies won and contributed the money from selling the car to the church building fund.

Now with a 30-year-old church, FBC had its own building. In February of 1930, the educational building was completed at cost of \$21,000.

State Evangelist C.Y. Dossey conducted a revival Feb. 9-23 — the first services conducted in the new facility.

Because the 30s were especially hard years—with the Depression and Dust Bowl—at times, there wasn't enough money to meet expenses. However, with hard work and dedication, the church managed to continue.

First parsonage

Six years after the church was completed, the first parsonage was built for \$3,100 at 506 W. Jones.

At this time, the church owed less than \$700 on the six-room house, according to church records.

In 1960, a new parsonage was bought at 606 W. Lee.

The summer of 1942 recorded three significant events: the first Vacation Bible School enrolled 175 students, all financial notes were paid and \$1,800 in War Bonds were purchased for a new sanctuary.

The building grows

Work on the new sanctuary was completed in April of 1949, with dedication services held April 10. The auditorium joined the educational building on the east. Rev. Earl R. Landtroop, pastor, led the all-day celebration services.

Six years later, FBC added the final building — a new educational unit — to their complex. The 10,000 square feet structure, at a cost of \$50,000, provided space for seven additional departments allowing room for 300 to 400 additional people in Sunday School.

These facilities were used until November 1970, when the church moved to its present location.

In 1971, the City of Dimmitt bought the land and buildings. The two east buildings were torn down and the west building now houses the city's fire station.

Present building

On October 2, 1966, the church voted to build a new facility on a 10-acre site located at 1201 Western Circle Drive. Three years later, Feb. 16, 1969, Charlie Hays, chairman of the building finance committee; R.B. Strother, chairman of the deacons; and Gene Morrison, chairman of the building committee and Dr. Raymond Perkins, pastor braved 35 degree weather for the church's fourth ground-breaking ceremony.

Building Committee members were: Bob Baker, Vaden Kirby, Tommy Stanton, Mrs. C.G. Maples, Mrs. Jim Hays, Mrs. Herb Mayfield, V.C. Hopson, Billy Hackleman, Doyl Underwood, Elbert Smith, J.M. Wright, Cecil Dennis and Jimmy Ross.

On Nov. 22, 1970, the first services were held in the new sanctuary and the building was dedicated on Dec. 13, 1970. Total investment in the new facility was estimated at more than \$560,000. The church assumed a note for \$415,000 and

on Feb. 1, 1979 the final payment was made.

One member, Mrs. W.T. (Aunt Maggie) Gollehon participated in the ground-breaking ceremonies of all three church buildings.

Salvadoran crusade

In January 1976, FBC extended its service to God as 16 members joined about 150 other area Baptists for a joint mission crusade to El Salvador, Central America. FBC members preached and witnessed in Chalchuapa, El Salvador, a small town near the Guatemala border.

"Close to 4,000 professions of faith were made in the 36 participating churches, as well as in other gatherings such as schools, factories, shops and jails," said Carlos Gruber, a Chalchuapa pastor, in his February 1976 newsletter.

FBC members who went were: Mayor and Mrs. Elmer Youts, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Dennis, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Heard, Mr. and Mrs. V.C. Hopson, Irene Carpenter, Mary Edna Hendrix, Pam Heard, Christy Peggram, Dusty Dobbs, John Street, pastor, and Ben Vera. Each person paid his or her own trip expenses.

Brazilian mission

In August of 1979, 19 members and Pastor John Street, again at their own expense, joined Rev. Ed Riley and his wife, from Bula and other area Baptists in a partnership mission to Belem, Brazil.

The following members went to Brazil: Rev. John, Dorothy and Sharla Street; Dan, Oma Dee and Danny Heard; Rev. M.A. and Christine Pennington; Elmer and Maugee Youts; Charles and Esta Vandiver; Tom Burnett, Youth and Education Director; Matt Howell; Mike Oldham; Irene Carpenter; Faye Mohan; Laura Lapins and Debbie Dobbs.

In Belem, they teamed with missionaries Johnny and Barbara Burnett. Johnny, who had served as FBC's Minister of Music and Education from 1961-1969, was with the Foreign Missions Board.

Approximately 200 professions of faith were made during the two-week trip.

For many years, the name Mary Kirkpatrick was synonymous with missions at FBC. Kirkpatrick served the local church as WMU president from 1927 to 1940.

When she died in 1977, Kirkpatrick's family helped convert a large storage closet in the west wing to a missions room. A large glass door and window were installed along with shelves and cabinets to display her collection of mission memorabilia. Home and foreign missionaries sent the items to Mrs. Kirkpatrick in appreciation of her love and concern for them and those to whom they ministered.

Present staff

In September of 1985, Richard Young and his family joined the FBC staff as Minister of Music and Youth. Young graduated from Hardin Simmons University and attended Southwestern Seminary.

Four years later, FBC's present pastor, Paul Kenley, and his family moved from Abilene to Dimmitt.

Kenley, a native of Tahoka, graduated from Texas Tech University and Hardin-Simmons University, with additional studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Biggest revivals

Throughout the years, FBC has held countless revivals, but members say two separate themselves as major evangelistic efforts to win Dimmitt to Jesus.

One in the '60s, led by Homer Martinez, evangelist and Eddie Nicholson, music evangelist, resulted in approximately 75 public professions of faith. M.A. Smith was pastor at the time.

The other was in the spring of 1989, when more than 134 people made public professions of faith. Evangelist Daniel Gage and music leader Billy Taylor led the services, which were a part of the Texas Baptist Convention's simultaneous revival. Ken Cole served FBC as the pastor at the time.

Centennial celebration

A two-day celebration on June 7 and 8, celebrated the church's 100 years of service to God. An old-time lawn picnic at the church started the weekend festivities.

On Sunday morning, Dr. Frank Pollard, pastor of the church from 1965 to 1967, gave the message.

Charter Members

Deacon J.L. Beach
Deacon J.H. Turnbow
Brother J.E. Turnbow
Brother T.M. Belsher
Brother T.H. Beach
Brother Willie Lindsay
Brother J.S. Beach
Brother W.B. Beach
Brother Early Beach
Sister M.E. Beach
Sister B.L. Dewes
Sister J.A. Beach
Sister M.J. Beach
Sister O.A. Dyer
Sister R.A. Turner
Sister U.M. Turnbow
Sister Z.A. Beach

Following the message, 434 people attended a fellowship luncheon and service of remembrance at the Castro County Expo Building. Special music, testimonies, presentation of the centennial family album, and a re-enactment of early-day church history highlighted the afternoon activities.

This ad ran in the Sept. 15, 1955 edition of *The Castro County News*.

O K RUBBER WELDERS

Headquarters for Dependable

TIRE RECAPPING

with new design tread

-- and --

REPAIRING

CAR - TRUCK - TRACTOR

ALL RECAPPING GUARANTEED

PHONE 265 - PLAINVIEW
L. KANADY, Owner



NOW—The First Baptist Church held its first services in the Western Circle Drive location on November 22, 1970. Members voted to build the new facility on the 10-acre site in October of 1966. Courtesy photo

Pastors

G.W. Capps 1891-?
J.D. Cook 1897-1961
C.R. Steward 1901-1903
T.J. Powell 1903-1905
U.J. Fox 1906
J.T. Burnet 1906-1909
G.T. Bailey 1910-1911
W.R. Triplett 1913-1916
A.L. Duncan 1916-1917
J.A. Lindlay 1917-1924
B.R. Fronabarger 1924-1926
W.R. Derr 1927-1928
N.M. Gilbert 1928-1929
R.E. Bost 1930-1934
Vernon Shaw 1934-1936
J.W. Ware 1936-1938
J.N. Campbell 1938-1939
A.F. Russell 1940-1942
V.E. Temple 1942-1943
M.J. Lee 1943-1948
Earl Landtroop 1948-1951
George Ray 1951-1958
M.A. Smith 1958-1964
Frank Pollard 1964-1967
Raymond Perkins 1968-1971
John Street 1972-1984
Ken Cole 1985-1989
Paul Kenley 1989

We're glad to be a PART of Castro County's 100 years of history!

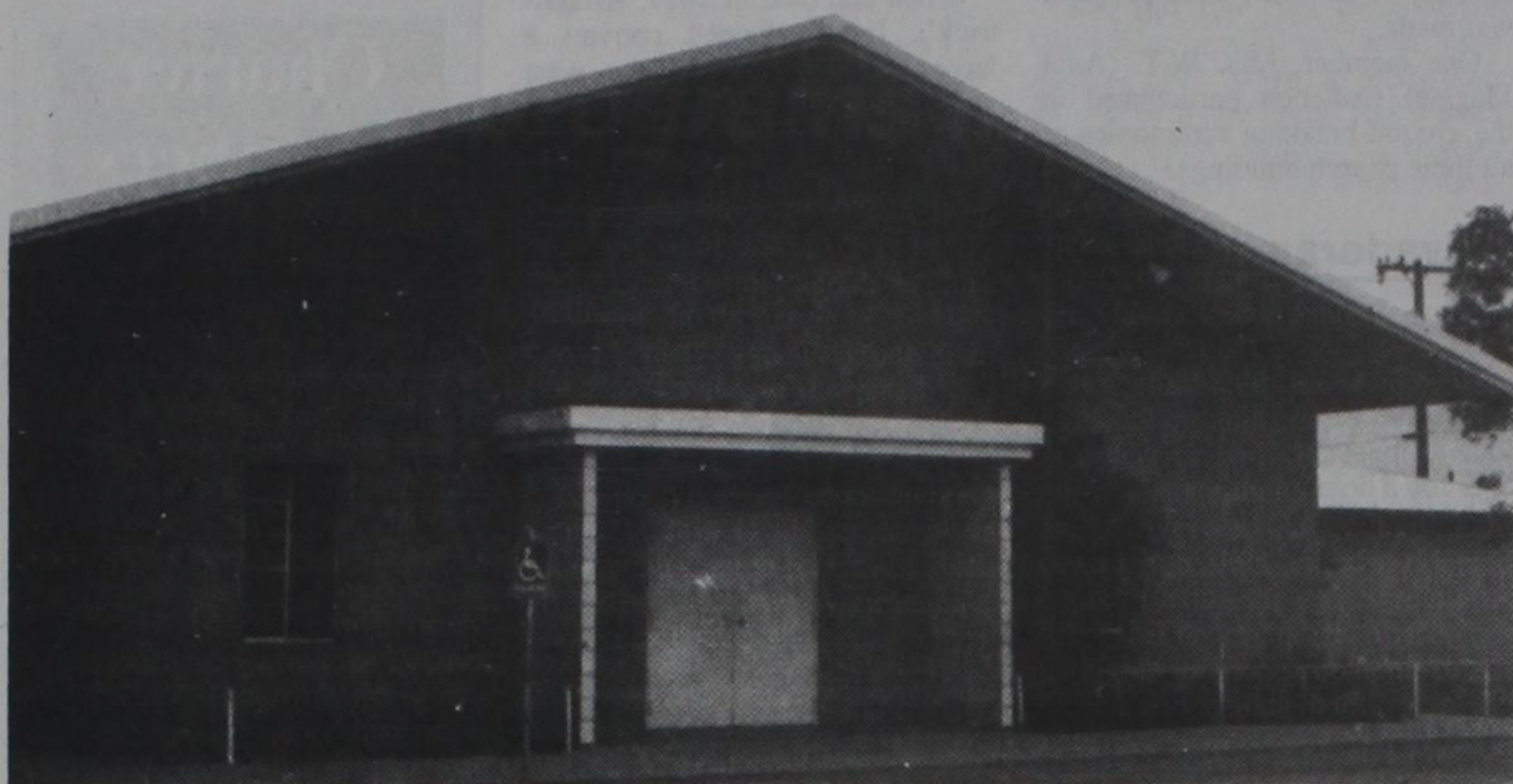
And we're proud to have supplied our customers with parts, tools and accessories since 1977.

Zane Ellison, Owner

The Parts Haus of Dimmitt

647-3468

St. John's parish established in 1958



ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE— Hart



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH — Dimmitt

Immaculate Conception Church expands programs in 1980s

By FATHER NORBERT CHOONG

The Guadalupanas, a women's group, were active with food sales, bazaars, and Jamaicas.

In May 1982, a Catholic Youth Organization was formed with David Nino as coordinator. In Oct. 1984, Fr. Chen retired after 23 years of ministry in Dimmitt. On Nov. 3, 1984 Rev. Norman Boyd succeeded him. He left in October of 1985. Fr. Harold Waldow became the pastor for a very short while. Fr. Pat Walsh of Hereford and Rev. Michael Wood of Amarillo ministered the parish by way of weekend masses only.

On June 1, 1986, Father Norbert Choong became our new pastor. He was brought up and educated in Malaysia. A former police inspector, he studied law in London, England and practiced as a lawyer for several years. He has been a part-time radio and television newscaster for a number of years and has visited over 30 countries. He studied for the priesthood in Malaysia and in San Antonio.

A number of changes and projects were introduced and implemented: a new mass schedule, bilingual mass, a clothes closet for the needy, a building committee, a pictorial directory, free printed bulletins and purchase of a piece of land nearby for a parking lot.

In October 1986, the church began the first season of Renew — a two and one-half year long process of parish renewal. Cuca Nino, Stella Mendez and Gloria Hernandez serve as coordinators of the three CD sessions.

The charismatic prayer groups, with Pancho Sepeda and T.D. Davila as leaders are active. The cursillistas meet regularly. Bea Acker, with Rita McDaniel as organist has led the English choir with fidelity for many years. Likewise, Felix Balderas and Pancho Sepeda in respect of the Spanish choirs.

The old hall was converted into our community center. ICC happenings appeared for the first time in the Castro County News in August 1987. Tony Garza and Joe Ortega were ordained our permanent deacons on Aug. 14, 1988.

The lay-ministeries program be-

gan in September 1988 with Dimmitt and Hart having by far the biggest number of candidates. June 1989 saw the formation of the Holy Cross Society, a men's group dedicated to service to the parish and the youth.

Emilio Nino has been devoting countless days of his retirement in serving the Church Ex Gratis, Justino Ortiz and Louis Arguijo have often been his able helpers.

During the last few years, the Youth Ministry, under the leadership of Mary Lou Lumbrera and Corina Montalvo, has been very active having, organized about six dances annually. In addition, the youth have participated in several volleyball tournaments and attended Diocesan Youth Conventions and rallies.

Through a thorough and on-going census taking, ICC together with St. John Nepomucene in Hart, our mission has established itself as being the largest parish in the Amarillo Diocese, with over 1000 families.

This fact was acknowledged by the appointment of Patrice SchAAF as our pastoral assistant in August of 1989.

She is from Minnesota and has a B.A. in Latin American studies and Spanish as well as a B.A. in psychology and a M.A. in religious studies.

A former Maryknoll sister, she has a varied and vast pastoral experience, having served in Mexico, Chile, Abilene, Dallas, California and Minnesota.

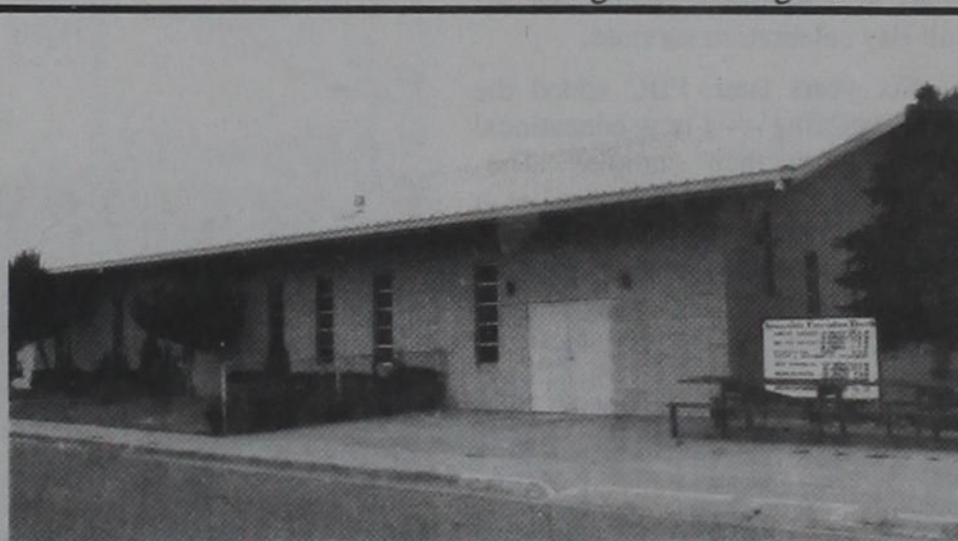
As our new director of religious education, she has helped to implement our monthly CCD Youth program, the Children's Church Celebration and improve the standard of CCD education. She visits our parishioners regularly.

In February 1990, the church formed small christian communities (SCC) aimed at establishing true christian living at grass-roots level and combating the evangelizing strategems of some sects or denominations.

The following were appointed neighborhood coordinators (a neighborhood consists of 10 SCC and each SCC consists of 10 families): Deacons Joe and Frances Oretaga, Deacon Tony and Josephi-

na Garza, Emilio and Cuca Nino, Stella and Nano Mendez, Sotero and Delia Ramos, Paul and Ortensia Garcia, and Juan and Felis Nino.

ICC looks to the future with jubilant hope and confidence. Within a year or two, SW should have our new community center consisting of five new classrooms, kitchen, a gymnasium and a re-oriented church (facing the gym through an accoridian door) capable of accomodating up to 1000 people, making it the biggest church building in the Diocese.



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Dimmitt

going census taking, Immaculate Conception Church in Dimmitt (750 families) together with our mission (230 families) has established itself as being the largest parish in the Amarillo Diocese.

Pastoral assistant, Patrice SchAAF was appointed to serve as our new director of religious education. She has been visiting our parishioners and has made herself available for consultation and counseling.

By FATHER NORBERT CHOONG

St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church of Hart was started by Rev. Jesus Quintero in 1958 with the help of his parishioners. A small wooden-framed building was purchased and moved to the land on Ave. C, donated by Jessie Rubalcaba. Quintero renovated the building. He ministered to the community until 1962 when Rev. Rafael Chen took over.

During Rev. Chen's 20 years of ministry, the Altar Society, DDD, CYO and Cursillista movement were organized. In 1965, he purchased three lots of land from Frank Bauman on the corner of 7th and Ave. D to build a new brick veneer church, which was dedicated by Bishop Lawrence Defalco on October 2, 1966.

In 1982, St. John became a mission of Nazareth's Holy Family Church with Rev. Harold Waldow as pastor. The church altar was remodeled. Waldow also started the Guadalupanas, the Sacred Society and Adult Bible Classes.

Construction of a parish hall with a kitchen, restrooms and four classrooms at a cost of \$56,480 was begun Nov. 8, 1982. Rev. Waldow served until 1985 when Rev. Norman Boyd took over for a short time. Upon his departure, Rev. Waldow resumed pastorship of the mission.

In July 1986, Fr. Norbert Choong, who took charge of Immaculate Conception in Dimmitt a month earlier, assumed the pastorship of St. John Nepomucene and Hart became a mission of Dimmitt.

One of the first things Fr. Choong did was to convert the first room behind the sanctuary into his office. He also moved the confessional from the corridor into the said office.

In October 1986, a pictorial directory of the parish was completed and a free printed joint missalette (a common cover with ICC, Dimmitt) was in use in the same month. At about the same time, St. John began the first season of Renew, a two and one-half year process of parish spiritual renewal.

Roberto Gonzales was ordained as our permanent deacon on Sunday, Aug. 21, 1988. The lay-ministry training program began in September 1988 with Dimmitt and Hart having by far the biggest number of candidates in the program. Martha Bauman was the sacristan for a good number of years and Ramona Barretero has single-handedly prepared the bulletin for several years now, and Manuel Sanchez the choir director.

In 1989, the Guadalupanas, one of the most active organizations in the parish, with the help of a dozen or so men, renovated an old trailer into a mobile snack bar.

Through a thorough and on-

HAPPY 100TH CASTRO COUNTY

Since 1959 Dimmitt Meat Co. has appreciated being a part of Castro County's progress.

We look forward to furnishing the best in Hopson's Country Sausage, custom slaughtering and meat processing to the people of Castro County in the next 100 years!

Dimmitt Meat Co.
V.C., Dorothy and Van Hopson
200 N. Broadway • 647-3210

Let's 'CUT UP' and celebrate Castro County's 100th Anniversary!

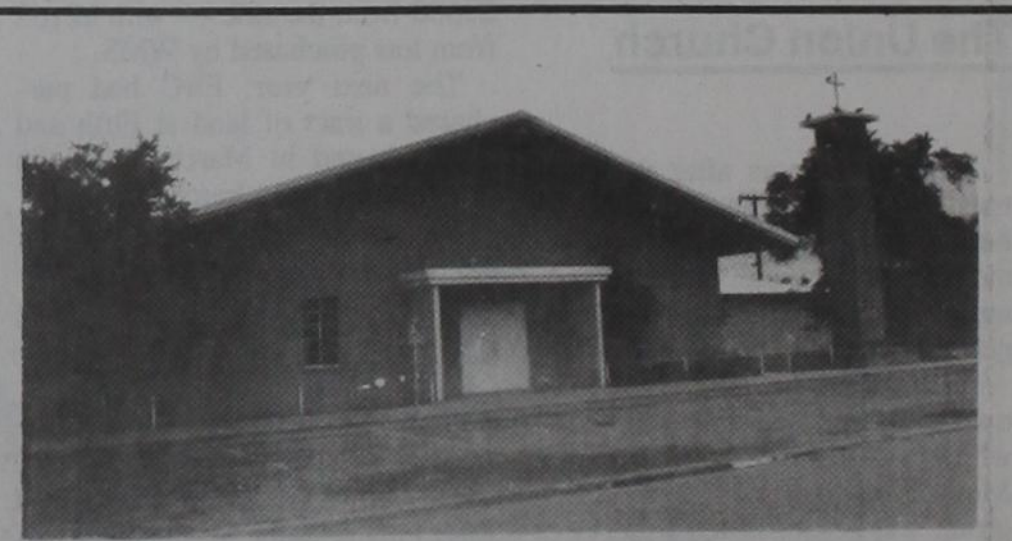


We're proud to be keeping you trim since 1977.

West Barber Shop

Lynn West
116 W. Bedford, Dimmitt

647-2644



St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church, Hart

"When the Just prosper, the City rejoices"

(Proverbs 11:10)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

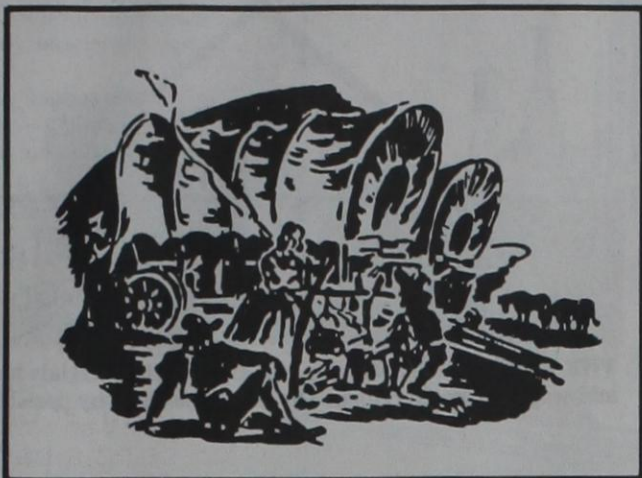
Established 1958 — Dimmitt

St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church

Established 1958 — Hart

Father Norbert Choong, Pastor

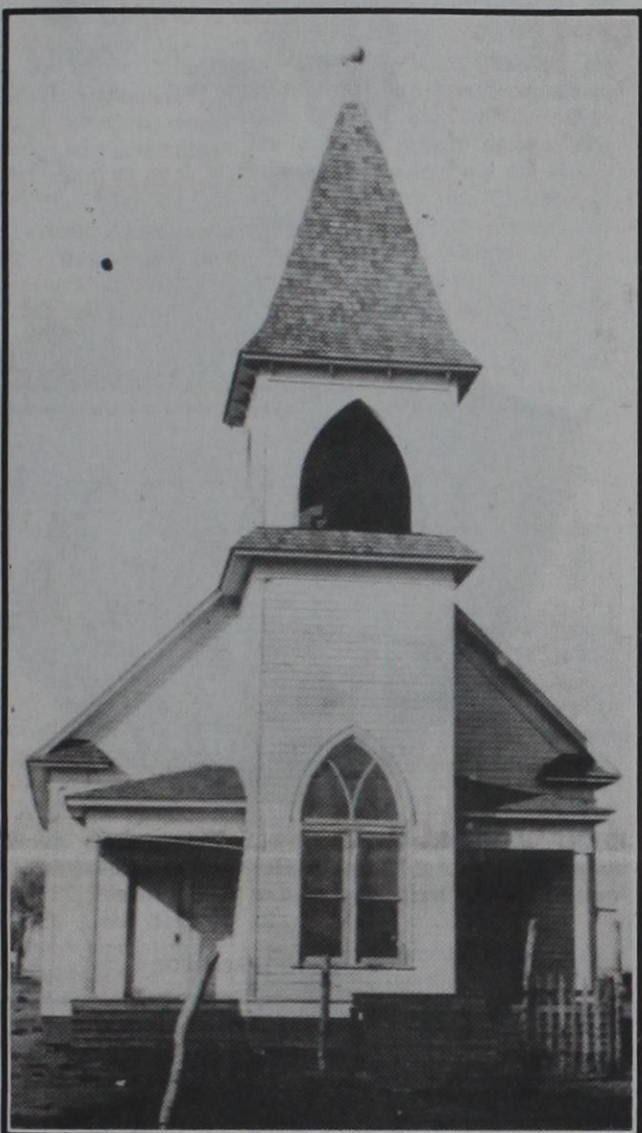
THEN . . . and NOW



Our church's organizational meeting was held June 7, 1891, on the tongue of a covered wagon.



The Bedford Street complex was our church home from 1930 until 1970, with additions being made in 1949 and 1955. The original structure was the square building in the center. The building at right now serves as the city fire station.



Our denomination shared the old Union Church with several other denominations from 1904 until 1929.



Our present church was built in 1970 at a cost of more than \$560,000. Our congregation paid off a \$415,000 note on it in less than 10 years. We held our Centennial Celebration here June 7 and 8.



The J. E. Turner Family



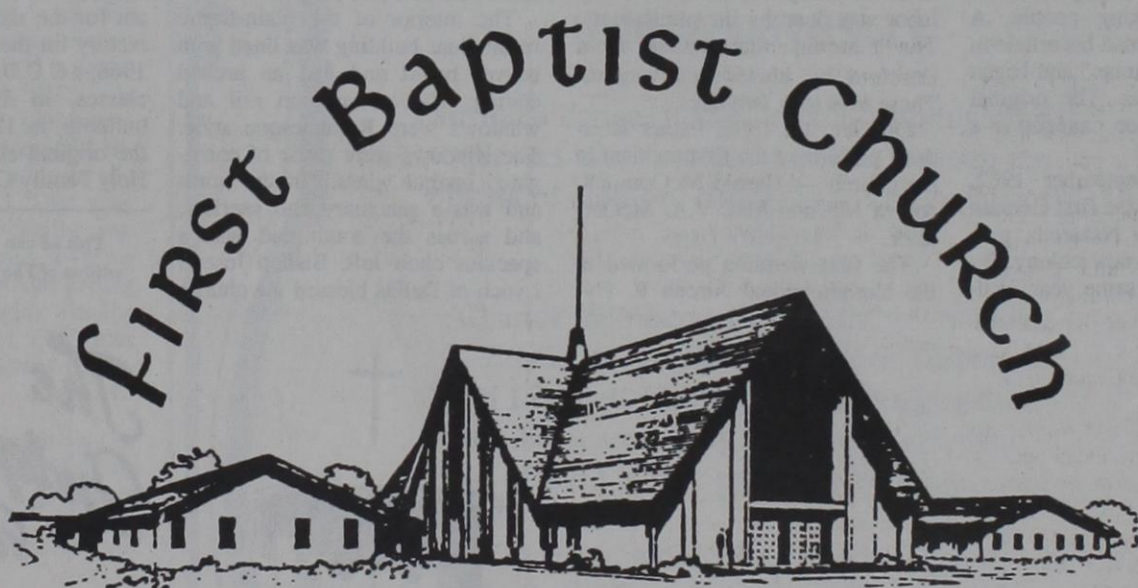
The J. L. Beach Family

Charter Members

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Deacon J.L. Beach | Sister M.E. Beach |
| Deacon J.H. Turnbow | Sister B.L. Dewes |
| Brother J.E. Turner | Sister J.A. Beach |
| Brother T.M. Belsher | Sister M.J. Beach |
| Brother T.H. Beach | Sister O.A. Dyer |
| Brother Willie Lindsay | Sister R.A. Turner |
| Brother J.S. Beach | Sister U.M. Turnbow |
| Brother W.B. Beach | Sister Z.A. Beach |
| Brother Early Beach | |

Pastors

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| G.W. Capps 1891-? | Vernon Shaw 1934-1936 |
| J.D. Cook 1897-1901 | J.W. Ware 1936-1938 |
| C.R. Steward 1901-1903 | J.N. Campbell 1938-1939 |
| T.J. Powell 1903-1905 | A.F. Russell 1940-1942 |
| U.J. Fox 1906 | V.E. Temple 1942-1943 |
| J.T. Burnet 1906-1909 | M.J. Lee 1943-1948 |
| G.T. Bailey 1910-1911 | Earl Landtroop 1948-1951 |
| W.R. Triplett 1913-1916 | George Ray 1951-1958 |
| A.L. Duncan 1916-1917 | M.A. Smith 1958-1964 |
| J.A. Lindlay 1917-1924 | Frank Pollard 1964-1971 |
| B.R. Fronabarger 1924-1926 | Raymond Perkins 1968-1971 |
| W.R. Derr 1927-1928 | John Street 1972-1984 |
| N.M. Gilbert 1928-1929 | Ken Cole 1985-1989 |
| R.E. Bost 1930-1934 | Paul Kenley 1989 |



1891 - 1991

Dimmitt, Texas

A Century of Service to God

Nazareth Catholic church designated as historical site

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for the following history was compiled from *The Holy Family Parish, The First 75 Years, Holy Family Parish Golden Jubilee Book*, and the Aug. 18, 1988 edition of the *News*.)

On Aug. 21, 1988 — 85 years after its establishment — the Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth received designation as a Texas historical site.

The Holy Family Catholic Parish was established Aug. 21, 1903, when Father Joseph Reisdorff, who colonized Nazareth, said the first mass in the Thomas McCormick home.

However, the colony's religious endeavors began about 10 years earlier.

Aloysius and James A. McCormick, Irish settlers from New York, came to Castro County in 1890 as traveling salesmen. They wrote to their brother, Thomas, and other Irish friends in New York, asking them to come settle in the Texas county.

By 1893, several families responded and had settled in the new colony, but had not seen a priest for some time. So, Thomas wrote to the Bishop of Dallas. Father Thomas Blakney, pastor of Henrietta responded at once; the settlers celebrated mass at the Lassiter place, where Thomas was living. On rare occasions, Father Blakney returned to the settlement to say mass.

A room in the McCormick home was set for the celebration of mass, when a priest visited.

The first entry for Castro County in the mission register of Henrietta records is Feb. 23, 1893.

By the early 1900s, most of the Irish settlers, except the McCormicks, had fled the county, to escape the drought and a grasshopper plague.

However, essential elements missing from the new settlement was a church and a priest. Thomas, realizing that the Irish-Catholic settlers were no longer coming to the settlement, decided to move his family where there was a church and school.

Having heard of the Rhineland settlement in Knox County, Thomas journeyed there and met Father Joseph Reisdorff. Reisdorff had heard about the settlers in Castro County and advised Thomas to return until he had an opportunity to visit the area.

Father Reisdorff first visited the county in June 1902, and after discovering the productivity of the land, purchased section 223 of Block 6 for \$2.50 an acre. He chose the biblical name "Nazareth" for the colony and named the parish in honor of Joseph, Mary and Jesus — the Holy Family.

Father Reisdorff advertised in German-language newspapers around the country. His reason for attracting the German-Americans was, he found, that they were diligent, hard-working people. A number of people read his article in the German "Landman" and began their trek to Texas. The original Irish settlement soon changed to a German settlement.

As early as September 1902, Bernard Huseman, the first German settler to arrive in Nazareth, purchased land in the new colony. By November of that same year, Wil-



THE SECOND CHURCH—was built in 1917 during the time Father Matthew Saetalle was pastor.

Courtesy photo

helmina Thier, along with her seven children and her brother, Joseph Doerr, and Fred Lange had also purchased land.

Father Reisdorff used Mrs. Thier's new home, which was located one-half mile from the present-day church site, as his residence and chapel from March 1903 until the fall of 1903.

Through a quiet-claim deed, Thier sold the west one-half of section 218 to Father Reisdorff. At a later date, he traded an equal amount of acreage to Thier, adjacent to her land. The trade enabled Father Reisdorff to build the church on a higher ground.

In order to secure money to erect the new church, an assessment of \$50 was placed on each section of land in the colony, whether the owner was a resident at Nazareth or lived elsewhere. In 1902, \$900 was collected — \$200 more than the building's cost.

The Holy Family Church was a frame building, 32 feet long by 16 feet wide, located in the front center of the church plat. Father Reisdorff is thought to have been the architect of the church. Two carpenters from Rhineland, Englebert Gier and John Schumacker assisted in the construction, but most of the labor was done by the parishioners. The material was hauled from Hereford by horses and wagons. These trips took two days.

On Oct. 26, 1902, Father Reisdorff performed the first baptism in the church — Harold McCormick, son of Mr. and Mrs. V.A. McCormick.

The first wedding performed in the church, united Joseph E. Hy-

land and Frances McCormick, daughter of Thomas McCormick on Jan. 7, 1903.

Two years later, a 16-by-16 addition enlarged the building. Again, in 1907, the church was altered and enlarged to a 24-by-48 structure, under the guidance of Father Bonaventure Binzegger.

Nuns from the Oliveton Benedictine order came to Nazareth in 1909 to teach in the school. The Benedictine nuns from Fort Smith, Ark., who taught in the public school until 1988, replaced the Oliveton Benedictine nuns in 1915.

By 1916, once again the congregation outgrew the church building. When Bishop Joseph P. Lynch of Dallas made a canonical visitation on May 15, he granted the parish permission to erect a new church.

Father Matthew Saetalle, who arrived Feb. 1, 1917, was a known builder. During his 40 years of missionary work, he had built a number of churches. He collected \$8,335 for the new church.

The second church building, completed on April 15, 1918, was located in the middle of the plat of land laid out for the original town of Nazareth. Slightly larger than the first church, the 40-by-120 structure could seat 300 people.

The interior of the plain-frame rectangular building was lined with beaver board and had an arched ceiling. The communion rail and windows were Romanesque style. The windows were made of corrugated opaque glass. On the north end was a sanctuary and sacristy, and across the south end was a spacious choir loft. Bishop Joseph Lynch of Dallas blessed the church

on April 15, 1918.

During the next 12 years, the building underwent two changes on the tower. Father Fintan Karemer in 1930 finished top part with a cupola and in 1934 Father Alphonse Bock changed it to a gabled pinnacle, topped with a cross.

In 1948, Clements Rickwartz purchased the church building and moved it north of Nazareth for a home. Joseph and Loretta Gugger bought the place in 1930 for their home. In 1941, the house was sold and moved to Umbarger. As of 1987, the Richard Friemel's lived in the building.

Very Rev. Gegory Boeckman came to Nazareth in January 1942 and saw a great need for a larger church. He began to collect money in 1945 for a new church.

Because the new church was to stand on the same spot, parishioners removed the sanctuary and boarded the north end of the church on Feb. 9, 1949. Then the building was moved a few hundred feet westward, for use until the new church was completed.

Several original items remain in the present church. The tower on the east contains the bell from the old church, along with a new bell. The large sanctuary has a sacristy on either side, connected by an ambulatory. The altars from the 1917 church were brought to the new church, along with the Stations of the Cross and an organ purchased a few years earlier.

The buff-colored brick building has a 700-capacity seating arrangement.

Sunday, Oct. 23, 1949, marked a first and last in the church's history: the last mass was said in the 1917 church and the first in the new church.

On Nov. 9, 1949, Bishop Lawrence J. FitzSimon of Amarillo blessed the new church — the parish registered 146 families and 656 souls.

In May 1952, the 19 stained-glass windows, designed by Karl Fredelmahier, a native of Munich, Bavaria, Germany were installed.

Father Peter Morsch led the parish's Golden Jubilee on Aug. 21, 1952.

Under Father Stanley Crocchio, in 1971, the basement was divided into classrooms, restrooms and a storage room; carpet and lights were installed.

In 1977, a 18 feet by 34 feet, was added to the south entrance of the church. Bishop Lawrence M. DeFalco of Amarillo blessed the addition on the parish's 75th anniversary.

In the years that followed, repairs and minor changes have been made in the church. As of 1987, all of the property of Holy Family Parish is debt free.

The parish is truly proud of its accomplishments in the past 88 years. On the original church plat laid out in 1902, now stands a magnificent church, a large convent for the sisters, built in 1960; a rectory for the pastor, completed in 1968; a C.C.D. building for religion classes, in 1970 and a storage building, in 1977. Also located on the original church property is the Holy Family Cemetery.

This ad ran in the Aug. 10, 1946 edition of *The Castro County News*.

The Independent Way

We are proud to be part of the Independent telephone industry, which has contributed so much to communications progress... contributions such as the dial telephone, the pay station, and the modern switchboard key. We are proud, too, that Independent companies serve more than 12,000 communities.



THE FIRST CHURCH—built in 1902, with materials hauled by horse and wagon from Hereford. The labor was done by parishioners.

Courtesy photo



FIRST PASTOR—Father Joseph Reisdorff is noted for several accomplishments at Nazareth. He established the area as a community, built the first church and served as the first pastor.



Interesting Firsts

City of Nazareth
and
Holy Family Church

FIRST SETTLERS: A.V. and J.A. McCormick in 1891.

FIRST MASS: Said by Rev. T.J.E. Blackeney in 1892 in the old Lassiter house.

FIRST PASTOR: Rev. Joseph Reisdorff, who arrived Aug. 21, 1902.

FIRST CHURCH: Completed in the fall of 1903.

FIRST SCHOOL: Opened in the fall of 1904. Louise Thier was the teacher.

FIRST BAPTISM: Harold McCormick, son of Mr. and Mrs. A.V. McCormick, on Oct. 26, 1902.

FIRST MARRIAGE: Joseph Hyland and Frances McCormick, on Jan. 7, 1903.

FIRST DEATH: Mrs. Anna Lackermann on Aug. 12, 1906.

FIRST SETTLERS OF GERMAN DESCENT: The family of Wendelin Litsch, who arrived in December 1902.

FIRST PARISH MEMBER ORDAINED TO PRIESTHOOD: Rev. Cyril, O.S.B., in the year 1936.

FIRST STORE: Opened in 1905 by Mr. Heidergerken.

FIRST POSTMASTER: Mr. Godfrey Binzegger in 1908.

FIRST BLACKSMITH: Charles Smitsch in 1905, succeeded by Godfrey Binzegger in 1906.



RIGHT WHERE IT STARTED — The current church building is located on the same plat of land where the original church, in 1902 stood. The Holy

Family Church was designated as a Texas historical site on Aug. 21, 1988 — 85 years after it originated.

File photo

Holy Family Church

Present building constructed in 1949

Holy Family Church in Nazareth awarded a contract in 1949 to the C. Killingsworth Company of Memphis to build a new church building at an estimated cost of \$85,000.

The announcement of the contract's award was made by Father G.A. Boeckman, pastor, and construction was scheduled to begin on March 1, 1949.

The building which housed the church at the time was moved and the new modern edifice was built on the old building site and it's the same building which houses the Catholic church today.

Leo M. J. Dielmann, architect of San Antonio, drew up the original plans for the church.

The members of the parish did the excavating, starting on March 1, 1949, and actual work on the construction of the building started on March 15, 1949. The cornerstone was laid on May 8, 1949, by Bishop FitzSimon in the presence of 21 members of the clergy and a large crowd of parishioners.

The bell was blessed by Rt. Rev. Msgr. John Stenlage on Oct. 2, 1949, assisted by Rev. Thomas Drury and Rev. G.A. Boeckman.

The parishioners did all the work of hauling materials and performed much of the other labor.

The Church Committee, which doubled as the building committee, included Arthur Kleman, Andrew Acker, John Litsch, Lawrence Huseman and Louis Schacher.

On May 8, 1949, at 4 p.m., Bishop FitzSimon blessed and laid the cornerstone of the new Holy Family Church.

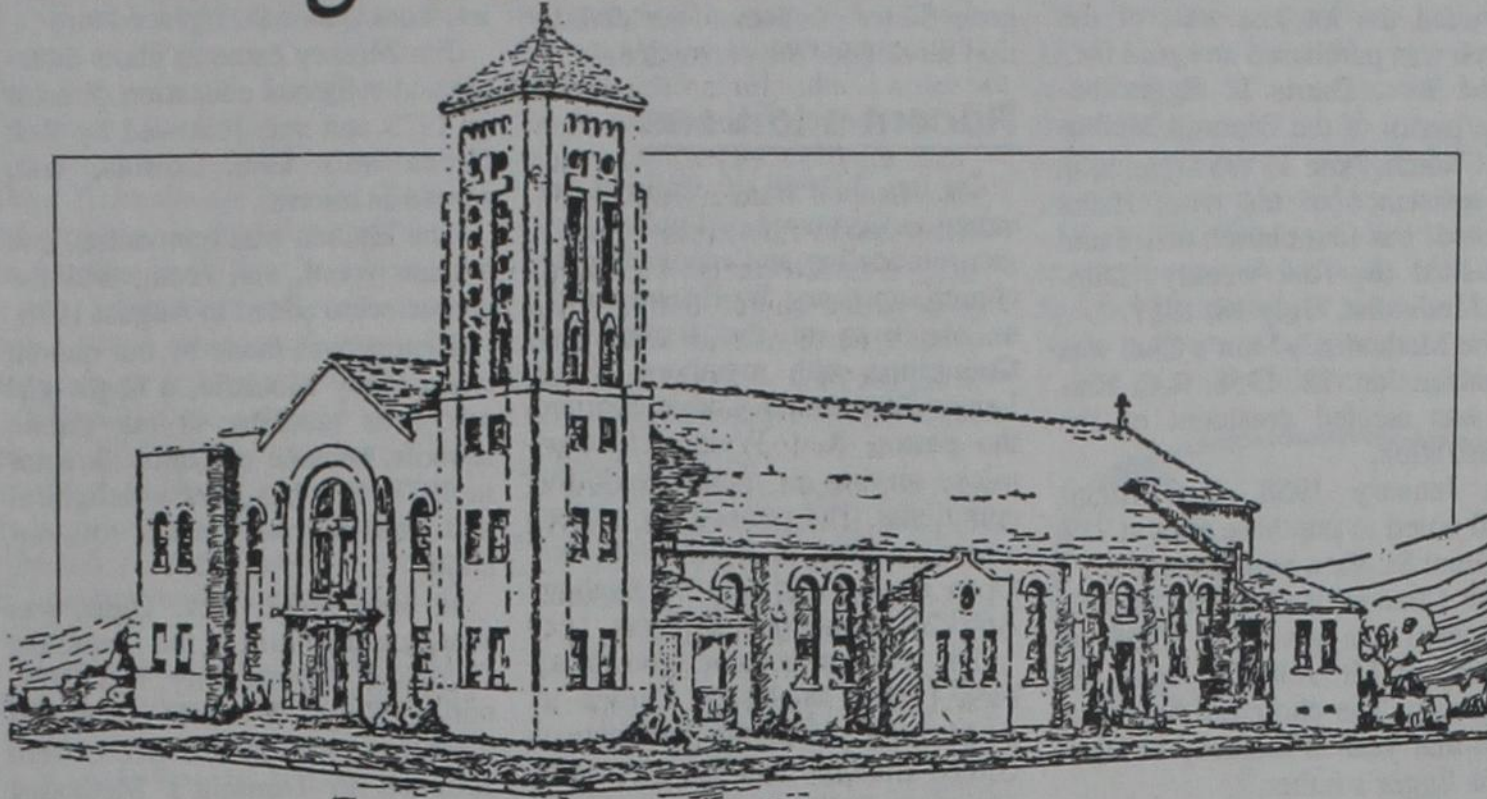
Clergy came from across the area to witness the event.

In the cornerstone was placed a document containing the names of the clergy attending, the ceremonies, and the names of the Holy Father, the Apostolic Delegate, the Bishop of Amarillo, the pastor of Nazareth, the President of the United States, the vice president, the governor of Texas, the lieutenant governor, the Castro County judge, commissioner of Precinct 4, the contractor and superintendent.

The names of the church committee, organist, assistant organists, members of the choir, sisters stationed in Nazareth, mass servers and those who contributed at least \$500 toward construction of the facility were also included. Various coins, including foreign ones, a copy of the *Amarillo Register*, *The Castro County News* and the *Tulia Herald* all were placed inside the cornerstone.

On the stone are the following dates: 1902—The year when the parish was founded by Rev. Joseph Reisdorff; and 1919 — The year when the present church was built.

It also contains the names of the church; the name of Pope Pius XII; the name of the bishop of Amarillo at that time, the Most Rev. Lawrence J. FitzSimon, D.D.; the present pastor, the Very Rev. G. A.



-CATHOLIC CHURCH - NAZARETH TEXAS - -LEO M.J. DIELMANN - ARCHITECT-

Boeckman; and the architect, Mr. Leon M.J. Dielmann.

The new church was 150 feet long and 63 feet wide and seated 640 comfortably with room for 80 more if necessary.

Various societies donated articles toward the church's construction. They are the Christian Mothers Society, which donated the communion railing and the railing for the baptistry; the Children of Mary Society, which donated the confessional; the Knights of Columbus and Foresters, the bell; the Catholic Daughters, a lectern; holy-water fonts by the St. Joseph's Society and American Legion; the ambry by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Miller; the Infant of Prague Shrine by Mrs. A.M. Heiman; and the sacristy bell by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kleman.

Father Joseph Reisdorff's Fourth Degree Assembly donated the cornerstone.

The new church was dedicated on Nov. 9 at 10 a.m. by Bishop FitzSimon.

The celebrant of the Mass was Rt. Rev. Msgr. F.J. Pokluda, vicar general of the diocese and pastor of St. Ambrose Church in Wall. He was assisted by Rev. Cyril Lange, O.S.B., as deacon; and the Rev. Frederick Hyland as subdeacon. Both were ordained from the Nazareth parish.

Master of ceremonies was Rev. Edmund Hartigan of Rotan. Deacons of honor were another former member of the parish, Rev. Harold Heiman, O.S.B. and a former pastor. The sermon was preached by Rev. Alcuin Feldhues, O.F.M. of San Angelo.

Holy Family parish was started on Aug. 21, 1902, with the arrival of Father Joseph Reisdorff who remained in Nazareth for three years and eight months.

His successor was Father Bonaventura Binzegger, a Benedictine priest who remained in Nazareth until July 1939 when it was over the diocesan clergy. Father Bo-

naventure remained in Nazareth for two years and 10 months; then was succeeded by Father Anselm Kaelin, who remained seven years and five months.

During Father Anselm's time, Father Peter Post also was in Nazareth for six months. Father Matthew Saettle built the church in 1917 which was in use up to the present time. He remained only for a year.

Father Conrad Herda came in February 1918, and stayed until August 1923, when he was succeeded by Father Andrew Quante, who stayed until May 1925.

Father Justin Wewer served as

pastor from 1925 until July 1929; and he was followed by Father Fintan Kraemer, who remained only 10 months.

Father Thomas Buegler followed Father Kraemer and stayed 11 months. Father Alphonse Bock was the last of the Benedictine fathers, and he left in July 1939. Father Norbert Wagner succeeded him and he remained in the parish until January 1942.

Rev. Boeckman had been pastor of Holy Family Parish for seven years and nine months—longer than any of his predecessors—at the time of the present church's construction.

Christmas pageant depicted Christ's life

Father Stanley Crocchiola, who served as pastor of Holy Family Church for many years, had a dream of starting a Christmas pageant to be enacted at the church and with the help of Donna Benke Birkenfeld, his dream came true in the early 1970s.

Donna Benke had been choral director at Springlake-Earth school before she married Leslie Birkenfeld and moved to Nazareth. She approached Father Stanley about starting the pageant and soon began making plans to organize it. It would depict the story of Christ's life, beginning with the Annunciation and continuing through the 12 years he spent in the Biblical town of Nazareth.

Birkenfeld wrote the script, found songs and music, decided what to use for props, lighting and sound, and got costumes together and before long, the pageant was born. Along with the help of Ernie Brockman, the Jerome Brockman family, the David Acker family and the Vincent Gerber family, Father Stanley's and Birkenfeld's dream was born at Christmas, 1972. As soon as the first year's performances were complete, Birkenfeld began making plans for a bigger and better pageant in 1973. That year, almost every parish family was involved in the pageant in some way, whether it be through getting the word around or singing with the CYO, who performed Christmas carols before each pageant performance.

Birkenfeld dreamed each year of making the pageant better than the year before, but in 1974, her dream was shortlived, because she was killed in an auto accident in February.

After that, the community pulled together and took over to present the pageant that year in Birkenfeld's memory and it continued to be held in her memory for many years.



Donna Birkenfeld

TRADITIONS
PRESENT AND FUTURE ANTIQUES
119 E. Bedford St.

HAPPY 100th ANNIVERSARY!

We treasure so many things from the past, but we especially value your patronage.

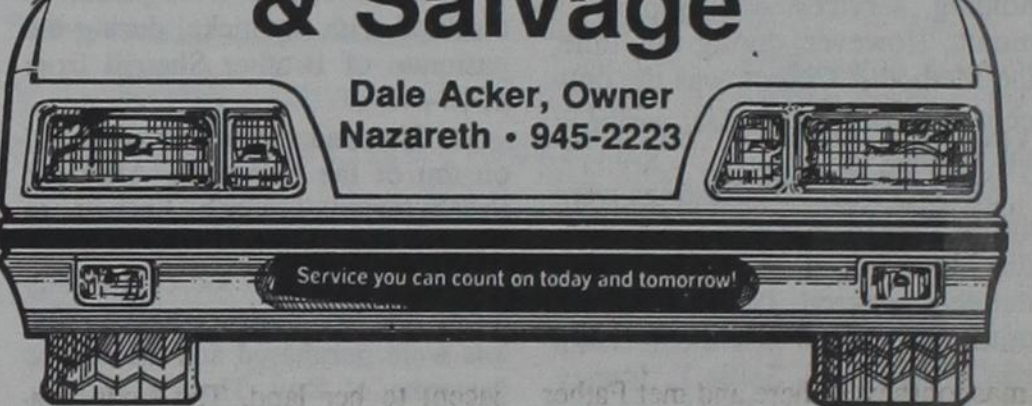


Wishing Castro County a Happy 100th Anniversary!

We've kept you running since 1987.

Dale's Auto & Salvage

Dale Acker, Owner
Nazareth • 945-2223



Service you can count on today and tomorrow!

At
This Special Time . . .
we wish
Dimmitt and Castro County a joyous and spirit-filled 100th Anniversary


Our local congregation of non-denominational believers was founded in 1960 through the efforts of Bedford Smith (our first preacher) and others.

Charter members still remaining include Ethel Fry, Doris Gabel, Tony Gabel, and Loranel Hamilton. The congregation has been served by five preachers, with David Keller presently serving.

Our new auditorium was dedicated Feb. 8, 1976, and plans are underway for a new educational wing, the Lord willing.

First Christian Church of Dimmitt
600 Western Circle Drive • 647-5478

*We welcome you to worship with us.
"Christians only, but not the only Christians."*





We're moving on!

After a century for Dimmitt and Castro County, we look forward to serving you in the future, as we have since 1984.

Happy 100th Birthday Dimmitt and Castro County!

"We'll Move The Earth For You!"

Lane Dirt Co.

We have a complete line of equipment to service all dirt moving needs for the Farming, Ranching and Feedyard Industries.

Charlie Lane, Owner/Operator
647-5793 Day or Night 303 SE 3rd, Dimmitt

Clark first Methodist minister, church organizer

The first record of any church organization in Dimmitt was in 1891. At this time, there was a union church made up of Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist faiths. There was no church building during these years, so the congregation met in the homes, probably the B.T. Bell home was used, and in the public school building. This union lasted until 1905.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1898. Mrs. Judge Kerr was the organizer and first superintendent of it. There were 44 enrolled.

In 1905, the little white church known as the Presbyterian was built. To begin with, every man in the county was asked to assist in building the church. The labor was donated and those who couldn't help with labor gave money. Lumber was freighted free from Hereford, by different members using wagons, and mules. They worshipped in this church about three years, unpainted and unpapered, then decided to paint and paper by borrowing money on the building and property.

The Presbyterian was the only denomination who had the financial set-up whereby they could loan the money. They borrowed \$350.00 for this project. Thus from the time the loan was made, about 1908, it was referred to as the Presbyterian Church. When the Methodists bought it, they paid the State Presbytery for it.

Organization

Early-church members think that Rev. C.A. Clark organized the first Methodist Church in Dimmitt. He was preaching in Hereford at the time. The Methodists held services two Sundays each month, with the Presbyterian and the Baptists each holding services one Sunday a month. However, during this time, the Methodist Church was the only church that had a resident pastor in the county.

Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Hastings were at that time members of the Methodist Church in the Lakeview community, between Tulia and Dimmitt. They moved their membership here, where Mrs. Sallie E. Ramey (mother), Mrs. Etta Brashears, and Mr. and Mrs. John Smith were charter members. Mrs. Percy Estes and Mrs. Effie Jacobs moved their membership here during the year 1906, under Rev. U.H. Trammel.

Mrs. Etta Brashears was the only living charter member who had never moved her membership to any other church, when the writing of this history was begun in 1957.

First parsonage

Although records are not available for 1905, 06, or 07, early-church members are positive that a Methodist parsonage was furnished in 1906, for Brother Trammel.

From conference minutes of Rev. W.P. Edwards, who followed Rev. Trammel, statements dated Oct. 21, 1908, noted: "There is one church building and one parsonage in Dimmitt. \$108 has been paid on the parsonage this year in the way of improvements and furnishings. The parsonage is valued at \$450 and the deed is recorded in both Castro and Swisher counties, which is somewhat confusing to us."

It is to be surmised that Happy, in Swisher County, was in charge of Dimmitt, or possibly at one time Dimmitt was a charge of Happy.

This parsonage was situated near the northwest corner of the town section, as the nearest windmill was at the residence of S.J. Vaden, an early member of the church. This site is the former residence of Elmer Youts.

Early pastors

Rev. G.H. Bryant followed Rev. Edwards to Dimmitt. He moved his family here in November 1908. Rev. G.S. Hardy was presiding Elder at this time.

Rev. J.T. Ross came to Dimmitt in 1910. Rev. Trammel, Edwards, and Bryant served all charges of the Dimmitt circuit, with Brother Ross having some additional charges — Parrott (Jumbo) and Big Square.

Ministers who served in the Presbyterian church following Brother Ross are as follows:

J.A. Smith	1914
B.T. Sharp	1915
W.L. Lightfoot	1917
Preston Florence	1919-21
L.R. Fee	
McNeely	
G.R. Fort	1921
H.K. Monroe	
W.U. Coughran	1925
Eugene Naugle	1926

The old Presbyterian Church,

which stood where our church now stands, was used by all denominations until 1928. On Easter Sunday, 1946, it burned. It was then in use by the Assembly of God congregation.

Basement church

In 1928, under the ministry of Rev. J.R. Bright, the basement, which is now the Masonic Lodge Hall, was built by the Methodists. Dimmitt continued to be part of a circuit until the year 1930, when Rev. J.R. Bright became the first full-time pastor. A parsonage was built for the new circuit preacher, Rev. Peters.

During the basement church years, which were the depression years, the following men were pastors:

Sam A. Thomas	1931-32
Alfred Freeman	1932-34
Joe Strothers	1934-36
O.M. Addison	1936-37
R.L. Butler	1937-38
Wallace Rosenburg	1939-40
Melvin Rankin	1940-42
U.S. Sherrill	1942-47
Horace Brooks	1947-50
Lee Stanford	1951-53
Raymond Vanzandt	1953-57
Darris L. Egger	1957-60
Hugh Blaylock	1960-65
Weldon McCormicks	1965-68
Jim Picken	1968-73

New building

A building fund for this beautiful church (dedicated in 1958) was started one Sunday morning when Betty Boothe (Hastings), who was nine or 10 years old, went up to Brother R.L. Butler, as he made the call for members, and handing him a nickel, told him she wanted to start a church building fund. Several thousand dollars were placed in the fund with the nickel during the pastorate of Brother Sherrill from 1942-47.

At this time, plans were to build on top of the basement. After the Presbyterian Church burned in 1946, a church member with some foresight suggested the church buy these lots for parking space. The lots were purchased and during the pastorate of Rev. Horace Brooks, the church was built.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service had a great part in equipping the church. The kitchen and all equipment — dishes, tables, stoves — were purchased by the society. Also \$1,000 which was made by a calendar project, was used to help purchase the pews. All of the pulpit furniture was given by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Estes in memory of their son, Greet. The whole project amounted to \$145,000.

The formal opening for our church was held Sept. 18, 1949. Bishop Martin was in charge of the program for the day.

Rev. Lee Stanford followed Rev. Brooks as pastor of our church in 1950. In 1951, the Bethel circuit decided to disband and many of the members of the Flagg, Big Square and Easter churches moved their membership to Dimmitt Methodist Church. Rev. D.W. Brashears was their pastor at the time.

In the last year of Brother Sanford's pastorate, a contract was drawn with Mr. Will Gollehon to exchange his home, which is now the parsonage, for the former parsonage, which was built during the pastorate of Alfred Freeman.

On June 23, 1953, Rev. Raymond Van Zandt and his wife moved into the new parsonage. Since then much progress has been made, materially and spiritually. The women learned that Brother Van Zandt was a good cabinet maker, and during his term as pastor, he added many nice built-ins in the church and parsonage. The cabinets in the fellowship hall, furniture in the nursery, and the shelves in the junior department for storing literature were all items he built.

Additions

During 1956-57, money was raised to fund the Educational building. This included a parlor, pastor's study, and Sunday school superintendent's room.

The foundation planting for the church yard was given as a memorial to Ray Sheffy, Sr., who was chairman of the board at the time the church was built.

The first funeral to be held at the church was that of Mrs. Rosa McLean, Sept. 26, 1949 and the first wedding was Mary Jean Webb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Webb, on Oct. 29, 1949.

The remainder of the note on our church, which was \$12,915, was

paid off Feb. 7, 1957, and soon afterward the lot just west of the church was purchased and paid for.

The Rev. Darris L. Egger became pastor of the Dimmitt Methodist Church, June 1, 1957. He, with the assistance of his wife, Helen 'opened' our first church office and published the first weekly "Dimmitt Methodist," July 18, 1957.

The Methodist Men's Club was organized Jan. 23, 1958. R.C. Bailey was elected president of the organization.

In January 1958, the official board voted to purchase a lot at 712 W. Grant St. for a new parsonage.

The Chancel Rail of our church sanctuary was given in 1958 in memory of Mr. John M. Coke, by his family. The choir rail was also given that year in memory of Rev. Darris Egger's father.

Mrs. Bill Dillon (nee Joneen Bice) made a sketch of our church to be used on our weekly church paper.

The WSCS financed the installation of the Cross and Dossal. Harold Gladman built the cross, and installation was made in April 1958.

New parsonage

A new parsonage was completed in 1958. Rev. and Mrs. Egger and sons were the first parsonage family to move into the new structure in January 1959.

In August 1959, Raymond Wilson, who served as church superintendent for 15 years, resigned, and Jack Flynt was elected to the office.

The WSCS purchased a new Story and Clark piano in May 1960 for the sanctuary.

Rev. and Mrs. Darris Egger, Darris, Jr., and Charles were honored on Sunday evening, May 29, 1960, with a reception in the Fellowship Hall, before leaving for a new pastorate in Colorado City. The membership of our church at the close of the 1959-60 conference year was 585.

Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Blaylock, Charlotte and Judy, became our new parsonage family. Blaylock held his first service here on June 7, 1960.

In June 1961, Rev. and Mrs. Lee Stanford, former pastor of the church, moved back to Dimmitt to make their permanent home.

A called session of Quarterly Conference was held Jan. 23, 1962. Resolutions were offered and voted on to build an addition to the church and repair parts of it. Building committee members were: George Sides, George Webb, D. Neumayer, Donald Wright and Earl Harrison. Used pianos were donated by the Russel Morans and Bill Grahams.

Further expansions

The new educational addition, or north wing of the church was completed December 1963. The new addition consisted of a new fellowship hall, new kitchen, youth department, numerous Sunday school classrooms, pastor's study and secretary's office. The entire building was renovated.

In June 1965, Rev. Blaylock and his wife were honorees at a reception held in Lamar Fellowship Hall, before assuming a new pastorate at the Wesley Methodist Church in Borger.

The church membership in June 1965 was 576.

In May 1965, a committee was selected from the Church Administrative Board to find lots to build a mission church: Paul Hilburn, Bill Bennett, Mrs. Jim Cleavinger, Glenn Ratliff and Mrs. R.A. Moran, chairman. Two lots were given — one each by N.F. Cleavinger and E.B. Wright, and an adjoining lot was purchased for \$100 from P.H. Dyer, who later returned the money to the church. Later the church bought three other lots from Dyer.

Missions

The Dimmitt Methodist Church accepted the church building at Sterley as a gift to be moved and used as a Latin American Methodist Mission church in July 1966. Lamar Foundation Estate Funds were used to pay for the mission work. Rev. Noe Montez was the first pastor of the mission church. He served the Dimmitt and Olton churches. At that time, we rented a parsonage for the Montez family. He was followed by Gilbert Diaz in June 1967. The church purchased a parsonage in 1967.

The Dimmitt Methodist Church celebrated its 75th anniversary with a special service Aug. 14, 1966. Rev. Preston Florence, who was pastor of the church from 1919-1921, was the guest speaker for the occasion.

On Dec. 20, 1966, Bishop Eugene Slater conducted the dedication service for the parsonage.

Recent additions

On Jan. 3, 1968 the Gailey Construction Company of Lubbock began remodeling and renovating the church sanctuary. Ira Brown served as chairman of the Remodeling Committee with members of the Lamar Foundation Committee and the pastor, Rev. Weldon McCormick, serving as members of the committee. The remodeling project was completed in April 1968, and Open House was held on Sunday, April 21, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The church became known as First United Methodist Church in April 1968, when the Evangelical United Brethren and the Methodist Church in Dallas joined.

On May 22, 1968, a covered dish dinner honoring the McCormicks was held in Lamar Fellowship Hall immediately following the morning service. This was the last Sunday before the McCormicks moved to their new pastorate at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Midland.

June 9, 1968, members of the official board hosted a reception honoring the new pastor, the Rev. and Mr. Jim T. Pickens, and their children, Larissa Ann and James Mac. The bishop was Alsie H. Carleton.

Pickens served as pastor for about five years, then moved to the Forrest Heights United Methodist Church in Lubbock.

The Rev. and Mrs. Lenol Hester moved to Dimmitt from First Church in Seymour to assume pastoral duties.

An intern program was begun in June 1972, whereby ministerial students came to the local church for one year's training, before completing their senior year at Perkins School of Theology. The first three students were: Larry Altman, Gene Wisdom and Jerry Wyatt.

Rev. Lenol Hester moved to Asbury Church in Lubbock, September 1975 and Rev. Marvin Roark came from Wheeler to serve as pastor. He moved to Amarillo to study for Chaplaincy at Northwest

Texas Hospital. Rev. Howard Quiet, from Quannah, replaced him.

Jim Massey came as choir director and religious education director in 1975 and was followed by Bob Green and Tom Collins, who served as interns.

The kitchen was remodeled, and a choir room, sun room, and the carport were added in August 1976.

History was made by our church when Ruby Moultrie, a negro girl who was teaching in our public schools, became our choir director in 1978. She has been a delightful and inspirational leader of our choir.

In June 1982, Rev. Quiet was sent from Dimmitt to the Methodist Church of Denver City. Rev. Vernon O'Kelly, his wife Jane and their two sons, Ty and Scott, were assigned to Dimmitt's Methodist Church, coming here from Panhandle. Almost a decade has passed since then and the churches of Panhandle and Dimmitt have become very close due to mutual devotion to this family.

Rev. O'Kelly continues to display concern for his fellow man and gives completely of himself for the betterment of the community.

In 1988, O'Kelly was named "Rural Minister of the Year" by the Texas A&M Extension Service.

Jane O'Kelly became Choir Director soon after moving to Dimmitt. Don Nelson, former director, continues to direct the choir in her absence. Jane organized the Ladies' Bell Choir and the Children's Bell Choir, which consists of 3- and 4-year-old children. In addition, she taught a Sunday School class and helped sponsor M.Y.F. She is employed by the Dimmitt High School as English and literature teacher.

In 1983, Danice Wright and Nancy Fuller developed a puppet ministry. In the latter part of 1985, Wright became Curriculum Director for the church.

Local ministers

Wendy Downing served as Intern Minister. She and Jim Birdwell married in May 1986 and were later assigned to a regular station in

Missouri. Connie Nelson, daughter of Don and Verbie Nelson, received her license to preach and was ordained in 1982. She married a Methodist Minister, Larry Daniel at Perkins Chapel of Southern Methodist University.

She is now director of communications for the Northwest Texas Conference.

Kyle Wise, son of Frank and Shirley Wise, surrendered to preach in 1989. He and his family moved to Boston, Mass., where he is studying for the ministry.

The activities sponsored by the committee on Family Ministries are inviting attraction to Sunday night services. The ABC dinners also originated during the last few years.

The church has done much for the youth in our community. 10 to 12 graduates from Dimmitt High School are given scholarships each year, regardless of their race or church belief.

Many children benefit from attending summer camps that are church sponsored.

This ad was taken from the Aug. 10, 1944 edition of *The Castro County News*.

CURRENT DIVIDENDS

50%

(All Covered)

ON AUTOMOBILES INSURED WITH THE

Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co.

CONTACT YOUR AGENT FOR THE ADVANTAGES OF FARM BUREAU LIFE, AUTOMOBILE, & FIRE INSURANCE

Castro County Farm Bureau

E. L. IVEY
General Agent

Revival services at the Hart School in 1922 led to the organization of the Methodist church in Hart on the fourth Sunday of August in 1922.

Charter members included Mrs. Lena Maples, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jobe, Morris Jobe, Jack Jobe, Mr. and Mrs. Will Rutherford, Miss Eunice Rutherford, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lust, Miss Lois Branson, Rob Duff, Mrs. Doyle Duff, E.I. McLain, Mr. and Mrs. E.G. Shive, Leroy Shive, and Belton Finney.

A parsonage was built in the winter of 1929, and in the spring of 1930 a church building was erected. In the fall of 1937, the church debt was paid off and the church dedicated. Ground breaking for the new church building was held in May of 1953, with the sanctuary erected that fall. The structure was dedicated in 1955. The front entrance and pastor's study were remodeled in 1979. In 1986, two rooms behind the sanctuary were remodeled.

Pastors through the years have included Rev. E.L. Naugle, Rev. R.R. Gilbreath, Rev. Horace B. Stanley, Rev. A.D. Moore, Rev. R.B. Walden, Rev. A.A. Peacock, Rev. R.I. Hart, Rev. Frank Beachum, Rev. A.C. Jones, Rev. C.P. McMasters, Rev. J.R. Batman, Rev. Loyd Mahew, Rev. Allen Forbes, Rev. Wilton E. Lynn, Rev. F.R. Pickens, Rev. W.C. Williams, Rev. L.L. Braughton, Grover C. Hensley, Rev. R.O. Browder, Rev. E.H. Coston, Rev. S.A. Sifford, Rev. Lyman Wood, Rev. Lee Crouch, Rev. Walter Cartwright, Rev. Elra Phillips, Rev. Douglas Gossett, Rev. Fred Brown, Rev. Thomas Taylor, Rev. Ray Forbes, Rev. Carl Oglesby, Rev. Lannie Wheeler, Rev. E.C. (Buddy) Payne, Rev. Steve Ulrey, and Rev. Perry Hunsaker.

The First United Methodist Church of Hart

Christian Church has first meeting in 1960

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the *Castro County History, Vol. I.*)

The first services for the First Christian Church in Dimmitt were held Feb. 28, 1960, with 31 present. Late in the fall of 1959, several interested people met in the hospitality room of the First State Bank to discuss the possibility of organizing a Christian Church in Dimmitt.

Then Mildred Sheffy and Thelma Brown went to New Mexico to meet with R.C. Bolton, minister of the First Christian Church of Clovis, and plans were made for him to hold a five-night evangelistic meeting from Nov. 30 to Dec. 4 in the community room of the courthouse. From these services, Bedford Smith, along with his wife, Elsie, was called from Bucklin, Kan., to be this small group's first minister.

Two acres of land were purchased on Southwest Twelfth (now known as Western Circle Drive) and West Grant Streets — the present day location.

A temporary building was obtained from the air base at Clovis, and worship services were held in it for fourteen years. It now functions as the fellowship hall and classrooms since the completion of a large new structure in late 1975.

Of the 31 who attended the first service in 1960, 16 answered the invitation to become members, including four who were immersed.

March 6, 1960 saw 30 present for the first session of the Sunday School.

Early charter members included Dwayne Brown, Marilyn Brown, Thelma Brown, Clinton Fry, Ethel Fry, Othele Fry, Anna Gabel, Clay Gabel, Doris Gabel, George Gabel, Kent Gabel, Tony Gabel, Loranel Hamilton, Bill Kellar, Earlene Kel-

lar, Sandy Parsons, Mildred Sheffy, Bedford Smith and Elsie Smith. The number had increased to 32 resident and three non-resident charter members by the time of the congregation's first anniversary.

By the end of the second year, the congregation was entirely self-supporting and had added a parsonage. The property, including street paving, was dedicated free of indebtedness in 1963, with the aid of a grant from the Mary Bivins Foundation of Amarillo.

Later in 1963, the Smiths moved to Bridge City, where they ministered for 2-1/2 years.

Loren Dickey came as the next minister, along with his wife, Jeanie, and their two sons, moving here from Albuquerque, N.M. In 1966 they moved to Joplin, Mo., and the Smiths returned to minister here again.

Bedford Smith continued as the minister until his retirement in

1971, when Roy L. Barringer was called to serve, beginning Jan. 10, 1971. He and his wife, Wenonah, and their three sons, moved here from Albuquerque.

The Barringers served for 13 years, resigning in 1984.

Terry Griffith was the next to serve, along with his wife, Melissa, and two daughters. A son was born while they were living here.

The present minister, David Kel-

ler, and his family began their ministry here in 1986. The Kellers have three children.

Groundbreaking for the new auditorium and classrooms was held in 1975, and the completed facility was dedicated on Feb. 8, 1976. A church office and a hallway connecting the old and new buildings were added in 1978. Plans are underway for a new educational wing at this time.

The debt on the auditorium was retired with a note-burning ceremony on the congregation's twentieth anniversary, Feb. 24, 1980.

The congregation observed its thirtieth anniversary in February of 1990.

Charter members still remaining with the congregation include Ethel Fry, Doris Gabel, Tony Gabel, and Loranel Hamilton. Elsie Smith recently moved away.

Auxiliary provides 27 years of hospital support

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the *Castro County History, Vol. I.*)

Originally the Plains Memorial Hospital Auxiliary was the brainchild of Mrs. Raymond Wilson, but it did not take long to interest other members of the Women's Society of Christian Service at the First Methodist Church.

With the new hospital under construction, the women visited the Lockney Auxiliary and decided the same thing could be done in Dimmitt.

The auxiliary was organized in 1964. The first meeting garnered 55 members and saw the beginning of the regular auxiliary activities. These activities included a coffee bar, gift shop, information desk, memorial fund, LVN scholarship, library cart, and errand, mail and tray favor services.

Auxiliary members had managed to put together a total package of services in only two months.

On May 3, 1964, they served as

hostesses and guides at the new hospital's open house.

By the end of the first month, the auxiliary had more than 100 members.

The first fundraiser, Operation Christmas Greeting, raised \$1,000.

The first awards banquet was held in Jan., 1965. Auxiliary members had donated more than 3,000 hours between May and January. In almost 20 years of service, more than 2 million hours have been volunteered.

In the first six years of the auxiliary, the organization estimates it saved the county taxpayers about \$20,000 on hospital equipment. By 1980, the total equipment and patient aids donated by the auxiliary totaled \$54,000.

For the past 10 years, the auxiliary has funded the Castro County Lifeline, an emergency communication service for people who are homebound or live alone. Lifeline is not a fundraiser, but a service the

auxiliary provides, newly elected auxiliary president Mattie Seal said.

Currently, the auxiliary raises funds through dues and the Fall Bazaar.

Although the auxiliary has charge of the gift shop, it makes little money due to the lack of volunteers to keep it staffed, according to Seal.

Last year, the volunteers clocked more than 17,000 service hours and have raised more than \$26,000 for hospital equipment.



The law firm of Burkett and Ross congratulates Castro County and its citizens in its Centennial Year!

The law firm of Burkett and Ross was an outgrowth of the original solo practitioner, Swain Burkett, who established his law practice in Castro County in 1935. Swain maintained a solo general practice of law until 1963, when Jimmy L. Ross became associated with the firm. The law firm of Burkett and Ross was formed as a partnership in the year 1965. The firm continued as a partnership until the year 1975, at which time Swain Burkett became 'of counsel' to the firm, although the firm has retained the name of Burkett and Ross until the present time. Swain remained 'of counsel' to the firm until 1987, at which time he officially retired. Swain died on January 12, 1991. Swain received a certificate from the State Bar of Texas on July 3, 1981, for fifty years service to the State Bar. In 1985 James R. Horton became associated with the firm after having served as an executive officer of The First State Bank of Dimmitt from 1963 to 1985. The firm is now composed of Jimmy L. Ross and James R. Horton as attorneys, and Valeria Davis and Bettye Huckabay as supportive staff. One or more member of the firm through the years has served Castro County in its position as County Attorney and as attorneys for the City of Dimmitt and the Dimmitt Independent School District.

The lawyers and staff of Burkett and Ross thank Castro County for the opportunity of working for its citizens for more than a half-century.

Jimmy L. Ross, James R. Horton, Valeria Davis and Bettye Huckabay



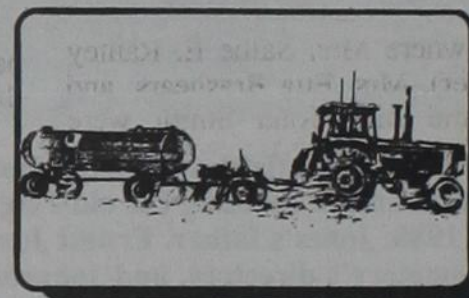
Congratulations to Castro County on 100 years of progress!

We're proud to help provide area farmers with every type of fertilizer need, and we thank all our customers.

Tuffy Dement, Manager

C&T Fertilizer, Inc.

Tam Anne • 647-4374



ANHYDROUS



LIQUID



BULK



Partners for 75 Years

The Clements Corporation, a family-owned property management company founded by the late Solon Clements, Sr., is proud to have been in partnership with Castro County since 1916. We wish all our Castro County friends a memorable Centennial year.

Solon Clements, Jr.

The Clements Corp.

850 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, LUBBOCK



PANHANDLE BUILDING SERVICES

113 W. Bedford, Dimmitt • 647-2631

Keeping your best shine forward since 1984.

Happy 100th Birthday Dimmitt and Castro County!

Insuring your cars, homes, farm and health since 1980.

STUMP INSURANCE

113 W. Bedford, Dimmitt • 647-2631





Castro County Centennial ORGANIZATIONS

1891
◆
1991

Cowboy's grave marks first Dimmitt Cemetery

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This story was excerpted from the May 31, 1990 issue of the News.)

By BILLY HACKLEMAN

In 1890, a cowboy named Joe Franks was riding across the prairie when his horse threw him and dragged him to his death. He was buried close to the place where the horse stopped and his body was found.

Later that year, an orphan who worked for J. W. Carter, the first permanent settler in what would become Castro County, died and he was buried near the grave of Joe Franks. His name was Paskil Brakefield.

In 1894, William Johnston, a brother of Mack and Tom Johnston who lived out their lives in the county, died and he was also buried with the other two.

According to Mrs. J. C. (Pearl) Mapes who wrote the history of this cemetery in 1961, these three graves were marked with wooden

stakes and death dates.

When a shepherd met his death by freezing, he became the fourth man to be buried in this cemetery. Driving rain and snow soon obliterated the penciled name and death date on his marker. Had interested citizens not placed cement markers with plates on these early graves, they would have passed out of sight and mind as had the shepherd, and the entombed would have been anonymous forever.

Somewhere in the cemetery a small unmarked grave is the final resting place for a five-year-old boy who was run over by a wagon in a caravan bound for New Mexico. For many years his grief-stricken mother returned to visit his grave. Mrs. Mapes and others remember her sad vigil.

According to Mrs. Mapes, burials in those days were simple, but meaningful. Black material covered the hand-made caskets. Friends sometimes spent the entire night

digging a grave in the unyielding earth, only to have to cover it in the morning to wait out a driving rain storm.

Undertakers were yet to come, and friends gently dressed the deceased in their burial blacks. The hearse was a horse-drawn wagon and the best hand-made quilt usually encased the coffin. Carriages, buggies, sometimes people afoot, and finally a rear guard of horseback riders moved out in a slow procession toward the cemetery.

For the immediate survivors, cane-bottomed chairs were placed in a circle around the open grave. No floral offerings graced the raw earth.

After the casket was lowered into place, every man took his turn with the shovel until the grave was mounded and man, woman and child stayed until the last bit of earth was firmly in place. Afterward, it was the custom to visit the other graves, and the ones needing attention were cared for on the spot.



BOBBY JONES (left) and C.J. Johnson unveil the new monument denoting the old Flagg Cemetery in May 1988. Jones's father, Ernest Jones, was one of the cemetery's directors, and Johnson's grandfather, J.A. "Arch" Johnson, was the longtime land

agent for the Herring Estate, the original Flagg Ranch property. Jones and Johnson both attended the old Flagg School, a mile west of the cemetery, when they were boys.

Photo by Don Nelson

Hart Cemetery becomes reality in 1945

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the *Castro County History, Vol. 1 and Hart Cemetery Up Dated June 1, 1986.*)

Although Nina Hart Jones was the first person buried in the new cemetery in 1945, the earliest grave in Hart Cemetery is marked 1906.

The result of a community effort spurred on by the realities of World War II, Hart Cemetery itself became a reality in 1945.

Many Hart residents disinterred loved ones in Tulia, Olton and other nearby communities to bring them back home after the creation of Hart Cemetery in 1945, accord-

ing to Marguerite McLain.

With citizen contributions, the newly formed Hart Cemetery Association purchased three acres for the cemetery from Homer Hill in 1944. Hill donated the fourth acre.

In 1946, a windmill was erected, and in 1959, city water was provi-

ded to the cemetery. The road was paved that same year.

An annual Christmas Card project, where citizens make donations to the cemetery rather than sending Christmas cards, helps raise maintenance funds for the cemetery.

A little time on earth he spent 'til God for him, his angel sent.

- Epitaph, Nazareth Cemetery

"Because I could not stop for death," by Emily Dickinson.

- Epitaph, West Lawn Memorial Park

A life that touched the hearts of so many goes on forever.

- Epitaph, Holy Family Cemetery

"Happy trails."

- Epitaph, Hart Cemetery

Reisdorff responsible for Nazareth Cemetery

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the *Nazareth Cemetery Book, 1902-1987 and Castro County, Texas Cemetery Surveys.*)

Although the official opening of Nazareth Cemetery was in 1906, Father Joseph Reisdorff designated the northwest corner of the original Holy Family Parish plat for a cemetery in 1902.

Adults were buried on the north side of the cemetery, and children were allocated the south section. Wooden crosses marked the early graves.

By the 1940s, adjoining Blocks 3 and 4 had been added to the cemetery, and stone markers had replaced the wooden crosses. During the 40s, other improvements were made to the cemetery, including a new arch at the entrance, a new

stone crucifixion group and evergreen trees.

No new sections were added to the cemetery until 1985. A Christmas Card fundraising project provided maintenance and replaced the small donations from each family that had supported the cemetery in the past.

A number of families have four or five generations of their relatives buried in Nazareth Cemetery.

Dimmitt Cemetery renamed in '55

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained from the *Castro County History, Vol. 1 and the May 31, 1990 issue of the News.*)

A cowboy died as his horse dragged him across the prairie in 1890. He was buried where they found him.

Dimmitt Cemetery, the oldest cemetery in Castro County, grew up around the cowboy's grave. Other people were buried near the cowboy, and in 1903, J. W. Alexander made the cemetery official when he purchased the five-acre plot expressly for that purpose.

Another five and a half acres were added to the cemetery between 1931 and 1945. Less than ten years later the cemetery was incorporated and given the name Castro Memorial Gardens.

In 1955, the new board of directors created a perpetual-care fund. The first project was laying a four-inch water line from Dimmitt to the cemetery. As of 1986, the fund exceeded \$70,000.

Castro Memorial Gardens celebrated its centennial in 1990. Through the efforts of concerned citizens, cement and metal markers replaced the early and nearly illegible grave markers. Despite these efforts in marking the earliest graves, some 40 to 50 graves of infants and unknown individuals remain unmarked and unknown.



MONTEMAYOR FAMILY — This elaborate tombstone marks a family gravesite at the Hart Cemetery. Photo by Kathleen Latham

West Lawn Cemetery organized in 1967

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the *Castro County History, Vol. 1.*)

West Lawn Cemetery is the newest cemetery in Castro County with its earliest marked grave dated 1955.

Originally incorporated as Castro County Memorial Gardens in 1967, the name changed to West Lawn Cemetery later that year.

The perpetual-care cemetery got off to a rocky financial start. Lack of sales, road repairs and inadequate irrigation were cited as the

reasons for its financial problems.

In the mid-70s, local people bought the cemetery, and it became a non-profit organization. The debts were cleared, and an adequate water supply was obtained.

Today, West Lawn Cemetery gains additional support from donations through annual fees and occasional plot sales.

According to board member Oleta Raper, unmarked graves predating 1955 have been surveyed in the southeast corner of the cemetery, but nothing more is known about these graves.



WOODEN CROSSES—mark some of the graves during the 1930s at the Nazareth Cemetery. Later, stone markers replaced the wooden crosses. Courtesy photo

Who catches joy as it flies, inherits eternity's sunrise.

- Epitaph, West Lawn Memorial Park

Murdered by Tom Stuart.

- Epitaph, Castro Memorial Gardens

Killed by horse.

- Epitaph, Castro Memorial Gardens

"Because I could not stop for death," by Emily Dickinson.

- Epitaph, West Lawn Memorial Park

A life that touched the hearts of so many goes on forever

- Epitaph, Holy Family Cemetery

A little time on earth he spent 'til God for him, his angel sent.

- Epitaph, Holy Family Cemetery

"Jamming with the angels."

- Epitaph, Hart Cemetery



Our Philosophy: "Professional Excellence"

BEGINNINGS

Brown, Graham & Company, P.C. was established in 1955 by Howard and Robert Brown, Wilmer Graham and Arthur Glover, who formed a partnership and purchased an existing public accounting practice in Hereford. The Amarillo office was opened in 1957, the first of several expansion moves that have occurred over the years. As the area's business sector has grown and prospered in the ensuing years, so has Brown, Graham & Company, P.C., adding more offices and taking on new partners as opportunities have occurred. As the company has grown, so has its good reputation, contributing further to the increase in clientele. In 1982 the partners formed a Professional Corporation and became shareholder-principals.

TODAY

There are now 17 shareholder-principals in Brown, Graham & Company, P.C., plus a personnel force of 70 employees, including 35 accountants and 40 support people. The company operates from 11 offices located in Amarillo, Hereford, Tulia, Friona, Spearman, Canyon, Dimmitt, Shamrock, Perryton, Georgetown, and Pampa. The company is thoroughly up-to-date in its operations, utilizing all the time and cost-saving advantages afforded by electronic data processing and word processing equipment.

PHILOSOPHY—COMMITMENT

Brown, Graham & Company, P.C. strives to achieve professional excellence by challenging its staff accountants to become competent in as many areas as possible. Brown, Graham & Company, P.C. adheres rigidly to quality control procedures to insure its absolute independence and unquestionable fairness.

Each of our principals and professional employees is required to complete 40 hours per year of ongoing professional training. Additionally, the company conducts seminars for its clients, to keep them abreast of the latest accounting and tax computation procedures and regulations.

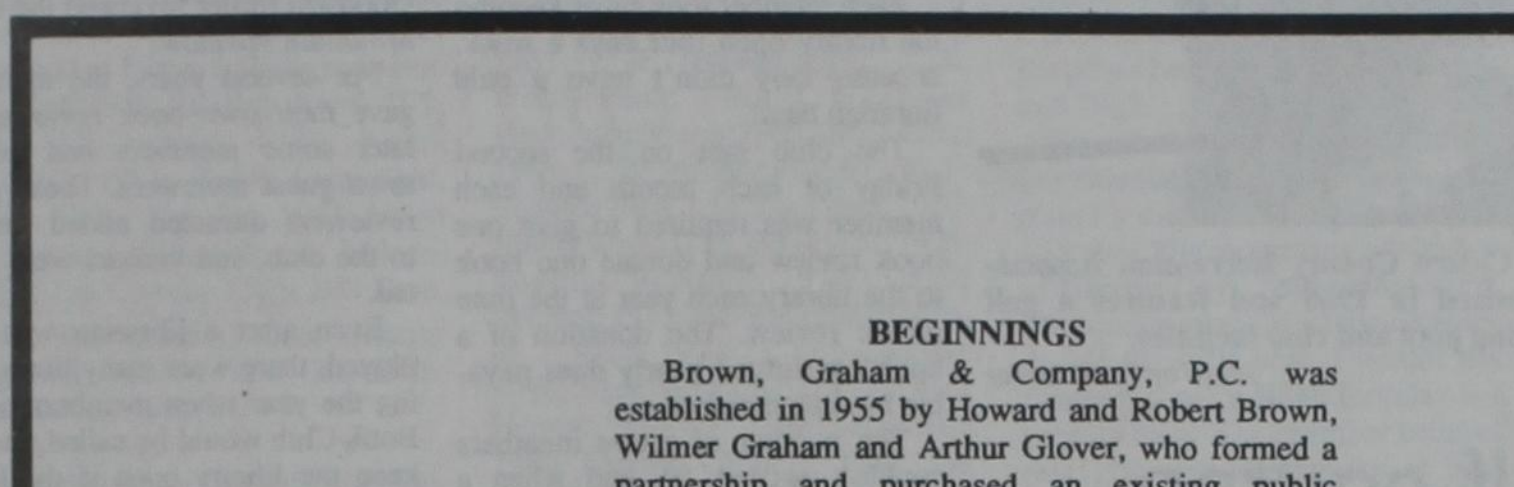
The principals of Brown, Graham & Company, P.C. recognize an obligation to contribute to the community—both civic and professional—in which the company does business. Principals and employees are encouraged to participate in professional, civic, charitable, business and social organizations in their communities.

SERVICES

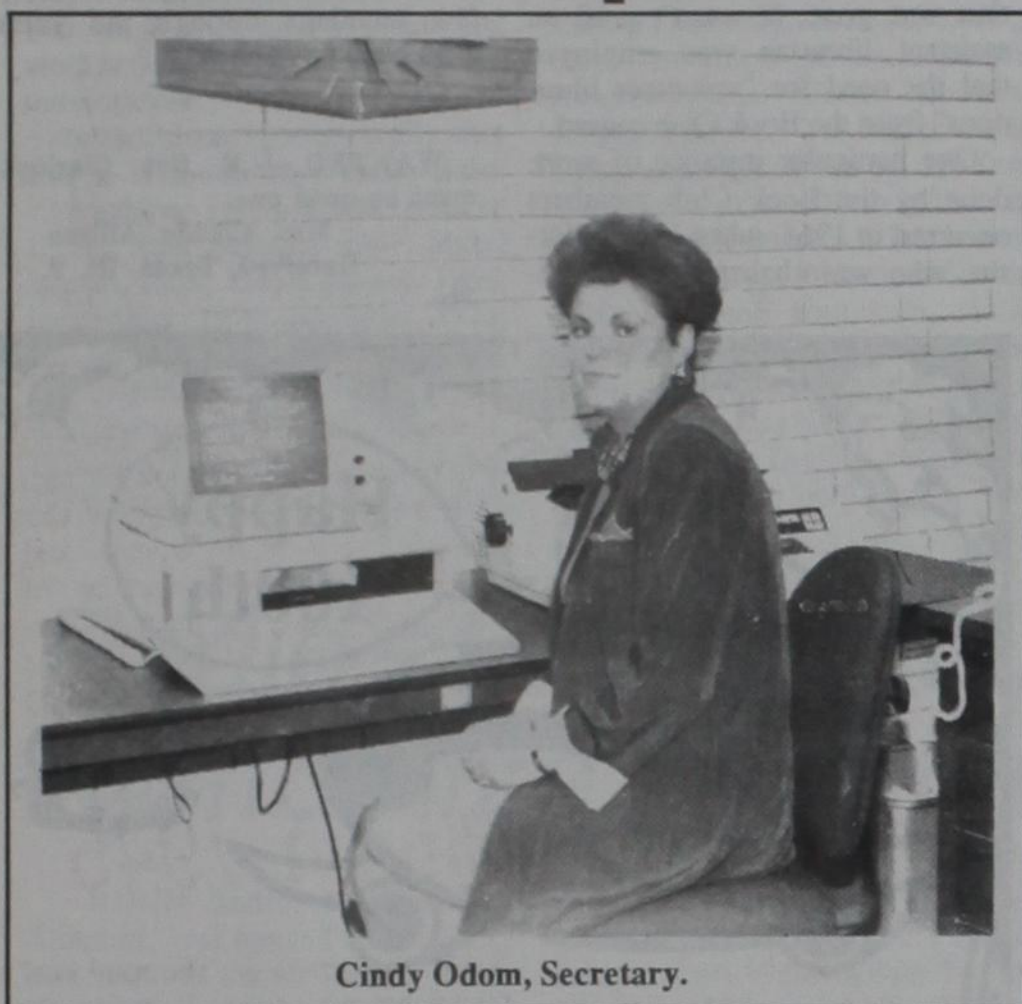
Brown, Graham & Company, P.C. serves its clients in four principal management and financial areas: Auditing, Tax Advice, Accounting and Management Advice.

Because of the company's size and the diverse experience and expertise of its principals, Brown, Graham & Company, P.C. can quickly summon whatever resources might be needed on any given project.

In 1973 Brown, Graham & Co, P.C. purchased an income tax practice in Dimmitt. This office has grown to serve over 350 clients. We're proud of our beginnings, accomplishments and service. We look forward to the future progress of our company and this, our county.



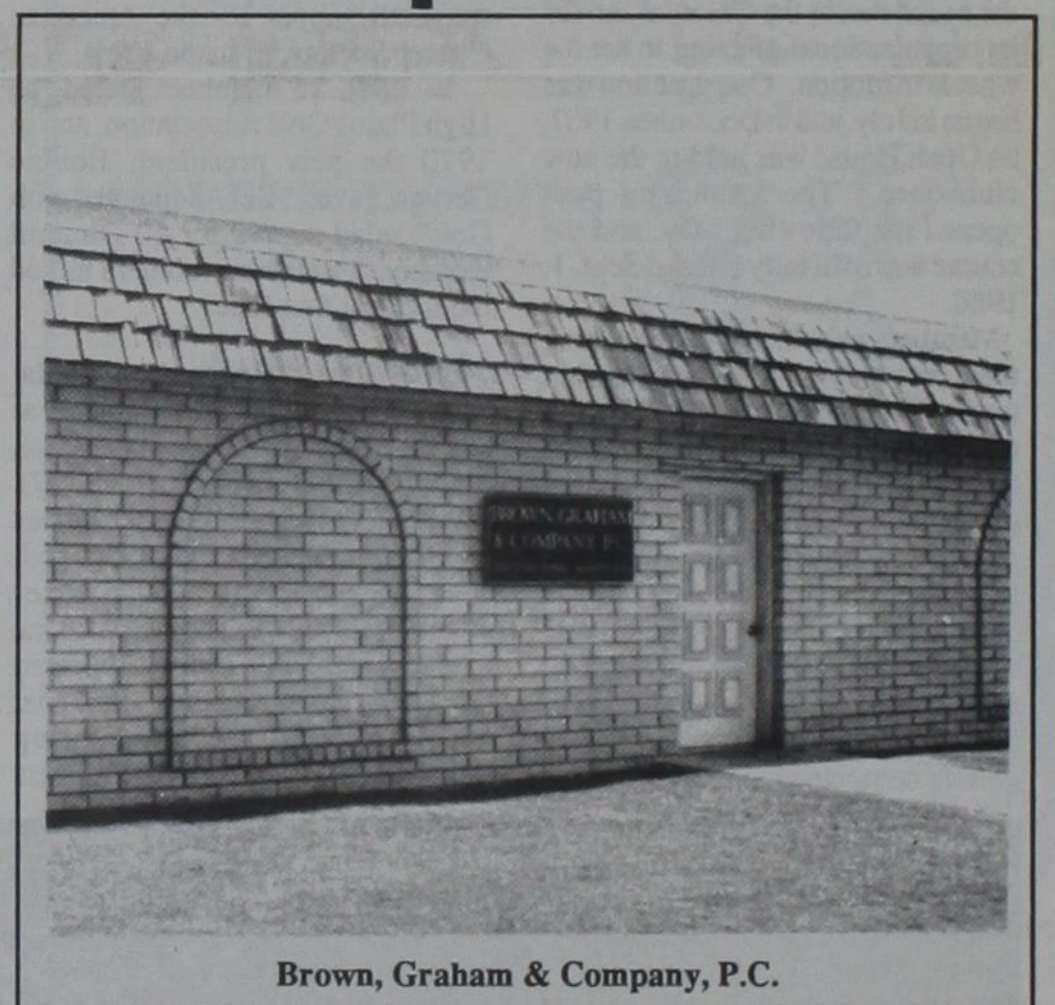
Henry Ramaekers, CPA; Shareholder/Manager.



Cindy Odom, Secretary.



Kimberly Birkenfeld, CPA.



Brown, Graham & Company, P.C.

We are proud to be a part of Castro County, celebrating its 100th anniversary!



BROWN, GRAHAM & COMPANY

PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

308 W. Bedford, Dimmitt

647-3136



GOING OVER THE MINUTES — These men study minutes from the first Castro County Recreation Board of Directors meeting. Pictured from left are Sam Albracht, James Wohlgenuth, who was the charter president; and Bill Glenn, current

golf pro. The Castro County Recreation Association was organized in 1960 and features a golf course, swimming pool and club facilities.

Photo by Freda McVay

Swimming pool and golf course featured as CCRA opens in 1960

Thanks to the determination of a few dedicated golfers, and a \$280,000 loan from the Farmers Home Administration, the Castro County Recreation Association became a reality in the late 1960s, complete with golf course, swimming pool and clubhouse.

The first chairman of the board, Dr. James Wohlgenuth, recalls that the biggest problem was "finding enough land," but that they became aware of a government program through the FmHA that was providing loans for many of the smaller towns to build recreational facilities.

An organizational meeting of the CCRA was set for Feb. 16, 1967, in the Dimmitt High School auditorium. Those attending approved a set of by-laws and elected a permanent board of directors which included Wohlgenuth, Gilbert Schulte, Sam Gilbreath, Gerald Harden, Jack Miller, M. E. Cleavinger and Dewayne Brown.

Less than a week later, on Feb. 22, the board met at the Colonial Inn for its organizational meeting to set the wheels in motion. Construction was begun in July, and in December, 1967, an Open House was held in the new clubhouse. The swimming pool opened the following May, and the course was officially opened Sept. 1, 1968.

Members wasted no time in setting their first tournament, a partnership toumey later that month. Doc Render and Mrs. Ole Mae Trimble tied for first place with the mother-son combination of Mrs. Dugan Butler and Jim Butler at the first-ever tournament of the CCRA.

According to newspaper reports the next day, "Cold weather and 40 mph winds cut the tournament to nine holes, but 32 heavily bundled golfers competed."

Also in 1968, the Ladies Golf Association became a reality, and Mrs. Trimble was elected as its first president. Other officers were Dorothy Mayfield, vice president, and Ruth Jackson, secretary-treasurer. The group met for play in Hereford until their own course was ready.

The LGA was active from the beginning in all aspects of the newly built club. They helped with planning the decor of the clubhouse, and joined with the Dimmitt Garden Club to landscape the front of the building. They also were responsible for the building of a restroom on #6. Over the years they have raised money for an aerifier for the greens, to buy trees for the course, and many other club improvements.

The LGA has also given time and money to other community organizations, including the Lions Club project for junior baseball parks, the Boy Scouts and Campfire Girls for the Dimmitt Scout Hut, and a spaghetti supper for the American Cancer Society, to name a few.

In 1969, 25 members joined the High Plains Golf Association, and in 1970 the new president, Bobbie George, gave a "Get Acquainted with Golf" salad supper for 40 Dimmitt women. Twelve newcomers joined the LGA at that time.

In 1970 Mrs. George became the first woman to get a hole-in-one at the new course. She went on to become City Champion in both 1971 and 1972. In the early days the names of Trimble, George, Polly Holland, Amy Glover, Ann Touchstone, Bernice Hill, Kathy Thomas, Maxine Childers and Neva Hickey appeared repeatedly in scrapbook clippings; and the LGA began hosting tournaments such as the "Flubbers

and Dubbers," and the annual Grandma Tournament, begun in 1974.

Meanwhile, the CCRA board continued to direct the activities of the club as a whole. At the annual meeting in 1969, the new directors were Truman Touchstone, James Bradford, Cliff Cook, B. H. Lee, Bill Gregory, Joe Carver and Jack R. Miller.

The original club pro, Gidd Faircloth, resigned in 1969, and Doc Render was appointed interim until Bud Poasey was hired May 1. Poasey quickly organized the first annual Memorial Day Tourney for later that month.

Other pros who have served the club over the years are Lee Olsen, Al Forrester, Larry Kaplan, Joe Ziegler, Tommy Weaver, Bob Lindsey, Sterling Sasser and Cliff Cook.

The current pro, Bill Glenn, first moved to Dimmitt in 1970, and served as club pro from December, 1973 to 1977. He moved to Dumas, but returned to Dimmitt to become club pro for the second time in February, 1991.

Members of the 1991 CCRA board of directors are Jerry Watts, president, and Jim Long, Truman Touchstone, Jerry Heller, Terry Widick and Don Cornett.

Officers of the Ladies Golf Association are Jo Beth Bates, president; Patti Summers, vice president; Delores Baldrige, secretary-treasurer; and Betty McClure, reporter.

By 1991, annually scheduled tournaments included the two-day Neva Hickey Classic in April, the two-day Dimmitt Darlins Tournament in June; the two-day Doc Render Memorial Tournament in July; and the two-day Dandies & Darlins Tournament in August.



JO BETH BATES (left), current president of the Ladies' Golf Association; **Bobbie George** and **Delores Baldrige** look over a scrapbook with the Castro County Recreation Association history. The

country club, which features club facilities, a swimming pool and golf course, was organized in 1960.

Photo by Freda McVay

Book Club was started to help organize library

The Dimmitt Book Club was organized in 1939 by a group of women who were interested in having a good public library in the county.

They met at the home of Margaret Wilson.

The purpose of the club was to sponsor and promote a public library and the members worked diligently collecting books from many sources in order to build up the library.

Each member took turns keeping the library open four days a week, because they didn't have a paid librarian then.

The club met on the second Friday of each month and each member was required to give one book review and donate one book to the library each year at the time of her review. The donation of a book constituted yearly dues payable by each member.

The number of active members couldn't exceed 19, and when a vacancy occurred, a new member was chosen from a waiting list of names nominated by members. In later years, the number was increased to 24, then to 30 members. The meeting day was changed to the second Wednesday of the month and those rules remain the same today.

Mrs. Goodwin Miller and Mrs. W.E. Kirkpatrick were chosen to meet with the county commissioners to ask that the county support the library. They voted to provide \$10 per month for an indefinite time and to seek Works Projects Administration Funds to help pay for a librarian.

At the same time, a Library Committee was appointed. It included Mrs. Jack Miller, Mrs. Goodwin Miller, Mrs. W.E. Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Ozro Stephens and Mrs. Ray Cowsert, all members of the Book Club. The committee was to serve as advisers to the commissioners, and was instructed to keep the county informed of the progress and needs of the library while acting as a liaison between the library and the public. The committee solicited help to get suitable books and other materials for the library.

This committee later became the Castro County Library Board of Trustees, with members appointed by the commissioners. The appointed members were selected from across the county and those selected were interested in the well being of the library—they weren't just members of the Book Club.

The Book Club sponsored vari-

ous kinds of "Donate a Book" drives and fund raising activities, and the main social event for fund raising was a "Silver Tea" in November of each year. The proceeds from the tea go to benefit the library.

Another tradition started in 1941, when the club voted to have an annual spring luncheon. The first luncheon was held in May at the home of Mrs. Noel Gollehon. It was a covered dish affair and Mrs. Goodwin Miller reviewed the book, *Mountain Meadow*.

For several years, the members gave their own book reviews, but later some members had out-of-town guest reviewers. These guest reviewers attracted added interest to the club, and visitors were invited.

Even after a librarian was employed, there were many times during the year when members of the Book Club would be called upon to keep the library open if the librarian was gone. It wasn't until an assistant librarian was employed that the need for "volunteer librarians" from the Book Club ceased.

One particular instance of work done by the Book Club members occurred in 1965, when Hazel Merritt, who was chairman of the Li-

brary Board, as well as a member asked for volunteers to help catalogue the material in the library.

Mrs. Tyline Perry, a land owner in the area, gave a large endowment for a new library to be built in 1973 and her portrait now hangs in a prominent place in the library.

The new library was named Rhoads Memorial Library in honor of Mrs. Perry's grandparents. The Book Club raised money for the card catalog cabinets and also furnished money for dishes and flatware which are used in the meeting room.

Then about two years later, the need arose for more catalog space to organize files for children's books, so the Book Club purchased another cabinet.

The Book Club has always been dear to the hearts of its members, and although many have lived in the country, they usually get to meetings despite bad roads, rain, snow, sleet or blowing sand. Very few meetings through the years have been postponed.

WANTED — E flat Clarinet, must be good one.

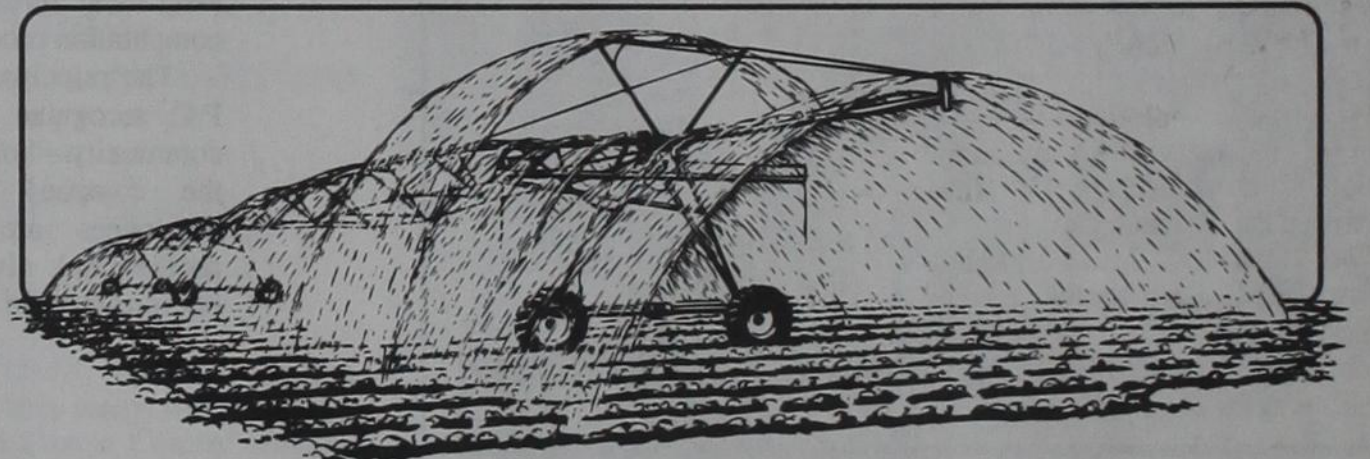
Mrs. Claude Allison
Hereford, Texas, Rt. 2.
2tp.

Happy 100th

We're wishing the best for Castro County.

We've helped the farmers in this area since 1973, and look forward to many more years of "upward mobility."

Davis Aerial Spray
Hart • 938-2137



We keep you pumping!

Our family owned and operated business has had help through the years from each of our children: Dennis, Jerry, Theresa, Tommy, Patricia, Jimmy, Michael, Francis, Kenny and Bob.

But it is our loyal customers who have kept our business going since 1954 and we appreciate your patronage, as we continue to offer sales and service for domestic and irrigation pumps.

Kern Plumbing & Electric

Walter and Rita Kern, Owners
Nazareth • 945-2219

This ad ran in the Sept. 5, 1955 edition of *The Castro County News*.

H. C. (Atticus) Webb

—SPECIAL AGENT FOR—

The Lamar Life Insurance Co.

Jackson, Mississippi

"Buy From Webb and Live Always"



Chamber goals remain despite name change

The Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce was originally chartered as the Castro County Chamber of Commerce July 22, 1947. The name change came in 1974. It was organized for, and remains today a volunteer organization of Dimmitt citizens who are investing in a community development program—trying to improve the agricultural, industrial and civic well being of the community.

Through the years it has been housed in several locations: City Hall at 218 E. Bedford, the second floor of the courthouse, City Hall at 201 E. Jones (1977-1983), and finally in November, 1983, the present office building at 115 W. Bedford. The purchase of the building was a giant progressive step for the Dimmitt Chamber, making a statement of permanence for the organization.

Each year since its inception, the Chamber has sponsored an annual banquet. In 1963 the Outstanding Citizen award was established. The first award was presented to Bob McLean because of his outstanding work in industrial, civic and business development.

The award was given annually after that to Wes Anthony, 1964; Helen Richardson, 1965; B. M. Nelson, 1966; Paul Hilburn, 1967; Hazel Merritt, 1968; Goose Ramey, 1969; Jack Miller, 1970; Jim Elder, 1971; Edd McLeroy, 1972; Myrtle Sheffy, 1973; Donald and Katy Wright, 1974; Walt Hansen, 1975; Bill Behrends, 1976; Jack Edwards, 1977; Carl King, 1978; Jerry Marvin Hanners, 1979;

Ronnie Parker, 1980; Laverne Bates, 1981; Bob Murdock, 1982; Dorothy Hopson, 1983; Joe Higgs, 1984; Stanley Schaeffer, 1985; George and Carolyn Sides, 1986; Deanne Clark, 1987; Vernon O'Kelly, 1988; Clara Vick, 1989; and Wayne Collins, 1990.

In 1978 the chamber board felt the citizen award system should be expanded by giving two other awards, "Citizen through the Years," and "Teacher of the Year." Recipients of the Citizen through the Years award, established to honor individuals who continue to work for many years for the good of Dimmitt, have been Bob McLean, 1978; Ray Robertson, 1979; Ettie McDermitt, 1980; Koma Ratcliff, 1981; Ralph Lambright, 1982; Teeny Bowden, 1983; Helen Richardson, 1984; B. M. Nelson, 1985; Joe Cowen, 1986; Bill Sava, 1987; Walt Hansen, 1988; George Bagwell, 1989; and Kenneth Cleveland, 1990.

The chamber also believe that teachers have a great responsibility that is not just a job but a full-life commitment to educate Dimmitt young people. To honor that commitment, Teacher of the Year has been awarded to Mary Jo Brown, 1978; J'Lyn Ryan and Dwight Joiner, 1979; Paul Fry, 1980; Avis Smith, 1981; Loranell Hamilton, 1982; Gainell Minnick, 1983; Nancy Greer, 1984; Sue Broderson, 1985; Charles Cotter, 1986; Kay Kellar, 1987; Jane O'Kelly, 1988; Diane Axtell, 1989; and Linda Koch, 1990.

A permanent plaque is displayed at the Dimmitt Chamber office with the names of all three award honorees, and another plaque displays the names of all chamber presidents. Presidents who were elected and have served are as follows:

1948, A. C. Hays Jr.; 1949, Bob McLean; 1950, Joe Cowen; 1951, B. M. Nelson; 1952, H. H. Carlile; 1953, J. W. Benson; 1954, R. E. Hendrix; 1955, T. E. Harrison; 1956, Earl Brock; 1957, Russell Moran; 1958, Dexter McGaughey; 1959, W. E. Kirkpatrick; 1960, Steve Taylor; 1961, J. R. Brown; 1962, J. E. Wohlgenuth; 1963, J. G. Davis; 1964, Allan Webb; 1965, Jack Miller; 1966, C. W. Anthony; 1967, W. F. Bennett; 1968, J. D. Blackburn; 1969, Jimmy Ross; 1970, Bo Bryant; 1971, Reeford Burrous; 1972, David Bechtol; 1973, Bill Behrends; 1974, M. J. Reed; 1974-75, Bob Caddell; 1976, Jack Edwards; 1977, Walt Hansen; 1978-79; Gerald Hanners; 1980, Maxine Childers; 1981, Joe Josselet; 1982-83, Jim Killingsworth; 1984, George Sides; 1985-86, Gene King; 1987-88, Doug Pybus; 1989-90, Garland Coleman; and 1991, Danny Rice.

The goals and projects of the chamber are carried out by volunteers. Through the years there became a need for a paid office staff person. The chamber has employed B. M. Nelson, Eddie Coltharp, Elvon Devaney, Dorothy Magness, Shirley Hall and Delores Heller in the

capacity of manager/executive director. In 1990, a citizen of the decade award was given to Delores Heller, 1979-1989. The award will be given every ten years.

1990 finds the Dimmitt Chamber 213 members strong. They continue

to pursue the goals of their original founding, with added emphasis to economic development. The chamber works closely with the City of Dimmitt on various projects, and was instrumental in establishing the Castro County Economic Development Commission. Gerald Hanners laid the groundwork for this entity in 1984 and 1985.

Since the last history book writing, the chamber has hosted the wagon train for the Texas Sesquicentennial Birthday. The community celebration of Harvest Days, held each August, continues to grow. Most significantly, during the 1991 year, Dimmitt and Castro County's 100th birthday is a priority item. The chamber believes this 100-year observance is both exciting and historical for all—"truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

The goals and projects of the Chamber are carried out by volunteers, but as the Chamber grew there came the need for paid office staff persons. Through the years the Chamber has employed Glenn Youts, John McFarland, Bob Curtin, B. M. Nelson, Eddie Coltharp, Elvon Devaney, Dorothy Magness, Shirley Hall and Delores Heller in the capacity of manager/executive director. In 1990, a citizen of the decade award was given to Delores Heller, 1979-1989. This award will be given every 10 years.

The Chamber originally operated on a budget received entirely from membership dues, \$5 a month for individuals, and \$5 plus \$1 for each full time employee for business memberships. In January, 1976, the Occupancy Tax Fund was made available for new revenue. Hotels and motels pay three % of local taxable receipts. This money is used only for projects which improve and benefit the town of Dimmitt.

Some of these projects are annual events, such as decorating the town for Christmas, including lighting the Courthouse and putting up street decorations. Activities during the County Fair Week in September also are provided through this tax fund.

Joe Cowen, the oldest former president of the chamber still living, described the early days of work with the chamber as requiring a lot of traveling in order to obtain things for the community.

"In those days the Chamber of Commerce and the Lions Club were about the same organization," Cowen said. "Seems like everyone who was a member of one was a member of the other."

Cowen remembered chamber members working on getting a swimming pool by the high school, and getting the hospital. He credits B.M. Nelson as being the "sparkplug" for that project. After World War II interfered with

the Old Settlers reunion for several years, Cowen said, he felt it was part of his job as president to get it started again.

"I got a guy to donate two 100-lb. sacks of pinto beans, then we got a bunch of posts from the railroad track to use as wood for the barbecue pit," Cowen said. "We stayed up all night at the pit doing the barbecue."

It took a lot of "leg work", Cowen said, but the Old Settlers reunion was renewed.

This year's program of work includes industrial development; working with retail merchants, tourism and public relations; beautification; special events such as

Harvest Days, July 4 Fireworks Display and Christmas decorating; organizational activities; the youth committee; education and government affairs; and the task force for Windowrama, to make vacant buildings look more attractive.

1991 finds the Dimmitt Chamber with more than 200 members, continuing to pursue the original goals of the founders, with added emphasis on economic development. The Chamber works closely with the City of Dimmitt on various projects, and was instrumental in establishing the Castro County Economic Development Commission. Gerald Hanners laid the groundwork for this entity in 1984 and 1985.

Class Is Never Out Of Style.

A visit to our store is a journey into a world of beauty. At its best, beauty has a timeless classic quality.

We extend best wishes to Dimmitt and Castro County!

Merle Norman

Joyce Rickerd, Owner
111 E. Bedford, Dimmitt
647-5773

Serving women of distinction with their beauty needs since 1985.



Radio station's call letters symbolize commitment

KDHN Radio, 1470 AM in Dimmitt, was opened for business and went on the air Dec. 5, 1963. Originally the station was owned by Steve Taylor. Johnnie Lynn, known as "Uncle Jay," was general manager.

The KDHN call letters were taken from the three towns in Castro County, Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth. Current owner Wayne Collins says the call letters demonstrate from the very beginning the commitment to serve all the citizens of Castro County.

The next owner of KDHN was

Dimmitt resident Gerald Hanners, who sold the station Dec. 22, 1981, to Johnnie Cain. Cain sold the station Dec. 14, 1984, to Mayor Collins, who now owns and operates the station with a staff of two full-time and four part-time employees.

The format is basically country and western, with hymn times and Spanish language programming which has been aired since the station began. An "oldies" program was started by Terry Todd in 1990.

The 500-watt station is on the air from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., but Collins

says that KDHN has received authority from the FCC to stay on 24 hours a day when they are ready for it.

"We can stay on later than 8 p.m. now if there is severe weather or any kind of emergency," Collins says.

The directional station can be heard as far west as Portales and other areas of Eastern New Mexico, and as far east as 15 miles east of Tullia.

KDHN's network affiliations include the Texas State Network, Dallas Cowboys, and Voice of Southwest Agriculture.

Volunteers start first fire departments

(Editor's note: the following information came in part from articles printed in the *News*, and from *The Holy Family Parish, the first 75 years*).

With the completion, in early June of 1930, of the city pump station, Dimmitt secured its first organized fire department.

The 26x40-foot brick building, which faced east on 5th Street, housed the fire truck, the city water pump, and a supply and repair department for the municipal water

system. It also provided sleeping space for two firemen.

About two months later, a shrill sound pierced the every-day lull in Dimmitt when the fire siren sounded for the first time — a trial run for the newly-wired apparatus.

However, the next blast signaled an actual fire.

On Aug. 4, 1930, a large car caught fire, but seems the firefighters were well on the way before the siren sounded.

A month later, two crews and officers were elected to the new organization.

First Crew
Truck Drivers—C.B. Nabors; and assistants, C.O. Wright, Dock Dunlap and Bill Easter.

Hose Men—Bob Allen, Hez Wright, Chas. Miller, Roy Brown, Ladder men—L.D. Parker and Thos. F. Bice

Plug Men—Dock Dunlap and Bill Easter.

Second Crew
Hose Men—Andrew Elder, Chas Hastings, S. Cruse, Goodwin Miller

Ladder Men—Chas. Wilson and Ray Sheffy
Plug Men—Wade Dent and Ray Cowser

Officers
Fire Chief: J.C. Stringer
Assistant: Ernest Medkief
Secretary/Treasurer: T.F. Bice
Fire Marshall: Geo. Barnett

After years of supporting the Dimmitt Fire Department, volunteers in Nazareth formed their own department.

A 1958 *News* article mentioned the "new" fire department, but other records list April 1961 as the department's organization date. Carl Dean Kleman was elected the first fire chief; Cecil Hoelting was elected secretary-treasurer.


The Hart Fire Department's beginnings are somewhat sketchy.

A 1954 *News* article mentioned a fire at Hart Grain to which the Dimmitt and Olton fire departments responded.

Then, another *News* article in 1958 mentioned the Hart Fire Department responding to a fire at the Hart elevator.

"There's been one (fire department) here as long as I've been here," said Joe Bailey, Hart Mayor, who said he's lived in Hart for 32 years.

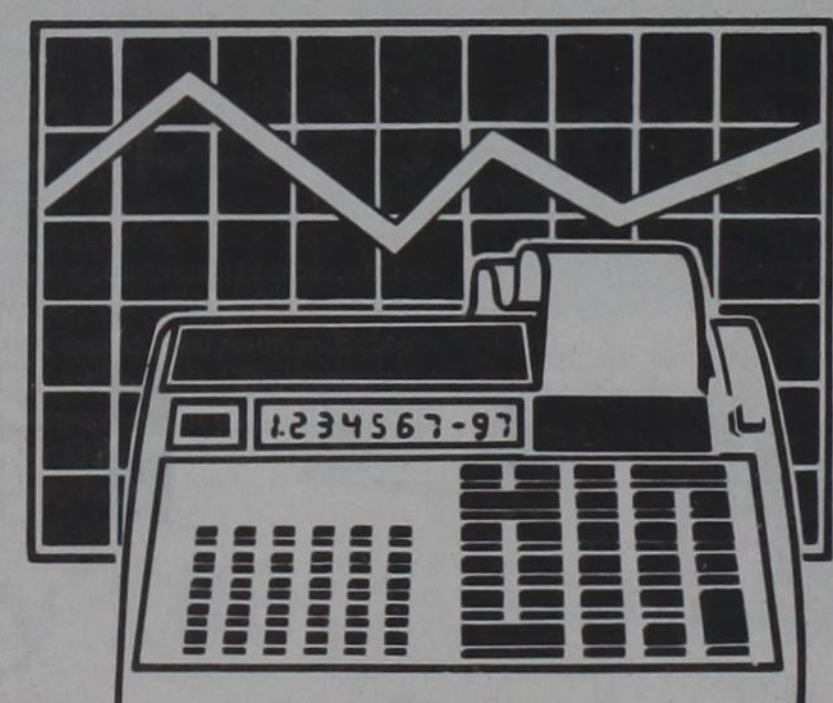
The departments have grown from meager beginnings — each fire department started with one fire truck — to form a combined county-wide protection system with more than 10 units and 50 volunteers.



My family, staff and I have enjoyed working with the citizens of Castro County the last 10 years.

Congratulations on your Anniversary!

Robert Lindsey, D.D.S.
ORTHODONTIST
2801 W. 24th, Plainview • 293-9491
Dimmitt • 647-3145




WE'RE COUNTING on the next 100 YEARS to be as prosperous as the last.

This community has come a long way since its beginning in 1891, and will continue to grow into the next century.

We're proud to have been a part of the history of our town and county since 1973.

Danny P. Lewis, C.P.A.
201 E. Bedford, Dimmitt • 647-5101
Sandra Lewis and Beth Cook



Plains Memorial Hospital has 'clean bill of health'



HOSPITAL BARRACKS—This building housed the first Plains Memorial Hospital in 1964. It was made from the old hospital barracks building which was at the Hereford Prisoner of War Camp in Castro County. *File Photo*

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the *Castro County History, Vol. 1*, and the Aug. 27, 1987 and May 24, 1990 issues of the *News*.)

Plains Memorial Hospital has faced the same challenges that have closed down other rural hospitals throughout Texas, and won.

Overcoming economic problems that have plagued it throughout the years, PMH was given a clean bill of health in 1990.

Since its inception as a private hospital in 1933, PMH has risen time and again to the need of Castro County citizens, despite these financial problems.

Shortly after the hospital was established by Dr. Mayes Miller on the second floor of the old First State Bank Building, Dr. R. E. Cogswell joined Miller as an associate. Cogswell bought out Miller's interest in the hospital in early 1945.

That spring, a group of men formed a board to establish a non-profit cooperative hospital in Dimmitt. By December, they had purchased the Cogswell Hospital. The hospital was renamed Plains Memorial Hospital.

In 1946, the cooperative bought new buildings for the hospital from the POW camp in Hereford. These buildings were relocated on lots 1-17 in block 2 of the Wanona addition in 1947.

The cooperative hospital became a county hospital in 1953 after a bond issue passed by a narrow margin, and its name was changed briefly to Castro County Hospital.

In 1960, a bond issue provided \$225,000 to construct a new building. However, to qualify for federal matching Hill-Burton funds for the construction, Castro County had to form its own hospital district separate from its then three-county district.

It took two more years and an amendment to the Texas Constitution for Castro County to get its own hospital district. Voters from around the state gave their approval to the formation of the Castro County Hospital District on Jan. 12, 1963.

The new hospital was finished a little over a year later complete with the most modern equipment.

A \$135,000 bond issue in 1968 allowed for the addition of a new 20-bed wing and an LVN classroom to the hospital which was completed in 1970. A flu outbreak in 1972 proved the necessity of the new wing. Of the 48 beds in the hospital, only two remained unoccupied.

The last of the hospital bonds were scheduled to be paid off by 1980.

In addition to new medicines and technologies for saving lives, modern medicine included the complications of insurance, Medicare, Medicaid and indigent health care. As a result of these and other financial considerations, the Castro County Hospital District Board was forced in 1987 to increase its tax rate by 239.48%, from 10.65 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to 35 cents.

Hospital administrator Joe Stevens took over the position just before the tax increase in 1987. Under his direction, the hospital's financial condition had stabilized by 1990.

Stevens credits the cooperation of the staff, the doctors, the larger hospitals' support, and, most of all, the people of Castro County for PMH's survival.



LVN training school once supplied county with nurses

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information for this story was obtained in part from the *Castro County History, Vol. 1*.)

By KATHLEEN LATHAM

The vocational nurse program at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt has supplied more than 90% of the nurses for the hospital, nursing home and doctors' offices over the years, according to A'llan Bradley, Director of Nursing at Plains Memorial Hospital.

"Without the LVN program training local women who would stay here to work, we would not have been able to staff the hospital or meet the needs of the nursing home and local doctors," Bradley said. "Plains Memorial Hospital has supplied the county with nurses."

More than 100 nurses were trained under the vocational nurse program over the years. The vocational nursing school was a 12-

month program for the students. After they finished the program, they still had to pass the state exam to become a licensed vocational nurse, Bradley said.

Plains Memorial Hospital first sponsored the LVN training program in 1966. PMH was a tax-based entity supported under the county hospital district which paid for the school with the help of students' tuition.

Four students were graduated from the first class: Leola Rials, Refugio Nino, Kay Sharon Freeman, and Rosalee (Neal) Gallagher. Nino still works at the nursing home.

PMH owned and operated the school until the 1981-82 school year. The school was closed that year and reopened for the 1982-83 school year under the control of Amarillo College's Vocational School of Nursing. The program was known as the Dimmitt Extension.

The program under Amarillo College continued through the 1986-87 school year before it was discontinued.

"There were two reasons why the school closed," Bradley said. "There was not enough demand to make the program financially stable, and they needed a minimum of eight students, and only four or five would sign up."

There are no immediate plans to restart the school, Bradley said.

"If there was a need and it could be financially stable enough, it might start up again," Bradley said.

Bradley cautioned that it would be costly to start up the program, perhaps as high as \$30-\$40,000.

The first teacher was Mary Baldrige who taught until 1969. Other teachers over the years included: Kathy Lyndley, Marian Lee, A'llan Bradley, Mitzie Brockman and Barbara Keel.

Congratulations to Castro County on your 100th year!

When you're ready to slow down and relax after all the celebrating, REMEMBER US!

HEREFORD TRAVEL CENTER

119 E. 4th St., Hereford
364-6813

Building A Bigger And Better Castro County . . . Since 1947 . . . 44 Years



From left: Gilbert Rincon, Joe Woetovech, Leticia Carraco and Bobby Reed.

The Harris Lumber Co. was founded by A. J. Harris and his wife, Willie Maude Teurman Harris.

In the early days, lumber companies followed the laying of railroads to the growing towns along the line. Mr. Harris had worked for the Burton-Lingo Lumber Co. along the Katy Railroad lines, and helped build the first lumber sheds for the Fulton Lumber Co. when the Santa Fe Railroad extended its line from Canyon to Plainview in 1906.

After managing the Rockwell Brothers & Co. lumber yard at Kress eight years, Mr. Harris returned to Tulia to begin his own business.

The present Harris Lumber Co. in Tulia was built in 1919. It was operated as "A.J. Harris, Lumberman," changed to "A.J. Harris & Sons" in the early 1940s, and became a full partnership with his two sons, James T. and Edward L., in 1947. This same year, the company opened the new yard in Hart. In 1952, C.L. Harris bought into the business; he sold his interest to Ed and Jim a few years later.

Ed Harris managed the yard in Hart from the time it was built in 1947 until 1970. Since that time, Bob Reed has served as manager. It has been a busy and fast 44 years.

The Harris Lumber Co. has been a part of Tulia, Hart, Swisher and Castro County for 72 years. We have had the pleasure of raising our families here, and look forward to the continued growth of this productive area and its people.



Proud to be a part of Castro County's 100th Anniversary!

Ed Harris Lumber Co.

501 Broadway, Hart

938-2183

Nazareth Post Office now housed in its own 'home'

In the late 1890s and early 1900s it was difficult for residents in the newly-settled community of Nazareth to communicate with the outside world using the mail service, but a type of service did exist.

After being housed in stores, a blacksmith shop and various homes in and around Nazareth, the post office finally has a permanent "home"—its own building at 101 St. Joseph Street in Nazareth.

As early as 1893, Billy Wynne delivered mail to the home of A.V. McCormick in the town of "Wynne," which today is Nazareth.

A few years later McCormick acted as the postmaster and for five years he delivered the mail to Nazareth from Dimmitt. When her husband was away from home, Mrs. A.V. (Frances) McCormick made the drives to Dimmitt in the buggy to get the mail. On March 6, 1903, she was installed as the first official postmaster for the settlement; however, she didn't serve long.

Louise Ther became the second postmaster for Nazareth on June 27, 1903, and a room in her home served as the post office and mail service was provided Monday through Saturday.

Herman Heidgerken opened a store which doubled as a dwelling place and in 1905, the post office was relocated to his store and he became the postmaster on May 24.

Bernard Heidgerken was named the postmaster on July 20, 1906.

Stephen Hoelting bought Heidgerken's store on Jan. 6, 1910, and he became the new postmaster that day.

Three years later, on Jan 4, 1913, Anton Thier was sworn in as postmaster; then Godfrey Binzegger's Blacksmith Shop became the site of the post office. Binzegger was appointed postmaster on Jan. 19, 1914.

The "Little Green School House" which had been the first school in Nazareth, was bought by Joe Heidgerken in the early 1920s and the post office was moved from Binzegger's Blacksmith Shop to the old schoolhouse.

Herman Heidgerken returned to his roll as postmaster on Dec. 13, 1922, and served until May 26, 1925, when Joe Heidgerken was appointed to the office.

Construction began on an adobe building and Paul Kern opened it as a grocery store and post office. His wife, Clara, was named the postmaster on Sept. 27, 1927.

Joe Warren moved the post office back into his store in 1944 and his wife, Rose, was named the postmaster of Nazareth on Oct. 17, 1945. Joe was sworn in as a clerk and he helped run the service. Rose retired in June 1973, and in September Joe was sworn in as chief of the office.

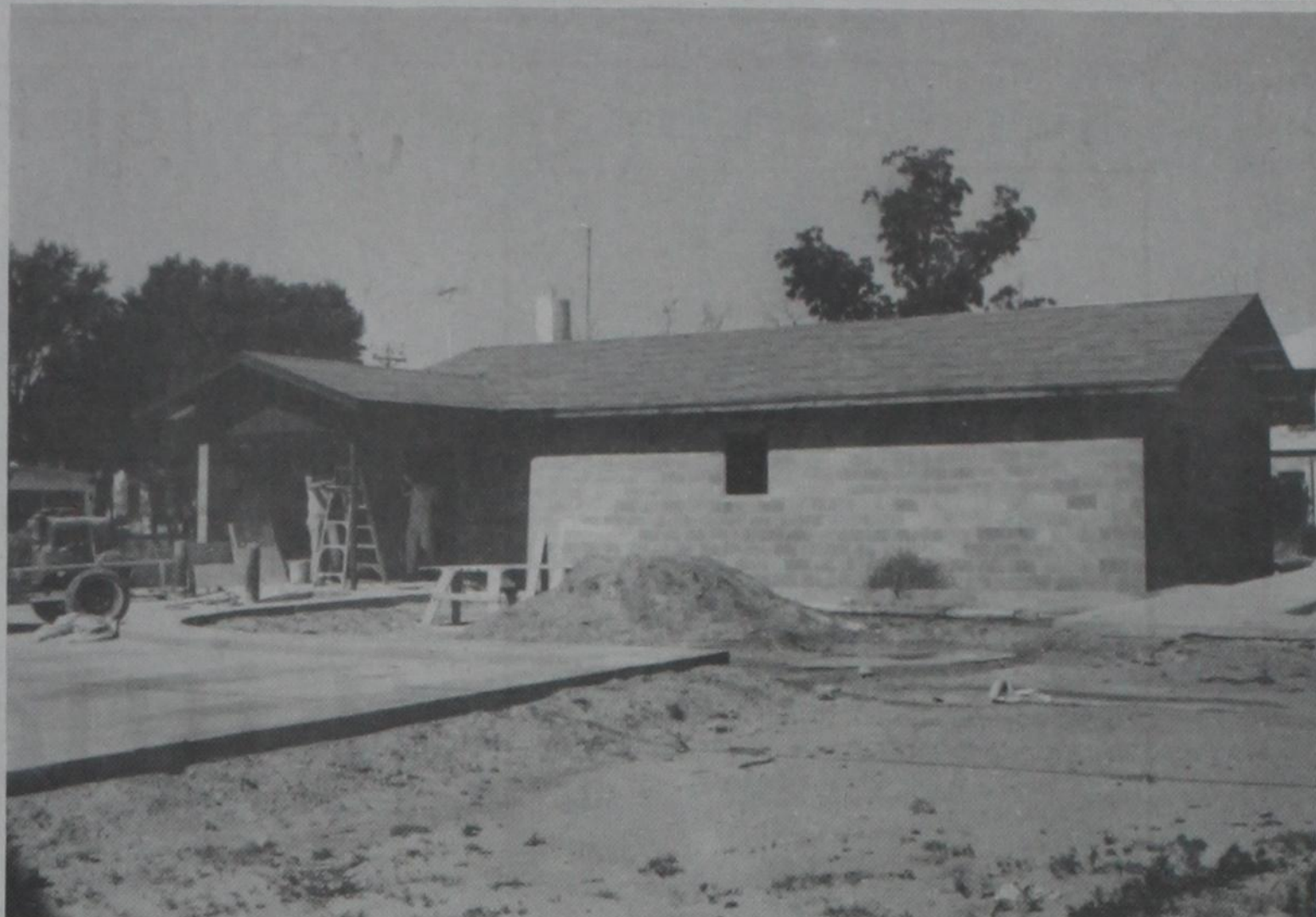
Katherine Acker-Birkenfeld was appointed as clerk at that time.

Joe died in May 1974 after serving nine months, and a clerk from Earth, Beedie Welch, was installed as OIC until another postmaster could be appointed.

That occurred on Sept. 14, 1974, when Mary Harlan of Skellytown was declared postmaster. She transferred back to Skellytown on July 31, 1976 and Birkenfeld was installed as OIC. She was officially appointed as postmaster on June 4, 1977. Stephanie Dobmeier was hired as clerk.

In September 1980, a new post office building was constructed at 101 St. Joseph Street (on the corner of First Street and St. Joseph Street). It is the first time in the history of the Nazareth Post Office that the business was contained in its own building. When the new office was completed, Birkenfeld was still serving as postmaster and Angela Acker was employed as a postmaster replacement clerk.

After eight years of serving as postmaster, Birkenfeld resigned and Dobmeier returned to Nazareth to serve as OIC. On Aug. 31, 1985, Dobmeier was officially sworn in as postmaster and she remains postmaster today. Acker is currently serving as replacement clerk.



ALMOST FINISHED — This photo was taken during the construction of the new Nazareth Post Office in 1980, just two weeks prior to its completion. The new post office was five times larger than the old one, which was located in Home Mercantile.

The new facilities included a lobby, service lobby to buy stamps and money orders and a vestibule for mail. Once the post office moved to its new location, then Postmaster Kathy Birkenfeld kept the business open later for convenience.

Dimmitt Post Office is 100 years old

When people complain about their mail service today, they should be thankful instead. After all, before the first post office was established here 100 years ago, Dimmitt residents waited on their mail for weeks at a time.

The Dimmitt mail service has come a long way since then; however, and now offers many time-saving servicing including an express mail service which can get mail and letters across the country overnight, and it celebrated its 100th birthday on Jan. 10.

More than 100 years ago, on Jan. 10, 1891, Thaddeus M. Belsher was appointed as the first postmaster of Dimmitt and worked from a post office located in the front of a general mercantile store located on the south side of the square.

Now, in 1991, as it celebrates its 100th birthday, the Dimmitt Post Office is housed in a brick building at 205 SE Second Street and Bill Sava serves as postmaster.

The first postmaster, Belsher, has a Dimmitt street named after him—Belsher Street — and current postmaster, Bill Sava, making a "tongue-in-cheek" observation, said he feels that since "Belsher has had a street named after him for 100 years, it's time the street was re-named after the present postmaster."

Currently, Sava has three Highway Contract Route carriers and four city carriers working under him to get mail to residents six days a week.

That's a far cry from the origination of the mail service here.

The first mail service was by a freight wagon which traveled from Springlake to Amarillo and it was days and sometimes weeks before mail was delivered.

The first post office, in front of a general mercantile store south of the square, was moved to a small building southeast of the present courthouse. It also has been located on the 100 block of West Jones Street before it was moved to its present location.

Sava said the favorite "post office story" is when the post office burned during the time Birdie Neill was postmaster.

"The post office burned the day the new Sears catalogs came to town and Birdie told me 'We were just sick. We need those catalogs for a lot more than shopping,'" Sava related.

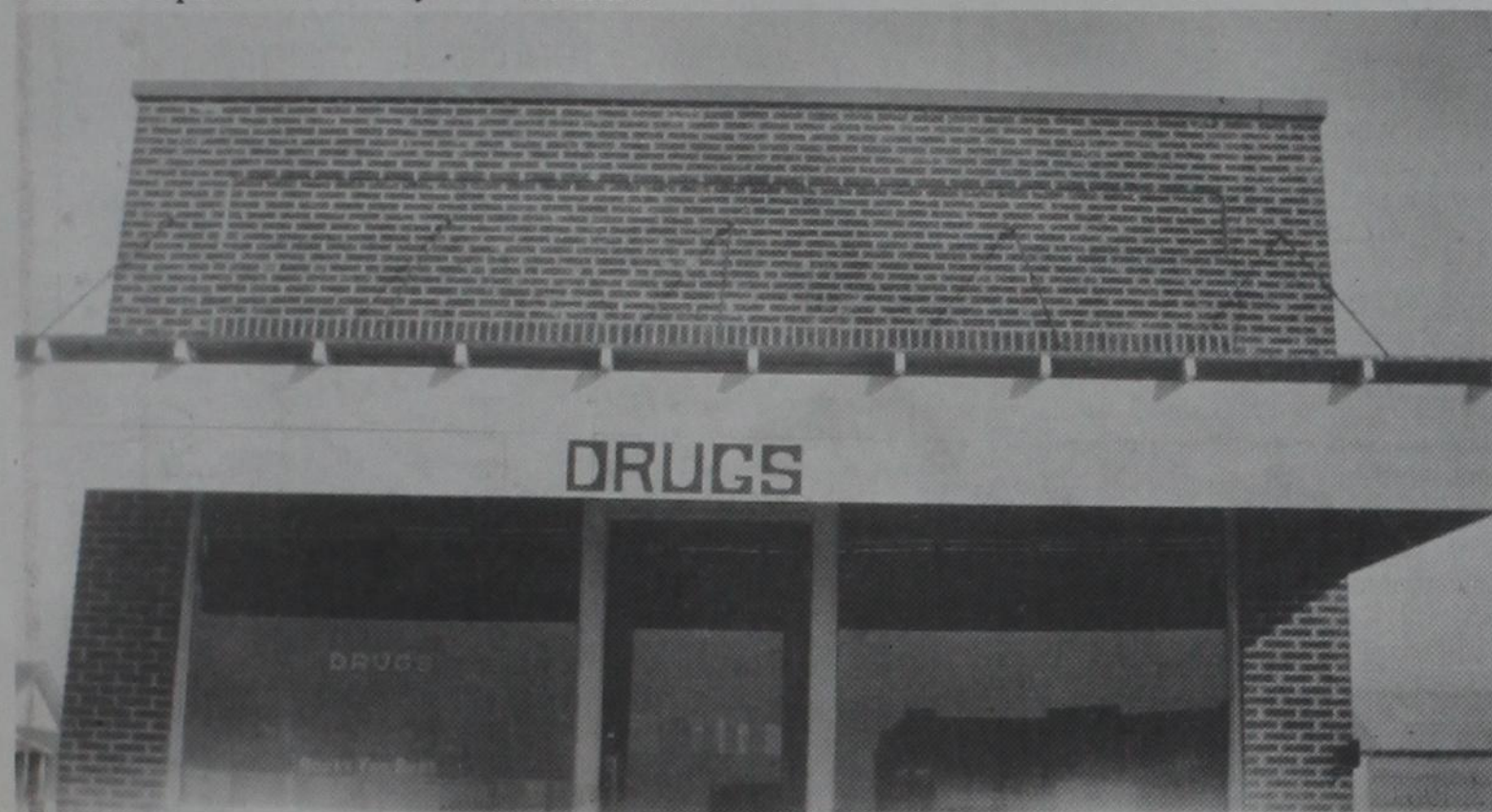
The Dimmitt post office has a colorful history of postal and delivery service which matches the history of the area itself.

W.B. "Buck" Tate served as

pony rider in the early 1900s. Each Tuesday and Thursday he rode with the mail to a point between here and Amarillo known as the Frying Pan Ranch, to meet the Amarillo rider and exchange mail sacks. During one spell of bad weather, he made the trip nine times with the same mail before the Amarillo rider made contact with him. The 1890 census listed nine residents in the county.

The postmasters who have served Dimmitt and the dates of their service include:

Thaddeus M. Belsher	Jan. 10, 1891
Samuel L. Richardson	Oct. 9, 1891
Charles H. Harlan	June 2, 1893
Joseph M. Heflin	July 26, 1897
Eula L. McDonald	April 17, 1899
Lalla R. Hill	Feb. 21, 1902
Helen E. Turner	Jan. 6, 1904
Tooms H. Beach	Dec. 23, 1905
John H. Flanagan	Feb. 27, 1909
William R. Woodburn	March 14, 1910
Kenneth E. Turner	July 17, 1912
Bonnie McPherson	Nov. 16, 1914-Oct. 26, 1917
John H. Flanagan	Oct. 26, 1917-March 21, 1918
Birdie Duree Neill	March 3, 1918-Aug. 9, 1933
C.S. Holland	Aug. 9, 1933-Nov. 16, 1934
Thomas F. Bice	Nov. 16, 1934-June 10, 1942
Maurine Bice (acting)	Nov. 16, 1934-June 10, 1942
Thomas F. Bice	Jan. 1, 1944-Sept. 18, 1959
Tina Rawlings	Sept. 19, 1959-March 9, 1961
Ernest Davis	March 10, 1961-Aug. 18, 1966
John H. Wood	Oct. 7, 1966-Oct. 25, 1974
Bill Sava	Nov. 23, 1974-Present



FORMER SITE OF HART POST OFFICE
... Where Harris Lumber Co. is located today

Homes, stores housed Hart Post Office

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Information about the Hart Post Office history was obtained from Castro County, Texas, 1891-1981.)

The Hart Post Office was established in 1900 in the T.W. Hart home and Mr. Hart served as the postmaster until 1914, when the post office was moved from his home to the Tom Ray General Store.

The store handled staple groceries, binder twine, axle grease and the needed items of the day.

In 1920, C.L. Attaway operated a small general store in "Old Store" on the corner just south of Bob's Farm Store, and he ran the post office in the store until 1927 when Willis A. Hawkins Sr. purchased the store and inherited the job of postmaster.

In 1928, the post office was moved from the store to a section of Bryan's Drug Store, which was located where Ed Harris Lumber

Company is today and Charles C. Reynolds became the new postmaster. Later they moved across the street in the building that housed E.P. Patterson's Barber Shop.

During those days stamps were three cents each and post cards could be mailed for a penny. The postmaster didn't draw a salary, but he or she was paid according to the number of cancellations. Reynolds made between \$70 and \$80 per month during his stint as postmaster.

His son, Floyd Reynolds, was named acting postmaster after his father quit. At that time, mail was delivered from Plainview and Dimmitt by rail and by carrier from Kress. In 1935 and 1936 Floyd carried the mail for Route 2, which was about 62 miles long, until Mr. Flippin took over the Springlake Route and brought the mail to Hart. He made the trips driving an old Chevrolet, and he doesn't remem-

ber missing a day because of bad weather. However, he did get stuck a few times.

Ruby Boston was the next postmistress of the Hart office and during her term stamps were three cents and postcards were a penny, but cancellations had increased to as much as \$135 per month.

Carrie Patterson was named postmaster in 1945 and she served until 1950. Mrs. Glen Maples was named acting postmaster until Herb Williams was hired.

Mrs. Jewell Brooks became postmaster in 1957 and she served until 1977 when Betty Sanders, the present postmaster, took office.

A new post office building was constructed and was dedicated on Aug. 8, 1968. One of the guests present at the dedication was Mrs. Fred Hamm, daughter of T.W. Hart, the first postmaster.

The post office is still housed in that building today.



TOMMY TURNBOW carried mail from Dimmitt to Hereford in this vehicle, providing mail service for early settlers of Castro County. Pictured in this vehicle is the Tommy Turnbow Family. File Photo

It's been a nearly
PUR-R-R-FECT
century

And we're looking forward to serving you well into the next, as we have since 1972.

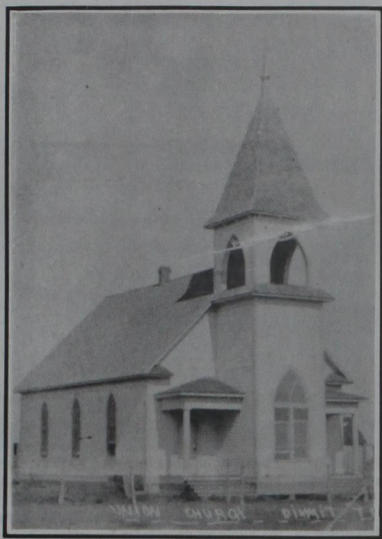
Wright's Auto
S. US 385 647-3227

Happy 100th Anniversary, Dimmitt and Castro County!

We're proud to have served you for many years with our tire balancing and brake service, mufflers, service calls, on farm tire service, and oil changes. Now we plan to bring you more quality service with the addition of Kelly tires to our product line.

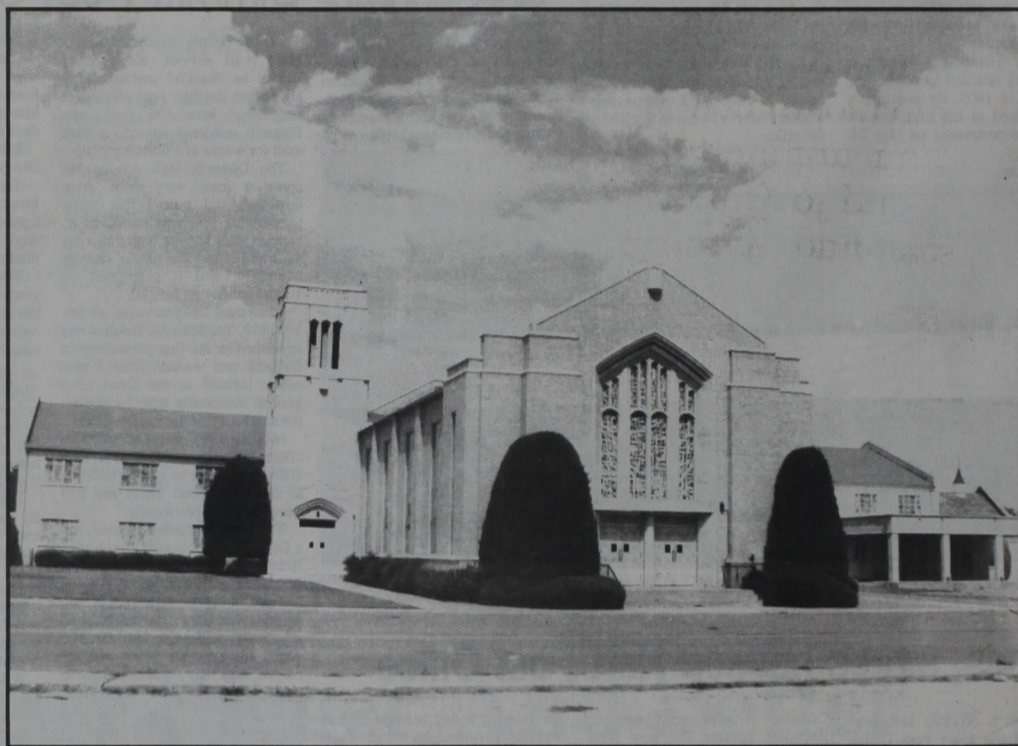
A good deal on a great tire. Kelly Tires
Quality since 1894.

HI-PLAINS OIL CO.
206 SE 2nd, Dimmitt Days: 647-4549, Nights: 647-3431



Where the 'Little White Church' once stood . . .

The First United Methodist Church of Dimmitt stands at the same spot where Dimmitt's original Union Church stood. Our church has carried on the Christian tradition here since 1905, and we are proud that people of all backgrounds still come to the site of "The Little White Church" to find forgiveness, comfort and strength in Jesus Christ.



OUR SOCIAL CREED

We believe in God, Creator of the world; and in Jesus Christ the Redeemer of creation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, through whom we acknowledge God's gifts, and we repent of our sin in misusing these gifts to idolatrous ends.

We affirm the natural world as God's handiwork and dedicate ourselves to its preservation, enhancement, and faithful use by humankind.

We joyfully receive, for ourselves and others, the blessings of community, sexuality, marriage, and the family.

We commit ourselves to the rights of men, women, children, youth, young adults, the aging, and those with handicapping conditions; to improvement of the quality of life; and to the rights and dignity of racial, ethnic, and religious minorities.

We believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the good of themselves and others, and in the protection of their welfare in so doing; in the rights to property as a trust from God, collective bargaining, and responsible consumption; and in the elimination of economic and social distress.

We dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world, to freedom for all peoples, and to the rule of justice and law among nations.

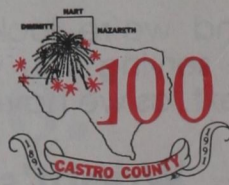
We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs, and gladly accept our commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world.

As our county completes its first century of purpose and commitment, we invite you to join our fellowship, where you can find purpose and commitment in your own life and discover the joy of belonging to a caring church family.

The First United Methodist Church of Dimmitt



Rev. Vernon O'Kelly, Minister





Partners in Progress

During the first 100 years,
progressive Castro Countians have
forged some significant developments.

Here's to the next 100.

American Fructose-Dimmitt, Inc.

Producer of high fructose liquid corn sweetener for the American food industry.
Subsidiary of American Fructose Corp., Division of American Maize Products Co.



Castro County Centennial FAMILIES

1891
◆
1991

The James Beach Family

The James L. Beach family arrived in Dimmitt in the spring of 1891, after a 3 1/2-day trip from Amarillo.

They found a sleepy little town of some two dozen families. Census figures show that Dimmitt had nine people in 1890, 402 people in 1900.

Most of the families the Beaches saw were living in dugouts, half-dugouts or even covered wagons. This new influx of settlers was a phenomenon to the plains, and the new arrivals were dubbed by cynical cowboys as "nesters." Actually this was the beginning of one of the most

rapid transitions to take place in any area in the world. Small farmers and ranchers, filing on the new land, would quickly replace the "open range" rancher, who grazed his cattle at will.

As the new land owners began to fence the land and put their roots down in one place, the J.L. Beach family was among the first, and many of their descendants would remain to see this so-called "uninhabitable land" become one of the richest farming areas in the United States.

After arriving in Dimmitt,

the Beach clan located their new land and began building themselves homes or shelters. Toombs H. Beach and his wife Julia Ann located their land some five miles from Dimmitt and began digging a dugout in which to live. T. H. is said to have asked an early settler one day, "Does the wind blow this way all the time here?" and the settler replied, "No, sometimes it blows the other way."

On Dec. 9, 1891, T. H. and Julia Ann had their first child, Ollie Mae. In 1892 they built a house in Dimmitt and lived there until 1894, when they joined many others forced to leave the plains because of a long drought. All of the Beach family except Ben, who had been elected County Clerk, left the Panhandle. Three years earlier a group from Dimmitt had gone to Tascosa and presented a petition for Castro to become a county. Later Dimmitt was named the county seat and Ben became the first County Clerk. In later years T.H. served as County Treasurer after having returned with his family to Dimmitt in 1899.

When they returned, the family had grown. Marie Lida Beach had been born Aug. 15, 1896, in and James Carroll Beach was born Nov.

20, 1898, both in Sadler. Earl Toombs Beach was born May 18, 1901, Joe Bailey Beach was born May 15, 1904, and Madella Laura was born March 3, 1911, all in Dimmitt.

Soon after their return, T. H. became a partner with C. F. Kerr in a general mercantile store, selling varied items from groceries to harnesses. Four years later they dissolved the partnership and Beach opened a dry goods and grocery store with the post office located in the back.

At this time a mule buyer, I. S. Richardson moved his family to land near Dimmitt, and his son, Will, began working for T.H. Will began courting Ollie Mae, and later, his father traded his section of land to T. H. for the store, then quickly went broke. The Beaches built a big, two-story house on the newly acquired land.

In their later years, the T. H. Beaches lived near their children in Oklahoma, New Mexico, Plainview and Lubbock. T.H. died July 18, 1950, in Lubbock, and Julia Ann died Feb. 23, 1956, in Lubbock. They were married for 59 years. They are buried in the cemetery at Plainview.

The Bill Birdwell Family

Bill Birdwell, the second child of Bud and Mayme Birdwell, was born in 1926 in Dimmitt. He spent his school days playing football and basketball and managing not to let his studies interfere with his fun.

In 1944, the basketball team went to Austin to play in the state tournament. Bill and his teammates were somewhat in awe of the "huge" Gregory Gymnasium. He was named to the All-State team, and 31 years later his son, Jim, would also play in that gym and be named to the All-State team. This was unusual, in that seldom would a father and then, his son, represent the same school and both be named to the All-State team.

World War II cast a dark cloud over Bill and his classmates in their high school years. After graduating in 1944 Bill enlisted in the Navy and was stationed in San Diego, Calif., until his discharge in 1946.

The G.I. Bill and a full basketball scholarship enabled him to receive a degree from West Texas State College. He began coaching and teaching in Lockney. As Bill would say later, "I taught them all I knew in two years, so I had to quit."

In Lockney he met a fifth grade teacher, Kathryn Norris. After a "whirlwind courtship" of five years, they were married.

In 1956, they moved to Dimmitt. Bill began working for the Dimmitt Gin and Elevator Co., and Kathryn began teaching school. Their son, Jim, was born in 1958.

They lived on Grant Street, where life was very pleasant. Bill

and Jim did the usual father and son things: scouting, playing Little League and Pony League baseball and Little Dribblers basketball. Kathryn was busy being den mother, room mother and Sunday School teacher, along with teaching in the public school.

The family has many memories of happy times spent with neighbors and friends both from church and school.

Many times a camping trip was the highlight of summer vacation.

Jim's high school days were busy and enjoyable for the family. Jim was active in the youth group of the Methodist Church, the band, basketball and the Honor Society.

In 1975, Jim was a member of the basketball team that won the Class AA state championship. He was valedictorian of the 1976 graduating class. His education was interrupted for several years for him to receive therapy for a juvenile stroke suffered a few weeks before he graduated. In 1983, he received an associate degree in drafting and design from Amarillo College, graduating with honors. He worked at American Fructose as a drafter for three years.

In 1986, Jim and Wendy Downing were married and moved to Sikeston, Mo. In 1989 and in 1991 they enabled Bill and Kathryn to become doting grandparents to Courtney Hannah and Eli Grady.

Bill retired in 1989, after 31 years as manager of North Gin. The two now spend many weeks a year in their motor home, mostly spoiling their two grandkids.

The Ed Brockman Family

Ed Brockman was born in 1901 and Agnes Vendhaus was born in 1906 in St. Stephens, Neb. They moved to Nazareth as small children in 1907 and 1908, respectively, arriving in Tulia by train. By coincidence or plan, their families settled within two miles of each other across the prairie.

Sadly, when Ed was 19, his father was killed by lightning, and when Agnes was 18, her mother died of pneumonia. Consequently, both helped raise their younger siblings. They married in 1926.

In spite of very few years of formal schooling, they were skilled in carpentry and remodeling. Ed supervised the "house raising" of many area homes, and most of these are still in use today. In 1941 he tore down the old two-story Vendhaus home, and built a more modern home for his family.

They farmed south of Nazareth and raised Hereford cattle. Agnes was noted for her large gardens, and sold many fresh eggs and cream to supplement their income.

Active in civic and church work, Ed served on the school board, church council, county committees and fraternal organizations.

Agnes chaired church and civic organizations. Interested in politics, they opened their home as the election polling place for south Nazareth for many years.

Their home was a welcome

stop for friends, neighbors and strangers alike, and all were invited to stay and eat.

Ed died of heart disease in 1961, and Agnes, now 85, resides in Canterbury Villa in Dimmitt.

Their seven children are Jerome, born in 1928, married to Margaret Ann Schacher and living in Nazareth; Regina, born 1929, married Ralph Steffens (deceased) and living in Nazareth; Rita, born 1931, married George Book, living in Bluffton, Tex.; Irene, born 1934, married James Wilhelm, living in Nazareth; Cyril, born 1936, married to Mitzi Conrad, living in Nazareth; Tom, born 1940, married Pat Norris, living in Friona; and Phil, born in 1945, married Judy Schulte, living in Lazbuddie.

There are 49 grandchildren and 59 great-grandchildren.

This advertisement taken from the October 10, 1944, issue of the *Castro County News*.

1901-1944 FORTY-THREE YEARS OF SERVICE

E. B. Black Co.

FURNITURE AND UNDEDTAKING
PROMPT AMBULANCE SERVICE
WE NOW OFFER \$150 CASH BURIAL
INSURANCE AT LOW COST

HEREFORD, TEXAS

The Ralph Steffens Family

Ralph Steffens was born in Slaton, in Lubbock County, in 1925, the third son of John H. Steffens and Ida Schilling Steffens. Regina (Brockman) Steffens came four years later, in 1929, the daughter of Ed Brockman and Agnes Vendhaus Brockman. Ralph grew up in the Slaton area until adulthood, and Regina was raised on farms around the Nazareth area.

Ralph and Regina married on May 4, 1949. After marriage they located on a farm northeast of Dimmitt, where they raised milo, cotton, wheat and other feed grains. Cattle were also raised in addition to other crops. They sold Grade C milk and eggs for extra income. Mr. Steffens also engaged in custom harvesting of cotton and milo. A flock of laying hens were raised, and many eggs were "peddled door-to-door" in Dimmitt.

The couple had eight children: Jane Steffens Anderson, a registered nurse working in Canyon, born in 1956; Judy Steffens Brox, a teacher living in Amarillo, born in 1958; Rosemary, a nurse's aid working at Canterbury Villa, born in 1960; John, who is a digital switch operator for Northern Telecom in St. Louis, Mo., born in 1961; Edward, who lives in Dimmitt and drives an 18-wheeler, born in 1964; William, who works for Affiliated Wholesale in Amarillo, born in 1967; and Barbara, a registered nurse who lives in Amarillo and works for High Plains Baptist. Another son, an infant Ralph Michael, died in 1957.

Mr. Steffens passed away in 1973. Regina and the children stayed on the farm for five more

years, then sold the farm and moved to Nazareth. Regina resides there now with one daughter and works at Canterbury Villa in Dimmitt. She has resided all her life around Nazareth and Castro County.

Built by Harry Kleman in the 1950s, Nazareth Shamrock and Nazareth Oil & Gas were taken over by Harry's son, Walter, in 1968. He continued operation of both establishments for a while, but the Shamrock Station was eventually closed. Walter's wife, Georgie, is still the owner of Nazareth Oil & Gas, and continues to offer quality products and friendly service.

We wish
Castro County
a Happy
100th Birthday.

**Nazareth
Oil & Gas**

945-2545



Manager Mark Johnson, Gloria Hinojosa, Cecilia Ontiveros, Mary Ann Ruiz, Martha Martinez, Pat Pugliese, Renea Harman

**Congratulations
Dimmitt and
Castro County!**

Wishing you the best for another 100!

**Dairy
Queen**

706 S. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt
647-3405

The James Wilhelm Family

James Wilhelm was born in 1930, and Irene ("Chunky") Brockman was born in 1934 in their family homes in Nazareth.

After high school graduation, James started farming, but was drafted in 1951, and was stationed with the U.S. Army in Korea during the Korean War. Chunky worked in Tulia until James was discharged, and they married in 1953. James has farmed and ranched since.

He has been active in community work including the Lions Club, church council, school board and the American Legion. He was also president of the Running Water Soil Conservation District. Chunky enjoys art work, gardening and sewing, and has worked with the Legion auxiliary, church and school organizations, and Pro-Family Forum.

The have nine children and 18 grandchildren. Their children are:

Juanita, born in 1953 and married to Charlie Barker. She works with the state government in Austin.

Vickie, born in 1954 and married to Paul Chester. She lives in Midland and is a special education teacher.

Mary Lynn, born in 1955 and married to David Olvera. She lives in Nazareth and teaches at Hart Elementary School.

Angie, born in 1957 and living in Amarillo, where she manages a restaurant.

Tim, born in 1959 and married to Monica Friemel. He lives and farms near Nazareth.

Evelyn, born in 1960 and married to John Rankin. She works for USAA Insurance Co. in San Antonio.

Dale, born in 1962, lives and farms at Nazareth.

Jeanie, born in 1965 and married to Clyde Birkenfeld. They live in Nazareth and she teaches at Hart High School.

Shawn, born in 1969, attends Texas Tech. After graduating in August, he will work in Houston as an electrical engineer.

CENTENNIAL MOMENT: On July 4, 1983 and 1987, Historical Markers were placed on the courthouse square in Dimmitt.



THE JAMES WILHELM FAMILY—Seated, from left, Jeanie Wilhelm Birkenfeld, Irene "Chunky" Wilhelm, James Wilhelm and Evelyn Wilhelm Rankin; and standing, from left, Vickie Wilhelm Chester, Juanita Wilhelm Barker, Tim Wilhelm, Dale Wilhelm, Shawn Wilhelm, Mary Lynn Wilhelm Olvera and Angela Wilhelm.

The R.E. Hendrix Family

Robert Estell and Mary Edna Hendrix and their two daughters, Mary Lynn and Sue, moved to Dimmitt from Amarillo in April, 1949. They bought the Dimmitt Implement Company and operated it until Mr. Hendrix died in 1961.

He had been active in his church and community. He belonged to the Lions club, was president of the Chamber of Commerce, was secretary of the Dimmitt School Board, taught a Sunday School class, and was secretary of the deacons of the First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Hendrix has been active in the First Baptist Church, as well. Some of her responsibilities include teaching a Sunday School

class, pianist for a children's choir, leader for the Sunbeams, and a member of the church choir. There were also school activities, such as being room mother for her daughters' classes and a band booster. She also was a Brownie and Girl Scout leader.

Both daughters attended Dimmitt Schools and were active in band, speech, and other school organizations. They were also active in their church, belonging to Sunbeams, G.A.'s, YWA's and choir, and were pianists for church services.

Mary Lynn graduated in 1959, and married Bill Lankford of Tulia. They have one son, Kevin, and

a daughter, Lauren. Kevin married Neely Stafford, and they have three children, Adria, Matt and David. Sue graduated in 1965, and worked in the First State Bank for two years. She married David Vaughan. They had one daughter, Shannon, who was killed in a car wreck when she was 15, and one son, Brent. Later they adopted a daughter, Kristin.

Mrs. Hendrix managed the Dimmitt Implement for five years, worked as a receptionist for Lee Real Estate, was County Librarian for five years, and has been curator for the Castro County Museum for five years. She writes "On the Go" for the Castro County News.

"If We Can't Fix It, Throw It Away"

Your mechanical troubles are our business. We are prepared to keep your farm machinery running efficiently. See us for any kind of repair work.



WENCH TRUCK WORK
OF ALL KINDS

**REUBENS WELDING AND
MACHINE SHOP**

*Happy
100th Anniversary
Castro County!*

We've hauled your goods since 1962, and we appreciate your patronage. We look forward to serving you in the future.



**Braafladt
Transport Co.**
Dimmitt

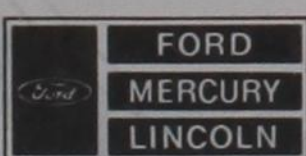
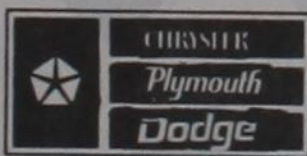
We're proud to serve our customers and friends in Castro County and we offer our congratulations to Castro County on your 100th Anniversary.



**Whiteface
Ford-Chrysler**

Hereford

364-2727



Hours:
8-7, Monday-Friday
8-7, Saturday



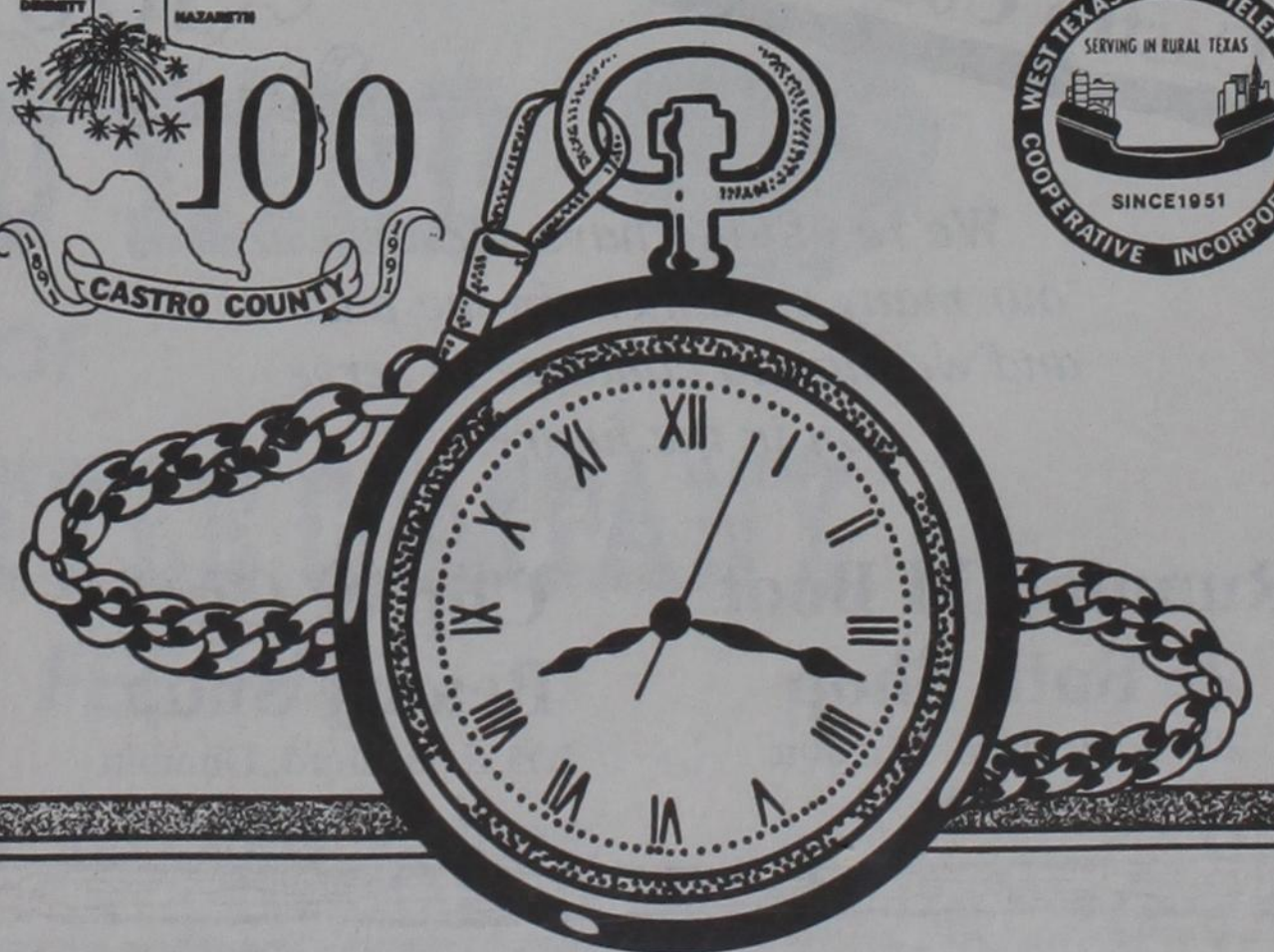
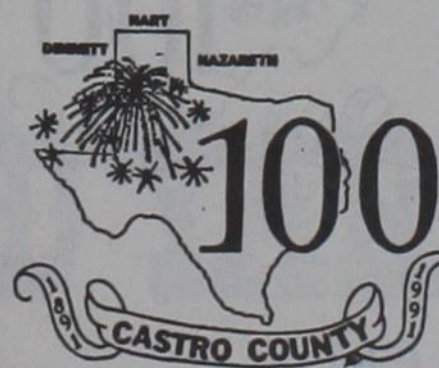
It's Time to Celebrate!

It's not every year a county achieves a century of history.

So we want to say
**Congratulations
Castro County**
and thanks to our customers
who allow us to serve them.

**West Texas Rural
Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**

Hereford



The Jimmie Rawlings Family

Jimmie (James C.) and Tina Sorelle Rawlings moved to Dimmitt on Nov. 14, 1936. They had two daughters, Patricia and Carolyn Rose, both of whom graduated from Dimmitt High School. Patsy and Carolyn both attended the University of Texas in Austin, and received diplomas from UT.

Jimmie and Tina moved here from Shamrock. Jimmie was born in Brandenburg, Ky., and raised in Kansas City and St. Louis. He was in the sheep business in Shamrock when they married.

Tina was born in Waco and raised primarily in Clarendon. She attended college in Galesburg, Ill., and had just finished school when she met Jimmie in Shamrock. They were married in 1922. Patsy was born in Canadian, and Carolyn, in Amarillo.

In addition to owning and operating the hotel here ("The first time I had ever been in business of any kind, and the first time either of us had been in the hotel business"), they were involved in other businesses in Dimmitt through the years. He started Rawlings Insurance Agency in an office in the hotel. She owned and operated Dimmitt Drug (where Kittrell Electronics is now located.)

Jimmie died in February, 1977, "the coldest day in history—snow, ice, wind, everything." Tina served 18 months as Dimmitt postmaster during the Eisenhower administration. She continued to operate the hotel until 1978, and sold it in 1981.

At first the couple owned a home on Front street, which was unpaved, on the west edge of the original town of Dimmitt. Later, they moved into the hotel. She now lives in the Ruskin Apartments.



THE MAYFIELD BROTHERS—each played two or three musical instruments and entertained family and friends. From left: Arlie (Smokey) of Spearman, James of Lordsburg, N.M., Herb of Dimmitt, and Rufus (Slim), who is deceased.



MAYFIELD CHILDREN—from left: Tom, Lorina and Herbert. Tom, Lorina and Reuben are deceased. Curtis, Arlie, Reuben, Louie Golloway of Dalhart

The J.M. Birdwell Family

J.M. (Buddy) Birdwell was born July 19, 1903, near Loving, Young County, Texas. His family moved to Oklahoma and spent five years, then moved back to Loving.

In the summer of 1918, he met Mayme Evelyn Hawkins, who was born Aug. 16, 1903, at Loving. They had lived within ten miles of each other, but had never met, as they attended different schools. They were married July 21, 1923, and lived on a farm in the Indian Mound Community near Graham.

On July 15, 1924, a son, James Kent, was born. In October, 1925, they moved to Castro County to help an uncle, George H. Webb "hand head" his maize crop.

In January, 1926, the Birdwells moved to Dimmitt, and Bud went to work for Castro County, grading roads. On Sept. 26, 1926, another son, Willis Neal (Bill) was born.

Bud worked at a service station for a year, then worked for W. E. Kirkpatrick driving a gasoline transport truck from Borger to Dimmitt and places in New Mexico during the week, and working at Kirkpatrick's service station on weekends.

On Feb. 3, 1929, a daughter, Bobby Ruth, was born. Bud continued working for Mr. Kirkpatrick until Dec. 1, 1941, then worked at the Courthouse until Dec. 1, 1942, when he took over the Gulf Wholesale dealership. Gasoline rationing began at the same time, and his commission check for December \$17.

At the time the family first moved to Dimmitt, they lived with Mayme's uncle, Bill and Ruby Webb, for three months, then in the old Hyatt Hotel for a short time before renting a house. In 1934, they bought a house in east Dimmitt and lived there during the "dirty thirties" when the sandblow so badly that you could not tell what color the bedspread was.

Mayme recalls one day when she went to Artie Cone's house to plan

an Easter party for Melba and Bobby Ruth's school class. She had left all the sand in her house, and Mrs. Cone had cleaned hers. Mayme went home and tried to sweep the dirt from her house, as they could not afford a vacuum cleaner. It did very little good, as it came another sand storm the next day.

Another incident she recalls is going to Portales with Floyd and Nell Copeland to get tomatoes, pulling a flatbed trailer with no springs. They got 13 bushels, and by the time they got home the tomatoes were so bruised that they had to work all night canning tomatoes to juice.

In September, 1945, the Birdwells moved their house to 409 W. Bedford, where it now stands on what used to be part of the City Park.

Kent, Bill and Bobby worked through most of their school days. Kent worked for Darsey Drug and Stub Jones. Bill worked for Walter Griffith's grocery store, and Bobby Ruth worked for Stub Jones' drug store. In the early 1940s, Mayme worked for Wilson Grocery before helping Buddy at the "warehouse."

Bobby Ruth and Harlin Dodd were married March 15, 1946; Kent and Mary Jo Tatum were married July 28, 1946, and Bill and Kathryn Norris married July 4, 1958.

Buddy served as mayor of Dimmitt from April, 1959, through April, 1961, and continued to operate the Gulf Wholesale until his death July 12, 1970.

Mayme began china painting lessons from Lurline Smith, Ralph Smith's mother, in 1963 and has enjoyed toll and oil painting since that time.

After surviving two bouts of lymphoma since 1973, she is still active at home and in the First United Methodist Church, looking forward to the "big 88" on Aug. 16.

This advertisement taken from the August 3, 1944, issue of the *Castro County News*.

FRED GOSS
OPTOMETRIST
319 Skaggs Bldg. Plainview, Texas

The Will Mayfields

Will and Neppie Mayfield and their six children, Reuben, Lovie, Lorena, Rufus, James and Herbert, moved to Texas from Erie, Okla., in 1921. Two more children, Arlie and Tom, were born in Dawn.

The family moved to Castro County in the winter of 1931, living five miles southeast of Dimmitt. Each member of the family played two or three musical instruments, and often entertained family and friends.

Tom, the youngest, played in the Grand Old Opra with Bill Monroe from 1952-1958, recording some 25 songs with the Blue Grass Boys. He died of acute leukemia in July, 1958, in Bluefield, W. Va.

James, Arlie and Herb still play, just for personal enjoyment. James and son, Butch, own a ranch at Lordsburg, N. M. Arlie is ranch manager for the Whittenburgs at Spearman, and Herb is a feed lot welder.

The Mayfield family was honored with a tribute at South Plains College in 1989, and music trade magazines still mention Tom from time to time for his outstanding guitar work. The National and International Blue Grass Foundation has recognized the family for their many years of promotion of Blue Grass and old time music.

This advertisement taken from the August 10, 1944, issue of the *Castro County News*.

Dr. R.F. M'Casland
DENTIST
Heard and Jones Building
TULIA, TEXAS

1891
to
1991

It's been
a bloomin'
century!
SO
Let's celebrate!

Seale Florist
647-3554
Carole
Schroeder

**Congratulations
Castro County**

We're glad to have served
our many customers in the past
and we plan to continue to serve
you in the future.

**Running M Boot
& Bath Shop**
205 E. Bedford, Dimmitt
647-4264

**Clip & Curl
Beauty Shop**
205 E. Bedford, Dimmitt
647-4260

**HAPPY
100th ANNIVERSARY
CASTRO COUNTY**

*We're proud to have served the people
of this area since 1985, and look forward
to keeping you healthy in the future.*

**Gary R. Hardee, M.D.
and Cenci**
**Beth, Carole
and Suzan**
103 Front, Dimmitt
647-5162

The Jim and Robertha Bagwell Family

After a long courtship by horse and buggy, Jim Bagwell and Ola Robertha Wood were married Dec. 24, 1916, at Robertha's parents' home in the Harmony Community west of Floydada in Floyd County, Texas. The whole community was invited to their wedding, so Robertha made wedding cake and a washtub full of boiled custard to serve over 100 people. During the first three weeks of their marriage, they lived in a tent that Jim had floored and reinforced with boxing boards to make it comfortable.

On Jan. 8, 1917, they left Floyd County in four wagons (one covered), bringing household goods, farming equipment, feed for the stock, seed for planting, etc., and pulled their buggy behind one of the wagons. They arrived at their new home in the Bethel Community, west of Dimmitt, on Jan. 12. They lived in a two-room house on the two section of land they rented

from Jim's father, J.A. Bagwell, who had purchased the land the previous year. The 50 head of cattle were moved later in May.

Jim cultivated 180 acres with four horses, a one-row lister, one-row slide-go-devil, and a single-row cultivator. The rest was grassland. Their furniture included a four-eye wood stove, round oak dining table, four chairs, iron bedstead, and a piano. Cabinets were made from orange crates. The first three years, water had to be hauled for household use, and the cattle driven to the neighbors', since they had trouble finding a good well on their land. Grains harvested were hauled in wagons to Hereford, until the railroad came to Dimmitt in 1928. Cattle were driven to market at Hereford or Friona.

The original house was replaced with a four-room house in 1925. Christine was born Oct. 5, 1918; Grace Marie was born Jan. 4, 1922;

and J.A. was born May 3, 1927.

During the early years, neighbors were visited by buggy, wagon or sled. The first Model T was bought in 1920, and the first tractor in 1927. The family moved into a new house in 1930. It was built on the quarter along the highway that Jim had bought in 1925. Robert was born here Oct. 12, 1931. This house burned April 1, 1936, but was replaced with a house purchased from John Flanagan in Dimmitt, and moved to sit on the same foundation. LaTrelle was born here Nov. 5, 1939.

The Bagwell family experienced some lean years during the dust bowl and depression years of the 1930s, but never went hungry since they always had milk cows, chickens, hogs, beef, and a good garden.

Everything possible was canned. Clothes, quilts, sheets, pillow cases, aprons, etc., were made from feed sacks and flour sacks. Flour was

milled at Hereford from grains grown on their farm. Robertha was active in the Home Demonstration Club at Bethel, and was always ready to learn better ways of doing things. Cream and egg money provided money to buy the "extras" that couldn't be produced on the farm.

Christine, Grace Marie, J.A., and Robert attended school at Bethel, and all but Robert graduated from Dimmitt High School.

In 1944, the Bagwells sold their farm and bought a ranch at Amistad, N.M., where Jim and J.A. farmed and ranched. Robert and LaTrelle attended school at Amistad, and graduated from Clayton High School.

In 1959, Jim sold out and built a home in Clayton, N.M. In 1960, Jim and J.A. bought a ranch near Salida, Colo. In 1967, Jim and Robertha sold their home in Clayton and bought a home at 1007 Oak

in Dimmitt. Jim continued to ranch in Colorado until 1970, when he and J.A. decided to sell the ranch. J.A. stayed in Colorado, but Jim decided to retire, and once again, he and Robertha were to make their home in Castro County. They were happy to be back near family and friends of earlier years.

Robertha kept busy with many kinds of needlework and crafts, which she shared with her family and friends. Jim enjoyed working in his yard and garden. They were members of the United Methodist church. On Aug. 1, 1987, because of failing health, they moved into Canterbury Villa Nursing Home, where Robertha died on March 26, 1988, at age 92, and Jim died on Oct. 13, 1988, at age 94. They had celebrated 71 years of marriage on Dec. 24, 1987.

Jim and Robertha Bagwell were devoted parents, grandparents, and friends, and went without many

things to provide for their family. They were generous with their love, and shared whatever they had with their family and friends. Their family includes Christine Bell of Perryton, Grace Marie Holland of Midland, J.A. Bagwell of Moran, Wyo., Robert Bagwell of Hazlehurst, Miss., LaTrelle Bagwell of Apple Valley, Calif., nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

— Submitted by Christine Bagwell Bell.


CENTENNIAL MOMENT: Neva Hastings served as Castro County District Clerk from 1952 to 1958.

CENTENNIAL MOMENT: Charles Wesley Slover and his wife, Ferbie Lou, along with their children arrived in Castro County in January of 1898 to live on their claim nine miles east of Dimmitt.



We established our business in 1962 and turned commercial in 1981. We're proud to be a part of Castro County's ag economy.

Our congratulations to the people of Castro County on the observance of its 100th birthday!

H-C HILL FEED YARD 
 A DIVISION OF
HILL LAND AND CATTLE COMPANY
CUSTOM CATTLE FEEDING

938-2156

Owners: Bob Hill, Dennis Hill and Cindy Studdard

HART



H.W. and Oleta Golden

The H.W. Golden

Henry Ward Golden was born in 1905 close to Snyder in Scurry County, and Oleta Oswald Golden was born in 1909 in Bosque County. After high school, Ward went to West Texas State University in Canyon, where he played football, and graduated in 1929.

He became manager of the Panhandle Lumber Co. in Mobeetie, where he met and married Oleta Oswald in 1933. In 1934 they moved to Dimmitt, where he managed the local Panhandle Lumber Co. Later it was sold to Higginbotham-Bartlett

Lumber Co.

Oleta was bookkeeper of the lumber company, working alongside Ward for a number of years. Also in 1934, the Golden's went into debt to buy a 200-acre farm just north of Dimmitt. Ward's dad loaned him money to buy 21 head of cattle to graze on his new farm, thus giving

Ward his start in ranching.

The farm was only the beginning, as Ward became one of the largest farmers and ranchers in Castro and Bailey counties, growing wheat and corn, and raising his favorite, Hereford cattle.

Ward was very civic and community minded. He served as mayor of Dimmitt, and president of the School Board. He was on the City Council, belonged to the Chamber of Commerce and the Lions Club, and helped to organize the Rotary Club. He was also instrumental in starting the Senior Citizens organization, and tried hard to help Dimmitt grow and make it a better place to live.

The Golden's had three sons, Harold, Donald and Ronald. Ward retired from Higginbotham-Bartlett in 1979, but stayed active in farming and ranching until his death in 1985. Oleta moved to Pampa in 1990 to be near her family.

The E.J. Wilhelm Family

Edward J. Wilhelm was born Sept. 19, 1896, in Potosi, Wis. His parents were Frank Wilhelm and Cecelia Drilling. He moved with his parents to Nazareth in 1910. He attended school in Potosi and Nazareth. E. J. had several jobs until he was drafted for service in World War I. While on the military train, he received word that the war was over, so he returned home.

Ed loved to hunt and dance. While at a country dance, he met Margaret Schacher, daughter of George Schacher and Mary Schmitz. Margaret was born on April 18, 1900, in Boone County Nebraska. She moved to Nazareth Feb. 22, 1917. She and E. J. were married May 17, 1921, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth. Their wedding was an all-day celebration, a German custom.

In 1930 E. J. purchased the Bill Dixon farm north of Nazareth. In 1936 a home was built and is still being lived in by one of the sc. s. E. J.'s livelihood was farming, mostly wheat, and running cattle. April 6, 1921, the livestock brand with an "E" on the right side was started and is still being used. The brand was chosen as one of the eleven brands to represent Castro County in the Ani-

mal Science Bldg. at Texas A & M University.

Margaret was educated in Nebraska. She was a homemaker and active in community organizations. Ed and Margaret had seven children, five of whom are still living. They are twins Florine and Francis; Leonard; and twins Jerry and James. Florine married Ernest Brockman in 1945; Francis married Betty Ramaekers in 1948; Leonard married Rosemary Guggemos in 1947; Jerry married Nellie Bradlock in 1954; and James married Irene Brockman in 1953. All of the children made their homes in Nazareth.

Joseph, the eldest, died in infancy. Richard, the youngest, drowned at the age of 2. Other descendants include 41 grandchildren and 60 great-grandchildren.



The Mark Cowsert Family

Matthew Mark Cowsert was born in California and grew up in Kimble County. On March 10, 1897, he married Araminto Almeda Rayner in Junction. He began the study of law and in September, 1908, he took his bar examination in San Antonio.

In a letter to his wife at that time, he told her about the examination saying, "The examination is easy, but very long. . . there are only two of us taking the exam and everything is very pleasant. We come and go as we like and are left entirely by ourselves. The other fellow doesn't know too much law and I have been helping him. . ."

Mark Cowsert moved his family to Dimmitt in August 1909. He described the town as a prospective home for his family in a letter to his wife, dated June 15, 1909.

"The county judge and one commissioner tell me that the county will furnish an office with fixtures and pay me \$25 per month. . . also appoint me county attorney. The town has about 40 people in it and they are all energetic. They have the finest courthouse here that I have ever been in, outside of San Antonio. They are fixing to build a school house to cost \$15,000."

On June 22, he wrote that he had decided to take the court's offer and settle in Dimmitt. He and his wife, Minta, brought their five children to Dimmitt by covered wagon. Those children included Helen, Ruth, Jack, Mary and Ray.

The family first moved into a three-room house southeast of the courthouse; this house was later moved to the site of the present Dimmitt Fire Station. Later, they moved to what was known as the O'Brien place, to the house which is now the Castro County Museum, where they lived for three years. Their daughters, Josephine and Norma, were born during this period. They moved to the house located at 300 Southwest Fourth Street in 1918, where their youngest child, Winnie, was born. This re-

mained the family home until the death of Mark Cowsert in September 1959. That house is located across the street from the present City Park, but at that time, it was the site of the two-story red brick schoolhouse.

At the time that Mr. Cowsert was appointed county attorney for Castro County, it included the area which was later organized into Bailey County. To cover this large territory, he and Sheriff Roy Barber traveled by motorcycle to attend their duties. He practiced law and operated Mark Cowsert, Abstractor.

Mark and Minta celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary surrounded by family and friends. That was on March 10, 1947. Minta died the next year in April.

The Cowsert children and their

spouses and children are:

HELEN married C.B. Killgore. Both are deceased. Their children are Mark, who lives in Dallas; Mary Manire, who lives in Albuquerque, N.M.; and Joe, who lives at the family ranch near Maryneal.

RUTH married Roy E. Haberer and died in 1926, leaving two children, Roger and Phillip, who both live in Earth today.

JACK married Myrna Montgomery. He is deceased and she lives in Dimmitt. They have two children, Carole Farris who lives in Dalhart, and James Mark, who's living in Georgetown.

MARY lives in Houston. Her husband, Charles Schelling, is deceased. Their daughter, Joan, is married to Arthur Few and they live in Houston.

RAY married Louella Thomas and both are deceased. Their daughter, Donna June Morton, lives in Albuquerque, N.M.

JOSEPHINE married Hugh E. Russell, who is now deceased. She lives in Corpus Christi. The couple's children are Ruth, who is deceased; Larry, who lives in Houston; John, who died in Vietnam; and David, who lives in Portland.

NORMA married Harold Gladman, who is now deceased. She lives in Plainview. Their children are Linda, who married Morris Steen and lives near Cloudcroft, N.M. and Gayle, who married Bob Riley and lives in Big Spring.

WILLI LOIS died in 1921 at the age of three years.

The Jimmy Howell Family

Jimmie and Sue Howell were married June 2, 1962, in San Jacinto Baptist Church in Amarillo. Jimmie was born in Castro County Aug. 20, 1934, to Moss and Hattie Howell. Sue was born in Olustee, Okla., Sept. 15, 1939, to Roland and Blon Ward.

Jimmie graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1952, and has been engaged in farming nine miles west of Dimmitt since that time. Sue graduated from Amarillo High School in 1957, and attended West Texas State University, receiving B.B.A. and M.B.A. degrees.

Their three children have all graduated from Dimmitt High School. Kennen James, born Sept. 21, 1965, received a B.S. degree in

engineering from Texas A&M, and is presently employed by American Fructose in Dimmitt. He also is engaged in farming in the Bethel Community.

Kim LeAnn, born March 26, 1967, received a B.S.N. degree from WTSU and works as a registered nurse at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt. She married Dennis Burnam June 6, 1987. Dennis is the son of Carroll and Eileen Burnam, and is employed by Stanford Body Shop. Dustin Dwayne Burnham, the first grandchild of Jimmie and Sue, was born Jan. 18, 1990.

Kelly Moss, born Dec. 21, 1970, is attending Panhandle State University in Goodwell, Okla., where he participates in football and track. Sue is a counselor at Middle School,

and previously taught seven years at Dimmitt High. She also taught at Hereford High School from 1961-1965.

Jimmie and Sue live on the "home place," having moved there when Moss and Hattie moved to Weatherford in 1974. Jimmie farms the "home place," the Ross place across the road, and the "old Sinclair place."

Jimmie and his brother, Jack, bought and farm the Gaines Neill place, and also purchased Grandad Bagwell's home place, where Jack now lives.

Jimmie has served as a County commissioner. The family attends First Baptist Church and is active in the Bethel Community.

This advertisement taken from the March 27, 1952, issue of the *Castro County News*.

GLENN RATCLIFF

CONOCO WHOLESALE

Phone
31

M. W. LEMONS, BURIAL ASSOCIATION

Operated in Connection with
M. W. LEMONS FUNERAL HOME

Plainview, Texas Phone 6
Write For Complete Information

This advertisement taken from the September 15, 1955, issue of the *Castro County News*.

CURRENT DIVIDENDS

50%

(All Covered)

ON AUTOMOBILES INSURED WITH THE

Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co.

CONTACT YOUR AGENT FOR THE ADVANTAGES OF FARM BUREAU LIFE, AUTOMOBILE, & FIRE INSURANCE

Castro County Farm Bureau
E. L. IVEY
General Agent

It's our Anniversary

100 YEARS FOR CASTRO COUNTY!

And we're proud to be a part of the history of this great county, serving you locally since 1946, 708 members strong, working together to obtain the best insurance at reasonable prices.

From left: Donna Snitker, Office Secretary; Bob Anthony, Agent; Kristie Salinas, Secretary; (not pictured) Don Moore, Manager.

Castro County Farm Bureau

304 N. Broadway
Dimmitt
647-5106

We appreciate our friends and customers in Castro County and congratulate you on your 100th Anniversary!

Stevens Chevy-Olds

Hereford • 364-2160



The Joe Guggemos Family

Joe Guggemos and Loretta Kleman were true pioneers in the Nazareth Community. They, along with their parents, overcame many difficulties to help Nazareth and Holy Family Catholic parish become a reality for many generations to come.

Loretta moved with her parents, E.B. (Barney) and Anna Kleman; sister Pauline; three brothers, Art, Harry, Ed and his wife Mary, to Nazareth in November, 1906. The journey was made by train, with all their worldly possessions, from Glandorf, Ohio, where Loretta was born Nov. 19, 1896.

Barney had read about Nazareth in a German newspaper, "Landman." In 1905 he traveled to the Texas Panhandle to see if the land agent, Father Reisdorff, was right about the opportunities of the region. Barney purchased a section of land, located four miles west of the townsite of Nazareth.

When he returned to Ohio, Barney had decided he would like to locate nearer to the townsite. He sold a half section to the Drerups, whose farm adjoined the Kleman farm in Ohio, and sold the other half section to Mr. Reitz.

After selling the land at a profit, Barney, through correspondence, purchased a section of land one mile north and one mile west of the townsite.

Located on this section of land was a two-room shack, which became home for the Kleman family when they arrived from Ohio. The lumber and materials for their new home were hauled from Hereford with a wagon and team of horses. Each trip took two days.

Loretta was attending public school in Ohio, and after moving to Texas, Loretta, Art and Harry attended the parochial school taught by Frank Woelfle. County records show that Woelfle taught 54 students in the school years of 1906 and 1907.

About this time, Charles Guggemos in Minnesota was reading the advertisements in the "Landman" newspaper about the cheap farm land located in the warm climate of Nazareth, Tex.

Charles Guggemos' dream was to have a farm for each of his seven sons, so in the spring of 1907 he visited the area and purchased a half section of land, two miles east and two miles north of the Nazareth townsite.

Charles, his wife Josephine, and their sons, Joe, John, Charlie, Al, Arnold, Greg and Gene, and infant daughter, Josephine, arrived in Tulia by train Nov. 19, 1909, from Winsted, Minn.

The family moved into the Frank Wilhelm house west of town, until their new home was built on their farm. Their daughter, Elizabeth, was born Nov. 12, 1912, in Nazareth. All the other Guggemos children had been born in Winsted, Minn., starting with Joe, the oldest, on Jan. 16, 1891.

Because of several years of crop failure, Joe Guggemos went to Amarillo looking for carpentry work and other odd jobs. He eventually went to work in St. Francis, Tex., as a farm hand for Fred Klinke. Later, Loretta Kleman went to work for the Klinke family, caring for the children and helping in the home.

Mrs. Charles Guggemos' health had deteriorated, and in hopes of providing better living conditions the family decided to return to Winsted in October, 1916.

Joe returned to Nazareth and rented the family farm from his parents. He was the only farmer of



Joseph and Loretta Guggemos
... A wedding portrait

the seven sons. John and Charlie also stayed in Nazareth, and the three brothers threshed, repaired machinery, and worked sod ground for the public, using a steam engine.

John and Charlie were drafted and served their country during World War I. They loaded their possessions onto John's motorcycle and returned to Minnesota in the fall of 1917.

Joe Guggemos and Loretta Kleman were married in Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth Feb. 14, 1917. They began their married life in the home that Joe's parents had built. Joe supplemented his farming income by working as "road boss," first under Sam Allen, then Mr. Burks, and finally, Mr. Lilley, who were the commissioners at that time. The grader was pulled by eight mules, hitched in teams of four.

Joe and Loretta finally purchased a half section of land four miles north of Nazareth from Clements Richwartz in 1930, and took possession of the place Jan. 1, 1931.

The family was very excited and happy to move to their new home. Originally the first church built in Nazareth in 1903, it had been remodeled into a large, two-story house.

Joe and Loretta had many dreams for the future to improve their own place, but their dreams were short lived. On Good Friday, April 3, 1931, Joe was driving a loaded grain truck when he was involved in a train wreck at the railroad crossing on the Dimmitt-Tulia highway, a quarter mile south of the Santa Fe station. Joe was killed instantly.

Loretta continued to live on the farm and raise her nine children. The family worked hard so they could stay together. As the children were old enough to work at other jobs,

they helped support the family. Loretta had a very hard struggle to keep the farm during the depression and "dirty thirties."

Loretta's parents, Barney and Anna Kleman, who were now retired and living in town, helped her through many difficult times. Anna suffered a stroke and died May 4, 1934. The second sorrow to strike the family that year was when Loretta's 3-year-old son Richard died June 23 after a lengthy bout with a blood condition.

But Barney continued to be a shoulder for Loretta to lean on, until he fell and broke his hip. He was bedridden for several months, and died Jan. 26, 1942.

By then the country was involved in World War II. Loretta's sons were in the service, Vincent, in the Army, and Leonard, in the Navy. She decided to sell the farm and take the job of managing the new lunchroom program in the school system.

She moved into her new home in Nazareth in December, 1944, and continued as lunch room manager until 1958. Most of the school children called her "Grandma Guggie." They spent their spare time in the lunchroom, trying to "con" her out of cookies.

In her later years, she kept busy quilting, tating, crocheting and sewing doll clothes for her grandchildren. She also spent many hours caring for her flowers and garden.

In January, 1971, her health started failing rapidly, and on Dec. 23, 1971, she died of a cerebral-vascular hemorrhage.

Today Joe and Loretta's family live on through their children:

The Bill Gregory Family

Billy Ross Gregory was born Oct. 26, 1934 in Dimmitt, the second son of Jack and Jo Gregory. He began his school year in the same red brick building from which his mother graduated in 1927.

Bill graduated from Dimmitt High School in May, 1953, and on Aug. 22, 1953, married Dalia Ann Twiner. Dalia moved to Dimmitt from Hereford in 1950 with her mother, M.E. Twiner, and her brother, Jack. Mrs. Twiner managed a new dress shop in the community, The Vogue. Dalia was born in Rochester, Tex., and moved to Hereford in 1939. She also graduated from Dimmitt High.

Bill and Dalia moved to El Paso, where Bill attended college and played basketball for Texas Western College, and Dalia was a secretary for El Paso Natural Gas Company. In 1954 they moved to Abilene, where Bill attended Abilene Christian College on a basketball scholarship. He graduated in 1957. Dalia worked as a secretary for Citizens National Bank.

On April 30, 1956, their first son, Bill J., was born. In May, 1957, the family moved back to Dimmitt, where Bill joined his dad in the family business, Castro County Grain Co., and Dalia was a full-time homemaker.

They bought their first home at 204 N. W. 5th St. Three more sons were born in the years to follow, David Scott, in 1960; Bryan Wade, in 1964; and Blaine Ross, in 1970. In 1962 the family built their present home at 721 Maple.

Over the years Bill has served as a cubmaster for the Boy Scouts, was on the board of directors of the Castro County Recreation Association, served as a director of the Chamber of Commerce, and was named "Father of the Year" by the Castro County Cowbells.

Bill is now employed at Dimmitt Agri Industries, and Dalia is a secretary at Dimmitt High School. They are members of the Bedford Street Church of Christ.

Bill J. graduated from DHS in 1974,

and from Lubbock Christian University in 1978. He is now a CPA in San Antonio. He has a daughter, Allison, 9, and a son, Jonathan, 2.

David graduated from DHS in 1978 and attended Abilene Christian University. He now lives in Abilene and owns Gregory's Trim Shop. He and his wife, Mary, have two daughters, Elizabeth, 6, and Anna, 3.

Bryan graduated from DHS in 1982 and attended ACU. He is now employed at Super Cuts in Lubbock. Blaine graduated from DHS in 1988 and attended Texas Tech. He is now working at Clark-American and attends college part time in San Antonio.

This advertisement taken from the August 10, 1944 issue of *The Castro County News*.

J. C. Rawlings

Every Kind of Insurance
Farms and Ranches

Phone 4 Cor. Office in Hotel

Lucille, born Nov. 27, 1917, married Ed Drerup in 1939. He died Dec. 13, 1976.

Alice, born June 7, 1919, married Clyde Fisher in 1940. He died Feb. 1, 1972.

Rita, born Oct. 20, 1920, married Eddie Hoffman in 1943. He died Feb. 28, 1969.

Vincent, born Jan. 26, 1922, married Josephine Hoffman in 1950. She died April 14, 1990.

Leonard, born Nov. 21, 1923, married Phyllis Glasrud in 1950.

Rose Mary, born Nov. 22, 1925, married Leonard Wilhelm in 1947.

Stella, born Nov. 6, 1927, married Ralph Shirley in 1949.

Betty Joe, born Dec. 6, 1931, married Leonard Bartels in 1954.


There are 46 grandchildren, 78 great grandchildren and nine great-great grandchildren.

This advertisement taken from the February 28, 1952, issue of *Castro County News*.

Join the Farm Bureau Serving Your County and Working for Agriculture

Take advantage of the
Service Programs
Being Offered.
See your community Direc-
tor or E. L. Ivey, Sec.-Treas.

It's Magic



Celebrating a Century!

We're proud to
have been serving
Castro County
since 1987.



Video Magic

200 S. Broadway, Dimmitt
647-5200

Congratulations Castro County!

Serving you since 1982

Tole Auto Parts

Brian Tole, Owner • Hart
Agustin Perez Jr.
938-2641



The Harvest is Plentiful



During Castro County's 100-year history, harvests have mostly been plentiful—due to the blessings of God and the efforts of the people—farmers, workers, business people, and community. We have been a part of the picture since 1985, and we look forward to continuing to serve you in the future.



Front from left: Laura Hart, Elaine O'Daniel. Middle from left: Roberto Chavez, Donald Robinson, Jarrel Sewell. Back from left: Darrick Brownlee, Abelino Carrasco, Valdo Meroles, Ismael Carrasco.

Farmers Grain Co.

938-2178
Jarrell Sewell, Manager
Hart

The Ernest Brockman Family

Ernest (Ernie) Brockman was seventh of nine children born to Frank Brockman and Josephine Hoelting on Oct. 3, 1916. Ernie grew up on a farm and attended school in Nazareth. In 1938 he went to Bisbee, Ariz., to work in the copper mines. In January, 1941, he was called up to serve with the Arizona National Guard, and was in the 145th Infantry Regiment serving in the Panama Canal area and the South Pacific. He was discharged from the service Nov. 19, 1944, and returned to Nazareth, where he has lived since.

Ernie married Florine Wilhelm, daughter of Ed Wilhelm and Margaret Schacher, April 4, 1945. Florine attended Nazareth schools and studied nursing at Amarillo College. Ernie and Florine had an all-day wedding celebration with a dance that night, a real German custom. They settled on the Frank Brockman farm, and soon purchased the acreage. They are still living there, although Ernie has retired from farming.

Ernie and Florine had six children. Shirley, born in 1946, graduated from Texas Tech University, and married Leonard Melcher July 5, 1969. Richard was born in 1949, and graduated from the University of Kansas. Hal, born in 1951, graduated from Stephen F. Austin University, and married Gretchen Ploeger in 1973. Kerry Joe, born in 1954, graduated from the University of Texas at Austin, and married Colleen Lowery in 1975. Mark, born in 1956, graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso, and married Rosalie Ortega in 1982. Ladonna, born in 1960, graduated from Texas A & M University, and married Greg Miller in 1983. The children were all educated and worshipped at the Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth.

Ernie and Florine established their family in Nazareth and were active in the community. Ernie was one of the organizers of the American Legion and was the first commander of the Nazareth Legion Post in 1946. He served in that position for three years. Belonging to the fraternal organization of the Knights of Columbus, Ernie held numerous offices in addition to being a state officer. He was active in the

Running Water Soil Conservation District for 28 1/2 years.

Florine was active in community organizations, and has held numerous offices. She has contributed 15 years of volunteer work at

the Amarillo veterans hospital, where she continues to work.

The Ernie Brockmans are an established family and active members of the Nazareth community. They are the proud grandparents of nine grandchildren.

The Ray Stevens McEntire Family

Ray Stevens McEntire was born May 20, 1915, in Olney in Young County, Texas, to James Marvin McEntire and Eva Lena (Webb) McEntire. His family moved to Dimmitt in Castro County in November of 1917, where they lived until 1925. They lived a short time in Plainview, Flagg, and Hereford, moving back to the farm northwest of Dimmitt in 1928. Ray graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1931. After graduation he helped his father farm until 1934, when he entered West Texas State Teachers' College in Canyon. His parents moved to Chatsworth, Calif. in September of 1936, so Ray's education was interrupted, but he returned to Canyon in the summer of 1937 to complete his B.S. degree. He returned to California and remained until May of 1938 when he returned to Dimmitt to work as a clerk for the AAA Farm Program, living with his grandmother, Mrs. C.H. Webb. Ray was a member of the Methodist Church in Dimmitt.

Myrtle Christine (Bagwell) McEntire was born Oct. 5, 1918 at the Bagwell home west of Dimmitt in the Bethel Community. She was the first child of Jim and Robertha Bagwell and grew up on a combination farm-ranch. She attended school through the ninth grade at Bethel, graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1935, and took a post-graduate course the following year. It wasn't easy to get to school during the early years, but Christine rarely missed—going by buggy, walking or riding a horse. While attending school at Dimmitt, she had a room with Mrs. Edna Tate,

the Frank Easters, and Maggie Boren, and commuted from home the rest of the time during the 10th, 11th and post-graduate years. In the fall of 1936, she went to Plainview Business College in Plainview. After graduation, she worked at Burn's Elevator in Dimmitt the summer of 1937, and began working for the AAA office in the fall of 1937, where she worked until her marriage to Ray McEntire on Sept. 10, 1939.

Ray and Christine lived in Dimmitt until June of 1940, when they moved to Silverton in Briscoe County, where Ray worked at the same job. Their daughter, DeVona Rea, was born Oct. 22, 1941 at the Dimmitt Hospital, since Silverton had no hospital facilities. They moved to Floydada in August of 1942, continuing at the same job for Floyd County. Their son, Larry Don, was born April 5, 1946. In January of 1951, the family moved to Perryton in Ochiltree County, where Ray worked for Perryton Equity Exchange as office manager until his death on Aug. 1, 1963. Christine still lives in Perryton, and married Orlan Bell on Oct. 19, 1965. She retired Jan. 1, 1983 after 31 years as church secretary for the United Methodist Church.

— Submitted by Christine McEntire Bell.



THE WILLIS FAMILY—Seated, from left, George Lee and Nancy Willis; and standing, from left, Irene Willis Lee, Allie Mae Willis, G.L. Willis Jr., and Anita Willis Morris.

WANT ADS

FOR SALE— 1942 long wheel base Ford Truck, two-speed rear end, good 8.25x20 tires, good condition, new grain bed.
George Behrends

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1944

NOTICE—A nice line of Christmas Card samples have been received by the local chapter of the Eastern Star, let us have your orders early.
Mrs. J. L. Coke

WANT ADS

CARBOLINEUM
For healthy chicks and producing flocks sterilize your poultry houses and equipment with Carbolineum.
Sold By
Willson and Son Lumber Co

CENTENNIAL MOMENT: Mr. and Mrs. W.B. (Buck) Green and their children arrived in the Frio Community in 1901. In 1916, Mr. Green was elected County Tax Assessor and the family moved to Dimmitt.

As Castro County celebrates

100 Great Years

we congratulate you and look forward to serving you in the years to come!



Front from left: Rhonda Aven, Aurelia Perez. Back from left: Kevin Malone, Katherine Huseman, Ethel Schmucker, Richard Kimbrough.

In 1900, people were coming to this area from all walks of life—looking for better opportunities and a more secure environment in which to raise their families. Those early pioneers found that security in Castro County.

When Hale County State Bank became a part of the Hart community in March of 1987, it made a commitment to become a part of Hart and a part of the people in Castro County.

We believe a strong county needs a strong bank and there is no "impossible dream" when hard work, dedication and foresight exist. The people of Castro County can profit from past achievements and take on goals that can become a reality.

We're making progress every step of the way . . . let's look to another 100 years with the prospect of brighter tomorrows, greater accomplishments and envisioned dreams fulfilled.



424 Broadway



HALE COUNTY STATE BANK
HART

MEMBER FDIC

In Touch
with You

938-2111



**Castro County Centennial
FAMILIES**

1891
◆
1991

The Kent Birdwell Family

Kent Birdwell came from Young County, near Loving, Texas, in 1925 with his parents, J. M. and Mayme Birdwell at the age of 1 year. His brother, Bill, and sister, Bobbie Ruth (Dodd) were born in Dimmitt.

Kent's employment began at age 12 behind the soda fountain of Darsey Drug Store, where he worked when not in school until graduation in 1941. He was then employed by the ASC office until joining the U. S. Air Force in March, 1943, being stationed in Italy from 1944 until he was discharged in 1946.

On July 28, 1946, he and Mary Jo Tatum were married. She was the daughter of Hugh and Mae (Dalmont) Tatum, early settlers of the Plainview area. Kent and Mary Jo met on a "blind" date arranged by Billy Jo and Dorothy (Simmons) Rothwell while Mary Jo was attending West Texas State in the fall of 1942.

Following military service, Kent was employed by Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co. He and Mary Jo built their first house on a lot donated by his parents just west of their house on Bedford St., which then was unpaved. Kent and Mary Jo used oak lumber for the old Italian prisoner of war camp near Hereford, and borrowed money from Mary Jo's father. The first payment of \$35 came due, and they didn't have enough money in the bank to make the payment. Mary Jo secured employment from Cowser Abstract Co. until shortly before the birth of Paula Jo on Oct. 24, 1949. Another daughter, Karen



Mary Jo and Kent Birdwell

Evelyn, followed on March 22, 1951.

The couple's son, Steven Kent, was born on Mother's Day, May 9, 1954; Kelly Lee was born June 1, 1957; and Russel Lynn was born Dec. 8, 1961.

In the meantime, Kent accepted employment June 1, 1947, as Deputy Sheriff and Tax Collector, first working for "Peck" Wyer, who was appointed sheriff after the death of Garland Brown. After office hours it was also Kent's duty to sit with

the Sheriff at the highway intersection waiting for "bootleggers" and accompanying him on disturbance calls.

In 1958 the offices were separated, with Kent being appointed Castro County Tax Assessor-Collector on Jan. 1, 1959. He served in this position for 20 years, until Jan. 1, 1979, giving him a total of 31 1/2 years as a deputy and elected official, longer than anyone in the history of Castro County had served up to that time.

Kent began selling insurance for

State Farm on a small scale in 1952, and in 1973 opened an office at 116 E. Jones, with Mary Jo as manager. Kent's hobby of trading cars evolved into a used car business, Kent's Auto Sales.

Paula Jo received degrees from WTSU and North Texas State. She is a Certified Legal Assistant working with attorneys in a general law practice in Denton. She and her husband, Dr. Robert E. Bradford, son of the James Bradfords of Dimmitt, are the parents of two children, Jaime and Scott Edward.

Karen (Barron) also graduated from WTSU and has two sons, James Kyle and Jason. She is employed in the offices of Alfa Engineering in Austin. Steve attended WTSU and has a degree in sound technology from South Plains College and an electronic engineering degree from Amarillo College. He is In-House Engineer with WHTN-TV in Nashville.

Kelly is employed by Messer Construction in Hereford and is the father of Buddy James, Elvis Joel and Benjamin Zachary.

Russel received a B.S. degree in agricultural economics from Texas Tech and began working in the family insurance business in 1986. He was appointed State Farm agent March 1, and Kent is now an Agent Emeritus. The disastrous explosion and fire Dec. 20, 1990, in the PCA building next to their office resulted in the agency being displaced for four months during remodeling.

Kent and Mary Jo are still looking forward to really enjoying retirement.

Advertisement from March 27, 1952 issue of *Castro County News*.

**COMPLETE
Radiator Service
Castro Motor Co.**

**Drs. Wood & Armistead
OPTOMETRISTS
406 LFD Drive LK/Hofield
Phone 328**

Thanks to our many Castro County customers for 27 years of business.

We look forward to serving you in the future.

Richard Franks, Bob Bowden, Lee Bradley, Mary Ann Schulte, Jack Vise, Carlos Martinez, Tony Leibel, Marco Vasquez, David Neudorf

**Wilbur-Ellis,
Tide Division
Sunnyside & Hart**

We're flying high in celebration of Castro County's 100th Anniversary.

Chartered in 1960, our spraying service continues to work for you under Dudley Wooten since 1988.

**B&W
Aerial Spray**

N. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt 647-2550

Congratulations

We wish Castro County a very happy 100th Anniversary.

From:
Mike Foskey,
Jerrye Lilley,
Tom B. McGill

**Foskey
Funeral Homes**

Dimmitt Olton



THE JIM CLEAVINGER FAMILY poses for a family portrait after a family wedding. Pictured, from left, are Zek, Candace, Tommy, TerrieLynn, Jimmy, Ina and Jim.

The Jim Cleavinger Family

Jim Cleavinger came to Castro County in 1953. After graduation from Springlake High School and Texas Tech, he served in the Korean conflict before moving to Dimmitt, where he began working at C & S Equipment Co. The Cleavinger family owned the John Deere business for 35 years, selling it in 1985. Later, in 1987, Jim opened C & S Battery and Electric. Golf, fishing and business interests keep him busy at this semi-retired time of his life.

Ina Lewis Cleavinger grew up in Nolan County. During her years at Tech she met Jim, and they were married in June, 1985. Through the years, she has kept busy with family, school, church and commu-

nity activities. At this time her many activities include United Methodist Women, Book Club, sewing, china painting and baking "goodies" for grandchildren.

When Jim and Ina came to Dimmitt, many of the streets were unpaved; there were no house numbers or door-to-door mail delivery; and to make a phone call, you lifted the receiver and waited for the operator to say "number please." They have enjoyed being a part of this little town as it has grown to the nice little city that it is today. They say it is a great place to live and raise a family.

The Cleavingers have been active in the Dimmitt United Meth-

odist Church, Jaycees and Jaycee Ettes, Boy Scouts, Little League and all school activities. Some of these organizations are no longer active in Dimmitt, but were instrumental in helping the community grow during the '50s, '60s and '70s. The '80s were a time of watching grandchildren grow and participating in their activities. Hopefully, the '90s will be a time for some leisure and travel.

Tommy is active in the Dimmitt Volunteer Fire Department, having helped secure a "Jaws of Life" and other emergency equipment for the local fire department. He is one of several firemen who have E.M.T. certification. Through the years he has continued to enjoy water sports and the activities of his children, Zeke and Candace.

Jimmy has lived in Baytown since 1982. He is quality control engineer for Lyondell Petro Chemical, located in Channelview. In September, 1989, he and Terrie Lynn Johnson were married. They enjoy water skiing, fishing and gardening.

The newest addition to the Cleavinger family arrived June 19, when James David was born to Jimmy and Terrie Lynn in Baytown. The infant weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz., and was 21 inches long.

The Don Sheffy Family

The Don Sheffy family moved back to Dimmitt from Canyon in August, 1981. Don, the son of Sid and Myrtle Sheffy, was born and reared in the Flagg Community until 1952 when his family moved into Dimmitt. He graduated from Dimmitt High in 1956, and received his bachelor's and master's degree in Business Administration from West Texas State University in 1961.

Karen lived in Olton and Lubbock before moving to Dimmitt with her parents, Elmo and Polly Bell, in 1951. She graduated from DHS in 1957, and received her bachelor's degree from WTSU in 1961.

Don and Karen were married Aug. 27, 1960, and continued to live in Canyon until 1981. Don was employed as a pharmaceutical representative for Dow Chemical Company for 19 year. Karen was a legal secretary for the District Attorney of Randall County, for the law offices of Lair and Williams, and for George Dowlen, attorney, during their first years of marriage, before retiring to become a full time homemaker, mother, church worker and Girl Scout Leader.

Don and Karen have three girls, Kristi, born in 1963; Karla, born in 1967; and Carrie, born in 1976.

The Sheffy family came to Dimmitt to establish Sheffy Western and Casual Wear, located on the square on SE 2nd St. They will celebrate their tenth year of business in September.

Since coming to Dimmitt, Don and Karen have both been active in the Harvest Days Follies since its inception in 1982. Don served on the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce from 1984-1989. He is currently serving on the Committee for Economic Growth for the city. He has been a member of Kiwanis since 1981, serving as president in 1989 and being awarded the Kiwanian of the year for 1987-88. He was elected City Alderman in 1986.

Don and Karen and girls are members of First United Methodist Church, where Karen has served as a teacher and youth leader. She is Chairman of Education, a member of the Administrative Board and the Council on Ministries. Don sings in the church choir, and Karen is a mem-

ber of the Bell choir.

Kristi came to Dimmitt as a senior from Canyon High School. She was a member of the mile relay team at Canyon High which placed third at state in 1981. She was co-captain of the Dimmitt Bobbie basketball team which won district in 1981. She qualified for Regional in the 400 meter run and held the Bobcat Relay 400 meter run record time for several years. She was a member of the Bobcat Band, Interact Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Future Homemakers of America. She was also active in the United Methodist Youth Fellowship.

Kristi attended West Texas State University and was active in the Buffalo Belles, serving as president one year. She also attended Texas Tech, and was a member of the High Riders. She was active in the Institute of Business Designers student chapter, and served as president. She was the first undergraduate teaching assistant in Computer Aided Design. She received her bachelor's degree in interior design from Tech in May, 1990. She is living and working in Dallas, where she is a member of Lover's Lane United Methodist Church and an affiliate member of the Institute of Business Designers.

Karla came to Dimmitt as an 8th grader, and played basketball for three years. She was a member of the track team and played on the tennis team her senior year. She was a member of the Bobcat Band, and was in Key Club. She was elected Kiwanian Sweetheart in 1986. She was a member of the National Honor Society, Future Homemakers of America and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She was active in United Methodist Youth Fellowship and served as president one year. She also participated in the Methodist Youth puppet group.

Karla graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology in July, 1990. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega social sorority and was a volunteer at the Rape Crisis Center. She is attending Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colo. She has done work at the Denver Inner City Parish and helps with the worship committee at Iliff.

Carrie has attended school in Dimmitt since she was 5 years old.

She participated in the Gifted and Talented program in fourth through seventh grades. She received a first place in UIL picture memory in the fifth grade, and a second place in UIL ready writing in sixth grade. She was elected class Student Senator in the seventh grade.

Carrie has been on the honor roll many times and has participated in basketball and track for two years. She was a participant in the 400 meter relay which placed first in District in the eighth grade. She will be a freshman this fall, and is also a member of the United Methodist Youth Fellowship.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1944

J. M. H Y D E N
Doctor of Optometry
106 W. 7th St.
Amarillo, Texas
For Appointment Phone 7723

RIO THEATRE

DIMMITT, TEXAS
Friday and Saturday
August 4-5
"FALSE COLORS"
Hopalong Cassidy, Andy Clyde,
Claudia Drake, Jimmie Rogers
"SWING FEVER"
SHORTS
"Fifth Col. Mouse"

Sun. Matinee and Night and Mon.
August 6-7
—Laughs For Everyone—
—SEE—
"MIRACLE OF MORGANS
CREEK"
Eddie Bracken, Betty Hutton, Di-
anna Lynn

NEWS
"Room And Board"
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
August 8-9-10
"DESTINATION TOKYO"
Cary Grant, John Garfield and
Alan Hale
SHORTS—
"Flop Goes A Weasel"

August 11-12
"DOUBLE FEATURE"
"SILVER CITY RAIDERS"
"KLONDIKE KATE"
COMEDY

Advertisement from March 27, 1952 issue of *Castro County News*.

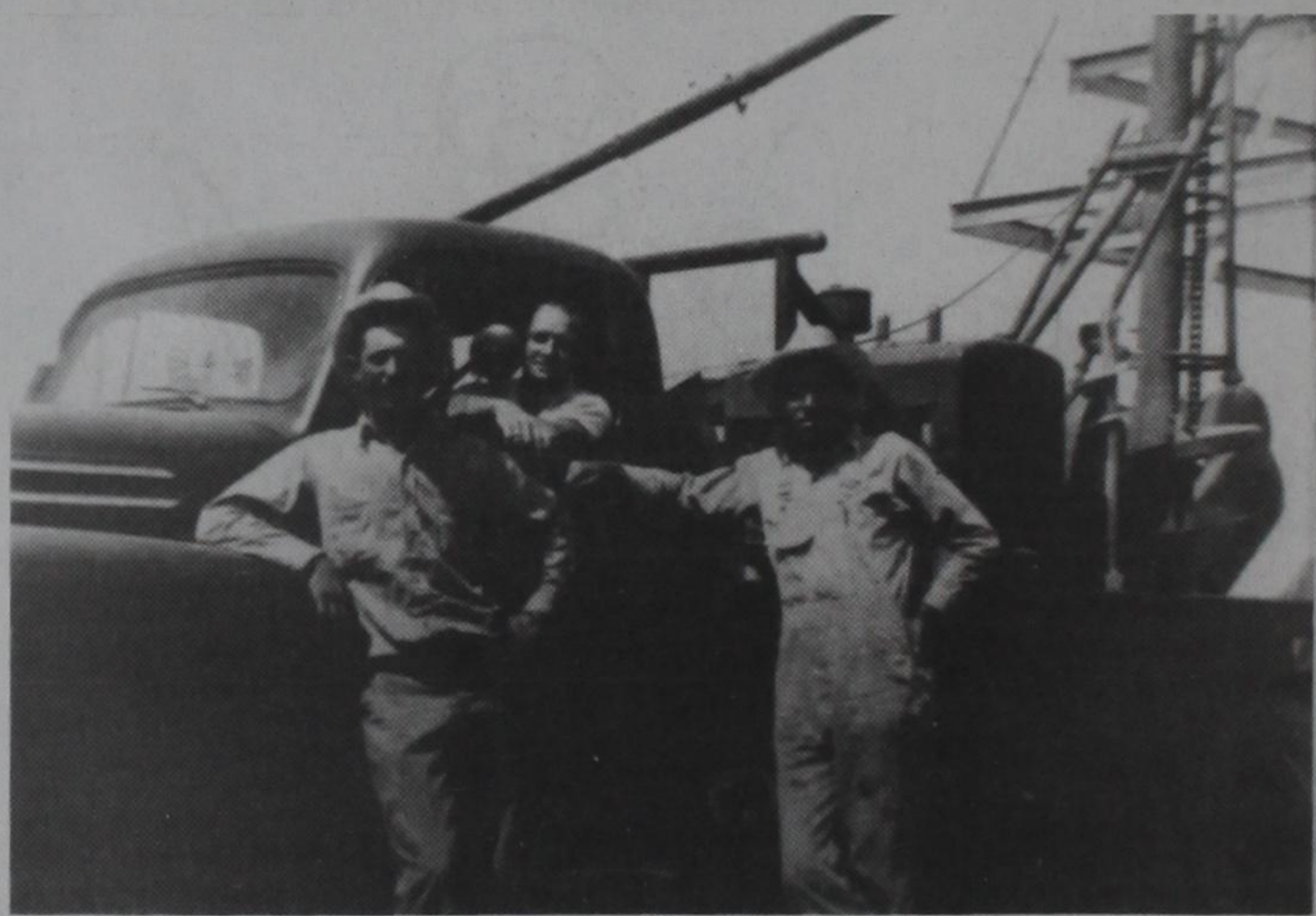
FOR COMPLETE
INSURANCE COVERAGE

—SEE—

Harrison Insurance Agency

MAIL — FIRE — TORNADO — AUTOMOBILE
INSURANCE

Congratulations!
to all our
friends and
customers in
Castro County



As you celebrate your 100th,
we celebrate our 50th year of electrifying
eastern rural Castro County.

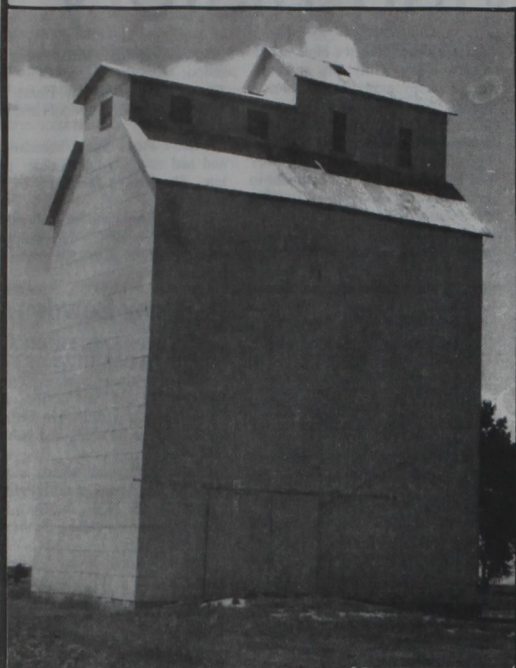
We're proud to be a part of your history,
as well as friends and neighbors for 50 years.
Best wishes as you start the next century.



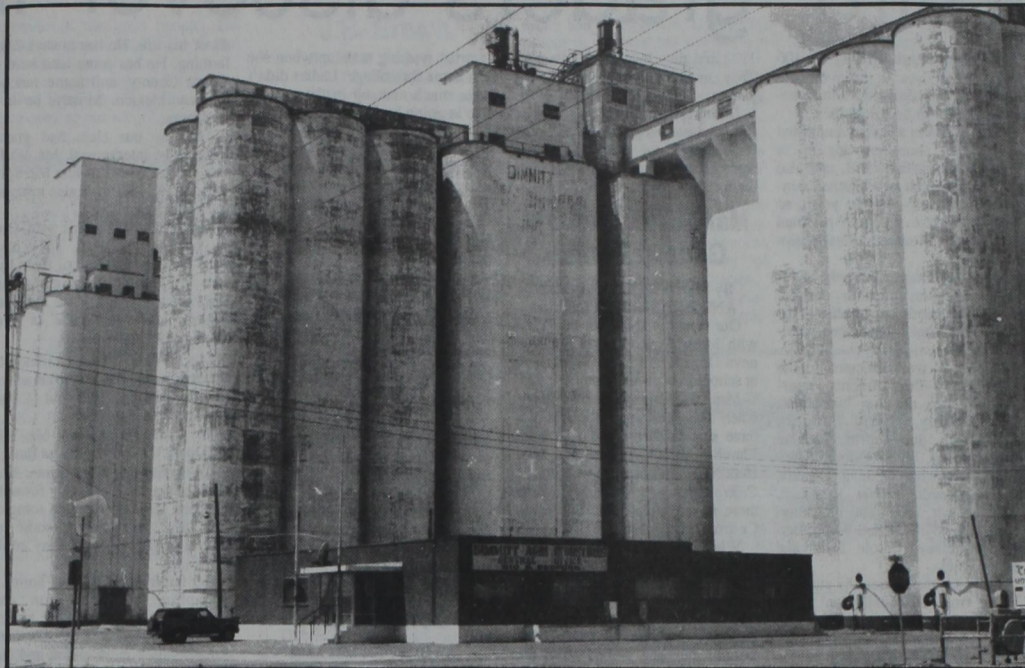
**Swisher Electric
Cooperative**

Tulia





Our Original Elevator



Our Present Main Facility

We're Ready for the Second Century

The State of Texas

The County of Castro

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT,

that we, the undersigned, all resident citizens of Texas, and all engaged in the production of agriculture products, under and by virtue of the laws of this state, do voluntarily associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a cooperative association under the provisions of the laws relative to cooperative associations.

P. H. Dyer
J. G. Bingswanger
E. B. Wright
O. C. Axtell
M. H. Fowlkes

Signed on the 21st day of March, 1934

This is how Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc., was started more than 57 years ago.

The new cooperative, named Dimmitt Wheat Growers, was chartered with an authorized capital stock of \$20,000, and bought the wood-frame elevator that had been built here by the Oklahoma Wheat Pool, which had failed during the Depression.

At that time, wheat brought 20 cents per bushel and averaged 14 bushels per acre (dryland, of course).

Our first concrete elevator was built in 1943-44, with Italian prisoners from the Hereford POW Camp providing part of the construction crew.

With the advent of irrigation in the late '40s and early '50s, our cooperative experienced rapid expansion. We built a second concrete elevator in 1951, a new office and warehouse in 1954, the No. 3 elevator in 1956 and the west annex in 1958.

The 1960s saw the construction of major feedlots in the area and the emergence of grain sorghum as the major crop. Our cooperative responded to the new market challenge, purchasing the Dimmitt Gin & Elevator Co. in 1961 and building receiving points at Nazareth, north of Dimmitt, at Tam Anne and at Flagg.

It was our cooperative that initiated the huge corn milling plant that is now American Fructose-Dimmitt, Inc. At the time we built the original plant, we also changed the cooperative's name to Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc.

Construction of the "starch plant" here made corn the county's major crop, and created new challenges. We purchased the largest corn dryer in the world, and continued to add to our drying capacity until today we have the largest drying capacity on the Texas High Plains.

As our volume exceeded our capacity, we purchased more facilities as the opportunities arose—the W&C Grain Co. facility in 1979 and Castro County Grain Co. in 1985. This year we leased the elevator facilities of Bruegel & Sons, Inc. And in 1990, we built a large new receiving facility at Hart.

Today, Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc., is one of the largest grain cooperatives in Texas, with a capacity of 12,300,000 bushels.

This has all been accomplished because of the loyalty and support of our farmer-members of this area. We are proud to be a part of the agriculture industry that employs millions and has the awesome task of feeding the nation and a big part of the world.

Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc., looks to the future with the same dedication and determination that enabled our cooperative to grow and change with the ever-changing needs of the American farmer.

After playing such a major role in Castro County's first century, we're ready for its second one.



Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc.

H.J. Clark, President
Rex Lust, Vice President
Thomas S. Martin, Secretary

Luke Acker, Director
Mack Steffey, Director
Randy Bills, Director

David Behrends, Director
Ricky Mitchell, Associate Director
Robert Boozer, Associate Director

Dale Brockman, Associate Director
Bill Clark, General Manager

Third graders discover 'living history'

Because Castro County is 100 years old this year, a group of third grade students decided to do something special in Social Studies.

The students became interested in learning about growing up in Castro County first-hand, and also in learning about how Castro County had changed over the years, so they decided to conduct personal interviews and write an Oral History Book.

They "appreciate the help of resource people, because without their help and cooperation, the book would never have been possible."

The book was dedicated to the individuals the students interviewed. They are Lon Woodburn, Dent Bradley, Hubert Edwards, J.R. Brown, Sue Merritt, Daphne Montgomery, M.B. Odom, Mary Edna Hendrix, Geneva Dennis, Teeny Bowden, Chet Braafladt, John Merritt, Hazel and Ivor Bagwell, G.L. Willis, Allan Webb, Bettye Huckabay, Carole Dyer and Helen Kuntz.

Here are the stories the students wrote from their individual interviews.

Allan Webb

By RANDY PORTER AND DANIEL SALAZAR

We interviewed Mr. Allan Webb for our chapter in the class project. He is an interesting person.

Did you know that he was a pilot in World War II?

Allan Webb was born in Castro County, 10 miles south of Dimmitt in the year 1920, so he's been here all his life!

He went to school in the first school house in the first grade. His father didn't have a car, so Allan walked to school. Sometimes he would go to sleep on the concrete floor.

Allan was a pilot in World War II. He flew over India and China. Sometimes he was afraid when he was flying in the war, but he never had an accident. He has been flying for 47 years. Flying the Himalaya Mountains in bad weather is the most dangerous thing he has ever done.

Allan Webb and his wife, Peggy, have been married for 46 years. They have three children and eight grandchildren. Two of their children live here and one lives in Lubbock.

We were glad to meet Mr. Webb and hear some interesting facts about his life.

M/M Ivor Bagwell

By CHRISTIE BRYAN AND HEATHER JETER

For our report, we interviewed Ivor and Hazel Bagwell.

Mr. Bagwell was born in Oklahoma. He had five sisters and four brothers when he was little. His high school was a one-room schoolhouse in Floydada. His hobby was hunting jack rabbits. He was a farmer before he moved to Dimmitt. He moved here in 1928. He is 78 years old now.

Mrs. Bagwell was born on April 13, 1912. She had four sisters, but no brothers. When she was little, she had two cats and one dog. She is 78 years old now. Her hobby is craftwork.

Mr. and Mrs. Bagwell married in

1933 and they love Castro County. They have lived in town for 25 years.

Doing this interview was lots of fun because we got to go and visit the Bagwells at their house. We were glad to do an interview with them.

Mary Edna Hendrix Geneva Dennis

By MONICA GALLEGOS AND BRENDA ESPINOSA

Our report is about our interview with Mary Edna Hendrix and Geneva Dennis. We interviewed them at school in our workroom.

Mrs. Hendrix had one sister when she grew up. She did not have any brothers. She was born March 4, 1918. We first met Mrs. Hendrix when our class went to the Castro County Museum. She works there in the afternoons. She loves Castro County a lot.

When Mrs. Dennis came to Castro County, Dimmitt was a very small town. There were no streets in town. The sand storms were really terrible in those days. She has lived here for 66 years. Mrs. Dennis' husband helped build the swimming pool at Middle School.

Both Mrs. Hendrix and Mrs. Dennis say that Castro County is special to them. The most special thing about it is the people. The people here are good, kind and love each other. Things wouldn't be like that if we lived somewhere else, probably.

John Merritt

By MARTIN CARDENAS AND ANTHONY FUENTES

A longtime Castro County resident, Mr. John Merritt, is very smart. We learned a lot from him.

Mr. Merritt told us that when he was a little boy, nobody had refrigerators. They only had ice boxes.

When it rained hard on the side of the house, there was a steady stream for the cows to drink.

In school, the students had ink pencils. Every time they used it, they had to dip the pencil in the ink and write. At his school back then, they had no school equipment. Their playground was empty, so he and his friends would play "Badman."

Mr. Merritt said that they had a lake, but it was a long ways off. They had a big swimming pool. It was made of metal. It's the kind that cows drink from. (They are big. Very Big) We would call it a stock tank.

Mr. Merritt has lived in Castro County with his family for a long time. he is a rancher and a farmer.

Carole Dyer

By KATIE SIMMONS AND PATTIE GEORGE

Our classes are writing an oral history book about Castro County residents and we interviewed Carole Dyer.

Carole's parents homesteaded in Texas. She was born in Springlake during May in 1924. She went to college when she was 17 years old in Lubbock at Texas Tech.

Things are very different growing up now. Carole had barely

started wearing makeup when she left home for college. Ladies didn't wear much makeup in those days. She is going back for her 50th-year class reunion this year. "Doesn't seem possible," she said.

Carole's maiden name was Cleavinger. Her family owned the John Deere dealership here, and were very active in community activities. Her father served on the hospital board.

Carole grew up in Castro County. She has three brothers and two sisters. She told us that during the 1930s that the sand storms were so bad that the farmers would have to dig their plows out from in under the dirt before they could work in the fields.

After college, Carole taught school. She loved teaching. She said that there used to be just one school in Dimmitt.

Carole has five children, a boy and four girls. She goes to the Methodist Church and she is a widow.

She loves living in Castro County because of the people.

Dent Bradley

By DESTON MILLER AND LARRY CORDERO

Our research report is about Mr. Dent Bradley. He told us about being a little boy and growing up in Castro County.

he said that the churches weren't very big, just country churches. The people traveled to them in wagons and buggies pulled by horses.

"When I was a little boy your age, I would be in plays and sing school songs. I didn't ever drive a wagon until I was older," Mr. Bradley told us.

He and his two sisters had lots of chores. They had to gather eggs, feed the cows and pigs, and many other things. They raised gardens. They made their living that way.

Mr. Bradley said that they didn't have water in the house when he was little. They had to carry water inside from the well in buckets. They didn't take baths as often as we do today.

Mr. Bradley's folks moved him out here when he was four years old in a covered wagon. You cannot imagine how it was to live in a covered wagon! It took almost a week to go only 200 miles.

When the Bradley family moved to this country, there were no houses or fences like we see today. They had to live in a tent until there was a house. The land was not "broke out."

"We had to break out the land with horses," he said. That was really hard work.

Mr. Bradley was born on the Fourth of July. Sometimes he had to walk to school. Things were really different back then.

G.L. Willis

By ISRAEL RAMIREZ AND SERJIO NAVARRO

We interviewed Mr. G.L. Willis for our class project. He is a very interesting man and he said that we was glad for us to interview him.

Mr. Willis was born March 5, 1918, in Hereford, Texas. He was named after his father, G.L. Willis Sr.

Mr. Willis has lived in Hereford

all of his life. He has always liked farming. He has some land here in Castro County, and some ranches in New Mexico. Mostly, he is a cattleman.

The day our class had guests come to be interviewed, Mr. Willis saw a good friend of his, Mr. John Merritt. Mr. Merritt is also a farmer and runs cattle.

Mr. Willis married his wife, Ouida, on June 3, 1938. They have three daughters and all of them live here in Dimmitt. Their names are Sharri Bradley, Jan Baca and Kay Rogers, and Mr. Willis is very proud of all of them.

Mrs. Willis' father, Clarence O. Byrnes, owned the first grain elevator in Dimmitt, the old Castro County Grain Company.

We learned a lot from Mr. Willis. Doing the interview was fun.

penny would last a long time. You could buy a stack of candy for only one cent. Her family made some of their toys and bought some of them. For five pennies, they could buy a sack.

Her family lived in a big house. Daphne picked cotton and chopped cotton. Her father hauled cotton in a wagon. In those days, farmers raised more cotton and less corn and maize. Daphne's father took the cotton to a gin not far from where her family lived. A gin is a place where cotton is separated from its seeds.

Daphne's family raised cows, turkeys and hogs. They had outdoor plumbing. They had flower gardens and vegetable gardens.

The first time she went to town she was four or five years old. She started school at the age of seven and she graduated high school when she was 17. There were 11 people in her family. Back then, the girls did not wear makeup until they were about 15. They used material to make ribbons for their hair and to wear on their dresses.

They had no electricity and their school was only two rooms. There were only two teachers. One teacher taught from beginners to fourth grade and the other one taught from the fifth grade to the 10th. Her favorite teacher was Mr. Blackwin.

In high school they switched classes and had a different teacher for each subject. They had programs and plays. They did not have

"Open House" like we have at our school today. Only the students' parents were invited to school programs.

Daphne's favorite hobbies were reading and sewing. They had sewing machines back then, and they did not have to go to the stream to get their water. They had water that came out of the faucet in town.

For a long time, they did not have many doctors. When somebody got sick, the doctor had to go to their house. They lived in Spur, Texas, in Dickens County. They had ropes, but they did not have T.V.s. They had rugs instead of carpet. Her first car was blue. They played ball for fun and they had each other to be with. They had books when Daphne was little, just like we have today.

We were very glad that we got to meet Daphne. She said she felt fine about being part of our book and we had fun interviewing this nice lady.

M.B. Odom

By MOSES LUGO AND SHAWN PARSONS

Our classes are writing an oral history book of Castro County. We interviewed Mr. M.B. Odom.

Mr. Odom is 75 years old. He came to Castro County in 1941. That was 50 years ago!

His dad's name was M. Odom and he died in 1935.

M.B. and his wife have four boys and one girl. His oldest is 50 years old and was born in 1941. His youngest boy is 30 years old and was born in 1960. They all went to school here and they all graduated from Dimmitt High School.

M.B. does not need a job. He likes to read. He thinks reading is his hobby.

He grew up in Oklahoma. Castro County is special to him because it's like home.

Mr. Odom likes to sing, but he does not think he knows how very well. He weighs 145 pounds and is 5 feet eight inches tall.

The Odoms' grandson was in Saudi Arabia. His name is Kevin.

Mr. Odom moved to Castro County when he was 30 years old. He lives here and raises a few calves.

In Oklahoma, M.B. went to school with the Indians. His first teacher's name was Mrs. Heart.

He went to three schools and that was all.

M.B.'s mom was a homemaker and had seven children older than him. She had to take care of the family.

M.B. also went to school in Washington, D.C. He stopped going to school in the 9th grade. He is retired now.

Teeny Bowden

By STEPHANIE FLORES AND LAURA HERRERA

We interviewed Mrs. Teeny Bowden for our part of the class project. As a child, her favorite hobbies were baseball and basketball.

She started school when she was seven in Stephens County, down in Central Texas. Now, she lives in a little community called Sunnyside in Castro County.

Mrs. Bowden loves living in Sunnyside. It is 14 miles south of Dimmitt on Highway 385.

Mrs. Bowden had one sister, Verba. She had two brothers. Their names were Alton and Leslie. Her dad's name was Earnest and her mother's name was Nora.

The family lived in a white house with blue stripes. They grew their own vegetables and had lots of chores to do. They had to ride the horses after the cows.

She went to Sunnyside Schools in 1930.

She is glad that she lives in Castro County and we are glad that we got to interview her. She is a nice lady.

Bettye Huckabay

By FELICIA SANCHEZ AND YESENIA LOPEZ

Betty Huckabay has lived in Castro County for more than 20 years. Her husband died a few years ago.

Bettye's family lived near Flagg when she was a little girl and her father was a farmer.

She had her own horse. They didn't have a T.V. back then. They only had radios. They had a differ-

(Continued on Page 5)

Our Living History



Our 63 residents represent a total of more than 4,790 years' worth of experience and personal history, much of it crucial to the development of Castro County, and we're proud to say

HAPPY 100th ANNIVERSARY CASTRO COUNTY!

We're also proud to serve our residents and the community, having been in operation in Dimmitt under various names and management companies since 1973, when the home opened as South Hills Manor, under the ownership of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Justice.

The current management company, Texas Health Enterprises, has continued the tradition of a caring and stimulating environment for our residents.

Come out anytime and get to know some of our "living history" right here at

Canterbury Villa

1621 Butler Blvd.

647-3117



CONGRATULATIONS

to *Castro County* for your

CENTENNIAL YEAR!



J.C. Rawlings began serving the insurance needs of Castro County in 1936, and we are proud to continue that tradition of service as Jones-Rawlings Insurance Agency, with Carolyn Jones, agent.

Jones-Rawlings Insurance Agency

121 E. Bedford

647-5244

Third graders discover 'living history'

(Continued from Page 4)
ent kind of soap that they made themselves. She and her brother, Norman, had a lot of chores to do. Bettye told us that they had built three courthouses here. One of them was burned down. The second one was torn down and the third one we have right now.

Bettye and her husband, Bob, had an abstract business in Dimmitt. Huckabay Abstract was begun in 1961. Jack Edwards bought the business from her in 1980 after Bob died.

Bettye has three children, and they all live in Lubbock. She used to have a parakeet named "Bird" that talked all the time, but she gave it to her granddaughter.

Bettye grew up during the Depression. She still does not like chocolate pie to this day, because that was the only kind of dessert her family could afford when she was little.

They had enough money to buy cocoa and sugar, and the rest of the ingredients were always on hand.

We had a good time at school that day getting to know Mrs. Huckabay.

Sue Merritt

By EDITH FULLER AND BRENDA LEAL

We interviewed Mrs. Sue Merritt at our school. She is 64 years old and has lived in Castro County all of her life. She was born in Dimmitt and her birthday is in May.

When Mrs. Merritt was little, there was just one school here and that was Middle School. There was no kindergarten or first grade.

Mrs. Merritt's parents are not living, but if they were, they would be in their 90s.

Sue Merritt and her husband, John, have four children. They have two daughters and two sons. Only one of their children lives here, though. Lint Merritt, the oldest one, and his family live in Dimmitt. His wife, Connie, is a third grade teacher in our school.

Mrs. Merritt went to college in Canyon at West Texas State University and she majored in speech. She was a member of Chi Omega Sorority.

Mr. and Mrs. Merritt married in 1948. They have lived here ever since.

Lon Woodburn

By JIMMY MOSS

This is the story of Lon Woodburn. I interviewed him for our class project.

Lon was born in 1915 one mile northwest of Dimmitt. He started irrigation farming in 1953.

Lon and his wife, Mary, started married life dryland farming for two years on Lon's home place.

Lon's first memory about Dimmitt is at the annual picnic. There was a stock tank filled with ice and red soda pop and this man gave Lon a drink of it.

Lon Woodburn started school in 1922 and graduated in 1933. The school was small in those days. Lon's first teacher was Miss Walden.

One time Lon remembers is this deal where you chase rabbits into a little star-shaped gate and let them go. Letting them go doesn't seem fun.

Mr. Woodburn was nice to come to our school to be interviewed. His wife came with him, also.

Helen Kuntz

By FELICIA SANCHEZ AND YESENIA LOPEZ

Our classes are doing an oral history book about Castro County residents. We interviewed Helen Kuntz.

Helen lived on a farm near Flagg when she was a little girl. The house was not very big and it did not have a bathroom on the inside. They did not have inside water, either. She moved here in 1932.

Helen has one brother. His name is Bob Anthony. He lives in Dimmitt.

Now, Helen lives a half-mile away from Flagg. Her neighbor lives one-half mile from her and the rest of her neighbors live east of her. Helen and her husband have a fertilizer business at Flagg.

Mrs. Kuntz told us that she has a horse that she loves a lot and its name is Lupe.

Helen Kuntz loves to live in Castro County. She loves it here

because of the good people. The people here are what make Castro County so special to her.

We are glad that we got to meet Helen Kuntz and interviewed her. She came to our school.

Daphne Montgomery

By IRONICA TRAYLOR AND ANGELA MONTIEL

For our chapter in the class history book, we interviewed Daphne Montgomery. She told us some interesting facts about herself.

When Daphne was a little girl, a

Chet Braafladt

By JESSICA MARTINEZ AND DEE ANN VERA

The Castro County resident that we interviewed for our class project is Mr. Chet Braafladt. We really liked interviewing this interesting man.

Mr. Braafladt was born in Chicago, Ill. His father was working in medical school when he was born. Chet was the oldest boy in his family.

Mr. Braafladt lived in China for a while. He belonged to the Boy Scouts when he lived there. He went to school in China, but he also went to school in England. He played rugby when he was in an English school. Rugby is a kind of football that is played with a round ball.

Mr. Braafladt met his wife, Helen, in San Francisco, Calif., while she was singing on the radio. Then, one day they met and had a big wedding.

Helen and Chet came to Castro County in 1962. He was 46 when they moved here. The Braafladts own a business named Braafladt Transport Company.

Mr. Braafladt and his wife have three children and eight grandchildren. They live in a two-story house. Two of their grandchildren are named Summer and Cassie McLean.

We are glad that we got to meet Mr. Braafladt. He came to our school and talked to us. We had fun. He even wrote his name for us in Chinese!

J.R. Brown

By JEFF STOVALL AND STEPHEN BAILEY

Mr. J.R. Brown was born in Hart. He has lived in Castro County for a long time.

As a child, Mr. Brown milked cows and helped with all the other farm chores. He had one sister and one brother. He and his sister had to ride a horse to school every morning.

Mr. Brown's father was the Castro County Sheriff. Once Mr. Brown got to go to Huntsville with his dad to take a prisoner to the State Penitentiary.

Mr. Brown's wife is a teacher in our school. They have lived here for a long time. The Browns have two children, Jill and Blake. They both live in Austin.

Hubert Edwards

By KYLE WOOD AND SHANE FURR

Our class is doing an oral history report and we interviewed Mr. Hubert Edwards.

Mr. Edwards was born in the year 1913, August eighth.

The first word he said was "Daddy."

He moved to Lynn County when he was three. He didn't move to Castro County until he was 43 years old. He had four brothers and three sisters. Their names were Lloyd, Ceile, Nola, Lillian, Carl, Joel and Estella. The first school he attended was a two-room schoolhouse and had only two teachers. As a child, his favorite hobby was playing "Hide and Seek."

Mr. Edwards is 78 years old today as we speak.

Mr. Edwards began his farming career when he was 10 years old.

He loves Castro County because of the good land, good people and good churches. He was real glad we thought to interview him.

That is the end of Kyle Wood's and Shane Furr's report.

Yvonne Wakefield

By GABRIEL AND VANESSA

Yvonne Wakefield was born in East Texas in the same house her

father had been born in. She started school in a four-room schoolhouse where all grades were taught.

Her first grade teacher, Miss Hampton, taught both First and Second Grades. They all read the Dick and Jane Series.

In the second grade, Mrs. Wakefield's family moved to Dennison so her father could work on the M.K.T. Railroad. Her aunt was her teacher in one-room schoolhouse. There was a pump outside the room where they could draw water for drinking and washing their hands.

In the third grade, Mrs. Wakefield's family moved to Maple,

Texas, because of her father's health. She attended Three Way School and graduated as valedictorian in 1953.

Then, she went to Wayland Baptist College and graduated in 1957. She went back for her Master's in 1982.

Mrs. Wakefield has lived in Dimmitt a very long time. She is a widow, but she raised her children here. She is a resource reading teacher in our school.

CENTENNIAL MOMENT: Girl basketball players known as the "Bobbies" went to the State Championship in 1931 and 1932.



HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

We've enjoyed working with Castro County Farmers, helping them make a better profit through aerial spraying.

Dimmitt Aerial Spray



... And remembering the past, we salute Castro County on its 100th Anniversary.

We are proud to have been a part of this county's history since 1958.

Schaeffer, Sutton & Schaeffer

105 NW 3rd, Dimmitt 647-2145



William and Irene Dixon Family

William Stanfield Dixon, born Sept. 30, 1866, and Ellen Irene Chenault, born July 29, 1879, were married Oct. 12, 1889 in Brazos County, where they had grown up.

William (Will as he is better known) and Irene had five sons, Charles Pinkery, born in 1890 and died in infancy from whooping cough, Emmitt Orr, born Aug. 9, 1891, Clarence Wright, born Sept. 23, 1893, William Harvey, born Aug. 3, 1895, and Elmer, born Sept. 8, 1897, all in Brazos County; and Ollie Houston, born March 29, 1904 in Castro County.

Will and Irene started their lives together on a plot of land in Brazos County that he had cleared with a crosscut saw, axe, grubbing hoe, a horse and an ox that he yoked together to do the plowing. By tight living, hard work and saving, they had accumulated a little money, and after hearing stories about cheap land in the Panhandle, they decided Will would go out and see for himself the possibilities that were in that area of Texas.

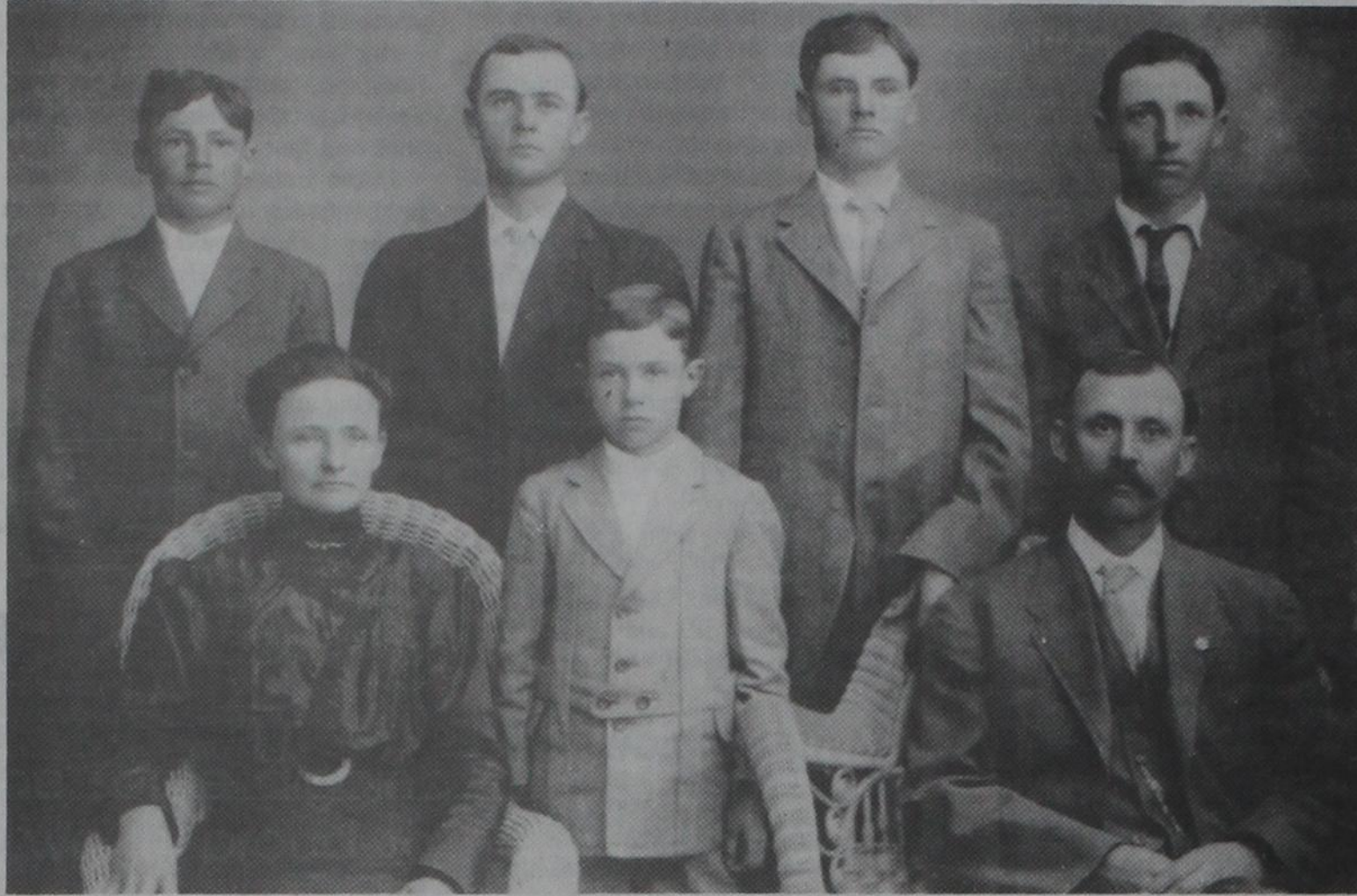
In 1901 he loaded his wagon with a little bit of furniture, supplies, tools and his prize possession, his fiddle, which he would play any time a chance arrived.

Upon his arrival in Castro County he learned of 640 acres of land eight miles south and one mile west of Dimmitt that could be bought for \$1 an acre. He purchased the land from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gallehan, and began the task of digging a dug-out, building a two-room house, and digging a water well for the family who would join him later.

The family arrived by train in Hereford in January, 1902. It was cold and snowing when they began their journey to the new home by wagon. There were many new and odd things for the boys to discover. There were coyotes, antelopes and mustangs roaming the prairie, but most unusual to them was the vast distance they could see in any direction.

The boys all attended school in a one-room school, and they didn't have grades—they'd just finish one book and start on the next one.

Will and the boys worked hard and soon had purchased a herd of cattle and sheep, which became



A FAMILY PORTRAIT—W.S. and Irene Dixon (seated) pose with their sons, Elmer, Emmitt, Harvey, Clarence and Ollie for a family portrait taken in 1912.

the younger boys' job, to herd them wherever there was water and grass. Irene always had a garden, so that kept them busy as well.

Whenever it came time to harvest, or help some one else, everyone would help. The men and boys labored in the fields or built a new family a home, and the women and girls would do the cooking and serving the meals, or tending to the sick or newborn babies.

Will always raised a large herd of sheep, and they had to be sheared each spring. After he had sheared his sheep, he'd go into other communities and shear. He got wages of five cents for each sheep he sheared.

Will used his "prize possession" to help him campaign for the office of Tax Assessor in 1906. He served Castro, Bailey and Lamb Counties for two terms.

The boys enjoyed riding their horses, playing baseball and swimming in the lakes.

The boys began to marry, Clarence first in 1915, then Emmitt in 1916. Harvey served in France during World War I, and married when he returned in 1920. On Aug.

8, 1920, Elmer married Mary E. Dodd, who had moved to Castro County in 1918 from Callahan County with her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Wagley.

Just before Elmer married, Will and Irene had purchased 320 acres in the Frio Community and built a five-room house there. Will farmed and raised cattle, and Irene made a garden, raised chickens, and had a beautiful rose garden.

The family was a close family, and twice a year everyone came in to help Irene celebrate her birthday and to help Will to celebrate his.

They had fourteen grandchildren, and it was a delight when the family began to reminisce about the "Good Old Days." One of the stories they enjoyed was when Elmer and Mary married, Will and Irene "look" their honeymoon. They had bought their first car just before the wedding, so Will and Irene went back to Brazos county to visit their families there. When they returned home, Elmer and Mary wouldn't move, so Will and Irene moved to Frio, leaving Elmer and Mary on the home place taking care of the sheep, cattle and

farm work.

They liked to remind their grandchildren that their Grandmother Irene had no use for a refrigerator, because there was nothing left on the platter when the five boys finished eating. Irene always washed on a rub board and used lye soap she had made.

Will and Irene attended church in the Frio school house, and whenever there was a revival or need for a baptismal service, everyone came to the Dixons' on Sunday afternoon because they had a large storage tank that could be used. On one such occasion, two older women were to be baptized, and the ice had to be broken and removed from the tank.

Will and Irene always had wonderful memories of neighbors and friends. They enjoyed fishing, so nearly every November until April they spent the winter on the Gulf of Mexico. Will loved to tell of Irene's love of fishing, saying if she ever got a nibble, she'd stay all day. One day she caught a fish that was longer than she was tall.

Will and Irene sold their farm and retired in 1945, moving to Dimmitt. He was a farmer at heart,

and hardly a day would go by that he didn't go to the farm to see if he could help Elmer. He never used a tractor during his farming days.

Will's health began to fail, and he passed away June 11, 1951. Irene continued to live in Dimmitt until her death, June 5, 1956. They were buried in Castro County Cemetery, and were members of the Baptist Church.

Elmer and Mary continued to live on the home place, raising their four daughters, Nancy Irene, Mary Elizabeth, Wilma Ruth and Peggy Ellen. Elmer sold the cattle and sheep, and broke out more of the land, also putting in irrigation wells.

They retired and moved to Dimmitt in March, 1973. Elmer passed away Aug. 30, 1980, and

Mary, on March 27, 1982. Mary was born May 3, 1898 in Paris, Texas, and they had one daughter, Wilma Ruth Harris, who preceded them in death July 14, 1980. Elmer and Mary also were Baptists, and were married in the Castro County Cemetery.

It has been about 90 years since Will and Irene made their first purchase in Castro County, and the land is still in the family. A granddaughter, Elizabeth Worthington, lives on the home place, and another granddaughter, Irene and her husband Weldon Bradley, live in Dimmitt. One of their sons, Lee and family, live in Sunnyside.

Castro County will always be "Home" to the Dixon families.

The Charles Hottel Family

The Charles Hottells lived in Dimmitt from July, 1958 until July, 1984. They were involved in community activities and were members of the Church of Christ family.

Charles was County Agricultural Agent for the Extension Service in Liberty and Beaumont before coming to Dimmitt. He received his B.S. degree from Oklahoma A&M (now OSU), and his master's degree from Texas A & M. He retired from the Extension Service in 1983.

Estella taught sixth grade in 1958-59, then homemaking in high school until she retired in May, 1984.

Julie June, their daughter, attended Rosetta Billingshausen Kindergarten and Dimmitt schools, graduating in 1971. She was active in 4-H, FHA and the band. She received her B.S. degree in Home Economics from Texas Tech in 1975.

She is catering director at the Metropolitan Club in Austin, and enjoys meeting interesting people at a variety of events.

Robert, their son, attended Lucky U Kindergarten and graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1984. He was active in 4-H, FFA, athletics, industrial arts and band. He received his B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from OSU in 1988.

He taught American business-related classes in the OSU exchange program, in the College of Finance and Economics in Tianjin, China in 1988-89, returning home June 18 after the Tiananmen Square massacre. He completed an International M.B.A. at OCU in Oklahoma City in 1990.

He reported to work June 5 as agricultural analyst at American Institute of Taiwan, in Taipei, Taiwan. In March and April he worked at OCU with the spring Soviet Aviation Industry Executive Management Program

Now living in Davis, Okla., Charles stays busy ("almost as busy as a county agent") with cattle, hay and community work, etc. Estella stays busy ("almost as busy as a home economics teacher") canning and freezing fruits and vegetables and community work. They are members of the East Main Church of Christ in Davis.

CENTENNIAL MOMENT: The Dimmitt Lions Club, after being formed in 1930, was the only service organization in Dimmitt for many years. While meeting its responsibilities as a service club, it also functioned as the Chamber of Commerce.



There has to be some digging for a county to grow, and we're proud to have helped Castro County grow since 1974.

We've grown, too, moving to our new facility Feb. 1990.

We look forward to serving you during the county's second century.

Happy
100th
Anniversary!

**EM JONES
DITCHING**

N. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt

647-5442



Partners

The Bruegel families have been partners with Castro County in farming, livestock operations, grain handling, cotton ginning and feed blending for more than half of the county's first century. We're thankful for the opportunities our county has provided us.

We founded Liquid Blenders, Inc., in 1986, and we now serve feedlots throughout North Texas and in New Mexico.

We plan to remain partners with Castro County for many years to come.

**Liquid
Blenders, Inc.**

N. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt

Hazel Merritt tells her story

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This was probably written in 1967. In 1968, Hazel Merritt was honored as Citizen of the Year, and was specially cited for her efforts as chairman of the Castro County Diamond Jubilee.)

By HAZEL MERRITT
 Hazel Merritt was born Nov. 18, 1909, and died March 7, 1974.

I, Hazel Merritt, am a native of Castro County, the oldest of nine children, seven of whom are still living and have a talent for acquiring all sorts of non-paying jobs.

My maternal grandparents, James Franklin and Sarah Ann Sweazea, were pioneer residents of Castro County. My mother, Dell Sweazea, homesteaded a claim in Quay County, N.M., before her marriage to my father, Lint Merritt, also a pioneer of Castro County.

I received my early education by riding horseback to Killough, Mulkey, and Hart schools and attended West Texas State College (University, now) High School for two years, receiving my high school diploma in 1928. I received a B.S. degree from West Texas State College in 1933.

Being unable to find a teaching job because of large numbers of people with experience available during the Depression, and because of my mother's failing health, I helped out at home with housework, gardening, canning, etc., from 1933 until 1942.



Hazel Merritt

I worked in home demonstration work and was elected chairman of Castro County Home Demonstration Council in 1941 and 1942.

With the United States' entry into World War II, and the resulting shortage of teachers, I was

asked by Supt. R.A. McCollum to teach in the Dimmitt schools in the fall of 1942. I taught social studies, American history, world history, world geography, civics, economics and Texas history from the fall of 1942 through the school year 1954-55. Some of my leadership

jobs undertaken while teaching included class sponsorships, sponsor of the National Honor Society, Future Teachers of America, Pep Squad, and possibly others. One year I served as county representative to the Area Council of the Texas State Teachers' Association, another year as secretary to the Area Council of Social Studies. I also served as vice-president of the local Parent-Teachers' Association.

I was invited to become a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, an honorary society of women teachers, in 1947, accepted, and continue active membership.

For better than 20 years, Dimmitt had a Business and Professional Women's Chapter. I served as president on two occasions, and in various other official positions, and was elected Area Director for 1948-49, and 1949-50.

I retired from teaching in 1955 because of a problem with hypertension. I have since made my living by operating a stock farm inherited from my parents.

Since 1955, I have served two two-year terms as president of the Dimmitt Book Club, one two-year term as president of the Delta Xi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, a two-year term as president of the Dimmitt Chapter of the American Field Service (a foreign exchange student program and the cheapest ambassadorial program in our country), four and a half years as chairman of the Castro County Library Board, which I was instrumental in organizing, and continue to represent Precinct I on the Castro County Library Board.

I am a representative of the Hart community on the Castro County Activities Committee, an organization to promote the county and sponsor Roundup Week in August of each year. In 1966, I acted as pageant chairman of "From Prairie to Paradise," presented in three performances during the celebration of Castro County's Diamond Jubilee.

If this sounds as if I'm about worn out, you're right, I am.

Get "Fire-King"
CUP AND SAUCER
 IN MOTHER'S OATS
 Beautiful "Azur-ite" Blue Glassware
 by Anchor Hocking

Inside every big square package of Mother's Oats you get a valuable, useful premium. Actually a *double* value because money can't buy a finer quality, more delicious, more nourishing oatmeal than Mother's Oats!

Start now to give your family this good, hot, creamy-smooth oatmeal every morning. And get famous "Fire-King" Cups and Saucers, or Aluminum Ware, "Wild Rose" pattern China, or Carnival Ware. Buy Mother's Oats today!

MOTHER'S OATS—a product of THE QUAKER OATS COMPANY

HART
 DIMMITT NAZARETH
 100
 CASTRO COUNTY

We're proud to be
 a part of Castro County
 and we're excited about
 the celebrations for the
 Centennial Year!

Don and Shirley Cornett, Owners
 Roger Underwood, Rose Crispin and Rachel Vigil

**Corner Place
 Package Store
 and
 Corner Place Barn**
 301 E. Bedford, Dimmitt
 647-4222

The Russel A. Moran Family

In 1950, Russel A. and Myrtle Lois Moran moved to Castro County from Mineral Wells, where he had been serving as county attorney for Palo Pinto County.

Russel was born and lived in Parker and Palo Pinto Counties, the son of a farmer-stockman and a country school teacher.

He and Myrtle Lois met at Weatherford Junior College and married several years later in Lorenzo after World War II ended. Myrtle Lois' parents were early pioneers in Crosby County and she grew up in Lorenzo.

Myrtle Lois graduated from Texas Tech with a degree from the school of home economics and she taught home ec at Perryton High School for several years.

Russel was a graduate of Baylor University and Baylor University Law School. He spent the war years in the Navy, serving almost all of his time outside of the US, usually in Panama and the Southwest Pacific.

When they moved to Castro County, the Morans brought with them their daughter, Mary Patricia, and a son, Robert Scott, both of whom followed their father through Baylor University and into the field of law. Pat is now an official court reporter for Fulton County in Atlanta, Ga., and Scott is a practicing attorney in Dallas, working with the firm of Buford and Ryburn.

Russel was county attorney of Castro County from 1952 to 1960. In 1958, he and Jack Miller formed a partnership and the law firm of Moran and Miller, which was an active firm until 1981.

Scott married Sharon Horton of



Mr. and Mrs. Russel A. Moran

Dallas in 1975 and they have three children including Jacob Claybourne, Allison Huldah and Angela Carol.

Pat married Benjamin Perry Tanner III in Atlanta, Ga. in 1988 and they have a son, Benjamin Perry Tanner IV (Jamin).

The Morans have enjoyed seeing much of the growth and progress of Dimmitt and Castro County and have worshipped with and been active members of the First United Methodist Church. They have tried to be good citizens and make contributions to the community they

are proud to call home.

From the first time Russel saw Castro County and Dimmitt in 1949, until his death on Oct. 26, 1986, he had a love affair with the area. Upon returning home from a trip to other parts of Texas or other states in the US, or even trips halfway around the world, when he was about 40 to 50 miles from Dimmitt he would always comment, "I haven't seen a place that looks this good or is this productive."

And it was one of his greatest delights to tell people that "we are citizens of West Texas by choice."

We're pumped
 up and ready for
 the Centennial
 Celebration!

**Castro County
 Pump Co.**
 S. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt
 647-5404

The Harry Theo Dodson Family

Theo, his wife, Lela Jane (Janie) and their two sons, Jerry and Michael, moved to Dimmitt on July 26, 1966, from Antelope, which is located in Jack County.

On Aug. 1, 1966, Theo became the custodian at Dimmitt High School and Janie worked in the cafeteria.

Theo worked for the school until his health caused him to retire in August 1979. For five years Janie worked with him as a lady custodian in the school.

In August 1977, she started to operate the high school snack bar, and she continued working there until she took a leave of absence when Theo developed health problems.

On July 4, 1984, Theo died and Lela Jane went back to work in the snack bar, continuing to work there until her retirement on Jan. 31, 1990. She had served the school for 24 years.

The Dodsons are Baptists and Janie attends Lee Street Baptist Church in Dimmitt. Theo served as a deacon when he was alive.

Janie's hobby is quilting and her goal this year (1991) is to make her 100th quilt in four years' time.

Most of the quilts she has made were made for her friends in Dimmitt.

When the couple moved to Dimmitt, they left their eldest son, Jimmy, and his wife and three children, Barbara, Cindy, Marvin and Jaima, in Wichita Falls.

Jerry graduated from school in Dimmitt and married the former Evelyn Taylor of Dimmitt. They have four children, Lisa, Amy, Clint and Jennifer. He and his family live in Happy.

Michael is also a Dimmitt High School graduate. He is married to the former Teresa Tindell of Spearman. They have one daughter, Kristan, who lives in Arlington.

Janie said Dimmitt has been a great place to live.

"Dimmitt people, the churches and civic clubs were so good to us during the time Theo was on the dialysis machine and we were forced to go to Amarillo every other day until his death."

Today, Janie is the only family member still living in Dimmitt, but she calls the town her home and although she may leave here someday, she says she "will go loving each of you."

CASTRO OIL & GAS

YES . . .
 We're proud
 to be a part of
 Castro County!

We want to extend our congratulations to the people of Castro County on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary.

We pledge our best efforts and experience in continuing to be of service to the "Folks of Castro County."

Castro Oil & Gas, Inc.
 500 E. Bedford, Dimmitt 647-5174



Read

Locally Owned . . .

Dimmitt Thriftway Supermarket is a direct descendant of Wilson's Grocery, which was founded in the 1930s.

Raymond Wilson (later to become county judge) opened Wilson's Grocery in the building where the Castro County News is now located. In 1957 he built a new facility and opened Wilson's Super Market in the building that is now the Castro County Senior Citizens Center.

When Mr. Wilson retired from the grocery business, a group of local men bought the store and renamed it Bob's Super Save.

Walt Hansen, who had been in the grocery business in Hart many years, bought the store in 1970 and renamed it Dimmitt Super Market.

In 1976, Walt built the present store at 103 W. Belsher. With twice the floor space, the new store was designed to suit shoppers' habits and preferences as determined by nationwide market surveys.

Later, Dimmitt Super Market joined the Thriftway affiliation of independent stores to provide better prices on brand-name products through group purchasing. That's when the store became Dimmitt Thriftway Supermarket.



THRIFTWAY

Ready? Set? Celebrate!



... Locally Committed

In 1987, Walt bought out the other major food store in Dimmitt, Taylor & Sons, at 600 N. Broadway, first naming it Dimmitt Market, then changing it to IGA Foodliner when the store affiliated with the Independent Grocers Association for large-volume purchasing power.

The store was completely remodeled from the floor up, and now competes with its sister store, offering competing brands of quality products.

Both stores also compete successfully with all the large grocery chains in the region, and offer additional benefits you won't find at a chain store. For instance, Thriftway continues to offer delivery service for shut-ins.

With a staff of 35 at Thriftway and 22 at IGA Foodliner, our stores are locally owned and locally committed. Our people volunteer their time in many ways to benefit our community and our county.

For most of Castro County's first century, our residents have enjoyed the convenience of having a locally owned, independent store nearby that is responsive to their needs.

We plan to continue this tradition of service into the county's second century.

From all of us at Thriftway and IGA Foodliner — Happy 100th Birthday, Castro County!



IGA Foodliner

The P.M. Adams Family

Pearl McClain Adams married Eula Sheehan in southwest Oklahoma in 1907. Nine children were born to this union: six sons — Jephtha, R.C., Elza, Harley, Jewel and Carl; and three daughters — Mary (Bryan), Virgie (Moulton) and Jean (Kasher).

When Mr. and Mrs. Adams relocated in Castro County in 1938, five of the children were married and gone from home. With World War II coming on, the three younger sons, went into service. By then Harley and Jewel had married.

Jewel was wounded two different times while serving in Italy. With the second injury, he received a medical discharge and returned to his home in Stratford.

Harley served in Alaska and Carl, who later decided on a career in the service, served in Germany.

Later, Carl married a German girl, Tina. They were parents of two sons. When the boys were quite young, five- and six-years old, Carl died in Vietnam.

His family continued to live in San Antonio, where they were living at the time he left for Vietnam.

Carl served as a medic in the Brook Army Hospital and wherever he was stationed.

The Adams' eldest son, Jephtha married Rachel Venable in Oklahoma. They raised their family — five sons and one daughter — mostly in Monte Vista, Colo.

R.C. married Edith Potter in Oklahoma and Elza married Edith's sister Claribel. Both raised their family in Dimmitt. R.C. and Edith's children were Jack "Moose," Blake "Snake," Dwain "C.D.," Georgia Ann (Walthall) Derrick and Sandra Sims.

Elza and Claribel's children were David "Bullet," Bobby "Cobb," Jimmy, Eddie and Johnny.

Of the two families — R.C.'s and Elza's — one son, Eddie lives in Dimmitt with his wife Cindy and son Lyson. One of Bobby's daughters, Sha Marie Ebeling lives with her husband Kenny and two children, just a few miles out of Dim-



P.M. ADAMS FAMILY — The Adams family assemble for a family photograph at the 1947 family reunion in Kerrick. On the back row: Japhtha, R.C., Elza, Harley, Jewel and Carl. Middle Row: Jean (Kasher), Virgie (Moulton), Mary (Bryan). Front row: Pearl and Eula Adams

mitt. Her sister Raneta married Billy Patton of Dimmitt. They have one son and live in Houston.

Harley married Annie Schrayner and they had two sons, Jerry and Claude. When the boys were three and five years old, Harley and Annie died in an accident in Denver, Colo. The grandparents adopted the boys and Dimmitt was their home, making a total of 11 children for Mr. and Mrs. Adams to raise.

Jewel married Ruth Blake of Stratford. They were parents of a daughter and son.

Their eldest daughter Mary married Ott Bryan in Oklahoma. They had five children and at one time they lived in Dimmitt, and in later years in Hereford, after living in

Stratford and Dumas.

The youngest daughter, Eula Jean, married Art Kasher. They were parents of three children after he retired from the Air Force, he worked in air traffic control, then moved to Dimmitt and lived until 1980, then moved on to Amarillo where he recently retired from the Potter County Sheriff's Department. Their children were Tony, Mike and Kathy Shugart.

Virgie married Fred Moulton of Kerrick and they had one son Raymond O'Neil. Fred went into the service and after training, he served in Japan. After his discharge in 1946, he returned to Dimmitt, where Virgie and O'Neil were living. He was employed some years for the Bearden Tractor Co., then

after several years, with Killingsworth Construction. He served the city as police officer about 15 years. Fred died in 1982. Virgie retired from the school cafeteria.

Jerry married Madelene Reesing of Stratford and they have one son, and make their in Lubbock. Claude and his wife Lauren (Moulton) have four children and live in Alabama. Lauren was one of Fred's nieces.

Claude works in the food department for the schools in the county in which he lives. Jerry works for the Human Resources.

Eula and Pearl died in 1967. They were members of the Church of Christ. Of the six sons and three daughters born to them, only two daughters survive: Jean and Virgie.

Virgie Moulton

Old-fashioned home cooking is what we do best and we're glad to have been serving you since August of 1990.

We want to cook up a bunch of good wishes for Castro County's 100th Birthday, too.

Grandma's Kitchen

608 South US 385



Elsie Bever & Levi Reynolds, Partners

647-5413



The John Merritt Family ... During wedding ceremony

The John Merritt Family

John and Sue Merritt both were born and grew up in Castro County. Lint and Dell Merritt, John's parents, came to the county around 1900.

Sue's parents were Ray and Pearle Sheffy. They came to Dimmitt around 1920. At the time of their marriage he was Castro County Judge. Mrs. Sheffy started Dimmitt's first kindergarten.

John was in the Army Air Force from 1942 to 1946. Sue attended college from 1943 to 1947, obtaining a B.S. degree from West Texas State Teachers College.

John came home to farm and ranch, and the couple married Feb. 8, 1948 in the Methodist Church basement, two years before the present Methodist Church was built.

The Merritt's children Lint, Su-

zanne, Amy and Johnny, graduated from Dimmitt High School and graduated from WTSU and Texas Tech University. Now all married, their children and grandchildren are Lint and Connie Merritt, Julie and Jill of Dimmitt; Suzanne and Harry Lunt, Kaleb and Jayme of Sunray; Amy and Kelvin Parsons, Ty Joel and Jacob of Lubbock; and Johnny and Denise of Amarillo.

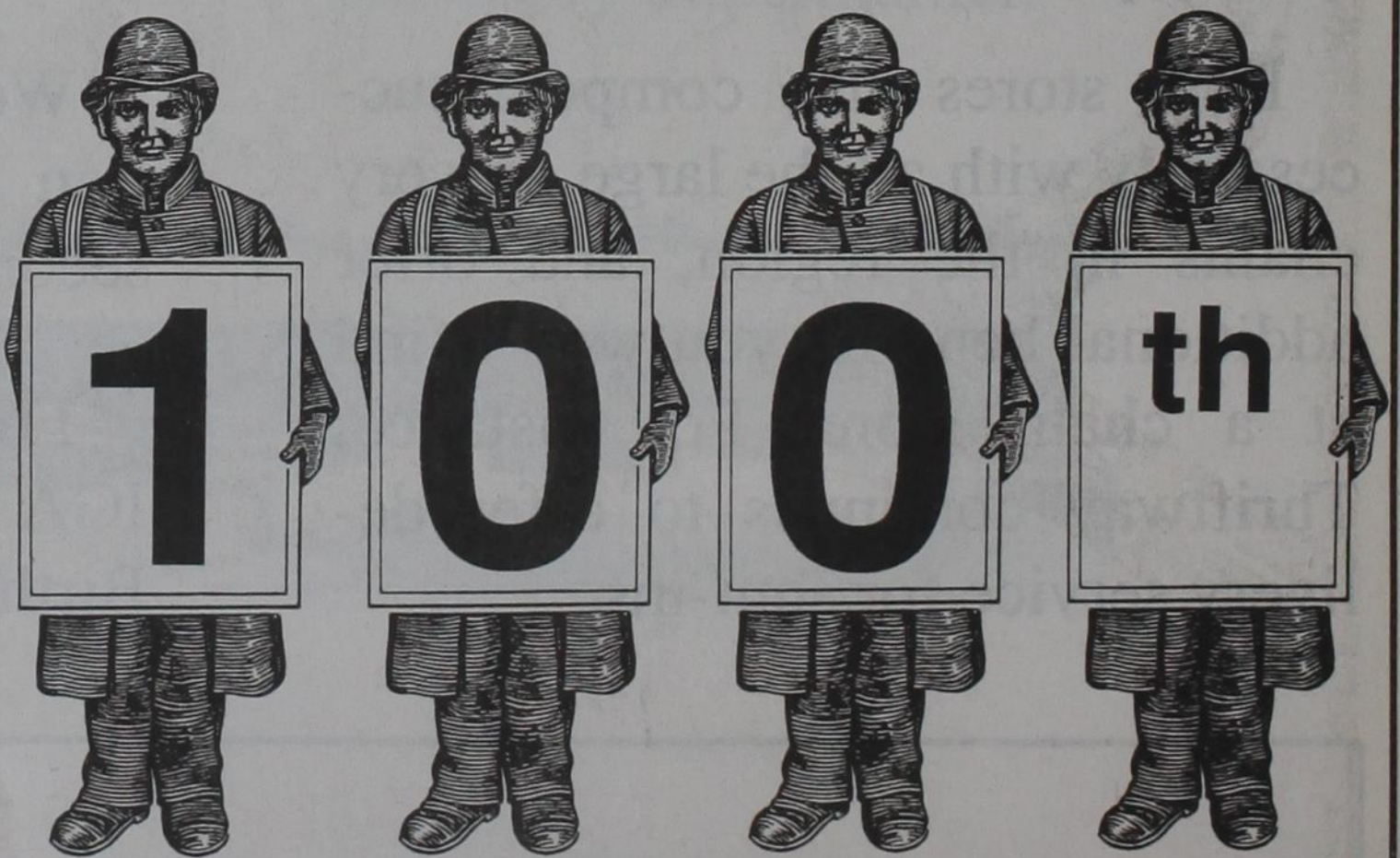
P-R-E-S-E-N-T-I-N-G



our

VERY BEST WISHES

on Castro County's



Anniversary

HOLLY SUGAR

I missed most of Castro's first 100 years.

But I look forward to serving Castro people in the next 100!



CASTRO COUNTY CHIROPRACTIC CENTER

DR. LEE BAGGETT
CHIROPRACTOR

208 W. Jones, Dimmitt

647-2664

**WE ARE PROUD
to have been
a part of
Castro County's
Progress
during its first
100 Years!**

And we look forward to
the future and the next 100!



*Serving this area
since 1917!*

**Westex
Federal
Land Bank
of Dimmitt**

**115 N. Armstrong
Tulia, Texas**

Offices in three locations

**105 W. Bedford
Dimmitt, Texas**

**N. Main
Hereford, Texas**

The W.J. Hill Family

William Jesse Hill III, was born April 19, 1942, in Amarillo to W.J. and Evelyn Hill, a pioneer ranching family. W.J.'s grandad, W.J. (Jess) Hill moved to Potter County in 1887 from Gainesville when he was a boy. He married Bell Shotwell of Canyon and lived in Bushland, where W.J.'s dad was born and reared. W.J.'s mother, Evelyn was the daughter of W.R. and Addie (Johnson) Dale. They moved from Rogers, Ark., to Raton, N.M., and in 1924 to Amarillo. W.J. III was reared on the Hill Ranch near Bushland, and attended Amarillo High School.

Saralce was born March 6, 1944, to Coleman H. and Sally Geraldine (Sides) Cox of Canton. Sara was born and reared in Lubbock and attended Lubbock High School.

W.J. and Sara met while serving in the student government at Texas Tech. W.J. was a Saddle Tramp, a member of Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity, Block and Bridle, and Alpha Zeta honorary. He was elected senior favorite. Sara was a member of Delta Delta Delta social sorority, Panhellenic Board, Who's Who among College and University Students, Mortar Board, and was secretary of the Student Senate.

W.J. received his B.S. Degree from Tech in 1965. He entered Veterinary School at Texas A & M in the fall. Sara graduated from Tech with a B.S. degree in education in 1966. They were married Aug. 13, 1966, in Lubbock and moved to Bryan/ College Station after their honeymoon. Sara taught fourth grade while W.J. finished Veterinary School. They attended the First Baptist Church in Bryan, where W.J. was baptized and joined the Baptist Church with Sara.

After W.J. received his doctor of veterinary medicine degree in 1968, they moved to Dallas, where W.J. was associated with Dr. David White and Dr. Dub Anderson. W.J. practiced in Dallas until November, 1969. Sara taught at White Junior High, and they attended First Baptist Church of Dallas. William Scott was born to them in Dallas June 3, 1969.

In November, 1969, W.J. and Sara and six-month-old William Scott moved from Dallas to Dimmitt, where W.J. had taken a job at Dimmitt Veterinary Clinic with Dr. David Bechtol. After five years of partnership, W.J. bought the clinic outright, and has continued to operate it as a solo practice. In 1988 W.J. had the clinic completely remodeled and re-decorated. An open house of the new clinic was held in February, 1989. The new clinic is double the size of

the old clinic, with several pieces of new equipment that greatly help W.J. in his practice.

The Academy of Veterinarians was founded by a group of eight Panhandle Veterinarians, including W.J. and Dr. Bechtol. It is now a national association, and W.J. was the first secretary of the Academy. On Feb. 1 W.J. opened the new addition to the clinic, Dimmitt Veterinary Supply, a new business providing cattlemen with pharmaceuticals and biologics.

Meanwhile, on the home front, the Hills had three sons. William Scott Hill was born June 3, 1969, in Dallas. At Dimmitt High School, Scott was in the academic Top Ten of his class all four years, lettered in basketball and tennis, was selected to attend Texas Boys State, was president of his class, and was elected Most Likely to Succeed his freshman and sophomore years, Most Handsome his junior year, and Mr. DHS and Prom King his senior year. After graduation in 1987, Scott attended Texas A & M University, and graduated in May. He was on the Dean's Honor Roll and a member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. In the summer of 1989 Scott worked at the famous jewelry store, Tiffany's in New York City. After his graduation from A & M with a B.A. degree in economics, Scott was employed by Princeton Financial in Houston.

Barry Trent Hill was born Aug. 22, 1971, in Plainview. At DHS he was in the academic Top Ten all four years. He also was named Most Likely to Succeed his freshman year, Most Handsome his sophomore and junior years, Mr. DHS, and Flame King his senior year. He was a member of National Honor Society, president of the junior class and vice president of the senior class. He earned three letters in golf and Bobcat football, and received the Fighting Heart Award. He is now attending Texas Tech, where he has made the Dean's Honor List and was inducted into Phi Eta Sigma, freshman honor society. He also has pledged Phi Delta Theta.

Andrew Lee Hill was born Aug. 14, 1980 in Plainview. He has completed fifth grade at Dimmitt Middle School, where he served on the junior Student Senate in fourth grade, and continues to be in the Gifted and Talented program. He is a member of the 4-H Trap Team, has showed pigs in the Stock Show and loves to play baseball and basketball, snow ski and help his dad at the Clinic.

In 1985 W.J. bought a farm north of Dimmitt from Mrs. Oleta Golden. He has made several improvements on the farm, where he grows wheat and milo, and grazes cattle. The farm is W.J.'s favorite hobby, and he also enjoys all the hunting Castro County has to offer.

After a 21-year "maternity leave", Sara started teaching school at Dimmitt Middle kSchool, teaching the Gifted and Talented classes and English.

The Hill family continues to enjoy living and working in Dimmitt, and love to attend church at First Baptist, where all three sons have been baptized. They say they hope to live in Dimmitt many more happy years.



J. Paul and Gertie Waggoner

The J. Paul Waggoners

J. Paul Waggoner came to Castro County in 1924 with his parents, Ernest and Zelma Waggoner, his brother, E.R. and sister, Claudia. He has lived in Castro County since that time, except for three years in the Navy and one year after he returned from the Navy.

Gertie was raised in Olton, in Lamb County. They were married in Yuma, Ariz., in 1943. They have two sons, Mickey, born in 1944, and

Jimmy, born in 1949. Their five grandchildren are Jason, Julie, Stacy, Jana, and Kadi.

They farmed in Sunnyside Community until he sold the farm in 1977. They bought a home at 730 Pine, Dimmitt, in 1980. J. Paul is still helping Jim in his radio communication business.

The Waggoners are enjoying their retirement years with family and friends in Dimmitt.

Advertisement from March 27, 1952 issue of *Castro County News*.

Just Received New Shipment of
GIFTWARE
Dimmitt Flower Shop
Phone 261

The E. Lee Stanfords

The Rev. and Mrs. E. Lee Stanford and son Paul moved to Dimmitt in 1950, serving as pastor of the United Methodist Church. They had four children: Arvalce married Eldon Saul of Miami and they have

two daughters, now all residing in Houston; Dorothy Sue married Travis Tadlock at the church in Dimmitt,

and they had one son, Travis III, before she was killed in an accident in 1957; Jesse married Brooks

Robinson, and they now reside in San Angelo with their four children;

Paul, who graduated in 1953 from Dimmitt High School, was named "Mr. Dimmitt", and was involved in

church activities, sports and band. He attended Texas Tech, and married Betty Lovelace of Abernathy.

They now reside in Abernathy with their two children, Jon and Jena.

The Rev. Stanford retired after serving 50 years in the ministry. He and his wife returned to Dimmitt

where he filled pulpits, when needed, for ministers who were ill or on vacation. He additionally had interests in

farming and Missouri trotting horses. He passed away in July, 1972, with a massive heart attack while on vacation. Mrs. Stanford retains here home in Dimmitt, and is still active in many church activities.



Proud to be serving our customers in Castro County for 12 years.

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY!

Central Plains Spraying

2-1/2 miles east of Hart on Hwy 145
938-2565

Advertisement from February 28, 1952 issue of *Castro County News*.

Commercial and Industrial Wiring
Neal Cooper Electric Company
Dimmitt, Texas
Phone 134 Box 229

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY CASTRO COUNTY!

- Quasar and Crosley Electronics
- Gibson and Tappan Appliances
- Fertillome Yard and Garden Supplies
- Briggs and Stratton Engines and Parts
- Tecumseh Engines
- Toro Lawn Mowers
- Evaporative Air Conditioners
- Satellite TV Systems
- Movie Rentals
- Complete Ceramic Shop

WE HAVE WHAT YOU NEED and look forward to serving you as we have since 1959.

Henderson TV & Appliance
619 S. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt 647-4342

Times have changed...

but our commitment to serving you hasn't.

Remember when we first began serving you in 1960? Remember when we installed our unique soda fountain service area in 1967? Remember when we put our pharmacy records on computer in 1985 so that we could serve you more effeciently?

We're still striving to bring our customers the best service possible. And we present our very best wishes as we observe the 100th Anniversary of Castro County.

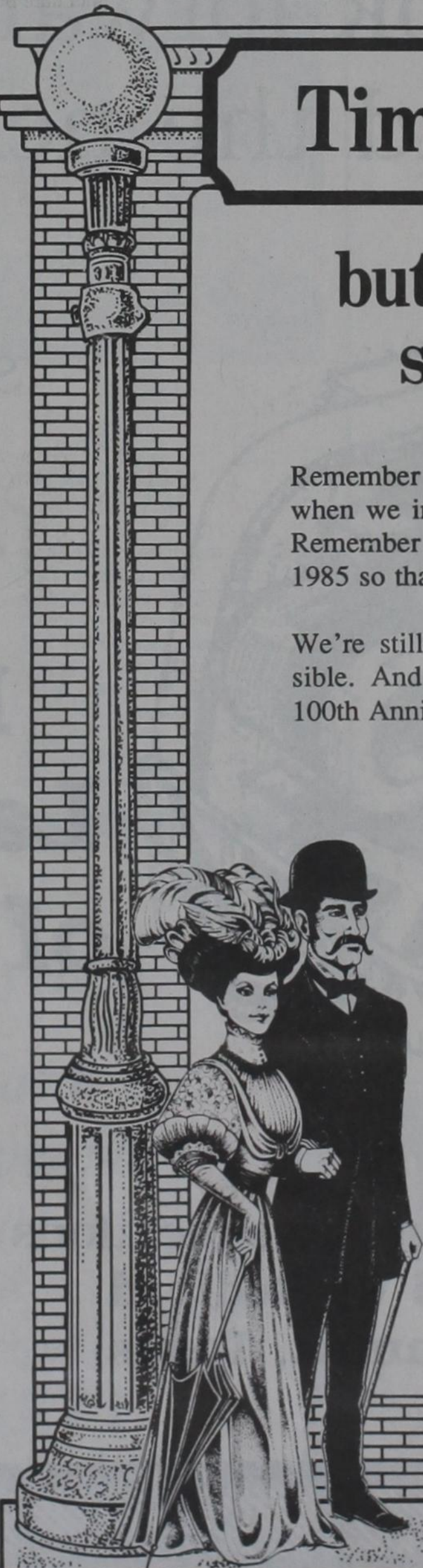


We care about our customers!

Parsons Rexall Drug

107 E. Bedford, Dimmitt

647-3392



Frank and Josephine Brockman Family

Frank J. Brockman moved with his family from Iowa to Nebraska by covered wagon when he was 5 years old. He spoke very little of his family, but did tell about being approached by Indians on the trip. He said they only wanted food. He also spoke of an uncle who had an argument with his father and rode away, never to be seen again.

Arriving in Nebraska, the females of the family stayed in a dugout, while the boys stayed in a partially completed barn. Brockman often talked about a storm that hit one night, causing a large piece of lumber to come through the walls of the barn, just missing his head. He had utmost respect for storms for the rest of his life.

Frank grew up on the grasslands of Nebraska, herding and taking care of cattle. He started his adult life when he met and married Josephine Hoelting Oct. 22, 1901. She had been born Oct. 20, 1882, at St. Stephens.

Frank and Josephine, who were nicknamed "Page" and "Phine", lived on a farm near their parents' home until 1908. At that time they moved to Nazareth, coming by railcar to Tulia. They brought horses, a wagon, and some farm machines with them.

Striking out from Tulia in a wagon with the three children who had been born in Nebraska, they arrived in Nazareth March 25, 1908. They spent a short time with the Ben Huseman family, then moved into a small building that would be used as a granary. In October the square, two-story house was completed. This house would be home to all of the nine children raised by Page and Phine. The first child born in Texas was Agnes, a month after the home was completed.

The farm that Frank purchased in 1907 was land homesteaded by one of the Heidgerken families. The land was originally part of the famous TXL Ranch.

At the time Frank and Phine started their lives in Texas, there were few roads and not too many fences. Phine talked about her first garden being wiped out by a herd of running antelope. Page used to talk about the elimination of the antelope herds caused by the big-wheeled Buicks



FRANK AND JOSEPHINE BROCKMAN
... Married Oct. 22, 1901

and Dodge cars that could traverse the flat prairie at high speeds and shoot the wild animals on the run.

Frank and Phine raised nine children on the farm about two miles south of Nazareth, facing what is now a paved highway, the Hart road. Seven of the nine children are still living:

Josephine Brockman, born Aug. 11, 1902, died Feb. 28, 1941. Married Hubert Braddock Feb. 22, 1927. Children, Norma Jane, Vernon, Evelyn, Jeanette, Cornelia, Patrick.

George Brockman, born Aug. 17, 1904. Married Mary Albracht Sept. 4, 1928. Children, Robert, Ormalene, Allan.

Lawrence C. Brockman,

born Aug. 20, 1906, died Dec. 14, 1979. Married Marie Rickwartz Feb. 12, 1935. Children Gerald Joseph, Lorene Madonna.

Agnes Brockman, born Nov. 16, 1908. Entered convent March 18, 1922, religious name Sr. Jane Frances.

Martha Brockman born Oct. 1, 1911. Married Bill Ponder, 1937, he died in 1950. Married Bill Woods in 1955, living in Easton, Md.

Mattie Brockman, born April 24, 1914. Married Leonard Endres June 5, 1935. Children, Thomas Leonard, Kenneth Raymond, Richard Francis, Judith Kay, Sharon Ann, Mary Beth, Susan Carol, Jeanne Lynn, Nicholas David, Donna Marie,

Catherine Irma. Endres died in 1980. She married Raymond Swirczynski in 1986, living in Nazareth.

Ernest Brockman, born Oct. 3, 1916. Married Florine Wilhelm April 4, 1945. Children, Shirley, Richard, Hal, Kerry, Mark, Ladonna.

McEntire and Webb Families

James Marvin McEntire and Eva Lena Webb were married July 4, 1901 in Baylor County, Texas, where Eva's parents, Calvin Houston Webb and Mary Caroline (Killingsworth) Webb, lived. James and Eva lived on a farm east of Olney in Young County, Texas, where they had three sons: 1. infant son born April 23, 1903 (died in infancy); 2. Hubert Leroy, born Sept. 22, 1907; 3. Ray Stevens, born May 20, 1915.

The McEntire family moved to Dimmitt in Castro County in November of 1917. They bought a farm northwest of town where they farmed and also carried the mail. In 1919, they moved to town where they operated a hotel (1919-1924), a drug store (1921-1923), and a grocery store in 1925. They moved to Plainview for a short time before moving to Flagg, south of Dimmitt, where they operated a hotel and worked at drilling water wells. Later, they moved to Hereford and worked for the City for a time, but in 1928 they returned to their farm and built a new home. In 1936, the McEntires sold their farm to Mr. and Mrs. P.P. Robb and moved to California, where James worked for Lockheed Aircraft in maintenance. Except for a short time when they returned to Dimmitt in 1945 to care for Eva's mother, Mrs. C.H. Webb, they continued to live in California. James Marvin died Oct. 1, 1956, and Eva Lena died July 30, 1959. Both are buried in Castro Memorial Gardens in Dimmitt.

— Submitted by Christine McEntire Bell

Arnold Brockman, born May 3, 1919. Married Katie Schmucker Feb. 11, 1941. Children Edna Jane, who entered a convent and took the name Naomi, which she has retained since leaving the convent; Ralph Edward, Arthur Joseph, Monica Ann, Dale Francis, Joyce Lynn and Virgil Paul.

Victor Brockman, born Dec. 23, 1921. Married Valeria Kleman June 15, 1943. Children, Belinda Kay and Frank Jay. Valeria died May 10, 1980.

Frank Brockman worked

with the early settlers of the area in numerous ways. At one time he was a county "Road Overseer," and his family says they do not know if this title preceded the days of County Commissioners.

Page and Phine were active in the church and school. They instilled a heritage of community spirit and hard work in all of the children, who remember them lovingly.

CENTENNIAL MOMENT: Highway 385 to Hereford was paved in 1946.

Happy Birthday Castro County!

We're proud to be a part of your 100-year history and look forward to serving in the coming years.

Sunnyside Farm Store

— Submitted by Christine McEntire Bell

A County's Strength Lies in Its People

We're privileged every day to serve the people who keep this country strong, including our many customers from Castro County. And we're glad to join in wishing Castro County a

Happy 100th Anniversary!

**The First National
Bank of Hereford**
P.O. Box 593 • Hereford, Texas 79045 • (806) 364-2435

"Financial Security with Home Town Pride"

Each depositor insured to \$100,000

REMEMBER WHEN...

on farm delivery of gas wasn't needed?

Just remember us for fast, efficient service at competitive prices.

Serving you since 1980, we look forward to working with you in the future.

**Happy 100th Birthday
Castro County!**

West Texas Gas Co.

E. Hwy. 86 & 122 S. Broadway, Dimmitt 647-5166

The Moss and Hattie Howell Family

Moss Howell and T. Hattie Bagwell were married July 9, 1927 in Floyd County. We lived there in the Harmony Community where I grew up until 1933. Our first three children were born there Charles, Herbert and Jack.

In January 1933, we moved to Castro County, in the Bethel Community to a farm owned by my father J.A. Bagwell. He had bought the land from a Mr. Lust in 1916. Three of my brothers had lived there at different times from 1917 to December of 1932. We later bought the farm in 1945.

Our first winter was a bad one as all three little boys were beginning to cough of whooping cough when we arrived at our new home. Our house had no insulation and no running water. We carried water from the windmill. If there was water left in the wash basin at night it would be ice the next morning.

I'm thankful little children do not have to suffer through all the diseases they did then. If parents only see to giving them preventive shots.

Most all the people who lived in the Bethel Community at that time had been there for several years.

They were all such good caring neighbors, ready to help when there was a need.

We had church in the Bethel school house until it burned. All denominations went. You received a blessing in more ways then, as you heard a sermon and visited with your neighbors.

After the school house burned, we met in the building that is now the community center.

We survived the Depression and still wonder why the fat cattle were destroyed and not given to the hungry people to eat. The WPA (Works Project Administration) I guess helped, but as now, our country was full of homeless and hungry people.

Then the Dust Bowl took its toll as no rain and no crops.

Our house set in the middle of a section of land, so we got dust from every direction.

After a hard blow, which could last two days and nights, we could sweep up most a five gallon of dust from our four rooms.

I think we learned a valuable lesson from the Depression and Dust Bowl days. Save a little along the way, for there could be another

storm of some kind around the corner.

Our first five sons started to school at Bethel. Their teachers were Mrs. Helen Estes, Elizabeth Womble, Katherine Dever, Elizabeth Thacker and Carrie Neal Russell. Miss Russell was Moss's niece.

Through the years, we had added Jimmie, Oran, Patricia, Gayle, Linda, Karen and John to our family.

The year Patricia started to school, we moved the house up to the main road where it now stands.

Bethel had consolidated with Dimmitt schools and all the country children rode buses to school. We had six in school that year and some mornings when the children were a little slow and we heard the bus horn, I'd open the door and almost push the children out. Some with books in one hand and a jacket in the other. I guess people are at least children wonder why mothers get grey hair.

From the time Charles started school until John finished was 34 years. They were busy years as ball, band and FFA kept children and parents busy. Seemed there was always a bake sale for one thing or other so cakes and cinnam

on rolls were a good item and I baked an awful lot of them.

Our Bethel Home Demonstration Club, I guess, was one of the first in the county. We met for some time in our homes. Sybil Stringer was the Home Demonstration agent. I still have a yeast bread book she gave us published by Texas A&M, first in 1914 and later 1919. We had lots of bakes sales to raise money for different things for the community. Always for me it was cake and cinnamon rolls.

I still make plenty of both as they keep well in the freezer.

For as many children as there was really no serious illness. Jimmie had a badly burned leg when he was five years old and Patricia had a broken arm at six years. In later years, while living in South Dakota, Oran had an eye put out by a ricocheted bullet.

Three of the boys have served in foreign wars. Herbert and Jack in the Korean Conflict. They were both in the Navy. Herbert was aboard the USS Rowan, a destroyer. His ship docked at Pusan, South Korea to pick up some American troops, but he never left his ship. His ship was shelled not far from there.

Jack was aboard the USS Philippine Sea, an aircraft carrier.

When their four years of duty was over, they were ready to leave the service and go back to the farm.

John was in Vietnam and has stayed in the Army. He finished college, when he came back from Vietnam, then went to Korea for a

year. Then he went to Germany for a three year tour. He has just returned (April 24, 1991) from another year in Korea.

While John and his family were in Germany, my daughter Karen and I visited there. We went to Holland for a few days so we were all anxious to get to Amsterdam and visit Corrie Ten Boom's watch shop, as we had read her book and seen the movie.

Wouldn't you know when we got there a sign on the door read "Closed on Vacation." We only got to peek through the windows.

While in Germany, we visited the Dachau concentration camp where so many Jews were killed. If everyone could visit one of these camps, I don't believe there would be any more wars.

In 1974, after 41 years on the farm at Bethel, we decided to move to our present home six miles east of Weatherford. We had bought an interest in the place here. Moss had rented the farm to Jimmie, as he could not do the work due to health problems.

We like to live here and have some wonderful friends, but guess the farm will always seem like home. We go back to the little house and enjoy the children there for a few days as several are pretty close.

The children are kinda scattered, but really not too far away. Charles and Ruby live across the street from us and both have jobs here.

Herbert and Montie live in Bovina, but Herbert still farms at Bethel. Jack and Charlene live on gran-

dad Bagwell's home place at Bethel. Jack farms and auctions and Charlene is employed in the Dimmitt school system.

Jimmie and Sue live on our farm at Bethel. Jimmie farms and Sue is employed as counselor in the Dimmitt school system.

Oran and Norma live at Streetman where he is employed by Texaco. He is chief mechanic for their gas company there.

Patricia and Tom Bands live at Americus, Kan. but she is a counselor in the Emporia, Kan. grade schools.

Gayle and Melvin Stovall live at Fritch. He works for Mapco, a gas company, and Gayle and her daughter Starla have a barber shop there.

Linda lives in Fort Worth and has been employed by General Dynamics where the F-16 fighter plane was built.

Karen and Leon Ahlerich live at Bedford. They have both been employed by General Dynamics.

John and Collene live at Sterling, Okla. He is a major in the Army, stationed at Fort Sill.

Thanksgiving is really our Christmas as all the children and grandchildren who can come here.

We have a good time visiting and eating. The next day is shopping time here in Forth Worth and Mineral Wells as Christmas is just around the corner.

Our family has grown to be fairly large with 29 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

Who knows what the year will bring.

The Ted Sheffy Family

Dorothy Graham and Ted Sheffy were born, raised and lived their married lives in Castro County.

Ted grew up in the Flagg community, eldest son of Sid and Myrtle Sheffy. He went to Flagg school, transferring to Dimmitt in seventh grade. He graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1939, and went to West Texas State for one semester. In January, 1942, he joined the Navy to serve on the USS Alywin until October, 1945.

Dorothy grew up in the Mulkey community, the only daughter of Bill and Rachel Graham. She graduated from DHS in 1941 and from Baylor University in 1945. His first teaching job in 1945-46 was where she started to first grade in an old red brick school house.

Ted came home to work at John Deere for Ray Sheffy. It wasn't long until the friendship between Ted and Dorothy started again after the war years. They became engaged on Christmas of 1945, and were married April 4, 1946, sharing friendship, love and companionship for 43 years.

Ted farmed the Graham home place, and two of the children, Sheryl Beth and Robert Graham, were born there. Eight years later, while the family lived in Parmer Co., Virginia was born.

After many changes, Ted farmed with Graham. Graham married Karen Lyle and they had two children, Gabe and Brittany. They live in College Station. Beth married Rick Wallace and they have two children, Shay and Brook. They



TED AND DOROTHY SHEFFY
... When he was parade marshal in 1988

live in Tulia. Virginia married Kevin Malone of Hereford. Now living in Hart, they have two children, Quentin and Rachel.

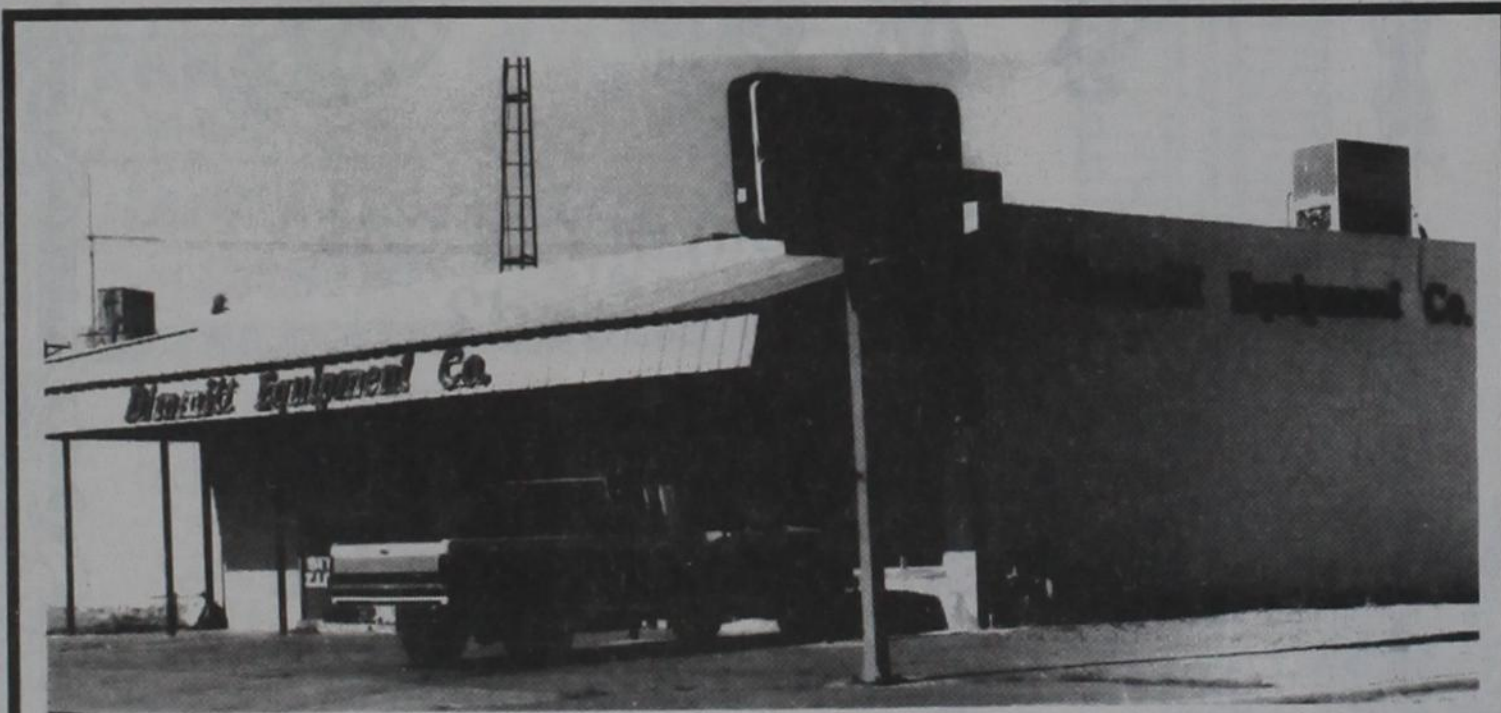
Dorothy retired from teaching in 1987, after 26 years in the Dimmitt school system. Ted retired from farming and enjoyed a life-long hobby of woodcraft, stained glass and antiques. He had a shop in the old John Deere building, where he had worked as a boy.

Ted and Dorothy were Methodists. Ted served as Sunday School Superintendent for 23 years, and

Dorothy as a Sunday School teacher.

Ted was diagnosed with cancer in 1988. He fought a valiant battle for 15 months, and was a shining example to all his family in his walk of faith. He died Oct. 1, 1989.

Dorothy enjoys her seven grandchildren (one is a foster child living with the Wallaces). She still teaches an adult Sunday School class and keeps busy with community affairs.



Serving Dimmitt and Castro County with reliable farm and irrigation equipment sales and service.

Looking forward to the next 100 years!



Dimmitt Equipment Co.

411 SE 2nd

647-4197

**Hear, Ye!
Hear, Ye!**

**Castro County
is 100 years old!**

WE SALUTE YOU!

Friena Motors

1011 Grand, Friena (806)247-2701

**100 Years
of Progress**

Congratulations Castro County
on your 100th Birthday.

It has been our pleasure to serve
the farmers throughout this area.

Cargill, Inc.—Molasses

402 NE 2nd, Dimmitt 647-2111

The G.L. Willis Family History

George Lee and Nancy Willis moved to Texas in 1915 when George traded land near Yotebo, Okla. for two sections of land one mile south of Dimmitt. They had three small daughters: Irene, Allie Mae and Anita.

A son, G.L., Jr. was born in Hereford in 1918.

There were no buildings on the place, only grass, so the family lived in Hereford until George had a house moved to the place. He also put up a windmill and storage tank, built corrals, an outhouse and dug a cellar.

We came from Oklahoma where tornadoes, "cyclones" as we called them then, were very prevalent.

During the flu epidemic of 1918, George had pneumonia and nearly died. He never really recovered from the effects of it, and was very susceptible to pneumonia.

For several years ranching was his main interest, but gradually, as more grass was plowed up, farming became more and more important. Of course it wasn't until irrigation wells began to pop up everywhere that the county really turned into a fine agricultural community, producing the finest crops grown.

When we first came to Dimmitt, there was only one church building, originally built by the Presbyterians, but all churches used it. Every one went to Sunday School together. During the summer, the different churches would have a preacher come and hold a meeting. Everyone would attend those meetings just as they did on Sunday morning.

George and Nancy were members of the Church of Christ. There were about six families that were members and they met Sunday afternoons in various places such as homes and the schoolhouse and during one time at the county jail. Charlie "Dad" Mapes (a very dear elderly man) a member was the jail custodian. The jail consisted of an iron structure (much like a big cage) that sat in the north part of a large room. Dad Mapes lived in the south part of this room.

There must have been very few prisoners at that time, as I only

remember seeing a man in that jail once or twice.

In 1922, Nancy Willis, Mrs. Carter, Alfred and Minnie Grand, and O.M. Reynolds (a preacher that held several meetings here) picked out a building site for a church and parsonage. It was at Third and Bedford and the property was owned by the Edd Smith family that had operated a telephone exchange for several years.

As more members of the Church of Christ moved to Dimmitt, they decided to build a church. I think it was the second church in Dimmitt. Several of the members worked on the building. George furnished a carpenter during the construction. In a few years, when the Depression came, it was a hard struggle making payments with so few members, but it did survive.

When the present Church of Christ was built, this lot was sold to the McLean family where they built a nice building for the First State Bank. For many years, they very generously made available to the people of Dimmitt a very nice large room that was constantly in demand for meetings, bridge, parties, clubs and receptions, as well as an enjoyable place to drop for a cup of coffee and a chat with a friend.

Irene graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1923, valedictorian of her class. The following year she went to Abilene Christian College where she received a teaching certificate. The next two years she taught at Jumbo. Her cousin Jeanie Bills taught with her the second year.

The Willis home burned and after renting a house in Dimmitt, that sold very soon, the family moved to Hereford where George bought a two story house on 25 Mile Ave. Allie Mae graduated in 1926 from Hereford High School.

That fall Nancy and George moved back to Dimmitt to take care of the cattle. All the children attended schools in Canyon. Their grandmother Robinson stayed with them. Irene and Allie Mae were both in West Texas State College.



G.L. Jr. and Ouida Willis

Irene met Leland C. Lee from Hereford and they became engaged.

In 1927, Anita and G.L. Jr. returned to Dimmitt. Irene and Allie Mae taught school at Jumbo. It was Irene's third term. During the Thanksgiving holidays, she and Leland visited her cousin Jeanie Bills (later Mrs. Goodwin Miller) and her family. While there, they decided to get married, and were married at Lawton, Okla.

George had their house in Hereford torn down and the lumber moved to their farm south of Dimmitt where he had a new home built. While this house was being constructed the family lived in the house that is now the Castro County museum. They moved into their new home in 1929. Anita graduated that year from Dimmitt High School. It was the first class to graduate from the new high school building.

The fall of 1930 Allie Mae and Anita went to Texas Tech. Anita married Claude Lee "Pee Wee" Morris on December 23rd.

Rural electricity was still many years away in 1931, when a gasoline iron caught fire and destroyed this home. This was the second home to burn on the farm. The first one burned when a kerosene stove exploded. Neither house was insured.

George bought a large building in Dimmitt and moved it to the same foundation where it still stands.

During the years of drought and Depression, George traded two sections of land near Summerfield for a herd of registered white-face cows. He leased a ranch in Oklahoma and moved the herd there. Allie Mae taught one year at Sunnyside before moving to Oklahoma with the family.

G.L., Jr. graduated at Mountain Park, Okla. in January 1936. Allie Mae went to Long Beach, Calif. where she worked for several years

for a brokerage firm. George sold his cattle and the family moved back to Dimmitt. G.L., Jr. and Ouida Faye Byrnes were married at Clovis, N.M. on June 3, 1938.

As George became more susceptible to pneumonia, he and Nancy started spending the winters in California, returning to Texas for the summers. G.L., Jr. had taken over the farming and ranching. When the war came along there were no houses to rent, so they bought a home in California, but Texas was always really home.

While in California, when his health permitted, George enjoyed working a little with real estate, buying and selling an apartment complex and several houses. He passed away June 24, 1949.

In 1953, Nancy sold her home in California and she and Allie Mae returned to Texas, building a home in Dimmitt. She lived to be 94, was very active and alert and interested in her family, the church and the county.

Nancy passed away May 27, 1972. Leland and Irene Lee had three children. Leland Willis married Marie Wynn, Caroyln Joyce married James Copeland and Nancy Sue married Joe Upton.

Anita and Claude Lee Morris had 2 sons. Larry Gene married Jean Helburn and Jerry Dean married Linda Schubenski.

There are now 17 great grandchildren and 10 great-great grandchildren.

G.L., Jr. and Ouida Willis had five children. Shari Ann married Gene Bradley, Jan Carol married Mike Baca and Kay Lynn married Andy Rogers.

George Max and Mary Sue died as babies.

Irene Willis Lee passed away July 29, 1979 and Leland C. Lee passed away Aug. 24, 1981. Claude Lee Morris passed away April 30, 1984 and Ouida Faye Willis passed away May 24, 1991.

CENTENNIAL MOMENT: The first church organized in the county, according to records, was the First Baptist Church. It was organized in 1891.

CENTENNIAL MOMENT: Because Castro County was uninhabited at the time of its establishment, it was attached to Jack County for administrative purposes.

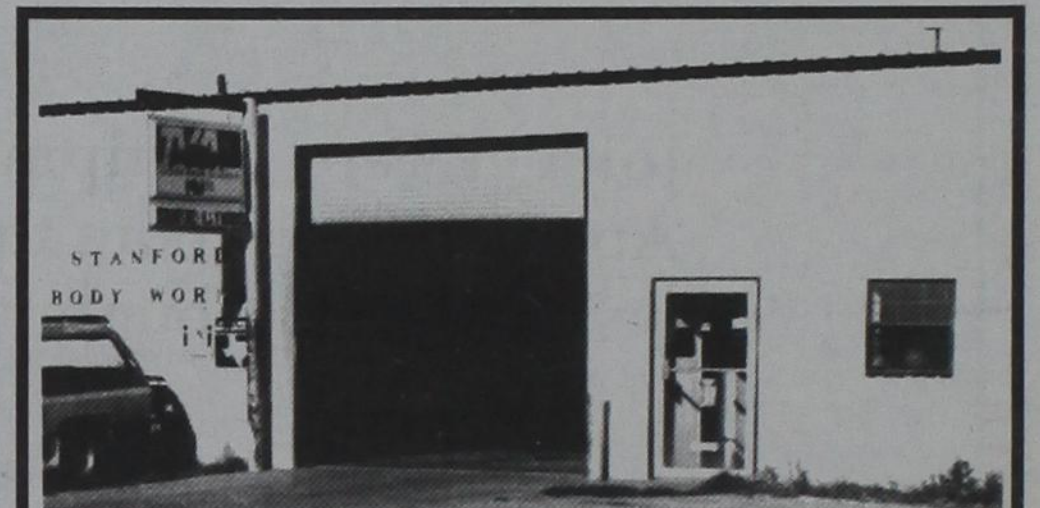
Happy 100th Birthday!

Burgers N' Mor was built in 1986 by Art and Lil Schreck, who sold it to George Lopez in June of 1991, with Linda Reyes as the manager.

We look forward to serving you for many more years to come.

Burgers N' Mor

219 S. Broadway, Dimmitt
647-2183



Proud to be serving Dimmitt and Castro County since 1968.

Happy 100th Anniversary!

Stanford Body Works

"The Most Modern Body Shop in the Panhandle"
322 SE 2nd, Dimmitt 647-4426

Congratulations

Happy 100th Birthday Castro County!

Serving Hart and the Castro area since 1977.

Jim Black Oil and Hart Auto & Farm Supply

Specializing in farms and ranches in Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

Jimmie George has 22 years of experience in the real estate business, and Mary Lou Schmucker has 10 years experience. They look forward to serving this area in the future, and appreciate the opportunities to serve in the past.

Happy 100th Castro County!

George Real Estate
S. Hwy 385, Dimmitt 647-4174

We're Serving up Special Congratulations on Castro County's 100th Anniversary!

K-Bob's Steak House

204 W. Bedford, Dimmitt 647-4167



The first John Deere—1838



The latest John Deere—
1991 Model 8960

- 370-hp 8960 4-wheel-drive with 14 L engine
- 24-speed PowrSync™, 12-speed Syncro™ and 12-speed Power Shift transmissions available
- Modular chassis and Sound-Gard® body

The 'Greening' of Castro County

John Deere equipment was tilling America's soil more than half a century before Castro County was organized.

As our progressive farmers developed new crops that created new demands, John Deere technology developed dependable equipment for them.

As our county "greened up" . . . as our economic base progressed from rangeland to small dryland wheat farms to today's large, irrigated, diversified operations . . . John Deere played an important role, and the green machine in the field became a familiar sight.

It's been a century-long partnership . . . a partnership of technology, know-how, innovation and commitment to excellence.

We're ready to keep that partnership going into the second century.



J&H Equipment Co.

S. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt

647-3324