

Baird Star

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Volume 115 Number 35

Baird, Texas 79504

Tuesday, August 26, 2003

Editors Spot

by Margaret Hetrick



Refuse To Lose

Last Thursday night at the scrimmage with Robert Lee Steers, hosted by the Baird Bears, I saw lots of people wearing red T-shirts with "Refuse To Lose" printed on them. The T-shirts were being sold by the Bear Booster Club "Refuse To Lose" is not only a good motto for a football team, but for everything we strive to accomplish in life.

If you "Refuse to Lose", no

set backs - and there usually are a few to face in every endeavor - will stop you. You'll always rebound, and never lose sight of your goals - and you'll never be a loser!

By the way, the scrimmage score was 3-0 in favor of the Bears.

The Bears Varsity team will be playing Miles on Friday, August 29 at 7:30 p.m. at Miles.

Come out and support our local team!

Session Update

At press time Tuesday, Aug. 26 the second Special Session of the Texas Legislature is ending. But the 11 Senators who fled the state to block redistricting indicated they had no immediate plans to return home.

"This is far from over," one of them stated at the hotel where they were staying.

Gov. Perry has not announced whether he will immediately call a third Special Session as soon as this one is over. There is a

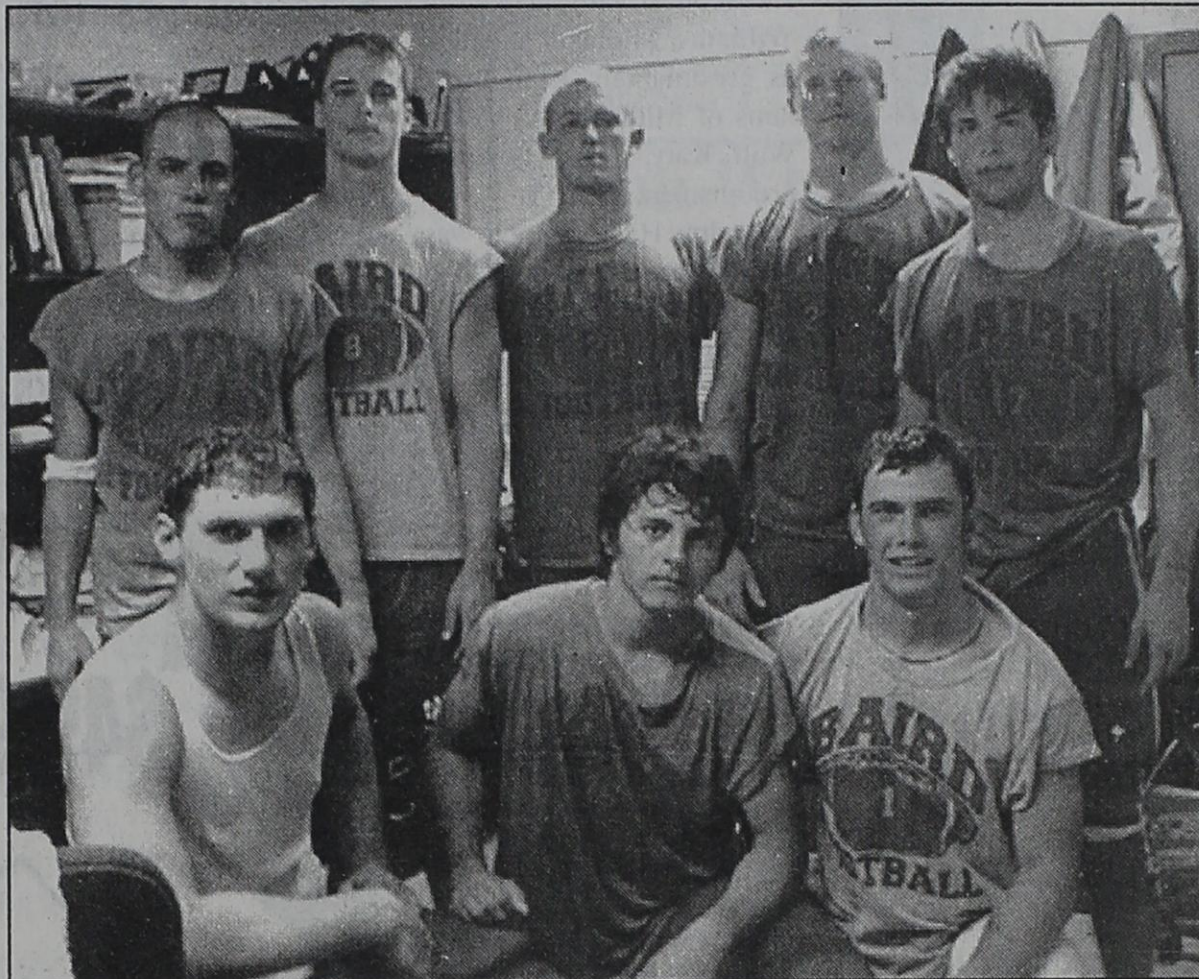
good chance he will, however.

A spokesman for Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said that the Democrats have few options.

Dewhurst has proposed a break after this special session that would allow the Democrats to come back before another special session is called.

Democrats say they want more details before deciding to come back.

The anger and suspicious over the redistricting proposal is still very much a part of the equation.



Members of the Baird Football Team are shown after Thursday's scrimmage with Robert Lee's Steers. The Bears challenge Miles on Friday, August 29th, 7:30 p.m. there.

Chamber of Commerce's Banquet Nomination Forms Due Sept. 1

Nomination forms for the Howard Farmer Outstanding Citizen and Volunteer of the Year awards must be returned

to the Chamber of Commerce by September 1. The awards will be announced at the October chamber banquet.

Jerry Barron received the Howard Farmer Outstanding Citizen award last year and Brenda Moore was named Volunteer of the Year in 2002. Other past recipients of the Howard Farmer award are

Katie Ivey, Ben Russell, James Eubanks, Dick Vestal, Maurine Nichols, Fred Goble, Stephen Warren, Jerry Loper, Vada Bennett, Melba Foy, Bill Denman, Nicki Harle, Cliff Stringfellow, Felix Manion, Skip Parker, Jay Hanner, K. D. Griffin, Barbara Boyd, Ruth Dye Fisher and Tom Ivey.

Hilderbran Holds Town Hall Meet

Austin - Representative Harvey Hilderbran, R-Kerrville, held a town hall meeting at the Callahan County Courthouse in Baird on Tuesday, August 26, 2003 from 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

"Come join me at the courthouse for a legislative wrap up and I will be happy to talk to you about any issues that

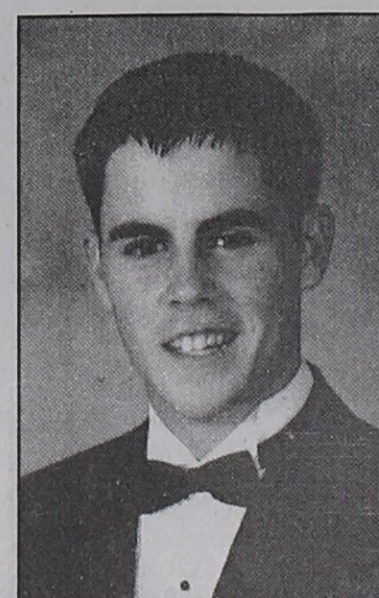
may be of importance to you. I value your input and look forward to visiting with the folks of Callahan County," Representative Hilderbran said.

For more information about the town hall meeting contact Representative Hilderbran at 512/463-0536.

Sage Goldsmith Receives Interscholastic Scholarship

Sage Elliott Goldsmith, a graduate of Baird High School, has been awarded a scholarship by the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation.

Goldsmith received an Abell-Hanger Foundation Scholarship, in the amount of \$7,000 payable \$3,500 each of the first two years of higher education. The Abell-Hanger Foundation awarded 27 scholarships to students who have participated in the University Interscholastic League Academic State Meet and who have compiled an outstanding record of academic and extracurricular achievement. One scholarship was awarded to a student who



SAGE GOLDSMITH

plans to major in nursing, and another scholarship was given in honor of Garry W. Vacek, TILF President.

(Continued Inside)

Stenholm To Visit Clyde Wednesday

Congressman Charlie Stenholm will visit local residents to update constituents on issues pending in the U.S. House of Representatives Wednesday, Aug. 27, from 9 to 9:45 p.m. at the Lions Club Building, the corner of South first and Rusk Streets, Clyde in Callahan County.



Special Session Ends Tuesday

by Viola Payne

Funds Collected For Democratic Senators

The second 30-day special session of the Texas Legislature ends Tuesday, Aug. 26, and it is not known how soon Gov. Rick Perry will call another one.

Eleven of 12 Senate Democrats are waiting out the Session in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they have been since July 28.

They stopped a Senate quorum and prevented a vote on a Republican-backed redistricting plan that would have made a number of changes in U.S. Congressional boundaries.

When they crossed the state line Texas law officers were not able to arrest them and bring them back to Austin.

On Friday Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said he would like to see the Legislature take some time off before entering a third special session on the congressional redistricting.

He said his preference would be for the Senators to have some time to continue working on details of the proposals - especially the districts in West Texas.

Also, he is interested in seeing what action occurs Wednesday in Laredo in a federal court case filed by the 11 boycotting Senate Democrats.

Last week the Republican Senators in Austin levied fines and penalties on the Democrats. Various privileges were taken from them.

In the meanwhile, people across the U.S. have contributed \$600,000 to aid the Democrats who fled to Albuquerque, and it looks like more is coming. A group called MoveOn.Org. collected that amount three

(Continued Inside)

CJC Prepares For Fall Semester

Building improvements and construction at the Cisco Junior College campus continue as the CJC community prepares for the fall semester.

Cisco Junior College President John Muller said that major paving and street work have been completed. "All streets have been repaired, and the parking lots have been sealed and striped," Muller said.

The renovation of Bivins

Hall as a residence hall continues. This two-story building was constructed in 1927 and is approximately 14,000 square foot. It served as a dormitory to thousands of young men, but has been unoccupied for several years. According to Muller, Bivins is the oldest structure on the Cisco campus.

Earlier this summer a contract for \$1,404,835 for the renovation of Bivins Hall was awarded to Rose

Builders, Inc. of Abilene, and construction crews continue to work on the site. Much of the building's interior has been stripped, and the portico has been reopened. The brick has also been repointed making the architectural detail more visible. "Bivins Hall is a significant building that links the present with the past, and its restoration will also give us the dormitory space needed with our new programs," Muller said.

One of the new programs on the drawing board is baseball. "CJC looks forward to fielding a men's baseball team in the spring of 2005 to complement the women's softball program that has been in effect for several years," Muller said.

In May a contract for \$756,993 was awarded to Joe R. Jones Construction, Inc. of Weatherford for the construction of a new baseball/softball sports

(Continued Inside)

Callahan County Salary Grievance Committee Notice of Open Meeting

Date of meeting: August 28, 2003 1:45 P.M.

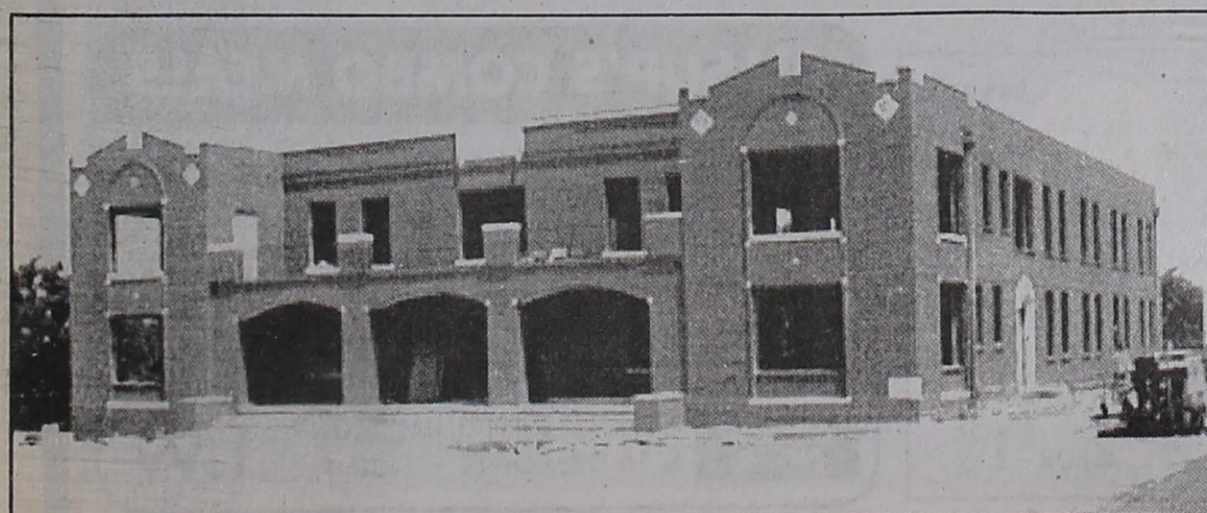
Location: 100 West 4th, Suite 200
Callahan County Courthouse
Commissioners' Court Room
Baird, Texas 79504

Complete Agenda:

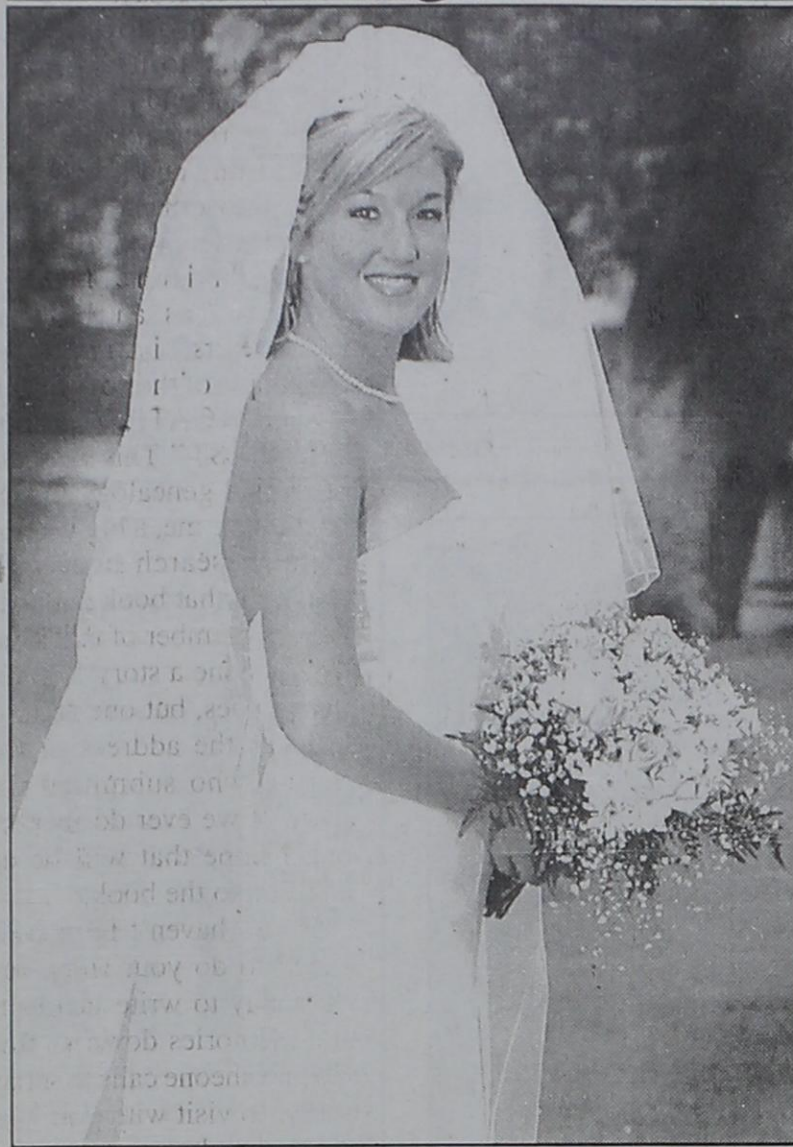
Call to Order

Deliberate and consider Action of the Following Items:

1. Consider Salary Grievance of Sharon Owens District Clerk



Wedding Bells



Mrs. Shane Devenport

Riley - Devenport

Averie Colwell Riley of Temple and Shane Roy Devenport of Baird, were united in marriage Saturday, Aug. 16 at Bethel Assembly of God Church in Temple. Rev. Elwyn Johnston officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Ken and Theresa Riley of Temple, and the groom is the son of Mike and Gina Devenport of Brady.

Music for the evening was performed by pianist Nancy Bales and soloists Arielle Riley of Temple and Bodie Gilbert of Lampasas.

Given in marriage by her father and mother, the bride wore an ivory strapless organza sheath with a trumpet skirt trimmed with rum pink beaded lace accents.

Serving as maid of honor was Arielle Riley of Temple. Bridesmaids attendants were Haven Plemons, Austin; Hillary Plemons, Austin; Jenna Lancaster, Oenaville; and Michelle Devenport, Brady. Junior bridesmaids were Alexandra Hicks and Adrian Hicks, both of Temple.

Mike Parker of San Antonio stood as best man while

From Page One Sage Goldsmith Receives

This year the TILF awarded 262 new awards and will renew approximately 271 awards for a total of 533 scholarships worth over \$1 million. Recipients may attend any approved college or

university in Texas. Goldsmith competed in accounting at the 2002 and 2003 UIL Academic State Meets. He also participated in UIL social studies, number sense, mathematics, computer applications, cross country, and band throughout his high school career. He was presi-

dent of both band and Student Council, and was valedictorian of his graduating class. He attended Boys State and Global Young Leaders Conference, and was active in the community through mentoring and various volunteer efforts.

From Page One Special Session

Goldsmith plans to attend University of Texas at Austin and major in unspecified business.

from the group said that almost 27,000 people, with a number of them from Texas, have contributed to this campaign. He says it will be a national TV, radio and print blitz, to inform the public what is going on.

A political consultant

Call Margaret for all your local happenings and up to date news 254-629-1707

D.P.S. Report

8-10-03 to 8-16-03

Cases Investigated

Warnings- 75

Complaints- 104

DWI- 1

Possession of Marijuana over 50 lbs. under 2000 lbs.- 1

Possession of Controlled Substance- 1

Accidents

There were 6 accidents investigated during this time span.

People Arrested on Outstanding Warrants

16 for a total of \$4,340.00 collected.



It was recently discovered that dogs do see in color, just not in as vivid color as humans.

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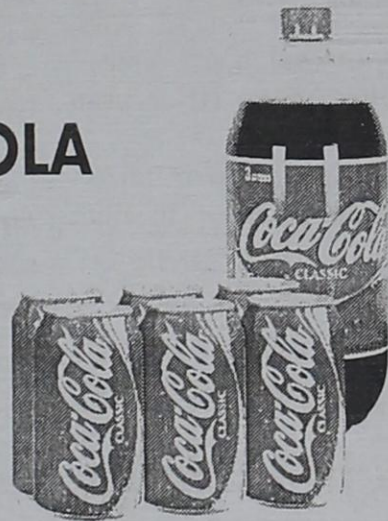
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Ranger, Baird

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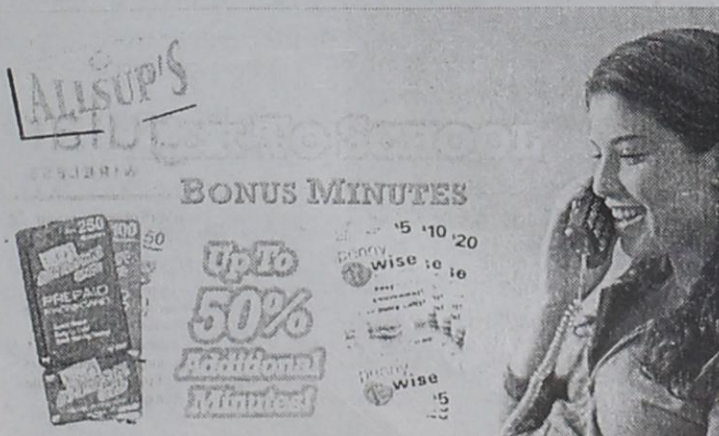
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TORTILLAS
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99¢



SO-DRI
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SINGLE ROLL
59¢ EACH OR
2 FOR \$1



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69¢



BREYER'S ICE CREAM REG. \$3.09 / 1 1/2 PINT	\$2.89
SOFT & GENTLE BATHROOM TISSUE 4 ROLL PKG.	99¢
ALL FLAVORS TOM'S CHIPS REG. \$1.89	2 FOR \$3
T.G.I. FRIDAY'S CHIPS 3 OZ. / REG. \$1.29	\$1.19
ALLSUP'S WHITE BREAD 24 OZ. / 59¢ EACH OR	2 FOR \$1.09
ALLSUP'S WHEAT BREAD 24 OZ. / 69¢ EACH OR	2 FOR \$1.29

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COMBO NO. 4	BREAKFAST BURRITO, HASHBROWN & 16 OZ. COFFEE	\$1.99

More Traffic Equals More Troopers This Labor Day Weekend

The Texas Department of Public Safety will have all available troopers on the roadways during the upcoming Labor Day weekend targeting speeders, seat belt violators and drunk drivers.

DPS-along with law enforcement agencies throughout the state-will increase patrols from Friday, Aug. 29 through Monday, Sept. 1 in an effort to cut down on highway deaths and injuries.

Last year, DPS issued 26,577 citations during the Labor Day holiday, which is more than three and a half times the number of a non-holiday weekend.

This includes 1,297 alcohol-related citations or ar-

rests. "Labor Day tends to be a holiday with a large number of DWI fatalities," said DPS Director Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr. "Because Labor Day is traditionally the last weekend of the summer, more people are out celebrating-creating potentially dangerous situations on our roadways."

A new state law, effective Sept. 1, makes driving while intoxicated with a passenger younger than 15 a state jail felony, punishable by a maximum of two years in jail and a \$10,000 fine. Another new law will result in a \$3,000 surcharge (paid over three years) if an of-

fender is convicted of driving while intoxicated.

"Our job is to make sure the highways are safe for everyone, so drivers who insist

You Can Make A Difference In The Life Of A Child Become A Foster/Adoptive Parent

The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services is looking for caring foster and adoptive families in your area. Potential foster/adopt parents can be single or married. We are especially in need of families that will care for children ages 0-12, sibling groups, and medically frag-

ile children. For more information about becoming a foster or adoptive parent for a child coming out of a

neglectful or abusive home, Please attend one of the following information and orientation meetings.

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 2, 2003; 6:30 - 8:00 PM
WHERE: CPS OFFICE, 3610 VINE ST., ABILENE, TX.
(Karen Walker - Tele: 325/691-8100)

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 8, 2003; 6:30-8:00PM
WHERE: CPS OFFICE, 301 MAIN ST., BROWNWOOD, TX.
(Alex Hamilton - Tele: 325/643-7009)

We hope to see you at one of our meetings !!!

Thursday, August 28, 2003

ing and hearing these so they need to be careful of derogatory remarks. To me it has been so nice to see the people as they think back into the days of yesterday.

I have also learned that people like to feel appreciated. Jessie and I try to send a Thank You card soon after the meeting and if I have already transcribed my tapes I send them a copy of it.

I feel this is one of the best things that Eastland has done since the first history done by the people of the county. It is named "GATEWAY TO THE WEST." This may not seem like genealogy to you but believe me, a big portion of my research begins by checking that book and seeing if a member of that family has done a story. It gives many clues, but one thing it lacks is the address of the person who submitted the story. If we ever do another one I hope that will be an addition to the book.

If you haven't been contacted to do your story, begin today to write incidents and memories down so that when someone calls to set up a time to visit with you, you will be ready.

Make Everyone's Happy Hunting more effective.

From Whence Came I

By Wanda Lee Beck Skinner

As I have begun listening to the stories of some people who know Eastland well, I have learned many things. First of all the word, interview, seems to make people back off from talking to you. I have found that when you say something like, I know you have a story to tell to help preserved the history of the county. Would you tell it to me?

As we begin it seems there is usually a little nervousness in the person but as the questions such as: When and where were you born, who were your parents, and where were they born? Then talk of siblings and they begin to loosen up and often you find that they are ready and willing to share. Their stories are intriguing and I do not find it hard to listen at all. You probably find that hard to believe since I am a big talker. I have also learned people feel more

comfortable if they know ahead of time the type of things you will be doing. I always tell them I will bring someone with me, it is usually Jessie. I tell them we will have the video and a tape player. They can refuse to answer any questions they do not feel comfortable with. They do need to remember that other people will be see-

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Time

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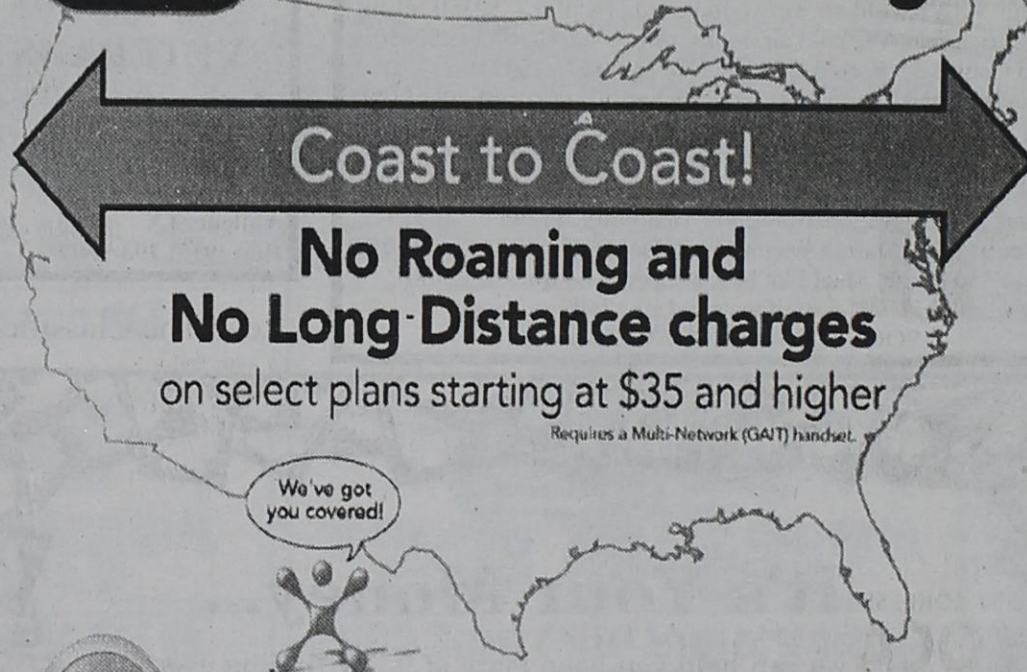


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Redistricting: Fortunately, The Voters Draw The Final Map

By Sam Pendergrast
(Ed. Note: Sam is a superannated Democrat and will not agree, but all will think on what he writes.)

AUSTIN-- "Poor New Mexico: so far from heaven, so close to Texas."

That was the lament from about 1912 when the charming Land of Enchantment was sewed into the fabric of the Southwest next to our sprawling and often disorderly Lone Star.

Lately, they accommodated another 11 Tejanos near the heart of Old Town Albuquerque's turquoise shops, Indian bread bakeries, and comparatively orderly politics.

It helped that the new governor is Democrat Bill Richardson, Clinton secretary of energy and ambassador to less troubled Korean states and the like, because the visitors were Texas senators fleeing the Republican majority in Austin to avoid a third attempt at Congressional redistricting to reflect GOP gains in the last disastrous Texas election.

The Texans need all the friendly neighbors they can find because Texas Gov. Rick Perry threatened to call a second (and now a third) \$1.7 million special session

to achieve a GOP majority from foot-dragging Democrats.

(Never mind how many crumbling schools or uninsured, hungry kids that \$3.4 million could help-- or that redistricting is mandated every ten years by census, not nonsensus.)

Personally, the Texas 11 members face heavy fines and loss of perks and per diem pay at the hands of the GOP caucus as well as living expenses in the Duke City.

But all Texans should be troubled about being thrust into the chaotic category with Florida, where the U.S. Supreme Court was allowed to pick a president, and California, where they can change governors every year or two via the recall system that allows a wealthy individual or group to buy a new ballot at whim.

As Bill Ratliff, former GOP Texas lieutenant governor, puts it, the great cost is in the spirit of bi-partisan cooperation that ruled in Austin-- particularly during the Bush administration when the late Lt. Gov. (and prior Democrat) Bob Bullock sold out to "Dubya" for a facade of amity while they were wiping out Ann Richard's billions of surplus to make Dubya look

good for the presidency (where he could wipe out the trillions of Clinton surplus to give tax cuts to his wealthy pals).

The Texas GOP-assessed penalties are not likely to prevail. (If they have no quorum for redistricting, they would seem to have no quorum for penalizing boycotting Democrats.)

And who wouldn't like to spend an extra month in Albuquerque, where you can sneak off up the Sandias by cablecar to sip "gluwein" at the ski area?

The worst loss may be in making Texas government look ridiculous again.

And in providing further evidence the GOP is largely interested in campaigning and padding its ranks but tends to be unable to govern seriously when it gets the chance.

Surely it isn't merely happenstance that it took Republicans 42 years to regain a majority in Washington the last time.

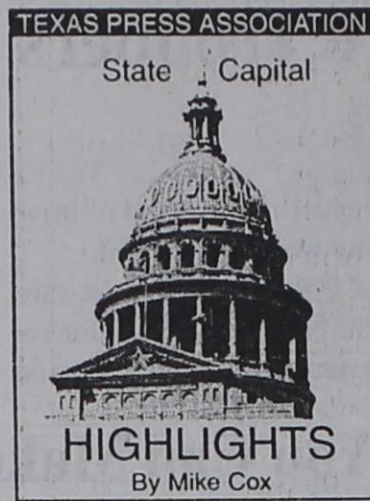
And that would seem to be a likely interim after reason prevails in Florida, California, Texas and, yes, the U.S.

The Reader Who Cares

By Wanda Beck Skimmer

Today our world seems to be going at a pace that even the rabbit, let alone the turtle cannot keep. I wonder if we care enough about ourselves and our loved one just to sit down for five or ten minutes a day and just say, "I care about you. You are important to me."

Days are filled with activities but we all need to know we are important and it will add brightness and happiness to our days and to the lives of others.



AUSTIN — The democratic process in Texas continues to be delayed by the Albuquerque, N.M., faction of the state Democratic Party, but another aspect of democracy is on track for Sept. 13 — a constitutional amendment election.

Many Texans may be wondering, "What constitutional amendment election?"

With the divided Senate and hundreds of state employee layoffs, the coming election has not received much attention, but the ballot will contain 22 proposed additions to our state charter. As provided for in that very document, the Legislature can offer constitutional amendments by passage of a joint resolution. All it takes, which is sometimes a lot, is a two-thirds vote of each chamber.

The importance of a particular amendment, incidentally, is not reflected by the number assigned to it. Propositions get their numerical handles through a random drawing conducted by the Secretary of State's office, which oversees elections in Texas.

No matter their number, some amendments are bigger deals than others. The propositions that naturally tend to get most of the attention involve money.

Prop. 12 would cap non-

economic damages (pain, suffering, disfigurement and loss of a loved one) stemming from lawsuits against doctors and health care providers at \$250,000.

Any judgments against health care institutions also would have a \$250,000 cap for noneconomic damages.

The proposition also would give the Legislature authority to set a liability limit for noneconomic damages in all civil actions.

Two slots farther down the ballot is Prop. 14, which would allow the Texas Department of Transportation to issue bonds or other securities to pay for transportation projects. The bonds would be repaid through state highway revenue funds. The bonding limit would be set at \$10 billion.

Some of the other propositions are relatively esoteric, unless it has to do with an issue directly affecting you. Example would be Prop. 21, which allows college professors to be paid if they serve on a water district board; Prop. 10, which would allow cities to donate used equipment to a rural volunteer fire department; or Prop. 19, which would abolish existing constitutional authority to create rural fire prevention districts.

For an overview of all the propositions and the arguments for and against their passage, check the League of Women Voters Voters Guide at www.lwvtexas.org or pick up a paper copy of the study. For more detailed analysis of the amendments, the House Research Organization has prepared a focus report available at www.capitol.state.tx.us/hrofr/focus/amend78.pdf. Early voting starts Aug. 27 and continues through Sept. 9. Voting hours on election day are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Remembering the Alamo . . .

As the Texas Film Commission quietly works to bring other movie projects to Texas, trailers for the recently wrapped Disney Alamo movie have hit theatre screens. The latest movie picture on the timeless Alamo story was shot in Central Texas, with one scene done inside the venerable Paramount Theater in downtown Austin. The movie will be released in December.

The film commission currently is scouting locations in Austin for a movie in which Texan Tommy Lee Jones plays a Texas Ranger.

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THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

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91 Mitsubishi Galant 4 cyl., cold air, runs good...\$1295

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94 Taurus 3.8 V6, cold air, very good cond., (white)...\$2350
94 Mercury Sable, V6, cold air, looks, runs good, (lt. blue)...\$2350
98 Ford Contour, V6, cold air, very nice car, (red)...\$3250
89 Mercury Grand Marquis, V8, cold air, very clean, (maroon)...\$1495
95 Geo Prizm, 4 cyl, cold air, looks, runs good, (red)...\$1595
87 Chevy, Conversion Van, fully loaded, 4 bucket seats, rear seat bed...\$1495
92 Taurus Station Wagon, runs good, (maroon)...\$1295
92 Mercury Sable Station Wagon, runs, looks good (white)...\$1395
84 Ford F350 Diesel Steel Flat bed, a super good truck...\$2450
89 Ford F250, 351 V8, 5 sp., runs good...\$1750

SOME FINANCING AVAILABLE

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--Martin Luther King, Jr.

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01 Ford F150 XL 6 cyl., 5 sp., short bed, air, AM/FM cass., cruise, tilt, 63K.....	\$7950
01 Ford Escort SE, 4 dr., auto, air, AM/FM, 65K.....	\$4500
00 Pontiac Grand Prix 4 dr., red.....	\$6350
00 Dodge Stratus auto., air, 67K.....	\$5750
00 Chevy Malibu auto., air, 61K, extra nice.....	\$5995
99 Pontiac Grand Prix 4 dr., 53K.....	\$5995
99 Ford F150 6 cyl., auto., short bed, AM/FM cass., cruise, tilt....	\$5995
98 Chevy S10 V6, auto, air.....	\$3950
97 Ford Crown Victoria LX 69,000 mi.....	\$5995
96 Ford Aspire 5 sp., air.....	\$3950
94 Chevy Astro Van V6, auto, 3rd seat, rear air, cruise, elect. seats, windows & locks.....	\$3250
92 Dodge Shadow 4 dr., auto, air, AM/FM, 72K.....	\$1750
92 Chevy Caprice 4 dr., auto, air.....	\$1500
88 Ford 3/4 Ton diesel.....	\$1995

U. S. Government Cars

99 Plymouth Breeze 23K.....	\$6250
99 Ford Contour LX 32K.....	\$4950

Texas Monthly Oil And Gas Statistics

JULY PERMITS TO DRILL

The Commission issued a total of 1,115 original drilling permits in July 2003 compared to 859 in July 2002.

The July total included 893 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 26 to re-enter existing well bores, and 196 for re-completions. Permits issued in July 2003 included 229 oil, 393 gas, 445 oil and gas, 38 injection, three service and seven other permits.

JUNE CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION

Texas preliminary June 2003 crude oil production averaged 938,410 barrels daily, down from the 953,618 barrels daily average of June 2002.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for June 2003 is 28,183,273 barrels, a decrease from 28,608,526 barrels reported during June 2002.

JULY OIL AND GAS COMPLETIONS

In July 2003, operators reported 342 oil, 676 gas, 28 injection, and five other compared to 233 oil, 409 gas, and 38 injection permits during July 2002.

Total well completions for

2003 year to date are 5,832 up from 5,641 recorded during the same period in 2002.

Operators reported 634 holes plugged and 91 dry holes in July 2003 compared to 844 plugged and 104 dry holes in July 2002.

JUNE NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

Texas oil and gas wells produced 440,614,973 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for June 2003, up from the June 2002 preliminary gas production total of 433,269,396 Mcf.

Texas production in June 2003 came from 141,361 oil and 60,966 gas wells.

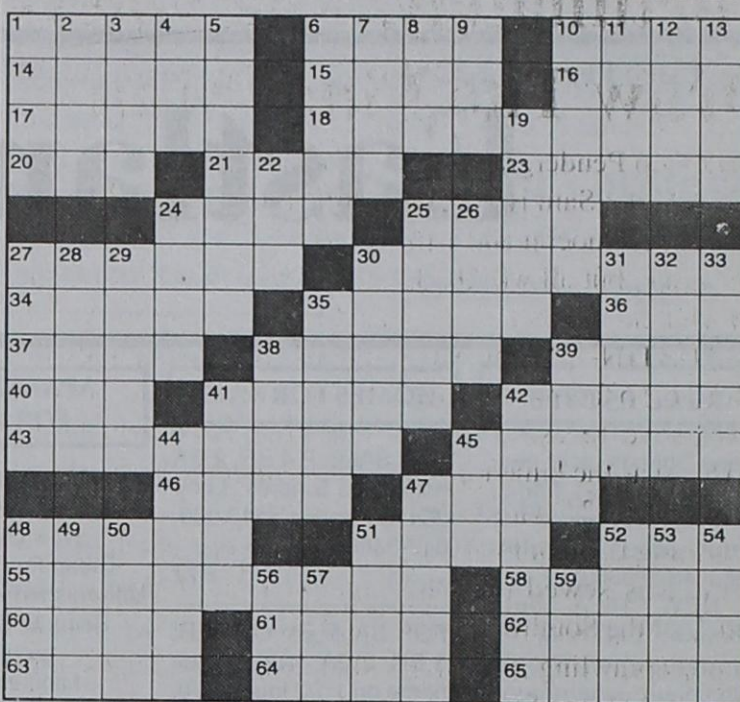
JULY TEXAS OIL AND GAS DRILLING PERMITS AND COMPLETIONS BY DISTRICT

SAN ANTONIO AREA
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 34
Oil Completions: 7
Gas Completions: 14
RRC District: (2) REFUGIO AREA
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 74
Oil Completions: 14
Gas Completions: 44
RRC District: (3) SOUTH-EAST TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 82
Oil Completions: 15
Gas Completions: 38
RRC District: (4) DEEP SOUTH TEXAS
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 146
Oil Completions: 3
Gas Completions: 117
RRC District: (5) EAST CENTRAL TEXAS
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 67
Oil Completions: 1
Gas Completions: 78
RRC District: (6) EAST TEXAS
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 107
Oil Completions: 4
Gas Completions: 86
RRC District: (7B) WEST CENTRAL TEXAS
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 59
Oil Completions: 24
Gas Completions: 14

RRC District: (7C) SAN ANGELO AREA
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 112
Oil Completions: 40
Gas Completions: 108
RRC District: (8) MID-LAND
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 162
Oil Completions: 168
Gas Completions: 19
RRC District: (8A) LUB-BOCK AREA
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 95
Oil Completions: 34
Gas Completions: 1
RRC District: (9) NORTH TEXAS
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 120
Oil Completions: 29
Gas Completions: 95
RRC District: (10) PAN-HANDLE
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 57
Oil Completions: 3
Gas Completions: 62

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- Having debts
- The Mask
- Unpleasant remark
- Home of the brave?
- Impressed
- "Nothing can need" (George Herbert)
- Scrumptious
- Church house
- Yoko
- Overwhelm
- Belted object
- Actor Jagger
- Potter's need
- Spinning sounds
- Esteemed
- Desert refuge
- Receive
- Motorists' org.
- Swathe
- Throws down the gauntlet
- Add one's John Hancock to
- Schedule abbr.
- Labyrinths
- Meditated
- Hoodwinked
- Showy wear
- Toboggan
- The Of Navarone
- Michelangelo work
- Sea eagle

DOWN

- Rio, Texas
- Edge
- Island
- Hop (2 wds.)
- Hold up!
- Nurses' helpers
- Glossy fashion magazine
- Hops drier
- Worski and Trotsky
- Songwriter Harbach
- Encourage to break a habit
- facto
- Bottom line
- Icelandic attractions
- Victory Over (Ellen Gilchrist)
- Off
- Ulm article
- Publishing house employees: abbr.
- Before boat or split
- Turkish regiment
- Manipulates fraudulently
- Root plant
- Young nocturnal bird
- Vegas
- Stick-in-the-mud
- Marriage proposers' sore spots
- Roman date
- Impressed
- Truthful James author
- Author Asimov
- Strayed
- Elevate
- Zealous
- Swell
- Stared
- The Chipmunks' pal
- Bleaches
- Visconti family's dominion
- Collier's find
- Tara or Monticello
- Workaholic's lack
- Like Pip's expectations
- Head
- Subject of blind adoration
- Injurious
- Id's associates
- Dull-witted person
- Steinbeck's East Of
- Devoid of: suffix
- Twins number
- Villain's cry
- Make tracks

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<p>2003 Ford Expedition XLT 4x2</p> <p>1. 5.4 V8, 6 disc in dash cd</p> <p>\$28,555⁰⁰</p>	<p>2003 Ford Escape XLT</p> <p>2. V6, auto</p> <p>\$19,385⁸⁴</p>	<p>2003 Windstar LX</p> <p>3. 4dr, rear air</p> <p>\$20,858⁰⁰</p>
<p>2003 Ford F150 Reg Cab Sport</p> <p>4.</p> <p>\$15,713⁰⁰</p>	<p>2003 Ford F150 SuperCrew XLT</p> <p>11. V8, auto, power windows, locks, upgraded tires</p> <p>\$21,729⁰⁰</p>	<p>2003 Ford F150 SuperCab XLT</p> <p>5. V8, auto, power drivers seat, limited slip axle.</p> <p>\$21,375⁰⁰</p>
<p>2003 Ford Focus SE</p> <p>6. automatic, pwr windows, locks, 6 disc in dash cd, tilt, speed control</p> <p>\$12,905⁰⁰</p>	<p>2003 Ford Ranger Edge Reg Cab</p> <p>7. V6, MP3 player, 4 wheel, ABS, tilt, steering, speed control</p> <p>\$11,085⁰⁰</p>	<p>2003 Ford Taurus SE</p> <p>10. power drivers seat, remote keyless entry, 6 disc cd changer</p> <p>\$15,209⁰⁰</p>
<p>2003 Ford Mustang Coupe</p> <p>8. power drivers seat, V6</p> <p>\$15,289⁰⁰</p>	<p>2003 Ford Focus SE</p> <p>9. Power window/locks, tilt/speed control, 6 disc in dash CD, alloy wheels.</p> <p>\$12,755⁵⁶</p>	

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*WAC, **See salesperson for details, †All prices plus TT&L & applicable fees

Eastland County Classifieds

Tuesday, August 26, 2003

REAL ESTATE HOMES FOR SALE APARTMENTS FOR RENT HELP WANTED HELP WANTED BUSINESS SERVICES BUSINESS SERVICES CHILD CARE

Sipe Springs, very neat and attractive 3-1 frame, 1200' LA, well and water meter, app 1 acre lot. Reduced to \$30,000.

NEW: 19 A south Gorman, 3/4 mile on Copperas Creek, incomplete underground home, electricity, well & septic. Great fish and wildlife place. \$37,000.

New Listing: 37 A N/W of DeLeon, good sandy land, app. 5 A coastal, stock pond, 3 water wells, pavement access, great building spot. \$1,250 per A.

New: 47.65 A 4 miles west of Gorman, 25 A coastal, 20 A cult, 2 ponds, barn/pens, good deer area. \$1050 acre.

NEW: 48 A east of Rising Star, pavement, wooded, creek, travel trailer, electricity and coop water, great hunting. \$1250 acre.

142 A, app 120 wooded, 20 A field, deer/trail. **Pending**

NEW: 193 A S/W Gorman, 140 a cult, 50 a wooded, ponds, fenced, great hunting/cattle place. Smaller tracts available \$710 acre.

New Listing: 212 A, investment/cattle property, near Desdemona, all in coastal, 15 irrigation wells, fenced, pipe corral, pavement, large peanut base. \$1,600.00 per acre.

NEW: 409 acres, 1 1/2 miles Sabanna river, 3-2-2 brick, metal horse barn, shop, hay shed, 400 a coastal, 60 a cult, 200 a wooded, lots wildlife, pavement. \$495,000.

979 A W. Comanche Co., several ponds, rough terrain, **Pending**

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RS104

FOR SALE BY OWNER: Rural Land in the Carbon area; interested buyers, mail: Land Offer, P.O. Box 5, Eastland, TX 76448 or call 254-629-2384 for information.

FOR SALE: Carbon, TX. Approx. 1 acre, Highway 6 frontage, close to caution light. Good well, city water, doublewide mobile home, 5 bedrooms, 3 full baths, total elect., central air & heat, cover of metal roof, double carport, 14 x 70 shop, and small 2 BR house. Priced to sell, 629-2984.

10 Acres For Sale on Hwy 6 between Cisco/Eastland. \$15,000.00. 254-629-2595.

HOMES FOR RENT

FOR RENT: 1 BR in Cisco, \$250 a month, \$250 deposit. Call 254-433-0515 please leave message.

HOMES FOR RENT

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HOMES FOR RENT

FOR RENT: 1 BR in Cisco, \$250 a month, \$250 deposit. Call 254-433-0515 please leave message.

FOR SALE: 2 4 BR, 2 BA homes on 5 acres, Loop 254 in Ranger. \$110,000. 647-3669. R72

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3 BR, 2 BA, total electric home on 1 1/2 lots, stove, dishwasher, ref, w/ice maker, disposal. Breakfast room, dining room, living room, den, garden tub, fireplace, carport, 2 storage bldgs. Satellite TV, 1848 sq. ft. Mfg. in 1995. \$65,000. Weekends call 254-639-2439, weekdays 325-625-4674, night 625-5093.

FOR SALE: 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, with new Central Air Conditioner, \$5,000 cash. 325-692-4379. E68

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Doublewide on 1/2 city block in Cisco. CH/A, fenced front yard, three car carport in quite neighborhood. Please call for more info. 442-3946 or 631-6153. C61-104

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

FOR RENT: No deposit with utilities paid. 3 or 2 bedroom mobile home. Refrigerator, stove, washer, dryer, furnished. SUNSHINE VALLEY, Leona Morton, 442-1365. C104

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT: 2 BR, 2 BA, Central H/A, in nice park. No Pets. \$300 + deposit. 629-1848. E104

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COUNTRY VILLA APTS
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HELP WANTED

GIRLING HEALTH CARE
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If interested, qualified applicants may contact Marty Dover in Human Resources at 254-559-2242 ext. 307 or e-mail: marty@smhtx.com for application and additional information. EOE
E73

HELP WANTED

TECHNOLOGIST
Prefer MT (ASCP) or degreed equivalent
Flexible scheduling a possibility.
TECHNOLOGISTS NEEDED FOR WEEKEND COVERAGE ALSO
Excellent benefits and competitive salaries. Interested qualified applicants may contact Marty Dover in Human Resources at 254-559-2242 ext. 307 or e-mail: marty@smhtx.com for application and additional information. E68, 70, 72

Small Non-Corp. Nursing Home in the Baird/Breckenridge/Stephenville area looking for an R.N./D.O.N. familiar with Nursing Home Practices. Excellent salary based on experience with paid vacation and birthday bonus. Submit resume to D.O.N. care of 1107 West 5th Breckenridge, TX 76424. R68-104

Ken's Motorcycle Shop is currently in need of a self-motivated individual with a GOOD attitude to work the parts counter. Experience in parts or sales is preferred, but happy to train the right person. Pay based on experience. Please come by for an application- NO phone calls please! 1304 E. Main St., Eastland. E69

Pizza Pro of Eastland now hiring all shifts for delivery drivers. Must be dependable and neat in appearance. Apply in person 610 W. Main in Eastland. E69

First Baptist Church of Cisco needs part-time nursery worker. Contact church office 442-1160. C71

Center For Life Resources is accepting applications for a Therapist Tech 1 to work in our Eastland Work Activity Center. Position requires supervising and teaching vocational skills to individuals with disabilities. Knowledge of operating equipment such as mowers, edgers, and operating a vehicle with a trailer required. Must be able to work independently. Experience working with MHMR population preferred. High school diploma or GED required. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Apply at 301 Pogue Ave, Eastland, or call (325) 643-6045 Ext 260. EOE. E68

Need someone to sew small repairs, rips, some zippers to clothing. Call 629-2413. E104

Remember To Renew Your Subscription

Read the Classifieds

Ranger Care Center is now hiring Certified Aides and LVN's for the 2-10 shift. If you are a dependable, reliable, caring worker, please apply in person at 460 W. Main St., in Ranger. For more info. call (254) 647-3111. R71

Stephens Memorial Hospital Breckenridge, TX 76424 has the following positions available:
CERTIFIED MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST
Prefer MT (ASCP) or degreed equivalent
Flexible scheduling a possibility.
TECHNOLOGISTS NEEDED FOR WEEKEND COVERAGE ALSO
Excellent benefits and competitive salaries. Interested qualified applicants may contact Marty Dover in Human Resources at 254-559-2242 ext. 307 or e-mail: marty@smhtx.com for application and additional information. E68, 70, 72

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Need someone to sew small repairs, rips, some zippers to clothing. Call 629-2413. E104

Remember To Renew Your Subscription

Read the Classifieds

LVN's
Valley View has openings for LVN's. Evenings & PRN. Apply at Valley View Healthcare Center in Eastland. E68

POLICE OFFICER
City of Cisco Police Department is accepting applications for T.C.L.O.S.E. Certified Police Officer. Applications are available at 504 Conrad Hilton Ave., by calling 254-442-1770, or email ciscopd@eastland.net Applications taken until position filled. EOE. C67

Electricians, Supervisors, Project Manager, Estimator needed. Call Hitt Electric 254-559-9885. E68

DQ Manager and assistant manager trainee positions available for Breckenridge/Albany/Graham area. Need strong responsible leaders ready to learn and grow in thriving restaurant chain. Non smoking and drug free environment. Background and drug test required. Call Amy, 940-549-5041. E71

NOW HIRING
Traveling Child Photographer. Must have a love for children, travel and personal vehicle required. No experience needed. Shutterbugs 254-559-7027. E74

CNA's
Valley View has openings for CNA's. All shifts. Apply at Valley View Healthcare Center in Eastland. E68

Sales Assistant Needed
All positions open. Call for interview (254) 559-5890. C70

DELEON POLICE DEPARTMENT is taking applications for the positions of Police Officer and School Resource Officer. Applicants MUST BE CERTIFIED. Salary range from 18,200 to 20,800 plus benefits. Mail resumes to: Chief of Police, P.O. Box 318, DeLeon, TX 76444. E68

Help Wanted: Dishwasher, Cooks and Waitresses. Apply in person Texas Cattle Exchange Steakhouse, IH 20, Olden Exit, Eastland. E104

Tired of working for half of minimum wage? Tired of having to share your tips with everyone else? We are currently looking for motivated, energetic, dependable, and smiling persons to fill P/T, F/T, Day or Night positions and dependable breakfast cooks Mon.-Sun. Apply in person at Sonic in Eastland. E104

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Little Lobo Lair a new day care is enrolling now! 1607 Hwy 206, Cisco, 442-3600. Enrolling from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. C70

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R71

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E74

Soon to be licensed Child Care Home, looking for kids of all ages. For more information call 647-9354. R69

Childcare in Ranger- Now accepting children. No babies. 647-3836 or 647-0373, 305 Main St. R69

LIVESTOCK

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Free Phone Training For Speech-Disabled

Speech-disabled Texans can now receive free training under the new "Speak Up Texas!" program to take advantage of special phone services.

"It's an incredible freedom I have," said Speak Up Texas! employees Kate May, who has a speech disability resulting from cerebral palsy. "You don't have to get anyone to help you. I can call anyone, anytime."

This FREE program is now available statewide. The individualized training will show Texans how to use "Speech-to-Speech" service, which uses an operator to re-voice any parts of the conversation that are not fully understood. "Speak Up Texas!" is sponsored by the Public Utility Commission (PUC) and provided by Technology and Inclusion, a non-profit organization under contract with the PUC.

"Speak Up Texas!" is a great opportunity to improve communications to and from the speech-disabled," said PUC Commissioner Julie Parsley. "Whether a call is to schedule a doctor's appointment or a chat among friends, it's a big step toward independence."

Through this new program, individuals can overcome the fear of not being understood while using the phone, and learn how to communicate more effectively. "Speak Up Texas!"

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

Bernard and Ann Keith spent the past weekend in Brownwood attending the Cameron Family Reunion. They reported a good visit with everyone.

"Happy Birthday" on Saturday, Aug. 30, to our daughter, Karen Eaves from Pug and Vonnie Guthery.

Get well wishes goes out to Florine (Williamson) Burleson in Stephenville. She is recovering from a recent light stroke. Flo is a former resident of Desdemona where she attended school and graduated with the class of 1950.

Colin, Kaley and Lane Powledge of Cisco spent the weekend with their grandmother, Karen Eaves.

Please contact this report with your weekly news. Thanks and have a nice day, Vonnie.

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will work with individuals on communication strategies, skills and articulation. In addition, the program will reach out to professionals who serve people with speech impairments.

"Nearly all Texans who can benefit from Speech-to-Speech either don't know

Harmony Ordination Set This Sunday

On Sunday, August 31, Harmony Baptist Church of Morton Valley will ordain Mr. Tommy Beck as Deacon.

The church is planning several activities for that day, to which everyone is cordially invited.

At 12:30 lunch will be served in the fellowship hall,

about it or have problems using it," said Jamie Judd-Wall, project director of Speak Up Texas! "It's like getting a new VCR or DVD system and not knowing how to program it. We want to change old habits."

Customers can learn more by calling toll-free 1-8-SPEAK-UP-TX (1-877-325-8789), e-mail: speakutexas@taicenter.com or logging on to www.speakutexas.com

so bring a covered dish and join us for the food and fellowship, and for the Ordination which follows at 2:00 p.m.

Following is a list of the day's activities:

10:15 a.m. Sunday School (Bible Study for all ages)

11 a.m. Worship Service,

including children's sermon 12:30 Covered dish lunch. Bring your favorite dish and join us.

2 p.m. Service of Ordination

Following the Ordination Service program:

Welcome, Scripture (Acts 6:1-7), Prayer--James Teel

Hymn: "All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name"-- led by Paul Sparkman

Presentation by the Ordaining Council--Dick Williams

Scripture (1 Timothy 3:1-13)

Qualifications of the Deacon

Testimony by the Deacon candidate, Tommy Beck

Prayer of Consecration and Laying on of Hands by Ordaining Council

Presentation by the Church--Wanda Skinner

Special Music: "In Loving Kindness Jesus Came"-- Debra Daniels

Charge to the Church and

Thursday, August 28, 2003

Pisgah Cemetery Association To Meet

The Pisgah Cemetery Association will hold their annual meeting in the home of Paul and Lena Helen Brasher at 1500 Liggett, Cisco, Texas on Tuesday, September 9th at 7 p.m.

to the New Deacon--Richard Waters

Hymn: "We've A Story To Tell To The Nations"--Paul Sparkman

Closing Remarks--James Teel

Chorus by Congregation: "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"--Paul Sparkman

Benediction--Mike Norris

ORDAINING COUNCIL: James Teel, Interim Pastor of Harmony Baptist Church, Dick Williams, Former Director of Missions of Cisco Baptist Assn., Richard Waters, Director of Missions of Cisco Baptist Assn.

For further information call (325) 893-4759. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Howard Upchurch To Celebrate 90th Birthday Sept. 6

The children of Howard Upchurch invite you to celebrate his 90th Birthday on September 6th from 2 to 4 p.m. at First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall in Grandview, Texas. Cards are welcomed but no gifts please.

Mr. Upchurch was a funeral director in Eastland at Hamner's Funeral Home for 25 years. Please remember him on this special occasion of his 90th birthday.

If you are unable to attend please send cards to Howard Upchurch 703 East College, Grandview, Texas 76050.

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\$21,990 2003 Ford F-150 Quad Cab Step Side, XLT, Auto, #G912	\$11,990 2002 Ford Taurus SES PW/PL, Factory Warranty, #G26	\$9,990 1997 Chevy C2500 S/C 4x4 350 V8, Auto, #G0698	CASH CAR - RAL						
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Just Remembering

By Jasper Cook

Panther Creek School in Kentucky was an enormous school with a monster size auditorium. The footlights were imbedded in the floor at the front of the stage, and a 2 x 12 board lay across the top of them. Another 2 x 12 stood on edge, attached below the top horizontal one. They extended from one side of the stage to the other, which was approximately 50 feet. Those two boards were much like the letter L upside down. They protected the audience from the lights and also directed the light upward toward the persons on stage. This was before the days of television; therefore, the Radio stations were inundated with all kinds of hype regarding our upcoming show at the school. Posters were tacked to poles, barns, trees, and many other visible sites up and down all the roads and in neighboring towns for miles around.

Panther Creek was in a rural area. Tobacco farming was the number one occupation and the local residents were starving for entertainment.

Our Band broadcast two half-hour shows on Radio Station WNGO, Monday

through Friday, and a two-hour show on Saturdays. We had been booked to give a performance at the school and I can't remember any show having more advertisement than this one.

Our show consisted of five multi-talented musicians who were professional in every sense of the word. We played Country and Western, Bluegrass, and Gospel music. We had comedy skits that would tickle the most dispirited, downhearted, depressed, person in the USA.

Each member of the band played more than one instrument. We had one act where four of us played one instrument with his left hand, and another instrument with his right hand. It was a scream!

We arrived early and prepared for the show. By curtain time that giant auditorium was packed. Things couldn't have been better for us.

During the show I did my outrageous Clarinet Act. My black, wooden clarinet came apart and I dropped it on the floor. In trying to retrieve all the parts I accidentally (on purpose) kicked the "bell" off the stage on to the floor

below. I would kneel on the very front edge of the stage and reach downward, into thin air for my wayward "bell."

The band was playing, the crowd was roaring with laughter at my clumsiness, as I leaned forward as far as I could. Suddenly, both those huge 2 x 12's broke loose from the rest of the stage. Along with me, they fell to the floor, six feet below. Somehow, I landed with those two monsters across both my legs. I will never know how I reached the floor first, but I did.

The crowd thought this was about the funniest thing they had ever seen. Even the Band members were holding their sides, laughing. I wasn't! I was in great pain, and I thought perhaps one or both my legs might be broken. The more I yelled for help the louder the laughter became.

I was underneath that lumber for seven or eight minutes before one of the band members realized I was not clowning any more.

It took several men to remove the lumber from my legs, and I finally stood on my feet. I was thankful I could walk, even though it was quite difficult.

The next day, newspapers from Paducah to Louisville, to Memphis, extolled the story of how Smoothmouth literally BROUGHT THE HOUSE DOWN!

Christmas Lane Needs Displayers At State School

The Volunteer Services Council for Abilene State School invites local and area businesses and entities to participate in Christmas Lane 2003. This year's event is the 13th annual and is a way for the folks who live at Abilene State School to say thank you to Abilene and the Big Country for helping throughout the year.

Christmas Lane consists of outdoor lighted drive-by displays erected by local and area businesses and other organizations and again will have the added attraction of Quanna's Winter Wonderland, an indoor collection of vintage and modern animated displays. Look for new displays including the festive animated Penguin Family that everyone will enjoy. There will also be a concession stand and rest stop with expanded parking. Opportunities for photos with Santa and telephone calls to the North Pole will be available as well.

There is no fee to displayers; the only costs are the illuminated display provided by the displayer

Stenholm Dedication To Rural America Recognized

Washington, D.C. — Congressman Charles Stenholm (TX-17) recently received a national award recognizing him for his work on the 2002 Farm Bill and his years of dedicated service to agriculture and rural America. Stenholm is the Ranking Minority Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Agriculture Committee.

Mr. Joe Cantu, president of the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils, presented Stenholm with his President's Award at the as-

sociations' annual national convention in San Antonio.

In addition, Stenholm served as a keynote speaker at the convention, which was attended by more than 1,200 individuals from across the country.

The National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils was established in 1988 to represent America's 368 local Resource Conservation & Development Councils. Local volunteers who serve on the councils determine the

needs of their communities and then provide solutions to those needs. The volunteers generally address how to sustain the local economy and its resources.

The focus on local direction and control has made the Resource Conservation and Development Council program one of the most successful rural development programs in the federal government. There are 22 Resource Conservation and Development Councils in Texas.

BBB Seeks To Recognize Exceptional Ethical Practice

The Better Business Bureau which serves a dozen counties including Eastland and Callahan is seeking nominations of those persons who work in the public and show above average ethical standards in their professional dealings.

The B.B.B.'s Torch Awards are given to those who are chosen by a prestigious panel of judges from the business and academic community who demonstrate high standards of behavior towards cus-

tomers, suppliers, users, share holders, employees and communities in which they do business, and other indications of longstanding high ethical standards.

Nominations including the company name, address, city, telephone number, contact person, name and address of person submitting nomination, mailed or faxed before Sept. 15th deadline to Better Business Bureau, 3300 S. 14th St., Suite 307, Abilene, TX 79605 or fax number 325-691-0309. Nominations may also be made on line to www.abilene.bbb.org.

The Torch awards are a program jointly sponsored by the B.B.B. and the business schools of the three univer-

sities in Abilene where the awards are presented annually at luncheon events, on a rotating basis. The event will be at H-SU this fall. There are three categories of awards: one to firms with from 1 to 10 employees; one for 11 to 99 employees; and one for over 100 employees.

"The right way to do business is to do right by your customers" is a B.B.B. standard.

B.B.B. asks: "Do you own, work for, or deal with a for-profit business that you feel should be recognized for its day-to-day ethical practices with its employees, customers, suppliers, and the community?" If so, then you should nominate that company for the Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics.

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Comments On The Amendments

By Viola Payne

Yes, it's about time for another Constitutional Amendment Election, which seems to be a natural outgrowth of every Legislative Session in Austin.

The 78th Session (which doesn't seem to be over yet) approved 22 proposals for the ballot. Some of them seem pretty trivial, against the backdrop of the mayhem in certain parts of the world.

Early voting will begin Aug. 28, and Election Day will be Sept. 13, with all polling places open.

Usually these Amendment Elections have a low turnout, something like 8 percent of voters statewide. That is too bad, for some really rotten measures slip by at times.

Voters should always be careful of the wording on these proposals. Remember the "tax relief" amendment some years ago? Or how about the time when Gov. Ann Richards proclaimed that the Lottery measure would help the schools?

My comments on these amendments are my opinions only - just something to encourage readers to study these proposals for themselves.

My only criteria is that I have lived in the rural Southwest most of my life - the best place I know to

come by knowledge the hard way.

The Amendments represent a number of interests - from giving local communities the power to freeze property taxes for disabled and seniors' to letting the Legislature draft laws to regulate wineries.

Most of the debate I have read on this election concerns Prop. 12, which asks voters to give the Legislature the authority to limit damages on lawsuits against doctors and hospitals.

I have stated some of these Amendments as they appear on the ballot, and in others the wording is condensed.

Prop. 1 - Allowing the Veterans' Land Board to use excess assets for veterans' homes.

I vote YES on this one. It's like asking me if I am in favor of mothers, apple pie and the flag. Of course I am in favor of providing money to help these veterans who have sacrificed so much.

Why hasn't this been done long ago? It is ironic that it comes on the heels of Federal V.A. announcements that they are "thinking" of closing the hospitals at Big Spring and Waco, leaving the veterans in Eastland and Callahan Counties far from extended hospital care!

Prop. 2 - Two-year redemption period for

mineral interests on land sold at tax sales.

I vote NO on this. The proposal has good and bad points, and I really dislike tax sales. But I foresee more work for the lawyers if this measure passes, with more muddled-up titles and property in limbo for two years after sales.

Prop. 3 - Tax exemption on property owned by religious organizations for expansion.

I vote NO..I don't want the state to be any more involved in religious institutions, church schools and the like.

Prop. 4. - Allowing municipalities to develop parks and recreational areas.

I vote NO on this one too. It has bad and good points, but I'm against cities taking over and controlling more land.

Prop. 5 - Revising the property-tax exemption for travel trailers.

NO on this one. Travel trailers can also be used as a place of residence. Also, anyone who can afford extra travel trailers can probably afford the taxes.

Prop. 6 - Allowing the use

From Page One CJC Prepares For Semester

complex. The playing fields will be located west of Presidents' Hall, and construction crews have started moving dirt to level the area.

In addition to the new construction, other building improvements completed this summer are painting the outside of Schaefer Hall, the

CJC Gymnasium, Nance Hall, and the Harrell Fine Arts Building. Other campus buildings have been painted inside; the restrooms in Schaefer Hall are currently being renovated, and new tops have been ordered for lab tables in the Science Building.

With construction projects well underway at the main campus, work still continues on the Abilene Educational Center located at the corner of Loop 322 and Industrial Blvd. Muller said that the new facility is scheduled to be open for summer classes in 2004.

Like improvements at the Cisco campus, funding for

Tuesday, August 26, 2003

the new Abilene facility was generated by the sale of general revenue bonds. "From the beginning, we were determined that the new Center and construction at CJC's main campus would be funded by sources other than local taxes," Muller said.

With fall classes beginning Wednesday, August 27, students will greatly benefit from the enhanced facilities and Cisco Junior College's ongoing growth.

Registration at the main campus in Cisco will be Monday, August 25, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday, August 26, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The first class day at both locations is Wednesday, August 27.

of reverse mortgages to refinance a home equity loan.

YES for this one. I thought this had already been taken care of in a previous Amendment Election.

(To be continued)

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene Contract 0908-00-054 for FLASHING BEACONS in TAYLOR County, etc will be opened on September 09, 2003 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Contract 0973-01-021 for SUBGR WDN, FL BS, 2CST in CALLAHAN County will be opened on September 10, 2003 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/ Div Offices listed below. Bidders

must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 10640 State Office Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s) Abilene District District Engineer 4250 N. Clack Abilene, Texas 79604-0150 Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. (8-25, 9-1-03)

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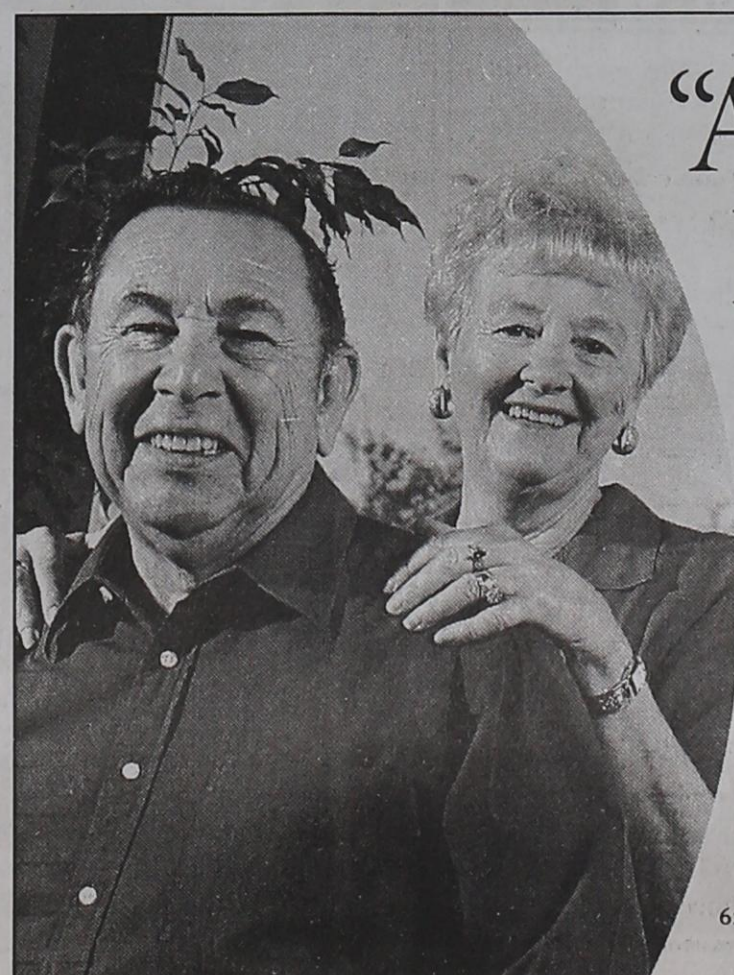
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The Idle American

Dr. Don Newbury

(Editors: Following tongue-in-cheek piece is based on recent actual news stories concerning new policies at Southwest Airlines and some 300 Westmark Hotels.)

It was a sleepy day in Waco as I languished at the airport. Though a "dog day afternoon," the airplane carrying POTUS (President of the United States) was beginning its descent. Excitement abounded at the prospect of the arrival of President George W. Bush. There was little mention that my commuter flight was delayed.

I scrounged for left-behind newspapers, batting .500 with one old copy and a current edition. The old paper had a story about Southwest Airlines' new ticketing requirements for another POTUS—"passengers of the ultra size." And what's this in today's paper about dogs being pampered guests at Westmark Hotels? Pampered IF they weigh under 40 pounds, that is, so here's yet another POTUS-privileges for "pets of the under sized."

It was Friday afternoon and hot; I nodded off.

In my dream, I was a full-grown Dennis the Menace, making ends meet with two part-time jobs—a ticketing agent for Southwest by day, and a Westmark Hotel desk clerk at night. I couldn't wait to impose new ticketing rules at SWA and to "greet" oversized mutts at Westmark. In both cases, I was "KingKong;" I would decide who was "super-sized." I could imagine fuming passengers infuriated at being "double-billed;" and oversized dogs wandering around the compound out back instead of luxuriating in their "heavenly doggy beds" described in the "come on in" literature.

There were "many slips 'twixt the cup and the lip." Several passengers objected to the new policy. I explained that maybe management might come up with a "derriere box;" sort of like the ones used to determine if carry-on luggage was acceptable. There were unprintable expressions of indignation, so I added that before long, we might also have electronic means of determining the maximum area passengers would be allowed to "bottom out." There already was talk of it—the new DMD machine (derriere-measuring device, or, simply stated, the "size-MO-graph.") Additional "harrummmphhs" followed, so I issued traditional single tickets when I saw hands reaching for my throat. After all, the plane was only half full.

Ah, additional fun awaited at the hotel. I had read all the promotional literature about new policies to prove that our hotel was "pet friendly." Bowlers and Fifis were invited to join their masters in four-star suites, where special beds, feeding mats, food bowls, doggy robes and other pooch-pampering "come-ons" beckoned. Here again, I would be the sole judge as to whether

canine guests weighed under the 40-pound maximum.

The first guest appeared for check-in, and at the other end of the leash, a full-grown sheep dog. "How much does the dog weigh?" I asked, opting not to begin with the hackneyed hen-weigh joke. I was sure that the animal, big enough to sub for a sick steed at the pony ride, weighed well above our announced maximum.

"Oh, 40-45 pounds," he answered. A fang was bared, and the dog glared at me. I started to mention that if they jogged around the block a few times, maybe the weight would be okay. But I saw additional fangs bared; there were no hints of canine friendliness. The dog strained at the leash. "Welcome to Westmark," I said, smiling broadly, pausing to ask another guest about her room preference—smoking or non-smoking, doggy or non-doggy.

In my dream, I wished to work where I didn't have to make such weighty decisions. (A friend working at a non-descript hotel laughed at me. "At our place, guests can take in whatever fits through the door," he joked.)

I opted for a "career change," taking a job sacking groceries. I assumed that I would need to make NO DECISIONS. I would "sack away," asking only, "Paper or plastic?"

The very first customer, however, was tired of making choices. He had to choose between cart or basket, wheat or rye, whole milk or skim, crushed or sliced, cash or charge and debit or credit. When I asked if he wanted paper or plastic, he demanded that I choose. "I can't," I answered. "Baggers can't be choosers."

Nap time was over when I heard the announcement, "This is your final boarding call." Not wide awake—more like narrow awake—I hurried

to the plane, joining one other passenger already "buckled in" for the short flight to Houston. I asked him if he had known prior to arrival at the

airport what POTUS means. He did. During the flight, I told him about the "passenger and pet" POTUSes. Meanwhile, Air Force One was touching

down. The real POTUS was only miles away from his vacation hiatus in Crawford, Texas.

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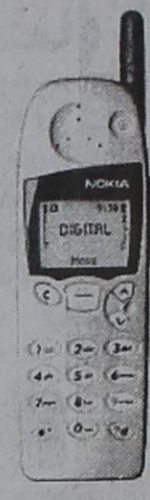


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