



WEST CADDO PEAK

Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1998



EAST CADDO PEAK
Price 50¢

89TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 43

Time Again For Miss Valentine Parade Sat., February 7

It is time to begin planning for the annual Miss Valentine Parade. This event is scheduled for Saturday, February 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cross Plains school auditorium. This year's theme is "Sisters of the Heart," and it is sponsored by the local Alpha Rho Zeta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi. Be sure to watch for entry forms that will be passed out at school.

The parade is open to any young lady in kindergarten through eighth grade in Cross Plains ISD. Entries will be presented and awards given in five divisions: kindergarten, first and second grades, third and fourth grades, fifth and sixth grades, and seventh and eighth grades. Each division will have a first, second, and third place.

The girls will be evaluated on personality, poise, and appearance by six judges from out of town. Personal interviews with each contestant will be held on Friday during practice by three judges, and three different judges will evaluate the girls on Saturday evening during the

parade. All scores are tallied for the final count.

Each girl also has an escort who will be with her during practice and the parade. It is important for the young men who are escorting these lovely young ladies to also fill out entry forms so that they can be recognized during the Saturday evening festivities.

This event is a major fund-raiser for the sorority who use the money to help other organizations, families, students, and individuals in need. Just as important as the funds raised is the self-confidence that the parade provides to all participants. "Everyone is BEAUTIFUL, and everyone is a WINNER" is emphasized throughout the practices, interviews, and the parade.

We invite all girls to participate. If you have any questions or need an entry form, please contact Judy Luter (725-7222), Nora Odom (725-6840), or Wanda Merryman (725-6476).

Tennison contract extended, new custodian hired

By BILLY HARRIS
Special Writer

Cross Plains ISD Trustees met in regular session Thursday, January 15. Present at the meeting were board members Randy Foster, Rex Beggs, Rickey Carey, Donnie Dillard, Tony Wyatt, Monty Richards, Barbara Sowell and Superintendent Jackie Tennison.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes were approved as read.

The board entered executive session at 7:27 p.m. and resumed open session 8:56 p.m.

Frances Taylor was unanimously hired as the Cross Plains Elementary Custodian with a motion by Sowell and seconded by Wyatt. Taylor will

replace Tammy Brown who resigned in November. Brown had been with the Cross Plains Schools for about 8 years. Part-time employees have performed custodial duties for the school since November.

Superintendent Jackie Tennison received a vote of confidence when his contract was unanimously extended by the board. The motion was made by Foster and seconded by Wyatt.

Tennison took over the reins of the Cross Plains Schools at the beginning of the 1996-97 school year after long time Superintendent M. Lee Thompson retired. Tennison's contract now extends to the year 2001.

The financial report and paying of the bills were approved with a motion by Foster and seconded by Beggs.

Cross Plains Residents Invited To Participate in Assessment

The citizens of Cross Plains are invited to participate in an assessment of our community on February 11, 12, and 13, 1998. A rural resource team will be in Cross Plains at that time to listen to, and seek input from, the community. The team will be composed of individuals with expertise and experience in economic and community development in a rural setting, including representatives from our Resource Conservation and Development Council, West Central Texas Council of Governments, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, USDA/Rural Development, and the Texas Rural Development Council.

Team members will listen to citizens voice their concerns about our community and express their vision of the future of Cross Plains. Fol-

lowing completion of the assessment, team members will provide the community with a written report of what they heard from the community along with their recommendations. The process will conclude with a town hall meeting on February 13, where the team members will give feedback and interact with members of the community.

This community assessment is being sponsored by the Cross Plains Economic Development Corporation, Inc. in cooperation with the Leon-Bosque RC&D Council and the Texas Rural Development Council. All citizens of Cross Plains and the surrounding areas are invited to participate. For more information contact Denise Coulter at 725-6397.

Art Classes Being Offered In Cross Plains By Mary Barton

Drawing and watercolor classes with Mary Barton, statewide instructor, will be starting February 18th. Three series of six classes each will cover Drawing, Watercolor Basics and Watercolor for intermediate and advanced artists. All classes will be at Mary's home studio in Cross Plains, on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 to 12:00 noon. Pre-registration is necessary to reserve space and receive supply information.

The beginning drawing classes will be for anyone wanting to try their hand at drawing, or those wanting to refresh their drawing skills. Mary is convinced that anyone can learn to draw; all it takes is learning to see subjects in a different way. Having taught students from age 8 to 88, she has seen successful results from the method she follows.

Watercolor Basics will be offered following the drawing classes,

starting Wednesday, March 11th. This is a chance to learn watercolor from the beginning. If you've always wanted to try this media, refresh basics or add watercolor to your experience as an oil painter, these classes are for you. Mary encourages anyone intimidated by stories that watercolor is the most difficult media to give it a try and they will see that learning from the basics IS easy, versatile and exciting.

To wrap up this series of classes, Watercolor for intermediate and advanced artists will start Wednesday, April 1st. Those completing the basic watercolor class would be ready for this series. More involved techniques color theory and design will be presented for this group.

For more information, see the ad elsewhere in the paper or call Mary at (254) 725-7544 if you have questions. She reminds, "ANYONE can do ANY of this; you'll never know if you don't try!"

Pee Wee Basketball Organizational Meeting Tonight!

There will be a Pee Wee Basketball Organizational Meeting, tonight, Thursday, January 22, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting is to be held in the old gymnasium at school. All parents of CPISD students in grades 3rd through 6th who are interested in participating are encouraged to attend. Officers for the Pee Wee Basketball program will be installed at this meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

Silver-Haired Legislature Gives Voice to Older Texans

Texans 60 years of age and older have an opportunity to become a representative from this region to the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature (TSHL) beginning January 1, 1998.

These legislators work with the Texas Legislature on senior issues which may become law. If you are a person 60 or older and registered voter, you may file as a candidate for election in the TSHL January 1, 1998, through February 28, 1998.

One legislator is selected from each of the four districts within the WCTCOG region. The districts are as follows: District one include Jones and Taylor counties; District two includes Runnels, Coleman, Brown

and Comanche counties; District three includes Knox, Haskell, Stonewall, Kent, Scurry, Fisher, Mitchell and Nolan counties; District four includes Shackelford, Stephens, Callahan and Eastland counties. Terms are for two years and TSHL members pay their own expenses.

Even those who don't choose to run are encouraged to vote in the elections. Elections for TSHL representative will be held May 26, 1998, at your local senior center. For more information or filing forms, contact Jena Price, Director of the West Central Texas Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging at (915) 672-8544 or 1-800-928-2262.



LOCAL SUPERINTENDENT SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER — Superintendent Jackie Tennison (right) was guest of the Kiwanis Club of Cross Plains at their Tuesday, January 13 meeting. Mr. Tennison updated those present on the status of the cleanup, repairs, etc. at the high school, and how the administrators, teachers and students are coping with all the adjustments having to be made due to the recent fires. He expresses appreciation to all who have stepped in to help in so many ways. The Kiwanis Club, in return, expressed gratitude to Superintendent Tennison for the great job he has done-- and is doing--- to take care of this problem.

EARLY OUT JANUARY 29

Cross Plains ISD will dismiss at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 29. Buses will run at this time. The early out is due to the large participation of students at the Callahan County Junior Livestock Show being held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 29, 30 and 31. There will be no school on Friday.

Classes will resume at 8:00 a.m. Monday, February 2.

Employers race to meet deadline to provide W-2 forms on time

Texans who received a special TeleFile tax package and plan to file by telephone also need their W-2 statements. That's because TeleFilers will need to enter interest income, unemployment compensation, wages, tax withheld and employer identification number directly from each W-2 Form.

Employees are encouraged to ask their employer for their W-2 if they do not receive it by February 2. If employees do not receive their W-2 or 1099 forms by February 15, the IRS can help by requesting the form from their employer.

Employers are reminded to keep any undeliverable employee copies of Form W-2 for at least four years.

With 1998 tax season just beginning, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reminds Texas employers that Forms W-2, "Wage and Tax Statement," needs to be made available to their employees by the end of January. Additionally, Form 1099, "Statement for Miscellaneous Income," also needs to be available to employees by the January 31 deadline.

Most employees need this income information so they can file their tax forms early to receive their tax refund. According to the IRS North Texas District, seven out of 10 North Texans receive tax refunds. Last year, the average tax refund was \$1,309.37.

Kiwanis Chili Supper A Great Success!

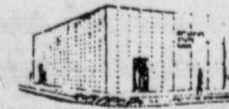
The Kiwanis Club of Cross Plains extends a big "THANK YOU" to all who contributed toward a very successful Chili Supper Fund-Raiser. They apologize for running out of chili toward the end -- there were a few who had to be "turned away" -- but the reason was because of the tremendous turnout and support received. They promise to have enough for everyone next year!

This was only the second year for the Kiwanis Chili Supper and Kiwanis members noted that they learned some more lessons which will help improve next year's event.

COLONIAL OAKS SERVICES

Church of Christ will conduct worship services at Colonial Oaks Nursing Home on Sunday, January 25, commencing at 3:30 p.m.

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ATTENTION SUBSCRIBERS!

The Cross Plains Review would like to encourage subscribers who do not have a P.O. Box to please send in their new 911 addresses to be processed on mailing labels.

Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Cross Plains Review
(254) 725-6111

P.O. Box 519

Cross Plains, Tx. 76443

COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURT
Bill Johnson presiding

Misdemeanor Minutes
Ryan Andrew Trowbridge, assault, \$300 fine \$214.25 court costs, 1 year deferred judgment & granting probation.

Motions filed to revoke probations: Shawn Hensler, Clifton Boyd Lindsey.

John Morrow, theft of property by check charge dismissed due to restitution having been made.

Kimberly Baker, motion granted for a continuance.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Jennifer Marie Darnell & Kenneth Charles Fox of Clyde.

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42ND DISTRICT COURT
John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filing
Divorce filed:
Hunt, Pamela Sue & Gilbert O'Dell.

Civil Minutes
Sheryl McCravey vs Roberts Construction, case dismissed with prejudice.

Divorces granted:
Tucker, Jeremy & Sandra.
McCormick, Michael & Fely Andag.

Fourth Sunday Singing at Methodist Church

Due to a conflict in schedules, Clint Kniffen and his band WILL NOT be here January 25. We will still meet to sing our favorite gospel hymns. If you want an alternative to the Super Bowl -- this is it!

OBITUARY

Lucille Odell

WOODSON—Lucille Odell, 86, passed away Monday, January 12, 1998, in a Throckmorton nursing home.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday in First Christian Church with the Revs. Ava Berry and Michael Patrick officiating. Burial was in Woodson Cemetery, directed by Merriman-Archer Funeral Home of Throckmorton.

Mrs. Odell was born in Cross Plains and moved to Woodson as a child. She was a homemaker and also was a farmer and rancher. She was a member of Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 500 and First Christian Church and was the widow of J.T. Odell Jr., whom she married in 1929 in Woodson.

Survivors include two daughters, Barbara Lynn Bellah of Woodson and Dorothy Sullivan of Breckenridge; two sons, Dewey Odell of Woodson and Johnny Odell of Austin; one brother, Harold Brantley of Stanton; 12 grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to First Christian Church Building Fund in Woodson and left at the funeral home or sent to Nancy Baxley in Woodson.

Ruth Geraldine Busbee

BANGS—Ruth Geraldine Busbee, 79, formerly of Rising Star, passed away Tuesday, January 13, 1998, in a local nursing home.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Friday in Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel in Rising Star with Mark Bryant and John Lee officiating. Burial was in Rising Star Cemetery.

Miss Busbee was born in Rising Star, where she operated a news stand for 13 years, and lived in Brady for 24 years. She was a member of Rising Star First Baptist Church.

Survivors include two brothers, Thomas Busbee of May and James "Bob" Busbee of Rising Star; and one sister, Mary Beth Ficken of Garland.

Sharp Calls for Tax Cuts for Small Businesses

AUSTIN — John Sharp, candidate for Lieutenant Governor, today called for cutting taxes on small businesses in Texas by eliminating the corporate franchise tax for firms that earn \$250,000 or less per year.

"Small businesses create most of the jobs in Texas and have played a critical role in our state's robust economy," Sharp said. "They deserve to be helped, not hindered, so that they can continue their outstanding performance."

Sharp's tax cut proposal, which he first suggested in 1991, would affect more than 100,000 small businesses across the state. Businesses with gross receipts of a quarter of a million dollars or less per year would owe no franchise taxes and would no longer be required to file detailed documentation.

"There is a common sense axiom in Texas — if you want more of something, tax it less," Sharp said. "We want more jobs in Texas, so we should cut taxes on the small businesses that provide those jobs as we approach the dawn of a new century."

Sharp said his tax cut proposal would reduce state franchise tax revenues by only \$58 million during the biennium. Gov. George W. Bush earlier had proposed eliminating the franchise tax on corporations earning \$100,000 per year or less, which he said would have cost \$37 million over the biennium.

"Either of these plans would be a small price to pay for helping Texas businesses get off to a good start or expand their existing operations," Sharp said.

Sharp's tax cut proposal would save small business owners the corporate franchise tax they currently pay and would also reduce their expenses for accountants, bookkeepers and others who help them comply with state tax requirements. The Comptroller's audit and enforcement divisions would continue to ensure that Texas businesses understand and live up to their obligations.

"The direct and indirect costs for small businesses in keeping track of their franchise tax obligations drives up the costs of their goods and services for Texas consumers," Sharp said. "In the long run, Texans will gain far more than we will lose."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

On June 15, 1997, I had a prowler trying to break into my house at 517 North Avenue D in Cross Plains. This was early morning hours and it was only my son and myself in the house. I called my father who lives in town and then proceeded to call 911.

When 911 answered my call they would not let me off the line until someone was at my house with me. My father arrived and saw that I was okay and rode around the neighborhood to see if he might see someone. All the time I was still on the phone with 911. This took about 10 minutes. After my father got back to my house, the 911 dispatcher said he would then hang up and get someone to my residence.

After about 15 minutes the 911 dispatcher called back and apologized that he could not get anyone from the Cross Plains area to respond to the call. (This being 25 minutes that had already taken place.) He said that he had a deputy who had just gotten off duty that he would send. He told me it would take a little while to get there, since it was a ways from Baird. After about 45 minutes the man arrived apologizing that he had just gotten off duty from working the night shift and it did take a while to get here. The total time from the first 911 call to the time the deputy sheriff arrived was more than an hour. Then the deputy sheriff did a complete investigation.

Eddie Curtis mentioned in an article in the *Cross Plains Review* last week that it took 34 minutes from the 911 call. I called to ask him about the time,

after the article ran. He said he got his times off a time card. I asked him if he knew I had made a call and that the 911 dispatcher had also called me back. He did not know this, and then said that he had not checked actual 911 printouts.

After talking to several people in town, I found that I was not the only one who has had problems with response time from 911.

This entire "blown out of proportion" situation came about because some information was misrepresented from a recent Cross Plains City Council meeting. The purpose of the meeting was not to run down the Baird sheriff's department (because the deputy sheriff who worked the case did a wonderful job. He even came back for three nights and sat and watched my house from 12 a.m. till about 6 a.m. to make sure that it would not happen again.)

The point is -- NO ONE from Baird should have had to come to Cross Plains. Had there been someone on duty in Cross Plains it could have been handled immediately. What would have happened had the prowler gotten in?

The city council also had a problem with the names that were on the petition. It was stated that most of them did not actually live in Cross Plains, even though they had businesses, paid school taxes or had relatives who lived in town who they were concerned about. One member of the city council also stated that the only people who signed the petition were the ones who had no control over their children.

I just wanted to clarify that there are two sides to every story.

Pam Porter

Abilene Association of Congregations Sponsors "Women's Enrichment Day"

ABILENE—The Abilene Association of Congregations is sponsoring an interdenominational Women's Enrichment Day, Saturday, January 31, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Highland Church of Christ, 425 Highland Ave.

The speaker will be Shirley Cothran Barret, Ph.D. Barret, former Miss America of 1975, is a Denton, Texas native who holds a doctorate degree in Early Childhood Education and Family Counseling. Her topics will be from "Miscellaneous to Miss America" and "Joy Is More Than Skin Deep."

Since being crowned "women's day" was sponsored by the Abilene Association of Congregations two years ago. Approximately 250 women, representing 43 area

churches attended. The purpose of the event is to help women discover ways to make their lives, families and homes more Christ-centered.

The seminar is open to all women in the Big Country. Preregistration deadline is January 26. Cost is \$7, \$10 at the door. Registration forms are available in Abilene at Bible Bookstore, 610 Butternut; Good News Books, 2801 S. 14th; and The Love Shop in the Mall of Abilene.

Free childcare is available for infants through second graders. Preregistration required for childcare. Checks may be mailed to Women's Enrichment Day, P.O. box 7314, Abilene, TX, 79608-7314 -- payable to Abilene Association of Congregations.

For more information call (915) 695-6352 or (915) 677-4588.

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VANDA CREECH, EDITOR
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

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Selected Scriptures

I will meditate on your precepts, and contemplate your ways. Psalm 119:15
Paid Advertising — Irma Miller

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CHURCH SERVICES

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Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Jim O'Dell - pastor - 725-7556
Jason Kempf - Youth & Music Minister

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Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
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Evening Worship 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night Family Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Bob Wallace, Pastor (254) 725-6607

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time 7:00 p.m.
Joe Coppinger, Pastor (254) 725-7730 Church 725-6266
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CALLAHAN COUNTY DISPATCH REPORT

By BILLY HARRIS
Special Writer

FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER

Traffic Accidents	27
Fires	21
Burglar Alarms	12
Stray Animals	8
Criminal Mischief and Vandalism	14
Suspicious Activity	17
Dog Bites	1
Assaults	4
Ambulance Requests	104
Family Disturbances	20
Keys Locked in Vehicles	3
Stolen Vehicles	2
Burglaries	2
Thefts	15
Misc.	121
TOTAL	371

Total calls made in December by each Department dispatched by Callahan County Dispatch.

Callahan County Sheriff's Dept.	109
Sheriff's Dept. assisted other Dept.	25
DPS	26
Clyde PD	91
Baird City Marshal	30
Cross Plains PD	4
Citizens EMS	82
Cross Plains EMS	22
Rural Metro Ambulance	0
Clyde FD	13
Baird FD	7
Eula FD	9
Cross Plains FD	3
Hamby FD	1
Oplin FD	0
Cottonwood FD	0
Putnam FD	1

Political Calendar

The Cross Plains Review is authorized to publish the following political announcements for the Callahan County office filings in the Democratic Primary Election set for Tuesday, March 10, 1997.

For Callahan Judge Winford Hogan

Pol. Adv. paid by Patsy Hogan, treasurer, 507 Pleasant Lane, Clyde, TX 79510

Roger Corn

Pol. Adv. Pd. by John Belcher, 751 Race St., Baird, TX 79504

Ben Holloway

Pol. Adv. Pd. by Ben Holloway, 667 FM 603, Clyde, Texas 79510

For County Clerk Jeanie Bohannon

Pol. Adv. paid Karla Gilliland, treasurer, 601 W. 2nd, Baird, TX 79504

Belinda Davis

Pol. Adv. Pd. by Belinda Davis, 617 Vine Street, Baird, TX 79504

For 42nd District Court Clerk Georgie Manion

Pol. Adv. Pd. by Marnie Martin-Treasurer

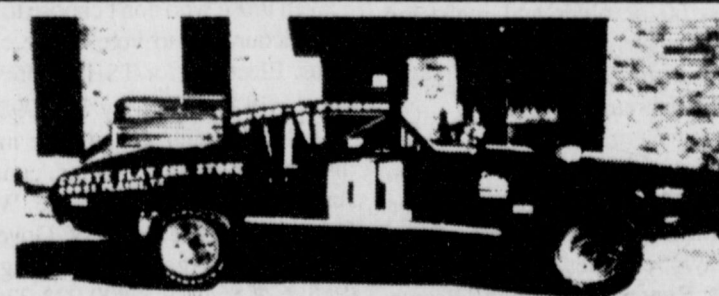
Sharon Owens

Pol. Adv. Pd. by Dale Owens, Treasurer, 6218 CR 252, Clyde, Texas 79510

Court of Appeals Robert Pelton

Pol. Adv. Pd. by Joe Pelton, Treasurer, 1059 S. 3rd St., Abilene, Texas 79602

All political calendar advertising for the Democratic Primary Election is payable in advance, at a cost of \$100.00. A free press release and photograph will be published one time with each announcement.



A Big "Thank You" To Coyote Flat General Store For Sponsoring My Race Car During the 1998 Dirt Track Racing Season.

Danny Johnson

Bake Sale!!

Village Market

Saturday, January 24
8:00am

Help the Youth of First Baptist raise money for their Ski Trip!

NEWS

By
LINDA MERRITT
Activity Director

The residents enjoyed some fine music that Colleen Anderson provided for us during their birthday party. Residents who have birthdays this month are Vera Belyeu and Jo Boatright.

Winnie Walton and Vera Belyeu sure look pretty with their new perms.

Thoughts and prayers for Gertie Powell who is in the hospital.

Minnie Swann was our winner for a free meal at Jack's Place. Thanks Wanda and Jack.

Jack and Lou Knight from Bluff Dale visited with Ritta Knight.

Mona Wilson from Abilene visited with Blanche Brooks.

Bill and Billie, Paul, Lahaunda from Clyde visited Lorena Wright. Charles Coppinger from Odessa

visited Louise Richardson.

Activities during the week were:

Monday: Bingo winners were Falba Shofner (3), Louise Richardson, Vera Belyeu (2), and Ruby Harrell. Exercise class.

Tuesday: Sing-a-long with Bob Wallace. Popcorn social.

Wednesday: Art class. Exercise class.

Thursday: Bingo winners were Minnie Swann (2), Sylvia Smith (3), Ruby Harrell, Vera Belyeu (3), Falba Shofner, and Louise Richardson.

Friday: Singing with Bob Wallace. Sit-down-basketball.

Sunday: Church of Christ

A time of joy - A time of giving

- A time of love

Clips, Quips & Comments

By KAY DENNIS MOSLEY

"The Prince and the Popper"
The following is a work of fiction. It is to be in no way confused with the story of "The Prince and the Pauper." It is all a play on words with which I have taken poetic license on a rather large scale.

In Monaco, during the reign of Prince Rainier, it rained until the people begged that a rain be placed upon the flooding. (rains)

Still it rained and the flooding continued. None seemed to know what to do to relieve the situation. Some people tried washing their cars everyday, sure that would stop heavy thunderstorms and showers. No such luck.

One rather radical group sent to America for the Indian Rain Dance. They then performed the Indian Rain Dance backward; thinking that would reverse the rains. No dice there, though dice could be found in the casinos for which Monaco is renowned.

Everyone possible tried many versions of their projected remedies. Still no success!!

---One day a group of farmers got together to discuss a plan of action to cause the rains to cease.

Several ideas were tossed around but none seemed very feasible. Finally a gnarled old countryman suggested that the best thing he could think of to do was to ask someone who was much, much wiser for a solution. Everyone liked this suggestion. So then the next thing on the agenda was to decide who was the wiser of all the men in the land.

Finally they came to a conclusion. This was to ask Jacque DeNiar! Since Monsieur DeNiar had managed to reach the age of 102 and was the oldest person living there they figured the older, the wiser.

As one fellow phrased it, since he had lived so many years, he was sure to have had many more varied experiences than they and so should be much, much wiser.

Jacque DeNiar looked solemnly at the men grouped around him and pondered their problem. He thought long and hard. Thoughtfully he gave them this advice.

---If there is no answer, then you must learn to live with the problem. So-o-oo-o the farmers went to Prince Rainier and told him what the wise man had said. Prince Rainier went into action.

Soon there were enough houseboats for everyone to live on and each family was provided with popcorn and a popcorn popper. Even Prince Rainier admitted he couldn't be happy without his popper. Soon things began to seem much better and people were happier.

So Rainier continued to reign. Though he wasn't successful at reigning in the rain, he did manage to lasso it which gradually slowed the rain to a drizzle. So goes the story of ---"The Prince and the Popper."

POST SCRIPT: Have you figured out why Jacque DeNiar was so wise? Neither have I but a leprechaun told me that it was because DeNiar spelled backwards spells RAINED!!!!



MR. & MRS. E.S. MAULDIN
...married 68 years

Mr. and Mrs. E.S. Mauldin Celebrated 68th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. E.S. Mauldin celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary on December 27, 1997. They were married at Sylvester on December 27, 1929.

A family dinner was held at Clyde. Fifty-four relatives were in attendance, including their great-great granddaughter, Molly Ann Magee of

Arkansas.

The Mauldins have five children: Carl Mauldin of Comanche, Irene Masters of Snyder, Marjorie Brown of San Antonio, Roland Mauldin of Clyde and Don Mauldin of Henderson, Nevada. The couple have 17 grandchildren, 36 great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

Rural Hero Nomination Deadline February 3

WACO — Entries for the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council's 1997 Rural Heroism Award are now being accepted, according to Ben Bullard, Council President.

To qualify, a candidate must have performed an heroic act of human lifesaving within Texas during 1997. The heroic deed should be related to farming or ranching.

The 1997 recipient will be announced April 6, 1998, at the Texas Safety Association, 59th annual Texas/Southwestern Conference and Exposition to be held at the Renaissance Hotel in Austin.

The nominations must be submitted and postmarked no later than February 3, 1998. Send all nominations to

the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council, P.O. Box 5539, Waco, Texas 76708.

The letter of nomination should include a written account of the incident and names, addresses and telephone numbers of all persons involved. Newspaper clippings and photos should also accompany nominations when available.

The 1996 winner was Clay Nuckles of Hondo, who attempted to rescue his father from a vicious attack by Killer Bees while clearing land with a bulldozer.

Bullard had been President of the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council for 21 years.

Planning A Wedding?

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INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Medicaid

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Store Bottled Water Properly

If you go to the trouble and expense of buying bottled water be sure you are taking proper care of it. Check the "best if used by" date on the bottle and don't buy so many bottles that they sit around for months. Keep bottles in a cool, dark spot and store in the refrigerator when opened. Most gallon bottles are made of high density polyethylene, and vapors easily travel through the bottle and get into the water. Water stored next to onions or cleaning products will taste like whatever was close to it.

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CROSS PLAINS, TEXAS

BREAKTHRU

By Bob Pipes, preacher
Cross Plains Church of Christ
433 N. Main At 12th
(254) 725-6117

Do you ever wonder why more people aren't happier than they seem to be? A friend of mine told me about a time when he stopped at a gas station. It was a really great day -- cool, bright and clear. But he noticed that this fellow pumping gas next to him had his head resting on his arm -- and he looked like he had lost his best friend. Making conversation with him, trying to cheer him up, my friend said, "It is a very beautiful day isn't it?" The fellow replied, not even raising his head, "Not if you've got a hangover!"

I wonder, does the beauty of a day, the smell of a flower, the touch of a person, the look of a child or the kiss of a loved one -- do these things sometime just slide by us because of "hangovers?" And all hangovers are not a result of the consumption of alcohol or other drugs...

Maybe it's the memories ("hangovers") of the past, blocking us from seeing the beauty of the day (and other aforementioned things). Maybe it's bitterness, resentment or anger that prevents us from really enjoying life and living. Do we allow precious moments and very special people to go right by us without noticing them -- appreciating them -- because of "hangovers?"

The Galilean spent time with all kinds of people -- and many of them had "Hangovers." They had all made mistakes. They had all sinned. Many of them had made serious mistakes and had committed "serious sins." But Jesus knew that they all had the potential of becoming somebody else. They were, in fact, worth so much to Him that He was willing to lay His life down for each and every one of them! And some of them experienced the ultimate BREAKTHRU -- they got rid of their "Hangovers." And so can you!

"If I can help you, I'll be around..."

Sunday Morning Bible Class ... 9:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Friends & Neighbors Caring In Jesus

PIONEER NEWS

By PIONEER QUILTING CLUB

Oliver and Frankie enjoyed their children for the Christmas holidays and also the company of Jean Fore the Nance's, their son Joey, Mrs. Harrelson and daughter Laura Ann. Their daughter Roxie Nance and Bobby spent New Years with them.

Earlene Burge spent Christmas at her daughters, Jessica Stultz, in Brownwood. There was 14 for Christmas dinner. Sunday, Dee Ann and Andrew Chisholm and their son, Cameron, visited. They were returning home to Nacogdoches this week.

New Year visitors with Jean Fore were Paul, Juanita and Vi Harlow of Lovington, New Mexico, Garson and Myrtle Harlow, Myrtle's mother Velma Morrow of Arlington.

James and Jean Alexander spent Christmas Eve and Christmas day with their children, Jim and Marla and their grandchildren Doss, Jack, Will and Ashley. When they returned home, their daughter from Corpus Christi, Starr Appleton and granddaughter's Heather and Andrea visited for a few days. Also, Susie and her daughters, Josie and Annie, from St. Jo, Missouri visited.

Pate Jones from Stockton, Missouri, spent the week with his grandparents, D.P. and May Jones. Also visiting during the week was Skip Jones of Big Spring. Randy and Cherie Wrobel and daughters,

Ashlie, Shalie and Kalie of Abilene spent Christmas day with the Jones.

We are all glad to be at quilting after the holidays. It seems that everyone had a great time with their loved ones. We are hoping the year 1998 will be a good one for all. Happy New Year!

It is nice to be back quilting again. We were especially glad to have Laverne Hutton and Billie Freeman back with us. We are working on Lou's "Before and Aft" quilt. We also have Jean Fores "Sun Flower" quilt in the frame. Lou put in a "Dumbards Path" quilt. She says it is going to be for one of her grandsons.

The club had quite a treat Tuesday afternoon. Nora Odom's Reading class visited us. They did get to see how a quilt was put into the frame. They watch us quilt on the other quilts. They ask questions and made comments. It is always our pleasure to have the students visit.

The quilters enjoyed a drive into Cross Plains and lunch at Jack's Place. We had nine members to go this time. The food was GREAT!

Oliver, Frankie and Jean went to Coleman musical Friday night. It was very enjoyable.

Franci Huntington of Brady visited Jean Fore Saturday afternoon.

Words of Wisdom: #14 - For every minute you are angry, you lose sixty seconds of happiness.

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Art Classes With Mary Barton

Drawing — February 18, 19, 25, 26, March 4 & 5
Watercolor Basics — March 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 & 26
Watercolor — April 1, 2, 8, 9, 22 & 23
(No classes April 15 & 16)

All classes will be at Mary Barton's studio, 125 W. Cypress, Cross Plains, on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 to 12:00 noon. Tuition for each series of 6 classes will be \$75.00. To register, mail \$25.00 deposit to Mary Barton, P.O. Box 553, Cross Plains, TX 76443. Supply information sent on registration. Balance due at first class. (Deposit refunded if class doesn't make).

MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE IS 10, SO SIGN UP SOON!
REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR ALL CLASSES -

FEB. 11TH

COME JOIN THE FUN!!

QUESTIONS? CALL (254) 725-7544

OH BABY

KYLIE RAE MCGUIRE BIRTH ANNOUNCED

Brandon and Linda McGuire of Cross Plains would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Kylie Rae McGuire, on Wednesday, January 14, 1998 at 2:11 a.m. at Abilene Regional Medical Center. She weighed in at 7 pounds, 3.4 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Her grandparents are David and Dinah Keathley of Cross Plains.

OH BABY

MOLLIE AMELIA CHAMBERS BIRTH ANNOUNCED

Thad, Valerie and Hannah Chambers are proud to announce the birth of Mollie Amelia Chambers, born Monday, December 29, 1997 at 3:06 p.m. She weighed in at 8 pounds, 2 ounces and was 19 1/4 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Dale and Myrna Mitchell of Cross Plains and paternal grandparents are Rowena Chambers of Lewisville and Woody Chambers of Lake Brownwood.

Buffaloes Season Record 16-3

By GREG TURNER

The Cross Plains Buffaloes added a couple more victories this past week, pushing their record to 16 wins and 3 losses.

The game at Strawn was a good one, with the Buffs leading as much as 16 points at one time. Strawn managed to have a strong 4th quarter outscoring the Buffaloes 18 to 10 and getting close at the buzzer. Cross Plains won by 3 points 67-64 with three Buffaloes scoring in double figures. Dusty Hargrove lead the team with 17 points, Joseph Turner 15 and Benji Blackstock 14. The team busted out scoring 24 points in the 1st quarter and led by 6. They scored 17 points in the 2nd and 3rd quarters. They struggled in the 4th quarter scoring only 10 points. Cross Plains still needs to put a 4th quarter game together.

The Buffaloes played Richland Springs here on Friday evening and again struggled to win. They outscored Richland Springs in every quarter of the game except, you guessed it, the 4th quarter.

The Buffs opened the 1st quarter scoring 18 points to Richland Springs' 13. The 2nd quarter slowed and C.P. scored 9 points, leading at halftime 27-21. Going into the final quarter, Cross Plains led by 11 with R.S. getting on fire shooting from the field and outscored the Buffs 21 to 16. The home team claimed another game for the win column with a the score of 59-53.

Good job Buffaloes! Four Buffaloes scored in double digits including Blackstock with 16, Turner 15, Zach Edington 12 and Jarad Richards 11.

The Buffaloes are now into district play, so find out where the games will be and make plans to attend.

See you at the games!

Junior High Girls Combine to Defeat Lometa

By COACH MIKE CAVENDER

Due to Lometa only having one Junior High girls team, we were only able to play one game. We combined forces to defeat Lometa 36 to 12.

Leading all scorers was C. Bailey with 11, S. Thomas 6, A. Kitchens 4, E. Winfrey 4, J. Mauricio 4, M. Chessier 2, s. Nixon 2, N. Callaway 2, and K. Shields 1. The score at half-time was 21 to 4 and we out-scored them in the second half by a score of 15 to 8.

As we moved towards the weekend and our own Junior High Tournament we had to make some adjustments to our two teams because of grade problems.

Playing on the 7th grade squad was D. Rivard, K. Shields, J. Hartman, M. Chessier, N. Callaway, J. Mauricio, and V. Vasquez. We call this group Gold.

Playing on the 8th grade squad was C. Bailey, S. Thomas, S. Nixon, A. Kitchens, E. Winfrey, S. Stephens, S. Parker, and A. Swift. We call this

group Purple.

In the opening round of the tournament the Gold team lost a heart breaker at the buzzer after holding a lead the whole second half to Coleman's B team 16 to 14.

The opening round for the Purple team saw us with a solid performance and win against the Coleman B's 8th grade team by a score of 46 to 13.

In the second round the Gold team lost to Santa Anna by a score of 34 to 22. The Gold team had a much better offensive performance against Santa Anna.

In the second round of the winners bracket the Purple team lost a tough one to a very good 8th grade team from Baird by a score of 41 to 22. Losing to Baird in the finals gave us the tournament runner-up trophy.

Scoring the points for the Gold team was N. Callaway 12, J. Mauricio 10, J. Hartman 6, D. Rivard 6, and K. Shields 2.

Scoring points for the Purple team was C. Bailey 22, s. Thomas 18, S. Nixon 10, E. Stephens 4, E. Winfrey 2, S. Parker 6, and A. Kitchens 6.

Freshman Girls Defeat Anson

By COACH MIKE CAVENDER

On Monday, the 12th Freshman girls traveled to Anson defeating them by a score of 29 to 7. The score at half-time was 14 to 4 and we con-

tinued to score through out the second half of play.

Amber Wilson lead all scorers with 14, a. Harris 5, J. Hartman 4, L. Meiron 2, T.M. Wyatt 2, and A. Hutchins 2. The Freshmen girls will play Eula next at Eula.

Varsity Girls Continue Roll

By COACH MIKE CAVENDER

On Tuesday, the Lady Buffs defeated a strong Strawn team by the score of 61 to 51. Three different times we opened up leads of 14 points or more and all three times Strawn would cut our lead down to 6.

Ashley and Holly were both in early foul trouble through out the game. Brandi and Jennifer stepped up under pressure and did a super job moving the ball around and playing defense.

We dominated the rebounding war, Laura, Whitney, Mindy, and Jolena all had big numbers on rebounds. We had 55 total rebounds, 25 offensive and 30 defensive to control the game.

Leading all scorers was M. Mitchell with 18, Mindy also hits some big free throws late in the game to insure the win. L. Ricci was next with 13, W. Giles 12, J. Fleming 8, A. Beggs 4, H. Butler 3, B. Richey 2, and L. McCarty 1.

On Friday, the Lady Buffs defeated Richland Springs 68 to 19. We shot the ball from the floor better than we have here lately. We also did a few different things both on offense and defense that should help us in the future.

Scoring the points were L. Ricci 19, H. Butler 11, M. Mitchell 10, W. Giles 7, a. Dillard 7, L. McCarty 5, C. Francy 4, B. Richey 2, A. Beggs 2, and J. Fleming 1.

Subscribe To The Cross Plains Review

8th grade boys won second tourney

By BEVERLY ROSS

The Cross Plains 8th grade team won their second tournament of the season, winning the Cross Plains 8th Grade Tournament Saturday, January 17.

The local team started with a big win over the Coleman B team, 57-17. Tony Beggs scored 21 points, Aaron Norris 9, Joseph Dillard 8, Matt Nickerson 8, Josh Hopkins 5, Tim Butler 4 and James Ross 2.

In the championship game, Cross Plains practically shut down Baird with great defense and rebounding, winning by the score of 40-12. Beggs led the scoring with 16 points, Dillard 9, Norris 6, Ross 4, Nickerson 3 and Hopkins 2.

Junior Varsity Girls Beat Strawn

By COACH MIKE

On Tuesday, the 13th, the Junior Varsity traveled to Strawn to take on the Lady Greyhounds. We defeated Strawn by a score of 42 to 27. The halftime score was 21 to 12 with us on top. We out-scored Strawn in the second half by a margin of 21 to 15. We did a good job of shooting free throws in the 4th quarter when things started getting close by making 6 of 7 under pressure to extend our lead.

V. Webb and B. Hutton lead all scorers with 8, T. Guise 6, T. Wyatt 5, N. Bushnell 5, T. Clark 4, C. Beaty 3, J. Payne 2, and L.J. Wyatt 1.

Jr. High Boys Defeat Lometa

By Beverly Ross

The Cross Plains Junior High Boys A-Team returned from the long holiday break in fine fashion, taking a big district win over Lometa by the score of 43-28 on Monday, January 12th.

Leading all scorers was Tony Beggs with 17 points, followed by Joseph Dillard 13, Josh Hopkins 4, Aaron Norris 4, Tim Butler 3 and James Ross 2.

This win brings the team record to 6-1 overall and 2-0 in district play.

7th grade boys take 4th place in local tourney

By BEVERLY ROSS

The Cross Plains 7th grade team placed 4th in the Cross Plains 7th Grade Tournament held Saturday, January 17.

In their first game, Cross Plains lost a close one to Coleman by the score of 22-21. Chris Harris led all scorers with 13 points, Kevin Wilson 4, Cole Koenig 2 and Dustin Martin 2.

Jim Ned defeated Cross Plains 37-25 in the next game. Harris had 11 points, Wilson 6 while Koenig, Martin, Nathan Joy and Brandon Jones each added 2 points.



SCHOOL MENU

JAN. 26 - JAN. 30
(Subject To Change)

BREAKFAST

MONDAY — Cream of wheat, toast, assorted juice and milk.

TUESDAY — Cereal, toast, assorted juice and milk.

WEDNESDAY — Cinnamon rolls, assorted juice and milk.

THURSDAY — Breakfast burrito, assorted juice and milk.

FRIDAY — HOLIDAY

LUNCH

MONDAY — Pizza, salad, corn, Jello and milk.

TUESDAY — Sloppy Joes, chips, pickle spears, fresh fruit and milk.

WEDNESDAY — Steak fingers w/gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, rolls, peaches and milk.

THURSDAY — Chicken pot pie, spinach, cheesestick, crackers, pineapples and milk.

FRIDAY — HOLIDAY



Happy 18th Birthday

Love,
Mom, James & Michael

Photos of children from Birth through 12th grade and residing within the Cross Plains School District are eligible for entry.

Any size unframed photo up to 8x10, may be submitted. No cheese cake or swim wear photos will be accepted. An entry fee of \$5.00 per photo will be required. You may enter as many photos as you wish; each accompanied with the corresponding fees. Photos are judged on reflection of personality and photogenic qualities. Entries will be divided into thirteen age divisions. Winners of each age division and an overall winner will be announced and awards presented Sat., Feb. 7, at the Miss Valentine Parade. Winners need not be present to win. Winner's photos will be held for newspaper presentation then returned. Other photos may be picked up following the Miss Valentine Parade.

Photos and fees must be in no later than Monday, February 2, 1998. Photos, fees and registration form may be submitted to Nora Odom at Cross Plains Elementary. Please print name, address, age and grade on the back of each photo submitted.

If you have any questions, contact: Jamie Apple, 725-6296; Nora Odom, 725-6840 or Judy Luter, 725-7222.

BETA SIGMA PHI - PHOTOGENIC ENTRY FORM

NAME _____ GRADE _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN _____

AGE AS OF JAN. 1ST 1998 _____ BIRTHDAY _____

OF PHOTOS ENTERED _____ X \$5.00 EA. = _____ TOTAL

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#9912 1992 Olds Delta 88 4-dr., Loaded \$219.20/mo.***** \$8,500 Cash Price	#6162 1993 Chevrolet 1/2 ton Ext. Cab loaded, V-8, 6-speed \$275.09/mo.***** \$12,700 Cash Price	1995 Chev. 3/4 ton Ext. Cab 4x4 Silverado #7957 350, auto, loaded \$356.69/mo.*** \$17,500 Cash Price
#8795 1985 GMC S-15 Jimmy 2 door, V-6, loaded, auto. \$290.16/mo**** \$14,500 Cash Price	#9671 1993 Chev. 1 ton Ext. Cab Silverado 350 V-8, auto, loaded \$340.92/mo.***** \$15,500 Cash Price	#10081 1996 Chevy S-10 Pickup 4 cylinder, 5-speed \$169.97/mo.** \$9,000 Cash Price
#10293 1995 Ford T-Bird V-8, auto, NICE \$182.69/mo.*** \$9,500 Cash Price	#9985 1997 Chevy 1/2 Ton Pickup V8, 5-speed, 28,000 miles \$239.20/mo.* \$14,800.00 Cash Price	#9772 1993 Mazda B2200 P.U. 4 cyl., 5 sp. NICE \$138.72/mo.***** \$6,900.00 Cash Price
#8834 1993 Oldsmobile Cutlass Ciera 4 door \$164.58/mo.***** \$8,000 Cash Price	#10296 1995 Chev. Lumina Loaded \$172.94/mo.*** \$9,000 Cash Price	1993 Pontiac Sunbird 4-dr., automatic \$105.80/mo.***** \$5,500 Cash Price
#9284 1996 Oldsmobile Achieva 4 door, V-6, auto. \$207.15/mo.** \$10,750 Cash Price	#7977 1998 Oldsmobile Cutlass Ciera 4 door \$223.09/mo.** \$11,500.00 Cash Price	#8667 1995 Isuzu P.U. 4.cyl., 5 sp., low miles \$159.05/mo.*** \$8,400.00 Cash Price
#8663 1995 Chev. Astro Cargo Van V-6, auto., low miles \$209.56/mo.*** \$10,750 Cash Price	#10252 1997 Chev. Cavalier 2-dr., 16,000 miles \$254.96/mo.* \$13,000 Cash Price	#8942 1998 Pontiac Sunfire 4 dr., auto, low miles \$233.71/mo.** \$12,000.00 Cash Price

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Request for local nominations 1998 Texas Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards

AUSTIN — The Texas Council for the Humanities (TCH), a state program of the NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH), has launched the ninth year of its program to recognize and reward the exemplary contributions of humanities teachers in Texas elementary, middle and high schools.

In May 1998, the TCH will award six Texas Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards of \$2,000 each. \$1,000 of the total award will be given to the teacher to further professional development, and \$1,000 will be awarded to the teacher's school for the purchase of humanities instructional material and/or for the improvement of humanities courses and programs. In addition, six-to-eight teachers will be selected to receive Honorable Mention plaques.

Any student, parent, fellow teacher, school administrator or member of the public may nominate any full-time teacher presently teaching one or more humanities courses in a Texas elementary or secondary school, either public or private. However, please note that an individual may nominate only one teacher per year. **Nomination forms must be postmarked no later than midnight, March 1, 1998.**

The humanities in most elementary and secondary schools are generally courses in literature, foreign lan-

guages, government, history or social studies. Although less frequently offered in secondary schools, courses in philosophy, comparative religions, ethics, anthropology and art history or music history are also included in the humanities.

Award decisions by the TCH Board of Directors are based on merit for outstanding contributions to the teaching of humanities in Texas, with primary emphasis placed upon classroom activities. Examples include distinguished teaching; innovative teaching methods; introduction of new teaching aids, such as computer technologies; successful introduction of new courses; and development of teacher training programs or workshops.

Since 1990, the program has drawn nominations for 973 Texas teachers representing 748 schools from 254 towns and cities.

The Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards Program is sponsored by the Texas Council for the Humanities, with financial support provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Texas Humanities Alliance and Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc.

Nomination forms and further information may be obtained by contacting the TCH at (512) 440-1991.

Belinda Davis is candidate for County Clerk position

Perhaps you already know me from my service to you from 1974 to 1995 at the First National Bank Baird-Clyde-Abilene or from serving as a past Crusade Chairman for the American Cancer Society or past President of the Baird Chamber of Commerce or as a current Director of the Baird Cemetery Association, if not me introduce myself.

I am Belinda Davis, candidate for the office of Callahan County Clerk.

I was born in Baird in 1946. My dad was in the Air Force most of my life so we moved often but we always came home to Callahan County. This is where my children were raised and where my husband, Don, and I will stay.

Being a long distance operator for Bell Telephone Company gave me three years of intensive training in professional service to the public. Fred Goble and James Eubanks insisted that friendly, professional service be given to everyone who came into the bank.

Becoming Deputy County Clerk in 1995 has allowed me to continue to provide the people of Callahan County with friendly professional service. Our job of maintaining pub-



BELINDA DAVIS
...candidate for County Clerk

lic records is one that I really enjoy. I will bring thirty years of work experience to the office if elected.

The Callahan County Courthouse will be a warmer more welcoming place if you select Belinda Davis as your County Clerk from 1999 through 2002.

Pub. adv. pd. by Belinda Davis, 617 Vize Street, Baird, TX 79504.



BEST DESIGN—Markus Maxwell (from left), William Meador and Michael Curry.



MOST ORIGINAL—Lewis Walker (from left), Joey Westerman and Scotty Johnson.



MOST UNUSUAL—Austin Dunaway (from left), James Purcell and Eric Olvera.



WINNERS OF RACE—Scotty Johnson (from left), Joey Westerman and Austin Dunaway.

Social Security Reform: Principles to Keep in Mind

By CHARLIE STENHOLM

In some of my earlier columns, I mentioned that demographic changes are causing problems in the Social Security system that will need to be corrected in the near future. Over the next couple of years, we are likely to hear a great deal from all sides of this debate.

Some will claim that the only way to save Social Security is to eliminate it completely and replace it with a system of private investment in which all individuals are free to choose how their retirement dollars are invested without any government intervention. Others claim that is necessary to keep the current program in financial balance is to increase the payroll taxes paid by current and future workers. There are options between these two ends of the policy spectrum.

While "privatization" would allow each individual to invest all or a portion of their current payroll taxes into the retirement plan of choice, little room is left for mistakes or unexpected catastrophes. For example, if Joe Smith invests his funds in the stock market and loses everything or if he makes no retirement plans whatsoever while he works because his family need the funds for current living expenses, he could be left to flounder in poverty once he retires. On the other hand, he could strike it rich with good investment planning and earn much more than he ever could have received through the current Social Security program.

Conversely, some advocate increasing current payroll taxes by a few percentage points to keep the current system in balance. Those who promote this alternative are exactly

right: the current system can be sustained forever if taxes are increased from time to time but the degree of tax increases that would be required given the demographic shifts would be politically unsustainable. While some may be willing to saddle future generations of workers with this kind of tax burden, I simply do not believe this is a viable option.

Others adopt something of a middle ground. There are many variations but they all include some level of private investment combined with efforts to strengthen and maintain the current Social Security system. To date, it is clear that this kind of approach has the broadest support; however, many different factions each claim their configuration is the best and sometimes show little support for other reform proposals.

In 1996 Marshall Carter and Bill Shipman wrote a book that really made an impression on me. While I do not agree with all of the book's claims, I was so impressed by something they wrote in Promises to Keep: Saving Social Security's Dream that I must share it:

"While considering possible solutions to our retirement problem, we have been guided by three principles that we believe are valued in a civil society: 1) The first principle is that the elderly are able to retire with financial security. 2) The second principle is that younger workers should be able to keep the fruits of their labors. 3) The third principle is that the economy should not be unreasonably or unnecessarily burdened by achieving the first two principles. In our view, any and all suggestions to solve Social Security's problems should be considered if they meet these principles."

Let The Race Begin

By DEBORAH GRISWOLD

Members of Pack 281 held their annual Pinewood Derby race Monday night, January 19, at the First United Methodist Church.

Nine uniquely designed cars entered the race. James Oscar Koenig and Todd Smith had the difficult job of judging the masterpieces. The judges announced the top three winners in each category. For the Best Design 1st place went to Michael Curry; 2nd William Meador; and 3rd Markus Maxwell. In the Most Original Scotty Johnson received 1st; Joe Westerman

2nd; and Lewis Walker 3rd. In the Most Unusual category 1st place went to Eric Olvera; 2nd James Purcell; and 3rd Austin Dunaway.

Then came the moment everyone had been waiting for -- the RACES! Each car raced really well. When the dust had settled Austin Dunaway was in the winners circle. Coming in a close 2nd was Joey Westerman and 3rd place went to Scotty Johnson.

A fun time was had by the boys and their parents.

The next Pack meeting will be held February 16. This will be the Blue and Gold Banquet and everyone is asked to bring a covered dish.

Is it the flu or some other "bug"?

HOUSTON—With all the "bugs" going around during winter, many sick people mistakenly think they have influenza. That may lead them to think the flu shots they got are not working.

"Lots of people get colds in the winter and mistakenly think they have influenza," said Dr. Wendy Keitel of the Influenza Research Center at Houston's Baylor College of Medicine.

Cold-like symptoms can be produced by many viruses circulating this time of year, such as rhino-, corona-, parainfluenza-, respiratory syncytial-, adeno- and other viruses.

Any of these can cause typical upper-respiratory symptoms such as runny nose, sore throat, sneezing, watery eyes and nasal obstruction, Keitel said. In fact, a mild case of influenza can also produce such symptoms.

Although other infections can be associated with flu-like illness, few if any have the same impact in the community as influenza. Not only can symptoms of influenza be se-

vere, making you feel much worse than a cold ever could, but influenza complications can lead to death. As many as 20,000 people, most of them elderly, die each year in the US from flu complications, chiefly pneumonia.

"Sometimes people will avoid getting flu shots," Keitel said, "because they are convinced that they caught influenza from the shot last year."

Actually, they are likely associating the flu shot with a coincidental illness caused by some other infection.

"The danger in such thinking is that people who really need flu shots will not get them," Keitel said. "The elderly and people with heart and lung disease, in particular, should get flu shots annually because they are among the people most at risk for possibly deadly complications."

Keitel cautioned that the flu vaccine is not 100 percent effective, "but your chances of avoiding the flu and its complications are significantly higher with the shot than without it."

Callahan County Junior Livestock Show January 29, 30 & 31

The Annual Callahan County Jr. Livestock Show will begin on January 29 at 5:30 p.m. with the judging of the rabbits and poultry.

John Steele of Clyde is President of the Callahan County Jr. Livestock Association and he said that entries are expected to number about 500 this year from the various FFA Chapters and 4-H Clubs in the county.

Other officers of the association are Shane Lee-Vice President; Leslie Lee-Secretary; and Sandra Carey-Treasurer.

Superintendents for this years show are:

Beef Cattle - Jimmy Seider, Richy Crow & Eddie Riley

Market Lamb - Charlie Palmer & Don Harris

Market Swine - John Straley, Gerry McDowell & Eddie Lewis

Poultry & Rabbits - Pam Harris & B.P. Stephenson

Dairy & Meat Goats - Danny & Martha English

Judging of the rabbits and poultry will begin at 5:30 p.m. on 29th with Bill Coalson of Abilene doing the judging. All participants must be checked in by 5:00 p.m. on the 29th.

Judging will begin at 8:00 a.m. on the 30th with the Breeding Swine

Show followed by the Market Barrow Show. Carl Kent of Pottsboro is judging the Breeding Swine and Market Barrow Show.

At 1:30 p.m. on the 30th, Sam Kuykendall of Menard, will start judging the Breeding Sheep followed by the Market Lambs.

The Meat Goat & Dairy Goat Show will follow the Lamb Show on Friday the 30th. Don Smith will judge this show.

On the afternoon of the 30th from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. all steers and heifers will be classified and weighed. Judging of the Beef Cattle will get under way at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning the 31st with the Heifer Show to be judged by Bob Benson of Plainview. Benson will also judge the steers starting at 9:00 a.m. The Premium Sale will begin at 2:00 p.m. The Awards Presentation of all the trophies for the champion animals will be held prior to the premium sale auction to be conducted by Ronnie Vinson of Clyde.

Announcers for the three day show will be Jack Corn, James Trammell, Dick Vestal and Tim Stone.

Officials of the Show would like to invite everyone out for all or part of the show and support the young folks of Callahan County.

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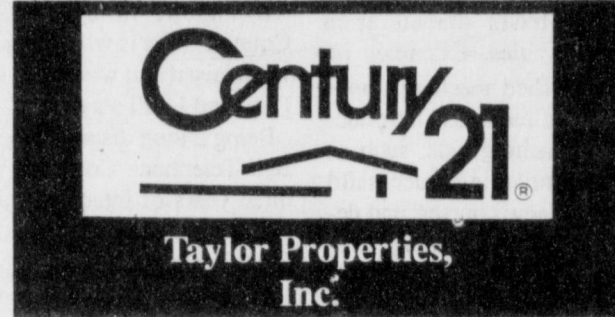
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CROSS PLAINS I.S.D.—is accepting applications for a bus driver. This driver will be responsible for driving a morning and afternoon route. Applicants may pick up applications at the superintendent's office. If you need more information, please call Jackie Tennison at 254-725-6121. Applications will be taken until February 2, 1998. 43-11c

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Cross Plains Economic Development Corporation, Inc. will hold a public hearing February 26, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. This hearing will allow citizens to comment on the proposed 1998-1999 budget and the following projects: 1. Sidewalk landscaping, 2. Signs on Highway 36, 3. An incentive grant program for business owners, and 4. A billboard on Interstate 20. 43-11c

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Cross Plains ISD is taking bids on a Gas Boy Model 52A - EK20 Gas Pump. The serial # is 411004. Bids may be turned into the Superintendent's office until Friday, February 13, 1998 at 4:00 p.m. Bids will be opened on Thursday, February 19, 1998. Cross Plains ISD has the right to reject any and all bids. For further information contact Jackie Tennison, Superintendent of Schools, CPISD, at (254) 725-6121 or come by the school Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 43-2c

CARD OF THANKS

Card Of Thanks
We would like to express our deepest appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown during the loss of our wonderful mother and grandmother, Jessie Marie Pancake. A special thank you to all the people who brought food, said a prayer, sent flowers, sent a card or just thought of us. She was a wonderful lady and will be truly missed by all.
Marby Fox, Barney Pancake and Grandchildren

Card Of Thanks

I want to apologize for not sending this thank you note out earlier. We have been very busy but we have not forgotten you. I hope this never happens to any of you, but we could not have made it without your support and thoughts. It's good to know we have friends such as yourself. We are getting back on our feet at this time. We have been able to open five classrooms on the north end of the building at this time. This is all the building we will be able to use for the remainder of the year. We are still having classes on the auditorium stage, in the foyer of the auditorium, in the junior high football dressing room, and in the junior high offices. The high school principals office is in a storage room in the new gymnasium, and my office, along with my Business Manager and Secretary, is in a 10' by 20' storage building. These are wonderful facilities, which makes you appreciate what you had. I know we all have problems and we seem to always work through them somehow and we will this problem also. But, once again, I want to mention it is a lot easier knowing I have the support of colleagues as yourself. Once again, I apologize for the delay, but everybody at Cross Plains I.S.D. sends a huge "THANK YOU" out to you for your support and thoughts.
May God Bless You,
Jackie Tennison
Superintendent of Schools

Card of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for the prayers, plants and cards during the loss of our loved ones (Joy's mother and Ross's brother). Your thoughtfulness was very comforting.
Ross & Joy Gerking

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The Case of the Dancing Cowboy

By JOHN R. ERICKSON

Chapter 11
A Stranger at the Window

(In the previous chapter, Miss Viola dropped hint after hint but could not get Slim to ask her to the dance. So she drove away with Hank the Cowdog riding along. A short distance down the road, she began crying. Hank felt bad enough because those spoiled sardines he ate were starting to work their way back up his digestive system. But hearing Miss Viola cry made him especially sad. She laughed when a sardine burp suddenly emerged from deep inside Hank. She laughed so hard that she didn't see a man walk up to her window.)

Well, you know me. When confronted by monsters, vampires, and shadowy forms that look like men, I don't just sit there. I bark.

Yes sir, I cut loose with a withering barrage of barking. I bared my fangs and, by George, stood my ground and prepared to defend Miss Viola with every ounce of ...

Slim?
Couldn't be. We'd left him back at his house, and good riddance, too, the cad.

I studied the face again and growled a deep growl, just in case ...
It was Slim, standing out there with a silly grin on his face. Miss Viola seemed just as shocked as I. We both stared at him with wide eyes.

At last he broke the silence. "Somebody stole my dog."

I heard Viola gasp. "Why Slim, how can you say such a terrible ... he must have crawled in my car while we ... " She stiffened and raised the angle of her nose. "I can assure you that I didn't steal your dog."

He chuckled and patted her on the arm. "I'm only funning with you, Viola, don't get your hackles up."

"Don't get my hackles up. Well, let me tell you something, Mister Slim Chance ... "

"Before you tell me something, let me tell you something. Loper and Sally May are having a little dance tonight. I know I ain't much fun and I can't dance worth a flip, but ... would you care to go to the dance with me? I mean, would you ever consider such a thing?"

There was a throbbing moment of silence. Then she started crying again. "Oh Slim!"

His face fell like a load of rocks. "Good honk, I didn't figger it would make you cry. I'll just gather up my dog and ... "

"Oh Slim, I'd love to go to the dance with you."

His adam's apple did three flips. "You would? You really would?"

"Of course I would. What girl wouldn't be honored?"
"Well, I could name about 3,000 that wouldn't, but thanks. I can't dance but maybe I ain't too old to learn. I'll try."

"Don't you worry about dancing, Slim. We'll go and have us a good time." She opened her door and turned to me. "Bye, Hank, and thanks for listening to my troubles."

You're a good dog."

On the way back to the house, Slim was in a jolly mood. He whistled and sang all the way home, while I thought about greasy stinking rotten fish.

Orp. Ump.
I tried to concentrate on happy thoughts, such as basking in the warm glow of Miss Viola's last words to me: "You're a good dog." But it was a struggle and the fish were winning.

When we pulled up in front of the house, Slim shut off the motor and sat there for a few minutes, smiling to himself and watching a robin down by the creek.

"Ain't it something, the way one little bitty woman can raise a feller's spirits? Heck, I feel like I could go chop three cords of wood with a dull axe ... only I probably ought to take a bath and find some decent clothes to wear to this deal."

He opened the door and stepped out. "And you know what, pooch? I never would have worked up the nerve to ask her out if she hadn't had that much trouble with the spark plug wire. That's what I'd call bodacious good luck."

I studied his face to see if he was joking. He wasn't. He never figured it out, but that was OK. Maybe he wasn't supposed to.

Chapter 12
All is Well

That's about all there is to this yarn. Slim and Viola went to the dance (I went, too, in the back of the pickup) and we had ourselves a grand old time. Dancing in the front yard, Slim looked pretty ...

How can I saw this? He looked a wee bit awkward and uncomfortable, but Viola told him that he danced as well as "Freddy Star," whoever that might be.

And you know what? I think he believed her, and after that he didn't seem to care that he looked like a dancing scarecrow.

Happy ending and case closed ...
Oh, you're probably wondering what became of the sardines. No problem. I took care of that whilst Slim was taking his bath. I, uh, downloaded the material, so to speak, in a very private, secluded, unexplored region of his ... uh ... house.

Under his bed, you might say. And it worked out fine for everyone. That happened a month ago and Slim hasn't found it yet.

Although I've heard him say that he's had a lot of dreams about fishing.


Happy ending. Case closed.
And anyway, it served him right for making Miss Viola cry.

These are chapters 11 and 12 from "The Case of the Dancing Cowboy," a previously unpublished book by John R. Erickson, a Texas rancher. Erickson, who has written 27 Hank the Cowdog books for Gulf Publishing, is giving this 11-chapter book to newspapers across the nation to encourage children and others to read.

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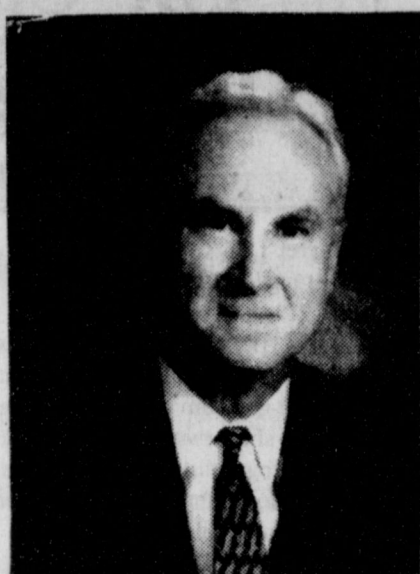
Robert Pelton Announces Candidacy For Court of Appeals

Abilene native, Robert Pelton, lawyer, has announced as a candidate for the Court of Appeals in Eastland, Texas. He is seeking the Republican nomination to succeed retiring Associate Justice Bob Dickenson.

Mr. Pelton was born, raised, and attended public schools in Abilene and graduated from Abilene High School in 1964. Pelton graduated from McMurry College in 1970. From 1966 to 1972, he served in the United States Army National Guard and received an honorable discharge in 1972. Mr. Pelton attended South Texas College of Law in Houston at night while working for Firemen Fund Insurance Company and Dresser Industries. In law school, he was the chief prosecutor of the Honor Court. He did a legal internship with the Harris County District Attorney's office and with attorney Jim Skelton where he assisted in the prosecution of several major felony cases.

After graduating from law school with a Doctor of Juris Prudence degree he entered private practice of law in 1975. He is licensed to practice law in State and Federal courts. During his career he has represented citizens in many varied cases. His courtroom experience includes jury trials and appeals of divorce and child custody, criminal cases, personal injury cases and cases involving administrative law matters as well as appeals of both criminal and civil cases. Mr. Pelton has been the lawyer for more than 1,700 criminal cases in Harris county including five capital murder clients, and numerous cases in Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, Midland, Richmond, Lubbock, Sweetwater, Palo Pinto, San Antonio, Edna and Abilene. One capital murder case he was involved in is now the subject of a recently published book, "Ashes to Ashes" written by Lyn Riddle. Mr. Pelton has served many high profile clients including television personality Marvin Zindler in a lawsuit against the American Nazi Party. This case was appealed to the United States Supreme Court. He has served as the lawyer for other attorneys, physicians, judges, policemen and many other citizens with a wide variety of occupations. He currently involved in a capital murder case as co-counsel with Richard "Racehorse" Haynes and Mike Charlton.

Mr. Pelton has practiced law throughout the state and maintains law offices in Houston and Abilene. The Abilene office includes his



ROBERT PELTON
...candidate for Court of Appeals

brother, Joe Pelton and Ed Paynter, former Taylor County District Attorney.

During his career, Mr. Pelton has been very active in the legal community. He has served as President of the Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association, President of the Community Service Option Program, editor of a criminal law magazine, and has served as an associate director with the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. He has served on the faculty of the Criminal Trial Advocacy Course that is presented annually in Huntsville, Texas. He has written numerous articles on criminal and civil law which have appeared in various legal publications. He has been a frequent speaker at meetings and seminars involving the legal community that have been sponsored by the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, the Harris County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and the Houston Bar Association. He is also a member of the State Bar of Texas referral service. Martindell-Hubbell, an organization that rates attorneys, has given Mr. Pelton an AV rating which is the highest rating given.

"I believe my courtroom experience over the past 22 years qualifies me for the job. During this time I have handled several hundred civil and criminal cases. Candidates for judgeships generally rely on campaign contributions from lawyers to finance their campaigns. I will not accept campaign contributions from lawyers who practice before the 11th Court of Appeals."

Pub. Ad. Pd. by Joe Pelton, treasurer, 1059 S. 3rd St., Abilene, Texas 79602

Medicare changes taking place in 1998 Balanced Budget Act of 1997 opens many benefits

The 1998 Medicare premiums and deductibles have not changed much (if any) since 1997. They are as follows:

For Inpatient Hospital Insurance (Part A) the amounts are:

- \$764 deductible for the first 60 days,
- \$191 coinsurance per day for days 61 through 90,
- \$382 coinsurance per day for days 91 through 150.

For Skilled Nursing Facility care (Part A), Medicare pays for all care for the first 20 days. The coinsurance for the 21st through the 100th days is \$95.50 per day. Medicare does not cover care after 100 days in the benefit period.

For those not eligible for premium-free Part A, the monthly premium is \$309, or \$170 if you have 30 quarters of work.

The 1998 Part B monthly premium remains the same at \$43.80 per month.

The Part B annual deductible remains the same; you pay the first \$100 per year.

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA) has opened many benefits for Medicare recipients; a few follow.

Beginning January 1998, the BBA allows women over age 40 to have an annual screening mammography.

Men who are age 50 and older may have an annual prostate cancer screenings (beginning in 2000).

All diabetics will now be able to have their blood glucose monitors and testing strips covered. Precisely, Medicare covered monitors and strips only for insulin-dependent diabetics.

In July 1998, for those who qualify, the BBA also provides coverage of procedures to identify bone mass, detect bone loss, or detect bone quality. Medicare will also pay for a physician to interpret the

test results.

Many of these changes will be implemented in staggered timeframes. Please check with your physician or facility to determine coverage prior to receiving services.

Beneficiaries may receive services from physicians under a private contract. The contract must be signed by the beneficiary or their representative and the physician. The contract means that neither the beneficiary nor the physician will bill Medicare, and that the Medicare beneficiary will be responsible for payment of the services (the physician's charge is not limited). It also means that Medigap plans will not pay and that supplemental insurance plans may not pay for the medical care provided by the particular physician. Medicare may cover care provided by other physicians.

The BBA also begins a Medicare+Choice Program. This is essentially a term meaning "Traditional Medicare with additional choices to pay for medical care." Included are Medical Savings Accounts (MSAs), Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs), Health Maintenance Organization (HMOs) with a Point-of-Service Option, and private fee-for-services plans.

Home Health will also see changes. Over the next six years, beneficiaries will start to see some of their Home Health paid under Part B. One hundred days may be paid under Part A, and the remainder of the days may be paid under Part B. Also, physicians will be held more liable for assuring that Home Health services fall within the Medicare definition of "medically necessary." Finally, because the way Medicare pays Home Health Agencies (HHAs) is changing, beneficiaries may see a change in the way HHAs provide their services.

EPA answers questions on information hotline

To better serve the public's growing interest in up-to-date and accurate information about the environment, the Environmental Protection Agency's office in Dallas has expanded its public information services to include a toll-free hotline.

Weekdays between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CST, an EPA representative will quickly refer callers to the correct agency and person, making it much easier to get information. After hours and on weekends and holidays, callers may leave a message to receive a reply during hotline hours.

For citizens calling from Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma or Texas, EPA information hotline number is 1-800-887-6063.

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Lawrence C. Bryan
Wanda Louise McMullen
Michele Browning
Darryle Letney
Wynola Thate Russell

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Keeping an eye on Texas

Hotels boom in parts of Texas

Some Texas counties have more than doubled the number of hotel, motel, and bed-and-breakfast establishments in the past 10 years.

Percent change in county, 1988-97

- 100% or more
- ▨ 50%-99%
- 0 to 49%
- Loss in number of establishments

SOURCE: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

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99¢
LB.

Meat



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Pork Ribs LB. **1³⁹**
FRESH PORK
Shoulder Steak . LB. **1³⁹**
FRESH GROUND
Chili Meat LB. **1⁷⁹**
PREFERRED TRIM CHUCK
Tender Roast LB. **1⁸⁹**
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Stew Meat LB. **1⁹⁹**
WISCONSIN SHREDDED CHEDDAR,
COLBY JACK OR MOZZARELLA
Cheese 24 OZ. **3⁹⁹**



HILLSHIRE FARM
REG., POLSKA OR BEEF
Lit'l
Smokies **1⁹⁹**
1 LB.

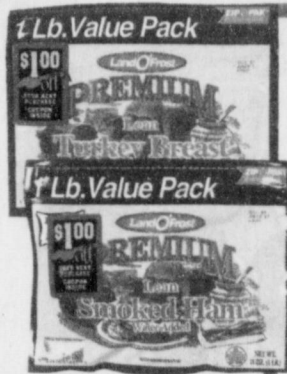


FRESH BUTT
Pork
Roast **99¢**
LB.

PREFERRED TRIM
BONELESS BEEF
Top Sirloin
Steaks **2²⁹**
LB.



IN A BAG
WHOLE BUTT
Top
Sirloin **1⁹⁹**
LB.

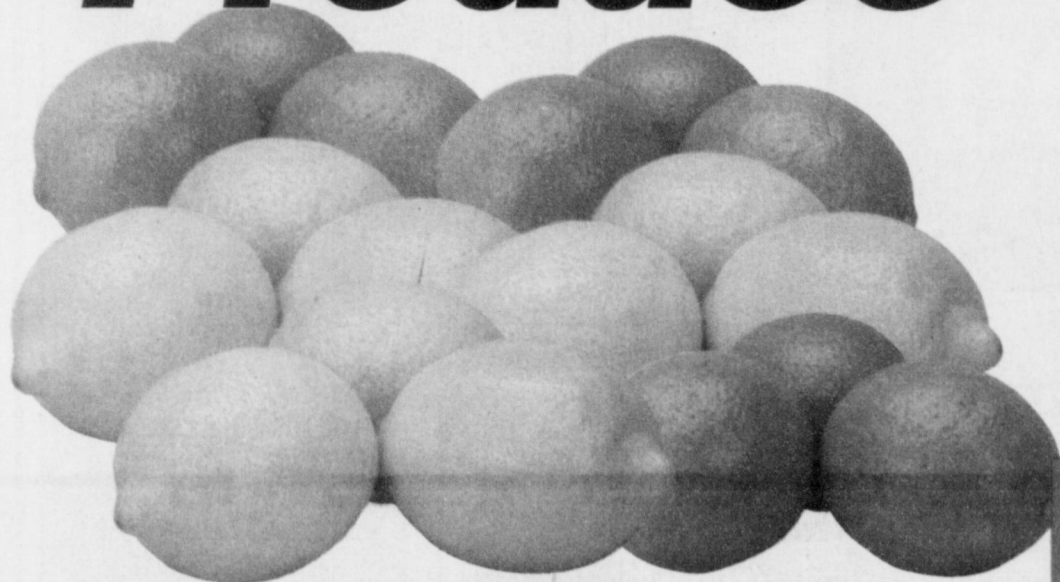


LAND-O-FROST
PREMIUM TURKEY
BREAST, HAM OR
HONEY HAM
Wafer Sliced
Meats 1 LB. **3²⁹**



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DELUXE OR
PEPPERONI
2 PACK/14 INCH
Pizzas . . . 48 OZ. **3⁹⁹**

Produce

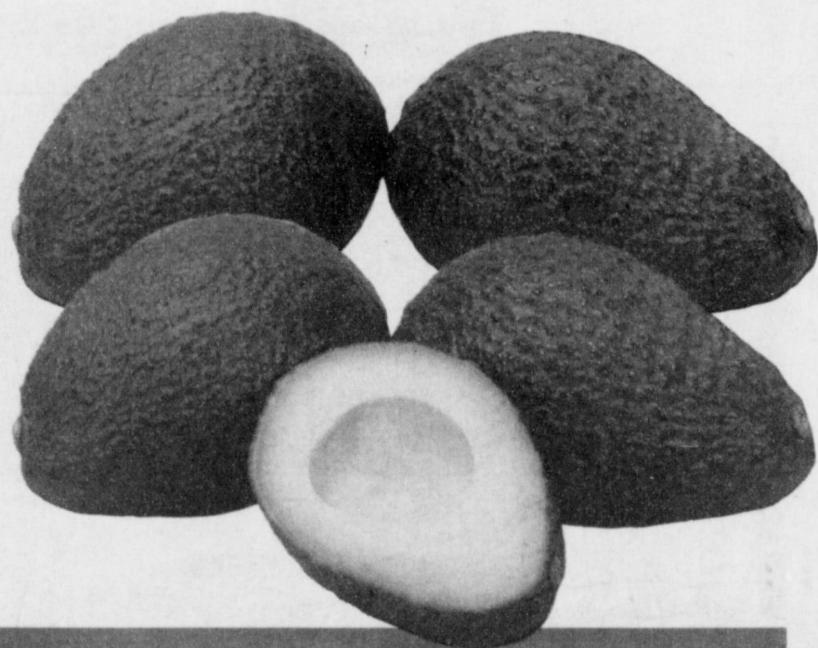


JEWEL GREEN
Limes
OR TANGY

Lemons

10 for **\$1**

HASS
Avocados
3 for \$1



COLORADO BAKING
Potatoes 4 LBS. **1⁰⁰**
MINI PEELED
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BLUE BELL ASSORTED YOGURT
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2 FOR \$3



DR PEPPER OR
Pepsi-
Cola
3 LITER BTL.

\$1⁷⁹



12 pk.
\$3⁴⁹