



WEST CADDO PEAK

Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

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EAST CADDO PEAK
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CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 9

To a grieving father

By DON TABOR
Publisher

EDITOR'S NOTE: Randall Witte is the Supermarket Division Manager for Town and Country Village Markets. Vanda Anderson Creech

I didn't know what to tell him. Besides, I couldn't speak at all because of the huge lump in my throat. My son, Gil, who was standing beside me, was the same. Randall Witte had just brought in a letter he had written for the funeral service for his daughter, Randi Jo, who had tragically died in an auto accident three days earlier. The man was devastated. He stood there, his shoulders slumped, his eyes searching, confused. "I didn't know what to say," he whispered in a quivering voice.

I clasp his hand but I still could not speak. I think he knew how sorry I was about this overwhelming tragedy. I hope he did.

The letter was a beautiful piece about his remembrance of Randi, about how proud her parents were of her, about their love for her and her love for them. It must have been so difficult for him to write it. But, then, maybe it also provided some measure of release for him. I pray that it did.

We still did not speak. He looked toward the ceiling, spread his arms out in a gesture of confusion, said something about "please check the spelling," turned and slowly walked out.

Gil and I stood silent for a moment, both still unable to speak.

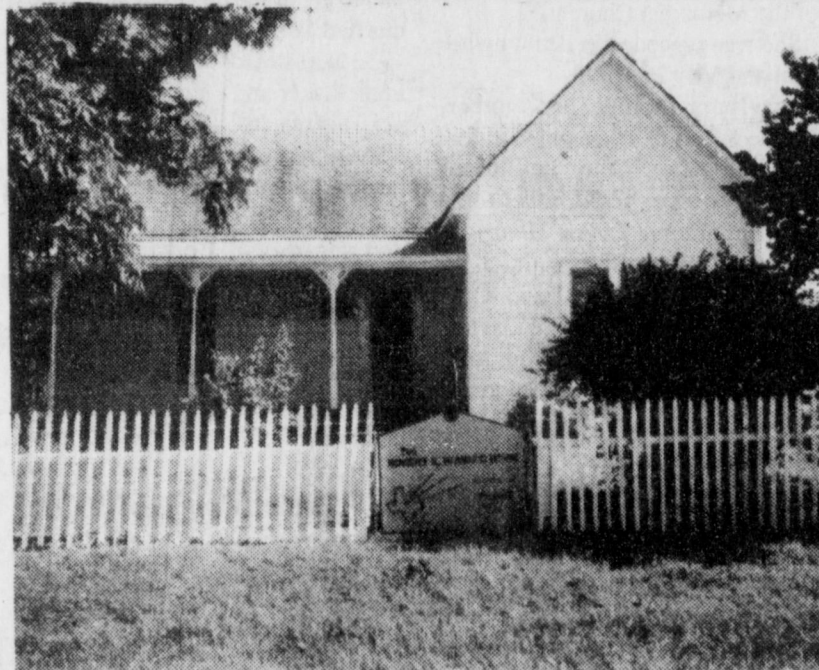
Then Gil, who had spoken to the family a day earlier about the program he was printing for the funeral, said, "I went home last night and told my kids I love them. I told them over and over again."

I am not very good at verbalizing my thoughts and feelings. But I can usually express them in writing.

So, if I could say anything to Randall, it would be this.

Randi's death has made us all feel closer together. I know it will bond her classmates and teachers into a closer family. It will bond the entire town and county into a closer family.

We must all make sure that it does so. We must stop any and all petty bickering and start loving each other. We must. We must.



Howard Fans Expected June 12 & 13

Howard fans from near and far are expected to gather in Cross Plains, TX on Friday and Saturday, June 12 and 13, to visit and remember Robert E. Howard, fantasy writer, who lived in Cross Plains from 1919 until his death in 1936. Most of his writing was done here in the home now owned and maintained by Project Pride.

Beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, there will be a trip to Brownwood to the cemetery where the Howards are buried. From 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Howard manuscripts and first edition books will be displayed at the Cross Plains Library on Main Street. At 6:00 p.m. a group will meet for dinner at Collum's Restaurant. Following dinner, the movie, *The Whole Wide World*, will be shown

at the Library.

At 9:30 a.m. Saturday, guests are invited for coffee and sweet rolls at the Howard House. At 10:00 a.m. books, manuscripts and the movie will be offered again at the Library. If you were unable to make the Friday trip to Brownwood, you may join a group at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. At 2:30 p.m. Saturday, the Howard House will again be open to the public for tours, visiting and refreshments. A special cancellation will be offered at the Post Office during this time.

If you are interested in either trip to Brownwood or the Dutch treat dinner at Collum's, you should notify Billie Ruth Loving at 254-725-7432 by June 1 as space for these activities is limited.

Ride this Saturday for St. Jude Children Research Hospital

Get your bikes, roller blades, or feet ready! This Saturday, May 30, is the date for the Wheels for Life Bike-a-thon benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. You can pick up your pledge sheets from posters around town or by calling 725-7222.

Participants will obtain sponsors to pledge donations for the miles they ride, skate or walk. The event will begin with registration at 8:45 a.m. and riding will take place from 9:00 a.m. until noon. 8th Street will be blocked off next to Cross Plains Grain and Peanut to the cemetery for the event.

Among the prizes that will be awarded are a jam box, bike helmets, movie passes, free movie rentals, free pizzas, t-shirts, free snow cones, and certificates.

If you have not been approached for a donation and would like to make one, call Judy Luter at 725-7222 and your donation will be distributed among the participants.

Jim Hooten to speak at Pioneer Baptist church May 28

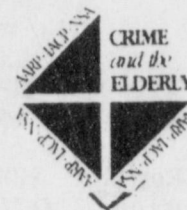
The Southern Baptist of Texas Convention churches of this area are hosting a Missions Conference May 28, at Pioneer Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited.

There will be inspirational music provided by music evangelists Mike and Karen Anderson of Brownwood.

Our guest speaker for the evening will be Jim Hooten, professor at Criswell College in Dallas. Rev. Hooten and his wife Peggy pastored several area churches including East Cisco and First Baptist Eastland and they are retired Southern Baptist missionaries to Uganda.

Pioneer Baptist Church is located between Cross Plains and Rising Star on FM 374 just west of the junction with FM 569.

Neighborhood Watch Holds First Meeting



A number of local residents met together, Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. at the community center to kick off a Neighborhood Watch Program for Cross Plains.

The Callahan County TRIAD/S.A.L.T. Advisory Council is sponsoring the program.

Justice of the Peace, Rolan Jones, spearheaded the Thursday, May 20, planning session. Following a brief introductory synopsis of the Neighborhood Watch Program, Rolan introduced Esther Kerr, Chairman of the local TRIAD/S.A.L.T. Council who spoke concerning the program and the councils participation in its organization.

Anita Mays, Coordinator of Callahan County TRIAD, was the next speaker on the programs agenda. Following Rolan's introduction of Anita, she told of Callahan Counties early beginning of the TRIAD/S.A.L.T. Council. This county was number 11 to instigate the program and now there are more than 100 in the state.

The basis and goals of the Neighborhood Watch program plus some of its inner strengths and strategies made for an enlightening and informative program, by the coordinator.

Rolan stressed that the Neighborhood Watch Program is something which residents in a community can do by banding together, in connection with AARP and local law enforcement agencies, to prevent crime before it happens.

TRIAD represents three entities working together to fight and prevent crimes from happening. The three factions are the American Association of Retired Persons, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the National Sheriff's Association. Rolan appointed a Neighborhood Watch Committee, chaired by Joe Howser to choose block captains etc. and to get the program started.

The participants and audience members of the group meeting displayed an immense interest in beginning this program.

Jack and Katherine Tunnell purchased and donated Neighborhood Watch Citizens Handbooks for the program. Rolan Jones, Justice of the Peace and a member of the TRIAD/S.A.L.T. Council is personally purchasing and donating some Neighborhood Watch Signs, however, others will be needed. Also available for the program are Safe House signs bought by the local Kiwanis in 1987. The signs were intended for a neighborhood watch program in 1987 which failed to get off the ground. The Safe House signs will indicate to young children that this home is safe for them to go to, if they fell threatened and/or need help.

Thanks to all who have joined together in this effort and all who attended and participated in Thursday nights meeting. We plan to update you on this program as it progresses.

CPHS Baseball Team Bi-District Champs

By COACH CORD WOERNER

Our Bi-District series was a good one! The first game (Friday) was at Mineral Wells. Zach Edington pitched all 7 innings giving up only 1 run off of 6 hits.

We were able to get 9 hits with Leif Hunter going 2 for 4, Coby Richards 2 for 3, and Edington and Joseph Turner each had a RBI. The score was 4-1 Cross Plains.

The best of 3 series then moved to Gorman on Saturday. Turner got the win with Jarad Richards picking up the save. Turner and Jody Pancake each went 2 for 4 and Turner's hits were both doubles. Carlton Thomas had a triple and Kenny Callaway had the other double. Coby Richards also went 2 for 3, again. Jarad Richards got the other hit and is still hitting over 500 for the year.

The Area round will be played at Hunter Field at Hardin-Simmons University on Thursday, May 28, at 5:30 p.m. vs. Aspermont. Thanks for your support.



LANCE ALLISON

Local boy bitten by rattlesnake

Just an update on Lance Allison, age 9 1/2, a Cross Plains Elementary Student that was bit on the hand by a rattlesnake Saturday morning. After 2 days in the intensive care unit in the Children's Hospital at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene, he is now recovering very well in his own room. Currently, it looks like he will have a few more days in the hospital before he can come home.

Lance lives in Cottonwood with his mother, Natalie, and two brothers. Lance's father lives in Arkansas. The family would like to thank the Cross Plains EMS team that picked Lance up. Their quick and caring See LANCE page 2

Mediplex Branch to Close Locally

Mediplex Home Health announces the closing of its branch office in Cross Plains as of May 22, 1998. The decision to close this office was directly related to the effects of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. The more stringent qualifying and payment requirements are causing Mediplex and other home health agencies to make changes in their operations. Mediplex has determined that it can effectively care for its Cross Plains patients without main-

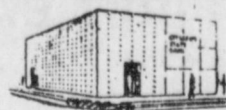
taining a branch office. Patients in the Cross Plains and surrounding area will be serviced out of Mediplex's branch in Santa Anna beginning May 22.

Mediplex feels fortunate that only one staff member from the local office was displaced. The visiting staff will continue to see patients in Cross Plains providing continuity in their care. The Cross Plains manager, Deidra Switzer RN, was transferred See MEDIPLEX page 8

COLONIAL OAKS SERVICES

Believer's Fellowship will conduct worship services at Colonial Oaks Nursing Home on Sunday, May 31, commencing at 3:30 p.m.

CITIZENS STATE BANK Cross Plains, Texas



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Presents:
"What's Inside"

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RECIPIENTS OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST SCHOLARSHIPS — David Reed (from left) and Nathaniel Swift, Donna Besselaar and B.J. Reed.

Methodist Church Presents Scholarships

Four Cross Plains graduating seniors were presented with scholarships from the First United Methodist Church. Donna Besselaar, B.J. Reed, David Reed and Nathaniel Swift each received a \$500 scholarship.

The only requirements for receiving this scholarship is that the students be eligible candidates for graduation, have participated in regular atten-

dance at the United Methodist Church and have been an active member of the Methodist Youth Group.

The Missions Committee of the church voted this year to begin this tradition of awarding scholarships to the young people of the church. Congratulations, Seniors!

Hwy. 206 Baptist Mission Revival May 24-30

Highway 206 Baptist Mission is holding a revival from May 24 to May 30 at 7 o'clock nightly.

Rufus Wilson, former Pioneer Baptist pastor who now resides in Anson, will be the evangelist.

Dianna Stover of Pioneer will be the pianist and Dorothy Reynolds of Rowden will lead the singing.

Saturday, May 30, beginning at 1:00 p.m. there will be a fish fry. Several singing groups will be performing.

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the preaching of the Word of God, praying, and singing. Everyone is welcome!

Library preparing for summer reading program beginning June 3

This summer's reading program to be held at the Library each Wednesday afternoon from 1 to 2 p.m. beginning June 3 will be most enjoyable for children who have graduated from kindergarten up to children in the 6th grade.

The theme of the program, "Furry Tails and Funny Tails" will give you a hint of the good things to come -- Sue Bennett will be demonstrating and teaching the art of origami (you'll need to come to find out what that is). Further plans include a demonstration by the city's new drug See LIBRARY page 4

COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURT
Bill Johnson presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

Charged with TPC (theft of property by check): Joe McCauley.
Charged with DWI: John Delano Pointer II, Marlin L. Rose, Jesse L. Gongora, Robert W. Boykin, John Scott Eagloski, Darren Wade Hawley.
Amand Buster Drexler, assault.
Todd Alan Smith, possession of marijuana.
Rbert Dudley Podleuski, criminal mischief.

Misdemeanor Minutes

Mary L. Hollander, DWI charge dismissed.
Raymond Roy, TPC, \$100 fine \$201.25 court costs, \$282.72 restitution, 6 months probation.
Gary Roland Deason, assault, \$100 fine \$214.25 court costs, 6 months probation.
Clyde Leon Smith, assault, \$750 fine \$234.25 court costs, \$1382.67 restitution, 6 months probation.
Shawn Wade Prather, DWLS, \$100 fine \$214.25 court costs, 6 days in jail.
Terry Vaughn, assault, \$200 fine \$214.25 court costs, 6 months probation.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Megan Michelle Spinks & Joe Allen Tollett of Baird.
Amanda Deann Starkey & Charles Wayne Vernon of Tuscola.

42ND DISTRICT COURT
John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filing
Frost National Bank vs Paul Brownlea, suit on note.
Divorce filed:
Jenkins, Joy & Gary.

Civil Minutes
Divorces granted:
Seal, Kami Elizabeth & Christopher Lane.
Stallings, Jerilan G. & William Mark.

Attention Local AARP Members

The trip scheduled for the Cross Plains AARP Chapter to the Abilene Zoo has been canceled. The trip was to have been on Monday, June 1. There will be no meeting held for the month of June. Regular meetings will resume in September, on the first Monday of each month. The local chapter disbands annually for the months of July and August and resumes in September.

Immunization Clinic Set For June 18

An Immunization Clinic is scheduled for the Cross Plains Multi-Purpose Center, 701 Beech Street, on Thursday, June 18, between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.
Services are provided by the Texas Department of Health (915) 754-4945.

WHEN RENEWING YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW PLEASE BRING THE RENEWAL CARD SENT TO YOU IN THE MAIL THANK YOU

Selected Scriptures

Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end. Psalm 119:33
Paid Advertising — Irma Miller

OBITUARIES

Marion A. Cross

Marion A. Cross, 67, passed away Wednesday, May 20, 1998, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Eastland County. Graveside services were held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday at Cross Plains Cemetery with Donald Duke officiating.
Mrs. Cross was born July 16, 1930, in Oklahoma. She married J.T. Cross May 9, 1975 in California. She was a beautician and a member of the Methodist Church.
She was preceded in death by her husband May 20, 1998.
Survivors include her mother, Bessie Webb of Anaheim, California; one sister, Betty Phillips of Garden Grove, California; three step-daughters, Laura Henry of Yucca Valley, California, Lisa Baldwin of Lake Arrowhead, California and Kayla Hunter of Covina, California; four nephews, four step-grandchildren; and four step-great-grandchildren.

J.T. Cross

J.T. Cross, 79, passed away Wednesday, May 20, 1998, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Eastland County. Graveside services were held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday in Cross Plains Cemetery with Donald Duke officiating.
Mr. Cross was born November 28, 1918, in Cross Plains. He married Marion Webb Cross May 9, 1975 in California. He was a retired milk pumper and was a Methodist. He served in World War II.
He was preceded in death by his parents, W.J. and Edna Cross.
Survivors include three daughters, Laura Henry of Yucca Valley, California, Lisa Baldwin of Lake Arrowhead, California and Kayla Hunter of Covina, California; one brother, Frank Cross of Winberley; one sister, Billie Jean Calhoun Buck of Midland; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

Alda L. (Sammie) Cowan

Alda L. (Sammie) Cowan, 80, passed away Wednesday, May 20, 1998, at Coronada Nursing Home in Abilene.
Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, in Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Eric Lovell officiating. Burial was in Pioneer Cemetery.
Mrs. Cowan was born November 18, 1917, in Eastland County. She married Jimmie R. Cowan April 1, 1933 in Eastland County. She was a homemaker and a member of Gospel Tabernacle.
She was preceded in death by her husband, Jimmie, February 5, 1990.
Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Bonnie and Bill Sheppard of Abilene; one sister Dorothy Lovell of Cross Plains; one brother, Floyd Fore of Kress; four grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Randi Jo Witte

BAIRD—Randi Jo Witte, 17, senior at Baird High School, passed away Wednesday, May 20, 1998, in an Abilene hospital from injuries received in an automobile accident. Services were held at 3 p.m. Saturday in Baird High School auditorium, directed by Parker Funeral Home. The body was cremated.
Randi was born in Big Spring and was student council president. She also played in the band and on the 1998 state championship golf team. She was a member of the Beta Club.
Survivors include her parents, Randall and Jo Witte of Baird; one brother, Jonathan Witte of Baird; her maternal grandparents, Austin B. and Mary Pyles of Quitman; and her paternal grandparents, Curtis and Alene Witte of Clyde.
Memorials may be sent to Randi Jo Witte Scholarship Fund, c/o First American Bank, 3409 S. 14th, Abilene 79605.

MA & PA

By JAMES NICHOLS

By JAMES NICHOLS

This is a story of the time that Pa, Jack and one of the other boys were traveling across the country to some unknown location and they had to camp beside the road.
On this particular occasion, they were traveling either by wagon or buggy. When darkness came, they found a good campsite right beside a cemetery.
Jack did not want to stay so close to

the haunted area but was forced to do so. After supper was cooked and eaten, the three went to sleep on corn shuck mattresses.
It seems that a mouse was in Jack's mattress and made a great deal of noise scratching and digging through the dry shucks.
Of course, Jack left the area and nothing would do except for the entire camp to breakup and move on.
For a good night's sleep be particular of the spot you pick!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In February Cross Plains had a resource team of five people from different areas of expertise come to listen to Cross Plains citizens to see what we thought of Cross Plains, plus and minus. Their report is being printed in the *Cross Plains Review*.
The two most often heard minuses were that Cross Plains is a trashy town that needs cleaning up and we have too many stray dogs running around.
In March, West Texas Utilities sponsored a continuation of that February meeting ending with the participants deciding on the five most urgent minuses that needed immediate attention. One of these five minuses resulted in the formation of the CROSS PLAINS, CLEAN committee. This committee has met twice, so far, trying to decide where and how to start cleaning up Cross Plains. There are so many things that need doing... just plain trash needs picking up constantly, old cars need removing, decaying old houses and buildings need removing, overgrown lots need cleaning, old building materials and old oil field junk need removing. There are so many things to be done to

make Cross Plains as neat and clean as it can be to be attractive to ourselves as well as new residents and businesses.
Starts have been made on some of these projects by individuals seeing the need. Jack and I get out from time to time and pick up trash along the street, we do not go into yards. Much of the trash has blown from trash put out too early for BFI to pick up. So please be sure that trash is closed so the stray dogs can't get into it. Perhaps if everyone sprayed their trash with ammonia it would discourage dogs and prevent some of the trash. And perhaps, most important, if everyone would realize that they are members of the clean-up committee even if they are not meeting members, and do their share of cleaning up trash, etc. it would make a world of difference. And by everyone, I mean everyone from small children to senior citizens. Whatever portion of clean up you can do needs doing and will be most appreciated by everyone.

Thank you,
Kathryn Tunnell

Local Bass Club Meets and Seeks

New Members
The Fishing for Fun-Ding Bass Club went to one of the lakes in our area Saturday, May 16, and boy did we have fun. We had a "line popping" time, after everything was said and done! Hey, ladies!!! The winner of the fishing tournament this month was our own Eva Fleming. Congratulations are in order.
Attention ladies! If you like to fish and would like to aid in teaching our young people the art of fishing and good sportsmanship, we are interested in you as a new, potential member.
At our last meeting some of the members gave casting lessons of several different styles. We have a Junior League, but would like to

attract more members. If you are 15 years or younger, we would welcome you with open arms.
Be sure to remember the dues which regular member pay and the small dues the Junior League pay goes to the Educational Fund established by the fishing club for graduating high school seniors.
Anyone interested in joining the Fishing for Fun-Ding Bass Club, may call Joe or Mary Graves at 254-725-6563 or 725-6418 for further information. Hope to see you at the next meeting.
Gone Fishing;
Marvin Mosley
(My thanks to wife for editing assistance.)

LANCE

response aided Lance with his fight against the venom that could have taken his life.
Lance was, unfortunately, not covered by any medical insurance - as both parents just began new jobs. For those of you who would like to help out with the travel and medical expenses, a love donation would be

appreciated. Please use acct. # 09318-Allison at Citizens State Bank. Thank you for your prayers. Lance hopes to be playing basketball soon, but has a long summer of physical therapy ahead of him. Lance hopes his experience will warn others to keep an eye out, for those critters are all around!

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Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.
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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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Texas Department of Agriculture Accepting Family Land Heritage Applications

AUSTIN -- The Texas Department of Agriculture is now accepting applications for the 1998 Family Land Heritage Program. The program recognizes Texas farms and ranches that have been in continuous production by the same family for at least 100 years. TDA will accept applications through the October 15 deadline.
Announcing the availability of Family Land Heritage applications, Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry called summer the ideal time for farm and ranch families to explore the rich legacy of their Texas heritage.
"Family members can provide a wealth of information as well as some documentation required for the Family Land Heritage application," Perry said. "With family reunions and other such gatherings traditionally

taking place this time of year, summer is a good time for folks to touch base with their families' heritage and history."
Family Land Heritage applications can be obtained from TDA by writing Debbie Ellis Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711; or by calling (512) 463-7653.
Applications are also available via the TDA Internet website (www.agr.state.tx.us) or through your local County Judge's office.
The deadline for submitting an application to TDA is October 15.
Farms and ranches that qualify will be honored during a January 1999 ceremony in Austin. More than 3,000 farms and ranches across Texas have qualified since this recognition program began in 1974.

PUBLIC FAX
AT THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW
FAX # 1-254-725-7225

GREETINGS FROM YOUR SENIOR CITIZENS

BY THELMA LONG



SENIORS AND CENTER DIRECTOR DRESSED FOR TACKY DAY

The attendance at the center keeps going up. That is what we need. The more the merrier.

Tacky Day was a real blast. It was indeed a tacky day. Elva Woody easily won the prize, dressed as a cleaning lady and Chuck was a - what? - a perfect beau for a cleaning lady. Tammie could have been a prize winner, dressed as typical teenager boy with baggy pants, low on the hips and a bandana on the head. Some of our members did not participate, but those who did had a good time and a good laugh. Laughing is good for the soul.

Our garage and bake sale was on Saturday the 23rd. There was a lot of hard work but a very successful sale. Our thanks to those who donated sale items and baked goodies. Thanks to Mediplex for donating holiday decorations, Christmas, Easter, Halloween, etc. We appreciate your support.

Jr. and Alva Key have been travel trailering or trailer traveling to Big Bend and other places of interest. Alva had her sister Eula Yowell visiting one day. Una Burkett had Christine Long as a visitor and Pat Bush's visitor was Gloria Strahan. Chuck and Elva had his son and wife and precious baby girl visit them on Sunday. Mary Bates attended graduation exercises for her granddaughter Lori in Brownwood.

We need volunteers to help deliver meals to shut ins. How about it teenagers who drive. Do a good deed this summer. We love our volunteers. The center was closed Monday for Memorial Day. Did you thank God for the rain? Quote age 49: I've learned that singing "Amazing Grace" can lift my spirit for hours.

Clips, Quips & Comments

By KAY DENNIS MOSLEY

Part 2, "The Clincher" Continued from last weeks column.

Frog said something sounded like split it or ripped it; but -- in retrospect -- it wounded more like rib-b-bit, rib-bb-bit. I asked his name and he said it was F.R. Og. I thought that a rather odd name myself so I just called him Frog. Though at times I was tempted to call him "ODD" "OG," he smelled kind of musty and had dried mud on his well exterior, and once my ear brushed his head and it felt kinda slime-ee-ee like but Hey! At last, I finally found out what was going on inside where mama was.

Frog said he'd been hanging around there all week. Said at first with all the commotion going on there he thought maybe he could get a gourmet meal inside. He said talk about noise, all the counters etc. being moved around, and all that flower talk. He said finally activity slowed to a hum, but he could see three or four people in there rearranging and discussing etc...but he said he couldn't find even a moth to quiet his grumbling innards, but it was a roof over his head so he stayed. He sure wished for more rain though or was that RUM?

He said Friday afternoon all hail broke loose. I suppose it just hailed and didn't rain any because I distinctly remember Frog said it didn't rain the whole time he was there.

We sat there just taking in the sights for a spell. Then I inadvertently wagged my tail in pure exhilaration. As I wagged my tail Frog wagged his tongue even more and at a much faster pace, stopping occasionally to utter a few JUG#A#RUMS and also quite a few rib-bb-bbits-its some more.

He said Friday afternoon all sorts of people began to arrive, toting things like different colored books, boards, and bottles, vases, flowers and all sorts of strange smelling plants. Said he thought, oh great, finally a huge gourmet meal in the making.

But he said all he got was one tiny ant and a chance at a bee that outdid Frog on speeding and escaped. So Frog only got a small hors d'oeuvre. Didn't even get close enough to the bee to get even a sliver of his planned entrée.

Frog said he sure was surprised when he hopped in the back door Saturday morning around 9:30 a.m. As he described it, it was such a beautiful sight, he almost decided he'd "CROAK" and gone to heaven. He sure hoped that when he did "CROAK" he wouldn't go to that other place, 'cause he never did like the odor of "hot frog legs to go."

Frog reported that along one wall of the shop were the most unique, gorgeous and unusual floral arrangements he had ever laid eyes on. Said nothing in all of Frogdom could compare with it. Along the opposite wall was all manner of plants they only stuck one stem in each bottle. Said it was something called Horticulture. He thought maybe they'd made a spelling mistake tho'. He imagined he said that it was s'posed to be Hard-to-Culture, or Hard-to-Clu ster. I heard one of the men with the garden club say, that is the way the horticulture is displayed. It must be a plant you grew yourself, and it must be one stem in a bottle, identified by a card which tells the name of the plant, and the name of the person who grew and displayed the plant. I guess Frog didn't hear that, he was probably too busy thinking about eating. Seems he is very partial to insects as table fare.

Later, Frog said he noticed about 11:00 a.m. three distinguished ladies from Abilene; my neck of the woods arrived. According to Frog, the three ladies went around and back and forth looking at each arrangement admiringly. One of the persons who was there on Friday acted as a sort of tour guide. Frog later learned the three ladies touring were JUDGES. Said that was the first he'd known that plants and flowers were open to litigation.

The three Judges were trailed by about 2 others of that Friday crowd. The whole group then, toured the outer side of the building, and where

the one-stemmed plants were displayed. They also viewed some items on a table designated an educational exhibit. Some of them were very unusual looking and smelling plants. Some smelled like licorice, a few had the fragrance of lemons, others of mint, onions, garlic, apples, sage, etc. I heard someone call them a name like Herb, Frog reported, he sniffed; I never met anyone else name Herbert who smelled like that, that's for sure?

Next those three judges put different colored ribbons all around and some of the ribbons were larger and had rosettes on them. Then Frog said a lot more people came in and were all excited. He reported next that they all went off to lunch and didn't even invite him. One lady nearly even stepped on his webbed toes on her way out. I wonder, if she had caught a glimpse of Frog which one would have hopped higher!!! She or Frog?

Frog stated all he could find for his own very private buffet were two flies and they were pretty skinny specimens. However, Frog reported he did get a chance to look around some at quite a few of the arrangements. Frog said it all looked really purr-rrty, but he said from a frogs eye view it was slim pickings. Said he saw one or two butterflies but when he attempted a taste, they were too hard for frog consumption as was the grasshopper he spied on one of Joyce Odoms arrangements. He figured they must just be to look at not for tasting.

Frog reported also seeing a black bottle with a feather in it, and one display had lamps. Some said the title of their category was "Snow Maiden." Others were "The Black Bird," "Crazy," and a little Indian lady on a horse, a few flowers growing out of a piece of polished wood or petrified wood and one with two pots broken, were other of Frogs sightings. Now that was crazy, and speaking of crazy, get this, Frog said however, the strangest sight to him was he found one of his own kind. A Big Green Frog and it had the absolute longest "Red" tongue he'd ever seen and the frogs back was filled with flowers and that frogs tongue had even zapped a tiny nosegay. But he said that other "frog" was downright unfriendly. Said he wouldn't speak or say a word. And COLD: Frog reiterated that he touched that lo-oo-n-n-n-g tongued creature and it was stone--STONE Cold, and it never even moved a muscle. Frog said no one came back until the next day, Sunday, so he couldn't get outside.

However, Sunday the Cross Plains Garden Club came in early in the afternoon and patted, pruned, prettied up, and preened all those plants. Then; yes then THE STAMPEDE BEGAN. Frog said from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. more than 50 people came to view the flower show, which this year was entitled, "FLORAL MEDLEY OF MELODIES." If not the best turnout ever it was close to it.

Frog said he found out that the building was called, "The Back Room," but he never was able to find out the reason. Frog recalled that everything to do with the flower show seemed to take place in the front room.

I, Ginger, (that's NEW reporter, Ginger) was still present when the Garden Club collected all their pots, vases, bottles, lovely plants and flowers and went home.

Frog wasn't there though! He told me he'd decided to shake the dust of Cross Plains from his heels and find another place. A place where more Frog edibles were available. He said "THE CLINCHER" was he couldn't afford to stay in Cross Plains until MOSQUITO SEASON as he's hungry Now!...and sure enough that's what I saw as mama and me pulled away from the curb. Yep, the last thing I saw was Frogs heels shakin' loose that dust as he hopped hungrily away for greener pastures or maybe it's larger, more plentiful bugs he's hoppin' toward.

Anyway I've just gotta come back for this next year. It's just gotta be another SMASHEROOO!!!! As told by F.R. Og to Ginger the Pomeranian, Guest Reporter.

BURKETT NEWS

By LOVERA STRICKLAND

More donations have been received for the upkeep of the Burkett-Adams Cemeteries

M/M Sammie Porter \$25; Jerl & Sheila Teeters \$20; J. Pat DeBusk \$50; Sharon Herring Childers \$10; Harvey Koenig \$50; Melba Walker \$50; Verda Odom \$100; LeRoy Walker \$40; Bill and Joy Slack \$25; M/M C.A. Barr \$15; M/M James O. Bradford \$25; Gatha Naron \$50; Minnie Ola Knight \$100; M/M Joe Hanke, Jr. \$25; M/M Dick Koenig \$50; Evelyn Porter, Bob and Kay Magee \$25; Darryl and Kathy Tinney \$20; Sylvia Watson \$25; Emma and Edward Hill \$50; Raymond Cross \$35; Fannie Bowden \$50; Glenda Rawls \$25; M/M Bennet Maples \$35; Mrs. E. C. Edmondson and Jerry Edmondson

\$35; Estelle Nielson in memory of Harry and Edith McFerrin and Patsy McFerrin Hicks \$25; Gary Briggs \$10; and Luther Rhoads \$25

Linda Brady, sec.-treas. wishes to express the Burkett-Adams Cemetery Directors appreciation for each donation.

Melba Walker of San Angelo visited in Burkett a few days last week. She stayed with Clairene Edgar while here.

Eddie and Michele Strickland and Daniel visited the Rex Priddy's of Snook last weekend.

Michelle Wilkovich, Kelsey and Logan of Coleman and Jake Golson visited Low and Liz Golson Wednesday evening. They fixed supper for Low and Liz.

PIONEER NEWS

By PIONEER QUILTING CLUB

Barbara and Bill Medoly, James and Jean Alexander were in Fredericksburg for a few days.

The Paint and Palette Club met at Laverne Hutton's last week, with six in attendance. Barbara Powell made a flower arrangement and presented it to Laverne. Betty Beggs showed some of her art work and told about the techniques she used. Lois Vaughn showed beautiful greeting cards that she painted. Marlene Sanders presented some of her water color paintings explaining how she accomplished her drawings. Laverne demonstrated how to piece string quilt blocks and showed a finished quilt. They were happy to have May Jones as their special guest. All the demonstrations were great. Laverne was a super hostess. May thanks everyone for inviting her.

Kathryn Brown from Fort Worth visited Earlene Burge. They had a great time working and visiting.

Oliver and Frankie went to see Mrs. Dorothy Rogers at Ranger. Took her to lunch and enjoyed it very much. They also attended the revival at Cross Plains' Glorify Baptist Church where George Taft is pastor. It was a very good revival. Rex Boggs from Gunsight was preaching two nights and Donald Duke preached Saturday. Jean Fore attended the revival with them Saturday night.

Jean Alexander and May Jones visited Jean's daughter and husband,

Starr and Ken, and their daughters Heather and Andrea Appleton. They live in Corpus Christi. They attended Starr's retirement dinner.

Starr is retiring after 30 years of teaching at Garcia Elementary School. The enjoyed talking, shopping and sight-seeing with Heather and Andrea. Heather is attending summer school at SWT in San Marcus. Andrea will take some courses at Del Mar, then back to SWT in the fall. We also visited with our special friend Carolyn Markos and her mother. We really had a great time.

The quilting club had another Tuesday with good attendance. We did get the Pioneer Reunion "Log Cabin" finished. As soon as it was taken out Sandy's Flower Garden quilt went in. We also finished Billie's "Windmill." We are working on Lou's "Log Cabin." We had a delicious lunch. We are beginning to have those garden fresh vegetables. Not only can these ladies quilt, but they can cook.

The dry, hot weather will make us all appreciate the rain when it comes. Let's pray we will be blessed soon.

Congratulations to all the high school seniors. May you be successful in whatever you do.

Words of Wisdom #36: God will not look you over for medals, degrees or diplomas but for scars. Hubbard

COLONIAL OAKS NURSING HOME

NEWS

By LINDA MERRITT Activity Director

Minnie Swann received a surprise visit from her granddaughter Lavetta Peppler from Denton.

Jessie Harris said he sure enjoyed a visit from his grandson, Steve Chambers from Lynn Haven, Florida.

Thoughts and prayers for Nora Golson who is still in the hospital. Appreciation to Pearl Greenwood for the flower baskets and books.

Vera Belyeu was our winner for a free meal at Jack's Place! Thanks Wanda and Jack.

Kenneth Brooks from Arlington and Ramon Lewis from Charleston, South Carolina visited with Blanche Brooks and Howet Wilson. Also visiting was Ruby and Naomi McCowen.

Alfred and Joann Harrell and Donald Robbins from Malakoff

visited with Ruby Harrell. Amanda Kitchens was here visiting everybody.

Activities during the week were: Monday: Bingo winners were Falba Shofner (2), Minnie Swann (2), Vera Belyeu, Ruby Harrell (2) and Louise Richardson. Exercise class.

Tuesday: Singing with Bob Wallace. Popcorn social.

Wednesday: Art class. Exercise class. Skip-Bo games.

Thursday: Bingo winners were Inola Wilcoxon (2), Falba Shofner (2), Louise Richardson and Vera Belyeu (2). Skip-Bo games.

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

Sunday: Believer's Fellowship He who plants a garden plants happiness.

Higginbotham's Sidewalk Sale

Saturday, May 30

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(254) 725-6151

100 North Main, Cross Plains

PUBLIC FAX AT THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

Heart Disease Is A Greater Risk Than Cancer For Women

One in two women dies by heart attack, one in 25 by breast cancer. Dr. Hill, president of the American Heart Association, is concerned "that women don't fear heart disease and stroke in the same way that they fear cancer. This means that they may not be doing everything they can to prevent cardiovascular disease." This includes being physically active, following a healthful diet, and not smoking. Women and their doctors should decide about using hormone replacement therapy along with drugs to control elevated cholesterol and high blood pressure.

Your better health is our concern.

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CROSS PLAINS, TEXAS



BREAKTHRU

By Bob Pipes, preacher
Cross Plains Church of Christ
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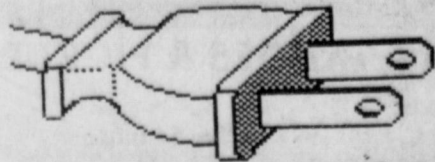
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 1-5

9-11 A.M.

AGE 3 - GRADE 6

W.W.J.D.?



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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

C.P. STUDENT REVIEW



Tarleton's "Kids Day at Farm" promotes agricultural awareness

STEPHENVILLE—Why does a pig have such tough skin? Why does a rabbit wiggle its nose? Why does a cow have such a long rough tongue?

The answers to these questions and many more can be found at the annual Kids Day at the Farm hosted each spring by the College of Agriculture and Technology at Tarleton State University.

Sponsored through the Kellogg Visioning 2020 grant, Tarleton's Kids Day at the Farm allows youngsters from Cross Timbers schools to spend some time with a variety of farm animals and learn how those animals eat, sleep and what benefits they offer humans.

Erath County may be the heart of Texas' milk producing region, but there are still a number of youngsters growing up here who have no access to rural life. Now in its third year of a five-year Kellogg grant, Tarleton's initiative is to develop visionary leaders who will continue to promote the importance of agriculture in the nation's future.

Approximately 1000 pre-kindergarten through second graders from Stephenville, Morgan Mill, Three Way and Cross Plains attended the

second annual "Kids Day at the Farm." Twelve different animals stations were included in the tour which was held at the Equine Center located on Tarleton's farm facilities. In addition to bunnies, chickens, cows, sheep, pigs, horses and donkeys, the children and their teachers were able to view the portable dairy classroom furnished by the Dairy Museum of Sulphur Springs. The youngsters also spent a few minutes in the seat of a real saddle mounted upon life-sized stick-horses.

Tarleton graduate student Jennifer Fowler organized the activity and Tarleton agriculture faculty and students volunteered their time to set up pens, serve as group leaders and share their expertise about the different animals.

The Erath County Farm Bureau co-sponsored the activity and furnished ice cream for all the participants. Dr. David Snyder, president of the local Farm Bureau and chair of Tarleton's Department of Animal Sciences, worked with Fowler in seeing that the event was conducted smoothly.

Tarleton was one of 12 universities and agencies across Texas to receive

funding from the Kellogg Visioning 2020 grant. Dr. Sandy Johnson, coordinator of the Kellogg grant at Tarleton, said the University was committed to developing leaders capable of raising awareness of the needs of current and future agriculture.

"Our students work closely with Texas A&M University at College Station and Texas A&M Kingsville to promote agricultural awareness, promote Tarleton agriculture and work with public school administrators and teachers to involve the community," said Johnson.

Cross Plains Elementary Students Participate in Six Flags Read To Succeed Program 54 Children Earned Tickets

Fifty-four Cross Plains Elementary students participated in the Six Flags Read To Succeed program during the spring semester. This program required the students to spend at least 600 minutes reading just for fun between January 9 and February 20, 1998. Each student who completed 600 minutes of reading became a member of the 600-Minute Reading Club and received a certificate and a ticket for free admission to any Six Flags Theme Park. Participating teachers also received a ticket.

The following is a list of the 1998 Cross Plains Elementary 600-Minute Reading Club:

The following is a list of the 1998 Cross Plains Elementary 600-Minute Reading Club: Kindergarten: Amanda Dunaway, Will Mack, Zach Snell and Chad Switzer; 1st Grade: Sheena Apple, Christy Beauchamp, Douglas Bowden, Stasha Draper, Emily Harris, Anthony Hutton, Joaquin Monreal, Krista Phillips, Mandy Rose, Brooklyn Strength, Thor Woerner and Joe Dalton Wyatt; 2nd Grade: Hailey Biggs, Austin Dunaway, Jenny Lewis, Julieanne Mack, Brandi McDonald and Andrew Wheeler; 3rd Grade: Brock Cooper, Danielle Felty, Ashleen Hodges, Saul Reyes, Karen Scott and Russell Thomas; 4th Grade: Cory Beauchamp, Ryan Payne, Maci Phillips and Jake Snell; 5th Grade: Christopher Beaty, Dusty Cooper, Thomas Dimitri, Megan Felty, Meghan Hodges, Laura Johnson, Katie Mack, Amber Phillips and Kali Phillips; 6th



CROSS PLAINS ELEMENTARY BAND SCORES SOUND GREAT — The Cross Plains 6th grade band competed in the Howard Payne Concert and Sight-reading Contest in Brownwood on May 2, with sixteen students. They earned a First Division performance on stage and a First Division performance in sight-reading. Please congratulate these band members for their achievement on a great musical program. Pictured above are Ryan Mack (front, from left), Brandon Phillips, Daley Anderson, Andy Bennett, Thomas Stephenson, Tristan Jones, Marcus Williams, Russell Allen; Robert Floyd (middle, from left), Sammy Gardner, Cassie Galloway, Hali Foster; Casey Pack (back, from left) Aaron Isbell, Kim Mosier, Mr. Felty, Candice Davis, Jennifer Young, Bree Dillard and Amanda Rivard.

Grade: Jon Beauchamp, Andy Bennett, Jeff Champion, Dusty Dickson, Cassandra Galloway, Aaron Isbell, Ryan Mack, Kim Mosier, Josh Nelson, Jordan Pancake, Brandon Phillips, Dustin Snell and Andrew Taff.



An adult peacock's train contains 150 feathers.

LIBRARY

dog. On July 15 at the special celebration, the grand prize of 4 tickets to the Schlitterbahn Water Park will be awarded. Also, on that day there will be a special appearance by Patches the Clown with his tricks

and balloons who will be coming to Cross Plains in his Clown Jeep.

There will be prizes awarded for the most books read weekly. Children should pre-register at the Library by June 2.



GIFTED AND TALENTED NIGHT OF THE NOTABLES PARTICIPANTS IN COSTUME

G/T Night of Notables

Tuesday, May 5, the Cross Plains Gifted and Talented Class presented the Night of Notables. Each student had selected a notable and compiled research, written fictional, and completed a personality box to give insight into this person or event.

Selected questions and answers were presented and booths set up to present their notable friends. Friends and family were asked to view each project and taste the prepared foods for each notable.

This year the notables were as follows: Dwight D. Eisenhower - Ryan Mack

Evita Person - Jennifer Young
Mother Teresa - Bree Dillard
Mozart - Daley Anderson
Scjawewa - Karen Ross
Cynthia Ann Parker - Katie Mack
History of Titanic - Dillon Heath
Norman Rockwell - Megan Felty
Tiger Woods - Russell Thomas
Amelia Earhart - Melissa Luter
Marie Curie - Danielle Felty.

Deadlines For The Cross Plains Review

Articles Must Be In By Noon Monday
Advertisements Must Be In By Noon Tuesday
Your Cooperation Will Be Greatly Appreciated.

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#10473 1997 Chev. Cavalier Rally 2-dr., auto., 22,000 miles \$223.09/mo.* \$11,500 Cash Price	#10891 1996 Chev. Monte Carlo V-6, Loaded, Leather \$265.58/mo.** \$13,500 Cash Price	#10869 1993 Olds Cutlass Supreme 4-dr., Loaded \$164.58/mo.***** \$8,000 Cash Price
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10849 1996 Chev. 1/2 ton V-6, 5 spd., Tilt, Cruise \$233.71/mo.** \$12,000 Cash Price	#10822 1997 Pontiac Grand Am 4-dr., auto, loaded, warranty \$254.96/mo.* \$13,000 Cash Price	#9821 1995 Chev. S10 Ext. Cab 5-spd. \$192.37/mo.*** \$9,950 Cash Price
#10160 1996 Pontiac Sunfire 2-door, automatic, low miles \$190.16/mo.** \$9,950 Cash Price	We Have Two 1997 Olds Achievas 4-dr., auto, low miles, warranty, 6.9% on 60 mon., \$1,000 dn. + TTL \$217.29/mo.	#10670 1993 Chev. 3/4 ton Silverado 4x4, 350 V-8, Auto \$258.63/mo.***** \$12,000 Cash Price
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#10737 1996 Chev. Lumina Van V-6, Auto, Loaded \$286.83/mo.** \$14,500 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 \$212.47/mo.* \$11,000 Cash Price

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*****1993 11.5% 48 mos. *****1992 11.9% 42 mos.

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KIWANIS GUEST SPEAKER — Coach Mack McConal (right) was the guest speaker for the Kiwanis meeting on Tuesday, May 19. He spoke on the tennis program at Cross Plains School. Coach McConal has been tennis coach for 18 years and has successfully led his teams to victory year after year. O.B. Edmondson (left) was the program chairman.



Midwest Texas Leadership Goes to Austin Recently

Community leaders enrolled in the Midwest Texas Leadership Program completed their training sessions with a one-day trip to Austin on May 5. Participants in the program were from Callahan and Eastland Counties. The Midwest Texas Leadership group is co-sponsored by West Texas Utilities Company, Texas Agricultural Extension Service and Texas Midwest Community Network.

The leadership training program requires one-day a month for nine months. Professional speakers covered a variety of topics during the program which included: team-building, communication, motivation, leadership styles, problem solving and conflict management and strategic planning. Scheduled tours provided the group the opportunity to see businesses in each area.

The final session for the course was a bus trip to Austin to tour the Capitol, meet with state agency officials and receive graduation certificates from the directors of the Texas Rural

Leadership Board. Representative David Counts' office was the host for the day. The Midwest Texas group was joined by members from Baylor County, West Central (Coleman and Runnels Counties), Rolling Plains (Jones, Knox and Haskell Counties) and Partners in Leadership (Nolan and Mitchell Counties) for the bus trip.

There were ten participants who completed the 1997-1998 Midwest Texas Leadership Program and received a framed certificate. Denise Coulter and Julene Franke from Cross Plains went to Austin; Dannes Turner was unable to attend. Rising Star participants were Shirley Leonard and Billy Bush. Ben Hanlon and Doug Fairbanks from Cisco; Brandina Benson from Baird; Priscilla Gwilt from Clyde and Susie Quinn from Eastland also traveled to Austin. Due to conflicts in scheduling, members of the group who missed several classes will still have the opportunity to complete the course this fall.

Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. to host Community Action Volunteer Recognition Program

Central Texas Opportunities, Inc., will host a Community Action Volunteer Recognition Program at 1200 S. Frio, Coleman, on May 28, at 2:00 p.m. to which the public is invited. Emmett Payne, the Executive Director, who has been with CTO for 8 years, stated it is indeed time to highlight the local achievements of Community Action, "for over thirty years, we have truly helped people break the cycle of poverty and move to self-sufficiency."

According to Emmett Payne, in the last year, Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. served over 350 low income and disadvantaged families in seven counties through its services involving 10 different programs. The agency helped people secure and retain meaningful employment, needy families get access to food and many individuals were assisted through CTO's health care services.

Through extensive counseling and intervention, a case manager provides support and encouragement needed for a client to achieve the ultimate goal of self-sufficiency. The person is assisted in identifying strengths, defining goals, setting priorities, and following, through with planned activities. Toward that goal, CTO, offers education and training programs such as GED, literacy, budgeting, nutrition, home ownership, parenting classes, and job search assistance.

National Community Action Month is a national celebration established in 1997 by the national Association of Community Action Agencies (NACAA) to highlight local achievements as well as the achievements of the 1,000 Community Action Agencies around the country.

For more information on programs and services provided by Central Texas Opportunities, Inc., contact Gussie Hughitt at 915-625-4167, CTO Multi-Purpose Center, 1200 S. Frio, Coleman, Texas.

The community is encouraged to attend the Volunteer Recognition Program and talk to Emmett Payne, staff and the many volunteers who help make Community Action work!

1998 Texas Golf Pass: Great for Father's Day

Trying to find something special for your Dad for Father's Day? Want to help out a good cause? Then why not give the American Cancer Society's Texas Golf Pass! You are sure to be a hit with dad the rest of the year with this gift! Better yet -- buy one for yourself as well.

On sale now, the new Texas Golf Pass offers free green fees at 243 participating courses throughout Texas. Courses in the Big Country area include Maxwell Municipal, Shady Oaks, Comanche PAR Country Club, Lakewood Recreation in Rising Star, Winters Country Club and Rising Star Golf Club. In addition to these fine courses, there are also many more participating locations throughout the great state of Texas.

The cost of the 1998 Texas Golf Pass is \$35 and will benefit the cancer research, education and patient service programs of the American Cancer Society. So, not only is the Texas Golf Pass a great gift for any occasion, but it's a good investment in the fight against cancer.

For more information or to order the 1998 Texas Golf Pass, contact the American Cancer Society at 209 S. Danville, Bldg. B#107, Abilene or (915) 692-6446 or 1-800-ACS-2345.

YOUR OFFICE SUPPLY HEADQUARTERS FOR CROSS PLAINS IS THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW



JENNIFER FOWLER

Jennifer Fowler receives Master of Science Degree

Jennifer Fowler received her Master of Science in Agriculture during the spring graduation ceremony at Tarleton State University. She maintained the mandatory 4.0 GPA during her graduate studies. Jennifer, who graduated from Cross Plains High School also received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Animal Science from TSU.

Jennifer and her husband, Rick, live in Fort Worth. She is the daughter of Ted and Julia Wheeler of Cross Plains. Her brother Lee Wayne is attending Tarleton State University.

Girl Scouts Gear Up For Camp

Give me s'mores and some more s'mores! That's the cry of girls across Central Texas as they pack up and get ready for Girl Scout camp! The Heart of Texas Girl Scout Council serves 19 counties in Central Texas.

When the public thinks of Girl Scouts, the first thing that comes to mind is probably Girl Scout cookies. The second thing may be camping -- maybe even memories from personal experiences at Girl Scout camp. When people remember Girl Scout camp, they probably remember s'mores! The Heart of Texas Council is lucky to have a campsite located inside the State Park at Lake Brownwood. The council is in the process now of gearing up for summer sessions of resident camp.

This year, 1998, marks the 42nd year of operation for Camp Wood Lake. The campsite has grown from one unit in 1956 to its present size of five units, a central dining hall, a health center, an activity building and a swimming pool. Each unit has bath facilities, sleeping spaces (either tents or cabins) and unit building.

Activities enjoyed by girls at Girl Scout camp create a special "magic" that the girls remember for a long time! During a stay at resident camp, girls live and play in the out-of-doors for five days at a time. Girls who attend camp can choose from a wide range of activities. Programs include such activities as bicycling, cheer-leading, drama, games, camp crafts and much more. In short, we offer something for just about every girl's interest.

Every girl has the opportunity to attend the resident camp program -- even girls who are not currently registered as Girl Scouts. The council strives to keep the price of camp to a minimum so the cost will not prohibit a girl from attending. Many girls sold enough cookies to earn their camp fee. The council also offers a campership program which is available to any registered Girl Scout whose family needs a little help with the camp fee.

Anyone who has a daughter interested in attending Camp Wood Lake this summer can contact the council office at 800-345-9215 for a resident camp brochure.

Camp Wood Lake is just down the road, waiting for all girls who want to play, sing, swim, learn new things and make memories and friends that could last a lifetime.

FLBA of Texas Holds Annual Stockholders Meeting Recently Three Stock Holders Elected

The Federal Land Bank Association of Texas recently held area stockholder meetings in Coleman, Brownwood, Haskell and San Angelo. Voting stockholders of the association elected three directors to serve three year terms. They were: Don W. Johnson of Brownwood, Jerry Richardson of Brownwood and Milton Spurgin of Anson. Also serving on the board are Chris West, Bruce Williams, Leroy Williams, Andrew Lange, Paul Jansa and Lavon Beakley. Also elected to the 1999 Association Nominating Committee were O.B. Byrd, Scot Odom, Dale Middlebrook and Richard Pelzel. James Isenhower, CEO, informed

the local stockholders of the association's financial condition as well as the recent patronage distribution of \$600,000 returned to its customers. This refund resulted in a "buydown" of approximately one-half of one percent of the interest rate, or if considered a dividend, would have amounted to an eighteen percent return on borrower stock.

The Federal Land Bank Association of Texas resulted from a merger of the Federal Land Bank Associations of Coleman, Brownwood, Haskell and San Angelo on September 1, 1997, and serves approximately 2,200 customers in 16 West and Central Texas counties.

CROSS PLAINS CEMETERY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1998

DONATIONS & EARNINGS

Doyle Cowan	\$ 50.00
I/M of Gladys Garrett & Lorena Wright by M/M James Lawrence	20.00
Christine Graham	80.00
Harold Womack	50.00
Earnings to account	3.91
TOTAL	\$ 203.91

NO GOP'S TO REPORT

FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 1998

DONATIONS & EARNINGS

M/M Jack Tunnell	\$ 50.00
Leota Howser	25.00
I/M Byron Richardson by Charles & Margaret Coppinger	25.00
I/M Mike Cunningham by Charles & Margaret Coppinger	25.00
I/M J. M. Greenwood & Paul Greenwood by Charles and Margaret Coppinger	50.00
CD Interest Pmt CD# 8190	208.28
I/M Lee Bishop by Lillian Beamon	25.00
I/M of M/M Lee Bishop by Tom & Janice Adams	50.00
Eva McCord	50.00
I/M of M/M Martin Neeb by Fanora Neeb Miller	200.00
CD Interest Pmt CD# 7719	981.75
Mel Strength	25.00
Earnings added to acct.	4.55
TOTALS	\$ 1,719.58

GRAVE OPENING PERMITS

2 Plots-Lois Henderson	150.00
2 Plots-Shirley & James Bassett	150.00
Godfrey Neese Funeral Home for Hazel Ogilvy	75.00
2 Plots-Homer & Fay Simons	150.00
Higginbotham Funeral Home	75.00
TOTALS	\$ 600.00

APRIL 1998

DONATIONS & EARNINGS

Thelma Long	\$ 25.00
August Garlitz	25.00
Hadden Payne	50.00
Earnings to acct.	6.07
TOTALS	\$ 106.07

GRAVE OPENING PERMITS

Higginbothams Funeral Home Service for Don Watkins	75.00
1 Plot-Crist Illingsworth	75.00
TOTALS	\$ 150.00

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JUNE 6TH - PLAN TO ATTEND
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---	------------------------------------	---

OH BABY

KENYON ZANE BENTON BIRTH ANNOUNCED

Larry Wayne Benton, III and Clarice Marie Benton wish to announce the birth of their new brother, Kenyon Zane, weighing 8 pounds and was 20 inches long. Kenyon was born at Brownwood Regional Medical Center on Monday, May 11, 1998. Proud parents are Larry, Jr. and May Benton of Cross Plains. Maternal grandmother is Joyce Wetsel of Cross Plains. Paternal grandparents are Jim and Mary Blankenship of Cross Plains and Larry, SR. and Donna Benton of Phoenix, Arizona. Great-grandmother is Gladys Boren of Cross Plains.

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Card Of Thanks
Thanks to all our family and friends for the gifts, cards, and kind wishes on our 50th Wedding Anniversary. You made our day very special. God bless each one of you.
Jay & Earnestine Rankin

Card of Thanks

The family of Randi Jo Witte would like to extend their gratitude to the area people and beyond for their thoughtfulness at the death of our loved one. "Thanks" to all who came to the hospital and waited with us; to the area church groups and individuals who brought food and prayed for us; to all of you who offered words of comfort, called, visited and made arrangements to attend the service. "Thank You" also to all of you who sent the plants and beautiful flowers and to those of you who have made contribution to one of the scholarship accounts. Special thanks to the Baird ISD Board of Directors, Faculty and Staff, The Baird High School Graduating Class of '98, the Lady Bears '98 Golf Team, Rev. Ricky Carstensen, the Parker family, the Stephenson family, the Shelnutt Family, the Self family and Mike Schuler.
Randall, Jo, and Jonathan

Card of Thanks

We would like to say "Thank You" to all our friends and neighbors for all the prayers, food, phone calls, flowers, cards and visits we received during our recent loss. We especially want to thank Dr. Richard Chaffin for the comforting words at the service and Tim Dillard for making all the floral arrangements "just right." And - thank you, Bob and Dee Harrell, for all your patience and understanding.
The Family of Chris Moon

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 port, lovely landscape, trees
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 Home w/2 smaller guest units
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 On this 2 acs. on Lake
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 Pavement is on two sides of
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 This 145 acs. is located
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 This home in Rising Star of-
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 Two water front lots offer
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WOOD AREA—13 ac. w/
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NEW LISTING—570 acs.
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 consider finance part and divide
 acreage.
COTTONWOOD—216
 ac., 3 bdr. rock house, Pecan
 orchard, 100' fence, good
 fences, plus mountains,
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COZY 3 bdr., 2 ba., 2 fire-
 places, kitchen, living room,
 dining room, screened porch,
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NICE 2 bdr. home on 3
 lots. Sun room, formal living
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 fruit trees.
ACREAGE IN COTTON-
WOOD AREA—13 ac. w/
 house, well, trees and goat
 fence.

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3 vacant lots with city limits
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 Cross Plains, Tx.

Rural Resource Team Report - Part 8

The report is in from the Rural Resource Team who conducted inter-views with individuals, busi-nesses, and various entities in the community between February 10 and 13. Their findings will be pub-lished in the Cross Plains Review over a period of weeks as the report is quite lengthy.

WHAT WAS SAID AT THE INTERVIEWS

The five member Resource Team spent days interviewing the local residents to hear what they had to say. Those being interviewed were directed to answer four questions:

What are the major problems/challenges in the community?

What are the major strengths/as-sets of the community?

What projects would you like to see implemented in the short term (12 months or less)?

What projects would you like to see implemented in the long term (the next 2 or 3 years)?

We have listed below, without comment, what we heard from those who volunteer to be interviewed.

Outlying Areas (Pioneer, Cottonwood, Cross Cut, Etc.)

(15 present)

What are the major problems/challenges in the community?

- Attracting people to our com-munity
- Need overall cleanup
- Lack of enforcing ordinances
- Find more interest among people within the community
- Rural roads need immediate at-tention
- No ditches along county roads
- Flooding
- Property going to waste
- Waste disposal
- Hard to get rid of trash
- Waste disposal like large items (cooperate with Cross Plains on clean up days)
- Lack of interest to keep festivals going
- Population has left
- Community center needs help
- Water is not good in Pioneer
- Salt in water
- Lack of community getting to-gether
- Lack of new member packet for those new to the communities
- Do not have emergency 911 at Cross Cut
- Need 911 at Cross Cut
- Lack recreational facilities for youth
- People dump mattresses

What projects would you like to see implemented in the short and long term?

- Train county road workers to build ditches
- Tee shirts on Conan re: Robert E. Howard
- Copies of Robert E. Howard books

- Rural water in town
- Law enforcement; spotlighting during hunting season
- 911 is a joke
- All will be able to contribute to local EMS Cross Plains (Due to membership dues' involved with EMS Judicial problem)
- Need to have a meeting of all areas regarding the EMS Services and work out problems
- Losing the Ag income
- Peanuts moving from this area
- Need to produce something here

What are the major strengths/ assets of the community?

- Willingness among people to work to improve and build commu-nity
- Strong religious community
- Lot of people that could handle light manufacturing
- Good traffic
- 3 major highways
- People would work in Cross Plains if there were jobs
- Schools
- Churches
- 16 churches
- Good hunting and fishing
- Climate is good
- We do bring money back from the jobs that are in Brownwood and other outlying areas
- Location
- Wonderful people
- Never felt that we were outsiders
- People are here by choice
- People are happy and contented
- Like it because it's small
- Enjoy farming and ranch life
- Game night
- Quilting club every Tuesday
- Cemetery Association Memorial Day
- Pioneer Co-op
- Community Center
- Cemetery
- Good BBQ place in Pioneer
- Highway 36
- Main route from West Texas to Houston
- People operate the prison system, 3-M, and other businesses in Brownwood
- Robert E. Howard

What projects would you like to see implemented in the short and long term?

- Train county road workers to build ditches
- Tee shirts on Conan re: Robert E. Howard
- Copies of Robert E. Howard books

- Go out and interview the older people - Younger people need to do this
- Special days for appreciation for people that really serve the com-munity
- Appreciation Days for Teachers and Administration
- Pride in Community
- Pride in their Homes
- Clean up of the community
- Get something for youth to do at home
- Need a skating rink or bowling alley
- Parenting skills (young parents day and night)
- Young women need training classes on home management
- Need interaction with different age groups
- Youth could come to the youth center at Pioneer
- Voting Booths back in Pioneer
- Need a column covering what is going on in Pioneer
- Community or city push pro-motion, signs
- Local law enforcement and par-ents need to address the drug prob-lem
- Need to give young people a reason to stay here
- SBA Loans to serve businesses - light manufacturing such as Live-stock panels, pickup covers
- Cross Plains fair - at least once a year
- Water in Pioneer
- Dry cleaning establishment
- Livestock auction barn
- Something that would bring in higher paying jobs
- Handle the short term and the long term will take care of itself
- Youth recreation
- Continue to improve school
- Youth recreation
- Continue to improve school
- Outlying areas to get city water
- Youth entertainment

Next Week: We will continue with **What Was Said At The Interviews** by the **Education** involved.

Copies of the report are available at the EDC office inside the Subway building.

Deadlines For The Cross Plains Review

Articles Must Be In By Noon Monday

Advertisements Must Be In By Noon Tuesday

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

TexSCAN

TexSCAN Week of 05-24-98
 Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

ADOPTION
 CHOOSE ALL American dream family for your baby. Elementary school teacher & executive dad can provide wonderful life for baby. Christian home. Please call Liz & David at 1-800-480-8788.

PROFESSIONAL DAD, NURSE Mom. Have warm, secure home to share. Lively with toddler brother, pets, nursery rhymes, zoo trips. Assistance provided. Marianne & Kevin 1-800-533-8307.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
 HERSHEY DISTRIBUTORS NEEDED! 90K yearly potential! Great locations included. \$7,000 investment. International Vend Corp. Call 24 hours 1-800-824-3223.

LOCAL CANDY ROUTE. 30 vending machines. Earn approximately \$800/day. All for \$9,995. Call 1-800-998-VEND. Multi-Vend, Inc.

YOUR OWN TRAVEL Agency, locally. \$7,900, financing available. PT/FT. Fun! Easy! (Great \$\$\$!) Outstanding travel/bus benefits. Comprehensive training. Free video. Motivated applicants; Eagle Travel, 1-800-811-3553 Ext. TX85.

DRIVERS WANTED
 AT HOME WEEKENDS? If not, you're working for the wrong company! ADS has regional Flatbed opportunities in your area for drivers and OTO's. Call today for 2-hour approval! 1-800-646-3438, Ext. 1020.

ATTENTION OTR FLATBED Drivers! Finally, an honest day's pay for an honest day's work! PFT/Roberson is looking for professional drivers. Up to 31 cpm, \$1,000 sign-on, 50+ terminals nationwide. 1-800-743-7384.

DRIVER - \$10,000 BONUS! Raise every six months plus bonuses and benefits. Assigned conventionals handling dry van freight. Flexible home time. Owner/operators welcome, too. Vernon Sawyer 1-888-829-9565.

DRIVER - O/O, IT Doesn't get any better than this. OTR - Got it. Top pay - Got it. Great home time - Got it. Call before it's too late. Arnold Transportation, 1-800-454-2887.

DRIVER - START UP To 34/mile. 85% drop-hook. Conventional Freightliners. Weekly pay. Regional runs available. Contractors ask about 88c/mile Heartland Express. 1-800-441-4953.

DRIVERS: NATIONALLY KNOWN Carriers - **TRUCK DRIVERS** - **TRUCKING** - **CONTRACTS** - **NO GIMMICKS.** For more details call 1-812-288-2447.

DRIVERS OTR/48 State, *New competitive pay package/weekly* Paid insurance and vacation,

performance bonus, 95% no-touch, graduate students welcome, Continental Express. 1-800-727-4374/1-800-695-4473

DRIVERS/OTR DRIVERS Westway Express, Inc., one of the nation's top-ten refrigerated trucking companies, is now hiring OTR drivers. Call Cowboy today @ Westway Express. Experienced 1-800-587-0029 No Experience, 1-888-860-8028. www.westway.com

FREE TRAINING & FIRST year income \$30K - Stevens Transport - OTR truck drivers wanted! Non-experienced or experienced 1-888-279-4058. EOE.

INEXPERIENCED! FREE CDL Training *Pre-biased out of your area * \$500-\$700 weekly * Benefits package * 1-800-455-4682, then dial 200.

OTR DRIVERS WANTED: 3 Years verifiable OTR experience. Average 2800 miles per week. Most Texas to California and back. Home every week. 1-800-369-0618.

RAPID FREIGHT OF Texas is seeking OTR drivers. Minimum 1 year experience. Class A CDL with HazMat required. Call recruiting 1-800-299-7274, ext. 21 or ext.41.

EDUCATIONAL
 SHARE A DREAM. Host Scandinavian, German, European, South American, Asian, Russian High School students arriving August. Become a volunteer host family! ARIVE Call 800-BIBLING. www.sibling.org

FREE EDUCATION AND Training. Learn career skills. Finish school. Get a job. Expense money, room/meals provided. Must be 16-24. Call Job Corps, 1-800-733-5627, extension 42.

AIR FORCE TRAINING, experience and education can help you reach your goals. Find out more. For a free information package, call 1-800-423-USAF.

EMPLOYMENT
 I NEED HELP! Launching new company! Work your own hours - P/T, F/T! No experience necessary! Unlimited income potential! For more information call Reminder Solutions 800-854-5658.

UNEMPLOYED? ARE YOU a great salesperson looking for an opportunity? Willing to travel Monday - Friday. Call Al at 1-800-225-6368.

FINANCIAL SERVICES
 A DEBT-FREE LIFE! Financial. Confident help. Cut monthly payments. Reduce interest. Stop collection calls. Avoid bankruptcy. Nation's largest non-profit Credit Management 24 hours 1-800-317-9971

NO DOWNPAYMENT! PROBLEM Credit? Own the home you need now, without a big downpayment. Complete financing if qualified. DeGeorge Home Alliance 1-800-343-2884.

READY MONEY FOR your annuity, structured settlement, lottery winnings, life insurance vestigation & real estate notes. Senior: cash for your life insurance! READY MONEY CAPITAL 1-888-READY42.

\$5WE BUY \$5 Seller financed notes *Insurance settlements *Land note portfolios. Colonial Financial, 1-800-969-1200, Ext. 42.

FOR SALE
ENTREPRENEURS, YOU CAN dramatically increase you income in 90 days with over 100 proven, easy, low-cost marketing strategies. Call Strategic Marketing Services. 314-519-8423, Ext. 305 for record information.

POOL CITY'S KAYAK Pools, demo homesites wanted to display new maintenance free pool. Save thousands w/this unique opportunity! 100% financing...call 1-800-338-9919.

SAWMILL \$3,795. SAW'S logs into boards, planks, beams. Large capacity. Best sawmill value anywhere. Free information. Norwood Sawmills, 90 Cartwright Drive # 3, Amherst, NY. 14221. 1-800-578-1363.

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WOLFF TANNING BEDS. Home at home. Buy direct and save! Commercial/Hot tub units from \$199.00 Low monthly payments. Free color catalog. Call today 1-800-442-1310.

ZERO DOWN COMPUTER Lease/purchase. Slow credit, bad credit, even bankruptcies OK. 233 MHz MMX Processor. Color monitor, color printer. Call Wise Enterprises 1-800-964-5193, 24 hours.

HEALTH
DIABETICS (USING INSULIN). Did you know Medicare or insurance covers in-out supplies? Save money. Call 1-800-669-8484 Liberty Medical. Satisfaction guaranteed. No HMO Members.

INCONTINENT? STILL PAYING for supplies? Why? For information on how to receive supplies at little or no cost to you, call Express-Med 1-800-211-5658. Medicinal only, please.

RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS? EMPHYSEMA, COPD, Asthma? Use a Nebulizer machine? Why? Express-Med can help. Call today for free consultation 1-800-290-6442. Medicare patients welcome.

WEDDINGS
A BEAUTIFUL CHAPEL/Church Wedding. Gastinburg's Original (Since 1980). Photography, Music, Flowers, Limos, Jacuzzi Suits, Fireplaces, Love Walk Brick. Rev. Ed Taylor 1-800-346-2779 www.gastinburgchapel.com

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Call this newspaper for details on how to advertise statewide.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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Doug Richard Adams
Jerry Ramey
John Logan Worsham
Ben Honea
Mrs. Glen Merrill
Charlotte (Albrecht) Haston
Sandra Tennison
Chasity Goains

MAY 30

Kervin Haacksonsen
Mrs. Garmond Parrish
Maxey Evans
Henry Edington
Jake Watson
Lynn Rochelle Belew
Dickie Wayne Chambers
Michael Hutchins
Melody Hutchins
Kevin Hutchins
Martha Ramirez

MAY 31

Mrs. James Chesshir
Roland Brown
Daria Davis
Earl E. Hooks
Mrs. Elmer Biehl
Mrs. Herman Weaver
Danna Erwin
Chancy West
Douglas Edwin Ege
Dennis Brown
Melinda Williams
Sherry Odom
David Purdue
Karen Ross
Billie "Babe" Stubblefield
Jennifer Bronson

JUNE 1

Anita Buchannan
Rita Bates
Gary Gilmore
Doris Adams
Junior Harding
Bea Black
Robert L. Hayes
Christine Graham
Mrs. R. D. Corley
Derek Downs

JUNE 2

Bill Pope
Todd Hogan
Darrel O. Walker
Jane Nunn
Gregg Williams
Bruce Hubbard
Donny Webb
Ross Rowlett

JUNE 3

Sandra Weiss Carey

JUNE 4

Tommy Lynn Porter
Tommy Mac Connelly
Mrs. A. F. Harris
Joe Hanke, Jr.
Wayland Blair
Kenneth Smith



DEANA CONLEE

Conlee - Fink announce engagement & upcoming marriage

Ms. Roberta Conlee and Tommie B. Conlee are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Deana to Shannon Neil Fink, son of Ms. Sue French of Belton and Charles Fink of Waxahachie.

Deana is a 1987 graduate of Cross Plains High School and received her Bachelor of Science degree from Tarleton State University in 1992. Shannon graduated from Holland

High School in 1985. He attended TSU and received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1994. He continued his education and received his Masters degree in Education in 1996.

Shannon and Deana are currently teaching and coaching in the Mabank ISD.

The couple are planning a July wedding.



McNEIL HONORED AT FAREWELL RECEPTION — Bobbie McNeil, center, was honored recently with a retirement reception in Baird at the Callahan county maintenance section office. McNeil, the section's maintenance contract inspector, retired from the Texas Department of Transportation following a 12 year career. Among the many guests bestowing best wishes on McNeil at his reception, were his wife Sue, right and Marvin Rogers, Callahan county maintenance supervisor. Callahan county is one of 13 counties in TxDOT's Abilene district. (TxDOT photo by Mary Beth Kilgore.)

McNeil retires from TxDOT following 12 year career

ABILENE — Bobbie L. McNeil, contract inspector for the Callahan county maintenance section of the Texas Department of Transportation, retired recently following a 12 year career.

McNeil, who spent his entire TxDOT career at the Callahan maintenance section, began working for the department in 1986 as a maintenance technician. In 1992, he took over the responsibility of both the I-20 rest area and inspecting maintenance contracts for the maintenance office.

Prior to joining TxDOT, McNeil owned and operated a motel in Baird, as well as managing a service station there.

Immediately following graduation from Miltonvale (Kansas) Rural High School in 1951, McNeil went to work for the United States government. Working out of Washington, D.C. for the nationwide Coast and Geodetic Survey organization, he traveled extensively throughout the

United States on a survey crew. It was on an assignment around Cisco, Texas, that McNeil met his future bride, the former Sue Roady of Cross Plains.

This handsome couple have two children and six grandchildren. Their daughter, Bobbie Sue Holden of Abilene, has four children: Chuck, Josh, Matthew and Becca. The McNeil's son, Joe, and his wife Stephanie have two daughters: Amber and Sarah.

The conference room of the maintenance section office was packed with well-wishers the day of McNeil's retirement ceremony. A testimony, one TxDOT official said, as to how well he is liked and respected by his peers. One reason for his popularity, one friend said, is because no one has ever seen Bob without a smile on his face. He's always happy.

And that's exactly what McNeil said when asked about his time with TxDOT. "I've had twelve good and happy years here and have made many, many friends."

"This might be a happy day for McNeil," Marvin Rogers, section supervisor, said, "but not for the maintenance section. He was such a good and dependable employee, we all hate to see him leave us. McNeil possesses an infectious positive attitude, making him a real morale booster for the section. He'll be missed by everyone."

Office workers had decorated the conference room in a "Gone Fishing" motif to set the stage of McNeil's retirement. As he said himself, he and his wife plan to spend a lot of their free time traveling around to different lakes in their travel trailer fishing and relaxing.

In addition to fishing, this United States Army veteran who spent two years in the artillery, plans to spend some of his leisure time hunting, playing a little golf and working in the garden.

MEDIPLIX

to the Mediplex's Eastland office as branch manager.

Mediplex is committed to providing cost effective, quality care in a home setting and will position itself to re-establish an office in the Cross Plains area when feasible. For the near future, Mediplex will serve its patients in 40 West Texas counties from fewer locations.

Mediplex is an Abilene-based

health care company providing home health, retail and infusion pharmacies and durable medical equipment. Established in 1981, Mediplex expanded its home health operations to Cross Plains in 1990 where it operated out of its office located on North Main. The Santa Anna office is located at 903 Wallis Avenue under the management of Linda Patrick, RN who joined Mediplex in 1992.

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60th Anniversary Production of the Fort Griffin Fandangle Begins June 18

The 60th anniversary of the Fort Griffin Fandangle of Albany, will be held on June 18, 19, 20 and June 25, 26, 27. The nationally known historical musical show will begin under the Texas sky each evening at 8:30 p.m. in the Prairie Theater just outside of Albany. The Fandangle Parade, featuring some of the favorite sets such as the stagecoach and the steam driven calliope, will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 25.

There is something in the Fandangle for everyone - music, dancing, drama, and pageantry. Within the wide range of variety lies the theme of the show - the portrayal of the feelings of the western pioneers as they met life day to day. The show is entirely original. Careful research is done to insure that the look and feel of the whole production is as authentic as possible. However, Fandangle history is told with a light touch, one that speaks of the humor of daily life as well as the

fears and calamities.

The Fort Griffin Fandangle is a gentle satire of life at the famous fort seventeen miles north of Albany and of the lively and lusty town of Fort Griffin, often called "The Flat," which sprang up nearby. The fort was situated on a hilltop for protection from marauding Indians. The town nestled between the bottom of the hill and the Clear Fork of the Brazos River and during the 1870's and 1880's was the scene of the wildest of westerns. Doc Holliday lived in Griffin before he went to Tombstone. Big Nose Kate spent a night in jail for trying to burn down a hotel to help Doc escape the law. Lottie Deno, the gracious lady of the gambling table, saw her lover shot to death there. Wyatt Earp stayed only a few days, remarking to Doc that "Griffin is too wild for me."

While the Fort Griffin Fandangle portrays the soldiers and offers glimpses of the wilder side of life, it also shows the other sides - the

buffalo hunters who spent weeks hunting and skinning; the cowboys who drove the herds up the Western Trail to Abilene, Kansas; the mother who feared Indians, disease, loneliness; the young man "gone to Texas" and the girl he found there; the children and their folks; the Indians in their kingdom and in their realization that all was lost. The spectator is transported into yesteryear. He is there with frontier history as it happened.

Fandangle scripts were written by playwright and author Robert Nail, who also envisioned the show and produced it from 1938 until his death in 1968. The show has never been out of Albany hands. Betsy Parsons, who grew up in the Fandangle, is her fifth year as director of the production, continuing the traditions that utilize the best talents of many of the people of Shackelford County, Texas.