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Football games

Haskell Indians vs
Jim Ned (Scrimmage)
Thurs., Aug. 27, 6 p.m.
at Haskell

Paint Creek Pirates
vs. ACHS (Scrimmage)
Fri., Aug. 28, 7:30 p.m.
at Elmer Gray Stadium,
Abilene

Calendar

Comedy performance

Paint Creek Community
Theater will present the comedy
stage production "Greater Tuna"
Sunday evening, Aug. 30 at 7:45
p.m. Admission is \$2.00 per
person. Complementary refresh-
ments will be served.

Blood drive

The Rotary Club is sponsoring
a blood drive today, Thurs., Aug.
27 from 1 to 5 p.m. in association
with the Meek Blood Bank of
Abilene. The drive will be
conducted at the First Christian
Church, 107 N. Ave. F. Donations
may be made on behalf of a friend
or family member. Call 864-3550
or 864-2477 for more information.

Hunter course

A hunter education course will
be held Sat., Aug. 29 at 9 a.m. at
the Haskell Ag Building. Cost of
the course is \$10. Call James
Bevel 864-3239 home or 864-
3310 Ag Building for more
information.

Indian Booster Club

All supporters and fans of the
Haskell Indian athletes are invited
to join the Indian Booster Club
for '98-99. Membership dues are
\$10 and those joining by Wed.
Aug. 26 will be listed in the
football program. Dues can be
mailed to Debbie Earles, Rt. 1
Box 364, Haskell, TX 79521.
Family names should be written
as they are to appear in the
program. Membership forms are
available at First National Bank,
Haskell National Bank, Cecil's,
Sport-About, WTU, M-System
and Modern Way.

Season tickets

Haskell Indian season football
tickets will go on sale Aug. 25-31
for persons holding tickets from
last year. Tickets will go on sale
to the public Sept. 1. All ticket
sales will be in the high school
office from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Season tickets are \$25.

Social Security

A representative from the
Social Security Administration
will be in Haskell at the City Hall
annex Thurs., Sept. 3 at 9:30 a.m.

Bean Supper

A bean supper will be held
Fri., Sept. 11 to benefit the Civic
Center fencing project. Tickets
will be on sale soon.

Enchilada dinner

The St. George Catholic
Church will hold a benefit
enchilada dinner Fri., Aug. 28
from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the
church hall on N. 16th St. in
Haskell. A dance will be held
Sat., Aug. 29 at Macias Ballroom
from 9 p.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds
will benefit queen candidate,
Cynthia Abila.

Special service

A Father's Day celebration
will be held Sun., Aug. 30 at the
Foursquare Church, 200 S. Ave. F
in Haskell. Dinner will be held on
the grounds. Special speakers will
be featured at 2 p.m. Services will
close with singing. Pastor Freddy
Perez invites everyone to attend.

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Indians scrimmage tonight

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 112-NO. 35, ©AUGUST 27, 1998

"The People's Choice"

16 PAGES-TWO SECTIONS-50 CENTS



FIRST SCRIMMAGE—Coaches and players observed and learned as Varsity teams from Lubbock Roosevelt and Bangs met the Haskell Indians in a three-way scrimmage Sat. afternoon at Indian

Field. The Indians will scrimmage with Jim Ned, here, Thurs., Aug. 27 at 6:00 p.m. First regular season game will be with Munday on Fri., Sept. 4. Photo by Bill Blankenship

Indians to play tonight

Thurs. at 6:00 p.m. at Indian Field, the Haskell Indian football teams will have their last scrimmage before beginning regular season play Sept. 4.

On hand will be the Jim Ned Indians scrimmaging the J.V. and Freshman teams at the same time on opposite ends of the field. The Varsity teams will begin their scrimmage at 7:30.

In a change of schedule, Head Coach Don Flippin has announced the cancellation of the Sept. 3, 7th and 8th grade scrimmage with Munday at Haskell. Due to U.I.L. rules, the 7th and 8th teams can't play or scrimmage until Sept. 10.

The Haskell J.V. team will meet Munday for a game there, Thurs., Sept. 3.

Council approves zoning

At the regular meeting of the Haskell City Council, Aug. 24, approval was given to the zoning request of Linda Lane Bloise for change from residential to special purpose zoning for a bed and breakfast and the sale of small retail items.

Also approved was the re-appointment of Sam Bitner to the Haskell Economic Development Corporation.

Horse Club announces averages

The Haskell Horse Club 1998 average winners for the season are as follows:

8 and under Novice: 1. Kristina Bitner 2. Kelsie Adams 3. Cannon Edwards
8 and under: 1. Weston Rutkowski 2. Ashton Rutkowski 3. Misty Hise
9-12: 1. Chad Hays 2. Brittany Rutkowski 3. Laryssa Hise
13-15: 1. Morgan Cox 2. Terry Branch
16-19: 1. Ryan Branch

Hay network to benefit farmers

Glenn Brzozowski, County Executive Director, of the Haskell County Farm Service Agency announced a new effort to match farmers and ranchers suffering from hay shortages with producers having hay surpluses.

"Some areas have surpluses and some have severe shortages," said Brzozowski. "This is a new and exciting way to get producers in both situations in touch with each other."

Hay Net is a national

clearinghouse for producers with shortages or surpluses of hay. Farmers and ranchers are encouraged to sign up and register their hay situation at the Haskell County FSA Office. FSA will use its nationwide computer network to share the information. Producers in need of hay will be provided with lists of the closest producers with hay to spare and vice versa allowing them to contact each other and make arrangements.

"I'm very pleased to be a part of this effort," said Brzozowski.

"It's a great tool for getting badly needed hay to people who need it as quickly and efficiently as possible. I encourage everybody to participate who can and to come in as soon as possible. The more people sign up, the better the system will work."

Hay Net will remain in operation for six months. Further information on Hay Net is available at the Haskell County Farm Service Agency, 506 South Second in Haskell or by phone at 864-2617.



HONORED BY LIONS—Bree Burgess, senior student at Haskell High School, was recently named 1998-99 Lions Club Sweetheart, and member Donnie Rieger was named 1997-98 Lion of the Year, by the Haskell Lions Club.

Rieger named Lion of the Year

Donnie Rieger has been named "The 1997-1998 Lion of the Year" for his outstanding service to the Haskell Lions Club. Given annually, the award is given to the Lion who most embodies the Lions Club motto of "We Serve."

Rieger is employed by Sport-About of Haskell. He and his wife, Ellen, have two daughters; Anna, a recent Haskell High School graduate who was Lions Club Sweetheart for the past two years, and Jessica, a freshman at Haskell High School.

Rieger served as chairman for the "Goodfellows" project, a local Lions Club charity that raises money to buy food, clothes and

toys for Haskell families with children needing some help at Christmas. Actively involved in each weekly meeting and each club project, Rieger was also responsible for bringing new member, Linda Haynes into the club.

Bree Burgess, daughter of new Lions Club President, Brian Burgess and Jennifer Burgess, has been chosen as the 1998-99 Lions Club Sweetheart. The senior student at Haskell High School is president of the National Honor Society, member of the student council and is active in cross country, basketball, track and UIL speech and drama.

Fund to benefit Judy Miller

Judy Miller, former resident of Haskell is a cancer patient in need of donations for a trip to M. D. Anderson Cancer Institute in Houston. For a chance of survival, the forty year old mother of three

must have major surgery.

An account #4360640 has been set up for her assistance at First National Bank of Abilene. For more information call (915)-537-9930 or (915)-672-2901.



CLUBS HEAR SENATOR—State Senator Tom Haywood of Wichita Falls spoke to a joint noon meeting of the Haskell Rotary Club and The Haskell Lions Club Thurs. at the Haskell National Bank Community Room. Senator Haywood, whose District 30 covers an area from Abilene to Canadian and Sherman to Dimmett, gave the clubs a summary of the past legislative session and a preview of the 1999 session. Pictured left to right are Haskell Mayor Ken Lane, Senator Haywood and Monty Montgomery.

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 864-2686



SUNDAY IN THE PARK—Tommy Watson, Ann Decker, Judy Wolsch and Christine Green sit in the shade at the Rice Springs Care Home's Eden Alternative display booth during activities at Sunday in the Park.



RUNNING PLAYS—Haskell Varsity Indians got a work out Sat. afternoon during the three-way scrimmage with Lubbock Roosevelt and Bangs. Photo by Bill Blankenship

Stamford VA Outpatient Clinic proposed

Congressman Charlie Stenholm has announced that a contractual agreement has been signed by officials of the Big Spring VA Medical Center and Stamford Memorial Hospital (SMH) which established a new VA community-based outpatient clinic (CBOC) in Stamford.

Slated to open this fall, the new outpatient clinic will enable many veterans residing in Jones and surrounding counties to eliminate over two hundred mile trips to and from Big Spring VAMC for their primary health care. Those veterans currently enrolled at the Abilene VA CBOC have the option of continuing to receive care there or

transferring to the new clinic in Stamford. Veterans who require specialized care will be referred to Big Spring VAMC.

"The number of veterans requiring outpatient medical care is increasing and it is essential that we do everything we can to meet these needs in a responsible and effective manner," said Stenholm. "Contracting for care from existing community resources makes good sense because it helps to ensure quality care, while promoting an efficient and economic use of existing resources."

As a long-term proponent of this approach to providing medical

treatment to the nation's veterans, Stenholm has worked tirelessly to establish such treatment facilities in the 17th District and other rural areas which have been under served.

Staffed with one primary care treatment team, the clinic will represent a medical partnership between the Big Spring VAMC and Stamford Memorial Hospital. Veterans will be seen in the clinic for their primary care and patient education needs. Selected laboratory, coronary (EKGs) and radiology tests will be provided on a contractual basis by SMH.

"Outreach clinics forge an important partnership with community health providers and

the federal government, resulting in improved care for our veterans," noted Stenholm. "The government would do well to apply this concept to other areas."

Information concerning how a veteran may receive primary health care at the clinic will be made available at a future town hall meeting in Stamford in early September.

Obituaries

Ruth Tomlinson Hunt

Funeral services for Ruth Tomlinson Hunt, 86, of Haskell were held Wed., Aug. 26 at Trinity Baptist Church with Kenneth Blair officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Hunt died Sat., Aug. 22 at an Abilene hospital. Born July 7, 1912 in Old Glory, she was the daughter of Robert Franklin Tomlinson and Cora Pauline Bryan. She married Clyde Hunt June 12, 1959 in Big Spring. He preceded her in death on Dec. 10, 1990. She was a home-

maker and had been a resident of Haskell since 1961. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

Survivors include three daughters, Jean Fenner of Abilene, Patsy Henderson of Lueders, and Linda Hill of Albuquerque, N.M.; three step-sons, Jerry Hunt of Tulsa, Okla., Bobby Hunt of Longview, and Phillip Hunt of Midland; one sister, Helen Jones of Atlanta, Georgia and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Trinity Baptist Church, Haskell, or to West Texas Rehab Center.

Georgia Bernice Shipman

Funeral services for Georgia Bernice Shipman, 71, of Haskell will be held Thurs., Aug. 27 at the Assembly of God Church with Rev. Eric Clark and Rev. J. C. Amburn officiating. Burial will be in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Shipman died Mon., Aug. 24 at an Abilene hospital.

Born Jan. 18, 1927 in Vera, she was the daughter of George Washington Halford and Betty Parvin. She worked as the food service supervisor at Haskell Nursing Center for 30 years. She married C. L. Shipman July 19, 1943 in

Vera. He preceded her in death May 17, 1995. She was a member of the Church of God.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Claudette and Leonard Klein of Henrietta, and Tammy and Mark Crosson of Haskell; one son and daughter-in-law, James and Linda Shipman of Arlington; four sisters, Betty Pace of Thatcher, Ariz., Zoe Ella Evans of Marysville, Tenn., Blanche Luttrell of Fort Worth, and Erma Hedgewood of Muskogee, Okla.; nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Hendrick League House

Sagerton News

By Dorothy M. Clark

A reminder to all community residents for the monthly supper to be held at the center next Tues. night, Sept. 1, at 6:30 p.m. Ladies are asked to bring desserts.

Everyone is invited to attend the Ministerial Alliance singing hosted by the Sagerton Methodist Church

Sun. night at 6:00. Soloists and ensembles are urged to come and sing. This should be a good night of old time singin'!

The regular weekly farmers' breakfast was held Wed. at the Sagerton Gin with the following men enjoying the "full meal deal" prepared by Joe Clark and Alvin Ulmer: Charles Diers, Allen Letz, Jack Jones, Leon Stegemoeller, Melvin Baitz, Gene Teichelman, Jack Peters, Charles Clark, Fred Baitz, Cliff Gholson and Bill Hertel.

The home of Odene Dudensing was filled with laughter and fun of grandchildren as Carol and Larry Hobratchek and sons Aaron, Brian and Steven of Littlefield met Lynn Dale and Renee Dudensing and their children, Abby, Jenny, Emery and Molly last weekend. The Hobratcheks had not been to Sagerton since Christmas, so after receiving a rain they were able to leave their farming operation for a visit home. We wish they could have brought some of the moisture with them.

Jack and Peggy Tabor have returned from a week's vacation at Port Aransas. They reported good fishing and a restful trip.

The Friendship Club met at Faith Lutheran Church Thurs. for

its monthly dinner. The Happy Birthday song was sung for Frances Clark, Ed Fouts and Matthew Ramey and the anniversary song was sung for J. B. and Dorothy Toney. Those enjoying the day together included: Minnie Monse, Isabel Mrazek, Doris Lehrmann, Joe and Dorothy Clark, Michelle Clay and Megan Toney, Jack and Peggy Tabor, J. B. and Dorothy Toney. Pastor Jeff Zell, Thomas Zell, Betty Zell, Frances Clark, Frances Perez, Cato Macias, Nancy and Michael Perez, Delbert and Joyce LeFevre, Ed Fouts, Pastor Daniel, Matthew and Andrew Ramey, Odene Dudensing, Lynn Dale and Renee Dudensing.

Lottie Bell Parks of Paducah visited last week in the home of Frances Clark. Joe and Dorothy Clark attended the Prairie Dogs baseball game at Crutcher-Scott Field in Abilene Fri. night with Ray and Nancy Clark of Stamford.

Glen and Pam Schonestedt of Levelland visited with his mother, Leona Schonestedt during the weekend.

Remember the community supper, Tues., Sept. 1 at 6:30 p.m.

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Monthly Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER 1998

Haskell Independent School District

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 7&8 Scrimmage Stamford at Haskell JV Munday at Munday 5:30 p.m.	4 Varsity Football Munday at Haskell 8 p.m.	5
6	7	8	9	10 JV Football 7, 8 & JV Anson at Anson	11 Varsity Football Anson at Haskell 8 p.m.	12 Band Day Howard Payne
13	14 NHS Inductions Auditorium 7:30	15	16	17 7 & 8 Football 5 p.m. Stamford at Stamford JV Gold & JV Black Stamford at Haskell	18 Varsity Football Stamford at Stamford 8 p.m.	19
20	21	22	23	24 7, 8 & JV Aspermont at Aspermont	25 Varsity Football Aspermont at Haskell 8 p.m.	26 UIL Twirling Contest at Haskell Cross Country, Haskell Meet, Haskell Co. Club Double Mt. District Greenhand Camp, Anson
27	28	29	30			

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Sandy Forehand receives LUTC designation

Sandy Forehand, agent for Southern Farm Bureau in Haskell has been granted the LUTC Fellow designation.

The LUTC Fellow is conferred only upon those individuals who meet or exceed the exacting qualification standards determined by the two organizations that jointly sponsor the designation—LUTC and The National Association of Life Underwriters (NALU).

The designation marks an agent's long-term commitment to professionalism on behalf of clients, establishes the agent's competence and business experience, marks a commitment to NALU's Code of Ethics and fosters additional professional development.

Conferees are honored at a national conferment held each year during the NALU annual convention. Each fall LUTC diplomas are forwarded to the local life underwriters associations for presentation at individual conferment ceremonies throughout

the country.

Since the introductions of the LUTC designation in 1984, more than 56,000 individuals have qualified.

Forehand is a member of the Abilene Life Underwriters Association and has been active in the profession for 3 1/2 years.

LUTC, founded in 1947, is an independent, nonprofit education and training organization offering eleven skills-building courses in life insurance and related financial products from which students can earn the required Study and Practice Equivalents (SPEs) to qualify for the LUTC designation. LUTC candidates must also complete one of LUTC's ethics courses, *Piecing Together the Ethical Puzzle* or *Charting an Ethical Course*.

NALU, founded in 1890, is a federation of 1,000 state and local associations. The members of these local associations are sales

professionals in life and health insurance and other financial services.



MR. AND MRS. JODY WAYNE LEFEVRE

Robinson, Lefevre wed in Stamford

Theasa Dawn Robinson, daughter of George and Becky Robinson of Virginia, and Jody Wayne Lefevre, son of Steve and Sherry Lefevre of Stamford, were married July 18, at St. John's United Methodist Church in Stamford, with John Erwin officiating.

Shannah Robinson of Virginia, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Shelly Weed and Jessica Hall of Abilene.

Brother of the groom, Lance Lefevre of Stamford, was best man. Groomsmen were Trey Beeson of Lubbock, and Justin Reed of Stamford.

Danielle Oliver of Stamford was flower girl. Ian Robinson of

Virginia was the ring bearer, and the candlelighter was Myles Robinson of Virginia.

Grandparents of the bride are George and Merle Robinson of Louisiana, and Fran Trapp of Arizona. Grandparents of the groom are Bonnie Lefevre and the late Dan Lefevre of Stamford, and Lawana Conner and the late Wendell Conner of Haskell.

The bride attended Castle Park High School in San Diego, California, and currently attends Abilene Christian University.

The groom attended Stamford High School and is employed by Frito Lay.

The couple lives in Avoca.

Jason Munday featured on magazine cover

Jason Munday, son of Nancy Kay Mueller of Abilene, and Tommy Munday of Arlington is one of a group of American soldiers helping to preserve peace in the Middle East as part of a little-known international organization, the Multinational Force and Observers. The 82nd Airborne Division soldier's picture was featured on the cover of the August issue of *Soldiers* magazine.

Recently home for a visit, he has now returned to the area of Egypt's vast and challenging Sinai desert as part of the MFO international peace-keeping organization created following the 1979 peace treaty between Egypt

and Israel. Since 1982 the MFO has monitored the military activities of both nations along their common border.

The MFO presence in Sinai is spread among 34 sites—two main camps, 30 observations and command posts, a coastal patrol detachment and a force engineer unit. Though not affiliated with the United Nations, the force currently includes military personnel from 11 nations interacting and communicating effectively in a team effort.

Munday is the grandson of the late Brooks Middleton of Haskell, and is the nephew of Elizabeth Stewart of Haskell.

Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

Tom, Mary and Tim Dewey were in Lubbock recently to attend the graduation ceremony at Texas Tech where Mickey Dewey graduated. They also got to see two other young men from Haskell graduate, Cole Larned and Brandon McFadden.

Mr. and Mrs. Chesley Forehand spent the weekend in Wichita Falls visiting with their son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Forehand.

Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Billy Tatum over the weekend was their son and family Jonathan, Candis and Aubree of Dalhart. They also attended the wedding of Cynthia Rodriguez and Brian Brzozowski on Sat. evening.

Visiting with Joyce Hawkins Sun. was her son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. James Hawkins, of Wichita Falls.

Sammy, Peggy and Michael spent the weekend in Aspermont visiting Peggy's mom Olga Ruiz and other relatives.

Brother-in-law, Lee Couvill, of Lexington, Kentucky spent the night and day on Sun. with Mr. and Mrs. Paris Barton.

Recently visiting with Audree McCallum at Rice Springs Care

Home was her son and daughter-in-law Mr. and Mrs. J. Brian McCallum of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Neat Bevel celebrated her 86th birthday on Sat., Aug. 15 at the Haskell National Bank community building.

All five of her children were present. They are James and Lela Bevel of Haskell, Jack and Raylene Bevel of Kenedy, Pat and Roger Kidney of El Paso, Joy and Jack Harvey of Odessa and Darlene Cummins of Santo. Also several of the grandchildren and great grandchildren attended.

The time was spent playing 42 and visiting. Chocolate cake and punch was served.

The grandchildren and great grandchildren enjoyed helping Grandma Neat open the gifts.

Several nieces and nephews and friends also attended.

Those present were from El Paso, Odessa, Ranger, Austin, Rochester, Houston, Perrin, San Antonio, Coleman, Knox City, Stephenville, Throckmorton, Lewisville, Kenedy and Haskell.

Academy nominations accepted

Congressman Charles W. Stenholm has announced that he is currently seeking applicants for nomination to the United States Service Academies. Applications for nomination to the U. S. Military Academy in West Point, New York, the U. S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland and the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York may be obtained by writing to Congressman Stenholm's Washington, D. C. office.

Nominations are available to young men and women who will be at least 17 years of age and not past their 22nd birthday, upon entry into the academy in July

1999. Nominees are selected by a competitive process, judged on scholastic aptitude, moral character, leadership ability and community involvement.

The academies offer a four-year degree in a variety of areas ranging from Civil Engineering and Physics, to American Studies and Behavioral Science.

Any persons who may be interested in applying for a nomination, or who would like to obtain additional information, should write to Congressman Charles W. Stenholm, 1211 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20515. Applications must be submitted and files completed, no later than Dec. 1, 1998. Nominations will be made toward the end of December.

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GROW training held

West Texas Utilities Company hosted an economic development board training program titled Growth and Retention Opportunities Worldwide (GROW) for the Rolling Plains Industrial Foundation. The program was developed by WTU's Economic Development department to assist communities in preparing strategies that will enhance opportunities for economic growth and development. Steve Teaff, Bob Forman and Mike Martindale, WTU Business Development Project Managers, facilitated the four and a half-hour training.

Representatives from Stamford, Haskell, Aspermont, Hamlin and Rotan attended. Each participant received a detailed guidebook that outlined six major areas including:

community development, rules and regulations, state/federal resources, business retention and expansion, marketing/recruitment and planning/assessment.

The GROW training program prepares economic development board members to carry out their duties and responsibilities with greater confidence and understanding. WTU is sincerely concerned about the economic welfare of the rural communities it serves and provides the training at no cost.

For more information, contact Fred Hernandez, WTU Area Business Manager in Stamford at (915) 773-3641 or Rick Arnic, Hamlin Area Business Manager at (915) 576-3676.

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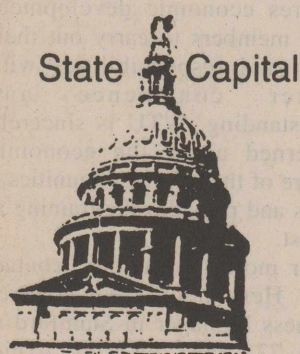
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<p>Bridal Selection now on display for Scott & Kendra Burris</p>	<p>Baby Shower Selections for Robert & Cynthia (Halliburton) Thorson</p>
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OPINION



HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Many Texans lawmakers are operating district offices that aren't fully accessible to people with disabilities, a violation of state and federal law, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported last week.

State inspectors found that 67 district offices for state representatives and 43 district offices for senators were in inaccessible buildings.

Offices leased by the state must be in accessible buildings, according to Texas law. In 1997, the Legislature voted to require inspections before the state occupies leased space.

But some lawmakers whose district offices are inaccessible want to exempt themselves from the law before the state can impose \$1,000-a-day fines against the building owners or cancel leases.

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation has agreed to consider hardship cases after Rep. Rob Junell, D-San Angelo and Sen. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, chairmen of the Legislature's two budget-writing committees, wrote to the agency.

"We've got to do something or our members are going to be operating out of their kitchens," Ratliff said.

Advocates for access oppose such exemptions. They said that if the Legislature approves waivers for itself, they plan to force district offices to become accessible under the federal law.

"I think it's pretty amazing that lawmakers seem to think they ought to be above the law," Jim Harrington, legal director of the Texas Civil Rights Project, told the newspaper. "If they can pass a law, they ought to comply with the law."

Belinda Carlton, executive director of the Coalition for Texans with Disabilities, said her group "just doesn't have any sympathy here."

Groups Call for Electronic Filing

State law requires candidates for public office to file campaign finance reports with the Texas Ethics Commission, but the reports need only be furnished on paper.

Last week, two government watchdog groups called on candidates to make it easier for Texans wanting to find out who is giving money to political campaigns, simply by filing campaign finance reports electronically.

Craig McDonald of Texans for Public Justice and Tom Smith of Public Citizen asked candidates to voluntarily file electronically so

information seekers can find what they're looking for via the Internet on the Ethics Commission web site, www.ethics.state.tx.us/.

Youth-Crime Entity Is Proposed

Tony Fabelo, executive director of the Texas Criminal Justice Policy Council, last week recommended the creation of a single entity to coordinate the efforts of 18 state agencies operating programs aimed at curbing youth crime.

A "Prevention Services Division" under the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services could serve as a one-stop shopping location, helping families find the right place to seek assistance, Fabelo said.

Presently, there are nearly 70 programs addressing at-risk youth, administered by the various state agencies.

Laser Hair Removal Scrutinized

The Texas Department of Health last week said it is investigating reports of unauthorized use of lasers for hair removal by spas, salons and fitness clubs.

Two reports were from people claiming injuries as a result of laser treatments.

State regulations require that hair removal lasers by operated only under the supervision of licensed practitioners with medical training.

Injury to patients may result from unauthorized use of these devices for cosmetic purposes.

Denied Claims to Be Reviewed

State insurance regulators said last week they will review homeowner claims for cracked foundations that have been denied by insurers since 1993.

Texas Insurance Commissioner Elton Bomer ordered property insurers to report denied claims for foundation damage from mid-1993 to mid-1997.

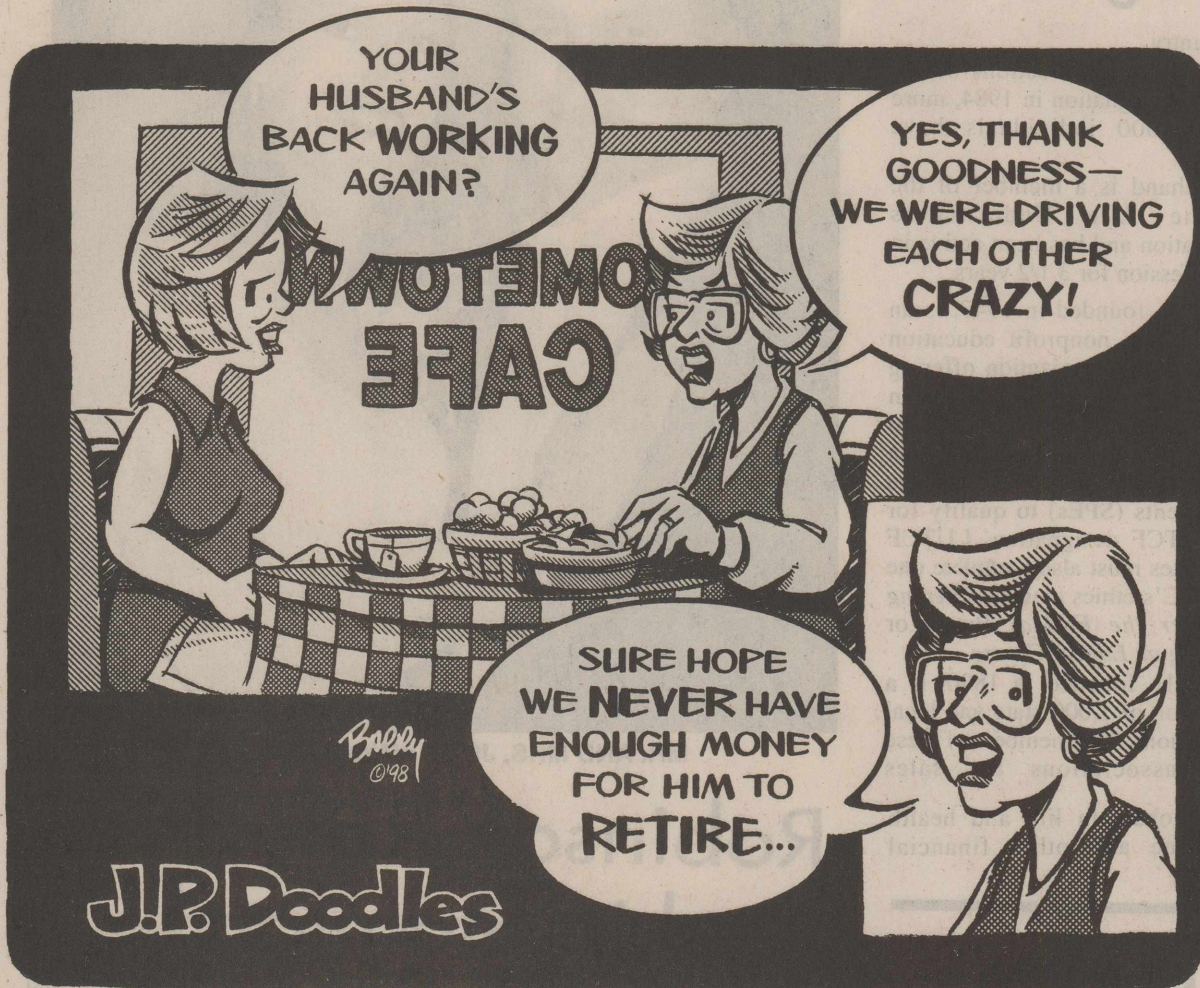
Foundation cracks often are caused by plumbing leaks.

A Texas Department of Insurance study shows that water damage has caused up to 20 percent of all homeowners' losses.

Lack of Qualified Teachers Noted

Thirty-nine percent of the nearly quarter-million high school students who took the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills exit exam this year failed the algebra portion.

Texas Education Commissioner Mike Moses attributed the high rate of failure to the fact that so many students have uncertified math teachers.



From The Inside Out

By Mary Kaigler

The summer day was being as uneventful for the chickens, pecking and scratching in the powdered dust, as it was for the little red-haired girl.

Naively adding to her ample collection of freckles, she left the boredom of being inside with nothing more to read, for the hot sunshine outside. She settled into a favorite spot across from the chicken yard, and set up a little corrugated box house. Filling each of the rooms with customized "art-deco" furniture made from the backs of last year's Big Chief tablets, she lived vicariously through the paper dolls cut from her mother's *Hollands* magazine. Seeing beyond the flour paste, the crayon colors, and the shoulder tabs holding up the paper dresses, she moved for a little while in a beautifully ordered, movie-set world of sophistication and sleek perfection.

She liked to think that when she got old enough to make her own decisions and choices she would always pick something special, something of real beauty, over anything else. She wondered why everyone in the world didn't do that also, since given a choice, it would always be so simple. She reasoned that eventually one would be completely surrounded by only beauty and perfection, having always chosen it. The prospect of that was delicious; her secret against the reality of a dull day and the dry, sand-stormy world of the Texas Panhandle during the 1930s.

She ached to have the nerve to ask her mother about life and its choices, but she knew she'd be scolded for even thinking about "such things." Any sort of reprimand or criticism sent sickening waves of guilt and humiliation all the way down to her toes, making her face flush and her

eyelids burn inside. Not really knowing just what it was she wanted to know about, she often felt stirrings of vague uneasiness at not yet understanding all of the mysterious things that would make growing up be so wonderful and simple.

Hating to be teased by older brothers for not knowing everything they knew, she spent a lot of time day-dreaming ideas, without risking exposing herself to ridicule by sharing them with anyone. Always sensing that she knew more than they dismissed her as knowing, she kept most of it to herself in a pleasant world of her own private viewing.

Watching the chickens as a little cloud moved over the sky, shading the yard, she wondered what they thought about. She wondered how they could possibly bear to look exactly alike, with knowing only what goes on in one little chicken yard, cooped up at night in the drafty hen-house perched on a splintered roost, watching mice nibbling holes in the sacks of bone meal. She felt sorry for the chickens, because it seemed to her that the only redeeming quality in their whole environment was a group of black-walnut trees.

Ignoring the elegance of the three tall trees, the chickens chose instead to cluster in the dust under a low, gnarled, worn-out peach tree which constantly oozed gummy blurbs of brownish-yellow sap from rough, scabby bark. She hurt inside for the chickens, who didn't even know how to appreciate their one touch of beauty.

A sudden clap of thunder started a summer shower, and the little girl began to grab up her dream house and its paper inhabitants. As the shower grew into a downpour, she saw that there were little frogs

dropping with the rain all over the yard. Fascinated, she stood spellbound while the ground became alive with thumbnail size frogs.

Scooped up perhaps by a strong whirlwind from some nearby shallow lake, they literally poured from the sky, sending the chickens into a frenzy of activity. As soon as one of the young pullets pecked up a frog and began running with it, several others followed, trying to share in it rather than find one of their own. The whole flock of white leghorns soon ran around in a complete hysteria of peck, chase and conquest.

Finally, with appetites sated, they began to wage a senseless war of waste, scrambling after any frog that hopped, pecking it on the head. Then, with half consumed frog legs still dangling from its beak, each bird ran in greedy pursuit of yet another live frog. The enjoyment of quality seemed to give way to a squawking game of compulsive accumulation of quantity.

Soaked to the skin, the girl ran to call her brothers to come see the excitement. Watching as she towel-dried her rain-frizzed hair, she realized that the chickens didn't use much good sense when given such an abundance to choose from.

The next day she was back in the yard, refurbishing her soggy doll house. As she re-did and redecorated with ready-made furniture cut-outs carefully chosen from the Montgomery-Ward catalog, she day-dreamed again, yearning for the time when she would be old enough to start learning about life.

In their pen across the yard, the chickens clucked, preened feathers and scratched contentedly among the forgotten, flattened-out frog bodies as if nothing phenomenal had ever happened there.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:
I was honored to have been asked to be an honorary pallbearer for Sergeant Frank Jircik's funeral recently.

I moved back to Haskell in 1985 and discovered that Haskell no longer had a teenage baseball program. I was told that Sarge was no longer coaching; therefore, "no program." I was asked if I would be interested in coaching a teenage team and I agreed to do so. I went straight to Sarge's house and asked if he would help me coach the team. He declined. I left wondering who I would be able to get to help. Upon returning home the phone rang. It was Sarge. He said he'd help, but that I would have to be the coach. I laughed to myself and agreed. I was thinking—here I am, talking to one of the best baseball coaches in the country and he's telling me, I would be the coach.

Sarge and I, along with Conrad Roewe and some others, worked on the field and got it back into playing shape for the season. I had the privilege to coach with Sarge for 3 years before his health prevented him from continuing. In that time we placed second the first year and won district the next two years which earned a trip to the state tournament. With yet another generation of baseball players, Sarge had once again shown his coaching abilities and his love for the game.

I would like for the city of Haskell to recognize Sarge by naming the teenage baseball field "Jircik Field." Sarge built and helped rebuild the field; he coached teams that date back as far as I can remember (one which won the State Championship); he was instrumental in getting young baseball players scholarships and having baseball scouts come to look at the youth of Haskell; and his dedicated service gave many boys the opportunity to play baseball after Little League. He helped to keep the love of baseball

alive in Haskell and Haskell's love for baseball eventually led to a high school team.

You can ask most of the players that played for Sarge and they will tell you the same thing. Sarge deserves to be recognized and honored for his years of service to the youth of Haskell.

I consider it a great personal honor to have coached with Sarge and to have been his friend.

Sincerely,
Mike Cook

Free water testing available

About 95% of this country's rural residents use groundwater to supply their drinking water and homestead needs. Wells should be designed to provide clean water. If improperly constructed or maintained, however, they can allow bacteria, pesticides, fertilizer or oil products to contaminate groundwater. These contaminants can put family and animal health at risk.

The Seymour Aquifer Project office will be sponsoring free water tests for bacteria on Sept. 29 and 30. Project employees will come to your home to take sample or you can pick up a water sample container at 900 South Ave. E in Haskell before Sept. 29.

Water samples from the area tested for bacteria in March 1997 and in May 1998 showed about 20 percent of the wells had some bacteria present.

If you are interested in having your well tested for bacterial contamination please call the Seymour Aquifer Project office at (940) 864-3334 or 864-3583.

Hospital

Admissions
Albert Kuhler, Munday

Dismissals
Gayle White, John Smith, Ira Short, Robert Rapp, Tamarie Bishop, Jo Fischer, Elnora Duk, Natheec Caddell, Clyne Campbell

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago August 25, 1988

Rev. and Mrs. Jimmy Turner move to Haskell from Azle. Rev. Turner is the new pastor at First Baptist Church.

Sam and Ernestine Herren celebrate their 51st anniversary at the Presbyterian Church fellowship hall.

Dickie W. Greenwood, vice-president and branch manager of Olney Savings Association in Haskell, recently graduated from the Texas Savings and Loan School.

20 Years Ago August 24, 1978

Correction

Last week's notice of the birth of Payton Matthew Thomas, son of Joey and Tiffany Thomas, should have listed the name of his proud sister as Mackenzie Hope Thomas.

Bill Comedy, Free Press publisher, was presented with a plaque in Kerrville by the West Texas Press Association. The plaque was in recognition of his leadership as president of the association during the past year.

Haskell scouts, Don Horton and Elliot Cox, returned home after backpacking for ten days in New Mexico.

Fifty Haskell High School Indians begin two-a-day workouts.

"A Challenge for Living Crusade" will be conducted at the First United Methodist Church in Rule.

40 Years Ago August 21, 1958

Haskell County's first bale of cotton from the 1958 crop was ginned in Rule. The cotton was from the farm of J. E. Place.

Mrs. J. L. Toliver, Jr. was awarded a trophy after winning

second place in a hair styling contest. Mrs. Toliver is a student at Bud Hall's Beauty School in Wichita Falls.

Irene Stewart, football coach at Sagerton, is planning a football camp for the grade school football team.

50 Years Ago August 26, 1948

Lane-Felker has announced a Fall Fashion Show to be held at the High School auditorium.

Mr. and Mrs. R. R. King and daughters, Jean and Eileen of Rochester were visitors in Haskell. Mr. King is superintendent of the Rochester public schools.

80 Years Ago August 31, 1918

Rev. J. R. Bateman, T. J. Lemmon, Jr., John Stiewert of Haskell and J. D. Hager and son H. B. of Rule left Thursday evening for Hall, VA where they will work in the government shipyards.

The Haskell Free Press

Established January 1, 1886
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NOTICE TO PUBLIC—Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any firm, individual or corporation will be gladly corrected upon being called to the attention of the publisher.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Haskell Free Press, P.O. Box 555, Haskell, TX, 79521-0555.



Local residents complete rural leadership program

The 1997-98 Rolling Plains Rural Leadership Program had another very successful year with 17 class participants receiving certificates of completion for their 9 months of involvement during a recognition program held at the State Capitol in Austin on May 5.

Lessons for the year included such topics as—Tools of Leadership, Five Building Blocks of Effective Communication, How to Conduct An Effective Meeting, Data Gathering: Facts About the Area, The Future of Rural Communities, Strategic Planning, Leadership Styles and Skills, Hands on Internet Instruction, Team Building and Problem Solving, Conflict Management and Motivation.

Instructors for the leadership development lessons included Dave Dowdy, Camp Tonkawa Camp Counselor; Stormy Higgins, Licensed Professional Counselor from Abilene; David Purdue, Knox County Judge; Dave Byerly, Agent with Cooper Insurance Agency in Hamlin; Tom Isbell, Jones County Tax Collector; Gary Ford, Vice-President of Hamlin National Bank; Cheryl Lewis, R. N. with the Hamlin Medical Clinic; Nicki Harle, Executive Director, Texas Midwest Community Network;

Judy Wilhelm, Director of the Small Business Development Center in Abilene; and Dr. Jerri Pfeifer, Director of Careers and Technology for Abilene ISD.

Representatives from West Texas Utilities serving as instructors were Shirley Deal, Fred Hernandez, Skip Wilson and Mark Morrow.

Other instructors from the area included Don Comedy, owner of WesTex Internet; Dan Henson, Four Winds RC&D; and Martha Alice Spraberry, Jones County Extension Agent-FCS.

Towns where classes were held and places visited and toured during the sessions were: Abilene: Camp Tonkawa; Lueders: Big Country Baptist Assembly Camp; Rhineland: Knights of Columbus Hall and St. Joseph's Catholic Church; Anson: The Women's Building, Easley Trailer Sales and Wilson Manufacturing; and Haskell: Haskell National Bank Community Room, Haskell City Hall, Haskell City Park, The Bevers House and WesTex Internet. Meals for the Haskell County meetings were catered by the Haskell County FCE (Family and Community Education) members planning to attend their organization's state meeting as a

fund raiser for their trip to Corpus Christi.

The last meeting was held in Austin at the State Capitol Building in conjunction with four other leadership groups from the surrounding area. While in Austin the group was fortunate to be able to tour Speaker Laney's apartment and the State Capitol and to hear presentations from Ben Shepperd, Office of Rural Affairs, Dept. of Economic Development; Nelda Trevino, Texas Lottery Commission; Carol Pirie, Assistant Director, Texas Film Commission; Terral Smith, Director for the Legislative Office of Governor Bush and Gary Johnson, Director for the TDCJ Institutional Division.

Receiving completion certificates during the recognition ceremony in Austin from Haskell County were Dale Bullinger, Janet Earle, Sue Medford and Tom Turner.

The Rolling Plains Rural Leadership program is an innovative program designed to train and promote a network of leaders aggressively involved in the economic and community development of Haskell, Jones and Knox counties. The program is jointly sponsored by the Texas

Agricultural Extension Service, West Texas Utilities Company and Four Winds Resource Conservation and Development Area.

The 1997-98 planning committee consisted of Lou Gilly,

Greg Kaase, Jane Rowan and Martha Alice Spraberry with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service; Linda Caton, Shirley Deal, Kit Horne and Tom Isbell from WTU; and Dan Henson with the Four Winds RC&D.



NEW MANAGER—Sharon Stephens is kept busy in her new job as manager of Allsup's on Hwy. 277.

Cattle Market Report

The market at the Haskell Livestock Auction was on a run of 1,305 head of cattle at its sale on Saturday, Aug. 22, according to Gary Tate, reporter.

\$2 to \$3 lower on stocker feeder cattle. Pairs and bred cows steady. Packer cattle steady.

Cows: fat, .28-.34; cutters, .28-.37; canners, .20-.35.

Bulls: bologna, .40-.47; feeder, .55-.65; utility, .35-.55.

Steers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., .81-1.06; 300-

400 lbs., .71-.96; 400-500 lbs., .706-.91; 500-600 lbs., .63-.76; 600-700 lbs., .62-.75; 700-800 lbs., .61-.69; 800-up lbs., .56-.66.

Heifers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., .71-.86; 300-400 lbs., .66-.76; 400-500 lbs., .59-.75; 500-600 lbs., .51-.73; 600-up lbs., .46-.69.

Bred Cows: young to middle aged, 375-500; aged or small, 275-375.

Cows with calves: medium frame No. 1 young and middle aged, 525-675; aged or small, 375-525.

McCaulley musical

The McCaulley Recreational Corporation will host a 5th Saturday musical on Sat., Aug. 29 from 7 to 10 p.m. in the community center. Special guest will be The Glory Bound Gospel Group. No admission is charged. A concession stand will be open. For more information, call 915-962-5441.

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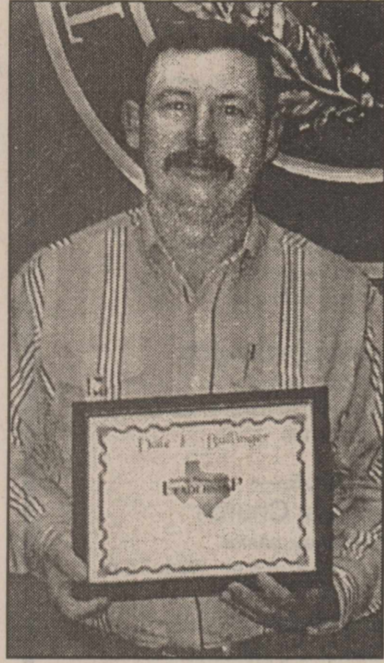
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JANET EARLE



TOM TURNER



DALE BULLINGER

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

The Haskell County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll by 0.97 percent. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on September 3, 1998 at 1:30 p.m. at Commissioners' Court Room.

FOR the proposal: Bill Hester, Kenny Thompson, Bud Turnbow, Ronnie Chapman

AGAINST the proposal:

PRESENT and not voting: County Judge David Davis
ABSENT:

The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

	Last Year	This Year
Average residence homestead value	\$26,296	\$26,568
General exemptions available (amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Average taxable value	\$25,296	\$25,568
Tax rate	.6827	.6876
Tax	\$172.70	\$175.81

Under this proposal, taxes on the average homestead would increase by \$3.11 or 1.80 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would increase by \$.0049 per \$100 of taxable value or 0.007 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

The Haskell CISD will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll by .0799 percent. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on September 3, 1998 at 6:00 p.m. at the Haskell Administration Office.

FOR the proposal: Bob Aycock, Mike Jordan, Danny Josselet, Melisa Robison, Dr. Tom Hairgrove and Keith Everett

AGAINST the proposal:

PRESENT and not voting:
ABSENT: Tiffen Mayfield

The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

	Last Year	This Year
Average residence homestead value	\$29,844	\$30,055
General exemptions available (amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$15,000	\$15,000
Average taxable value	\$14,844	\$15,055
Tax rate	1.2657	1.3456
Tax	\$187.88	\$202.58

Under this proposal, taxes on the average homestead would increase by \$14.70 or .0726 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would increase by \$.0799 per \$100 of taxable value or 0.0594 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.



the wise old owl says

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ECC Calendar and Menu

Monday, Aug. 31
Lunch-Chicken Ala King, rice, peas, golden carrots, apple crisp, bread, milk, tea or coffee
Wednesday, Sept. 2
11:00 a.m. Outreach Home Health blood pressure check
Lunch-Beef and spaghetti, spinach, cole slaw, cherry cobbler, garlic toast, milk, tea or coffee
Friday, Sept. 4
11:00 a.m. Tim and Susanne

Townsend music
Lunch-Meat balls/mushroom gravy, noodles, mixed vegetables, tossed salad, coconut pudding, bread, milk, tea or coffee
Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.
All over 60 are invited to come and eat. Call 864-3875 for transportation to the center or for home delivered lunches for the sick or disabled.

Haskell School Menu

Aug. 31-Sept. 4
Breakfast
Juice or fruit and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu.
Monday: Cinnamon rolls
Tuesday: Breakfast burrito
Wednesday: Pancakes/syrup
Thursday: Biscuits/gravy, sausage
Friday: Breakfast pizza
Lunch
A choice of baked potato with choice of topping or a salad bar are offered daily at the High School. Milk and tea are served daily at the High School. Milk and juice are

served daily at the Elementary School.
Monday: BBQ on bun, curly fries, pickle spears, congo bars
Tuesday: Beef and spaghetti, seasoned corn, tossed salad, garlic bread, dried pears
Wednesday: Enchilidas, pinto beans, Spanish rice, cornbread, watermelon
Thursday: Chicken nuggets/gravy, creamed potatoes, seasoned green beans, hot rolls, cookies
Friday: Hamburger, French fries, hamburger trimmings, ice cream

This Week's Devotional Message:
SEND YOUR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL WITH LESSONS IN SAFETY



Those of us who are the parents of young children must now confront the tasks involved in getting them ready for the new school year which is approaching. In addition to clothes, eye examinations and a refresher course in discipline, unfortunately one more preparation is needed in today's world. In light of all the recent horror stories about kidnapping and other dreadful crimes perpetrated against children, be sure yours are safe. You must caution them to be-

ware of strangers who might offer them a ride or some candy, and encourage them to tell you of any unusual occurrence. However, your children should be taught common sense and discretion without the trauma of unnecessary fear. Your House of Worship can help guide you in this, along with its Sunday school, which can balance your warnings with the faith in God that they will need right now, as well as all the rest of their lives.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

HASKELL

- East Side Baptist Church**
David Page, pastor
Sun. 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
- Christian Church**
Dusty Garrison, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- Church of God**
Eric Clark, pastor • 864-2021
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.
East Hwy 380, Haskell
- Trinity Lutheran Church**
Gary Bruns, pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30
Hwy 380 East, Haskell
- Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**
Vergil Smith
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
607 S. 7th, Haskell
- First United Methodist Church**
Shane Brue, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- First Assembly of God**
Rev. J.C. Amburn
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- St. George Catholic Church**
Father Michael Melcher
Sat. Mass 7:15 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.
901 N. 16th, Haskell
- Church of Christ**
Dale Huff, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 10:30 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- First Presbyterian Church**
Luther S. Hollowell, II, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Trinity Baptist Church**
Rev. Kenneth Blair
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.
401 S. Ave. D, Haskell
- Hopewell Baptist Church**
John Lewis, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.

908 N. Ave. A, Haskell
Greater Independent Baptist Church
Rev. Camellia Wade, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell

New Covenant Foursquare
Freddy Perez, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell

Mission Revival Center
Rev. William Hodge
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell

First Baptist Church
Jim Turner, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell

Church in the Park
Rev. Tim and Suzann Townsend
Sun. Morn. 10:30 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Gazebo or Pavillion

PAINT CREEK
Paint Creek Baptist Church
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
Paint Creek

WEINERT
First Baptist Church
Joel Rister, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert

Weinert Methodist Church
Rev. James Patterson
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.
Weinert

Weinert Foursquare Church
Rev. Joyce Goossen and Rev. Diane Crownover
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert

ROCHESTER
Church of Christ
Steve Wills, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester

First Baptist Church
Ed Buerkle, pastor
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester

Union Chapel Baptist Church
Rev. Andrew
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Rochester

Faith Chapel of Rochester
Katherine Byrd, minister
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.
Hwy 6, Rochester

First United Methodist Church
Dolan Brinson, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Rochester

SAGERTON
Sagerton Methodist Church
Daniel Ramey, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
Sagerton

Faith Lutheran Church
Jeff Zell, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Sagerton

RULE
First Baptist Church
Scott Hensley, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1001 Union Ave., Rule

Primitive Baptist Church
Dale Turner Jr., pastor
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule

Church of Christ
John Greeson, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
811 Union, Rule

First United Methodist Church
Daniel Ramey, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m.
1000 Union Ave., Rule

New Life Baptist Mission
Jesus Herrera
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Elm Street/Hwy 380 E, Rule

Sweet Home Baptist Church
Matt Herrington, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Gladstone Ave., Rule

West Bethal Baptist Church
Rev. Robert Sweet
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
300 Sunny Ave., Rule

Head Start Menu

Aug. 31-Sept. 4
Milk served daily with breakfast. Menus subject to change without notice.
Breakfast
Monday: Cheerios, peaches
Tuesday: Sausage biscuit, banana
Wednesday: French toast sticks w/syrup, pear halves
Thursday: Oatmeal, strawberries
Friday: Rice Krispies, orange slices
Lunch
Milk served daily with lunch.
Monday: Hamburger on bun, tater tots, apple sauce

Tuesday: Baked ham slice, carrot coins, fried okra, roll
Wednesday: Ravioli, string cheese, green beans, apricots
Thursday: Steak fingers, smashed potatoes, broccoli, bread
Friday: Chicken patty sandwich, zucchini sticks, apple slices
Snacks
Monday: Ritz crackers, orange juice
Tuesday: Apple wedges, cheese
Wednesday: Vanilla wafers, orange juice
Thursday: Fruit cocktail, milk
Friday: Pig in blanket, apple juice

Paint Creek School Menu

Aug. 31-Sept. 4
Breakfast
Milk and juice are served daily.
Monday: Cereal
Tuesday: Toast, jelly
Wednesday: Eggs, toast, jelly
Thursday: Pancakes, sausage
Friday: Donuts
Lunch
Milk is served daily.
Monday: Chicken fried steak, gravy, green beans, salad, peaches.

rolls
Tuesday: Taco pockets, pinto beans, macaroni with tomatoes, pears
Wednesday: Ham, sweet potatoes, broccoli w/rice, rolls, Jello w/ fruit
Thursday: Stew, cheese toast, macaroni salad, crackers, peaches
Friday: BBQ on bun, fries, pork and beans, ice cream

Haskell Horse Club playnight results

Results of the Haskell Horse Club held Sat., Aug. 22 are as follows:

Barrels
8 and under Novice: 1. Kristina Bitner
8 and under: 1. Misty Hise 2. Weston Rutkowski 3. Ashton Rutkowski
9-12: 1. Chad Hays 2. Kris Hise 3. Laryssa Hise
13-15: 1. Morgan Cox 2. Terry Branch

Poles
8 and under Novice: 1. Kristina Bitner
8 and under: 1. Misty Hise 2. Ashton Rutkowski 3. Weston Rutkowski
9-12: 1. Kris Hise 2. Laryssa Hise 3. Brittany Rutkowski
13-15: 1. Terry Branch 2. Morgan Cox

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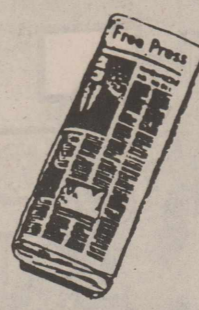
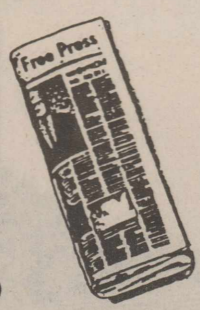
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Rule City Council will accept bids on a new 1998 pickup until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 1, 1998 at the office of the mayor at Rule City Hall. Bid specifications may be obtained by contacting City Secretary Marsha Vasquez at the following number: 940-997-2214 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
The City of Rule reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids submitted.
City of Rule
Malcolm Hertenberger, Mayor 34-35c

*We would like to thank all of our friends and family for the flowers, cards, phone calls and especially the prayers for Rex during his hospital stay. We are so fortunate to live in such a caring community. Thanks again,
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LOST DOG: 7 year old black and white dalmation with red collar; answers to the name Major. Call 940-864-3809. Reward. 35p

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GARAGE SALE: Sat., Aug. 29, 7 til 2. 602 S. 5th. Fishing poles, chains, tires size 16, tools, clothes, caps, tennis rackets. 35p

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FRIENDS OF 4-H—Accepting a plaque for their FCE Clubs to display on their awards wall behind them are from the left, Dolores Medford, Lena Tidwell, Joetta Burnett, Alice Yates, Lennie Ruth Blankenship and Kathryn Schonerstedt.

FCE Club is honored with Friends of 4-H award

Haskell County women were recently honored by Haskell County 4-H'ers for their continued support for all phases of the 4-H program. At the Haskell County 4-H Awards banquet they were presented with a Friend of 4-H Award plaque in recognition.

Each year the FCE Club members sponsor a concession stand at the Haskell County Livestock Show. From the money made, they budget \$650.00 to go

to the County 4-H organization. The money is used to supply the County Food Show awards and individual awards for each participant in the County Fashion Show. A designated amount is given to County 4-H'ers competing in the State Food Show and Fashion Show. Also, a scholarship recognition is given annually to a graduating 4-H'er. An additional amount is added to the scholarship by the Weinert FCE Club.

In presenting the award, Lou Gilly said the women's support is not only in the form of money. The Homespun Club furnishes and serves the refreshments for the County Fashion Show. FCE members serve as judges for numerous 4-H contests and events, they have served as 4-H project leaders, and a few years ago some the FCE club members formed the "Granny Brigade" to help with clothing projects.



PREPARING FOR SEASON PLAY—After the three-a-day workouts, the Haskell Varsity Indians were ready to scrimmage with Lubbock Roosevelt and Bangs, Sat. afternoon at Indian Field.
Photo by Bill Blankenship

Haskell Indians vs. Jim Ned Scrimmage
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Indian Stadium

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Vote creates new cooperative

Stamford Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Midwest Electric Cooperative, Inc., by the vote of their members, have consolidated to become "Big Country Electric Cooperatives, Inc."

The balloting of the memberships were tallied Sat., Aug. 15 at both cooperatives. Stamford Electric Cooperative members returned 925 ballots with 93% in favor of the consolidation. Midwest Electric Cooperative members returned 1,046 ballots with 95% in favor of the consolidation.

The familiar names of Stamford Electric Cooperative and Midwest Electric Cooperative will cease to exist as of Jan. 1, 1999. "Big Country Electric Cooperative" will offer three full service centers with offices in Stamford, Roby and

Snyder, which are the current offices of the two cooperatives. All offices will be integrated together with common phone lines, computer systems and accounting records, etc.

Big Country Electric Cooperative will provide service to just under 12,000 meters located in 12 counties: Borden, Fisher, Garza, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall and Throckmorton counties. The 16-member joint board of directors of Stamford Electric Cooperative and Midwest Electric Cooperative will be retained and eventually reduced to nine directors for the new cooperative.

Jerry Stapp, current General

Manager of Midwest Electric Cooperative, will be the General Manager of Big Country Electric Cooperative. Vesta Orr, interim General Manager of Stamford Electric Cooperative, will act as executive assistant to the manager and board of directors.

The members of Big Country Electric Cooperative will experience no change in the way they do business with their cooperative and they will be served by the same cooperative employees as in the past. The consolidation of Midwest Electric and Stamford Electric Cooperatives was needed in order to form a stronger and more economically sound electric cooperative to better serve our members in the years to come.

Routine helps back-to-school mornings

A simple pleasure of a teenager's summer vacation is to stay up late and sleep late the next day.

When summer vacation ends and school begins, kids of all ages have difficulty getting up in the morning and going to bed at an appropriate time, says Dr. Joel Steinberg, a professor of pediatrics, and the director of the sleep disorder clinic at Children's Medical Center of Dallas.

Dr. Steinberg says that many adolescents develop a tendency to fall asleep one to five hours later than usual, which is called delayed-sleep syndrome. That sets up a skewed circadian rhythm. The condition can be treated by establishing a consistent morning awakening time and exposure to bright light immediately upon awakening.

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The Senior Quarterly

A Quarterly Production of The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 4-NO. 3, ©AUGUST, 1998

8 PAGES

Haskell Memorial Hospital makes new addition

by Mary Kaigler

Early this summer, a valuable new addition was made to Haskell Memorial Hospital. Located on North First Street, adjoining the north side of the hospital, the 1500 square foot building amply houses two clinic positions, accommodating the services of two professional specialists at a time.

The new addition is the culmination of several years of thought and work. Seeing the need in the community for some specialists to do consulting work here, thus saving patients from having to go back and forth to Abilene so often, the Hospital Board and Hospital Administrator have been working for over two years with Hendrick Medical Center, which has been instrumental in making it possible for Haskell to get the new building.

As a result of Hendrick's help and cooperation, six different specialists are now being brought in to fill the need, with perhaps others to be added later.

Currently, specialists coming to Haskell offering consultation through the new facility are: Dr. Norman Dozier, specializing in chronic pain management, weekly; Dr. Gary Goodnight, ear, nose and throat specialist, every two weeks; Dr. Lanoard Bayouth, cardiologist, every two weeks; Dr. Paul Harris, neurologist, every two weeks; Drs. Victor Hirsch, Ralph Heaven and Anton Melnyk, oncologists, every two weeks; and Jeff Jamison, family and children counseling, every two weeks. Underway are plans for others to be added in the area of out-patient counseling services for adolescents and teens.

Hospital Administrator Bill Nemir said, "We're really proud of the building and what it's made possible. It's being utilized more than was first expected it would be. It took two years to get it, but with federal regulations being what they are, when a large hospital helps a smaller hospital, you have to be very careful in how it is handled."

Nemir explained that all consultations with the specialists are by referral only from the local physicians. Each



HASKELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT CONSULTANT SERVICE

specialist sees from 15 to 25 patients per day when here. "This saves our local people a lot of waiting time and travel time between here and Abilene," he said. The new arrangement has also made possible giving the cardiac stress-test here.

The new building annex, which was moved to Haskell by truck, was first located at Tuscola as an out-patient clinic. Already owned by Hendrick at a cost of \$92,000.00 when new, it is leased to the Haskell Hospital at the evaluated price of \$60,000.00 with a minimal pay-out rate for ten years. "It's really been a good source of revenue for the hospital," Nemir said. "They own the building, but we get the benefit from the labs, X-ray and ancillary charges."

The Haskell hospital district is governed by a local board of directors and although Hendrick has no control over the operation of Haskell Memorial, they have been cooperative in the new effort. At this time, Hendrick is lending Haskell Memorial their help to obtain a grant to get tele-medicine set up for Haskell shortly after the first of the year.

Obviously enjoying his work

and proud of the achievements of the last several years, Bill Nemir said, "A lot more besides getting the new building has been accomplished in the last five or six years and we've managed to do that by leaving our effective tax rate the same as it's always been. We've been able to do well; we're financially secure. We've lived within our means and have seen a net gain over expenses."

He said that since 1992 the hospital has spent close to a half million dollars on improvements and some of the most modern lab equipment and has well qualified people in all areas of the operation.

The list and the cost of improvements the hospital has made since '92 includes adding state-of-the-art heart monitoring telemetry, \$30,000.00; hematology analyzer, \$25,000.00; blood gas analyzer, \$37,000.00; new X-ray film processor, \$11,000.00 replacing all heating and air conditioners in patient rooms, \$7,000.00; new computer software, \$82,000.00; new chemistry analyzer, \$56,000.00; complete new filing system, \$20,000.00;

construction of a heliport on the grounds, \$5,000.00; new mattresses and TVs in patient rooms, \$8,500.00; re-carpeting hospital, \$14,000.00; new roof (not covered by insurance), \$83,000.00; new patient video monitoring, central to nurse's station, \$10,000.00; new therapy equipment, approximately \$10,000.00.

Plans are made for new furniture and draperies for the hospital lobby and for expanding the food service with a dietary heart-and-health food service cart. The hospital works with the Sheriff's department and distributes meals to jail inmates with special health problems, such as diabetes, etc.

Nemir said the hospital is hoping to expand the physical therapy program at a cost of around \$20,000.00. The new Wellness Center offers access to the therapy program Tuesdays and Thursdays for persons in the community on a \$25.00 monthly individual membership basis. This program, designed by Amy Bowman, physical therapist and Nancy

Brueggeman, registered nurse trained in cardiac arrest, will be monitored, charted and changed from time to time. Both the women are A.C.L.S. qualified.

Nemir, who has been associated with the hospital since 1979, began his career there as nurse anesthetist and was director of nursing before being named Hospital Administrator. Of the time he has been there, he said, "I think the success that we have had here at Haskell Memorial Hospital is largely due to the stability of our local medical staff and also to an excellent board of directors who understand what is needed and are willing to act and take the necessary steps for whatever care is needed by the community. The members of the board are knowledgeable about and understand changes of government regulations, which gives them a good background for following through on needs."

All of that, connected with an excellent staff, Nemir said, is making Haskell Memorial Hospital a jewel in its accomplishments for this community.

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Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas

The number of cases of Alzheimer's disease, a degenerative condition that hampers the brain's ability to function properly, is increasing at an alarming rate. By the middle of the next century, nearly 14 million Americans will be stricken with the disease unless a cure is found.

According to experts at the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, age is the leading risk factor for the disease. By age 80, people have a 50 percent chance of developing some form of dementia, including Alzheimer's. Family history of Alzheimer's, loss of estrogen in women at

Senior Focus

Aging and Alzheimer's disease

menopause and head injury are other risk factors.

The disease attacks neurons in the brain, causing a person to have difficulty recalling events or expressing thoughts. Since Alzheimer's affects people in different ways, it is difficult for doctors to predict how the disease will progress. But symptoms often worsen over time. Alzheimer's warning signs include:

- Memory loss that affects function at home or work
- Difficulty performing familiar tasks
- Problems with verbal and written communication
- Confusion about dates, time and location.

It is important to emphasize that some subtle changes in the memory process are a natural part of aging and are not always a sign of disease. Alzheimer's is

a complex disease which needs to be diagnosed by a medical professional.

By better understanding the link between aging and Alzheimer's, scientists have developed two medications that are now available to treat the symptoms of the disease. These drugs, donepezil and tacrine, help to improve the quality of life for patients. The impact of the drugs varies, but some patients have witnessed an increase in attentiveness or an improvement in their ability to communicate.

There is also promising evidence that shows vitamin E, an antioxidant vitamin, can help slow the progression of Alzheimer's. Scientists are hopeful that additional research into the area of antioxidant therapies and other strategies will provide further breakthroughs in the future.

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Osteoporosis can lead to broken bones

Are you a woman over the age of 45 who has experienced menopause or is in the early stages of it? You're in the high risk category for osteoporosis. This disease causes bones to become fragile and more likely to break. If not prevented or if left untreated, it can progress painlessly until a bone breaks. These broken bones, also known as fracture, occur typically in the hip, spine, and wrist.

The physicians of Texas Medical Association urge you to learn more about this debilitating but preventable and treatable disease. While women are five times more likely than men to develop this disease, men also suffer from osteoporosis.

Any bone can be affected, but of special concern are fractures of the hip and spine. A hip fracture almost always requires hospitalization and major surgery. It can impair a person's ability to walk unassisted and may cause prolonged or permanent disability or even death. Spinal or vertebral fractures also have serious consequences, including loss of height, severe back pain, and deformity. One-third of American women over age 65 will eventually have a spinal fracture.

as hard and lifeless structures. However, they actually are complex, living tissue. Bones provide structural support for muscles, protect vital organs, and store the calcium essential for bone density and strength.

Because bones are constantly changing, they can heal and are affected by diet and exercise. Until the age of about 35, you build and store bone efficiently. Then, as part of the natural aging process, your bones begin to break down faster than new bones can form. In women, bone loss accelerates after menopause, when their ovaries stop producing estrogen, the hormone that protects against bone loss.

Building strong bones, especially before age 35, can be the best defense against developing osteoporosis, and a healthy lifestyle can be critical for keeping bones strong. There are several steps you can take to prevent osteoporosis:

- Estrogen replacement therapy should be considered by women who've experienced natural menopause and have multiple osteoporosis risk factors, such as early menopause, or a blood relative with osteoporosis. Also, women who've had their ovaries removed surgically need estrogen replacement therapy.

calcium in your diet may provide protection. Many adults get only half or less of their daily calcium requirement. As you increase your calcium intake, try to eat foods low in fat.

•Exercise can help build and maintain strong bones. Exercise that forces you to work against gravity (such as walking, jogging, racquet sports, hiking, aerobic dance, and stair climbing) is beneficial. Remember, the benefits of exercise last only as long as you maintain the program.

Work with your physician to determine if you have osteoporosis or may be at risk for the disease. And, more importantly, work with him or her to prevent this disease from happening to you.

Many people think of bones •An adequate amount of

Keeping an eye on Texas

Health care providers care for Texans

Texans can find help for almost every ailment among the thousands of licensed health care providers in the state, most of whom have years of training in their field before beginning their practice.

Doctors/specialists	Education*	Number licensed in field
Medical doctors	8 years	29,360
Pharmacists	6 years	19,078
Dentists	6 years	10,882
Counselors	6-7 years	8,956
Speech pathologists	6-7 years	5,841
Chiropractors	5 years	3,286
Psychologists	8 years	3,156
Optometrists	8 years	2,930
Doctors of osteopathy	8 years	1,711
Audiologists	6-7 years	784
Podiatrists	8 years	606
Acupuncturists	5 years	300

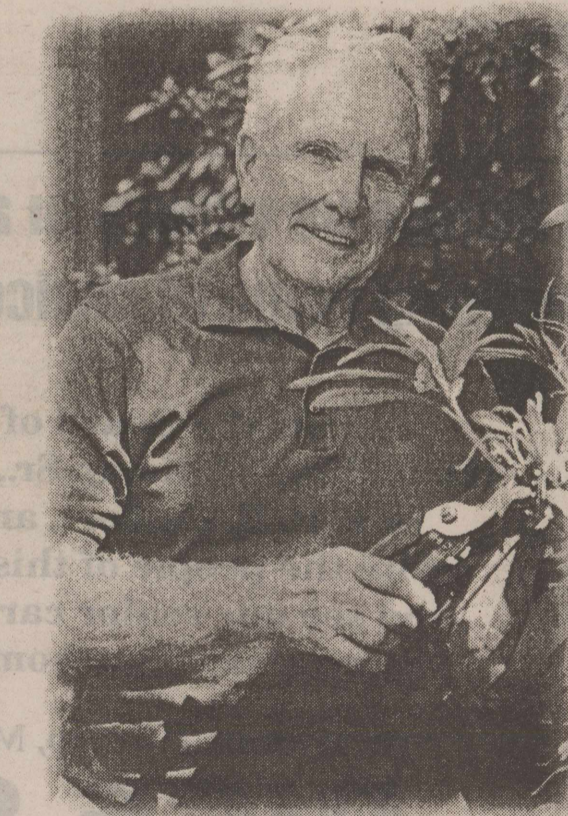
Therapists and technicians	Education*	Number licensed in field
Radiologic technologists	1-2 years	15,254
Physical therapists	4 years	7,701
Occupational therapists	4 years	4,158
Physician assistants	6-7 years	1,463

Nurses and aides	Education*	Number licensed in field
Nurse's aides	75 hours	197,966
Registered nurses	2 years	158,960
Vocational nurses	1 year	74,263
Nurse practitioners	6-7 years	2,659
Nurse anesthetists	6-7 years	2,055
Clinical nurse specialists	6-7 years	1,844
Nurse midwives	6-7 years	288

* Education requirements may vary depending on level of certification, and do not include continuing education requirements.

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas boards and examiners of each licensing agency, including: Vocational Nurse, Optometry, Physical Therapy, Pharmacy, Chiropractic, Nurse, Dental, Medical, Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, Long Term Care, Professional Counselors, Occupational Therapy, Nurse Practitioners, Podiatric and Psychologist, and the Texas Department of Health.

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Senior-friendly property tax laws give elders a break

by Dan Morales
Attorney General

Texans are growing older. By the year 2020, the number of senior Texans will double to 4 million, up from nearly 2 million today. Nationwide, a majority of citizens over age 65 own their homes. Most senior citizens have worked hard to own their homes and keep them in good repair.

To many seniors who live in their own homes on reduced income, rising property taxes

and appraisals pose a looming threat to their financial security. As Attorney General, I fully support efforts to ensure that senior homeowners remain independent and secure in their own homes.

Fortunately, older Texas homeowners of all income levels can take advantage of several senior-friendly tax laws that reduce the taxes they pay on their homes.

Protecting the homestead

Texas requires school districts to provide homestead exemptions for all property owners. Additionally, the law allows districts the option of enacting extra benefits for the elderly. All senior property owners, regardless of income level, are eligible for these extra tax benefits.

All Texas homeowners qualify for a \$15,000 homestead exemption from school taxes on a residence's homestead value. For example, when a home appraised at \$50,000 is granted a \$15,000 exemption, the tax amount is for a house worth \$35,000. For owners who are age 65 or older, any taxing unit, including a school district, may offer an additional exemption of \$3,000 or more. Seniors should check with their local property appraisal district to learn if this extra benefit is offered on their county or school taxes.

School property tax ceilings

When homeowners turn 65, the amount of their school property tax is frozen until they leave that home. School taxes on that home may decrease but cannot increase as long as that senior (or surviving elderly spouse) owns and lives in the house. Of course, if the elderly owner makes a significant improvement to the home, such as adding a garage or a game room, then the tax assessment may rise.

Seniors (65 or older) may also take their school property tax ceiling with them should they move to a different home. The ceiling on the taxes paid on the new home would be the

same percentage as that on the original home.

For example, if a senior pays \$100 in taxes on a home with assessed taxes of \$400, he or she has a tax ceiling at 25 percent of the assessed taxes. If that senior moves to another home with a tax assessment of \$1,000 then his or her tax would be 25 percent of the taxes assessed on the new home, or \$250.

Seniors can defer taxes

In Texas, homeowners age 65 or older may defer or postpone paying taxes on their homes as long as they own and live in them. To postpone payments on delinquent property taxes, an over-65 homeowner must file a tax deferral affidavit with the

appraisal district.

A senior citizen may also suspend any lawsuit resulting from delinquent taxes by filing a deferral affidavit with the court. The deferral is for all delinquent property taxes levied on the home by any taxing unit (school district, county, etc).

A tax deferral postpones, but does not cancel, paying a senior citizen's taxes. Once the senior no longer owns the home or lives in it, the past taxes, penalties and interest become due and payable.

For further information

For further information on property taxes, call the Comptroller of Public Accounts, Property Tax Division at 512-305-9811.

Living Will can offer answers to end-of-life questions

by Robert J. Luchi, M.D.
Huffington Center on Aging
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas

Making decisions in the wake of a medical crisis is one of life's most difficult moments. However, a Living Will can help offer reassurance that your wishes will be carried out by your health-care provider.

A Living Will is a legal document that spells out a person's wishes for treatment near the end of life, if he or she is unable to make those decisions after becoming terminally ill. The document details the type of medical care the person desires and whether aggressive medical interventions should be taken on their behalf.

Discussing the idea of a Living Will can be uncomfortable for some people, but experts at the Huffington Center on Aging at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston say most older people have given some thought to dying and are thankful family members are willing to listen to their concerns.

Two documents comprising advance medical directives can be obtained by adults 18 years and older from a hospital, family doctor or legal representative. The Living Will form contains basic statements about wishes regarding end-of-life decisions and pertinent legal information. The second form, Durable Power of Attorney for Health-Care Decision Making, allows you to designate a person to make medical decisions for you if you become incapacitated.

Once the forms are completed, they can become part of your family doctor's records. Some people also provide a copy to their attorney. If you change

your mind about how care should be delivered, you can update a Living Will at any time.

These decisions are never easy, but they become even more difficult during a time of crisis. Making a Living Will part of your medical portfolio helps to ensure family members are certain about how end-of-life decisions should be made.

Proper care needed when mixing medications

People over the age of 65 consume one-third of all prescription medications sold each year in the United States.

"Unfortunately, the more prescriptions a person takes, the greater the chances of developing adverse drug reactions," said Dr. George Taffet, assistant professor with the Huffington Center on Aging at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "This is where a 'brown-bag biopsy' can help."

Many doctors encourage their patients to bring all of their medications—prescription and over-the-counter—to the doctor's office in a brown bag.

This gives the physician a chance to sort through the medications and check for duplicates, prescriptions that have expired and drugs that may not combine well with others. The brown-bag biopsy is especially beneficial when patients see several doctors.

Drug reactions occur in nearly one-third of the elderly and often develop from mixing prescriptions with over-the-counter drugs.

As We See It

Health-care debate: Don't forget the uninsured

by Horace B. Deets,
AARP Executive Director

For many people, the years from 50-64 are the best years of their lives, but for over 4 million others, these are years of living dangerously. They don't have any health insurance.

As we wrestle with the need to adapt our health-care system to meet the challenges of an aging society and control health-care costs, we cannot afford to forget older adults who are uninsured.

A recent study by the Commonwealth Fund reported that about 3 million people between the ages of 58 and 63 are without health insurance at a time when their risk of experiencing major health problems increases dramatically. As employers continue to reduce coverage this number is rising.

Who are these uninsured midlife and older people? According to the study, they are likely to be poorer, though they earn too much to qualify for Medicaid. Many have a disability, though they do not

qualify for health programs that help them. And many have recently become unemployed or have never held steady employment. In other words, these people are too young for Medicare, not poor enough for Medicaid, and are charged expensive premiums for individual coverage. Many can't even find any company that will sell them insurance because they have "pre-existing conditions."

All of this weighs heavily on our current public policy debate—especially with regard to health care. For example, the study found that if the eligibility age of Medicare were raised to 67 (as some have proposed), 200,000 more Americans over age 65 would join the ranks of the uninsured.

Likewise, efforts to control costs by placing more of a financial burden on individuals can lead to an increase in the number of uninsured. Over half of those 58-63 pay more than \$1,000 annually for health-care premiums (and a quarter pay more than \$2,500). And in

1985, three-fourths of the employees in medium and large firms could continue their health coverage after they retired. By 1993, only half of the employees had that option.

What makes this concern especially alarming is that this

group of near-elderly is continuing to grow. Every 8 seconds another baby boomer turns 50, and according to demographers that trend will continue for the next ten years. By the year 2020, almost 13 percent of the U.S. population

will be within this vulnerable age group. Let's make sure as we seek to improve Medicare—and all health care—that we take steps to prevent the future from becoming a time of dangerous living for our children and grandchildren.

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Legal Matters

By Attorney General Dan Morales

Making Retirement Living Choices

As people grow older they begin to consider options for retirement. Many older citizens do not want the continued expense and burden of caring for their own homes. Many want to live in a community that provides security, good neighbors and health care options. Independent living and continuing care retirement communities offer senior

citizens a choice in how they will spend their retirement years. My office often receives calls about retirement or continuing care centers. While the Office of the Attorney General does not regulate these types of facilities, I am pleased to offer some information on options that are available and what to look for when considering one.

What is the difference?

There are major differences between independent living and continuing care retirement centers.

Independent living retirement centers are often individual apartments, condominiums or homes in planned communities that offer security and amenities such as social events, common dining rooms, transportation and recreational facilities. Living quarters in these communities are available for rent or purchase, depending on the facility.

Often, independent living retirement communities require a certain level of physical and mental health as they do not offer nursing or assisted living care for the residents. Some are affiliated with a local nursing home or assisted-living center.

Continuing care centers offer

residents a wide range of services and residential options from independent housing to full nursing home facilities.

Most residents move to these facilities while they are still able to lead active, independent lives, secure in the knowledge that as they grow older their health care needs will be taken care of.

Continuing care centers vary widely in the type of financial arrangements they require. Most require a large down payment in addition to monthly fees for services.

Some offer all-inclusive contracts that cover all of the services available. Others offer month-to-month arrangements that allow for changes in residents' needs. Finally, some centers offer fee-for-services arrangements, allowing residents to pay for only those services they use.

Are there drawbacks?

As with any financial dealing, you should always be careful with what you agree to pay for. Before signing any contract or paying any fees, have someone you trust, a family member or a lawyer, review all contracts and financial arrangements. Often these facilities accept assignment of social security or medicaid benefits to cover monthly fees. Additionally some facilities do not offer refunds of down payments upon a resident's death.

What to look for?

When deciding on a retirement community, evaluate

your needs in the coming years. When looking at an independent living community, find out what affiliations it has with local nursing homes or hospitals. If you are considering a continuing care center, carefully review your financial situation and future needs.

You should spend time at the facility. Spend the night if possible; eat a meal there; talk to the other residents. Pay attention to what goes on around you, including how the staff treats the residents and what activities are offered. Request copies of brochures and meet with the management staff.

Most importantly, consider whether you will enjoy living there during your retirement years.

For more information

For more information on independent living and continuing care centers, you can contact AARP at 202-434-2277 or the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging at 1-800-508-9442.

For legal advice, contact the Senior Texans Legal Hotline at 1-800-622-2520.

For further information, you can request a copy of our brochure "How to Select a Nursing Home" by writing to the Research and Legal Support Division, Attn: Brochure Distribution, Office of the Attorney General, Post Office Box 12548, Austin, Texas 78711-2548.



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As a Life Ends, A New Life Begins

Holden-McCauley Funeral Home makes improvement to the environment part of their daily business by participating in the Living Memorial Program. This very special program provides for the planting of a tree in a national forest as a tribute to the deceased.

The Living Memorial Program, celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, was developed by the Batesville Casket Co., in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service. Through participation of funeral homes nationwide, more than 6,400,000 trees have been planted to date.

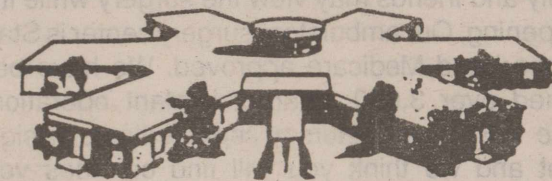
The species and location of Living Memorial trees are determined by the U.S. Forest Service, based upon the greatest reforestation need. Trees have been planted in most of the 156 national forests across the US. Canadian and Australian plantings equal more than 158,000 of the total trees planted. Living Memorial trees help shelter wildlife, reduce water and wind erosion, contribute to the purity of the air we breathe, and aid in recovery from natural disasters, such as forest fires and hurricanes.

"We at Holden-McCauley Funeral Home take great pride in knowing our participation in the Living Memorial Program helps contribute to a nationwide environmental initiative," and provides a living tribute for our families' loved one.

For further information, contact Marc at 864-2151.

There's an old Greek proverb that says, "A civilization flourishes when people plant trees under whose shade they will never sit." Future generations will enjoy this program said Marc.

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Focuses on treatment of the whole person, with emphasis on:

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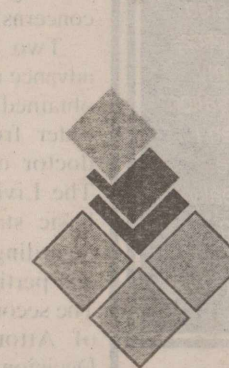
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