

Softball games

JV-V Maidens vs Eula
Fri., March 21, 3:30 p.m.
at Haskell

JV-V Maidens vs Eastland
Tues., March 25, 4:30 p.m.
at Haskell

Baseball games

V Indians vs Eula
Fri., March 21, 4 p.m.
at Haskell

V Indians vs Eastland
Tues., March 25, 4 p.m.
at Haskell

Golf

Indians and Maidens at
Tangle Oaks Golf Course,
Hawley, Wed., Mar. 26
8 a.m.

Calendar

All-night party meeting

Parents of Haskell Co. All-Night Party will meet Thurs., March 27 at 7 p.m. at the First National Bank meeting room.

Old Glory musical

The Old Glory Musical will be held Sat., March 22 at the Community Center in Old Glory. The music will start at 5:30 p.m. For more information call 940-989-2925 or 989-2833.

Blood drive

The Meek Blood Center will hold a blood drive Tues., March 25 from 1 to 6 p.m. at Haskell Memorial Hospital.

3-on-3 tourney

The Paint Creek Seniors Class of 2003 will host a 3 on 3 basketball tournament Sat., April 5 to benefit their senior trip. Two divisions: men and women ages 15 and up will play at least three games. Teams will consist of four members. Entry fee is \$10 per person. Entries per division is limited to 12 teams. Entries must be received by March 25. A concession stand will be available. To enter call Coach Joe Thomasson 940-864-6158 or 864-2471.

ECC Sunday meal

The Experienced Citizens Center will host a Sunday meal Sun., March 23 for the public. The meal will feature roast beef, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, garden salad, yeast rolls and peach cobbler. Tickets are \$7 per person; \$5 for students 13 through high school; and children under 13 are free.

Rule open house

Rule ISD will host an open house Thurs., March 20 from 6 to 7 p.m. A spaghetti supper will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m., sponsored by the Rule cheerleaders. All parents and students are urged to attend the open house.

Society to meet

The Haskell County Historical & Genealogical Society will meet Mon., April 7 in Haskell City Hall at 7 p.m.

Fish fry

A fish fry to raise funds for the Knox City Country Club will be held Sat., March 22 at 7 p.m. Advance tickets are \$7. Tickets at the door will be \$7.50. Take-outs are available from 6:30 to 7 p.m., costing \$8. For ticket information, call Edwin Fly 742-3408, Bobby Raynes 673-8279 or Eddie Offield 657-5001.

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God bless America

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 117-NO. 12, ©MARCH 20, 2003

"The People's Choice"

8 PAGES-ONE SECTION-50 CENTS

Studebaker takes Best of Show in car event

Ninety-six vehicles were displayed around the square during the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department's 7th annual Car Show. Winners in the ten classes were:

Cars Pre-'64: 1. Ken Sumwalt Jr. of Tecumseh, Okla., 1960 Studebaker Champ; 2. Mike Owens of Abilene, 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air; 3. James Smith of Abilene, 1954 Chevrolet

Bel Air.
Cars '65 and up: 1. David Craft of Henrietta, 1966 Shelby GT 350 H; 2. Michael T. Sheppard of Archer City, 1971 Plymouth 340 Duster; 3.

Jim Cloud of Abilene, 2002 Chevrolet Camaro SS LE.
Antique Cars, Trucks thru '50: 1. Joyce Sparks of Chandler, Okla., 1939 Chevrolet pickup; 2. Barry

Banner of Hawley, 1940 LaSalle Coupe; 3. Lawrence Huff of Cushing, Okla., 1947 Dodge pickup.

Street Rods Pre-'49: 1. Hollis and Darlene Chandler of Snyder, 1933 Plymouth 4-door sedan; 2. Robbie Glascock of Hermleigh, 1934 Ford Coupe; 3. R. L. Hayes of Albany, 1938 Chevrolet Master Deluxe.

Race Cars: 1. Owen Smedley of Abilene, 1948 Anglia 2-door; 2. Karen Marshall of Rochester, 1980 Chevrolet Corvette.

Older Pickups Pre-'84: 1. Shirley Bethel of Abilene, 1956 Ford Panel; 2. John Bethel of Abilene, 1956 Ford pickup; 3. Jesse Mossbrugger of Abilene, 1972 Chevrolet pickup.

Pickups '85 and up: 1. Vernon Sessions of Haskell, 2002 Ford Super Crew; 2. Kyle Baldwin of Wichita Falls, 1993 Chevrolet pickup; 3. Tyrone Thomas of Fort Worth, 1996 Chevrolet S-10 Extended Cab.

Motorcycles: 1. James Spradley of Burleson, 1996 Boss Hoss 350; 2. Kirby Krupa of Abilene, 1994 Harley Davidson Heritage Softtail Classic; 3. Mark Gardner of Abilene, 2001 Harley Davidson Heritage Classic.

Restoration in Progress: 1. Billy Joe Large of Knox City, 1964 Chevrolet SS; 2. Roger Detamore of Stamford, 1954 Chevrolet Sport Coupe; 3. Jason Shaw of Haskell, 1964 Ford Galaxie 500.

Cushman Scooters: 1. Sherry Eaton of San Angelo, 1962 Cushman Silver Eagle; 2. Bart Parham of Haskell, 1959 Cushman Eagle.

Best of Show was by Ken Sumwalt Jr. of Tecumseh, Okla., 1960 Studebaker Champ. People's choice award was Lonnie and Kathy Rolls of Rule, 1965 Ford Mustang. Traveling the furthest distance was Danny Miller of Conroe, 1968 Chevrolet El Camino.

Winners of the Hot Wheels contest for kids were: 1. Andrea Anderson and 2. Bryson Young.

The complete list of winners in the Kids Tractor Pull event were not available at press time Monday.

Twenty-eight people, ranging in age from seven to seventy-seven, entered the Country Run 5K (3.1 miles) held during the Haskell Car Show activities in the city Saturday.

With a warm south wind and a beautiful country setting, the event to benefit the Volunteer Fire Department was successful and a challenging run for the athletes.

The Male Overall winner was Mark Richardson of Abilene, with the top time of 21:58. The Female Overall winner was Leiza Morales of Haskell with the 4th top time of 27:38.

Winners placing in the age categories were:

Ages under 19: 1st, James Markey; 2nd, Devon Richardson; 3rd, Luke Terry.

Ages 20-29: 1st, Joseph Lopez; 2nd, Rachel Garcia.

Ages 30-39: 1st, Mark Richardson; 2nd, Jim McTasney, 3rd, Leiza Morales.

Ages 40-49: 1st, Pam Steele; 2nd, Pam Terry; 3rd, Rachel Hernandez.

Ages 50-59: 1st, Don Comedy; 2nd, Nene Comedy.

Ages over 60: 1st, Tom Bowser; 2nd, Barbara Ringwald; 3rd, David Bashford.

River McTasney and Ashley Adams were awarded special kids medals.

Two walkers were Laura and Carroll Thomson.

Event director, Bill Markunas, expressed appreciation to the participants, to the businesses who donated door prizes, to Rattlesnake Racing for racing equipment, to Angela Calhoun and the Haskell Rotary for their help.



BEST OF SHOW-Taking some top honors in the Annual Car Show Saturday was the 1960 Studebaker Champ owned by Ken Sumwalt

Jr. of Tecumseh, Oklahoma, which was not only named Best of Show, but also took 1st place in the Cars Pre-'64 Category.

County government officials to be honored

by Lou Gilly
Haskell Co. Extension Agent

In recognition of the leadership, innovation, and valuable service provided by Haskell County government officials and their employees, Texas Cooperative Extension-Haskell County Office, Extension Committees, and Haskell

County 4-H'ers would like to invite the residents of Haskell County to a come-and-go reception planned in their honor.

Refreshments, which will be prepared by the County Extension Agents and Haskell County 4-H'ers, will be served from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Mon., March 24, in the County

Kitchen located on the 3rd floor of the County Courthouse.

Haskell County 4-H'ers involved in a 4-H photography project will have the photographs on display that were entered in the County's 4-H Photography Contest. Many of these photographs will advance to District and State competitions.

Earlier in the day all fifth grade

students in Haskell County will attend the Commissioner's Court meeting, hear from all the District elected officials, and tour the various County offices in the Courthouse. The public is also invited to attend the Commissioner's Court meeting beginning at 10 a.m. to witness County Government in action. The Commissioner's Court Room is on the second floor of the Courthouse on the northeast end.

Agencies continue drug fight

Haskell County Sheriff, David Halliburton said Monday that the ongoing fight against illegal drugs in Haskell County continues. Within the last two months, through the combined efforts of all law enforcement agencies and concerned citizens, there were three search warrants run that resulted in the taking of marijuana and cocaine. The search warrants were run in the cities of Haskell and Rochester.

Saying that he will stand by his word and continue to fight against illegal drugs in the county, and to keep our children safe against this known predator that not only stalks the older people, but also our babies, Sheriff Halliburton again expressed his thanks to the concerned citizens of Haskell County for their information and help against this ongoing battle on illegal drugs in the county.

The sheriff also thanked all local law enforcement agencies for their combined efforts in the battle against illegal drugs.

Wild Horse Prairie Queen's contest entries sought

Haskell's 8th annual Wild Horse Prairie Days Rodeo and activities will be held June 6-7.

One of the events getting the popular celebration off to a good start each year is the queen's contest open for all Haskell County girls in grades 9 through 12.

Interviews with entrants for the Wild Horse Prairie Days Queen Pageant will be held Sat., April 12. The pageant will be held Sun., April 13.

Entry forms are available at the following locations: Haskell High School, Paint Creek ISD, Rochester

ISD; Rule ISD, Haskell County Extension Office and First National Bank.

Deadline for filing entries is April 3 at 5:00 p.m. to the First National Bank of Haskell or to the Haskell County Extension Office.



CARS AND MORE CARS-A large turnout of entries in the Annual Car Show brought a large turnout of people to the downtown area to see the vehicles and join in the day's activities and events.

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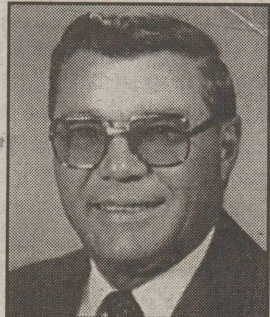
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TAX PLANNING

Written By
James E. Rodgers, CPA



YOU DON'T HAVE TO ITEMIZE TO TAKE THESE DEDUCTIONS

You're probably familiar with the deduction choice you must make when you file your tax return. You either have enough deductions (such as mortgage interest, charitable contributions and medical expenses) to itemize, or you take the standard deduction, a set amount that doesn't require you to list specific deductible items.

What you may not be as familiar with are those deductions that you are allowed to take "above the line"; that is, deductions that you can take in addition to your itemized deductions or the standard deduction. Here's a quick rundown of above-the-line deductions you shouldn't miss.

- A deduction of up to \$250 for classroom supplies purchased by teachers for use in their classrooms.
- A deduction of up to \$4,000 for individual retirement account contributions if you're under age 50. If you're 50 or older, you can deduct up to \$3,500.
- A deduction of up to \$2,500 for interest paid on student loans.
- A deduction of up to \$3,000 for college tuition and fees.
- A deduction for 50% of the self-employment tax paid if you are self-employed.
- A deduction for alimony paid. (Note that child support is not deductible.)
- A deduction of up to \$2,000 for the purchase of a new hybrid gas/electric car.

Most of these deductions have qualification requirements or income limitations. Don't overlook above-the-line tax deductions. An added benefit: These deductions decrease your "adjusted gross income," an important number on your tax return. The lower your adjusted gross income, the more likely you are to qualify for credits and deductions subject to income thresholds. For details or assistance in finding all the deductions you're entitled to, give us a call.

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Groundwater levels down

After completing its annual survey of water levels in observation wells in Baylor, Haskell and Knox Counties, the Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District has reported the survey, which, along with data obtained from the Texas Water Development Board, gives the status of the Seymour Aquifer in the three counties.

As a matter of public education, the well levels relative to this time last year are: Baylor, +0.5 feet; Haskell County, +0.5 feet and Knox County, +0.5 feet.

This information is furnished to the citizens of the three counties to help in planning water conservation practices in the coming spring and summer months. The rainfall experienced during the fall has helped to alleviate some of the drawdown of the previous summer, the report says. This water level information indicates that the drought is far from over. As of Mar. 12, when the report was written, 2003 annual rainfall has a deficit of over 1.5 inches.

Farmers should take into consideration the large amount of early season tillage that has taken place and the considerable amount of preplant moisture required to bring fields to planting condition.

Irrigators using center pivots may want to consider lowering nozzles or adding hoses to apply water in closer proximity to the ground to reduce evaporation. Studies have shown that in order to wet a large cotton plant, it requires about 0.2" of water. On a hot day with a blowing wind, the amount of water reaching the ground is greatly reduced by evaporation. The District reminds that we were blessed by having very few 100 degree days last summer.

Another drought indicator is the level of water in Millers Creek Reservoir. The lake is at 50.4% of capacity and 8.5 feet below the spillway level.

Any questions can be answered at the District office at 135 North Munday Ave., in Munday, or by phone at (940) 422-1095 or fax at (940) 422-1094.

Eye fatigue

As computers have become commonplace at work, so have workers' complaints of eye fatigue, discomfort and difficulty in focusing.

"We've moved into the computer age, but our offices haven't," says Dr. Preston Blomquist, assistant professor of ophthalmology at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Workers should center the monitor in front of them at about arm's length away and position the top of the screen near eye level. One should also avoid glare, keep the computer screen and glasses clean, and adjust brightness, contrast and font size to comfortable levels.

Fortunately, computer screen don't damage vision, Blomquist says. Relief can be as simple as taking more frequent breaks and getting proper glasses or contact lenses. "If discomfort persists, he says, see an ophthalmologist for a thorough eye exam."

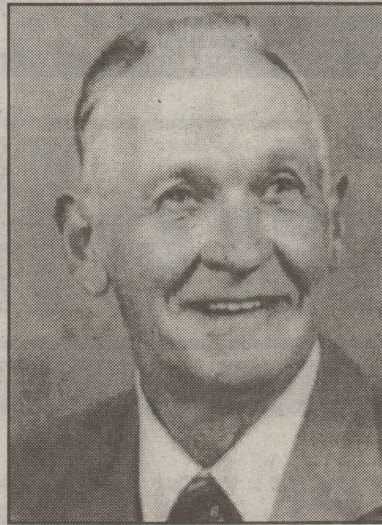
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OUTREACH HEALTH SERVICES
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Obituaries

Harvie B. Q. Furrh



HARVIE FURRH

Funeral services for Harvie B. Q. Furrh, 85, of Haskell were held Tues., March 18 at First Baptist Church in Haskell with Rev. Paul Chambers and Rev. Kevin Hall officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mr. Furrh died March 16, in Abilene. Born Aug. 22, 1917 in Weinert, he was the son of B. Q. and Mamie Wallace Furrh. He married Barbara Myers Feb. 7, 1996. He was a supervisor for Pioneer Gas for 24 years. He then owned and operated Furrh Enterprise where he did engine manufacturing and sales. He was a

member of the First Baptist Church and Masonic Lodge #966.

He was preceded in death by his parents, B. Q. and Mamie Furrh; son, Dewayne Furrh; and sister, Rubie Rehwalt.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Myers Furrh of Haskell; stepchildren, Marva Caldwell, Keith Holmes and Brian Holmes; grandchildren, Carl Norton, Brooke Furrh, Misde Carter; step grandchildren, Brittany and Sterling Bird; great grandchildren, Kresha and Kolton Norton, Jonathan and Audrey Furrh, Trent and Trace Carter. PD. NOTICE

Virginia Pittman



VIRGINIA PITTMAN

Graveside services for Virginia Pittman, 83, of Haskell were held Thurs., March 13 at Willow Cemetery with Dusty Garrison officiating. Services were under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home.

Ms. Pittman died Mon., March 10, Born Nov. 10, 1919 in Haskell, she was the daughter of Riley Franklin and Emma Kate Pittman.

She lived in Haskell for 60 years and was a retired cashier for M-System in Haskell.

Survivors include one brother, Roy Pittman of Haskell; and one sister, Anna Lee McClintock of Clyde.

Memorials may be made to First Christian Church, 107 N. Ave. F, Haskell, Texas 79521. PD. NOTICE

Billy E. Mitchell Sr.

Memorial services for Billy E. Mitchell Sr., age 55, of Breckenridge will be held Sat., March 15 at Bethany Baptist Church in Breckenridge with Jimmy Griffith of Merkel and Marvin Jones of Breckenridge officiating.

Mr. Mitchell died Wed., March 12 from complications stemming from a lifelong battle with diabetes.

Born Feb. 13, 1948 in Amarillo, he was the son of W. M. and Jean Mitchell. He grew up in West Texas where he excelled in both athletics and academics. A 1966 graduate of New Deal High School, he continued his educational studies at Texas Tech University and Cisco Junior College. In the summer of 1967, he met Debbie Bunkley of Breckenridge and they were wed Sept. 15 of that same year. In 1977, they moved to Haskell where they raised their three boys, B.J., Kevin and Marty. In 1982, they opened Mitchell's Porthole Fish and Chicken in Haskell where they remained until 1987. In the course of his life, Billy worked for Mrs. Baird's, Mitchell's Porthole, and retired from Frito-Lay. From 1991 through 1996, Billy and Debbie were employed by Harmony Family Services where they served as foster parents to over 60 teenage girls. In 1997, the joy of Billy's life, Michael Carrigan Mitchell, was officially made a part of the Mitchell family.

Billy was born again at the age of 12 and lived his life dedicated to the glorification of Christ. He was ordained as a Baptist Deacon in 1978, and role he served until his death. He served as a Sunday School teacher for several years in the communities in which he lived. He lived his life in a manner that even those who didn't know him would see Christ.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Cody Bathchelor; and his oldest son, Billy E. Mitchell Jr. Survivors include his wife of 35 years, Debbie Mitchell of Breckenridge; children, Kevin Mitchell of Arlington, Marty and wife, Penny Mitchell of Watauga, daughter-in-law, Juliet Mitchell of Littlefield and Michael Mitchell of Breckenridge; in-laws in marriage, Leigh and Claudine Bunkley of Breckenridge; three grandchildren, Destiny, Daxton and Mackynzie Mitchell; brother-in-law, Richard Bunkley of Houston; and very close family friend, Frankie Stoker of Breckenridge.

Memorials may be made to Bethany Baptist Church Building Fund, Harmony Family Services of The Texas Kidney Foundation. Memorials may be left at Morehart Mortuary in Breckenridge. PD. NOTICE

Thomas Zac Casillas

Funeral services for Thomas Zac Casillas, three months, of Haskell will be held Sun., March 23 at the Foursquare Church in Knox City with Pastor Freddie Villa officiating. Burial will follow at the O'Brien Cemetery under the direction of Mansel-Smith Funeral Home.

The infant died Fri., March 14. He was born Nov. 20 in Decatur. Survivors include his mother, Mellisa Casillas; father, Dewey Peters; one sister, Alyssa Casillas; grandparents,

Charles and Martha Casillas and Kay Peters; great-grandparents, Nettie Mae Watson and Thomas Paul Watson and Carlos Casillas; aunts and uncles, Crystal Casillas, Jeff and Mellisa Casillas, Cassie and Jeremy Casillas and Andrea and Charlie Collins; and cousins, Caleb, Andrew and Brittany.

Pallbearers will be uncles and Martin Silvas. PD. NOTICE

Lois Josselet

Funeral services for Lois Josselet, 88, of Haskell were held Wed., March 19 at First United Methodist Church in Haskell with Ford Cole, Kent Josselet and Debbie Pankhurst officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mrs. Josselet died Mon., March 17 in Abilene. Born Oct. 16, 1914 in Ardmore, Okla., she married M. C. 'Shorty' Josselet Oct. 16, 1930. He preceded her in death Jan. 17, 1993. She loved cooking, caring for her family and gardening. She was a member of First United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; son, Wayne Josselet; and grandson, Heath Josselet.

Survivors include one daughter, Alta Josselet McGuire; one son, Danny Josselet; eight grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; and three great great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Cody Josselet, Rodney Medford, Cliff McGuire, Paul McGuire, Jeremy Wilson, Justin Josselet, Jason Josselet, Michael Josselet, Josh Myers, Jason Hall, Cy McGuire and Zac McGuire.

Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church of Haskell, 201 North Avenue F, Haskell, Texas 79521 or a favorite charity. PD. NOTICE

4-H Photography awards program set

The Haskell County 4-H Photography Awards Program and public viewing will be held Sun., March 23, at 2:00 p.m. in the Haskell National Bank Community Room. Youth photographers from all over

Haskell County will be competing for first place honors to be able to advance on to further competition. Juniors and Intermediates will advance on to the District Contest,

April 16 in Vernon. Seniors will advance to the State contest which will be held during State 4-H Roundup, June 9-13 at Texas A&M.

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Women's Clubs holds convention

The 43rd Annual Convention of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Mesquite District was held Sat., Mar. 8th at the Ambassador Suites in Abilene, hosted by the Clyde Study. Fifty club women were registered from Albany, Baird, Clyde, Hamlin, Haskell, Knox City, Merkel, Moran and Stamford.

Mesquite District President, Nancy Toliver of Haskell, welcomed members and guests. Following the opening ceremonies, special recognition was given to State and District Life members and Mesquite District past presidents.

Recommendations made from the executive meeting included the appointing of Janoma Stephens of Knox City to the District Scholarship Committee, and the naming of a nominating committee for district officers consisting of Louise Massey of Stamford, Almeta Young of Hamlin and Janoma Stephens.

Reports were given by district executive officers. College student Kristi Walker, was introduced as the district's nominee for an academic studies award. Walker is an Education major with a minor in Math and Spanish, and holds a 4.0 point grade average. She and her mother were guests at the meeting.

Special guest speaker, Texas Federation of Women's Clubs President, Bobbe Mitchell of Sanderson, was introduced by Mary Kaigler, past district president.

Following lunch served in the Atrium, roll call of clubs was answered by each club president, who told of their club's work during the year and of one outstanding program or project. They also introduced new members of their clubs.

Presentation of district awards for club programs and projects included the department categories of Arts, Literature and Performing Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, Public Affairs, Texas Heritage, International Affairs, Learning Disabilities, Outreach for Children, Historical Places and Things, Women's Library, GFWC and TFWC Presidents' Special Projects, and District President's Special Project Operation Smile.

Awards were also given in the categories of Outstanding Federation Programs, M. D. Anderson Hospital Projects, Outstanding Club Yearbooks, Libraries, Leadership, Keep Children Safe, Legislation, TFWC Clubwoman Subscriptions, Workshops and Advocates for Children.

Julia Harrell of the Haskell Progressive Study Club was named Mesquite District Outstanding Club Woman Volunteer for her work in club, church and community.

The meeting was concluded with an In Memoriam presentation and benediction by Kewpie Duncan of Aspermont.

Bulbs are topic of Garden Club meeting

The Haskell Garden met Thurs., Mar. 13 at Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, with 14 members attending. Lois Ann Ballard was welcomed as a new member.

In a business session, presided by Florence Alexander, president, the club made plans for planting two desert willow trees at Willow Cemetery in honor of Arbor Day. Desert willows were chosen because of the wind and drought conditions in this area and because they are fairly low maintenance and are beautiful when in bloom. It was also decided that a project for planting more trees at the Cemetery would be opened to anyone who wants to donate money for trees in memory of loved ones. Those wishing to give to the fund may call Frances Bowen at 940-864-2067. The cost of one tree is approximately \$25.00.

Melyn Wittenborn brought the program on true bulbs, tubers, corms rhizomes and tuberous roots. She advised that true bulbs, like the daffodils and tulips, need to be separated every three years for continuous blooming.

The next meeting is scheduled for

2:00 p.m., April 10 at Haskell National Bank Community Room. Everyone is invited to attend whether they have a green thumb or not.

The Garden Club's tip of the month is: If the plant blooms in the fall, dig and transplant in the spring. If it blooms in the spring, dig and transplant in the fall.

Art Association elects officers

The Brazos West Art Association met Mon., March 10 at the Haskell National Bank Community Room.

Peggy Middlebrook, president introduced Ruth Jackson well-known artist of Abilene. Jackson presented an acrylic landscape demonstration.

Middlebrook held a short business meeting during which officers selected for the upcoming year were announced. Those to serve include Denia Cunningham, president; Jeannie Lyckman, first vice president; Betty Berry, second vice president; Martha Spitzer, secretary; Betty Hook, treasurer; Peggy Middlebrook, reporter.

Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Blair on Sunday were Michael and Britney Pannell of Throckmorton, Cody and Abbie Blair of Megargel and Mr. and Mrs. David Muehle of Rochester.

Friday evening Joyce Hawkins went to Lewisville with Darlene, David and Daniel Conn and Julie Cochran to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Hawkins. On Sat. Bobby attended an auction in Mesquite. Joyce visited with Darlene Hawkins while he was gone.

Margaret Tatum took Aubrey and Caden to Childress to meet their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Tatum of Dalhart. The children returned home after spending a week in Haskell.

Jacky, Sandra and Jacklyn Sanders of Aledo and Lona Mae Phelps of Haskell visited Ruidoso, N.M., Eager, Ariz., and Phoenix,

Ariz. during spring break. At the home of Darwin and Ethel Slade, they visited Alan, Judy and Derrick Slade, Steve, Donna, Shaeligh and Cody, Everett, Tammy, Pete and Austin, Everett II, Varonica and Everett Vee, David and Paul Marie Slade, Ben Slade and his fiancée Melinda and her brother Charles Burger, Justin Slade and his girlfriend Kristen Phelps, and Donna's mother Cecilia Hadaway. In Phoenix they visited Aunt Melba Kim and stayed with Alan Slade. They visited with several cousins including Joan Slayman and her son Bob, Pauline Burnswick, June Parr, niece Paula and Robert Kreamer and children Robert Jr., Jarrod and Tyler, Steve Slade and children, Stacy and Tate Hodges and Seth Slade, Alan's son and family, Darwin Jr., Kera, Megan and Bailey.

Births

Laura and Allen Kirk of Bayfield, Colorado are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Rachael LeeAnn Kirk, born March 8, in Durango, Colorado.

Rachael LeeAnn weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and joins four brothers, Luke, Zachary, Matthew and Michael Kirk and two sisters, Jessica and Melissa Kirk.

Mrs. Kirk is the former Laura Maxson of Denton.

Grandparents are Dwight and Gayle Maxson of Denton and True and Margie Kirk of Durango, Colorado.

Phillip and Ty Coleman are proud to announce the arrival of their brother, Cody Dean, born March 11, weighing 8 lbs. 9.5 oz. He was 20 inches long.

Proud parents are Casey and Betsy Coleman of Haskell.

Grandparents are Betty McDermett, Phil and Phyllis Coleman, all of Haskell.

Great grandparents are Bill and Stella Steele and Dale and Ruby Middlebrook, all of Haskell.

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Great-grandparents are Juanita Maxson of Celina and Lorena Dunavant of Floydada, and the late Gerry and Harold R. Spain of Haskell.

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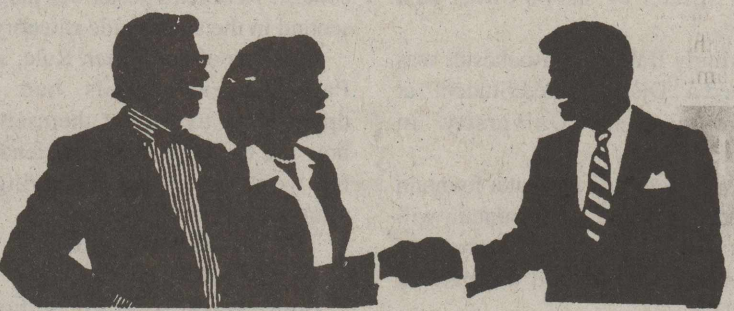
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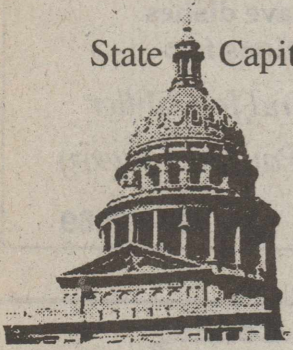
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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Mike Cox

Merger bill would consolidate 11 state agencies into 3

AUSTIN—Exactly how state lawmakers are going to work their way out of the nearly \$10 billion budget deficit is still taking shape, but when the gavel goes down on June 2, there's no question that the state government landscape will have a different look.

Rep. Arlene Wohlgenuth, chair of the House Committee on Appropriations subcommittee for health and human services, has filed a bill that would consolidate 11 state agencies into three.

Wohlgenuth's bill, which acts on proposals made earlier in the session to save money through state agency mergers, would add the Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the Cancer Council, the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the mental health functions of the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation into the Department of Health. That agency would be renamed the Department of Health Services.

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission and the Commission for the Blind would fold into a new Department of Aging, Community, Disability and Long-term Care Services.

Finally, the existing Department of Protective and Regulatory Services would be expanded to include family violence services and long-term care regulation.

These mergers would save an estimated \$75 to \$80 million, which inspired one of the week's best quotes from Rep. Dawna Dukes, D-Austin.

"Seventy-five to 80 million dollars is only a teardrop in the bucket of the needs that this state has for health and human services," Dukes said.

Arrows around Robin Hood...
The House Committee on Public Education voted 7-2 last week to end the current school funding system, popularly known as Robin Hood, in two years.

A combination of state assistance, local property tax revenue and federal money, the system got its Sherwood Forest-esque nickname because it forces school districts with a substantial tax base to share with

the little guys across the state.

With the same vote on March 11, the committee approved \$1.2 billion more in state funding for schools until the Robin Hood system is phased out. Of course, this was just a committee vote. Whether the "sheriff" finally gets Robin Hood this session is still not a done deal.

Observatory funding in doubt...

Used to be one of the biggest worries that officials at the University of Texas' McDonald Observatory had was the problem of ambient lighting. They said growing light pollution was affecting the quality of the world-renowned astronomical facility.

These days, the fear is that they may have to turn off their own lights for lack of funding.

Given the observatory's reputation as the best in the continental U.S., not to mention the 100,000 tourists it draws to West Texas each year, it's hard to imagine that UT would let a little thing like not having any money shut it down. Still, the proposal is there to cut \$4 million from its budget, the state funding that covers its day-to-day (night to night might be a better term) operation.

Texas History Month progresses...

House Bill 294, which would designate March as Texas History Month, was approved on voice vote by the House last week. The measure's next stop is the Senate.

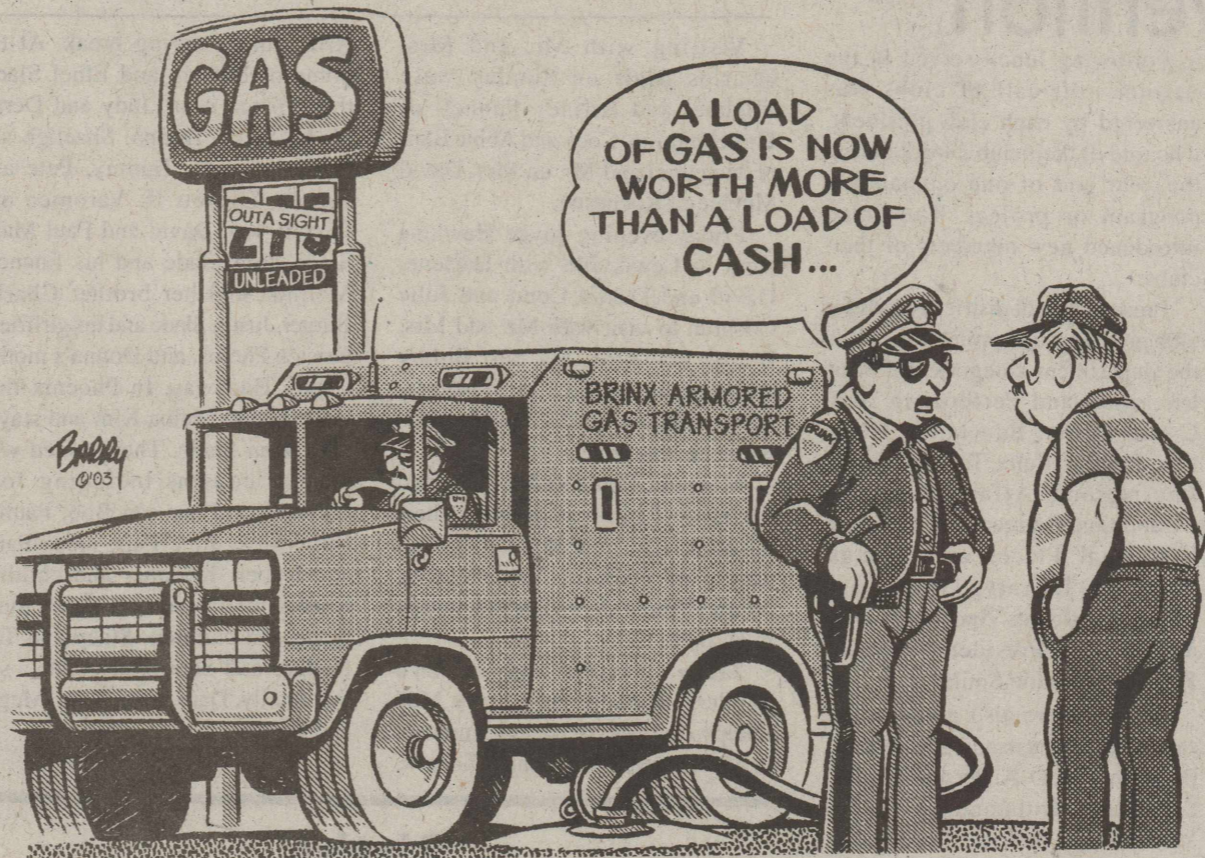
What's cooking?

Tape on the windows doesn't always mean a citizen is playing it safe just in case of a terrorist attack. According to the Department of Public Safety, taped up windows can mean someone is illegally "cooking" methamphetamine inside.

The state law enforcement agency seized 122 clandestine "speed" labs in Texas last year, compared with 19 in 1998—a 542 percent increase. Statewide, more than 350 labs were located and shut down by law enforcement agencies last year.

Why the boom in homemade chemistry projects? The DPS says it is due to increased demand and easy access to the chemicals needed to produce the drug.

Another way to tell if someone's cooking something other than homemade bread is a strong ammonia odor. That, or somebody forgot to clean the litter box.



From The Inside Out

By Mary Kaigler

When you consider all of the marvels of technology and breakthroughs in science that evolved during the 20th century, and all of the regulations now geared to making our lives safer, healthier and perhaps even more productive, you have to realize that this is, indeed, an exciting and wonderful time in the world's history to be living.

Yet, one has to wonder, as our generation came along, how we ever escaped some of the 20th century "hazardous dangers" we are now aware of in the 21st century.

The following "author unknown" e-mail forwarded by son-in-law Bud Walker, states the case for those of us who came up in a different time and who sometimes ask ourselves, "How did we ever survive?"

Looking back, it's hard to believe that we have lived as long as we have.

As children, we rode in cars with no seat belts or air bags. Riding in the back of a pickup truck was a special treat.

Our houses and baby cribs were covered with bright-colored lead paint.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets, and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets. Not to mention hitch-

hiking.

We all slept without flame-retardant pajamas, without air conditioning, with doors and windows open.

We raced around town without adults on Halloween collecting treats and eating them as we went along without having them X-rayed first.

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the street lights came on. No one was able to reach us all day.

We ate cupcakes, fried bacon, biscuits made with pure lard, and drank sugar sodas. We were never overweight. We were playing outside.

Most of us played with rubber knives, cap pistols and toy rifles. We took snakes or frogs or lizards to school; never real guns.

We cut the grass with push mowers, climbed trees and walked along the top of fences like they were tightropes.

We petted stray dogs and cats and took them home to see if we could keep them.

We shot off fireworks without supervision or safety worries and without getting arrested.

We walked or rode our bikes to and from school in flaming heat, in freezing cold and in the pouring rain.

We left our bicycle lying in the

middle of the front yard at night, and it would still be there in the morning.

There were tryouts for cheerleader and Little League and not everyone made the teams. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment.

Some students weren't as smart as others, so they failed a grade, and many were held back to repeat the same grade as many times as necessary for them to make it.

We didn't wear designer clothes to school or drive shiny new cars to high school. If we had a car to drive, we were happy with anything that would run, no matter what it looked like.

We had never even heard of seat belts or air bags, which probably would have not done any good anyway with 10 people packed into a Volkswagen.

That generation produced some of the best risk takers and problems solvers. We had freedom and failure, success and responsibility, and learned how to deal with it all.

And you're one of them. Congratulations.

Watch next week for a new **Mystery Reader** and the **Update** on last week's **Mystery Reader**.

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago March 18, 1993

Radio station KVRP of Haskell played a major role in getting Gov. Ann Richards to sign into law the boll weevil eradication bill. The pen Gov. Ann Richards used to sign the bill was presented to KVRP farm director Carl Shearer by station owner Ken Lane.

Mindy Ballard of Rochester was named a "Distinguished Student" at Tarleton State University in Stephenville.

Work began on the water fountain at the City Park. The fountain will honor the "Boneheads," a group of 27 men who founded the park in 1931.

Haskell police officers Joe R. Torres and Steve Grand have been awarded certificates of achievement for training in dynamics and legal aspects of family violence.

20 Years Ago March 17, 1983

Julie Coleman, a senior student at Paint Creek High School has been selected to play in the Texas High School Girls Coaches Association North-South All Star Game.

The Haskell Indian tracksters recently competed in the Albany Relays and placed 2nd at the meet with 98 points to Rotan 112 with 13 teams competing.

The eighth grade girls track team traveled to Anson for the Lady Tiger Track Meet. The girls brought back the first place trophy.

30 Years Ago March 15, 1973

Fifteen members of the Haskell High School band have qualified for State competition. Of the 15, seven will compete in the events.

Rebecca Buerger was the only Haskell County winner in the California Creek Soil and Water Conservation District's poster contest. Rebecca's poster was judged second in the sixth grade category.

Students of Rochester, Rule, and Paint Creek schools had an opportunity to see for themselves how fire can be man's best friend or his worst enemy by observing a graphic fire demonstration.

40 Years Ago March 21, 1963

Four Haskell High School students were honored for scholastic achievement and were presented scholarship sweaters. Bassett Owens, president of Quill and Scroll, presented the sweaters to Jean King for English; Barry O'Neal, history; Eddie Smart, math; and David Follstaedt, science.

The Rule Co-Operative Gin celebrated their golden anniversary. This longtime business enterprise, the Rule Gin, has the distinction of being the oldest continuously operating Co-Operative Gin in Texas.

Staff Sergeant Thomas R. Harrell, of Haskell, has arrived in Sembach, Germany, for assignment with a unit of the United States Air Forces in Europe.

Wanda Jean Miller of Weinert, has been declared winner in Haskell County teaching essay contest sponsored by the Haskell Jaycees.

50 Years Ago March 19, 1953

Mrs. Robert Wheatley, program chairman of the Progressive Study Club has achieved wide recognition in district, state and national federated club circles for the originality and arrangement of the 1953 yearbook which she designed.

Leo Monse, Jr., whose parents live in Sagerton, was recently promoted to corporal while serving in Korea with the 25th Infantry Division. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Drs. Parry and Thornton, optometrists would like to announce their offices in the Haskell National Bank building each Tuesday. Drs. Parry and Thornton are assuming the practice of Dr. William E. Ponder of Haskell.

100 Years Ago March 21, 1903

S. W. Scott went to Fort Worth to argue a case before the Court of Appeals.

G. H. Cobb and family moved out to their ranch in the southeast part of the county. They spent the winter at their home in town in order to give their children the benefit of Haskell schools.

The latest report from the Rock Island surveying corps is that it has found a satisfactory crossing on the Brazos River below Belnap and is coming west in the direction of Throckmorton.

W. T. Hudson and J. L. Jones will start shipment of fed cattle mostly bulls, to St. Louis.

Haskell CISD Comments

by Eddie Bland
Superintendent

The Haskell CISD District Improvement Committee met Thurs., March 6, in the central administration office.

Committee members are: Bill Markunus, Business Representative; Sylvia Bingham, Business Representative; Robert Trabbey, Parent Representative; Lori Rodriguez, Parent Representative; Sue Reese, Community Representative; Jo Cox, Community Representative; Debbie Earles, Elementary Teacher; Doris Mae Watson, Elementary Teacher; Amanda Hadaway, Secondary Teacher; and Clark Richardson, Secondary Teacher.

The committee reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the district improvement committee. The members were given a handout explaining these roles and responsibilities. A training session for district and campus improvement committees has been scheduled for the evening of Mon., March 31.

The committee then discussed the calendar for the 2003-04 school year. They talked about the possibility of starting school one week earlier than was started the current school year.

After discussing the advantages and disadvantages of an earlier start date, the committee agreed it would be to the benefit of Haskell CISD to begin classes during the week of Aug. 11. It was agreed that the first day of school should be Wed., Aug. 13.

As the last item of business the committee received a general overview of the financial status of Haskell CISD, including the potential impact of legislation currently being discussed in the 78th Legislative Session. The three primary drivers for public education funding were discussed: (1) student counts, (2) property values, and (3) tax collections.

Marriage Licenses

Marriage licenses issued during the month of February by Rhonda Moeller, Haskell County Clerk include:

Armando Wayne Rubio and Paula C. Mendez, both of Haskell.
Brandon Jay Langford of Rule and Heidi Marie Hope of Haskell.

Randall Marion Livingston of Haskell and Mary Collins Williams of Throckmorton.

Tommy Westerman Jr. and Mary McGhee Marshall, both of Haskell.

Teddy Richard Latham and Sulynn Oxford Easterling, both of Rochester.

Russell Alan Baize and Jlyn Robinson Chaka, both of Stamford.

Haskell Co. Gin Report

March 17, 2003 Haskell

Haskell Co-op Gin	12,124
Haskell County Gin	4,853
O'Brien	
O'Brien Gin	25,711
Rule	
Rule Co-op Gin	8,054
Sagerton Gin	3,680
Weinert	
Griff's Gin	6,575
Weinert Gin	8,550
Total Bales	69,547

Hospital

Admissions

Roy Fain, Haskell
Louise Moore, Munday

Dismissals

Gayle Harrison, Betty Cole,
Charles Swinson, Joe Davis, Nancy Plunkett, Vivian Smith

The Haskell Free Press

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This issue mailed Wed., March 19, 2003

2003 Haskell Volunteer Fire Department Classic Car Show



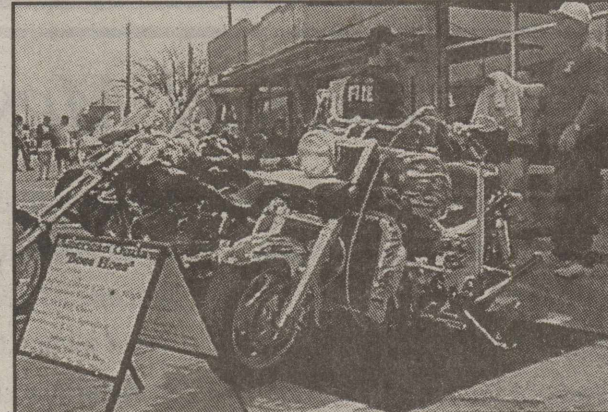
SHIRLEY BETHEL, 1956 FORD PANEL, 1ST PLACE OLDER PICKUPS PRE-'84



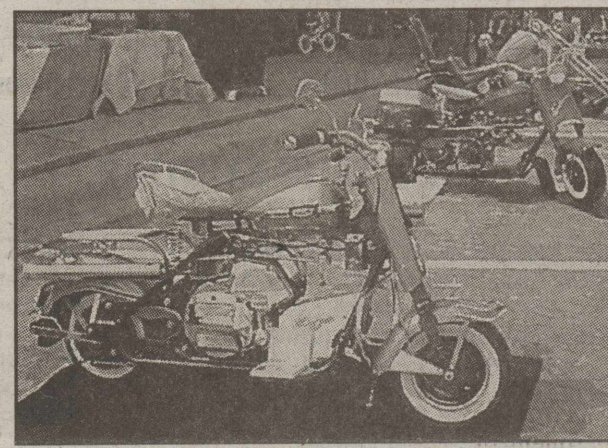
DAVID CRAFT, 1966 SHELBY GT 350 H, 1ST PLACE CARS '65 AND UP



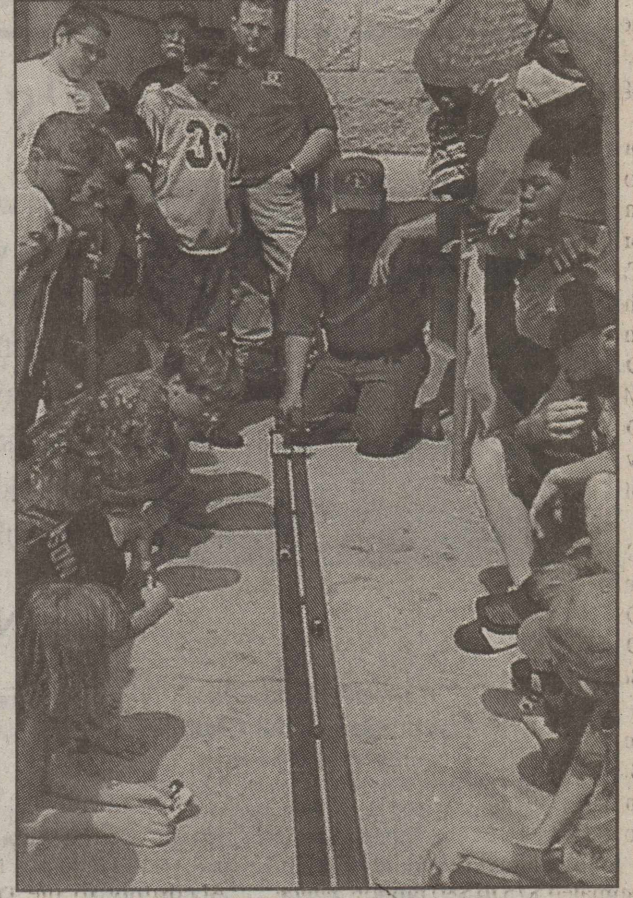
JOYCE SPARKS, 1939 CHEVROLET PICKUP, 1ST PLACE ANTIQUE CARDS, TRUCKS THRU '50



JAMES SPRADLEY, 1996 BOSS HOSS 350, 1ST PLACE



SHERRY EATON, 1962 CUSHMAN SILVER EAGLE, 1ST PLACE



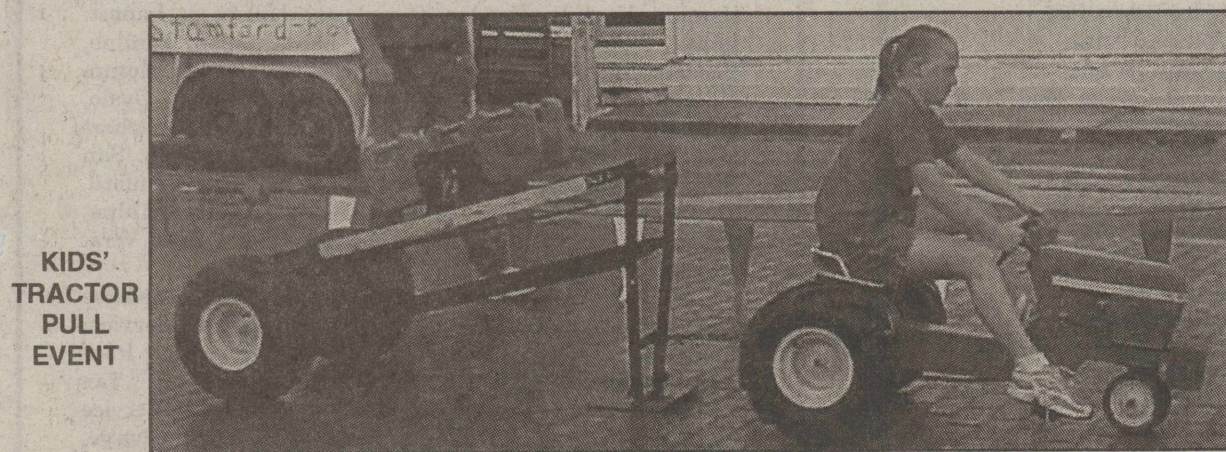
HOT WHEELS RACE FOR KIDS



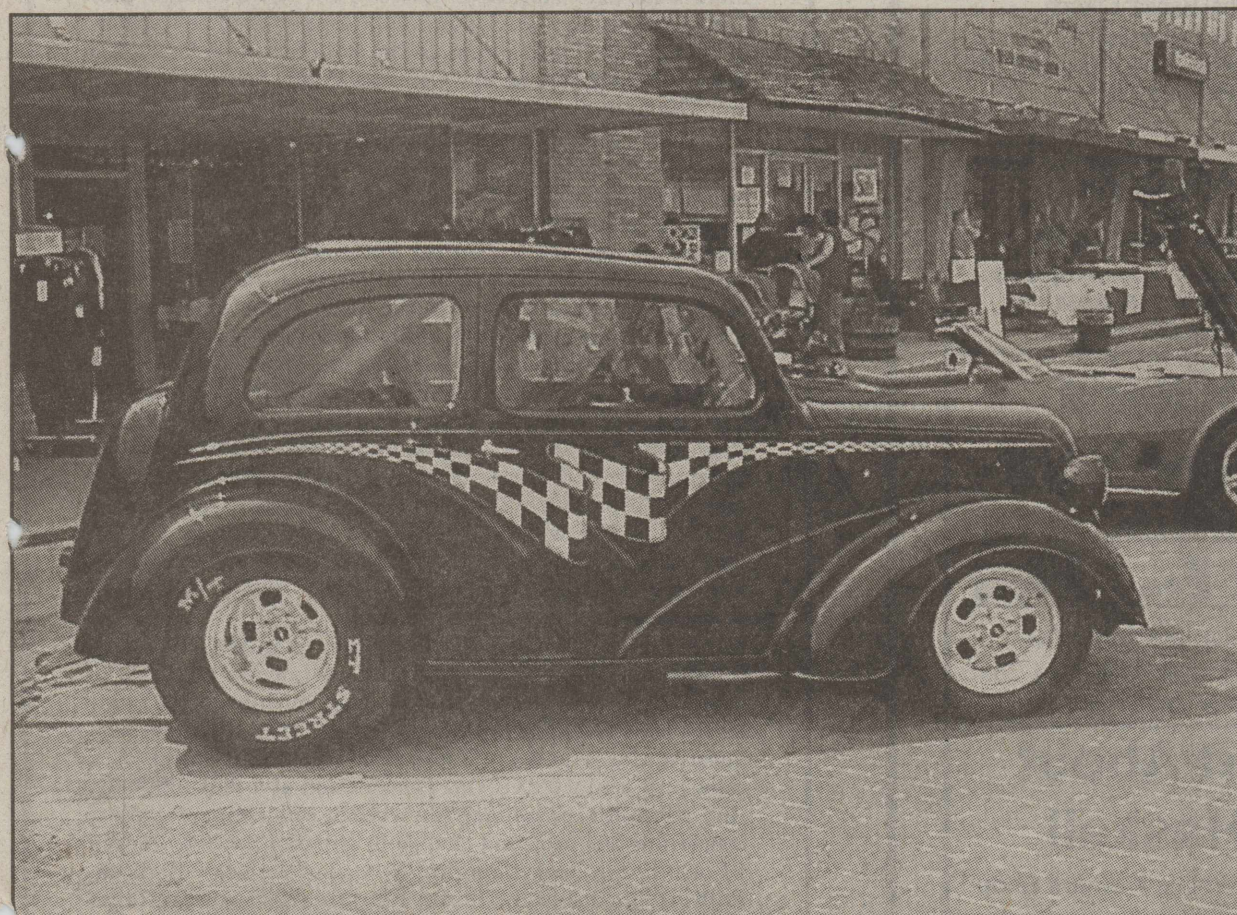
FIRE DEPT. TRAIN RIDE



VERNON SESSIONS, 2002 FORD SUPER CREW, 1ST PLACE PICKUPS '85 AND UP



KIDS' TRACTOR PULL EVENT



OWEN SMEDLEY, ANGLIA, 1ST PLACE RACE CARS



DANNY MILLER, 1968 CHEVROLET EL CAMINO, FURTHEST DISTANCE TRAVELED

All deadlines are 5 p.m. Monday.

Look Who's 50!



Love, Gilbert and Champion

Dental Society honors Dr. William J. Kemp

Dr. William J. Kemp, Haskell native and longtime local dentist, was recently honored for his many years of service to the profession by the Seventeenth District Dental Society. He received a gift and congratulations from Dr. David May, president of the Society.

Active as a leader in the profession, Dr. Kemp is a past president of both the Seventeenth

District Dental Society and the West Texas Dental Association. He served as vice president of the Texas Dental Association in 1977-78, and as president of the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners in 1989-90. He is a member of the American College of Dentists, the International College of Dentists, Omicron Kappa Upsilon and the Peirre Fauchard Academy.

Jones-Haskell Eye Clinic

Dr. Trussell Thane, O.D.
Therapeutic Optometrist

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Haskell School Menu

March 24-28
Grandparent's week
Breakfast
Juice and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu.
Monday: Breakfast on a stick
Tuesday: Breakfast bagel
Wednesday: Cereal, toast
Thursday: Pigs in a blanket
Friday: Cinnamon roll

Lunch
Milk and iced tea are served daily at the Secondary campus. Milk is served daily at the Elementary School. Secondary campus: Choice

of entree or baked potato with cheese and ham.
Monday: Chicken nuggets with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, sliced peaches
Tuesday: Enchiladas, pinto beans, garden salad, Spanish rice, chips/salsa, apple crisp
Wednesday: Chicken spaghetti, fried okra, garden salad, bread stick, lemon pudding
Thursday: Taco salad/cheese, corn, chips/salsa, peach cobbler
Friday: Fish scroodles, potato wedges, crunchy Oriental slaw, hush puppies, orange wedges

ECC Calendar and Menu

Mon., March 24
Lunch—Meat loaf, whipped potatoes, black eyed peas, beets/onions, cornbread, banana pudding, milk, tea, or coffee

Wed., March 26

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING PAYS 864-2686

11:00 a.m. Outreach Health Services blood pressure check

Lunch—Beef/spaghetti, whipped potatoes, mixed vegetables, garden salad, garlic toast, lemon refrigerated dessert, milk, tea, or coffee

Fri., March 28

Lunch—German sausage, saurkraut, pinto beans, onion slices, macaroni and cheese, yeast rolls, apricot cobbler, milk, tea, or coffee
Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

This Week's Devotional Message:



When winter snows have left the earth
And warmer breezes start to blow,
Behold the annual rebirth,
When grass will soon begin to grow
And tiny buds of leaves will sprout
On limbs of trees in forest glades
Then flowers soon will blossom out,
Exquisite in their pastel shades.

The air is filled with songs of birds,
And humming insects will abound,
A scene of beauty, where no words
Do justice to each sight and sound
Incorporated in the plan,
Or could describe each living thing
That signifies God's love for man,
When nature comes alive in spring.

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.m.; 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
- New Vision Family Worship Center**
James Rincker, pastor • 864-5438
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**
Art Flores, Interim pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
607 S. 7th, Haskell
- First United Methodist Church**
Allen Brooks, 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**
Brett Anderson, 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**
Steve Beatty, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Trinity Baptist Church**
Tony Grand, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.
401 S. Ave. D, Haskell
- Hopewell Baptist Church**
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

- Greater Independent Baptist Church**
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell
- New Covenant Foursquare**
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.
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**
Kevin Hall, 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**
Chris Powell, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert
- Weinert Foursquare Church**
Rev. Robert Harrison
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert
- ROCHESTER**
- Church of Christ**
Steve Willis, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester
- First Baptist Church**
Jackie Brem, pastor
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester
- Union Chapel Baptist Church**
Rev. Clarence Walker
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Rochester
- O'BRIEN**
- O'Brien Baptist Church**
Kyle Gullede, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p., Wed. 6 p.m.
O'Brien

- 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**
Melissa Bemis, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
Sagerton
- Faith Lutheran Church**
Deborah Nissen, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Sagerton
- RULE**
- First Baptist Church**
Josh Stowe, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 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**
Tommy Wilson, pastor
Sun. Morn. Worship 10 a.m.
1000 Union Ave., Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**
Alfa y Omegas
Manuel Marin, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
500 Elm Street, Rule
- Sweet Home Baptist Church**
Bill Trice, 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

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NOTICE OF GAS RATE INCREASE REQUEST

TXU Gas Distribution (the "Company"), in accordance with the Gas Utility Regulatory Act, hereby gives notice of its intent to implement a new schedule of rates for natural gas service to be charged to all residential, commercial and industrial customers in the unincorporated areas in the vicinity of the West Region Distribution System ("Enviros Customers"). The West Region Distribution System includes the following cities: Abilene, Albany, Alvarado, Anson, Avoca, Baird, Ballinger, Bangs, Benjamin, Blackwell, Blanket, Blum, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Carbon, Carlsbad, Cisco, Cleburne, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Covington, DeLeon, Desdemona, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Glen Rose, Godley, Gordon, Gorie, Gorman, Granbury, Hamlin, Haskell, Hawley, Hermleigh, Hillsboro, Impact, Itasca, Joshua, Keene, Knox City, Lawn, Lipan, Loraine, Lueders, May, McCauley, Meridian, Merkel, Miles, Moran, Morgan, Munday, Novice, O'Brien, Olden, Osceola, Ovalo, Putnam, Ranger, Red Springs, Rhineland, Rio Vista, Robert Lee, Roby, Rochester, Roscoe, Rotan, Rowena, Rule, San Angelo, Santa Anna, Santo, Seymour, Snyder, Stamford, Stephenville, Strawn, Sweetwater, Sylvester, Talpa, Throckmorton, Trent, Truscott, Tuscola, Tye, Valera, Vera, Weinert, Whitney, Wingate, and Winters.

The proposed revisions to the respective rate schedules will impact Residential Service, Commercial Service, Industrial Sales, Industrial Transportation, Rate Adjustment Provisions (Gas Cost Adjustment, Tax Adjustment, and Surcharges), and Miscellaneous Service Charges (Connection Charge, Read for Change Charge, Returned Check Charges, Delinquent Notification Charge, Main Line Extension Rate, Excess Flow Valve Charge, and Certain Stand-by Gas Generators). The proposed new schedule of rates will also eliminate the Rate Schedule for Public Schools-N and Commercial Contract Public Schools Rate.

The proposed rates are expected to produce a \$357,845 or a 10.27 percent increase in the Company's annual revenues from residential, commercial and industrial enviros customers in the West Region Distribution System. The proposed change will affect 3,494 residential, 475 commercial customers and 18 industrial customers. The proposed change may constitute a "major" change as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code. The proposed changes will have differing impacts on individual residential and commercial customers, depending on consumption and current applicable rate schedules. A residential customer receiving a bill for 6 Mcf will see a bill of approximately \$50.93, which would constitute a change ranging from a decrease of \$6.93 to an increase of approximately \$7.60 per month. A commercial customer receiving a bill for 30 Mcf will see a change ranging from a 14.71% decrease to a 15.39% increase. Information on the change in any specific area can be obtained from TXU Gas Distribution.

A complete copy of the Statement of Intent, filed with the Railroad Commission of Texas on January 31, 2003 is available for inspection in the Company business office located at 1601 Bryan St., Dallas, Texas 75201. Persons with questions or who want information about this filing, or a copy, may contact TXU Gas Distribution at 1-800-460-3030. Any affected persons may file written comments or protest concerning the proposed change in enviros rates by March 21, 2003, with Docket Services Section of the Legal Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967.

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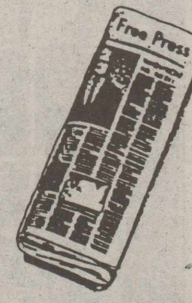
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FOR SALE: Four 15" Chevy pickup stock aluminum wheels \$150. Call after 5 p.m. 864-2023. 101stfc

FOR SALE: Refrigerator, electric stove and other household furniture. Call 864-2238. 11tfc

Cars For Sale

FOR SALE: 2000 Ford 250 7.3 diesel. Loaded. Quad cab. Clean. Call 940-864-2749 11-12p

FOR SALE: 1977 GMC pickup with butane system; some farm equipment including 2 shredders; also seed cleaner, sea container. Call 940-864-3122 evenings. 12-13c

Garage Sales

BIG YARD SALE: Fri.-Sat., March 21-22. 8 til ? Lots of stuff. 606 Loup St., Rule, Texas. 12p

GARAGESALE: Sat. 202 N. Ave. M. In back. If raining, try next week. 12c

GARAGE SALE: 201 Sparks, Weinert. Sat., March 22. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Furniture, linens, children and adult clothing, much more. 12c

Lost & Found

LOST: Brown tri-fold billfold at First Baptist Church Wed., March 12. Please return all cards, driver's license and billfold. Call 864-3939. 12p

For Rent

FOR LEASE: 2 bedroom, 1 bath. CH/A. 906 N. Ave. E. 846-3762. 12c

NOW LEASING: Senior Apartment Homes. For more details, call 864-3301. 12tfc

Real Estate

FOR SALE: Brick home. Smoke-free. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Attached garage. CH/A. Corner lot 150x132. Storm cellar, water well. Price reduced. Call 940-864-2264. 40tfc

FOR SALE: 103 N. Ave. L. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Nice fence. Carport. Call Bridget at Haskell County Realty 864-2665. 12c

FOR SALE: 165 acres, 2 miles northeast of Rule, all row crop, with allotments, receiving PFC or DP payments. \$350 acre. Negotiable. 936-560-0575. 7-14p

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FOR SALE BY OWNER: Rule. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 carport, large living and kitchen. Breakfast bar, large storage building. Painting allowance for exterior. Inside looks great—just move in. Call 940-996-2003. 12-15c

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PART RN needed for weekend coverage. Apply in person at Teakwood Manor, 1003 Columbia St., Stamford. 33tfc

WANTED: Service technician for local tractor dealership. Health, retirement and vacation benefits included. Call 940-422-4534. 50tfc

TEAKWOOD MANOR has an opening for 3-11 shift LVN. Please contact Vickie at Teakwood Manor, 1003 Columbia, Stamford. EOE. 9tfc

WEST-GO now accepting applications for cashier. Apply in person at store. 400 N. Ave. E. 11-14c

WANTED: Full time RN, LVNs 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. Full benefits, insurance, PTO, retirement. Stonewall Memorial Hospital, Aspermont. Call L. Fraser, RN, DON. 940-989-3551. 11-12c

GIRLING HEALTH CARE home health aides needed! Earn excellent pay for part time work! Girling Health Care needs fee for service aides for home health visits in Haskell and surrounding area. Please call 1-800-950-0786 in Abilene for more information. EOE. 11-13c

GIRLING HEALTH CARE. Part time RNs needed! Earn excellent pay for part time work! Girling Health Care needs fee for service RNs for home health visits in Haskell and surrounding area. Please call 1-800-950-0786 in Abilene for more information. EOE. 12-13c

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Public Notices

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CORDIE MAE CUNNINGHAM
Administration of the Estate of Cordie Mae Cunningham, Deceased, has been commenced by the issuance of original letters testamentary to Larry Dean Cunningham on February 3, 2003, by the Probate Court of Haskell County, Texas, acting in Cause No. 4171, styled In Re: Estate of Cordie Mae Cunningham, Deceased, in which court the matter is pending.
All person having claims against the estate are notified to present them to the undersigned at the address shown below within the time prescribed by law.
Dated: March 12, 2003
Don N. Seamster
P. O. Box 360
Abilene, Texas 79604
(915) 677-6291
(915) 677-6313 FAX
State Bar No. 17952000
Attorney for the Estate 20p

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We would like to thank all those who called, visited, sent cards and/or flowers, made donations in her memory, brought food, or helped to serve the family lunch during our time of grief. The many expressions of love for her and sympathy for us were and are much appreciated. She loved living in Haskell, and the many acts of kindness at this time showed why.
The family of Mattie Muriel Felker English

DANCE at Rhineland K-MAC
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Local Law enforcement report

Haskell law enforcement agencies have reported the following list of arrests and offenses for the month of February:

8 public intoxications; 5 driving while intoxicated; 1 felony driving while intoxicated; 1 minor in possession; 2 disorderly conducts; 1 traffic offense; 7 thefts by checks; 2 thefts over \$500.00, less than \$1,500.00; 1 bench warrant served.

1 jail time served; 1 violation of protective order; 2 probation violators; 2 criminal nonsupport (child support); 1 escape while arrested; 2 forgery of financial instrument; 5 possession drug paraphernalia; 5 possession of marijuana; 2 possession of controlled substance, greater than 4 grams and less than 200 grams.

2 manufacture and delivery of controlled substance, greater than 1 gram; 1 possession of controlled substance greater than 1 gram; 1 possession of controlled substance greater than 1 gram in drug free zone; 2 burglary of building; 2 theft of motor operated vehicles; 2 vandalism.

During the month of February, 208 calls were made to 911.

Free disposal event set

A Texas Country Cleanup has been set for April 7 at Farmer's Co-op Gin of Stamford for safe disposal of agricultural waste pesticides, hazardous household chemicals and used motor oil.

Open to all Texas residents, including anyone who applies pesticides for the production of agricultural products in Texas, the service is free of charge, voluntary and confidential. Collection hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Agricultural chemicals accepted include banned or unwanted pesticides. Home chemicals accepted include pesticides, paints and thinners, antifreeze, household batteries, aerosol cans, photographic chemicals, mercury thermometers, herbicides, gasoline, other automotive products, cleaners, pool chemicals and fluorescent bulbs. Other items accepted are properly rinsed plastic pesticide containers, used motor oil and oil filters (not those from businesses that charge oil for a fee), and lead acid batteries.

Not accepted are tires, radioactive materials, explosives, compressed gas cylinders, herbicides containing 2,4,5-T-Silvex, pesticide or wood preservatives containing pentachlorophenol (unless quantities are less than 5 gallons), nutrient materials that are neither hazardous nor contain pesticide admixtures, biomedical wastes, ammunition or fertilizers.

The Farmer's Co-op Gin is located on New Hope Road (Farm Market Road 1226) south of downtown Stamford.

For more information call the local County Extension Agent or the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality at 512/239-3150.



OUTDOOR SHOPPING—Shoppers browse the various bargain items in front of Flatlands Saturday during the flea market sidewalk sales set up by Haskell stores in conjunction with the Car Show.

Commissioners' Court report

At their regular meeting Mon., Mar. 10, the Haskell County Commissioners' Court unanimously passed a motion to approve the contract with Emerald Correctional Management LLC in connection with the Rolling Plains Regional County Jail and Detention Center, and to give Judge David Davis the authority to sign the contract if it is substantially the same terms as the rough draft, and upon a review of the contract by the County Attorney.

The Court voted to support the Strategic Plan of the Development Corporation and Oncor, which was presented by Randy Hise.

A motion was passed to approve Bobbye Collins hiring Belia Abila in the Tax Assessor-Collections Office, effective Mar. 4, at the rate of \$6.00 per hour. Approval was also given for the hiring of Iven J. Greenroyd, Jr. at \$35.00 per day in Precinct 2.

A motion was approved to issue time warrants to Haskell National Bank in the amount of \$50,000.00 for a motor grader for Precinct 4.

The matter of making a decision in choosing an electricity provider

for the county was tabled.

A review was made by the Court of the Racial Profiling Reports of the County Sheriff and County Constable.

A motion was approved for the purchase of a used radar unit for Patrol Officer Danny Wainscott's patrol vehicle.

The Court appointed the following nine people as members to the Historical Commission: Grace Bishop, David Davis, Marguerite Gauntt, Wanda Ham, Ernestine Herren, Jim Hollingsworth, Veeta Reid, Johnny Scoggins and Joyce Turner.

A proclamation was approved declaring Mar. 16-22 as National Agricultural Week in Texas.

A motion was approved for an access fine of \$500.00 for farm equipment turning in or on a County Road in Precinct 1.

A motion was passed to table the approval of the proposed bid for appraisal and acquisition of property on FM 3337.

No action was taken on the purchase of containers for storage.

Prison population exceeds 200

By James Elam
Director DCOH

A new milestone was reached at the Rolling Plains Jail and Detention Center over the weekend.

The population in the Detention Center reached 203 and the Jail inmates numbered 24. This is the first time the Detention Center has exceeded 200.

At their regular meetings last Monday, Mar. 10, the Haskell County Commissioners and the City of Haskell approved assignment of the Management Agreement from Management & Training Corporation to Emerald Correctional Company. In reassigning the

contract, both of the local governing bodies expressed their appreciation and thanks to Management & Training Corporation for their work during the past year.

Emerald Correctional Management Company officially assumed operational responsibilities of the facility effective at 12:01 a.m., Sat., Mar. 15.

Lupe Lozano has been named interim warden and will serve until a permanent warden is selected.

The City and County welcomes Emerald Management Company to Haskell and looks forward to a long, successful relationship.

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