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3

Softball games

JV-V Maidens vs Anson
Fri., March 19, 4 p.m.
at Anson
V Maidens vs Stamford
Tues., March 23, 4 p.m.
at Haskell

Baseball games

JV-V Indians vs Anson
Fri., March 19, 4 p.m.
at Anson
JV Indians vs Stamford
Mon., March 22, 4 p.m.
at Stamford
V Indians vs Stamford
Tues., March 23, 4 p.m.
at Haskell

Track

Haskell
Indians and Maidens
Sat., March 20
Bulldog Relays, Stamford
Haskell Junior High Track
Thurs., March 18
Stamford

Paint Creek
Jr. High Girls and Boys
Thurs., March 18
Knox City
Pirates and Lady Pirates
Sat., March 20
Knox City

Calendar

All-night party

A meeting to plan the Haskell County All-Night Party will be held Thurs., March 18 at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church. Parents of high school students in Haskell County are encouraged to attend.

Softball sign-up

Sign-up for girls softball will be held Mon., March 22 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Little Dribbler's game. Girls ages 5 through 15 are eligible for play. For more information contact Donnie Rieger at Sport-About.

Benefit lunch

A covered dish lunch will be held Sun., March 21 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Haskell Elementary cafeteria to assist Haskell residents Janie and Joe Rodriguez with medical expenses. Tickets are \$5 per plate and available from Friends of Faith members, at the Haskell School Administration office during the week of March 15-19 or at the door. Call Lisa Teague at 864-2606 for more information.

Bake sale/cake walk

The youth of Trinity Lutheran Church will hold a bake sale and cake walk on the square during the car show Sat., March 20. Proceeds will benefit the group's summer camp fund.

Sagerton Hee Haw

The Sagerton Hee Haw will be presented March 25-27 at the Sagerton Community Center. Tickets are \$4. Doors will open at 5:30 for the meal. Auditorium doors will open at 7 p.m. with music provided until the show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets may be ordered from J. B. or Dorothy Toney, 1825 FM 1661, Sagerton, Texas 79548 or by 940-997-2688.

One-Act Plays

One-Act Plays from Rochester, Paint Creek, Haskell and Rule will be presented at the Haskell Civic Center Mon., March 22 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$3. A concession stand will be available.

Flea market

A flea market will be held Sat., March 20 in conjunction with the Haskell Fire Department's Classic Car Show. To reserve a space for the flea market, call the Haskell Chamber of Commerce at 864-2477.

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Fire Department's Classic Car Show set Saturday

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 118--NO. 12, ©MARCH 18, 2004

"The People's Choice"

10 PAGES--ONE SECTION--50 CENTS

Classic cars to arrive for show Saturday

The 8th Annual Haskell Volunteer Fire Department Car Show will be held around the Courthouse Square

Sat., Mar. 20, again offering a full day of varied activities, with something for fun and entertainment of all age

groups.

The ten classes of vehicles included for judging are: Cars Pre-

'64; Cars '65 and up; Antique Cars, Trucks through '50; Street Rods Pre-'49; Race Cars; Older Pickups Pre-

'84; Pickups '85 and up; Motorcycles; Restoration in Progress; Cushman Scooters.

First and second place will be awarded cash prizes in each class. Third place in each class will receive a trophy. Awards and cash will be awarded for Best of Show, People's Choice (selected by the public) and Furthest Distance Traveled.

Entry time will be from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Fire Station. Entry fee is \$20.00. Judging will be at 12:30, with trophy presentation at 3:30. For information call Randy Shaw at 940-864-2023.

Entry fee for the Hot Wheels for Kids is \$1.00. Trophies will be given for 1st and 2nd places.

The Kids Tractor Pull, with kid-sized tractors, will again be featured.

Hamburgers and fries will be served on the square by the Fire Department.

The annual Flea Market, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, will be held on the sidewalks in front of some of the vacant buildings around the square.

Vendor spaces will be approximately 6 feet deep by 20 feet long and are \$20.00 each. Food vendor spaces are \$15.00 each. Previous vendors may reserve the same space they had last year by indicating their choice on the entry form.

For more information on the Flea Market, call the Chamber of Commerce office at 940-864-2477.



2003 TOP WHEELS—This 1971 Plymouth 340 Duster, owned by Michael T. Sheppard of Archer City, won 2nd place in the Car '65

and up category in last year's Classic Car Show. This year's show is set for Sat. around the Haskell County Courthouse Square.

Grant helps County with purchase of brush fire truck

The Haskell Volunteer Fire Department has been awarded a \$105,547.50 cost-sharing grant from

the Texas Forest Service's Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program for the purchase

of a new large brush truck.

Mon., Mar. 15, the local Fire Department took delivery of the new

Steele Brush King truck from representatives of Steele Fire Apparatus, and were presented a \$105,547.50 check from the Texas Forest Service.

To date, under the Rural VFD Assistance Program, almost \$25 million in fire trucks, training and other equipment has been granted to volunteer fire departments across the state. West Texas VFD's have received more than \$6 million, and more than 1,800 VFD's have received funding since Sept. 2002.

Under the cost-share funding program, VFD's can apply for grants for numerous items, including tanker trucks, small and large brush trucks, protective gear, computers, training tuition and other fire and rescue equipment.

House Bill 2604, enacted by the 77th Texas Legislature in 2001,

established the aid program, a \$15 million annual cost-sharing program funded by contributions from the insurance industry and administered by the Texas Forest Service.

Joe Fox, program manager with the TFS in Bryan said that the needs of the volunteer fire community are tremendous, and that requests for assistance far exceeded the appropriated funds. "The program obviously will have a backlog of requests for several years."

The new truck Haskell was enabled to have through the assistance program was manufactured in Haskell by Steele Fire Apparatus. From more than 3,208 various requests made by Rural Volunteer Fire Departments across the state, the truck was one of 35 requests granted for a large brush truck.

Storm assistance requested for county

Texas Governor Rick Perry has asked the Small Business Administration (SBA) to declare Haskell County a disaster area following tornadoes, wind and heavy rain on Mar. 4.

A notice received by *The Free Press* from the Governor's Office on Mon., Mar. 15, stated that if the SBA disaster declaration is granted, individuals and businesses in Haskell County would be eligible to apply for low-interest SBA disaster loans. Homeowners would be able to borrow up to \$200,000 and businesses up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace property damaged in storms. The loans are offered at interest rates as low as 2.8 percent

for terms up to 30 years.

According to information received from the state office, a preliminary survey of the area indicates that there are more than 25 homes and businesses that suffered an uninsured loss of more than 40 percent during the recent storms.

After meeting with representatives of the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Small Business Administration and Steve Reddish of Emergency Management with the Texas Department of Public Safety, on Fri., Mar. 12, Haskell County Judge David Davis discounted any help from the disaster declaration. It was unlikely, he said, that any assistance would be available from

the SBA program, due to the area not meeting the criteria because not enough of the damaged homes were primary residences and too few homes not insured.

However, on Mon., Mar. 15, after talking further with Jack Colley of the Department of Emergency Management with the Texas Department of Public Safety, Judge Davis reported that they still have other avenues they are pursuing.

"It's now all up to them," he said, as to any forthcoming assistance for the storm damage. Any further information his office receives will be made public, he said.

Halliburton re-elected

In the only contested race in the County Democratic Party Primary, incumbent David Halliburton won over his two opponents with a total of 881 votes for the office of County Sheriff.

Other totals in the Democratic Primary were:

Presidential nominee: Kucinich, 11; LaRouche, 4; Dean, 45; Kerry, 647; Gephardt, 25; Clark, 24; Lieberman, 27; Crow, 5; Edwards, 161; Sharpton, 18

In other offices: Railroad Commissioner, Scarborough, 844; Justice Supreme Court, Place 9, Van Os, 807; Judge Court Criminal Appeals, Molina, 804; Dist. Attorney, 39th Judicial Dist., Mike Fouts 1087; County Attorney, Shane Hadaway, 1048; Sheriff, Jack Whorton, 236; Bill Glass, 192; David Halliburton, 881; County Tax Assessor-Collector, Bobby Collins, 1193; County Commissioner, Pct. 1, Johnny Scoggins, 290; County Commissioner, Pct. 3, Kenny

Thompson, 210; Constable, Pct. 1, Kim Bassett, 996; County Chairman, Sharon Mullino, 1009.

Referendum No. 1, For, 159, Against, 957. Referendum No. 2, For, 665, Against, 438.

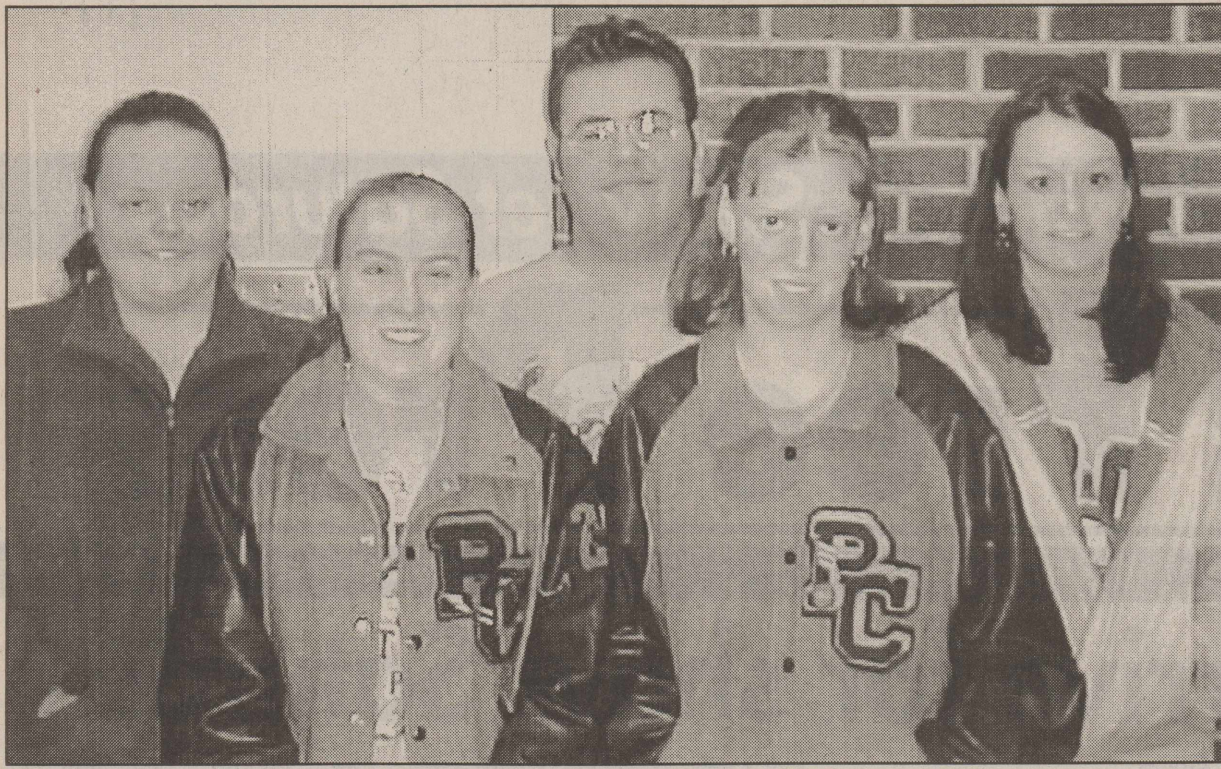
In the County Republican Primary: Presidential nominee George Bush received 41 votes.

Other offices were:
U. S. Representative, Dist 13., Thornberry, 36; Railroad Commissioner, Doffenbaugh, 6, Butler 2, Henry 3, Carrill, 28; Justice Supreme Court, Place 3, O'Neil, 32; Justice Supreme Court, Place 5, Smith 18, Green 17; Justice Supreme Court, Place 9, Brister 32; Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2, Meyers 23, Gray 9; Judge Criminal Appeals, Place 5, Johnson 19, Noble 12; Judge Criminal Appeals, Place 6, Porter 17, Keasler 14; State Senator, Dist. 28, Duncan 34; State Representative, Dist. 68, Hardcastle, 38; County Chairman, David Brown, 34.



NEW FIRE TRUCK—Haskell Fire Dept. and Haskell County takes delivery of a new brush truck bought through a 90% grant from the Texas Forestry Service and 10% paid by the County. From the left are: Coy Scoggins and Danny Stocks, representatives of Steele Fire Apparatus, Gilbert 'Nick' Harrison, Regional Fire Coordinator for the Texas Forest Service; Jerry Stocks, Haskell Assistant Fire Chief; Johnny Scoggins, Haskell Co. Commissioner, Precinct 1; Rick Hardcastle, State Representative, Dist. 68; and Haskell County Judge David Davis. The check presented by the Forest Service was in the amount of \$105,547.50.

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 864-2686



AT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE—Students in the Paint Creek Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) chapter recently participating in the Regional II Conference at Weatherford were: l-r, front, Bonnie Emert and Rebecca Hope. Back, Jessica Messenger, Jimmy Rincker and Audry Daniel. Theme of the conference was "A Road Trip To Your Future."

Paint Creek FCCLA members participate in conference

The Paint Creek Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) chapter recently participated in the Region II FCCLA Leadership Conference Feb. 27-28, 2004 in Weatherford, held at both Weatherford College and the new Weatherford High School. This year's theme was "A Road Trip To Your Future."

FCCLA chapter members participating in the leadership conference were Bonnie Emert, Jimmy Rincker, Audry Daniel, Rebecca Hope and Jessica Messenger. Chapter advisor Darlene Hopkins accompanied the students.

These students completed all five units of the FCCLA "Power of One" project. The five self-improvement units are entitled: A Better You,

Family Ties, Working on Working, Take the Lead, and Speak Out for FCCLA.

Students must complete a "Power of One" project sheet for each unit that involves using the FCCLA Planning Process steps: 1. Identify a concern; 2. Set a goal; 3. Form a plan; 4. Act; and 5. Follow up.

The "A Better You" unit helps students to think about areas in their life that they want to strengthen.

The "Family Ties" unit helps students to think about things that they can do to be a strong family member.

The "Working on Working" unit helps students to think about what they need to know about careers and work.

The "Take the Lead" unit helps the students to think about leadership skills that they want to strengthen.

The "Speak Out for FCCLA" unit helps students to think about people that they wish knew more about

FCCLA.

Paint Creek FCCLA Chapter members have participated in various other family and consumer science related activities this year.

Chapter members conducted drug abuse prevention educational programs during Red Ribbon Week. The dangers of spit tobacco and the negative effects of smoking and second-hand smoke and alcohol abuse were demonstrated to every class in school, through illustrated talks. All students received red ribbons and informational materials from FCCLA members. Exhibits, posters, and banners on the hazards of drug abuse were placed in the cafeteria and all over the school campus.

Community and school service projects have included raising funds for the Paint Creek PTO, donating canned food to the food bank, visiting local nursing homes and presenting them with toiletry items through the YES program, weeding the school flowerbeds, and adopting an elementary student to mentor through the PALS program and Ready, Set, Read program.

Also, the Paint Creek FCCLA members have assisted the Paint Creek Senior Class with their concession stand fund-raising efforts and participated in the King County Fair in Guthrie. Paint Creek FCCLA members plan to participate in Child Abuse Prevention programs in the month of April.

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HASKELL CISD PUBLIC MEETING INVITATION

WHAT The purpose of this public meeting is to gather public input on the effective operation and performance of the Haskell CISD's special education program through one or more community focus groups that address a set of pre-determined questions. This district public meeting is a required component of the new performance-based Texas Education Agency's Special Education Monitoring system. The meeting will be conducted in a structured format over 3 hours.

Meeting Date	Meeting Time
March 29, 2004	Registration: 6:00-6:30 Meeting: 6:30 Note: All participants should plan to arrive 15 to 30 minutes before the meeting to sign in. Your early arrival for registration will help ensure the meeting can begin on time.

City	Location	Phone (for location or registration information)
Haskell, Texas	High School Auditorium 600 North Avenue E	940-864-2602

RSVP Although RSVPs are not required, your RSVP is requested by Monday, March 22, to help us make arrangements for the meeting space, facilitation and organization needed to allow sufficient opportunity for all to participate. You can RSVP to the meeting by:

- Sending in the enclosed RSVP form, OR
- Calling Haskell CISD Administration Office at 940-864-2602.

If you are unable to register in advance, you are still welcome to attend the meeting. However, please plan to arrive 30 minutes early to the meeting to sign-in.

Special Accommodations

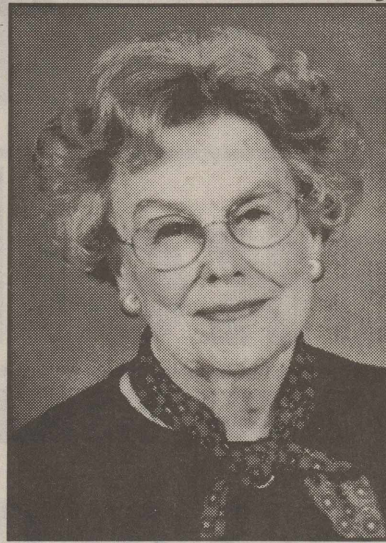
If you will need accommodations for a disability in order to participate in the meeting (e.g. interpreting services, assistive listening devices, materials in alternate format), please indicate this need when submitting your RSVP. **Requests for special accommodations are required by Monday, March 22.** We will attempt to meet requests received after this date, but cannot guarantee availability of the requested accommodation. The meeting sites are accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Please Note: The meeting is NOT intended as a forum to resolve specific, individual complaints regarding services you have received. In order for TEA to investigate alleged violations of federal regulations and/or State rules, the complaint must be written and signed.

If you wish to speak to someone at the TEA about a complaint, you can leave a message on the Parent Information Line (1-800-252-9668). Your message will be responded to by a staff member from the TEA Division of Special Education Programs and Complaints.

Obituaries

Myra Marjorie Ratliff Pace



MARJORIE PACE
Funeral services for Myra Marjorie Ratliff Pace, 82, of Haskell were held Fri., March 12 at First Christian Church in Haskell with

Dusty Garrison officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home.

Mrs. Pace died Tues., March 9 at her home.

Born July 7, 1921 in Decatur, she was the daughter of Judge Lemuel David and Myra Texas Ratliff. She married Lynn Pace, Jr. Sept. 16, 1939. She was a member of First Christian Church and the Ladies Missionary Society. She started playing the piano and organ at First Christian Church at age 13 and played for 56 years. Her church and family were a source of inspiration and joy. Her life was one of service centered on her church and family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Stephen James Pace; infant great grandchild; eight

brothers and one sister.

Survivors include her husband, Lynn Pace, Jr. of Haskell; sons, William Lynn (Sam) Pace III and wife, Twyla of Haskell and Patrick Hugh Pace and wife, Carmel of Rule; grandchildren, William Lynn (Will) Pace IV and wife, Sylvia of Abilene, Seth Pace and wife, Kelli of Hinesville, Georgia, Joseph Pace of Houston, Matt Pace of Denver, Colorado, Ben Pace of Abilene and Stephen John Pace and Ryan Pace, both of Rule; great grandchildren, Raine Lynn Pace of Clovis, N.M., Jacob, Jonah and Glory Pace of Hinesville, Georgia, and Mali Torres of Haskell; and a sister, Frances Pearson of Amarillo.

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

Susie Mae Sellers-Jackson



SUSIE MAE SELLERS-JACKSON

Funeral services for Susie Mae Sellers-Jackson, 92, of Haskell were held Fri., March 12 at Greater Independent Baptist Church in Haskell with Rev. Lewis, Rev. Hodge, Rev. Collins and Rev. Hanson officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home.

Mrs. Sellers-Jackson died Sun., March 7 at a local hospital.

Born Jan. 31, 1912 in Calvert, she was the daughter of Major Lewis, Sr. and Alice Collett Lewis. She had

lived in the community since 1940.

She was preceded in death by her parents; seven brothers and one sister.

Survivors include two sisters, Birdie Mae Benford and Mae Lou Yeldell, both of Haskell; and a multitude of nieces, nephews and friends.

Memorials may be made to greater Independent Baptist Church, 301 N. 3rd, Haskell, Texas 79521 or to Mae Lou Yeldell, 1504 N. Ave. B, Haskell, Texas 79521. PD. NOTICE

Joe Nell Camp

Graveside services for Joe Nell Camp, 61, of Haskell were held Fri., March 12 at Rochester Cemetery with John Greeson officiating. Services were under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home.

Ms. Camp died Wed., March 10 at Rice Springs Care Home.

Born Oct. 29, 1942 in Knox City, she was the daughter of Hayden and Alva Johnson Camp. She graduated from Rochester High School and was valedictorian of her class.

Gwendolyn Qualls

Graveside services for Gwendolyn Qualls, 88, of Plainview were held Tues., March 16 at Rochester Cemetery with Sue Clayton McCurley officiating. Services were under the direction of Mansell-Smith Funeral Home.

Mrs. Qualls died Sun., March 4 in a Plainview nursing home. Born May 30, 1915 in Golden, she was the daughter

of John Thomas and Dessie Galoushie Jones. She was a housewife and a Baptist.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Herschel Camp, Dwight Camp and Bobby Ray Camp.

Survivors include her brother, Herbert Wayne Camp and wife, Linda (Cox) of Lubbock; sisters, Doris Jean and husband, Jerry Lynn Lowrey of Farmington, N.M. and Virginia Pearl Camp of Miami Beach, Florida.

PD. NOTICE

Margery Farrar Hitt Searl

Funeral services for Margery Farrar Hitt Searl, 71, of Rochester were held Sun., March 14 at First United Methodist Church in Rochester with Dolan Brinson officiating. Burial was in Rochester Cemetery under the direction of Mansell-Smith Funeral Home in Knox City.

Mrs. Searl died March 11 at Hendrick Medical Center. Born July 22, 1932 in Rochester, she was the daughter of Jesse Martin 'Shab' Farrar Jr. and Johnnie Edward Lesley Farrar. She married Clarence Neil Hitt June 5, 1949. He preceded her in death in 1986. They farmed and lived in Rochester. The had one daughter, Riva Marie Hitt Johnson. Mrs. Searl worked for Rochester John Deere and retired after 21 years of employment from the

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. She received her certificate for 50 years membership of the Order of the Eastern Star. She married Eddie D. Searl, Dec. 17, 1993 in Rochester.

Survivors include her husband, Eddie Searl; son-in-law, Ron Johnson and daughter, Riva Hitt Johnson, both of Gallatin, Tenn.; granddaughter, Jenna Johnson, Wonderlich and husband, Ryan of Franklin, Kentucky; and many special and loved friends.

Memorials may be made to the Rochester Education Foundation, c/o Michelle Dunham or to the American Cancer Society. PD. NOTICE

Ed Wilfong

Funeral services for Ed Wilfong, 83, of Rotan will be held Thurs., March 18 at 10 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Rotan with Brothers Dutch Parks and Werth Mayes officiating. Services are under the direction of Weathersbee-Ray Funeral Home.

Mr. Wilfong rode off into the sunset Mon., March 15. Born July 21, 1920 in Haskell, he was the son of Calvin and Nellie Wilfong. He was raised and attended schools in Haskell. He joined the United States Army in 1942 and was an engineer until his discharge in 1945. He married Betty Caussey June 18, 1954. He moved to Fisher County in February of 1967 from Haskell to become the ranch foreman of the Strain Ranch (Half moon Land and Cattle) until his semi-retirement in 1990. He has continued to run cattle in Fisher and Stonewall counties. He was a cattleman, rancher, husband, father and brother.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Harry Jack Wilfong; and two sons, Joseph Dan Wilfong and Edward Dale Wilfong.

Survivors include his wife, Betty F. Wilfong of Rotan; two sons and one daughter-in-law, Glenn Wilfong, and Clay and Patti Wilfong, all of Rotan; two daughters, Karen Baldree of Rotan and Debby Wilfong of Tupelo, Miss.; one granddaughter, Jennifer Riley of Spur; one grandson, Chris Baldree of San Angelo; two great-grandsons, Blake and Luke Riley of Spur; three brothers, Birch Wilfong of Rio Vista, Ike Wilfong of Alvin and Andy Wilfong of Haskell; two sisters, Clara Perry and Geraldine Watson, both of Fort Worth.

Memorials may be made to Hendrick Hospice Care and West Texas Rehab. PD. NOTICE

Pass it on . . .
. . . in Jesus Name
**FREE
Flea Market**

Saturday, March 20
9 am - noon

1303 N. Ave. 1

Passed on to you . . .

. . . in Jesus Name

**Cornerstone
Baptist Fellowship**

Students in the News

Jennifer Nicole Bryan of Haskell and James Brady Standerfer of Sagerton have been named to the Distinguished Student list for the Fall 2003 semester of Tarleton State University in Stephenville.

Students on the Distinguished Students list include freshmen and sophomore students with a minimum GPR of 3.25 with no grade lower than C, and juniors and seniors with a minimum GPR of 3.5 with no grade lower than C who are in good standing.

Bryan was also named to the A Honor Roll by maintaining a 4.0 grade point ratio on the 4.0 system while taking a minimum or 12 hours.

To Subscribe,
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MR. AND MRS. DON PROVINES

Provines celebrate 50th anniversary

Don and Sue Provines of Haskell celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary, Sun. Mar. 14.

The couple married in Vincennes, Indiana on Mar. 14, 1954.

After moving several times in Indiana, in 1957 they moved to the Champaign, Illinois area. In 1970 they moved to El Paso.

In 1974, Don went into full-time ministry, and they served as pastor in Eunice, New Mexico, Monahans, Bedford, Indiana, Sonora, Electra, and Coleman. In 1994 they retired and now reside in Haskell.

The couple's four children, daughters Donna, Susan and Darla, and son, Rick, surprised their parents with a "card shower" by notifying family and friends to wish their parents "Happy Anniversary."

On the day of the anniversary, the family attended church together at Cornerstone Baptist Fellowship, after which they went out for lunch at Pit and Grill.

In the afternoon, they had family pictures taken and enjoyed a family celebration with cake and punch.

Those in attendance were Donna and Scott Coombes of Lyford, Indiana; Susan and Dawn Skinner of Haskell; Rick and Kathy Provines of Sterling, Colorado; and Darla and Tim Mengwasser, Courtney, Caitlyn and Corey of Electra; and step grandson, Jason Totten, of Blythe, Alaska.

Four grandchildren, one step grandchild and eight step great-grandchildren were unable to attend.

Ginger Test shows watercolor technique at Art Club meeting

Members of the Brazos West Art Club met Mar. 8 at the Haskell National Bank Community Room for a presentation by guest artist Ginger Test of Novice.

Sketching and painting a watercolor landscape vignette, Test recommended various watercolor supplies, as well as giving factual information concerning her watercolor technique.

Those in attendance were Adeline

Laird, Doris Reeves, Florence Larned, Jennie Lyckman, Peggy Middlebrook, Beverly Moore, Denia Cunningham, Flo Olson, Betty Hook, Marsha Whittemore, Fern Livengood, Betty Berry, Ruth Ann Klose, Bobbie Harrison, Anita Herren, Martha Spitzer and new member, Nelwyn Beakley.

Hostesses for the evening were Florence Larned and Beverly Moore.

Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

week of March 11

Hyrum and Jean Richards spent the weekend in Albuquerque with son, Brady Henshaw and grandchildren, Savannah Jean and Philip Scott.

Sat., March 6, Joyce Hawkins went home with Phillip and Floradean Cockerell of Temple for a week's visit. Joyce returned to Abilene on Sat., March 13 with

Floradean and Barbara where they met Margaret and Creora Tatum for lunch. Margaret, Creora and Joyce all visited Joyce's sister-in-law, Tiny Vaughn in Anson before returning home to Haskell.

Visiting with Charles and Gean Blair were their grandson Cody and his daughter, Abbie. Abbie was honored with her 4th birthday party during the visit.

All deadlines are 5 p.m. Monday.

GreenScape Garden Center

711 North First East (East 380)

Welcome Haskell Fire Dept.
Classic Car Show Participants

Come by
711 N. First East (East Hwy. 380) and
pick up your Spring Bedding Plants.

Also check out the
HUGE GARAGE SALE
next door!

Hours: Tues. thru Sat. - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed Sunday & Monday

Franklin to celebrate 100th birthday

Tues., Mar. 23, Lorene Franklin of Rochester will be celebrating her 100th birthday.

Lorene Dozier grew up in Haskell County. Her father had medical training and delivered babies in the county prior to a doctor moving to the area. He was a farmer, rancher and served in a posse looking for the Dalton gang. Her mother was the first woman to vote in the county.

As a girl, Lorene worked mules in the field with her younger brother Buster. After she harnessed one each morning the second one would come up and stand beside the first one, ready to be hooked up, and then the next, until her four mules, Pete, Jack, Keen and John were ready to go to work for her.

She left home at age 17, going to nearby Rochester, where she lived in the Farley Hotel, cooking, cleaning and waiting tables in the dining room.

Traveling a good bit through out her life, she fondly remembers being a waitress for lots of military boys at the end of WWII in Wyoming. Her habit of always giving them bread and butter to take with them on their departure, caused many to request her table when coming to dine.

She was married once, for a few years, to Everett Clide Franklin in Wichita, Kansas, when she was 28 years old. She did not have children, but continues to stay close to the children of her siblings.

Reno, Nevada, was a place that she chose to live for a number of years. There, she grew prize-winning fruits and vegetables. It is believed that this is where she acquired her skills in making quilts, bedspreads and draperies that gained her fame. She is admired for her talented, strong hands, which she says had the power to soothe her ill mother, or to erase a head or back ache for her visiting nieces.

She made draperies for Howard Hughes' commercial buildings. When one niece asked about the rumor that Lorene Franklin might have dated Howard Hughes, the response was, "Aunt Lorene made quilts for celebrities, among them Howard Hughes, and he probably did make a remark about marrying him,



LORENE FRANKLIN

for she was more beautiful in her younger days than any movie star."

Baptized in 1958 as a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, she is currently a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Abilene 1st Ward, Abilene.

Her nieces, according to Karen Godwin, remember that their Aunt Lorene had a beautiful white brick home in Laverkin, Utah, with a flower garden, vegetable garden and fruit trees. "She was such a good hostess. She set a beautiful table, with a handmade cloth, and her favorite Desert Rose dishes. She always fed everyone well, using many of her canned items, including fruit juices." Their heads and taste buds still have visions of her peanut butter and fresh dates stuffed with pecans, and they remember coffee and tea were never on the menu due to her religious beliefs, Godwin said.

Lorene moved back to Haskell in 1983 to be near to her brother, S. S. (Jack) Dozier.

The spirit of Lorene Franklin remains alive and well in Rochester today, (though perhaps a little forgetful). Visitors might be overwhelming, but her family hopes that many will remember her with a card now and then. Keeping her cards close beside her, with delight in her eyes, she proudly shares them when she is able to have visitors.

Happy Birthday, Lorene.

Local Study Club visits in Stamford

Sat., Mar. 6, seventeen members of the Haskell Progressive Study Club attended the Texas Heritage Breakfast hosted annually for women of their community by the Pierian Club of Stamford.

"Homespun Ladies" was the theme of the morning event held at the Bunkhouse on the grounds of the historic Stamford Rodeo and Cowboy Reunion.

Susan Graham welcomed the group and introduced special guests, including Mesquite District president, Nancy Toliver of Haskell.

In the settings of an early-day ranch parlor and a root cellar, a program titled "Home on the Range-Making a Home in Texas," was presented by several readers, giving accounts from the journals kept by four early-day Texas ranch women about their daily life in the new and

wild frontier of West Texas. Also presented was a collection of anecdotes and household hints from *Keeping Hearth and Home in Old Texas*, the *Ladies Home Companion* of 1891, *Ladies Home Companion* of 1916-1918, *The Loblolly Book*, and *The Prairie Traveler*.

"Where the Buffalo Roam-Music of Old Texas," was presented by Ray Clark of Stamford, who entertained the group by playing guitar and singing familiar western songs from the cowboy movies of the 1930's and 40's.

The Progressive Study Club and Pierian Club are members of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Mesquite District.

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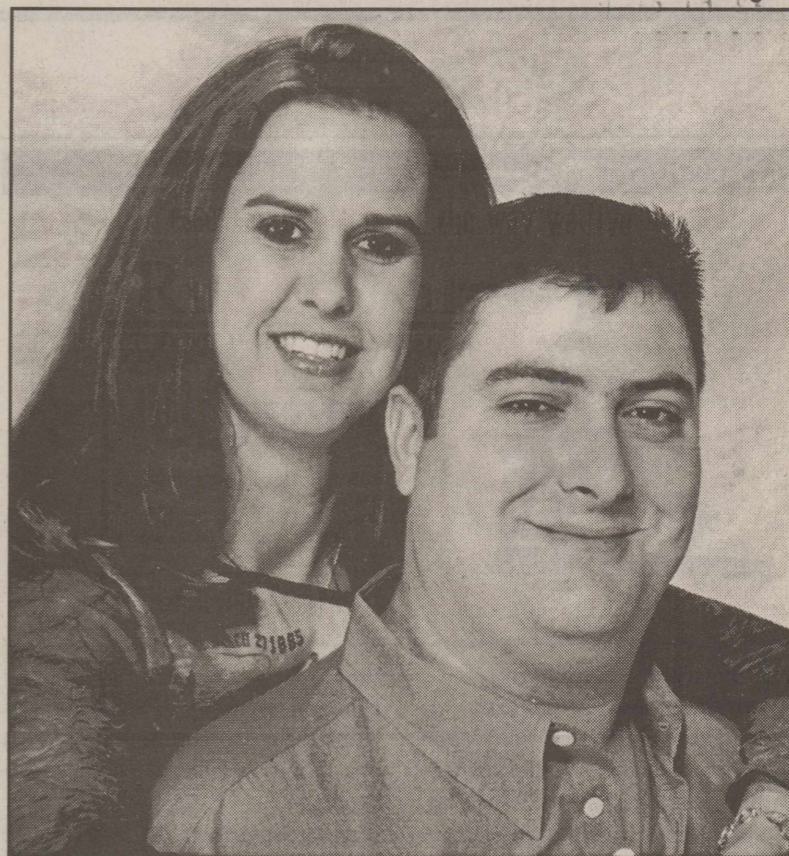
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Haskell



CHRISTY BENSON - JAY HALL

Benson, Hall plan April wedding

Christy Benson of Haskell, daughter of Bill and Maurine Williams of Munday, and Jay Hall of

Kay Hall of Jayton have announced their engagement.

An April 24 wedding is being planned by the couple.

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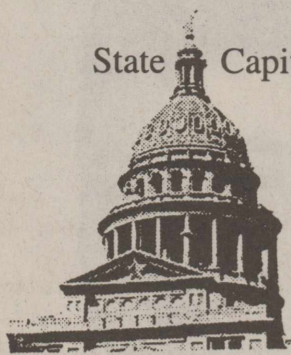
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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Mike Cox

Governor travels to Italy to bring business to Texas

AUSTIN—Gov. Rick Perry this week is in Italy—the boot-shaped country, not the town in Ellis County—to try to interest Italian officials in doing some business in a state with a boot-shaped culture.

The governor will try to interest Italian companies in locating plants in Texas, or expanding Italian-owned businesses already here. He traveled at the invitation of the Italian prime minister and Texas consul general.

Though taxpayers are not picking up the tab for the four-day trip to the European country, the Democratic party pulled no punches in saying what it thought of the trip.

Party Chairman Charles Soechting said he hoped Perry would discover a solution to the state's school financing problems "in an Italian gondola...because it sure doesn't seem to be anywhere near the Texas Capitol."

Kathy Walt, the governor's press secretary, countered that Perry "has made economic development a cornerstone of his administration" and likely has been "the most active governor we've ever had in terms of economic development and job creation."

Property tax plan...

While he was packing for the out-of-country trip, Perry laid out a four-point plan he said would provide relief to Texas property taxpayers.

What the governor said he would like to see the Legislature do is limit homestead property tax appraisal increases to 3 percent a year, limit the amount of revenue local governments can generate from property taxes, require sales price disclosure on real property and create elected appraisal district boards.

Under the plan, local governments would be limited to tax income equal to the previous year's revenue adjusted for inflation and population growth. The plan also would allow a local governmental entity needing a tax increase above the cap to seek voter approval. With a simple majority, taxes could still be raised.

Election alters political landscape...

Last week's primary produced a couple of surprises—losses by two

longtime incumbents. Thirty-year House veteran Rep. Ron Wilson (D-Houston) was turned out of office, as was Rep. Glenn Lewis (D-Fort Worth).

Both lawmakers still will be able to participate in a special session on school finance, but the long term picture has definitely changed, since both representatives are members of the House Select Committee on School Finance.

Goodbye to a pollution source...

Glen Rose writer John Graves wrote his classic, "Goodbye to a River" back in 1960, realizing a planned dam would change the Brazos River forever.

The river survived the building of lakes along its course, but anglers and other Texans concerned about the stream's quality had more recently been worried about the effect runoff from a rock quarrying operation was having on the stream.

After nearly nine months of effort on the part of the Office of the Attorney General, Osborne Stone Co. agreed recently to close its rock mining site near the river in Santo and pick up the tab for a mitigation effort to stop dirt from washing into the river. That runoff had been playing havoc with the environmental quality of the historic stream, which near its mouth saw the first Anglo settlement in Texas.

The company's decision to abandon the site came after the Office of the Attorney General got a second temporary injunction closing the operation because of the pollution problems.

Lubbock in your rearview mirror...

Whether it's getting back to the basics at Luckenbach or seeing Lubbock in your rearview mirror, music and Texas go together like barbecue and potato salad.

For those interested in Texas' musical history, and what's happening in the state's music scene today, the Texas Department of Transportation's Travel Division has a new tourism publication out, "Sites & Sounds: A Texas Music Road Trip."

The 48-page publication, which lists museums and monuments commemorating Texas music, is available free by calling 800-452-9292.



From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago March 17, 2004

Brian Brzozowski and Mart Guss of the Haskell Indians were named to the all-district 7-2A basketball team. Teresa Diaz of the Maidens was named to the all-district girl's team and Veronica Gonzales was placed on the second team. Robert Huff and Cynthia Rodriguez received the Fighting Heart award.

Nick Jimenez was elected president of the local chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

Wallace and Helen Allison were honored as "Man and Woman of the Year" at the Rule Chamber of Commerce banquet.

Corey Green of the Haskell junior varsity track team won second place in the 200-meter dash at the Mogul Relays in Munday.

Weldon and Estebelle Turnbow celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in Lafayette, Louisiana. They were honored with dinner, cake and picture making with family and friends hosted by their daughter, Patsy Turnbow Milliman. Rit Milliman, their grandson, treated them to a trip to the Super Bowl.

20 Years Ago March 15, 1984

The Haskell Indians placed five members on the 4-AA All-District basketball team. Patrick McCoy and Shane Hadaway received first team

honors. Doug Lanier was named to the second team, Ricky Rojas and Robert Ivey were named honorable mention.

At the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in the market hog division John Mark Wyatt of Rochester showed the Breed Champion Berkshire. In the steer show, Joey Kimbrough placed third. Showing heifers were Richard Shaver placing second and Faye Mullino placing third.

Andy Hill, Todd Jennings and Scott Alves competed in the Wichita Fall Invitational Journalism Meet.

Tim Johnson and Scott Schaake, Haskell tennis team members, made the semi-finals in the Quannah Invitational Tournament.

Kim Beauchamp of Haskell performed in the play "Only an Orphan Girl" at the Abilene Community Theatre.

30 Years Ago March 21, 1974

High Point Man in the Land Judging contest held in Stamford was Les Lane, Haskell FFA. The Haskell High School FFA Land Judging team of Mike Turner, Charles Gray, Ricky Decker and Les Lane placed second.

Paul Bell of Paul Bell Associates of Rule was honored by Pioneer Hi-Bred Co. of Plainview for his years of service as a dealer for Pioneer brand seeds.

Justin and Irene Poeschel of

Haskell showed a heifer that won first at the Fort Worth Stock Show.

Wendell Dixon, graduated of Haskell High School and husband of the former June Cook of Haskell, was promoted to Standard Products Manager at Drilco Division of Smith International Inc.

Pam Klose, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Klose of Haskell, made the Vice-President's Honor Roll at Texas State Technical Institute. Klose is enrolled in the Dental Assistants Program.

40 Years Ago March 19, 1964

James Davis of Haskell was named All-District 6-AA boys basketball team. Joe Thigpen and Sammy Larned were named of honorable mention. Eva Bartley and Nancy Hollar were named on the girls team. Carolyn Fischer and Bonnie Howard were named honorable mention.

Private William Overton of Paint Creek was one of the winners in a talent contest sponsored by the 5th Brigade at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Two outstanding Haskell High School seniors named Honorary Rotarians of the Month were Wanda Nixon and Charles Chapman.

Gary Druessedow, Haskell High School Junior, was elected president of the Luther League, young people's group in the Northwest Conference, American Lutheran Churches.

Army Captain William E. Harper, son of Mrs. Una G. Hines of Rochester, and more than 800 other soldiers of the 173d Airborne Brigade at Fort Buckner, Okinawa, completed nine days of jungle warfare training on Irimote Island.

50 Years Ago March 18, 1954

New member of the faculty of Haskell High School as "student teacher" of vocational agriculture was Mac McConal.

The "teacher of the week" was Faye Woodson, who taught Social Science in the Haskell Junior High School. She began her teaching career in the Haskell schools as a substitute teacher during the teacher shortage of the war years and became a regular member of the teaching staff in 1952. Prior to that she taught three years in the Lake Creek community near Munday.

Members and guests of the Saddle Tramps riding club turned out in record number for a chuck wagon supper in Rice Springs Park.

100 Years Ago March 19, 1904

Capt. Wm. Oglesby is having some substantial improvements made at his residence.

Charley Jones returned from Louisiana, where he carried and disposed of a lot of horses.

S. J. Hanger of Wildhorse was transacting business in Haskell.

J. F. Posey and G. R. Couch left for Aspermont where they will look after business of the Haskell Telephone Company.

From the AG

By Greg Abbott

An Internet scam that is frequently reported to our office is the so-called Nigerian Fraud, also known as Advance Fee Fraud and 419 Fraud. In this particular scheme you receive an e-mail purporting to be from a government official in Nigeria, who says he is in possession of a large sum of money. The person claims to need your help in accessing the funds, but the only way to do this is to first deposit the money in a bank account in the United States—your bank account.

The writer offers to pay you a certain percentage for assisting with the transfer and deposit of the funds. He then asks for your personal financial information, so he can transfer the money to your bank account. The truth is, your account is likely to be drained if you give him your personal financial information. There are numerous variations on this theme. Sometimes the writer is a woman claiming to be the widow of a deposed president. Or the writer may be from a country other than Nigeria. The tip-off is that you are going to allow your account to be used to facilitate the transfer of a huge sum of money. Supposedly, you'll get a percentage as a fee. But you won't.

A more recent, related fraud involves the use of counterfeit cashier's checks. The target is usually a person selling a relatively expensive item on the Internet, or possibly even in newspaper classified ads. The seller is approached by an individual, usually from a foreign country, who wants to buy the item and pay with a cashier's check. The buyer then says that he or she can only send a cashier's check for an amount greater than the price of the item, and asks the seller to mail back a check for the difference. The difference may be several thousand dollars. The unsuspecting victim sends the buyer the difference and only later finds out the cashier's check was counterfeit.

What makes this plot work is that most people place great confidence in cashier's checks. Cashier's checks are generally considered much safer than personal checks, since they are issued by financial institutions that have already verified the existence of sufficient funds. Personal checks can "bounce" when there are insufficient funds in the check writer's account; cashier's checks do not bounce. The counterfeits are generally of excellent quality and may even fool the bank initially.

Unfortunately, this scam can harm innocent citizens twice. Under Texas law, the bank may be considered the actual victim of the crime, while the citizen is may be viewed as the perpetrator for passing the counterfeit check.

Adding further to the deviousness of the scheme is the fact that the criminal does not ask for an advance fee. More and more people are savvy enough to recognize the request for an advance fee as the tell-tale sign of the so-called Nigerian fraud. The counterfeit cashier's check scam has found a way to disguise this red flag. The consumer is offered a large sum to deposit, so the refund check seems to be covered.

Both Nigerian and cashier's check frauds usually originate in foreign countries, well beyond the reach of Texas law and law enforcement. As criminals continue to devise new ways to defraud citizens, consumers must educate themselves. Be alert, and when in doubt, call us or visit our Web site at www.oag.state.tx.us and read our Consumer Alert page.

Classic car show

The 8th annual Haskell Fire Dept. Classic Car Show will be held Sat., March 20 around the courthouse in Haskell. Entries are \$20. Registration will be from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Fire Station. Judging will be at 12:30 p.m., followed by a trophy presentation at 3:30 p.m. Hot Wheel races will be held for the kids. Kids tractor pull will be held. For more information contact Randy Shaw at 864-2023.

Weathers Whys

Thunderstorm Safety

Q: What's the best thing to do if you're caught in a severe storm?

A: Some thunderstorm safety tips could save your life, says Kelsey Curtiss of Texas A&M University. A severe thunderstorm, she explains, is one defined by winds of at least 58 miles per hour, hail at least three-fourths of an inch or has produced a tornado. "If you're outdoors, find sturdy shelter, either in a building or a car—preferably not a convertible," she explains.

"If you can hear thunder, that means you're close enough to be struck by lightning. Generally speaking, enclosed vehicles provide good shelter from lightning. If outdoors, you should avoid high places, open fields, isolated trees, picnic shelters, gazebos, baseball dugouts, and anything metal such as flagpoles, light poles, and fences. If you cannot find a place of shelter and are caught out in an isolated area, squat down low so as to create the least surface area as possible. This will reduce the risk of being struck. Laying down flat in a ditch will

increase the chances of being struck as the target area has been increased. Water is a great conductor of electricity, so avoid water if at all possible. Golfers can especially be at risk and they should leave the course immediately and if possible, avoid golf carts. Boaters and swimmers should get to land immediately."

Q: What if you're indoors?

A: If indoors, you should unplug appliances because they conduct electricity, Curtiss adds. "You should avoid using the telephone—people have been struck by lightning while talking on the telephone. Also, it's a good idea to close the blinds or curtains because if a storm should break windows, the drawn curtains or shades will prevent the glass from shattering in your home. Stay away from water sources as well as lightning can travel through a house. If there is a power failure, some experts advise turning off all electrical appliances before the power comes back on to prevent a power surge that can ruin some equipment. Spring and summer are seasons when thunderstorms become more and more frequent. The National Weather Service estimates there are about 100,000 thunderstorms a year in the U.S., but only about 10 percent of those are classified as severe. But the severe storms can cause amazing damage and even loss of life."

Welcome to the
Car Show
and Flea Market!

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Sales tax receipts show small increases

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn reported that the state collected \$1.32 billion in sales tax revenue in January, up 5.9 percent compared to January 2003.

Also, Strayhorn sent Texas cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts February sales tax allocations totaling \$477.8 million, up 7 percent compared to a year ago.

January state sales tax revenue and local sales tax allocations for

February primarily represent sales made in December, but also include some earlier sales by businesses that report sales tax to the Comptroller on a quarterly or annual basis.

The Comptroller sent \$326.4 million in sales tax to Texas cities, up 8 percent compared to February 2003 payments. Texas counties received February sales tax payments of \$26.8 million, up 7.9 percent.

Haskell County had a 8.84 percent increase for February, 2004 of

\$38,401.50 in comparison to \$35,282.36 for February 2003. 2004 payments to date of \$62,509.21 reflect a 3.41 percent increase over 2003 payments to date of \$60,442.24.

The City of Haskell had a 9.05 percent increase for February, 2004 of \$34,925.72 in comparison to \$32,024.63 for February, 2003. 2004 payments to date of \$57,577.98 reflect a 2.83 percent increase over 2003 payments to date of \$55,989.16.

The City of O'Brien had a 79.66 percent decrease for February, 2004 of \$105.02 in comparison to \$516.50 for February, 2003. 2004 payments to date of \$385.96 reflect a 31.59 percent decrease over 2003 payments to date of \$564.19.

The City of Rochester had a 11.50

percent increase for February, 2004 of \$909.05 in comparison to \$815.29 for February, 2003. 2004 payments to date of \$1,273.51 reflect a 9.00 percent increase over 2003 payments to date of \$1,168.32.

The City of Rule had a 31.98 percent increase for February, 2004 of \$2,084.10 in comparison to \$1,579.02 for February, 2003. 2004 payments to date of \$2,843.32 reflect a 20.93 percent increase over 2003 payments to date of \$2,351.18.

The City of Weinert had a 8.84 percent increase for February, 2004 of \$377.61 in comparison to \$346.92 for February, 2003. 2004 payments to date of \$428.44 reflect a 15.98 percent increase over 2003 payments to date of \$369.39.

Paint Creek School Menu

March 22-26 Breakfast
Juice and milk are served daily.
Monday: Pancakes
Tuesday: Cereal, toast
Wednesday: Biscuits, gravy
Thursday: Breakfast burritos
Friday: Cereal, toast

Lunch
Milk is served daily.
Monday: Turkey or ham sandwiches,

fries, lettuce, tomatoes, fruit cups
Tuesday: Enchilada casserole, refried beans, salad, jello
Wednesday: Pigs in a blanket, fries, corn, carrot sticks, pudding
Thursday: Beef nachos, Spanish rice, salad, fruit
Friday: Steakfingers, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, bread, cake

ECC Calendar and Menu

Mon., Mar. 22
11:00 a.m. Blood pressure check
Lunch—Ham slice, cheese macaroni salad, sliced cranberries, green beans, sliced onions, yeast rolls, fruited jello/brownies, milk, tea, or coffee

Wed., Mar. 24
9:15 a.m. movie and popcorn, "Seabiscuit"
Lunch—Beef spaghetti, tossed

salad, English peas, sliced onions, garlic toast, Mississippi mud cake milk, tea, or coffee
Fri., Mar. 26
Lunch—Steak fritters/cream gravy, mashed potatoes, blackeyed peas, yeast rolls, peach cobbler, milk, tea, or coffee

Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

All deadlines are 5 p.m. Monday.



Haskell School Menu

March 22-26 Breakfast
Juice and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu.
Monday: Breakfast bagel
Tuesday: Breakfast on a stick
Wednesday: Lucky Charms cereal.

graham crackers
Thursday: Pig in a blanket
Friday: Cereal, toast

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 ham and cheese.

Monday: Beef and cheese enchiladas, pinto beans, Spanish rice, chips/salsa, apple crisp
Tuesday: Beef stew, grilled cheese sandwich, sliced peaches
Wednesday: Chicken spaghetti, fried okra, garden salad, breadstick, lemon pudding
Thursday: Taco salad/cheese, corn, Spanish rice, chips/salsa, peach cobbler
Friday: Scroodles (fish), potato wedges, crunchy noodle coleslaw, hush puppies, orange wedges

Cattle Market Report

The market at the Haskell Livestock Auction was on a run of 252 head of cattle at its sale on Mon., Mar. 15, according to Gary Tate, reporter. 30 sellers and 32 buyers were present.

Short run due to rain. Stockers \$1 to \$5 higher.

Cows: fat, .45-.54; cutters, .40-.53; canners, .25-.37.

Bulls: bologna, .55-.65; feeders, .74-.87; utility, .50-.57.

Steers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.18-1.55; 300-400 lbs., 1.10-1.35; 400-500 lbs., 1.00-1.30; 500-600 lbs., .94-1.14; 600-700 lbs., .88-1.00; 700-800 lbs., .84-.98; 800-up lbs., .75-.87.

Heifers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.05-1.50; 300-400 lbs., .95-1.15; 400-500 lbs., .90-1.08; 500-600 lbs., .84-.96; 600-up lbs., .70-.88.

Bred heifers medium frame, 650-775.

Bred Cows: young to middle aged, 700-875; aged or small, 500-650.

Cows with calves: medium frame No. 1 young and middle aged, 825-1075; aged or small, 625-750.

Protect Wheat Yields from Foliar Diseases

Amber waves of wheat that glow in the setting sun bring a sense of satisfaction to any producer. But straight-cutting or swathing a perfect field often seems as rare as a rally in the wheat market.

In most seasons, weather plays a key role in any production equation. However, if diseases infect wheat, there's likely to be a major reduction in test weight and quality.

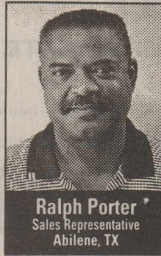
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PropiMax EC controls several problem disease pests, such as leaf and stem rust, powdery mildew, leaf blight and glume blotch, tan spot, Helminthosporium leaf blight, spot blotch, barley scald and net blotch.

The key strengths of this broad-spectrum systemic fungicide include protectant and post-infection activity, excellent rainfastness and residual that lasts more than 14 days. Once applied, PropiMax EC is rapidly absorbed by leaves and stems and transported upward to new plant growth.

To achieve optimum results, treat wheat with PropiMax EC at 4 ounces per acre until the flag leaf ligule emerges (Feeke's growth stage 8). Highest yields typically result when PropiMax EC is applied to the emerging flag leaf. If you raise wheat in rotational intervals, you can plant soybeans as a double crop following a cereal crop that was treated with PropiMax EC.

For more information about using PropiMax EC fungicide to prevent foliar diseases in wheat, contact your local ag retailer.



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Students in the News

Seven area students were named to the National Dean's List for 2002-03, the largest recognition program and publication in the nation honoring high achieving college students.

Students are selected by their college deans, registrars or honor society advisors and must be in the upper ten percent of their class, on their school's Dean's List, or have

earned a comparable honor.

Named on the list were:

Amy Aycock and Angela Aycock, Hardin-Simmons University, and Patricia Fuentes and Kelli Moeller, McMurry University, all of Haskell; Melina Garcia, Angelo State University and Mary Jane Short, Texas Tech University, both of Rochester; Oscar Amaya, Western Texas College of Rule.

Welcome to the Car Show!

1:27 p.m. Friday



Weathering another storm together.

Thanks west Texas! AEP wants to thank the electric consumers in our service territory and supply you with some important facts about the recent storms that swept through our area. AEP crews restored power to over 22,000 electric consumers following the recent storms and, in doing so, repaired or replaced over 85 transmission structures (the big ones) and nearly 100 distribution poles (the smaller ones). Most of the repairs were completed and consumers back in power within 24 hours.

Thank you to those who put in long hours! AEP is grateful for the dedication shown by our employees, contractors and their families. From the start, dozens of AEP employees and contractors worked long hours to support the restoration effort. We appreciate their resolve in getting the job done swiftly and, more importantly, safely.

Most of all, thank you to the electricity consumers in our service area! As always, we greatly appreciate your patience, understanding and kind words. Outages such as these can be very trying for everyone, but you can rest assured AEP is committed to providing you with safe, reliable electric service.

AEP employees – your friends and neighbors for years – have the know-how, experience and resources to get any size job done! No matter whom your Retail Electric Provider is, AEP is there to deliver your electricity, as well as maintain and repair the electric system when Mother Nature decides to act up.

When it comes to restoring your power, AEP is there, always working for you.



For more information visit aepcustomer.com.



SKEETER THE CLOWN COMING TO TOWN—Sponsored by the Haskell Rotary Club, Skeeter will visit Haskell during the Culpepper and Merriweather Circus at the Rodeo grounds, Thurs., Mar. 25, at 5:00 and 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets receive a \$2.00 discount. On circus day tickets are \$9.00 adult, children under 12, \$7.00. Proceeds will go to Rotary Club community projects.

Lewis, Jones honored by Rule Chamber

Carrying out the county theme at Rule's 50th Chamber of Commerce banquet, Tues., Mar. 9, tables were decorated with toy John Deere tractors from the collection of Tom Turner, and entertainment was provided by Larry LeFevre, Randy Hise, Dickie Greenwood, Mike Fouts and Danny Letz.

In observance of Rule's 100th year, the Chamber honored its oldest male citizen, J. C. "Buddy" Lewis. Born in Stonewall County, he attended Rule schools, where he played on the school's first football team and graduated in 1930. He attended Howard Payne College in Brownwood. Joining the U. S. Army in 1936, he became a second lieutenant in 1941, and served in World War II in the 770th Field Artillery Battalion, participating in the Normandy invasion and numerous battles. He was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star for meritorious service.

Lewis has served as a member of the Rule City Council, school board, Masonic Lodge and Board of Stewards at First Methodist Church. He and his late wife, Juana, owned and operated a lumber yard for more than 20 years, in addition to farming and raising cattle. He has two children, Jeff Lewis of Abilene and Sue Lewis of Lubbock, and two grandchildren.

Recognized by the Chamber with a Lifetime Service Award were L. W.

"Doc" Jones, Jr. and his wife, Joy Davis Jones. Born in Rule, Jones graduated from high school, married and raised a family there. His grandfather, Jesse L. Jones was the founder of Rule.

A retired farmer and rancher, Doc Jones served on the school board for about 15 years, during which both a high school and gym were built.

The Joneses have been active members of the First Baptist Church since childhood. On June 25 they will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary. They have three children, Judy New of Sagerton, Nan Doyal and L. W. "Bill" Jones III, both of Rule, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The meal was served by the Junior Class, their mothers and sponsors.

Chamber officers for the coming year are Larry LeFevre, president; Kenny Tanner, vice president and Orheana Greeson, secretary-treasurer.

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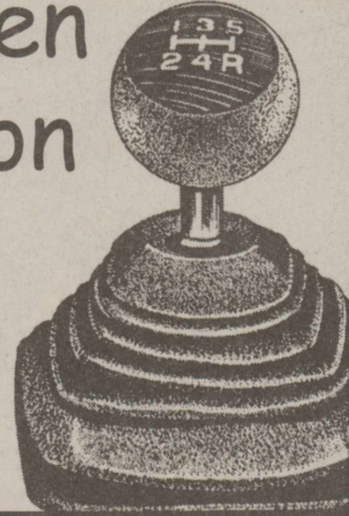
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Giant

Sidewalk Sale

Sat., March 20

Savings You Won't Believe
on Athletic Shoes!

Mens	Lo Tops	Nike
Ladies	Hi Tops	Reebok
Children	Sandals	Other Brands

Youth Sizes	One Group	One Group
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\$15 \$25 \$35

Some Lower!

Where Winners Shop

Sport-About
of Haskell



940-864-3891
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NAPA AUTO PARTS

Quaker State
Conventional Motor Oil

1.49 10W30, HD 30, 5W30, 10W40,
20W50, #401248, 403648, 436248,
436348, 436448

Sale price does not include applicable taxes or recycling fees.

NAPA Silver™
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1.99 This low price applies to most
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Engine Cleaner

49¢ AFTER REBATE
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Sale Price 1.49
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WE KEEP AMERICA RUNNING.

Car Show Savings

Deerskin
Gloves \$13⁹⁹

Lawn Mower Battery **\$18⁹⁹**

Autostar Oil by Vavoline **\$1²⁹** qt.

Lucas Oil Treatment **\$6⁹⁵** qt.

Smitty's Auto Supply
107 N. 1st East • Haskell
East of Rodriguez Inn
864-2607

Sidewalk Sale

SATURDAY ONLY
\$10-\$20 & \$50
Rack of Clothes

Bargain Table of Shoes
SHOP INSIDE FOR
•1/2 price Shoes
•Buy 1 Pair & Get 2nd pair 1/2 off
•New Spring Sportswear
by Koret, Graff, Sharon Young, City Girl and More
•1/2 price Jewelry
Personality-Slipper Shoppe
940/864-2501 • 864-3051
South Side of Square Haskell, Texas



HONORED FOR SERVICE—Danny Kierepka, right, crew chief in the Haskell County Department of Transportation maintenance section, is presented a Certificate of Service by Russel Lenz, Abilene district engineer, for his 20 year tenure with TxDOT.

Haskell Co. placed in EQIP program for water conservation

This year Haskell County has been placed in an Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) State Resource Concern for water conservation. The Seymour Irrigation Area includes Baylor, Foard, Hardeman, Haskell, Knox and Wilbarger counties. Haskell County has received an allotment of \$463,047.

Eligible conservation practices for cost share include conversion of existing center pivots to LEPA (pivot with greater than 80% efficiency), reorganize irrigation pipeline, and replace sideroll, furrow, or obsolete center pivot with new drip or LEPA irrigation system.

To be eligible for cost share the land has to be irrigated 2 out of the last 5 years and has to have a minimum of 3 gallons per minute per acre available water. The maximum acreage available for cost share is 30 acres of drip irrigation and the maximum footage available for a center pivot is 660 feet. No cost share for adding new wells or increasing irrigated acreage.

The cost share rate for limited resource farmers and ranchers is 60%. For all others the cost share rate will be 50%.

For more information or to sign up for this program, contact the NRCS office in Haskell at 864-8516.

Peanut conference set March 23 in Lubbock

A look ahead at peanuts on a national scale will be the highlight at an upcoming conference, Peanuts: A National Perspective, Tues., March 23. This conference will allow area producers and industry representatives the opportunity for insight into national and statewide peanut trends.

Texas Peanut Producers Board and Texas Cooperative Extension are hosting the free conference, which begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Lubbock, Texas Science Spectrum Exhibit Hall, located at 2579 S. Loop 289.

Featured speakers will include Raffaella Marie R. Fenn, president and managing director of the National Peanut Board (NPB) discussing national promotions campaign. Marshall Lamb, agricultural economist with the USDA-ARS National Peanut Research Laboratory in Dawson,

Georgia will address the new peanut market and marketing options. Dr. John Baldwin, extension peanut specialist from Tifton, Georgia, will talk about production and acreage trends in the Southeast. Dr. Stanley Fletcher, coordinator for the National Center for Peanut Competitiveness at the University of Georgia, will present a recently released national peanuts and peanut butter consumption report.

In addition, Texas Cooperative Extension experts, Dr. Chip Lee, Dr. Peter Dotray, and Dr. Todd Baughman will provide production updates on diseases, weeds and agronomics.

Registration is free and will begin at 8:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided and CEU's will be awarded. For more information contact TPPB's office at 806-687-6363.

Welcome to the Car Show!

STAR STOP
706 N. 1st • Haskell
864-2062

BBQ Sandwich Basket with chips and 24 oz. fountain drink **\$2.49**

Pepsi or Dr. Pepper 20 oz. - All Flavors Reg. \$1.19 **89¢**

Coke 1 liter - All Varieties Reg. \$1.49 **\$1.09**

Burger Basket with fries or tots and 24 oz. fountain drink **\$3.49**

Deli Grill Open til 10 p.m.!

WELCOME TO THE CAR SHOW!

Brawny Paper Towels or Cottonelle Toilet Paper
4 pack - Limit 6 Your Choice **79¢**

Jewelry
Buy one piece of Jewelry at regular price and buy a second piece of Jewelry, or equal or lesser value, for **1/2 regular price**
Limit 4 total pieces

New! Fashion Sunglasses Compare to designer names 1 pair \$10⁰⁰ 2 pair \$15⁰⁰ 3 pair \$21⁰⁰	Windchimes & Windsocks 20% off REGULAR PRICE
Personal Electric Heaters 25% off REGULAR PRICE	Afghans 25% off REGULAR PRICE

Sidewalk SALE

Most items \$1 or less!
Saturday only!

Storewide Savings

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New Merchandise Arriving Daily!

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512 N. 1st • Haskell
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE
at Grace Gift Center in Munday

Save **1/2 regular price**
on Selected GIFT ITEMS!
All Sales Cash and Final.

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Christy Benson Bride-elect of Jay Hall
Sharon Jimenez Bride-elect of Jorge Mendez

Prices good March 18, 19 & 20
www.haskelldrugstore.com

THE DRUG STORE

Haskell 864-2673

8th Annual Haskell Fire Dept. CLASSIC CAR SHOW
March 20

Enter 8-11 a.m. at the Fire Station

Around the Courthouse Square Downtown Haskell, Texas

KIDS TRACTOR PULL Kids Hot Wheel Races \$1

Entries \$20
Judging at 12:30 p.m.
Trophy presentation at 3:30 p.m.

Calendar

Storytime

Fun with Friends storytime will be held each Tuesday morning from 10 to 10:30 a.m. at the Haskell County Library until April 20. Children under 5 years old, accompanied by an adult, are encouraged to bring their favorite toy, blanket or pillow. Storytime is provided by friends of the Haskell County Library and the Lebri Foundation.

Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., March 20 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at 206 S. 2nd (building east of Civic Center) in Haskell. Volunteers are needed.

Flea market

A free flea market will be held Sat., March 20 from 9 a.m. to noon at 1303 N. Ave. I by Cornerstone Baptist Fellowship.



HELP AFTER THE STORM—Abilene Salvation Army representatives work to unload about 60 boxes of nonperishable food supplies at The Anchor, Tues., Mar. 9, for victims of the Mar. 4 storms.

Shop the Haskell Free Press CLASSIFIEDS

864-2686

864-2686

Public Notices

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JESSE RAY MILLER
Administration of the Estate of Jesse Ray Miller, Deceased, has been commenced by the issuance of original letters testamentary to Rodney Miller and Ember Miller-Thompson on February 18, 2004, by the Probate Court of Haskell County, Texas, acting in Cause No. 4207, styled In Re: Estate of Jesse Ray Miller, Deceased, in which court the matter is pending.
All persons 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 11, 2004
Scott Seamster
Post Office Box 360
Abilene, Texas 79604
(325) 677-6291
(325) 677-6313 FAX
State Bar No. 00784939
Attorney for Rodney Miller,
Independent Co-Executor 12c

to special purpose zoning district with a specific use permit. The applicant proposes to use the property to add on to existing permanent home if zoning is achieved.

The planning and zoning commission of the City of Haskell, Texas, will hold a public hearing pursuant to this request on April 2, 2004 at 1:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers. 12c

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Catarino Macias, Sr., Deceased, were issued on September 15, 2003, in Cause No. 4197, pending in the County Court of Haskell County, Texas, to: Dolores Macias Longoria.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Isaac M. Castro, Attorney at Law, 212 South Central, P. O. Box 608, Hamlin, Texas 79520.
Dated the 15th day of September, 2003.
Isaac M. Castro
Attorney for the Estate
State Bar No.: 03997450
212 South Central
P. O. Box 608
Hamlin, Texas 79520
Telephone: (325) 576-2797
Facsimile: (325) 576-2799 12c

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE
A request has been received from Ovis West to change the following described property: Lot number 7 & 8 block 18 address Brown & Roberts other description 3 Ave. B East from general residential zoning district

This Week's Devotional Message:



NO MATTER WHOM WE ELECT, WE ARE STILL RULED BY LAWS

Great concern is often shown about religion or other aspects of our national life that differ radically from our own, and this is never more evident than when an election draws near. There may be a candidate whose principals are very close to ours, and yet we fear something else about him that might cause him to over step the bounds of his authority. However, that's why we have

laws, and a constitution that spells out those laws and the limitations of power by any level of government. From the lessons at our house of worship we learn that these laws had their roots in the Bible, and were designed to allow the maximum of freedom while protecting the rights of others. Thank the Lord for these laws, and remember that all of our elected officials must abide them.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

- HASKELL—
East Side Baptist Church
 Dr. Jim Helfin, interim 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
 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 George Roney
 Sat. Mass 7 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.
 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.m.
 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**
 Rev. Tom Collins, pastor
 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
Cornerstone Baptist Fellowship
 Dr. Gibbie McMillan, Interim pastor
 Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
 1303 N. Ave. I, Haskell
 —WEINERT—
First Baptist Church
 J. C. Baker, 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
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
 Wendall Ferguson, 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
 —PAINT CREEK—
Paint Creek Baptist Church
 Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
 Paint Creek
 —O'BRIEN—
O'Brien Baptist Church
 Milton McManus, pastor
 Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p. Wed. 6 p.m.
 O'Brien

Classified Advertising Pays. Call 864-2686.

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Dr. Trussell Thane, O.D.
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 Appointments Available • Monday through Friday
 Dr. Thane provides comprehensive eye care including the diagnosis and treatment of eye disease. Dr. Thane offers complete evaluation for eyeglasses and contact lenses.
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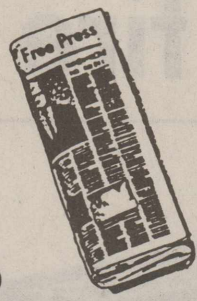
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To The Voters Of Haskell County
 Thank you to the many who helped and encouraged me during the campaign for Sheriff. I appreciate the ethical manner in which all who were involved conducted themselves. The voters have spoken and I pledge my continued support to the Haskell County Sheriff's Department and all of our law enforcement agencies.
Jack Whorton
 Pd. Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Ella Daye Whorton, Campaign Treasurer
 Rt. 1 Box 15, Rule, TX 79547

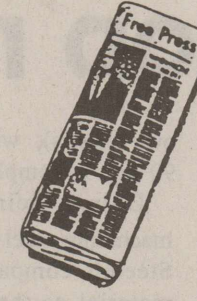
Sonic Drive-In
 1402 N. Ave. E
 864-8533
 Managers: Leon & Carolyn Herring
Steele Machine
 Hwy. 280 • 864-2208
Modern Way Food Store
 1202 N. Ave. E • 864-3763
Smitty's Auto Parts
 107 N. 1st East • 864-2607

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864-2686

ALL DEADLINES MONDAY 5 P.M.

864-2686

For Sale

FOR SALE: Coastal hay. Square bales. \$4 per bale. 864-3384. 9-12c

FOR SALE: 22 cubic feet, side by side Amana refrigerator with ice maker. Has water, ice and crushed ice dispenser. White in color. Perfect condition. Call 864-3774 or 864-2511. 12c

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: Sat., March 20, 8 until ? East side of square in old Lyles Jewelry store. Cleaning out! Bargains! 12p

YARD SALE: 1785 Veda Camp Rd. (Lake Stamford), March 20 and 21, 9:00 to ? 1:00 to ? Lots of stuff. 12p

Miscellaneous

HOUSE LEVELLING and foundation repair. No payments until work is satisfactorily completed. David Lee & Co. 325-675-6369. 6fc

COMPUTER REPAIR-HELP onsite. Hardware/software/training. Steve Livingood 325-773-2616. If no answer, leave message. 12-15p

AVON REPRESENTATIVE. Contact Rachel Garcia to place an order or request a brochure. Call 940-256-4933. 12p

Help Wanted

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS for all positions at Sonic Drive In, Haskell. Apply in person. 25fc

S.L.P. HASKELL Healthcare Center is an equal employment opportunity employer. We are located at 1504 N. First Street, Haskell, Texas 79521. We are looking for dependable, honest, hard working and caring individuals for the following positions: Cook/Dietary Aides, Long-term care experience preferred; Certified Nurse Aide, PRN; Housekeeping, PRN. Qualified individuals may apply in person. 940-864-8537. Contact Stella Woodard, Dietary Supervisor or Cindy Guess, Director of Nursing. Stanley I. Song, Administrator. 9-12p

RICE SPRINGS Care Home is making a difference. We are looking for 1 CNA 6-2; 1 CNA 2-10; part-time dietary. Call Shandra at 864-2652 for information. 12c

HOLDEN - McCAULEY FUNERAL HOME is now accepting applications for an office assistant. Applicants must be able to work weekends and possess both professional typing and phone skills. Resumes will be accepted by fax at 940-864-5511 or by mail at 304 N. Second, Haskell, Texas 79521 only. Personal interviews will be scheduled later by appointment only. 12c

For Rent

FOR RENT: Furnished rooms for rent. Nightly, weekly, monthly. Call Lone Star Lodging 864-2238. 52fc

HOUSE FOR RENT: Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$300 month. Call Rosie 940-325-3687 after 3:30 p.m. 10-13p

FOR RENT: 917 N. 6th. Call 997-2108. 12fc

FOR RENT: 604 N. 3rd. 1 bedroom apartment. CH/A. 864-3762. 12c

Real Estate

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Lake cabin at Veda's Camp. Financing available. 3 bedroom, 2 bath fixer-upper in country. Small down. Owner financing. 864-2238. 12fc

ZERO DOWN Land-Home with low interest rate. **NO CREDIT NECESSARY** 325-673-8488 35fc

Public Notices

NOTICE TO THE CITIZENS OF WEINERT

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) has notified the Haskell County Water District #1 water system that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Nitrate. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established the MCL for Nitrate at 10 mg/L, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for Nitrate indicates a level of 16.33 mg/L.

Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

You do not need to use an alternative water supply. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you.

At the present time we are currently looking into ways to correct this problem. If you are pregnant or have an infant under six months including in this public water system as a customer, we have made arrangements with local grocery store in Haskell (Modern Way) so that you may get bottled water at the City of Weinert's expense.

If you have any questions or would like to know if you are currently being served as a customer of this public water system please feel free to call or contact the City Secretary Robert Horan, c/o City of Weinert, Box 248, Weinert, Texas 76388 at 940-673-8223.

Our Public Water System ID# is 1040004. 12c

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR WATER QUALITY TPDES PERMIT RENEWAL FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER PERMIT NO. 11018-001

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. City of Weinert, P. O. Box 248, Weinert, Texas 76388, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of TPDES Permit No. 11018-001, which authorizes the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 40,000 gallons per day. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on September 4, 2003.

The facility is located approximately 3,500 feet southwest of the intersection of State Highway 617 and State Highway Spur 203 and approximately 1,500 feet south of State Highway 617 in Haskell County, Texas. The treated effluent is discharged to an unnamed tributary of Lake Creek; thence to Lake Creek; thence to the Brazos River Above Possum Kingdom Lake in Segment No. 1208 of the Brazos River Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are no significant aquatic life

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uses for the unnamed ditch and the unnamed tributary of Lake Creek. The designated uses for Segment No. 1208 are high aquatic life uses and contact recreation.

The TCEQ executive director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, statement of basis/technical summary and executive director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Weinert City Secretary's Office, Weinert School Building, 300 South Hilmar, Weinert, Texas.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit written or oral comment or to ask questions about the application. Generally, the TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

Written public comments and requests for public meeting should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P. O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of the notice.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. The response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who requested to be on a mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the executive director's decision. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. Issues that are not raised in public comments may not be considered during a hearing. The TCEQ may act on this application to renew a permit without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The executive director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or a timely request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request

or request for reconsideration is filed, the executive director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and requests to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific application; (2) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (3) the permanent list for a specific county. Clearly specify which mailing list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific application.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Weinert at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Robert F. Horan at (940) 673-8223.

Issued: March 9, 2004. 12c

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

AMENDED NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN A WATER QUALITY PERMIT RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0010728001

APPLICATION. City of Haskell, P. O. Box 1003, Haskell, Texas 79521, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0010728001 (EPA I. D. No. TX0026891) to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 700,000 gallons per day. The domestic wastewater treatment facility is located approximately one mile south and 0.25 mile east of the intersection of U. S. Highway 277 and U. S. Highway 380 in Haskell County, Texas. The discharge route is from the plant site to Rice Springs Branch; thence to Mule Creek; thence to Lake Stamford. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on February 13, 2004. The permit application is available for viewing and copying at Haskell City Hall, 301 South First Street,

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940-864-2665

In Texas Substitute:
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Haskell, Texas.

The TCEQ executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After completion of the technical review, the TCEQ will issue a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. The TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

Written public comments or requests for public meeting must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P. O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE. After technical review of the application is complete, the executive director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list or the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. The response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who requested to be on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the executive director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

A contested case hearing will

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only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. The TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific application; (2) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (3) the permanent list for a specific county. Clearly specify which mailing list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific application.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

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FAX (940) 864-3686
Mary Rike, Broker John Rike, Agent
mrrike@wtex.net

Further information may also be obtained from City of Haskell at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Sam Watson at (940) 864-2333.

Issued: March 3, 2004. 12c

NOTICE
The Haskell Free Press reserves the right to edit and/or delete all news stories and locals for length and liability and to refuse to print anything deemed not newsworthy.

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Local shop manufactures custom-built fire trucks

By Mary Kaigler

It's not your ordinary fire truck. It's a Brush King. It's "Strong as Steele." It's custom built in Haskell by Steele Fire Apparatus, and it's sold to fire departments across the country.

Combining the expertise he gained while operating a welding and machine business since 1980, with his experience as a fireman since 1981, Haskell Fire Chief Bill Steele, owner of Steele Machine, manufactures his trademark Steele's Brush King Trucks.

Working through the local shop, using a choice of custom materials, the crew at Steele Machine turns out high-quality, structurally strong fire-fighting vehicles equipped with a heavy-duty brush guard to protect the exterior, and with durable skid plates installed to insulate the truck's underside from stumps and rocks. These vehicles also feature pump-and-roll action, allowing for fighting fire on the frontline. Water storage capacity on the larger models tops 1,500 gallons, with the ability to last more than an hour without having to find another water source.

Starting out with a cab and chassis, which can be the customer's own or one the shop orders for them, the business that started in 1996, can customize 99% of what the buyer requires. They will adapt the buyer's equipment to a new cab and chassis or fully build and equip the entire vehicle.

Currently, they are working on one of the fire-service independent skid units they design and tailor, fully contained with hose and pumps and a 100 to 500 gallon tank and varying pump sizes, that will fit onto any three-quarter to one-ton pickup.

"Each job is unique," said Steele. "Each fire department we have talked to has their own way and need for doing things. The time involved to construct a project varies according to what is required by the buyer."

A large brush truck now being customized for fighting wild grass fires for the Stonewall County Fire Department, (who will furnish their

own chassis), will take about 60 to 90 days to complete.

Doing their own painting, machining, steel work and bedliners, Steele's company buys as much material as they can from local suppliers. They are also dealers for Hale Pumps, nozzles from Akron Brass and several coating companies. All of the finished units are sent out complete with radios, siren, lights; whatever the customer wants.

When finished, all must comply with the criteria specified by the National Forestry Service and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards set for each type of vehicle, and by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and other entities' standards, which go beyond.

Except for two years, when the work was halted after the facility burned, Steele says the number of contracts for his custom vehicles has steadily grown. Crediting his employee team of experienced welders and machinists with playing a big part in the company's success through their spirit of working as a team, he said, "Every one of them has an area they are better in, and they all bring it together. When Danny Stocks left the power plant two years ago, I saw something in him that could be used to make this thing grow."

Described by Steele as his "watchdog," Stocks now handles all of the bids, and says he loves the job. "It's a nice feeling to bring in a bid and complete the job," he said. "More opportunities are coming in by the week, and we are steadily expanding our base of operation."

The fully equipped vehicles have been completed and delivered to a wide area from Washington State to Arizona and Logansport, Louisiana, and in Texas, to Alpine, Glascock County, Eden, Andrews, the Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth and one to the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department last month.

Steele first visualized the customized business in Haskell in 1995, when the City bought a new

pumper for the Volunteer Fire Department, and he was on the committee to go to Holden, Louisiana, to see and inspect it while it was being built. Walking through the plant there, seeing how the process was done, he decided that if folks in Louisiana could do it, folks in Haskell could, too.

Starting by building two trucks on chance, he began to show them, and on April 16, 1996, he sold his first truck. After making two more fire equipment trucks at his Steele Machine facility, he started taking orders, and by combining superb workmanship with common sense, Steele Fire Apparatus became a reality.

Understandably proud of his unique line of work, which is now being widely advertised, Steele said, "We started this because we saw a need for it, and we're not tying ourselves solely to the area around us. We have people calling us from Washington State to New York State."

Steele said that his and Danny Stocks' goal is to have two brush trucks being built in the facility at the same time, and when one is finished, have two more waiting outside ready to come in. "That's what we're working toward."

Asked about competition, Steele said there are several others doing this, and that during the last two years, more have come on board, mainly due to the Forestry Service grant program.

"But, I really believe that we build one of the best trucks out there. It may not be the fanciest truck available, but for usability, I think it's one of the best you're going to find. We'd be glad to give references about our finished work to anyone," he said.

Reporting that this year has been a good one for the local company, Steele said the National Forestry Service's 6.3 million dollar grant program for fire departments has helped his company.

"The opportunity is there for someone to build these vehicles," he said. "And we figure, why not us, here in Haskell?"

"We may be small, but we're trying to grow everyday."



MODEL OF LOCAL ENTERPRISE—Standing with the Steele Brush King truck they constructed for the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department are, l-r, Steele Fire Apparatus owner, Bill Steele, and employees, Coy Coggins, Jo Ann Watson, Danny Stocks and Tim Jordan. Not pictured is Wes Steele.

Fish fry

A fish fry will be held Sun., March 28 from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church, East Hwy. 380 in Haskell to benefit the youth group's summer camp fund. The meal will be fish, coleslaw, beans, French fries, dessert and a drink. Plates are \$6 each. Carry-outs will be available.

Immunizations

The Texas Dept. of Health in Stamford will hold an immunization clinic Thurs., March 25 at the Haskell National Bank Community Building in Haskell. Clinic times are from 2 to 4 p.m. For more information call 325-773-5681.

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KING OF THE BRUSH—A brand new model of the Steele Brush King, made in Haskell by Steele Fire Apparatus, is pictured as it waited for delivery to another fire department.

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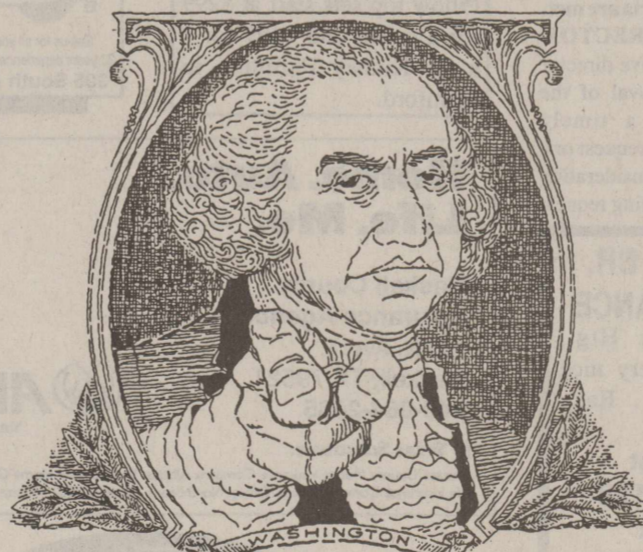
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TAX PLANNING

Written By
James E. Rodgers, CPA



BUSINESSES MUST FILE INFORMATION RETURNS DURING THE YEAR

If you own a business, tax filing doesn't occur just once a year. You may have to file a variety of information returns throughout the year. The IRS uses these returns to flag unusual transactions and to cross-check on returns filed by others.

You use Form 1099-MISC to report amounts over \$600 that your business paid to independent contractors and certain others. Generally you don't report amounts paid to corporations, although there are exceptions. For example, you must report payments to law firms, whether they are corporations or not. Returns for 2003 were due to the IRS by March 1, 2004.

You might also have to file an annual report if you provide a qualified retirement plan for your employees, or for yourself if you're self-employed. Unless your plan is a SIMPLE or SEP IRA, you'll generally have to file some version of Form 5500 by the end of July.

Two other information returns cover cash transactions. The first applies if your business has a cash transaction (or two or more related transactions) over \$10,000. You must report this to the IRS within 15 days by filing Form 8300. Cashier's checks, traveler's checks, and money orders all count as cash for this report.

The second applies to "money service businesses" such as convenience stores, gas stations, or liquor stores. These businesses often sell or redeem money orders or traveler's checks. They must report within 30 days any suspicious activity that involved cash or equivalents of \$2,000 or more.

These are just a few of the information returns you may have to file. Penalties for nonreporting can be significant, so it's important not to overlook these reports. Contact our office for help with your reporting obligations.

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