

Calendar

Garage sale

The Haskell Chamber of Commerce will hold a community-wide garage sale and market on the square Sat., May 3. Maps will be available at the gazebo at 7:30 a.m. Sat. **Krispy Kreme**

The Paint Creek PTO is sponsoring a Krispy Kreme donut sale Sat., May 3 around the square in both Haskell and Stamford. Pre-orders can be made with any Paint Creek student or pick up donuts that morning.

Cinco de mayo

St. George Catholic Church of Haskell will celebrate Cinco de mayo Sun., May 4 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the church grounds. A queen's contest will be held at 5 p.m. Other activities include a cake walk, bingo, Mexican food, hamburgers and funnel cakes.

Fish fry

A fish fry to benefit Teresa Fudge will be held Sun., May 4 at noon at East Side Baptist Church.

Prayer day

The National Day of Prayer is May 1. Haskell Ministerial Alliance will host prayer events Thurs., May 1 at First Assembly of God Church. The church will be open for prayer from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a special prayer time at 12:10 in the sanctuary. For more information or to have a prayer request added to the community prayer list, contact First Baptist Church at 864-2581.

Offices closed

The offices of the Haskell County Clerk and the Haskell District Clerk will be closed Fri., May 2 so that the staff can attend training.

Pee-Wee track

The Rule Pee-Wee track meet for elementary students through sixth grade will be held Thurs., May 15. Rule Booster Club will operate a concession stand serving hamburgers and snow cones. Call Brenda Turner at 996-2521 to help in the concession stand.

Rule awards

Rule Elementary School awards program will be held Tues., May 20 at 1 p.m. in the Rule auditorium for grades K-5.

Lodge meeting

The Sons of Hermann Lodge meeting will be held Sun., May 4 at the Pit & Grill restaurant. Dominoes begin at 2 p.m. followed by a meeting at 3 p.m.

Garage sale

A garage sale will be held at the St. George Catholic Church Sun., May 4 from 1 to 4 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the church.

Dinner

A dinner will be held Sun., May 11 at the First Baptist Church Family Activity Center after church. Donations will be accepted to help Weston Rutkowski with expenses to attend the Diamond Head Classic football game trip to Hawaii.

Dedication

The dedication of Mae Lou Yeldell's home at 1505 N. Ave. B will be held Sat., May 3 beginning at 11 a.m. Everyone is invited.

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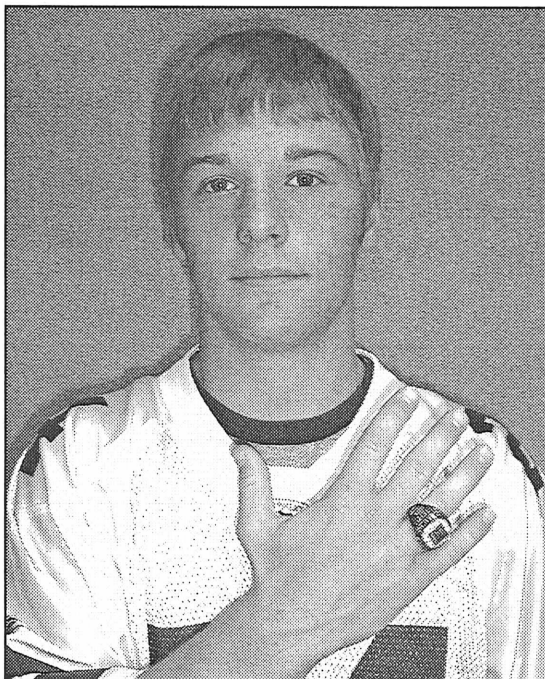
Community wide garage sale Saturday

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 122-NO. 18, ©MAY 1, 2008

"The People's Choice"

16 PAGES-TWO SECTIONS-75 CENTS



TRAVIS ADAMS

Adams receives Player of the Week ring

On Feb. 9, Travis Adams of Haskell, along with 35 other young Texas High School Players of the Week were honored with a banquet at Texas Stadium in Irving provided by The Dallas Cowboys and Ford Motor Company.

Several surprises were in store for the honorees. The biggest was being measured for a customized Built Ford Tough Player of the Week ring, provided by Ford Motor Company. Later, they toured the Dallas Cowboy locker room where they found a locker with their own name, a Dallas Cowboy jersey with their name and the number of their favorite Cowboy on the back. While in the locker room they had a picture made with the 5 Super Bowl rings on.

A formal dinner was served in the Dallas Cowboy Club for the honorees and their parents.

Rule Pre-K, K to register

Registration for kindergarten and pre-kindergarten will be held for Rule students Wed., May 7 from 2 to 3 p.m. beside the elementary workroom of Rule ISD. Children who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1 may attend kindergarten in the fall, while pre-k students must be four years old by that time. This registration is to complete paperwork, so it is not necessary that prospective students attend with their parents. Parents of students already enrolled in Rule ISD do not have to attend.

For each student, bring an up-

PC Pre-K, K to register

Paint Creek School will hold registration for Pre-K and Kindergarten students for the 2008-09 school year Tues., May 6.

Pre-K Students currently enrolled at Paint Creek need not enroll until fall registration. Come by the school office between 12 noon and 3:30 p.m. to complete needed paperwork.

To attend Kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old on or before

Highlight clips of each Player of the Weeks were shown during the dinner. After the meal was completed, each honoree was introduced on stage by Dallas Cowboy head coach Wade Phillips and running back Aiken Ayodele. Players of the Year were introduced.

To be recognized by Ford and Scholastic Coach & Athletic Director magazine as the Built Ford Tough/Dallas Cowboy Texas High School Football Player, the students had to have excelled in the following three categories:

- Individual performance on the field, including significant game statistics
- Contribution to the team's success through individual leadership abilities
- Performance off the field, including academic success and good community citizenship.

do-date immunization record; social security number; official birth certificate from the court house; and, the parent's drivers license. If you cannot bring these, please attend anyway, but all four things will be needed before the child starts to school in August.

If you cannot attend, and your child will be attending Rule ISD in the fall, contact the school at 997-2115, 997-2246 or 997-2521 to make arrangements for another time. It is important that this is done before school dismisses in May.

Sept. 1, 2008. To attend Pre-K a child must be 4 on or before Sept. 1, 2008. Parents should bring their driver's license, and their child's immunization record, birth certificate and social security card to registration.

If you cannot attend registration, but have a Pre-K or Kindergarten student, call the school at 940-864-2868 and make arrangements to come at another time.

Early voting underway in school board election

The election for the Haskell CISD School Board will be conducted on Sat., May 10 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Haskell City Hall, 301 S. 1st St., in Haskell.

Filing for the Single Member District #2 position were incumbent Donnie Rieger, Leonard Howard and Debbie Earles.

Filing for the Single Member District #3 position were incumbent Mynea Short and Joey Thomas.

To vote in the election, voters must live in Single Member District #2 to vote for that school board member and voters must live in Single Member District #3 to vote for that school board position.

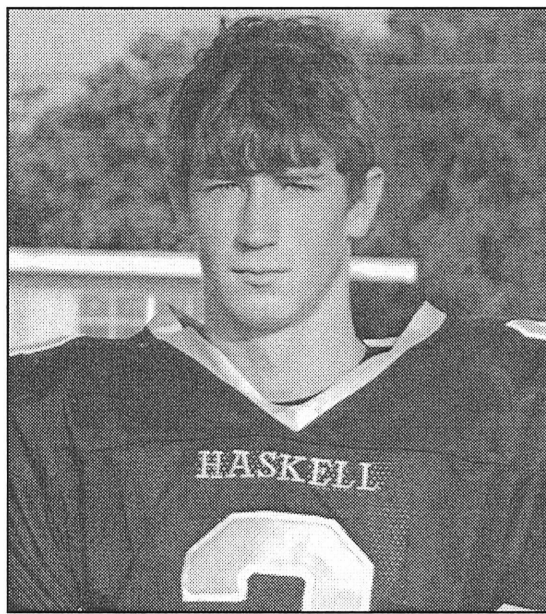
Early voting continues through Tues., May 6 at the Haskell CISD Administration Office located at 605 N. Ave. E in Haskell.

Nine Haskell students on their way to New York

Not that often in a small town does a big opportunity arise—until now, that is. Nine Haskell juniors and seniors will take an educational trip to New York with the Marble Falls Choir in May.

To help pay for the trip, the group held fund-raisers. Some of the fund-raisers included selling personalized key chains, pumping gas for tips, a bake sale at the car show, and a jeans buy out. The students also received donations from businesses as well as individuals and are still accepting donations.

In New York the students will spend 12 hours each day. They will visit Ground Zero, Ellis Islands, China town, the Empire State building, Museum of Natural History, Metropolitan Museum of Art, United Nations, Harlem, Wall Street, St. Paul's Church and Cathedral of St. John the Devine Church. They will also attend a Broadway show.



WESTON RUTKOWSKI

Rutkowski to play in Diamond Head Classic

Haskell Indian Weston Rutkowski has been invited to play in the Diamond Head Football Classic in Honolulu, Hawaii June 10-17. He will be playing with other seniors from around the nation in two Senior Bowl games.

Indian Head Coach Brad Brunson commented, "Weston has been one of the most dedicated and hard working athletes in our program since the day he first entered the seventh grade. He is a young man who has made a great contribution to our athletic program in every sport. This is a well deserved honor for him."

Rutkowski is a five sport letterman, lettering in football, basketball, baseball, track and golf. He was unanimously selected 5-AA Offensive MVP

Sagerton FD to hold auction

The community of Sagerton will have an auction benefiting the Sagerton Fire Department on Mon., May 5, beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a community hot dog supper at the Sagerton Community Center. Donations of baked goods, crafts, hand made items or any other items would be appreciated.

Fire Chief Roy Bell has been actively working to establish a good country department.

and unanimously selected first team All-District Corner. He is president of the student council and has been recognized for numerous awards and achievements.

After graduating high school, Rutkowski plans to attend college at Blinn in Brenham and play football for the Blinn Buccaneers.

Rutkowski is the son of Glenda Gayle and John Rutkowski and the grandson of Jack and Joy Chapman, all of Haskell.

A fund-raiser is planned to help pay for expenses for the Hawaii trip, Mother's Day Sun., May 11, after church at the First Baptist Church Activity Center in Haskell. Donations for the special lunch will be accepted. Family photos will be made for purchase.

Volunteer firefighters have participated in a "control burn" and have become more acquainted with operating the pumps and hoses on both the regular fire truck and the foam fire truck. The department is in need of hoses, fire gear and other accessories.

The Sagerton Hobby Club is sponsoring the auction and invite all to come for an evening of food and fun.



NEW BRUSH TRUCK—Weinert Volunteer Fire Department has recently obtained a new 2008 Ford F-550, 4-wheel drive brush truck through a grant from the Texas Forestry Service. The truck was built by Steele Fire Apparatus of Haskell. Funds are currently being raised for the \$8,000 required to fulfill the local department's obligation for the grant. Shown with the new truck are department members, front row, l-r, Jeremy Hager, Fire Chief Pete Trevino, Wade Raynes and Marty Earle; back row, Larry Trevino, Darrel Dutton, Randy Waggoner, Stanley Hager and Todd Herricks. Donations may be sent to Weinert VFD, P.O. Box 4, Weinert, Texas 76388.

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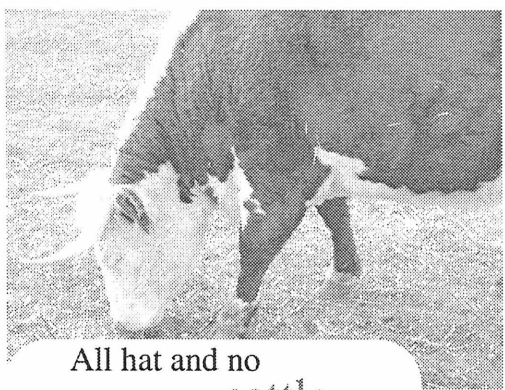
Virgil Martin

254-246-2315

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Paint Creek School Menu

May 5-9

Breakfast

Juice and milk are served daily.

Monday: Toast or cereal

Tuesday: Biscuits, gravy

Wednesday: Pancakes

Thursday: Muffins

Friday: No school

Lunch

Milk is served daily.

Monday: Spaghetti, green beans,

salad, garlic bread, applesauce

cake

Tuesday: Tacos, refried beans,

lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, corn,

fruit

Wednesday: Fish strips, fries,

bread, salad, pudding

Thursday: Turkey sandwiches,

lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, pickles,

fruit

Friday: No school

ECC Menu

Mon., May 5

Lunch—Chicken and macaroni,

English peas, sliced onions, corn,

garlic toast, applecrisp, milk, tea,

or coffee

Wed., May 7

Lunch—Ham slice, au gratin

potatoes, mixed veggies,

cranberries, sliced onions, yeast

rolls, orange cake, milk, tea, or

coffee

Fri., May 9

Lunch—Goulash over rice, sliced

onions, blackeyed peas, club

spinach, cornbread, lemon cake,

milk, tea, or coffee

Field day

A variety trial plot field day will be held Thurs., May 1 at 1 p.m. at Kenneth Baker's place at Brushy Cemetery, north of Weinert about 1.5 miles at FM 1720, go east on 1720 about 10 miles, turn north on 222, go about 2 miles and the plots are on the east side of the road. 2 CEU's in General will be given. Call Wes Utley, CEA-Ag at Texas AgriLife Extension, Haskell County office at 940-864-2658 for information.

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Obituaries

Nadine Pogue



NADINE POGUE

Funeral services for Nadine Pogue, 80, of Haskell were held Sun., April 27 at Haskell Church of Christ in Haskell with John Foster officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mrs. Pogue died Thurs., April 24 at Haskell Memorial Hospital.

Born April 4, 1928 in Midland, she was the daughter of the late John and Bessie Wisdom. She married W.S. Bud Pogue Jr. Nov. 30, 1942 in Stamford. Some of her greatest joys in life were crocheting and needle point. She was an avid reader and a long time member of Haskell Church of

Christ.

She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, W.S. Bud Pogue Jr.; and grandson, Clay Wayne Pogue.

Survivors include sons, Perry Wayne Pogue of Haskell, John Glenn Pogue and wife Jo of Haskell; grandchildren, Cari Leigh Pogue of Austin, John Chancey Pogue and wife Sissy of Weatherford; and great grandson, John Cale Pogue.

Memorials may be made to Hendricks Hospice Care, 1682 Hickory Street, Abilene, Texas 79601. PD. NOTICE

Albert Frank Bittner



ALBERT BITTNER

Funeral services for Albert Frank Bittner, 91, of Haskell were

held Thurs., April 24 at Trinity Lutheran Church with Pastor Ron Rennegarbe officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mr. Bittner died Mon., April 21.

Born Dec. 25, 1916 in Coupland, he was the son of the late Fritz Bittner and Annie Greiner Bittner. He married Bettie Kretschmer Nov. 10, 1942 in Stamford. His greatest joys in life were farming and spending time with his family and grandchildren. He was a resident of the community for 65 years and a member of Trinity Lutheran

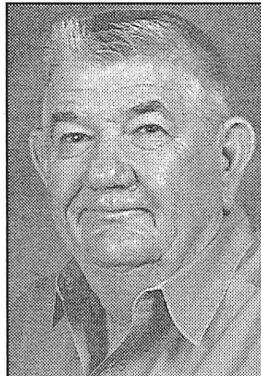
Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and brothers, Otto Bittner and Reinhold Bittner.

Survivors include his wife, Bettie Bittner of the home; daughter, Ina Rea Robertson and husband Gary of Carlsbad, New Mexico; son, Curtis Ray Bittner and wife Carol of Los Lunas, New Mexico; brothers, Walter and Carl Bittner of Taylor; grandchildren, Charles Robertson, Lisa Robertson, Stephen Bittner and wife Marcie, and Christopher Bittner.

Memorials made by made to Trinity Lutheran Church, Hwy. 380, Haskell, Texas 79521. PD. NOTICE

Coleman Doyle Wright



COLEMAN WRIGHT

Funeral services for Coleman Doyle Wright, 80, of Rochester were held Mon., April 28 at First Baptist Church in Rochester with Bro. Fred Garbin officiating. Burial was in Pleasant Valley

Cemetery under the direction of Smith Funeral Home, Rochester.

Mr. Wright died Fri., April 25 at Hendrick Hospice Care Center in Abilene.

Born March 22, 1928 in Rochester, he was the son of John and Mallie Wright. He married Fretta Edwards July 29, 1950 in Haskell. He was a long time welder and rancher. He owned Wright's Welding for 46 years. He served in the Armed Forces eight years and was active in World War II and the Korean War. He was a member of the VFW, Rochester City Council and the West Texas Water Council.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Fretta; his parents; five brothers; and one sister.

Survivors include a son,

Robert Wright of Abilene; daughter, Lizette Hastey of Sweetwater; brother, Johnny Wright of Granbury; sister, Mildred Smith of Stephenville; sister-in-law, Estalynn and husband Howard Liles of Haskell; niece, Claire and David Halliburton of Haskell; a faithful friend, Malinda Teague; and numerous nephews. He was a loving grandfather, known as Big Paw, to three grandchildren, Justin Wright of Galveston, Kayla Saucedo of Abilene and Dusty Hastey of Sweetwater; and three great grandchildren, Harley and Julie Overton of Abilene and Trintyn Hastey of Sweetwater.

Memorials may be made to Hendrick Hospice Care, 1682 Hickory, Abilene, Texas 79601. PD. NOTICE

Haskell School Menu

May 5-9

Breakfast

Juice and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu.

Monday: No school

Tuesday: French toast

Wednesday: Cereal, Chex mix

Thursday: Little Chorito bites

Friday: Pigs in a blanket

Lunch

Milk and iced tea are served daily

at the Secondary campus. Milk is served daily at the Elementary School. Secondary campus: choice of entree or baked potato with cheese and ham.

Monday: No school

Tuesday: Enchiladas, salsa,

pinto beans, garden salad,

Spanish rice, tortilla chips, sliced

peaches

Wednesday: Ham and cheese

Hot Pocket, garden salad, baby carrots, ranch dressing, HS and JH, fresh fruit; Elem., Gogurt.

Thursday: Pepperoni pizza, corn, Oriental coleslaw, applecrisp

Friday: Elem., Ham and cheese sandwich, lettuce, tomato, pickle, assorted chips, fresh fruit; JH and HS, hamburger, veggies, fries, Gogurt

The City of Haskell will honor

Ken Lane

for his 14 years of excellent service as

Mayor

with a come and go Open House at City Hall

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

from

12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

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ANGELS—Ten ladies attended the Haskell First United Methodist Church Senior Angel Supper. Attending were, front row, l-r, Billie Parsons, Alma Terrell, Gertrude Hopkins, Barbara Kimbrough and Bernice Hilliard; back row, Jane Coston, Rowena Hester, Naomi Fain, Pauline Couch and Jerry Josselet.

4-H Roundup held in Vernon

by Jane Rowan
CEA/FCS, Haskell County
Almost 380 youth from the 24 counties of the Rolling Plains Extension District competed at Vernon, April 23 for the right to represent the District in the State 4-H Roundup in June at College Station.

events for the Senior Division, ages 14-19, will advance to the state competition. First, second, and third place teams or individuals in Educational Presentations, Beef Quiz Bowl, Horse Quiz Bowl, and Consumer Decision Making qualify for the state event.

winners in Share the Fun contests will advance. Roundup winners were honored at an awards assembly at the Wilbarger Auditorium which concluded a morning of competition.

Twelve Extension Districts will send their winners to State 4-H Roundup for the purpose of determining state champions. Approximately 2,500 4-H members, adult leaders and county Extension agents will invade Texas A&M for the different contests.

WHPD art contest set June 6-7

Art entries are being sought for the Wild Horse Prairie Days Art Show to be held Friday and Saturday, June 6-7 at the Haskell Civic Center.

Category 2: Three dimensional art. Division 1. Sculptures; Division 2. Metal art; Division 3. Wood working and carving.

Categories include:
Category 1: Art and Photography. Division 1. Youth 18 years and under; Division 2. Landscapes; Division 3. Portraits; Division 4. Still life; Division 5. Photography; Division 6. Class work; Division 7. Miniatures (unframed max. 5"x7").

Category 3: Hand-crafted cowboy gear. Division 1. Hand-crafted leather items (no saddles); Division 2. Hitched hair and braided items; Division 3. Hand-crafted spurs, bits, buckles.
Call the Haskell Chamber of Commerce at 940-864-2477 for more information.

Beta Chi Chapter holds spring meetings

The Beta Chi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met in the Knox City high school library for their March meeting.

was conducted. Discussion included the state convention in June, membership and an area workshop. A luncheon will be held in May at the Munday Methodist Church where new officers will be installed.

Kacy Latham presented an informative and enthusiastic talk on the importance of art to small communities.

Beta Chi also celebrated its birthday with a special cake in the shape of Texas served as a reminder of Texas Independence Day. New officers were elected.

The April meeting was held in Haskell where a business meeting

To Subscribe,
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940-864-2686

Dudensing advances to State 4-H Fashion Show

by Jane Rowan
CEA/FCS, Haskell County
Seven Haskell County 4-H members advanced to the Rolling Plains District 4-H Fashion Show on April 19 after winning first place honors at the Haskell County 4-H Fashion Show. The district show was held at the Olney School where 4-H contestants from 24 counties participated in the annual event sponsored by the Texas AgriLife Extension and AEP.

Cotton Awards, donated by the Rolling Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. were given to the first place best cotton garments in the construction and buying categories in each division.

Young County 4-H leaders hosted the event.

Results of the day's competition were:

Fabric & Fashion Design, Intermediate Apparel: 2. Destini Raynes

Junior Construction. Pop-Over: 4. Victoria Hertel

Intermediate Construction, Dressy: 1. Emily Fouts

Cotton Award: 1. Emily Fouts

Senior Construction, Casual: 2. Jenny Dudensing

Senior Construction, Dressy: 1. Molly Dudensing

Senior Buying, Casual: 4. Allison Petty

First place senior division winner, Molly Dudensing, will advance to the State 4-H Fashion Show on June 11 in College Station.

Also, in the District Fashion Show was Sarah Campbell of Rule.

Three Haskell County Volunteer 4-H Clothing Project Leaders were selected to serve as judges for the district competition. These leaders were Renee Dudensing of Sagerton, Kris Fouts of Sagerton and Julie Petty of Rule.

Attending and participating from Haskell County at the District Round-Up were:

Jenny Dudensing of Sagerton, Educational Presentation, Sr. Division, Food and Nutrition, second place.

Brooke Bullinger of Haskell, Educational Presentation, Sr. Division, Health, first place.

Ashley Adams of Haskell, Share-The-Fun/Musical, Junior Division, Piano, third place.

Crissy Bassett of Haskell and Preston Morrow of Haskell participated in the Consumer Decision Making contest.

Special Sale

Store open for final markdowns.
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Sunday, May 11

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SIDEWALK SALE

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Sidewalk Sale

Saturday, May 3

Hey Kids! New Webkinz

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Hillary and Ryan Bleiker
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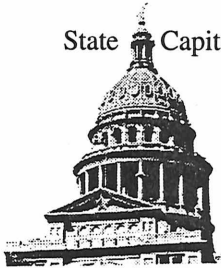
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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Governor asks for help in curbing food and feed prices

AUSTIN—With grocery bills and livestock feed prices inching higher and higher, Gov. Rick Perry asked a federal agency to help bring relief.

In a letter dated April 25, Perry requested a waiver from the Environmental Protection Agency to cut the renewable fuel mandate for ethanol produced from grain by 50 percent.

The waiver, if granted, would provide Texans with relief at the grocery store and enable the Texas livestock industry to continue providing its big share of the nation's food supply, Perry said.

"We appreciate the good intentions behind the push for renewable fuels. In fact we're diversifying our state's energy portfolio at a rapid rate, but this misguided mandate is significantly affecting Texans' family food bill," Perry said.

The renewable fuel mandate increases corn crop diversion to ethanol production through 2015. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 established the mandate and amended by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

Count of YFZ children increases

The number of children removed from the polygamist YFZ Ranch near Eldorado on April 3 and ensuing days originally was tabulated at 416. The count increased to 437, and then climbed to 462.

The increase from 437 to 462 accounts for the discovery that at least 25 of the mothers who left the religious sect's 1,700-acre ranch compound are in fact less than 18 years of age.

Ranch children have been transferred to state-certified foster homes, with their parentage to be determined and legal status still up to Texas courts of law.

In a related development, authorities identified 33-year-old Rozita Swinton, a Colorado Springs, Colo., woman as a "person of interest" in calls made to a crisis hotline that resulted in law enforcement intervention at the ranch compound. The Texas Rangers are investigating.

Due date for new tax is extended

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs on April 22 announced that businesses unable to meet the May 15 due date for the franchise tax will have an additional 30 days to submit their returns or file an extension without penalty.

The complexity of the revised franchise tax and the newness of the enhanced electronic reporting methods have caused concern among taxpayers statewide, Combs said.

Panel to study property taxes

House Speaker Tom Craddick on April 24 announced the formation of the Select Committee on Property Tax Relief and Appraisal Reform.

Craddick named Rep. Jim Otto, R-Dayton, as chair and Rep. Ken Paxton, R-McKinney, as vice chair of the 13-member panel.

The assignment is to review sections of the tax code and the Texas Constitution that deal with the appraised value of property and the limitation of increases in appraised value.

The panel will report its findings to the 81st Texas Legislature, which convenes Jan. 13, 2009.

High school classes will be online

The Texas Education Agency announced April 25 the launching of the Texas Virtual School Network.

Authorized by the Texas Legislature in 2007, the network will provide online courses to students throughout Texas.

Classes for grades 9 through 12 are scheduled to begin in the spring of 2009. A list of approved course offerings will be available this fall.

New Briscoe memoir hits shelves

The Center for American History at the University of Texas announced April 23 the release of a personal memoir, "Dolph Briscoe: My Life in Texas Ranching and Politics." Briscoe served as governor from 1973 to 1979.

Don Carleton, executive director of the history center, conducted a series of interviews with Gov. Briscoe. After each interview, Carleton edited the transcripts to build a narrative in Briscoe's voice. Throughout the process, Briscoe read and revised the text, Carleton said.

Flags at half-staff for Guerrero

Gov. Rick Perry on April 24 directed that flags be flown at half-staff in memory of Lena Guerrero of Austin. The former state representative and Texas Railroad Commission member died April 23 at the age of 50, after a long battle with cancer. Burial was in the Texas State Cemetery on April 26.



From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago April 30, 1998

Paint Creek girls who placed at the District UIL Literary meet were sophomore Heather Hobbs; freshman Candace Everhart; and junior Susan Acosta.

Haskell High School students, Creora Tatum, Sherita Tidrow and Wendy West visited the Rotary Club.

Kayla Jones, Lacie Stephens and Kortney Kupatt of the Rule Girl Scouts each sold over 150 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to be eligible to attend Girl Scout camp this summer. Others selling cookies were Kelsie Miller, Christie Judd, Kyna Scheets, Calie Papon, Kendra Scheets, Jordan Baitz, Miranda Roberson, Mackenzie Miller, Holly Wolsch and Sam Kittle.

20 Years Ago May 5, 1988

Matt Lane, Lori Darden and Leiza Morales won state Interscholastic League Press awards for their work on the high school newspaper, the War Whoop.

Tim Johnson, sophomore at Weatherford College, received the Sports Super Gold Award. He is the son of Loraine and Bobbie Johnson.

Josh Gonzales, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Silvester Ozuna, has been named the United States National Achievement Award winner.

Four representatives of the Haskell chapter attended the state convention of the Texas Association of Future Homemakers of America in Fort Worth. These representatives were Kristi Brister, Deneice Rogers, Jovita Gonzales and Wanda Thompson, advisor.

30 Years Ago May 4, 1978

Junior High cheerleaders chosen for 1978-79 were Tina Morris, Gena Whitaker, Sheila Klose, April Turner, Shannon Lane and Terrie Andrada.

Price of Haskell Free Press increased from 15 cents to 20

cents. Yearly subscriptions were \$6.25 for Haskell and adjoining counties, \$7.50 else where in Texas, and \$9.00 outside of Texas.

Dr. Wayne Cadenhead has registered in the Haskell Medical Register for his first day the Haskell Clinic.

The Haskell track team had seven boys who qualified for the Regional Track Meet in Odessa. Jim Harris, won first place in pole-vault; Jackie Steadham, first place in the mile run; Joseph Browning, second in the hurdles; Jimmy Browning, first place in the 880; Robert Browning, Bruce Enriquez and Monnie Hise placed second in the mile relay.

40 Years Ago May 2, 1968

Mr. and Mrs. Charley Redwine have announce the purchase of C.W. McKelvin's interest in the Haskell Speedway, Inc. located four miles west of Haskell.

Dian Cadenhead, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Frank Cadenhead was selected to represent Haskell in the Texas Youth Exchange program.

Visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A.N. Lees, of Rochester, were their children, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Allen Lees and family, of Plainview, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Jones of Ropesville and Jimmie Berry of Haskell.

50 Years Ago May 1, 1958

Paint Creek FFA hosted a father-son barbecue. The following awards were made at the barbecue: Roy Scheets, Electrification; John McRae, Public Speaking; Albert Roberts, Farm Safety; Robert Weaver, Soil and Water Management; Roy Petrich, Farm Mechanics; Kenneth Carlton, Chapter Star Farmer; and Jimmy Griffith received the DeKalb Award.

Winners in the art contest sponsored by the Weinert Matrons Club for the high school division were Yvonne Hawkins, 1st; Jimmy White, 2nd; and Linda

Gail York, 3rd.

Dan Riley Griffith, Dub Sims, G.W. Gun and Mike Overton attended High School Day on the campus of Texas A&M at College Station. They visited with Cadets Wallar and William Overton.

The Haskell one act play has advanced to State. This is the first time in the history of the school, that the one act play has gone past district competition.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan McRae and children had as their weekend guests their daughter and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Meacham and their three children from Pecos.

Visiting in the home of Opal Rose was her son, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Rose and children of Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Driggers returned from Pampa where they had been visiting their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Earp, Debbie and Wyatt.

Mr. and Mrs. August Angerman visited with Mrs. Minnie Kock in Lueders.

100 Years Ago May 2, 1908

A brisk norther hit causing the temperature to drop 35 degrees and snow began to fall, melting as it reached the ground.

Lillian Fitzgerald, who has been visiting relatives, left for her home in Sweetwater. Fitzgerald was accompanied home by her cousin, Ruby Fitzgerald and Nora Cobb.

Judge J.P. Kinnard, member of the Bell County Bar, has moved to Haskell and opened a law office in the State Bank Building.

Shortly after 12 o'clock Wednesday night, fire broke out in the wooden building on the north side of the square occupied by English Bros. Meat Market and Mode Collins confectionery, destroying the building and spreading to an adjoining building where volunteer fire fighters succeed in extinguishing the blaze before the second building was very badly damaged.

Cotton Market Weekly

By Plains Cotton Cooperative Association

Cotton futures prices closed sharply lower Thursday on investor liquidation in much of the commodities complex and a stronger dollar. Two of the three previous trading sessions also saw lower cotton prices which were influenced by the movement of other commodities' prices. A weaker-than-expected export report also contributed to Thursday's decline.

Earlier in the week, much attention was focused on Washington, D.C., where the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) held a forum to discuss recent commodity market volatility. According to most industry observers, the supply and demand balance sheets of the underlying commodity products are now an afterthought. Farm groups and food processors believe speculative trading has added uncertainty to the futures market, making it difficult to determine the real value of commodities' traditional risk management efforts.

The discussion was planned to gather information about whether the futures markets are properly performing their risk management and price discovery roles. One observer said it is clear that the markets' function has been corrupted and the key is to find ways to make them work again.

"These are the issues that will affect all of the commodity markets in the years ahead, years that may prove to be the most volatile and disruptive on record," an analyst explained. "It isn't as if the CFTC were trying to reinvent their wheel, but rather to understand what's making the wheel go around. These problems need to be defined, and solutions brought forth post haste."

Another analyst noted, "the four representatives of cotton made a very strong case for the need of a) reigning in some voracious members of the speculative community, b) putting limits and supervision on Hedge Funds and c) initiating an investigation into the events and parties responsible for what happened on March 3 and 4."

Meanwhile, USDA reported net export sales of U.S. cotton totaled 163,400 bales in the week ended April 17. The figure was up 22 percent from a week earlier but 49 percent lower than the four-week average. Featured buyers were Turkey, Indonesia, Taiwan and Brazil. The sales volume was near the lower end of a range of some analysts' expectations. Net sales of 8,800 bales for delivery in 2008-09 were for Bangladesh, Indonesia and Mexico.

At 259,700 bales, export shipments were down nine percent but a seven percent increase from the four-week average. Primary destinations included China, Turkey, Indonesia and Mexico. The lagging sales and shipments may force USDA to further reduce its estimate for U.S. cotton exports in the 2007-08 marketing year, according to traders.

The spot cotton market activity slowed considerably in the week ended April 24 as online trading by producers in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas totaled only 1,047 bales. Online sales the previous week totaled 7,895 bales. Average prices received by producers this past week ranged from 60.96 to 62.91 cents per pound versus 60.00 to 65.11 cents per pound one week earlier.

CTFC makes distribution

The board of directors of the Central Texas Farm Credit, ACA, which serves a twenty county area in Central and West Texas, has announced that it has declared another cash patronage distribution to eligible association borrowers for fiscal year 2007.

This marks the fifteenth consecutive year the association has returned excess capital to its borrowers. Including this year's patronage, Central Texas Farm Credit, ACA has distributed over \$33 Million in excess capital to its borrowers over the past 15 years. This capital has been distributed either through patronage distributions, dividends, stock reductions, or stock equalizations. Patronage distributions alone have accounted for approximately \$22 million of the total amount of capital returned to association borrowers.

This year's \$2.5 million

patronage was distributed to borrowers on March 21 and amounts to an average 86 basis points, or nearly one percent, reduction in the rate of interest borrowers paid on their loans during 2007.

In making the announcement, board chairman Cody B. Richmond stated that the board of directors and management were delighted to once again reduce the cost of borrowing to the association's stockholders and emphasized that this is only one of the many benefits of obtaining agricultural and rural area credit from the Central Texas Farm Credit, ACA. Association CEO James R. Isenhower also noted that although most Farm Credit institutions pay a patronage of some kind, Central Texas Farm Credit, ACA distributes its entire patronage in cash and does not allocate a part of such patronage

for possible, but not guaranteed, payment at some later date.

The Central Texas Farm Credit, ACA, with over \$420 million in loan assets, provides financing for agricultural, rural housing and certain agri-business purposes in Central and West Texas. Association headquarters are located in Coleman, with branch offices in Brownwood, Brady, Haskell and San Angelo.

Board members include Cody Richmond, Chris West, Lavon Beakley, Richard Johnson, Ricky McKinnerney, Mickey Dillard, Larry Damron, Brent Heinze, Wayland Shurley, Robby Halfmann and Glenn Miller. The board and management remain committed to maintaining the financial integrity of the association while offering competitive loan products that meet the financial needs of all eligible borrowers.

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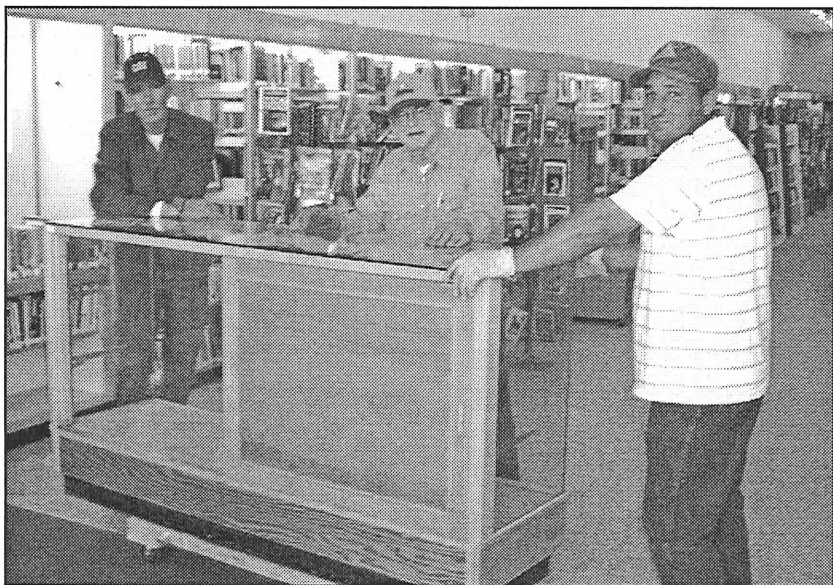
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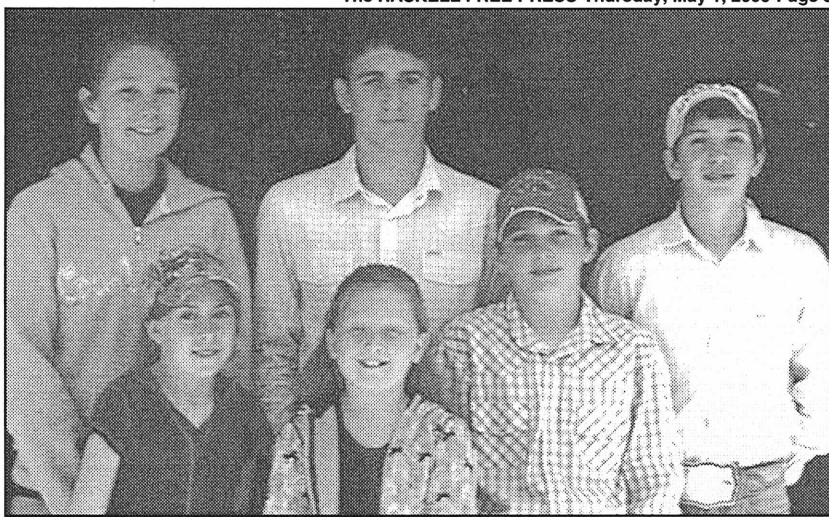
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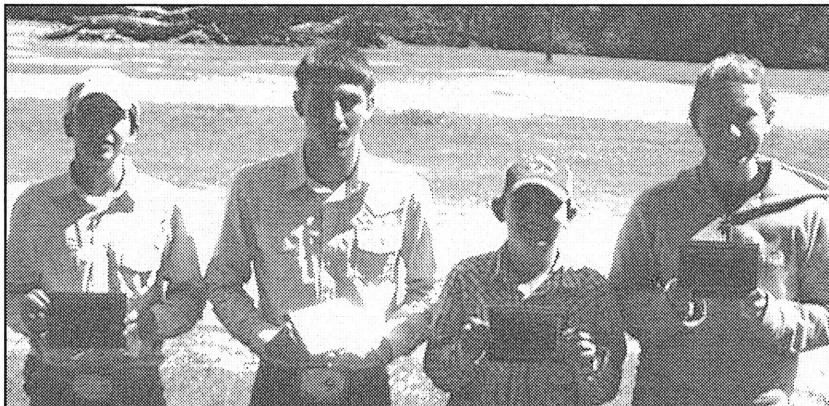
This issue mailed Wed., Apr. 30, 2008



MOVING OUT—Fixtures and display items were making the move from the old library to the new library last week. Helping move this glass display case are, l-r, Rick Tidrow, Commissioner Tiffen Mayfield and Matt Sanders. All are from County Precinct 2. The new library is scheduled to open May 12.



JUDGING CONTEST PARTICIPANTS—Haskell County 4-H'ers participating in the District Livestock Judging Contest in Weatherford April 18 were, front row, l-r, Ashley Adams, Sarah Campbell and Aaron Urich; back row, Carson Hadaway, Payne Urich and Stewart Urich.



WIN FIRST PLACE—The Haskell County 4-H Livestock Judging Team won first place at the District 3 Judging Contest in Weatherford April 18. Team members, l-r, are Stewart Urich, Payne Urich, Aaron Urich and Carson Hadaway.

April sales tax reported

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said the state received \$1.6 billion in sales tax revenue in March, up 7.4 percent compared to March 2007.

"Since the beginning of the fiscal year in September 2007, state sales tax collections have increased 7.2 percent compared to the same period in the previous fiscal year," Combs said. "Although the national economy is slowing, here in Texas, growth in sales tax collections remains consistent."

Combs sent \$419 million in April sales tax allocations to cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, a 3.7 percent increase compared to April 2007. So far this calendar year, sales tax allocations to local governments are up 6.4 percent.

Comptroller Combs sent April sales tax allocations of \$281 million to Texas cities, up 3.2 percent compared to April 2007. Calendar year-to-date, city sales tax allocations are running 6 percent higher than last year. Texas counties received sales tax payments of \$25.9 million, up 4.4 percent compared to one year ago. Calendar year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are 6.5 percent higher than last year.

In addition, \$14.2 million went to 126 special purpose taxing districts around the state, up 13.1 percent compared to last April. Ten local transit systems received \$97.8 million in sales tax rebates, up 3.9 percent compared to a year ago.

March state sales tax revenue and April payments made to local governments represent sales that

occurred in February.

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation will be made Fri., May 9.

Haskell County had a 19.76 percent increase for April 2008 of \$30,926.46 in comparison to \$25,822.82 for April 2007. 2008 payments to date of \$131,989.59 reflect a 7.83 percent increase over 2007 payments to date of \$122,403.85.

The City of Haskell had a 21.06 percent increase for April 2008 of \$28,833.36 in comparison to \$23,817.39 for April 2007. 2008 payments to date of \$121,780.09 reflect a 8.27 percent increase over 2007 payments to date of \$112,471.77.

The City of O'Brien had a 32.90 percent decrease for April 2008 of \$46.97 in comparison to \$70.01 for April 2007. 2008 payments to date of \$274.22 reflect a 43.68 percent decrease

over 2007 payments to date of \$486.96.

The City of Rochester had a 14.08 percent increase for April 2008 of \$383.93 in comparison to \$336.54 for April 2007. 2008 payments to date of \$2,131.93 reflect a 9.04 percent increase over 2007 payments to date of \$1,955.09.

The City of Rule had a .66 percent decrease for April 2008 of \$1,417.31 in comparison to \$1,426.74 for April 2007. 2008 payments to date of \$6,562.91 reflect a .69 percent increase over 2007 payments to date of \$6,517.29.

The City of Weinert had a 42.26 percent increase for April 2008 of \$244.89 in comparison to \$172.14 for April 2007. 2008 payments to date of \$1,240.44 reflect a 27.52 percent increase over 2007 payments to date of \$972.74.

Bank receives honor

BauerFinancial, Inc., of Coral Gables, Florida, the nation's leading independent bank rating and research firm, is proud to announce that Haskell National Bank of Haskell, has once again achieved its highest 5-star rating. The 5-star rating is based on the overall financial picture of the bank and indicates that Haskell National Bank is one of the strongest banks in the nation. This quarter represents the 64th consecutive time that Haskell National Bank has earned this highest honor. Institutions like Haskell National Bank, that have achieved a 5-star rating for ten years or longer, have yet another

distinction: "Exceptional Performance Bank." Only 15% of the nation's banks are branded as such.

"The times are changing and fewer banks are qualifying for this top rating, but our rigorous standards remain," boasts Karen L. Dorway, president of BauerFinancial. "You should be proud to know your local bank, Haskell National Bank, can claim this highest honor and be confident to call it your bank."

4-H Judging teams compete in Weatherford

by Wes Utley
CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.
Six Haskell County 4-H'ers participated in the District 3 Livestock Judging contest held Fri., April 18 in Weatherford. Participants judged eight classes consisting of sheep, hogs and cattle. Approximately 260 4-H'ers from across the district attended.

This was the first judging contest for team members from Haskell County this year.

In the Intermediate Division, High Point Individuals were: 1. Aaron Urich of Rochester; 7. Stewart Urich of Rochester; and 9. Payne Utley of Paint Creek.

As a team, Haskell came in with first place honors. The team included Carson Hadaway of

Haskell.

Also participating in the events were Ashley Adams of Haskell and Sarah Campbell of Rule.

Wes Utley, county Extension Agent and coach said, "I'm very proud of these kids. They worked very hard and deserve this success."

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TAX PLANNING

Written By
Rick Rodgers, CPA

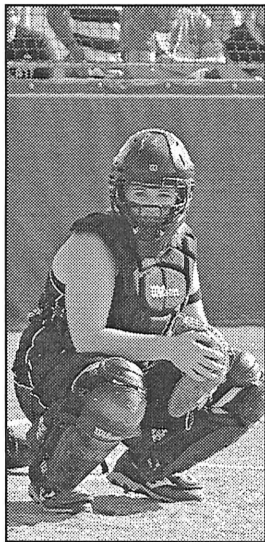
SHOULD YOU HIRE FAMILY MEMBERS?

Many business owners hire their children, their spouse, or other family members to work in the business. Sometimes this works out well; sometimes it causes problems. Let's look at the pros and cons.

- Hiring your children. Hiring your kids for a part-time job usually has more tax advantages and few drawbacks than hiring other relatives. The financial advantage is that if you're paying your child to do useful work, the business gets a tax deduction for the wages paid. Your child will probably pay little or no income tax, and the after-tax wages stay in the family. Also, if your child is under age 18 and your business is unincorporated, neither the child nor the business need pay federal payroll taxes. This exemption also applies to a partnership or LLC if the only partners are you and your spouse.
- Follow certain steps to make sure the wages are fully deductible. The child must be doing a real job that helps the business, and the wages must be reasonable for the work performed. Keep detailed records of hours worked and pay salary regularly, preferably on the same schedule as other employees. In other words, treat your child just like any regular employee.
- Hiring your spouse or relatives. Hiring your spouse or other relatives generally doesn't bring the same payroll tax savings. However, it does bring other advantages and disadvantages. The advantages are that you have an employee whom you know well, and who may be more motivated or more flexible than a nonfamily member. And in many family-owned businesses, it's a powerful way to train the next generation who will take over leadership.
- That same familiarity can bring disadvantages, however. Few families are without some internal or inter-generational conflict, and that can be disastrous if it spills over into the workplace. You must also consider the effect on other employees. Any sign of favoritism or unequal treatment can cause resentment and ruin the motivation of other employees.
- Be cautious. So think long and hard before you bring family members into the business. Talk to them and to your key employees beforehand, and make sure everyone understands and is comfortable with their future roles in the company.

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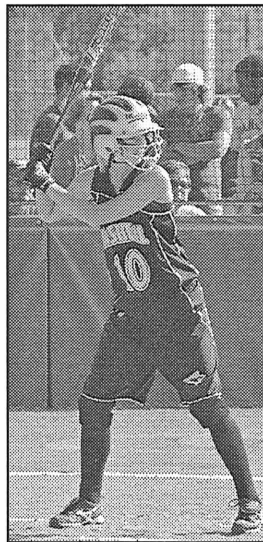
Maidens in action in Bi-District game vs. Coleman



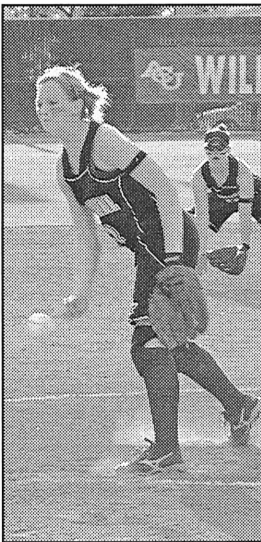
SARA WEISE



CLAIRE ISBELL



ASHTON RUTKOWSKI



PAIGE WHEATLEY

Area teams regional track meet results

Haskell Maidens competed in the Region 1-2A Championship track meet held at Elmer Gray Stadium last week in Abilene. Results included:
Triple jump: 13. Aubrey Bassett, 32-02.
100 hurdles: 7. Hanna Wallace, 16.45.
400 meters: 7. Aubrey Bassett,

1:01.74.
300 hurdles: 6. Hope Reid, 50.56.
1600 relay: 7. 4:17.87. Team members are Reid, Wallace, Cheslee Hearn, Bassett.

Rule Bobcats competed in the Region II-A Championship track meet last week held at Elmer

Gray Stadium in Abilene. Boys results included:
Team results: 1. Rule 56. Triple jump: 1. Jonathan Rincon, 44-01.00.
400 relay: 2. Rule, 43.84. 110 hurdles: 1. Stephen Pace, 15.09.
800 relay: 4. Rule, 1:32.93. 300 hurdles: 1. Stephen Pace,

39.60.
Pole vault: 6. Kyle Simpson, 12-00.00.
3,200: 6. Cade Brown, 11:00.79.
Girls results included:
1600 meters: 10. Kate Rowan, 5:56.41.
3200 meters: 14. Kate Rowan, 13:32.61.

Students visit Rotary Club



ALLISON MITCHELL

Allison Paige Mitchell is the daughter of Karen Mitchell of Haskell and Doyle Mitchell.

At Haskell High School, she works at the daycare center. She has been named Most Beautiful and All American Cheerleader.

She enjoys softball, taking care of Keegan and watching movies. She works at Dairy Queen.

She plans to attend nursing school at Cisco Jr. College.

Michael Gordy is the son of Deward and Becky Gordy of Haskell.

He attends First Baptist Church in Haskell.

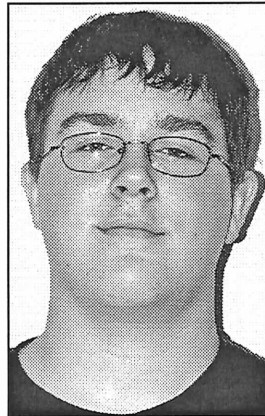
At Haskell High School, he has participated in UIL for three years, FCCLA for one year and Ag for one year.

He enjoys fishing, art, computers and hanging out with his friends.

He plans to study Wind Turbine Energy at Texas State Technical College in Sweetwater.

Clyde Robert Frierson is the son of Nathan and Lisa Frierson of Haskell.

He is a Methodist. At Haskell High School, he participates in football, baseball,



MICHAEL GORDY



CLYDE FRIERSON

golf and FFA. He was named to the second team as a third baseman his sophomore year; named to the first team All-District as a tackle unanimous his senior year; named to the first team All-Big Country football team his senior year; and named to the All Tournament baseball team in Hamlin his senior year.

He enjoys hunting, working on cars, hanging out with his friends and watching movies.

He plans to study diesel mechanics at John Deere Tech School at Navarro College in Corsicana.

This Week's Devotional Message:



The word 'conservation' should become increasingly a part of our everyday vocabulary; not just as an expression but as a mandate to preserve our environment and ultimately, life itself. When God gave us this planet for our home, He did so as a sacred trust, expecting us to take care of it as conditions warrant. For example, in a normally dry area or during a periodic drought, it is only common sense not to waste water. And with out landfill disposal sites growing into towering mountains, it behooves us to recycle containers or re-use them as best we can, to at least slow down the process. Learn at your house of worship that the earth is ours to inhabit and enjoy, but also to maintain; so let us assume, our share of the responsibility for it. It's the only home we'll ever have.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

HASKELL

- East Side Baptist Church**
Dr. Jim Hefflin, interim pastor
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
- Christian Church**
Richard Barr, minister
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m.; Thurs. 7 p.m.
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- Church of God**
Bruce Ray, pastor
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.
714 North First East, Haskell
- Trinity Lutheran Church**
Ron Rennegarbe, pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30
Hwy 380 East, Haskell
- Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**
Art Flores, Interim pastor
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
607 S. 7th, Haskell
- First United Methodist Church**
Rev. Tom Long, pastor
Sun. 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. 9:45 a.m., 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**
Philip Sims, minister
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- First Presbyterian Church**
Kelly Pigott, interim pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Trinity Baptist Church**
Larry White, pastor
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.
114 S. Ave. D, Haskell
- Hopewell Baptist Church**
Rev. Tom Collins, pastor
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

Greater Independent Baptist Church

- Sun. 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. 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. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell
- First Baptist Church**
Greg Gasaway, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Church in the Wind**
C.C. Curran, pastor
Sun. fellowship 5 p.m. Church 5:30 p.m.
Tues. Bible Class 7:30 p.m.
203 S. 1st East, Haskell
- Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church**
Morris R. Johnson, pastor
Sun. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
1600 N. First St., Haskell

WEINERT

- First Baptist Church**
Dan Bullock, pastor
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
- Weinert Foursquare Church**
Rev. Robert Harrison
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
- Church of Christ**
Steve Willis, minister
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester
- First Baptist Church**
Fred Garvin, pastor
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:00 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester
- Union Chapel Baptist Church**
Clovis Dever
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Rochester
- Faith Chapel of Rochester**
Randy Hollingsworth, minister
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 6 p.m.
Hwy 6, Rochester

ROCHESTER

- Church of Christ**
Steve Willis, minister
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester
- First Baptist Church**
Fred Garvin, pastor
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:00 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester
- Union Chapel Baptist Church**
Clovis Dever
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Rochester
- Faith Chapel of Rochester**
Randy Hollingsworth, minister
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 6 p.m.
Hwy 6, Rochester

SAGERTON

- Sagerton Methodist Church**
Stephania Gilkey, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.
Sagerton
- Faith Lutheran Church**
Curtis Baker, pastor
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Sagerton
- First Baptist Church**
Russell Stanley, pastor
Sun. 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. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
811 Union, Rule
- First United Methodist Church**
Tom Long, pastor
Sun. Morn. Worship 8:30 a.m.
1000 Union Ave., Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**
Alfa y Omegas
Manuel Marin, pastor
Sun. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
500 Elm Street, Rule
- Sweet Home Baptist Church**
Larry Neal, pastor
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m.;
Gladstone Ave., Rule
- West Bethal Baptist Church**
Rev. Clovis Dever
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
300 Sunny Ave., Rule

PAINT CREEK

- Paint Creek Baptist Church**
Sun. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
Paint Creek
- O'BRIEN**
O'Brien Baptist Church
Jim Reid, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p. Wed. 6 p.m.
O'Brien

Rule High School to hold awards program

The Rule High School awards will be presented Tues., May 13. The meal will be served at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria followed by awards in the auditorium.

The menu includes spaghetti, salad, garlic toast and cobbler, cherry or peach. Cost will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for junior high and elementary students. High school students being honored will not pay. Everyone else that eats will be expected to pay.

Freshman parents are responsible to clean up the kitchen and cafeteria either following the meal or awards. Be prepared to stay until things are cleaned.

Sophomore parents are responsible to serve the meal and need to be there at 5:45 p.m. to be in line and ready.

Junior and Senior parents are responsible to cook at 5 p.m.

Rule Junior High to hold awards program

The Rule Junior High awards program will be Tues., May 6, in the cafeteria at the Rule School beginning at 7 p.m.

Every sixth-eighth grade student will be recognized for UIL academics, athletics, cheerleading, other awards and accomplishments will be honored.

All parents and guardians

must bring a freezer of homemade ice cream or finger desserts to share with everyone else, such as brownies, cookies or Rice Krispy treats.

Junior high students, their parents, guardians, grandparents, siblings and faculty are invited. Paper goods and drinks will be provided.

Wheat field day set

by Wes Utley
CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.
Wheat Producers from the Rolling Plains will have an opportunity to attend a Wheat Field Day Thurs., May 15 at the AgriPro Wheat Breeding Facility in Lockett.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Producers at the Field Day will hear from Dr. Bill Raun of Oklahoma State on Evaluating

Nutrient Needs and GreenSeeker Technology, and Dr. Gaylon Morgan with Texas AgriLife Extension Service will discuss the Economic Impact of Rust. Dr. Todd Baughman with Texas AgriLife Extension service and Rob Borchardt of AgriPro will view wheat and triticale variety trials with producers.

Field Representatives from Syngenta Crop Protection, DuPont and Estes will talk about Maximizing Crop Profitabilities.

A producers panel will discuss top dressing wheat with anhydrous.

Three C.E.U.'s will be given.

For more information call Wes Utley, Haskell County Extension Agent-Ag. at 940-864-2658 or Langdon Reagan, Wilbarger County Extension Agent-Ag at 940-553-2327.

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864-2686

For Sale

FOR SALE: Cragar SS mag wheels. 14"x7" for Ford car. 5 bolt. \$150 OBO. 325-660-8011. 47fc

FOR SALE: 16 ft. and 8 ft. garage doors, sectional with all hardware. \$200 for both. 325-660-8011. 47fc

FOR SALE: Five 2 wheel trailers. 864-8926. 7fc

FOR SALE: Heavy oak entertainment center. Lots of storage. Includes TV. \$150; Bush entertainment center. Includes TV. \$75. 940-864-8089. 18p

ADORABLE, very smart 3 month old 1/2 Border Collie, 1/2 Australian Sheep dog. Needs a responsible, active youngster who needs a friend for life. Must have fenced in backyard. 996-6075 or 200-0509. 18c

FOR SALE: 1420 International combine. 1960 Chevrolet grain truck. 940-256-0830. 18p

Garage Sale

GARAGE SALE: 606 N. 2nd East, Haskell. Sat., May 3. 8 til ? Lots of stuff. 18p

HASKELL Community wide garage sale: Sat., May 3. Map pickup at the gazebo at 7:30 a.m. 18c

HUGE GARAGE SALE: Fri. and Sat., May 2-3. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Off of alley behind 13 Ave. E (turn in behind Thrift Shop). Lots of collectibles, antiques, books, jewelry, construction materials, Craftsman rolling tool chest and much more. 18c

ARTS & CRAFTS SALE: Just in time for Mother's Day. Decorative word pillows, framed art with words, tote bags, wall hangings and a large selection of the hot new 'domino necklaces.' For kids rooms, painted ceiling tiles and signs and much, much more. We will also have a garage sale in conjunction with the craft sale. Come check it out! Elaine and Holly Reed, 505 S. 6th. May 3, 8 a.m. til ? 18p

GARAGE SALE: Sat. 8 til ? Boys clothes. 3 months-5T; odds and ends, lots of clothes. 607 Sunny Ave., Rule. 18c

GARAGE SALE: Sat., 8 a.m. to ? Bar stools, dresser, wake board, Jr. girls/boys clothing, girls size 7 and under (name brand clothing), household decor and more. 1104 N. 8th St. 18c

For Rent

FOR RENT: Furnished rooms for rent. Nightly, weekly. Call Lone Star Lodging 864-2424. 21fc

Lost and Found

LOST: Bunch of keys on a round keychain. Call 940-256-2377 for a reward. 18p

Jobs Wanted

WILL CLEAN offices after hours. Paula Sammons and Sue Wright. 940-864-5800. 18-19p

Help Wanted

THE NEW SONIC Drive In in Haskell is now taking applications for all positions. Apply in person. 44fc

GIBSON CARE Center, Aspermont needs CNAs for all shifts. Call Melissa Prew, ADON at 940-989-3526. E.O.E. 9fc

WANTED: Waitresses, cooks and dishwashers. Red Rooster Restaurant. Apply in person. 11-18c

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for full time LVN at Munday Nursing Center. You may apply in person at 421 West F Street or call 940-422-4541 and ask for Lezli or Rachel. EOE. 11fc

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for housekeeping and laundry. Contact Joyce Hardin at 421 West F Street, Munday. Munday Nursing Center. 11fc

COMMUNITY CARE Center of Stamford now has an opening for PRN LVNs, with above average pay scale. We also have openings for full time CNA's for all 8 hours shifts with a new pay scale with above average pay for experience. Shift differential is also available. We are looking for qualified individuals who are looking to make a change in their life as well as the lives of others. Call Yvonne Roysdon, RN, DON at 325-773-3671 or come by 1003 Columbia for more information. EOE. 15-18p

GIBSON CARE CENTER, Aspermont, Texas needs CNAs. New starting salary \$8 per hour. Call Darla Trammell, DON or Melissa Smart, ADON at 940-989-3526. 17-18c

ROLLING PLAINS Correctional Facility is seeking a Human Resource Manager. Requirements: Bachelor's degree in human resources management or related field and three years related experience required. Excellent verbal and written communication skills and computer proficiency required. Complete benefit package offered. Send your resume by fax to 940-864-5790 or email to lmartinez@emerald.companies.com. 16-18c

THE CITY of Haskell Police Department is now taking applications for one certified peace officer position. Applications may be picked up at Haskell City Hall. All applications must be received by May 5, 2008. Applications may be mailed to the Haskell Police Department, Box 1003, Haskell, Texas 79521. For more details, contact Chief Tom Bassett at 940-864-2323. 16-18c

Help Wanted

ROLLING PLAINS is seeking Licensed Vocational Nurses. Complete benefit package offered. Please contact Lorie Martinez at 940-864-5694 or by email to lmartinez@emerald.companies.com. 16-18c

MUNDAY HOUSING AUTHORITY and Knox City Housing Authority cooperatively will accept applications for full time permanent maintenance person until noon on May 5, 2008. Position will be salaried with benefits. Applications and job description may be picked up MHA or KCHA office during posted office hours. MHA and KCHA are equal opportunity employers. 17-18c

NOW TAKING applications at Haskell Healthcare for dietary and housekeeping positions. Please call 940-864-8537 and ask for Dorothy or Dan. 17-18c

ROLLING PLAINS is seeking a Certified Nurses Aid (CNA). Full benefits offered. Please call Lorie Martinez at 940-864-5694. 17-18c

Real Estate

HOUSE FOR SALE: Haskell County. 2 bedroom, bath and 1/2, 4 acres. 325-773-2089. 17-18p

HOUSE FOR SALE: 1201 N. Ave. L. 1 1/2 story. 3/1-1/2/1 on two lots. 806-637-7310, 806-638-3065. 17-20c

Miscellaneous

HOUSE LEVELLING and foundation repair. No payments until work is satisfactorily completed. David Lee & Co. 325-675-6369. 1-888-486-8588. 6fc

What does 'free gift' mean? Aren't all gifts free? Check our prices on Ashley Furniture. Kinney Furniture in Stamford. 325-773-2232. 18c

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Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Louise Josselet, Deceased, were issued on April 24, 2008, in Cause No. 4,371, pending in the County Court of Haskell County, Texas, to Johnny Josselet.

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: Kristen L. Fouts, Attorney at Law, 1 Avenue D, Post Office Box 206, Haskell, Texas 79521.

Dated the 25th day of April, 2008.

Kristen L. Fouts
Attorney for
Johnny Josselet
State Bar No.: 00786434
1 Avenue D
Post Office Box 206
Haskell, Texas 79521
Telephone: 940-864-3191
Facsimile: 940-864-5616
18c

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Fair Housing. It's the Law
To promote fair housing practices, the City of Weinert encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights under the

National Fair Housing Law. Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market.

For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toll-free hotline at 1-800-669-9777.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The City of Weinert has prepared complaint and grievance procedures regarding its Texas Community Development Block Grant Programs. These procedures outline the steps for a citizen to follow if he wishes to file a written complaint about proposed or completed TX CDBG activity. Weinert will make every effort to respond fully to such complaints within ten (10) working days. Citizens may obtain a copy of these written procedures at the Weinert City Hall between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Citizens may also request the procedures be mailed to them by calling the City at 940-673-8223.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Policy of Nondiscrimination on the

Basis of Handicapped Status
The City of Weinert does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs or activities.

The Mayor
Weinert, P.O. Box 248
Weinert, Texas 76388

940-673-8223
has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR Part 8, dated June 2, 1988). 18c

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The family of Albert Bittner would like to thank all of our friends, neighbors and relatives for the food, calls, prayers, cards, visits and flowers sent during our time of sorrow.

We also express our gratitude to Dr. Wayne Cadenhead and Joe Yates, the Haskell hospital staff and the Haskell Healthcare Center staff.
Bettie Bittner and Family

The family of Elna Weise would like to thank you for your support, prayers, cards and food during this time of our loss. The family would like to thank everyone who helped in mom's care. Words cannot express how much everyone means to us. We will dearly miss our "Meme," but her memory will be in our hearts forever.

Wilton Weise, Sr.
Jo Ann and Sam Watson and family
Wilton, Jr. and Terry Weise and family
Cheryl and Wayne Hutchinson and family

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FEATURED LISTINGS
1504 N. AVE. F. HOME AWAY FROM HOME. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, frame home. Living room with fireplace, formal dining room, wet bar area. House comes with furnishings, hot tub, large fenced yard, storage building, water well. REDUCED.

1557 U.S. HWY. 380 WEST: COUNTRY LIVING with ACREAGE. 4 bedrooms, 2 bath, brick home, living room, large kitchen open to nice size dining room, great for entertaining, wonderful storage throughout house, utility room, patio area, 2 car carport, beautiful yard, shop with attached carport. Property sets on approximately 9 acres of cultivated land.

502 N. AVE. F: LOOK NO FURTHER. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, frame home. Living room open to dining area, cozy kitchen, large master bedroom, all appliances stay with home. Price reduced with \$1500 remodel allowance.

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1700 N. 19TH ST. Gorgeous rock fireplace and hearth in this four bedroom, three bath home. The den has a vaulted ceiling with beams and a pass-through to the kitchen and a dining room and bar overlooking the patio. An isolated master suite has large closets and a bath with garden tub and separate shower. There are three additional bedrooms, one with its own private bath. A large room with media wiring is accessed through the hallway and can be a game room, another living area or office. Other amenities too numerous to name.

807 N. AVE. F. Beautiful home surrounded by large trees with a corner lot. This three-bedroom, two bath has amenities galore including a living-dining room, large den with built-ins, utility room, kitchen with built-ins, some hardwood floors and much more. There is a large storage/workshop in the rear, well house and extra large carport.

500 N. AVE. H. Beautiful three-bedroom, two bath brick home on landscaped lot. The home was built in 1924 and has been well maintained with new wiring, plumbing, central heating and cooling, new kitchen cabinets and center island and breakfast bar. Refinished French doors divide the living and dining rooms. The seller has maintained the original wood floors in the living area and the original windows. The bathrooms have been updated. The yard has a well and sprinkler system, large patio and a detached two car garage with storage closets.

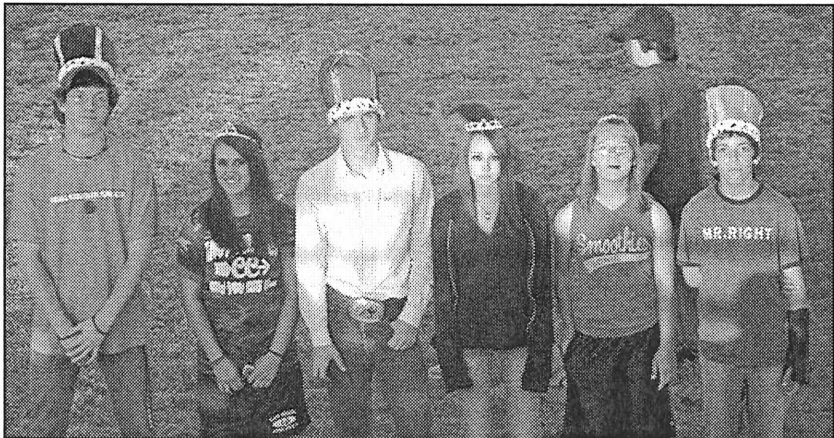
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COSMETICS DONATED—Delta Kappa Gamma members presented cosmetic items to residents of Haskell Healthcare Center recently. The organization is composed of present and former educational personnel. Accepting the items for the facility are front row, I-r, Erma Liles and Melissa Castorena. Representing Delta Kappa Gamma were back row, Jo Cox and Nancy Toliver.



SPRING FLING COURT—Paint Creek School held its second annual Spring Fling Fri., April 18. As part of the celebration, the student body voted on High School, Junior High, and Elementary Spring Fling King and Queens. Crowned in High School were sophomores, Brennan Medford and Britney Martinez; Junior High eighth grader, Payne Utley and seventh grader, Krista Powell; and in elementary fifth graders, Stormy Darnell and Rande McDonald.

Youth Range Workshop slated

by Wes Utley
CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.

The 54th Youth Range Workshop (YRW) has been set for June 15-20 in Junction and is now seeking applicants.

According to Dr. Barron Rector, Texas AgriLife Extension Service—Range Management Specialist and Youth Range Workshop co-coordinator, the Youth Range Workshop is the oldest range and natural resource training opportunity for Texas 4-H and FFA youth in the state. Although the workshop has been conducted for 53 consecutive years, the workshop program has changed over time to meet the current educational needs of young people on issues of land, soil, plant, water and animals.

The six day workshop is sponsored by the Texas Section—Society for Range Management (TSSRM) and is open to 40 Texas high-school aged youth.

The workshop is held at the Texas Tech University Center in Junction and seeks to educate youth about rangeland

management and ecology. Youth Range Workshop brings together youth from different regions of the state and provides hands on instruction in the following areas: stewardship, rangeland ecology, plant species, plant-soil-water relationships, watershed management, range livestock and wildlife needs, tools for range management and restoration, landowner goals and more.

The workshop has many hands-on activities including: plant identification and collecting, ranch planning, stocking rate evaluation, forage clipping and more. Students will visit various private ranches and state/federal lands to observe range management in action and learn from some of the top rangeland management experts in Texas. According to Dr. Barron Rector. The Youth Range Workshop strives to provide hands-on training as a way of reinforcing ecological principles, critical thinking and how to make decisions.

Sponsors are often sought out

by the students attending. Consult with your 4-H or FFA leaders and local Soil and Water Conservation District for ideas.

Applications are accepted by mail and are available online at <http://www.tssrm.org/> by clicking on the Youth Education link on the right. The pamphlet is entitled YRW Pamphlet 2008. Applications are due by May 19. For more information contact Derek Scasta, Youth Activities Committee Chairman, at 903-654-3075 or jdscasta@ag.tamu.edu or Dr. Barron Rector, YRW Co-coordinator, at 979-845-2755 or bractor@ag.tamu.edu.

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Additional time granted for franchise tax returns

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs has announced that businesses who are unable to meet the May 15 due date for the franchise tax will have an additional 30 days to submit their returns or file an extension without penalty.

The Comptroller's office recognizes the complexity of the revised franchise tax and the newness of the enhanced electronic reporting methods have caused concern among tax practitioners and taxpayers statewide. The extended deadline allows businesses to avoid a 5 percent penalty they would have faced had they not filed by May 15.

"We want to make sure businesses and tax practitioners have adequate time to make sure they're complying with the revised franchise tax," Combs said. "Because they're dealing with new calculations and enhanced technology for filing reports, the one month penalty waiver will help taxpayers accurately complete their returns in the first year of this brand new tax."

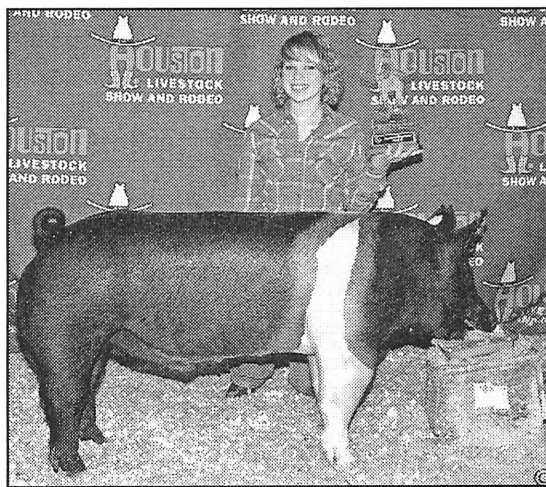
Information about the revised franchise tax is available on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us or by calling 800-252-1381.

Student in the News

The County Treasurers Association of Texas (CTAT) has awarded Blane Wesley Tidrow of Lubbock Coronado High School academic award. Tidrow is the son of Barry Tidrow and Sheila Tidrow of Lubbock. His grandmother recently retired as the Haskell County Treasurer in North Central Texas.

CTAT's membership consists of elected county treasurers from across the State of Texas which awards academic scholarships.

Tidrow is an honor student at Coronado High School in Lubbock and plans to attend Texas Tech University in the fall to pursue a degree in Engineering. He was selected by a Board of Trustees from CTAT. The criteria reviewed on each award applicant included grade point average, participation in school and community activities, number of siblings who are already college students and family income levels.



HOUSTON WINNER—Kymbre Kupatt showed the first place Hampshire barrow at the Houston Livestock Show.



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Green Water

Green Water
by Lacey Peiser

Stepping onto the front lawn day after day, individuals never think about the grass they are stepping on having life. The daily

habit of walking onto the front lawn to grab the morning paper is routine. I look at the grass now and think: what if the grass wasn't there? What if dirt was all that was on the ground? As long as water

falls onto the grass and soaks into the roots, the grass will remain alive, but if the supply of water ran out then the grass would die. Not only will the grass die, but also the animals and even the possibility of people, too.

A person dying as a result of grass dying sounds weird but is true. A number of people provide a living for their family from day to day by operating a lawn mowing business. No grass equals no means for survival for some households. There is a limited supply of water left on the Earth, so careful consideration needs to be taken the next time the water hose is turned on. Watering on the days that are not windy will save a number of gallons of water. According to Mono Lake Committee website, watering on windy days can waste up to 300 gallons of water. The water evaporates and does not even fall all the way to the grass. Water gives life to many different species of life. Water is often time taken advantage of. People think there is an unlimited supply,

leading them to think they can water their yard as many times a week as they want for as long as they want. According to Earth 911 website, lawns only need watering every five to seven days in the summer, and a hearty rain can delay this up to two weeks. The water does not need to run continuously on the grass for hours at a time. According to the Metropolitan Council, placing tuna cans at varied distances from the sprinkler and allowing the cans to fill up is the amount of time a person should water their lawn. Filling up the empty cans takes about 15 to 30 minutes. Watering the yard for hours at a time ends up wasting water. When I mow yards I like for the grass to be appealing and green, but if that means water is being wasted in order for the grass to be green, then I would rather mow dead grass. But then again, dead grass can only be mowed a few times, and my means of survival would be no more. A watering schedule would be a way to conserve

water and at the same time keep the grass alive and green. According to the Park & Co. website, individuals should only water their lawn when needed. A person can tell this by simply walking across the lawn. If footprints are left in the yard, it's time to water. Excessive watering causes runoff. The concrete driveways and roads do not need to be watered. According to Park & Co., if a person punches holes in the lawn about six inches apart so water will reach the roots rather than run off the surface, water will be saved.

Walking through the grass on a hot summer day, starting up the lawn mower and walking back and forth through the beautiful, green grass is what I like to do day after day. But now that I have more of a realization of how to keep the grass green by conserving water while watering the lawn and methods to use to conserve, I will appreciate the green grass more next time I run the lawn mower blade over the lawn to trim the excess grass.

Proclamation

Whereas fertile soil and clean water provide us with our daily sustenance, and

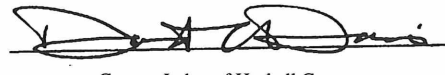
Whereas effective conservation practices have helped provide us a rich standard of living, and

Whereas our security depends upon healthy soil and clean water, and

Whereas stewardship calls for each person to help conserve these precious resources,

Therefore, I do hereby proclaim April 27 to May 4, 2008

STEWARDSHIP WEEK



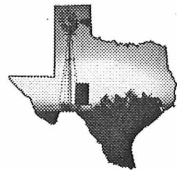
County Judge of Haskell County

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Soil Stewardship Week
April 27 - May 4

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Conserving Life

Conserving Life
by Paige Wheatley

I walk outside my front door and see the beautiful view of lush green grass, flowers blooming, and trees budding with the first signs of spring. I wave to my neighbor who is busily watering her vegetable garden and say hi to the jogging man who stopped

to take a quick sip from his water bottle. As I look around, I realize that water is the most important substance that is used to sustain life, and that without water there will be no life.

Usable water is a natural resource that is quickly diminishing because of our wasteful habits such as leaving the

water running when we brush our teeth or shave, watering our lawns everyday and taking exceedingly long showers. However, all these problems and many more can be solved with simple solutions found on the Earth 911 website; for example, turning off the water when it's not necessary to one's task, watering lawns only in the

morning and once every five to seven days, and cutting back on shower time. After reading some water conservation tips on websites like www.eartheasy.com and www.earth911.org, I don't pour half full water bottles down the drain; instead I use the liquid water to water household plants. Also, to cut down on shower time and wasted gallons, when I need to shave I get a little water in the sink and use that to rinse my razor blade instead of leaving water running. I've also advised my grandparents to check their water sprinklers to make sure they are only watering their lawn and not their sidewalk and house. According to the Southwest Florida Water Management District website, "water conservation is a key link between balancing current and future water needs." Those words need to be taken seriously. Unfortunately, we often question the effect of one person, or we tell ourselves, "I'll start conserving when it's needed." When in truth, water conservation should start

today so there will be water for the future. When one person changes his life-style to become water efficient, he influences more people to change their life-styles also.

Not only can one conserve life when one conserves water, but one can conserve money as well. According to www.epa.gov, the average household spends five hundred dollars a year on water bills. The site also explains that if a "few simple changes" were made, one could save one hundred and seventy dollars a year.

The decision to conserve water is an easy choice when one takes into consideration all the facts behind wasting and conserving. With a few life-style changes such as checking our houses for leaks and drips, and washing full loads of clothes, we can save money, water, and a piece of the future. If we make the life-style change together, we will be conserving even more life by conserving more water.

From Beginning to End

From Beginning to End
by Veronica Session

Mom always told me, "Drink more water before you get sick!" The idea that drinking more water had any impact on my health never entered my miniscule mind. No one can survive without safe drinking water, but in different ways at different ages, access to adequate water and sanitation services influences everybody's health, education, life expectancy, well-being and social development. Water was on the planet since the beginning of time, but considering the facts that water is life, shouldn't the world have an infinite amount of water? According to the Center for Reformed Theology on Apologetics, California's government controlled water system created the water crisis in California by monopolizing water distribution. I find myself asking questions concerning water, but I still wait for the day that someone would answer my questions. What would happen if in an instant there was no water? Life as we know it would not exist without water. Nature is beautiful, but nature would be nonexistent without water. During my early years, water wasn't important to me, but as I grow older water seems to have a much greater value than I thought. Safe drinking water is becoming scarcer as more people continue to populate the earth. According to Water Partners International, 1.1 billion people lack access to an improved water supply,

approximately one in six people on earth. Drinkable water should be around for everyone in the world, not just those people who can afford it. It is a tragedy that almost half of the world's population lives in families with no proper means of sanitation, and many do not have access to drinkable water, but somehow our consciousness is numbed by the very numbers involved. As human beings we believe in self preservation, but is the concept of helping others that don't have adequate water supply beyond our means?

According to the World Health Organization, human health improvements are influenced not only by the use of clean water, but also personal hygiene habits and the use of sanitation facilities. I never listened to the people that used to tell me to drink more water, but now I know how much it influences my life. Although water was here since the beginning of time, it is becoming scarce. Water was our lifelong friend, but due to our carelessness our friend may not remain our friend much longer.

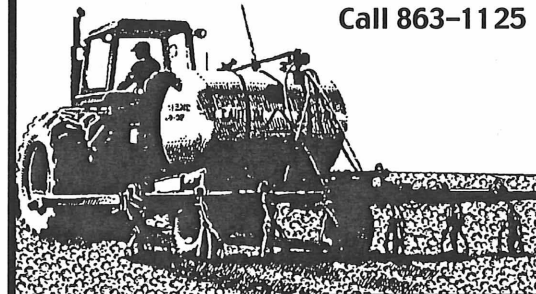
SALUTE TO FARMERS AND RANCHERS

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We commend the entire farming and ranching industry for its diligence in adhering to the high standards of excellence in soil and water conservation.



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April 27 ~ May 4

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Little People, Big Difference

Little People, Big Differences
by Jodi Langford

In the fall, I will attend Hardin-Simmons University to become a second grade teacher. I have always had a passion for working with children, and my dream is to make a difference in the lives of the student that walk in and out of my classroom. Conservation is one subject that I will be teaching because I believe that society will only practice what they are taught. While second graders are small, it is often the small things that make a big difference.

As a young child, playing outside was a common event. I remember running in my house on a blazing summer day to get a cool drink of water. I would put a few ice cubes in my glass and fill it up with water then gulp down a whopping mouthful of the refreshing liquid. I can't imagine not ever having the opportunity to take a drink of fresh water. I can't imagine seeing a child not being able to

take a drink of fresh water. Currently, over 1 billion people worldwide drink unhealthy water and 5 million die from drinking polluted water ("Water"). Only 3% of the water on earth is fresh, clean water and unfortunately this percentage is not distributed evenly around the globe ("Why Should We Conserve Water"). Some areas around the world have large amounts of fresh water while other parts have little to none at all. For this reason, conserving and not wasting water is important. Because, water makes up more than half of a person's body weight, one cannot survive more than a few days without the liquid ("Why Drinking Water is the Way to Go") nor can a person survive by drinking polluted water either. While Haskell citizens often go to the local medical clinics for treatment of a simple sinus infection or allergies, many of the world's population suffer from diseases such as Malaria, yellow fever,

leprosy, and worms (Water and Health). To provide enough clean water to people, water is cleansed at drinking water treatment plants before it is used. Time and again the water is cleansed at wastewater treatment plants or by septic systems before being put back in the environment. When we conserve water we help our world by preserving safe drinking water and supplies. Living in West Texas, I have learned to identify with farmers who pray for rain and the sound of excitement we feel and experience in our hometown is the same joy that people in other parts of the world feel when they experience one drink of fresh water.

What a better place to teach water conservation than in our schools? Students can have just as big of an impact on this earth as adults. They are small now but

have either a long life of positive or negative impacts to make on our planet. The lessons they learn and the practices they are taught will be long lasting

You Have the Right to Conserve

You Have the Right to Conserve
by Meredith Harvey
I stared in sheer amazement with eyes glued to the television screen as the police officers finally captured the suspect. Next came my favorite part. I sat up straight and recited along with authority the words I knew by heart. "You have the right to remain silent." While I could easily rattle off the rest, I pause and focus on "you have the right."

As Americans we have many rights, but one right in particular is sometimes overlooked. Though not found in the

and passed on to their children as well. Knowing that I will have the same impact on my students that my teachers had on me makes teaching conservation worth while.

Constitution, it is just as important as those that are. This right is the right to conserve water. Not only as Americans, but as inhabitants of the Earth, our right to conserve water should be exercised daily. The first step to conserving water is to keep a positive attitude.

Conserving water doesn't mean making protest signs, rallying outside of major corporations or anything near that dramatic, but rather conservation starts in the home. If we applied conservation habits to the chores we perform everyday such as washing dishes or doing laundry, we could cut back the amount of water used in a day. For example, if we only ran the washing machine and dishwasher when they were full, we could save 1,000 gallons of water a month. This simple task is both reasonable and doable. Another way to limit excessive and unnecessary water use is by checking outside pumps and faucets when mowing the lawn or just enjoying the sunshine. According to Sunnyslope County Water District, if every household in America had a leaking faucet that dripped once every second, 928 million gallons of water a day would be wasted. By taking the time to fix the kitchen's leaking faucet a portion of the unnecessary 928 million gallons of water could be eliminated within a matter of minutes.

Water conservation police will not come breaking down doors to persuade others to practice their right to conserve, but if we could learn to exercise our right we could achieve the seemingly difficult task of conserving water to sustain present and future life. You have the right to conserve.

What a Water-full Day

What a Water-full Day
by Colton Young

Waking up during a hot shower, washing my face and brushing my teeth are three water-wasters I perform within the first twenty minutes of my day. As long as I can remember, my parents have told me to turn off the water while brushing my teeth. They

Water Is Life

Water Is Life
by Brooke Hall

Water is important in many different ways! One way is we use it everyday in just about everything, for example the tea that we drink and the food that we eat! Second, without water there would not be plants and animals and without plants and animals there would not be food! Third, we need water to survive and keep us hydrated! Fourth, if we didn't have water we couldn't wash our clothes or take a bath and that would be nasty!

As you can see water is important in so many ways and we should try to conserve it as much as possible! One way to conserve

said I will make the earth "happier" because I was caring about water, the life force that runs the planet and makes all the living organisms function.

I have grown up and now realized that my earth needs my help; I have not done enough to conserve water. According to Mono Lake website, by cutting

down my shower time by one or two minutes, I can save up to seven hundred gallons per month. On Earth Easy, when washing dishes and clothes, to make sure the loader is full as possible to minimize the amount of loads washed per day to save water. According to the State of Utah website, selecting one glass to use throughout the day also will prevent the dishwasher from being used so frequently. Another tip from Earth Easy, suggests, "to cut down on water waste, put an inch or two of sand of pebbles inside each of two plastic bottles to weigh them down." Fill the bottle with water, screw the lids on and put them in your toilet

Therefore, water is important in so many ways. We should try and conserve it because you never know when we might lose it! If we lose it, how would we survive?

tank, safely away from the operating mechanisms. This may save ten or more gallons of water per day." Another tip from the State of Utah website, when washing a car, use both a bucket of soapy water and rag to minimize the use of the water hose and also use the hose with a shut-off nozzle to control how much water to use on the car and to prevent water waste. According to the Mono Lake website, the longer the grass blade is the less the water will evaporate from the grass, saving up to 1,500 gallons of water a month. Mulch is perfect for slowing the evaporation of water and will also keep weeds from growing. Earth Easy says,

"Watering early mornings is generally better than dusk since it helps prevent the growth of fungus. Early watering, and late watering, also reduce water loss to evaporation. Watering in the day is also the best defense against slugs and other garden pests. Try not to water when it's windy, wind can blow sprinklers off target and speed evaporation. I waste water every day no matter how hard I try to conserve. I look outside, and I see that everything around me has been influenced by water in some way. My main goals is to get back those used gallons of water I have wasted by conservation methods that I have learned.

Soil Stewardship Week

April 27 ~ May 4

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April 27 - May 4

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Proclamation

The well being of our people depends on the production of ample supplies of food, fiber and other products of soil.

The quality and quantity of these products depend upon the conservation, wise use and proper management of soil and water resources.

It is the concern and responsibility of every person to see that soil resources be conserved and managed properly and water quality and quantity be maintained to assure the welfare of all citizens.

Soil and water conservation districts provide a practical and democratic organization through which landowners are taking the initiative to properly use and protect these resources.

Annually, soil and water conservation districts conduct an awareness campaign to foster awareness throughout Texas on the critical obligations that we individually have to practice sound stewardship of our soil and water resources.

At this time, therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 29 through May 6, 2007

SOIL AND WATER STEWARDSHIP WEEK

in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 12th day of March, 2008.

Rick Perry
Governor of Texas

Scholarships awarded to top two essay contest writers

Each year the Haskell SWCD holds a Scholarship Essay Contest. The district offers two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors in Haskell County who write an essay on the Soil Stewardship Week theme of the year.

The essays are judged by area judges who have interest in and know about soil conservation. Co-sponsors of the contest are Haskell National Bank, First Ag Credit, Rule Banking Center, First National

Bank-Rochester, and Central Texas Farm Credit.

Included in this supplement are some of the essays written by area seniors.

These essays do not reflect the results of the judging.

Water is life

Water Is Life by Hali Wolsch

Drip...Drip...Drip...Can you hear it? It's the sound of water. We don't stop to think about just how much water we really do use in everyday life. No matter what you do water is all around us.

Did you know that water makes up almost sixty six percent of the human body and seventy percent of the brain? There is water all around. Americans drink more than one billion glasses of water per day. That's a lot of water. Ninety-seven percent of the earth's water is fresh water.

Only one percent is available for drinking and the remaining two percent is frozen in the polar ice caps. People need about 2.5 quarts of water a day to maintain good health. A person can live without water for approximately one week, depending on the conditions.

While usage varies from community to community and person to person, on average, Americans use 183 gallons of water a day for cooking, washing clothes, flushing and water purposes. The average family turns on the tap between

seventy to one hundred times daily. About seventy-four percent of home water usage is in the bathroom, about twenty-one is for laundry and cleaning, and about five percent is in the kitchen.

When you see the statistics you don't realize how much water we really do use. We have to start being more conservative. When you brush your teeth, turn the water off. If you're washing the dishes don't leave the water running the whole time.

Drip...Drip...Drip...I can hear it.

Water: A Source of Life

Water: A Source of Life by Chelsea Bullard

"Give me life or give me death." A worthy slogan that can be aimed at all earthly creations. More than half the earth is water, and nearly three-fourths of the human body consists of water. Water in the purist form is vital for all species of plants and animals to evolve and survive. Without this liquid substance, life would be dismal and nonexistent.

The people and environment in the state of Texas depend of high quantity and quality water resources. To ensure this priority, the Lone Star chapter in Texas was established by the Sierra Club. The goal of the Sierra Club is to protect and enhance the quality of clean water to meet the environmental drinking water and recreational needs of this well populated area. (Sierra Club Conservation Policies). Some objectives of the Sierra Club include: the promotion of management and protection of

water during environmentally destructive water projects, to educate recreational users about the proper use of water ways, to enhance water conservation and efficiency at local and regional levels, to enforce and review safe drinking water standards and to revise the system of ground water monitoring and management activities. (Sierra Club Position Paper: Water Resources Management & Protection).

Present and future generations will survive and thrive due to proper water management. The Sierra Club proposes a water policy that creates laws and programs to protect instream flows, wild and scenic rivers, natural wetlands and flood plains. Programs should be followed to improve water retention, and resources that are provided, the Sierra Club can ensure the

availability and enjoyment of clean water for many years to come.

Personally, I feel that all people should take responsibility for the care and use of the water

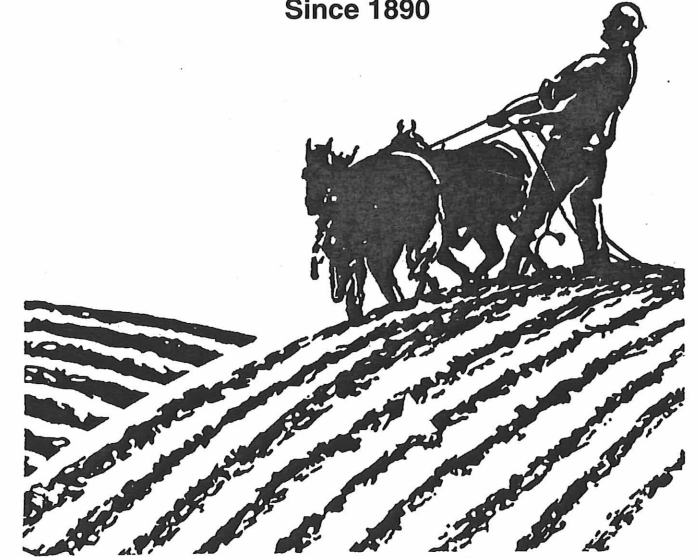
supplies in Texas. I will become more aware of water conservation and water protection by making sure water is not left running and by taking shorter showers, a tip from the

Sierra Club. If other people are willing and agreeable to protecting our public water supply, the earth and the inhabitants will continue to flourish.



**Soil Stewardship Week
April 27TH - May 4TH
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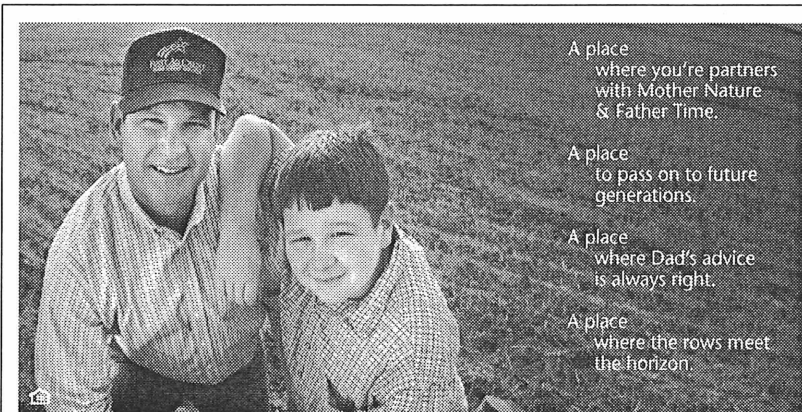
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Soil Stewardship Week

April 27 - May 4

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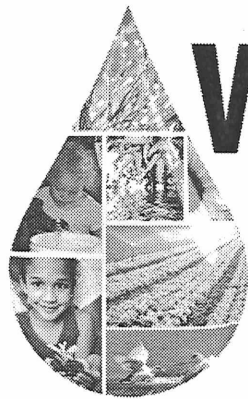
The Haskell Free Press

with Haskell Soil & Water Conservation District

May, 2008

8 PAGES

"Water is Life" is topic of Stewardship Week



Water
is life
2008

Water is Life

Haskell Soil & Water Conservation District encourages you to think about your personal responsibility to be a good steward of the natural resources, including water, during its annual Stewardship Week celebration. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) has proclaimed April 27 to May 4 as Stewardship Week with the theme Water is Life. The Earth's water is in constant motion in the process known as the hydrologic (water) cycle. There is no beginning or end to the hydrologic cycle. Water available to users can change due to the cycles of weather and changes in water quality. Throughout time, the same water has been transferred into the Earth's atmosphere and dropped on land again where it follows the water cycle through plants, soil, water bodies, animals and clouds. That means the water we use today is the same water that was here when dinosaurs roamed the land.

What can we do? Become aware of water quality and quantity in your community. Understand how watersheds work. We all live in a watershed.

Watersheds are the places we call home, where we work and where we play. Everyone relies on water and other natural resources to exist. What you and others do on the land impacts the quality and quantity of water and our other natural resources. Managing the water and other natural resources is an effective and efficient way to sustain the local economy and environmental health.

F.A. Ulmer acts the Chairman for Haskell SWCD. The District was formed to assist people in Haskell County. During Stewardship Week, Haskell SWCD will providing educational material to area schools and churches. Each elementary campus will receive activity booklets. Area churches will receive an insert for their bulletin and a church leadership guide. The district also provides the area schools with book covers and sponsors the annual poster contest, essay contest, and Range and Land Judging Contest as well as the Range Camp.

Haskell SWCD is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts (www.nacdnet.org) which

oversees the Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to promote conservation. NACD represents the nations 3,000 conservation districts, which were established to encourage resource conservation across the country.

"Each of us needs to take steps

to invest in understanding the importance of water in our everyday life," said NACD CEO Krysta Harden. "Water is not a renewable resource. Education in your community and schools will benefit all citizens, for years to come as they gain a better appreciation of the importance of water resources. Conservation

districts are working with local communities to address water quantity and quality issues in every county in America."

For information about Stewardship Week and conservation, you may visit www.nacdnet.org to learn more about NACD and Stewardship Week.

Students participate in poster contest

Winning the district poster contest were 1. Kasie Isbell, Haskell, 3rd grade; 2. Dustin Wyrick, Paint Creek, 5th grade; and 3. Riley Meinzer, Haskell, 5th grade

Rule

Fourth grade: 1. Haley Macias, 2. Samantha Lewis, 3. Sanisha Vanderbilt.

Fifth Grade: 1. Taylor Flanary, 2. Jonah Caddell, 3. Keelie Deville.

Paint Creek

Third grade: 1. Catherine Lemond, 2. Buddy Trotter, 3. Zhenia McTasney.

Fourth grade: 1. Sara Edwards, 2. Dalton Einhaus, 3.

Jordan Davis.

Fifth grade: 1. Micah Waggoner, 2. Stormy Darnell, 3. Dustin Wyrick.

Six grade: 1. Cody Mayfield, 2. Haley Jackson, 3. Chris Richardson.

Haskell

Overall third grade: 1. Katie Newberry, 2. Kasie Isbell, 3. Kylie Adams.

Mrs. Christian's third grade: 1. Katie Newberry.

Mrs. Waggoner's third grade: 1. Kasie Isbell, 2. Hannah Grand.

Mrs. Darden's third grade: 1. Kylie Adams, 2. Jacee Guess, 3. Chase Gibson.

Overall fourth grade: 1. Kyra Salas, 2. Taylor Buchanan, 3. Michael Osborne.

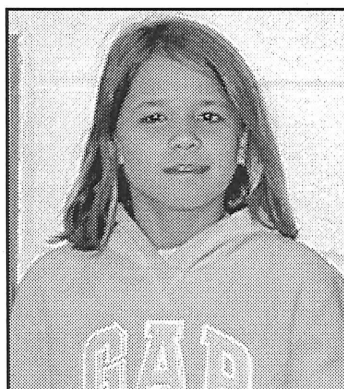
Mrs. Everett's fourth grade: 1. Kyra Salas, 2. Hannah Foster, 3. Morgan Nava-Munoz.

Mrs. Robert's fourth grade: 1. Taylor Buchanan, 2. Michael Osborne, 3. Dylan Hanson.

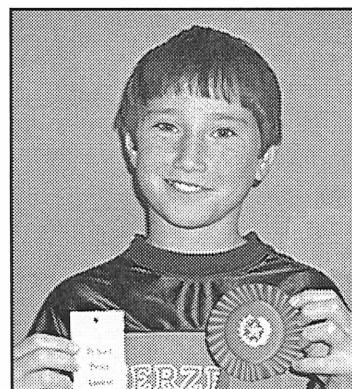
Overall fifth grade: 1. Alannah Luce, 2. Riley Meinzer, 3. Richard Wilson.

Mrs. Adam's fifth grade: 1. Richard Wilson, 2. Jonathan Pedroza, 3. Crissy Bassett.

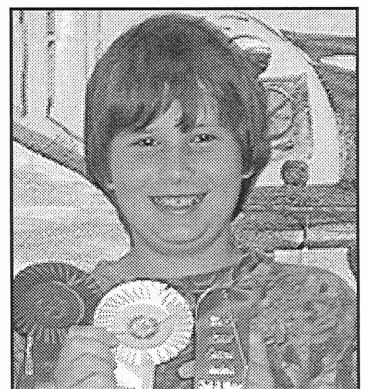
Mrs. Sloan's fifth grade: 1. Alannah Luce, 2. Riley Meinzer, 3. Alyssa Abila.



**DISTRICT WINNER
FIRST PLACE
Kasie Isbell
Haskell third grade**



**DISTRICT WINNER
SECOND PLACE
Dustin Wyrick
Paint Creek fifth grade**



**DISTRICT WINNER
THIRD PLACE
Riley Meinzer
Haskell fifth grade**

Soil Stewardship Week April 27 – May 4, 2008

Proclamation

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by Hali Wolsch

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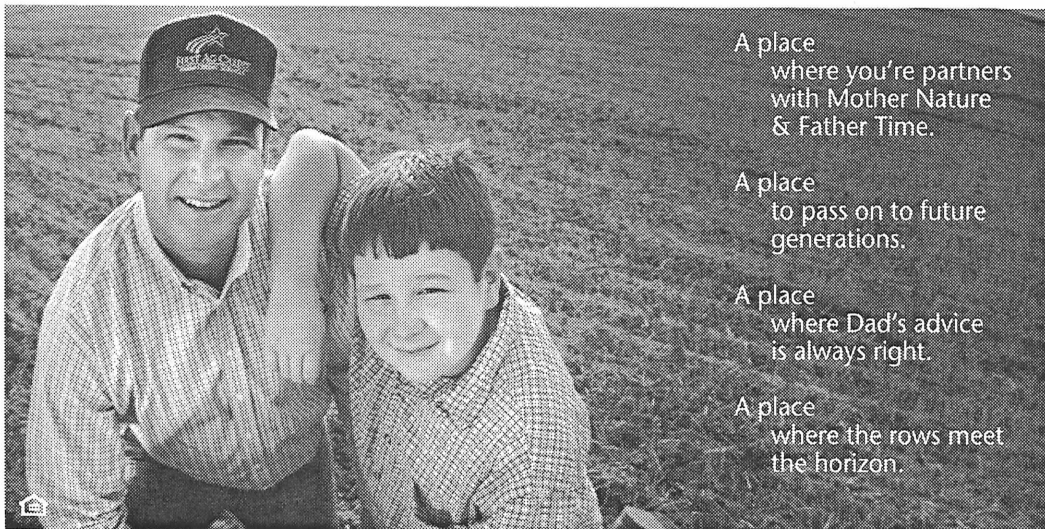
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A place where you're partners with Mother Nature & Father Time.

A place to pass on to future generations.

A place where Dad's advice is always right.

A place where the rows meet the horizon.

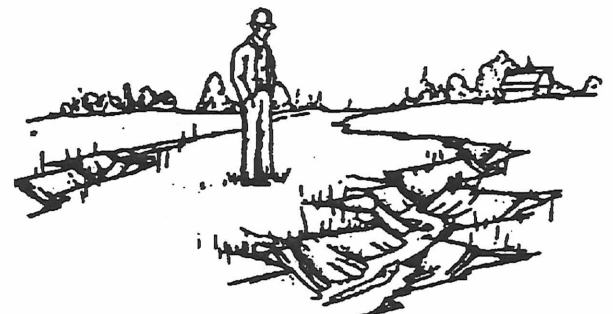
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What a Water-full Day
by Colton Young

Waking up during a hot shower, washing my face and brushing my teeth are three water-wasters I perform within the first twenty minutes of my day. As long as I can remember, my parents have told me to turn off the water while brushing my teeth. They

said I will make the earth "happier" because I was caring about water, the life force that runs the planet and makes all the living organisms function.

I have grown up and now realized that my earth needs my help; I have not done enough to conserve water. According to Mono Lake website, by cutting

down my shower time by one or two minutes, I can save up to seven hundred gallons per month. On Earth Easy, when washing dishes and clothes, to make sure the loader is full as possible to minimize the amount of loads washed per day to save water. According to the State of Utah website, selecting one glass to use throughout the day also will prevent the dishwasher from being used so frequently. Another tip from Earth Easy, suggests, "to cut down on water waste, put an inch or two of sand or pebbles inside each of two plastic bottles to weigh them down." Fill the bottle with water, screw the lids on and put them in your toilet

tank, safely away from the operating mechanisms. This may save ten or more gallons of water per day." Another tip from the State of Utah website, when washing a car, use both a bucket of soapy water and rag to minimize the use of the water hose and also use the hose with a shut-off nozzle to control how much water to use on the car and to prevent water waste. According to the Mono Lake website, the longer the grass blade is the less the water will evaporate from the grass, saving up to 1,500 gallons of water a month. Mulch is perfect for slowing the evaporation of water and will also keep weeds from growing. Earth Easy says,

"Watering early mornings is generally better than dusk since it helps prevent the growth of fungus. Early watering, and late watering, also reduce water loss to evaporation. Watering in the day is also the best defense against slugs and other garden pests. Try not to water when it's windy, wind can blow sprinklers off target and speed evaporation.

I waste water every day no matter how hard I try to conserve. I look outside, and I see that everything around me has been influenced by water in some way. My main goals is to get back those used gallons of water I have wasted by conservation methods that I have learned.

Water Is Life

Water Is Life
by Brooke Hall

Water is important in many different ways! One way is we use it everyday in just about everything, for example the tea that we drink and the food that we eat! Second, without water there would not be plants and animals and without plants and animals there would not be food! Third, we need water to survive and keep us hydrated! Fourth, if we didn't have water we couldn't wash our clothes or take a bath and that would be nasty!

As you can see water is important in so many ways and we should try to conserve it as much as possible! One way to conserve

it is to not water your yards because yards don't really need the water as much as we do and if we waste it on that we won't be able to have it. Second, don't fill up the swimming pools in the summer. Swimming is a luxury not a need! Third, don't leave the water running while you brush your teeth you would surprised how much water you could save by doing that. Fourth, whenever you take a shower try not to stay in there forever because you're wasting water.

Therefore, water is important in so many ways. We should try and conserve it because you never know when we might lose it! If we lose it, how would we survive?

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Green Water

Green Water
by Lacey Peiser

Stepping onto the front lawn day after day, individuals never think about the grass they are stepping on having life. The daily

habit of walking onto the front lawn to grab the morning paper is routine. I look at the grass now and think: what if the grass wasn't there? What if dirt was all that was on the ground? As long as water

falls onto the grass and soaks into the roots, the grass will remain alive, but if the supply of water ran out then the grass would die. Not only will the grass die, but also the animals and even the possibility of people, too.

A person dying as a result of grass dying sounds weird but is true. A number of people provide a living for their family from day to day by operating a lawn mowing business. No grass equals no means for survival for some households. There is a limited supply of water left on the Earth, so careful consideration needs to be taken the next time the water hose is turned on. Watering on the days that are not windy will save a number of gallons of water. According to Mono Lake Committee website, watering on windy days can waste up to 300 gallons of water. The water evaporates and does not even fall all the way to the grass. Water gives life to many different species of life. Water is often time taken advantage of. People think there is an unlimited supply,

leading them to think they can water their yard as many times a week as they want for as long as they want. According to Earth 911 website, lawns only need watering every five to seven days in the summer, and a hearty rain can delay this up to two weeks. The water does not need to run continuously on the grass for hours at a time. According to the Metropolitan Council, placing tuna cans at varied distances from the sprinkler and allowing the cans to fill up is the amount of time a person should water their lawn. Filling up the empty cans takes about 15 to 30 minutes. Watering the yard for hours at a time ends up wasting water. When I mow yards I like for the grass to be appealing and green, but if that means water is being wasted in order for the grass to be green, then I would rather mow dead grass. But then again, dead grass can only be mowed a few times, and my means of survival would be no more. A watering schedule would be a way to conserve

water and at the same time keep the grass alive and green. According to the Park & Co. website, individuals should only water their lawn when needed. A person can tell this by simply walking across the lawn. If footprints are left in the yard, it's time to water. Excessive watering causes runoff. The concrete driveways and roads do not need to be watered. According to Park & Co., if a person punches holes in the lawn about six inches apart so water will reach the roots rather than run off the surface, water will be saved.

Walking through the grass on a hot summer day, starting up the lawn mower and walking back and forth through the beautiful, green grass is what I like to do day after day. But now that I have more of a realization of how to keep the grass green by conserving water while watering the lawn and methods to use to conserve, I will appreciate the green grass more next time I run the lawn mower blade over the lawn to trim the excess grass.

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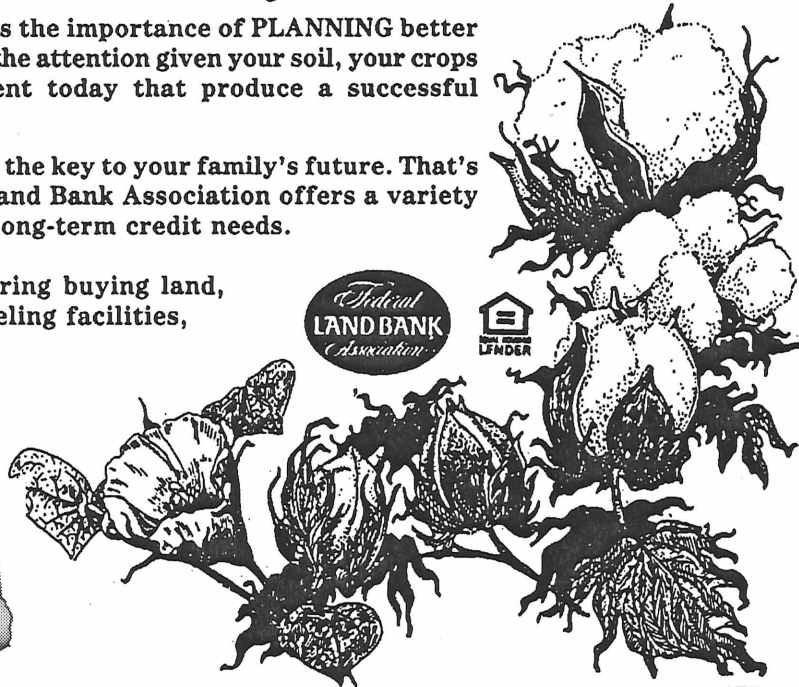
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Conserving Life

Conserving Life
by Paige Wheatley

I walk outside my front door and see the beautiful view of lush green grass, flowers blooming, and trees budding with the first signs of spring. I wave to my neighbor who is busily watering her vegetable garden and say hi to the jogging man who stopped

to take a quick sip from his water bottle. As I look around, I realize that water is the most important substance that is used to sustain life, and that without water there will be no life.

Usable water is a natural resource that is quickly diminishing because of our wasteful habits such as leaving the

water running when we brush our teeth or shave, watering our lawns everyday and taking exceedingly long showers. However, all these problems and many more can be solved with simple solutions found on the Earth 911 website; for example, turning off the water when it's not necessary to one's task, watering lawns only in the

morning and once every five to seven days, and cutting back on shower time. After reading some water conservation tips on websites like www.eartheasy.com and www.earth911.org, I don't pour half full water bottles down the drain; instead I use the liquid water to water household plants. Also, to cut down on shower time and wasted gallons, when I need to shave I get a little water in the sink and use that to rinse my razor blade instead of leaving water running. I've also advised my grandparents to check their water sprinklers to make sure they are only watering their lawn and not their sidewalk and house. According to the Southwest Florida Water Management District website, "water conservation is a key link between balancing current and future water needs." Those words need to be taken seriously. Unfortunately, we often question the effect of one person, or we tell ourselves, "I'll start conserving when it's needed." When in truth, water conservation should start

today so there will be water for the future. When one person changes his life-style to become water efficient, he influences more people to change their life-styles also.

Not only can one conserve life when one conserves water, but one can conserve money as well. According to www.epa.gov, the average household spends five hundred dollars a year on water bills. The site also explains that if a "few simple changes" were made, one could save one hundred and seventy dollars a year.

The decision to conserve water is an easy choice when one takes into consideration all the facts behind wasting and conserving. With a few life-style changes such as checking our houses for leaks and drips, and washing full loads of clothes, we can save money, water, and a piece of the future. If we make the life-style change together, we will be conserving even more life by conserving more water.

From Beginning to End

From Beginning to End
by Veronica Session

Mom always told me, "Drink more water before you get sick!" The idea that drinking more water had any impact on my health never entered my miniscule mind. No one can survive without safe drinking water, but in different ways at different ages, access to adequate water and sanitation services influences everybody's health, education, life expectancy, well-being and social development. Water was on the planet since the beginning of time, but considering the facts that water is life, shouldn't the world have an infinite amount of water? According to the Center for Reformed Theology on Apologetics, California's government controlled water system created the water crisis in California by monopolizing water distribution. I find myself asking questions concerning water, but I still wait for the day that someone would answer my questions. What would happen if in an instant there was no water? Life as we know it would not exist without water. Nature is beautiful, but nature would be nonexistent without water. During my early years, water wasn't important to me, but as I grow older water seems to have a much greater value than I thought. Safe drinking water is becoming scarcer as more people continue to populate the earth. According to Water Partners International, 1.1 billion people lack access to an improved water supply,

approximately one in six people on earth. Drinkable water should be around for everyone in the world, not just those people who can afford it. It is a tragedy that almost half of the world's population lives in families with no proper means of sanitation, and many do not have access to drinkable water, but somehow our consciousness is numbed by the very numbers involved. As human beings we believe in self preservation, but is the concept of helping others that don't have adequate water supply beyond our means?

According to the World Health Organization, human health improvements are influenced not only by the use of clean water, but also personal hygiene habits and the use of sanitation facilities. I never listened to the people that used to tell me to drink more water, but now I know how much it influences my life. Although water was here since the beginning of time, it is becoming scarce. Water was our lifelong friend, but due to our carelessness our friend may not remain our friend much longer.

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Little People, Big Difference

Little People, Big Differences by Jodi Langford

In the fall, I will attend Hardin-Simmons University to become a second grade teacher. I have always had a passion for working with children, and my dream is to make a difference in the lives of the student that walk in and out of my classroom. Conservation is one subject that I will be teaching because I believe that society will only practice what they are taught. While second graders are small, it is often the small things that make a big difference.

As a young child, playing outside was a common event. I remember running in my house on a blazing summer day to get a cool drink of water. I would put a few ice cubes in my glass and fill it up with water then gulp down a whopping mouthful of the refreshing liquid. I can't imagine not ever having the opportunity to take a drink of fresh water. I can't imagine seeing a child not being able to

take a drink of fresh water. Currently, over 1 billion people worldwide drink unhealthy water and 5 million die from drinking polluted water ("Water"). Only 3% of the water on earth is fresh, clean water and unfortunately this percentage is not distributed evenly around the globe ("Why Should We Conserve Water"). Some areas around the world have large amounts of fresh water while other parts have little to none at all. For this reason, conserving and not wasting water is important. Because, water makes up more than half of a person's body weight, one cannot survive more than a few days without the liquid ("Why Drinking Water is the Way to Go") nor can a person survive by drinking polluted water either. While Haskell citizens often go to the local medical clinics for treatment of a simple sinus infection or allergies, many of the world's population suffer from diseases such as Malaria, yellow fever,

leprosy, and worms (Water and Health). To provide enough clean water to people, water is cleansed at drinking water treatment plants before it is used. Time and again the water is cleansed at wastewater treatment plants or by septic systems before being put back in the environment. When we conserve water we help our world by preserving safe drinking water and supplies. Living in West Texas, I have learned to identify with farmers who pray for rain and the sound of excitement in my granddad's voice as he calls to tell my family that he received an inch of rain in his gauge the night before. The excitement we feel and experience in our hometown is the same joy that people in other parts of the world feel when they experience one drink of fresh water.

What a better place to teach water conservation than in our schools? Students can have just as big of an impact on this earth as adults. They are small now but

have either a long life of positive or negative impacts to make on our planet. The lessons they learn and the practices they are taught will be long lasting

and passed on to their children as well. Knowing that I will have the same impact on my students that my teachers had on me makes teaching conservation worth while.

You Have the Right to Conserve

You Have the Right to Conserve by Meredith Harvey

I stared in sheer amazement with eyes glued to the television screen as the police officers finally captured the suspect. Next came my favorite part. I sat up straight and recited along with authority the words I knew by heart. "You have the right to remain silent." While I could easily rattle off the rest, I pause and focus on "you have the right."

As Americans we have many rights, but one right in particular is sometimes overlooked. Though not found in the

Constitution, it is just as important as those that are. This right is the right to conserve water. Not only as Americans, but as inhabitants of the Earth, our right to conserve water should be exercised daily. The first step to conserving water is to keep a positive attitude.

Conserving water doesn't mean making protest signs, rallying outside of major corporations or anything near that dramatic, but rather conservation starts in the home. If we applied conservation habits to the chores we perform everyday such as washing dishes or doing laundry, we could cut back the amount of water used in a day. For example, if we only ran the washing machine and dishwasher when they were full, we could save 1,000 gallons of water a month. This simple task is both reasonable and doable. Another way to limit excessive and unnecessary water use is by checking outside pumps and faucets when mowing the lawn or just enjoying the sunshine. According to Sunnyslope County Water District, if every household in America had a leaking faucet that dripped once every second, 928 million gallons of water a day would be wasted. By taking the time to fix the kitchen's leaking faucet a portion of the unnecessary 928 million gallons of water could be eliminated within a matter of minutes.

Water conservation police will not come breaking down doors to persuade others to practice their right to conserve, but if we could learn to exercise our right we could achieve the seemingly difficult task of conserving water to sustain present and future life. You have the right to conserve.



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Water: A Source of Life

Water: A Source of Life
by Chelsea Bullard

"Give me life or give me death." A worthy slogan that can be aimed at all earthly creations. More than half the earth is water, and nearly three-fourths of the human body consists of water. Water in the purist form is vital for all species of plants and animals to evolve and survive. Without this liquid substance, life would be dismal and nonexistent.

The people and environment in the state of Texas depend of high quantity and quality water resources. To ensure this priority, the Lone Star chapter in Texas was established by the Sierra Club. The goal of the Sierra Club is to protect and enhance the quality of clean water to meet the environmental drinking water and recreational needs of this well populated area. (Sierra Club Conservation Policies). Some objectives of the Sierra Club include: the promotion of management and protection of

water during environmentally destructive water projects, to educate recreational users about the proper use of water ways, to enhance water conservation and efficiency at local and regional levels, to enforce and review safe drinking water standards and to revise the system of ground water monitoring and management activities. (Sierra Club Position Paper: Water Resources Management & Protection).

Present and future generations will survive and thrive due to proper water management. The Sierra Club proposes a water policy that creates laws and programs to protect instream flows, wild and scenic rivers, natural wetlands and flood plains. Programs should be followed to improve water retention, and resources that are provided, the Sierra Club can ensure the



availability and enjoyment of clean water for many years to come.

Personally, I feel that all people should take responsibility for the care and use of the water

supplies in Texas. I will become more aware of water conservation and water protection by making sure water is not left running and by taking shorter showers, a tip from the

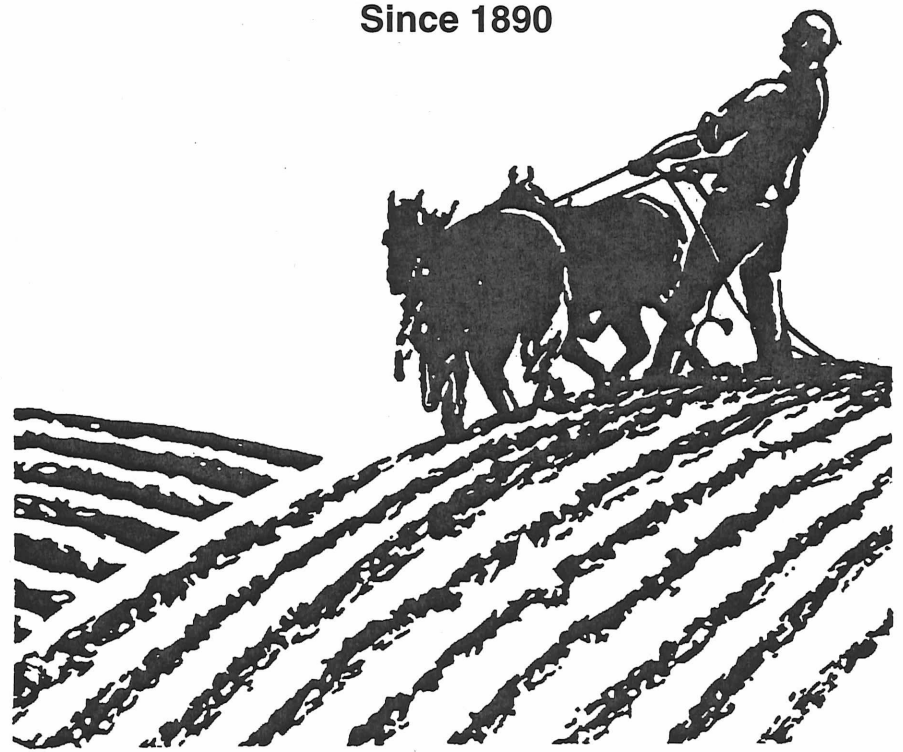
Sierra Club. If other people are willing and agreeable to protecting our public water supply, the earth and the inhabitants will continue to flourish.

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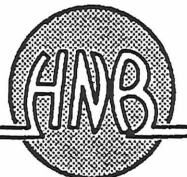
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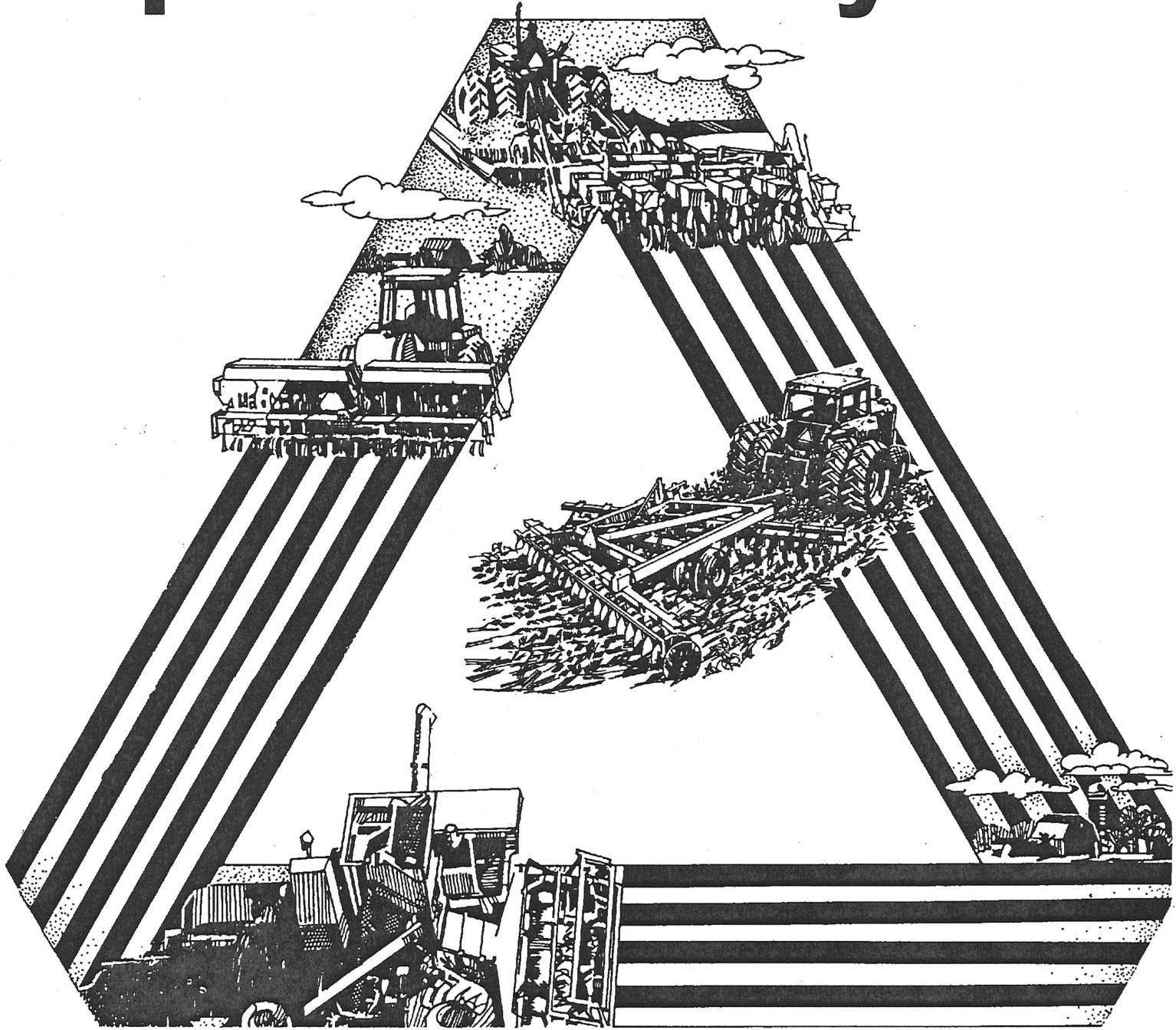


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