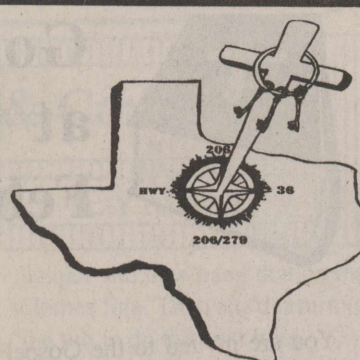


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THURSDAY, February 2, 2006

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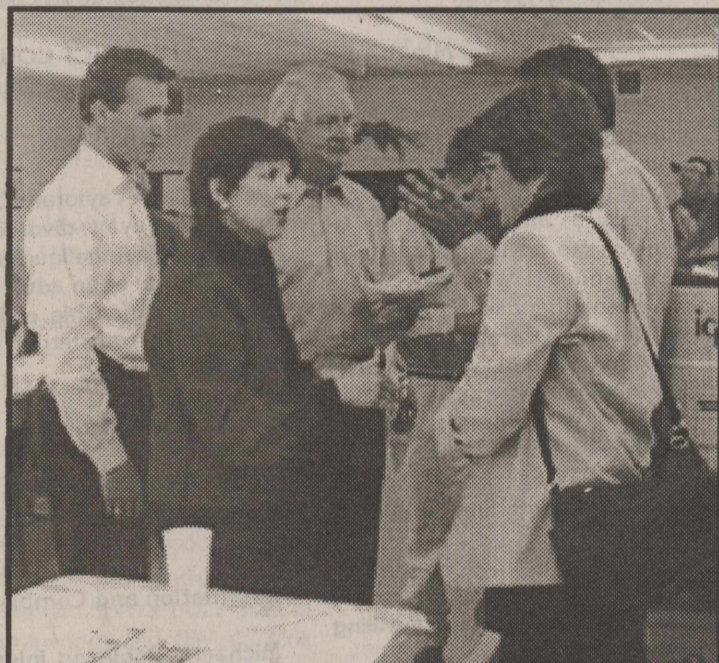
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CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

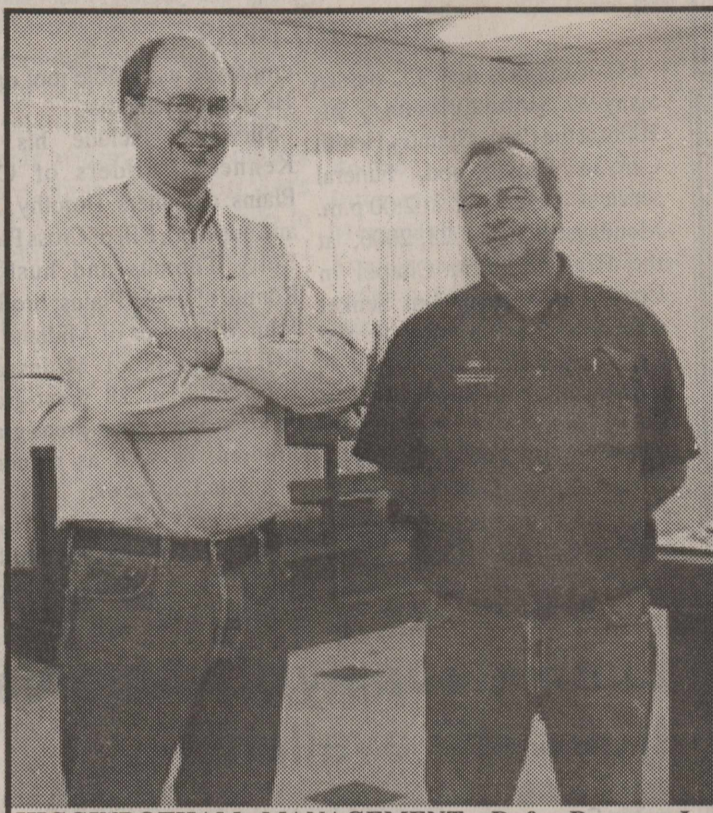
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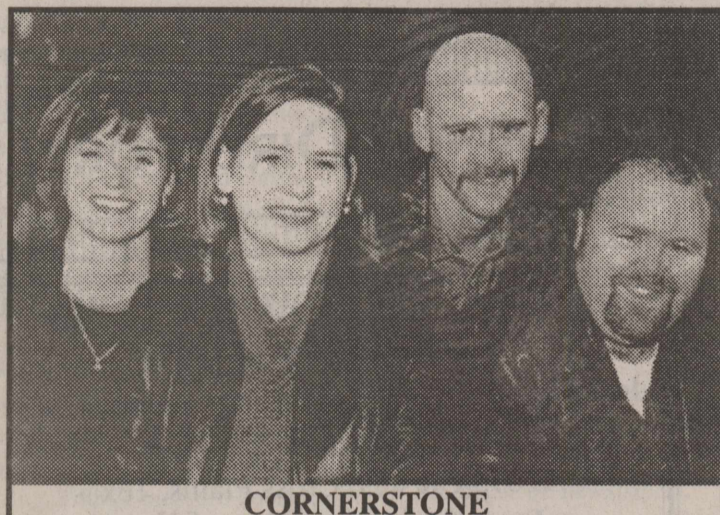
Let's Rebuild Together



TALKING WITH THE CONGRESSMAN—Kathy and Charles Cheshir (right) and Congressman Randy Neugebauer with his wife and Jeremy Brown.



HIGGINBOTHAM MANAGEMENT—Rufus Duncan, Jr., President and CEO, and Vernon Smith, local manager.



CORNERSTONE

Free Benefit Concert for Cross Plains Fire Victims

A free concert of five singing groups will be held this Saturday evening, February 4, at 6 p.m. in Abilene. The concert is FREE, however there will be a "love offering" at the end of the performance with the proceeds donated to the United Fund of Cross Plains Fire Relief Fund. The groups that are singing are: The Brazos Valley Boys, Greg Young, Cornerstone (of which is Tim Pipes, son of local Bob and Patsy Pipes), Southern Grace and Alabanza. Some of these groups are acappella, others are singing and instrumental, at least one of

them considers themselves as "Southern Gospel" (The Brazos Valley Boys). The Southern Hills Church of Christ, 3666 Buffalo Gap Road, in Abilene, is hosting the benefit concert at their building. The ones from Cross Plains and the surrounding area are invited and encouraged to attend and enjoy the evening—but they are not expected to contribute to the love offering. This "fund-raiser" is for Cross Plains, to enjoy and benefit from monetarily and otherwise.

Last Thursday night Higginbothams hosted a "Let's Rebuild Together" Dinner at the Senior Citizen Center. Many Higginbotham's employees from several areas of Texas came ready to serve with cookers and helping hands. Over 150 hamburgers were served along with all the

fixings for victims of the recent fire, community volunteers and citizens. In attendance was Rufus Duncan Jr., President and CEO of Higginbothams, Davis Estes with Texas Heritage Bank and Randy Neugebauer, 19th District Congressman. All three spoke with

reverence to the community of Cross Plains in respect to the determination and effort shown in getting the city rebuilt. Mr. Duncan came with great news to those who lost their homes. He told of special pricing and free appliance options to those who choose to use Higgin-

bothams when rebuilding. Those not able to attend the dinner can stop in the store for more details. Higginbothams has been in Cross Plains since 1914 and is ready to do their part in helping those affected by the recent fire to have a place to call home again.

Amazing Stories Unfold in Aftermath of the Firestorm

By Vanda Anderson
Editor

Around 1 p.m. the day of the fire, Tom Melton had filmed the smoke-filled skies from the original grassfire west of Cross Plains. His video captured the evil looking smoky clouds in shades of gray, black, orange, red, browns and white.

Thinking everything was fine, he went downtown to run some errands. On his way home he could see the flames coming up over the trees past the school.

The next thing he knew, the wind changed and the fierce fire was headed directly for his neighborhood. Melton said, "I started watering the yard, but the fire was coming in too fast for us and we decided we needed to leave."

Tom and his mother, Liz, got in the car and drove west down Fred Tunnell Street. By the time they got to the end of the road they looked back and they just knew their house would burn. "It was really emotional for my Mom and me," Melton commented.

Then Tom saw that a fire truck was also at the end of the road. Melton asked the firemen, "Would you guys come and try to save my house and my neighbor's?" Houses on the west side of Highway 206 were already going up in flames.

When Melton ran back to his house, Donnie Dillard was already in his back yard with the hose fighting the fire. The firemen made a fast circle around the Ray Parrish house and the Melton house and left.

"When Donnie and I had the rest of the fire around my house pretty much out, I had a voice come into my head. It said, 'Tom, go into the house now and get a towel.' I turned around and there was nobody there. The voice was clear as day!"

He went on to explain that it was an audible voice, like somebody was behind him. He immediately went to get the towel.

"Then I went back to see if my mother had gotten out. The highway patrol was announcing on the loud speaker, Get out now! Get out now!"

"When I got to the place I left my mother in the car, I saw that the car was gone. So I knew that she left. It was three hours before I found her at Dora Warlick's house. She thought I had gone up with the house," Melton explained.

"Suddenly a wave of smoke came in on me. Thank God I had that towel with me. I started walking fast, but then I could only take a couple of steps, because I couldn't breathe. I put the towel around my face and it saved me!" he exclaimed.

"I could feel the heat of the flames, but I couldn't see anything. A couple of minutes there, I didn't think I was coming out of it. The more I walked, the more I couldn't walk. I couldn't breathe. I was using that towel, you know," Melton reported.

"It might have been 30 seconds or a couple of minutes. Whatever time it took to get out of there, it's like hey, life's been good, but game over! Even with the towel, I couldn't breathe," he noted.

Donnie Dillard got caught on the side of the building behind the Melton house when the flames and smoke came in. He happened to have a wet towel with him and he laid flat on the ground with the towel over his head. His wife, Barbara said, "He couldn't breathe until the wall of fire passed completely over him."

Melton went to Cheshir's to see if he could put out the fires burning all around their yard. "The hoses were on fire and the water was connected to a well and

there wasn't any electricity. So I couldn't do anything!" he explained.

"I remember walking away. What an empty feeling it was, knowing that house was gone," Melton lamented. "It was a weird feeling. Kind of like a death."

Burning wood was falling down above the front door of R.C. and Wanda Merryman's house. "Someone said to see if anyone was inside," he recalled.

When Tom opened the back door the pressure inside the building literally moved him backward. He said, "If there was anyone in there they wouldn't have made it." The Merryman's had already evacuated. He knew right then it was too late to save the structure, the wind was moving the flames so fast.

The flames were shooting above the trees around Roger Klingberg's house. Amazingly, the rock siding and tin roof survived the fire.

Melton told the story he heard
See Amazing Page 5

FEMA Have you called them YET???????

FEMA is requesting that all fire victims who have not registered for help with them yet, please do so now. It is not too late. Some people have already received checks from them. Others have to wait until after their insurance companies compensate them before FEMA can evaluate exactly how much money the government will be able to provide. To contact FEMA, call:
1-800-621-FEMA (3362)
1-800-462-7585 (TTY)

Volunteer Building Assistance Available

Citizens who lost a home in the December 27th fire are invited to attend a meeting at the First Baptist Church on Saturday, February 11th, at 2:00 p.m. to meet with volunteers who will be coming to Cross Plains to donate their labor to rebuild homes. Persons who are interested in rebuilding, but lack adequate funds may be able to work with some of the volunteer builders to accomplish what otherwise might be too costly. If you have questions concerning this matter, please call City Hall @254-725-6114.

Immunization Clinics Times Announced

The Texas Department of State Health Services will hold Immunization Clinics in Callahan County:

Monday, February 6

Baird Cafetorium
400 W 7th
10 a.m. - 12 noon

Cross Plains Housing Authority
233 North Main
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday
February 8
Clyde First Baptist Church
216 Austin
10 a.m. - 12 noon
and
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Please bring your child's immunization records.
For more information call (325) 754-4945.

Cross Plains Fire Chosen for Student's Semester Project

Students taking a Communication course in Oral History Research at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa have chosen the Cross Plains fire as their semester project.

Tumbleweed Smith, who teaches the class, says the interviews and a copy of a resulting documentary will be donated to the Cross Plains Library.

Students will be in Cross Plains February 10 and 11 interviewing as many people as possible who were affected by the fire. They will set up recorders at the First

Baptist Church and hope to interview at least fifty people.

The interviewers will have a definite set of questions, but will also be listening to the answers, which will prompt more questions.

The interviews will begin at 10 A.M. Friday the 10th of February. Since it would be difficult to personally contact all the people who suffered damages and loss in the fire prior to the interviews, the students and their professor are asking people to come to the church and be interviewed.

Great Music! Great Time!

The Cross Plains Roping Club would like to thank the bands that performed at the benefit for the Cross Plains fire victims on Saturday night.

The bands were Jamie Richards, Big Blue Hearts, Spur 503, and Daisy Jane Canada Debut.

It was reported that everyone had a great time listening and dancing. If you weren't there you really missed out on a great time.

We would also like thank the sponsors that made this all possible: Canada & Associates, OSHA Safety Training, Cross Plains Roping Club, Galbreath Law Firm, HinesEye T Productions—Chris Maddox, Red's Satellite Service and Sandblasting Service, Ringo Drilling, Whitten Inn, Union Drilling, and Warren Caterpillar.

All of the proceeds will go to the Fire Victim Fund established at Texas Heritage Bank.

Submitted by
Dru Eppard

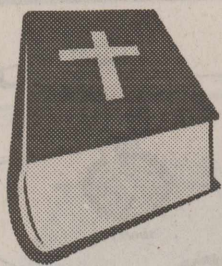
Texas Heritage Bank

"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

Member FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Presents:
"What's Inside"

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Gospel Meeting at Rising Star February 5th-8th

You are invited to the Gospel Meeting hosted by the Rising Star Church of Christ at 104 South Miller Street, Rising Star Sunday through Wednesday, February 5-8.

The invited speaker will be Rick Popejoy of Wellington, Texas. Come and hear the Gospel of

Christ proclaimed in truth and in love.

Sunday Bible classes begin at 9:30 a.m. and worship begins at 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday services commence at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CROSS PLAINS COWBOY CHURCH

Pastor: **LEN SMITH**

Join Us On Sunday Mornings At 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays At 7:00 p.m.

16075 CR 459 Cross Plains, Texas

For Information

Call 254-725-6446 or 325-518-5514

COME AS YOU ARE!



Triple Cross Cowboy Church

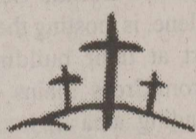
Every Sunday at 10:30 am

Services held at 21272 State Hwy 279, Cross Plains (CJS Ranch, on the left just past the 279/206 split)

Al Taylor, Preacher

Phone: 254-725-7522

Cell Phone: 325-370-6680



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Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 p.m.

Michael Ingram, Pastor

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

832 Ave. E Cross Plains, TX

Pastor: **Donald Duke**
Sunday Morning Bible Study.....10:00 AM
Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Evening Worship.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Bible Study.....7:00 PM

Our Church Is A House Of Prayer

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

209 S.W. Hwy 36 CROSS PLAINS

Welcomes You!

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sun. 6:30 p.m. Worship & Word *** Wed. 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
"An Apostolic Church"

PASTOR, Phillip R. Schaefer (254) 725-7140

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time.....7:00

Matt McGowen, Pastor (254) 725-4599
Church (254) 725-6266

Friendly Church Bible Teaching

ROWDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy. 36 at Rowden - 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....11:00 A.M.

Pastor: **Carl Mauldin**

Come Worship With Us!

NIMROD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

Bill Armstrong - Pastor

OBITUARIES

NANCY BEATRICE GIBSON

Nancy Beatrice Gibson, age 60, of Cross Plains died Thursday, January 26, 2006, in an Abilene hospital. Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, January 28, 2006 in the Parker Funeral Home Chapel. Rev. Dan Chapman officiated; burial was at 4:00 p.m., Saturday at Fredonia Cemetery in Mason County, Texas.

Nancy was born April 20, 1045 in Brady, Texas. She has lived in Cross Plains since 1997 moving here from Lovington, NM. She was the owner of Analytical Labs in Cross Plains. She was a

Methodist.

She is survived by her husband, Dale Buchholtz of Cross Plains; one daughter, Diana Lynn Simpson of May; one son, Johnnie Gibson, Jr., of Clovis, NM; two sisters, Kathy Dye of Breckenridge and Helen Smith of San Antonio; seven grandchildren, Nichole Sanchez, Lindsey Buzbee, Casey Simpson, Hailey M. Gibson, Brittany Guthrie, Austin Au, Allison Au.; two great-grandchildren, Jarron and Jevvyn Sanchez; and a number of nieces and nephews.

J.C. CHILDERS

J.C. Childers, age 95, passed away on Saturday, January 21, 2006, at the Cross Country Health Care in Brownwood. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, January 23, 2006, at the Higginbotham Chapel in Cross Plains with Jim Senkel officiating; burial was in the Cross Plains Cemetery.

He was born July 25, 1910 to Harry and Myrtle Mae (Hill) Childers in Eastland County, Texas. J.C. married Wessie B. McDonald on December 25, 1933 in Callahan County. She preceded him in death. He was

employed as a cable tool driller. He was a Methodist.

Survivors include his son, Kenneth Childers of Cross Plains; daughters, Dorothy Davis and husband, Bill of Cross Plains; Betty Thomas and husband, Ronnie of Cross Plains; brothers, John Waggoner of Midland and Bill Childers of Midessa; 8 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Gary Taylor, Robert Phillips, Tommy Phillips, Gerald Barker, Freddie Childers and Bill Davis.

Limited supply of windbreak trees still available

The Callahan Divide Soil and water Conservation district still have some windbreak trees available from this year's annual Windbreak Tree Program. Each year the district offers these trees to the public on a first come first serve basis at a very inexpensive price. The trees come fresh from the Texas Forest Service Nursery in Lubbock, Texas. The quantities of trees we have available are limited so please place your order soon. Trees that are still available for purchase are:

5 Black Cherry -5 trees for \$6.00, 15 Nanking Cherry - 5 trees for \$6.00, and 20 Sand Plum-5 trees for \$6.00.

These trees will be available while supplies last. For information on planting, planning and maintenance of windbreak trees or to purchase your low cost seedlings contact the Natural resource Conservation Service office in Baird, Texas at (325)-854-1349 Ext. 3. The Office is located at 141 West 4th Street Suite B. Thank you for supporting our Conservation Program

Grand Ole Opry exhibit opening in Eastland

"Oh, To Hear Them Again" Music That Sounds Good, Words That Make Sense And Opry Flashbacks. Friday, Feb. 3, County Museum, 7 P.M., FREE Underwritten by HUMANITIES TEXAS. How long has it been since you've heard "Last Date",

"Crazy", "Rollin' in My Sweet Baby's Arms"?

How ever long that is—it's too long.

Relieve those golden tunes again in all their glory Friday night, Feb. 3, at the Grand Opening of the Eastland County Museum and Grand Ole Opry Exhibit. The fun starts at 7 p.m.; the exhibit, underwritten by Humanities Texas, lasts through March 10th.

Remember the fun of "One's On Its Way" or maybe "It wasn't God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels"?

It's all free at the Museum located in the refurbished bank building "On the Square" in downtown Eastland. In development, the Museum will feature sections for every town and every part of Eastland County. It will be the showplace of all that we were, are and hope to be under one roof.

Come help kick it off in style. "Blue Eyes Cryin' in the Rain"—Wow!, remember that? Music you can relate to.

There'll be musicians, singers, square dancers, gospel singing, poetry reading, and heaven only knows, what else.

Minnie Pearl? You bet; you just come see for yourself.

On stage will be the Eastland County Museum Grand Ole Opry Band.

A preview session Thursday night will set the stage.

The Opry Exhibit features some 60 "moments in time" experiences from that American institution located in Nashville.

Many of the performers, all representing the newly formed trod the Opry stage, either in the original Rhyman Auditorium or in the modern new facility.

There'll be refreshments and souvenirs available.

And the very beautiful "I Never Promised You a Rose Garden." Surprises? A barrel full. Come hear for yourself.

2-Cross Plains Review February 2, 2006

COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURT Roger Corn, Presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

Isaac Castillo, possession of marijuana.

Waylon L. Moore, theft by check.

Tammy D. Pelletier, theft by check.

John Sartor, theft by check. Natasha L. Savage, theft by check.

Alfredo Mendez, Jr., assault - family violence.

Joe Parker, public intoxication.

Morris R. Walker, possession of marijuana.

Misdemeanor Minutes

Kelly J. Maddox, plea of guilty to criminal mischief, 18 month probation, \$500 fine, \$293 court costs, \$770 restitution.

Kelly J. Maddox, motion to dismiss to driving while license suspended (DWLS) granted for plea to other case.

David T. Campos, order on motion to substitute counsel granted.

John W. Anderson, plea of guilty to driving while intoxicated (DWI) - 1st, 18 month probation, \$600 fine, \$343 court costs.

Billie Jo Stanley, motion to dismiss to criminal mischief granted, complainant unwilling to testify.

Rosemarie Seiger, motion to

dismiss to assault granted, complainant unwilling to testify.

Joe Ben Covington, motion to dismiss to criminal trespass granted, insufficient evidence.

Ronald Spoonmore, plea of guilty to DWI - 1st, 6 month probation, \$600 fine, \$356 court costs.

Ronald Spoonmore, transfer request from Callahan Co. to Hood Co. granted.

Efrain Velez, Jr., plea of guilty to possession of marijuana, 18 month probation, \$500 fine, \$256 court costs.

Alfredo Mendez, Jr., plea of guilty to assault - family violence, 15 month probation, \$500 fine, \$301 court costs.

42nd DISTRICT COURT John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filings

Regina Gayle Taylor and Christopher Lee Taylor, divorce.

Allyson Eula Angelique Curtis, name change of an adult.

In the guardianship of Larry George Ivie, transferred from Callahan Co. Clerk.

Civil Minutes

Robert Eugene Lee and Lisa Kay Lee, divorce granted.

Criminal

Information and Complaints

Michael R. Robinson, injury to a child.

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First United Methodist Church

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Starting At 10:45 a.m.
Beginning Sunday, January 8th

Jim Senkel, Pastor

325-280-8480 (Cell)

fumc_cp@valomet.com www.gbgm-umc.org/crossplains

**OPEN HEARTS
OPEN MINDS
OPEN DOORS**

First Baptist Church

SUNDAY

9:45 am Bible Study
11 am & 6 pm Worship

Wednesday

6:30 pm Prayer/Worship

Ronnie B. White, Pastor
(254) 725-7629

3rd & Main, Cross Plains, TX 76443

**CROSS PLAINS
REVIEW**
(USPS 138-660)
DON TABOR, PUBLISHER
VANDA ANDERSON, EDITOR
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

**MEMBER
2006
TEXAS PRESS
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COTTONWOOD NEWS

By Wallace Bennett

Two things happened this week that reminded me of Old Cottonwood and the people who used to live here. First, Ted Ivy was in town the other day. He was on his way from Kerrville, Texas, back to Havasu City, Arizona, where he now lives. Ted never stays long, but, we had time to go to Abilene for lunch at his favorite restaurants, "Abuelo's". It would be my favorite restaurant, too, if I could afford to eat there more often.

Anyway, Ivy and I had the normal conversation about living in old Cottonwood as youngsters, and I got the feeling that he misses old Cottonwood and has a hankering to move back this way, if he could.

However, there is a new set of people living here now than when we were youngsters. The old Spivey Place is now occupied by a new set of settlers. The old Thompson place is where W.D. Clark now lives and the Old Woody place is where Rusty Dimitri now lives. Gorman Parish knows what I'm talking about. He used to live on the old Nordyke place and has "come back home" and now lives on what we knew as the old Wilcoxon place.

And that brings me to the second incident that happened this week to remind me of Old Cottonwood, and the people who lived here then. I received a letter from Bob Brown who used to live on the Old Spivey place (east of Cottonwood) and the old Cox place (west of Cottonwood). Bob sent a check for \$100 for the fire fighters of Cottonwood. He is one

of the oldtimers who likes what he remembers about Cottonwood and would like to make sure the fire department has the means to keep Cottonwood from burning as did Cross Plains.

He said in his letter, "I might suggest that the Fire Control unit may receive other monetary assistance if they would appeal to former residents for help, through your weekly publication." We have been advised that they did a great job with their expertise in being a part of the mighty effort to help control the Cross Plains disaster."

So consider that appeal done! We need everyone's help; oldtimers and new residents, to help keep this place looking like has always. The old Cottonwood; the home of peace, security and happiness; the home of pleasant memories and the place people hanker to move back to.

Bob Brown is well known among Cottonwood people. He lived in a large family, a mother and father who worked hard to raise their family and keep things going. Benjamin Brown worked at the stock yards in Abilene, about the time we went off to the big war, and his wife, Bertha, worked for Happy Howell's restaurant in Cross Plains. If I remember correctly, I do remember that Bob Brown married Dean Havens, a classmate of mine, in Cross Plains and they have lived happily together for all these years.

But I was somewhat confused about the actual facts of the Brown family, so I called R.T. Peevy, Cottonwood's resident genealogist, to get the facts

straight and refresh my memory. He went "on line" to seek further information. From the census data of 1930 he found the names of Benjamin and Bertha Brown as the mother and father; 1930 he found the names of Benjamin and Bertha Brown as the mother and father; Russell, Harold, Mildred, Joyce, Bobby, Don, Wilson, Marjorie, and Quida as the names of their children. I'll take him at his word. If anyone remembers differently, please call for corrections.

However, the memories of old Cottonwood, and the places are all fading away now and are being peopled by new people and being remembered with new names. A new group of settlers are now occupying the land, new place names, new fences are being built, new fields are being plowed and new people are forging a new life for Old Cottonwood.

A new Cottonwood spirit is becoming evident. So, hats off to a new Cottonwood Spirit! Let's keep it alive and ALL help to remember with new memories. I like to live here and still feel happy when I drive over the Callahan Divide and see the Cottonwood valley stretched out before me.

P.S. I was wrong about the rains coming last week. Sorry, I suppose we will all have to hunker down awhile and wait it out.

(To provide informational items and items of fact for this column, call Wallace Bennett at (254)725-7474. E-mail csb5@airmail.net Snail mail is Box 11093 CR 440, Cross Plains, Texas 76443. Please remember, if I don't know it, I can't print it.)

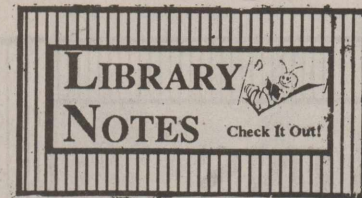
Cross Plains Review Deadlines

Ads Noon on Tuesday
Articles Noon on Monday

Cross Plains Fire Victims Resource Center New Hours

Effective February 1, 2006 the Cross Plains Fire Victims Resource Center will be changing the hours it will be open. On Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., all are welcome to come by and help out our community by volunteering with sorting and organizing the huge amount of clothing that still need processing.

The F.V.R.C is a non-profit, all volunteer organization. Although set up to benefit the fire victims. The clothing (and only the clothing) is available to anyone



Behind The Books

Just heard about the most wonderful gift that will be coming our way. My good buddy, Tumbleweed Smith and his college class at UT is coming here to record all the stories that people have to share about the fire. Way off in the future, our next generations will want to hear these first-hand stories and to be able to experience this past month through our memories. THEN, the students will compile all the stories into a permanent record of some type and give it to the library for the oral history collection.

Sure nuf hope ya'll take time to go tell your stories one more time for history's sake.

CU there-BW

Statistics January 23-27, 2006

Books:	75
Internet Users:	13
Memorials: Dick and Sharon Koenig in memory of Wilma Tarleton; Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Harris in memory of Ivon Odum and Wilma Tarleton; Janet Swanson in memory of Jake Childers	
Donations: Betty Jean Browning; Helen Groves	
Donations-Books: Peg Terrell	

Library Activity Report January 23-27, 2006

Patron:	64
LAP	7
Lapsit	3
Other	54
Programs:	46
Copies:	44
Reference:	2
Books Check In/Out	75
LAP	26
Lapsit	7
Calls In:	7
Internet Users:	13

3-Cross Plains Review February 2, 2006

QUIPS, CLIPS & COMMENTS

KAY MOSLEY

Note: I've been wondering, is this winter weather crazy, or am I the crazy one?

"Remember the Olden Days"

From time to time I write about things that were necessary and useful during the 1800's and early 1900's. Having been born prior to World War II, I remember many of these items very clearly.

Just to mention a few, the list runs something like this: butter churn, cistern, coal oil lamp, cooler pan, door to door delivery of blocks of ice, mustard plaster, cranking cars, blowing up inner tubes with hand pumps, cooking on wood stoves, the water bucket and dipper, hand irons you heated on the stove and then clipped a wooden handle on it and ironed your clothes.

Other items include butter mold, butter paddle, mosquito netting, a large pressure cooker, etc.

Quite a few of the smaller villages, communities and towns did not yet have a dry cleaners. Therefore, when your sweaters, coats and woollens needed to be cleaned and pressed, mama sent daddy down to the service station to purchase a solution called Naptha.

Mother would go out in the back yard, right near the clothes line. Daddy would pour some of the Naptha in a small tub, then mother would take each item and wash it through the Naptha, giving extra attention to spots and stains. Then she'd hang it on a

hanger and then hang that on the clothes line. Then she'd return to the tub to do the next item.

That Naptha was some kind of chemical, and it smelled to "high heaven". That's why you had to clean the clothes outside. If you had tried to use it inside, you would have been overcome by the fumes and passed out.

After the woollens and clothes were cleaned and hung on the line to dry, you still had to leave them hanging there for a day or two and let them air out until the Naptha smell was gone.

Then Mama took them in the house and put four flat irons on the stove to get hot. After putting up the ironing board, the irons were getting hotter. Mama then brought in some old newspapers she'd saved, and a bowl of water with a washcloth.

Next would get a piece of clothing, like a wool skirt, and place it correctly on the ironing board. From the stack of newspapers, she'd take one double page and place it over the skirt, get one iron, set it down on a trivet, take the washcloth and wet it in the bowl of water, squeeze it out.

Then she'd rub it over the newspaper and then take the damp newspaper, place it on the skirt and iron over it.

This created a steam effect on the skirt, and produced a well pressed garment and was also a good way to put the creases on the legs of pants.

You know that's a lot of work. I doubt I would have made a very good pioneer woman!



It's Worth Crowing About

TEX SEZ: "Didja' hear....?" A crew of guys was in town recently working on a daylong project. Come eatin' time, they asked the locals if there was a place in town to eat. As the locals rattled off a string of all the good places, their mouths dropped open. "All those places in this little town?"

Man, we don't have that many restaurants in all of Clyde." Returning to work, the comment was that they had opted for steak, but that they planned to come back to check out the other places.

Project Pride knows we serve up the best.

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

FEBRUARY 6 - 10

MONDAY - Chicken Spagetti, Tossed Salad, Broccoli, Peaches, Bread	Copper Penny Salad, Buttered Corn, Bread Pudding, Bread
TUESDAY - Sliced Ham, Augratin Potatoes, Green Beans & Tomatoes, Baked Apples, Bread	THURSDAY - Chili Dog on Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Pears, Chocolate Chip Cookie
WEDNESDAY - Salmon Patty,	FRIDAY - Chicken & Dumplings, Tossed Salad, English Peas, Gelatin w/Fruit, Bread

2nd & 4th Tue., Domino Night (42/84) Begins at 5:00 p.m.

We're Here for You

Leatha S. Warden, LPC, from
My Oasis Counseling Center
is now serving *Thursdays* in

Cross Plains

For an appointment
Call Toll Free

877-616-2747

(This Is The Corrected Phone Number)

Medicaid, BC/BS & other insurances accepted
We see children, adolescents and adults

Loss Anger Fear Stress
Depression Grief Sadness Nightmares
Confusion Trauma

We Can Help

PIONEER NEWS

Quilting was done in a very warm room on Tuesday. Thanks to Logan and Glenda getting us all the pine cones, we have a good wood fire. Nearly everyone was there some time during the day. We always have a good time. Jean A's quilt will come out of the frame this next week. It is a lovely quilt, "eight point star" belonging to Bernice Pyeatt. Sandy also has a "star" top in, and Glenda has a top in that was pieced by Vernon's Aunt Ella.

It was good to hear that Wanda Nelson did good during and after her surgery. Wanda, get well soon!

Jean Fore has also been in the hospital but she is back home now. We all hope she continues to do well. Sure missed you at quilting and seeing you around! Frankie Smith kinda kept her in tow.

Charlene Chesshir had a tough time with the stomach virus week

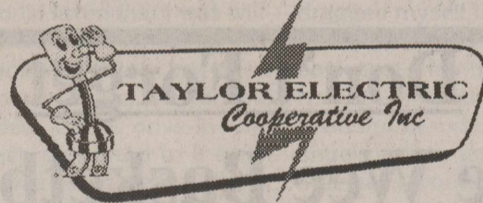
before last. She's getting old (she says) to have to face that! It sure left her feeling weak. Jim hasn't come down the last two weeks. His work keeps him running! She sure misses him when he doesn't come.

Laverne Hutton's and her daughter, Wanetta, went to Abilene Thursday to do some shopping and eat lunch together.

The Alexanders (Jim, Marla, and Ashley) of Richardson and Will and Rachael of Abilene were weekend visitors at James and Jean Alexander's. They all went out for a Birthday supper in honor of James and Jean.

We did have a sprinkle of rain Saturday, .04. We will take all that comes along. Let's keep praying for rain.

Word of Wisdom: We are apt to forget that children watch examples better than they listen to preaching. Roy L. Smith.



WE SALUTE & THANK OUR AREA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR THEIR SERVICE AND DEDICATION!

BREAKTHRU

By Bob Pipes
Cross Plains Church of Christ
433 N. Main
(254) 725-6117



A few weeks back in "Classic Peanuts," Charlie Brown asked the teacher regarding his dog, Snoopy, "He did what?" Then he tells Snoopy, "She says you got the only perfect score on the 'True or False' test!" — then explains to the teacher, "No, Ma'am, I don't know how he did it." And Snoopy says, "What's true is true, and what's false is false."

Snoopy is right, isn't he?! Paul the Apostle asked in regard to the Jews of his day, "For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect?" Then he answers, "Certainly not!" And then continues, "Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar" (Romans 3:3-4). What's true is true, and what's false is false! And man's rejection to and denial of God's word doesn't change the truth of it. Many may say, "There is no God," but the Bible states that one who declares such is "a fool," Psalm 14:1; 53:1.

We encourage you to share in periods of life-changing Bible study and worship with us. We really do care about you, too!

Sunday Morning Bible Class...9:45a.m. Sunday Evening Worship...6:00p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship...10:45a.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study...7:00p.m.
Friends & Neighbors Caring in Jesus

General Contracting Services

HEAVY EQUIPMENT SERVICES-Comanche, Tx

Tanks	Brush Control	Dozer Service
Dams	Fence Row Clearing	Ditch Witch Service
Roads	Land Clearing	Backhoe/Maintainer

Oilfield Work * Fire Breaks * Building Pads

CUSTOM BUILT HOMES * METAL BUILDINGS

We haul field sand, gravel and caliche

Ray	Bill	Trooper
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IT'S NEW

For One or Two

Small Valentine Cake

Chocolate or White Decorated in Pink or Red

Give a Sweet Valentine

It's Only \$4.99

Sweet Stuff Candy
254-725-4663

CROSS PLAINS STUDENT REVIEW

Cross Plains Elementary G/T Students Research Hometown Horned Toads

Cross Plains Elementary G/T students have been involved in research about the Texas horned toad. Students began their study of horned toads in October 2005 in response to an essay contest sponsored by the Texas parks and Wildlife Department. The contest had dual purposes: 1) to gather local information about horned toads for the parks department, and 2) to engage students in research, writing, and critical thinking skills activities. The contest deadline is February 1, 2006.

Students had to research the horned toad, conduct personal interviews with local community members, and produce a written essay. Their task was to discover why horned toads, now an endangered species, are disappearing. After conducting research and interviews, the students had to analyze the

information they had gathered, hypothesize about the causes for the horned toad's disappearance, and make recommendations about saving the horned toad.

Fifth grade students participating in the project are Cheyenne Cowan, Katharine Goode, Joe Holland, and Riley Lawrence. Their essay is entitled, "Where Are They Now?" Participating sixth grade students are Lauren Goode, Rosa Salazar, Kenzie Taff, and Zoie Walker. Their essay is entitled, "The Mystery of the Disappearing Horned Toad."

By participating in the project, the students learned first hand about the effort and dedication required to do field research and to produce written documentation of that research. Mrs. Connie Ricci, their teacher, felt that the experience was a rewarding one for the students.

JV Girls Basketball

January 24, 2006
BAIRD 30 LADY BUFFS 24

The Lady Buff JV team lost a close one to Baird, 30-24. The girls closed the lead to one at the end of the third quarter, but were not able to come out on top.

Scoring for the Lady Buffs were: Ashleigh Galloway-7, Mandy Rose-6, Terrah Augustine-5, Starla Schaefer-4, Betty Mathews-2.

January 27, 2006
EULA 47 LADY BUFFS 30

The Lady Buffs got off to a slow start and never recovered as the Eula Pirates left the Cross Plains gym with a 47-30 victory.

Scoring for the Lady Buffs were: Terrah Augustine-11, Betty Mathews-8, Starla Schaefer-4, Ashleigh Galloway-4, Mandy Rose-3.

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

January 26, 2006

The Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees met in a regular meeting with the following members present: Susan Schaefer, Burlie Taylor, Frankie Hyles, Jim Cook, Scott Childress, and Reggie Pillans. Vicki Dillard came in during the executive session.

The following administrators and guests were also in attendance: Superintendent, High School Principal, Elementary Principal, and guests, David Hagler, Eugene Ford, Joe Holland, James and Angie Ames, Tammy Ford, Gregg Williams, Brenda Spraggins, Tonja Walker, Annette Nickerson, Kim Crockett, Nora Odom, Debbie Bennett, Susan Hartman, April Wheeler, Deana Terstegge and daughter, and Judy Luter.

Public hearing on the Academic Excellence Indicator System 2004-05.

Motion was made by Childress and seconded by Schaefer to adopt a High School Girls Softball Program for 2006-07. For 6 Against 0

Motion was made by Taylor and seconded by Pillans for Texas Refrigerations and A/C to install 4 units in the old gym. For 6 Against 0

Motion was made by Cook and seconded by Hyles to allow CPISD to apply for waiver request for first day of instruction. For 6 Against 0

Motion was made by Childress and seconded by Taylor to approve Update 77 (TASB). For 6 Against 0

Motion was made by Childress and seconded by Schaefer to take the employment of a half-time counselor from the table. For 6 Against 0

Motion was made by Childress and seconded by Cook to hire at least 1/2 time certified counselor for 2006-07 school year. For 5 Against 1 Pillans

Motion was made by Childress and seconded by Schaefer to adopt teachers state pay raise. For 6 Against 0

Entered Executive Session at 8:06 p.m. and out at 9:41 p.m.

Motion was made by Childress and seconded by Taylor to accept the resignation of Fred St. Peter, with a letter of thanks for service. For 7 Against 0

Motion was made by Dillard and seconded by Childress to hire Andrew Shepard as bus driver. For 7 Against 0

Motion was made by Pillans and seconded by Dillard to extend the Superintendent's Contract for 1 year for 2008-09 school year. For 4 Against 3 Hyles, Taylor, Childress

Motion was made by Schaefer and seconded by Childress to adjourn. For 7 Against 0

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

FEBRUARY 6 - 10
BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Biscuit, Sausage, Gravy, Assorted Juice
TUESDAY - Pancake, Sausage Link, Assorted Juice
WEDNESDAY - Breakfast Pizza, Assorted Juice
THURSDAY - Hot or Cold Cereal, Toast, Assorted Juice
FRIDAY - Cinnamon Roll, Yogurt, Assorted Juice

LUNCH
MONDAY- Hot Dog w/Chili & Cheese, Tater Tots, Peaches
TUESDAY - Ham Slices, Scalloped Potatoes, Spinach, Rolls, Honey
WEDNESDAY- Chalupa, Salad, Fresh Fruit
THURSDAY-Chick Pot Pie, Corn on Cob, Bread Stick, Apricots
FRIDAY-Beef or Chicken Patty on Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Fries, Rice Krispie Treat

4-Cross Plains Review February 2, 2006

CROSS PLAINS ELEMENTARY 2005-2006 PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL 3RD SIX WEEKS

First Grade: Caitlyn Bland, Hannah Brown, Andy Byerly, Mackenzie Byrd, Orion Childers, Hannah Cowan, Tassaney Garza, Grace Goode, Taylor Hicks, Logan Phillips, Jared Reynolds, Jayme Tennison, Kersey Wyatt

Second Grade: Kelli Bennett, Tucker Brown, Blayne Childers, Caden Creach, Rebekah Crockett, Teagan Fortune, Megan Hagler, Billie Pointer, Justin Whiteley

Third Grade: None

Fourth Grade: None

Fifth Grade: None

Sixth Grade: Zoie Walker

CROSS PLAINS ELEMENTARY 2005-2006 "A" HONOR ROLL 3RD SIX WEEKS

First Grade: Jacob Castleberry, Alexis Mauricio, Joseph Revoir, Alicia Sanchez, Jamye Wootton

Second Grade: Colton Bradley, Brittany Bush, Elissa Cantu, Michael Foster, Laramie Gambrell, Zachary Gartman, Brayden Kennedy, Debra Land, Shelby McWilliams, Evelyn Morales, Sarah Perry, Kristin Savell, Chance Thompson, Charles Thompson, Shyler Tillery, Seth Wyatt

Third Grade: Bronc Dillard, Taryn Estes, Brenna Kleiber, Kaitlyn Koettel, Morgan Manley, Allanta Wheeler

Fourth Grade: Wyatt Gambrell, Shelby Thomas

Fifth Grade: Cheyenne Cowan

Sixth Grade: Rachelle Allen, Lauren Goode

CROSS PLAINS ELEMENTARY 2005-2006 "AB" HONOR ROLL 3RD SIX WEEKS

First Grade: Alexander French, Taner Griffin, Isaiah Guerrero, Bryce Hamlin, Ethan Horan, Alex Stout, Piper Winfrey, Cory Yates

Second Grade: Darrin Ames, Dalton Gilliam, Kaitlyn Potter, Inez Salazar, Hunter Thomas

Third Grade: Kristen Bland, Cheyenne Bomar, Megan France, Kelbi Hyles, Brendan Maxwell, Korbin McLean, Kaylee Potter, Kiefer Steinle, Jurnee Thomas, Mikera Walker

Fourth Grade: Brooklin Cantu, Tristen Stephenson

Fifth Grade: Victoria Creamer, Katharine Goode, Riley Lawrence

Sixth Grade: Jayten Ames, Ryder Foster, Hannah Horton, Payton Porter, Rosa Salazar

CROSS PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL 2005-2006 PRINCIPAL HONOR ROLL 3RD SIX WEEKS

7th Grade: Cody Ford, Shawna Lewis

8th Grade: Tiffany Holland, Benjamin Schaefer, Cody Slinger, Zachary Snell

9th Grade: Jacob Estes, Krista Phillips, Mandy Rose

Sophomore: None

Junior: Thomas Estes, Russell Thomas, Michaela Wallace

Senior: Travis Golson, Ryan Payne, Jake Snell

CROSS PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL 2005-2006 "A" HONOR ROLL 3RD SIX WEEKS

7th Grade: Delany Ames, Tyler Avants, Justin Golson, Hayden Wyatt

8th Grade: Nathan Creamer, Kayla Lawrence

9th Grade: Emily Harris

Sophomore: Hailey Biggs

Junior: None

Senior: Brittany Adams

CROSS PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL 2005-2006 "AB" HONOR ROLL 3RD SIX WEEKS

7th Grade: Savana Wyatt

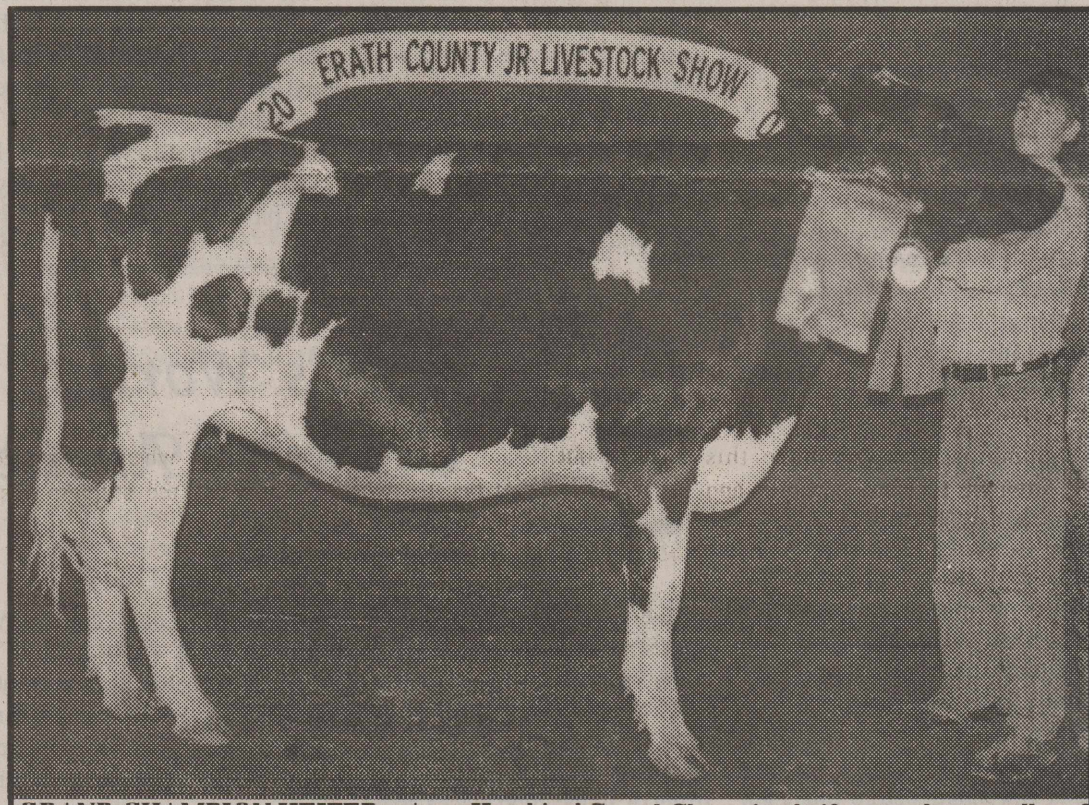
8th Grade: Amanda Dunaway, Jacob McCutchen

9th Grade: Quenton Koettel, Acala Radle

Sophomore: Macayla Cook, Starla Schaefer, Tiffany Walker

Junior: Jonathan Hopkins

Senior: Rainey Bacon, Samantha Hutton, Jesse Norris, Britta Scruggs, Levi Wooten



GRAND CHAMPION HEIFER—Aron Hutchins' Grand Champion heifer was the top seller of the 2006 Erath County Junior Livestock Show sale, having sold for \$7,450. Aron is a freshman at Stephenville High School and the son of Duane and Susan Hutchins. His grandparents are Vince and Betty Meiron of Pioneer and Alvin and Vondean Hutchins of Cross Plains.

Helping You Rebuild.

Jim Walter Homes introduces a unique program committed to helping families and individuals rebuild homes lost to the recent grass fires.

As America's largest on-your lot homebuilder, our mission is to provide the financial flexibility and freedom to help rebuild your home.

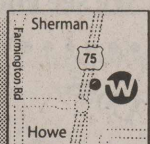
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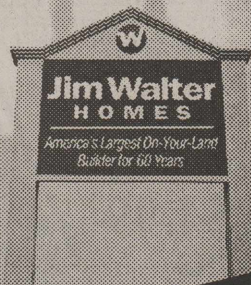
For details about the advantages of rebuilding with Jim Walter Homes, visit your nearest Sales Center.



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*No money down to qualified buyers. **No payments for up to 6 months only available to buyers who lost their homes due to 2005 grass fires in Oklahoma and Texas. Special conditions and restrictions apply. Available for sale contracts signed by December 31, 2006. See a Jim Walter Homes sales counselor for complete details. 4211 W. Boy Scout Blvd. Tampa, FL 33607. ©2006 Jim Walter Homes, Inc. Copyright strictly enforced.

Don't Forget
Pee Wee Basketball
Registration Due At The School
Thursday, Feb. 2nd
Forms Available At The Elementary School Office
Grades 3-6

February 1, 2006
ONE DAY SALE
PURCHASE YOUR
2006 ANNUAL NOW!
\$35.00 each
With name (in white) add \$5.00
With 8 autograph pages add \$1.00
Annual is priced, including sales tax
Money or check payable to CPISD must be enclosed

County Attorney presents 2005 annual report to commissioners

Callahan County Commissioners approved the 2005 annual report from County Attorney Shane Deel during the county commissioners' monthly meeting held Monday, January 23 at the County Courthouse in Baird.

Following is the 2005 County Attorney's Annual Report to the commissioners and citizens of Callahan County:

The year 2005 saw a dramatic increase in the workload of the County Attorney's office and the number of cases filed by the office. Following are the number of cases filed in each classification, with the number for 2004 in parentheses:

FELONY CASES - 95 (56)
MISDEMEANOR CASES - 243 (178)
HOT CHECK CASES - 76 (37)
TRAFFIC CASES - 33 (24)

The number of cases disposed in 2005 also rose substantially, with the following breakdown, 2004 numbers in parentheses:

FELONY CASES - 171 (102)
MISDEMEANOR CASES - 321 (232)
HOT CHECK CASES - 69 (51)
TRAFFIC CASES - 26 (19)

The fines assessed with these cases also rose from only \$78,623.29 assessed in 2004 to \$159,151.75 assessed in 2005. Hot check collection in 2005 resulted in restitution to local merchants in the amount of \$58,125.58, up from \$44,582.50 in 2004.

Some of the changes which were made during 2005 include the creation of a computerized case management system to help manage and docket the criminal caseload. The system was created by the County Attorney on existing software, so the cost to the county was minimal. The system will help the County Attorney and the County Judge monitor case settings, ensuring that cases are expedi-

tiously brought to court. The computerization effort also saves time when setting cases and producing the accompanying paperwork.

The office has also stepped up efforts to ensure that Defendants actually show up for court. Bond forfeitures and related agreements totaled only \$6,325 in 2004, but have reached \$19,570 in 2005. This number should actually decrease in the future as bondsmen and sureties understand that defendants showing up for court is not optional.

There were no major trials in 2005, and six minor trials were conducted, with 5 convictions and one hung jury.

Over the course of 2006, the office plans to continue the increased efforts noted above, and is working on other programs including the computerization of the hot check collection efforts and an educational drug program for our local schools. We have enjoyed serving Callahan County this past year and intend to keep up the hard work. The County Attorney is Shane Deel, Office Administrator is Janece Tucker, Legal Assistant is Tee Barton, and Hot Check Collection is headed up by Lynette Bowen.

Shane Deel,
Callahan County Attorney

On a motion by County Judge Roger Corn and second by Commissioner Doris Grider, the commissioners' court voted 5-0 to approve the 2005 county attorney's annual report.

Other agenda items brought before the commissioners' court included:

—The commissioners' court meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Judge Corn. Present at the meeting were Commissioners Grider, Bryan Farmer, Harold Hicks and Tommy Holland. Also present were County Treasurer Dianne

Alexander and County Clerk Jeanie Bohannon.

—The commissioners' court meeting minutes of January 9 were approved as presented.

—There was no public comment received.

—The commissioners' court took no action on the lessee's authorization for Precinct #3 (Baird) to purchase a motor grader.

—Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the purchase of a computer for the District Clerk's Office. The funds will be taken out of the District Clerk's Record Management Account. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion and it carried by a 5-0 vote.

—Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve the Radio Tower Lease Agreement with Texas Communications for \$350.00 a month. Commissioner Holland seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

—Judge Corn made a motion to approve replacing the copier in the County Clerk's Office on a lease/purchase agreement. Commissioner Hicks seconded and the motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

—Robert Pritz met with the commissioners' court to discuss purchasing a two-year old copier for \$2,500 for the County Agent's Office. Commissioner Farmer made a motion to purchase the copier with funds from the Callahan County Record Management Account. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion and it carried by a 5-0 vote.

—Commissioner Grider made a motion to pay all approved bills. Judge Corn seconded the motion and it carried by a 5-0 vote.

—The commissioners' court meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. on a motion by Commissioner Farmer and second by Commissioner Holland with a 5-0 vote.



ENJOYING HAMBURGERS—Cliff and Connie Kirkham (left) and Steve and Kitty Propest.



Higginbotham Employees Cooked the Hamburgers

Amazing

about Alan Key freeing his horse from its corral during the fire and the frightened animal wouldn't come to him. When Key was driving away from his house, he stopped on the highway and the horse jumped into the trailer. It appears the horse had no intentions of letting Alan leave without him.

"I was on an adrenaline kick for a couple of hours. Your heart is pumping and you have this strength. I went over fences and stuff, and it was like no problem. The hoses had no weight to them, because you have this power. It was all surreal," he commented. "It was like you were there, but it doesn't feel real. No fear!"

Next all the guys, Donnie Dillard and his two sons, Bubba and Joseph, and a co-worker from Rising Star, and Melton, went to Al Clausen's. "That was a wild deal there! There were two storage sheds burning, a riding lawn mower, one truck, maybe two on fire. And the storage shed next door was on fire," he said.

Melton told that he had to go find a hammer at his house in order to break into the shed next to Donnie Dillard's house.

"The corner was on fire and we got the hoses up inside and got that fire out. If we hadn't got that out, Donnie's house would have went. They utilized the water hoses from Dillard and Clausen's house.

"In the shed of the next door neighbor's, bullets starting going off. We ran around the other side of Clausen's house until they

stopped. That was scary! You could hear butane tanks exploding and a whistling, like a gas line or well that was real loud for a long time," he went on.

"Then I looked up and said to Donnie, 'that porch is on fire!' Donnie and I went over a couple of fences. I don't know how we went over them. We just went over them. We grabbed the hose from the neighbor's house and put that fire out."

"It was so weird, because when we got through, Larry Crockett drove up. I said 'Larry, how are you?'" Melton related. Larry said, "I lost my house!" "Well we just put this house out," Melton told him.

Larry replied, "That's my parent's house." He was very thankful and said, "Tom, take my truck. Your mom's worried and doesn't know if you are alive or not."

Tom started to drive down Main and saw all the houses burning across from the school. It was there that he saw a deer running back and forth in confusion and panic. He also recalled how a bobcat ran by at some point during the chaos. The animals were fleeing the flames.

The Methodist Church was on fire at this time and the flames were all around the former Sohn's home. He stopped to look for a hose, but there was no hose in the yard and the storage shed was locked. "I said to myself, this house is gone. But there was nothing I could do. But later I went back and the house was still

there and the camper, too." Melton was very humble about his actions during the course of events. He wanted everyone to understand that you don't consider your own safety in the middle of an ordeal like this.

Melton wanted to relay his deep appreciation for all the firefighters and neighborhood guys for their good work.

He added one more thing. The next night when they stayed at their house, the stillness was so deafening. There were no crickets, no coyotes, no animal or insect sounds at all. Tom lamented, "Just the silence!"

Cross Plains Review

5

February 2, 2006



Pray For Rain

Barb's Cues

By Barbara Holmes Worcester

The Big Wheel

In September 1960, I woke up one morning with six hungry babies and just 75 cents in my pocket. Their father was gone. Their Dad had never been much more than a presence they feared. He did manage to leave \$15 a week to buy groceries.

Now that he had decided to leave, there would be no more beatings, but no food either. I would have to find work I put on my best homemade dress, loaded the kids into the rusty old 51 Chevy and drove off to find a job.

The seven of us went to every factory, store and restaurant in our small town. No luck.

The kids stayed crammed into the car and tried to be quiet while I tried to convince whomever would listen that I was willing to learn or do anything. The last place we went to, just a few miles out of town, was an old Root Beer Barrel drive-in that had been converted to a truck stop. It was called the Big Wheel.

An old lady named Granny owned the place and she peeked out of the window from time to time at all those kids. She needed someone on the graveyard shift, 11 at night until seven in the morning. She paid 65 cents an hour, and I could start that night. I raced home and called the teenager down the street that

baby-sat for people. I bargained with her to come and sleep on my sofa for a dollar a night. She could arrive with her pajamas on and the kids would already be asleep.

That night when the little ones and I knelt to say our prayers, we all thanked God for finding Mommy a job. And so I started at the Big Wheel.

When I got home in the mornings I woke the baby-sitter up and sent her home with one dollar of my tip money. The, heating bills added a strain to my meager wage. The tires on the old Chevy had the consistency of penny balloons and began to leak. I had to fill them with air on the way to work and again every morning before I could go home.

One bleak fall morning, I dragged myself to the car to go home and found four tires in the back seat. New tires! There was no note, no nothing, just those beautiful brand new tires. Had angels taken up residence in Indiana? I wondered.

I made a deal with the local service station. In exchange for his mounting the new tires, I would clean up his office.

I was now working six nights instead of five and it still wasn't enough. Christmas was coming and I knew there would be no money for toys for the kids.

I found a can of red paint and started repairing and painting some old toys. Then hid them in the basement so there would be something on Christmas morning. Clothes were a worry too. I was sewing patches on top of patches on the boys pants and soon they would be too far gone to repair.

On Christmas Eve the usual customers were drinking coffee in the Big Wheel. They were the truckers, Les, Frank, and Jim, and a state trooper named Joe. A few musicians were hanging around after a gig at the Legion. They all just sat around and talked through the wee hours of the morning.

When it was time for me to go home at seven o'clock on Christmas morning, to my amazement, my old battered Chevy was filled full to the top with boxes of all shapes and sizes.

Reaching back, I pulled off the lid of the top box. Inside was whole case of little blue jeans, sizes 2-10! I looked inside another box: It was full of shirts to go with the jeans. Then I peeked inside some of the other boxes. There was candy and nuts and bananas and bags of groceries plus a bag of laundry supplies and cleaning items. And there were five toy trucks and one beautiful little doll.

As I drove back through empty streets as the sun slowly rose on the most amazing Christmas Day of my life, I was sobbing with gratitude. I will never forget the joy on the faces of my little ones that precious morning.

From the Internet

NEW 2005 FLEETWOOD HOMES

Model Home Sale

	Suggested Retail	J Hite's Price	Sale Price
5BR/3BA 2075SF	\$64,995.00	\$59,995.00	\$56,995.00*
4BR/2BA 1306SF	\$42,500.00	\$38,995.00	\$37,250.00*
3BR/2BA 1260SF	\$41,995.00	\$38,995.00	\$36,995.00*
3BR/2BA 1026SF	\$35,995.00	\$32,995.00	\$30,750.00*

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* prices include delivery, setup and a/c. Sale prices are for cash or chattel loans. Land home pks. are extra.

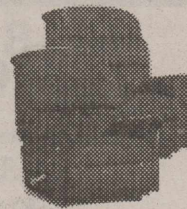
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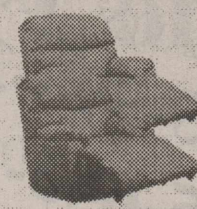
Super Bowl RECLINER SALE

SIDEWALK SALE SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2006

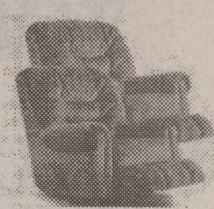
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2 FOR ONLY \$699



2 FOR ONLY \$799

* Leather Recliners 2 for \$999 * Chair and a half Recliner \$699
* Double Recliner Loveseat \$799

We, at Hathcock Furniture, wish to give our neighbors in Cross Plains, Carbon, and Kokomo, and surrounding communities, that suffered losses in the wild fires, a 25% discount on any purchase of instock furniture.

Veterans News

TET REUNION—Word comes that the Abilene Grunts Association will be sponsoring the annual TET Reunion again this year. It will be held on Saturday, February 4 at the Taylor County Fairgrounds as in past years. Mark your calendars for this good get-together.

VA PRESCRIPTIONS—Veterans receiving their prescriptions from VA are receiving a letter which states that they have an arrangement that is better than the new Medicare Drug Program. The letter states that no change is necessary and further cautions Veterans to place the letter in a very safe place. The letter will be needed to avoid penalties if any change is made in the future.

WIDOW'S PENSION—A veteran's widow with small income may be eligible for VA pension for at least twelve months following death of the

veteran. Funeral expenses are allowed to lower income, making some windows qualify for help from VA. Call 325-854-5874 on Monday or Tuesday for further word on this benefit.

TAPS—Our buddies continue to leave too soon. Recent losses include: Darrel Lee Black-USA, Eddie Burke-USA, D.C. Cox-USA, Gary Daniels-USA, Lester Wood Early-USN, Horace "Hob" Elliott-USN, Kenneth George-USN, Jimmie Wayne Harrison USAF, Earl Hughes-USA, William H. "Boots" Phillips-USA, Granvel L. Pierce-USA, Thomas Calvin Robbins-USN, W. Leon Shedd-USAAF & POW, Maurice Springate-USA, W. Dale Wilson-USCG. Many of these Veterans served during World War II. Be sure to thank the WWII Veterans for their service before it is too late.

Texas Wheat Producers org. seeks disaster assistance

The Situation

Intense drought has devastated wheat fields across Texas; wildfires have destroyed pastures, livestock, fences and equipment. However, natural disasters haven't been the only burden on wheat farmers this crop year. Fuel and fertilizer costs for most farmers have more than doubled over the last year.

Eighty-five percent of the Texas wheat crop is rated poor to very poor, with 15 percent rated good to fair, according to the Texas Crop Weather report released by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, January 23, 2006. The statewide wheat condition is rated at 20 percent of normal, compared to 82 percent at this time last year. Abandonment of planted fields remains high, especially in dry land fields. Some producers are plowing up grain crops in preparation to plant alternate crops.

Producers are currently experiencing economic loss due to the need for supplemental feeding of cattle in all areas of the state with many producers continuing to purchase additional hay supplies from out

of state sources. Range fires continue in many areas and were especially damaging when pushed by high winds.

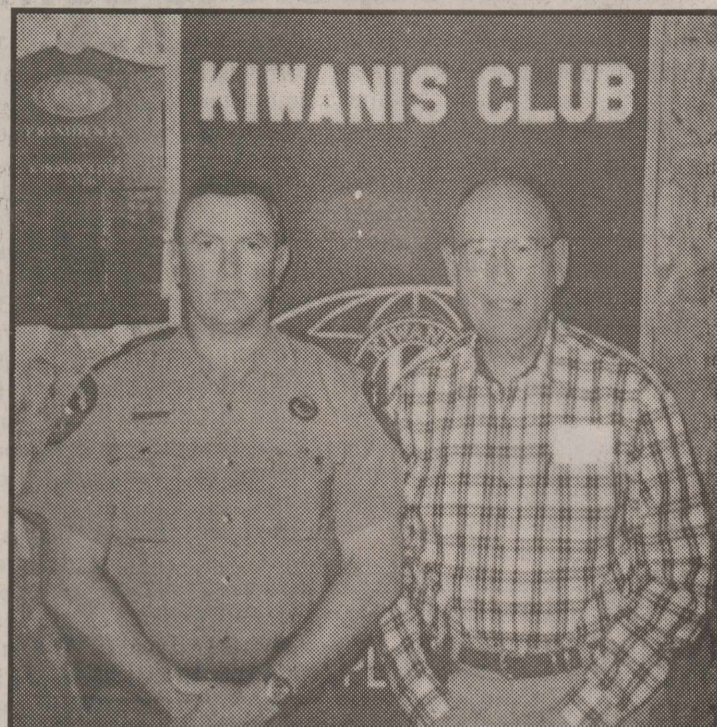
What is the TWPA asking of Congress?

The Texas Wheat Producers Association is asking Congress to support disaster assistance for farmers who have suffered crop losses in 2005 and 2006 due to natural disasters like drought and frost.

The TWPA and the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) are currently working with Members of Congress to identify assistance for farmers and to gain support for emergency fuel assistance for farmers.

What should producers do to help?

While the TWPA is constantly working to support legislation that will benefit wheat producers, Congressmen and Senators want to hear directly from constituents. Producers who would like to send a letter of support for emergency fuel and/or disaster assistance can log on to the Texas Wheat Producers Web site and click on "Contact Congress" from the navigation bar.



KIWANIS LEARN ABOUT THE LATEST DPS RULES—Jim Cook (left), local DPS Trooper, told the Kiwanis Club about the recent laws passed by the legislature for drivers emphasizing the need to slow down when passing a patrol car with its lights flashing. He also described his work at Port Arthur during hurricane Rita and the role the DPS plays in Emergency Management during the Cross Plains fire and other disasters. He offered to share his aerial photos of the fire and the action photos taken by his wife. He was the guest of Charles Rodenberger.

Political Calendar

The Cross Plains Review is authorized to publish the following political announcements for the office filings in the Republican Primary Election set for Tuesday, March 7, 2006.

For Callahan County Commissioner Precinct #4

Larry Tension

Reggie Pillans

Cliff Kirkham

For Callahan County Justice of the Peace Precinct #4

Burlie W. Taylor

Bob Hill

Rodger Hart

For Callahan County Judge

Roger Corn

For Callahan County Clerk

Donna Bell

For Callahan County Commissioner Precinct #4

Elvan Goode

Political Calendar

The Cross Plains Review is authorized to publish the following political announcements for the office filings in the Democratic Primary Election set for Tuesday, March 7, 2006.

For Callahan County Judge

Roger Corn

For Callahan County Clerk

Donna Bell

For Callahan County Commissioner Precinct #4

Elvan Goode

USDA approves emergency CRP haying and grazing in Texas

(Baird, TX) - January 24, 2006 - In continuing response to this year's widespread drought, Robert Frost, County Executive Director for the Callahan County Farm Service Agency today announced approval for emergency haying and grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage in Texas.

"Texas continues to experience severe drought conditions and a severe shortage of forage," said Frost. "The authorization of emergency CRP haying and grazing will provide forage for livestock and help producers in areas most severely impacted by these drought conditions reducing the potential need to liquidate herds."

Emergency haying of CRP is authorized until May 1, 2006 and emergency grazing is authorized until

June 1, 2006. Producers must file a request to hay or graze CRP acreage and visit the Natural Resources Conservation Service to obtain a modified conservation plan prior to haying or grazing the acreage.

"CRP annual rental payments will be reduced 25 percent times the number of acres actually hayed or grazed times the per acre annual rental payment," said Frost. Other restrictions

and limitations also apply.

CRP participants who do not own or lease livestock may rent or lease the haying and grazing privilege to an eligible livestock producer located in an approved county.

"In light of recent weather patterns, it is imperative that USDA offer the Emergency CRP haying and grazing program to Texas producers. Availability of forage is literally a matter of survival in the unpredictable and often unforgiving agriculture industry," said Frost.

CRP offers annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource-conserving cover on eligible land. USDA will monitor producers to ensure the land is hayed or grazed without damaging conservation covers.

USDA offers additional programs to assist drought-stricken producers, including emergency farm loans, the emergency conservation program and the noninsured crop disaster assistance program. For more information and eligibility requirements, producers should contact the local FSA office at (325) 854-1049 ext 2 or visit FSA's website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| FEBRUARY 4 | Mary Ruth Lee |
| Mark Walker | Cory Pope |
| Bob Childers | Richard Emmons |
| Walter O. Graham, Jr. | Dana Archer |
| Junior Baugh | Robin Johnston |
| Vanda Anderson | Gay Helms |
| Mrs. Ronnie Woodson | |
| Linda Joy Sadler | FEBRUARY 7 |
| Jimmy Thomas | Breanna May |
| Chris Duncan | Allen Lovell |
| Tommy Bowden | Jennifer (Pancake) Caraway |
| Leonard Baum | Mrs. Dale Bishop |
| James Griswold | |
| Julena Hyde | FEBRUARY 8 |
| | Shawn McKeehan |
| FEBRUARY 5 | Elvis B. Scott |
| Kali Phillips | Charles Strength |
| Jack Jones | Grady Newton |
| Carolyn Tunnel Odgen | Sherry Wilson |
| David Hargrove | Robby Bailey |
| Melissa Strickland | Wanda (Bell) Easterling |
| Johnny Rouse | |
| Eric Blanton | FEBRUARY 9 |
| Eva Stack | Mary Strahan |
| Mrs. C.H. Edington | Fred Dill |
| Ronnie McNutt | Jennifer Dee Calhoun |
| Barabra Lynn Oliver | Michael Heath Bright |
| Ashley French | Granvel Scott |
| William Craig Rogers | Mrs. N.L. Dillard |
| Randal Golson | Ronnie Flippin |
| Judson Cole | Cecil Johnson |
| | Skip Nichols |
| FEBRUARY 6 | Mrs. Clifford Hill |
| Deborah Lowitzer | Kathy Morris |
| Curtis Ray Shields | Jordan Crawford |
| Mrs. Ivan Clark | |
| Terry Cearly | FEBRUARY 10 |
| Tommy Garrett | Shannon McMillan |
| Norman Farr | Elizabeth Griffith |
| Mrs. Larry McAnally | Donald Sibley |
| Elmer Duncan | Cody Golson |
| Tommy Graham | Nathan Wayne Jones |
| Billy Evans | Lori Bishop |
| Mrs. Jimmy Mobley | |

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

We have all been blessed in this community by all the volunteers that have jumped in to assist all that lost their homes in the fire on December 27, 2005.

The owner of the old Cross Plains Nursing Home has been gracious to allow the use of that building as a distribution center. The volunteers working that have done a fantastic job of organizing all the donations of clothing, bedding, furniture, kitchen dishes, etc. for the displaced in this community. They have sorted and helped unload items as they have

arrived from many individuals and groups. They have been there to assist in finding sizes, loading dishes, bedding, furniture, etc. as fire survivors have located homes or storage facilities. Without them volunteering their time to assist there would be no distribution center.

I have gone by numerous times and seen the results of their time they have given so willingly to serve. Be sure and go by and thank them for serving in this capacity.

Helen Parson
Cross Plains, TX

Educational Consultant gives tips on Taks test

Dear Editor, Parents and Students

As an educational consultant who has visited numerous schools in Texas as well as presented to a wide variety of Educational Conferences at all levels, I have a unique perspective on the TAKS. The problem is — No one is empowering the student. We are telling the students what they should know or do, making the students defensive and at times scared, irritated or confused. It is just like the old saying: If you give them a fish, you feed them for a day; if you teach them how to fish, you have fed them for a lifetime. But if you beat them over the head with the fish, they begin to hate the whole process and everyone begins to stink. Test-taking skills, that are unique to standardized tests, are not being taught in our schools; and they can be fun. The latest brain research that shows how whole brain approaches reach all learning styles are not being embraced; and they can be fun. So...Parents and Students who are reading this.....Do you want to not only pass the TAKS but to make Commended Performance on it? Go to the TEA website (www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/resources/release/) and download three copies of the released TAKS tests along with the answers. Two copies should be grade appropriate and one test should be one grade above the level of the student.

The student then goes through the first test and decides which questions are clear, which are confusing, which have what are called distracters or mental traps. Working through three tests one question at a time and checking the answer immediately helps the brain record only the information and format that is correct. Problems should be spaced out over the three weeks prior to the test. The student is in control. There is no incorrect learning and the student spots questions designed for failure. If the chosen answer is wrong, immediate help by parent or mentor will keep the student from storing incorrect information. REMEMBER IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE ALL YOUR MISTAKES BEFORE IT COUNTS. BUT THE MISTAKES HAVE TO BE CORRECTED IMMEDIATELY TO GUARANTEE MENTAL ACCURACY. Otherwise your child is storing as much wrong information as he or she is storing correct. Ask your school's PTA to host test-taking workshops for students and parents, it makes you an independent thinker and prepares you for college. Do not let the TAKS own you; YOU own the TAKS.

Sincerely, Ms. Mac
(Jeanine McGregor)
Ballinger, Texas
Educational Consultant/
Researcher/Author
Phone: 325-365-2048
msmac@wcc.net

Dear Editor:

My grandson, Robert Lee, lost everything in the fire. He also went through Katrina and lost everything then. Two times he and his girlfriend and her two little boys have lost everything.

The other day they went up to the nursing home to get some mattresses and they were going to get either a dresser or chest of drawers. He told me the woman there said they couldn't get the

dresser or the chest of drawers.

It hurt their feelings. My grandson said he wouldn't go get any more stuff. He said he would buy whatever they needed. He said he thought that was for the people who lost their things in the fire.

Why do some people get whatever they want, and my grandson couldn't? This was upsetting to me.

Hazel Lee
Cross Plains

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P.O. Box 542, Cross Plains, TX 76443

Dear Editor:

Coffee shop gossip has it that things are going on in the area that should not be happening. Such as things being destroyed or removed as a result of the clean up effort, without requesting permission. Some even after being in writing (Do Not Touch) was done, while the owner's were gone.

The excuses have all been the same, "they misunderstood", "nobody was there to tell them otherwise", "we have other things to worry about than something that trivial", etc.

Now everyone understands a screw up from time to time but it is starting to look like it is intentional and they are counting on the fact of you saying, "well, what is done is done, and nothing can be done now". Then they move on to the next person and do the same thing.

These things by themselves don't amount to much, but when added up they are in the tens of thousands of dollars.

One man requested his concrete slab be left alone. It was removed and it will cost him \$15,000 to replace. Another was a woman who requested her chain link fence be left. It was removed. Not much loss right? The fence was built out of 2 3/8" oilfield pipe, including the top rail, that should have lasted her lifetime. Used pipe sells for \$1.25 plus a foot now, so for her 100 foot fence she'll spend \$200 to \$250 just for the pipe.

Everybody has that right. Someone else said their lot was cleaned off and crushed and no one even asked them.

For years I have heard the local government has had an agenda to make the community more appealing to the wealthy and (cultured) population. There is nothing wrong with this if it is the same goal as the entire community.

The purpose of the local government is to make the goals of the majority population happen. These things are paved streets, running water, adequate sewage plumbing, community special events, etc. Basically, anything

that makes the community lives better, easier and more productive.

In short, life is supposed to be better in town rather than in the country because of the local government (City Hall). If this isn't true, then the local government has failed the people.

Repeatedly I hear about the city and county ignoring their community obligations to pursue unrelated interest. I heard a 15-year old girl ran over a fire plug and broke it off, nothing came out. Is this city neglect or was the fire plug designed that way?

Why after 4 years to we still only have one fire lane and it protects the library park? Why isn't there one for the school? Are they not as important at the park?

Everything that is being done may be actually in our best interest and we don't know it. If that's the case, then the people need to be told about it (calm the uprising). Nobody like to be assumed too stupid to understand what's happening.

So here is the request: I want to know the truth. I need a statement of anything that has happened to you by the local government either for your benefit or against your best interest in the past 5 years. I also need your name and phone number on the statement to authenticate it as factual.

No names will be used in the findings unless it is found that criminal activity was used and punishment need to happen. In that case, all paperwork will be turned into the county attorney's office.

You can leave off your name and phone number but the statement won't be used for the final analysis. I would however still like to read them to get a full view of what's going on in our community.

The public will be notified of all findings, but not necessarily in the newspaper.

Please send any comments to John Foller, 16602 CR 441, Cross Plains, TX 76443.

Sincerely,
A very concerned patron of
our great city,
John Foller

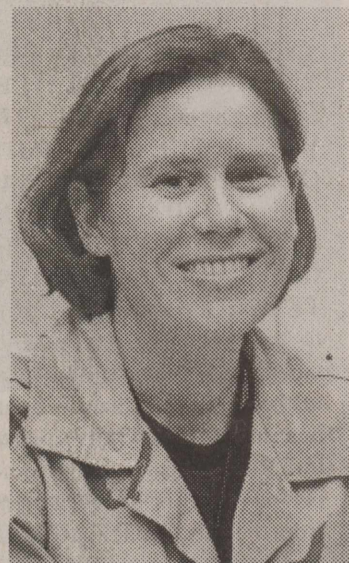
Sgt. Connie Giardina deployed to Iraq

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Connie L. Giardina is currently deployed overseas at a forward operating location in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Operation Iraqi Freedom is the official name given to military operations involving members of the U.S. armed forces and coalition forces participating in efforts to free and secure Iraq. Mission objectives focus on force protection, peacekeeping, stabilization, security and counter-insurgency operations as the Iraqi transitional governing bodies assume full sovereign powers to govern the peoples of Iraq.

Members from all branches of the U.S. military and multinational forces are also assisting in rebuilding Iraq's economic and governmental infrastructure, and training and preparing Iraqi military and security forces to assume full authority and responsibility in defending and preserving Iraq's sovereignty and independence as a democracy.

The sergeant is a personnel supervisor regularly assigned to



SGT. CONNIE L. GIARDINA

the 22nd Civil Engineer Squadron, McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita, Kan.

She is the daughter of Dennis and Joann Thompson of N.E. Fifth St., Cross Plains, Texas, and granddaughter of Evelyn Thompson of S. Williams St., Paulding, Ohio.

Giardina is a 1984 graduate of Paulding High School.

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CITY COUNCIL NEWS

ORDINANCE #84-1

AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO TRAILER HOUSES BEING LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF CROSS PLAINS, TEXAS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CROSS PLAINS, TEXAS, that it shall be unlawful for any person to locate or maintain any trailer house in any place in the City other than in a duly licensed and lawfully operated trailer house park, unless such person shall first secure a permit from the City Council, giving the name and address of the applicant, and a description of the property upon which said trailer house is to be located.

The City Council shall refuse to grant any such permit unless the applicant shall first show to the satisfaction of the council that there are adequate water and sanitary facilities available within reasonable distance of such trailer house location or that the applicant, upon locating upon such premises, shall provide or cause to be provided the same.

It shall be unlawful for any person to maintain, locate or live in any such trailer house without first obtaining such permit.

THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL CONSTITUTE A MISDEMEANOR, and any person convicted of such violation therefore shall be subject to a fine of not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00). Each transaction in violation of any of the provisions hereof shall be deemed a separate offense.

PASSED and APPROVED THIS 10TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1984.

O.B. EDMONDSON
MAYOR

THE CROSS PLAINS CITY COUNCIL HELD A SPECIAL MEETING TO INCLUDE SET BACK REQUIREMENTS TO THE ABOVE ORDINANCE.

THE SET BACK REQUIREMENTS ARE 8' (8- FEET) FROM EACH SIDE PROPERTY LINES AND 15' (15- FEET) FROM THE FRONT AND BACK PROPERTY LINES.

Callahan County DPS Report for the 2005 year

Cases Investigated:
Warnings—4,689
Complaints—6,235

Accidents: 156 accidents were investigated during the 2005 year.

Driving While Intoxicated—58
Driving While Intoxicated with a Child—1
Driving While License Invalid—36
Possession of Marijuana—34
Possession of Controlled Substance—8
Possession of Marijuana over 5 pounds, less than 50 pounds—2
Possession of Controlled Substance with intent to Deliver—3
Possess or Transport with intent to Manufacture Controlled Substance—2
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia—8
Fugitive Arrest—41
Open Container—21
Unlawful Possession of Fire-

arm—3
Evading Arrest—5
Disorderly Conduct—3
Retaliation Against Public Servant—1
Criminal Trespass—2
Indecency with a Child—1
Aggravated Assault with a Motor Vehicle—1
Failure to Identify—1
Disregard for Police Officer—3
Money Laundering—1
Tamper with Government Record—1
Fraud—1
Failure to Stop and Give Information—1
Failure to Report Accident—1
Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol—Minor—4
Minor in Possession of Tobacco—1
Consumption of Alcohol by Minor—1
Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor—1
Minor in Possession of Alcohol—5
Public Intoxication—16

Angel Food Ministries February Menu Told Deadline Noon Feb. 13

The Angel Food Ministries January Menu includes:

(4) 5 oz Ribeye Steaks
(4) 4 oz Bacon-Wrapped Pork Filets
(1) 3 lbs Breaded Frying Chicken
(6) 5.5 oz Hot Pocket Subs
(1) 4 lbs. I.Q.F. Chicken Thighs
(1) 8 oz Fish Nuggets
(1) 10.8 oz Mushroom Gravy
(1) 28 oz Pasta Sauce
(1) 16 oz Pasta
(1) 16 oz White Rice
(1) 8 oz Corn Muffin Mix
(1) 16 oz Peas & Corn
(1) 16 oz Cut Sweet Corn
(1) 24 oz Tater Tots
(1) 2 lbs. Onions
(1) Dozen Eggs
(1) 28 oz Pie or Cake

All This for the Low Cost of JUST \$25.00.

One or more specials available only with the purchase of a regular unit.

Special #1 4.8 oz T-Bones, 4.8 oz New York Strips \$18.00
Special #2 - 1-10 lb Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast \$18.00

Last day to pay and pay for your is Monday, February 13th by NOON.

Distribution day is Saturday, February 25, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center, W. 8th and Avenue E, Cisco
FOOD STAMPS NOW ACCEPTED.

Distribution Day is Saturday, January 21st at the Family Life Center, West 8th and Avenue from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

*You must bring a large box or container to pick up your food.

*Reserves the right to substitute any item due to availability, cost and quality.

*Units not picked up at time of delivery may be re-sold to others wanting to purchase a food unit.

To Place an Order:

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Cotton's (254) 442-2565
300 West 8th
Trish (254) 442-1710
Stephanie (254) 442-4136
Food Stamp orders call for information and order at Cotton's, Eastland
Readers Choice (254) 631-0063
977 East Main (open Wed-Fri from 10 a.m. -5:30 p.m.)

Rising Star
Simmons Hardware & Lumber
200 East College
(254) 643-4131

Cross Plains
Sun Rayz & Gifts
400 B. S. Main
(254) 725-4578

Tricia Hopkins (254) 725-6355

Breckenridge
Carolyn Clark
POB 412 (254) 559-3279
Jan Griffith (254) 559-8808
118 E. Walker
Distribution at Covenant
Tabernacle Church, 315 S. Miller

Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame seeks nominations for 2006

The Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame is now seeking nominations for this year's class. The 2006 Hall of Fame banquet, the fifth annual event, will be held May 22 at the Abilene Civic Center.

Once again this year, the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame is partnering with Texas State Technical College. TSTC is sponsoring a golf tournament that some day at Diamondback Golf Club. Over the last four years, the golf tournament and Hall of Fame banquet have raised nearly \$180,000 for educational scholarships at TSTC.

One inductee this year has already been determined. Former Texas Tech football coach Spike Dykes, a native of Ballinger, asked to delay his induction last year because of prior commitment prevented him from being here for the banquet. Nominations are sought to determine who will join Dykes in this year's Hall of Fame class.

The Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame has inducted 24 individuals in its four years of existence. Added to that the 10 individuals from the defunct AISD Sport Hall of Fame that were honored initially, and the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame now includes 34 of the top athletes and coached from the Big Country.

To be eligible for the Big Country Hall of Fame, an athlete must have graduated from a high school in one of the 19 counties surrounding Abilene that make up the West Texas Council of Governments. Athletes must be out of high school at least 10 years. Coaches must have coached at a Big Country high school and be retired from that position for at least five years.

The Big Country Hall of Fame also has a category for sports writers and sportscasters and another for officials, those in local chapters who have distinguished themselves as football, basketball or baseball referees or umpires, or officials in any

other sport.

We are asking the public to help us in making nominations. Bill Hart, the inaugural inductee in the sports writer category, is accepting the nominations. Please send nominations to Hart. His address is 640 Arch, Baird, Texas 79504. Nominations can also be faxed to (325) 854-2812 or e-mail to hartbf@msn.com. No phone calls please.

The deadline for making nominations is February 22. The announcement of this year's inductees will be made in late February, once the committee meets and those selected have been notified.

The Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame is also making plans to obtain a more permanent site for its memorabilia. The Hall of Fame hopes to have a major announcement concerning that sometime later this year.

2006 NOMINATION Form

Categories for Nomination (check only one)

Player/Participant	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coach	<input type="checkbox"/>

Eligibility Guidelines:

- Nominees will be selected from the following counties: Taylor, Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall and Throckmorton.
- Nominee must have completed and graduation from high school within the 19 county Big Country region. Coaches, sports writers, sportscasters, and officials will also be considered.
- Athletes may not be inducted until 10 years after their high school graduation. Coaches may not be inducted until five years after completing their coaching tenure in the Big Country.
- Current Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame members include: Art Briules, Blackie Blackburn, Beverly Ball, Sammy Baugh, Jimmy Carpenter, Tonto Coleman, Charles Coody, Paula Corn, Lawrence Elkins, Bob Estes, Mindy Myers Flowers, Bob Harrison, Bill Hart, Hollis Gainey, Chuch Hughes, Glenn Gregory, Louis Kelley, Hershel Kimbrell, John Kimbrough, Shorty Lawson, Don Maynard, Billy Maxwell, Ricky Meyers, Jack Mildren, Chuck Moser, Billy Olson, David Parks, Dan Salkeld, Pete Shotwell, Grant Teaff, Jerry Tubbs, Clyde "Bulldog" Turner, Max Williams and Gordon Wood.

Name of Nominee _____ Phone () _____

Nominee's Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Reason for nomination: _____

Brief background information ---- (If known list the following: School, Years, Sport, Honors Received, Championship, Organizations, etc.)

Nomination for *Lifetime Achievement Media Award*
(Eligibility open to Sportswriters and Broadcasters)

Individual Making the Nomination:

Name: _____

Phone: () _____

Deadline: February 15, 2006

Mail to: Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame
Attn: Bill Hart
640 Arch, Baird, Texas 79504

* please feel free to write on additional paper

8 - Cross Plains Review February 2, 2006 Rebuilding After a Disaster

Planning Your Project

Before selecting any contractor, you should carefully plan your project from start to finish. For example, if your project involves repairs, a room addition, or new home, determine exactly what your needs are, how the room is to be used, and what you want the completed job to look like. It is a good idea to coordinate your color schemes and draw a simple floor plan using miniature tables and chairs to lay out the room arrangement.

Be specific in explaining to the contractor what you want, and be sure to approve any architectural plans that are involved in the remodeling job before the contractor begins the work.

Hiring A Contractor

It is extremely important to compare cost before making a financial commitment toward any home improvement project. You should solicit at least two or three bids from prospective contractors, based on the same building specifications, materials, labor and time needed to complete the project.

Discuss the bids in detail with each contractor, making certain you understand the reasons for any variations in the prices. Do not automatically choose the lowest price. One contractor's bid may be higher because the materials to be used may be better in quality or because the work will require more time and labor.

Ask the remodeling contractor for local references and find out if the customers were actually satisfied with the contractor's work. If possible, go and inspect the completed projects.

Find out if the contractor is a member of the Big Country

Homebuilders Assn. at (325) 698-4232, or a Trade association where they are located.

Also, call your local Better Business Bureau (325) 691-1533 to determine how long the contractor has been in business and their reliability report.

Ask the contractor if the company is insured against claims covering worker's compensation, property damage, and personal liability in case of accident. Then call to verify the contractor's insurance coverage after obtaining the name of the carrier and agency.

Financing Your Project

You may want to consider a personal or bank loan, a home equity loan, a loan from your credit union or insurance company, or a loan from a savings and loan institution. It is important that you investigate the various sources of funding and compare the amounts, interest rates, terms, and tax considerations.

If you cannot pay for a home improvement project without a loan, it is a wise idea to put a clause in your contract with the remodeler stating that the agreement is valid only if financing is obtained.

Federal Housing Administration (FHA) loans for home improvements may be available through certain banks and other lending institutions. However, FHA requires that the lender approve any contractor arranging for this type of loan, and the agency will not guarantee the work or the contractor. Be wary of any contractor who tells you that he/she has been approved or endorsed by the FHA.

If your home improvements the

result of damages and is covered by an insurance policy, check with your insurance company or agent to determine the extent of coverage before signing a contract to have the damages repaired. Ensure any insurance check is made out jointly.

Getting a Building Permit

In Texas all home builders and remodelers are required to be registered with the Texas Residential Construction Commission (877) 651-8722 and to register any new home or any renovation/remodeling project exceeding \$20,000.00. Your builder or contractor should apply and get the proper permits with the TRCC on your behalf, but it is important that you verify the home and contractor are properly registered. The TRCC also requires that homes built in Texas must preform to certain Standards. They detail how a home must perform after it is built. You should also check with the municipality or county where you reside to see if any other building codes are in effect. It is the homeowners responsibility to ensure that proper permits are issued before the job starts.

Your contractor should apply for the proper permits, and your contract should state that the work is to be performed in accordance with all applicable building codes and zoning regulations.

For more information on the Texas Residential Construction Commission go to www.trcc.state.tx.us or call toll free (877) 651-8722.

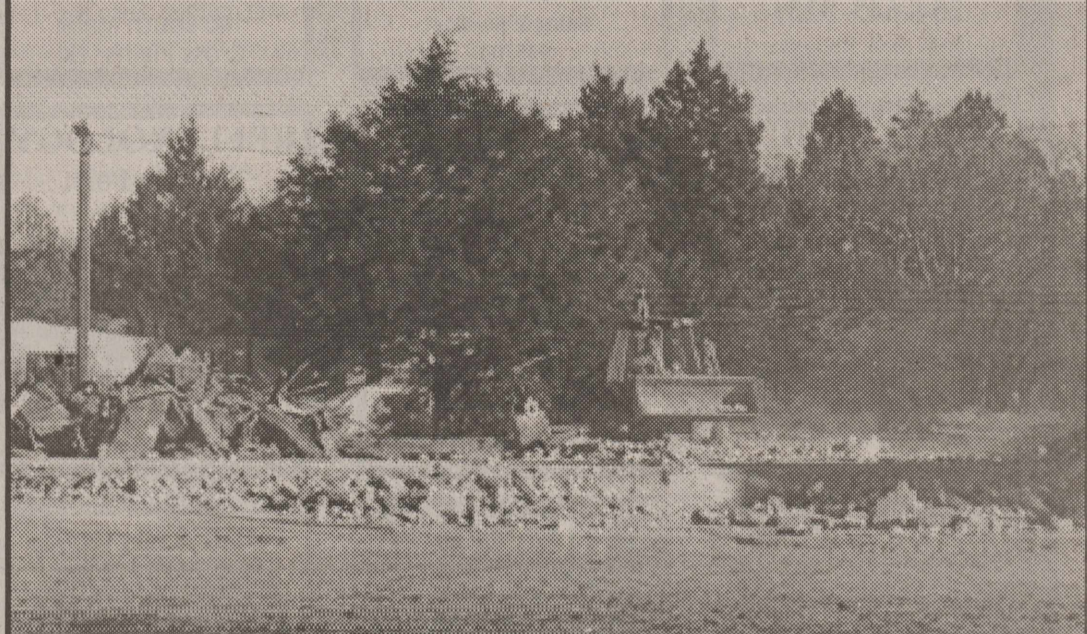
This information was provided by the Better Business Bureau, 3300 South 14th, Suite 807, Abilene, Texas 79605, (325) 691-1533.

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

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FLAMES AND SMOKE ENGULF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
(Photo Courtesy of Reggie Pillans)



DEBRIS BEING REMOVED—Backhoes working at First United Methodist Church.

Have You Lost or Found Pets Following the Fire?

A special "Thank You" is spent to Brown County Animal Hospital and Dr. Joe Speck for the free care given to the animals found in the aftermath of the firestorm.

There's a possibility that there will be pets that will need to be adopted. For information, please call Jane Bonner at (254) 725-6257 for details.

If you have lost your pet during the trauma of the recent fires, or if you have found someone's pet, please contact Jane Bonner at (254) 725-6257.

If you have an animal that has been burned or injured and you don't know who its owner is, please feed/water and care for it until you can report it to the above number.

Ms. Bonner is continuing to work with the Pet Emergency Response Team (PERT) in an effort to save these animals and reconnect them to their families.

Everyone's cooperation in this matter has been greatly appreciated. Some animals have been found and returned to their owners.



BIG CLAW CLEANS LOT ACROSS FROM THE CROSS PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL — YOU CAN SEE THE MASCOT IN THE BACKGROUND

CARDS OF THANKS

A heartfelt Thank You to the Cross Plains Public Library for allowing the FUMC "Thank You" Ladies use of their facilities. Numerous Thank You notes were written for generous donations to the First United Methodist for the rebuilding of our church.

Thank You Cross Plains Library Ladies of FUMC

Words are inadequate to express our appreciation for the overwhelming love and support shown to us at our loss due to the recent firestorm.

The food, clothes, personal and household items, money, gift cards, phone calls, visits, prayers and your concern for our well-being have meant more to us than you will ever know.

A very special thanks to those who have furnished us a home and a vehicle to use while we get back on our feet, and also to the many fire fighters who helped to save the rest of our town from further destruction.

We are truly blessed to live in such a caring community!

Charlie, Beverly, James and Karen Rqss

Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from January 22, 2006 through January 28, 2006 include:

Cases Investigated
Warnings—112
Complaints—108
Public Intoxication—1
Fugitive Arrest-Theft—1
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia—1

Vehicle Accidents
There were seven vehicle accidents investigated during this time period.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Commissioners Court of Callahan County, Texas will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 9, 2006, at 1:30 p.m. in the District Courtroom of the Callahan County Courthouse at 100 West 4th Street, Baird, Texas, at which time all interested persons are entitled to speak and present evidence for or against the proposed designation of the Post Oak Wind Farm reinvestment zone, under Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code. The proposed zone is located in Callahan County, Texas, and is described as being 10,144 acres of land out of Sections 9 (A-166), 10 (A-925), 26 (1684), Eastern Texas Railroad Surveys; Sections 85 (A-520 & A-403), 86 (A-713 & A-1722), 87 (A-404 & A-521), 88 (A-1780 & 1852), 89 (A-380 & A-605), 90 (A-882 & A-1720), Texas and Pacific Railroad Survey, Block 13; Sections 91 (A-392), 92 (A-1103), 93 (A-401), 94 (A-881), 95 (A-402), Texas & Pacific Railroad Survey, Block 13, Section 85 (A-41), Buffalo Bayou Brazos and Colorado Railroad Survey; Sections 1 (A-547), 2 (A-1270), Texas & Pacific Railroad Survey; Sections 1 (A-538 1/2), 2 (A-1728), B.S. & F. Railroad Survey; Sections 1 (A-363), 2 (A-943), 8 (A-1641), S.P. Railroad Survey; Sections 1 (A-1264), 2 (A-1642), TC Railroad Survey, Callahan County, Texas.

A map of the area is available for viewing at the office of the County Judge. If you have any questions regarding the proposed designation of the reinvestment zone, please call Callahan County Judge Roger Corn at 325-854-1155. 17

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

9

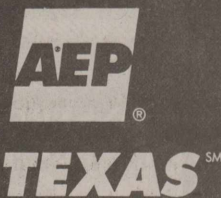
FEBRUARY 2, 2006



TEXAS GOVERNOR RICK PERRY FLIES OVER THE CROSS PLAINS FIRE DEVASTATION THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

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Cross Plains Review Only - \$3.00 for up to 20 words, 20¢ each additional word.
Card of Thanks - \$3.00 & up.

Classifieds must be received in the review office by noon Tuesday to be published in the current week's edition.

The Cross Plains Review reserves the rights to reject any and all Classified Ads considered by the publisher to be subject objectional in matter, phraseology, or opposed to the interest or the policy of the newspaper. No fraudulent, dishonest, or misleading ads will be knowingly published in the Cross Plains Review for any cost, injury or liability upon it because of the content of any ad so submitted.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Gozy's Pizza Place will be open on **February 5, 2006-Superbowl Sunday.** Delivery will also be available within the City Limits.
SUNDAY SPECIAL:
Large 2 Topping \$7.99 or
XLarge 1 Topping \$10.99
W/Breadstix \$10.99
254-725-0000

FOR RENT

3BR/2B - Recent paint and carpet; nice front porch; \$425 a month; Call Karen at 254-725-4023 or 325-668-3604. ^{46-1tc}

WANTED

OLD CARS & TRUCKS - Classics; Any kind of scrap metal, Call 254-725-7671. ^{9tc}

REAL ESTATE

FURNISHED HOUSE FOR SALE - Metal roof, new siding, 117 S. Beech, 325-660-4877 or see Don Beeler. ^{46-1tp}

FOR SALE - Brick, 3BD/3B, 2 living areas, custom wood floors, on 6 acres, Hwy 36, 4 miles from Cross Plains; \$110,000 OBO, 325-370-0792. ^{45-2tp}

3BEDROOM, 2 BATH - Totally remodeled, new carpet, tile, cabinets, paint and central heating/cooling unit; 1 block from school; Financing Available; 325-201-0818 or 325-668-9325. ^{45-2tp}

TO BE MOVED - 1,359 sq.ft., 3BD/2B, \$37,500; 15 miles S. of Cross Plains; 325-784-6210. ^{43-4tc}

DUPLEX IN WINTERS, TX - Both sides, 2BD/1BA, CH/A, 1 car garage, \$55,000; Extra nice, located by High School football field; **BALLINGER, TX** - 2BD house needs repair; in good neighborhood; **SOLD**; located on 5th street; For more information, 903-675-4020; Financing Available. ^{43-4tp}

21.83 ACRES FOR SALE

(Located on CR 569 North of Cross Plains)

21.83 acres w/24 fruit bearing Pecan trees, cross-fenced in 3 pastures.

2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Mobile Home, completely redone, excellent condition. Covered with metal roof and covered front and back porches.

COMPLETELY FURNISHED!

Water well, septic system, Butane tank, NUMEROUS Out Buildings, Deer & Turkey with 3 Deer Feeders & Stands.

SEE TO APPRECIATE \$125,000.00

817-269-7746 817-944-7746

^{42-4tp}

FOR SALE

HONDO BOOTS- Handmade, wide toe; 14" and 16" tops, in red, green & yellow; \$64.99; Johnson's Dry Goods, Cross Plains, 254-725-6211. ^{45-1tc}

For Your Mary Kay Cosmetics or a FREE Facial Contact
Sue Taylor-Neal
Mary Kay Beauty Consultant
254-725-7532

HELP WANTED

CHILDCARE NEEDED- 3yr. old boy, 8-5:30 p.m. & 4yr. old boy, 2-5:30 p.m., M-F; All day for both in the summers; Call Vanda 254-725-6111 or 325-665-8481.

UNLIMITED BONUS POTENTIAL with above average base pay as Manager of Cross Plains DQ. Looking for friendly, customer service leader. Holiday and vacation pay. Smoke and drug free work environment. Drug test and background check required. Call District Manager, Nita Frazier 325-938-6329. ^{46-4tc}

FLEA MARKETS

LIBRARY FLEA MARKET, Open Saturday, 8-12; New batch of religious books, collection of phonograph records, tables, dishes, lots of knick-knacks to replace what you lost. ^{46-1tc}

HOPKINS' BITTER CREEK RANCH - Handcrafted furniture, metal art, & western gift items available at our booth at the Cross Plains Library Flea Market. ^{46-1tc}

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

28X52 MOBILE HOME- \$57,000; 3 bedroom, 2 bath; 30x40 shop on 3 acres; Hwy 36 west 3.3 miles, turn right on CR 441 approx. 3 miles; 254-725-6388. ^{46-4tp}

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE- Extra nice and clean; 1998 Fleetwood Doublewide, 1,100 sq.ft., Cathedral ceilings, ceiling fans; **3BD/2 Full Baths**; 1406 N. 6th Street, Merkel, TX; Call 325-692-0079. ^{43-1tc}

NOW OFFERING New homes at Repo prices starting at \$19,500 plus D.S. and AC, financing available; 325-677-9111 or 325-647-3713; License # RI 34968; Guaranteed to best anyone's price. ^{45-2tc}

3BR/2BA DOUBLEWIDE- Very nice; Call 940-648-3676 or 254-725-6407. ^{43-6tc}

2005 SINGLEWIDE FOR SALE- 16X56, 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home (like new) to be moved, located in the Putnam area, CH/A, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, includes blocks and tie downs, below cost, 903-530-7078. ^{44-3tc}

SOLITAIRE MODEL 484-80X28, 4BD/2 1/2B, 2 living areas, fireplace, country kitchen, walk-in closets; \$47,500; In Blackwell, TX; To be moved, Call 432-213-0389. ^{43-6tc}

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE - 432-354-2327. ^{43-4tc}

NEW - USED - REPO'S - 1-866-553-6070; No Down To Low Down; Fast Solutions For Housing NEEDS. ^{42-4tc}

CARD OF THANKS

To The Community Of Cross Plains:

Thank you to everyone who sent flowers, money, and prayers to help us through this trying time in our lives.

Thank you to anyone who helped her or just gave her a kind word, we will always be grateful to you.

Thank you again and May God Bless You.

The Family of Esther McCoy

CARD OF THANKS

Words cannot express our heartfelt gratitude for all the acts of kindness during the loss of our wife and mother. The calls, visits, flowers, food and all the hugs and words of comfort made this difficult time easier to bear.

We wish to especially thank the Baptist Church for their ministry of service of food to our family. Your generosity and willingness to serve are blessings to this community. We also extend a sincere thanks to the wonderfully gifted EMS volunteers who showed up and gave Mother the very best of care. We express a very personal thank you to Susan Schaefer for being there as soon as she was called and riding to the hospital with Mother to make her more comfortable.

Thank you to Bob and Dee Harrell and to Terry Simmons for making the service most comforting and encouraging. May God Bless each one of you for your kindness.

The Family of Alma King

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Ivon Sterling Odom wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude of honoring him with your presence at his service and every expression of comfort — the beautiful flowers and plants, the food, the calls, the cards, visits, any and every act that made it easier to bear.

Thank you to Bro. Ronnie White for the message, the beautiful songs, and the pallbearers (cousins and nephews). To Bob and Dee Harrell for the special kindness shown for the service.

Everything that was said to honor a beloved son and brother and uncle is truly cherished.

May God's richest blessings be on each one of you.

Joyce Tabor Odom
Virginia Ann, Nancy Jane
Trevey and Ralph
Palmer and Charles
David, Scott, Jennifer & Michael

CHILDCARE

Reasonable, Experienced, and Reliable Child Care in My Home. Off of FM 18 between Clyde & Baird. Newborn and up! After school care also available.

Clyde and Baird bus routes go by my house. Day, night, and weekends available. All day care or part time. Regular baby sitting also available.

Call **Jennifer Pearce**
325-721-8238 ^{45-1tp}

STRAYED

STRAYED- Rowden Area; 35 head sheep; Last seen Friday at Caddo Peak Ranch; Call 325-893-4244 or 254-725-6880 (leave message). ^{45-2tp}

MUSIC LESSONS

CADDO PEAK PIANO LESSONS- Prefer beginners. Call 254-725-6569 leave name and number. ^{9tc}

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^{43March}

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Email: rjestate@crossplains.com - Webpage: www.crossplains.com

ACREAGE WITH HOME:

NEW LISTING--10/A place at edge of town with 3BD/2B mobile home, Pecan trees, coastal, 14' X 32' shop bldg with electricity & water, goat fenced, Rising Star, Eastland County. \$45,000

NEW LISTING--80/A with small good condition home, 2BD/1B, frame, carport, 4 water wells, one pond, good set of cattle pens, good fences, on pavement. \$120,000

* 93.85/A with 2,624 sq. ft. Brick home, Central H/A, fireplace, wood stove, glassed in sun porch, large trees, on pavement, guest house, 3 barns, creek, new fences, pond, some Coastal, good hunting. Western Eastland Co. \$280,000.

NEW LISTING--100/A with 1996 model, 1300 sq. ft., 3BD/2B, mb home, pond, 9 water wells, barn, working pens, 2 storage bldgs., good fences, good hunting, 6 miles north of Cross Plains. \$160,000.

NEW LISTING--100/A, large Live oak, Oak, Pecan, stock pond, creek, good cattle pens, older farm home, shop bldg., 2 water wells, excellent hunting, very pretty. \$210,000

* 102.31/A with 3BD/2B, 2,495 sq. ft., brick home, 3 stock ponds, great hunting, deer, turkey, quail, barn, rural water, paved frontage, Oak, Pecan, & Mesquite trees, good fences, 6 miles south of Cross Plains. \$200,000

* 106/A beautiful horse ranch, with new horse barn, pens, fences, newly remodeled farm home, on pavement, close to town, coastal hay operation, 2 water wells, wildlife. Must See! Callahan County. \$325,000

NEW LISTING--107/A with 3 year old 1,700 sq.ft. **AUSTIN STONE 3BD/2BTH HOME**, CH/A, metal roof, surround porch, 30X50 metal shop bldg., good water well, Live Oak, Post Oak, large creek, deer, turkey, quail, very scenic. \$400,000

* 174/A, 2,075 sq. ft. nice farm home with geothermal CH/A, landscaped, 3 car detached garage, 80/A coastal Bermuda, 40/A Kline grass, large spring pond stocked with Crappie & Bass, peach orchard, large garden spot, scattered large Oaks, Pecan trees, good hunting, 3 water wells, 1/4 minerals, good fences, on pavement, Western Eastland County. \$290,000

NEW LISTING!!!! Beautiful 200/A with 3 single family residences, office, Indoor Arena with water misting dust control system, 9 stall horse barn, Tack Room, 22X30 shop, Utility/Storage Barn, 75X40 Storage Barn with restroom facilities, wash rack, dog kennel, 5 water wells, 6 septic systems, cross fenced, Coastal Bermuda Grass, wildlife food plot, 4 tanks, Great Hunting, Good 6 wire barbed wire fences, Post Oak, Live Oak, 7 miles East of Cross Plains. **ONLY \$995,000. MUST SEE!!!**

RESIDENTIAL:

NEW LISTING--Large Residential Home in Cross Plains in the Tom Bryant Addition. Trees. Prime Home Building Location. \$6,500.00

NEW LISTING--1BD/1B, fixer upper, in Cross Plains. \$6,500

NEW LISTING--3BD/2B rock, older home, large trees, 2 car detached garage, large carport, 15 peach trees, storm cellar, in Rising Star. \$22,000

NEW LISTING--3BD/1B, landscaped, metal roof, water well, large trees, large lot, paved street, in Cross Plains. \$48,000

NEW LISTING--3BD/2B, 1,512 sq. ft. Brick in new addition in Cross Plains, fenced back yard, landscaped, 8' X 12' storage bldg., new paint, good condition. \$73,000.

* 2BD/2B Brick, CH/A, on beautiful, well established 1/40 A lot, fireplace, patio, glassed porch, 2 car garage, utility room, carport, storage bldg., in new home area, in Cross Plains. \$112,000.

* Beautiful, large, residential lots. Lots of trees, great location.

* 3BD/2B frame, pier & beam, on paved street in Rising Star, lots of large Pecan trees, recent improvements. **REDUCED \$35,000**

* 3,224 sq.ft. 4BD/3B, 2 story brick, CH/A, 1800 sq. ft. bldg., good location in Cross Plains, \$65,000.

* 2BD/2B, Brick, Central H/A, large 2 car detached garage with storage, large Oak and Pecan trees, in Rising Star. **REDUCED \$57,500.**

* 4bd/3.5 bath, Brick 3,083 sq. ft. Formal dining room, fireplace, C H/A, landscaped, on 3 acres, 2 car garage, Nearly new and extremely nice, Cross Plains. \$195,000

* large residential lot in the Tom Bryant addition to Cross Plains, trees, prime home building location.

INCOME PROPERTY:

NEW LISTING--1BD/1B frame home with 2 efficiency apartments, 2 1 car garages, all electric, 2 lots, large trees, in Cross Plains, \$750/mo income. \$60,000. Owner Agent.

COMMERCIAL:

NEW LISTING--30 X 30 SHOP BUILDING, 2-10 X 12 roll up doors, one 10 X14 roll up door, and one walk in door, one 50 X 140 lot with 9 X 12 office bldg., concrete floor, (auto-lift negotiable) in Cross Plains, \$25,000.



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Lake Brownwood - Beautiful home site in gated community, short walk to lake	7,000
120 Angela Dr. - 3BR-2B, split level, in gated community, Lake Coleman, REDUCED	49,500
400 NW 5th St. - 3BR-2B beautifully updated Victorian home on 1.75 Ac., High ceilings, hardwood floors	85,000
316 Ave C - Nice brick 2BR-1B home to be finished on large corner lot	39,000
7 Ac. & Home - Beautiful 4BR-3 1/2 B home w/ scenic views & lots of extras	175,000
10 Ac. & Home - 3/2 nice MH secluded & quiet, lots of oaks, garden, N. of Cross Plains	55,800
10 Ac. - Highway frontage, water well, electricity, good home site, mostly open	20,000
18.5 Ac. - 3BR-1B quaint farm house on paved road with good underground water	99,500

HUNTING & RECREATIONAL PROPERTY

11 Ac.- Rolling homesite with limited hunting & seasonal creek. Cottonwood area	29,500
18 Ac. - Post oak, live oak, in Cross Plains	36,000
20 Ac. - South of Cross Plains, 6000 sq. ft. nice building sites	30,000
22 Ac. - Good hunting/cattle property, outbuildings, completely furnished 2BR/2B ready to move into	125,000
48 Ac. - Great location, good hunting, 1000 sq. ft. home, REDUCED	71,280
59 Ac. - County water well, scenic views, 1000 sq. ft. home	87,000
94 Ac. - Nice building site, 1000 sq. ft. home, 1000 sq. ft. turkey, quail, dove. May divide	169,200
97 Ac. - 5 tanks, post oak, hay bales, 1000 sq. ft. turkey, quail, dove, I-20 frontage	450,000
108 Ac. - 2 tanks & rough beauty, 1000 sq. ft. turkey, quail, dove, scenic views. Lots of natural beauty	157,325
125 Ac. - Excellent for cattle or hunting. Hwy/county road frontage, new fences, 1 tank, deer/bird hunting	118,750
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ACREAGE:
NEW LISTING--483/A: Rolling Mesquite pasture near Abilene. Three stock tanks, paved frontage with electricity and rural water. Good fences and grass. \$765/A. WILL DIVIDE!
ACREAGE WITH HOME:
NEW LISTING--2BR/2B, presently being remodeled, CH/CA recently installed, 15/A, m/l, all coastal, ten wire barbwire fence, 5 wells, 30x70 metal barn. Really nice place for horses, cattle, or goats. \$67,500.
NEW LISTING--16/A m/l with metal building. North end is drive thru garage approximately 16x24. South end is approximately 24x32 one half efficiency apartment other half shop. Could easily be converted to living area. Good well, septic tank. Near Cross Plains. \$50,000.
NEW LISTING--46/A with older house. 22/A cultivation, 24/A timber with big trees. Fenced, 2 water wells. Some outbuildings. House is livable. 2 mi. E. of Cross Plains with hwy 36 frontage. \$98,000.
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JAMES AND RUBY CLARK IN 1946.



60 YEARS TOGETHER—James and Ruby Clark

James and Ruby Clark to Celebrate 60th Anniversary

James and Ruby Clark of North Lake Brownwood will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary Saturday, February 11, 2006 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Cross Plains Church of Christ Activity Center on Hwy 36. Friends and family are invited to attend.

Their children hosting the party are Jimmy and Mary Clark of Anson, Robert and Patricia Becktold of Early, and Bobby and Judy Clark of Beeville.

The couple met at an early age in Cross Plains and married

February 3, 1946 in Wichita Falls. James was born July 27, 1927 in Santa Anna to Bill and Vera Clark.

Ruby was born October 11, 1928 in Judd to Wes and Daisy Holcomb.

After James retired from Holsom Bakery they moved from Clyde; their home of 30 years to Lake Brownwood.

They are members of the May Church of Christ.

They have six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Reggie Pillans Running for Republican Primary, Pct. 4 County Commissioner

Experience and Service

Last, but not least. I'm one of the three candidates running in the Republican Primary for Precinct 4 County Commissioner. I hope after reading this you will think I'm the best candidate for the job. I'm Reggie Pillans. Although not raised in Callahan County, I have roots that go back to 1860, when my great-grandfather, William Pillans homesteaded the Pillans Farm in the eastern part of Callahan county. My grandfather, Ben Pillans, taught school in the Atwell area, worked for the County Extension Agency and farmed. Ben and his wife, Nona, raised twelve kids on the Pillans Farm, my current home. My Grand Dad, Judge Lester Farmer, and his wife, Elmyra, raised seven kids in the western side of Callahan County. East met West, and along came me.

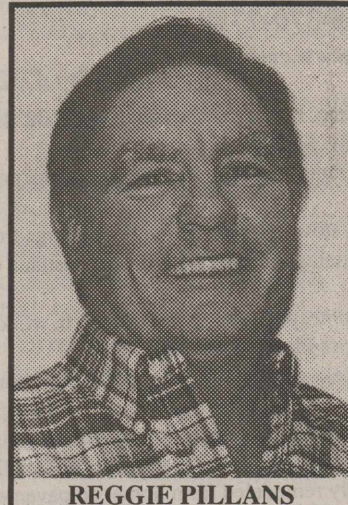
After leaving Abilene, where I was raised, I started a career with what was South Western Bell Telephone. After 32 years of service, I retired from Lucent Technologies. My wife, Suzi, and I built our retirement home on the Pillans Farm and moved to Callahan County.

One of the many jobs I did while working in the communications industry was Project Management. After becoming a Certified Project Manager I spent the last eight years overseeing the installation of equipment on Navy, Marine and Coast Guard bases on the East Coast. The bases were as small as one in the Shenandoah Mountains of West Virginia that talked with and tracked all the Navy submarines around the world. Or the largest of the Navy bases, Norfolk, Virginia, home to many nuclear submarines and aircraft carriers.

What does working on Military bases and Project Management have to do with Callahan County? **Experience!!** Working as a Project Manager allowed me to work with time lines, contractors, vendors, customers and budgets that ranged from \$250,000 to over \$3 million. My military projects came in at or below budget. All of this is exactly what you do as County Commissioner.

Time lines= road maintenance, equipment maintenance, building maintenance, and the up-coming renovation of the court house.

Contractors = working with contractors doing work for the



REGGIE PILLANS

county, installation of the new radio tower, removal of the old tower, contractors working on the court house, jail house, vehicle maintenance.

Vendors = road equipment, road material, sheriff's vehicle and supplies, court house supplies.

Customers = YOU, the county tax payer.

Budget = the county budget is over \$2.7 million, Precinct 4 is almost \$292,000. From small to large, I have worked with each size budget.

I have always served the community in which I have lived, it did not start after moving to Callahan County. After buying my first house in Watauga, Texas I joined the Volunteer Fire Department where I earned the position of Captain, EMT and Training officer. After moving to Hurst, Texas I served as Vice President of the High School Booster Club for 2 years. I was also appointed to the Hurst Parks and Recreation Board, a position I held for 8 years, until moving to Denver, Colorado. I have taught classes from Sunday school, to Zig Zigular "See You At The Top" to CPR. I currently Serve!! YOU on the following:

* President of Atwell Cemetery Association.

* Sunday School Director, First Baptist Church of Cross Plains.

* Vice President of Cross Plains ISD School Board.

* Chairman of Callahan County Historical Commission.

* Callahan County Agriculture Committee under the direction of County Agent, Robert Pritz.

I hope you think that the **EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE** I offer you and Callahan County will justify your vote for me on March the 7th.

Your candidate,
Reggie Pillans

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No, You're Not Losing Your Mind

In the last month, if you have found yourself wanting to yell at the children, growl at the cat, you are not alone. You may also have found that your loving little angelic children have suddenly turned into clinging hyperactive little monsters that cry at the slightest provocation, and are torturing you by refusing to ever sleep again. Your spouse isn't just avoiding the in-laws anymore, he or she may suddenly be avoiding everyone, like they have bad onion breath or Montezuma's Revenge.

You sleep all night, but wake up tired, but then can't go to sleep once you're back in bed. Finding yourself feeling restless, anxious, empty or like you just don't want to do anything. You begin to wonder, "What on earth is wrong with me?" Maybe you have even gone so far as asking yourself if you were losing your mind.

Let me assure you that in fact, no, you're not losing your mind. You are experiencing a common reaction to a very unpleasant situation called stress and grief reaction. Stress and grief reactions are very natural and normal responses to loss, not a sign of insanity or weakness. Stress and grief symptoms left unresolved however, can evolve into more severe difficulties, such as physical illness, social challenges, financial difficulties or emotional struggles.

In the last months, many have lost homes or watched those around them suffer great loss. Some have lost jobs and others have lost loved ones. Everyone in Cross Plains has lost something in one way or another. Whether you lost everything or something, or even nothing, you may still experience stress and grief, not only for yourself, but for others.

When you experience stress and grief it is not at all uncommon to have a deep sense of loss, causing you to feel empty, sad, angry, hopeless or a host of other feelings. What is experienced physically, emotionally, socially, mentally and financially will vary

from person to person. How each of us expresses our stress, and grief through our behavior may be different for each of us as well, but even more so for children.

There are many things resulting from the fire that you may not have any control over, such as how fast FEMA moves, how other people respond, and how quickly you can have some normalcy back in your life. There are however, two strong enemies in resolving your stress and grief, that you do have some control over.

The first of these is denial about your stress and grief. If you deny that you are experiencing any changes physically, emotionally, socially, mentally or financially, it makes it almost impossible to begin to work through your stress and grief. Before you can work through your stress and grief, you first have to acknowledge and accept that it is there. Failure to acknowledge, accept and work through stress and grief causes the stress and grief to evolve into a monster known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, or PTSD for short.

Many times military personnel who have seen much devastation while on duty develop PTSD because they are not always in a situation to resolve the stress and grief from what they see. They continue experiencing symptoms of stress and grief. The symptoms do not go away or reduce over time, but become worse, and as a result, they develop PTSD. So if the rough, tough Arnold Schwarzenegger of the military can develop PTSD, so can you.

Stress, grief and PTSD are no respecter of persons. Rich, poor, young, old, intelligent or challenged, weak or strong, all are vulnerable to it if the symptoms are ignored. With that said, lets all stop trying to be so tough or brave and admit that gosh, we might be experiencing some stress and grief and it might be affecting our life. (To be continued.)

Submitted by
Leatha S. Warden, LPC

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