

Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

75¢

Vol. 105 No. 45

January 16, 2014 • 14 Pages

116 E. S. 1st St. • P. O. Box 519 • Cross Plains, Tx. 76443 • 254-725-6111 • crossplainsreview@earthlink.net



"Meet the Author" Denzel Holmes signs autographs at the Cross Plains Library

"Meet the Author" on January 23rd with Denzel Holmes

The Cross Plains Public Library will host a "Meet the Author" on Thursday, January 23, at 7:00 p.m., in the library conference room, featuring western writer Denzel Holmes. Holmes was born and grew up in Sheffield, Texas, near the Pecos River. Electricity had not reached south to the family home in 1940, so he was born at 3am to the light of kerosene lamps. The rural upbringing influenced his desire to write Western in later years. Holmes graduated from Iraan High School and entered Texas Western College, now U.T. El Paso. Two years later he married his high school sweetheart, Margie Copeland of Iraan. They celebrated 53 years of marriage in 2013. They have two daughters who each have two sons.

Denzel re-entered college and graduated in Business Administration at Sul Ross State University, in Alpine, Texas in 1966 and embarked on a Federal career as an auditor.

He served the Government Accountability Office (GAO),

the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and retired in 1997 with the U.S. Department of Agriculture at Temple, TX. He immediately launched his writing career, a dream he had long held.

His first published novel *Texas Victory*, co-authored with Tom Schliesing in 2003, was an epic novel of the German immigration to Texas in the Hill Country. In 2009, *The Horse Thief and the Lady* was published by Trebleheart Books, Sundowner Division. Inspired by stories handed down by his great grandfather, Denzel penned a story of vengeance in Texas before, during and after the Civil War. *As Horse Thief* ends, the hero Mitt Stone is only twenty-one years old, way too young to leave on a shelf forever; so *Last Race Sunday* uses Mitt Stone and buddies to carry out a desperate manhunt in a setting seldom used in historical fiction: the early churches' struggle against the corrupting influence of racetracks and their inherent gambling. *Last Race* is based in the history of Belton, TX,

where Holmes now resides. He and his wife are active members of Belton's First Baptist Church - the same one depicted in the novel. In 2012, *Big Cypress* was released.

Early in 2013, Denzel self-published his fifth novel, *Concho*, where two men from different worlds converge on West Texas Concho River. Each has dreams that both conflict and blend. The myriad of outside dangers press both men to the breaking point. *Concho* outsold his flagship Western, *The Horse Thief and the Lady*, at its premier opening in Canton, TX, in December the first book to do so in five years.

Denzel and Margie travel in a radius around Belton presenting and selling his books. He says he would not be in this business if he did not have his right hand, Margie, to do most of the work, leaving him time to write.

Mark your calendars to join us. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served. Holmes will be available to autograph his books. —

submitted by Michelle Kaiser

FISH FRY THIS FRIDAY JAN 17 AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

The Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Group will hold their 6th Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser this Friday, January 17th at the First United Methodist Church in Cross Plains. Dinner will be served from 5 until 7 pm, and take outs are available.

Onion rings were such a hit at last year's Fish Fry that they are back on the menu this year along with fried catfish (or chicken), French fries, beans, coleslaw, hushpuppies, iced tea and dessert — all for \$7.00.

The meal will be cooked by Cottonwoods firefighters.

Proceeds from the dinner will go toward the maintenance and repair of the firetrucks and to purchase insurance and gasoline for the trucks. Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control is supported solely by donations. It is with your help that the trucks keep running.

Tickets for the Pressure Washer will be available at the dinner and the drawing will be held later in the evening. Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control 25th Anniversary books will also be available. The books are \$15.00 each.

First Baptist Church Clothes Closet

Notice: As of February 1st the First Baptist Church Clothes Closet (Kingdom's Door) will now be open EVERY Saturday — 1:00-4:00 p.m.. It is located in the second barracks building near the playground.

We have items for the whole family - at no charge- and are anxious to reach out to everyone. Our church members have brought in more items than we can store at this time. So, please come by and find something that you can enjoy wearing.

Cross Plains American Legion Post #423 Welcomes New Members

The Cross Plains American Legion Post #423 has experienced a recent growth in membership and would like to encourage all local and area Veterans to join their organization. The group meets the last Thursday of each month

at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on N.E. 1st Street and Beech Street in Cross Plains.

Wives of veterans are welcome to attend and a meal is served at each meeting.

All veterans are cordially invited to attend.

"Pack the Gym" Scheduled for January 24th

The Cross Plains High School junior class is hosting a "Pack the Gym" night to benefit the family of Billy Bell. All gate proceeds collected during the Lady Buffs and Buffaloes games versus May will help defray expenses. In conjunction with the admission proceeds, a cake auction is to be held during halftime of the varsity girls and varsity boys

games, and a "goodie table," located in the gym foyer, will be filled with scrumptious, delectable baked goods for sale. Please mark this important event on your calendars, come out and support the local basketball teams, and contribute to this worthy cause. The junior class and Cross Plains ISD thank you for your support.

Resource Care appoints Dr. Billy Carpenter as medical director

Resource Care, with health care clinics in five Big Country communities, has announced the appointment of Dr. Billy Carpenter as the new medical director for the federally qualified health clinics.

Dr. Carpenter, a graduate of A.T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, Missouri, has been practicing medicine for some 23 years, including several years in San Saba.

A graduate of Rising Star High School, Dr. Carpenter is the son of longtime Rising Star Doctor Billy T. Carpenter. According to the son, his father recently retired as Rising Star's doctor at the age of 82.

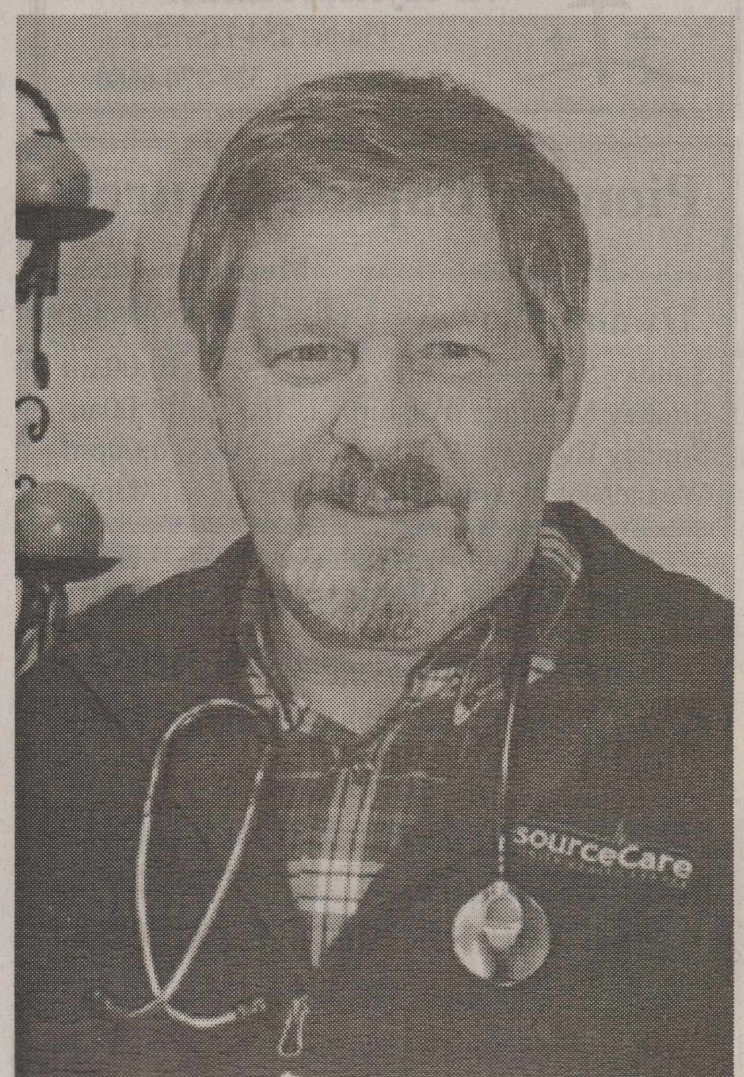
Along with being medical director for the five rural health care clinics, Dr. Carpenter will also be accepting patients at the Resource Care-Clyde clinic.

As medical director for the five health care clinics, Dr. Carpenter will oversee all the doctors, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners associated with all the area clinics. He will oversee all medical questions brought before the five clinics.

Dr. Carpenter said that although appointments are recommended at the Clyde clinic, he said because they're a family practice clinic, they will see walk-in patients when someone becomes ill. He said charges are based upon the patients income level.

The Clyde Resource Care clinic is open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. The Clyde clinic, located at 1712 North Access Road in Clyde, can be reached by calling 893-4010.

According to Resource Care CEO Dustin Hawk, the five clinics have some four doctors employed at all the clinics in the five communities of Clyde, Baird, Cross Plains, Breckenridge and Albany. He said Resource Care is currently working with an Abilene hospital to open another health care clinic in Abilene



DR. BILLY CARPENTER
...new medical director for Resource Care clinics

by midsummer 2014.

The non-profit health care clinic was originally started in 1995 in Albany by Albany resident Susan Jones. He said Resource Care opened its first medical clinic in 2006 in Breckenridge.

The company CEO said the company employs some 100 full-time and 30 part-time employees. Along with the five medical clinics, Hawk said Clyde, Albany and Breckenridge clinics also have dental clinics.

According to Hawk, the Resource Care-Clyde clinic saw some 8,000 patients at the Clyde facility in 2013. "We're seeing about 700 patients a month," Hawk said. He said system-wide, the five clinics made appoint-

ments for some 40,000 patients in 2013.

The company CEO said the dental clinic at Clyde has grown since opening late in 2013. He said Dr. Randall Carlton is dental director for the three area dental clinics. He said the company now employs some four dentists at the three dental clinics.

Resource Care is overseen by a board of directors from the communities they serve. There are currently some 10 board members, including Nicki Harle of Baird, Erica Stallings of Clyde, and Jan Windham of Baird. Hawk said all the board members volunteer their time to the health care clinics.

Gospel Singing at the Carbon Christ Center

The public is invited to attend a Gospel singing gathering at the Carbon Christ Center in Carbon, TX. Please come in and help to sing praises at our non-denominational church. The hours will be from 9-5 Saturday, January 18, 2014.



Welcome Bags for New Community Members

The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce now has welcome bags for new community members. You can pick up a bag at the Chamber office, 225 SW 5th St., or City Hall 201 SE Main St. This bag is for new members of the community to help inform them of business in and around the community. If you would like to have a brochure or business card in the welcome bags please drop them off at the Chamber office. Chamber office phone 2540725-7251.

Texas Heritage Bank

"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

Member FDIC

Presents: "What's Inside"

Birthdays	14
Buffalo Pride	5
Classifieds	6&7
Cottonwood News	3
Courthouse News	3
Crossword Puzzle	12
Forage Seminar	9
Honor Roll	4
Hornets Nest	9
Love Fund	2
Obituary	2
TX Dept of Health	3

TO ALL OUR VALUED READERS

The Cross Plains Review is now under new management. Our staff, Gil and Becky Tabor, Marilou Sifuentes and Lyn Walker, pledge to give you great service and produce the BEST and most COMPLETE newspaper possible.

Keep Reading,
Don Tabor, Publisher

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79408

Southwest
Texas Tech University
PO BOX 41041
Lubbock TX 79409-1041

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Choose The Church of
Your Choice
A Church For ALL
God's People

Triple Cross Cowboy Church

Every Sunday at 10:30 am
Services held at 18071 CR 421, Cross Plains
(1/2 mile North of Cross Plains city limits on Hwy 206)



Al Taylor, Preacher

Phone: 254-725-7522
Cell Phone: 325-370-6680

Pioneer Baptist Church

Pastor: Dwaine Clowers
Music Director: Barbara Jo Medley

Sunday School.....10:00am
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00am
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00pm
Wednesday Prayer Service.....7:00pm

Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Restoring And Equipping The Saints

Sunday....10:00 am Wednesday....7:00 pm

Pastor Max Evans

For Information Call (254) 725-7418

Rowden Baptist Church

Pastor: Wayne Lenz
Music: Karen Lenz & Diane Woods

Bible Study...10:00 am

Sunday Morning Worship...11:00 am

2990 Highway 36 at Rowden 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School9:45 AM
Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Ministry Activities

Youth Meet at Pool House.....6:30PM

Thomas Estes, Pastor

Gregg Steidle, Youth Pastor

Friendly Church Church (254) 725-6266 Bible Teaching

First Presbyterian Church

Sunday Service 9:00 AM

Music- Connie Swift

Lead Singers: 4His Glory

Pastor Kathy Monroe

208 N. Ave. D

CROSS PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST

433 North Main Street
Cross Plains, Texas 76443

Minister: RICK AUSTIN

SUNDAY:

Morning Worship: 10:45 A.M.

Bible Class: 9:45 A.M.

Evening Worship: 6:00P.M.

Wednesday: Evening: 7:00P.M.

Ladies Class - Wednesday:

10:00A.M. (at the church activity center on East Hwy 36)

Office: (254-725-6117)

Cell Phone: Rick - (918) 348-6859

OBITUARY

Dana Lee McDade

Dana Lee McDade, age 75 of Cross Plains, passed away Tuesday, January 7, 2014 in Abilene.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 11th at the First Baptist Church in Cross Plains with Pastor Ronnie White officiating; burial followed in the McDade Private Cemetery.

Dana was born in Ottwell, Indiana on November 2, 1938 to Leon and Violet (Chatham) McDade. He married Frances L. Ollman on January 7, 1956. She preceded him in death on March 4, 2012.

He is survived by his daughter, Darlena Carter and husband Rick of Jasper, TN; two sons, Denny McDade and Cindy of Abilene and Gregory McDade and wife Corine of Abilene; sisters, Cheryl Bentle and husband Mike of Lawrenceburg, Indiana and Sue Greves and husband Kenny of Fort Myers, Florida; several grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Higginbotham Funeral Home

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW (USPS 138-660)

DON TABOR PUBLISHER
BECKY TABOR EDITOR
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

MEMBER 2014

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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CROSS PLAINS GARDEN CLUB

DIANA MILLER

Thank you Lord for showering us with your blessed rain!

The Cross Plains Garden Club met at the home of Mary Ella Weaver on Friday January 10, 2014 for their annual bird watching event. Members present were Mary Dean, Carlene Howard, Billie Kelly, Diana Miller, Sarah Stone and Mary Ella Weaver. Guess, Norma Farmer and Deña Nickerson were also present.

A delicious meal followed the opening prayer. Mary Ella served her tasty King Ranch casserole accompanied by salad and dessert. The birds, including cardinals, chickadees, finches, and tufted titmouse provided the entertainment. The hawks were unseen but Mary Ella reported occasional sightings.

A regular business meeting ensued including a recap of the balance of the fiscal's years programs: February will include assembling gift bags for the Rising Star Nursing Home, March will include the after school program at the Cross Plains Library on March 5th

which will entail show and tell and helping the children plant their own gladiola containers. The month of April is slated for the Cross Plains Garden Club's annual plant sale. We will conclude the fiscal year in May with a tour of Larry Kilgo's garden.

In addition to reminding our Cross Plains high school seniors that the Garden Club offers a \$500.00 scholarship to a qualifying Cross Plains high school student we do want to mention again that our annual plant sale is coming up in April. We are collecting plastic potting containers now in preparation for that event.

Please let us know if you have potting materials available. Our next meeting is schedule for Friday, February 14, 2014 in the Mozelle Richardson Room of the Texas Heritage Bank at 1:00 p.m. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Please contact us at (254) 725-9418, or look for our postings on facebook at Cross Plains Garden Club.

ADVERTISE IN THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

LOVE FUND

A love fund has been set up at Texas Heritage Bank In Memory of Ricky Smith to help the family with expenses. Ricky is the son of Ileen Smith and the father of Holly Smith both of Cross Plains.

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Love Fund

There is a Love Fund set up for the family of Billy Bell at the Texas Heritage Bank

First United Methodist Church

Kevin Morton, Pastor

Office 725-7377
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Parsonage 325-624-5634
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

1000 North Main Street
www.gbmg-umc.org/crossplains/

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

A Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cross Plains Independent School District will be held on **January 15**, beginning at **8:00 p.m.** in the Board Room. The subjects to be discussed or considered upon which any formal action may be taken are as follows:

REGULAR MEETING
January 15, 2014 (8:00 p.m.)

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- Open Forum
 - Recognize Elementary Students of the Month
 - Public Hearing in Order to Discuss AEIS Accountability Results
- New Business
 - Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings
 - Review Bills/Finance Report
 - Approve 2012-13 Safe and Effective Schools Performance Report.
 - Consider Bids Concerning Renovations on Track (if necessary)
- Personnel
 - Perform Superintendent's Appraisal

B. Consider Superintendent's Contract Extension

4. Superintendent's Report
A. School Board Election Calendar

B. Personnel Needs for 2014-15

C. Hs Principal and Boys Coordinator/Athletic Director Contract-Feb. Meeting

5. Adjourn

If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will convene in such closed meeting in accordance with the Open Meeting Act, Chapter 551, Government Code. Before any such meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting.

This notice was posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act on **January 10, 2014 at 3:00 pm**

Submitted by
Phil Mitchell

For the Board of Trustees

Thank a School Board member

January is School Board Recognition Month, and Cross Plains ISD would like to thank these community volunteers for their commitment and contributions to our public schools.

"School Board Members serve countless hours working to make public education the best it can be for every child," said Superintendent Phil Mitchell. "They develop policies and make tough decisions on complex educational and social issues that affect the entire community and the lives of indi-

vidual students."

The Cross Plains ISD School Board includes the following:

Tommy Ames—President; Michael Cowan—Vice-President; Bryan Bennett—Secretary; Davy Crockett—Asst. Secretary; John McWilliams—member; Jack Shepard—member; Roy Richey—member.

Please join us as we applaud these local leaders for truly caring about our students and our school.

Cross Plains School Menu
January 20-24

BREAKFAST

Monday-Oatmeal, Blueberry Muffin, Fruit or Juice, Milk

Tuesday - Chicken-n-Biscuit w/syrup, Fruit or Juice, Milk

WEDNESDAY- Pancake/ Sausage on a stick, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Fruit or Juice

THURSDAY - Sunrise Sandwich, Fruit or Juice, Milk

Friday -Oatmeal Round, Yogurt, Fruit or Juice, Milk

LUNCH

Monday -Corn Dog, Baked Beans, Tomato&Cucumber, Apple-Pineapple D'lite, Milk

TUESDAY- Beefy Queso, Refried Beans, Garden Salad, Orange Smiles, Milk

WEDNESDAY- Chicken Sandwich, Oven Fries, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruity Gelatin, Milk

THURSDAY- Chicken Nuggets w/gravy, GardenSalad, Baby Carrots, Fresh Grapes, Breadstick, Milk

FRIDAY-Pizza Choice, Crunchy Broccoli Salad, Seasoned Corn, Fresh Fruit bowl, Milk

Cross Plains Review Deadlines

Ads Noon on Tuesday
Articles Noon on Monday

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE

CALL
254-725-6111



116 S.E. 1ST
CROSS PLAINS,
TEXAS

Love Fund

Has been established at Texas Heritage Bank
For
Owen Turner
son of Joseph and Allison Turner and grandson of Greg and Dannes Turner

First Baptist Church

Sunday Morning 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School
9:30

Wednesday

6:30 pm Prayer/Worship

Student & Children Ministries 6:30 p.m.

Ronnie B. White, Pastor

Tim Tolosa, Worship/Discipleship
Jared Huntley/Students

(254) 725-7629 301 N. Main, Cross Plains, TX
76443
www.firstbaptistcp.com

COTTONWOOD NEWS

BY BEVERLY BROWN

The Fish Fry is this Friday, January 17th at the First United Methodist Church in Cross Plains. This is the 6th year for the Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Group to hold a fish fry.

On the menu is a meal of Fried catfish or chicken, onion rings, French fries, hushpuppies, beans and coleslaw, along with iced tea and dessert. All for only \$7.00. To go dinners are available. Serving begins at 5 p.m. and lasts until about 7 p.m. Come and have a great dinner and visit with your friends and neighbors and local firefighters and their families.

The proceeds from the Fish Fry go toward the repair and maintenance of the firetrucks and keep the trucks filled with gas and running and ready for service when needed. The Fire Control Group is supported by donations and fundraisers only.

The date of the Fish Fry, January 17th, coincides with the Callahan County Livestock

Show, which many local kids participate in. If you are out at the stock show, be sure to stop by the Fish Fry for dinner.

This past weekend Mrs. Randall (Kathy) Franke of Hamby and Mrs. Curtis (Dena Jo) Hines of Weatherford spent the weekend with Mrs. Dena Nickerson.

Correction from last week, as some of the names were left out: Family members visiting in the homes of Dena Nickerson and Bill and Annette Nickerson over the holidays were Dena Jo and Curtis Hines, Jeffrey and Trina Hines and family, all of Weatherford, Julie and Dustin Hoffman and Allie of Abilene, Kathy and Randall Franke of Hamby, Kelly Dobson and Jadon of Abilene, Jeremy Franke and Whitney Windham and Jewel of Abilene. Connie Potter, Gerald and Ricky Jo Brown and boys, Portious and Kara Potter and children, Kevin and Jessica Nickerson and

families, Willie and Jenny Nickerson and family; all of Cross Plains, Mary Jo and Joseph Pennington and children of South Lake and Mary Ella Weaver of Cottonwood.

You have a few days left to bid on the beautiful blue star quilt that the Cottonwood Quilting Club made and donated for the West Texas Rehab Auction. The quilt is 78"x86" and has blue stars on a bed of white surrounded by varying shades of blue. Go to rehabilitation.org and look under quilts for item number 900 to see a full color photo and place a bid. The auction ends on January 18, 2014.

Remember, the burn ban is still off. But, please exercise caution if you plan to burn. Let the Sheriff's Office and your local fire chief know before you light the match. Here in Cottonwood, call Fire Chief Joe Terstegge at 254-725-7281, and the Sheriff's Office at 325-854-1444.

LIBRARY NOTES

Library Hours

Monday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Tuesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
CLOSED FRIDAY

January 6-9

Patrons	86
Books Checked	87
Programs	15
Copies	225
Internet WiFi	37
Interlibrary Loans	0
Reference	3
	18

Donations

Bob and Lavonne Childress
Jack and Barbara Baum

Living Tributes

Wilma Lawrence
In Honor of Jean Alexander

Wilma Lawrence
In Honor of the Cross Plains
Library Board of Directors and
Staff

Book and Miscellaneous

Donations
Lois Ofe

Volunteers

Azalee Womack
Polly Beeler
Sue Bennett
Beverly Ross
Lavonne Childress
Ginny Hoskins

Courthouse News

Callahan County Court
Roger Corn, presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

Melvin Settlemyre, criminal trespass.
Brandi Settlemyre, criminal trespass.
Sheila S. Garcia, theft by check.
David Michael McClure III, theft by check.
Jeffrey D. Cryer, driving while intoxicated (DWI).
Michael B. Bradford, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz.
Kevin M. Pickens, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz.
Paul A. Ochoa, DWI.
Jaime Ranae Sansom, theft by check.
Andrea M. Coolman, possession of a dangerous drug.
Jacquilyn Crawford, assault causing bodily injury / family violence.

Misdemeanor Minutes

Wendell Andrews, end of term order discharging defendant under deferred adjudication.
Oscar B. Salmeron, end of term order discharging defendant under misdemeanor probation.

42nd District Court
John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filings

Courtney Ann Woodson and Dawson Ford Woodson, divorce.
Larry Joseph Paus, petition to change the name of an adult.
Sharon Terrell and Cory Todd Terrell, divorce.

Civil Minutes

Kay Cee Daughtry and Andy Daughtry, divorce granted.

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

January 13-17

Monday - Hamburger Steak/
gravy/Potatoes/Carrots/Bread/
Dessert/Drink

Tuesday -Steak Fingers w/
gravy/Potatoes/Peas and Carrots/
Bread/Dessert/Drink

Wednesday- Taco Salad/
Spanish Rice/Pinto Beans/
Chips/Birthday Cake/Drink

Thursday - King Ranch
Chicken/Lett/Tom Salad/Corn/
Bread/Dessert/Drink

FRIDAY - Chili Dogs/
(onions, cheese)/Oven Fries/
Jello/Cookies/Drink

MEAL IS SERVED - 11:45
A.M. - 12:30 P.M

Senior Citizens Center Activities

January 20-24

Monday, 20th - Exercise 11:00

Tuesday, 21st - Game Night Exercise 11:00
Door Prizes sponsored By Care, Inc.

Wednesday, 22nd - Exercise 11:00/*Blood
Pressure Check/Girling Home Health*

Thursday, 23rd - Exercise 11:00/Bingo 11:15

Friday, 24th - Exercise 11:00



Community Members for Promoting Cross Plains Luncheon

The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring a Luncheon for discussion forum on ideas to help promote the City of Cross Plains.

When: Thursday January 23rd,
2014

Where: Jean's Feedbarn
Time: Lunch 12pm - 1pm, Your
Dutch Treat. Please call ahead
to order.

Please select one
representative from your

community group, or business.
Open to community individuals
also.

Build Up Our Current Business
Base

Recruit New Businesses
Recruit Events
Committees
Beautification
Recruit Individuals
Housing

Bring your idea's of what you
would like to see utilized in our
community!

27TH ANNUAL "TET" REUNION HONORING "ALL VETERANS"

There will be a "TET" Reunion honoring all veterans on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at the Taylor County Fairgrounds in the Display Building located in Abilene, Texas at 12:00 (noon). There will be food, drinks, displays, and a USO Show. All veterans and their families are welcome to attend. Bring "In Country" Memorabilia. For more information call: 325-690-0750, 325-672-4003, or 325-676-2291. Please mark your calendars and attend.

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Fake Utility Bills

Numerous area homeowners are also getting PG&E ENERGY STATEMENTS via email. These statements appear to be current Electric and Gas charges. PG&E (Pacific Gas and Electric) is a California based utility and it is highly doubtful anyone locally would owe them for their gas bill.

These fake bills are the latest in Phishing attempts. These types of emails may contain a virus or try to get you to click on an embedded malware link that will infect your computer. Cybersecurity is a must for everyone. For more information to combat phishing go to: stophink-connect.org

To get your name on the Birthday Column, send your name and date of birth to *The Cross Plains Review*, P.O. Box 519, Cross Plains, Texas 76443, There is no charge for this service. To delete a name due to death or other reasons send name and birth date (Month and Day) or Call 254-725-6111

Financial Aid Workshop for Cross Plains High School

There will be a FASFA workshop at the Cross Plains High School Technology Room on Wednesday, January 29th at 7:30 PM. This workshop is very important for all parents of high school seniors students that are interested in getting financial aid and scholarship money for their kids. This workshop will be presented by Cross Plains High School Principle, Diana Dobbins and Cross Plains K-12 Counselor, Debbie Mitchell. Both will share their knowledge about getting financial aid for students. This workshop is only for the parents of Cross Plains High School senior students. Students are welcome and encouraged to attend with their parents. The FASFA must be filled out for all students planning on attending any college, university, or trade school. Remember it is the information on the FASFA that is used to help students become eligible for financial aid and scholarships. It is already time to begin filling out the FASFA, and

this is the only informational workshop to be given in Cross Plains. This form is difficult to fill out, so don't miss this wonderful opportunity to get helpful information and forms!

If you miss this workshop opportunity in Cross Plains, Howard Payne University will offer two additional financial aid seminars. The first is on January 30th and the second is on February 6th. Both will begin at 6:30 PM at the Paul and Jane Meyer Faith and Life Leadership Center.

You may contact PJ Gramling at 325-649-8406 for more information on the Howard Payne Seminars.

Please make plans to attend the January 29th workshop here in Cross Plains if you have a graduating senior and bring them with you. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please call Cross Plains High School Counselor Debbie Mitchell at 254-725-6121.

THANK
YOU
GOD
FOR
YOUR
RAIN!

Cottonwood Country Musical will be January 24th

The Cottonwood Country Musical will be held on Friday, January 24th at the Cottonwood Community Center.

Chili, beans, sandwiches, and desserts will be served in the kitchen.

Serving starts at 5 p.m. and the music starts at 5:30 p.m.

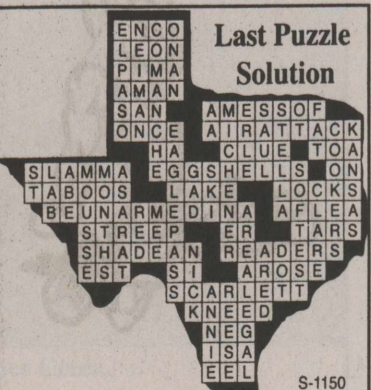
Come to Cottonwood, Texas and enjoy great music and good food!

Mark your calendars for Friday, January 24th. See you there!

Weight Warriors

We are a group of great people looking to lose it — weight— that is! Some of us have been on this journey for awhile now— others have just hopped on. Either way, this group is here to support, share, inform, motivate, and work through whatever challenges and successes come our way. So if you want good group support, some laughs, good friendship, and yes— to lose it, come join us. All you need to be is a great person with a desire to lose weight to join us regularly. This is how we share our experience in this battle we call weight loss.

We meet every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at First Methodist Church. There is no charge to join us — just bring a non perishable donation to the local food pantry. This way as we lose, we are helping others.



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Cross Plains Junior High and High School "A" Honor Roll 3rd - 6 Weeks

7th Grade

Jacy Bien
Gage Connelly
Hannah Crockett
Hanna Fortune
Kenzie Kleiber
Brian Morales
Trenton Potter
Jackilann Shepard
Kyler Stout

8th Grade

Joe Alexander
Hannah Blaine
Joseph Crockett
Creed Goode
James MCMillian
Katy Morgan
Kaiden Petree
Riley Potter
Kayla Stoudemire
Larson Walker
Shana Yates

9th Grade

Mackenzie Byrd
Hannah Cowan
Grace Goode
Loralei Woodard

10th Grade

Kelli Bennett
Rebekah Crockett
Teagan Fortune
Zachary Gartman
Shelby McWilliams
Billy Woodard

11th Grade

Natalie Anderson
Taryn Estes
Brenna Kleiber
Morgan Manley
Stephen Saltus
Allanta Wheeler

12th Grade

Michael Carpenter
Nicole Eisenbach
Tyler Henderson
Bridgette Mayfield
Kristin Wright
Justin Willis



Cross Plains Junior High and High School "A-B" Honor Roll 3rd- 6 Weeks

7th Grade

Ashley Anderson
Paxton Byrd
Shiloh Dodge
Samuel Guerrero
Kayden Oskins
Brice Petree
Tripp Thomas
Madison Wright-Fuller

8th Grade

Chloe Alford
Morgan Armer
Eddie Calvagna
Harley Dodge
Dobbs McWilliams
Caleb Partin
James Rhyne
Aaron Willis
Dakota Willis

9th Grade

Nain Martinez
Ashton Parker
Logan Phillips
Holden Sinclair
Brandon Waggoner
Piper Winfrey
Kersey Wyatt

10th Grade

Colton Bradley
Ashley Fulcher
Kenzie Halsel
Brayden Kennedy
Rylan Laminack
Evelyn Morales
Billie Pointer
Kaitlyn Potter
Inez Salazar
Phoenix Sanders
Chance Thompson
Shyler Tillery
Justin Whiteley
Tyler Wright
Seth Wyatt

11th Grade

Bronc Dillard
Megan France
Kaitlyn Koettel
Jurnee Thomas

12th Grade

Clifton Blaine
Cutter Halsel
Jaden Kennedy
Colton McWilliams
Tristen Stephenson
Emily Thying



Cross Plains Junior High and High School "A" Honor Roll 1st Semester

7th Grade

Jacy Bien
Hannah Crockett
Hanna Fortune
Kenzie Kleiber
Brian Morales
Trenton Potter
Jackilann Shepard
Kyler Stout

8th Grade

Joe Alexander
Joseph Crockett
Creed Goode
James MCMillian
Katy Morgan
Kayla Stoudemire
Larson Walker

9th Grade

Mackenzie Byrd
Hannah Cowan
Grace Goode

10th Grade

Kelli Bennett
Rebekah Crockett
Teagan Fortune
Ashley Fulcher
Zachary Gartman

12th Grade

Michael Carpenter
Nicole Eisenbach
Tyler Henderson
Bridgette Mayfield
Tristen Stephenson
Justin Willis
Kristin Wright

11th Grade

Natalie Anderson
Taryn Estes
Brenna Kleiber
Morgan Manley
Stephen Saltus
Allanta Wheeler



Cross Plains Junior High and High School "A-B" Honor Roll 1st Semester

7th Grade

Ashley Anderson
Paxton Byrd
Gage Connelly
Mallory McCreedy
Kayden Oskins
Brice Petree
Madison Wright-Fuller

8th Grade

Hannah Blaine
Eddie Calvagna
Harley Dodge
Kaiden Petree
Riley Potter
Dakota Willis
Shana Yates

9th Grade

Sean Armer
Cheyenne Hass
Nain Martinez
Alexis Mauricio
Ashton Parker
Logan Phillips
Holden Senclair
Brandon Waggoner
Piper Winfrey
Loralei Woodard
Kersey Wyatt

10th Grade

Colton Bradley
McKenzie Halsel
Brayden Kennedy
Rylan Laminack
Shelby McWilliams
Evelyn Morales
Billie Pointer
Kaitlyn Potter
Phoenix Sanders
Charles Thompson
Shyler Tillery
Justin Whiteley
Seth Wyatt

11th Grade

Bronc Dillard
Megan France
Kelbi Hyles
Tucker Isball
Kaitlyn Koettel
Kiefer Steinle
Jurnee Thomas

12th Grade

Lindsey Ames
Cutter Halsel
Jaden Kennedy
Colton McWilliams
Emily Thying



Cross Plains Lady Buffaloes ranked twenty-first in Class A Division II

The Cross Plains High School Lady Buffaloes basketball team is ranked twentieth in the state of Texas in Class A Division II, according to the latest Texas Association of Basketball Coaches basketball poll.

The TABC poll, released Monday, January 13th includes:

- Class 1A Division 2
- 1. Lipan (24-1)
- 2. Roscoe Highland (15-2)
- 3. Nazareth (23-1)
- 4. Follett (18-1)
- 5. Garden City (20-1)
- 6. Menard (18-3)
- 7. Frost (16-2)
- 8. Eula (19-4)
- 9. Calvert (16-0)
- 10. Round Top-Carmine (10-1)
- 11. Chireno (19-5)
- 12. Miami (15-4)
- 13. Rochelle (17-4)
- 14. Campbell (18-3)
- 15. Baird (16-3)
- 16. Morgan (15-2)
- 17. Valley (13-3)
- 18. Grady (12-6)
- 19. Leggett (14-4)
- 20. Leakey (14-5)
- 21. Cross Plains (12-4)
- 22. Rankin (17-5)
- 23. Strawn (15-7)
- 24. Paducah (13-5)
- 25. Newcastle (12-3)



Congratulations to Local Students for Your Hard Work and Dedication

Early Dismissal for Livestock Show

***Thursday, January 16, 2014— Early out at 1:00 P.M.**

Buses will run at 1:10 P.M.

***Friday, January 17, 2014— Student and Staff Holiday for the Callahan County Livestock Show.**

***Classes will resume on Monday, January 20th at regular time.**

Cross Plains Elementary "AB" Honor Roll 3rd 6 Weeks

1st Grade

Peyton Gilliam
Elizabeth Haviland
Barrett Nickerson

2nd Grade

Coltyn Barron
Kodie Blaine
Jaeden Box
Harmony Goble
Jolie Hutton
Shyla Lewis
Addison Long
Cadence Nickerson
Alex Parker
Jayden Shank
Kenzie Snell
Brenda Willis
Dusty Wyatt

3rd Grade

Elijah Blaine
Livia Busby
Kalie Jennings
Tanner Mackey
Logan McDaniel
Lupita Morales
Kody Reyes

4th Grade

Beau Barker
Kashlyn McClure-Hunter
Autum Nickerson
Haylee Nickerson
Alaina Potter
Ashton Powell
Johnatha Wheeler

5th Grade

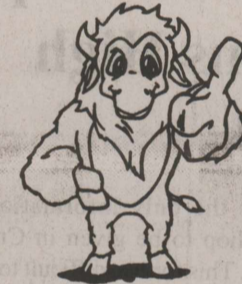
Evan Blaine
Caley Box
River Bradley
Wade Byrd
Madison Foster
Jordan Hampton
Sam Horan
Chelsea Gartman
Hayley Hughes
Braylan Laminack
Jake McMillan
Cody McWilliams
Kolby McKinney
Strait Oskins
Roby Odom
Brady Potter
Austin Rankin
Jody Traweck
Abigail Wheeler

6th Grade

Angel Mangrum
Destinee Cooper
Nathan Hernandez
Keegan King
Kyler King
Katelynn Parker
Corey Proctor
Logan Proctor
Trent Tollet
Lexie Thompson
Heather Yates

Cross Plains I.S.D. To Review 2013 AEIS Report

Cross Plains I.S.D. will conduct a public hearing at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2014, at 8:00 pm in the High School Board Room at Cross Plains School. The purpose of the hearing is to discuss the Excellence Indicator System (AEIS), which is published by the Texas Education Agency. The AEIS gives information such as TAKS results an attendance/dropout rates. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.



Cross Plains Elementary "A" Honor Roll 3rd 6 Weeks

1st Grade

Graydon Albrecht
Kadie Carouth
Stryker Dillard
Katelyn Gregory
Rhianna Lee
Nathan Lee
Ryan Merryman
Barrett Nickerson
Kade Purvis
Ryder Reed
Katie Sutton
Mackey Taff
Mattie Worley

2nd Grade

Theron Albrecht
Abigail Mauricio
Nathan Sandoval
Grace West
Able Wheeler

3rd Grade

Zane Fleming
Teresta Hass-Barnett
Hannah McKinney
David Mendieta, Jr.
Gus Nickerson
Sarah Sanchez
Jocelyn Smoot
Ryan Reed
Hailey Mauricio
Abbigale Shepard

4th Grade

Kiley Morgan
Callie Sutton
Addison Webb

5th Grade

Amber Fidler
Lanye Ellis
Madilynn Shepard

6th Grade

Macee Steigleder

Buffaloes split with May and Panther Creek

The Cross Plains Boy's Basketball team traveled to May, Tuesday, January 3rd to open district against the district favorite, Tigers, according to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches. The Buffaloes were unable to overcome a slow start against the Tigers as they fell by the score of 37-32 in a defensive battle. Down 9-0 midway through the first quarter, the Buffaloes would fight for four points to give them the deficit of 14-4 at the end of the first. Cross Plains would get rolling a little in the second as they outscored the Tigers 9-5 behind balanced scoring of junior guard, Korbin McLean (2) Senior guards, Tristen Stephenson (3), Colton McWilliams (2) and freshman guard, Holden Senclair (2) to go in at the half down 19-13. Again in the third Buffaloes would struggle to put the ball in the basket as May outscored Cross Plains, 9-4 in the quarter. The Buffaloes were able to get rolling in the last quarter of play, but would run out of time as they were unable to overcome the point deficit. Cross Plains would net 15 in the final quarter behind senior forward, Josh Branch, and Justin Willis who had six a piece in the quarter. Josh Branch paced the Buffaloes with 7 points, 10 rebounds, 1 assist, and 3 blocks. Other scoring for the Buffaloes; Henderson 5, McLean 3, Stephenson 3, McWilliams 2, Halsel 4, Senclair 2, Willis 6.

Scores by Quarters:

	1	2	3	4	F
CP	4	9	4	15	32
May	14	5	9	10	37

Friday, January 10, the Buffaloes hosted the Panthers of Panther Creek. The Panthers got hot early hitting 3-point field goals in the first quarter to give them a 12-11 lead after the first quarter of play. The Buffaloes

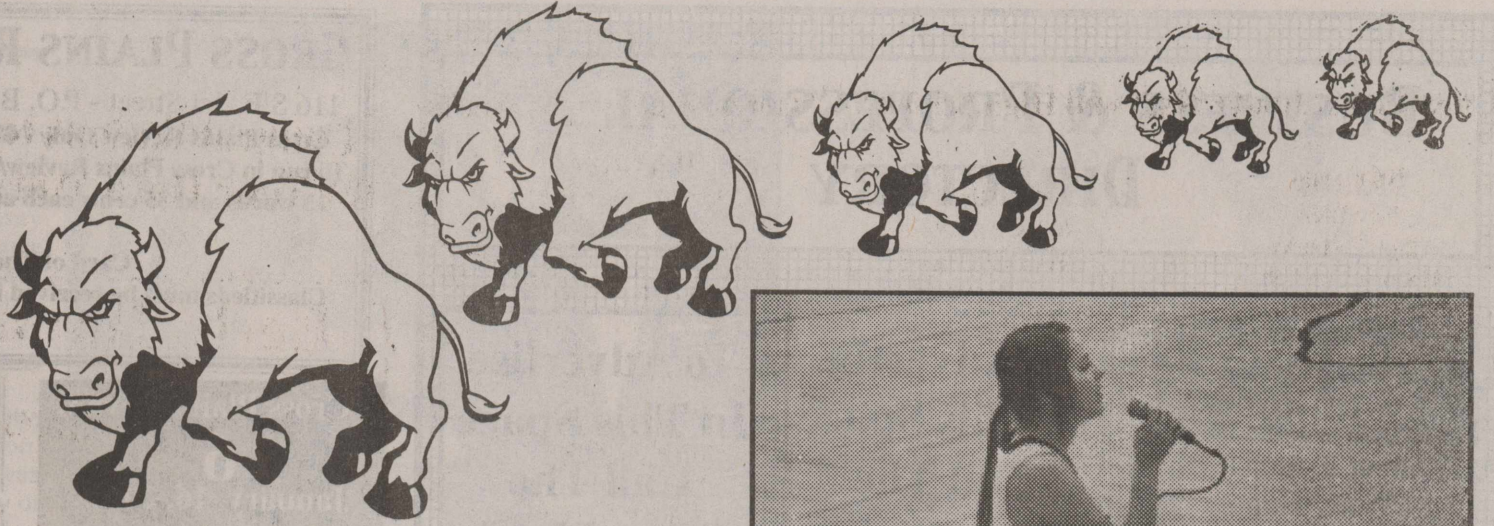
would respond with some scoring of their own. Senior Forward, Cutter Halsel, scored 8 during a big Cross Plains run. Freshman guard, Holden Senclair, sparked the Cross Plains offense coming off the bench by hitting three big 3 - point shots as the Buffaloes surged to 22 point second quarter, taking an eight point lead, 33-25, in to halftime. The Buffaloes would outscore Panther Creek 13-10 and 12-11 in the final two quarters of play. Senclair hit another three in the third to give him three treys on the evening. The defense played well for the Buffaloes, Justin Willis took two big charges early in the game, and senior, forward, Wesley Carver would take another late in the third to give the Buffaloes a big momentum going into the final quarter. The win gives Cross Plains a 1-1 record in district to share to share second place with Panther Creek, Rising Star, and Santa Anna, all 1-1. May is 2-0, and Brookesmith is 0-2. Cutter Halsel led all scorers with 21 points, he was two rebounds shy of a double-double finishing with 8. Tristen Stephenson managed the game well from his point guard position tallying 3 rebounds, 6 assists, 3 steals, and zero turnovers. Scoring for the Buffaloes was Henderson with 6 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, and 3 steals; Branch with 8 points, 5 rebounds, and 3 assists. McWilliams with 6 points, 2 of 2 from charity stripe; Senclair with 12 points, 2 rebounds, and 2 assists. Justin Willis with 4 points, 2 charges taken, 8 rebounds, 2 assists, and 1 steal. The Buffaloes will travel to Santa Anna, Tuesday January 14th who is also 1-1 in district play. Friday, The Buffaloes host the Brookesmith Mustangs.

	1	2	3	4	F
PC	12	13	10	11	46
CP	11	22	13	12	58





Senior Point Guard #10 — Tirsten Stephenson brings the ball set to set up a play.



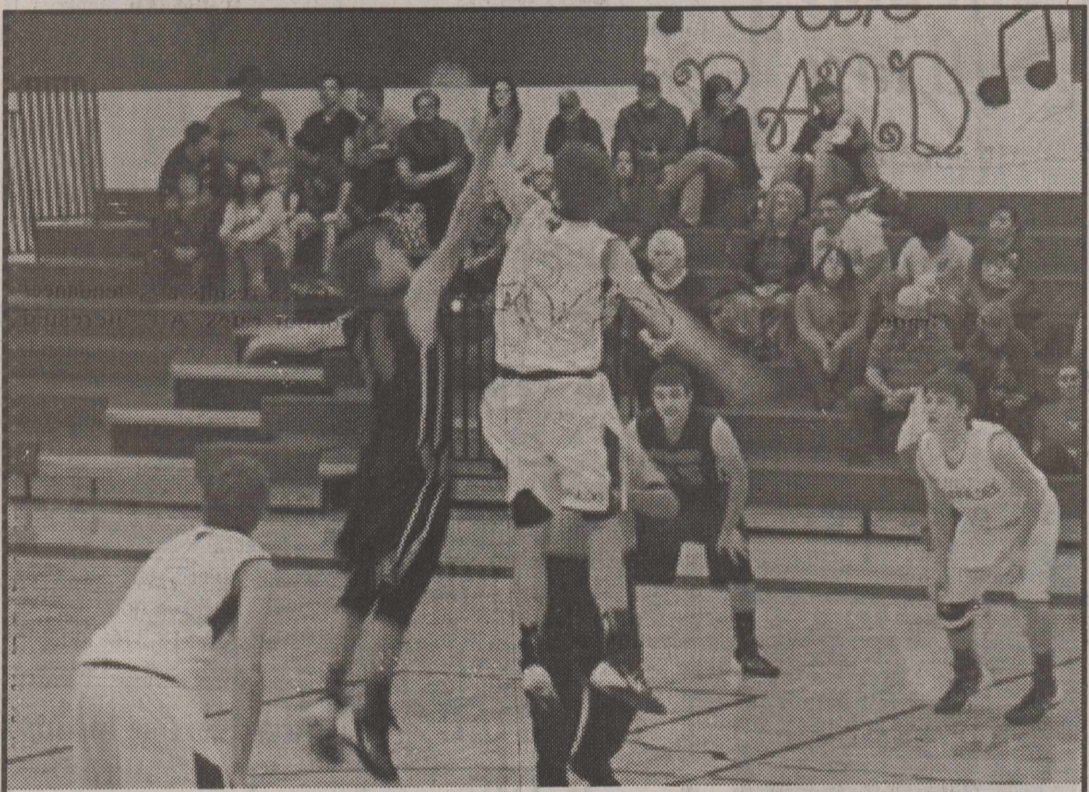
Getting Ready For a Play — Alyssa Wheeler from left, Jurnee Thomas, and Taryn Estes get set to run an inbounds play.

Cross Plains Review
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January 16, 2014



Singing with American Pride — Junior, Ariell Sneed sings the National Anthem before the girls district game vs Panther Creek.

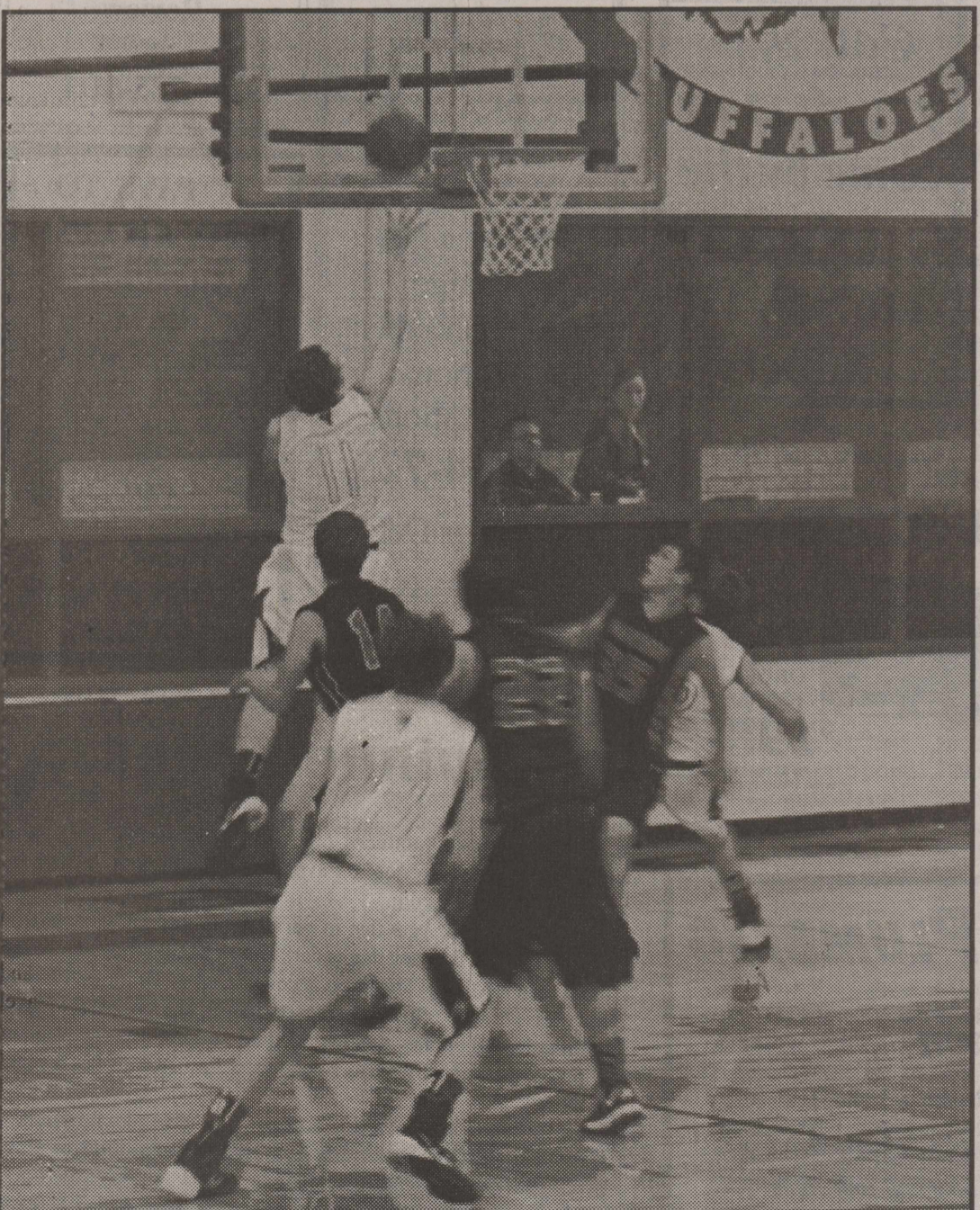
Buffalo Pride



Senior Tyler Henderson jumps to gain posession to start the game vs Panther Creek



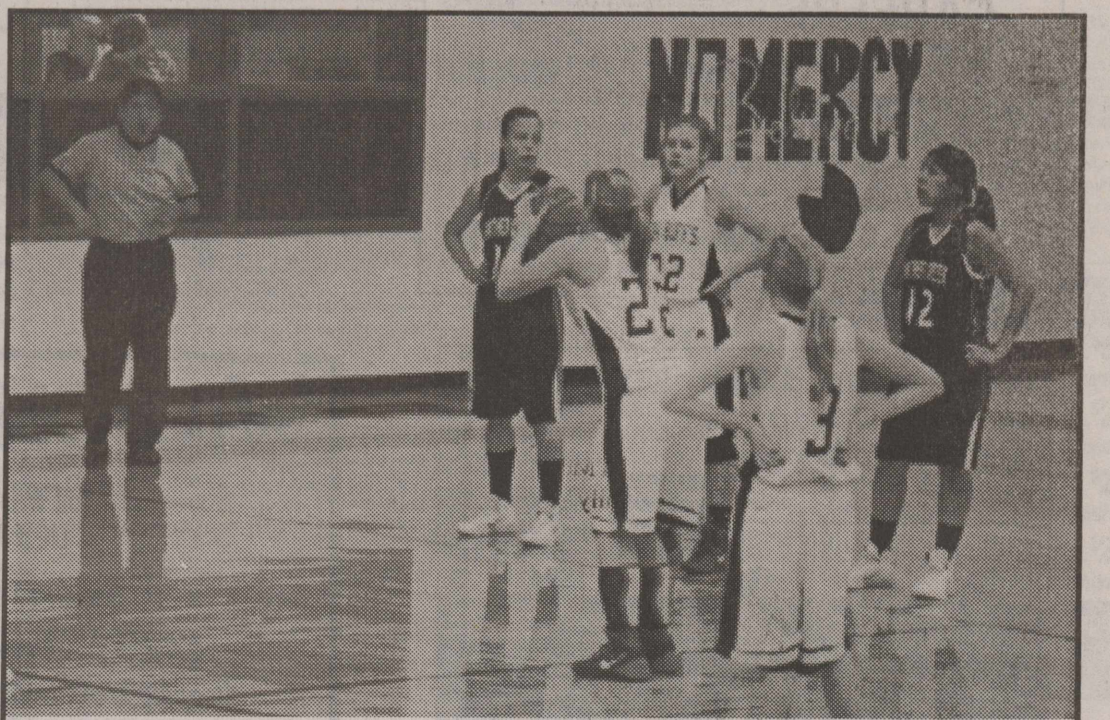
Josh Branch, Justin Willis, tyler Henderson, and Holden sinclair get ready to block out on a Panther Creek free-throw attempt..



Josh Branch goes up for a shot against Panther Creek.



Varsity Girls plays Defense



Senior Nicole Eisenbach shoots a free throw as her teammates look on.

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

Cross Plains Review

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January 16, 2014

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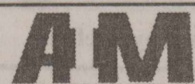
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OBITUARIES



LUPE S. PALACIO

Lupe S. Palacio

Baird—Lupe S. Palacio, age 59, of Baird, Texas, passed away Thursday, January 9, 2014, in Abilene Regional Medical Center. A Memorial service will be held at 2:00 PM Saturday, January 18th, in the First Baptist Church of Baird with Pastor Randy Lawson and Pastor Jimmy Hatcher officiating. Parker Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Lupe was born on September 12, 1954, in Knox City, Texas, to Matilda Salazar and Lupe Palacio, Sr. He went to schools in Crowell and then worked many years as an insurance

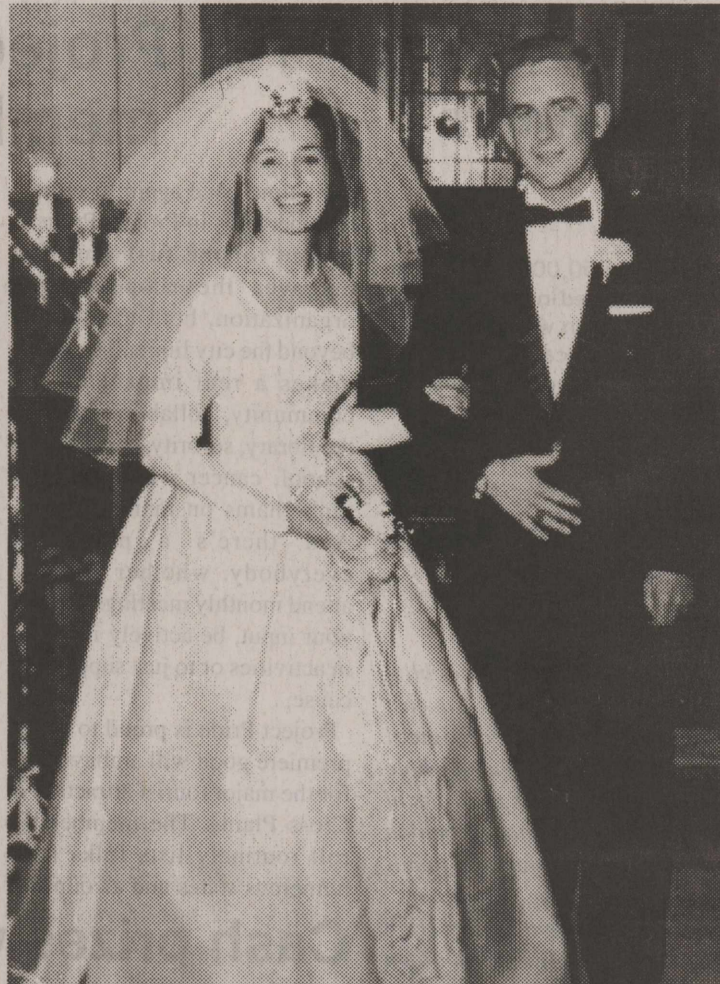
agent for American General Insurance in Abilene. He became an independent agent before entering the ministry with the Church of God. Lupe and his family moved to Baird from Cisco in 1991. He has served for many years as minister of the Baird Church of God.

Lupe was a member of the Baird Ministerial Association. He loved his family, and was dedicated to the community of Baird.

Survivors include his wife, Nellie, of Baird; 1 daughter, Amanda Palacio-Petty and husband Christopher of Dallas, TX; 2 sons, Daniel Palacio and wife Leslie, and Sal Palacio, all of Baird; 1 grandson, Bryce Palacio of Baird; his mother, Matilda Gallegos of Breckenridge, TX; 1 brother, Pete Palacio and wife Maria of Dallas, TX, 3 sisters, Rosa Castleman of Weatherford, TX, Sally Rodrigues and husband Noe of Cisco, TX, and Gloria Arriola and husband Gilbert of Breckenridge, TX; and a number of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father and his sister, Sandra Palacio.

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CALLAHAN COUNTY JUDGE AND HIS WIFE BARBARA CORN IN JANUARY OF 1964 ON THEIR WEDDING DAY.

Judge Roger Corn & wife Barbara celebrate 50 years of marriage

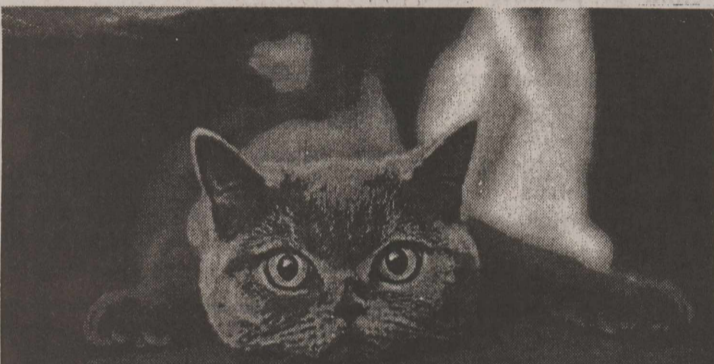
The children of Callahan County Judge Roger Corn and his wife Barbara (Walden) Corn invite everyone to join them in celebrating their parents fiftieth Wedding Anniversary.

The Celebration will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2014 at the Baird Railroad Depot and Museum at First and Market Streets in downtown Baird from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the

afternoon.
No gifts please.



CALLAHAN COUNTY JUDGE AND HIS WIFE BARBARA CORN DURING THE HOLIDAY IN DECEMBER 2013.



I'd like mornings better if they happened in the afternoon

To get your name on the Birthday Column, send your name and date of birth to *The Cross Plains Review*, P.O. Box 519, Cross Plains, Texas 76443, There is no charge for this service. To delete a name due to death or other reasons send name and birth date (Month and Day) or Call 254-725-6111

Cross Plains Review
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January 16, 2014

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- 65 Ac. - CP- Great cult. field for grazing/hay, 1 tank, 8 Ac. native pasture, mesa/pecan.....143,000
- 74+/- Ac. - 28 acres of coastal, 22 acres of cultivation & 24 acres of woods **Reduced**.....182,372
- 76+/- Ac - Putnam- 2 tanks, few trees, 15 acre wheat field, barn, l-20 frontage.....171,000
- 76.07 Ac.-Cottonwood-Part **UNDER CONTRACT** ining, 1 well/elec. on prop.....159,000
- 80+/- Ac. - Rising Star- Predominately coastal Bermuda, 1 pond, good fencing.....200,000
- 82+/- Ac- Eastland/Comanche County, hay production, hunting, county water avail.....199,781
- 100 Ac. - Approx 80% cultivated, oaks, 2 water wells, easy access to l-20.....210,000
- 101.55 Ac. - Comb. property, oil production, water & electricity, well, seas. creek.....350,000
- 102+/- Ac. - Woods/Cultivation, 2 tanks, elec/water, fenced, barns/bldgs/working pens.....225,698
- 107Ac. - Cattle property, 1232 sq. ft. farm house, 2 tanks, cross fenced, pens.....299,900
- 125+/- Ac. - 2 stock tanks, **UNDER CONTRACT** ne set of pens.....331,250
- 135+/- Ac. - 46 Acres of heavy brush, rest in briars & thick cover, co. water avail.....228,825
- 142.04 Ac.-Eastland Co.-Combo prop. w/ thick oak & coastal Bermuda, great hunting!.....354,414
- 198 Ac.-Putnam - 2 ponds **UNDER CONTRACT** venient access.....308,000
- 202.53 Ac.-Brown Co.- Hunting property, 10 Ac. food plot, 5 tanks, water/electric.....455,692
- 210 Ac.-Coleman Co.-Hunter **UNDER CONTRACT**, elec/water, large tank.....378,000
- 252+/- Ac. - Hunting! 2 tanks, 3 ponds, thick cover with food plots, cabin.....499,900
- 340.46 Ac. - Brown Co.- 3BR-2B hunting cabin, 2 Ac. stocked lake, 4 tanks, wildlife!.....885,200
- 512+/-Ac.- 2BR-1B bamdominium, 6 tanks, fenced/cross-fenced, heavily treed.....1,300,000

HOME WITH ACREAGE

- 4+/-Ac. -341 NW 4th, CP- 3BR-2.5B brick, fireplace, metal workshop, 2 car carport.....179,900
- 6+/- Ac. -R.S.- 4BR-2B, oaks, water well, central h/a, covered porch w/ screen.....125,000
- 16+/- Ac - 1BR-1B cozy metal home, oak trees, 2 sheds.....**Reduced**.....92,500
- 33.3 Ac.-Cross Cut-3BR/2B mobile hm, mesquite/oak, 3 tanks, farm/hunt/ranch.....135,000
- 34.9 Ac. - Small acreage with old truck stop, house, barns, garages, many possibilities.....285,000
- 40 Ac.-Eastland Co Prime coastal/shinnery, New Home w/guest quarters, 2 ponds.229,000
- 40.05 Ac.-Comanche Co.-2BR-2B nice Hm, 4 stall barn, rolling terrain, 2 wells, fenced.....219,900
- 50+/- Ac. - Great combo property, 2BR-2B hm, add'l bunk house, 1/2 oaks-1/2 cult.....195,000
- 80 Ac.-Atwell-Beautiful 3BR-2B hm w/ office, 2 tanks, oaks, excellent hunting, barn.....399,900
- 80+/- Ac - Hunting or horseback riding,3BR-2B brick, pool, barn, stalls, round pen.....699,000
- 80.38 Ac - 4BR-3.5B 2 story brick, 2 brick strg. bldgs, coastal, 1 Ac. stocked lake.....920,000
- 107 Ac-Brown Co.- 2 BR-1B farmhouse, 1 well, 2 tanks, nice cattle pens, fenced.....299,900
- 111.75 Ac.- Great horse facility, 2BR-1 3/4 B Hm, coastal 45 Ac., 2 ponds, barns, pens.....409,000
- 119.9 Ac. - 3BR-2B white limestone, porch, pens, barn, shed, 1 well, 1 tank **Reduced**.....515,000
- 138.77 Ac.-3BR-2B rock/hardy board, modern w/ granite countertops, 3 tanks, hunting.....550,000
- 160 Ac. - 3BR-2B brick w/ pox **UNDER CONTRACT** lls, round pen, tack room.....849,000
- 468.92 Ac. -Wildlife utopia, newly remodeled hm, 5 Ac. stocked lake, perfect retreat!.....1,650,000

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- 700 S.E. 1ST STREET — Clean 3 BR-2 BA on corner lot, good shade trees...\$52,500
- 108 Apple Street — Very nice 3 BR-2 BA modular home on a large lot.....\$77,500
- 11250 C.R. 454 — 2 BR-2 BA on deep water at Lake Brownwood.....\$390,000
- 11.46 ACRES — Spacious 4 BR-2 BA country home, 2 water wells.....\$315,000
- 77.84 ACRES — Hwy 183 frontage near May in Brown Cty, well, electricity...\$221,844
- 83.06 ACRES — Ranch with good hunting, oak trees, older 3 BR-1 BA home.....\$200,000
- 102 ACRES — 4 BR-2.5 BA western style home, 2 wells + 2 tanks, scenic...\$559,000
- 102.71 Acres — Live oaks, 3 tanks, 3 BR-2 BA brick home **CONTRACT**.....\$325,000
- 147.75 ACRES — Scenic views, abundant hunting, 2 tanks just S. of l-20...\$324,311
- 150.54 ACRES — Extraordinary farming & hunting, center pivot, small lake...\$465,000

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- 527 ACRES — High-fenced hunter's paradise, 5 BR-3 BA furnished lodge...\$1,350,000
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March 3rd Entry Deadline Cash Prizes to be Awarded for Winners of Cattle Raisers Youth Contests

Fort Worth, Texas — Young cattle raisers can showcase their creative talents by entering up to four youth contests during the **Cattle Raisers Convention**, April 4th-6th in San Antonio. Deadline for all entries is March 3rd.

Youth ages five to 17 can enter the photography, art and essay contests. Youth ages 13 to 17 are eligible to enter the beef promotion video contest, the newest contest added to the lineup. Each contest is specifically designed to allow young cattle raisers to showcase how ranching life has positively affected their family.

The contests are sponsored by Farm Credit. A total of \$5,000 in cash prizes will be awarded to winners. Entries will be judged and winners selected at the Cattle Raisers Convention.

All contestants must be a member of TSCRA, either a student member, child or grandchild of a member, or a child of parents who are employed by a TSCRA member. Non-members can become members prior to the contest by contacting TSCRA at 817-332-7064. There is a membership fee of \$25 for young members.

Entry information is available online at <http://www.tscra.org/convention/youth.html>.

The 137th annual Cattle Raisers Convention is April 4th-6th at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio. Highlights include the popular School for Successful Ranching, the Cattle Raisers Expo, and general sessions and committee breakout session covering a wide range of economic, ranching and wildlife topics.

A complete schedule can be found on the [TSCRA convention website](http://www.tscra.org/convention). TSCRA will continue to update the schedule with additional events.

###

'Life After Loss' 5-week program underway at Rehab Center

The West Texas Rehabilitation Center's Hospice of the Big Country is sponsoring a "Life After Loss" five-week program for those grieving with the loss of a loved one.

The session dates will take place every Wednesday, beginning January 15th through February 12th at the HOBE Conference Room located at the West

TSCRA is a 137-year-old trade association and is the largest and oldest livestock organization based in Texas. TSCRA has more than 16,000 beef cattle operations, ranching families and businesses as members. These members represent ap-

Experience the 'True Grit' of 'The Worst Hard Time'

The Cross Plain Public Library will be sponsoring a book discussion of "The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl" by Timothy Egan, as part of *Experience True Grit*-our choice for The Big Read-on Thursday, March 20, at 6:00pm at Jean's Feed Barn. Cross Plains will celebrate *Experience True Grit* from March 3rd until April 12th. Events will center on Charles Portis' book, "True Grit" and will be expanded to include people who have shown the characteristics of true grit, such as those who survived in "The Worst Hard Time".

On April 14, 1935, the biggest dust storm on record descended over five states, from the Dakotas to Amarillo, Texas. People standing a few feet apart could not see each other; if they touched, they risked being knocked over by the static electricity that the dust created in the air. The Dust Bowl was the product of reckless, market-driven farming that had so abused the land that, when dry weather came, the wind lifted up millions of acres of topsoil and

proximately 50,000 individuals directly involved in ranching and beef production who manage 4 million head of cattle on 76 million acres of range and pasture land primarily in Texas and Oklahoma, but throughout the Southwest.

whipped it around in "black blizzards", which blew as far east as New York. This ecological disaster rapidly disfigured whole communities. Egan's portraits of the families who stayed behind are sobering and far less familiar than those of the "exodusters" who staggered out of the High Plains. He tells of a town depopulated to this day, a mother who watched her baby die of "dust pneumonia," and farmers who gathered tumbleweed as food for their cattle and, eventually, for their children. copyright 2006-The New Yorker

Copies of "The Worst Hard Time" are free and can be picked up at the library. If you prefer to download the book on your e-reader, bring your invoice to the library before March 1st and you will be reimbursed. The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, managed by Arts Midwest, and is designed to restore reading to center of American culture.

Oldtimers: if you remember this era, and have stories to tell, we encourage you to attend! Join us for dinner (Dutch treat) at Jean's Feed Barn and share the experience.

—submitted by Michelle Kaiser.

Immunization clinic at Cross Plains Housing Authority on February 10th

The Texas Department of State Health Services will be offering a childhood immunization clinic on Monday, February 10th from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon in Cross Plains, at the Cross Plains Housing Authority located at 233 N. Main in Cross Plains.

Please bring the child's immunization records with you. If your child is one year old or older and has not had chickenpox, a vaccine is now available and required for school children. If your child is on Medicaid or CHIP, please bring the card.

For additional information about the immunization clinic call (325) 754-4945.

Project Pride open for membership renewals

It's time once again to re-new memberships in Project Pride or to join for the first time and discover the scope of the organization, both locally and beyond the city limits. The group makes a real impact on the community, collaborating with the library, sorority, garden club, school, cancer walk and Higginbothams on many projects. And there's a place for everybody, whether you can attend monthly meetings to share your input, be actively involved in activities or to just support the cause.

Project Pride is proud to be the premiere good will ambassadors for the major tourist attraction in Cross Plains. The membership roll routinely lists folks from numerous states and a couple of

foreign countries in addition to many cities in Texas. Visitors to the Robert E. Howard Museum throughout the year represent a fascinating collection of professions, interests and addresses. Attendance at the annual Robert E. Howard Days in June draws an even bigger gathering of visitors from even farther away.

And all these people take dead aim on Cross Plains! And Project Pride members get to be involved with all of them!

This group was organized in the mid-80's for the purpose of making the community a cleaner, more attractive place to live and to preserve and document the history of the Cross Plains area. A strong membership base has always been essential for

maintaining the non-profit status of the organization as well as for the maintenance and operation of the Museum. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month, 6:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church and usually last about an hour. Plenty of space and plenty of parking, so come on out and join the fun.

Annual dues are only \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per family or organization; checks payable to Project Pride may be mailed to PO Box 534 or you may pay via PayPal at Projpride@yahoo.com. For more information, please contact Arlene Stephenson, 725-4993 or Era Lee Hanke, 725-6562.

Submitted by —
Arlene Stephenson
Jan 11, 2014

Cash prizes will be awarded for winners of Cattle raisers youth contest

Fort Worth, Texas — Young cattle raisers can showcase their creative talents by entering up to four youth contests during the Cattle Raisers Convention, April 4-6, 2014 in San Antonio. Deadline for all entries is March 3, 2014.

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A complete schedule can be found on the TSCRA convention website. TSCRA will continue to update the schedule with additional events.



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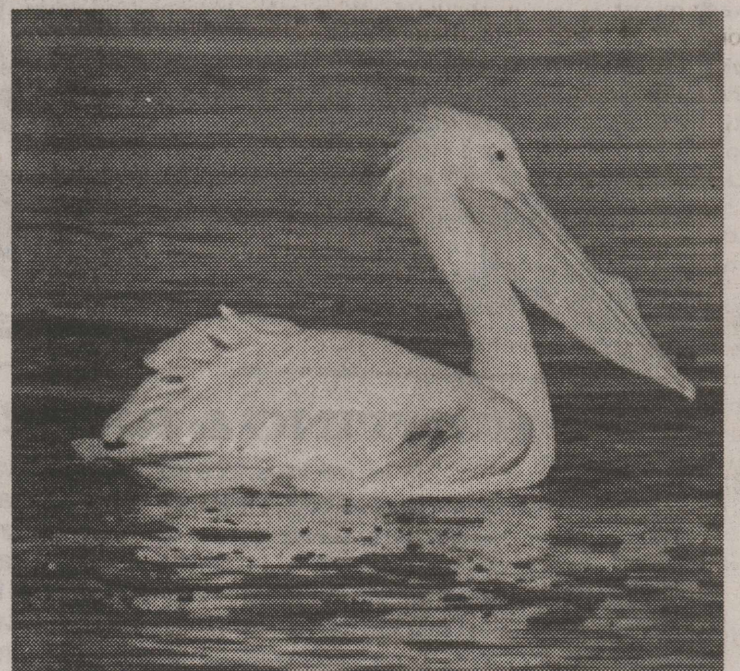
American Pelican

There are times, albeit rarely, that animals just don't do what we as humans expect them to do. After all, we humans are the ones who write the books, but unfortunately, animals have not adapted to the point that they can read those books. Most books tell us that certain species of birds can be observed in areas during the summer or winter, but few of the texts that I have seen even mention one of the largest of the waterbirds in the world being observed here in west Texas. That avian species is the American Pelican.

The American Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) is one of the most recognizable of all waterbird species. Its large body size, coupled with its orange bill and white plumage, all but assure that even the casual bird observer has identified this species correctly. During the summer months, this species prefers to live in the northern areas of the American Midwest and west coasts, all the way north into southern Canada. It is a migratory species, and most texts have this aquatic species occupying our two separate coasts during the winter months. However, it is this species is not an uncommon sight right here in west Texas during the winter months, with many individuals choosing to stay in this area during this time rather than migrating to the Gulf coast.

As I have already mentioned, the American Pelican is very distinctive and recognizable. Its body size has been recorded to a length of just over sixty inches, while the wingspan can be an astonishing nine feet from tip to tip. The body is covered with plain white plumage, save for a yellowish crest on the top of the head and black tips on the edge of the wings. The legs and feet are short and are colored bright orange. The bill, probably the most distinctive characteristic of this species, is quite oversized and also colored bright orange.

This oversized bill is how this species obtains its primary food item, fish. The American Pelican will use this large bill in the unusual way of "scooping" large amounts of water from the surface, up to three gallons worth. Any fish that is collected while doing so is consumed, while the water is cleared from the bill. Although this species is known



American Pelican
(*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)

to eat large amounts of fish, typically the fish consumed are of little or no commercial value.

This variety of aquatic bird prefers to live in small colonies, although the ones that are observed in western Texas are generally in groups of three to six. It breeds during the summer months while residing in the Pacific Northwest and American Midwest. It is a monogamous species, meaning that pairs that have selected each other for mating will not breed with any others that season. The eggs are laid in a dirt and rubbish nest that is built on a flat surface. Only one or two eggs are laid in a season, and the white eggs are large, being over three and one-half inches in length and two and one-half inches in width. Incubation lasts approximately a month with both sexes incubating the eggs. Upon

hatching, the young Pelicans stay in the nest for another month, all the while being fed by both parents. Once the young have obtained the fledgling plumage, they will congregate together in larger groups (called pods) and will continue to be fed and cared for by the adults. This species begins to take flight sometime around nine to ten weeks after hatching.

This population of this large aquatic bird was declining in the middle of the last century, primarily due to pesticide use and habitat loss. However, its population has seen a dramatic increase over the last forty years and is now thought to be quite stable.

Editor's Note: Michael Price would love to hear from folks! He can be reached by email at www.fullprice71@gmail.com.

Cross Plains Review
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January 16, 2014

Houston-based company to provide additional prizes

Texas State-Fish Art Contest Seeks Entries

ATHENS—The Texas State-Fish Art Contest, headquartered at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFCC), reminds Texas teachers and students that the deadline for entries in the 2014 State-Fish Art Contest is March 31, 2014.

The contest is open to any student in public, private or home schools in grades K-12. Students must draw or paint any recognized state fish and write an essay about it. Complete contest details and entry forms can be found at www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishart.

New to the 2014 Texas State-Fish Art Contest will be prizes for the top 10 winners in each of the four grade categories courtesy of FishFlops®. Each of the top 40 Texas winners will receive official FishFlops® merchandise. FishFlops® were created by Galveston teenager Madison Nicole Robinson and are available at Nordstrom.

"We recognize the spirit of the Texas State-Fish Art Contest is to inspire young talented individuals to explore the limits of their creativity," said Madison Nicole, creator of FishFlops®. "We hope our brand will inspire the winners to take their artistic skills to the next level."

The Toyota Texas Bass Clas-

sic (TTBC) provides funds for prizes for first-, second- and third-place Texas winners in each of the four grade-level divisions. First place in grades 10-12 wins \$1,000; second place \$750; third place \$500. Prizes in the K-3, 4-6 and 7-9 grade levels are \$100 for first; \$75 for second; \$50 for third. Student art from the Texas contest is featured on TTBC tickets. The next TTBC will take place on Lake Fork in May 2014.

Additional support for the Texas contest is provided by the William E. Armentrout Foundation and Friends of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center.

The Texas State-Fish Art Contest is part of Wildlife Forever's State-Fish Art Contest. The TTBC also provides a travel allowance for Texas first-place winners to attend the national awards ceremony, which will be held August 15 and 16, 2014, in Columbia, South Carolina.

Wildlife Forever chooses one outstanding piece of artwork each year for the Art of Conservation Award, and a commemorative stamp featuring the artwork is produced for sale. Proceeds from sales of the stamp are used to fund conservation projects.

Educators who wish to have their students enter the contest

can download the free "State-Fish Art Contest Lesson Plan" at www.statefishart.com. The interdisciplinary curriculum includes lessons and activities, a species identification section profiling each state fish, a glossary and student worksheets.

###

Located in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, Wildlife Forever is a non-profit multi-species conservation organization dedicated to conserving America's wildlife heritage. Working at the grassroots level, Wildlife Forever has funded conservation projects in all 50 states, committing millions of dollars to "on-the-ground" efforts. Wildlife Forever supports habitat restoration and enhancement, land acquisition, research and management of fish and wildlife populations.

www.wildlifeever.org. Houston-based FishFlops® was born in 2006 when Madison Nicole Robinson created the first designs for the line of footwear now known as FishFlops®. Together with her father, Dan, FishFlops® seeks to encourage responsible outdoor recreation, conservation of natural resources and development of the artistic talents of today's youth. www.fishflops.com.

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NEW ARRIVALS FOR THE BATHROOM!

January is National Mentoring Month Big Brothers/Big Sisters: The Resolution You'll Want to Keep!

National Mentoring Month will be observed in January 2014. The campaign provides Big Brothers Big Sisters a wonderful opportunity, as the largest mentoring organization in the country, to attract attention to the value of mentoring, recruit mentors and generate contributions.

President Obama has continued to support National Mentoring Month. "Every day, mentors help young Americans face the challenges of growing into adulthood," said President Barack Obama. "By setting a positive example and sharing their time, knowledge and experience, mentors play an essential role in preparing our Nation's youth for a bright future. During National Mentoring Month, we celebrate the contributions of all those who cultivate a supportive environment for the next generation, and we recommit to expanding mentorship opportunities across our country."

The Abilene agency hopes that current and potential mentors will be encouraged as they are reminded of the power of mentoring in the local media. "I feel it is important because it is a time to say thank you to

those who choose to be mentors, as well as take time to recognize the importance of every child having a mentor in their lives," said Match Support Coordinator Rebekah West.

This January also marks the 36th anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters in Abilene. The first match was made in 1979 when members of the Abilene Mental Health Association board saw that many children in our area were in need of a mentor.

"National Mentoring Month recognizes those who give their time to be a mentor," continues West. "Far too often, mentors are not recognized or appreciated as much as they should be. Mentors make more of an impact on the lives of their mentees than they will ever know. Taking a month to recognize their hard work is important and can motivate them to continue doing so, even though they may not always see how much of a difference they are making."

A recent Harris interactive survey of adults who participated in the BBBS program as children found that:

90% agreed their Big made them feel better about themselves

81% said their Big caused them to change what they thought was possible in life

77% set higher goals than they would have on their own

42% earned a degree from a four-year college compared to just 22% of their fathers and 25% of their mothers

As a highlight of National Mentoring Month 2014, **Thank Your Mentor Day™** will be celebrated on January 16th. On that day, many Americans will reach out to thank or honor those individuals who encouraged and guided them, and had a lasting, positive impact on their lives.

Thank Your Mentor Day promotes "Three Ways to Honor Your Mentor":

Contact your mentor directly to express your appreciation;

Pass on what you received by becoming a mentor to a young person in your community;

Make a financial contribution to a local mentoring program.

For more information about Big Brothers Big Sisters, please contact the Abilene agency at 325-674-3113 or email jbarden@bbstx.org.

Financial Peace University provides hope to families in the Clyde area

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—More than two million families have positively changed their financial future through Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FPU). (Updated in summer 2012, the now nine-week course provides families and individuals with practical tools to gain control of their finances and set themselves up for long-term financial success. The course meets once a week where a different lesson is taught by Dave on DVD followed by a small-group discussion. Lessons include budgeting, relationships and money, getting out of debt, saving for emergencies and investing. FPU will be held in Clyde at:

Bible Baptist Church located at 557 Hunt Street in Clyde. The classes will begin Saturday, January 25, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. Contact Scott Pardee at (325)665-4888 for more information or to register.

Since its inception in 1994 FPU has helped more than 1.5 million families positively change their financial future. Through common-sense principles and small-group accountability, FPU

gives people the tools they need to change their behavior and succeed financially. On average families who complete FPU pay off \$5,300 and save \$2,700 in the first 90 days. Following the class nearly 94 percent of those families budget regularly.

"FPU will not only transform the way you handle money, but also your marriage and other areas of your life," says Ramsey. "This isn't a boring financial class. We make learning about money fun and easy to understand so people in every situation can benefit from the information." Ramsey knows firsthand the pain that financial stress can cause. After creating a net worth of more than a million dollars by age 26, he quickly lost it all. Since then Ramsey has helped families and individuals across the country learn how to get control of their finances and avoid debt so they don't have to experience the same pain he did.

FPU lessons also include guest speakers Rachel Cruze, speaker and daughter of Dave Ramsey, and Chris Hogan, counselor and

speaker for the Dave Ramsey organization.

The revised FPU will be offered through churches and community centers. After purchasing a membership each participant receives a workbook, Dave Ramsey's Complete Guide to Money, an envelope system and an audio CD library. Participants will also have access to budgeting forms and MP3s of all the lessons. For more information or to purchase a membership, go to www.daveramsey.com.

About Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business. He's authored four New York Times bestselling books: Financial Peace, More Than Enough, The Total Money Makeover and Entrepreneurship. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 6 million listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations and iHeartRadio. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

Paramount Theater to screen Hornet's Nest January 25, 2014

Submitted by: Terry Burgess

I am Terry Burgess, and my son, SSG Bryan A. Burgess was Killed In Action on March 29th, 2011. Bryan was also the grandson of Chal Burgess of Clyde.

Bryan served with the United States Army 2nd Battalion 327th Infantry of *No Slack* with the 101st Airborne of Fort Campbell, KY.

No Slack was deployed on Strong Eagle III that morning in Afghanistan. With them was Mike Boettcher, of ABC News, a 32 year veteran war correspondent. When *No Slack* was ambushed by the Taliban forces, Mike was right there with his camera and recorded the entire battle. Six men were killed that first morning, including SPC Jameson Lindskog, a medic who was shot multiple times while trying to save the lives of three other men.

The *Hornet's Nest* is a war documentary unlike any you have ever seen before. There are no special effects. The bullets are real, the explosions are real, and the emotions are real.

This film, however, is not just

about my son or the five others who died that day. The *Hornet's Nest* is about anyone who has ever served in the Armed Forces.

A good friend of mine told me "It puts you face first down in the dirt with these guys."

After seeing this film, you will know without a doubt why it is so important and appreciated when you thank Active Duty Service Members and Veterans for their service.

You can read about the film and see the Trailer on www.thehornetsnestmovie.com

The film is scheduled to show at The Historic Paramount Theatre in Abilene on January 25, 2014, beginning at 6:45 p.m.

This is a non-profit showing before the film is released nationally in May 2014.

"The *Hornet's Nest* is a riveting, powerful film that every American should see," said Dr. William Perry, Former Secretary of Defense under President Clinton and Current National Security Advisor.

"Everyone, especially non-military, should see this movie. Unless you've fought in a war, you have no idea what our service men and women go

through, how close they become, or the incredible lengths to which they will go for one another," remarked Donna Walker, Gold Star Mother.

Col. J.B. Vowell, a career ARMY infantry officer and commanding officer of the Task Force *No Slack* in the 101st Airborne Division commented, "This film is and will be a phenomenal picture for a wide audience across the country. It is dramatic, unscripted, visceral and real."

Nothing I have ever seen comes close. People in the general public who have so far been deprived of knowing and understanding what is happening in Afghanistan will be awed. It achieves what no screenplay can: it places you in the most harrowing combat scenes against a hostile enemy in the most complex terrain imaginable where buddies fight for each other's survival and mission accomplishment."

NOTE: "The *Hornet's Nest*" is a documentary that contains adult language and an unflinching look at the war in Afghanistan. It is for mature audiences.

DALLAS - On January 7, 2014, Texas State Representative Jason Villalba (District 114) sent a letter to David Tran, Chief Executive Officer of Huy Fong Foods, Inc., inviting Huy Fong Foods to move its operations to Texas.

Huy Fong Foods, the makers of the popular condiment Sriracha, has been forced to partially shut down its operations by a ruling stemming from a lawsuit filed by the city of Irwindale, Calif. where the factory is currently located. The city claims that residents in the area, have complained that the factory emits an odor when processing the hot chili peppers that give the sauce its renowned spicy flavor.

Rep. Villalba, a long-time fan of Sriracha, states in his letter to Mr. Tran, "As a public official and a corporate attorney for small businesses, I am extremely troubled by excessive government interference in the operations of private, job-creating businesses like Huy Fong Foods. You have worked too hard and have helped too many people to let government

bureaucrats shut down your thriving business."

Rep. Villalba asserts that relocating its operations to Texas would provide the company with the ability to continue to grow and provide greater opportunities for success. He offers the following benefits of Texas' business environment:

There is no personal or corporate state income tax - this means you would keep more of your hard earned profits.

Texas has the finest distribution channels in North America - based in the center of the United States, and nearly equidistant between Mexico and Canada.

According to Forbes Magazine, Texas has the best climate in the country to run and grow a business because of its low regulations and limited government interference.

Texas is a right-to-work state with a sophisticated and plentiful labor pool - ensuring that companies have access to good, well-trained employees to grow their business;

Texas appreciates and supports business owners. We

do NOT believe in interfering in the internal operations of private businesses.

Additionally, Rep. Villalba offered to organize a delegation of Texas dignitaries to travel to Rosemead, Calif., where the company is based to discuss in greater detail how Texas could provide Huy Fong Foods with a more business friendly environment in which to thrive.

Rep. Villalba is a proud fourth-generation Texan, who was the first in his family to graduate from college. He studied economics and finance at Baylor University graduating with a Bachelor of Business Administration. He worked as a financial analyst before graduating from the University of Texas School of Law with a Juris Doctor. He is now a partner at one of the most respected law firms in Dallas, Haynes and Boone. His practice focuses on the areas of public and private securities law, mergers and acquisitions and general corporate law. On January 8th, 2013, Rep. Villalba took the oath of office to serve as the Texas State Representative for House District 114.

Cross Plains Review

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January 16, 2014

Forage Seminar set in Cross Plains January 28th

A special 5-hour CEU Forage Seminar is set for Saturday, January 28th at the First Baptist Church in Cross Plains. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. The program begins at 9:00 a.m. The goal of this program is to provide producers with information on forage management strategies to help them produce uniform, high quality forage to meet their production goals.

Speakers for the Seminar will include: Gerald Hobson, Dupont, Robert Frost, FSA County Executive Director, Sammy Wilson, NRCS District Conservationist, Dr. Rob Harle, DVM/Rancher, Dr. Charles Allen, Entomologist Specialist, Bill Thompson, Extension Economist Dr. David Drake, Agronomy Specialist, and Paul Weiser, Texas Department of Agriculture.

Gerald Hobson will discuss "Weed Control Options on Native and Improved Pastures"; Robert Frost and Sammy Wilson will discuss "FSA & NRCS Program updates"; Dr. Rob Harle

will discuss "Let the cows bale your hay"; Dr. Drake will discuss "Wheat variety trials"; Bill Thompson will discuss "Economics of Graze out vs. Grain"; Dr. Charles Allen will discuss "Insect Control on Coastal and Native Pastures"; and Paul Weiser with the Texas Department of Agriculture will be on hand to give an hour of Laws and Regulation for pesticide applicators.

The cost of the Seminar and accompanying meal is \$20 to those that pre-register by Saturday, January 21st, after January 21st there will be a \$25.00 fee to be paid at the door.

This program is presented by the AgriLife Extension offices in Brown, Callahan, Coleman, and Eastland Counties. For further information, contact the Callahan County Extension Office at (325) 854-5835.

Sincerely,

Jerry Warren, CEA AG/NR
Texas AgriLife
Extension Service
Callahan County

The Opera House Country Musical Show is this Saturday

The Opera House Country Musical Show will be this Saturday, January 18th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Opera House located in Anson.

A bar-b-que supper will be held before the musical. We will start serving at 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$6.00 a plate, and that includes a drink and dessert.

For further information, call Tommy Self at 512-484-7834 and leave a message.

Guardian Home

Health to Give
Flu Shots at
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January 14th

Guardian Home Health will be giving Flu shots to persons 55 and older on January 14th from 10 a.m., to 2p.m., at the Cross Plains Senior Citizens Center.

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Texas Historical Commission news briefs

TEXAS CENTENNIAL MARKERS NEED YOUR HELP

AUSTIN, Texas—The year 1936 marked one of Texas' most important milestones—the 100-year anniversary of Texas' independence. The Texas-size celebration allocated millions from the state budget, and nearly as much in federal contributions, despite the fact this was during the Great Depression. President Franklin D. Roosevelt visited Texas, and festivals and commemorative events took place all over the state, kicking off what is now referred to as heritage tourism. More than 1,000 granite markers were placed throughout Texas' 254 counties during this time, commemorating their establishment, and telling some of the most intriguing stories about the state's history. But over time, the markers have become damaged, lost, and vandalized. If the markers are lost, the stories they tell are lost, too.

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) monitors the 1936 markers, and coordinates their repair or relocation, if necessary. THC Historical Markers staff is currently working on the 1936 Texas Centennial Marker Restoration Project, and the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission hopes to raise \$150,000 to fund the cost. If you'd like to help, contact the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission at 512.936.21889 or visit www.thcfriends.org.

NOMINATE A SPECIAL PERSON OR PLACE FOR RECOGNITION BY THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUSTIN, Texas—The Texas Historical Commission (THC) offers awards to recognize worthy accomplishments and exemplary leadership in the preservation of Texas' heritage. The THC is now accepting nominations for the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation and the John L. Nau, III Award of Excellence in Museums. Nominations must be received no later than Friday, February 28, 2014.

The THC's most prestigious award, the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation, is presented in a special ceremony arranged with the staff of the Governor's Office. A wide variety of projects and volunteer efforts may be recognized through the Governor's Award. The John L. Nau, III Award recognizes an individual in the museum field for significant achievement. The award is presented at the facility that earns the distinction. Anyone may submit a nomination in accordance with the guidelines presented below each award as listed on the THC website at

www.thc.state.tx.us. The THC also offers the Award of Merit, which recognizes the efforts and contributions of a group or individual involved in preserving Texas' cultural and historic resources. Nominations for this award may be submitted anytime throughout the year. For more information, contact the THC's History Programs Division at (512) 463-5853.

DEADLINE IMMINENT FOR COURTHOUSE PRESERVATION PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

AUSTIN, Texas—The Texas Historical Commission (THC) is now accepting applications for Round VIII of its award-winning Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program. With a \$4.2 million appropriation from the 83rd Texas Legislature, the Round VIII grants will be limited to funding smaller

courthouse projects with urgent needs, rather than the full restorations of the past. Round VIII emergency grants will address serious building deficiencies affecting usability, structural, and safety issues. The local cash match is 50 percent of the total project cost, and the maximum award is \$450,000.

Past emergency grant awards have covered such issues as termite-damaged windows, foundation stabilization, roof repair, and accessibility upgrades for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The deadline for applications is February 13. Documents are available at www.thc.state.tx.us. For more information, contact the THC's Architecture Division at 512.463.6094.

AWARD RECOGNIZES HISTORIC TEXAS BUSINESSES

Home School Parents and Kids:

My name is Becky Collier... And God has laid it on my heart to offer a Friday School here in Cross Plains for all the home schooled children and their parents. What this will be is a once a week group meeting with a subject being taught to your kids. A subject that can be comprehended on any grade level.

Core subjects can be taught like science, history, health and I also want to offer art, cooking classes subjects that are fun and can be interactive with the kids. I will be heading this up and if you want to present a subject and teach it, you will have the opportunity, if not you will surely be needed to help out.

Hey kids don't worry ...I will not keep you in a traditional classroom setting, we all learn differently and you will not be disappointed in how our school will be taught. Music will be a part of

AUSTIN, Texas—The Texas Historical Commission (THC) encourages Texans to nominate a historic business in their community for special recognition. The Texas Treasures Business Award pays tribute to Texas' well-established companies that are more than 50 years old. The award recognizes their exceptional historical contributions toward economic growth and prosperity to the state. To be eligible, a company must be involved in the same type of business as when originally founded, and continue to operate the same, or very similar, type of business as it did at least 50 years ago. It must be able to demonstrate a good business relationship with the state. Examples include the Tip Top Cafe in San Antonio, the New Braufels Smokehouse, Adams Extract & Spice in Gonzales, and the Mills County State Bank in Goldthwaite.

Created in 2005 through legislation authored by Sen. Leticia Van de Putte (D-San Antonio) and sponsored by Rep. Charles "Doc" Anderson (R-Waco), the program recognizes well-established Texas companies. The THC expanded on the program, offering special recognition through a public display decal identifying the business as a Texas Treasure. Consumers will know when they spot the familiar Texas Treasures business icon that they are doing business with a well-established, Texas-owned-and-operated business that has long contributed to job growth.

Visit the THC website at www.thc.state.tx.us to download a nomination form. For more information, call (512) 463-6092.



MICHAEL PRICE

Wild About Texas sponsored by: Happy Trails Rustic Western

American Avocet

The variety that can be observed in the animal kingdom, even among same groupings, is nothing shy of amazing. This statement holds true especially with birds. While most species have beak shapes that are unassuming, there is a species that can be observed in our area that breaks that trend, and that species is the American Avocet.

The American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) is a moderately-sized species of long-legged bird can be seen throughout the Great Plains from southern Canada to the northern portions of the Trans-Pecos and Panhandle regions of Texas during the summer months. Being a migratory species, it prefers to reside in the warmer climates of Latin America during the colder months of the year.

Many authors describe this species as graceful, and it is a term that truly fits this distinctive, colorful bird. Its head and neck are colored rusty reddish with two distinctive white patches; one on top of the eye and the other at the base of the bill. The bill is exceptionally long and slender, and is usually colored black. Unlike most other semi-aquatic "waders", the bill on this bird is actually curved upwards, more so on the females. The underparts are colored chalky white while the upperparts are dramatically colored black and white. The legs are long and are typically colored blue to bluish-gray. It is the tallest member of its family, with adult males usually just over eighteen inches in height with a wingspan of nearly three feet.

Primarily and aquatic species, the American Avocet can most commonly be observed while searching for food as it wades in the shallows of ponds, creeks, rivers, and the occasional lake. Like other "waders" it typically walks the shallows searching for its prey which consists of insects, crustaceans, and other invertebrate animals. As this species flies, the flight pattern is straight and direct, with the neck straight out in front and the long legs trailing behind.

This avian species typically prefers to live solitarily, although it will occasionally congregate



American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*)

in prime feeding areas. During the breeding season, pairs that have selected each other for a monogamous season will perform intricate rituals and courtship displays. The pair will choose a nesting site on the ground near a permanent water source, and both sexes will build a simple nest constructed out of mud chips and grass. One time per year, the female will lay three to four oblong eggs that are approximately two inches in total length. These eggs are olive colored and are marked with brown or black blotches. The incubation period lasts just over three weeks, and both parents incubate the eggs. Upon hatching, the young leave the nest within two days, able to take care of and find food for themselves. The term for this ability is

precocial. The young birds, although able to tend to themselves, do not take flight for almost one month after hatching.

The population studies on this avian species show significant improvement over the past few decades. At one time, this species was hunted for its plumage, and the overhunting associated with this severely depleted the populations. However, after being protected by federal laws, it has made a tremendous comeback. In many regions, this bird is quite common, with populations stable and even on the rise in some areas in the Great Plains.

Editor's Note: Michael Price would love to hear from folks! He can be reached by email at www.fullprice71@gmail.com.

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Cross Plains Review

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January 16, 2014

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00 Expedition, Eddie Bauer Ed., 8 pass, loaded, super nice..... \$5,250
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Repair project set for Hubbard Creek Bridge near Albany

Traffic will be detoured for several months

SHACKELFORD COUNTY — A major project to rehabilitate Hubbard Creek Bridge on FM 601 east of Albany will begin the week of January 20th.

The bridge will be closed throughout the project, and drivers will need to follow the designated detour along SH 6 and FM 576. Much of the work

will take place under the bridge, and drivers must not drive around the barricades for their own safety and the safety of the workers.

Gibson and Associates of Balch Springs, Texas will complete the project for about \$545,000. Work is expected to be completed by June.

Grand Ole Oplin

January band line-up

The Grand Ole Oplin hopes everyone had a safe and Happy New Year. Now that the holidays are over everyone is invited to come on out for an evening of good music, good friends, and a good time dancing the evening away.

We'll continue the January line-up on Friday, Jan. 17th JERRY BEAIRD & TEXAS TRADITION will play the kind of music that makes you want to get up and dance, on Friday, Jan. 24th MUDDY CREEK returns playing some more two-steps and waltzes, and on Friday, Jan. 31st. MIDNIGHT BLUE is back playing some more favorites.

The Grand Ole Oplin is hosted by the Oplin Community Center and is located at the intersection of F.M. 604 S. and F.M. 2926. Admission to our Friday night dance is \$5.00 per person. Alcohol and smoking are not allowed at any of our functions. Everyone is invited to bring a snack to be shared by all during the band's break. Go to www.grandoleoplin.com for further information.

After all the hustle and bustle of the past few weeks you deserve a break. Come on out to the Grand Ole Oplin and dance the evening away.

Run or Dye, the world's most colorful 5K, will return in Abilene on February 22nd

What happens when you combine thousands of runners and walkers with a blast of color, a heap of happiness, a pinch of passion and a splash of spontaneity? Say hello to Run or Dye, the world's most colorful 5K.

The August 2013 event drew more than 6,000 participants! In February, Run or Dye Abilene will again draw thousands to the Big Country to celebrate the vibrancy of being alive — all while being blasted with more than five tons of color dye powder during a 5K run/walk. Culminating with a "Color Festival" at the end of the race, there will be no shortage of fun — or color — throughout the day.

WHAT: Run or Dye 5K.
WHERE: Abilene, TX (Expo Center).
WHEN: Saturday, February

22nd.
DETAILS: <http://www.runordye.com/locations/Abilene>.

Run or Dye 5K race has selected Big Brothers Big Sisters as their non-profit partner in Abilene!

Event volunteers are also needed. Runners and race volunteers simply need to enter the code **RODBBBS10** when registering. Each code entered = a donation for mentoring. Runners even get a \$10 discount on the registration fee when they enter the code above. It's that easy!

Want to volunteer for the event or run and get blasted with color? Contact Mallory Ashford at 325-674-3115 or mashford@bbbstx.org.

Commissioners approve speed limit on County Road 216

The Callahan County Commissioners voted to establish a speed limit on a County Road in Eula after the commissioners' court was presented with a petition at the court's meeting Monday, January 13th.

A petition from seven of the nine property owners on County Road 216 was presented to Commissioner Bryan Farmer to establish a speed limit of 30 MPH on County Road 216 in Precinct #2. County Road 216 is a dead-end road and is located west of FM 603 near the Taylor County line. It is approximately 2,300 feet in length.

On a motion by Commissioner Farmer and a second by Commissioner Cliff Kirkham, the commissioners' court voted 5-0 to set the speed limit at 30 MPH on County Road 216.

Other agenda items brought before the commissioners' court included:

—The meeting of the commissioners' court was called to order at 9:38 a.m. by Judge Roger Com with Commissioner Precinct #1 Harold Hicks, Commissioner Precinct #2 Bryan Farmer, Commissioner Precinct #3 Tom Windham, Commissioner Precinct #4 Cliff Kirkham, County Treasurer Dianne Gunter and County Clerk Donna Bell present.

—Minutes from the previous commissioners' court meetings were signed.

—Under public comments, there were none.

—Commissioner Kirkham made a motion to establish a zone for the County Energy Transportation Reinvestment Zone (CETRZ) Grant. The zone would be in Precinct #4 (Cross Plains) on County Road 406, being 1.3 miles. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

The Texas Legislature created the \$225 million CETRZ program as a mechanism to distribute funds to counties that need help repairing roadways dam-

aged by heavy truck traffic due to oil, gas and other energy development, including wind farms.

In order to apply for the grant, commissioners must establish County Energy Transportation Reinvestment Zones, with several options on how those zones are set up.

Legislation allows for counties to apply for small or large coverage zones, near injection wells and other gas related facilities.

Callahan County's estimated allocation is \$222,768. The grant is an 80/20 match with Callahan County responsible for 20 percent of the total cost. The grant will be administered through the Texas Department of Transportation.

—Commissioner Windham made a motion to appoint Mark Norris, Bruce Bell, and Wimpy McCoy to the CETRZ Advisory Board. Commissioner Farmer seconded the motion and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

—Commissioner Farmer made a motion to have Karl Komatsu give an estimate on window replacement and possible electrical repair to the County Courthouse in Baird. Commissioner Kirkham seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

—Commissioner Farmer made a motion to abide by the current policy in regard to the variance for the casing of pipeline owned by SUNOCO. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kirkham, and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

—Commissioner Hicks made a motion to pay the approved bills. Commissioner Kirkham seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

—Commissioner Windham made a motion to adjourn the commissioners' court meeting at 10:26 a.m. Commissioner Farmer seconded the motion and the motion was approved with an unanimous 5-0 vote.

INTERNET RENTAL SCAMS ALIVE & WELL

BBB is continuing to warn folks about internet ads that appear to offer premium rental property at bargain basement prices. In addition the crooks make it appear the properties are being offered by the owners or local realtors. Most of the time the properties listed in the fake ads are for SALE not RENT.

The fake ads appear on online services such as Zillow, Craig's list and others. They offer "for rent" properties in upscale neighborhoods sometimes with attractive pictures inside and outside of the home.

In reality, the crooks look up information about the property, photos, etc. from other legitimate listings for property usually for sale. The scammers use public records to determine the owner of the property and use a bogus e-mail that contains the owners

name or realtors name. There is always a good story about why to ignore the for sale sign in the yard. Potential victims that respond to the bogus ads are sent applications then instructed to send a deposit and the first month's rent via a wire transfer service such as money gram, Western Union or green dot prepaid money cards. When you are searching for rental property BBB offers the following tips:

- Do not provide financial / identity information online to unknown parties
- Stick with rental listings that you know
- Know local rental rates and watch out for extra low rents
- Independently verify rental property
- Be suspicious of payments using wire transfer services or pre-paid credit cards
- Contact BBB with questions 325-691-1533

Baird church of Christ Ladies Day is Saturday

The Baird church of Christ will host its annual Ladies Day on Saturday, January 18th at the church building. The theme is "The Golden Rule, Let Us Commit to Memory."

The program starts at 9:30 a.m. with registration and a continental breakfast will also be served. Patsy Hardesty, wife of Baird minister Loy Hardesty, will speak at 10:00 a.m., followed by singing, led by Cindy Hickerson.

A time for visiting and then a luncheon will wind up the day.

The Baird ladies are furnishing the desserts.

Ladies of Baird and surrounding towns are invited to attend and there is no admission charge.

The church is located on the corner of FM 2407 and Highland Street. Take Exit 306 and go under the I-20 bridge.

For more information, contact Beverly Hardesty, who planned the program, at hardesty92@windstream.net or by telephone at (325) 387-4307.

Gas prices got you down? Shop in our hometown.

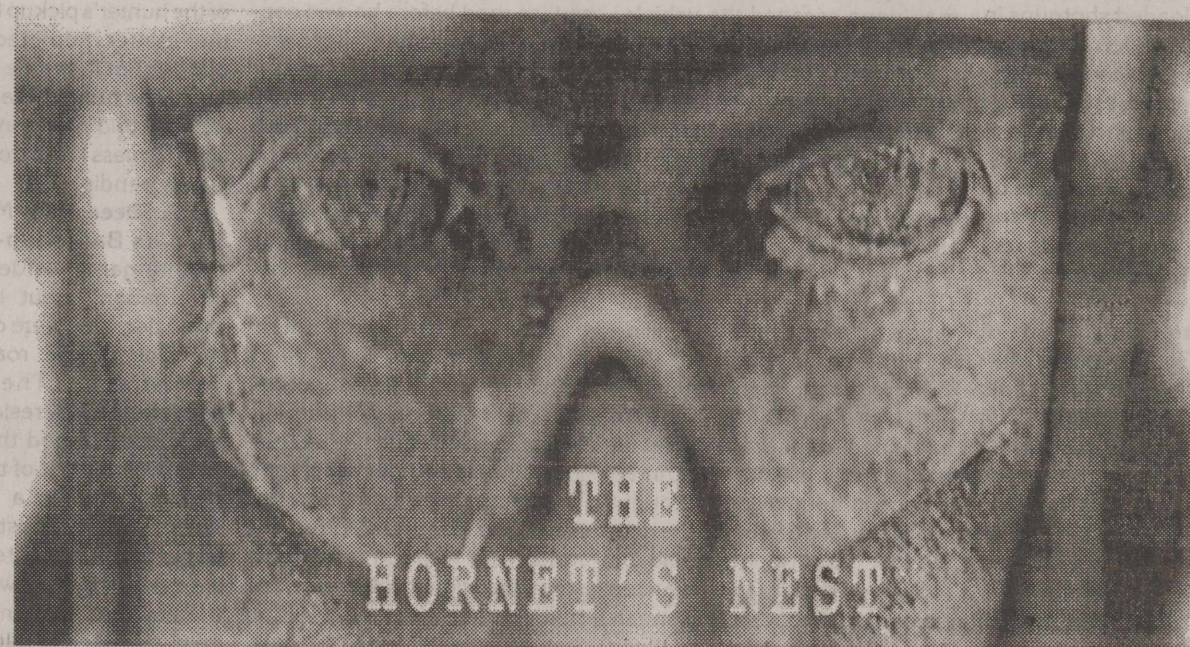
Cross Plains Review

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January 16 2014



YOU ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL SCREENING



SATURDAY, JAN, 25, 2014

The Historic Paramount Theater

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6:45 p.m. Introduction

7:00 p.m. Screening

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www.thehornetsnestmovie.com

Game Warden Field Notes

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports.

• **Willie the Decoy**—Two Henderson County game wardens and two Cherokee County game wardens were patrolling for night hunters because calls were received from landowners about road and night hunting on a farm-to-market road in their area. Willie, the decoy deer, was put into action and the wardens barely had time to set up the decoy before the first shots rang out. One of the subjects said he was just shooting to get the deer to run back into the woods. Cases pending.

• **Just "Looking at Animals"**—A Leon County game warden received a call from the Limestone County Sheriff's Office about a driver of a green vehicle who shot a deer from the road. The warden met with the person who called the sheriff, who said he was sitting in his deer stand when someone drove by, stopped, shot, drove down the road, turned around, and shot again. Then, the suspects got out and drug the deer from the property, loaded it up and drove off. Although the man was unable to get a license plate number, the warden contacted the local police department thinking that the truck would be heading in their direction. The Mart Police Department found the truck with fresh blood in the bed and two loaded shotguns in the cab. The warden arrived at the suspect's residence in Mart, where evidence was collected and the shotguns and deer were seized. The man, his two sons, and his young daughter were on a Sunday drive "looking at animals" when the violations occurred, the father said. Cases pending.

• **Getting Schooled**—A McLennan County game warden received a call from a hunter to help locate a deer he shot while bowhunting. After further investigation, the warden found that the deer was shot on China Spring Independent School District property and the hunter had been hunting on this property for some time without permission from the ISD. The large white-tailed buck had been seen on a few trail cams in the area and was being hunted by many in the area. The deer was found on an adjoining landowner's property a week later. Citation issued. Charges pending.

• **Ruffled Feathers**—An Austin County game warden made contact with two hunters at a campsite after hearing a gunshot. The hunters claimed they

did not see or shoot anything, but after the warden mentioned hearing a shot, the suspects changed their story and said they shot at a coyote with a shotgun. The warden looked around the area and found fresh dove feathers on a four-wheeler. The hunters were persistent that they only shot at the coyote. After further conversation, the hunter claimed he thought it was still dove season and admitted to shooting a dove. Citations were issued and the dove was seized.

• **A White-Tailed Lie**—An Austin County game warden responded to a call at a local residence where a shot was heard. As he approached the house, he saw three men standing outside the garage looking at him. Two other men soon came out of the garage and shut the door. The men claimed they did not shoot anything and that they were not hunting. After talking with the men and hearing conflicting stories, the shooter was identified and the warden found a white-tailed doe hidden in the garage. Citations were issued, and the deer was seized.

• **Smoking Through a Storm**—While on patrol during a winter storm in Callahan County, a game warden and deputy stopped to assist a man whose pickup truck had slid off the icy roadway, ending up on its side in a ditch. When the door was opened, a strong odor of marijuana escaped the vehicle. After a lengthy interview with the driver in 10-degree weather, the man pulled a bag of marijuana out of his pants. The man was transported to jail and was charged with possession of marijuana and driving with a suspended license.

• **Tag, You're It**—A Polk County game warden filed a citation on a local man for killing a white-tailed buck in Polk County and tagging the deer with his wife's license. The man explained to the warden that he had already killed a buck in an adjacent county and thought that if he used his tag on the deer in Polk County, he would be "tagged out." The warden pointed out that he misunderstood the antler restriction bag limit and found that he was not "tagged out" after all. Citations and warnings were issued to the man and his wife for hunting/allowing to hunt under the license of another, failure to tag white-tailed deer, and failure to complete harvest log.

• **Too Much Fun Can Lead To a Lot of Problems**—A Val Verde County game warden received a

call after midnight from a concerned landowner who feared that a rowdy group of hunters, who had just left his hunting ranch without paying for a big game hunt, had also committed hunting violations. The warden was able to track the group to a local hotel through tips he received, but when he attempted to make contact with them he found that they had been kicked out of the hotel due to disorderly conduct. He was finally able to make contact with the group in the county jail, when they were being booked for discharging a weapon within the city limits and public intoxication. After several interviews, another trip to the ranch for evidence collection, and 12 hours and investigation, the game warden found that the group had been too inebriated to shoot straight and had not been able to harvest any deer. Multiple citations for no hunting license and lack of hunter education certification were issued. Cases pending.

• **Dodging Traffic and Trouble**—Two Palo Pinto County game wardens were patrolling for night hunters when a call came over the radio about a suspect who had just run from Department of Public Safety troopers nearby. The wardens arrived on scene just as the subject ran his vehicle into the side of a DPS patrol car. The suspect played Frogger across four lanes of Interstate 20 and across the service road before he was captured. The wardens assisted with the search of the area to see if the subject had thrown anything out of his vehicle and found two pounds of crack cocaine and more than \$3,000 in cash.

• **Game Warden in the Spotlight**—A Palo Pinto County game warden had just gotten into position to watch an oat field when a vehicle stopped in front of him. The truck's lights were turned off and a passenger got out, reached for a rifle from the bed of the truck and began shining the field with a green light. The man then returned to the truck and continued down the road. The warden saw them shine their light on several fields before turning into a gate. After stopping the vehicle at the gate, the warden found a loaded rifle in the front passenger's lap. Another Palo Pinto County game warden arrived on the scene to assist and found that the back seat passenger was underage and drinking beer. The wardens also found a small amount of marijuana in the center console. Multiple charges are pending.

• **Blood Trail Leads to Tres-**

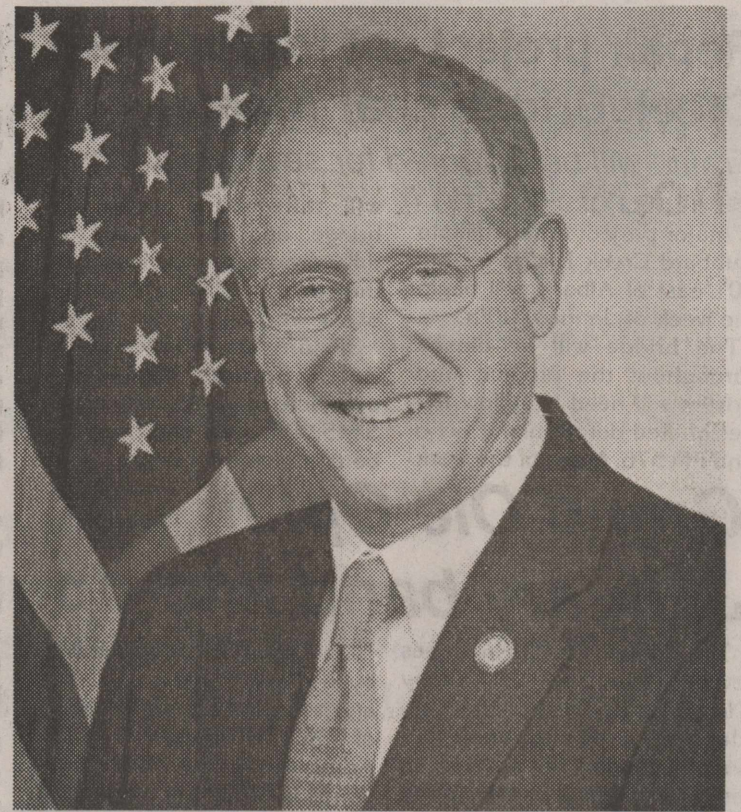
passers—A Titus County game warden responded to a trespass call in Red River County when a landowner's wife discovered a blood trail on her property with ATV tracks running beside it. The warden visited the adjacent hunting camp and discovered a fresh-killed and tagged white-tailed doe. Two individuals were identified and admitted shooting the deer on their neighbor's ranch without consent. Citations were issued for possessing a white-tailed antlerless deer without a permit and criminal trespass. Cases pending.

• **Is the Grass Greener on the Other Side?**—A Red River County game warden was patrolling for night hunting activity when a truck began spotlighting the barn the warden was sitting in. When the warden stopped the vehicle, the driver frantically tried to hide the ammunition from the .22 rifle he had stuffed beside his seat. The subject ended up sitting on the gun's magazine, which was found when the warden had him exit the vehicle. The rifle still had a round in its chamber. The suspects came from Oklahoma and said they crossed the river to see what they could find. Cases were filed for hunting from a public road and for no hunting license. Cases pending.

• **Slip of the Tongue**—A Real County game warden was talking to a hunter in a store parking lot about a nice buck in the bed of the hunter's pickup truck when the hunter admitted that his buddy shot it, but he put his tag on it. The hunter, realizing what he just told the game warden said, "I guess I'm in trouble now." Cases pending.

• **A Deer Has More Meat Than Its Backstrap**—A Zavala County game warden received information about two white-tailed deer that were dumped on the side of the road without backstraps. The warden searched nearby residences and found fresh blood that seemed to be washed out of the bed of a pickup truck. In a hidden ice chest, four backstraps were found under ice. After a lengthy wait, two Arkansas women, who are currently working in the oil field, admitted to taking the two deer at night and dumping the carcasses on the road.

• **Sea Turtle Given a Second Chance**—Three Aransas County game wardens were in an airboat checking duck hunters, when they saw a green sea turtle struggling in the water. The turtle was rescued from the cold and shallow waters and relocated to deep water in Aransas Bay.



MIKE CONAWAY

Coffee with Conaway

The Clyde Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to "Coffee with Conaway" - a Town Hall style meeting with Congressman Mike Conaway. Conaway represents the 11th Congressional District, which covers 29 counties in Texas including Callahan. He serves as the Chairman of the House Ethics Committee and serves on the House Agricultural, Armed Services, and Intelligence committees as well. Conaway is currently serving in his fifth term.

At the meeting, Congressman Conaway will speak briefly on the future of our district and government, and attendees will have the

opportunity to talk with Conaway, get to know him better, and ask him questions. Details for the meeting are listed below; coffee and a light breakfast will be served. The Chamber would like to especially thank Callahan Hall for partnering with us to sponsor this event.

Details:
What - Town Hall style meeting with Congressman Mike Conaway

When - Wednesday, January 22nd; 7:30-8:30am

Where - Callahan Hall, 209 South 1st Street

Contact - Jen Rector, Clyde Chamber of Commerce, 325-893-4221, or through e-mail chamber@clydeamerica.com

Annual TET Reunion at Taylor Co. Fairgrounds in Abilene on Feb. 1st

The 27th annual "TET" Reunion, honoring all veterans, will be held on Saturday, February 1st at the Taylor County Fairgrounds Display Building in Abilene, Texas.

Doors will open at 11:00 a.m. In addition to numerous vendors and representatives from local veterans' organizations, they will always have their unique version of the "USO Tour" along with a meal prepared by the members and volunteers.

What started as a small group of Vietnam veterans gathering to reminisce and tell stories has grown to become the largest TET reunion in the United States.

They encourage and welcome veterans of all ages (not just Vietnam era) and have had attendees from as far away as Alaska.

If you are able to attend, remember to use the west gate of the fairgrounds (across from the Shotwell Stadium) as the other gates will not provide access to the building.

For more information call 325-690-0750, 325-672-4003, or 325-676-2291.

All Veterans and their families are welcome. Join the reunion for a day of fun, food, entertainment, and remembrance.

Game Day Party Tips for Football Fans

StatePoint—Entertaining this football season? To make your gatherings memorable, you'll need to do more than just turn on the game and hope for the best. With the right party plays, you can treat your guests to a spirited game day and a memorable football feast.

Try incorporating these game changing ideas into your regular party playbook:
Team Spirit

Get your friends geared up for game time from the moment they arrive. Hang a team banner in your entryway and adorn your yard with your team's colors. Pump up your crowd by playing your favorite game-time tunes.

Even if all your guests are rooting for the same team, spice it up with some friendly competition, like wagering on who hosts the crowd for the next game.

Have face paint on hand and encourage your guests to arrive early so the party is well underway at kick-off.

Scoring Big with Dips
Food is usually the main attraction at most festivities, and football-themed "home-gating" parties are no exception. Give your spread a thematic look by making a mini football field out of your table. Use AstroTurf as your tablecloth. Then space white tape stripes at intervals for the yard lines.

But you can really score big with the food. Dips are the MVP of home parties, according to a recent survey conducted by ConAgra Foods. More than half of the respondents said their guests reach for dips first. And RO*TEL and VELVEETA Famous Queso Dip remains king at parties, beating out guacamole, salsa, spinach artichoke and buffalo

chicken dip.
So please your crowd and make game day delicious with a quick, easy and zesty dip. If you're one of the many that have never heard of or made queso dip, try this simple crowd-pleasing recipe, made with only two ingredients, RO*TEL and VELVEETA:

Ingredients
• 1 can (10 oz.) RO*TEL Original Diced Tomatoes & Green Chilies, undrained
• 1 lb. (16 oz.) VELVEETA, cut into 1/2-inch cubes

Directions
• Combine undrained tomatoes and cheese in microwaveable bowl.

• Microwave on high for 5 minutes or until VELVEETA is melted completely and mixture is blended, stirring after 3 minutes.

• Serve warm as a dip with tortilla chips, crackers or cut-up fresh vegetables.

Ultimate Queso Bash
No matter where the football festivities take place, queso dip is a fan favorite. The VELVEETA & RO*TEL Quesobago, an RV loaded with queso dip, is making a cross-country tour to college football's hottest rivalries to introduce queso to a new crowd. While it only takes two ingredients to create crowd-pleasing Famous Queso Dip, you can make it your own with a pinch of personality. For queso customizations, visit www.quesoforall.com.

For the perfect pigskin party, make your football fete fun, festive and creatively delicious.

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January 16, 2014

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First Bank Texas

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

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TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- TXism: "tame as ___ dog"
- TX negative
- former home of the Dallas Stars: "___ Cities"
- San Antonio concert pianist Samartoff
- TXism: "you hit the ___" (correct)
- San Antonio-based "La Quinta Motor ___"
- Sam Walton died of ___ cancer
- TX Janis Joplin's drug death (abbr.)
- TXism: "get your ___ built"
- occupation of TX Larry McMurry
- TXism: "he's a good man not ___ with" (mean)
- TXism: "got an over ___ of woe" (very sad)
- this Malouf wrote "Cattle Kings of TX"
- Mexican "yes"
- TXism: "so green he could hide ___ patch"
- TX soldier beds wood for Ranger Prince Fielder
- in Johnson Co. off I-35
- TX teenager's 2nd year in h.s. (abbr.)
- TX Gene Autry's "Buttons and ___"
- TXism: "too many ___ fire"
- blackthorn fruit
- book by TX Sandra Brown: "French ___" (1992)
- 1st lotto director, Linares
- TX Nimitz was head of the Pacific ___
- globetrotter Meadowlark from Colleyville (init.)
- result of using a "Texas toothpick" (2 wds.)
- layered
- DFW arrival guess
- town near Abilene: Buffalo ___
- Japanese ___
- Yokado Co. ___ bought 7-11 in '91
- former Waco attraction: ___-Tex Zoo
- TXism: "plain as the ___ on your face"
- cable network known for drama
- TXism: "___ two-steps to his own beat"
- TXism: "so many you couldn't stir ___ a stick"
- TX Evelyn Keyes book: "Scarlett O'___ Younger Sister"
- a pen name for 42-across: ___ St. Claire
- San Antonio's "River ___ Show"
- TXism: "___"
- "dog stink?" (yes)
- documents filed by TX lawyers
- Jefferson Co.: "___ State Park"
- TXism for "clothes"
- illegal drugs
- TXism for "pond"
- TXism: "hitthed but not churched"
- showed displeasure with the team
- "S" in TX Bush's START 2 pact
- TX chili has proper ___ of spices
- TXism: "___ a lick off" (none)
- sweetheart of TX Pecos Bill: "___ Foot Sue"
- song: "T ___ Texas"
- TXism: "equalizer"

DOWN

- TX Tanya hit: "San ___"
- the U.S. "Interior ___" extends
- TXism: "happy as ___ slop"
- crime code in TX
- TXism: "Big Tex wears his hand-me-downs"

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absknifeexpo.com

FPU course offered at Bible Baptist Church Financial Peace University provides hope to families in the Clyde area

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—More than two million families have positively changed their financial future through Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FPU). Updated in summer 2012, the now nine-week course provides families and individuals with practical tools to gain control of their finances and set themselves up for long-term financial success. The course meets once a week where a different lesson is taught by Dave on DVD followed by a small-group discussion. Lessons include budgeting, relationships and money, getting out of debt, saving for emergencies and investing. FPU will be held in Clyde at:

Bible Baptist Church located at 557 Hunt Street in Clyde. The classes will begin Saturday, January 25, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. Contact Scott Pardee at (325)665-4888 for more information or to register.

Since its inception in 1994 FPU has helped more than 1.5 million families positively change their financial future. Through common-sense principles and small-group accountability, FPU

gives people the tools they need to change their behavior and succeed financially. On average families who complete FPU pay off \$5,300 and save \$2,700 in the first 90 days. Following the class nearly 94 percent of those families budget regularly.

"FPU will not only transform the way you handle money, but also your marriage and other areas of your life," says Ramsey. "This isn't a boring financial class. We make learning about money fun and easy to understand so people in every situation can benefit from the information." Ramsey knows firsthand the pain that financial stress can cause. After creating a net worth of more than a million dollars by age 26, he quickly lost it all. Since then Ramsey has helped families and individuals across the country learn how to get control of their finances and avoid debt so they don't have to experience the same pain he did.

FPU lessons also include guest speakers Rachel Cruze, speaker and daughter of Dave Ramsey, and Chris Hogan, counselor and

speaker for the Dave Ramsey organization.

The revised FPU will be offered through churches and community centers. After purchasing a membership each participant receives a workbook, Dave Ramsey's Complete Guide to Money, an envelope system and an audio CD library. Participants will also have access to budgeting forms and MP3s of all the lessons. For more information or to purchase a membership, go to www.daveramsey.com.

About Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business. He's authored four New York Times bestselling books: Financial Peace, More Than Enough, The Total Money Makeover and Entrepreneurship. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 6 million listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations and iHeartRadio. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

Cross Plains' retail sales begin 2014 down 8%

The City of Cross Plains' one percent city sales tax payments in 2014 are lower by over eight percent, according to the Texas State Comptroller's office.

Texas State Comptroller Susan Combs reported the city's sales tax payment on Wednesday, January 8th.

Cross Plains' 2014 sales tax payments for the year totalled \$17,096.30, which is 8.98 percent lower than the \$18,784.90 in sales tax rebate payments collected in 2013.

The payment to the city for January 2014 was the same amount as the yearly total.

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said today, Wednesday, January 8th, that state sales tax revenue in December was \$2.25 billion, up 3.9 percent compared to December 2012.

"Consumer spending in retail trade contributed to the latest gain in state sales tax collections," Combs said. "Other sectors such as telecommunications also contributed to the monthly growth, and state sales tax revenue has now increased for 45 consecutive months."

Combs will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts their January local sales tax allocations totaling \$573.5 million, up 8.1 percent compared to January 2013.

Combs sent Texas cities \$375.1 million in January 2014, which is higher by 7.4 percent compared to January 2013 and higher by 7.4 percent year-to-date.

She reported \$36.4 million in January 2014 allocations to Texas counties, which is higher by 0.4 percent compared to January 2013 and higher by 0.4 percent year-to-date.

The Texas transit systems received \$130.3 million in January 2014 sales tax allocations, which is 10.3 percent higher than January 2013 and up 10.3 percent year-to-date.

Special Purpose Taxing Districts received \$31.7 million in January 2014 allocations, which is 19.0 percent higher than January 2013 and higher by 19.0 percent year-to-date.

Total sales tax allocations were \$573.5 million in January 2014, which is 8.1 percent higher than January 2013 and up 8.1 percent year-to-date.

The sales tax figures represent monthly sales made in November.

For details of December sales tax allocations to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the Monthly Sales Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Re-

CROSS PLAINS SALES TAX PAYMENTS		
Total yearly sales tax payments	2012	2013
	\$18,784.90	\$17,096.30
Total monthly sales tax payments	2012	2013
	\$18,784.90	\$17,096.30

ports on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/comsum.html.

Other Callahan County towns reporting sales tax payments include:

—The City of Baird reported that sales tax payments in 2014 started the year 73.87 percent higher than the 2013 payments. The city has received \$14,203.98 in 2014, while the 2013 tax payments to the city totalled \$8,169.24.

Baird's monthly payment for January 2014 was the same amount as the yearly total.

—The 2014 sales tax payments in the City of Clyde are 8.89 percent higher than the payments made to the city in 2013. The sales tax rebates for the City of Clyde have amounted to \$44,048.72 in 2014. The 2013 payments to the city during the same payment period were \$40,449.08.

The City of Clyde's monthly payment for January 2014 was the same amount as the yearly total.

—The City of Putnam reported the 2014 payments to the town totalled \$804.04, which is lower by 62.67 percent from the 2013 payments to the city in the amount of \$2,154.03.

Putnam's tax payment for the month of January 2014 was the same as the yearly total.

—Countywide, sales tax payments for 2014 in Callahan County are higher by 9.48 percent compared to the 2013 payments in the county. Callahan County towns received sales tax payments in 2014 amounting to \$76,153.04 while the 2013 payments to the county towns totalled \$69,557.25.

The tax rebates in Callahan County for the month of January 2014 was the same as the yearly total.

Merchants collect the state and local sales tax and send it to the Comptroller's office with their tax returns. The state

keeps its 6 1/4% share and returns the local one percent sales tax each month to the local governments. Cities and counties may levy a combined tax of up to two percent above the state's sales tax.

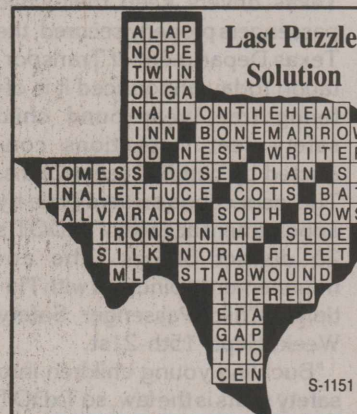
Clyde businesses collect 2.00%, including one percent for the City of Clyde, one-half of one percent for the Clyde Economic Development Corporation and one half of one percent to reduce property taxes (Proceeds to benefit the Clyde Volunteer Fire Department).

Cross Plains collects 2.00% in local sales taxes, of which 1.00 percent is allocated to the city and 1.00% is allocated for economic development in the town.

Baird collects 2.00% in local sales tax of which 1.00% is allocated to the city, 0.50% is allocated to the community's economic development corporation and 0.50% of one percent to reduce property taxes.

Putnam collects 1.00% in local sales tax of which all 1.00 percent is allocated to the city.

All local sales taxes must be approved by local voters and may be used for any legal city or county expenses. Most areas put the money in their General Fund and use it for normal operations like fire fighting, maintaining roads and law enforcement, the Comptroller said. Some cities use up to an additional one percent of city sales tax to help fund local economic development and to reduce property taxes.



Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from December 14, 2013 through January 10, 2014 include:

Cases Investigated
Warnings—163
Complaints—119
DWI—1

Vehicle Accidents
There were three vehicle accidents investigated during this time span.

Nationwide Fulfillment Center Bogus Invoice

Many businesses are receiving via fax an official looking INVOICE for almost \$500 for the 2014 UPDATED FEDERAL & State Labor compliance Posters. This "INVOICE" is from Nationwide fulfillment Center Van Nuys CA. The BBB opened a file on the company just last month. The INVOICE says: "You can fax us your purchase order or call our order desk toll free for faster overnight shipments".

Train your Staff: BBB suggest caution in dealing with unknown firms, do not pay for unordered merchandise and be on the lookout for unauthorized shipments.

The Texas Workforce Commission has a great web site that contains all of the Labor Law poster requirements in one convenient place. Check out: www.twc.state.tx.us/ui/lablaw/posters.html

Texas Department of State Health Services

Immunization Clinic in Callahan County

For your convenience,
please call for appointment,
if no answer please leave a message

Monday, February 10th
Cross Plains Housing Authority
233 N. Main
Time 10-12

Please Bring Child's Immunization Records
If Medicaid or Medicare apply
Please bring card
For More Information call 325/754-4945



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Savings Choice: More money or more guarantee?

Prudent Annual Savings Review

For 2013: Our Clients' \$100,000 grew to \$180,000+

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Cross Plains Review

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January 16, 2014



Rising Star Chamber sponsoring Valentines Dance

Come join the members of the Rising Star Chamber of Commerce for a special evening of great music with "The Last Dance Band" on Friday, February 14th at The City Market Building in Rising Star. Tickets for the event are \$10 at

the door. A bar-b-que sandwich meal will be available on site for \$5.00.

Doors open at 7:00 pm. The band will play from 7:30 until 11:30. EVERYONE COME!

JANUARY 23

Mike McClure
Alvin Hutchins
Elvin Hutchins
J.W. Fore
Scarlet Brazell
Lawrence C. Bryan
Wanda Louise McMullen
Michele Browning
Darryle Letney
Joseph O. Baker

JANUARY 24

Hanna Mae Harris
Cindy (Gosnell) Smith
Nancy Rhodes
Brian Smith
Suzanna White
Gary Murray
Colby Gibson
Patricia (Yarbrough) Mathes
Connie Kirkham
Billy Dale Strickland
Bobby Golson
Linda Hubbard
C.W. Freeman
Billie Ruth Clyatt
Mrs. L.D. Herring
Calvin Corley
Johnny Moore
Kristian Chastain
Travis Sparks
Melissa Clement

JANUARY 25

Michael Simpson
Mike Miller
Jeremy Barnett
Kevin Elkinsd
Larry Rice

JANUARY 26

Madilyn Ellerbe
Katie Gowens McClure
Courtney Ring
Charles Roberts
Aline Wilcoxon
Mrs. Ann Baum Cross
DeAnn Whiteley

JANUARY 27

Billie Helen Pittman
Adriana Montreal
Bracken Grant

JANUARY 28

Eddie Hart
Colton Galloway

JANUARY 29

Brooklyn Jade Smith
Leeland Ray Smith
Mrs. Rayola Roberts
Kimberly Wilson
Ilda Jimenez
Lindsey Barnett
Heather (Montgomery) Harris
Laura (Ricci) Lange
Korbin Kennedy McLean
Bree Dillard

Cross Plains Review

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January 16, 2014

STATE REPRESENTATIVE JIM KEFFER SALUTES CALLAHAN COUNTY JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW!

"I am a proud rural Texan, and I fully support youth in agriculture. That's why I am supported by groups like Texas Farm Bureau, TSCRA, and Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers. As a community, we must continue to advocate for agriculture and rural Texas - and it all starts with our children here in Coleman County."

- Rep. Jim Keffer

KEFFER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
REPUBLICAN

WWW.JIMKEFFER.COM
CAMPAIGN HOTLINE: 254-433-0222

Pub. Adv. By Jim Keffer for State Representative

Secretary of State's office reminds businesses: Don't wait, file early

AUSTIN - Today, the business and public filings division of the Texas Secretary of State's office urged businesses formed as corporations and LLCs to submit their necessary end-of-year filings as early as possible before the December 31st deadline.

Documents received by the business and public filings division by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 31st in correct form will receive a 2013 file date. By filing before the last minute, businesses leave enough time to correct any errors on their documents.

Important filing guidelines include:

- Documents and faxes received after close of business on Dec. 31 will receive a 2014 file date.
- Postmarks and fax confirmation notations do not count.
- Incomplete and incorrect documents are returned without filing.
- A corrected document receives a file date based on its

resubmission—not the date of the original submission.

Whenever possible, Texas businesses are encouraged to file online using SOSDirect, which can be accessed through the secretary of state's website at sos.state.tx.us. Formation filings, terminations and withdrawals can be handled through SOSDirect. Official forms and filing information, including fees, are also available on the website.

Businesses intending to file end-of-year documents should consider holiday schedules and plan accordingly. The secretary of state's business and public filings division will be closed Dec. 24th-27th. Also, the state comptroller's office, which provides certificates for some business filings, will be closed Dec. 24th through January 1, 2014.

For more information, contact the business and public filings division of the secretary of state's office at 512-463-5555 during normal business hours.

Eula's Stacey Herring to coach at FCA All-Star Softball Game

Abilene, Texas — The Big Country Fellowship of Christian announces The Big Country Chevy Dealer's FCA All-Star Festival to be held during the spring of 2014. The Festival is an expansion of FCA's All-Star activities. The events that comprise The Big Country Chevy Dealer's FCA All-Star Festival: April 27, 2014 All-Star Induction Banquet, Abilene Civic Center with special guest speaker, Chad Hennings; May 17, 2014 Festival Awards Dinner, ACU's Teague Center with special guest speaker, Daniel Manning June 12, 2014; 6th Annual All-Star Girls Basketball and the 2nd Annual All-Star Boys Basketball games presented by Action Sports Medicine, held in Brownwood, Texas at the Brownwood Coliseum June 13, 2014; 1st Annual Girls Softball and 1st Annual Boys Baseball games held in San Angelo June 14, 2014; 2nd Annual Girls Volleyball game presented by Abilene Regional Medical Center at ACU's Moody Coliseum; 15th Annual Greathouse All-Star Football Classic game at Abilene's Shotwell Stadium. With the addition of Softball and Baseball, over 260 area student athletes and 34 coaches will take part in the events.

The coaches for the events include: North Football – Head Coach, Dan Gaaney of Colorado City, Assistant Coach Patrick Corcoran of Munday, Assistant Coach Mike Reed of Throckmorton, Assistant Coach Aubrey Sims of Snyder, Assistant Coach Brain Ramsey of Ranger, Assistant Coach Carl Moser of Craig MS; North Men's Basketball – Head Coach, Doug Galyean of Eastland, Assistant Coach Carl Pennington of Olney; South Men's Basketball – Head Coach, Josh Alcom of Brownwood, Assistant Coach Marc Case of Abilene Cooper; North Women's Basketball – Head Coach, Kristy Jo Sullivan of Hamlin, Assistant Coach Jennifer Dement of Anson; South Women's Basketball – Head Coach, David Tandy of Ozona, Assistant Coach Brooke Bicknell of Comanche; North Volleyball – Head Coach, Lynn Osborne of Big Spring, Assistant Coach Amy Eckhoff of Hawley, and Lee Rood of Craig MS; South Volleyball – Head Coach, Colleen Westfall of Bangs, Assistant Coach Ryan Lewis of Dublin and Nikki Davis of Madison MS; North Baseball – Head Coach, Shane Stewart of Snyder, Assistant Coach Allen McGee of Graham; South Baseball – Head Coach, Patrick Penry of Central, Assistant Coach Clay Martin of Abilene Wylie; North Softball – Head Coach, Shay Cox of Abilene Assistant Coach Jimmy Fuentes of Albany; South Softball – Head Coach, Stacey Herring of Eula, Assistant Coach Heather Collier of Abilene Wylie.



BUFFALOS

Estate & Transition Planning workshop for Ag Producers set February 19th in Abilene

An Estate and Transition Planning Workshop for Agricultural Producers is coming to Abilene on Wednesday, February 19th.

The Estate and Transition Planning Workshop is a hands-on program that will address critical estate, retirement, and transition planning issues and resources. Participants will leave the program better prepared to work effectively with their trusted advisors and implement their desired plans.

Topics to be discussed include:

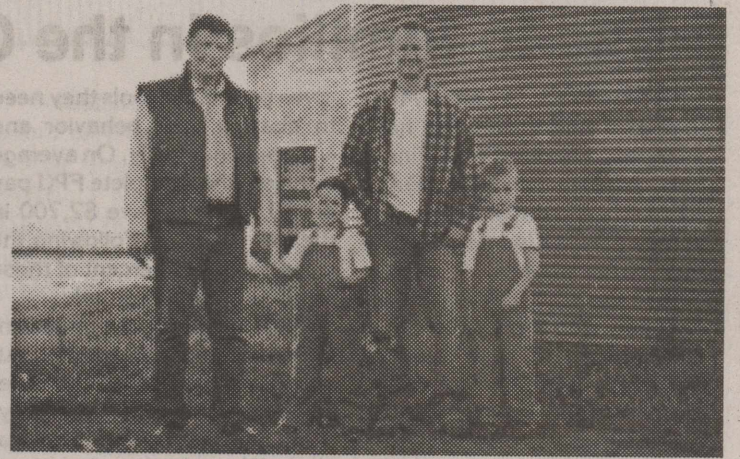
- Estate Planning Concepts
- Gifting/Gift Tax Considerations
- Estate Planning Goals/Objectives
- Retirement Planning Resources
- Transition Planning Alternatives

The workshop schedule will enable sufficient time for questions and discussions in a "safe harbor" learning environment so participants can relate the information to their own individual circumstances and perspectives.

Participants will receive a workbook containing all materials and references to useful planning resources.

The target audience is agricultural producers and landowners interested in building an effective and efficient estate, retirement and/or transition plan. This ensures that the rewards of a lifetime of work are preserved for current and future generations or directed as intended.

The Abilene workshop will be held February 19, 2014 from

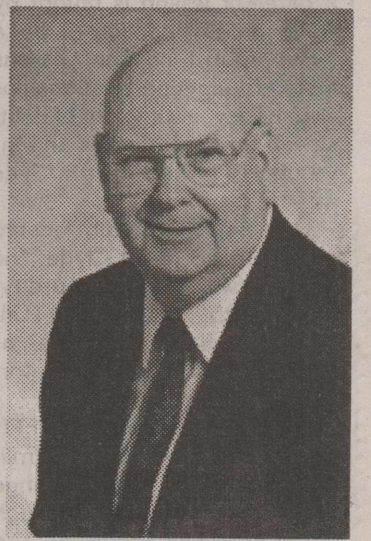


10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with lunch provided. Registration will begin at 9:45 a.m. The Workshop will be held at the Taylor County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Center in Abilene, (adjacent to the Expo Center of Taylor County), 1982 Lytle Way, Abilene, TX 79602-4287

Lunch will be provided. Presenters for the workshop include Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Economists with over 70 years of experience providing educational programming to agricultural producers.

They include: Dr. Wayne A. Hayenga Professor Emeritus, Ag. Economist, and Attorney; Dr. Jason Johnson and Bill Thompson, Extension Economists. Registration Fee is \$35 per person and covers all materials and lunch. Fee may be paid by check made payable to:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Account #: 222100-60010 Registration and Payment can be sent to:



DR. WAYNE HAYENGA
...presenter for the workshop

Taylor County AgriLife Extension
1982 Lytle Way
Abilene, TX 79602-4287
Registration is limited to 40 participants.

Officers Elected for 2014

Callahan Co. Sheriff's Posse holds annual meeting

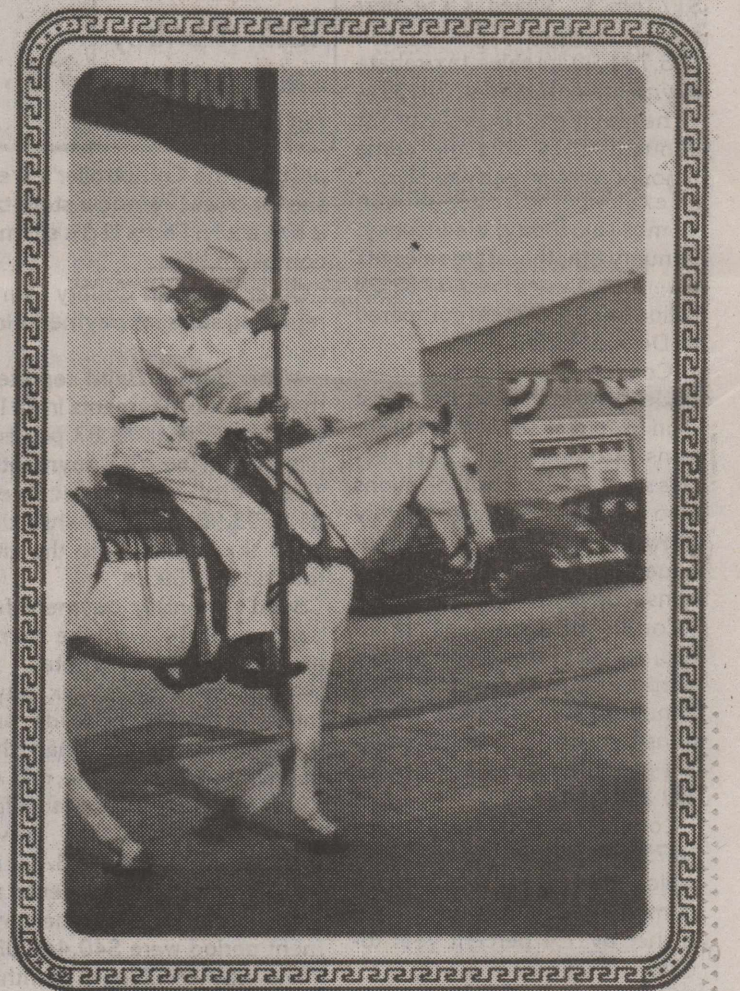
The Callahan County Sheriff's Posse held its annual membership meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 13th in the arena clubhouse at the Baird rodeo grounds. Officers and Directors for 2014 were elected and plans for the year discussed and made.

2014 Officers are President Seth Goldsmith, 1st Vice President DVM Rob Harle, 2nd Vice President Jeff Bureson and Secretary/Treasurer David Ratliff. Directors are David Mays & Billy Sparks (2014), Teri Hollis & Marty Yarbrough & (2014 & 2015), Steve Goldsmith & Mike Walker (2014, 2015 & 2016). Sheriff Terry Joy is an Honorary Life Member. John Comper is Legal Advisor.

Continued restoration, repair and improvement of the grounds, arena and facilities remain a top priority. A ranch rodeo has been scheduled for April 26th in conjunction with Bankhead Highway Days. Plans for a horsemanship clinic and another youth horse show are being made.

The Sheriff's Posse appreciates and acknowledges the support and contributions of numerous individuals, many area businesses, City of Baird, Baird Chamber of Commerce and Callahan County which helped make 2013 a year of successful progress toward restoring the historic rodeo grounds for community use and enjoyment.

2014 membership dues are \$25 for individuals and \$35 for fami-



"The 1948 Callahan County Sheriff's Posse rodeo parade was led by local rancher and World War I veteran Claude Flores (1870 -1949), the great uncle of Dolores Flores Comper of Baird."

lies. Dues can be paid to any officer or director or at the monthly meeting (6:00 p.m., 1st Monday of each month, rodeo arena clubhouse). All inter-

TxDOT announces free, year-round safety seat inspections to help protect children

AUSTIN — In an effort to help Texas drivers keep their child passengers properly secured, the Texas Department of Transportation today announced it is offering free, year-round child safety seat inspections conducted by certified technicians. The inspections are available by appointment at each of TxDOT's 25 district offices. The announcement coincides with National Child Passenger Safety Week, Sept. 15th-21st.

"Buckling young children into safety seats is the law, so TxDOT is pleased to offer this service in an effort to help keep them safe," said Phil Wilson, TxDOT executive director. "To ensure optimal safety, it's important those seats are properly secured and that parents are using the right seat based on their child's age, height and weight."

Texas law states: children younger than 8 years of age, unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches, must ride in safety seats. Na-

New study reports 37 percent of Texas infants, toddlers buckled improperly or not at all

tionally, three out of four safety seats are used incorrectly, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. A new study by the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) found nearly nine out of 10 Texas children were riding in safety seats, but many were not properly buckled. The new study also revealed 37 percent of infants and toddlers in Texas were secured incorrectly — or not at all — when riding in a vehicle.

The TTI study also reported the Texas cities with the highest rates of correct child safety seat use are Austin (83 percent), Tyler (78 percent), Fort Worth (77 percent), Bryan/College Station

(75 percent) and Waco (73 percent).

Cities with the lowest rates of correct child safety seat use are Brownsville (26 percent), Amarillo (37 percent), El Paso (37 percent), Lubbock (44 percent) and Houston (59 percent).

TxDOT's new interactive seat finder at TexasClickIt.orTicket.com can help drivers find the proper safety seats for their children. Visit the site and click on "Child Safety" to begin the search for an appropriate safety seat. To schedule a safety seat inspection, call a TxDOT district office or find your local contact at TexasClickIt.orTicket.com.