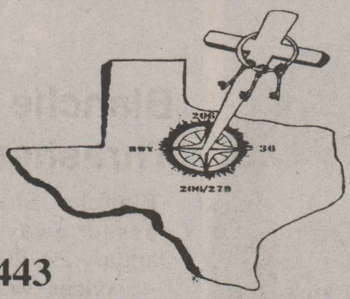


# Cross Plains

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JANUARY 30, 2014 • 12 PAGES

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## Callahan County Judge Roger Corn receives Golden Trowel Award

Callahan County Judge Roger Corn received the Golden Trowel Award by the Baird Masonic Lodge #522 during a public ceremony held Saturday, January 25th at the Baird Senior Citizens Center.

The Golden Trowel Award is the highest award that can be bestowed on a Mason.

The Golden Trowel Award originated in a place called "Armadillo Acres", the getaway home of Past Grand Master Leonard P. Harvey. In the Fall of 1989 while at Armadillo Acres for a bit of a breather before the upcoming Grand Lodge Session, the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Senior Warden were discussing the fact that nearly every lodge has brothers who day-in and day-out accomplish the "little things" for Masonry and for their lodges. The cement, if you will, that unites a building in one common mass or, in our case, unites us as a true brotherhood. While sitting in "the red chair" twiddling between his fingers a small golden trowel that was given to Brother Harvey's father-in-law several years previously, the proverbial light came on and the Deputy Grand Master declared, "We can call it the 'Golden Trowel Award.'" And thus began the creation of this highest honor that a lodge can bestow.

The Golden Trowel Award is unique in that it is sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of Texas as an official award.

The Golden Trowel Award is exclusive in that only one can be awarded to a brother in a Masonic Year.

The Golden Trowel Award is our formal recognition of a brother for his devoted service to Masonic principles in general and to our Lodge in particular.

A committee of past masters must nominate a brother for the Golden Trowel Award. The Lodge must then approve the committee's nomination.

Masonic Lodge District Deputy Master Allen Barnett of Cross Plains read a brief profile of Roger Corn before presenting the award.

Roger Corn was accepted into Masonry on February 4, 1967 and became a Master Mason on February 9, 1968. His brother Masons thought that he was worthy to become a Mason and they still think he is worthy, which is why he is being recognized today with the Golden Trowel



BAIRD GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD RECIPIENT—Callahan County Judge Roger Corn and his wife, Barbara, hold the Golden Trowel Award which was presented to Judge Corn during a brief public ceremony Saturday, January 25th at the Baird Senior Citizens Center. The Golden Trowel Award is the highest award that can be bestowed on a local Mason.

Award.

Roger has served and held many offices in the Masonic Lodge over the last 46 years, and he is also a 32 degree Mason in the Scottish Rites.

His father Irving D. Corn who became a Mason on September 16, 1946 and was given a Masonic Funeral on August 23, 1998 was very proud of the fact that his sons also became Masons.

Roger graduated from Baird High School in 1958 and then studied at the North Texas State University.

He and his wife, Barbara, are also celebrating their 50th anniversary this weekend. They have three children and they are daughter Christy and sons Kelly and Kyle. His children describe him, "As a wonderful father." And his six grand children think he is a, "Wonderful Grand Pop Corn"

His children also gave the reasons why they think he was,

"THE BEST DAD EVER."

He always put their needs before his own.

He was at every event and game in which they participated.

Most importantly he always respected and honored their mother.

Taught them at an early age a good work ethic and that still carries over even today.

He always provided for them and they never felt they did not have everything they needed.

He taught them and expected them to go to church and his spiritual discipline has cultivated theirs.

Most importantly he has always been true to his word, and was always available for his children.

Roger was in the Grocery Business for many, many years and his quality of character showed through by extending credit to those who were down on their luck and needed help. If they paid their bill that was fine and if

they never paid their bill, he didn't pursued the matter.

Likewise he cooked hamburgers and provided compliments for the Little League teams and did not expect to be compensated for it. When a group of parents banded together and collected donations, Roger reluctantly accepted the compensation.

Roger left the Grocery Business in 1994. He became County Judge on the first day of January 1999. As County Judge he has shown the same compassion for people whenever he has had to render a decision. It can be said that when the term, "HONORABLE JUDGE," is used, that the statement is indeed true of Judge Corn.

Therefore it is with great honor and pride that the Grand Lodge of Texas and the Baird Masonic Lodge 522 recognizes you as a worthy Mason and member of your community and presents to you the Golden Trowel Award.



CHARLIE CLEANING AND GETTING READY FOR THE 2014 SEASON



CHARLIE GREENWAY AT RANGE

## Callahan County 4-H Shooting Sports Season Orientation and Introduction February 1st

The Callahan County 4-H Shooting Sports Season will be here soon.

Orientation and introduction to all three disciplines shotgun; Archery; Rifle and Pistol will be held this Saturday February 1, 2014 at 2:00pm at the Shooting Range between Clyde and Baird.

Anyone interested in shooting sports is encouraged to attend.

You must be a 4-H member to participate in the sport events, but anyone can attend the orientation. We are hoping for a large, diverse crowd and are looking forward to a successful year.

If you would like more information please call Rose at the Extension Office in the Courthouse at 854-5835.

## Commissioners' court holds brief meeting Tuesday

The Callahan County Commissioners' Court held a brief meeting on Tuesday, January 21st to reinstate the Countywide Burn Ban and discuss the CETRZ grant Callahan County is applying for.

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Judge Roger Corn 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.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hicks and second by

Commissioner Kirkham to reinstate the Countywide Burn Ban effective immediately. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Discussion was held about the County Energy Transportation Reinvestment Zone (CETRZ) Grant. During the discussion, the commissioners' court held a conference call with Phillip Ledbetter for questions the court had about the CETRZ grant. Mr. Ledbetter is with the firm of Allison, Bass and Associates, LLP. No action was taken.

The motion adjourned at 2:00 p.m. with a motion by Commissioner Windham and a second by Commissioner Farmer with a 5-0 vote.

## TxDOT plans repair project for US 180 bridge at Highway 351

SHACKELFORD COUNTY — The Texas Department of Transportation will begin a project the first week of February to make routine repairs to the US 180 bridge where it joins with SH 351 in Shackelford County.

The bridge will remain open throughout the project, but the traffic lane will be narrowed. During construction, an advisory speed limit of 45 mph will

be posted, and no oversize/overweight loads will be permitted. Drivers should use extreme caution in the construction zone and watch for workers in the area.

O. Trevino Construction LLC of Roanoke, Texas will complete the project for about \$308,000. Work is expected to be completed this spring.

## Cross Plains School Board approves new Track

Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees met in a regular meeting on January 15, 2014 with the following members present: Jack Shepard, Tommy Ames, Davy Crockett, John McWilliams, Michael Cowan, Roy Richey and Bryan Bennett.

The following administrators and guests were also in attendance: Cross Plains School Superintendent, High School Principal and Elementary Principal. Guests were: Barbara Moore, Hayley Hughes, Buck Moore, Jason Barron, Collyn Barron, Ronda Barron and Jim Lowrance.

The Prayer was led by Jack Shepard.

A motion was made by Davy Crockett and seconded by John McWilliams, that the board proclaim Collyn Barron as the December Boy Student of the month and also proclaim Hayley Hughes the December Girl Student of the month. Seven

members voted for, and 0 against.

A motion was made by John McWilliams and seconded by Davy Crockett that the Board accept Hellas Construction to replace Cross Plains school's existing track with a new one at a cost of \$299,950.00.

A motion was made by John McWilliams and seconded by Roy Richey to accept the minutes from the previous meeting, with corrections. Six for, Bennett abstained.

Motion made by Michael Cowan and seconded by Bryan Bennett that we approve 2012-2013 safe and effective schools and performance report. Seven for and 0 against.

The Board went into executive session at 9:01 P.M. and returned at 11:23. A motion was made by Michael Cowan and seconded by Davy Crockett to extend the Superintendent's contract through 2017.

Motion was made by Bryan Bennett and seconded by Roy Richey to adjourn. Seven for and 0 against.



# BUFFALOS

**Texas Heritage Bank**  
"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

**Member FDIC**

**Presents: "What's Inside"**

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Texas Tech University  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409



## 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 School.....9:45 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

## OBITUARIES



### Frances Baird

**Frances Witherspoon Baird**, age 92, was called home to be the Lord on Wednesday, January 22, 2014. Funeral service were at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, January 25, 2014 at the Higginbotham Chapel in Cross Plains with Baylis officiating; burial will follow in the Coleman City Cemetery.

Frances was born January 3, 1922 in Midlothian, Texas to B.F. and Ruby (Bishop) Witherspoon. The next year the family moved to Waxahachie. In 1927 they moved to Harlingen where Frances grew up. She graduated from Harlingen High School in 1939.

In October 1940 she married Donald Baird. From 1955-1960 they had a tractor business in Cross Plains. They were active members of the Baptist Church, teaching Sunday School classes and working with children.

In 1967 they moved to Coleman and Donald built a cotton gin which he ran for 15 years while Frances worked in the office. They were active members of the First Baptist Church.

She had been living in Georgetown since 1993.

She is survived by her daughter, Becky Baird Overstreet and her husband, Jerry of Georgetown; son, Mark Baird and his wife, Kim, of League City; and a daughter-in-law, Annabel Baird of Richardson; and seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Frances was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Baird; one son, John David Baird; her parents; one sister and four brothers.



**Higginbotham FUNERAL HOME**  
309 N. E. 4th STREET  
P. O. BOX 9  
CROSS PLAINS, TX 76443

## First United Methodist Church

**Kevin Morton, Pastor**

Office 725-7377 Parsonage 325-624-5634  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

1000 North Main Street

[www.gbmg-umc.org/crossplains/](http://www.gbmg-umc.org/crossplains/)

## 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](http://www.firstbaptistcp.com)

### Blanche Shafer Thrasher

Blanche Shafer Thrasher passed away Wednesday, January 22, 2014.

Services were at 10 a.m. Monday, January 27, 2014, at the Forest Ridge Funeral Home, in Hurst, Texas.

Burial was at 2:30 p.m. Monday, January 27, 2014 in Waco Memorial Park, Waco. Visitation was held at 8 a.m. Monday at Forest Ridge Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to N.O.T.E., [noteus.org](http://noteus.org), or Alzheimer's Association, [alz.org](http://alz.org).

Blanche was born Dec. 25, 1920, in Coryell County to Thomas and Birdie Shafer. She married the love of her life, Dick, on Aug. 1, 1941. They were blessed with two sons, Thomas Nelson and Ronald Wayne, and a daughter, Sharon Denise.

Blanche was a loving mother, wife, grandmother, sister and friend. She loved to laugh and enjoy life to the fullest. She was an avid bridge player and bowled an impressive game.

The greatest legacy she left her family and friends was her love and devotion, her infectious laugh, and her spunky personality. She was so blessed with a full and joyous life of 93 years!

She was a faithful member of First United Methodist Church in Cross Plains.

A special thank-you to the staff of Emeritus Oak Hollow and Grace Hospice.

Blanche was preceded in death by her sons, Thomas and Ronald; her parents; and sisters, Ruby, Opal, Luna Mae, Dora, Jean and Mildred.

Survivors are her husband, Dick Thrasher; brother, Thomas Shafer; daughter, Sheri Parker; grandchildren, Tyra Newcomer, Georgia Townson, Ronald Thrasher II, John Parker, Aaron Parker and Adam Parker; great-grandchildren, Alex, Andrew and Aidan Newcomer, Mason Alfaro, Brigid, Hannah and Neva Parker; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Forest Ridge Funeral Home Hurst, 817-285-7777  
View and sign guestbook at [www.star-telegram.com/obituaries](http://www.star-telegram.com/obituaries)

### Cross Plains Review

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January 30, 2014

## Valentine's Dance to be held in Rising Star

The Chamber of Commerce of Rising Star has planned a dance, to be held on February 14, 2014 (Valentine's Day). Every-one is invited to come join us for a special evening of great music with The Last Dance Band, at The City Market Building in Rising Star.

"The Last Dance Band" is a classic country band, formally known as "Borderline" They specialize in "classic country", but also add a little "Blues" and "Classic Rock".

The band members have played together for years and have a high standard for professionalism. Doc Sikes (front man), from Bangs, Texas plays Lead guitar. Dickey Strickland, from Rising Star, Texas is on Bass guitar and does vocals. Charles Connelly from Sidney, Texas, also plays Lead guitar and does vocals as well. Rounding out the group is Rick Ferrell, from San Saba, Texas on Drums.

Most members of this band have played with artists such as Reba, Johnny Lee, Johnny Bush, Hank Thompson and others. They have fun when they play, and try to get the crowd involved. Tickets for the Valentine Dance are \$10 at the door, bar-b-que sandwich meal or loaded baked potato meal for \$5.00 will be available.

Doors open at 7:00 pm. The band will play from 7:30 until 11:30. The band is available for any event—Weddings, Private parties, Clubs—but love playing at Family friendly venues. If interested in booking the band for an event. Please contact Dickey Strickland at 325 -203 -1531.

Be sure to plan your Valentine's Day to include the entertainment of this group. The City Market Building is located at 202 S. Main (one block south of the blinking light) in Rising Star.

## Courthouse News

**Callahan County Court**  
**Roger Corn, presiding**

**Misdemeanor Filings**

Kimberly L. McConnell, interfere with emergency call. Kimberly L. McConnell, resist arrest/search/transport. James Knox, possession of controlled substance. Jacob Lee Melton, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz. Jason L. Autry, obstructing highway.

**Misdemeanor Minutes**

Ronda D. Cato, motion to revoke probation and adjudicate granted. Cody L. Allen, order amending conditions of probation granted. Kristy L. Gandy, motion to dismiss to theft by check granted in the interest of justice.

**Marriage Licenses**

Ronnie Lemoine Pancake and Robbie Ethel McClure, both of Cross Plains.

**42nd District Court**  
**John Weeks, presiding**

**Civil Filings**

American Express Bank, FSB vs. Jeffrey Abbott aka Jeffrey S. Abbott and Abbott Floor Co., debt/contract.

**Kara Ann Parker Rogge and Russell Duane Rogge, divorce.**

**Civil Minutes**

Wayne Boyd vs. Texas Workforce Commission, final judgment of dismissal granted. John Michael Dement and Stacey Lee Dement, divorce granted.

Larry Joseph Paus, final order to change the name of an adult granted.

Marc Adam Newman and Siyan Newman, divorce granted.

Troy Capital LLC vs. Richard R. Thompson, agreed judgment, plaintiff to recover the sum of \$11,496.53 from defendant granted.

**Criminal Complaints & Information**

James Burgess, sexual assault of child.

**Criminal Minutes**

Wesley A. Jones, motion to dismiss motion to revoke probation and adjudicate granted.

Gabriel Soto, plea of guilty to indecency with a child, 7 year probation, \$1000 fine, \$339 court costs.

Mike Alan Lewis, plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance, 9 months in prison, \$334 court costs.

## CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

(USPS 138-660)

DON TABOR PUBLISHER  
BECKY TABOR EDITOR  
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

MEMBER 2014

## TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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## 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

## 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.

## Love Fund

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





Cottonwood Country Musical—People enjoy the meal at the Cottonwood Country Musical.

## The Cottonwood Historical Association Keeps A Tradition Going

Last Friday night, the old Cottonwood schoolhouse "rocked" with the sound of good country music, applause, and laughter as the monthly Cottonwood Country Musical was held.

People from area towns and communities came, enjoyed the meal and relaxed in the auditorium as the musicians entertained them with classic country music and country hymns.

Chuck Patrick, the emcee does an excellent job keeping the program flowing. Chuck sang two old time favorites, "Whispering Pines" and "Folsom Prison Blues".

Gary Thames from Breckenridge was next on the program. He sang "One Has My Name" and "Wild Side of Life".

Raymond Hart from Ranger, sang "Ring of Fire" and the peppy song "Jambalaya".

Art Crudgington from Breckenridge sang "Kiss an Angel Good Morning" and "Last Cheaters Waltz".

Brenda Adams from Graham sang "Grampa" and "Texas Blue Bonnet".

John Hullum from Olden sang a frequently requested song, "Crazy Arms" and "Slewfoot".

George Allison from Early sang "Lonesome Blues" and a song that he wrote "What a Foolish Thing to Say".

Jackie Collins from Pioneer sang "Let Go of the Stone" and "The Only Mama That'll Walk the Line".

Arlita Dameron from Gustine does a wonderful job on the piano. There's not a song that the other musicians can throw at her that she can't play. She can even pick up the new songs and play them.

Bob Farrell from Olden sang "I Love You Because" and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus".

These are just a couple of the songs that the musicians played and sang. Each musician has thirty minutes on the program to entertain.

Guests musicians were Dean Ables of Breckenridge and E. J. Browning from Rising Star. Their performances were enjoyed as well.

A tradition is being carried out at the old Cottonwood

schoolhouse which was converted to a community center after the school was closed in 1953. The musicals were begun then and have been scheduled since that time.

The Cottonwood Historical Association which is dedicated to the preservation of the historic buildings in Cottonwood and the two cemeteries, sponsor the Cottonwood Country Musicals every month.

There is no charge for the musical. The revenue from the meal served and the snacks sold in the kitchen go toward utilities and maintenance of the building.

Thanks to everyone in the community that donated their time or food to keep the tradition of the Cottonwood Country Musicals going.

The next Cottonwood Country Musical will be February 28, 2014.

**Cross Plains Review**  
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January 30, 2014



The musicians entertain with great country music



The audience enjoys the country music

### Cottonwood News By Beverly Brown

The cold weather and colds and flus are keeping a lot of people at home right now. Many folks are bundling up and staying in.

The Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Group held their Annual Meeting Monday night. New board members are Roy Boyd and Bob Ossowski. They join other board members Roger Hinkle, Jim Grindstaff, Fred St Peter, Omer Rivard and Norma Farmer.

Everyone is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the 5 ton Military Truck that the volunteers will convert into a Brush Firetruck. We're hoping it will be here in Cottonwood soon.

On Saturday, February 8th, there will be a fundraiser at the First Baptist Church in Cross Plains for Owen Turner,

grandson of Dannes and Greg Turner, who are well-known in Cottonwood. Owen, who is 9 months old, is battling a rare form of Leukemia. BBQ Brisket will be served along with potato salad and beans and homemade cobbler. There will be a cake auction, live auction and a silent auction — all to raise money for Owen and his parents, Joseph and Allison Turner. If you have items or cakes you'd like to donate for either of the auctions, let Cindy Payne know 325-660-2428. There's also a Love Fund set up at the bank.

The Burn Ban is on. No outdoor burning or welding. Be extremely careful in your other outdoor activities. If you see smoke in the area, call 911 or the Sheriff's office at 325-854-1444.

### School Breakfast Feeding More Needy Texas Children State still leaving \$59M in annual federal aid on the table

AUSTIN — A new national report finds that sixty-one low-income Texas children ate school breakfast for every 100 that received subsidized school lunch in the last school year. This slight increase over the previous year means that an average of 1.5 million low-income children ate a free or reduced-price breakfast each school day. The report estimated that an additional \$59M in federal aid would flow to Texas schools each year if the state were able to reach seventy out of every 100 needy students.

"Texas has done a good job making this program available, but students clearly still face barriers and stigma in order to

eat breakfast before the first bell," said Celia Cole, CEO of the Texas Food Bank Network. "Universal, in-class breakfast strategies have the potential to boost participation in the existing program, significantly improving student learning and health at no cost to the state."

Texas mandates that nearly all public schools offer the federally-funded breakfast program. A new law passed by the state legislature in 2013 aims to boost participation by asking high-need schools to make breakfast available to all students without cost.

"Anything we can do to boost the academic performance of children from low-income

### Meet the Author Postponed

Due to the inclement weather on January 23, 2014, Meet the Author with Denzel Holmes was postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

### Summer Meetings of the Mohair Council and the Mohair Producer Board

The Mohair Council of America will hold its Annual Membership meeting on Thursday, February 5, 2014, at Zentner's Daughter Restaurant, 1901 Knickerbocker Road in San Angelo, TX. This will be a one day event. The Winter Meeting of the Mohair Producers Board will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the Mohair Council Directors and Membership Meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m. There will be a noon break for lunch and the meeting will resume at 1:30 p.m. until completed. Mohair Council members will hear about all the Council activities to date.

The membership meeting will also include discussion of many issues of concern to mohair producers. Reports will be given by related industry organizations.

All planning to attend are asked to RSVP to the Mohair Council office at 1-800-583-3161 or you may email Darlene Speck at HYPERLINK "mailto:bookkeeping@mohairusa.com" bookkeeping@mohairusa.com. We look forward to seeing you there. Information on this meeting and other events can be found on our website at www.mohairusa.com.

**Wild About Texas**  
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MICHAEL PRICE

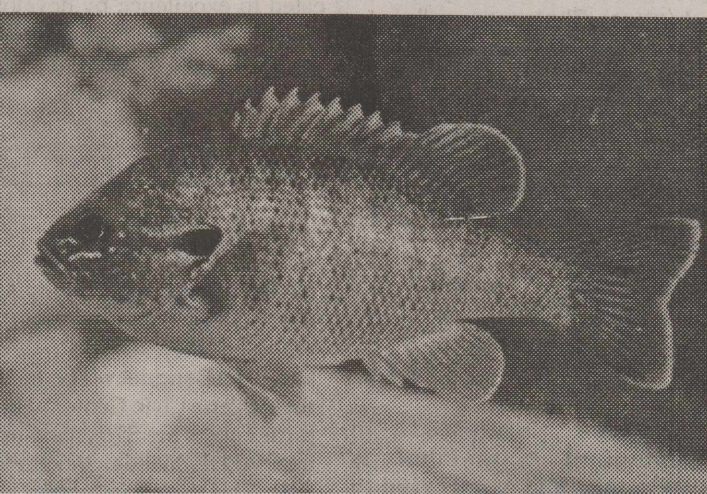
## Bluegill Sunfish

There are times that the scientific community and the general layman disagree on what to call things in the natural world around them. One local example of this in plants is the Juniper tree, commonly (and mistakenly) known locally as a cedar tree. An example of this disagreement in the animal kingdom lies in a small, colorful, and common fish known locally (and mistakenly) as a perch.

The Bluegill Sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*) is one of ten species of the genus that inhabit the state of Texas, and is arguably the most common. It is a moderately sized species of freshwater fish that occurs in just about every lake, pond, creek, and river in the great state of Texas. Outside of the state, it can be found in every state roughly east of the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic Ocean, northward to near the Canadian border, and southward to the northern Mexican states of Coahuila and Chihuahua.

This commonly seen member of the black bass and sunfish family can be quite attractive in coloration. In adult specimens, the background coloration is typically a shade of light green with six to seven dark bars extending vertically on the lateral sides. In large adults, these black bars may be faded or lacking altogether. As the common name implies, this species has a dark shade of blue coloration surrounding the area around the gills, although again, in many large specimens this coloration will have a tendency to fade. The most accurate diagnostic for identifying this species is the small dark spot at the posterior edge of the dorsal (top) fin, although again, as you may have guessed, in many older adults this spot too is faded or lacking. Immature specimens lack the definitive black spot on the dorsal fin, lack the blue coloration, and have between nine and twelve dark vertical bars on the sides.

Like other members of this fish family, the Bluegill Sunfish is of



Bluegill Sunfish  
(*Lepomis macrochirus*)

moderate length and build. Adults may reach up to sixteen inches in total length, although most average six to eight inches. Juveniles have a more streamlined outline, and begin their aquatic life as small as one-sixteenth of one inch in length.

Bluegill Sunfish are opportunistic carnivores, feeding on a variety of small invertebrate as well as vertebrate prey items. Smaller specimens obviously prefer to feed on smaller items such as microscopic organisms like water fleas while the adults will not hesitate to feed on smaller fish, insects, frogs, leeches, and crayfish. It is a swift hunter and relies on a suction style of acquiring its food. It will suck up a large amount of water rapidly into its mouth, and in doing so,

its prey will too be pulled in. The access water goes harmlessly through the gills, while the prey item will be swallowed and digested.

While mature specimens may live up to ten years, few sunfish survive for that long. Many other larger vertebrates prey on Bluegill, including a myriad of aquatic birds, turtles, raccoons, snakes, and other fish, including larger animals of the same species. Some people will fish for this variety for food purposes, and due to the size, shape and method of cooking this fish, in many places of the country it is commonly known as panfish.

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

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NEW ARRIVALS FOR THE FAMILY ROOM!

### Cross Plains Boys Basketball Scores and Update

The Cross Plains Buffaloes are currently 4-2 in district play. They are just above .500 on the season sitting at 10-9. Their loss to May on Friday put them in sole possession of second place, but have not clinched a playoff spot with road games at Panther Creek and Rising Star still left. Rising Star and Panther Creek are both 3-3 in district and split their meetings winning on each others home court, they are currently tied for third. A slip up by the Buffaloes and things could get really hectic fast.

The Buffaloes snapped a four game win streak as May defeated them in Cross Plains Friday, January 24th prior to that Cross Plains defeated Santa Anna in Santa Anna by Santa Anna by the score of 56-30. The Buffaloes were led by senior, Cutter Halsel in scoring, as he put up 16 points and shot 4 of 5 from the charity stripe. Freshman, guard, Holden Senclair added 15 for the Buffaloes as he was able to knock down shots from behind the arc. Justin Willis had a solid night going for 11 points from his forward position. Next up, the Buffaloes hosted Brookesmith; a slow start turned into a blow out as the Buffaloes came away with a 63-11 victory. Senior, guard, Tyler Henderson and senior, forward, Cutter Halsel led the Buffaloes with 12 points each. Senior, guard, Tristen Stephenson was not far behind with 9 points on the evening. Next up was Rising Star, in Cross Plains; a huge game

with playoff implications and district seeding on the line. The Wildcats of Rising Star came out hot, and gave the Buffaloes a real test, but the Buffaloes grinded it out with a 59-41 win. Cutter Halsel carried the Buffaloes with a huge offensive outing; he poured in 21 points, pulled down 7 rebounds and took 2 charges. Senior, forward, Josh Branch and Holden Senclair, added 11 points each in the contest. Colten McWilliams played a great game defensively keeping Rising Star's shooters under wraps. The Buffaloes will have a tough task on their hand when they travel to Rising Star in the district finale.

Friday, January 24, the Buffaloes hosted May, who had the district lead with a 5-0 record. A win for the Buffaloes would have given them a share of first place. While the Buffaloes played well, and fought hard, a terrible night at the free throw line was too much for them to overcome. Final score, May 43- Cross Plains 36. Tyler Henderson led the way with 9 points hitting two treys. Cutter Halsel and Holden Senclair netted 8 each.

By the time you read this article, the Buffaloes will have traveled to Panther Creek in a very important game. Panther Creek is always a tough road game, and will be this time as well. Friday, January 31, is SENIOR NIGHT. 7 seniors will be playing in their last home game; Tristen Stephenson, Justin Willis, Tyler

families is going to have a significant pay-off for the state," added Cole.

The School Breakfast Scorecard, released annually by the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), measures the reach of the School Breakfast Program nationally and by state. School district-level data is also available for Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio.

The Texas Food Bank Network provides a unified voice among food banks in support of their common mission to end hunger in Texas. Learn more at TFBN.org.

Henderson, Cutter Halsel, Colten McWilliams, Josh Branch, and Wesley Carver.

**Box Scores:**

**1-14-14**

	1	2	3	4	F
CP	15	17	8	16	56
SA	7	5	11	7	30

Scoring: Henderson 8, Laminack 4, Stephenson 2, Halsel 16, Senclair 15, Willis 11.

**1-17-14**

	1	2	3	4	F
B r o o k e s m i t h	7	2	0	2	11
CP	13	20	13	17	63

Scoring: Henderson 12, Laminack 2, Stephenson 9, Branch 2, McWilliams 6, Sanders 7, Halsel 12, Senclair 8, Willis 53.

**1-21-14**

	1	2	3	4	F
Rising Star	10	13	5	13	41
CP	15	12	16	59	

Scoring: Henderson 5, Stephenson 2, Branch 11, McWilliams 6, Halsel 21, Senclair 11, Willis 3.

**1-24-13**

	1	2	3	4	F
May	11	4	14	14	43
CP	9	8	8	11	36

Scoring: Henderson 9, Stephenson 6, Branch 4, Halsel 8, Senclair 8, Willis 1.



# Callahan County's jobless rate drops to 4.1% in December

The unemployment rate in Callahan County dropped two-tenths of one percent to 4.1% in December 2013, according to jobless figures released Friday, January 24th by the Texas Workforce Commission. The unemployment rate in Callahan County one year ago in December 2012 was 4.5 percent.

Callahan County's unemployment rate was 4.3% in November, 2013.

Previous monthly jobless rates in Callahan County included: 4.5% in October 2013, 4.9% in September, 4.7% in August, 4.7% in July, 5.3% in June 2013, 5.2% in May, 4.5% in April, 4.8% in March, 5.2% in February, and 5.3% in January, according to the unemployment figures.

Big Country area counties, bordering Callahan County, and the counties' unemployment rates for December 2013 include: Brown, 5.0%; Coleman, 5.1%; Eastland, 5.1%; Jones, 5.5%; Runnels, 4.8%; Shackelford, 2.4%; Stephens, 4.4%; and Taylor County, 4.3%.

The Abilene MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) unemployment rate, which includes Taylor, Callahan and Jones Counties, stood at 4.4% in December, 2013, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. The Abilene MSA Combined Labor Force is 85,700. There were 82,000 employed during December 2013, while 3,700 were unemployed, giving the Abilene MSA an unemployment rate of 4.5%.

The Abilene MSA reported the workforce was 85,800 in November, 2013. Total employment of 81,900 was reported in November 2013, while 3,900, or 4.5% were unemployed in November 2013.

The Abilene MSA unemployment rate for December, 2012 was 4.7%. The total workforce was reported at 84,300, with 80,400 employed and 3,900 or 4.7% unemployed in December, 2012.

The state's unemployment rate for the month of December, 2013 was 5.6 percent. The total Texas labor force was 12,864,400 in December 2013. The total number of Texans employed is 12,141,700. The total number of unemployed Texans was 722,700 in December 2013.

Last month's statewide unemployment rate was 5.8 percent. The state's unemployment rate in December of 2012 was 6.0 percent.

The United States unemployment rate for December, 2013

## UNEMPLOYMENT

Callahan County Unemployment	Nov.	Dec.
	4.3%	4.1%

was 6.5 percent. The nation's unemployment rate for the previous month of November, 2013 was 6.6%. The United States unemployment rate one year ago in December, 2012 was 7.6%.

### Highlights of the Texas Labor Force (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The Texas unemployment rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point to 5.6 percent. This was the third consecutive monthly rate decline for Texas. Over the past three months, the unemployment rate experienced an average drop of 0.2 percentage points. The December rate was the lowest seen since November 2008. The unemployment rate has fallen 1.3 percentage points since January 2013. For the United States, the unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point over the month to 6.5 percent. The Texas unemployment rate of 5.6 percent was at or below the national rate for the 85th consecutive month.

The Civilian Labor Force increased by 9,600 individuals over the month to a total of 12,864,400 Texans. The last three months have shown an average increase of 10,200 Texans in the labor force. Over the year, the Texas labor force has shown a growth rate of 1.8 percent, or 229,900 persons.

The number of employed Texans grew by 31,500 people over the month to a total of 12,141,700 persons. This was the largest number of jobholders since the beginning of the series. The number of working Texans has grown by 359,200 individuals since the beginning of the year. The number of jobseekers dropped by 21,900 persons over the month to a level of 722,700 people. This was the lowest number of unemployed Texans since December 2008. The number of Texans seeking work has declined by 41,500 individuals over the year.

The unemployment rate fell in 22 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), with the San Anto-

nio/New Braunfels MSA, the Tyler MSA, and the Waco MSA sharing the largest over-the-month decline of 0.3 percentage points. Two MSAs maintained the same unemployment rate, while one MSA increased. The McAllen-Edinburg-Mission MSA had the highest unemployment rate at 10.4 percent. The Midland MSA had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.8 percent.

The number of individuals continuing to seek unemployment insurance benefits increased in December by 1,700 persons to reach a total of 123,400 Texans.

### HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATE

#### Nalco Champion to Build Headquarters

HOUSTON, TX (Houston Chronicle)—Energy services company Nalco Champion announced plans to build a new headquarters in Sugar Land to house 1,000 employees. The 133,000-square-foot building will be next to the company's current Sugar Land operations. Employees working at Nalco Champion sites in Houston and Fresno will relocate to the location once it is completed in 2015.

The project will also include renovations to the company's existing 45,000 square-foot Sugar Land building, where the company plans to expand research, development, and engineering lab facilities. Nalco Champion provides chemical solutions and technologies for upstream and downstream oil and gas companies.

#### Skinner Bakery to Expand Facilities

PARIS, TX (eParis Extra)—The Paris City Council voted unanimously to ratify the Paris Economic Development Corporation's cash incentive offer of \$1.2 million to J. Skinner Bakery in exchange for the company's plan to invest \$25 million and create 393 jobs over the next five years. Audie Keeton, chief executive officer for the Omaha-based company,

said, "We are beginning a 24-to-36 month plan to put in what will be the largest distribution center freezer, right here, on our site, and we're very excited about that." Four companies from Omaha will be working with Skinner in conjunction with the distribution center freezer. The former Sara Lee plant in Paris that Skinner purchased a year ago will figure prominently in Skinner Baking operations, Keeton said.

#### TopGolf Plans Openings in Texas

SAN ANTONIO/HOUSTON, TX (San Antonio Business Journal)—TopGolf, based in Dallas, is expanding to San Antonio. The company plans to begin construction on a 65,000 square-foot golf entertainment facility on the city's far Northwest Side. The three-level facility will house up to 2,900 square feet of private event space and 102 climate-controlled hitting bays. TopGolf's chief development officer, Randy Starr, estimates the facility will serve approximately 400,000 visitors in its first year of operation. TopGolf plans to hire about 450 personnel for the San Antonio Center. Roughly 100 of those hires will be full-time positions.

According to the Houston Business Journal, TopGolf plans on opening a second Houston area facility. The company plans on building a similar facility off of Interstate 45 in Spring, Texas north of Houston. The company anticipates hiring 450 people for the location expected to open in April. The first TopGolf facility in west Houston, located off of Interstate 10, has welcomed more than 250,000 guests in its first six months of operation.

#### Solix Will Add Jobs in Downtown Killeen

KILLEEN, TX (KWKT Channel 44-Waco)—The Killeen Economic Development Corporation signed a performance agreement with Solix Inc. to help facilitate the opening of a location in downtown Killeen. Solix will lease a downtown building and is expected to employ up to 175 employees within the first five years of business. The location will serve as a customer care center and will include call center operations. Company CEO Jack Miller said Solix looks forward to becoming an active member of the Killeen community and a part of downtown's resurgence.

## Sheriff's Department Monthly Report for December 2013

Callahan County Sheriff's Department Monthly Statistics December 2013

Burglary: 11  
Animal Calls: 26  
Assist Motorist: 12  
Accidents: 107  
Alarm Calls: 18  
Assault: 4  
Chase: 0  
Civil Matter: 5  
Child Abuse: 2  
Disturbances: 21  
Dog Bite: 3  
House Fire: 2  
Vehicle fire: 3  
Grass Fire: 5  
Harassment: 6  
Illegal Dumping: 2  
Lift Assist: 4

Medical Calls: 96  
Mental Subject: 6  
Miscellaneous: 17  
Missing Person: 1  
Noise Calls: 1  
Reckless Driver: 14  
Stray Livestock: 6  
Suicide Threat: 3  
Suicide: 1  
Suspicious Activity: 27  
Theft: 14  
Threats: 5  
Traffic Hazard: 3  
Trespass: 4  
Utility: 3  
Stolen Vehicle: 2  
Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle: 1  
Vandalism: 6  
Welfare Checks: 24  
Total Arrests: 27

## Organic Gardening Workshop Saturday, February 8, 2014

Organic Gardening workshop will be held at Slowpoke Farm, north of Cross Plains, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on February 8th.

This workshop will empower you to get your hands dirty. Growing your own food is fun and liberating. Take a stand against rising food cost and lower food quality. Industrial agriculture is an ecological disaster and contributes to the modern epidemics of disease.

Topics covered will include: garden site selection, soil preparations an amendments, creating a compost pile, organic fertilizers, compost tea maker, organic weed and pest control, seed

selecting, planting and transplanting.

There will be a fee of \$50 per person, with a healthy lunch included. One compost tea maker will be given away at the workshop!

Directions to the farm and other details will be provided when you register. In case of bad weather, the class will be held March 1, 2014.

For more information or to register: call (254)-725-4084 or email:

slowpokefarm@hotmail.com. You must register by February 1, 2014.

## Cross Plains Student Named to President's List at Howard Payne University

Dianna Jo Megarity of Cross Plains was named to the President's List at Howard Payne University during the fall 2013 semester.

To be named to the President's List, students must earn a 4.0 grade point average for all courses attempted while earning not less than twelve semester credit hours of academic coursework during the fall semester.

Founded in 1889, Howard Payne University is a Christ-centered academic community dedicated to excellence by developing and equipping the whole person for intellectual inquiry, per-

sonal and professional integrity, and service to God and humanity.

Located in Brownwood, Texas, HPU offers a full array of undergraduate programs and a limited number of graduate programs in a traditional residential academic community. The university also offers selected undergraduate and graduate coursework by electronic means and at extended learning centers in El Paso, Texas, and New Braunfels, Texas. HPU maintains a low student-to-faculty ratio, which contributes to the university's reputation of being "a place where everybody is somebody."

## Tickets for Big Country Hall of Fame Banquet on sale

Tickets to the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet on Monday, May 5th are now on sale. The Banquet will be held at the Abilene Civic Center at 6:30 p.m. Tables are \$750, and non-reserved individual tickets are \$40. This year's inductees are: Bill Anderson (posthumously), Larry Dippel, Kendra Anderson Hassell, JimAnne Baker Hejny, Jim Millerman, Terry Orr, Brad

Pursley and Ann Schroeder. Legacy inductees are the Young brothers, Bob, Doug (both deceased) and Perry.

For more information on the inductees, the banquet and to purchase tickets please go to: [www.bigcountryhalloffame.org](http://www.bigcountryhalloffame.org). You may also order tickets or tables by e-mailing [carole@bigcountryhalloffame.org](mailto:carole@bigcountryhalloffame.org) or calling (325) 668-3685.

Country Comfort Baked Goods will be at the Rising Star Open Air Market on February 1st. Fresh White, Wheat, Rye, Spelt, French, Banana, and Zucchini Breads, Monster Peanut Butter or Chocolate Chip Cookies, Brownies, Chocolate covered peanuts and more. Non-GMO choices available. Essential Oils, Herbs and Spices. Check out our new gently used Comforters, Small Appliances, Vintage Glassware, Corning, and Pyrex. Inside at Nancy's Antique Mall on the four corners in Rising Star. See you there!

## Turkey Creek Rodeo Club to meet Jan. 30th

The Turkey Creek Rodeo Club is gearing up for another exciting year.

Thursday, January 30th, the Club will hold the first monthly meeting of 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center in Cross Plains.

Anyone interested in becoming a member is welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Come join us for a fun filled year of roping, riding and lots more!

## Scranton Musical is this Saturday

The Scranton musical is this Saturday, February 1, 2014 at the Community Center. The kitchen will begin serving at 5:00 and the music starts at 5:30.

Sarah Matthews is the hostess in the kitchen this month. Sarah's friends from Round Rock will be helping and they are doing a different menu. I suggest you come early. It will be ham, homemade biscuits, gravy and your choice of egg casserole or hash browns. Doesn't that sound "licking good?"

Buddy Johnson, emcee, has a great program lined up. Roy and Donna Thackerson of Ranger will be on the program. Roy is well known as the fingerless fiddler and gee can he make great sounds from his fiddle. You don't want to miss out on the evening. The weather prediction sounds pretty nice so see you at Scranton.

Cross Plains Review  
4  
January 30, 2014

## 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 10<sup>th</sup>  
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

## Clyde Hardware & Supply

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If we are closed, please call Pam at 260-3699 or Eddie at 260-3698 & we will open the store for your EMERGENCY Service!





## Guest of Honor named for Robert E. Howard Days

Patrice Louinet of France has been named Guest of Honor for the upcoming REH Days on June 13-14. He is by far the leading Howard scholar in Europe and has done a tremendous amount of research on Howard that has benefitted the world-wide movement.

Shown above with many of the guys who attend the Howard Days every June. Left to right: Tim Arney (NC), Patrice Louinet (France), Bill Cavalier (IN), Rusty Burke (D.C.), Russell Andrew (Arlington), Rob Roehm (CA), Damon Sasser (Spring)

## 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

## County will apply for grant to purchase 2 Sheriff's Department vehicles

The Callahan County Commissioners' Court approved a resolution to submit a grant application to the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor to purchase two new vehicles for the Callahan County Sheriff's Department.

The commissioners' court took the action Monday, January 27th during a regular meeting of the court held at the County Courthouse in Baird.

County Judge Roger Corn made a motion to sign a resolution to submit a grant application to the Criminal Justice Division of the Office of the Governor. Commissioner Cliff Kirkham seconded the motion and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

If the grant is approved, the Sheriff's Department would apply this grant to two new vehicles. The grant is fully funded, with no match from the county. The resolution follows:

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Callahan County Commissioners Court finds it in the best interest of the citizens of Callahan County that the Criminal Justice Division Assistance Grant be operated for the FY 2015; and

WHEREAS, Callahan County Commissioners Court agrees to provide reimbursable funding for the said project as required by the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, Callahan County Commissioners Court agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the Criminal Justice Division funds, Callahan County Commissioners Court assures that the funds will be returned to the Criminal Justice Division in full.

WHEREAS, Callahan County Commissioners Court designates Roger Corn, County Judge as the grantee's authorized offi-

cial. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the applicant agency.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Callahan County Commissioners Court approves submission of the grant application for the Criminal Justice Division Assistance Grant to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division.

Signed by Roger Corn.

Passed and Approved this 27th day of January, 2014.

Grant Application Confirmation Number: 2779401

Other agenda items brought before the commissioners' court included:

—The meeting of the commissioners' court was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Judge Roger Corn 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 reviewed and signed.

—Under public comments, there were none.

—Marcie Butler with Sunoco and Cameron Riddels with Percheron/Sunoco, discussed with the commissioners' court about changing the variance for pipeline crossings. No action was taken. The current pipeline crossing policy remains in effect.

—No action was taken on the County Burn Ban. The Burn Ban remains in effect.

—The constitution and by-laws of the Callahan County Child Welfare Board were presented

to the commissioners' court by board member Donna Bell. The commissioners' court reviewed the by-laws and Commissioner Farmer made a motion to approve them. Commissioner Kirkham seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

—Sheriff Terry Joy and Jail Administrator Julie Lemons presented the Sheriff's report for December. Commissioner Kirkham made a motion to accept the report, with a second by Commissioner Hicks. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

—The current contract for the Callahan County Jail inmate phone system by Crown Correctional expired in June 2013. Commissioner Kirkham made a motion to continue with and to new the contract with Crown Correctional for the inmate phone system. Commissioner Windham seconded the motion, and the motion carried with vote of 5-0.

—The commissioners' court had some discussion of the CETRZ Grant Program and revising of the County CETRZ zone. The zone is 1.3 miles on County Road 406 and a 20 acre tract being parcel property ID# R000016656. After some discussion, Commissioner Kirkham made a motion to revise the location of the zone. Commissioner Farmer seconded the motion and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

—Commissioner Kirkham made a motion to pay the approved bills. Commissioner Farmer seconded the motion, and the motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

—Commissioner Windham made a motion to adjourn the commissioners' court meeting at 10:37 a.m. Commissioner Kirkham seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

## Cross Plains Review 5

## County Burn Ban reinstated

County Commissioners voted to reinstate the Countywide Burn Ban during the Callahan County Commissioners' court meeting held Tuesday, January 21st at the County Courthouse in Baird.

The Countywide Burn Ban is now in effect until lifted by the County Judge or Commissioners' Court.

## Cross Plains Basketball Senior Night

Cross Plains Senior Night is Friday, January 31st at 6:00 pm. Parents and Athletes please be there by 5:30 pm for pictures.

Boys and Girls will be announced and take the floor at 6:00 p.m.

Varsity Girls Play Santa Anna at 6:30 pm. Varsity Boys will follow at 8:00 p.m.

## Swinney Bees

Swinney Bees announces our fresh 2013 honey crop now available at Lawrence's Farm and Ranch and online at [www.swinneybees.com](http://www.swinneybees.com)

Most unique this year due to our extreme drought is a crop of true MESQUITE honey that is dark and rich and tastes like Texas more than anything. This crop is considered a "Unifloral" honey since it is almost exclusively from one nectar source. We also have our regular light honey that included more floral sources. Winner of first place honey by Texas Beekeepers Assn. for the last 6 years in a row!

Regular, light Texas Honey, \$10 per pound in plastic squeeze jars. Limited Crop Mesquite Honey, \$20 per pound in glass jars.

All our honey is proudly produced right here in Cross Plains, Texas

Member ssb

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## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
Copyright 2014 by Orbison Bros.

**ACROSS**

1 TX Willie sang a version of " — the Light"

5 "It's — of your business"

6 in '04 trade, Mavs got Jason Terry and this Henderson

7 — Lavaca, TX

8 "Fossil — Wildlife Center"

9 response to a stupid statement

12 TXism: " — chaser (womanizer)"

17 TXism: "as welcome — of Lone Star"

19 TX Willie's "Farm 1987" was in

21 TX Elmer Kelton book: "The Time — Rained"

22 TXns search for gas reasonably

23 below average

28 TXism: " — a cat have a climbing gear?" (yes)

29 honey makers

30 expensive jeans

31 TXism: "little — (small)"

35 cormorant seabird

36 TX Van Cibus won — Piano Competition" in 1958

42 where TXns buy a new vehicle (2 wds.)

44 TXism: "if — been a snake it would have bit you"

46 where hinges are

48 Armstrong Co. seat

49 Stars' goal when other team has no goalie (abbr.)

50 TXism: "mean as a bulldog on a gunpowder —"

51 TX congressman Teague who helped veterans

52 Pres. Regan's "Star Wars" program (abbr.)

53 TX Kristofferson song: "Lovin' — Was Easier"

54 songbird

56 TX Willie album to pay tax debt: "The — Tapes"

57 "stuck in a —"

58 environ. agcy.

**DOWN**

1 TXism: "as welcome as a rattlesnake — town"

2 Tex Beneke was this for Glenn Miller

3 TXism: "coasts — a leg"

4 TXism: " — to the well once too often"

9 this Campo was Cowboys head coach (2000-02)

10 TXism: "he — for dental floss" (tough)

11 TX Waylon Jennings sang "You Can Have —"

12 tree fluid

13 in Jasper Co. on hwy. 96

14 TX Tanya Tucker recorded "Texas When —"

15 respected Houston university

16 bolos, e.g.

18 Rich Templeton's pos. with TI

20 DL, e.g.

23 "Alamo City" (abbr.)

24 storage for ashes

25 "Johnny Football" on the A&M campus in 2012-13 (abbr.)

26 in '25 TX King Vidor directed silent film "The Big —"

27 Parcels ran the Cowboys with " — list"

32 TX Audie Murphy was a hero in World War

33 TX pro golfer, Kite (init.)

34 TX Waylon's "You Asked Me —"

36 palace in India: " — Mahal"

37 clothed

38 Ram truck V-8s

39 TX Capital has the "Grand — way"

40 apt call letters for a Huntsville radio station?

41 Torah pointer

43 long-running NBC medical drama — Leon, TX

45 —

47 cowboy toothhold

48 TX Joe Don Baker film: "Citizen —"

55 TXism: "como (how are you?)"

# Blessings for Owen

## Sat, Feb 8

### First Baptist Church

Family Life Center, 301 N. Main, Cross Plains

# Brisket Dinner

Brisket Cooked by 5-7 pm

Cowboys Cooking for Christ

Potato Salad, Beans, Homemade  
Cobbler & Trimmings

Meal for a Donation

Live Music

Donation & Auction Items are Greatly Appreciated. Please contact

Jaimie Dickson 325-998-1044  
Cindy Payne 325-660-2428  
Melissa Richards 325-201-2889

Silent Auction Live Auction

For this child I have Prayed

Owen Clay Turner

T-Shirts are Available

If you are unable to attend, but would like to make a donation:

Wells Fargo Bank Godley, Texas  
Owen Turner Love Fund  
Texas Heritage Bank PO Box 699 Cross Plains, TX 76443  
giveforward.com

Owen Turner  
Son of Joseph & Allison Turner  
Grandson of  
Greg & Dannes Turner  
and Wayne Ann Davis



### CROSS PLAINS REVIEW CLASSIFIED ADS

116 S.E. 1st Street - P.O. Box 519 - Cross Plains, Texas 76443 - (254) 725-6111  
 Cross Plains Review Only - \$7.00 for up to 15 words and 35 cents each additional word..  
 To run in Cross Plains Review/Clyde Journal/Baird Banner Combination - \$10.00 for up to 15 words and 35 cents each additional word. If you run for 4 consecutive weeks, the 5th week is free of charge.  
 Card of Thanks - \$6.95 per paper for up to 40 words.  
 Classifieds must be received in the Review office by noon Tuesday to be published in the current week's edition.

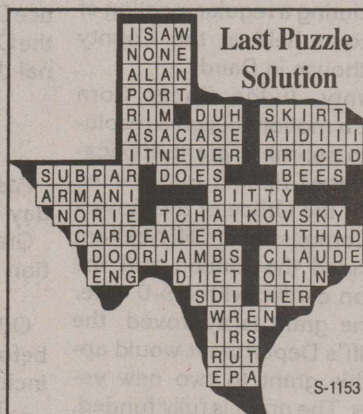
## WILSON PLUMBING

Tod Wilson, Owner  
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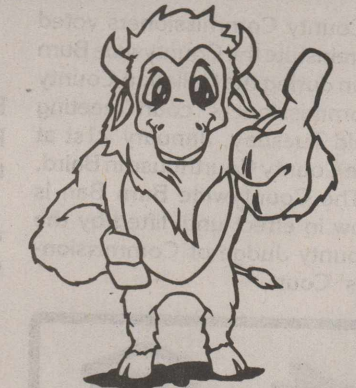
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Cross Plains Review  
**6**  
 January 30, 2014



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- 11.46 ACRES** — Spacious 4 BR-2 BA country home, 2 water wells...**\$315,000**
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- 2,652 ACRES** — Exc. working & hunting ranch, Colorado River frontage...**\$5,500,000**

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## Develop New Leaders in Your Community

By Kathie Starkweather, kathies@cfra.org, Center for Rural Affairs

Never underestimate the need for leadership. But also never underestimate the leaders among us — the folks who step up to organize a community garden or a school bake sale. They see something that needs to be done in their town, and they do it. Leaders provide the vision and direction for getting things done. Without them, it's difficult to accomplish things. But it's hard to picture someone as a leader if they haven't had a chance to grow into it. So how do you go about developing them? I was recently talking with one young leader — a Latino woman who is a real force in her community. She doesn't see herself as a leader. I asked what kind of leadership development program would work best in her community. She felt strongly,

and I agree, it doesn't need to be a formal process. Teaching people leadership skills is only half the solution. Giving them an opportunity is more important. Informal mentorship can help nurture and bring new leaders along to step into community leadership roles in the future. Give them a chance. It might be as small as preparing them for a meeting with city officials. Then have them present an idea in the meeting. Help them build confidence and skills by doing. Before you know it, you've developed a new leader.

###

Established in 1973, the Center for Rural Affairs is a private, non-profit organization working to strengthen small businesses, family farms and ranches, and rural communities through action oriented programs addressing social, economic, and environmental issues.

## 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.

### Cross Plains Review

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January 30, 2014

## The Five Most Significant Weather Events for 2013

Weather across West Central Texas can change dramatically and is typically characterized by flash floods, drought, wildfires, hail, wind storms, winter storms and tornadoes. Below are five of the most significant weather events for 2013 that impacted the region.

Location/Storm Event Date	Fatalities
Two Fatalities from Icy Bridges on U.S. Highway 277 Nov. 23rd-24th Two	None
West Central Texas Long Term Drought 2013	None
Abilene Wind and Flash Flood Storm June 17, 2013	None
West Central Texas Winter Storm Dec. 5th-6th	None
Blanket EF1 Tornado May 20th	None

Our hearts and prayers are with those who lost loved ones, and we are very sorry if you experienced injury or property damage this past year. Since the potential is always there for devastating fires and storms, it is always important to be weather ready. You can also learn how your NWS is making every effort to prepare for extreme weather through its Weather Ready Nation Initiative at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/>

- Here are a few safety tips.
- 1) Know the name of your county and those around you.
  - 2) Have a means to receive forecasts, watches and warnings such as your local Radio and TV Station, Cable, Internet Provider, Cell Phone, and/or NOAA Weather Radio 24 hours a day.
  - 3) Take appropriate action when a watch or warning is issued for your area.
- For more information for your Radio, TV, Newspaper, Facebook, or Web Link please go to [www.srh.noaa.gov/sit](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/sit) Please click on the Five Most

**Significant Weather Events** which is located at the top of our homepage.

Thank you to all of our partners who assist us with our mission of protecting life and property. We cannot fulfill our mission without you! On behalf of the NWS crew, we wish you and yours Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dr. Steve Lyon  
Meteorologist in Charge, NWS Hector Guerrero  
Warning and Coordination Meteorologist

**A Detailed Summary of the Top 5 Extreme Weather Events in 2013**

**1) November 23-24, Fatalities from Icy Bridges on U.S. Highway 277**

Two motorists were killed on two separate accidents on icy bridges along U.S. 277 near Christoval and Eldorado. The first one was killed near Eldorado on the evening of November 22, 2013. The second one was killed near Christoval on the morning of November 23, 2013. Our hearts and prayers are with the victim's families.

**2) 2013 West Central Texas Long Term Drought**

The historic drought that began in October of 2010, continued throughout 2013. Beneficial rainfall that fell this past year continued to diminish the severity of the three year drought, agriculturally, across a large part of West Central Texas. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, severe drought continues north of a line from Rotan to Anson to Albany. For the first time, the Drought Monitor designated the Colorado River Basin above E.V. Spence to Lake O.H. Ivie to San Saba and beyond in a severe drought because of very low lake levels. Most recent lake storage capacities: Fort Phantom Hill 45% full, Lake Stamford 16% full, Lake Brownwood, 58% full, O.H. Ivie 14% full, E.V. Spence 4% full, O.C. Fisher 3% full and Twin Buttes Reservoir 1% full.

**3) June 17, Abilene Wind and Flash Flood**

The downburst winds from isolated severe thunderstorms quickly evolved into an intense outflow boundary that produced wind speeds in excess of 70 m.p.h. across a large part of Abilene. Many folks in Abilene reported a wall of dust and very cool air along the leading edge of this boundary. The outflow boundary and severe thunderstorms caused extensive wind damage and heavy rainfall across Abilene and parts of the Big Country. The slow moving thunderstorms also caused flash flooding in the City of Abilene. Trained storm spotters and law enforcement officials reported major flash flooding in the City of Abilene along with high water rescues. A few vehicles were fully submerged.

Although a large part of Abilene experienced 60 to 70 m.p.h. winds, the location receiving the most significant damage occurred on the south side of town near the mall and the Warwick Apartments. These high winds snapped telephone poles, uprooted large trees, broke tree limbs, knocked down power lines, tore the roof off of an industrial building, removed metal roofing material from an Albertsons Grocery Store and knocked over tractor trailers. The damaging thunderstorm winds broke large glass windows at the Mall in Abilene, at a nearby Albertsons Grocery Store and on a nearby Furniture Row Building. One person was injured at the mall by the falling glass. The winds also blew large pieces of metal off of a storage facility into the front yard of a nearby

residence that were about 1 to 2 blocks south of the facility. In addition to a freeway sign that was blown down, fences, power lines and tree limbs were toppled by the high winds across a large part of the City of Abilene.

**4) December 5-6, West Central Texas Winter Storm**

A strong winter storm dumped a mix of freezing rain, sleet and a little snow across a large part of West Central Texas on Thursday, December 5th and this wintry precipitation continued into early Friday morning, the 6th, before moving east. Most of the precipitation fell as sleet as many areas along and north of the Interstate 10 Corridor and east of a line from Sweetwater to Sonora, reported a half inch to an inch or more of sleet. Many schools and government offices closed for the day on Friday because of icy roads.

**5) May 20 Blanket EF1 Tornado**

A tornado was first spotted by trained SKYWARN amateur radio storm spotters from Brownwood as the twister tracked from Lake Brownwood to Blanket. In Blanket, a tornado damaged the roof of the Blanket High School. Large hail and damaging winds were also reported. Blanket Volunteer Fire Fighters spotted this tornado as it approached the town of Blanket and as it moved south into the nearby ranch country. This tornado blew two heavy air conditioner units off of the high school. The twister caused roof damage to the gymnasium, a nearby bus barn and a nearby residence. It uprooted trees and knocked down power lines and steel fencing. It also tipped over two tombstones at the nearby cemetery. The tornado also snapped, damaged or uprooted many large oak trees that were more than 100 years old south of Blanket.

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- 58.05 Ac.-CP-Great property w/ coastal, scattered trees, good fencing & co. water.....**121,000**
- 65 Ac. - CP- Great cult. field for grazing/hay, 1 tank, 8 Ac. native pasture, mesq/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, I-20 frontage.....**171,000**
- 80+/- Ac. - Rising Star- Prex **UNDER CONTRACT** pond, good fencing.....**200,000**
- 82+/- Ac. - Eastland/Com. Co.-Open coastal field w/ 20ac wooded, secluded, co.water avl.....**199,781**
- 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, 1 **UNDER CONTRACT** one 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**
- 202.53 Ac.-Brown Co.- Hunting property, 10 Ac. food plot, 5 tanks, water/electric.....**455,692**
- 210 Ac.-Coleman Co.-Hunt **UNDER CONTRACT** ay, 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**
- 20 Ac. - Zephyr, New energy efficient Rock Home, upgrades, beautiful native land.....**349,000**
- 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.-2BR/2 **UNDER CONTRACT** stal & half oak, 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 horse **UNDER CONTRACT** bam, 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**
- 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** lis, 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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- 99 Ford Taurus, auto., V6, runs, looks good..... (White).....\$2,250

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- Chairlift inside 99 Ford E150 Van..Super Clean.....\$3,500
- 03 Dodge Durango, 7Pass, V8, auto, leather, super nice, SLT.. (White).....\$5,450
- 03 Dodge Durango, 7 Pass., V8, auto, SUV..... (Silver).....\$4,850
- 00 Lincoln Navigator, 7Pass, leather, looks, runs good, A nice SUV.....\$5,450
- 00 Expedition, Eddie Bauer Ed., 8 pass, loaded, super nice..... \$5,250
- 99 Expedition XLT, 5 passenger, loaded, chrome wheels (Maroon)..... \$4,600
- 99 Explorer Sport, V6, auto..Looks and runs very good..... (Green).....\$3,995
- Ford Explorer, Sport, V6, this is a nice one..... (Blue)..... \$3,395
- 94 Ford Conversion Van, raised roof, leather, T.V., loaded, runs good...\$2,450
- 94 Dodge Caravan, 7 Pass., V6, Auto., Runs good..... (Silver).....\$1,850
- 92 Ford F150, Conversion Van, Loaded, 7 Pass., lots of xtras, V8, Auto.....\$2,295

**DIESELS:**

- 99 Dodge Quad Cab, Cummins, 5 spd, nice truck..... (Green).....\$6,250
- 98 Dodge Quad Cab, Cummins, Low miles, 180k, auto., leather seats.....\$6,200
- 86 F350 Diesel, hydraulic wheel lift, 91 cab, runs good.....\$3,500
- 99 Ford Diesel F350, Dually, auto., looks, runs good..... (White).....\$5,750
- 01 Ford F350, Lariat Dsl, 6spd, Flat Bed Dually, A good truck (White).....\$6,500
- 01 Ford F350 Lariat Diesel Dually flat bed, automatic, Super Cab.....\$7,250
- 99 Ford 250, Super Duty, Super Cab, diesel, Auto..... (Gold)..... \$6,500
- 01 Dodge Diesel Quad Cab, auto., shortbed, (white)..... \$6,200
- 97 Ford F250 4x4 Reg. Cab., diesel, flatbed single rears, 5spd.....\$3,750

**GAS—TRUCKS—MISC.:**

- 03 Ford F250, Super Duty, V8, auto., Ext cab, flat bed, Nice truck.....\$4,250
- 06 Ford F250 Super cab, V8, auto, short bed..... (White).....\$4,950
- 04 Ford F150 XL, V8, auto, long bed, ext., cab, dual exhaust..... (White).....\$4,600
- 00 Ranger XLT supercab, V6, 5spd., Shortbed, Stepside, runs..... (Gold)..... \$3,500
- 96 Ranger XLT, 5 spd..... (Maroon & Gold)..... \$2,750
- 00 Chev. Silverado 1/2 Ton V8, auto. very good truck..... \$3,995
- 2000 Chevy 2500, Vortec V8, automatic, 275-65-20 tires..... (Red).....\$3,200
- 00 Dodge SLT, Quad Cab, V8 auto., runs good..... (Blue)..... \$2,950
- 95 Chevy 2500, Extended cab, V8, 5 spd. (Tan).....\$2,750
- 00 Chev. 2500, V8, Auto., Ext. cab — CASH PRICE.....\$1,250. (White).....\$1,500
- 80 Chevy C-10, Inline 6 cyl., 3sp. column shift, runs good..... (Red).....\$995

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First Grade Classes of Baird are all smiles after receiving toothbrush packets from members of the Baird Masonic Lodge #522 on Wednesday, January 23rd. The presentation of the toothbrush packets is one of several Public Service Projects that the Lodge sponsors each year. Lodge members pictured (L-R) - Bill Giles, Rocky Ash, Alton Payne, Sheriff Terry Joy and Don Castillo.

## Birth Announcement



Emily and Tyler Hicks are proud to announce the birth of their son, Tyson Paul Hicks, born on October 3, 2013 in Stephenville, Texas. Tyson weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. He is welcomed home by a big loving family of grandparents, great grandparents, aunts and uncles. His proud maternal grandparents are Tony and Paula Winfrey of Cross Plains, Paternal grandparents Leigh and John Gilliam and

James and Della Hicks of Comanche. Tyson would have been the "apple of their eye" for his great grandparents, the late George and Annie Mae Wright. He was also welcomed home by paternal great grandparents Sue and the late Kenneth Gibson and Dorothy and the late Speedy Hicks. Tyson is also very special for his uncle Cody and aunt Megan Winfrey of Center Point Texas.

## 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.

## Callahan County 4-H Shooting Sports Orientation

Callahan County 4-H Shooting Sports will be holding an orientation meeting on February 1st at 2:00 p.m., at the Shooting Range. All former and new members as well as their parents are encouraged to attend. The Shooting Range is located on FM 18 between Baird and Clyde. For more information please contact the Extension Office at (325) 854-5835.

## SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

FEBRUARY 3RD—7TH

**MONDAY**—Swiss Steak/White Rice/Carrots/Bread/ Dessert  
**TUESDAY**—Chicken Salad Sandwich/Onion/Pickle Slices/ Fruit/Chips/ Dessert  
**WEDNESDAY**—Chicken Spaghetti/Lett/Tom Salad/Green Beans/Bread/Dessert

**THURSDAY**—Soft Beef Taco/ Lett/Tom/Refried Beans/Fruit/ Dessert  
**FRIDAY**—Cheeseburgers/Pork N Beans/Oven Fries/Dessert

MEAL IS SERVED  
11:45am—12:30 pm

### JANUARY 30

Michael Dore  
Charlotte Fleming  
Tracy Archer  
Harry D. Lee  
Cory Switzer  
Carol Havens  
Rickey Rucker  
Whitney (Kirkham) Henderson  
Holli (Shults) Gains  
Ketch Miles Thomas

### JANUARY 31

Peyton Pearl Gilliam  
Leslie Ann Wyatt  
Mrs. James Alexander  
Billy Perry  
Ione Breeding  
Mrs. Vernon Bullard  
Betty Duncan  
Patty Ruth Carlile  
Ellen (Reynolds) Steinle  
Norman Beck



### FEBRUARY 1

Billy Don Bennett  
Freddy Johnston  
Rusty Reed  
Debby Gilland  
Harold Ingram  
Clay Richardson  
Dan Byers  
Gretchen Wagner  
Mrs. Bob Illingworth  
Kenny Foster

### FEBRUARY 2

Sherri Phillips  
Wilburn Newman  
Susan Harris  
Dale Bishop  
Robert Callaway  
Kathy Jo Fussel Kerns  
Joyce Jones  
Cynthia (Montgomery) McCaghren  
Johnny McCaghren  
Sammy Gene Gardner Jr.  
Johnathan Nelson

### FEBRUARY 3

Darrell Wyatt  
Tommy Bates  
Mrs. Genny Landsdell  
May Marie Westel Benton  
Jennifer Brame

### FEBRUARY 4

Daisy King  
Mark Walker  
Bob Childers  
Walter O. Graham Jr.  
Vanda Anderson Draper  
Mrs. Ronnie Woodson  
Linda Joy Sadler  
Jimmy Thomas  
Chris Duncan  
Tommy Bowden  
Julena Hyde  
James Willis

### FEBRUARY 5

Kali (Phillips) Rogers  
Carolyn Tunnell Ogden  
David Hargrove  
Melissa Strickland  
Johnny Rouse  
Eric Blanton  
Eva Stack  
Ronnie McNutt  
Barbara Lynn Oliver  
Ashley French  
William Craig Rogers  
Randel Golson  
Judson Cole

Cross Plains Review  
**8**  
January 30, 2014

## 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. 31st. MID-NIGHT 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](http://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.

## Help out the Cross Plains 4H Club

We are selling raffle tickets for three items. They are all hand made by Charles Morgan of Rising Star.

The items include a white oak Texas wall plaque, a mesquite wall plaque with a cross inset, and a mesquite coffee table.

These items are located at the Cross Plains Senior Citizens Center and tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

The drawing for these items will be held the first week of March at our spaghetti supper fundraiser. You do not need to be present to win.

Thank you,  
Cross Plains 4H Club

## After School Adventure Program to feature Barbara Swinney from Swinney Bees

The After School Adventure Program (ASAP) at the Cross Plains Public Library will feature Barbara Swinney from Swinney Bees. Our local beekeepers have been first place winners for their honey by the Texas Beekeepers Association for the last six years. Barbara will have lots of information, called Bee Facts, about raising bees and harvesting the honey. She will be showing and demonstrating the equipment used to harvest honey.

Join us Wednesday, February 5th at 4:00 p.m. at the library.

## Texas Silver-Haired Legislature Sponsors Local Town Hall meeting February 4th in Abilene

The West Central Texas delegation of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature is hosting a forum to discuss concerns of seniors in West Texas. The Town Hall meeting will be held Tuesday February 4, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Hunter Welcome Center on the ACU campus.

The Town Hall offers an opportunity for citizens to identify aging issues and suggest solutions for consideration by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature (TSHL).

TSHL hosts Town Hall discussions across the state to collect input from seniors and persons who provide services. These issues and potential solutions will be discussed and prioritized in April when TSHL meets in Austin to prepare a formal report for consideration by the Texas Legislature.

The event is sponsored by the West Central Texas Area Agency on Aging, the ACU Foundation, ACU Pruet Gerontology Center, City of Abilene Senior Citizens Division, Abilene Regional Medical Center Senior Circle, Wesley Court, Wisteria Place, and the TSHL Foundation.

"Our Town Hall forum offers seniors a chance to be heard—and to bring serious issues to the table," states Chris Kyker, local TSHL Representative and former Speaker of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

There is no charge for the event, but reservations are required. Lunch is provided. For reservations: Call Jessica Reinert at 672-8544 (Area Agency on Aging) or Linda Rutledge at 428-4935 (ARMC Senior Circle).

**CARPENTER CHIROPRACTIC**  
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 Closed 12-1 for lunch  
 Friday 8:30-Noon  
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 Office 254-641-9725  
 Mobile 325-642-6106  
 \* No Appointment Necessary \*

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- CISCO - (254) 442-1611
- CLYDE - (325) 893-4406
- COLEMAN - (325) 625-2925
- CROSS PLAINS - (254) 725-7410
- STAMFORD - (325) 773-2773

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## 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 21-23, 2014

Patrons	77
Books Checked	70
Programs	18
LAP	4
Lapsit	2
GED	4
Other	8
Copies	29
Internet	21
WiFi	1
Interlibrary Loans	3
Reference	10
Donations	
City of Cross Plains	
Living Tributes	
Charles and Nancy Rodenberger In Honor of Michelle Kaiser	
Volunteers	
Wimla Lawrence	
Michael Ellis	
Sue Bennett	
Beverly Ross	
Lavonne Childress	
Ginny Hoskins	

## Application deadline approaching for the next Big Country Master Gardener Training Class

ABILENE - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Taylor County is now taking applications for its next Master Gardener volunteer training class.

"Master Gardener volunteer training is conducted by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension agents for adults interested in gardening, horticulture and related topics."

Robert Pritz CEA, who administers the program, said the majority of classes will be conducted on Thursdays from 6 to 9 pm with one Tuesday and two Saturday classes as well. Most classes are conducted at the extension office conference room with some field trips included.

Master Gardener classes will address topics ranging from plant growth and development to plant diseases, insects, soils, basic landscaping and garden design.

Those completing classroom training and passing the final exam will be required to complete a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer service within a one year of training graduation.

Individuals completing the

## In 2013, Texas led the way in jobs added

AUSTIN - Talmadge Heflin, Director of the Center for Fiscal Policy at the Texas Public Policy Foundation, issued this statement today on Texas' December 2013 employment report:

"Today's employment report for Texas proves once again that the state's model of low government spending, taxes, and regulation is a recipe for success."

"Last month, there were 17,600 net jobs added across nine of eleven major industries in Texas. This total increase in employment was 24 percent of all jobs added across the nation. The increase in those employed led to a drop in the unemployment rate to 6 percent, which is the lowest since December 2008 and is lower than the national average of 6.7 percent and California's rate of 8.3 percent."

"In 2013, Texas led all states with 252,400 net jobs added, which is 16,700 more than the next highest state, California. These data provide additional

## Cross Plains Public Library to hold FREE GED Classes

If not having your high school diploma is holding you back from promotions or keeping you from the career you always dreamed of, consider getting your GED. Cross Plains public library is offering free GED classes on Monday and Tuesday evening from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The classes are through Abilene Independent School District. Increase your self-esteem and become a role model for others. Join us for the challenge on Monday evening.

## Cross Plains Public Library Book Sale This Saturday!

Shop for some great bargains at the Cross Plains Public Library's Book Sale this Saturday, February 1st from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the building across the street from (east) Lawrence Farm & Ranch Supply. Thanks to the generosity of the Lawrence family in allowing us use of the building, we are able to offer the sale of the first Saturday of EVERY OTHER MONTH. That means we are open February 1st, April 5th, June 7th, August 2nd, October 4th, and December 6th in 2014.

Put these dates on your calendar to remind you to stop in and get some real bargains on great used books, CD's, videos and more!

Submitted by Michelle Kaiser

## 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.

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>.

## Get paid while driving someone else

Disability in Action is looking for employees through a Volunteer Driver Program in which you can get paid to help someone with a disability to get to work, look for a job, or go to job training.

The drivers in the Volunteer Driver Program will earn .50 cents a mile to drive someone. Do you already have errands to run? Know someone who needs transportation to get to work? Cover your gas cost and help someone at the same time.

If you have a valid driver's license and state required insurance, Disability in Action would like to sign you up.

Call Tim Evans at the Disability in Action office on Abilene at (325) 672-5460.

This Volunteer Driver Program serves Taylor, Jones, Stephens, Callahan, Shackelford and Eastland counties.

[www.tscra.org/convention/youth.html](http://www.tscra.org/convention/youth.html).

The 137th annual Cattle Raisers Convention is April 4-6, 2014 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. TSCRA will continue to update the schedule with additional events.

## Chamber of Commerce News

The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce Community Luncheon had a grand turn out! Fourteen individuals attended. In that attendance was Cullen Crisp who is running for Texas State Representative, and Stephanie Cavallo representing West Texas Central Council of Governments. In discussion was a beautification committee, a community brochure, a community garden, water conservation training, recycling in the community, and a children's summer lunch program.

We the chamber are excited to see so many interested in improving Cross Plains and to better our community and the citizens of Cross Plains.

Groups represented at the community meeting today were: Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce, City of Cross Plains, Cross Plains Garden Club, Barbarian Festival, Howard Museum, Cross Plains Public Library, Kiwanis, and the Historical Society.

The date soon will be set for our next meeting and we hope to see you there!

If you have any questions or would like to become involved on any of the topics please call the Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce at 254-725-7251.

## Cross Plains Review

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January 30, 2014

## Area students named to Dean's List at Howard Payne University

Howard Payne University recently announced its Dean's List for the fall 2013 semester. To be named to the Dean's List, students must earn a 3.65-3.99 grade point average for all courses attempted while earning not less than twelve semester credit hours of academic coursework during the fall semester. • Sierra Maurette Damron of Baird • Samuel Colton Rockett of Cross Plains

Founded in 1889, Howard Payne University is a Christ-centered academic community dedicated to excellence by developing and equipping the whole person for intellectual inquiry, personal and professional integrity,

and service to God and humanity.

Located in Brownwood, Texas, HPU offers a full array of undergraduate programs and a limited number of graduate programs in a traditional residential academic community. The university also offers selected undergraduate and graduate course work by electronic means and at extended learning centers in El Paso, Texas, and New Braunfels, Texas. Hpu maintains a low student-to-faculty ratio, which contributes to the university's reputation of being "a place where everybody is somebody."

## First Baptist Church Clothes Closet Notice

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.

**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.

## Weight Warriors

Weight Warriors met for their regular meeting on Tuesday. We had 15 wonderful members present. There is room for lots more and there is no charge to join. Just come with a non perishable food item for the local food pantry.

We are in the fourth week of the new year and many of us are starting over again. This is a new year with new beginnings and new choices aiming to create a new you.

The same girl has received our celebration bracelet two weeks in a row. She has been "wow-ing" it!

Weight Warriors is a group of like-minded people sharing in the weight loss journey. Each one is unique and individual. Recipes are sometimes shared, along with helpful hints and ideas.

There is a scale available but you do not have to weigh. That's a personal choice for everyone.

The meeting is at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church. Anyone is welcome: men, women, boys and girls.

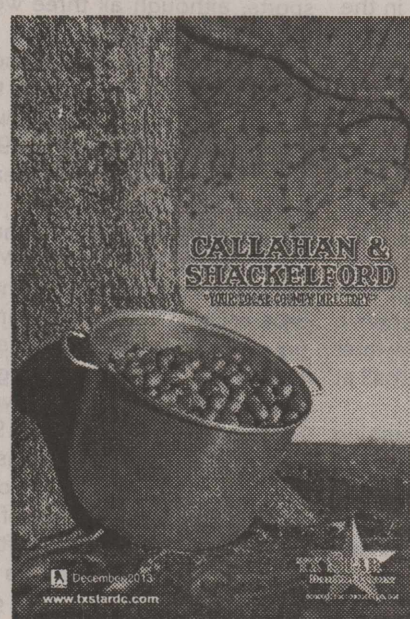
Come join the fun & fellowship of a journey toward a healthier and happier lifestyle.

## Cross Plains Lady Buffaloes ranked nineteenth in Class A Division II

The Cross Plains High School Lady Buffaloes basketball team is ranked nineteenth 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 27th includes:

1. Lipan (28-1)
2. Roscoe Highland (21-2)
3. Nazareth (27-1)
4. Follett (21-1)
5. Garden City (24-1)
6. Menard (22-3)
7. Frost (20-2)
8. Eula (22-5)
9. Calvert (22-0)
10. Round Top-Carmine (10-2)
11. Chireno (22-5)
12. Miami (19-5)
13. Rochelle (20-5)
14. Morgan (20-2)
15. Valley (21-4)
16. Grady (16-6)
17. Leggett (18-4)
18. Leakey (19-6)
19. Cross Plains (16-4)
20. Rankin (20-5)
21. Strawn (18-8)
22. Paducah (17-5)
23. Newcastle (16-4)
24. Campbell (21-4)
25. Anton (17-6)

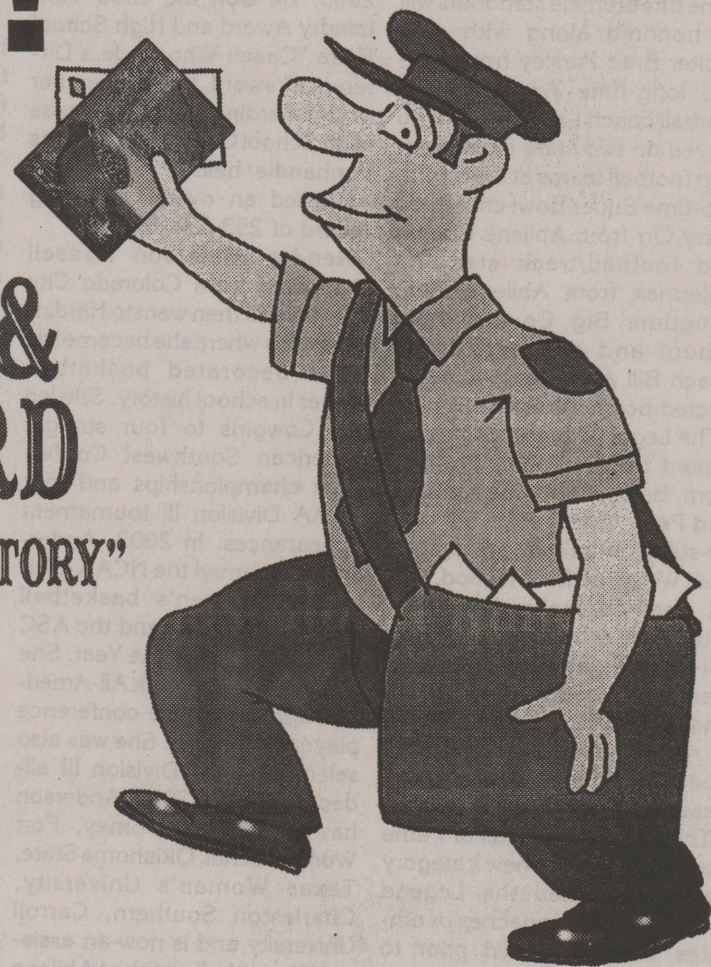


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evidence that state policy matters."

"Texas' unemployment rate has now been at or below the national average for a remarkable 84 consecutive months — seven years! Clearly, the Texas Model should be tried in other states across the nation and in D.C. to provide opportunities for millions who remain unemployed."

The Honorable Talmadge Heflin is Director of the Center for Fiscal Policy at the Texas Public Policy Foundation. Heflin served 11 terms in the Texas House of Representatives and chaired the House Appropriations Committee in 2003, leading the Texas Legislature's successful efforts to close a \$10 billion budget deficit without a tax increase.

The Texas Public Policy Foundation is a non-profit, free-market research institute based in Austin.



# Game Warden Field Notes

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

• **Over the Limit**—A Lubbock District captain and a Garza/Lynn County game warden were about to call off their patrol efforts for the day because of heavy rains, when they saw the headlights of an all-terrain vehicle going in to a ranch near Lake Alan Henry. The wardens gave the ATV a head start, then entered the ranch and tracked the vehicle's muddy prints. With windows down, the wardens soon heard the squawk of an injured rabbit, scanned the area, and saw two men hunting coyotes and hogs over two white-tailed deer carcasses. One of the wardens checked the men's licenses and asked when the two bucks, both with sawed-off skullcaps, had been killed. The man soon confessed to killing one of the bucks the day before, his second of the season in Garza County, a one-buck county. The wardens were led back to a nearby house, where multiple citations were issued and the illegal buck and skullcap were seized. Criminal charges and civil restitution are pending.

• **Joyride Leads to Trouble**—A Titus County game warden received a call about riders of seven ATVs that were tearing up the road, throwing beer cans everywhere, and trespassing. The warden located the ATVs in a camp close to the area. Ten adults were found on the scene, two of whom were under 21. Citations were issued for minor in possession of alcohol, evading arrest, and operating an ATV on a public roadway. An investigation is pending on criminal trespass and burglary of a deer camp in the same area.

• **Two Youths Earn Once-in-a-Lifetime Hunt**—A Dallas county game warden organized

a once-in-a-lifetime red deer hunt on a local ranch for two youths. Working with the landowner, the TPWD Hunter Education office, and the Dallas Safari Club's Ecological/Education Foundation, the group developed criteria for this opportunity by developing prerequisites that not only educated each hunter, but showed the importance of hunting and conservation. To qualify for selection, each hunter was required to be currently enrolled in his/her high school's outdoor education program, complete a hunter education course, show firearm proficiency, and write a one-page essay on wildlife conservation. Both hunters were chosen from a competitive group and were accompanied by their fathers. Both were successful in taking two mature red deer stags, and one feral hog.

• **Tossing up a White Flag**—A McCulloch County game warden was staking out Brady Lake when he saw an SUV stop nearby. After several minutes, the passenger tossed an empty bottle out of the window. After contacting the vehicle occupants, the warden discovered the driver and passenger had active arrest warrants for theft by check in McCulloch, Mason, Llano, and Burnet counties. Both individuals were booked into McCulloch County Jail.

• **Tag, You're It**—While checking a father and his two daughters, who were hunting in Harris County, a warden found both daughters had multiple tags missing from their licenses. The girls said they had never harvested a deer before and that this was their first time hunting this year. The father said he knew nothing about the missing tags on their licenses because both girls live with their stepfather and mother. After a lengthy interview with the stepfather,

citations were issued for hunting under the license of another and over the bag limit of white-tailed deer. Cases pending.

• **Swimming to Safety**—While checking a fisherman in a kayak in a fairly remote location, a Comal County game warden noticed something in the water swimming towards his patrol boat. After closer inspection, the warden saw that it was a dog. He grabbed the pup and brought it aboard. The warden saw that the dog had no collar, was in need of a meal and since the water was about 53 degrees, he offered the pup a ride back to the shore. The dog was turned over to the New Braunfels Humane Society.

• **Wrong Time, Wrong Place**—A Starr County game warden was informed about an ATV theft that had occurred. When the warden arrived on scene, a description of the missing ATV was obtained, but was not found. The next day while returning from a routine patrol, the warden noticed an ATV that matched the description of the one reported stolen the previous night. Contact was made and the ATV was identified as the one that was stolen. The operator was placed under arrest and the ATV was recovered.

• **South Texas Peyote Bust**—Two Starr County game wardens were notified about hunters trespassing on a ranch. When the subjects returned to their vehicle, the wardens, who were waiting on scene, discovered that they were harvesting peyote on the property. The subjects were found in possession of 32 pounds of peyote and admitted that they were harvesting the plant and were intending to deliver it. The two subjects were charged with possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, a first-degree felony.

## Common Sense Transparency for Economic Development

By Jess Fields

How much access to their government do Texans deserve?

Some Texas laws would say "not so much." This is especially true regarding how little citizens are allowed to know about how their local governments offer special incentives to lure business prospects.

This process, called economic development, is one of the least-discussed public policy matters around, and yet the vast majority of Texans are affected by it. That's because most Texans live in at least one jurisdiction that has engaged in economic development.

It works as follows. A business prospect will approach a locality, or a locality will approach a business, and then enter into negotiations about the business receiving incentives for moving inside the local government's boundaries. The government then decides what to offer, whether the reduction of taxes over a period of time, offering a sum of cash, giving away land, or all of the above, to mention only a few of the many possibilities. Then the governing body meets to pass whatever agreement was reached, if any.

Except for the passage of the agreement, which must be at a public meeting, every other step in the aforementioned process is done completely in secret, in closed session.

These closed, sometimes called "executive" sessions, are meetings held behind closed doors that are only allowed for specific purposes by the Texas Open Meetings Act, which otherwise requires all government

decisions to be made in public. Since 1999, economic development negotiations have been exempt from that requirement. As a result, virtually every special deal negotiated between a city, county, or school district and a private business is done outside of public scrutiny. After a deal is reached, while the agreement is passed publicly, there is rarely any time for public review of the agreement.

That is unfortunate because many economic development agreements involve private businesses receiving tax dollars directly, as in a cash incentive, or indirectly, as in public land being given away at no cost. Another common incentive is the reduction of property taxes for a particular business prospect. Regardless of what incentives are offered, agreements reached are usually outside of the annual budget, and certainly involve major decisions affecting a community.

For these reasons, local governments and their citizens should work together to make the economic development process more transparent by enacting common sense reforms to allow more public input in these important decisions.

Localities should adopt an economic development incentives policy outlining the kinds of deals they are willing to make private businesses with public resources. The policy should spell out what incentives might be offered by the governing body to a private entity. This allows the public to know what is on the table, even if they cannot see the negotiations process.

Citizens should be able to re-

view any agreement that is reached before it is passed. This seemingly obvious measure is absent from the economic development process today, whereupon deals struck in secret are passed immediately out of closed session. Local governments should wait two weeks and hold a hearing for public comment, just as they are required to do for their annual budget, before sealing a deal with a private company.

Finally, the details of existing agreements should be posted on the local government's website, so that the public can see what has been agreed to previously. Citizens shouldn't have to jump through the hoops of filing open records requests to see such agreements. They should be easily available.

These common sense proposals do not require local governments to change how they offer public money to private businesses. Whether that is appropriate is another discussion entirely. For now, in Texas, government handouts to businesses are the rule, and transparency in the process is the exception. These proposals would help change that.

Local officials and citizens interested in shifting that balance back to the people should consider making these common sense steps towards good governance.

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## Texas Highways' magazine reveals readers Top 40 Texas destinations

AUSTIN — In celebration of its 40th anniversary, *Texas Highways* magazine today announced another round of the Texas Top 40 favorite destinations as chosen by its readers.

Today's announcement places Glen Rose at No. 35. Also revealed among the Top 40 were Amarillo (34), Marfa (33) and Dalhart (32).

The February issue, which is the magazine's annual Big Bend edition, also features a Big Bend weekend getaway, artisans of the region and annual festivals. Additional coverage spotlights Marfa, Fort Davis, Big Bend National Park and the Texas Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Alpine.

Rounding out the issue is coverage of Alsatian dining in Castroville, La King's Confectionery in Galveston, El Monumento in Georgetown and the Stanzel Model Aircraft Museum in Schulenburg.

About *Texas Highways* magazine

Founded as a travel magazine in 1974, *Texas Highways* launched a redesign in September to usher in the celebration of its 40th anniversary in 2014. Today, *Texas Highways* has 300,000 monthly readers across the United States and around the world.

*Texas Highways'* mission is to encourage travel to and within the state. According to the Texas Office of the Governor, Economic Development and Tourism division, Texas destinations welcomed 220 million domestic travelers and 8.2 million international travelers in 2012. Those visitors spent a total of \$65.7 billion, directly supported 568,000 jobs and generated

\$4.4 billion in state and local taxes.

The February issue goes on sale Jan. 16th. To learn more about *Texas Highways*, visit [www.texashighways.com](http://www.texashighways.com).

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Texas Department of Transportation

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 11,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best in Class state agency. Find out more at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov).

## Schedule for 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. This will be a once a week group meeting with a subject being taught to your kids. These subjects can be comprehended on any grade level.

Classes will be held at the Cross Plains First Baptist Church.

Friday School Calendar of Events:

January 24, 2014  
We will start our walk with Dinosaurs. Dinosaurs of the sea!

January 31, 2014  
Meat Eaters

February 7, 2014  
Giant Plant Eaters

February 14, 2014  
Armoured Dinosaurs

February 21, 2014  
Horned Dinosaurs

February 28, 2014  
Bird-footed Dinosaurs

March 7, 2014  
Duckbills and Flying Dinosaurs

We will break from school due to Spring Break and will resume on March 21, 2014!

# New inductees announced for the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame

Three of the most decorated female athletes in Big Country history highlight the Class of 2014 announced today, Wednesday, January 15th, for the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame.

Basketball star Kendra Anderson Hassell from Colorado City, tennis champion Ann Schroeder from Abilene Cooper High School and basketball/track standout JimAnne Baker Hejny from Cisco will be honored at the 13th annual Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame induction banquet May 5th at 6:30 p.m. at the Abilene Civic Center.

Tickets will go on sale Feb. 1st online at [www.bigcountryhall-offame.org](http://www.bigcountryhall-offame.org). For ticket or sponsorship information, call (325) 668-3685 or e-mail [carolepickett@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolepickett@sbcglobal.net). The Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame board of directors will also present a number of scholarships to graduating student-athletes from the 19-county area that makes up the Big Country. The Hall of Fame museum is located in the Abilene ISD administration building at 241 Pine and is open free to the public.

The three female standouts will be honored along with pole vaulter Brad Pursley from Merkel, long-time Amarillo High football coach Larry Dippel who played on two state championship football teams at Stamford, two-time Super Bowl champion Terry Orr from Abilene Cooper and football/track star Jim Millerman from Abilene High. Longtime Big Country high school and college football coach Bill Anderson will be inducted posthumously.

The Legacy Award will be presented to the Young brothers from Brownwood. Bob, Doug and Perry Young were not only all-state football players for Gordon Wood at Brownwood, but all went on to make their mark after high school. Bob was an All-Pro lineman for the St. Louis Cardinals, Doug was a world champion weightlifter, and Perry a noted softball pitcher and coach. Bob and Doug are deceased.

The Big Country Hall of Fame has also added a new category this year called the Legend Award to honor coaches or athletes who competed prior to 1950. Recognized at the banquet will be hurdler Fred Wolcott

from Snyder and long-time football coach Eck Curtis. Both are deceased.

Here is a brief look this year's inductees:

Bill Anderson, who was born in Erath County, had a coaching career that spanned more than 50 years, including stops at Stamford, Rising Star, South Taylor, Graham, Palestine, Riviera, Hereford, Abilene Christian, West Texas State, Cisco Junior College, Howard Payne and Tarleton State. The football stadium in Stamford was recently dedicated and renamed Bill Anderson Stadium. He is also a member of the Texas High School Coaches Hall of Honor.

Larry Dippel played on two state championship teams at Stamford under Hall of Fame coach Gordon Wood and then played for another Hall of Famer, legendary Sam Baugh, at Hardin-Simmons. He was the head coach at Hereford from 1971-74 before becoming the head football coach at Amarillo High. Dippel led the Sandies to 222 wins and 23 playoff appearances until his retirement in 2005. He won the 1993 Tom Landry Award and High School Extra "Coach Who Made a Difference" award. He is a member of the Hardin-Simmons, Texas High School Coaches and Texas Panhandle halls of fame and compiled an overall coaching record of 253-134-6.

Kendra Anderson Hassell graduated from Colorado City in 1999 and then went to Hardin-Simmons where she became the most decorated basketball player in school history. She led the Cowgirls to four straight American Southwest Conference championships and four NCAA Division III tournament appearances. In 2003, Anderson was named the NCAA Division III women's basketball player of the year and the ASC Female Athlete of the Year. She was a two-time Kodak All-American and three-time conference player of the year. She was also selected to the Division III all-decade team in 2007. Anderson has coached at Forney, Fort Worth Paschal, Oklahoma State, Texas Woman's University, Charleston Southern, Carroll University and is now an assistant basketball coach at Abilene Christian University.

JimAnne Baker Hejny of Cisco won 13 gold medals at the state track meet in her career in the 100, 200, 400, long jump, triple jump and on relay teams. The Lady Lobos, led by Baker, won the Class 2A state track team championship in 2001. In addition to her success on the track, Baker was named all-state in basketball all four years in high school by both the Texas Girls Coaches Association and the Texas Basketball Coaches Association. She was the TABC Class 2A Player of the Year as a senior. She then played basketball and ran track at TCU.

Jim Millerman was a member of Abilene High teams that won two state championships in the same calendar year. In the spring of 1954, he ran on the Eagles' sprint relay team that won a gold medal at the state track meet and recorded the fastest time in the nation. Abilene High won the team state championship as well. Then that fall, Millerman was an all-state running back as Abilene High won the first of three consecutive state championships. He later ran track and played football at Baylor.

Terry Orr was a star running back on a district championship team at Cooper and then played for the Texas Longhorns, where he rushed for 1,279 yards and 11 touchdowns during his career. He was fourth in the Southwest Conference in rushing touchdowns in 1984. Orr was selected in the 10th round of the NFL draft in 1985 and played tight end for the Washington Redskins and San Diego Charger from 1986-93. He was a member of the Redskins' Super Bowl-winning teams in both 1987 and 1991.

Brad Pursley of Merkel and Abilene Christian University was a state champion and NAIA and NCAA national champion in the pole vault. He competed internationally and qualified for the U.S. Olympic trials three times. Pursley was ranked as high as No. 3 in the world and was ranked among the top five U.S. pole vaulters from 1981 to 1987. He is a member of the NAIA and ACU Halls of Fame.

Ann Schroeder is perhaps the most honored tennis player in Abilene history. As a junior player she was ranked No. 2 in singles in Texas and No. 1 in

doubles. At Cooper, she won district and regional championships in doubles and was runner-up in the state tournament in both 1972 and 1973. She also led Cooper to a runner-up finish in the first team tennis state tournament. She played collegiate tennis at Trinity University, which won three NCAA Division I national championships, and Schroeder was named an all-American as a senior. She played on the women's professional tennis tour from 1978 to 1981 and achieved a world singles ranking of 148.

Legacy Award winners Bob, Doug and Perry Young made their marks in three different sports, although all three were all-state football players at Brownwood. Bob played 16 seasons in the NFL, mostly with the St. Louis Cardinals. He was named to the Pro Bowl in 1978 and 1979 and was a first-team All-Pro selection in 1979. He also finished second in the inaugural World's Strongest Man contest in 1977. His younger brother Doug Young was a three-time world powerlifting champion. Perry Young, the youngest of the three brothers, was a wide receiver and safety for the 1967 and 1969 state championship football teams at Brownwood. He became known as one of the nation's top fastpitch softball pitchers and has spent his career coaching high school girls softball.

Eck Curtis, who played quarterback at Abilene Christian, was an outstanding coach at Anson, Ranger and Breckenridge before winning a state football championship at Highland Park in 1945. He later became the backfield coach at the University of Texas where he introduced the T-formation and one year had his entire backfield picked to the all-SWC team. He is a member of the Texas Sports Hall of Fame and the Texas High School Football Hall of Fame.

Fred Wolcott from Snyder was one of the greatest collegiate hurdlers in history at Rice. He won an NCAA title and broke Jesse Owens' world record in the 220-yard low hurdles. Due to the cancellation of the Olympics during World War II, however, he was denied recognition on the world stage. He has been inducted in the Texas Sports Hall of Fame.

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