

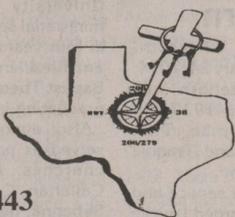
Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

Keys to our Past, Present

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& Future hinge on the Cross!

Vol. 105 No. 48

116 E.S. 1st. St. • P.O.Box 519 • Cross Plains, Tx., 76443

FEBRUARY 6, 2014 • 12 PAGES

254-725-6111 • crossplainsreview@earthlink.net



You Could Win This Double Rocker - This Double Rocker, donated by Meghann's Market in Eastland, will be given away Saturday night, February 8th, at the Owen Turner Benefit. The rocker is on display now at the Texas Heritage Bank. Tickets are \$1 each, and benefits the family of Owen Turner, 9 month old grandson of Dannes and Greg Turner who is battling leukemia.

Benefit to be held for Turner Family

Owen Turner, Grandson of Greg and Dannes Turner, began having trouble moving his right side on January 12. His parents, Joseh and Allison of Godley, took him to the hospital at Cleburne. The doctors immediately sent Owen to Cooks Children's Hospital with a preliminary diagnosis of Leukemia. After many more tests over several days, the diagnosis was confirmed as a very aggressive form of Leukemia, specifically AMLM5. Owen has completed one round off chemotherapy with plans for three more rounds in the upcoming months. The doctors are planning for a six or eight month stay at Cooks. The Turners have felt the prayers being lifted up for them and have witnessed miracles as Owen has

continued to overcome obstacles. Please continue to pray for Owen, his family, and the doctors and nurses working with him daily.

There will be a benefit held February 8, 2014 for the Turner Famil from 5:00-7:00 pm at First Baptist Church in Cross Plains. There will be a Brisket dinner by donations cooked by Cowboys Cooking for Christ. A cake auction will also be held. The silent and live auction items include: scarves, jewelry, game cam, sports items, Scentsy packages, tires, protein tubs, Yeti cooler, outdoor decor, and many more items. A double rocker donated by Meghann's Market, Eastland, is being raffled off. Tickets are available this week at Texas Heritage Bank as well as the night of the benefit.

Teens "Experience the True Grit of Bethany Hamilton"

The Cross Plains Public Library will host an "Experience True Grit" event at the main Street Pool House and Surf Shop on Saturday, April 5th at 7:00p.m. Teens will enjoy "Soul Surfer" the story of teenage surfer Bethany Hamilton, who overcame the odds and her own fears of returning to the water after losing her left arm in a shark attack. FREE copies of the book are available

now at the library. Participants will be eligible for a drawing of free movie passes. Pizza and drinks will be served during the movie, followed by a discussion of the "gritty" aspects of the character.

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 254-725-7251.



NEW RESTAURANT—Shady Oaks Grill owner David Mendieta, with the scissors, cuts the ribbon during the ribbon cutting ceremony sponsored by the Clyde Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, January 30th at the Shady Oaks Grill located at the Shady Oaks Golf Course between Clyde and Baird. Mendieta, who also has owned and operated the Mexico City restaurant in Cross Plains for the past 10 years, said the new Clyde restaurant is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and again from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Sunday from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The business telephone number is (325) 854-1809. The new

restaurant owner said he will have lunch specials every day for \$6.50 which includes tea or coffee. The restaurant will have an all-you-can-eat buffet on Friday and Saturday night from 5:00 p.m. until close and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Mendieta said the buffet price is \$8.99, which includes dessert. He said the buffet will have all kinds of American and Mexican food, with a huge salad bar. He said every Friday night is fried fish night on the buffet. He said other buffet entries will include enchiladas, fajitas, and fried chicken. Mendieta said the restaurant is open to the public, and you do not have to be a member of the country club to eat at the restaurant.

"Got Grit?" Writing Contest

Once again the Cross Plains Public Library is celebrating The Big Read/ "Experience True Grit" with a writing contest for all ages. Compositions must be between 5-7 paragraphs and about people, real or fictitious, that exhibit the characteristic of "true grit." Deadline is Thursday, March 27, and winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the Street Dance Bonanza on April 12th. Stop by the library for an entry form or download from our facebook page. First prize is a 16GB Kindle Fire HD 7" tablet. Second prize is a \$50 Amazon.com gift certificate, and third prize is a movie pass for two at Premiere Cinema in Abilene.

Coach Purvis excited about University Interscholastic league realignment

The University Interscholastic League announced its biennial realignment on Monday, February 3, 2014.

All schools in the league will move up one classification.

Cross Plains High School football and basketball teams will play in two separate classifications for the next two years.

Six-man football will now be called class 1A, the original 1A class will become 2A, etc. (everyone moves up a slot).

Cross Plains will play in District 8-2A Division II in football along with Albany,

Baird, Gorman, Perrin-Whitt, Ranger and Santo for the next two years.

In Basketball (we are changing Districts) Cross Plains will be in District 15-1A, with Baird, Eula, May, Moran and Rising Star.

"We are very excited to be going East," said Cross Plains head Coach and athletic coordinator Daniel Purvis. "I believe it will cut down on our traveling (mileage to other towns)." Purvis continued "I am excited that we will be playing towns in our area, that we have a history with".

The Big Read/ "Experience True Grit" T-Shirt Design Contest Begins

In preparation for our 6-week celebration of The Big Read in March, the Cross Plains Public Library is holding a T-Shirt contest. Winning artwork will be reproduced in a single color on white or gray T-shirts to be given away during The Big Read. Because of copyright laws, designs cannot portray a real person, or a character from the "True Grit" movies. We are looking for art-

work that would portray the spirit of "true grit" with drawings and/or words. Images must be no longer than 10" X 10" and preferably black and white, although color drawings will be accepted. Deadline for entries is Thursday, February 27, 2014. Any age can enter. The winner's name will be added to the design before printing.

Buffaloes Still Second With 5-3 Record In Basketball

The Cross Plains Buffaloes boys basketball team is still sitting second in district play at 5-3 after a win against Santa Anna, Friday, January 31 on Senior Night. A slip up at Panther Creek, Tuesday, February 28 could cause major complications to the district come Friday, unless the Buffaloes take care of business.

Cross Plains fell Tuesday by the score of 46-40, dropping their record to 4-3. Panther Creek was able to keep momentum with big shots throughout the evening, hitting 9 three point shots, all at key times in the game. Senior forwards Cutter Halsel and Josh Branch fought to keep the Buffaloes in it with Halsel netting 18 points and Branch finishing with 15. Only 4 Cross Plains' players would find their names in the box score as Stephenson went for 3, and Justin Willis would add 5. Josh Branch would finish with a double-double adding 14 rebounds. Stephenson and Henderson led in assists with 4 each.

Friday, seven seniors played in the final games at Cross Plains Gymnasium. Cutter Halsel, Tyler Henderson, Tristen Stephenson, Josh Branch, Colton McWilliams, Wesley Carver, and Justin Willis. Justin Willis would miss because of illness. The Buffaloes would make sure it was a good finale, as they took a big 30-15 lead into the locker room, and went on to win it by the score of 53-31. Tristen Stephenson had a big night, he tallied 14 points, 4 rebounds, 4 assist, and 2 steals. He was 8 of 9 from the charity stripe. As a team, the Buffaloes shot 11 of 13 from the line. Cutter Halsel scored 12 for the Buffaloes

adding in 13 rebounds for good measure. Tyler Henderson added 4 assist and 8 rebounds, and 2 steals. Others scoring for the Buffaloes were Branch with 6, and McWilliams with 6, and Senclair with 12. Senclair hit two 3's on the evening.

The win moved the Buffaloes 6-5-3 in district with 2 to play. Rising Star's win over Brookesmith put them at 5-3, and Panther Creek's loss at May put their record at 5-3 in district play. Wins at Brookesmith and Rising Star this week will clinch second place for the Buffaloes. In the event that Rising Star defeats Cross Plains, a three way tie for second will be between Panther Creek, Rising Star, and Cross Plains forcing a round-robin tie-breaker between the three teams for the final two spots. The winner of District 15 will earn a bye in the first round of the playoffs. The second place team will play the third place team in District 16, which will likely be Blanket. The third place team will play the second place team out of that same district in the bi-district round, and the opponent will likely be Zephyr. Mullin has a comfortable lead for the district title in District 16.

Friday, at Rising Star, JV Boys will play at 5:30, with Varsity Boys to follow likely around 6:30. The girls conclude district play Tuesday in Brookesmith. Only Varsity Girls and Boys will play Tuesday at 6:30 and 8:00.

Representatives Attend Chamber of Commerce Community Luncheon

The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce Community Luncheon had a grand turn out! Fourteen individuals attended. In 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, and a children's 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 were: Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce 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

Texas Heritage Bank

"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

Member FDIC

Presents:
"What's Inside"

Birthdays	10
Church Directory	2
Classifieds	6
Cottonwood News	3
Courthouse News	9
Crossword Puzzle	10
Library Notes	2
Love Fund	2
Obituary	2

BUFFALOS

Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79408

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

Triple Cross Cowboy Church

Every Sunday at 10:30 am
Services held at 18071 CR 421, Cross Plains
(1/2 mile North of Cross Plains city limits on Hwy 206)
Al Taylor, Preacher
Phone: 254-725-7522
Cell Phone: 325-370-6680

Pioneer Baptist Church

Pastor: Dwaine Clowers
Music Director: Barbara Jo Medley
Sunday School.....10:00am
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00am
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00pm
Wednesday Prayer Service.....7:00pm

Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Restoring And Equipping The Saints
Sunday....10:00 am Wednesday....7:00 pm
Pastor Max Evans
For Information Call (254) 725-7418

Rowden Baptist Church

Pastor: Wayne Lenz
Music: Karen Lenz & Diane Woods
Bible Study...10:00 am
Sunday Morning Worship...11:00 am
2990 Highway 36 at Rowden 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School9:45 AM
Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Ministry Activities
Youth Meet at Pool House.....6:30PM
Thomas Estes, Pastor
Gregg Steinle, 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

Chaplain T.D. Whitehorn

Chaplain T.D. Whitehorn, 96, died on January 24, 2014. Chaplain Whitehorn was born June 15, 1917, in Kildare, Texas, to T.D. Whitehorn, Sr., and Trannie Waites Whitehorn.

His was a life of service and challenge. He married Lavelle "Pat" Craighead August 3, 1937, and they enjoyed 72 years of marriage until her death in 2009. They struggled in the early years during the Great Depression, but he was accepted into the Texas State Highway Patrol in about 1940. They were stationed in various Texas locations for ten plus years, places including Del Rio, Fredricksburg, Lamesa, Big Spring, and Baird. His Highway Patrol service was interrupted during WWII, when he was drafted and served in the U.S. Army. As a patrolman, he had a well-earned reputation for integrity and firm enforcement of the law, tempered by compassion and grace.

T.D. and George Clark were the first Highway Patrolmen stationed in Baird, following WWII in 1947-48, and those were some interesting times according to Tom Ivey who remembers both men well.

While in Baird as a Patrolman, T.D. felt the call to Christian ministry. Though by then he and Pat had two children, he resigned his commission with the Highway Patrol and began a safety consulting business with West Texas oil companies and national moving

companies. At the same time he entered Hardin-Simmons University as a full-time ministerial student, graduating in four years. He immediately enrolled in Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, graduating in three years.

Also, during those years he served as pastor to two rural churches, first Admiral in Callahan County and then Sabanna, near Cross Plains.

During these years Pat's health deteriorated, making service as a pastor increasingly difficult for T.D. He became a chaplain for the V.A.

T.D. and Pat had an especially strong bond. When, after a debilitating stroke, Pat had to have full-time care in the Gorman Long-Term care facility, T.D. visited her every day. Then, when his own health failed due to Parkinson's, T.D. also lived in the care facility, sharing a room with Pat.

T.D. was preceded in death by his parents, T.D. Sr. and Trannie; his wife Lavelle "Pat" Whitehorn; his daughter Sylvia Leah Estes.

He is survived by his sister Evelyn Beaty, of Waco; his son Dr. Michael Whitehorn and his wife Marcia, of Abilene; his granddaughter Mary Jesse and husband James, of Ft. Worth; granddaughters Heidi Forbes and husband Scott (Virginia Beach, VA), Barbara Whitehorn and partner Lisa Lemons; grandsons Christopher Scheetz and wife Erin, and Alfred Elser.

Chaplain Whitehorn will be buried beside his beloved wife Pat in the Murray Memorial Cemetery near Carbon, Texas.

Cross Plains School Menu

February 10-21

BREAKFAST

Monday 10th- Cream of Wheat, Blueberry Muffin, Cereal Fruit & Juice, Milk

Tuesday - 11th- Chicken-n-Biscuit w/syrup, Cereal, Fruit & Juice, Milk

Wednesday 12th- Pancake/Sausage on a stick, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Cereal, Fruit & Juice, Milk

Thursday 13th- Sunrise Sandwich, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk

Friday 14th- Oatmeal Round, Yogurt, Cheese Stick, Fruit & Juice, Milk

Monday 17th- French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Fruit & Juice, Milk

Tuesday 18th- Scrambled Eggs, Biscuit & Gravy, Fruit & Juice, Milk

Wednesday 19th- P.B. & Jelly Sandwich, Cereal Fruit & Juice, Milk

Thursday 20th- Cereal, Texas Toast, Cheese Stick, Fruit & Juice, Milk

Friday 21th- Breakfast Burrito, Cereal, Fruit & Juice, Milk

LUNCH

Monday 10th- Chicken & Broccoli Penne, Garden Salad, baby carrots, Apple slices, Breadsticks, Milk

Tuesday 11th- Steak Fingers, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Pineapple tidbits, Milk

Wednesday 12th- Taco Bowl, Garden Salad, Salsa, Seasoned Corn, Snowball Salad, Milk

Thursday 13th- Chicken Quesadilla, Black Beans, Baby Carrots, Salsa, Orange Smiles, Milk

Friday 14th- Pizza Choice, Garden Salad, Fresh Veggie Cup, Mixed Fruit, Milk

Monday 17th- Cheese Enchiladas, Refried Beans, Garden Salad, Salsa, Hot Cinnamon Apples, Milk

Tuesday 18th- Hot Dog, Potatoe Rounds, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fresh Seasonal Fruit, Milk

Wednesday 19th- Grilled Cheese, Vegetable Soup, Baby Carrots, Fruit Cup, Milk

Thursday 20th- Chicken Nuggets, Mac & Cheese, Garden Salad, Green Beans, Apple Slices, Crispy Cereal Treat, Milk

Friday 21st- Beef & Bean Burrito, Seasoned Corn, Baby Carrots, Sliced Peaches, Salsa, Milk

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

Thank you!
The Cross Plains High School Junior Class would like thank everyone who donated items and baked goods for Pack the Gym for Billy Bell Night. And thanks to all who bought the baked goods and bid on the auction items. The turnout was overwhelming as our community came together to help the Bell family by raising over \$5,000.00 to assist in the family's ongoing needs. As always, the people of Cross Plains and the surrounding areas showed what it means to be a caring community. 😊

First United Methodist Church

Kevin Morton, Pastor

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

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

1000 North Main Street

www.gb-gm-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

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 24-27, 2014

Patrons	104
Books Checked	104
Programs	22
LAP	4
Lapsit	3
GED	10
Other	5
Copies	106
Internet WiFi	35
Interlibrary Loans	21
Reference	2
Donations	14
Bonnie White	1
Living Tributes	1
Tom and Arlene Stephenson	1
In Memory of Blanche Thrasher	1
Books and Miscellaneous	1
Donations	1
D.P. Jones	1
Donnel Clark	1
Bob and Lavonne Childress	1
Volunteers	1
Helen Parson	1
Polly Beeler	1
Michael Ellis	1
Sue Bennett	1
Beverly Ross	1
Lavonne Childress	1
Ginny Hoskins	1

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Cross Plains Review

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FEB. 6, 2014

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW (USPS 138-660)

DON TABOR PUBLISHER
BECKY TABOR EDITOR
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

MEMBER 2014

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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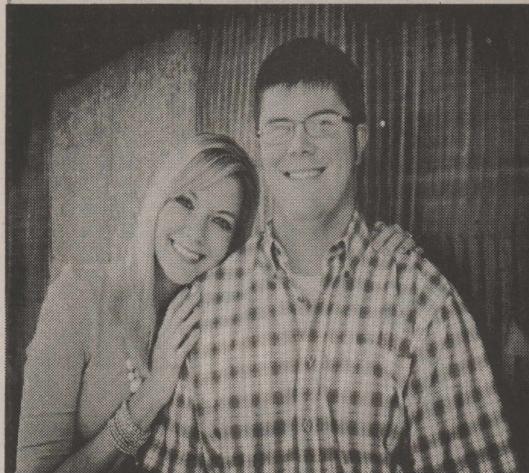
Letters-to-the-Editor must be signed, dated and include the author's address, phone number and must be brought into the newspaper office. No mailed or e-mailed Letters will be accepted.

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ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT



Beaty and Neeb Engagement Announced

Jack and Ann Neeb would like to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Crystal Nicole, to Joshua Kyle Beaty, son of Tim and Cindy Beaty of De Leon, Texas. The bride-elect is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and is the Special Education teacher at Trent ISD. The groom-elect is a graduate of Texas A&M University and is the Agriculture Science teacher at Trent ISD.

Josh and Crystal will exchange wedding vows on Saturday, March 29, at the Potosi Baptist Church located in Potosi, Texas. Crystal is the granddaughter of the Paul Neeb and Sue Bowerman from Cross Plains and the late Frank Virginia Smart of Lebanon, Missouri. Jossh is the grandson of John and Martha Beaty of De Leon and Gayle and Glenda Wilkerson, also of De Leon, Texas.

Cottonwood News

We've had more cold weather this week and it looks like more is on the way.

We received the following news from Bob Childress and the Cottonwood Heart Attack Fund: "We made our goal and have purchased an automatic external defibrillator. Thank you for your contributions that have made this possible. The defibrillator will stay with Norma Farmer, a licensed Emergency Medical Technician. Norma is a member of the Cross Plains Emergency Medical Service and carries a beeper. When someone calls 911 for an ambulance, Norma will get the page. If the page is for the Cottonwood area she will go directly there and use the defibrillator if warranted."

Also, there is money left in the Heart Attack Fund and the group will be purchasing a portable oxygen unit for Norma to use.

This Saturday night, February 8, is the 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 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.

Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Group 25th Anniversary books are still available. You can pick up one at Connie's Cuts and Curls or the Cross Plains Review office in Cross Plains. You can also order one by mail. Just send \$15.00 plus \$4.00 Shipping to Beverly Brown, 14394 CR 429, Cross Plains, TX 76443, and we'll get the book shipped right out to you. The book features many photos of the past, as well as many recent photos of the Fire Control Group.

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.

Cross Plains Public Library Hosts "The Nitty Gritty of Cooking" with Sharon Riley

Abilene's own Sharon Riley, renowned cook, restaurateur, and caterer, owner of Sharon's Barbeque, Sharon's Catering and Lytle Land & Cattle Company will be the Cross Plains Public Library's guest speaker at a luncheon featuring her new cookbook "Yum! Yum! An Abilene Tradition." Sharon will be sharing tips from her book and cooking Grilled Corn and Cheddar Quinoa as part of our "Experience True Grit" celebration. The en-

tire luncheon menu will have recipes from her book. There will be door prizes and an optional "Stylish Hat Contest" - Popular vote will determine the winner of a copy of Sharon's cookbook. Cost is \$12 and includes \$5 off the purchase of her book.

Join us at the First United Methodist Church, 1000 N. Main St. on Friday, March 7, 2014, at 11:30 a.m. Seating is limited. Tickets are on sale at the library through February 28, 2014.

Cross Plains Senior Center Valentine's Show

There will be well-known stars at noon Wednesday, February 12, 2014 at the Cross Plains Senior Center. The Red Hat Ladies from Brownwood will return to entertain as they transform themselves into famous actresses and singers. Minnie Pearl, the

Poniter Sisters, and Marilyn Monroe are just a few of the visitors we had last year. You will not want to miss this show. There is no charge for this show and you are guaranteed to leave the center with a smile on your face and a song in your heart.

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. You may also order tickets or tables by e-mailing carole@bigcountryhalloffame.org or calling (325) 668-3685.

Spring planting is near: Join the Arbor Day Foundation in February and receive 10 free Redbud Trees

Joining the Arbor Day Foundation is an ideal way to get in the mood for spring planting. Anyone from Texas who joins the Foundation in February 2014 will receive 10 free Eastern Redbud trees to plant when the weather turns warm.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

"Redbuds will help beautify Texas for many years to come," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "They will also add to the proud heritage of Texas' existing Tree City USA communities."

The Tree City USA program has supported community forestry throughout the country for more than 35 years.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between March 1st and May 31st, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book, which contains information about planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE EASTERN REDBUD TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by February 28, 2014, or visit arborday.org/february.

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.

ROBERT E. McCOOL & MICHAEL PARKER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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BAIRD, TEXAS 79504
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Cross Plains Review
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FEB. 6, 2014

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

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

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

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

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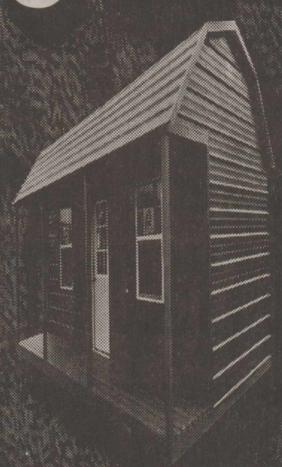
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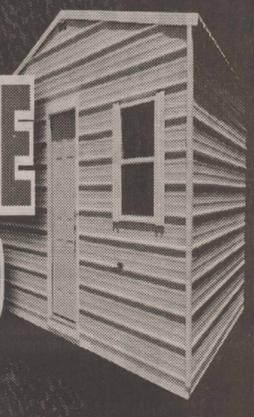


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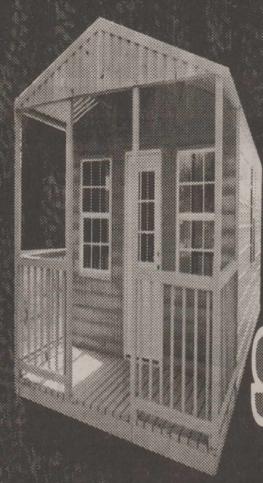
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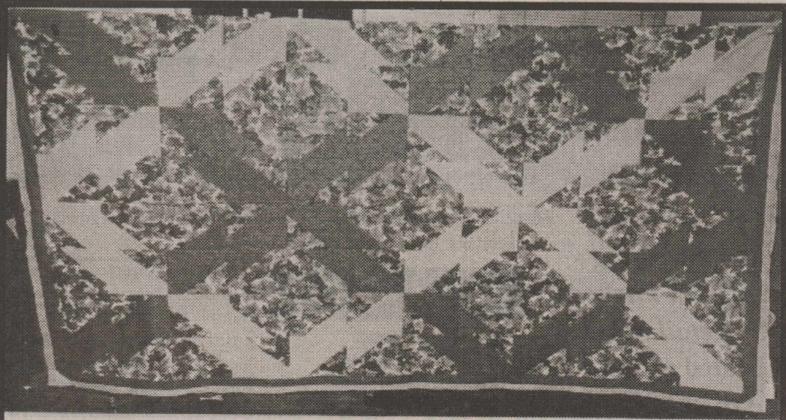
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HAWK BUILDINGS



The Thunder Creek Trail Pattern Quilt — This beautiful quilt in golds and browns makes a wonderful fundraiser prize for the Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Group.

Efforts to weaken COOL misguided 98 Farm, Ranch & Rural Groups urge Congress to protect Country of Origin Labeling

Lyons, NE — This week, the Center for Rural Affairs, R-CALF USA, Western Organization of Resource Councils and 95 other groups representing farmers, ranchers, consumers and other rural and small town interests sent a letter to Farm Bill Conference Committee members with an urgent appeal to resist making changes to weaken the nation's country of origin labeling (COOL) law when they finalize the 2014 Farm Bill.

"Widespread reports circulating on Capitol Hill indicate that the United States Trade Representative was capitulating to the pressures by COOL opponents, primarily the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and their transnational meatpacker allies, to weaken, if not eliminate COOL," said R-CALF USA CEO Bill Bullard.

According to Bullard, the letter was initiated following reports last week that the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), the federal agency responsible for defending the U.S. country of origin labeling law for

meat and other food products before the World Trade Organization, was lobbying the Farm Bill Conferees to weaken the COOL law.

"Ranchers, farmers and consumers overwhelmingly favor retaining the strong, effective 2013 final COOL rules requiring retailers to inform their customers about where the meat they purchase comes from, and that means where the livestock were born, raised and slaughtered. A standard that the Center for Rural Affairs has advocated for nearly 20 years," said John Crabtree, Center for Rural Affairs.

"When we learned that the USTR was pressuring Farm Bill Conferees to replace current COOL rules with a "Product of North America" label for meat from animals imported in the U.S., we knew it was time for urgent action," said John Crabtree of the Center for Rural Affairs. "This North American or NAFTA-meat label is entirely unacceptable. Moreover, the Farm Bill Conference Committee is not the place for this effort

to undermine COOL. It is an effort to undue democratic decision-making behind the closed doors at the 11th hour of the farm bill debate."

Crabtree explained further that the final, 2013 rules are in line with decisions issued by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Appellate Body. But the purported amendment suggested by the USTR would not only erode the quality of information consumers would receive, it also fails to remedy the issues raised by the WTO dispute panel, opening the law up to future challenges.

To view or download a copy of the letter go to: <http://www.cfra.org/lettertocongressCOOL>

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.

Make your Greeting Card a Paint Chip! Looking for an unusual Valentine's gift?

Buying a greeting card, chocolates, or roses may be your default setting for Valentine's Day, but why not give something more permanent this year, say a beautiful new interior paint color scheme?

Okay, a new squeeze might snooze at the idea of watching paint dry. But if your significant other shares your living space, an exciting paint treatment might just be very... well, exciting!

For starters, you'll score big points for Valentine's originality. If you involve your partner at the outset, selecting the paint colors can provide some nice together time, too.

Assuming that you're game for this gambit, you can proceed in one of two ways: either paint the room and surprise your partner; or involve him or her in the color selection process. Clearly, unveiling an already-completed room has more cache; but jointly choosing the colors can itself be romantic.

Either way, you can proclaim your love (and your colorful plan) by creating a clever Valentine's card using the printed samples of paint colors on display at your local paint store. Incorporate one or more of these color chips

(for multi-color paint schemes) into a store-bought Valentine's card, or express your feelings in a homemade card fashioned entirely from large-size paint chips.

Doing the painting itself should, of course, be a labor of love. But that doesn't mean you have to work any harder than necessary. By using one of the revolutionary new "paint and primer" products, you'll simplify and speed up your Valentine's project; which may further impress your partner, and even free up more time for favorite pastimes... like watching old movies together!

How do paint and primer products make your project go faster? Debbie Zimmer, paint and color expert at the Paint Quality Institute, explains:

These coatings short-circuit the normal painting regimen: Rather than applying a coat of primer followed by two or more coats of paint, you usually need only apply two coats of a paint and primer product. That eliminates an entire application, saving both time and effort," she says.

If you're unfamiliar with paint and primer products, they provide the benefits of both primer and paint in a single coating. On the one hand, they conceal both the underneath color and surface

marks as a primer would; and, like a high quality paint, they impart beautiful color in a finish that resists stains and is easily washable, especially in higher gloss levels.

Your local paint store, hardware store, or home center may carry several different brands of paint and primer products, but according to Zimmer, the ones that perform best have one thing in common: "The best-performing brands" meaning they have a great balance of primer and paint properties — all contain 100% acrylic, the very same ingredient used in the highest quality traditional paints."

So, if you're of a mind to do something different this Valentine's Day, why not something that will show your love every day of the year, such as repainting? If you take this tack, you'll benefit from using a top quality paint and primer product made with 100% acrylic. Both you and your sweetheart will fall in love not just with its outward appearance, but also with the way it stands the test of time!

For more information on interior painting, color selection, and newly developed paint and primer products, visit the Paint Quality Institute blog at blog.paintquality.com.

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HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY ALMA—Your Presence is Requested at the 100th Birthday Party for Alma Mitchell of Baird TX. Join us Saturday, Feb 8th, at the First Baptist Church of Baird in the Fellowship Hall between 2-4pm. Gifts are not required, but smiles are!

Blessings for Owen

Sat, Feb 8

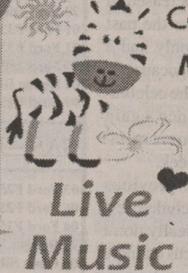
First Baptist Church

Family Life Center, 301 N. Main, Cross Plains

Brisket Dinner

9 Month Old Owen Turner is Battling Leukemia

On Jan. 12, Owen became ill and was taken to Cooks Children's Hospital and diagnosed with a very aggressive form of Leukemia, more specifically AML, M5. Owen has finished his first round of Chemotherapy. His white blood cell count is currently less than zero, which is exactly what the doctors wanted. He will have time to rest and rebuild his immune system before starting more chemo. He is expected to be at Cooks Children's Hospital for 6-8 months. Owen's family cherishes the outpouring of support and prayers they have received from family, friends and even strangers. Because of Faith and Prayer Owen is receiving Miracles every day.



Brisket Cooked by 5-7 pm
Cowboys Cooking for Christ
Potato Salad, Beans, Homemade
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Meal for a Donation



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Grandson of
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Owen Clay Turner

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ZUMBA comes to Baird

At the organizational meeting of the Restoring Baird to Greatness group it was announced that one of the members has achieved certification as a Zumba instructor. Everyone is excited to announce that the classes will begin February 11, 2014 at the Baird Activity Center (East 3rd and Walnut). Class times are Sundays at 3pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6pm and 8pm. Cost per session is \$4 with a portion of the proceeds going to the Restoring Baird to Greatness fund. Everyone is welcome to join the class regardless of experience. For more information please call Kayla at 325-721-3658. The group has other projects in mind and in the works. We would welcome your participation and ideas. Follow the group on Facebook - Restoring Baird to Greatness.

Weight Warriors

Weight Warriors met Tuesday afternoon for their regular meeting. Our group has increased in numbers each week for the past several weeks. We only had a few present last week because of weather and illness. The celebration bracelet was once again passed to one of our current members to wear for the week. We reviewed the previous weeks topics which included new year resolutions that really don't work and those that focus on more specific details. Each week a new topic is discussed and we always share celebrations and ny upcoming challenges that anyone has. Bravo stickers are passed out to everyone who has any celebrations. These not only involve celebrations at the scale but others as well, such as making good choices. Weight Warriors meet every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church. Everyone who is interested in a local weight loss support group is welcome. The only thing we ask is for a donation we ask of non-perishable food items to our local food pantry. Come and join us as we travel the weight loss journey together.

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Help Wanted
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Cross Plains Review

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FEB. 6, 2014

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

Monday, February 10th
Cross Plains Housing Authority
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Time 10-12

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Residential & Lake Property

- Lot 100 Oak Pt. Drive**-105x209 lot w/mesquites & native grass, fenced...**\$12,000**
- 624 Chestnut**-2BR-1B frame hm, all new plumbing, all new electrical...**\$22,500**
- 000 George Scott, C.P.**-Vacant lots 1-6 in nice area to build home...**\$30,000**
- 633 N. Main**-2BR-1B fram **UNDER CONTRACT**; heat, metal roof...**\$33,000**
- 633 NE 3rd**-3BR-1B, central h/a, new roof, owner financing available**\$35,000**
- 4411 Cherokee Dr, Lake B'wood**- 2BR-1.5B MH at Thunderbird Bay...**\$44,000**
- NEW! 507 W Mill St, Rising Star**-3B-2B, newly remodeled, large lot...**\$49,500**
- 216 S Liveoak**-Great project! 2 homes, 4BR-1B & 1BR-1B, lg lot, cellar...**\$55,000**
- 232 NW 5th**-2BR-2B brick w/ metal roof, 2 living areas, fireplace, 3 lots...**\$60,000**
- 512 S. Main, R.S.**-3BR-1B craftsman style, garden shed **Reduced**...**\$69,900**
- 8305 Hwy 279, Lake B'wood**-Updated 3BR-2B, shop & RV space...**\$75,000**
- 901 NE 4th**-2BR-2B, 1,088 sq.ft. wood siding, metal roof, central h/a...**\$79,900**
- 140 S. Ave A**-3BR-2B brick, new tile & carpet, appliances, corner lot...**\$94,950**
- 18524 CR 421, CP**-3BR **UNDER CONTRACT** ce yard **Reduced**...**\$99,500**
- 2305 Belmeade, B'wood**-3BR/2B brick on lg lot, nice neighborhood...**\$110,000**
- 503 W. College, R.S.**-Nice 3BR-2B brick, new ctrl H/A & flooring, deck...**\$115,000**

Commercial Property

- 116 SW 5th**-Office Space with 3 separate offices, lobby, kitchenette, conference room, full bathroom...**Reduced**...**\$65,000**
- 905 West College, R.S.**- Hwy 36, 4,998 sq. ft. metal/brick bldg, 3BR-1.5B living qtrs, 10 BR-1B rooms for motel/asstd living ctr, owner fin/lease...**\$125,000**
- Branding Iron Processing & Movie Store, CP**- Hwy 36, Buy together or separate, inventory included, recently updated equipment in processing facility-great business opportunity...**\$278,000**

Inga Brennan 325-642-1878
Erik Woodard 325-733-4611
Wayne Lenz 325-668-0139

Shana Hinyard, Broker Associate 325-660-5719
Karen Lenz, Broker/Owner 325-668-3604



Post Vice Commander Homer and Helen Parson, Rep. Jim Keffer, Post Commander Ron and Sharlyn Bell at American Legion Post 243

Keffer Visits with Local Veterans

State Representative Jim Keffer was the guest speaker last week at the regular meeting of veterans at the American Legion Post in Cross Plains. Tommie Aiken Post No. 243 has held regular meetings and sponsored special events since it was formed in 1927.

Keffer was invited to give an update on current issues of the state legislature. At the request of those in attendance, he gave insights to how state officials are handling federal programs like Obamacare and EPA regulations. Callahan County is in House District 60 for Keffer serves.

During redistricting after the 2000 Census, the county was placed in HD 53. After the 20100 Census, Callahan County was moved back into District 60. Other counties in the district include Brown, Coleman, Eastland, Hood, Palo Pinto, Shackelford and Stephens.



For Sale: *12641 County Road 429 *Baird 79504-5423 in Cross Plains ISD.
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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

Card of Thanks

I would like to say "Thank You, Thank You, Thank You" to the Junior Class, to all the Teachers & faculty at the school and to all the people of the community who so graciously donated to Billy Wayne's funeral expenses, and to the "Pack the Gym" benefit for Donna and her boys.

For the community to come together in such a wonderful way and show so much love for his memory and to his wife and kids is so thoughtful and kind. I can not express enough of my heartfelt Thank yous for all your generosity and kindness.

Billy Wayne was a servant at heart and I know he would have been so appreciative, over whelmed, thankful and humbled at the care shown towards his wife and children by this community. I know I am! I know Donna is! Thank you, so very much!

-April Wheeler

Card of Thanks

We want to take this time to thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts. We appreciate everything that you all have done for the family of Billy Wayne Bell.

Sincerely,
Donna Renee and Boys

Cross Plains Review

8

FEB. 6, 2014



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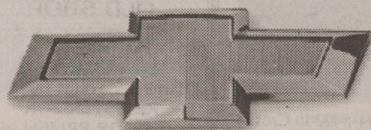


2013 GMC CREW CAB & CHASSIS

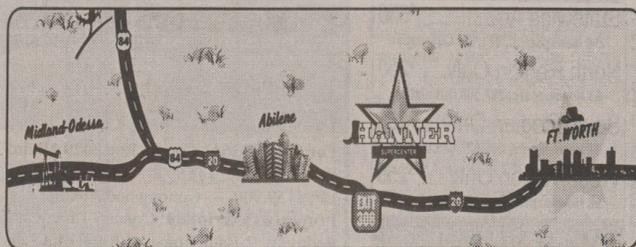
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HPU to host financial aid seminar for parents of area high school students

BROWNWOOD - Feb. 3, 2014 - Parents of area juniors and seniors in area high school are invited to a free seminar at Howard Payne University to learn more about financing college educations.

HPU will host the meeting on financial aid and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 6th, in the university's Paul and Jane Meyer Faith and Life Leadership Center.

Glenda Huff, HPU's director of student aid, will discuss the financial aid process with a special emphasis on the FAFSA, the application used to award loans and grants to students at universities across the nation.

According to Huff, it is extremely essential to begin the financial aid process as soon as possible after January 1st.

"Some schools have very

early "priority dates" for awarding financial aid funds," she said. "Parents of all area students, even those not planning to enroll at HPU, are welcome to attend this session."

University representatives will also discuss HPU's Heart of Texas Scholarship Program, designed to benefit students graduating from high schools in Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, McCulloch, Mills and San Saba counties.

The scholarship awards up to \$14,000 annually to students who meet the requirements.

For more information about the seminars, contact P.J. Gramling, director of admission, at (325) 649-8406 or pgramling@hputx.edu.

For more information about HPU financial aid, visit www.hputx.edu/financialaid or call (325) 649-8015.

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

selectin, 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.

Callahan County Businesses reminded to render taxable property by April 15th

If you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income, you must file a rendition with the Callahan County Appraisal District by April 15, 2014.

A rendition is a report that lists all the taxable property a person owned or controlled on Jan. 1st of this year. Property includes inventory and equipment used by a business. Owners do not have to render exempt property, such as a church property or agriculture producer's equipment used for farming.

Chief Appraiser Don Jones said "The Appraisal District may use the information submitted in the rendition to set property values." You can also file a report of decreased value to notify the district of significant depreciation of your property. For example, if your property was damaged by a storm, flood or fire

last year, you should file a report of decreased value. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 2014.

The last day to file a rendition or report of decreased value is April 15, 2014. If a rendition is filed late or incomplete or not at all a 10 percent will be imposed, if a fraudulent rendition is filed, a 50 percent penalty is mandated. Property owners who need more time to file their renditions may file a written request with the chief appraiser on or before April 15, 2014 to receive an automatic extension to May 15 or the next business day.

For more information about rendering property, deadline extensions, penalties and rendition forms, taxpayers may contact Susan Childers at the Callahan County Appraisal District, 132 W. 4th St., Baird, TX or by phone at 325/854-5865.

COURTHOUSE NEWS

Callahan County Court Roger Corn, presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

Jason L. Autry, interference with public duties.

Mark A. Cruz, theft by check. Elvin Hogue, theft by check. Priscilla Kirkland, theft by check.

Misdemeanor Minutes

Ricardo T. Soto, motion to dismiss motion to revoke probation granted.

Ronda D. Cato, motion to revoke probation and adjudicate granted.

Christy A. McDonald, order on motion to revoke probation granted, 90 days in jail.

Cody L. Allen, order amending conditions of probation granted.

Juan M. Gallegos, plea of guilty to driving while intoxicated (DWI), 90 days in jail, \$429 court costs.

Kristy L. Gandy, motion to dismiss to theft by check granted in the interest of justice.

James Knox, plea of guilty to possession of hydrocodone, 15 days in jail, \$329 court costs.

Jason L. Autry, plea of guilty to obstruction of a highway, 1 year probation, \$2000 fine, \$319 court costs.

Marriage Licenses

Kurt Bradlee Walden of Baird and Cynthia Gayle Ramos of Abilene.

42nd District Court John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filings

Thomas M. Ivey vs. W. J. Robinson estate et al, real property partition.

Justin B. Jordan and Stephanie Jordan, divorce.

Civil Minutes

Betty King Lichty and Terry Ray Lichty, divorce granted.

Criminal Complaints & Information

James Knox, possession of marijuana.

Criminal Minutes

James Knox, plea of guilty to possession of marijuana, 6 months in prison, \$320 court costs.

James D. Burgess, plea of guilty to sexual assault, 7 year probation, \$500 fine, \$339 court costs.

Brayden Brookreson, plea of guilty to DWI, 3 year probation, \$1000 fine, \$454 court costs.

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Friday 8:30-Noon



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Cross Plains Review

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FEB. 6, 2014

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the

FORMTEXT REPUBLICAN PRIMARY Election held on FORMTEXT MARCH 4, 2014 will be tested on FORMTEXT FEBRUARY 11, 2014 @11:00 A.M. at FORMTEXT CALLAHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 102 to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

s/Donna Bell

Signature of Officer

AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automaticamente que se usara en la Eleccion

FORMTEXT PARTIDO REPUBLICANO ELECCION PRIMARIA que se llevara a cabo el FORMTEXT 04 DE MARZO DE 2014 se probara el FORMTEXT 11 DE FEBRERO DE 2014 a las FORMTEXT 11:00 A.M. en FORMTEXT El Palacio de justicia del Condado de Callahan el Cuarto 102 para determinar si el equipo contara con exactitude los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todas los proyectos de ley.

s/Donna Bell

Firma del/dela Oficial



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FEBRUARY 8

Shawn McKeehan
Charles Strength
Grady Newton
Kashlyn Hunter
Sherry Wilson
Robby Bailey
Wanda (Bell) Easterling

FEBRUARY 9

Cassidy Champion
Mary Strahan
Fred Dill
Jennifer Dee Calhoun
Michael Heath Bright
Granvel Scott
Ronnie Flippin
Cecil Johnson
Skip Nichols
Kathy Morris

FEBRUARY 10

Shannon McMillan
Elizabeth Griffith
Donald Sibley
Cody Golson
Nathan Wayne Jones
Lori Bishop Boyd

FEBRUARY 11

Ashley Bennett
Kenneth Lowery
Mrs. J.C. Grantham
Pam (Pillans) Furlow
Ashley (Beggs) Moses
Bill Wilson
Susan Sharpe-Holland
Clayton Goble
Shirley Snodgrass Thompson
Joe Holland

FEBRUARY 12

Jolie Elizabeth Hutton
William Payton Mayes
Jacob Carlos Grider
Barbara Jean Perry
Ronnie Scott
John Garland Lee
Valerie Sue Wilson
Steve Carlile
Jean Strength
Stephanie Taylor
Louise Strength
Jerry Dean Allen
Joshua Christensen

Cross Plains Lady Buffaloes ranked seventeenth in Class A Division II

The Cross Plains High School Lady Buffaloes basketball team is ranked seventeenth 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, February 3rd includes:

1. Lipan (30-1)
2. Roscoe Highland (23-2)
3. Nazareth (27-1)
4. Follett (24-1)
5. Garden City (26-1)
6. Menard (24-3)
7. Frost (22-2)
8. Eula (24-5)
9. Calvert (24-0)
10. Chireno (23-5)
11. Rochelle (21-6)
12. Valley (23-4)
13. Round Top-Carmine (10-2)
14. Grady (18-6)
15. Miami (20-6)
16. Leggett (18-4)
17. Cross Plains (18-4)
18. Rankin (22-5)
19. Morgan (21-3)
20. Paducah (18-5)
21. Strawn (19-9)
22. Newcastle (18-4)
23. Leakey (20-7)
24. Campbell (22-4)
25. Anton (18-6)

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!

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

Senior Citizens Center Activities

February 10th-14th

- Monday, 10th - Exercise 11:00
- Tuesday, 11th- Exercise 11:00
- Wednesday, 12th - Red Hat Ladies
11:30 Blood Pressure Check -Girling Home Health
- Thursday, 13th - Exercise 11:00
- Friday, 14th - Exercise 11:00 (Happy Valentines)

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

February 10-14

- Monday** - Hamburger Steak/ gravy, Potatoes, Black Eyed Peas, Bread, Dessert
 - Tuesday** - Taco Salad, (lett/tom/cheese) Pinto Beans, Chips, Dessert
 - Wednesday** - Ham & Cheese Sandwich (lett/tom/ pickles) Pasta Salad, Fruit, Dessert
 - Thursday** - BBQ Chicken Coleslaw, Pinto Bean, Cornbread, Dessert
 - FRIDAY** - Sweet/Sour Chicken, White Rice, Broccoli, Egg Roll, Dessert
- MEAL IS SERVED - 11:45 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.**

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.

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Mrs. Larry McAnally
Mary Lee
Elmer Duncan
Tommy Graham
Billy Evans
Mrs. Jimmy Mobley
Mary Ruth Lee
Cory Pope
Richard Emmons
Dana Archer
Robin Johnson
Gay Helms

FEBRUARY 7

Beanna May
Jennifer (Pancake) Caraway
Mrs. Dale Bishop

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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.

Wild About Texas sponsored by: Happy Trails Rustic Western



Merriam's Kangaroo Rat

As I have previously stated, I am what is known as a "herper", short for herpetologist. A herpetologist is someone who studies the behaviors and life histories of reptiles and amphibians. As a "herper", I have spent countless hours in the Trans-Pecos eco-region of Texas looking for reptiles, particularly snakes. While on these nocturnal forays, many other animals are observed, and one rodent in particular is always a welcome sight.



Merriam's Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys merriami*)

The Merriam's Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys merriami*) is a small rodent that inhabits the Trans-Pecos, southwestern Llano Estacado, and western Edwards Plateau eco-regions of Texas. Unlike the other four species of Kangaroo Rats that are indigenous to this state, the Merriam's variety is much more tolerant in its habitat requirements, thriving in the sandy dunes, gravelly soils, and rocky areas of west Texas. It digs deep burrows, occasionally at the base of the creosote bush. In these burrows, it will often plug up the simple opening with grasses to spend the day away from the brutal heat of the summers and the frigid temperatures of winter. It does not hibernate, but rather is active year round. Generally, only one animal will occupy a burrow at any given time; the exception is when the females are rearing their young.

Merriam's Kangaroo Rats, as with the other species of the genus, have a very unique body structure. Instead of having four limbs of equal size, the back limbs are almost twice as long as the forelimbs, giving this animal the ability to hop away from potential predators faster than it can run. This hopping is what gives this animal its "Kangaroo" namesake. Adult Merriam's are brownish tan dorsally, while the underside is typically cream to white. The body length of adults is approximately 4 inches, while the rather long tail is up to 1.5 times the length of the body. An unblemished tail ends with a tuft of dusky fur. It has conspicuously large eyes, giving this rodent an almost endearing appearance. In fact, many people who shun other species of rats will often coo at the sight of a

Kangaroo Rat. Being nocturnal (active at night), the eyes are of great benefit to this mammal as the large pupils allow more light in for vision even in the darkest of conditions. This allows them to evade predators such as snakes, owls, and carnivorous mammals like foxes, bobcats and coyotes when they vacate the safety of their burrows to search for food and mates.

Merriam's Kangaroo Rats are similar to other mammals in the aspect of giving live birth to young. It has been known to breed year round in the Big Bend region of Texas, while throughout the remainder of its range it typically breeds from March through November. The average number of young per litter is three, while occasionally as few as one or as many as five are produced. Gestation is generally one month, and females

can reach sexual maturity as early as 60 days. Studies have shown that reproduction rates vary according to environmental conditions such as drought, which directly affects their food supply. Merriam's feed primarily (up to nearly seventy percent) on seeds, while grasses and insects are also consumed. Seeds are packed into their cheek pouches to allow for easy transference back to their burrows for later consumption. It does not drink water, for like many other rodents that thrive in this harsh land, it receives the water necessary for its survival from the foods that it eats. In fact, it is so adverse to water that it is actually one of the few mammals that cannot swim.

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

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TEXAS CROSSWORD
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ACROSS

- 1 TXism: "holler calf" (surrender)
- 5 Cain's brother
- 6 Gulf mollusk
- 7 TXism: "plain as the on a mule"
- 8 TX Stills tune: "For What Worth"
- 9 1987 film by UTA grad Lou Diamond Phillips (2 wds.)
- 16 TX motorists must wear _____ belts
- 18 TXism: "_____ a milk bucket under a bull"
- 21 "hasta _____ vista"
- 22 grasped
- 23 Santa _____ National Wildlife Refuge
- 24 Gov. _____ "Ma" Ferguson (1924-26)
- 30 TXism: "book wrangler"
- 34 this Winger starred with TX Martin in 1992 film "Leap of Faith" (init.)
- 35 Richard of '86 mini series "On Wings of Eagles" about TX Ross Perot
- 36 TV producer Norman
- 37 TX bootmaker Tony
- 39 TXism: "_____ dollar short"
- 43 Dallas Star footwear
- 45 TXism: "put _____ two together"
- 46 Oliver of film "2020 Texas Gladiators"
- 47 they're "upon you" in Texas
- 48 007 creator Fleming
- 49 Abilene univer.
- 51 beneath Grand Saline, TX (2 wds.)
- 54 TXism: "beats a poke in the _____ with a stick"
- 55 TXism: "long _____ a country mile"
- 56 cow sound
- 57 flower at Varner-Hogg State Plantation Historic Park (2 wds.)
- 60 black poker card
- 61 _____ Grande
- 62 doctrine suffix
- 63 Gen. Robert E. _____
- 15 TXism: "clean _____ hound's tooth"
- 17 TXism: "nervous as a long _____ in a room of rocking chairs"
- 19 TXism: "up _____ juice" (coffee)
- 20 film: "The Texas Chain _____ Massacre" (1974)
- 24 TX film: "Lone Wolf _____ Quade"
- 25 this Gershwin's lyrics in "Girl Crazy" made TX Ginger Rogers a star
- 26 Texas Tech _____ Raiders"
- 27 how a "dead heat" ends (3 wds.)
- 28 "just do it _____ you can"
- 29 SMU grad and actress Dorothy
- 31 TXism: "I'll _____ monkey's uncle!"
- 32 TXism: "burnt some boot leather"
- 33 TXism: "_____ as a jaybird"
- 38 BLT dressing
- 40 Friona h.s. class
- 41 state nurses grp.
- 42 San Antonio multi-purpose arena
- 44 direction to Waco from Abilene
- 50 TXism: "the _____ barbed wire for dental floss" (tough)
- 52 TX Freddy Fender hit: "You'll _____ A Good Thing" (75)
- 53 TXism: "_____ the mark" (conform)
- 58 TX Willie Nelson's birth month
- 59 TXism: "_____ a little cane" (celebrate)

Abilene area Aggie Moms' Club invites you to our monthly meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 6:45 pm at the Coldwell Banker Panian & Mash Building located on 2500 S. Willis (S.27th and Willis, 1/2 block N on Willis)
Please join us for a light meal. You will get to meet other Aggie Moms and learn a little more about Texas A&M and all of its traditions! Whoop!
We meet the third Tuesday of

each month, at 6:45 pm for refreshments and fun.
If you can't make the meeting but would like more information, please call or email either of the following:
• Venita Teal (President) - 669-0886
vltmini5@gmail.com
• Kathy Hocke (Membership) 721-3131 hockeig@cama-lott.com

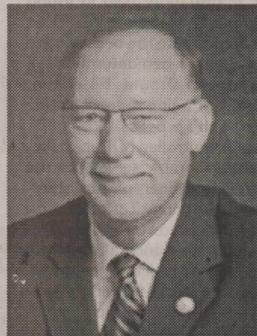
Free Federal Income Tax service January 31st through April 11th

LOCATIONS DATES AND TIMES, Call 211 for info.
• Center for Economic Opportunity—Feb 3-Apr 15 1102 North 3rd Call 211, apt. preferred
• Abilene Public Library—Wednesdays 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Feb 5-Apr. 9 No Appt.
• Downtown, Second Floor—Thursdays 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Feb 5-Apr. 10 No appt.
• Mockingbird Public Library—Fridays 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Jan 31-Apr. 11 No appt.
• 1214 N Mockingbird—Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Feb 1 - Apr. 12 No appt
• Dyess AFB
Feb. 1 - April 15, call for appt.
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New Car bill of sale
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Receipts for Medical expenses, including insurance.
Receipts for college expenses including books (Parents should claim all college expenses)
Receipts for Child care expenses
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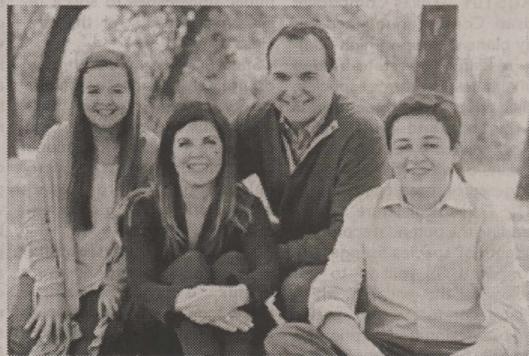
Clyde Chamber of Commerce to Host State Representative District 60 Candidates Forum on Wednesday, February 12th

The Clyde Chamber of Commerce will host a Candidates Forum for the two men running for the District 60 State Representative seat currently held by Jim Keffer. House District 60 encompasses Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Eastland, Hood, Palo Pinto, Shackelford and Stephens counties. Incumbent Republican Jim Keffer and his opponent Republican Cullen Crisp will be facing off for the seat in the Primary Election on March 4th. The Forum will be held on Wednesday, February 12th from 11:30-1:00 at Clyde City Hall. Each Candidate will have the opportunity for opening and closing remarks, and both have agreed to a moderated question and answer period. We want our voters to be informed on the Candidates and issues that affect our Community, therefore, constituents are encouraged to submit questions for the Forum; this may be done by calling or e-mailing the Clyde Chamber. Because seating is limited, those interested in attending should RSVP to the Clyde Chamber by Monday, February 10th. To submit a question or to RSVP to the event, please contact Executive Director Jen Rector at 325-893-4221 or send an e-mail to chamber@clyde-



State Representative Jim Keffer

america.com. Early voting for the Primary Election will run from February 18th - 28th; the last date to register to vote in the Primaries is Monday, February 3rd.
Candidate Bios:
JIM KEFFER
State Representative Jim Keffer (R-Eastland) is a conservative family man, small business owner and lifelong Texas Republican Party leader. As president of EBAA Iron Sales, Inc., Jim is one of the largest employers in his community. He is a graduate of Texas Tech University, and prior to running for the Texas Legislature, Jim served as Republican County Chairman for Eastland County. In 1997, he became the first Republican



Cullen Crisp and family

to ever represent District 60. And has won overwhelming reelections ever since. Jim currently serves as Chairman of the Texas House Committee on Energy Resources. He also serves on the Natural Resources Committee, Redistricting Committee and Texas House Republican Caucus. More information about Jim Keffer may be found at www.jimkeffer.com
CULLEN CRISP
Cullen Crisp is a fifth generation Texan, entrepreneur, farmer, and lover of all things Texas. He owns a successful small business, Crisp-LaDew Fire Protection Company, specializing in fire sprinkler and fire alarm systems. Cullen and his family

also run a local farm in Granbury, growing strawberries, peaches, and harvesting honey. Cullen currently sits on the Lake Granbury Coalition, the board of the Hood County Development District 1, and was an integral part in the planning and opening of the Acton Nature Center near Granbury. Cullen's biggest passion is Texas and its rich history. Cullen and his family founded the Texas Heroes Foundation and are currently planning the third annual Texas Independence Day Celebration. More information about Cullen Crisp may be found at www.cullencrisp.com

Texas Civil Justice League Announces Statewide Campaign to Improve Voter Turnout for Judicial Elections

AUSTIN, Texas — The Texas Civil Justice League (TCJL) has announced a statewide advocacy campaign to increase voter participation in judicial races. The organization, which advocates for a fair and balanced judicial system in Texas, is launching a voter education effort aimed at increasing awareness throughout the state about the importance of electing qualified judges.
"Many Texans don't understand how important it is to educate themselves on the qualifications of those who run in judicial races so that they can vote for the most qualified candidates," John Fainter, chair of the TCJL board of directors, said. "In reality, a judge can have a major, direct influence on a citizen—perhaps more than any other elected official—including making decisions that impact a person's home, family, job and their very freedom."
The campaign will initially focus on the upcoming March primaries and will include efforts to educate Texans about the importance of judicial races in addition to providing information about the various candidates who are running in statewide judicial races.

racess, but with that opportunity comes the responsibility of educating themselves about the candidates. This campaign will be a major step toward achieving that goal.
Voter participation drops significantly for judicial races compared to other higher-profile races. For example, in the 2012 general election, 58.6% of registered Texas voters voted for a presidential candidate, but only 44% voted for a candidate in the judicial race for the Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 8. In other words, a significant number of voters did not vote for judicial candidates even though they were already at the polls. Percentages for other statewide judicial races were similarly low.
For more information about judicial races in Texas, visit www.texasjudges.org, a TCJL website that provides information about the state's judicial system and candidates running in judicial races.

About the Texas Civil Justice League
Founded in 1986, the Texas Civil Justice League (TCJL) advocates for a fair and balanced judicial system in Texas. The Austin-based group is the oldest and largest state legal reform organization in the nation, with membership comprised of corporate businesses, law firms, professional and trade associations, health care providers and individual citizens.

Youth Leadership Development focuses on Natural Resources & the Environment

San Antonio, TX — The Texas Brigades program is looking for a few good leaders. Actually, they are looking for 170 leaders. The Texas Brigades' mission is to educate and empower youths with the leadership skills and knowledge in wildlife, fisheries, and land stewardship to become conservation ambassadors for a sustained natural resource legacy. This will be the 22nd year of the Brigades.
The application deadline is March 15, 2014 and may be found at <http://www.texasbrigades.org/Applications/applications.html>.
Participants are selected through a competitive application process. Helen Holdsworth, Executive Director, says they are looking for youth ages 13-17 years of age. No experience is necessary, but applicants should have a strong interest in learning about wildlife, natural resources, livestock, and/or the environment. "We are looking for those with an interest in learning and then sharing what they have learned with their communities," reports Holdsworth.

The 4.5 days camps are held on private ranches across the state. "These landowners open their gates to us for five days, allowing us to utilize the land as a living laboratory. Natural resource professionals give of their time to mentor the youth. This is a valuable networking opportunity," she said.
The cost of the camp is \$400 but scholarships and financial assistance are available. "We do not want the fee to be a barrier to anyone. We have donors who are willing to support the youths' educational experience," says Holdsworth.
For more information, call 855-TXBIRIGS or 210-556-1391 or email hholdsworth@texas-wildlife.org.

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.

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Texas Comptroller Announces Plan to Support State-Funded Universities in Species Research

AUSTIN—Texas Comptroller Susan Combs announced today plans to support high quality research by state-funded universities on three species, which cover nearly three-fourths of the state and could potentially be listed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) as endangered or threatened.

The Texas Legislature, understanding the potential economic impacts of species listings, appropriated \$5 million to her agency for the research, which will be conducted on species that are designated as priorities primarily based on gaps in data, urgency in listing and potential economic impacts to our state in the near future.

The Comptroller's office established a science working group comprised of state universities to help prioritize species for research. The first species selected for research are freshwater mussels (12 mussels total); the spot-tailed earless lizard; and the desert massasauga (a snake). The ranges of these species potentially cover 190 of the 254 Texas counties — a coverage area of about 75 percent — and the economies in these counties contribute about \$1.3 trillion of our state's gross domestic product.

There will be a competitive process using Request for Proposals through the Texas Register, which will be issued to all Texas

public universities to solicit research proposals for the species.

Species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) could restrict the use of land and water, impact local and regional economies, decrease property values and add regulatory hurdles and costs to otherwise lawful activities.

"I worked hard to get the funding since gathering accurate scientific data and providing it to the federal listing agencies is one of the best ways to deal with the increasing number of species under review in Texas that can greatly impact our economy," Combs said. "This process further ensures the best science is available when the federal government is determining if a species should be listed and raises the standard for data used in listing decisions."

Today, more than 120 species in Texas are subject to review under the ESA, which requires listing decisions be based on the "best scientific and commercial data available." However, FWS does not define this term, sometimes allowing many species to be listed with limited science.

"Mandating a high standard for species research that emphasizes recent, independent and credible empirical data will improve the research and scien-

tific information used in listing decisions," Combs said. "This will help ensure the best science is available when determining if a species should be listed, thereby bringing more scientific rigor to the process."

As Comptroller of Public Accounts, Combs serves as the presiding officer of the state-wide Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species and has statutory authority to facilitate the development of and hold federal permits associated with conservation plans. The agency holds a federal permit for the Texas Conservation Plan for the dunes sagebrush lizard, which was not listed by FWS in 2012 because of conservation efforts by the state and because of additional research conducted on the species after it was proposed for listing.

The Comptroller's office will continue to work with the science working group to identify additional species for research. The science working group includes state research leaders, FWS, and other state and federal governmental agencies.

For more information detailing the members of the science working group, the potential economic impact of these species and which counties are affected, visit www.KeepingTexasFirst.org.

Texas Historical Commission news briefs

CELEBRATE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH IN TEXAS

AUSTIN, Texas—Explore the fascinating story of African American heritage in Texas with the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) colorful booklet *African Americans in Texas: A Lasting Legacy*. The publication, which can be downloaded from the THC website, is a great tool for travelers, promoting statewide cultural attractions and educational resources. The 72-page booklet is the largest THC travel guide produced to date. Showcasing 79 sites throughout the state, the booklet explores African American heritage in Texas through compelling tales of survival and ingenuity, as well as the impact of civil rights, political, religious, and other influential leaders.

Learn about the world's first licensed African American pilot, Bessie Coleman. Take in a show at the historic Victory Grill in Austin, one of the oldest blues venues in Texas. Read about how descendants of escaped slaves and Florida's Seminole Indians became U.S. Army Scouts and received the Medal of Honor. All of these real stories of real places and people can be found in the THC's *African Americans in Texas: A Lasting Legacy* expanded brochure.

The publication contains a detailed chronological introduction to African American history in Texas; a multi-page timeline; and nine thematic sidebars on topics such as education, freedmen's communities, agri-

culture, and Buffalo Soldiers. Along with the booklet, the THC launched a companion website, www.africanamericansintexas.com, featuring those sites in the booklet as well as maps, a photo gallery, and additional sites.

To request a free copy of *African Americans in Texas: A Lasting Legacy* call (866) 276-6219 or visit www.africanamericansintexas.com.

DIVERSITY INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION

AUSTIN, Texas—Registration for the 2014 Texas Historical Commission Diversity Internship is now open! The Diversity Internship was created to build interest in and awareness of historic preservation, specifically among students from underrepresented cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups. This initiative targets undergraduate students to encourage interest in pursuing fields of study in history, preservation, architecture, landscape architecture, archeology, downtown revitalization, and heritage tourism. Students will also learn about the impact historic preservation programs can have on a community's economic development. Registration closes March 21st. Visit the Friends website at www.thcfriends.org for more information.

The Texas Historical Commission seeks to increase the diversity of professionals working in historic preservation, acknowledge the variety of cultures that

enrich Texas heritage, and engage a wider range of organizations and communities in supporting efforts to protect and preserve the history of Texas.

LEARN HOW TO SECURE FUNDING FOR YOUR NONPROFIT

AUSTIN, Texas—The deadline is approaching to register for the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission's popular Development Seminar Series, which explores how to secure philanthropic support for nonprofits and other organizations. Do you have a passion for your mission, but need money to implement it? Understanding fundraising can help you secure the resources you need to move forward.

The series is designed for small organizations with limited staff, such as historic preservation organizations, small museums, county historical commissions, and other nonprofit organizations. Topics include Understanding How to Secure Financial Resources for your Nonprofit, Best Practices for Donor Communications: Creating Your Fundraising Toolkit, Using Technology to Advance Your Mission, and more.

The 2014 Development Seminar Series will take place March 4th-5th from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Robert Johnson Conference Center at 1501 N. Congress in Austin. The registration deadline is February 26th. For more information, visit www.thcfriends.org or call the Friends at (512) 936-2189.

USDA Program accepting Summer Nutrition Program applications from Non-Profit Organizations, Government Entities

AUSTIN—The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is accepting applications from organizations for participation in Summer Nutrition Programs, which help feed children who do not have access to nutritious meals when schools close for summer. These programs are vital at a time when more than 18 percent of Texas households are considered food insecure; meaning not everyone in the household has consistent access to good nutrition.

Two programs federally funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture aimed at addressing childhood hunger in Texas are administered by TDA. The Seamless Summer Option (SSO) is operated by schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program while the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) allows government entities and non-profit organizations to serve as meal sites during the summer. Organizations partner with TDA to serve meals at sites across the state in areas where more than 50

percent of children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals in the National School Lunch Program. Eligible sponsoring organizations include schools, faith-based groups, nonprofit summer camps, government agencies and other tax-exempt organizations. All meal sites must be sponsored by an organization that has a contract with TDA.

TDA encourages any eligible organization to consider providing this much-needed service to Texas children. Approved sponsors, operating in accordance with federal and state regulations, will be reimbursed for meals served to children. All new and renewing sponsors are required to take training courses before participating in these programs. The deadline for a new sponsor to apply for participation in the Summer Nutrition Programs is April 15, 2014.

For more information about TDA's Summer Nutrition Programs, visit www.summerfood.org or call the TDA Food and Nutrition Division office at (877) TEX-MEAL, (877) 839-6325.

Cash prizes 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>.

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.

DPS Recognizes National AMBER Alert Awareness Day

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will join the nation in observing National AMBER Alert Awareness Day on Monday, January 13th. AMBER stands for "America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response," and was named for 9-year-old Amber Hagerman, who was kidnapped and murdered in 1996 in Arlington, Texas.

In the wake of Amber Hagerman's death, law enforcement and media representatives in the Dallas-Fort Worth area created the first AMBER Alert program, which served as a model nationwide for alerting the public about abducted children. Every U.S. state has an AMBER Alert program, along with several other countries. This year marks the 18th anniversary of Amber Hagerman's abduction, which the U.S. Department of Justice designated as National AMBER Alert Awareness Day.

The Texas AMBER Alert Program was established by Gov. Rick Perry in 2002, complementing existing local

AMBER Alert programs. DPS manages the statewide program and provides law enforcement a mechanism for rapid notification of the media and the public in these serious child abduction cases.

From 2002 through the end of 2013, 124 children have been recovered during 109 DPS activations of the Texas AMBER Alert Program. (Some alerts have involved more than one child.) Activation of the Texas AMBER Alert Network involves resources from the following groups:

- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Office of the Governor
- National Weather Service
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Local, state and federal law enforcement
- Media
- Texas Association of Broadcasters
- Independent Bankers Association of Texas
- Texas Lottery Commission
- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), which was added as a state partner in 2005,

providing notification to the public through wireless carriers, content providers and major retailers.

If your child is missing:

- Immediately call your local law enforcement agency to file a missing persons report.
- Be prepared to provide law enforcement with the most recent photo of the child, a detailed description of what the child was wearing and any other information that could help identify the child or the abductor, such as vehicle and license plate information.

DPS currently offers an email notification system that distributes AMBER Alert information at no cost to members of law enforcement, media and the public. Anyone wishing to become a subscriber can register online with a valid email address and zip code at <http://www.dps.texas.gov/DEM/AMBERALERT/AMBERREGISTER.ASPX>.

For more information on the Texas AMBER Alert Program, visit <http://www.dps.texas.gov/dem/Operations/Alerts/index.htm>.

Immunization clinic at Cross Plains Housing Authority on February 10th

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

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

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

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.

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1,400 DWI Arrests During Holiday

AUSTIN - Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) troopers made more than 1,400 DWI arrests during a special enforcement period from Dec. 13th - Jan. 2nd. The 21-day DWI enforcement effort included funding from a Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) grant.

"These enhanced patrols are designed to protect the lives of all travelers by taking impaired drivers off Texas roadways," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "The holidays are packed with celebrations, which means an increased potential for drinking and driving, and I'm confident DPS

efforts helped prevent potentially deadly crashes."

DPS Highway Patrol troopers made 1,490 DWI arrests during the holiday enforcement effort, and 289 of those arrests were a direct result of the increased patrols. The TxDOT grant allowed increased patrols in high-risk locations during the times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent.

DPS enforcement also resulted in more than 24,800 speeding citations, 2,960 seat belt/child safety seat citations, in addition to 1,070 fugitive arrests, and 790 felony arrests during this time period.

Thirty programs in the community funded for 2014 United Way of Abilene allocates \$1.3 Million

ABILENE, TX - The United Way of Abilene Board of Directors has approved the allocation of \$1.3 million to help fund 30 health and human service programs in West Central Texas in 2014. These programs, administered by 23 local non-profit agencies, address United Way's community impact priority areas of education, income, and health.

In 2014, \$499,917 will be allocated for programs focused on education, with \$608,500 for income related programs, and \$191,815 for health. The allocations for 2014 are an increase of \$295,000.

"We are proud to partner with so many excellent agencies in the community," said Dr. Cathy Ashby, United Way of Abilene president/CEO. "The impact that these agencies have on our neighborhoods and families every day is tremendous."

Included in the 23 United Way Community Partners are three new agencies: Boy Scouts Texas Trails Council, Girl Scouts of Texas/Oklahoma Plains, and Regional Victim Crisis Center.

The allocations for 2014 were recommended to the United Way of Abilene Board of Directors by a 40 member volunteer committee. The volunteers serving on United Way's Community Impact Review Teams participate in a process that includes site visits, Q&A panels, and outcome reviews. Another volunteer committee completes an extensive financial review of each

applying agency.

"Everyone that makes a donation to United Way of Abilene can be assured that their investment is being put to the best use possible in our community," said Ashby. "The goal of United Way, through partnerships, is for children to succeed in school and have opportunities for growth, that families will gain financial stability and independence, and for families to be healthy."

A full list of 2014 Community Partners includes:

- Abilene Hope Haven Transitional Housing
- Adult Protective Services Partners Safety & Independence Program
- Alliance for Women & Children After School Care
- Alliance for Women & Children A-Teens
- Alzheimer's Association Family Care Program
- Ben Richey Boys Ranch Group Residential Care
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star Mentoring
- Boy Scouts, Texas Trails Council Scout Reach
- Boys & Girls Club After School Program
- Boys & Girls Club Teen Night
- Cancer Services Network Patient Assistance
- City of Abilene Adaptive Recreation Nutrition
- Communities in Schools Student Case Management
- Connecting Caring Communities Abilene Neighborhood Initiative
- Day Nursery of Abilene Child Care Assistance
- Dyess Youth Center
- Dyess Youth Programs
- FaithWorks Life Skills Education
- Girl Scouts of Texas Oklahoma Plains Girl Scout Leadership Experience
- Noah Project Intervention & Prevention
- Presbyterian Medical Care Mission Medical
- Presbyterian Medical Care Mission Dental
- Regional Victim Crisis Center Big Country CASA
- Shackelford County CRC Day Camp
- Shackelford County CRC ASPIRE
- Southwestern Diabetic Foundation Camp Sweeney
- The Salvation Army Comprehensive Emergency Assistance
- The Salvation Army Homeless To Work
- The Salvation Army Emergency Shelter & Mass Feeding
- YMCA Child Care Connection
- YMCA Intensive Supervision Program

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About United Way of Abilene
United Way of Abilene seeks to impact the education, income and health of West Central Texans through partnerships, innovation and return on investment. For more information about how United Way of Abilene is positively impacting the community, visit: <http://www.unitedwayabilene.org>