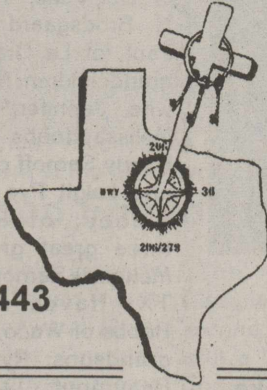


Cross Plains Review

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November 26, 2015 • 14 Pages
(254) 725-6111 • crossplainsreview@earthlink.net

Offices of Sheriff, Clyde Commissioner are contested

Two of the positions up for election in the Callahan County Republican Primary Election are contested, according to new Callahan County Republican Chairwoman Angela Campbell. Campbell, who is taking over the position of Callahan County Republican Chair from Jane Holmes. Holmes has announced her resignation for the position of Republican Chair due to health concerns.

Candidate filing for positions up for election in the March 1, 2016 Republican Primary began on Saturday, November 14th and will candidate filing will run through Monday, December 14th.

The offices of Callahan County Sheriff and Commissioner Precinct #1 (Clyde) are both contested, according to Campbell.

For the office of Callahan County Sheriff, incumbent Sheriff Terry Joy is being challenged by Franklin P. "Bucky" Shackelford.

Joy, 74, resides at 525 Stella in Baird. He lists his occupation as County Sheriff. Joy has resided in the state 74 years, 11 months and in Callahan County 44 years.

Shackelford, 46, resides at 4186 County Road 273 in Clyde and has resided in the state 46 years, 2 months and in Callahan County one year, 11 months. Shackelford lists an occupation as Sheriff's Deputy.

The other contested race involves the position of Callahan County Commissioner Precinct #1 (Clyde). Incumbent Commissioner Harold Hicks is being challenged by Rick McGowen.

Hicks, 75, has resided in

Callahan County 43 years and in the state 43 years. He resides at 1472 FM 604 North in Clyde and is currently the County Commissioner for Precinct #1.

McGowen, 43, resides at 5661 County Road 112 in Clyde. He has resided in the state 43 years, 5 months and in Callahan County 12 years, 5 months. McGowen currently lists an occupation as a district manager for Panhandle Recovery, a towing company.

Other candidates who have filed for election to the specific offices include:

Angela Bean Campbell, 55, has filed for the position of Callahan County Republican Chair. She has resided in the state 55 years, 3 months and in Callahan County 8 years, 4 months. She resides at 39977 I-20 East in Baird and is currently the County Deputy Treasurer.

Ed C. Duncan, 76, has filed for re-election to the position of Constable Precinct #4 (Cross Plains). Duncan has resided in the state 76 years, 1 month and in Callahan County 19 years, 11 months. He resides at 18028 Highway 206 in Cross Plains and is occupied as the County Constable.

Tom F. Windham, 64, has filed for re-election to the Callahan County Commissioner Precinct #3 (Baird). Windham has resided in the state and in Callahan County 64 years, 2 months. He resides at 1871 US Highway 283 North in Baird and lists his occupation as County Commissioner.

Tammy T. Walker, 41, has filed for re-election as the County Tax Assessor/Collector. Walker has resided

in the state and in Callahan County 41 years, 4 months. She resides at 309 Spruce in Baird and lists her occupation as Tax Assessor/Collector.

Campbell reports candidate filing for the Republican Primary election is continuing now through Monday, December 14th. Candidates interested in running for an office can contact her at (817) 475-6376 for information.

Campbell said the position of County Attorney is also up for election in next year's Republican Primary.

She also reported information about the upcoming Primary election can be found on the website: www.callahangop.com.

Early voting for the upcoming Republican Primary Election will take place from February 16, 2016 through February 26, 2016.

ASAP at the Cross Plains Library

The Cross Plains Public Library will be having our December After School Adventure Program on Wednesday, December 2, at 4:00 p.m. Please join us for a movie and Christmas craft. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Water Line Repairs

The City Contracting Crews will be abandoning old water lines beginning this week and some resident may experience water outage for a short period of time. If your water is off more than 3 hours, please call City Hall.



TIME TO START GETTING YOUR CHRISTMAS FLOATS READY!

The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Christmas Parade. Friday, December 4, 2015. The floats will be judged, so put your best into it! This will be a great parade for the family! Looking for something fun before the parade? Check out the Kiwanis Annual Stew Supper 5pm-7pm, and the library will be hosting the ornament painting for the children. Santa will also be at the Stew Supper for parents to take pictures. We hope to see you there! For more information Myleah at the chamber office 254-725-7251



IT'S ALMOST TIME Annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale Scheduled

Before you know it, Thanksgiving will be here!!! Are you tired just thinking of all the cooking and baking you have to do for Thanksgiving? Let us do some of the work for you! The Cross Plains Public Library is holding their annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale on Tuesday, Nov. 24 at noon in the library's conference room and

on Wednesday, Nov. 25 from 8:00 am until we are sold out.

Friends of the library are busy baking lots of treats for your holiday table: pecan pies, pumpkin pies, fudge, divinity, homemade breads, cakes, cookies, and lots more! Stop by, shop early and buy extra to freeze for Christmas.

Lots of Prizes at the Christmas Craft Fair!

Do your Christmas shopping early at the Cross Plains Public Library's annual Christmas Craft Sale on Friday, Dec. 4, from noon-6:00 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 5, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Cross Plains. We have some new vendors this year that will feature jewelry, ironwork, and

Scentsy products. All visitors will be entered in a FREE raffle for a Kindle, and for other great door prizes. Parents and grandparents can visit the library booth and pick up a bundle of FREE NEW books to give as Christmas gifts. Join us for a great shopping experience!

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS:
WEDNESDAY- NOVEMBER 25,
THURSDAY- NOVEMBER 26, AND
FRIDAY-NOVEMBER 27, 2015.

EARLY OUT ON TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 24, 2015 AT 1:00 P.M.
BUSES WILL RUN AT 1:10 P.M.

CLASSES WILL RESUME ON
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2015.

Sheriff's Corner by Sheriff Terry Joy

Callahan County Sheriff's Department Intercepts 1/2 pound of Crystal Meth

We all did our part but Sheriff's Investigator Leroy Foley did the "lion's share" of the heavy lifting. The operation reached the intercept point thanks to good old-fashioned dedicated law enforcement effort. Leroy knew where the meth was going and the approximate meeting place. The "sticky" part of the operation was for him to be in the right place at the right time. The delivery place was to be at an apartment in Abilene. The Taylor County Sheriff's Office was notified for assistance. The party with the one-half pound of crystal meth for sale to be resold in Callahan County- was tracked and observed, just like in a mystery spy novel.

According to Leroy it got to be nerve-racking for a time when the party who was going to pick-up the meth decided to change the meeting location to a pizza place instead of the original meeting place. With the help of the Taylor County Sheriff's Office, the suspect was carefully followed to the pizza place. Leroy, in street clothes, observed the transaction and, after it was all over 4 suspects were arrested and were taken to the Taylor County Jail.

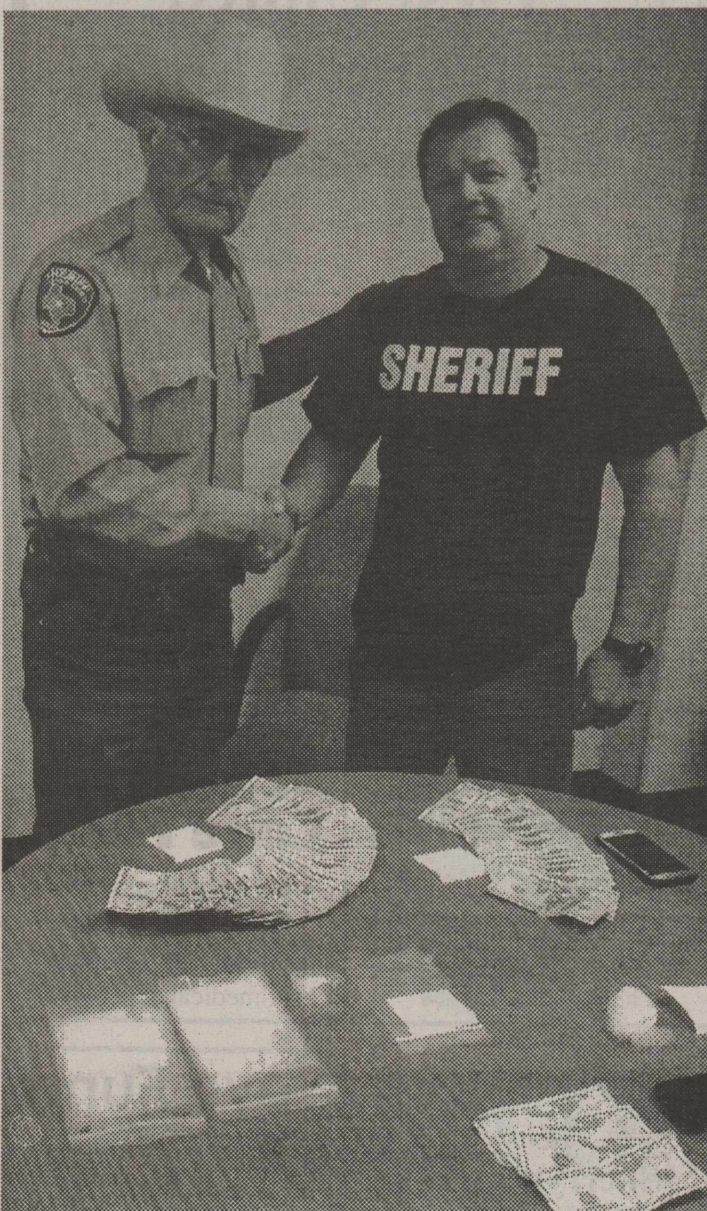
I was anxious awaiting the phone call from Leroy to let me know that the dangerous operation was over. When the call came, I was very relieved I met Leroy and the Taylor County Deputies at the Taylor County Sheriff's Office in Abilene. Everything in the Operation had come together-almost perfectly. I

congratulated and thanked all of them.

The meth and money seen on the table in the accompanying picture will be confiscated by the Callahan County Sheriff's Office. The meth will be held as evidence and finally destroyed when the case is resolved. I was told that this quantity of meth could be valued at a figure of approximately \$23,000, and I was also, told that removing this amount of meth from the street, could cause meth users to try to find other sources. These new sources could mean a higher cost to the user which could then lead to an increase in theft activity in order to get more money to buy the meth.

I want to urge the citizens of Callahan County to take precautions and lockup your valuables. Keep your houses and your buildings locked. Write down descriptions and serial numbers of machinery guns, and tools and even take pictures of all your valuables. If you are leaving home for overnight tell a trusted neighbor or friend and ask them to check on your house occasionally until you return. Report suspicious vehicles and suspicious activity. I also want to remind you that during this time of year around the holidays, thefts normally increase anyway.

My Deputies and I will not be distracted; and will remain vigilant, but we also need your help. As of Monday, November 23rd, our total inmate population stood at 33.



Pictured above is Callahan County Sheriff Terry Joy congratulating Deputy Leroy Foley after an intense and dangerous day's work that paid off even better than expected.



Santa Claus is coming to Cross Plains for the Annual Stew Supper/Fund-raiser hosted by the Kiwanis International. Mark your calendar for Friday, December 4th at the Cross Plains Senior Citizen Center. We ask your support with this fund-raiser in our endeavor to help local children's projects. Supper will be served from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm with Santa arriving at 6:00 pm. Cost for the stew dinner is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 12 and under. All children are invited to have their photo taken with Santa and will receive a bag of goodies. This year the Kiwanis will not offer the photos with Santa, but all parents are welcome to take pictures of their children with Santa on their personal phones or cameras. The Senior Center will have an array of desserts available for purchase with will support their various projects. During the evening there will be drawings for turkeys and gifts. You must be present to win. We look forward to an enjoyable evening of fellowship in our community.

Texas Heritage Bank
"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"
Member FDIC
Presents:
What's Inside

Church Directory	2
Obituaries	2
Love Funds	2
Courthouse News	2
CEU Night Course	2
Call. Co. Library News	3
Cottonwood News	3
CP Varsity Basketball Pics	4
CP A & B Honor Rolls	4
CP JV & JH Basketball Pics	5
CP Lunch Menu	5
Classifieds	6 & 7
Wild About Texas	7
Commissioners Reject Bid	8
CP Board Minutes	9
Texas Crossword	9
What Are You Reading?	9
Grand Ole Oplin Line-up	9
Christmas Craft Fair	9
Texas Crossword Solution ..	10
Salado Christmas Stroll	10
Library Notes	10
DPS Report	10
REH Museum Visitors	11
Senior Activities & Menu	11
Santa Coming to Baird	11
Tx. Girls All-State Teams	11
Tx. Historical News Briefs ..	12
Free Concert	12
Recipe Corner	12
Call. Co. Jobless Rate	13
Birthdays	13
Commissioners Minutes	14
Burn Ban Reinstated	14

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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 Steine, Youth Pastor
Friendly Church Church (254) 725-6266 Bible Teaching

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

First Baptist Church

Sunday Morning 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening 6:30 p.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:30 pm Evening worship
6:30 p.m. Bible Drill - 1st- 6th
6:30 p.m. - Youth Discipleship
Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - Prayer/Worship
Student & Children Ministies
(254) 725-7629 301 N. Main, Cross Plains, TX 76443
www.firstbaptiststep.com

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: 5:00P.M.
Wednesday: Evening: 7:00P.M.
Ladies Class - Wednesday:
10:00A.M. (at the church activity center on East Hwy 36)
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Cell Phone: Rick - (918) 348-6859

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Cross Plains Review
2
Nov. 26, 2015



Maxine (Hise) Placke

Maxine (Hise) Placke

Muldoon, Texas
Maxine (Hise) Placke, 92, of Muldoon, Texas, passed away on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at Schulenburg Regency Nursing Center.

Maxine was born in Ranger, Texas on May 30, 1923, the daughter of Charles and Ethel (Williams) Hise.

She married Melvin Connor Placke on September 15, 1942 in San Diego, CA.

Maxine attended Abilene Christian College before marrying. During WWII, she worked as "Rosie the Riveter" where she helped build airplanes at Consolidated Aircraft in San Diego during the war effort, while her husband Melvin served in the Navy.

Upon returning to Texas, she was a school teacher in Cross Plains, Texas. Maxine faithfully served the Lord while working with her husband in his Church of Christ ministry in many locations in Texas. Untold numbers were influenced by her Bible class teachings and example, and she was loved by everyone she knew. Some of her happiest times were spent with her daughters and grandchildren at the family cabin on the Medina River near Bandera where she supervised "Granny's Camp" when the kids were too little to go to Camp Bandina across the road.

She was lovingly cared for by the staff at Jefferson Place in La Grange and Regency Nursing Center in Schulenburg. The family offers our heartfelt

thanks to each one of them. She is survived by two daughters: Mary E. Hobbs of Del Valle, TX and Bobbie N. Brodsgaard and husband, Paul, of La Grange, TX; four grandchildren: Mark Hobbs and wife, Jennifer, of Waco, TX; Melissa Hobbs of Austin, TX; Randy Samoff of Houston, TX; and Leigh Pye and husband, Sidney, of Prosper, TX; three great granddaughters: Makenzie Samoff of Beaumont, TX; Haven and Rebecca Hobbs of Waco, TX; four great grandsons: Ryan Samoff of Beaumont, TX; Charlie and Jake Pye of Prosper, TX and Kezroy Hobbs of Austin, TX.

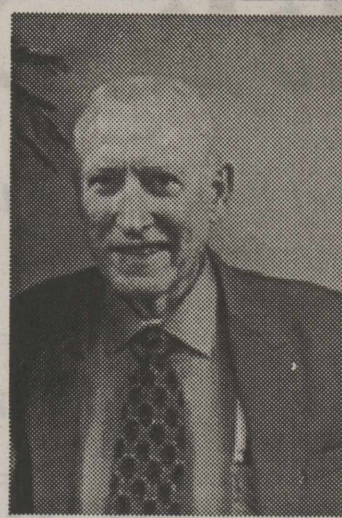
She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Melvin, of 65 years; and brother, B.L. Hise.

Visitation were held prior to funeral services on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at Koenig & Strickland Funeral Home. Funeral services will begin at 2:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Graveside services were held on Wednesday, November 25, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at Merriman Cemetery in Ranger, TX.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of South Texas (www.hospiceofsouthtexas.org) or Southern Africa Bible College, c/o Memorial Church of Christ, 900 Echo Lane, Houston, TX 77024 (www.southernafricabiblecollege.org).

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Koenig & Strickland Funeral Home, 208 W. Pearl, La Grange, Texas. Family and friends can view and sign the guestbook online at www.lagrangefunerals.com.

Koenig & Strickland Funeral Home
208 W. Pearl St., La Grange, TX 78945
Ph: (979) 968-3121/Fax: (979) 968-6383
www.lagrangefunerals.com



Norris A. Brown

Norris A. Brown

Norris A. Brown left this beautiful earth on Saturday November 14, 2015. He would have been 81 years old on November 24, 2015.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 5, 2015 at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness located at 2018 Highland Ave. Abilene, Texas 325-698-5429.

If you never had the opportunity to meet Mr. Norris A. Brown you really missed a wonderful person. His smile would light up the whole room. He never met a stranger and loved them all. Even though Norris and his wife Evelyn have only resided in Cross Plains for the past two and a half years they have met the most wonderful people.

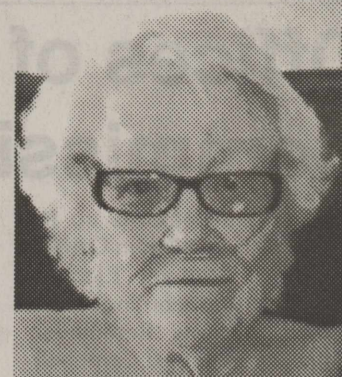
He is now resting with a wonderful future.

Norris was a Emergency Pilot for many years and then became a Corporate Pilot for a bank. In his later years he returned to truck driving.

Norris was born on November 24, 1934 in Browning, Missouri to Mr. Orval R. Brown and Frances Ishmael Brown they both have preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife Evelyn J. Foster (Brown)

of Cross Plains, Texas; one brother Mr. Bill Brown of Minneapolis, Kansas; 3 sons Terry Brown and wife Lady of Warner Robins, Georgia; Neal and Sherry Brown of Liberty, Missouri; stepson Randall R Foster of Cross Plains; two daughters Patricia Brown and Husband John; stepdaughter Debbie J. Ramirez of Gainesville, Texas; 12 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren.



Dixie Jewel Kendrick Markham

Dixie Jewel Kendrick Markham

In loving memory of Dixie Jewel Kendrick Markham. Services will be held 28th November, 2015 at 2 pm Rising Star Cemetery. Memorial dinner at 3 pm in the Rising Star Market Bldg.

Dixie Markham was born March 24, 1937 in Cross Cut, TX and died November 9, 2015 at her residence in New Mexico after a long and lengthy illness.

Survivors include three sons, David Markham and Timothy Markham of Flora Vista, New Mexico. Thomas Markham of Colorado. Five daughters Diane Markham of Cross Plains, TX, Brenda Markham of Gatesville, TX, Debbie Savage of Heber City of Utah, Diane Taylor of Ft. Worth, TX and Terri Silva of Pearland, TX. 12 grandchildren and 47 great grandchildren.

COURTHOUSE NEWS

Callahan County Court Roger Corn, presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

David Reed, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz.
Shaquille Standberry, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz.
Bailey Beam, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz.
Bailey Beam, possession of dangerous drug.
Daniel Rodriguez, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz.
Brandon Hall, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz.
Joshua Gallegos, assault causing bodily injury, family violence.
Clayton Smith, driving while intoxicated (DWI).
Koby Alexander McReynolds, possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz.
David Tuggle, resist arrest/search/transport.
David Torres III, DWI.
Kenneth Tolbert, assault causing bodily injury, family violence.

42nd District Court John Weeks, presiding

Criminal Information & Complaints

Michael R. Gordon, possession of a controlled substance.

Criminal Minutes

Kenneth D. Sheppard, plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance, 3 year probation, \$1000 fine, \$339 court costs, \$140 restitution.
Thomas G. Bowden, plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance, 3 year probation, \$1000 fine, \$339 court costs, \$140 restitution.
Reynaldo Balcazar, Jr., plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance, 3 year probation, \$750 fine, \$359 court costs.
Kevin Pickens, plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance, 3 year probation, \$868 fine, \$264 court costs, \$120 restitution.
Aaron J. Powell, plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance, 2 year probation, \$750 fine, \$359 court costs, \$180 restitution.
Michael Gordon, plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance, 1 year in prison, \$324 court costs.

Civil Filings

Alfred Theodor Horn III and Cora Christine Horn, divorce.
Sherry Stevens and Randall Ray Stevens, divorce.
Shanana Brown and Gregory Brown, divorce.
Christal Starlite Smith and Christopher Newton Smith, divorce.
Chrystal Lynn Long and Travis Wade Long, divorce.

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First United Methodist Church

Kevin Morton, Pastor

Office 254-725-7377 Parsonage 254-725-7694
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
1000 North Main Street
www.crossplainsfumc.org

Love Fund

has been opened for
Jesse Markham
at Texas Heritage Bank
for medical expenses

Love Fund

for Lisa Floyd
has been set up at
Texas Heritage Bank
for medical expenses

Love Fund

has been set up for
Darby Nichols
at Texas Heritage Bank
to help with expenses

Love Fund

has been opened for
Rickey Thomas
at Texas Heritage Bank
for medical expenses!

Love Fund

for Sherryl Goble
has been set up at
Texas Heritage Bank
for medical expenses

Love Fund

has been set up for
Sue Neal
at Texas Heritage Bank
to help with financial expenses

CEU Night Course

Many producers with a Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide license have a hard time attending daytime educational programs that offer CEU's (Continuing Education Unit) for re-certification of their license. Therefore, a special three (3) hour pesticide re-certification night course has been set for December 7th in the Callahan County Extension Office located on the 2nd floor of the County Courthouse in Baird. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. and the program starts at 6:00 p.m. These hours will apply to commercial, non-commercial, and private applicators' license holders.

The night course will conclude at 9:00 p.m. CEU certificates will be awarded at the conclusion of the program.

Cost will be \$10 to be paid at the door. Please RSVP by calling Callahan County Extension Office at 325-854-5835.

Individuals who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this program are encouraged to contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service office in Callahan County at (325) 854-5835.

Sincerely,
Jerry Warren
County Extension Agent



Playing together - the Preschoolers of the Cottonwood Friends at their Thanksgiving Event



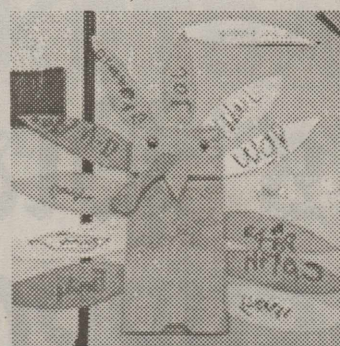
Cottonwood Friends Preschoolers dancing at their Thanksgiving Event at the Community Center

Cottonwood Friends Preschoolers

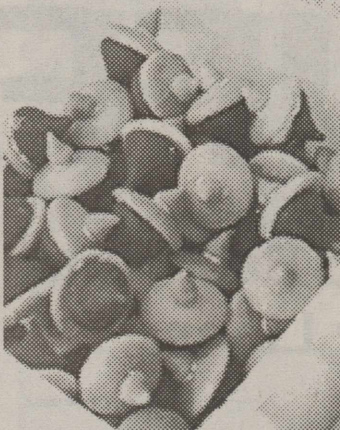
The Cottonwood Friends Preschoolers and their moms met at the Cottonwood Community Center last Thursday for their Thanksgiving theme event.

The preschoolers enjoyed at a morning of making turkey hand puppets with the things they were thankful for written by them and their moms on the feathers. They also went on a "feather" hunt, danced and ate acorns made by one of the moms.

The next meeting of the Cottonwood Friends will be met at the Cottonwood Community Center last Thursday with a Christmas theme event from 9:30 - 11:30.



Thankful Turkeys at the Community Center



Edible "acorns" at the Cottonwood Friends

X-Treme N'Tensity collecting items for needy in community

X-Treme N'Tensity, located at the Old Gymnasium next to Clyde Junior High School, is collecting non-perishable food items, unwrapped new toys and blankets for the needy in the Clyde, Baird, Cross Plains and Abilene communities this Christmas.

X-Treme N'Tensity owner Tamsey Johnson said collection boxes are available for parents to place donated items for distribution inside the Old Gymnasium front door during cheer and tumbling class hours from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

If you're unable to drop by donated items, Johnson said she can come by and pick-up the donated items by calling her at (325) 725-3719.

Cross Plains Review

3

Nov. 26, 2015

Callahan County Library news

Other books on cd are: Someone to Watch Over Me by Judith McNaught, A Wanted Man by Linda Lael Miller, Amazing Grace, Family Ties and The House by Danielle Steel, Sammy Keys & the Psycho Kitty Queen by Wendelin van Draanen and The Airmen & the Headhunters by Judith M. Heimann.

From the Past
Callahan County Clarendon
Saturday September 16,
1882 Vol. 3, No. 24

Personal
Maj. D. Richardson returned from Fort Worth last Thursday morning.

Mr. P. L. Callahan left last night on a business trip to Fort Worth and Dallas.

Mr. Brown Seay left on last night's train for Hot Springs for the benefit of his health.

Mr. E. S. Seay our prominent merchant went to Dallas and Fort Worth on Thursday night. He goes on business.

Mr. D. J. Kerr returned last Wednesday morning from an extended trip to Baltimore. He returned via Savannah and New Orleans.

We are sorry to say that Mr. John King and wife of Hubbard Timbers, have been seriously sick, but are now convalescent. We hope they will soon be fully recovered.

Mrs. V. Tinkle returned yesterday morning from Weatherford, where she has been visiting friends and relatives for several weeks. Mrs. Barthold, her sister and Mrs. Simmons, a niece, accompanied her. They will

visit Dr. Rettig's family here for some time. We Trust their stay here will be a prolonged and a pleasant one.

Baird Shipments and Receipts
The following is a list of the shipments and receipts at the depot at this place, for the week, ending Thursday evening.

Receipts: 15 cars merchandise, 1 salt, 1 corn and oats, 2 flour, 2 lumber, 1 oats, 1 machiners.
Shipments: 1 car wagons and mds., 3 household goods, 1 mdse., 1 hogs, 3 cattle, 1 wood, 1 old iron.

Through Freight: East—St. Louis 64 cars, Cairo 42 cars, Galveston 4, Kansas City 6, San Antonio 3, Hannibal 2.
Through West: 97

Saturday September 23, 1882
Vol. 3, No. 25

New Orleans had a \$100,000 fire last Wednesday. The amount was fully insured.

A statistician estimates that the people of the United States have to pay \$23 a minute for Congress while in session.

Over the State
Tyler has new water works. Henderson had a \$30,000 fire last week.

The new town of East Dallas has been incorporated.

Lampasas reports the finest crop of cotton ever raised.

A military company has just been organized in Dallas. Horse thieves are too thick to thrive in Presidio county.

A new Catholic church is to be built at Fort Worth.

Lampasas refused to be incorporated by a vote of 81 to 68.

Handles like a DREAM. Works like an ANIMAL.

The DK/DKSE Series is fully featured, comfortable, and ready for any job that demands a durable compact tractor. Ranging from 40 HP to 90 HP, this series of high-performance compact tractors pack impressive power and smooth handling into one dependable workhorse.

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choose 0% UP TO 60 MO* OR FREE LOADER* OR UP TO \$5,300* CASH BACK
(tractor, loader, backhoe package)

Cottonwood News by Beverly Brown

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. Have a safe journey as you travel to and from to see your family. The weather forecast is for a wet Friday and Saturday.

It's great to be home after two weeks in the hospital and Hendrick's Rehab Center. A couple of weeks ago I fell and broke a hip. I'm recuperating and getting around pretty good.

Christmas will be here soon.... it's only a few weeks away. And you can already see signs of Christmas everywhere.

Crafters will gather at the First United Methodist Church next Friday and Saturday (December 4th and 5th) for the Cross Plains Public Library's Craft Sale. You'll find some really nice handmade Christmas presents. The sale is from noon until 6 p.m. on Friday and from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday. Have some crafts you want to sell? Call the Library, you may still have time to reserve a table. Their number, 725-7722.

Also on Friday, December

4th, the kids will have a lot of fun at the Cross Plains Public Library painting Christmas ornaments.

Later that evening, Santa Claus make his entrance into Cross Plains in the Chamber of Commerce's Lighted Christmas Parade. Parade starts at 6:30 p.m. with the parade line up being at 6:00 p.m. at the Church of Christ in Cross Plains.

And, finally, on December 4th, the Kiwanis will have their Annual Stew Supper at the Senior Center from 5 until 7 p.m. We hear that they will again be making their delicious taco stew. Dinner is only \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Santa will make his entrance during the Stew Supper, so all the kids can line up and visit with Santa. Bring a camera or use your phone so you can take a photo of your children with Santa. They'll be prize drawings in the evening, as well.

The Cottonwood Musicals are taking a break for the holidays and will return in January.

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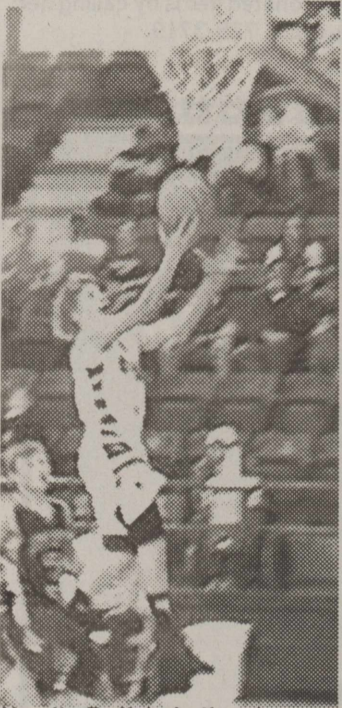
Cross Plains Review

SUPPORTS THE

BUFFALOES



Varsity Buffalo Basketball vs. Roby Lions



Varsity Buffalo in the air



Phoenix Sanders #4 with the ball against Roby



#5 Rylan Laminack working defense against the Roby Lions



Varsity Buffaloes #4 Phoenix Sanders and #11 James Briggs under the basket against the Roby Lions

Cross Plains High School "A" Honor Roll 2nd - 6th Weeks

7th Grade

Layne Ellis
Amber Fidler
Hayley Hughes
Kolby McKinney
Madilynn Shepard
Joseph Traweek
Abigail Wheeler

8th Grade

Katelynn Parker
Macee Steigleder
Lexie Thompson
Trent Tollett

9th Grade

Jacy Bien
Jacob Collier
Hannah Crockett
Hanna Fortune
Alexis Jones
Kenzie Kleiber
Brian Morales
Price Odom
Trent Potter
Jackilann Shepard

10th Grade

Wesley Alexander
Eddie Calvagna
Joe Crockett
Strena Cunningham
Creed Goode
James McMillan
Katy Jo Morgan
Kelsi Sasser
Kayla Stoudemire
Larson Walker

11th Grade

Kenzie Byrd
Hannah Cowan
Grace Goode
Holden Senclair
Loralei Woodard

12th Grade

Kelli Bennett
Colton Bradley
Rebekah Crockett
Teagan Fortune
Zachary Gartman
Shelby McWilliams
Kaitlyn Potter
Billy Woodard
Seth Wyatt

Cross Plains High School "AB" Honor Roll 2nd - 6th Weeks

7th Grade

River Bradley
Wade Byrd
Isabel Dean
Madison Foster
Chelsea Gartman
Jeanna Hall
Jordan Hampton
Sam Horan
Braylan Laminack
Jake McMillan
Cody McWilliams
Roby Odom

8th Grade

Destinee Cooper
Brian Curry
Nathan Hernandez
Keegan King
Jacob Mitchell
Heather Yates

9th Grade

Ashley Anderson
Cayla Barron
Brooke Bell
Paxton Byrd
Gage Connelly
Shiloh Dodge
Tyler Stout
Keylee Sutton
Tripp Thomas
Jevon Tillery
Cherish Wyatt

10th Grade

Chloe Alford
Jordan Collier
Kaiden Petree
Riley Potter
James Rhyne
Cheyenne Shields
Aaron Willis
Shana Yates

11th Grade

Sean Armer
Ryan Carey
Ashton Parker
Kersey Wyatt

4

Nov. 26, 2015

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Varsity Lady Buff Basketball vs. Roby Lions



Varsity Lady Buff Basketball on defense against the Roby Lions



Varsity Lady Buffs with the ball on the sideline against Roby

12th Grade

Darrin Ames
Dalton Gilliam
Brayden Kennedy
Rylan Laminack
Evelyn Morales
Billie Pointer
Inez Salazar
Phoenix Sanders
Chance Thompson
Shyler Tillery

Upcoming Schedule of Games

November 30th: JHG JHB vs. Baird @ Baird - 5 PM

December 1st: JVG VG vs. Anson @ Cross Plains - 4 PM

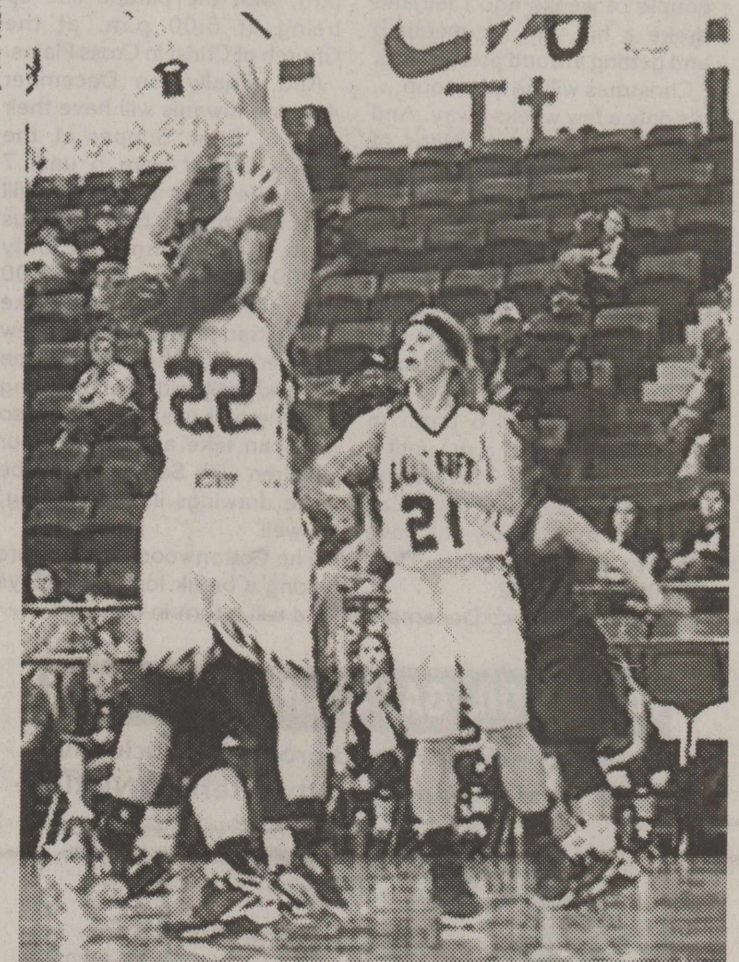
December 1st: JVB VB vs. Santo @ Cross Plains - 5 PM

December 3rd-5th Jim Ned Tournament @ Jim Ned for JVG - TBA

December 3d-5th Gustine Tournament @ Gustine for VB - TBA



Senior #21 Rebekah Crockett takes a shot against Roby



Varsity Buffs #22 Katy Jo Morgan and #21 Rebekah Crockett blocking a shot from Roby Lions last Tuesday night

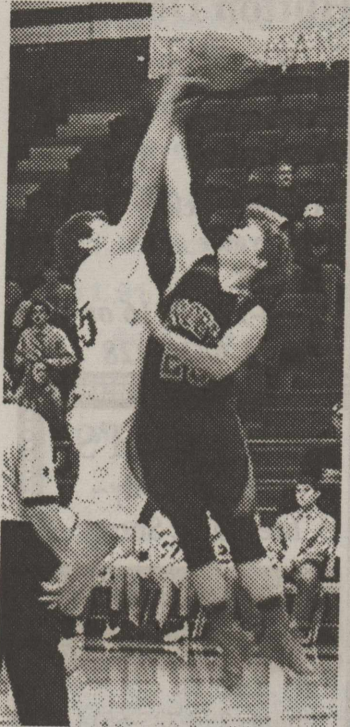


'Tis the Season...for BASKETBALL!

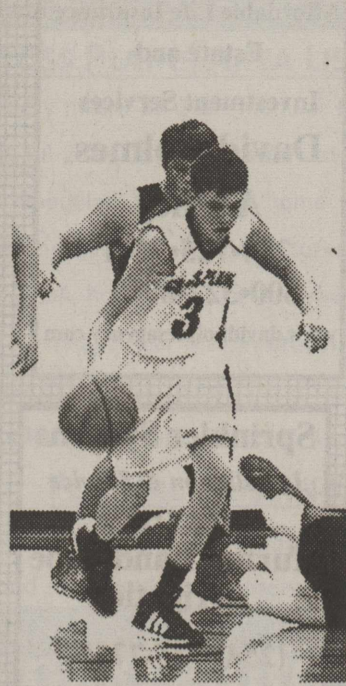
Come on out and support your Buffaloes



Junior Varsity Buffalo Basketball vs. Roby Lions



JV Buffaloes with the tip off against Roby Lions



JV Buffaloes with the ball against the Tigers

UIL announces school classification numbers

The University Interscholastic League released the 2016-2017 Reclassification and Conference Cutoff Numbers for the upcoming school year on Friday, November 20th.

UIL reclassification numbers were reported for all Callahan County schools for the upcoming reclassification.

According to the reclassification totals provided by the Callahan County school, Clyde CISD will be in Class AAA Division I (Big School), Baird ISD will be in Class A, Division I (Big School), Eula ISD will be in Class A, Division I (Big School), and Cross Plains ISD will be classified as a Class A, Division I (Big School).

Clyde High School reported 411 students to the UIL on its snapshot day this year. CHS reported 404.5 students to the UIL in 2014-2015.

Baird ISD reported student enrollment of 91 for the upcoming school year.

Eula ISD reported 103 students for the upcoming school year.

Cross Plains ISD reported 104 students enrolled for the 2016-2017 school years.

The UIL uses public schools enrollment numbers every two years to realign and reclassify all conferences in Texas.

UIL enrollment numbers released include:

UIL Reclassification and Realignment Conference Cutoff Numbers 2016-2017 & 2017-2018

Conference Cutoffs
 Class 6A 2150 and above
 Class 5A 1100 - 2149
 Class 4A 480 - 1099
 Class 3A 221 - 479
 Class 2A 105 - 220
 Class 1A 104.9 and below
 Class 1A - 4A Football Division I and Division II Numbers

1A Division I 104.9-59
 1A Division II 58 & below
 2A Division I 158-220
 2A Division II 105-157
 3A Division I 319-479
 3A Division II 221-318
 4A Division I 723-1,009
 4A Division II 480-722

Junior Varsity Lady Buff Basketball vs. Roby Lions



JV Lady Buff #21 Hannah Crockett

5
Nov. 26, 2015

hoop it up



JV Lady Buff Jacy Bien with the tip off against the Roby



JV Buffaloes covering #11 of the Roby Lions on defense

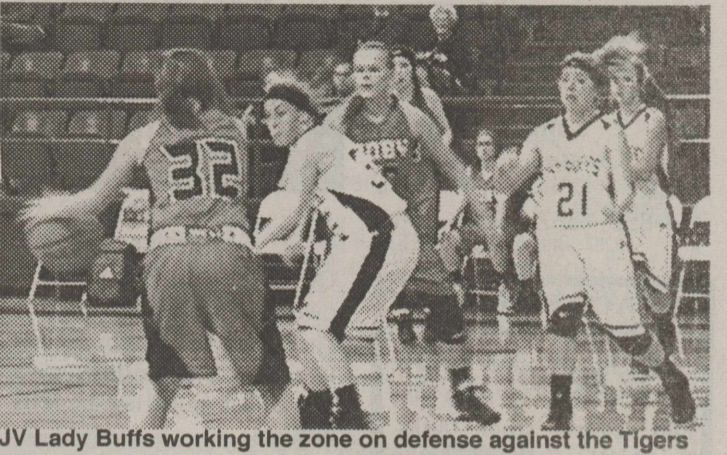
Junior High Buffalo Basketball vs. May Tigers



JH Buffaloes on the offensive against the May Tigers



JH Buffaloes race after a loose ball against May Tigers



JV Lady Buffs working the zone on defense against the Tigers



JV Lady Buff Jackilann Shepard on defense at top of the key against Roby

JH Lady Buff Basketball vs. May Tigers



JH Lady Buffs vs. May Tigers



JH Lady Buff on defense



Junior High Lady Buff Basketball vs. May Tigers

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Cross Plains I.S.D. Weekly Menu November 30 - December 4, 2015

	MONDAY 30	TUESDAY 1	WEDNESDAY 2	THURSDAY 3	FRIDAY 4
BREAKFAST	Pancake Wrap Yogurt Cereal Fruit Assorted juice Milk	Chicken-n-Biscuit Cereal Fruit Assorted juice Milk	French toast Sausage Cereal Fruit Assorted juice Milk	Early Bird Sandwich Cereal Fruit Assorted juice Milk	Dutch Waffle Bacon Cereal Fruit Assorted juice Milk
LUNCH	Chicken Fajitas Garden Salad Salsa Seasoned Corn Fresh fruit Milk	Asian chicken Brown rice Baby carrots w/ranch Steamed Broccoli Chilled pineapple Cookie Milk	Tex-Mex Stack Spanish rice Refried Beans Salsa Garden Salad Cinnamon apples Milk	Chicken Parmesan Green beans Petite Tomato cup Apple slices Bread stick Milk	Beef or chicken Patty on bun Hamburger garnish Oven fries Western beans Diced pears Milk

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW CLASSIFIED ADS

116 S.E. 1st Street - P.O. Box 519 - Cross Plains, Texas 76443 - (254) 725-6111

Cross Plains Review Only - \$8.00 for up to 15 words and 35 cents each additional word.. To run in Cross Plains Review/Clyde Journal/Baird Banner Combination- \$10.00 for up to 15 words and 35 cents each additional word. If you run for 4 consecutive weeks, the 5th week is free of charge.

Card of Thanks - \$8.95 per paper for up to 50 words.

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

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Homestead Nursing and Rehab of Baird is now hiring for LVN. 6a-6p. Three day weekend every other weekend. Full benefit package. Apply in person at 224 E. 6th St., Baird or call Racheal Moss, DON for more information at 325-854-1426

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CROSS PLAINS REVIEW (USPS 138-660)

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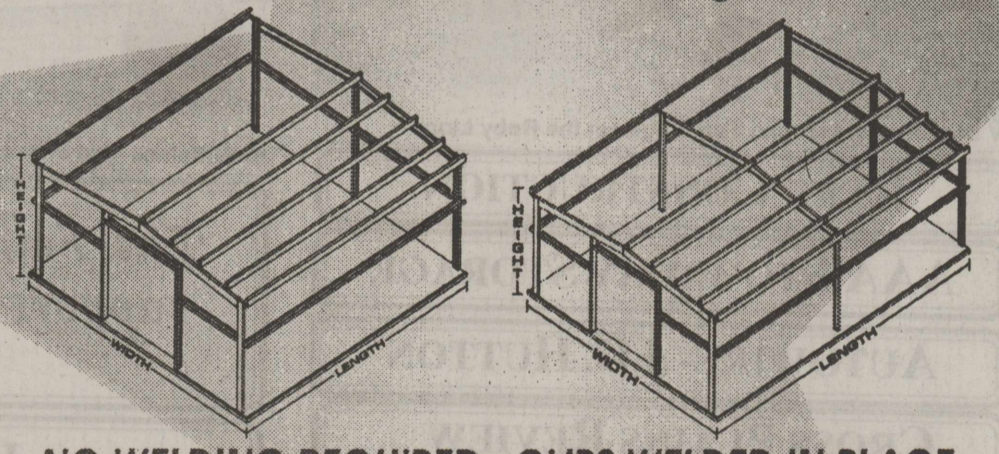
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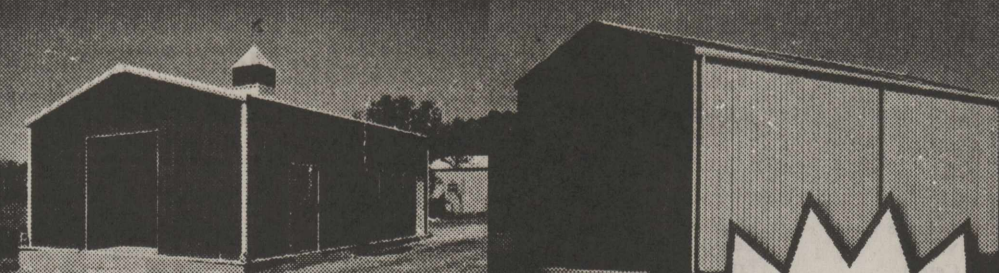
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Cross Plains Review

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Nov. 26, 2015



Wild About Texas
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Striped Skunk

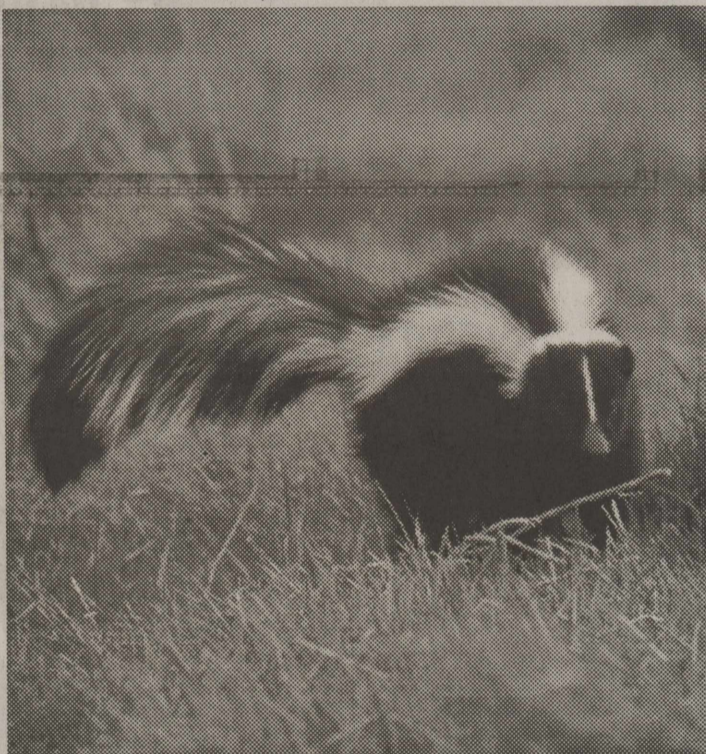
Many times, animals are heard before they are seen. Many bird and amphibian observations begin with the hearing of the animal before it is actually seen. But there is one animal who is more often smelled before it is seen, and it is a common denizen of west Texas.

The Striped Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) can be observed in every county of this state, and it appears that it is no more prevalent in any particular eco-region more than another. Outside of Texas it occurs in every state of the U.S. and can be seen in all habitats other than the top of the Rocky Mountains. Its natural range extends northward into southern Canada and southward into extreme northern Mexico (primarily Chihuahua, Coahuila, and Nuevo Leon). It thrives in a multitude of habitats varying from desert scrub to densely forested areas to grasslands and prairies. It does seem to prefer to den among densely vegetated rocky crevices near streams.

Striped skunks are medium sized mammals that have a maximum body length of just under two feet, although most specimens are a tad smaller. Like many mammals in this region, the males are the larger sex. The body is black and there are two white stripes that run lengthwise down the body to the tail. These stripes are connected in the neck region, and they can be of varying widths. The long and bushy ten inch tail is colored and patterned similarly to the body. The head is typically all black, save for a narrow stripe of white fur along the midline. The small eyes are coal black. Each foot has five toes; the front ones have long claws that are utilized for foraging for food.

Besides the distinguishing coloration characteristics, this mammalian species is more widely known for its pungent smell. This stench, most often used as a last resort defensive strategy, is produced from two large scent glands on either side of the anus. Anyone who has had the opportunity to smell this odor up close, whether it be man or animal, is certain to not want to do it again!

Striped Skunks, like the other five species of skunks found in Texas, are almost exclusively nocturnal. It often is active throughout the entire night, retiring to its den just before the dawn's first light appears. It is omnivorous, feeding on both plant and animal matter. Insects make up the vast majority of its



Striped Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*)

prey, although smaller mammals (such as mice and baby rabbits), ground-nesting birds and eggs, and even reptiles are consumed regularly. Many times this species will gorge itself preparing for the winter months. During the warmer times of the year, adults may only weigh as little as four pounds, but during the colder winter times of the year they can attain weights of nearly fourteen pounds.

Skunks are highly social animals, many living in groups of five to ten individuals. Oftentimes, the group is actually a family, consisting of a male, female, and their offspring. Breeding occurs in the spring, and the gestation period lasts between eight and ten weeks. The three to nine young (average of five) are similar in appearance to the adults, save for much shorter hair, closed eyes, and closed ear canals. Their eyes and

ears open after just one month, and they young are able to defend themselves by "spraying" by six weeks. Weaning occurs at about two months of age, and they remain with the family group until early fall.

Striped Skunks are rarely attacked by other animals. In fact, automobiles are probably one of, if not the, main cause of mortality in wild skunks. Few skunks live more than two years in the wild. Skunks are occasionally harvested for its pelt, but low values have kept it from being of significant in fur production. Populations of this "stinky" mammal in Texas are quite stable, and unlike the other four species of skunk in the state, it has adapted to human encroachment quite well.

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

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Sat. 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Commissioners canvass Amendment Election results

The November 3, 2015 Constitutional Amendment Election was canvassed by the Callahan County Commissioners' Court on Monday, November 16th at the County Courthouse in Baird.

Commissioner Bryan Farmer then made a motion to approve the Constitutional Amendment Election Canvass report. Commissioner Tom Windham seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0.

Other agenda items brought before the commissioners' court included:

—The Meeting of the Commissioners' Court was held at its regular meeting place in the Courthouse on November 16, 2015 A.D., with the following officers present to

wit: Roger Corn, County Judge; Bryan Farmer, Commissioner Precinct No. 2; Tom Windham, Commissioner Precinct No. 3; Cliff Kirkham, Commissioner Precinct No. 4; Jan Windham, County Treasurer; and Donna Bell, County Clerk.

—The meeting was called to order at 12:03 P.M. by Judge Corn. Commissioner Kirkham was not present.

—No action was taken on the burn ban. Burn ban remains lifted.

—Commissioner Farmer made the motion to adjourn with Commissioner Windham making a second to the motion. The motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 12:10 P.M.

Pair of Brothers serve as Texas Rangers

AUSTIN - On Thursday a television news segment broadcast by the CBS affiliate in Waco, KWTX, showcased two brothers - Jake and Joshua Burson - who currently are Texas Rangers.

The Burson brothers are believed to be the first set of brothers to served simultaneously as Texas Rangers since the DPS was formed in 1935. The Texas Rangers are the largest law enforcement organization in North America with statewide jurisdiction.

The Texas Rangers know that our respect is not based on a badge and a gun, but is earned through the trust and confidence of the public and our continued dedication to serving Texas with integrity and excellence" said Texas Ranger Chief Randy Prince. "Although our duties continue to change,

our vision remains the same - to protect the citizens of Texas in an ever-changing threat environment' and we are pleased to count the Burson brothers among our ranks."

The brothers began their Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) careers as Highway Patrol Troopers and then promoted to the DPS Criminal Investigations Division before becoming Texas Rangers. Ranger Jake Burson is stationed in Waco; and Ranger Joshua Burson is stationed in Lubbock.

To view the full video, visit <http://www.kwtx.com/video>. The segment is titled "Texas Ranger Brothers Tandem: The Burson Boys."

For more information on the Texas Rangers and their history, visit the DPS website at <http://www.txds.state.tx.us/TexasRangers/index.htm>.

Commissioners reject bid on surplus equipment

Callahan County Commissioners rejected one bid for the sale of a 1982 Grader with Scrapers during the commissioners' court regular meeting held on Thursday, November 19th at the County Courthouse in Baird.

Commissioners opened one sealed bid received from Seth Goldsmith for \$47,521.00 on the sale of a 1982 Grader with Scrapers containing Serial No. 05685. Commissioner Cliff Kirkham made a motion to reject the bid, and Commissioner Bryan Farmer seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

Other agenda items brought before the commissioners' court included:

—The Meeting of the Commissioners' Court was held at its regular meeting

place in the Courthouse on November 16, 2015 A.D., with the following officers present to wit: Roger Corn, County Judge; Bryan Farmer, Commissioner Precinct No. 2; Cliff Kirkham, Commissioner Precinct No. 4; Angela Campbell, Deputy County Treasurer; and Nancy Charlton, Deputy County Clerk.

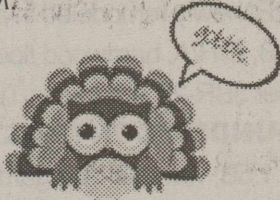
—The commissioners' court meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Judge Corn with three commissioners present.

—No action was taken on the Countywide Burn Ban. The Burn Ban remains lifted.

—Commissioner Farmer made a motion to adjourn the commissioners' court meeting at 9:38 a.m. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion and the motion carried with an unanimous 4-0 vote.

8

Nov. 26, 2015



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DPA: \$1,000
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MSRP: \$61,800
SALE PRICE: \$57,662
REBATE: \$3,750
DPA: \$1,000
ONLY \$52,912

2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
3/4 TON, CREW CAB, HIGH COUNTRY, DIESEL
MSRP: \$66,200
SALE PRICE: \$62,992
REBATE: \$3,750
DPA: \$1,000
ONLY \$58,172

2015 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN
LT, LEATHER, DEMO
MSRP: \$57,390
SALE PRICE: \$54,250
REBATE: \$2,000
CHEVY LOYALTY: \$2,000
ONLY \$50,250

2015 GMC TERRAIN SLE
MSRP: \$27,485
SALE: \$26,833
REBATE: \$1,123
ONLY \$22,710

2016 CHEVROLET TAHOE LT
MSRP: \$54,625
SALE: \$52,435
REBATE: \$1,000
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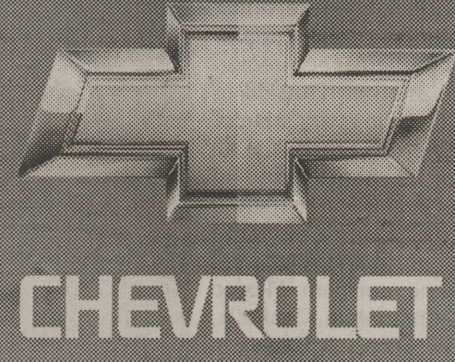
2011 JEEP WRANGLER
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2013 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
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2WD
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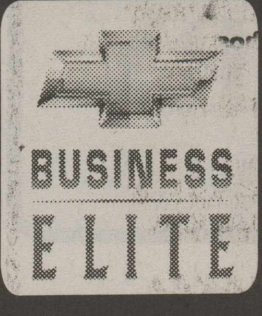
2012 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
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2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
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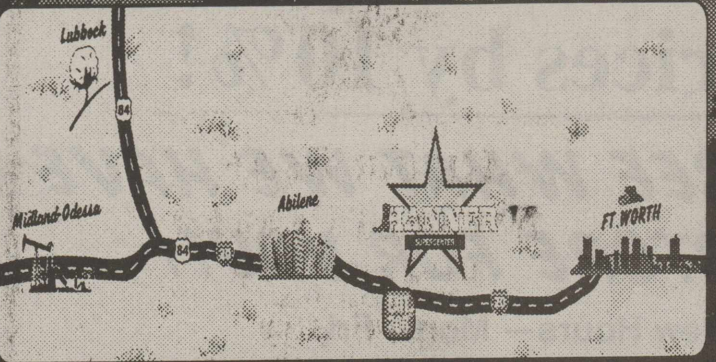


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Cross Plains City Council Board Minutes

November 10, 2015
 This was a Regular Meeting of the Cross Plains City Council. Members of the council present were:

Mayor Ray Purvis, Jerry Cassle, Bob Kirkham, Colby Walker, Randy Strickland, Gary Moses was absent

Employees present were Debbie Gosnell, Don Gosnell, Jarod Potter, Byron McNutt, Teresa Kennedy, & Jacob Stennett.

Members of the public meeting with the council were Phil Mitchell.

Ray Purvis called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Gosnell gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

By general consent the minutes were approved as presented.

By general consent the police report was approved as presented.

By general consent the judge's report was approved as presented.

Cassle moved to approve the bills as presented. Kirkham seconded and motion carried.

Phil Mitchell, High School Superintendent, met with the council to discuss applying for a "Comprehensive Hazard Mitigation" Grant for a "Community Safe Room".

The gym would withstand 250 mph winds. Mr. Mitchell explained that the City must be the applying entity and the application is due mid December. The city would not be responsible for any of the costs associated with the building of the project or the matching costs that are required if the grant is funded. He explained that the school

wants to build an elementary gym where the old tennis courts were located. He advised the council that the schools business manager, Linda Birdwell, will be responsible for filling out the grant application and the only thing that the city would be responsible for would be administering the funds. Walker moved to allow the school to submit the application and give Debbie Gosnell signing and payment privileges. Kirkham seconded and motion carried.

Gosnell informed the council that she had received an application from Shawn Bullock for a petition to legalize the sale of beer and wine for off premise consumption only. She explained that once the petition is received with enough registered voter signatures the council will then need to vote to put the measure on the May ballot.

Gosnell also informed the council that she had been approached by some local citizens to annex a portion of the North quadrant of town. This area is not currently served by wastewater services and the residents have experienced some septic system failures. It was their hope to be able to get on the city's sewer system. By general consent the council agreed for Gosnell to investigate the cost of putting these homes on the sewer systems and see if would be feasible to do so.

Gosnell gave the Senior Citizen Center's monthly report. She reported that a total of 724 congregate meals for the month of October were served. She also reported that there were 733 home delivered meals served for an average

of 75 meals per day. These numbers include 159 meals for the May Senior Citizen Center. There was a total of \$2,917.20 in donations received.

Gosnell also updated the council on the water line project. She reported that the project is coming along quickly and that the crew is currently boring the street at 1st Street. In the next couple of weeks the crew will begin killing out the old lines. Gosnell also advised the council that the ground storage tank repairs are complete, the tank is refilled and the city has received a good sample so the system is back on line. She also advised the council that Hyles is working closely with Billy Whiteley in an effort to get acquainted with the workings of the gas system and she is continuing to work with the Railroad Commission to get things lined out. Gosnell has a meeting with a representative of Peninsula on Thursday to discuss an agreement between the two entities.

Mayor Purvis opened a bid from Jason & Stephanie Bien for the following lots in the amount of \$3,000.00:

N. 1/2 of Lots 7 & 8; Block 13; Central Addition.

Cassle moved to accept the bid. Walker seconded and motion carried.

Kirkham moved to go into executive session at 7:20 p.m. Walker seconded and motion carried.

Discussion of Gas System. Strickland moved to return to open meeting at 7:30. Cassle seconded and motion carried.

Strickland moved to adjourn, Walker seconded and motion carried.

Cross Plains Public Library presents...

Christmas Craft Fair

Fri., Dec. 4 from Noon - 6:00 p.m.
 Sat., Dec. 5 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 at First United Methodist Church
 1000 N. Main, Cross Plains

All visitors will be entered in a drawing for a Kindle

Local vendors and crafters will have booths for your shopping enjoyment

FREE* Parents and Grandparents* FREE
 - pick up a bundle of books to give as gifts for kids 0-8

What Are You Reading? by the Bookworms

A new Dr. Death is helping terminally ill patients end their lives in Book #6 of Robert Thornhill's Lady Justice Series. In "Lady Justice and Dr. Death," Kansas City cop Walt Williams faces a new dilemma: is it justice or is it murder? Sworn to uphold the law, Walt is assigned to the case, but illness strikes close to home and he is torn amid the moral issues surrounding the "right to die with dignity" controversy. We meet Walt's half-brother Mark who, despite being an FBI agent, wants to enlist the help of Dr. Death to euthanize their dying mother. In trying to locate Dr. Death, Walt's band of senior citizens come to his rescue as he is kidnapped, trapped in a locker in the city morgue, thrown off the roof of a six-story parking garage, and hospitalized in a coma.

I enjoyed this installment as Thornhill once again tackles a sensitive issue in a well-researched and thought-provoking manner. The author masterfully explores both sides of mercy-killing, doesn't become "preachy," and leaves you to make your own decision. The book is an easy read for a cold winter day and I look forward to reading more books in the series

DPS urges Texans to drive responsibly, sober during Thanksgiving Holiday

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is urging Texans to always celebrate responsibly and to make safe driving habits a priority during the heavily travelled Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

"As Texans travel to be with family and friends this Thanksgiving season, we urge all drivers to use extra caution on roadways and always drive sober," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "The increased traffic and potential for inclement weather and impaired driving can make holiday travel especially challenging, and DPS troopers will be working nonstop to keep the roads safe for everyone."

DPS troopers will be patrolling Texas roadways throughout the holiday weekend looking for drunk drivers, speeders, seat belt violators and other drivers who are endangering themselves and others. During the Thanksgiving weekend in 2014, DPS troopers arrested 242 individuals for driving while intoxicated, issued 5,223 speeding citations, 682 citations for no insurance and

599 seat belt/child safety seat citations. DPS patrols also resulted in 135 fugitive arrests and 97 felony arrests during the same time period.

DPS offers the following tips for safe travel during the Thanksgiving holiday:

- Don't drink and drive. Designate a driver or take a cab.
- Slow down - especially in bad weather, construction areas and heavy traffic.
- Eliminate distractions, including the use of mobile devices.
- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle - it's the law.
- Slow down or move over for police, fire, EMS and Texas Department of Transportation vehicles and tow trucks that are stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated - it's the law.
- Don't drive fatigued - get plenty of rest before trips or take breaks as needed.
- Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges.
- Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before your trip begins.



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TEXAS CROSSWORD

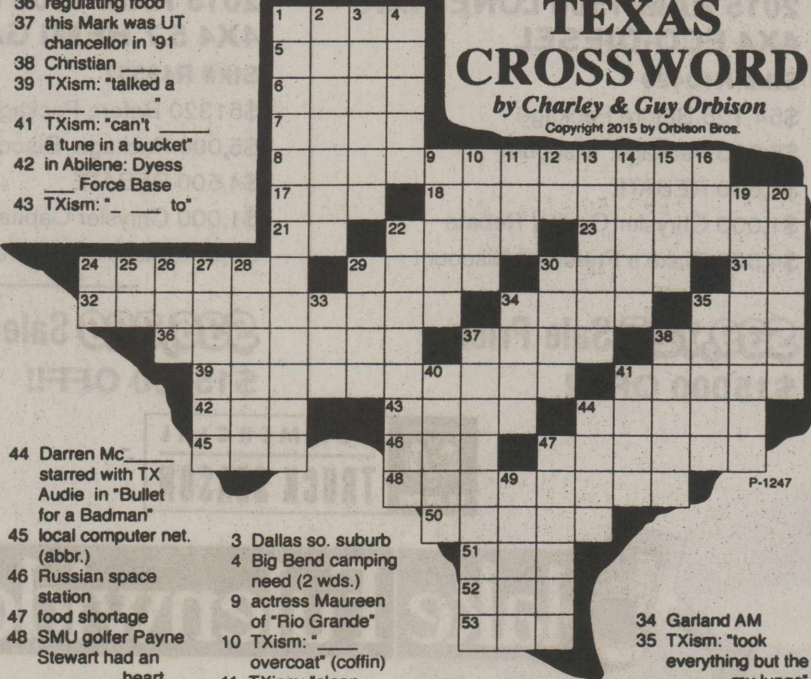
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 San Antonio AM
 5 TX Ivory Joe's "Since You Baby"
 6 TXism: "suit company" (relatives)
 7 Dallas FM
 8 TXism: "put (retired)"
 17 San Antonio's "ugly king": Rey
 18 TXism: "he two-steps to (independent)"
 21 TX Rangers used to have spring training in this state (abbr.)
 22 Hawaiian ranch once owned by TX heiress Caroline Hunt
 23 TX Garza, formerly of federal 5th Circuit Court of Appeals
 24 Ms. Eden to TX Hagman on "Dream of Jeannie"
 29 TX Southwest Airlines charge
 30 TXism: "two in a pod" (alike)
 31 ex-Cowboy star DT White (init.)
 32 TXism: "he'd be battle of wits"
 34 Boerne's "Ewe" fiber fair
 35 This Fortas was LBJ's choice for Supreme Court chief justice

DOWN

1 it could be a big play for the Cowboys (2 wds.)
 2 downtown Houston street: St.
 3 Dallas so. suburb
 4 Big Bend camping need (2 wds.)
 9 actress Maureen of "Rio Grande"
 10 TXism: "overroot" (coffin)
 11 TXism: "clean hound's tooth"
 12 TXism: "want it bad I could spit"
 13 woolen suit fabrics
 14 emasculate?
 15 Ranger hitter goals
 16 TXism: "slippery as an"
 19 Southwest jet after take off
 20 TX reporter Roland who won Pulitzer in 1955
 22 duration of Texas punt (2 wds.)



36 regulating food
 37 This Mark was UT chancellor in '91
 38 Christian
 39 TXism: "talked a"
 41 TXism: "can't a tune in a bucket"
 42 in Abilene: Dyess Force Base
 43 TXism: "to"
 44 Darren Mc starred with TX Audie in "Bullet for a Badman"
 45 local computer net. (abbr.)
 46 Russian space station
 47 food shortage
 48 SMU golfer Payne Stewart had an heart
 50 Bulgaria capital
 51 TXism: "tough as an boot"
 52 TXism: "sold bill of goods"
 53 TXism: "got more on his plate than he can grace over"
 24 dice shape (abbr.)
 25 TXism: "fits like ugly an ape"
 26 TXism: "got an overdose of woe"
 27 TX Tigra reservation dances
 28 aviator Earhart
 29 fish propellers
 30 TX capitol is made of granite
 33 TXism: "kick the bucket"
 34 Garland AM
 35 TXism: "took everything but the my lungs" (robbed)
 37 family possessions
 38 TX-born Dwight Eisenhower
 40 Emory is the seat of this county
 41 TX-made "The Thief Who to Dinner"
 44 TXism: "would maggot" (gross)
 47 h.s. football night
 49 TXism: "wouldn't hurt (docile dog)"

Grand Ole Oplin November Line-Up

Everyone is invited out each Friday evening for a night of good music, good friends and a whole lot of boot scootin. On Nov. 27th MUDDY CREEK will be back playing some more of your favorite two-steps and waltzes.

The Grand Ole Oplin is hosted by the OPLIN COMMUNITY CENTER and is located at the intersection of F.M. 604 S. and F.M. 2926. Admission to our Friday night dance is still only \$5.00 per person and everyone is invited to bring a snack to be shared by all during the band's break. Alcohol and smoking are not allowed at any of our community center functions. So gather the family and invite all of your friends and come on out to the GRAND OLE OPLIN, we'll see you there.

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Nov. 26, 2015

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DPS: Texans can help fight crime, terrorism through tips to state website

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is reminding Texans to remain vigilant with respect to potential crime and terrorist activity in their communities, and to report suspicious behaviors to the department's iWATCH website at www.iwatchtx.org. The iWATCH program was created as a partnership between communities and law enforcement, and utilizes citizen-sourced tips related to criminal activity.

"In the wake of the terrible tragedies in Paris, we are reminding Texans of the important role they can play in helping law enforcement combat those intending to do harm to others," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Texas faces the gamut of threats to public safety from organized crime to potential terrorist plots, and DPS works around-the-clock with our local, state and federal partners to keep our residents safe. Because truly effective crime fighting depends on a united effort between law enforcement and the public, we urge Texans to always be watchful, and report to iWATCH or their local authorities any illegal or suspicious activities they witness."

In addition to the attacks in Paris, France, senseless attacks have also occurred closer to home in recent years, including tragic shootings at Fort Hood, and a shooting incident in May of this year in Garland, Texas. Concerned citizens can visit the website to fill out a report, which includes contact information and specifics about a particular incident. A report usually takes fewer than five minutes to

complete, and once submitted, each report is reviewed by law enforcement analysts. The website also lists a phone number for possible anonymous reports.

Here are some examples of behaviors and activities to report:

- Strangers asking questions about building security features and procedures.
- Briefcase, suitcase, backpack or package is left behind.
- Cars or trucks are left in no-parking zones at important buildings.
- Chemical smells or fumes that are unusual for the location.
- People requesting sensitive information, such as blueprints, security plans or VIP travel schedules, without a need to know.

- Purchasing supplies that could be used to make bombs or weapons, or purchasing uniforms without having the proper credentials.
- Taking photographs or videos of security features, such as cameras or checkpoints.

DPS urges residents who see something unusual to simply speak up. Preparations for terrorist attacks may often be seen, but rarely reported. When in doubt, report the suspicious activity through iWATCH. For more information on the iWATCH program or to submit a report, visit www.iwatchtx.org. To make an anonymous report, individuals can contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972. (iWATCH is not designed to report emergencies. If a situation requires an emergency response, call 911.)

Reports to iWATCH can also be made through the DPS

Mobile App. The app is currently available for iPhone users on the Apple App Store: (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/texas-dps/id902092368?mt=8>) and for Android users on Google Play: (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.microassist.texasdps&hl=en>).

The iWATCH website is part of the DPS Intelligence and Counterterrorism Division (ICT), which serves as the central clearinghouse for the collection, management, analysis and dissemination of law enforcement and homeland security intelligence in Texas. This DPS intelligence strategy is essential to proactive, preventive and effective law enforcement operations to combat crime and terrorism.

The intelligence strategy encompasses a variety of other programs, including the multi-agency Texas Joint Crime Information Center, which provides around-the-clock analytical assistance to more than 1,500 local law enforcement agencies; Counterterrorism Analysis Program; State Intelligence Assessment Program; Texas 10 Most Wanted Fugitive and Sex Offender programs; Operation Drawbridge border camera program; Missing and Exploited Children Unit; Interdiction for the Protection of Children Program; Gang Analysis Section; and Critical Infrastructure and Key Resource Tracking and Assessment Program. ICT also offers direct case support for Texas Rangers, and assistance in investigations involving cartel, gangs, human trafficking and sex offenders.

Library Notes

Library Hours

Mon. 1:00pm to 5:00pm
Tues. 11:00am to 7:00pm
Wed. 1:00pm to 5:00pm
Turs. 1:00pm to 5:00pm
Closed Friday

Nov., 16 - Nov., 19 2015

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Other 11
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Internet 15
Wi Fi 24
Reference 9

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FSA County Committee Elections to begin

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5, 2015 - Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Val Dolcini today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will begin mailing ballots to eligible farmers and ranchers across the country for the 2015 FSA County Committee elections on Monday, Nov. 9, 2015. Producers must return ballots to their local FSA offices by Dec. 7, 2015, to ensure that their vote is counted.

"County committee members represent the farmers and ranchers in their communities," said Dolcini. "Producers elected to these committees have always played a vital role in local agricultural decisions. They are essential to the daily operation of nearly 2,200 offices across the country. It is a valued partnership that helps us better understand the needs of the farmers and ranchers we serve."

Nearly 7,700 FSA County Committee members serve FSA offices nationwide. Each committee has three to 11 elected members who serve three-year terms of office. One-third of county committee seats are up for election each year. County committee members apply their knowledge and judgment to help FSA make important decisions on its commodity support programs; conservation programs; indemnity and disaster programs; emergency programs and eligibility.

Producers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program to be eligible to vote in the

county committee election. Approximately 1.9 million producers are currently eligible to vote. Farmers and ranchers who supervise and conduct the farming operations of an entire farm, but are not of legal voting age, also may be eligible to vote.

Farmers and ranchers will begin receiving their ballots the week of Nov. 9. Ballots include the names of candidates running for the local committee election. FSA has modified the ballot, making it more easily identifiable and less likely to be overlooked. Voters who do not receive ballots in the coming week can pick one up at their local FSA office. Ballots returned by mail must be postmarked no later than Dec. 7, 2015. Newly elected committee members and their alternates will take office Jan. 1, 2016.

For more information, visit the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. You may also contact your local USDA Service Center or FSA office. Visit <http://offices.usda.gov> to find an FSA office near you.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

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Registration Underway for Children's Program

Registration is now underway for "Learn About"... Program and LAPSIT Program at the Cross Plains Public Library.

The "Learn About"... Program is a pre-school program for ages 3-5. Your child must be age 3 by September 1, 2015. The Children will have the opportunity to do finger plays, sing hear stories, have refreshments, check out books, and "learn about" a variety of activities.

The Lapsit Program is for children birth to 3 years (not yet

eligible for the LAP Program). Each Child enrolled must be accompanied by an adult. The Children listen to stories and do finger plays and other activities.

Both Programs will meet on Wednesday morning from 10:00 to 10:45, beginning November 4th and continuing until the end of April 2016.

You may register your children at the library Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 1-5pm and on Tuesday from 11am-7pm. The library is closed on Fridays.

Learn English while you complete your GED

GED and English as a Second Language classes will be starting soon. Classes are currently offered in: Abilene, Albany, Ballinger, Breckenridge, Brownwood, Cisco, Coleman, Colorado, City, Cross Plains, De Leon, Early, Hamlin, Snyder, Stamford, and Sweetwater.

Please call 325-671-4419 for more information. Classes are free and sponsored by the Abilene Independent School District.

WIC Serving Cross Plains

WIC, the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children in Clyde serves Cross Plains in Callahan County. We are at the Community Center, 108 North Beech on the 1st, Wednesday 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. (closed for lunch 12-1 P.M.) and the 3rd Wednesday 8:30 A.M. - 12 noon

Call for an appointment during these hours at 254-212-9914 or 325-893-4552 in Clyde at other times. We are also now serving Comanche County in Comanche (325-330-3351). Visit www.texaswic.org for nutritious recipes, health tips and what to bring to your WIC appointment. WIC: We are here for you!

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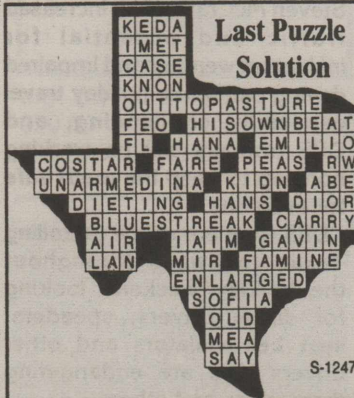
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Cross Plains Review

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Nov. 26, 2015

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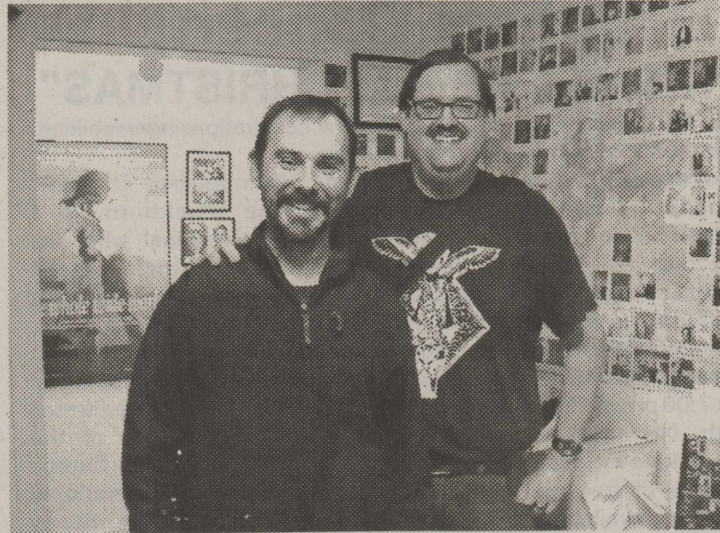
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Michael Klanica and Jeff Clayton visit the Museum

Day trip destination.... REH Museum

Former roommates at Mary Hardin Baylor College in Waco, Jeff Clayton and Michael Klanica have pursued some diverse and some similar directions in their lives.

Clayton is a Professor of English in Baytown and utilizes Howard's writings in his courses of study. Klanica lives in San Antonio where he is an engineer with Goodman Networks,

a company that owns and maintains cell phone towers and enjoys reading Howard as a hobby.

Taking advantage of a matching schedule of time-off, the two made the typical loop of visiting the local museum and the Greenleaf Cemetery in Brownwood where Howard and his parents are buried.

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

Nov. 30th- Dec. 4th

Monday 30th-Cheeseburgers, Lettuce, Tomatoe, Onion, Pickle, Oven Fries, Fruit, Cooke

Tuesday 1st- BBQ Sausage, Pinto Beans, Potatoes, Cronbread, Dessert

Wednesday 2nd-Chicken Pot Pie, Tomato/ Cucumber Salad, Dessert

Thursday 3rd- Hamburger Steak, Potatoes, Green Beans, Bread, Dessert

Friday 4th-Goulosh, Corn, Cornbread, Dessert

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

Monthly Menu may be picked up at the Senior Citizen Center



Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. receives grant from the Texas Veterans Commission for \$300,000

Coleman, Texas - Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. of Coleman has received a \$300,000 grant from the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance to fund continuous quality client development, and to provide easier access to resources for Veterans and their families.

Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. is a nonprofit organization serving Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, McCulloch, and Runnels counties with utility and rental assistance programs, education services, CNA classes, Financial Literacy courses, Job Skills Trainings, Hunters for the Hungry, as well as information and referrals. CTO also has a successful Case Management that has helped to transfer 38 individuals out of poverty in the last two years.

The Texas Veterans Commission grant will be used to serve Veterans, Veteran's Dependents and Surviving Spouses with the following needs: Utility Assistance, Rental/Mortgage Assistance, Case Management, Transportation, Employment Services, Job Etiquette, Referrals, Financial Literacy, Support Services, Medical Services, and Dental Services. Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. will identify Veterans through an application process, and Case Managers will

begin to assist them with their specific needs.

"We are honored to serve veterans and their families that give so much of themselves," said Hanna Adams, Executive Director, "the funds will allow us to impact and empower by assisting them with wrap around case management services that will include utility assistance, rent or mortgage payments, transportation, employment services, financial literacy, medical and dental services, referrals, and other supportive services. We believe these services will allow our veterans an opportunity to achieve self-sufficiency."

Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. is always accepting donations to help fund future assistance programs. For more information on Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. or how you can support its community efforts, please visit www.ctoinc.org or call (325) 625-4167.

Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance The Fund for Veterans' Assistance grant program was established in 2007 by the 80th Legislature and funded in late 2009. The program awards reimbursement grants in four categories: General Assistance, Housing4TexasHeroes, Veterans Mental Health, and Veterans

The Texas Girls Coaches Select All- State Teams

The Texas Girls Coaches Association selects Academic All-State teams in cross country in conferences 1A - 6A. Athletes and Support Staff must be a senior, must have a GPA of 94 or above for grades 9-11, and must be a team member in good standing. Athletes and Support Staff are nominated by member coaches of TGCA. The head coach of the sport must be a member of TGCA before November 1st to be eligible to nominate athletes for honors or to receive honors themselves.

Texas Girls Coaches Association

2015-16 Cross Country Academic All-State Teams

1A Athlete First	Athlete Last	High School	Coach First	Coach Last
Emily Kelli	Rodriguez Bennett	Crosbyton High School	Mario TLeah	Luna Eicke
Shelby Iridian	McWilliams Fernandez	Cross Plains High School	TLeah Jacob	Eicke Schacher
Sarita Cheyenne	Cavazos Hill	Lazbudde High School	Tony Jerry	Taylor Mcherry
Kaitlin Brittney	Bell Rauch	McMullin County High School	Perri Janet	Clark Rauch
		Menard High School		
		ODonnnell High School		
		Sterling City High School		

Senior Citizens Center Activities

Nov. 30th- Dec. 4th

Monday-30th Exercise 11:00

Tuesday-1st Crafts with Chris 10:00/Exercise 11:00 / Game Night 6:00

Wednesday-2nd Exercise

Thursday -3rd Manicures 10:30 Girling Home

Health, Reading with 3rd Graders

Friday -4th Exercise 11:00/Bingo 11:15

Cross Plains Senior Citizens Center seeks to nurture our aging population through nutritional, social and educational programs our goal is for all seniors, both well and frail, to utilize our services to enrich their lives.

Cross Plains Senior Center - We Are Thankful

As the leaves change colors and begins to fall to the ground and the winds of autumn blow them down Main St., it reminds us that Thanksgiving is fast approaching. It is a time to stop, reflect and offer our thanks for our countless blessings. Thanksgiving will be celebrated November 18, 2015 at the Cross Plains Senior Center. Turkey, dressing and all the trimmings will be served at 11:45-12:30. Take-out orders will be accepted for pick-up

after 12:30. For anyone 60 or older the suggested donation is \$4.00. If you are younger than 60, the cost is \$6.00. This cost includes meal, drink and dessert.

We welcome everyone to join us. Since the Thanksgiving meal is enjoyed by so many, please call 725-6521 to reserve your place by 10:30 a.m., November 16, 2015.

Come join us as we count our many blessings.

The Grand Ole Oplin Annual Christmas Ball decorations are up and the dance hall is beautiful!

Everyone is invited to attend the Grand Ole Oplin's Annual Christmas Ball to be held on Friday, Dec. 4th. MUDDY CREEK will be playing all your favorite two-steps, waltzes and an occasional Jingle Bell Rock. Some snacks will be provided but everyone is invited to bring a snack to be shared by all during the band's break. Admission

to our Christmas Ball will be \$8.00 per person. Alcohol and smoking are not allowed.

So get together with your favorite dance partner or partners, don your favorite Christmas duds and come on out to The Grand Ole Oplin, the decorations and music are sure to put you in the holiday spirit!



Santa Claus is coming to town

Please join The Baird Chamber of Commerce, as we welcome Santa Claus to the Arches in downtown Baird.

The Christmas Village will open from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM beginning Friday, November 27th. The Village will be open every Friday and Saturday evening up until December 19th.

We would like to extend a

big hearted Thank you to the Chamber, City Hall, Homestead Nursing Rehab of Baird and the other many volunteers for their help in creating this fun event.

Entrance into the Christmas Village will be free to all, with donations being accepted. Please come celebrate the holiday season and enjoy hot cocoa and cookies.

Cross Plains Review
11
Nov. 26, 2015

Political Calendar

The Cross Plains Review is authorized to publish the following political announcements for the office filings in the Republican Primary Election set for Tuesday, March 1, 2016.

For Callahan County Sheriff Franklin P. "Bucky" Shackelford

Political advertisement paid for by Franklin P. "Bucky" Shackelford, 4186 CR 273, Clyde, Texas, 79510, Treasurer Patty Ellis.

Terry Joy

Political advertisement paid for by Lenora Joy Treasurer, Terry Joy, 525 Stella, Baird, Texas 79510
All political calendar advertising for the Tuesday, March 1, 2016 Republican Primary Election is payable in advance, at a cost of \$125.00. A free press release and photograph will be published one time with each announcement.

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

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Texas Historical Commission news briefs

CELEBRATE NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH BY VISITING TEXAS HISTORIC PLACES

AUSTIN, Texas—Did you know November is Native American Heritage Month? The Texas Historical Commission's (THC) travel website textastimetravel.com features a curated guide to sites and museums throughout the state where visitors can learn about the history and legacy of American Indian heritage in Texas.

The Caddo Mounds State Historic Site, located in Cherokee County west of Nacogdoches, features earthen mounds built more than 1,200 years ago by a group of Caddo Indians known as the Hasinai. The site was the southwestern-most ceremonial center for the great Mound Builder culture, which spanned the eastern North American woodlands for more than 2,500 years. First opened to the public in 1982, the site consists of two temple mounds, a burial mound, and a large portion of the adjacent village area. A new visitors center features immersive exhibits and displays about the everyday life of the early Caddo people, and a walking trail offers access to the scenic grounds. For more information, go to visitcaddomounds.com or call 936-858-3218.

East of El Paso, the Hueco Tanks served as a refuge for humans traversing the Chihuahuan Desert for more than 10,000 years. The Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site features unique geology and a well-preserved collection of pictographs by the Jordana Mogollon, an ancestor group of the Pueblo people who occupied the site around A.D. 1150. The pictographs can be

seen beneath rock overhangs, within boulder shelters, and at other odd and hidden places throughout the site, found through guided and self-guided tours. The site also offers camping, hiking, bouldering, and rock climbing. Information on the site's history and activities is available at tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/hueco-tanks and 915-857-1135.

In Amarillo, the Kwahadi Museum of the American Indian features fine art and exhibits highlighting the crafts and cultures of the Pueblo and Plains Indian people. The adjacent theater has two performance areas and has regularly scheduled public shows by the Kwahadi Dancers, a local youth group, as well as visiting groups. Information is available at kwahadi.com/museuminfo and 806-335-3175.

Visit the THC's website at textastimetravel.com/americanindians for additional places in Texas where you can experience and connect with American Indian history and culture. The site features a range of tools and guides to plan heritage-themed journeys. Travelers can see familiar places in a new light and discover lesser-known destinations with intriguing stories as they travel for business and pleasure throughout the state.

TAKE A BREAK FROM THE INTERSTATE WITH FREE TRAVEL APP

AUSTIN, Texas—Millions of drivers will travel along the Interstate 35 corridor in Texas this holiday season. The Texas Historical Commission's (THC) new mobile tour, "Town Square Walk Around," offers travelers a fun opportunity to take a break from the interstate and explore

13 historic Texas cities between Gainesville and Laredo.

The tour highlights a range of intriguing features and architecture by examining three types of town layouts—Spanish plaza, railroad, and courthouse. While each community is unique, users can discover common patterns and characteristics shared between the cities, which range in population from 2,800 to almost 2 million. Through the tour, users walk around the town squares, main streets, and plazas of the historic towns, revealing their beginning and evolution into the walkable cultural landscape of today through multimedia features.

"Town Square Walk Around" is free and available for download on Android or iOS devices, and the THC's travel website textastimetravel.com/get-guides. The tour joins the THC's suite of mobile tours that includes "African Americans in Texas: A Lasting Legacy," "Hispanic Texans: Journey from Empire to Democracy," "Historic Bankhead Highway," "La Salle Odyssey," "Red River War of 1874-1875," and "World War II on the Texas Home Front," leading visitors to hundreds of historic sites across all 10 regions of the Texas Heritage Trails Program.

WORKSHOPS CONNECT MUSEUMS TO AUDIENCES

AUSTIN, Texas—Texas is home to more than 950 local history museums that are dedicated to telling the story of a community's unique history. The Texas Historical Commission's (THC) Museum Services program provides training and assistance for small history museums so they may stay up-to-date on best practices and continue to

attract visitors. An upcoming workshop hosted by the THC and the Texas Association of Museums, "Understanding Audiences and Visitors," will travel to several cities throughout Texas this winter and spring.

Designed for museum marketing, development, and membership staff, plus those who interact with the public, the workshop will help participants learn how to assess their current audience, and identify and attract future audiences. Through a combination of presentations and hands-on activities, the workshop will address ways to measure audiences, identify and target future audiences, and leverage free or low-cost resources. Participants can bring audience and visitor data collected during the previous year and U.S. Census Bureau information from their community for use in a customized lesson demonstration.

Registration is now open for the following workshops at texasmuseums.org/education.html:

- December 4—Brazoria County Historical Museum, Angleton (registration deadline December 1)

- February 5—John E. Conner Museum, Texas A&M University, Kingsville (registration deadline February 2)

- March 16—Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso (registration deadline March 14)

The workshop fee is \$35. For more information, call the THC's Museum Services Program staff at 512-463-5853 or visit thc.state.tx.us/museumtraining.

A Free Concert!

"IT'S ALL ABOUT CHRISTMAS"

If you want to feel and enjoy the spirit of Christmas early, make plans to attend the free public concert of beautiful winter holiday music performed by our Big Country's premier adult show choir, Celebration Singers, in Abilene's historic Paramount Theater. The curtain opens with sounds of the season at 7:00 pm on Friday, December 4th. No advance reservations or tickets are needed. There is plenty of free and convenient parking available.

"It's All About Christmas" will feature a classic collection of sacred and secular selections including "Sing We Now of Christmas", "White Christmas Medley" (songs from the movie), "Five Favorite Holiday Songs" (done in different musical styles), the cantata "Love Came Down at Christmas", the hilarious "Grandma's Killer Fruitcake", special group numbers and many more Yuletide tunes.

Celebration Singers is a nonprofit charitable organization that has entertained Big Country audiences for 18 years. The performers are 50 talented singers and musicians selected by invitation and audition from all around the Big Country. All are non-paid volunteers who practice weekly and freely contribute their vocal and musical gifts. The group performs annual spring and winter concerts in the royally restored Paramount Theater as well as programs throughout the year at other area venues. The website is

www.celebrationsingersabilene.com.

The distinguished Director, Betty Ann Blackburn, is a renown professional who has appeared in every major concert hall in the USA, including New York's Lincoln Center, and abroad in concerts at Paris, Frankfurt and the World Trade Fair. She has performed twice for Presidents at the White House, toured Europe with legendary international entertainers, made many national television appearances, and performed with the Abilene Philharmonic, Abilene Opera and Abilene Collegiate Opera. Mrs. Blackburn has been staff accompanist with the Hardin-Simmons University vocal department for many years. She is also music director for Dyess Air Force Base Chapel.

Regular patrons seldom miss a Celebration Singers performance. New patrons always enjoy the excellent concerts and enthusiastically return for the next show. Choral music lovers everywhere proudly, profoundly and perennially proclaim: "MUSIC IS WHAT FEELINGS SOUND LIKE."

and "MUSIC GETS YOU THROUGH HARD TIMES, HELPS HEAL YOUR HEART, IS ALWAYS THERE ON GOOD DAYS AND NEVER LEAVES YOU ON BAD DAYS."

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Round Up your Atmos bill to help families have warm & safe winter

DALLAS - (December 1, 2015) - Atmos Energy encourages customers to make a difference this holiday season to help your neighbors stay warm and safe this winter. By rounding up your natural gas bill, which amounts to only pennies a month, you can truly embrace the season of giving this year.

"Last year, we assisted approximately 10,000 customers with their natural gas bills," said Dan Alderson, Atmos Energy director of energy assistance. "There is even a greater need for energy assistance this year. If all of our three million customers rounded up their bill then we could assist 90,000 customers in need."

Atmos Energy's Sharing the Warmth program provides funds to local assistance agencies to help the elderly, disabled, veterans and families in need pay their natural gas bills. This community program, supported by our employees, shareholders contributions and matching funds, truly makes a difference throughout the communities we serve. Your entire contribution goes directly to keeping your neighbors warm.

"Rounding up your bill is simple and easy! If your total bill is \$22.80 then 20 cents would go toward our Sharing the Warmth program," said Dan Alderson.

To round up your bill or make a donation online, click here

or log on to the Atmos Energy account center. Please visit www.atmosenergy.com/share for more information.

About Atmos Energy
Atmos Energy Corporation, headquartered in Dallas, is one of the country's largest natural-gas-only distributors, serving more than 3 million natural gas distribution customers in about 1,400 communities in eight states from the Blue Ridge Mountains in the East to the Rocky Mountains in the West. Atmos Energy manages company-owned natural gas pipeline and storage assets, including one of the largest intrastate natural gas pipeline systems in Texas and also provides natural gas marketing and procurement services to industrial, commercial and municipal customers primarily in the Midwest and Southeast. For more information, visit www.atmosenergy.com. Atmos Energy can also be accessed through social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

Cross Plains Review

12

Nov. 26, 2015



Brian Campbell Fundraiser deemed great success by organizers

On Sunday, November 15th the communities of Clyde, Baird and elsewhere came together to raise funds for one of our own, Officer Brian Campbell to help with his fight against Cancer.

The Fundraiser for Brian Campbell was a huge success. Brian and a lot of his family and friends were on hand to visit with everyone at the fundraiser and they have asked again to pass along their sincerest and most heartfelt appreciation for everything which has been done and the love and support Brian has received from everyone.

The Christian Life Center of the First Baptist Church in Clyde was the epicenter of the amazing event.

Those Guys Bar-B-Q, along with T's Custom Smoking Bar-b-Q smoked and chopped thirteen briskets for the event and all the food was great.

Organizers would like to

thank all the businesses and individuals who gave so freely of themselves. They contributed, donated and or volunteered for such a good cause. To help the Brian Campbell Fundraiser be the success that it was. They were Thrifty's Food Mart, Those Guys BBQ, T's Custom Smoking Barbeque, the Rutherford's, the McWhorters, the Kerrs, the Harbers, the Browns, the Men of Clyde, the Clyde High School Students, the Clyde Journal, the Thumb Print, the Doss', Shady Oaks Country Club, Clyde Police Department, Dipstick's Tire and Lube, First Baptist Church, Clyde Hardware, RDA Graphics and Sportswear, Outback Steakhouse, Texas Roadhouse, Clyde Subway, Primetime, Schlotzski's, Red Robin, Hair Virgil, Maellos, Items Unique, The Warehouse in Clyde, Anonymous, the Treasure Chest, Hanner

Chevrolet, the Kelly's, Chicken Express, Cinemark Theaters, Bailey-Howard Funeral Home, Robin Jasso, the Sargents, Clyde Super Clean Carwash, Reel Action Video, Chelsea Street Pub, Nicole Crocker, Cuts by Nicole, Premier Movie Theaters, the Tuckers, Abilene Sales, Malcomb Supply, Ginger Vinson, Shanna Presley, Although Clark, Tonya McCleaf, Christy at Avanti, and Happy Trails Rustic Western Furniture.

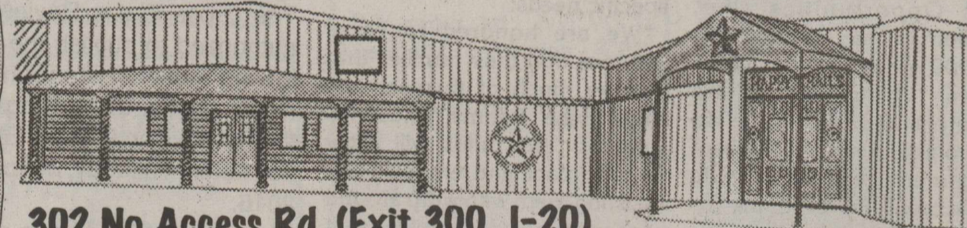
Last, but certainly not least organizers of this fundraiser would like to thank all the businesses and individuals who came to the fundraiser and bid on all the goodies which were up for grabs in the silent auction. Again, Brian, Brian's Family, Friends and organizers would like to thank everyone who participated in this fundraiser for helping to make it such a wonderful success!

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 - Medium Item: \$1.50
 - Large Item: \$3.00
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Callahan County's jobless rate rises to 4.3% in October 2015

The unemployment rate in Callahan County increased one-tenth of one percent to 4.3% in October 2015, according to jobless figures released Friday, November 20th by the Texas Workforce Commission. The unemployment rate in Callahan County one year ago in October 2014 was 3.6 percent.

Callahan County's unemployment rate was 4.2% in September, 2015.

Previous monthly jobless rates in Callahan County included: 4.3% in August 2015, 4.4% in July, 4.0% in June, 3.9% in May, 3.7% in April, 4.1% in March, 4.0% in February, 4.1% in January 2015, 3.1% in December 2014, 3.4% in November 2014, 3.6% in October 2014, according to the unemployment figures.

Big Country area counties, bordering Callahan County, and the counties' unemployment rates for October 2015 include: Brown, 4.5%; Coleman, 5.6%; Eastland, 4.9%; Jones, 5.7%; Runnels, 3.6%; Shackelford, 2.8%; Stephens, 4.2%; and Taylor County, 3.7%.

The Abilene MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) unemployment rate, which includes Taylor, Callahan and Jones Counties, stood at 3.9% in October, 2015, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. The Abilene MSA Combined Labor Force is 75,300. There were 72,400 employed during October 2015, while 2,900 were unemployed, giving the Abilene MSA an unemployment rate of 3.9%.

The Abilene MSA reported the workforce was 75,500 in September, 2015. Total employment of 72,600 was reported in September 2015, while 2,900, or 3.8% were unemployed in September 2015.

The Abilene MSA unemployment rate for October, 2014 was 3.9%. The total workforce was reported at 77,100, with 74,100 employed and 3,000 or 3.9% unemployed in October, 2014.

The state's unemployment rate for the month of October, 2015 was 4.5 percent. The total Texas labor force was 13,070,800 in October 2015. The total number of Texans employed is 12,486,400. The total number of unemployed Texans was 584,400 in October 2015.

Last month's statewide unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in September 2015. The state's unemployment rate in October of 2014 was 4.5 percent.

The United States unemploy-

UNEMPLOYMENT

Callahan County Unemployment	Sept.	Oct.
	4.2%	4.3%

ment rate for October, 2015 was 4.8 percent. The nation's unemployment rate for the previous month of September, 2015 was 4.9%. The United States unemployment rate one year ago in October, 2014 was 5.5%.

Highlights of the Texas Labor Force (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The Texas unemployment rate in October increased by one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.5 percent. This matched last year's October unemployment rate. Over the previous five years, the unemployment rate declined by an average of three-tenths of a percentage point between September and October. The national unemployment rate decreased by one-tenth of a percentage point over the month to 4.8 percent. The Texas unemployment rate has remained below the national unemployment rate since December 2006.

The Civilian Labor Force increased by 25,400 to a total of 13,070,800 people. The past three months have shown a total decrease in the labor force of 11,300 people. Over the year, the Texas labor force has contracted by 138,000 people.

The number of employed Texans increased by 8,800 over the month to a total of 12,486,400 people.

Over the previous five years, the number of employed Texans increased by an average of 36,920 people in the month of October. The number of jobholders has decreased by 121,700 over the year.

The number of unemployed people increased in October by 16,600 to a total of 584,400 people.

Over the previous five years, the number of unemployed people decreased by an average of 28,100 in the month of October. Since October of last year, the number of unemployed people has dropped by 16,300 individuals.

Between September and October, the unemployment rate

increased in nineteen Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) in Texas and remained unchanged in six. The Amarillo MSA had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.2 percent.

The number of Texans continuing to seek unemployment insurance benefits fell by 6,402 over the month to 128,334 people. Over the year, the number of individuals seeking unemployment insurance benefits has increased by 28,907 claimants.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATE

Natera Moving to Austin
AUSTIN, TX (Austin Business Journal)—A California-based genetics testing company is putting its imprint on Austin's economic DNA. Natera Inc. will open its first offices outside of Northern California next year and bring as many as 400 jobs to the Austin area in the next several years. About 93,000 square feet—roughly the size of a large grocery store—will be the facility size in northeast Austin.

The San Carlos, California-based company's product line includes several reproductive tests, including prenatal screening for genetic abnormalities. The company also offers paternity determination tests and is working on cancer screening diagnostics. "We've expanded several times in San Francisco and Silicon Valley and now we want to support our East Coast (customers) from a timing standpoint," said Damon Silvestry, director of operations for Natera.

"There's a natural affinity for Austin. The culture here mirrors that of our home office," he added. Natera looked at about 20 cities in 10 states in the course of a year before selecting Austin.

Amazon Opening Sorting Center

SAN ANTONIO, TX (San Antonio Express-News)—Amazon.com is opening a "sortation center" in San Antonio designed to cut delivery times and en-

sure Sunday delivery for city residents. The retail giant is leasing a large warehouse on the West Side of San Antonio about two miles northwest of the Port of San Antonio—its first operations facility in the city, company spokeswoman Ashley Robinson said. The facility will create hundreds of jobs that will sort packages from Amazon fulfillment centers, such as the one in Schertz and another set to open in San Marcos.

According to Robinson, Sortation centers, which Amazon launched last year, are designed to reduce delivery time and to allow the company to make Sunday deliveries.

Wheel Marker HQ to Move Near Race Track

AUSTIN, TX (Austin American Statesman)—Signs across the street from the Circuit of Americas F1 race track are up indicating that Finspeed will have its future home at that location. The company known mostly for its stunning-looking high performance wheels will occupy the 25-acre plot, and is moving its entire company to the Austin area. Finspeed plans on having the company out of Missouri this month. Owner Daniel Finke plans to build a 50,000-square-foot production facility southeast of Austin that could employ 100 to 150 people. A research and development arm in Pflugerville could also employ 25 additional staff members as the company sets up temporary operations.

AT&T Announces 850 More Texas Jobs

DALLAS, TX (Houston Business Journal)—AT&T announced that the company will hire 850 workers in Texas in the near future. Most positions will be for call centers, technicians, and in retail. AT&T president Dave Nicholas indicated the new employees will be for handling infrastructure and dealing with customers. The jobs are a result of the company's more than \$6.8 billion invested in Texas wireless and wireline networks from 2012 through 2014 that drove a wide range of product upgrades for residents and business customers.

More than 37,000 people in Texas work for AT&T and the company hired more than 4,775 Texans for call center, retail, technician, and other positions in the first nine months of 2015.

TxDOT approves November Proposition 1 projects

AUSTIN - The Texas Transportation Commission today approved nine roadway improvement projects using Proposition 1 funding. The projects, totaling almost \$437 million worth of roadway construction, rehabilitation and restoration, will enhance the safety, mobility and connectivity in our state. Commissioners have now approved final contract awards on 131 of the approximately 200 planned Proposition 1 projects across the state.

"The Commission and TxDOT continue to deliver needed transportation projects that will greatly benefit Texas drivers and the state's economy," said TxDOT Executive Director LtGen Joe Weber, USMC (Ret). "The message from community leaders and local planning organizations, as well as the message sent by voters when they approved Proposition 1 last November, is that transportation concerns must be addressed in a manner that is both efficient and effective. Our efforts continue to prove we hear and understand that message."

Proposition 1, which dedicates a portion of oil and gas tax revenue to the state highway fund, was approved last November by Texas voters. The 200 planned Proposition 1 projects will result in more than 800 miles of rehabilitated highways; nearly 500 miles of new highway lanes; 114 bridges replaced, widened or rehabilitated; and an additional 159 miles of passing lanes on rural highways. Metropolitan

Planning Organizations and TxDOT districts worked together and with the public to formulate the list of projects.

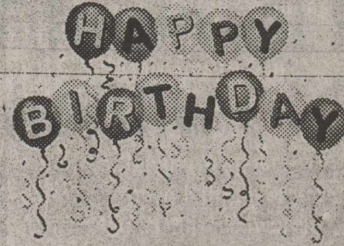
Many TxDOT districts plan to use maintenance funds to repair or rehabilitate highways affected by production in energy sectors. These funds, along with Proposition 1 funds specifically allocated for energy sector needs, will allow projects in impacted areas to receive nearly 30 percent of total 2015 Proposition 1 funding.

In addition to addressing congestion, Proposition 1 funding also addresses safety. Over the past five years, there were 248 fatalities and more than 23,000 crashes on the highway segments where these Proposition 1 funded projects are located. The work planned in these areas is designed to enhance safety for drivers and reduce the number of crashes, fatalities and injuries.

For more information, contact TxDOT Media Relations at MediaRelations@txdot.gov or (512) 463-8700.

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 12,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best in Class state agency.

When our money is tight, home town shopping is right!



November 22

Clark Don Baugh
Nicky Hal Harris
Ophelia Merrill
Dick Thrasher
Jennifer Young
Mrs. Harvey (Pat) King

November 23

Mary Diane Nunn
Betty (Purvis) Prall
Russell Thomas
Barbara Jean Walker
Brenda Walker
Jewel Hutchins
Becky Coppinger
John V. Hanke
James Hessesay
Joel Thomas Hinten
Brandon Horton
Ashley Marie Hall

November 24

Linda Strength
Lee Reynolds
Debbie (Cavanaugh) Waggoner

November 25

Breck Cade Crawford
Connie G. Griffith
Coby Ryan Ritchards
Johnathan Blake Dunn
Tristan Potter Hargrove
Ricky Wheeler
Paul Whitton, Jr.
Leo Franke
Joan Hamrick
Anthony Newman
Babbie Darlene Harris
Jack Neeb

November 26

Marcus Walton Williams
Travis Golson
Margaret Jordan
Carolyn Jean White
Mrs. Scott Edington
Jeanne Wagner
Joyce Klingberg
Kaci (Duke) Edwards
Norma Goble
Andy Anderson
Teresa (Balkum) Glasscock

November 27

Taylor Parker
Toney Kemp
Merry Smith
Hazel Lee
Dr. Weldon Newton
Morris Belew
Sue (Gardner) Bunn
Mrs. Hester Sullens
Bill Cohn
Paul Matthew Sowell
Darrel Chastain
Dale Porter
Emma Lou Corley

November 28

Eddie Flippin
Joan Brown
Jody Brown
Roxie Fletcher
Cady Miranda Taylor
Drue Eans
Mary Penninger
Sean Alan Branham
Perry Neal Clyatt
Robert Lawrence
Eddie Smith
Jessie Ellerbe

November 29

Janet Whitley
Charles Payne
Alan Neil Byrd
Mrs. Dora Lilly
Randle Franke
Michael Mobley
Mike Walker
Cody Zane Knowles
John Fred McWilliams

November 30

Donald Hargrove
Julie Watson
Paula Ann (Wright) Winfrey
Mrs. Bill (Nita) Hines
Denise (Flippin) Hubbard
Vernette Rhodes
Justin D. Hopkins
Saul Reyes
Ashley Broadus

December 1

Mark Bland
Jerry Whiteside
Craig (Penrod) Rogers
Darrell Lynn Dillard
Pamela McCowen
Stephen Farmer
Wilda Holland
Vanda (Livingston) Robinson
Jennifer Lee
Dustyn Lee

December 2

Pat (Vaughn) Phillips
Marilyn Maria Perry
William Johnson
Jessica Hernandez
Rex Lee Beggs
John Long
Benny Callaway
Darrell Collier
Tracy (Erwin) Terrill

December 3

Amanda Dunaway
Jeremy Box
Mary Frances Walker
Dana Jean Dimitri
Mrs. J.D. Moore
Bobby Porter
Darin Apple
Raymond F. Sifuentes Jr.

December 4

James Dixon
Lynn Hutton
Michael Duan Franke
Paul Perkins
Rhonda W. Crawford
Wayne Bishop
Scott Odom
Judy Casey
Clifton Bay Kirkham
Shelby J. McWilliams
Royce Atchley

December 5

R.T. Peevy
Christy Rene Spooe
Bobby Harris
Darwin Breeding
Annett Roberts
Kathy Sohns
Jenna Kay Teague
Cheryle (Franke) Hollis
Jimmy Glenn Kelly
Mary Ann Reed
Mindy Melissa Watson
Jeffery Calhoun
Delany (Ames) Golson
Britton Dukes



Cross Plains Review

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Nov. 26, 2015

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Farm Credit Bank of Texas surpasses \$19 billion in assets

AUSTIN, Texas - Farm Credit Bank of Texas (FCBT), a cooperatively owned wholesale funding bank that serves agriculture and rural communities, reported strong asset growth and credit quality in the third quarter of 2015.

Total assets were a record \$19.4 billion at Sept. 30, 2015, compared with \$18.0 billion at the end of 2014, reflecting growth in the bank's loan and investment portfolios. Total loan volume of \$14.4 billion reflected an increase of \$470.6 million, or 3.4 percent, in the quarter and \$1.1 billion, or 8.6 percent, in the first nine months of the year.

Credit quality remained strong, with 98.7 percent of the bank's loans classified as acceptable or special mention at the end of the quarter. Non-accrual loans totaled \$2.6 million, a 65 percent decrease year over year. As a result of the strong credit quality, the provision for credit losses was reflected as a loan loss reversal of \$1.6 million for the first nine months of the year.

The bank provides funding and operational support to retail lending cooperatives that serve farmers, ranchers, agribusinesses, and rural homeowners and landowners. It also provides capital and liquidity for food, agribusiness, energy and rural infrastructure companies. Both portfolios saw loan growth in the third quarter.

"We are very pleased that our affiliated lenders are adding new borrower-stockholders while continuing to serve their existing members," said Larry Doyle, FCBT chief executive officer. "We also are seeing

positive activity in the bank's capital markets loan portfolio."

The bank reported net interest income of \$56.2 million and \$172.4 million for the three months and nine months ended Sept. 30, 2015, compared with \$59.6 million and \$167.7 million for the same periods in 2014. Net income was \$46.7 million and \$144.9 million for the three months and nine months ended Sept. 30, 2015, compared with \$55.1 million and \$146.4 million for those periods in 2014. Although the bank experienced growth in its loan and investment portfolios, the effects of compressed interest rate spreads on the bank's earning assets, a decrease in loan loss reversals and an increase in non-interest expenses resulted in a decrease in net income.

The bank's strong capital and liquidity levels exceed the requirements set by its federal regulator, the Farm Credit Administration. As of Sept. 30, 2015, the bank had a 17.7 percent permanent capital ratio and \$1.6 billion in shareholders' equity. Cash and investments totaled \$4.8 billion, providing 195 days of liquidity.

Agricultural producers in the bank's five-state territory had adequate moisture due to late spring and early summer rains. Improved pasture and range conditions and historically strong cattle prices contributed to the first increase in cattle inventory since 2006. In addition, livestock, dairy and poultry producers benefited from reduced feed prices. Despite hot and dry summer conditions in some areas, crops were in fair to

good condition during the harvest at the end of the third quarter. Crop and livestock producers continue to use risk management tools that provide protection from volatility in the weather, production costs and commodity markets.

"While there was some variation in crop and ranching conditions in the third quarter, producers are doing a good job of meeting the challenges," said Jimmy Dodson, FCBT board chairman. "Growth in the diversified loan portfolios of the bank and our affiliated lenders demonstrate our continued dedication to serving agriculture."

The bank is owned by 14 rural financing cooperatives in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico and Texas, which in turn are owned by their borrowers. Together, the Austin-based bank and its affiliated lenders compose the Texas Farm Credit District of the Farm Credit System. The district continues to maintain strong credit quality, appropriate collateralization, adequate levels of capital and well-balanced portfolio diversification.

Collectively, the district lenders reported loan volume of \$20.5 billion at Sept. 30, 2015, an increase of \$533.5 million, or 2.7 percent, in the quarter and \$1.2 billion, or 6.1 percent, in the first nine months of the year. Credit quality remained strong, with 98.6 percent of district loans classified as acceptable or special mention.

The district's combined net interest income increased to \$172.9 million and \$514.3 million for the three months and nine months ended Sept. 30, 2015, compared with \$167.5 million and \$487.2 million in the same periods of 2014. District lenders reported \$105.6 million and \$316.4 million in combined net income for those periods in 2015, compared with \$136.6 million and \$360.0 million in the same periods in 2014. The decrease in net income included the effects of a decrease in loan loss reversals and increased non-interest expenses related to employee compensation, retirement expenses, technology enhancements and other expenses associated with increased loan activities, offset by increased net interest income.

The results discussed herein are preliminary and unaudited. The bank's financial statements and the combined statements of the Texas District for the quarter ended Sept. 30, 2015, are expected to be available on or about Nov. 9, 2015.

The Farm Credit System is a nationwide network of cooperatives and the country's largest source of financing for agriculture and rural America. Nationally, the System reported combined net income of \$1.2 billion and \$3.5 billion for the three-month and nine-month periods ended Sept. 30, 2015, compared with \$1.2 billion and \$3.6 billion for the same periods in 2014.

US Gypsum Sweetwater plant honored at Texas Workforce Conference

Abilene, Texas— The United States Gypsum Co. (USG) Sweetwater Plant received the Employer Award of Excellence for the Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas area at the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) 19th Annual Workforce Conference held in Dallas. The Employer Award of Excellence honors employers that are actively involved with their local workforce board and have a positive impact on employers, workers and the community.

The United States Gypsum Co. (USG) began operations in 1924 in Sweetwater, Texas, making it one of the community's major employers for over 90 years. USG is North America's leading producer and distributor of gypsum wallboard, joint compound and vast array of related products. USG has been committed to engaging employees and promoting leadership at every level. The Sweetwater Plant is a nationally recognized leader in industrial safety and recently surpassed 3,000,000 work hours without a lost day work incident. USG strongly believes in "growing their own" workers as evidenced by their involvement with local ISDs from elementary to high school, active support of chamber of commerce leadership development programs and summer employment programs for employees' children. The Plant's excellent internship program for university engineering students has resulted in commitments from three of their five current interns to accept full-time employment after graduation. Current employees participate in the Operator Rate System, which rewards employees for learning more skills with promotions



GYPSUM PLANT HONORED—The U.S. Gypsum Sweetwater plant was recently honored at the Texas Workforce Conference. Pictured L to R Back row...Brenda Church, Garolyn Jergins, Steve Collins -Board Staff Front row.. Robert Puls Board Staff, Jeff Grimland-Plant Mgr., Gary Jones-Regional HR Mgr., Mary Ross-Executive Director Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas.

and pay increases. This has resulted in a more flexible, knowledgeable workforce and higher employee satisfaction.

TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton said "These exemplary employers recognize the importance of establishing strong collaborations with the workforce system, which in turn helps them grow their businesses and contribute to the local economy, develop a skilled well-paid workforce and accomplish great things in the area they call home. I congratulate USG and Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas for their partnership and service to the workers of Texas.

Questions regarding this event may be directed to Steve Collins, Business Resources

Consultant, for the West Central Texas Workforce Board, at 325-795-4304 or by e-mail to steve.collins@workforcesystem.org.

The Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas Board is one of 28 boards in the state charged with oversight and policy-making responsibility for workforce and training programs in a nineteen county region. Additional information on the Board's economic development efforts or services for business customers may be obtained by calling the Workforce Board at (325) 795-4200 or by visiting the website at www.workforcesystem.org. Equal Opportunity Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available, upon request, to individuals with disabilities.

Passing of Proposition 7 moves a portion of state sales tax, vehicle sales tax to highway fund

AUSTIN - The approval of Proposition 7 (Prop. 7) on Tuesday, November 3rd by Texas voters is further evidence that transportation is an essential priority for citizens of the state. The overwhelming majority (more than 80 percent) of votes cast in support of Prop. 7 added momentum toward establishing reliable funding to meet continually growing transportation needs.

"We are grateful to Governor Abbott and the Legislature for making transportation a priority and giving Texans a chance to approve this measure that will ultimately help all of us get around our great state much easier," said Texas Transportation Commission Chairman Tryon Lewis. "Now that the people of Texas have spoken, the Texas Transportation Commission stands ready to work with local leaders, communities and planning organizations to deliver roadway projects that are needed to ease congestion, address safety and maintain our extensive transportation system."

The additional funding from Prop. 7 will enable TxDOT to put a greater focus on infrastructure improvements without new taxes, tolls, fees or debt. Start-

ing in 2018, once state sales tax revenue exceeds \$28 billion in a fiscal year, the next \$2.5 billion of revenue will be directed to the State Highway Fund. Then, beginning in 2020, 35 percent of the state motor vehicle sales and rental tax revenue in excess of \$5 billion will be directed to the State Highway Fund.

"Texans want and deserve a safe, first class highway system," said State Senate Transportation Chairman Robert Nichols. "Voters have made an investment in our state's economic future by supporting Proposition 7 and ensuring our state's highway system will be able to keep up with our increasing population and booming economy. With this funding, TxDOT will have a predictable revenue stream with which they will be able to implement long-range transportation plans for our state."

As voters entrust more fund-

ing to highways, TxDOT continues its commitment to delivering needed roadway projects. Since last November when voters approved Proposition 1, which added a portion of state oil/gas taxes to the highway fund, TxDOT has awarded more than 125 projects to help ease congestion, maintain our system and improve the safety of roadways across Texas.

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 12,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best in Class state agency. Find out more at txdot.gov.

Commissioners reinstate Countywide Burn Ban

The Callahan County Commissioners voted to reinstate the Countywide Burn Ban during the commissioners' court meeting held Monday, November 23rd at the County Courthouse in Baird.

On a motion by Commissioner Harold Hicks and a second from Commissioner Cliff Kirkham, the commissioners' court voted 5-0 to reinstate the Countywide Burn Ban effective immediately.

Other agenda items brought before the commissioners' court included:

—The Meeting of the Commissioners' Court was held at its regular meeting place in the Courthouse on November 23, 2015 A.D., with the following officers present to wit: Roger Corn, County Judge; Bryan Farmer, Commissioner Precinct No. 2; Tom Windham, Commissioner Precinct No. 3; Cliff Kirkham, Commissioner Precinct No. 4; Jan Windham, County Treasurer; and Donna Bell, County Clerk. Also attending the meeting were Sheriff Terry Joy and Chief Deputy Rick Jowers.

—The meeting was called to order at 9:31 by Judge Corn with all commissioners present.

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

—Under public comments, Jane Holmes announced that she is resigning as Republican

Chairwoman and that Angie Campbell is taking the position.

—Sheriff Terry Joy presented the November 2015 Sheriff's Report and the current jail population report. After some discussion, Commissioner Farmer made a motion to accept the reports. Commissioner Windham seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

—Commissioner Windham made a motion to accept the overtime report presented by the County Treasurer. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

—There was discussion only on the Courthouse renovation. No action was taken.

—Commissioner Windham made a motion to keep the County Retirement Plan with TCDRS as is, with no changes. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

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

—Commissioner Windham made the motion to adjourn the commissioners' court meeting at 10:15 a.m. Commissioner Kirkham seconded the motion and the motion passed with an unanimous 5-0 vote.

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