

## Softball

**HASKELL**  
JV-V vs Windthorst  
Tues., Feb. 23  
at Windthorst

## Baseball

**HASKELL**  
Haskell vs Albany  
Fri., Feb. 19, 4 p.m.  
Scrimmage at Baird

## Calendar

### Bass Club

The Haskell Bass Club will meet Thurs., Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Haskell National Bank Community Room. For more information, call Brad at 940-200-0481.

### Study Club

The Progressive Study Club will meet Thurs., Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Haskell National Bank Community Room for a book review, "Twelve Mighty Orphans," presented by Cheryl Lewis. This program was rescheduled due to last week's bad weather. National Heart Month will be observed by the club. Guests are welcome.

### Chamber banquet

The Haskell Chamber of Commerce will host their annual banquet Mon., Feb. 22 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Civic Center. The fifth grade choir will perform and political candidates will speak. Tickets sold in advance are \$10 and will include a meal. Tickets at the door are \$10 with limited meals available. Contact the Chamber office Mon.-Fri. from 9 to 1 to purchase tickets.

### Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., Feb. 20 from 10 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. at 206 S. 2nd (building east of Civic Center) in Haskell.

### Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., Feb. 20 from 10 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Rule. Volunteers are welcome.

### ECC dinner

The Experienced Citizens Center of Haskell will host a fund-raising dinner Sun., Feb. 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the center. The menu will be chicken and dressing, cranberries, giblet gravy, green beans, yeast rolls, peach cobbler and tea or coffee. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for ages 13 and up and under 13 free.

### Report cards

Parents/guardians of Rule School K-12 students are encouraged to come to the school Mon., Feb. 22 to pick up their children's fourth six weeks report card. Teachers will be in their classrooms from 3:05 to 5 p.m. to discuss their student's progress. For more information, contact the Rule ISD principal's office at 997-2246.

### Celebrate Texas

Celebrate Texas Independence Haskell County Style will be held Sat., March 6 around the Haskell courthouse square from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lots of displays, reenactments groups and vendors will be available.

## Index

Obituaries..... Page 2  
Out of the Past.... Page 4  
Menus ..... Page 8  
Classifieds..... Page 9

# Early voting for March 2nd primary underway

# The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 124-NO. 7, ©FEBRUARY 18, 2010

"The People's Choice"

10 PAGES-ONE SECTION-75 CENTS



**FEBRUARY SNOW**—Much of the area experienced more snow Thurs. Feb. 11, closing schools and the courthouse. Travel was troublesome during the day, but the white stuff made a quick exit on Friday as temperatures moved up the thermometer. Varying amounts of up to 3 inches were reported.

## New book dedicated to County's pioneers

The Haskell County Historical and Genealogical Society is pleased to announce the publication of its book, Haskell County, in Arcadia Publishing's Images of America Series.

The book is dedicated to Haskell County pioneers who established roots on the open West Texas prairie and set our place in history. The book has been a year long project and could not have been completed without the generous contribution of photographs and stories from residents of Haskell County.

The Genealogical Society is greatly indebted to authors who have gone before us in chronicling Haskell County history and to individuals who have faithfully preserved decades of articles, photographs, church

bulletins, school programs and other memorabilia. Due to editorial constraints every photograph submitted, could not be published, but it is believed a cross-section of county history has been collected that all will enjoy.

The Society very much wanted the material to represent areas from throughout the county. If you grew up in Haskell County or have had family who built a life on this prairie, you will find the book of much interest.

When the Haskell County Historical and Genealogical Society was founded, the preservation of historic photographs was a primary goal of its members. This project seemed a great opportunity to honor and preserve that vision.

The book contains over 200 images, many of them

never before published. There are photographs of over 40 country schools, many church scenes, farming/ranching photos, activities, historic figures and places that have been a part of our lives for over 100 years, some of which are no longer standing.

The accompanying captions contain much history of the area and its people. Not meant to be an in-depth study, this publication features high quality photographs that capture a people and a place in time.

As Historical Society member Susan Turner put it, "It is our hope that through these images we may recall our shared place in history, the challenges we have faced together, and the blessings of our Creator, none more

appreciated than neighbors who stood beside each other and together made possible this life we love on the West Texas prairie. We especially hope this book will encourage families to search out other photographs and stories, preserving other chapters in Haskell County history."

The book will soon be available in local businesses, or from any Haskell County Historical and Genealogical Society member. Proceeds from books purchased from the society members go to benefit historical preservation in Haskell County. A portion will be contributed to the planned memorial honoring veterans of Haskell County.

For more information contact Susan Turner at 940-742-3347 or email to s57\_turner@hotmail.com.

## Quilters undertake special project

by Caron Yates

You know the feeling you get when you hold one of the treasured, and perhaps worn, quilts made by your mother, grandmother or even great-grandmother? Well, there is a group in Haskell County that is keeping the art of quilt making alive.

The Willow Creek Quilting Guild has recently celebrated its first anniversary, since organizing in January 2009.

The club took its name after Willow Creek, located between Haskell and Rule. Its purpose is to preserve the heritage of quilting, to be a source of information and inspiration, to perpetrate a high quality of excellence in quilting and related arts and to be a gathering for people with a common interest in quilting.

The group meets the third Monday of each month about 6 p.m., at the Church of Christ annex. Members range from beginners to quite experienced, and they welcome anyone with an interest.

The group spends most of their working time on their own individual projects, however they recently undertook a very special project. Although they are not officially a civic

organization, they still have a desire to reach out and give back to their community. The members of the guild decided to come together and piece a quilt, that would be donated to the Haskell Fire Department. The Fire Department will be able to use the quilt as a fundraiser.

Mary Jennings of the guild said, "We felt the fire department is always willing and ready to help the people of this area, so we wanted to be able to help them." The quilt is called a Five and Dime Scrappy Quilt. Fabric was donated and pieced by the members of the quilters' guild, and then machine quilted by Joyce LeFevre of Sagerton. A minimum of ninety hours was spent working on the quilt. Pictures of the quilt will be posted in local businesses, and it will be on display at the Texas Independence Day celebration around the square on Mar. 6.

Jennings says that at their monthly meetings, they try to offer various classes and demonstrations, show and tell sessions and new techniques.

Jennings, who says she got interested in quilting after she retired from the Department

of Human Services, has taken on a personal quilting project as well. She makes lap quilts, usually with a patriotic theme, and sends them to an organization called Soldiers' Angels. They in turn distribute the quilts to patients at Veterans Administration, or VA hospitals. She estimates that she has made approximately

twenty-five, and is very pleased that a Haskell veteran, Joe Cothron, received one during his stay in a VA hospital.

Willow Creek Quilting Guild invites anyone with an interest in quilting to come enjoy expanding, as well as sharing their knowledge of quilting with others.



**DISPLAYS QUILT**—Haskell Asst. Fire Chief Felix Rodriguez, left, and Haskell Fire Chief Randy Shaw, far right, help members of the Willow Creek Quilting Guild display a quilt the group made to donate to the Fire Dept. Willow Creek Quilting Guild members making the presentation of the 'Five and Dime Scrappy Quilt' were, l-r, Judie Whitten, Dolores Medford, Jane Powers and Mary Jennings.

## Pick primary before you go to vote

by Caron Yates

Tuesday, March 2 is the date for both the Republican and Democratic primaries in Texas. Sharon Mullino, Haskell County Democratic Chairman, emphasizes that voters need to be aware that federal law prohibits citizens from voting in more than one party primary.

If there is a runoff election, voters who cast votes in the Republican primary may only vote in a Republican runoff, likewise those who voted in the Democratic primary are eligible to vote in the Democratic runoff. If a voter did not participate in the March 2 primary, he/she may vote in the runoff election of the party they choose.

Statewide, there are heavily contested races in both primaries. On the local level, most of the contested races will appear on the Democratic ticket, although the County Judge race, has both Democratic and Republican candidates.

Ballots by mail may be requested through Feb. 23, with early voting by personal appearance taking place Feb. 16 through Feb. 26. Early voting will be held at the courthouse, near the west end of the hallway, in the Crime Stoppers office.

County Clerk Rhonda Moeller, reminds voters that if you want your vote to count, you need to bring your voter registration cards with you when you come to vote. If you do not have your voter card, you must present some type of picture identification.

You, the voter, have the choice of voting in either the Democratic or Republican primary, but remember you must choose one or the other, not both.

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 940-864-2686

# Celebrate Texas Independence, Haskell Style set Sat., March 6

by **Caron Yates**  
Texas has a very colorful history. An important part of that history includes Mar. 2, 1836, better known as Texas Independence Day.

This is the day Texas adopted the Texas Declaration of Independence, declaring itself free from Mexico.

With that theme in mind, the Committee to Help Haskell County has planned a Celebrate Texas Independence Haskell County Style day.

Activities for the day, March 6, will begin at 10 a.m. with a flag raising ceremony conducted by the Haskell Boy Scouts, and will include a bugler from Ft. Griffin.

Events throughout the day will include a book signing by Wyman Meinzer, the official photographer of Texas. The Haskell Historical Society, will have available their new book for purchase. Story telling by a park ranger from

Cooper Breaks State Park will be a part of the day's activities.

Also around the square will be the HSU Six White Horses, Lone Star Ladies Horse Team, Old Time Pictures by Callie Sherman, Native American flintknapping, Drummer Boy Ice Cream Tent, as well as other vendors.

The Haskell Volunteer Fire Department will cook hamburgers. Reenactment groups with infantry and artillery from Ft. Griffin and Ft. Chadbourne will

perform. Music, including fiddle playing, is scheduled for the celebration.

The final event for the day will be the flag lowering ceremony at 3 p.m., also carried out by the Boy Scouts.

Texans have always been proud of their state and their heritage. Everyone is encouraged to take pride in their county as well, and come be a part of the full day of activities as we Celebrate Texas Independence, Haskell Style.

## Over the Rainbow music program to benefit Noah Project

On March 6, at the First United Methodist Church a program of music will

be held to benefit the Noah Project.

Musicians include local residents and a couple from Lubbock performing pieces of music, for the most part, that you have never heard them perform before.

A wide variety of performers has been chosen to perform. All have agreed to create this program for the enjoyment of those attending and to benefit the Noah Project which serves a five-county area in and around Haskell County.

A well known (appropriately well-dressed) local minister will be the master of ceremonies, and Noah himself is likely to make an appearance.

So after attending the "Celebrate Texas Independence Haskell County Style" on the square earlier in the day, plan to attend "Over the Rainbow for Noah" in the evening, enjoy the music and provide some support for the Noah Project at the same time.

The program begins at 6:30 p.m. The price of admission is your choice.



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# Obituaries

## Brenda Fernandez Masias



**BRENDA MASIAS**

Funeral services for Brenda Fernandez Masias, 50, of Haskell were held Sat., Feb. 13 at the Church of Christ in Haskell. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell. Rosary was held Fri., Feb. 12 at the funeral home.

Mrs. Masias went to be with Jesus Wed., Feb. 10, after a long hard battle with breast cancer.

Born April 25, 1959

in Kerrville, she was the daughter of Lorenzo Sr. and Juanita Fernandez. She attended school in Munday and married Frank Masias Jr. June 12, 1976. She resided in Munday for numerous years, later moving to Haskell. She was a dedicated wife, mother, sister, aunt and grandmother.

She was preceded in death by her father, Lorenzo D. Fernandez; mother, Juanita G. Fernandez; brother, Ramon Fernandez; sister, Meribel Fernandez; and nephew, Johnny Castillo Jr.

Survivors include her husband, Frank Masias Jr.; sons, Frankie Lee, Tim and wife Crystal, D.J.; daughters, Michelle Marie and husband Jason Sr. and Abigail LeeAnn; grandchildren, Jared Lee, Frankie Jr., Whitney, Gabriela, Oriana, Dafne, Aubriana, Jason Jr. and Teagan, all of Haskell; two step sons, Johnny Masias of Abilene and Frank Masias of Austin; brothers, Lorenzo Fernandez of Vernon, Felix

Fernandez of Munday, Joe Fernandez of Rochester, Tony Fernandez of Kerrville, Solano Fernandez of Abilene and Aldo Fernandez; sisters, Gregoria Tamez of Donna, Mary Guzman, Florinda Lopez, Melissa Fernandez, all of Lewisville, and Vickie De La Cruz of Haskell; nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

Pallbearers were Larry Auturo Arebales, Jai Fernandez, Chuckie Castillo, Mariah Fernandez, Dale Perez, Aldo Fernandez Jr., Roman Delacruz and Marc Fernandez.

Words to sum up the life of Brenda Fernandez Masias are wife, mother, sister, aunt and grandmother. You will live in our hearts forever.

The family would like to thank everyone for their support and especially Lonnie and Kim Meredith, Cindy Foster and Nancy Peiser. They were very special to my Mom (Brenda). Thank you dear friends.

PD. NOTICE

## Belinda Jane Miller



**BELINDA MILLER**

Funeral services for Belinda Jane Miller, 49, of Haskell were held Mon., Feb. 15 at East Side Baptist Church in Haskell. Burial

was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mrs. Miller passed away Fri., Feb. 12.

Born Sept. 13, 1960, she was the daughter of Verlon Trussell and Nadine Wright. She married Roy Miller Sept. 17, 1994 in Abilene. She was a member of Central Baptist Church.

Survivors include her parents; her husband, Roy Miller of Abilene; two sons, Jeremy Chilson and wife Jennifer of Denton and

Timothy Rhodes of Abilene; daughter, Shelly Walters and husband Robert of Cross Plains; two brothers, Darrell Trussell and wife Cindy of Abilene and Shane Trussell and wife Lisa of Abilene; sister, Leshia Cole and husband Don of Abilene; grandchildren, Jeremy Jr., Haylee Rhodes, Austin Rhodes, Alexis Rhodes and Tamera Craft; great grandchildren, Lindsey Craft, Logan Proctor and Corey Proctor; several nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

PD. NOTICE

# Texas prepaid college tuition enrollment deadline is Feb. 28

Families have until Feb. 28 to lock in college tuition and required fees at current rates for the state's public colleges.

"The Texas Tuition Promise Fund helps put higher education within reach for all families," Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said. "Whether it's a four-year degree or career training at a community college, saving for college will help our children gain the skills they need for well-paying jobs."

The state's pre-paid college tuition program allows families to prepay for undergraduate tuition and required fees. They can prepay for a four-year degree, a two-year degree or for just a few classes or semesters, at prices based on 2009-10 academic year costs for the

state's public colleges:

- Type I units, priced for tuition and required fees for up to the most expensive public four-year school in Texas, cost \$103.40 per unit.

- Type II units, priced at the weighted average of tuition and required fees across all Texas public four-year schools, cost \$71.75 per unit.

- Type III units, priced at the weighted average cost of tuition and required fees across all Texas public two-year schools, cost \$17.78 per unit.

Under the plan, 100 units equal one academic year of tuition and required fees. Families can buy up to six years (600 units) worth of undergraduate education. The plan offers several payment options, including lump-sum payments, pay-as-you go

or the installment payment option, which includes an annual interest rate.

While benefits are geared toward Texas public colleges and universities, the plan value can also be used toward the cost of private or out-of-state schools. Unused units can be transferred to another qualified beneficiary or refunded.

After Feb. 28, the Texas Tuition Promise fund will close enrollment until September, when the program will re-open with new contract prices based on college costs for the 2010-11 academic year.

For information about the prepaid tuition program, including a college cost calculator, go to [www.TuitionPromise.org](http://www.TuitionPromise.org) or call 800-445-GRAD (4723), Option 5.

**Re-Elect DAVID DAVIS for County Judge**

I am asking you to give me your vote either during the early voting period, February 16th to February 26th or Tuesday, March 2, 2010, so I can be on the ballot as a candidate for County Judge in the General Election, November 2010.

I want to continue to serve and work with the people of Haskell County. My roots in Haskell County go back for four generations. My parents, Joe and Joyce Davis, provided me an example of commitment and service to the community. The years prior to being elected County Judge, I served on the Haskell City Council, was a School Board Trustee, active with the Haskell Chamber of Commerce and volunteered with the Haskell Fire Department. For 20 years I was a local business owner. I have worked for and with the people of Haskell County in many and varied activities.

As your Judge, for the last 13 years, I have focused on what was best for our County, Cities and Communities, while ever mindful of what the people's needs are: stable County Government, appropriate use of County dollars, seeking job opportunities for the citizens and providing needed services to all.

**I need your vote to remain your County Judge**

PAID POLITICAL AD BY DONNA L. DAVIS, CAMPAIGN TREASURER

**ELECT Belia Abila for Haskell County Tax Assessor/Collector**

I am Belia Abila and I am running for the office of Tax/Assessor Collector. I am the daughter of Baldemar and Lupe Perez, mother of three children, sons Jose and John Adam and daughter, Cynthia, and grandmother of six. I am an active member of St. George Catholic Church. As a Haskell graduate and lifelong resident of Haskell County, I feel a need to continue being involved and serving my community to continue Haskell's commitment in making this the best place to live.

I worked for West Texas Utilities for 23 years and was employed for the last five years in the County Clerk's office. I was given the privilege to learn hands on the duties of Tax/Assessor Collector. I have first hand knowledge of the position's responsibilities, from voter registration, acting as the agent responsible for registration and licensing of motor vehicles of the county, and submitting required reports to the Secretary of the State's office.

I have worked hard in assisting Elaine Gomillion to insure all reports and duties of the position are maintained with the effectiveness Haskell residents deserve. I understand what it takes and would like an opportunity to serve Haskell County. I am asking for your vote on March 2nd to continue serving the residents of Haskell County.

Thank you for your support,  
Belia Abila

Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Belia Abila

# Museum hosts successful fund-raiser

Over 300 attended the Wichita Brazos Museum barbecue and fund-raiser, Sun., Feb. 7 at the Benjamin Ex-Students Building. This event is a huge help in paying for museum operations and supporting additional exhibits.

Every 30 minutes during the meal, winners of the more than 50 items donated for door prizes were announced. At 1:30 p.m., those bidding on the more than 95 silent auction items donated by businesses and individuals, closed with people picking

up the items and bid sheets to pay for them at the sales table.

After 1 p.m., remaining food sales began with a rush to the kitchen to take home some of the delicious barbecue, sausage, turkey, potato salad, coleslaw, beans, and those wonderful homemade pies. All of the deviled eggs were devoured.

Thanks go out to everyone who helped make the 2010 event a success, from buying a meal ticket to donating items; working at the building; helping to provide the dozens upon dozens of desserts and deviled eggs; helping cook the brisket,

sausage, and turkey; making salads; and the many monetary donations.

Once again the Knox County 4-H members helped guest fill their plates, get drinks, and escorted those needing help getting to a table. These 4-H members make it much easier for many people to plan to attend and all of Knox County can be proud for their service.

Best of all everyone seemed to enjoy lingering after the meal to visit with friends from all over Knox and surrounding counties. Many took the opportunity to visit the museum, open for the afternoon.

# Workshop helps with tips for detection of Alzheimer's

Current data suggests that less than 35 percent of people with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias have a diagnosis of the condition in their medical record (Boise et al., 2004; Boustani et al., 2005; Ganguli et al., 2004; Valcour et al. 2000). "In 2011, the first wave of baby boomers begins turning 65—the age that one's risk of developing Alzheimer's disease begins to increase significantly," said Mindy Bannister, Caseworker, of the North Central Texas Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. "Knowing the warning signs of Alzheimer's and getting diagnosed early is vital to receiving the best help and care possible."

To help concerned individuals understand the difference between normal aging and Alzheimer's disease and the benefits of early detection, the Alzheimer's Association—North Central Texas Chapter will be hosting a new workshop, Know the 10 Signs: Early Detection Matters. The program is scheduled Wed., Feb. 24, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., at the

Abilene Regional Office of the Alzheimer's Association located at 301 S. Pioneer, Ste. 105, in Abilene.

Key topics that will be discussed include:

- The 10 warning signs
- Basic overview of Alzheimer's disease
- Risk factors
- What is involved in getting a diagnosis
- Benefits of early detection including accessing available treatment, planning for the future and participating in clinical trials.

Seating is limited, so reservations are strongly encouraged. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 325-672-2907 or 1-800-272-3900.

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's research, care and support. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's.

# Art Club enjoys making cards for Valentine's Day

The Brazos West Art Association met Feb. 8 for a fun and joyous event with Nelwyn Beakley, a talented member of the club, conducting the program. Each members attending made an original Valentine card.

Beakley has been making her own greeting cards for the past five years and has created cards for all different occasions. She brought many interesting components for personalized card making.

Members were encouraged to "think outside of the box" and use whatever materials that could be found including wrapping paper, newspaper, magazine pictures and wallpaper. She also brought feathers,

colored pencil shavings, silk flowers, colorful stickers, tiny children's Valentines, fake gemstones, decorative stationery, various decorative pens, many types of colored paper, fake curly hair, many shiny and glittered objects of different shapes and sizes, as well as decorative edged scissors to complement the overall effect.

Each Valentine created by members was unique. The program was a fun and creative experience.

Attending were Betty Berry, Gary Conn, Melissa Summers, Betty Hook, Marsha Whittemore, Martha Spitzer, Florence Larned, Peggy Middlebrook and Beakley. Hostess was Gayle White.

# Tax time attracts e-mail crooks

Don't be fooled if you get an e-mail that appears to be from the Internal Revenue Service about your tax return or refund.

It's coming from internet thieves looking to steal your personal information, like credit card or bank account numbers.

"Folks have tax refunds on their minds this time of year and that could be handy for con artists," said Clay Sanford, a Dallas IRS spokesman. "Don't get hooked by an unsolicited

e-mail claiming to be from the IRS, because we don't send them."

Similar dangerous e-mails rampaged two years ago when the stimulus checks were announced, but Sanford said fake IRS e-mails can entice you with other false proposals. They could simply state that you are due a refund or anything else to trick you.

Delete the email or you can forward it to the IRS, at phishing@irs.gov.

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# Program offers help for those moving a relative with memory loss

The Alzheimer's Association—North Central Texas Chapter and Windcrest Alzheimer's Care Center will present a free educational program entitled "Making the Change: Moving a Relative with Memory Loss" Thurs., Feb. 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Windcrest Alzheimer's Care Center, 6050 Hospital Drive, in Abilene.

For many families living with Alzheimer's disease, there comes a time when the person with memory loss needs more care than can be provided at home. This session will help caregivers identify housing and service options, assess their loved one's ability to live at home, and offer strategies for making the transition from home to care community smoother. For more information, or to reserve a seat, contact Mindy Bannister at 325-672-2907 or 1-800-272-3900.

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's research, care and support. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research;

to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health.

Windcrest is a state-of-the-art community that specializes in the care of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Windcrest Alzheimer's Care Center was designed and developed after careful study and research regarding the need for Alzheimer's care in the Abilene area, and has been serving the community since 1995.

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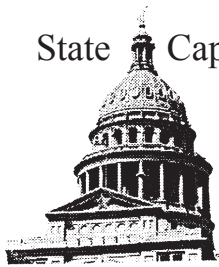
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# OPINION

## TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



### HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

#### Medicaid pay could drop to meet budget demands

AUSTIN—Texas doctors, dentists and hospitals could find their Medicaid fees reduced by 1 percent if a budget reduction plan forwarded by the state Health and Human Services Commission is adopted.

HHS Commissioner Tom Suehs said health care providers, including nursing homes and group homes for the mentally disabled, could see a 2 percent reduction when treating adults.

Stephanie Goodman, spokeswoman for the commission, said the commission has not yet adopted the plan.

The budget-cutting proposal also includes reducing the number of beds for psychiatric patients, postponing hiring new food safety inspectors and trimming 10 percent from the money that trauma hospitals receive from the Driver Responsibility Program.

Suehs offered the \$304 million in reductions after a request from state leaders for agencies to find ways to trim 5 percent of their budgets to meet a projected budget shortfall.

Texas boosted Medicaid payments for pediatric care and child-dental care in recent years in response to a class-action lawsuit. Some fear that progress in Medicaid care could be undone if the reimbursements are trimmed.

#### Lottery bid deadline extended

Texas lottery officials have added another 30 days to the deadline for companies to bid on the contract to run the state lottery.

The extra time was added because of possible information-sharing between current lottery vendor GTECH Corp. and a lottery consultant.

Gary Grief, executive director of the state lottery, said companies now have an extra month to bid on the contract while state officials investigate the possible collusion.

GTECH had a contract with consultant Gartner Inc. during the time Gartner was helping Texas lottery officials write bid specifications for a new contract.

GTECH President Jaymin Patel said there was no sharing of information and no conflict of interest. But some state officials believe GTECH might have had a competitive advantage because of the contract with Gartner.

#### Perry seeks federal reimbursement

Gov. Rick Perry said he will ask the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to reimburse Texas for holding illegal immigrants awaiting deportation or serving prison

sentences for crimes.

Perry said Texas spends \$13.5 million a month on illegal immigrants, including approximately 9,000 in custody of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Perry said he intends to send a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano asking for the reimbursement.

There's precedent for the state seeking money back from Uncle Sam. For example, Gov. Ann Richards and others sued the federal government in 1994 seeking \$5 billion to care for, educate and incarcerate illegal immigrants.

Eventually \$42 million was provided to several states, including Texas, to cover some of those costs.

#### More details on new jobs program

State officials have launched a new "Texas Back to Work" project that offers incentive payments to businesses that hire unemployed workers.

Earlier this month, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and Texas Workforce Commission officials said as many as 15,000 unemployed workers could find jobs through the program.

Texas companies will be eligible for \$500 a month for four months for hiring someone who is receiving unemployment insurance or whose unemployment insurance benefits have expired.

Those hired must have earned \$15 an hour in their previous jobs, and only private-sector employers qualify for the benefit.

Dewhurst said the Legislature approved \$15 million for the program last session and that funding can be extended.

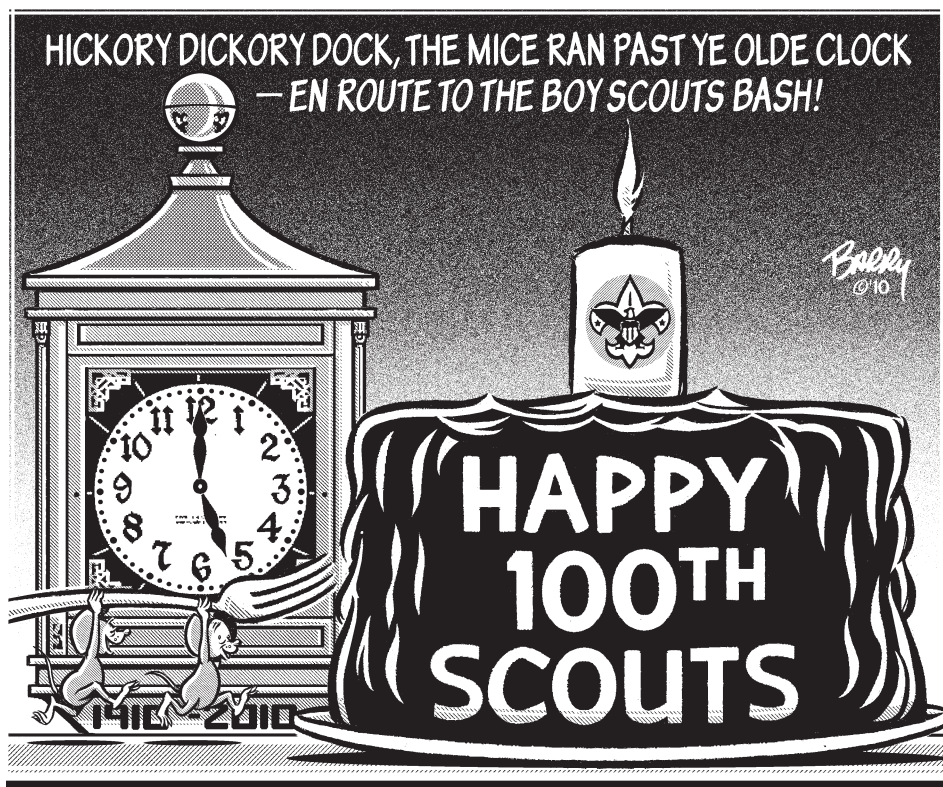
The Workforce Commission has applied for \$50 million in federal funding as well. The Texas unemployment rate is at 8.3 percent.

#### Anti-money laundering pact made

As part of a \$94 million settlement, Western Union has reached an agreement with Texas, California, Arizona and New Mexico to share information on wire transfers from the United States to fight illegal money laundering.

The agreement also creates the Southwest Border Anti-Money Laundering Alliance.

As part of the settlement, Western Union will provide information regarding certain wire transfers sent to or from authorized Western Union locations within Texas, share Suspicious Activity Reports about wire transfers to and from Texas and the other states and provide information about transactions suspected of having a connection to human trafficking operations.



## From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

#### 10 Years Ago February 17, 2000

Haskell Indian Justin Teague, son of Jeff and Lisa Teague, has been named to the North team in the inaugural Big Country All-Star Football Classic to be played at Shotwell Stadium.

Nikki Wallace and Craig Cunningham were named Basketball Sweetheart and Hero during halftime activities of the Indian's game.

District winners in the Soil and Water Conservation poster contest are first place, Abel Cisneros, fifth grader at Paint Creek; second place, Callie Thomasson, Paint Creek sixth grader; and third place, Tyler Manske, third grader from Rochester.

#### 20 Years Ago February 15, 1990

Mrs. Oscar (Helen) Oates, who came to Haskell nearly seventy years ago as a milliner for Grissom Department Store, was honored with a party in recognition of her 90th birthday.

Trina Fry of Rochester has been named to the Distinguished Student List at Tarleton State University.

Angela Pittman, a seventh-grade student at Haskell Junior High, won the Haskell Geography Bee.

#### 30 Years Ago February 14, 1980

The Paint Creek High School girls' basketball team won the 17-B district title for the first time in fourteen

years.

Attending the Texas Jaycees Area Convention were Charles and Laura Andress, Ronnie and Liz Reynolds, Bo and Diane Owens, Jim and Connie Pace, Larry and Darlene Walton, Charles and Louise Thornhill, Jack Rueffer, Jake Dusak, and James and Elaine Davis.

Clay Smith was appointed election judge while Helen Elliott was appointed alternate judge.

Ricky Eugene Brazell, a graduate student at Utah State University, has been named to the honor roll for the fall semester.

#### 40 Years Ago February 12, 1970

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morrell have purchased Sam's Grocery from Mr. and Mrs. Sam Crume. The business will now be called South Side Grocery.

County commissioners court appointed Mrs. Lee McKelvain, county clerk; Jimmy Owens, tax assessor/collector; and W.P. Ratliff to act as a committee to index and arrange old records which cannot be destroyed.

Directors of the Upper Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation District have selected J.H. Strain of Haskell as the outstanding conservation rancher of the district.

Winners in the patriotic essay contest sponsored by the Progressive Study Club,

were Rhonda Woodard, first place; Jim Kemp, second place; and Susan Wainscott, third place.

#### 50 Years Ago February 18, 1960

A.M. Turner of Haskell and J.L. Wyatt of Rochester, have returned from a trip to Washington, D.C., as Haskell County delegates on the annual Texas Farmers Union Washington Bus Tour.

William Ted Overton, son of Mr. and Mrs. M.E. Overton was recently initiated into Sigma Tau Delta in English, at North Texas State College.

Raja Hassen, local businessman, spoke to the Business and Professional Women's Club on "The Discovery of Gold and Its Outgrowth in World Trade."

According to the weekly survey by the Chamber of Commerce, five new residents have made their home in Haskell. They are W.M. Butler, Hattie Marsh, Buford Wright, Billy Fry and Archie Cox.

#### 100 Years Ago February 12, 1910

The Democratic County Executive Committee met and elected J.A. Couch as county chairman.

An examination for census enumerators for Haskell County was held by Postmaster John B. Baker.

R.C. Montgomery has returned from a visit to Mineral Wells.

## AG Consumer Alert

By Greg Abbott

### Beware of Calls Offering "Free" English Courses Paid by Federal Government

Spanish-speaking consumers are being targeted on their residential and mobile phones by scam artists offering a "free" English course. According to recent complaints to the Office of the Attorney General, callers are posing as employees of a purported nonprofit agency and claiming that call recipients could qualify for a "free" federal government English course. The scam artists ask unsuspecting customers for their personal information and the personal information of three friends as references.

A few days later, a representative of the phony nonprofit organization calls interested customers and tells them they did not qualify for a "free" course after all. Call recipients are asked to pay \$500 for the so-called course. In some cases, customers are told they did qualify, but they nonetheless need to pay \$500 for the course. In either case, if the customers decide not to take the course after initially agreeing to take it, the scam artists insist a binding, verbal contract exists and that the customers must pay.

In some instances, the scammers will tell call recipients the course has been sent to them through an express delivery service, even though customers never receive any merchandise. The scammers call customers repeatedly to insist on payment. To add further pressure, some call recipients are told they have been sued by the nonprofit for non-payment and that they now have a court date.

The Office of the Attorney General urges Texans to exercise caution when dealing with telephone sales calls.

To stop calls from telemarketers, Texans should register residential and mobile telephone numbers with both state and federal do-not-call lists. Enroll with Texas' do-not-call list at [www.texasnocall.com](http://www.texasnocall.com) and the federal government's list at [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov). The registrations are effective several weeks after enrollment.

Scam artists do not respect customers' legal right not to be called after their phone numbers are registered, so Texans should always be suspicious of unsolicited sales calls. The best way to deal with unsolicited calls is to hang up on them.

Texans who believe they have been victimized by a fraudulent telemarketer or suspect violations of the Texas no-call list can file a complaint with the OAG at 800-252-8011 or online at [www.texasattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov).

## Crime of the Week

On Wednesday night Feb. 3, person or persons unknown broke into the Aspire Building (the old band hall/art building) at Haskell High School. Two laptop computers were taken.

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers, in conjunction with the Haskell Police Department, is offering a reward for information that leads to an arrest or arrests for this crime. Anyone who knows anything about this crime or any other crime is urged to call 800-222-TIPS or text FCFS @ CRIMES.

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers serves Haskell, Jones, Stonewall, Kent, Fisher and Shackelford counties.

Remember—All callers remain anonymous. We want your information, not your name.

## From the AG

By Greg Abbott

### Texans Should Safely Participate in 2010 U.S. Census

In March, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States. Participation in the 2010 Census is crucial to Texas' future. The U.S. Constitution requires that the federal government conduct a population count every 10 years.

Demographic data obtained during the census process ultimately determines the number of seats Texas gets in the U.S. House of Representatives, so it has a major impact on Texas' representation in Washington. Additionally, this population data is used to calculate Texas' share of \$400 billion dollars in federal funding. These taxpayer dollars fund buildings, roads and services such as hospitals, job training centers, schools, senior centers and emergency medical care. For example, Census data determined the number of vaccines delivered to Texas cities during the H1N1 crisis.

Under federal law, Census participation is mandatory

for all Texas residents, whether they are citizens or noncitizens. Household data provided during the event is confidential. Census workers face unlawful disclosure penalties of up to five years in prison and fines up to \$250,000.

Census forms will arrive in the mail by mid-March. Recipients should complete the form and return it immediately. No official census information will be collected via e-mail, so participants should be cautious of any e-mails regarding the U.S. Census. These are fraudulent e-mails unlawfully seeking recipients' personal information.

Census workers will visit door-to-door in residential areas in order to verify certain Census information. Participants should always look for identification from Census takers before opening the door. Census Bureau employees will be clearly identified with a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice.

Census takers will visit

a home up to three times to record resident information. Every time a Census worker comes to the door, they will leave a door hanger containing a telephone number for the residents to call to schedule a visit when the resident is available.

By conducting door-to-door checks, the Census Bureau is attempting to collect correct and accurate information. The 2010 Census forms will only contain 10 questions, including name, home address and the number of people at the address. Census workers might also ask for a salary range, but participants can refuse to answer this question if they do not feel comfortable giving out that information.

Census workers might also ask for basic financial information, but they will not ask for Social Security numbers, bank account or credit card numbers nor will they ask for any type of donations.

For more information about the 2010 Census, participants should visit [www.census.gov/2010census](http://www.census.gov/2010census).

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# Leaders named for Texas USDA FSA committees

The Obama Administration announced the individuals who will serve on the Texas Farm Service Agency State Committee. The State Committee members will oversee the activities of the agency, including carrying out the state agricultural conservation programs, resolving appeals from the agriculture community and helping to keep producers informed about FSA programs.

"These individuals will work with USDA to help farmers and ranchers build and maintain successful operations that produce the safe, nutritious food supply that America needs while spurring economic development in our nation's rural communities," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "They bring the experience and passion necessary to help continue the Obama Administration's efforts to rebuild and revitalize rural America."

The individuals appointed to serve on this committee include:

**Jerry D. Glover** (Chairperson) of Muleshoe has over 45 years of experience in Agriculture policy. Glover is a third generation farmer currently farming in Parmer County. He has received multiple awards, including the Heroes of American Agriculture Award by the American Corn Growers Association in 1996. He served from 1994-96 as Chairman of Parmer County FSA Committee and served as the Executive Director of the Texas Corn Producers Board from 1996-99. From 1997-2001, Glover served on the USDA's Research, Education, and Economics (REE) Executive Advisory Committee. He is currently a board member for the Bailey County Farm Bureau.

**Debra Barrett** of Edroy is a fourth generation cotton farmer, and has been farming cotton and grain sorghum since 1981. For the last six years, she has served as a member on the San Patricio County FSA Committee. In 2005, she received a USDA appointment to the Cotton Board. Barrett is a Director of South Texas Cotton and Grain Association and has participated in the National Cotton Council's Cotton Leadership Program. She currently serves as the president of San Patricio County Drainage District and is a member of the Sinton Rotary Club.

**Armando Mandujano** of Coyanosa owns Mandujano Brothers, a partnership with his three brothers. The farming operation consists of 4,000 acres producing watermelons, cotton, onions, pumpkins and peppers in Pecos and Reeves County. Mandujano has served as an advisor to the Pecos County FSA Committee. He was also a member of the Trans Pecos Cotton Growers Association. Mandujano received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Angelo State University and is fluent in Spanish.

**Wesley Ratcliff** of Oakwood has been involved in agriculture for most of his life, and has owned and operated his current ranch for over 9 years. He served in the Army from 1963 to 1965. After leaving the Army, he worked as an aerospace engineer for NASA for four years. Ratcliff also was an Assistant Professor of Mathematics for Texas Southern University for several years. He has a Master's degree in Mathematics from the University of Houston and Bachelor's of Science degree from Prairie View University.

**Glen A. Rod** of El Campo owns and operates Rod Grass Farm LLC and Jones Creek Farm JV growing rice, row crops and turf grass. He has served on the boards of the El Campo PCA, Rice Council, Rice Farmers Co-Op, and Turfgrass Producers of Texas.

His accomplishments include being named Rice Farmer of the Year, Soybean Farmer of the Year, and Ag Man of the Year. He has a Bachelor's degree in Agronomy from Texas A&M University.

USDA's Farm Services Agency works to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural Americans. Some of the agency's efforts include facilitating income support, disaster assistance and conservation programs, providing operating loans for the procurement of farm equipment, seed and fertilizer, as well as offering ownership loans to help new and veteran producers purchase a farm. FSA also works to procure various commodities to benefit low-income families through domestic food assistance programs.

The USDA provides leadership on food, agriculture and natural resources and touches the life of every American. Reflecting President Obama's commitment to expanding economic opportunities in rural America, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and the USDA are working to enhance availability of broadband, promote the development of renewable energy, to conserve, maintain and improve our natural resources and environment, and promote a sustainable, safe, sufficient and nutritious food supply.

## Could be just a simple sneeze

Recent research has shown that everyday behavior, such as a person sneezing, can cause others to overreact out of basic fear, even for unrelated health threats.

"Physical symptoms are cues that tell us whether our health is good or endangered in some way," says Dr. Deborah Wiebe, a health psychologist at UT Southwestern Medical Center. "These cues or signals are very important to keeping us healthy, but they are also easy to misinterpret and are easily influenced by social context."

Researchers found that a nearby sneeze can raise fear of health threats not linked to germ transfer, such as having a heart attack before the age of 50 or dying from a crime or accident.

Dr. Wiebe says others' symptoms raise awareness of our own vulnerability and activate both conscious and unconscious fear and sense of danger.

"When someone overreacts to another person's behavior, inherently they are just protecting their physical well-being," she says.

So how do we not overreact?

"Knowing steps to minimize danger of catching a disease—such as washing your hands or taking vitamins—often leads people to behave more rationally and less emotionally," Dr. Wiebe says.



**VISIT SEMINAR—On Sat., Feb. 13, six students from Paint Creek attended a Career & College Planning Seminar sponsored by the Hispanic Leadership Council of Abilene. About 100 students and parents from the surrounding area were in attendance. Participants were given valuable information regarding college/training opportunities and financial aid. Students were required to visit with all college representatives in attendance to be eligible for one of two laptops and printers that were given away. Cody Bailey, a senior at Paint Creek, was one of the lucky winners. Students attending were, l-r, Andrew Matthies, Kelsey Smith, Dillon Emert, Haley Myers, Curtis Bishop and Cody Bailey (showing off his new laptop).**

## Earned Income Tax Credit can help families and stimulate Texas economy

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs says a slow economy means more Texas families may qualify to claim the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) on their federal income tax.

"2009 was a tough year," Combs said. "Many people lost jobs or took home less pay. But if you worked full- or part-time for at least part of 2009, the Earned Income Tax Credit could put money back in your pocket."

EITC refunds are based on family size and income. Families with three or more children and less than \$48,279 in earned income during 2009 may qualify for a tax credit up to \$5,657. The EITC is also available to families with two children and an earned income less than \$45,295, who can claim a tax credit up to \$5,028. Families with one child earning less than \$40,463 may qualify for a tax credit up to \$3,043. For a childless family earning less than \$18,440, a credit up to \$457 is available.

More information about how to qualify for the EITC, printable materials for businesses and community organizations to distribute and helpful links to IRS tax forms and publications can be found on the Comptroller's Web site at [www.window.state.tx.us/](http://www.window.state.tx.us/)

taxinfo/eitc/ or by calling the IRS at 800-829-1040. Information is also available about the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which offers qualifying taxpayers free tax preparation assistance and free electronic tax filing at many locations.

"Last year, more than 2.3 million Texans claimed the credit and received more than \$5.3 billion in EITC refunds," Combs said. "That's an average of \$2,313 per qualifying household, bringing financial relief to families and a boost to the Texas economy."

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**TAX PLANNING**

Written By  
**Gerald Rodgers, CPA**



**THE IRS TARGETS WORKER CLASSIFICATION**

If you have people working for your business, you may have to decide how to classify them. Are they employees or independent contractors?

Classifying your workers as independent contractors generally saves you money. That's because you avoid paying employment taxes and benefits on their behalf.

In most instances, however, very few of your workers actually qualify as independent contractors. If the IRS determines that you misclassified your employees as contractors, you could end up paying back all of the employment taxes and benefits that should have been paid over the years. Depending on the size of your workforce, the cost to you could be substantial, potentially bankrupting your business.

How can you ensure that you properly classify your workers? Start with the factors listed by the IRS to determine a worker's classification. If you maintain control over your workers through hiring, training and supervision, scheduling the work to be done, and by providing them with tools and materials, your workers are most likely your employees. The same holds true if you pay your workers a set salary or an hourly wage and have the right to let them go at any time.

As a general rule, if you only have the right to control or direct the result of the work and not the means and methods of accomplishing the result, the individual may qualify as an independent contractor.

If your business employs independent contractors, take steps to protect yourself and your business. Be consistent with how you classify your workers, and follow how other businesses in your industry classify their workers. And don't forget to send a Form 1099-MISC to any contractor who earns \$600 or more from you during the year.

The proper classification of workers has become a priority issue for the IRS in 2010. Make sure that your workers are classified correctly. For assistance, give us a call.

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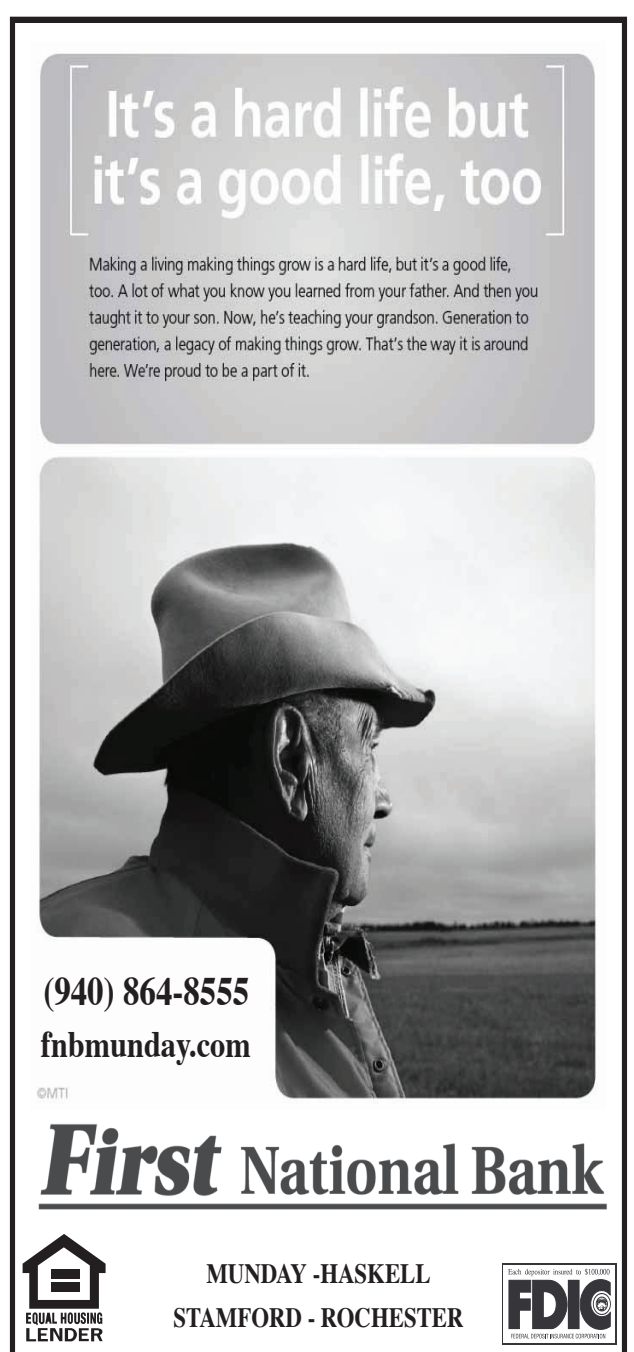
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# Sales tax receipts still dropping in Haskell County

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said the state collected \$1.66 billion in sales tax revenue in January, down 14.2 percent compared to January 2009.

"Collections continue to be down in major industry sectors like retail trade, oil and natural gas production, construction and manufacturing," Combs said. "January's sales tax revenue was down by double digits compared to January 2009, which was the third highest collection month ever and was also the last month of year-over-year growth. We will continue to closely monitor sales tax revenue, and although we expect further collection declines in the near term, it is anticipated the rate of decline will moderate and then return to revenue growth sometime in the second quarter of 2010."

Combs sent \$618.2 million in local sales tax to Texas cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, down 7.1 percent compared to sales tax distributions to local

governments in February 2009.

January state sales tax collections and February's local sales tax allocations represent sales made in December, and also include earlier sales by businesses that report sales tax to the Comptroller on a quarterly or annual basis.

The Comptroller sent \$417.7 million in sales tax to Texas cities, down 6.2 percent compared to February 2009 payments. Texas counties received February sales tax payments of \$35.1 million, down 15.1 percent compared to last February.

The 163 special purpose taxing districts around the state received \$24.6 million in sales tax, down 7.8 percent compared to February 2009. Ten local transit systems received \$140.6 million in February sales tax payments, down 7.5 percent compared to a year ago.

Haskell County had a 5.97 percent decrease for February 2010 of \$41,390.78 in comparison to \$44,019.83 for February 2009. 2010 payments to

date of \$68,085.48 reflect a .42 percent decrease over 2009 payments to date of \$68,373.07.

The City of Haskell had a 6.28 percent decrease for February 2010 of \$37,436.70 in comparison to \$39,948.75 for February 2009. 2010 payments to date of \$62,385.31 reflect a .94 percent decrease over 2009 payments to date of \$62,981.49.

The City of O'Brien had a 59.45 percent increase for February 2010 of \$248.73 in comparison to \$155.99 for February 2009. 2009 payments to date of \$305.08 reflect a 49.29 percent increase over 2009 payments to date of \$204.35.

The City of Rochester had a 1.43 percent increase for February 2010 of \$927.26 in comparison to \$914.17 for February 2009. 2010 payments to date of \$1,252.17 reflect a 3.87 percent increase over 2009 payments to date of \$1,205.46.

The City of Rule had a 2.89 percent increase for February 2010 of \$2,469.17 in comparison to \$2,399.73 for February 2009. 2010 payments to date of \$3,741.55 reflect a 17.28 percent increase over 2009 payments to date of \$3,190.21.

The City of Weinert had a 48.61 percent decrease for February 2010 of \$308.92 in comparison to \$601.19 for February 2009. 2010 payments to date of \$401.37 reflect a 49.29 percent decrease over 2009 payments to date of \$791.56.



**LADY PIRATES**—Paint Creek Lady Pirate #22 Shana Armstrong, left, plays defense during a recent game. Lady Pirate #10 Katie Bosnjak, right, puts up two points during a game against Rule.



**LADY PIRATES IN ACTION**—Lady Pirate #15 Brittany Waggoner, left, waits for a pass during a game against Rule while teammate #10 Katie Bosnjak looks on. Lady Pirates #14 Katrina Buerger, #20 Brittany Herring and #30 Felysha Walker play defense during the Rule game.



**PAINT CREEK VS RULE**—The Paint Creek Pirates played the Rule Bobcats Feb. 5. Pirate #5 Nathan Edwards, left, plays defense against a Bobcat bringing the ball down court. Pirate #3 J.J. Garcia, right, in bounds the ball during the game. The final score was Rule 35, Paint Creek 30.



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## It's Time for a Change

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# Start cholesterol screenings early

If you think heart disease is a disease of the middle-aged, think again. Experts recommend that cholesterol screening should begin as early as age 20 because it is a key indicator of heart-attack risk, and that the screening should be repeated at least once every five years.

Atherosclerosis begins early, says Dr. Anand Rohatgi, a cardiologist with UT Southwestern Medical Center's program in preventive cardiology. Even young adults and teens can show evidence of atherosclerosis, or hardening of the arteries.

If early screening reveals low levels of good cholesterol

(high-density lipoproteins) or moderately high levels of bad cholesterol (low-density lipoproteins), counseling can provide help to modify lifestyles. Those who fall into this category should be re-evaluated every one or two years.

"Simple measures that can reduce cholesterol levels include decreasing the amount of saturated fat to less than 7 percent of total calories consumed each day," Dr. Rohatgi says. "Also, increasing the amount of soluble fiber by just 5 to 10 grams daily and limiting cholesterol intake to less than 200 milligrams per day are helpful."



**HALL MAKES BASKET**—Paint Creek Pirate #25 Hunter Hall adds points to the Pirate tally during a game against Woodson played Feb. 9. Woodson topped the Pirates 47-19.



## HERE'S TO YOUR HEALTH... AT HOME!

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## Haskell Home Health Agency

Michelle Johnson RN

Most people are surprised to learn they have **HYPERTENSION** (high blood pressure). But I feel just fine!" they say, and often think that it can't be very serious as long as they don't have symptoms. Unfortunately, you can have it for years without knowing it, but all the time it is making your heart work hard and raising your chances of heart attack and stroke. For this reason, high blood pressure has earned the title of "The Silent Killer."

### What is blood pressure?

Every time your heart beats, it pumps out about 5 ounces of blood, less than a cup. But because the blood must travel through about 12,400 miles of blood vessels, the heart pumps with a great deal of force. This produces a high pressure wave of blood through your arteries. Normally, the arteries are elastic and expand with each heart beat. When the heart relaxes between beats, the arteries also relax, and the pressure is lower.

### What do the numbers mean?

Blood pressure readings are always given as two numbers, for example, 120 over 82 (written as 120/82). The first number (systolic blood pressure) is always higher and measures the pressure during the heart beat. The lower second number (diastolic blood pressure) is the pressure in the arteries while the heart is relaxed. These two numbers tell much about how hard your heart is working and the condition of your blood vessels. The harder it is for blood to flow through your arteries, the higher both the systolic and the diastolic readings will be.

What questions regarding home care do you have for the nurse? Send your questions to Haskell Home Health Agency, 417 S. First, Haskell, TX 79521 or call 940-864-5074 or 1-877-864-5074.

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# Maidens, Pirate named to AR-N Player of the Week

Three area high school basketball players were named to the Abilene Reporter-News Big Country Player of the Week Tues., Feb. 9.

Curtis Bishop, a Paint Creek Pirate, who plays post and is a junior, was named to the list for his efforts during the Aspermont and Rule games. Bishop, one of the area's steadiest performers, tallied 42 points, 19 boards, 13 blocks, two steals and two assists.

Haskell Maiden Aubrey Bassett, a senior and a guard, played a major role with last

week's combined tally of 35 points and 11 boards in wins over Hamlin and Stamford. Bassett gained 16 additional possessions for the Maidens through steals and forced turnovers.

Haskell Maiden Lisa Rodgers was named to the honorable mention list. Rodgers, a senior and a post, combined for 20 points and 12 boards in games against Hamlin and Stamford.

David Middleton's Maidens stand with a 21-7 overall record and an 8-2 mark in District 9-1A for the week posted on the list.



**DRIBBLES DOWN COURT**—Haskell Maiden #45 Lisa Rodgers moves the ball down court during a game against Munday played Jan. 29.



**INDIAN ON THE MOVE**—Haskell Indian #24 Christian Myers moved the ball down court to set up a play during the game against Seymour.



**INDIAN REBOUND**—Haskell Indian #32 Simon Rodriguez pulls down a rebound during the Munday game.

## Area basketball scores

**Girls**  
**Woodson 38, Paint Creek 36**  
Scoring for Paint Creek: Buerger 9, Walker 7, Armstrong 6, Bosnjak 5, Martinez 5, Waggoner 4.  
**Rule 37, Lueders-Avoca 35**  
Scoring for Rule: Polk 18,

Benavides 7, Rowan 6, Diaz 4, Petty 1, Lyon 1.

**Boys**  
**Woodson 47, Paint Creek 19**

Scoring for Paint Creek: Hall 6, Edwards 4, Garcia 3, Adkins 2, Bishop 2, Abner 2.

# College financial aid myths and facts

Education beyond high school is more important than ever. In an ever-changing economy, more education brings more opportunities and greater job security. Don't let the myths about the cost of college or the availability of aid stop you from reaching your goals.

Here are the facts behind the myths.

**Myth No. 1:** All colleges are super expensive.

**Fact:** There are many different colleges and universities offering all kinds of educational experiences and charging a broad range of prices. More than half of all full-time undergraduates at four-year colleges attend institutions that charge less than \$9,000 for tuition and fees. Community colleges charge less than \$2,500 a year on average and provide an excellent way to complete the first two years of a four-year program for some students. On average, public four-year colleges charge in-state students \$7,020 in tuition and \$8,193 in room and board, but many students receive grant aid that reduces the price they actually pay.

**Myth No. 2:** There is only money for very smart or very poor students.

**Fact:** Financial aid is intended to make a college education available to students from families in many financial situations. Most federal aid is based on need, not grades or talent. Of the \$126 billion in financial aid awarded to undergraduates, most is from federal sources, but colleges and universities provide about 40% of all grants to students. "Most students receive financial aid to help them pay for college. In 2008-09, full-time undergraduate students received an average of about \$10,185 in financial aid, including more than \$5,000 in grants and about \$4,600 in federal loans," said Sandy Baum, senior policy analyst at the College Board and professor of economics at Skidmore

College. Most government financial aid requires proof of citizenship or permanent residency. If you don't fulfill either requirement, don't be deterred. There are foundations and other organizations that offer aid and scholarships for non-citizens. Do your research.

**Myth No. 3:** Private scholarships are the way to get money.

**Fact:** Most financial aid comes from the federal government, state governments and colleges themselves. Of the many private scholarships, the best option is often a local scholarship—a high school counselor can probably tell you what is available. To help, The College Board Scholarship Handbook provides a comprehensive and up-to-date listing of more than 2,000 private scholarships for undergraduate study.

**Myth No. 4:** Financial aid forms are too hard to fill out.

**Fact:** Most families only need to fill out a single form, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is a federal form used to show eligibility for federal aid. The FAFSA looks harder to use than it is, and the online version checks your work. It helps ensure you put the right information in the right spot. The College Board's book Getting Financial Aid gives step-by-step guidance on how to fill out the FAFSA. To learn more, visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) or call 800-323-7155.

### Did You Know?

Finding financial aid for college can be a challenging process. To help, The College Board Scholarship Handbook provides an up-to-date listing of more than 2,000 private scholarships for undergraduate study. Colleges in every price range are profiled. To learn more, visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

# A.J. Benton to play in FCA All-Star game June 12 in Abilene

One more honor for Haskell Indian A.J. Benton was announced when he joined the 2010 All-Star Roster of the 11th Annual Fellowship of Christian Athletes Myrtle Greathouse All-Star Classic members Sun., Feb. 14.

Benton, a 5-11, 215 lb. offensive lineman and a Senior Indian, will join the North All-Star team

for a game Sat., June 12 to be played at Abilene's Shotwell Stadium.

Team members will be honored with a 'Share the Victory' banquet April 25 at the Abilene Civic Center.

Two-a-day practices will begin June 9.

The event features 134 athletes and cheerleaders and benefits the Big Country Chapter of FCA.

# Cotton growers to meet Feb. 23

The Rolling Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. annual meeting will be held Tues., Feb. 23 in conjunction with the Texas Farm-Ranch-Wildlife Expo, on the Taylor County Fairgrounds in Abilene. The meeting will be held in the Big Country Hall. Doors will open at 9 a.m.


The meeting agenda will have very timely and important topics including an update on several policy issues from Eddie Smith, Chairman of the National Cotton Council. Juan Garcia, State Executive Director of the Texas State Farm Service Agency, will provide information about new farm bill regulations and the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). In addition, Texas Agrilife Extension will present findings of the most recent cotton root rot research. RPCG and other industry reports will also be given.

A barbecue lunch will be provided by sponsoring industry representatives

at the end of the meeting. Following lunch, participants are invited to attend the Cotton Production Conference scheduled for 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Producers will have the opportunity to earn three CEU hours toward their Applicators License.

Rolling Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. has served the producers of the Rolling Plains for over 40 years. The non-profit organization unites cotton producers from the 31 counties of the central and northern Rolling Plains, with the mission to improve the conditions under which Rolling Plains' cotton is produced and sold.

There is no charge for the meeting or production conference. All cotton producers and other interested associates are invited and strongly encouraged to attend this educational meeting. For more information, contact the RPCG office at 325-669-6447 or via e-mail at [Karin@rpcotton.org](mailto:Karin@rpcotton.org).



**Chad Gibson**  
for  
**Haskell County Judge**

**VOTE MARCH 2**  
Pol. Ad Paid for by Chad Gibson, Campaign Treasurer

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**February 22, 2010 6:30pm**

**Haskell Civic Center**

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# Tips to win battle of winter exercise

Humans don't hibernate, but many of us find it a seductive idea when trees are bare, winter skies hang dark and low, and streets are a mire of grey, melting slush.

In this dreary weather, it can be draining to deal with life's basic activities—much less optional stuff like our daily fitness routines. That may be why people exercise about a third less in winter, even though physical activity is a surefire mood lifter for most. So, how to prevent our spirits and exercise levels from plunging into a steady downward spiral?

Here's some simple, proven advice from fitness pros:

1. Ease into the cold. Many early morning exercisers dread a straight transition from a warm bed to cold, piercing winter air. So take time to warm up before you head outside. (This also focuses your mind and delivers oxygen and nutrition to your body.) Jog or walk around the house a few times. A warm shower also helps some people

ease through the transition. Others swear by tumbling their workout clothes in a warm dryer before heading outside. Whatever works for you!

2. Split your workout. Reduce the weather's impact by dividing your exercise into indoor and outdoor sessions. For example, run or bike for 20-30 minutes, then go inside and finish up with some yoga, Pilates or weight training.

3. Beat the sundown. If darkness makes you feel sleepy and unmotivated, try moving your workout to mid-day rather than before or after work. Even if you can't work out as long as usual, you'll find yourself skipping fewer days—and perhaps enjoying the change in routine. If early or late are your only options, go to a well-lit gym or health club. You may also find it energizing to have other people around.

4. Join or form a workout group. There's nothing like peer pressure to recharge your motivational battery. When you exercise with

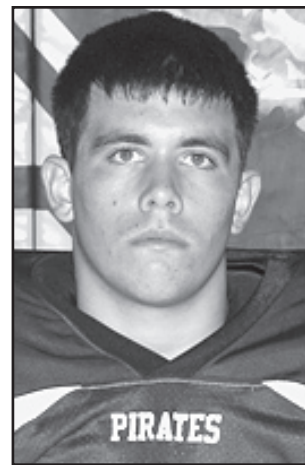
friends or family members, you can encourage each other (confirmation calls the night before a scheduled morning workout are helpful for many), use conversation as a distraction from the cold weather, invent new exercise routines and devise friendly competitions to keep things interesting.

5. Have a post-exercise reward in mind. This need not be anything fancy or expensive. Just make it a simple, relaxing pleasure (for example, a visit to your favorite coffee shop on the way to work) that you can look forward to while you exercise—and that you don't get if you bail on the workout.

6. Eat healthier. This is good advice year-around, but especially during a season when energy and alertness are at a premium. Simply put, you feel better—and more up to exercising—when you cut down on fats and sweets and front-load your diet with fresh fruit, vegetables, whole-grain products and protein-rich foods.

7. Count your steps. Even when bad weather limits your outdoor activities or makes it harder to get to the gym, you still can fit more physical activity into a normal day at work. Get a pedometer and shoot for a goal of 6,000 to 10,000 steps a day. If you're coming up short, try walking the stairs in your office or parking garage, getting up from your desk for occasional strolls or walking to a friend's desk to talk rather than sending an e-mail. Even if you aren't working up a sweat those extra steps can make a big difference in your fitness level.

Just so we're clear: No one's saying these seven steps will make it fun to run three miles with sleet pellets melting in your hair. But they can help you keep exercising when every instinct is telling you to burrow into the sofa with the TV remote in one hand and a drumstick in the other. In a season when a strong will is as crucial as a strong pair of legs, that's a real accomplishment.



J.J. GARCIA



BRENNAN MEDFORD

## Students visit Rotary Club

J.J. Garcia is the son of Melissa and Eric Meadows of Paint Creek.

He is a Baptist. At Paint Creek High School, he participates in football, basketball and track. He was named to the first team All-District as punter, first team All-Region as punter for Region 3, second team All State as punter, and earned a place on the six man All Big Country Team as punter.

He enjoys hunting, fishing and baseball. He plans to attend college.

\*\*\*

Brennan Medford is the son of Kendell and Emily Medford of Paint Creek.

At Paint Creek High School he is a member of National Honor Society, FFA president, class and student council president, runs track and is in gifted and talented.

He is an Eagle Scout, was named Homecoming King, is a Regional Finals qualifier in the 100 and 200 meter sprints, and holds the track school records in the 100m and 200m.

He enjoys playing guitar, riding four wheelers, hunting and welding.

He plans to start college at Cisco College, later transferring to Texas A&M pursuing a degree in civil engineering.

## Haskell School Menu

**Feb. 22-26 Breakfast**  
Juice and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu.  
**Monday:** French toast  
**Tuesday:** Pig in a blanket  
**Wednesday:** Cereal, graham crackers  
**Thursday:** Breakfast bagel  
**Friday:** Smucker's PB&J

**Lunch**  
Milk and iced tea are served daily at the Secondary campus. Milk is served daily at the Elementary School. Junior High campus: Choice of entrée or baked potato with cheese and ham. High School campus: Choice of entrée or chef salad with

crackers.  
**Monday:** Chicken strips, gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli with cheese, hot roll, pineapple tidbits  
**Tuesday:** Beef and vegetable stew, grilled cheese sandwich, apple wedges  
**Wednesday:** Enchiladas, pinto beans, garden salad, queso, tortilla chips, peaches  
**Thursday:** Chicken spaghetti, green beans, garden salad, bread stick, fruit salad  
**Friday:** Choice: Cheeseburger or tuna sandwich, lettuce, tomato, pickles, baked fries, ice cream

## Paint Creek School Menu

**Feb. 22-26 Breakfast**  
Juice and milk are served daily.  
**Monday:** Waffles  
**Tuesday:** Biscuits, gravy  
**Wednesday:** Toast or cereal  
**Thursday:** Muffins  
**Friday:** Cinnamon rolls

**Lunch**  
Milk is served daily.

**Monday:** Chicken noodle soup, grilled cheese, salad, peas, fruit  
**Tuesday:** Nachos, refried beans, salad, apple crisp  
**Wednesday:** Chili dogs, fries, cake  
**Thursday:** Stew, cornbread, salad, jello  
**Friday:** BBQ sandwiches, corn, pickle spears, rice krispies

## ECC Menu

**Mon., Feb. 22**  
Lunch—King ranch chicken, cream potatoes, green beans, yeast roll, strawberry cake, tea or coffee  
**Wed., Feb. 24**  
Lunch—Tacos and trimmings, pinto beans, onions, pickles, jello, choco chip, tea or

coffee  
**Fri., Feb. 26**  
Lunch—Hamburger steak, cream potatoes, blackeyed peas, yeast roll, misc. dessert, tea or coffee  
Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

## Fireplaces can be risky for children

More families are using fireplaces to heat their homes during cold winter months. While indoor fireplaces are convenient and provide instant warmth, more children are burning themselves by touching the glass barrier at the fireplaces' fronts.

"Young children, especially those younger than 2, are explorers and often unsteady on their feet," says Dr. Douglas Baker, a pediatrician and emergency department physician at UT Southwestern Medical Center. "Children can burn themselves by falling toward the gas fireplace and

pushing against the hot glass for balance."

Dr. Baker also warns that children might touch hot glass out of simple curiosity. It takes only seconds for a child to be seriously burned and children can still be harmed after the burner has been turned off and the glass is cooling.

Parents should never leave children unsupervised near fireplaces, and barriers can be erected to keep youngsters at a safe distance. Parents should also consider using the fireplace only after children younger than 5 years old have gone to bed.

## This Week's Devotional Message:



### No matter whom we elect, we are still ruled by laws

Great concern is often shown about religion or other aspects of our national life that differ radically from our own, and this is never more evident than after an election. There may be a candidate whose principals are very close to ours, and yet we fear something else about him that might cause him to overstep the bounds of his authority. However, that's why we have laws, and a

constitution that spells out those laws and the limitations of power by any level of government. From the lessons at our house of worship we learn that these laws had their roots in the Bible, and were designed to allow the maximum of freedom while protecting the rights of others. Thank the Lord for these laws, and remember that all of our elected officials must abide them.

### ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

- HASKELL—
- East Side Baptist Church**  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
- Christian Church**  
Jim McCurley, pastor  
Sun. 10:45 a.m.  
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- Church of God**  
Bruce Ray, pastor  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Wed. 7:00 p.m.  
714 North First East, Haskell
- Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30  
Hwy 380 East, Haskell
- Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**  
Art Flores, Interim pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
607 S. 7th, Haskell
- First United Methodist Church**  
Rev. Tom Long, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.  
Wed. 6 p.m.  
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- First Assembly of God**  
Rev. J.C. Amburn  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- St. George Catholic Church**  
Father George Roney  
Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.  
901 N. 16th, Haskell
- Church of Christ**  
Philip Sims, minister  
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.;  
Wed. 7 p.m.  
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- First Presbyterian Church**  
Kelly Pigott, interim pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.  
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Trinity Baptist Church**  
Larry White, pastor  
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.  
114 S. Ave. D, Haskell
- Hopewell Baptist Church**  
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

- Greater Independent Baptist Church**  
Sun. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell
- New Covenant Foursquare**  
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.  
Wed. 7 p.  
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell
- Mission Revival Center**  
Rev. William Hodge  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.  
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell
- First Baptist Church**  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.  
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Church in the Wind**  
C.C. Curran, pastor  
Sun. fellowship 5 p.m. Church 5:30 p.m.  
Tues. Bible Class 7:30 p.m.  
203 S. 1st East, Haskell
- Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church**  
Morris R. Johnson, pastor  
Sun. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Wed. 7 p.m.  
1600 N. First St., Haskell
- God Loves You Ministries**  
Mark Wallace, pastor  
Church Service 10 a.m.  
West side of square, Haskell
- WEINERT—
- First Baptist Church**  
Dan Bullock, pastor  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.  
Weinert
- Weinert Foursquare Church**  
Rev. Robert Harrison  
Sunday 11 a.m  
Weinert
- ROCHESTER—
- Church of Christ**  
Steve Willis, minister  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.  
West on Main Street, Rochester
- First Baptist Church**  
Joseph Barrett, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.;  
Prayer Time/Team Kids 5 p.m.;  
Wed. Youth meeting 7 p.m.  
500 Main, Rochester

- Union Chapel Baptist Church**  
Clovis Dever  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
Rochester
- Faith Chapel of Rochester**  
Randy Hollingsworth, minister  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 6 p.m.  
Hwy 6, Rochester
- SAGERTON—
- Sagerton Methodist Church**  
Stephanie Gilkey, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.  
Sagerton
- Faith Lutheran Church**  
Rev. Dr. Keith Palmquist, pastor  
Sun. 10:30 a.m.  
Sagerton
- RULE—
- First Baptist Church**  
Russell Stanley, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
1001 Union Ave., Rule
- Primitive Baptist Church**  
Dale Turner Jr., pastor  
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.  
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule
- Church of Christ**  
John Greeson, minister  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
811 Union, Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**  
Alfa y Omegas  
Manuel Marin, pastor  
Sun. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.  
500 Elm Street, Rule
- Sweet Home Baptist Church**  
Larry Neal, pastor  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m.;  
Gladstone Ave., Rule
- West Bethal Baptist Church**  
Rev. Clovis Dever  
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.  
300 Sunny Ave., Rule
- PAINT CREEK—
- Paint Creek Baptist Church**  
Sun. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Paint Creek
- O'BRIEN—
- O'Brien Baptist Church**  
Jim Reid, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p, Wed. 6 p.m.  
O'Brien

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### Wanted

LOCAL OWNER wants to cash purchase more land. \$90,000 to spend on mostly wheat or cotton land. Target price \$1000/a. His number 309-264-4097. 6-8c

### Help Wanted

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ROLLING PLAINS Detention Center is accepting applications for business office clerk. Applicants must have a high school diploma, a valid drivers license and a clear criminal history. Responsible for performing accounting and audit functions with general accounting procedures, accounts payable, inmate accounts. Benefits include medical at no cost to the employee, PTO, 401K and optional benefits. 7-8c

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### Public Notices

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL OIL AND GAS DOCKET NO. 7B-0264372 IN RE: CONSERVATION AND PREVENTION OF WASTE OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS Austin, Texas January 29, 2010

NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF KINDER MORGAN PRODUCTION CO LLC TO CONSIDER UNITIZATION AND SECONDARY RECOVERY AUTHORITY FOR ITS PROPOSED KATZ (STRAWN) UNIT KATZ (STRAWN) FIELD HASKELL, KING, KNOX AND STONEWALL COUNTIES, TEXAS NOTICE IS HEREBY

GIVEN to the public and to all interested persons that under the legal authority and jurisdiction of Title 3, Oil and Gas, Subtitles A, B, and C of the Texas Natural Resources Code, Chapters 26, 27 and 29 of the Texas Water Code, and TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. art. §§ 2001 et seq. (2010), the RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS will hold a hearing on MARCH 5, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. at the William B. Travis State Office Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. This hearing will be conducted in conformity with the TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. art. §§ 2001 et seq. (2010). For room assignment, on the date of the hearing please check the bulletin board in the 1st Floor lobby. Persons planning to attend this hearing are urged to contact the applicant (see service list) immediately prior to the hearing date to be sure that the hearing will proceed on the scheduled date. This hearing will be held to consider the application

of Kinder Morgan Production Co LLC, to consider unitization and secondary recovery authority for its proposed Katz (Strawn) Unit in the Katz (Strawn) Field, Haskell, King, Knox and Stonewall Counties, Texas. A plat of the proposed unit is attached to this notice. Applicant advises that 99.97% of the working interest and 77.07% of the royalty interests have agreed to unitization at the time the application was filed with the Commission. In addition, applicant requests entity-for-density authority for the Katz (Strawn) Unit.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Brian Sullivan, at (512) 327-8111. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Railroad Commission, Office of General Counsel, at (512) 463-6848.

IF A CONTINUATION IS NECESSARY, this hearing will proceed at the William B. Travis State Office Building, Austin, Texas, and, to the extent possible, on subsequent working days. The room number and exact time of the continuation will be announced on the record in this proceeding and recorded with Docket Services, Office of General Counsel, Railroad Commission of Texas.

PURSUANT TO SAID HEARING, the Commission will enter such rules, regulations, and orders as in its judgment the evidence presented may justify.

ANY REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT of this hearing must be received no later than five (5) working days prior to the scheduled date shown above. Copies of such request must be forwarded to all parties shown on the service list.

TO APPEAR IN SUPPORT OF OR IN OPPOSITION TO THIS PROCEEDING, a party other than the applicant must file with Docket

Services, Office of General Counsel, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date, a notice of intent to appear. A copy of the notice of intent to appear should be served on the applicant and any other parties of record.

IF ANY PARTY DESIRES A WRITTEN TRANSCRIPT of the hearing by a Court Reporter, that party should notify Docket Services at (512) 463-6848, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date. If a written transcript is requested, the Commission may assess the cost of the transcript to one or more parties. Unless any party requests a written transcript, the record will be made by audio recording.

ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY who needs auxiliary aids and services in order to have an equal opportunity to effectively communicate and participate in this hearing must request such aids or services at least two weeks prior to the scheduled hearing by notifying the Personnel office of the Railroad Commission of Texas by mail at P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, or by telephone at (512) 463-7327 or TDD No. (512) 463-7284.

ALL EXHIBITS

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FILED AS A PART OF THE RECORD in this cause must be submitted in duplicate. Data in Commission records may be incorporated by reference, but the reference must be specific, and if it includes exhibits filed in prior proceedings before the Commission, a copy of such exhibit properly identified shall be submitted for this record.

A LIST OF THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES of those persons receiving notice of this hearing is contained in the Commission's file on this proceeding and is available for inspection at the Railroad Commission's offices in the William B. Travis State Office Building, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas, 78701.

THE APPLICANT MUST review this notice for accuracy and completeness. The applicant shall immediately notify Docket Services, Office of General Counsel of any discrepancy or omission.

THIS HEARING REQUIRES NOTICE BY PUBLICATION. 5-8c

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Owner  
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Doug Sorrells  
Supervisor  
940-256-0536

Office  
940-864-3490

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Agents: Chan Guess and Hess Hartsfield

### FEATURED LISTINGS

**307 S. BRUESTEDT, ROCHESTER CUTE 1998 MOBILE HOME.** 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large living area, formal dining area, kitchen with breakfast nook, nice size utility area, house sets on 5 lots.

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**  
**LOOK WHAT WE FOUND: HISTORIC BUILDING.** Two story, open downstairs area, office areas upstairs, step down cement safe area, great location, corner lot. **REDUCED.**

**404 N. 1ST, GREAT LOCATION.** Large retail building with closed out merchandise for sale. Two story building has an open store front downstairs with a semi enclosed office area. Behind the store front is great store room area. Upstairs is more storage. There are two bathrooms downstairs. Building can be sold without the merchandise.

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License numbers available upon request.

### POL. CALENDAR

The Haskell Free Press is authorized to make the following announcement for the political office in Haskell County, subject to the action of the 2010 Primaries.

Unless otherwise specified the candidates listed paid for the announcement, and have designated themselves as campaign treasurer.

All political advertising and announcements are cash in advance.

### Tax Assessor-Collector

Connie J. Benton

### Justice of the Peace

Lynn Dodson

Gerre Colbert Larned  
Pd. for by Sammy Larned,  
Campaign Treasurer

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### David Dodson

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mrike@dtmspeed.net

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### FARM AND RANCH LISTINGS

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**NORTHWEST HASKELL CO.** 60 +/- Ac. of old CRP. Good waterfowl location.

**NORTHWEST HASKELL CO.** 132.2 +/- Ac. of CRP. Annual C<sup>SO</sup>LD payment is \$4,262.

**SOUTHEAST OF RULE.** 160 Ac. Pasture, good hunting, fenced and two water wells.

**WEST OF HASKELL.** 64.54 +/- Ac. CRP farm. Payments a<sup>SO</sup>LD 2,401/yr. through 2016.

**SOUTHERN KNOX CO.** 80 +/- Ac. cultivation on CR 4451 west of Munday.

Excellent yields with water in the area.

**NORTH HASKELL CO.** 171 +/- Ac. cultivation and sma<sup>SO</sup>LD pasture. Excellent cotton yield and s<sup>SO</sup>LD and availability of electricity.

**NORTH HASKELL CO.** 65 +/- Ac. cultivation with high cotton yield.

**SOUTHWEST OF HASKELL.** 302 +/- Ac. cultivation with high yields and high annual payment.

**SOUTHEAST HASKELL CO.** 379 Ac. +/- pasture and cultivation, excellent hunting, Horse Creek and a sacrifice price of \$775/ Ac.

**HISTORIC SPIDER ROCK RANCH.** 2128 +/- Ac. located on the Brazos River in Haskell and Stonewall Counties. Property has some cultivation and lots of pasture for deer, turkey, quail, dove, hogs, fish from natural spring tank, mountain lions and bobcats. There is a large home and two barns on the property and a set of working pens.

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**PIPS PERFORM**— The 2009-10 Players in Progress performed their final time Tues., Feb. 9 at the varsity boys' game. Team members, front row, l-r, include Cody Coleman, Brayden Brzozowski and Brock Bridges; middle row, Cash Bassett, Brice Bridges and Garrett Waggoner; and back row, Crissy Bassett, Grace Colley, Rowdy Raynes, Logan Burson, Brison Tullos, Tye Coleman and Jacie Klose. Not pictured is Creed Williams.

## Time to make preparations for severe weather events

by Caron Yates

Even though parts of Texas may still be digging out from the latest snowstorm, it is time to be thinking and planning for severe weather, including thunderstorms and tornadoes.

Governor Rick Perry has proclaimed Feb. 21 through Feb. 27 as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Texas. Hector Guerrero, Warning and Coordination Meteorologist with the National Weather Service in San Angelo, says that each year Texans are surprised by tornadoes or severe thunderstorms. And while there are varied reasons people are caught off guard, Guerrero emphasizes that it is vitally important to have more than one way to receive NWS, or National Weather Service, warnings.

You can receive NWS warnings from devices such as a cell phone, smart phone, PC, radio, television or NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards. The All

Hazards Radio functions like a smoke detector and warns you anywhere and anytime. This device will automatically alert you of tornadoes, flash floods and severe thunderstorms while you're sleeping or away from the radio or television.

County Judge David Davis, whose office is designated as the local Emergency Management office, can provide help in obtaining and using the weather radio. Radios can also be purchased at the local electronics store.

In connection with the Weather Awareness Week, the NWS encourages all residents and schools across West Central Texas to practice their tornado warning drill on Thurs., Feb. 25 at 9:30 a.m. The NWS in San Angelo will transmit a **Special Message** through the Emergency Alert System on this date. However, because of the nature of the message, it may or may not activate certain NOAA

Weather Radios.

The NWS offers these rules to help keep you safe.

1) Stay informed, and always have more than one way to receive weather information in case you lose power.

2) Know the difference between a watch and a warning. A **watch** means conditions are favorable for severe weather, while a **warning** means severe weather is likely or imminent and has been identified by the NWS or Storm Spotters.

3) Know the name of your county and those around you.

4) Know what to do ahead of time. The safest places are storm shelters, however the next safest place is an innermost, windowless room or hallway on the lowest floor of your home. If outdoors, get inside a building and use your arms to protect your head and neck. If in a car, never try to out-drive a tornado. Get out of the car and take shelter in a nearby building. If that is not available, lie in a ditch or low-lying area away from the vehicle.

5) Flash Flood Safety—Always Turn Around Don't Drown when you encounter a flooded low water crossing.

6) Lightning Safety—Watch the clouds and be prepared to take shelter before you hear thunder or see lightning.

Haskell County residents don't worry much about hurricanes or earthquakes, but we all know the devastation severe thunderstorms or tornadoes can cause. So, before the storm season is upon us, be sure you have a safety plan ready to implement.

## Calendar

### Mexican lunch

A Mexican Stack lunch will be served Sun., Feb. 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the First Assembly of God Church in Haskell. The meal will be Mexican Stack served with beans, dessert and drink. Donations will be accepted. Carry outs will be available. Proceeds will benefit the fund to pay the insurance premiums for the church.

### Catfish lunch

A catfish fillet lunch will be held Sun., Feb. 28 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church located on east Hwy. 380 in Haskell. Cost is \$8 per ticket. The menu will include fried fish, coleslaw, french fries, hushpuppies, beans, tea and dessert. Take outs will be available. Proceeds benefit the youth group's church camp fund.

### Music program

Over the Rainbow for Noah will be held Sat., March 6 beginning at 6 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Haskell. Musicians will perform a variety of music for the enjoyment of those attending. The price of admission is the attendee's choice and all proceeds benefit the Noah Project.

### Volleyball night

First Baptist Church in Haskell is hosting an open gym for volleyball every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. Volleyball players of all ages are welcome to come and play. There is no charge. For more information, call the church office at 864-2581.

### Cancer support

The Haskell Area Cancer Support group meets every other Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the First Assembly of God Church. For more information, call 940-864-5964.

### Rochester homecoming

Plans for Rochester homecoming are being made for Friday and Saturday Oct. 8-9.

## LAWN AND WEED CONTROL

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Residential and Commercial Weed Control  
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17 years experience in Haskell County.  
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## 5-C BBQ & CATERING

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Stephen Campbell

Hours: Mondays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 5 to 8 p.m.  
Tuesday thru Friday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Plate Lunches and Sandwiches**  
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**with All of the Trimmings!**

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## RE-ELECT

# LYNN DODSON JUSTICE OF THE PEACE



Being Justice of the Peace is a 24/7 responsibility which requires extensive study as well as detailed application of the law regarding the following issues:

- ETHICS •CIVIL
- CRIMINAL •MAGISTRATE
- JUVENILE
- FORENSIC AND FATALITY

•LEGISLATIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE AND FIDUCIARY DUTIES, INCLUDING COMPUTER OPERATIONS, ONLINE REPORTING AND INTERNET RESEARCH

As a county official, I am trained in emergency management planning, Homeland Security issues, pandemic flu outbreak, natural disasters and mass fatalities.

My qualifications are my 22 years of legal experience with over 14 years serving in Justice Court, first as the clerk and since April 2001 as your judge of the "People's Court." I promise that coming before my court a person will receive justice...based upon a fair, impartial, equitable and knowledgeable decision, and as a county official I will continue to represent and serve our county with the same dedication as I always have given in judicial as well as civic matters. **I would appreciate your vote of confidence on March 2nd in the Haskell County Democratic Primary.**

Pol. Ad Paid For by Lynn Dodson - Campaign Treasurer

## Book Fair set Feb. 22-26

A Scholastic Book Fair will be held at Haskell Elementary School beginning Mon., Feb. 22 through Fri., Feb. 26. The book fair, for students from prekindergarten through eighth grade, will be in the Haskell Elementary library each day from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and until noon on Friday. This year's theme is "Book Fair Diner: All You Can Read" and it will offer a large variety of good books for all ages.

Everyone is invited to the "Family Event" on Thurs. evening, Feb. 25 from 4:30 until 6 p.m. Families will have an opportunity to shop together and enjoy refreshments, and there will be student drawings for book fair merchandise.

Join us at Scholastic's "Book Fair Diner" and see what's on the menu for great reading.

For more information call 940-864-2654, extension 309.

## RE-ELECT Rhonda (Hewitt) Moeller County Clerk

To the citizens of Haskell County,  
After serving Haskell County for 22 years as county clerk, a few months ago I regretfully announced my resignation due to a health problem. Since that time, thankfully, the health issue has been resolved, and I would like the opportunity to continue to serve the citizens of Haskell County.

My husband and I are lifelong residents of this county. We have been married 34 years and raised two children here. Our daughter Kelli and her husband live in Crowley and have blessed us with a grandchild. Our son Casey lives and works in Haskell.

A significant accomplishment during my time of office has been the computerization of all indexes for birth, death, marriage, military discharge and probate records. All real estate records since 1994, indexes as well as documents, have been computerized. Scanning and entry of the county's real estate records prior to 1994 continues.

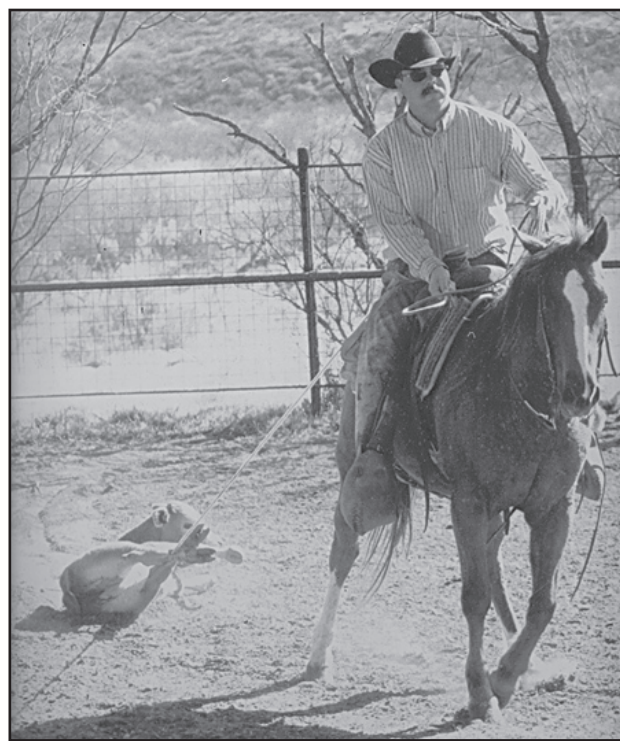
One of the most challenging jobs is the handling of county and party elections. This includes primary, runoff, general and constitutional amendment elections, early voting, election night results, and election reports to the Secretary of State. Another responsibility is the maintenance of Public Record Information on Criminal, Civil, Probate Records and the minutes of Commissioners Court.

I believe over the past years I have demonstrated the qualities necessary to be a county clerk. If I am honored to be elected, I will continue to serve the citizens of Haskell County in a professional and an ethical manner. As an experienced and dependable clerk, I am qualified to continue to fulfill these responsibilities with the same maturity and efficiency as I have done in the past. I ask for your vote at the polls on March 2.

Thank you,  
*Rhonda Moeller*

Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Rhonda Moeller

## Chad Gibson for Haskell County Judge



**Whatever it takes to get you to go vote March 2.**

**Thank you for the support and your vote.**

Pol. Ad Paid for by Chad Gibson, Campaign Treasurer