

Softball

HASKELL
Bi-District game
V vs Loraine
Fri., April 29, 5 p.m.
at Trent
Sat., April 30, 3 p.m.
and 5 p.m., if needed
at Trent

Baseball

HASKELL
V vs Knox City
Fri., April 29, 5 p.m.
at Haskell

Track

HASKELL
V at Regional Meet
May 2-3 at ACU in Abilene
PAINT CREEK
Region II-A Meet
May 2-3, Abilene
RULE
Regional Track Meet
May 2-3 at ACU in Abilene

Calendar

Registration

Haskell Elementary School will register Pre-K-April 29 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the elementary office. Call Peggy Adams at 864-2654 for more information.

All night party

An All Night Party meeting will be held Thurs., May 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the 4-H office. Lots of volunteers are needed to help the night of the party Fri., May 27. Please come to the meeting or contact Barbara Utley at 940-864-5453 if you can assist in any way.

Day of prayer

National Day of Prayer will be held Thurs., May 5 at 12 noon at the gazebo on the square to pray for our country, leaders, community and schools, hosted by the Haskell Ministerial Alliance.

New ministry

East Side Baptist Church in Haskell is starting a new ministry geared for 18 to 30 year olds. A new Bible study class will be held on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. beginning May 1 taught by Pastor Jay Beerley. For more information, contact the church office or email Jay at jbeerley@esbchaskell.org.

Garage sale

The Haskell Chamber of Commerce will hold a community-wide garage sale Sat., May 7. Application forms are available at the Chamber of Commerce office at 510 S. 2nd St. or by calling 864-2477.

Bake sale

The Haskell Area Cancer Support Group will hold a bake sale Sat., May 7. A table will be set up on the square for opening of maps for city wide garage sale at 6 a.m. Also a table will be at Modern Way at 9 a.m. We are accepting baked goods for this sale. This helps our group provide medication assistance, information and support of every kind for cancer patients in Haskell County. Contact Kim Hutto at 325-864-4466, 940-864-5964 or Mae Lou Yeldell at 940-864-2981 for details.

Veterans' pictures

The Haskell Free Press is seeking pictures of veterans to be published in the Thurs., May 26 edition. Space is limited to the first sixteen pictures received. Please bring your original picture to the Free Press office or call 864-2686 for details.

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Good luck Maidens and Indians

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 125-NO. 17, ©APRIL 28, 2011

"The People's Choice"

16 PAGES-TWO SECTIONS-75 CENTS



PLANTING DETAIL—Helping to plant crape myrtle trees at the park last Thursday were, l-r, B.J. Lusk, Volly Ivy, Kenneth Campbell and Ben McGee, chairman of the Betterment Committee.

Proposition election for May 14 explained

The Development Corporation of Haskell (DCOH) is often referred to as the Economic Development Corporation or EDC for short, but Development Corporation of Haskell is the official name.

The specific power to create the DCOH is the Texas Development Corporation Act of 1979, which allows a city to hold an election to approve a 1/2 cent sales tax to fund and to create a not for profit corporation to promote industrial development in that community (commonly referred to now as a Type A corporation).

The DCOH was created under this statute after the citizens voted to establish a 1/2 cent sales tax to promote economic development in Haskell in a previously held city election. The corporate by-laws were adopted by the Board of Directors of the DCOH on Aug. 22, 1997 and approved by the city council in Sept. 1997.

The law has been amended several times, and in one of the changes, a new type of corporation can also be created under this same act, which has the ability to do more retail and quality of life projects (referred to as a Type B corporation). Also, already established Development Corporations have another option under the State statutes which is the ability for the voters to grant certain powers available for

Type B corporations to a Type A corporation. Each of these powers must be voted on separately and only those that pass by a simple majority will be granted.

The five powers the DCOH is asking the people of Haskell to vote on are all the additional powers that the voters can grant to a Type A corporation. The following are simple examples of how each power might help us in Haskell.

Proposition 1—If this proposition passes, it would allow the DCOH to use our resources with projects such as putting lights at the baseball fields, at the park or at the track field, improving the rodeo grounds, or improving the golf course.

Proposition 2—This proposition would allow us to use our funds for improvements or additions to the Haskell Civic Center or the Haskell County show barns. Our funds could also be used to help pay for the proposed outside speaker system at the courthouse and around the square.

Proposition 3—This proposition would allow us to use funds to improve the city park, the city swimming pool, or maybe even create some new park projects in other parts of town.

Proposition 4—Passage of this proposition would allow us to help in creating or maintaining a museum.

Proposition 5—This would

allow us to assist builders with affordable housing projects such as assisted living facilities, apartment complexes, and single family residential housing.

It is important to emphasize that the passage of the five propositions in this election will not increase any tax currently being paid in Haskell, but have the potential to greatly aid our

city.

Passage of the five propositions will necessitate a yes vote for each of the five separate propositions.

Early voting begins May 2 and continues through May 10, with the election set for May 14th. In order for your vote to count, you must have your voter certificate or an acceptable form of identification.

Indians, Maidens to play this weekend

by Caron Yates

After defeating Baird and Eula last week, the Haskell Maidens softball team earned the co-district championship title. A title they share with state ranked Albany.

The Maidens met and lost to Albany on Sat. in a game to determine the number one seed in the play-offs. The Haskell team, which advanced to the Regional Quarterfinals last season,

will continue their march to a state title, when they meet Loraine for the Bi-district championship.

The best of three series will be played in Trent beginning at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 29. The second game, also played in Trent, will take place Sat., April 30 at 3 p.m., with a third game, if needed, to begin at 5 p.m.

The Maidens begin their play-off run with a 9-1

Day of Prayer to be observed May 5

by Caron Yates

The 60th annual observance of the National Day of Prayer will take place on Thurs., May 5. Locally, the Haskell Ministerial Alliance is sponsoring the event at the Gazebo on the square at 12 noon.

According to nationaldayofprayer.org, this tradition of setting aside a day of prayer was seen even before the founding of the United States, when the Continental Congress in 1775, called for the "setting aside a day of prayer." It was in 1952, that the U.S. Congress, by a joint resolution, established an annual day of prayer.

President Harry Truman signed it into law, and for the next sixty years Americans have gathered in various places across the country to pray for America and its leadership. In 1988, the law was amended, designating the National Day of Prayer as the first Thursday in May.

The theme for this year's observance is, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," which is based on Psalm 91:2. Organized and promoted by the National Day of Prayer Task Force, this is a day set aside to encourage all who seek to pray for our nation, to do so in any way deemed appropriate.

Shirley Dobson, Chairman of the National Day of Prayer Task Force says, "Prayer is an indispensable part of our heritage, and as citizens, we must remain faithful in our commitment to intercede for our nation during this pivotal and challenging time."

Everyone is encouraged to come be a part of a powerful force, as we pray for our country, leaders, community and schools.



HOUSE DEMOLITION—City of Haskell and Haskell County work crews demolished several houses in Haskell last week to help with the beautification efforts. This house stood at the corner of N. 5th and Avenue E.

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



PRIZE WINNERS—Haskell Elementary PTO recently sold candles as a fundraiser for the elementary school. Top sellers names were entered into a drawing for prizes. Winner of the bike was Kourtney Gibson, center; Ankit Bhakta, left, won a DS; and Sarah Fouts, right, won a MP3. Gibson will get to trade the bike for an age and gender appropriate one. Money raised will be used to purchase additional document cameras for classrooms.



PAINT CREEK TRACK—Members of the Paint Creek Junior High track competed at the district track meet April 20. Team members include, front row, l-r, Paige Ramirez, Caitlyn Mengwasser, Sara Edwards and Dylan Webb; back row, Dakota Mayor, Stormy Darnell, Hanna Colley, Shady Blue Dunlap and Brad Pannell.

PCJH competes at district track meet

The Paint Creek Pirate and Lady Pirate track teams competed in the District meet at Throckmorton Wed., April 20.

Girls' district champion in the shot put is Stormy Darnell. Darnell took first place in the shot put at all her track meets this year.

Other Lady Pirate results include: shot put, Hanna Colley, fourth place; discus, Colley, fourth, Darnell, fifth, Sara Edwards, sixth; long jump, Shady Blue Dunlap, fourth, Paige Ramirez, sixth; 200m dash, Ramirez, third, Dunlap, fifth; 100m hurdles, Dunlap, third; 100m dash,

Ramirez, fifth; 400m relay, second (Darnell, Dunlap, Edwards and Ramirez).

Pirate results: 100m dash, Brad Pannell, third, 400m dash, Dakota Mayor, second, Dylan Webb, fourth; 300 hurdles, Pannell, second; long jump, Pannell, sixth.

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Proposition election set May 14

The City of Haskell has scheduled an election for Sat., May 14 to authorize the Development Corporation of Haskell (DCOH) to expand their ability to assist local enterprises in Haskell.

It is important to emphasize that the passage of the five propositions in this election will not increase any tax currently being paid in Haskell. Simply stated the passage of the five propositions will allow the DCOH to further assist existing business expansion and/or new business operating in Haskell, including, but not limited to the development of affordable housing, children's sports facilities, entertainment facilities, parks and museums.

Passage of the five propositions will necessitate a yes vote for each of the five separate propositions.

Carlin Louise McFadden

Funeral services for Carlin Louise McFadden, 70, formerly of Haskell, were held Tues., April 26 at East Side Baptist Church in Haskell. Interment was in Willow Cemetery in Haskell.

McFadden passed from this life Sat., April 23.

Born March 10, 1941 in Haskell, she was the daughter of A.D. and Maudie Wright McFadden, who preceded her in death.

She was a member of Lakeridge Baptist Church in Lubbock. Prior to moving to Lubbock, she was a faithful member of East Side Baptist Church in Haskell where she liked to work in the nursery.

She was preceded in death by a brother-in-law, Ronnie Timms.

Those left to cherish her memory are her three sisters and six brothers: Troy and wife, Barbara of Elmore City, Oklahoma; Martha Timms of Baird; Richard and wife, DeeDee of Lubbock; Faye Rich and husband, Bill of Lubbock; Dale of Abilene; Gail Brady and husband, George of Lubbock; Ricky of Longview; Kendall and fiancé, Patty Smith of Gladewater; and Ernest of Longview. She will be greatly missed by her 17 nieces and nephews, who were her pride and joy, along with their families, and many cherished aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

A special thank you to the staff of Hospitality Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Lubbock for the loving care that she received while living there. PD. NOTICE

Local Farm Bureau leaders address issues on Capitol Hill

The federal deficit, national budget, agricultural spending, the next farm bill and estate tax repeal served as points of discussions between Texas agricultural producers and their U.S. senators and representatives during talks on Capitol Hill in April.

More than 140 state and county Farm Bureau leaders, led by Texas Farm Bureau

(TFB) President Kenneth Dierschke, reconnected with their nationally-elected officials during the three-day TFB National Affairs Awards Trip. For many county Farm Bureau leaders, this was their first trip to the nation's capital. Johnny and Linda Josselet and Justin and Megan Cox attended from Haskell County Farm Bureau.

"The contact we made

with our senators and congressmen is extremely valuable to us as farmers and ranchers," said Haskell County Farm Bureau leader Johnny Josselet. "We had the opportunity to sit down face-to-face with members of Congress to express our opinions on how the estate tax negatively impacts us and the consequences of reduced farm program funding."

Burdensome Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations and pending free trade agreements with Columbia, Panama and South Korea also were high on the list of priority issues for the Texas farmers and ranchers.

Farm Bureau county leaders who qualified for the organization's annual awards trip to Washington, DC., did so by working with their elected officials on a regular basis and participating in national affairs events in their districts.

CUSTOMER NOTICE

On April 1, 2011 Atmos Energy Corporation, Mid-Tex Division ("Atmos Energy" or "the Company"), filed a Rate Review Mechanism ("RRM") filing to increase its gas rates and implement a new schedule of rates and riders. This filing is applicable to all customers within all incorporated cities served by the Mid-Tex Division, with the exception of the City of Dallas. The proposed effective date of the requested rate changes is August 15, 2011. If approved, the proposed changes will affect approximately 1,196,253 residential, 98,792 commercial, and 731 industrial and transportation customers.

If approved, the proposed rates will increase the Company's annual revenues for the affected incorporated areas of its Mid-Tex Division by \$13,151,685, or 1.25% percent, including gas costs, or 3.15% percent, excluding gas cost. The proposed change in rates constitutes a "major change" as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code.

Based on the proposed rate design, the typical monthly bill for each customer class within the affected incorporated areas of the Mid-Tex Division will increase by the amount and percentage shown in the table below:

Customer Class	Current Bill	Proposed Bill**	Difference	Percentage Increase with Gas Cost	Percentage Increase without Gas Cost
Residential	\$60.37*	\$60.93*	\$0.56	0.93%	2.36%
Commercial	\$228.12*	\$230.20*	\$2.08	0.91%	4.21%
Industrial	\$2,299.71*	\$2,312.13*	\$12.42	0.54%	2.19%
Transportation	\$669.30	\$681.72	\$12.42	1.86%	2.19%

Note: Bill impact ranges are subject to varying tax rates among the cities.

* Includes Rider GCR Part A cost of \$4.9784 per Mcf.

**The calculation of bill impacts assumes monthly consumption of 6 Mcf for residential, 30 Mcf for commercial and 300 MMBtu for industrial and transportation customers.

In addition to the rate revisions in Rate Schedules R, C, I, and T, the other proposed tariff change is an update to the factors included in Rider WNA.

Persons with specific questions or desiring additional information about this filing may contact Atmos Energy Corporation at 1-888-286-6700. Complete copies of the filed Rate Review Mechanism, including all proposed rates and schedule changes, are available for inspection at Atmos Energy's offices located at 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75240 or on our Web site at www.atmosenergy.com/mtx-rrm. In addition, customers can contact their respective municipality for additional information regarding this rate request.

Este es un aviso a los clientes de Mid-Tex Division de Atmos Energy Corporation (la Compañía) que la Compañía está solicitando un cambio en las tarifas del gas. Este cambio afecta a todos los clientes en las áreas incorporadas y servidas por Mid-Tex Division excepto la Ciudad de Dallas. Si usted tiene preguntas con respecto a este aumento, por favor llame a Atmos Energy Corporation al 1-888-286-6700.

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PLANT CRAPE MYRTLES—Progressive Study Club members Dorothy Hartsfield, left, and Lynn Dodson, president, joined in the efforts to plant eleven crape myrtle trees around the LaBriere house at the City Park last Thursday. Not pictured is Frieda Ivy.

Retired Teachers Association

The Haskell County Chapter of the Texas Retired Teachers Association met April 20, at the Red Rooster Restaurant. Twenty-three members and two visitors were present.

President Tommye Jo Clark called the meeting to order. Cathy Bartley gave the invocation, the minutes were read and approved, and the treasurer's report was given.

As a "giving back to the community" project, it was decided that \$75 would be donated to each of the three Haskell County school libraries. A memorial committee made up of Letha Newton, Nancy Toliver and Judy New was appointed to review and set guidelines for the next year.

Nancy Toliver presented the "Health Minute." She emphasized the importance of exercises which stretch and restore range of motion, especially to the neck.

Don Bridges and Tommy Jo Lindsey gave reports from the State Convention, as

well as updates on decisions being discussed and made by the legislature that have significant effects on not only retired school personnel, but also the entire education system and its current teachers.

Lindsey gave a report on the State Foundation and the many ways it helps future teachers with scholarships, awards grants for current teachers wishing to implement innovative projects and assisting retired teachers in need of financial help.

Bridges gave information on several of the bills being debated and the effects they will have. Members were encouraged to stay informed and contact their legislators.

The next meeting will be May 18, beginning at 11:30 at the Red Rooster Restaurant. All retired school personnel are encouraged to come be a part of this organization, which serves as our voice in Austin.

Paint Creek School honor rolls listed

Paint Creek School has announced the names of students appearing on the A and A-B honor rolls for the fifth six weeks of school.

First grade: A honor roll, Ethan Jenkins; A-B honor roll, Chris Acosta, Dawson Conn, Jaron Langford, Chris Pannell and Kolby Tidrow.

Second grade: A honor roll, William Bogle, Jasmine Boyd, Gracie Oliver, Isidro Salinas and Corbin Waggoner; A-B honor roll, Dakota Davis, Zakary Elkins, Gabriel Mitchell, Eric Perkins and Brianna Yanez.

Third grade: A honor roll, Nancy Acosta and Tanner Booe; A-B honor roll, Kayla Bosnjak, Madyson Moore, Augi Moreno, Bobby Nieto, Jaclyn Snelling, Adaline Utley and Larissa Villarreal.

Fourth grade: A honor roll, Garrett Arendall, Bailey Hawkins and Daniel Salinas; A-B honor roll, Jr. Bogle, Cameron Poulton, Chase Thompson, Gabe Todd, Antonio Yanez and Brittany Yanez.

Fifth grade: A honor roll, Abby Blair and Felicity Gentry; A-B honor roll,

Cheyenne Elias, Bayden Graham, Katelyn Jenkins and Marina Salinas.

Sixth grade: A-B honor roll, Caitlyn Douglass, Catherine Lemond, Corey Mengwasser and Buddy Trotter.

Seventh grade: A honor roll, Caitlyn Mengwasser.

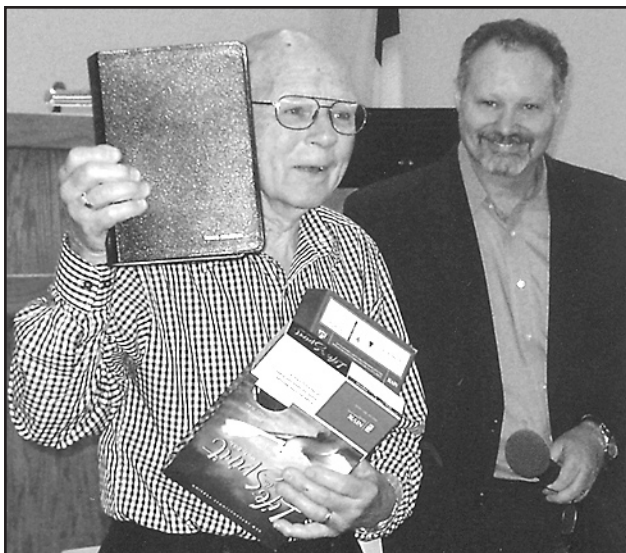
Eighth grade: A-B honor roll, Bryant Booe, Hanna Colley, Chris Elias, Micah Waggoner and Brad Winterstein.

Ninth grade: A honor roll, Cody Mayfield and Kadie McCord; A-B honor roll, Shawn Myers.

Tenth grade: A honor roll, Katie Jones; A-B honor roll, Matthew Booe, Cheyenne Buerger, Brittany Herring, River McTasney and Jamie Todd.

Eleventh grade: A honor roll, Katie Bosnjak, Katrina Buerger, Caleb McCord, Haley Myers and Felysha Walker; A-B honor roll, Cole Gardner.

Twelfth grade: A honor roll, Shana Armstrong; A-B honor roll, Curtis Bishop, Hunter Hall and Denton Reed.



SOLOMON HONORED—Travis Solomon, left, was honored by the area Assemblies of God church as Deacon of the Year recently. The award was presented by the North Texas District Superintendent, Rev. Rick Dubose, right, at a banquet held in Albany.

Travis Solomon named Deacon of the Year

Longtime Haskell resident Travis Solomon, has been honored as Deacon of the Year in the Abilene area Assemblies of God churches.

Solomon, whose name was submitted by Pastor J.C. Amburn of the First Assembly of God in Haskell, was selected for the honor from among candidates of seventeen other churches.

He was presented the award by the North Texas District Superintendent, Rev. Rick Dubose, at a banquet held at First Assembly of God in Albany.

This quiet, gentle man has served on the deacon board for his church since 1963. He has lead the morning worship in song for approximately forty years, as well as taught a Sunday School class. In addition, during the building of the current church, he took on the role as treasurer

of the building fund, which encompassed many responsibilities.

Born and raised in Haskell, he married his wife, Alma, in 1950. They have three daughters, Judy and Hollis Callaway, Becky and Bobby Howeth, and Leisha and Mark Greenroy, along with six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Solomon spent much of his career working in the grocery business, first with Buster Gholson at Gholson's Grocery and then with Bud Pogue at Pogue's Grocery. He also has served as a driver for the Headstream Center, as well as the Double Mountain Coach. In his free time, he enjoys working outdoors.

His family, including sisters Zella Moeller and Gracie Griffis, along with many members from his church, were present for this special occasion.

Paint Creek School to register Pre-K and Kindergarten students

Paint Creek School will hold registration for Pre-K and Kindergarten students for the 2011-2012 school year Thurs., May 12. Pre-K students currently enrolled at Paint Creek need not enroll until fall registration. Come by the school office between 12:00 noon and 3:30 p.m. to complete needed paperwork.

To attend Kindergarten a child must be 5 years old on

or before Sept. 1, 2011. To attend Pre-K a child must be 4 on or before Sept. 1, 2011. Parents should bring their driver's license, and their child's immunization record, birth certificate, and social security card to registration.

If you cannot attend registration, but have a Pre-K or Kindergarten student, call the school at 940-864-2868 and make arrangements to come at another time.

Piano recital to be presented May 1

Piano students of Pam Gibson, Grace Colley, Gibson will be presented in spring recital Sun., May 1, at 4 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Haskell.

Students to perform are Emma Roewe, Eddie McBroom, Hannah Long, Reed Roewe, Kourtney Gibson, Grace Colley, Garrett Waggoner, Sarah Fouts, Dalton Meinzer, Alye Stewart, Sam Fouts, Kylie Adams, Jacee Guess, Katie Newberry and Emily Fouts.

The public is invited to attend.

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Helpful Hints for the Family of a Person with Alzheimer's Disease

The following suggestions are addressed to caregivers of people with dementia:

- The secret of success in handling the person with dementia can be stated in one word: consistency. Whatever you do, always do it the same way and, if possible, at the same time.

- Any change in the person's performance should be noted. It may be just a bad day; however, if the behavior change persists for three or more days in a row, the person needs to be evaluated.

- Sainthood is not a requirement. When things do not go well, anger and distress on the part of the person with Alzheimer's disease and yourself are normal and acceptable.

- If the person wears dentures, be certain to check their fit. He or she may not be able to let your know if they are loose or rubbing.

- A person with Alzheimer's disease may not be able to wait to find a rest room once he or she has left home. The following steps can ease this problem:

- *Do not leave home without having the person use the bathroom.

- *When you arrive at your destination, locate the nearest bathroom.

- *If it has been more than two hours since the person has used the bathroom, ask if he or she needs to do so. If the person's responses are not reliable, do not ask but take the person to the bathroom and say "I think it would be a good idea if you used the bathroom now." Do not wait for the person to ask to use the bathroom.

- *It is a good idea to carry a plastic bag with a change of clothing. If the person is occasionally incontinent, it is better to be prepared than to worry about what to do later.

- *Panty hose are difficult for women with dementia to handle. Try ladies' knee-highs or socks.

- *Low-heeled or flat crepe-soled shoes help the unsteady person with Alzheimer's disease.

More hints will follow in a later column.

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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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Senate panel OKs state budget proposal

AUSTIN—Senate Bill 1, a \$175 billion version of the 2012-2013 state budget, was approved on April 21 by the Senate Finance Committee before both houses of the Texas Legislature recessed for Easter break.

In simple contrast to the \$164 billion state budget the House approved on April 1, the Senate Finance Committee's version would spend billions of dollars more on public education and health care. SB 1 dredges for non-tax revenue and employs accounting shifts that make \$5 billion more available in addition to an infusion of about \$3 billion from the Rainy Day Fund.

Although the Senate Finance Committee's proposal seems opulent next to the House's \$164 billion proposal, both plans give the state far less to run on than the 2010-2011 current state budget of \$182 billion.

A current revenue shortfall caused the Legislature this spring to obligate a portion of the state's Rainy Day Fund. With reservations, Gov. Rick Perry allowed it, but said he would not let the House or Senate tap the fund to shore up 2012-2013 state budget. So conflict lies ahead with the proposed SB 1 taking another \$3 billion from the Rainy Day Fund.

F. Scott McCown, executive director of the non-partisan Austin think-tank Center for Public Policy Priorities, said, "no one should pretend that the Senate budget meets the needs of Texas. And no one should pretend that the Senate budget is the best choice in a tough economy. The Legislature has better choices."

Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, chair of the Senate Education Committee, has a bill that would manage SB 1's \$4 billion in education cuts. "No single school district takes such a drastic cut that their operations would be irreparably harmed," Shapiro said.

A floor debate on SB 1 is expected this week. If the full Senate passes SB 1, it will move to the House for consideration.

To help balance future state budgets, the Legislature must find a way to cure the state's structural revenue deficit that comes from: property tax relief enacted in 2005, the underperforming business margins tax that was created to compensate for the property tax relief, on top of a multi-year economic slowdown. Sen. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, chair of the Senate Finance Committee, said if the structural deficit isn't

dealt with, the state could be \$8 billion short on education funding in the 2014-2015 biennium.

Meanwhile, the House set 5 p.m. April 25 as the deadline for members to submit proposed amendments for something just as pressing as the state budget: the redistricting bill, scheduled for floor debate on Wednesday, April 27.

Texas gets education dollars

The U.S. Department of Education last week approved Texas' application for \$830 million in federal funding for Texas schools, which had been stalled in Washington for the past nine months as a result of an amendment to the federal education jobs bill by U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett forcing Gov. Perry to dedicate the funds to education alone.

Congress recently passed a budget bill that included a repeal of Doggett's amendment.

Drought prompts prayer days

Texas' drought is shaping up to rival Dust Bowl-like conditions of the 1930s. Related wildfires that now plague the state make it even worse.

In light of such conditions, Gov. Perry proclaimed the three-day period from Friday, April 22, 2011, to Sunday, April 24 as Days of Prayer for Rain in the State of Texas.

"I urge Texans of all faiths and traditions to offer prayers on that day for the healing of our land, the rebuilding of our communities and the restoration of our normal way of life," Perry's proclamation stated.

Data exposure fix continues

In mid-April, State Comptroller Combs announced that the personal data of 3.5 million current and former state employees had been exposed via a portal on her agency's public Internet site. On April 20, she announced another follow-up measure.

Combs said a private company, CSIdentity Protector, is offering to affected individuals one year of fraud-related assistance for \$29.95. The service includes credit monitoring, Social Security number protection, Internet surveillance and \$10,000 of identity theft insurance and other services.

Employment increases in March

Texas' total nonfarm employment increased by 37,200 jobs in March, making the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the month 8.1 percent, down from 8.2 percent in February. The U.S. unemployment rate for March stood at 8.8 percent.



From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago April 26, 2001

After five years in Haskell as executive director of the Development Corporation of Haskell, Monty Montgomery is leaving to take a similar position in Grand Island, Nebraska.

Haskell High School student, Jimmy Huff, took first place in Prose Interpretation at the Class 2A Regional UIL Contest. Rochester students Ginger Adkins won first in Class A Prose Interpretation, while Marcus Parks took second in the contest.

Jimmy Browning, along with twelve other surviving members of the 1951 Junior College National Championship basketball team at Tyler Junior College, were presented championship rings in a ceremony held at the college.

20 Years Ago April 25, 1991

Jerry Stocks was presented a certificate honoring him as Volunteer of the Year, by Postmaster Robert Park. The award honors the spirit of volunteerism during National Volunteer Week.

Approximately 150 friends were on hand to help Erma Liles of Weinert, celebrate her 80th birthday.

Lois Richardson of Kids' Duds will succeed Conrad Roewe of Sport About as president of the Haskell Business Association.

Local Scout leaders attended the scoutmasters' basic training in Buffalo Gap. Attending from Troop 136 were Robert Cass, pack leader; Paul Brown, Webeloden leader; and Marvin McFadden, scoutmaster.

30 Years Ago April 23, 1981

The Haskell Indian Band, led by band director Barry Crudginton, received Division I ratings at a recent contest, earning them a Sweepstakes Award.

Steve Munday, a Haskell native, has been promoted to administrative assistant with the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. He is an eight-year veteran with the association, having served as editorial director and TSCRA news director.

Mr. and Mrs. A.T. Cook celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary at Rice Springs Care Home. They came to Haskell in 1933.

Haskell High School's Future Teachers of America organization will be led by Dora Arredondo, president; Ruth Simpson, vice-president; Gena Whitaker, treasurer; Sharon Turner,

secretary; Shelah Jetton, historian; and Kim Griffith, parliamentarian.

40 Years Ago April 29, 1971

Tommy McAdams, assistant coach at Haskell High School, was elevated to head football coach. He replaces C.T. (Sonny) Everett, who has accepted the head football coaching position at Sweetwater High School.

Army Captain Michael E. Overton, son of Mr. and Mrs. M.E. Overton, recently received the Bronze Star Medal. He earned the award for outstanding meritorious service with the 146th Aviation Company during his last assignment in Vietnam.

Weinert High School seniors Alexia Mayfield and Pauletta Wilfong, won first place in UIL Debate at the regional meet. They will advance to the state meet in Austin.

50 Years Ago April 27, 1961

Ronnie Walker, a junior student at Mattson Rural High School, placed second at Regional UIL competition in the Slide Rule Contest. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T.C. Walker of Mattson.

Jo Ann Griffith, a senior at Paint Creek High School, will receive the State Future Homemakers Degree at the Future Homemakers of Texas convention in Dallas.

100 Years Ago April 29, 1911

W.F. Druessedow and Henry Druessedow have a cotton chopper. They say they ran the machine this week and twenty-six farmers came to see it work.

The Franklin Tent Theatre will open Monday night and run moving pictures until the dramatic company arrives.

E.H. Morrison and family of Graham, came over in their auto and spent Sunday with Mrs. J.S. Rike and other relatives.

Receives award

Haskell National Bank is proud to be recognized as a 5-Star Superior Bank by BauerFinancial, Inc., Coral Gables, Florida, the nation's bank rating firm. Earning this highest 5-Star rating for strength and stability, Robert A. Howard, CEO, and the entire team at Haskell National Bank have proven their commitment to their customers. To earn Bauer's 5-Star Superior rating, Haskell National Bank must excel in areas of capital adequacy, delinquent loan levels and profitability to name just a few. The fact that it has done so for 76 consecutive quarters puts Haskell National Bank in an even more elite group of "Sustained Superiority Banks." Only seven percent of the nation's banks can claim this distinction.

Haskell National Bank was established in 1890 and has been serving the banking needs of its neighbors and friends for 121 years. It currently operates through conveniently located offices in Abilene and Haskell.

According to Karen L. Dorway, president of the research firm, "community banks, like Haskell National Bank, tend to know their customers, the local business community, when to grant a loan...and when not to grant one. What many people don't realize is that community banks actually have better balance sheets than their larger counterparts. Their capital ratios and nonperforming asset ratios are typically much more impressive than larger institutions. These are not the banks that threaten our economic well-being. On the contrary, they are the lifeblood of it."

Ask the Mayor

By John Gannaway, Mayor of the City of Haskell

A monumental effort has been put forth and we now have 79 crape myrtles in the ground and looking good. There are 53 in the park, eight west of the park across 277, eight across 380 from Star Stop and ten west of Avenue H and south of 380. Twelve have been reserved to be around the city's entrance monuments when they are completed.

This could not have been accomplished without the help of Ben McGee, Kenneth Campbell, Robert Tribbey, Sam Pace, Volly Ivy, Debbie Maines, Melyn Wittenborn, Jan Gannaway, Hollis Callaway, David Frierson, Bobby Lusk, Wes Steele, Jacky Sanders and Brandon Anderson. Frieda Ivy would have been helping but she had to be in El Paso with her Mom who was having cataract surgery. Out of every work detail such as this, there are always some people without whose help the project could not have been completed and those two are Hollis Callaway and David Frierson. Callaway furnished the tractor and diesel and drove and Frierson furnished three augers.

The ground was so dry that the 24 in. and the 18 in. augers wouldn't even start to dig a hole. Frierson suggested that we use his digger with a 12 in. bit and see if it would work—finally some holes were dug. We filled them with water and let them soak overnight and came back the next morning and using an 18 in. auger finally got the holes dug. In some places, the ground was so hard and dry that as we were digging the holes, smoke would be

coming out of the hole. I don't know whether it was the dirt or the steel bit that was smoking—never had seen that before. Now if between the good Lord and Lusk we can keep enough water on them—they are really gonna be pretty.

Visited with Jerry Lewis Saturday morning at the Red Rooster (Clay Howard, my grandson and I were out there to get a hearty breakfast since everyone at home had stayed up too late to even think about cooking breakfast). He said that the foundation for the monuments on 277 were to be framed and poured probably on Monday or Tuesday. Once that concrete cures, it shouldn't take him very long to have those two completed. Soon you'll see those monuments announcing, "Haskell."

When you are out this week, see how many structures (houses, garages, sheds, etc.) have disappeared. The total for the week is ten. Our county commissioners were instrumental in making this a possibility. They helped tear them down, grind them up with bulldozers and haul them off to the landfill. Cooperation like this between the city and county is just one more thing that makes this such a neat place to call home.

May 2 early voting begins for the May 14 elections and specifically for the DCOH proposal. I hope each of you plan to vote. You must have some proof of identification before voting this year. A voter registration card is preferred, but if you do not have one or can't find it you may use your driver's license,

birth certificate, citizenship papers, U.S. Passport, official mail from a governmental entity, utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck. (This information from your city secretary). Just be sure and exercise your right to vote.

Easter has come and gone and I trust you had your family and loved ones to worship and remember the Lord's resurrection with you...and on a lighter note, to help you hunt your Easter eggs. I told someone the other day (not original with me) that one good thing about being near-70 was that you could hide your own eggs!

It was our goal to get the crape myrtles planted before Easter—the last thing we wanted was to leave a hole dug in the park for some jogger/child to fall into. Our next mission is the monuments, then we tackle the fountains in the park and along US 380. I'm still waiting for someone or some organization to sponsor hiring Christmas decorators to light the gazebos. Speaking of gazebos, the one at the park is in need of repairs and the plants need trimming around it as well. Some may need more than pruning, possibly even removal.

Compliment and express your appreciation to those citizens who are making a concerted effort to clean up their property. I can see the difference and I'm hoping that more will be evident after our City Wide Clean-up dates May 7-14.

Thanks again to all the volunteers who helped plant the crape myrtles.

The Haskell Free Press

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This issue mailed Wed., Apr. 27, 2011



Al-Anon

Al-Anon meets Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. at the AA building across from the RV park in Haskell.

2011



HASKELL INDIANS

**Indians vs
Knox City
Fri., April 29
5 p.m.
at Haskell**



HASKELL INDIANS-The Haskell Indian baseball team members include, front row, l-r, Drake Everett, Ricky Barrett, Shayne Whitt, Christian Myers and Kiefer McNelly; back row, Sterling Bird, Simon Rodriguez, Austin Nanny, Marco Gonzalez, Cole Ray Hutchinson and Gabriel Torres. Not pictured is Payne Utley.

HASKELL MAIDENS District Co-Champions



HASKELL MAIDENS-The Haskell Maidens softball team members include, front row, l-r, #13 Samantha Fuentes, #1 Codi Foster, #14 Alyssa Fraga, #20 Sara Weise, #2 Maci Colley and #3 Cailey Foster; back row, #32 Jasmine Klose, #12 Paige Glover, #5 Laycee Tullos, #6 Harley James, #4 Claire Carmichael and #22 Kelsie Adams.

**Maidens vs
Loraine
Fri., April 29
5 p.m.
Sat., April 30
3 and 5 p.m.
at Trent**

GO INDIANS

GO MAIDENS

This Page Sponsored By The Following Indian and Maiden Boosters

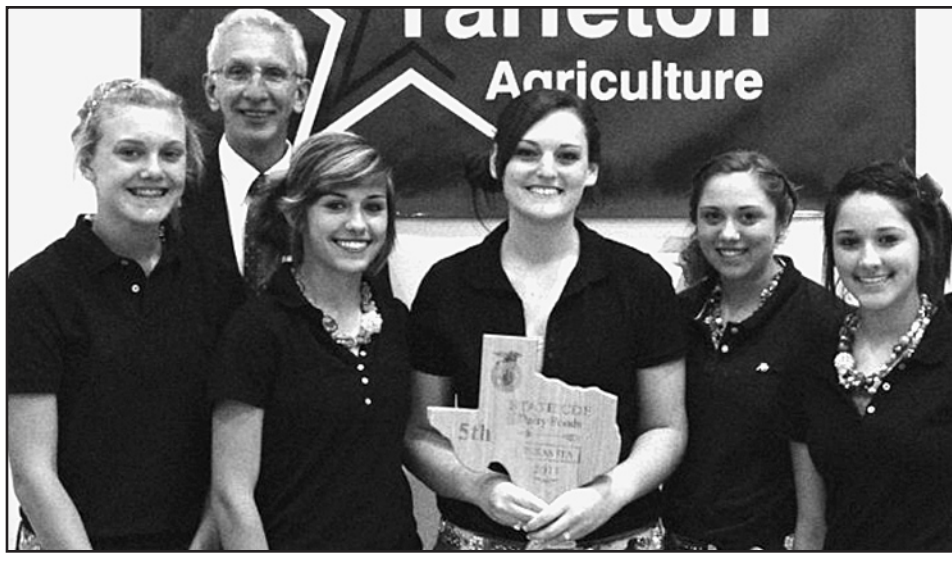
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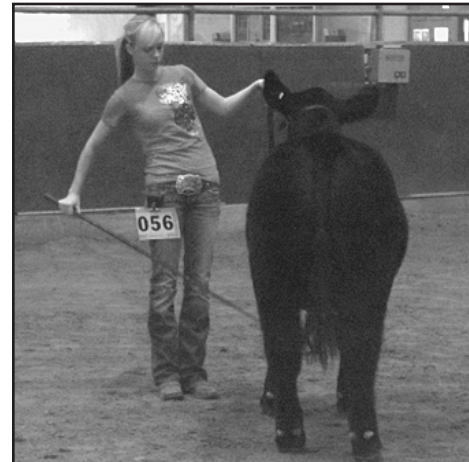
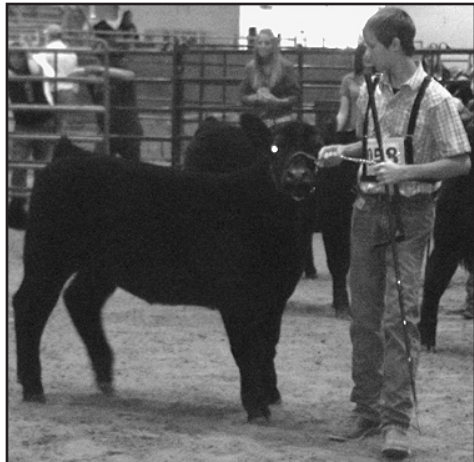




MAIDENS WIN—The Haskell Maidens took home a 10-0 win in the final home/district game against Eula last Friday. Maiden Samantha Fuentes, left, and Jasmine Klose, right, are shown in action during the game.



DAIRY PRODUCTS TEAM—Members of the Haskell FFA Dairy Products team are, l-r, Kaley Mathis, Lucy Carmichael, Denise Hibbitts, Emily Fouts and Meghan Glover. They are joined in the picture by Tarleton State University President Dr. F. Dominic Dottavio, back.



SHOW AT TARLETON—Cheyenne Buerger, left, and Katrina Buerger, right, participated in the Tarleton State University Spectacular Stock Show in Stephenville April 16-17. Katrina placed first in the Heavyweight Angus division and Cheyenne placed second in the Lightweight Angus division. Both are students at Paint Creek School.



RANGE TEAM—Members of the Haskell FFA Range team are, l-r, Marissa McGhee, Shelby Dunnam, Carson Hadaway, Madison Mayfield and Cheslee Hearn. They are joined in the picture by Tarleton State University President Dr. F. Dominic Dottavio, back.

This Week's Devotional Message:



The word 'conservation' should become increasingly a part of our everyday vocabulary; not just as an expression but as a mandate to preserve our environment and ultimately, life itself. When God gave us this planet for our home, He did so as a sacred trust, expecting us to take care of it as conditions warrant. For example, in a normally dry area or during a periodic drought, it is only common sense not

to waste water. And with our landfill disposal sites growing into towering mountains, it behooves us to recycle containers or re-use them as best we can, to at least slow down the process. Learn at your house of worship that the earth is ours to inhabit and enjoy, but also to maintain; so let us assume, our share of the responsibility for it. It's the only home we'll ever have.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

—HASKELL—

- East Side Baptist Church**
Jay Beerley, Senior pastor
Shawn Smith, Youth Worship pastor
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
- Christian Church**
Frank Slayton, minister
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**
Rev. David White, pastor
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., 10:30 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.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.
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.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
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.m.
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**
Rev. Jim McCurley
Jason Daniels, minister of Youth and Music
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:55 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.
301 N. Ave. E, 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.m., 10:45 a.m., 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.m., 10:45 a.m., 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.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 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.m., 10:40 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
811 Union, Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**
Alfa y Omegas
Manuel Marin, pastor
Sun. 10 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
500 Elm Street, Rule
- Sweet Home Baptist Church**
Russell Stanley, interim pastor
Sunday 9 a.m.
Gladstone Ave., Rule
- West Bethal Baptist Church**
Rev. Clovis Dever
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 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.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 6 p.m.
O'Brien

Haskell FFA teams compete at Tarleton

Members of the Haskell High School FFA Range, Dairy Products teams, and Poultry teams competed at the Hamilton State Qualifiers contest April 19. The Range team finished second overall with Cheslee Hearn earning sixth High Individual. The Dairy Products team placed seventh with Denise Hibbitts earning third High Individual. The Poultry team placed third with Krista McLemore finishing third and Ashley Adams placing ninth. The Poultry team will be competing at the State Poultry Contest at Texas A&M May 7.

On April 21, the Haskell FFA Range and Dairy Products teams competed at the state contest at Tarleton State University in Stephenville. The Dairy Products team consisting of

senior, Denise Hibbitts; and freshmen, Lucy Carmichael, Emily Fouts, Meghan Glover and Kaley Mathis placed fifth overall. Six points was all that separated first and fifth places. Hibbitts and Carmichael tied for eleventh place.

The Range team consisting of seniors, Cheslee Hearn and Marissa McGhee; and sophomores, Madison Mayfield, Shelby Dunnam and Carson Hadaway finished fourth at the state contest advancing them on to the National Range Contest for the second year in a row. Cheslee Hearn earned sixth High Individual. The range team will be traveling to Oklahoma City May 1 to prepare for, and to compete in the National Range Judging Contest.

Haskell School Menu

May 2-6
Breakfast
Juice and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu.
Monday: Breakfast bagel
Tuesday: Pig in a blanket
Wednesday: Cereal, buttered toast
Thursday: Croissant, egg, cheese
Friday: Funnel cake

Lunch
Milk and iced tea are served daily at the high school and junior high campuses. 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 spaghetti, green beans, breadstick, rosy

applesauce
Tuesday: Enchiladas, salsa, pinto beans, garden salad, queso, chips, pineapple tidbits
Wednesday: Elem: Roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, English peas, breadstick, orange slices; Jr. High and High School: Two grilled cheese sandwiches, assorted chips, baby carrots, ranch dressing, orange slices
Thursday: Chicken fajitas, cheese, grilled peppers and onions, garden salad, pinto beans, sunshine bars
Friday: Elem: Ham and cheese sandwich, assorted chips, lettuce, tomatoes, apple, cookie; Jr. High and High School: Chicken on a bun, veggies, baked fries, apple

Paint Creek School Menu

May 2-6
Breakfast
Juice and milk are served daily.
Monday: Waffles
Tuesday: Biscuits, gravy
Wednesday: French toast
Thursday: Breakfast pockets
Friday: Pigs in a blanket

Lunch
Milk is served daily.
Monday: Spaghetti, green beans, garlic bread, cake
Tuesday: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, bread, apple crisp
Wednesday: Ham, mac and cheese, corn, salad, bread, oranges
Thursday: Nachos, refried

beans, salad, brownies
Friday: Hot dogs, chili, chips, rice krispies

Pirate Golf team results

The Paint Creek Pirates golf team competed at the Region II-1A golf tournament at Shady Oaks Golf Course in Baird and placed fourteenth with a score of 386-430-816.

Team results were:
Dusty Hall, 86-85-171;
Caleb McCord, 87-99-186;
Travis Graves, 110-114-224;
Hunter Hall, 103-132-235;
and Andrew Mathes, 121-135-256.

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EASTER MUSIC—Haskell Elementary Kindergarten students sang Easter songs at Haskell Healthcare Center and Experienced Citizens Center Wed., April 20. Folks enjoyed hearing “Doggies Shouldn’t Eat Chocolate Bunnies” and “Peter Cottontail.” Teachers are Susan Cox, Judy Washburn, Laurie McBroom, Ember Medford and Pam Gibson. Brad West, Elementary Watch DOGS (Dad of great student), also accompanied the group.



GRASS HEAD GUYS PROJECT—Fonda Newton's fifth grade class at Rule Elementary displays their “Grass Head Guys” project they grew for science and art. Grass seed was sprouted in nylons with potting soil, wiggly eyes and decorated caps for clothes gave them personality. Students participating include, front row, l-r, Mason Helms, Pablo Sandoval, Thomas Short and Emily Speck; back row, Justice Walters, Armando Chavez, Rinaldo Chaves, Christina Moore, Alexandra Martinez and Alexzandra Roberts Cooper.

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For Sale
 FOR SALE: 1983 Honda Goldwing 1200 Interstate, fully dressed, \$3000 OBO less cash with trade. 940-996-6278 after 5 p.m. 16-19c

For Rent
 OFFICE SPACE for lease: 105 N. Ave. D. Available April 1. 864-2238. 11tc

Healthcare Center, 1504 N. First St., Haskell. 16-17c

management of the campus food service operation. Maintains food production that ensures the safety and quality of food according to policies, procedures, and department requirements. Applicants should contact Barry McBroom at 940-997-2246. 17c

amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the “U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) which prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).”

The person responsible for coordinating this organization’s nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Kirk H. Petty, Manager. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination, may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations by contacting USDA. To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative Inc. and USDA are equal opportunity provider and employers.”

Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible. 17c

MOTHER’S DAY Special: 3 year old geraniums, 12” pot with saucer. Wooten’s 864-3696, Haskell. 17-18c

IN RULE, TX! Rent to own, large 2 bedroom. \$225 monthly. 1315 Taylor. 940-642-6599. 17-18c

THE CITY of Haskell will be accepting applications for summer help. We will hire 2-3 young people who will work mainly in the Parks department with mowing and weed eating, as well as other maintenance and beautification projects. Interested applicants can pick up an application at City Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on any weekday. Starting date and ending dates of employment are negotiable. Applications are due by May 9. 16-17c

Public Notices
 STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is the recipient of Federal Financial Assistance from the Rural Electrification Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as

AGILITY is looking for experienced forklift operators in the Haskell, Texas area. Candidate must be certified to operate a 36,000 # forklift. Job entails unloading and loading trucks using above referenced equipment. Positions are full time with benefits and candidates will be expected to work overtime. 2+ years of related experience and/or training preferred. EOE. Email resumes to dbyers@agilitylogistics.com or fax to 281-582-3042. 17c

Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible. 17c

HASKELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
 is looking for an experienced RN to be charge nurse on floating shifts. Position will have guaranteed hours and is eligible for all full time benefits including hospital paid health insurance and matching retirement. Salary is competitive and includes premium for floating schedule. Please contact Human Resources at 940-864-2621 ext. 331 or mail resume to HMH, P.O. Box 1117, Haskell, TX 79521.

Garage Sale
 INDOOR FLEAMARKET: Open Fri. and Sat., 10 to 4. Across from the bank in Rule. Too much to list. 17p

S&S STORAGE in Haskell has storage units for rent. Call 864-2208. 17c

FOR LEASE: 604 N. 3rd. 1 bedroom apartment. CH/A. 864-3762. 17c

CAFETERIA MANAGER VACANCY: Rule ISD is seeking applicants for a cafeteria manager for the 2011-2012 school year. Responsible for the supervision, training, and

management of the campus food service operation. Maintains food production that ensures the safety and quality of food according to policies, procedures, and department requirements. Applicants should contact Barry McBroom at 940-997-2246. 17c

management of the campus food service operation. Maintains food production that ensures the safety and quality of food according to policies, procedures, and department requirements. Applicants should contact Barry McBroom at 940-997-2246. 17c

management of the campus food service operation. Maintains food production that ensures the safety and quality of food according to policies, procedures, and department requirements. Applicants should contact Barry McBroom at 940-997-2246. 17c

HASKELL CITY WIDE garage sale: Sat., May 7. Map pick up at 7 a.m. on the square. Sign up at the Chamber office or call 940-864-2477. 17-18c

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DISTRICT WINNERS—Haskell 4-H members who were winners at the District 4-H Fashion Show were, l-r, Avery Tanner, Emily Fouts, Sarah Fouts, Jenny Dudensing and Allison Petty. Not pictured are Grace Burgess, Lori Beth Rodgers and Zhenia McTasney.



WINNER—Adaline Utley of Haskell was a winner at the 4-H District Fashion Show held in Bowie.

E-mail your news, photos and ads to The Haskell Free Press at hfpnews@lycos.com or hfp@valornet.com

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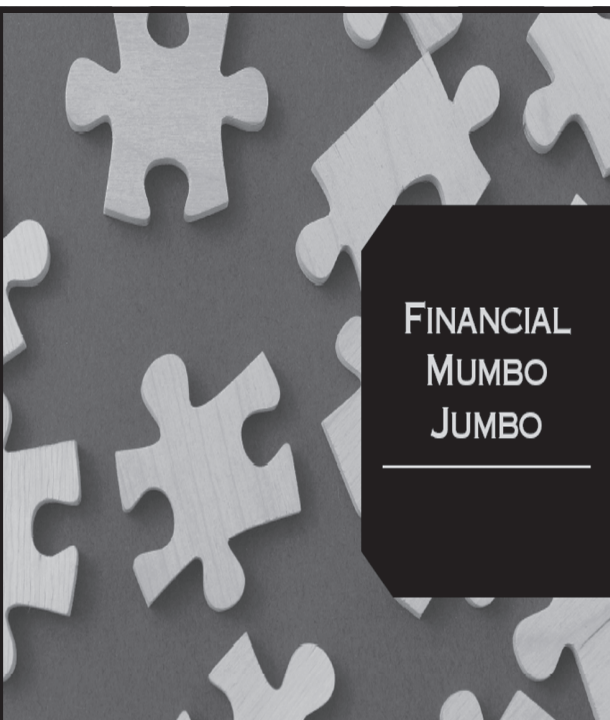
4-H'ers compete at district fashion show

by Jane Rowan
 CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.
 Nine Haskell County 4-H members advanced to the Rolling Plains District 4-H Fashion Show April 16 after winning first place honors at the Haskell County 4-H Fashion Show in March.
 The district show was held at the Bowie High School where 4-H contestants from 24 counties participated in the annual event sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension, Wichita County Farm Bureau, Montague County TEEA and AEP Texas.

Cotton Awards, donated by the Rolling Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. were given to the best cotton garments in the construction and buying categories in each junior and intermediate division.
 In the senior category a cotton award was limited to one senior participant. Bowie County 4-H leaders hosted the event featuring "Glitz & Glamour" as the theme.
 Results of the day's competition were:
 Fashion Story Board—Junior Accessory: Adaline

Utley, Haskell, first place.
 Fashion Story Board—Senior Wearable: Grace Burgess, Rule, first place.
 Junior Construction—Casual: Utley, sixth place.
 Junior Construction—Specialty: Sarah Fouts, Sagerton, first place.
 Junior Buying—Casual: Lori Beth Rodgers, Haskell, fifth place.
 Junior Buying—Dressy: Avery Tanner, Sagerton, second place; Cotton Award, first place.
 Intermediate Construction—Specialty: Zhenia McTasney, Haskell, third place.
 Senior Construction—Dressy: Emily Fouts, Sagerton, first place.
 Senior Construction—Specialty: Allison Petty, Rule, first place.
 Senior Buying—Dressy: Jenny Dudensing, Sagerton, first place.
 Senior Cotton Award: Petty, first place.
 Also being recognized for special awards were:
 Best Senior Construction: Petty.
 Best Senior Model: Petty.
 First place senior winners, Grace Burgess, Allison Petty, Jenny Dudensing and Emily Fouts will advance to the State 4-H Fashion Show June 14-15 in College Station.
 Five Haskell County Volunteer 4-H Clothing Project Leaders served

as judges at the district competition. These leaders were Renee Dudensing of Sagerton, Kris Fouts of Sagerton, Barbara Utley of Haskell, Leiza Morales of Haskell and Cindy Rodgers of Haskell.
 4-H is the youth development and leadership program of Texas AgriLife Extension, a part of the Texas A&M University system. Local County Extension Agents, provide leadership for the 4-H program in each county. Serving Haskell County as County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences is Jane Rowan. She can be contacted by calling either 940-864-2658 or 864-2546. The Haskell County Extension Office is located at 101 S. Ave. D in Haskell.



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City Wide Clean Up Week set May 7-14

The Haskell City Wide Clean Up week will be held Sat., May 7 through Sat., May 14.
 The landfill will be open Sat., May 7 and Sat., May 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Landfill hours May 9-12 will be 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fri., May 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 The City does not have trailers. Personal trailers and trucks hauling loose trash must have a tarp. Bulky items, lumber, tin, etc. must be tied down.
 Trailers and loads will be weighed at the landfill on the scales. There will be no charge, but the landfill

must record the weight in compliance with TCEQ rules.
 Chemicals, tires, batteries, anything containing Freon, asbestos, roofing materials and paint will not be accepted during clean up week.
 Bulky items will be picked up if they are by the dumpster, only if arrangements have been made by calling City Hall at 864-2333.
 This is a service for the citizens of Haskell who live in the city limits. Those using the service may be asked for proof of residence, such as a water bill.

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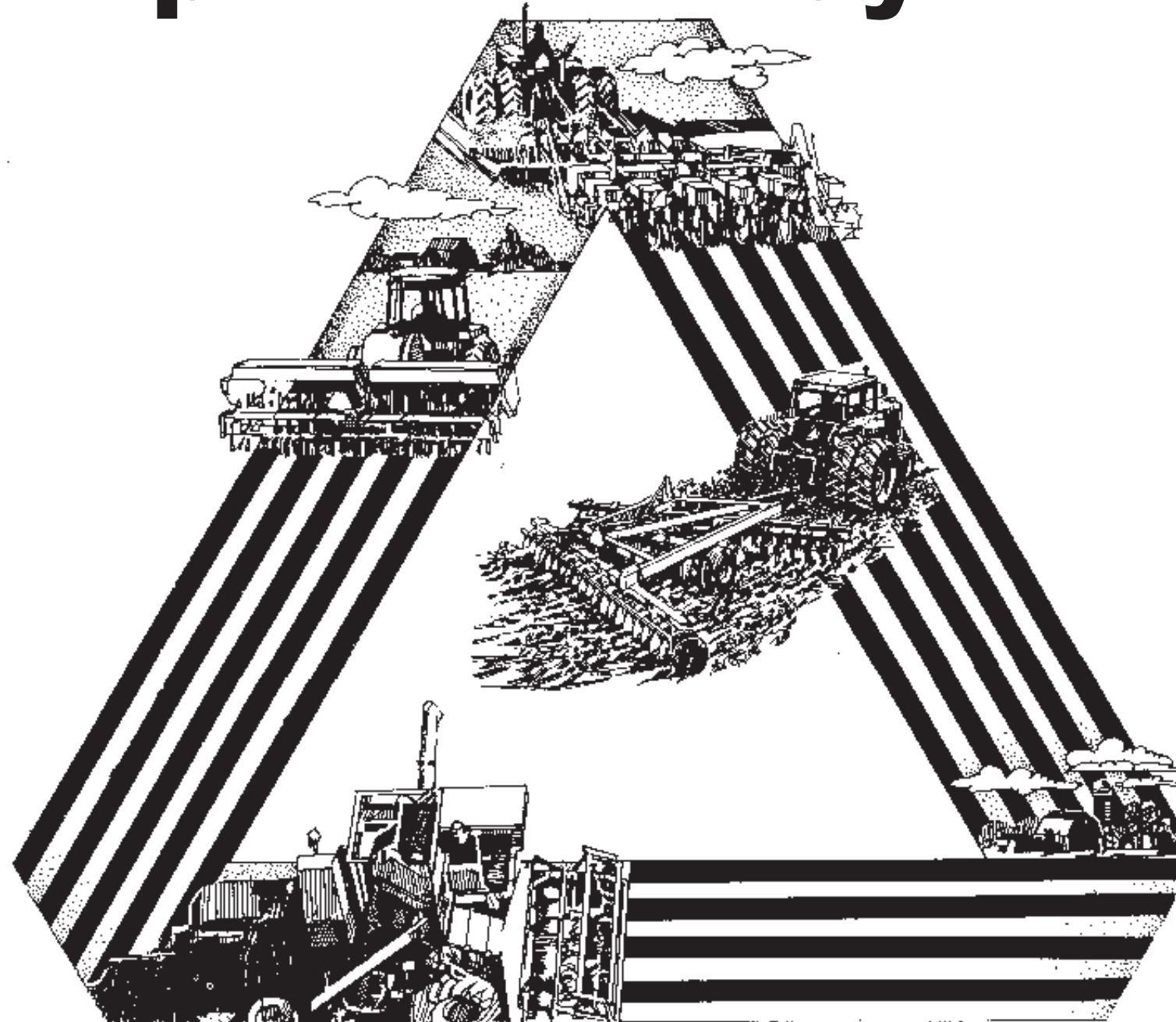
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Soil Stewardship Week

April 24TH – May 1ST



We're a nation blessed with natural resources...soil and water resources that make us one of the richest agricultural countries in the world. And we want to keep it that way. Support soil and water conservation efforts through your local soil and water conservation district. The Haskell Soil and Water Conservation District gratefully acknowledges the advertisers in this special section for making its publication possible and the 1000 cooperating farmers and ranchers in Haskell County for their conservation agreements.

The Haskell Free Press

with Haskell Soil & Water Conservation District

April, 2011

8 PAGES

Forest for People – More Than You Can Imagine is theme of Soil Stewardship Week, April 24-May 1

As a part of Haskell County the Haskell Soil and Water Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a responsibility to be a good steward of natural resources during the annual Stewardship Week celebration. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is celebrating the 56th year of Stewardship week during April 24-May 1, 2011. The 2011 Stewardship Week is themed "Forests for People-More Than You Can Imagine." Trees provide us with shade, wood products,

fuel, as well as help clean the air we breathe.

Kenneth Sanders acts as the chairman for Haskell SWCD. The District was formed to assist people in Haskell County. During Stewardship Week, Haskell SWCD will be receiving an insert for their bulletin along with a church leadership guide. The district also provides book covers to the area schools. Each year they sponsor the annual Poster Contest and Essay Contest.

"Understanding the importance

of forests in our daily lives is the key connection of the 2011 NACD Stewardship theme," says NACD President Gene Schmidt. "Forests play a critical role in providing clean water, healthy wildlife habitat, as well as jobs for our citizens and products that we use every day."

Haskell SWCD is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts (www.nacdnet.org) which oversees the Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to promote conservation. NACD

represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, which were established to encourage resource conservation across the country.

Additional information about forestry education is available on the NACD website at www.nacdnet.org/education/resources/.

Poster contest winners named

Winning the Haskell SWCD district poster contest were; 1. Cash Bassett, Haskell, second grade; 2. Bailey Hawkins, Paint Creek, fourth grade; and 3. Allie Andress, Haskell, fourth grade.

Haskell

Second grade: 1. Cash Bassett. Third grade: 1. Caleb Wright, 2. James Robledo, 3. Heavenly Perez. Fourth grade: 1. Allie Andress, 2. Desiree Weidler.

Paint Creek

Third grade: 1. Austin Roysdon 2. K'Lee Lampe, 3. Desiree Acosta. Fourth grade: 1. Bailey Hawkins, 2. Brittany Yanez, 3. Cameron Poulton.



SWCD holds essay contest

Each year the Haskell SWCD holds a Scholarship Essay Contest. The district offers two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors in Haskell County who write an essay on the Soil Stewardship Week theme of the year.

The essays are judged by area judges who have interest in and know about soil conservation. Co-

sponsors of the contest are Haskell National Bank, First National Bank-Haskell, Central Texas Farm Credit, Rule Banking Center and Capital Farm Credit.

Included in this supplement are some of the essays written by area seniors.

These essays do not reflect the results of the judging.



**DISTRICT WINNER
FIRST PLACE
Cash Bassett
Haskell second grade**



**DISTRICT WINNER
SECOND PLACE
Bailey Hawkins
Paint Creek fourth grade**



**DISTRICT WINNER
THIRD PLACE
Allie Andress
Haskell fourth grade**

Proclamation

Our Texas landscape is a natural treasure. From the Hill Country to the Gulf Coast and from the East Texas pine forests to the West Texas plains, the Lone Star State is abounding with beauty and natural resources.

As growth and development increase, demand on these precious resources also rises. It is imperative that we work to ensure healthy soil for nurturing crops, and a stable, safe and sufficient water supply capable of meeting demand now and in the future.

To highlight the importance of this issue, an awareness campaign will be conducted across the Lone Star State.

At this time, I urge all Texans to remember that it is our duty and responsibility to preserve our environment and protect our great state's natural resources. Through conservation and commitment to maintaining a healthy environment, we will ensure that Texas remains a natural treasure today and in the future.

Therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 24 - May 1, 2011,

SOIL AND WATER STEWARDSHIP WEEK

in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof. In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 1st day of April, 2011.

Rick Perry
Governor of Texas

Forest for People - More Than You Can Imagine

by Jenny Dudensing

Frank Lloyd Wright said, "The best friend of the earth or man is the tree. When we use the tree respectfully and economically, we have one of the greatest resources on the earth."

The way Wright described the tree is true. It is shelter, livelihood, and occasional safe haven and a huge part in the circle of life. Trees and forests are "More Than You Can Imagine" for our world. Without trees, without forests, our world and the people in it would not be able to function or even exist, especially as we are accustomed now.

Trees are important in providing shelter for animals, other plants, and even for people. They protect plants underneath and smaller

animals, giving them a home and place to grow and reproduce. I learned in elementary school that plants emit oxygen, and what do we need to breathe: oxygen. Trees not only harbor wildlife but they also improve air quality.

Forests provide our livelihood, coming from every part of the trees. The wood provides beauty not only when the tree is in the forest. When trees are turned into furniture or built into houses they are just as beautiful. The leaves help our environment when they fall from the trees and enrich the soil underneath. Trees also provide sustenance in the way of food and medicine. We plant trees that not only look beautiful but give us delicious food such as peaches, plums and pecans. Many ways have also been found to use bark or sap as medicine to benefit us, our health and the environment.

When properly managed, trees are a renewable resource. This benefit provides jobs for people from harvesting mature trees and replanting small trees to finished wood products that make our life pleasant. Wood from trees gives us paper that helps us communicate information and ideas to inspire

and inform. Trees inspire art as gifted artisans and craftsmen create things of beauty for all to enjoy either from the wood or as a tribute to the form of trees and forests. Our houses provide comfort, protection and enjoyment thanks to the stately tree.

The importance of forests to our sanity should not be overlooked either. It is important to remember what nature is like, to breathe the fresh air of untainted wilderness. Connecting like this and seeing such beauty is calming and peaceful. Trees add beauty, shade, inspiration, and a great place to play. Trees provide a beautiful landscape, a statuesque symbol to represent home and history, and it is represented as something almost personified. If they are not given human-like qualities, they take on the role of a tree house or the physical beauty and strength of the tree leads to some inspiration.

Now that I think about it, forests provide us with benefits that we immediately notice and other benefits that we often take for granted. When people stop to think about this and the impact that trees have, I know they will agree with me and Mr. Frank Lloyd Wright!

Silent giants

by Amber Allen

In my hometown, rows of trees lined the sides of the streets and surrounded most businesses and homes. I remember looking from the car window at the birds building their homes in the trees and squirrels running and jumping from tree to tree. Heating and air conditioning costs were low because of the trees around our house. When I moved to Texas from Delaware, I noticed the drive between communities was full of wide open spaces. The few trees scattering the land are important to the environment and to the people of the community.

Covering one third of the globe, trees are the lungs of the Earth and play important roles in neighborhoods and the everyday lives of its citizens ("Scientific Facts on Forests," 1). They inhale carbon dioxide from the air and exhale the oxygen we need in order to breathe. These silent giants also

help reduce the greenhouse effect by capturing CO2 and turning it into carbohydrates which help them grow. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, one acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and exudes four tons of oxygen, which is enough to meet the annual needs of eighteen people ("The Value of Trees," 1). Besides helping people, trees also have environmental benefits. They can improve the air quality and reduce the heat-island effect in cities. If trees are planted correctly, they can help save on energy costs

by acting like a natural barrier and can absorb sound and noise pollution. Trees are a natural flood control and help to keep our water clean ("Ten Reasons We Plant Trees," 1).

Trees work hard to accomplish the many significant jobs they perform on our planet. They provide many astonishing uses for us and the Earth, yet people find the need to relentlessly rip down trees to create room for additional businesses and houses and don't bother to replace what they have destroyed. Trees do not simply



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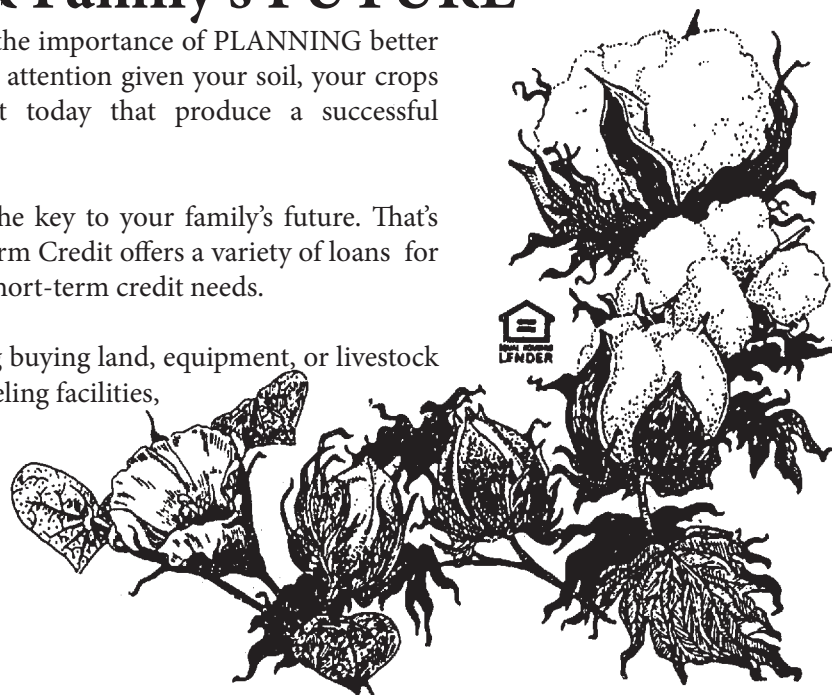
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reappear overnight after being chopped down; requiring time as well as vast amounts of water. When there isn't much rain fall, it becomes difficult for trees to grow as fast or strong as they could be.

For the average senior in high school, the printer is always busy printing scholarships and college applications. I save all of my papers, scholarships and applications to a USB drive, only printing once the projects are completely finished, saving paper. When printing is a must, I print on recycled paper, saving trees. The trees in my yard

protect the homes to squirrels, an array of birds and other animals which reside there. They also help to protect against cold winds in the winter and warm breezes in the summer, saving on energy costs.

Trees provide us with the air we breathe, remove CO2 and other air pollutions from the air and recycle it into nutrients they use to grow and help return the environment to a more natural state, attracting wildlife to the area. They must be protected and conserved so they can continue to be the silent giants of the Earth for decades to come.

Conservation...



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We salute all farmers and ranchers during Soil Stewardship Week April 24-May 1. Their love and protection of the land and respect of living things will preserve these resources for future generations.

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Proclamation

Whereas fertile soil and clean water provide us with our daily sustenance, and

Whereas effective conservation practices have helped provide us a rich standard of living, and

Whereas our security depends upon healthy soil and clean water, and

Whereas stewardship calls for each person to help conserve these precious resources,

Therefore, I do hereby proclaim April 24 to May 1, 2011

STEWARDSHIP WEEK



County Judge of Haskell County

Trees, forests and beyond

by Erica Atkins

People rely on forest in more ways than many imagine. With such a large portion of the earth urbanized, the influence of forests is easily forgotten. Though a town may be urbanized, each citizen is greatly dependent upon trees. Trees provide people with jobs, shade, wind barriers, medicine, furniture, food, and a healthy earth. With so many pros, it would seem obvious that we are all responsible for promoting tree life.

Some see few benefits in preserving forests. Perhaps these same people could be persuaded if they learned a conveniently planted tree could save a great deal of money. In addition to saving money and energy, trees can block strong winds, which will lessen the wear and tear on

a home. Forests go from helping people protect a home, to actually being a home to a person. Panda.org states that forests are home to three hundred million people. Not only are they home to humans, but they are also home to millions of species of animals, plants and micro organisms.

According to "Forest for people," people throughout the entire world depend on forests for goods and services. Very basic items found day-to-day are created from forests, from a simple piece of paper to a beautifully architected dining table. Though there may not be a lavish forest in the immediate area, forests in other parts of the world affect Haskell County. On the "Forest for people" website, it is mentioned that fresh water sources and rivers are protected

and kept clean by forests. It is a basic fact that trees release oxygen. By planting trees and preserving forests, we improve both water and air. So in one way or another, we are all affected by forests.

On the very popular television show, Man vs. Wild, Bear Grylls teaches viewers how trees and plant life can be used to aid humans. He shows how trees can be used as tools, but most importantly, medicines. On countless episodes, he shows how saps from trees can clean a wound, which prevents infection. Natural pain medicines are mentioned on survivaltopics.com. Natural salicin is created in the bark of trees. Salicin acts like a common pill of aspirin, reducing fever, pain, and inflammation. In addition to helping us save money, heal us, and clean water, plant life and trees provide food. Fruits of all varieties come from bushes and trees. Trees not only provide us with fruits and nuts, but some plants are edible themselves.

The three basic needs for human life are food, water, and air. Forests provide us with all of these and much more. Aside from essential benefits, forests from mankind with many recreational activities as well. To escape the chaos and rushing lifestyle of a metropolis area, many retreat to forest to relax and enjoy themselves. Hunting, hiking, biking, sightseeing, and animal watching are just the start of a long list of outdoor hobbies forests provide. Overall, forests do nothing but benefit both humans and animals. We need to help preserve them for our own advantage and pleasure. With so many useful and fun things coming from forests, it seems strange to cut them down. People are oblivious as to how much comes from forests. We all need to do our part, if not for the forest, then for ourselves.

Backyard environment saver

by Ashlee Short

Texas thrives on farming. People in West Texas know that the land they own is used to produce goods that are bought in the U.S. They don't waste the land they are given. As visitors traveling through the Lone Star State, one will see cows in pastures and fields for farming. Forests do not pass the window of a car in the South. Trees are important, though.

Many individuals do not know the positive effects that trees have on our environment. Trees cool buildings off when the temperature rises in the summer. This allows energy costs to drop. They beautify our neighborhoods. Adults looking for houses to buy prefer a house surrounded by trees. They also reduce pollutants in the air. "25,000 forested acres offset the emissions of

10 billion cars," according to eHow.com. Although trees can't take care of themselves. We, as care givers, are responsible for feeding these plants. eHow.com reads, "Learning to care for established trees is key to conservation efforts as well, since they remove up to 70 times more pollution from the air than do smaller trees." This tells us that we should help maintain mature trees now rather than focus only on planting new trees. Tree conservation from eHow.com also says, "Community education is a primary protection effort because landowners who understand the benefits of their trees are more likely to take care of them." Introducing neighbors and friends to the positive facts will promote the care and planting of trees, and we should help spread the news.

As a soon-to-be-college student who will one day be searching for a house of my own, I know I want a house that appeals to me. Gardening is one of my favorite hobbies. Planting flowers and greenery in the spring is one way that I will help the environment. Therefore, I want a house that allows

me to plant a garden and new trees, yet have old trees that I will be able to care for. Not only will this help the Earth become healthier, but I will receive benefits.

According to Morton Arboretum, "The average tree returns \$2.70 in benefits for every \$1 of community investment." I hope that I will become a tree conserver for the environment which will help me as well as my friends and family.

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The tremendous tenor of trees

by Sara Weise

The landscapes of Texas vary greatly. East Texas is known for its towering trees and thick luscious forests. According to USDA's Economic Research Service website, only 634,912 acres of federally owned land is stretched over twelve counties in the eastern region of Texas. This is compared to the 2.3 billion acres of the U.S., as recorded by the 2002 census. My home however, is the exact opposite. The land of West Texas is extremely arid and desert like.

In my community, trees are most dense on our courthouse lawn, and for means of an enticing appearance. Trees and landscapes aid in the real estate business. The value of a home with more trees and an appealing yard is increased by six to seven percent compared to the same house with an unattractive lawn. Trees are scarce to none. That is why the few trees we have need our attention and efforts.

The few trees in the area are depended upon by animals such as birds, squirrels, and insects. These living creatures call trees home and also use them for food and protection. Large livestock raised in the area depend on them for shade to not get overheated when temperatures rise.

As humans, our dependence on trees is even greater. They provide us with shade during our scorching West Texas summers. Families are allowed to postpone turning air conditioners on as early because of the massive amount of shade they give. The Arbor Day Foundation has found that a healthy planted tree is equivalent to ten room size air conditioners running twenty hours a day. In turn, trees aid West Texans in our frigid winters. The wood cut from branches and trunk of the tree is used as firewood to keep homes warm. They also block homes from biting north winds which can save up to twenty-five percent in heating

costs, according to The Journal of Horticulture. They also provide us with food such as nuts, berries, and essential oils. Parts of trees are found in medicines. A fact unknown by many is that there is a multitude of stores that are selling clothing with materials made of either recycled items or a part of a tree.

Mesquite forest

by Cheslee Hearn

As a child, I was convinced that my house was in the middle of a critter filled forest. My adventures consisted of hiking through the mesquite trees and working to reach the end of the woods without getting lost. Numerous tree houses were built in my pasture, and living in a small community little adventures like wondering through my "forest" boosted my imagination. Trees also served an important role in our traditional family camping trips. Building the fire pit and collecting the wood

Trees also help stabilize our environment by keeping rivers from eroding into banks. Trees trap CO2, one of the major contributing elements to the greenhouse effect, from the atmosphere and make carbohydrates that are used for plant growth to assist in making oxygen. As reported by ColoradoTree.org,

was my job, and, as tiny as I was, I was not capable of chopping down trees. Instead, I searched under the trees for already broken off limbs and I always collected enough to sustain us on our trip.

Once I became a teen, our number of camping trips decreased, and our hunting trips increased. Animals must have some sort of cover and protection for them to reside in areas, and if more and more of our trees disappear, hunters will not be successful on their expeditions. The career I plan to pursue relies heavily

mature trees absorb roughly forty-eight pounds of CO2 a year. In tropical areas, maturing takes around thirty years. In colder places, it can take hundreds of years. It is obvious that trees are vital to our environment and need protection and preservation. And I believe it is our job to do so.

on trees and vegetation. A game warden is responsible for dealing with crime in the wildlife industry, and if the trees and vegetation vanish, I will be forced to move to a different location or search for a new occupation.

When I see acres of pastures I think of home, and I wouldn't want to live anywhere else. I know the little acts of conservation I do don't seem to make a difference, but if everyone would pitch in and not use as many paper products, plant a few trees, and build around trees instead of cutting them down, eventually the affects of our works will be noticed. According to Forest for People Fact Sheet, thirty percent of forests are used for production of wood and non-wood products; therefore, we should pay more attention to products we use and work to reduce the amount of waste we produce.

Trees play an important role in our lives, and many fail to realize without forests and vegetation we would be in a predicament beyond help. The website 2011: The year of forests for people—and people for forests states that forests regulate water flow and rainfall so we depend on them to grow our crops and food. According to WWF a living planet website, we have depended on forests as long as we have inhabited the planet—getting clean air to breathe, food and water from it, fuel, shade and shelter. At the rate that deforestation is occurring, this natural resource will become limited, and my goal is to lend a helping hand in the conservation of trees and vegetation as well as my mesquite forest.

More trees please

by Ross Wittenborn

Living in the dry and sometimes hot and dusty world of West Texas, I realize how important trees are to the vitality of our area. I am fortunate enough to have tall trees around my house that provide shade and partial protection from the wind and bad weather. These trees have been in my family ever since my father bought the house and since that time we have planted several pine trees on the northern section of my property that will hopefully grow to be large enough to block the north wind that hits our house. I know the important role that trees play in our ecosystem and realize that they need to be protected.

Farms around the United States use trees to their advantage preventing soil erosion and protecting crops and livestock.

Homes can also benefit from strategic planting of trees around them. Heating costs can be cut by 10 to 25 percent in homes protected by windbreaks ("Working Trees for Agriculture,"2). I have experienced this first hand because my grandmother's farm house is protected by a windbreak on the south and west sides of her house. The windbreak helps to maintain a warm temperature in the house by keeping the wind from directly hitting the house. The windbreak also provides shade in the summer which aids in cooling of the house.

Trees also help in more ways than one when it comes to wildlife. They help to keep water clean by preventing soil from eroding and going into water sources. Roots and fallen debris from trees provides food and hiding places for aquatic animals ("Working

Trees for Wildlife,"4). When I go fishing at my favorite lake, I often see roots and fallen logs that create a hearty habitat for fish that are reproducing. Spawning fish need places that will help them protect their eggs, so the roots and fallen logs are highly cherished spots for fish and fisherman who search relentlessly for these places. Trees and shrubs also clear toxic elements from water, which improves the

quality of the water that we drink ("Working Trees for Wildlife,"4). Not only do trees help to clean the water and provide a habitat for fish and other aquatic animals, but it also provides a place for animals to breed, roost, nest, rear young, hide, and escape predation ("Working Trees for Wildlife,"2).

Although most of the benefits of trees mentioned have been primarily in the country and wilderness areas, cities can also reap the benefits that trees can provide. First of all, trees add beauty to the concrete and steel framework of cities and

can add shade in certain areas such as city parks. Many people live in cities and that means that a large amount of carbon dioxide is emitted from the vehicles that people drive. A major consideration for rebalancing the global carbon cycle is to plant permanent vegetation to help extract carbon dioxide from the air ("Working Trees for Communities,"2). The benefits of having trees are numerous. In order to preserve this natural resource we must take action ourselves. We must start today and do our part in the preservation of trees.

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