



Callahan County Star
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Baird Star

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50¢
31¢ By Mail

Volume 117, Number 9

Baird, Texas 79504

Thursday, March 3, 2005

BAIRD BEARS Sports, Sports, Sports

March 3 - JH Track & Field - Cross Plains
March 3-5 - Varsity Baseball - Albany Tournament
March 5 - HS Track & Field - Cross Plains
March 7 - Bear Golf Boys/Girls - Ballinger - Quick-sand in San Angelo
March 8 - Varsity Baseball - Santo - T - 3:30 pm
March 11 - Tennis - Santa Anna Tournament

Baird High School Project Graduation parents will be having a Bake Sale on Friday, March 4th. It will be at First National Bank in Baird beginning at 9 am. Proceeds from this bake sale will go to help with the party on Graduation night. Project Graduation appreciates your support.

BHS One-Act Play Dinner Theatre Set For March 15

Baird High School will have a dinner theatre on Tuesday, March 15, at 7:00 P.M. in the Baird Cafetorium. Tickets are on sale now for \$7.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children (age six and below).

The sixteen BHS students involved in this year's production are the following: Kaitlyn Walker, Lesley Tumbusch, Mellissa Keith, BreAnna Tollett, Cissy Chavarria, Adriana Diaz, Dana Blair, Carrie Walls, Rustin Williams, Clinton Morgan, Blake Manning, Jordan Glaze, Josh Glaze, Lance Fiedler, Carter Burford, and James Roberts. Price at the door on March 15 will be \$8.00 per

person. This year's contest entry is "The Diviners" written by Jim Leonard, Jr. The play is "produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc."

This production takes place in the homes, fields, and public gathering places of the mythical southern Indiana town of Zion, population forty. The time is the late 1930's or early 1940's.

Please plan to attend on Tuesday, March 15, for a night of entertainment and good food.

For more information on tickets, please contact Mr. Riney at 854-1400, ext. 308 or 309, or 854-2018.

TRANS-TEXAS CORRIDOR TAKING SHAPE

By Viola Payne

I have noticed some changes in political reporting during the past few years.

Once you simply had to find out what was going to be done to you.

Now matters are more complicated - you first have to figure out what has already been done to you, before you go into what is planned for the future.

Like most ordinary

citizens, I have been somewhat in awe (perhaps blissfully so) of details of what Gov. Rick Perry and others envision as the future of Texas highways. (They are called "corridors" now.)

Of course I had seen some glowing articles about the proposed Trans-Texas Corridor, but most seemed so improbable and wordy that I

Continued Inside

Please See Corridor

Coffee With The Congressman



Carol Baird (L) and Lynn Sammons (M) are shown with U. S. Congressman Randy Neugebauer, District 19, at a coffee meeting in Baird at the Whistle Stop Cafe on Saturday. Members of the community took the opportunity to meet the Congressman and discuss issues important to this district. Photo courtesy of Jeremy Brown/Regional Director/Congressman Neugebauer's Abilene Office

Coffee With Congressman Neugebauer Held At Whistle Stop Cafe In Baird

by Margaret Hetrick

At a coffee held in the Whistle Stop Cafe in downtown Baird Saturday, local residents had an opportunity to meet and speak with Congressman Randy Neugebauer about topics of importance to District 19.

Congressman Neugebauer was accompanied by his wife Dana, and several staff members from his Washington, Lubbock and Abilene offices.

Congressman Neugebauer discussed long term changes to Social Security, the Federal and trade deficit, health care problems, cattle producers issues, and funding to small towns, among other topics.

With President Bush's budget proposing the consolidation of various funding programs, a citizen of Baird

expressed concern that help to small towns could be less, while larger cities would receive more.

Neugebauer agreed that when congress is "tightening the belt up", funding may not remain at the present level.

"I'm sensitive to programs for rural communities which attract business and maintain business (in the community)," he said.

Neugebauer, who described himself as a "small business guy", commented that District 19 was about small businesses. He said he would be watching the related issues.

A local resident voiced his concerns about the na-

Continued Inside

See Congressman

County Commissioners Receive Racial Profiling Report; Approve Resolution

The February 28, 2005 Callahan County Commissioner's Court meeting was called to order at 9:32 by Presiding Judge, Roger Corn.

The minutes of February 14, 2005 were amended as follows: County Road #444 was considered a county road except the portion addressed by Rolan Jones. It had not been maintained as a county road and therefore not considered a county road.

The motion to amend the minutes was made by Commissioner Grider and seconded by Commissioner Farmer. The motion carried 5-0.

There were no public comments at the meeting.

County Sheriff Eddie Curtis presented the annual Racial Profiling Law report

at the February 28, 2005 Callahan County Commissioner's meeting. He also gave information about the cost of meals for the County jail, and discussed an amendment to the Sheriff's budget with the Court.

The report showed a total of 94 stops/contacts, broken down by race as follows: W 89/95%, B 1/1%, I 0/0%, A 1%, O 4/4%. The number of stops/contacts by race with search was 26: W 25/93%, B 1/7%, I 0/0%, A 0/0%, O 0/0%.

The Number of consensual searches was 5; by race - W 4/80%, B 1/20%, I 0/0%, A 0/0%, O 0/0%. The number of searches with probable cause was 23; by race - W 22/96%, B 0/0%, I

Continued Inside

See Commssioners

Rep. Jim Keffer To Speak At Walk for Autism Research Kick-Off Luncheon

State Rep. Jim Keffer, Eastland, and National Alliance for Autism Research (NAAR) representatives will speak at a kick-off luncheon for Walk for Autism Research on Friday, March 4.

The luncheon, hosted by NAAR, will be held from 11:30 - 1:00 at the Region 14 Education Service Center in Abilene.

The event is a free informative meeting for those interested in learning about and supporting NAAR.

The West Texas Walk will

be held at Abilene Christian School on Saturday, April 2, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Following the Walk, James Williams, a senior in high school from Katy, Texas who has Asperger Syndrome will speak on the topic *Living With Asperger Syndrome*.

The session will be from 2-4 pm at Region 14 Education Service Center. There is no cost to attend. Registration is requested but not required. Please register at www.esc14.net.

MESSINGER: BONUS SUBSCRIPTION FREE WITH NEWSPAPER TO NEW SUBSCRIBERS

A gift subscription to the TEXAS MESSENGER, the feature magazine published by this newspaper will be given for the remainder of this year to all new subscribers to this newspaper at regular rates.

Half price subscription to the MESSENGER will be given for the rest of the year to all present subscribers who renew their subscription for another year. So it behooves new and renewal customers to act

quickly.

These specials are good through Memorial Day.

The Spring issue is being developed at this time, and there are special features as well as outstanding photographs which are permanent reminders of all the good things going on in our area. Advertisers, new and renewals, are advised to contact the Telegram as soon as possible to be included in this issue.

Texas Department of State Health Services

Will hold the following Immunization

clinics in Callahan County

Monday, March 14th

Baird Cafetorium 400 W. 7th

Time 10-12

Wednesday March 9th

Clyde First Baptist Church 216 Austin

10-12 & 1:30 - 3

Please bring child's

Immunization Records

For more information call 325/754-4945

Callahan County (Baird) Star Classifieds

For Sale

For Sale: Nice 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath House in Rising Star city limits. Good location. \$45,000. Call after 5 p.m. (325) 660-9009.

B52

For Sale: 1 year old registered AKC Schnauzer- \$200. Also, 1 year old Jack Russell- \$50. Call after 5 p.m. (325) 660-9009.

B52

For Sale: 21 ft. gooseneck cattle trailer \$2,000; trailer \$600. Call 254-643-1088.

B52

For Sale: Wolverine steel toe safety boots. D & EE width, pull on and lace, \$114.99 at Johnson's Dry Goods, Cross Plains, TX.

B9

Help Wanted

Help Wanted: Cashier needed for small Country Store. Call 254-643-1748.

B9

Mobile Homes

2 Used Doublewides Free Delivery R32738. 325-643-2654.

B9

Slightly Damaged New Doublewide R32738. You fix-Save a Bunch! 325-643-2654.

B9

Advertising In The Eastland/Callahan County Newspapers Pays \$\$\$\$\$\$
Call 254-629-1707

Notice To Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship of the Person and Estate of Barbara Lambert were issued on February 22, 2005, in Cause No. 49 pending in the County Court of Callahan County, Texas, to: Covenant Outreach, LLC, Guardian of the Person and Estate of Barbara Lambert.
The mailing address of the Guardian is in Taylor county, Texas, as follows:
Covenant Outreach, LLC
c/o S. Clinton Nix
P.O. Box 59
Abilene, Texas 79604
All Persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated February 22, 2005.
BRADBURY, NIX & FOWLKES, LLP
P. O. Box 59, Abilene, TX 79604
(325) 673-7317
(325) 673-3833 fax
Attorneys for the Guardian
By: S. Clinton Nix
State Bar No. 15043300
Attorney for Guardian

CJC CULTURAL AFFAIRS PRESENT HARMONY IN CONCERT

Cisco Junior College Cultural Affairs will present Harmony in concert at the CJC Auditorium on the Cisco campus Monday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend, and admission to the concert is free.
Harmony entertains audiences with ballads, light-hearted string band music, moving contemporary songs and rousing gospel selections. The group is comprised of a trio of talented musicians. Mary Gillihan performs on autoharp, bass and spoons. Robert Gillihan provides clear and rhythmic guitar accompaniments and adds mandolin and mouth bow to the group sound. Dave Smith, also a guitarist, adds fiddle, banjo and button accordion.
In 1998, Harmony was selected from over 700 auditions as finalists in, A Prairie Home Companions, Talent from Towns under 20000 contest. They were first runners up in the contest and were asked to sing an acappella gospel song with host Garrison Keillor.
Harmony works hard to provide a moving and spirited show. The group is not only comfortable with its music and instruments, but also has that special skill of relating its music to its audience.

From Page One
Congressman
Neugebauer replied that there were actually two deficits that needed to be worked on - the Federal deficit and the trade deficit.
He named three factors he felt led to the present situation - taxation, regulatory policies, and the current lawsuit environment.
Companies could compete better globally, he said, if taxes were lower, regulations less, and a different lawsuit environment existed in this country.
"It effects all businesses, large and small," he added.
When questioned about the fact that Canadian cattle will soon be allowed in the USA again, Neugebauer said that after studies had been held concerning animal health issues in Canada, the Secretary of Agriculture now believed it was safe.
He said in early March Canadian cattle 30 months and younger would be allowed in the USA.
"I said he felt talks with Japan (to lift the ban on exporting USA beef products to that country) could also push forward to another level."
Congressman Neugebauer commented on Federal judges acting out of their constitutional responsibility, the cost of food stamps, and said the marriage amendment would be reintroduced in Congress.
A local citizen presented the Congressman with a proclamation concerning Constitutional Rights, and prayers in schools and public meetings.
In closing, Congressman Neugebauer said he would make six more stops that day in his district.
"It's a big district," he commented.
He thanked those gathered for the privilege of serving in Congress, and added that he likes to think of his constituents as his customers.
"We are all here to work for you," Congressman Neugebauer said.

Errors & Adjustments
Please check your ad the first day that it runs to see that all of the information is correct. This will ensure that your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. Call us at 254-629-1707 the first day if you find an error. We must limit our financial responsibilities, if any, to the charge for the space and cannot be responsible for incorrect ads after the first day of publication.

Ann Williams Real Estate
601 Conrad Hilton Cisco 442-1880
www.annwilliamsrealestate.com

******ACREAGE******
40 acres completely wooded with mostly oak timber, very large hill overlooking Lake Cisco, electricity, possible owner financing, deer, turkey, hogs, dove, quail. \$48,000.
52 acres by Lake Cisco, over half a mile of road frontage that is within 200 yards of Lake Cisco shoreline, mostly wooded with oak trees, hill overlooking Lake Cisco, canyons, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, quail, \$62,400.
83 acres mostly wooded with mature oak trees, good hunting/recreation property, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, quail, \$63,700.
90 acres wooded and open fields, trees include live oak, post oak & mesquites, 1 pond, seasonal creek, wildlife includes deer, turkey, hogs, dove, quail. \$89,550.
95 acres wooded with mature oak trees, large hill, good, setup with deer blinds & feeders, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, quail, \$67,000 owner/agent.
97 acres by Lake Cisco, over a mile of road frontage that is within 200 yards of Lake Cisco shoreline, mostly wooded with oak trees, large hill overlooking Lake Cisco, canyons, pond, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, duck, quail, \$116,400.
110 acres mostly wooded w/large mesquite timber, Eubank Creek runs through the property, 3 ponds, 2 hills, 1 field, minerals, deer, turkey, hogs, dove, duck, quail, \$995/ac.
117 acres mostly wooded with mesquite and oak trees, 3 fields, 3 ponds, hill top view, old water well, electricity, minerals, deer, turkey, hogs, dove, duck, quail. \$995/ac.
177 acres by Lake Cisco, over a mile of road frontage within 200 yards of Lake Cisco shoreline, mostly wooded with oak trees, very large hills overlooking Lake Cisco, canyons, pond, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, duck, quail, \$212,400.
306 acres, wooded with 35 acre field, live oak and mesquite timber, older rock house, ponds, deer, turkey, quail, dove, \$125 per acre.
326 acres by Lake Cisco, over three miles of road frontage within 200 yards of Lake Cisco shoreline, mostly wooded with oak trees, very large hills overlooking Lake Cisco, canyons, 2 ponds, will divide, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, duck, quail, \$391,200.

******HOMES WITH ACREAGE******
172 acres w/3BR home, bldg, ponds, water well, deer, turkey, dove, quail. \$189,200.

******HOMES******
2 BR, 1 bath home, carport, attached storage, reduced to \$9,800.
3 BR, 1 bath home, large storage bldg., corner property, \$17,500.
3 BR, 1 bath home, separate DR, shop and other outbuildings, reduced to \$16,500.
2 BR, 1 bath home, CH/A, storage, fenced backyard, corner property, \$23,000.
2 BR 1 bath frame, recently remodeled, extra cabinets in dining area, CH/A, deck, garage, fenced backyard, reduced to \$20,000.
2 BR, 1 3/4 bath home, vinyl siding, double carport with attached storage, fenced backyard, reduced to \$25,000.
3 BR, 1 bath home, separate DR, kitchen, woodburning heater in LR, large pecan trees, \$33,000.
2 BR, 1 bath home, could be converted into 2BR home, 6 ceiling fans, inside and outside recently repainted and carpet replaced, oversized yard, \$35,000
4 BR, 2 bath, lg. rooms, lots of character, separate DR, fenced yard, lg. corner property, reduced to \$34,000.
3 BR, 1 bath home has been recently repainted & floor covering replaced, also has CH/A, 5 ceiling fans, carport with storage, fenced back yard, \$36,000.
2 BR, 1 bath home, separate office or den, CH/A, carport, corner property, reduced to \$36,000.
3 BR, 1 bath older brick veneer home, separate dining room, storm windows, detached garage/storage, corner property, \$39,500.
2 BR, 1 3/4 bath home, veneer brick, CH/A, WBFP, garage, covered patio, storage bldg, fenced backyard, \$48,500.
2 BR, 1 3/4 bath home, brick veneer, CH/A, WBFP, attached garage, covered patio, detached guest room with full bath, shop, fenced back yard, \$49,500.
5 BR, 2 bath, 2 story home, lots of character, formal DR, office, large rooms, mostly wooden floors, 2 CH/A units, surrounded by large oak and pecan trees, large corner property.

******LAKE CISCO******
2 BR Home, deck, boat dock, large oak trees, reduced to \$25,000.
3 BR Home, many cabinets, woodburning heater, wooden deck, boat dock with boat house, large trees. Reduced to \$26,000.
2 BR Home, CH/A, fireplace, detached guest room, patio, boat dock, 2 car carport, storage bldg., large oak trees, reduced to \$26,000.
2 BR Home, WBFP, nice view of lake, 1 DR and BRs. Some landscaping with sprinkler system, deck and boat dock.
Beautiful 2 BR, 1 3/4 bath home, CH/A, WBFP, shop, storage bldg., large landscaped yard, tall oak trees, boat dock, great view of lake from DR, LR, den and master BR, many extras.
4 BR, 2 bath home, CH/A, many extras, big gameroom, plus racketball court.

******COMMERCIAL******
Restaurant with large dining room, eqpt. and furniture, \$38,500. Owner would sell bldg. without eqpt. & furniture for less. Call for details.
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D. P. S. Report
02-20-05 to 02-26-05
Cases Investigated
Warnings - 83 Complaints - 102 DWI - 1
Possession of Controlled Substance - 1
Accidents
There were 5 accidents investigated during this time span.

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The Idle American

Commentary By Dr. Don Newbury

Not Your Ordinary Road Trips

In days of youth, filling out forms with blanks calling for name, height, weight and age seemed harmless enough. Dr. Mamie McCullough—now a motivational speaker of renown—dutifully filled in each blank. So did “Joe Blow.” No, “Blow” is not his real name, but in these days of identity theft, he doesn’t want the real one used. Joe, himself a nationally known platform personality for three decades, has put his tuxedo and stories away. Now, instead of making other people laugh, he laughs at us.

Back to Mamie. This former educator-like Joe has traveled millions of miles entertaining groups with her “I Can-You Can, Too” talks. She enjoys seeing her name splattered everywhere (no-body else wants it, she claims, thumbing her nose at identity thieves). She dresses, jokes and cavorts to whatever they call the extreme beyondflamboyant. She’s never seen a dress with too much red, earrings with too much dangle or outfits with too much glitz. (If they can’t see her earrings on the back row, she won’t wear ‘em.)

But, as maturity sets in, she is more concerned about writing down honest answers. “I’d just as soon stop with my name,” she claims. In the 1950’s, when she saw the age blank, she wrote in “atomic.” That worked for a while, then she just jotted in whatever age she’d like to be.

Here lately, she’s had fun with a “new” age answer. Despite her mid-60’s looming around the next corner, she has used her “59.95” age line for several years.

Mamie underwent foot surgery in December and must wear a cast for several months. (She chooses pastel colors for each replacement cast, and yes, it was red for Valentine’s Day.) With her “show must go on” commitment, she rolls to her engagements with her foot elevated above a wheel contraption. (“Crowds want to know where I got the little roller, and I tell them you had to have foot surgery to get one,” she laughed.)

Recently at the airport, attendants rolled her in a wheel chair toward a commuter plane, where stairs for boarding were more than she could handle. “How much do you weigh?” the attendants asked. “250 pounds,” she answered. They decided they were up to making the lift-Mamie, chair and all-to the passenger door.

“You don’t feel like 250 pounds,” one said. “I’m nowhere close to that,” Mamie laughed, “But I want to make sure you don’t drop me!”

Joe had some daunting road experiences, too. One time, before addressing a group in Colorado, he gushed about a huge set of elk antlers behind the head table. The owner, hearing the compliment, said, “Since you like those antlers so much, if you make a good talk, I’ll give them to you.”

Wow! Joe was caught on the horns of a dilemma. He was fetching a nice fee for “making a good talk,” but complimenting antlers and

wanting to take them home with him were two different things.

He got a standing ovation, his check—and a rack of antlers. Unsuccessful in his attempt to leave the antlers in the rental car, he wrestled the rack through the door at the airport. Joe quickly placed the antlers on the luggage carousel and hurried away.

As he boarded, he heard the loudspeaker plea, “Would the person who left elk antlers on the carousel please return and tag, or pick up same?” Joe never looked back.

My road experiences fade in comparison. Still, the best night’s sleep I got one day is worth recalling.

Following an evening

speech, I decided to ride the train to my next engagement in Topeka, KS. It was my first time to ride on a Pullman car, and I was worried that I might sleep through the brief stop in Topeka.

“Sir, you ain’t got no problem,” the porter said. “You’re the only person on the car tonite. I ain’t supposed to tell you this, but we turn this car loose in Topeka, so you can sleep here all weekend if you want to.”

It took hours to fall asleep, but when I did, slumber was deep. By mid-afternoon, fully rested, I waked in the long-still sleeping car, got dressed, walked across the rail yard and hailed a cab to my evening engagement. I flew home.

Dr. Newbury is an author and speaker. His column appears weekly in more than 100 TX, KS, OK and LA newspapers. He welcomes comments by phone, 817-447-3872, or by e-mail, newbury@speakerdoc.com. Website: www.speakerdoc.com



Ford Truck Month Is Here!

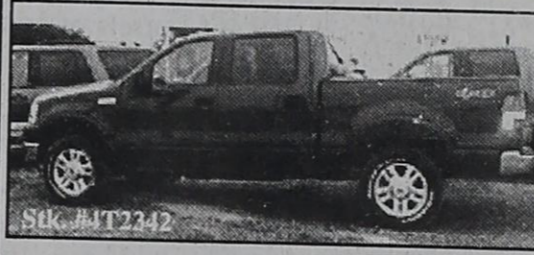
Receive a Free Milwaukee Tool kit with the purchase of any New F-Series Pickup. Offer ends March 31, 2005



New 2005 Ford F150 Reg. Cab
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List Price.....\$21,300
Dealer Disc.....-1,805
Ford Rebate.....-2,000
Sale Price \$17,495



New 2005 Ford F150 Super Crew XLT 4x4
List Price.....\$36,260
Dealer Disc.....-4,000
Ford Rebate.....-1,000
Sale Price \$31,260



New 2004 Ford F150 Super Crew Lariat 4x4
List Price.....\$37,935
Dealer Disc.....-5,000
Ford Rebate.....-3,000
Sale Price \$29,935



New 2004 Ford F150 Super Cab XLT
V8, Auto
List Price.....\$29,840
Dealer Disc.....-3,345
Ford Rebate.....-3,500
Sale Price \$22,995



New 2005 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT
Auto, 4x4
List Price.....\$38,065
Dealer Disc.....-4,070
Ford Rebate.....-2,000
Sale Price \$31,995



New 2005 Ford F250 Super Cab XLT
Auto
List Price.....\$32,050
PEP Disc.....-750
Dealer Disc.....-2,805
Ford Rebate.....-2,000
Sale Price \$26,495



New 2005 Ford F350 Crew Cab Dually
Diesel, 4x4, 6 speed
List Price.....\$45,000
Dealer Disc.....-5,005
Ford Rebate.....-1,500
Sale Price \$38,495



New 2005 Ford F250 Crew Cab 4x4
Diesel, Auto, Lariat
List Price.....\$46,555
Dealer Disc.....-5,060
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*Additional rebates: \$500 Commercial, \$500 American Quarter Horse, \$500 Military. All rebates may not apply, ask dealer for details.

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- Test results will be mailed directly to you and your doctor
- For more information call 254-629-2601 ext. 301

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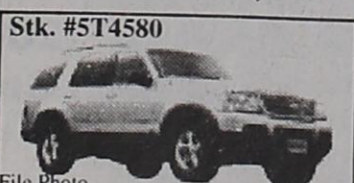
Offer good through March 31, 2005



New '05 Ford Escape XLT
List Price.....\$23,445
Dealer Disc.....-1,450
Ford Rebate.....-2,000
Sale Price \$19,995



New '05 Ford Expedition XLT
List Price.....\$37,190
Dealer Disc.....-4,195
Ford Rebate.....-2,000
Sale Price \$30,995



New 2005 Ford Explorer XLT
3rd Row Seat, Rear Air
List Price.....\$32,440
Dealer Disc.....-2,446
Ford Rebate.....-2,000
Sale Price \$27,995



New Explorer Sport Trac 4x2
List Price.....\$25,855
Dealer Disc.....-1,860
Ford Rebate.....-2,000
Sale Price \$21,995



8 year old Shane Thackerson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Thackerson from Baird, Texas and great-nephew of Barbara Thackerson from Ranger, Texas, shot a 7 point buck with a 223 scope at Eden, Texas in November, 2004.

RRC Sets Texas Gas Production Allowables For March

AUSTIN — Railroad Commission Chairman Victor G. Carrillo, Commissioner Michael L. Williams and Commissioner Elizabeth Ames Jones today set March 2005 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 24,876,602 Mcf

(thousand cubic feet).

For these fields, the March 2005 allowable represents a decrease of 4,190,455 Mcf when compared to actual production of 29,067,057 Mcf in March 2004. In setting the March 2005 allowable, the Commission used historical production

A Reminder: Storm Season Around Corner

The storm the last couple of days reminded me of "olden" times submitted below.

The thunderstorms with severe lightening rolling across the "Big Country", drawing closer as remembrances of the "Fraidy Hole" just outside the house, now encased in the depth of earth for fear of rattlesnakes and

figures from March 2004 and producer forecasts for the March 2005 demand, and then adjusted the figures to account for such factors as well capability, new wells in a field, etc.

Texas natural gas storage reported by the Commission for January 2005 is 237,312,095 Mcf compared to 215,102,689 Mcf in January 2004. The February 2005 gas storage estimate is 221,956,831 Mcf.

Gas well gas from prorated fields accounts for seven percent of total gas well production in Texas.

Preliminary statewide production reported for December 2004 is 28,250,466 barrels of crude oil and 367,310,216 Mcf of gas well gas.

Poetry Corner

Today

Lord, I know not what today will bring
It may be like winter, cold and dreary;
Maybe sunny and beautiful like the spring.
Whatever comes my way let me not be weary.

I have the assurance that you know best.
I have your peace upon which to rest.
I have your joy to last through the day.
I have your son to forgive my sins.

I have your love to purify me now and them.
I have you: spirit to keep me of sin aware;
I have your throne open to my prayer.
Lord, I don't know but I know you do.

The good and the bad of this day I'll face.
I ask you for faith and trust anew.
Tonight I'll feel I've run a good race.
And maybe been an example of you.

copperheads!

Gone too, are the 1/2 gallon jars of stored beef, pork, peaches, plums, blackberries and other commodities that made life on this old homestead a remarkable place!

The memories of standing in that old "cellar" as a tornado passed over, taking out the "turkey house" and leav-

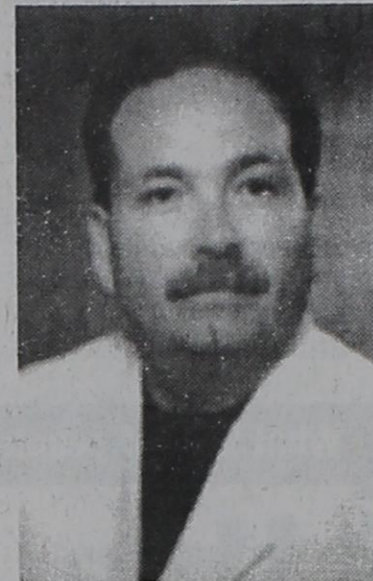
ing intact otherwise. What must have gone on in the minds of those that tilled, worked the land, and built a "Homestead" - still here!

Nature has a strange way of bringing together persons without prejudice or forward religion- thankful we all have a place!

Carl Bailey
Cisco, TX.

Ray Vinson Scheduled To Speak At Mt. Top Church March Through June

Dr. Ray Vinson, whose gifts and callings for restoration of men and women in leadership roles, will be speaking at Mountain Top Church during the months of March through June. Ray's desire and ministry emphasis is to see those whom God has called to be leaders in their



Ray Vinson

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churches and communities restored from being wounded and broken by the burdens of daily living. Mountain Top Church is excited and thrilled to open these services to Dr. Ray Vinson. 'We believe this is a special opportunity for people in our county and communities to have access to this gifted ministry.' Dr. Vinson is family oriented, having teenage children, he understands the challenges

Thursday, March 3, 2005 parents face raising children to be positive, balanced, and successful adults in today's world.

In the twenty - first century daily encounters with financial problems, misdirected goals, management woes, and family upheavals wreak havoc upon one's mind and spirit. We daily face stressors which were unknown twenty years ago. Ray brings a message of hope and freedom from these very troubling issues reflected in our daily lives. Building strong gifted men and women of integrity, character, and spiritual authority is just one of the gifts in Ray Vinson's ministry.

President of the Dominion International Network of Ministries and Churches and the Institute for Biblical Leadership, he has spoken in many conferences across the USA. His desire is to connect people together and develop meaningful relationships within the Body of Christ while assessing people situations and bring vitality to others in such a way that lives are dramatically changed!

Mountain Top Church is an Inter-denominational Worship Center open to people of all faiths. Service times are Sundays 10:30 am and 6:00 pm, Wednesdays 7:00 pm. Monthly senior activities and weekly youth activities are open to the public. For more information, call 442-4479 or 442-4415.

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Kokomo News

By Zelda Jordan

In Observance of Ministerial Student Day, Matthew Click of Hardin-Simmons university of Abilene was the guest speaker at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday morning. Mr. Click's hometown is Corpus Christi, TX and he is studying for a Master of Divinity Degree at Hardin-Simmons. The special music was rendered by Crystal Snider, Kay Snider, Aletha Burgess, Leona Wilson, Sylvia Buchanan, Ruby Lee Kinsler, Helen Browning, Joe Bord and Woodrow Browning with Daryl Hirst at the piano. "Happy Birthday" was sung to Cecilia Hirst and Mary Jane Little. Norma Webb also had a birthday last week, but due to recuperating from surgery she wasn't able to be with us Sunday. Mary Jane Little gave an emphasis on the week of prayer for missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Missions offering.

We are happy to report that Norma Webb is home now following hip replacement surgery on Monday, February 21st in Stephenville and is doing well. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Those visiting with LaVon Snider this past week were Ted Snider, Dan Snider, Belinda, Isaac, Audri, Ella and Isabella Segura.

Woodrow and Helen Browning visited in Graham on Sunday evening with Gary, Rebecca and Emily Browning and they all met Donna, Gary, Melanie and Garrett Gatlin for the evening service at the First Baptist Church to see the musical "The ABC's of Salvation" preformed by the children of the church. Melanie Gatlin participated in the musical. Lesley Gatlin was ill and didn't get to at-

tend. Helen reported that they really did enjoy the musical.

Nancy Hendricks attended the reception honoring Marge Hudson, for her 25 years as Secretary at the First Baptist Church, in Gorman on Sunday afternoon. Our congratulations to Marge and send best wishes for her retirement.

Shorty Treadway of Ranger and Zelda Jordan visited with Arl and Margie Lasater at Carbon on Friday night and enjoyed games of "Train" and "42".

"Happy Birthday" to my daughter-in-law, Cindy Jordan, of Lubbock who will be celebrating her birthday on March 3rd.

'Coach Carter' To Show At Majestic Theatre This Weekend

The new Paramount movie "Coach Carter" is scheduled to open at the Majestic Theater in Eastland on Friday, March 4. It will show at 7:30 nightly through Monday, March 7.

Admission will be \$4 at the box office, with balcony seats available to adults for \$5.50.

This film is rated PG-13, and parents are advised that it has some sexual content, language, violence, and teen partying. But more than anything it is a movie about basketball, and the lives of high school students in an Inner City.

The story is based on the true experiences of a real Coach Carter - who once locked the gym until his basketball team brought up their grades.

Ken Carter is depicted by Samuel L Jackson, and other stars are Rob Brown, Robert Richard and Ashanti.

In the picture, Carter is a self-made sporting goods owner who returns to his old school to try to get the basketball team in shape. Thirty years ago he was a star at the same school. Now he has to be a character filled with tough-love for some sloppy misfits.

Jackson rules the school and the movie with his musical voice and the ability to stare down tough kids and somehow inspire them.

Desdemona Cemetery News

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors, the board took the following actions:

1. By a unanimous vote, acted to secure a major portion of the cemetery reserves into a trust fund so that the cemetery will be properly maintained in future years.

2. Voted to proceed with the construction of a graveside service facility.

3. Voted to clean up the new addition and fix the location of the new facility.

4. Voted to give the present caretaker a letter of recommendation they requested.

5. Voted to have roads maintained as needed.

In other discussions, it was noted that the following board members were up for re-election or replacement at our annual meeting in April: Leo Williams, Moody Koonce, Pug Guthery, and a replacement for Ruth Daffron who passed away this past year. Other Directors on the Board are Bobby Wisdom and Dorothy Greenhaw; non-Board member Secretary, Mary Riggs.

Submitted by
Leo Williams, President

Pioneer News

By Pioneer Quilting Club

The quilting ladies had a very good quilting day on Tuesday. This Tuesday should find us finishing Christy's top. It is another beautiful quilt. Lou's top is coming right along. Cindy Payne's top is ready to start on. It is a blue pinwheel.

Say, the area is very proud of those Rising Star Wildcats Basketball team they just came up a little short the last game, but quite a successful season.

Charlene Chesshir has had a rough time lately. She had a week of stomach flu a couple of weeks ago. Then she took a fall last week. She didn't break anything but she was sore all over. Doug and Christy Dallas and Nancy Rogers came over Sunday and went to church with Charlene. She likes for them to come. They brought lunch. Boy, that helps!! Jim and William were here also, so they all had a good visit. Christy drove Charlene to Abilene Monday for a dental appointment. Was supposed to see the pain specialist but he was out sick. A lot of sick people around the country.

Earlene Burge and Jessica were very happy for our company Monday. It was Rudolph Brown's birthday.

Rudolph and Sara were here from Denton, and Betty Granmon and Kathryn Brown came from Ft. Worth. They brought all the trimmings for chicken and beef fajeties, which were delicious. Also, a chocolate cake and we had pecan pie. At least, we had a very good lunch and visit. We were sorry to see everyone leave. It is so nice to see brother and sisters, family, get together.

Earlene and Jessica have another dog. He is a beautiful white dog. Their other dog disappeared a few months ago.

Cowan and Laverne Hutton made an early trip to Abilene on Monday for an appointment. They made it back home in time for Cowan to eat at his favorite place to eat. "Laverne's Cafe" If you have ever eaten at this cafe you will know why Cowan likes it so much. UMM! Good vitals!

Laverne has spotted some wild plums in bloom.

Frankie Smith is home after having Gaul bladder surgery. Her daughters were here with her. Jean Fore is looking in on her. Don't you know the musical and the places these two girls go miss them!

How about all that good rain! This country is wetter than I have seen it in a long time. We should have some beautiful wild flowers!

See you next time!

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Guest Slot

By Hazel Stone
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TREES

In Eastland Junior High, Bernice Stephens was my sixth grade teacher. Our class memorized "Trees" and later I had my own sixth grade classes to memorize the same poem.

When Al, my husband, was a principal at the McCamey Primary School, they always had a tree planting day (and a small ceremony) each Arbor Day in March. They had a place where they planted trees which had been named Stony Acres.

As a child, I became saturated with the importance of trees. I often make mental connections of trees to their Biblical character connections. A sycamore tree makes me think of a little man who climbed a tree. Palm trees remind me of Deborah, a wise woman, a profit who ruled Israel and dwelt under a palm tree. A juniper tree makes me recall Elijah. Then too, I think of lessons taught in the Bible using trees. The barren fig tree, which Jesus used as an

object lesson and the oak whose branches proved Absalom's undoing.

In Joyce Kilmer's poem, "Trees," I love the line which says: "a tree that looks at God all day, and lifts her leafy arms to pray." The first Psalm talks about a strong, healthy tree being like a righteous man who holds his head high.

In an old Greek myth, a sculptor creates a young girl out of marble and then falls in love with her. The sculptor prays to the gods that she would come to life but never assert herself or talk back or in any way make him sorry about his praying for her to come to life. The name of the girl was Galsten and the name of the sculptor was Pygmalion.

Many of you know that George Bernard Shaw wrote a witty play, Pygmalion, in which he adapted the Greek theme to nineteenth century England. I've written before about Professor Higgins and Eliza Doolittle.

Keat's, a poet, said that beauty "was in the eye of the beholder." The eye of the beholder does not create the beauty but it may discern it.

In a book by Hilda Morris

Windshield IQ:

What You Don't Know Could Be Dangerous

Most drivers and their passengers motor happily down the road totally oblivious to the thin layer of glass which stands between them and the

perils of the open road. "If pressed," says Leo Cyr, Executive Director of the National Glass Association's Coalition for Auto Glass Safety & Public Awareness (CASPA), "most of us would conclude that our windshield was a very useful piece of equipment. It keeps cold and heat; wind and rain; as well as untold numbers of bugs and other forms of airborne road debris out of our faces." "The problem," continues Cyr, "is that most consumers are unaware of the vital safety functions the windshield performs. We replace damaged windshields because of water leaks or ugly "dings" and cracks affecting our car's value. We are blissfully unaware that the windshield is part of every vehicle's safety restraint system (SRS). The SRS is designed to keep us within the relative safety of the passenger compartment during accidents, head-on collisions and rollovers."

In order to function as intended, the windshield must remain firmly "glued" to the vehicle. If it becomes detached in a crash, occupants can be ejected from the vehicle where, according to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) statistics, they are at greater risk for injury or worse. "We are not talking about isolated or rare occurrences," says Cyr. "NHTSA reports a total of 42,643 people died and 2.89 million were injured in traffic accidents in 2003. Rollovers alone claimed 10,376 of these lives. One of the leading causes for this grim record is the high incidence of occupant ejection and resulting head injuries. One ejection pathway is through the windshield."

When I lived in Eastland and worked at Davis Drug on the square, Lyndon Johnson, then a senator, landed in a helicopter on the vacant lot where the Eastland Hospital is now. He and several other men came into the drug store. Mr. Johnson became very irritated because I continued to get an ice cream cone for a little black girl who was there before him. He thought that I should drop everything and wait on him. That later cost him a vote when he ran for president.

How comforting it is to think of how Jesus looks at each of us with the eyes of hope. Instead of our mistakes and failures, He sees our hopes and aspirations. He sees in us potentialities for better things. He truly sees us "through the eyes of love."

Jesus treated Mary Magdalene with respect and she became respectable. Most people respond in kind to the way in which they are treated.

When I lived in Eastland and worked at Davis Drug on the square, Lyndon Johnson, then a senator, landed in a helicopter on the vacant lot where the Eastland Hospital is now. He and several other men came into the drug store. Mr. Johnson became very irritated because I continued to get an ice cream cone for a little black girl who was there before him. He thought that I should drop everything and wait on him. That later cost him a vote when he ran for president.

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vehicles, homes and offices. Senator Armbrister's legislation is focused on public safety and is supported by the Texas (TGA) and the National Glass Association's Coalition for Auto Glass Safety & Public Awareness (CASPA).

"Senator Armbrister's legislation is a matter of public safety," says CASPA's Cyr. "There are five primary safety functions performed by the windshield. They are:

- Keep occupants within the relative safety of the passenger compartment;
 - Contribute to roof support and the structural integrity of the passenger compartment;
 - Proper passenger side airbag deployment (in many vehicles);
 - Cushion the blow if a vehicle occupant is thrown forward in a crash;
 - Unobstructed Visibility
- "The common thread that connects all five windshield safety functions," says Cyr, "is the windshield must remain securely in place on the

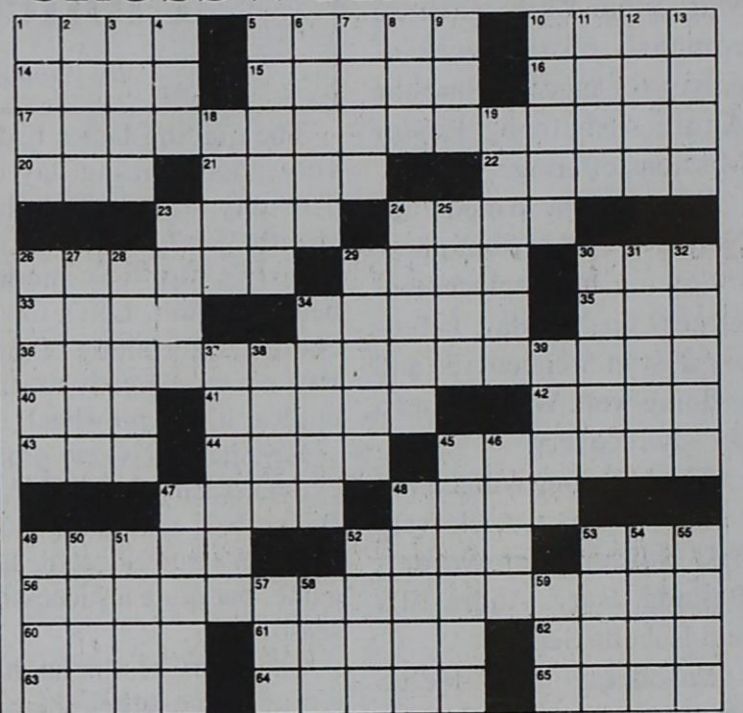
vehicle even during an accident. If the windshield dislodges for any reason, it will not perform as intended. It is this common thread that makes Senator Armbrister's legislation so important."

"The auto glass industry has the high quality materials, adhesive technology and proven installation techniques available to produce safe and effective windshield replacement. We also have the technician training and certification programs needed to ensure the best, safest results, says Cyr. "What we do not have is a way to force technicians to educate themselves and to use the industry's 'best practices.'

Depending on the severity of the damage, windshields can either be repaired or replaced. What concerns most safety experts is that people will ignore the damage and so nothing.

To learn more about auto glass safety, you may visit www.glass.org/consumer/overview.htm or www.agrss.com.

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 - Spindle on which a wheel revolves.
 - Grating.
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 - List of topics in a book.
 - Acronym for American Motorcyclist Association.
 - Acronym for Advanced Weapons Training International.
 - The number five in contemporary Eastern Assyrian.
 - Acronym for Emergency Response Notification System.
 - Nostril.
 - Humped, long-necked ruminant mammals.
 - Brett Spiner Star Trek: The Next Generation character.
 - Permit to enter.
 - Fermented alcoholic beverages.
 - Long, heavy, single-edged machetes.
 - Acronym for Used Vehicle Exchange.
 - Telephones in which audible communication is established by use of a two-way radio transmitter and receiver.
 - Airport code for Praslin Island, Seychelles.
 - Quoted as an authority.
 - Acronym for Westinghouse Astronautical Laboratory.
 - Acronym for Emergency Medical Associates.
 - Horned lizard.
 - Ridge with a gentle slope on one side and a cliff on the other.
 - Laboratories.
 - Long elaborated fictitious narrative.
 - Stoyan - former Deputy Prime Minister of Bulgaria.
 - Obstructs.
 - Acronym for Bank of England.
 - Journalism in which a news story is presented primarily through photographs.
 - Acronym for Association of Analytical Communities.
 - Piece of armor used to protect a horse.
 - Additional.
 - Slang for syphilis.
 - Slightly intoxicated.
 - Vietnamese New Years.
- Down
- drums, family of sacred double-headed drums from the Yoruba culture in Nigeria.
 - Test.
 - Jessica - star of Dark Angel.
 - Abbreviation for telephone.
 - Symbols of sovereignty.
 - Flat-bottom inflatable crafts for floating on water.
 - Acronym for American Society for Clinical Investigation.
 - Acronym for Base Post Office.
 - Abbreviation for synonym.
 - Term used in cookery.
 - Acronym for Acceptance into Naval Service.
 - Bleak style of rock music.
 - Acronym for Southern Thoracic Surgical Association.
 - Seruggs, banjo player.
 - Defeat utterly.
 - Acronym for Environmental and Energy Study Institute.
 - On top of.
 - diem, seize the day.
 - Call to arms.
 - Middle layer of the wall of a blood vessel.
 - Dispensed as charity.
 - Goddesses of the moon.
 - Something that takes place.
 - Nikola - discovered the principles of alternating current.
 - Second items in series.
 - Page size of a book composed of printer's sheets folded into eight leaves.
 - Acronym for Tactical Installation Order-of-Battle.
 - Richard - creator of many of the anatomy terms used today.
 - John - sleight-of-hand magician.
 - Major, the Great Bear.
 - Behave lecherously towards.
 - Continuous strand of twisted threads of natural material.
 - Acronym for General Practice Assessment Survey.
 - Used to hail a ship.
 - Acronym for Naval Ocean Analysis and Prediction.
 - Belch.
 - Bitterness of temper.
 - Acronym for Ones Stop Service Tracking.
 - Sfas - Rebbe Yehudah Leib, the second Rebbe of Gerer Chassidim.
 - Acronym for Jack-booted Thug.
 - Acronym for Open Archives Initiative.
 - Give permission to.

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Crossword Answers

| | | |
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| AXLE | RASPY | RIOT |
| TABLE | OF | CONTENTS |
| AMA | AWTI | HMSHA |
| ERNS | NARE | |
| CAMELS | DATA | LET |
| ALES | BOLOS | UVE |
| RADIO | TELEPHONES | |
| PRI | CITED | WANL |
| EMA | TOAD | CUESTA |
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10:45 Worship

5-104

What Some People Worry About

By J.B. Johnston,
Carbon, TX

I am never ceased to be amazed at what some people worry about. I have heard all my life the question of; If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there to hear it, does it make a sound? Now that really doesn't worry me very much unless I happen to be standing under it at the time. I kind of figured that if you left a tape recorder out there, it would record the sound unless the tree fell directly upon it.

Another saying is; How much wood could a wood chuck chuck if a wood chuck could chuck wood? Here again I am not sure that I have ever seen a wood chuck and am not sure what chucking wood is. Or for that matter whether a wood chuck knows either. Does it really matter? To me it doesn't and I'll bet to the wood chuck it doesn't either.

Another question worth pondering for some people is; How high is up? That is a question that scientist have been researching for centuries. With the Hubble telescope they keep getting farther and farther into space and haven't found the end yet. I figure that if they get to heaven God will tell them the answer. Son you have found it! And again, to the people on the other side of the world it looks like they are looking down not up. I don't worry too much about this one unless I happen to be several feet off the ground

without a safety belt. That is when I begin to worry. My answer to this question is, that up is pretty dog gone high!

I have heard people ask, "How far can a person walk into the woods?" The answer of course is half way because then you would be walking out of the woods. Now this does cause me some worry because I can never determine when I have arrived at halfway. Mainly because I'm more concerned about how I am going to find my way out.

Some people ask if a glass of water is half full or half empty. To me that one is simple. It just depends on whether I am emptying it or filling it. If I am drinking from it it is half empty and if I am filling it it is half full. Why can't people understand that?

What about; "Can you dig half a hole?" If you can fill a hole halfway up why can't you dig half a hole. Or maybe if you will a hole half way is it still a hole or half a hole? Now we know that you can have a half of a whole apple or orange and other objects but that is a whole different story. Either way there is too much work involved for me to worry about.

Unlike me some people must not have much of significance to worry about. Like where my next dollar is coming from or where I'll get the money to pay my next bill. Why worry? Be happy! I usually let my creditors worry about that one.

11th Court of Appeals

Eastland, Texas
Proceedings (En Banc)
February 22, 2005

Cases Submitted
Perry Jeffery et al v. Robertson Sales & Services, Inc. et al. Gaines

James Harold Bryant v. State of Texas, Midland.
Brian Keith Maiese v. State of Texas, Dawson.

Kevin W. Dew v. State of Texas, Ector.
Ruben Ortiz, Jr. v. State of Texas, Dawson.

Allan Waddell and Sweetwater Professional Fire Fighters, Association v. City of Sweetwater, Texas, Nolan.
February 23, 2005

Cases Submitted
Janice Amanda Hayhoe v. Rick Henegar, Individually and as Next friend of Thomas Henegar and Rick Henegar, Ector.

In the Interest of M.D.M., K.M.M. and L.N.M., Ector.
Lamesa Independent School District v. David Booe d/b/a Booe Roofing Company, Dawson.

Ennis Cole v. Gary R. Bailey, Martin.
F&W Industries, Inc. v. Stewart McKeehan, Ector.

In re Jennifer Beavers, Orig. Proc.
February 24, 2005

Affirmed
Juan Mercedes Reyes v. State of Texas, Midland. (Opinion by Justice Wright) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall)

Appeals Dismissed
Stuart L. Riley v. State of Texas, Harris. (Per Curiam Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall)

Motions Submitted & Granted; Appeals Dismissed
Neri Aguilar Carrasco v. State of Texas, Ector. Appellant's motion to dismiss appeal. (Per Curiam Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall)

In the Matter of the Guardianship of Autry Clements Mead, an Incapacitated Person, Ector. Appellant's motion to dismiss appeal. (Per Curiam Memorandum Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall)

Cases Submitted
Willie Lee Maxwell v. State of Texas, Dawson.
In the matter of William B. Lathem, Sr., Deceased, Ector.

Ernest Williams, agriculture machinery major, has been named to the Dean's List at Stephen F. Austin State University for the fall semester.

To be eligible for this honor, a student must be enrolled in 12 or more semester hours and maintain a grade point average of at least 3.0

Eastland Resident Named To Dean's List At SFA

Great Texas History Right Next Door

Some Very Interesting History of Texas
By Dale Baker
Saturday, the 26th of February, my birthday kid and her youngest son came to visit me and celebrate our birthday, the 1st of March.

About noon Lila said she and Henry, my grandson, wanted to go 'back roadin', yes, that is one of the things we have in common. Now, after my last 'back roadin' turned out the way it did, I told her that it had been raining lately and as it was raining then (and it rained all day) we had better find some paved back roads. And for danged sure we better not try CR 197!

She drove along the shore of Cisco Lake, over to Albany, and out to Fort Griffin State Park.

I had never been there, but I'll tell you, it was one of the most interesting couple of hours I've ever spent in my life!

The rain kept us from seeing it all (I'm gonna go back) but the lady at the headquarters was showing us on a big map, all along the Clear Fork of the Brazos, where everything in the Fort had been. She was born there and grew up there close to the park. Her great-grandmother had lived at the Fort. She told of how the soldiers would go out and bring in the settlers to the fort when the Indians got rowdy.

And that was the whole reason for the Fort.

The lady showed us pictures and told us about the settlers, soldiers, the Buffalo Soldiers and their families and about the Indians.

The way she told it, you could just about lookout and see and hear the Indians riding out of the mist from behind the mesquite and cactus.

And I told the guide and my kids something else that made it more interesting. When I was a little kid my dad told me tales of when he, and Hilliard Gilbert, Will "Longie" Reese, J.T. Norris, and sometimes a Mr. Trimble would go "up on the Clear Fork" and cowboy for months at a time of how they had to drage calves out of the brush, and laugh about the crazy things that happened to them.

And as anyone with good learning should know, all cowboys eat sour dough biscuits, sow belly, and red beans and washed it all down with good strong creek coffee!

I don't know that this cowboy thing happened at the Fort which had been abandoned for years at the time, but if it wasn't, it was close by. I don't remember when he said they cowboied there, but I think it was between 1900 and 1915.

If you have never been to the park, it will be worth your time to drive over there. Yep, "up on the Clear Fork."

Dale Baker, Eastland, TX.

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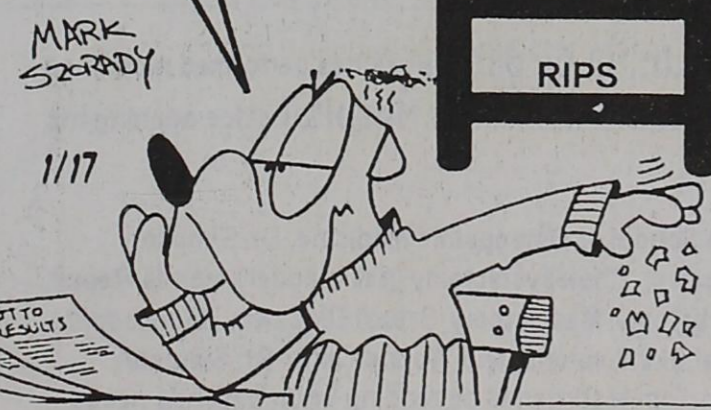
George's Word Ladder

By Mark Szorady

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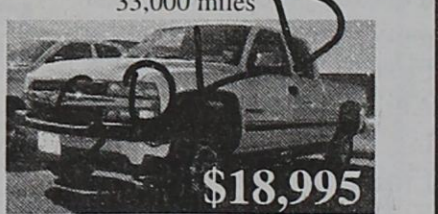

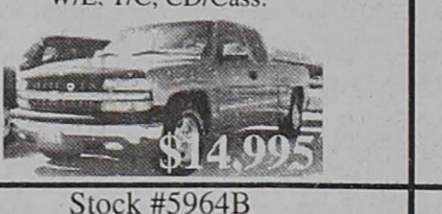
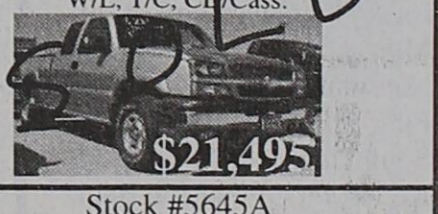
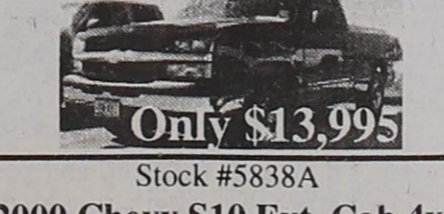

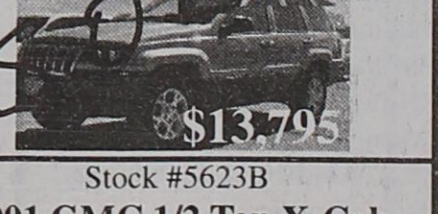
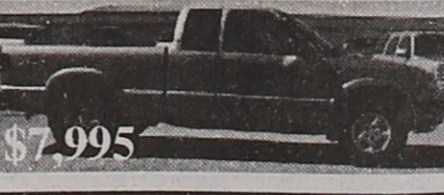


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| <p>Stock #5838A 2000 Chevy S10 Ext. Cab 4x4 Gold/tan cloth, LS, V6, auto, W/L, T/C, Cass., 80,000 mi.</p>  <p>\$7,995</p> | <p>Stock #5981A 2002 Olds Alero 4 dr. 43,000 mi., GL, Mistic brown/tan cloth, W/L, T/C, V6, auto, CD</p>  <p>\$7,995</p> | <p>Stock #5623B 2001 GMC 1/2 Ton X-Cab SLT, white/gray cloth, 43,000 mi., 4.8 auto, W/L, T/C, CD, Like New!</p>  <p>\$13,995</p> |

Tarleton's Honor Roll, Distinguished Students

The A Honor Roll and Distinguished Students list for the Fall 2004 semester has been released at Tarleton State University.

Students listed on the A Honor Roll for the fall semester maintained a 4.0 grade point ratio (GPR) on the 4.0 system while taking a minimum of 12 hours.

Those designated as Distinguished Students include freshman and sophomore students with a minimum GPR of 3.25 with no grade lower than C, and juniors and seniors with a minimum GPR of 3.50 with no grade lower than C who are in good standing.

BAIRD: Caleb Walls, A, D; Karli Jennings, D; Vir-

First Financial Bankshares Receives Proceeds From Pulse Sale

First Financial Bankshares, Inc. announced that it has received a special distribution of proceeds totaling \$2.98 million, before related income tax, from its interest in the previously announced merger of PULSE EFT Association and Discover Financial Services, Inc. Each member bank of PULSE received consideration based on the class of membership held. It is expected that First Financial will receive a subsequent settlement amount in the next few months but these amounts are not expected to be significant. This special distribution will be reflected in income in the financial results of the First Financial in the first quarter of 2005.

PULSE is one of the nation's leading ATM/debit networks, currently serving more than 4,100 banks and other financial institutions across the country. Discover Financial Services, a business unit of Morgan Stanley, operates the Discover Card and the Discover Network.

Headquartered in Abilene, First Financial Bankshares is a financial holding company with consolidated assets totaling \$2.4 billion operating ten separately chartered banks with 35 locations in Texas, a trust company and a technology operating company. These subsidiaries are First Financial Bank, N.A., Abilene, Clyde, Moran, Rising Star and Ranger, First Financial Bank, N.A., Eastland; First Financial Bank, N.A., Cleburne, Burleson and Alvarado; Hereford State Bank, Hereford; City National Bank, Mineral Wells; San Angelo National Bank, San Angelo; First Financial Bank, N.A., Southlake, Trophy Club and Keller; First Financial Bank, N.A., Stephenville, Granbury and Glen Rose; First National Bank, Sweetwater, Roby and Trent; Weatherford National Bank, Weatherford, Willow Park and Aledo; First Financial Trust & Asset Management Company, N.A.; and First Technology Services, Inc.

The Company is listed on The Nasdaq Stock Market under the trading symbol FFIN. For more info. about First Financial Bankshares, please visit our Web site at <http://www.ffin.com>.

ginia Russell, D

CARBON: Michelle Byrd, D; Joshua Sanders, D

CISCO: Mya Roberson, A, D; Cynthia Weems, A, D;

Angela Riggs, A, D; Brooke Cortez, D; Kenna Groene, D

CLYDE: Hal Hoogstra, D; Deborah Peterson, D;

Michael VanZandt, D; Paige Watkins, D

CROSS PLAINS: Mary Nickerson, A, D; Robert Hill, D; Elizabeth Meiron, D;

Rachel O'Dell, D

DESDEMONA: Samantha Duke, D; Courtney Koonce, D; Melanie Lasater, D; Thad Lasater, D; Robert Lewis, D

EASTLAND: Tonya Flowers, A, D; Sabrina Fox, A, D; Iveta Griffin, A, D; Barbara Redman, A, D; Shayla Ahrlert, D; Melissa Allman, D; Susan Graham, D; Taylor Hanson, D; Gene Harris, D;

Juana Herrera, D; Jared Johnson, D; Stacia May, D; Billy Maness, D; Tonya

Petree, D; Shonda Roberts, D; Kyle Swift, D; Patricia Woolam, D

GORDON: Veronia Alejo-Waits, D; Melanie Clifton, D; Donna Cook, D

GORMAN: Jackie Guitierrez, A, D; Sheryl

Everton, D; Keri Guthery, D; Jessica Lara, D; Jamie

Maupin, D; Anna Saucedo, D

MAY: Susan Edwards, D; Vicky Jenkins, D; Kara

Kelton, D

MINGUS: Loretta Tuggle, A, D; Jessica Bricker, D

MORAN: Thomas Stewart, D

OLDEN: Jessica Daniels, D

PALO PINTO: Ashley Winbourn, D

RANGER: Amy Erwin, D; Kimberly Fojtik, D; Brian

Rogers, D; Lyndi Webb, D; Laine Wheat, D; Ralph

Wheat, D; Leslie White, D

RISING STAR: Dennis Bates, D; Denise Hubbard, D; Joseph Simmons, D

STRAWN: Kim Shugart, D; Daren Smith, D

A--A Honor Roll; D-Distinguished Student

Farmer's Market In Planning Stage

Building on the success of the flea market as a source of a small but steady income, the Cross Plains Public Library is expanding the market to include fresh produce from area gardeners. The twice a month flea market draws an average of 70 shoppers each Saturday it is open.

Beginning in April and running through July, the farmer's market will operate two mornings a week in front of the local facility in downtown Cross Plains. A six foot space will rent for \$5.00 each morning that a vendor participates. Vendors will need to supply their own tables and chairs.

The library will provide

Putnam Musical To Be Friday

Putnam Musical will be Friday, March 4th. The kitchen will open at 5:30 and the music will start at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Lots of good music and wonderful musicians. Emcee will be Carl Whiteley.

free publicity for this venture. Gardeners are encouraged to take advantage of this market by planning now to plant extra, knowing they will have an advertised outlet for their fresh vegetables and fruits.

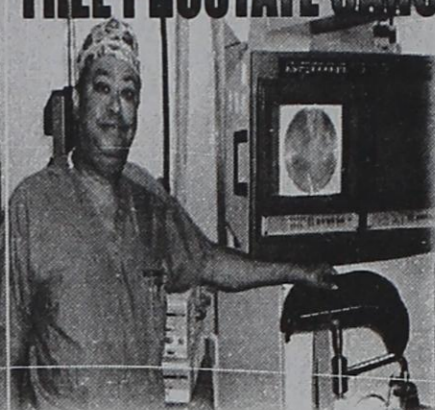
The Farmer's Market will definitely be a win-win pro-

gram for everybody—the gardeners, the buyers and the local library.

Full details will be published closer to the opening date. For more info. about the market, please contact Arlene Stephenson, 725-4993 or Joan McCowen, 725-7478 in Cross Plains.

Read The Classifieds

FREE PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING



Saturday,
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Daugherty Street Church of Christ
Old Sanctuary
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All PSA Bloodwork will be done
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Dr. Deshmukh,
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risk factors, preventive measures and
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Reservations are required
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8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Prostate cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men in America. One out of every five men will develop prostate cancer. If diagnosed early, a cure is possible. That's why Eastland Memorial Hospital and Avi T. Deshmukh, M.D., F.A.C.S. are offering a free prostate cancer screening for all men - but, specifically for men ages 45 and older. The screening will include the PSA blood test, an important diagnostic tool for early detection.

TALK ON PROSTATE CANCER
Avi T. Deshmukh, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Diplomate of American Board of Urology

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| 90 Lincoln Town Car, fully loaded, runs, drives good..... | \$1395 |
| 94 Buick LaSabre 4 dr., a very good sound, local car..... | \$1495 |
| 92 Taurus 3.0 V6 in fair condition..... | \$895 |

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| 97 Chevy S-10, step side, SWB, 4 cyl., 5 sp, looks, runs very good..... | \$3995 |
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| 97 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab in very good cond., auto, V8, nice truck..... | \$4250 |
| 97 Ford F350 Crew Cab, Power Stroke, Diesel, auto., runs very good..... | \$5750 |
| 97 Ford F250 Crew Cab Power Stroke Diesel, auto., XLT, 2 tone paint..... | \$5750 |
| 96 Ford F350 Crew Cab, 351 V8, 5 sp, looks, runs, drives good..... | \$3450 |
| 97 Ford F350 Crew Cab, 351 V8, auto., runs, looks, good..... | \$3950 |
| 92 Ford F250 Super Cab, Diesel, auto., 2 tone paint, nice truck..... | \$3950 |
| 89 Ford F250 Super Cab Diesel, looks, runs good (red & white)..... | \$3250 |
| 92 Ford F350 Super Cab Diesel, dually, runs good, 5 sp..... | \$2995 |
| 94 Ford F250 Super Cab 4x4, diesel, 5 sp., runs good..... | \$4250 |
| 90 Ford F250 4x4 Super Cab diesel, 5 sp., looks, runs good (red)..... | \$3250 |
| 85 Ford F350 Crew Cab Diesel, a very good buy at only..... | \$2450 |
| 91 Dodge Dually, Cummins Diesel, 5 sp., runs very good..... | \$4500 |
| 95 Ford F150 XLT, Super Cab, 351 V8, auto, OD, a good one..... | \$2850 |
| 86 F250 Diesel, looks & runs very good, auto., (red & tan) Take 3 tandem axle and 18' car trailers | |

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|---|--------|
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| 98 Mercury Mystique 4 dr., looks & runs good (red)..... | \$2750 |
| 97 Ford Escort 4 cyl., a good car for anybody (purple)..... | \$2450 |
| 97 Thunderbird 3.8, V6, very clean, go 1st class for only..... | \$3150 |
| 96 Buick Century only 78k miles, a very good car..... | \$2295 |
| 95 Pont. 7 Pass. Transport Mini Van, 3.8 V6 (white)..... | \$2550 |
| 88 Plymouth Voyager Mini Van, V6, 7 pass., (red)..... | \$975 |
| 95 Taurus V6, 4 dr., looks, runs good (white)..... | \$1595 |
| 93 Taurus 3.8 V6, local car, light blue..... | \$1750 |
| 93 Taurus 3.8 V6, looks, runs, drives good (white)..... | \$1450 |
| 94 Chrysler New Yorker, 3.8 V6, a very good car..... | \$1950 |
| 89 Mercury Cougar XR7, a good clean car, rear wheel drive (silver)..... | \$1450 |
| 94 Ford Crown Victoria, a good clean family car (gold)..... | \$3495 |
| 99 Ford Crown Victoria (wife's car) always garaged, super clean..... | \$6995 |
| 91 Lincoln Continental, fully loaded, runs good..... | \$1595 |
| 89 Lincoln Continental, a good clean car inside & out, light blue..... | \$1295 |

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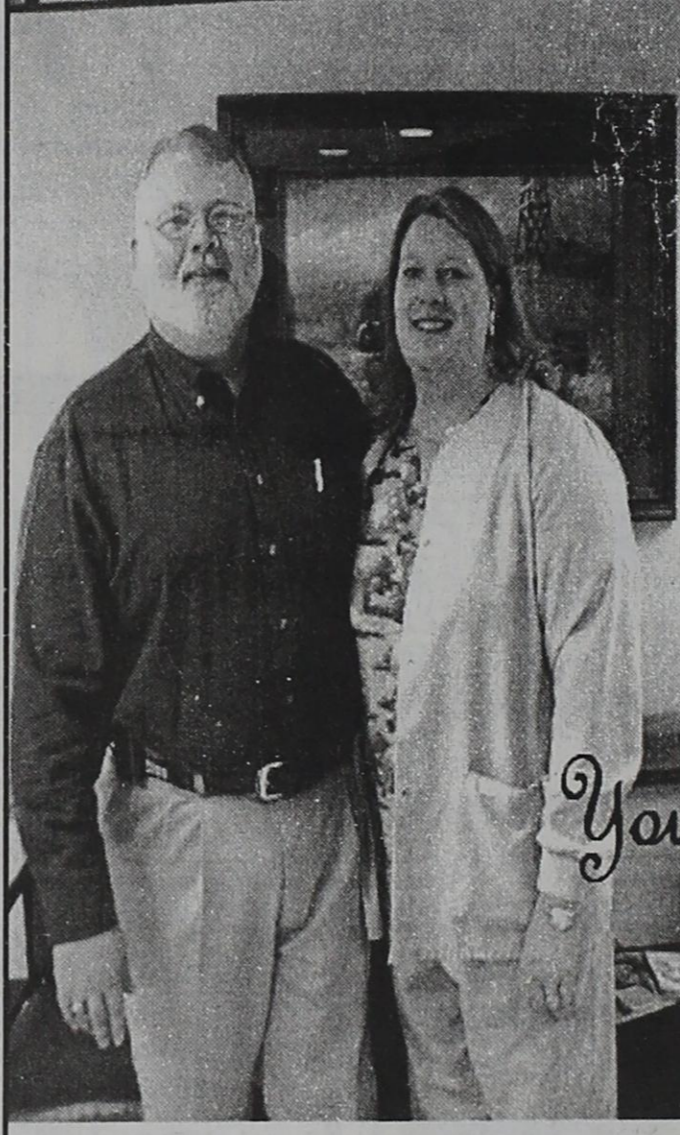


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A graduate of West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Simpson specializes in all general surgeries: Choleystectomy (gall bladder), Hemia Repair, Bowel, Appendectomy, Hysterectomy, Mastectomy, Breast Biopsies, Endoscopic (EDG) biopsies, Dermatological Skin Lesions, and Wound Care. Dr. Simpson performs both laparoscopic and open surgeries depending upon patient's needs.

Dr. Simpson is a Board Eligible Residency Trained General Surgeon. He completed his internship and general surgery residency at the University of North Texas Health Science Center and Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas in Forth Worth.

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CALLAHAN COUNTY BAIRD STAR

From Page One

Texas Corridor

didn't bother reading them. Now that I am taking notice, I realize that the Trans-Texas Corridor is not just one road, but a proposed, statewide, multi-network of new transportation routes through the state. The cities will be like hubs, and the huge highways will fan out like spokes on a wheel across the countryside.

The \$175-billion project will have 4,000 miles of mostly toll lanes perhaps a quarter of a mile wide. They will carry cars, trucks, and high speed freight and passenger trains. There would be room underground for oil, water, electric and gas lines.

The major routes pictured in the drawings with this article are perhaps only part of the total picture. Some cities in Texas are also dreaming of a route from the Pacific across Mexico and the southwest part of the state.

Perry introduced what he called "a visionary transportation plan" during his 2002 election campaign, and continued to work for it after he became Governor.

In 2003 he signed a transportation bill that authorized construction of this mammoth project. (Here we thought he was mainly occupied with Congressional re-districting and school finance at that time!)

There was just one little hitch - Texas couldn't afford the \$175 billion to construct these roads. But bids were apparently let out, and in late Dec 2004 the State Highway Commission announced that it had chosen Cintra to finance the first phase of the construction, the Corridor near 1-35. This will be toll road between Dallas and San Antonio.

Reportedly Cintra will pay the state \$1.2 billion to invest, on top of the cost of developing the roadway. In return, this Company gets the right to collect tolls on the road for a number of years, as well as some other considerations.

Cintra is described as an "International group of engineering, financial and construction firms" in a press release from the State Highway Commission.

In other places it is labeled as a "Spanish firm" and other information has it based Mexico. Some say it has investors from Korea, Spain - other countries. Apparently this firm is also involved in building roads in Sweden - other places.

Last month Texas Department of Transportation officials attempted to answer questions from the McLennan County Commissioners on what a large toll road through the county would do to Waco and other areas. There will not be much access on or off the new roads.

Across the state, some groups are opposed to the new roads and some are all for them. In their state meeting in January, Texas Farm Bureau delegates stated opposition to the new system of roads. They said these roads would impose additional burdens on the rural citizens of Texas, and they opposed the state acquiring additional ranch and farm land through the power of eminent domain for the construction of new roads.

Delegates also mentioned economic damages due to the lack of exits to small Texas towns, additional tax burdens passed on to the local taxpayers for land removed by the roadways, the splitting of land worked by an individual, and the negative effect on wildlife.

It might be noted that Farm Bureau delegates are not the same as the Farm Bureau Political Action Committee - which had previously supported Neugebauer for the 19th District.

I realize that this article is only a summary of a story that is unfolding. In days to come, others will be speaking for and against the Trans-Texas Corridor. It does have several good points.

I don't know what any of us can do, but as citizens we need to at least find out about these new roads and how they will change Texas.

I have always felt that informed people are in a better position to make a choice for good government.

From Page One ...

Commissioners

0/0%, A 0/0%, O/ 4%.

The number of stops/contacts that ended with custodial arrest was 9; by race - W 8 / 89%, B 0 / 0%, I 0 / 0%, A 0 / 0%, O 1 / 11%.

The comparative Analysis showed that the total number of licensed drivers in Callahan County was 10,307.

By race: W 10,042 / 97%, B 52 / 1 %, I 147 / 1 %, A 19 / 0.5 %, O 47 / 0.5%.

The difference between the % of licensed drivers by

Baird First United Methodist Church Worship Services

Sunday School - 9:45 AM
Sunday Worship - 10:45 AM
Youth - 5:00 PM
Choir Practice - 5:30 PM

Obituary

RISING STAR- Ruby Frances Ezzell, 105, of Rising Star, Texas died Thursday, February 24, 2005 at the Rising Star Nursing Center.

Ruby was born on February 24, 1900 in Nickel Hill Community near Rising Star, Texas to Guy Thomas and Annie Melissa (Morrow) Brashear. She married W.W. "Bill" Ezzell on September 26, 1920 in Baird, Texas. She lived in Eastland County all her life. She is a member of the Church of Christ.

Ruby is survived by 7 grandchildren, R.T. Ezzell of Rising Star, Anna Ezzell of Rising Star, Linda Worley of Hewitt, TX, Willie H. Ezzell of Rising Star, Janet Murphree of Sidney, TX, Benny Ezzell of Owens, TX, Bryan Ezzell of Iowa Park, TX; 12 great-grandchildren,

7 great-great-grandchildren; one brother, Paul Brashear of Cisco; daughter-in-law, Olena Ezzell of Rising Star; numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, W.W. "Bill" Ezzell; son, R.T. Ezzell, Sr.; four brothers and seven sisters.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 26, 2005 at Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel, Richard Massey officiated. Burial was in the Rising Star Cemetery in Rising Star. Higginbotham Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers make donations to Rising Star Foundation, West Texas Rehab or charity of your choice.

race and the % of stops/contact by race was as follows: W 2%, B 0%, O 3.5%, I 0 %, A 0%.

Commissioner Hicks made a motion to approve the Racial Profiling Report by Sheriff Curtis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holland and carried 5-0.

A break down of cost per meal at the Callahan County Jail showed the following: Total Groceries = \$9828.84, divided by 12 for a sum of \$819.07 per month; Total Meals including Dispatch = 4113, divided by 12 for a sum of 343 per month. The meal cost per day was given at \$2.39, divided by 3 for a sum total of a cost of \$.80 per meal.

The Commissioners approved a motion made by Commissioner Holland to take an overage of approx. \$80,000 in the Sheriff's budget out of the County's fund budget. Commissioner Farmer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Sheriff Curtis explained that the overage occurred through the shipping of prisoners to Abilene and Eastland. Only \$15,000 had been budgeted for that purpose, he said.

Sheriff Curtis continued that the prisons were full, and that there had previously been some problems getting cases in to the court. The new District Attorney, Shane Deel, was working on that problem, he said. District

Attorney Deel said that Texas Department of Corrections had recently announced that they had hit full capacity.

"If we keep more (prisoners than allowed), the jail will be shut down," Sheriff Curtis emphasized.

Further on the agenda: The new Chair of the

Callahan County Historical Commission, Reggie Pillans, met with the Court. He was

Continued Inside

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Thursday, March 3, 2005

Baird First Baptist Church Schedule Of Events

Each one of you are invited to join us at the corner of Race and 3rd St., Baird

For more information on any of these events please contact the church: 854-1574

(Nursery provided for worship services)

Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.

Worship Service - 11:00 A.M.

Prayer Time In Sanctuary - 5:00 P.M.
Evening Service - 6:00 P.M.

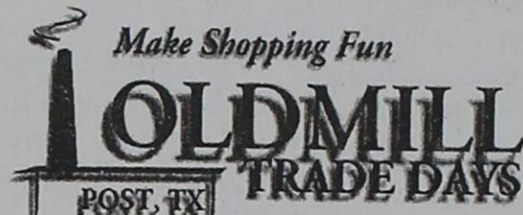
Wednesday Choir Practice 6:00 pm

Wednesday Service - 7:00 P.M

Correction - The "Sisters at the Well" did not meet in February - Next meeting will be March 28 at 6:30 pm.

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Coffee & Donuts.....10:45 a.m.
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Night Bible Study...6:30 p.m.

Pastor Chad Gosnell



CALLAHAN COUNTY BAIRD STAR

Publication No. (USPS 085-520)

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(254) 629-1707 211 Market St. Baird, TX 79504

Periodical Postage Paid at Baird, Texas

under Act of Congress in March, 1870.

Published every Thursday

Publisher.....H.V. & Gaynell O'Brien

Editor.....Margaret Hetrick

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Callahan County Star, 211 Market St., Baird, TX 79504.

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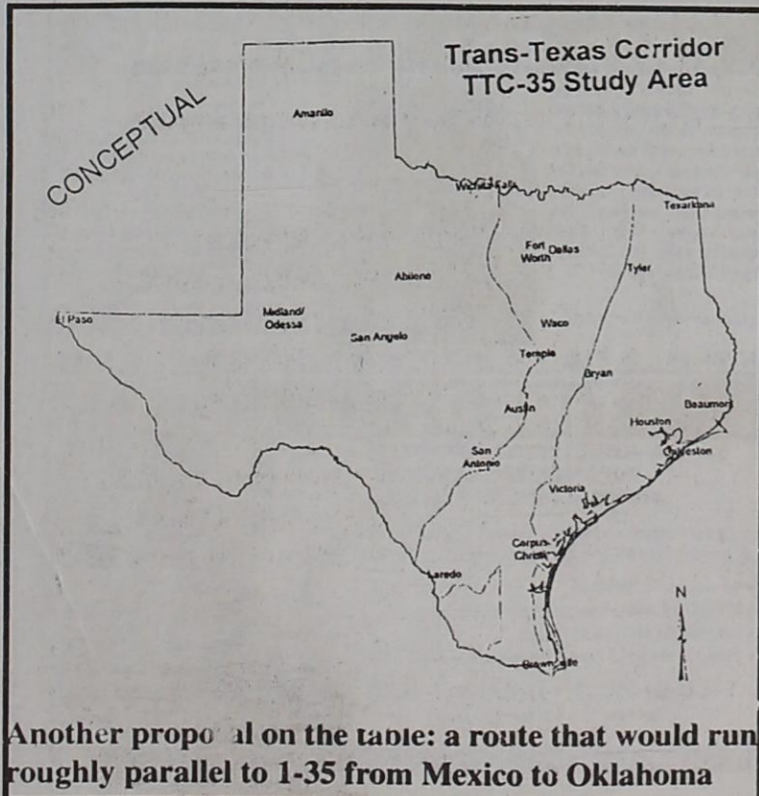
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Another proposal on the table: a route that would run roughly parallel to 1-35 from Mexico to Oklahoma

just getting started, he said. There was no action taken on this agenda item.

The Court, on a motion by Commissioner Hicks, accepted the rights to seven foot of easement and access of property running along CR 115, belonging to Hank and Melissa Mc Mahan in Callahan County. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Grider, carried unanimously.

The annual audit with TCEQ, presented by Steve Odom, Justice of Peace Precinct # 3, was accepted through a motion made by Commissioner Holland and seconded by Commissioner Farmer. The motion carried 5-0.

JP Odom was commended for a good program and record keeping.

A motion was made by Judge Corn to accept the Law Enforcement Interlocal Contract with the Crime Task Force. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hicks and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hicks made a motion to allow Judge Corn to approve projects as they come in pertaining to the Tower Site. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farmer and carried 5-0.

A Resolution was passed

by the Court in opposition to efforts to limit local control.

The motion to pass the resolution was made by Commissioner Farmer and seconded by Commissioner Grider. The motion carried 5-0.

(Please see resolution at end of article.)

Also on the agenda: approved bills were paid.

All commissioners were present at the meeting.

Also present were: Dianne Alexander, County Treasurer; Jeanie Bohannon, County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners' Court; Shane Deel, County Attorney; and Margaret Hetrick.

Resolution Text

Whereas the Texas Legislature has begun its 79th Regular Session and is expected to address the method by which public education is funded, and WHEREAS the State of Texas has during the past decade retreated from its historic level of funding for public education, thereby requiring local school districts to increase property taxes to fund education, and WHEREAS sixty percent of the average taxpayer's property tax burden is due to school taxes while only 14 percent is due to county taxes, and WHEREAS Texas homeowners and businesses

need meaningful property tax relief, and WHEREAS the Governor's proposal to lower the existing cap from 10% to 3% on all property appraisals is not a true solution to the school property tax problem, and WHEREAS appraisal caps would diminish local control and tie the hands of county officials and limit their ability to provide essential services to address the needs and emergencies of their citizens, and WHEREAS county government is already struggling to meet the demands of under-funded and unfunded state mandates such as indigent health care, indigent defense and federal mandates such as the Help America Vote Act and the Clean Air Act, and WHEREAS artificial appraisal caps result in a shift of taxes from rapidly appreciating properties to those

remaining relatively stable in value, and WHEREAS reducing appraisal caps will not necessarily result in a reduction of property taxes but will result in sever impacts on county services, and WHEREAS undermining a property tax system based upon fair market value is questionable public policy and will result in a distorted, inequitable taxation scheme under which identical homes could be taxed at vastly different amounts, NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commissioners Court of Callahan County does hereby express its opposition to efforts to limit local control and does hereby urge the 79th Legislature to reduce the school property tax burden by again assuming the state's historic share of support for public education.

The trouble with doing something right the first time is that nobody appreciates how difficult it was.
—Walt West

By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong.
—Charles Wadsworth

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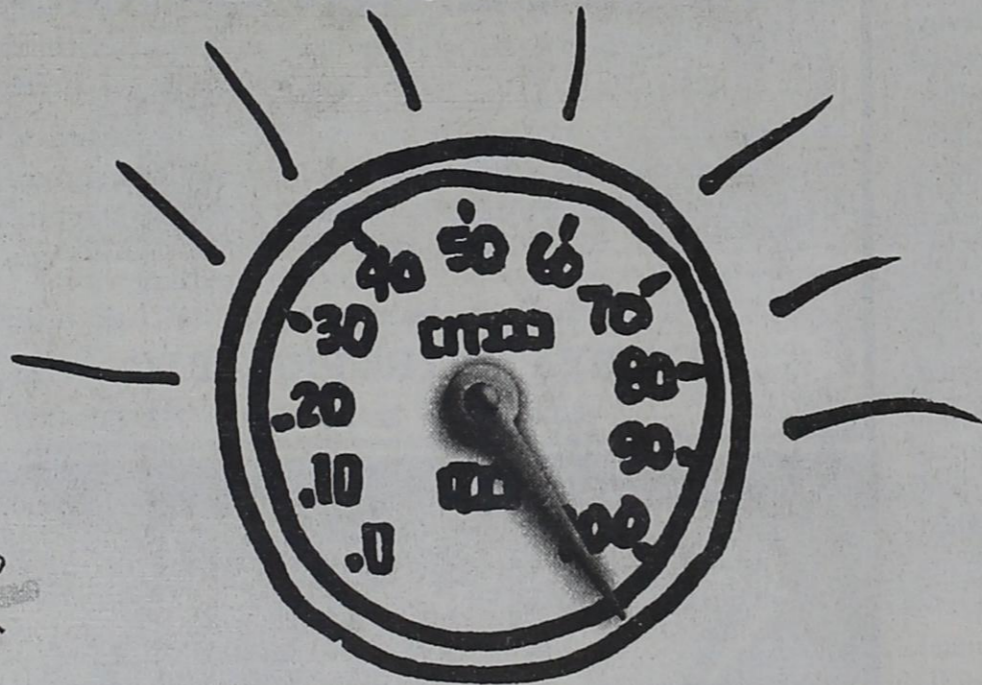
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2005 Wrangler Jr. High State Rodeo Finals May 12th - 15th at JB Wells Park Gonzales Arena

The City of Gonzales and Texas High School rodeo came to an agreement on Saturday January 29th in a State Director's Meeting in Gonzales for Gonzales to host the Wrangler Junior High School Rodeo State finals. The Finals will be held May 12th thru the 15th.

The top three contestants in each event will advance to the National Finals that will be held in Gallup, New Mexico July 5th thru the 9th. At National there will be \$50,000 worth of scholarships given out.

If this year's State Finals is a success the Texas High School Rodeo Association will adopt this division into their general membership next year.

This rodeo is available to any 6th - 8th grade child in the state of Texas. For more information contact George Gregory at 512-237-5575 after 6 p.m. or thsra6@yahoo.com.

Call Margaret @ 254-629-1707 with all your local events and news.
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Baird I. S. D. Lunch Menu

March

Wednesday, March 2

Dr. Seuss Birthday Chicken Nuggets w/gravy, Mash Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, ABC cookies, Milk

Thursday, March 3

Quesadillas, Refried Beans, Spanish Rice, Cobbler, Milk

Friday, March 4

Hot Dogs, French Fries, Fruit, Brownies, Milk

March 7-11, Spring Break

Monday, March 14

Macaroni & Cheese, Fried Okra, Pinto Beans, Fruit, Corn Bread, Milk

Tuesday, March 15

Stromboli, Tossed Salad, Corn, Jell-o w/fruit, Milk

Wednesday, March 16

Burritos, Chili & Cheese, Tossed Salad, Carrot & Celery Sticks, Cobbler, Milk

Thursday, March 17

St. Patrick's Day Salisbury Steak, Mash Potatoes, Green Beans, Applesauce, Rolls, Milk

Friday, March 18

Hamburgers, French Fries, Lettuce, Pickles, Cookies, Milk

Monday, March 21

Enchiladas, Tossed Salad, Refried Beans, Ice Box Pie, Milk

Tuesday, March 22

Corn Dogs, French Fries, Pork-N-Beans, Fruit, Milk

Wednesday, March 23

Turkey & Dressing, Mash Potatoes, Rolls, Cranberry Sauce, Milk

2005 Bear Golf Schedule

- March 7 - Ballinger - Quicksand in San Angelo - Boys/Girls
- March 15 - Baird - Boys/Girls
- March 21 - Mineral Wells - Holiday Hills Country Club - Boys/Girls
- April 4 - District Tournament - Shady Oaks - Boys/Girls
- April 11 - District Tournament - Riverside - San Angelo - Boys/Girls
- April 25-26 - Regional Tournament - Maxwell - Abilene - Boys/Girls
- May 9-10 - State Tournament - Morris Williams - Boys/Girls

Tennis Schedule 2005

- March 11 - Santa Anna Tourn.
- March 24 - Jim Ned Tourn.
- March 31 - Cisco
- April 5-6 - District

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