

## Softball

**Maidens**  
Maidens vs Albany  
Tues., March 19, 5:00 p.m.  
at Albany

## Baseball

**Indians**  
V-JV Indians vs Stamford  
Tues., March 19, 4:30/6 p.m.  
at Stamford

## Calendar

### Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., March 16 from 10 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. at 206 S. 2nd (building east of Civic Center) in Haskell.

### Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., March 16 from 9:30 a.m. til 11 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Rule. Volunteers are welcome.

### Book signing

Quanah native, Bill Neal, retired rancher, lawyer and former district attorney for the 46th and 50th Judicial Districts, will conduct a book signing Sun., March 17, from 3:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. in the Haskell County Library meeting room. The event is hosted by the Friends of the Library and anyone interested in frontier history is encouraged to attend. Neal's true tales of northwest Texas justice and injustice are riveting. Among his works are: *Getting Away with Murder on the Texas Frontier*, and *Vengeance is Mine*, an account of the Boyce Sneed feud.

### Quilters to meet

The Willow Creek Quilting Guild of Haskell will meet Mon., March 18 at 6 p.m. at the Haskell Church of Christ Annex building. Anyone interested in making quilt tops is invited to attend.

### Men's breakfast

A men's breakfast and Christian fellowship will be offered Sun., March 24 at 8:00 a.m. at the High School Cafeteria. All men of the community are encouraged to come and fellowship.

### Josselet reunion

The Josselet reunion will be held Sat., March 30 at the Haskell Civic Center. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. with donuts and coffee. A luncheon of steak, sausage, beans and bread will be provided. All attendees are asked to furnish salads, vegetables and or desserts. An auction will be held again, so family members are asked to bring items for the auction. A bouncy house and an Easter Egg hunt will be held for the children. A group picture will be taken and any family group pictures will be available upon request. Families are asked to bring old family pictures with names to be scanned to put on a disc. Each of the nine families represented will get a disc made. Send your updates/changes to Julia Harrell at [tti@valornet.com](mailto:tti@valornet.com). If you have any questions, contact Robbie Drinnon or Julia Harrell.

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# Congratulations Indian Band

# The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 127-NO. 11, ©MARCH 14, 2013

"The People's Choice"

10 PAGES-ONE SECTION-75 CENTS



**SWEEPSTAKES WINNER**—The Haskell Indian band has won a fifth consecutive Sweepstakes award from the UIL contest in Anson March 6. The band received straight ones from all six judges. Selections played included "March of the Phantom Brigade" by John Edmondson, "As Twilight Falls" by Robert Sheldon and "Moscow 1941" by Brian Balmages.

## Luminaria Ceremony to light up 'Relay for Life'

by Caron Yates

Teams are organized and hard at work with the fund-raising for the upcoming 2013 Relay For Life. This Knox/Haskell Co-County event, to be held at Indian

Field in Haskell, will take place on Sat., April 26.

If you are looking for a way to be a part of the effort, you may want to take advantage of a very special opportunity, purchasing a

luminaria.

According to the American Cancer Society, one very important aspect of the Relay For Life is the coming together to remember loved ones lost to

cancer, as well as honoring those who have won their battle or those who continue to fight. One of the most moving parts of the event is the Luminaria Ceremony.

As the sun sets over campsites and darkness falls, the night is brightened by the glow of illuminated bags called Luminaria, each bearing the name of someone who has battled cancer. Some celebrate cancer survivors, while others help us honor and remember those gone too soon. All represent someone special who has been profoundly

affected by cancer and the family and friends who continue to fight back in their honor.

With each five dollar donation, a luminaria will be placed around the field by organizers, with the name of the individual you are honoring or remembering.

For more information on how to purchase luminarias, contact Delight Jones at 864-2512 or Jennabeth Kimbrough, both in Haskell.

It will take us all, helping in any way we can, to win the fight against cancer.

## Miller honored by FBC

by Caron Yates

It would be difficult to know the exact number of young lives that have been touched by Maxine Miller, in her more than sixty years of rocking and caring for the children at First Baptist Church in Haskell.

Suffice it to say, there were many. It might even be said that Miller, with her sweet gentle spirit, was "born to nurture and adore the young, especially the babies."

Miller was born July 4, 1925, on a farm near the Hefner Community located between Munday and Goree. The oldest of five, she helped care for her younger siblings. She says the family moved often, from one farm to the next. However in 1938, they settled in the Rose Community near Paint Creek.

Miller graduated from Paint Creek School and in April of 1947, she married John Miller, who made a living as a butcher. Together they raised one daughter, Sherry, who lives in Fort Worth and two sons, Harlan and Danny, both from the Houston area. She is a proud grandmother of three and

great-grandmother of four.

For many years, Miller provided childcare in her home. When Nelda Lane and Nan McFadden began Mother's Day Out at the First United Methodist Church, Miller was a natural choice for the nursery, where she remained for the next twelve years.

It was in 1948, with Bro. Allan Webb as pastor, that Miller began serving the young families and their children, through the nursery at the First Baptist Church. She says there have been multiple generations of families, who have left their children to her care on Sundays. When asked for names, she quickly recalled the Gibsons; Pam (Harris), son Chad, and grandchildren Chase and Kourtney. The Cadenheads; Dr. Wayne, his children and grandchildren, also came to mind.

Maxine Miller has worked faithfully in the church under the leadership of ten different pastors. She says there were challenges, especially when the babies cried for their parents, but the joys far outnumbered the challenges. "They treated me like I was a part of their family. I still get cards from the children of children I kept," says Miller.

One of the scariest moments occurred when Jill (Adkins) Hansard, went missing for a short while. It turns out she had crawled up under one of the small tables and fallen asleep.

Through the years, there have been many who have helped out in the nursery, including Faye Self, Annie Pearl Lusk, Ruby Wooten,

Bonnie Jircik, E.J. and Elizabeth Stewart, Donnie and Ellen Rieger, Mavis Middleton and others.

The First Baptist Church of Haskell saluted this very special lady Sunday, March 10, by presenting her with a plaque and cards and holding a luncheon in her honor.

Due to health issues, she has decided it is time to retire. When asked how it feels on Sundays to not be in the nursery, she just smiled and said, "I still have to look to see how many babies are there."

While Miller is quick to acknowledge that the children and families have played an important role in her life, the reverse is also true, she has had a positive impact on their lives as well.



MAXINE MILLER



**IN APPRECIATION**—Sammy Bitner of the Haskell Chamber of Commerce board of directors, center, presents Sally Rueffer, Executive Director, a token of appreciation on behalf of the Chamber. Rueffer has resigned from the Chamber to help run her family's business in Brazoria. The Chamber will miss Rueffer's hard work and the heights she has given to the organization with her strong determination and support. Board members present for the occasion were, back row, l-r, Megan Cox, Pam Strickland, Meg Case, Tammy Cunningham, Bill Alcorn and Sheila Hester.

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



REAGAN HADAWAY

## Hadaway named to All-Regional TAHC team

Haskell Maiden Coach Blake Eddleman has announced that Reagan Hadaway, a sophomore Haskell Maiden, has been named to the 2012-13 Class A Division 1 Girls TABC All-Regional team.

Hadaway was named MVP and to the Academic District 9-1A All-District team for 2012-13 recently.

## Paint Creek honor rolls announced

Paint Creek School has released the names of students on the A and A-B honor rolls for the fourth six weeks of the school year.

First grade: A honor roll, Krissie Booe and Phaiden Spikes; A-B honor roll, Ethan Arendall, Roland Cisneros, Chasidee Daniels, Madison Dawson, Cowan Rogers and Daneli Salinas.

Second grade: A honor roll, Levi Rhoads, Damian Salinas and Addi Yarbrough; A-B honor roll, Gus Blair, Steelyn Blair, Ethan Johnson, Brennan Jordan, Autumn Mlenak and Mason Webb.

Third grade: A-B honor roll, Chris Acosta, Joshua Blake, Ivy Cumby, Dakota Daniels, Tyler Dawson and Ethan Jenkins.

Fourth grade: A honor roll, Zakary Elkins and Isidro Salinas; A-B honor roll, William Bogle, Jasmine Boyd, Randy Coplan, Steven Crain, Danica Elias, Ashton Grand, Gracie Oliver, Eric Perkins, Dylan Souther and Corbin Waggoner.

Fifth grade: A-B honor roll, Desiree Acosta, Tanner Booe and Jaclyn Snelling.

Sixth grade: A honor roll, Garrett Arendall; A-B honor roll, Bailey Hawkins, Daniel Salinas and Gabe Todd.

Seventh grade: A-B honor roll, Felicity Hannsz, Katelyn Jenkins, Caleb White and Ariel Wolf.

Eighth grade: A honor roll, Catherine Lemond and Corey Mengwasser; A-B honor roll, Gabby Mendoza and Buddy Trotter.

Ninth grade: A-B honor roll, Ashley Crossley, Paige Ramirez and Ben Steele.

Tenth grade: A-B honor roll, Bryant Booe.

Eleventh grade: A honor roll, Cody Mayfield and Kadie McCord; A-B honor roll, Hunter Hollingsworth, Baleigh Lopez, Shawn Myers, and Tarah Trotter.

Twelfth grade: A honor roll, Katie Jones; A-B honor roll, Cheyenne Buerger, Hunter Jordan, River McTasney and Charitie Winterstein.



**TOURIST GRANT**—In September 2012, the Haskell Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center introduced Tourism Grants available to groups hosting events in Haskell. The Committee to Help Haskell County was the first group to apply for and receive a grant. The funds were used to advertise the fourth annual Celebrate Texas Independence Day Haskell County Style. The money was used to purchase newspaper, billboard, radio, television and internet advertising along with banners and posters. Accepting the grant check for \$2,000 from The Committee to Help Haskell County were, front row, l-r, Connie Benton, Lynn Dodson and Susan Cockerell. Presenting the check on behalf of the Chamber were, back row, Sheila Hester, Pam Strickland, Meg Case, Sammy Bitner and Tammy Cunningham.

## March sales tax totals

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said that state sales tax revenue in February was \$2.08 billion, up 3.7 percent compared to February 2012.

“Sales tax revenues continue to grow, but at a more moderate pace compared to recent months,” Combs said. “The latest increase was led by receipts from the construction and restaurant sectors. Collections from other major sectors such as oil and natural gas-related businesses and manufacturing remain at high levels.”

Combs sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts their March local sales tax allocations totaling \$531.3 million, up 12.2 percent compared to March 2012.

The sales tax figures represent January sales

reported by monthly tax filers.

Haskell County had a 9.73 percent increase for March 2013 of \$44,488.71 in comparison to \$40,542.46 for March 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$133,952.67 reflect a 4.01 percent decrease over 2012 payments to date of \$139,550.57.

The City of Haskell had a 10.06 percent increase for March 2013 of \$41,757.93 in comparison to \$37,939.20 for March 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$125,247.20 reflect a 4.44 percent decrease over 2012 payments to date of \$131,072.35.

The City of O'Brien had a 27.90 percent increase for March 2013 of \$203.06 in comparison to \$158.76 for March 2012. 2012 payments to date of \$944.92 reflect a 23.13 percent increase over 2012 payments to date of \$767.40.

The City of Rochester had a 17.70 percent increase for March 2013 of \$377.68 in comparison to \$320.86 for March 2012. 2012 payments to date of \$1,424.67 reflect a 2.46 percent increase over 2012 payments to date of \$1,390.41.

The City of Rule had a .60 percent increase for March 2013 of \$1,858.26 in comparison to \$1,847.05 for March 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$5,653.09 reflect a .71 percent increase over 2012 payments to date of \$5,612.99.

The City of Weinert had a 5.49 percent increase for March 2013 of \$291.78 in comparison to \$276.59 for March 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$682.79 reflect a 3.48 percent decrease over 2012 payments to date of \$707.42.

## Adjust withholding to avoid tax surprises

You should try to have your income tax withholding match your actual tax liability. If not enough tax is withheld, you will owe tax at the end of the year and may have to pay interest and a penalty. If too much tax is withheld, you will lose the use of that money until you get your refund. The withholding calculator at IRS.gov can help you figure the correct amount of federal withholding and provide information you can use to complete a new Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate.

Life brings constant changes to individual financial situations. Things like marriage, divorce, a new child or home purchase can all be reasons to adjust your withholding. The earlier

in the year you check your withholding, the easier it is to get the right amount of tax withheld.

“Check your withholding if you prepared last year's tax return and received a big refund or had a balance due that's more than you can comfortably pay,” said Clay Sanford, an IRS spokesman in Dallas.

Before you begin, you need to have a few items handy: Your most recent pay stubs and your most recent federal income tax return.

Here are some tips for using the withholding calculator:

- Fill in all information that applies to your situation.
- Estimate when necessary. Remember, the results are only as accurate as the

information you input.

• Check out the information links embedded in the program whenever you have a question.

• Print out the final screen that summarizes your input and the results. Use it to complete a new Form W-4 (if necessary) and give the completed form to your employer. Keep the print of the final screen and a copy of your new W-4 with your tax records.

## BCEC announces youth video contest

Big Country Electric Cooperative, in conjunction with Texas Co-op Power magazine, announces the launch of the 2013 Co-op Teens Power Texas video contest. For the fourth consecutive year, Big Country Electric Cooperative and Texas Co-op Power will

award up to \$4,000 in cash prizes for winners of the competition.

Students in grades 6 through 12 whose parents or legal guardians are current members of an electric cooperative in Texas can participate. This year, students are asked to create

a five to 10 minute video interviewing someone who remembers the era when the lights came on, when electricity first came to their home. The video will serve as an oral history of the time before the interviewee received electricity and how life was changed afterwards. All videos have the potential to be included in a full-length documentary to be produced by Texas Co-op Power at a later date.

The grand prize winner will receive \$1,500 and be profiled in Texas Co-op Power magazine. If a school is involved as a sponsor of the first-place winner it will receive \$1,000. The second-place winner, determined by the most YouTube views, will receive \$500. Four runners-up will each receive \$250 for best performance in one of four judging categories:

creativity, educational value, video editing and technical quality.

The contest opened Nov. 1 and ends April 1. Winners will be announced April 23.

For full contest rules and entry forms, go to www.TexasCoopPower.com, scroll down and click on the Co-op Teens Power Texas button on the right side of the page.

See last year's winning videos at www.youtube.com/TXCOOPOWER. For contest updates and tips, “Like” Texas Co-op Power magazine on Facebook or follow on Twitter @TexasCoopPower.

Texas Co-op Power is a monthly magazine published by Texas Electric Cooperatives and distributed to 1.3 million households and businesses receiving electricity from electric cooperatives in Texas.



Michelle Johnson RN

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

Brought to You By:

## Haskell Home Health Agency

### Home Safety & Fall Prevention Tips Personal Safety Activities

- If you need glasses, wear them, but never walk around with glasses that are meant only for reading.
- If you are even slightly unsteady on your feet, use a cane. Do not hesitate to use a walker either inside the house or outdoors.
- Always turn lights on and use adequate wattage light bulbs to brighten the room.
- Wear wide-base, low heel shoes with corrugated soles to help prevent slips and falls.
- Do not wear flimsy or slippery-soled shoes or slippers.
- When getting up at night, first sit on the edge of the bed to make sure you are awake and steady, then turn on a light before walking to the bathroom or around the room.
- Always wear clothing with short sleeves when cooking. Never reach over a hot burner on the stove.
- Have a safety plan to call for help or to get assistance.
- If you take medication that makes you dizzy or weak, discuss these symptoms with your health care provider. Being dizzy or weak when you get up to walk or go down stairs may increase your risk of falling.

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.

HERE'S TO YOUR HEALTH—AT HOME is brought to you by Haskell Home Health Agency providing home care services in Haskell, Knox, Stonewall, Throckmorton and Jones Counties



Home Care: Keeping Texans Proud & Independent

## Calendar

### Aggie Mom's Club

The Abilene Area Aggie Mom's Club will meet Tues., March 19 at 6:45 p.m. at the Coldwell Banker Panian & Mash Building, 2500 S. Willis (S.27th and Willis, 1/2 block N, on Willis) in Abilene. Join us for a light meal. You will get to meet other Aggie Moms and learn a little more about Texas A&M and all of its traditions. The group meets the third Tuesday

of each month at 6:45 p.m. for refreshments and fun. For more information, call or email Sheryl Kendrick, president, 325-695-2628, sherylann@suddenlink.net; or Martha Michalewicz, membership, 325-668-7307, marthamike@sbcglobal.net.

### Homecoming

The Haskell-Mattson-Weinert-Rochester homecoming will be held Sept. 27-28.



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## ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Annual Parish Sausage and Fried Chicken DINNER

SUN., MARCH 17

Serving 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

\$10 Adults & Take-Out

\$5 Children (under 12)

To Order Bulk Sausage

Call Billie 940-256-2973 or

John 940-256-3113

The Country Store will be selling homemade baked goods and arts and crafts items.

# 4-H photography contest results

by Jane Rowan  
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.  
Six Haskell County 4-Hers turned in a total of 26 pictures to be judged for the Haskell County 4-H Photography Project Show held March 3. Jill Druessedow and Pam Thigpen, both of Haskell, served as judges for the competition. These judges also conducted a photography workshop in January for 4-H youth enrolled in the project.

Parents, guests and participants enjoyed viewing the entries displayed at the Paint Creek ISD auditorium prior to the awards program. Refreshments were served during the viewing of the photographs, courtesy of the Haskell Jr./Sr. 4-H Clubs.

Felicity Hannsz introduced the participating 4-Hers in the Photography Project and announced results of the judging. Tillie McGuire presented participants with the awards.

Winners from the Haskell County competition in the senior division will advance to the state level during the State 4-H Round-Up at College Station in June. First place county winners in both the junior and intermediate divisions will advance to the district level for judging at Vernon in April.

Results of the county competition were as follows:

**Junior Division**  
Animals-Wildlife: 1. Adaline Utley  
People: 1. Adaline Utley, Haskell  
Plant/Flora: 1. Adaline

Utley  
**Intermediate Division**  
Nature/Landscape: 1. Sarah Fouts, Sagerton  
Night Photography: 1. Sarah Fouts  
People: 1. Sarah Fouts  
Plant/Flora: 1. Sarah Fouts

**Senior Division**  
Animals-Domestic: 1. Kylie Adams, Haskell; 2. Zhenia McTasney, Paint Creek  
Animals-Wildlife: 1. River McTasney, Paint Creek  
Catch All: 1. River McTasney; 2. Zhenia McTasney

Details & Macro: 1. River McTasney; 2. Zhenia McTasney  
Dominant Color: 1. River McTasney; 2. Zhenia McTasney

Elements of Design: 1. River McTasney; 2. Zhenia McTasney; 3. Emily Fouts, Sagerton  
Marine Aquatics: 1. River McTasney

Nature/Landscape: 1. Zhenia McTasney  
Night Photography: 1. Emily Fouts  
People: 1. Emily Fouts; 2. Zhenia McTasney

Plant/Flora: 1. River McTasney; 2. Zhenia McTasney  
The 4-H Photography project photos will be on display at the Haskell County Library during the entire month of May in recognition of National Photography month. The public is invited to drop by and view the exhibit during the libraries normal operating hours.

## Calendar

### Easter Cantata

Community Choir practice for the Easter Cantata will be held each Sunday from 4 to 5 p.m. in the First Baptist Chapel. Everyone is welcome. The cantata will be presented Sun., March 24 at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. For more information, contact Martha Jarred.

### Quilting class

Quilting classes will be offered the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Church of God, 714 N. 1st East in Haskell. For more information, call Cathy at 864-3982.

### Mom Prom

The Camo Chicks third annual Mom Prom fund-raiser benefitting the American Cancer Society

Relay for Life will be held at Macias Ballroom April 6 from 8 p.m. to midnight. Cost is \$20. Ladies, pull out your old prom dresses and come join in the fun! For more information contact Bette Enriquez at 864-2391 or Stacia Leach at 864-8138, after 5:00 p.m. No one under the age of 18 permitted.

### Spring Fling

Noah Project North will hold their annual Spring Fling Sat., April 20 at 6 p.m. at the Haskell Civic Center.

### Concert

Jack and Deb Stone, Christian musicians, will be in concert at the Haskell/Knox Relay for Life event Fri., April 26 at 7 p.m. at Indian Field in Haskell.

## Rochester Woman's Club

The Woman's Club of Rochester met Wed., Feb. 6 for a regular meeting. Club members met at the bank building. Attending were Jane Short, Gerri Newberry, Betty Ruth White, Mary Johnson, Verlene Stegemoeller, Linda Parsons, Teresa Scoggins, Elaine Glover, Sharon Mullino, Susan Turner, Regina O'Neal, Sandra Bass, Ada Pope and Mary Jenkins.

The meeting was opened by president Newberry. After roll call, Newberry introduced the guest for the meeting, Larry Beauchamp.

Beauchamp was involved with the security of the State Capitol for many years. He

talked about the buildings at the Capitol that used to be kept open 24 hours. That way anyone that wanted to see the inside of any building was able to do so. That fact is no longer true. Some the buildings are still open, but most are closed at arranged times. Security over the past years has become more and more involved with the changing times. Many books are printed outlining the security measures that are taken at the State Capitol. The club is grateful to Beauchamp for his part in serving his country in this capacity.

After the meeting, refreshments were served.

## Sagerton Hee Haw to be held March 21-23

The Sagerton Community Hee Haw will be held March 21-23, beginning at 8:00 p.m. each evening. An hour of music and singing will be held before the Hee Haw program begins.

Ticket orders may be made by calling 940-997-2688 or come to 1825 FM

1661, Sagerton. Tickets are \$5.00 each.

Plate lunches, sandwiches, and pies will be on sale in the cafeteria from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Sandwiches and pies only will be sold on Thursday night.

**Help support the Wall of Honor Project by donating your aluminum cans!**

## St. Patrick's Day is March 17 Save some "GREEN" ...

Friday & Saturday March 15 & 16

Save **25% off** regular price on Gift Items!

25% GIFT discount applies to everything in the store except OTC Products, Health & Beauty Aids, Vitamins, Prescriptions, Watkins Products, Photo Processing, Candy, Cards and Home Medical Equipment. Cash & Carry. No exchanges or refunds. Some restrictions apply.

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Bridal Shower Registry Courtney Vaughn and Kyle Kittley Tandi Townsend and Payden Stewart

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Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Closed Sunday and Holidays

## Kaleidoscope plans to open in April

Have you ever needed a last minute birthday gift and didn't have the time to go to Abilene to find it? Do you have artwork that you would like to sell, but do not have enough time and inventory to set up at local events? Did you always dream of having your own business but were reluctant to start out on your own? Very soon, area residents will have an outlet to accomplish any of these things.

A new store, Kaleidoscope, will be opening in the old Bassing Jewelry building on the northside of the square in early April.

Kaleidoscope, a group retail project, will not only offer an eclectic mix of items for sale to the public, but will offer community talent a place to show off their wares. The store's vision is to have something that appeals to every person coming through the door—a "mini mall" of sorts—and

something in every person's price range.

Currently, the store offers fourteen vendors; a very talented mix of local residents, with everything from antiques to clothing, fishing supplies, jewelry and baby gifts. For more information about leasing space and joining the group, call Janet Fish at 325-660-8484 or email: kaleidoscope@mule-creek.com.

An "infusion of enthusiasm" is what the store hopes to create for Haskell, in the effort to revitalize the area around the square. While doing so, the plan is to be a draw for folks traveling through, to stop, shop and dine in Haskell. Advertising will be done in Wichita Falls, Abilene, Sweetwater, Aspermont and all the small rural communities around.

Plan to come visit the store when it is opened in early April.



**SWEET + SPICY = SWICY**

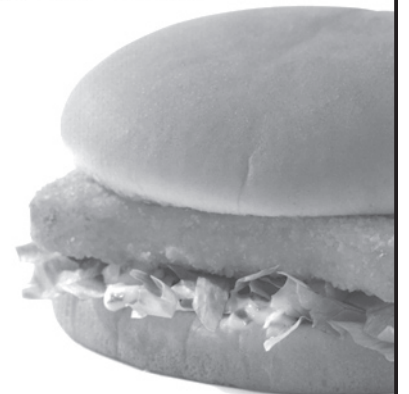
Add a drink to make the perfect Sweet & Spicy Combo.



**CATCH IT WHILE YOU CAN**



Fish Sandwich



Add Cheese†



5.49  
Sandwich Plus Med. Tots & Med. Drink\*

3.49  
Sandwich\*\*  
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QUARTER POUND

**FOOTLONG & TOTS\*** For **\$3.99** each, plus tax



Footlong lovers, there are four new flavors to love. Choose from Chicago, New York, Chili Cheese or All-American. Get your flavor with a side of golden, crispy Tots for just \$3.99.

**Now Serving 50¢ Corn Dogs** during Happy Hour 2 to 5 p.m. daily!



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**MARCH IS "TELEFRIEND" MONTH AT SANTA ROSA!**

Tell all of your friends about your Santa Rosa services and everybody wins! Refer a friend to Santa Rosa and they receive waived installation fees for up to 3 connections. Any additional connections are just \$20.

Plus, you receive \$25 for every friend that signs up with SRTC!

*Some restrictions may apply. Services where available.*

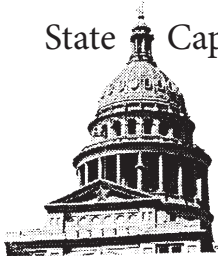
**SANTA ROSA Telephone Cooperative**

VERNON OFFICE: 7110 US HWY 287 E, VERNON, TX 76384 (940) 886-2217 (888) 886-2217  
HASKELL OFFICE: 113 N. AVE. D, HASKELL, TX 79521 (840) 863-1125 (888) 863-1125  
SEYMOUR OFFICE: 310 W. CALIFORNIA, SEYMOUR, TX 76380 (940) 889-1125 (877) 889-1125

# OPINION

## TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



### HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

#### Work of state budget writers continues

AUSTIN—Movement toward passing a state budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal biennium continued in committees of both chambers of the Texas Legislature last week.

After two months of hearings, the Senate Finance Committee on March 7 approved workshop recommendations for a two-year budget of about \$90 billion, paving the way to a final committee vote before moving to the full Senate for consideration.

On March 8, the House Committee on Appropriations absorbed information on Medicaid expansion pursuant to the federal Affordable Care Act, including a presentation showing the rise in Medicaid as percent of state resources, including during dry periods of slow or negative revenue growth, and briefs on similar issues in the states of Arizona and Maine.

Appropriations Committee members also viewed slides from the state comptroller's office about the Major Events Trust Fund as a way to stimulate the economy through sports playoffs and other high-profile events. Members also looked at "major economic development programs" such as the Texas Enterprise Fund, the Texas Emerging Technology Fund, the Moving Image Industry Incentive Program and the Major Events Trust Fund.

#### Justice speech is given

In his State of the Judiciary address to the Texas Legislature on March 6, the Honorable Wallace Jefferson, chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court, said, "The question is not 'How is the judiciary?' We must ask instead whether our system of justice is working for the people it has promised to serve."

Nearly six million Texans qualify for legal aid and many are "forced to go it alone in our courts," he said, adding that Texas ranks 48th in the nation in per capita funding for indigent defense, and suggested the Legislature can do more to increase access to legal services and attorney representation for poor and middle class citizens. Jefferson encouraged use of the rulemaking process to reduce the expense and delay of litigation.

At the Legislature's direction, he said, the Supreme Court recently adopted rules to simplify proceedings in cases involving claims for monetary relief of less than \$100,000. "Discovery is limited; the cases are expedited. Now, a case that is vital to the success of a small business owner can actually be tried, to a verdict. A remedy for a legal injury, even for a litigant

who cannot afford to pay a lawyer \$500 an hour."

Jefferson noted that Texas courts are making progress in overturning wrongful convictions with DNA or other means and exonerating innocent people. He praised legislation offered by Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, and Rep. Ruth Jones McClendon, D-San Antonio, to create an exoneration commission.

Jefferson also praised:

- Increases in electronic filing of court papers.
- Efforts to keep youths out of court and in school.
- Guardianship of elders who are at risk of abuse.

#### Revenue remains healthy

State Comptroller Susan Combs on March 6 reported state sales tax revenue in February was \$2.08 billion, up 3.7 percent compared to February 2012.

"Sales tax revenues continue to grow, but at a more moderate pace compared to recent months," Combs said in an agency news release. "The latest increase was led by receipts from the construction and restaurant sectors. Collections from other major sectors such as oil and natural gas-related businesses and manufacturing remain at high levels."

Combs' office will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts their March local sales tax allocations totaling \$531.3 million, up 12.2 percent compared to March 2012.

#### State jobs report arrives

Texas employers continued to expand their payrolls in January with the addition of 10,400 total nonfarm jobs for a total of 310,900 jobs added over the year, the Texas Workforce Commission reported March 8.

After declining for six consecutive months, the unemployment rate in Texas rose slightly in January to 6.3 percent and was down nine-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

The nation's January unemployment rate, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, stood at 7.9 percent.

"The Texas economy continues to add jobs and create opportunity, with growth in all 11 major industries over the last year," said Texas Workforce Commission Chairman Andres Alcantar.

#### Bill filing deadline passes

March 8, the 60th day of the 140-day regular session of the Texas Legislature, was the deadline for lawmakers to file bills and proposed amendments to the state constitution, but local and emergency bills still may be filed.

#### 10 Years Ago March 13, 2003

Haskell County native, Waller Overton of Paint Creek, was inducted into the Chisholm Trail Council Hall of Fame, at the annual Boy Scouts of America Council banquet in Abilene. He has been involved in scouting for over 55 years.

Diplomas awarded to 3,891 Texas A&M University graduates during fall commencement ceremonies included Haskell graduates Matt Blanks, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree and Wendy Cadenhead, Bachelor of Science in Wildlife & Fisheries degree.

American Electric Power employees Scott Bingham, Clifford Short and Jerry Coker of Haskell, were among a group of members of the Abilene Distribution District to receive recognition for an outstanding safety record.

#### 20 Years Ago March 18, 1993

Hollie Smith of Rule FFA placed third in the San Antonio Livestock Show with her heavyweight Chester. Also competing from Rule were Angela Hisey, Jana Saffel and Cory Robinson.

Mindy Ballard of Rochester, has been named a "Distinguished Student" at Tarleton State University in Stephenville.

First place winners in the Haskell County 4-H Fashion Show were Amy Barbour, Amanda Crawford and Halee Walton, all of Paint Creek; Amy Burson, J.J. Comedy, Jennifer Comedy, Kristin Cypert and Nisha Patel, all of Haskell.

#### 30 Years Ago March 17, 1983

Julie Coleman, a senior at Paint Creek High School, has been selected to play in the Texas High School Girls Coaches Association North-South All-star game.

The eighth grade girls' track team brought home the first place trophy from

the Anson track meet. Those winning ribbons were Julie Roewe, Mindy Smith, Vicky Chavez, Lavoli Marshall, Sylvia Castillo, Leiza Morales, Dana Hale and Rebecca Flores.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Christian of Haskell, announce the birth of their daughter, Kristi Lynn Christian, born at Haskell Memorial Hospital and weighing in at 7 lbs. 13 oz.

#### 40 Years Ago March 15, 1973

Earning division I ratings and qualifying to compete in the state contest are Haskell High School band members Helen Mary Cadenhead and Melissa Roberson, flute solo; Cheryl Bennett, Pat Everett, Lisa McBroom and Ruth Ann Blankenship, clarinet quartet; Cadenhead, Susie McAdoo, Shirley Abbott and Roberson, flute quartet; Susan Gilleland, Connie Turnbow, McAdoo, Linda Hartsfield, Bonnie Adkins and Lugene Lane, twirling solos.

At the twenty-seventh Texas Tech University Recognition Convocation, Terry Kay Diggs received College Honors, having achieved Highest Ranking Student honors in the College of Arts and Sciences, with a 4.0 GPA. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Diggs of Haskell.

Rebecca Buerger, sixth grade daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Buerger of Paint Creek, was the only Haskell County winner in the California Creek Soil and Water Conservation District's Poster Contest.

#### 50 Years Ago March 14, 1963

Scouts of Troop 48 went to Austin last weekend on the Chisholm Trail Council "Operation Citizenship." Making the trip were scouts Clinton Calloway, James Redding, Wayne Cadenhead, Terry Lowery, Gary Lytle, Kenneth Felker, J.F. Cadenhead, Gary Felker, Ricky Perry, Bob Earles, Phil Coleman and Danny Isbell.

Haskell Jaycee Frankie Don Mullins and wife, were guests of the Houston Junior Chamber of Commerce as reward for Haskell Jaycees 100 percent showing in poll tax payment participation in a recent statewide contest.

#### 100 Years Ago March 16, 1913

Dr. Odom, who recently purchased the Graham residence in the northeast part of the city, has moved to the same. This is one of the most picturesque homes in the city.

The Visitor for High Schools from Austin, Mr. Thomas Fletcher, visited the high school here and "reported favorably on the character of work being done for credit this year."



## Ask the Mayor

By John Gannaway, Mayor of the City of Haskell

Scary thing happened to us during our last trip to Abilene. We'd pulled off the freeway on the 14th Street exit. We were waiting at the red light to turn onto S. 14th and the man in the car beside us was sort of slumped over and had already sat through one green light. Jan beat on the side of the car; she thought he was dead. I finally honked and he roused from a very sound sleep. We both turned left and we tried to stay away from him as he was weaving and actually nodded off again at one of the red lights. I don't know if he was just overly tired from maybe having to work two jobs or if he was in the process of recovering from a long night of wild partying. One thing for sure, he definitely should not have been behind the wheel.

I saw some folks unloading some of the equipment that will be put to good use in the Better Bodies establishment. This may mean that they will be open for business before long. Having never owned a business, I can only imagine the stress that is

involved concerning your expectations about what level of success you will achieve. Being a Type A personality, I would probably worry myself right into a stroke or heartache before the doors ever opened.

This brings up another point—Weight Watchers. They keep telling me that they cannot find a lecturer for us. I don't know what their problem is because they always want people to join so they can lose some weight and get healthy. I haven't given up yet—if anyone has any suggestions as to what I might try I hope you let me know.

Haskell Band wins Sweepstakes—fifth time in a row. Director Mike Aston and his band members are to be congratulated because winning sweepstakes does not come easy. There are many, many hours of practice that happen before you become a sweepstakes winner. I can remember the days when I was in the band and we would be out practicing for a half-time field stunt and the temperature would be just

miserably cold. My hands and mouth would get so cold that it became almost impossible to play my trumpet. When practice would finally end, we would all race to the band hall and try to get warm. Our hands would be so cold that we would actually hold them under cold, yes cold, running water to warm them up. That never did sound like the right thing to do but it would work. I digress. Congratulations to all of you young folks in the band for all of the hard work and to Mr. Aston for his hard work and patience.

Drawings for places on the ballot for the City Council elections May 11 occurred this past Monday. I was asked to serve as an observer along with Matthew Duran. Each individual who had entered the race was given the opportunity to draw for a ballot position. Mary Drury drew for Sue Medford and Randy Bowers who could not attend the drawing. The order in which the candidate's names will appear on the ballot is Sue Medford, Wes Strickland, Allen Morrow, Randy Bowers, Shane Whitt and Ernie Frye. We will be voting to fill only three positions so good luck to each of you.

Send your complaints about the "worst things you love to hate" to me at City Hall, P.O. Box 1003, City or 706 N. Ave. L., Haskell, Texas 79521. There are still many unsightly, unkept properties in the city, if you would like to have a say in which ones get handled first, here's your chance. Keep in mind some

may have asbestos in them, some may be the subject of multiple family owners and there may be other reasons some of these items cannot be handled as soon as we all would prefer. We are still waiting for some guidance from TCEQ. As soon as they provide us with the much needed guidelines, we will proceed.

The City of Haskell and the Development Corporation of Haskell will host a Housing & Building Forum on Mon., March 25 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at our City Hall. If you have an interest in attending this forum or know someone who is, please leave me a note at City Hall or contact Mary Drury at the DCOH office. We have sent out invitations to those whom we felt would be interested but if you have not received a notification and you would like to attend, please drop me a line or give me a call.

We missed two really good opportunities to get some rain this past week. Maybe the Lord is saving our rain for just the right time. For almost all of us, the right time is anytime. Keep praying for rain.

This evening Jan wanted to watch the special on 'The Bible' and I was transfixed watching the Lady Aggies in the process of winning their first SEC Championship against Kentucky. We flipped back and forth and back and forth. I felt a little guilty by staying so long on the Aggies, but it's like I told Jan, "Hey I know how 'The Bible' turns out."

## The Haskell Free Press

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# Girl Scout Week March 10-16

**Troop #7230**

**Daisy:**

Sirena Baiza  
Shelby Saffel  
Astrid Guzman  
Allie Boone  
Angelina De La Cruz  
Harley Brown  
Carley Isbell

**Troop Leader:**

Theresa Baiza

**Brownie:**

Macy Rogers  
Hannah Ervin  
Abigail Ortiz  
Aubrey Isbell

**Troop Leader:**

Lisa Saffel

**Junior:**

Kennedy Fritzler  
Madalyn Navarrette  
Jessica Ramos  
Cheyenne Kreger  
Lauryn Crane  
Yesenia Moreno  
Fette Jackson  
Ariel Cortinez

**Troop Leader:**

Misty Fritzler

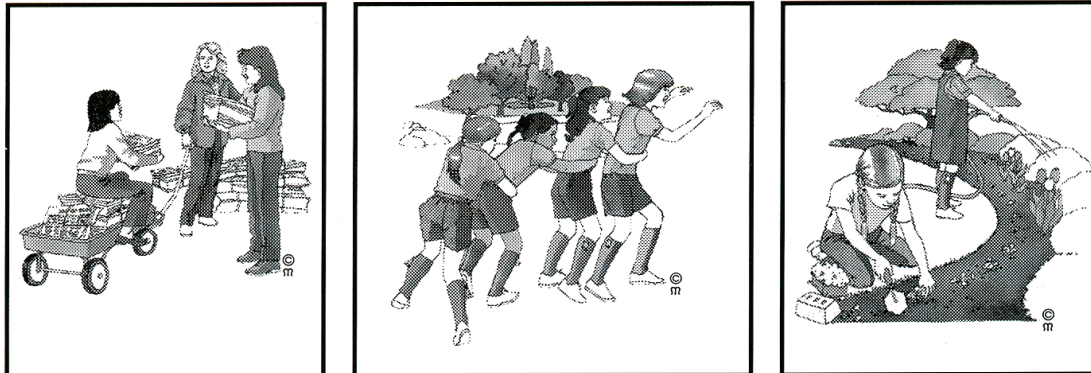
**Paint Creek**

**Troop #7081**

Zhenia McTasney  
Sara Edwards  
Melisa Rock  
Gracie Oliver  
Sheila Jones  
McKenna Todd  
Shady Blue Dunlap  
Sabrina Ortega  
Elise Townsend

**Leaders:**

Laura Rock  
Leiza Morales



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## FUN. FRIENDS. CHALLENGE. ACHIEVEMENT.

That's what Girl Scouting is all about.

Girl Scouts of the USA has encouraged girls of all ages to achieve their personal best through a program that stresses self-discovery, exploration and community service.

During Girl Scout Week, these local businesses have joined together to honor this outstanding organization.

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**The Haskell  
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*read by more  
people in Haskell  
County than any  
other print  
media.* 



**INDIAN BATTER**—Haskell Indian Aaron Waggoner at bat during the district opener against Hamlin. The Indians won the game.



**INDIAN CATCHER**—Catcher Jarred Escobedo works behind the plate for the Haskell Indians.

## Horse, burro adoption to be held in Abilene

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will hold a wild horse and burro adoption in Abilene, March 14-16. The three-day event at the Taylor County Expo Center will feature dozens of spectacular animals. These are adult and yearling horses and burros that once roamed free on public lands in the West. The BLM periodically removes excess animals from the range in order to maintain healthy herds and to protect other rangeland resources. The adoption program is essential for achieving these important management goals.

The adoption schedule is Thurs., March 14 from 2 to 6 p.m.; Fri., March 15 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sat., March 16 from 8 a.m. to noon.

Adoption qualifications are as follows:

Application approval is required and can be done on site. To qualify to adopt, one must be at least 18, with no record of animal abuse. Adopters must have a minimum of 400 square feet of corral space per animal, with free access to food, water and shelter. A six-foot corral fence is required for adult horses, five feet for yearlings, and four-and-a-half feet for burros. All animals must be loaded in covered stock-type trailers with swing gates and sturdy walls and floors. BLM staff will be on hand to assist adopters through the short application process.

Adoption fees: All animals will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis for the minimum adoption fee of \$125 (set by law).

\$500 Adoption Incentive: BLM pays a one-time \$500 care-and-feeding allowance to adopters of horses at least four years old. The allowance is paid in full after one year when adopters receive official ownership title for their horse(s). All standard adoption conditions and fees apply. A limited number of eligible horses will be available. Younger horses, burros and trained animals are not eligible for this incentive. This incentive is designed to find homes for older horses that might otherwise be destined for long-

term pastures, where they'd live out the remainder of their natural lives at taxpayer expense.

Wild horses and burros—iconic symbols of America's western heritage—are renowned for their strength, endurance, agility and intelligence, characteristics bred into them in the wild that make them ideal for work or recreation. Since 1973, the BLM has placed more than 225,000 of these "living legends" in approved homes across the country.

For more information, call toll-free 866-468-7826 or visit [www.blm.gov/nm/whb](http://www.blm.gov/nm/whb). Directions to the Taylor County Expo Center (1700 Hwy 36, Abilene): From I-20 in Abilene, go south on Hwy. 322 (Jake Roberts Fwy.) to Hwy. 36 (E. S. 11th St.), then right to facility.

## 2012 Texas top ten most stolen vehicles

Pickups are not only popular among Texas drivers, they are also top targets for Texas vehicle thieves! The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has released its final MVT19 report on the top vehicles reported stolen in Texas during 2012. The MVT19 report is compiled monthly by DPS and represents vehicle theft data entered into the Texas Crime Information Center (TCIC) by all Texas law enforcement agencies. An error margin of plus or minus five percent is assumed for incorrect entries by agencies. Based on the reports, as has been the case for many years, pickup trucks top the list of thieves' most common targets for the year.

Coming in at No. 1 was the Ford Pickup followed closely by the Chevrolet Pickup at No. 2. In the No. 3 position, the Dodge Pickup also remains a popular target for Texas thieves. The Honda Civic and the Chevrolet Tahoe round out the top five

### Working Together to Fight Medicaid Fraud

Shortly after my election as Texas's 50th Attorney General, we launched a transition team and began carefully studying which issues had to be prioritized by my new administration. Almost immediately, we determined that cracking down on waste, fraud and abuse in the Medicaid program would be a top priority. At the time, just the sheer size and expense of the taxpayer-funded program—which pays for health care for economically disadvantaged Texans—told us that identifying and preventing Medicaid fraud had to be a top priority for the Office of the Attorney General (OAG).

Fortunately, our initial instincts in the earliest days of my administration have since been validated by the unprecedented successes of our expanded Medicaid fraud prevention efforts. Since 2002, the OAG's Medicaid fraud crackdown has yielded more than 900 criminal convictions identified more than \$850 million in fraudulent overpayment, and recovered another \$1 billion for the taxpayers. Each and every dollar that is wasted on fraud is an affront to the taxpayers whose taxes support the Medicaid program—so we are not content to sit back and celebrate our past, but are instead planning to resource our efforts as we work to develop and deploy

new initiatives to eradicate Medicaid fraud.

Jointly funded by state and federal government, the Texas Medicaid program is administered by the State of Texas but is subject to various federal regulations that govern its operations. Generally speaking, when a health care provider or medical supplier provides goods or services to a Medicaid beneficiary, they bill the Medicaid program — just as they bill private insurance companies for benefits provided to individuals with health insurance coverage.

Fraud can take many forms. If a medical device supplier provides one case of products to Medicaid beneficiaries and bills the Medicaid program for two boxes, then the Medicaid program has been defrauded because the taxpayers were billed for goods that were never actually delivered. The same principle applies when a therapist, dentist or doctor sends Medicaid a bill for services that were never actually provided to a patient.

Under Texas law, drug companies that want to benefit from selling their pharmaceutical products to participate in the Medicaid program must report their market prices to the State. If they report an inflated price, that causes Medicaid to over-reimburse pharmacies. That false and inflated price reporting constitutes a fraud on the program. Similarly,

physicians and dentists who provide health care to Medicaid patients are also subject to laws governing providers, so they must agree to only bill the Medicaid program for services that are authorized by state law. As a result, if an orthodontist charges Medicaid for purely cosmetic braces—which are not authorized by state law because the program generally only covers treatments that are medically necessary—then the taxpayers have been improperly billed for services that are not covered by the Medicaid program.

As a groundbreaking leader in the field, the State of Texas was the first state in the nation to pursue a pharmaceutical manufacturer for improperly reporting the price of its drugs to the Medicaid program. Since 2002, the OAG has recovered more than \$550 million in fraudulent overpayments from pharmaceutical companies that misreported inflated prices to the Medicaid program.

The \$1 billion in Medicaid fraud recoveries we have secured over the last decade overwhelmingly resulted from civil actions our Civil Medicaid Fraud Division filed against pharmaceutical companies. In contrast, the more than \$800 million in fraudulent overpayment we identified reflected the efforts of our Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU), which conducts criminal investigations on the basis

of referrals from local law enforcement authorities, citizens and state agencies like the Health and Human Services Commission's Office of Inspector General.

One important aspect of the MFCU's law enforcement efforts focuses on protecting Medicaid patients who reside in nursing homes. Together with local law enforcement officials, the MFCU investigates and prosecutes nursing home employees who neglect or abuse their patients. The Medicaid program pays nursing homes to care for their patients, so when there is abuse or neglect in a nursing home, a crime is perpetuated against the individual patient — and the Medicaid program. In these cases, our efforts are particularly important because they are not just about financial fraud, but also holding abusers accountable for harming patients entrusted to their care.

With health care costs skyrocketing across the country and the Medicaid program consuming an increasingly large portion of the state budget, it is more important than ever that we vigorously investigate and prosecute Medicaid fraud. Indeed, it is vitally important that each and every Medicaid dollar be devoted to health care for disadvantaged Texans—not fraud. In the process, we hope to continue making a billion-dollar difference for Texas taxpayers.

## Sign-up for CRP to begin May 20

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced at the National Pheasant and Quail Classic that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will conduct a four-week general sign-up for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), beginning May 20 and ending June 14. CRP has a 27-year legacy of protecting the nation's natural resources through voluntary participation, while providing significant economic and environmental benefits to rural communities across the United States. Under Secretary Vilsack's leadership, USDA has enrolled 11.7 million acres in various CRP efforts.

"Since the 1980s, the CRP program has established itself as a benchmark in voluntary conservation efforts, providing American producers with assets to

address our most critical resource issues," said Vilsack. "Last year, during one of the worst droughts in generations, the CRP proved vital in protecting our most environmentally sensitive lands from erosion. Emergency haying and grazing on CRP lands also supplied critical feed and forage for livestock producers due to the drought. And the program continues to bring substantial returns to rural areas, attracting recreation and tourism dollars into local economies while sustaining natural and wildlife habitat for future generations."

Additional sign-ups for continuous CRP programs—such as Highly Erodible Land Initiative and Initiative to Restore Grasslands, Wetlands and Wildlife—will be announced in spring 2013.

Currently, about 27 million acres are enrolled in CRP, which is a voluntary program available to agricultural producers to help them safeguard environmentally sensitive land. Producers enrolled in CRP plant long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion and enhance wildlife habitat. Contracts on 3.3 million acres of CRP are set to expire on Sept. 30, 2013. Producers with expiring contracts or producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP.

Producers that are accepted in the sign-up can receive cost-share assistance to plant long-term, resource-conserving covers and receive an annual rental payment for the length of the contract (10-15 years). Producers also are encouraged to look into CRP's other enrollment opportunities offered on a continuous, non-competitive, sign-up basis and that often provide additional financial assistance. Continuous sign-up dates will be announced at a later date.

Over the past 27 years, farmers, ranchers, conservationists, hunters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts have made CRP one of the largest and most important USDA efforts. CRP continues to make major contributions to national efforts to improve water and air quality, and to prevent soil erosion by protecting the most sensitive areas including those prone to flash flooding and runoff. CRP has also helped increase populations of pheasants, quail, ducks, and rare species, like the sage grouse, the lesser prairie chicken, and other grassland birds. Highlights of CRP include:

CRP has restored more than two million acres of wetlands and two million acres of riparian buffers; Each year, CRP keeps more than 600 million pounds

of nitrogen and more than 100 million pounds of phosphorous from flowing into our nation's streams, rivers, and lakes. CRP provides \$1.8 billion annually to landowners—dollars that make their way into local economies, supporting small businesses and creating jobs; and CRP is the largest private lands carbon sequestration program in the country. By placing vulnerable cropland into conservation, CRP sequesters carbon in plants and soil, and reduces both fuel and fertilizer usage. In 2012, CRP resulted in carbon sequestration equal to taking about nine million cars off the road.

The Obama Administration is leading a host of federal agencies in the America's Great Outdoors initiative to develop a 21st century conservation agenda and reconnect Americans to the outdoors. At the same time, USDA continues to enroll a record number of acres of private working lands in conservation programs, working with more than 500,000 farmers and ranchers to implement conservation practices that clean the air we breathe, filter the water we drink, and prevent soil erosion. Since 2009, USDA has enrolled more than 50 million acres into the Conservation Stewardship Program to incentivize the most productive, beneficial conservation practices. And USDA's work in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, the Mississippi River Basin, and Gulf of Mexico are among 19 initiatives applying the most effective conservation practices to increase agricultural and environmental returns. USDA science is also helping to focus work in areas to reduce problematic nutrients making it to rivers and streams by as much as 45 percent.

For more information on CRP and other FSA programs, visit a local FSA service center or [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

# 2013 Haskell, Paint Creek and District Soil & Water Conservation District Poster Contest Winners



**DISTRICT WINNERS**—Casey Arendall, left, a fifth grade student at Haskell Elementary, was the first place district poster contest winner; Kourtney Gibson, a fifth grade student at Haskell Elementary, was the second place district poster contest winner.



**DISTRICT WINNER**—Brittany Yanez, a sixth grade student at Paint Creek School, was the third place district poster contest winner.



**HASKELL KINDERGARTEN**  
Colt Moore, first place  
Mrs. Cox's class



**HASKELL SECOND GRADE**  
Madilyn Moore, first place  
Mrs. Waggoner's class



**MRS. HANSON'S SECOND GRADE**—Haskell students, l-r, Shalee Dunnam, first place; and Zoe Shiplett, second place.



**HASKELL OVERALL SECOND GRADE**—Shalee Dunnam, first place, Zoe Shiplett, second place; and Madilyn Moore, third place.



**MRS. SHIPLETT'S THIRD GRADE**—Haskell students, l-r, Braden Brzozowski, first place; Taylor King, second place; and Octavia Pryor, third place.



**MRS. CYPERT'S THIRD GRADE**—Haskell students, l-r, Sarah Stout, first place; Kaylee Kinney, second place; and Breannah Luce, third place.



**MRS. BREDTHAUER'S THIRD GRADE**—Haskell students, l-r, Piper Smith, first place; Jacey Rodriguez, second place; and Melody Martinez, third place.



**HASKELL OVERALL THIRD GRADE**—Piper Smith, first place; Jacey Rodriguez, second place; and Sarah Stout, third place.



**HASKELL FOURTH GRADE**—Mrs. Homeyer's class, Makayla Arendall, first place; Mrs. Sloan's class, Skyler Rhoads, first place; and Mrs. Parks' class, Abby Address, first place.



**HASKELL OVERALL FOURTH GRADE**—Makayla Arendall, first place; Skyler Rhoads, second place; and Abby Address, third place.



**MRS. WALLACE'S FIFTH GRADE**—Haskell students, l-r, Kourtney Gibson, first place; Caleb Wright, second place; and Andrew Casillas, third place.



**MRS. ROEWE'S FIFTH GRADE**—Haskell students, l-r, Casey Arendall, first place; Tori Rodriguez, second place; and Madison Moore, third place.



**MRS. GIBSON'S FIFTH GRADE**—Haskell students, l-r, Heavenly Perez, first place; and Halee Alsbrook.



**MRS. GIBSON'S FIFTH GRADE**—Haskell student, Landry Hanson, third place.



**HASKELL OVERALL FIFTH GRADE**—Kourtney Gibson, first place; Caleb Wright, second place; and Casey Arendall, third place.



**MRS. SHELTON'S SIXTH GRADE**—Haskell students, l-r, Ernie Homeyer, first place; Tristen Swinney, second place; and Allie Address, third place.



**MRS. UTLEY'S FIFTH GRADE**—Paint Creek students, l-r, Billy Jones, first place; Desiree Acosta, second place; and Augi Moreno, third place.



**MRS. UTLEY'S SIXTH GRADE**—Paint Creek students, l-r, Bailey Hawkins, first place; Brittany Yanez, second place; and Angelique Steele, third place.

# Rule School Menu

# ECC Menu

**March 18-22**  
**Breakfast**  
 Milk, juice and fruit are served daily.  
**Monday:** Pancakes  
**Tuesday:** Cereal, toast  
**Wednesday:** Biscuit, sausage, gravy  
**Thursday:** Breakfast pocket  
**Friday:** French toast

**Lunch**  
 Milk is served daily.  
**Monday:** Hamburger, hamburger garnish, potato rounds, Western beans, diced pears  
**Tuesday:** Pigs n blanket, baby carrots, steamed broccoli, pineapple tidbits  
**Wednesday:** Tex-Mex stack with corn chips, Spanish rice, refried beans, salad, salsa, hot cinnamon apples  
**Thursday:** Stuffed BBQ potato, Texas toast, baby carrots, apple or orange  
**Friday:** Cheese pizza, salad, green beans, apple

**Mon., March 18**  
 Crispy chicken, blackeyed peas, creamy gravy, potatoes, hot rolls, white cake, tea or coffee  
**Wed., March 20**  
 Lasagna, green beans, beets, garlic bread, misc. dessert, tea or coffee  
**Fri., March 22**  
 Chicken spaghetti, garden salad, mixed veggie, garlic bread, strawberry cake, tea or coffee  
 Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.



**ROTARY SPEECH CONTEST**—The Haskell Rotary Club sponsors their 4 Way Test Speech Contest each year for students in grades 9-12. Students competed Thurs., March 7, at the Rotary Club meeting and presented their speeches on the 4 Way Test and what it means to them. Prizes were awarded in the amounts of first place, \$250; second place, \$150; and third place, \$100. The three winners, l-r, are Katie Jones, Paint Creek senior, first place; Tillie McGuire, Haskell senior, second place; and James Hammond, Haskell senior, third place. Jones will participate in the regional competition to be held on March 23 in the Haskell High School auditorium.

**Clear Fork Crime Stoppers**  
 1-800-222-TIPS

**RELAY FOR LIFE**  
 Honor and remember those who have fought or are fighting the brave battle against cancer with a Luminaria from the American Cancer Society Luminarias will be shining at the Relay for Life  
 April 26, 2013 • 7 p.m.  
 Indian Field • Haskell, Texas  
 We ask a minimum donation of \$5.00 per Luminaria  
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 Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed form and money to:  
 Delight Jones, 607 S. Ave. G, Haskell, Texas 79521  
 Jennabeth Kimbrough, P.O. Box 594, Haskell, Texas 79521

## Student in the News

Paige Adams graduated summa cum laude from Texas Tech University Dec. 15, with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting degree and a secondary emphasis in Agricultural Communications.

At Tech, she was a member of five honor societies, Sigma Alpha Lambda National Leadership and Honors Organization, Gamma Beta Phi National Honor Society (top 20 percent of her class), The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi (top 7.5 percent of her class), Golden Key International Honour Society for outstanding academic achievement, and the Honor Society of Beta Gamma Sigma.



**PAIGE ADAMS**

For outstanding merit and accomplishment as a student at Texas Tech, Adams was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, and for her commitment to the ideals of scholarship, leadership and service, she was selected for The National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

the Dean's Honor List for three semesters.

She is employed with Farm Credit Administration in Irving.

Adams served as an officer for Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow and was a member of the Accounting Leadership Council. She made the President's Honor List for four semesters and

She is the daughter of Micheal and Peggy Adams of Haskell, and the granddaughter of Pansy Harris and the late Henry Harris of Haskell, and Elmer and Linda Adams of Weinert.

## This Week's Devotional Message:



The legend of St. Patrick has come down to us in such a form as to make us concentrate on its more whimsical aspects rather than its serious message. The greeting card racks sprout shamrocks and little men in green suits. Regardless of our ethnic backgrounds, we all become "Irish" on that day and don green garments. Hibernian melodies emanate from

the radio stations. With all of that, we tend to forget the story of St. Patrick's perilous journey to Ireland to persuade the people to go and worship God, and that under much safer conditions we could do the same thing. So, when you go to your House of Worship, try to bring a friend or neighbor with you, and you'll both receive the blessings that St. Patrick spoke of so long ago.

## 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.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
- Christian Church**  
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., 10:45 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
607 S. 7th, Haskell
- First United Methodist Church**  
Rev. Dustin Wilhite, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.  
Wed. 6 p.m.  
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell
- First Assembly of God**  
Rev. J.C. Amburn  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- St. George Catholic Church**  
Father George Roney  
Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.  
901 N. 16th, Haskell
- Church of Christ**  
Philip Sims, minister  
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.;  
Wed. 7 p.m.  
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- First Presbyterian Church**  
Kelly Pigott, interim pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.  
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Trinity Baptist Church**  
Larry White, pastor  
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.  
114 S. Ave. D, Haskell

- Hopewell Baptist Church**  
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell
- Greater Independent Baptist Church**  
Rev. Earnest Flanders, Jr., pastor  
Sun. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell
- New Covenant Foursquare**  
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.  
Wed. 7 p.  
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell
- First Baptist Church**  
Rev. Jim McCurley  
Jason Daniels, minister of Youth and Music  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 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**  
Mitchell Greer, minister  
Sun. 10 a.m., 10:45 a.m.  
West on Main Street, Rochester
- First Baptist Church**  
Bishop Helsley, 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**  
Cloviss Dever  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
Rochester
- Faith Chapel of Rochester**  
Randy Hollingsworth, minister  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 6 p.m.  
Hwy 6, Rochester
- SAGERTON**
- Sagerton Methodist Church**  
Stephanie Gilkey, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.  
Sagerton
- Faith Lutheran Church**  
Rev. Dr. Keith Palmquist, pastor  
Sun. 10:30 a.m.  
Sagerton
- RULE**
- First Baptist Church**  
Scott Hensley, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
1001 Union Ave., Rule
- Primitive Baptist Church**  
Dale Turner Jr., pastor  
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.  
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule
- Church of Christ**  
John Greeson, minister  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
811 Union, Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**  
Alfa y Omegs  
Manuel Marin, pastor  
Sun. 10 a., 11:00 a., 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., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.  
300 Sunny Ave., Rule
- PAINT CREEK**
- Paint Creek Baptist Church**  
Sun. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Paint Creek
- O'BRIEN**
- O'Brien Baptist Church**  
Jim Reid, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p, Wed. 6 p.m.  
O'Brien

## Haskell School Menu

**March 18-22**  
**Breakfast**  
 1% white milk and fat-free flavored milk always available at every meal.  
**Monday:** Biscuit, sausage, gravy, apple juice  
**Tuesday:** Breakfast pizza, orange juice  
**Wednesday:** Biscuit, sausage, fruit punch juice  
**Thursday:** French toast, apple juice  
**Friday:** Pigs in a blanket, orange juice

**Lunch**  
 1% white milk and fat-free flavored milk always available at every meal.  
**Monday:** Beefy macaroni, garden salad, baby carrots, fresh grapes, breadstick  
**Tuesday:** Nachos grande, refried beans, garden salad  
**Wednesday:** Corn dog, baked beans, tomato and cucumber cup, apple-pineapple delite  
**Thursday:** Pizza, crunchy broccoli slaw, seasoned corn, fresh fruit bowl

## Paint Creek School Menu

**March 18-22**  
**Breakfast**  
 Juice and milk are served daily.  
**Monday:** Waffles  
**Tuesday:** Biscuits, sausage, gravy  
**Wednesday:** Muffins  
**Thursday:** Pancakes  
**Friday:** Cinnamon rolls

**Lunch**  
 Milk is served daily.  
**Monday:** Corn dogs, baked beans, fries, pineapples  
**Tuesday:** Nachos, refried beans, salad, pears  
**Wednesday:** Chicken patty sandwich, salad, chips, jello  
**Thursday:** Beef pockets, baby carrots, salad, grapes  
**Friday:** Pizza, corn, salad, peaches

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

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 Randy Phelps, Manager

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**2013 INDIAN-MAIDEN TRACK SCHEDULES**

Date	Event
Thurs., March 21	Throckmorton
Thurs., March 28	Merkel
Thurs., April 4	Munday
Thurs., April 11	District at Hamlin
Thurs., April 18	Area at Munday
April 26-27	Regionals at Abilene
May 10-11	State Meet

**JUNIOR HIGH TRACK SCHEDULE**

Date	Event
Mon., April 8	Munday



# New coalition urges continued investment in rural telecommunications

Public officials, emergency responders, community leaders, private industry, health care and education professionals, and homeowners announced the formation of Keep Texas Connected, a new coalition seeking to preserve state investment in rural telecommunications services, calling it key to a growing Texas economy.

"The Texas economy depends on a robust, reliable and affordable statewide telecommunications network," said Joey Anderson, who is mayor of Muenster and first vice chairman of Nortex Communications, a telecommunications provider serving Muenster, Forestburg, Myra, Rosston, Valley View, Valley View East, and rural areas in between. "Investments in telecommunications pay for themselves several times over—financially, economically, and, most important, in the quality of life of every Texan, regardless of where they live and work."

Texas invests hundreds of millions of dollars each year to ensure that rural Texans have access to affordable, reliable, and quality landline telephone services, broadband data

transmission, Internet and cell phone towers, all of which require well maintained wirelines.

Keep Texas Connected, comprised of local government officials, emergency first responders, educational institutions, health care providers, private industry and civic leaders, will urge lawmakers to support legislation that levels the playing field for local telephone companies that want to serve Texas businesses and families with modern, well-maintained wireline networks, even if they don't live and work in a major metropolitan area.

Over the next several months, the coalition will lead a statewide effort to educate members of the Legislature about the consequences of inaction.

The group has launched a website, www.keeptexasconnected.org, Facebook page, Keep Texas Connected, and Twitter handle, @KeepTxConnected, to inform Texans and encourage them to contact their legislators.

"Residential treatment facilities and other health care providers in rural Texas need the reliable telephone and internet services that are

delivered over the wireline networks," said Jeff Power, vice president of facilities at Sundown Ranch, which is located outside of Canton. "Our doctors, counselors, and administrative staff depend upon reliable telephone and internet service to communicate with other health care professionals, insurance companies, and families of our clients. The reality is that our business, like others, utilize technology that depend upon these services and our demands will only increase over time."

The cost of providing wireline services to rural areas of the state is

exponentially higher than it is in urban areas, because of long distances and less population density.

Rural Texans have enjoyed reliable and affordable wireline telephone service thanks to the federal and state Universal Service Fund programs, or USF, which created a level playing field for companies that want to serve customers outside major metropolitan areas.

However, federal support for the USF is ending, and state support is being cut dramatically. Without the USF, statewide telecommunications infrastructure is in jeopardy.

Failure to act would have serious consequences for Texas families and businesses:

- Well maintained wireline networks are critical to police, fire, medical and other emergency services that serve Texans who live, work, vacation or travel in rural Texas.

- When hurricanes, tornadoes or other natural disasters hit Texas, the state has to be able to rebuild damaged wireline phone and broadband networks.

- Mobile telephone and

other wireless services will suffer without well-maintained wireline networks.

"As an emergency responder with more than 24 years experience fighting fires, the one valuable lesson I have learned is that reliable, accessible communication is the most important resource we can have in an emergency. It can literally mean the difference between saving a life and losing a life," said Eddie Saenz, a Corpus Christi area firefighter and paramedic.

## Haskell track results

The Maidens and 5. Indians participated in the Seymour Panther Pride Relays recently. Results include:

Maidens team: 5. 43 points.  
Long jump: 2. Amos, 15-7.  
3,200: 2. Hill, 14:02.2.  
800 relay: 3. Haskell, 1:56.64.  
Indians team: 1. 165 points.  
High jump: 1. Flye, 6-2.  
Long jump: 1. Dever, 19-7.5.  
Triple jump: 3. Bell, 35-

Shot put: 3. Contreras, 39-4.75.  
Discus: 2. Markey, 115-8.5.  
3,200: 1. Pena, 11:26.87;  
3. Estrada, 11:52.23.  
400 relay: 2. Haskell, 44.59.  
800: 1. Bell, 2:06.14; 3. Smith, 2:08.76.  
110 hurdles: 2. Flye, 16.77.  
800 relay: 2. Haskell, 1:36.9.  
400: 1. Markey, 52.62.  
300 hurdles: 3. Dever, 45.25.

## Calendar

### Cancer support

The Haskell Area Cancer Support group meets the last Tuesday of the month from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Haskell Memorial Hospital Educational Building. For more information, call 325-864-4466.

### Al-Anon

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

park in Haskell.

### Vet office open

The Veterans Service office in Haskell is now open. The office, located on the first floor of the west wing of the courthouse, will be open on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. For information, call 940-256-1125 any time or email Haskell vaso@yahoo.com.



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### Help Wanted

SONIC DRIVE IN in Haskell is now taking applications for all positions. Apply in person. 44tfc

TRUCK DRIVERS NEEDED: Strickland Concrete & Materials have immediate openings for full time drivers having a Class A or B CDL for our mixer, agg, and tanker trucks. Please apply in person to SCM at 175 Bus. Hwy. 277 South, Haskell. 6tfc

RECREATION SPECIALIST needed, reports to the programs manager. Responsible for provision of structured and well-rounded recreation for assigned inmates. Control use of equipment and supplies; make minor repairs and recommend purchases. Responsible for supervision of inmates during recreation activities. Go online to www.emeraldcompanies.com or come by Rolling Plains Detention Center to apply. 11-12c

EXPERIENCED housekeeper needed. Must have references. Call 325-721-0441. 11tfc

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### Miscellaneous

CASH FOR YOUR MINERALS! Producing or non-producing minerals. Will pay top dollar. Call 325-232-7813. 11-12c

### For Rent

FOR LEASE: Retail and office space. Big Country Real Estate 864-2238. 3tfc

RULE: Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath, large living, refrigerator, stove, washer/dryer, covered parking. \$335. 325-692-7015. 10-11c

S&S STORAGE in Haskell has storage units for rent. Call 864-2208. 11c

**Haskell-Mattson-Weinert-Rochester Homecoming Sept. 27-28**

**Williamson-Branson Real Estate**

**Haskell Co. Land for Sale**  
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Owner  
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**Doug Sorrells**  
Supervisor  
940-256-0536

Office  
940-864-3490

Fax  
940-864-3491



### Real Estate

FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Possible owner financing. Big Country Real Estate 864-2238. 3tfc

### Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING ON AGENCY PLANS  
On March 19, 2013 at 2 p.m., the Board of Commissioners for the Haskell Housing Authority will hold a public meeting to receive comments on the Housing Authority's Five-Year Plan and Annual Plan. The meeting will take place in the Community Center located at the Haskell Housing Authority at 702 S. Avenue H, Haskell,

NOTICE  
The City of Haskell will be taking bids for a long term

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### Public Notices

Texas.

The draft plans and all supporting documentation are available to the public for viewing at the administration office of the Housing Authority located at 702 S. Avenue H, on weekdays during the hours of 9:00 a.m. through 12:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Thurs., Fridays 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 10-11c

NOTICE  
The City of Haskell will be taking bids for a long term



## Haskell County REALTY

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Haskell, TX 79521  
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1-800-658-6342

[www.haskellcountyrealty.com](http://www.haskellcountyrealty.com)  
Chan Guess, Rhonda Lisle - agent  
Bridget Guess - broker

**FEATURED LISTINGS**  
**RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY**

- 1306 N. AVE. L - VACANT LOT - \$2,500. **SOLD**
- 200 S. AVE. L - COMFORTABLE AND WELL MAINTAINED. 3/2. \$49,900. **NEW**
- 604 N. 15TH - IMMACULATE, ON CORNER LOT! 3/2. \$69,000. **UNDER CONTRACT**
- 504 N. 7TH - SURPRISINGLY SPACIOUS! 3 (or) 4/2. \$76,500.
- 1605 N. AVE. E - NEW IMPROVEMENTS! 3/2. \$95,500.
- 1009 N. AVE. H - 2010 BUILT! MOVE IN READY! 4/2. \$99,500.
- 5131 FM 2163 - COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS BEST! 14 +/- ACRES 3/1.5 \$125,000. **UNDER CONTRACT**
- 231 CR 105 - PICTURE PERFECT ON 12 +/- ACRES! 3/3 \$225,000. **UNDER CONTRACT**
- 903 U.S. HWY. 277 S - SHOWCASE COUNTRY PROPERTY ON 2.5 +/- ACRES. \$225,000. **UNDER CONTRACT**
- 7485 HWY. 380E - RANCH LIVING, LOG HOME ON 40 +/- ACRES! 5/2 \$235,000.
- 2245 FM 2163 - ROCHESTER - LARGE BRICK HOME ON 12 ACRES. \$225,000

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Mary Rike, Broker  
mary@rikerealestate.com  
Megan Cox, Agent  
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John Rike, Agent  
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**1299 CR 154, Jud-** Peaceful country atmosphere for wildlife enthusiasts. 3/2 on 7 +/- Ac. **\$239,900 REDUCED**



**5260 FM 617, Rochester -** 3/2, brick, two living areas, oversized garage, fenced yard, all on 1.46 Ac. **\$60,000 NEW**



**330 S 7th, Munday -** 3/2 brick home has a large open den, fireplace, beautifully landscaped yard with patio area. **\$47,500 NEW**



**2381 Hwy 283, Sagerton-** 4 or 5 bedroom 3 bath brick home on large lot. There are numerous possibilities in this home and many amenities. \$1,500 allowance. **\$87,500**



**206 Sunny Ave, Rule-** Very latest in updates and décor in this 4/2 brick home. Neutral colors throughout. Amenities include carpet and tiled floors, tiled baths. **\$62,500 REDUCED**



**1102 8th St., Rule-** Nice three bedroom, two bath brick home on half an acre, two carports with this property, a water well and sprinkler system. **\$67,000**



**170 CR 251, Weinert-** Three bedrooms, three full baths and two half baths, city water, storage galore and over 3,000 sq. ft. Property has 1,500 sq. ft. barn and 5 +/- Ac. **\$175,000**

List with us, we have Buyers for all areas, all properties and all price ranges.



## Letter to the Editor

Dear editor:

A Scholastic Book Fair was hosted by Haskell Elementary School the week of Feb. 25-March 1, for students in prekindergarten through the eighth grade.

The book fair was held in the Haskell Elementary library and this year's theme was "Story Laboratory: Reading Gives You Super Power." During the week students came to the library with their classes at scheduled times. Wednesday was "Nerd Day" at Elementary when a number of students dressed as science nerds to go along with the reading laboratory theme. On Thursday night a special family event was held for students and their families and friends. Kids and grownups enjoyed shopping for books and having refreshments. Nine students won door prizes of book fair merchandise.

Another highlight of the book fair was a visit by "Clifford the Big Red Dog" of the famous "Clifford" books. Clifford greeted Elementary students on Monday of the book fair and made an

appearance on Family Night where he was a huge hit with the kids. The book fair ended on Friday at noon.

The book fair was a big success again this year and we want to thank the many volunteers who helped set up and run the book fair, and all those who came to support it. We especially thank the Elementary and Junior High staffs for their support and the sixth grade helpers who worked with us on Family Night. Several members of the Haskell Elementary PTO supported the book fair by helping set it up and working as the classes came in, as well as helping on Family Night.

Thanks also to the many volunteers from the community who gave their time, sometimes twice, to come up and help during the days and on Thursday night. We are very grateful to every person who helped with the book fair in any way. We could not have this fun school/community event that is so beneficial to our students without you!

Betsy McManamon  
Librarian, Haskell CISD

## Paint Creek athletes named to All-District



KADIE McCORD



TARAH TROTTER



BALEIGH LOPEZ



DANIELLE OLIVER

Paint Creek Pirate River McTasney was named to the All-District honorable mention list recently.

Lady Pirates named were Academic All-District, Kadie McCord; All-District second team, Kadie McCord and Tarah Trotter; and All-District honorable mention, Baleigh Lopez and Danielle Oliver.



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## Haskell Co. Arrest Report

The following arrests were reported by the Haskell County Sheriff's Office during the week of March 4-10:

Steven Rhea Brown, driving while license suspended, no insurance, Class B misdemeanor.

Augustine Ramos, assault family violence.

Jakaan Koda Hodge,

motion to revoke abandon/endorsement child, state jail felony, also motion to revoke possession marijuana, less than 2 oz. in a drug free zone.

Joshua P. Gordy, theft by check, failure to appear, bond forfeiture.

Twenty calls were made to 911.

## City Council report

The Haskell City Council met in a regular meeting Mon., Feb. 25 with Mayor John Gannaway, Pro Tem Randy Bowers, Councilmen Stacy Bridges and Dan Hoover and Councilwoman Jill Druesedow in attendance.

A motion to put the acreage directly east of the softball field up for bids was approved.

A proposal from Bailey Toliver Chevrolet to swap the land located south of town as allowed under the 380 Economic Development Plan was approved.

A proposal to raise the fees at the landfill was approved as presented.

Matthew Duran gave the Public Works and Safety Report.

In the Administrative Report, Brandon Anderson stated:

•Anderson visited with Jeff Gregg, the City Auditor, and the best way to proceed with the uncollected old debt on the books, more than two years old, was decided.

•The Housing and Building Forum has been rescheduled for March 25.

•The city trailer that was being used for the remodeling project at the old bank building was hit

by a vehicle sometime Fri., Feb. 22 or Sat., Feb. 23. The trailer was slammed up onto the sidewalk and the jack was damaged as well as the back gate. The trailer was legally parked along the street. If anyone has any information about the accident, contact the Haskell Police Department or City Hall.

•Effective at the end of March, the City will be taking care of its own cleaning at City Hall. Reba Cheyne has been doing this job as contract labor during working hours and we appreciate her service over the years.

•A question about making sure that the City Council agenda meetings are posted on the website has come up. During the transition at City Hall, the City has failed to get the agenda to the proper person to have it posted. Thank you for bringing this to the City's attention. In the future all agendas will be posted in a timely manner. The City was also made aware that the practice of sending out minutes that have not been approved by the City Council is a practice that should not continue. In the future, minutes will be released to the newspapers after being approved.

## Ballot order announced by City of Haskell

The drawing, to determine the order in which the names of candidates are to be printed on the ballot for the Haskell City Election to be held May 11, was held Fri., March 8 at

City Hall.

Three councilmen are to be elected from the list of candidates whose names will appear on the ballot in this order:

1. Sue Medford;
2. Wes Strickland;
3. Allen Morrow;
4. Randy Bowers;
5. Shane Whitt;
6. Ernest Frye.

## Student in the News

Michael Wilburn, a resident of O'Brien and a sophomore at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, is listed on the honor roll.

To be listed on the SMU honor roll, students must be in the top 15 percent of their school of record.

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