

Baseball

Indians vs Seagraves
Fri., March 6, 12:30 p.m.
at Ralls
Indians vs Post
Fri., March 6, 5:30 p.m.
at Ralls
Indians vs Ralls
Sat., March 7, 3 p.m.
at Ralls

Softball

Maidens
Wichita Falls Tournament
Thurs.-Sat., March 5-7
Maidens vs Albany
Tues., March 10, 5 p.m.
at Albany

Track

HASKELL
Indians-Maidens
Roscoe Meet, Fri., Mar. 6
JH Indians-Maidens
Roscoe Meet, Thurs., Mar. 5

Calendar

Eastern Star

Rule Chapter #989, Order of the Eastern Star, will meet Thurs., March 5th at 7:30 p.m. for a Stated Meeting. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m.

Study Club

The Progressive Study Club, in observance of Texas Independence Day, will host their March meeting with a "Texas Breakfast," to be held Sat., March 7, at 8:30 a.m. in the Haskell Church of Christ Annex. Program Director will be Judy Burnett of Munday. Special guests will be District Presidents and Club Presidents of Mesquite District. All Progressive Club members are asked to mark this date and make a special effort to attend this breakfast in celebration of Texas Independence Day and also to participate in other activities which will begin at 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., around the courthouse square.

Art Association

Elaine Reed will be the guest artist for the Mon., March 9 meeting of the Brazos West Art Association. Come and join us at 6:30 p.m. at the Church of Christ Annex in Haskell where we all will participate and enjoy great fellowship and fun. See you there!

Skywarn

set March 9

A Skywarn training session will be held Mon., March 9 at 7 p.m. at the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department by the National Weather Service.

Chamber banquet

The annual Haskell Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be Mon., March 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the Haskell Civic Center. Please help us by nominating "The Business of the Year" and "The Volunteer of the Year" by calling the chamber office at 940-864-2477 or email www.haskellcc@srcaccess.net. All nominations have to be received no later than 1:00 p.m. Tues., March 10. Banquet tickets are \$15 per plate. The meal is a steak dinner. Pam Gibson's third graders will provide the entertainment. Russell Graves of Childress will share authentic Texas stories with his camera and words. Tickets are available from board members or at the Chamber office.

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Welcome to Celebrate Texas Independence Day Haskell Co. Style

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 129-NO. 10, ©MARCH 5, 2015

"The People's Choice"

8 PAGES-ONE SECTION-75 CENTS

Nine Maidens named to All-District teams



REAGAN HADAWAY

by Caron Yates

Several members of the Haskell Maidens' Area Championship basketball team were recognized for all-district honors recently.

Senior Reagan Hadaway was chosen the district's Most Valuable Player, while senior Jacie Klose was named Offensive Most Valuable Player. Elected to the First Team All-District was senior Kenzie Shelton.

Named to the Second Team All-District was senior Crissy Bassett, junior Destiny Benavides and sophomore Ashlyn Bevel. Sophomore Alye Stewart and freshmen Ariel Martinez received Honorable Mention recognition.

A notable percentage of the Haskell Maidens' team was also named to the



JACIE KLOSE



ASHLYN BEVEL

Academic All-District roster. They include senior Brittany Amos, Bassett, Hadaway, Klose, Martinez, Shelton and Stewart. Players must maintain a 90 or better grade average to qualify for this



KENZIE SHELTON



ALYE STEWART

honor. In addition to the 7-2A All-District Maiden honors, Head Coach Blake Eddleman and his staff, including Melissa Burson and Lolo Martinez, were chosen as



CRISSY BASSETT



ARIEL MARTINEZ

Coach and Staff of the Year. The Maidens had a perfect 14-0 record in district play and an overall record of 27-2 for the season. They lost in the Regional Quarterfinal game to defending state



DESTINY BENAVIDES



BRITTANY AMOS

champions, the Plains Cowgirls.

Congratulations to the Maidens for their outstanding work on the court, as well as in the classroom.

Texas celebration to be held on the square Sat.

Whether you are a native Texan or just got here as soon as you could, you will enjoy Celebrating Texas Independence Day-Haskell County Style, Saturday, March 7. Events begin on the square at 10 a.m. and end at 3 p.m.

Texas boasts a most colorful history. It was on March 2, 1836, known to Texans as Texas Independence Day, that

the Texas Declaration of Independence was adopted, thus declaring itself free from Mexico.

One hundred seventy-nine years later, we are still celebrating that independent spirit. The Committee to Help Haskell County has planned the sixth "Texas Independence Day-Haskell County Style."

The day begins at 10 a.m. with a flag raising

ceremony. Many of the past favorite attractions will return, including the Native American flintknapper. Jay Webber of Round Rock will be here once again with the Drummer Boy Ice Cream Tent. Even on a cool day, his root beer floats and vanilla ice cream, can't be beat.

Back by popular demand is the Dign for Gold, sponsored by Haskell National Bank, for kids ages 8 and under. Coins

will be scattered through a pile of sand and children will be given 2 minutes to dig for gold. Each child will only be allowed to win one gold coin, but there is no limit on other coins.

Other activities include a roping dummy, Native American games, Burro Bingo and picture taking in the western cutouts.

The Earthman family of Knox City will perform. They are a very talented group of fiddle players, sure to entertain.

A variety of vendors will be set up around the courthouse, and the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department will be cooking brisket sandwiches along with their special recipe french fries.

The day's events will

conclude with a drawing at 3 p.m. for \$500 in Haskell Dollars. The drawing is made possible by these participating merchants: The Drug Store, Wild Horse Trading Post, Rike Real Estate-Meagan Cox, The Personality-Slipper Shoppe, Sue's Flowers and Gifts, Boggs and Johnson, Communication Connection/Verizon Wireless, Sport-About, Richardson's True Value, Modern Way/ACE and Fuel, Kaleidoscope and Farm Girl Diva. Remember to visit these businesses to get your tickets.

Be sure to mark your calendars and come on out, all you proud Texans, as we Celebrate Texas Independence Day-Haskell County Style.

Be sure to mark your calendars and come on out, all you proud Texans, as we Celebrate Texas Independence Day-Haskell County Style.

Be sure to mark your calendars and come on out, all you proud Texans, as we Celebrate Texas Independence Day-Haskell County Style.

Candidates file for elections

by Caron Yates

With the Feb. 27 filing deadline now past, candidates for the city and school board elections on May 9, are set.

The only contested races are three Haskell city council seats and Haskell CISD school board places 5 and 7.

The cities of Rule, Rochester and Weinert, as well as Rule ISD school board, will not hold elections, because all incumbents are unopposed.

Seeking re-election to the Haskell city council are incumbents Ernest Frye, Shane Whitt and Allen Morrow. Challenging for a position on the council are Jason Isbell and Randy Bowers.

On the Haskell CISD board of trustees, Lance Sloan is unopposed for place #4, currently held by Susan Turner, who chose not to run. No election is necessary for that place. On the incumbent for place #5, will be balloted Bert Alvarez and Paul Weiser, while Paul Leonard and Sheena Crosson are vying for place #7,

presently represented by Mark Stewart, who is not seeking reelection.

Early voting by mail begins March 10 and concludes April 30.

Early voting by personal appearance will be April 27 through May 4. Early voting for city council will take place at Haskell City Hall during regular office hours. Extended hours on April 28 and May 5 will run from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To vote early for places #5 and #7 on the Haskell CISD school board, you will need to go to the school administration office from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Only registered voters living in single member districts 5 and 7 are eligible to vote in the school election.

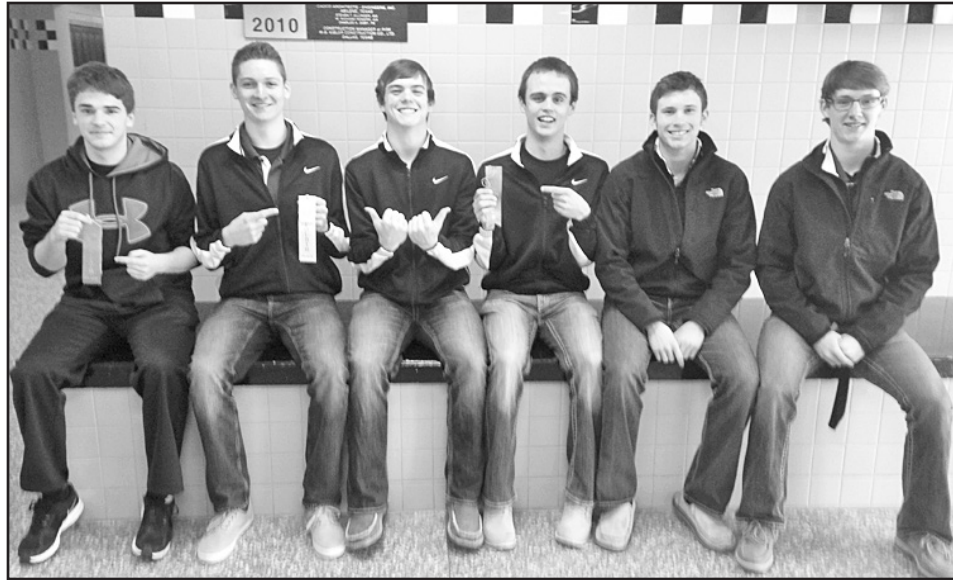
Information as to the member district in which you are eligible to vote, is found on your voter registration card. Additional information for voters and their corresponding single member districts is available at the school administration office.

Voters are reminded that photo identification is required for voting in person. In addition to your voter registration card, you must present one of the following forms of photo ID at the polling location. Forms of ID include Texas driver license, Texas Election Identification Certificate, Texas personal ID card issued by the DPS, Texas concealed handgun license, US military identification card, US citizenship certificate or US passport. For more information about photo ID requirements including exemptions, visit www.votetexas.gov.

On election day, May 9, voters will cast their ballots for both the city and school board elections at Haskell City Hall from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The last day to register to vote in the May election is April 9.

All registered voters in the city of Haskell, as well as those in single member school districts #5 and #7, are encouraged to make their voice heard by voting for the candidates of their choice.

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



WYLIE UIL MEET—Placing in the Wylie UIL Valentine Classic held Sat., Feb. 14 were, l-r, Payton Thomas, Henry Smith, Lane Burson, Kade Colley, Riley Meinzer and Dylan Hanson.

UIL students compete in Valentine Classic

Twenty-one students from Haskell High School competed in the Wylie UIL Valentine Classic Sat., Feb. 14. This UIL meet is open to 1A-4A classifications which creates a very stiff competitive meet. The majority of the awards are normally won by the large

schools, such as Wylie, but Haskell was able to secure a few top individual places and a team place. HHS has one more practice meet this year to be held at Wichita Falls Cityview before they begin District/Region/State competition. Results from the Wylie Meet include:

Payton Thomas, Number Sense, sixth place
Henry Smith, Editorial Writing, fourth place
Kade Colley, Mathematics, sixth place
Team of Lane Burson, Kade Colley, Riley Meinzer, and Dylan Hanson, Accounting, second place

Hee Haw tickets go on sale March 11

The Sagerton Community has begun making preparations for the production of the Sagerton Hee Haw. The dates are March 26-28 beginning at 8:00 p.m. each evening. There will be music and singing before the program beginning at 6:45 p.m.

Larry LeFevre is the Hee Haw director and Randy Hise is in charge of the music. Proceeds from the Hee Haw program are used

for scholarships for each graduating senior on the Sagerton mail route, upkeep of the community center and community projects.

The Hee Haw program for Thurs., March 26, is designated for groups, but is open to everyone. If a group is interested in tickets on group night, call 940-997-2688 for more information.

Tickets for the Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances will go on

sale Wed., March 11, at 8:30 a.m. at the Sagerton Community Center. After the completion of ticket sales at the Community Center on March 11, you may place your order by calling 940-997-2688 or come to 1825 FM 1661, Sagerton, for tickets. There will be a limit of 10 tickets per person sold on March 11. If more tickets are needed, you may go through the line again. Tickets are \$5.00 each.

Sandwiches and pies will be available in the cafeteria on Thursday evening; barbeque plates, sandwiches and pies on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Haskell Co. Arrest Report

The following arrests were reported by the Haskell County Sheriff's Office during the week of Feb. 23 through March 1:

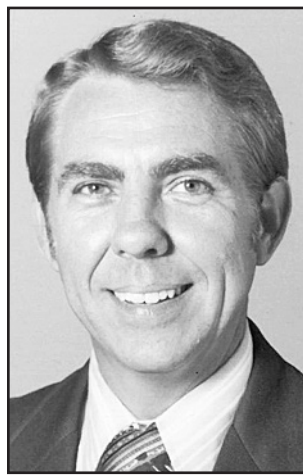
Andres Ramos, assault causing bodily injury, also motion to revoke interference with emergency call Knox County charges.

Demarias Treshad Delce, possession methylenedioxy parole violation.

Thirty-one calls were made to 911.

Obituaries

Travis E. Smith



TRAVIS SMITH

Funeral services for Travis E. Smith, 80, of Jefferson will be held at 2:00 p.m., Fri., March 6 at First Baptist Church in Jefferson with Rev. Jeff Taylor officiating. Burial will follow in the Oakwood Cemetery in Jefferson. Family visitation will be Thursday evening from 6 to 8:00 p.m. at Haggard Funeral Home in Jefferson. Services are under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home in Carthage.

Mr. Smith passed away February 27, in Longview.

Travis Edgbert Smith was born July 16, 1934 in Stamford. He was one of three children born to the marriage of Travis M. and Zada L. Dyches Smith. Smith was raised and schooled in Haskell County and graduated from Haskell High School with the class of 1952. He then attended Baylor University, graduating in 1956 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education. Travis later went on to earn a Masters Degree in Education from East Texas State University in Commerce in 1973. While attending Baylor, he met Nevilledeen Crofford and they were later married June 16, 1956 in Quitman. Smith served his country on two separate occasions through the United States Army. He worked for a number of years for Jefferson ISD and most recently for Jefferson Images,

frame shop and Blackburn's Jelly Outlet, where he enjoyed meeting people who were visiting Jefferson. Travis was also a member of the Opera House Theatre Players and received several awards for his performances.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Nevilledeen Smith of Jefferson; sons, Brad Smith of Jefferson, Brian Smith and wife Kelli of Jefferson, Brandon Smith of Carthage; sisters, Wanda Hyle and husband Ted of Stamford, Gail Johnson and husband Ken of The Woodlands; grandchildren, Taylor Smith, Airman Justin Smith, Morgan Smith, Christopher Smith and Pacen Smith; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.

An online guestbook may be signed at www.hawthornfuneralhome.com.

PD. NOTICE

MMR vaccine information

by DaLinda Black
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.

The best way to protect against measles is to get the measles-mumps-rubella shot (called the MMR shot). Doctors recommend that all children get the MMR shot.

Why should my child get the MMR shot?

The MMR shot:

- Protects your child from measles, a potentially serious disease (and also protects against mumps and rubella)
- Prevents your child from getting an uncomfortable rash and high fever from measles
- Keeps your child from missing school or childcare (and keeps you from missing work to care for your sick child)

Is the MMR shot safe?
Yes. The MMR shot is very safe, and it is effective at preventing measles (as well as mumps and rubella). Vaccines, like any medicine, can have side effects. But most children who get the MMR shot have no side effects.

What are the side effects?
Most children do not have any side effects from the shot. The side effects that do occur are usually very mild, such as a fever or rash. More serious side effects are rare. These may include high fever that could cause a seizure (in about 1 person out of every 3,000 who get the shot) and temporary pain and stiffness in joints (mostly in teens and adults).

Is there a link between the MMR shot and autism?

No. Scientists in the United States and other countries have carefully studied the MMR shot. None has found a link between autism and the MMR shot.

What is measles?

Measles is a serious respiratory disease (in the lungs and breathing tubes) that causes a rash and fever. It is very contagious. In rare cases, it can be deadly.

What are the symptoms of measles?

Measles starts with a fever that can get very high. Some of the other symptoms that may occur are:

- Cough, runny nose and red eyes
- Rash of tiny, red spots that start at the head and spread to the rest of the body
- Diarrhea
- Ear infection

Doctors recommend that your child get 2 doses of the MMR shot for best protection. Your child will need one dose at each of the following ages:

- 12 through 15 months
- 4 through 6 years. Infants 6 months to 11 months old should have 1 dose of MMR shot before traveling abroad.

Is it serious?
Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children. From 2001-2013, 28% of children younger than 5 years old who had measles had to be treated in the hospital.

For some children, measles can lead to:

- Pneumonia (a serious lung infection)
- Lifelong brain damage
- Deafness
- Death

How does measles spread?

Measles spreads when a person infected with the measles virus breathes, coughs or sneezes. It is very contagious. You can catch measles just by being in a room where a person with measles has been, up to 2 hours after that person is gone. And you can catch measles from an infected person even before they have a measles rash. Almost

everyone who has not had the MMR shot will get measles if they are exposed to the measles virus.

Where do measles cases in the United States come from?

Measles disease can come into this country when unvaccinated U.S. residents travel internationally or foreign visitors to the United States are exposed to measles in another country and travel into the United States. The risk of getting measles may be very high for unvaccinated U.S. residents who travel abroad. The reason for this high risk is because measles is common in other parts of the world, including countries in Europe, Asia, the Pacific and Africa. Worldwide, about 20 million people get measles each year. When people with measles travel into the United States, they can spread the disease to unvaccinated people including children too young to be vaccinated.

How many measles cases are there in the United States each year?

From 2001 to 2013, the number of measles cases reported in the United States ranged from 37 to 220. However, in some years like 2014, there were more measles cases than usual. In 2014, 644 people from 27 states were reported as having measles. Most of these people got measles in the United States after being exposed to someone who got measles while in another country. So far in 2015, more than 100 people in the U.S. have been reported to have measles. Most of these cases are part of a large, ongoing outbreak linked to an amusement park in California. For more information, see <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>.

Where can I learn more about the MMR shot and my child?

To learn more about the MMR shot, talk to your child's doctor, call 1-800-CDC-INFO, or visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents.

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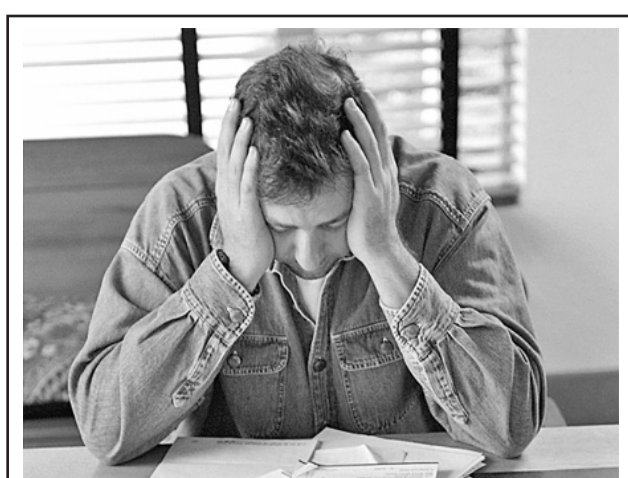
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2015 PAINT CREEK TRACK SCHEDULES

Date	Team	Event
Mon., March 23	JH	Stamford
Fri., March 27	JH-HS	Trent
Tues., March 31	JH	Aspermont
Thurs., April 2	JH	Roby (District)
Thurs., April 2	HS	Aspermont
Thurs., April 16	HS	Roby (District)
Thurs., April 23	HS	Blackwell (Area)
Fri.-Sat., May 1-2	HS	San Angelo (Regional)
Th.-Sat., May 14-16	HS	Austin (State)



LANDON TURNER - KATE ROWAN

Rowan, Turner plan June wedding

Keith and Jane Rowan of O'Brien announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kate Rowan, to Landon Turner of Levelland.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of June Locknane and the late Eugene Locknane of Clovis, New Mexico, and the late Ivan and Cleo Rowan of O'Brien.

The prospective groom is the son of Preston and Lydia Turner of Levelland. He is the grandson of Muriel Turner and the late J.D. Turner of Levelland.

The bride-elect is a 2010 graduate of Rule High School, and will be a May 2015 graduate of Texas Tech University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education.

The prospective groom is a 2010 graduate of Sundown High School, and a 2011 graduate of WyoTech with a degree in diesel technology and applied service management. He is employed by Warren Cat in Lubbock and farms in Hockley County.

A June 2015 wedding is planned.

Buerkle is Outstanding Young Alumna

Texas Tech University's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) honored six distinguished alumni Mon., Feb. 16 at the university's McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center. The Distinguished Alumni & Outstanding Young Alumni Awards honored alumni who have made significant contributions to society, and whose accomplishments and careers have brought distinction to the college and to the professions associated with agriculture and natural resources.

The recipients of this year's Distinguished Alumni Awards were:

Jamey Laney Phillips of Lubbock, a Principal with Phillips & McLaren, LLP, who received a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics in 1991.

Joe Donald Hurst of Idalou, CEO of Hurst Farm Supply, Inc. Hurst received a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education in 1979.

Michael Don Simpson of Lubbock, the Executive Sales Representative with Elanco Animal Health received a bachelor's degree in Animal Production in 1975.

Eric A. Bernard, PLA, ASLA, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, an associate professor and Director of Landscape Architecture with

the University of N.M. who received both a bachelor's and master's degree in Landscape Architecture in 1996 and 2000, respectively.

Ann L. Hild of Laramie, Wyoming, the Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies at the University of Wyoming received a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture in 1991 and a master's degree in Range Science in 1995.

Ginger G. Light, Ph.D. of Idalou, who is the Physical Traits Development Manager for Bayer CropScience. She received her Ph.D. in Agronomy in 1999.

In addition, the college recognized one Outstanding Young Alumni. The recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Young Alumna Award was Mary Jane Buerkle of Lubbock. Buerkle is the Director of Communications and Public Affairs for Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. She received a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Communications in 2003 and a master's degree in Agricultural Education in 2004. A 1999 graduate of Rochester High School, Buerkle is the daughter of Larry and Linda Short of Rochester. She is the granddaughter of Jane Short and the late Warren Short of Rochester and the late E.L. and Bernice Hilliard of Haskell.

evidence of the effectiveness of agricultural and natural resource programs at Texas Tech.



OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI-Dr. Michael Galyean, left, Dean of Texas Tech University College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources presents Mary Jane Buerkle, right, the 2015 Outstanding Young Alumna Award Mon., Feb. 16.

EEA Club news

Haskell County EEA held a meeting Feb. 12 in the extension kitchen. Chairman Kathryn Schonerstedt called the meeting to order. Joetta Burnett gave the opening exercise, "If you want to make your dreams come true, wake up." Roll call was given and minutes were read by Sue McGee in absence of secretary Dolores Medford.

The EEA concession stand at the stock show in January was a very good success. We thank everyone who made this possible.

Schonerstedt will take 4-H scholarship applications to the school for those who may be interested in applying.

Discussion was held on Tri-County Rally Day set March 17 at the Church of Christ annex building. Haskell County ladies are the host. Some members are checking on entertainment and programs for the day. Haskell County ladies will provide the mestizo, Baylor County ladies are responsible for desserts and Knox County ladies will provide salads. The

theme will be St. Patrick's Day, with shamrocks and other related decorations.

Discussion about the State Meeting at Waco Sept. 8-9 was held. The Haskell club is responsible for a bar-b-que basket, which will go to Spring Meeting in Vernon March 31. The club is contributing door prizes and providing items for the country store at the state meeting also.

At the spring meeting, Sue McGee and Mary Jennings plan to contribute to cultural arts entries.

Program for March will be given by Sue McGee on iPad 101, basics of using an iPad 101, and "Don't Mess with Texas," safe medication disposal.

March 12 will be the next meeting.

CNA classes offered at Rochester VTC

The next Vernon College Certified Nurse's Aide (CNA) class starts March 30 at the Vocational Training Center (VTC) in Rochester. The class is scheduled for Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-8 p.m.

The CNA program is an entry-level course where students can gain the knowledge, skills and competencies essential to providing basic care to

residents of long-term care facilities.

A meeting/registration will be held at the Rochester Vocational Training Center Tues., March 17 at 4:00 p.m. Students interested in the program are encouraged to attend. For more information you can also contact Sherrie Denham at 940-696-8752 ext. 3361 or sdenham@vernoncollege.edu.

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Kate Rowan and Landon Turner

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Hannah and Hunter Jordan
Nadia and Nathan Rowland
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OPINION

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago March 10, 2005

The Haskell Indians advanced to the basketball regional semi-finals, before their season came to an end. Senior Nate Webb was named to the Class 1-A Region I All-Region Team. He averaged 13 points per game, 7.6 rebounds per game and 51% in the field.

Alexis Reed was one of three winners in the Big Country Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Speech Contest. She will join 1500 other teens from across the country on a 9-day all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C.

Filing for three places open on the Rule City Council are Cathey Casey, Bill Bowles, Jackie Whorton, Robert Saffel, Marsha Vasquez and Bailey Anne Foster.

20 Years Ago March 9, 1995

Named to the District 7-2A All-District Basketball Team were Cody Cooley, Most Valuable Player; Quinten Billington, Fighting Heart Award; Casey Larned, 2nd team; Mik Everett, honorable mention; and Justin Lisle, honorable mention. Coach Mark Coffman was named Coach of the Year.

Erma Monke Liles was honored by Weinert Baptist Church in appreciation of her service as pianist/organist of the church from 1950 to 1995.

HHS graduates Wendi Watson, a senior elementary education major, and Teresa Diaz, a freshman accounting major, have been named to the Dean's List at McMurry University.

30 Years Ago March 7, 1985

Elton Culberth and Patricia Sams were honored by Haskell ISD faculty and staff at a surprise farewell reception. Culberth has been bus maintenance foreman and grounds supervisor for the past 23 years. Sams has been with the school for ten years, first as an aide and then as business manager.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Wilson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception hosted by their children. They moved to Rochester in 1939 from O'Donnell.

Loraine Johnson of Haskell, who has been in the furniture business for 27 years, is opening Johnson

Real Estate in Haskell. He earned his real estate brokers license after completing 900 hours of coursework and passing the state real estate examination.

40 Years Ago March 6, 1975

Mrs. Terry Diggs' HHS junior speech students will present "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay." The comedy, set in the 1920's will star Suzanne Frierson as Cornelia Otis Skinner and Melisa McCauley as Emily Kimbrough.

Showmanship awards at the Haskell County Junior Livestock Show went to Susan Lewis and Jamie Mickler.

U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Sidney Woodson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Woodson of Haskell, has received the Meritorious Service Medal at Offutt AFB, Nebraska. A 1952 HHS graduate, he earned bachelor and master's degrees from Texas A&M University.

50 Years Ago March 11, 1965

Bette Edwards, 13 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R.L. (Jiggs) Edwards of Weinert, is the 1965 Haskell County Spelling Champion. She won in the forty-second round and will advance to the district spell down in Wichita Falls.

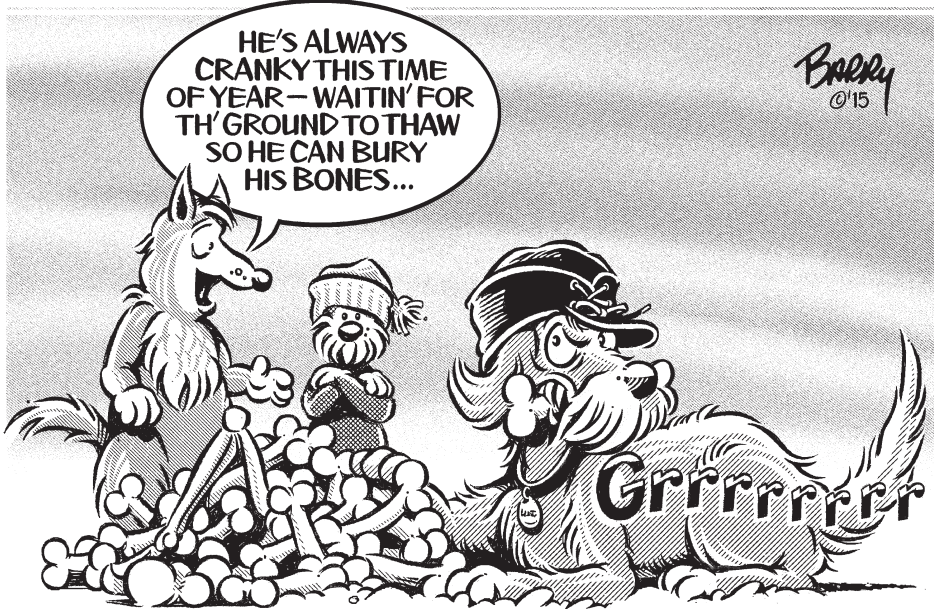
Honored with the top awards at the 29th annual Chamber of Commerce banquet, were Artie May Burkett, school administrator, chosen "First Lady of Haskell," while E.J. Stewart, Haskell businessman, received the "Mr. Stemwinder" award.

Two Haskell couples have been invited to take part as talented square dancers in upcoming events in Abilene and Dallas. Mr. and Mrs. T.C. Patterson and Mr. and Mrs. James Lee Andress will represent the Rule Square Dance Club.

100 Years Ago March 6, 1915

On or before March 15th the Direct Mattress Co. will have one of its portable mattress factories in Haskell. Farmers, this is the opportunity to have you some high class mattresses made of your own cotton.

George Courtney left Tuesday night under subpoena to attend as a witness, a Federal Grand Jury at Wilmington, Delaware.



USDA extends deadline to update base acres or yield history for programs

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that a one-time extension will be provided to producers for the new safety-net programs established by the 2014 Farm Bill, known as Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC). The final day to update yield history or reallocate base acres has been extended one additional month, from Feb. 27, 2015 until March 31, 2015. The final day for farm owners and producers to choose ARC or PLC coverage also remains March 31, 2015.

"This is an important decision for producers, because these programs provide financial protection against unexpected changes in the marketplace. Producers are working to make the best decision they can. And we're working to ensure that they've got the time, the information, and the opportunities to have those final conversations, review their data, and to visit the Farm Service Agency to make those decisions," said Vilsack.

If no changes are made to yield history or base acres by March 31, 2015, the farm's current yield and base will be used. A program choice of

ARC or PLC coverage also must be made by March 31, 2015, or there will be no 2014 payments for the farm and the farm will default to PLC coverage through the 2018 crop year.

"These are complex decisions, which is why we launched a strong education and outreach campaign back in September. Now we're providing a one-time extension of an additional month so that every producer is fully prepared to enroll in this program," said Vilsack.

Nationwide, more than 2.9 million educational postcards, in English and Spanish, have been sent to producers, and over 4,100 training sessions have been conducted on the new safety-net programs. The online tools, available at www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc, allow producers to explore projections on how ARC or PLC coverage will affect their operation under possible future scenarios.

Covered commodities include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium grain rice (which

includes short grain rice), safflower seed, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat. Upland cotton is no longer a covered commodity.

To learn more, farmers can contact their local Farm Service Agency county office. To find your local office visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

The Farm Bill builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer. Since enactment, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/farmbill.

DPS offers spring break safety tips for Texans

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is reminding Texans to drive responsibly and to take extra precautions as they make travel plans during Spring Break.

"With students and families out of school and off work, the weeks during Spring Break can result in an influx of traffic on Texas roadways," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "DPS urges all drivers to do their part to help keep the roads safe for all travelers by adhering to safe driving practices and always driving sober."

DPS offers the following tips for safe travel during the Spring Break holiday:

- Slow down—especially in bad weather, construction areas, heavy traffic and

unfamiliar areas.

- Eliminate distractions while driving, including the usage of mobile devices.

- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle—it's the law.

- Don't drive fatigued, and allow plenty of time to reach your destination.

- Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges.

- Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before your trip begins.

- Slow down or move over for tow trucks and police, fire, EMS and Texas Department of Transportation vehicles stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated—it's the law.

DPS also urges Texans to avoid travel to Mexico. The Mexican government has made great strides

battling the cartels, and the department commends their continued commitment to that effort. DPS also has a responsibility to inform the public about safety and travel risks and threats, and based on the unpredictable nature of cartel violence and other criminal elements, the department urges individuals to avoid travel to Mexico at this time.

(U.S. citizens who do travel to Mexico should always check the U.S. Department of State website for the latest information regarding security issues in Mexico, and they should register with the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program by visiting <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country.html>.)

Booster seats: A simple solution that saves lives

by DaLinda Black
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.

Several years ago, Krista Baker and her three sons were involved in a crash that totaled their car. Only months earlier, Krista received some life-saving advice: technicians at a child safety seat checkup told her that Zachary, her four-year-old son, should be riding in a booster seat and using it along with an adult lap and shoulder belt. This simple tip may have saved Zachary's life as he escaped the crash virtually unharmed.

Unfortunately, Autumn Alexander Skeen did not know the importance of booster seats until it was too late. While visiting family in Yakima, Washington, Skeen and her son, Anton, were both buckled into a sport utility vehicle using a standard lap and shoulder seat belt. Autumn Skeen was distracted and lost control of the vehicle. The crash caused Anton's small, four-year-old body to slip from the seat belt, and he was thrown from the vehicle as it rolled over. Anton was killed instantly.

Skeen thought she was doing the right thing by simply buckling Anton in. What she now knows—but what most other parents don't realize—is that once children outgrow their convertible child safety seats, they need to be put in booster seats until the seat belt system designed for adults fits them correctly.

DaLinda Black, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent, warns that traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for children of every age from 6 to 14 years, due in part to the fact that most kids are unbuckled or improperly restrained in vehicles. From birth to age one, restraint use is 97 percent; for ages one to four, it is 91 percent. From ages 5 to 15, restraint use falls to 68.7 percent, and over 47 percent of fatally injured children ages four to seven are completely unrestrained. One National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) study showed that only 6.1 percent of booster-aged children were restrained in a booster seat. NHTSA recommends that all children ages 12 and under ride in the back seat, properly restrained at all times.

Child safety seats, including boosters, are very effective in keeping kids safe. Parents should use boosters for children once they outgrow forward-facing child safety seats at about 40 pounds and around four years old. They should continue to use booster seats until children are 4'9" tall and about 80 pounds. Certified and trained child passenger safety technicians will be in Haskell Thurs., March 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church. Come by and have a technician make sure your seats are installed correctly. This event will be free of charge.

The Haskell Free Press

Established January 1, 1886
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
420 North First Street • P. O. Box 555
HASKELL, TEXAS 79521
Phone 940-864-2686 • Fax 940-864-2687
hfp@valornet.com

John McDougalPublisher
Lisa ShawBusiness Manager
Doris McDougalProduction
Caron YatesEditor

Periodical Paid Haskell, Texas 79521
(USPS 237-040)

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Haskell County, one year, \$25.00.
Outside of Haskell County, one year, \$34.00.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Haskell Free Press, P.O. Box 555, Haskell, TX. 79521-0555.

This issue mailed Wed., March 4, 2015

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

Drop off containers are located:

- behind Haskell Home Health, 417 S. 1st St.;
- at Mike Harrell's office, 606 N. 1st St.;
- behind 405 N. Ave. H, and at the Haskell Country Club.

Big Country Electric Cooperative announces Operation Round Up

At Big Country Electric Cooperative, we love our communities and believe in the power of working together to make good things happen, and to take care of people. Each of us has the ability to do good, but when we band together that ability multiplies, turning good things into great things. This is why we have initiated Operation Round Up: to allow the cooperative and its members to partner together to provide financial assistance to those in need locally.

This program is supported by co-op members whose electric bills are "Rounded Up" to the nearest dollar. The "Round Up" amount goes into the Big Country Electric Cooperative trust fund for distribution of funds to individuals and organizations for charitable purposes only in the counties we serve: Borden, Fisher,

Garza, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall and Throckmorton.

Applications will be handled with the utmost confidence and respect. Applications will be evaluated and funds will be disbursed by the trust's Board of Directors—your peers and neighbors, who volunteer their time, hearts and consideration to making decisions that will positively impact lives in our communities.

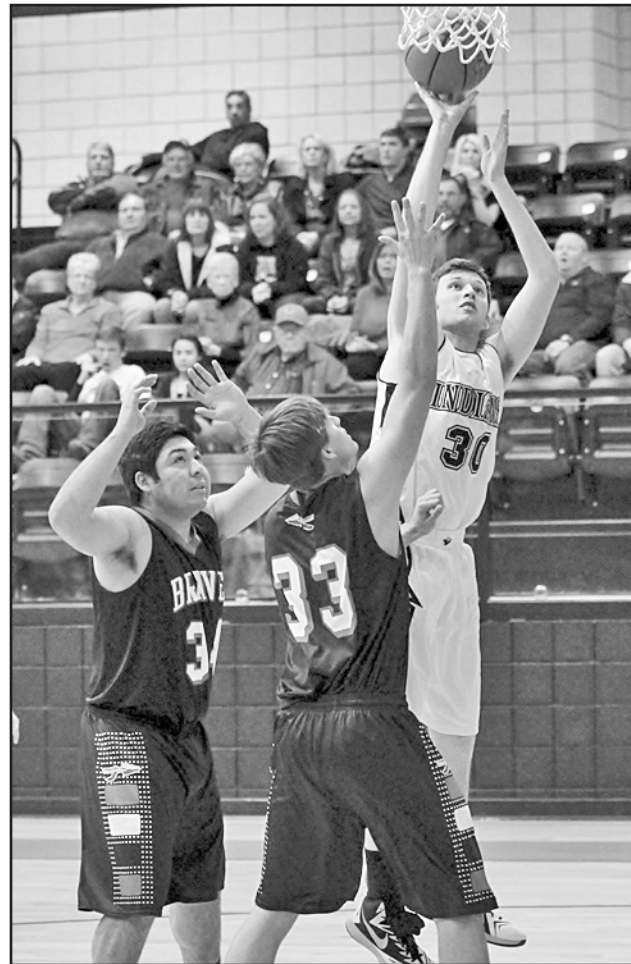
Food needs and food banks, shelter, health needs and rescue organizations, educational projects, child care programs and other special needs are just a few of the ways Operation Round Up can help strengthen our communities. Every penny will stay right here at home, in the counties we serve.

For more information about the program or to download an application

for assistance, go to www.bigcountry.coop and click on the Operation Round Up icon right on our home page. Please contact Sarah McLen at 325-776-3803 or at smclen@bigcountry.coop with any questions about Operation Round Up.



OVERTIME!—The Haskell Indians celebrate a last second 3 pointer by Kade Colley that sent the game against Iran into overtime.



JUMP SHOT—Haskell Indian #30 Riley Meinzer goes up for a two point jump shot against Iran.



THREE POINTS—Haskell Indian #24 Dylan Hanson takes the 3 pointer in the Bi-District game against Iran.



TURNOVER—Haskell Indians #14 Kade Colley and #10 Kellen Parks send the Iran ball handler to the corner and cause a turnover.

Security is our middle name

By Ray Vigil
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in El Paso

On March 6, Americans recognize Middle Name Pride Day.

At the Social Security Administration, our middle name is "Security," and every day, we do everything we can to live up to that name. As part of protecting our vital services, we safeguard against all forms of Social Security fraud.

Social Security has zero-tolerance for fraud and those who try to cheat the system. While we can't prevent all fraud schemes any more than the best police force can stop all crime, we work aggressively with our Office of the Inspector General to investigate and prosecute people who commit fraud.

Acting Commissioner Carolyn Colvin's message to those who would defraud Social Security is clear: "We will find you; we will prosecute you; we will seek the maximum punishment allowable under the law; and we will fight to restore to the American public the money you've stolen."

We provide benefits to one-fifth of the American population, including elderly retirees, people with severe illnesses, and widows and children after the death of a wage earner. Our beneficiaries also include wounded warriors and the chronically ill, all of whom tend to be the most vulnerable of our population. Protecting our critically important programs from fraud can be challenging. Yet, our standard is absolute—any fraud is unacceptable. And, our focus on preventing fraud works.

Our Office of the Inspector General works in concert with our frontline employees to identify fraud and bring offenders to justice. Together, we use a number of tools to help us accurately predict where fraud may occur. By

monitoring cases closely, we identify fraud sooner rather than later—and often we prevent it before it happens. We also have stiff penalties that discourage people from committing fraud, including hefty fines, suspension of benefits, and even jail time for the most severe offenses.

We take our middle name seriously and so should you. If you suspect someone is committing Social Security fraud, we ask that you report it online at <http://oig.ssa.gov/report> or call the Social Security Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271 immediately.

Area Basketball scores

Boys
Iran 48, Haskell 45 (OT)
Scoring for Haskell: Kellen Parks 13, Dylan Hanson 9, Kade Colley 7, Riley Meinzer 6, Henry Smith 4, Alec Roewe 3, Sean Weiser 3.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Annual Parish

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Estate Sale

ESTATE SALE: 16 Ave. K East. Fri., March 6, noon to 6 p.m. and Sat., March 7, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Furniture, dishes, etc. 10p

Miscellaneous

ARE YOU READY for something new? The next Vernon College Certified Nurse's Aide (CNA) class starts March 30, 2015 at the Vocational Training Center (VTC) in Rochester, Texas! The class is scheduled for Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-8 p.m. A meeting/registration will be held at the Rochester VTC on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. For more information call (940) 696-8752 ext. 3361.

Jobs Wanted

WELDING, metal structures, fences, gates, etc. 940-613-8033. 940-203-0986. 10-17p

Wanted

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Help Wanted

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RN: Haskell Memorial Hospital is seeking a full time RN for our night shift. This position is a three on three off rotation of twelve hour shifts. Shift and holiday premium is paid as applicable. Qualified candidates must possess a current Texas nursing license with previous hospital experience of at least one year in med/surg and/or ER. Prior EHR experience is also required. Haskell Memorial Hospital has an excellent salary and benefits package for full time employees including health insurance and retirement. Qualified candidates please send resumes to Human Resources via email at emoore@hmmhealth.org, via fax at 940-864-5014, or call 940-864-2621 x301 if you would like an application mailed to you. EOE. 9-10c

Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT
Rister Oil & Gas International, LLC, 10005 N. Carolina, Midothian, Texas 76065 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Swastika Formation, Wendeborn, Fred Lease, Well Number 2. The proposed injection well is located 4 miles SE of Sagerton, in the Haskell County Regular Field, in Haskell County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2880 to 2906 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil

Public Notices

and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should

Public Notices

be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792). 10c

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-TIPS

Thank you to all who came out and celebrated my 90th birthday with me. Your presence was truly a blessing. Thank you to our city mayor for your presentation as well. God bless each of you.
Love, Mae Lou Yeldell

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- 1308 N. AVE K - 3/2 on one city block, open floor plan with abundant storage, oversized two car garage and water well. \$137,500-**NEW**
- 1301 N. AVE L - 3/2. New floors and granite, appliances included. \$82,500-**NEW**
- 503 N. AVE. F - Investment potential. \$19,900-**NEW**
- 206 N. AVE. F - 3/3.5 perfect for entertaining on large corner lot with ample parking. \$139,000-**REDUCED**
- 116 EAST AVE. J - Large 3/2 with double garage and metal roof on corner lot. \$79,500-**REDUCED**
- 1001 N. G - Beautiful historic 3/3 with wonderful yard. \$169,000-**REDUCED**

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- 3037 CR 428, RULE - 3/1.5 on 1.36 ac. with new CH/A and water well. \$74,900-**NEW**
- 709 AMITY, RULE - 3/2 completely remodeled, located on large corner lot. \$49,900-**NEW**
- 405 6TH ST, ROCHESTER - 3/2 updated with abundant covered parking and a pool. \$67,500-**REDUCED**
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- 1004 UNION, RULE - 3/2 on corner lot with ample parking. \$49,000-**NEW**
- 10218 US HWY 277, MUNDAY - 3/2 with double garage on 1 ac. \$43,900-**NEW**
- 610 W. I. MUNDAY - 3/1.2 with abundant charm on quiet street. \$52,500-**REDUCED**
- 712 W. OREGON, SEYMOUR - Ranch style 3/2 with abundant storage. \$124,900-**REDUCED**
- 1216 CR 113, ROCHESTER - Perfect country home on 15 acres. \$70,000-**REDUCED**
- 1150 WEST EDEN, MUNDAY - 3/2 with new CH/A and a metal roof. \$74,500-**REDUCED**
- 923 EARLES CAMP - 3/2. \$54,500-**SOLD**
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- 369 CR 251 WEINERT - Multi-purpose building on 3 acres. Your Barnhouse awaits! \$59,500-**REDUCED**

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- 7 AVENUE E, TIDBITS AND TREASURES - Updated, electrical, a new roof, new central heating and cooling, original hardwoods and many other amenities and upgrades. \$79,900-**NEW**
- 1406 N. 1ST, KVRP RADIO STATION - Stand alone building w/ample parking on corner lot and new roof. \$54,500-**REDUCED**
- 621 5TH ST. BOBCAT CAFE, RULE - 2,500 sq. ft. turn key commercial building \$35,000-**NEW**
- DAVE'S CAVE, N. 1ST E - 28,900 sq. ft. commercial bldg. with endless potential. \$79,000-**NEW**
- 107 N. AVE. A, KNOX CITY POST OFFICE - W/income potential, long term tenant with existing lease. Great deal! \$47,500-**NEW**
- 369 CR 251 WEINERT - Multi-purpose building on 3 ac. Your Barnhouse awaits! \$59,500-**REDUCED**
- 707 S. AVE. E, LIFESPAN BLDG. - Commercial stand alone with potential and parking. \$49,900-**REDUCED**
- 412 N. 1ST, YESTERDAY'S MEMORIES - Commercial bldg. CH/A, living quarters and large upstairs. \$49,500-**REDUCED**
- 7734 HWY. 6 - Rule Drive in theater on 4 ac. Many amenities. \$49,900-**REDUCED**

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 - 2245 FM 2163 - Rochester - Large brick home on 12 +/- ACRES \$199,900 **REDUCED**
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 - 805 S 1ST EAST - Complete Renovation! MUST SEE! 4/2 \$189,500 **SOLD**
 - 1604 ROBBYN LANE - 2013 Built Custom Home! 3/2. \$132,500 **NEW**
 - 115 AVE J EAST - Heavenly Haven! 3/2. \$105,000 **UNDER CONTRACT**
 - 16 AVE K EAST - Well Taken Care of on Corner Lot! 3/2 \$99,900 **UNDER CONTRACT**
 - 1605 N AVE E - Fabulous WOW Factor! 3/2 \$97,500 **NEW**
 - 1806 N AVE G - Corner Lot! 3/2 \$82,500 **SOLD**
 - 1300 N AVE F - Sitting Pretty! 2/2 \$74,900
 - 1409 N AVE L - Surprisingly Spacious! 3/1.5 \$62,500 **REDUCED**
 - 1200 N AVE L - Affordable and Stylishly Renovated! 3/2 \$60,000 **UNDER CONTRACT**
 - 1407 N AVE L - Must See. Warm Cozy Family Home! 3/1.5 \$57,000 **UNDER CONTRACT**
 - 1603 N AVE E - Opportunity Knocks. 3/1.5 \$55,000 **UNDER CONTRACT**
 - 500 S 3RD E - Room to Roam. Possible financing. 3/2 \$52,000
 - 601 S. AVE. H - A place with space! 3/2 on 1/2 acre \$54,900 **SOLD**
 - 800 S. AVE. F - More than Meets the Eye! \$49,900 **NEW**
 - 504 S AVE F - Great Curb appeal! 4/1 \$44,900 **REDUCED**
 - 1207 TAYLOR, RULE - Neat and Charming. Beautiful yard! 2/1 \$42,500 **NEW**
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 - 214 +/- ACRES CR 186, ROCHESTER - Cultivated land w/3 water wells! **NEW-UNDER CONTRACT**
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTY:**
- 1 AVE E - Multi Purpose Building! \$47,500
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YOUTH TOUR WINNERS—Winners of the Big Country Electric Cooperative Government-In-Action Youth Tour speech contest are, l-r, Mattie Johnston of Roby, Molly Pruitt of Rotan, Alannah Luce of Haskell and Bryan Harris of Roby.

BCEC sponsors three students to Government-In Action Youth Tour

The annual Big Country Electric Cooperative (BCEC) Government-In-Action Youth Tour speech contest was held March 2 at the Roby High School Auditorium. Out of an outstanding group of competitors, three winners were selected: Alannah Luce of Haskell, Mattie Johnston of Roby and Molly Pruitt of Rotan. They will join 1,500 other teens from across the country for a 10-day all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. in June. Along with the trip to D.C., the students will each receive a \$1,500 scholarship.

Bryan Harris of Roby

receives a \$1,500 scholarship and will serve as alternate in the event one of the students is unable to go on the trip.

The purpose of this tour is to provide an opportunity for youth to visit monuments, government buildings and cooperative related organizations in order to become familiar with the historical and political environment of our nation's capital. They will enjoy the best of Washington, D.C., tour the Smithsonian Institute, Ford's Theatre, the FBI Building, Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials, Mount Vernon and countless

other points of interest. The students will experience the sight of Arlington National Cemetery, the Vietnam Memorial, and the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They will visit their Congressman's office and find out face to face what's going on in national government. Their Congressman will meet with the students and answer questions about current governmental issues.

We at Big Country Electric Cooperative are excited to offer our area youth a chance for such an experience.



SERVES DINNER—Rule High school students in Joni Manske's FCS classes made a lasagna dinner for the School Board Jan. 28. Pictured are, l-r, Kourtney Hertel, Christina Moore, Emily Speck, Leann Manske and Mckenzie Gray.



CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY—Mae Lou Yeldell, center, celebrated her 90th birthday Sat., Feb. 28 at the Haskell Civic Center surrounded by her family and friends. The day was proclaimed 'Mae Lou Yeldell Day' by Haskell mayor John Gannaway. Some of the family members attending were, front row, Faith Jordan, Blessing Jordan and Brittany Jordan; standing, Ebon'e Williams, Rae'Lynn Camacho, Jenny Camacho, Edith Williams, Matt Langford, Birdie Goudeau, Angela Jordan and Leon Goudeau.

Calendar

Easter Cantata

Rehearsals for the Easter Cantata, to be presented Sunday evening March 29, will be held Sunday evenings at 4 p.m. in the chapel at First Baptist Church.

FBC Wed. programs

Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church invites the community to new Wednesday night classes for all ages beginning March 18, from 7 to 8 p.m. Kids Club, for children attending 4 year old Pre-K through fifth grade, will include music, missions and Bible lessons. Adults will study "Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis" with topics including: the origin of the universe, the age of the earth and dinosaurs. Childcare will be provided for younger children of parents attending the adult study. For more information call 940-864-5557 or email pastor@cornerstonehaskell.org.

Al-Anon

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





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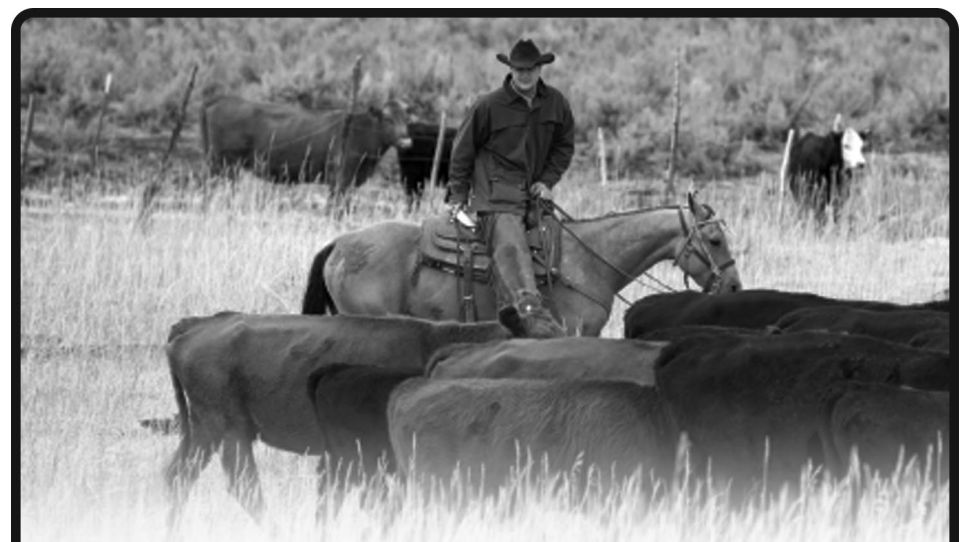
Saturday, March 21, 2015
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday, March 22, 2015
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Admission \$5.00 per person
(children under 10 free)
Persons under 18 MUST be accompanied by an Adult.

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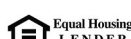
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200 S Avenue E. • (940) 864-8555

Stamford Office

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MEMBER FDIC

Weather

by Kim Hutto
National Weather Service
Volunteer Co-op Observer

Temperature

Mon., Feb. 23..... 18°/30°
Tues., Feb. 24..... 27°/35°
Wed., Feb. 25..... 30°/62°
Thurs., Feb. 26..... 27°/45°
Fri., Feb. 27..... 17°/21°
Sat., Feb. 28..... 12°/27°
Sun., March 1..... 16°/32°

Precipitation

Mon., Feb. 23. .64" ice/snow
Thurs., Feb. 26... .71" snow
Fri., Feb. 27..... 4.74" snow
Sat., Feb. 28..... .50" snow

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

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