

# THE VALLEY TRIBUNE

of the Rolling Plains™

PHIL BAREFIELD  
BOX 025  
QUITAQUE TX 79255

75¢  
Per Copy

Volume 47 Number 16 • Quitaque, Texas 79255 • Serving ~ Briscoe ~ Hall ~ Motley ~ Counties • Thursday, November 1, 2007



**Remember To Fall Back 1 Hour  
This Sunday, November 4**  
Also remember to change the batteries  
in your smoke detectors!



Buck Coghlan, of Scottsdale, Arizona/Turkey, Texas stands beside the fire truck he and his wife Rhoda donated to the City of Turkey. The Coghlan's are part-time Turkey residents, what a great addition they make!

## The Coghlan's In Turkey

By R. Brown

Buck and Rhoda Coghlan of Scottsdale, Arizona drove in to attend the Halloween party at Henry Baker's Church of Western Swing in Turkey last Saturday night. Upon arriving they were surprised to see the fire truck, which they had previously donated to the City of Turkey, standing outside of the remodeled old church, where the party was held!

Before the party began Turkey's Fire Chief Billie Farley gave a short speech about the donation of the truck, thanking the Coghlan's for giving it to the town. The couple have also purchased the old Phillips Sixty-Six station and plan to restore the outside. Buck is a former member of a noted trio "The Western Gentlemen" and the old station will be a musician friendly place during Bob Wills' week.

Finally the music began just after eight and the band played Western Swing. Featured vocalist included Henry, Jimmy and Bobby Baker singing the old standards. Before break Doris Ann Baker joined the band for a duet with Henry.

Eventually all band members sang a song, except the drummer, Odie. During the intermission Rockabilly was performed by Robin Brown, Henry Baker, Michael Grace and Gary Johnson. A young guitarist from Abernathy, by way of Benjamin, Texas, did some impressive leads with the main band while Rick Suddeth, Jimmy Burson and Bobby Baker followed suit to finish the show.

There will be a Christmas party at the Church of Western Swing on Saturday, December 8. Mark your calendars now and make plans to come on over to Turkey for some great Western Swing music and lots of fun!

## What's Happening In The Valley Area This Week?

### November 1

- \* Valley Patriots JV vs Hedley, here @ 6:30 p.m.
- \* Valley Jr High vs Hedley, here @ 5 p.m.

### November 2

- \* Valley Patriots vs Hedley, there @ 7:30 p.m.
- \* Last day for early voting in the November 6th constitutional amendment election

### November 3

- \* Turkey Jamboree @ 7 p.m. Supper @ 6 p.m.
- \* Silverton Clothes Closet open today. To donate clothes call 823-2446.

### November 5

- \* Quitaque Lions Club meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

### November 6

- \* Election Day - Texas Constitutional Amendments
- \* Quitaque Masonic Lodge meeting @ 7 p.m.
- \* Turkey Volunteer Fire Department meeting @ 7:30 p.m.

### November 7

- \* Do Gooders Club meeting

### November 8

- \* Matador City Council meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- \* Turkey city Council meeting @ 7 p.m.
- \* Matador Masonic Lodge meeting

## Early Voting Continues For November 6 Election

Early voting for the November 6 Amendment election continues, in County Clerk's offices in Briscoe, Hall and Motley Counties. Early voting will continue through Friday, November 2.

Sixteen amendments to the Texas Constitution are to be decided upon in the November 6th vote.

## Filing Deadline For 2008 March Primary Elections

The first day to file for a place on the ballot for the March Primary is December 3, 2007. Deadline for filing is January 2, 2008. In Briscoe, Hall and Motley Counties the following positions are up for re-election: Sheriff, Tax-Assessor/Collector, County Attorney, Commissioners for Precinct 1 & 3.

Last day to register to vote in the March Primary is February 4, 2008.

## Turkey Women's Bible Study

What huge events have happened in your life in the last 5-10 years? Deaths, marriages, job changes, children leaving home? Have you had someone to cling to and hang onto their ever Word?

The Beth Moore Bible study of Daniel is for each of us who have experience life. Life happens. It changes us—for the good or bad depending on our choices. The book of Daniel shows God in control, absolutely sovereign, never shaken, and nothing can detour His plan for the ages and for us today. In the study of Daniel, God will reveal Himself and His Son Jesus powerfully, majestically, and personally.

This Bible study has a different format. It is driven by the weekly video sessions which are followed by five home study lessons. Class will consist of an hour of the video and an hour of discussion of the past weeks home study.

Bring a friend and come join us for an exciting time in the book of Daniel. Class will start with the first video on Monday evening November 12 at 6:00 pm in the First Baptist Church in Turkey. This facility is wheelchair accessible. Also on November 12 from 12-2 the class will also be offered for those desiring a daytime study and will have the same format.

Dee Seitz will facilitate the class and can be reached at 806-423-1014. Books will be available at the first class.

## More New Musical Acts On Tap For The Turkey Jamboree Saturday, November 3

By RJ Kalafus

Make no plans for Saturday, November 3, as the November Jamboree will be held at the Gem Theatre in beautiful downtown Turkey, Texas. This show promises to be another night of first class talent.

Those who will be competing for the \$100 cash prize will be: The Shannons from Northfield, will be the first performers and if you like traditional country and great fiddling this will be for you. Next up will be Linda Gooch of Childress, who has performed at the Gem before and has pleased the crowd with her fine voice and delivery. The last to compete will be a new group from Plainview, who call themselves "Surrendered". This week "Surrendered" won a Country Gospel Music Award in Branson, Missouri for International Band of the Year for their song Glory Train, one of their own compositions. They are making their first appearance at the Jamboree and they do both modern and traditional country.

Following the competition the Turkey Gems will take the stage and for the people who have never heard them they are in for a country sound by the best band in West Texas. They are the finest 8 musicians and vocalists, not making a living out of music. The show will move along with the help and humor of Dewayne and Melody Pettiet, our masters of ceremonies.

This month's meal will benefit the good works of the Turkey Lions Club and will be a hamburger dinner with fixins with dessert and drink for \$5 a plate. The meal will begin at 6 p.m. and the show at 7 p.m. There will be a \$25 door prize donated by the Caprock Telephone Co-op. There will be prizes drawn for between acts with everything from baked goods to electronics to be given away. The \$100 "Crowd Favorite" prize was donated by Billy Ray Hardcastle and the Motley Mill & Cube-Roaring Springs.

Do not forget that the show is free and there is plenty of free parking in our beautiful downtown Turkey, Texas. See ya there!

## Hall County Commissioners Vote NO To Applying For A Texas Historical Grant For Courthouse Restoration

In a called special session of the Hall County Commissioners Court on Monday, October 29 the court voted, 3-against (Milton Beasley, James Fuston, Terry Lindsey) to 2-for (Buddy Logsdon, Jacky Martin), on going forward with the proposal (at a cost of \$7,000 for the initial proposal) by Arthur Wineman, Architect that was to be submitted to the Texas Historical Commission for an approximately \$6 million grant to restore the historic Hall County Courthouse. The grant will require a 15% match by the county in addition to the \$7,000 for the proposal design to be submitted with the grant proposal.

The court felt it was in the best interest of the citizens to not add that additional burden to the county's budget. A suggestion was made by one commissioner to just spend approximately \$50,000 per year for maintenance of the current building and leave it as is, no decisions were made on that matter.

Members of the Hall County Historical Commission and other interested citizens were on hand for the meeting and were in favor of restoration of the historic building for future generations. The Hall County Historical Commission is also currently taking donations to help with the payment of the proposal designs as their way to help with this project.

If you would like to see this project go forward now or at a future date please contact your county commissioner or any member of the Hall County Historical Commission.

## FSA Holds COC Election For Lakeview Area

Ballots to elect a Hall County Committee, COC, member for the Farm Service Agency, FSA, will be mailed to producers on November 2, 2007. This elections being held in LAA 1, which is the Lakeview area.

FSA County Committee Members:

- \* Make decisions on crop yields
- \* Make decisions on disaster programs
- \* Make decisions on conservation programs
- \* Make decisions on general program eligibility, and
- \* Hear appeals from producers who have received notice of adverse decisions.

Please complete your election ballot and return it to the Hall County FSA office no later than December 3, 2007.



Halloween brought little trick or treaters to Quitaque and Turkey businesses Wednesday morning. Valley Pre-K and Kindergarten students visited local businesses as part of a long standing tradition in the Valley area.

## Turkey Class of '48 Reunion This Saturday

The Turkey Class of 1948 will be holding their 59th Turkey High School reunion on Saturday, November 3 at the Senior Citizens Room in the Bob Wills Center. Open house will begin at 1 p.m. and class members would enjoy visiting and reminiscing with anyone who would like to attend.



# ON THE QT

By Patsy Herrington

With the exception of two windy days, we have had an array of glorious, magnificent, pristine days. The leaves are turning colors, the cotton fields are splendidly white, and all in all it is a beautiful time of year.

Ray and Rhonda Martin hosted a joint birthday party for Henryetta Finney Price and son Bobby. Those present were Ray and Rhonda Martin of Amarillo, Adam and Mindy Anderson of Hartley, Monica Griffin of Panhandle, Bobby, Kaylene, and Chris Kaiser of Lubbock and Henryetta Price of Quitaque. After the luncheon the women attended a baby shower for Mindy Anderson, and the men watched the Dallas Cowboys. Henryetta said the entire day was wonderful except Monica's husband had to work, and could not attend the luncheon.

Joel Saucido from Texas Highways magazine has been here the last several days taking pictures and writing an article. He is a contract writer/photographer.

Jill Johnson is excited about a trip to New York! She will be accompanied by old friends of hers, Carol Miller from Grand Rapids, Michigan, Regina Mason from Albuquerque, New Mexico, Jeanette Goodspeed from La Grange, Texas. Carol and Jill once lived in Hoboken, New Jersey near New York City. Frank Sinatra was born in Hoboken. They plan to be in NYC November 1-9 and are looking forward to seeing the Broadway play "Wicked" starring Rue Callahan of The Golden Girls and actor Ben Vereen. Jill's brother, John Lynn Johnson and wife Janet also plan to get together with Jill and her group. Jill and Carol also hope to look up some of their old addressed when they lived there.

Lisa Herrington Welborn, Austin, daughter of Patsy Herrington, has been working in Lubbock the past few days. Patsy drove down Thursday, and spent the night with her. They ate soup and salad at the Olive Garden, went to Sam's and had a wonderful time together. Lisa came back to Quitaque with Patsy Friday. They had fun seeing all the crafts and unique items for sale at PAWA Trade Days held here in Quitaque, and saw many old friends there and the Health Fair at the Hope Center. Sunday they went to Floydada to visit brother Lex and Dana Herrington Emery and Evertte. From there she went to Lubbock to fly home.

Eunice McFall had her daughter, Beth, visiting this weekend. Beth is County Agent at Paducah. Eunice says her husband, Sid, who is at the Convalescent Center in Childress is doing much better.

A tremendous undertaking on the part of Deanna Oberheu, State Park Manager along with Park personnel, contributed to Caprock Canyons' opening of the new visitor's center. She coordinated all facets of the Grand Opening from start to finish. Many, many hours of preparation were entailed. She gave a very inspirational speech which made us all proud! Aren't we glad we have her!

As I am writing this, it is Tuesday, October 30. Tomorrow night will be Halloween, which is always a lot of fun seeing all the excited kids all dressed up. My mother, Madeline Whiteley Stark, always had her children and grandchildren over early for chili and pumpkin pie on Halloween eve. She traditionally wore a witch's costume with big hat, and frightened the trick or treaters to death! I try to carry on the tradition.

*Faith is not a storm cellar to which men and women can flee for refuge from the storms of life. It is, instead, an inner force that gives them the strength to face those storms and their consequences with serenity of spirit.*

~ Sam. J. Ervin, Jr.

## Letters To The Editor



Dear Laura,

Enclosed check to pay for my subscription renewal. I appreciate the paper very much - so many interesting and enjoyable articles.

I certainly enjoy "On The QT" by Patsy - so glad she is writing that. Don and I took our daughter and 7 year old grandson (from El Campo) to the state basketball tournament last March as our Panhandle Pantherettes were fortunate enough to make it to state. After the game, we decided to take the grandson to see the state capital and the first person I saw was Patsy Herrington - it is indeed a small world!!

Keep up the good work, Barbara Duncan

Letter to the Editor:

Foreign alliances destroy our independence

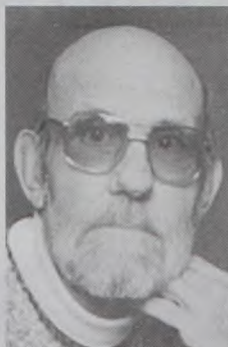
The United States is fortunate to have Presidents like George Washington and Thomas Jefferson to keep us out of permanent foreign alliances. This helped the United States become the greatest nation in history. Unfortunately, twentieth and twenty-first century presidents have entangled us in foreign wars and alliances.

Amid guarantees that the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) would stimulate commerce, spur job creation, curtail illegal immigration, and have no impact on U.S. independence, Congress approved this 1,700-page pact in 1993. This entangling alliance has more to do with NAFTA regulations rather than real free trade which requires no government interference. Go to [www.thenewamerican.com](http://www.thenewamerican.com) for details.

NAFTA has been a disaster for many Americans and the independence that we once enjoyed. Rulings from NAFTA's judicial panels have superseded state and federal court decisions, thereby overruling U.S. and state constitutions. These panels were not setup or approved by American citizens. If we want to restore our independence, we must demand that Congress repeals NAFTA!

Lucy L. Crump  
15434 Vintage St.  
Mission Hills,  
CA 91345  
818-891-3351

## Obituaries



### Jimmy Fred Foster

Jimmy Fred Foster, 67, of Wichita Falls, died Friday, October 12, 2007.

The memorial service was conducted Sunday, October 14, 2007, in the chapel of Owens & Brumley Funeral Home of Wichita Falls, with the Rev. Harvey E. McMurry, pastor of City View Baptist Church, officiating.

A son of the late Harvey and Vera (Wolf) Foster, he was born April 11, 1940, in Quitaque, Briscoe County, Texas. He worked in construction for most of his life.

Survivors include his wife, Cheryl Foster of Wichita Falls; sons, Harvey Foster of Burk Burnett and Alan Foster of Wichita Falls; daughters, Joann Berry of Wellington, Texas, and Tobie Reynolds of Scotland; three sisters, Betty Hall of Tyler and Millie Barbian of Springdale, Arkansas; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; also, several nieces and nephews.

*Faith is building on what you know is here, so you can reach what you know is there.*

~ Cullen Hightower

MEMBER 2007  
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TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

West Texas Press Association  
EST. 1926

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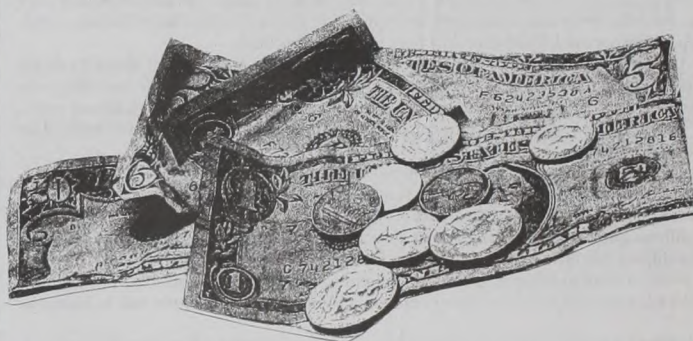
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<b>Monday, November 5</b> Chicken Strips & Gravy Mashed Potatoes Peas & Carrots Roll Dessert* Milk	<b>Wednesday, November 7</b> Soft Tacos Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Cheese Refried Beans Dessert* Milk	<b>Friday, November 9</b> BBQ on Bun Potatoe Salad Pickle Vegetables Dessert* Milk
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# FLOMOT NEWS

By Earlyne Jameson

## OVERHEARD

I am told gated communities are a way of life nowadays. When confronted by one you have the inconvenience of remembering the numerical code.

UGH! I can remember spending the first few years of my marriage in a gated community. Ours was the only house in it. We had two gates between us and the county road. Neither of them could be opened by pushing a button. Anybody who has ever done it knows the only thing tougher than opening a barbed wire gate is closing it back!

\*\*\*\*\*

Visiting recently with Johnie Starkey was his granddaughter, Johna Starkey who is stationed with the U.S. Marines in San Diego, California. Johnie and his brother, L.T. Starkey of Ralls attended the PAWA Trade Days in Quitaque, Saturday.

Janice and Butch Hughes visited from Monday until Saturday in Royce City with son and family, Bengie and J.J. Hughes and daughter, Kaitlynn. J.J. was hospitalized during the week.

Mrs. Sherri McKay of Quitaque visited Mrs. B. Rogers, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay visited in Panhandle Thursday night with son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clay, Tanner, Kelsey and Sarah. They enjoyed the Panhandle Junior High football game in which Tanner and teammates defeated Fritch.

Cary Franks of Idalou, Anissa Huckert of Lubbock, Clint Cowart of Post and Cara Franks of Flomot were in Fort Worth from Friday until Sunday to attend the State Cutting Horse event. Tim Washington of Roaring Springs competed in his horsemanship talent and was awarded a saddle.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Shorter of Fort Worth and grandchildren, Allison, Matthew and Braden Moncrief of Matador visited Saturday with his father, Everett Shorter and brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter.

Wilburn Martin had a medical appointment in Lockney, Thursday and received a good report.

Members of the Do Gooders' Club sold chances on their Bazaar Quilt Saturday at the PAWA Trade Days in Quitaque Saturday. When they ran out of tickets to sell, Tim Kendall was nice enough to print them some more on his copying machine.

Haley Milam of Petersburg visited Saturday and Sunday with her grandparents, Kathy and Clois Shorter.

Cory, Amy, Hudson and Madison Franks of Lubbock visited the weekend with his parents, Connie and Coy Franks.

Carolyn and Arnold Johnson attended the 2nd Annual Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk, held at Mackenzie Park in Lubbock on Sunday, October 28. Carolyn's mother, Mrs. Dorothy May of Quitaque, was a victim of Alzheimer's. They had a good visit with the support groups, raising the awareness of this disease and research information.

*Faith is the little night-light that burns in a sickroom; as long as it is there, the obscurity is not complete, we turn towards it and await the daylight.*

~ Abbe Huvelin

*Faith is the soul's adventure.*

~ William Bridges

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## 7th Annual Cowboy Christmas Ball

### Area Musicians Will Be Featured

BENJAMIN, Texas—The famous Bob Wills' Texas Playboys will bring their brand of Western Swing music to the town of Benjamin, Texas on Saturday Dec.22 for the 7th Annual Cowboy Christmas Ball.

America's most versatile dance band, the Playboys include Grammy-winning guitarist Tommy Allsup, legendary vocalist Leon Rausch, fiddle players Jimmy Young and Bobby Boatright, steel guitarist Bobby Koefler, and keyboard artist Curly Hollingsworth. A horn section, drums and a standup bass are also part of the blend.

Starting at 8 p.m., the four-hour event will begin with music from the Sidekicks. Led by banjoist Wendell Sollis, the Sidekicks will feature award-winning vocalist-accordionist Ginny Mac. New to the group this year is Kelsey Timmons on fiddle, who will team up with seasoned fiddler George Uptmor, known for his Cajun flair. The Sidekick lineup also includes Ronny Dale Shultz on lead guitar and vocals, Terry Thompson on drums, Jim Loessberg on steel guitar, Kelly Keltz on bass, another Sidekick newcomer.

A special guest, DeAnne Roberts, winner of ABC-TV Prime Time "Six Degrees of Martina McBride" will perform some of her work with the Sidekicks.

The evening promises a mix of listenable dance music, a mix of toe tapping Cajun, Western Swing, and traditional Country tunes.

The venue is at the Activity Center in Benjamin. Period or vintage Western attire is encouraged.

Information about many of the performers is available on the Internet. The Bob Wills' Texas Playboys, still playing the legendary music of the late Bob Wills, is the oldest organized band in the country.

Contact J. W. Sollis for information and reservations at (940)655-3413, (940)839-7870, e-mail jwsollis@yahoo.com

## On Being An American

"In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the person's becoming in every facet an American, and nothing but an American...There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag... We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language... and we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people."

~Theodore Roosevelt, 1907

\*\*\*  
*Some like to understand what they believe in. Others like to believe in what they understand.*

~ Stanislaus

\*\*\*  
*Man makes holy what he believes, as he makes beautiful what he loves.*

~ Ernest Renan

\*\*\*  
*Reason is the triumph of the intellect, faith of the heart.*

~ James Schouder

# CAPROCK CAFE

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## THURSDAY'S

### FRIED CHICKEN

Noon Buffet  
 11:00am - 2:00pm  
 Night Buffet  
 More Chicken  
 Gizzards & Livers  
 5:30pm- 8:30pm

## FRIDAY'S

### BAR-B-QUE & CATFISH

Noon Buffet  
 11:00am - 2:00pm  
 Night Special  
 Catfish Dinners  
 Fixin's & Salad Bar  
 5:30pm -8:30 pm

## SATURDAY'S

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- extra recognition for performers (2 wds.)
- "one" south of the border
- bank draft bundles
- this TX Lee was 1st black golfer in the Masters (init.)
- this Johnson is Cowboy back-up QB in '07
- Marcus' pardner
- TXism: "tame" dog"
- announced "guilty" or "not guilty"
- money lent
- Written's position on the Cowboys (abbr.)
- crude oil processors
- pottery oven
- TXism: "looks like she's been ridden hard and put up wet"
- TXism: "It's a \_\_\_\_\_ cinch" (sure)
- Amarillo FM radio
- Kerrville is the seat of this county
- TXism: "best I ever \_\_\_\_\_ around" (tasty)
- TXism: "quick as you can bat \_\_\_\_\_"
- Grand \_\_\_\_\_ Opry
- popular music device
- dessert: apple \_\_\_\_\_ ice cream
- French red wine grape
- pitcher Robb who started his career with Rangers in '93
- Dr. Peppers
- concerned goodbye (2 wds.)
- TXism: " \_\_\_\_\_ in the bud"
- TXism for "relatives"
- dir. from Abilene to Denton (abbr.)
- TXism: "chompin' \_\_\_\_\_ the bit"
- 1st husband of TX Ginger Rogers
- TXism: "dainty \_\_\_\_\_ bride"
- Dimmitt is the seat of this county
- got in the prayer position
- Tyler State Park has 985 of these
- TX Lopez's "If \_\_\_\_\_ a Hammer"
- Jim \_\_\_\_\_ Creek
- Colbert star of film "Texas Lady" (init.)
- this was "grassy" next to JFK's Dallas route (2 wds.)
- 1st TXnt to walk on the moon: Alan \_\_\_\_\_
- filet mignon comes from the tender \_\_\_\_\_
- Gov. \_\_\_\_\_ Roberts
- TX wife of "Machine Gun" Kelly
- expressed scorn
- TXism: " \_\_\_\_\_ like a stuck pig"
- "Cowboys" artist Ace (init.)
- pre S-class Mercedes-Benz
- 13 this was "grassy" next to JFK's Dallas route (2 wds.)
- 14 1st TXnt to walk on the moon: Alan \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 filet mignon comes from the tender \_\_\_\_\_
- 18 Gov. \_\_\_\_\_ Roberts
- 19 TX wife of "Machine Gun" Kelly
- 20 expressed scorn
- 22 TXism: " \_\_\_\_\_ like a stuck pig"
- 24 "Cowboys" artist Ace (init.)
- 25 pre S-class Mercedes-Benz
- 26 TXism: "he's \_\_\_\_\_ bricks shy of a load"
- 27 "Champion" \_\_\_\_\_ Texas"
- 28 TX eatery: "Steak \_\_\_\_\_"
- 29 TXism: "put that in your \_\_\_\_\_ and smoke it!"
- 30 TXism: " \_\_\_\_\_ as a dish rag"
- 33 Boot Hill abbr.
- 34 Midland TV
- 35 TX Pride's "My Eyes Can Only \_\_\_\_\_ Far As You"
- 37 Delta Co. town aka Pleasant Grove
- 38 work bread
- 40 Santa Anna was dressed as \_\_\_\_\_ at San Jacinto
- 41 \_\_\_\_\_-de-camp
- 44 Steagall: "Cowboy \_\_\_\_\_ of Texas"
- 47 small piano
- 49 TXism: " \_\_\_\_\_ yarn" (lie)

\*\*\*  
*If we were logical, the future would be bleak indeed. But we are more than logical. We are human beings, and we have faith, and we have hope.*

~ Jacques Cousteau

## Like what you're reading?

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**The Valley Tribune**  
 Voice Of The Rolling Plains  
 P.O. Box 478  
 Quitaque, Texas 79255



# Some Schools Can't Break Addiction To Higher Taxes

By David Guenther

Remember the big school property tax cut you were supposed to get? Your local school district might be about to take it away.

Last year, the Legislature passed a plan that used the state's new business tax and part of the state's \$14 billion budget surplus to buy down the property tax rates for day-to-day operations to \$1.00.

But according to the San Antonio Express-News, at least 120 school districts have set elections that seek voter approval of much higher tax rates. Most of them, including five in the San Antonio area, seek authority to tax at \$1.17, the maximum allowed under the new law. A Texas Education Agency spokesman predicted earlier this fall that "a large number" of school districts would tax at \$1.17 within two years.

It would be one thing if the Texas economy was sinking and appraisal rolls were shrinking. But our economy remains red-hot, creating almost 800,000 new jobs in the last three years, and appraisals have skyrocketed.

And it wasn't like the state didn't give school districts access to additional money without a mammoth rate increase. The state gave all districts an additional \$2,000 per teacher and \$275 per high school student.

Additionally, as part of the new formula, the first four pennies of tax rate above \$1.00 are "magic pennies." For property rich districts, those pennies are not subject to Robin Hood. For property poor districts, the state gives them the highest guaranteed yield ever, making the revenue generated the same as if those districts were Austin ISD.

What would a \$1.17 property tax rate mean for homeowners? In San Antonio's Southside ISD, the average homeowner's property tax cut would be whittled to a mere three dollars.

Many school districts are also using the tax cut as cover for massive school bond packages. Houston-area school districts have placed more than \$3 billion in proposals on next month's ballot. Another Southeast Texas school district proposes to increase its debt service tax rate by 17 cents.

The disingenuous part of these elections is that the school districts will try to convince you that they are cutting their taxes rather than increasing them.

In Prosper ISD, taxpayers are being told that approving the maximum tax rate would result in a tax rate 13 cents lower than last year's. But the Legislature gave school districts enough money this year to cut property tax rates by 33 cents.

If your local school district's proposed tax rate isn't at least 33 cents lower than last year's, your school district is pilfering your tax cut.

The education bureaucracy went to the Legislature in 2004 "and again in 2005 and 2006" asking for close to \$10 billion in new money with no strings attached and no increased expectations. When the Legislature finally passed a school finance reform plan last year that reduced property taxes, provided targeted funding increases, and resolved the state's school finance lawsuits for at least the next several years, the bureaucracy suffered a rare loss.

Rather than finding operational and program improvements and working within the new law, the school bureaucracy intends to exploit its weaknesses, contrive a funding crisis, and pin the blame on the Legislature.

The faster that a large number of school districts can raise their tax rates to the new maximum, the sooner they can re-open the school finance lawsuits, force even more special sessions, and stake a claim to untold additional billions of your tax dollars.

The school bureaucracy's disregard for the taxpayers underscores the need for the Legislature to enact a lower rollback threshold and automatic elections when school districts propose a tax rate that would increase spending above enrollment growth plus inflation.

In the meantime, the only silver lining is that taxpayers must approve all bond issues and any proposed operations rate above \$1.04.

David Guenther is Director of Media and Government Relations for the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a non-profit, free-market research institute based in Austin.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Motley County Independent School District will be holding a Tax Rate Rollback Election on Tuesday, November 6. On the ballot the voters will decide if the school will approve the ad valorem tax rate of \$1.17 per \$100 valuation. The tax rate for 2006 was \$1.37 per \$100 valuation. This roll back will be 20 cents less than 2006 but still higher than the states recommended limit. Turkey-Quitaque CISD and Silvertown ISD both have set their tax rate at \$1.04 per \$100 valuation.



# THE PATRIOT

Valley School News

## Valley School Lunch Menu

Sponsored By The Valley Tribune

**Monday, November 5**

**Breakfast:** French Toast, Syrup, OJ/Milk

**Lunch:** Hamburger, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Cheese, Chips, Milk

**Tuesday, November 6**

**Breakfast:** Pop Tarts, OJ/Milk

**Lunch:** Ham & Cheese Sandwiches, Salad, Chips, Apples, Milk

**Wednesday, November 7**

**Breakfast:** Breakfast on a Stick, Syrup, OJ/Milk

**Lunch:** Taco Soup, Cheese Toast, Salad, Orange Slices, Milk

**Thursday, November 8**

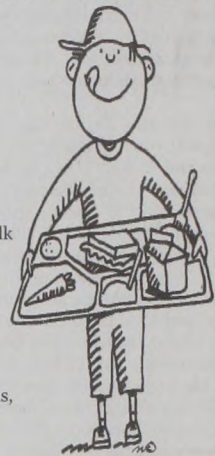
**Breakfast:** Biscuits, Sausage, Jelly, OJ/Milk

**Lunch:** Chicken Strips, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Hot Rolls, Milk

**Friday, November 9**

**Breakfast:** Cereal, Toast, Jelly, OJ/Milk

**Lunch:** Pigs in a Blanket, Tator Tots, Pineapple & Mandarin Oranges, Milk



"Have A Great Week!"

THE LUNCHROOM LADIES  
Menu Subject To Change

## College-bound High School Students Should

### Register for ACT by November 2

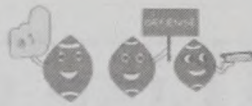
Iowa City - The next ACT test will be administered on December 8, 2007. Students who wish to take the college admission and placement exam must register by November 2 - the deadline for having the registration postmarked. There is a late registration postmark deadline of November 15; an extra fee is charged for late registrations. Students can register online at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org), or registration forms can be picked up at high school counseling offices.

The cost is \$30 for the traditional ACT and \$44.50 for the ACT Plus Writing. Some colleges require ACT's optional Writing Test score, but many don't, so students should find out the requirements of prospective colleges before registering for the exam. ACT scores are accepted by all major four-year colleges and universities across the United States.

ACT's website ([www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)) has helpful information, sample tests and the opportunity to order inexpensive test prep materials.



# Valley Patriot Football 2007



THE 2007 VALLEY PATRIOT FOOTBALL TEAM & VALLEY CHEERLEADERS

Valley Superintendent: Jerry Smith, Valley Principal: Jon Davidson  
Valley Head Coach: Bret Tyler, Valley Asst. Coaches: Craig Hamilton, Greg Ramsey, Stuart Smith

### Valley Patriot Varsity Schedule

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Nov 2	*Hedley	Away	7:30
Nov 9	*Paducah	Home	7:30

\* District Games  
\* Homecoming Game

### Valley Patriot JV Schedule

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Nov 1	Hedley	Home	6:30
Nov 8	Paducah	Away	6:30

### Valley Patriot JR. High Schedule

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Nov 1	Hedley	Home	5:00
Nov 8	Paducah	Away	5:00

Coaches: Greg Ramsey, Stuart Smith

The Valley Tribune  
455-1101

The Following Area Businesses Are Pleased To Support The Valley Patriots  
Please Support Them By Shopping Locally

Johnson Gin  
823-2224

Caprock Cellular  
271-3344

City Auto  
1-888-248-9288

Valley Farm Store  
455-1105

Payne Pharmacy  
1-800-345-7961

Valley Peanut Growers, Inc.  
423-1484

Lavy Pumps  
823-2061

Thacker Jewelry  
348-7546

Silvertown Oil Company, Inc.  
823-2451

Merrell Food  
455-1282

Galvan's Restaurant  
423-1320

Jack's Automotive  
455-1243 & Turkey Auto Supply  
423-1366

Turkey Branch  
Memphis State Bank  
Member FDIC  
423-1321

Alexander's Fuel & Service  
348-7958

Thayer & Washington  
CPA's  
455-1087 or 347-2636

Griffin Oil Company  
455-1250

Lighthouse Electric  
Cooperative Inc.  
1-800-657-7192

City of Quitaque  
455-1456

Lacy Dry Goods  
423-1155

Karol's Kountry  
Korner  
455-1174

Caprock Telephone  
Cooperative, Inc.  
1-800-692-4242

Laura's Shop  
423-1222

Caprock Cafe  
455-1429

Lee's Insurance  
423-1020

City of Turkey  
423-1033

Law Office of Lex  
Herrington  
Floydada, Tx  
806-983-4924

Hammond Sheet Metal  
983-2849

Script Printing & Office Supply  
983-5131

First National Bank/  
Quitaque  
Member FDIC  
455-1441

Arvis Davis  
Chevrolet  
1-800-783-3607

Caprock Home  
Center  
455-1193

Carson Insurance  
423-1289

Danny Mayfield  
& Associates  
792-1264

Oden Chevrolet/Olds  
1-800-570-3787

Red Ball Gin  
348-7221



ber 1, 2007

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Great Week!

ROOM LADIES

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## A Voter's Guide To The 2007 Constitutional Amendment Election

On Tuesday, November 6, citizens will be asked to vote on 16 new proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution. The amendments being proposed meticulously were crafted by highly skilled lawyers to be worded in a way that confuses voters as to the real intent of the amendments. To help understand the true meaning of these amendments, here is a voters guide to let you know exactly what each amendment was designed to do.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 1:** This amendment is amending the Constitution to list Angelo State as a component of Texas Tech. Whether or not the amendment passes, Angelo State still will be part of Tech.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 2:** This amendment would provide for the issuance of \$500 million in general obligation bonds to finance educational loans. This amendment means that if any loan is defaulted, or if interest revenue brought in is not sufficient because of the use of bonds, the taxpayers will have to pay the bill.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 3:** Currently when a house is reappraised for tax purposes, its proposed value can be increased up to 10 percent per year since the last time it was appraised. This means that if a house is reappraised after six years, the taxes will increase substantially because most appraisers use the maximum values regardless of real value. This proposition would limit the maximum increase in the house's appraisal value to 10 percent in a tax year, regardless of how long it had been since the house was appraised.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 4:** This amendment would allow the state to issue up to \$1 billion in bonds payable from the general revenues of the state for maintenance, improvement, repair and construction projects. This amendment does not specify where the money will be going, and it will be used by legislators for earmark spending.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 5:** This would allow for towns with populations smaller than 10,000 people to vote to freeze property taxes in their downtown area without authorization from the state. This would help small towns revitalize their downtown and main street areas without having to travel to Austin for authorization.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 6:** This would provide those who use their personal vehicles for business purposes tax exemptions on their vehicles.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 7:** This proposition would allow government to sell property that was taken by eminent domain back to the previous owner at the price the government paid to acquire it.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 8:** This will clarify the terminology used for certain provisions relating to home equity loans but will not change what the actual laws are.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 9:** This proposition will exempt all or part of the homes of totally disabled veterans from taxation. This will have little economic effect on voters but will make a big difference to those who have given so much to our country already.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 10:** This would abolish the constitutional authority for the Office of Inspector of Hides and Animals. The amendment would delete this obsolete office.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 11:** Texas is one of only 10 states that does not require a record to be kept of how each legislator votes. This does not allow the residents to know how their representative votes on issues and does not allow for accountability to the voters. This amendment would make it mandatory to record the names of those who voted for and against a bill in its final passage. This will let voters know if their congressman is doing what he says he is.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 12:** This would issue up to \$5 billion of general obligation bonds for highway improvement.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 13:** This amendment would deny bail to people who violate court orders or conditions of release in felonies or family-violence cases. Bail is a constitutional right and should only be taken away in extreme circumstances.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 14:** Currently, a judge must leave the bench as soon as he hits the age of 75 years. This proposition would allow judges to complete the remainder of their terms before leaving.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 15:** This amendment would authorize the issuance of \$3 billion in bonds to go toward cancer research.

FOR  
 AGAINST

**Proposition 16:** This would provide issuance of \$250 million in bonds to pay for increased water consumption in the colonias along the Texas-Mexico border.

**THIS VOTER'S GUIDE HAS BEEN PROVIDED  
TO ASSIST YOU AT THE POLLS  
BY  
THE VALLEY TRIBUNE  
VOICE OF THE ROLLING PLAINS  
SERVING BRISCOE, HALL & MOTLEY COUNTIES**

## Bankers Petroleum Palo Duro Basin Update

In the Palo Duro Basin, Bankers is progressing with its exploration program in what it considers the core area of the basin, which the Company believes has the best potential productive Bend shale and Granite Wash Sands over its acreage holdings.

The Company is in the process of drilling the horizontal leg of the Cogdell #64-1 well in the Atoka A, Granite Wash Sand formation, where fracture stimulation of the original vertical wellbore generated encouraging results of approximately 325 Mcf/d. Early results during drilling indicate good natural gas shows from the sand. The well is anticipated to be finished drilling within the next two weeks.

The Black 4#1 well targeted what was perceived to be a more thermally mature portion of the basin. Initial results have had limited natural gas flows from some sand intervals; the well is currently shut-in for pressure build-up tests. A fracture stimulation of the Bend shale interval is being planned that incorporates new techniques recommended by CoreLabs.

A basin-wide core study is in the final stages of being completed by CoreLabs that incorporates all core, log, fracture and production data from all previous wells drilled that Bankers has access to. The analysis of the cores taken in the Palo Duro basin wells has confirmed that the rocks contain substantial volumes of gas and have some unique rock properties that may require different stimulation/completion techniques than those commonly used in other shale basins. Bankers believes that the application of these techniques, together with focusing on the more thermally mature portion of the basin, will positively affect future production rates from the Bend shale formation. Additional tests are currently being done on the whole cores from the Burleson Ranch well to further clarify the findings and to determine fracture fluid incompatibilities that may have caused some of the previous performance issues.

Bankers' near-term goals for the Palo Duro basin are: to improve on prior results from the previously drilled vertical wells, which will also show repeatability; and to utilize horizontal wells to attempt to dramatically increase production rates over vertical well rates.

Further exploration and development activities will be influenced by the results of these wells.

## Palo Duro Basin Oil & Gas Report

by Tom Musser

**Floyd County:** On October 31, the Bass Petroleum Vikki Yearly Lease well #1 and Redding 1 lease well #1 drilling permits expired without being drilled.

The Vikki Yearly lease well #1 was to be located 710 feet from the south line and 660 feet from the east line of Section 68, Block 1, Adams, Beaty & Moulton Survey, 3 miles east of Floydada.

The Redding 1 lease well #1 was to be located 1980 feet from the south line and 660 feet from the east line of Section 21, Block 1, Adams, Beaty & Moulton Survey, 6 miles northeast of Floydada.

All five of the Bass Petroleum Floyd County drilling permits which were issued in 2005 have now expired without being drilled. These include the Yearly lease well #1, the Yearly 2 lease well #2, the Yearly 3 lease well #3, the Vikki Yearly lease well #1 and the Redding 1 lease well #1.

Bass petroleum is wholly owned by FieldPoint Petroleum Corporation of Cedar park, Texas. The president and CEO of FieldPoint Petroleum corporation is Mr. Ray D. Reaves.



## Texas 23rd Annual Renewables 07 Conference November 12-15 In Abilene

The Texas 23rd Annual Renewables '07 Conference will be held November 12-15 at the Abilene Civic Center, 1100 N. 6th Street, in Abilene, Texas. Texas Renewables '07 is a 23 year tradition sponsored by Texas Renewable Energy Industries Association. The conference continues a mission that has focused solely on policy and business developments in the renewable energy field throughout our existence. This year the conference is in Abilene a center of wind power development. The program will focus on ways to make renewable energy technologies, including wind, solar electric and thermal, biomass electric, ethanol, biodiesel, geothermal heat pumps and geothermal electric and renewable hydrogen, the fastest growing source of new energy for Texas. This is your opportunity to ear experts an state officials speak on the impact these industries are having and to learn about their growth potential. This is a place to see products and talk business with top renewable energy companies active in Texas today and to learn more about a variety of forms of renewable energy form the basics to the advanced implications and applications of this growing industry. There will be over 50 speakers including Texas Secretary of State Phil Wilson, Commissioner of the Texas Dept. of Agriculture Todd Staples, Greg Wortham with the West Texas Wind Energy Consortium along with 5 Texas universities and colleges who will be represented including SMU, Texas Tech, Texas A&M, University of Houston and Texas State Technical College.

Registration will be \$195 general entrance (\$220 after 11/05), \$150 Government, Academic or Non Profit (\$175 after 11/05) and \$25 for students. Registration may be made at [www.treia.org](http://www.treia.org).

## PAWA Trade Days Will Be Back In June 2008 After Very Successful First Weekend

It was an interesting weekend in Quitaque, Texas on October 26, 27 and 28, 2007. The first PAWA Trade Days was held at the old Paymaster Gin yard.

Vendors set up their wares under the covered module shed beginning Friday afternoon. Approximately fifty vendors had set up by Saturday morning. They were selling a great variety of items. There was something for everyone. There was good food from hamburgers, funnel cakes, roasted corn, homemade bread and the great food served by the Catholic Church. Cookbooks, caps, jewelry, knives, guns, tack, kitchen items, wooden coolers, Christmas decorations, puppies, and furniture are just a few of the items sold. Other vendors were on the grounds with various items.

Musical entertainment was enjoyed by the many shoppers during the day. Pecos Valley Bluegrass and Triple L Bluegrass performed during the day Saturday.

Everyone is invited to join the excitement and to get ready for the next Trade Days to be held Saturday, June 7, 2008. Another Trade Days is planned for October, 2008. For information contact Seab Washington at 806-469-5278 or 269-1578 or e-mail [flomot@caprock-spur.com](mailto:flomot@caprock-spur.com).

## State Leaders Work To Preserve Beneficial Tax Break

(AUSTIN) — Comptroller Susan Combs and Texas Congressman Kevin Brady want to preserve a tax deduction that saves Texans more than \$1 billion per year on their federal income tax. A law allowing Texans who file itemized federal income tax returns to deduct state and local sales taxes will expire at the end of this year if Congress does not vote to extend it.

"In Texas, this law has had a significant positive impact on the state's economy, accounting for additional money in taxpayers' pockets, as well as increased job creation, investment and economic productivity," Combs said.

Combs estimates extending the deduction would save Texans a projected \$1.2 billion a year, or an average of \$520 per filer claiming the deduction. The Comptroller says continuing the deduction for 2008 and beyond is vitally important, because it is associated with 15,700 to 25,700 jobs and \$1.1 billion and \$1.4 billion in gross state product.

Congressman Brady led the bi-partisan effort in the U.S. House of Representatives to restore the federal deduction in 2004 and has filed legislation that would make the sales tax deduction permanent.

Combs sent a letter to the Texas congressional delegation and other key lawmakers, urging them to support extending the sales tax deduction. (attached) On Nov. 6, Congressman Brady and the Comptroller's staff will brief members of Congress on the impact of the sales tax deduction on Texas.

"This provision puts taxpayers in Texas and other states without a state income tax on an equal footing with citizens elsewhere," Combs said.

Texas Governor Rick Perry, along with governors from the six other states who enjoy no state and local income taxes, sent a letter to congressional leaders urging an extension of the state and local sales tax deduction.

"I urge Congress to act swiftly to extend and make permanent the state and local sales tax deduction to ensure Texas taxpayers are treated fairly and equally to other states," Perry said.

Since 2004, residents of Texas, Tennessee, Florida, Nevada, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming have been able to claim a deduction on their federal income tax for state and local sales and motor vehicle taxes they have paid, giving them a tax break similar to residents of other states, who can deduct their state income tax from their federal income tax.

For more information, contact Allen Spelece or R.J. DeSilva in the Comptroller's office at (512) 463-4070 or Jessica Peetoom in Congressman Kevin Brady's office at (202) 225-4901.





### Farmer's Tax Guide Now Available For 2007 Tax Returns

DALLAS - The Internal Revenue Service today announced the availability of the new Farmer's Tax Guide for use in preparing 2007 tax returns. The Farmer's Tax Guide, IRS Publication 225, contains information on the farming business either as an owner or tenant.

"Farmers should take just a few minutes at IRS.gov to download this publication and keep it handy. It's a popular tool to find out how federal tax laws apply to farming and how to figure your taxes and complete your tax return, said Clay Sanford, an IRS spokesman in Dallas. "It even includes updates every year about new laws or regulations which may apply to your business."

The guide details the benefits of keeping records, what kinds of records you must keep, and how long you must keep them for federal tax purposes. Other topics include tracking farm income, expenses, employment taxes and sample tax returns.

The Farmer's Tax Guide, as well as other IRS forms and publications, can be accessed at IRS.gov or ordered by calling toll-free at 1-800-TAX-FORM. Telephone assistance is available by calling the IRS business and specialty line at 1-800-TAX-4933.

### iFARM: Two High-Tech Tools Aid Farm Management

Raising a crop is hard enough without worrying about paperwork. Now, a new record-keeping tool developed by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) allows farmers to quickly enter information about their land, crops and management methods.

The "iFARM Record Keeper" can manipulate farm management information into multiple formats without requiring producers to enter data more than once, leading to improved efficiency, accuracy and organization.

The Record Keeper was developed by ARS scientist Gale Dunn and technician Daniel B. Palic in collaboration with the Colorado Association of Wheat Growers, whose members wanted a simple, user-friendly record-keeping system. It is one of a suite of decision support tools being developed by scientists in the ARS Agricultural Systems Research Unit at Fort Collins, Col.

Palic and Dunn also collaborated with ARS research leader Merle Vigil and University of Nebraska economist Paul Burgener to enhance a spreadsheet program originally developed by Vigil for evaluating simple farm economics. The expanded program, called iFEAT (iFARM Economic Analysis Tool), can help landlords and tenants assess, among other things, the economic outcomes of different farm leasing arrangements and management decisions.

iFEAT is a user-friendly spreadsheet tool for helping no-till farmers—who often have higher fertilizer costs—quickly assess the economic benefits of various leasing and management options. The spreadsheet provides information on costs and net returns for different management alternatives, enabling them to assess the potential economic outcomes of management changes.

Both tools—iFEAT and the Record Keeper—can inform and guide growers' management decisions. They can be accessed here: <http://arsagsoftware.ars.usda.gov/agsoftware/>

### Non-Insured Assistance Program Deadline Approaching

December 3, 2007 is the final date for producers to apply for NAP coverage on native and improved grass for grazing. NAP is designed to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters causes a catastrophic loss of production for an eligible crop by providing coverage equivalent to catastrophic CAT insurance. You must apply for NAP coverage on a form CCC-471 by the application closing date and pay the associated non-refundable service fees of \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per producer per administrative county, and not to exceed \$900 total.

Please contact the Hall County Service Agency at 806-259-3579 if you are interested in this program. In addition to the service fee, you must report the acres you graze by December 15, 2007

### NRCS Announces EQIP Financial Assistance Available In Texas

Applications for the 2008 EQIP program in Texas are currently being accepted at the local NRCS office. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recently announced that financial assistance will be available in Texas to conserve natural resources and address environmental concerns on private lands. These funds are part of conservation provisions contained in the 2002 Farm Bill and authorized by the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Eligible farmers and ranchers may apply for these funds as cost-share assistance.

Each county will be provided a base allocation and an Ogallala conservation allocation. Local Work Groups (LWGs) have established resource concerns, eligible conservation treatment practices, and developed the ranking criteria and screening processes. This is government at its best where local landowners and operators establish local conservation priorities at the grassroots level.

The PDG and LWG made the following recommendations for the Briscoe County EQIP Program:

- \* The top concern to be addressed with "Ogallala conservation funds" will be water quantity.
  - \* The first priority practice that will be funded is irrigation pipelines.
  - \* The second priority practice that will be funded is drip and new sprinkler systems.
  - \* Sprinkler Upgrades will be considered third priority.
  - \* The top concerns to be addressed with "base allocation funds" will be: 1. Plant Health 2. Soil Erosion 3. Water Quantity
  - \* The first priority practice that will be funded to address these concerns will be brush management and irrigation pipeline.
  - \* The second priority practice that will be funded is pasture planting, terraces and/or waterways.
  - \* All other eligible practices will be considered low.
- The EQIP sign up for the current funding period will remain open until November 16, 2007. Interested producers need to make an appointment with the local NRCS as soon as possible. To make an appointment or for more information, contact the Caprock Soil and Water Conservation District or NRCS at 823-2431 ext. 3.

### Sign Up For Livestock Compensation Program Begins

The Hall County FSA office is accepting applications for the Livestock Compensation Program, LCP. Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive benefits under this program. LCP compensates livestock producers for feed losses. Hall County producers will be able to apply for either 2005 or 2006 but not both.

Certain adult and non-adult dairy and beef cattle, must be over 500 lbs, buffalo, beefalo, equine, sheep, goats, deer, elk, swine, reindeer, and poultry are eligible. Livestock must have been maintained for commercial use as part of a farming operation. Ineligible animals include, but are not limited to, animals used for recreation, pleasure, hunting, pets, roping or for show.

Producers interested in filing an application for the Livestock Compensation Program should call the Hall County FSA office at 806-259-3579.

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### Economical Management Offers Life to Playas

AMARILLO - Of the more than 25,000 playa wetlands in the plains, at least 70 percent have been altered from their natural state through plowing or sedimentation, said officials at the Playa Lakes Symposium held in Amarillo on Oct. 23-24.

The overall message of the symposium was this represents a substantial loss of valuable resources to landowners, because if properly managed, a playa lake can enhance property value, as well as benefit wildlife.

Dr. Loren Smith, zoology department head at Oklahoma State University, said a comparison of cropland and rangeland playas will show most cropland playas have lost a majority of their depth due to sedimentation, where grassland playas have minimal sediment fill.

Sediment deposition is caused by water erosion, not wind, Smith said. Restoration will require focusing on the watershed and keeping topsoil in place. The first step should be to establish a buffer strip around the playa. "If we don't do anything in the next 20 years, most playas will cease to be productive," Smith said.

To encourage this watershed management, he said it will take programs that are attractive to landowners and allow voluntary participation.

Each landowner has to find a place somewhere on the line between managing only for wildlife and only for farming and ranching that works for them, said Ken Cearley, Extension wildlife specialist in Canyon.

Sound stewardship of the land is the bottom line, as well as what is economically feasible, he said. Landowners should consider how much value a well-maintained playa might add to their land because of the wildlife it attracts for food and cover, Cearley said. Most advertisements for land in newspapers now mention deer, turkey and quail for hunting or observation purposes.

Some playas are prettier than others, and may offer more return, he said, suggesting landowners start by taking inventory of the land, pinpointing the positive aspects. Getting an aerial photograph of the location through Texas Natural Resource Information Service, GoogleEarth.com or other locations with user-friendly global positioning satellite technology can help, Cearley said.

Know how much personal involvement it will take, especially when getting into hunting and other recreational type uses that may require leases and visitors to the area, he advised. "Set your goals and priorities," Cearley said. "Then figure out a way for the land to reach its full potential."

To reach maximum potential, a buffer of native grasses at least two to three times the area of the playa basin needs to be established, he said. Fencing may be necessary to control grazing. Different grazing pressures result in different wildlife utilizing the plant life for food and cover, he said. Light grazing favors pheasants, while intense grazing would attract animals looking for short-grass cover, such as prairie dogs, burrowing owls and shorebirds.

Some playas must continue to be used for livestock water, Cearley said. In those cases, it might be necessary to fence portions of the playa and understand the grazed portion will be under more pressure.

Fencing may not be needed when the playa is among row crops, he said. But management is still an issue, including leaving stubble in place as long as possible, allowing the waste grain to be used as feed for pheasants and other birds.

Several government programs are available to assist landowners with playa preservation, including CP23A, the Wetlands Reserve Program and the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, said DeDe Jones, Texas Agricultural Extension risk management specialist.

Jones provided an outline of the three programs:

- CP23A is a special incentive Conservation Reserve Program for restoring playas on land with a dryland cropping history of at least four years. The money must be used to establish a buffer that is at least 50-feet wide and up to four times the wetlands' acreage. Cost-sharing of up to 90 percent is available, but none for fencing. Contracts are for 10-15 years and there is a one-time sign-up bonus of \$10 per acre and an annual long-term maintenance payment of \$4 per acre.

- Wetlands Reserve Program has three options, but basically provides incentives to stop cultivation of areas that once were playas. Cropping history is not required. It provides a 10-year restoration cost-share agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service paying 75 percent of eligible expenses, including fencing, earth moving and grass planting.

- Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program involves a 50 percent to 75 percent restoration cost-share agreement with the contract running between five to 15 years. Grazing is allowed.

Jones said estimated net income from the CP23A is often more than the returns from dryland wheat and sorghum in the High Plains, so it may appeal to producers in this region.

The attractiveness of the Wetlands Reserve Program depends on the ability to generate enough wildlife revenues to offset restoration costs and crop and pasture income losses, she said.

The Wildlife! Habitat program can be more economical at lower restoration cost levels and/or longer contract lengths, Jones said.

"Every playa has to be handled on a case-by-case basis to see which option works best," she said.

### Sign Up For Crop Disaster Program Now

Eligible farmers can sign up for the Crop Disaster Program, CDP, which began October 15, 2007. CDP provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses to 2005, 2006 or 2007 crops from natural disasters if the crop was planted before February 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 may only receive benefits in one of the three years.

Only producers who obtained crop insurance coverage or coverage under the Non-insured Disaster Assistance Program, NAP, for the year of loss will be eligible for CDP benefits. Producers must have suffered quantity losses in excess of 35 percent to be eligible for the quantity portion of CDP. The quality portion of CDP will begin at a later date.

Please call the Hall County Farm Service Agency at 806-259-3579 to make an appointment.

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# Texun Tawk

By Bill Sperry

## The L.I.A. R. Safari

I wuz gone on safari, hunting for the elusive Large, Ignorant, American, Representative, marsupial commonly known as the LIAR.

In error I thought that the only marsupial in the Northern Hemisphere was a 'possum but was quickly informed by a eager group at what seemed to be an all day singin' and dinner on the ground get together that several of these pouched animals were in great profusion, congregating chiefly around government buildings. So I started my safari at the nearest government building I could find. It wuz also 'splained to me that they would be found in crowds and hard to pick out but you could eventually locate 'um by their John Kennedy haircuts, expensive suits, Cheshire cat smiles, and booming voices. Some have large dry lips from kissing babies and shiny pants (in the rear) from sitting so much.

I had some trouble at the first one of these meetings I went to, trying to locate these LIARS as all up there on the stand wuz 'trying to talk louder than the other and I couldn't get close enough to see the back of their britches. I was just gettin' the idea of what the main guy wuz 'sayin when a large band started up a song on, "Happy Days Are Here Again." Well, I read somethin' called an itinerary for this LIAR so I thought I might be able to bag one on the next stop.

I got to the next stop before the LIAR showed up because someone told me that he was on a rubber chicken circuit and it took time for them to un-plug themselves from that circuit I expect.

Well, I got to the front of the pack so to speak and I wuz' all cocked and primed to hear the one I thought was the LIAR because I figgered that he would purty much have the same thing to say and that way I could bag the rascal. That didn't work out worth a whit as the one I thought was the real McCoy told a completely different story. Someone said it had to do with how many 'publicians and demicrats wuz' in the crowd. While I was tryin' ta' sort this out that blamed band started up with that "Happy Days Are Here Again." Well, after all that talking the whole bunch went off to eat chicken again.

I figgered out that there must be a tie-in with the crowing of a rooster and those speeches is why they are so fond of all that chicken. I made two more stops on my safari to see if I could decide who the real LIAR wuz' but I couldn't decide from all the different stories I heard. The only thing that constant was that blamed band playin' the same song. I figgered I'd been suckered so I bagged that whole band and had 'um stuffed and mounted.

The only problem wuz', have you ever tried ta' bag a tuba?



## This Week In Texas History!

Oct 28, 1835

Gen. Stephen F. Austin sent 90 men under the command of Colonels James Fannin and Jim Bowie to scout the Mexican Army's positions around San Antonio. When they reached Mission Concepcion, the scouts were attacked by 400 Mexican troops. Although badly outnumbered, Bowie and Fannin stood off the attack and lost one man. The Mexicans lost 60 men.

Oct 29, 1929

Gov. Dan Moody ended Martial Law in Borger and recalled the Texas Rangers.

Oct 29, 1892

Construction began on the first building in Pampa.

Oct 29, 1862

Confederate troops attacked a Union ship near Sabine City.

Oct 29, 1835

Stephen F. Austin camped his army at Mission Concepcion and prepared to lay siege to San Antonio. Gen. Martin Perfecto de Cos was in command of the Mexican troops that were garrisoned in and around the town and they were preparing to withstand the siege. Austin's army had grown to 600 volunteers but he was still outnumbered and it was weeks before he could attempt to capture the community.

Oct 30, 1947

Five employees of the Fort Worth and Denver Railroad shop reported that they had seen "flying discs" over the city of Childress. They reported that the "discs" were flying west at about 1,000 feet and at speeds of 200 to 300 miles per hour.

Oct 31, 1912

Frances Octavia Smith, better known as Dale Evans, the "Queen of the West" with Roy Rogers, was born in Uvalde.

Oct 31, 1887

The Fort Worth and Denver rails had reached Clarendon.

Oct 31, 1863

The bandit Thomas Edward "Black Jack" Ketchum was born in San Saba County.

Nov 1, 1935

Texas motorists were required to possess a driver's license. A 45 MPH speed limit also became state law on Texas highways.

Nov 1, 1912

The last cattle of the XIT Ranch were sold. The sale involved 21,560 head of cattle.

Nov 1, 1893

Sam McCulloch, a free black, died on his farm at Von Orinyu. He was the first Texan wounded in the revolution. He was shot in the shoulder at Goliad on Oct 9, 1835.

Nov 1, 1868

Gen. Philip H. Sheridan began his winter offensive against the Panhandle Indians.

Nov 2, 1929

Indelica Margado found one of the three malakoff "heads" in a gravel pit near Trinidad. The "heads" are 100-pound boulders carved as human heads about 10,000 years ago. Two of the heads are on display at the Texas Memorial Museum in Austin.

Nov 3, 1835

The revolutionary government of Texas, known as the "Consultation," named Sam Houston commanding general of the regular army.

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For Sale: 90 Dodge Ramcharger, V-8, 4x4, Good hunting rig, runs good w/ strong four wheel drive. \$800.00 Roaring Springs, TX. 806-348-7522

For Sale: 1973 Jeep, CJ5, V-8, 4x4, Goodyear All-Terrain Mud Tires on spoke wheels, Towbar, Bikini top w/soft side doors. A real tough ride. \$3000.00 Roaring Springs, TX. 806-348-7522

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Notices are meant to be noticed. Read your public notices and get involved!

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### Things That Make You Go Hmmm...

By Laura Taylor

#### Now That's Using Your Head!

An old Italian man lived alone in the country. He wanted to dig his tomato garden, but it was very hard work as the ground was hard. His only son, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament.

*Dear Vincent,*  
*I am feeling pretty bad because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. If you were here my troubles would be over. I know you would dig the plot for me. Love, Dad*

A few days later he received a letter from his son.  
*Dear Dad,*  
*Not for nothing, but don't dig up that garden. That's where I buried the BODIES. Love Vinnie*

At 4 a.m. the next morning, FBI agents and local police arrived and dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologized to the old man and left.

That same day the old man received another letter from his son.

*Dear Dad,*  
*Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances. Love Vinnie*

**HHMMM.....**

*Courage is not afraid to weep, and she is not afraid to pray, even when she is not sure who she is praying to.*  
- J. Ruth Gendler

*Only the person who has faith in himself is able to be faithful to others.*  
- Erich Fromm

*Faith is the daring of the soul to go farther than it can see.*  
- William Newton Clark

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The Briscoe County Health Fair was a huge success with over 130 people attending.

### Briscoe County Health Fair A Big Success

The Briscoe County Health Fair which was sponsored by the Texas Cooperative Extension Service, Briscoe County and the Quitaque Lions Club was a huge success with over 130 people attending. There were 67 people who received flu shots and the other vendors reported that their services were well utilized. Refreshments were provided by the Lions Club.

Winners of the door prizes supplies by Hospice of West Texas of Lockney were: 1- Earl Patrick, 2- Dot Arnold and 3- Ruby King. Winners of the door prizes supplies by Briscoe County Extension Service were 1-Albert Castillo, 2-Flavia Ortiz, 3-Wade Proctor, 4-Walter Skinner, and 5-Laura Cruz.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the visiting as well as the health procedure. A Health Fair is a wonderful opportunity to take advantage of low cost/no cost procedures that could save a life. Next year they plan to schedule it about the same time if the flu shot vaccine is available.



Rickey Minyard and Wade Proctor were the high scoring individuals for the Briscoe County Maintenance section at the recent TxDOT Roadeo.



Wesley Williams, Carl Bowman and Monty Rowland were the high scoring individuals for the Hall County Maintenance section at the recent TxDOT Roadeo

### TXDOT DRIVERS EARN AWARD

CHILDRESS - The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) recently sponsored the annual Truck Roadeo at the Childress Airport. Each of our highly trained truck operators take part in this yearly show of driving skills as a way to measure and sharpen their driving skills. TxDOT drivers participate in an obstacle course as part of their fleet safety training. This simulates situations encountered during a normal workday.

The driver with the top score in each work group was eligible to compete in the finals, as well as the additional high scoring individuals. Wesley Williams, Carl Bowman and Monty Rowland were the high scoring individuals for the Hall County Maintenance section and competed in the district roadeo finals. Rickey Minyard and Wade Proctor were the high scoring individuals for the Briscoe County Maintenance section and competed in the district roadeo finals.

At the district roadeo finals, Monte Elliott and Lonnie Guerrero, Cottle County Maintenance came away with the top two highest scores and will compete in the State Roadeo Finals in Austin.

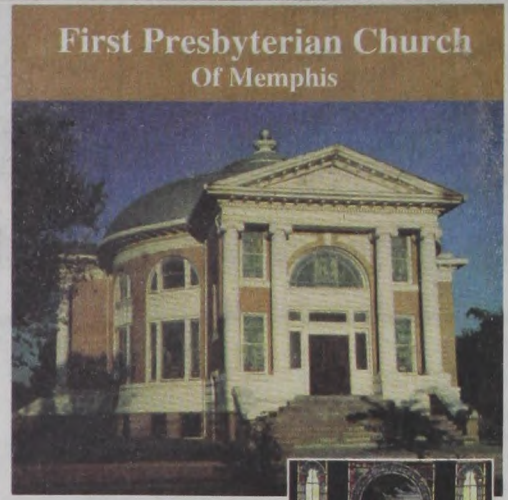
Our truck drivers are the best in the state and they prove it on a daily basis as they serve motorists within TxDOT's Childress District. TxDOT's mission is to work cooperatively to provide safe, effective and efficient movement of people and goods.

Five years from now you will be pretty much the same as you are today except for two things: the books you read and the people you get close to.

- Charles Jones



The Quitaque new water tower project is now back on track and scheduled to be completed in a few weeks according to Circle P Construction Co. spokesperson.



First Presbyterian Church Of Memphis

Built to last forever of bricks burned in the Memphis kilns, in Classic Revival style, this church has housed worship continuously since 1911.

The window on the right, depicting Mary Magdalene in adoration of her risen Lord is one of six magnificent European windows in the sanctuary.



### \$croll of \$ustaining \$upporters

The Presbyterian Building in Memphis, with its gleaming stained-glass windows, still proudly stands, after 96 years, a beautiful monument to caring people, those who established it, cherished it, preserved it, and now those whose generous contributions of time and money are restoring and maintaining it.

The Preservation Foundation's "Dreams Do Come True" campaign for 2007 is now underway as part of the continuing plan to preserve and maintain the historic Presbyterian Building. The Foundation members still strive to fulfill the dream of those who built this imposing old building. This wonderful landmark still needs proper repairs and maintenance, and the foundation members must look to the generosity of the members of the \$croll of \$ustaining \$upporters to help in the efforts to maintain and restore this treasure.

Through the generosity of the members of the \$croll, fundraising efforts, and grants, the foundation has been able to rid the building of the bat population that had inhabited the attic of the structure for many years. The metal ceiling and exterior fascia have been repaired, as well as the badly damaged east portico of the building. Central heating and air-conditioning systems have been installed in the sanctuary and upstairs reception hall, and the roof of the building has been replaced.

A major project now requiring attention in the restoration and maintenance of the building is the repair of the stained glass windows. This project has begun, and will continue as funds allow. In order to assure a long-term future for the building, and to obtain additional grants necessary to continue in efforts to maintain and restore the Presbyterian Building, a resource base must be in place. "The support of interested citizens has helped the Preservation Foundation in the past, and we are asking current members, as well as new members, to commit to give \$100.00 toward our continuing efforts in reaching our goals. We hope that through the support of volunteer and monetary efforts we can nourish, protect, and preserve our heritage for future generations," stated Gwen Chappell, President of the Preservation Foundation. She also stated that the annual gala dinner for \$croll members will be held on Saturday, December 8th at the Community Center in Memphis. This festive event promises a great dinner and outstanding entertainment for members of the \$croll of \$ustaining \$upporters.

If you would like to tour, rent for private party or help maintain this historic building with a contribution please contact Gwen Chappell at 806-259-3460 or Pauline Johnsey at 806-259-2073.

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**Get Involved!**  
*Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored.*  
- Aldous Huxley

Every day, the government makes decisions that can affect your life. Whether they are decisions on zoning, taxes, new businesses or myriad other issues, governments play a big role in your life.

Governments have relied on newspapers like this one to publish public notices since the birth of the nation. Local newspapers remain the most trusted source of public notice information. This newspaper publishes the information you need to stay involved in your community.

Public Notice  
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Read your public notices and get involved!