

Happy Thanksgiving

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

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Down Home

'Wonders Of The Hill Country'

By VANDA KING
Editor

Texas Hill Country has an abundance of natural wonders to explore, and one of its main attractions has recently returned, the bald eagle. It has been reported that the giant bird arrived on the Colorado River cliffs in Burnet County early this year, and promises to be one of the best seasons for sightings.

The Vanishing Texas River Cruise on the 17 foot, double deck tour boat, takes you down the river to the nesting place of the national bird. The beauty of the countryside during the trip is outstanding. The waterfalls and rock formations created over time allow you a rare opportunity to see a real wilderness area.

The wildlife include large amounts of white tail deer, Spanish goats, the blue heron, and migratory birds.

The view from the top level of the cruise boat provided a complete look at both sides of the banks and down the Colorado. With the breeze blowing in your face, the sight was spectacular.

The eagles were not present during the summer months and we missed that experience, but the four hour journey was something the children and I will long remember.

We also toured the Longhorn Cavern, which is an underground adventure. A guided tour through the huge cave was both informative and refreshing, during the August heat.

A drive through Inks Lake Park was scenic, and a great place for a picnic. We saw people swimming in the river and even diving from cliffs into the deep water. Campers were enjoying the great outdoors, also.

A visit to the Lake Buchanan Dam is a must. All the facts about the building of the dam are available, plus a great view of the lake. Watching the giant carp was our favorite activity.

You can buy fish food or bring your own bread to throw into the water. Hundreds of carp, weighing up to at least ten pounds, maybe more, swirled in the clear water waiting for any tidbits. Walking out on the dam, we were able to attract more fish, including some giant catfish. They are so graceful and fascinating to watch.

Another fun activity we enjoyed was floating down the river on inner tubes. We drove to a spot well known as the Slab. There is a long bridge crossing the water and you park your car here, then walk up river and float back down. The currents move you along and it is exciting.

We experienced how a beached whale must feel, when the water swished you up on a large rock and you couldn't move for a while. This was great exercise and a cool place to be during the summer humidity. Lots of people were picnicking, sun bathing, and playing in the shallow water.

Enchanted Rock was a special place we loved exploring. These huge granite mountains proved challenging to climb. Kye went to the very top of one. He looked so tiny from even half way down the slope. There were people on all the rock mountains, which

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Restoration Of Bond Home Shows Blending Of 2 Eras

EDITOR'S NOTE: The first part of this history of the E.F. Bond Family was published in the *Cross Plains Review* in November, 1964. It was written by Mrs. B.C. (Sarah) McCowen. Clara Nell Spencer prepared the remainder of the article. **Vanda King**

One of Cross Plains's proudest old mansions has been restored to a place of dignity and prestige. The house is located at the corner of 9th Street and Avenue C, built by the late Mr. and Mrs. E.F. Bond.

It was recently purchased by Mr. and Mrs. B.C. McCowen who sold it to Miss Paula Bond of Dallas, granddaughter of the couple for whom it was originally built. The McCowens, who have won an enviable reputation as restorers of historic old homes, supervised the renewal project, incorporating modern innovations without abridging the original decor.

Although the dwelling is now heated by centralized natural gas units with push button controls, the original fireplaces are intact, bright and shiny as the day they were first finished. Silent-type switches activate electric light fixtures, some of which can be subdued to the softness of candles.

The 1,800 square feet of floor space remains unchanged, still affording six spacious rooms, a den, two bathrooms, and a long corridor into which rooms open. The large picturesque porch along the front and east of the house has been repaired with such detail that the new blends with the old. Craftsmanship by the restorers and

taste for tradition by the new owner has preserved the charm of a half century ago and provided the comforts of modern living.

Characteristic of the planning is the way high ceilings have been made to seem lower through the use of snow-white texture. Light fixtures imported from Spain give the living room and dining room areas the best of the new while maintaining the semblance of another era.

Miss Bond, a longtime employee of Neiman-Marcus in Dallas, does not plan to occupy the house, at least for awhile. Mr. and Mrs. Walton Weeks, who were recently transferred here by an oil company, moved in Monday.

"When I retire," Miss Bond recently said to friends, "I hope to come back to the old place and capture the happiness it seemed to afford in the long ago."

The house was occupied by various renters during the years to come.

In the early seventies, Ms. Bond came back to be with her father, Foster Bond, the eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. E.F. Bond. He was born in Holly Springs, Mississippi on March 16, 1873. He died in Cross Plains on April 27, 1974 at the age of 101 years one month and eleven days.

He gave many fruitful years to the progress of Cross Plains. Paula returned to Dallas in 1976.

Seventeen years ago the home was bought by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond McCowen, who were living in California at the time. Fifteen years later in 1977, Raymond and Donie moved into the house at their retirement. Their only child, Alton McCowen, and his wife, Joan, also live in Cross Plains.

Project Pride will honor the McCowens on their lovely and well preserved home from 1911.

Drawing For Half Beef December 4

The Cross Plains Kiwanis Club members are currently selling tickets for a half beef to be given away at the Christmas Tree Lighting set for Friday, December 4.

Tickets may be purchased at \$1 each or six for \$5. You may obtain tickets from any Kiwanian. The proceeds from the project will return to the community in various positive actions,

13 Buffaloes Named In All-District Football

The Cross Plains High School Buffaloes recently ended an exciting football season with a 4-2 District record, coached by Doug Dallas, Athletic Director, and Monte Jones. Other schools in the district include: Evant, Tolar, Gorman, Santo, Rising Star, and Baird.

The All-District picks have been released this week and thirteen Buffs were named to the elite list as follows: **1992 Football Honor Roll Seniors**

Michael Cowan — All District Wide Receiver, (1st Team)
Brandon Smith — All District Wide Receiver, (2nd Team); Secondary, (2nd Team)

James Jones — All District Line Backer (1st Team); Center, (Honorable Mention)
Earl Meroney — Offensive Lineman, (Honorable Mention)

Billy Brown — Defensive Lineman, (Honorable Mention)
Geno Fortune — Defensive Lineman, (Honorable Mention)

Juniors
Coby Childers — All District Offensive Lineman, (1st Team)
Jason Fleming — All District Running Back, (2nd Team); All District Defensive End, (2nd Team)

Bucky Williams — All District Defensive Lineman, (1st Team)
Sophomores
Jimmy Lee — All District Line Backer, (2nd Team)

Willie Nickerson — All District Defensive Lineman, (2nd Team)
Freshmen
Brock Walker — All District Quarterback, (2nd Team); Secondary (Honorable Mention)

Donnie Dillard — Offensive Tight End, (Honorable Mention)

Callahan County ASCS/SCS Offices Hold Open House Dec. 17

The Callahan County ASCS and SCS Offices will hold an Open House on Thursday, December 17, from 10 a.m. through 3 p.m. Everyone is invited to come by and get acquainted with the new office and location at 135 West 4th.

They appreciate your cooperation and patience you have shown during their relocation, and look forward to serving you in the future.

Slate Of Nominees For Committee Election

The slate of nominees for the upcoming ASC committee election has been developed, Scott Odom, County Executive Director announced.

The candidates for Local Administrative Area 3 (LAA 3) in Callahan County are as follows: Oran Bains, Jimmy Joy, Charlotte Montgomery, Roy Neil Tatom, and Glenn Winfrey.

The ASC committee election will be conducted by mail from November 27, 1992 until December 7, 1992. Voters may also get ballots at the county ASCS office located at 135 W. 4th Ste A, Baird, Texas. Eligible ASC voters will receive a secret ballot in the mail with instructions on how to vote for candidates of their choice and return the ballot to the county ASCS Office.

ASCS encourages nominations of qualified women and minorities because historically they have not been well represented on ASC committees. Eligibility for participation in all programs administered by ASCS is established by law without regard to



SENIOR ALL-DISTRICT FOOTBALL STANDOUTS — Michael Cowan (back, from left), Billy Brown, and James Jones; Brandon Smith (front, from left) and Earl Meroney. (Geno Fortune was unavailable for photo.)



JUNIOR, SOPHOMORE AND FRESHMEN ALL-STAR PICKS — Brock Walker (back, from left), Donnie Dillard, Jason Fleming, and Jimmy Lee; Coby Childers (front, from left), Willie Nickerson, and Bucky Williams.

PLAN COSTLY FOR CALLAHAN CO. SCHOOLS

Callahan County schools could lose over \$1 million in state aid if the new Fair Share Plan to finance public education in Texas goes into effect.

Clyde CISD Superintendent Tony Reed, who recently met with state leaders in Austin last Monday, said the new plan to fund public education is "unworkable."

According to the Equity Center, a research group organized to help poor property wealth school districts in Texas, Clyde CISD would lose \$564,172 in state funding if the Fair Share Plan is approved. That's more than half of the total \$1,035,163 all four school districts in Callahan County would lose in state aid.

The Equity Center went on to say that Baird ISD would lose \$218,587 in state aid; the Eula ISD would lose \$204,082 in state aid and Cross Plains ISD would lose \$48,322 in state aid.

What's really amazing is the Fair Share Plan, a plan thought up by

Governor Ann Richards, Lt. Governor Bob Bullock and House Speaker Gib Lewis, is suppose to ensure that no Texas school district will ever again be called poor.

According to the Equity Center, the Clyde school district is among the poorest school districts in Texas. The center says Clyde CISD ranks a 17 percentile, with 100 percent being most wealthy. But according to the Equity Center, Clyde would receive less state aid than it currently gets.

The Equity Center states Cross Plains ISD is the richest of the Callahan County school districts, but would still receive \$48,322 less in state aid. Cross Plains is still not considered a rich school, with a ranking of 28 percent among the poorest school districts in the state. Baird has a 20 percentile ranking in district wealth, while Eula ISD is among the 25 percent poorest school districts in Texas.

Not only will Callahan County school districts receive less state money if the Fair Share Plan is approved, but all four county school

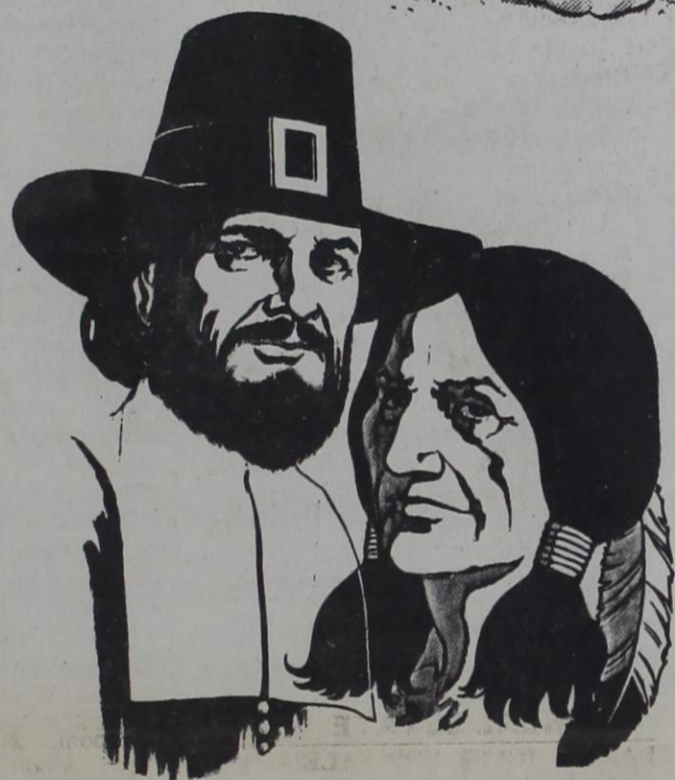
race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, physical or mental handicap, political affiliation, or sponsorship club.

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THANKSGIVING



We have many things to be thankful for during this Holiday Season. The most cherished of our nation's blessings . . . freedom . . . has given Americans the right to a life rich in liberty, justice, happiness.



In the American Tradition..

Let Us Give Thanks



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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Stowaway Mini Storage | Bonnie's Stained Glass Creations & Sports Card Shop | Country Inn Motel And RV Park | Dale Mitchell Building |
| B&B Fina | Charlie's Truck & Trailer Repair | K-Oil Well Servicing, Inc. | Luke Eaton Realty |
| Higginbotham's | Food Plaza No. 4 | Hinkle TV Service | Russell-Surles Abstract Co. |
| Cubelle L. Harris, District Clerk | Stroud Shamrock Station | Tim's Floral & Gifts | Rose Butane Gas Service |
| Neal Drug | Sylvia's Hair Shack | R. G. Maxwell Construction | Colonial Oaks Nursing Home |
| Cross Plains Grain & Peanut Co. | Jungle Jim's Upholstery & Car Wash | Dal-Mar Energy Inc. | Cross Plains Food Locker |
| Dillard Drilling | KLH Oil & Gas | Susan J. Schaefer, C.P.A. | Johnson's Dry Goods |
| Odom's Motel | Cross Plains Business Service | Sewalt Butane Co. | Greenwood Insurance |
| Cross Plains Petroleum | Cliff's Texaco Station | Phillips Drilling Co. | A.H. McCowen Construction |
| T & K Tire & Alignment | Pioneer Farmers Co-Op | Amelia's House Of Beauty | Reed Construction |
| All Star Pump & Supply | Village Market | C & C Enterprises Benny Callaway | Bryan's Variety Store |
| Ray's Barber Shop | Citizens State Bank | Lawrence Farm & Ranch Inc. | Morris Printing & Stationery |
| Jack's Place | City Utilities | Merryman Drilling Co. | Cross Plains Review |

