

# Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1996



WEST CADDO PEAK



EAST CADDO PEAK  
Price 50¢

87TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 40



MCCOWEN FAMILY—Cathy and Charlene McGowen; Ruby Horton (back, from left), Bonita Horton, Naomi McCowen (front) and Ruby McCowen.

## McCowen Family Travel South For Holidays

Ruby E. McCowen, 94-year-old resident of Cross Plains, spent her Christmas Holidays in a condo on the beach in Cocoa Beach, Florida. Ruby, along with her three daughters, Naomi of Cross Plains, Charlene McGowen of Brownwood, and Bonita Horton of Burke, Virginia, visited her granddaughter, Cathy Horton, who is living in Florida (for the next year). Cathy works for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and is currently assigned to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Ruby, Charlene, and Naomi left Cross Plains December 23. They were driven to the DFW Airport by Ron, Garnette, and Shana Bagley. Two hours and forty minutes later, they arrived in Orlando, where they were met by Cathy and Bonita. Bonita had arrived shortly before

from the Washington National Airport. They loaded all the baggage into Cathy's Pathfinder and made the hour drive to Cocoa Beach. Everyone was settled in for the night when there was a knock on the door, to Bonita and Cathy's great surprise, "Santa Claus" arrived all the way from Korea, looking remarkably like James Horton, Jr., Ruby's grandson. He is in the U. S. Army, currently serving in South Korea. Christmas Eve morning, Ruby and her family attended services at Calvary Chapel in Merritt Island, ate brunch at Shoney's in Cocoa Beach; enjoyed the rest of the day at the beach and lounging around the condo.

Ruby enjoyed watching the ships leave the nearby Port Canaveral, going barefoot on the beach and walking in the sand. Every morning during her visit to

Florida, Ruby went out on the balcony to look at "her ocean." She had the opportunity to walk along the beach, watch the sunrise over the Atlantic Ocean, and take a tour of the Kennedy Space Center, where the next space shuttle will be launched on Naomi's birthday, January 11.

Ruby wanted to spend more time on the beach, but the weather was unseasonably cold for Florida, so for most of the time, she had to settle for watching the ocean from the balcony of the warm apartment.

Ruby's grandson rolled her out to the beach in her wheelchair for a last walk in the sand and the edge of the Atlantic before she headed back to Cross Plains on December 29. Cathy and Bonita drove them back to Orlando and Bob McCowen picked them up from DFW.

## CONCEALED HANDGUN LICENSE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1

AUSTIN—The Department of Public Safety has issued approximately 1,200 concealed handgun licenses which became valid January 1.

The DPS has received more than 170,000 requests for applications and has mailed more than 153,000 application forms in response. Texas citizens have filled out and returned more than 35,000 applications.

The Concealed Handgun Unit has reviewed all applications received in September and some of those received in October. All September applicants have been mailed their licenses or have been sent notices of problems such as smudged fingerprint cards, incomplete application packets or questions about potential disqualifying factors.

"We've dedicated a lot of resources to initiating the licensing process, and it is running very smoothly," said Frankie L. Waller, Chief of Administration for DPS. "The public response has been tremendous. However, due to the enormous response and the short start-up period, we do anticipate taking the full 90 days to process applications.

"I know all applicants are eagerly awaiting their licenses and are tempted to call and ask for their status, but each time the phone rings it takes our personnel away from the license issuance process and slows things down," Waller said. "We ask your patience in giving us ample time to process your application before calling to check on its status."

Concealed handgun license holders who are stopped for traffic violations after January 1, should let law enforcement officers know if they are carrying their weapons.

Department of Public Safety troopers will begin asking motorists whether they have concealed handgun licenses, whether they have their weapons with them and, if so, where the guns are located. Troopers will have the discretion to disarm license holders if they feel safety is at risk.

At the first opportunity, licenses should let officers know where their weapons are located. If asked for identification while carrying their handguns, they always must present their concealed handgun licenses along with their driver licenses or I. D. cards.

During traffic stops, citizens carrying guns should keep their hands in plain sight and cooperate fully with law enforcement officers to ensure everyone's safety.

## Colonial Oaks Services

Believer's Fellowship will conduct worship services at Colonial Oaks Nursing Home on Sunday, January 7, commencing at 3:30 p.m.

## Sales & Use Tax Totals For County

The state sales and use tax analysis for Callahan County has been reported for the second quarter of 1995 by State Comptroller John Sharp's office.

Sharp reported gross sales, for all industries in Callahan County, for the second quarter of 1995 at \$12,563,395 which is 3.10 percent lower than the gross sales of \$12,961,479 reported during the second quarter of 1994. Gross sales are the total amount of all sales, leases and rentals of tangible personal property and all labor and service charges made during the reporting period.

Use tax purchases for the second quarter of 1995 for all industries in Callahan County amounted to \$115,576. Use tax purchases are the cost of all taxable items removed from inventory for personal or business use and all purchases on which no Texas sales tax was paid or use tax accrued.

The amount subject to state sales and use tax in the second quarter of 1995 in Callahan County was \$5,479,789. The amount subject to state sales and use tax is calculated by taking taxable sales and adding use tax purchases.

The number of business locations in Callahan County, with a sales and use tax permit which filed a return, are 282. There were 293 permits issued during the same quarter the previous year.

The gross sales for the retail trade division in Callahan County for the second quarter of 1995 was \$7,590,093 which is 1.7 percent higher than the 1994 second quarter gross sales of \$7,466,409.

The use tax purchases for the retail trade division in Callahan County for the second quarter of 1995 was \$9,379.

The amount subject to state sales and use tax for the second quarter of 1995 was \$3,771,905 for the retail trade division in Callahan County.

The number of reporting outlets in the retail trade division in Callahan County totalled 174 for the second quarter of 1995. There were 172 reporting outlets during the same quarter in 1994.

## Project Pride Meetings Move Back To Library

Project Pride wishes to announce a change in their regular meeting place beginning in 1996. Betty Lewis, president, stated, "This decision was made in an effort to make it more convenient and to better accommodate large numbers at meetings."

The first meeting of the new year will be held on Tuesday, January 9, at 6:00 p.m. at the Cross Plains Public Library downtown. All members and interested persons are urged to attend.

## Irma Miller Resigns As Pioneer Historical Assc. Treasurer

Irma Miller is resigning from her position as treasurer of the Pioneer Historical Association (Pioneer Cemetery Fund). Having faithfully served for the past twelve years, she will be replaced by Earlene (Brown) Burge. Burge volunteered to fill the position at this time. Anyone wishing to send gifts and contributions may mail their donations to:

Earlene Burge  
Route 1 Box 195  
Rising Star, Tx. 76471

or to the Citizens State Bank at Cross Plains.  
If further information is needed call Earlene at (817) 725-7696.

## PROJECT PRIDE BANQUET SET FOR JANUARY 15

Project Pride is inviting the public to join them again this year for their annual membership dinner, Monday, January 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Cross Plains Community Center, 9th and Beech Streets.

Tickets are \$7 each for a brisket plate, dessert and drink. Tickets should be purchased in advance and are available at Greenwood Insurance, Citizens State Bank, Betty Lewis' office, and the Library. If this is not convenient you may make arrangement for tickets by calling Margaret McNeel at (817) 725-6100 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or (817) 725-6498 after 5:00 p.m. No carry

out plates will be available.

Guest speaker for this year's event will be David Bacon, popular sports announcer on Abilene's K-TAB TV station. Bacon is a familiar TV personality in most of our homes and Project Pride is delighted to bring him to Cross Plains.

Project Pride membership is open to all persons who are interested in making Cross Plains a cleaner, more attractive place to live and preserving and documenting the history of the community. Annual dues are \$3 per person or \$5 per couple. You are encouraged to join this group and look toward a great year in 1996.



FIRST TIME TO SEE SNOW—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Little, Emily and Heidi from Pensacola, Florida were in Cross Plains for the holidays to visit Mrs. Little's aunt, Betty Lewis. The snow that fell New Year's Day arrived at just the right time, and they were able to

make a snowman for the very first time. The little ones, and the adults, had a great time playing in the winter wonderland. Several inches covered the ground and was frozen on Tuesday morning. Winter finally arrived!

## Chamber To Hold Luncheon January 11

The Chamber of Commerce will be holding a noon luncheon Monday, January 11, at Jean's Feed Barn.

Mary Griffith from the Coleman Chamber of Commerce will be the guest speaker.

All members are encouraged to attend.

## AARP NEWS

By ESTHER KERR

The first 1996 meeting of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will be held on Monday, January 8 at 11:00 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose Center.

New business of the chapter will be discussed and a Board of Directors meeting will also be held immediately following the noon luncheon.

Monty McRight of Abilene, Senior American Consultant for various insurance corporations will be the speaker. He will answer any questions from members concerning the present insurance coverage and the recent increase in the insurance premiums.

Make plans to attend this very important meeting.

## Services Held For Guy Stroud, Local Businessman

Guy Stroud, 82, died Saturday, December 30, 1995, at an Eastland hospital.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Dwaine Clower officiating. Burial was in Cross Plains Cemetery.

Mr. Stroud was born in Bridgeport and was a member of First Baptist Church. He married Elsie Evans in 1931 in Oklahoma.

Mr. Stroud owned and operated Stroud Shamrock on West Highway 36 in Cross Plains.

Survivors include his wife, of Cross Plains; one son, Bob Stroud of Irving; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Joe Holland, Maxy Evans, Logan Long, Jr., J.W. Stephens, Jerry Brown and Wesley Morris.

**New Deadlines For The Cross Plains Review**  
**Articles** Must be Turned In Mondays By Noon (No Exceptions)  
**Advertisements** Must Be In Tuesdays By 5:00 p.m.  
The Cross Plains Review Will Be Closed Monday New Year's Day So Articles Need To Be Turned In Friday.



## Prison System Is Partner, Customer In Texas Beef Cattle Industry

By TOM FORDYCE  
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE

HUNTSVILLE—The Texas cattle industry is doubly important to the state prison system because we buy millions of dollars worth of beef as well as running our own ranching operations to reduce costs to Texas taxpayers and provide good honest work for prison inmates.

"We run about 10,000 head of cow-calf operations on our Texas Department of Criminal Justice prison farms and that along with our field crops provides jobs for 10,000 prisoners.

"And even though we must feed 127,000 inmates three meals a day, we don't eat any of the beef we raise. Instead, we sell our calves and use the income to help pay for the cheaper beef trim we buy to grind up as hamburger which is the mainstay in our prison menus.

"When we sell cattle, we are very sensitive to market conditions. Last year we had planned to sell 8,500 head but because the market fell so sharply, we sold only 4,775. Of those, 3,000 were sold on national video auctions so we didn't make any impact as a minuscule part of a national market where 9 million calves

were sold.

"When we do sell at local auctions, we take special precautions not to impact local markets. With rare exceptions, our policy is to never send more than 25 head to a single sale and to send only mixed lots.

"Last year we brought in \$2.2 million selling calves so the Legislature could reduce our tax money funding by the same amount. In the coming year that money will help pay for our expected purchases of 4 million pounds of beef trim.

"As we have increased from 50,000 inmates to 127,000 in three years, we have had to stretch food supplies to keep costs within reason. Three years ago we started "extending" our hamburger meat by adding a protein soy supplement we buy from a Missouri manufacturer.

"A year ago we also started using another protein supplement by the brand name of VitaPro which is made in New York with American soy beans and shipped to us from the manufacturer's headquarters in Canada.

"But Janie Thomas, our assistant director for food services, says that with beef prices continuing down and poultry prices continuing high, she is constantly reviewing our food purchasing, ready to buy whatever is most economical.

"Just like anyone, we have to watch pennies—because a penny a day per inmate equals almost half a million dollars a year to our budget!

"As a Texas agriculture producer, the prison system tries to run a quality operation and be a good citizen. We are proud to be a member of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. We pay the full membership dues based on the number of cattle we run and we pay the \$1 commodity check-off on every animal we sell because we know it is a good investment in the best interest of Texas' important beef cattle industry.

### First Monday Seminar Jan. 8

How does one find the "self" in yourself? Robert McCarther will conduct a free community seminar on this subject on Monday, January 8, at the Pastoral Care and Counseling Center at 1317 North 8th Street, Abilene, Texas.

Having a hard time making decisions when part of you says "yes" and another part says "no"? Which is the true self speaking? Bob will examine the issue of inner conflict that may reveal a part of an individual that is smothered or not "well heard". He will also address the question of whether there is spiritual relevance in the idea of sub-personalities and the true self.

Find the real "self" in yourself. Attend this free seminar on Monday, January 8, 1996. For more information call (915) 672-2573.

# OBITUARIES

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JANUARY 4, 1996

### Joyce Nell Fleming

Joyce Nell Fleming, 82, died Thursday, December 28, 1995, at her home. Services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday in Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Jim O'Dell officiating. Burial was in Pioneer Cemetery.

Mrs. Fleming was born in Paducah and moved to Pioneer in Eastland County in 1930. She was a homemaker and was a member of Order of Eastern Star in Cross Plains, Daughters of Republic of Texas, Pioneer Quilting Club and T.E.L. Sunday School Class at Cross Plains First Baptist Church. She was the widow of Joe Fleming, whom she married in 1933.

Survivors include one daughter, Jo Veda Watson of Lake Brownwood; three sons, Glen Fleming of Amarillo, Jim Fleming of Pioneer and Jerry Fleming of McLean; two sisters, Veda Pavlov of Corpus Christi and Mary Mathews of Stephenville; one brother, Henry Mathews of Hereford; 13 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were grandsons and a nephew.

### Lillie Griffith

Lillie A. Griffith, 81, of Odessa died Sunday, December 31, 1995, in Odessa.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Bob Pipes officiating. Burial was in Cross Cut Cemetery.

Mrs. Griffith was born in Cross Cut. She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ. She was the widow of U.W. Griffith.

Survivors include two daughters, Christine Mendicino of Livermore, California, and Cora Lynn Wilson of Gatesville; three brothers, D.B. Gunn of Cross Plains, Paul Gunn of Hobbs, New Mexico, and James T. Gunn of Robinson; two sisters, Eva Patton of Odessa and Ruth Pickett of Cross Plains; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

### D.W. McBride

BROWNWOOD—D.W. McBride, 78, died Friday, December 29, 1995, at his home.

Services were held at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Davis-Morris Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Kenneth Green officiating. Burial was in May Cemetery.

Mr. McBride was born in May and taught school in San Angelo. He was a retired public school administrator and a businessman. He was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and a member of Central United Methodist Church, Retired Teachers Association and National Board of Realtors. He lived most of his life in Brown County. He married Sylvia Gray in 1946 in Cross Plains; she preceded him in death.

Survivors include one son, James McBride of DeSoto; one daughter, Priscilla Monson of Brownwood; six brothers, Stanley McBride, Joe McBride, Jack McBride, Dale McBride and Ernest McBride, all of Brownwood, and James McBride of Abilene; one sister, Joy Boaz of Early; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Central United Methodist Church, the American Cancer Society or the VNA Hospice Program.

### Ruth Hardwick

RISING STAR—Ruth M. Hardwick, 69, died Tuesday, December 26, 1995, in a Brownwood hospital.

Services were held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. William Weeks officiating. Burial was in May Cemetery.

Mrs. Hardwick was born in Amarillo and was a counselor and teacher in the May school system. She also taught school in Lueders and Lometa from 1949-68 and was a personnel director for USAA Insurance Company in San Antonio. She worked for Sears in Dallas from 1972-79. She attended the First United Methodist Church in Early, May and Rising Star, and was the widow of Curtis Hardwick, whom she married in 1949 in Brownwood.

Survivors include one son, Mike Hardwick of Rising Star; one stepson, Bob Hardwick of Houston; one daughter, Diane Rytima of Garland; one sister, Betty Wilson of May; and 13 grandchildren.

### L.H. Johnson Jr.

COLEMAN—L.H. Johnson Jr., 77, died Friday, December 29, 1995, in an Abilene hospital.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday in Walker Funeral Home with the Rev. Kermit Sorrels officiating. Burial was in Coleman City Cemetery.

Mr. Johnson was born in Burkett and moved to Coleman County. He was a retired truck driver. He was a member of Trinity Methodist Church and was the widower of Quida Baum Johnson, whom he married in 1943 in Coleman.

Survivors include two sisters, Glendolyn Glass of Brownwood and Christine Jones of Coleman; and three brothers, Doyle Johnson of Austin, Bobby Johnson of Rankin and Billy Zirkle of Rising Star.

Memorials may be sent to Trinity Methodist Church, 1805 S. Concho, Coleman 76834.

## Expanded Repayment Options Announced

WASHINGTON—Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman today announced that wheat, feed grains, and upland cotton producers who must repay their 1995-crop advance deficiency payments will be able to repay under more equitable terms than in the past. Those producers will likely owe about \$1.7 billion in the latter part of 1996.

Glickman said USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation will propose changes in current regulations to give producers expanded repayment options, including the option to repay in installments depending on a producer's circumstances. USDA has no legal authority to waive repayment of advance deficiency payments.

"I'm especially concerned about producers who did not make a 1995 crop and are still required by law to repay their advance deficiency payments," Glickman said. "To ease their financial burden, my proposed action will allow them to repay over 3 years with no interest."

"These actions will affect about 90 percent of the producers of these crops," Glickman said. "To ask for a repayment of this magnitude without better terms and conditions would put severe financial pressure on many producers who are trying to recover from a series of bad weather disasters."

"We're nearing the end of the year and we will have no Farm Bill," Glickman said. "At a time of uncertainty—I'm taking this action to give producers clear direction, so they can start planning for the coming year."

## Candidate Filing Concluded Jan. 2

Candidate filing concluded Tuesday, January 2 for both Democratic and Republican Party primary elections according to Democratic Party Chairman Jon Hawdwick and Republican Party Chairman David Holmes.

On the Democratic Party election ballot, the only countywide offices being contested are for County Sheriff and County Attorney.

The most recent candidate filings for the Democratic Primary Election include:

W.L. (Dub) Burke filed Tuesday, December 26 for the office of County Attorney. Burke, 55, has resided in the state 38 years and in the county one year and six months. Burke, who lists his occupation as attorney, resides at 956 Cherry Street in Baird.

Kevin Weiss filed Wednesday, December 27 for the office of County Constable Precinct #4 (Cross Plains). Weiss, 28, has resided in the state 28 years and in the county six years. He lists his address at 124 West 11th in Cross Plains. Weiss is a correctional officer.

Tommy Cooper filed Saturday, December 30 for the office of County Constable Precinct #3 (Baird). Cooper, 41, has resided in the state 41 years and in the county 25 years. He lists an occupation as dispatcher and resides at 502 Redbird Lane in Clyde.

Howard Bredehoff filed Sunday, December 31 for the office of County Constable Precinct #3 (Baird).

Bredehoff, 51, has resided in the state 51 years and in the county 23 years. He is employed as a security officer. Bredehoff resides at 802 Race Street in Baird.

The Democratic Primary Election candidates include:

County Sheriff  
Eddie Curtis (Incumbent)  
Rod Waggoner  
County Attorney  
Allen Wright (Incumbent)  
W.L. (Dub) Burke  
County Tax Assessor/Collector  
Bun Barry (Incumbent)  
County Commissioner Precinct #1  
Harold Hicks (Incumbent)  
County Commissioner Precinct #3  
Tommy Holland (Incumbent)  
County Constable Precinct #1  
David Blalock (Incumbent)  
County Constable Precinct #3  
Tommy Cooper  
Howard Bredehoff  
County Constable Precinct #4  
Kevin Weiss

The Republican Primary Election candidate for Callahan County includes:

County Sheriff  
Paul Jaworski  
The Democratic Primary Election and the Republican Primary Election will be held Tuesday, March 12, 1996 in Callahan County. Early voting for the two primary elections will take place from February 21, 1996 through March 8, 1996.

### CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

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## CHURCH SERVICES

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

10TH & MAIN CROSS PLAINS (817) 725-7629  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 a.m.  
Church Training ..... 6:00 p.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Dr. Jim H. O'Dell - Pastor (817) 725-7556 Tony Appuglies - M/Y Min. (817) 725-6326

### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9TH & AVE. D CROSS PLAINS  
WORSHIP SERVICE ..... 9:30 A.M.  
BIBLE CLASS ..... 10:30 A.M.  
Rev. Henry Grubbs, Pastor  
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1-800-252-3629

### TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

8th & Ave. D - Cross Plains, Texas  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening ..... 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Prayer Meeting ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Bro. Max Martin, Pastor Phone 725-6574

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**ADVERTISE  
IN THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW**

**New Deadlines For  
The Cross Plains Review**  
**Articles** Must be Turned In Mondays  
By Noon (No Exceptions)  
**Advertisements** Must Be In Tues-  
days By 5:00 p.m.  
The Cross Plains Review Will Be  
Closed Monday New Year's Day So  
Articles Need To Be Turned In Friday.

**Cholesterol Drug Claim Is Okayed By  
FDA**

Pravachol, the anti-cholesterol drug manufactured by Bristol-Myers Squibb, can now advertise that it reduces heart attacks by 67%. It is the only anti-cholesterol drug that can make that claim. Only 1/4 of U.S. heart patients take cholesterol medication because, although the drugs decreased the fatty substance in the blood, there was no proof until now that they saved lives. Dr. Williams Castelli of Farmingham Heart Study says doctors should no longer delay treating heart patients with a cholesterol-lowering drug.

Your better health is our concern.

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CROSS PLAINS, TEXAS

**BREAKTHRU**

By Bob Pipes, preacher  
Cross Plains Church of Christ  
433 N. Main At 12th  
(817) 725-6117

Several years ago, my wife and I, along with another couple, visited a friend in New York City, right next to Central Park. As we all rode the subway downtown, then strolled the sidewalks downtown, staring at the tall buildings, we talked to one another, even to the natives of that "foreign" city. We did not have to tell them where we were from — our speech (especially the other fella's) betrayed us! Well, that's the way speech is — it's revealing and tells off on us. Long ago, when the men of Ephraim went to battle against the Gileadites, the men of Gilead managed to possess the fords of the Jordan River. When any of the fugitives of Ephraim came to cross the river they were tested to see if they were men of Ephraim or Gilead. When asked if they were from Ephraim, if they said "no", they were asked to say "Shibboleth". If they were really from Ephraim they would say "Sibboleth" instead of Shibboleth, unable to pronounce it properly — and it was the last word they ever mispronounced! The record, Judges 12:5,6, states that 42,000 Ephraimites fell at that time, some in battle, I am sure, but many at their failure to pronounce the word correctly. Their speech betrayed them! A person can still be judged to a great degree by his/her speech. It often reveals where they are from. It can tell a lot about their manners and their "up-bringing" — or lack of manners and "up-bringing". But more importantly, it tells a lot about our character and morals — or lack of morals and character. It tells a lot about our religion, too — whether it's genuine or skin-deep. Jesus had a lot to say about ones speech, and so did James and other writers of the New Testament. Perhaps what Jesus said best sums it up: "...out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things," Matthew 12:34b-35. What do you say?

Sunday Morning Bible Class ... 9:45 a.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

Friends &amp; Neighbors Caring In Jesus

**Quips, Clips & Comments**

By KAY DENNIS MOSLEY

Have a Happy New Year!!  
Have you made those New Years resolutions? I resolve to do my duty for God and my country.....Sounds good doesn't it, but do any of us really do enough?!

While we're all thinking on the subject of resolutions, I would like to submit this poem for all to ponder. I copied it from our 1994 Garden Club Handbook. It doesn't fit anyone presently in our club, however, it probably fits someone we each know or have known.

Resolution: Don't let it fit you!!!

**"Well...ARE YOU?"**

Are you an active member  
The kind that would be missed,  
or are you just content  
that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings  
and mingle with the flock,  
or do you stay at home  
to criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part  
to help the work along  
or are you satisfied to be  
The kind that just belongs?

Do you ever go to visit  
A member who is sick,  
or leave the work to just a few  
and talk about the "CLIQUE"?

Think this over,

**Texas Beef Exhibit Impact 3.5 Million Americans**

Across the United States in 1995, millions of Americans learned that life would be much more difficult without products and by-products from cattle.

The lesson was taught by Texas beef producers and their Texas Beef Council (TBC) in the interactive exhibit called "Come See How Cattle Shape Your World." In 1995, the exhibit traveled to Houston, San Antonio, Amarillo, Dallas, and Kansas city. More than 150,000 U.S. citizens saw, touched, and learned about the impact of cattle on everyday life by visiting it. Another 3.5 million Americans read or heard various media reports about the exhibit.

The exhibit was made possible by beef checkoff dollars, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and Clark and Charlene Thompson of Houston. It holds 2,500-square feet of information about the beef industry including facts on the nutritional benefits of beef as well as household items that cattle by-products provide. For instance, stearic acid from cattle helps produce auto and truck tires, while gelatin helps produce photographic film.

"In today's life-style, Americans use products made from cattle in their homes but have no idea that they originated with a rancher's livestock," says Terry Stokes, TBC executive vice president. "All they know is that these products are handy and they make their lives easier. A hundred years ago, Americans had a different appreciation for cattle. They knew their benefits. This exhibit helps bring a little bit of that knowledge forward to the present generation."

Stokes said the exhibit has been a major success in sending this message because the beef industry has found support from diverse groups and individuals. Texas CattleWomen have manned the booth at the Tri-State Fair in Amarillo and the State Fair of Texas in Dallas. Kansas and Missouri Beef Council staffs helped visitors learn about the industry when the booth was at the American Royal in Kansas City.

As of October, the Imperial Schrade Knife Corp. and Wrangler pledged their support to the beef industry to deliver the message about cattle to urban adults and children. The support from Schrade and Wrangler includes an appearance at each show by Ty Murray, six-time PRCA all-around champion cowboy, or Joe Beaver, five-time PRCA world-champion calf roper and a leading contender for the 1995 all-around title.

The booth will continue to impact consumers during 1996 as well. It will be at the National Western Livestock Show in Denver January 6-21 and return to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo from February 16 to March 3.

"American who see how cattle shape their world learn to appreciate the efforts of farmers and ranchers across this country," Stokes says. "Texas beef

YOU know right from wrong.  
Are you an active member or do you just belong?

Have you ever known someone who stopped their association with a very worthwhile organization simply because "Ever since I joined they've quit taking a trip", or quit doing such and such. The organizations purpose is not to take trips but to help their fellow man or to accomplish worthwhile goals.

My New Year's resolution for this year is: "To be a good Samaritan."

I would like to close with this copied from the Jan., Feb., and Mar., 1996 "LONE STAR GARDENER."

**A New Year's Wish**

May you have:  
Enough happiness to keep you sweet  
Enough trials to keep you strong  
Enough sorrow to keep you human  
Enough hope to keep you happy  
Enough failure to keep you humble  
Enough success to keep you eager  
Enough friends to give you comfort  
Enough wealth to meet your needs  
Enough enthusiasm to look forward  
Enough faith to banish depression  
Enough determination to make today better than yesterday.

(From an old Irish toast).

HAPPY NEW YEAR 1996!!!!  
Trust I'll "C" "U" next column.

producers also thank all the sponsors who have helped us access millions of Americans. It is a tribute to beef producers everywhere that despite the hectic life-style of the 1990s, we are committed to getting our story out to consumers."

**Killing Direct Lending Would Hurt Students, Colleges**

Jeannette Galanis, a senior at the University of Colorado, Boulder, faced a difficult dilemma upon graduation in the spring of 1994. She was offered the job of her dreams as president of the U. S. Student Association, a national non-profit association representing college students. But, as with many non-profit organizations, the pay was low—and Jeannette faced a whopping \$325 monthly student loan payment.

Fortunately, Jeannette didn't have to choose between her dream job and her loan obligations. She was able to do both thanks to a new repayment option offered under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, which bases monthly payments on borrowers' income and is adjusted annually as their income level changes.

Designed to give borrowers more control over their finances and career choices, income-contingent repayment plans can be especially helpful right after graduation when salaries tend to be lower. This is just one benefit of President Clinton's direct lending initiative that would be lost to millions of students nationwide if Congress prevails in its attempt to cap direct loans at 10 percent of total student loan volume.

If the Congressional majority succeeds, direct loans would be available only to those students who attend the 104 schools that have been in the program since 1994. Some 2.2 million college students attending more than 1,200 additional post-secondary schools currently participating in direct lending would be kicked out of the program within the year. An some 6,000 more schools, including 450 already approved for next year, would be denied the chance to choose direct lending.

Under direct lending, loans are issued from the federal government to students

through their campus financial aid office, bypassing thousands of banks and dozens of guaranty agencies and secondary markets—the special interests and middlemen—that comprise the old guaranteed loan system.

In a letter last month to Secretary Riley, President Clinton wrote:

"Those who propose to end Direct Lending are putting the interest of middlemen and special interests above the interests of students. The best solution to the current dispute is for us in Washington to give schools across the nation the freedom to choose the student lending program that works best for them. We should let the market work by letting the consumer decide."

The schools apparently agree. Last month, more than 400 college and university presidents and chancellors, representing schools that participate in both the direct and guaranteed loan programs signed a letter to Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole to voice their support for current law—which allows schools to choose which program works best for them—and their opposition to any efforts to limit direct lending.

The letter said that "schools' ability to join either of the two programs has improved the student loan process for all students and schools, regardless of whether or not they participate in direct lending."

Even those representing institutions satisfied with the guaranteed student loan program also support the continued availability of direct loans.

President Clinton is presently negotiating with Congress for a 7-year balanced budget plan that assures continued access to higher education through direct lending.

Article submitted by the U. S. Department of Education.

**Stroke Risk Factors**

American Heart Association  
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke



High Blood Pressure



Heart Disease



Cigarette Smoking



Transient Ischemic Attacks (Mini-Stroke)



High Red Blood Cell Count

©1996, American Heart Association

**CAPITOL COMMENT**

U.S. SENATOR  
**KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**

**Looking Back on the Year in Congress**

Supreme Court Justice Lewis Powell once wrote that, "History balances the frustration of 'how far we have to go' with the satisfaction of 'how far we have come'." Looking back on the last year in Congress, it is an apt observation.

This has been an historic year for government. Congress has taken the difficult first step toward fulfilling one of its primary commitments — achieving a balanced federal budget within seven years. This reverses a 60-year-old trend of ever-increasing deficit spending and debt accumulation.

The 1996 Balanced Budget Act, passed in October, will allow us to pay down the debt, and to stop piling that burden of debt on our children and grandchildren. The budget bill treats Texans — and all Americans — fairly while accomplishing important goals such as welfare reform and saving Medicare. The tax cuts included in the budget are truly aimed at the middle class — 70 percent going to individuals earning less than \$75,000 a year.

The budget bill gives families with children a \$500 per child permanent tax cut, which will allow the average family with two children to keep an extra \$1,000 of what it earns instead of sending it to Washington.

My Homemaker IRA bill was included in the final measure, which will allow homemakers to make full, individual retirement account contributions just as spouses

who work outside the home are allowed to do.

This budget marks a dramatic, constructive change in the course of American history. The President has vetoed the Balanced Budget Act. As this is being written, Congress and the executive branch have not come to a final agreement. But I will do everything I can to make certain that nothing compromises our fundamental pledge to the American people to balance the budget by the year 2002.

Here is how the bill passed by Congress would affect Texas: Because interest rates would decrease, Texans would save \$2,754 per year through lower mortgage payments, and \$262 per year in lower state and local debt. More than 2 million Texans will pay lower taxes — \$1.6 billion will stay with Texas families instead of going to Washington. Bottom line: America's future will be determined by how much its citizens save and invest not by how much its government taxes and spends.

The 104th Congress also has made progress in a number of other areas. I am proud that we have voted to return certain decision-making powers to the states. For far too long, Congress has been telling the states what to do and how to do it, while not always providing the resources to carry out these assignments. We are telling the states, "Here are block grants to help you accomplish what needs to be done. You determine the most efficient, effective way to do it." In addition, we have:

- \* Enacted the Congressional Accountability Act requiring Congress to live under the same laws and rules it sets for everyone else.

- \* Begun to reform our environmental laws in a common-sense way that protects private property rights while still preserving the environment.

- \* Come up with an equitable plan for reforming Medicaid and Medicare and putting them on a secure financial basis.

- \* Provided funding for the border states to control and cope with illegal immigration.

I am proud of what we have accomplished so far. But we still have, as Robert Frost wrote, "Miles to go before we sleep."

Finally, I want to extend holiday greetings to all of you, and in particular, those Texans serving their country overseas in places such as Bosnia, and their families.



# County Oil & Gas Report

Oil and gas production figures for September 1995 in Callahan County have recently been released by the Railroad Commission of Texas, and the month's oil production was lower while natural gas production was higher than the previous month's production, figures state.

Total gas production in Callahan County for the month of September was 174,224 MCF. One MCF is equal to 1,000 cubic feet of natural gas.

Total crude oil production in Callahan County for the month of September 1995 was 30,422 barrels of oil.

The total oil production in Callahan County during August was 37,036 barrels of oil. Total gas production in August was 172,698 MCF of natural gas.

Other oil production months in Callahan County include: September 1994 with 43,551 barrels, October with 46,020 barrels of crude, November with 35,797 barrels of oil, December with 46,369 barrels, January 1995 with 44,275 barrels of crude, February with 42,283 barrels, March with 44,725 barrels of oil, April with 45,664 barrels of crude, May with 43,738 barrels of oil, June with 41,789 barrels and July with 37,573 barrels of crude.

Big Country area counties oil and gas production for September 1995 include: Brown, 186,238 MCF of gas and 18,162 barrels of oil; Coleman, 261,675 MCF of gas and 34,745 barrels of oil; Eastland, 593,483 MCF of gas and 40,560 barrels of oil; Jones, 42,689 MCF of gas

Callahan County Oil & Gas Production		
	Aug. 1994	Sept., 1995
Total Oil Production	37,036	30,422
Total Gas Production	172,698	174,224

and 87,722 barrels of oil; Runnels, 171,240 MCF of gas and 79,252 barrels of oil; Shackelford, 506,618 MCF of gas and 106,814 barrels of oil; Stephens, 842,768 MCF of natural gas and 327,245 barrels of oil; and Taylor County, 40,989 MCF of gas and 60,708 barrels of oil.

The state's top oil producing counties rank by September 1995 preliminary production figures were: Gaines, 3,053,709 barrels; Andrews, 2,558,121 barrels; Yoakum, 2,474,850 barrels; Ector, 2,222,226 barrels; Hockley, 2,125,756 barrels; Pecos, 1,870,369 barrels; Gregg, 1,693,898 barrels; Crane, 1,232,620 barrels; Midland, 968,381 barrels; and Upton, 913,591 barrels.

The state's top gas producing counties rank by August 1995 preliminary production were: Webb, 24,329,208 MCF; Zapata, 22,230,436 MCF; Pecos, 21,699,078 MCF; Panola, 19,494,877 MCF; Hidalgo, 17,070,794 MCF; Starr, 14,041,969 MCF; Crockett, 10,282,579 MCF; Hemphill, 7,187,736 MCF;

Grimes, 6,288,619 MCF; and Duval, 6,176,858 MCF.

Texas production in September 1995 came from 165,732 oil and 48,397 gas wells.

## BURKETT NEWS

By LOVERA STRICKLAND

Virgil and Freeda Burkett and Clairene Edgar spent several days in Arlington visiting their sister Celesta Young and her family.

Melba Walker spent Christmas in Garland with her daughter and family Charlotte and Ned Pickett, Hanna and Hillary.

Jack and Lovera Strickland visited Marsha and Mark Turney, Jon and Matt Saturday afternoon. Jon Turney returned home after spending two days with his grandparents in Burkett. Sunday the Strickland's went to San Saba and had dinner with Eureka and Jody Whitley and their family, then on Monday they had dinner with Bill Strickland and his family and the Marty Callaway family.

Allen and Tootie Rhoads of Breckenridge visited Bill Strickland, Jack and Lovera Strickland and Eddie and Beverly Strickland Monday afternoon.

Lanette Burns visited Bill and Gerry Young and family in Lubbock the weekend before Christmas.

## PERSONALS

Low and Liz Golson Christmased for days! Thursday night Michelle Wilkowitz, Kelsey and Logan, Steven Hale and Josh came out from Coleman for supper and games. Friday, Jake Golson, Kala and Wade of Midland, Jacob Golson of San Angelo, Misty Golson of Bronte, Grace Green of Burkett, and Joe Golson of Coleman joined the group. Everyone returned home for Christmas Day at home — and Low, Liz, and Rufus made an early morning run into Coleman to see Michelle's children open their gifts and have breakfast at Michelle's.

## Inefficient Heaters, Fuels Can Cause Lethal Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

According to Texas health officials, carbon monoxide poisoning causes hundreds of illnesses and some deaths each year, usually during cold weather.

The source of the odorless gas usually is poorly ventilated coals or flames of heating appliances. Automobiles running to warm the engines in closed garages also can dangerously raise carbon monoxide levels inside houses and closed buildings.

In 1994, the Texas Department of Health (TDH) Vital Statistics Bureau, which analyzes the state's death certificates, recorded 25 accidental deaths linked to the invisible gas.

Dr. David R. Smith, Texas Commissioner of Health, said, "The numbers of carbon monoxide poisonings sharply increase with the severity of cold weather, when some people must sacrifice fresh air to stay warm."

Dr. Smith explained that carbon monoxide is the by-product of inefficient burning, whether it is natural gas, kerosene, gasoline, fireplace logs or other fuel. "Smoldering coals in fireplaces and flickering flames from clogged gas jets in space heaters are common producers of carbon monoxide," he said. He added that charcoal in barbecue grills is among the worst sources of the lethal gas. "No one should ever risk trying to warm and enclosed space with a portable grill," he said, "but people sometimes feel they have no other choice."

Many people may unknowingly have suffered the early effects of carbon monoxide poisoning. Anyone who has awakened with a headache or dizziness after sleeping in a tightly closed room heated by an unvented space heater may have been mildly poisoned. In such cases, Dr. Smith explained, the carbon monoxide has only begun to replace the normal oxygen level in the victim's bloodstream. In more severe cases, rising carbon monoxide levels cause proportionately reduced oxygen levels, which result not only in headaches and dizziness, but also weakness and drowsiness, nausea, and convulsion which can lead to coma and death.

A contributing factor in carbon monoxide poisoning is that people suffering symptoms caused by the gas often are impaired by their drowsiness and may fall asleep. Anyone who suspects early symptoms of poisoning from the gas should immediately go outside for fresh air, then make sure all others who might have been exposed to the gas are safe. A qualified person should check all fuel-burning appliances for proper setting and ventilation.

People most at risk of carbon monoxide poisoning are infants, pregnant women, the elderly and those with histories of heart or lung problems. In severe cases of carbon monoxide poisoning, victims should be treated immediately by emergency personnel. Even after treatment, it may take a victim several hours or days to regain normal oxygen levels in the blood.

The U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has recommended that all new dwellings be required to be equipped with carbon monoxide detectors, which are similar to smoke detectors. Similarly, the U. S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention has urged all home owners to install the inexpensive detectors.

For more information, contact Dennis Perrotta, Chief, Bureau of Epidemiology, at (512) 458-7268 or David Vaughan, Communications and Special Health Initiatives Division, at (512) 458-7400.

# IT'S TIME TO RE-ENGINEER CHILD SUPPORT

In the 12 years that the Attorney General's office has collected child support, the caseload has grown from 177,000 in 1983 to 750,000 cases today. This phenomenal growth in our caseload must be addressed, but growth is not our only challenge.

The ever-growing trend of unwed parenthood is the emerging problem for child support enforcement programs here in Texas and throughout the nation. In Texas, 28% of all births are to unmarried mothers. If current trends continue, more than 70% of these mothers will end up on welfare, and our office will be responsible for trying to collect child support for their children.

More than 96% of all new cases come with no child support in order, and generally require us to establish paternity before we can begin collection efforts. In fact, most child support cases arrive with the identity and the location of the father unknown.

So far, child support efforts have been equal to this challenge. During my administration, while our caseload increased 73%, collections have increased by 185%. Overall, we have record collections of almost \$2 billion for Texas children in the last five years. And we are pleased the child support program in Texas posted the largest percent increase in collections of the ten most populous states for 1993 and 1994.

But we cannot continue to do better by staying the same. The growth in our caseload and the changing nature of our caseload demand a new approach.

The new approach is based on a proposed new relationship between child support enforcement and the judicial system. Approximately 95% of all child support cases are resolved without a contested hearing before a judge. Only 5% of cases filed actually result in contested hearings before a court.

Yet all cases must go through the courts, whether contested or not. This has two bad results. It overloads the courts, and in some case it makes the children and families who need these child support payments immediately wait many additional months before receiving support. We should not consider this acceptable.

Not if we can do better. And we can. We have several proposed changes that we would like the Legislature to consider during the next legislative session. These changes can provide the legal mechanisms to encourage informal agreements between the parties that will be enforceable in the courts without everyone having to go to court.

For example, we recommend that the child support enforcement division be granted authority to order paternity testing, and granted enhanced powers to gather information on the non-custodial parent's location, employment, and ability to pay child support. We recommend that agreed child support orders should no longer have to be signed by a judge.

We believe that the Child Support Enforcement Division should be granted additional capability to enforce child support orders without having to obtain authorization from a judge. And we believe that our enforcement division should be granted expanded authority to resolve contested issues of support, arrearages and paternity.

These proposals would not only benefit Texas children, but they could also help the Texas judicial system avoid judicial gridlock. The fact is that while our courts could handle 177,000 cases in 1983, they cannot effectively handle four times that many a decade later.

By creating an administrative structure that compels parties to meet informally without the necessity of involvement in the judicial process, we can vastly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of child support enforcement. At the same time, we can free up the highly developed skills of our judiciary to be applied to those cases that are seriously contested.

Equally important, we can still preserve every citizen's right to appeal to a court of law in any dispute where the administrative structure fails to provide satisfaction to all parties.

Through my office's actions in some 14,207 cases, we have collected \$5.4 million from the new license suspension law in just over three months. This innovative enforcement tool is proving

exceptionally successful. With the additional changes our "Re-engineering Child Support" proposal recommends, we believe the Texas Child Support Enforcement Program will be better prepared to meet the challenges its growing caseload will provide.

Real change sometimes begins with admissions of the obvious. It is obvious that our current child support enforcement process was not designed to manage a caseload that will approach one million by the turn of the century.

So let us keep our eyes on the prize—the well-being of our children. If we do that, I believe we can and will find a better way to provide for the future of our great state.

## Hotline Calls Double In 1995

AUSTIN—Telephone calls to the Texas Runaway Hotline have doubled this year, according to hotline director Jay Smith.

"The calls are coming from youth and worried parents," Smith said. "The numbers don't necessarily indicate an increase in runaways as much as they reflect the fact that youth and families are learning about our services."

The number of calls in November was 1,950, compared to 900 for the same month a year ago. In July, the number of calls peaked at 2,407, and the monthly average for 1995 has been nearly 1,900 calls, compared to an average of 994 calls per month in 1994.

"More than 120,000 children from 7 years old to 17 years old run away in Texas every year, while thousands more contemplate running," Smith said. "Most children run away due to family difficulties that can range from disagreements to physical and sexual abuse."

Smith said although the predominate age of runaway callers is 14 to 16, the hotline has received calls from children as young as 8 who are thinking about running away.

"Calls go up during this part of the year because holidays can be a lonely and depressing time for homeless youth away from their families," Smith said. "We also receive many calls from youth who seek refuge during the cold winter months."

Smith encouraged parents to call the Texas Runaway Hotline, 1-800-392-3352, for information on what to do if their children have left home. Hotline services include crisis counseling, family reconciliation counseling, referral to food and shelter and a message relay service to promote communication between runaways and their families.

## SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

JANUARY 8 - JANUARY 12  
(Subject to Change)

### BREAKFAST

MONDAY — Cream of wheat, toast, orange juice and milk.

TUESDAY — Choice of dry cereal, apple juice and milk.

WEDNESDAY — Pancakes, sausage, grape juice and milk.

THURSDAY — Hash browns w/ gravy, biscuit, orange juice and milk.

FRIDAY — Cinnamon toast, apple juice and milk.

### LUNCH

MONDAY — Chicken strips w/ gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, rolls, honey packets and milk.

TUESDAY — Cheese, meat nachos, salad, pinto beans, cornbread, fruit cobbler and milk.

WEDNESDAY — Spaghetti w/ meat, green beans, garlic rolls, fruit cup and milk.

THURSDAY — Pizza, salad, corn, gelatin and milk.

FRIDAY — Hamburger, lettuce, tomato, pickles, fries, cookie and milk.

## Moore and Comer Exchange Vows Dec. 26

(Dub) W.F. Moore and Patricia announce the December 26, 1995, wedding of their youngest daughter, Murtie Arlene Moore of Anchorage, Alaska to Timothy Jon Comer, also of Anchorage, Alaska.

Murtie's dad, Dub gave her away again. Murtie's daughter Heather was Maid of Honor and sister Karen Starks was Bridesmaid. Timothy's cousins Ella Mae Comer and Willa Louise Comer from Waco stood up with Tim. Rev. Bob of Denton performed the double-ring cowboy ceremony at Karen and Don Starks home at 2502 Valley

View Lane in Corinth, in Denton County. Most guest wore jeans and cowboy shirts and boots.

Guests included Murtie's brother Jimmie Moore of Cottonwood, Jimmie's sons Jason and Michael and their girlfriends Becky and Janna of Caddo Mills, also nieces and nephews of the Moore's and cousins of Timothy from Fort Worth and San Antonio.

We had a Blessed Christmas and the wedding on December 26, 1995. The Lord gave us sunshine.

The newly weds will reside in Anchorage, Alaska where both work.

## Free Eye Exams Available To Low Income Families

AUSTIN—Low income workers and their families without health insurance

can get free eye exams through a program called VISION USA.

As part of a nationwide program, optometrists in Texas who are members of the Texas Optometric Association are donating their services to provide comprehensive eye exams in their offices in March.

To qualify for the free eye care, persons must: have a job or live in a household where there is one working member; have no health insurance of any kind; have income below an established level based on household size; and have had no eye examination within two years.

People can obtain application forms by writing to VISION USA, 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63141. Completed forms must be postmarked by January 25, 1996, according to Dr. Fred Farias, III, McAllen, Texas, the VISION USA coordinator for Texas.

Applicants will also be screened for eligibility by phone but only from January 2 to 31. The number to call is 1-800-766-4466. Phone lines will be open weekdays 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. (CST).

"Unfortunately, many low-income working people without health insurance simply cannot afford eye exams and they don't qualify for government assistance," Dr. Farias said. "Without preventive care, small vision problems could escalate to more costly and potentially serious conditions later on in life."

Nationwide, almost 175,000 people have been served in the first five years of the VISION USA program. Nearly nine out of ten have had one or more eye health or vision problems.

"There's no doubt in our minds that many people in low-income families are being held down because they can't see well enough to do their jobs or to learn in school," said Dr. Farias. "We want to help by giving these people access to professional eye care."

The 1996 nationwide project is being supported in part by a grant from Vistakon, a division of Johnson & Johnson Vision Products, Inc., and Vision Service Plan of America.

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JONES REAL ESTATE

3 Bedroom, 1 bath house on corner of 10th and Ave. F. Owner-agent. 2 Bedroom, 2 bath house on 1 1/2 lots. Located on corner of 8th and Apple St. 10 acre w/ nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath home, 1 1/2 miles east on Highway 36. 3 BEDROOM ON AVE D, remodeled on inside, wood heater, new water lines and new electrical wiring, see to appreciate. Nice vacant lot, corner of Avenue D and 13th. NEW LISTING Neat 1 bedroom home with large livingroom, nice fenced yard, corner of 9th and Avenue C. Five room home on 4 lots with wood heater, carport with storage. Many fruit trees and berry vines, fenced areas with sheds and lots garden space located on Apple Street. 250 plus acres east of Cross Plains with a nice home, a beautiful place to retire. 3 Bdrm., 1 1/2 bath with range and refrigerator, water well and new roof, N. Ave. A. 2 bedroom single home, new roof, near school on N. Ave. E. JOHNNIE BLAND (817) 725-6293 Cross Plains, Tx. 33-TRC

RIISING STAR AUCTION COMPANY JIM RAY COX ESTATE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH 1:00 P.M. Mr. Cox was a life long resident of Rising Star. His heirs have asked us to sell the bulk of his estate at public auction. Most of the items are in very good to excellent condition. The following is a partial listing only: Furniture items: Virginia Hodge maple bedroom suite including queen size bed, mirrored dresser, vanity stool and 5 drawer chest; Ballman-Cummings maple bedroom suite including (2) full size bed, writing desk & chair, mirrored triple dresser and 4 drawer chest; round pine dining table & (6) matching captain's chairs; very nice custom made oak corner cabinet; (3) Tall City maple bar stools, sofa; love seat hide-a-bed; pine coffee table; (2) antique trunks; antique pine cupboard; c. 1915 porcelain stove; oversize porcelain bathtub; Zenith 25" color console TV w/sound; Zenith console stereo; patio table & benches; (4) 50's metal patio chairs; cabinet model Singer sewing machine; easy chairs; assorted older what-not shelves; end tables; pine shelving; porch swing and more. Collectibles: Thomas A. Edison Standard Phonograph model E (last patent date Aug. 29, 1905); collection of American Fostoria including 10" cake pedestal, 10 1/2" footed bowl, creamer, covered sugar and assorted serving pcs.; 10" candlewick handled serving platter; several heavy crystal bowls; pair of nice old carved glass candlesticks; ruby red pitcher; Hall teapot; Roseville #127-12 (damaged); Shawnee mixing bowl; crosscut saw; cotton scales; matched set of iron wagon wheels; implement wheel; horse drawn cultivator; 36" grinding wheel; castiron washpot; Nobility Plate silverware; large selection of framed oil paintings; costume jewelry and more. Household goods: new Sharp carousel microwave; Kenmore washer & dryer; Excel office refrigerator; Sears microwave; small appliances; pots; pans; linens; hatters; fan; Pyrex; Greenbriar 4 hp garden tiller; tools; garden tools; house jacks and plenty more. Auctioneer's note: This is a good looking sale with something for everyone including plenty of box & contents. MONDAY NITE MADNESS January 9th 7:00 p.m. Turn your unwanted items into cash! Seller's fee \$15 per 15 minutes 100% of auction proceeds paid direct to seller next day. Rotation slots decided by auction and random drawing. P.O.'s OK on Monday night. Call for more information. 206 W. College Rising Star, TX 76471 817-643-4600/643-7321 Auctioneer Danny Koonce TXS 10874 Member Texas Auctioneer's Association Concessions available inside

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# IN WEST TEXAS, ENERGY FOR A NEW CENTURY

By GARRY MAURO  
TEXAS LAND COMMISSIONER

As students of Texas history know, January 10, 1901, is a red-letter day for the Lone Star State. That's the day the Spindletop oil well blew in, ushering in a century-long era of world energy leadership for Texas.

A hundred years from now, our children's grandchildren may look back on November 14, 1995 as a date of equal significance. Not as dramatic as a gushing, spewing Spindletop, perhaps, but certainly a red-letter day. That's the day that Texas officially ushered in a new energy era.

On November 14, the state General Land Office and the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) inaugurated a \$40 million 35-megawatt (MW) wind plant in the Delaware Mountains of far West Texas. Called the Texas Wind Power Project, this orchard of 80-foot turbines is coaxing energy out of the air

for the people of Texas. It is the state's most ambitious wind energy project to date.

The Wind Power Project has been on line since September. One-hundred-twelve wind turbines in the remote ranching area of Culberson County, near Van Horn have been harnessing the wind's energy in an area where breezes whistle through the mountains at a 20 mph on average, with gusts up to 80 mile per hour.

The West Texas winds, the second strongest in the nation for wind turbines, will be providing electricity for LCRA customers in Austin and dozens of Central Texas communities, including Seguin, New Braunfels, San Marcos, and Bandera. This wind-generated energy will be provided at a fixed price of less than five cents per kWh over a 25-year period.

By committing itself to this clean, abundant sustainable energy source, Texas is committing itself to the most

cost-effective, readily available energy source we have. The Lone Star State has come to recognize what other states already have discovered about wind power's potential. California, for example, is producing 2 percent of its electricity using modern wind turbines; as a result, the price of wind power has dropped to about three cent per kWh. With our abundance of high-quality winds in the Panhandle, in far West Texas and along the Gulf Coast, we have the potential to meet this state's growing energy needs in ways unimaginable just a few decades ago. In fact, we have enough accessible wind energy to produce more than half again as much energy as we use annually. And unlike fossil fuels, we won't be running out of wind.

The exciting thing about wind power, in addition to its abundance, is the fact that it's environmentally benign. It doesn't pollute the air, it doesn't produce radioactive waste, it doesn't spew out carbon emissions. It hardly produces any noise. The rancher who owns the land where the wind project is located is still grazing cattle within the shadows of the turbines. The turbines, all 112 of them take up only about 5 percent of the 65,000 acre site.

The Wind Power Project is a prime example of government working with the private sector - for the benefit of the people of Texas. LCRA was looking for ways to diversify its energy sources, while we at the GLO were seeking new revenue sources for the Permanent School Fund, the fund we administer that helps finance public education. Although the wind project is on private land, the GLO receives royalties from the "wind rights." I expect the project to generate \$3 million to \$4 million during the 25-year contract. That's money the "energizes" the state in another very important way; it helps educate our children.

The project is particularly good for rural Texas. As Culberson County residents are well aware, their part of the state has been offered in recent years as a dumping ground for sludge and nuclear waste; a wind plant, in contrast, looks like a godsend. The people of Culberson County, knowing that as the project expands it means employment for the region, accepted a one-time fee payment in exchange for tax abatements. The employment potential helps explain why the good people of Van Horn, the county seat, gave their annual Frontier Days festival a wind theme: "Blowing and Growing."

It's not only Van Horn that benefits economically. Kenetech Windpower, Inc., the manufacturer of the wind turbines used in the Texas Wind Power Project, is providing 300 jobs at its plant in Waco, more than 800 jobs, direct and indirect, across the state. Kenetech's Waco plant is the largest dedicated wind turbine manufacturing and assembly facility in the world; Kenetech expects it to be a primary export center for a worldwide market.

One more point about this public/private collaboration: The Texas Wind Power Project, Central and Southwest Corporation's wind farm in Fort Davis and Texas Utilities' planned wind farm in Big Spring would not have happened had it not been for the wind energy tax credit at the federal level. The federal government has a long, honorable history of encouraging innovation - from railroads in the 19th century to supercomputers in the 20th - and this tax credit follows in that worthy tradition. It is a valuable incentive for developing renewable energy, helping diversify the Texas economy and ensuring adequate energy supplies for this nation. This tax credit makes sense and should remain intact.

The Texas Wind Power Project is just the beginning, as Texas moves enthusiastically into other sustainable energy projects. Here at the General Land Office, we are working to develop prudent, economically feasible projects on state lands, both wind and solar, and we are encouraging other private ventures. We are well aware that Texas is one of the top two or three states nationwide in terms of wind and solar potential.

Just as our predecessors "saw their chance and took it" when Spindletop roared in, we too have an opportunity to provide the energy - sustainable energy - that powers a new century. We see our chance. Now is the time to take it.

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## Frequently Asked Questions About SS Survivors Benefits

Most people associate retirement benefits with Social Security, but many are not aware of the valuable survivors insurance protection they receive under Social Security. Consider this: For an average wage earner who dies and leaves a spouse and two children, the value of Social Security survivors benefits is equivalent to a \$295,000 life insurance policy. The difference is that the Social Security survivors benefits are paid monthly and not in a lump sum.

There are some misconceptions about survivors insurance benefits. This column will answer basic questions about survivors benefits, questions that are most frequently asked.

**How much work do you need for survivors insurance coverage?**

The number of credits you need for your family to be eligible for survivors insurance benefits depends on your age when you die. The younger a person, the less work needed to be eligible for survivors insurance. A person who dies before age 22, for example, would need only 1-1/2 years of work for coverage. And, no individual will need more than 10 years of work to be eligible for any Social Security benefit.

**Who can get survivors benefits?**

Social Security survivors benefits can be paid to widows, widowers, children and dependent parents who meet certain requirements. Widows or widowers can receive full benefits at age 65 or reduced benefits at age 60. Disabled widows or widowers can receive benefits at age 50-60, provided their disability began within a specified period. Survivors benefits are payable at any age to widows or widowers who have a child of the deceased worker in their care who is under age 16 or disabled and who is receiving benefits on the worker's Social Security record. Unmarried children under 18 (or up to age 19 if they are attending elementary or secondary school full time) can receive benefits. A child who became disabled before age 22 can receive benefits at any age as long as he or she remains disabled. Dependent parents may receive benefits at age 62 or older.

**How much can survivors receive in benefits?**

The higher the earnings of the deceased worker, the higher the benefits will be. The actual benefit amount is a percentage of the deceased worker's basic Social Security benefit, and ranges from 75 to 100 percent, depending on the survivor's age and type of benefit. You can get and estimate of the survivors benefits that could be paid to your family by visiting your local Social Security office, or by calling us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 and asking for Form SSA-7004 (Request for Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement). The statement will give you an estimate of survivors benefits, as well as estimates of your retirement and disability benefits. You should receive it within four to six weeks after you complete and return the form to us.

There is a limit to the amount of monthly benefits that can be paid to a family. The limit is generally equal to about 150 to 180 percent of the deceased's benefit rate. If the sum of the benefits payable to family members exceeds this limit, the benefits will be reduced proportionately for each family member.

**Can a widow(er) receive retirement benefits in addition to survivors benefits?**

You can switch to retirement benefits as early as age 62 provided you are eligible and your retirement rate is higher than your widow(er)'s rate. In some cases, a widow(er) can begin receiving survivor benefits at a reduced rate and then switch to the retirement benefits at an unreduced rate at age 65. The rules vary depending on your situation. You should talk to a Social Security representative about the options available to you.

**What happens if a surviving spouse remarries?**

Generally, a spouse can't get survivors benefits if he or she remarries. But, remarriage after age 60 (50 if disabled) will not prevent benefits on your former spouse's record. And, at age 62 or older, you may get benefits on the record of your new spouse if they are higher,

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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### Keeping an eye on Texas

#### Another Texas gem

Pearls and shells formed by freshwater mussels, growing in streams and rivers across the state, were first discovered by early Indians in the San Angelo area. The estimated value of the 1991 harvest was \$1.1 to \$2.5 million. Most shells are sold to the Japanese for use in the cultured pearl industry.

Where freshwater mussels are found

- 1 San Angelo
- 2 Concho River
- 3 Rio Grande
- 4 Nueces River
- 5 Frio River
- 6 Guadalupe River
- 7 San Antonio River
- 8 Brazos River
- 9 Sulphur River
- 10 Sabine River
- 11 Cedar Creek Reservoir
- 12 Livingston Reservoir
- 13 Caddo Lake
- 14 Buffalo Bayou

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and Texas Parks and Wildlife.

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### New Deadlines For The Cross Plains Review

Articles Must be Turned In Mondays By Noon (No Exceptions)  
Advertisements Must Be In Tuesdays By 5:00 p.m.

The Cross Plains Review Will Be Closed Monday New Year's Day So Articles Need To Be Turned In Friday.

## JANUARY 1, 1996

DECEMBER 1995	JANUARY 1996
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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