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Friday, June 26, 2009

City Council Hears Alternative Water Project Plans

By Rosa Latimer
 News Editor

In a called meeting of the Post City Council Tuesday night, June 23, the council heard suggested alternatives for the Cedar Hills and Caprock water supply and the Southland well projects. Changes suggested by Dwight Brandt, Brandt Engineers, Inc. from Amarillo would bring these projects in for approximately \$450,000 less than a previous proposal by Oller Engineering of Lubbock. No action was taken.

City Manager Arbie Taylor explained that the original contract for the Cedar Hill and Caprock water system improvements was signed by the previous City Man-

ager and Rich Oller of Oller Engineering in April of 2008. Some of the items included in the contract were eliminated after the contract was signed. "My concern is that we are operating under a contract that is outdated," Taylor explained. The council voted to terminate the

contract for the Cedar Hill and Caprock water system improvements.

The council voted to retain South Plains Communication for a city-wide SCADA system. The system will be instituted in phases considering existing issues and

future needs. The cost for the initial part of the system is included in this year's budget and any additional cost will be proposed in next year's budget. "SCADA" is an acronym for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition and generally refers to a computer system moni-

toring and controlling a process. For the City of Post the SCADA will be used to control and monitor the water system and supply.

The following appointments were made by the council: Mayor Pro-Tem, Dick Odom; Law Enforcement Committee, Melba

Cimental and Rodney Tidwell; Invoice and Billing Approval, James Easterling and Dick Odom.

An appointment to the Airport Board was tabled. The council also determined that the Mayor would be an ex officio member of all committees.

Commissioners Consider Medical Services Contract For Jail

By Rosa Latimer
 News Editor

In a regular meeting Garza County Commissioners considered a contract agreement with Dr. Ben Edwards for medical services for the county jail. Sheriff Laws explained that this would be a similar contract that the Juvenile Detention Center has with a physician and that this type of inmate medical service is required in order to secure a federal contract to house inmates in the Garza County facility. The proposed contract fee is \$2500/month or \$30,000/year and would include required inmate medical services as well as "on call" services. After considerable discussion, Commissioner McDaniel suggested contacting the provider of medical services at the Dalby Correctional Facility to determine whether the county would have an option of using that provider until the county jail facil-

ity is full. Commissioners voted to table the agenda item.

The Commissioners also considered a contract agreement with Dr. Edwards for medical services for blood draws pursuant to search warrants. County Attorney Munk explained that one of his main responsibilities is to prosecute Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) and similar cases. There are times when it is necessary to draw blood from the defendant for evidence and accomplishing this in a timely manner is essential. Currently the defendants are taken either to Snyder or Tahoka for this service. Munk believes that providing this service locally would save time and money plus provide a more accurate result. The Commissioners asked for some clarification of the proposed contract and voted to table this agenda item until the next commissioners meeting to allow time for the County

Attorney to gather the requested information.

Sheriff Laws informed the court in his monthly county jail report that the current the inmate population is 42, or 43% of capacity; 23 of these inmates are from Scurry and Lubbock county. A federal contract application with the U. S. Marshall is making its way through the process of approval and is currently in Washington, DC for review. The Marketing Director Stephanie Hataway has resigned but will stay on temporarily to help train her replacement, Michael O'Bryan. The Commissioners voted to accept the report as presented.

The Commissioners agreed to a resolution addressing undervaluation of oil and gas properties directed from Garza County to the Texas governor, lieutenant governor and speaker of the house.

Sheriff Laws explained to the

court that a Garza County indigent inmate was hospitalized at Lynn County Hospital District in 2006. The bill for these medical services in the amount of \$2167.90 was sent to the sheriff's office in January, 2008. Attorney Munk stated that by law Garza County does not have an obligation to pay the bill because it was not presented in a timely manner. He added that LCHD has requested that Garza County "do the right thing" and pay the bill. Judge Norman suggested paying a settlement amount of \$500. The Commissioners voted to permit Attorney Munk to enter into negotiations with LCHD and to pay up to \$500 as a settlement.

The court considered a bid for county property: Lot 8, Block 12 (N. Avenue G) in the original town site of Post. Ramon Villa offered \$300 for the property. The taxes owed are \$1394 and the property currently appraises for \$1250. Tax Assessor/Collector Judy Bush emphasized that a mobile home may be situated on a portion of the lot and that would not be included in this transaction. The Commissioners agreed

to table the item until the next meeting to allow time to determine if the mobile home is on the property and who the owner of the home might be.

The Commissioners approved a quote from Hudman Furniture Company for floor covering in the office annex. The \$6328.50 quote included carpeting and vinyl flooring.

Minutes from the June 8, 2009 regular meeting were approved as presented and written reports were received from: District/County Clerk, Tax Assessor/Collector, Justice of the Peace 1, Justice of the Peace 2, Senior Transportation, AgriLife Extension Service Jones and McDonald, Garza County Certificates of Obligation Bond Fund, 2008 and Garza County Public Facilities Board Bond Funds, 2005.

Precinct and countywide accounts payable for June 9, 2009 through June 22, 2009 were approved and one line item transfer was also approved.

The next regular Garza County Commissioners Court meeting is July 13, 9 a.m. at the Garza County Courthouse.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

All of these meetings are open to the public.

Garza County Commissioners Court
 July 13
 9 a.m.
 Garza County Courthouse
 300 W. Main

City of Post
 City Council Meeting
 July 14
 6 p.m.
 Council Chambers
 City Hall
 105 E. Main Street

Post ISD
 School Board Meeting
 July 14
 7:30 p.m.

Administrative Board Room
 501 S. Avenue K

NOTE: Video of last month's Meeting at post.k12.tx.us or Suddenlink Channel 12

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

Event info available at press time.

"Magdalene"

Ragtown Gospel Theater
 June 26 - 7:30 p.m.

June 27 - 3:00 p.m.

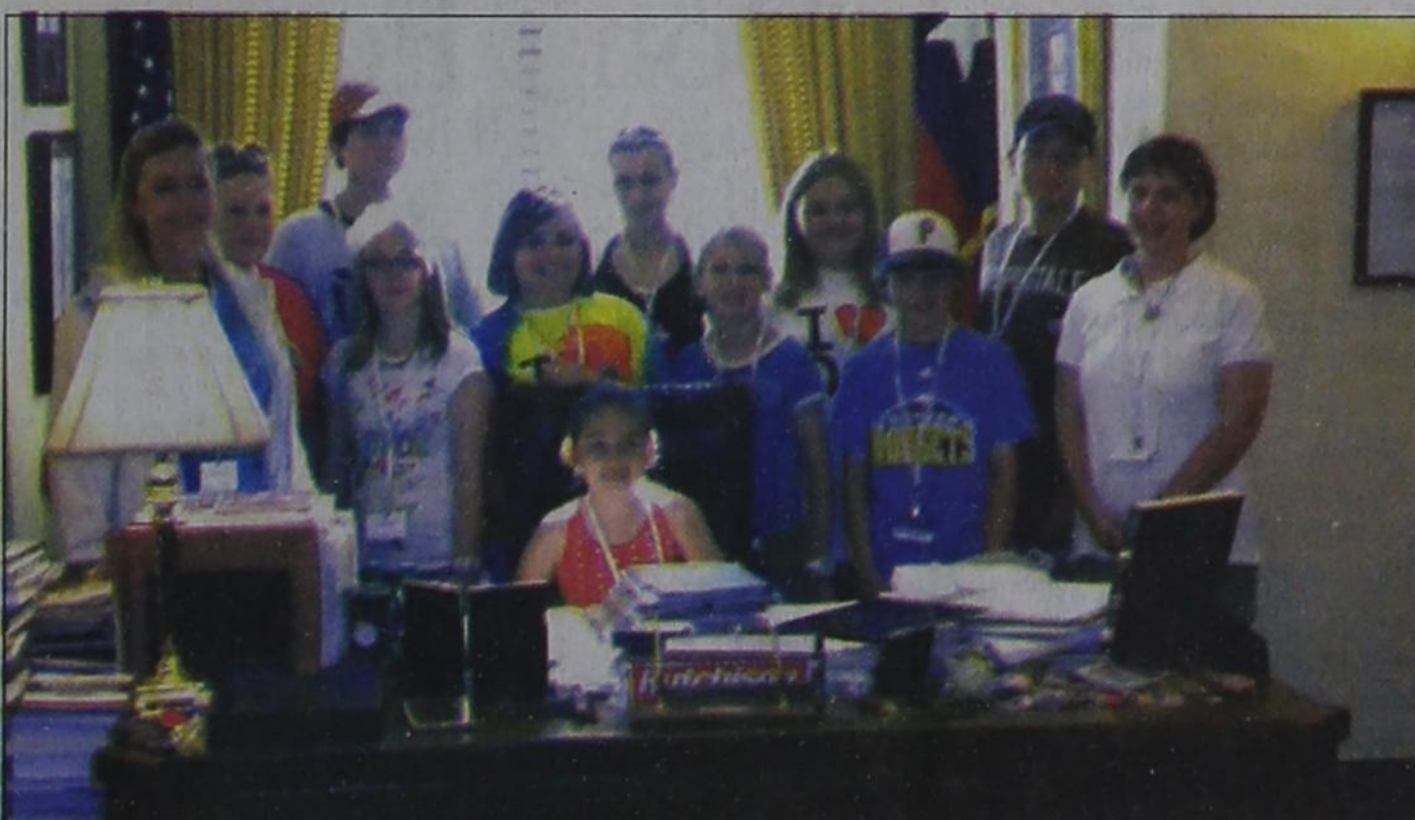
877-RAGTOWN for reservations

Graham Ole Opry
 Graham Community Center
 June 27
 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Traiblazers Senior Citizens Center
 Game Night
 June 30 and July 2
 5:30 p.m.
 205 E. 10th

Old Mill Trade Day Downtown
 Downtown Post
 July 4
 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

July 4th Celebration
 Food and Game Booths
 Mr. & Miss Firecracker Pageant
 Fireworks
 City Park



Post Middle School student Maritza Alaniz sits at the desk of Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison in the Senator's Washington office. Others who participated in the recent Washington, D. C. trip are from left: (front row) Sponsor Mendy Dalby, K'Lenn Hair, Chelci Hair, Julie Boren, Nolan Prather and Post Middle School teacher MaDawn Sherrin. (back row) Sponsor Carol Williams, Shelby Odom, Miley McKee, Jacie Kimmons and Michael Taylor.

Post Students Have Unforgettable Experience In Washington, D.C.

By MaDawn Sherrin

(Editor's Note: Ms. Sherrin is a Middle School teacher in Post. This is her account of a trip she, two sponsors and nine Middle School students took to Washington, D.C.)

Our day began at the odd hour of 4 a.m. on June 6th, 2009. Our group would like to extend a big thank-you to Giles Dalby Jr., Susan Boren, and Laurie Odom for taking us to the airport. We arrived on time at Dulles International Airport in Virginia and we were taken to the Pentagon Mall to grab a bite to eat, shop a little, and wait for the other groups that would be joining us. Once everyone was assembled our sightseeing began at Arlington National Cemetery. We viewed the Kennedy gravesites and the restoration process of General Lee's mansion. We paid respects to fallen astronauts, naval personnel and soldiers as we made our way to the changing of the guards at the tomb of the unknown

soldiers. The audience was silenced by respect and awe as the guards on duty changed stations and kept watch over the tomb.

Finally at 9:00 that night we made it to the hotel.

Wednesday morning we gathered for breakfast and were on our way to the Capitol building. The Post group had a special appointment at Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison's office. Two members of her staff met us. The students were treated to a quick lesson over Senate procedures, a tour of the Senator's office and a picture opportunity. They also gave our group t-shirts and Senator Hutchison memorabilia. Unfortunately we didn't get to meet the Senator but her staff was very friendly and informative. We appreciated their kindness and taking time to add a special memory to our trip.

Our next stop was the Holocaust Museum and here is where our day became a piece of history. Our tour guide had car trouble that

morning as he was traveling to D.C. The company called in another guide for us and that threw us slightly behind schedule as we were waiting for him to meet our group. To see the permanent exhibits of the Museum you have to be at the appointment on time and it takes about 2 hours to see the whole Museum. We missed our appointment by 30 minutes.

When we arrived, Officer Stephen Johns greeted us. His name and face are forever engraved in our memories. His parting words to the group as we entered through the metal detectors was for the students to mind their teachers, do something good and say something nice to someone today. We finished our short tour, gathered the students, herded them through the exit doors and onto the bus by 12:45. Little known to our group a gunman had pulled up to the entrance doors of the museum, approached, shot and killed Officer

(continued on Page 4)

Post Notes

Old Mill Trade Day Downtown Vendors

The next Old Mill Trade Day Downtown event is July 4, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Vendors of all types are invited to participate in this July 4th celebration. Space is available downtown on East Main. Vendors pay a set up fee of \$25 for outdoor space, for more information or to reserve vendor space, call 495-0608 or 495-3461 Old Mill Trade Day Downtown is sponsored by Post City Merchants and Post Area Chamber of Commerce.

Retirement party scheduled for June 28th

Everyone is invited to come to a retirement party for Sherry Owen. Sherry has worked as a teacher at My Special Place daycare for many years. The party will be on Sunday June 28th from 2-3:30 p.m. at My Special Place located at 111 N. Ave H.

4th of July Booths

It is time to get ready for July 4th event at the City Park. Come out and enjoy games, food, pie baking contest, auction and live music, if you would like to participate or donate contact Diane at 495-1207.

Graham Ole Opry

The Graham Ole Opry will be held Saturday June 27 from 7:00 til 10:00 pm at the Graham Community Center, five miles west of Post on US 380 and two miles south on FM 399. Those on the program are The Brownfield Bunch with country standards and gospel music. Eddie and Debbie Hanks and company from Seymore playing bluegrass and gospel, Cowboy music and poetry with John Hedrick, John Bland, Curtis Williams and Noel White. There is no admission charge; a hat will be passed for donations to help with upkeep on the center. Concession stand with drinks and snacks will be available. For more information contact Noel White at 495-3261.

Second Annual Back to School Street Health Fair

The Back to School Health Fair is planned to take place on August 21, 2009 beginning at 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm. If your organization would like to participate please contact: Jamie Edwards 327-5312, Barbara Palmer 470-1295 or Community Organizer Reyes Pequeno 778-2628 for more information.

(continued on Page 4)

Opinions

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The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

The Reality About Newspapers

John F. Sturm, president of the Newspaper Association of America has good news for the newspaper industry.

The reputation of the newspaper industry has been damaged because of the failings of some of the largest newspapers in the country. As with the banking industry, the bad news about the failings of a few has given the entire industry a black eye.

"In the past two years, the newspaper business has faced unprecedented financial challenges," according to Sturm. "The economic meltdown and advertising recession have hit our industry hard. But make no mistake about this: newspaper media—print and digital—remains strong and will emerge from the current environment an even stronger multi-platform force."

Sturm uses facts to illustrate the reality about newspapers today:

- Myth: No one reads newspapers anymore.**
 Reality: More than 104 million adults read a print newspaper every day, more than 115 million on Sundays. That's more people than watch the Super Bowl (94 million), American Idol (23 million) or that typically watch the late local news (65 million).
 - Myth: Young people no longer read newspapers.**
 Reality: 61 percent of 18-24 year olds and 25-34 year olds read a newspaper in an average week and 65 percent of them read a newspaper or visited a newspaper website in the past week.
 - Myth: Newspaper readership is tanking.**
 Reality: Average weekday newspaper readership declined a mere 1.8 percent between 2007 and 2008, and about 7 percent since its peak in 2002. Compare that to the 10 percent decline seen in the prime time TV audience in 2007 alone. Meanwhile, newspapers' Web audience has grown nearly 75 percent since 2004, to 73 million unique visitors a month.
 - Myth: Many newspapers are going out of business.**
 Reality: Newspapers, as individual businesses, by and large remain profitable enterprises—with operating margins that Wall Street analysts estimate will generally average in the low to mid teens during 2009. While that may be down from historical highs, such margins would be the envy of many other industries today. As consultant John Morton said in a recent American Journalism Review article, "Overall, the beleaguered newspaper industry's financial health has been weakened but remains healthy by most measures. In this environment, that is an achievement."
 - Myth: Newspaper advertising doesn't work.**
 Reality: Google's own research shows that 56 percent of consumers researched or purchased products they saw in a newspaper. Google also says that newspaper advertising reinforces online ads: 52 percent are more likely to buy products if they see it in the paper.
 - Myth: There are no creative options in newspapers.**
 Reality: Newspaper advertising options have exploded and now include shape and polybag ads, post-it notes, "we prints," shingle spadeas, scented ads, taste-it ads, glow-in-the-dark, belly bands and temporary tattoos, as well as event and database marketing, behavioral targeting, e-mail blasts, e-newsletters and more.
 - Myth: If newspapers close, you will still be able to get news from other sources.**
 Reality: Newspapers make a larger investment in journalism than any other medium. Most of the information you read from "aggregators" and other media originated with newspapers. No amount of effort from local bloggers, non-profit news entities or TV news sources could match the depth and breadth of newspaper-produced content.
- "This is not a portrait of a dying industry," Sturm continues. "It's illustrative of transformation. Newspapers are reinventing themselves to focus on serving distinct audiences with a variety of products, and delivering those audiences effectively to advertisers across media channels."

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication. Feel free to comment on The Paperboy at <http://thepaperboy.blogspot.com/>

Dr. Ron Paul: No Longer the Lone Ranger

By Justin Williams

In 1983, largely due to the policies of the Fed Chairman Paul Volcker and President Ronald Reagan, the American people were finally rid of the burden of astronomical inflation. The policy of the Carter Administration attempting to offset unemployment with having the Federal Reserve print money was at last at an end.

At the same time, a fresh-faced congressman named Ron Paul (R-TX) decided that because of this, it was a good opportunity to investigate the very institution that had helped wreak havoc on the economy

with runaway inflation. That same year, he proposed H.R. 877 a bill that would allow the General Accounting Office (GAO) to audit the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Advisory Council, the Federal Open Market Committee, and the Fed banks and branches themselves.

Dr. Paul was able to garner only 18 co-sponsors on that bill, which died with little to no support. Like many of his bills, supporting liberty and transparency, it was sent to committee were it ultimately met its slow and unheralded death.

But, that was then and this is now. With the Federal Reserve, loose monetary policy, and impending inflation making headlines in the mainstream media, more attention is finally being paid to a near identical bill - H.R. 1207 - that Congressman Paul reintroduced in February of this year.

Already, just four months later, H.R. 1207 has a staggering 237 co-sponsors. And now a full-blown audit of the shadowy, secretive, bureaucracy Wall

Street Journal writer Steve Moore, in an interview with the Washington News Observer (WNO) calls, "a threat to representative government," appears imminent.

The fact is, the history of the Federal Reserve is one that can be easily summarized with a foggy picture of Soviet-style central planning causing major booms and busts since the entity's inception in 1913. For example in a recent WNO interview, Dr. Paul characterizes the Federal Reserve as being the creator of "the inflation of World War I, the depression of 1921, the inflation of the 1920s, and the Depression of the 1930 and on and on."

Paul compares these events - each caused at least in part by the Fed's loose money policies - to the current situation with the credit and housing crises, which have put the nation into a deep recession.

The purpose of the Paul bill, now gathering support, is to help Congress and the American people prevent another financial disaster due to the Fed's constant

policy of offering loose credit and encouraging bad lending practices. Plus, it will enable Congress to keep an eye on the current bailout money in order to prevent abuse and fraud.

One issue the bill's sponsors on either side of the aisle seem to be in lockstep agreement on: the government-granted monopoly over one of the most important units of currency is way too much power to leave to an unelected body that, in one swift action with the printing press, could destroy a nation.

Now the former 2008 Presidential candidate, who was characterized in the media as being insane for bringing up reform in the area of monetary policy, is finding plenty of support. Or as Dr. Paul said in his interview, all of a sudden more than a quarter century after he first proposed it, "...now it is popular to get transparency of the Fed."

It is as if "everything old is new again" - only this time, with teeth in it.



Don't Forget our new
 deadline:
Monday
 at 5 p.m.

White River Water Report

Gauge Reading - 2349.60
 Feet below spillway - 22.10"
 Rise - 0"
 Rainfall Past Week - .63"
 Rain to Date - 3.46"

Rainfall for 2004 43.58
 Rainfall for 2005 15.57"
 Rainfall for 2006 28.85"
 Rainfall for 2007 24.19"
 Rainfall for 2008 33.16"

DID YOU KNOW

White River Lake has 2,321,036,673 billion gallons left available at the Intake or 27% capacity or 7,123 acre feet. Subtract 42,577,864 MG for evaporation this week in June that leaves 2,278,458,809 BG available as of today.

White River's daily average demand for 2008 was 1.23 million gallons per day for all White River Customers.

The Oil Company using water for mining has been stopped until the Lake level rises.

White River Municipal Water District is in Stage 1 of its Drought Contingency Plan.

Remember that the Water District is there for you if we can assist you in any way let us know.

The Texas Water Development Board has issued an invitation to White River Municipal Water District for the loan they requested. The District has 90 days to accept or lose their Ranking.

The Post Reservoir Permit that the Water District Owns has been renewed by the State of Texas for another 4 years, and the trade for the permit to the City of Lubbock for Water Rights for the District's Member Cities continues.

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The 501

by Hanaba Munn Welch

Hats off to anyone who hops on a bicycle knowing the ride will end in a crash. That would be granddaughter Rylee. She's 6.

A push from her mom is all it takes for Rylee to take off with elan. She pedals in big circles and figure eights. She makes U-turns on a dime. Impressive. When she stops, she crashes.

Veering into semantics, Rylee's cycle-stopping antics are more inevitable than intentional. Even so, she's getting quite good at the crash routine, adept at landing on one foot and emerging relatively unscathed with her bike sprawled beneath her, it more akimbo than she. Yep, there's an art to her style of stopping. Rylee makes braking look like it's for sissies.

Of course, by the time you read these words, she will have mastered either the hand brakes or the coaster brake, and stopping by crashing will be nothing more than a memory, if she even remembers that part of the learning experience. I don't. Do you? I just remember the triumphant feeling of that first successful ride when I put my foot on a pedal, took off and went about the same distance as Wilbur and Orville's plane at Kitty Hawk, or so it seemed. I'm sure I wobbled and crashed at the end, but so what? The rite of passage was over. Life would never be the same. I was a newly minted bicycle rider, and I ran in the house to tell my mother.

It's fitting that we learn young when skinned knees are as

natural as tooth loss. Riding a bicycle, like walking, is a natural part of growing up. Eventually we abandon bikes for cars, the great American way to get around. But if there's an inalienable transportation right in this country, it's not the right to drive. It's the right to ride a bike.

Think about it. Drive drunk a time or two, and what happens? You lose your license. But they don't take your bike. Sober or not, as long as you stay out of jail, you can keep pedaling. It's life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in its purest form. Maybe it's even a way to overcome an addiction and earn back the right to drive a car.

Do I ascribe too much therapeutic value to bicycling? I think not. Even a one-gear bicycle optimizes energy. The one-to-one steering ratio keeps you unquestionably in charge. Add momentum to the gyroscopic effect of turning wheels and you get more stability and balance than you deserve. (I never had physics; don't take me literally unless I'm right.) Bottom line, bicycles make us better than we are and take us places beyond ourselves. Bicycles empower.

Don't scoff just because you've never lost your license and been forced to pedal. I haven't either. But live long enough and it'll happen, right about the same time as the second round of tooth loss.

The good news: Wheelchairs are much like bicycles. That's how I plan to think of mine.



Melecio Joe Rosas

Rosary for Melecio Joe Rosas, 83, of New Deal and formerly of Post was 7 p.m. Sunday June 21,

2009 at the Holy Cross Church with Deacon Santiago Gonzalez officiating. Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated at 1:00 p.m. Monday June 22, 2009 with the Rev. Paul Karieakatt officiating. Burial followed at the Terrace Cemetery. Arrangements were under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice, Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Mr. Rosas died Friday June 19, 2009 at the Vista Care Hospice in Lubbock.

Melecio Joe Rosas was born on March 20, 1926 to Antonio and Felicitia (Nombrena) Rosas at Rock Springs. At an early age, he and

his family moved to Post to work. He married Mary Lee Gomez and later Dolores Guzman. Joe moved to New Deal and worked for Bruckner's Truck Sales for many years. He retired in 1991 from Bruckner's and then worked for the New Deal School, until his health failed in 2001. He is preceded in death by a son, Larry Rosas; his parents, Antonio and Felicitia Rosas; three brothers: Antonio, Felix and Octoviano Toby; two sisters: Lupe Gomez and Francisca Ramirez. He was a Catholic.

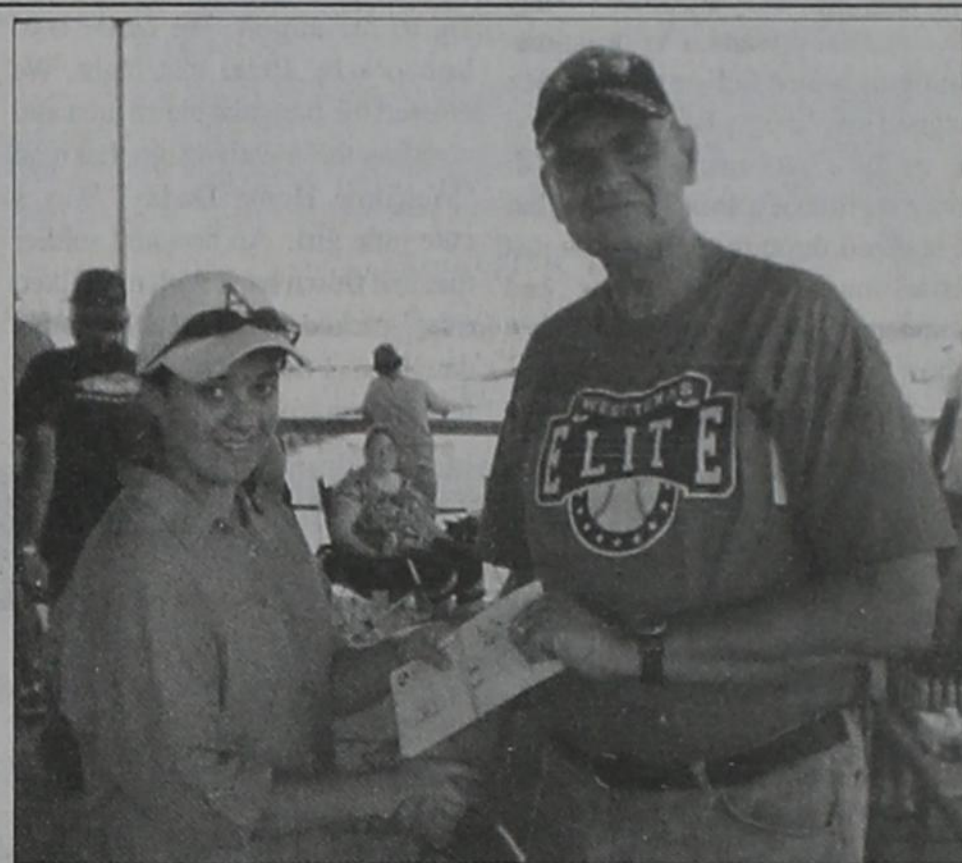
He is survived by his wife, Dolores Rosas of New Deal; one daughter, Paula Espinoza of San

Antonio and a brother, Costulo Rosas of Post; two sisters: Maria Martinez of Brownfield and Modesta Ramirez of New Deal; 11 grandchildren: Larry's children: Amber, Andrea, Amy, Jenny and David; nine great-grandchildren: Marques, Cyress, Phoenix, Nevaeh, Isaiah, Josiah, Faith, Bella and Samantha.

Pallbearers were: Quincy Ford, David Espinoza, Jimmy Martinez, Jimmy Ramirez, John Carrasco and Carlos Aguilar.



Alondra and Caleb are proud to announce the arrival of their baby brother Josiah Juan Armendariz Vazquez, born May 8, 2009, 2:15 a.m. at UMC. He weighed 7 lbs 15 oz and was 20 1/4 inches long. Proud parents are Jose and Marisa Vazquez; maternal grandparents are Isabel and the late Juan Armendariz.



Associate Warden Hugh Bryan with the Dalby Correctional Facility makes a presentation to Seleste Herridge, the Junior Division winner of the "Fish for the Cure" fishing tournament held earlier this month at Lake Alan Henry. The tournament was sponsored by the Dalby Facility and proceeds from the event were sent to the American Cancer Society. Other winners were: Big Bass, Tommy Crooks with 7 lbs 10 oz and Second Place, Elisa Gamboa with 6 lbs 8 oz. Hour winners were: Steven Mastin, Elisa Gamboa, Brent Lee, Tommy Crooks, Danny Pool, Rick Williams and Cole Vestal.

EXTENSION EXTRAS

Spur Raffle

Kids that are participating in the 4-H Playday series are selling raffle tickets for a pair of Jody Mason spurs. Get yours today from someone participating or contact the Extension Office.

Playday

The next playday will be Saturday June 27, 2009, 9:00 a.m.

State Steer Validation

All steer for the major shows and the Garza County Show must be validated by June 30, 2009. Please contact Greg at the Extension office for more information.

Extension Office: 215 W Main (806) 495-4400

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Chamber office taking memorial brick orders

If you want to add a brick to the Centennial Plaza in memory of someone or honoring someone, order forms are available at the Courthouse, at the Post Area Chamber of Commerce office at 131 E. Main St., or online at www.postcitytexas.com. There are 830 bricks in the plaza honoring Post and Garza County residents.

The brick plaza project was begun in 2007 to coincide with the Post Centennial celebration. The idea originated with long-time Post resident Wyvonne Kennedy who coordinated the ordering and laying of the majority of the bricks. Now, twice a year the

Chamber submits brick orders to the engraver and adds them to the plaza. The next order of bricks will be installed in the plaza September 3.

The plaza has designated areas to honor veterans; businesses/churches/organizations; elected officials; individual citizens and families. The Chamber is also encouraging individuals and organizations to sponsor a brick for an early pioneer (such as Scotty Samson) who has no family remaining in Garza County.

Engraved bricks are \$55 each. For more information, contact the Chamber office at 495-3461.

Ragtown Gospel Theater offers 'Summertime Special'

By Rosa Latimer
News Editor

Ragtown Gospel Theater is offering \$15 adult tickets to the last two performances of "Magdalene" and performances of "The Baptist" through the end of the summer. This 25% discount does not apply to the special performances by the gospel singing group, The Hoppers July 24 and 25. To purchase the discounted tickets, call 877-RAGTOWN or buy at the door. This offer is not available online. Tickets for Saturday performances are \$20 for adults, \$10 for students and children.

"Magdalene," featuring Post actors Zoe Kirkpatrick and Chris-

ty Morris will close out with a 7:30 p.m. performance tonight and a 3 p.m. performance tomorrow. "The Baptist," the story of John, Prophet of Christ portrayed by Glenn Polk opens July 17.

Tickets for The Hoppers "all music" event at Ragtown are \$35 each; groups of 12 or more \$28 each. According to Ragtown representatives, "there are great seats still available for the July 24th show" and while tickets to the Saturday matinee are selling rapidly, tickets are still available for that performance. All seats are reserved.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 1-877-RAGTOWN or visit www.ragtown.com

Check Out The Classifieds!

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The Post Dispatch

Mountain Cedar Post & Stays includes corner post and line post and also barbed wire. Firewood also available (oak and mesquite).
Contact (806) 455-1310
or (806) 346-1105.

It's that time again, time for the 121st Annual Old Settlers Reunion & Rodeo!

July 17 & 18

• Entries for the parade need to contact the Childress Chamber of Commerce for more information.

• Craft Show after parade, booths are available for \$20, also contact the Childress Chamber of Commerce @ (940) 937-2567.

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JUNE FOCUS: Foot Care Program

Students...

(continued from Page 1)

Johns at 12:55. The other guards shot the gunman through the doors of the museum and wounded him. We had unloaded the bus and were walking into the Reagan Center when we heard sirens. We watched fire trucks, policemen, and an ambulance pass by. As we were finishing lunch, we got the news about the shooting. We all thanked God for His Divine intervention on our day.

After lunch our group walked to the Smithsonian Museum complex. We toured the American and Natural History Museums then we headed to Fuddrucker's for dinner. That evening we toured the Jefferson, FDR and Washington Memorials. After we returned to the hotel we had a short meeting and I was so proud of our students. They decided they wanted to do something to honor Officer Johns. We signed a sympathy card and mailed it to the Holocaust Museum. It may seem like a small gesture, but I realized through their words just how much Officer Johns had impacted our students in a few short minutes.

Thursday we started with a

picture stop at the White House. Then on to Ford's Theatre and the Peterson House to watch a presentation about the assassination of President Lincoln. We made our way to the war memorials. We started at the WWII Memorial, then visited the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial, the Korean War Memorial and finished at the Iwo Jima Memorial.

That afternoon we toured the National Cathedral and went to the National Zoo. The evening included a couple of hours at the Pentagon Mall eating and shopping before heading back to the hotel.

The morning of Friday, June 10, we drove out to Mount Vernon to view the home and gravesites of President George and Martha Washington. We finished our trip with a very short visit to the Air and Space Museum before heading to the airport. We made it to Lubbock by 10:00 that night. We entered the baggage claim area and standing there with a sign that read "Welcome Home Daddy" was a cute little girl. An honored soldier that had flown back with us walked over, picked up, and kissed his daughter. I think that was the perfect ending to our trip.

Post Notes

(Continued from Page 1)

Summer Gospel Singing

The Graham Chapel Church of Christ at 15th and Ave S will be having singing on Wednesday nights at 7:00 on the Pavilion behind the Church building. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 495-3261 or 495-3057.

PCM scheduled to meet June 30

The Post City Merchants will meet on Tuesday June 30th at 5:30. The location of the meeting is Rockin' K Outfitters. For more information contact Darla Frazier at 495-0608.

Cowboy Poetry at Copper Breaks State Park

QUANAH - The romance of the Cowboy and various legends of the American Indian will be the featured Campsite Talk at Copper Breaks State Park on Saturday evening, July 4, 2009. Doc Wood returns for his second season of Cowboy Poetry with a new collection of original and classic poems. Much of this year's material is taken from Wood's collection, Cowpokes and Country Folks. In addition to the new cowboy material, park

manager David Turner has joined in with a collection of Native American stories. This unique blend of poetry and storytelling captures the mystique of the western frontier with its blend of the cowboy poetry and Indian folklore. The family oriented program begins at 8:00 p.m. at the Day Use area of the park across from the Kiowa Campground. In case of inclement weather, the performance will move to the

park headquarters/museum. Doc, who grew up in the piney woods of deep east Texas prefers to call himself a "horseboy" rather than a "cowboy." "From as early as I can remember, we always had a plow mule, a milk cow, a few hogs and a yard full of chickens... the horses came later on in life, when I married my red headed cowgirl," says Wood. His rural upbringing is quite evident in his original poetry.

David D. Turner refers to himself as a "simple country boy from north Dallas," and currently serves as manager of the Copper Breaks State Park. David started using Native American tales and legends while stationed in deep East Texas to help school children develop an understanding of Native American cultures. The combined performance of Doc and David range from hilarious to extremely poignant, touching poems and tales dealing with life on the Texas frontier and the old west. This is a program you do not want to miss.

For more information on the Cowboy Poetry program, or other Copper Breaks events or facilities, contact the park daily during business hours at (940)839-4331. Copper Breaks State Park is located 13 miles south of Quanah and eight miles north of Crowell on State Highway 6.

FIRST CALL FOR ART FOR ANNUAL PARK ART SHOW

QUANAH - Park officials announced the Annual Summer Art Exhibition will start Saturday July 11, 2009 and end Sunday, August 9, 2009. This year's exhibit will be titled "Shutters and Shooters," and will feature photography along with a unique opening reception.

Those who want to show their photos in the art show need to contact the park now to make arrangements. All photos must be ready to hang and need to be at the park no later than the week before the show starts. Each piece must have information with it which lists the name of the photographer, a title, if any, and whether or not the piece is for sale. If the item is for sale, then the ask price must also be listed. As usual, photos which are inappropriate for display in a family oriented environment will not be accepted.

There will be an informal free reception from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 11 for the photographers. Visitors are asked to contribute to the Quahadi Society, Friends of Copper Breaks State Park.

This year's exhibit opening day will feature a unique set of presentations on the impact of firearms on the industrial revolution and ongoing history of this country. These presentations will continue through the day on the 11th, starting at 3:00 p.m. These presentations will include Gunsmithing, Reloading, the Peace Officer's perspective on Concealed Carry laws, Black powder weapons, and Collecting. In addition to the featured photography exhibition and the presentations, there will be a one day only exhibition of firearms in the Charles Call Education Room.

The Annual Summer Art Exhibition began 13 years ago with a showing of the "Chuckwagon Chronicles," the photography of Texas journalist Frank Reeves. Since then, the park has hosted an annual summer art show.

"Thanks to the sponsorship of the Quahadi Society, Friends of Copper Breaks State Park, we are able to have the annual exhibition," said park manager David D. Turner.

For more information on the Shooters and Shutters program, or other park programs or facilities contact the park daily during business hours at (940)839-4331. Copper Breaks State Park is located 13 miles south of Quanah and eight miles north of Crowell on State Highway 6.

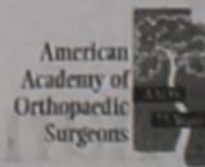
A SHORT STORY ABOUT GROWING UP WITH AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

POLIO.

As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.



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In and Around Close City

by Traci Freeman

Weather

Hot and Dry.....That's about it.

Our garden is progressing well, I got the first pickin's off of it on Tuesday, a few radishes and some banana peppers. We are patiently waiting on the rest of it.

News

Brooke Morris and her family traveled to San Angelo over the weekend to see her sister, Kayla. Those enjoying the trip with her were her parents, Barry and Amy and her grandparents; Charles and Sharron Morris. Kayla attends school at

Stevie is here visiting with his grandparents, Danny and Susan Gonzales.

Salli Bess came in Sunday night and stayed until Tuesday. While here she had a little belated birthday celebration. Daniel, our brother-in-law, cooked her pork chops on the grill; he has done this for her birthday, I guess ever since he and Trevah have been married. Gabe Vitt is also here visiting, he is the grandson of Jerry Don and Barba McCampbell of Roswell.

Visitors

Tom Henley and Bill Criswell came out last week; Gary Moore stopped in to chat a bit; JD Young came in for something cool to drink; Robert and Belinda Brown brought their grandbabies by to show off; Clinton and Kahl Yarbrow also stopped by to say hello.

Get Wells

We send a get well to Kimberly Yarbrow who is a little under the weather.

Don't forget our "Ragtown" folks in the nursing homes; Doug and Claudine Tipton and Carmen Abraham in Post, Jewel White in Lubbock. If I need to add anyone to this list, please let me know.

Keep our troops and rain in your daily prayers. Don't forget to check out our blog at <http://closecitycoopin.blogspot.com>.

Birthdays

June 26 - Eva Gonzales

June 28 - Clint Melton

Send all your Close City happenings to close.city.coop@pcca.com or call me here at the gin 495-2753

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Weekly Inspirations

I WILL NEVER FORGET

By: Michael F. Taylor

It was a very busy Father's Day. We had just come from an upbeat service at the church in which I had preached a sermon that I felt had honored the fathers of the congregation. As Joyce and I pulled into our driveway and the girls began to exit the car, my father and mother drove up. Dad was excited and told me that he had just purchased a brand new laptop computer to set up his evangelistic website. But, being from an older generation, wanted to know if I could come to his house in a few minutes and help him set the computer up. At that very moment, my cell phone rang and I was informed that the horses had once again escaped the hot wire fence and were loose in a cotton field. I told Dad that I would have to go put up the horses and that if it wasn't too late, I would then head over to his house to help with the new computer. I asked Robin, my daughter to change out of her church clothes and then we headed to the horse pens. By the time we arrived, the horses had already been put back and the hot fence had already been re-wired. Happily, we fed the animals and then I asked Robin if she wanted to go her Papa's house with me. "Yes, I didn't even get a chance to tell him happy Father's Day" she replied. We drove the few minutes back to town and my mind drifted to what Dad had told me of his day. You see my father had reluctantly retired from full time Pastoring and had recently been released from the Heart Hospital after three separate heart attacks. But on this Father's Day he had preached in Lubbock that morning and then held a southern gospel concert that night at our sister church in Slaton. He was having a truly wonderful day. We spent the next three hours laughing in fellowship with each other, and working on his new ministry web site. At exactly 11:15 P.M., my father stood up and looked at me as I sat in the chair next to him. "Dad, what's wrong?" I asked. "I don't know, son" he answered back. He then took his last breath on this earth and fell into my arms as his spirit went to be with the Lord whom he loved dearly. My father, Frank L. Taylor, had preached the gospel of Jesus Christ for the last forty-two years. And then, in the expanse of a moment in time, he was in the Lords presence.

It has forever changed Father's Day for me! But, not necessarily in a negative fashion! In fact, it has reassured me that my Lord and Savior truly is my Heavenly Father. For, He allowed me to spend the most precious three hours of my life in fellowship with my earthly father before he went to be with my heavenly father. Do I still miss dad? Every day! But I know that he is in glory awaiting my arrival. And until that day, I will have the blessed memories that are so sweet in my mind's eye. God gave me such a precious gift that day. 2 Corinthians, Chapter 5, lets us know, "Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. While we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come." NIV For each of you, I pray that you experienced a special Father's Day. If your father is still living, I hope that you told him of your love. If he has gone on to be with God, I pray that you will be comforted by knowing that we do have an eternal house in heaven, prepared by God Himself. And, speaking for myself, there is comfort in the memories treasured- I WILL NEVER FORGET- I LOVE YOU DAD! Several years later, God also gave me the distinct pleasure of performing the marriage ceremony of my mother to another wonderful man who also loves God. I love you as well Charlie! God bless each of you this week.

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Baptist		Church of God of Prophecy	602 W. 14th, 495-3644
Calvary Baptist Church	210 E. 6th, 990-2342	Power House Church of God and Christ	Pine Ave.
First Baptist Church, Post	402 W. Main St. 495-3554	Disciples of Christ	
First Baptist Church, Wilson	806-628-6333	First Christian Church	812 W. 13th, 495-3716
Grace Baptist Church	820 N. Ave. S 990-3497	Evangelical Methodist	
Methodist		Faith Chapel	1105 Green St., Wilson (806) 628-0018
Justiceburg Baptist Church	Justiceburg	Methodist	
Pleasant Home Baptist Church	E. 14th & N. Ave F	First United Methodist Church	216 W. 10th, 495-2942
Pleasant Valley Baptist	Hwy 84 & N. 399 (806) 828-4174	Graham Chapel United Methodist Church	495-3492
Southland Baptist Church	Southland	Nazarene	
Templo Bautista	315 W. Main	Post Church of the Nazarene	202 W. 10th, 495-3044
Trinity Baptist Church	915 N. Ave O	Grassland Church of the Nazarene	327-5656
Catholic		Non-Denominational	
Holy Cross Catholic Church	Ave. K and Main St., 495-2791	Family Harvest Church	111 N. Avenue I, 495-1400
Church of Christ		Caprock Springs Fellowship	12th & Ave. I 495-2171
Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326	Presbyterian	
		First Presbyterian Church	910 W. 10th, 495-2135

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Blackburn Media Group is looking for a part-time area reporter to cover Post, Floydada and Lockney. Must have reporting experience and access to a computer. Some nighttime work will be required. If interested submit writing samples to jami@thechil-dressindex.com

Lost and Found

Lost and reward for Rat Terrier. Lost Saturday night from behind Rodeo grounds, black & white Rat Terrier with tags, name is Corvette, the family is from east Texas, but please call 806-632-3423.

CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS!

Legal Notices

Post Independent School District is currently requesting bids for Milk, Gasoline and Diesel for the 09-10 School Year.

Sealed proposals will be received in the Superintendent's office at Post I.S.D.; 501 South Avenue K; Post, TX 79356 until 2:00 p.m. on July 6, 2009, at which time they will be opened and reviewed. The proposals will be considered at the School Board Meeting on July 14, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Post I.S.D. Administration Building.

Bid specifications may be obtained by contacting Shelley Odom, Post, ISD Business Manager, 806-495-3343 or Post ISD Administration; 501 So. Ave. K; Post, TX 79356

Post I.S.D. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

The George R. Brown Partnership, L.P. 4700 First City Tower Houston, TX 77002 has applied to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation, which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposed to inject fluid into the San Andres formation, City of Post San Andres WF-1 lease, Well Number B-20 CP, B-25 CP, B-30 CP. The proposed injection well is located in the town of Post, Texas in Garza field, in Garza County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the sub-

surface depth interval from 2850' to 3100' feet.

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

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Underground Injection Control Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

Garage Sale

Yard Sale Saturday 8-7 607 W. 12th St.

Garage sale Saturday June 27th 8-12 1206 West 10th St. Pop-up camper, mustang rims, all clothes for \$1.00, Toys, too much to mention.

Garage Sale Saturday 8-11 811 W. 13th St.

www.thepostdispatch.com

House for Sale

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Wife Says Sell, great 3 Br, 2 B, White River Lake. Central heat & air, fireplace, isolated master & bath \$59,900, but will consider any offer, in trouble with the boss. Tim Gristy 806-441-6003.

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1011 Sunset Dr. 2 living areas, isolated master, basement/storm shelter \$105,000 Century 21 John Walters Realtors, call Rusti Sterling 787-8754.

Personals

Post Group Alcoholics Anonymous

Meets on Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. Closed meetings, except for last Thursday of every month. For info, contact: 806-781-1156 or 806-495-5371 10th & Ave K, behind United Supermarket.

Post Al-Anon

Family Group Meeting, meets at 8:00 p.m. Same building, different room. For info, contact: 495-3053

Menus

TRAILBLAZERS

June 29

Baked chicken, broccoli/rice casserole, salad, biscuit, fruit

June 30

Chicken & rice soup, grilled cheese sandwich, cracker, Mexican wedding cake

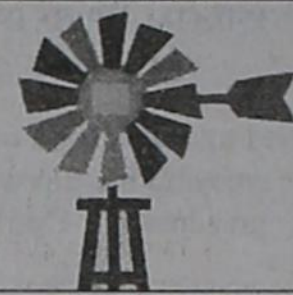
July 1

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Regional Drought Conditions

COLLEGE STATION - With-out rain and with temperatures soaring to the high 90s or topping 100, large parts of the state continued to suffer drought-like conditions, reported Texas AgriLife Extension Service personnel.

Conditions in the North, South Plains, Rolling Plains and Panhandle regions were better as far as soil moisture levels were concerned. Soils in the Rolling Plains were saturated, and North Texas welcomed drier weather after deluges of rain in early May.

To varying degrees, the East, Central, Coastal Bend, Far West, Southwest and West Central regions were beginning to dry out again after some relief earlier in June. But by far, the worst-hit regions were South and Southeast Texas as the drought relentlessly hammered crops and livestock.

"Hot temperatures have taken a toll on range and pasture conditions as soil moisture has evaporated," said Isaac Cavazos, AgriLife Extension agent in McMullen County, between Laredo and San Antonio. "Stock tank water levels remain very low, and most herds are obtaining water through water wells which are limited in the area."

"Conditions continue to be extremely dry and hot," said Joe Janak, AgriLife Extension agent in Victoria County, south of San Antonio. "Cattle producers are starting to feed cattle due to insufficient forage. Hay is being made in selected areas that received a little rainfall in past weeks, but yields are generally only a half round bale per acre."

"Dry conditions continue to wreak havoc with crops and pastures," said Ron Holcomb, AgriLife Extension agent in Liberty County, northeast of Houston. "Hay baling is minimal now due to the lack of rain. Pasture conditions continue to deteriorate without rain. Livestock are faring okay for now, but as the drought worsens livestock will worsen due to the lack of pasture and water."

"Range and pasture conditions continue to decline due to no topsoil moisture," said George L. Gonzales, AgriLife Extension agent for Webb County, near Laredo. "Stock tank levels are also declining or totally dried up. Windmills and water wells are being used on many ranches as the main source of livestock water."

More information on drought in Texas can be found on the Web site of the Drought Joint Information Center at <http://agrilife.tamu.edu/drought/>.

The following summaries were compiled by AgriLife Extension district reporters:

CENTRAL: Days were hot and windy. Topsoils dried out quickly, and pastures, rangeland and corn were stressed. Dairymen green-chopped forages to lower feed costs. Livestock were in good condition. Insect scouting on field crops was in

full swing with concern about sorghum midge in milo.

COASTAL BEND: Above-normal temperatures continued with no rain, stressing plants and animals. Forage crops were wilting throughout the day, lowering yields. Considerable crop acreage has been zeroed out by insurance companies. Livestock producers continued to provide supplemental feed to cattle.

EAST: The harvesting of hay, fruits and vegetables continued. Without rain, all plant growth slowed. Crops and pastures began to show signs of drought stress. Livestock were in good to excellent condition.

FAR WEST: Scattered showers, from 0.1 inch - 4 inches of rain fell. Farmers dry planted hoping for rain to get crops to emerge. Already emerged cotton struggled from wind damage and seedling diseases. Wind and no rain has put the cotton crop at risk. Most dryland cotton only partially emerged or did not come up at all. Irrigated cotton looked good. Ponds used to water cattle were drying up.

NORTH: Soil moisture ranged from short to adequate. Temperatures were in the upper 90s and heat indexes surpassed 100. Crop and pasture conditions were deteriorating because of the dry, hot weather. Wheat harvest was nearly complete with most fields yielding below 30 bushels per acre. Other wheat fields were too damaged to be harvested and was plowed under or baled. Those corn fields that drained well after the heavy rains in May looked good, but corn in the poorly drained fields was stunted and started tasseling early. The situation was similar for grain sorghum and soybeans. The oat harvest was nearly complete. Cotton was in good condition. Rice was in fair condition. Hay yields were high, but quality was often low because wet conditions delayed harvesting. Later cuttings of Bermuda grass were expected to be better. Livestock were in fair to good condition.

PANHANDLE: Corn and sorghum were emerging. The wheat harvest began in most areas. Early reports showed dryland wheat yields varied widely, from five bushels to 40 bushels per acre. Soil moisture was adequate across most of the area. Rangeland and pastures were in fair to good condition across most of the region.

ROLLING PLAINS: Rain saturated most of the region's soils. Hail destroyed some cotton fields, but it was early enough to make replanting an option. The rest of the cotton crop was in excellent condition, having received just the right amount of rain at the right time. Pastures and livestock were in good to excellent condition. The rain also filled livestock watering tanks. Producers needed dry weather to cut and bale hay, finish the wheat harvest and plant other crops.

SOUTH: The drought contin-

ued, with hot, dry weather the rule.

Soil moisture was short to very short throughout the region. Producers completed the harvesting of potatoes and green beans and the planting of peanuts. Corn and sorghum matured, and in the northern part of the region, cotton began setting bolls. The sorghum crop in the eastern part of the region was in very poor condition. In the western part of the region, corn and sorghum were at the seed-development stage and progressing well under heavy irrigation. Also in that area, cantaloupe harvesting was active, and irrigated cotton was doing well. Producers in the southern part of the region were preparing to harvest small grains. Native rangeland and pasture conditions deteriorated. Forage for livestock was becoming scarce, forcing producers to continue supplemental feeding. Stock tank levels continued to drop; some were already dry. Many ranchers were using windmills and water wells as the main source of livestock water.

SOUTH PLAINS: Temperatures exceeded 100 degrees. Rain accumulations ranged from 0.2-3 inches. Soil moisture was short to adequate. Corn was in good condition. Sorghum and soybeans were in fair to good condition. The wheat harvest was ongoing. Though the development of cotton was delayed because of drought, the crop remained in fair to good condition. Pastures and rangeland were in poor to fair condition with little growth due to drought. Cattle were in good condition with producers continuing to supply supplemental feed.

SOUTHEAST: High temperatures and no rain took a toll on rangeland, pastures and livestock, reported AgriLife Extension personnel. Coastal Bermuda grass was brown and maturing, requiring livestock producers to supply supplemental feed. Second hay cuttings were limited, and stocks from a first cutting were already running low. Irrigated Bermuda grass hay fields were not responding to irrigation; they were green but showed limited growth. Most crops were in poor condition with some sorghum reported as fair. Corn yields were expected to be low. Rice was in fair to good condition. Pond levels continued to drop.

SOUTHWEST: Hot, dry weather continued with mid-afternoon temperatures 100 or higher. Heat indexes were 105 or higher. The soil profile was very dry. The San Antonio Water System announced Stage II emergency rationing and was expected to go into Stage III rationing soon. Forages were scarce. Pastures and ranges made almost no progress. It appeared all but a few dryland crops have failed. The harvesting of cabbage, onion, green beans, sweet corn, cantaloupes and watermelons was ongoing. Heavily irrigated crops made excellent progress. Irrigated corn and sorghum were in the soft-dough stage. Below-average yields were expected due to

the dry, hot weather.

WEST CENTRAL: Hot, humid weather continued. Scattered showers fell in a few areas. Storm damage to crops was also reported. Cotton

planting was under way in most areas. Hay cutting and baling continued. Rangeland and pastures began to show signs of stress from the heat and lack of rain. Stock tanks and

ponds remained low. Livestock were in good condition. Producers were irrigating and spraying pecan orchards.

Russell Graves Outdoors

CONFESSIONS OF A POND JUMPER - Part 2

Approaching the Pond

By Russell A. Graves



"The first thing I do is try to figure out the age of the pond," says Bob Lusk, a fisheries biologist and owner of Pond Boss, a pond construction and management consultation service, runs his company from Sadler, Texas, and boasts clients nationwide.

"If the pond is older than three years, I always look for cover around the edges of the pond. A pond that's been stocked three to five years ago is starting to produce mature fish, and bass tend to move towards the edge of cover to snatch baitfish as they emerge from the cover." Lusk explains that because of largemouth bass' predatory nature, they'll often hang out, motionless, next to cover as they wait to stalk or ambush baitfish. Therefore, according to Lusk, identify the cover when you first approach the pond.

Rodney Gibson agrees with Lusk's assessment of sizing up a farm pond upon initial contact. In his professional career, Gibson is the director of pharmacy operations for a North Texas hospital, but in his spare time, he is a devoted pond angler who often guides clients on private fisheries in northeast Texas.

"Besides cover, I also take into account the particular time of year. If it's spring, fish will be near the bank in shallow water spawning and feeding. During the summer, fish will be on the bank at night and in the low-light hours, but they go to deep channels during the day." Gibson says that because fish are cold-blooded creatures, understanding their sensitivity to water temperature is paramount. Autumn often finds fish hanging out around drop-offs where shallow water transitions to deeper water. In the winter, fish stay in deeper water and are less apt to feed aggressively.

"I look for the areas that will match the depth that I think the fish are doing for that time of year and then look for cover," Gibson continues. "If I'm fishing a farm pond I have never seen before, I go to the dam and fish it thoroughly before fishing any other area, as big fish need deep water close to feel safe and the dam is usually the deepest part of the pond."

The Go-To Lure

Gibson and Lusk both agree that someone interested in fishing farm ponds needn't invest a great deal of money on a tackle box full of lures. In fact, they both agree that you only need a handful of artificial baits to be successful.

"My number one choice for lures is a small white or chartreuse spinnerbait," confides Gibson. He says that in clear water, he'll opt for the white bait while stained or muddy water calls for the chartreuse spinner. Gibson says he likes spinnerbaits because they are virtually weedless and work well during most of the year. He avoids using spinnerbaits heavier than 3/8 ounce because he postulates that most pond bass are accustomed to seeing small bait fish. Larger lures, Gibson contends, may be counterproductive and actually scare fish.

As a rule he says that the warmer the water, the faster he reels. "When the water is cold, I reel just fast enough to keep the blades turning and try to elicit an impulse strike. As the water warms, I reel faster so that the reflective flash of the blades resembles an injured baitfish."

Lusk agrees with Gibson in that a spinnerbait is hard to beat for catching bass in farm ponds. "Spinnerbaits do work well. I typically cast spinnerbaits parallel to aquatic plants and reel the bait along the dividing line between the plants and open water." Lusk says to look for cover and work the bait around it. Finding bass in open water, say, in the pond's middle, Lusk says, is rare.

Aside from spinnerbaits, both agree that soft plastic baits are a good alternative and work extremely well in situations where heavy vegetation is a problem. Various hook riggings such as the Texas and Carolina rigs work well under a variety of conditions. Gibson says he likes to rig a worm in a weedless configuration and work it without a weight, on top of moss. He says that if you work the light bait on top of moss or grass cover, bass can sense the bait's motion and attack it with intensity.

Any questions or comments? Contact Russell at russell@russellgraves.com or visit his website at www.russellgraves.com

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THE NOT JUST FOR KIDS PAGE



Baseball Card Collecting

For 100 years collecting baseball cards has been an American tradition. For the love of the game, for the love of history, or just for the fun of it, collecting cards is big business. Five major card companies print over 350,000,000 cards each year. It all started when cigarette companies started printing a picture of a baseball player on the cardboard backing inserted in every soft pack of cigarettes. What started as just a bonus eventually became the actual product.

Some collectors pick their favorite team and try to collect a complete season set. Others like to collect rookie cards or sophomore (second year) cards that may increase rapidly in value—if the player strikes it big. Mickey Mantle's rookie year Topps, 1952, card sold for over \$8000! On field player performance, the condition of the card or even hometown hero status can determine the value of a card.

Rating Baseball Cards

- Mint: Near perfect or unopened factory sets
- Near Mint: No more than one, not easily detected, micro defect.
- Excellent Mint: More than one, hard to spot, micro defect
- Excellent: Some minor defect like loss of the original gloss or slightly worn edges
- Very Good: Only one major defect like frayed edges, or loss of color
- Good: More than one major defect
- Fair: A card that has been damaged
- Poor: Several major defects



<http://www.brain-iacs.com>



COLLECTOR TIPS: Once you start collecting you will want to keep your cards in top condition. Wrapping stacks of cards in rubber bands will damage your cards. Instead, keep your valuable cards in individual plastic zip top bags. To store/display your collection purchase a three ring binder with clear vinyl (not plastic) pages.

Often in a baseball card pack you will find a Checklist Card. These team checklists are a great way to keep track of the cards you are collecting. Completing a team set is half the fun and challenge of collecting baseball cards.

MOST VALUABLE: Whose face is on the most valuable baseball card in the world? Mickey Mantle? Babe Ruth? No, Honus Wagner (left). This Hall of Fame, Pittsburg player's card sold in 2007 for \$2.35 million! What makes this card so rare and valuable? Read on....

The Sweet Caporal Cigarette Company issued Honus Wagner's card as a product bonus. After only a handful of cards had been issued, Honus demanded the cigarette company stop distributing the cards. The story goes; Honus was a non-smoker and did not want his name associated with tobacco. Another version says Honus wanted to be paid for his picture, so the cigarette company withdrew his card. Whichever the reason, only a very small number of cards were ever collected, which makes the very rare Honus Wagner card the most valuable baseball card in history.

Hockey great, Wayne Gretzky once owned the Wagner card. The current owner wishes to remain anonymous.

History Notes

After World War I tobacco companies no longer added cards to cigarette packs. Kids had become interested in baseball. Baseball cards were now added to gum, candy, and Cracker Jacks products. During WW II, due to the shortage of glue and paper, production of cards temporarily stopped.



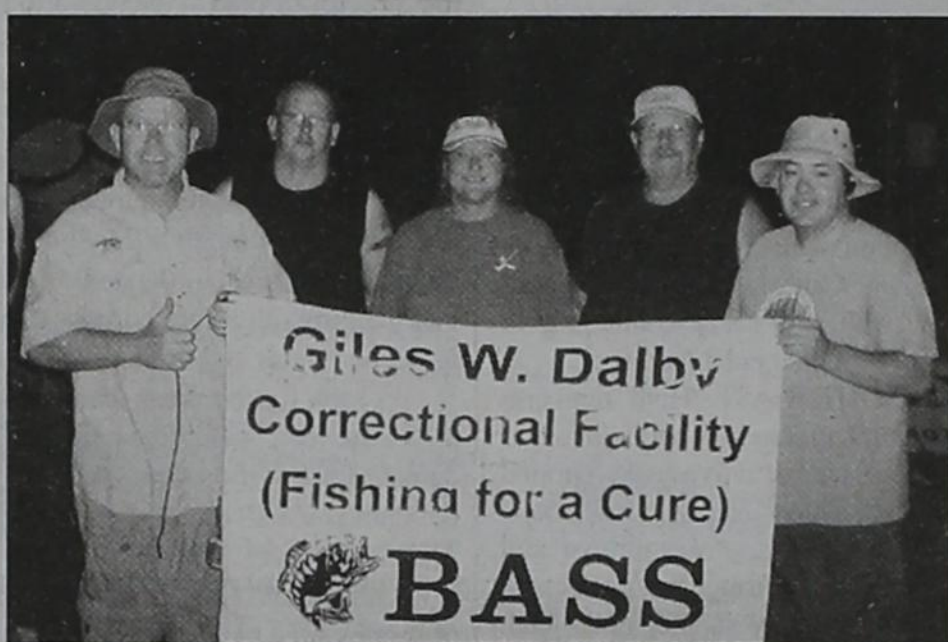
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R. C. Curtis happened by the East Side Clean Up project last week and decided to bring his equipment and help. Over 50 volunteers participated in the east side clean up project organized by the Rural Community Organizing Project. "Many residents from the east side neighborhood helped as well as other Post residents and representatives from Garza County, the City of Post, the Dalby Unit, White River Lake Retreat, the Probation Department and Victims Assistance program," said Reyes Pequeno, Community Organizer. The group hopes to take on another project in the future.



(from left) Arlene Guerrero, Bessie Lee, Pauline Flores and Lupe Garcia help put lunch together at the Pleasant Home Baptist Church for volunteers who worked on the East Side Clean Up project last week. The Dalby Correctional Facility provided hot dogs and drinks for the volunteers.



Volunteers who organized and assisted at the recent "Fish for the Cure" bass fishing tournament sponsored by the Dalby Correctional Facility are shown from left: Maurice (Mo) Herridge, David Graves, Prissy Ary, Grady Shybles and David Robles.

Rain Battles and Cloud Seeding Mr. Post's drought remedy

By Rosa Latimer
News Editor

When the town site was too far from the center of the county to be the county seat, Mr. Post moved the town. When farmers couldn't get along with their neighbors, Mr. Post moved the houses. When a railroad was needed for the development of Post City, Mr. Post brought one to town. And when lack of rainfall threatened crops, Mr. Post decided to make it rain!

C. W. Post's idea of farming on the plains was expected to fail because of the periodic droughts. As a matter of fact, Slaughter cattle were usually kept on another range three years out of five, for better grass because of the erratic rainfall.

Mr. Post was not a man daunted by mere nature. The panic of 1907 had not deterred him in his plans for a model community. He planned to grow cotton and constructed a cotton gin in 1910 which was operating by the fall of 1911. He built his cotton mill in 1912 to turn the ginned cotton into cloth and give a shot in the arm to local economy. He expected to overcome such a minor annoyance as a drought.

To beautify Post city, C. W. had planted avenues of trees. Men with horse drawn water tanks had the job of keeping these trees watered. At one time Post was said to be paying these men \$1800 a month to water the trees.

Mr. Post referred to his experiments to make it rain as rain battles. To residents of Post and Garza County, the clouds of dust and reverberation of sound did indeed resemble battles.

In the years 1912 - 1913, there were 13 rain "battles," seven resulting in rain. According to a letter from A. D. Marhoff, engineer in charge of rainmaking, certain atmospheric conditions were necessary. Humidity of 75% was advisable. There should be little or no wind.

The object of the rain battles was to carry the humidity near the surface to a higher altitude to condense and fall as rain.

According to Double U records, two or three pound shots of 60% dynamite were fired at a time at each of 15 stations on the caprock west of town. The stations were about 200 yards apart, covering a range of some two miles. Each station fired independently.

The Double U company was careful of the safety of its men, providing ammunition stations 100 yards from the firing point (which was located on rock). The ammunition station was protected by a 6-foot wood fence which was used as a shield for the dynamites.

Battles could not be scheduled because they depended on the need for rain and favorable atmospheric conditions. The tests were abandoned because of Mr. Post's death in 1914, with positive results not conclusive.

Garza County Community Action sponsors backpack project

The South Plains Community Action Agency is planning a backpack project for the upcoming school year. The project will allow the agency to provide backpacks filled with school supplies for needy and low income households in Garza County.

SPCAA is seeking financial contributions or school supplies in order to make this a successful event in our community. American State Bank has offered to donate many backpacks to our community and we hope to fill

them with much needed school supplies. The supplies we are requesting are: pencils, rulers, notebook paper, glue, scissors, spiral notebooks, pocket folders, erasers, map colors, school boxes, colored pens, pencil sharpener, markers and watercolors.

If you know a family in need, would like more information or would like to be a part of this positive action by making a donation, please contact Garza County Community Action, 495-2329.

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Public Notice

On June 9, 2009 a hearing was held regarding the property at 510 N. Ave M, Post, Texas. The Court found that the structure constitutes a dangerous building and entered an Order directing the owners of the property to remediate the condition within 30 days. A copy of the Order can be obtained at the office of the Post Municipal Court, 106 S. Broadway, Post, Texas.

On June 9, 2009 a hearing was held regarding the property at 305 W. 14th, Post, Texas. The Court found that the structure constitutes a dangerous building and entered an Order directing the owners of the property to remediate the condition within 30 days. A copy of the Order can be obtained at the office of the Post Municipal Court, 106 S. Broadway, Post, Texas.

On June 9, 2009 a hearing was held regarding the property at 208 N. Ave J, Post, Texas. The Court found that the structure constitutes a dangerous building and entered an Order directing the owners of the property to remediate the condition within 30 days. A copy of the Order can be obtained at the office of the Post Municipal Court, 106 S. Broadway, Post, Texas.

On June 9, 2009 a hearing was held regarding the property at 402 S. Ave J, Post, Texas. The Court found that the structure constitutes a dangerous building and entered an Order directing the owners of the property to remediate the condition within 30 days. A copy of the Order can be obtained at the office of the Post Municipal Court, 106 S. Broadway, Post, Texas.

On June 9, 2009 a hearing was held regarding the property at 1208 W. 10th, Post, Texas. The Court found that the structure constitutes a dangerous building and entered an Order directing the owners of the property to remediate the condition within 30 days. A copy of the Order can be obtained at the office of the Post Municipal Court, 106 S. Broadway, Post, Texas.

By U.S. Sen. J...
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JOHN CORNYN
UNITED STATES SENATOR, TEXAS
TEXAS TIMES

By U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

Every June, residents of Bowie, Texas participate in a celebration in honor of their town's namesake: James Bowie. "Bowie Days" involves several events such as a rodeo, a bass fishing tournament, and an antique car show. The man at the center of their celebration is remembered today for his colorful existence and his fervent dedication to Texas' independence.

According to most accounts, the legendary James Bowie was born on April 10, 1796. Bowie was raised in Catahoula Parish, Louisiana and as a teenager, he worked delivering lumber to market. When he wasn't working, Bowie enjoyed hunting and fishing and especially the thrill of capturing and riding wild horses and alligators.

Though he possessed an "open, frank disposition," an insult could provoke a hot temper in Bowie. Known for carrying a large butcher knife his brother had given him, Bowie became involved in a duel on September 19, 1827 that would go down in history as the Sandbar Fight. The original duel was between Samuel Levi Wells III and Dr. Thomas Maddox, who exchanged shots but missed each other. Another pair of men, Alexander Crain and Samuel Cuny, stepped in, and when Cuny was shot, Bowie, a bystander, fired at Crain and missed. Crain then shot Bowie in the shoulder. Witnesses claim Bowie drew his butcher knife, chased Crain and stabbed him several times. Word of the fight got out and Bowie earned a reputation as the most formidable knife fighter in the South. Even his knife gained notoriety, as men across the South began flocking to the blacksmith to have knives fashioned in the likeness of the "Bowie Knife."

At age 34, Bowie took the oath of allegiance to Mexico and

made his way to San Antonio. He was generally well liked by those he met along the way, as he was well traveled, conversational, and generous. On a darker note, Bowie had a love for gambling and operated under a mountain of debt. When he arrived in San Antonio, he presented letters of introduction to affluent Mexicans such as Juan Martin de Veramendi. Bowie gave off the impression of wealth and ingratiated himself with the Veramendi family. On October 5, 1930, Bowie officially became a Mexican citizen. A few months later, he married Ursula de Veramendi and they settled in San Antonio.

Shortly after his marriage, Bowie set out to reclaim a legendary silver mine west of San Antonio from hostile Indians. His defeat of the Comanches and other Indians who roamed the region earned him further acclaim as a skilled fighter. Bowie earned the position as a colonel of the Texas Rangers, and he went on to lead an effort to defeat Mexican troops in the Battle of Conception. A man serving under Bowie during that battle said he was "a born leader, never needlessly spending a bullet or imperiling a life."

But the role that would win Bowie a permanent place in Texas history was his leadership in the Battle at the Alamo. In 1836, Army Chief Sam Houston got word that Mexican General Santa Anna was driving a large force to San Antonio. Bowie was sent to defend the Alamo with 30 men in tow. Upon his arrival on January 19, Bowie found an existing force of 104 men with hardly enough artillery to defend the Alamo.

Through his connections to influential Mexicans in San Antonio, Bowie learned that Santa Anna was on his way with a force of 4,500 men. Bowie pled with the government for more men, rifles and resources. In a

letter to Governor Smith, Bowie said "the salvation of Texas depends in great measure on keeping Bexar out of the hands of the enemy." Houston had instructed Bowie to remove the artillery and destroy the fortress. Bowie refused.

Nearly 10 days later, William Travis arrived at the Alamo with 30 troops, and shortly after, Davy Crockett arrived with 12 men from Tennessee. After a power struggle with Travis, Bowie became ill and physicians were unable to diagnose him. Bowie was bedridden and Travis became commander of the forces. Santa Anna arrived on the outskirts of San Antonio several days later and began their siege of the Alamo on February 24. According to one reporter's account, when Travis realized they would likely be defeated, he drew a line in the sand—calling on those who were willing to die in the fight to cross it. Bowie requested that Crockett and others carry his cot across the line.

On March 6, the Mexicans attacked the Alamo and all 188 defenders were killed. Accounts of Bowie's death vary. Perhaps the most accurate version depicts Bowie on his cot with his "back braced against the wall, and using his pistols and famous knife" before he was killed. When his mother was informed of his death, she said of her son, "I'll wager no wounds were found in his back." Killed while defending the Alamo and his beloved Texas, Bowie's colorful legacy will continue to be told and retold for generations to come.

Sen. Cornyn serves on the Finance, Judiciary and Budget Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.

CAPITOL COMMENT



U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

On May 13, 2009, Russell Aubrey Whatley received a letter that would change his life. In the perfunctory letter, Chrysler informed Mr. Whatley that he would have less than a month to close down the dealership his family has profitably operated for three generations. His business has contributed to the livelihood of Mineral Wells, Texas through commerce and community involvement for the last 90 years.

The Russell Whatley Motor Company — one of the oldest car dealerships in Texas — was not the only business to find itself dragged into the worsening predicament of the U.S. auto industry, most recently punctuated by the bankruptcies of Chrysler and General Motors. Across Texas, 50 Chrysler dealers have been slated for closure. Nationwide, 789 dealers are being forced to close their doors — through no wrongdoing of their own. They did not make the business decisions that have placed the domestic auto industry in this position.

In fact, when ailing Chrysler in February urged its dealers to purchase additional inventory in a final, futile attempt to stave off bankruptcy, most of the dealers complied. And many of those who were subsequently terminated were flush with inventory Chrysler executives pushed them to buy, potentially burdening them with significant losses.

Upon learning of Mr. Whatley and other Texas dealers' plight, I was shocked that Chrysler could dismiss these loyal dealers, with whom the company had partnered for so many years, with little concern for the well-being of the employees, customers, and com-

munities they serve. I disagree that these profitable dealers should close at all. On May 21, I introduced an amendment to deny Chrysler additional Treasury funding, which it has been receiving to help maintain solvency, unless it gave dealers slated for closing adequate time to do so. In a matter of hours, my colleagues signed on to the legislation until we had 39 Senators from both sides of the aisle calling for equitable treatment of the terminated dealers. Our calls were heeded when the Chrysler CEO Jim Press personally assured me that Chrysler was taking steps to help automotive dealers across the country.

This was a welcome development, but as Ronald Reagan was known to say, "Trust. But verify."

As Senior Republican on the Senate Commerce Committee, I worked with Chairman Jay Rockefeller to verify that Chrysler would, indeed, provide each impacted dealer ready access to necessary resources to close down its operations with as little pain as possible under the circumstances. On June 3, we held a committee hearing in which Mr. Press and GM CEO Fritz Henderson testified alongside the very dealers they were dismissing, including Mr. Whatley.

Mr. Whatley made it clear in his testimony that Chrysler's decision to discontinue its relationship with him was not just the failure of a business venture. For him and his family, it was the end of three generations of personal investment and enterprising spirit. He said, "My grandfather opened this dealership in 1919, and it kept open during the Depression, World War

II, and countless economic setbacks. In the 90 years that we have been [in Mineral Wells], 36 other new car dealerships have come and gone in our town. We have stayed open because we are committed to customer service... To be arbitrarily closed with no compensation is wasteful and devastating."

During the hearing, I probed Chrysler's actions on two critical points. First, would Chrysler repurchase or help redistribute the cars left on closed dealers' lots and remaining parts inventory? And second, would closed dealers receive first consideration for buying into a new dealership if Chrysler reentered their markets? Mr. Press pledged at the hearing that dealers could count on Chrysler's help as they closed, and on June 12 I received formal assurances in a letter. He confirmed that 100 percent of closing dealers' inventory will be purchased at cost, minus a \$350 fee, and Chrysler will work with closing dealers to redistribute or buy back remaining parts inventory. Furthermore, if Chrysler elects to reenter the Mineral Wells market, for example, Mr. Whatley will have first consideration for the new dealership.

Ultimately, what Chrysler has promised me is not nearly as important as the promises Chrysler must honor for its closing dealers, 50 of which are in Texas: a fair process that will limit the economic damage on businesses and the communities they have faithfully served. Amidst our nation's economic hardships, many are being called upon to make tough decisions. But there are right ways to do things, and there are wrong ways. In October, General Motors will close 1,300 of its dealers. I hope that the challenges we have faced with Chrysler will guide the actions of GM's executives as well.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas and the Senior Republican on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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NINE AND TEN YEAR OLD LITTLE LEAGUE ALL STARS

Back row from left: Coach Brandt Taylor, Coach Randy Britton, Coach Robby Willborn. Middle: Kade Smith, A.J. Escobedo, Ben Ayala, Brody Kelso, Brandon Britton, Kale Yarbro, Austin Britton. Front: Kace Lott, Kobe Ammons, Jonathan Hernandez, Auggie Menchaca, Bandy Osborn



ELEVEN AND TWELVE YEAR-OLD ALL STARS

Back from left: Coach Shawn Pennell, Allen Perez, Carson Kirkpatrick, Ethan Self, Aron Lopez, Christian Armendariz, Kyle Jones & Coach Russell Benham. Front from left: Jarred Curtis, Christian Pearson, Erik Gomez, Dylan Pearson, Christian Saucedo & Blane Reece

Chamber celebrates expansion at Cocara's Diner



The Post Area Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon cutting at Cocara's Diner to celebrate their recent expansion at 206 E. Main. Shown from left are Chamber Public Relations Manager Harry Record; Naomi Matsler; Cocara's employees Valerie Melton

and Gregory Melton; owner Jane Terry; employee Erica Martin; Chamber member Angeline Collier; Chamber Manager Janice Plummer and Chamber Board member Jim Plummer.

Cocara's is open Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. serving hot lunches 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and sandwiches, homemade desserts and free coffee all day. The downtown restaurant is also open the first Saturday of each month for Old Mill Trade Day Downtown. For carry out or to order ahead call 495-0510.

Steels celebrate 70th wedding anniversary



Joyce (J.C.) and Jewel Steel celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary Wednesday, June 17, 2009. The couple was married in the Post Methodist Church parsonage on June 17, 1939. Joyce served in the U.S. Army in World War II and then farmed and was employed in the oilfield. Jewel was a housewife and mother. Their children are Marilyn of Stillwater, OK and Curtis and his wife, Judy of Oracle, AZ. The Steels also have two granddaughters, Lisa Konemann and Amy Case and two great-grandsons.

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Rep. Heflin plans Borden County town hall meeting

State Representative Joe Heflin has scheduled town hall meetings throughout District 85 to discuss the issues and outcome of the recently-concluded 81st Regular Legislative Session. The regular session ended June 1 and Rep. Heflin has returned to the District to report to area residents about the session, to respond to their questions and to hear about their issues and concerns.

In announcing his town hall meeting schedule, Rep. Heflin said, "I consider this one of the most important parts of a state representative's job - to meet with and hear about the issues that are on the minds of constituents in the district. It is essential both to keep voters informed of what is happening in Austin and to make sure that I can represent their interests to the best of my ability."

The first Town Hall meeting will be at the Borden County Courthouse in Gail Tuesday, July 7 at 8:30 a.m. Other meetings are scheduled in Glasscock County, Regan County, Iron County and Sterling County.

Everyone is invited to come to one or more of these upcoming town hall meetings. "The more that people know and understand about the state legislature, the better I am able to ensure that state government can respond to and address the needs of West Texans," Heflin concluded.

Rep. Heflin represents Texas House District 85, including Borden, Crosby, Fisher, Floyd, Garza, Glasscock, Hale, Howard, Jones, Kent, Lynn, Iron, Reagan, Sterling, Stonewall and Terry Counties. Heflin may be reached at his Capitol Office in Austin, 512-463-0604; his District Office in Crosbyton, 806-675-1583 or in Big Spring, 432-213-2897.

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