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The Post Dispatch

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Friday, January 1, 2010

A Look Back: 2009 In Review

(Editor's Note: This is part one of a two-part story reflecting on the events covered in The Post Dispatch in 2009 as compiled by our staff.)

January

Garza County officials were sworn in for a new term of office during a ceremony held Jan. 1 at the Garza County Courthouse. Those taking the oath of office were County Attorney Mike Munk, Sheriff Cliff Laws, Tax Assessor/Collector Judy M. Bush, Pct. 1 Commissioner Gary L. McDaniel, County Judge Lee Norman, Constable-2 Daniel A. Yarbrow, Pct. 3 Commissioner Ted A. Brannon and Constable-1 Eric D. Cravy.

Kathryn Villalon, a Post High School Junior and a member of the Pride of Post Band, recently earned a spot in the Texas All-State Band. Villalon, a percussionist, was chosen for this honor in competitive auditions held this year across the state at regional and area levels.

Chad Miller, a senior at Post High School, made the THSCA Academic All-State Football Team as an Honorable mention player.

County Livestock Show- Jarrett Blevins, Garza County 4-H, won Grand Champion Steer with his heavyweight Breed Champion Exotic. D'Nae Johnson won Grand Champion in the Sheep Division with her heavyweight Breed Champion Medium Wool. Jessi Isbell won Grand Champion in the Rabbit Division with her Aged Doe Mini Rex Division Champion. Sara Greer, of Post FFA, won Grand Champion in the Goat Division with her 1st place heavy Medium-weight Division Champion Goat. Devin Blanton, a Southland FFA member, won Grand Champion with his heavyweight Breed Champion Cross.

The Garza County Junior Livestock Association held its 45th Annual sale and Buyers Appreciation Dinner. Over 198 attended. The sale totaled over \$63,000.

February

MTC staff selected its outstanding employees for 2008 at the Dalby Unit. Trevah Yarbrow, an eight-year employee of MTC received the Employee of the Year award. Rick Searcy received Security Employee of the Year. Charla Miller received Supervisor of the Year award.

Pat Cruse of the Garza County Historical Museum created a special exhibit commemorating Black History Month. The focus of the exhibit is three African American women who were early pioneers in United States history. The women featured included Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth "Bessie" Coleman, and Harriet Tubman.

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Garza County Law Enforcement Facility. Over 100 Garza County residents and guests visited the facility during the special event. "The Crucible" was chosen as winner of the best play for 2008 at the Garza Theater

22nd Annual Willy Awards. "On the Air" was awarded Best Musical for 2008. Winner of Best Youth Actress in a play went to Tye Basques. Best Youth Actor in a play went to Ian Boone of Lubbock, who also won the Outstanding Youth Newcomer award.

March

At the 2009 Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet, the Bill Long Family accepts the award for Cowboy Hall of Fame inductee Bill Long, Ronnie Graves received the Conservation Farmer of the Year, Dr. Ben Edwards received the 2008 Citizen of the Year, Ragtown Gospel Theater was awarded Business of the Year, Marlin Marcum received the Leadership in Education Award, Judge Lee Norman received the Leadership and Government Award, Ray Bagby received the Leadership Community Service Award, Thressa Harp received the Leadership

(continued on Page 9)



Garza County youth, emergency personnel, school staff and other members of the community participated in Shattered Dreams in March. The event was a vivid reminder of the potential disaster of drinking and driving. Photo by Jeff Blackmon



Cast members of the Garza Theatre's production of "The Crucible" which won a Willy Award at the January ceremony for Best Play of 2008. Courtesy photo



Before all of the snow from Christmas Eve had melted, Garza County was hit with another winter blast. For a few hours on Tuesday, visibility was very limited on Main Street. Photo by Rosa Latimer

Precinct 4 Commissioner's Race Heats Up

The Commissioner's contest in Precinct 4 got more interesting this week. Incumbent Mike Sanchez filed for re-election and almost simultaneously, Joe

Stanley filed an application for a place on the ballot. Both are seeking the Precinct 4 Democrat nomination. Joining these two candidates vying for the same spot in the

November election is Jerry Benham, who filed earlier.

With the final date to file for the March 2, 2010 primary election very close at hand, incumbents County Judge

Lee Norman; District and County Clerk Jim Plummer; County Treasurer Ruth Ann Young; Pct. 2 Commissioner Charles Morris; Justice of the

(continued on Page 4)

Post Notes

No Inserts This Week

We are sorry there will be no American Profile inserts in The Post Dispatch this week. The popular weekly magazine will return in next week's edition.

Old Mill Trade Day Downtown Jan. 2

Vendors of all types are invited to participate in the first Trade Day event of 2010. Local churches and other non-profits could use this opportunity for fundraisers. Vendors are set up outdoors downtown on East Main. There is a \$25 set up fee per event. For more information or to reserve vendor space, call 495-3461. You can also come by the Chamber office, 131 E. Main, the morning of the event and get a vendor space. The Chamber office opens at 7 a.m. the day of the event. Old Mill Trade Day Downtown is sponsored by Post City Merchants and Post Area Chamber of Commerce.

H1N1 Vaccine Available

The H1N1 vaccine is now available to the general public at the Garza County Health Clinic. The CDC has authorized vaccinations for all individuals regardless of age or health risk.

Christmas Tree Disposal

The City of Post sanitation crews will be out picking up and disposing of large bulk items and Christmas trees until Friday, January 8, 2010. Please have these things ready for pickup. After January 8 crews will no longer pick up in the alleys. Any items remaining by the dumpster will be the owner's responsibility to transport to the landfill. For more information, call 495-2811.

(continued on Page 4)

OLD MILL TRADE DAY DOWNTOWN THIS SATURDAY

Opinions



The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

No Christmas Card This Year

For the past several years, our family Christmas card has been a photo of the four of us. This year, we didn't get a photo taken, thus, no card.

In addition, with all that we've been through and the outpouring of love we've received from so many, we originally wanted to send Christmas cards to darn near everyone. In the end, the cards never materialized. We simply ran out of time to make it happen.

At one point, I thought about writing a letter featuring family highlights of the past year. That didn't happen either.

Had I written a letter, I certainly would have mentioned how the awesome power of prayer has had a dramatic effect on the physical and mental well-being of my family. Simply put, our family, friends and neighbors have sustained us with their support.

In my hypothetical Christmas letter, I surely would have mentioned how the acts of kindness, food, flowers and cards lifted our spirits greatly. We've been in awe of so many and how thoughtful people can be. Sharon and I both agree that we are better people because of the people around us.

Surely I would have remembered to thank businesses and individuals we deal with. When you drop your normal routine and basically live in another city for a month, many things can fall through the cracks regardless of what you think you are taking care of. Again, we are blessed in our many professional relationships as business needs to continue regardless of the situation.

One of the most important things I would have said in the letter was how we appreciate the love and support shown to our children. Our two sons have been cared for by so many people. I doubt the boys have a clue how dire things were at times, and that is a result of caring friends and family keeping them active and happy (as well as rested and fed).

No letter would have been complete without mentioning how strong our relationship is, as husband and wife. Not that it is anyone's business, but what was already a strong relationship and been reinforced with faith and determination. When you see your partner fight with everything they have... every fiber in their being, it is hard to convey the feelings of adoration which develop. I now know without a doubt that my wife is ready to face whatever life throws our way and that she is truly formidable and resilient. There is great comfort in that thought.

During a conversation over the weekend, Sharon and I were discussing how we both feel like we've been in a cloud for nearly three months. Now we feel the clouds have started clearing and the forecast calls for a beautiful life together. A life made much better because of what many of you have done for us in one way or another. Our humble gratitude is yours and our prayer is that each of you have the best year of your life thus far in 2010.

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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://thenewbastion.blogspot.com/>.



More Moms Have to Go to War

By Nancy Fulton

In 2001, after the attack on the twin towers, the US went to war in Afghanistan. Since the folks that had attacked us were funded by Saudi Arabians, and the people of Afghanistan are some of the poorest and most insular on earth, that didn't make much sense. But we've spent almost 10 years moving the rubble around to the tune of a few hundred billion a year anyway.

Attacking Iraq in 2003 made even less sense since they had absolutely nothing to do with the 9/11 attack, had one of the most westernized/secular regimes in the region, and were fully contained by a very effective no-fly zone. We've been at war there for more than seven years... and all we've done is set up a puppet government that will fall unless US military forces and vast sums of military aide are continuously poured into Iraq to maintain it.

Here in the US... most of us have managed to do a pretty good job of ignor-

ing both wars. And one can make the case that's kind of adaptive. If people of the US allowed ourselves to get violently angry every time our government did something completely stupid, our society would rip itself to bits. So we all work hard to ignore the crap it does.

But now it is time for us to start a war of our own and I think Mothers are going to have to be on the front lines.

Yes, I Mean You...

Most of us Mom's can barely manage to get the kids to school and feed them dinner every day. Most of us work. Most of us are responsible for doing the laundry, paying the bills, getting the dog to the vet and taking Grandma to the doctor.

Most of us have barely five minutes a day to call our own.

But I'm here to make the case that if you love your kids you had better decide to spend that five minutes every day working hard to end these two stupid wars.

Our lack of effective political action has cost us a great deal in the last decade and it is on the verge of costing is a great deal more in the months to come. Ignoring these wars and all the related government spending is like ignoring a lump in your breast or your husband's chest pains.

You'll live to regret your mistake very much.

I Know You Don't Have Much Time... So Here's the Low Down

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have cost the US about one trillion dollars (\$1,000,000,000,000) in cold hard cash. Since the war was paid for by deficit spending, which is effectively like paying for it with high interest credit cards), and since those direct costs don't take into account the impact on VA and veterans benefits going forward, or the cost to states, National Guardsmen and their equipment, the price is actually two or three times higher.

Much of the money we have spent has gone to com-

panies like Kellogg Brown Root, who poisons the water our soldiers drink and electrocutes them in their showers, and Blackwater, who (unconstrained by the Universal Code of Military Justice), commits atrocities that get our military men killed. These companies, and all the other military contractors our money has been "donated" to, have very active "political lobbies" that we've funded insanely well over the last decade.

Believe me, hundreds of millions of the dollars you and have have "invested" on fighting this war are being used to keep it going in perpetuity by the folks who make a profit from it.

Spending all this money on war has meant not spending it on education, jobs, or anything else you or your family benefit from.

In fact, this spending has siphoned money from every program that provides any direct benefit to you, including law enforcement, government regulation that's supposed to protect your food, water or financial investments. It has even gutted disaster relief programs, as we saw in New Orleans.

The Problem has Become Critical So You Have to Take Effective Action Now

The United States is currently in an economic crisis which has occasioned more than two trillion dollars of deficit spending in the last year alone. The government tells us that the unemployment rate is over 10%, and that doesn't take into account the 5%-7% that have been unemployed so long that they no longer have benefits.

States, ranging from Arizona and Michigan to California are collapsing due to lack of tax revenues and an explosion in the number of people who need food, housing and health care.

Safety nets that protect children, the elderly and the infirm are evaporating. Cuts to education from kindergarten through University are making it harder for folks

Moms... (continued on Page 8)

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Happy New Year!
Wishing you the best in 2010!

We will be closed Friday, January 1.

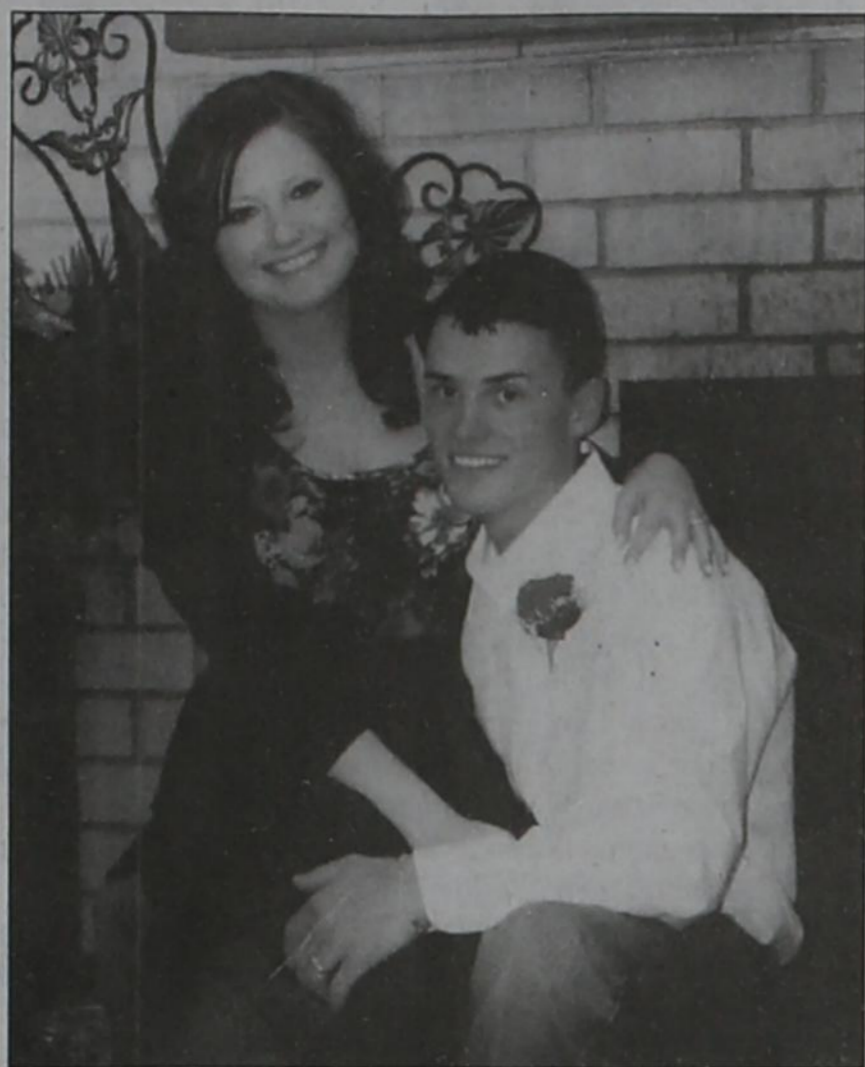
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This Week in Post City

By Rosa Latimer



Norman/Scott Wed

Kim and Rhonda Norman are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter Steffi Kim Norman to Tanner Keith Scott, son of Jackie and Lisa Scott of Kress, TX.

The couple was married Sunday, December 13 with 25 family members present. The two were joined together by Pastor Joey Hamlin of Family Harvest Church in the bride's home.

A Christmas theme with burgundy poinsettias and Nativity scenes were used for decorations.

The couple plans to reside in Hart, TX where the groom is employed by Welch Farms.

Garza County Included in \$1.6 million in federal stimulus weatherization funds

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and State Representative Joe Heflin have announced a major award to a regional nonprofit organization designed to generate a wide array of jobs that will help jump start the region's construction industry, while increasing home energy efficiency for low income households, reducing their cost burden, and creating a healthier environment.

TDHCA awarded \$1.6 million in federal stimulus funding to South Plains Community Action Association to weatherize the homes of low income residents living in Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lynn, Motley, Terry, and Yoakum counties. "I am extremely pleased to see these federal stimulus funds reaching communities in my district," said Representative Heflin in making the announcement. "In addition to reducing the utility cost burden on households who can least afford it, these funds will create construction jobs and safer, more energy efficient homes for the residents of West Texas. I am confident that TDHCA and South Plains Community Action will make good use of these funds."

The award represents a portion of \$288 million in weatherization stimulus funds the state is allocating to 45 cities, counties, and eligible nonprofit organizations across the state to weatherize the homes of an estimated 40,000 low income Texans.

The awards were made through the Department's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and were provided on a one-time basis to the state through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The Recovery Act provided approximately \$314 million more in funds than what TDHCA typically administers each year for weatherization activities. By comparison, the Department annually weatherizes approximately 3,700 homes using current funding levels of approximately \$13 million.

"The state has been given an extraordinary opportunity to make an enormous difference in the everyday lives of Panhandle residents," said Michael Gerber, TDHCA Executive Director, "actions that will lower their energy

consumption, create healthier surroundings, and reduce the state's overall demand for energy. We also pledge to ensure these funds are administered in a responsible, accountable manner at the state and local levels."

WAP is designed to help low income customers control their energy costs through the installation of weatherization materials and consumer education. Income eligible households spend 12.2 percent of their income on home energy costs, compared an average of 3.7 percent. Households assisted through WAP typically save over \$400 on utility costs each year, savings can be enjoyed for as long as 15 to 20 years.

Primary efforts focus on caulking; weather-stripping; the installation of ceiling, wall, and floor insulation; patching holes in the building envelope; duct work; and the possible repair or replacement of energy inefficient heating and cooling systems.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is the funding source for this one-time allocation of weatherization funds. In addition to the substantial increase in funds, the Recovery Act contains two provisions that will extend TDHCA's ability to reach those in need.

Under the Recovery Act, the income limit for eligibility increases from 150 percent to 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines. TDHCA currently sets its income limits at 125 percent to ensure these funds, which are normally quite limited, reach deeper pockets of need.

Additionally, the Act raises the monetary cap that may be spent on each household from \$2,500 to \$6,500. The Department, which combines WAP funds from DOE and the U.S. Department of Health and

Weatherization...
(continued on Page 10)

I'm a real fan of CBS Sunday Morning and during the last show of each year, the program reviews the lives of important people who passed on during the previous year.

This week the show prompted me to think about folks who are important in my life, and in the life of this community. Not those who have passed on, but those who continue to impact the lives of others in a very positive way. We could say that these individuals have the "Jimmie Redman" attribute. Seemingly common people who make an uncommon difference by doing what they view as ordinary, or "just my job."

I made my list quickly and these are the names that immediately came to mind. They aren't necessary close friends and I may not interact with them often; however, when their lives touch my life, I am a better person for the experience. I hope this column will prompt you to also focus on and appreciate the positive influences in your life.

Staff of Hometown Pharmacy. Aren't these people great? It doesn't matter if you've got an emergency or just routine pharmacy needs, they all react and interact in a very caring, personal way. Yet, there is never any doubt that you are receiving the best professional help as well.

Bubba Smith. I really didn't know this guy very well until the creation of the Christmas light and music show this year. Bubba is always helpful and thoughtful. I'm sure he experienced many stressful moments putting everything together, yet there he was, smiling and doing a terrific job. In case you didn't know, Bubba also organized the free Community Christmas Dinner this year. Altogether, including take out meals, the dinner served right at 100 people and provided an opportunity to share the true spirit of the season with the community.

Aaron Rathbun. Aaron is the director of the Pride of Post Band, but he's also involved in many other community activities. He led the singing at the Community Christmas Sing this year and once again, I was reminded of this guy's love of music and a positive attitude that affects all who come in contact with him. We are all fortunate to have him as a leader to our students and to have his influence in the community.

Lance Stanley. Almost everyone knows Lance - if not by name as the "UPS guy." Lance has a physically tough job, plus everyone wants their packages NOW! He's always helpful, always pleasant and I'm always glad to see him.

Shellee Odom. Shellee has been a part of this community for many years, but in recent years has served as the Post ISD Business Manager. Most often I interact with her when I need information for the newspaper; however, I've observed Shellee and regardless of the situation, she is very professional, kind and helpful.

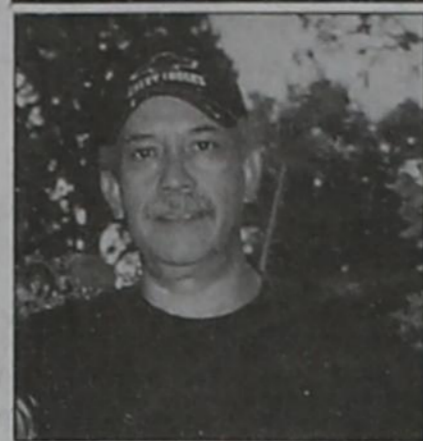
Patty Kirkpatrick. Patty has done hundreds (if not thousands) of things through the years to support and help this community. She continues to be interested and involved. Patty is a shining example of a very smart woman who continues to learn new things. She is a great example to all of us of how to successfully stay involved with your church and community while maintaining solid relationships with family and friends.

Ada Lou Bird. I've written about Ada Lou before, but she will always be on my list of folks that have a positive impact on my life. The sparkle and brilliant color you see in her shop are a perfect reflection of this woman's effervescent personality. She's a smart businesswoman, a good friend and always fun!

And there are many others who would make my list! Aren't we fortunate that in our community there are many, many individuals that we could honor in this way? They quietly go about their business in a manner that is positive to those who live in Post and those who visit Post. Let's agree that in the coming New Year, we will stop and sincerely acknowledge these folks often.

That's it for this week in Post City!

Obituaries



Mike Flores

Funeral services for Mike Flores, 55, were held at 11 a.m. Monday, December 28, 2009 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Amarillo with Rev. Hector Madrigal officiating. He died December 24, 2009. Burial was at Memory Gardens in Amarillo. Arrangements by Schooler Funeral Home, Amarillo.

Mike was born on March 13, 1954 to Miguel Flores Sr. and Epifania Gonzalez Flores. He attended Southland schools all twelve years. After a five year courtship, Mike and Karen Shappell were married on May 1, 1991 in Slaton TX. In December 1993, Mike and Karen moved to Amarillo where he had supervised the maintenance of the Candlewyck Plaza

Apartments for the past 16 years.

Survivors include his wife, Karen; two sons, Mike Jesse Flores III and wife, Kristen of Galesburg, MI and Mike Langley of Austin, TX; five daughters, Michelle Flores of Enterprise, AL, Charo Janie DelosRios and husband, Ruben in Orion, MI, Amy Blalock and husband Erik of Amarillo, Monique Valderaz and Gloria Flores of Slaton; his mother, Epifania Gonzales Flores of Southland; his sister, Mary Ellen Garza and husband, Paul of Slaton; grandchildren, Alexandria and Elizabeth Flores of Galesburg, MI, Ruben III, Elisa and Daniela DelosRios of Orion, MI, Gabriella Cordero of Hutton, TX, Katelynn Tidwell and Angel Blalock of Amarillo, Jordan Garcia, Tannon, Trevor, Tara and Evan Cearley of Slaton and Emilio Cruz Soto DelaFlores of Buelton, CA; four nephews, Paul and Erik Garza of Slaton, Jimmy Campbell of Austin and Danny Campbell of Amarillo; a niece, Angela Garza of Slaton and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins, all of the Lubbock area.

Justice Seeks Return to JP Post

Dee C. Justice recently announced he will seek another term as Justice of the Peace for Precinct 2.

Having served for more than 26 years in the position, Justice said he is asking for the continued support of the people of Precinct 2 in his bid for re-election.

In a statement issued earlier this week, Justice said he has enjoyed serving in the office and wants to continue to serve by providing a fair and unbiased court.

While in office, Justice has met all continuing education requirements, attending numerous seminars relating to the duties of the JP's position. He has served on various advisory committees, both locally and on the state level. He was instrumental as an advisor and test site in the creation of Justice Court Software by the Texas Office of Court Administration.

At this time, Justice states that there are several technological advances being studied and he wants to be a continued part of the advancement.

I have been honored to have served the people of Garza County, Justice said, "and will continue to serve in the same manner if re-elected."

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the postdispatchonline.com

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Commissioners... (continued from Page 1)

Peace, Pct. 1 Gordon Terry and Justice of the Peace, Pct. 2 Dee C. Justice are still unopposed. District Judge Carter T. Schildknecht is, at this time, the lone candidate for that position.

Deadline for filing for the March primary is Monday, January 4 at 6 p.m. At that time, all requirements for putting your name on this primary ballot must be complete. To file contact your party chairman: Republican, Trevor Thuett, (806) 495-3476, tthuett@lyntegar.com. Democrat, James Bell, (806) 470-9220, rosa@rubylanebooks.com. Independent candidates may file declaration of intent to run with the County Judge.

If you aren't interested in being a candidate for the upcoming primary election, you still have an opportunity to be involved. The Garza County Party Chairmen are seeking registered voters to participate in the March 2, 2010 Primary Elections. The ability to speak English and Spanish is a plus. For more information, please contact the chairman of the party you associate with: Democratic County Party Chairman James Bell or Republican County Party Chairman Trevor Thuett. For more information and a current list of candidates, visit GarzaCounty.net and click on "Elections."

Post Notes... (continued from Page 1)

News and Photos Welcome

"Thank you" to those who submit news and pictures to The Post Dispatch. Please continue! Also, we encourage others to email this type of information to postcitydispatch@yahoo.com. Just remember to include all the facts - who, what, when and identify everyone in the photo. Also provide a telephone number so we can call if we need more info.

Wanted: Election Poll

Workers

The Garza County, Party Chairmen are seeking registered voters to participate in the March 2, 2010 Primary Elections. The ability to speak English and Spanish is a plus. For more information, please contact the chairman of the party you associate with: Democratic County Party Chairman: James Bell, (806) 470-9220, rosa@rubylanebooks.com or Republican County Party Chairman: Trevor Thuett, (806) 495-3476, tthuett@lyntegar.com.

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Voter Registration Cards Have Been Mailed

All voter registration cards for 2010 have been mailed. If you have not received yours, please check with the Garza County Tax Office in the County Courthouse as it may have been returned with an incorrect mailing address. In order to vote in the March elections, you will need to correct your address so we can get your new card to you. If you have questions, please call our office at 806-495-4448.

March 2010 Primary Election

For information about the upcoming March 2, 2010 Primary Election, go to www.GarzaCounty.net then click on "Elections." You'll find details about candidate filings and other election information.

Benefit Account

A benefit account for Brenda Sweeten has been set up at Wells Fargo Bank to help Brenda Sweeten with travel expenses to and from Baylor Hospital. Brenda is going to have to have a liver transplant and she will also have the expenses of staying for preliminary testing and matching for the liver. Any help will be much appreciated.

Account Established for Michele Raben

Medical expense account has been set up at Citizens Bank for Michele Raben to help with growing medical expenses after surgery.

Account Established for Gonzales

An account has been set up at Citizens Bank to help Eva Gonzales with medical and funeral expenses for Mike Gonzales.

Blanket Drive Continues for Animal Shelter

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a blanket drive for the local animal shelter. Bring your old blankets and towels to the Chamber office, 131 E. Main, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday. The office is closed from 12:00 - 1:00. For more information, call 495-3461.

Commissioners Consider Short Agenda in Final Meeting of the Year

The Garza County Commissioners Court held their regular meeting on Tuesday, December 29 at 9 a.m. The meeting was moved from Monday because of scheduling conflicts this week. Along with County Judge Norman, Gary McDaniel, Pct. 1; Charles Morris, Pct. 2; Ted Brannon, Pct. 3 and Mike Sanchez, Pct. 4 were present.

Minutes from the December 14 regular meeting along with written reports from the Treasurer, the Juvenile Detention Center, a Budget Usage Report, and the final finding of the HAVA grant monitor review were approved. Precinct and countywide accounts payable for December 15 through December 29 were also approved. There were no line item transfers or budget amendment requests.

The Court once again considered and order for Garza County prohibiting outdoor burning. And, again, the Commissioners voted to take no action at this time and tabled the item.

No action was taken on the agenda item regarding the annual report from the Garza County Soil and Water Conservation board. There was no one present at the meeting from the board to make this report.

Clerk Plummer recommended the use of the M100 ballot

tabulator for Election Day, March 2 Primary Election at the four polling places in Post. The Commissioners agreed with Plummer and approved the use of the tabulators.

During the time reserved for citizen comment, Rosa Latimer, President of the Post Area Chamber of Commerce announced that the Chamber and The Post Dispatch will work together in 2010 to promote a "shop at home" campaign in Post and Garza County. She encouraged the county to also make this a priority. Jarod L. Standlee of Yellowhouse Machinery presented a bid for consideration. This informal presentation was not an agenda item; therefore, no action was intended nor taken. Commissioner Brannon is considering the purchase of a new maintainer early in 2010 and is gathering the information necessary to bring this before the Court at a future date for their consideration.

Judge Norman reported that the emergency services were well executed during the Christmas Eve snowstorm. The Red Cross set up services at the Trailblazers Senior Citizens Center and the National Guard was available to help with roadside rescue.

The next regular Commissioners' Court meeting is set for January 22, 1010.

Shop Local Emphasis Begins

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce and The Post Dispatch are joining together to emphasize the importance of shopping locally.

"The entire community really began this emphasis before Christmas with the downtown light show and lighted parade plus merchants keeping later hours on Friday and Saturday," explained Chamber Manager Janice Plummer. "This drew locals downtown and reminded them of what is available here. Hopefully this message will be a good reminder of the importance of shop-

ping locally." The Chamber, whose purpose is to support Post and Garza County businesses, also sponsored "Shop at Home" cash giveaways in September and November. These events were very successful in enticing shoppers to spend their money in their hometown.

Another opportunity to Shop at Home is the monthly Old Mill Trade Mill Downtown the first Saturday of every month. This event is co-sponsored by the Post City Merchants and the Post Area Chamber of Commerce.

The "Shop Locally"

campaign will help raise public awareness about shopping local to keep tax dollars here and ultimately affect the lifestyle of residents. "One of our main goals is to keep local business strong," said Jeff Blackmon, COO and Marketing Consultant for Blackburn Media Group, owner of The Post Dispatch. "If those in our community will respond to this message it will help keep tax dollars here and continue the support of local businesses."

Sales tax reports from the State Comptroller's office show a decline in sales

tax for Post of 14.27 in 2009 compared to 2008. A decline in these numbers could potentially affect property taxes in a negative way and, on the other hand, robust sales tax numbers can potentially increase the quality of our community life.

"We're just at the beginning of this campaign," said Plummer. "However, we're certain the pride in our community will continue to grow and increase the desire to shop at home."



Biggest Gift

I enjoy the Christmas lights each year. Every house and especially the downtown area looks so neat. This year it is especially fun to see the downtown light show. The community sing is a special event and displays one of the gifts we benefit from by living in our community. But the biggest gift given by our community has been the support for the personal needs of our friends. It seems that there was a medical or a personal need very often this year. Every time there was a need, then there was a rallying of friends and loved ones to support each other. I do not know how many benefits and fundraisers were done this year but every one was a huge success - and all for someone else. This is what makes a community a success. Thanks to everyone who reads this because you contributed.

Thank You Post

Our family was in bad shape after I lost my job and hadn't found another one. We haven't lived here very long and were very surprised by the help we've been given. Thank you for helping our kids have a good Christmas.

Community Christmas Dinner

I enjoyed the Community Christmas dinner. The food was good and it was nice to share the evening with friends and neighbors. My Christmas guests left earlier in the day so there I was, all alone. How nice to have a safe, fun place to go to celebrate Christmas.

"Speak Up" is a way for readers to send their opinions to the Post Dispatch and have them published each week. No signature is required by the writer; writer identities will be kept anonymous and you can address any topic you want. Published "Speak Up" comments can not exceed 100 words and the Dispatch staff has the right to edit for length or refuse to print materials it deems to be inappropriate. Drop your Speak Up comments in the box in the front office of the newspaper or in the mail slot in the front door after hours. You can also email your comments to postcitydispatch@yahoo.com

Looking Back



NEW HEALTH CLINIC OPENS

Dr. Ben Edwards (center) and the staff of the Garza County Health Clinic were joined by the community in March 2009 to celebrate the opening of the 4,776 sq. ft. facility. Photo by Jeff Blackmon



THRESSA HARP - MAYOR OF POST

Thressa Harp was elected Mayor of Post in May of 2009. Photo by Rosa Latimer.

Save Gas and Time Shop in Post

Availability of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds

South Plains Community Action Association, Inc. wishes to announce its receipt of Community Services Block Grant ARRA funds. The funds will be used to assist persons interested in occupational short term training. Participants will obtain pre-employment skills required for increased employment opportunities. SPCAA will work in conjunction with Workforce Solutions and South Plains College to meet the eligibility requirements. Participants may qualify for assistance with tuition, books, and supplies. The program is in effect immediately and will run through September 30, 2010.

For more information, contact Diana Morales, SPCAA, 806-495-2329 or visit the local SPCAA office on South Hwy 84 in Post. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

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Thanks For Reading

In and Around Close City

by Traci Freeman

We finished up the 2009 season with 4,516 bales. To keep up with us here at the gin visit our blog at <http://closecitycoopgin.blogspot.com>

Well, I'd say we had a white Christmas, and with that came the fun task of getting around out here. I think just about everyone in my family got stuck in the slush and snow and had to be pulled or dug out. Fun Fun. Besides that, the water freezing and the power going out nearly all day on Thursday, I'd say we had a very Merry Christmas. We were all together and that's what matters. I know many of you had family in for the holiday, the ones that I know of are;

Mike, Dana and Laura Carter came in

from Longview to celebrate with her parents, Jack and Jean Morris; The Wilke Bunch was all here; Lee and Marsha Norman had all of their kiddo's here; Charles and Sharron had all their bunch together;

We are in the early planning stages of our next get-to-gather for Close City. Ya'll be sure and watch the paper for details. All I know now is it will be towards the end of January. We also send emails out periodically on events going on out here so if you are not on that list and would like to be send me your email address.

Cookbooks

We have picked up a new batch of cookbooks so we now have plenty, be sure to

let us know if you want one as some of these are already taken and the rest will go fast. You can call me, Nancy or pick yours up at Cocara's or LaPosta.

Visitors

Visitors we've had this week were; Rodney Josey, Mike Johnson, Janell Jones, Lexi and Jake came down Tuesday and Wednesday; Remember.....we always welcome visitors, we have the coolest break room and the cheapest cokes in the county.....

Get Wells

I talked to Jane Wednesday morning and she said the physical therapist is very pleased with Macks progress. Keep up the good work, Mack!

Let me know if I need to add anyone to this list.

Ragtown folks in the nursing homes we need to remember are.....Doug and Claudine Tipton and Carmen Abraham in Post; Odie Kemp in Tahoka; Jewel White in Lubbock; Jean Tipton in San Angelo. Please let me know if there is anyone I need to add to this list.

Birthdays

January 2 - Rynn Norman
January 3 - Xavier Hernandez
January 7 - Louis Abraham
January 7 - Chester Morris
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Weekly Inspirations

THE CHRISTMAS ANGELS

By: Michael F. Taylor

Wow!!!! What a Christmas Eve and Christmas Day we had right here in Garza County!!! I don't know about you, but the extreme weather seemed to catch me completely off guard and unprepared. I am however so thankful that in the midst of the storm, God was present; and of all the problems, wrecks, stranded motorists and general mayhem that ensued, no one was badly injured. I normally like to tell a story in my article and then relate that story to a particular scripture in an effort to convey the Word of God to you in way that can be understood by our modern world. I believe that Jesus Christ himself did this by teaching his disciples in parables. And, parables are simply stories designed to teach a scriptural truth. Today, I would like to relate the true story of Garza County on this White Christmas Eve and Day.

The day began for me with a phone call at approximately 5:45 A.M., stating that two eighteen-wheeler truck rigs had jack-knifed on South U.S. 84 completely blocking the highway. It went exponentially downhill from there! I found myself and Constable Eric Cravy shortly thereafter, responding to Highway 380 West in the middle of the worst snowstorm I personally have ever experienced. In the effort to locate and rescue numerous stranded motorists, both myself and Constable Cravy wound up stuck in the snow banks on at least two separate occasions. Thank the Lord for F.D. Unit #21's crew (a retired Army Deuce and a half) who spent several hours assisting by not only freeing several motorists from their snowy traps but also our police units. On U.S. 84 South, Constable Daniel Yarbro and Deputies Marcus Lively and Chris Speegle were battling the same forces of nature along with several fire department units and Thompson Wrecker Service. Emergency Operations Center Director Michael Isbell began the day by activating the Garza County Emergency Operations Plan that I would like to say was well organized and implemented. In the course of the day the crisis became so involved that the Governor of the Great State of Texas wound up activating eight members of the Texas National Guard 36th Infantry, 2142nd Division, H.H.C., who responded to Garza County in several HumVee's to assist in relief efforts. I cannot say exactly how many folks wound up being rescued by elements of the emergency teams but I do know that it was certainly in the hundreds. I believe that each and every one of you who assisted in any way became a Christmas Angel on this Christmas Eve. May God bless each and every one of you for your efforts. To all the volunteers that I am not aware of, God knows who you are and He was smiling down as you fulfilled in love the task of helping others. Thanks for giving up your Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, so others could have theirs.

Specifically, I would like to express my personal appreciation to the following groups who made this relief effort a success: Sheriff Cliff Laws, The Garza County Sheriff's Department (including all the Dispatchers, Deputies and Corrections Officers who assisted in their respective departments), The Garza County Constables Department, the Texas Department of Public Safety, The Texas Parks and Wildlife - Game Wardens, The Garza County Emergency Operations Center, The Post/Garza County Fire Department, The Post/Garza County Emergency Medical Services, The Texas Department of Transportation, The American Red Cross, The Garza County Commissioners Court, Judge Lee Norman, The City of Post and Thompson Wrecker Service. If there is some organization or person I have inadvertently left out, please forgive me. Your efforts were appreciated.

I consider it a privilege and an honor to have served with each and every one of you in this time of crisis and am so thankful to have been here. Garza County saw a dire need and reached out to those in distress. And, as a side note, to the colleague of mine who was asked the question, "Why do we keep you guys around here?", the previous day, I believe the answer was given on these two days. Because we care and we always seek to serve!!! God bless you Garza County. You truly are full of Christmas Angels today!!!

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
2 Timothy 3:16-17

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Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326	Post Church of the Nazarene		
Church of Christ		202 W. 10th, 495-3044		
Presbyterian		Grassland Church of the Nazarene		
Family Harvest Church	111 N. Avenue I, 495-1400	327-5656		
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Photo by Quinten Davis

Cheyenne Miller (13) shoots for two against Idalou. Miller made 9 points in the varsity game last week.



Photo by Quinten Davis

Senior Antelope Aaron James (12) slips by a Wildcat defender in the game last week against Idalou. James ended the exciting contest with 16 points.



Photo by Quinten Davis

Teammates provide lane protection as Lady Lope Alex Miller (12) takes the ball to the basket during Post's game against Idalou last week.

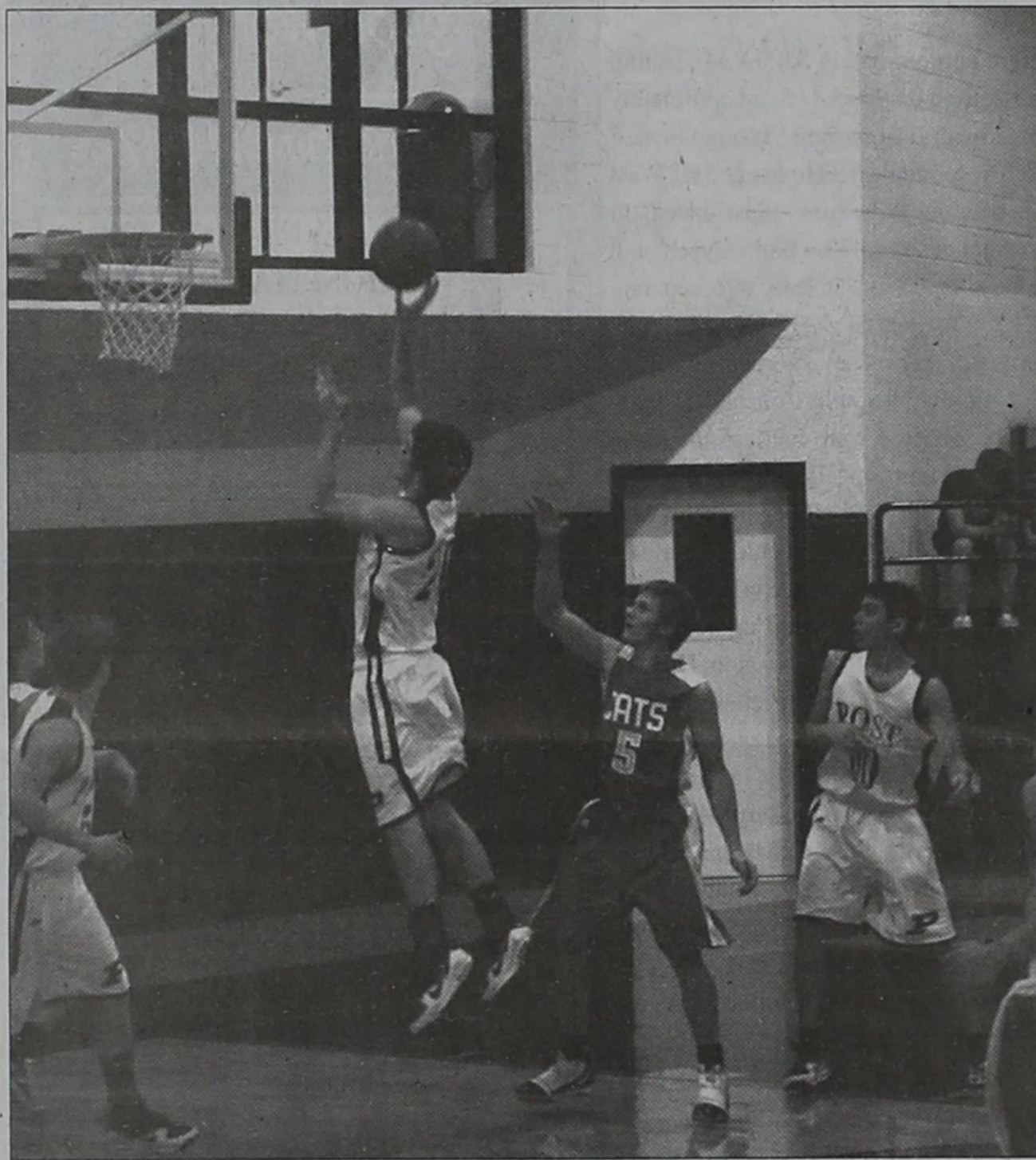


Photo by Quinten Davis

Senior Antelope Clint Windham (20) shoots as Luis Duran (10) readies for a possible rebound. The Antelopes lost to Idalou 61-60.



Photo by Quinten Davis

Branda Stevens successfully completes a free throw in the Lady Lopes match up against Idalou. Stevens was the high scorer for the Lopes with 22.

College Football Bowl Schedule

Dec. 31: Armed Forces Bowl at Fort Worth, Houston vs. Air Force, 11 a.m. (ESPN)	at Tampa, Fla., Auburn vs. Northwestern, 10 a.m. (ESPN)	UConn vs. South Carolina, 1 p.m. (ESPN)
Dec. 31: Sun Bowl at El Paso, Stanford vs. Oklahoma, 11 a.m. (CBS)	Jan. 1: Capital One Bowl at Orlando, Fla., Penn State vs. LSU, Noon (ABC)	Jan. 2: Liberty Bowl at Memphis, Tenn., Arkansas vs. East Carolina, 4:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Dec. 31: Texas Bowl at Houston, Missouri vs. Navy, 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)	Jan. 1: Gator Bowl at Jacksonville, Fla., West Virginia vs. Florida State, Noon (CBS)	Jan. 2: Alamo Bowl at San Antonio, Michigan State vs. Texas Tech, 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Dec. 31: Insight Bowl at Tempe, Ariz., Iowa State vs. Minnesota, 4:30 p.m. (NFLN)	Jan. 1: Rose Bowl at Pasadena, Calif., Ohio State vs. Oregon, 4 p.m. (ABC)	Jan. 4: Fiesta Bowl at Glendale, Ariz., Boise State vs. TCU, 7 p.m. (FOX)
Dec. 31: Chick-fil-A Bowl at Atlanta, Tennessee vs. Virginia Tech, 6:30 p.m. (ESPN)	Jan. 1: Sugar Bowl at New Orleans, Florida vs. Cincinnati, 7:30 p.m. (FOX)	Jan. 5: Orange Bowl at Miami, Iowa vs. Georgia Tech, 7 p.m. (FOX)
Jan. 1: Outback Bowl	Jan. 2: International Bowl at Toronto, South Florida vs. Northern Illinois, 11 a.m. (ESPN2)	Jan. 6: GMAC Bowl at Mobile, Ala., Central Michigan vs. Troy, 6 p.m. (ESPN)
	Jan. 2: Cotton Bowl at Dallas, Oklahoma State vs. Ole Miss, 1 p.m. (FOX)	Jan. 7: Bowl Championship Series national championship game, Alabama vs. Texas, Pasadena, Calif., 7 p.m. (ABC)
	Jan. 2: Papajohns.com Bowl at Birmingham, Ala.,	

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Antelope Basketball

By Jim Plummer
Sports Writer

Varsity

The Lopes opened District 3-2A play with an overtime thriller against 22nd ranked Idalou with the Wildcats winning by one point, 61-60 Friday, December 18 at the Antelope Arena.

Post proved they can play with a state ranked team. "Thought the boys overall effort was great. It was a tough one to lose especially being the first district game and at home," said Head Coach Kevin James.

The score was tied after the first period and Idalou took a two point advantage into the locker room at halftime, 34-32. In the third, the Wildcats outscored the Lopes by three points taking a five point lead into the final period. In the fourth, the Post defense tightened up and allowed Idalou to score only three free throws while the Antelopes put up 8 points to tie the game.

Post took the last shot at the end of regulation, when Easton Mathis attempted a 10 foot jump shot but the ball rimmed out sending the game into overtime. "We didn't expect Easton Mathis to play, so having him was a plus, and especially with him contributing 11 points."

In overtime the score went back and forth with Idalou outscoring Post by one point to win the game.

In addition to Mathis's 11, he was matched by Manual Lopez and Henry Apolar while Aaron James was the game leading scorer with 16 points.

The Antelopes out shot the Wildcats from the three point circle eight shots to one. Mathis and Apolar made three 3's each and James hit two.

Idalou was led by Riley Payne's 12 points and C.J. Parkhill's 10.

From the free throw line, Idalou was 16 for 31 and Post 4 for 8.

Coach James is looking forward to having his entire team healthy. "I'm excited to be getting some of our injured players back, and feel that we have an excellent shot at competing with everyone in this district on any given night."

IDALOU 61, POST 60 (OT)

Idalou	13	21	15	3	9-61
Post	13	19	12	8	8-60

SCORING: IDALOU; Payne 12, Parkhill 10, Shilling 9, Buckner 8. POST: James 16, Lopez 11, Mathis 11, Apolar 11, Windham 6, Postell 3, A. Duran 2.

JV score: Idalou 46, Post 16.

Varsity Boys

DISTRICT 3-2A STANDINGS (as of 12/27/09)

TEAM	DISTRICT	OVERALL
Idalou	1-0	10-2
Littlefield	1-0	9-1
Shallowater	1-0	6-5
Roosevelt	1-0	3-9
Abernathy	0-1	8-5
Denver City	0-1	8-7
Post	0-1	6-7
Slaton	0-1	5-8

Sidelines

Next Tuesday the Antelopes travel to Shallowater and next Friday, the boys will host Denver City. The JV plays at 5:00 and the Varsity at 8:00 PM.

Resolve to Reconnect with Your Family and the Outdoors This New Year

BASTROP, Texas — When considering a New Year's resolution, try setting a goal to spend more time reconnecting with what matters most — your family and the natural beauty of Texas.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department wants to help by inviting you and your family to a Texas state park to enjoy one of America's favorite pastimes, camping. The Texas Outdoor Family program returns this spring season and with an offering of 28 new camping workshops throughout the state. Toyota continues to be a proud sponsor of the program.

Are you interested in camping but not sure if your family will enjoy it enough for it to be worth the investment of purchasing the gear? Here is a chance to give it a try with no strings attached.

During the overnight TOF program, participants revisit or learn for the first time the skills that lead to a successful camping experience. To make it even easier, TPWD staff provide all of the camping essentials and lead a day's worth of family-friendly activities.

Each program's activities reflect each park's unique amenities and natural resources. Events may include all or some of the following: kayaking, fishing, crafts, evening programs, nature photography and more. Also included in each TOF weekend is an introduction to the increasingly popular sport of geocaching.

"Geocaching is basically a high-tech scavenger hunt that anyone can be a part of," said Robert Owen, a ranger with the TOF program. "Something called a cache is hidden in the park, frequently in a scenic area. Then, participants are provided with a set of coordinates and a GPS

unit to lead them to the treasure. Both kids and parents alike love the adventure."

The workshops cost \$55 per family (up to six people), with the cost covering park entry, campsite rental, quality restrooms, professional park ranger-led programs and instruction, a family friendly environment, a specially designed curriculum tailored to each state park, a state park Junior Ranger certification program, and most importantly, all of the quality camping equipment needed for the night! All campers need to bring are sleeping bags or bedding, and food and drinks.

For each two-day workshop, participants receive in advance a checklist of what they need to bring, along with a suggested shopping and packing list for meals and personal items. Tents, lanterns and other camping items are provided. For further details visit the TOF website at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/bof/> or search for the "Texas Outdoor Family" on Facebook to see what other families are saying, and view the pictures from past events.

"We don't limit the program to just nuclear families," Owen noted. "As a result, the diversity that we've seen among our participants has been amazing. Camping is an experience that should be and can be enjoyed by anyone. 'Family' can be a relative word so we encourage groups of all sorts to join us. Extended families, groups of friends, scout groups, adults without children, and more are all welcomed."

"There's no experience or equipment necessary for these workshops," added Chris Holmes, outdoor education coordinator for Texas state parks. "We know there

are lots of folks out there who want to get back outdoors, get their kids away from the computer and television, and we're simply here to provide the opportunity and a few tips along the way."

Holmes says people who are apprehensive about taking their family into the outdoors for a camping trip will find this an excellent program. As one Texas Outdoor Family graduate said after attending the program at Brazos Bend State Park: "I personally had a fear of camping, but I truly had a great time! My kids also had a great time and didn't want to leave! It was a fantastic family experience and we will definitely camp again."

The spring 2010 TOF workshop schedule includes several specially themed weekends centered around such activities as an introduction to fly-fishing, a two-night campout at Big Bend Ranch State Park and an introduction to Dutch oven cooking. Check the TOF Web site for more details.

Families can register by calling (512) 389-8903 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. and speaking to a Texas Outdoor Family representative or by sending an e-mail to: tofsp@tpwd.state.tx.us. After registration, a confirmation packet with details will be sent.

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Lady Lope Basketball

By Jim Plummer
Sports Writer

Varsity

The Lady Cats of Idalou stormed into the District 3-2A match-up at Antelope Arena with a 23 point first period that was too much for Post to overcome.

The Lady Lopes produced consistent double digit scoring in each quarter in the game on December 18, but not enough to recover from a 12 point first quarter deficit that carried throughout the game. Idalou got its second district win, 65-53. Post fell to 0-3.

Idalou went four-for-five from three-point range in the first period. For the game, Kyla Stanton made three and Brittany DeLeon contributed two 3-balls herself. DeLeon lead the Lady Cats with 16 points including six from the free throw line.

Branda Stevens, the games leading scorer with 22, got all of her points in the opening and final periods tallying all of Post's 14 points in the fourth.

The game was plagued with fouls. Three of Post's starters fouled out of the game and two other players finished with four fouls each. Idalou shot twice as many free throws than did Post. The Lady Cats made 28 of 44 attempts and the Lady Lopes sunk 13 of 22.

The Lady Lopes received productive scoring from Cheyenne Miller (9), Caitlyn Cravy (8) and Alex Miller (7).

IDALOU 65, POST 53 (12/18/09)

Idalou	23	15	12	15-65
Post	11	15	13	14-53

Scoring: IDALOU: DeLeon 16, Patrick 12, Stanton 11. POST: Stevens 22, Cheyenne Miller 9, Caitlyn Cravy 8, Alex Miller 7, Tiny Williams 3, Amber Wilson 2, Toni Wait 2.

GIRLS VARSITY

DISTRICT 3-2A STANDINGS (as of 12/27/09)

TEAM	DISTRICT	OVERALL
Shallowater	3-0	13-1
Abernathy	3-0	10-6
Roosevelt	3-0	10-6
Idalou	2-1	10-4
Slaton	1-2	9-5
Littlefield	0-3	7-9
Post	0-3	4-9
Denver City	0-3	3-5

JV Girls

IDALOU 47, POST 23 (12/18/09)

Idalou	10	11	11	13-47
Post	9	2	8	4-23

Post Scoring: Shirley Araiza 8, Madison Cash 6, Hailey Berry 5, Skylar Jones 4.

Sidelines

Next Tuesday the Lady Lopes travel to Shallowater and next Friday, the girls will host Denver City. The JV plays at 5:00 and the Varsity at 6:30 PM.

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, along 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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Post City Classifieds

Personals

Post Group Alcoholics Anonymous

Monday, 8 p.m. - Community Recovery Center, 405 S. Ave. C
 Tuesday, 8 p.m. - Historic Presbyterian Church, 10th & Ave. K, behind United Supermarket
 Wednesday, 6 p.m. - Women only, Historic Presbyterian Church, 10th & Ave. K
 Thursday, 8 p.m. - Historic Presbyterian Church, 10th & Ave. K
 Friday, 7 p.m. - Community Recovery Center, 405 S. Ave. C
 Closed meetings except for last Thursday of every month.
 Call 495-3173 for more information.

Post Al-Anon

Family Group meeting, meets at 8:00 p.m. in the same building, but a different room. For more information contact: 495-3053

House for Sale

For sale 2 bedroom, 2 bath house on three lots. 495-2534

Lost & Found

Lost billfold Dec. 23 in vicinity of the ice/water machine on Hwy. 84 in Post. Call 806-632-9045.

Miscellaneous

Bldg for lease, 2 bay shop 3 br, 2 ba house for sale or lease 2 bed 1 ba apt or office for sale or lease Owner/Broker 1-800-697-9998

Alfalfa hay for sale, small square bales Call 806-773-0743

Seeking retail merchandiser to service Hallmark Products at a United store located at 123 N Broadway in Post. To apply, visit <http://hallmark.candidatecare.com>

Legal Notice

ORDINANCE NO. 604

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF POST, TEXAS CODE OF ORDINANCES AND SETTING FORTH RULES, REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO THE UNLAWFUL USE OF UTILITIES, PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATING SUCH ORDINANCE, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR

SUCH ORDINANCE.

WHEREAS, the City council for the City of Post, Texas has jurisdiction under the constitution and laws of the State of Texas to set the set forth ordinances governing the Health and Safety of persons and property within the corporate limits of the City of Post, Texas;

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Post, Texas now wishes to adopt an ordinance setting forth rules, regulations and requirements related to the unlawful use of utilities, providing a penalty for violating such ordinance, and providing an effective date for such Ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Post, Texas that the Code of Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

SECTION I

Post Code of Ordinances shall be amended to read:

Denial of service to individuals or business entities.

(a) The City is authorized to refuse service to individuals or business entities who owe money on the same or prior location, until such time as proper and complete payment is made for outstanding utility bills, provided that the City conduct a diligent investigation to determine that indeed such person or business has changed the account name or location to avoid payment.

(b) The City is authorized to ban certain addresses from service, when it can prove that the individual or business entity residing or using the location is attempting to change or has changed the account name or location in order to avoid payment.

(c) The City is authorized to seek information about individuals or business entities who owe money for prior service, by other means such as tax rolls, other utility accounts, or any other legal means, for the purpose of attempting to collect the monies owed.

(d) The individuals or business entities who refuse to pay for prior service, or who abandon the location to avoid payment, or who use the service without establishing a valid account as provided in this Code, are declared to be in theft of service and therefore are subject to all

provisions of state law.

(e) A property on which an illegal connection is discovered by City personnel or its agents will be immediately denied water and sewer service, until a proper account is opened and an illegal connection fee of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) is paid. A person or business entity opening an account where an illegal connection was found will not be eligible for any deferred payment plan. A portion of the fee up to two hundred dollars (\$200.00) will be utilized to cover the expense of establishing an active account for the customer.

(f) A person wishing to eliminate an illegal connection from his/her property and who notifies the City voluntarily and before detection of this illegal connection in writing will not be charged the illegal connection fee but will be required to open an active account.

(g) It shall be the duty of the Code Enforcement Officer or any of the designated representatives to make inspections to determine the existence of violations of this article.

(h) Any person or agent of such person, who shall violate or fail or refuse to comply with any of the provisions of this article or fail to comply therewith shall be guilty of a crime as set forth in the Texas Penal Code. Such person shall be deemed guilty of a separate offense for each and every day or its portion during which any violation of any of the provisions of this article is committed, or continued and, upon conviction of any such violation

SECTION II

This Ordinance shall be effective and in full force

from and after its publication as required by Law.

SECTION III

All other terms and provisions of the Post-Code of Ordinances not in conflict herewith and not hereby amended shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION IV

The passage of this Ordinance shall repeal any wording of any existing ordinance that is in conflict with the wording of this Ordinance.

Passed and approved this 17th day of December, 2009.

Mayor Thressa Harp

ATTEST:

Deana Watson, City Secretary

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\$106 MONTH BUYS land for RV/motor home/ house, pier, boat ramp, pool, clubhouse, gated entry, on Lake Fork, \$690 down (\$6900/10.91%/7yr) Guaranteed financing, 1-214-696-2315

676 ACRES-REEVES County, 15 Miles North Pecos. River frontage. Call Jack 1-214-755-6224.

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Menus

Post ISD
 Unavailable at press time.

Southland ISD

January 4

Breakfast - Churros, sausage links, juice, milk
 Lunch - Pizza choice, seasoned corn, salad, sliced peaches, milk

January 5

Breakfast - Cinnamon roll, fruit, juice, milk
 Lunch - Spaghetti, baby carrots w/ranch, fruit cup bread stick, milk

January 6

Breakfast - Eggs, bacon, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch - Oven crispy chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, hot roll, gelatin, milk

January 7

Breakfast - Cereal, fruit, juice, milk
 Lunch - Nachos grande, lettuce/tomatoes, oranges, cornbread, milk

January 8

Breakfast - Biscuits/sausage, juice, milk
 Lunch - Corndog, oven fried potatoes, fresh broccoli w/ ranch, crispy cereal treat, apple, milk

Trailblazers

January 4

Smothered chicken, macaronie & cheese, grilled veggies, garlic biscuit, banana pudding

January 5

Beef enchiladas, beans, rice, salsa, Mexican wedding cake

January 6

Baked ham, butter beans, turnip greens, cornbread, brownies

January 7

Goulash, salad, cornbread, crackers, peach cake

January 8

Fried fish, oven potatoes, coleslaw, beans, hushpuppies, peaches/cottage cheese

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Rye: \$12 Bag/ Triticale: \$9 Bag
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Funds Available to Ease Energy Cost Burden on Low Income Texans

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) today released \$117.4 million in energy assistance funds designed to help low income Texans pay their energy bills while providing the consumer education and case management needed to reduce their dependence on future government assistance.

The South Plains Community Action Association Inc. will oversee these funds in Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lynn, Motley, Terry and Yoakum County. Over \$2 million in emergency assistance funds will be used in these counties. SPCAA will accept applications for assistance, determine eligibility and provide direct service to clients.

The funds were awarded to organizations through the Department's Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP), a utility co-payment assistance program that also helps eligible households better manage their energy consumption for a safe, affordable environment. Funding contracts are effective January 1, 2010.

According to Michael Gerber, TDHCA Executive Director, CEAP plays a critical role in the Department's mission of fostering affordable housing because energy costs consume a much greater percentage of

a low income family's annual income than that of the average Texas household.

"The cost of heating and cooling a home significantly impacts a low income household's ability to afford their home," Gerber said. "This important funding award will help our most vulnerable residents, particularly elderly persons and home with very young children, meet their utility costs and avoid a potential health or financial crisis. Our goal is to help low income Texans pay their bills in the short-term while helping them achieve self-sufficiency in the long-term."

Studies indicate that the average family in Texas spends approximately 3.7 percent of their annual household income on utility costs, while low income households can spend as much as 12.2 percent of their annual household income to pay their utility bills.

The Department annually assists more than 68,000 low income Texans through CEAP services, helping low income households meet their immediate energy needs and control future energy costs through consumer education. In addition, some households may qualify for the repair or replacement of inefficient heating and cooling equipment.

For more information, contact South Plains Community Action Association Inc. for Garza County, 806-495-2329.

2009... (continued from Page 1)

Community Service Award, Ronald Thuet received the Leadership in Agriculture Award, Fire Chief Les Looney received the Volunteer Fireman Award, Dustin Merritt received the Rookie Fireman of the Year Award, Curtis Hudman received the Business and Economic Development Leadership Award, JoAnn Seltzer received the Leadership Community Service Award and Victor Ashley receive the Agriculture Leadership Award.

Junior Branda Stevens represented the Lady Lopes on the District 3-2A All-District First Team and Junior Cheyenne Miller was chosen for the Second Team. Senior Sabrina Sanchez and Junior Alex Miller earned Honorable Mention honors.

The Area Chamber of Commerce representatives, clinic staff and members of the Garza County Health Care District gathered while Dr. Ben Edwards "cut" the ribbon signifying the opening of the new Garza County Health Clinic. A large crowd gathered to celebrate the Open House at the 4,776 sq. ft. clinic.

The Caprock Cultural Association sponsored a dinner theater production of "Harvey Girls". The play was written by Post resident Rosa Latimer and directed by Jay Young. Young is a long-time resident of Garza County.

Former Post resident, Alvin Davis, was inducted into the Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame as the recipient of the Johnny Boren Award in Belton, TX.

Gaby Gomez dead lifted 275 pounds at the State Power Lifting Championship in Corpus Christi where she finished 7th with a total of 640 pounds.

April

DJ Brown, a seventh grader at Post Middle School, recently broke two school track records last week. He broke the 200-meter dash record of 25.4 seconds and the triple jump record of 34'6". His new records are 25.21 seconds in the 200-meter dash and 34'11" in the triple jump.

Arbie Taylor, formerly Assistant City Manager in Lamesa, began his tenure as

City Manager in Post.

Post High School UIL Academics had six people place in the District Meet. They all advanced to the Regional meet. Bethany Berry placed first in LD debate, with Quinten Davis placing third. Zach Nava placed third in Feature Writing; Chad Miller took third in Ready Writing; Amber Wilson placed third in Headline Writing and Jackie Slauch placed third in Literary Criticism.

With recent new additions, there are now 830 bricks honoring Post and Garza County residents in the plaza of the courthouse.

May

Chasity Moore became the Garza County Office Manager of the Texas Agriculture Extension Service.

The University Interscholastic League altered its schedule of events due to the outbreak of the H1N1 flu, also known as 'Swine Flu'.

Theresa Harp was recognized by Warden Dixon of the Dalby Unit as Community Supporter of the Year. Employees at the Dalby Unit chose Fred Postell as the Program Service Employee of the Year. Reben Flores was chosen for Support Service Employee of the Year.

Students participating in the Regional Science Fair included Trey Havens, Sebastian Montoya, Brody Kelso, Blaze Smith, Quincey Quintana, Audree Williams, Patti Lopez, Ashley Collaxo, Jaycee Johnson, Katie Dunn, Daniela Alaniz, Kelsey Griffin and Jamie Marquez.

VFW District 7 honored Karen Nicholas as the Teacher of the Year.

Junior Girl Scout Top Cookie Seller was Mykala Ortiz and the Brownie Top Cookie Seller was Courtney Ramirez.

Theresa Harp was elected Mayor of Post.

Piper Brooks was proud to announce the birth of her little sister, Demi Shane, who was born on April 9, 2009. Proud parents are Roger and Deann Daughtery of Southland.

Jarrett Blevins and Sabrina Sanchez were chosen as the All-Around Male and Female Athletes at the Post High School Athletic Banquet.

Quinten Davis was named Valedictorian of the

2009 senior class of Post High School and Zachary Nava was named Salutatorian.

Lauren Elizabeth Elliott and Jonathon Tadd Coston were married May 16, 2009 in an outdoor ceremony at the bride's parents' home. Judge Giles W. Dalby, the bride's grandfather, officiated.

June

Two couples celebrated their 55th Anniversary together. Curtis Williams and Tommie Rogers were married on June 4, 1954 and Douglas Shepherd and Natalie Tracy were married on June 14, 1954.

Heather Dickson and Justin Hoffner were united in marriage on June 7, 2009 aboard the Diamond Princess Cruise ship.

Four Garza County 4-H members participated in the annual Texas 4-H State Roundup in College Station. The Consumer Decision Making team consisted of Reed Williams, Dakota McDonald, Ja D. Young and Jackie Milton. They placed 12th out of 54 teams.

TJ. and Angel Copeland announced the birth of their daughter, Taylor Jade Copeland, born on June 15, 2009.

Joyce and Jewel Steel celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary on June 17, 2009. The couple was married in the Post Methodist Church parsonage on June 17, 1939.

Alondra and Caleb announced the arrival of their baby brother, Josiah Juan Armendariz Vazquez, born May 8, 2009. Proud parents are Jose and Marisa Vazquez.

Post Middle School students took a trip to Washington, D.C. Students on the trip included Martiza Alaniz, K'Lenn Hair, Chelci Hair, Julie Boren, Nolan Prather, Shelby Odom, Miley McKee, Jacki Kimmons and Michael Taylor. Sponsors were Mendy Dalby, MaDawn Sherrin and Carol Williams.

Jered and Kelli Dunn announced the birth of their son, Yates Green Dunn, born June 25, 2009.

We'll continue our look back at 2009 in next week's edition with a review of July through December.

Diabetes Friendly Cheesecake

Nancy McDonald, Garza County AgriLife Extension, provided this "diabetes friendly" cheesecake recipe. This is yummy whether you have diet restrictions because of diabetes or are joining millions who will include losing weight among their New Years resolutions.

NEW YORK CHEESECAKE
Yield: 9 servings
INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 cup very finely ground pecans (1 cup whole pecans)
- 1 (15 ounce) carton part-skim ricotta cheese
- 1 cup plain low-fat yogurt
- 1 cup Splenda
- 1/2 cup fat-free liquid egg substitute
- 2 tablespoons white flour
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- Zest (grated rind) of one small lemon
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, at room temperature

the oven to 350 degrees F. Spray a 10-inch springform pan with nonstick spray.

Sprinkle the ground pecans evenly over the pan bottom, patting them into place. The crust layer will be very light and may not entirely cover the bottom of the pan.

In a food processor, combine the ricotta, yogurt, Splenda, egg substitute, flour, vanilla, and lemon zest. Process until partially smoothed, about 1-1/2 minutes.

Cut the cream cheese into 9 or 10 chunks. One at a time, add the chunks through the feed tube. Process after each addition. Process until smooth - an additional 1-1/2 to 2 minutes.

Carefully spoon the mixture over the ground pecans.

Bake in the center of the preheated oven for 15 minutes.

DIRECTIONS: Preheat

Lower the oven temperature to 325 degrees F. and bake for an additional 50 to 60 minutes until the cheesecake edges have begun to brown and the center is puffed and seems set when the surface is lightly tapped.

Remove to a rack and cool for 20 minutes. Refrigerate at least 6 hours or overnight until cooled. When cooled, cover with plastic wrap. If desired, top with cut fruit.

Nutritional Information Per Serving (1/9 of cheesecake):
Calories: 272, Fat: 21 g, Saturated Fat: 9 g, Cholesterol: 45 mg, Sodium: 178 mg, Carbohydrate: 11 g, Dietary Fiber: 1 g, Sugars: 7 g, Protein: 11 g
Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Medium-Fat Meat, 3 Fat, 1 Carbohydrate

USDA Implements New Crop Disaster Assistance Program

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA has implemented the new Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) in accordance with the 2008 Farm Bill. Vilsack also encouraged producers to visit their USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office beginning on January 4, 2010, to participate in the program if they suffered crop production losses during the 2008 crop year. "This program is an important component of the farm safety net and will provide financial assistance to producers who have suffered crop losses due to natural disasters," said Vilsack. "Producers will receive payments beginning in January, in time to help them with planning for next year's crop."

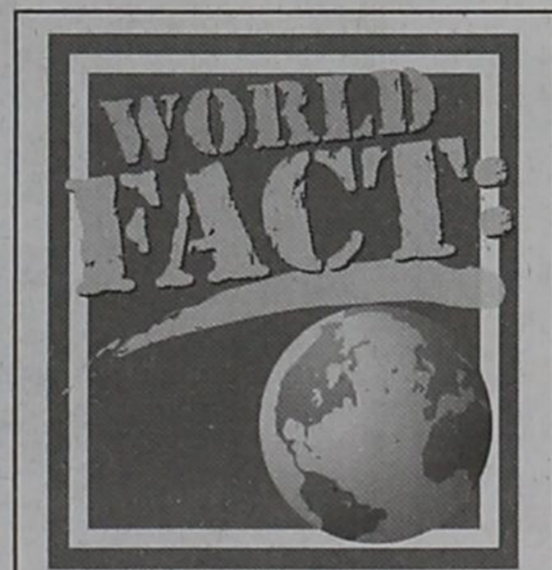
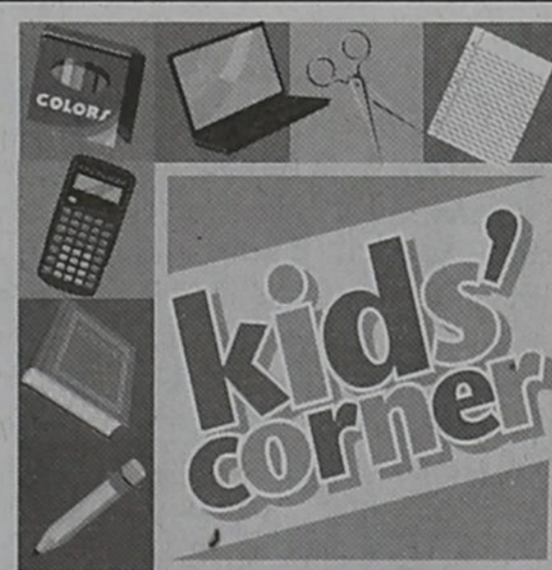
SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible for

SURE, producers must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. In addition, producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

In addition to meeting the risk management purchase requirement, a producer must have a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation. Regardless of a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit your local FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.



HOW MANY TIMES DO WE RING IN THE NEW YEAR ON EARTH?

ANSWER: 24, 30 IF YOU CONSIDER FRACTIONAL TIME ZONES AS WELL.

How they say that in...

- ENGLISH:** Year
- SPANISH:** Año
- ITALIAN:** Anno
- FRENCH:** Année
- GERMAN:** Jahr

United Supermarkets

What's the Difference?
There are five things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. clock says "12" 2. streamer missing 3. woman's dress is white 4. hat says 2010 5. missing champagne glass

Did you know?

63% OF PEOPLE TEND TO KEEP THEIR RESOLUTIONS AFTER THE FIRST TWO MONTHS.

McDonald's i'm lovin' it

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

- 1932: RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL OPENED IN NEW YORK CITY.
- 1945: THE WORLD BANK WAS CREATED.
- 2001: PRESIDENT BUSH NORMALIZED TRADE RELATIONS WITH CHINA.

New Word CONFETTI
small pieces of colored paper

GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

To sponsor Kids Corner call 495-2816

Moms...

(continued from Page 2)

who live in this country to get the skills they need to build the infrastructure and economy that we'll need to support the 10 Billion or so people who will be living on this planet in 2050.

Fifty percent of all bankruptcies are related to medical bills, and the multitrillion dollar bailout we are about to give the health insurance industry does nothing to stop that. Across the US, people are losing their homes while Federal bailout programs that prop up banks and ensure investors who purchased Mortgage Backed Securities won't lose a dime.

We are being told we can't afford to have programs that help people start new businesses, find jobs, have health care or educate their children. But we can continue to fund these two stupid wars.

If you are a mother with kids, and you'd like to see them have a future, its time to commit yourself to taking some meaningful action. If you don't want your kids to be living hand to mouth for the rest of their lives, beggared by the cost of caring

Weatherization...

(continued from Page 3)

Human Services, currently caps assistance per household at \$4,000.

For more information about weatherization efforts eligible under the Act, or to learn more about WAP in general, please visit the section's Web site at www.tdhca.state.tx.us/ea/wap.htm. To contact the nearest contract service provider, use a land-based phone and call (888) 606-8889; callers will automatically be routed to the WAP provider serving their county. Cell phones will not make this automatic connection.

As stimulus funds flow, there will be a variety of procurement opportunities and new jobs created. All fund recipients must post any procurement opportunities on the Department's Web site at www.tdhca.state.tx.us/recovery/bids.htm. Also, as TDHCA administers these funds, it will provide regular reports on job creation.

About The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs is the state agency responsible for affordable housing, community services, energy assistance, colonia housing programs, and disaster recovery housing programs. It currently administers over \$2 billion through for-profit, non-profit, and local government partnerships to deliver local housing and community-based opportunities and assistance to Texans in need.

A Three Room School

By Gracie Fern Houston

After graduating from Lubbock High in 1929, I attended Tech a year or two - long enough to get a teaching certificate. Jobs of any kind were hard to get at this time. To apply for a teaching job you had to see all 3 trustees. I walked over a lot of plowed fields and stopped them from plowing. I gave up and lived with Eilene and Clay Farmer at Archer City. I got a job as a clerk in Dillard's Variety Store for \$1.00 a day. Good pay - I remember the banks were closed at that time, but I didn't need a bank.

Grassburr #3 Garza Co.

One day my brother Earl who lived at County Line between Shallowater and Anton called that he had a neighbor who had a brother-in-law who was a principal of a 3-teacher school and he needed a primary teacher. The school was between Post and Spur. The school was Grassburr #3 Garza Co. and it was surrounded by grass burrs for miles around. I met with the school board and Ted Newman the principal on Saturday in Post. The meeting lasted about 5 minutes in Ted's car on the main street of Post. They told Ted, "If she pleases you, Ted, she pleases us."

As I said, jobs were hard to get at that time. The year was 1935. The schoolhouse, a cistern, a 4-room house for the teachers, grass burrs, rattlesnakes and a tennis court was all there was on that corner. The teachers before had worn the kids out on baseball, so the principal cleaned off a spot, laid off a tennis court with bailing wire and taught those kids that a liner was to make that wire sing. At recess they would play doubles. As there were no backstops, 2 kids on each end chased balls. They were called chasers, and they got to play next. The kids took to the game and they were good. Ted took two of the best boys, in their overalls, to Lubbock one Saturday for a match with two Texas Tech players in their white shorts. The concrete court with wide white lines was a delight for the Grassburr boys, and the Tech Varsity boys were shocked at the type of plays the boys could make.

Our schoolhouse had a stage in one room. In that room we had Sunday School on Sunday. I was the teacher of the adults. Sometimes a preacher came along. Mr. Newman told everyone that sometimes he preached. Some Saturday nights we would push the desk to one side in one room and host a party. The favorite game was snap. A boy and girl would hold hands - a girl would choose a boy to try to catch her as they walked around the couple holding hands - very romantic!

One day during class a girl saw something moving on the stage, and when she looked up she saw a rattlesnake swaying it's head from side to side. She jumped up, ran to the principal and said, "Mr. Newman there is a snake in the stage." Ted got a tennis racket - knocked the snake in the head and continued with the class. That didn't disturb much, but later there was an event that did.

Rhythm Band

At that time all of the schools entered rhythm band in the inter-scholastic league meet. The bands were made up of the first three grades. They let me use the 4th grade also since I had such a small enrollment. There were 16 in grades 1 through 4. We ordered instruments from a school supply catalogue and sailor costumes from Sears & Roebuck. The principal took the head off the toy drum and put a real drumhead on it. We had a little drummer, Pete Smith that had rhythm. He could toss those sticks into the air, catch them and never miss a beat.

At the first year at the County Meet in Post we put on a show and played "Alexander's Ragtime Band." Everyone thought we won first place but one of the judges said, "No, that he played in a dance band and we missed the rhythm. We were disappointed; but Mabel, the principal's wife, solved the problem for Rhythm Bands. She said, "The horns don't matter, it is the sticks that carry the rhythm." So we revamped by putting kids on the sticks that had rhythm and started over for next year.

I was still working on my degree so when I enrolled in summer school at Tech, I



Grassburr School students and faculty circa 1941. Unfortunately all individuals could not be identified. Those whose names we know, front row: Orville Sewert (3), Tommy and Jimmy Puckett (8 & 9), Russell Wilks, Jr. (14); middle row: Clara Sewert (4) and Evelyn Barrow (5); back row: Rosa Lee Cross (2); Lucille Wilks (6), and Willie Lou Barrow (9). Photo courtesy of the Garza County Historical Museum

enrolled in a piano class and told the teacher my aim at the end of six weeks was to be perfect in a selection suitable for my band. She selected "Marching Through Georgia." She was strict. When school started we went to Post, measured the stage and drew it off in the dirt at Grassburr.

By contest time the kids were perfect in marching on and off stage and a few cute tricks while they were on stage. In The Post Dispatch, April 28, 1938, was our picture in our Sears & Roebuck navy blue and white uniforms with the leader, Merle Robi-nette, dressed in white with a navy blue tie and a captain's cap saluting. At her feet was our toy drum. The headline read "Garza County Rhythm Band Champion."

About 3 or 4 years ago a man called me and asked if I had taught at Grassburr. He said the year I left there he was a student at the school and later married Dorothy Welch who had been a member of the band. He got interested in the band after 60 years and located most of the band members. He sent them my address and I heard from several. The man was James Lee Smith from Tahoka. When I asked him how he found me he said he advertised in the papers. A man called him and said he didn't know me or my family, but knew I married a Houston from Stanton. Mr. Smith wanted to have a reunion but

it seemed impossible.

Red School Bus

The last year we were at Grassburr, the principal and the trustees bought a school bus, painted it red and sent the high school kids into Post. Every Monday we had a general assembly and taught the kids gospel songs. The bus driver said the kids sang all the way to and from Post.

The parents at Grassburr were wonderful and the kids a delight. The Wagner boy was big enough to drive so the Wagners came in a touring car, picking up others on the way. The Crosses rode horses across the pasture, tied the horses to a fence post and climbed over the fence to school. Sometimes the horse would pull loose.

The schoolhouse, out houses (boys on right, girls on left) and teacherage are all gone now, but I am told the corner is still there. I feel sure the grass burrs, snakes and skunks are, too.

Our weekends and nights were not lonely there. Edith, Ted's niece was living with them so the four of us played tennis for exercise and we became sharks at cards. Some weekends a bookkeeper for a nearby gin would join us.

Grass Burrs in my Heart

At the end of the 1937-38 school year we bid goodbye to Dean Robinson,

County Super of Garza Co. Grassburr #3. The News-mans accepted positions in a school near Lubbock. After studying the 1929 Tech catalogue (the year I entered Tech) I saw I could get my degree by going the summer and the fall terms. Earl, my brother, came in his pickup and picked me and my bed up (the only furniture I had at Grassburr) and we sold it to a second-hand dealer in Lubbock. So, with grass burrs still in my heart, but not in my shoes, I was a Texas Tech coed again.

An interesting after-thought: One year while at Grassburr I took a correspondence course from Tech on the "History of Music." For the final exam I was asked to write a paper on the history of music in Garza County. The woman I talked with in Post said her piano was the first one in the county and was delivered to her home by wagon. She stated that the town of Post was named after the cereal king, C. W. Post, but he never did anything to promote the music or arts of the county.

(Editor's Note: Our appreciation to Elouida Preston of Lubbock for sharing this story. Ted and Mabel Newman, principal and teacher at Grassburr, were her aunt and uncle.)

STOP THE FLU

TEXASFLU.ORG

STAY HOME

If you get sick, stay home until you're well so you don't spread more germs. Steer clear of others who are sick.

PLAN

Even if you're not sick, plan ahead. Stock food and medicine to last several days for family and pets. Also check into alternate work options and child care, in case your family gets the flu.

STAY INFORMED

Get the latest updates at TexasFlu.org, and check your local news for any canceled events or closings.

DIAL 2-1-1 FOR FLU ADVICE

Medical professionals can provide information about managing flu symptoms. They can also give advice on when to seek medical care.

Stopping the flu is up to you.

TexasFlu.org

Robert L. and Jimella Simpson were each presented Rotary International's Paul Harris Fellowship at the December 22nd meeting of the Rotary Club of Post. Lynn A. Simpson of the Rotary Club of Mexia presented the award to his parents. Paul Harris Fellowships are given to individuals who have made substantial contributions to the Rotary Foundation and/or to recognize individuals for their work with Rotary projects or local community. Courtesy photo.

EXTENSION EXTRAS

Cookbooks

If you would like to purchase a Hometown Holiday cookbook, please come by the office and get yours today. They are \$10.

try card by January 7, 2010.

Please make sure you bring all tag numbers with you if you have them. All entries are \$10 with the exception of rabbits and peewee and they are \$5.

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

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Stock Show County Entries

If you plan to enter in the Garza County Stock Show, we need you to come by the office and fill out your en-

Stock Show Workday

The workday has been scheduled for January 10, 2010 at 2:00.