

The Post Dispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2013

THEPOSTDISPATCHONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

Officials debate gun-carrying policy

By Wayne Hodgins
The Post Dispatch

Post ISD officials are in the process of considering whether or not to allow certain members of the staff and faculty at each of the district's campuses to carry a firearm.

Members of the board of trustees, during their regular monthly meeting Feb. 27, began preliminary discussions on whether or not to develop a policy that would allow firearms

on campus for use in circumstances that might jeopardize the safety of students and themselves, Superintendent Michael Comeaux said.

"Let me be clear, no decision has been made on this issue," Comeaux said. "In the wake of the tragedy at Sandy Hook, we're — just like all school and school systems throughout the country — are having to bring this issue to the forefront of discussion."

"The safety of our students, fac-

ulty and staff and the security of our campus buildings are our No. 1 concern."

On Dec. 14, 20-year-old Adam Lanza walked into Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., and opened fire, fatally shooting 20 children and six adults in the second-deadliest shooting in U.S. history after the 2007 massacre at Virginia Tech University.

In light of the shooting, hundreds of school districts throughout

the country have begun to examine and re-examine policies concerning school safety.

Less than a week after the Sandy Hook attack, Texas Commissioner of Education Michael Williams directed all school districts throughout the state to immediately address their respective district's plan to mitigate, prepare and respond to such an incident.

See **GUN POLICY**, Page 3

Post Notes

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

Homestead exemption

Anyone who turns 65 in 2013, or who has a birth date of 1948 or prior, is eligible for the over-65 homestead exemption on their property taxes. Anyone with a business personal property is required to file a rendition with the Garza Central Appraisal District. If a rendition is not filed, a 10 percent penalty will be added to the total tax. For information, or to file an exemption, contact the Garza Central Appraisal District at 806-495-3518 or visit 124 E. Main St., Post. Due date is April 15.

Cotton meeting

Plains Cotton Growers 56th annual meeting will be from 9 a.m. to noon April 5 at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, 1501 Mac Davis Lane. For information, contact Plains Cotton Growers at 792-4904 or visit plainscotton.org.

Senior scholarships

Applications for local scholarships for high school seniors are due Friday, March 8. Visit postisd.net for information.

Volunteers needed

Post City Festivals is in need of volunteers to help build a number of the miniature houses on site at Silent Night Village. If interested, call Jackie Cruise at 990-9907.

Horse validations

Four-H Connect horse validations will be conducted Friday through May 1. Cost is \$10 through April 15 and \$20 from April 16 through May 1. For information, contact the Garza County Extension Office at 495-4400.

GED test

The GED test is being revised and will be in use starting January 2014. It is being revised to better prepare students for college entry. As a result, the test will be more difficult to pass. If you or someone you know is interested in obtaining their GED, now is the time to pursue this goal. Classes are available at Post High School Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-8pm. For more information, call 495-2770.

Senior ads

Senior ads for the Post High School yearbook are due by March 22. Prices run \$60, \$120, \$180. If you have any questions, contact Malvena Moore at 495-2770 or mmoore@postisd.net.

See **POST NOTES**, Page 4

Corrections

Garza County Sheriff Terry Morgan was incorrectly identified in a story appearing on page 7 of the March 1 edition. A corrected story is printed in today's Post Dispatch.

News on the go



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Mayor, school seats to face opposition

By Wayne Hodgins
The Post Dispatch

Qualifying for the May 11 school board and the Post municipal elections ended March 1.

The seats for Wards 1 and 2 in the city of Post will be uncontested, effectively re-seating incumbent Councilwomen Melba Cimental and Pixie Grisham, respectively.

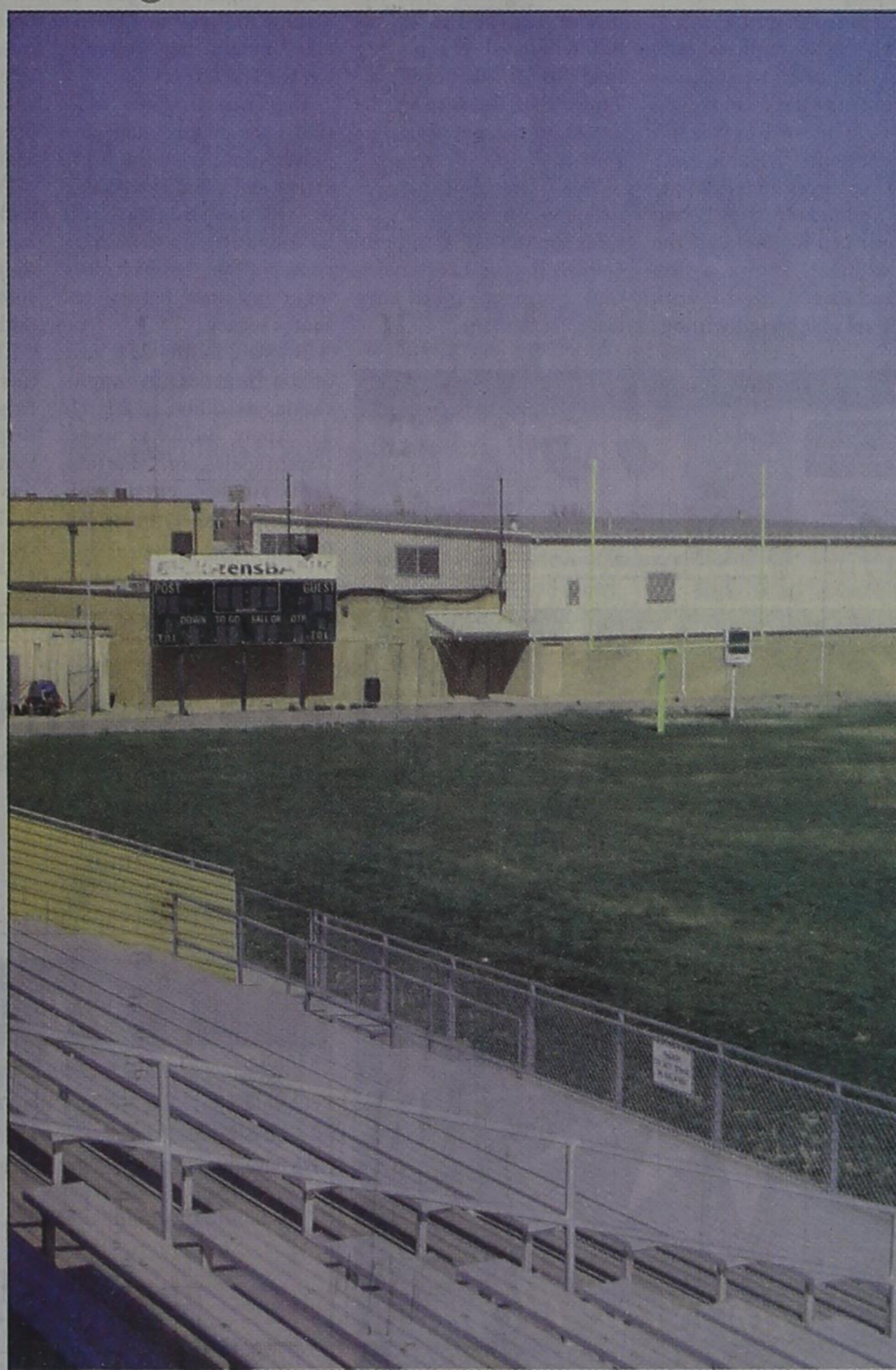
City Manager Deana Watson said those two particular elections will be canceled since they are unopposed.

Mayor Archie Gill, who was appointed in October to fill the unexpired term of Thessa Harp, filed to retain his seat on the council.

Gill will face opposition from local business owner and political newcomer T.K. Thompson.

See **SCHOOL**, Page 3

Changes ahead



Anna Gibson/The Post Dispatch

Local residents soon will see some changes at Jimmie Redman Memorial Stadium at Post High School. The board of trustees has approved the installation of artificial turf at the field as well as a new scoreboard. The upgrades were part of the \$25-million bond project voters approved in November. The board voted during its regular meeting last week to award the bid for the turf installation to Paragon Sports of Dallas for a low bid of \$664,000. The cost of the new scoreboard is about \$35,000, of which school officials are actively seeking sponsors.

Daylight-saving time begins this weekend

The Post Dispatch

This weekend marks the beginning of daylight-saving time — the annual event lauded by business-owners and sunshine-loving residents, while widely criticized by those in the education community.

The official change will be in effect at 2 a.m. Sunday and dictates the time "spring forward" one hour to 3 a.m.

Since 2007, daylight-saving time was officially moved from the first Sunday in April to the second Sunday in March per the Energy Policy Act of 2005 signed by President George W. Bush.

While digital clocks on many personal computers, smartphones, tablets and other electronic devices will automatically adjust to reflect the semi-annual change, residents are reminded manual clocks must be adjusted by hand.

Daylight-saving time will end at 2 a.m. Oct. 28, the last Sunday in the month, when the time will officially "fall back" to 1 a.m.

Wayne Hodgins

Electricity council expects another 'tight' summer

Special to the Dispatch

AUSTIN — The amount of electricity available to serve consumer demand will be tight again this summer, according to information released this week by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which operates the power grid and manages the electric market for most of the state.

"Current estimates indicate that we likely will see very tight conditions on the hottest days," said Kent Saathoff, vice president of Grid

Operations and System Planning for ERCOT. "There is a significant chance that ERCOT will need to issue Energy Emergency Alerts and appeal to consumers to reduce their energy use on some of those days."

ERCOT issued two reports Monday: the final Seasonal Assessment of Resource Adequacy for spring and a preliminary assessment for summer. Sufficient resources will be available to meet anticipated spring demand, as long as extreme weather well beyond expected conditions does not occur during the early part

of the season when power plants are undergoing maintenance to prepare for summer.

The preliminary summer assessment anticipates a peak demand of 67,998 megawatts, based on a weather outlook similar to that of 2010 and a slower-growth economic outlook.

ERCOT officials anticipate 73,708 MW of generation capacity before accounting for power plant outages, which typically total about 2,600 MW during an operating day. One MW can serve about 200 homes

during peak demand periods. This assessment counts wind power at 8.7 percent of its installed capacity, and ERCOT stakeholders are currently evaluating whether to recommend increasing that capacity value based on performance in recent years.

"Although we expect to have more resources available for summer demands than we projected at this time in 2012, we also expect higher demand this year," Saathoff said.

Chris Coleman, a meteorologist

See **ELECTRICITY**, Page 3

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Springer files bills to benefit District 68

Special to the Dispatch

AUSTIN — On Tuesday, Rep. Drew Springer, R-Muenster, filed several bills for the benefit of rural Texas.

HB 2514 gives school districts in rural areas the more flexibility with their school start date. Many schools in rural areas have struggled with the late school start date because it significantly shortens the classroom time in the fall, a time important to agriculture and the rural way of life.

HB 2516 ensures fines collected for burn violations be returned to the county of offense to be distributed by the commissioner's court to local volunteer fire departments. This will keep the money collected local and ensure it is being used for the purpose most believe it is intended to go to.

HB 2517 requires citizens to give notification before starting a controlled burn. This will save fire departments valuable time and resources by eliminating redundant trips when people call in smoke. If the department knows a fire is authorized in the area, they are able to tell without

making a physical trip to the location.

HB 2518 eliminates an unfunded mandate on counties by lowering the minimum compensation for jurors to the amount of funding the state provides. This will save counties \$6 per juror, per day — a sum that will add up over time, Springer officials noted.

HB 2519 takes away an unfunded mandate on counties by changing the requirement of establishing a library to an option of establishing one.

HB 2521 allows a local economic development committee to develop plans that positively impact the middle class while still allowing for low-income housing development.

HB 2522 changes the Historically Underutilized Business program to reflect the shifting demographics in the state of Texas. This bill will level the playing field for all businesses, regardless of the race of the owner, to compete for state contracts.

"All of these bills help return common sense to government and open up more choices for rural communities," Springer said in a released statement.

Deaths

Doris 'Nannie' Jones

On March 3, 2013, at 9:30 in the morning, our beloved Doris "Nannie" Jones went to her eternal resting place. Doris Eticott Jones was born on March 11, 1923, in Axminster, County of Devon, England, to Walter and Olive Eticott. During World War II, Doris met and married J.B. Jones on March 11, 1945, she then moved to Post, Texas, in 1946.



DORIS 'NANNIE' JONES

Post, Texas, and Gregg Jones married to Brenda Jones of Seminole.

Doris is survived by five grandchildren who lovingly referred to her as their Nan-

nie, they are Jackie Patrick of Decatur, Texas; Lena Hearin married to Randell Hearin of Cleburne, Texas; Erin Huffman married to Charles Huffman Jr. of Post, Texas; Randy Jones married to Phyllis of Eustace, Texas; and Julie Stroup married to Lane Stroup of Seminole, Texas.

Nannie is also survived by seven great grandchildren.

Family and friends gathered to celebrate their beloved Doris "Nannie" Jones on March 5, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. at the First Christian Church at her funeral.

Viewing took place on March 4, 2013 at 6:00-7:30 at the Hudman Funeral Home.

Deadline nears for summer leadership program

Special to the Dispatch

SAN ANTONIO — The Texas Brigades program is looking for a few good leaders. Actually, they are looking for 170 leaders.

The Texas Brigades' mission is to educate and empower youth with the leadership skills and knowledge in wildlife, fisheries and land stewardship to become conservation ambassadors for a sustained natural resource legacy.

This will be the 21st year of the Brigades. The application deadline is March 15. Apply online at www.texasbrigades.org. Participants are selected through a competitive application process.

Executive Director Helen Holdsworth said they are looking for youth ages 13-17 years of age. No experience is necessary, but applicants should have a strong interest in learning about wildlife, natural resources, livestock, and/or the environment.

"We are looking for those with an interest in learning and then sharing what they have learned with their communities," Holdsworth said.

There will be seven camps this summer: two Buckskin Brigades, two Bobwhite Brigades, Bass Brigade, Waterfowl Brigade and the newest, Ranch Brigade.

The four-and-a-half day camps are held on private

ranches across the state.

"These landowners open their gates to us for five days, allowing us to utilize the land as a living laboratory. Natural resource professionals give of their time to mentor the youth. This is a valuable networking opportunity," she said.

The cost of the camp is \$400 but scholarships and financial assistance are available. "We do not want the fee to be a barrier to anyone. We have donors who are willing to support the youths' educational experience," Holdsworth said.

For more information, contact Holdsworth at 210-332-3560 or via email at hholdsworth@texas-wildlife.org.

NEW TEXAS CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW Save a Life

4 STEPS FOR KIDS

1. REAR SEAT SELECTION: Most children between ages 4 to 8 will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Safety experts recommend that all children under age 13 ride in the back seat. Adults and children must be buckled up whether they are in the front or back seat.
2. PROPER SEAT SELECTION: If you are using a booster seat, make sure it is the right height for your child's weight and height.
3. PROPER SEAT POSITIONING: If you are using a booster seat, make sure it is the right height for your child's weight and height.
4. SAFETY BELT: Buckle up properly. Buckle up properly. Buckle up properly.

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NEW TEXAS LAW Effective 9/1/2009
A child up to 8 years old, unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches, must ride in a child safety seat.

Most children between ages 4 to 8 will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Safety experts recommend that all children under age 13 ride in the back seat. Adults and children must be buckled up whether they are in the front or back seat.

Cryptogram

A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to 'decode' the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

Hint: Quote by Jimmy Johnson, Football Coach

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

T E E E E E T E E
I C O J U H H O D O K T O P O I X O O K W D J U K G D E
G K J O F I D G W D J U K G D E U R I C G I
T T E E T
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GUN POLICY

From Page 1

Comeaux said there are a number of concerns that surround the allowance of firearms on campus and that school officials are investigating a number of alternatives to school safety.

"We're exploring all of our options right now to ensure the safety of our kids and employees," Comeaux said. "Our discussions are in the very preliminary stages, but we're looking at everything from allowing a certain number of teachers to carry a firearm to hiring more school police officers."

This past November, voters within the Post Independent School District voted for school officials to proceed with more than \$25 million in campus improvements throughout the district, including the construction of a new high school.

"With the anticipated construction of the new high school, we've been discussing increased school safety at our campus facilities for months — even before the tragedy at Sandy Hook," Comeaux said.

The school superintendent said the next step is for district officials to conduct a survey of faculty and staff and then begin to gauge the interest of a gun-carrying policy from not only the public but also students.

"This is an issue that affects a great many people in our district," Comeaux said. "I anticipate a lot of questions. While this is certainly a very timely issue, we're not about to make a knee-jerk reaction to it. This is just something the board felt like needed to be addressed."

Southland ISD has had a gun-carrying policy within its district since September 2011 — the second in the state behind Harrold ISD near Wichita Falls.

Superintendent Toby Miller said school officials were split on the issue when

it first was discussed. "At that time, it wasn't a very popular idea," Miller said. "But as the discussion progressed, we realized that our school, our students and our faculty was extremely vulnerable because of our location."

Before the issue was presented to the board and since that time, Miller said he's done extensive research on the topic.

"The average response time to a school shooting is about 12 minutes. We knew if something like that were to happen here, that response time would have been even greater," he said. "We took it upon ourselves to be our own first-responders."

Southland's policy, Miller said, was to have a team of faculty known only to him and the school board, to be extensively trained and licensed to carry a concealed handgun.

"Our team members go above and beyond what is required in a typical CHL class," Miller said. "In fact, board policy requires training at least once a year if not more."

According to the policy, trained team members carry a concealed handgun on their person during school hours on campus and at all on-campus school events.

In addition to a possible gun-carrying policy, Post ISD Superintendent Comeaux said a number of other security measures already have been and can be expected in the future, including secured entrances for visitors, keyless entry for faculty and staff, student and staff ID cards, just to name a few ideas.

"We enjoy — and the taxpayers of Post enjoy — an open campus at Post ISD," Comeaux said. "We don't want to change that, but we will have to implement certain measures in order to ensure the safety of our students and employees. It may be an inconvenience at first, but we're taking the better-safe-than-sorry approach to this issue."

SCHOOL

From Page 1

The Post ISD board of trustees has two open seats in its at-large election, including those of incumbents Drew Kirkpatrick and Robbie Williams, both of whom filed for re-election.

Political newcomer Ray Perez of Post also has filed to run for one of the open seats.

Early voting for both elections will be April 29 through May 7.

Early balloting for the municipal election will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at City Hall, 105 E. Main St.

The city is required to have two extended-hour early voting days. Watson said those days will be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. April 29 and May 6.

Early balloting for the school board election will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the administration office, 501 S. Ave. K. No extended-hour voting will take place for the school board election.

Election day is set for May 11. Both the municipal and the school board election will be conducted jointly.

For information about the municipal election, call City Hall at 495-2811. For information about the school board election, call the Post ISD administration office at 495-3343.

ELECTRICITY

From Page 1

with ERCOT, said current trends call for a summer that is hotter and drier than normal.

"Although we don't anticipate prolonged heat waves like those in 2011, we expect conditions in many areas to be similar to 2012," Coleman said.

Power demands in the ERCOT region are highest in summer, primarily due to air conditioning use in homes and businesses. The ERCOT region's all-time record peak occurred on Aug. 3, 2011, when consumer demand hit 68,305 MW. Although the summer of 2012 was much milder than the record-breaking conditions that marked the previous year, ERCOT still experienced new monthly peaks in June, July and September.

The final assessment for summer 2013 will be released in May. ERCOT will continue to assess conditions to determine if additional actions should be taken to help protect system reliability this summer. Those actions could include bringing "mothballed" units, resources that are not currently operating but could be brought back to operational status, back on-line for the peak season.

During its February meeting, the ERCOT board of directors approved a protocol revision that would authorize ERCOT to contract for these resources if the additional capacity would likely

be needed to prevent an emergency situation.

That same month, the board also approved changes to help ensure steps taken to protect reliability, including deployment of operating reserves, did not result in prices that did not reflect the scarcity conditions. Because generation companies in the ERCOT market are paid only for the energy they provide to the market, prices during scarcity conditions are designed to provide necessary revenues during fewer operating hours. If generators cannot recover their costs, they are unlikely to invest in new resources.

The Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2012 increased the systemwide offer cap, the highest price at which power can be offered into the market, to \$4,500 per megawatt-hour in August 2012, with annual incremental increases scheduled up to \$9,000 in summer 2015. The cap will go up to \$5,000 per MWh this summer. ERCOT also has set the cap as the price for units that are called upon in scarcity conditions.

Balancing supply and demand ERCOT has taken other steps in the past year to address ongoing resource adequacy concerns as electric demand grows faster than generation is being built to

serve those electric needs. These efforts focus primarily on encouraging consumers to use less electricity during the periods of highest demand.

A pilot program began in 2012 to encourage more consumers to provide Emergency Response Service by reducing their electric use within 30 minutes after receiving direction from ERCOT. That pilot, which pays eligible participants for this service, has been extended through summer 2013. For the first time, residential consumers are now able to participate, through aggregators, in the grid operator's paid demand response efforts.

Other steps ERCOT has taken to support reliability focus on increasing consumer awareness of system conditions. Last summer, ERCOT launched the ERCOT Energy Saver mobile app that provides current load information and offers push notifications to consumers when conservation is needed. ERCOT also began posting non-binding real-time prices for the next hour on its website to increase awareness for consumers who may want to reduce their energy use when wholesale prices are expected to rise.



Efforts to encourage investment in new generation continue both at ERCOT and the PUC.

Thanks for reading the *Post Dispatch*

Tack and Saddle Auction

State of the economy forces liquidation
We have been asked to sell at public auction, without reserve, a large inventory of saddles and horse equipment. Over 50 New custom made saddles, Western, Pony, Youth, Silver Show, Ranch, Roping, Barrel, and Pleasure. Over 200 lots of custom made bridles and horse tack. Including, jeweled bridles and breast collars, hand tooled leather saddle bags, cowboy pads, New Zealand Wool Saddle Blankets, Winter Blankets, plus lots of other western tack. - Accepting Cash, all cards, and debit cards. 10% Buyers fee, Sorry no checks. - Auction is inside and heated. Lots of tack to be given away as door prizes. - Murphy's Auction Auctioneer Mike Murphy TXL #10151 (512) 772 1888

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A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its value. If your home is valued at \$50,000 and you receive a \$15,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$35,000.

Who qualifies for an exemption?
Anyone who owns a home on Jan. 1 and uses it as a primary residence on that date is entitled to a \$15,000 homestead exemption to lower school taxes. It doesn't matter if your home is a house, condominium or mobile home. Counties, cities and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.

Are other exemptions available?
If you're disabled—or if you're 65 years old or older—you are entitled to an additional \$10,000 school tax exemption on your home. And if you qualify for the 65 or older or disabled exemption, you're also entitled to a permanent, locked-in "ceiling" on the school property taxes on your home. The county, city or junior college may adopt a tax ceiling for 65 and older or disabled homeowners. The age 65 or older homeowners school tax ceiling transfers to the surviving spouse, if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of death and lives in and owns the home. The age 65 or older homeowners (or their surviving spouses 55 years of age or older) also may transfer the percentage of school tax paid, based on their former home's school tax ceiling to a new home.

If you're a disabled veteran who receives from the Veterans Affairs (VA)—(1) 100 percent disability compensation due to a service connected disability and (2) a rating of 100 percent disabled or a determination of individual unemployability, you are entitled to an exemption from taxation of the total appraised value of your resident homestead.

Do I have to apply each year?
No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 2012, you won't need to reapply for 2013 unless your chief appraiser requires it. However, if you haven't received an exemption on your present home—or if you've moved to a new home—you'll need to file for an exemption for 2013. If you are 65 this year, you may file for the age 65 or older exemption up to one year after the date you turned 65. And if you became disabled, you need to file for the disabled person's exemption.


When and where should I file?
File applications before May 1 at your appraisal district office. If you need more time, contact us at:

Garza Central Appraisal District
124 East Main P O Drawer F
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Or contact:
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or on the Web at: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax



A public service announcement courtesy of your county appraisal district.

Remember to "Render!" Taxable property renditions are due April 15.

Does this apply to you?
If you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income, such as the equipment or inventory owned by a business, it does.

What is a rendition?
A rendition is a report to your county appraisal district that lists all of the taxable property that you owned or controlled on Jan. 1 of this year. This often applies to furniture, fixtures, equipment or inventory owned by a business.

What are the advantages of filing?

- You give your opinion of your property's value.
- You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address.
- If your property's value depreciated, you can file a report of decreased value.

What is the deadline?

- The last day for filing 2013 renditions is April 15.
- An automatic extension is available if requested in writing by the April 15 deadline.
- The chief appraiser may grant an additional 15 days after the deadline for an owner who shows good cause in writing.

REMEMBER!!
Filing is your responsibility. If you render late, don't render or file an incomplete or false rendition, you may face a 10 to 50 percent penalty.


File renditions with your local appraisal district at:

Garza Central Appraisal District
124 East Main P O Drawer F
Post, Texas 79356
(806) 495-3518

Or contact:
Texas Comptroller Susan Combs
Property Tax Assistance Division
P.O. Box 13528
Austin, Texas 78711-3528

or call: 1-800-252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu and then press "1" to contact the Information Service Team.

Or find us online at: http://window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax



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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ORDINARY
ICO JUHHODOKTO POIXOOK WDJUKGDE
AND EXTRAORDINARY IS THAT
GKJ OFIDGWJUKGDE UR TCGT
LITTLE EXTRA
SUITSO OFIDG

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Sheriff joins fellow officers at Capitol

The Post Dispatch

Garza County Sheriff Terry Morgan was one of more than 150 sheriffs and other law enforcement officers from around the state that visited the 83rd Texas Legislature Feb. 18 in Austin.

The Legislative Committee and staff of the Sheriffs Association of Texas coordinated the annual event to the Texas State Capitol to facilitate the sheriffs' involvement in the legislative process.

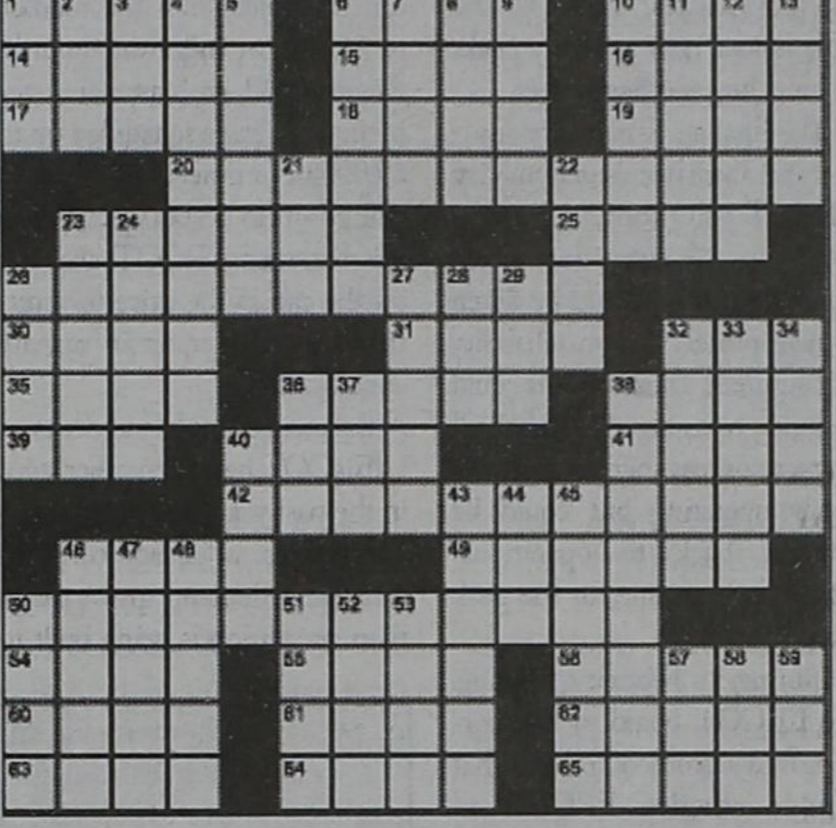
Resolutions were passed in both the House and Senate recognizing the sheriffs and the Sheriffs Association of Texas.

Founded in 1874, the Sheriffs Association of Texas is a non-profit professional and educational organization dedicated to the preservation of peace and the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Texas. The Legislative Committee is appointed by the president of the Sheriffs Association of Texas and is composed of sheriffs from around the state.

Justice-Mason Funeral Home

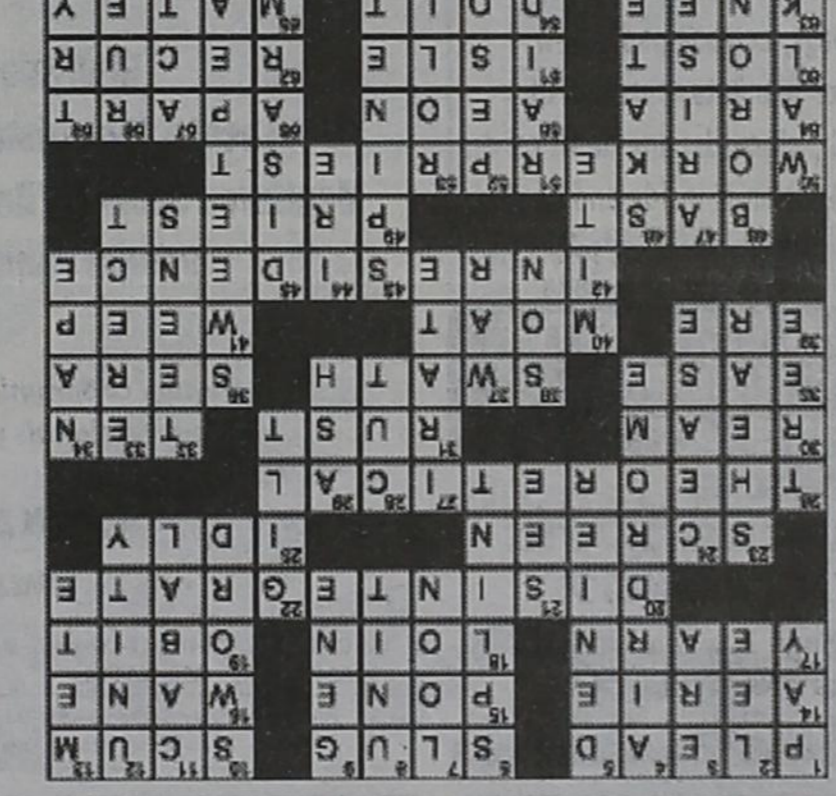
- Across
1. Beg
 6. Wallop
 10. Lowlife
 14. Cliffside dwelling
 15. Corn
 16. Decline
 17. Long
 18. Beef buy
 19. Final notice
 20. Break into fragments
 23. Filter
 25. One way to stand by
 26. Speculative
 30. Enlarge, as a hole
 31. Corrode
 32. Big ___ Conference
 35. "___ on Down the Road"
 36. Lawn mower's path
 38. "Buona ___" (Italian greeting)
 39. "___ he drove out of sight"
 40. Water-filled ditch surrounding a castle
 41. Shed tears of grief
 42. Committed to live and work in a specific place (2 wds)
 46. Strong woody fiber
 49. Druid, e.g.
 50. Clergyman who also has a secular job (hyphenated)
 54. "Mi chiamano Mimi," e.g.
 55. Long, long time
 56. In pieces
 60. At sea
 61. "Cast Away" setting
 62. Come again
 63. "Trick" joint
 64. Airhead
 65. Pirate's pal

CROSSWORD PUZZLE
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301 West Main Street
806-495-2833



- Down
1. Be worthwhile
 2. "Malcolm X" director
 3. Victorian, for one
 4. Military air base
 5. Unit of fineness of silk fibers
 6. Rigid support for a broken bone
 7. "Crazy" bird
 8. Condo, e.g.
 9. Characteristic carrier
 10. Weapon with a long, pointed blade
 11. Conspiratorial group of plotters
 12. Accord
 13. Allocate, with "out"
 21. "Comprende?"
 22. Covered with gold
 23. Clip sheep's fleece
 24. "Cut it out!"
 26. Diagram showing family lineage
 27. About to explode
 28. Director's cry
 29. ___ Wednesday
 32. Parenting challenges
 33. At attention

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POST NOTES

From Page 1

Veterans benefits

War-time veterans or surviving spouses may be entitled to monthly income from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. For information, contact Marsha Mahurin at West Texas Senior Resources at 806-781-3901 or email marsha.mahurin@yahoo.com.

City Council

The Post City Council meets at 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month in Council Chambers at City Hall, 105 E. Main St. For information, call 495-2811.

County Commission

The Garza County Commission meets at 9 a.m. the second and fourth Mondays of the month in Commission Chambers at the Garza County Courthouse, 300 W. Main St. For information, call 495-4430.

School board

The Post ISD Board of Trustees meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Tuesdays of the month in the conference room at the Administrative Offices, 501 S. Ave. K. For information, call 495-3343.

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Church Directory

Assembly of God
Bethel Assembly of God (Bi-Lingual) - 407 May street
Lifeline Church - 108 N. Broadway

Baptist
Calvary Baptist Church - 210 E. 6th Street, 990-2342
First Baptist Church, Post - 402 W. Main Street, 495-3554
First Baptist Church, Wilson - 806-628-6333
Grace Baptist Church - 820 N. Avenue S - 990-3497
Justiceburg Baptist Church - Justiceburg
Pleasant Home Baptist Church - E. 14th & N Ave F
Pleasant Valley Baptist Church - Hwy 84 & N. 399 (806) 828-4174
Southland Baptist Church - Southland
Temple Bautista - 315 W. Main
Trinity Baptist Church - 915 N. Ave O, 990-3038

Catholic
Holy Cross Catholic Church - Ave K and Main Street - 495-2791

Church of Christ
Church of Christ - 108 N. Ave M 495-2326

Graham Chapel Church of Christ - 15th & Ave S

Church of God
Church of God of Prophecy - 602 W. 14th, 495-3644
Power House Church of God and Christ, Pine Avenue

Disciples of Christ
First Christian Church - 812 W. 13th, 495-3716

Evangelical Methodist
Faith Chapel - 1105 Green Street, Wilson (806) 628-0018

Methodist
First United Methodist Church - 216 W. 10th, 990-2942
Graham Chapel United Methodist Church (Pastor: John Hedrick) - 611 FM #1313 806-549-1400

Nazarene
Post Church of Nazarene - 202 W. 10th, 495-3044
Grassland Church of Nazarene - 327-5656

Presbyterian
First Presbyterian Church - 910 W. 10th, 495-2135

Nondenominational
Family Harvest Church - (806) 495-1400



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806-495-3503
Fax:
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The Post Dispatch

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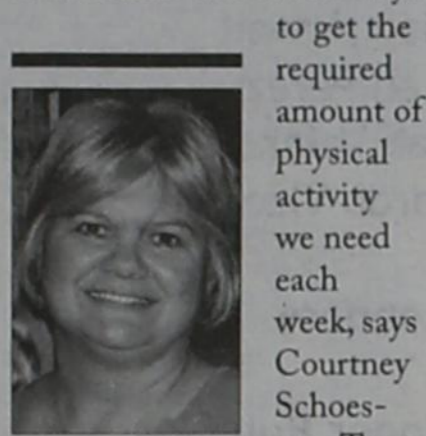


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Nancy's Notions

Walking is the best exercise for diabetes

Exercise is something most of us love to hate. But there is good news: Walking is one of the safest and easiest ways



NANCY MCDONALD

specialist for diabetes education.

It's cheaper than a gym membership, more fun than a stationary bike, more convenient than swimming, and easier on the muscles, joints, and feet than running. Research shows sustained, regular exercise, like walking, reduces the risk of several life-threatening diseases, including heart disease, stroke, and certain cancers. For people with diabetes, it improves the way insulin works and gives you improved blood glucose readings.

To achieve these health benefits, you need to accumulate at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity most, if not all days of the week. You can accomplish this goal with a single brisk 30-minute walk, several shorter walks that add up to 30 minutes, or with a short walk combined with other physical pursuits,

such as yard work, or energetic housework. (I know, I snickered at this one too but that is what the research reported.)

Walking should be refreshing, not an ordeal. Make walking fun. Consider whether you want to walk a certain distance (say to the post office) or whether you want to walk continuously for a certain number of minutes. Choose the pace you want to walk and stick with it. Appreciate the considerable health benefits you're racking up.

The faster you swing your arms as you walk, the faster you'll be able to walk, since your arms and legs move in sync. To swing your arms faster, bend your elbows at a 90-degree angle rather than letting your arms hang down at your sides, and don't let your hands swing higher than chest level.

When walking, push off with the balls of your feet, and take quicker strides, not longer ones, since extending your normal stride can cause low-back pain. Your body will automatically choose the right stride length that works best for you. Remember, keep your head up, shoulders back, and chest out to maintain a comfortable upright posture.

Concerned about pushing yourself too hard during the workout? Take notice of what your body is telling you. You're probably over-exercising if walking feels like drudgery, you have signs of low blood sugar, and

you have muscle cramps, leg pain, breathlessness or extreme fatigue. It's best to walk with someone else, just in case you need extra encouragement or a reminder to check your blood sugar while exercising.

The following recipe is from the American Diabetes Association website. Let me know what you think. For more information on managing diabetes or upcoming diabetes education classes call me at 495-4400.

Oatmeal and Apple Muffins

Serves 8; serving size: 1 muffin

- 1/4 cup egg substitute
- 2/3 cup whole-wheat flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- 1/2 cup nonfat milk
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 peeled, cored, and chopped apple
- 1/4 cup natural unsweetened applesauce
- 2/3 cup rolled oats
- 4 Tbsp Splenda Brown Sugar Blend

Preheat oven to 400° F. Beat egg substitute. Sift together flour, baking powder, cinnamon and nutmeg. Combine all ingredients, mixing just to moisten. Spoon batter into muffin cups until 3/4 full. Bake for 15-20 minutes.

Nutritional Information, Exchanges/Choices 3 Carbohydrate; Calories 190 - Calories from Fat 10; Total Fat 1.0 g - Saturated Fat 0.2 g, Trans Fat 0.0 g; Cholesterol 0 mg; Sodium 120 mg; Total Carbohydrate 44 g, Dietary Fiber 3 g, Sugars 28 g; Protein 4 g

Nancy McDonald is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Garza County.

Menus

Post and Southland schools are out on spring break next week.

Trailblazers Lunch

- Monday: Chicken strips, garlic potatoes, stewed okra and tomatoes, oatmeal-raisin cookie
- Tuesday: Hamburger, potato wedges, baked beans, Jell-O, and milk
- Wednesday: Chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, vegetable salad
- Thursday: Chicken-fried steak, English peas, mashed potatoes and Mandarin oranges
- Friday: Taco salad, rice, beans, brownie and milk

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS DOCKET SERVICES

OIL AND GAS DOCKET IN RE: CONSERVATION AND PREVENTION OF WASTE OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS

Austin, Texas
February 28, 2013

NOTICE OF HEARING
ON THE APPLICATION OF SAGA PETROLEUM, L.L.C. OF COLORADO TO CONSIDER UNITIZATION AND SECONDARY RECOVERY AUTHORITY FOR THE SOUTHWEST GARZA UNIT LEASE GARZA FIELD GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS

CAUTION: TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING IN OPPOSITION TO THIS APPLICATION, YOU MUST COMPLETE AND FILE WITH THE COMMISSION THE ENCLOSED NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST AT LEAST FIVE WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO THE HEARING DATE REGARDLESS OF WHETHER YOU PREVIOUSLY FILED A NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST IN RESPONSE TO A PREVIOUSLY ISSUED NOTICE OF APPLICATION. [Please read this entire Notice of Hearing for further instructions.]

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the public and to all interested persons that under the legal authority and jurisdiction of Title 3, Oil and Gas, Subtitles A, B, and C of the Texas Natural Resources Code, Chapters 26, 27 and 29 of the Texas Water Code, and TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. art. §§ 2001 *et seq.* (2013), the RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS will hold a hearing on

APRIL 16, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. at the William B. Travis State Office Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. This hearing will be conducted in conformity with the TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. §§ 2001 *et seq.* (2013). For room assignment, on the date of the hearing please check the bulletin board in the 1st Floor lobby. Persons planning to attend this hearing are urged to contact the applicant (see service list) immediately prior to the hearing date to be sure that the hearing will proceed on the scheduled date.

This hearing will be held to consider the application of Saga Petroleum, L.L.C. of Colorado to consider Unitization and Secondary Recovery Authority for the Southwest Garza Unit Lease (Lease No. 61155), Garza Field (Field No. 34113001) in Garza County, Texas.

1. Approval of the Second Amendment to the Unit Agreement for the Southwest Garza Unit (Unit) that expands the Unitized Formation to include the lower San Andres formation. A copy of this Second Amendment is on file with the Docket Services office of the Railroad Commission of Texas at 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701.
2. Approval of the expanded Unit as a secondary recovery unit pursuant to Chapter 101 of the Texas Natural Resources Code;
3. Approval of secondary recovery operations by waterflooding in the enlarged Unitized Formation that is part of the Garza Field (Field No. 34113001) as recognized by the Railroad Commission; and
4. Railroad Commission recognition of Saga's Southwest Garza Unit (Lease No. 61155) as an entity for density purposes.

Saga has more than 85% of the working interest and more than 65% of the royalty interest within the Unit Area of the Unit committed to the Second Amendment of the Unit.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, H. Philip Whitworth, at (512) 495-6300. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Railroad Commission, at (512) 463-6848.

IF A CONTINUATION IS NECESSARY, this hearing will proceed at the William B. Travis State Office Building, Austin, Texas, and, to the extent possible, on subsequent working days. The room number and exact time of the continuation will be announced on the record in this proceeding and recorded with Docket Services, Railroad Commission of Texas.

PURSUANT TO SAID HEARING, the Commission will enter such rules, regulations, and orders as in its judgment the evidence presented may justify.

ANY REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT of this hearing must be received no later than five (5) working days prior to the scheduled date shown above. Copies of such request must be forwarded to all parties shown on the service list.

TO APPEAR IN SUPPORT OR IN OPPOSITION TO THIS PROCEEDING, a party other than the applicant must file a notice of intent to appear at the hearing, even if the party has previously filed a notice of intent to appear in protest in response to the Notice of Application. The notice of intent to appear at the hearing must be filed with Docket Services, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date. If a party in opposition appears at the hearing without having filed a timely notice of intent to appear in response to this Notice of Hearing, the hearing may be postponed and re-set for a later date at the applicant's request or on the examiner's own motion. If the applicant fails to appear at the noticed hearing, the application may be dismissed without further notice or opportunity for hearing. A copy of the notice of intent to appear should be served on the applicant and any other parties of record.

IF ANY PARTY DESIRES A WRITTEN TRANSCRIPT of the hearing by a Court Reporter, that party should notify Docket Services at (512) 463-6848, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date. **If a written transcript is requested, the Commission may assess the cost of the transcript to one or more parties.** Unless any party requests a written transcript, the record will be made by audio recording.

ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY who needs auxiliary aids and services in order to have an equal opportunity to effectively communicate and participate in this hearing must request such aids or services at least two weeks prior to the scheduled hearing by notifying the Personnel office of the Railroad Commission of Texas by mail at P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, or by telephone at (512) 463-7327 or TDD No. (512) 463-7284.

ALL EXHIBITS FILED AS A PART OF THE RECORD in this cause must be submitted in duplicate. Data in Commission records may be incorporated by reference, but the reference must be specific, and if it includes exhibits filed in prior proceedings before the Commission, a copy of such exhibit properly identified shall be submitted for this record.

THE APPLICANT MUST review this notice and the attached service list for accuracy and completeness. The applicant shall immediately notify Docket Services of any discrepancy or omission.

THIS HEARING REQUIRES NOTICE BY PUBLICATION.

Springer bill targets 'government overreach'

Special to the Dispatch

AUSTIN — Rep. Drew Springer, R-Muenster, on Tuesday filed HB 2416, "The Shopping Bag Freedom Act" to give retailers and consumers the freedom to give and receive plastic and paper bags across the state and stop the overreach of big government.

As of last Friday, businesses in the city of Austin will no longer be able to distribute single-use bags to any of their customers. This means visitors to the capitol city will soon have to bring reusable bags with them if they intend to make purchases on their trip.

At a time of economic recession and with food prices at an all-time high, this hidden social-tax on the poor will cause many to have to choose between necessary items such as milk and bread or having a reusable bag to carry their groceries.

"This act is just the latest example of government elites trying to step between the business and consumer in an attempt to push forward a misguided nanny-state agenda," Springer said. "It is all for show, plastic bags make up just 0.6 percent of Austin's litter, and in San Francisco litter from bags actually increased after enacting their ban."

There are also health concerns associated with the use of reusable bags. A study by Home Food Safety Program found that only 15 percent of Americans wash their reusable bags, a prob-

lem that has led to spikes in E. Coli poisoning in places such as San Francisco and Washington D.C.

"They can't expect everyone will wash their bags regularly," Springer said. "This policy puts uninformed populations at risk of serious illness and even death. Even if bag hygiene was realistic, why mandate people to waste more water on laundry in a time of severe drought in the region and state?"

This initiative will cause

the city to use another half-billion gallons of water per year if people properly wash their bags after use.

Not only is this bad for conservation efforts, but it will serve as yet another monthly expense for all citizens of Austin.

"This type of government overreach must be stopped here and now," Springer said. "If a municipality can ban bags, what is to say they won't mandate how large a soda can be or how much salt one can put on their food."

Clay Miller

Ag TEXAS

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Honor roll

Third six weeks

Post ISD

A Honor Roll

First grade

Jordyn Dissinger
Diamond Espinoza
Samuel Hernandez
Zaran Kirkpatrick
Ashlyn Moore
Malazia Pardue
Zoey Pequeno
Kaylen Perez
Kristen Perez
JaCoby Webster
Reagan Workman

Second grade

Raelea Blevins
Camryn Cowley
Emma Gamoneda
Abcde Gutierrez
Landon Hair
Kelby Short
Samuel Walls

Third grade

Cohen Allred
Daisyana Cruz
Damon Mauney
Briley Miller
Drew Porter
Kalem Soto
Jenifer Trinidad

Fourth grade

Treyson Crow
M'Kenzie Eidson
Carson Holson
Krece Kirkpatrick
Brennan Riker
Nathan Taylor
Chelsea Thomas

Fifth grade

Chris Dihania
Dylan Greer
Dillon McKee

A-B Honor Roll

First grade

Adriel Araiza
Brailey Blacklock
Corey Blacklock
Andrea Esparza
Tucker Farris
Avery Gill
Alexandria Hernandez
Jesus Hernandez Gallegos
Jezreel Levario
Jady Martinez
Jesus Montoya
Jericho Moore
Brailey Nelson
Bryson Nelson
Cruz Pantoja-Navarro
Christopher Perez
Benjymin Price
Maria Ramirez
Jamarion Reed

Faith Sanchez

Avery Segura
Diego Silvas
Natalia Soto
Nyrah Soto
Michael Tadlock
Johnny Winkle
Jaylan Zubia

Second grade

Aneliz Alaniz
Randall Bell
Jose Cesillon
Sebastian Chapa
Madison Gary
Gavin Gomez
Marisol Hernandez
Jacob McClellan
Haylee Molina
Leah Moreno
Keith Nowers
Haley Perez
Javen Perez
Jaylen Pittman
Jair Rodriguez
Madeline Roman Zamora
Raymond Salas
Aracely Soto
Nadia Soto
Logan Tidwell

Third grade

Meagan Blair
Shayla Brown
Jayden Carroll
Citlaly Contreras
Dillon Cowley
Iva Cruse
Marti Cruse
Knoah Escobedo
Jose Garcia
Tristan Gomez
Laci Gonzales
Aracely Gonzalez
Maria Gonzalez-Murillo
Kohen Hudman
Kyna Hudman
Shawn Ledbetter
Haley Lopez
Mia Martinez
Samantha Mathis
Jakeb Morris
Carter Rankin
Jhonathan Rodriguez
Yasmine Rodriguez-Martinez
Zachary Sawyer
Hannah Smith
Adisann Soto
Braylee Thomas
Mykaela Turner
Evangelina Zubia

Fourth grade

Clarissa Berkley
Cole Boren
Cayce Britton
Carolina Carrillo
Cruz Delgado
Javen Diaz
Leah Gonzales
Jacob Isbell

Izaih Landa
Dafne Lopez
Blake Parrott
Kalista Pena
Taye Perez
Nicolas Quintana
Kevin Salazar
Jacki Sanchez
Sterlin Self
Octavia Silva
Magdalena Soris
Emma Thompson
Bailey Tidwell
Kolton Wink

Fifth grade

J'Nia Brown
Paulina Ceja
Michael Dean
Chloe Dissinger
Sylvia Hernandez
Audrey Moreno
Chelsey Nelson
Jordan Self
Alea Silvas
Colter Smith
Sadie Soto
Alexandra Turner
Sydney Walls
Montana Williams

Post Middle School

A Honor Roll

Michaela Self

Post High School A Honor Roll

Ninth grade
Mollie Burtch
Lauren Record
Levi Stinson

10th grade
Kelsey Griffin
Kelbie Oden

11th grade
Katie Dunn
Cheyenne Gill
Sara Greer
Campbell Kirkpatrick
Taylor Osborn

12th grade
Haily Berry
Kayla Comeaux
Morgan Deen
Michael Holly
Audree Williams

A-B Honor Roll

Ninth grade
Layne Christian
William Haven

10th grade

Casey Christian
Ricky Garza
Erik Gomez
Dakota Greer
Carson Kirkpatrick
Kortnee McKee
Bryan Smith
Colton Stamey

11th grade

David Hernandez
Brandon Hervey
Sierra Isbell
Jaycee Johnson
Stephen Rodriguez
Matti Smith

12th grade

Juan Cabrera
Caden Dean
Bobbie Escobar
Russel Graves
Mandi Hudson
Matthew Nava
Alexis Perez
Cassandra Perez
David Ramirez
Kimberly Rivera

Southland ISD

Elementary

A Honor Roll

Dade Aguilar
Camille Alvarez
Bailey Fuhrman
Isaias Gallegos
Branson Harris
Sylee Peterson
Julian Basquez
Cory Hamilton
Rebecca Nino
Matthew Short
Elijah Abston
Elizabeth Payton
Kaleb Auldrige
Matthew Basquez
Cordale Benham
Christopher Cardona
Joby Fogerson
Ryleigh Graves
Abigail Hernandez
Diana Rodriguez
Mallory Rodriguez
Vikki Torres
Isiah Valdez
Mackenzie Valdez
Celeste Valencia
Lazaro Galindo

A-B Honor Roll

Rey Flores
Kaden Auldrige
Elexia Bilberry
Madison Garcia
Emily Hadderton
Joshua Macias
Claira Cravey
Dylan Gossett

Kelson Lee
Trea Peterson
Payton Robinson
Marina Sigala
Timothy Guerrero
Latham Huckaby
Topis Massingill
Luke Moore
Lillian Newell
Nayeli Perez
Isaiah Valencia
Alvardo Vizcaino

Secondary

A Honor Roll

Nehemiah Guerrero
M'keison Guerrero
Maura Arenivar
Tucker Lee
Jessica Payton
Alexis Zarate
Mallory Arguello
Wyatt Benham
Cale Fogerson
Daniela Galindo
Melinda Hernandez
Kristen Hill
Bryce Meurer
Kaylei Schoonover
Jaden Binford
Samantha Dorman
Julia Kidd

A-B Honor Roll

Ryan Gossett
Averi Graves
Shadia Hernandez
Raven Douglass
Israel Guerra
Victoria Huckaby
Corbin Mason
Autumn Robinson
Erick Alfaro
Walker Booth
Marcos Flores
Dallyn Fogerson
Hope Miranda
Gisselle Saucedo
Taylor Schniers
Karlie Steffens
Elijah Cisneros
Ashlee Graves
Ryan Magallanes
Allyson Martinez
Aylin Saucedo
Zachary Vizcaino
Riley Arguello
Reagan Booth
Hera Douglass
Gilberto Flores
Aaron Garza
Zaron Garza
Madison Worley
Linda Gonzales
Taylor Graves
Robbie Haney
Angelica Hutsenpiller
Richard Ramirez
Allen Schniers
Christy Rodriguez



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Post's Seven Day Forecast

						
Friday Partly Cloudy 72 / 50	Saturday Partly Cloudy 70 / 42	Sunday Mostly Sunny 58 / 35	Monday Mostly Sunny 61 / 38	Tuesday Mostly Sunny 68 / 39	Wednesday Mostly Sunny 65 / 34	Thursday Mostly Sunny 67 / 35

Local UV Index



0-2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11+

0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

Detailed Local Forecast

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 72°, humidity of 37%. South wind 10 to 15 mph. The record high temperature for today is 88° set in 1972. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, overnight low of 50°. South wind 15 to 25 mph. The record low for tonight is 14° set in 1996. Saturday, skies will be partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 70°, humidity of 28%. South southwest wind 15 to 20 mph.

Weather Trivia

What U.S. city holds the record for the lowest high temperature?

Answer: Eureka, Calif., with a record high of only 87 degrees.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

Day	Peak Times		Day	Peak Times	
	AM	PM		AM	PM
Fri	8:18-10:18	8:48-10:48	Tue	11:38-1:38	---
Sat	9:11-11:11	9:41-11:41	Wed	12:55-2:55	12:25-2:25
Sun	10:01-12:01	10:31-12:31	Thu	1:42-3:42	1:12-3:12
Mon	10:50-12:50	11:20-1:20	www.WhatsOurWeather.com		

Weather History

March 8, 1717 - On Fishers Island in Long Island Sound, 1,200 sheep were discovered to have been buried under a snow drift for four weeks. When finally uncovered, 100 sheep were still alive.

March 9, 1956 - A whopping 367 inches of snow was measured on the ground at the Ranier Paradise Ranger Station in Washington. The snow depth was a state record and the second highest total of record for the continental United States.

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	
New 3/11	Fri 7:04 a.m.	6:49 p.m.	4:42 a.m.	3:53 p.m.	Full 3/27
	Sat 7:03 a.m.	6:49 p.m.	5:23 a.m.	4:57 p.m.	
	Sun 8:02 a.m.	7:50 p.m.	7:01 a.m.	7:01 p.m.	
	Mon 8:00 a.m.	7:51 p.m.	7:37 a.m.	8:02 p.m.	
First 3/19	Tue 7:59 a.m.	7:52 p.m.	8:12 a.m.	9:03 p.m.	Last 4/2
	Wed 7:58 a.m.	7:52 p.m.	8:47 a.m.	10:02 p.m.	
	Thu 7:56 a.m.	7:53 p.m.	9:23 a.m.	10:59 p.m.	

Last Week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days			
2/26	58	20	61/31	0.00"	Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days
2/27	46	29	61/32	0.00"	2/26	0	3/2	0
2/28	52	25	62/32	0.00"	2/27	0	3/3	10
3/1	55	26	62/32	0.00"	2/28	0	3/4	12
3/2	68	28	62/32	0.00"	3/1	0		
3/3	82	37	62/33	0.00"				
3/4	81	42	63/33	0.00"				

Growing degree days are calculated by taking the average temperature for the day and subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the average to assess how many growing days are attained.

Dixie Divas

The easy way becomes the hard way

It seems to me that a lot of young people have it easy. Too many kids in high school and college are shielded from work and not taught the importance of money or earning it. It seems to me this is a major default in the education of life.

If you don't know the worth of a dollar or what it takes to earn that dollar, how can you successfully manage for the rest of your life? How can you start a family? Raise a family? Survive professional setbacks? Retire? And, importantly, how can you truly taste and savor success? How can you enjoy that incredible high when you have scrimped and saved and managed to purchase a home, a car, a boat with cash? When material things are hard fought for and won, they mean more and are taken care of more.

I have a purse. A rather expensive one, which was a complete indulgence.

For two years, I tucked away a bit of cash here and there, saving as I could on necessities, to accumulate the money to buy it. That was six or seven years ago and still today, I treat it with gentleness and respect. I use it only for Sundays and special occasions, keeping it pampered and wrapped in a protective bag the rest of the time.

I learned that young. When I was 11, there was a forest green wool winter coat with a hood trimmed in beige colored fake fur at Sears. I thought it was the prettiest thing I had ever seen and it looked so pretty on me, making me look thin and chic. It cost \$89, and Mama was not buying it when she could sew me a coat. I babysat for two months to pay it out of layaway. The day I made the final payment of \$6 and took it home was one of the proudest days of my life.

How sad when parents deprive the children they love of that kind feeling of accomplishment. It is a great and loving gift. A while back, I called a friend to ask if her son would be interested in making some money by cutting grass. He was a freshman in high school. She laughed at my silliness. "Absolutely not. He needs to spend his time with school work and activities."

What surprised me most about that is that I grew up with his father, who, from the time he was 12, scrambled to make money from part-time jobs. From the age of 16 on, he worked every day after school. Today, he is so frugal that some might call him stingy. But he knows the value of a dollar and what it takes to make it.

Years ago, a prominent doctor visited Daddy at his dusty, greasy garage and asked him to give his son a part-time job. "I'll pay you his salary — without his knowledge — but I want him to learn the meaning of work and the value of a dollar." That young man worked for Daddy for two years — unknowing his father was paying his salary — and grew up to make his father very proud. He became a financier.

There are exceptions. I think of the hard working young high school girls who help my niece with her children. I think most especially of Brandon who, since he was 17, has helped me around the house. Now three years out of college, he still finds time to help me though he has a full-time profession. He does it to repay me for helping him when he needed help and because the extra money is appreciated if not needed. Having learned a dollar's value, it still sticks with him.

Not teaching kids about money is the easy way out. Unfortunately for them, the easy way will eventually become the hard way.




RONDA RICH

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Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist and best-selling author. Her latest book, "There's A Better Day A-Comin'" is available at rondarich.com.