

Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

"A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, February 7, 2002



ROBERT E. HOWARD MUSEUM
Price 50¢



THE FIGHTING BUFFALOES
Masthead designed by Barbara J. Sowell

93RD YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 46

DOWN HOME

EDITOR'S NOTE: I think you will enjoy "Comments on Being a Baby Boomer" that was given to me by Deborah Griswold, former employee at the *Cross Plains Review*. I don't know who wrote it, but they definitely are about my age. Vanda Anderson Creech

"How Old Is This Woman?"

One evening, a granddaughter was talking to her grandmother about current events. She asked what she thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age, and just things in general.

The grandmother replied... "Well, let me think a minute... I was born before network television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill. There were no credit cards, laser beams or ball-point pens. We had not invented pantyhose, air conditioners, dishwashers, clothes dryers, and clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air. Man hadn't yet walked on the moon.

Your grandfather and I got married first--and then lived together. Every family had a mother and a father. Girls wore dresses and knew how to cook and sew. And every boy over 14 had a rifle that his dad taught him how to use and respect. And they went hunting and fishing together. Until I was 25, I called every woman older than me, "Ma'am, and every man older than me, 'Sir'. And after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title, 'Sir'.

Sundays were set aside for going to church as a family, helping those in need, and visiting with family or neighbors. We were before gay-rights, computer-dating, dual careers, daycare centers and group therapy. Our lives were between right and wrong and to stand up and take responsibility for our actions. Serving your country was a privilege, and living here was a bigger privilege.

We thought fast food was what people ate during Lent. Having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with your cousins. Draft dodgers were people who closed their front doors when the evening breeze started. Time-sharing meant time the family spent together in the evenings and weekends--not purchasing condominiums.

We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, CDs, electric typewriters, yogurt, or guys wearing earrings. We listened to Jack Benny, The Shadow Knows, The Lone Ranger and the President's speeches on our radios. And I don't ever remember any kid blowing his (or somebody else's) brains out, listening to a song by Doris Day, Elvis Presley, The Drifter or the Platters. If you saw anything with 'Made in Japan' on it, it was junk. Pizza Hut, McDonald's and instant coffee were unheard of.

We had 5&10 cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents. Ice cream cones, phone calls, rides on the streetcar, and a Pepsi were all a nickel. And if you didn't want to splurge, you could spend your nickel on enough stamps to mail 1 letter and 2 postcards. You could buy a new

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Cross Plains Festival Committee Announces New Board of Directors 2002 Valentine Parade Saturday, February 9

By JERRY BIGGERSTAFF

On January 22, the Cross Plains Festival Committee met at the home of Larry and Terry Thomas. This was the first meeting of new year and a new director was elected to start the new year. Terry Thomas was elected as Vice President of the Festival Committee. Welcome Terry!

With the election of Terry, the Board of Directors consists of Keeka Byrd, President; Vice Presidents, Susan McNeel, Bill Richardson, Terry Thomas, and Jerry Biggerstaff, who is VP and Treasurer. Dorothy Petty is secretary.

Other members in attendance include Charlsie Richardson, Cindy Payne and her son, Ryan, Susan McNeel, Bobbie Hinkle and Chris Biggerstaff.

Numerous discussions ensued during the meeting. Of these, the upcoming Festival for 2002 was foremost. It was decided that the 2002 Festival, and all future Festivals, would be held on Labor Day Weekend. It was also decided that, with the assistance of the local merchants, all Festivals will be held on Main Street, rather than at Treadway Park. After the success of the 2001 Festival, it was felt by all that this would

provide the best benefits for Cross Plains as well as aiding the committee in meeting stated goals.

Possibly the most significant item to come from the January meeting was the announcement that the Cross Plains Festival has received approval for non-profit, tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service. This will allow the committee to apply for grants, accept contributions from organizations and individuals while providing benefactors with the ability to deduct the contributions from their income taxes. All donors and sponsors will receive a receipt from the committee which may be used for tax purposes.

With the receipt of tax-exempt status, it is hoped that the Festival Committee can realize sufficient profit from activities, contributions, donations and grants to allow awarding of a scholarship to a Cross Plains High School Senior in 2003.

Since inception in 1998, the Festival has been planned and executed by very few people (typically 10 to 15). Based on the success of past Festivals, just imagine how well we could do it we had more people working on it! If you are interested in helping

out, please plan to attend one or more meetings or contact any member of the Committee. There are no dues for membership. In order to become a member, a person simply attends the meetings and helps with the planning and execution of the various activities of the Committee.

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting will be February 26, at 6 p.m. The meetings are usually held at either the Cross Plains Dairy Queen or Jean's Feed Barn.

The Barbarian Festival, Inc., doing business as the Cross Plains Festival, is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas as a not for profit corporation. Effective February, 2001, tax exempt status has been granted to the Festival under IRS Code 501 (c) 3 as a publicly supported charity. Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and Financial information are available for public review.

For more information about meetings or anything else regarding the Festival, please contact Keeka Byrd at 254-725-6836 or Jerry Biggerstaff at 254-725-4189 (email: jbiggestaff@texasinternet.com).

Project Pride Donates to Local Ambulance (Membership Drive Continues)

Project Pride began their new year by contributing \$250 toward the purchase of Cross Plains EMS's new ambulance and awarding a contract for repainting the welcome signs on East and West Highway 36. In keeping with the organization's mission, support will be offered during clean-up fix-up days later in the spring. A number of other projects are in the planning stage.

If you are interested in keeping your community a cleaner, more attractive place to live, and documenting its history, you are urged to renew your membership or be-

come a member of Project Pride. Dues are \$3 for singles or \$5 for couples. Donations are always cheerfully accepted. All funds are used right here in the community. You may mail your dues to P.O. Box 534, Cross Plains, Texas 76443, or for further information you may call Betty Lewis, membership chairman, at 254-725-7456 or 254-725-6580.

Meetings are held each second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 12, at 6 p.m. at the Cross Plains Public Library. The public is invited.

C.P. EMS Needs More Good Men and Women

We had good response to our plea a few weeks ago regarding the need for volunteers to take the Emergency Care Attendant Class that we are offering in order to have more workers for the Cross Plains Emergency Medical Service. There were at least four who responded to the plea, with three signing up for the class. There were others (in addition to the other one who promised to take the class but never showed up) who had expressed an interest in taking the class who did not show up.

The bottom line is that we have only five from our area signed up for the class. The instructor can handle seven more in the class and we would like to at least increase the number that we now have signed up. We are hesitant to "twist anyone's arm," yet one of our most faithful and longest serving volunteers, Donnie Dillard, says that if someone had not "kept at him," he would not

have ever taken the class as begun his work with the CP EMS.

Our ECA Class has been postponed for awhile "due to circumstances beyond our control". February 11th is the target date for resuming classes. It is not too late for you to enroll and take the class—you will be given time and opportunity to catch up on the class session that has already been held. You need to let us know as soon as possible, however, so we can get you a manual to begin reading and studying from.

So here's to "TWISTING ARMS!" Can I/we twist your arm? In addition to attendants, we are always in need of more good drivers.

If you can help in either of these areas, especially if you are interested in the ECA class, please contact Susan Schaefer (725-6717/725-7110) or Bob Pipes (725-6117/725-6700), or leave a message on the EMS answering machine (725-4350).

School Board City Council Announce Filing Dates

The first day to file application for the Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees is February 18, 2002, and the last day is March 20, 2002, at 5 p.m.

You may apply in the Cross Plains I.S.D. office of the superintendent from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Spring Break is March 11 through March 15 and the office will be closed. You may call (254) 725-7458 if you wish to make application that week.

The 3-year terms of Scott Childress and Monty Richards will expire.

The 2-year terms of Mayor Ray Purvis and councilmen, Jerry Cassle and Dean Dillard, are expiring.

You may file application for this election from February 18 until 5 p.m. on March 20 at the City Hall, during their regular office hours.

College Financial Workshop Set at High School February 11th

A free financial aid workshop will be held at Cross Plains High School at 6 p.m. Monday, February 11.

Corky Swanson, financial aid consultant, will present this workshop. The workshop will be especially helpful to parents of current Juniors and Seniors. However, any person needing information on financial aid and/or assistance in completing of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form is invited to attend. Many schools use the FAFSA to award their own financial aid, including grants and scholarships.

For more information, contact the counseling office at (254) 725-6121.

Final plans are being made for the 2002 Valentine Parade sponsored annually by Beta Sigma Phi. Rehearsal for the young ladies and their escorts begins Thursday and the big night is Saturday, February 9, at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium.

This year Tammy Weiser will once again be available to make still photos of your child or children and will be offering packages of pictures at an affordable price. She will also be videoing the pageant and the videos will be offered for sale at \$10.00 each. It's NOT too late to order a video -- they can be purchased the night of the pageant.

Karl Rundgren from KRBC Channel 9 has graciously agreed to be a judge this year and plans to bring a camera for some news coverage. Karl will also be avail-

able for autographs and to visit with you after the pageant. Photogenic winners will be announced and Beta Sigma Phi will have tickets on sale for the "Dessert of the Month" and the drawing will be held Saturday night.

So, call grandma and grandpa and all the aunts and uncles and tell them to be there to see your child compete. There will be a Judge's Choice Award presented to an escort from each category, so the young men's families need to be there too. There is a lot going on and you don't want to miss it. Admission is \$3.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child up to 7th grade. If you need more information, please call Mary Graves at 725-6563 or Wanda Merryman at 725-6476. We will be looking for you.

Submitted by Mary Graves

Cottonwood Man Retires After 55 Years at Unique Career

Albert R. Hughes grew up with Folk, Western and Country Music. In the mid thirties, he had memorized most of the popular tunes of that time. He would sing them while playing his guitar, when sitting on the porch swing, after doing his chores. This experience gave him a good background for learning to tune pianos.

While visiting in the Denman Music Store in Brownwood he was given the opportunity to learn piano tuning and rebuilding, because of the vast need after the war in 1945. After discussing this with his wife, Billie Myrick Hughes, it was decided he should pursue this career and started his training in April 1946.

His instructor was Mr. J.B. Denman, who had been tuning pianos since 1907. He was living in Alabama when he started and came to Texas after a few years of service. He said when he came there was still very few roads and a lot of them led you through

other folk's property, with maybe on set of tracks.

Albert trained in Denman's shop for a year before doing any work for the public. When he started Mr. Denman checked his work for the first few times.

In 1952 Hughes started working for Oliver H. Ross Piano Company in Fort Worth for half again more money than he was making at Brownwood. In 1954 he wanted to have his own business, so he started contracting work through different piano stores. The first store he contracted with was Barton Music Company and in 1958 he contracted with A. Kilgore Piano Company.

For fifteen years Albert did contract work for the Kilgore Piano Company, who had the Baldwin dealership. During this time he had the privilege of tuning pianos for the Baldwin concert artist who came to Fort Worth for concerts. The Kilgore store had the responsibility of furnishing the 9 foot Baldwin concert grand piano, and have it tuned just before each concert.

During this fifteen years, Albert had the privilege to tune pianos for quite a lot of concert artists. Some the better known were Lawrence Welk, Liberace, and he also tuned for Van Cliburn, who is a Steinway Concert Artist. He tuned a few times for the Texas

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Immunization Clinic Here Monday

The Texas Department of Health will have an immunization clinic Monday, February 11, from 2-4 p.m. at the Cross Plains Multi-Purpose Center, located at 701 N.E. 1st Street, Cross Plains.

If your child has not had chickenpox, a vaccine is now available and required for school children. Also they have flu vaccine.

For more information please call (915) 754-4945.

Parent's Night Out February 15

The First Baptist Church youth will be baby-sitting at the church for a donation to help offset expenses for their ski trip in March.

This would be a great time to take your spouse on that special date!

For more information contact Kevin Cassidy at 725-7664.

Texas Heritage Bank
"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

MEMBER FDIC

Presents: "What's Inside"

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CROSS PLAINS REVIEW
(USPS 138-660)
DON TABOR, PUBLISHER
VANDA CREECH, EDITOR
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

MEMBER 2002
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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PUBLIC FAX at Cross Plains Review

Political Calendar

The Cross Plains Review is authorized to publish the following political announcements for the office filings in the Democratic Primary Election set for March 12, 2002.

For Callahan County Clerk

Jeanie Bohannon

Political advertisement paid by Jeanie Bohannon, 501 West 3rd, Baird, Texas 79504.

For Callahan County Judge

Roger Corn

Political advertisement paid by Roger Corn, 520 Poplar, Baird, Texas 79504.

All political calendar advertising for the Democratic Primary Election is payable in advance, at a cost of \$100.00. A free press release and photograph will be published one time with each announcement.

DEADLINES

Ads
Noon on Tuesday

Articles
Noon on Monday

Zion Hill Cemetery to Meet February 11

The Zion Hill Cemetery association will meet for their annual meeting on Monday the 11th of February 2002 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Baird Housing Authority meeting room, Fourth and Chestnut in Baird.

Recently organized, the group is working to provide maintenance and upkeep to the more than 100 graves of Pioneer Callahan County settlers in the Historic Zion Hill

Cemetery in Eastern Callahan County.

Recent and greatly appreciated donors to the endowment fund include: David Ratliff, Wesley and Vonnie Rutherford and Mike Konczak.

Those having family in this Cemetery are especially urged to participate. For further information please contact Jeff Barton 854-1900 or Mike Konczak 854-1293.

OBITUARIES

R.W. Purvis

R.W. Purvis, 80, of Cross Plains, passed away Monday, February 4, 2002, at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene, Texas.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 6, at the Pioneer Baptist Church with Dwaine Clower officiating. Burial was in the Cross Plains Cemetery under the direction of Higginbotham Funeral Home of Cross Plains.

R.W. was born March 25, 1921, in Atwell, Texas to George M. Purvis and Rosa Belle Eudaley Purvis.

He was formerly employed by Pool Drilling Company and worked in the oil patch for years. He was an independent truck driver for several years and then worked in the I.M.C. Potash Mines in Carlsbad, New Mexico. R.W. retired at the age of 79 from Purvis Landscaping that he owned and operated in Abilene. He was a Baptist and attended Pioneer Baptist Church in Pioneer, Texas.

Survivors include two daughters, Linda Strength and husband, Charles, and Dianna Stover and husband, Reggy, both of Cross Plains; one brother, George C. Purvis of Fort Worth; 6 grandchildren, Regin Stover and Brandon Stover, both of Cross Plains, Tonya Yeary of Weatherford, Dawn Hilburn of Bridgeport, Chris Strength of Los Angeles, California, and Amy Barnett of Dover, Delaware; 5 great-grandchildren, Brooklyn and Bradley Strength, Austin and Colton Hilburn and Kobe Barnett; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; Ruby Nell Purvis; two sisters, Marie Starr and Theda Allen; and a brother, Erwin Purvis.

Pallbearers were Regin Stover, Brandon Stover, Toye Yeary, Ronald Hilburn, Blake Foster and Kyle Foster.

Jessie Carter

Jessie Carter, age 86, of Spur, passed away Friday, February 1, 2002, at her home.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, February 4, at the graveside with the Rev. Renay Rice officiating. Burial was in the Pioneer Cemetery in Eastland County, Texas with Higginbotham Funeral Home of Cross Plains in charge of arrangements.

She was born September 19, 1915 in Pioneer, Texas to Elzie Lafayette Teston and Mary Delila Mann Teston. She married Floyd Eric Carter on September 20, 1947 in Hot Springs, New Mexico.

Survivors include four sons, S.E. Braly and wife, Wanda of Spur, Bobby Braly and wife, Nancy of Cross Plains, Floyd Carter and wife, Diane of Delta Junction, Alaska, and Roy Carter and wife, Connie of San Angelo; a daughter, Annette Johnson of Las Cruces, New Mexico; two brothers, Clois Teston of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico and Elray Teston of Stockton, California; two sisters, Lessie Fae Baum of Cross Plains and Oddie Ann Kivlehen of Abilene; 13 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and 6 brothers, Robert Teston, John Teston, Virgil Teston, Truette Teston, Stanley Teston and Fate Teston.

Colonial Oaks Services

Church of Christ will conduct worship services at Colonial Oaks Nursing Home on Sunday, February 10, commencing at 3:30 p.m.

The Living Word
Sponsored By:
Dean Brannan

The Great Invitation
Luke 14:16-17 Then said him, (Jesus) unto Him, a certain man made a great supper and bade (Invited) many: And sent his servant at supper to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.

Cross Plains Cemetery Association Report For The Month Of January 2002

Donations & Earnings	
I/M Pam Koenig By Garmond & Lou Parrish	25.00
Zora Mae Bryant	100.00
Eva Byrd	30.00
I/M Susan Barr By Clara Nell Spencer	50.00
Ronald & Linda Gray	50.00
I/M Verlin Arrowood By Betty Browning	25.00
I/M A.J. & Maurine McCuin By Weldon & Cynthia Newton	100.00
Earnings Check by Geer Tank Trucks, Inc	78.74
Interest Added to Acct.	5.34
Totals:	\$ 464.08
Grave Openings Permits	
1 Plot-Preneed by Higginbotham Funeral Home	
For: Clifford King	75.00
Higginbothams Permit	
For: Ricky Kelly	75.00
Totals:	150.00

Cross Plains Cemetery Association Report For The Month Of December 2001

Donations & Earnings	
Hulen Hill	\$ 75.00
Joyce Swenson	75.00
Eva Byrd	30.00
I/M Henry McCoy by T.W. Thackerson	50.00
Edington Farms	50.00
M/M Glen Fayne	100.00
M/M William D. Brown	100.00
I/M W.L. & Ethel Lawrence By	
M/M James Lawrence	200.00
Anonymous	100.00
M/M Ralph Trevey	35.00
CD Earn #7719	1,180.45
Interest Paid to Acct.	4.23
Totals:	\$ 1,999.68
Grave Opening Permits	
Higginbothams Permit	
For: John Farr	75.00
Chambers/Wilcox Permit	
For: Pam Koenig	75.00
Elliott Hamil Permit	
For: Edith Paschall	75.00
Alvin Hutchins- 9 plots	675.00
Higginbothams Permit	
For: Dick Dillard	75.00
Totals:	\$ 975.00

Remember Your Valentine

Buffalo Gap Floral Designs
Balloon Bouquets, Gift Baskets, Pot Plants, Hanging Baskets
Full Line Florist
Free Deliveries to Abilene Hospitals
Funeral Homes

Corral Boutique
Women's Ready To Wear & Custom Designs (Plus Sizes in Stock)
Stick Horse Corral
Children's Fashions (Infants -Teens)
Custom Sewing

Pat (Ford) Albus
Owner

(915) 572-4991 or (915) 572-3041 after hours

ROWDEN BAPTIST CHURCH
12 MILES WEST OF CROSS PLAINS ON HWY. 36
AT ROWDEN

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES
STARTING AT 7:00 P.M.
STUDY TOPICS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS.

1. Is there really a God?
2. Is Genesis relevant today?
3. Did God create in 6 literal days?
4. Why is there death & suffering?
5. Do Animals Evolve?
6. Where did the "Races" come from?
7. What is the only answer to Racism?
8. Dinosaurs - in the Bible?
9. How can we raise Godly children?
10. Fossils & the flood - What's the connection.
11. How can we Evangelize?
12. A secular world - Part 1 & Part 2.

Rowden Baptist Church has a free book entitled "Refuting Evolution" for any student or teacher in the area who would like a copy. Call and we'll get one to you.

Pastor: Carl Mauldin
www.Twoacres@itexas.net 915-356-5491
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.rowdenbc.com

CHURCH DIRECTORY

GOSPEL MISSION

716 1st Street
Full Gospel

Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 p.m.
Michael Ingram, Pastor

BELIEVER'S FELLOWSHIP

Inner-denominational-Evangelical
EAST HIGHWAY 36

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship.....7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m.
Bob Wallace, Pastor (254) 725-6607

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 TH & AVE D. CROSS PLAINS

WORSHIP SERVICE.....9:30 A.M.
BIBLE CLASS.....10:30 A.M.
REV. HENRY GRUBBS, PASTOR
EVERYONE WELCOME

Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Full Gospel — Non-Denominational — Apostolic
Restoring And Equipping The Saints

Colleen Anderson Sunday Morning 10:00 a.m.
Maxey Evans Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Youth Pastors - James & Glenda Tidwell
1-800-252-3629
For Information Call (254) 725-6800

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time.....7:00
Matt McGowen, Pastor (254) 643-3276
Church (254)725- 6266
Friendly Church Bible Teaching

ROWDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy. 36 at Rowden - 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....11:00 A.M.

Pastor: Carl Mauldin
Come Worship With Us!

NIMROD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sponsor: Pioneer Baptist Church

Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

Bill Armstrong - Pastor

Cross Plains Masonic Lodge No. 627

Stated Meeting
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
www.cross-plains.tx-mm-org
www.gltexas.org
Sec. (254) 725-7530

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

3rd & Main Cross Plains
(254) 725-7629

9:45 a.m. Bible Study Opportunities For All Ages
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
"Three Important Insights"
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
"Did You Hear What Happened at the Wedding?"

Jimmie Mize - Interim Pastor
Kevin & Kim Cassidy - Youth Frank O'Banion - Music
Welcome!

"Change Your Thoughts and Chang Your World"

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Van Service Available - Call (254) 725-7694

N. Main (Hwy. 206)
Cross Plains, Texas
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship - 10:45 a.m.
Rev. C. Michael Redd, Pastor

Sunday's Sermon

"Being Happy in Strange Circumstances"

COLONIAL OAKS NURSING HOME NEWS

BY LINDA MERRITT



June Culvahouse

June Culvahouse has been selected as the resident for this month. She was born on November 20, 1901, in Montana and is 100 years young. June loves animals, especially dogs. She enjoys watching T.V. and being visited by her nephew, Jerry Huddleston. June is a very special lady. Congratulations June— we love you!!!

Our thought and prayers for Eunice Starr and Charles Metcalf who are in the hospital.

Frances Wolf, administrator, is home now from being in the hospital. She is reported doing well. We pray for continual good health that it won't be long till she's back here with us.

A warm welcome for our new resident, Earl Mosley.

Glen and Charlotte Gardner of Coleman visited Roy Gardner. Thurman and Ruth Adams visited with Doris Adams.

Emily, Chris and Evelyn Harris visited Frank Bartek.

Frances Whiteley visited with Jessie Casey and Pauline Regan. Robert Harris of Coleman visited Roy Gardner.

Peggy Hilburn of Bridgeport visited Jo Boatright.

Bob McCowen visited with Jo Boatright.

Bob McCowen visited with Donie McCowen and J.C. Childers.

Activities

Monday: Bingo winners were Ruby Harrell, Donie McCowen, Clifford King, Lucky Taylor, Eric Kelly and Jessie Casey. Exercise class.

Tuesday: Art class. Singing with Dorothy Reynolds.

Wednesday: Sing-a-long with Bob Wallace and Dean Brannan. Exercise class.

Thursday: Manicures. Ball toss.

Friday: Bingo winners were Jessie Casey (2), Lucky Taylor, Clifford King (2), Eric Kelly and Donie McCowen. Popcorn and Dominoes.

Sunday: Church of Christ

To love and be loved is to feel the sun from both sides.

COTTONWOOD NEWS

BY WALLACE BENNETT

Cottonwood Community Agendas Reveal Active Year 2002 for Its Citizens

With the new year of 2002 well under way, Cottonwood citizens have many opportunities for volunteer work to help make community life worthwhile and to find self-satisfaction in jobs well done.

The Cottonwood Quilting Club schedule includes quilting days on February 7, 12, 21 and 28. The Cottonwood Musical is scheduled for February 15. The menu for the event includes chicken pot pie, drinks and other items. Serving begins at 5:30 p.m. and music at 6 p.m.

Cottonwood Voluntary Fire Control Unit meets on Tuesday, February 19, at 7 p.m. This all volunteer organization always responds to emergencies, and is often the first response team on site, in the Cottonwood area to help other emergency organizations and personnel to do a good job. CVFC always needs new volunteers and individual support.

The Cottonwood Historical Association (old Cemetery Association) reunion and homecoming will be held the first Saturday in May (May 4). This is a great event and all former residents of Cottonwood are urged to attend. Please mark your calendar NOW and join us.

Don't forget the Churches of Cottonwood. In this writer's humble opinion, active churches constitute the strongest weavings of a community's fabric of life and is the greatest and most reliable source of strength and support for all its citizens. All churches need and seek new members and active volunteers for their ongoing life.

The Cottonwood Church of Christ meets for Sunday School at 10 a.m. each Sunday morning and worship services begin at 11 a.m. Rev. Eldon Degg of Abilene is the pastor. A monthly covered dish lunch is observed and will be held on February 17. Everyone is welcome. Contact Bob or Lavonne Childress (254) 725-4126 for information.

The Cottonwood Baptist Church meets for Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and worship begins at 11 a.m. Rev. Matt McGowen of Brownwood is the pastor. A monthly covered dish lunch will be held February 24. Contact Don or Faye Gilliam (254) 725-7249 for information. Everyone is welcome.

Coming up next week will be a story about "Woody" Varner. How many of our readers remember him? Please give me a call at 725-7474, if you do.

In fact, please call me, Wallace Bennett, to report any news or personal items.

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QUIPS, CLIPS & COMMENTS

BY KAY MOSLEY

Garden Club Note: The Garden Club Conservation Pledge is: I will give my pledge, as an American, to save and defend from waste the natural resources of my country, its soil and minerals, its forests, water and wild life.

"Things Two Other Garden Clubbers Are Doing"

Several of our garden club members are fairly new, while several others have been members of a few years, and yet still others have had club memberships for an even longer period of time.

Julene Franke, a past president (serving three terms) and a former flower show judge, raises flowers and plants as well as a large vegetable garden. She has been a veritable storehouse of knowledge for us on many matters concerning rules, etc. during flower shows and our preparations for the shows; due to her vast experience in working with

flowers, arrangements, etc., and also in sending in entries for various awards.

Besides all this, Julene owns her own place of business, Cross Plains Business Service. We had two of our flower shows at her office on Main Street. She has also won her share of top honors for some of her arrangements.

Eva Fleming is a relative newcomer as a garden club member, but she has worked with plants, flowers and vegetables for quite some time. She has owned and operated a greenhouse in the past. Eva has a wealth of knowledge and experience in working with wild flowers native to this area.

She has also given and participated in some informative and interesting programs at the club meetings. Eva also did well at the flower show, winning some ribbons in the Horticulture Division. She is employed at Village Market in a position where she works with fresh fruits and vegetables and sometimes flowering plants.

MA & PA

BY JAMES NICHOLS

Last year when my garden was doing real good, I happened by the barber shop and the Main Artery Purvis was in visiting the mayor, his brother.

The Main Artery made the remark that he would like to have some green beans like those we used to grow.

Seeing that I had on over abundance of this kind, I picked a sack full and went by to deliver them.

The Main Artery was sitting on his lawn mower talking to someone and he waved at me. He con-

tinued to talk and talk and talk. After about 20 minutes or so, I decided he didn't want the beans very bad. So I drove over to Anse Barr's house, who was very glad to get them. Anse reported a few days later that they were the best green beans he had ever had.

So I suspect green beans are like watermelons, the just taste better when they belong to someone else.

Sorry Artery, better luck next time.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

The Cross Plains Garden Club will meet for their regular monthly meeting on February 8, at 2 p.m. at the Multi-Purpose Center.

The topic is "Create a Garden--Plan Ahead". The program "Starting Seed ----Spring Prepa-

ration" by Bob Powell. The door prize will be given by Marvin Mosley. Hosts for the meeting were Betty Beggs, Helen, Tillotson and Bob Powell.

A reminder: Bring recyclables (paper, plastic, glass and tin).

Reporter - Joyce Odom

Ranger College Notes Area Honor Students

Ranger College would like to congratulate the following area students for their outstanding efforts in maintaining a 4.0 GPA. The following students earned the honors to be included on the Ranger College President's List:

Tesa Enriquez - May. The following students maintained a 3.0-3.9 GPA and earned the honors to be included on the Ranger College Dean's List: Erin Cook - Rising Star Angi Willett - Rising Star.

DeLeon Sr. Citizens Dance

There will be a Senior Citizens Dance on Saturday, February 9, at DeLeon City Hall beginning at 7 p.m.

The country and western music will be provided by the Country Gold Band. Admission will be charged.

LIBRARY NOTES

January 28 - February 1

Statistics

Circulation:	
Books	74
LAP	24
TOTAL	98

Memorials:

In Memory of Bobbie Edmondson-J.O. and Anne Muscat, Judith Kirksey, Class of 1946

In Memory of Louise Richardson - James Lawrence, Dorothy Petty

In Memory of Verlin Arrowood - James Lawrence

Donations:
Roof - Helen Graves, Dorothy Petty, Zora Mae Bryant, Class of 1946

Funds - Mr. and Mrs. Charles Neeb

Hi! This month we're going to help cooks with variety in their cooking. This week we suggest books with recipes for all kinds of food. Yes, these books are in the library:

1. The Whole Wide World of Texas Cooking
2. 4 Ingredient Cook Book
3. Encyclopedia of Fruits and Vegetables, Radons
4. Annual Recipes for Success 2001, Weight Watchers
5. Haute Cuisine Without Help. Knopel

Do come in to browse. You'll be surprised at the variety. Now the Statistics.

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

February 11 - February 15

MONDAY-- Beef-A-Roni, Peas & Carrots, Tossed Salad, Peach Crisp, Bread

TUESDAY-- Swiss Steak, Rice, Green Beans, Pears, Brownie, Bread

WEDNESDAY-- Tuna Salad, Vegetable Soup, Applesauce

Cookie, Crackers

THURSDAY-- B-B-Q Chicken, Ranch Style Beans, Raisin Cole-slaw, Red Velvet Cake, Bread

FRIDAY-- Pork Chops w/ Gravy, Corn, Stewed Okra, Fruitcocktail, Oatmeal Cookie, Bread

BREAKTHRU

By Bob Pipes
Cross Plains Church of Christ
433 N. Main At 12th
(254) 725-6117

"He who never made a mistake, probably never made anything." So said Samuel Smiles.

I remember reading in a newspaper once that any mistakes or misprints were on purpose—in an attempt to supply something for everyone, even fault finders!

Well some are that way—always looking for mistakes, and quick to condemn those who make them. Such was the case with a group of so-called religious people—the scribes and the Pharisees. Once they brought a woman caught in adultery to Jesus. They wanted Him to agree to having her stoned—or else they would have accused Him of going against the Law of Moses. But Jesus stooped down and wrote something on the ground—perhaps a listing of some of their sins. As they pressed for an answer, the Galilean said, "Let whoever is without mistake cast the first stone at her." And He again stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger. What He wrote the second time remains as much a mystery as at the first, but whatever it was, when the accusers saw it, they left, one by one! (John 8: 3-12)

I wonder if this wouldn't be good medicine for us when we begin to fault-find? If we would only suppose that someone is preparing a list of our own mistakes are those who do nothing—yet that's a mistake itself! Remember: "Better to have tried and failed than never to have tried at all."

Come learn with us about the One who really didn't make any mistakes—and yet He did so much!

Sunday Morning Bible Class...9:45a.m. Sunday Evening Worship...6:00p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship...10:45a.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study...7:00p.m.
Friends & Neighbors Caring In Jesus

PIONEER NEWS

Thank you Lord for the wonderful rain.

The quilting ladies are about to get Lou's "Churn Dash" finished. It is really a beautiful quilt. Several years ago Earlene's mother, Agnes Brown, pieced the "Hands Around the World" that Earlene put into the frame. It is a very special quilt. Jean Alexander has her "Log Cabin" quilt in. It is going to be for a very special person. We had a good turn out and hopefully we will have most of our members this week.

There will be a "Domino Party" at the Community Center on Thursday the 7th. Make plans to be there. Everyone always has a good time and there is always plenty to eat.

For all who do not know, Regie Barr has an Antique and Collectable Shop at Pioneer. He has a lot of neat things. The shop is on Hwy. 36 between Cross Plains and Rising Star.

Frankie Smith had her daughters, Roxie Nance and Shirley Harrellson, visiting Tuesday and Wednesday. A good time was had by all.

Jean Fore and Frankie Smith attended the Rising Star Musical Friday night. Saturday night Freddie and Maudine Blont invited them to go to the Clyde

Musical with them. They all had a great time.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bradshaw visited with Frankie on Saturday afternoon. They had a good visit.

Cowan and Laverne Hutton had about 30 members of their family gather at their home on Saturday. Their grandson, Matt Hutton and wife, Lisa, were here from Georgia. Everyone had an enjoyable time. Matt and Lisa returned home on Tuesday. Grandchildren, Jamie and Mary and children had Sunday dinner with Cowan and Laverne.

A while back, Glen Dale Phillips and daughter, Kosta, came after Glenda. She spent a week with them. Allen, Janice and children came later. They watched Glen Dale's oldest daughter play basketball. They all had a great time. Glenda returned home with Allen and family. Glenda attended the Callahan County Livestock Show. Her granddaughter, Kali and Krista, showed goats. They did real well. Grandson, Logan, spent Saturday afternoon with Glenda.

Words of Wisdom: We may elevate ourselves, but we should never reach so high that we would ever forget those who helped us get there. Will Rogers See you next week.

Cottonwood

Miss America Contest.

Hughes was one of three tuners who did all of the tuning for The Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, which was every four years. These were pianos in the homes of folk who had invited contestants to stay with them and practice on their pianos. These homes had very nice grand pianos. The contestants were from all over the world. In order to be eligible for this contest they had to be the winner in their native country piano competition. The contestants liked to practice a few days before playing for the judges to be graded. Here is a little something of interest you might like to know. To keep in shape and to sharpen their skill they practiced 8 hours every day. At least the one Albert tuned for did, and it's no wonder they are so good. Albert felt the need to retire, so

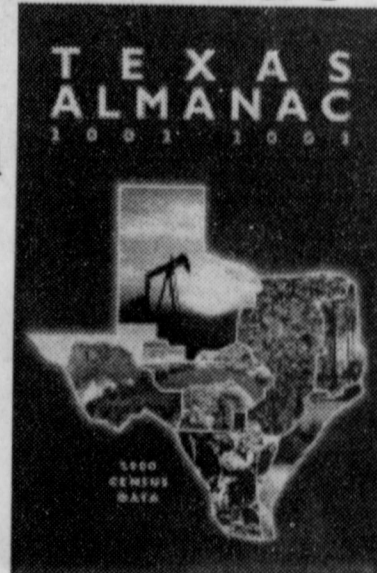
he closed his shop in Fort Worth in October of 1994 after forty-two years, and moved to Cottonwood, in Callahan County. He still did some piano work for folk who called on him. However, as of October of 2001, he called the State Tax Office to let them know he is now completely retired. That comes to about fifty-five years of work, and forty-eight of those years were full-time. He has rebuilt at least a hundred or more pianos during those years. Some were partially rebuilt, and a good percent of them were completely rebuilt.

"The Lord has been so good to us and we are grateful. Not that we made a lot of money, but like God's Holy Book tells us in 1st Timothy 6:8 'That if we have food and clothing we should be content' and we are," Albert commented.

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Varsity Lady Buffs Action Reported

On Tuesday The Lady Buffs hosted Gorman in district action defeating them by the score of 54 to 36.

The girls jumped out to an early lead, 26 to 8 at halftime and coasted through the second half with the cushion they built in the game.

Scoring the points were Bailey 25, Dillard 14, Hartman 4, Richards 4, Edington 3, Parker 2 and Winfrey 2.

The Lady Buffs traveled to May for a big district ball game next and they fell short, losing by the score of 62 to 41.

The girls dug an early hole with poor shooting (6 of 22), 15 first quarter turnovers and no trips to the free throw line for easy opportunities. The girls didn't defensive rebound as well as we have been here lately and that hurt us.

This allowed May extra opportunity in the second half cutting into the lead twice to get as close as 12, but couldn't climb out of the hole we dug early.

Score by quarters were:
CP 4, 9, 17, 11 = 41
May 13, 18, 17, 12 = 62.

Scoring the points were Bailey 17, Richards 6, Winfrey 6, Parker 2, Edington 2, Dillard 2, Nixon 2, Hartman 2 and Rivard 2. Also contributing to the game off the scoreboard was Thomas Mauricio and Vasquez.

This brings our overall record to 10 and 16. District 10-1 record is 4-3.

Submitted by Coach
Mike Cavender

To Pray or Not to Pray That Is the Question

By Susan Weddington
Republican Party of Texas
Chairman

On the evening of September 11, just ten hours after the tragic events of that fateful day began to unfold, Members of Congress from both political parties stood in solidarity on the steps of the U.S. Capitol. With teary eyes and quivering voices, over 200 men and women of different races, religions and ideologies proudly stood together, joined hands and sang "God Bless America" for all the world to hear.

The heartfelt song was offered at a critical moment to a nation that desperately needed to be reassured of America's enduring strength. It was a solemn and moving scene whose images will be permanently etched in our national memory.

In the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks on freedom, our nation has found great solace by joining together in public and private prayer, public religious ceremonies and patriotic displays. Collective expressions of faith have helped Americans to cultivate what President George W. Bush has called "the warm courage of national unity...a unity of every faith, and every background."

But unfortunately, there are some misguided individuals and organizations that would rather not see events like the one on the steps of the Capitol take place. For this reason, the Republican Party of Texas decided to ask Texas voters what they think about the issue of public religious speech.

On March 12th, the *Freedom of Faith Referendum* will appear on the 2002 GAP primary ballot. The referendum simply states: "Legislation should be passed that protects both individual and corporate public religious speech, on or off school property, and protects any person from being required to join in prayer or religious activities." Voters will have the opportunity to agree or disagree.

Since September 11, liberals have repeatedly threatened legal action in an attempt to restrict forms of religious expression that the Supreme Court has found constitutional. For instance, the American Civil Liberties Union sent a letter to a California elementary school claiming the words "God bless America" posted on the school marquee conveyed a "hurtful divisive message" that violated the Constitution.

Similarly, displays of our National Motto, "In God We Trust,"

and the Pledge of Allegiance with its "one nation under God" clause have come under attack.

And in another instance in Kerrville, Texas, liberals threatened legal action after claiming that prayers at City Council meetings were discriminatory and unconstitutional.

Because of the confusion caused by liberal litigation, there is disagreement over what types of religious speech are protected by the law. Our elected leaders at both the state and federal levels are considering proposing legislation to further clarify the intent of the law and fully protect constitutional forms of public religious speech. The *Freedom of Faith Referendum* will give Texans an opportunity to voice their opinion on the attempts by liberal activists to restrict our right to freedom of speech and freedom of religion guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, and to encourage lawmakers as they decide on an appropriate course of action.

The vast majority of Texans believe that citizens have a right to join together in collective expressions of faith and hope, and that our nation has become stronger by doing so in the aftermath of September 11. While liberal opponents of the freedom of religious expression may try to portray the *Referendum* as attempt to proselytize for one religion over another, nothing could be further from the truth. This issue is about the freedom for anyone to express his or her faith, individually or collectively, silently or aloud, without coercion.

Although liberals may attempt to muddy the waters with divisive rhetoric, the real question before Texans is as plain as day: we will we allow liberal activists to take away our freedoms in the name of modern day political correctness and faith intolerance?

On March 12th, the people of Texas will have their voices heard by voting on the *Freedom of Faith Referendum*: will our freedoms remain intact, or should liberals be allowed to continue to ship away at our rights and our national heritage?

By voting in the Republican Primary on March 12th, the people of Texas have the opportunity to send a loud, clear message to all who would sacrifice our freedoms and traditions in the name of political correctness and intolerance—a message as clear as the one sent by the men and women of Congress to the enemies of freedom that night on the steps of the Capitol. Please show your patriotism by voting on March 12th, and may God bless America!

Fund-raiser Organizational Meeting Feb. 7th

There will be a meeting on Thursday, February 7, at 6 p.m. at the Dairy Queen to organize a fund-raiser for 7th grader, Justin Dickson.

On June 25, 2002, Justin will be traveling to Australia to play baseball for the Coast-to-Coast Amateur Baseball Team.

Anyone interested in helping to plan and put together the fund-raiser, please show up Thursday.

Annual Kiwanis Pancake Supper Planned for Thursday, Feb. 7

The Annual Kiwanis Pancake Supper is scheduled for Thursday, February 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the school cafeteria.

Mark your calendars for an evening of good food and fellowship.

Children's Mental Health Planning Advisory Needs You

The Betty Hardwick Center, A Community Mental Health-Mental Retardation Resource is looking for individuals to serve on the Children's Mental Health Planning Advisory Committee. This committee advises the Board of Trustees in the areas of identifying, prioritizing and implementing services for children and adolescents.

At least 50 percent of the membership must be consumers or their family members. Applicants must reside in Taylor, Jones, Callahan, Shackelford and Stephens Counties. Applications are available by calling (915) 690-5105 or (915) 690-5137 and will be accepted through March 1.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Callahan County Unemployment	Nov. 3.6%	Dec. 3.3%
Total Labor Force	5,933	5,801
Total Employed	5,720	5,607
Total Unemployed	213	194

County unemployment rate falls to 3.3%

The unemployment rate in Callahan County for the month of December 2001 dropped to 3.3% from November's 3.6%, according to jobless figures released Monday, February 4 by the Texas Workforce Commission.

Of the 5,801 civilian labor force in Callahan County, 5,607 were employed during December 2001, and 194 were unemployed, giving the county an unemployment rate of 3.3%. The county's unemployment rate one year ago in December 2000 was 2.9%.

Callahan County's unemployment rate was 3.6% in November 2001. Of the 5,933 civilian labor force in the county during August, 5,720 had jobs while 213 or 3.6% were unemployed.

Previous monthly jobless rates in Callahan County included: 3.6% in October 2001, 3.8% in September, 3.9% in August, 4.1% in July, 4.8% in June, 3.8% in May, 3.5% in April, 3.7% in March, 3.5% in February 2001, and 3.6% in January 2001, according to the unemployment figures.

Big Country area counties, bordering Callahan County, and those counties' unemployment rates for December 2001 include: Brown, 3.8%; Coleman, 7.0%; Eastland, 3.2%; Jones, 2.3%; Runnels, 2.6%; Shackelford, 2.2%; Stephens,

3.5%; and Taylor County, 3.3%. The unemployment rate in Texas for December 2001 was 5.1%, down one-tenth of one percentage point from November 2001.

The *Texas Labor Market Review* said, "The Texas actual series unemployment rate dipped one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.1 percent from November's rate of 5.2 percent. This is the highest December unemployment rate since 1995 when it was 5.6 percent. December's rate is 1.7 percentage points higher than last year's record low rate of 3.4 percent. The U.S. unemployment rate increased by one-tenth of a percentage point from 5.3 percent in November to 5.4 percent in December. This is the third consecutive month that the Texas rate has been lower than the national rate."

Of the 10,667,600 civilian labor force in the state, total employment was 10,127,700 in December. The total number of unemployed in December 2001 was 539,900.

The United States unemployment rate was 5.4% in December 2001. The nation's unemployment rate for the previous month of November 2001 was 5.3%. The United States unemployment rate one year ago in December 2000 was 3.7%.

Down Home

Chevy Coupe for \$600, but who could afford one? Too bad, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In my day, 'grass' was mowed, 'coke' was a cold drink, 'pot' was something your mother cooked in, and 'rock music' was a lullaby. 'Aids' were helpers in the principal's office, 'chip' meant a piece of wood, 'hardware' was found in a hardware store, and

'software' wasn't even a word. And we were the last generation to actually believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby. No wonder people call us 'old and confused' and say there is a generation gap. And how old do you think I am????

This woman would be only 58 years old.

Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from January 27, 2002 through February 2, 2002 include:

Cases Investigated
Warnings-91
Complaints-89
Public Intoxication-1
DWI-1

Vehicle Accidents
There were two vehicle accidents investigated during this time span.

People Arrested On Outstanding Warrants
There were 12 outstanding warrants issued for a total of \$3,728.00 collected.

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SCHOOL MENU

February 11 - February 15

BREAKFAST

MONDAY-- Oatmeal, Toast, Assorted Juice
TUESDAY-- Pancakes, Bacon, Assorted Juice
WEDNESDAY-- Blueberry Muffins, Assorted Juice
THURSDAY-- Cereal, Toast, Assorted Juice
FRIDAY-- Donuts, Yogurt, Assorted Juice

LUNCH

MONDAY-- Pizza, Salad, Corn, Rosy-Applesauce
TUESDAY-- Chicken Fried Steak w/ Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Peas
WEDNESDAY-- Turkey Fajitas, Salad
THURSDAY-- Beef-Veg. Soup, Grilled Cheese, Crackers, Peaches
FRIDAY-- Hamburger, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Fries, Rice Krispie Treat

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COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURT
Roger Corn, presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

Robert T. Davis, resisting arrest.
Chad B. Gilliland, possession of marijuana.
Michael P. Santos, driving while intoxicated (DWI).

Misdemeanor Minutes

Darnell Montague, motion to withdraw as surety and application for warrant granted.
Jennifer Black, motion to revoke probation granted.
Order discharging defendants from misdemeanor probation: Robert King, Tommy Woods.
Richard K. Brock, motion to dismiss to theft of property by check granted, unable to identify.
Elvin L. Hogue, motion to dismiss to theft of property by

check granted, paid restitution.
Henry F. Foy, IV, order releasing cash bond granted.

Robert Davis, plea of guilty to resisting arrest, 1 year probation, \$400 fine, \$218 court costs.

Jackie Joy, motion to dismiss to theft of property by check granted, paid restitution.

Leah Bailey, plea of guilty to DWI, 2 year probation, \$400 fine, \$243 court costs.

42ND DISTRICT COURT
John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filings

Robert James Gwilt and Priscilla Gwilt, divorce.
Rodger Gene Manuel and Barbara Manuel, divorce.
Andrea Darlene Gardner and Chad William Gardner, divorce.
Origen Financial, LLC f/k/a Dynex Financial, Inc. vs. Dave Robillard, breach of contract.

VETERANS NEWS

By TOM IVEY

GOOD NEWS—Pharmaceutical giant Pfizer Inc. is offering its own prescription drugs to uninsured low-income Medicare beneficiaries for a flat fee of \$15.00 for each 30-day supply. Any beneficiary who has no other drug insurance and whose gross income is less than 18,000 a year (\$24,000 for a couple) is eligible for the card.

Pfizer says the card can be used for all the prescription drugs it makes, including some most commonly prescribed for Medicare patients: Lipitor (cholesterol), Norvasc (high blood pressure), Neurontin (epilepsy) and Zoloft (depression). The card also covers two drugs that Pfizer co-promotes but does not make (Zyrtec (antihistamine) and Aricept (Alzheimer's disease)).

The flat fee of \$15 per prescription is a departure in drug company assistance programs, which generally give limited free supplies to the neediest people. Two companies, Novartis and GlaxoSmith-Kline recently began discount card programs.

Beneficiaries may enroll in the Pfizer program from February 1, 2002. The cards can be used at participating pharmacies from March 1. For application forms and more information, call 800-717-6005 or go to www.pfizerforliving.com. This good news found in the latest AARP newspaper.

NOT SO GOOD NEWS—The following information was received from the Big Spring VA Medical Center on January 30. The Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act

(Public Law 106-117) authorized the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to increase the medication co-payment amount and to establish annual caps on the medication co-payment amount. Effective February 4, 2002 the medication co-payment will increase from \$2.00 to \$7.00.

An annual cap was established to eliminate a financial hardship for certain Veterans who may require an unusually large amount of medications. Veterans enrolled in priority groups 2 through 6 will have an annual cap of \$840. The annual cap will be tracked on a calendar year basis. When a Veteran reaches this annual cap, they will no longer make medication co-payments for that calendar year. No annual cap was established for Veterans enrolled in priority group 7. (yours truly still trying to recall income and financial questions when the draft notice came!!)

The medication co-payment applies to medications and over-the-counter medications (aspirin, cough syrup, vitamins, etc.) that are dispensed from a VA pharmacy. You are not charged a medication co-payment for medical supplies (syringes, alcohol wipes, etc.).

For additional information, contact the VA health care facility where you receive your medical care and treatment. For the Abilene Clinic and the Big Spring VAMC the number is 800-472-1365, Ext. 7080 for the Pharmacy. Veterans are reminded to compare prices, especially on over-the-counter items.

5 - Cross Plains Review February 7, 2002

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,
I don't know why we always have to seek out these types of means to bring attention to how some people are cruel to animals. I am very upset and disappointed in the Cross Plains FFA advisor and the students. This letter is in reference to animals that students had borrowed to show in their stock show. The animals were underfed, and had the rib bones visible. I know what the FFA advisor is "suppose" to do as an advisor, as I have ask other

teachers, but I guess these animals were overlooked in the process of getting ready for the show. Needless to say the animals did not place. I also saw for myself at the stock show how other students were making fun of the condition of these animals. I will be very reluctant to sell or loan students from this FFA Chapter another animal and I will talk with other animal raisers about this incident.

Betsy Tension
Clyde, TX

Huffman Decorated With Army Achievement Medal

Army Sgt. Howard W. Huffman has been decorated with the Army Achievement Medal.

The medal is awarded to soldiers who have served in any capacity in a noncombat area authorized by the Secretary of the Army. The recipients must distinguish themselves by meritorious service or achievement and accomplish the act with distinction.

Huffman is a crew chief assigned to the 50th Engineer Battalion at Camp LaGuardia, Uijong-Bu, South Korea.

He is the son of Dorothy N. Taylor of Rising Star. His wife, Angela, is the daughter of Donna K. Rey of 913 E. Tate, Brownfield.

The sergeant is a 1996 graduate of Union High School, Texas.

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Brice Hail Completes Basic Training at San Antonio

Air Force Airman 1st Class Brice D. Hail has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received

physical training and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Brice's wife, Kenya, resides in Wichita Falls. Hail is the son of Dianne Hail of Cross Plains. He is a 1999 graduate of Cross Plains High School.

PUBLIC FAX (254) 725-7225

DRUG STORE AUCTION

THURSDAY- FEBRUARY 14- 10:30 A.M.

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Area Students Recognized by McMurry University

The following area students have been named to the Fall 2001 Dean's List and Dean's Honor Roll. To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must have maintained at least a 3.5 grade point average while taking 12 or more credit hours. To be eligible for the Dean's Honor Roll, a student must complete 6-11 hours with at least a 3.5 grade point average.

Students qualifying for the Dean's List are:

Baird - Chasity Hardy, Erin Hughes and Candace Riddle

Clyde - Clara Aragon, Jaclyn Greene, Jessica Harrison, Joshua Jones, Miryam Martin, Vickie McElroy, Katherine Pearson, Charles Titus, Renee Waggoner and Benjamin Walton

Cross Plains - Mindy Mitchell and Samuel Nixon

May - Amy Lewis

Qualifying for the Dean's Honor Roll:

Clyde- Roger McCoy and Diana Notgrass

Cross Plains - Terry Nixon.

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FOUND- set of car keys, etc. at City Park on Beech Street, call (254) 725-6111 to obtain. Must pay cost of ad.

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Bobbie Lee Westerman Edmondson wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the thoughtful expressions of sympathy that were made in the form of flowers, memorial donations and personal notes. We wish to thank everyone that was involved in the life of Bobbie Edmondson. A special thank you goes to those who supported Bobbie during her short stay in the hospital, those who provided lunch at the funeral and the pallbearers who carried her to rest. May each of us extend her life through ours by passing along the things she taught us and the love she shared with us.

O.B., Gayle and Eddy Edmondson

CARD OF THANKS

Your expressions of love shown to the family of Louise Richardson were greatly appreciated. Each act of kindness was thoughtful during our time of loss.

The Family of Louise Richardson

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to thank everyone for the many prayers on our behalf during and after my auto accident on January 19. We appreciate all the churches in Cross Plains who put us on their prayer chains. It made a difference.

Bob and Dee Harrell

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW DEADLINES

Please have articles in the Review office by **NOON** on Monday of the week you want your article printed.
Please have all ads in the Review office by **NOON** on Tuesday of the week you want your ad ran.

Classified Ads Get Results Place One 254-725-6111

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COUNTY ROADS by Ginny Greene

Mid-winter visitor...

I've been meaning to tell this story for the past two winters. I think of it when there's frost on the ground, but by afternoon it's 76 degrees, and the thing that happened in the cold is gone before I have a chance to write it down. For some reason, I have a grasp on it again this morning. It happened like this:

Passing through the living room, something caught my eye. It was a calf in the driveway. Calves get loose all the time up in the high pastures of Eastern Washington. I wondered whose it was. Most likely it was looking for hay and was lured by the smell of hay-filled barns. I didn't know if he was choosing ours, or just testing the air for the best aroma in the neighborhood.

Our driveway was a long one, so the next time I walked past the window, the calf was only a little closer to the house. Since he was still there after all that time, I called Cally, up the hill, to see if she knew anyone with a calf out.

Cally knew everyone on the hill, and everyone down the hill. If there was someone missing stock, there was no sense in calling the Sheriff. Cally was the one who would know.

I watched the calf for a minute. The window warred with the heat of the woodburning stove inside and the much-below-zero temperatures outdoors. I stared through the fogged window into the ghostly white gloom, the misty white on white that swallowed up everything beyond a few yards. It had been like that for three days, snowing and snowing.

Cally wasn't home or else she was out at the barns. I planned to call later if the calf was still around, but it went away.

Then it was back. While it ambled a little closer up the

drive, I called Cally again. She asked me what it looked like. I said it was brown, shaggy brown. Like a winter coat beginning to shed.

She said she'd let me know if she heard from anyone.

Pretty soon, I called her back. "Cally, that is a strange looking calf!"

"What's strange?" she asked.

"It has a hump at its neck. It looks a little unbalanced, like its body is too high on its legs. Maybe it's really sick. Should I call the Sheriff?"

"No!" she scoffed. She was always laughing at my city ways. She said I was on an awfully long trail to becoming a country girl. "Why do you think it's sick?"

"Just because it looks so strange."

"Where is it now?"

I went back to the window, and the awkward critter was a mere few feet from the house. "Goodness, that is the weirdest calf I ever saw!"

"Describe it to me," she said.

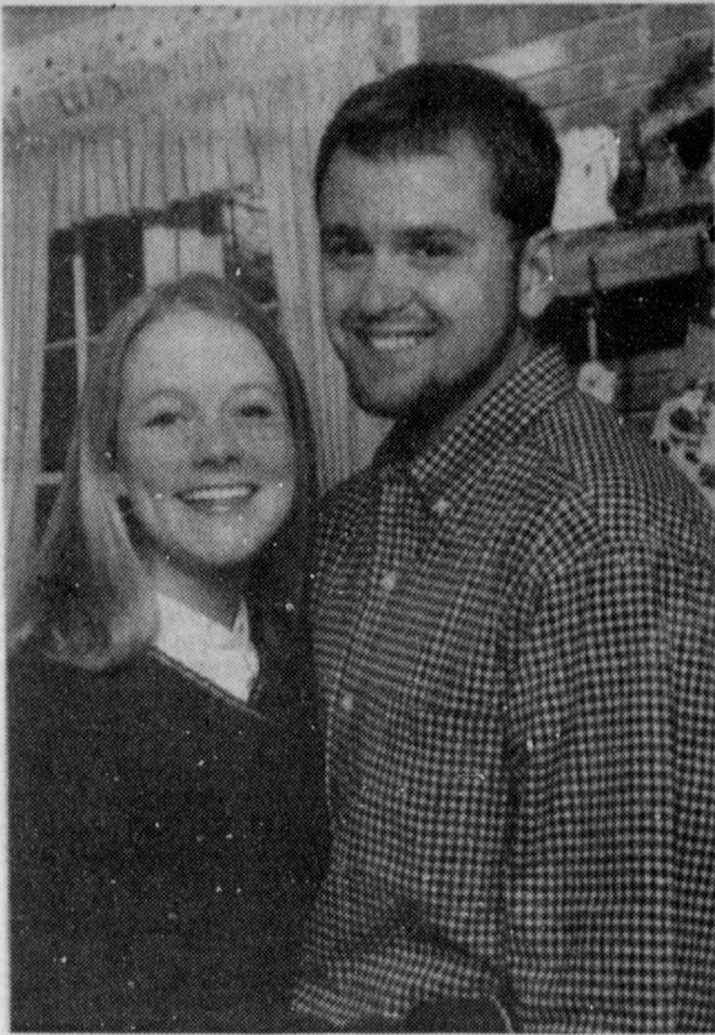
"Well, its head looks too small, and its back isn't broad enough. It has kind of a ridge..."

"That ain't no calf!!" she scoffed, along with a few guffaws. I heard her trying to explain to her husband between snorts and giggles.

She came back to the phone. "That's a caribou, you Goony. He belongs to the Jensens up the hill. They've got a bunch of them."

I went away thinking how much I still had to learn about country life, and glad that poor caribou hadn't walked all the way from Alaska. Cally just shook her head every time she saw me, all winter long.

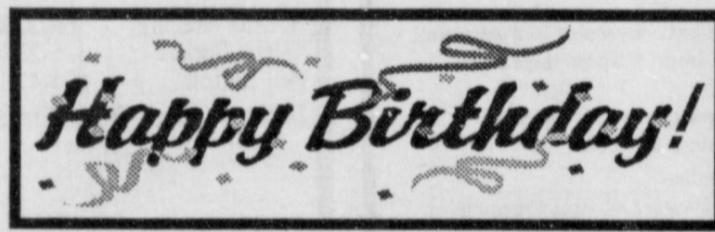
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Write to Ginny at
Rosegreen@aol.com



ASHLEY BEGGS AND GARY MOSES

Beggs-Moses Announce Plans for May Wedding

Rex and Edith Beggs of Cross Plains would like to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Ashley Diane, to Gary Moses, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Moses and Mrs. Valorie Thompson of Sweetwater. A May 18th wedding is planned at the First Baptist Church of Cross Plains.



FEBRUARY 8
Shawn McKeenan
Elvis B. Scott
Charles Strength
Grady Newton
Sherry Wilson
Robby Bailey
Wanda Bell

FEBRUARY 9
Mary Strahan
Fred Dill
Jennifer Dee Calhoun
Michael Heath Bright
Granvel Scott
Mrs. N.L. Dillard
Ronnie Flippin
Cecil Johnson
Skip Nichols
Mrs. Clifford Hill
Kathy (Morris) Foster
Jordon Crawford

FEBRUARY 10
Shannon McMillan
Elizabeth Griffith
Donald Sibley
Cody Golson
Nathan Wayne Jones
Lori Bishop
Dusty Hargrove

FEBRUARY 11
Kenneth Lowery
Mrs. J.C. Grantham
Pam (Pillans) Furlow
Ashley Beggs
Bill Wilson
Susan Sharpe-Holland
Clayton Goble
Shirley Snodgrass

FEBRUARY 12
William Payton Mayes
Jacob Carlos Grider
Mary Bates
Barbara Jean Perry
Ronnie Scott
Austin Jackson
John Garland Lee
Valerie Sue Wilson
Steve Carlile
Jean Strength
Stephanie Taylor
Louise Strength
Jerry Dean Allen
Joe Holland
Joshua Christensen

FEBRUARY 13
O.B. Byrd
Mrs. Kenneth Sowell
Mrs. Dan Johnston
A. W. Hines
Jan Taylor
Pam Philips

FEBRUARY 14
John Joseph Cohn
Don Brown
Alvin Knight
Billie Jean White
Billy Watson
Tommy Cowan
David Merryman
Kathryn Ohohausen McMillan
Joseph DeWayne Turner
Dan Notgrass
Alberto Jimenez
Carlos Jackson Kluts
Jim McKoy
Paige Marie Wilson

New Music Program Added to Curriculum at CJC

In the pursuit of both excellence and enjoyment in higher education, Cisco Junior College has added a new music program to its curriculum. The college will begin the CJC Wrangler Fiddle Band starting the 2002-03 school year.

Dr. Roger C. Schustereit, CJC president, approached Mr. Mark Best of Abilene to join the music faculty at CJC to create a commercial string program that will offer fiddle, bass and guitar instruction.

The CJC Wrangler Fiddle Band will be fashioned much like the popular Cooper Fiddlers of Abilene Cooper High School. The Cooper Fiddlers performing group was created by Mr. Best. The CJC Fiddle Band will need fiddlers, bass players, percussion, guitarists and vocalists. Mark Best will be recruiting for talent this semester and can be reached at the CJC campus at

Cisco by calling (254) 442-2567 or at home by calling (915) 692-8266. Scholarships will be available for persons interested in joining the new performing group.

The high profile band will represent CJC in fine arts productions and at parades, athletic events, community activities, and performances for celebrities and dignitaries. The CJC Wrangler Fiddle Band will play a variety of traditional fiddle tunes, western swing and current country and western music.

The vision of President Roger C. Schustereit and the CJC Board of Regents to bring the cultural heritage of West Texas to CJC through the musical excellence of the CJC Wrangler Fiddle Band will be a win-win situation for CJC and the Big Country.



"The Last Laugh"

In the many years that I worked with the railroad, there were times that small things really hit you in the pit of the stomach. This about one of those times.

The railroad has a program they present called "Operation Life-saver". This is to help educate the public about safety at railroad crossings. It was started in the 70's and remains operational--- even greater than when it started.

The presenter goes to different groups of people to put these programs on. It might be an elementary school, fire station, police department, trucking company or Rotary Club. Each audience has a different need.

On one such occasion, I was to speak at the 1st grade class of about 40 kids. I got there early and set up the videos and handouts. The class showed up and we watched the video. Afterwards, I explained how a train operates. After 15 or 20 minutes of this, I asked if there were any questions. There were the regular ones of how much does an engine weigh,

how fast does it go and so on? I had asked a question about what makes an engine run. Down in the first row was little boy with his hand up. I pointed to him and said, "all right son. What makes an engine run?" He jumped to his feet and answered, "It runs on electricity!"

All the other kids laughed and pointed at him. The little boy felt like the stupidest kid in the room, then started to cry. I felt so bad for him. I finally got everyone quiet and got the little boy up and brought him beside me.

I told the class the little boy was right. The class got real quiet. The little boy looked up at me in wonder. I explained that the engine has a diesel engine that turns a huge generator. The generator in turn supplies electricity to the traction motors. The traction motors are what makes the wheels turn to pull the engine along its way.

So the little boy was right. The engine and train run on electricity supplied by the generator. He was so happy that he had showed the rest of the class. He had gotten the last laugh.

Any business, group or individual who would like to be included on the Signature Page for holidays, special occasions and athletic tributes may do so by calling the *Cross Plains Review* (254) 725-6111.

The cost is \$3.00 each run and there is usually 12 or less per year. This is a great, inexpensive way to advertise and support community events.

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