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Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

"A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, March 21, 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 52

DOWN HOME

"The Survivor"

By Vanda Anderson Creech
Editor

Recently we moved the cows from a wheat field back to the home place so we could round up the calves to sell them. This was a fun day. I got to ride drag on "the horse" (the 4-wheeler), as we herded them down the road.

Some of the cows don't like "the horse" that well. I think if you intimidated them very much they would charge. "The horse" has some great advantages compared to a real horse, like when you get off to close a gate it doesn't have to be tied, it doesn't step on your toes and it doesn't walk around while you try to get on. This is more my style at this stage of life.

Everything went smoothly until we got to the last pasture, where the lots are located. There were two cows that got spooked and wouldn't go inside. However, we just needed the calves.

We got the calves Richard wanted cut out and we thought things were going great. About four days later David Worley, who works with Richard for Eastland County, was driving a dump truck past the wheat field and noticed a little calf out there all alone.

You guessed it. We didn't know old "Buffalo Head", as we call her, had a new calf. Amazingly the little heifer had survived all those days alone. We can't imagine why she didn't become prey to the coyotes, or how she lived without any nourishment.

Richard took the 4-wheeler over to see if he could get the calf. This is the story he tells: first he was going to just bulldoze the calf from the 4-wheeler, but decided to talk to it in "calf language". After some mama mooooooing he says the calf walked right up to him and he grabbed her. He laid her across the seat of the 4-wheeler and brought her back to house.

Now for the task of uniting her with her mother, who might not want her now. At first she wasn't real hip on the idea, but she decided she liked the baby when Richard tried to feed it a bottle.

Richard thought she might not make it, but she started nursing her mom and each day she became stronger. Within three or four days you could tell she was going to survive.

Richard has appropriately named her "4-Wheeler". She is cream-colored like most of the calves and has lots of spunk.

I told Richard she lived because as a female she had a strong sense of survival. It sounded reasonable since this is a true fact for female human infants. He just loved my theory.

4-Wheeler is doing great and she certainly deserves respect for her bravery and determination in her fight for survival.

Easter Musical at First Baptist

First Baptist Church will present their Easter Musical entitled "Christ Is Risen" this Sunday, March 24, beginning at 11 a.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY— The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce welcomed Herman's Auto Parts to the community Saturday at their Grand Opening. Pictured are Vernon Smith (from left), Susan Schaefer, George Mathews, Rolan Jones, Stacy Edgar, Bubba Eaker (owner), Sandra Jones, Debbie Gosnell and James Nichols.

Herman's Auto Parts Grand Opening Held

The grand opening of Herman's Auto Parts (next to Johnson's Dry Goods) was a big success last Saturday.

The following individuals were winners or door prizes: Lewis Fortune - ice cooler bag; Don Gosnell, Ben Schaefer, Tony Cabdera, and Phillip Schaefer - promo cars; Mike Vandeweed - screw driver set; Scott Bland -

wheel chocks; Bobby Bomar - shirt; Harris Farms - shirt; Eddie Mitchell - jacket; and Verna Romero - tool chest.

The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce was on hand for a ribbon cutting, and refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Herman's Auto Parts invites everyone to come by for your vehicle needs and get acquainted.

See Photos Page 8

Filings for Two Local Elections Announced

In the city election incumbents, Jerry Cassle and Dean Dillard, have announced their candidacy, along with incumbent Ray Purvis for mayor. Marvin Mosley has also filed his intentions to run for councilman. The two-year terms of two councilmen and the mayor are expiring.

School board trustee filings include incumbent Monty Richards and two newcomers, Larry Thomas and Bryan Bennett. The 3-year terms of Richards and Scott Childress are expiring.

The deadline for both elections was Wednesday, March 20, and any additional filings will be published in next week's issue.

Paint and Palette Club Meets This Friday

The Paint and Palette Club will meet this Friday, March 22 at 2:00 p.m. at the Multi-Purpose Center in Cross Plains.

Babs Sherrell, accomplished local artist, will demonstrate an oil painting. Everyone enjoyed her rose rendition and this one will be

just as good.

Remember to prepare for the exhibit on April 20-21st. Pictures must be checked in April 19th from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Call (254) 725-7235 or 725-7421 for more information. Visitors welcome.

Project Graduation Meeting April 4th

Project Graduation steering committee will have a meeting Thursday, April 4, at 5:00 p.m. at the Dairy Queen. Junior and Senior parents are urged to attend and help us plan.

Project Graduation is a alcohol, tobacco free party for Cross Plains Seniors and a guest of their choice. The night is designed for

fun and safety. Cross Plains has provided Project Graduation on Graduation Night since 1989 and has been a great success!

If you wish to help but cannot attend, please call Connie Kirkham at home 725-6500 or at work 725-6318. You may also contact Jean McWilliams or Lurene McNutt at 725-6121.

Don't Forget!!!

Saturday, April 6

Justin Dickson Baseball Benefit Day

Fun-filled day with lots of activities and good food.

Be There!
(High School Gym)

Carl Edington to Receive Top Masonic Honor Locally

By JOHN BAUM

Carl B. Edington will be the recipient of one of Masonry's highest awards at an open meeting of the Cross Plains Masonic Lodge this Thursday, March 21, at 7 p.m.

The Golden Trowel Award is the Lodge's formal recognition of a Masonic Brother for his devoted service to Masonic principles in general and to his church, community and humanity. It is intended for the individual who, year after year, quietly, but actively demonstrates his devotion to the teachings of Masonry without thought of recognition or special honors. It is formal recognition and a significant honor given to only a few Masons. Candidates for this rare prestigious award must be nominated by committee, elected by their lodge, and approved by the District Masonic Education Officer and The Grande Lodge of Texas. It is an esteemed honor presented to members of Texas Lodges who have consistently demonstrated outstanding and exemplary service to their Lodge and communities.

Carl Buel Edington was born to Joseph Dyer and Ida Iola (Nations) Edington on August 7, 1920 in Burkett, Coleman County, Texas. He was the fourth child, having two brothers, Cleo and Raymond (Hick) Edington, and one sister, Lucille Edington Barr. Mr. Edington started school at Burkett in 1927. He transferred

to Comal Schools in 1930. He moved to Victoria School in 1934 where he attended until they consolidated with Cross Plains Schools in 1936, at which time the Edingtons purchased and moved onto a ranch south of Coleman, near the town of Fisk.

Carl married Dorothy Johnson on a Saturday evening at the Methodist Parsonage at Cross Plains on May 13, 1939. Carl accepted an oil field pumping job near Santa Anna where they lived on the Bartholomew Ranch where their first child, Linda Jean, was born. In November 1940 they moved to Bisbee, Arizona where their son, Donald Carl, was born on August 24, 1942. Carl worked in copper mining until January 1946 when labor unions organized within the copper mining industries. They then returned to Cross Plains and then Petrolia, where Dean Brothers employed him on an oil field water flood project.

Carl was inducted into the U.S. Army at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma in May of 1946 and was stationed at Ft. Custer, Michigan. He served as a Military Police Officer until December 20, 1946 when he was discharged at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.

Carl returned to Cross Plains to join his family and accepted a pumping position with West-Central Texas Drilling at Stith, Jones County, Texas. In June of 1951 he was transferred to Abilene where he began his Petroleum Engineer-

ing Consulting business. In July 1954 he went into the same business with James E. Russell, which he continued until retirement in 1979. During this time, Carl completed his high school GED, attended night school at McMurry and Texas Tech Universities. He received a Petroleum Geology Engineering degree from Texas Tech in 1969.

Due to their oil interest and the purchase of an oil field research company the Edingtons owned homes in both Abilene and Chanute, Kansas for some seventeen years. They built a retirement home in Granbury, Texas in 1980. It was there that Dorothy, his wife of 52 years, was lost to cancer on January 14, 1991. She is buried at Dressy Cemetery in Dressy, Texas.

Mr. Edington was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason on May 4, 1946 at Hodges (Stith Lodge No. 907), between Abilene and Anson. He was passed to Fellow Craft on June 6th and raised to Master Mason on July 4th, of the same year. Stith Lodge later merged with Merkel Lodge No. 710 where Carl is a Past Master (1948-49) and 50+ year member. He became a York Rite Mason in about 1949 and a member of Cross Plains Lodge No. 627 in 1999.

Carl continues to be a valuable member of the Cross Plains community where he is active in the First United Methodist Church, Kiwanis and the Masonic Lodge.

Cross Plains PIP Group Takes 2nd at Competition

On March 8th and 9th the Cross Plains PIP group competed at the PIP Festival, which is a national competition that was held at Abilene Christian University's Moody Coliseum. Twenty-two out of the 40 Cross Plains PIP groups volunteered to go to the Festival and compete against others who participate in the PIP program. This year was the largest competition held, with over 680 individuals competing. There were more than 80 teams from Texas, Oklahoma, and New York involved in group and individual events competing against others, their own age and gender.

Cross Plains has been in the PIP program for 5 years. This was the second year that they competed in the group competition. Cross Plains competed in the Novice Group Division. The kids ages

ranged from Kindergarten through 6th grade. The team worked very hard and it paid off by winning runner up in their division. This was a great accomplishment for Cross Plains. There were towns that we competed against that have been in the PIP program over 13 years. It is difficult to express the degree of competition and talent of these kids competing in the Festival. Cross Plains should be extremely proud of the individuals who participated in this year's event. The kids from Cross Plains who competed in the group performance were: Kira Wells, Morgan Thomas, Cameron Rockett, Ethan Wells, Colton Rockett, Layton Turner, Logan Turner, Cheyenne Cowan, Riley Lawrence, Kayla Lawrence, Brittany Stout, Samantha Dickson, Joy

McKenzie, Hayden Wyatt, Austin Dunaway, Amanda Dunaway, Fili Vasquez, Lili Vasquez, Charlie Vasquez, Savana Wyatt, Sammie Tollett, and Emma Bennett. These students put in many hours of hard work and dedication to the program. Now that we have tasted victory, the coaches are looking forward to next years competition.

The twenty two kids from Cross Plains also competed in individual events. All of the kids did a great job. It took so much courage to compete against hundreds of other kids whether or not it was a timed event or a judged event.

See PIP Page 4

Callahan County Water Supply Corp. Annual Meeting Monday, March 25

The Callahan County Water Supply Corporation will hold their Annual Membership meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 25, 2002 at the Corporation's office, located at 218 N. Access Rd., 1-20 in Clyde, Texas. A catered meal by Callahan County 4-H Shooting Sports will be served starting at 6:15 p.m. Please call 893-3841 or come by the office and register (RSVP) by noon Friday, March 22, so that catering arrangements can be made. Members unable to

attend may cast their ballot and present their proxy at the above location also by noon Friday, March 22, to establish a quorum to conduct the business meeting.

Mr. Dwayne Hargesheimer, Director of Water Utilities, City of Abilene, will be speaking and bring an update regarding the drought situation and critical water needs to be addressed in the upcoming months. This will be a very informative subject and your presence, as members, will be appreciated.

Texas Heritage Bank

"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

MEMBER FDIC

Presents:
"What's Inside"

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C.P. STUDENT REVIEW

Buffalo Baseball Update Noted

The Cross Plains Buffaloes are 2-3 right now. We just finished Thursday at the Ranger Tournament by beating Ranger 15-8. Joseph Dillard and Kevin Wilson were named All-Tournament.

The team is finally all together and through with their other activities. The Buffaloes will resume play on Friday, March 22, with a double-header against Comanche, if both teams still have enough players.

The Buffaloes start district play

March 26 against Baird at 5 p.m. The players are working real hard and are ready for district. The team members are Tony Beggs, Andy Bennett, Mitch Byrd, Tim Butler, Dusty Cooper, Dusty Dickson, Joseph Dillard, Jordan Duran, Josh Hopkins, Cole Koenig, Chuck Norris, Casey Pack, Dustin Purvis, Charlie Rogers, James Ross, Kevin Scott, Marcus Williams and Kevin Wilson.

Submitted by
Coach Mitchell Atchley

Tennis Results Told

The Cross Plains Buffalo tennis team traveled to Brownwood to open the tennis season. Seven players, Sarah Nixon, Kelsee Richards, Cole Koenig, J.D. Cook, Kati Wooten, Nathan Joy and Chris Sliger, participated in the tournament.

Kati Wooten opened the tennis season with a first round victory over Breann Hart of Breckenridge. She then lost her second match to named Cheryl Webb from Burnet.

The only senior on the team opened her last season with a victory also. Sarah Nixon defeated Ashley Spradley from Goldthwaite 8-3. Sarah then lost

her second match to a young lady from Clyde 3-8. Kelsee Richards lost her first round match to a very good player, Caroline Everett, from Breckenridge 2-8. She was defeated again in the second round by a player from Clyde.

The doubles team of Nathan Joy and Chris Sliger made it all the way to the quarter finals before being defeated by a team from Breckenridge. J.D. Cook lost two close matches 7-9 and 8-5 to players from Brady and Clyde. Cole Koenig defeated Rangel Ethridge from Breckenridge 8-2 in the first round. He then dropped his second match to end the day.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cross Plains I.S.D. will be held on March 21, beginning at 7 p.m. in the high school administrative board room. The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as follows:

Addendum to March 2002 Agenda

1. Discipline Definition
 2. Review Vision Statement
 3. Review Regular Education Program Budget
- Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act on March 19, 2002, at 9 a.m. by Jackie Tension, Superintendent.

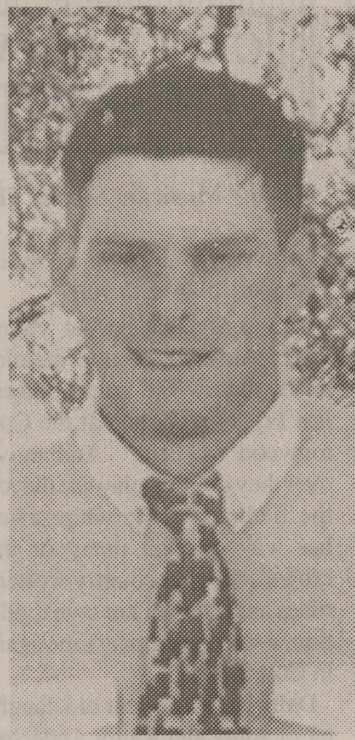
School Board Candidate Workshop at Abilene March 26

(Abilene, Tx.)— Area school board candidates and interested citizens can learn more about the demands and rewards of school board service at a candidate workshop, Tuesday, March 26, 7-9 p.m. at the Region 14 Education Service Center (1850 Highway 351, Abilene.)

The workshop will provide interested community members and individuals thinking about running for the board with a better understanding of what is involved in being elected and serving as a local trustee. Experienced school board members will explain board members' key responsibilities and outline the qualities necessary for effective service.

Topics to be covered include what it's like to be a trustee, key responsibilities of the board, division of authority with staff, how to campaign constructively, and where to find more information. Participants will also view *A Call to Service*, a Texas Association of School Boards' video highlighting many aspects of board service and featuring several experienced school trustees.

The workshop is open to anyone and admission is free. For more information about the workshop, call Brenda Canul at TASB, 512-467-0222 or 800-580-8272, extension 6104, or check the TASB Web Site at www.tasb.org for other dates and locations.



Clint Connelly

Clint Connelly Graduates from Southwest Texas State University

Clint Connelly recently graduated from Southwest Texas State University. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology/Wildlife and minored in Chemistry.

A 1996 Coleman High School graduate, he is the son of Chris and Cynthia Connelly of Burkett. Clint resides in San Marcos with his wife, Dustie, and daughter, Cameron.

PIP

Every person at the festival was recognized as a winner because they had the courage to compete against others and show their own self-motivation and self-confidence skills. Cross Plains did very well in the individual competition categories. Several placed in multiple events. That is an excellent accomplishment for those students. **The one goal of the PIP program is not the idea that competition is to compete to be better than others, it is to compete to better oneself.**

This year was a great success due to many factors. One of them is the assistance of many coaches. Thanks to the help of Maranda Hood, Greg Turner, Jenean Wells, Denise Turner, Stephanie Rockett, and April Cowan, it made the job a lot easier and run smoother. Also this year we also had individuals and companies sponsor the group. That made a big difference to the program. Thanks again for your support.

I am personally very proud of every PIP player. It is not an easy job to be a PIP. It is not an easy job to be a coordinator or a coach. But it is so rewarding to know that although we all make mistakes, it is okay as long as we can realize them and work at correcting them. Our biggest goal for next year, is to learn to work harder as a team and learn to encourage and support others. That is the true PIP spirit. PIPs PIPs PIPs YEA!

Submitted by Terry Thomas

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

There was a regular meeting of the Cross Plains City Council on March 5, 2002. All members were present. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Don Gosnell, Chief, met with the council to discuss the monthly police report. He reported eighty-seven calls for service, five criminal mischief, five assaults, two gas drive offs, two warrants served, one sexual assault, two prowlers, four runaways, two family disturbances, three burglar alarms, one theft, with thirty-seven warnings and forty citations. By general consent the council approved the report as presented.

Bob Hill, Municipal Judge, met with the council to give the monthly Judge's report. He reported thirty-eight citations outstanding for January, seven outstanding for December, and four outstanding for November. By general consent the council approved the report as presented.

Keith Lawrence met with the council to present the Accomplishments for 2001/2002, the Goals for 2002/2003, the proposed budget for 2202/2003, and a list of current directors who are up for reappointment. He informed the council that himself, Andy Anderson and Billie Ruth Loving's term will expire at the end of March 2002. Billie Ruth Loving informed the board that she would like to be replaced. Lawrence also reminded the council that there is one vacancy on the board at this time. Mr. Lawrence also discussed Lewis Berry's proposal for a boat manufacturing company. The council discussed the proposal and by general consent agreed that the city will not build Mr. Berry a building and take third lien on the property. A building to lease/purchase was discussed and depending on the cost, whether Mr. Berry could use a lease/purchase building, and other factors, would

depend on whether the council would consider such a building.

Discussion was held concerning the interlocal agreement between the City of Cross Plains and the Callahan County Aging Services. After lengthy discussion James Nichols moved to enter into the agreement noting that the allocated funds were \$4,000.00 and to appoint Bob Hill to the Callahan County Nutrition Board to replace himself. Joe Ingram seconded and motion carried.

Dean Dillard moved to order the municipal election for May 4, 2002. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

Edwin Weiss moved to appoint Ester Kerr as election judge. Jerry Cassle seconded and motion carried.

Joe Ingram moved to allow Ester Kerr as both City election judge and School election judge. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

James Nichols moved to purchase the accounts payable program for the accounting system from WolfePak Systems. Jerry Cassle seconded and motion carried.

Jerry Cassle moved to pay bills. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

Edwin Weiss moved to go into executive session at 7:30 p.m. Dean Dillard seconded and motion carried.

Discussion was held at length concerning the sale of Dal-Mar Energy, Inc.

Jerry Cassle moved to return to open meeting. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

Mayor Purvis reappointed Keith Lawrence and Andy Anderson to the board. Joe Ingram moved to accept his appointments. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

By general consent the council agreed to have a public hearing on March 18, 2002 at 6:30 at City Hall for the purpose of adopting the 2002/2003 Annual Budget.

Edwin Weiss moved to adjourn. Jerry Cassle seconded and motion carried.

Notice to Parents:

Early Out Friday, March 29, 2002 At 1:00 P.M. Before Easter Weekend. Buses Will Run At 1:10 P.M.

There Will Be No Easter Holiday On Friday, March 29 and Monday, April 1, 2002 Due To Bad Weather.

SCHOOL MENU

March 25- March 29

BREAKFAST

- MONDAY--Breakfast Burrito, Assorted Juice
- TUESDAY--French Toast, Sausage, Assorted Juice
- WEDNESDAY-- Toaster Pastry, Yogurt, Assorted Juice
- THURSDAY-- Cereal, Toast, Assorted Juice
- FRIDAY-- Donuts, Assorted Juice

LUNCH

- MONDAY-- Pizza, Salad, Corn, Rosy-Applesauce
- TUESDAY-- Steak Fingers w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Peaches
- WEDNESDAY-- Meat-Cheese Nachos, Pinto Beans, Salad, Fruit Crisp
- THURSDAY--Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Cheese Stick, Broccoli, Garlic Sticks, Pears
- FRIDAY-- Submarine Sandwich, Chips, Salad, Pickles, Peach Cups

USDA Rural Community Facilities Loan Program Announced

TEMPLE—Bryan Daniel, Texas State Director, USDA Rural Development announced that federal funds are available for USDA's Rural Development Community Facilities Loan program. The effort is part of USDA's national program to help rural areas build and enhance essential community facilities.

"USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities program helps rural communities keep pace with the needs of their rising populations," said Daniel. "With lower populations and tax bases than urban areas, rural

residents can utilize our programs to help provide essential public services that will enhance the quality of life for all rural residents."

In Fiscal Year 2001, a total of \$6.3 million in direct and guaranteed loans were obligated. Community Facilities loan funds may be used to construct, enlarge or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and public services. These loans and grants are made to public entities and non-profit organizations. Examples of eligible projects include rural

healthcare clinics, town halls, fire trucks, county safety equipment, jaws of life, early warning systems, community centers, libraries, day care centers and schools.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Abilene Local Service Center at 915-690-6162 ext. 4.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from March 10, 2002 through March 16, 2002 include:

- Cases Investigated
 - Warnings-98
 - Complaints-64
 - Fugitive Arrest-Theft-1
 - Disorderly Conduct-1
 - Vehicle Accidents
- There were four vehicle accidents investigated during this time span.
- People Arrested On Outstanding Warrants
- There were four outstanding warrant issued for a total of \$1,210.00 collected.

PUBLIC FAX
AT THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW
FAX# 1 -254-725-7225

CALLAHAN COUNTY FARMERS CO-OP
BAIRD, TEXAS
STORE: 200 EAST 1ST - 854-1360
STATION: 133 EAST 4TH 854-1912
MON. - FRI. 7 AM TO 5 PM & SAT. 7 AM-12 PM

WE CARRY A WIDE VARIETY OF PRODUCTS:

★ **LAWN & GARDEN NEEDS**
WE CARRY A WIDE VARIETY OF PRODUCTS:
FERTILIZERS, WEED AND PEST CONTROL, ANT KILLERS,
SPRAYERS, HOSES, TOOLS, SEED, POTTING SOIL,
PEAT MOSS.... ALSO, SOIL TESTS AVAILABLE!

★ **PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS**
FOR YOUR HOME!

★ **PET FOOD & SUPPLIES!!**

★ **FENCING PRODUCTS & SACKRETE**

★ **TIRES, BATTERIES & OIL FILTERS, ARE JUST A FEW OF THE ITEMS CARRIED AT OUR STATION. WE DO OIL CHANGES & FIX FLATS!**

★ **COME SEE US FOR FRIENDLY HOME TOWN SERVICE!**

ATTENTION
CD

OWNERS!!!
LOCAL: 893-5059

TOLL FREE: 877-417-8704

IS YOUR CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT...
A CERTIFICATE OF DISSAPPOINTMENT??

WE MAY HAVE
A SOLUTION:

9:00 A.M TO 5:00 P.M.
MON. - FRI.

- * TRIPLE THE RATES OF CD'S
- * STRONG MONTHLY INCOME
- * SECURITY OF PRINCIPLE
- * NO STOCK MARKET RISK..... (\$8,000.00 minimum required)

Serving the Big
Country 13 years!

ATTENTION
ANNUITY
OWNERS!!!

TAX SAVER STRATAGIES

BENNY HOLLAND



COUNTY by ROADS Ginny Greene

The Babysitters...

Spring makes the long dusty drive down our County Road so much more interesting. Yesterday morning/I smiled as I passed a field where six infant calves rested under a tree with a babysitter cow while the others grazed a distance away.

I always wonder how the contract is facilitated. Who picks the babysitter? How does she indicate agreement? How do the babies know to stay with her? It's all lumped into the Master's Manual, a part of the Great Mysteries of Life that surrounds me with a sense of awe.

The nursery scene in the pasture always brings to mind the story my sister tells. She and her family were stuck on the highway shoulder with their automobile that wasn't mobile anymore. While they waited for repairs, she watched a cow in the roadside field. It moored and muttered until my sister got the idea the cow was looking for something. Searching here and there, calling and calling, the cow came to the edge of a bank. She blithered in exasperation at the newborn calf who lay calmly in the shade.

Seeing the cow's agitated relief and the calf's unconcern, my sister said she could just imagine that cow mama standing over her calf with hands on hips, sputtering, "What are you doing down there! Why didn't you come when I called?" The episode made waiting at the side of the road much more bearable.

Then I think about last year's crop of goat kids. Camilla had dropped her kid the week before, and now it was Melinda's turn. Melinda was a first time kidder. She was still sniffing the strange wiggling thing in the grass, waiting for instinct to kick in, when Camilla decided five minutes' motherhood was long enough to qualify as a babysitter. Camilla left her week-old kid in Melinda's care and went off to find food and adventure. It's a

good thing the kid was pretty self-sufficient, because Melinda was only interested in her own little miracle.

Now Spring begins all over again in our barn. Yesterday afternoon, I sat a polite distance away from Reva while she labored. All her goat sisters stood in a semi-circle around us - her ladies-in-waiting. Reva's blessed event was the focus of their day, too. They ate little and dispensed with their normal daily activity to keep a vigil at the manger scene.

Reva let out a pathetic moan. I inched a bit closer and murmured to her of our sympathy. Her eyes rolled and she stretched her neck out toward me. She thought I would be there to catch her, and her head lolled to the ground. I didn't expect that but I should have, knowing the trust that develops over a milk goat's lifetime with her goatherd. I scooted still closer and she laid her head in my hands, pushed one mighty push more, along with a lot of goat yelling, and a slimy spotted goat kid dropped to the ground.

As I watched her with her kid during orientation and cleanup, I wondered how Stella would react to the new herd baby. Stella's kid didn't survive. She's still searching for it a month later.

Years ago, my first goat, Mona, adopted her daughter's twins after her second-year kid perished. We found her guarding her precious grandkids in a corner while their own mama protested. Mona sent the babies off to mama at feeding time, then corralled them again as soon as they filled their tummies.

It will be interesting to see how Stella deals with her maternal instincts as the pen fills up with new babies. Maybe her own loss will drive her to assume the lifetime commitment of nurse goat and part-time babysitter.

© Ginny Greene 2002
Write to Ginny at Rosegreen@aol.com



DOOR PRIZE WINNERS— Phil Schaefer and his son, Ben, both won promo cars at Herman's Auto Parts Grand Opening.



GREAT GIVE AWAYS— Lewis Fortune (left) won an ice cooler bag at Herman's Auto Parts. Bubba Eaker, owner, (right) is congratulating him.

County reports 6 skunks confirmed rabid in 2001

Callahan County reported six positive tests for rabies during 2001, according to the Texas Department of Health's Zoonosis Control Division.

There were 25 rabies tests performed in Callahan County last year and all six positive rabies tests came from skunks.

Only one of the seven skunks tested in Callahan County last year was reported negative for the disease.

There were six dogs tested last year in the County and all six came up negative for the disease. Eight cats were tested for the disease in Callahan County and all were negative. There was one fox tested negative, two raccoons tested negative and one other animal tested negative in 2001.

The Texas Department of Health reported 1,043 positive tests for rabies and 11,780 negative tests for the disease in 2001. Of the 1,043 positive tests, the majority were skunks. The Texas Department of Health reported 778 skunks came back positive for the disease, while 777 skunks were tested negative for rabies. There were 194 rabid bats tested in 2001, while 16 foxes were positive for the disease. There

were nine raccoons testing positive, 16 dogs, 13 cats, 7 bovine, 5 equine and 6 other animals which tested positive for rabies last year.

The Department of Health noted the 1,043 confirmed cases of rabies in 2001 was the highest total since 1979 when 1,195 animals tested positive for the disease. Last year, the Texas Department of Health reported 830 positive rabies cases confirmed.

According to the Department of Health's statistics which date back to 1956, the number of rabid skunks and bats have been increasing, while the number of foxes, dogs and cats have been on the decline. The Department of Health reported only 72 skunks tests positive for rabies in 1956, while 778 skunks tested positive in 2001. Also there were no reported positive tests for rabies in 1956, while the number of rabid bats in 2001 stood at 194. On the other hand, there were some 430 reported rabid cases of dogs in 1956, while the number of rabid dogs in 2001 dropped to 16. The number of rabid foxes in 1956 stood at 138, while just 15 rabid foxes were confirmed in 2001.

Combined Federal Campaign Accepting Applications

The Abilene Area Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications from local health and welfare organizations who wish to be included in the 2002 Fall campaign. The Combined Federal Campaign is an annual solicitation of all military and civilian federal employees.

Eligibility requirements for inclusion are certification as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, 2001-audit report, a copy of the organization's most recent IRS Form 990 from its local office, and demonstration of a substantial presence in the area covered by the Abilene area campaign. Applications will be accepted from March 15, through

April 15. Applications may be picked up at the United Way of Abilene office, 240 Cypress, or may be requested by writing: Abilene Area CFC, P.O. Box 92, Abilene, Texas 79604-0092. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the United Way of Abilene at (915) 677-1841. Abilene's local United Way will serve as the Principal Combined Fund Organization (PCF) for the campaign.

Applications must be received at P.O. Box 92, Abilene, Texas 79604 or 240 Cypress, Abilene, Texas 79601, no later than April 15, 2002, 5 p.m.

Golf Tourney to Benefit Callahan County Youth

A special 9-hole golf tournament and fund-raiser to benefit the Callahan County Commercial Steer Show is set for April 6th at Shady Oaks Golf Club between Baird and Clyde.

This will be a 4-person scramble with tee times starting at 1:00 p.m. All ages are welcome to participate! There will be a longest drive contest and a closest to the pin contest. Prizes and more will be awarded.

There will be a free meal and awards immediately following play.

The Deluxe Hole sponsorship package is \$100.00, this includes 2 players and your business or individual name on the sponsor sign. Individual play for members is \$20 and non-members is \$40 and it includes green fee, cart and meal. Hole sponsorship only is \$50.00.

Contact Gary Richardson at 548-2761 or Shady Oaks (915) 854-1757 to enter. The Delux Hole sponsorship package is \$100.00, this includes 2 players and your business or individual name on the sponsor sign. Individual play for members is \$20 and non-members is \$40 and it includes green fee, cart and meal. Hole sponsorship only is \$50.00.

A special 3 CEU Forage Seminar is set for April 4 at the Cross Plains Community Center. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. The program begins at 9:00 a.m. The goal of this program is to provide producers with information on forage management strategies to help them produce uniform, high quality forage to meet their production goals. These strategies will include management techniques on existing bermuda grass pastures as well as selection of diverse forage opportunities.

Speakers for the Seminar will include: Dr. Charles Stichler, TAEX Agronomist - Uvalde; Dr. Chris Sansone, TAEX Entomologist - San Angelo and Dr. Billy Warrick, Extension Agronomist from San Angelo. Dr. Stichler will discuss Bermuda grass Establishment, Fertility and Management. Dr. Sansone will discuss Forage Insects and Dr. Warrick will be discussing Weed Identification and Control. The program is set to conclude after a sponsored lunch.

The seminar and accompanying meal are free to those that pre-register by April 2. Registration at the door will be \$5.00 per person. This program is presented by the Extension offices in Brown, Callahan, Coleman and Eastland Counties. For further information, contact the Callahan County Extension Office at (915) 854-1518.

Robert Pritz, County Extension Agent

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The deadline for filing an Opt Out Request form is June 17, 2002. To request additional information from which you can determine whether you are eligible to opt out of the class action settlement or to request either a Claim Form or an Opt Out Request form, you may contact the LP Siding Litigation Claims Administrator. If you have damaged LP siding that is eligible for compensation under the settlement agreement and desire to file a claim, you must complete a Claim Form and return it to the LP Siding Litigation Claims Administrator postmarked on or before December 31, 2002.

For information contact: LP Siding Litigation Claims Administrator P.O. Box 3240 Portland, OR 97208-3240 Toll-Free: 1-800-245-2722 www.lpsidingclaims.com

Urgent news for people who took

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These drugs may have damaged your heart or caused Pulmonary Hypertension. Many injured people have no symptoms. Others have shortness of breath, chest pains, fatigue or other symptoms. Doctors are urging you to have an echocardiogram. Call today for a free consultation to find out about this test and your legal rights. We practice law only in Arizona, but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.

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Happy Birthday!

- MARCH 22**
Barbara Strickland
Brian Kelly
Brenda Newton
Marie Starr
Robert Ringhoffer
Randy Nickerson
Hannah Harris
- MARCH 23**
Kelly Gardner
Anna Jo McLain
Diana (Purvis) Stover
Winnie (Boden) McGill
Van Steven Young
Wesley Hutchins
M.H. Stout
Lisa Malvane
Linda (Larkin) Canales
Debbie Box
- MARCH 24**
Kathy (Nickerson) Franke
Mrs. Weldon Newton
Mrs. Norman Lee
Calvert Sheppard
Mrs. Roy Markham
Don Scott
Mrs. Becky Baggett
Tommy King
Mrs. W.E. Nowell
Donnie Duncan
Duane Hutchins
Ralph Erwin
Tommy Potter
Christine Ferrell Morrison
- MARCH 25**
J.T. Sheppard
Cindy Kinnard
- Ronnie Richardson
H.G. Thornton
Theada Allen
Anita Rose
Mrs. Dick Koenig
Cliffadean Hargrove
Jonathan Gardner
Beverly (Boles) Archer
Ashleigh Galloway
- MARCH 26**
Terri Markham
William Keith Kelly
Patricia Ann McMillan
Era Miller
James Harris
Sue Stone
Carrol Falkner
Carl Sheppard
Dena Marie Nichols
Janie Clark Woody
Mariam Harris
- MARCH 27**
Zachary Von Edington
Billy Hagar
Mrs. Donald Flahie
Nina Chambers Bryan
Don Hewston
Ruth Applin
Billy G. Woody
Charlene Canales
- MARCH 28**
Kelly Miller
Paul Mac Coppingier
A.H. Ringhoffer
Sally Roady
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