

Rich in Agriculture
Abundant in Wildlife

Masthead Designed by Deborah Lowitzer

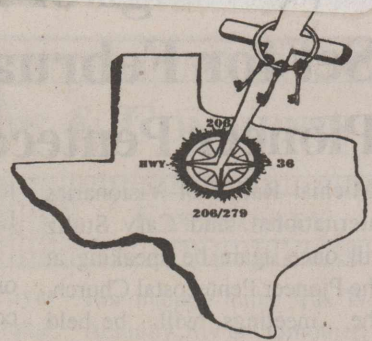
Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

"A Caring Community"

SOUTHWEST COLLEGE
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

THURSDAY, February 9, 2006



Keys to our Past,
Present and Future
Hinge on the Cross

97TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

PRICE 50¢

NUMBER 47

UIL realignment means few changes for local schools

BY: AL PICKETT
Special Writer

The biennial University Interscholastic League realignment and reclassification often means drastic changes for Texas high schools, moving them into new districts or, in some cases, even changing the classification in which they participate.

Last week's announcement from the governing body for Texas high school athletic and academic competition produced very little change for the four school districts in Callahan County.

Clyde will remain a Class 3A school and will again compete in a five-team district, only the Bulldogs will have two new district opponents. Clyde was placed in District 7-3A along with Abilene Wylie, Breckenridge, Comanche and Sweetwater for the 2006-08 school years.

While Baird and Cross Plains both remained in Class A, the Bears and Buffaloes will not be competing in the same district in football next fall. Baird was placed in the seven-team District 15-A, along with Albany, Hamlin, Roby, Roscoe, Rotan and Winters.

Cross Plains will also be in a seven-team district. The Buffaloes will compete in District 12-A in football, along with DeLeon, Gorman, Perrin-Whitt, Ranger, Santo and Tolar.

Baird and Cross Plains will be in the same district for basketball, however. And they will be joined by Eula. District 10-A, Division I for basketball will have five teams, including Albany, Baird, Eula Cross Plains and Winters.

"As far as basketball is concerned, nothing much changed," said Mark Young, the Baird boys' basketball coach and boys' athletic coordinator. "But football is going to be tough. It will be hard to get that second spot. And, if they take three (the UIL is considering adding a third playoff team from each district in Class A), it will still be tough. Albany and Roscoe are usually among the top teams in the region, and Rotan and Winters always have good athletes."

Class A includes high schools with enrollments between 100 and 194.

Breckenridge and Comanche replaced Merkel and Snyder, which competed in District 4-3A with Clyde the past two years. Merkel dropped to Class 2A, and Snyder was placed in District 3-3A, along with Andrews, Lamesa and Midland Greenwood.

New Clyde head football coach and athletic director Craig Slaughter, who has only been on the job for several days, was not surprised by the changes.

"Not really," he said. "Before I took the job, I looked at a map.

There really weren't a whole lot of options. I thought if we added anyone it would have to be Breckenridge and Comanche."

The UIL created five four-team districts in Class 3A, so Slaughter was just happy to have five teams in the Bulldogs' new district.

"What a scheduling nightmare that would be in every sport," he said of the four-team, districts. "Class 3A is by far the smallest division. It had 170 schools. Every other division has over 200. With the population in the Metroplex just blowing up, I think we'll always be grouped with Wylie even though Wylie is a larger school. But I think we have potential for growth here."

Enrollment numbers for Class 3A runs from 415 to 949. Clyde turned in 506. Wylie's enrollment is 916.

Seven of the Bulldogs' 10 opponents in football next fall made the playoffs in 2005. Slaughter said Clyde will play Ballinger, Graham, Bangs, Early, Vernon and Burkburnett in non-district games next fall. Burkburnett is dropping from Class 4A to 3A.

"We may have lost Snyder from our district, but every other team in the new district made the playoffs last year," he said. "We're going from the fire to the frying pan. You still have to be ready to roll."

United Fund of Cross Plains Fire Relief Fund Distribution

From the people recommended by the Cross Plains City Council, a committee was appointed to draw up plans for the distribution of the money in the special Fire Victims Account of the United Fund of Cross Plains. This committee was commissioned by the President of the United Fund of Cross Plains.

An initial distribution will

begin Monday, February 13th and will be made by eligible recipients going to the Cross Plains City Hall. This distribution of checks will be made to ones in the following four categories: 1) Home owners; 2) Owners of rent houses; 3) Renters; 4) Owners of unoccupied houses or mobile homes.

If you are a fire victim in one

of these categories, please go by Cross Plains City Hall during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.) next week (Feb. 13-17) and sign a receipt for your relief check. Checks will be released to owners or renters (or their spouse) only, and with proper identification.

Submitted by the committee

Application for Cross Plains I.S.D. School Board Election

The Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees Application Form for a Place on the May 13, 2006 School Board Election is available in the Superintendent's Office from February 13th until March 3, 2006, from 8:00 a.m.-5:00p.m.

Due to Cross Plains I.S.D. Spring Break, March 6-10, applications will be available at City Hall on Main Street from

8:00 a.m.-12:00 and 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

The last day to file for an application on the ballot is March 13, 2006. Applications will again be available on that day at the Superintendent's office. The deadline to file is 5:00 p.m.

The terms of Reggie Pillans and Burlie Taylor are expiring. There will be two openings for 3 year terms.

Summary of Dates For School Board Applications:

Feb 13 - March 3
Superintendent's Office
(8:00-5:00)
March 6-10
City Hall Office
(8:00-12:00 and 1:00-5:00)
March 13
Superintendent's Office
(8:00-5:00)

LOVE FUND Established

A Love Fund has been established for Leann Baker at Texas Heritage Bank. She was hospitalized in Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene last week. She is currently at home, but more tests are planned.

Leann is the wife of Randy Baker, who owns T&K Tire and Alignment. She is an employee at Village Market.

District 12-A Football

Cross Plains
DeLeon
Gorman

Perrin-Whitt

Ranger
Santo
Tolar

District 10-A Basketball

Albany
Baird

Eula

Cross Plains
Winters

Cross Plains Fire Chosen for Student's Semester Project

Students taking a Communication course in Oral History Research at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa have chosen the Cross Plains fire as their semester project.

Tumbleweed Smith, who teaches the class, says the interviews and a copy of a resulting documentary will be donated to

the Cross Plains Library.

Students will be in Cross Plains February 10 and 11 interviewing as many people as possible who were affected by the fire. They will set up recorders at the First Baptist Church and hope to interview at least fifty people.

The interviewers will have a definite set of questions, but will also be listening to the

answers, which will prompt more questions.

The interviews will begin at 10 A.M. Friday the 10th of February. Since it would be difficult to personally contact all the people who suffered damages and loss in the fire prior to the interviews, the students and their professor are asking people to come to the church and be interviewed.

Meet The Author

Barbara Barton

Author Of

Pistol Packin' Preachers,

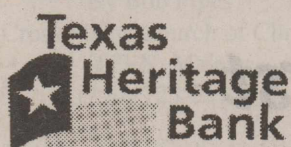
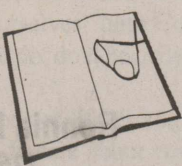
A History Of The Circuit Riders In Texas

No Admission Fee
Everyone Is Welcome

Join Us

Tuesday, February 21
7:00 p.m.

Cross Plains Community Center
Sponsored by The Friends of the Cross Plains Library



"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"



Presents:
"What's Inside"

Birthday List Page 6
Church Directory Page 2
Classifieds Page 10-11
Cottonwood News Page 3
Courthouse News Page 2
DPS Report Page 2
Letters to the Editors Page 7
Quips, Clips, & Comments Page 3

Democratic, Republican early voting gets underway February 21

Tuesday, March 7, 2006
Democratic & Republican
Primary Election

Callahan County Polling Places

- Precinct #1, Clyde Lions Club Building
- Precinct #2, Eula Lions Club Building
- Precinct #3 & #5, Baird Light Plant
- Precinct #4, Cross Plains Community Center
- Precinct #6, Clyde Southside Baptist Church
- Precinct #7, Oplin Community Center

Early voting in the Democratic and Republican Primary Elections will begin Tuesday, February 21, 2006 at three voting locations in Callahan County.

Callahan County Clerk Jeanie Bohannon said early voting for both Republican and Democratic primary elections will take place this year at the same locations. She also said voters in all seven county voting precincts will be allowed to vote by early ballot at any of the three early voting polls.

Early voting will take place at the Callahan County Courthouse in Baird, the Justice of the Peace office in Clyde and the Justice of the Peace office in Cross Plains.

Early voting will be held in Room #107 at the County Courthouse in Baird. Early voting hours will be held from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. weekdays and the early voting location in Baird will be open during the lunch hour.

Early voting in Clyde will take place from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. weekdays at the Clyde JP office located at 208 Oak Street. The Clyde voting location will be closed during the lunch hour.

The Cross Plains early voting will be held from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. weekdays at the Justice of the Peace office located at 425 South Main Street. The Cross Plains JP voting location will be closed during the lunch hour.

Early voting in Callahan County will continue through Friday, March 3, 2006.

Republican and Democratic Primary Elections will be held in Callahan County on Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at six precinct voting locations throughout the county. Precinct #1 voting will be held at the Clyde Lions Club.

Persons who are interested in rebuilding, but lack adequate funds may be able to work with some of the volunteer builders to accomplish what otherwise might be too costly. If you have questions concerning this matter, please call City Hall @254-725-6114.

Precinct #2 voting will take place at the Eula Lions Club. Precinct #3 and Precinct #5 voters will cast ballots on March 7 at the Baird Light Plant. Precinct #4 voting will be held at the Cross Plains Community Center. Precinct #6 voting will take place at the Southside Baptist Church in Clyde. Precinct #7 voting will be held at the Oplin Community Center. Voting polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7.

In the Democratic Primary Election, seven candidates are seeking seven separate offices in the county. They include incumbent County Judge Roger Corn, incumbent Precinct #2 Commissioner Bryan Farmer, incumbent District Clerk Sharon Owens, incumbent County Treasurer Dianne Alexander, and incumbent Precinct #3 Justice of the Peace Steve Odom. Also announcing their candidacy are Donna Bell for County Clerk and Elvan Goode for Precinct #4 Commissioner.

On the Republican ballot, seven candidates have filed for three places on the ballot. They in-

clude Rodger Hart, Burlie Taylor and Robert Hill for the Cross Plains Justice of the Peace office. Republican candidates for the Cross Plains Precinct #4 Commissioner seat include Larry Tennison, Reggie Pillans and Cliff Kirkham. Incumbent Clyde Precinct #1 Justice of the Peace Roy Lee Chapman is running unopposed.

County Clerk Bohannon said Callahan County voters will again be using the E-Slate electronic voting machines during the Republican and Democratic Primary Elections.

Callahan County Commissioners approved in January of this year to purchase 10 more electronic voting machines after reports of long lines to vote in several of the county precincts during the November General Election. Those, along with 17 E-Slate voting machines originally purchased, will be placed throughout the six voting locations in the county. The additional E-Slate electronic voting machines will be placed at the larger voting precincts in Clyde, Cross Plains and Baird.

"Meetings of Refreshing" Set for February 10-11 at Pioneer Pentecostal Church

Michial Ratliff of Visionaries International, and Cary Stultz will once again be speaking at The Pioneer Pentecostal Church. The meetings will be held February 10th and 11th, starting at 7:00 p.m. each night.

Michial Ratliff has been functioning in the office of a prophet for 30 years. Personal words to everyday people from an extraordinary God of Love. Michial's delight is primarily in the testimony of Jesus, which is the Spirit of Prophecy. (Revelation 19).

Cary Stultz is also a prophet. He is an ordained minister of the Gospel. Cary also has a degree in practical theology from Christ for the Nations.

Michial and Cary have both

ministered on GLC (God's Learning Channel - Channel 58).

We would like to invite everyone from every denomination to come and fellowship with us and enjoy hearing God speak of things to come and the blessings He has for His people.

These meetings will continue on the second weekend (Friday and Saturday) of each month.

Pioneer Pentecostal Church is located between Cross Plains and Rising Star, 5 miles east of Cross Plains on Hwy. 36. Turn left onto County Road 569, go 1 mile, and the church is on the right.

For more information contact: Dane Ratliff @ 254-725-4267 (idr76443@wmconnect.com) or Dru Eppard @ 254-725-6329 (higher_vision@peoplepc.com)



1 Medium Pro Special
\$10.99 plus tax
Coupon expires 4-30-06

1 Large 2 Topping Plus Breadstixs
\$9.99 plus tax
Coupon expires 4-30-06

Located inside Skinny's
(254) 725-7161

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CROSS PLAINS COWBOY CHURCH

Pastor: LEN SMITH

Join Us On Sunday Mornings At 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays At 7:00 p.m.
16075 CR 459 Cross Plains, Texas

For Information
Call 254-725-6446 or 325-518-5514

COME AS YOU ARE!



Triple Cross Cowboy Church

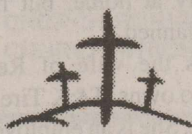
Every Sunday at 10:30 am

Services held at 21272 State Hwy 279, Cross Plains
(CJS Ranch, on the left just past the 279/206 split)

Al Taylor, Preacher

Phone: 254-725-7522

Cell Phone: 325-370-6680



Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Full Gospel ~ Prophetic ~ Apostolic
"Restoring And Equipping The Saints"

It's not about where you've been... It's about where God wants you to go!

SUN. 10AM * TUES. PRAYER 7PM * THURS. 7PM

Pastors: Max Evans & Colleen Anderson
For Information Call (254) 725-7418



UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

209 S.W. Hwy 36 CROSS PLAINS

Welcomes You!

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Sun. 6:30 p.m. Worship & Word *** Wed. 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
"An Apostolic Church"

PASTOR, Phillip R. Schaefer (254) 725-7140

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) 725-4599
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

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

Bill Armstrong - Pastor

OBITUARIES

R.C. "Bob" Baker

R.C. "Bob" Baker, 80, died Wednesday, February 1, 2006.

Graveside services are scheduled 2 p.m. Saturday, February 4, 2006, in the Burkett Cemetery, Burkett, Texas under the direction of White's Funeral Home in Weatherford.

R.C. "Bob" Baker was born July 28, 1925 in Burkett, Texas to the late Maude Lee and Calvin D. Baker. Mr. Baker graduated from Burkett High School in 1942 and served in the South Pacific during World War II, earning seven battle stars by participating in every major invasion in the south Pacific. After World War II, Mr. Baker attended college and worked for the following companies: Amerada Petroleum, Bradford Supply, F. Kirk Johnson Oil, Ambassador Oil, Anadarko Petroleum, Mid County Supply, Superior Supply Company and Moncrief Oil for the last twenty years.

Survivors include his loving wife of 58 years, Jean; his daughter, Annette and husband, Jon Grantham; his son, Randy Baker and wife, Debi; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and a sister, Marie Andrews.

Nell Rhoades

Nell Rhoades, 72, of Rising Star went home to be with the Lord on Monday, January 30, 2006.

Nell was born on August 25, 1933 in San Saba, Texas to Buck and Rosa Nell Skaggs-Mitchell. She was the beloved mother of Connie Dyches and dedicated sister of Sue Mitchell. She was a beautician in May for many years. She was a Baptist and loved the Lord.

Survivors include one daughter, Connie Dyches and her husband, Greg of Abilene; sister, Sue Mitchell of Rising Star; two grandchildren, Jennifer Godkin and Daniel Dyches; 2 great-grandchildren, Jennifer Godkin and Daniel Dyches; 2 great-grandchildren, Kenneth Godkin and Bryan Godkin. Nell was loved and will be missed greatly.

Graveside services were held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, February 2, 2006 at Wolf Valley Cemetery, in Brown County, Texas with Higginbotham Funeral Home of Rising Star in charge.

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

(USPS 138-660)

DON TABOR, PUBLISHER
VANDA ANDERSON, EDITOR
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW



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Biodiesel Information Meeting set for February 16

An informational meeting will be held at the Baird Community Center on Thursday, February 16 at 7:00 p.m. to introduce BIODIESEL, a fuel to help reduce the cost of farming and ranching. This meeting will be to inform you what BIODIESEL is, how it is made, what its advantages are, and how it will help reduce the cost of farming and ranching. A demonstration of how it is made will be carried out and questions will be answered.

Submitted by: Troy Smith

Nominate a hero for TDA's Rural Heroism Award

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced that March 1, 2006, is the deadline for nominations for the Texas Department of Agriculture's 2005 Rural Heroism Award.

Candidates must have performed a heroic, lifesaving act within Texas during 2005. The heroic deed should be related to farming or ranching and occur in a rural area. Automobile accidents or accidents caused by negligence will not be considered.

Nominations should include a written account of the incident and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of everyone involved. If available, newspaper clippings and photographs should accompany all nominations.

Nominations must be post-marked by March 1, 2006, and mailed to Pal Scully, TDA safety coordinator, Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711. For additional information on qualifications, you can contact Scully at (512) 475-1611.

The 2005 recipient will be announced March 27 at the Texas Safety Association's Conference and Exposition in Houston.

Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from January 29, 2006 through February 4, 2006 include:

Cases Investigated

Warnings—109

Complaints—125

DWI—5

Public Intoxication—1

Vehicle Accidents

There was one vehicle accident investigated during this time period.

Employers invited to participate in Abilene Youth Job Fair

The 4th annual "Hot Dog—I Got a Job!" Area Youth Job Fair will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the Abilene Civic Center. Employers who have an on-going need for part-time workers, or who are interested in hiring employees during the summer months, should attend this event. Businesses who participate will have access to a large number of young workers, ages 16-21. Over 1100 young job seekers attended last year's event. There is no booth registration fee for employers; however, space is limited. Employers should contact a Business Services Representative at the Workforce Center in Abilene at (325) 795-4200 to reserve booth space at the job fair. For more information, contact Robert Puls at (325) 795-4330 or by e-mail at robert.puls@workforce-system.org.

Cross Plains Review Deadlines

Ads Noon on Tuesday
Articles Noon on Monday

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COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURT

Roger Corn, Presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

Roman Mendez, criminal trespass.

Robert Lee McKelvy, Jr., possession of drug paraphernalia, (2 counts).

Misdemeanor Minutes

David T. Campos, order on motion to substitute counsel granted.

Edgar D. Timms, motion to dismiss to theft granted, paid restitution.

Renee Price, motion to dismiss to theft by check granted, paid restitution.

Brandon Monville, plea of guilty to driving while license invalid (DWLI), 10 days in jail, \$301 court costs.

Steven A. Thomison, plea of guilty to no driver's license, \$200 fine, \$215 court costs.

Donnie M. Richardson, motion to dismiss to assault granted, complainant refused to testify.

Shane Levesque, motion and affidavit of surety for warrant granted.

Salomon Robles, motion to withdraw as surety granted.

Michael David Browning, motion to withdraw as surety granted.

Gregory Allen Fowler, motion to withdraw as surety granted.

Jackie Dave Bridges, motion to dismiss motion to revoke probation granted.

Phillip Cerda, motion to revoke probation granted.

Gary Kernshaw, order granting termination of probation.

Russell Hamack, motion to revoke probation granted.

Jimmy Pickett, amended motion to revoke probation granted.

Marriage Licenses

Rick L. Macke and Susan L. Whitt, both of Clyde.

42nd DISTRICT COURT

John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filings

Karly Renee Lawrence and Cody Wayne Lawrence, divorce.

Hudson & Keyse, LLC vs. Louise J. Booth and Donald W. Booth, default on account.

LVNV Funding, LLC, assignee of Sears vs. Lisa Holsinger, default on account.

Robert Feely vs. James Feely, Connie M. Daum and Cindy Hesse, plaintiff's original petition.

In re: order for foreclosure concerning R. Frank Davis and Shelly A. Davis and 510 Hamby Rd., Clyde, Tx. 79510 and JP Morgan Chase Bank, NA, foreclosure.

Roma Fikes and Chester B. Fikes, divorce.

Patricia Kay Black and James Curtis Hayes, divorce.

Timothy R. Broadfoot vs. Kathy J. Broadfoot, breach of contract.

The State of Texas vs. 1978 Chevrolet El Camino, VIN # 1W80U8D482449, original notice of seizure and intended foreclosure.

Civil Minutes

Timothy Dale Atkinson and Misty Dawn Atkinson, divorce granted.

Criminal Minutes

Mary Kay Little, plea of guilty to forgery, 3 year probation, \$700 fine, \$341 court costs, \$229.53 restitution.

Leonel Villarreal, plea of guilty to driving while intoxicated (DWI), 6 year probation, \$1200 fine, \$341 court costs.

Joseph C. Hyles, plea of guilty to burglary of a building, 4 year probation, \$1000 fine, \$286 court costs.

Lisa M. Garcia, plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance, 3 year probation, \$1000 fine, \$301 court costs, \$140 restitution.

FOR INTERNET SERVICES CALL
VANDA OR AMBER
254-725-6111 CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

First United Methodist Church

Will Be Meeting At The
Presbyterian Church
On Avenue D and 2nd Street
Starting At 10:45 a.m.
Beginning Sunday, January 8th

Jim Senkel, Pastor
325-280-8480 (Cell)

fumc_cp@valornet.com www.gbgm-umc.org/crossplains

OPEN HEARTS
OPEN MINDS
OPEN DOORS

First Baptist Church

SUNDAY

9:45 am Bible Study
11 am & 6 pm Worship

Wednesday

6:30 pm Prayer/Worship

Ronnie B. White, Pastor
(254) 725-7629

3rd & Main, Cross Plains, TX 76443

COTTONWOOD NEWS

By Wallace Bennett

Breaking News

The Cottonwood quilters have put a new quilt in their frames which will eventually be auctioned-off by the Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control unit as a fund-raiser. There will be more on this important news event at a later date. We hope to have our reporter and camera crew out there to give you a good graphic update.

Robert Brown Buried in Burkett

Robert "Bob" Brown was buried in Burkett last Saturday afternoon. Robert is the husband of (Nelda) Jean (Thompson) Brown, a brother-in-law of Leo Thompson and a brother-in-law of Dorothy (Thompson) Ramey.

Cottonwood Connections

Sgt. Robert Bennett has reported to active duty for another tour of duty in Iraq. Robert just returned from Iraq last December and volunteered for this duty. "Atta boy" Robert! He has reported to Abilene, and will go to

Fort Hood for about six months training before being sent to Iraq. Robert grew up in Cottonwood, is the brother of Phillip Bennett and the nephew of Wallace and John Bennett. He has also served a tour of duty in Bosnia.

Sickness Impacts Sorority Sisterhood

Members of the Beta Sigma Phi sorority, many who live in Cottonwood, are all affected by any member's hurt. What hurts one, hurts all. Wanda Merryman's husband, R.C., was taken back to Abilene Regional Medical Center Monday evening. He was admitted for possible heart problems. We all pray for R.C. and Wanda.

And other sorority sisters with Cottonwood connections have husbands who are recovering from ailments. They include Patsy Harlick whose husband, Jim, was involved in a vehicle accident with a deer. Eva Fleming's husband, Sam, who

has cattle stationed in every quarter of Cottonwood Valley, broke his arm last week while feeding cows. Ike Neal, who is the husband of Sue (Halsell) Neal (sister of Lou Rodenberger) broke his wrist last week in a fall. We all know Ike, he was our pharmacist for years before retiring.

So, all you Cottonwood folk out there who are ailing, let's hunker-down, pick yourself up, lift up your boots straps and get going again. As Dr. Howard Garrett says, "The main thing I remember, I learned in Kindergarten was to look both ways and hold hands while crossing the street."

(For notes of interest, additions or subtractions to or from this column, please call Wallace Bennett at (254) 725-7474, e-mail csb5@airmail.net, or send to 11093 CR 440, Cross Plains, Texas 76443.)

LIBRARY NOTES

Behind The Books

Gee, I'm so glad somebody invented *Oral History*. Just imagine being able to TELL your story while somebody else records it and then puts it all down on paper! And just think how excited your grandchildren will be 40 years from now to HEAR you talking about the recent fire — how you saw the clouds of smoke and the racing flames; how you heard the exploding tanks and houses; the endless sirens; how you felt when your home or your neighbors went up in flames; how you were able to later laugh at what you managed to save or what you threw on the fire in an attempt to stop it; how the town pulled together to conquer the disaster.

Sure hope you note the article elsewhere in this issue about Tumbleweed Smith and his *Oral History* class coming to town this weekend to record YOUR story.

CU-BW

Statistics 1-30-06 thru 2-3-06

Books 99
Internet Users 20
Memorials 0
Donations: Alton and Joan McCowen
Donations-Books: Gary Fulcher

Library Activity Report 1-30-06 thru 2-3-06

Patron 70
LAP 11
Lapsit 3
Other 56
Programs 43
Copies 37
Reference 0
Books Checked Out 99
LAP 44
Lapsit 10
Other 45
Calls In 4
Internet Users 20

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QUIPS, CLIPS & COMMENTS

KAY MOSLEY

Note: Remember in prayer those who lost homes and belongings in the firestorm.

Raising The Roof To Reach Our Roots!

Genealogy is most interesting and takes a very large amount of work on your part to find and then gather together all the necessary documentation, i.e.; birth certificates marriage licence, death records, census reports, etc. What I enjoy most though is to dig deeper, down the roots, per se; and find not just their names, date of birth and death, but research each one to see where they came from, (in my case) to Texas.

One of my grandfather's family tree was traced back to 1632. My two grandfathers were both Irish. One grandmother was French with a bit of English. My other grandmother was Black Dutch.

My father's dad was Heber E. Dennis. He and his family came to Texas from Mississippi. My father's mother was Mary Dennis.

Her maiden name was Warren. Actually, my grandmother, Mary Dennis' father's full name was George Washington Warren, and his mother's maiden name was DuPre. The Warren family moved to Texas from the state of Georgia.

My mother's father was John (Jack) Meador. Actually he came to Texas alone at twelve years of age on a train from Tennessee. His father died quite young. His mother got married again and her new husband didn't want Jack, so his mother sent him to live with an aunt and uncle. Papa Jack always said they were mean to him, so he ran away to Texas when he was just twelve years old.

My mom's mother's name was Lillie Belle Meador. She was born in Texas, but I don't know where her family came from. Her maiden name was Forbes. Her mother, who died at her birth, maiden name was Cates. Her father, Reverend Forbes was a circuit riding Baptist preacher.

PIONEER NEWS

We were glad to see most of our quilters back on Tuesday. We did get Jean A's quilt out. It is sure pretty. We have Christy's "Star" top in and Glenda's top in. There will be another in the frame soon.

Jim Chesshir is still fighting a bad cold. He didn't come this past week-end. The Cowan Hutton's invited Charlene and Glenda Phillips and the visiting preacher to eat Sunday dinner with them. The visiting preacher, Dan Flourmoy and his wife, Emily,

lived in Cross Plains over 35 years ago. We sure had a good time catching up with them. Dan was a good preacher when he was young, and he is a REALLY good preacher now! Charlene is getting the trim painted on her house this week. She sure is proud of it!

Earlene Burge is getting a new bathroom! Jessica has Roy Hair of Brownwood putting it in. Earlene is very proud to get it. Other than getting over being sick with a cold, the bathroom is the most important thing happening at

her house. Wow! What would we do without our kids!

The rain hasn't come yet, so we need to keep praying for it. Sounds like we are going to have some winter weather this week-end.

Well, that Super Bowl game is over, now to the basketball and on to the March Madness. Time keeps marching right along. High School Basketball will soon be over, too. I think the boys are getting ready for baseball. We are looking forward to some good games.

Words of Wisdom: He that cannot forgive others breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself; for every man has need to be forgiven. Edward Herbert

Reception for Dorothy Petty to be held February 18th

Dorothy Petty is moving to Baird, so please come to a Reception for her on Saturday, February 18, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., at Connie Kirkham's.

Let's show Dorothy how

much we appreciate the years of outstanding volunteer service she has given to our community!

For more information, call Connie at 254-725-6500 or Ginny Hoskins at 254-725-7509.

Submitted by Connie Kirkham

Project Pride to hold Regular Monthly Meeting

Project Pride will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, February 14, at

6:00 P.M. at the Cross Plains Public Library.

The public is always welcome.

Submitted by Era Lee Hanke

FEMA Have you called them YET????

FEMA is requesting that all fire victims who have not registered for help with them yet, please do so now. It is not too late. Some people have already received checks from them. Others have to wait until after their insurance

companies compensate them before FEMA can evaluate exactly how much money the government will be able to provide. To contact FEMA, call: 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) 1-800-462-7585 (TTY)

It's Worth Crowing About



TEX SEZ: Didja' know that 262 visitors signed the guest register in the Robert E. Howard Museum last year? And that they represented 17 states beyond Texas? And that they came from England and Ireland just to visit the Museum and Cross Plains, TX? And that the folks from Ireland looked on the internet to

find the details they needed for their visit and found our Museum brochure? So if we figure those visitors ate one meal here at a low average of \$6.50 and we multiply that by the economic factor that each dollar spent in a community turns over a conservative 6 times ----- \$10,218.00. Project Pride knows.

Cross Plains Fire Victims Resource Center New Hours

Effective Feb. 1st, the Cross Plains Fire Victims Resource Center will be changing the hours it will be open. Thurs., Fri., and Sat. from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., all are welcome to come by and help out our community by volunteering with sorting and organizing the huge amount of clothing that still need processing.

The F.V.R.C. (located in the old nursing home on the corner of N. 7th and Ave. A) is a non-profit, all volunteer organization. Although set up to benefit the fire victims, the clothing (and only the CLOTHING) is available to

anyone in our community who is willing to make a donation to our local fire department. You can make your donation at the door as you leave.

The volunteers kindly request that you sign in before you begin to look for clothing. And please bring the hangers to the front with you so they can use them again for all of the other clothing. This procedure allows order and fairness.

This resource can greatly aid in blessing our city if used wisely. Let your conscious be your guide.

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

FEBRUARY 13 - 17

MONDAY - BBQ on Bun, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Mixed Fruit
TUESDAY - Chicken Cacciatore, Buttured Noodles, Carrots, Spice Cake, Bread
WEDNESDAY - Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Brussel Sprouts, Banana Pudding w/ Cookie, Bread
THURSDAY - Teriyaki Chicken, Stir Fry Vegetables, Buttered Rice, Sugar Cookie, Bread
FRIDAY - Turkey Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomato, Chicken Noodle Soup, Fruit, Peanut Butter Cookie
2nd & 4th Tue., Domino Night (42/84) Begins at 5:00 p.m.

General Contracting Services

HEAVY EQUIPMENT SERVICES-Comanche, Tx

Tanks Brush Control Dozer Service
Dams Fence Row Clearing Ditch Witch Service
Roads Land Clearing Backhoe/Maintainer

Oilfield Work * Fire Breaks * Building Pads

CUSTOM BUILT HOMES * METAL BUILDINGS
We haul field sand, gravel and caliche

Ray Bill Trooper
Cell 254-842-8431 Cell 325-998-6057 Cell 254-842-1216
325-356-2038 254-842-5565 325-356-3806

WE SALUTE & THANK OUR AREA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR THEIR SERVICE AND DEDICATION!

BREAKTHRU

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



Frank — or maybe it's Ernest — in the comic strip (I don't know them apart!) — anyhow, he says, "I've gotta be me!" Then he explains, "...everybody else was already taken."

A lot of thoughts flood my thinking as I ponder that. One is, with "identity theft" such a threat nowadays, a lot of thieves sure try to be "someone else" in order to steal under the guise of being someone they aren't. Well, while it may be important to guard our physical "identity," it is of even greater importance to guard our spiritual identity. Paul tells us to remember who we are and whose we are, I Cor. 6: 19-20.

Another thought from the cartoon is that while we need to "be ourselves" rather than "putting on the airs" of superiority — that we are someone more important, someone richer, someone we aren't — we do need to be the best "ourselves" unto God that we can be. Paul wrote, "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men" (Col. 3:23).

We encourage you to share in periods of life-changing Bible study and worship with us. We really do care about you, too!

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

IT'S NEW
For One or Two
Small Valentine Cake
Chocolate or White Decorated in Pink or Red
Give a Sweet Valentine
It's Only \$4.99
Sweet Stuff Candy
254-725-4663

CROSS PLAINS STUDENT REVIEW

Junior High Girls Basketball Report

The 7th and 8th grade girls have been busy since the last game report.

The girls played Ranger, Gorman, Baird and Albany.

In the Ranger games. The 7th grade girls lost 20-5. Scoring and playing were Kodi Roberts; Savana Wyatt; Miranda Williams-2; Shawna Lewis-1; and Delany Ames-2. The girls played in the Albany Tournament. In the last game the girls lost 32-5. Playing and scoring were Kodi Roberts; Savana Wyatt-2; Delany Ames-1; and Tara Brown-2. The girls next game was against Baird. The score was Baird 23, CP 12.

Playing and scoring were Callie Cooper; Tara Brown; Kodi Robert-4; Savana Wyatt-5; Miranda Williams-1; and Delany Ames-2.

The 8th grade girls played Ranger and won 14-1. Playing and scoring were Amanda Dunaway-2; Kayla Lawrence; Tiffany Holland; Melissa Black-2; Cierra Odom; Tara Brown; Emma Bennett-6; and Shasta Bacon-4. Then the girls traveled to Gorman and lost 22-18. Playing and Scoring were Amanda Dunaway-1; Emma Bennett-5; Shasta Bacon-7; Cierra Odom-1; Melissa Black;

Tara Brown; Tiffany Holland; and Kayla Lawrence.

The girls then played two (2) games in the Albany Tournament. In the first game the girls lost to Baird 21-13, Tiffany Holland had 3 points; Emma Bennett-5; Shasta Bacon-2; and Cierra Odom-3. In the second game the girls were beaten by Albany 37-10. Kayla Lawrence scored 2 points; Tiffany Holland-4; and Emma Bennett-4. Also playing were Amanda, Melissa, Tara, Shasta, and Cierra. The girls will finish Monday against Albany.

Submitted by
Coach Atchley

SCHOOL MENU

FEBRUARY 13 - 17

BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Eggs, Biscuit, Assorted Juice

TUESDAY - French Toast Sticks, Sausage, Assorted Juice

WEDNESDAY - Muffin, Yogurt, Assorted Juice

THURSDAY - Hot or Cold Cereal, Toast, Assorted Juice

FRIDAY - Donut, Yogurt, Assorted Juice

LUNCH

MONDAY- Corn Dog, Potato Wedges, Fresh Broccoli, Spice Cake

TUESDAY - Chicken Nuggets w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Rolls, Pears

WEDNESDAY- Beef-Veggy Soup, Grilled Cheese, Crackers, Peaches

THURSDAY-Pizza, Salad, Corn, Rosy-Applesauce

FRIDAY-Beef or Chicken Patty on Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Fries, Cookie

Have A
Nice Week!!

Cross Plains Review

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February 9, 2006

National School Counseling Celebrated February 6th-10th

National School Counseling Week, sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), will be celebrated from Feb. 6-10, 2006, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of professional school counselors within U.S. school systems. National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact that counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

The special week honoring school counselors provides recognition for school counselors who implement comprehensive school counseling programs, a vital part of the educational process for all students as they meet the challenges of the 21st century. Clyde CISD Counselors are: Mrs. Sue Robinson & Mrs. Jennifer Seekins, High School; Mrs. Joyce Cole, Jr. High; Mrs. Karen Petty, Intermediate and Mrs. Jeannie Best, Elementary.

Clyde CISD school counselors are actively engaged in helping students examine their abilities, strengths, interests and talents; for working in a partnership with

parents as they encounter the challenges of raising children in today's world; for focusing on positive ways to enhance students' social/personal, educational and career development; and working with teachers and other educators to provide an educational system where students can realize their potential and set healthy, realistic and optimistic aspirations for themselves. Professional school counselors are certified, experienced educators with a master's degree in guidance and counseling. The combination of their training and experience makes them an integral part of the total educational program.

"Every day, school counselors work with school counseling programs that address the personal/social, academic and career needs of all students," (Barbara Blackburn, ASCA president). "Their ultimate goal is to enable all students to achieve success in school and to become responsible and productive members of our society."

More than 18,000 school counselors nationwide will be

participating in the week's festivities. Many school counselors will be hosting special events and activities to call attention to the myriad benefits of a comprehensive school counseling program.

Any parent or other community member with specific questions or concerns about school counseling programs should contact the individual counselor at his/her school. More general information can also be found on ASCA's Web site, www.schoolcounselor.org.

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) is a worldwide nonprofit organization based in Alexandria, Va. Founded in 1952, ASCA supports school counselors' efforts to help students focus on academic, personal/social and career development so they not only achieve success in school but are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society. The association provides professional development, publications and other resources, research and advocacy to more than 18,000 professional school counselors around the globe.

VALOR Telecom Now Accepting Community Leader Scholarship Applications in West Texas Cities

Irving, Texas, Feb. 1, 2006- Commemorating its third year of recognizing high school seniors for volunteerism and academic achievement, VALOR Telecom announced that applications for the **Community Leader Scholarship** program will be accepted through March 15, 2006.

"Since the program's launch in 2004, we have awarded \$24,000 in **Community Leader Scholarships** to high school seniors throughout our service areas in Texas, Arkansas, New Mexico and Oklahoma," said West Texas Division Vice President, Danny Ammons.

This year, VALOR will award \$1,000 scholarships to as many as 12 high school students living in the communities served by the company. Qualified applicants

must be high school seniors who demonstrate strong community leadership through volunteerism and civic involvement. They also must have maintained a grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) and plan to enroll in an accredited two-or-four year college, university or vocational school. Applications need to be postmarked by March 15, 2006. Scholarship recipients will be announced in May 2006.

"Our scholarship program is part of VALOR's ongoing commitment to enrich the communities in which we serve," said Ammons. "We are excited to offer this program, which recognizes area youth for their community volunteerism and academic achievements."

For more information or to obtain an application, please visit

www.valor telecom.com and click on the Community Connection tab.

VALOR serves the following West Texas exchanges: Andrews, Aspermont, Baird, Booker, Bovina, Brownfield, Clarendon, Claude, Clyde, Crosbyton, Cross Plains, Dalhart, Denver City, Dimmitt, Dumas, Follett, Forsan, Friona, Fritch, Groom, Hart, Haskell, Holliday, Idalou, Knox City, Lamesa, Levelland, Littlefield, Lorenzo, Memphis, Merkel, Miami, Morton, Munday, Panhandle, Pecos, Perryton, Petersburg, Post, Palls, Rising Star, Seagraves, Seymour, Spearman, Stratford, Tahoka, Throckmorton, Tulia, Van Horn, Vega, Wellington, Wheeler and White Deer.

Don't be in the Dark About Child Care

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Service is launching a new campaign aimed at educating parents about safe childcare and the agency needs your help. The focus of the "Don't Be in the Dark About Child Care" campaign is to discourage parents from placing children in

unregulated childcare. Children in unregulated operations are 16 times more likely suffer serious injury or death. In fact, ten Texas children died in unregulated care in fiscal year 2005 and eight the year before. Children in unregulated care are also more likely to be abused than

those in regulated settings. Family Code: Chapter 42.0522 is intended to ensure parents are informed and can take into consideration that there are different levels of oversight at child care operations and in some cases no oversight at all.

*No Payments for up to 6 Months***

Helping You Rebuild.


Jim Walter Homes introduces a unique program committed to helping families and individuals rebuild homes lost to the recent grass fires.

As America's largest on-your lot homebuilder, our mission is to provide the financial flexibility and freedom to help rebuild your home.

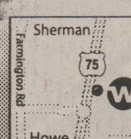
Make No Payments for up to 6 Months**

- No Down Payment
- No Points or Closing Costs
- In-house Financing
- No Construction Loan
- Solid Stick-frame Construction
- 25 Models, 2-BR, 3-BR and 4-BR

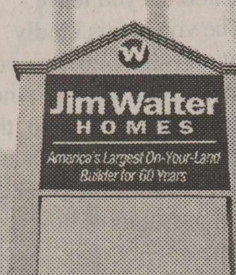
For details about the advantages of rebuilding with Jim Walter Homes, visit your nearest Sales Center.



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10305 S. Freeway
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800-944-1604



SHERMAN, TX
8111 S. Hwy. 75
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4-H Shooting Sports Begins

The Callahan County 4-H Shooting Sports Project will kick off the 2006 year with their annual project orientation meeting on February 25th at 1:00 p.m., at the 4-H Shooting Range. This meeting is for all those interested in the 4-H Shooting Sports project. All former members and new members as well as their parents are encouraged to attend. The Shooting Range is located on FM 18 between Baird and Clyde. This meeting will allow new members to come sign up and give them an opportunity to explore what the 4-H shooting sports projects has to offer. 4-H Shooting Sports is a competitive project involving youth between the ages of 8 and eighteen from across the state. Callahan county has a past proven record of top-notch competitors and invites all interested youth and their parents to join us.

The focus of all 4-H programs is the development of youth as individuals and as responsible and productive citizens. The 4-

H Shooting Sports Project stands out as an example. Youth learn marksmanship, the safe and responsible use of firearms, the principles of hunting, and much more. The activities to develop life skills, self-worth, and conservation ethics.

If you are interested in learning more about the 4-H Shoot-

ing Sports project make plans to attend this orientation meeting on February 25th at 1:00 p.m. For more information contact the County Extension office at 854-5835.

Sincerely,
Robert Pritz
County Extension Agent-Ag

Cross Plains Veterinary Clinic

NEW HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8 - 5
Closed Tuesday and Thursday
254-725-4359

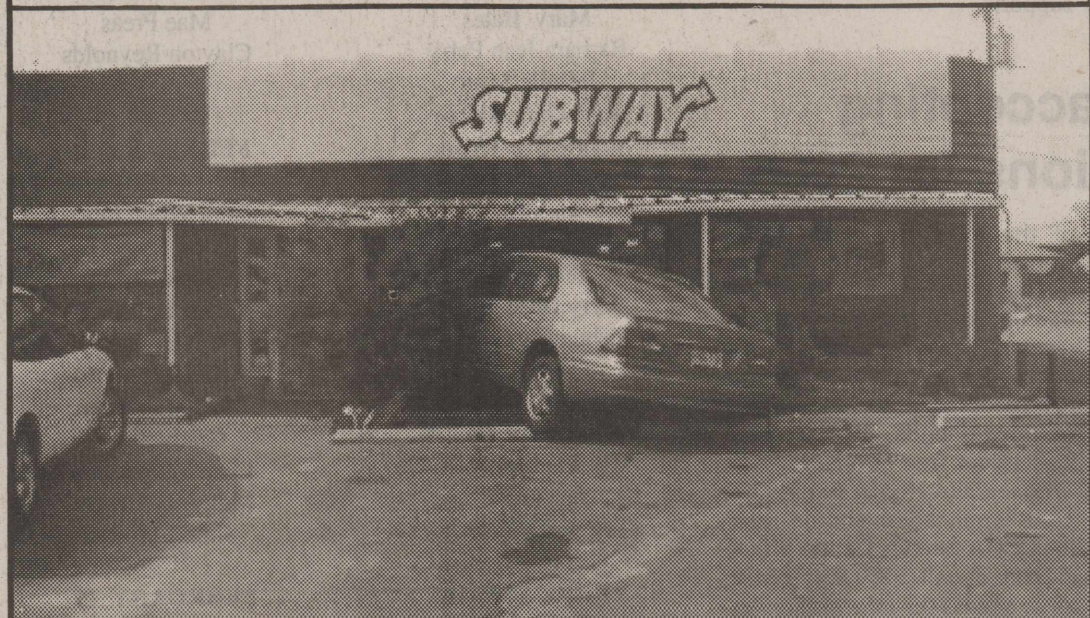
Vote
Larry Tennison
for
Callahan County Commissioner Pct. 4
Conservative-Experienced in road maintenance-Honest

Pol. Ad. Pd. by Betsy Tennison Treasurer for Larry Tennison
for County Commissioner, 4266 CR 273 Clyde, Tx. 79510

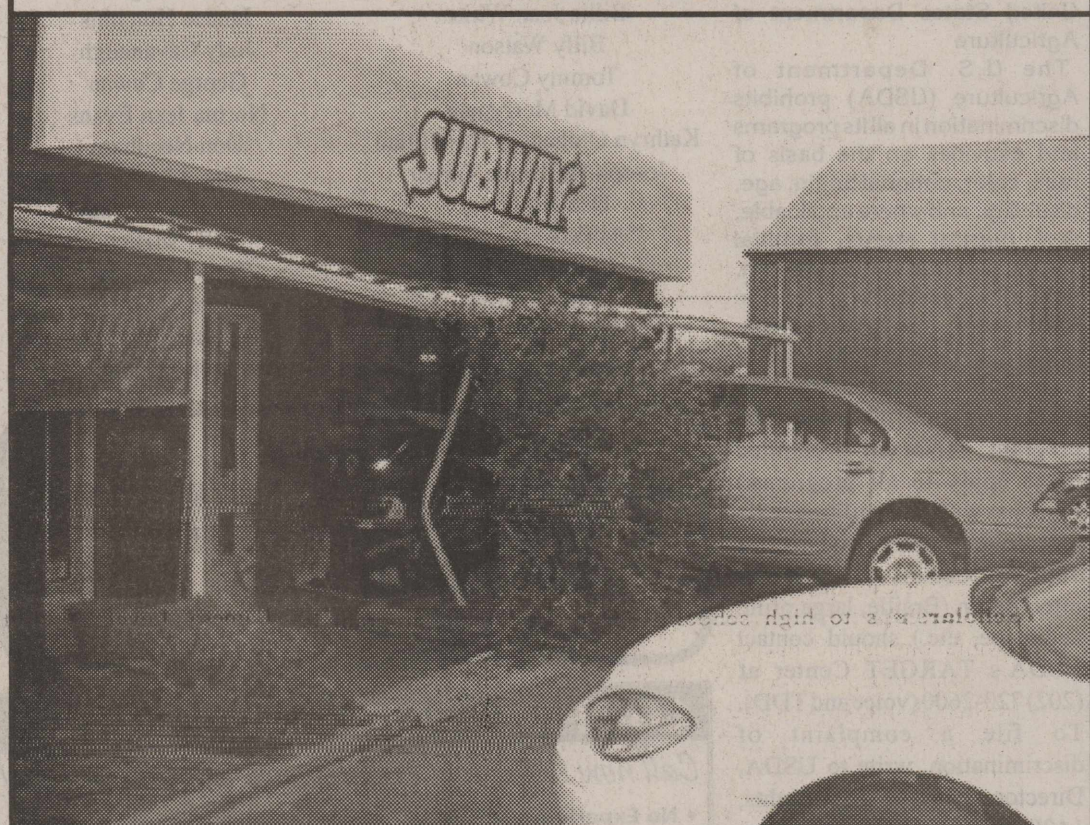
**No money down to qualified buyers. **No payments for up to 6 months, only available to buyers who lost their homes due to 2005 grass fires in Oklahoma and Texas. Special conditions and restrictions apply. Available for sale contracts signed by December 31, 2006. See a Jim Walter Homes sales counselor for complete details. 4211 W. Boy Scout Blvd. Tampa, FL 33607. ©2006 Jim Walter Homes, Inc. Copyright strictly enforced.



CLOSE CALL
Vehicle nearly runs through Subway's plate glass window.



LEXUS JUMPS THE CURB
Rear view of automobile.



AWNING DAMAGED BUT WINDOW NOT SHATTERED
Lexus bent the awning pole, but didn't quite reach the window.

Lexus Crashed at Local Subway Sunday, Feb. 5th

The customers and employees at Subway were in for quite a shock around noon Sunday, as a Lexus nearly crashed through the big plate glass window in the front of the popular eating place.

A couple who were just passing through from Colleyville on their way back home after attending a family funeral, suddenly found

themselves in the middle of another upsetting event.

The man (who asked not to be identified) had mistakenly backed up too far and hit the big pole in the parking lot. In an effort to pull away from the pole, his foot got stuck between the gas pedal and the accelerator. This sent the car headlong into the

bushes, small tree and pole directly in front of the window.

It seems that those barriers slowed the Lexus down enough so that it didn't hit the glass. The car stopped just inches from it.

No one was hurt in the incident and the couple ate dinner there before having the car towed off.

WHEN RENEWING YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW PLEASE BRING THE RENEWAL CARD SENT IN THE MAIL THANK YOU

NEW 2005 FLEETWOOD HOMES

Model Home Sale

	Suggested Retail	J Hite's Price	Sale Price
5BR/3BA 2075SF	\$64,995.00	\$59,995.00	\$56,995.00*
4BR/2BA 1306SF	\$42,500.00	\$38,995.00	\$37,250.00*
3BR/2BA 1260SF	\$41,995.00	\$38,995.00	\$36,995.00*
3BR/2BA 1026SF	\$35,995.00	\$32,995.00	\$30,750.00*

Lowest Prices in 3 Years!!!!

J HITE HOMES

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RBI33121

932 Early Blvd. Early, TX. 325-641-9999
RI33211

* prices include delivery, setup and a/c. Sale prices are for cash or chattel loans. Land home pks. are extra.

ACU Offers economic data web site for West Texas Region

Abilene Christian University's Center for Business and Economic Research has launched a web site that provides regional economic data for West Central Texas.

The web site, www.acu.edu/cber, is offered as a service of the ACU College of Business Administration, and it consolidates publicly available economic information, creating a one-stop shop, said Dr. Monty Lynn, professor of management at ACU.

The web site also provides economic data and specialized economic analysis for the West Central Texas region. The region consists of Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall, Stephens, Taylor and Throckmorton counties. The site also includes information on a variety of organizations that provides business development assistance.

The CBER site was supported by a grant from the Development Corporation of Abilene and the West Central Texas Workforce Development Board. ACU's COBA has also been working in cooperation with the Texas Midwest Community Network to develop its county research.

"The greatest benefit is the convenience and accessibility of the information that could be a benefit to lots of different people," said Nancy Smith, community relations coordinator for the West Central Texas Workforce Development Board.

According to the site, "the ACU CBER promotes healthy economies and communities in West Central Texas by providing information about the economy and business services."

Subscribe To The Cross Plains Review

Want To Write Your Elected Officials?

Here are their addresses:

Austin

Rick Perry, Governor, Room 200, State Capitol, Austin, TX. 78711.

Harvey Hilderbran, State Representative, P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910. Phone 512-463-0536.

Troy Fraser, Texas Senate District 24, P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711 or call 512-463-0124.

Washington

George W. Bush, President of the United States, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20000.

Randy Neugebauer, Congressman, 19th Texas District, 429 Cannon HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515. Phone 202/225-9615. For email access, go to <http://www.house.gov/neugebauer> and click on the appropriate link.

John Cornyn, 517 Hart Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Phone 202/224-2934. Fax 202/228-2856. For email access, go to <http://Cornyn.Senate.gov>

Kay Bailey Hutchison, 284 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Phone 202/224-5922. Fax 202/224-0776. For email go to <http://Hutchison.Senate.gov>

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LOCAL KIWANIS CLUB NEWS—Charlie Ross, pictured with his wife, Beverly, presented some information and background regarding the newly released movie "End of the Spear" to the local Kiwanis Club recently. This movie tells the true story of Christian missionaries killed by a violent South American jungle tribe and the later conversion of this tribe to Christianity by the wives of the slain missionaries. Kiwanis meets every Tuesday at noon at Jean's Feed Barn. Visitors and prospective new members are welcome.

Texas Farm, Ranch, and Wildlife Expo set for February 21-22 in Abilene

The seventh annual Texas Farm, Ranch and Wildlife Expo is set for February 21-22 on the Taylor County Expo Center grounds. Show hours are 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. February 21 and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on February 22. The center is located at 1700 State Highway 36.

The event is sponsored by the Abilene Chamber of Commerce and Texas Cooperative Extension.

The show features new equipment exhibits, product demonstrations, educational meetings, a Women's Fair, the Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association's annual meeting and the Abilene Chamber of Commerce's annual membership luncheon. Highlights of the luncheon is the naming of the Taylor County Farm Family of the Year.

Thirteen Texas Department of Agriculture continuing units are offered during the educational seminars.

The Town and Country Women's Fair runs from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., February 21 in the Modern Living Mall.

The show's agricultural-related educational programs begin at 8:00 a.m. February 21. "Tools II" - Expanding the Wildlife Enterprise, a wildlife management seminar, will be in the Western Heritage Ranch House.

The Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association's annual meeting and membership luncheon runs concurrently with the morning's educational seminars at 9:30 a.m., February 21. The annual meeting is in the Big Country Hall.

Concurrent afternoon sessions begin at 1:30 p.m. Topics and locations will be new landowner/agriculturist seminar, Extension classroom; and cotton production in 2006, Big Country Hall. Educational activities conclude with the first

session of the Texas Parks and Wildlife hunter education program at 5:00 p.m., in the Extension classroom.

Concurrent educational programs on February 22 begin at 8:00 a.m. Included are a Texas Department of Agriculture recertification course in the Big Country Hall and a private applicator training and testing in the Western Heritage Ranch House.

Concurrent morning sessions start at 8:30 a.m. They are Ag Management Via the Computer, Extension classroom and Red Cross Safety Training, Modern Living Mall.

The chamber of commerce luncheon will be at noon on February 22 in the Big Country Hall. Keynote speaker is Wyman Meinzer, award-winning wildlife photographer from Benjamin.

The show's afternoon concurrent educational programs are Conservation Planning and Cost-Sharing - "Navigating the Alphabet Soup of Conservation Programs," 1:30 p.m., Western Heritage Ranch House; Weed Busters - A New Pasture Management System and Animal ID - It's coming, 2:00 p.m., Big Country Hall. The Session II Hunter Safety Education program will be at 5:00 p.m. in the Extension Classroom.

The show and educational seminars are free to the public with the exception of the Texas Wildlife Experience - "Tools II" Expanding the Wildlife Enterprise program which has an individual registration of \$35 by February 17 and \$50 thereafter. The fee includes lunch, a social, dinner and a notebook.

Tickets for the luncheon are available at the Abilene Chamber of Commerce, (325) 677-7241, for \$15.

For more information contact the Extension office in Taylor County at (325) 672-6048.

Robert Pritz, County Extension Agent-Ag

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Cerebral Palsy

NO FEE FOR FIRST VISIT

Cerebral palsy may be caused by professional neglect during prenatal care or childbirth. Its causes may include premature birth, birth trauma, and neonatal asphyxia (lack of oxygen). Call us for professional insight.

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Doctor-Lawyer in full time Law Practice
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www.birthtraumalaw.com

CALLING CERTIFIED AS ABOVE AND OTHERS NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Several Callahan County students listed on the CJC President's List

Four Cisco Junior College students from Callahan County are on the recently released President's List for the fall semester of 2005.

Students making the President's List have made a straight "A" record on a 4.0 system.

Students making the President's List were:

Three students from Clyde Ramona J. Brown, Melissa D. Moore and Kari A. Raines.

Also making the President's List was Joel N. McCready of Cross Plains.

Tarleton's Winter Commencement Graduates Announced

Commencement exercises were held December 17 at Tarleton State University and graduates from the area cities include:

- Baird**
Karli Diane Jennings*
BS-Interdisciplinary Studies
- Cross Plains**
Jason Ryan Carey
BS-Industrial Technology
- Robert Landon Hill*+
BS-Criminal Justice
- Rising Star**
Joseph Don Simmons
BS-Ag Services & Development

* With Honors
+ Departmental Outstanding Graduate

Veterans Benefits and Health Care Seminar

American Legion Post 196 will host the Seminar in their Post home at 2710 Crockett, across from the Brownwood Regional Medical Center, Brownwood, Texas on Saturday, February 25th. The seminar will begin at 10:00 a.m. and last until all questions are answered.

There will be representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office in Waco, the Central Texas Veterans Health Care System, the Texas Land Board, among others. If a veteran, or dependent, has a

pending claim or would like to talk to a representative, call Billy Murphey at the Brown County Veterans Service Office, (325) 646-0335, to have your file brought from the Regional Office. The vet will then have the opportunity to talk one-on-one with a counselor. Call Billy Murphey for more information.

The American Legion Post will have hamburgers and refreshments for sale. The funds will go to the many programs Post 196 supports.

USDA-NRCS accepting EQIP applications for 2006

Farmers and ranchers can start applying for Farm Bill conservation programs through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). USDA cost-share funds have been released earlier this year to give farmers and ranchers more time to make sound decisions regarding conservation practices before planting season begins.

Eligible producers may apply for cost share assistance on conservation practices that will address the identified resource concern identified by the Local Work Group (LWG). Practices are implemented through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP offers cost share assistance to agricultural producers to implement on-farm conservation practices. The NRCS determines eligible land and eligible conservation practices.

The Callahan County USDA Service Center will be accepting EQIP applications for 2006. The deadline for applications on 2006 EQIP funding is February 17, 2006. Applications for EQIP funds received on or before February 17, 2006 will be ranked and funded from the initial allocation to Callahan County. Last year EQIP funding in Callahan County totaled \$ 432,772.

EQIP was established to assist landowners with applying conservation plans to treat major resource issues. In Callahan County, these include Grazing Land Health and Soil Erosion. Eligible conservation practices include Mechanical brush management followed by range seeding, aerial brush management (mesquite and/or cactus), fence (interior only), range seeding, pasture planting, water development (ponds, wells, water storage facility and pipelines), terraces, diversions, waterways and prescribed grazing for land that was burned in wildfires.

NRCS, through the invitation

of the local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, is the federal government's principal agency for conserving natural resources on private lands, while encouraging voluntary efforts to protect soil, water, and wildlife on private lands. NRCS offers its services free of charge.

Those interested in signing an EQIP application should visit the USDA Service Center office in Baird or call (325) 854-1349, x3 or access the information on the Texas NRCS website at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

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Political Calendar

The Cross Plains Review is authorized to publish the following political announcements for the office filings in the Republican Primary Election set for Tuesday, March 7, 2006.

For Callahan County Commissioner Precinct #4

Larry Tennison

Political advertisement paid by Larry Tennison for Commissioner Precinct #4, Betsy Tennison, Treasurer, 4266 CR 243, Clyde, Texas 79510.

Reggie Pillans

Political advertisement paid by Suzi Pillans, Treasurer, 8567 CR 419, Cisco, Texas 76437.

Cliff Kirkham

Political advertisement paid by the Cliff Kirkham Campaign Committee, Connie Kirkham, Treasurer, 20235 FM 2707, Cross Plains, Texas, 76443.

For Callahan County Justice of the Peace Precinct #4

Burlie W. Taylor

Political advertisement paid by B.W. Taylor, Jerri Taylor, 16469 FM 880 South, Cross Plains, Texas 76443.

Bob Hill

Political advertisement paid by Bob Hill, Sharyn Hill, Treasurer, P. O. Box 542, Cross Plains, Texas 76443.

Rodger Hart

Political advertisement paid by Rodger Hart, Regina Hart, Treasurer, P.O. Box 475, Cross Plains, Texas, 76443.

All political calendar advertising for the Tuesday, March 7, 2006 Republican 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.

We Do Laminating Come By The Cross Plains Review 116 S.E. 1st Street

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 Tuesday, March 7, 2006.

For Callahan County Judge

Roger Corn

Political advertisement paid by Roger Corn, 532 Poplar, Baird, Texas 79504.

For Callahan County Clerk

Donna Bell

Political advertisement paid by Jeannie Bohannon, RR 2484 Lot 420, Baird, Texas 79504

For Callahan County Commissioner Precinct #4

Elvan Goode

Political advertisement paid by Elvan Goode, 17041 CR 441, Cross Plains, Texas 76443.

All political calendar advertising for the Tuesday, March 7, 2006 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.

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

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

FEBRUARY 13
Mrs. Kenneth Sowell
Mrs. Dan Johnston
Jan Taylor
Pam Phillips

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

FEBRUARY 15
Jimmy Riffe
Wanda Woody
Allen Phillips
Don Wayne Vaughn
Pamela (Glover) Smith
Warren Dwane Cunningham
Madeline Stone
Linda Shults
Judy Peninger
Anna (Bomar) Coe
Scott Ricci
Dorice Miller
Mae Preas
Clayton Reynolds

FEBRUARY 16
Mrs. Donald Porter
Sandra White Ingram
Weldon Robertson
Chuck Letney
James Reynolds
Bill Holland
Buck Kelly
Maeola Johnson
Grady Scott
Lynn Vaught Hix
Mrs. A.E. Brown
Shiloh Morris

FEBRUARY 17
David Draper
Margaret Grissom
N.L. Long, Jr.
Janece Hutchins
Judy Cavanaugh
George Cowan
Norma Jean Evans
Don Needham
Mrs. J.L. King
Douglas Ingram
Billy Melton
Thelma Rogers
Greg Irwin
Ventura Monreal
Taylor Chew

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:
My husband and I are from Odessa, Texas and have had the pleasure of getting to know many Cross Plains residents when coming through on our way to Brownwood. We have made it a habit to stop at Jean's Feed Barn (a great place to eat!) and got to know alot of the residents there. So, we were very upset when we found out about the fire in Cross Plains and of course, wanted to find out how everyone was doing.

There was an article in the *Dallas Morning News* that said that Cross Plains may be wiped off the map since there was so much of Cross Plains destroyed. Knowing the Cross Plains people we know, and the way they are, we knew this wasn't true. We are very proud of how well you all are doing and very glad that you all will not let anything happen to Cross Plains!

Love,
Ron and Chris Solley
Odessa, Texas

Dear Editor:
In reference to the letter from John Foller, that was my fence and yes it was supposed to have been saved. But as all the TOWN people know, I nor any of my family could afford to do what the city did for us by cleaning up the mess from the fire.

Besides how does \$250-\$400 compare to the thousands it would have cost to clean and dispose of the remains of our place.

I want it known that I have nothing to do with his actions and will not support them. The letter might have made a bit more sense if it was written by a resident of the city who had lost items.

Thank you,
A resident/landowner of the
City of Cross Plains
Lauretta Bomar

Dear Editor:
As a property owner in our town, I am compelled to respond to the letter you printed about the clean-up of the disaster. I have NEVER in my life-time seen such dedication as has been displayed by Debbie and Mark.

They should be so lucky to have two people, Debbie and Mark, on that project. The unselfish giving of their time and energy these two displayed is totally unbelievable.

We as residents should hold them up with all our energy for what they have done to make our lives a little easier. As for me, I hold them in high esteem for their efforts and to them my heart felt thanks for their efforts.

Mickey Piper

Dear Editor:

The phenomenal firestorm that raged across our city led some people to think that we would not recover from the catastrophic event. Little did those people know that the citizens of Cross Plains would unite together with courage, generosity, strength, determination, compassion, wisdom and prayer to gain hope and the belief that God would deliver blessings from the ashes!

I found the letter to the editor (John Foller) in last week's paper to be inappropriate, insulting and degrading as he obviously is on a campaign to round up a "lynch mob" to rally against City Hall and the city manager! (Here we go again, Debbie!)

When a disaster of this magnitude strikes, it is vitally important that our local "city government" officials with the assistance of our fire chief, city employees, city council members, the mayor, our emergency response teams and our church pastors take immediate action. And that is exactly what took place in our community!

Action—not just mere words. The very next morning after the firestorm, relief efforts had been put into motion and hope was on the horizon in the midst of the lingering smoke and ashes!

The clean-up efforts began immediately, the very next morning. Many who were not wiped-out by the fire were out helping and assisting those who were. The clean-up efforts, by everyone involved are necessary and important to protect us from injuries, further medical and health issues and to repair as much damage as possible to the

environment in and out of the city limits.

Errors, mistakes, and "screw-ups" are certainly going to happen. Especially when we consider the enormous magnitude of the destruction. These issues should be addressed confidentially, respectfully, professionally and with the attitude of reaching a sensible solution for all parties involved. Decisions will have to be made that are satisfactory to comply with the rules and regulations enforced by our higher "state" government officials and agencies.

We have been extremely blessed to have the trained personnel and many emergency volunteers within our community to step up to the challenge and put into motion the best possible relief efforts in such a short amount of time. They all deserve our respect, support, prayers and patience.

There remains many families without homes. There is alot of work to be done to help these families recover from their loss.

The welfare of these people should continue to be the main topic as well as quickly assisting them to return to a somewhat "normal" life-style. Trivial issues dating back to five years ago have absolutely nothing to do with the challenges facing our city manager and "city government" now and in the future.

Local coffee shop gossip is just that—gossip!
Proverbs 16:28 Proverbs 25:23
Proverbs 18:8

Vivian Wooten
Cross Plains

Angel Food Ministries February Menu Told Deadline Noon Feb. 13

The Angel Food Ministries January Menu includes:

- (4) 5 oz Ribeye Steaks
- (4) 4 oz Bacon-Wrapped Pork Filets
- (1) 3 lbs Breaded Frying Chicken
- (6) 5.5 oz Hot Pocket Subs
- (1) 4 lbs. I.Q.F. Chicken Thighs
- (1) 8 oz Fish Nuggets
- (1) 10.8 oz Mushroom Gravy
- (1) 28 oz Pasta Sauce
- (1) 16 oz Pasta
- (1) 16 oz White Rice
- (1) 8 oz Corn Muffin Mix
- (1) 16 oz Peas & Corn
- (1) 16 oz Cut Sweet Corn
- (1) 24 oz Tater Tots
- (1) 2 lbs. Onions
- (1) Dozen Eggs
- (1) 28 oz Pie or Cake

All This for the Low Cost of JUST \$25.00.

One or more specials available only with the purchase of a regular unit.

- Special #1 4.8 oz T-Bones, 4.8 oz New York Strips \$18.00
- Special #2 - 1-10 lb Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast \$18.00

Last day to pay and pay for your is Monday, February 13th by NOON.

Distribution day is Saturday, February 25, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center, W. 8th and Avenue E, Cisco
FOOD STAMPS NOW ACCEPTED.

Distribution Day is Saturday, January 21st at the Family Life Center, West 8th and Avenue from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

*You must bring a large box or container to pick up your food.

*Reserves the right to substitute any item due to availability, cost and quality.

*Units not picked up at time of delivery may be re-sold to others wanting to purchase a food unit.

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300 West 8th

Trish (254) 442-1710

Stephanie (254) 442-4136

Food Stamp orders call for information and order at Cotton's.

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Readers Choice (254) 631-0063

977 East Main (open Wed-Fri from 10 a.m. -5:30 p.m.)

Rising Star
Simmons Hardware & Lumber

200 East College
(254) 643-4131

Cross Plains
Sun Rayz & Gifts

400 B. S. Main
(254) 725-4578

Tricia Hopkins (254) 725-6355

Breckenridge
Carolyn Clark

POB 412 (254) 559-3279

Jan Griffith (254) 559-8808

118 E. Walker
Distribution at Covenant

Tabernacle Church, 315 S. Miller

Have You Lost or Found Pets Following the Fire?

A special "Thank You" is sent to Brown County Animal Hospital and Dr. Joe Speck for the free care given to the animals found in the aftermath of the firestorm.

There's a possibility that there will be pets that will need to be adopted. For information, please call Jane Bonner at (254) 725-6257 for details.

Ms. Bonner is continuing to work with the Pet Emergency Response Team (PERT) in an effort to save these animals and reconnect them to their families.

Everyone's cooperation in this matter has been greatly appreciated. Some animals have been found and returned to their owners.

If you have lost your pet during the trauma of the recent fires, or if you have found someone's pet, please contact Jane Bonner at

(254) 725-6257.

If you have an animal that has been burned or injured and you don't know who its owner is, please feed/water and care for it until you can report it to the above number.

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Hospice of the Big Country Now Sponsoring "Hearts Remembered"

"Hearts Remembered," a special event held in conjunction with Valentine's Day, will take place February 1-14 at the Mall of Abilene and First Coleman National Bank in Coleman.

The special event is being held by the Hospice of the Big Country, a service of the West Texas Rehabilitation Center. "Hearts Remembered" is designed to allow family and friends to publicly honor a special person in their life. For a donation of \$10 or more, the name of the honoree will be written on a red heart held by an Angel and displayed on huge clouds at the Mall of Abilene. There will also be a display in the bank lobby of First Coleman National Bank of Coleman.

Funds raised from this event will help Hospice of the Big Country continue our commitment to provide the best possible end-of-life care. We provide our services to anyone who needs us,

regardless of their ability to pay...to the terminally ill in Taylor and the eleven surrounding counties," said Jo Ann Wilson, Director of Volunteer Services. "This amounts to approximately \$125,000 annually that we must raise to cover the non-reimbursed care we provide. "Hearts Remembered" is a beautiful way to honor someone special, and at the same time help someone who is unable to pay for our services," Wilson said.

If you would like to purchase a heart, or hearts, visit the location at the Mall of Abilene or Coleman or send \$10 per name to Hospice of the Big Country, 4601 Hartford, Abilene, Texas 79605, and specify the location you want them displayed. You may also call 325/793-5450 for additional information.

Founded in 1992, Hospice of the Big Country is a service of West Texas Rehabilitation Center.

Texas Wildfire disaster recovery exceeds \$818,470

AUSTIN, Texas—On Jan. 11, 2006, President George W. Bush declared nine counties stricken by wildfires as major disaster areas in the State of Texas. The presidential declaration made individual assistance available to affected individuals and businesses in the counties of Callahan, Cooke, Eastland, Erath, Hood, Montague, Palo Pinto, Tarrant and Wise. To date, families and individuals who suffered damage from the recent Texas Wildfires have been approved to receive more than \$818,470 in assistance.

Recovery Services Summary as of close of business Feb. 1, 2006:

• 353 individuals have registered for Individual Assistance.

• \$818,470 has been approved through the Individuals and Household Program. Of that, FEMA has provided \$480,964 in Individual Assistance and \$337,506 in Other Needs Assistance.

• 357 applicants have visited the Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs). Currently, two mobile DRCs travel throughout the affected counties.

• 202 home inspections have been requested. 186 have been completed. Four inspectors are in the field.

• Texas workers who lost their jobs due to the recent wildfires may be able to claim disaster unemployment benefits. To file a claim or to talk with a representative, eligible applicants should call the Texas Workforce Commission Hotline at 1-800-939-6631, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Individuals and business owners located in the nine counties and who sustained losses should registers with FEMA by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the hearing- and speech-impaired. Registrations also can be made online at www.fema.gov.

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The Cross Plains Review reserves the rights to reject any and all Classified Ads considered by the publisher to be subject objectional in matter, phraseology, or opposed to the interest or the policy of the newspaper. No fraudulent, dishonest, or misleading ads will be knowingly published in the Cross Plains Review for any cost, injury or liability upon it because of the content of any ad so submitted.

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FOR SALE

ATTENTION!!! The Hondo Boots advertised in last Thursday, Feb. 2 paper should have had a price of \$165.00; Johnson's Dry Goods, Cross Plains, 254-725-6211. ^{47-11c}
GEORGE STRAIT SHIRTS- Bright patterns; All cotton; Button-down collar; \$34.99; Johnson's Dry Goods, Cross Plains, 254-725-6211. ^{47-11c}

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1981 RIDGEMONT TRAILER HOUSE- 14x72', 3BD/2B, \$2,000; 254-725-7345 (office) or 254-725-6328 (home). ^{47-1ip}
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3BR/2BA DOUBLEWIDE- Very nice; Call 940-648-3676 or 254-725-6407. ^{43-61c}
SOLITAIRE MODEL 484-80X28, 4BD/2 1/2B, 2 living areas, fireplace, country kitchen, walk-in closets; \$47,500; In Blackwell, TX; To be moved, Call 432-213-0389. ^{43-61c}

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NEW LISTING--24.5/A Western Eastland County, Live Oak, Mesquite, good grass, good home site, & small farm, underground water. **UNDER CONTRACT**

NEW LISTING--120/A in Callahan County, 2 ponds, water well, 40/A cultivation, Oak, Mesquite, Live Oak, on county road, deer, turkey, dove, hogs, good home sites, some minerals. \$1,300/A

NEW LISTING--180/A, Coleman County, good hunting, 3 water wells, rural water meter, approx. 80/A cultivation, good fences, on pavement. \$1,200/A

NEW LISTING--240/A, creek, 2 ponds, approx. 80/A in cultivation, 1/4 minerals, approx. 160/A native pasture, Jones County, North Abilene. \$192,000

* 240/A in Callahan County, 2 ponds, 40/A cultivation, Oak, Mesquite, Liveoak, on county road, deer, turkey, dove, hogs, good home sites, some minerals \$1,300/A

* 401.682/A approx. 100/A in cultivation & sunflowers, remaining in large mesquite trees, CR access, excellent hunting, deer, turkey, quail, dove, hog & ducks in the winter, very good fences, electricity, old home site, western Eastland County, Possible Owner Finance. \$522,186

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ACREAGE WITH HOME:

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NEW LISTING--80/A with small, good condition home, 2BD/1B, frame, carport, 4 water wells, one pond, good set of cattle pens, good fences, on pavement. \$120,000

* 93.85/A with 2,624 sq. ft. Brick home, Central H/A, fireplace, wood stove, glassed in sun porch, large trees, on pavement, guest house, 3 barns, creek, new fences, pond, some Coastal, good hunting. Western Eastland Co. \$280,000.

NEW LISTING--100/A with 1996 model, 1360 sq. ft. 3BD/2B, mb home, pond, 9 water wells, barn, working pens, 2 storage bldgs., good fences, good hunting, 6 miles north of Cross Plains. \$160,000.

NEW LISTING--100/A, large Live oak, Oak, Pecan, stock pond, creek, good cattle pens, older farm home, shop bldg., 2 water wells, excellent hunting, very pretty. \$210,000

* 102.31/A with 3BD/2B, 2,495 sq. ft., brick home, 2 stock ponds, great hunting, deer, turkey, quail, barn, rural water, paved frontage, Oak, Pecan, & Mesquite trees, good fences, 6 miles south of Cross Plains. \$200,000

* 106/A beautiful horse ranch, with new horse barn, pens, fences, newly remodeled farm home, on pavement, close to town, coastal hay operation, 2 water wells, wildlife. Must See! Callahan County. \$325,000

NEW LISTING--107/A with 3 year old 1,700 sq. ft. AUSTIN STONE 3BD/2B HOME, CH/A, metal roof, surround porch, 30X50 metal shop bldg., good water well, Live Oak, Post Oak, large creek, deer, turkey, quail, very scenic. \$400,000

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ACREAGE WITH HOME:
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EACH STAR REPRESENTS 500.00 Cross Plains and Area Veterans Memorial Goal Grows Closer

Recent contributors to the Cross Plains and Area Veterans Memorial Fund include: R.L. and Barbara Vaught; W.G. (Bill) and Bonnie Potter; Randy and Judy Foster; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Jones; Richard and Peggy Terrell; Delia Brannon; Barr Fabrication; David and Sandra (Kilgore) Gray; June Hughes; Mr. and Mrs. B.W. Huntington; Alona Helen Gilbert; Doris Cunningham; Priscilla Garrett; and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lee.

Thanks for your continued support of the Veterans Memorial. With each passing week we are closer to our goal. Please continue to send in your names of veterans and donations. Forms may be printed off at: crossplains.com or mail to Cross Plains Veterans Memorial P.O. Box 711 Cross Plains, TX 76443.

Clark's 60th Wedding Anniversary Location Changed for Saturday

James and Ruby Clark of North Lake Brownwood will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary Saturday, February 11, 2006 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Cross Plains Community Center on Beech, 108 North Beech, Cross Plains. Please notice the change

in location from last week's article.

Their children hosting the party are Jimmy and Mary Clark of Anson, Robert and Patricia Becktold of Early, and Bobby and Judy Clark of Beeville.

Friends and family are invited to the reception.

Answer the call—serve on a jury

By State Sen.
Jeff Wentworth and Fred Heldenfels IV

Inconvenient. Can't afford it. Too busy. Boss won't give me time off from work.

A summons for jury duty — the invitation to participate in a cornerstone of democracy that people in most countries can only dream about—too often inspires only excuses.

Studies have found that one of the greatest barriers to serving on a jury is economic. People simply can't afford to take time off work—in many cases without pay—for the grand sum of \$6 per day. That doesn't pay for courthouse parking and a sandwich for lunch, much less make a dent in the monthly rent or utility bill.

But Texas lawmakers are offering a helping hand. On Jan. 1, a new law, Senate Bill 1704, increased juror pay from \$6 to a minimum of \$40 per day after the first day of service—a 500-plus percent increase. The new provision, long recommended by the Texas Supreme Court and various legal organizations, should take some of the economic sting out of jury service.

Too busy? Most of us have many demands on our time, and that's showing up in declining jury participation. In Texas' largest counties, almost three-fourths of all those called for jury service simply don't show up.

Yet our highest elected leaders have found time to serve.

Recently, President Bush said he intends to answer a jury summons from McLennan County, where his Crawford ranch is located. And Texas Governor Rick Perry reported to the Travis County courthouse in 2002 when called for a municipal trial.

Their willingness to serve de-

spite many pressing demands highlights the importance of citizen participation in preserving the rule of law in our democratic system. They recognize that our judicial system will not work if the jury box is empty.

Our founders treasured the jury trial, along with voting, as the two great pillars of citizen control over government. Jefferson described the system as "the only anchor ever yet imagined by man by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution." In the 19th century, de Toqueville observed: "The institution of the jury . . . places the real direction of society in the hands of the governed . . . and not that of the government."

The Texas Constitution has two separate guarantees of the right to a jury trial. Texas jurors decide not only guilt or innocence, but assess punishment as well. They decide more types of civil disputes than jurors in most states. If your life and property were at stake, you'd want the best possible jury, not just the best that could be obtained among the one in four citizens who bothered to show up.

We talk a lot about how to get and keep good judges in Texas' but good juries are just as important. When large numbers of people avoid jury service, we all suffer. Obviously, the plaintiffs and defendants in a particular lawsuit need good jurors. But the entire public depends on a strong, honest jury pool to render verdicts that keep us safe, secure and prosperous.

At a time when our soldiers are risking their lives in foreign lands, the least we can do for our country is to sacrifice a little time and money to keep our justice system strong. Let's each resolve to make answering the call to jury service a New Year's resolutions for 2006.

Texas State Senator Jeff Wentworth (R-San Antonio) represents Senate District 25 and is the co-author of Senate Bill 1704. He is serving his fifth term in the Texas Senate where he is chairman of the Senate Committee on Jurisprudence. Fred Heldenfels IV president and CEO of Heldenfels Enterprises Inc. and a member of the board of directors of Citizens Against Law-suit Abuse of Central Texas.

Cross Plains Roping Club Officer Election Time

The Cross Plains Roping Club will meet at 7 p.m. at the local arena on Monday, February 13th.

All members and perspective members are urged to attend. The \$15.00 membership dues must be paid in order to vote.

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LIBRARY WINNER ANNOUNCED—Barbara Vanderhoof of Rising Star was the lucky winner of the cedar coffee table. Ron and Sherrian Conway had generously donated the one-of-a-kind table for the Cross Plains Public Library to use for a fund-raiser. The drawing was held at the Heritage Bank Christmas Open House.



THE BRIGHT RED FLAME SYMBOL OF THE METHODIST CHURCH SURVIVED IN FRONT OF THE CROSS PLAINS CHURCH WHICH WAS DESTROYED BY THE DECEMBER 27TH WILDFIRE

Barb's Cues

By Barbara Holmes Worcester

INTERESTING FACTS FROM HISTORY (ORIGIN OF SOME OF OUR COMMON SAYINGS)

In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both arms and both legs. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted but how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are "limbs", therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, "Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg."

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October)! Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads because of lice and bugs and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash the wigs so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell and bake for 30 minutes. The heat would make the big and fluffy, hence the term "big wig." Today, we often use the term "here comes the Big Wig" because somebody

appears to be or is powerful and wealthy.

In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long, wide board folded down from the wall and was used for dining. The "head of the household" always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair "chair man." Today, in business, we use the expression or title "Chairman" or "Chairman of the Board."

Personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many women and men developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's face, she was told to "mind your own bee's wax." Should a woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term "crack a smile." In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt, therefore the expression "losing face."

Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in "straight laced" wore a tightly tied lace.

Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the "Ace of Spades." To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they were not "playing with a full deck."

Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TVs or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs and bars. They were told to go "sip some ale" and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. Many assistants were dispatched at different times. "You go sip here" and "You go sip there." The two words "go sip" were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion and thus we have the term "gossip."

At local taverns, pubs and bars, people drank from pint or quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in "pints" and who was drinking "quarts," hence the term "minding your P's and Q's."

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