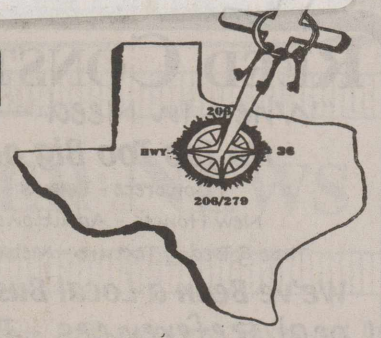


Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

"A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, February 14, 2008



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

Rich in Agriculture
Abundant in Wildlife

Masthead Designed by Deborah Lowitzer

99TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

PRICE 50¢

NUMBER 48

It's Time to File for Two School Board Positions

Two seats on the CPISD Board of Trustees are expiring this year. The first day to file to run for a place on the CPISD School Board was Saturday, February 9, 2007. Filing begun on Monday, February 11th in the Superintendent's Office in the High School Building, located at 700 N. Main in Cross Plains.

The hours open for filing are Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The last day to file for a place on the ballot will be Monday, March 10, 2007.

Cross Plains City Council Announces Filing Dates for the Upcoming Election

The position of mayor and two council seats are expiring on the Cross Plains City Council. The first day to file for the upcoming election is Monday, February 11, 2008 at the Cross Plains City Hall during their regular office hours Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The last day to file for a place on the ballot will be Monday, March 10, 2007.

Monthly Singing at Gospel Mission Tuesday, Feb. 19th

Everyone is invited to join in the Tuesday Night Gospel Singing at the Gospel Mission on February 19th beginning at 6:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. (come when you can).

Gospel Mission is located at 716 SE 1st Street in Cross Plains. Come sing those old time favorite hymns while enjoying the wonderful fellowship.

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REVIEW

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Presents:
"What's Inside"

ASAP Photos	Page 5
Basketball Tourny	Page 4
Birthday List	Page 8
Church Directory	Page 2
Classified	Page 6-7
Cottonwood News	Page 3
Courthouse News	Page 2
Flag Football	Page 5
Obits	Page 2
Pioneer News	Page 3
School Page	Page 4
Senior Citizens' Menu	Page 3

Democratic, Republican primary election early voting begins Tuesday

Early voting for the Democratic and Republican Primary Elections will begin at three locations in Callahan County on Tuesday, February 19th, according to Callahan County Clerk Donna Bell.

Early voting for both party primary elections will take place at the Clyde Justice of the Peace office located at 208 Oak Street in Clyde, the Cross Plains Justice of the Peace office located at 424 South Main Street in Cross Plains and at the Callahan County Courthouse Election Room #102 located at 100 West 4th Street in Baird. Early voting

will take place during regular business hours.

Registered voters can vote early through Friday, February 9th for the Tuesday, March 4th primary elections. Voters can only vote in either the Democratic or Republican primary elections. This year's Democratic and Republican primary election voting locations for Tuesday, March 4th will be combined as well. Voting locations for the primary elections include:

Clyde Precinct #1: Clyde Lions Club Building, 317 South 1st Street, Clyde.

Eula Precinct #2: Eula Lions Club Building, 5776 FM 603 in Eula.

Baird Precinct #3: Baird Light Plant, 218 Walnut, Baird.

Cross Plains Precinct #4: Cross Plains Community Center, 108 Beech Street, Cross Plains.

Putnam Precinct #5: Putnam Community Center, 120 West Travis, Putnam.

Clyde Precinct #6: Clyde Southside Baptist Church, 641 Hunt Street, Clyde.

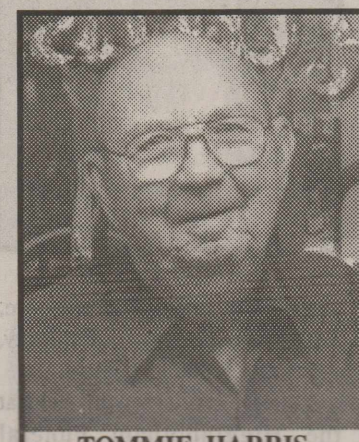
Oplin Precinct #7: Oplin Community Center, 8990 FM 2926 in Oplin.

Services for Tommie J. Harris Held Sunday, February 10th

Tommie J. Harris, age 91, was called home on Thursday, February 7, 2008. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, February 10, 2008, at Higginbotham Funeral Chapel in Cross Plains with Rev. Margaret Friend officiating, assisted by Bob Pipes. Burial was in the Cross Plains Cemetery.

He was born October 5, 1916 in Cottonwood, Texas to Hiram Harris and Elizabeth Holloway Harris. He attended school in Burnt Branch and Dressy area until the schools consolidated with the Cross Plains School, where he then graduated. He then attended Draughn's Business College in Abilene. Tommie married Lora Faye Odom May 17, 1940 and they had four sons; then in 2002 he married Phyllis Taylor.

He was recognized in 1994 by the Cross Plains Roping Club Ranch Rodeo in appreciation for Farm and Ranch Heritage for his family having continuously farmed and ranched in Callahan County since 1876, and his sons still carry on that tradition at this



TOMMIE HARRIS

time. Tommie also served on the Callahan County ASCS/FSA Committee; Callahan County Co-op Director 1961-1990; as a Trustee for Cross Plains ISD 1967-1976 and as President of the Board 1975-76; was on the Board of Director for Citizens State/Texas Heritage Bank from 1981-2001; as well as for the First United Methodist Church as a Trustee. He was very active with the Cross Plains Senior Citizens and loved playing 42 and dominoes, Bingo and other games.

Tommie is survived by his wife Phyllis of Cross Plains; three sons, Don Harris and wife Marsha of Potosi, Jimmy Harris and wife Pam, and Nicky Harris and wife Evelyn, all of Cross Plains; extended family, David and Kim Taylor of New Mexico; Scott and Shelly Taylor of Burleson; Linda (Taylor) and George Methvin of Belton; as well as eleven grandchildren, Terrel Harris, Troy Harris, Tonya Dupre, Blandye Crawford, Tessa Harris, Zane Harris, Jared Harris, Jaonna Beck, T.J. Harris, Chris Harris and Emily Harris; and 10 great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Terry Harris; three sisters and two brothers.

Tommie's grandchildren served as pallbearers.

The family request that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Cross Plains Senior Citizens Center, P.O. Box 144, Cross Plains, TX 76443 or your favorite charity.

Consumer ALERT, Scammers taking advantage of new federal economic stimulus package

Texans should be aware of a scam that has emerged in connection with the proposed federal economic stimulus package. Under recently passed legislation, the IRS will mail tax rebate checks to eligible Texans over the next few months. President Bush has indicated he will sign the package into law Wednesday. Several Texans recently filed complaints with the Office of

the Attorney General after receiving unsolicited e-mails and telephone calls from purported IRS agents claiming that the taxpayers are eligible for "Bush Refunds." The scammers demand taxpayers' Social Security and bank account numbers, claiming the IRS will use the information to directly deposit "rebate checks" into the taxpayers' accounts.

This is outright identity theft

fraud. The IRS does NOT call or e-mail taxpayers unexpectedly to demand personal information for direct deposit. Taxpayers solicited in this manner should just hang up or delete the e-mail.

Texans who have received these bogus solicitations can file a complaint with the IRS at www.irs.gov or by calling 800-829-1040. Consumers can also report such calls to our office.

Under County Attorney's advice, Commissioners opt out of USDA agreement

The Callahan County Commissioners' Court voted to follow the advice of County Attorney Shane Deel and opted out of an agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture regarding the maintenance of watersheds in Callahan County.

The commissioners' court took the action Monday, February 11th during a regular commissioners' court meeting held at the Callahan County Courthouse in Baird.

The commissioners' court discussed with Sammy Wilson the 1960 agreement regarding the maintenance of watersheds in Callahan County. County Attorney Shane Deel issued an opinion to the commissioners' court that Callahan County is under no obligation to honor the agreement entered into with the USDA

and various Conservation Districts.

Commissioner Bryan Farmer made a motion to follow the advice of County Attorney Deel to opt out of the agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tom Windham and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Other agenda items brought before the commissioners' court included:

—Judge Roger Corn called the commissioners' court meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. Present for the meeting included Judge Corn, Clyde Precinct #1 Commissioner Harold Hicks, Eula Precinct #2 Commissioner Bryan Farmer, Baird Precinct #3 Commissioner Tom Windham, Cross Plains Precinct #4 Commissioner Cliff Kirkham, County Treasurer

Dianne Gunter, and County Clerk Donna Bell.

—The minutes of previous meetings were reviewed and signed.

—During time set aside for public comments, no one spoke to the commissioners' court.

—After discussion of the Organization of Rural Communities Affairs (ORCA) grant, no action was taken by the commissioners' court.

—Commissioner Kirkham made a motion to pay the approved bills and Commissioner Farmer second the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

—On a motion by Commissioner Hicks with a second by Commissioners Farmer, the commissioners' court meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m. with a 5-0 vote.

Last Chance to make Reservations for Kelton Dinner

The deadline for making reservations for the Elmer Kelton dinner is upon us. Thursday, February 14, 5:00 p.m. as a matter of fact. Phone reservations will be taken until that time for the fund-raising dinner sponsored by the Cross Plains Public Library.

If you cannot make it to the Library before the deadline, please call the Library at 725-7722 to get your name on the list for what promises to be an outstanding evening. You can pay the \$15.00 per plate at the door, but reservations MUST be made in advance. On the menu will be brisket, potato salad, pinto beans, cole slaw, fruit enchiladas, iced tea and coffee.

Kelton will be the featured guest at the dinner on Monday, February 18, 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center of the First Baptist Church. He is one of the most prolific writers of western fiction and one of the most gracious supporters of libraries around the area. Having

spent his entire life in the west Texas area, he has experienced most everything he writes about — the people, the work, the weather, the challenges, the beauty and the history. Add all that experience to a creative genius in the world of words and you've got a highly recognized and award winning author, unequalled in the western writing world.

And he's coming to Cross Plains for an evening to benefit the local library!

Helping sponsor the evening are Custom Tile of Cross Plains, Kimmy's Rustic to Rhinestone, Lawrence Farm and Ranch Supply, Tim's Floral and Gift Ship, Rusty and Shelly Burke of Washington D.C., Taste of Texas, Texas Star Trading Company, and The Robert E. Howard Foundation.

Please contact the Library at 725-7722 for additional information.

Submitted by
Arlene Stephenson

Local Dairy Farmer Has a Close Call

By Vanda Anderson
Editor

January 16, 2008 was a memorable day in Kyle Foster's life. He was in the process of loading a Holstein bull to sell, that had developed a bad disposition. When he started moving the animal up the shoot, the bull turned and bellered at him.

Foster said, "Everything in me knew he was going to charge. You can tell by their eyes. I had a piece of pipe in my hand and I hit him twice but couldn't stop him."

At that point he tried to step out of his way, to no avail. He started running toward the silage trough 20 to 30 feet away. The bull kept hitting him in the back as he raced to the trough. He jumped the trough and hoped that the bull would get tripped up or not continue to follow. Unfortunately, the bull jumped the trough, too. It was at that time the bull stepped on the calf of Kyle's leg with his 2,100 pounds of weight, and Foster could no longer move easily.

Foster couldn't get away and the bull kept snorting and hitting him. The animal was so determined, that he got down on his knees to continue the attack.

"You can't imagine the amount of pressure I felt. I could feel all my ribs pop when he charged. It was like he was trying to drive me into the ground," Kyle explained.

"He had me trapped against the bottom of the trough and I knew I couldn't get away from him. I thought I was going to die, but then I called out, God you've got to help me!"

Foster said the animal never hit him again, but stood there snorting. "It was like looking into the eyes of the devil," he noted.

He managed to pull himself over and laid in the trough. The bull could have jumped inside the trough or even hit him with his head, but he didn't.

Neil Belote, an employee at Foster's Dairy, reported that another of the five bulls in the lot, walked over and stood between Kyle and the angry bull. The other three bulls then engaged the charging bull into a fight.

When Kyle saw the second bull, Panda (who has a white face with two black spots around his eyes), approach he said he thought he couldn't handle another bull. However, Panda was there to protect him.

"I'm sure if God could speak through a donkey, it would be NO problem to get a few bulls to obey His command. Just as they did."

Belote was able to get into the lot and help locate Kyle's cell phone to call the Cross Plains EMS. He was hospitalized for several days.

All the cartilage between his ribs was pulled apart, one lung received a deep contusion, his liver was badly bruised, and the muscle tissue in his left leg was crushed. The imprint of the bull's hoof remained for days. His leg will take approximately 6 months to heal completely.

The doctors said he was fortunate to be alive. They had no explanation for the fact that he had no broken ribs. Kyle credits this to the grace of God and drinking milk. A typical answer for a dairy farmer.

Kyle's and his wife Penny have one daughter, Madison, who is 6 years old. He is the son of Randy and Judy Foster of Cross Plains.

"While I was lying in that trough, the power of the Word of God was going through my mind. He was the only one who could help me. I was totally helpless," Foster remarked.

His faith has been reaffirmed in his daily walk with the Lord following the experience. He feels blessed and appreciates being alive.

What a wonderful testimony this young man has shared!

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

832 Ave. E Cross Plains, TX
Pastor: Walter Pope
Sunday Morning Bible Study ...10:00 AM
Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Evening Worship.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Night Bible Study...6:00 PM

Our Church Is A House Of Prayer

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

209 S.W. Hwy 36 CROSS PLAINS, TX
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 School9:45 AM
Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
Evening Service.....6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time.....7:00 PM
Matt McGowen, Pastor (254) 725-4599
Church (254) 725-6266 Bible Teaching

Brushy Creek Cowboy Church

112 W. Travis in Putnam
Pastor: Sam Stone
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30 AM
Wednesday Worship.....7:00 PM

CROSS PLAINS COWBOY CHURCH

Pastor: LEN SMITH
Join Us On Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday nights 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

Pioneer Baptist Church

Pastor: Rufus Wilson
Sunday School...10:00 am
Sunday Morning Worship...11:00 am
Sunday Evening Worship...6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service...7:00 p.m.
Music Director: Barbara Jo Medley 254-643-1977

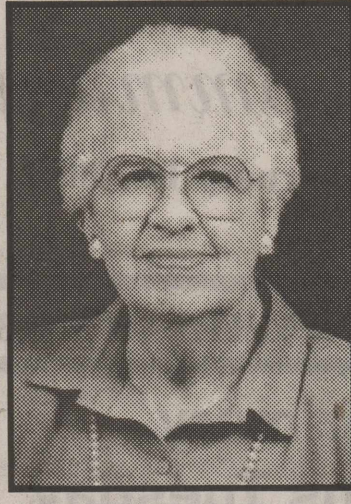
Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Restoring And Equipping The Saints
Sunday10:00 am Thursday7:00 pm
Pastor Max Evans
For Information Call (254) 725-7418

Rowden Baptist Church

Interim Pastor: Wayne Lenz
Bible Study...10:00 am
Sunday Morning Worship...11:00 am
2990 Highway 36 at Rowden 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

OBITUARIES



Alfred F. 'Buddy' Thate

Alfred F. "Buddy" Thate, age 86, of Burkett, passed away Friday, February 8, 2008 in Coleman, Texas.

Funeral services were held 10:00 a.m. Monday, February 11, 2008 with Dwayne Clower officiating at the Pavilion in the Burkett Cemetery; burial followed immediately after the service.

"Buddy", as he was known by everyone, was born March 26, 1921 in Coleman County, Texas to Frank and Callie Clara (Sawyer) Thate. He worked as a salesman for a chemical company for many years. He married Margaret Collins and she preceded him in death in September of 2001.

Buddy was preceded in death by his parents, wife, and brother. Survivors include a nephew, Floyd Newman "Sonny" Thate of Austin; cousins, Kenneth and Rodger Thate both of Burkett; as well as three stepchildren. Pallbearers were Bruce Adams, Dana Veteto, Kenneth Thate, and Ernie Neves.

Levina Pearl Greenwood

Levina Pearl Greenwood, age 102, was called home on Tuesday, February 5, 2008. She was a resident of Kirkwood Manor in New Braunfels.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, February 7, 2008 at First Baptist Church in Cross Plains with Pastor Ronnie White officiating; burial followed in the Cross Plains Cemetery.

Pearl was born June 29, 1905 in the De Leon area to Newman and Annie Pounds. She attended grade school in Gorman and Tarleton Academy in Stephenville. Pearl married J.M. Greenwood May 29, 1925 in Gorman and spent the summer of that year in Ft. Collins, CO where J.M. attended college. J.M. preceded Pearl in death in 1988.

Before she moved to Odessa in 1997, Pearl was an active member of the First Baptist Church in Cross Plains. She held and rocked many of today's adults on her lap and she was known for her tender ways. She was church pianist and organist for many years. Her gift of service was extended to anyone on any and every occasion.

Survivors include one daughter, Margaret Coppinger of New Braunfels; a son and wife, Gene and Bettye Greenwood of New Braunfels; daughter-in-law, Carol Greenwood of Austin; grandchildren, Kim Carasso and husband Jack, also of Austin, Regan Greenwood and wife Rose of Laughlin, Nevada, David Greenwood and wife Lois of Ft. Worth, Cindy Bowlin and husband Brad of Ft. Collins, CO, Kerry Coppinger of Wilsonville, Oregon; 10 great-grandchildren and give great-grandchildren; as well as many wonderful nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, one son, Paul Greenwood, a brother, Fred Pounds, and three sisters, Myrt Littlefield, Irene Fischer and Ruby Jo Lewis.

We celebrate Pearl's Homegoing for she joins those friends and loved ones who have gone on before her. With them she is enjoying her mansion Jesus has prepared for her, singing, rejoicing, and "making lemonade" for all of those greeting her! She is at rest in the presence of JESUS!

We will miss her, but through our tears we are rejoicing.

Pray For Rain
Image of a cloud raining.

GET YOUR OFFICE SUPPLIES AT THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

WE INVITE YOU TO WORSHIP WITH THE First United Methodist Church and the First United Presbyterian Church (200 Ave D & 2nd Street)
Sunday School 9:30AM
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45AM
Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30AM (Thursday Jean's Feed Barn)
Rev. Margaret A. Friend
Church Office 254-725-7377

COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Roger Corn, Presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

Leslie N. Bradshear, theft by check.
Misty L. Burns, theft by check.
Jerry G. Wilson, theft by check.

Misdemeanor Minutes

Michelle L. McGarvie, motion to dismiss motion to revoke probation granted.

Justin Edmondson, motion to dismiss motion to revoke probation granted.

Christina Bolt, plea of guilty to possession of marijuana, 35 days in jail, \$400 fine, \$256 court costs.

Steven Ramos, order amending conditions of probation granted.

Patrick Drew Hill, judgment revoking probation granted, sentenced to jail.

James A. Armer, motion to dismiss to theft by check granted, paid restitution.

Brent R. Marlowe, motion to dismiss to theft by check granted, paid restitution.

Rodger T. Boner, plea of guilty to theft by check, \$100 fine, \$224 court costs, \$829.43 restitution.

Ronny L. McGinn, Jr., order releasing cash bond.

Cheryl A. Fox, motion to dismiss to theft by check granted, paid restitution.

Colby Dale Routter, motion and affidavit of surety for warrant granted.

Ronnie Walker, motion to dismiss to theft by check granted, paid restitution.

Bryan B. Taylor, motion to dismiss to driving while intoxicated (DWI) granted for plea to felony case.

Timothy Worley, request for extension of probation granted.

Anthony Fiorentini, transfer request from Williamson Co. to Taylor Co. granted.

Miranda D. Chaney, motion to dismiss to theft by check granted, paid restitution.

Milton Brosset Jr., motion to dismiss motion to revoke probation granted.

Christian Danlee Weber, order on affidavit of intention to surrender principal granted.

Marriage Licenses

Christopher D. Jobe and Melanie N. Janusz, both of Cisco.

Jermy L. Pfund of Abilene, and Julie A. Roberts of Baird.

Robert J. Hutchins of Clyde, and Delora S. Taylor of Abilene. Jaime Ortega and Maria E. Najera, both of Clyde.

42nd DISTRICT COURT
John Weeks, presiding

Criminal Indictments

Randy D. Harper, possession of a controlled substance. Matthew Barnes, assault against public servant.

Tommie N. Tyson, aggravated assault. Andrew S. Benson, aggravated robbery.

Beverly S. Payne, misapplication of fiduciary property. Donnie Ray Nigar, retaliation.

Civil Filings

John Edward Whiteley and Avin Lenora Whiteley, divorce. In the matter of: Adam Phillip Velasquez, name change of an adult.

In the estate of: Aletha Warlick, deceased, contested probate.

Civil Minutes

Sharon Garcia and Rene Garcia, divorce granted. Gary Pickett vs. Alea London, Ltd., agreed take nothing judgment.

Hudson & Keyse, LLC vs. Louise J. Booth, order of dismissal with prejudice granted.

Valdy D. Kincheloe and Hazel s. Kincheloe, divorce granted. Tracy Pugh and Allen Bray Pugh, divorce granted.

NOTICE - The Lupe B. Palacio in courthouse news is not the Lupe S. Palacio of Baird, Texas.

Economic Development funding workshop dates

The Texas Capital Fund (TCF) is a program administered through the Texas Department of Agriculture to provide funding for qualified economic development projects. Specifically, funds are awarded for the purpose of assisting in the creation of new permanent jobs or retention of existing permanent jobs in a community.

Texas Midwest Community Network announces workshops scheduled in the region to provide information on the Texas Capital Fund. The workshops are designed to provide non-frequent TCF users guidance on how to utilize the program and to provide all TCF users the latest information on the rule changes for 2008.

Community developers, economic development organizations, city officials, county officials and consultants for community development will find the workshops valuable in planning

economic development projects. The workshop presenter is Karl Young, TCF Specialist with the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Workshop dates and locations: Feb. 21 - Haskell - TCF is a portion of an all-day workshop offered by Texas Department of Agriculture (also includes information on Certified Retirement Community Program, Business Retention & Expansion, ORCA programs, USDA programs and more) Register by calling the Haskell Chamber of Commerce, 940-864-2477

Feb. 22 - Eastland - 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at 209 W. Main (historic Connelle Hotel meeting room) RSVP to the TMCN Office 325-795-8626 or 800-845-3563

Feb. 22 - Eden - 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at City Hall, (Council meeting room) RSVP to the TMCN Office 325-795-8626 or 800-845-3563

PUBLIC FAX (254) 725-7225

First Baptist Church

Sunday School 9:30 am

Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am Sunday Evening Worship 6:30 pm

Wednesday

6:30 pm Prayer/Worship Youth Bible Study "The Show" 6:30 pm

Ronnie B. White, Pastor

(254) 725-7629 3rd & Main, Cross Plains, TX 76443

COTTONWOOD NEWS

BY WALLACE BENNETT

Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Unit Sets Meeting

Don't forget the Volunteer Fire Control Annual Membership Meeting set for February 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cottonwood Community Center. This is an important meeting and YOU are invited, and urged to attend. New comers to Cottonwood Valley are especially invited to come out and meet their new neighbors and learn how the Volunteer Fire Control is done in Cottonwood, emergency response, that is.

A report will be given on last year's activities and vacancies for new officers, new board members will be filled and other important business will be conducted. Remember this, the life or house you save by learning something important, just may be your own. See you there.

That reminds me, the "baker"

flag is still flying over the ole Cottonwood Post Office. This means, no outside burning of trash or brush or other materials.

The term as used here comes from the United States Navy. When ships of the line were steaming into battle or in harm's way otherwise, the "baker" flag was always flying from the mast. The "Baker" flag (Red) was used normally as the letter "B" from the alphabet in other visual signals, and was an important communication system ships were observing radio silence.

In this case the Baker flag (Red) flying from the old Post Office building means there is a county wide ban on setting outside fires to burn trash or brush. It means "Danger. Don't do it!"

The service is provided by the

Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Unit.

Cottonwood Native Laid To Rest In Cross Plains

I would be remiss if I did not mention in this column that Tommie Harris, born in Cottonwood, and a well known member of the Callahan County farming and ranching industry, was laid to rest this past Sunday in Cross Plains.

Cottonwood Roundup

Terri Brown and Gilbert Iberian, of Houston, have been visiting with her mother, Beverly Brown, and other friends in Cottonwood the past week.

(For news items or personal items about Cottonwood, please contact, Wallace Bennett, at 254-725-7474, e-mail at csb5@airmail.net, or snail mail at 11093 CR 440, Cross Plains, Texas 76443. Remember, I can't print it if I don't know about it.)

LIBRARY NOTES

Library Stats
February 4 - 8, 2008

Patrons	86
Programs	26
LAP	4
LAPsit	2
ASAP	9
Books Checked Out	101
LAP	20
LAPsit	7
Copies	75
Reference	5
Internet Users	17
Interlibrary Loans	1

DONATIONS: Ray and Azalee Womack; Larry and Elizabeth Whitehead; Margaret McNeel; Chad and Kim Cunningham

BOOK DONATIONS: Michelle Kaiser; Jerry Chris Biggerstaff; Therennie McCrohan; Sandy Doss

MEMORIALS: Oran and Blenda Baines In Memory of Arvin Brashear; Bruce and Rose Clark In Memory of Dorothy Mitchell; James and Paulette Foster In Memory of Mallie Hubnick and Mrs. Nathan Foster; Virginia Sorrell In Memory of Benjamin Wagner

LIVING TRIBUTES: Dave and Sally Anderson Honoring Ginny Hoskins

VOLUNTEERS: Helen Parson, Sue Bennett, Lavonne Childress, Beverly Ross, Bobby Hinkle, Azalee Womack, Ginny Hoskins, and Arlene Stephenson.

Account Opened at Texas Heritage Bank to Purchase Headstone

Family, Friends and Co-workers of Laura Chastain at the Rising Star Nursing Center have established an account to purchase a headstone for her grave.

Laura was a dedicated employee and a loyal friend to so many people and we do not want her to be forgotten.

If you would like to remember Laura with a contribution you can do so at Texas Heritage Bank in Cross Plains, the account name is Linda Merritt/Rising Star Nursing Center #666408. Her family is aware of our efforts and will be involved in selecting the marker.

If you have questions, feel free to call Linda or Johnnie at the Rising Star Nursing Center, 254-643-2681.

WARNING Fraudulent

USDOT Letters

The Better Business Bureau is issuing a warning to all businesses to be on the look out for a phony letter that appears to be from the U.S. Department of Transportation Procurement Office. The letter bears the US DOT log and the address of 400 Seventh St. SW, Washington DC 20390. The letter was signed as Senior Procurement Officer. The letter request a financial information release form to be faxed to 202-280-1404. The form request the business banking account number.

DO NOT complete the release form which is attached to the letter and **DO NOT** release any information to the facsimile number cited in the letter. The US Department of Transportation warns the letters are **fraudulent**. The most recent are dated

February 7, and January 28, 2008. These fraudulent letters request that current or potential contractors register by submitting their company's financial information on a release form entitled, "Authorization to release financial information." Please be aware that DOT does not require any financial information to be submitted in order to be eligible for procurement.

Better Business Book
We're working on the 2008 edition of the Better Business Book, a directory of BBB Accredited Businesses. If you'd like to place a sponsorship ad please let us know ASAP. It is a cost effective way to reach customers who are interested in Trustworthy businesses. Call 325-691-1571 or email info@abilene.bbb.org and receive a rate card.

Storm Shelters • Safe Rooms

-Business Security Centers-
Precast Concrete • Modular Steel
• In Ground • In Home • "In Case"

Call: 580-483-3458 or
325-893-2316

3-Cross Plains Review February 14, 2008

PIONEER NEWS

The quilting club has had two very good Tuesdays quilting. One of the weeks since writing we did not have quilting because of the cold. Now we have some heaters that will really warm us up so we shouldn't have to miss because of that. We hardly know what to do with both good water and heat.

We are working on Barbara's top and should be getting it out this week. We are also working on Lou G's "Flower Garden". Laverne will put her top in this week.

Tommie Harris, one of the community avid 42/84 domino players passed away this week. He was the husband of Phyllis Harris of this community before moving to Cross Plains. We will all miss him. He loved to come to the community center on game night. He always had a smile for everyone and so entrusted.

Lucille Hester, the wife of Bill Hester, passed way this week. Bill and Lucille are members of the Brown family that have lived in the community for many years. Our sympathy goes out to that family.

On January 26th Cowan and Laverne Hutton attended a 50th Birthday Party for Ronald Hutton. It was held at his parents house

in Brownwood, Lavin and Ima Hutton. Ronald and family live in Lubbock. John and Karlan Moore of Austin visited Cowan and Laverne, Sunday. Last Wednesday, a mini-ladies day at Rising Star church of Christ was held. Laverne and Bonnie brought the Bible lessons. Everyone enjoyed a basket lunch together, donating the baskets to be filled for Gift Baskets. Laverne's sister, Betty Dean Haslam of Clyde, is very ill in the Hendricks Medical Center. Our prayers go out to Betty and her family.

Well, our basketball games are over for most of us. The Cross Plains girls had a very good season but did not go pass district. The Rising Star girls have gone on at least for one more game. We hope they can keep going. It is time for baseball, softball and track! Lets go out and support these kids! They all work very hard on the activities, plus they have to keep up there academic work. Glenda, Jean and May are really missing that basketball but we will soon be involved in softball. Some of our community girls will be playing. We think of all these girls as *our girls*!!

Lets pray for rain! It is so dry! See you next week!

Barb's Cues

By Barbara Holmes Worcester

Valentine's Day-
February 14th

Let's all celebrate Valentine's Day with a personal valentine. It is supposed to be a day of making our love known, so let's do just that. If we told everyone we love and wrote notes to those we couldn't tell in person we might be surprised at the things it would set in motion. This is a time when we can do something nice and not feel funny about it. Just tack on a heart, (it can be one you draw) and it will be in season. There may be a widowed neighbor you could do something for, or you could pick up a treat at the grocery store for someone. I know you can think of someone or something you can do.

It will be a double treat because doing for someone else makes us feel happy too.

Try to give at least five valentine deeds and let me know what happens.

The following came to me from Walt Bailey's niece, Louetta Hamilton.

"I was thinking about Valentine's Day. I wanted to know more about how it started so I got out the encyclopedia. There was a man named Valentine who was beheaded for being a Christian under the persecution of Roman Emperor Claudius II (268-270) on February 14, 270. His death as a martyr was commemorated on February 14th. By the 14th century, its religious significance was overshadowed by the unreligious customs still associated with the day. The word valentine came to be used by boys and girls to show affection.

This made me start thinking. What does it mean to be a Christian? We are asked to love God with all our heart, all our mind and all our strength. We are asked to love one another. Love is kind to others. It has great affection for one's family and one's Christian family. So with God's love I send you my love and hope you have a Happy Valentine's Day!

BHW

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

FEBRUARY 18 - 22

MONDAY - Chicken Rice Broccoli Casserole, Sweet Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Apricots, Bread	Tossed Salad, Fruited Gelatin, Bread
TUESDAY -Baked Ham, Blackeyed Peas, Yellow Squash, Apple Crisp, Cornbread	THURSDAY - Pinto Beans, Tomatoes & Okra, Mixed Greens, Peach Cobbler, Cornbread
WEDNESDAY - Chicken Strips w/Gravy, Whipped Potatoes,	FRIDAY -BBQ Brisket, Baked Beans, Coleslaw w/Pineapple, Sugar Cookie, Bread

2nd & 4th Tue., Domino Night (42/84) Begins at 5:00 p.m.

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Worker's Compensation Educational Session Offered in Lubbock on February 28th

AUSTIN—The Lubbock Field Office of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers Compensation (TDI) is hosting a brown bag educational session for health care providers, employers, human resource managers, claims adjusters, case managers and employee organizations on Thursday, February 28th. The topic is "Change of Treating Doctor Process." This free session will be held from

12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. at 22 Briercroft Office Park, Suite A in Lubbock. Following a presentation this session will be an open forum in which participants may ask questions.

For more information, contact the TDI Public Information Office or Lubbock Field Office Manager Cindy Currey at 806-744-4569 or email cindy.currey@tdi.state.tx.us.



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BREAKTHRU

By Bob Pipes
Cross Plains Church of Christ
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A young lady was being teased by her roommate about the "love-poem" that the young lady's boyfriend had sent her. "It was really written by Robert Browning," her roommate chided her. She answered, "What difference does that really make? The important thing is that he sent it to me."

That should be a wake-up call for anyone this Valentine's Day, guilty of looking at the gift instead of the giver. The most important thing about a gift is that someone cares enough to give in the first place. God's gift to mankind was borne out of great thought and with supreme intention. It was great in every respect! He gave His only begotten Son, and in doing so, left us no excuse to refuse it and not rejoice in the blessing of it. God gave His Son that we might believe and have life in Him — instead of perishing (John 3:16).

Be sure and consider carefully the Gift of the Great Giver, and respond positively toward it. Remember, He cared enough to send His very Best!

I encourage you to share in times of Bible study and worship with us. And let us strive to "sign our lives with the excellence of God."

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

Yearbook

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Abilene Philharmonic launches scholarship competition for local youth

ABILENE—The Abilene Philharmonic Orchestra announced the establishment of its first biennial Young Artist Scholarship Competition to support outstanding young musicians in the Abilene area. The competition is open to woodwind, brass, percussion, string, and piano students between the ages of 12 and 18 who live in Texas school regions 14 or 15. Scholarships will be applied to educational expenses such as private music lessons, music camps, and university tuition in amounts of \$1000 (1st Place), \$700 (2nd Place), and \$450 (3rd Place).

"The Young Artist Scholarship Competition is a natural extension of the successful community education programs already in place at the Philharmonic," said Leanne Baldwin, Executive Director. "I hope that the young people in throughout Abilene will take advantage of this new opportunity."

Preliminaries will be held March 8, 2008, at the Williams Performing Arts Center on the campus of Abilene Christian University. The Preliminary round will be recorded and later reviewed by a panel of judges. Finalists

will be selected and notified by March 31st. Finals will be held at the same location on May 1, 2008.

A full list of rules and application information is available at the Abilene Philharmonic Offices at 402 Cypress Street or by calling (325) 677-6710. Applications are also available online at www.abilenephilharmonic.org/yasc.

In its 57th year, the Abilene Philharmonic Orchestra is one of Abilene's oldest performing arts organizations. Led by Music Director and Conductor David Itkin, the Abilene Philharmonic is the only professional orchestra within 80 miles of Abilene and draws audiences from more than 50 Texas cities. The Philharmonic provides opportunities for the public to enjoy excellence in symphonic performance by offering musical diversity and innovative educational programs in order to enrich the quality of life in our community. Information concerning the Abilene Philharmonic's 2008 program and donor opportunities may be found by visiting www.abilenephilharmonic.org.

3 on 3

Tournament

Get your team together now and sign up for the 3-on-3 basketball tournament hosted by the Cross Plains Junior Class to raise money for prom.

Brackets will be created for these three divisions:

- * 6-8th grade teams
- * 9-12th grade teams
- * Open teams.

All are invited to play **Saturday, February 16th** at the Cross Plains I.S.D. Gym from 9 a.m. until????

Team entry fees are \$30.00 in advance—due by **February 13th**. Late registration at the door will cost an extra \$15.00.

Sign up at CPHS or go online at www.crossplains.ewsc14.net and print your registration form then mail in your entry fee.

For more information contact Amber Green or Jennifer Wootton at (254) 725-6121, email agreen@cplains.esc14.net or stop by the high school office. After hours, call Jennifer Wootton at (325) 201-1141.

Just want to watch??? Admission is \$2.00 per student and \$3.00 per adult.

Concession will be provided.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

FEBRUARY 18 - 22 BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Sausage Biscuit, Gravy, Assorted Juice
TUESDAY - French Toast Sticks, Sausage Link, Assorted Juice
WEDNESDAY - PB & J Sandwich, Assorted Juice
THURSDAY - Hot or Cold Cereal, Toast, Assorted Juice
FRIDAY - Cinnamon Roll, Yogurt, Assorted Juice

LUNCH

MONDAY- Toasted Ham & Cheese, Salad, Baked Chips, Oranges
TUESDAY- Steak Fingers w/ Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Peaches
WEDNESDAY- Chicken Fajita, Salad, Refried Beans, Spice Cake
THURSDAY-Lasagna or Corn Dog, Broccoli, Garlic Stick, Mixed Fruit
FRIDAY- Beef or Chicken Patty on Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Baked Fries, Cookie



A FUN DAY QUILTING

On the first Wednesday of February the nine children who attended the After School Adventure Program, or ASAP at the Cross Plains Library were given a lesson on how to quilt. Sue Bennett began the program by telling the children the history and purpose of quilts. She informed the children on how a quilt is made of dark, medium and light material and how to determine the shades of fabrics. Old methods and new methods of quilting and patterns were discussed. We also discussed the difference between hand stitching and machine sewing, hand applique and machine applique designs. Sue also talked about rocking the needle and about 'stab and jab' being a real stitch. Sue and her assistant, Helen Parson, gave demonstrations on how to use a rotary cutter and mat, the various ways templates are made and how to make a quilt sandwich. The children were given one inch precut squares and invited to make their own quilt pattern by gluing the colorful squares onto a large felt piece of fabric. They were encouraged to make the small quilt their own individually designed way and not to be afraid to try different things.



B U F F A L O

Search for Child Care, other services on 2-1-1 Texas Website

Texans looking for child care or educational services for children now have a new tool to help their search. At www.211texas.org, parents have a single point of access where they can search for either private or public-assisted care and educational services for children.

The new search feature draws on information from the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Head Start Collaboration Project, and Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, expanding the previous list of child care resources to include all children's services in public schools. Information about the services is updated on a regular basis.

Parents can locate and learn about licensed and registered child care, pre-kindergarten and after school programs, and educational services for children with special needs.

Results are sorted by ZIP Code, by city or by county. Parents who need help paying for child care can use the website to request information about financial assistance for child care services.

Like its telephone counterpart, www.211texas.org also offers information for those seeking help with broader needs such as food, shelter, medical care and thousands of other benefits and services provided locally. The website and 2-1-1 Texas are services offered through collaboration between the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and local government and community groups. Both services pull information from a network of more than 20,000 organizations statewide.

The information found at www.211texas.org is also available 24 hours a day, seven days a week by dialing 2-1-1 anywhere in Texas.

Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp Registration Open

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp.

The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp is by invitation only. Boys and girls ages 10-19 are eligible to apply.

Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison. Players from 50 States and 10 Foreign Countries attended the 2007 Camp. College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team.

Camp locations include: Commerce, TX; Prescott, AZ; Thousand Oaks, CA; Babson Park, FL; Gainesville, GA; Champaign, IL; Glassboro, NJ; Lebanon, TN; and Blacksburg, VA.

There is also a Summer Camp available for boys and girls ages 6-18 of all skill levels.

For free brochures on these Summer Camps, please call 704-373-0873 anytime. (www.tenstarcamp.com)

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CROSS PLAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT			
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE			
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS			
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2007			
Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 926,748	\$ 92,750	\$ 1,019,498
5800 State Program Revenues	2,426,888	86,995	2,513,883
5900 Federal Program Revenues	-	278,133	278,133
5020 Total Revenues	<u>3,353,636</u>	<u>457,878</u>	<u>3,811,514</u>
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
0011 Instruction	1,800,137	224,650	2,024,787
0012 Instructional Resources & Media Services	18,406	-	18,406
0013 Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	24,914	-	24,914
0023 School Leadership	186,500	-	186,500
0031 Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	51,562	-	51,562
0033 Health Services	6,177	-	6,177
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	110,510	-	110,510
0035 Food Services	3,684	156,603	160,287
0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	234,929	-	234,929
0041 General Administration	239,745	-	239,745
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	536,587	-	536,587
0053 Data Processing Services	36,990	-	36,990
Debt Service:			
0071 Debt Service - Principal on Long Term Debt	-	65,000	65,000
0072 Debt Service - Interest on Long Term Debt	-	25,834	25,834
0073 Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	431	431
Capital Outlay:			
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	2,420	-	2,420
Intergovernmental:			
0093 Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	34,534	-	34,534
6030 Total Expenditures	<u>3,287,095</u>	<u>472,518</u>	<u>3,759,613</u>
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)Expenditures	66,541	(14,640)	(51,901)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
7915 Transfers In	-	19,721	19,721
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	(19,721)	-	(19,721)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(19,721)</u>	<u>19,721</u>	<u>-</u>
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	46,820	5,081	51,901
0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	1,143,362	11,613	1,154,975
3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 1,190,182	\$ 16,694	\$ 1,206,876

Gov. Perry issues disaster proclamation due to wildfires

AUSTIN - Gov. Rick Perry today issued a state disaster proclamation for 152 counties in response to the threat posed by wildfires rapidly spreading in areas across the state. Burn bans are already in place in these Texas counties. This disaster proclamation allows affected counties to be eligible for state assistance.

"I urge Texans to exercise extreme caution as conditions remain favorable for the development of wildfires across the state," said Gov. Perry. "Vigilance and good judgment are key to ensuring Texans' families, homes and places of work remain safe."

Counties certified in the disaster proclamation are: Andrews, Archer, Armstrong, Atascosa, Bandera, Baylor, Bell, Bexar, Bosque, Brewster, Briscoe, Brooks, Brown, Carson, Castro, Childress, Clay, Cochran, Coke, Collingsworth, Comal, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Crane, Crockett, Crosby, Culberson, Deaf Smith, Delta, Denton, Dickens, Dimmit, Eastland, Ector, Edwards, Ellis,

Erath, Fannin, Fisher, Foard, Frio, Garza, Gray, Grayson, Guadalupe, Hale, Hall, Hamilton, Hansford, Hardeman, Haskell, Hays, Hemphill, Hidalgo, Hill, Hockley, Hood, Howard, Hudspeth, Hunt, Hutchinson, Irion, Jeff Davis, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Johnson, Jones, Karnes, Kaufman, Kendall, Kent, Kerr, Kimble, King, Kinney, Kleberg, Knox, LaSalle, Lamar, Lamb, Lampasas, Liberty, Limestone, Lipscomb, Live Oak, Llano, Loving, Lynn, Martin, Mason, Maverick, McCulloch, McLennan, Medina, Menard, Midland, Milam, Mills, Mitchell, Montague, Motley, Navarro, Nolan, Nueces, Oldham, Palo Pinto, Parker, Parmer, Pecos, Potter, Presidio, Rains, Randall, Reagan, Real, Refugio, Robertson, Rockwall, Runnels, San Saba, Schleicher, Somervell, Starr, Stephens, Sterling, Stonewall, Sutton, Swisher, Tarrant, Taylor, Terry, Throckmorton, Tom Green, Travis, Upton, Uvalde, Val Verde, Van Zandt, Waller, Ward, Washington, Wheeler, Wichita, Wilbarger, Willacy, Wilson,

Winkler, Wise, Young and Zavala.

High winds and lack of precipitation have dried grass and other vegetation across the state, posing significant fire danger. In addition, a major cold front is expected to enter the state this evening with sustained winds of 30 to 50 miles per hour in some areas.

To address the potential threat, seven Texas Military Forces utility helicopters have been activated and are stationed in Austin, San Antonio and Dallas/Forth Worth (DFW), and one CH-47 helicopter is currently on standby in DFW area. The Texas Department of Transportation is providing fuel for Volunteer Fire Department personnel and assisting in suppressing the fires. The Public Utility Commission of Texas is restoring power. The State Operations Center remains at the highest level of activation to monitor the situation. The Governor's Division of Emergency Management is coordinating state support for local officials.

Brownwood Flag Football League Information

Every summer, the state's top high school 7-on-7 teams meet in College Station for bragging rights. This spring, similar bragging rights will be claimed right here in Brownwood, when a champion is crowned for the third spring season of the Brownwood Men's 7-on-7 Flag Football League.

And if this season is anything like last year, the weather might again play in who is ultimately crowned champion.

"The snow games (Easter weekend 2007) had to be the most fun," A.C. Blake, the league's founder said, "There was snow all in the guy's clothes and hair. Everybody just had a blast sliding around."

And having fun is one of the goals of a league that features teams from area businesses and churches.

"We had a team that was made up of some local guys who were older. We honestly thought they'd never return because they lost every game (last year). Despite losing and not making the playoffs, they had a great time and they've already signed up for this year's season," said John Douglin. He was recruited by Blake to help run the league after its first season.

Another team, from Mision Bautista Nueva Vida church in Brownwood, came out wearing wristbands with plays on them, like spectators might see on players at the college or professional level.

"They didn't work," joke Juan Ozuna, who played on the team and is helping Blake and Douglin add some structure to the league.

The league is the inspiration of Blake, who had played in flag-football leagues in the Fort Worth-Dallas Metroplex while he lived there. After moving back to Brownwood, he thought a similar league would be well received because players get the

chance to play a game they love, and at the same time there was the opportunity to do more.

"I played in one (league) and I really enjoyed it. I got home, and I thought that something like that would be good for the community," Blake said. "It was a little rough that first time, doing it myself."

Blake said he had planned on the season being a onetime thing, but "the fellas really enjoyed it." Plus, there was a greater mission - and the league's second purpose.

Over three seasons the flag football league has also grown into an important fundraiser for an international missionary project.

The two men said that they work with a Howard Payne University group call Crossline Ministries. This summer a group that will include about 18 HPU students will go to the Philippines for a mission trip, Blake said.

"Me and John began doing mission work, and needed money to go on trips to places like the Philippines," Blake said. "We use this as an opportunity to go and share the gospel and for the community to have a good time and come together."

"We see this as a win-win situation. It's really an enriching thing to give back to the community and have a good time, it's a mutual benefit," Douglin said. "A.C. and I are really good friends. He solicited my help last spring. I'm from Houston and I don't like being bored. I actually thought I was going to play, but I haven't played in one game."

That's because both Blake and Douglin are so involved in scheduling and officiating that neither have time to play.

"When we started, I provided the refs, the scheduling - I really didn't know what I was getting myself into," Blake said, "It was pretty intense. In fact the first playoff game was stopped

because of competitiveness and fights. I told them if I do it again next year, there will be better sportsmanship, better conduct. The following season I implemented a lot of the rules like suspensions, etc. We won't allow a team or individual to spoil it for everyone."

But still, the second season was not a given after the bumpy start.

"I had it in my heart to do it. Then the guys tugged on me all year. Then the mission deal came up and I knew we had to do it," Blake said.

Game day is now, as Blake describes it, is a family atmosphere that has many players and teams make an entire day of Saturdays during the season.

"We say a prayer before each game. There's no cursing, no bickering, no alcohol and no drugs," Blake said.

According to both Blake and Douglin, the league is an "outlet for people who love to play football," and also an opportunity to help raise funds in order for mission trips to "spread the Word."

"You can't expect to put your hand out everywhere. (We said) let's do something that will be fun for the community, they enjoy the league," Douglin said.

"We use this as an opportunity to go and share the Gospel and for the community to come together and have a good time," Blake said.

The league, which has grown to 10 teams, plays a five-week season before the playoffs begin. Games are played at Coggin Park and also near 3M. Games are 40 minutes long, played in 10-minute quarters. One of the additions to this spring's schedule will be an All-Star game. The league is open to players age 17-years and up. Registration information is available at Weakley-Watson Sporting Goods in downtown Brownwood.

This Week in Texas History

By: Bartee Haile

Never a dull moment for First Texas Printer

February 13 - 19, 2008
On Feb. 18, 1817, a Boston teenager with a hand-cranked press produced the first printed words in Texas history - the long-winded manifesto of an ill-fated expedition.

On his way to free Mexico from Spanish tyranny, Francisco Xavier Mina docked at an American port to take on provisions. He also picked up a printer for his British-made press, a footloose 16 year old named Samuel Bangs.

During a short stopover at Galveston Island, the youth put his employer's high-minded thoughts on paper. The ink had hardly dried on the rambling manifesto, when Mina ordered his tiny fleet to weigh anchor. But the would-be liberators no sooner landed on the coast of Mexico than the Spaniards cut them to pieces.

The terrified tagalong survived the bloodbath but feared each day might be his last as one by one his companions were put to death. Bangs was informed at last that his life had been spared because the pragmatic authorities needed his expertise. No one knew how to operate the captured printing contraption.

Though still technically a prisoner, the American opened a primitive shop in Monterrey and became the first printer ever in the Mexican city. Bangs adapted to his new environment by accepting baptism in the Catholic Church and changing his name to Jose Manuel Bangs.

In 1821 he was given a measure of freedom and appointed official government printer with a salary of 18 pesos a month. Forced to provide his own food, shelter and clothing on the miserly wage, he soon decided he had been better off in chains.

Later that same year, Bangs naively presumed that the overthrow of the Spanish regime would result in his release. However, in spite of

their proclamations promising liberty for all, the victorious revolutionaries refused to turn him loose.

But Bangs would not take no for an answer and month after month politely petitioned for a pardon. In 1823, after six and a half years in Mexican custody, he finally obtained a permission to leave the country.

Red carpets and brass bands were in short supply for Bangs' Boston homecoming. His mother had given her missing son up for dead and moved away, and his sister had died leaving her estate, including Bangs' inheritance, to a conniving husband, who gave him a shoulder colder than the Massachusetts winter.

Bangs sued his stingy brother-in-law winning only a fraction of what was rightfully his. He managed to locate his mother, but the reunion turned out to be a heartbreaking disappointment.

Writing off his relatives and his native New England, Bangs married a childhood sweetheart, the one person who had waited for him, and settled in New York City. But life in the Manhattan antihill eventually made him homesick for, of all places, sunny Mexico.

Like an ex-convict asking the warden for his old cell, Bangs begged his former captors to take him back. Although undoubtedly mystified by the foreigner's change of heart, the Mexicans honored the strange request and allowed him to return with his wife and first child in the spring of 1827.

Three years later, as a citizen in good standing of his adopted country, Bangs secured a large grant along the Colorado River in provincial Texas. He quit his job and homesteaded the land only to discover he had been stuck with a contested title.

A clever attorney cleared the legal logjam, but Bangs paid through the nose for his

services. By the time he settled with the shyster, all he had left was one of the original four leagues of river-front property.

Struggling along with a small newspaper in Victoria, a wary Bangs watched the Lone Star Revolution with mixed emotions. Understanding the passions on both sides, he was paralyzed by indecision and sat out the conflict.

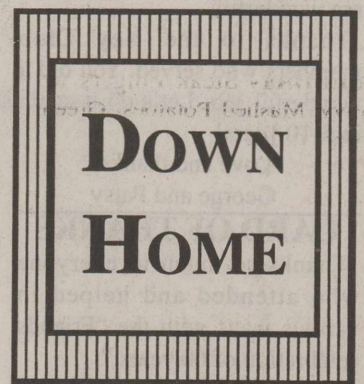
While Texans celebrated their San Jacinto triumph, the grieving editor buried his wife, a victim of a yellow fever epidemic. Depositing his two boys in a boarding school back east, the widower began a new life.

From his brief visit 20 years before, Bangs vaguely remembered Galveston as "a piece of the prairie that had quarreled with the mainland and dissolved the partnership." He found to his surprise that the pirate outpost had been replaced by a real town, the largest in the new Republic, and the gypsy printer launched the island's original newspaper.

No matter how hard he worked, Bangs could not make a success of the Galveston paper nor any of his later enterprises which included a hotel at Point Isabel. A blue-collar printer at heart rather than a bottom-line businessman, he was never on speaking terms with profit.

After a ship sank with all his worldly possessions and he nearly lost his life in a stagecoach encounter with Indians, Samuel Bangs left Texas for good. The first printer in Lone Star history spent his last years toiling in impoverished obscurity as an ordinary pressman in Kentucky.

Bartee Haile welcomes your comments, questions and suggestions at HYPERLINK "mailto:haile@pdq.net" haile@pdq.net or P.O. Box 152, Friendswood, TX 77549. And don't forget to visit www.twith.com!



Editor's Note: Most of you can relate to the following major change in the 23rd Psalm. If you have Dish or something similar, you know what is out there. This is a "wake up call" for all us couch potatoes. I'm ready for spring to arrive (seems like the wind has already started blowing) so I can get out in my yard and get my hands in the good old dirt and start planting flowers. That should keep me off the couch, how about you??? **Vanda Anderson**

The 23rd Channel

The TV is my shepherd, I shall not want, It makes me lie down on the sofa, It leads me away from the faith. It destroys my soul. It leads me in the path of sex and violence for the sponsor's sake. Yea, though I walk in the shadow of Christian responsibilities, there will be no interruption for the TV is with me. It's cable and remote control, they comfort me. It prepares a commercial for me in the presence of my worldliness. It anoints my head with humanism and consumerism, my coveting runneth over. Surely, laziness and ignorance shall follow me all the days of my life, And I shall dwell in the house watching TV forever.

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5-Cross Plains Review February 14, 2008

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PUBLIC NOTICE

A public hearing has been scheduled by the CP Economic Development Corp. on February 25, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. for the consideration of a proposal from Randy and Phyllis dba Pancake's Home Stitches as well as a proposal for new fencing for the Cross Plains Girls Softball Field. Also to be discussed will be the 2008/2009 annual budget. Anyone interested in the projects are encouraged to attend the meeting. 48-11c

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CARD OF THANKS

To all our friends and neighbors, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your many, many prayers during my recent battle with a major heart attack. If it wasn't for the prayers the quick action of my wife a R.N. — I wouldn't be here today.

Thank Jesus I'm fully healed! Again thanks a million from a very humbled Cowboy.

Charles Payne and Linda, too!

CARD OF THANKS

First of all I thank God for answered prayers. I also thank Bro. Dwaine Clower, David, and Bro. Ronnie for the visits and prayers. Thank you for calls, prayers, cards, flowers, visits, and food. I also want to thank Jan, Lynda, and Betty for staying with me at night after I got home. Also thanks to Sharon for all the food you brought everyday.

I thank my children and grandchildren for all they did for me. Thank you Kristin and the little girls for having my Christmas tree decorated when I got home.

It is wonderful to have friends and I thank you again from the bottom of my heart.

Shirley Hunter

CARD OF THANKS

Words are inadequate to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone that helped with Mother's "Graduation Celebration". You took the "sting" out of so many last minute details that make preparation time so difficult. The family's needs were met so swiftly and graciously and with so much love that our hearts exploded with joy for Mom, rather than sorrow for our loss. She lived 102 grand and glorious years for us and now she has received her reward.

Our special thanks to Pastor Ronnie and Charla White and Kerry Mann for a beautiful service. Dee and Bob Harrell, your special gifts amaze us. How blessed we are to have such a loving team to walk beside us in times of grief.

Thank you for the cards, calls and many acts of kindness. We were truly blessed.

Margaret Coppinger,
Gene & Betty Greenwood,
Carol Greenwood,
grandchildren,
great-grandchildren and
great-great-grandchildren

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you seems so simple, but it is with grateful hearts that we say "Thank You" to each and everyone who have shown many acts of kindness during the illness and death of Tommie Harris. Your thoughts, prayers, cards, visits, flowers, and food meant so much to all of us. Thank you to the Rising Star Nursing Center for your gentle and loving care. Also, to Dr. Joanne Paulk and staff.

The memorial service presented by Rev. Margaret Friend and Bro. Bob Pipes and the music by Matt, Mandy, Rhonda, and Connie was all a beautiful tribute to his memory. Special thank you for the Church of Christ Activity Center the delicious meal by the Methodist Church family and friends, and to Bob and Dee and the staff of Higginbotham Funeral Home.

Our prayer is that God's Blessings be on each of you as He has so lovingly blessed us.

The Families of Phyllis Harris Don & Marsha Harris, Jimmy & Pam Harris, Nicky & Evelyn Harris and the Late Terry Harris

CARD OF THANKS

We, Friends, wish to extend our thanks to friends and family who made our 60th Anniversary so special. It was a lovely evening and we enjoyed your presence and the expressions of love and memories. The cards and flowers are wonderful.

Thanks to the Key Club members who served. You did a wonderful job. Let's do it again in 5-10 years!

Love and thanks,
George and Patsy

CARD OF THANKS

Thanks so much to everyone who attended and helped in various ways with the "Friends celebration of 60 years."

We do share a CARING and loving community. Thanks especially to the Key Club members who served.

Love and blessings,
Connie Kirkham

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NEW LISTING--32/A with 3BD/2B new home, CH/A, with 2 car carport, perfect patio in the back for morning coffee or evening dinners, has a deck on second floor of home with a great view, home is fenced off from the pasture, beautiful Austin stone barn, 2 large ponds, pasture land with lots and lots of Oaks, excellent grass for running cattle. This property is 7 miles south of Cross Plains, on county road, rural water, Brown County. (owner agent)
NEW LISTING--39/A with 2BD/2B rock home, CH/A, home is fenced, large storage bldg., 2 car garage with lots of space for storage or workshop, sheds, nice pond, secluded, perfect place to run some cattle and enjoy the country life. ALSO!!! 3BD/2B new home, CH/A, with 2 car carport, perfect patio in the back for morning coffee or evening dinners, has a deck on second floor of home with a great view, home is fenced off from the pasture, beautiful Austin stone barn, 2 large ponds, pasture land with lots and lots of Oaks, excellent grass for running cattle. This property is 7 miles south of Cross Plains, on county road, rural water, Brown County. CAN BE DIVIDED! Call for more details and COME TAKE A LOOK! (owner agent) WON'T LAST LONG! \$400,000.
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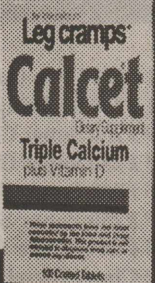
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(USPS 138-660) is published weekly on Thursday, for \$26.00 per year within Callahan County; \$31.00 per year elsewhere in Texas; \$34.00 per year out of state. (No foreign copies except APO or like Address); by Review Publishing Co., 116 S.E. 1st St., Cross Plains, Texas 76443.

Letters-to-the-Editor must be signed, dated and include the author's address and phone number and must be brought into the newspaper office. No mailed or e-mailed Letters will be accepted.

Periodical postage paid at Cross Plains, Texas 76443

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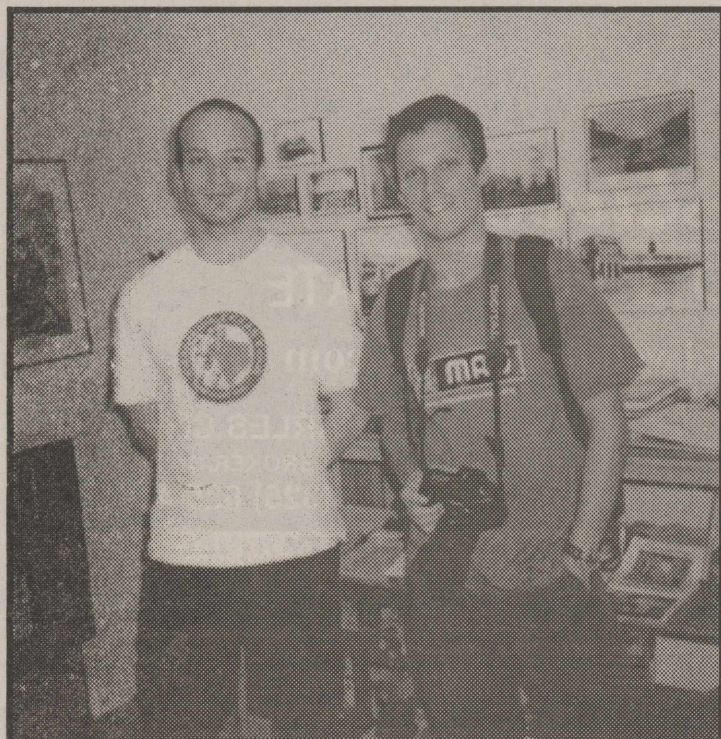
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VISITING FROM FRANCE—Simon Sanahuja (left) and Gwenn DuBourthomieu from France doing research at the Robert E. Howard Museum recently.

France Comes to Cross Plains

What does a Hollywood movie star, an alligator mover from Florida, a chef in a 4 star restaurant in England, a high school janitor from Texas and a college professor from Tulane University all have in common? Their common interest in all things Robert Howard has brought them to visit our fair community.

The latest additions to the long list of interesting people who have come to visit the Robert E. Howard Museum arrived last week from France. Simon Sanahuja and Gwenn DuBourthomieu had flown into DFW from Reims, France and were traveling around Texas visiting various places that had impacted Robert Howard's writings. And in the process, they were recording their own experiences as they retraced Howard's steps some 70-80 years later.

Simon is the writer of the pair, specializing in science fiction. But, as he related, "teaching music is my daytime job that I cannot afford to give up yet." Doing the photography for the trip and upcoming book is Gwenn, whose full time job is going into former battle zones and diffusing live land mines that have been left behind. His employer, MAG (Mines Advisory Group), is a non-profit humanitarian organization based

in the United Kingdom. Gwenn has spent a lot of time recently in central Africa and Cambodia helping restore the environment to a safe and productive resource. He must be well trained as he still has all of his fingers and toes!

The travelers live in the area of France known as the "Home of Champagne", approximately 100 miles from Paris. Simon's family operates a vineyard in the area and he related to Project Pride members how he had picked a lot of grapes in his life to be bottled under the J. Wafflart label.

After leaving the Howard House, the fellows went looking for a place to buy cowboy hats, a good meal and a motel room as they were spending the night before continuing their loop around Texas. They promised to return here for another night and another visit before returning their rental car to DFW and winging their way back across the waters.

Every week brings a different adventure to the local Project Pride organization. You, too, can be a part of their fun by joining the group. Membership dues of \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per couple or family may be mailed to Project Pride, PO Box 534, Cross Plains, Tx 76443. For more information, please call 254-725-4993.

Submitted by Arlene Stephenson



GEORGE AND PATSY FRIEND

A Night with FRIENDS

Thursday, February 7th was a special day for two very special people, George and Patsy Friend, who celebrated their 60 year wedding anniversary with about 60 friends and family.

A dinner party was held at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. Fun fellowship and good food was enjoyed by all. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful night of remembrance. George told stories of the proposal and how Patsy didn't even have to "think about it" but immediately said - Yes!! He also told terrific stories of world travel and adventures. Other friends shared sweet memories of knowing and loving the FRIENDS.

The tables were decorated with Valentine sweetheart theme — red roses, white and red carnations.

The meal was delicious with the first course consisting of celery soup with oyster crackers and croutons. The meat selection was breast of turkey with cranberry relish, roast with gravy, or honey glazed ham with pineapple. The vegetables were scalloped potatoes, asparagus with cheese sauce and heart of Romaine salad. Dessert was angel food cake with Blue Bell ice cream.

It was a delightful evening and everyone expressed a good time.

Submitted by Connie Kirkham

Texans get help filing for earned income tax credit

AUSTIN — Qualifying Texans can continue to benefit from the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which allows lower-income individuals and families to pay less or no federal tax, or receive cash payments. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) and the 28 local workforce boards are offering services to help qualified taxpayers take advantage of EITC, including free tax preparation assistance by Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteers.

EITC inserts have been included in the mailings of 1099 tax forms to all Calendar Year (CY) 2007 Unemployment Insurance (UI) recipients. Many workforce boards are placing links to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) EITC site on computers in workforce center resource rooms, along with links to the Texas Comptroller's Web site, <http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/eitc/>, which provides information on EITC and local VITA sites across Texas.

The IRS estimates that in 2006 more than 2 million Texans claimed more than \$4.8 billion in EITC credits statewide; the average refund was \$2,208. In recent years, Texas has ranked first in the nation in the number of EITC dollars that taxpayers claimed. However, the IRS estimates that more than 20 percent of Americans who qualify for the credit fail to claim it on their tax returns, despite the credit's availability.

Under certain limitations for 2007, individuals may qualify if their adjusted gross income is less than:

- \$37,783 (\$39,783 married filing jointly) with two or more qualifying children;
- \$33,241 (\$35,241 married filing jointly) with one qualifying child;
- \$12,590 (\$14,590 married filing jointly) with no qualifying children.

The maximum credit for 2007 is as follows:

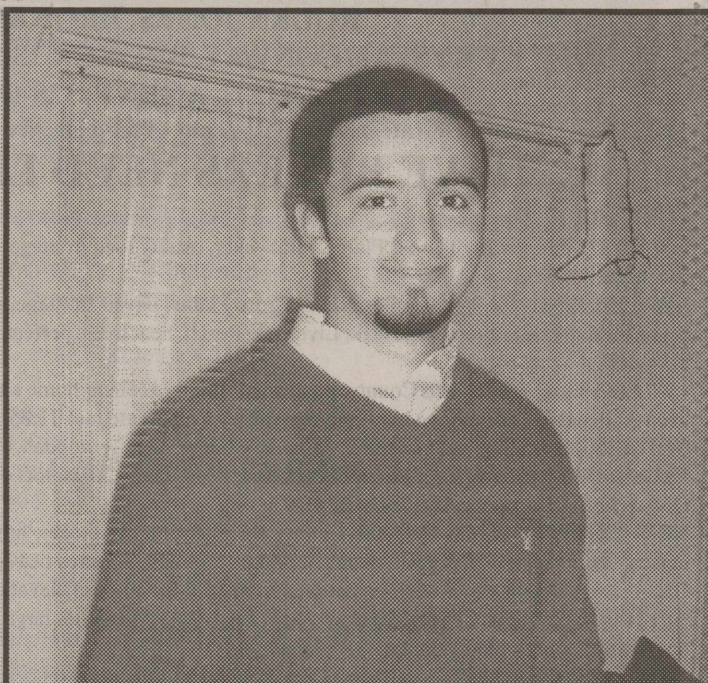
- \$4,716 with two or more qualifying children;
- \$2,853 with one qualifying child;
- \$428 with no qualifying children.

Investment income must be less than \$2,900 for the year. Texas Workforce Commission • 512-463-8942 • <http://www.texasworkforce.org> • Equal Opportunity Employer Relay Texas • 1-800-735-2989 (TDD) • 1-800-735-2988 (Voice) 2-2-2-2 Earned Income Tax Credit

EITC has no effect on certain public assistance benefits. In most cases, the credit payments will not be used to determine eligibility for Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), food stamps, low-housing or most Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) payments.

"EITC dollars can really make a difference in a working family's life and can add dollars to a local community's economy," said South Texas Workforce Board Chair Lupita Canales. Congress originally approved the tax credit legislation in 1975 to provide an incentive to work and to offset Social Security taxes.

More information on EITC can be found by contacting local workforce board representatives at www.texasworkforce.org or at www.irs.gov.



RECOGNITION—On January 29, 2008, Joe Alan Martinez, a native of Eastland, was named to the Academic Honor's List for the 2007 fall semester at Howard Payne University (HPU). Students must earn a 3.65-3.99 grade point average to be Named to the Dean's List. Joe Alan is the son of Joe and Lil Martinez of Eastland, and the grandson, of Sally Davis and the late Sid Davis of Cross Plains. He is majoring in psychology. He will graduate from HPU in May of 2008.

To get your name on the Birthday Column, send your name and date of birth to *The Cross Plains Review*, P.O. Box 519, Cross Plains, Texas 76443, There is no charge for this service. To delete a name due to death or other reasons send name and birth date (Month and Day) or Call 254-725-6111

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James Reynolds
Bill Holland
Buck Kelly
Maola 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

FEBRUARY 18
Vicki Goble Williams
Christy Raynell Jones
Michael Havner
Joe Atwood Watson
Sherri Neal Riney
Joe Anderson
Donnel Lutgens
Lamar Gregg
Mrs. W.E. Thompson
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Gay (Vaught) Fields
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Sharon Archer Merry
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