

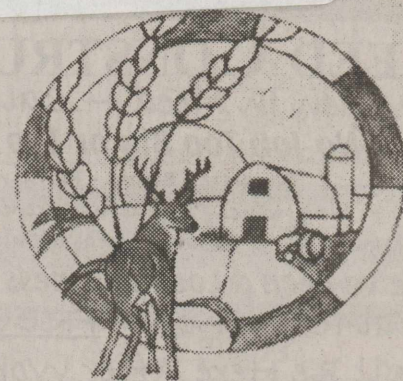
Keys to our Past,  
Present and Future  
Hinge on the Cross

# Cross Plains Review

## "Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

### "A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, January 29, 2009



Rich in Agriculture  
Abundant in Wildlife

NUMBER 46

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

100th YEAR

## Callahan County schools could receive \$1,581,300 in funding

Federal economic stimulus bill estimates show millions flowing to public schools in Texas.

AUSTIN (1/23/09) - Public school districts in Callahan County could have an additional \$1,581,300 over a two-year period to spend, according to Strategic Partnerships, Inc., (SPI) an Austin-based research and procurement consulting firm. The totals quoted are part of the \$825 billion economic stimulus package currently being considered by the U.S. Congress. The House Appropriations Committee Wednesday reported its economic stimulus bill out of committee and the bill will now go to the House floor for debate.

"This is good news for schools, good news for the economy and good news for companies that sell to government," said Mary Scott Nabers, president and CEO of Strategic Partnerships, Inc. "Not only will the federal economic stimulus funding provide Texas schools with some much-needed additional funding for facilities, programs and technology, but it will also

open up additional contracting opportunities for local businesses to sell their goods and services to school districts - providing a much-needed boost to local economies."

The funding is aimed at improving public school classrooms, laboratories and libraries for students across the nation and is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan aimed at providing increased educational opportunities for school students, creating jobs and moving the nation's economy forward. Toward that goal, an estimated \$41 billion in funds could be pushed to local school districts nationwide. That includes \$13 billion each for both Title I and IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) programs, both of which are based on formula funding and address high poverty schools and special needs students respectively.

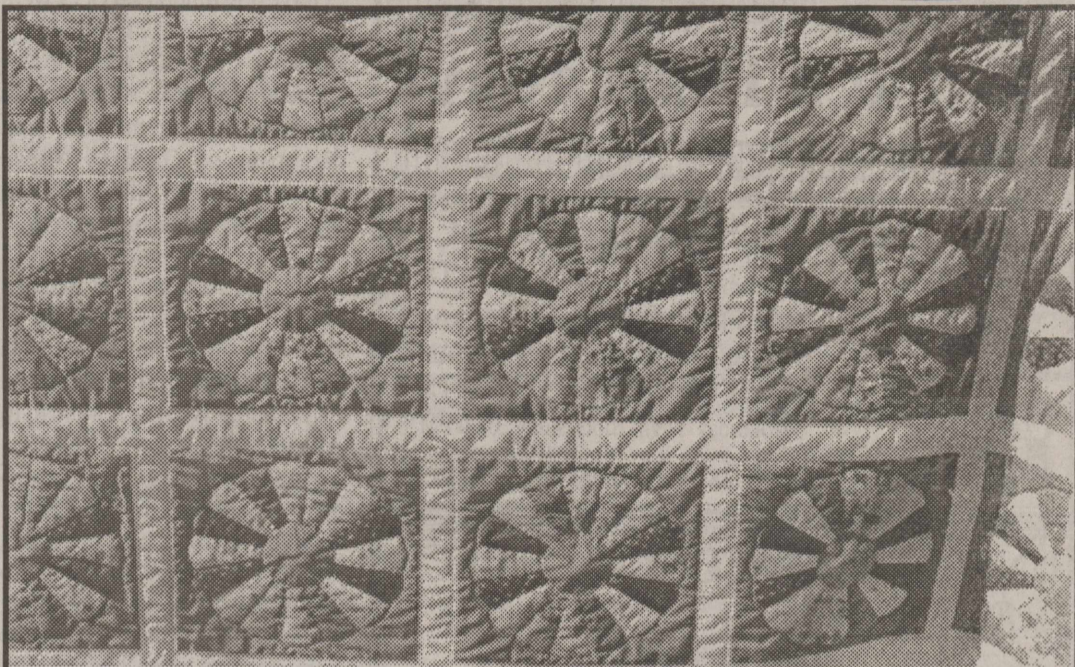
Another \$14 billion is estimated to be allocated for school modernization and repairs and an estimated \$1 billion could be allocated for education technology.

"Although these figures are

not yet firm," said Nabers, "President Obama has said he intends to move swiftly on the economic stimulus package, as every day it is delayed, thousands of Americans lose their jobs. These millions of dollars estimated to be headed to local school districts in Texas will not only supplement school coffers, but also provide contracting opportunities that can put local workers back to work."

A breakdown of how much it is estimated that Callahan County public schools will receive over two years from the House version of the Economic Recovery Package follows:

- Baird Independent School District - \$256,500
  - Clyde Consolidated Independent School District - \$698,900
  - Cross Plains Independent School District - \$344,300
  - Eula Independent School District - \$281,600
- For a statewide look at estimated funding for all school districts in Texas, click here:  
<http://www.spartnerships.com/budgets/Texas2009Stimulus.xls>



HANDMADE DRESDEN PLATE QUILT— The quilt was donated by Mary Ella Weaver. The quilt and other prizes in the drawing can be viewed online at CottonwoodTexas.com.



LONGHORN CALF— Just another great prize among the drawings to benefit the Cottonwood Fire Control Unit.

## Local agencies assist with Hawley range fire

The Clyde, Eula, Baird and Hamby volunteer fire departments, as well as the Callahan County Sheriff's Department, all assisted with a large range fire Thursday afternoon, January 22nd near Hawley which scorched over 2,500 acres, destroying six homes, five cabins and numerous outbuildings.

At 12:59 p.m. Thursday afternoon, 911 call takers received the first of many calls of the fire in Jones County. The fire started just northeast of Hawley and travelled northeast because of a strong southwesterly wind.

During the day, the fire raged out of control because of high winds, low humidity and a lack of access to the fire by fire officials. By midnight, officials had determined the blaze area to be about 80 percent contained and were continuing into the night to use dozers to circle the fire area making a fire break.

Firefighters were working into the night to get ahead of the fire

while the winds were much calmer than they had been during the daytime.

The command center for the various agencies battling the fire was set up on Farm Road 600, about 10 miles north of the Taylor/Jones County line.

Incident commander Clay Deatherage stated, "The fire traveled from Hawley toward the community of Nugent, covering an estimated five to ten sections of land. The fire has consumed ten to twelve structures. However, hundreds of head of cattle, bales of hay and property were saved because of the valiant efforts of the couple of hundred firefighters and volunteers that responded to this disaster."

The cause of the fire has not been determined. The Jones County Judge has declared the area a disaster area.

Other agencies that have assisted with the fire included: Jones County Emergency Management, Hawley VFD, Stamford VFD, Anson VFD, Lueders VFD, Abilene FD, Texas Forestry Service, Comanche Shores VFD, Stamford EMS, Haskell VFD, Shackelford VFD, Potosi VFD, Anson EMS, Jones County Sheriff's Department, Hamby PD, Anson PD, American Red Cross, Abilene Hillcrest Church of Christ, Roby VFD, Jones County Constable, Jones County Precincts, Wagley Construction, Liner Trucking Co., Texas Department of Transportation, Warren CAT, B.C. and Tommy Spraberry, Army Reserve, and Texas Department of Public Safety.

A Texas DPS helicopter enabled fire officials to survey the devastation left by the Thursday afternoon fire in Jones County. The helicopter is equipped with GPS (Global Positioning System) that allows the operator to measure with more accuracy, the extent of the fire. The DPS determined the fire destroyed six homes, five cabins, twenty outbuildings, and 2,500 acres of land (about 4 sections. One section is equal to 640 acres or one square mile).

On a positive note, fire officials indicated over 200 homes were saved due to the fire suppression efforts of the agencies.

## Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings Available in Cross Plains

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are now available in Cross Plains every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. beginning Tuesday, January 20th, 2009.

The meetings will be held at the Highway 206 Baptist Church located on North Main Street just north of the elementary building.

For additional information contact Claude Boudreaux at 254-725-4496.

## Johnny Smoot Benefit a huge success

Local Country & Western Band, Muddy Creek, and the Grand Ole Oplin wants to thank everyone who came out and showed their support for the Johnny Smoot Benefit which was held on January 24th.

A special thank you to Mr. Jerry Stayton of Jerry's Gun Shop in Dudley for donating a Henry Big Boy Lever-action Rifle that was raffled off during the benefit. A special thank you also to Alice D'Nunzio, Judy Woodard, Cheryl Smoot and their families for working so hard to make the spaghetti dinner a success. There is no way to list everyone that donated items to the silent auction and the bake sale or the folks that donated their time to make this benefit a success, but please know that you all are appreciated. Most importantly we thank all of the fine, generous folks who came out to the Grand Ole Oplin to show their support for Mr. Smoot. Needless to say, the benefit was a huge success. Submitted by: Pam Rumfield

## Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Benefit This Saturday, January 31st

For the past four months, the Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control Group has been telling people about the Benefit Prize Drawing. Over 90 prizes have been collected. Thousands of individuals have purchased tickets. It all comes to a close this Saturday, January 31st, when the names of the winners of the 90-plus prizes will be drawn.

The event, held at the Cottonwood Community Center in Cottonwood, will feature a fish fry catered by Catfish Corner of Abilene. The dinner includes catfish, French fries and hushpuppies, as well as coleslaw and beans made by members of the Fire Control Group. Dinner is \$6.00 per plate.

Persons who have purchased five tickets in their name and show the tickets will receive their dinner for free.

All of the proceeds received at the dinner go toward the Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control's Building Fund. The group is in need of a large building to house the 2-1/2 brush truck recently acquired from the Texas Forest Service.

The dinner begins at 4:00 p.m., with the prize drawing beginning at 6:00 p.m. Tickets for the benefit prize drawing will be sold until 5:00 p.m.

The drawing features over 90 prizes, including a registered Longhorn calf, Angus/Hereford cross calf, Boer meat goat,

handmade quilt, 50 caliber black powder rifle, handmade wooden beverage cooler, metal buffalo signs, handmade cross, \$100 gift card from Wal-Mart, gift certificates from United Food Stores, Lawrence Farm & Ranch Supply and Village Market, dinners at Jean's Feed Barn, Mexico City Cafe and the Staghorn Cafe, socket set, cordless drill, set of trailer tires, and many, many other prizes. A full prize catalog can be seen online at [www.cottonwoodtexas.com](http://www.cottonwoodtexas.com). You don't have to present to win. Everyone is invited to come out and have a great meal and support this local organization.

**Texas Heritage Bank**

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Member EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Presents: "What's Inside"

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**Texas Department of State Health Services**  
 Immunization Clinics in Callahan County

<p><b>Monday, February 9th</b>  <b>Baird Cafetorium • 400</b>  <b>W. 7th</b>  <b>Time 10 - 12</b>  <b>Cross Plains House</b>  <b>Authority</b>  <b>233 N. Main</b>  <b>Time 2 - 4</b></p>	<p><b>Wednesday, February 11th</b>  <b>Clyde First Baptist Church</b>  <b>216 Austin</b>  <b>Clyde</b>  <b>Time 10 - 12 &amp; 1:30 - 3</b></p>
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Please Bring Child's Immunization Record  
 If Child has Medicaid or CHIP, Please bring card  
 For More Information call 325-754-4945





### Varsity Boys Basketball Results

The varsity boys hosted the Albany Lions (9-7, 3-3) on Tuesday and the Zephyr Bulldogs (non-district game) on Friday of this past week.

The Buffaloes (6-18, 1-5) again, did not shoot the ball well against the Lions, going 10 for 33 from the field. "Our defensive efforts were much better this week against a very good shooting Albany team," said Cross Plains Head Coach Ryan Edmonds. "We executed our game plan, which was to contain their best two players...but we didn't control the boards and their bench did a good job, contributing 15 points to our 2."

Albany got the win 29-54. Cody Ford led all scorers with 10 points. Other scorers included: Wyatt - 6, Golson - 5, Moenning - 5, Self - 2, Border - 1.

The Buffaloes also hosted Zephyr (14-11) this past Friday. "We were not mentally ready to play," said Edmonds. "Our minds were on other things, and it really showed. We beat ourselves that night. It was a game we should have won and the guys know that." The Buffaloes went 13-39 from the field, shooting just 20 percent from the 3-point line and giving up 19 second chance points.

Zephyr won the game 43-48. Joe Wyatt led the Buffaloes with 16 points and Justin Golson followed with 15 of his own. Other scorers included: Ford - 5, Self - 5 and Moenning - 2. The Buffaloes will travel to Eula (20-6, 5-1) this Tuesday (1-27-09) and host Baird (10-14, 2-4) this Friday, which will also be senior night, at 8 p.m.

Team stats can be viewed on the web at [www.statsandgo.com](http://www.statsandgo.com).

### SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

#### FEBRUARY 2 - 6 BREAKFAST

**MONDAY** -Breakfast Burrito, Assorted Juice, Milk  
**TUESDAY**- Pancakes, Sausage Link, Fruit, Assorted Juice, Milk  
**WEDNESDAY**- Muffin, Yogurt, Fruit, Assorted Juice, Milk  
**THURSDAY** - Hot or Cold Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Assorted Juice, Milk  
**FRIDAY**- Cinnamon Roll, Yogurt, Fruit, Assorted Juice, Milk

#### LUNCH

**MONDAY**- Pizza, Seasoned Corn, Tossed Salad, Pudding, Milk  
**TUESDAY**- BBQ Chicken Strips, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Honey, Milk  
**WEDNESDAY** - Soft Tacos, Salad, Refried Beans, Pineapple Chunks, Milk  
**THURSDAY**- Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Cheese, Broccoli, Garlic Stick, Pears, Milk  
**FRIDAY**- Beef or Chicken Patty on Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, & Pickles, Baked Wedges, Cookie, Milk

#### Registration Open for April 4 ACT Test

The next ACT achievement test will be administered on April 4, 2009. Students who wish to take the college admission and placement exam must register by February 27, 2009. Late registration deadline is available February 28 - March 13, 2009 for an extra fee. Students may register online at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org), or pick up registration forms from high school counseling offices.

April is an ideal time for juniors to take the test. Once they receive their scores, they can plan their senior coursework to better prepare for college and careers. Students may select to send their test scores for free to as many as four colleges or universities during the registration process. Test results may also be sent after the test at additional cost. ACT offers true student choice; students decide only those test scores they wish to report.

The cost is \$31 for the traditional ACT test and \$46 for the ACT Plus Writing. Students should determine whether colleges and universities they are considering require the optional writing score. A list of schools that require the writing test can be found at [www.actstudent.org/writing](http://www.actstudent.org/writing). ACT scores are accepted by all four-year colleges and universities across the U.S.

The ACT, a curriculum-based achievement exam, consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science, and takes about three hours. The ACT Plus Writing requires an additional 30 minutes to complete. Unlike other tests, students are not penalized for guessing and answering all the questions on each section. In fact, it is beneficial to students to answer all questions.

#### Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The Ten Star Summer Basketball Camp is by Invitation Only.

Boys and girls age 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 11 foreign countries attend the 2008 Camp. College basketball scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team.

Camp locations include Commerce, Texas, Phoenix, AR, Babson Park, FL, Gainesville, GA, Champaign, IL, Glassboro, NJ, Ithaca, NY, Marietta, OH, Lebanon, TN and Blacksburg, VA. There is also a Summer Camp available for boys and girls ages 9-18 of all skill levels.

For a free brochure on these Summer Camps, please call 704-373-0873 anytime, [www.tenstarcamp.com](http://www.tenstarcamp.com).

## Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame seeks nominations for 2009

The Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame is now seeking nominations for this year's class. The 2009 Hall of Fame banquet will be held May 23rd at the Abilene Civic Center.

Once again this year, the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame is partnering with Texas State Technical College. The Hall of Fame banquet has raised nearly \$250,000 for educational scholarships at TSTC.

The Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame has inducted 49 individuals in its seven years of existence. Add to that the 10 individuals from the defunct AISD Sports Hall of Fame that were added, and the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame now includes

59 of the top athletes and coaches from the Big Country.

To be eligible for the Big Country Hall of Fame, an athlete must have graduated from a high school in one of the 19 counties surrounding Abilene that make up the West Texas Council of Governments. Athletes must be out of high school at least 10 years. Coaches must have coached at a Big Country high school and be retired from that position for at least five years.

The Big Country Hall of Fame also has a category for sports writers and sportscasters and another for officials, those in local chapters who have distinguished themselves as a football, basketball or baseball ref-

eree or umpire, or an official in any other sport.

We are asking the public to help with nominee selection. All those previously nominated will be considered for induction by the selection committee. Bill Hart is accepting the new nominations. Please send nominations to Hart. His address is 640 Arch, Baird, 79504. Nominations can also be faxed to (325) 854-2812 or e-mailed to [hartbf@msn.com](mailto:hartbf@msn.com). No phone calls please.

The deadline for making nominations is January 30th. The announcement of this year's inductees will be made in February, once the committee meets and those selected have been notified.

#### Corrections to Cross Plains Elementary UIL Results

**Editor's Note:** The following items were inadvertently typed incorrectly or left off last week's listing. **Vanda Anderson**

- 3rd Place Teams**  
 Dictionary Skills - 5th grade  
 Mathematics - 6th grade  
 Music Memory - 5th grade
- 3rd Place Students**  
 Blake Self- 6th Grade Spelling
- 5th Place Students**  
 Hannah Crockett - 2nd Grade Oral Reading
- 6th Place Students**  
 Kelli Bennett - 5th Grade Oral Reading

A called meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cross Plains I.S.D. will be held on January 29, 2009, beginning at 6 p.m. in the high school library. The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as follows:

1. School Board Training "Searching for a Superintendent".
2. Adjourn.

If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will convene in such closed

meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code. Before any such meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting.

This notice was posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act on January 21, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. by Jackie Tension for the Board of Trustees.

### SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

**BUY YOUR CROSS PLAINS TOBOGGAN TODAY!**  
 Help support the 8th grade class!  
**ONLY \$8.00**  
 If you would like to purchase a toboggan, please contact a member of the 8th grade class.

**Neck Ties Needed**  
 Family Consumer Science classes needs mens ties for a sewing project.  
 If you would like to donate please contact Mrs. Wootton at 725-6121 ext. 365 or [jwootton@cplains.esc14.net](mailto:jwootton@cplains.esc14.net).  
 Thanks for all the support.

### Library's ASAP to Honor Presidents

Do you know what Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln have in common? They share the same birthday month of February.

Washington was born February 22, 1732, and Lincoln was born February 12, 1809.

The Cross Plains Public Library will be remembering their importance in American history for the monthly After School Adventure Program, or ASAP.

After the informative program, we will be doing fun crafts. The program will start at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 4th. We look forward to seeing you there!

Submitted by **Linda Burns, Librarian**

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# Local car dealers optimistic despite national news

BY: AL PICKETT  
Special Writer

Mark Hanner has some advice for his customers. "Don't watch TV and don't listen to the national media" is Hanner's suggestion.

With a slumping economy and government bailout of the three domestic automobile manufacturers dominating the

headlines, local car dealers such as Hanner Chevrolet in Baird and Blake Fulenwider Dodge-Chrysler-Jeep in Clyde are seemingly caught in the middle between the manufacturers who are requesting a government bailout and the consumers who are being painted a pessimistic picture of the domestic car industry and the current credit

crisis. "I don't like government intervention," said Blake Fulenwider, owner of Blake Fulenwider Dodge-Chrysler-Jeep, "but I supported the bridge loans (for the domestic automobile manufacturers). Our industry has gotten a bad rap in the media. It is in better shape than what you hear in the news. Our industry got caught in a firestorm it didn't create, and that trickled down to everybody."

Hanner said his dealership went against the curve and had an increase in business in 2008.

"We are blessed," he said. Both Hanner and Fulenwider emphasized that lost in the negative news of the bailout is the quality of the American-made automobiles.

"We have the best products we have ever had," said Hunter Hanner, who works with his father in the dealership. "You don't hear about that because the media is so focused on the corporate structure. The quality is great and the fuel mileage is good."

"I read the other day a list of the top 10 most efficient assembly plants in North America, Fulenwider said. "There were four Chrysler plants, four GM plants, one Ford and one import-and the import factory was 10th. That never gets reported. The domestic car companies have done a great job. They have survived a historic event. I read last month that more cars were being scrapped than purchased in the United States. That has never happened before. The imports have had their struggles, too. Their sales are way down."

Mark Hanner said a recent independent J.D. Power survey showed that domestic cars have the fewer problems per car.

"We are building a better car," he added. "The new Chevy Malibu is winning all the awards."

Hanner pointed out there is plenty of financing available for car loans, too.

"Although financing with GMAC and some banks have tightened," he said, "we have conservative local banks who didn't need a bailout. We have good access to auto loans."

Hanner added that special financing has never been a major part of Hanner Chevrolet's business, so the credit crisis didn't impact his dealership as much as some of the bigger stores.

"A high percentage of our customers have good credit scores," he continues. "Most people in this part of the world have jobs. They are spending money. We are also deep in the trailer and RV business, and we've had a record year."

Fulenwider expects that some dealerships, caught in the middle of the economic recession, may go out of business this year.

"We are very pleased in this market," he said. "We are more stable, and this is a truck market. We have struggled in the second half of the year, but many are far worse. I wouldn't be surprised to see 100 car dealerships go out of business in the year, but I don't think any of them will be in the Big Country."

Fulenwider blamed the

potential failures on a lack of credit.

"Some metro dealerships' expenses are so high, they can't afford the downturn," he said. "We are more conservative out here."

Hanner claimed he gets frustrated watching the national news.

"Why wouldn't they root for our own manufacturers to

make it," he said. "We are excited for what 2009 will mean. We will be glad when the national economy turns around."

"If we haven't reached bottom, we are close," Fulenwider added. "The oil and gas industry and the wind energy will continue to be a big deal for our customers out here."



BLAKE FULENWIDER

...owner of Blake Fulenwider Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep in Clyde



MARK HANNER

...owner of Hanner Chevrolet in Baird

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January 29, 2009

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**SATURDAY, JAN 31**  
**Cottonwood Community Center**



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**Corner, Abilene**  
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Hushpuppies

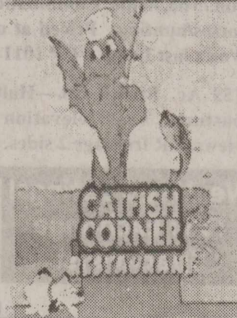
Prize Drawing Starts at 6 p.m.

Bring Your Tickets With You

Tickets Sold at the Door until 5 p.m.  
Over 90 prizes will be drawn for.

Proceeds Benefit the

**Cottonwood Volunteer  
Fire Control Group**



You are invited to a  
**Creation vs. Evolution Seminar**



- Did humans and dinosaurs coexist?
- Did humans evolve from apelike creatures?
- How is atheism affecting your family?

We invite you to join us as we investigate the evidence. There will be a Q & A session following Friday and Saturday night sessions. These lectures are FREE and open to all ages.

**Rising Star Church of Christ**

104 S. Miller St., Rising Star

Friday, Feb. 6th	7:00pm	Atheism's Attack on America
Saturday, Feb. 7th	6:30pm	Genesis vs. Darwin
	7:30pm	The Dinosaur Dilemma
Sunday, Feb. 8th	9:30am	Scientific Accuracy of the Bible
	10:30am	7 Reasons We are Losing our Kids

Featuring Guest Speaker: **Brad Harrub, Ph.D.**

Brad Harrub currently serves as the co-founder of Focus Press. In addition, he is the coeditor of *Think* magazine. He earned a doctorate in Anatomy and Neurobiology. He is the author or coauthor of the books, *Dissecting the Truth*, *Diamonds in the Rough*, *The Truth About Human Origins*, *Matter of Life and Death*, & *Investigating Christian Evidences*. He was an invited speaker to the International conference on Creationism, he has appeared on the television show "Origins."

