

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

Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

"A Caring Community"



SOUTHWEST COLLECTION A Community of Texas Tech University

A Community of A Commu FEBRUARY 21, 2013 LUBBOCK, TEXAS

A Community of Faith,

101ST

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 50



Project Pride Presents Author Judia Terry — Members of Project Pride pose with artist Judia Terry of Terry Studio, Coleman, during the presentation of an historic mural depicting 100 years of Cross Plains, which is now on permanent display in the Cross Plains Public Library. The project was funded by Project Pride in memory of Dan Goudey. From left to right, Anne Rone, Arlene Stephenson, Tom Stephenson, Judia Terry, Russ Miller, Diana Miller, and Era Lee Hanke. The mural depicts scenes from the past and present, highlighting buildings and landmarks that make up our town's history. The Dan Goudey Memorial Fund was established for an artist who was planning to come to Robert E Howard Days in 2010, but had a sudden and fatal heart attack on News Year Day of that year. Most of the Howard fans knew him and a memorial fund was immediately set up with Project Pride as the recipient. Project Pride members elected to honor his memory with this permanent display.

Love Fund Established for Local Family

A love fund has been established at the Texas Heritage Bank for Bill Partin of Cross Plains who was severely injured in an auto accident west of Cross Plains several weeks ago.. He is recuperating from hip surgery and broken ribs.

Bill has three sons, A.G., Caleb and Corbin and is currently unable to work.

Bill has already been

Cross Plains Library "Pushing the Limits" event on Thursday, February 21st

There is still time to pick up authors' attention to the your book for the Cross Plains scientific detail of cutting edge Public Library's "Pushing The marine technologies is woven Limits" event on Thursday, into speculative fiction that keeps February 21st. The library is one readers transfixed through to the of 20 libraries nationwide who received a grant as a pilot project to explore ways for all of us to push the limits using science and technology. The book Arctic Drift by Clive Cussler has been selected for the Survival portion the topic of "How do we of a four part project. The survive."

triumphant end. Come by the library, sign up and receive your free copy of the book. We would love to have you join us for an evening of engaging and thoughtful discussion about the book and

Cross Plains Spring City Wide Clean-Up

The City of Cross Plains has scheduled its annual Spring clean up beginning March 4th offering residents the opportunity to dispose of any large, bulky items, FREE, at:

201 N. Avenue A

To take advantage of this free service, please bring a recent water bill to confirm residency. No one will be allowed to use the service unless a water bill is provided.

Free Drop Off Dates

March 4th through March 9th Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

APPLIANCES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OR ANY TYPE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS ALLOWED.



Proudly Showing Off a Prize Coon Dog - Virginia Allen showing one of the Coon Dogs during the Bench Show at the Battle Creek Coon Hunters first coonhunt of the season last SEE ADDITIONAL PHOTOS PG. 3 Saturday night.

overwhelmed by the generosity of Cross Plains residents, but the family is still in need of assistance. Your kind generosity would be greatly appreciated at this difficult time. Please continue to pray for him for a speedy recovery.



Hand-Crocheted quilt displayed at Senior Citizens -Crocheting is an art and the Cross Plains Senior Center has received a masterpiece as a fundraiser for the Center. The late Dorothy Mitchell was a very artistic person and created a hand-crocheted queen size bedspread that would add romance to any room. Helen Parson donated this beautiful bedspread. In addition to the bedspread, donations of place mats and napkins, fleece blanket, and Scentsy warmer and scents have been received. These donations were made by Donna Wagner, Lexia Bagley, and Lois Dillard. Sealed bids will be accepted on any or all items until 3:00 p.m. on February 28, 2013. You may come by 108 N. Main to see the items and make your bid. If you have any questions please call 725-6521.

Cross Plains Power Lifting — Getting Extremely Strong of Mind and Body!! Our Buffalo Power Lifters completed in Clyde on Thursday, February 8th. We had a tremendous day, and we're extremely proud of the young men and women who represent our school. They competed against much larger schools, Abilene High, Cooper, Jim Ned, Merkel, Sweetwater, and Clyde to name a few. The larger schools did NOT intimidate our mighty Buffaloes! Kenzie Halsel 1st, Evelyn Morales 3rd, Kaitlyn Potter 1st, Ariel Sneed 4th, Jeff King 2nd, Preston Posuk 5th, Dalton Gilliam 8th, Zach Gartman 9th, Phoenix Sanders 10th, Stephen Saltus 12th, our girls placed an overall 3rd as a team.

Texas Heritage

'We're Proud of Our Local Heritage

Member FDIC



Birthdays Cattle Industry Expo Classifieds Cottonwood News Courthouse News Cross Plains Retail Sales **Obituaries** Protect Our Praires **School Board Minutes** Senior Activities

Cottonwood Country Musical Scheduled for March

The next Cottonwood Country March 1st.

Since March is the month for St. Shepherd's Pie along with the usual sandwiches and desserts.

Come enjoy an evening of good food and great entertainment. thrown in with the favorite songs that the musicians usually play.

The concession is open at 5:00 p.m. and the music starts at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, March 1, 2013 at & Rides. Forms are due by by the athlete's age as of the Cottonwood Community Friday, February 22, 2013. Late December 31, 2012. Please Center, Cottonwood, Texas.

2013 Youth Girls Softball **Registration Begins**

February 11, 2013 and will end additional Elementary Cookie Robinson \$15 late registration fee. questions.

The youth girls softball Registration fees are \$40 for the registration kicked off Monday, first athlete and \$35 for each sibling.While Musical is scheduled for Friday, on Friday, February 22, 2013. registration forms are due by Registration forms were sent Friday, February 22, 2013, home with girl students from the registration fees will be accepted Patrick's Day, we will be serving Cross Plains Primary and until Friday, March 8, 2013. All campuses. or most of the games will be Additional forms may be picked played in Early and/or up from the elementary and high Brownwood. Games will begin school offices or from in April and will continue into There may be a few Irish tunes McCready's Rods & Rides the middle of June for the 12 and located at 500 SW 5th St. in Cross 14 & under teams. There are Plains. Registration forms and four age groups for teams: 8 & fees may be returned to the school under, 12 & under, and 14 & offices or to McCready's Rods under. League age is determined registration may be accepted contact Amy McCready at Submitted by upon availability but will incur a 325-370-1452 for any additional

Texas Prepaid Tuition Program Enrollment deadline approaches

AUSTIN—Texas families still have time to lock in costs at Texas public colleges and universities at today's prices and avoid future increases in tuition and required fees. Comptroller Susan Combs reminds families they can do so by enrolling their children in the Texas Tuition Promise Fund", the state's prepaid college tuition program. The current annual enrollment period ends on Feb. 28th.

The Texas Tuition Promise Fund allows participants to lock in the cost of undergraduate tuition and required fees at Texas public colleges and universities based on current prices.

"Families can purchase a Promise Fund account and ease their concern about rising college costs," Combs said. "The program also gives parents the flexibility of choosing how much prepaid

tuition they want to buy and what payment options to use as they plan ahead for their children's education."

Under the plan, families can prepay tuition and required fees for a four-year degree, two years of community college or just a few semesters at Texas public colleges and universities by purchasing tuition units.

Enrollment in the program at 2012-13 prices will close Feb. 28th. This deadline extends to July 31st for children younger than 1. The next annual enrollment period begins Sept. 1st-, with new contract prices based on Texas public college costs for the 2013-14

academic year. Complete plan information, current prices, enrollment forms and more are available online at www.texastuitionpromisefund.com, or call (800) 445-GRAD (4723), Option 5.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School	9:45 AM
Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Evening Service	6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time	7:00 PM
David Braun Pactor	

Friendly Church Church (254) 725-6266

arch (254) 725-6266 Bible Teaching

Triple Cross Cowboy Church

Every Sunday at 10:30 am
Services held at 18071 CR 421, Cross Plains
(1/2 mile North of Cross Plains city limits on Hwy 206)



Al Taylor, Preacher
Phone: 254-725-7522
Cell Phone: 325-370-6680

Pioneer Baptist Church

Pastor: Dwaine Clowers 254-725-6268 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

Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Restoring And Equipping The Saints

Sunday....10:00 am Wednesday....7:00 pm

Pastor Max Evans

For Information Call (254) 725-7418

Rowden Baptist Church

Pastor: Wayne Lenz Music: Karen Lenz & Diane Woods

Bible Study...10:00 am Sunday Morning Worship...11:00 am

2990 Highway 36 at Rowden 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

First United Methodist Church

Kevin Morton, Pastor

Office 725-7377 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Parsonage 325-624-5634 Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

1000 North Main Street www.gbgm-umc.org/crossplains/

First Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY SERVICE 9:00 AM

MUSIC- CONNIE SWIFT

& BETTY LEWIS

LEAD SINGERS: 4HIS GLORY

Pastor Kathy Monroe

208 N. Ave. D 23-16

CROSS PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST

433 North Main Street Cross Plains, Texas 76443 Minister: RICK AUSTIN SUNDAY:

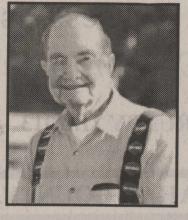
Bible Class: 9:45 A.M. Worship:10:45 A.M.

Evening Worship: 6:00P.M.

Wednesday: Evening: 7:00P.M. Ladies Class - Wednesday: 10:00A.M. (at

the church activity center on east Hwy 36)
They are studying from a book written by Lottie Beth Hobbs entitled -"Your Best Friend" and when completed with that study they will start with her book - "If You Would See Good Days"

OBITUARIES



Robert Illingworth

Robert Riley (Bob) Illingworth, 82, of Iowa Park, Texas, passed away Tuesday, February 12, 2013, in Iowa Park.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Friday, February 15, 2013, at Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel in Cross Plains, Texas with Mr. Bob Pipes and Mr. Rolan Jones officiating. Burial followed in Cross Plains Cemetery under the direction of Dutton Funeral Home of Iowa Park.

Bob was born September 26, 1930 in Coahoma, Howard County, Texas, to Riley "Shorty" and Alma Graves Illingworth. He married his wife of 60 years, Bonnie Porter, on June 1, 1952 in Cross Plains, Texas. He worked 32 years for Arcadia Refining Company, 17 years for Gilmore, Inc., and 14 years for Red River Harley-Davidson. Bob served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was a life member of Harley Owners Group. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle, water skiing and being with his family. He was a proud Texan and a member of the Cross Plains Presbyterian Church.

He received a kidney transplant in 1985 and was a 27 1/2 year transplant survivor. The family would like to thank the doctors from the Dallas Nephrology Associates, Dallas Transplant Institute, Charles A. Sammons Cancer Center of Dallas and Hospice of Wichita Falls.

Survivors include his wife, Bonnie Illingworth of Iowa Park; children, Vickie Gilmore and husband, Jim of Iowa Park; James Illingworth and wife, Becky of Royse City; Cindy Langlois and husband, Harry of Iowa Park; 13 grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren; sisters, Patty Turner of Hawkins and Sandra Jones and husband, Rolan of Cross Plains; brothers, Donald Illingworth and wife, Charlene of Desdemona, and Johnny Illingworth of May.

His parents, three brothers, Jack, Richard and Tommy; two sisters, Barbara and Carolyn and a daughter-in-law, Laurie preceded him in death.

Visitation for the family and friends was held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 14, 2013, at Dutton Funeral Home of Iowa Park. Visitation at Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel at Cross Plains was held from 12 noon until service time.

Pallbearers were his grandsons, Edwin Geer, Christian Geer, Ryan Geer, Jason Gilmore, Scott Illingworth and Ben Illingworth.

The family suggests memorials to Hospice of Wichita Falls, P.O. Box 4804, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308.

Messages of condolence may be sent to the family at http:// www.duttonfuneralhome.com/

Cross Plains Review Deadlines

Ads Noon on Tuesday Articles Noon on Monday

William "Bill" Lemoine Pancake, Jr.

William "Bill" Lemoine Pancake Jr., age 80, passed away on Monday, February 18, 2013 at the Rising Star Nursing Center. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the Higginbotham Funeral Chapel in Cross Plains with Pastor Ronnie B. White officiating; burial will follow in the Pioneer Cemetery. Visitation was held Wednesday, February 20th from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Bill was born on February 12, 1933 in Eastland County, Texas to Lemoine William and Lola Lee (Arnett) Pancake. He married Grace Elaine Ratliff on April 21, 1985 in Anson, Texas. He worked in the oil fields as a driller.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine Pancake of the home, sons Ronnie Pancake of Brownwood, Mike Pancake of Las Vegas, NV, Kenny Pancake of Abilene, step-daughter, Drew Eppard of Cross Plains, step-sons, Danny Ratliff of Cross Plains, Micke Ratliff, brothers, Jackie and Edward Pancake both of Cross Plains, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, and one brother Johnnie Pancake.

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2- February 21, 2013 Cross Plains Review

Courthouse News

Callahan County Court Roger Corn, presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

Watkins P. Whitworth, Ct. I possession of marijuana, Ct. II unlawful carrying of a weapon. Sam Lee Moreau, possession of marijuana.

Derrell D. Rollins, driving while license invalid (DWLI).

Justin Glenn White, theft by

Justin Glenn White, theft by check.

Misdemeanor Minutes

Dolly C. Herbert, judgment revoking probation granted, sentenced to jail.

Shelley Mae Mangum, motion to revoke probation granted.

Patrick L. Whitney, plea of guilty to driving without a license, \$500 fine, \$324 court

Michael J. Carpenter, plea of guilty to possession of marijuana, 1 year probation, \$500 fine \$324 court costs

fine, \$324 court costs.

Michael J. Carpenter, order amending conditions of probation granted.

David J. McCurdy, plea of guilty to possession of marijuana, 30 days in jail, \$324 court costs.

Javier Hernandez, plea of guilty

to driving while intoxicated (DWI), 1 year probation, \$500 fine, \$424 court costs.

Javier Hernandez, order

amending conditions of probation granted.

Edgar U. Hernandez, plea of prison, \$314 court costs. guilty to DWI, 1 year probation,

\$500 fine, \$424 court costs.
Edgar U. Hernandez, order amending conditions of probation granted.

Marriage Licenses

Billy Kent Stennett and Nicole Desiree Williams, both of Clyde. Christopher Bradley Gray and Jeanna Lou Hall, both of Clyde. Robert William Matthew and Rosario Ausces Nguyen, both of Clyde.

Adam Blak Rosenbaum and Kristin Melaine Hertel, both of Clyde.

42nd District Court John Weeks, presiding

Civil Minutes

Jim Tom Beeman and Hope Hazel Beeman, divorce granted.

Criminal Filings

Gary Bowen, forgery.

Criminal Minutes

Gary Bowen, plea of guilty to forgery, 8 months in prison, \$304 court costs.

Raymond Gibb, plea of guilty to evading arrest, 3 year probation, \$1500 fine, \$294 court costs.

Eduardo Ibarra, plea of guilty to DWI, 4 years in prison, \$474 court costs.

Ronald L. Miller, plea of guilty to sexual assault, 5 years in prison, \$314 court costs.

Mass Marketing Fraud Alert

The following article appeared in The Trust newsletter issued by the Better Business Bureau.

What is Mass-Marketing Fraud?

Law enforcement and consumer protection authorities sometimes classify particular fraud schemes by the communication mechanism used (e.g., "Internet fraud," "mail fraud," and "telemarketing fraud"). At the same time, they also recognize that mass-marketing fraud schemes often use multiple communications techniques to maximize their outreach to prospective victims.

What Are The Major Types of

Mass-Marketing Fraud?
Based on data from law enforcement and regulatory authorities such as the Internet Crime Complaint Center and the Federal Trade Commission mass-marketing fraud schemes generally fall into three main categories:

Advance-Fee Fraud Schemes. This scheme is based on the concept that a victim will be promised a substantial benefit but must pay in advance some purported fee or series of fees before the victim can receive that benefit. While there are almost endless variations on the basic scheme, here are some of the more frequent substantial types: Auction and Retail Schemes, Business Opportunity/"Work-at-Home" Schemes Online, Credit-Card Interest Reduction Schemes, Inheritance Schemes, Lottery/Prize/Sweepstakes Schemes, Online Sales Schemes, and "Romance" Schemes.

Schemes.

Bank and Financial Account
Schemes. Some mass-marketing fraud schemes also involve
mass contacts with individuals
to trick them into providing their
bank or financial account data,
so that participants in the scheme
can gain unauthorized access to
those accounts and siphon off
funds or charge goods to the

victims' cards. These types of schemes involve not only fraud but also identity theft - the wrongful obtaining and using of someone else's personal data in some way that involves fraud or deception, typically for economic gain: "Phishing" and "Vishing Investment Opportunities.

There are three basic types of investment methods for trying to manipulate securities markets for personal profit: "Pumpand-Dump" Schemes, Short-Selling ("Scalping") Schemes, and Cold Calls.

What Is The Department of

What Is The Department of Justice Doing About Mass-Marketing Fraud?

As the central agency for enforcement of federal laws, the Department of Justice aggressively pursues mass-marketing fraud schemes, whether based in the United States or foreign countries, through investigation and prosecution. In addition, the DOJ provides active support and assistance to foreign investigators and prosecutors who pursue international mass-marketing fraud.

How Can I Spot A Mass-Marketing Scam?

Although judging by the sheer number of solicitations and "can't miss" propositions that you can see every day in your email mailbox or posted on message boards or Web sites, Internet scams may seem inescapable. While you can't wholly avoid seeing online solicitations that may be fraudulent, here are some tips on how to deal with

Don't Judge by First Appearances.

Watch Out for "Advance-Fee" Demands. Be Careful About Giving Out

Valuable Personal Data Over

the Phone or Online.

Be Especially Careful About
Online Communications with

True Identity.

Research The Prospective
Seller Carefully.

Pay by Credit Card or Escrow

Someone Who Conceals His

Service If Possible.

Take Your Time In Making Investment Decisions.

Research The Potential In-

vestment Opportunity - And Who's Behind It - Carefully. Watch Out for High Pressure

Check Out The Competition.
How Can I Get More Information About Mass-Marketing

Fraud? For more information on internet crimes or if you have a complaint about any type of Internet crime, you can file an online complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) at www.IC3.gov. The IC3 is a joint project of the FBI and the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C). The IC3's key functions for federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies will be (1) receiving online complaints, (2) analyzing them to identify particular schemes and general crime trends in Internet fraud, and (3) compiling and referring potential Internet fraud schemes to law enforcement.

For more information on consumer fraud or if you have a complaint about any type of consumer fraud, including any type of mass-marketing fraud, you can file a complaint through a toll-free Consumer Help Line, 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357) or online with the Federal Trade Commission at www.FTC.gov.

First Baptist Church

Sunday School

9:30 am Su

Sunday 9 Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday
Evening Small
Groups

Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

6:30 pm Prayer/Worship Youth Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Children's Power Hour 6:30 p.m.

Ronnie B. White, Pastor

Tim Tolosa/Music/Education Minister

(254) 725-7629 3rd & Main, Cross Plains, TX 76443 www.firstbaptistcp.com

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Cottonwood Ne

Beverly Brown



Enjoying the Coon Hunt Dinner — Beverly Brown, center, visits with Fred and Mary St. Peter at the Battle Creek Coon Hunter's Dinner last Saturday night.



Friends visiting during Coon Hunter's Dinner — Yvonne Peevy, left, visits with Bob and Lavonne Childress at the Coon Hunter Dinner in Cottonwood on Saturday night.

Season was a great success! It coon hunt soon. James Glaze was your friends and neighbors. was so nice to see so many named President of the group at Cottonwood folks at the dinner - the business meeting. Lori Anniversary of the Cottonwood some we haven't seen in a while! Paxton remains in the Secretary/ Volunteer Fire Control Group. Everyone enjoyed the chicken Treasurer position. the use of their facility, Cross Travis Northern and Adrian Allen 254-725-7369. something for the dinner or Roger Hinkle also attended the helped with the preparation and training session.

are all ready for the season. We'll Church. Bring a covered dish and

The First Coon Hunt of the let you know the date of the next enjoy dinner after church with

fried steak, fried chicken, Cottonwood can boast of a fire department, firefighters, and barbequed chicken and sides. couple of "TV Celebrities" - In a fundraisers from the late 1980's Thanks so much to Mike and Ed's news story about the Fire and 1990's. If you have photos, Smokehouse, Lowe's Market, Training at Brownwood this past let me know, we'd like to copy Cottonwood Baptist Church for week, the news story showed them. My phone number is Plains Review for all their help - both wearing their Cottonwood The next Cottonwood Musical advertising the event and to Volunteer Fire Control Caps! is coming up soon on Friday, everyone else who donated Norma Farmer, Omer Rivard and March 1st.

The Battle Creek Coon Hunters Dinner at Cottonwood Baptist doing work outside.

This year marks the 25th We are looking for photos of the

The Burn Ban is still on. No outdoor burning or welding of Sunday is the Fellowship any kind. Be extremely cautious

Rising Star Nursing Center



and Betty Douglass.

wanted to brag about it for a their supper. minute or two. We had a blast at We would like to say a big party and was enjoyed by all. had so much to hand out for each resident also had candied hearts God bless you.

having a great time here and just probably did not each much of great time with the cookies and

Well hello to everyone. We are resident I am certain they for everyone. We really had a punch also. It was a very nice

our Valentine's Day party. We had Thank You to the Cross Plains Guess I will close for now and employees and the residents vote Garden Cub for the cute bags they hope each and everyone has a on a King and Queen. It was brought full of goodies. Then the good week and we will try to get really a close call but this years May Elementary School brought this letter out to you every other was Ethan Allen as the King and over very nice valentines made week again. I can't believe but Betty Douglass as the queen. As by the students. The we have been back almost a year. you can see by the picture they residents loved them and Thank My how time flies when you are made a really sweet couple. We You so much. Theresa Lewis, a having fun. See you later and may

Library Notes

Library Hours

Monday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Wednesday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Thursday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. **CLOSED FRIDAY**

February 11-14, 2013

Books Checked Out 126

Programs

LAP Lapsit 7

GED 12 Other 31

Copies

Internet

Interlibrary Loans

Reference

Donations

Lee and Gayla Creamer John and Helen Williams B.D. and Ellen Hebert

Book Donations Donna Merrick Dale and Vernelle Bishop Jacque Childress

Volunteers Lavonne Childress Sue Bennett **Beverly Ross** Azalee Womack

Doris Grider April Bishop

Memorials

Michael Ellis

James and Paulette Foster In Memory of Margaret McNeel

Billy and Carol Watson In Memory of Max Howell

Genealogy Back to Basics meets every first and third Mondays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the library

> **Cross Plains** Review

February 21, 2013

Give the Gift that Gives ALL YEAR! Subscribe to the Cross Plains Review Call

254-725-6111 or Come by 116 S.E. 1st

SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER ACTIVITIES:

FEBRUARY 25-MARCH 1

Monday 25th - Excercise 11:00/Blood Pressure **Check Sponsered by Encompass**

Tuesday 26th - Excercise 11:00

Wednesday 27th- Excercise 11:00/Bingo 11:15 Thursday 28th - Excercise 11:00 / Reading with 3rd Graders 9:15 & 12:30

Friday 1st- Excercise 11:00

HOME DELIVERED MEALS MUST CALL TO ORDER, AND OR CANCEL A MEAL NO LATER THAN 10:00 A.M.

Do you have any talents that you would like to share? Call the Senior Citizens Center at 254-725-6521 so you can share your talent with the Seniors during lunch time.

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

FEBRUARY 25-MARCH 1

Monday - Swiss Steak/ Steamed Rice/Broccoli/ Bread/ Dessert/ Drink Tuesday - King Ranch Chicken/ Mexican Corn/ Lima Beans/ Bread/ Dessert/Drink Wednesday -Salisbury Steak/ Potatoes/Gravy/

Peas & Carrots/ Bread/

Dessert/Drink

Thursday - Sweet/Sour Chicken/ Steamed Rice/ Oriental Mixed Veg/ Egg Roll/ Dessert/ Drink Friday -

MEALIS SERVED -11:45 A.M. - 12:30 P.M



WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE OUR CROSS PLAINS, **COTTONWOOD & SCRANTON MEMBERS** WE ARE HERE TO MEET YOUR NEEDS

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Hours are 8 - 5 Mon - Fri Closed for Lunch



School Board Meeting

A regular meeting of the Board 4. Superintendent's Report of Trustees of the Cross Plains I.S.D. will be held on February 20, 2013, beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Board Room. The subjects to be discussed or considered upon which any formal action may be taken are as follows:

Call Meeting to Order

- 1. Open Forum
 - A. Recognize Elementary Teacher and Students of the Month
- B. Hear and Discuss the 2013 Safety Audit
- 2. New Business
 - A. Approve Minutes from **Previous Meetings**
- B. Review Bills/Finance
- C. Approve 2011-12 Safe and Effective Schools Performance Report
- D. Consider Bids for a New Roof on the Elementary. High School, Old Gym, and Portable Buildings
- 3. Personnel
- A. Consider High School Principal's Contract Extension
- B. Consider Elementary Principal's Contract Extension
- C. Consider Girls Athletic Coordinator's Contract Extension
- D. Consider Boys Athletic Coordinator's Contract Extension
- E. Review List of Teachers for March Board Meeting

- A. Asbestos Survey Considerations?
- B. School Finance Lawsuit Update
- C. Student Expulsion D. Reimbursement of **Employee Meals Now**
- Considered IRS Taxable E. Update on Teacher Input
- Concerning Safety Ideas F. Board Election Sign-Up
- (January 30 March 1) G. Personnel Needs for
- 2013-14 H. Begin Discussion for Goals during 2013-14 School Year
- and Beyond 5 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 55, 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

This notice was posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act on February 15, 2013, at 3:00 p.m.

Phil Mitchell For the Board of Trustees Citizens of the Month **Nominees** Needed by Local Chamber of Commerce

The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce has already launched a new way to honor our residents. We are honoring a Citizen of the Month.

The Chamber requests that if you know someone you think is an exceptional person, please submit their name and why you think they should be recognized as Citizen of the Month.

The names and write ups

submitted should be e-mailed to crossplainschamber@yahoo.com or mailed to P.O. Box 233, Cross Plains, Texas.

The names will be placed in a box and a name will be drawn monthly until all are recognized. Please help us honor the wonderful people of Cross Plains.

> Myleah McNutt **Administrative Assistant** C.P. Chamber of Commerce

Hometown Service

Since 1979

Submitted by

CROSS PLAINS SCHOOL **MENU**

February25-March 1 BREAKFAST

Monday -Breakfast Burrito, Assorted juice, Milk Tuesday-Toaster Pastry, Yogurt, Assorted juice, Milk Wednesday - French toast sticks, Sausage, Assorted juice, Milk

Thursday -Hot or Cold cereal, Toast, Assorted juice, MIlk Friday -Honey Bun, Yogurt, Assorted juice, Milk

LUNCH

Monday -Corn Dog, Baked beans, Tomato & Cucumber, Mixed fruit, Milk Tuesday - Nachos Grande, Charro Beans, Garden Salad, Orange smiles, Milk Wednesday - Chicken Sandwich, Potato wedges, Baby carrots, Fruit cup, Milk Thursday-Lasagna or Corn Dog, Broccoli, Baby carrots, peaches, Garlic toast, Milk Friday - Pizza, Garden Salad, Seasoned corn, Fresh fruit

Cross Plains Review February 21, 2013

bowl, Milk

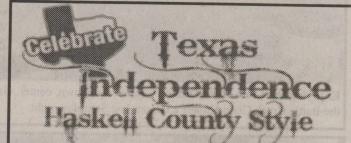
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Agriculture Secretary Vilsack Announces Expansion of Refinancing Program to Help More Rural Homeowners

TEMPLE, TEXAS, January poor counties, that is, those with loans and grants make a signifi-31, 2013 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA is adding Texas to a pilot program that enables current USDA borrowers to save money on housing costs by refinancing their mortgages with lower interest rates. USDA Housing Administrator Tammye Trevino made the announcement on behalf of Secretary Vilsack.

"USDA's expansion of this program will help more rural borrowers refinance their mortgages to reduce their monthly payments and ease their financial burdens," Vilsack said. "As our economy continues to recover. this program will enable rural families living in USDA-financed homes to take advantage of historically low interest rates."

"Since the creation of the USDA Guaranteed Home Loan Program, Rural Development has helped 37,170 rural Texans become homeowners," said Paco Valentin, USDA Rural Development Texas State Director. "This refinancing pilot program helps people with USDA guaranteed loans keep their homes and avoid financial hardships that could cause foreclosures."

USDA unveiled the initiative almost one year ago. It initially included borrowers in 19 states hardest hit by the downturn in the housing market. To date, 3,394 rural borrowers have benefited from the USDA refinancing pilot program. These loans total nearly \$453 million. The announcement today will add 15 more states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to the pilot program. These states are being added because they have been identified as having a very high proportion of persistent

two years to evaluate whether to continue, terminate or make the refinance program permanent.

USDA's ongoing effort to assist made or guaranteed by USDA Rural Development. In 2010, USDA established an aggresanteed Loans that helps try. homeowners who are delinquent on their mortgages. These homeowners can lower their monthly payments through a loan modification that re-amortizes their payments over a term of up to 40 years, lowers their interest rate, or both. USDA also has a "Mortgage Recovery Advance" program in which the Department provides guaranteed lenders up to 12 months of mortgage payments on behalf of borrowers who have fallen behind on their payments due to job loss or other hardships.

Participants in the pilot refinancing program are required to meet income eligibility requirements, and must have made their mortgage payments on time for 12 consecutive months. Borrowers participating in USDA's Single Family Housing Direct and Guaranteed loan programs are eligible to participate. Borrowers do not have to obtain new credit reports, property inspections or home appraisals. Refinanced loans must be at least one percent below the original interest rate. Terms cannot exceed 30 years. No cash out is permitted to the borrower.

Rural Development's housing

a poverty rate of at least 20 cant difference in the lives of percent in each of the last four thousands of rural Americans U.S. Censuses. The performance across the nation. These investof the pilot will be reviewed after ments boost rural economies and create jobs. The pilot refinance program complements President Obama's continuing The pilot expands upon efforts to help responsible homeowners and boost the rural homeowners holding loans nation's housing market. The measures the President and CISDA are taking will help stabilize communities and help middle sive modification policy for Guar- class families across the coun-

President Obama's plan for rural America has brought about historic investment and resulted in stronger rural communities. Under the President's leadership, these investments in housing, community facilities, businesses and infrastructure have empowered rural America to continue leading the way - strengthening America's economy, small towns and rural communities. USDA's investments in rural communities support the rural way of life that stands as the backbone of our American values. President Obama and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack are committed to a smarter use of Federal resources to foster sustainable economic prosperity and ensure the government is a strong partner for businesses, entrepreneurs and working families in rural communities.

USDA, through its Rural Development mission area, has an active portfolio of more than \$176 billion in loans and loan guarantees. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural

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> **Estate Sale** Fri & sat 8am-? March 1st & 2nd 501 County Rd 221

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My family and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community of Cross Plains for the love and support shown to us in the wake of my brother's death (Steven W. Pickett). Unfortunately, I personally was not able to come to Cross Plains but the outpouring of love and support to my family members, Mike and Collette Pickett, Audrey Carlson and Scott Pickett was truly a blessing that has comforted not only them, but me as well.

The love and support from the community of Cross Plains has shown us that Steve was very welcomed in your community and I want everyone to know that he was truly happy in Cross Plains Knowing that he was able to live out his dream of riding and showing horses and living in his birth state has eased some of the pain. Steve was a true cowboy at heart. Never a day in his life was he not involved with horses in some manner. His love of horses came honestly from our dad who was also a cowboy at heart. We will always have a picture in our minds of Steve in his cowboy hat, jeans, a western shirt, a vest, cowboy boots and, of course, spurs In the words of Steve himself, Adios until we meet again!!!

> God Bless You All, The Family of Steve Pickett

7- Cross Plains Review February 21, 2013

WE HAVE SELF-INKING AND RUBBER **STAMPS** CROSS PLAINS REVIEW 116 S.E. 1ST ST **CROSS PLAINS, TX**

Cross Plains Review DEADLINES

Ads - Tuesday Noon Articles - Noon

Monday

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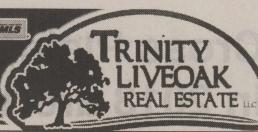
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309 College-Rising Star- 2BR-2B, mobile home, beautifully landscaped, fenced, well-kept	36,000
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HUNTING & RECREATIONAL PROPERTY

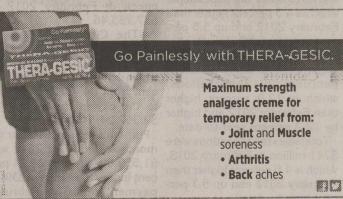
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24+/- Ac - Near Cottonwood, few trees, one stock tank, 20 acres cultivated, 4 acres pasture.	63,500
30+/- Ac - Perfect Small Acreage, 400 sq. ft. cabin, covered in oak trees, 1 stocked tank	105,000
39.27+/- Ac Cross Cut-Seasonal creek, Great Hunting, fenced, Elec. and Co. water available	_98,182
45+/- Ac Native pasture, paved road frontage, one stock tank, electric and co. water available	e 119,250
63+/- Ac Native pasture w/2 stock tanks, cross-fencing, county water available, electric on prope	erty 122,850
66+/- Ac 2 ponds, mix of trees & native pasture, seasonal creek/draw, good hunting or home site	_ 144,870
73+/- Ac Cottonwood-2 wells, 2 UNDER CONTRACT ity available	_ 219,000
83+/- Ac Great place to hunt! Heavily wooded, one stock tank, Electricity and Co water avail	_ 165,585
100 Ac Approx 80% cultivation, beautiful oaks. 2 water wells, old windmill, easy access to I-20_	210,000
100.07 Ac Mix of pasture & cultivation, 2 stock tanks, 3 cross-fences, great location!	195,136
143.5+/- Ac Breckenridge-600 Square Foot Cabin, Excellent Hunting,	430,500
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179 Ac 4 stock tanks, 2 water wells, 2 sets cattle pens, cross-fencing, great for cattle!_	_ 367,000
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468.92 Ac. – 3BR/2B/2 Car Garage,6 Wells, 4 Tanks, 5 Acre Lake, Great Hunting, Equip. Barns	1,950,000
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Cross Plains' retail sales in 2013 are 13% higher

The City of Cross Plains' one percent city sales tax payments in 2012 are higher by over 13 percent, according to the Texas State Comptroller's office.

Texas State Comptroller Susan Combs reported the city's sales tax payment on Wednesday, February 6th.

Cross Plains' 2013 sales tax payments for the year totalled \$39,716.81, which is 13.18 percent higher than the \$35,090.42 in sales tax rebate payments collected in 2012.

The payment to the city for February 2013 \$20,931.91, which is 7.03 per- For details of local sales tax han County towns received cent higher than the allocations in February to indi- sales tax payments in 2013 \$19,556.25 payment made in

Combs announced today, Wednesday, February 6th, that Summary Reports on the state sales tax revenue in Janu- Comptroller's Web site at County for the month of February was \$2.12 billion, up 6.1 percent compared to January taxinfo/allocsum/ which is 10.26 percent higher

"Growth in sales tax receipts was led by the construction, retail trade and restaurant sectors," said Combs. "Receipts clude: from oil and natural gas-related activity also continue to be strong. State sales tax revenue has now increased for 34 consecutive months.'

Combs will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts their February local sales tax allocations totaling \$741 million, up 4.6 percent compared to Febru-

Combs distributed \$486.9 million in February 2013 allocations to Texas cities, which is up 3.6 percent from February 2012 and higher by 4.8 percent year-

She reported \$48.9 million in February 2013 allocations to Texas counties, which is higher by 10.9 percent compared to February 2012 and higher by 11.0 percent year-to-date.

The Texas transit systems received \$167.7 million in February 2013 sales tax allocations, which is 4.3 percent higher than February 2012 and up 5.5 percent year-to-date.

Special Purpose Taxing Districts received \$37.5 million in February 2013 allocations, which is 12.0 percent higher than February 2012 and higher by 12.2 percent year-to-date.

Total sales tax allocations were \$741 million in February 2013, which is 4.6 percent higher than February 2012 and up 5.7 percent year-to-date.

The sales tax figures represent December sales reported by monthly tax filers, as well as sales by businesses that report tax on a quarterly or annual

CROSS PLAINS SALES TAX PAYMENTS

Total yearly	2012	2013
sales tax payments	\$35,090.42	\$39,716.81
Total monthly sales tax payments	\$19,556.25	\$20,931.91

systems and special purpose Texas Comptroller Susan districts, locate the Monthly Sales county Tax Allocation Comparison \$152,002.38. compsum.html.

Other Callahan County towns made in February 2012. reporting sales tax payments in-

-The City of Baird reported that sales tax payments in 2013 started the year 1.05 percent higher than the 2012 payments. 2012 tax payments to the city counties may levy a combined totalled \$1,326.27.

Baird's monthly payment for February 2013 \$13,382.87, which is 6.59 percent above the \$12,554.62 payment made in February 2012.

-The 2013 sales tax payments in the City of Clyde are 12.64 percent higher than the payments made to the city in 2012. The sales tax rebates for the City of Clyde have amounted to \$105,024.17 in 2013. The 2012 payments to percent is allocated to the city the city during the same payment period were \$93,233.45.

The City of Clyde's monthly payment for February 2013 was \$64,557.09, which is 11.85 percent higher than the check in February 2012 of

-The City of Putnam reported the 2013 payments to the town totalled \$3,693.92, which is higher by 57.03 percent from the 2012 payments to the city in the amount of approved by local voters and \$2 352 24

Putnam's tax payment for the or county expenses. Most areas month of February 2012 was put the money in their General \$1,539.89, which is 24.21 percent higher than the \$1,239.71 erations like fire fighting, mainpayment made in February

-Countywide, sales tax payments for 2013 in Callahan tional one percent of city sales County are higher by 11.83 percent compared to the 2012 payments in the county. Calla-

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vidual cities, counties, transit amounting to \$169,987.01 while the 2012 payments to the towns

The tax rebates in Callahan www.window.state.tx.us/ ary 2013 was \$100,429.76. than the \$91,084.02 payments

Merchants collect the state and local sales tax and send it to the Comptroller's office with their tax returns. The state keeps its 6 1/4% share and returns the local one percent The city has received sales tax each month to the \$21,552.11 in 2013, while the local governments. Cities and tax of up to two percent above the state's sales tax.

Clyde businesses collect 2.00%, including one percent for the City of Clyde, one-half of one percent for the Clyde Economic Development Corporation and one half of one percent to reduce property taxes (Proceeds to benefit the Clyde Volunteer Fire Department).

Cross Plains collects 2.00% in local sales taxes, of which 1.00 and 1.00% is allocated for economic development in the

Baird collects 1.50% in local sales tax of which 1.00% is allocated to the city and 0.50% is allocated to the community's economic development corpo-

Putnam collects 1.00% in local sales tax of which all 1.00 percent is allocated to the city. All local sales taxes must be may be used for any legal city Fund and use it for normal optaining roads and law enforcement, the Comptroller said. Some cities use up to an additax to help fund local economic development and to reduce property taxes.

Protect Our By John Crabtree,

johnc@cfra.org, Center for Rural Affairs

Prairie and native grasslands are disappearing rapidly, taking soil and habitat as well as hunting, ranching and other economic opportunities with them. Congress should ensure that federal farm and crop insurance subsidies don't exacerbate the loss of these vital natural re-

Fortunately, Representatives Kristi Noem (R-SD), Tim Walz (D-MN) and six bipartisan cosponsors recently introduced legislation that creates a nationwide "sodsaver" law that would slash subsidies that contribute to the destruction of native grassland and prairie.

The Protect Our Prairies Act would prohibit federal payments and reduce crop insurance premium subsidies by fifty percent on newly broken native sod. The Act also closes loopholes by requiring that newly broken sod be isolated from other crop acres when calculating insur-

And operators would be rethey are able to show a multiprovisions are crucial to removing the federally subsidized incentive to bust up native grass-

ries and grasslands. Senator John Thune (R-SD) secured the same provision in the Senate Farm Bill last year, and it is sentative is a co-sponsor, thank them, if not, call them and urge them to sign up.

The Center for Rural Affairs was established in 1973 as an unaffiliated nonprofit corporation under IRS code 501(c)3. The Center for Rural Affairs was formed by rural Nebraskans concerned about family farms and rural communities, and we work to strengthen small businesses, family farms and ranches, and rural communi-

Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from February 9, 2013 through February 15, 2013 in-

Cases Investigated Warnings—128 Complaints-47 Driving While License Invalid—3 DWI-5 Open Container—1 Fugitive Arrest—2 Possession of Drug Parapher-

Vehicle Accidents There was one vehicle accident investigated during this

City Council

January 8, 2013

This was a regular meeting of the Cross Plains City Council, Members of the council present were Mayor Ray Purvis, Bob Kirkham, Randy Strickland and Cody Walker.

Members of the public meeting with the council were Linda Burns, Michelle Kaiser and Era

Employees present were Debbie Gosnell, Will Windham, Frankie Hyles, Dannes Turner and Don Gosnell.

Ray Purvis called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Turner gave the invocation. By general consent the minutes

were approved as presented. By general consent the police

report was approved as presented. By general consent the judge's report was approved as presented.

Walker moved to approve the bills as presented. Kirkham seconded and motion carried.

Turner met with the board representing the EDC. She explained that the EDC has quired to take a percentage of received a proposal from Gary the county average yield for any Moses to put in a Fitness Center newly broken native sod until in Cross Plains and is interested in putting the center on the lots year yield history. These two located behind the City Hall at the corner of SE 2nd and Avenue D. She asked the council to consider selling the lots to the EDC for the The Congressional Budget Of- purpose of working with Moses fice estimates that Protect Our on his proposal. Discussion was Prairies will save nearly \$200 held concerning the cost of the million over the next ten years, lots and what the law states on tax dollars that will otherwise be selling City property. Turner spent to destroy remaining prai- explained that the council didn't have to make a decision at this time, but that she needed to get the Council okay on moving expected to remain in the Sen- forward on this project. The ate bill this year. If your Repre- Council thought the project would be a good one and told her they would investigate the matter and have a decision at the next

> council meeting. Turner also updated the council on the Senior Citizen Center. She advised the council that Michelle Kaiser had donated 1/2 beef to the center for a fundraiser. She also commented that she met with Cisco Foods to the following property: do a food cost comparison with her current supplier. Turner presented the council with a mission statement she has been Block 1; Mathis 2nd Addition. working on and asked for the council's approval. Turner Kirkham seconded and motion reported that there were 70 people carried. attending the New Year's celebration and that 17 stayed until after midnight. All in all,

Turner felt like the center was doing really well.

Michelle Kaiser met with the council. She presented the council with a copy of the Library's budget and reported that the City contributes 10.7% of their annual budget and thanked the Council for their continued support of the Library. Kaiser explained where several of their grant monies come from and where they get their other funds for the operation of the Library. She stated that there were over 2,979 volunteer hours over the last four years and that the Library's service population of 2,148. Ms. Kaiser thanked the council for their time and the council thanked her for the report.

Gosnell reported that she and Hyles met with Wendy Patterson/ COG rep., and that she explained the program for a monofil for the demolition and removal of any city buildings. Gosnell is to contact the TCEQ to get an application to apply for the

Hyles reported to the council that he has borrowed Dal-Mar Energy's excavator on several occasions to work in the alleys simply because the excavator is small and will turn 360 degrees making it much easier to repair lines. He advised the council that Dale Spivey, Owner of Dal-Mar had purchased a used excavator and is willing to trade the excavator to the City for the City's old backhoe and \$2,500.00. Hyles researched the equipment as to its worth and according to equipment companies in the area, the asking price of \$2,500 plus the old backhoe would be a good price. Bob Kirkham moved to trade the old backhoe & \$2,500 for the excavator. Walker seconded and motion carried.

Discussion was held concerning Code Enforcement. Gosnell informed the council that the properties she has sent "Notices of Violations" have all complied with their notices except for two. Colby Walker moved to condemn

A.D.Gary, Lot 4; Block 2; Mathis 2nd Addition

Robert Stubblefield, Lot 5;

Strickland moved to adjourn.

Ray Purvis, Mayor Debbie Gosnell, Secretary

8 February 21, 2013 Cross Plains Review

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Spring planting is near: Join the **Arbor Day Foundation in February** and receive 10 free Redbud trees

Joining the Arbor Day Foundation is an ideal way to get in the mood for spring planting. Anyone from Texas who joins the Foundation in February, 2013 will receive 10 free Eastern redbud trees to plant when the weather turns warm.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

"Redbuds will help beautify Texas for many years to come," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "They will also add to the proud heritage of Texas' existing Tree City USA communities."

The Tree City USA program has supported community forestry throughout the country for more than 35

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between March I and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow. or they will be replaced free of

Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book, which contains Information about planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE EASTERN REDBUD TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by February 28, 2013, or visit arborday.org/

Largest Cattle Industry Expo in the SW kicks off on March 22nd

Fort Worth, Texas — More vices, seed products and more. than 200 exhibitors will showstate at the 36th Annual Cattle take place in the expo, as well as Raisers Expo during the Cattle breakfast Saturday for all at-Raisers Convention March 22-

tween buyers and sellers, companies and clients, and most of all between friends," TSCRA website at www.tscra.org. President Joe Parker Jr. said. "Our expo is one of the premier agricultural events in the Southcattle raisers."

latest in ranch equipment and management tools, western wear and jewelry. Attendees can products and services including

Meat cutting demonstrations, case their products and services the Special Ranger Silent Aucto cattle producers across the tion and youth contests will also

The Cattle Raisers Expo will "The Cattle Raisers Expo is all run from noon to 7 p.m. March about making connections be- 22 and 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 23. For more information visit the Cattle Raisers Convention ###

TSCRA is a 136 year-old trade association and is the largest west. At least 80 percent of our and oldest livestock organizaexhibitors come back every year tion based in Texas. TSCRA has to reach our members. They more than 16,000 beef cattle come ready to do business with operations, ranching families and businesses as members. Exhibitors will showcase the These members represent approximately 50,000 individuals directly involved in ranching and beef production who manage 4 also learn more about different million head of cattle on 76 million acres of range and pasture

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Texas Comptroller Susan Combs Joins Legislative Leadership to Announce Government Transparency, Pension Legislation

AUSTIN -Texas Comptroller ber one economy in the coun-each session, we require trans-Susan Combs joined legislative try, Texas should be the naleadership today, Thursday, February 7th, to announce the filing of legislation aimed at improving government transparency and empowering taxpayers to make informed decisions about taxes and public debt.

Senate Bill 14 and House Bill 14, authored by State Senator Tommy Williams and State Representative Jim Pitts and focused primarily on government transparency, would provide taxpayers with vital information about government spending and debt.

Senate Bill 13 and House Bill 13, authored by State Senator Robert Duncan and State Representative Bill Callegari and focused primarily on public pensions, would require increased reporting for all public pension systems and calls for essential actuarial information to be posted online so it is readily available and easy for taxpayers to find.

"People need to know what their government is doing, and how it spends their money," Combs said. "We need to implement common-sense changes that put vital information about government spending and debt in front of the public."

"For government to be held accountable for efficiently providing essential services, Texans need to be able to track how and where their hard-earned dollars are spent," said Texas Governor Rick Perry. "I applaud Comptroller Combs' efforts to work with the Legislature on bills provide more information to taxpayers."

"We all want transparency in term debt obligations. government, and with the num-

tional model for financial transparency," said Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst.

"Government becomes more accessible and accountable when the public understands how their money is spent," said Texas Speaker of the House Joe Straus. "This legislation will increase transparency and help local governments better communicate with taxpayers."

Most voters don't know how much debt they are carrying. and how much debt service they are currently paying before they choose to vote for more debt. This transparency legislation would require that additional information be included on the ballot when new debt is presented to voters for approval, such as total debt outstanding, debt service, and existing per capita debt obligation.

The transparency legislation would also put limitations on certificates of obligation (CO) which governments use to issue debt without voter approval.

"Senate Bill 14 will ensure the CO process is not abused and will give the power back to the taxpayers, the people who are actually paying the freight, by requiring governments to tell voters how they can petition for an election, and by also reducing the number of voters required to petition for an election," Williams said.

Finally, the transparency legislation would require all taxing entities to post financial inforthat improve accountability and mation online, including revenues and expenditures and detailed information on long-

"When we write the budget

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parency and access to information," Pitts said. "Texas taxpayers deserve the same level of transparency and openness, and House Bill 14 will deliver just

The pension legislation would require public pensions across the state to publicly report actuarial information, including net investment returns for each of the last 10 fiscal years, as well as one-year, three-year, five-year, 10-year, 30-year and since-inception rolling rates of return.

'It is important for taxpayers to feel confident that public pensions in Texas are being managed properly to ensure long term financial health," Duncan said. "Senate Bill 13 aims to give citizens the information they need to feel secure about public pensions."

In addition to increased reporting requirements, the pension legislation also calls for mandatory education for public pension system administrators.

"House Bill 13 is aimed at protecting the taxpayers who foot the bills for public pensions and the employees who deserve to know if their retirements are financially secure," Callegari said.

Both the transparency and pension legislation call for measures similar to the recommendations Combs recently outlined in her series of reports titled Texas It's Your Money. Each of the reports focused on financial obligations of taxpayers and provided suggestions on how governments could provide more transparency regarding those obligations. For more information. please www.texasitsyourmoney.org.



FEBRUARY 27

Thaila W. Robertson Ella Duncan Shawn Reed Don Gosnell Patrick Joseph Conlee Judy Holcomb Livingston Joyce Lee Tom Melton

FEBRUARY 28

Amber Hernandez Ricky Cavanaugh Shanks Charlotte Bishop Bobra Burkett Curtis Hines Mary (Koenig) Hutchins Randy Foster Keith Watkins Susan McNeel Earlene Justice Rosalea G. McCain Barbara Stephens Marilou Sifuentes Joe Frendle Mullin, Jr. Constantiono Reyes Gwendolyn Joann Creech

FEBRUARY 29 (LEAP YEAR)

Victoria Creamer

Emma Bennet Jordan Hernandez Debbie Ann Perry Tanya Reed Mrs. Dwane Gale Tiffany Leigh Price **Rowdy Morris** Bill Armstrong

MARCH 1

Skeet Parker Kelly Michelle Stout Eddie Strickland Tom Sibley Dorothy Aiken Jay McCunn Minter B. Sheffey William Christopher Clark Gage Connelly

MARCH 2

Norma (Lee) Lawson Tony Wyatt Dean Dillard L.B. Jones Lois Minton Gary McIntosh Jan (Neal) Bradford Jack Webb Baum Mrs. Leroy Brooker Berry Helms Stephen George Friend Dean Brannon

MARCH 3

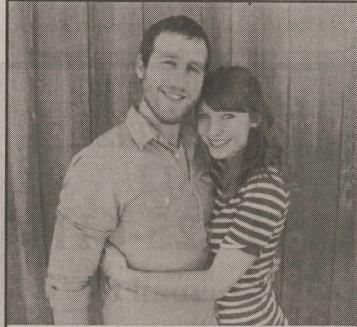
Gavin Walters Doug Hagemeir Gerry L. Holly Michael Bates Donna Kaye Chambers Sue Carroll

MARCH 4

Chase Daniel Morgan Harvey Thomas Beth (Wood) Hilburn Faye Franke Vickie Steele Swinney Trey Bonner J.D. Moore Michele Aiken

MARCH 5

Robert Word Kelbi Shecotah Hyles Mrs. Dwayne Wilson **Dannes Turner** Loy Don Black Benson Dale Clark John Prentice Sylivia Switzer Edith Sorrell Steve Hargrove Francis Staggs Mike Peacock Betty Fisher Gary Wayne Callaway Carol (Weaver) Pharr Kelly Austin **Bobby Clarksron**



Ross — Miller Wedding Announcement

Charlie and Beverly Ross of Cross Plains, Texas, are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Karen Elizabeth, to Joshua Alan Miller, son of Barry and Elaine Miller of Lovington, New Mexico.

Karen is the granddaughter of Mabel Ross of San Antonio and the late James Robert Ross and the late Roy Neil and Ellowayne Tatom. She is a 2005 graduate of Cross Plains High School and a 2009 graduate of Texas Tech University. Karen is employed by the Lubbock Avalanche - Journal.

Joshua is the grandson of Alan and Jane Harless of Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, and the late Melvin and Pauline Miller. He is a 2004 graduate of Lovington High School and a 2010 graduate of South Plains College. Joshua is employed by Moyers Group in Lubbock.

The couple became engaged on November 5, 2012, in Seattle, Washington, and will be married in a private family ceremony on April 6, 2013, at St. Paul's Historic Chapel in Lubbock. To read their story, please visit Miller-Ross.ourwedding.com.

10-Cross Plains Review February 21, 2013

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99 Ranger XLT, Super cab, V6, auto., (Black)\$3,995
96 Ranger XLT, 4 cyl., 5 spd., (Two-Tone)\$2,995
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