

# Baird Star

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Pray  
For Our  
Troops

Volume 115 Number 34

Baird, Texas 79504

Monday, August 18, 2003

## Presentation Of Bronze, Silver Star Awards Highlights County 4-H Banquet



Michelle Robbins of the Baird 4-H Club was awarded the prestigious Bronze Star at the Callahan County 4-H Awards Banquet Saturday, August 9. The Bronze Star is the highest Award given at the County level to a Junior 4-H member (ages 9-11). To be a recipient the 4-H'er must exhibit excellent leadership abilities and be active in their 4-H projects. In addition, the 4-H member must complete a Record Book, submit an application and go through a formal interview. The Award recipient is also judged on leadership ability, project involvement and community service.



Shayla Lee of the Clyde 4-H Club was awarded the highly coveted Silver Star Award. The Silver Star is the highest Award given at the County level to an Intermediate 4-H member (ages 12-14). To be a recipient the 4-H'er must exhibit excellent leadership abilities and be active in their 4-H projects. In addition, the 4-H member must complete a Record Book, submit an application and go through a formal interview. The Award recipient is also judged on leadership ability, project involvement and community service.

Callahan County 4-H held their Awards Banquet Saturday night, August 9 in the Clyde Intermediate School cafeteria. Table cloths, decorations and lighted candles made a special occasion even more special for the 4-H members, families and friends gathered to celebrate. Whitney Hicks welcomed everyone to the banquet and Carl West led the Pledge of Allegiance, the 4-H Motto and Pledge and gave the Invocation.

In lieu of a guest speaker, Michelle Robbins and Ivy Byram presented their entries from the District 7 Public Speaking competition held in San Angelo in May. Michelle did an excellent job with her method demonstration and Ivy sang

beautifully. Robert Pritz encouraged all 4-H members to consider participating next year.

Highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Bronze and Silver Star Awards by Robert Pritz, Callahan County Extension Agent. The Bronze Star is the highest Award given at the County level to a Junior 4-H member (ages 9-11) and the Silver Star is the highest Award given at the County level to an Intermediate 4-H member (ages 12-14). For each award there are stringent requirements. Michelle Robbins of the Baird 4-H Club was named the Bronze Star recipient and Shayla Lee of the Clyde 4-H Club received the coveted Silver Star.

Kat Johnston announced the Project completion certificates for the Beef Cattle, Horse and Livestock Judging projects. Those receiving certificates for Beef Cattle were Brandon Black, Cody Hodges and Shayla Lee. Shala Wilson and Amber Clark received certificates for the Horse project. Completing the Livestock Judging project were Jagher Gray, Shayla Lee, Carl West, Brandon Black, Shala Wilson, Cody White, Ethan White, Emalie Green, Zach Green, Whitney Hicks, Lauren Hicks and Tyler Mayfield.

Project completion certificates for Photography, Rabbits and Sheep were announced by Cody White. Those receiving certificates for Photography were Jagher Gray, Brentt Nichols, Khrysti Bair, Whitney Parker, Landon Nichols, Michelle Robbins, Walt Worthy, Ivy Byram and Kat Johnston. Certificates for completing the Rabbit project were given to Lance Fiedler, Michelle Robbins, Landon Hart, Emalie Green, Michael Archa, and Skyler Archa. Completing the Sheep project were Brittany Reeves, Garrett Scott, Brandon Black, Tyler Mayfield, and Cody Isenhower.

Swine and Meat Goat project certificates were announced by Brentt Nichols, Garrett Scott, Jagher Gray, Katelynn Mitchell, Amber Clark, and Kat Johnston received completion certificates for the Swine Project. Meat Goat project certificates were awarded to Charlcie Voigts, Brittany Reeves, Shala Wilson, Ethan white, Katelynn Mitchell, Ashely Slatton, Travis black, Shelby Nail, Weston Hamilton, Melissa Black, Whitney Hicks, Lauren Hicks, Emalie Green, and Kat Johnston.

The Veterinary Science Project completion certificates were announced by Shayla Lee. Receiving the certificates were Lauren Hicks, Charlcie Voigts, Brandon Black, Russell Hess, Amber Clark, Tyler Mayfield, Khrysti Bair, Shala Wilson, Michelle Robbins, Chelsea Spencer, Cody White, Tyler White, Ethan White, Chanda Miller, Katelynn Mitchell, Walt Worthy, Travis Black, Melissa black Whitney Hicks, and Kat Johnston.

Lance Fiedler announced the Project completion certificates for Shooting Sports and Dairy Judging,

Cody Hodges, Whitney Hicks and Cody White received completion certificates for the Dairy Judging project. Those receiving certificates for Shooting Sports were Garrett Scott, Brandon Black, Cody White, Tyler White, Chanda Miller, Jakeb Miller, Landon Hart, Ashley Slatton, Brentt Nichols, Travis Black, Melissa Black, Drucilla Meier, Tyler Mayfield, Miles rand, Russell Hess, Emalie Green, Zach Green, Ashlie Green, and Justin Blackburn.

Ethan White announced the Project completion certificates for Food & Nutrition, Public Speaking, Horticulture and Dog. Those receiving certificates for the Food & Nutrition project were Lance, Fiedler, Charlcie Voigts, Brittany Reeves, Khrysti Bair, Michelle Robbins, Katelynn Mitchell, Landon Hart, Shelby Nail, Weston Hamilton, Brentt Nichols, Jeremy Hamilton, Whitney Parker, and Landon Nichols. Michelle Robbins and Ivy Byram received completion certificates for Public Speaking. The Horticulture project was completed by Brentt Nichols and Whitney Parker. Shala Wilson completed the Dog project.

Kevin Meier and David Nichols, 4-H Shooting Sports leaders also gave special recognition pins to all those participating District, State and National Shooting Sports Competitions.

Record Book Pins were awarded to several members for the Record Book they kept on one of their projects. Receiving pins were Michelle Robbins, Brandon Black, Kat Johnston, Shala Wilson, Ethan White, Whitney Hicks, Charlcie Voigts, and Shayla Lee.

Club Managers presented 4-H Year Pins to members. Receiving pins for the Baird 4-H Club were Khrysti Bair, Ivy Byram, Summer Byrne, Amber Clark, Brandi Dempsey, Lance Fiedler, Cody Isenhower, Kat Johnston, Katelynn Mitchell, Michelle Robbins, Chelsea Spencer, Charlcie Voigts, Rachel Wallace, Sara Wallace, Cody White, Tyler White, Walt Worthy, Pevton McIntire, Cameron McIntire, and Russell Hess.

Clyde 4-H members receiving pins were Barrett Ancinec, Keldyn Atkinson, Brandon Black, Reagan Darnell, Jagher Gray, Landon Hart, Whitney Hicks, Lauren Hicks, Cody

## Editors Spot



### Back To School

Today is the first day of school. We at the Callahan County Baird Star would like to wish all students, faculty and staff at Baird IDS a successful and interesting school year.

And remember students - school is not just hard work, but also means many activities and fun occasions.

Football season is starting, and we want to encourage the community to support the Baird Bears. Go Bears!

### They Came Home Heroes!

Carol Baird has been collecting updates about our lo-

cal servicemen and women. Many people have brought in news about members of their families in the military who have recently returned from overseas duty.

"We are very proud of all of them. Our prayers were answered," Carol said.

Carol's own son, Ronnie Baird, has returned from Iraq. He made Sergeant while in Iraq. Carol says he will be coming for a visit soon.

There is still information missing about several local service men and women.

Carol asks everyone having information about

**Continued**

## Chamber Elects New Board Will Nominate Out-standing Citizen

Baird Chamber members were reminded to return nomination forms for the board election. The forms had to be returned to the Chamber office or postmarked no later than Friday, Aug. 15. Six nominees are to be placed on the ballot and three new directors elected by the membership will begin their terms October 1.

Nomination forms for the Howard Farmer Outstanding Citizen and Volunteer of the Year awards must be returned to the Chamber by September 1. The awards will be announced at the October cham-

ber banquet.

Jerry Barron received the Howard Farmer Outstanding Citizen award last year and Brenda Moore was named Volunteer of the Year in 2002. Other past recipients of the Howard Farmer award are Katie Ivey, Ben Russell, James Eubanks, Dick Vestal, Maurine Nichols, Fred Goble, Stephen Warren, Jerry Loper, Vada Bennett, Melba Foy, Bill Denman, Nicki Harle, Cliff Stringfellow, Felix Manion, Skip Parker, Jay Hanner, K. D. Griffin, Barbara Boyd, Ruth Dye Fisher and Tom Ivey.

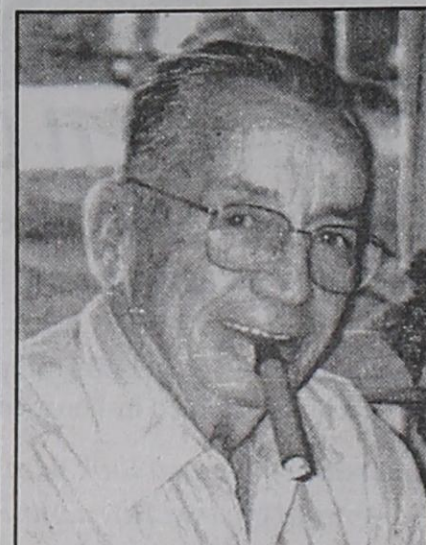
## County Wide Burn Ban Issued

The Callahan County Commissioners issued a county wide Burn Ban at their August 11 Open Meeting. The Burn Ban prohibits outdoor

burning in Callahan County, and was effective immediately following the approval by the Court.

**Call Margaret for all your local happenings and up to date news 254-629-1707**

## MISSING



Last seen in the area of Strawn, Texas on August 7, 2003, wearing a red ball cap, brown short sleeve shirt w/palsey print, blue Dickie work pants.

**A.L. Adcock**  
answers to the name of "Bud"  
74 years of age

Identifying marks: upper left arm tattoo of cat standing on 13, lower down arm the name "Sandy", right arm the name tattoo "Maxcine".

Contact local law enforcement or Palo Pinto County Sheriff at 1-940-659-2085.

(Continued Inside)

## Texans Can Update Their Driver License Address at [www.TexasOnline.com](http://www.TexasOnline.com)

The Texas Department of Public Safety is proud to announce its latest online driver license service at [www.TexasOnline.com](http://www.TexasOnline.com) <<http://www.TexasOnline.com>>, the official website for the State of Texas. This new service allows eligible license and identification holders to conveniently update the address on their driver license or identification card from home or work using a valid credit or debit card.

"We are pleased to be able to expand our online services to include address changes," said Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., director of the DPS.

"Drivers and identification card holders are required by law to change their address on their card within 30 days."

The online change of address process is simple. License and identification holders only need information from their current driver license or identification card to complete the transaction. Address changes may be made separately or in conjunction with a driver license renewal. The online change of address service costs a total of \$11. If you renew at the same time, the total cost is \$25.

To be eligible, the license

or identification card must not be expired, the applicant does not currently hold a provisional driver license, is over 18 years of age and their record indicates no current suspension or revocations. This service is only available for Class C and CM type licenses.

Visitors can access [www.TexasOnline.com](http://www.TexasOnline.com) <<http://www.TexasOnline.com>> with confidence because the website incorporates the highest level of security available today. Services are available in both English and Spanish. DPS has offered drivers the option of renewing their driver license over the internet for the last two years. To date, more than 440,000 people have taken advantage of convenient online services that are safe and secure.

"In providing this internet option, Texans no longer must adjust their schedules to coordinate with the office hours of state government. Technology allows this service to be available at the customer's convenience," Col. Davis said.

[www.TexasOnline.com](http://www.TexasOnline.com) is the official website for the State of Texas and provides instant access to a network of state and local government agencies. Here, citizens and businesses are able to download commonly used government forms, renew vehicle registrations and driver licenses, and pay parking tickets and utility bills over the Internet. [www.TexasOnline.com](http://www.TexasOnline.com) <<http://www.TexasOnline.com>> is the result of a public-private relationship between the State of Texas and BearingPoint, Inc., (NYSE:BE), one of the world's largest business consulting and systems integration firms. For more information, visit [www.TexasOnline.com](http://www.TexasOnline.com)

### Recipe

**Flower Cupcakes**  
 1 box (18.25 oz.) yellow cake mix  
 1 container white frosting  
 1 bag STARBURST Jellybeans, Original or Tropical Fruits

1. Make cupcakes according to package directions.  
 2. Spread frosting onto cooled cupcakes and place jellybeans on top in a flower design.

Makes 1 dozen cupcakes

## Oil And Gas Production

The latest figures for oil and gas production in Callahan and Eastland County show That gas production is up in both counties since the last report from the Texas Railroad Commission.

Crude oil production is also up in Callahan County

and slightly down in Eastland County.

The preliminary totals for May, 2003 are as follows:

Callahan County-----84,156 Mcf of gas

16,447 barrels of crude oil  
 Eastland County -----390,772 Mcf of gas

20,776 barrels of crude oil  
 Oil and gas production was down slightly across the state for May, 2003, and gas production figures were up.

Statewide, drilling permits were up for June from last year. The Commission

Monday, August 18, 2003

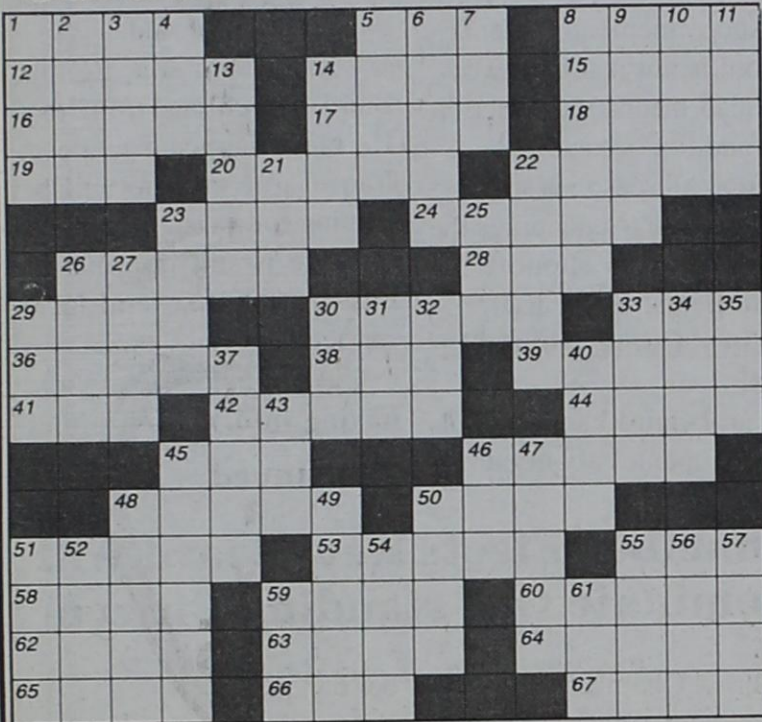
issued a total of 1,019 original drilling permits in June, 2003 compared to 851 in June 2002. The most permits were issued in the Midland area, followed by North Texas, San Angelo, and East Texas.

In May, the top oil and gas producing counties in the state were, in order:

Barrels of Crude Oil:  
 Gaines, Andrews, Yoakum, Hockley, Ector, Scurry, Crane, Midland, Pecos and Upton.

Total Gas (Mcf):  
 Hidalgo, Webb, Zapata, Panola, Freestone, Pecos, Starr, Wise, Denton and Crockett.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

1. The Twilight \_\_\_\_\_
5. Took the cake
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Kong
12. Lifeless
14. Jellystone picnic-basket filcher
15. Place of bliss
16. Leveling tool
17. It might be transitive
18. Actress Best
19. Part of the Mideast: abbr.
20. Teammate to Roe and Robinson
22. It's no match for the postman
23. Miscalculates
24. Bullock
26. 1988 Olympics site
28. Eliminate
29. Garment connection
30. Nippon
33. \_\_\_\_\_ tree (2 wds.)
36. Maxwell and Lancaster
38. Cry of surprise
39. Surrey racetrack locale
41. Clever
42. Opposite of emaciated
44. It begins on Ash Wednesday
45. Bud's bantering buddy

### DOWN

1. Moves energetically
2. In Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Cary Grant film)
3. Within reach
4. Sealowl
5. Trials
6. Folklore giants
7. Bird's bill
8. Well-\_\_\_\_\_ (rich)
9. More strange
10. Island goose
11. No-see-um
13. Earth: Fr.
14. Montand or Saint Laurent
21. Notable time

### ACROSS

46. Accolade
48. Simple song
50. Food eaten on a tuffet
51. Strong
53. Paper Moon Oscar winner
55. Impair
58. Jai \_\_\_\_\_
59. Energy source
60. Hindu religious teacher
62. Little Sheba's creator
63. Mild expletive
64. Navajo home
65. Girl
66. Cleopatra's pet
67. Farm sound

### DOWN

22. Dijon waterway
23. Humorist Bombeck
25. Refrain bit
26. Seaweed
27. Drying oven
29. Mediterranean, e.g.
30. Musician Pass
31. Sounds of wonder
32. Ulalume author
33. Online person
34. Duck's milieu
35. Qty.
37. Like a chimney, come spring
40. \_\_\_\_\_ With Fire" (Rolling Stones)
43. Interruption word
45. \_\_\_\_\_ of the valley
46. Exclamation of discovery
47. Cambrian
48. Hauls
49. \_\_\_\_\_ for a song
50. Wale
51. Court insurance
52. Humerus's neighbor
54. Certain tide
55. Balthazar and his pals
56. "I'm \_\_\_\_\_" (Fabian hit) (2 wds.)
57. Roller-skating area
59. Agricultural loan gp.
61. Send flowers and candy, e.g.

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# Banquet

Hodges, Ashley James, Misti James, Jennifer James, Shayla Lee, Jakeb Miller, Chanda Miller, Shelby Nail, Jaci Pittman, Brittany Reeves, Whitney Richardson, Laramy Richardson, Benjamin Shelly, Denise Shelton, Zachary Whitlock, and Shala Wilson.

Receiving pins for the Cross Plains 4-H club were Delany Ames, Shelby Ames, Jo Dalton Wyatt, Travis Black, Melissa Black, Amanda Dunaway, Shelby Randolph, Tracey Randolph, Emma Bennett, Savannah Wyatt, Sammie Tollett, and Shayla Trammell. Clover Kids who received year pins were Kelli Sue Bennett and Teagan Fortune.

Eula 4-H Club members receiving pins were Michael Archa, Skyler Archa, Jonathan Boen, Naomi Clark, Kelsey Daniels, Kaysi Dean, Kelby Dean, Kinsey Dean, Tel Derner, Brandi Elkins, Whitney Faircloth, Rye Griffin, Jarrod Hamilton, Jeremy Hamilton, Rebecca Hamilton, Weston Hamilton, Shiloh Mullican, Kevin Pickens, Quinn Powers, Miles rand, Callie Range, Lorelee Reynolds, Rex Samford, Garrett Scott, Ashley Slatton, Aaron Swarner, Kami Swarner, Seth Thompson, and Ethan White.

Receiving pins for the Oplin 4-H club were Troy Chrane, Andrew Nowell, Collin Nowell, Whitney

Parker, Landon Nichols, Brentt Nichols, and Brittney Johnston.

Banquet Sponsors were Peoples State Bank of Clyde, First National Bank of Baird, Texas Heritage Bank of Cross Plains and Callahan County Farmer's Co-Op.

submitted by Robert Pritz, Callahan County Extension Agent

Advertising  
Leave in drop slot at  
Callahan County Star  
211 Market Baird  
**Read the  
Classifieds**

## SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

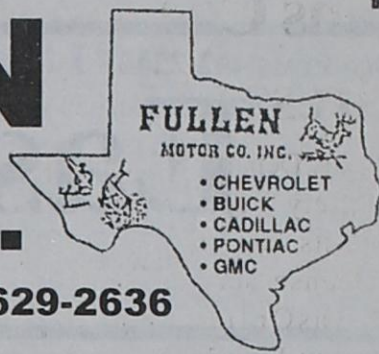
AUSTIN	HARTFORD	SANTA FE
BOISE	HONOLULU	SPRINGFIELD
COLUMBUS	LANSING	ST. PAUL
DES MOINES	RALEIGH	TOPEKA

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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U O I U T R Z A S D T  
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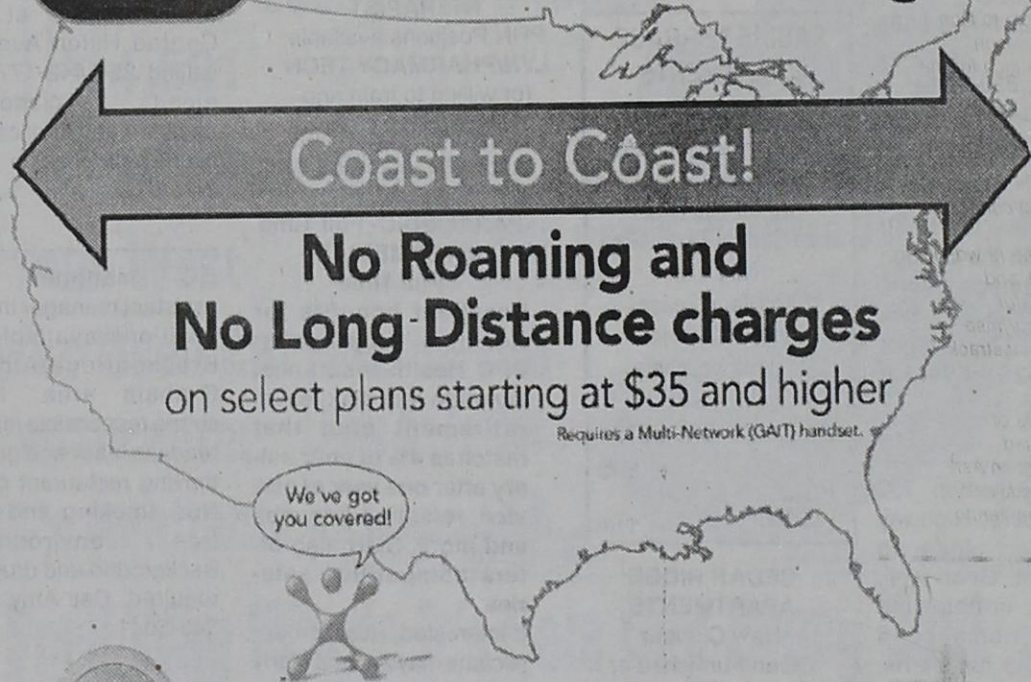
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# Eastland County Classifieds

Monday, August 18, 2003

**REAL ESTATE**

**NEW LISTING:** Sipe Springs, very neat and attractive 3-1 frame, 1200' LA, well and water meter, app 1 acre lot. Reduced to \$30,000.

**NEW LISTING:** 37 ANW of DeLeon, good sandy land, app. 5 A coastal, stock pond, 3 water wells, pavement access, great building spot. \$1,250 per A.

**NEW:** 47.65 A 4 miles west of Gorman, 25 A coastal, 20 A cult, 2 ponds, barn/pens, good deer area. \$1050 acre.

**New Listing:** 80 A, app 70 A heavy oak timber, good deer/turkey hunting, CR frontage. \$1,250 per acre.

142 A, app 120 wooded, 20 A field. **Pending**  
REDUCED TO \$795 A.

**NEW LISTING:** 175 A, 100 A heavily timbered, some cultivation, CR frontage on 2 sides, water well, good deer, turkey, hog hunting. \$1,250 per acre.

**NEW LISTING:** 212 A, investment/cattle property, near Desdemona, all in coastal, 15 irrigation wells, fenced, pipe corral, pavement, large peanut base. \$1,600.00 per acre.

**Pending**  
979 A W. Comanche Co., several ponds in terrain.

age, rural deer & turkey. \$675.00 per acre, will divide, no small tracts.

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**FOR SALE BY OWNER:** Rural Land in the Carbon area; interested buyers, mail: Land Offer, P.O. Box 5, Eastland, TX 76448 or call 254-629-2384 for information.

**FOR SALE:** Carbon, TX. Approx. 1 acre, Highway 6 frontage, close to caution light. Good well, city water, doublewide mobile home, 5 bedrooms, 3 full baths, total elect., central air & heat, cover of metal roof, double carport, 14 x 70 shop, and small 2 BR house. Priced to sell, 629-2984.

**HOMES FOR SALE**  
FOR SALE: 2 4 BR, 2 BA homes on 5 acres, Loop 254 in Ranger. \$110,000. 647-3669.

**FOR SALE BY OWNER:** 3 BR, 2 BA, total electric home on 1 1/2 lots, stove, dishwasher, ref. w/ice maker, disposal. Breakfast room, dining room, living room, den, garden tub, fireplace, carport, 2 storage bldgs. Satellite TV, 1848 sq. ft. Mfg. in 1995. \$65,000. Weekends call 254-639-2439, weekdays 325-625-4674, night 625-5093.

**AUTOS**  
FOR SALE: 1986 GMC 3/4 ton Truck. \$1500.00. 629-3333.

**FOR SALE:** 1930 O'Keefe & Merritt antique stove-Good condition, works great, \$500 OBO. 647-0410. May see at 922 Sinclair, Ranger.

**FOR SALE:** Structural Steel, Angles, Channels, Square, Round, Flat at Mid Texas Recycling 1411 W. Main, Eastland, 254-629-8305.

**Painting For Freedom-** How the beautiful tapestry paintings sold throughout the South-west bought ammunition for Pancho Villa troops in the Mexican Revolution. Book available at the Telegram \$25.00.

**Read the Classifieds**

**Read the Classifieds**

**MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE**

**FOR SALE:** 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, with new Central Air Conditioner, \$5,000 cash. 325-692-4379. E68

**FOR SALE BY OWNER:** 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Doublewide on 1/2 city block in Cisco. CH/A, fenced front yard, three car carport in quite neighborhood. Please call for more info. 442-3946 or 631-6153. C61-104

**SICK OF RENTING?** We sell clean late model manufactured homes for less per month than your rent (180 to 300 per month range) easy quality repos, wholesale repos. I hate for you to pay rent, give me a chance to help. Call Terry 325-672-1490. E46-104

**MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT**  
MOBILE HOME FOR RENT: 2 BR, \$350 mo. No deposit, utilities included, 647-1941. R48-104

**MOBILE HOME FOR RENT:** 2 BR, 2 BA, Central H/A, in nice park. No Pets. \$300 + deposit. 629-1848. E104

**FOR RENT:** No deposit with utilities paid. 3 or 2 bedroom mobile home. Refrigerator, stove, washer, dryer, furnished. SUNSHINE VALLEY, Leona Morton, 442-1365. C104

**APARTMENTS FOR RENT**  
**SABINE TERRACE APARTMENTS**  
Available For Immediate Occupancy  
\*Large 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms  
\*All Utilities Paid  
\*West Central Texas Govt.  
\*No Pets  
\*Short Term Leases  
\*Central Air & Heat Program Vouchers Accepted  
Eastland 629-2518  
EHO  
T104

**CEDAR RIDGE APARTMENTS**  
New Owners  
Clean Furnished or Unfurnished Apartments  
Security Guard on grounds  
Maintenance  
Total Electric Laundry  
Central Heat/Air  
Near Schools/Hospital  
No Pets  
254-629-2805  
E104

**ROYAL OAKS APARTMENTS**  
Furnished and unfurnished 1 and 2 bedroom; carpet and drapes, refrigerator, range, and disposal. Water, trash pickup and TV cable paid. Also, laundry room at complex. Choice neighborhood. See and compare at 1304 Royal Lane, Cisco, or call 442-3232, Resident manager. C104

**COUNTRY VILLA APTS**  
1-2 bedrooms, kitchen appliances, Central H/A, W/D, pool. On site security and maintenance. (Behind Pizza Inn) 1099 Lago Vista Blvd. Eastland, Texas. Contact Sergio or Isabell Hernandez, Managers 629-2769, if no answer call 629-2348. E104

**APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

**GHOLSON HOTEL APTS**  
If you are 55 years of age or older, handicapped or disable, and want a nice quiet place to live, come by the Gholson or call Martha at 254-647-1513. R104

**HELP WANTED**  
GIRLING HEALTHCARE Salaried and Contract P/Ts Fee-For-Service PTAs Large, growing home health agency is hiring Therapists in the Eastland area. Please call 1-800-982-5817 x5055 or fax a resume to Matt at (512) 371-9096. Email a resume to: opportunities@girling.com Equal Opportunity Employer E62, 64, 66, 68, 70

**STEPHENS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**  
200 S. GENEVA ST. BRECKENRIDGE, TEXAS 76424  
HAS THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS AVAILABLE: RNs- \$2500.00 SIGN-ON BONUS FOR FULL-TIME RNs, 7P-7A and 3P-3A  
LVNs-FULL-TIME, 7P-7A  
Unit Secretary-Full Time, Days (Flexible scheduling to meet you and your family's needs.)  
CERTIFIED MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST Prefer MT (ASCP) or degreed equivalent Full-time-flexible schedule a possibility  
CMT WEEKEND TECHS NEEDED ALSO  
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If interested, qualified applicants may contact Marty Dover in Human Resources at 254-559-2242 ext. 307 or e-mail: marty@smhtx.com for application and additional information. EOE E73  
Cook needed for Eastland Head Start. \$6.21/hour with paid insurance and retirement benefits. Deadline is August 28, 2003. Also need substitute teachers. Call (325) 625-4167. Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. is an E.O.E. E68  
Need someone to sew small repairs, rips, some zippers to clothing. Call 629-2413. E104  
Part-time: Need a responsible individual to pick up child after school and provide care 4 or 5 days per week until 5:30-6:00 p.m. Call 629-1455 after 5:30. E67  
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## Restricting Standoff Continues

Demo Senators Fined; Privileges Removed

by Viola Payne

Just when you think the redistricting fiasco can't get any worse - it does.

The Texas Senate still faced a meltdown last week, with 11 Democrats in Albuquerque. Their absence from Austin kept the Republicans from setting up a quorum in the Senate to vote on Congressional redistricting.

Gov. Rick Perry has stated that he will call as many special sessions as it takes to get this done. During the week the Senate took several actions to force the Democrats to return.

Tuesday, Republicans in the Senate adopted a system of fines for the Democratic Senators who left Texas on July 28.

The fines began Thursday at \$1,000, and double each following day to a maximum of \$5,000 for each day these Senators are absent in the second special session.

On Friday, Aug. 15 the Republican Senators removed the privileges for all the Democratic Senators who are out-of-state.

If the Senators don't pay their fines or return to Texas, they will lose purchasing privileges and cell phones, be limited to \$200 per month for postage, and lose parking spaces for them and their staffs in the capitol grounds. They won't be able to pay for travel expenses with state money and can't use conference rooms.

Fifteen Republican Senators voted to suspend the privileges, while the lone Democrat left in the Senate, Ken Ambrister of Victoria, voted against it. Four Republican Senators were absent.

Senator Troy Fraser, Dist. 24, reportedly said that he was concerned that they had to take that action. He added that he was even more concerned that the Senate Democrats were failing to show up for work.

Senate Democrats in Albuquerque called the denial of privileges "another act of oppression."

The Democrats said they have a warning for the nation: the redistricting plans that favor Republicans in Texas are being

orchestrated from the White House in a power grab by the national GOP.

More than a week ago the Texas Senators sent a letter to the President calling upon him to announce his opposition to "this unfair and shameful power grab."

The White House has said that Bush has no plans to interfere.

There was extensive redistricting in Texas after the 2000 census, with some

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of it ending up in the Courts to be decided. Now comments from the public indicate that they would like the new redistricting plans dropped. But apparently political leaders are not swayed by that.

## Commissioners Hold Open Meeting Aug. 15

Callahan County Commissioners held an Open Meeting on August 15 at the Callahan County Courthouse in Baird, Texas.

On the agenda was the appointment of an Election Judge for Precinct #6, and the approval of a Resolution to not close the Veterans Administration Hospital located at Big Springs, Texas.

Sharon Gage was appointed Election Judge for Precinct #6.

A Resolution strongly protesting the closing of the Veterans Administration Hospital located at Big Springs, Texas was approved by the Commissioners.

A Resolution strongly protesting the closing of the Veterans Administration Hospital located at Big Springs, Texas was approved by the Commissioners.

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B34  
B34

# VA Hospital Closure Could Impact Local Veterans

by Margaret Hetrick

Possible plans to shut down VA hospitals and facilities across the nation - and in particular in Texas - will certainly have an impact on our local veterans.

The shutdown proposals include the 71 year old Waco VA Hospital, and a possible moving of the Big Spring VA Hospital facilities.

Waco VA Hospital treated 17,000 outpatients last year and has about 250 inpatients.

A rally protesting the closing of the Waco hospital is scheduled for Saturday, August 16.

The Big Spring VA Hospital offers primary medical care and many veterans from our area go there for their needs.

By the end of fiscal year 2003, the hospital projects outpatient visits exceeding 110,000.

Construction and renovation began at the hospital in 1995, totaling an amount of \$10,045,925.69.

Burton Phillips, Eastland County VA Representative, said that veterans from this area are using the Big Spring Hospital, Abilene outpatient facilities, as well as Temple.

"It's a sad, sad story - the cutting back of veteran's services because of budget crunches," Mr. Phillips said.

Tom Ivey, Callahan County Veterans Service Officer, requested that the Callahan County Commissioners approve a resolution to keep the VA Big Spring Hospital open.

A Resolution strongly protesting the closure of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Big Spring was approved by Callahan County Commissioners at their August 15th meeting.

The following is a report from an area citizen, Duane McDaniel, about a meeting held concerning the moving of Big Spring VA hospital facilities.

On August 12, 2003, veterans attended a meeting in Abilene, Texas.

Cary D. Brown, Medical Center Director, Michele Beach, Program Analyst, and Iva Jo Hanslik, Community Relations Coordinator West Texas VA Health Care System, were present.

Also present was Mr. Paul Moore, the Texas Veterans Land Board Deputy Commissions Executive Secretary.

Paul Moore was not in favor of moving the Big Spring VA Hospital. He said that it would not benefit the Texas Veterans at all.

It was said that the moving of the hospital would cost taxpayers millions of dollars for a sixty mile move (to the Midland-Odessa area), and that there were more veterans on

this side, than further west.

The Big Spring VA Hospital is already centrally located, and veterans receive excellent medical care there. Veterans are all a name there and not a number.

Because the staff really cares about the patients, the care is probably as good as in a civilian hospital.

After the meeting, veterans discussed who this absurd move would benefit in the Odessa-Midland area.

We discussed that the oil supply in that area had gone down in the last 20 years and real estate prices were rock bottom. The VA hospital would probably help the economy there.

Please contact our congress persons. I'm sure they will launch an investigation and see who is behind this need-

less move.

We strongly urge all citizens concerned about the possible closure of VA facilities to contact their government representatives.

## Contacting the Congress

### United States Senate:

Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison  
United States Senate  
500 Chestnut, Suite 1570  
Abilene, TX 79602

## Callahan County (Baird) Star

Fax: 325-676-2038

E-mail: <http://hutchison.senate.gov/>

Honorable John Cornyn  
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Fax: 806-472-7535

E-mail: <http://cornyn.senate.gov/>

United States Congress:  
Honorable Randy Neugebauer  
United States House of Representatives

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**Rep. Charlie Stenholm, Co-chair of Blue Dog Coalition, Delivers Democratic Radio Address**

Congressman Charlie Stenholm, Co-chair of the House Blue Dog Democratic Coalition, delivered the Democratic Radio Address Saturday, August 9th. Stenholm, who was described by CQ's Politics in America as "the spiritual godfather of fiscal austerity," has a longstanding reputation as a leader on budget issues and an advocate for fiscal responsibility. He recently was named to the Concord Coalition's Honor Roll for the sixth consecutive year in recognition of his support of budget discipline, one of only five members of the House of Representatives to receive that honor this year.

Below is a transcript of his remarks in which Congressman Stenholm discusses the nation's economic and fiscal condition and the danger of returning to massive deficits.

Good morning. I'm Congressman Charlie Stenholm from Texas, co-chairman of

the House Blue Dog Democratic Coalition.

Back here in West Texas, we have a saying: When you find yourself in a hole, the first rule is to quit digging. Yet the Republican leadership in Washington continues to advocate policies that would put us further into the red.

Next week President Bush will hold an economic summit. I hope he uses this opportunity to reconsider the economic agenda that he and the Republican Congress have set forth over the last two and a half years.

As the results are coming in on the third year of the Republican economic agenda, it has become clear that they have produced large deficits and a growing debt burden, but have not delivered jobs or economic growth.

Since January of 2001, the economy has lost 3.2 million private sector jobs, unemployment has increased from 4.1% to 6.2% and the number of workers unemployed for more than six months has tripled to two million, and

A projected budget surplus

of \$5.6 trillion has been replaced by a projected deficit of over \$3 trillion over the same ten year period.

In his State of the Union Address, President Bush told us, "This country has many problems. We will not deny, we will not ignore, we will not pass along our problems to other Congresses, to other presidents and other generations."

As a father and a grandfather, not to mention a member of Congress, I applauded that statement. Unfortunately, our current budget and economic policies do precisely the opposite from the goal the President set forth.

The President's budget of office recently projected that the budget deficit will be more than \$450 billion this year and \$475 billion next year, even with the spending levels and economic assumptions in the President's budget.

Staggering as they are, those numbers understate the true magnitude of our problem because they do not include money borrowed from Social Security and other trust funds.

In the 1990s, a bipartisan consensus in Congress recognized that we could not continue to allow deficits and debt to spiral out of control. We balanced the budget, and the benefits were enormous: the longest peacetime expansion of the American economy in 50 years, four straight years of budget surpluses, record low unemployment and poverty rates, and record high homeownership.

Today, our nation has returned to the era of deficits as far as the eye can see, and an economy in doldrums. Congress has had to raise the credit limit for our national debt twice in the last two years, and will need to do so again early next year.

Budget deficits place a drag on the economy and our living standards now and in the future. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has repeatedly warned that deficits undercut the ability of the economy to grow in a way that reduces unemployment and increases the wages of American workers.

The \$323 billion we will spend this year for interest on our \$6.7 trillion national debt represents a "debt tax" that must be paid by all future generations and can never be repealed. Continuing to run up debt will ensure that we and our children and our grandchildren are overtaxed for the rest of our lives.

Our children's higher taxes will simply cover increasing interest payments instead of addressing other needs such as keeping our military the strongest in the world, protecting our domestic security, helping American farmers compete in the world marketplace, providing health care, strengthening Social Security and Medicare, and investing in our education system.

It's not too late to reverse course and embrace a policy of fiscal discipline that boosts our economy and promotes long-term growth. We should begin today to do just that.

I'm Congressman Charlie Stenholm of Texas. Thank you for listening.

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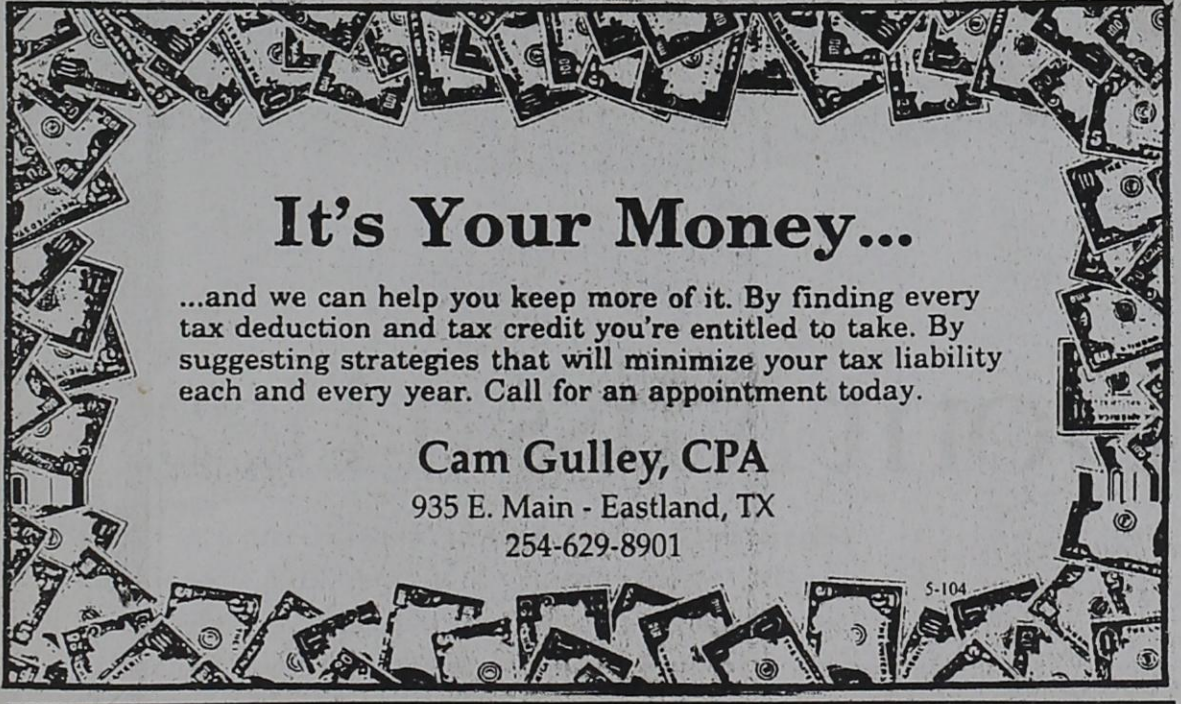
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## Editors Spot

these people to please contact her at the following numbers:

**Whistle Stop - 854-1325**  
or at home - 854-1909.

Or just come by the Whistle Stop Cafe and give her the information.

The update on our Local Heroes follows this column.

### Star Gazing

Have you looked into the sky at night lately?

If you have, you probably saw a very bright body of light.

This is the planet Mars, which is coming closer and closer to the Earth.

On August 27, it will be a mere 34.6 million miles from Earth - the closest in thousands of years.

On August 23, a Star Gazing Party will be held at Ft. Griffin State Park. It is free and begins at dusk. Sponsored by the Fort Worth Sidewalk Astronomers and Ft. Griffin, everyone will have the opportunity to view the amazing solar system through large telescopes - not to mention the approaching Mars!

Margaret Hetrick

### Local Heroes Update

#### Missy Keith:

Missy is out of the Army now, after serving 2 years. She was stationed in Germany. She is now working in Abilene.

#### Warren Leggett PFC AL-PHA, BTN 243:

Warren is the son of Karen and Raymond Roberts. He has returned to base on June 2, 2003 at Ft. Bliss, El Paso,

TX. He came home to Baird June 12, 2003 for 2 weeks. His Parents say it was great to have him home safe and sound. He was to get out of the army in July, but got extended to November. The Roberts had a Coming Home party for the servicemen who could make it, to give people a chance to thank them.

Warren will start school in El Paso after he is out of the service.

#### Ben Barron:

After 4 years in the Air Force, he has returned home.

Ben returned from Afghanistan in March of 2003. He got out of the service on April 7, 2003. Ben lives in Las Vegas, Nevada and is working with computer graphics. He is still single.

#### LCPL Dennis Chambers:

Dennis arrived home from Iraq on May 29, 2003, and will return home on 10-12-03 for 2 weeks. Dennis is stationed in Camp Pendleton, Calif. We have no information on future activities as of yet.

#### Tyson Poindexter, Lance Corp.:

The Marines came home on July 12, 2003. He spent a week with his family, and is now stationed at Camp Pendleton, California. Tyson enlisted after the twin Towers were hit on 9/11. He was deployed to Iraq in 2003.

#### John Travis King MMS:

John has been in the Navy for 3 years. He is the son of Chrisy and Larry King. He lives in St. Maris, GA. and is stationed at King's Bay, GA on the Submarine U. S. Louisiana.

#### Brad Cotton Master at Arms E.6:

Brad is stationed in San Diego, California. He has been in the Navy for 2 1/2 years.

Brad is the son of Lynn Sammons. Hopefully Brad will not be deployed.

#### Sergeant Ronnie Baird:

Ronnie returned back to Ft. Polk, LA on June 6, 2003 after 6 months in Iraq.

Ronnie is still in Biological and Chemical weapons. He was able to come home to Baird for a week on the 14th of June - safe and sound!

Ronnie returned to base for his promotion training. No news of new deployment. Ronnie made Sergeant while in Iraq.

Ronnie is the son of Carol Baird and Bill Hargrove.

#### Clay Smith, Army:

Clay had been stationed at Fort Drum, New York. He came home on June 6th. He will be in the Army National Guard out of Midland for the next six years.

#### Dub Scott, Air Force:

Dub came back to the states on June 8th. He is stationed in Florida. He has returned to Kuwait as of August 11th. He is scheduled to be there for four months.

#### Seaman Recruit Meagan Spinks:

Meagan is in basic training at Great Lakes, IL Naval Station. She will graduate from basic training in September and will then be assigned to the Naval Station in San Diego, CA. Her school will last 8 months and she will be re-assigned at that time. Meagan has signed for a six year tour

of duty. Meagan is the daughter of Michael and Dana Spinks of Baird, TX.

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— Shelle Stautzenberger  
Insurance Agent

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