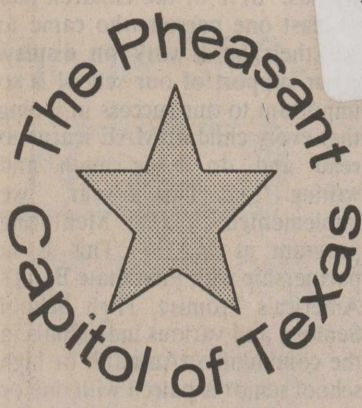


Doris Dyess
Box 268
Stratford, TX 79084

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THE STRATFORD STAR

50 CENTS

STRATFORD CENTENNIAL 1901-2001

Published for 100 YEARS in STRATFORD, SHERMAN COUNTY, TEXAS 79084

usps 523-108

NUMBER 12 MARCH 22, 2001

Safe Place Inc., crisis intervention for domestic violence and sexual assault. If you need help call our 24-hour Hotline 249-5127 or 1-800-753-7553.

Time To Begin Local Scholarship Application

It is time for seniors to begin the application process for all local scholarships. If you are a local scholarship donor or would like to be one, please contact the Stratford ISD Counseling Office at 366-3322 as soon as possible with the details of your scholarship. Thank You!!

Congratulations Mayrene!!!!!!

The Stratford Chamber of Commerce would like to congratulate Mayrene Aduddell as being chosen as Stratford's entry in the *Amarillo Globe News* "Reach out Volunteer" project. Mayrene and her family will be honored at a special recognition banquet Friday, April 27, 2001. The Sunday edition of the paper that week will contain a special section describing all of the winners and their projects. Mayrene was also chosen at the Chamber's *Citizen of the Year 2000*. Her Angel Tree project is an asset to Stratford.

Banquet This Week

The Sherman County Soil & Water Conservation District is holding its annual stewardship and awards banquet on Friday, March 23, 2001 at 12:00 p.m. Awards will be given to the Conservation Farmer, Homemaker and winners in our Coloring, Poster and Essay Contests. We will also have as our guest, Jarrett Atkinson from the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. He will be letting us know how the past usage of one of our most vital natural resources-water-will affect how we use it in the future. Lunch is being catered by Paula's Bar-B-Que of Dumas and will be served at noon. Since this is a workday we encourage you to come as you are. Make reservations by calling the office at 396-5517 ext. 3 as soon as possible.

Younger Texans 4-H Club News

Reporter Jennie Spurlock

The Younger Texans 4-H Club met March 5th at Sherman County Library. Twenty-one members and parents were there. Robert Bowling, IPM Extension Agent from Dumas was our guest. Mr. Bowling told us about insects and what they do and how they are dangerous and not dangerous. The club members watched a video from the Disney Institute on Living In Harmony with Nature. Candie Bell and Walter and Jennie Spurlock provided refreshments. The next meeting will be April 9th. Brad Reed also made several announcements about upcoming activities this month and told members that club officers would be elected in April. Susie Spurlock shared information on 4-H Record Book training to be held March 26th.

PROM DECORATING CHANGE - EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY AT BUS BARN FROM 7 TO 9 P.M.

City Of Stratford To Hold Election May 5th

City of Stratford will hold election on May 5, 2001. Anyone interested in applying for a place on the ballot may do so until March 21, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall. Two-year terms expiring are Ken Forthman, Blake Confer, and Randy Williams. One-year term expiring is Marcus Lavake.

As of March 19, 2001, those filing for the two-year terms are Blake Confer, George Harding, Carol Zimmer and Joan Palmer. Those filing for the one-year term are Marcus Lavake and Dusky Woods.

All interested and qualified persons are encouraged to obtain an application before 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, 2001. Please call LaRita Butler at 366-5581 if you have any questions.

Coming Soon Broom Sale

Coming Soon-Lions Club Broom Sale on Friday, May 4th at First State Bank Parking Lot.



Directors Election Hospital District May 5, 2001

Stratford Hospital District will conduct a Director's Election on Saturday, May 5, 2001. Two directors' terms are expiring: Margaret Reed and Wayland Brown. Directors whose terms continue for another year are Ineta Chesher, Lloyd King, and Rick Reinart.

Applications for a place on the ballot are available at the Stratford Hospital District administrative offices at Coldwater Manor, 1111 Beaver Road. All interested and qualified persons are encouraged to obtain an application. The application must be signed in front of a notary public. Wednesday, March 21, 2001 (5:00 p.m.) will be the deadline for filing an application for a place on the ballot.

School Board Election May 5, 2001

The Stratford Independent School District will hold a Trustee Election on May 5, 2001. Anyone interested in applying for a place on the ballot may do so through March 21, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. You may apply at the Superintendent's office, 503 N. 8th Street, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

School will be closed for Spring Break March 12 through 16, 2001 and candidate applications may be filed at The Sherman County Public Library with Sandy Baskin. Hours are as follows: Monday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday-Closed, Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Early voting by personal appearance will begin on Wednesday, April 18, 2001 and continue through May 1, 2001. Early voting will be conducted in the Administrative Office Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each day.

Board members whose term will expire are Steve Johnson and Ted Allen. Holdover members are Ricky Reed, Joe Reinart, Max Christian, Ronna Riffe and Gared McBryde.

Those applying to date are: Steve Johnson and Ted Allen.



It was truly "A Time To Celebrate 50 Years of Service" for the XIT Rural Telephone members and employees when they gathered for the 50th Annual Meeting of the membership recently. XIT's management and employees, dressed in yellow shirts and black pants, served a delicious candle-lit dinner to the members and invited guests. XIT Rural Telephone was organized in 1951 to provide rural telephone service to the residents of Dallam, Hartley and Sherman Counties of the northwest Texas Panhandle.

Large Crowd Attends XIT Rural Telephone's Golden Anniversary Celebration...

By Kathy L. Duggan
XIT Marketing Manager

"A Time to Celebrate 50 Years of Service" was the theme of XIT Rural Telephone Cooperatives Golden Anniversary Celebration. And, a celebration it was! Over 650 XIT Rural Telephone members and invited guests gathered at the Rita Blanca Lake Coliseum in Dalhart on Wednesday, March 14th. Two hundred and twenty five were voting members. Members and invited guests were served a candle-lit dinner by XIT's management and employees. The delicious meal was catered by Bar H Steak House of Dalhart, Texas.

The coliseum was beautifully decorated. Round tables were draped with white tablecloths. Long-stem yellow roses in crystal bud vases centered each table. Black telephones served as holders for pale yellow votive candles. Gold gift boxes containing cherry wood clocks and ink pens sat at each place setting. The table decorations were complete with gold confetti and placements commemorating XIT's 50 years of service.

The stage was set with royal blue draping and a white satin banner carrying the theme line. Ficus trees and yellow irises in white pots helped to create a festive setting for the meeting. An old switchboard, complete with a mannikin operator, graced the corner of the stage. This display was provided by the XIT Museum.

A beautifully decorated Golden Anniversary cake served as the focal point in front of the stage. The cake table was draped with a white floor-length cloth overlaid with a pale yellow cloth. A water fountain surrounded by spring flowers and greenery served as the base for the cake. Tall pillars extended up to the first two cake layers. Bouquets of spring flowers separated the tiers. The top of the cake was complete with matching spring flowers and as golden fifty-year ornament.

The invocation, led by E.H. Little, XIT Telephone Director from District I-Dallam County was followed by President Tommy Baskin, who welcomed the members and recognized the guests.

Director Gary Finch then presented the 2001 XIT Rural Telephone Educational Program Scholarship recipients and their families to the membership. Four of this year's winners are from Texline High School: Brandon Smith, Krista Poling, Melody Eads and Carmen Avila. The other winner, Rebecca White, is from Dalhart High School. Each student will receive a \$2000 Scholarship to the college of their choice. The funds will be divided over the number of semesters to be attended by the students.

Cont. on page 8



Grand prize winner, Chris Herrera from Texline, receives five crisp \$100 bills from J.W. McClellan, Jr., XIT Director from Texline (left), and XIT General Manager, Jimmy R. White (right) at the recent Golden Anniversary Celebration of XIT Rural Telephone. Directors, E.H. Little and Tommy Baskin can be seen standing at the podium. Looking over Mr. White's right shoulder is a special guest from the XIT Museum. The display from the museum included a manikin operator and switchboard, which was once operational in the Channing Community.

4-H Clothing Project Update

Project members are reminded of the tour to S B Foot Tannery Wednesday, March 21. Please meet at the County Barn at 4:00 p.m. to travel to the tannery. Those planning to attend must have a completed permission form. For more information, contact Susie Spurlock at the County Extension Office, 366-2122.

Parenting Issues---Pregnancy Crisis Center

Make plans to attend the program on Parenting Issues--Pregnancy Crisis Center on Wednesday, March 28, 5:00 p.m. at Sherman County Library. Mothers, teens, church groups and others interested are invited.

Jenny Dixon, Amarillo Pregnancy Crisis Center executive director, will present the program on the nature of the Center and how it can help young women before birth and after birth with care and classes.

If one cares to participate in a city wide shower to provide necessary items for the Center, bring to meeting.

GFWC/Prospectus Study is hosting the event.



Patient Transfer-Friday At Airport

Last Friday, March 16th, Boise City Ambulance and Life Star met at the Stratford Airport for a patient transfer. It was just a little over a year ago that Life Star went down and killed all four aboard in bad weather. But Life Star is still up and going for a much needed service in the Texas Panhandle. We are appreciative to all the folks that work in that profession or volunteer their time for EMS, etc. The panhandle of Texas is very lucky to have such professional people in our midst to help us in a time of need. Thank you.

Obit

Charles H. Hulen

Charles H. Hulen, 74, died Friday, March 16, 2001.

Services were held at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 20 in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Mark Metzger of the church officiating. Burial was in Stratford Cemetery by Morrison Funeral Directors.

Mr. Hulen was retired from the city of Dalhart. He served with the Army during the Korean War.

His son, Chuck Hulen, died in 1979.

Survivors include his wife, Dessie Hulen; three sons, Eddie Bias of Amarillo, Stanley Bias of Gonzales and Benjamin Hulen of Dalhart; three sisters, Nadine Davis of Turkey and Marie Phillips and Margaret Hulen, both of Texarkana; a brother, Floyd Hulen of Detroit; five grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Marcella McBryde

Marcella McBryde, 80 died Saturday, March 17, 2001.

Services were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 20, 2001 in First Baptist Church with Rev. Jerry Stewart of the church officiating. Burial was in Stratford Cemetery by Morrison Funeral Directors.

Mrs. McBryde had lived in Stratford since 1945. She was a longtime member of the Stratford Country Club Ladies Bridge Association.

She was a member of First Baptist Church in Stratford.

Mrs. McBryde was preceded in death by husband, David McBryde, on Aug. 29, 1993; grandson, Deke McBryde on November 3, 1968; and brother, John T. Peterson, on Jan. 2.

Survivors include a son, Doug McBryde of Stratford; a brother, Jack Peterson of Chicago; two grandsons, Gared and Brad McBryde, both of Stratford; and two great grandsons, Jackson and Kade McBryde, both of Stratford.

The family suggests memorials be to the American Cancer Society, 211 Zauk, Dumas, TX 79029; or the American Diabetes Association, 4425 W. Airport Freeway, Suite 130, Irving, TX 75062.

Pampa health clinic moves to new location

The Family Health Care Center of Pampa has moved to a new location and adopted a new name.

The clinic has relocated to 100 W. 30th Street, Suite 103 in Pampa. It will now be known as the Women's Health Clinic.

The clinic's phone number is (806) 665-0746.

Office space for the clinic and its essential programs is being provided by Pampa Regional Medical Center.

According to Caroline Hall, RN, the Women's Health Clinic provides a number of services.

"The staff is very happy to be moved in at our new location," said Hall. "We're grateful for the space provided by Pampa Regional Medical Center, and we're looking forward to continuing to meet the health care needs of everyone in Pampa."

Hall performs exams and STD/HIV services, as well as running programs and presentations and conducting disease interventions over 20 counties in the Texas Panhandle.

Donna Stephenson, LSW, provides case management in 13 counties for children on Medicaid or in the Texas Department of Health's Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) program, including assisting children and their families in finding medical and dental providers, scheduling appointments, arranging transportation and obtaining special medical equipment and supplies.

No man chooses evil because it is evil; he only mistakes it for happiness, the good he seeks.
—Mary Wollstonecraft

Scot News

By Jack Gore

This week's activities include dance practice - Monday, Board meeting - Tuesday, Luncheon on Thursday - wear green and come for fun and good food. Dance on Saturday from 8-11 p.m. Come for good time and good exercise.

Breast Cancer Screening Clinic April 3, 2001

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and Baptist St. Anthony's Health System will conduct a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic at Stratford Family Medical Clinic, 1220 Purnell in Stratford on April 3, 2001.

Breast cancer affects one in eight women. The key to winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month.

Participants will receive a low-cost screening mammogram. Each woman screened will receive a breast health risk appraisal and individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only. Call 356-1905 or 1 (800) 377-4673 for more information.

Some Scholarship Applications Due In April

For the seniors at Stratford High School, there are many scholarship applications that will be due during the month of April. The following is a list of those scholarships and their due dates. If you have any questions regarding the requirements for these scholarships, come by the scholarship board outside Mrs. McBryde's office at the Junior High School or call Mrs. McBryde at 366-3322.

Prospectus Study Club, V.O. Lasley Memorial, Sherman County TSTA, Stratford Chamber of Commerce and Nu Beta Sorority Scholarships - due April 2nd.

Earl and Conrad Riffe Memorial Scholarship - due April 17th.

Amarillo Area Foundation Scholarship - due April 1st.

Vikki Carr Scholarship - due April 1st.

Slough Foundation Scholarship - due April 1st.

Panhandle State Foundation Scholarship - due April 1st.

North Plains Groundwater Conservation District Scholarship - due April 2nd.

E.W. Carter Scholarship - due April 6th.

National Rural Education Association Foundation Essay Contest - due April 15th.

Dalhart Knights of Columbus - due April 15th.

Burke Bell Memorial Scholarship - due April 27th.



There are an estimated 250,000 kinds of flowering plants in the world.

One precedent creates another. They soon accumulate and constitute law. What yesterday was fact, today is doctrine.
—The Letters of Junius

AFFORDABLE PRO STEAM CARPET CLEANING

Just in time for Spring Cleaning!!!
We will be giving free estimates on Wednesdays in your area! Call for your appointment (806) 857-6016! All Quality & Professional work done by Owners, Positive Results guaranteed!

4-H Awards Record Book Training

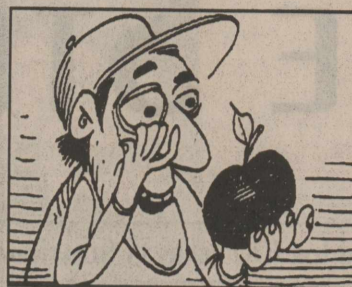
Sherman County 4-H members planning to submit an Awards Program Record Book this summer and eligible members for the Gold Star award are encouraged to attend the training on 4-H Records. The training will be held Monday, March 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Moore County Educational Room in Dumas. The address of the room is 201 East First Street, Dumas.

The bi-county training will be conducted by Susie Spurlock and Kandy McWhorter, County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences. The agents encourage everyone interested in the training to attend as there are several changes in the record form.

For more information, contact Susie Spurlock at 366-2122.

Amarillo Presents "Barber of Seville"

Amarillo Opera presents The Barber of Seville...Saturday, March 24... at the Amarillo Civic Center Auditorium. A timeless comical romantic opera that will keep audiences laughing. See the spectacular costumes and sets and hear the famous tunes of Rossini's Barber of Seville... Performed by the Amarillo Opera...Saturday, March 24, at 7:30 p.m. For tickets call the Amarillo Civic Center Box Office at (806) 378-3096 today.



In old Anglo-Saxon, the word *appel* meant both the eye's pupil and the apple. Hence the expression "the apple of his eye."

A pillar of character-Trustworthiness

As children grow, they must learn to become trustworthy. Most parents will agree that this lesson is not always easy. But how well children learn to be trustworthy and to trust others will be reflected in their success in relationships all their lives.

In the old movies it was always easy to tell who were the "good guys" and the "bad guys." What they stood for and how they lived their lives easily identified them. The same was true in "real life"—how people lived was consistent with what they believed. The "good guys" knew right from wrong and chose to live by the right. Unfortunately, today the difference between right and wrong has been grayed by a philosophy that says "Look out for No. 1" or "if it feels good, do it."

What does trustworthy mean?

*Your honest - willing to tell the whole truth - nothing more, nothing less.

*You know what is right and wrong and have the courage to say "no" when you think something is wrong.

*You keep your word. IF you borrow something, you return it; you pay your debts.

*You keep confidences; you are loyal to your family, friends, employers, community and country.

How can you become more trustworthy?

*Check you own actions. Do they match up to the principles listed above?

*Watch a movie or the news with your family. Identify examples of trustworthiness (or lack of it).

*Share examples of trustworthiness that you observe at school, work, etc.

Recently, many leaders in our country are calling for people to look again at the importance of ethics. First, adults should reaffirm their own ethics and then teach these principles to children, because character does count!

Fifth and sixth grade students of Stratford Junior High have been learning about being good citizens through Teen Law conducted by Gerald McDaniel of the Stratford Police Department. An underlying concept of the course is the development of characteristics of desirable personal characteristics. This week students will be sharing with their parents a newsletter developed by Susie Spurlock, Sherman County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences on the pillar of character-trustworthiness.

Character Education is an educational goal of the Sherman County Family Living Committee for 2001. This issue was identified as one of the outreach educational programs in the 2000-2003 Texas Community Focus Forums Action Plan sponsored by the Sherman County Extension Program Council and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. *Texas Building Character* is the state-wide program offering curriculum to help youth develop character traits of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. For more information, contact Susie Spurlock, County Extension Agent at 366-2122.

Mishaps are like knives, that either serve us or cut us, as we grasp them by the blade or the handle.
—James Russell Lowell

Los Nopales Restaurant

106 South First (Across From Allsup's)

OPEN

Tuesday Thru Saturday

11:00 A.M. Till 9:00 P.M.

Sunday

11:00 A.M. Till 2:00 P.M.

We Now Have All Day

Buffet And Salad Bar

On Friday 3-23 (Fish & Homemade Onion Rings),

Sunday 3-25(Pizza),

And Tuesday 3-27 (Homemade Tamales & Chili Relleno)

Plus Daily Specials.



Burke Bell Memorial Scholarship Applications Available

The First Ag Credit, FCS-Dalhart Credit Office will award the 15th annual Burke Bell Memorial Scholarship to two deserving graduating high school seniors. The scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$500.00 each to be paid \$250 for each semester. The applications have been mailed to area counselors in the Association's territory of Dallam, Hartley, Sherman and Moore counties. Applications are also available by calling the Dalhart Credit Office at (806) 249-2616 and should be returned to the office at 201 West 5th no later than Friday, April 27th.

The eligibility requirements for the scholarships are as follows:

1. A resident of Dallam, Hartley, Sherman or Moore counties of Texas
2. A "B" average of (80 or above);
3. A well rounded student with a good attitude.

There are no restrictions on the college or university to be attended by the recipient or the field of study to be entered by the recipient.

The award is named in honor of Burke Bell who served as manager of the Federal Land Bank Association of Dalhart from 1960-1982.



In Lapland, Easter is celebrated with reindeer races.

Stratford Dairy Queen
Under New Management
Now Serving
Breakfast Burritos
from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Open until 9 p.m.

Cactus Operating, Ltd
is contracting corn silage
for delivery to
Stratford Feedyard,
Stratford, TX
for Fall 2001 delivery.
Please call 806-371-4710
for contract details

COMPUTER CLASSES OFFERED SHANDA DAVIS

MICROSOFT WORD

April 2, 3, 5 6-8 p.m.

or

April 21 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

MICROSOFT EXCEL

April 16, 17, 19 6-8 p.m.

or

April 28 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

\$30 Each

minimum of 5 per class

Call 366-5614 after 5:00 or 753-7714

15 Years, 4500 Babies In Dumas

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Normal and high risk pregnancies
Gynecologic cancer screening
Breast cancer screening
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Dr. Turhan I. Baykan, M.D.

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OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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110 S. Bliss

Timis Tidbits

By Timi Brown

Happy day to you Sherman County Old Timers, Readers, Citizens this warm fifty-two degrees Fahrenheit, Monday, March 19, 2001.

Today all of SISD students and faculty are in their places.

The moisture which fell Saturday in the form of snow is just about a thing of the past. On the windy Thursday that the wind blew, you might say some dear friends from Lubbock Ada and Art Foster and daughter Laura and her daughters Caroline and Elizabeth Niecbolls and we also had a blessed visit from Patty, Blair and Carson Brown.

This is the week that we as Sherman County Old Timers meet for our dinner. Host and Hostess are Les & Joyce Dodson, Kenneth & Lynn Wells, Charlene & Elmer Oquin, Mattie & Tommie Baskin. So let us find a green costume to be said for the Irish in all.

From the Joys & Concerns of Methodist Hour: Joy - Bill and Janice Sladek in Romania. Concerns - The deaths of Marcella McBryde and Charles Hulen. John Boney and Chris McAdams mother also on concern list.

We are so proud of our wee folks, they are so precious to us.

With the weather turning windy & cloudy, we cancelled a trip to visit with Ken & Carolee & Kendra & Kristen, the girls were home on Spring Break. Hope we can visit on a later date.

Spring is coming according to the weather people and the flowers in our backyard and across and down the street.

We are saddened by the grim reaper having come to our midst. We want to express Scotters and personal prayers to the following families in the loss of their loved ones. Ardith Rolen in the loss of his mother Bessie Rolen, J.R. Snyder, a former Stratford photographer, to Dessie Hulen & families in the loss of Charles Hulen. To Joyce & Doug McBryde and sons and families in the passing of Marcella.

These will all be greatly missed as the sun keeps on rising around our world. May our peers keep patting shoulders and spreading Luv U to make the world go around.

Duckwall-ALCO Stores Celebrates 100th Anniversary

Abilene, KS-March 6, 2001-Duckwall-ALCO Stores, Inc. (NASDAQ: DUCK) today announced that it is celebrating its 100th Anniversary during 2001.

Started in 1901, when Alva Lease Duckwall, Sr. borrowed \$413 and started a Duckwall variety store in Abilene, Kansas, which is still the Company's headquarters today, the Company with its 265 full-line discount and hometown variety stores, has grown into one of the Midwest's leading regional retailers.

The Duckwall Company opened its first ALCO discount store in 1968. The "ALCO" was taken from the original corporate name-A.L. Duckwall Company. Today the Company operates 91 Duckwall variety stores and 174 ALCO discount stores located in 20 states and targets customers in smaller markets not served by other regional or national full-line retail discount chains. New stores continue to be opened each year.

Glen L. Shank, President and Chief Executive Officer commented, "Very few companies can claim a 100 year history. This Company was built on the old-fashioned values of quality, service, price and convenience. These values are just as important today to our 5,000 friendly associates who serve our loyal customer base. We are excited about our future and building on the strong traditions that have distinguished Duckwall-ALCO during its first 100 years."



The saxophone is named for Antoine Sax. He also created the lesser-known instruments the saxhorn and saxotromba.

Check Out The Library

By Sandy Baskin

Eye of the Storm written and illustrated by Private Robert Knox Sneden is one of the most important Civil War documents to be published since Ulysses S. Grant's *Personal Memoirs*. Four tattered scrapbooks found in a Connecticut bank vault in 1994 yielded a treasure trove of more than five hundred watercolors that vividly depict America's great national drama. These scrapbooks are the life's achievement of a long-forgotten Union private and mapmaker named Robert Knox Sneden. Sneden's *Eye of the Storm* is a magnificent addition to the art and literature of the Civil War. Th detailed eyewitness sketches of Confederate prisons-and Andersonville in particular-offer unique glimpses of scenes that were, for the most part, never recorded by any camera or any better artist. This is a wonderful book for anyone interested in knowing what it was really like to fight for the American Union.

The library has several new books especially for the junior high age reader. *A Long Way from Chicago* and *A Year Down Yonder* both by Richard Peck, *Hope Was Here* by Joan Bauer, *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry, *The Wanderer* by Sharon Creech, *Kit's Wilderness* by David Almond, and *Stowaway* by Karen Hesse are just a few which. We also have two new series the *Dear America Series* by various authors and *A Series of Unfortunate Events* Lemony Snickett.

Traditional Irish Cuisine

Murphy's Irish Stew

- 2 lbs. stew beef
- 2 large onions, chopped
- 2 lbs. potatoes, peeled, sliced
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1/2 tsp. chopped parsley
- 1/2 tsp. fresh thyme (optional)
- 1 1/4 cup Murphy's Irish Stout
- 1 cup water
- salt and black pepper

In a large stock pot or casserole dish, layer beef, potatoes, onions and garlic, parsley and thyme. Add water and Murphy's Irish Stout. Cover with aluminum foil and lid. Simmer for 2-3 hours, occasionally stirring gently. Salt and pepper to taste.



The Colonial army was ordered to fortify Bunker Hill in 1775, but instead fortified nearby Breed's Hill, where the Battle of Bunker Hill was actually fought.

Kerrick News

By Marylou McDaniel

Coldwater Manor March Birthday Party was hosted by Kerrick Community on Tuesday, March 13.

A sing-a-long of Irish songs was led by Marylou McDaniel with Lorraine Mehner at the piano.

Birthday people were Wanda Craig, Grace Trainham and Earl Green. They were given presents from the community.

Angel food and chocolate cakes were served with ice cream cups and "mock champagne" punch.

Servers were Ted & Joyce Irlbeck, Virgie Mathews, Nita Taylor and Marylou McDaniel.

Attending the 50th anniversary meeting of XIT Telephone Cooperative March 14 were Bill & Donna Gillenwaters with grandchildren Jacy & Dasan, Ted & Joyce Irlbeck, Nita Taylor, Buck Weaver, Marylou & Mike McDaniel.

Bill won a sleeping bag, Ted won a set of dishes, Dasan a set of color markers. The rest had numbers called around their numbers.

Jerry Allen's name was called but he had left.

Did you notice the stories in last week's Amarillo papers about Rex Darnell? He had a chance to shoot for the Loot at the Big 12 tournament. He didn't make any of his shots but won \$2,500 consolation. Had already won \$2001 in Phillips 66 gasoline and a trip to the Big 12 basketball tournament after having his name drawn from more than 120,000 contest entries. He had a chance at \$130,000.

Rex is the son of the late Pauline Harbour. He went to school in Stratford.

Chamber of Commerce Attends Panhandle Day In Austin

The Stratford Chamber of Commerce attended the Panhandle Day in Austin, March 7, 2001. This is an area-wide gathering in Austin to lobby all of the representatives of Texas. The topics chosen for this year were: Rural Economic Development, Ground Water, College Funding, and agriculture.

The Amarillo Chamber of Commerce organized this trip. The plane left Amarillo at 6:20 a.m. and returned at 10:00 p.m. after arriving in Austin, a group (approx. 170 Panhandle delegates) picture was taken on the capital steps. This delegation was recognized in both the house and senate, with March 7 being declared as "Panhandle Day" A luncheon was held with Teel Bivins and David Swinford as speakers. After the lunch, Lieutenant Governor Ratliff invited everyone into his setting room for a short press conference. The delegation was then divided into small groups for brief visits with assigned representatives. It was the focus of this trip to visit every state representative and share our view concerning legislation that would directly impact the Panhandle. Governor Perry joined the group for a second picture in the afternoon. The afternoon reception provided time to again speak to the representatives, aids, and office staff.

Traveling in the Chamber vehicle were Paula Nusz, Kristine Olsen, Kathie Altman, and Erich Taylor. It is important to be active in Austin and to be known by our area representatives. Stratford is facing many issues (especially transportation) in the immediate future. We must let our leaders know our concerns.

Limited Edition Centennial Belt Buckle

The Stratford Chamber of Commerce is announcing a limited editions centennial Belt buckle program. The buckles will be available for sale at the Stratford Birthday/Centennial celebration in May. A limit of 350 buckles will be commissioned from Siskiyou Buckle company of Ashland, Oregon. Plans include Gold and silver collector buckles with the bulk of the buckles being made of fine pewter. If you are a collector, call the Chamber office and place your order soon. Watch the *Stratford Star* for further information, pictures and price lists. The artwork should be available for final approval the week of March 19-23.

Future plans include producing a series of buckles over the next several years. These buckles will feature scenes of Stratford and the area. The 2nd buckle of the series could possible feature a pheasant and hunting. These should be available for Pheasant season in December. On the back of all buckles will be a short narrative and the limited edition registration number. For more information or to place an order, call the Chamber office 366-2260.

April "Keep Stratford Beautiful Month"

This is just a reminder that April is "Keep Stratford Beautiful" Month and I hope that everyone has been thinking about your clean up projects for the month of April. If you have a project that you would like to see done please let us know. We will keep a list of possible projects.

Community clean up projects among many other community activities, are just one way that we as citizens take pride in our community and that kind of pride shows to the people who come to visit our community. It matters especially to those who are thinking about moving to our community. It shows that we are dedicated to bettering the community that we live in and are willing to do our part to sustain and improve the quality of life we have all come to love in our community. So please don't get frustrated when it comes time to get involved with things like this, just remember that the end result will be pleasing to all around you. Please watch in next week's paper for more details. If you have questions or need information please contact Kristine Olsen at the SCDC office at 806-366-2897 or Paula Nusz at the Stratford Chamber office 806-366-2260.

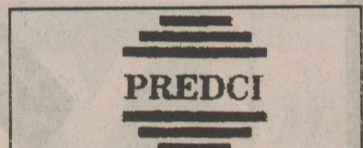
BARBECUE AND CALF FRY DINNER

On Saturday, March 24th at SHS Cafeteria.

We will start serving at 5 p.m. until we run out of "good" food.

FREE WILL DONATION

Proceeds to benefit Corey, Sid, and Gilbert representing Stratford in the Down Under Bowl.
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



"covering seven counties in three states"

- Assisting existing businesses with expansion needs
- Provides consulting for your business (marketing, business planning, etc.)
- Know of an industry or commercial business which may have an interest in locating in your area?

Contact Kristine Olsen, Sherman County Development Committee (806-366-2897)
Or talk with Sam Cartwright, PREDCI Executive Director (580-338-8500)
Email predci@ptsi.net
Web www.predci.com

"our services are at no cost"
Panhandle Regional Economic Development Coalition, Inc.

First Assembly of God

921 Fulton
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm

First Christian

Rev. Bob Sweeten
5th & Main
Sunday Coffee Fellowship 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
No Sunday Evening Worship
Wed., Adult Choir 8:00 pm

First United Methodist

Rev. Mark Metzger
520 N. Main
Sunday School 9:40 am
Morning Worship 10:50 am
Junior High UMY 5:30 pm
Senior High UMY 6:00 pm
5:00 pm Cable Ch. 3 for
Morning Worship Service - Ev. worship - 7:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Catholic

Father Darryl Birkenfeld
6th & Pearl
Rectory - 366 - 5687
Sunday morning: 8:30a.m. (English), 10:30 a.m. (Spanish)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass
Christian Formation Classes: K-6th Grade, Sun. - 9:00 a.m.-10:15
Jr. & Sr. High, Wed. - 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Church of Christ

Mike Talley
N. 3rd & Chestnut
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

Calvary Baptist

Stephen Schwenke
302 S. Main - 806-376-4553 lv. message
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wed. Service - 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist

Bro. Jerry Stewart
702 N. 3rd
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
Church Training 6:00 p.m..
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

La Mision Bautista

Mision Bautista
401 S. Wall 396-5376
Domingo-(Sunday)
Estuela Dominical 9:45 am

Miercoles (Wednesday)
Servicio De Adoracion 11:00 am
Servicio De Oracion 6:00 pm
Servicio De Adoracion 6:00 pm
Susninios Durante El Servicio.

Estudio Biblico & Se Cuidamos

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

We See The Church

How do you get hold of something invisible? How do you join an unseen organization? What about the church? Is it essentially invisible? No! The church in the Bible is a very visible body of people. Much of the New Testament is composed of letters written to real people in visible churches. To all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 1:7). "To the churches of Galatia: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (Galatians 1:2-3). "To the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 1:1). "To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons" (Philippians 1:1). These are not letters addressed to invisible spirits in unseen organizations. These people openly confessed Jesus as Lord over their lives. If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9). They were added to the visible body with a visible ceremony. "Those who had receive his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). We too need to be part of a local visible body.

Sponsored by:
Thriftway 396-5586
Stratford Grain 396-5541
Lautz 769-4485
Ellie's 396-2092
Stratford Star 396-5885
Walter Lasley & Sons, INC 753-4411

Templo Hispano Eben-Ezer
Pastor Roberto Frescas
205 N. Poplar - Hwy 287
Escuela Dominical 10 a.m.
Servicio De Adoracion 5 p.m.
Meir Co Les Serv De Ador 5 p.m.

Kerrick Community Church

Pastor Roy Harris
Community Building
Sunday Morning - 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening-6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting - 7:30 p.m. Wednesday

AUCTION April 3rd 10:00AM
Boise City, Oklahoma
20,222 acres offered in 31 tracts
Cimarron County, Oklahoma

Over 18,000 acres of Green
CRP Land
Irrigated Farmland
Hunting Land

Call for a detailed brochure
800-607-6888
SCHRAEDER WESTGASTER

Stratford Centennial At The Depot Museum Stratford 1901-2001

The population in Sherman County has grown over the past 100 years.

The U.S. Census showed none in Sherman County in 1880, but we believe J.D. Rawlings was here in our county by that time. He had built his rock & adobe home on the Coldwater Creek and is still located on the Coldwater Ranch.

The following County population figures are taken from U.S. Almanacs.

1890-34 people in Sherman County

1900-104
(1908 there were 174 who pd poll tax and in 1909 there were 190 who pd poll tax)

1910-1,376
1920-1,473
1930-2,314
1940-2,026
1950-2,443

In 1964-65 poll tax receipts 1,008

In 1965-66 Poll tax receipts 728

In 1967-68 Registered voters, 1,161

In 68-69 registered voters 1,689
1960-2,605, 1966 Poll tax eliminated

1970-3,657 and Stratford had 2,139 population

1980-3,441 and Stratford had 2,160 population

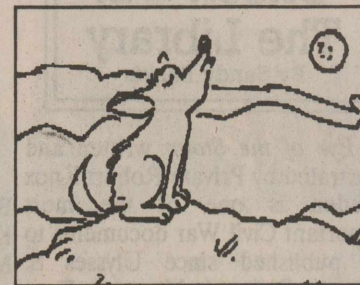
1990-2,858 and Stratford had 1,781 population

The U.S. Census is taken every ten years and the 2000 census will be official end of this month. Would you like to make a guess what the new census shows for Sherman County? Call the Museum to turn in your estimate. Winner will receive a prize. Call this week Depot Museum 396-2582 or come by the museum.

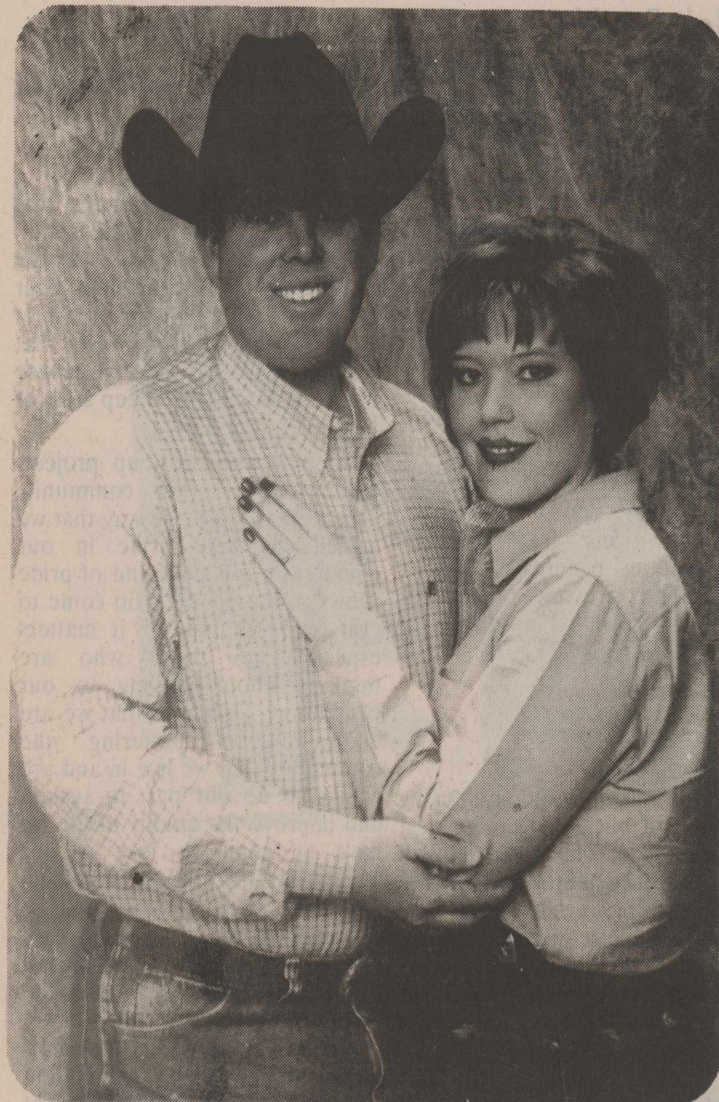
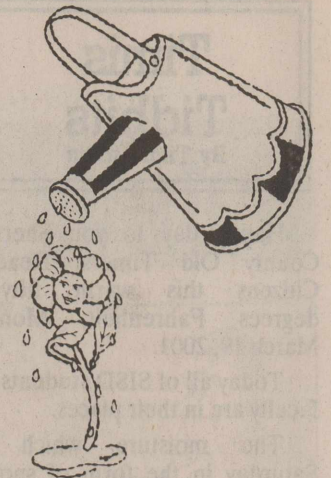
If your gardening has gotten off to a late start, consider planting frost-resistant crops, such as broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage and parsley.

Births

Chandler & Sabrina Smith, presently of Carrollton, TX, would like to announce the arrival of their daughter, Kaylee Ann, born on March 3, 2001, and weighing 6 lbs 3 ounces. Paternal grandparents are Miles & Laura Smith and maternal grandparents are George & Kathy Bonds. Great-grandparents are Kenneth & Billie Melton, Dean Smith, and Orlena Sneed. Great-great-grandmother, Lois Melton.



The dingo, the wild dog of Australia, rarely barks. They are, however, known to howl.



Engagement Announced

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Berry of Texhoma & Mr. and Mrs. Stan Hinds of Elk City would like to announce the engagement & approaching marriage of their children Jo Berry & Chad Hinds both of Stratford. The wedding will be held July 7, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Texhoma. Jo is a graduate of Texhoma High School. She is also a graduate of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She is currently employed at First State Bank. Chad is a graduate of Elk City High School and also a graduate of Oklahoma State University. He is currently employed at Cimarron Feeders. The groom's grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Hinds of Burns Flat Oklahoma and the late Mr. & Mrs. William T. Boling. The bride's grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Frank Berry of Texhoma and the late Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gray. The couple plans to reside in Stratford.

NOW OPEN!!

"Let's Make Arrangements"

- Full Service Floral
- Corsages, Boutonnieres, and Prom Items
- Check With Us for Wedding Flowers & Invitations
- Easter Arrangements & Baskets (Ready to Go or Special Order)

209 N. Main 366-7673

Julie Young Jamie Sims Linda Young

High gas prices got you nervous?

These NC+ Grain Sorghum hybrids are well-suited for the dry west Texas environment.

NC+ Y363 - Medium-early industry standard.

NC+ 5C35 - Early cream with Yield Flex.

NC+ 6C21 - Outstanding yields in 2000.

NC+ 6C69 - Medium maturity, top-notch standability.

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NC+Dealers

Corey Crabtree - Conlen

806-333-5724

Johnny Crownover - Sunray

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Todd Rouse-Texhoma Wheat Growers - Texhoma

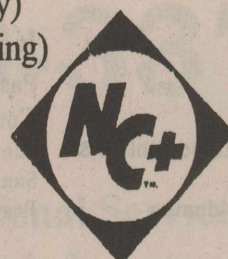
806-753-7854

District Sales Manager - Ron Joiner - Dalhart

806-333-4893 (day)

806-244-3113 (evening)

Independent.



XIT Rural Telephone wants to thank everyone for making our 50th Annual Membership Meeting a huge success!



- Bar H Steak House
- Coca-Cola Bottling Co.
- Dalhart Federal Savings & Loan Assoc.
- Evelyn Thomas
- Furniture Fashions
- Henry's Flowers
- Rabern Rentals
- West Texas Rural Telephone - Hereford, Texas
- XIT Museum - Nick Olson

XIT RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

Finally
If you're looking for a **TAX-FREE** bank investment- we've got it!

- Retirement - faster-easier-smarter
- Options for **TAX-FREE** distributions
- TAX-FREE** earnings
- Home-buyer distributions
- Investments for Retirement
- Always FDIC Insured



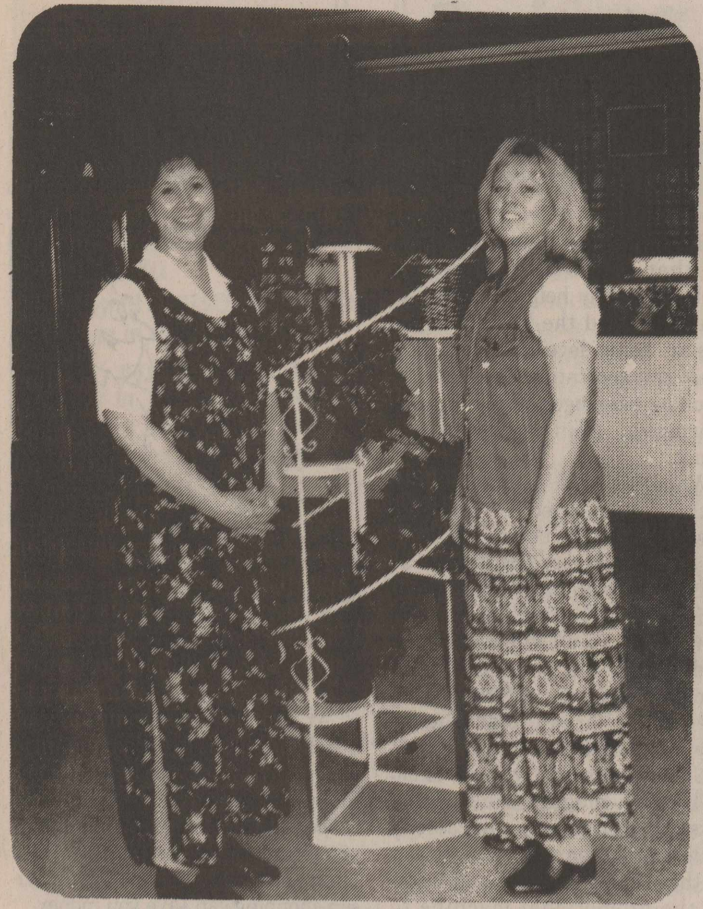
Ask us about the new ROTH IRA - a tax-free investment.

NRA National Open Conventional Pistol Sectional Held

The Amarillo Rifle & Pistol Club hosted the NRA National Open Conventional Pistol Sectional on March 10, 2001 in Amarillo, TX with 36 shooters from Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, New Mexico, Alabama and Georgia. The club was honored to have the US Army Marksmanship Team from Ft. Benning, Georgia.

The winner of the gold medal for first overall was Thomas Rose of Columbus, GA with a score of 883-38X. The winner of the silver medal for second overall was Adam Sokolowski of Ft. Benning, GA with a score of 880-30X and the winner of the bronze medal was Roger Jacobson of Phoenix City, AI with a score of 876-30X. Master Class was won by Rodney Ney of Wichita Falls, TX with a score of 854-28X. David Diggs of Lubbock, TX won Expert Class with a score of 856-16X. Michelle Starr of Broken Arrow, OK took Sharpshooter Class with a score of 796-7X. Mark Cavitt of Stratford, TX won Marksman Class with a score of 772-11X.

Gordon Gwinn of Derby, KS with a score of 816-16X won High Senior. Fran Compton of Midland, TX was High Woman with a score of 832-16X. Johnny Cavitt of Stratford, TX was High Junior with a score of 489-2X.



New Business Opens

New business "Lets Make Arrangements" opened for business on Monday, March 12th. The business is located at 209 N. Main, so if you haven't had a chance, stop by and welcome them. Shown above, Linda Young and Julie Young on their first day of business.

Farmers find support from local business partners

Borrowing the words of a famous comedian, farmers "...just as we counsel farmers on ways to maximize their revenue and manage market risk", Vincent said. "You can't just guess what the market is going to do anymore. It's too risky. There are strategies now that allow farmers to combine the benefits of crop insurance and a market plan to guarantee revenue that they can depend on."

Each year a day is set aside to honor the men and women who work our farms and bring this food to the table, "Agriculture Day" is celebrated this year on March 20, when tens of thousands of volunteers educate the public about the critical role agriculture plays in our modern lives. Students, educators, farmers/ranchers, consumers, agribusiness companies and grassroots organizations help coordinate "America's Largest Classroom on Agriculture," where consumers young and old learn more about modern agricultural and understand the scope and diversity of our nation's largest industry and employer.

Local business partners providing support to agriculture are also actively seeking ways to improve profitability and help producers make it through tough economic times. One of the most critical needs is to help farmers protect their livelihood through an effective marketing and management plan, according to Patti Vincent of Vincent Insurance of Stratford, Texas.

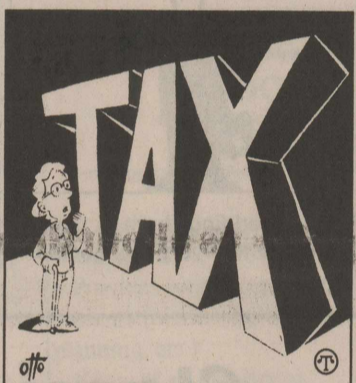
Vincent Insurance features products and services provided through American Agrisure, Inc. Company President Kim Gibson and AmAg developed the most popular crop insurance coverage--Crop Revenue Coverage (CRC)--and continues to work with farmers to find products and services to improve profitability.

"As a company serving agriculture, we also feel the increasing economic pressure on farmers," Gibson explained. "With current prices, finding new ways to manage risk and help farmers with their marketing is our primary focus right now." Helping local farmers prosper pays big benefits to the local community, Vincent noted. A strong farm economy helps local businesses, schools, churches and civic organizations. Educating local producers on how to build an effective marketing plan can help provide a financial bridge until prices for their crops rebound, Vincent said.

SENIOR news notes

Social Security Tax

(NAPS)—Millions of seniors may soon benefit from legislation, recently introduced in the House, which would repeal a 1993 law that subjects up to 85 percent of Social Security benefits to tax.



Middle-income seniors may get a tax break thanks to recently proposed legislation.

"Uncle Sam does not allow seniors to figure their income like other taxpayers," says George A. Smith, Chairman of The Senior Citizens League. "This legislation would provide greater tax fairness for increasing numbers of middle-income seniors."

Under current law, up to 50 percent of Social Security benefits may be taxable for individuals with annual provisional incomes between \$25,000 and \$34,000, and couples with annual provisional incomes between \$32,000 and \$44,000. Up to 85 percent of benefits are taxable for individuals or couples who bring in more.

"Making matters worse, these income levels are fixed and do not rise annually like personal exemptions or tax brackets," says Smith. "This means that as incomes and Social Security benefits gradually rise, increasing numbers of seniors must pay tax on their benefits."

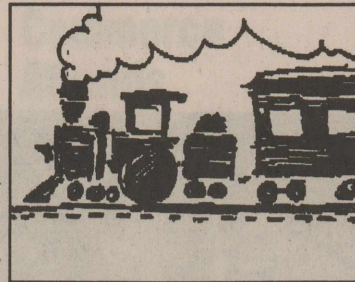
The new legislation would roll the upper tax bracket back to the 50 percent level. For more information, send \$1 for shipping and handling to TREA Senior Citizens League, Dept. N10102, 909 N. Washington St., Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314 or visit www.tscl.org.

PEPPERIDGE FARM MIXED BERRY BASKETS

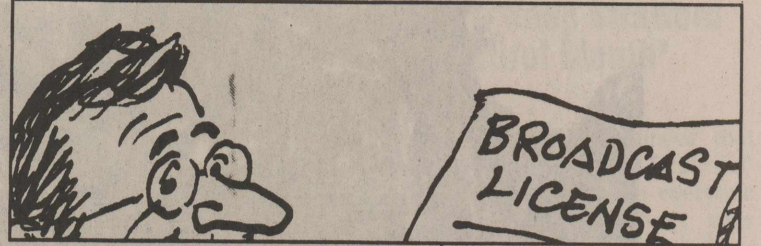
Bake: 30 min. Prep: 15 min. Cook: 5 min.

- 1 pkg. Pepperidge Farm Frozen Puff Pastry Shells
- 1/2 cup seedless raspberry jam
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 3 cups fresh or frozen berries (blueberries, raspberries, sliced strawberries)
- Vanilla yogurt or sweetened whipped cream

BAKE pastry shells according to pkg. directions. HEAT jam in saucepan until melted. Remove from heat. Stir in lemon juice and berries. SERVE in pastry shells. Top with yogurt. Serves 6.



The world's first passenger train made its debut in England in 1825.



The first license to broadcast regularly went to station WBZ in Springfield, Massachusetts.

<p>Business Directory</p>	<p>COLDWATER MANOR "LOVE SPOKEN HERE" 1111 BEAVER RD., STRATFORD, TX (806) 396-5568</p>
<p>WALTER LASLEY & SONS INC. THE Feedyard Since 1953 753-4411</p>	<p>BROOKS MOTOR CARQUEST AUTO PARTS 396-2631 314 South Poplar</p>
<p>Stratford Grain Co. Stratford 396-5541 Lantz 769-4485 4 North Main</p>	<p>Robert's Service Center 400 S. Poplar 396-2882 Auto Repair & Lawn Mower Repair</p>
<p>CONSUMERS 208 Texas We Sell Seed & Fuel Farmland, Acco, & Moorman Seeds & Diamond Shamrock Products 366-2261</p>	<p>SMITH & SMITH WELL CO., INC. 720 S. 1st & Wall - P. O. Box 34 STRATFORD, TEXAS 79084 Phone (806) 396-2111 JIM SMITH—Res. Phone (806) 396-5947 CARY SMITH—Res. Phone (806) 396-5320 Pumps, Irrigation - Domestic, Sales & Service, Gearhead and Pump Parts and Repair, Windmill Parts and Repair, Machine Work</p>
<p>Stratford Auto Electric 119 S. Wall, Stratford, Texas 79084 Phone 366-5941 366-5857 Alternator, Starter, Magneto Repair Since 1964</p>	<p>Allen-Tarver Insurance Agency Carolyn A. Tarver Auto • Home • Life • Commercial Bus: (806)396-5810 • Res: (806) 396-2393</p>
<p>Betty Brown's Medical Claim Service 401 N. 3rd. P.O. Box 7 Stratford, TX. 79084 806-396-2623</p>	<p>Joe Flores Farm Bureau Insurance 396-5538 office 396-5389 home</p>
<p>GEORGE HARDING 366-2206 HOME MAINTENANCE SERVICES B.I.O.N.I.C. Plumbing Painting Service</p>	<p>Jesse's Gun Shop Gun Repairs • Sales • Cleaning Hours: Mon. - Fri. - 1730 - 2000 Sat. - 0800-1600 Jesse Resendes (806) 769-4454 (806) 366-3134 Shop 111 S. Maple Stratford, TX 79084</p>
<p>Brown's Meat Locker Custom Wholesale & Retail Meat Federally Inspected Hwy 287 South 396-2513</p>	<p>Your Home Town Pharmacy.. ELK PHARMACY 317 N. Main P.O. Box 380 Stratford, TX 79084 806-396-5505 Major Prescription Plans Accepted Gayland Vandiver, R.Ph. Debbi Vandiver/ Owners Carlton Cards. Millionaire Candy. Gifts Cookie and Balloon Bouquets</p>
<p>THRIFTWAY Big Town Selection • Small Town Friendliness Wide Selection Frozen Food Quality Foods Fresh Produce Hwy 54 East 396-5586</p>	<p>Joan Bell THE TRAVEL STORE A Full Service Travel Agency 396-5958 1-800-753-2792</p>
<p>Westside Laundry/Stratford Laundry & Dry Cleaners 410 N. 4th - Stratford, Texas 396-2841 Owners - Jerry & Janie Smith Operators - Bob & Kerri Harris</p>	<p>Tommy's Embroidery 580-423-7718 Texhoma, OK 210 Hwy 54 West Caps, Shirts, Jackets, Baby Blankets, Towels, Towel Wraps, School Logos, & Much More!</p>
<p>K D D D 800 AM / 95.3 FM "The Voice of the North Plains" 408 S. Dumas Ave. • 935-4141 • Caller Request Line 934-9530</p>	<p>(La Siesta Motel) Carina's Bridal Shop Vestidos de Novia Wedding Dress 15 Años Sweet 15 Primera Comunión Baptism Coronas Crowns Recuerdos Etc. Etc. 514 Texas Ave. Stratford, TX 79084 (806) 396-2316</p>
<p>A & I PARTS CENTER AUTOMOTIVE AND INDUSTRIAL PARTS — THE CAR CARE PEOPLE Jerry Ewers Manager P.O. Box 1146 201 N. 2nd - Stratford, TX 79084 (806) 366-5561 Fax: (806) 366-2583</p>	<p>Dalhart 246-5676 Dumas 935-7979 Sunray 948-4404</p>
<p>M & R Lawn Mower Repair All Types of Gas Engines (Weed eaters, edgers, trimmers, mowers) 934-2606 - Shop 935-5890 - Home</p>	<p>WATSON PROPANE P.O. Box 663 - Dumas, TX 79029 KENT WATSON Home 805-934-9191 806-934-3736 Office Fax 806-934-9151 806-662-6446 Cellular Toll Free 1-800-873-1928 If no answer, please call Gene Thompson with Lone Star LP Gas</p>
<p>EAGLE NURSERY 580-338-7870 Guymon Thatching, Fertilizing, Sprinkler Repairs Tree Trimming - Complete Landscaping Commercial & Residential Masonry & Stonework GENERAL LAWN MAINTENANCE</p>	<p>KENS PLUMBING SERVICE AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE Stratford, TX 79084 OFFICE: 806-366-3035 CELL: 806-753-7503</p>

Easter Favorites

A New Season Sees New Horizons For Peeps

(NAPS)—It's a small world after all and one of its ambassadors may be a favorite Easter confection.

Marshmallow Peeps®, the number one non-chocolate Easter candy treat in the U.S., is now also available in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Caribbean, Panama, China, Korea, the Philippines, Singapore, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, and most recently South Africa.

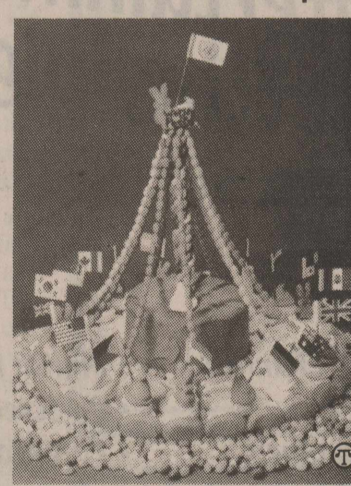
One way the creators of this sweet treat have found to celebrate its international popularity is by offering directions to help create the World Peeps Easter 2001 Centerpiece.

The colorful centerpiece is made with a chocolate cake base. The cakes are frosted with icing that has ocean blue coloring that is decorated with continents cut out of green tinged marzipan.

To make the continents, the outlines of North America, South America, Africa, Australia, Asia and Europe are traced with paper and cut out of chilled, thinly rolled green marzipan.

The cake features a creme egg base and jelly bean streamers. Peeps and bunnies in assorted colors are arranged around the outer edge of the base, with vanilla creme eggs under the chicks and bunnies to give them height.

To honor Peeps' international culinary ambassadorship, the cake base is decorated with Peeps, Chicks and Bunnies, holding flags



Long may she peep! With flags flying and new packaging, a favorite Easter treat takes on the world.

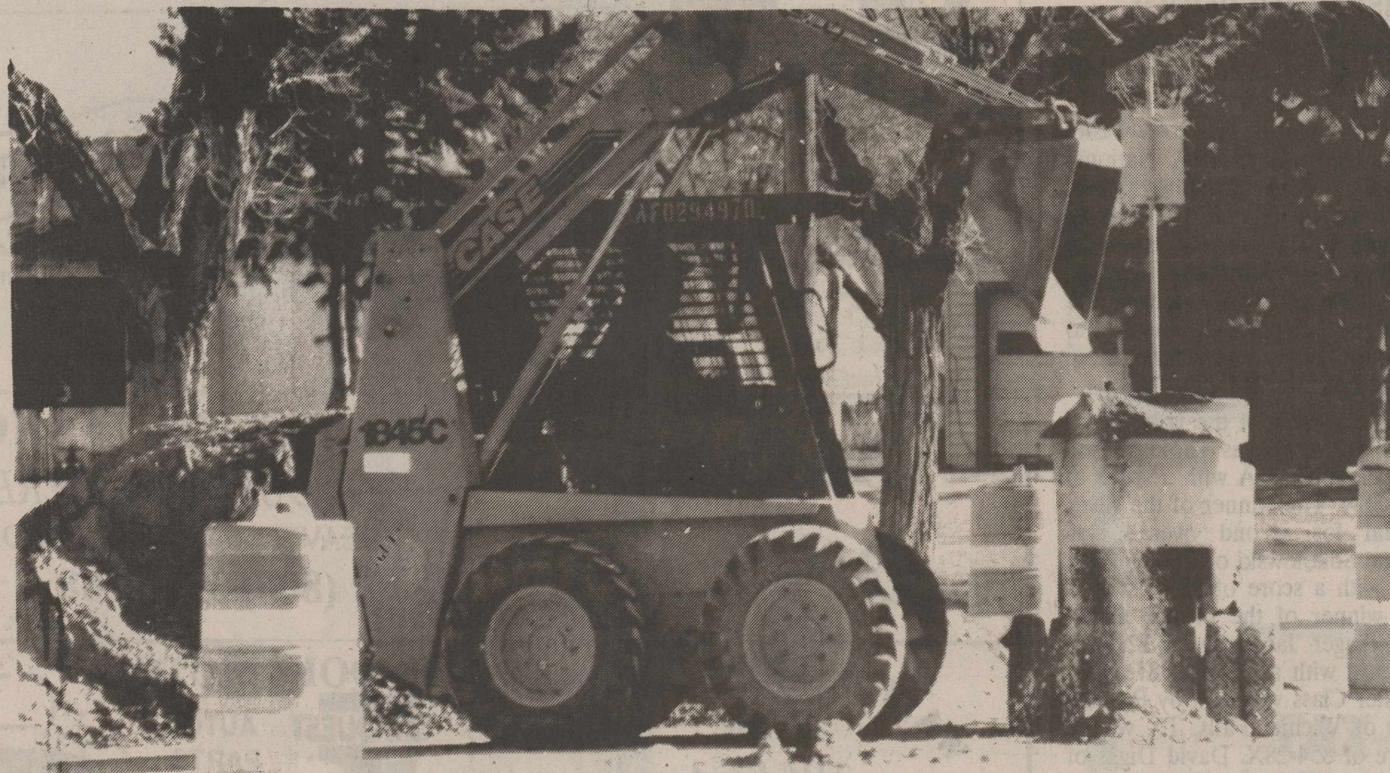
from those countries now enjoying Peeps.

Step-by-step instructions on how to create this "worldly" centerpiece can be found at www.marshmallowpeeps.com. Here fans can also visit Peepsville, send Peeps cards and even download Peeps iron-ons.

This year's Peeps collection also sports a new look for the fluffy sweets.

A brighter new packaging color scheme matches the yellow, pink, white, lavender and blue treats inside but incorporates familiar Peeps imagery.

Just Born, the manufacturers of Peeps, also produce MIKE AND IKE, HOT TAMALES and ZOURS.



Shown above and at left: Workers in the process of hauling dirt in to the school to fill up the auditorium before pouring cement.

Construction Update

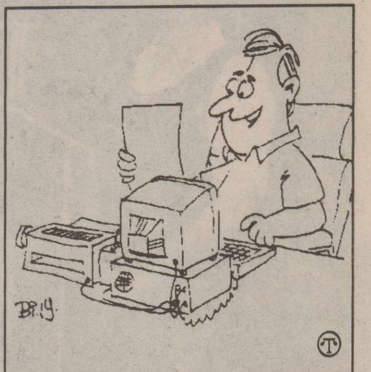
The sand has been packed into the auditorium (new library) and the electrical conduit work in the floor is being placed. After that is finished, the concrete will be poured in the facility. The band hall project is proceeding nicely as the walls and duct work are going up. The brick will arrive shortly. The Mary Allen work is also coming along. The rooms have been walled off and the roof is being put on the building this week. After the roof is on the brickwork will start. The Mary Allen cafeteria work is under way.

Web Watch

(NAPS)—A new kind of engine, one that makes energy without combustion may help reduce pollution. It's called the fuel cell. Fuel cells are being developed for a variety of transportation applications, including passenger cars. For more information, visit www.yournextcar.org.

When it comes to calming and soothing in this hectic world, our sense of smell can be an important sense and there are few aromas as pleasing or soothing as the smell of baking bread. New developments in bread machines mean bread can be ready when you are. The Bread Machine Industry offers tips on selecting a bread machine at www.breadmachine.org.

Under the "studio system" of old Hollywood, moguls wielded the power to make and break careers, but were also charged with protecting their stable of actors and working the promotional machine to



turn their latest project into hits. To learn more about "The Lot," visit the AMC Web site at www.amctv.com.

At QuickenInsurance (www.quickeninsurance.com), you can receive and compare real time quotes from the industry's most respected companies, obtain information, connect with agents and purchase policies online. Comparison shopping can save you money.

Customer Appreciation

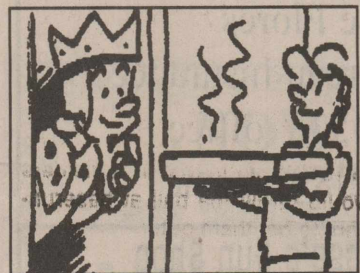


Day



BROOKS MOTOR COMPANY
314 South Poplar
Stratford, Texas

Thursday, March 22nd
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
BBQ Lunch
Door Prizes



The first pizzeria opened in Naples, Italy, in 1830, and the first delivery was made to King Umberto and Queen Margherita.

If you start saving \$2,000 a year in an IRA when you're 25, and you save that much for 10 consecutive years, earning about 9 percent interest per year, you'll have \$440,000 when you turn 65.

Extra, Extra Photo Savings!

FREE 2nd Set!

Don't Forget to buy Kodak Film!

3" DUCKWALL'S Prints
OR
4" or 5" Kodak Prints

PREMIUM PROCESSING

Every Tuesday & Saturday!

DUCKWALL'S Advantage

Offer available on 3" Duckwall's Advantage Processing or 4" or 5" Kodak Premium Processing prints. 3" prints from 110, 126, disc and 35mm film. 4" or 5" prints from 35mm film only. G-41 Process only. Not available on (Advanced Photo System - Advantix), Panoramic or 1/2 frame 135 film. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sunday: 1:00 p.m. - 5 p.m.

303 N. MAIN STRATFORD, TX



At a wedding there is usually one usher for every fifty guests.

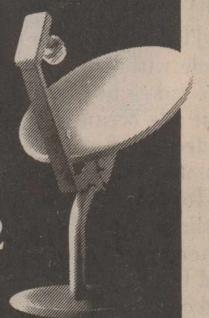
Classic Digital Cable.

The entertainment keeps getting bigger!

- More Special Interest Channels
- More Premium Channels
- More Pay-Per-View Channels
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Call now to order Classic Digital Cable through our "Classic Dish" and get:

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DIABETICS

With Medicare or Insurance
(No HMOs)

Medicare Pays for Diabetic Testing Supplies.

Get Diabetic Supplies Mailed To Your Home With No Shipping Or Handling Charges.

For Additional Information Call
1-800-337-4144

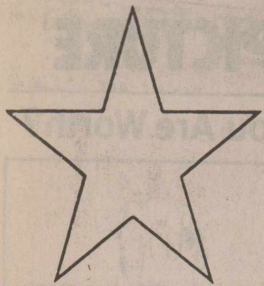
Diabetic National Services, Founded 1995
(also available - male Impotency product - not a pill)

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1-888-202-5660



Offer expires 2/28/01. Not valid in conjunction with any other offers. Some services not available in some areas. Other restrictions may apply. Digital terminal required to receive Digital Cable.



It Pays To Look In The

Star Classifieds

..The Best Salesperson Around

Phone 366-5885

For Sale

For Sale: 1998 Monte Carlo, 30,000 miles. 366-5684.
2-1-tfn

Time for Halls Crabgrass Prevention with or without fertilizer. Come to THE General Store.
2-22-tfn

For sale: 98 Harcl Spray Rig, 1000 gal., 60 ft. boom, foamer, chemical inductor. Call 753-7398 or 366-5398 after 7 p.m.
10-19-tfn

For Sale: 2-Silverado Pickups-2000. Short Wheel Base. Call 366-2576 or 366-5557.
2-15-tfn

Prom Time!! Tuxedos available at Hair Creations. Call 396-2809.
3-15-tfn

COOKWARE - WE STOPPED DOING DINNER PARTIES! Have beautiful new 17-piece sets left! Heavy, brilliant surgical stainless steel! 100% waterless! Was \$1749.00, now \$439.00! Lifetime Warranty! 1-800-434-4628.
3-22-1xp

For Sale: 1994 GMC Suburban SLE. 4x4, PL, PW, New tires, cloth int., good cond., 128,500 miles. \$12,000 or OBO. Call 366-5398 or 366-5885 - leave message.
3-22-tfn

Help Wanted

Help Wanted: Feedyard hand with experience operating heavy equipment and welding. Call 366-3201.
3-22-c

R.N. or L.V.N. Charge Nurse Position available at Coldwater Manor. Rotating Shifts, Excellent Benefits including Health Insurance after 90 days full-time employment. Apply in person at Coldwater Manor, 1111 Beaver Road, Stratford, TX 79084; 806-396-5568. EOE
2-8-tfn

HELP WANTED The City of Stratford is accepting applications for ONE public works/utility department employee. Applicant must be a high school graduate (or GED), live within 20 minutes of the City of Stratford and have a valid Texas Drivers license. The work is occasionally physically strenuous and requires the ability to learn to operate a backhoe, loader and mowing tractor. City employees are subject to random drug testing. Applications are available at Stratford City Hall, 518 N. Third St., Stratford, TX. Position upon until filled. The City of Stratford is an equal opportunity employer.
2-15-tfn

Sherman Co. Sheriff's Office is currently taking applications for Dispatcher/Jailer. Starting pay \$1474.11 per month plus insurance with dental and optical, retirement, longevity, paid vacation after one year. Rotating shifts. Computer skills a plus but not necessary. Applications may be picked up at the Sherman Co. Sheriff's Office, 701 N. 3rd, Stratford, TX. Sherman Co. is an equal opportunity employer.
3-15-2xc

Sherman County Extension Office is taking applications for full-time secretarial position. Must have good public relation skills, experience in computer application skills of Windows, Quicken, and Word Perfect in addition to email, internet, and telephone skills. Organizational, record-keeping skills, and self initiative a must. Experience preferred. Applications may be obtained at the Sherman County Extension Office located at 301 N. Third Street, Stratford. Sherman County is an EEO employer.
3-22-2xc



The word rhythm comes from the Greek word *rhythmos*, meaning measured motion.

Services

Best Termite Control of Amarillo
Daniel Boyd - (Owner)
Leo Russell - (Previous Owner)
1-806-622-2171
Have City and State License for the City of Stratford
1-7-tfn

Authorized Whirlpool Sales & Service
New & Used Appliances
Baber Supply
1-800-292-4023 1-530-423-7255

Dusky's Chimney Cleaning

396-2596
Minor Repairs
Safety Inspection
Chimney Caps
Animal Removal
Insured

RICHARD'S PAINTING
—ROOFING—
Painting Interior Specials
\$39.95 Average Room
\$399.00 Average Exterior
Roofing Leak Expert -
Comp. Roll - Mobile Homes.
Carpentry
25 Years - 935-3123

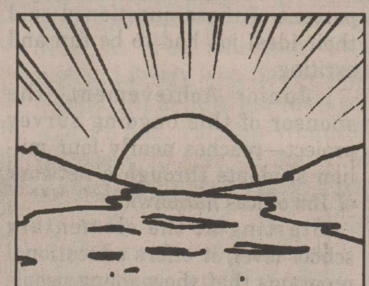
J&M Home Repair Service
Reliable Home Repair at Reasonable prices
Drywall, Plumbing, Painting, Electrical, Roofing, Floor Coverings, Ceramic Tile. Almost anything...
Phone 806-396-5964 or 396-2514
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Exterior & Interior
Drywall Repair
Faux Finisher
Paint 2 Rooms - 3rd Room of Equal Size FREE
All Types of Fencing
Wood & Chain Link
Vinyl
FREE ESTIMATES

Attention veterans & surviving spouses-if you have questions concerning Veteran or Surviving-Spouse Benefits, or need assistance, please contact the Sherman County Veterans Services Officer (Jim Johnson) at 366-5700.
2-15-tfn

Is your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in brick or walls? Doors won't close?...Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo, TX.
1-4-1ytpd

Custom Rotatilling. Contact Rick at THE General Store.
3-01-4xc



Some scholars believe the word Easter comes from an early German word *eostarum* which means dawn.

The two foes of human happiness are pain and boredom.
—Arthur Schopenhauer

House for Sale

Ad Rem Land Co.
Call to see this! Very nice 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, single garage plus double carport. Includes a rent house 1 bedroom, 1 bath, single garage. Steel siding on both houses. Corner lot. All for \$56,500. Call Ad Rem Land Co. 935-7364 to see it.

For Sale: Brick Home, 3 Bedroom, 1 3/4 Baths, Kitchen & Dining Room, Built-in Gas Cook Top & Oven, Central Heat - 2 window unit - refrig. air new in 1999, ceiling fans every room, one car garage, large fenced backyard, 10'x12' storage building, cement floor, washer & dryer hook-ups in garage, corner lot - paved. \$39,900.00
Look At This 1268 Sq. Ft. House,

Three bedroom, 1 bathroom, Living Room, Kitchen & Dining Area, Utility Room, Basement. New Carpet, New Paint throughout House, Floor Furnace, Evap. Air Cond., Exterior Stucco with New Roof on 4 - 30ft. lots.
Asking \$35,000

Call: Keith Waters
674-0661

ASSITER ASSOCIATES
AUCTIONEERS REALTORS APPRAISERS
www.assiter.com
373-0000

The cello's real name is the violoncello. The full name of the piano is the pianoforte.

Land For Sale

Land for Sale: One (1) 640 Acre tract cultivated land; 306.7 acres in CRP, 276.3 acres in CRP, 250.3 in CRP. Contact Trust Department/Martha Mills, First State Bank 396-5521.
3-12-tfn

For Rent

For Rent: 2 bdrm trailer house, 1 bath, 935-6702. 305 S. Wall St.
2-1-tfn

2 Bedroom Apartment For Rent, call 769-4464.
1-18-tfn

Office Space for Rent: Call 396-2243.
3-15-2xc

House for Rent: 3 Bedroom, utility porch, furnished. 396-2125 or 396-2236.
3-15-2xc

For Rent: 1 Bedroom furnished apt. 6th & Fulton. Call 396-5541 daytime, 396-5692 at nights.
1-28-tfn

House for rent: 2 Bedroom, carport, storage shed in large fenced backyard. Call 366-2186 between 3:00-8:00 p.m. Calls before 3:00, leave message and we'll get back with you.
3-22-4xp

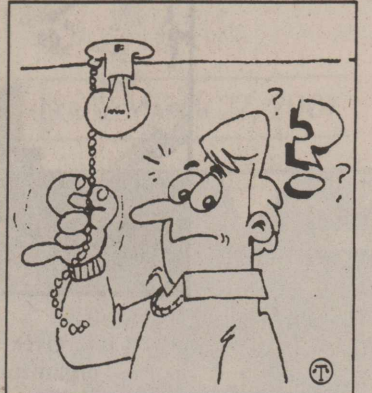
Card of Thanks

Thank you to everyone for their prayers, calls, cards, visits and everything everybody did to help out while I was in the hospital and since I've been home. Special thanks to the clinic and to Jimmy Lanning and his crew for their special care.
Dwayne Plunk

Thank you to all of those people for their prayers and cards during my recent scare with my heart. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated. God Bless You.
Janie Rowley & Family

Les damos nuestras mas sinceras gracias a todas las personas que nos acompañaron en los funerales y novenarios de nuestros seres queridos que recientemente perdimos, a nuestros amigos, conocidos y familiares: MUCHAS GRACIAS.
Lonei Palma

Did You Know?



(NAPS)—To save time, marinate while you bake. This way, flavors are intensified as the marinade bakes into the chicken. Now on supermarket shelves, there's a myriad of mouth-watering marinades to add savory taste. For example, Lawry's offers 12 varieties reflecting popular cuisines, including such ethnic flavors as Mediterranean, Caribbean, Tequila Lime and Sesame Ginger and each contains real fruit juice.

A tailgate party recipe sure to be a hit with the millions of racing fans across the country is the Oreo Tailgate Tire Pie, made with Oreos, margarine or butter, Jet-Puffed marshmallows, milk, heavy cream and more Oreos for a garnish.

It's said the only things certain in life are death and taxes, but few know that taxes on beer account for a whopping 43 percent of the price that consumers pay for a cold six-pack. According to brewing giant, Anheuser Busch, beer taxes are too high and it might be a good idea for beer drinkers to bring this to the

attention of their Congressional representative.

According to child development experts, the time youngsters spend playing is crucial to their growth. Sassy toys has collaborated with Burger King Corporation to provide new premiums for children under the age of three, available upon request in Kid's Meals. The toys are designed to meet four critical stages of a child's development: moving and exploring, interacting and feeling, communicating and talking and thinking and learning.

FISH

Channel Catfish, Florida Hybrid Bass, Hybrid Bluegill, Fathead Minnows, Crappie and Triploid Grass Carp are now available for Pond and Lake Stocking. **One Week Notice & Permit Required for Triploid Grass Carp.** We furnish your Hauling Containers! We guarantee live delivery! Discounts and Special Deliveries are available on large orders! Supplies - Sure Ketch Turtle Trap, Fish Feeders, Fish Traps, Spawning Mats, Liquid Pond Fertilizer and Gift Certificates. Delivery will be Wednesday, March 28, at the times listed for the following towns and locations.

Texhoma - Texhoma Wheat Growers 827-7261 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.
Stratford - THE General Store 366-5308 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Etter - Hi-Pro Feed 966-5113 11:00 - 12:00 Noon
Dumas - Dumas Coop 935-6440 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Dalhart - Stockman's Feed Bunk 800-433-2950 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Texline - OX Feed & Ranch Supply 362-4351 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

To Place Your Order Call or For More Information contact one of our fishery consultants or your local dealer.

PH. 1-800-433-2950 Fax 1-580-777-2899

DUNN'S FISH FARMS, INC.

P.O. Box 85, FITTSTOWN, OK 74842



The first baseball game using modern rules-written and developed by New York bank teller Alexander Cartwright-was played in 1845. Prior to that time, fielders would throw the ball at baserunners to get them out.

In many European countries it was a tradition for a girl to present colored eggs to a boyfriend as an Easter gift

Public notice bills threaten tradition

Texas has for decades worked to fully inform its citizens by requiring that public notices be printed in local newspapers.

Several bills now before the Legislature threaten that tradition of publishing important notices while allowing exclusive publication on the Internet, at the option of state and local governments.

There is nothing wrong with using the Internet to expand public notice. That's already happening without much prompting by the state. However, for the foreseeable future, newspapers remain vital to the process of public notice.

The bills are S.B. 872 by Jon Lindsay (R-Houston) and S.B. 855 by Sen. Chris Harris (R-Arlington). Lindsay's bill would allow for Internet posting of public bid notices. Harris' bill is more sweeping and would allow publication on the Internet of all public notices required by state law.

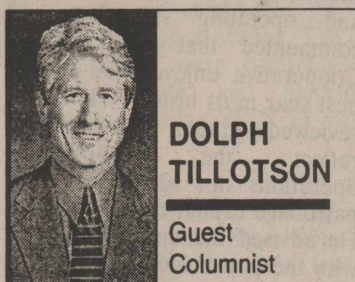
In both bills, electronic publication could be instead of, not in addition to, publication in newspapers.

Let's say up front that newspaper publishers likely would lose revenue because of the change. However, for most daily newspapers, legal advertising represents a small percentage of revenue, usually much less than 5 percent. The percentage for weekly newspapers is higher.

The real losers if this legislation passes would be the public.

In this debate, it is essential for all to understand the underlying purpose of such advertising; it is not just functional, aimed only at public officials and contractors who do business with the government. It is for everyone.

All citizens have a right to information about public bidding, meetings, tax foreclosure sales, and



DOLPH TILLOTSON

Guest Columnist

adoption of new tax rates and budgets.

The fact is, not enough Texans have Internet access or use what they do have — at least not yet. A 1998 U.S. Department of Commerce study set Texas's statewide rate of access at only about 24.5 percent. Admittedly, that likely is somewhat higher today.

However, there remains an undeniable digital divide between those who have access to the Internet and those who don't. It appears obvious that those without Internet access are the most economically disadvantaged among us. Access also is much lower in rural than in urban areas.

The best data available seems to be a June 2000 report titled "Government Services and Computer and Internet Use in Texas," compiled by the University of Texas. It concludes that about half of all Texans have at least limited Internet access, but fully half the polling sample agreed "the Internet is insufficiently available across the state to rely on it for providing government services."

Simply put, allowing Internet-only posting would put such information off-limits to all who do not possess the money, the skills and training, the hardware or software to surf the net. That's a bad idea.

It's an even worse idea when one considers how newspapers still may serve in this area.

Habit is an important part of what newspapers offer. The state of Texas has invested millions over the years in training citizens to look for public notices in their local newspaper. We should not toss this aside without a great amount of planning and thought.

Further, a majority of Texas newspapers already have their own Internet presence. The Texas Press Association reports that more than half of the state's 550 newspapers have Internet editions. Of those, 111 Texas newspapers currently are posting legal notices to the Internet.

In many cases (including The Galveston County Daily News), legal posting on the Internet is a free service offered to enhance the value and reach of legal advertising published in the paper.

Surely there is a way to harness the power of a print-Internet partnership to serve the people of Texas better.

Some in the Texas Legislature may relish the notion of taking a small amount of revenue away from their local newspaper.

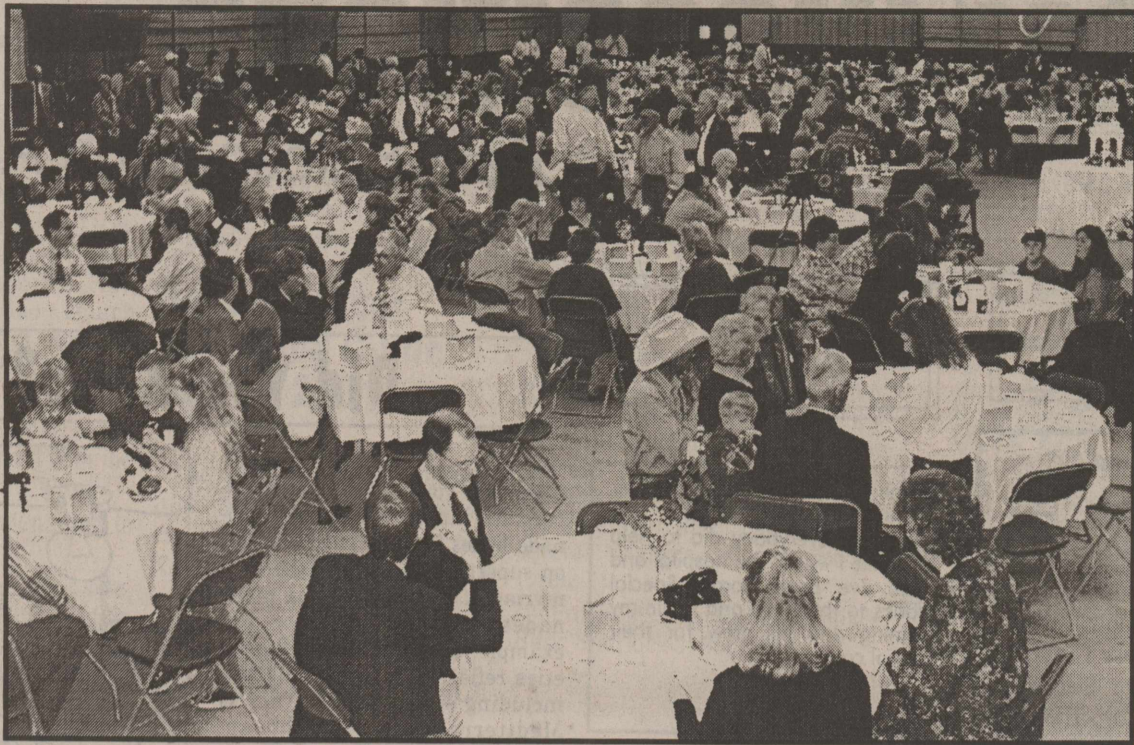
Others may sincerely believe the state should make more and better use of Internet technology. It is hard to argue with that notion. It's also logical, however, that expansion onto the Internet should be phased and appropriate to the growth in genuine Internet access and use.

The bills on the table today could essentially end access to huge quantities of public information for all but our most technologically advanced — and wealthiest — citizens.

It is an idea whose time has not come.

Dolph Tillotson is president and publisher of The Galveston County Daily News. He writes frequently on public information issues on behalf of the newspapers of Texas.

XIT Cont. from page 1



Over 650 XIT Rural Telephone members and invited guests attended the organizations Golden Anniversary Celebration held on Wednesday, March 14th, at the Dalhart Rita Blanca Lake Coliseum.

President Tommy Baskin began his address by extending a special welcome to the XIT Telephone pioneers and their families who were guests of honor at this year's meeting. Baskin said, "These people had a dream, and at times were accused of having a pipe dream. The group who brought the Rita Blanca Electric Cooperative and later the XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative into being was this same group. These men and women spent a great deal of their time working to establish these Cooperatives." Baskin went on to say, "I knew many of them personally, and I know that they not only devoted a lot of time and energy, but also paid their own way to Washington, D.C. and other places to secure funding for the Cooperative." President Baskin said that he considered it an honor to have served on the Board with some of these pioneers and that he witnessed, first hand, their dedication to both the Cooperatives. He said, "I remember when our personal emergency phone service was a pay phone outside a dance hall ten miles away." He also said that Director Water E. Lasley had recently relayed to him how years ago his father had to rent a motel room in Texhoma so that he could have telephone service to trade cattle for his feedlot business. Baskin said, "So you can imagine how excited we all were when we got our first telephone service out in the country."

President Baskin concluded by thanking everyone for coming to the meeting and for their support and patience over the past fifty years.

Baskin then introduced the Cooperative's General Manager, Jimmy R. White. White was presented a plaque from the National Telephone Cooperative Association for twenty five years of service. The plaque read, "Presented to Jimmy R. White in recognition of your loyal and dedicated service in the Telecommunications Industry." White was employed as General Manager of XIT Rural Telephone in June of 1975.

Manager White began by saying, "Welcome to the 50th Annual Meeting and Golden Anniversary Celebration of your Cooperative." White said that as we reach certain milestones in our lives, and as we get older, we all take a little more time to reflect back. He said, "And, that's not a bad thing, because it's from our history—our roots—and our experiences along the way that we learn how to plan for our future."

White talked about when XIT first went into service in the fifties. He said, "With open wire plant-8 to 10' party-line service—and mechanical switching systems, you would have to say our service then would be considered very poor compared to today's standards. But, the customers receiving the service in the fifties were thrilled." White said, "Many of you here today remember the day you first received service from XIT, and I'm sure you would say it was wonderful. That's because this was compared to no service, or in some cases, switcher line service, before XIT began offering telephone service in the rural area."

White explained that after XIT was organized in 1951, it began service very soon in the Texline Exchange, which was acquired from Mr. J.T. Ricketts. He further

explained that most of the rural area in Dallam and Hartley Counties was not built until the mid-to-late fifties, and that the time in between was used to secure an REA loan—an engineer—and to develop plans and specifications for the system before construction could actually begin. He continued by stating that the Kerrick Exchange and the Sherman County area were not built until well into the sixties.

White then focused his attention to XIT's guests of honor. He said, "Today, we are honored to have with us a unique group of distinguished guests. This group represents past directors and past employees of the Cooperatives well as family members who represent someone from this group. Some are individuals who went door to door getting right-of-way easements. Others made trips to Washington, D.C. to help secure REA loan. After reading the minutes and hearing many stories of the early times of the Cooperative, I can appreciate the debt of gratitude that we as employees and members owe to this group of individuals that either helped organize XIT or helped hold it together through some very shaky times. Without the dedicated efforts of this entire group of people represented here today, we would not be here enjoying the fruits of their labor."

Manager White then reviewed the Cooperatives balance sheet and operating statement and commented that in 2000, the Cooperative enjoyed the second best year in its history. White then reviewed graphs prepared to reflect the Cooperatives operations for 2000 and the patronage capital credit summary. He advised the membership that with the patronage capital refund checks that were distributed at this year's meeting, the Cooperative has refunded over 7 1/2 million dollars back to its members. White added, "That's a statement that no one in their wildest dreams would have ever believed could be made by this Cooperative—forty-three or event twenty years ago. In fact, I recall one of our first audits where the auditor, who was reviewing the REA requirements for the Cooperative to pay patronage capital credits, made the comment that XIT probably wouldn't every have to worry, because we would never be able to achieve those requirements nor be in a financial position to pay capital credits."

In his closing remarks, White introduced present and past employees of the Cooperative and nominations from the floor. There stated, "Ladies and Gentlemen, these are the people who have served you well throughout our history."

Among the past employees were retired XIT office Manager, Ruby Smith; retired Assistant Manager, J.D. Jones and former XIT General manager, Tom Hyer. Mrs. Smith served the Cooperative for 33 years before her retirement. Mr. Jones served here 22 years. Mr. Hyer, who is now 50 years old, was the General Manager of West Texas Rural Telephone in Hereford, Texas, served as the General Manager of XIT from the October of 1972 until June of 1975.

White concluded his address by saying that the progress made by the Cooperative over the past 50 years cannot be attributed to any one person or to any group of people. He said, "It was achieved by all of us working together for a

common goal. Each past or present member, employee and director of XIT Rural Telephone should take a great amount of individual pride in the growth and progress of this fine organization in the fact that each contributed in part to the achievements of this Cooperative. I know that I do, and my hope is that each of you share this feeling as well. My hope for the future is that someone presenting the manager's report at the Diamond (75th) Anniversary will be discussing how antiquated our service was at the turn of the century—compared to the current standards in 2026."

Manager White then introduced Darrell Dennis, Assistant Manager, and asked him to report on the Cooperatives wholly-owned subsidiary, XIT Telecommunication & Technology, Inc. (XT&T). Dennis stated that, although 2000 was not a record year, the subsidiary continues to return a good profit to the organization.

Dennis reported that XIT Cellular has converted all of its cell sites to digital, and on March 1st turned up a new cell site at Vega. He continued by saying that other sites are being studied to improve handheld performance in XIT's coverage area.

Dennis advised the membership that the XIT Communications' Regional Telephone Directory is in its third year of production. He advised that the book continues to grow with the support from its advertisers. He said the 2001 books will have some new features; a numerical listing section in addition to the alpha section, and the options of blue, green and red spot color or four-color process for the yellow page display ads.

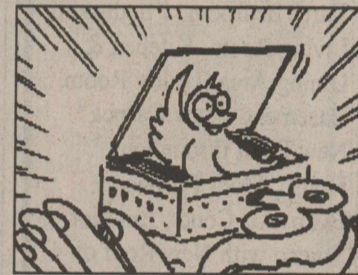
Dennis concluded his report by saying, "Our CLEC operations in Dalhart and Stratford continue to grow. We finished the year with an excellent penetration rate in these markets. We are still seeing a good response to these services and expect a lot of support for the new services to be offered soon in Dalhart, Stratford and Texline."

President Baskin introduced John Burrow, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, who presented the report on the nominations for directors for the ensuing three-year-term. Those nominated were District I, Dallam County—J.W. McClellan, Jr.; District II, Hartley County—Kenneth Stanley, and District III, Sherman County—James Spurlock. Burrow then called for the election of J.W. McClellan, Jr., Ruby Smith, Kenneth Stanley, and James Spurlock.

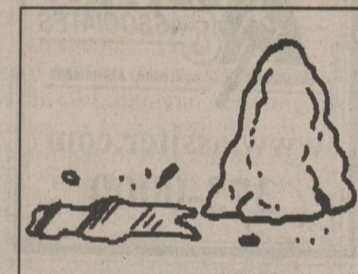
Director E.H. Little conducted the drawing for the ninety four prizes that were awarded to attending members and their children. Director Little was assisted by fellow director, J.W. McClellan, Jr., XIT employees and members' children, Juan Davira and Jessie Edmonds. The winner of the \$500 cash prize was Chris Herrera. The winners of the \$100 cash prizes were Alfred Long, C.J. Unruh, City of Exline, Curt White and Billye Howell. After the prizes were distributed, the meeting was adjourned.

Immediately following the conclusion of the annual meeting, the Board of Directors met at the

Cooperatives headquarters and held their Organizational meeting. At this meeting, the following officers were elected: James Spurlock, President; Glenn Olson, Vice President; and Gary Finch, Secretary-Treasurer.



Marie Antoinette had a music box the size and shape of a life-size canary.



Dirty snow melts faster than clean.

Junior Achievement® Students' Career Goals Reflect Economy

(NAPS)—When young people imagine their future, their vision is influenced by the current state of the economy.

As a result, when the economy slows, fewer young people expect to become millionaires by the time they reach the age of 40.

That's just one of the key findings of the most recent edition of an ongoing study of how students perceive the economy and the world of business.

The project is sponsored by the largest organization dedicated to educating young people about business, economics and free enterprise.

However, the study, *Kids and Careers 2001 JA Interprise Poll*, did uncover some attitudes that changed very little from last year.

For example, for the second year in a row the profession of doctor was the top job for nearly 12 percent of the students polled. Being a business person was second at nine percent, followed by computer/Internet professional—the choice for nearly eight percent of the students.

The study also shows that students still think an education—and a degree—are important keys to success, with 73 percent of those queried reporting they believed either a graduate degree or a four-year college degree would be necessary to get their ideal job.

While fewer young people expect to make that first million by their 40th birthday, for the most part, young people remain confident about their earning potential.

Just over 25 percent of the students polled reported they will earn

THE TAX PICTURE

Do You Know How Much You Are Worth?

(NAPS)—During the next 20 years, the Social Welfare Research Institute estimates that \$14 trillion could transfer to the next generation as Baby Boomers' parents and some aging Baby Boomers themselves pass on inheritances. This will mark the greatest transfer of wealth in history, according to the Social Welfare Research Institute.

It comes as no surprise, then, that a recent Prudential survey finds that nearly three-quarters of those surveyed think it is important that the wealth passed from one generation to another not be heavily taxed at the federal and state levels.

Yet close to half of those respondents admit to knowing "very little" about the different taxes and costs associated with inheritances.

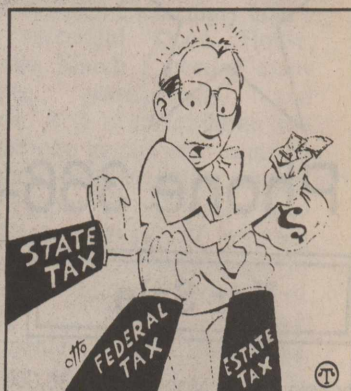
According to Jim Avery, president of Individual Life Insurance at Prudential, "The estate tax laws in the United States can be very confusing. Americans—especially Baby Boomers who have so much at stake right now—must understand the taxes and costs associated with inheritances."

Approximately half the people surveyed by Prudential admit they would not know how to reduce their tax burden, if and when they inherit property or money.

This group also admits to not knowing how to protect their spouses and children from significant estate tax bills on assets they themselves will bequeath in their own wills.

Avery makes the following observation, "Those who plan ahead will often purchase life insurance policies specifically to pay inheritance taxes."

He suggests that many individuals who do not consider themselves wealthy would be surprised at the total of their accumulated



assets. "There's a quick exercise that can illustrate the need for estate planning," he said.

- Total your family savings.
- Establish the market value of your home.
- Determine the value of your IRAs, 401(k)s, or other qualified plans, and
- Total the value of any life insurance policies, including group policies offered by an employer.

According to Avery, "If this totals \$675,000 or more right now, there is a serious risk of estate tax liability. The exemption amount gradually increases until it reaches \$1 million in 2006. However, there are simple steps an individual or couple can take to protect their assets," he said.

Steps that Avery offers to help protect the family and provide peace of mind include:

- Execute a will
- Name a guardian for your minor children
- Review the beneficiaries on any IRA, qualified plan and any life insurance
- Complete a living will—a health care power of attorney
- Create a durable power of attorney

Prudential's free brochure, "Estate Planning Strategies for the Future" is available by calling 1-800-The Rock, extension 7343.

Pointers For Parents-To-Be How Does Your Baby Grow? Get Answers

(NAPS)—On a day-to-day basis, an expectant mother can see only a swelling belly and wider hips as her baby grows. What if she wants to know what's really going on inside her womb? Does her baby have eyes yet...or fingernails?

The miracle of pregnancy is evident when you see how a baby develops, and a new e-mail newsletter gives moms-to-be the scoop on what's going on inside their bellies. PregnancyWeekly.com offers a "sneak peek" inside the womb to see what's really happening with the little tyke. Week by week, moms get a personalized report on their baby's development. Here's a preview:

Week 4: The beginnings of your baby's spinal cord are evident as nerve growth begins.

Week 8: Your baby's teeth begin to develop under the gums.

Week 10: Your baby weighs about the same as four paper clips.

PregnancyWeekly.com

A free e-mail newsletter gives pregnant moms a way to track their babies' development.

Week 24: Your baby can listen to your heart beat and your stomach growl.

Week 31: Your baby has eyebrows and eyelashes.

PregnancyWeekly.com is a Web site that provides several tools to help expectant moms learn about their bodies and their babies during pregnancy. The site also offers chat groups, a private journal for mom, opinion polls, expert advice, sweepstakes and more.

For more information, and to subscribe to the free e-mail newsletter, you can visit the Web site at www.PregnancyWeekly.com.

Sweet & Crunchy Salad

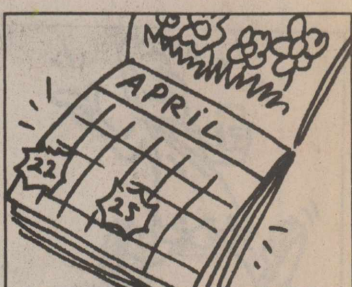
Prep Time: 10 minutes

Makes 6 servings

- 1/2 cup canola oil
 - 1/2 cup French's Honey Mustard
 - 12 tsp. balsamic vinegar
 - 12 cups mixed salad greens, thoroughly washed
 - 3 cups cut-up vegetables (optional)
 - 2 cups French's Taste Toppers French Fried Onions
1. Combine oil, mustard, vinegar and 2 tsp. water. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
 2. Toss greens and vegetables with dressing just before serving. Sprinkle with Taste Toppers.

Always behave like a duck—keep calm and unruffled on the surface but paddle like the devil underneath.

—Jacob Braude



Easter Sunday can fall on any date from March 22 to April 25th. The year-to-year sequence is so complicated that it takes 5.7 million years to repeat.