

Baird Star

50¢

©2004 Eastland/Callahan County Newspapers

31¢ By Mail

Volume 116, Number 10

Baird, Texas 79504

Thursday, March 4, 2004

9/11 Memorial Quilt Of Angels Comes To Area Courthouse: Next Display Stop Is Texas State Capitol



Above is a small detail from the Quilt of Angels - made by elementary school children in New York, and one of the most moving memorials to the victims of the World Trade Center disaster. The Quilt will make two stops in Texas - one in Eastland and one at the State Capitol before going to Washington D. C. to be signed by President Bush. *staff photo*

Eastland, March 1, 2004 - September 11, 2001 is a date that is indelibly etched upon the minds, hearts and conscience of our nation. Every American has an emotional response to the horrific events and heroic actions that ensued.

Across our nation, perhaps for the first time in a generation, people realized the value and cost of freedom.

Every age of American dealt in their own way with the terror and valor of 9-11.

The elementary students of East-Meadow, New York's Barnum Wood Elementary School worked diligently on what has become one of the most moving memorials to the victims of the World Trade Center disaster.

The labor of their love and patriotism is exhibited in their memorial to the victims who lost their lives in this brutal terrorist attack.

The 17 ft x 16 ft hand stitched "Quilt of Angels" is a permanent memorial to the heroism of Emergency Services personnel who lost their lives trying to save others and the victims who died at the Twin Towers.

The Quilt includes 175 pieces of student art and written tributes, transferred to fabric, along with displays of five point gold stars for each fallen hero. Each star is embroidered with a name, rank and borough in black letters. A border contains the names of civilian victims surrounding the stars and honoring their memory.

The Quilt has been displayed throughout New York State since its dedication on June 17, 2002.

This moving tribute comes to Texas after display at the New York Supreme Court, and Madison Square Gardens, to name just a few.

The Quilt comes to Eastland County courtesy of

Ms. Susan Pepper, the project visionary, facilitator and teacher at Barnum-Woods Elementary.

Ms. Pepper became friends with Judge Brad Stephenson and his wife Mindy when they met last summer during vacation.

The Quilt of Angels will be on display in the 91st District Courtroom at the Eastland County Courthouse from March 1 thru April 7, 2004.

"We encourage local school classes to view the Quilt," Judge Stephenson said.

For appointments or information, the Eastland County Judges' office should be contacted at 254-629-1263.

On April 10th, the Quilt will be displayed at the Texas Capitol in Austin for one week after which, Judge Stephenson, with the help of Representative Jim Keffer and Senator Troy Fraser, have arranged to have the Quilt sent to Washington for President Bush's personal signature.

GraceMuseum Celebrates Youth Art Month

Student Art from Region 14 included in exhibit

A celebration of Young Artists takes place at the Grace Museum, Main Gallery, during Youth Art Month, March 4 - March 26, 2004.

An opening Reception with refreshments, live music, and fun is scheduled for Thursday, March 4, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

The exhibit will feature 500 works of art by Elementary, middle and high school students from the Abilene, Wylie, and Hawley Independent School Districts, and the schools of Reion 14.

MARCH 9, 2004 PRIMARY ELECTION DATES

* FEBRUARY 23-MARCH 5, 2004
EARLY VOTING IN PERSON (COURTHOUSE)
8:00-5:00 MONDAY-FRIDAY
BRANCH VOTING IN CROSS PLAINS AND CLYDE
AT JUSTICE OF THE PEACE OFFICES
8:00 - 12 & 1:00 - 5:00 P.M.

* LAST DAY TO MAIL A BALLOT IS MARCH 2, 2004

* MARCH 9, 2004

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY 7:00-7:00

Democratic Party Primary Elec. Voting Locations:

Precinct # 1 - Clyde Lions Club

Precinct # 2 - Eula Lions Club

Precinct # 3 - Baird Activity Center

Precinct # 4 - Cross Plains Community Center

Precinct # 5 - Putnam Community Center

Precinct # 6 - Southside Baptist Church

Precinct # 7 - Oplin Community Center

Republican Party Primary Election Voting Locations:

Precinct # 1 - Clyde Lions Club

Precinct # 2 - Eula Lions Club

Precinct # 3 - Baird Activity Center

Precinct # 4 - Cross Plains Community Center

Precinct # 5 - Baird Activity Center

Precinct # 6 - Southside Baptist Church

Precinct # 7 - Oplin Community Center

The Texas Declaration Of Independence Was Adopted On March 2, 1836: March 6, 1836 marks the fall of the Alamo

Feature writer Viola Payne takes:

A Glimpse At Texas

Native Americans discovered it first - this territory bounded by the piney woods on the east, the Red River to the north, the Rio Grande to the southwest, and the Gulf of Mexico to the south.

For thousands of years they lived around the great rivers and traveled the high, grassy plains to the west, taking only what they needed.

One tribe, the Caddos, left us with the name "Tejas" (Spanish translation), or "Texas," which means friends.

In 1528 a European, a Spaniard named Cabaza De Vaca, was shipwrecked in the Gulf of Mexico. He and several companions came ashore and wandered with the Indians for seven years, finally crossing the Rio Grande into Mexico.

There he met other Spaniards and told stories of his journey. This encouraged the epic trek of Coronado in 1541. He and his soldiers came across the southwest into Palo Duro canyon, and some of their horses and cattle escaped along the way. Texas was changed forever.

Spanish Church leaders and settlers brought their timeless missions and the ways of ranching they had learned in Spain. Although all this territory was claimed by Spain, an era of more European exploration began. Few knew what to do with this

new country, with its varied climate and geography, but all wanted to give a try at it. So various flags have flown over Texas - that of Spain (twice), French, Mexican, Republic of Texas, United States, Confederate States, and United States, 1865 to the present.

Along with the changes in government have come migrations of people from almost every country on earth. Texas culture has evolved from all of these, and you see it reflected in the speech patterns, food, dress, culture, and general way of doing things.

The glue that holds all these people together is a love of liberty and the belief that every person deserves a fair chance. Then there is the focal point of the Alamo, which has become a symbol of the courage and sacrifice that brought the Republic of Texas to birth.

Right along with that is the Battle of San Jacinto, where a wounded General Sam Houston and a seemingly defeated Texas Army overcame almost impossible odds.

The first large Anglo settlement in Texas was the Stephen F. Austin Colony (1822), located in the area where the state capital of Austin is now. The unrest in this Colony against the rule of the Mexican government led to demands for independence.

Coupon Snipper Coming To Baird Star!

Readers of Callahan-Eastland Newspapers will especially want to check their local papers good beginning in early March.

Coupon Snipper will start soon in the Callahan County Star, Cisco, Press, Eastland Telegram, Ranger Times and Rising Star.

Every coupon will be good for valuable discounts with participating merchants who will offer extra-special SPRING SPECIALS through the local newspapers.

In addition, one extremely

lucky reader will receive a coupon worth an additional \$50.00 redeemable in exchange for merchandise at any of the participating firms.

No puzzles to solve, no essays to write or complicated games to play, just real SAVINGS plus a no-strings-attached chance to win a whopping \$50.00 of merchandise or services of choice.

Merchants may call Jo at 254-629-1707 to participate.

Newspaper employees will not be eligible for the cash prize.

Texas Department of Health

Will hold the following Immunization Clinics in Callahan County

Monday, March 15th

Baird Cafetorium, 400 West 7th 10-12

Wednesday, March 10th

Clyde Community Resource Center
306 N. 1st
10-12 & 1:30 - 3

Please bring child's Immunization Records

For more information call
325/754-4945

Baird Baseball Registration Nearing End

Signups for youth baseball in Baird will end March 8, 2004. Current signups are for ages 5-12 as of July 31, 2004. Older age groups will be starting soon.

Registration forms were sent home from school and will be available at the high school gym on Saturday during the youth basketball games from 8 AM until 5

PM. On March 2, 1836, a group met in a blacksmith shop at Washington-on-the-Brazos and adopted the Texas Declaration of Independence. Shortly afterward, on March 6, Col. William B. Travis and the defenders at the Alamo in San Antonio were all killed by a large force led by Mexican Dictator Gen. Antonio Lopez De Santa Anna.

But on April 21 the Mexican troops led by Santa Anna were defeated in battle at San Jacinto near present-day Houston.

On May 14 Texas' provisional President David Burnet and Santa Anna signed two Treaties of Velasco, ending the Texas Revolution.

Sam Houston served as President twice while Texas was a Republic. The Texas Constitution was modeled on that of the American Government, and it was perhaps no surprise when Texas voted to join the United States in 1845.

In 1861 Texas seceded from the United States and joined

the Confederacy. During the war a number of Texans, under General Sibley, invaded New Mexico, taking a route up the Rio Grande. They were defeated by a force from Colorado at Glorieta Pass, a decisive struggle.

After the South fell, Texas

Continued inside ...
Please see Texas

POLITICAL CALENDAR

The following candidates have authorized this newspaper to announce their intention to run as candidates for the Spring Primary Election.

Texas Railroad

Commissioner

K. Dale Henry, R

State Senate Dist. 24

Troy Fraser

(Reelection)

(Pd. Pol. Advertisement)

* VOTE *

K. DALE HENRY

Republican Candidate

for Texas Railroad

Commissioner

Primary Election

March 9, 2004

Pol. Ad. Paid for by Brian Lenhart, Irving, Texas

Baird First Baptist Church Events

Each one of you are invited to join us at the corner of Race and 3rd St. Baird. For more information on any of these events please contact the church: 854-1574.

Feb. 25, 2004 Callahan Baptist Evangelism Rally with Wayne Shuffield Jr. speaker and Todd Wilson, music. This Callahan Co. meeting will be held at First Baptist Church, Baird.

Feb. 29, 2004 Callahan Baptist Evangelism Rally with Wayne Shuffield Jr., speaker and Todd Wilson, music. This Callahan Co. meeting will be held at First Baptist Church, Baird, 7:00 p.m.

March 2, 2004 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 6:30 a.m. fellowship hall.

March 3, 2004 AWANA Club, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Prayer meeting in Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.

March 7, 2004 Women's Bible Study, 5:00 p.m. fellowship hall

Prayer time 5:00 p.m. Sanctuary

March 8, 2004 Women on Mission, 6:00 p.m. old fellowship hall.

March 9, 2004 Ladies Prayer Breakfast, 7:00 a.m. fellowship hall.

Baird I. S. D. School Lunch Menu

Wednesday, March 3
Chicken, spaghetti, carrots, green peas, garlic bread, milk, fruit.

Thursday, March 4
Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, milk, applesauce, Milk

Friday, March 5
Sack lunch, milk

Baird I. S. D. Spring Break Is March 8 thru March 12! Classes resume March 15 at regular school hours.

Callahan County (Baird) Star Classifieds

For Sale
Justin FFA Lace Up Boots-Rustic brown, men & ladies sizes, \$79.99 at Johnson's Dry Goods, Cross Plains, TX.

Call Margaret for all your local happenings and news @ 254-629-1707

TX CATTLE EXCHANGE MARKET REPORT
254 Head Sold Feb. 24, 2004

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 6108-82-001 for REHAB PICNIC AREAS in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on March 18, 2004 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$206,928.50.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days

42% Run Cows & Bulls
Market Cows & Bulls
Steady
Feeder Cattle Number and Quality not enough to establish a market.

Slaughter Cows:
High dressing \$42-\$51
Low dressing \$27-\$38
Bred Stock Cows:
Medium \$600-\$655
Aged \$450-\$580
Slaughter Bulls:
High dressing \$50-\$68
Cows w/calves:
Choice \$650-\$780

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

(2-26, 3-4-04)

We come into this world crying while all around us are smiling. May we so live that we go out of this world smiling, while all around us are weeping.

—Persian proverb

D. P. S. Report

02-22-04 to 02-28-04

Cases Investigated
Warnings - 99
Complaints - 141
DWI - 2
Driving While License Invalid - 1
Public Intoxication - 1
SR-Suspension - No Insurance - 1
Fail to Identify - 1

Accidents
There were 3 accidents investigated during this time span.

A flash of wit, like a flash of lightning, can only be remembered, it cannot be reproduced.

—Mary Clemmer Hudson

Wedding Announcement

Wheat- Koenig To Wed

Mr. and Mrs. R.G. "Buck" Wheat request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter Cynthia Suzanne to Dr. Joe Devin Koenig on Saturday, the sixth of March two thousand and four at five o'clock in the evening at First United Methodist Church 215 South Mulberry Street, Eastland, Texas.

The reception will immediately follow at The Kamon Estate 1304 Avenue L in Cisco, Texas.

DIRECTOR OF NURSING

Valley View Health Care Center seeks a Director of Nursing to oversee Nursing Services and provide direct quality care in our skilled nursing facility. Requires an RN with min. 2 years experience, preferably in a long term care facility, supervisory experience and superior communications skills. Must be thoroughly familiar with rehab, therapy, and comprehensive nursing practices. Must be familiar with TEXAS regulatory requirements.

We can offer a competitive salary and benefits (health, dental & life insurance avail.), & 2 weeks vacation after 1 year. EOE. Fax cover letter & resume, with salary history to: (254) 629-0943, mail to John Crow, Administrator, VALLEY VIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER, 700 Ostrom St., Eastland, TX 76448

RISING STAR FOUNDATION GENERAL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2004 1:00

The Rising Star Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of our community through education, economic development and the establishment of a full service community center.

Our goal for this auction is to raise funding to be used towards completing the renovation of the Higginbotham Community Center. Consignments of general miscellaneous merchandise will be accepted from the public on a standard auction format with the following terms and conditions:

A) consignment fees of 20%
B) most all merchandise will be accepted for this auction with the exception of such items as non-working appliances.
Donated merchandise of any usable variety will be accepted with the following terms and conditions:
A) our heart felt thanks
B) a tax deductible receipt
C) limited free pickup is available where necessary

Auction will be conducted at the Higginbotham Community Center and advertised throughout central Texas.
Auction services will be provided by Rising Star Auction Company. Auctioneers Danny Koonce TXS 10874 and Earl Ragland TXS 11772.

For additional information contact:
Rising Star Foundation at 254-643-3423 or email wahl1@txol.net
Rising Star Auction Company at 643-4600 or email rsac@eastland.net

COMMUNITY RESOURCE SERVICES

- Christian counseling ~ Scholastic tutoring
- including English (ESL) ~ Nutrition classes
- & Christian visitation in homes. All services are free. Provided as community services by local Seventh-day Adventist Christians.

For further information/registration
PHONE 254-629-2182

United House Calls of Texas

Home Health Agency

is accepting applications for the following positions in Eastland and surrounding areas:

- Psychiatric Experienced RN
- Cardiology Experienced RNs & LVNs
- Oncology and IV Experienced RNs & LVNs

All positions are fee for service (PRN) to start. If interested in working with a growing company, please fax resume to 325-695-5044, or mail to:

142 Tannehill Dr.
Abilene, TX 79602

RISING STAR FOUNDATION SPRING FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2004 11:00 A.M.

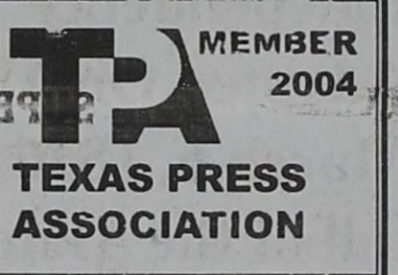
The Rising Star Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of our community through education, economic development and the establishment of a full service community center. Our goal for this auction is to raise funding to be used towards completing the renovation of the Higginbotham Community Center.

Consignments of farm equipment and related items will be accepted on a standard auction format with the following terms and conditions:
(A) consignment fees of 5% on equipment selling in excess of \$10,000.
(B) consignment fees of 7% on equipment selling in excess of \$5,000.
(C) consignment fees of 10% on equipment selling in excess of \$1,000.
(D) consignment fees of 15% on equipment selling for less than \$1,000.

Consignments of miscellaneous farm supplies will also be accepted on a standard auction format with the following terms and conditions:
(A) consignment fees of 20% on all farm supplies.
Donated merchandise of any usable variety will be accepted with the following terms and conditions:
(A) our heart felt thanks
(B) a tax deductible receipt
(C) free pickup where necessary

Auction will be conducted at the Rising Star Rodeo grounds and advertised throughout central Texas including radio, newsprint, mailed and posted flyers.

Auction services will be provided by Rising Star Auction Company. Auctioneers Danny Koonce TXS 10874 and Earl Ragland TXS 11772. For additional information contact:
Rising Star Foundation at 254-643-3423 or email wahl1@txol.net
Rising Star Auction Company at 643-4600 or email rsac@eastland.net



BUSINESS SERVICES

House Leveling & Foundation Repair

By David Lee & Co.
Professional Work Since 1967

* Free Estimates *

No Payment Until Work Is Satisfactorily Completed

- Solid Slab • Pier & Beam
- Concrete Piers
- Block & Pad • Floor Bracing
- Steel Piers To Bed Rock

Work Guaranteed
Insurance Claims
Licensed & Bonded
254-629-2267
254-965-5635 915-675-6369
www.davidleecandco.com

ADVERTISE IN THE CALLAHAN COUNTY CLASSIFIEDS AND GET RESULTS!

TRI-STAR HOME CARE

"PROVIDING QUALITY CARE" BECAUSE WE CARE

NEEDED
(In Local Areas)
(Full Time - Part Time)

• RNs • LVNs
Salary/Per Visit
+ Benefits/Bonuses

1106 W. 6th
Cisco, TX 76437
Telephone (254) 442-4996
Fax (254) 442-2002

Satisfaction Guaranteed **3J** Free Estimates

Fencing: Game, Cattle, Residential
Steel Structure: Barns, Corrals, Carports, Awnings
Game Management: Feeders, Pens, Blinds, Food Plots

Bill Johnson
Cell 254-433-0381 Home 254-442-2014

Vinyl Siding • Soffit Over Hang Coverage
50 YR. LIFETIME GUARANTEE

A-1 Home Improvements

Local
254-639-2212
1-866-784-8257
100% Financing W.A.C. No Down Payment

11th Court of Appeals

Eastland, Texas
Proceedings (En Banc)
February 26, 2004

Affirmed

Abudu Kadiri Alli d/b/a United Foreign Auto Salvage v. State of Texas, Harris. (Opinion by Chief Justice Arnot) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall)

State of Texas v. John Steven Massey, Taylor. (Opinion by Chief Justice Arnot) (Publish) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall).

Clay Edward Richie a/k/a Damien v. State of Texas, Collin. (Opinion by Justice Wright) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall).

Lourdes Rosencrans v. Stanley Altschuler, Dallas. (Opinion by Justice McCall). (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall).

John Vernon Hobbs v. State of Texas, Dawson. (Opinion by Justice Wright) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall).

Appeals Dismissed

Charail Dominique McDaniel v. State of Texas, Taylor. (Per Curiam Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall).

Motions Submitted & Granted; Appeals Dismissed

Combustion Engineering, Inc. and Owens-Illinois, Inc. v. Robert Hutchinson and Joyce Hutchinson, Nolan. Appellants' (Combustion Engineering, Inc.) motion to reinstate and dismiss appeal. Appellants' (Owens-Illinois, Inc.) joint motion to dismiss appeal in accordance with settlement. (Per Curiam Memorandum Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall).

Larry Bates, Steve Late and Stephen Thompson v. Aero Mod Services, Inc., Midland. Agreed motion to dismiss cause (appeal). (Per Curiam Memorandum Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall).

Anthony Scott Pope v. State of Texas, Erath. Appellant's motion to dismiss appeal. (Per Curiam Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall, J.)

Raul Rodriguez, as Independent Executor of the Estate of Natividad Rodriguez, Deceased v. Rudolfo Rodriguez, Ignacio Rodriguez and Ida Rodriguez. Appellant's motion to dismiss appeal. (Per Curiam Opinion) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall, J.)

Appeals Abated

Answers to Crossword Puzzle

GOATS WASP ASHE
INLET AMIE CHAS
SEAMY NERO CERT
TRIPLETS PIRATE
EINS ALTERER
THIRST CREED
ROD HERON MISER
ASEA ROBIN TALE
PEALS OREAD VAN
AORTA CEMENT
THERMOS ARLO
HELMET STEERING
ANTI LABEL TABOR
INON TUNA ELEN
SANG ENDS SEXE

Antawn Thomas v. State of Texas, Grimes. (Per Curiam Order) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall).

Calvin C. Sears, Jr. v. State of Texas, Palo Pinto. (Per Curiam Order) (Panel consists of: Chief Justice Arnot, Justice Wright, and Justice McCall).

Motions Submitted & Granted

Horatio Sprague Taveau, D.O. v. Angela M. Brenden, Individually and as Representative of the Estate of Linda Gayle Evans, Deceased, Gayle S. Maxwell, and Curtis Kirkpatrick, Taylor. Appellees' / Cross-Appellants' motion for extension of time to file brief.

Minh Phouc Chung v. State of Texas, Harris. State's

motion for extension of time to file brief.

Motion Submitted & Granted in Part

J.B. Harrell, Jr. v. State of Texas, Brown. State's motion for extension of time to file brief.

Deborah Ann Ferrell a/k/a Deborah Ann Pierce v. State of Texas, Erath. Appellant's pro se motion for extension of time to file brief and a request for oral argument.

Motions Submitted & Overruled

Derrick Polly v. State of Texas, Dawson. Appellant's pro se request for oral argument.

John Vernon Hobbs v. State of Texas, Dawson. Appellant's pro se motion to have appointed counsel removed from direct appeal. Appellant's pro se motion to allow pro se supplement brief. Appellant's pro se motion requesting complete

Putnam Musical Friday

Putnam Musical will be Friday, March 5th. It's located on the south side of town in the Old School Building. Everyone welcome. There is no charge to get in. They also have a wheelchair ramp.

Kitchen will open at 5:30

Sipe Springs Musical To Be Held Saturday

The Sipe Springs Monthly Musical will be Saturday, March 6th at the Sipe Springs Community Center beginning at 6 p.m.

All musicians welcome. Come on out and enjoy everything. Emcee will be Carl Whiteley.

All musicians are invited and everyone is invited to come out!

Cases Submitted
Ricardo Lujan v. State of Texas, Dawson.

Grief Recovery Group To Meet 1st Tuesdays

The first Tuesday evening of each month at 7 p.m. the Grief Recovery Group meets at Girling Health Office at 957 W. Main St., Eastland.

Donna DeLuca is Facilitator.

Please call 629-1268 if you or your family would like to come so that they can duplicate printed material for those attending.

Be Proud Of Your Heritage



The Sons of Confederate Veterans are in your area

Contact Dan Hudson 254-629-1440

Steve Gwinn 254-629-8114

Tom Blackwell 254-629-8113

S-22

254-442-1566

RANDOLPH FORD

Blue Oval Certified Ford

HWY 183 & I-20 • Cisco, Texas

OPEN

MON-FRI 9:00 am - 7:30 pm
SAT 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
SUN 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

ADDITIONAL REBATES AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS ON SELECT 03 & 04 UNITS. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS.

<p>2004 FORD F-150 REG CAB V8 AUTO T/C STK# C609</p> <p>\$19,371*</p> <p>MSRP \$22,999 RF Discount \$2,699 Rebate \$1,000</p>	<p>2004 FORD F-150 SUPER CAB V8 AUTO XLT STK# C515</p> <p>\$23,457*</p> <p>MSRP \$28,040 RF Discount \$3,583 Rebate \$1,000</p>	<p>2004 FORD F-150 SUPER CREW XLT V8 AUTO FTOW 6-CD STK# C600</p> <p>\$27,281*</p> <p>MSRP \$31,210 RF Discount \$3,929</p>
<p>2004 FORD F-150 REG CAB HERITAGE STX AUTO STK# C656</p> <p>\$16,516*</p> <p>MSRP \$22,610 RF Discount \$3,594 Rebate \$2,500</p>	<p>2004 FORD F-150 SUPER CAB HERITAGE XLT AUTO 6-DISC CD STK# C595</p> <p>\$21,174*</p> <p>MSRP \$27,220 RF Discount \$3,545 Rebate \$2,500</p>	<p>2004 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB E03E V8 AUTO PW PL KEYLESS #C548</p> <p>\$15,543*</p> <p>MSRP \$21,185 RF Discount \$3,142 Rebate \$2,500</p>
<p>2004 FORD MUSTANG LX AUTO PONY PACKAGE MACH STEREO STK# C528</p> <p>\$16,732*</p> <p>MSRP \$21,085 RF Discount \$1,853 Rebate \$2,500</p>	<p>2004 FORD F-250 CREW CAB DIESEL AUTO XLT SWB L.S. AXLE KEYLES STK# C630</p> <p>\$32,778*</p> <p>MSRP \$39,300 RF Discount \$3,022 Rebate \$1,500</p>	<p>2004 FORD F-250 CREW CAB 4x4 DIESEL AUTO XLT FX4 L.S AXLE #C685</p> <p>\$35,080*</p> <p>MSRP \$42,050 RF Discount \$3,470 Rebate \$1,500</p>

03 F-150 Quad Cab
G217, V8, Auto, XLT, 10K Miles

\$331^{mo}

03 F-150 Reg Cab
G269, XLT, Auto, 22K Miles

\$232^{mo}

01 F-150 Quad Cab
G262, V8, Auto, XLT

\$267^{mo}

02 Mercury Grand Marquis
G252A, White, LS

\$232^{mo}

00 Nissan Frontier
C563A, Ext. Cab

\$179^{mo}

02 F-350 Crew Cab
C459A, 4x4, Diesel, Auto, XLT

\$530^{mo}

03 F-250 Crew Cab
C502A, Lariat, Diesel, Auto

\$514^{mo}

02 F-350 Quad Cab
C535A, Dually, Diesel, Auto, Factory Warranty

\$447^{mo}

01 F-150 Super Crew
C235A, 4x4, XLT

\$392^{mo}

02 F-150 S/Cab 4x4
C561A, V8, Auto, Fac Warranty, File Photo

\$347^{mo}

01 F-150 Quad Cab
G083, XLT, V8, Auto

\$320^{mo}

01 GMC Sonoma
C589A, Ext. Cab

\$161^{mo}

02 F-250 Crew Cab
C408A, Diesel, Auto, XLT, File Photo

\$430^{mo}

00 Ranger S/Cab 4x4
G233, Auto, XLT, File Photo

\$293^{mo}

01 D1500 Quad
C195A, V8, Auto, SLT

\$302^{mo}

00 Mustang Coupe
G208A, Auto, PW, PL

\$179^{mo}

03 Ford F-150 Super Crew
G268B, Factory Warranty, 10K Miles

\$332^{mo}

02 Dodge Neon
G203, 4 Door, Auto, Factory Warranty

\$161^{mo}

02 Sport Trac
C530A, XLT, Auto

\$321^{mo}

02 Ranger Quad Door
G231, Edge, Auto, PW/PL, T/C

\$214^{mo}

96 Ford Ranger
C369A, Auto, Only 70K Miles

\$4,990

03 Ford F-150 Quad Cab
XLT, V8, Auto, Only 12K Miles, #C611A

\$331^{mo}

99 Ranger Reg Cab
C395A

\$159^{mo}

01 F-150 Super Crew
G251A, XLT, V8, Auto

\$283^{mo}

02 D1500 Crew Cab
G274A, V8, SLT, Auto, Only 19K Miles

\$281^{mo}

99 Dodge Neon
C053A, 4 Door, Auto

\$4,990

CREDIT PROBLEMS - BANKRUPTCY - DIVORCE - REPO - BAD LUCK?

1-800-749-1616

Call Today Ask for Mr. Green

Birth Announcement

Kadynce Faith Knowles

Troy and Jennifer Knowles of Baird announce the arrival of a daughter, Kadynce Faith, born February 24, 2004 at Hendrick Medical Center. Kadynce weighed 7 lbs. 5 oz. and was 19 inches long.

Welcoming the new baby was her big sister, Kalynn, paternal grandparents,

Wayne and Cindy Knowles of Baird, and maternal grandmother, Reannie Paschall of Abilene.

Great-grandparents are Walter Smith of Coleman and Louella and Grady Boyd of Lake Brownwood. Two proud uncles are Cody Knowles of Stephenville and Jarrett Knowles of Baird.

Ex-GI Association To Meet March 8th

The next meeting of the Ex - GI Association will be March 8 at 6:30 PM at 500 Avenue E (old VFW Building behind Cisco Post Office) in Cisco, TX.

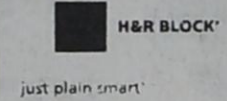
ALL EX MILITARY, including National Guard,

Reservist and Coast Guard with an honorable discharge, are invited to join this organization. A member is NOT REQUIRED to have served during a war era nor in an overseas status. We welcome ALL EX GI's.

Read The Classifieds

Taxes stressing you out? Skip the two aspirin and call us in the morning.

We're tax professionals for a reason. No matter how complicated your tax situation, you can rest assured that your return will be done right. It's just another part of the H&R Block Advantage. Call 1-800-HRBLOCK or visit hrblock.com



1471 E. Main Eastland
629-8121

Just Remembering

By Jasper Cook

I'm in the doghouse again! While sitting at breakfast the other day my wife, age 73, was moaning that she was getting old and said she just wasn't worth much any more.

"Honey," I said, "You are worth more than you realize." Jokingly, I added, "I think I'll just keep you." "Well," she mumbled, "If you put me up for auction, you sure wouldn't get very much."

"Oh yes I would," I countered. "Antiques are worth a lot of money."

That did it! My big fat mouth got me in trouble again. Like a lot of other people, my wife doesn't like to talk about getting old.

The beautiful thing about getting old is the wonderful memories of days gone by. Some things I really don't care to remember, but the good things far outweigh the bad. Even though a fellow is old, it's good to be alive.

Texas A&M Fall Graduates

COLLEGE STATION - Diplomas were awarded to approximately 3,646 Texas A&M University graduates during fall commencement ceremonies. Among those recognized were:

Brandy Michelle Henson of Ranger - Bachelor Of Business Administration Finance

Kevin Michael Scott of Cisco - Bachelor Of Science Animal

I wrote a little poem once that says it all for me. I'll pass it on to you.

When your "axle" is a-squeakin'

And your motor's conking out,

Then your birthdays aren't something

That you care to shout about. I should know 'cause I have been there

And I know it's sad but true, When you're old the roads are rougher

And the going's hard on you.. You admit you're losing traction

And your carburetor's shot. All your sparkplugs aren't firing,

And your chassis' bent a lot. Well, there's no need to be fretful

Just because you've stripped a gear,

If, like me, you're 'way past 80

Just be thankful you're still here.

Distinguished Melissa Ryan Wilcoxon of Cisco - Bachelor Of Arts Speech Communication, Distinguished

Jana Marie Johnston of Eastland - Bachelor Of Science Interdisciplinary Studies (Noncert), Distinguished

Jayce Leanne Blair of Eastland - Bachelor Of Science Interdisciplinary

Studies, Distinguished

Revival Services At Victory Assembly Church in Cisco

Victory Assembly Church of Cisco will begin a revival beginning March 7 through the 12th. Services begin Sunday evening at 6 p.m. and Monday through Friday at 7 p.m.

Our Evangelist is the Rev. J. Daniel Brandon of Texarkana, Texas. His ministry is in Pastoral, Evangelism and he teaches school.

The Rev. Brandon teaches sound doctrine and his preaching ministry will bless all who hears.

The pastor, Thelma Hostetter, and members extend an invitation to each and everyone.

If you need transportation to the revival please call 442-3201.

Letter To The Editor

A Councilman Drops Out

Editor,
A grandfather and his grandson were walking down a road leading a donkey, when they overheard a person say "what foolish people, why doesn't one of them ride the donkey?"

So the granddad got on the donkey, and as they passed another group of people, one was heard to say "that poor little boy walking while the old man rides." So the old man got off, and the boy got on the donkey.

As they passed another group of people, one was heard to say, "look at that poor old man walking, while the kid rides."

So they both got on the donkey, and as they passed another group of people, one was heard to say, "look at that poor beast, letting two healthy people ride him."

So they both got off the donkey, and lifted the donkey to their shoulders, as they

crossed a bridge, they lost their grip on the donkey, and the donkey fell in the water and drowned.

The moral of this story is: trying to please all the people will lead one to loose his valuables.

For that reason I will not run for re-election for the Rising Star City Council.

Delwin Caudle
P.O. Box 276
Rising Star, TX.
76471

Grief Recovery Group To Meet First Tuesdays

The first Tuesday evening of each month at 7 p.m. the Grief Recovery Group meets at Girling Health Care Office at 957 W. Main St., Eastland.

Donna DeLuca is the Facilitator.

Please call 629-1268 if you or your family would like to come so they can duplicate printed material for those attending.

Hood King Motor Co.

1308 E. Main
Local 254-629-1786



Eastland, TX
Hotline 1-800-798-5464

Serving You For 65 Years

Blue Oval Certified

TRUCK MONTH IS HERE!!!

0% FINANCING AVAILABLE ON SELECTED MODELS

New '04 F-250 Crew Cab XLT

Diesel, 4x4, Auto, Fx4 Package, CD, Stk. #4T363

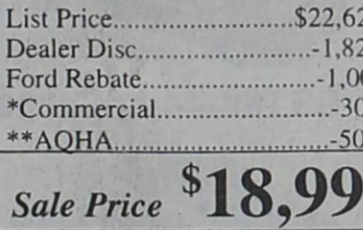


List Price.....\$41,840
Dealer Disc.....-4,500
Ford Rebate.....-2,000
*Commercial Rebate...-1,000
**AQHA.....-500

Up to \$8,000 Off
Stk. #4T7363 Sale Price \$33,840

New '04 F-150 Reg. Cab

V8, Auto, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Stk. #4T7826



List Price.....\$22,620
Dealer Disc.....-1,825
Ford Rebate.....-1,000
*Commercial.....-300
**AQHA.....-500

Sale Price \$18,995

New '04 Ford F-150 Super Crew XLT

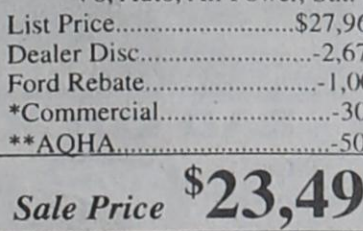


List Price.....\$29,990
Dealer Disc.....-3,195
*Commerical Rebate...-300
**AQHA.....-500

Stk. #4T6459 Sale Price \$25,995

New '04 F-150 Super Cab

V8, Auto, All Power, Stk. #4T7860

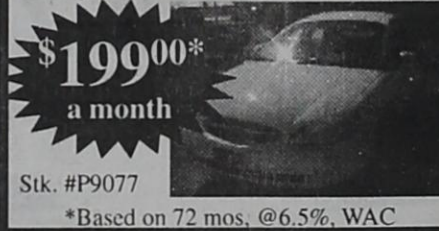


List Price.....\$27,965
Dealer Disc.....-2,670
Ford Rebate.....-1,000
*Commercial.....-300
**AQHA.....-500

Sale Price \$23,495

'03 Ford Taurus SES

Factory miles, Power seat, CD, Keyless



\$19900* a month
Stk. #P9077
*Based on 72 mos. @6.5% WAC

'01 Ford Mustang

Power seat, CD, Keyless



\$14500* a month
Stk. #4T4345A
*Based on 48 mos. @6.25% WAC

'94 Grand Marquis

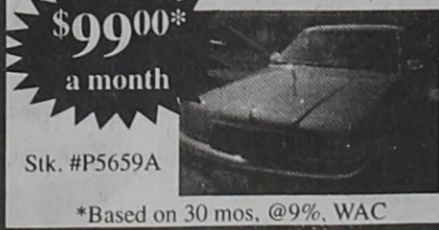
Nice, leather



\$12500* a month
Stk. #3T5261A
*Based on 30 mos. @9% WAC

'93 Chrysler New Yorker

Leather



\$9900* a month
Stk. #P5659A
*Based on 30 mos. @9% WAC

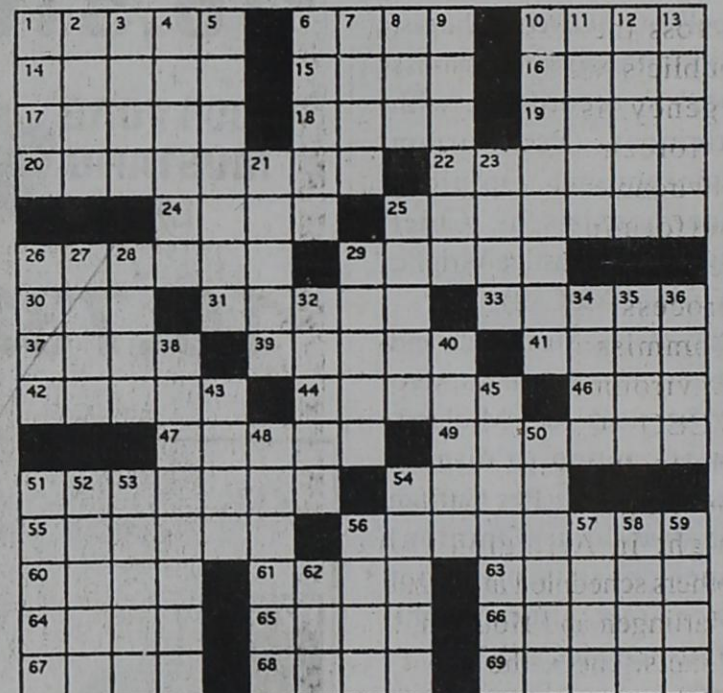
'03 Ford Windstar LX

4 dr., All power, Factory miles,



\$29500* a month
Stk. # P2797
*Based on 60 mos. @6.5% WAC

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

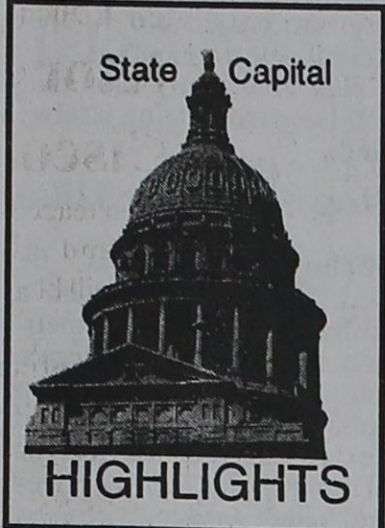


- ACROSS**
- 1 Milk producers
 - 6 Flying insect
 - 10 Arthur with a racket
 - 14 Creek
 - 15 Confidante
 - 16 Father of Harry and Wills, for short
 - 17 Scold
 - 18 Inimious ruler
 - 19 Like a letter that needs to be signed for: abbr.
 - 20 Huey, Dewey and Louie
 - 22 Robber alfalfa
 - 24 German number
 - 25 Tailor, often
 - 26 Dryness
 - 29 List of beliefs
 - 30 Curtain
 - 31 River bank bird
 - 33 One who hoards
 - 37 On the waves
 - 39 Sign of spring
 - 41 Narrative
 - 42 Sounds
 - 44 Mountain nymph
 - 46 Word with Buren or Gogh
 - 47 Part of the circulatory system
 - 49 Pavement
 - 51 Beverage container
 - 54 Mr. Guthrie
 - 55 Head protector
 - 56 Directing
 - 60 Prefix for thesis or social
 - 61 Murder victim
 - 63 Off-limits
 - 64 Privy to
 - 65 Casserole ingredient
 - 66 Actress
 - 67 Crooned
 - 68 Goals
 - 69 Male and female
 - DOWN
 - 1 Main point
 - 2 Unusual one
 - 3 Jail
 - 4 Holthead's problem
 - 5 Fashionable
 - 6 Desires
 - 7 Singing brothers
 - 8 Raleigh or Drake
 - 9 Magazine title
 - 10 Certify a school
 - 11 Fleece
 - 12 Writer Bret
 - 13 Organic compound
 - 21 Stage direction
 - 23 Object
 - 25 Palmer
 - 26 Catch
 - 27 Flexible
 - tube
 - 28 Thought
 - 29 Replie
 - 32 Haley's work
 - 34 Redeem
 - 35 Verve
 - 36 Landlord's collection
 - 38 Shocking
 - 40 Mother-of-pearl
 - 43 Indefinite number
 - 45 Removes
 - 48 Spin
 - 50 Esprit de corps
 - 51 Asians
 - 52 Reddish brown
 - 53 John
 - 54 Reference book
 - 56 Mail
 - 57 Mountain animal
 - 58 Zip
 - 59 Tibetan antelopes
 - 62 Hot dog accompaniment

This puzzle sponsored by



P. O. Box 877
Eastland, TX 76448



Budget cuts cost federal dollars...

Legislative budget cuts in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program will cost Texas about \$1.6 billion in federal funding, Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said last week. Since Sept. 1, she said, 107,000 children have been dropped from the CHIP program.

"That's a 21 percent drop in five months," she said in a speech to the Texas Mental Health Association, "and Texas was already dead last in the percent of children without health insurance. That's unconscionable." Money slashed from Medicaid coverage will prevent some 200,000 adults from getting needed counseling or psychological help.

But help is in sight if state officials take action, she said. The comptroller estimated \$583 million is available to restore some of the health care cuts through the governor's budget execution authority and by the Legislature in a special session.

Environmental Commission sets hearings...

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality began a series of hearings across the state to get the public's view on how the agency is doing in its enforcement of environmental laws. "We are performing an in-depth review of the enforcement process at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality," TCEQ Chair Kathleen Hartnett White said. The hearings began Monday night in Arlington, with others scheduled in Midland, Harlingen and Houston. For details, check the agency's Web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Talking trash... The Seventh Annual Winter Texan Adopt-A-Beach Cleanup removed more than three tons of trash from South Padre Island.

Eighty-plus volunteers collected 6,825 pounds of trash ranging from a crematory tag to a feather pillow. On the up side, someone found a \$10 bill, a little salty but still negotiable. The annual clean up is sponsored by the Texas General Land Office and the South Padre Island Convention and Visitors Bureau. Since the state



Congressman
Charles W. Stenholm
17th Congressional District
1500 Industrial Blvd. Suite 101
Abilene, TX 79606
(915) 673-7221

By Charlie Stenholm
H.R. 2707: Salt Cedar, Russian Olive Control Legislation

I'm glad to report that H.R. 2707, The Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Assessment and Demonstration Act was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives this week. This bill authorizes demonstration and control projects to eliminate salt cedar and Russian olive from both public and private land in the western U.S.

Congressman Steve Pearce, a Republican from New Mexico, and I spearheaded a bipartisan effort to shepherd this legislation through the many obstacles a bill must go through before it's voted on by the House of Representatives. The bill was approved by a 367 to 40 vote margin.

I've traveled all over West Texas during my years in Congress, and a common concern that I see from one town to the next is the lack of long-term water supplies. That's why I started working on this legislation last May. After countless hours of meetings with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of the Interior, farmers and ranchers, water conservationists, and city water supply managers, we reached a compromise that meets the needs of all involved.

Last July, I testified in support of this legislation

agency began the program in 1986, 5,800 tons of debris has been hauled off from Texas beaches. For information on the spring cleanup, call 1-877-

before the House Resources Committee, and in September, before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. I worked hard as Ranking Member on the House Agriculture Committee to ensure that private lands will also be eligible for the demonstration programs.

The basis of this legislation is to control these plants and increase our supplies of fresh water for the citizens of the western U.S. Much of our nation faces an urgent need to develop long-term plans to ensure that communities will have an adequate supply of drinking water. In West Texas, you should not have to compete with invasive pests for an already limited supply of water.

We already know that pest management strategies used to control brush along watersheds have had resounding benefits for folks in West Texas. In recent successes, some private landowners have already partnered with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to employ brush control on their properties, and in several cases, dormant streams and creeks have again begun to flow where those control programs were implemented.

I truly believe this legislation will help public and private land managers across the western U.S. take a giant step toward implementing more efficient and effective brush control projects that result in better water conservation. Unlike a barrel of oil, it is tough to put a price on clean, fresh water.

Biotechnology in Agriculture
On a wintry day in Lubbock earlier this week, agricultural experts, industry leaders, legislators, and producers met to discuss biotechnology and

its future in agriculture. The conference featured several speakers and a panel of industry experts from across Texas.

In the day and age we live in now, biotechnology is becoming a bigger concern for everyone, day in and day out. Economically speaking, and assuming the crop makes it to harvest, these technological advances can bring better efficiency, more flexibility, and higher yields to producers.

There are skeptics who are wary of biotechnology advances in agriculture, but we are moving in the right direction to eliminate barriers and fears about genetically modified crops (GMOs).

China Opens to Biotech Imports

Ensuring access to international markets for farm products of agricultural biotechnology will be crucial for the future trade of U.S. farm and ranch products.

Just recently, China announced that imports of biotech crops from the U.S. are now welcome. They granted final safety permits for five crops, including soybeans, corn, and cotton.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is forecasting world cotton production will rise 11 percent next year, and China is expected to import at least five million bales of cotton during this period. U.S. ag forecasters are expecting a record crop this year, which would be 4.5 million bales

more than the previous U.S. record crop of 2001/2002.

Lower crop production over the last few years coupled with China's rapidly increasing population have created the demand for more U.S. agricultural imports into China.

As the world leaders in agriculture, we must maintain our credibility and continue to advance biotechnology and its uses in crop production. Biotech agriculture matters, not only to Texas and the U.S. but also to the rest of the world.

Peanut Counter-Cyclical Payments

On Wednesday, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced it would begin the second counter-cyclical program for the 2003 crop of peanuts.

These payments are available to producers who participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program, authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill. Peanut producers are eligible for these payments when the effective prices are less than the target prices set forth in the 2002 Farm Bill.

Under certain conditions, producers will be able to receive up to 70 percent of the projected counter-cyclical payment, less any payments the already received in the first payment.

BI-RITE AUTO 4th Block E. of Light on Hwy 36
Cross Plains 254-725-7361 Closed Fridays
*****JUST ARRIVED*****

95 Lincoln Town Car in good condition & only	\$3250
89 Dodge Dakota LWB, V6 Pickup, (blue), auto	\$1650
87 Dodge Dakota LWB, V6 Pickup, auto, (gold), very clean	\$1650
94 Pont. Grand Am, 4 cyl., very nice car	\$1995

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

94 Aerostar 7 Pass. Ext. Van, looks, runs good	\$1895
94 Ford Explorer V6, auto., very nice (white)	\$2650
95 Geo Prizm 4 cyl. looks, runs good (red)	\$1450
94 Ford Taurus V6, looks, runs good (white)	\$1895
86 Ford Crown Victoria, V8, a good car for	\$695
83 Ford 4x4, Diesel, runs very good	\$1750

AUTOMOBILES

99 Escort, 4 cyl., 5 sp., looks like new, now only	\$3795
97 Thunderbird, very nice & clean, reduced to	\$3695
96 Chevy Lumina, V6, low miles	\$2650
94 Ford Taurus 3.8 V6, super nice car	\$2450
93 Ford Taurus 3.8 V6, a very good car	\$1695
91 Ford Probe V6, a good car for	\$1495
91 Lincoln Cont. 3.8 V6, a good buy for	\$1250
90 Lincoln Town Car, clean inside & out	\$1495
88 Lincoln Cont., looks & runs good	\$950
93 Mercury Cougar XR7, very nice car	\$2550
91 Mitsubishi Galant in very good condition	\$1495
87 Buick Park Ave. a good car for	\$1250
94 Mercury Sable V6, a good car	\$2250

TRUCKS - VANS

92 Ford F250 Diesel Super Cab, a good truck	\$3250
89 Ford F250 Diesel Super Cab, in good cond	\$2695
94 Ford Aerostar 7 pass. (blue)	\$1995
89 Dodge Dakota V6, LWB, runs good	\$1650
90 Jeep Cherokee looks, runs good	\$1450

WE BUY - SELL - TRADE - FINANCE

MAJESTIC THEATRE
629-1322

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINEE
BEST ACTRESS ~ Helen Mirren

"Two Thumbs Up!"
Helen & Roper

CALENDAR GIRLS

PG-13 calendargirls.movies.com SOVIET VISTA INTERNATIONAL ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

STEREO SURROUND
Fri. • Sat. • Sun. • Mon.
All Shows: 7:30 p.m. - \$4.00
10 - Admission Passes - \$35.00
5 - Admission Gift Pass - \$20.00
Adults Only Balcony Ticket - \$5.50

Dr. and Mrs. William Simpson, not just husband and wife, but a doctor and nurse team and part of **Our Family....**

Caring for ... *Your Family*

It's what we do!

Dr. William Simpson, Jr., D.O. Dr. Simpson has performed more than one thousand surgeries at **Eastland Memorial Hospital** since opening his Eastland clinic in July of 2002.

A graduate of West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Simpson specializes in all general surgeries: Choleystectomy (gall bladder), Hernia Repair, Bowel, Appendectomy, Hysterectomy, Mastectomy, Breast Biopsies, Endoscopic (EDG) biopsies, Dermatological Skin Lesions, and Wound Care. Dr. Simpson performs both laparoscopic and open surgeries depending upon patient's needs.

Dr. Simpson is a Board Eligible Residency Trained General Surgeon. He completed his internship and general surgery residency at the University of North Texas Health Science Center and Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas in Forth Worth.

Surgery Department of
Eastland Memorial Hospital
(254) 629-2601 www.eastlandmemorial.com

Avi T. Deshmukh, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Board Certified in Urology

Frank V. Terrell, M.D.
Da-Thuy Van, D.O.
General Ophthalmology & Ophthalmic Surgery

Eastland Memorial Hospital

For Appointment call
(254) 629-2601

HEARING DISORDERS ARE FRUSTRATING

Causes vary.
Most can be helped.
Some with medicines.
Some with surgery.
Some with hearing aids.

CONSULT TWO BOARD CERTIFIED SPECIALISTS EAR/HEARING BEFORE YOU SPEND THOUSANDS ON HEARING AIDS

W. O. Akin, M.D., F.A.C.S.
And
Joseph M. Brock, M.A., CCC/A

702 Hickory Street
Abilene, Texas 79601
325-677-2026

A Advanced Airduct & Carpet Cleaning
The Clean Air People
Certified by the State Rotobrush
System with Video Cam Inspection
Custom Made Hepa Filters
30 Years Experience
254-629-2900
Eastland

Making A Difference

By Rex M. Rogers

Parenting Our Way To Student Academic Achievement

Having been an educator all of my adult life, I can say with some degree of authority that teachers are frequently blamed for students' real or apparent lack of academic progress. But I can also say with some degree of assurance that the three greatest detriments of a child's academic success are parents, parents and parents.

It's true that the nation's schools suffer from a variety of political, financial and professional ills. Schools are expected to solve the nation's problems from hunger to racial reconciliation to teen pregnancy to solve the nation's problems from hunger to racial reconciliation to teen pregnancy to the need for better health. And this is just an illustrative list. On top of all this, teachers are supposed to teach reading, mathematics and science.

Aside from inspired and inspiring teachers, what really spells the difference for student academic achievement is involved parents. Teachers don't need more parental criticism; they need

more parental support. More parents setting high standards of attitude, behavior, and accomplishment for their children--and then helping children attain those standards.

America does not suffer from a lack of intelligent, inquiring children. Just take a trip to your local kindergarten and see for yourself. America does not suffer from a lack of teacher talent. Sure, there are scoundrels, shirkers and even, God forbid, a few sex offenders out there. But thankfully they are rare and can be identified. America's dedicated teachers do not deserve to be blamed for the sins of a few.

What America suffers from is a set of parent-teacher expectations and a team approach for student achievement. It's there in grade school, but it too often fades in junior high and disappears in high school.

Parents are somewhere else. On the job, out with the boys, at the club, or maybe just too distracted or tired to connect anymore. American students can do better. But first parents must do better.

American Cancer Society Relay For Life April 16

Cancer survivors from Eastland County area are invited to walk the first lap of the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life event to celebrate their victory over cancer. The event and survivor's lap will be held at Eastland High School track field at 7 p.m. April 16. Each cancer survivor will receive a free T-shirt and ribbon to wear while walking the track. There is no cost to participate. Cancer survivors need to call Valerie Hampton at 254-734-2174 to register and request their T-shirt size. Families are welcome to come and join us.

Farmer's Mutual Insurance of Earth County

Save money on your house insurance today.

Do business with a hometown company that deals in your area!!!

We serve Erath, Eastland, Comanche,

Hamilton, Hood and Palo Pinto Counties.



For every \$1,000.00 worth of coverage your cost is \$6.00

Call today
Rusty Roberson
Bus: 254-977-5225
Hm: 254-445-3188



Sam Pendergrast

P.O. Box 236
Abilene, Texas 79604
915-672-1249

Personally Speaking

On Gay Marriage: Just Call It Something Else

Karl Rove thought he had handed "Dubya" the ultimate political weapon when they called for a constitutional amendment to deny marriage to same-gender couples.

Moneyman Greenspan trumped that with a call for delayed and decreased Social Security payments for Baby Boomers because some of us are gay and some of us are married but all of us hope to draw Social Security some day- why they call it the suicidal "third rail" of politics. And in 50 years of fairly active watching of politicians I can't recall an administration that was so wrong on every issue and the broad electorate so rancorous against a cratering figurehead. (FDR, the most hated Democrat before Bill Clinton, was untouchable because he was busy saving us from the Depression and the Second World War; and \$90,000,000 of tax money couldn't buy the GOP a real victory over Clinton.)

The spurious constitutional amendment should prove viable for another election cycle or two before it occurs to us it is a ploy in behalf of a dwindling genderist clique and has no business in the backbone of American philosophy. (And the requirement of super majorities in Congress and ultra-super 75% of states gives us plenty of time to come to our senses.)

In the meantime, I have a simple solution for acknowledging same-gender unions despite the caterwaulings of the Christianazi opponents: Just call gay unions something else.

If you can't join 'em, whip 'em, and they can't handle semantics.

The 1978 Britannica describes a family as "having two or more adults living together in the same household and cooperating in various economic, social, and protective activities and in the care of their own or adopted children"- offering Dubya and fellow aginners

no shred of justification for the "only a man and a woman" definition of marriage.

But cede that increasingly empty classification to the Pat Robertsons (along with the 50% of them that go bust and scatter troubled and abused children everywhere).

Gays should call their unions something like "amorage" (which, from the latin word for "love" adds the key element missing from both the word and the content of many so-called traditional marriages).

Reasonable neighbors are willing to admit civil rights and responsibilities for all, and a new and better word for gay unions gets above the guttersniping of the Falwells and Dubyas.

Then, when we have established that the vaunted "Christian union" applies only to a shrinking minority of Americans who demand the lion's share of public funds, we can equalize the support by decreasing the onerous cost of tax-exempt religious facilities and activities (which are by definition unconstitutional anyway).

I'd be willing to grant church tax immunity to, say,

a hundred wooden benches in a moderately warm, dry place. But we ought to collect taxes on block-square cathedrals and church univer-

Thursday, March 4, 2004
sity campuses and fundamentalist teevee outlets.

See how many kids that will keep from being left behind.

Group Urges PUC To Stop SBC Rate Hike

Austin, TX- Texans for Economic Progress launched an advertising campaign to urge the Texas Public Utility Commission to stop SBC's proposal to hike local telephone wholesale rates in Texas. The group highlights SBC's record-breaking earnings in 2003 and the \$41 billion cash purchase of AT&T Wireless as further evidence that an increase in rates is unnecessary.

"SBC is trying to take a swipe at consumer pocketbooks in Texas while the company is clearly swimming in cash," said Ted Heydinger, executive director of Texans for Economic Progress (TEP).

The Texas PUC is currently reviewing the wholesale rates that SBC charges competitors to access the public telephone network. A vote is expected as early as next week.

Currently, SBC charges approximately \$20 per line and as opposed to losing money, actually profits \$275 million annually by leasing lines to competitors, according to a recent CompTel study.

"The rates SBC charges competitors to lease the phone network are already 40-50% higher in Texas than in other states like California,

Michigan and Illinois," he said. "These high rates have stifled robust local competition. If anything, wholesale rates should come down so competition can flourish and Texans can enjoy the benefits of more choices, lower prices and better service."

One of the ads highlights the extreme discrepancies between SBC's complaints to regulators and legislators about the need to raise rates and the company's boastful news reported to Wall Street.

"In one breath, SBC whines about losing money hand over fist because of its agreement to lease the public network to competitors. And in the next breath, they brag to investors about having 'one of the strongest balance sheets in telecom' after posting \$40.8 billion in earnings for 2003. Something just doesn't add up."

What's more, SBC and its sister Bell South just dropped \$41 billion dollars on the purchase of AT&T Wireless. SBC alone poined up \$25 billion in cash for the deal.

"That's not the action of a company on the brink of disaster and Texans shouldn't have to pay for SBC's monopoly agehda."

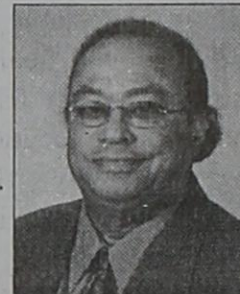
Prostate Cancer Awareness

Prostate cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in men in America.

One out of every 5 men will develop Prostate Cancer.

Fortunately, now prostate cancer can be diagnosed early. Prostate problems are common in men above fifty. There is no need to suffer since treatment is available.

Laser Procedures have become popular for enlarged prostate.



Avi T. Deshmukh, M.D.
Diplomate of American Board of Urology

Avi T. Deshmukh, M.D. and Eastland Memorial Hospital will offer a

Free Prostate Screening Saturday, March 13, 2004 • 8:00 a.m.

Daugherty Street Church of Christ Old Sanctuary
309 S. Daugherty • Eastland, Texas

Call for Reservations Monday - Friday; 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

254-629-2601 ext. 301

All PSA bloodwork will be done from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. only

CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS SINCE 1980

Let Us Build Your New Home or Room Addition
If You Can Dream It, We Can Build It!

T. J. CLARK CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
(254) 734-2755

P. O. Box 176 111 E. Roberts St.
Gorman, TX 76454

General Building Contractors - All Work Guaranteed
Custom Homes - Remodeling - Commercial - Industrial - Farm
financing - Free Estimates - Design, Engineering & Plan Services



CHIROPRACTIC

FOR BETTER HEALTH

STEPHEN G. BARRY D.C. CHIROPRACTOR

LIVE AND LEARN AND PASS IT ON

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.

Good health improves your quality of life. Millions have found chiropractic care to be the treatment of choice for their headaches, back pain, or injuries following automobile, athletic or work related accidents. To schedule an appointment call 629-1771.

Office hours: Monday - Friday 8-12; 2-6
(Closed Thursday afternoon)

Medicare, Auto/Health Insurance, Work Comp. Accepted

BARRY CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

961 E. Main • Eastland, TX • 254-629-1771

I-20 MOTORS USED CARS

19th & I-20 Cisco, Texas

Shop (254) 442-4262 Home (254) 442-2578 Mobile (817) 999-5272

02 F-150 6 cyl., 5 sp., stepside, shortbed, AM/FM cass., cruise, tilt, 61K.....	\$8995
01 Chevy Cavalier 2 dr., auto, air, 48K, AM/FM, cass.....	\$4995
01 Chevy Lumina auto, air, AM/FM cass., elec. windows & locks, 52k.....	\$6550
01 Ford Ranger V6, long bed, auto, air, AM/FM, 63K.....	\$4750
01 Dodge Neon 4 cyl., 5 sp., (4 dr.) air, AM/FM, 52K.....	\$3995
00 Suzuki Vitari soft top, 5 sp., 4x4, cass., air, AM/FM, elec. windows & locks, 47K.....	\$4995
00 Ford Escort ZX2 5 sp., air, AM/FM, cass., cruise, 30K.....	\$4750
00 Ford F150 Sport short bed, 6 cyl., s sp., air, AM/FM/CD, 40k.....	\$6500
00 Ford Taurus SE auto, air, cruise, 64K.....	\$5995
00 Ford F350 15 Passenger Van, auto front & rear air, cruise.....	\$8995
99 Mercury Sable 4 dr., auto, air, AM/FM cass., cruise, 74K.....	\$3995
99 Ford Super Cab 3/4 ton V8, 5 sp., AM/FM, cass., cruise/tilt, 71k.....	\$10,950
98 Ford Windstar auto, air, AM/FM, cass., cruise, tilt, elec. windows & locks, 3rd seat, 84K.....	\$4750
97 Ford Aspire 5 sp., air, 80K.....	\$2250
95 Dodge Caravan auto, air, AM/FM, cass., 3rd seat.....	\$2750
94 Toyota Camry LE auto, air, AM/FM, cass., cruise, tilt.....	\$3250
92 GMC Sierra Classic XLT Extended Cab, V6, auto, air, elec. windows & locks, cruise, tilt, 127K.....	\$3995
88 Ford Super Cab XLT auto, air, AM/FM, cass., elect windows & locks, cruise, tilt.....	\$2995

March Agricultural Survey

In 2003 Texas producers planted 5.62 million acres of cotton, 3.20 million acres of sorghum and 1.83 million acres of corn. They also harvested 3.45 million acres of wheat, and 5.24 acres of hay. How much will be planted and harvested in 2004, and how will it compare to last year's acreage?

The Texas Agricultural Statistics Service is preparing to gather information on the 2004 crop season. The upcoming March Agricultural Survey will collect drop acreage planted and to be planted, and the quantity of grains stored on farms. About 4,800 Texas producers are being asked to take part

in the survey. Selected producers will be called or personally visited by an interviewer from Feb. 29 to March 12, 2004.

State and National Survey Results will be available in the "2004 Prospective Planting" report from the National Agricultural Statistic Service on March 31, 2004 at 8:30 a.m.

All reports are available on the Internet within minutes of the scheduled release time at <http://www.usda.gov/nass>. The results will also be printed in the "Texas Agricultural Facts" publication.

If you have any questions, please call Eric Stout or Lorna Brown at 1-800-626-3142.

A Bright Spot

From: Wanda Skinner

A dear friend sent this and I thought you might like to use it in the paper. I know a lot of people need to read it.

Slow Down Therapy

1. Slow down; God is still in Heaven. You are not responsible for doing it all yourself.

2. Remember a happy, peaceful time in your past. Rest there. Each moment has richness that takes a lifetime to savor.

3. Set your own pace. When someone is pushing, it's okay to tell them they're pushing.

4. Take nothing for granted; watch water flow, the corn grow, the leaves blow, your neighbor mow.

5. Taste your food. God gives it to delight as well as to nourish.

6. Notice the sun and the

moon as they rise and set. They are remarkable for their steady pattern of movement, not their speed.

7. Quit planning how you're going to use what you know, learn, or process. God's gifts just are; be grateful and their purpose will become clear.

8. When you talk with someone, don't think about what you'll say next. Thoughts will spring up naturally if you let them.

9. Talk and play with children. It will bring out the unhurried little person inside you.

10. Create a place in your home...at your work...in your heart...where you can go for quiet and recollection. You deserve it.

11. Allow yourself time to be lazy and unproductive. Rest isn't luxury; it's a necessity.

GUEST SLOT

We are often chided for using the word "fixin", indicating that I am about to do something. I now learn that it is perfect "Southerneze."

Only a true Southerner knows the difference between a hissie fit and connipion, and that you don't "HAVE" them,--you "PITCH" them.

Only a Southerner knows how many fish, collard greens, turnip greens, peas, beans, etc. make up "a mess".

Only a true Southerner can show or point out to you the general direction of "yonder".

Only a true Southerner knows exactly how long "directly" is - as in: "Going to town, be back directly."

All true Southerners, even babies, know that "Gimme some sugar" is not a request for the white, granular sweet substance that sits in a pretty little bowl on the middle of the table.

All true Southerners know

exactly when "by and by" is. They might not use the term, but they know the concept well.

Only a true Southerner knows instinctively that the best gesture of solace for a neighbor who's got trouble is a plate of hot fried chicken and a big bowl of cold potato salad. (If the neighbor's trouble is a real crisis, they also know to add a large banana puddin'!)

Only true Southerners grow up knowing the difference between "right near" and "a right far piece". They also know that "just down the road" can be 1 mile or 20.

Only a true Southerner both knows and understands the difference between a redneck, a good ol' boy, and po' white trash.

No true Southerner would ever assume that the car with the flashing turn signal is actually going to make a turn.

A true Southerner knows that "fixin" can be used as a noun, a verb, or an adverb. (See)

sion to be late sometimes. Life is for living not scheduling.

16. Listen to the song of a bird; the complete song. Music and nature are gifts, but only if you are willing to receive them.

17. Take time just to think. Action is good and necessary, but it's fruitful only if we muse, ponder, and mull. Jesus Loves You!

12. Listen to the wind blow. It carries a message of yesterday and tomorrow...and now. Now counts.

13. Rest on your laurels. They bring comfort whatever their size, age, or condition.

14. Talk slower. Talk less. Don't talk. Communication isn't measured by words.

15. Give yourself permis-

United House Calls of Texas

HOME HEALTH CARE

1420 E. Main Eastland, Texas
254-629-8200

Mary Youvonne McMillan

Texas Real Estate Broker

254-442-3846 653-8102 cell

706 E. 23rd - REDUCED to \$39,900, 2 BR, 1 bath, living room, dining room, 1 1/2 lots, big trees, updated 30's home.
1011 W. 5th, 4 BR, 2 bath, shop, fenced, CH/A, \$69,900.
153 +/- acres \$740 acre - game, good fences, no minerals conveyed - union center on Hwy. 183 S.

COUNTRY COWBOY CHURCH

Where: Great Times Skating Rink

When: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Chad Gosnell

Come as you are and join us

Bible Study: Wednesday night 6:30 p.m.



NEW

MASSEY FERGUSON
GC2300
SHOW SPECIAL
\$12,975

Only
10% Down

AS LOW AS \$279/Mo. W.A.C.

PARKER IMPLEMENT

(325) 695-0000

3542 S. TREADAWAY • ABILENE, TX

For Your Computer Hardware & Software Needs



H. G. Henderson

325-677-9125

Best Equipment * Best Prices

P. O. Box 398

Abilene, TX

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Only a true Southerner knows that the term "booger" can be a resident of the nose, a descriptive, as in "that ol' booger," a first name or something that jumps out at you in the dark and scares you senseless.

Only a true Southerner make friends while standing in lines. We don't do "queues", we do "lines", and when we're "in line", we talk to everybody!

Put 100 true Southerners in a room and half of them will discover they're related, even if only by marriage.

True Southerners never refer to one person as "y'all."

True Southerners know grits come from corn and how to eat them.

Every true Southerner knows tomatoes with eggs,

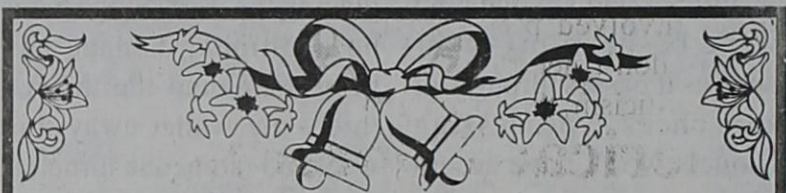
bacon, grits, and coffee are perfectly wonderful; that red eye gravy is also a breakfast food; and that fried green tomatoes are not a breakfast food.

When you hear someone say, "Well, I caught myself lookin'....," you know you are in the presence of a genuine Southerner!

Only true Southerners say "sweet tea" and "sweet milk." Sweet tea indicates the need for sugar and lots of it-we do not like our tea unsweetened. "Sweet milk" means you don't want butter-milk.

And a true Southerner knows you don't scream obscenities at little old ladies who drive 30 MPH on the freeway. You just say, "Bless her heart" and go your own way.

Eastland Extremes are having a game on Sunday at 2:00 pm at Maverick stadium against Lubbock Renegades. 12yrs & up \$4.00 and under 12yrs \$1.00.



MR. AND MRS. R. G. "BUCK" WHEAT

REQUEST THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE

AT THE MARRIAGE OF THEIR DAUGHTER

Cynthia Suzanne

Dr. Joe Devin Koenig

ON SATURDAY, THE SIXTH OF MARCH

TWO THOUSAND AND FOUR

AT FIVE O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

215 SOUTH MULBERRY STREET

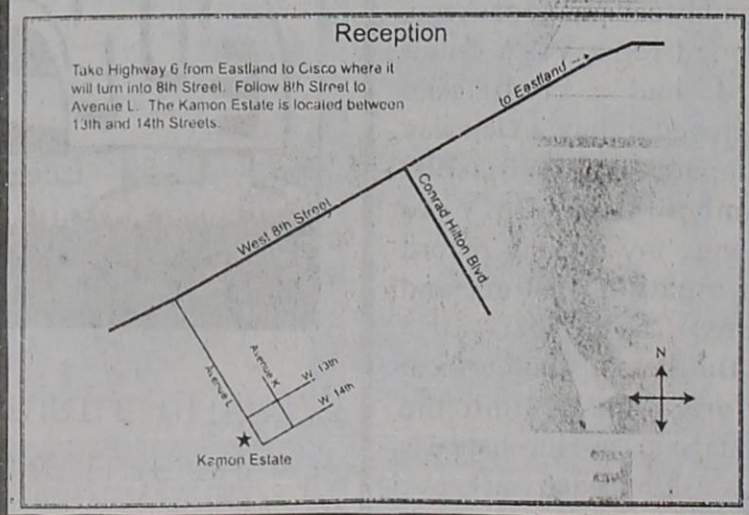
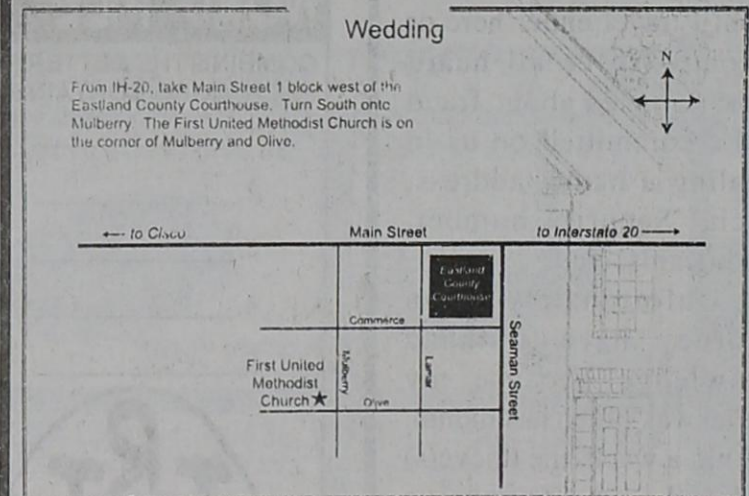
EASTLAND, TEXAS

THE RECEPTION WILL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW AT

THE KAMON ESTATE

1304 AVENUE L

CISCO, TEXAS



Check with me for all your computer needs

Repairs and Upgrades & Sales
New & Used Equipment

Call Chuck 629-1944

Chuck's Computers

Formerly known as TVE Computers

On-site service (no extra charge)

TEXAS CATTLE EXCHANGE

REPLACEMENT FEMALE SALE SATURDAY - APRIL 3, 2004

Selling: Bred Heifers, Young Bred Cows & Young Pairs
Some Early Consignments include:

- 20 Fancy Black WF Heavy Bred Heifers - Wt. 1100 lbs., all should be calved by sale date.
- 50 pairs First Calf - black & black baldy. Nice set of calves, will be gentle and cake broke.
- 20 pairs First Calf - Angus. Gentle & broke to cake.
- 100 Bred Heifers - black & black baldy - wt. 1050 lbs., bred to LBW Angus Bulls.

For information or to consign cattle call:
Texas Cattle Exchange - IH 20 & FM 3363 Olden Exit (between Ranger & Eastland) Olden TX 254-629-2288
Allen Egugatter (940) 841-0345 - Auctioneer
Visit us on the web: www.ahauctions.com

Paul Williams Roofing Co.

- FREE Estimates •
 - All Work Guaranteed •
 - Hot Tar & Gravel Composition •
 - Shingles • T-Locks • Wood Shingles •
- 25 Years Experience In Eastland Area
Paul Williams Carbon, Texas

254-639-2330

If No Answer Call 254-629-1020

COMMUNITY RESOURCE SERVICES

- Christian counseling ~ Scholastic tutoring including English (ESL) ~ Nutrition classes
- & Christian visitation in homes. All services are free. Provided as community services by local Seventh-day Adventist Christians.

For further information/registration

PHONE 254-629-2182

Opening of New Eastland Office!!

111 W. White in Eastland

(1 block north of the Courthouse)

(254) 629-1611

Chiropractor

Jimmy L. Carpenter D.C.

Office Hours Tuesdays & Saturdays:

Tuesday- 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 Noon

1:30 p.m. till 8:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. till 12:00 Noon

Massage Therapist

Linda Walls R.M.T.

By Appointment:

Monday thru Saturday

Spotlight

By Julia Worthy

A friend sent this to me, and in view of the many scams in use nowadays, I am passing it on. If one area does not apply to you, perhaps another will. I am considering it more carefully than I usually do such warnings as I don't recall so much of this kind of information in one small "package."

A corporate attorney sent the following out to the employees in his company.

1. The next time you order checks have only your initials (instead of first name) and last name put on them. If someone takes your checkbook they will not know if you sign your checks with just your initials or your first name but your bank will know how you sign your checks.

2. When you are writing checks to pay on your credit card accounts, DO NOT put the complete account number on the "For" line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number and anyone who might be handling your check as it passes through all the check processing channels won't have access to it.

3. Put your work phone # on your checks instead of your home phone. If you have a PO Box use that instead of your home address. If you do not have a PO Box, use your work address. Never have your SS# printed on your checks. (DUH!) You can add it if it is necessary. But if you have it printed, anyone can get it.

4. Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine, do both sides of each license, credit card, etc. You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. I also carry a photocopy of my passport when I travel either here or abroad. We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed on us in stealing a name, address, Social Security number, credit cards, etc.

Unfortunately I, an attorney, have firsthand knowledge because my wallet was stolen last month. Within a week, the thief(s) ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information on-line, and more.

But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know:

1. We have been told we should cancel our credit cards immediately. But the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them.

2. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was

stolen, this proves to credit providers you were diligent, and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one). Highly recommended and it pays off!

But here's what is perhaps most important: (I never even thought to do this).

3. Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.

By the time I was advised to do this, almost two weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done. There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them in their tracks.

The numbers are: Equifax: 1-800-525-6285
Experian (formerly TRW): 1-888-397-3742
Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289
Social Security Administration (fraud line): 1-800-269-0271

Shelly Valentine Receives Assistance For Her Alcohol Addictive Behaviors

In court proceedings on Monday, Shelly Kay Valentine, of Cisco received an opportunity to assist her in overcoming her alcohol addictive behaviors through a prison-based treatment program - a substance abuse felony punishment facility (SAFP). Valentine admitted that in 1996 and 1998 she was convicted in Parker County of driving while intoxicated. In January 2003 Valentine was arrested by a DPS Trooper in Eastland County for DWI and, before that case could be reached trial, was arrested for DWI in May of 2003 by another Eastland DPS Trooper. In open court Valentine admitted she was guilty of both Eastland County DWIs and requested that she be given the opportunity to enter an intensive substance abuse treatment facility to assist convicted felons in overcoming their addictive behaviors.

In each case, the presiding judge of the 91st District Court sentenced Valentine to 10 years confinement in the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, suspended with 10 years of community supervision with one of the numerous conditions of community supervision being intensive substance abuse treatment. In addition, Valentine's driver's license was suspended for 2 years

We pass along jokes on the Internet; we pass along just everything. Pass this information along. It could really help someone you care about.

and she must pay fines in the amount of \$3,000.

Among the numerous conditions of community supervision imposed by Judge Herod is that Valentine must "successfully" complete the entire substance abuse treatment continuum [treatment while incarcerated in a SAFP and post-release after-care]. Further, during her 10-year probationary period, Valentine must abstain from consuming any alcoholic or intoxicating beverage and cannot operate a motor vehicle without an interlock device - a deep-lung breath analysis mechanism designed to make impracticable the operation of a motor vehicle if alcohol is detected in her breath. Immediately following the guilty pleas, Valentine was taken into custody by the Eastland County Sheriff's Office to serve jail time in the Eastland County Jail and thereafter to remain confined in the County Jail until the Sheriff's Office is notified by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice that a bed is available in a SAFP. At that time, Valentine will be transported directly from the Eastland County Jail to a SAFP designed to house women who are convicted felons.

District Attorney Russ Thomason expressed gratitude for the continued teamwork among the DA's Office, Probation Office, and all of law enforcement in Eastland County. He explained that Valentine will be under the watchful eyes of the Community Supervision and Corrections Department of the 91st Judicial District Court for 10 years and, should Valentine violate any term and condition of her community supervision, could be sentenced to prison on each DWI for 10 years. Further, Mr. Thomason acknowledged the vigilance of the DPS Troopers of Eastland County in freeing our roads of impaired drivers.

DWI Defendant Sentenced To Prison For Eight Years

Darrin Keith Wilson, 39, formerly of Carbon, Texas, is now an inmate awaiting transfer to state prison to serve a (8) eight year sentence for the felony offense of Driving While Intoxicated. Mr. Wilson was apprehended on October 14, 2003 by a City of Gorman Police Officer upon a routine traffic stop. Mr. Wilson had been

previously convicted three other times for DWI, in Erath County in 1997 and in Eastland County in 1988 and 2000.

The Honorable Judge Steven Herod of the 91st District Court sentenced Wilson. Jason Johnson and Jim Parker of Comanche represented Wilson at his hearing.

Anthony Paul Rose Probation Revoked

The presiding judge in the 91st District Court revoked the probation of Anthony Paul Rose, age 39 of Ranger, for violating the terms and conditions of his probation that included his continued use of methamphetamine. In April 2002 Rose was placed on eight years probation for the first-degree offense of possession of methamphetamine with the intent to manufacture and the second-degree offense of possession of methamphetamine. In the

revocation proceedings, Rose was facing a maximum period of confinement of 8 years. After Rose admitted his continued use of meth, the Court sentenced Rose to 6 years in prison for violating the terms and conditions of his probation. District Attorney Russ Thomason stated that Rose, like so many others, failed to take advantage of the programs designed to rehabilitate him during his probationary period.

Remember To Renew Your Subscription To The Newspaper. Check the due date at the top of your mailing label.

ELECTRONIC FILING INCLUDED WITH YOUR RETURN

1471 E. Main Eastland 629-8121

H&R BLOCK rapid refund

WORD PILE By Mark Szorady

COMBINE THE LETTERS TO MAKE NINE WORDS. EACH WORD CONTAINS AT LEAST THREE LETTERS.

1. _____ 6. _____
2. _____ 7. _____
3. _____ 8. _____
4. _____ 9. _____
5. _____

ANSWERS: LET, LURE, LUTE, RUE, RULE, RUT, TRUE, TURTLE, UTER

©2003 Mark Szorady. Distributed by DBR Media, Inc.

We Clean The Most Neglected, Unsanitary Part Of Your Home: YOUR AIR DUCT SYSTEM!

J & J Air Conditioning, Inc.

106 Pogue Eastland, TX
254-629-2251 TACLB00200C 800-585-2251

Dr. Luis Duarte, Neurosurgeon

Seeing Patients in Abilene

Luis Duarte, M.D., specializing in Neurosurgery, will begin seeing patients in Abilene each month at the:

Southwest Imaging Building Tuesday, February 17
West Texas Back Clinic Tuesday, March 9
1702 South Clack Tuesday, April 6
Tuesday, May 11

Dr. Duarte received his medical degree from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and completed his internship and residency at the MCPHU/Hahnemann University Hospital Program. He is certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgeons.

Dr. Duarte is affiliated with the Shannon Clinic in San Angelo where he, his wife Diane and their two boys make their home.

Dr. Duarte's Specialties Include:

- Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery
- Microscopic Spine Surgery
- Trigeminal Neuralgia/Hemifacial Spasm
- Essential Hyperhydrosis
- General Neurosurgery
- Vagal Nerve Stimulation
- Deep Brain Stimulation for Parkinson's Disease and Essential Tremors
- Carpal Tunnel Surgery

SHANNON CLINIC

Call (325) 481-2193 for an appointment

For more information call 325.658.1511 • 120 E. Harris, San Angelo, TX 76903 • www.shannonclinic.com
Physician Referral Line • 325.657.6222 / 1.800.640.6222 — Physicians treating you are employed by Shannon Clinic or maintain an independent practice.

The Idle American

By Dr. Don Newbury

COWPERSONS AND FARMERS SHOULD BE FRIENDS...

These retired "cowpersons"-oh, the heck with political correctness—in truth, they are country guys who remember milking, branding, herding, feeding, trailering and cursing cows in great numbers.

These geezers meet every morning for two-bit coffee at the Wagon Wheel Cafe. They push two tables together, caring not if they "saucer and blow and spill a bit," 'cause the old checkered oil cloth table coverings have a few wipes left in them.

They hold forth through several re-fills, taking their leave after Marge (Yes, you can guess her nickname) clears her throat several times, wonders out loud if the lunch crowd might be early today, sprays air freshener all over their conversations or "shoo's them out" with a stare that would take the paint off a tanker.

Anyway, the kibitzers love to start their days this way, each in a specific chair, chomping at the bit to discuss the issues of the world. All issues qualify. "Let the big ones stand up and the little ones bunch up. We'll mow 'em all down," one bellowed.

On this day, they were commiserating with the chicken folks, taking note that chicken flu in South Texas would play havoc with the poultry market.

"The folks at Chick-Fil-A are a class act," one old farmer claimed. "Here a while back when one mad cow cost cattle people \$10,000 a pop, those folks declared a moratorium on their billboard teases of bovines urging us to 'eat more chikin.'

Now us cow people need to send a sympathy card or something to the chicken folks, but that wouldn't make the news," he admitted.

"Why don't we send them a 55-gallon barrel of chicken soup? It's supposed to cure anything, and the gesture would be sucked up in the media winds," another offered. "Can't you just see mother hen, urging to get the sick chicks to eat chicken soup? 'She'd force their little beaks open, saying, 'Eat it anyway. It's good for you, and besides, it was nobody we knew.'"

That brings to mind additional reasons as to why the chicken crossed the road. Initially, it was simply to get to the other side. Add these: 1) To show armadillos that it CAN be done, and 2) Because the rest of the chickens in her flock are sneezing.

I digress. Shades of Rodgers and Hammerstein! When they gave us OKLAHOMA! more than 60 years ago, they maintained that the "Farmer and the Cowman" should be friends. Now, the cow and chicken folks are drawing

closer together because of one mad cow and a few chickens with the flu..

Watch for these coffee-drinkers to make a media run with their chicken soup idea. Though they're at the age when their dreams are re-runs, they are not without passion, and they'll hand out specific media contacts for each geezer. (Mel Gibson is showing the world what passion can do..)

On a personal note, I turn back the clock about a decade. I was president at Howard Payne University, and a guest speaker was to be S. Truett Cathey, founder of Chick-Fil-A. Upon his arrival, I invited him to our home for breakfast featuring my mom's made-from-

scratch biscuits. He accepted.

My wife went into panic mode, straightening the house for the arrival of the man whose chicken empire is world-renowned. Mom moved briskly around the kitchen; she felt right at home around the oven.. Mr. Cathey put away three biscuits (but who's counting?), commenting that they were as good as any he had ever tasted..

Pushing back from the table, he presented Mom with some coupons for free chicken sandwiches. She demurred, but finally accepted. Wiping flour on her apron, she shook his hand and stuck the coupons in her pocket. "Now I want to be sure to see you when I get my sandwiches out at the mall," she said, "What shift do you work?"

He smiled; I changed the subject and Mom went on

with her day..

Interestingly (and most sentences starting with this word aren't), Mr. Cathey and his brother, Ben, opened Dwarf Grill in suburban Atlanta in 1946. It was a tiny eatery, open around the clock-except Sundays. One of them was always present on 12-hour shifts. Come Sundays, they were too pooped to pop, fry, boil or whatever, so they rested. The business prospered, and Truett persevered, despite losing his brother/partner in a 1949 plane crash.

In 1967, the first Chick-Fil-A opened in nearby Greenbriar Mall. From the beginning, it, too, is idle on Sundays. So are the other 1,100 eateries..

Oh, it should be mentioned that Mr. Cathey, 83 this year, has kept a Sunday commitment for nigh on to 50 years. That's how long

he's been a Sunday School teacher for teen-age boys in Jonesboro, GA. The church is not far from the wildwood, and it's not brown..

Dr. Newbury is an author/speaker/columnist in the Metroplex. His column appears in 100 Texas newspapers. He welcomes

comments and inquiries a 817-447-3872 or by e-mail, newbury@speakerdoc.com

ADVERTISE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS AND GET RESULTS

TEXAS CATTLE EXCHANGE

STEAK HOUSE

Daily Lunch Buffet

- Toss Salad
- Choice of Meats
- Home Cooked Vegetables
- Dessert

\$6.99
+ tax

Nightly Specials **629-2599**

I-20 FM 3363 Olden Exit



Randolph Dodge

in Eastland

YOUR WEST TEXAS VOLUME DEALER

254-629-8986 EXIT 343 off I-20 West **1-888-591-0051**

Owner Loyalty Cash \$750*

\$18,740*

Cash Price \$21,990
Rebate \$2,500

2004 DODGE 1500 QUAD CAB

ST VALUE GROUP V6



\$19,740*

Cash Price \$22,990
Rebate \$2,500

Conquest Cash \$750*

\$25,740*

Cash Price \$28,990
Rebate \$2,500

\$28,490*

Cash Price \$30,990
Rebate \$2,500

2004 DODGE 2500

SLT. QUAD TRAILER TOW, ANTI-SPIN, CUMMINS



\$28,990*

Cash Price \$31,490
Rebate \$2,500

\$31,490*

Cash Price \$33,990
Rebate \$2,500

\$30,290*

Cash Price \$32,790
Rebate \$2,500

2004 DODGE 3500

SLT. QUAD, CUMMINS, TRAILER TOW, ANTI-SPIN



\$30,790*

Cash Price \$33,290
Rebate \$2,500

\$33,490*

Cash Price \$35,990
Rebate \$2,500

2004 RAM 1500

REG CAB, V6, 5 SPEED, A/C



\$15,240

Cash Price \$18,490
Rebate \$2,500
Additional Disc \$750*

2004 RAM 3500

REG CAB, CUMMINS, SLT, 6 SPEED H.O.

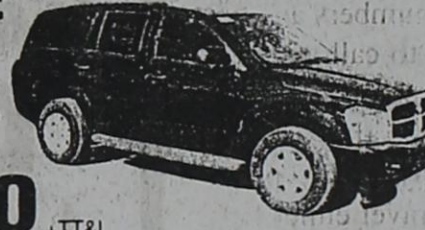


\$26,490

0% NOW Available on All Ram Series Trucks
Cash Price \$28,990
Rebate \$2,500

2004 DODGE DURANGO

SLT, HEMI, LEATHER, MANY EXTRAS!



\$29,490 +TT&L

SALE DAY EVERY DAY

2002 Dodge 2500 QC 4x4

LOADED, 25K, AUTO, DIESEL #E00273



\$26,990*

2003 Ford Escape


XLT, V6, LIKE NEW #E00742P



\$15,490*

2002 Jeep Wrangler

V6, 4X4, SOFT TOP, 6K MILES #E02817A



\$14,490*

2002 Ford F-250 Crew Cab

LARIAT 4X4, SWB, SHOCK, NICE, 48K MILES #E00275



\$29,990*

2002 Dodge 3500 Cab & Chassis


4X4, 5 SPEED, 30K MILES #E03124A



\$25,990*

2000 Chevy Camaro

V6, AUTO, 48K MILES, SPORTY! #E02833A



\$8,990*

1998 Dodge 2500

CLUB, CAB, SLT, 2WD, 84K #E02641B



\$13,990*

2002 Toyota Tacoma

EXT, CAB, NICE NICE! #E02772A



\$13,990*

2004 Dodge Intrepid SE

FULL SIZE, PWR W/D, LOCKS, LOADED #E00257



\$17,990*

2003 1500 Quad 4x4

V6, ONLY 14K MILES, LOCAL TRADE #E03116B



\$19,990*

2001 Chevy Silverado Z-71 X-Cab

LS, NICELY EQUIPPED #E02815B



\$17,990*

2002 Dodge 1500 4x4

4X4, SPORT, SLT, QUAD, UNDER WARRANTY #E02819A



\$21,990*

2000 F250 Super Cab

SWB, 4X4, 60K MILES, DIESEL, AUTO #E02745A



\$21,990*

2001 Ford F-150

XLT, SUPER CAB, TRITON V8, 4X4 #E02557A



\$17,490*

2003 Dodge 3500 QC

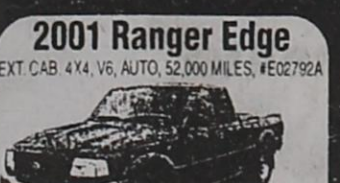
DIESEL #E02370B



\$28,990*

2001 Ranger Edge

EXT, CAB, 4X4, V6, AUTO, 52,000 MILES #E02792A



\$14,990*

1997 F150 Ext Cab

V6, AT, 45,000 1-OWNER MILES, LIGHT HAIL #E03134B



\$8,990*

2002 F150 Super Crew XLT

RED, 2WD, 37K MILES, NEXT TO NEW #E02674A



\$18,990*

2003 Grand Caravans

MILES IN TEENS-LOW 20'S



From \$16,990*

2002 Dodge 2500 QC

CUMMINS, 1 OWNER, 44K MILES #E03062A



\$20,990*

1-888-591-0051

www.randolphdodge.com

INSTANT APPROVED CREDIT 877-22-DODGE




* Rebate or 0% WAC

** Must qualify for Conquest or Loyalty Programs Ends 3-1-04

* Plus Dealer Adds (Mudflaps-Dualys) Bedliner, Anti-Theft, Spare Tire Lock TT&I *ot

Abiding With Asperger's

Abiding with Asperger's, a program for people who deal with persons diagnosed with Asperger's, such as parents, spouses, grandparents, siblings, educators, and professionals, was presented in Abilene Monday, March 1, at the Region 14 Service Center in Abilene.

Asperger's Syndrome is one of many Autism Spectrum Disorders. Autism, particularly Asperger's and High Functioning Autism, is on the increase world wide. People with Asperger's have many unique characteristics.

They are above average intelligence, they prefer predictability in their environment, and they often have strong areas of interest, for example a 10 year old is very knowledgeable about Greek Mythology and Star Wars.

Aspies (as adults with Asperger's refer to themselves) often have sensory differences- bright lights, loud noises, thunder, texture of clothing, things that do not bother most of us are uncomfortable. Change and the unexpected is often very hard on someone with Asperger's. Aspies tend to speak their mind, saying things the rest of us only think. They are not rude-just open and honest. While they find it difficult to understand the world around them and are very literal, Aspies often have delightful senses of humor and very unique outlook on life.

The program lasted some 3 hours.

Lindsi Cavendar, a Senior at Hardin Simmons University, spoke on her experiences and the adjustments she has made since her diagnosis of Asperger's at age 17. Lindsi also shared how she has adapted to college life. Ann Cavender, Lindsi's mother, also spoke. Steve Cavender, Lindsi's father, answered questions.

Donald Hughes, Superintendent of Eastland ISD and a parent of a child with Asperger's, talked about

DVT Kills More Than 3 Big Killers Combined

(From Feb. 29, 2004 Parade)

By Lyric Wallwork Winik Stop A Deadly Killer

It strikes 2 million Americans each year and kills more people than breast cancer, car crashes and AIDS combined, yet most of us do not even know its name. The condition is called deep vein thrombosis, or DVT. It begins with a blood clot in the leg that can travel to the lungs, causing a pulmonary embolism and often death. Many of us are at risk--just sitting for a long time on a plane can produce DVT. But older people, pregnant women, smokers, the obese and others with a condition that limits mobility are at increased risk. Symptoms include leg tenderness, pain, swelling, discoloration or redness. If you suspect DVT, call a doctor immediately. There are quick, noninvasive tests to identify it, plus options ranging from blood thinners to simple exercises.

National DVT Awareness Month begins March 1st. Go to www.preventdvt.org to learn more.

dealing with denial, accepting a diagnosis of Asperger's, and moving forward. Nancy Hughes, Donald's wife and a local attorney, commented about what has worked for their son, how their family keeps its focus, and of their son's successes.

For more information about the program contact the Service at 325-672-8600 or Donald and Nancy Hughes at 629-3477 after 5 p.m.

Seeds From The Sower

By Michael Guido

Matilda, a gossip, asked her new neighbor, "What does your husband do for a living?"

The wife answered, "He has his own business, and he spends all of his time minding it."

More people have been run down by gossips than by cars and trucks.

And there are three different types: There's the vest-button type--always popping off.

There's the vacuum cleaner type--always picking up dirt.

And there's the liniment type--always rubbing it in.

If we refused to listen to gossip, none would ever spread. The Living Bible says, "Fire goes out for lack of fuel, and tensions disappear when gossip stops."

Letter

Editor:

Terri Huff forwards this message reportedly from a Tampa newspaper. As we read it, we couldn't help but think that our Irish ancestors probably brought some (many) of their ways with them to America. But they were expected (forced) to adapt to this country's culture.)

Will we still be the Country of choice and still be America if we continue to make the changes forced on us by the people from other countries that came to live in America because it is the Country of Choice? Think about it...

All I have to say is, when will they do something about MY RIGHTS? I celebrate Christmas, but because it isn't celebrated by everyone, we can no longer say Merry Christmas. Now it has to be Season's Greetings. It's not Christmas vacation, it's Winter Break. Isn't it amazing how this winter break ALWAYS occurs over the Christmas holiday? We've gone so far the other way, bent over backwards to not offend anyone, that I am now being offended. But it seems

that no one has a problem with that.

The article IMMIGRANTS, NOT AMERICANS, MUST ADAPT

I am tired of this nation worrying about whether we are offending some individual or their culture. Since the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, we have experienced a surge in patriotism by the majority of Americans. However, the dust from the attacks had barely settled when the "politically correct" crowd began complaining about the possibility that our patriotism was offending others.

I am not against immigration nor do I hold a grudge against anyone who is seeking a better life by coming to America. Our population is almost entirely made up of descendants of immigrants. However, there are a few things that those who have recently come to our country, and apparently some born here, need to understand.

This idea of America being a multicultural community has served only to dilute our sovereignty and our national identity.

As Americans, we have our own culture, our own society, our own language and our own lifestyle. This culture has been developed over centuries of struggles, trials, and victories by millions of men and women who have sought freedom.

We speak ENGLISH, not Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic,

Chinese, Japanese, Russian, or any other language.

Therefore, if you wish to become part of our society, learn the language!

"In God We Trust" is our national motto. This is not some Christian, right wing, political slogan...We adopted this motto because Christian men and women, on Christian principles, founded this nation and this is clearly documented. It is certainly appropriate to display it on the walls of our schools.

If God offends you, then I suggest: you consider another part of the world as your new home, because God is part of our culture.

If Stars and Stripes offend you, or you don't like Uncle Sam, then you should seriously consider a move to another part of this planet.

We are happy with our culture and have no desire to change, and we really don't care how you did things where you came from.

This is OUR COUNTRY, our land, and our lifestyle. Our First Amendment gives every citizen the right to express his opinion and we will allow you every opportunity to do so. But once you are done complaining, whining, and griping about our flag, our pledge, our national motto, or our way of life, I highly encourage you take advantage of one other great American freedom, THE RIGHT TO LEAVE.

If you agree--pass this along; if you don't agree--delete it! AMEN

Read the Classifieds

Monthly Internet Classes For TXOL Customers

It is time for the monthly internet classes for TXOL customers!

We will be offering only the beginner class this month. Thursday March 4th, this entry-level class will start at 6:30 PM. We will have an open question session before the class that will start at 6pm.

This course is FREE and available to anyone and everyone.

Please feel free to write any questions down that you may have. Writing an email, sending an attachment, searching the Internet, and adding to favorites are among the familiar topics we will cover plus much more! This entry-level course is designed to raise your level of Internet knowledge and will last about 90 minutes.

Course Description: Open question session- Starts at 6pm

Beginners- Starts at 6:30 PM March 4th

Internet Explorer 6.0 - Using Favorites, link bar, history, homepage settings, and how to download a file.

Search Engines - Using search engines, like Google, to search and how to use advanced searches

Outlook Express - Creating new messages, email forwarding, attachments, and address book.

This course will be held at the home office in Eastland, which is located at 925 East Main in Eastland. Entry to the class is on the southwest side on the building. If you have any questions you can email me at tmills@txol.net or support@txol.net.

***** FEED *****	
50# 21% Dog Food.....\$9.50	Seed Potatoes
50# 28% Dog Food.....\$11.00	39¢ @ 1#
50# 14% Horse Pellets.....\$5.75	Bulk Garden Seed
50# Whole Oats.....\$5.90	& Onion Sets
50# Shavings.....\$3.50	Liquid Fertilizer
50# 15% Sheep & Goat Pellet.....\$5.15	Dry Fertilizer
50# 14% Sow Pellet/Cubes.....\$5.15	Bag-Bulk
50# 20% Deer Pellets.....\$5.65	ABILENE AG
50# Mixed Grain Pellets.....\$4.00	Pre-emergence 25#.....\$12.95
Alfalfa Hay.....\$7.75	50#.....\$24.00
Abilene Ag Service & Supply, Inc.	1301 S. Treadaway • Abilene • 325-677-4371

DO YOU HAVE THE DRIVE?

Caraway Used Cars

98 Jee **Sold** Classic
 95 Olds Silhouette Van
 00 Olds Alero
 00 Pont. Montana
 80 Ford F350 Flatbed
 97 Buick Le Sabre
 99 Olds 88
 91 Merc. Cougar LS
 95 Pont. Grand Am

Loop 254 Ranger 647-1280

Happy St. Patrick's Day from Vicky Lee's INDOOR FLEA MARKET

Come On Down Find the Lucky Shamrocks and You'll Get A Great DEAL!

307 East Commerce St. Eastland, TX 76448 (254) 629-3199 OPEN WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY 10AM-7PM

TSC TRACTOR SUPPLY CO.

20% All Natural

Blue Bonnet Breeder's Cubes

Ton Price \$186⁹⁰

\$4.99.....50# bag (\$4.74 50# bag)

TSC Card 6 Months NO Interest NO Payment

Cattle Panels \$11.94 Thru March 2, 2004

1401 E. Main St. • Eastland • 254-629-2088
 315 East Commerce • Brownwood • 325-643-2256
 4450 Southwest Dr. • Abilene • 325-691-8901

Big Country Service Rifle Team Results

Since last reported the Big Country Service Rifle Team has competed in several matches. A few members traveled to Waco for the Texas State Championships held at the L.T. Dillon range near Watt, Texas. On October 18, 2003 three members shot the 80-round "Regional Match Course" with a good showing. In this 200, 300 and 600 yard match Wallace McDaniel of Clyde finished with a 758-12X, Robert Boyd of Baird totaled 737-11X and David Guthery of Carbon shot a 732-5X. The following day was a 50-shot "Excellence in Competition" match also shot at 200, 300 and 600 yards. McDaniel fired a 469-12X, David Guthery a 437-2X, Boyd a 417-1X despite trigger problems and Jimmy Guthery of Gorman finished this match with a 391-4X.

On October 26, 2003 Ft. Wolters held it's first annual "Springfield Match." Robert Boyd won the match scoring 458-7X. Wallace McDaniel was second with a 458-6X. David Guthery fired a 436-6X, Bill Thompson of Abilene shot a 359-0X and Jimmy Guthery finished with 357-2X.

The Abilene Gun Club

hosted its first Military Boltgun Match on January 25, 2004. David Guthery won the match with a 271-1X. Bill Thompson also competed and finished with 232-0X. Following this match, a 30-shot service rifle match was held. Robert Boyd came away the winner with a 277-5X. Newcomer Kevin Jackson of Abilene took second with a 260-3X. David Guthery was third with 253-2X. Fourth was Richard Hall of Clyde with 249-5X. Bill Thompson shot 230-1X for sixth. Little Robert Boyd in his first match, shot an excellent score of 210-0X for eighth place and Lore Boyd of Baird was tenth with a score of 116-0X.

For Wolters at Mineral Wells hosted a 50-shot "National Match Course" on Feb. 22, 2004. Wallace McDaniel won this match with a score of 475-10X. David Guthery was fifth with 440-3X. Jimmy Guthery took seventh with a 413-3X. Richard Hall was close behind with a 413-1X for eighth. Robert Boyd took ninth with 412-3X and Robert Moore in his first High Power Rifle match took 13th with 224-0X.

Baird Elementary Students Of the Week



Ian Ebeling - Mrs. Coplen's 2nd grade, son of Ron and Angela Platt and Cooper Loyd- Mrs. Jones' 2nd grade, son of Lane and Denise Loyd

Spotlight

by Julia Worthly

A friend sent this to me, and in view of the many scams in use nowadays, I am passing it on. If one area does not apply to you, perhaps another will. I am considering it more carefully than I usually do such warnings as I don't recall so much of this kind of information in one small "package."

A corporate attorney sent the following out to the employees in his company.

1. The next time you order checks have only your initials (instead of first name) and last name put on them. If someone takes your checkbook they will not know if you sign your checks with just your initials or your first name but your bank will know how you sign your checks.

2. When you are writing checks to pay on your credit card accounts, DO NOT put the complete account number on the "For" line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number and anyone who might be handling your check as it passes through all the check processing channels won't have access to it.

3. Put your work phone # on your checks instead of your home phone. If you have a PO Box use that instead of your home address. If you do not have a PO-Box, use your work address. Never have your SS# printed on your checks. (DUH!) You can add it if it is necessary. But if you have it printed, anyone can get it.

4. Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine, do both sides of each license, credit card, etc. You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. I also carry a photocopy of my passport when I travel either here or abroad. We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed on us in stealing a name, address, Social Security number, credit cards, etc.

Unfortunately I, an attorney, have firsthand knowledge because my wallet was stolen last month. Within a week, the thief(s) ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information on-line, and more.

But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know:

1. We have been told we should cancel our credit cards immediately. But the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them.

2. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was

stolen, this proves to credit providers you were diligent, and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one). Highly recommended and it pays off!

But here's what is perhaps most important: (I never even thought to do this).

3. Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.

By the time I was advised to do this, almost two weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done. There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them in their tracks.

The numbers are: Equifax: 1-800-525-6285

Experian (formerly TRW): 1-888-397-3742

Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289

Social Security Administration (fraud line): 1-800-269-0271

Warning: Beware of Web sites on the Internet; we pass along just about everything. Pass this information along. It could really help someone you care about.

The BEST
Just got **BETTER**
CFL announces industry leading pay increase!

Company Drivers earn up to **45¢** per mile
Company Teams earn up to **53¢** per mile
Owner Operators earn up to **93¢** per mile

800-CFL-DRIVE www.cfl-drive.com

CASH NOW
FOR STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS, ANNUITIES and INSURANCE PAYOUTS
(800) 794-7310
J.G. Wentworth means CASH NOW for Structured Settlements!

JAY NOVACEK FOOTBALL CAMP
Daily instructions from several of the Dallas Cowboys!

Troy Aikman Jay Novacek & Darren Woodson Troy Aikman & Darryl Johnston

Ages 8-18 • 13th Big Year! • July 5-9 • University of North Texas, Denton, TX • "The Best Camp in the USA!"
For FREE Brochure call 1-800-555-0801 or visit www.footballcamps.com

Railroad X-ing
collisions are usually catastrophic. Many times liability can be established for allowing vegetation or equipment to obscure view, for failure to blow required whistle sequence, for improperly marking crossings or for not establishing or maintaining safety equipment. Our experience can help you now and your family's future. Call us for professional insight.

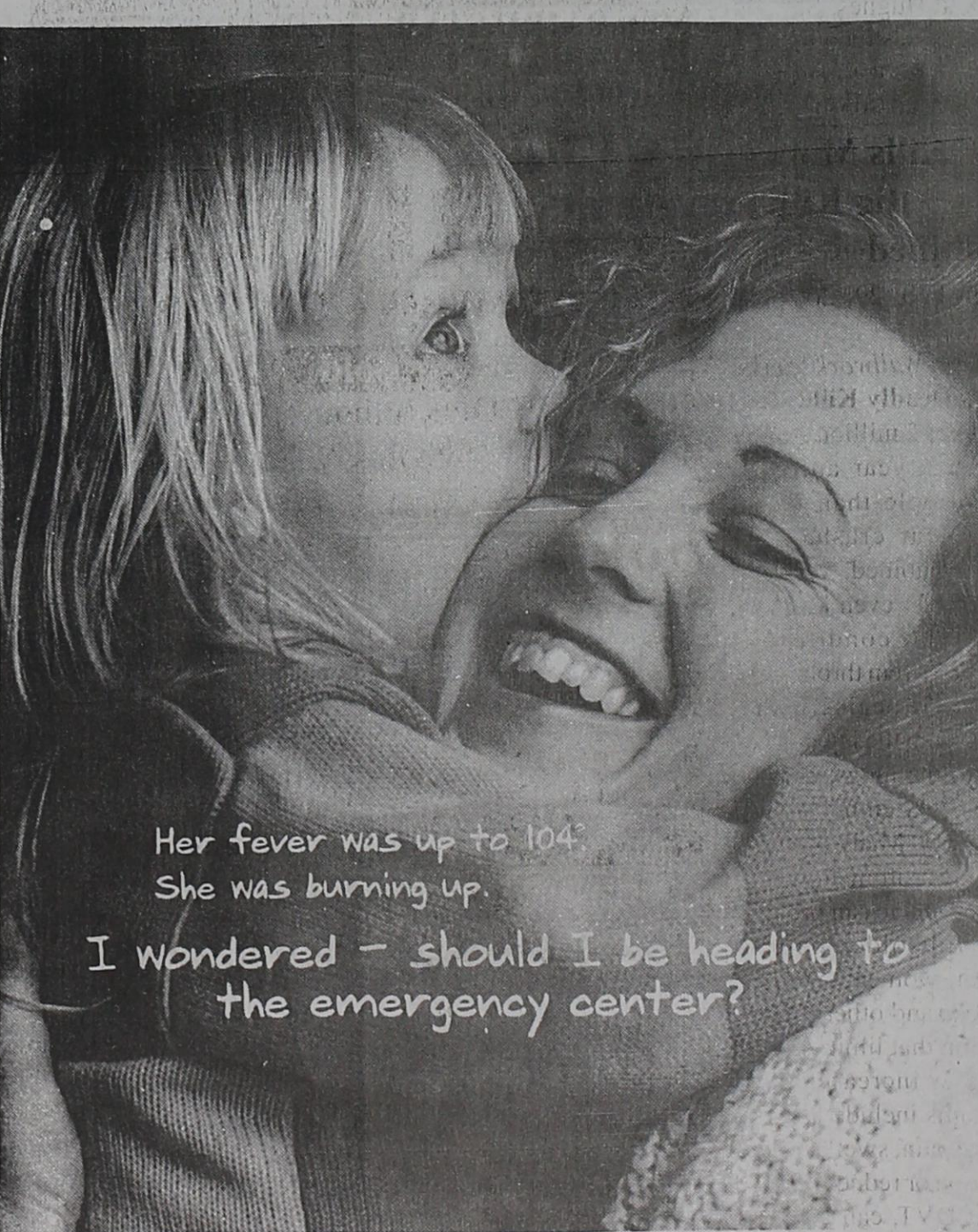
EXPERIENCE COUNTS
Lawyers with over 50 years combined expertise and staff with over 90!

Ryan A. Krebs, M.D., J.D.
Doctor-Lawyer in Full-time Law Practice
Richard A. Dodd, L.C.
Craig W. Brown, P.L.L.C.
Timothy R. Cappolino, P.C.
Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Law and Civil Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization
NO FEE FOR FIRST VISIT
Cameron, TX

1-800-460-0606
www.texas-injury-law.com

"MARK OF THE BEAST"
Those that receive it, will receive the wrath of God. Find out who the BEAST is, and how to avoid his MARK. No obligation. No one will call. Write for free book to -
THE BIBLE SAYS
P.O. BOX 771 ATHENS TN 37371
Phone Toll Free 1-888-211-1715

People are like stained glass windows: they sparkle and shine when the sun's out, but when the darkness falls in their true beauty is revealed only if there is light within.
—Elisabeth Kubler-Ross



When you're unsure and the minutes count, we're here for you. The physicians at Abilene Regional Emergency Center can help you with those medical challenges your little one can bring.

Abilene Regional. The technology you need. The attention you deserve.

ABILENE REGIONAL
Emergency Center
6250 Hwy 83/84
Abilene, TX 79606
(325) 695-9900
www.abileneregional.com

Obituaries

Iva Scarpelli

BAIRD- Iva Scarpelli, 78, of Burnet, Texas, died at her home Friday, February 15, 2004 following a long illness.

Iva was born July 6, 1925 in Callahan County, Texas, the youngest of 9 children of Felix and Menville (Russell) Mitchell. She graduated from Baird High School in 1942 and attended Tarleton College in Stephenville where she studied art. In 1994 Iva married Victor Scarpelli of Cleveland, Ohio, and they had a son and a daughter. The family moved to Midland, Texas in 1952 and soon after Iva was employed by McGraw-Hill Information Systems as an architectural reporter. She remained with McGraw-Hill for 29 years in Midland and later in Austin. Iva was an accomplished watercolorist

and active member of Highland Art Guild in Marble Falls.

She is survived by her son, Jonathan Scarpelli and his wife Becky Barefoot of Sedalina, Co.; her daughter, Diane Dieringer and husband Wayne of Pflugerville; grandchildren, Nathan, Kathleen and Mitchell Dieringer; sisters, Lucibel Manion of Baird and Ritchey Bellamy of Marble Falls; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held in Baird for family and friends Saturday, Feb. 28, 2004 at 2 p.m. at the Parker Funeral Home Chapel in Baird.

Donations may be made to Highland Art Guild in Marble Falls, Seton Highland Lakes Hospice in Burnet, or a favorite charity.

SPOTLIGHT

By Julia Worthy

If I had any expectations at all on the topic, about the last thing I should have expected to find in Tuesday's (2/24/04) area newspaper was an article on Clyde's "Happy Trails Mercantile" store featuring the place and the owner, Philip Mintz.

(Ever notice anything about coincidences? Some good, some bad, some interesting - - - and some verging on spooky.)

It was like this: last weekend elder son, Kenneth, came out from the Metroplex all fired up to "do something" about the mesquite before it and the grass burrs take over our miniscule acreage out here on Windy Hill.

The flame he was fanning had the shape of a small tractor pulling a brush hog with Kenneth in the driver's seat.

Yep. The conflagration burst into full flame when he stopped in at Happy Trails Mercantile.

From the discovery that Kenneth's wishes could be fulfilled there, the results might be considered as a controlled fire.

The small tractor and brush hog Kenneth selected are not new. Despite the agrarian gleam in his eyes, he is not so much a throw-back to his ancestry that he expects to spend any great amount of time "laboring in the vineyard" out here. The tractor and hog were carefully "checked out," and this included deciding whether the tractor would perform best with a four-foot or a five-foot blade.

Kenneth took a fair look at the shop's offerings - - - besides exactly the farm equipment he wanted. When he came home, he asked me more than once, "Mother, did you know they have - - -"

No, I didn't know. Catherine, Ken's sister, is our designated shopper, and I have not been in Happy Trails myself. Some day when I'm feeling more mobile than I usually do, I may ask for a ride in that direction as a matter of interest, but I don't expect to be interested in getting togged out in new western regalia - - - not even in old western regalia! I do hope no one holds his breath waiting for such a decision from me.

I also hope the mesquites can be controlled but even if so, I have a sneaky feeling (Premonition?) that "Mesquite" is not on the Controlled Substance list! Nancy can recommend, "Just

say NO!" all she wants, but given it will rain sooner or later, the mesquites will stage a come-back. Buffalos and Comanches kept them down in years gone by, but somehow I doubt that the buffalos or the Indians will make the come-back the mesquites do.

However, coincidences are often far-fetched.

From Page One

Glimpse At Texas

entered a bitter and divisive time in which all were disenfranchised except those who would sign an oath of loyalty to the Union. Members of the Republican Party (then representing the North) were

in charge, and they were very unpopular with the people.

So unpopular, in fact, that few Republicans ever held office in this state for more than a hundred years. Gov. Eill Clements (1979) was the first Republican Governor to be elected since the Civil War. The Republican sweep really began to take effect in Texas in 1994, when George W. Bush defeated Ann Richards as Governor. Everything since is history! George W. Bush is now President of the United States, and almost all representatives from the state are Republicans. Tom Craddick of Midland is the first Republican Texas Speaker of the House since the Civil War.

This is only one of the many changes in the state. During the years Texas has gone from a thinly populated, agricultural state to an area

Thursday, March 4, 2004 with a population of around 22 million people. Most of these now live in mega-cities, and make a living with some facet of technology. Cotton, cattle and oil are no longer the leading economic factors.

We have gone from the age of wagon trains to jet planes, from mules to huge tractors, from one-room schools to complexes, from simple homes to sprawling mansions, from the pioneer age to the age of information.

All of us who have lived in Texas have our special memories of places and people who have defined our own lives. We hate to lose any one of them. But time stops for no one - and sometimes it requires courage to go on.

What lies ahead? We still need water - there's not enough of it. We need to take care of our wonderful, wide-open country, - Texas!

Baird Bear Sport Schedules

Baird Baseball

- March 4-6 Hamlin Tournament
- March 8 Anson at Baird, 12:00
- March 9 ACHS (Doubleheader), There, 12:00
- March 10 Hawley, There, 2:00

Baird Golf

- March 8 Merkel (Boys)
- March 9 San Saba (Girls)
- March 16 Baird (Boys & Girls)
- March 30 Eden (Girls)

Baird High Tennis

- March 10 Hitting Balls at the courts
- March 12 Santa Anna Tourney, begins at 8:30 am

Baird High Track

- March 6 Early
- March 20 Eula
- March 27 Baird

Baird Jr. High Track

- March 5 Gorman
- March 20 Baird



Front row: (l-r) Sherry Williams, LVN; Brenda Wollam, RN-Hospice; Stacey Gwinn, HHA; Diana Simpson RN; (back row, l-r) Sheri Johnson, Clerk; Shelley Knight, HHA & Clerk; Nelda McDaniel, Clerk; Donnie Dillard, LVN; Della Bowles, LVN; Elaine Clark, RN-Director; Lori Bates, RN; Peggy Quarella, LVN-Clerk; Meredith Edwards, RN-Hospice; Rosa Cervantez, RN.

Meet The Girling Staff Healthcare Providers For Over 37 Years!

Girling Health Care, Inc. is extremely proud to introduce their local staff members. Girling has over 37 years of providing home health services to clients throughout Texas and is considered a home town full scale home health agency with an office in Eastland for the past 20 years. The Eastland office delivers care to all surrounding areas including 8 counties. Girling, a JCAHO accredited agency with the highest standards, follows all medicare regulations to assist in saving your medicare dollars. Registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses and therapists provide all phases of home care, including wound care, cardiac post surgery care, diabetes management, long term disease management as well as cancer and related diseases.

Girling Health Care also provides hospice services with an interdisciplinary team approach to help patients and families dealing with end of life situations. Eastland physician, Dr. Sandra Hazelip, serves as the hospice medical director. Chaplain Donna DeLuca provides many services to area hospice patients and their families including grief recovery meetings.

Girling Health Care nurses are available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week to assist you with your health care concerns. The local "Girling Gang" invites you to visit their office at 957 East Main, located in the Shady Oaks Shopping Center or call 254-629-1268 or 1-800-950-0363 for more information.

With Girling Health Care,
"It's good to be 'back home!'"



CALLAHAN COUNTY BAIRD STAR

Publication No. (USPS 085-520)

©2004 Eastland County Newspapers, Inc.

(254) 629-1707 211 Market St. Baird, TX 79504

Periodical Postage Paid at Baird, Texas

under Act of Congress in March, 1870.

Published every Thursday

Publisher.....H.V. & Gaynell O'Brien

Editor.....Margaret Hetrick

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Callahan

County Star, 211 Market St., Baird, TX 79504.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$16 per year in Callahan County; \$17 per year for Counties Adjoining Callahan \$22

BRANDON'S DOZER SERVICE

Clearing
Grubbing
Raking
Plowing



Tanks
Lakes
Roads
Fence Rows

Brandon Orms
Owner

ALL TYPES
DIRT WORK

(817) 578-4155
(254) 653-7469

It's Your Money...

...and we can help you keep more of it. By finding every tax deduction and tax credit you're entitled to take. By suggesting strategies that will minimize your tax liability each and every year. Call for an appointment today.

Cam Gulley, CPA

935 E. Main - Eastland, TX
254-629-8901

CARPET! CARPET! CARPET!

Carpet • Linoleum • Tile • Ceramic Tile
Wood Flooring • Wallpaper • Mini Blinds

Choose your carpet from over 1,000 samples and have it installed by our trained in-house installers.

Get that custom finished look with matching wallpaper and custom fitted mini-blinds.

Austin's Furniture

"The Home Store"

510 Conrad Hilton Cisco, Texas 442-2533