

VALLEY WEATHER			
DATE	HI	LO	PREC
JAN. 2	55	31	-----
JAN. 3	57	28	-----
JAN. 4	70	30	-----
JAN. 5	66	32	-----
JAN. 6	67	34	-----
JAN. 7	46	26	-----
JAN. 8	68	26	-----

JUNE 30, 2003
 47
 BURNS MRS. LESLIE C.
 10902 VAN RULTON S.
 NORWALK, CA 90650



50¢
per copy

THE VALLEY TRIBUNE

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 29 BRISCOE COUNTY QUITAQUE, TEXAS 79255 THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2003

Spike Dykes To Speak At Quitaque Chamber Banquet

The Quitaque Chamber of Commerce met on January 7 at the Community Center in Quitaque to discuss the upcoming Chamber Banquet. The Banquet will be held on Tuesday, February 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the Valley High School Cafetorium. Warren Merrell and Dale Smith will once again prepare their 'world famous' grilled steaks. Baked potato, salad, roll, dessert and tea/coffee will be the other items on the menu. Speaker for the evening will be former Texas Tech Coach, Spike Dykes. So make plans to get your tickets now, before they are all gone.

Other items discussed by the group were: Citizen of the Year Award which is given to an individual that has contributed to the Community through various civic activities or volunteer activities. Also, the Golden Heart Award which has been given the last few years to someone who is a role model for compassion and kindness to others.

The Annual Membership Drive was discussed and the time is near for payment of Chamber dues.

There will be a Panhandle Tourism Marketing Committee meeting held in Quitaque on Friday, April 4th. The meeting will be held at noon with members from all over the Panhandle of Texas visiting our town. More discussion on this event will be done at the next meeting.

The long awaited Quitaque brochures are going to print. Deanna Oberheu has finished a final copy of the brochure that was approved by Chamber vote. Hopefully, these will receive within the next few weeks for distribution.

More planning in the works for Main Street/Sidewalk enhancement project. Also, plans are ongoing for the locating/raising of the Ozark Trail Marker on Main Street.

Everyone is invited to join the Quitaque Chamber of Commerce. It takes everyone to help a community to thrive. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 6:15 p.m. at the Quitaque Community Center.

COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

On Wednesday, January 15, 2003, Valley School will be hosting a College Financial Aid Night. The meeting will be held in the school cafeteria from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Dave Corley from Panhandle Plains Higher Education Authority, along with other college representatives, will be present to provide important information about the college financial aid process. Parents of juniors and seniors are strongly encouraged to attend.

TPWD Receives Science/Math Education Award In Part For Outdoor Classroom Experience At Caprock Canyons State Park

A Texas Parks and Wildlife Department team has won an award for innovative use of state parks as outdoor laboratories for teachers and students.

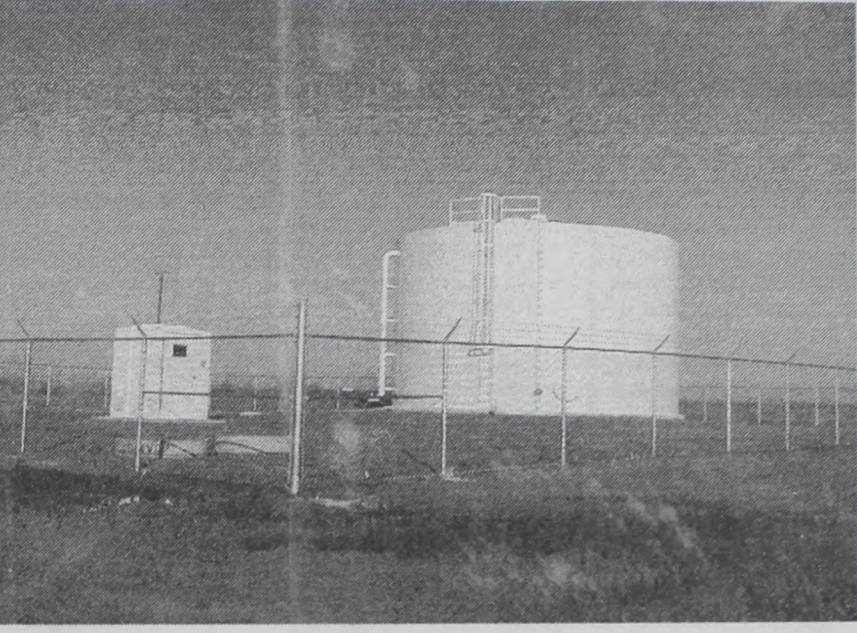
A partnership between TPWD and the Texas Rural Systemic Initiative, an organization that promotes rural science and math learning, was awarded the Texas Alliance Exemplary Partnership Award at this year's Governor's Conference on Science, Technology and Mathematics Education on November 19, 2002.

TRSI and TPWD received one of 12 exemplary partnership awards that are given every two years at the conference. They were recognized for collaborating to increase the use of informal science resources located near rural school districts to provide Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) aligned inquiry learning experiences.

As part of the program, teachers investigated history and culture at Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque and the surrounding region east of Lubbock. They also were trained to use scientific protocols for studying the environment at Caddo Lake State Park in northeast Texas. Teachers then took what they learned and generated field and classroom activities tied to the TEKS. Students and teachers followed with field trips to the parks to field-test the lessons.

"We were helping teachers to understand that we're an outdoor classroom and not just a place where they can picnic at the end of the year," said Deanna Oberheu, Caprock Canyons State Park assistant manager. "The teacher workshop was really good for me because it helped me understand how what we do here at the state park fits into their classroom requirements."

So far, the program has resulted in more school field trips to the parks and other local sites. In the future, project leaders will gather data to examine how the real world field experiences affected student performance in math and science. The lesson plans will be posted on the TPWD Web site, <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/>, as resources for other teachers using the parks.



This is the new Water Storage Tank erected recently by the City of Turkey. The monies for this project were obtained from a grant that the City had applied for. The new tank puts the City of Turkey back in compliance with TNRCC.

Sen. Robert Duncan Discusses 78th Legislative Goals For West Texas

Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, said on Monday January 6 the legislative goals for West Texas in this tight budget year should be to maintain funding for higher education, plan for water needs and reform the state's system of judicial selection.

"Higher education is a critical investment in our future," Duncan said. "The good news is enrollment is up; the bad news is we have to pay for it."

Instead of asking for additional funds, higher education leaders should focus on protecting the resources they now enjoy. An expected budget shortfall will make every dollar precious, Duncan said.

Evaluating future water needs is also important, both regionally and statewide.

"We must look years ahead to determine what water resources will be necessary to balance the needs of rural areas with those of urban areas," Duncan said.

But to ensure the effectiveness of laws protecting water investing in education or governing any number of important state issues, Texas must have a fair judiciary.

"A system of merit selection and retention elections would take the money out of this process," he said. "Until we fix this, tort reform issues will never be resolved."

Winner of the Highway 70 Association Christmas Lights Contest:
 Business Category
First United Methodist Church of Turkey
 Residential:
No Entries

GUESS WHAT??
THE VALLEY FFA COMMUNITY CALENDARS HAVE ARRIVED!
 YOU CAN PICK YOURS UP AT
TURKEY BRANCH, MEMPHIS STATE BANK

Girl Scouts Kick Off Annual Cookie Sale

For the last 67 of the organizations's 91 years, the Girl Scouts have been raising money to fund troop activities by selling cookies, an experience that helps girls build strong skills, values and friendships. This year marks the 66th Annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale, one of America's favorite and eagerly anticipated events.

Girl Scouts are excited to announce the return of two new cookies from last year, the *All-Abouts* and the *Ole' Ole'*. Each *All-About* cookie has a Girl Scout message embossed on the top and rich fudge coating on the bottom. The *Ole' Ole'* are reduced fat, bite-sized vanilla cookies with pecan chips, coconut and covered in powdered sugar. In addition, consumers will see the return of six Girl Scout Cookie favorites including the popular *Thin Mint*, *Original Samoa* (caramel and toasted coconut), *Aloha Chips* (white fudge, macadamia nuts), the *Tagalong* (layered peanut butter and chocolate), the *Do-Si-Do* (oatmeal peanut butter cream), and the *Trefoil* (shortbread).

Over 4000 Girl Scouts for the Caprock Council's eighteen county area are selling cookies now through March 9th. All cookies are priced at \$3 per package with all proceeds benefiting local Girl Scouts. **Cookies may be ordered via fax at 806-748-0769 or phone 806-745-2855.** For more information, contact Girl Scouts of Caprock Council at 806-745-2855. Proceeds benefit individual troop programs and Council initiatives.

Girl Scouts of the USA is the world's preeminent organization for girls with a membership of more than 3.6 million girls and adults. In Girl Scouting and its special girl-only environment girls discover the fun, friendship and power of girls together.

Calendar Of Events

January 9
 * Turkey City Council meeting @ 7 p.m.
 *WIC office in Silverton at FBC @ 9:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 *Briscoe County Jr. Livestock Show begins at Valley Show Barns

January 10
 *Briscoe County Jr Livestock Show continues
 *Valley vs Hedley, there @ 4 p.m. VG,VB
 *Valley vs Happy, there @ 5 p.m. JVB

January 11
 *Briscoe County Jr Livestock Show concludes
 *Valley Jr High at Motley County Tournament G,B

January 13
 * Turkey Lions Club meeting @ 7 p.m.
 *Valley Board of Trustees meeting
 * Quitaque City Council meeting @ 5 p.m.
 * Quitaque Fire Department meeting
 *Valley Jr High vs Silverton, there @ 5 p.m. G,B

January 14
 *We The Women meeting @ 12 noon
 *Do-Gooders Club meeting
 *Turkey Senior Citizens meeting @ 6 p.m.
 *Valley vs Groom, here @ 6:30 p.m. VG,VB
 * Valley JV vs Silverton, there @ 4 p.m. JVG, JVB

Briscoe County Junior Livestock Show This Weekend At Valley School

This weekend marks the start of a busy season for area FFA and 4-H members as they prepare their livestock for the Annual Briscoe County Livestock Show. Later this month they will travel to the Fort Worth Stock Show in February they go to San Antonio, and to Houston in March.

But for now, area youth have been working hard to get their animals ready for the show this weekend at the Vance Price Memorial Barn at Valley School. Anticipation is running high as participants eagerly await the judges decision, as he inspects all aspects of the hard work they have all put in on their animals over the past few months.

FFA and 4-H have long stood for community state and national values and pride, helped instill a strong work ethic and encouraged personal involvement in worthwhile community projects. They also encourage participation in annual project shows to showcase their achievements and accomplishments.

This year the steers, goats and sheep are to arrive at the Show Barn on Thursday, January 9. Weighing and sifting for sheep and goats will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and steers from 3-4 p.m. that day. Hogs are to arrive on Friday January 10. Weighing and sifting for hogs will be from 12 noon until 6 p.m. Friday. It is anticipated that there will be approximately 15 cattle, 20 sheep, 35 goats, and 130 pigs, both gilts and barrows entered in this years show.

The Steer Show will begin Thursday January 9 at 5 p.m. followed by the Sheep Show at 7 p.m. and then finishing up the evening with the Goat Show. The Hog Show will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, January 11. This year there will be a Gilt Show instead of a Prospect Barrow Show.

The Buyers Supper, presented by the Stock Show Association as a show of appreciation for show supporters, will be served at 5 p.m. on Saturday. Following this meal of appreciation the Awards Presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed up by the Premium Auction.

A concession stand will be available at the Show Barn during the Stock Show. Funds raised from this activity will help support the Valley FFA events, special activities and banquets.

Please show your support for these local youth organizations by attending this event.

Valley FCCLA To Make Memory Pillows & Your Help Is Needed

The Valley FCCLA Chapter and Family & Consumer Sciences classes are working on focusing on the family by honoring the senior citizens of our community.

The class is asking each senior citizen for clear pictures of family members that will be scanned and printed onto fabric to make Memory Pillows. Please leave your pictures at either the Turkey Branch Memphis State Bank or First National Bank of Quitaque. Each photo should have a note attached with your name and address so that the photos can be returned along with a small pillow.

Here's A Texas You Can Mess With!
 Page 3
 The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD (Mess with it all you want)
 The Texas Crossword Puzzle proudly sponsored every week by:
THE SPORTSMAN CAFE
 Quitaque, TEXAS 1-806-455-1200

Message to Public Upon Retiring from Public Office

It seems that I looked up and suddenly it was time for me to retire. It may sound trite, but I don't know where the years went!

I will forever have a debt of gratitude to my fellow Hall Countians for giving me the honor and pleasure of serving you in public office for these many years.

I have been doubly blessed by having had guidance, wisdom and assistance of hard working and dedicated county commissioners to work with in operating the governmental business of Hall County's citizens.

It has been and will remain a struggle for the smaller and rural county governments to meet growing expenses with a tax base that is not growing, just as it is with the budget of a family, small business, farm or ranch to keep up with growing bills with a smaller income.

I am especially proud of the fact that with the help and hard work of the county commissioners, the other elected officials and their staffs, that I am leaving office with the finances in good shape.

I know that my successor and the new and returning commissioners will continue to conduct the County's business to the very best of their abilities, and they go forward with my most sincere best hopes, wishes and support.

You will have to do that, because you will be serving a group of the greatest people in this state and country, which Phyllis and I remain full-fledged members of; The Citizens of Hall County, Texas
God Bless,
Kenneth E. Dale

OBITUARIES

Lucile W. Smith

Memorial services for Lucile W. Smith, 79, of Quitaque were held Friday, January 3, 2003 at Main Street Church of Christ in Lockney with F.L. Montandou and Bill Sherman officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Moore-Rose-White Funeral Home of Lockney, TX.

Mrs. Smith died Tuesday, December 31, 2002 at her residence in Quitaque.

She was born on January 24, 1923 in Briscoe County to the late George Franklin Weast and Myrtle Lee Davis Weast. She attended schools in South Plains and graduated from high school in Silvertown in 1939. She attended West Texas State University in Canyon and graduated from the University of Texas in 1942. She married Robert Lee Smith on August 14, 1943 in Tampa, Florida. He preceded her in death on February 10, 1988. She lived in Lockney for 37 years, 1943-1980; in Ruidoso from 1980-1999 and in Quitaque from 1999 to present.

Survivors include: one son, David Smith of Santa Fe, NM; three daughters, Sandy Etigson of Ruidoso, NM, Karla Gilliland of Baird and Robin Boedeker of Quitaque; one sister, Mrs. June Evans of Amarillo; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Lockney Public Library, the Quitaque Public Library or the Ruidoso Public Library.

Travis "Shady" Bynum

Travis "Shady" Bynum, 65, of Amarillo, former resident of Flomot, died Sunday, December 29, 2002 in Angel Fire, NM. Services were Tuesday, December 31 in the First Baptist Church in Dumas with the Rev. Eddie Tubbs, pastor and Brent Clark, family friend, officiating. Burial was in Northlawn Memorial Gardens by Morrison Funeral Directors.

Mr. Bynum was born November 30, 1937 in Flomot and attended Flomot Schools. He was owner and operator of Jack Oldham Oil. He married Sandy Bynum on December 7, 1957 in Hereford. He was a Dumas resident since 1968 moving from Sunray. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Dumas. His leisure time was dedicated to his grandchildren and family.

He was preceded in death by his father, Floyd Bynum and a brother, Troy Bynum.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Rick Bynum of Dumas and Shannon Bynum of Pflugerville; two daughters, Quinn Black and Lynn Davis of Dumas; his mother, Othel Bynum of Dumas; three sisters, Lou Nell Kanady of Kerrville, Veda Voyles of New Deal and Laquetta Herron of Paris and eight grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be to the American Heart Association or the First Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 617, Dumas, TX 79029.

Elsie Fay Grant Huffines

Elsie Fay Grant Huffines, longtime resident of Turkey, passed away on January 4, 2003, at the age of 96 in her daughter's home in Dripping Springs, TX.

Elsie Fay Grant moved to the Turkey area to teach in a one room schoolhouse where she met and married D.J. Huffines. During her years in Turkey, Fay was an active member of the community serving as a Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church, and tending to her garden, flowers, birds, and fish.

She is survived by her daughter Hilda Huffines Lawrence, her granddaughter and spouse, Ted and Brenda Strahan, great granddaughter Bethany Strahan, great granddaughter and spouse Amy Strahan-Butler and Thomas Butler, great great granddaughter Chloe Strahan, and several nieces and nephews.



Valley Tribune,
When we attended the Turkey Homecoming we visited the Cemetery also. I wanted to thank the person or persons that placed the flags at the Veterans graves, I have a Veteran brother buried there.
Yours truly,
Joyce (Irby) Meacham
Midland, TX

E-Mail
The Valley Tribune
vtaylor@caprock-spur.com

Never test the depth of a river with both feet.
—African adage

MEMBER 2003

TPA

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

THE VALLEY TRIBUNE
Successor to The Quitaque Tribune, Established at Quitaque in 1960
Published Every Thursday at Quitaque, Texas 79255
Vince F. Taylor, Owner/Publisher
Laura Taylor, Editor
Earlyne Jameson, Reporter

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POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO
THE VALLEY TRIBUNE, BOX 478, QUITAQUE, TEXAS 79255
(806)-455-1101

THE VALLEY TRIBUNE OBITUARY POLICY
The policy of The Valley Tribune has always been to print obituaries in a standard format. If you wish an obituary to contain information other than the standard, it will be placed in a display format, and charged accordingly.

Tact is the art of making a point without making an enemy.
—Anonymous

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Happy Birthday

January 9
Sid McFall, Cole Brown, Clint Townsley
January 10
Andrew Cruz, David Paul Majors
January 11
Olga Thibodeaux, Michael Dickman, Melvin Clinton, Stacy Price, Jason Smith
January 12
Weldon Griffin, John David Harmon, Deana Oberheu, Natalie Nicole Fierro, Hal Fuston, Jay Proctor, Stacy Wilson
January 13
Danny Barrett, Bonnie Mott, James Cox, Courtney Boyles, Frances Wheeler
January 14
Jake Merrell, Trey Smith
January 15
Ashley Smith, Ryan Jenkins, Reynaldo Galvan, Cindy Will Macrum
January 16
Dot Arnold

Happy Anniversary

January 13
Mr & Mrs Pete Blankenship
Mr & Mrs Brent Campbell
January 16
Mr & Mrs Clyde Dudley

PRIVACY ~ SECURITY

~ PEACE OF MIND ~

Some things are priceless!
(Your grandfather's watch, Your grandmother's heirloom necklace or jewelry, Valuable coins, A letter or picture!)

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(Stocks ~ Bonds ~ Abstracts ~ Deeds ~ Contracts)

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QUITAQUE

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The Valley Tribune
FLO
No matter what today, my good...
A December...
Strong, dry, p...
day, January 1st...
temperatures...
Harvest activity...
remain good with...
We thank the...
and total year...
Buzza Th...
Kelly Meyer...
Northfield, De...
Dec. - 1.10, total...
total for 2002 - 19...

Holiday visitors...
of Calgar, Canada...
were Michael Ker...
ing. Local visitors...
their son, Wes Sta...
Luncheon guests...
ber 31 were child...
Jeremy, Amy, Cati...
and Donna Sue De...
ton, Morris and L...
planned home from...
during the holiday...
Attending the...
mas Tuesday, Dec...
Waydette Clay, La...
Bobby and Kay Cl...
served as pallbear...
Mr. and Mrs. Buz...
of San Antonio visi...
L.E. Shorter. Salm...
also visited Mr. an...
Mr. and Mrs. Ja...
and Mrs. Jay Kenne...
Amarillo, Thursday...
Jackie Lynn Davis...
Clifton Reid and Ch...
Visitors of Mr. an...
Donna Sue Degan o...
ton. Visiting them...
Springs.
Julie and Dusty V...
sister, Mrs. Ginny M...
Mackey McEntire of...
book.
Holiday guests of...
families, Lucretia...
Kayla and Neil Guest...
Mrs. Johnson accomp...
met her mother for...
Mr. and Mrs. Stan...
and Mrs. Tom Ross...
Elaine Ross to her ho...
Mrs. Chris Ross, Meg...
tractions and restaura...

★ COOKIN...
★ HEATIN...
★ WATER...
★ MOTOR...
PR...
ENERGY...
Roar...

BEST LIT...
ARVIS...
1800 F. NW...
2000 Ta...
Locally Owned...
Leather, All th...
with Res...
2001 SS Ma...
One Owner, Lo...
Options, Leath...
1992 RED C...
2 Doc...
A Nice C...
Low Miles, Auton...
1994 Ca...
Sedan D...
Talk abo...
Nice Leather...
2001 Ma...
White Progra...
Low Mil...
940-937-6...
HOU...
MON...

FLOMOT NEWS
BY EARLYNE JAMESON

Cooks Corner
By Virginia Sailsbury

THE SPORTSMAN CAFE

Table with daily specials: TUESDAY Your Choice Chicken or Beef Quesadillas; WEDNESDAY Mexican Food All the Trimmings; THURSDAY Plate Lunch Veg. & Hot Rolls; FRIDAY - NOON All You Can Eat Catfish, Codfish or Shrimp; FRIDAY - NIGHT Chicken or Beef Fajitas; SATURDAY - NOON Chicken Fried Steak, Beans & Cornbread; SATURDAY - NIGHT Bar-B-Q Ribs & Sausage; SUNDAY Plate Lunch Veg. & Hot Rolls

Monday CAFE - CLOSED MONDAY BAR OPENS 6:00 p.m. till Midnight
CAFE - OPEN Tuesday - Saturday HOURS 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
BAR - OPENS Tuesday - Friday Noon - Midnight Saturday - Noon to 1:00 a.m. Sunday - Noon to 3:00 p.m.

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OVERHEARD

No matter what looms ahead, if you can eat today, enjoy the sunlight today, mix good cheer with friends today, enjoy it and bless God for it. A December Pre-Holiday Winter Storm In Motley County Strong, dry, gusting northwest winds escorted in the New Year Wednesday, January 1st. A pre-holiday winter storm of snow, freezing rains and temperatures December 23 - 24 left strippers idle due to wet cotton fields. Harvest activity expected to increase during the week. Cattle conditions remain good with supplemental feeding. We thank the Motley County Weather Service Volunteers for monthly and total year recorded moisture. Buzz Thacker, Roaring Springs, Dec. - 1.94, total for 2002 - 21.05 inches; Kelly Meyer, Matador, Dec. - 1.82, total for 2002 - 22.78; Betty Simpson, Northfield, Dec. - 1.63, total for 2002 - 22.84; Jim Stockton, Whiteflat, Dec. - 1.10, total for 2002 - 23.35; Tommie Jo Cruse, Flomot, Dec. - 1.62, total for 2002 - 19.00.

It's the new year, and more than half of us are on some kind of diet to try to lose those Christmas pounds. Since the recent positive news about the Atkin's Diet, I know lots of people who are "doing" that one, but for those of you who prefer low-fat, reduced calorie diets, here are some recipes you might like to try. Jambalaya Pasta, Sweet and Sour Beets, and Peachy Applesauce Salad are all low in fat and calories and high on taste. You probably wouldn't want to serve them together, but try including one with your next dinner.

***** Holiday visitors of M.C. and Barbara Jones were Salt and Susan Jones of Calgary, Canada and Pepper Jones of Austin. Also spending one day were Michael Kern, Holly and Steven of Plano and Zachary Kern of Irving. Local visitors were Mary Ellen Barton, Lynn and Judy Stark and their son, Wes Stark of Del Rio.

JAMBALAYA PASTA 1/2 cup each chopped onion, green pepper and red bell pepper 1/3 cup chopped celery 1 tablespoon butter or margarine 1 can (14 1/2 oz.) Italian diced tomatoes, undrained 1 can (14 1/2 oz.) chicken broth 2/3 cup sliced fresh mushrooms 1 teaspoon dried basil 3 bay leaves 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder 1/4 teaspoon pepper 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper 8 ounces spiral pasta 2 cups cubed cooked chicken, turkey or pork In a skillet, saute onion, peppers and celery in butter until tender. Stir in tomatoes, broth, mushrooms and seasonings. Bring to a boil; reduce heat. Cover and simmer for 15-20 minutes. Meanwhile, cook pasta according to package directions. Add meat to tomato mixture; heat through. Drain pasta; add to skillet. Discard bay leaves. Makes 8 servings.

Luncheon guests in the home of Mrs. Leona Degan, Tuesday, December 31 were children and families, Mrs. Sheila Gilbert, son and family, Jeremy, Amy, Caitlyn and Alexander of Jacksonville, Alabama, Stanley and Donna Sue Degan of Calgary, Dane Degan and son, Kyler of Crosbyton, Morris and Lou Degan of Medicine Mound. The Gilbert family enplaned home from Lubbock Airport, Wednesday morning after visiting during the holidays.

SWEET AND SOUR BEETS 1/2 cup water 1/4 cup vinegar 2 teaspoons cornstarch 4 teaspoons sugar 2 cups sliced cooked beets In a saucepan, combine water, vinegar and cornstarch; bring to a boil. Cook and stir for 1-2 minutes; remove from heat. Add sugar and beets. Let stand for at least 1 hour. Heat through just before serving. Serves 4.

Attending the funeral services of Travis "Shady" Bynum held in Dumas Tuesday, December 31 were Joe Ike and Anna Beth Clay, Ronald and Waydetta Clay, Larry Clay and Billy Shannon. Joining them there were Bobby and Kay Clay of Ringling, Oklahoma. Joe Ike, Ronald and Bobby served as pallbearers.

PEACHY APPLESAUCE SALAD 1 cup diet 7-UP or Sprite 1 package (.3 oz.) peach or mixed fruit sugar-free Jello 1 cup unsweetened applesauce 2 cups fat-free Cool Whip 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg 1/8 teaspoon vanilla 1/2 cup canned peaches, chopped In a saucepan, bring soda to a boil. Remove from heat; stir in gelatin until dissolved. Add applesauce; chill until partially set. Fold in Cool Whip, nutmeg and vanilla. Fold in peaches. Chill until firm Serves 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Rhoads and twin daughters, Kathryn and Kraysten of San Antonio visited January 1-4 with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Shorter. Salina Elliott of Floydada visited the family, Friday. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter.

More low-fat recipes next week, in fact, all during January. Then, in February, we'll bake some outstanding goodies for our sweeties. We'll probably be off our diets by then, anyway!

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Starkey visited in Higgins last weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Jay Kennedy, Tonya and Jackie Starkey. Jack and Nada were in Amarillo, Thursday for her an optical appointment. Their daughter, Mrs. Jackie Lynn Davis of Fritch met them there and they visited Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Reid and Christina.

If you have relative or friends in the armed forces, take time to send them a card, letter, or a box of homemade cookies. They need to know we remember them as they defend us far from home. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers, Tuesday were daughter, Mrs. Donna Sue Degan of Calgary and Dane Degan and son, Kyler of Crosbyton. Visiting them Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hand of Roaring Springs.

Julie and Dusty Whitaker visited the holidays in Fort Worth with her sister, Mrs. Ginny McMinn. Other guests were their parents, Kathy and Mackey McEntire of Sterling City and sister, Monica McEntire of Lubbock.

Holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Johnson were daughters and families, Lucretia and Breck Dockery and daughter, Brittany of Vernon, Kayla and Neil Guest of Turkey. Brittany remained to visit and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson accompanied her to Childress Sunday afternoon where she met her mother for their return trip home.

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Wigley of Lubbock accompanied her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross and their holiday houseguest, granddaughter, Alea Elaine Ross to her home in Castroville, Monday. They visited her family, Mrs. Chris Ross, Megan, Cheyenne and Ciara. They enjoyed tourist attractions and restaurants in San Antonio and returned home Wednesday. *****

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a map of Texas in the background.

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2001 SS Monte Carlo One Owner, Loaded with Options, Leather, Power	1998 Chevrolet Suburban One Owner, Low 40s, Lt. Leather, Nice
1992 RED Cavalier 2 Door A Nice Car, Low Miles, Automatic Trans.	(2) 2002 Program Suburbans Loaded with Options, 22,101 Miles
1994 Cadillac Sedan Deville Talk about a Nice Leather Car!!!!	1999 Bonneville Loaded, One Owner, Lots of Miles Left
2001 Malibu White Program Car, Low Miles	1997 Ford Pickup Reg. Cab w/camper, 5 speed, & Cylinder Motor

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Peggy Woods
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Clinton Pigg
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Gladys Hanna
Arnold Johnson-Flomot, TX
Edith Washington-Flomot, TX
Bill D. Washington-Lockney, TX
Norma D. Welch-Lockney, TX
Rickey Lawrence-Matador, TX
Buzz Thacker-Roaring Springs, TX
Stewart McCracken-Tulia, TX

January Non-Local Subscriptions Due
~\$21.50 Per Year~

Bulah Landry-Amarillo TX
Fred Davidson-Amarillo, TX
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W.W. Yarbrough-Amarillo, TX
Warren Chisum-Pampa, TX
Faye Crosby-Lubbock, TX
Lottie Everhart-Odessa, TX
Bessie Thrasher-Girard, TX
Jackie Esnard-Plano, TX
Beverly Morris-Hamshire, TX
House of Rep Speaker Offic-Austin, TX
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Sunny Delight 99¢ Assorted 64 oz. bitl.	Frozen Items 2\$5	Sun Ultra 2\$5 128 oz. Liquid or 56 oz. Reg. or 28 oz. 8-Pack Powder
Parkay 89¢ 16 oz. Reg. Low Fat Quarters, 16 oz. Reg. Spread Two-8 oz. Reg. Tubes	Novelties 2\$9	Cottage Cheese 2\$39 Cottage Cheese 4% Milk
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The Patriot

NEWS OF AND ABOUT VALLEY SCHOOL

Lady Patriots Jump To 2-0 District Start

The Lady Patriots opened up district play last Friday at McLean. Valley responded with a 73-28 victory. The Lady Pats were led by Natalie Wheeler with 36 points, followed by Katherine Pigg with 21 points. Scarlett Sperry added 5 points and pulled down several key rebounds. Strong defensive performances were turned in by Amanda Roys, Chelsea Wheeler, and Natasha Ramos.

Tuesday night the Silverton Lady Owls came to Valley to renew a strong district rivalry. The first quarter saw the Lady Patriots jump to a 15-11 lead. The second quarter saw the Lady Patriots exploding for 21 points to post a 36-19 halftime lead. Valley continued in the second half with a strong offensive performance to come away with a 74-44 victory and a 2-0 start in district. Valley was led by Natalie Wheeler with 28 points followed by Amanda Roys with 20, Amanda's points included 5 3-pointers. Katherine Pigg added 11 points and double digit rebounds and also had several blocked shots. Chelsea Wheeler had 8 points and did a good job handling the ball and playing defense.

The Lady Patriots next travel to Hedley to play the #1 ranked Lady Owls.

Youth Essay Contest Again Seeks Horned Toad Memories

When Texas Parks and Wildlife Department asked, "What's happened to horned lizards in your town?" last year, the answers and remembrances poured in. Now TPWD is seeking answers from more Texans by offering a second year of the Hometown Horned Toads essay contest.

"The 2002 Hometown Horned Toads essay contest was every bit as successful as we hoped it could be," notes Lee Ann Linam, Texas Horned Lizard Watch coordinator with TPWD. "However, we would still like to hear from any other parts of the state."

The first essay contest attracted more than 220 entries from 44 counties around the state. Students used interviews with local residents and researched local records to hypothesize when and why the popular Texas horned lizard, or horned toad declined in their communities. The majority of the essays suggested that the official state reptile began declining in the 1970's and 1980's, with red imported fire ants, urbanization, and pesticide use suggested as the major causes of decline.

The 2002-03 contest is open to Texas students in three age groups with the authors of the top three essays in each division receiving outdoor learning kits valued at as much as \$100. The top ten essays in each age group will also receive a horned lizard souvenir. The best classroom or group effort in each age group will win as much as \$1,000 to cover expenses or a field trip to a TPWD Wildlife Management Area and a horned lizard souvenir for their classroom.

Prizes will be awarded based on a combination of criteria, including thoroughness of investigation, number of people interviewed, number of local written sources accessed and quality of presentation, including historical perspective, scientific analysis, neatness and creativity.

Students should conduct interviews of local residents who have interesting memories of horned lizards and research local historical reports, such as newspaper articles, crop records and aerial photographs that might shed light on the history and ecology of the horned lizard. In counties where Texas horned lizards have declined, the overall goal should be to document when and perhaps why horned toads disappeared.

Students in grades 3-5 will submit a 2-3 page paper. Students in grades 6-8 will submit a typed 3-6 page paper and students in grades 9-12 will submit a typed 5-8 page paper. Deadline for submission is March 1. Submissions will be judged by participation organizations including TPWD's Wildlife Diversity Branch, Texas Historical Commission, Texas Cooperative Extension Service and the Horned Lizard Observation Society. Prizes will be awarded to winners by May 1.

For more information about Hometown Horned Toads essay contest or to receive a set of participant guidelines, visit <http://www.tpud.state.tx.us/htht> or call 612-912-7011. Adults who would like to submit a memory of horned lizards can also visit the above Web page.

Austin Rally To Be Held In Opposition Of TAAS/TAKS Test

Texans for Quality Assessment is planning a rally to be held on the south steps of the Capitol Building in Austin on Saturday, January 25th at 3 p.m. The purpose of the rally is to show opposition to the current state mandated testing system (TAAS/TAKS) and to support the upcoming legislation (House Bill 2570 and House Bill 2118) calling for multiple criteria to be used in promotion and graduation decisions in Texas public schools.

Texans for Quality Assessment is a group from across the state who seek high quality public education and the correct way to evaluate and assess student learning, teacher and school quality. The group is made up of teachers, parents, professors, educational researchers, school board members and others who feel that a high-stakes standardized test is an inappropriate way to evaluate students, teachers and schools.

Anyone concerned about the new TAKS test should voice their concerns with their legislators and attend the rally at the Capitol on January 25th.

For more information visit www.texastesting.org or contact your local Texans for Quality Assessment representative Kay Donna Wolfcale at 806-259-2662.



Last Week In Texas History!

Jan. 1, 1863
Galveston retaken for the Confederacy by General John B. Magruder.

Jan. 1, 1882
Charles B. and Jon V. Farrell of Chicago agree to build the Capitol and accepted, as payment, three million acres of land.

Jan. 1, 1937
The first Cotton Bowl game was played. TCU represented the SWC.

Jan. 2, 1856
Camp Cooper established on the Clear Fork of the Brazos River in Throckmorton County to protect the reservation Indians living there. It was abandoned by Union Forces, February 21, 1861.

Jan. 3, 1834
Stephen F. Austin arrested by Mexican authorities on a mission for the Convention of 1833. He did not return to Texas until September 1, 1835.

Jan. 3, 1864
Francis Herron assumed command of Union troops stationed along the Rio Grande.

Jan. 4, 1823
Imperial Colonization Law signed by Iturbide of Mexico, thereby permitting Moses Austin to settle 300 families in Texas.

Jan. 5, 1861
Mob destroyed the printing office of *Die Union* in Galveston.

Jan. 6, 1882
Sam Rayburn born in Roane County, Tennessee, served as Speaker of the Texas House 1911-1912, Speaker of the US House of Representatives for 17 years until his death, November 16, 1961.

Jan. 8, 1870
Edmund J. Davis elected Texas' first Republican governor.

WANTED LOCAL NEWS

If you have news you would like in *Turkey Talk* you can call or fax it to The Valley Tribune at 806-455-1101 or drop it in our folder at Turkey City Hall. On The QT news may be dropped off at The Valley Tribune, by using our door mail slot or you can call or fax it to 806-455-1101. Remember, this keeps all the folks that live out of town up to date on local happenings!

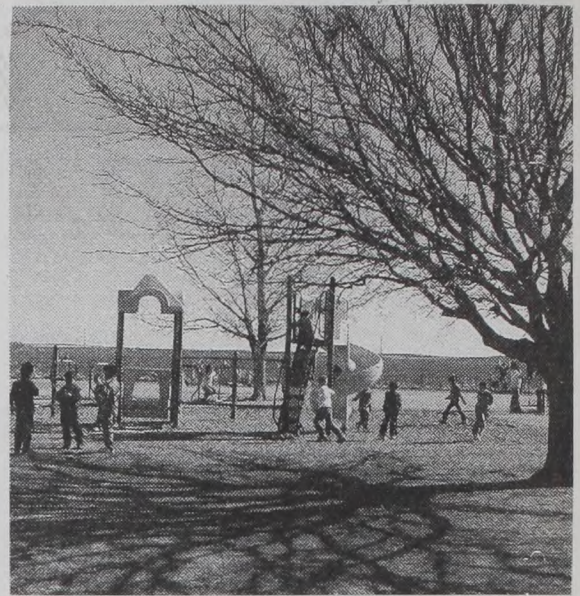
SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

Menu Subject To Change
Monday, January 13
Breakfast: Biscuits, Sausage OJ/Milk
Lunch: Frito Chili Pie, Cheese, Pickles, Fruit, Milk
Tuesday, January 14
Breakfast: Donuts, OJ/Milk
Lunch: Chicken Noodle Soup, Crackers, Salad, Fruit, Milk
Wednesday, January 15
Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, OJ/Milk
Lunch: Steak Fingers, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Honey, Milk
Thursday, January 16
Breakfast: Breakfast on a Stick, OJ/Milk
Lunch: Ham & Cheese Hoagies, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Chips, Fruit, Brownies, Milk
Friday, January 17
Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, OJ/Milk
Lunch: Corn Dogs, Tater Tots, Pork & Beans, Cookies Milk

Quitaque Weather Forecast for Next 9 Days

		High / Low (°F)	Precip. %
Thu Jan 09	Partly Cloudy / Wind	54° / 29°	0%
Fri Jan 10	Mostly Sunny	47° / 27°	0%
Sat Jan 11	Mostly Cloudy	44° / 28°	20%
Sun Jan 12	Light Snow	44° / 26°	40%
Mon Jan 13	Mostly Sunny	52° / 29°	0%
Tue Jan 14	Partly Cloudy	59° / 28°	0%
Wed Jan 15	Partly Cloudy	52° / 26°	10%
Thu Jan 16	Partly Cloudy	50° / 25°	0%
Fri Jan 17	Partly Cloudy	54° / 28°	0%

Last Updated Wednesday, January 8, 2003, at 2:33 AM Central Standard Time (Wednesday, 3:33 AM EST)



Students at Valley School enjoy the warm weather on Wednesday as temperatures were in the 70's.

New Office Addresses For U.S. Representative Mac Thornberry

U.S. Representative Mac Thornberry (TX-13) would like area residents to know that he has new office addresses in Amarillo and Washington, D.C.

Thornberry's new address in Amarillo is 905 South Fillmore, Suite 520, Amarillo, TX 79101. The phone number for the Amarillo office remains the same - (806) 371-8844. In Washington, Thornberry's address is now 2457 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515. The phone number for the Washington office also remains the same. - (202) 225-3706.

Thornberry's office address and phone number in Wichita Falls remain unchanged - 4245 Kemp, Suite 315, Wichita falls, TX 76308, phone (940) 692-1700.

Thornberry can also be contacted through his website at www.house.gov/thornberry.

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Fred Thayer & Dianne Washington
Certified Public Accountants

111 Main St. Quitaque, Tx. ~ 1-806-455-1087
Dianne is in the Quitaque office on Thursday's! 9-5
710 Bailey Matador, Tx. ~ 1-806-347-2636
122 E. Calif. Floydada, Tx. ~ 1-806-983-3121
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~ GRANDPARENTS ~ PARENTS ~
~ SWEETHEARTS ~

VALENTINE'S DAY IS ON IT'S WAY!
GET YOUR SWEETHEART'S PICTURE IN

THE VALLEY TRIBUNE'S

VALENTINE'S SWEETHEART PAGE

DEADLINE FOR PICTURES IS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2003

Your Valentine's picture will appear in the
Thursday, February 13, 2003
Edition of The Valley Tribune

TO PLACE YOUR SWEETHEART'S PICTURE ON
THE VALLEY TRIBUNE SWEETHEART PAGE SEND
\$10 DOLLARS WITH EACH PICTURE TO BE PLACED,
ALONG WITH A SELF ADRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE
(IF YOU WANT YOUR PICTURE RETURNED) TO

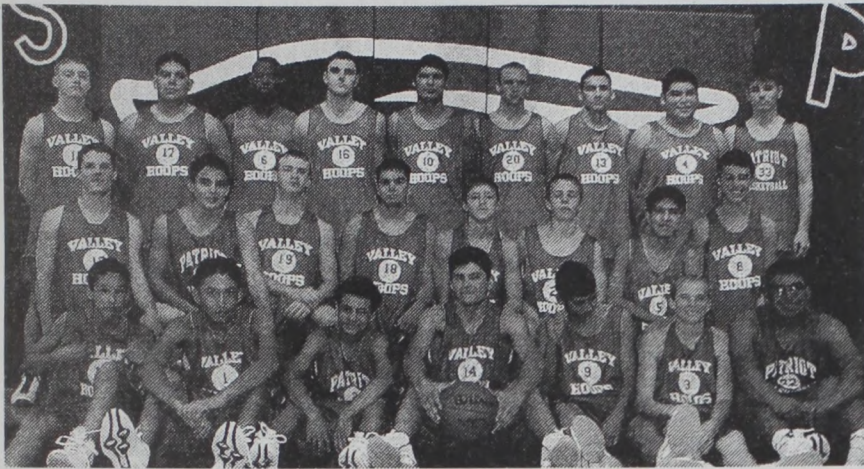
THE VALLEY TRIBUNE
P.O. BOX 478
QUITAQUE, TX. 79255 OR
THEY MAY BE E-MAILED TO vtaylor@caprock-spur.com

The Valley Trib...
 VALLEY F...
 Date
 December 9
 December 9
 December 16
 January 6
 January 11
 January 13
 January 20
 January 27
 February 1
 February 3
 February 3
 Wilb...
 M...
 Turkey
 Quita...

VALLEY PATRIOTS BASKETBALL



2002 - 2003 Valley Basketball Schedule



VALLEY PATRIOT 2002-2003 J.V. & Varsity Boy's Basketball Team



Date	Opponent	Place	Time	Teams
December 5-7	Patton Springs Tournament			VG, VB
December 5-7	Clarendon JV Tournament			JVG, JVB
December 9	Clarendon	Home	8:00	JVB
December 10	Motley County	Away	4:00	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
December 12-14	Spur Tournament			VG, VB
December 17	Jayton	Away	4:00	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
December 20	Chillicothe	Home	4:00	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
December 26-28	Silverton Tournament			VG, VB
December 30	Chillicothe	Away	4:00	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
January 3	McLean*	Away	6:30	VG, VB
January 6	Clarendon	Home	7:30	JVB
January 7	Silverton*	Home	4:00	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
January 10	Hedley*	Away	6:30	VG, VB
January 10	Happy	Away	5:00	JVB
January 14	Groom*	Home	6:30	VG, VB
January 14	Silverton	Away	4:00	JVG, JVB
January 17	Samnorwood*	Away	6:30	VG, VB
January 21	McLean*	Home	5:00	JVB, VG, VB
January 24	Silverton*	Away	4:00	JVG, JVB, VG, VB
January 25	Valley Tournament			JVG, JVB
January 28	Hedley*	Home	6:30	VG, VB
January 28	Happy	Home	5:00	JVB
January 31	Groom*	Away	6:30	VG, VB
February 4	Samnorwood*	Home	6:30	VG, VB
February 4	Silverton	Home	5:00	JVB

2002-2003 Valley Basketball Junior High Schedule

Date	Opponent	Place	Time	Teams
December 9	Patton Springs	Home	5:00	G, B
December 9	Nazareth	Home	7:00	G
December 16	McLean	Away	5:00	G, B
January 6	Olton	Home	5:00	G, B
January 11	Motley County Tournament			G, B
January 13	Silverton	Away	5:00	G, B
January 20	Patton Springs	Away	5:00	G, B
January 27	Silverton	Home	5:00	G, B
February 1	Valley Tournament			G, B
February 3	Spur	Home	5:00	G, B
February 3	Nazareth	Home	7:00	G



VALLEY PATRIOT 2002-2003 J.V. & Varsity Girl's Basketball Team

Wilburn & Zelda Leeper

Valley Booster Club

Midway Drive-In
Memorial Day to Labor Day

Oden Chevrolet
Floydada, TX 806-983-3787

Turkey General Store
Turkey, TX 423-1330

Paymaster Gin
Quitaque, TX 455-1440

Mayfield & Associates
Lubbock, TX 800-527-1870

Merrell Food
Quitaque, TX 455-1282

Valley Farm Store
Quitaque, TX 455-1105
Jim & Barbara

Carson Insurance
Turkey, TX 423-1289
Pat & Tina

Lacy Dry Goods
Turkey, TX 423-1155

Flomot Gin
Flomot, TX 469-5294

City Bank Silverton
Silverton, TX 823-2426
Member FDIC

Turkey Branch Memphis State Bank
Turkey, TX 423-1321
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Quitaque Producers Co-op
Quitaque, TX 455-1388

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Laura's Shop
Turkey, TX 423-1222

Jack's Automotive
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Jack, Debbie, Jamie, Richard, Ryan, & Jessica Wellman

Caprock Cafe
Quitaque, TX 455-1429

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Quitaque, TX 455-1410

Karol's Kountry Korner
Quitaque, TX 455-1174

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Matador, TX 347-2445

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The Sportsman Bar & Grill
Quitaque, TX 455-1200

Red Ball Gin
Roaring Springs, TX 806-348-7221

Caprock Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
Spur, TX 1-800-692-4242

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Bryan, Shadi, Kameron, & Kennadee Buchanan

Jerry & Brenda Smith

Galvan's Resturant
Turkey, TX 423-1320

Jimmy & Clara Ruth Davidson

Payne Family Pharmacy
Floydada, TX 800-345-7961

Valley Peanut Growers
Turkey, TX 423-1484

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Floydada, TX 806-983-3767

Silverton Oil Co.
Silverton, TX 823-2451

Lee's Insurance
Turkey, TX 423-1020

Caprock Cellular
Spur, TX 806-271-3344

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455-1087 Quitaque, TX 983-3121

Caprock Home Center
Quitaque, TX 455-1193
Jim & Misti Messer-Roland & Donna Hamilton

City of Turkey
423-1033

The Valley Tribune
Quitaque, TX 455-1101

First National Bank
Quitaque, TX 455-1441
Member FDIC

Johnson Gin
Silverton, TX, 806-823-2224

"TEXUN TAWK"

Observations Of Life From A Fellow Texan
By Bill Sperry

Well, I'm Really Miffed

I just drove 1,852 miles from Cleveland, Ohio to Silver City New Mexico, pulling a trailer that had a mind of it's own, as it wanted up front where my trusty 'ole pickup was working it's head off, trying to stay ahead of it. Left the frozen tundra with the snow beginning to fly, knowing a front was coming across the country and figured that if I could make Oklahoma City I would have it shaded.

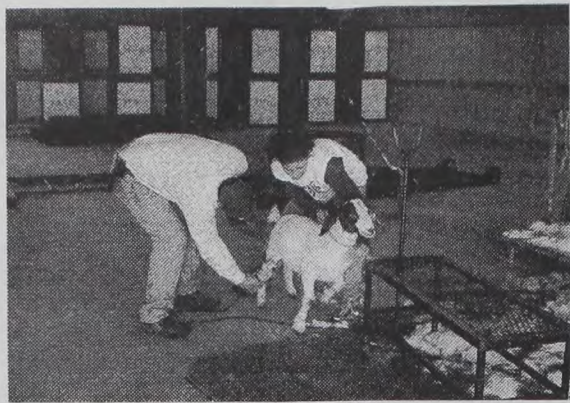
Is everyone aware how many trucks are on our highways? There's a passel of them out there and I think they were all serious about asking my life! I felt like a kid on a playground playing dodge ball and I was it. You sit there, all pinched up, looking like a tree full of young owls, trying to read the signs and stay out of the way and still stay within the speed limit that no one was observing but me. Those trucks were passing me like bullets and the air of them was really making that trailer dance.

I got to Oklahoma City and it was starting to sleet and then it began to snow. Heading toward good 'ole Amarillo it got bad. A truck came around me and that trailer decided it wanted up front again and we slid down that four lane and I finally got it gathered up. It was time to get off the road as those trucks were beginning to slide off the road and several turned over. Spent a coupla' days in a motel, getting my courage back and waited for the road to thaw out. Got to New Mexico and came through a range of mountains that had so many switch backs that I seen the back of that trailer twice, I know. There's so many hills and mountains in New Mexico that if you ironed them out I think the state would be the same size as Texas.

I finally got to where I was going and got settled in. I was sick of looking at signs and dodging and staying within the speed limit that I was numb. Got settled in my job and everything seemed to be O.K. Here's the ripper. Going to work on a really pretty day, I got a ticket for, NOT WEARING MY SEATBELT! I cajoled and talked to that trooper and asked him how he was doing and how his family was and he just kept on writin'. I know they have a job to do but where was he when those trucks were on the war path out there on those highways? I know all the reasons for wearing a seat belt, but somehow it just didn't seem right. I guess I'm gonna have to wear that thing all the time or get myself some shirts with a stripe running across them to fool 'um.

RIM ROCK CANYON

By Clint Harmon



This sheep is getting sheared in preparation for the Briscoe County Jr. Stock Show to be held this weekend at the Vance Price Memorial Show Barn at Valley School.

WTAMU Scholarship Deadline Approaching

The West Texas A&M University scholarship committee is encouraging new and continuing students to start thinking about applying for University scholarships. The application deadline is February 1, 2003 for fall 2003 and spring 2004 semesters.

Applicants must complete an application, provide a current transcript and two letters of recommendation to be considered for a scholarship.

Scholarship committee members say it is important to plan early to apply for scholarships, especially if they are requesting letters of recommendation from professors.

Students are encouraged to apply for scholarships on-line at www.wtamu.edu under the "Prospective Students" link.

Scholarships are available to WTAMU students, transfer students, and entering freshmen. For more information, call 806-651-2097.

Donkey Basketball Is Coming To Matador January 16

America's craziest and most unpredictable sport - Donkey Basketball - will be featured at the Matador gym at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 16. The teams will be made up of faculty/staff and ex-students. The Circle A Donkey Ball Show will bring their combination of circus atmosphere and rodeo thrills to town for the benefit of the Motley County Jr. Class of '04.

The old saying, "stubborn as a mule," will be exemplified when the local riders match wits with the donkeys. The odds are that in most cases the donkeys will win. The old rodeo days will be brought to mind when the local Matt Dillons and Hop-along Cassidys take their spills and bounces.

There will be plenty of laughs for the entire family during fun-filled evening. You haven't witnessed basketball until you have seen it played on donkeys. It is really a little different than regular basketball.

To purchase advance tickets please contact the Motley County School at 806-347-2676. Tickets are \$5.00 each if purchased early and \$6.00 at the door. Come join us in a fun evening.

TURKEY SENIOR CITIZENS NEWS

By Oleta Randell

The Turkey Senior Citizens had a very small number at the last meeting, but we had a lot of fun. We missed all our "regulars" and sincerely hope they will be back at our next meeting!

Margie Pinkerton and Don Turner administered blood pressure checks. James Brunson led the prayer for the food. A delicious pot luck meal was enjoyed by all. Table games were played.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 14 at 6 p.m., so come on and join us for an evening of fun, food and fellowship!

We are encouraging all our members to come to the first meeting of 2003, and bring someone with you. See you there!

Think Texas

by Agriculture Commissioner
SUSAN COMBS

The United States economy is in a serious state with industries across the board taking major financial hits over the last two years. Many state governments are in similar situations, and Texas is no exception.

The state's budget is expected to take up a majority of legislators' time and effort. They have a significant task ahead of them, and we all must do our part to be flexible and adjust in this unsteady environment. The Texas spirit is rooted in partnership, and we all should put that spirit to good use as we look for solutions to keep our state rolling forward.

Agriculture also is not immune to financial hardships. It is a massive industry in Texas - \$80 billion strong - and continuing our viability and progress in the coming months will be crucial to our future. Commodity prices regularly clock in at rates lower than they were 20 years ago. And in agriculture, many factors are out of our hands - intense drought or driving rain can wipe out a farmer's field in a matter of days leaving that family scrambling for new ways to make a profit. We are in this together, and lawmakers in Austin will be working on statewide solutions and going to bat for Texas during the legislative session.

Texas is known for its can-do attitude and ingenuity, and these ideals help make us an agricultural heavyweight. We must support one another during uncertain times if we want to continue our long history of putting food on the table of families here and across the globe.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Helping Volunteers Help

(NAPS)—You don't need much time on your hands to lend a helping hand. In the year 2000, 83.9 million adults volunteered for an average of 3.6 hours per week. Yet their work represented the equivalent of more than nine million full-time employees at a value of \$239 billion, according to the Independent Sector.

In 2001, President Bush called for citizens to perform two years—or the equivalent of 4,000 hours—of their lifetimes in citizen service; groups like the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network are making it easier for people to answer that call. By visiting www.1800VOLUNTEER.org or calling 1-800-VOLUNTEER, you can find volunteer projects in your community that fit your interests and time. "Our nearly 450 Volunteer Centers stand ready to help residents get connected to their communities through volunteering on a regular basis or on the national days of service that we've assembled on our Seasons of Service calendar," said Robert K. Goodwin, president and chief executive officer of the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network. The Seasons of Service calendar is a list of theme-based volunteer activities that occur annually.

The 2003 Seasons of Service dates are:

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day—the third Monday in January, encourages volunteers to spend the national holiday helping others. The theme is "A day on ... not a day off!"

- National Youth Service Day—April 11 to 13, 2003—recognizes young people for their volunteer efforts.

- National Volunteer Week—beginning the last Sunday in April—is the official time to celebrate volunteers locally, statewide and nationally. The week will be the official wrap-up of the Unity in the Spirit of America initiative—a national program to create living memorials through volunteering in honor of lives lost on September 11, 2001 (www.usa.pointsoflight.org).

- Join Hands Day—the third Saturday in June—unites young people with adults to create new and better working relationships.

- Make A Difference Day—on the fourth Saturday in October, millions of men, women and children make a difference in their communities.

- National Family Volunteer Day—the Saturday before Thanksgiving—engages families in volunteer activities to strengthen families and transform neighborhoods.

You can find out even more at: www.pointsoflight.org, then click on programs and scroll to Seasons of Service.

Pay For Tomorrow's College At Today's Prices

Parents can take some of the uncertainty out of saving for college by enrolling their children in the Texas Guaranteed Tuition Plan from the Texas Tomorrow Funds, Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander said.

Rylander said a new enrollment period has begun, and will continue until May 23, 2003. With the Texas Guaranteed Tuition Plan, families can lock down their children's college tuition and required fees at today's prices, and pay those expenses in affordable installments before the children are ready for college.

"No matter how much tuition and fees increase, the state guarantees to cover the cost," Rylander said.

The Texas Guaranteed Tuition Plan may be used at public or private colleges in Texas or out of state. For newborns, contract prices start as low as \$40 per month for one year of tuition and fees at a Texas public college or university. Four years of public university tuition and fees can be prepaid for as little as \$152 per month for a newborn.

For more information, visit the Texas Tomorrow Funds Web site at www.texastomorrowfunds.org or call 1-800-445-GRAD(4723). The Texas Guaranteed Tuition Plan offers quick, convenient on-line enrollment.

Linda Purcell On Dean's List

Clarendon College's outstanding academic students have been named to the President's and Dean's Lists for the fall 2002 semester. A total of 60 students achieved these honors.

The Dean's List, which highlights full-time students who maintained a 3.6 grade point average through the fall semester, includes Linda Purcell of Quitaque.

ON THE QT

Joe and Owayne King of Dumas, TX spent Saturday night with Ruby King. Sunday they spent the day at the Community Center celebrating the Duck Christmas.

Visitors in the home Ruby King for New Years were the Coy Hawkins family of Mesquite. They visited from December 31 until January 2. Coy is a firefighter with the City of Dallas. He and his wife have three children.

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We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to the

2003 Briscoe County Livestock Show and Sale

The show will be held
Thursday, January 9th, & Saturday, January 11th
in the
**Vance Price Memorial Building
Valley School Farm**
Schedule of Activities for the Livestock Show this year

Thursday, January 9th	
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Weigh Sheep and Goats
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Weigh Steers
5:00 p.m.	Check in Beef Heifers Beef Heifer Show Market Steer Show Lamb Show Goat Show
Friday, January 10th	
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Weigh in Swine
Saturday, January 11th	
8:30 a.m.	Gilt Show Barrow Show
5:00 p.m.	Buyers Brisket Supper
6:30 p.m.	Awards and Auction

The Briscoe County Livestock Show and Premium Sale is the conclusion of an excellent learning experience for all the students involved.
This Schedule is Proudly Sponsored by:

Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative Inc.
1-800-692-4242
Spur, Texas 79370

Think Texas
by Agriculture Commissioner
SUSAN COMBS

The United States economy is in a serious state with industries across the board taking major financial hits over the last two years. Many state governments are in similar situations, and Texas is no exception.

The state's budget is expected to take up a majority of legislators' time and effort. They have a significant task ahead of them, and we all must do our part to be flexible and adjust in this unsteady environment. The Texas spirit is rooted in partnership, and we all should put that spirit to good use as we look for solutions to keep our state rolling forward.

Agriculture also is not immune to financial hardships. It is a massive industry in Texas - \$80 billion strong - and continuing our viability and progress in the coming months will be crucial to our future. Commodity prices regularly clock in at rates lower than they were 20 years ago. And in agriculture, many factors are out of our hands - intense drought or driving rain can wipe out a farmer's field in a matter of days leaving that family scrambling for new ways to make a profit. We are in this together, and lawmakers in Austin will be working on statewide solutions and going to bat for Texas during the legislative session.

Texas is known for its can-do attitude and ingenuity, and these ideals help make us an agricultural heavyweight. We must support one another during uncertain times if we want to continue our long history of putting food on the table of families here and across the globe.

106.1 K-FLIP COUNTRY

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All words are pegs to
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—Henry W

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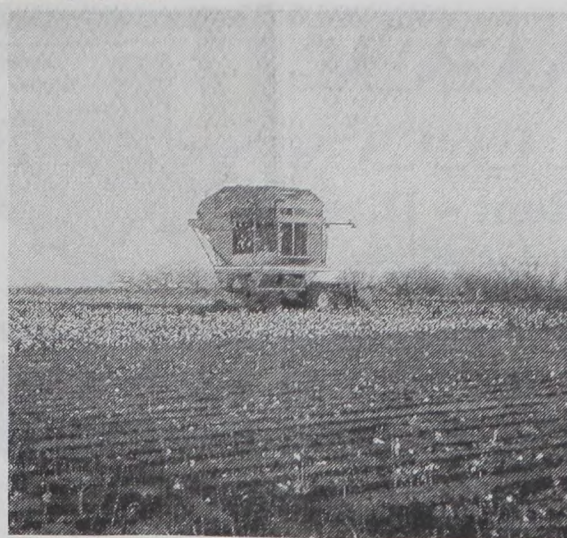
Texas Water Development Board Authorizes Bonds For The Rural Water Assistance Fund

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) recently authorized the issuance, sale and delivery of up to \$25,000,000 in Water Financial Assistance Bonds, Series 2003A to be issued for the Rural Water Assistance Fund (RWAFF) program.

In 2001, the 77th Texas Legislature, through Senate Bill 2, recognized the special water needs of rural Texas, characterized by communities with small populations extended over disproportionately large areas. To help meet rural needs for clean, dependable and affordable water, the lawmakers created the RWAFF and named the TWDB as program administrator. The RWAFF program, now in its second year, is designed to provide low-interest loans to rural political subdivisions for water projects, including regionalization and outreach. Rural political subdivisions may include nonprofit water supply corporations, water districts, or municipalities serving a population of up to 10,000, or that otherwise qualify for federal financing, or counties in which no urban area has a population exceeding 50,000. Aside from low interest loans, the statute also provides sales tax exemptions to nonprofit water supply or sewer service corporations for any project financed through RWAFF.

The TWDB recommended the selection of SWS Securities to serve as Senior Manager to begin preliminary work on the issuance of the Series 2003A bonds. The authorization will allow the TWDB to work with consultants to develop all documents, and take all actions necessary for the bonds' issuance in order to recommend the sale of the bonds at a later date. The TWDB estimates the bonds will be considered for approval in March 2003, sold in late March, with closing to occur by the end of April.

The TWDB is the state agency charged with collecting and disseminating water related data, assisting with regional planning, and preparing the State Water Plan for the development of the state's water resources and administering cost effective financial programs for the construction of water supply, wastewater treatment, flood control and agricultural water conservation projects. The TWDB can be reached at 512-463-8176.



Cotton strippers continue to run in an attempt to harvest the 2002 crop. Harvesting was delayed earlier by bad weather in the area.

Federal Rule Published Allowing Texas Feeder Cattle To Move Without Restriction (For Now)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has published its interim rule allowing Texas feeder cattle to continue to move out of state without additional restrictions, at least until September 30, 2003. Texas ranchers, feedlot operators and private practitioners have waited since June 6, 2002, to learn if, in 2003, they would have to apply USDA ear tags to their 1.5 million steers, feeder bull calves, and feeder heifers destined for out-of-state grazing or feedlots each year. The restrictions also would have required Texas feeder bull calves and feeder heifers to be tested for cattle tuberculosis (TB) prior to movement.

"In a meeting November 27, USDA representatives provided verbal notification regarding the continued free movement of Texas feeder cattle, despite our loss of cattle tuberculosis 'free' status on June 6, 2002. Also, the USDA staff is considering regulation changes that would keep Texas feeder animals moving freely after September," said Dr. James Lenarduzzi, acting executive director for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency. "In the meantime, the USDA's interim rule makes the temporary delay official, so the Texas cattle industry can continue business as usual."

Dr. Lenarduzzi explained that the now delayed movement restriction on feeder cattle stemmed from the USDA's downgrade of Texas cattle tuberculosis (TB) eradication status from accredited-free, to modified accredited advanced, after two TB-infected cattle herds were detected in Texas in 2001. Dr. Lenarduzzi said the infected herds were depopulated, and more than 9,300 cattle in 115 other herds have been tested to ensure the disease had not spread, he said.

"As a modified accredited advanced state, Texas breeding cattle must be identified with an official USDA ear tag and have a negative skin test for cattle TB before being moved out of state," Dr. Lenarduzzi reminded ranchers. "This includes young, weaned calves destined for breeding purposes. About 150,000 breeding animals are moved from the state each year, and because these animals have a long life within a herd, it's essential to ensure that they are disease free prior to movement."

Dr. Lenarduzzi pointed out that strict requirements for identifying, testing and permitting cattle movement will continue in a designated high-risk area that encompasses about 100 herds in Texas' far west El Paso County and a portion of Hudspeth County. "The USDA approved a special 'movement restriction zone' (MRZ) in the two counties in November 2000 because of recurring, low levels of infection in nine dairies comprising the 'El Paso Milk Shed' along the Rio Grande. We work with producers in the MRZ to ensure movement requirements are met, so commerce can continue. Furthermore, the USDA is finalizing the purchase and depopulation of the dairies in the MRZ, where under Texas law, no new dairies will be permitted."

"The Texas cattle industry has been exceptional in working with us through the regulatory process to keep our cattle moving," said Dr. Lenarduzzi. "Texas ranchers should be proud of their leaders in the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, Independent Cattlemen Association, Texas Cattle Feeders, Livestock Marketing Association, Texas Veterinary Medical Association and Texas Farm Bureau."

Cherish forever what makes you unique, because you're really a yawn if it goes. —Bette Midler

Touchstone Energy® Cooperative Contributes \$700 To Turkey Volunteer Fire Department

Lighthouse Electric Cooperative has contributed a total of \$700 to the Turkey Volunteer Fire Department as part of a statewide initiative by Touchstone Energy®.

Touchstone Energy® is a national alliance of electric cooperatives that are active members of the local communities in their service areas, and are dedicated to serving agricultural, residential, commercial and industrial customers with integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community. Statewide, Texas Touchstone Energy® cooperatives are making \$14,000 in donations to volunteer fire departments.

"Rural fire volunteers should be commended for what they do so fearlessly and generously to keep their communities safe each day," said Billy C. Harbin, General Manager of Lighthouse Electric Cooperative. "If we can help make their jobs a little easier or safer, we are delighted to do so. After all, many of the volunteers in our area are co-op employees or members."

More than 550 Touchstone Energy® cooperatives in 39 states deliver electric power and energy solutions to more than 16 million customers every day. There are 20 Touchstone Energy® cooperatives in Texas.

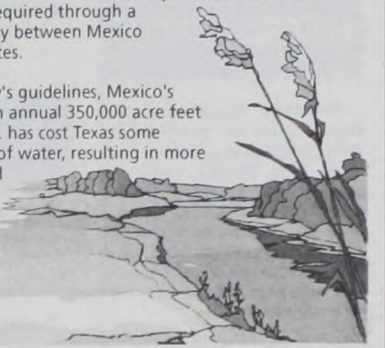
Lighthouse Electric Cooperative serves 8,000 member-consumer meters in 12 Texas counties.

Keeping an Eye on Texas

Mexico Water Debt

The South Texas Border region would have gained more than 3,000 jobs and nearly \$80 million in personal income in 2002 if Mexico had delivered over the last 10 years the minimum amount of water required through a water-sharing treaty between Mexico and the United States.

Based on the treaty's guidelines, Mexico's failure to deliver an annual 350,000 acre feet of water to the U.S. has cost Texas some 448 billion gallons of water, resulting in more than 3,300 jobs and \$105.76 million in personal income not realized statewide in 2002.



Source: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

All words are pegs to hang ideas on. —Henry Ward Beecher

E-Mail The Valley Tribune vtaylor@caprock-spur.com

Wheresoever you go, go with all your heart. —Confucian proverb

Texas Farmers Union President Protests Unfair LCP Requirements

The following letter was sent to Ann M. Veneman, Secretary of Agriculture by Wes Sims, President, Texas Farmers Union on January 3, 2003.

Dear Madam Secretary:
I write on behalf of the many Texas livestock producers who believe they have been severely disadvantaged by the disaster designation requirements of the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP). Under the rules established by USDA, only producers in eligible drought affected counties that were approved as primary disaster areas; or had a pending request for a Secretarial disaster designation that was subsequently approved by September 19, 2002 are eligible for LCP assistance.

The arbitrary nature of selecting a single cutoff date so close to initial announcement of the program has precluded participation by many producers in counties where the application for disaster designation was not completed before September 19, 2002. In fact, many county Farm Service Agency officials, who were engaged in documenting the drought losses in their counties, were not even aware of the existence of the program until the cutoff date had passed.

This is unfair to both those producers who would have been eligible for assistance had the eligibility requirements been known in advance as well as the local FSA officials who are now viewed as having obstructed the livestock producer's ability to avail themselves of a much needed disaster assistance program.

I believe it is only fair and proper that you reopen the Livestock Compensation Program to give all counties that have suffered substantial drought losses the opportunity to be designated as primary disaster areas which would qualify their producers for LCP assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue and ensuring the LCP is operated in a fair and equitable manner for all livestock producers who have suffered significant losses as a result of the serious drought we have experienced over the last two years.

E-Mail The Valley Tribune vtaylor@caprock-spur.com

Caprock Cafe

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Call-In Orders Are Welcome

The folks down at the Caprock Cafe would like to Thank each of you for your business this past year. All of you are more to us than just customers. You are our friends, and we enjoy serving each of you.

We don't plan any major changes, other than adding a few more items to our menu and a few more hours to our schedule.

Beginning January, Nineteenth we will begin opening Sundays - 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. serving Breakfast until 10:45 a.m. and Lunch Buffet until 2:00 p.m.

We will be open from 6:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, serving Breakfast from 6:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., Lunch Buffet until 2:00 p.m. - with a large selection of menu items served all day until closing.

Saturdays we serve Breakfast from 6:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. We offer our Mexican Food Entrees as well as a full menu from 10:45 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

We live in a small town and we believe in small town prices. Our Buffets are ALL YOU CAN EAT with drink & dessert included for \$5.50 + tax Monday through Friday and \$6.50 + tax on Sunday. (Dine-In-Only)

We at the Caprock Cafe want to be your place to eat this year, with Down-Home Cooking, Down-Home Atmosphere, Down-To-Earth Prices and Friendly Service you can depend on.

Thanks again for your patronage and your friendship. Good luck in the coming year.

God Bless You All,
Jerry, Cynthia and Staff

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NOTICE

0330-3-141 SEALED BID OFFER: Sale 802-4495 (Vehicles) 11:00 A.M., January 15, 2003. Sealed bids will be received by the Texas Building & Procurement Commission, P.O. Box 13047, Austin, Texas 78711, until 11:00 A.M. on the above date covering the sale of vehicles belonging to the TX Parks & Wildlife Dept. Contact Geoffrey Hulse @ 806/455-1492 for inspection and bid form.

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THANK YOU

We would like to thank all of our friends in Ftomot, Quitaque and Silverton for the cards and prayers and any other act of kindness given to us while Johnny was in the hospital in Albuquerque. We appreciate all of our friends, they have been so nice to us.
Claudine & Johnny Perry 29-1tc

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Looking To Buy: I would like to buy a vacant lot in Turkey. Call 806-356-1332. 13-ftfn

NOTICE OF PROPOSED INCREASE IN SERVICE CHARGES

On December 6, 2002 Atmos Energy filed a Statement of Intent to change its service charges with the Railroad Commission of Texas and each incorporated city listed below. The proposed changes will take effect no sooner than 35 days after filing.

The proposed increase will not effect the Company's other gas rate schedules. The change will apply to Residential, Commercial, Small Industrial, and Public Authority customers. The Company proposes the following increased service charges:

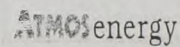
	During Business Hours	After Hours
Turn on new service with meter set	\$32.00	\$48.00
Turn on service (shut-in test required)	\$23.50	\$35.25
Turn on service (meter read only required)	\$15.00	\$22.50
Reconnect delinquent service or service temporarily off at customer's request	\$37.50	\$56.25
Miscellaneous service calls	\$11.25	\$16.88

The proposed service charge changes are expected to increase the Company's annual revenues by approximately 4% and therefore do not constitute a "major change" The proposed changes could affect approximately 215,000 gas customers in the following communities and surrounding rural areas:

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Amherst	Levelland	Ralls
Anton	Littlefield	Ransom Canyon
Big Spring	Lockney	Ropesville
Bovina	Lorenzo	Seagraves
Brownfield	Los Ybanes	Seminole
Buffalo Springs Lake	Lubbock	Shallowater
Canyon	Meadow	Silverton
Coahoma	Midland	Slaton
Crosbyton	Muleshoe	Smyer
Dimmitt	Nazareth	Springlake
Earth	New Deal	Stanton
Edmonson	New Home	Sudan
Floydada	Odessa	Tahoka
Forsan	O'Donnell	Timbercreek Canyon
Friena	Oilton	Tulla
Hale Center	Opdyke West	Turkey
Happy	Pallsades	Vega
Hart	Pampa	Wellman
Hereford	Panhandle	Wilson
Idalou	Petersburg	Wolforth
Kress	Plainview	
Lake Tanglewood	Post	

*unincorporated - Southland, Welch, Whitharrall

Copies of the filing are available at the Atmos Energy Office at 5110 80th, Lubbock, TX 79408-1121 or at an Atmos Energy Office nearest to you. Affected persons whose gas rates are subject to the original jurisdiction of the Railroad Commission may file in writing comments or a protest concerning the proposed changes with the Docket Services Section of the Legal Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, at any time within 30 days following the date on which the change would or has become effective.



Forgive but never forget.
—Attributed to John F. Kennedy by Ted Sorensen

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