

43 JUNE 30, 1999  
 BURNS MRS. LESLIE C.  
 10902 VAN RUITON S.  
 NORMALK CA 90650

WEATHER			
DATE	HI	LO	PREC
APR 16	78	44	--
APR 17	76	43	--
APR 18	81	49	--
APR 19	83	52	--
APR 20	85	54	--
APR 21	86	48	.30
APR 22	71	47	--

# Voice of the Caprock Canyons

# The Valley Tribune

50¢

VOLUME 36 NUMBER 45      12 PAGES      BRISCOE COUNTY      QUITAQUE, TX 79255      THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1997



Scene on Rail To Trail Caprock Canyon State Park Hiking Area (photo courtesy Caprock Canyon State Park)

## Caprock Canyons Hiking Trail Picked Among Ten Best In State

When *Texas Parks and Wildlife* magazine asked their readers to nominate their favorite Texas hiking trails, they were expecting the traditional spots, such as the South Rim of Big Ben National park to dominate. These were certainly mentioned but the magazine editors were quite surprised with the number of trails across the state of Texas that were mentioned.

In the May issue of the magazine they named the top ten hiking trails in Texas. Those listed were The Lighthouse in Palo Duro Canyon; Lost Maples State Natural Area (near Vanderpool); Gorman Falls, Colorado Bend State Park; Enchanted Rock State Natural Area near Fredericksburg and Henderson Trail, Brazos Bend State Park. McKittrick Canyon, Guadalupe Mountains National Park; Lone Star Trail at Big Creek, Sam

Houston National Forrest; Converted Rail Trail, Caprock Canyons State Park; Angelina National Forest and Lost Mine Trail, Chisos Mountains, Big Ben National Park were also in the top ten.

The magazine stated that while most Texas Trails are of the meandering variety, the converted Rail Trail at Caprock Canyons is long, almost 65 miles, and basically straight. It plunges off the Caprock Escarpment east of South Plains and crosses rolling "badlands" to Estelline.

Above is a stretch of the Rail Trail in Caprock Canyons State Park.

Limited primitive camping opportunities are found in the first 22 mile segment from South Plains to Quitaque, but development still is underway farther east.

## Feedyards May Want to Buy

## County Agent Says Damage To Area Wheat Extensive

County agent, Rebel L. Royall, said this week that damage to the county's wheat ranges from 30 to 90 percent, with most of the damage being about 50 percent. Younger wheat fields seemed to sustain more damage than earlier planting, Royall said.

"Fortunately we are not seeing the stem damage here that is being seen from Randall County northward. Those wheat fields have split stems and will probably not be baled for hay," the agent said.

Dr. Bent Bean, Extension Agronomist, was in the area last Friday, and looked at the fields with the agent.

Royall also said that a representative of Cactus Feeders, Inc. had called the Beef Cattle Specialist, Dr. Ted McCollum, indicating the cattle feeding operation would be interested in talking to producers that might be cutting wheat hay.

"Since they have feedyards across the Panhandle, at Tulia, Hereford, Cactus, Stratford, Perryton, and Spearman, their interest would suit our producers," Royall said. He added that the lack of stem damage to the wheat in this area might possibly fit their specifications perfectly.

Interested producers may contact Hank Northcutt at 806-371-4698, or Spencer Swingle at 806-373-2333.

## Texas Parks And Wildlife Department To Receive Historic Texas Bison Herd

It was recently announced that Montie Ritchie and Ninia Bivins, owners of the JA Ranch near Amarillo, have donated the historic JA bison herd to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The herd, which currently numbers 40 to 50 animals, has ranged on the JA since the ranch's inception in the 1870's when pioneer rancher and trailblazer Charles Goodnight captured and nurtured a few calves from the last of the great Southern bison herd. Andrew Sansom, Executive Director of the department, said, "We are very excited about the gift of this historic and biological treasure to the department and to the people of Texas. This donation will help preserve the natural and cultural heritage of Texas."

The department has agreed to move the bison off the ranch no later than February 28, 1998. A final home for the bison herd has not been selected, but it will be in the Panhandle/Rolling Plains Area, close to the herd's present location. Caprock Canyons State Park near Quitaque, Palo Duro Canyon State Park near Canyon, and the Matador Wildlife Management Area near Paducah are the most likely

## Welcome To the 26th Anniversary of Bob Wills Day In Turkey Texas

### Jam Session

### Autograph Party

On Thursday evening, April 24th at 8 p.m. until 11 p.m. come on down to the old high school gym and meet some of the former Texas Playboys.

### Former Texas

### Playboys Dance

Friday evening, April 25, 1997 the former Texas Playboys will be featured at a dance at the Bob Wills Center from 9 p.m. until 12 midnight. Come on down and dance with some of the original Texas Playboys.

### 6 A.M. Pancake

### Breakfast

The Turkey/Quitaque Lions Club will start serving pancakes at 6 a.m. on Saturday morning, April 26th to start off the 26th Bob Wills Day. Serving will be in the Bob Wills Cafeteria. They will serve pancakes as long as there are patrons to eat them.

### Parade, 10:00

### A.M. Saturday

Parade entries are asked to gather at the western edge of town on the old gin yard to line up for the great parade down Main Street.

For entry information, call Dusty Hill at 806/423-1424. The parade will start its procession at 10:00 a.m.

### Bar-B-Q Lunch 11 A.M.

The Muleskinners of the Khiva Shriners will cater the barbecue which will begin at 11 a.m. at the Bob Wills Center.

Proceeds will benefit both the Shriners and The Bob Wills Foundation.

### Old Time Fiddlers

### Music Contest

At 12 noon the Old Time Fiddlers Contest will begin at the Auditorium Center and Gym.

Fiddlers from all around the United States come to play at the famous Bob Wills Day Contest. Not only the young and the old but the famous and the not so famous show up to do a tune or two for your entertainment.

### Former Texas

### Playboy Concert

Starting at 2:30 p.m. Saturday afternoon, on the football field east of the Bob Wills Center, Dr. Charles R. Townsend, Grammy Award winning author will be Master of Ceremonies for the free concert of the former Playboys. Dr. Townsend's book "San Antonio Rose The Life and Music of Bob Wills" has been purchased by a movie studio. Dr. Townsend will be a consultant on this movie.

This program will consist of all the former Texas Playboys who are present. This will be one of the largest groups ever assembled in one place! The Foundation is looking forward to having about 35 of former Texas Playboys for the concert.

### Bob Wills

### Museum Open

The Bob Wills Museum at the Bob Wills Center is open Monday through Friday all during the year.

Many books, clippings, programs, personal items from the life of Bob Wills may be viewed at the museum. As well as the wonderful swing music played as you view the museum.

At the western edge of town you can visit the Bob Wills monument at the end of Main Street. This monument portrays the legend of Bob Wills and his special brand of music.

### Souvenirs Will Be Available

The Bob Wills Foundation will have tapes, records, caps, T-shirts, Bob Wills Stamp Cachets and other items at the Bob Wills Center on Saturday available as your souvenir to carry home to remind you of an enjoyable day spent in Turkey, Texas.

The Foundation also sponsors a booth at the east end of Bob Wills Center for your soft drinks and barbecue during the day.

### Saturday Night Dance To Jody

### Nix Music

Beginning at 7 p.m. on Saturday evening, Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys will be playing for your entertainment.

Even if you do not wish to dance, you can enjoy listening to some good western swing music during the evening.

### Midnight

### Breakfast Served

Starting at 11 p.m. in the Bob Wills Cafeteria, breakfast will be served on Saturday, April 26, 1997.

After having danced holes in your shoes at the dance, come on over and sit a spell and enjoy the midnight breakfast with your friends and family.

### Bob Wills

### Community

### Worship Service

At 8:30 a.m. on the old football field there will be a gathering for the Bob Wills Community Worship Service on Sunday morning.

Come on over and join the worship service with your group before you leave to travel to your home.

### Arts & Crafts Show Saturday

Saturday morning the craftsmen will be setting up to display their art and craft items. Many different crafts will be represented.

Varied craft items will be on display for your consideration.

## Calendar of Events

### April 24

Tennis Regionals @ Levelland  
 Track Regionals @ Levelland  
 Lighthouse Annual Meeting  
 Jam Session & Autograph Party @ Turkey

### April 25

Arbor Day  
 Track Regionals @ Levelland  
 Friday Night Dance @ Turkey  
 Little League Sign Up  
 School Out

### April 26

Bob Wills Day @ Turkey  
 Nose to Nose Buffalo Tour @ Caprock Canyons State Park  
 Junior Class Bake Sale @ Turkey

### April 27

Attend Church of Choice

### April 28

Turkey Lions club  
 Quitaque Firemen

### April 29

Turkey Senior Citizens @ 6 p.m.

## Little League Sign Up Time

Once again it is time to sign up your child for Little League. Sign up time is from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, April 25, 1997 at the Bank Room in Quitaque.

You can sign your child up for T Ball, Pee Wee, Minor League or Major League.

## Good Guy Award

Cleo Jordan has not enjoyed good health for sometime. He has been hospitalized in the Memphis Hospital and has received treatment from Amarillo specialists.

Last Monday, they heard mowers running and saw their neighbors, Jim and Willie Majors mowing their lawn.

The Jordons were quite appreciative of this neighborly act and voted them for the "Good Guys Award."

## CORRECTION

Last week in the article about Judge Jimmy Burson's tape and CD which he now has available, we mistakenly called it a "Demo." He said "It is the real thing not a 'Demo.'" We do apologize for our mistake. Give it, *Texas In the Swing*, a listen-- if you enjoy Western Swing, you will like it.

## THEN & NOW!

by Eunice McFall

It's that time of the year again. Spring has arrived. Easter has come and gone. The early spring flowers are fading while the iris are in full bloom. And of course the last week end in April always brings The Bob Wills Celebration to mind.

Work has been going on for months in preparation for the big week end. Many local improvements are timed to be finished for the big day. The people of the town have mowed lawns, hoed weeds, painted property and just generally spruced up the whole town so as to put their best foot forward for all the guests who will be arriving for the week end.

Lots of behind the scene work has taken a toll on the time of the people who are preparing the different aspects of the celebration--the barbecue crew, breakfast crew, dance committee, arts and crafts division, the souviner group, old fiddlers contest and the parade. These people give unstintingly of their time and talent to make Turkey's big day a success!

Another aspect of the big day we need to remember is the safety of everyone. When our small towns have an influx of people, the danger of accidents increases tenfold. We need to be much more alert than usual when we are driving or when we cross the street.

Local lawmen and the DPS troopers will be available to assist anyone with a problem during the week end. The troopers are in town for everyone's safety and protection.

So while you are in Turkey and the surrounding area this weekend please be careful whether you are driving or walking or riding. With so many visitors, we must be on our toes so there will be no accidents.

Drive safely, walk carefully, and arrive home with lots of good memories of the 1997 Bob Wills Celebration. Have a good time.

Valley School  
 Business Offices  
 Closed  
 April 25, 1997



**TA** MEMBER 1997  
**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

**THE VALLEY TRIBUNE**  
 Successor to The Quitaque Tribune, Established at Quitaque in 1960  
 Published Every Thursday at Quitaque, Texas 79255  
 Jimmie C. Taylor, Publisher  
 Eunice McFall, Editor  
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**POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO**  
 THE VALLEY TRIBUNE, BOX 478, QUITAQUE, TEXAS 79255

**Happy Birthday**

**April 24**  
 Iva Barefield, B. J. Price, Carmin Lee  
**April 25**  
 Carol Ramsey, Brandon Lee, Laura Stewart  
**April 16**  
 Silvia Boeshart, Jodie Weatherly, Ann Chadwick, Guss Hrcnr  
**April 27**  
 Lori Sisemore, Brody Lynn Davis, Rochelle Carnes, Jesse Ferguson  
**April 28**  
 Lewis Cory Ferguson, Tim Kendall, Jim Barefield  
**April 29**  
 Shorty Woods, Brenda Jackson, Don Monk  
**April 30**  
 Dale Wilks, Byron Young, Cathy Hill, Zachary John Burson, Suzie Meyer, Letha Greene, Prof Patrick, Louise Chandler  
**May 1**  
 Joe Kirk Smith, Susan Young, Clyde Dudley, Dorcas Gaddis, Jennifer Zanardi

**Happy Anniversary**

**April 24**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Price  
**April 25**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stockton  
**April 26**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Revis Farley  
 Mr. and Mrs. Randy Powell  
 Mr. and Mrs. Guy Young  
**April 29**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Bond  
**May 1**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Rod Hinkle  
 Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hinkle

**Recent Visitors to Bob Wills Musuem At Turkey**

Recently a man from Japan was a visitor at the Bob Wills Musuem in Turkey. Also a lady came to visit from Germany.  
 She was interested in meeting with the growers of the colored cotton. She was hoping to find a way to get rid of the boll weevils with out using chemicals.  
 Theresa Clinton said she was a very interesting lady to talk with even if she could not speak English. Many others have visited this past week from various locations.

**Public Service Announcement**

Childress MH Center offers a Mental Health line for anyone having emotional or mental problems (not chemical dependency). Call 1-817-937-3644. Crisis hotline for problems is 1-817-621-8504.

**NOTICE**

Please return the encyclopedias to the Turkey Library. They are for use in the Library only.  
 Not to be checked out by individuals.  
 That makes it impossible for the library to keep a complete set of reference books.  
 Please, please return the encyclopedias to the Turkey Library  
 Nadine Baisden, Turkey Librarian.

**Obituaries**

**Alpha Bownds**

Services for Alpha Bownds, 75, of Childress were at 2 p.m. Monday, April 21, 1997 at Turkey Church of Christ with Stuart Smith, minister and Bill D. Mayes, Childress Church of Christ minister, officiating.  
 Burial was in Dreamland Cemetery by Myers-Long Funeral Home of Turkey.  
 She died Friday, April 18, 1997, in Amarillo.  
 She was born June 17, 1921 in Turkey. She and Clayton L. Bownds were married on December 30, 1992 in Quitaque. She was a member of Childress Church of Christ.  
 She was a homemaker.  
 Survivors include her husband, a son, Carl Lee Bownds of Lake Jackson; four brothers, I. D. Mullin Jr., J. T. Mullin, Woodrow Mullin and Billy Joe Mullin, all of Turkey; four sisters, Mary Byers of Lakeview, Leona Coffee of Camarillo, California, and Bobbie Christian and Audra Mae Martin, both of Edna; two granddaughters; four step-grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.  
 Pallbearers were Rod Mullin, Ronald Mullin, Johnny Mullin, Richard Christian, Roger Christian, Jerry Byars and Sonny Byars.

**Janis K. Saunders**

Janis K. Seals Saunders, 49, of Lebanon, Tennessee, a former Pampa resident died Thursday, April 10, 1997 in Nashville, Tennessee.  
 The body was cremated. Memorial services were at 10 a.m. Saturday in Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Lyndon Glaesman, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, officiating. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery.  
 Mrs. Saunders was born in Lefors. She attended Pampa schools and graduated from Pampa High School. She was vice president in the trust department at First Interstate Bank at Lebanon.  
 Survivors include her husband, James P. Saunders; a daughter, Julie K. Harvick of Lebanon; her mother and stepfather, Betty and Howard Buckingham of Pampa; her father and stepmother, Jack and Joyce Seals of Pampa; a half brother, Tommy Joe Byrd of Breckenridge; and one granddaughter. She was a niece of Jim Majors and Arlie Williams of Turkey.

**Caprock Public Library News**

by Arlene Hinkle  
 New books at Caprock Public Library include: *Promises* by Belva Plain. Ms. Plain tells the story of a marriage eroded by temptation and of two women who find strength and triumph in the wake of despair.  
*Osler's Web* by Hilliary Johnson. The in depth story of the ominous and mysterious disease afflicting millions, the chronic fatigue syndrome.  
 For Juveniles: *The Hobbit* by J. R. Tolkien, the prelude to *The Lord Of The Rings*. *Animal Friends* by Dick King-Smith. Thirty-one true life stories beginning with the author's first elephant ride at the zoo and continuing through his years as a dairy farmer.  
**HAPPY READING.**

**Clarendon College Graduation Friday**

Clarendon College graduation ceremonies are slated to begin at 7:30 p.m., April 25 in the Harned Sisters Fine Arts Auditorium.  
 Seventy-eight students will participate in the annual ceremony. Amarillo High School graduate Nadia Jouridova will provide the student address. Jouridova, a native of Latvia, Russia, earned this honor for being the Top Sophomore Student. This honor is based upon one's grade point average.  
 A reception for the 1997 graduating class will be held at 6 p.m. in the auditorium foyer.  
**CLEP Testing At WTAMU**  
 The WTAMU Office of Educational Services will offer College Level Examination Program (CLEP) testing, tests to gain college credit, during April. The institutional CLEP will be administered Monday, April 28.  
 For more information, to register or for cost, call 806/656-2341.

**Look Good... Feel Better**

Just for you. *Look good...Feel Better* is a very special program which helps you cope with the unpleasant side effects of cancer treatment, when you simply want to be able to look in the mirror and feel comfortable with the self you see. *Look Good...Feel Better* can help.  
 With the help of cosmetology professionals, you will learn quick and easy makeup tricks to make you look and feel more like yourself. You'll learn how to compensate for hair loss, including how to use scarves and turbans to your best advantage. You'll be happy to discover that looking good really can make you feel so much better.  
*Look Good...Feel Better* on April 28th from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at American Cancer Society Office at 3915 Bell Street in Amarillo, Texas.  
 To register or for more information about monthly programs call, American Cancer Society at 806/353-4306.

**Driver Safety Course Offered At Childress**

A Driver Safety Course will be held in Childress on Saturday, May 3, 1997. The course will meet from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Childress High School.  
 Upon completion of this course, participants will be eligible for a 10 percent discount on their liability insurance for three years and dismissal of a traffic violation. All dismissals of traffic violations must be approved by the appropriate Justice of the Peace.  
 The course is offered by Clarendon College and USA Training Company, Inc. For more information or cost of course, please contact Clarendon College at 806/874-3571.

**On The QT**

The United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men of the First United Methodist Church of Quitaque sponsored a supper meal at the Wesley Center at Texas Tech in Lubbock Sunday evening. The group prepared for 80 young adults. Leaving the church in Quitaque at 2:30 were Walter W. Taylor, Christopher Taylor, Weldon Griffin, B. J. Griffin and Eunice McFall. The group reported a very enjoyable evening. The young people are delightful to visit with. The group got to meet one young man from Kenya who is studying at Texas Tech. He said the weather here was quite different from Kenya. He had arrived in Texas in January during the cold weather.  
 Weldon drove on to Shallowater to spend the night with his daughter and family, the Steve Venables as his brother, Don was having heart surgery on Monday morning. Don came through the surgery well and Weldon returned to Quitaque on Monday afternoon.

Vacation Bible School  
 June 2--June 5  
 Monday--Thursday  
 Turkey  
 United Methodist Church

**FUTURE OPENINGS**

LEAN HOGS	JUN.	8500
LIVE CATTLE	APR.	7040
COTTON	MAY	7080
K.C. WHEAT	MAY	4940

Temperature extremes for the week were 86 for the high and 43 for the low.  
 Total moisture for the week was .30 inches.  
 Total moisture for the year to date has been 26.69 in.  
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**Pot Pies** 2.99  
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**Mr. Clean** 1.89  
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**Mighty Dog** 2.19  
**Candies** 5.29  
**Cascade** 2.49

**GROCERY SPECIALS**

MEOW MIX \$3.39  
 POP SECRET POPCORN \$4.89  
 BUGLES SNACKS 99¢  
 BROWNIE MIX \$1.79  
 CORNBREAD MIX 3.00

**DAIRY**

JELL-O SNACK CUPS \$2.19  
 SUNNY DELIGHT \$1.19  
 POLISH REMOVER .99¢  
 TOOTHPASTE \$1.99  
 PLAYTEX \$1.49

**Ground Beef** 99¢  
**Split Fryer Breasts** 99¢  
**Charcoal Steaks** 1.69

**CELLO WRAPPED Lettuce** 59¢  
**RED RIPE Tomatoes** 89¢  
**LIMES** 6 for \$1.00  
**APPLES** 9.1b. BAG \$1.19  
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**Bob Wills**  
**King of Western Swing**

Welcome To The Celebration!!!

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# The Patriot

News From and about Valley School



## Senior Spotlight Alma Fierro

**Best Physical Characteristic:** My hair.  
**Favorite Pastime:** Reading a magazine or the newspaper.  
**Style of Dress:** Casual.  
**Hobby:** Listening to music.  
**Pet Peeve:** When people make a big deal out of nothing.  
**Favorite Food:** Pizza & spaghetti.  
**Best Subject:** Journalism.  
**Favorite Sport:** Basketball.  
**Favorite Movie:** *The Color Purple*.  
**Last Good Book Read:** *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.  
**My Hero:** My mom and grandpa.  
**I Always Fall For:** Sweet talkers.  
**Someday I Want To:** Be able to look back & know I succeeded in life.  
**A Great Night Out:** Going to eat & watch a movie with my sisters.  
**If I were President:** I would not make any promises I couldn't keep.  
**My Favorite Memory:** Eating at Spass'oin Dallas with freshman girls.  
**My Worst Habit:** Running late.  
**Nickname:** "Al" "Shorty".  
**My Most Valued Possession:** My family.  
**If I Could Change Something:** I would be taller.  
**If I Could Do Anything I Wanted I Would:** Take my family on a cruise.  
**Best Advice:** Think about consequences before you end up with the results.  
**Worst Advice:** Wait until tomorrow.  
**Greatest Fear:** Losing my family.  
**What I Like Most In High School:** Banquets & being around friends.  
**What Makes Me Mad:** When people put me on hold on the telephone.  
**My Future Plans Are:** To attend Clarendon College, then transfer to Texas Tech and major in nursing.



## Senior Spotlight Ciro Mendoza

**Best Physical Characteristic:** My hair.  
**Favorite Pastime:** Listen to music.  
**Style of Dress:** Casual.  
**Hobby:** Play basketball.  
**Pet Peeve:** Two faced people.  
**Favorite Food:** Pizza.  
**Best Subject:** Spanish II.  
**Favorite Sport:** Football.  
**Favorite Movie:** *Fools Rush In*.  
**Last Good Book Read:** *The Death of the Salesman*.  
**My Hero:** My parents.  
**I Always Fall For:** Stupid jokes.  
**Someday I Want To:** Be rich.  
**A Great Night Out:** Go dancing.  
**If I were President:** I would change the welfare system.  
**My Favorite Memory:** When I first played football.  
**My Worst Habit:** Speak English.  
**Nickname:** Silvertooth.  
**My Most Valued Possession:** My Senior ring.  
**If I Could Change Something:** Be two inches higher.  
**If I Could Do Anything I Wanted I Would:** I would travel all over the world.  
**Best Advice:** Never give up.  
**Worst Advice:** Give up.  
**Greatest Fear:** Death.  
**What I Like Most In High School:** Spanish Class.  
**What Makes Me Mad:** When people lie to me.  
**My Future Plans Are:** Unsure.

## Expecting e-mail from me? It may be a while...

by Amy Stark  
 courtesy Amarillo Globe News

With all of this "new technology" coming along, I decided that it was time that I, too, move up into the real world. Yes, I was psyching myself up for that big step in my life (which, to me, is like jumping a big hurdle I still have not crossed). I was going to mail my first e-mail online.

Everyone in my family had e-mailed someone previously. It looked simple, but I soon would learn that looks can be deceiving.

I needed some reference materials from a book I had read. I had written to the company earlier requesting the materials, and I received the same envelope with a message: ADDRESS NO LONGER. That is when I got the brilliant idea, (if I do say so myself!) to look on the Internet and e-mail the author. (I shall not give the author's name so he may avoid public embarrassment).

This particular author writes Christian material, and I soon found his Internet Web page. I wrote a message requesting the materials that I was interested in. I e-mailed it to him, or at least I thought it was him.

As I mentioned before, this was my first e-mail, I had never e-mailed anyone before, and I anxiously was awaiting a reply from him. I did receive one two days later, and it read:

"Dear Amy,  
 Thanks for your e-mail on the book,.... It sounds like a great book, but unfortunately,....does not have a book written by that title."  
 He does not have a book written by that title?? I had written to the WRONG person! My first e-mail and it was to the wrong person! Well, I gave myself credit for writing to an author. It could have been worse.

But, being the stubborn person I am, I still was determined to find the information I needed from his book. I finally found the correct author's Web page on the Internet. So, I e-mailed him a note explaining my situation and what I was wanting. At least I thought I had.

## Stephens Recognized For Academic Achievement

The United States Achievement Academy announced today that Shawn Stephens of Quitaque has been recognized for academic achievement as a United States National Honor Roll Award winner.

Shawn who attends Valley High School, will appear in the United States Achievement Academy Official Year book, which is published nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly, United States Achievement Academy winners should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, Executive Director of the United States Achievement Academy.

The USAA National Honor Roll awards provide honor roll students with many benefits and services and is a great tribute to a student's dedication, talent, and ability.

Shawn is the son of Charles and Carol Hamner of Quitaque, Texas. Grandparents are Jewel Myers of Hugoton, Kansas and David and Wanda Wilson of Clarendon, Texas and Morris and Sis Stephens of Turkey, Texas.

## SOCIAL SECURITY A Women's Place Is In The Home

By Patty Brandt

A woman's place is in the home...that is, if she's operating a home-based business. The number of women who own and operate a home-based business is nearly 4 million and increasing rapidly. In fact, researchers say home-based businesses is a growth industry to watch.

Regardless of whether you're a woman or a man who operates a business in the home, there are records to be kept and taxes to be paid. And Social Security and Medicare taxes are among those to be paid. The current rate for those taxes is 15.3 percent on self-employment income up to \$65,400. If your net earnings exceed \$65,400, you continue to pay the Medicare portion of the tax, which is 2.9 percent, on the rest of your earnings.

You may not welcome that business expense, especially if you are years away from retirement. But Social Security is a lot more than retirement income. It's important that you realize the day-to-day value of Social Security in your life. The money you pay into Social Security taxes is protecting you and your family.

## School Menu

- Monday**  
 Chicken Fried Steak  
 Green Beans Corn on Cob  
 Gravy Biscuits  
 Honey Milk
- Tuesday**  
 Meat and Cheese Nachos  
 Beans Salad  
 Cheese Fruit  
 Milk
- Wednesday**  
 Pigs in Blanket French Fries  
 Baked Beans Milk  
 Chocolate Pudding
- Thursday**  
 Lasagna Salad  
 Garlic Bread Okra  
 No bake Chocolate Cookies  
 Milk
- Friday**  
 Hamburgers Chips  
 Lettuce-Tomatoes-Pickles  
 Fruit Milk

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 Wednesday 10-7  
 Thursday 8-5  
 Friday 8-2

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 Geraniums... Hanging Baskets  
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 six miles north of Flomot

## Valley FFA Cotton Team Competes At State

The Valley FFA Cotton Judging Team recently competed at the State Judging Contest held at Texas Tech University on April 19, 1997.

The team placed 13th in State, 5th in Area and 1st in District. Jess Yearly was the 7th High Individual in the contest.

The Cotton Team consisted of Jonathan Curry, Amy Ortiz, Katrina Stewart and Jess Yearly.

## Dakota Smith Heads for National Tournament

Dakota Smith, son of Joe Kirk and Angie Smith and grandson of Joe Edd and Janelle Smith is on the Shallowater Little Dribbler Allstar Team that is headed to the National Little Dribbler Tournament held in Bryan, Texas April 23-26.

This team of 11 and 12 year olds played in Olton for the Regional Tournament April 4 and 5 and won the championship game, allowing them to travel to the National Tournament. There they will meet other teams from Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana and as far away as New Braden, Illinois.

Good luck to Dakota and the Shallowater team.

## Piano Auditions On Tap Soon

The American College of Musicians, the largest music event in the world will soon have auditions across the nation. Piano pupils from the class of Mrs. Ross (Patsy) Herrington, 217 Morris, Quitaque, Texas have registered as candidates for membership in the National Fraternity of Student Musicians, sponsored by the National Guild of Piano Teachers, of which their teacher is a member.

This group of young piano students will play in the National Piano Playing Auditions, Fine Arts Center, Plainview, Texas and strive for District, State or National honors which the mother organization will confer according to the number of pieces chosen from the masters of pianoforte literature each student can creditably perform in the presence of an imported examiner of note.

From coast to coast over 119,931 enthusiastic piano pupils of the nation will participate in this annual national piano-playing event being held in 843 music centers of the country and every entrant worth his salt will be certificated, given a gold or bronze embossed pin, a year's membership in the National Fraternity of Student Musicians and Piano Hobbyists of the World.

Begun at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas, in 1929, national headquarters are still maintained in Austin, Texas.

Names of local entrants are Jamie Wellman, Lindsey Jennings, Christopher Taylor, Madelyn Ramsey, Olivia Greene, Randa McBee, Brandi Rice, Chase Maynard, Celia Johnson, Mindy Proctor, Ashley Roys, Magan Whittington, Jana Merrell and Melody Farley. Katherine Piggis is an organ student. Traci Ham will audition in the Lubbock Center.

## Junior Class Bake Sale

The Junior Class of Valley School is sponsoring a bake sale Saturday morning, April 26, 1997 at Lacy Dry Goods in Turkey to help raise money for the prom.

The sale will begin at 9 a.m. If you would like something special baked, call Jackie Jenkins at 806-423-1127.

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Bonneville SE	\$15900	\$14900
Skylark 4 dr.	\$11300	\$10300
Century	\$11700	\$10700
Regal Custom 4 dr.	\$13000	\$11995
Safari Mini-Van	\$17800	\$15995
Safari Mini-Van All-Wheel Drive	\$18800	\$16300
Cavalier 4 dr.	\$11200	\$10200
Cadillac Sedan DeVille	\$24400	\$22400

1997  
 LeSabre Custom, \$17000 \$15995

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## Local Area 817 Area Code Will Change To 940 Area Code May 25

Texans are being reminded by their telephone service provider that the three-month transitional dialing period for the new 254 and 940 area codes will begin Sunday, May 25. The 254 and 940 area codes will serve the southern and northern regions of the previous 817 area code, while Tarrant County and the immediate Fort Worth region retain the 817 area code.

The transitional dialing period provides a three-month window when callers should begin using the new area codes to familiarize themselves with them. The mandatory dialing period, when callers must use the new area code, will begin Sunday, August 24, 1997.

During the transitional period, customers can dial 817 when making calls into the 254 and 940 areas, and their calls will be completed. For one month after the mandatory period begins next August, customers who use the wrong area code when making a call will hear a recorded message that explains the number dialed is either in the 254, 817 or 940 area code.

The 940 area code will serve the northern region of the previous 817 area code, including the cities of Wichita Falls, Childress, Decatur, Denton, Gainesville, Graham, Jacksboro, Mineral Wells, and Vernon. The region served by 940 contains an estimated 352,000 access lines.

The 254 area code will serve the southern region of the previous 817 area code, including the cities of Waco, Belton, Breckenridge, Cameron, Gatesville, Glen Rose, Hillsboro, Groesbeck, Marlin and Stephenville. The 254 region contains an estimated 198,000 businesses and residential access lines.

### Floyd County Men Of Integrity Meet

The Floyd County Men of Integrity, the Floyd County Promise Keepers group, has scheduled an area wide men's rally on Monday, April 28, 1997 at 7:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Floydada. The address is 401 S. Main Street.

Men of all races and denominations are encouraged to come and hear Doug Cherry speak about what Jesus Christ has done in his life. It is hoped that this will affirm each man's commitment to his God, his family and his church.

The 817 area code will continue to serve Tarrant County and the immediate Fort Worth area, including the cities of Grandview, Cleburne, Granbury, Weatherford, Springtown, Azle, Rhome, Grapevine, Euless, Arlington, Mansfield and Alvarado. The 817 region contains an estimated 753,000 access lines.

All business customers throughout the state are encouraged to contact their private branch exchange (PBX) vendor to ensure that their PBX and other telecommunications equipment are programmed to send and receive calls related to the 254 and 940 area codes as well as others around the country.

Additionally, Texas businesses should begin making the necessary changes to company letterheads, advertising and promotional materials and business cards to reflect the new area code. Once the transitional dialing period commences, telephone customers should reprogram residential and business voice dial, speed dial and auto dial services on telephones and fax machines.



Angel Falls, the highest waterfall in the world has an unbroken drop of 2,648 feet.



**MOST REVEREND JOHN WALTER YANTA, THE SEVENTH BISHOP OF AMARILLO WILL BE VISITING THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN QUITAQUE SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 1997 FROM 2 P.M. UNTIL 3 P.M. WITH SUPPER TO FOLLOW.**



White Sands Missile Range is the largest all-land rocket testing range in the U.S. Located in New Mexico, it covers 2,226,013 acres.

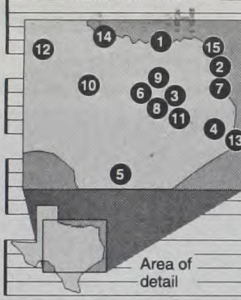
Freeze leftover meats and vegetables in meal-size packages. Serve later as "T.V. dinners."

Cool unfrosted cakes thoroughly before storing, if covered warm, they can get sticky.

## Keeping an eye on Texas

### Music greats

Texas stars shine in music halls of fame.



### Texas legends and their birthplaces:

- Country Music Hall of Fame**
- 1 Gene Autry, Tioga
  - 2 Vernon Dalhart, Jefferson
  - 3 Lefty Frizzell, Corsicana
  - 4 George Jones, Saratoga
  - 5 Hubert Long, Poteet
  - 6 Willie Nelson, Abbott
  - 7 Tex Ritter and Jim Reeves, both from Panola Co.
  - 8 Hank Thompson, Waco
  - 9 Ernest Tubb, Crisp
  - 10 Grant Turner, Abilene
  - 11 Bob Wills, Kosse

### Rock and Roll Hall of Fame

- 12 Buddy Holly, Lubbock
- 13 Janis Joplin, Port Arthur
- 14 Roy Orbison, Vernon
- 15 T-Bone Walker, Linden

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Music Office, Country Music Hall of Fame, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Texas Almanac.

## Financing For Small Business Workshop

There will be a workshop on "Financing Options for Small Business," Wednesday, April 30, 1997 at the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), 2579 South Loop 289, Lubbock Texas. The workshop is being sponsored by Texas Tech University's Small Business Development Center, the Service Corp of Retired Executives (SCORE), and the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The workshop begins at 7 p.m.

Subjects for the workshop include: "Financing Options: All You Should Know." There is no registration fee for the workshop but pre-registration is encouraged due to limited space.

Information will be available on what a business owner should have before applying for a loan, what the banker is looking for, information in a business plan, and the programs and services available from the Small Business Administration. This is an opportunity for small business owners and prospective business owners to learn about financing options and the SBA Guaranty Loan Program.

Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made, if requested in advance.

For more information or registration contact Sandra Caldwell with the TTU SBDC at 806/745-1637 or 800-9922-7232.



It's a good idea to allow gelatin mixture to thicken to the consistency of unbeaten egg white before adding any fruits, vegetables, nuts, etc.

Historians believe magnetic compasses were first used to guide ships around 1100.

## FLMOT NEWS

### Flomot News

by Earlyne Jameson OVERHEARD

A young boy and his playmate were contemplating the family's bathroom scale.

"How do you work this thing?" asked the playmate.

"I dunno," the boy replied. "All I know is you stand up on it and it makes you mad!"

Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter were in Lubbock last Friday and joining them for a restaurant meal were Mr. and Mrs. Dwain Milam of Petersburg, Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Sehon of Ropesville and Cindy Shorter and Chad Calvert of Lubbock. The Shorters enjoyed the Old Time Gospel performance at the Cactus Theater before returning home. Mrs. Shorter attended to business in Lubbock Monday.

Mary Ellen Barton and Viola Stinson visited Saturday in Paducah in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jones. Other guests were Clinton Stinson of Dallas and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stinson of Paducah. Viola and Clinton enjoyed events at Paducah's Old Settlers' Reunion and renewing friendships.

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Morris attended to business in Searcy, Arkansas this week. Visiting in their home Sunday for Wendell's birthday were daughter and family, Mrs. Cindy Green, Ashley and Annie of Matador.

Bengie and J.J. Hughes of Abernathy visited the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Butch Hughes.

Mr. and Mrs. John Speers of Floydada visited with Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin, Wednesday.

Visiting Saturday with Mrs. Annie B. Cloyd were Dickie Cloyd and son Jason of Memphis.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Bond in Turkey during the week were their sons and wives, Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Gates of Temecula, California, and Mr. and Mrs. Victor Bond of Oklahoma City. They attended the Gospel Concert at Flomot Community Center Saturday night and Flomot Baptist Church services Sunday.

Mrs. Jimmie Matney and sisters of Glen Rose visited Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Shorter and attended the Gospel Concert.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hunter Saturday night and attending the Gospel Concert were Mrs. Anita Carter and daughter Rebekah of Lubbock, and H.G. Hunter of Quitaque. H.G. was taken by ambulance Sunday a.m. to Lockney Hospital suffering blood pressure complications. He returned home Monday, and Larry Hays is staying with him.

Funeral services were held for Houston Wedeman, 80, of Brownwood Saturday, April 19. He and his parents Mr. and Mrs. Dan Wedeman were former Flomot residents. He was the cousin of Mrs. Edith Washigton.

Visitors of Mrs. Sylvia Lee Martin this weekend was her sister Mrs. Letha Fay Thomas of Odesa, Mrs. Nova Turner of Matador, and Eldon Martin of Quitaque.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Lee visited the weekend in Kerrville with daughter and family Mrs. Teresa McGraw, Kellan and Kacee.

Mrs. Kathryn Martin of Whiteflat and Art Green were in Floydada Friday for her a dental appointment and continued to Plainview on business. Art visited in Matador Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Green, and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Green and children.

Julie Clay of Lubbock visited the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay and they attended the Gospel Concert.

Beryl Blackshear of Forrestville, Calif., arrived April 15 to attend the funeral of his sister, Viola Calvert. He visited until Monday, April 21 when his nephew and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Calvert accompanied him to Lubbock Airport for his return trip home.



Mushroom hunting? Look for more mushrooms when the apple trees are blooming.

Most of the tea consumed in the U.S. is what's known as black tea. The leaves have been treated so they oxidize and turn black, providing a strong, rich taste.

Welcome to the  
**26th Anniversary of BOB WILLS DAY**  
in  
**TURKEY, TEXAS**  
Saturday, April 26, 1997

Many of the former Texas Playboys will be featured

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Thursday, April 24th  
Autograph Party/Jam Session - 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM-meet some of the former Texas Playboys. \$5.00 per person-old high school gym

Friday, April 25th  
Dance - 9 P.M. to 12 midnight at the Bob Wills Center. former Texas Playboys will be featured \$8.00 Couples \$15.00

Saturday, April 26th  
Pancake Breakfast - 6:00 AM - 7 Turkey Quitaque Lions Club, \$5.00 per person, all you can eat. Bob Wills Center Cafeteria  
Parade - Saturday morning 10:00 A.M. downtown main street Turkey  
BBQ - Saturday 11:00 A.M. at the Bob Wills Center \$7.00 The "Muleskinners" Khrya Shriners will cater the event. Proceeds benefit the Shriners and The Bob Wills Foundation  
Old Fiddlers Contest - Saturday 12:00 Noon at the Auditorium Center and Gym. \$4.00  
Afternoon Program - FREE! Saturday 2:30 P.M. at the old football field east of Bob Wills Center. The program consists of all the former Texas Playboys present. This will be one of the largest groups ever assembled in one place!! Master of Ceremonies - Dr. Charles R. Townsend Grammy Award winning author  
Saturday Night Dance - 7:00 P.M. featuring Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys. \$8.00 Couples \$15.00  
Midnight Breakfast - 11:00 P.M. at the Bob Wills Cafeteria

Sunday, April 27th  
Bob Wills Community Worship Service - 8:30 A.M. at the old football field

ALSO

The Bob Wills Museum - at the Bob Wills Center Mon - Fri. (year round). Also visit the Bob Wills monument at the West end of Main St  
Bob Wills Foundation Souvenirs - at the Bob Wills Center. Tapes - Records - Caps - T-Shirts - Bob Wills Stamp Cachets  
Arts & Crafts - Saturday. many artisans exhibit their wares.  
Bob Wills Concessions - East end of Bob Wills Center. BBQ and soft drinks.

The Bob Wills Foundation is a nonprofit organization operated solely by volunteers  
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Courtesy Of  
**THE BOB WILLS FOUNDATION**

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MSRP ..... \$17,909  
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\*\* Final Payment of \$10,209



# Wills Dominant Figure In Western Swing Honored at 7th Western Music Festival

from 1995 Western Music Festival

In any social movement there is usually a dominant figure who emerges as its symbol. In the case of Texas music's most distinctive style, western swing, the symbol of the movement is the person who gave it its identity, defined its direction, and popularized it on a nationwide scale. That person was Bob Wills, and the story of Bob Wills and western swing is the same. James Robert Wills was born in 1905 on a farm in Limestone County near Kosse, Texas. Jim Rob as he was known in his youth grew up in a musical family of frontier fiddlers. When he was eight the family moved to the town of Turkey in the panhandle of Texas. It was there at the age of ten that he played the fiddle at his first ranch dance as a fill-in for his father. Turkey has celebrated, for many years, his life and music with a Bob Wills Day that annually draws several thousand people. It is a little overwhelming since the town has a population of only six hundred.

Bob left Turkey in 1929 and took up residence in Fort Worth. After a brief stint on radio he joined a traveling medicine show. While in it he met guitarist Herman Arnspiger and later teamed up with him to form the Wills Fiddle Band. They played for parties and private dances and also performed on radio six days a week. In the fall of 1930 Wills and Arnspiger teamed with brothers Milton and Durwood Brown. The group then accepted an offer with WBAP, Fort Worth's most famous and powerful station, and adopted the name Aladdin Laddies. From that point their fame and reputation spread as fast as the enthusiasm for the new music they played.

Radio exposure meant more dances with larger crowds and it led to the biggest break in Bob Wills' career. In 1931 Wills, Arnspiger and Milton Brown went to work for radio station KFJZ in Fort Worth. Their morning program was sponsored by the Burrus Mill and Elevator Company and its major product, Light Crust Flour. It was not long before the band inherited the name

"The Light Crust Doughboys." They literally ruled the airways throughout the southwest. Before the breakup of the original Doughboys a number of prominent musicians joined their ranks including Sleepy Johnson, Leon Huff, Leon McAuliffe and Bob's brother, Johnnie Lee Wills. Another personality who was associated with them was W. Lee O'Daniel, who was the general manager of Burrus Mill and became the band's master of ceremonies. He also wrote a number of songs that were performed and recorded by the Doughboys. "Pappy" O'Daniel ultimately rode the coattails of the Light Crust Doughboys to statewide acclaim, the governorship of Texas and a seat in the United States Senate.

Bob left the Doughboys in 1933 and with Johnnie Lee Wills, Kermit Whalen, Tommy Duncan and June Whalen took the name "Bob Wills and His Playboys." The Playboys moved to Waco, briefly tried Oklahoma City where they added "Texas" to their name, and then traveled on to Tulsa. During their nine year stay on radio station KVOO in Tulsa, Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys achieved their greatest artistic and commercial success. When their 1940 recording of *New San Antonio Rose* went gold, Wills and his band were firmly entrenched as the most famous western band in America. The songs that were written by Wills and his fellow band members also became American classics: *San Antonio Rose*, *Faded Love*, *Take Me Back to Tulsa*, *Eigh'r from Decatur*, *Time Changes Everything* and *Panhandle Rag*.

Bob and the Playboys moved to the west coast in the 1940's and operated from California; they were still extremely successful because of their records and radio, personal and movie appearances. This waned in the early 1950's however, as there was a decline of interest in western swing and it became dormant for about twenty years.

This dormancy remained until the renaissance of the early 1970's when a new generation discovered the music and legacy of Bob Wills, and western swing was born again.

Their last recording session was set for December 3-4, 1973, to coincide with a reunion of the group in Dallas. Bob Wills was there the first day and led the band from a wheelchair but that night he slipped into unconsciousness. The album of twenty-four songs was completed the following day and was appropriately titled, *Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys, For The Last Time*. Bob died on May 13, 1975 without ever regaining consciousness.

A list of Playboys and female singers (indicated by an asterisk) who were a part of the band at different times include: Teddy Adams, Danny Alguier, Les Anderson, Joe Andrews, Herman Arnspiger, Jesse Ashlock, Junior Bernard, Bobby Boatright, Noel Boggs, Billy Bowman, Alex Brashar, Billy Briggs, Billy Carter, Keith Coleman, Gene Crowover, Johnny Cuvillo, Smokey Dacus, Casey Dickens, Glenn Duncan, Tommy Duncan, Joe Ferguson, Benny Garcia, Gene Gasaway, Johnny Gimbel, Cameron Hill, Joe Holley, Leon Huff, Sleepy Johnson, Millard Kelso, Tag Lambert, Sonny Lansford, Doc Lewis, Jack Lloyd, O. W. Mayo (Mgr.) Leon McAuliffe, Billy McBay, Bobby McBay, \*Laura Lee McBride, Rusty McDonald, Paul McGhee, \*Dean McKinney, \*Evelyn McKinney, Zeb McNally, Tommy Morrell, Tiny Moore, Tiny Mott, Monty Mountjoy, Tommy Perkins, Leon Rausch, \*Ramona Reed, Herb Remington, Glen Rhees, Lee Ross, \*Louise Rowe, Eldon Shamblin, Al Strickland, Louie Tierney, Gene Tomlins, June Whalen, Kermit Whalen, Bob White (Steel Guitar), Bob White (Fiddle), Jimmy Widener, Billy Jack Wills, Johnnie Lee Wills, Luke Wills, Woody Wood and Jimmy Wyle.

It was with great pleasure that the Western Music Association inducted Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys into the Western Music Hall of Fame at the 1995 Western Music Festival.

# President's Message

by Dean McKinney Moore, President Western Swing Society Music News

I wish that all Western Swing Music lovers everywhere could have been with me in Turkey, Texas, the weekend of April 23-24 as we celebrated the 22nd Annual Bob Wills Day, featuring the reunion of former Texas Playboys and, of course, the music we all remember and love, Western Swing.

The festivities began with the Friday night dance hosted by Truitt Cunningham and former Texas Playboys -- and what a band it was! Featuring legends all, the musicians included leader, Truitt Cunningham (vocals/bass); Bobby Koefler (steel/vocals); Bobby Boatright, Curley Lewis and Frankie McWhorter on three fiddles; Glenn Rhees (sax); Casey Dickens (drums); Clarence Cagle (piano); Glynn Duncan (vocals); Tom Wheat (guitar), and special guest Jimmy Widener (banjo/vocals). What a rare privilege to be on the stage with these great musicians. The hall was packed with dancers (when they could find space to dance) and listeners; the crowd for the two days was estimated at around 30,000.

During Saturday morning's big parade, throngs of friends and fans lined the edge of Main Street yelling "Thank You, Playboys" and waving to us as our float passed by.

The announcer for the parade was Dr. Charles Townsend, Grammy Award winner and author of "San Antonio Rose: (the life and music of Bob Wills and The Texas Playboys)".

The parade ended at the Bob Wills Museum, which was most interesting to fans and musicians alike. Memorabilia from Bob's career and life as well as hundreds of 8x10 photos were displayed. It was thrilling to see pictures of so many musicians that my sister, Evelyn, and I worked with during

our years as members of The Texas Playboys.

After the parade, we were taken to the conference room reserved for the Playboys and Wills' family members, where we were interviewed for a television documentary in the works. It was fun hearing old "Bob" stories, as each Playboy reminisced about our experiences as band members.

Following a lovely BBQ lunch, we spent the afternoon entertaining fans on the stage at the football stadium. Have you ever been surrounded by a sea of faces? There were thousands of people, from all across the country, coming by car, motor homes and trailers, and many, by airplane. What a humbling experience it is to be so loved and honored by so many.

I couldn't end this report without thanking everyone who made us feel so welcome, especially the Bob Wills Foundation who made our visit so special and who provided our lovely accommodations at the historic Turkey Hotel. Our hosts there were Mr. and Mrs. Scott Johnson whose hospitality was truly Texan.

Thelma Hulsey and I had to leave to catch our plane back to California and therefore missed the Saturday night dance played by Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys. I'm sure it was a great success and a fitting climax to a weekend that will be long remembered. So, mark your calendars now for next year and let's see if we can't pack a few more people in the bleachers and on the dance floor. You'll be glad you did.

### Have a Great Day!

# Fashion Forecast

## Your Warm Weather Wardrobe

(NAPS)—Today's looks reflect the comfort and femininity of 1997 and the best of 20 years ago. Such favorites as slim pants, stretch jerseys, wrap dresses, ruffled blouses, and cropped ribbed sweaters are back—soft, fluid and alive with fresh color.



Pair the new trends with what you already own and you'll find yourself turning heads.

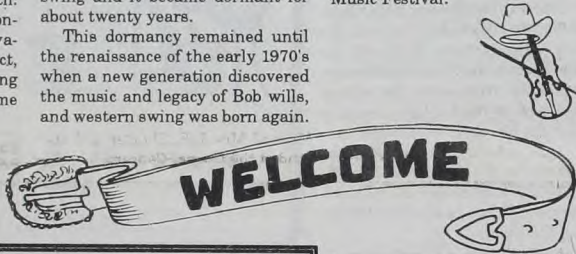
### Updating Your Wardrobe

"The trick to making your spring and summer wardrobe updates affordable is to select trends that can be easily incorporated into your existing wardrobe," states T.J. Maxx fashion spokesperson, Laura Cervone. "A citrus colored halter top and open-toed city sandal will transform a basic black pantsuit into a look that's very new. Take a peek at the pages of your favorite fashion magazines for styling tips if you're feeling hesitant."

### Five Affordable Must-Haves

- Anything Citrus—from accessories to attire; lemon, lime or tangerine
- Piqué—the fabric is cool, the look refreshing
- Cigarette Pants—sleek and slimming
- Halter Tops—updated and refined
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## Hubbin' It: The Life Of Bob Wills

by Ruth Sheldon  
PRELUDE written in 1938

The frightened mules bolted around the corner. The hub of the wagon wheel struck a huge rock and the buckboard careened madly back and forth. The frantic driver, slipping precariously from side to side, jerked the lines and pleaded and bellowed...He and the wagon were 'Hubbin' It.'

The life of Bob Wills has been like that...Meeting adversity at every corner.

Always he has been forced to do things the hard way. He came from a way of life that was like quicksand, treacherously and unrelentingly trying to suck him down into its oblivion. His struggle for freedom has led him to do and be many things—cotton picker, preacher, hobo, carpenter, roughneck, surveyor, shoe shiner, insurance man, car salesman, barber, medicine show entertainer.

As unthinkingly as a man carries his nose on his face, he carried his fiddle in his hand through all his trials, never dreaming that one day it would be the instrument by which he could fulfill himself.

Bob Wills is not a great man, but he has accomplished a great thing. In a world where too much acreage

is ploughed by shells rather than mules; where empty bellies, twisted minds, oppressed souls, enslaved bodies make the nightmares of sleep indistinguishable from the nightmares of wakeful living; where all things exist, happiness is as elusive as an echo. Those who can make others joyous and carefree for even a little while today are giving as great a service to mankind as the scientists of many professions who fight to rid the world of disease, ignorance, crazy economic structures, and war. Bob Wills brings gaiety and forgetfulness to thousands of men and women with his music. There are many entertainers who have accomplished this, but few of them have the strong bond between themselves and their public that Bob has with his. Bob is still the cotton picker from Texas whose grammar was learned in the fields, although he has become the greatest entertainer in the entire southwest. He plays for the great mass of farmers and hard laboring men and women from whose ranks he came. Because they know all this about him, he is greater to them than any entertainer in the world.

There is the bond of 'hubbin' it' between them.

## Yesteryear

Taken from the May 4, 1972 issue of The Valley Tribune

Bob Wills, originator of Western Swing, hometown Turkey, Texas came home Saturday to be present at a program in his honor and to see a plaque which will be erected near his old home place "down between the rivers," received a very warm and tumultuous welcome from the thousands present, those of his own generation who actually knew him or were actually familiar with his unique style of music by way of radio, movies and records.

Estimates of the crowd present ran from 2000 to 3000, but one thing was very evident—everyone was enjoying it.

The festivities got underway at 9:45 a.m. with a parade down Main Street with a number of very attractive floats, with a western and music theme, naturally. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cubs and Brownies, old automobiles and various other items being displayed in the parade.

Following the parade the crowd advanced to the school auditorium where preparations for the old fiddlers contest were underway. It was here in the auditorium that the real spirit of the occasion began for many present for three of Bob's old bandmen got together and played some of the music made famous by the Texas Playboys. The first number they swung into was *Faded Love* and many eyes were wet with tears before this was over, for this was pure Bob Wills music but there was no Bob Wills present with his well-known singing out of "Ohhh Yeahhh" and other sayings.

Barbecued beef and buffalo with all the trimmings was served to around 2000 beginning at 11 o'clock and people then began to file out to the football field where the program was to take place. When visitors arrived at the football field they found that the guest of honor had arrived and was sitting in his car with his wife, and for the next hour a steady stream of fans filed by his car shaking hands and greeting Bob, who had a big smile for everyone, although speech is difficult for him now.

At one o'clock Bob was placed in his wheelchair and was lifted to the stage where several of his old Texas Playboys were already assembled and set up and ready to make music. Those present were his brothers, Johnny Lee and Billy Jack Wills, Leon McAuliffe, fiddlers, Jesse

Fourteen were entered in the old fiddlers contest. First place was won by Bartow Riley of Olton; second place was won by Sleepy Johnson of Fort Worth; third, Bill King of Dozier and fourth was won by Dale Hendrick of Spearman.

Lee Vardy welcomed the visitors to Turkey, and Mayor Byron Young expressed appreciation to all who were present to make the day a success.

A memorial of stainless steel, pyramid shaped with a fiddle on top, will be erected at Turkey, and it is reported that plans are to move the old Wills home into Turkey and restore it sometime in the future. The proceeds from Saturday's cele-

Ashlock, Sleepy Johnson, Curly Lewis, pianist Al Stricklin, saxophonist Glen Reese, guitarist Billy Doshier, drummer Glen Riley and guitarist Chuck Adams.

When all was in readiness Bob issued the command for Leon to "take it away" and Leon swung into the always-popular *Steel Guitar Rag* which brought thunderous applause, and even more applause when Bob chimed in with an occasional "Yeahhh!" this always bringing a big smile to the face of Leon McAuliffe. This was what the people came to hear and the crowd ate it up. After awhile Leon asked the crowd for requests, then he asked the "boss" what he wanted to hear and they played several numbers he asked for. After about an hour of music the band was signing off with a couple of old fiddle numbers and on the last one Bob Wills struggled to reach Sleepy Johnson, who was playing at the time, finally getting his attention and took the fiddle from Johnson's hands. Bob finally tucked the instrument under his chin and with Johnson handling the bow, Bob fingered the notes of the number the band was playing. No need to report that this broke up the fans.

The old Playboys were having a grand time as anyone there could see, and several of them told the crowd so and how much they appreciated the chance to be with their old boss again. Following the program of music the invocation was led by State Rep. Phil Cates of Lefors, Candidate for Representative Eddie J. Leary of Childress led the Pledge to the Flag, and State Representative Tom Christian, representing Governor Preston Smith, read a message from the Governor honoring and citing Bob Wills' for his contribution to the field of western music. Bill Buxton, from Oklahoma Governor David Hall's office, also read a message from the Oklahoma Governor citing Bob Wills for his contribution to the field of western music and also "claiming him as an Oklahoman in spite of the fact that he was born in Texas."

Harold (Tex) Brown, Yale, Oklahoma, who is president of both the Bob Wills Memorial Fund and the Cimarron Valley Historical Society, presented Wills with the plaque designating the Ox Bow Crossing near the old John Wills home several miles southwest of Turkey. Also present for the occasion and speaking briefly was the Rev. Billy James Hargis of Tulsa, head of the Christian Crusade.

Plans are to make the celebration an annual affair. It was reported that Mrs. Wills and Bob said that if it were humanly possible they would be back next year, and the old members of the Playboys also promised to be back.

This reporter has no way of knowing, but he suspects that Bob Wills was a very proud and happy man Saturday, in spite of his affliction. It was a good day for the man, who was wearing the famous white Stetson hat, and puffed on the ever-present cigar—and he smiled a lot.



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# Turkey News

THINGS SEEN OR HEARD

by Ann Coker  
Jim and Barbara June Wynn were in town over the week-end. They were here to attend the 50th wedding anniversary for Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Wynn in Estelline. The Jim Wynns live in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Bettie Green spent last week in Little Rock, Arkansas staying with her grandchildren, Justin and Jamie Green. Their parents, Jerry and Kathy Green were on a cruise.

Ina Lee and Beryl Blackshear from Forrestville, California were week-end guests in the homes of Arlie Williams and U. F. and Ann Coker. They attended church services at the Methodist Church on Sunday morning, their former home church. They had come for the funeral services of Beryl's sister, Viola Calvert.

The town of Turkey certainly filled up over last week-end. There are mobil homes in nearly every vacant spot. The stores were quite busy on Monday.

Mary Loury spent last week-end in Hamlin with the Allen Bolts. She enjoyed staying with her grandson, Clayton, while the rest of the family were busy with school activities.

Judy and Cleo Jordan were in Amarillo last Friday. Cleo was there for a doctor's appointment.

Bill and Cleo Green of Slaton visited Lewis and Mozelle Eudy Friday night, they were working at their place, Oak Creek. Cleo decorated family graves while here in Dreamland Cemetery.

Received a letter from Mary Hogue recently. Mary, who lives in Post, was renewing her Valley Tribune. She said she really looks forward to receiving the paper and reading about the Turkey people. Billy Joe and Marjorie Pinkerton had recently visited with her and she thoroughly enjoyed their visit.

The Turkey Bank received a check on Monday from Smith Reese. It was \$150.00 donation to the Turkey Fire Department and Wilda Fuston and the bank crew and the Fire Department were quite pleased over the generous donation.

Therma Farley's daughter, Kathie Phipps, her son Bob and three grandchildren, Heather, John and Brodly from Almagordo, New Mexico came for the Bob Wills Celebration to visit with Therma. They will return home on Sunday.

## Turkey Sr. Citizens

The Turkey Senior Citizens met Tuesday, April 15 with 15 members present. Pres. Louis Randell called the meeting to order.

After a delicious meal, the group played table games.

Next meeting will be April 29, and Chelsea Wheeler is to sing for the group. Everyone is urged to be present and encourage this young lady with her talent.

## TAFCE CLUB

The Turkey TAFCE Club met Monday night, April 21, with 15 members and one guest present. Brad Schnitker of Memphis, the Hall County agent, gave some very interesting tips on gardening, fertilizing, etc.

President Kristi Morgan opened the meeting. She replaces Vernell Cotton, who got married and moved away.

Jean Mullin gave a very good devotional, and led in the blessing of the food. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Belle Davis.

Plans for Bob Wills Day were finalized, and the club will be manning a food booth at the event. It will be in the International building on main street. Booth will open at 8 a.m. and serve until 2:00 p.m.



## McKinney Sisters Dean and Evelyn Join The Wills Band

by Dean McKinney

"Come at once, am sure salary and job will make you both happy. wire when you will arrive."

Thus reads the telegram in our scrap-book from Bob Wills, dated February, 12, 1946 from Fresno, California. How prophetic those words were. All the happiness of a successful career, happy marriage and three wonderful children began with our response to that telegram.

My sister, Evelyn and I, known as the McKinney Sisters, had gone about as far as we could go, musically, in our hometown of Birmingham, Alabama. We had worked hard perfecting our close-harmony sound and broadening our repertoire to include all kinds of music. Besides country, western, old time gospel and hymns, we worked with local orchestras singing popular music.

Our hard work had finally paid off for us....We traveled with an evangelist and were on the Mutual Network in St. Louis, Missouri, and were heard on radio in many states in the south over a regional transcription network. We also were on the Armed Forces Network. We had just returned from Chicago and singing with the Ted Weems Orchestra when The Texas Playboys came to Birmingham on tour. They did a show on our radio station, WBRC, and the management asked Bob if he would listen to Evelyn and me sing. Looking back on that day and knowing Bob as we got to know him later on, how he must have dreaded that audition!

But the audition went well, and he must have liked what he heard, because he said he was negotiating for an ABC Network Radio program out of San Francisco, California, and if it came through, he would send for us. Well it did, he did, we did and the rest is history!

What a thrill it was to be working with the number one performing Western Swing Band in the country! It wasn't a job, it was a joy. such great musicians! Just to name a few, there were Eldon Shamblin, Herb Remington, Joe Holly, Jesse Ashlock and Mancel Tierney. Also included were Millard Kelso, Luke

Wills, Billy Jack Wills, Johnny Cuvillo, Alex Brashear, Tommy Duncan, Junior Barnard and that wonderful five string electric mandolin player, Tiny Moore, who became my dear husband for just under forty years.

Under the unique leadership and direction of Bob Wills, this group excelled, and the music they played will never die. Many have tried to duplicate their sound but very few, if any, have succeeded.

Evelyn and I are grateful to Bob Wills for those years. Every vocalist and musician should be so lucky as to have a Bob Wills in their life. Unfortunately, there was only one, but his music will live forever.

So, as you listen to his music, we hope you will know a little better this "one of a kind" man, Bob Wills.

## New Music In Review

by Dean McKinney Moore

Bob Wills' brand of Western Swing music is very definitely alive and well.

Former Texas Playboy Reunion Live At The Belle Starr Theater under the direction of Truitt Cunningham.

The excitement of a live performance is felt in every tune as Truitt manages to draw from this group of heavyweight legendary Texas Playboys the undeniable Bob Wills sound. To those of us who were there and remember that incomparable sound, it is like stepping back in time. Providing the sound are: Truitt Cunningham (vocals and bass), Bobby Koefler (steel and vocal), Bobby Boatright (fiddle), Curley Lewis (fiddle), Glenn Rhees (sax), Casey Dickens (drums), Eldon Shamblin (guitar), and Clarence Cagle (piano).

Such favorites as *San Antonio Rose*, *Kind Of Love*, *South*, *Feelin' Bad*, *Trouble in Mind*, *Roly Poly* and *Ida Red* on one side are great example of the musicians assembled for this tape, and Truitt's vocals are pure and bold. He sings with assurance and authority, just as he leads his band. On side two are such favorites as *La Golondrina*, *Bring it On Down*, *Don't Let The Deal Go Down*, *Milkcow Blues*, *Steel Guitar Rag*, *Hawaiian War Chant*, *Faded Love* and *Goodnight Little Sweetheart*.

The selections of instrumentals and vocals for this tape cover many years in the career of Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys. May of them were recorded in the late 1940's and I recall them well.



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# Fiddlin' Legend Bob Wills Called Turkey Home

by Jim Matthews

Turkey, Texas sits like a proud grandparent, rocking in a chair on the front porch and remembering the good-ole-days. Her glorious past included a bustling town of 2,500 who faced up to the hardships of growing cotton and eking out a living from unforgiving soil. And then, out of the Depression's dust and hardships era came the Fiddlin' Legend to make it famous.

Nobody suspected during the era of the roaring 1920s that Bob Wills, later the King of Western Swing, would someday bring fame to Turkey as the home-town of Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys. It is also home to the historic Hotel Turkey. Since 1972, on the last weekend of April, Turkey plays host to the Texas Panhandle's own "spring break." Then, this sleepy town of 571 people girds itself for 15,000 people who converge from all over the nation for Bob Wills Day... a weekend of western swing.

Jim Rob Wills, or Bob as he was known, was born March 6, 1905, on a farm near Kosse in Limestone County, Texas. Between Little Red River and Big Red River, about a mile off the highway that connects Turkey and Lakeview, now stands a decaying house that the John Wills family lived in. Charles R. Townsend, Professor Emeritus of History at WTAMU, has written the most comprehensive history of Wills ever printed.

Townsend wrote, "Merle Haggard called Wills 'the best damn fiddler player in the world.' A *New York Times* obituary said he was a super giant before there were super giants, an Elvis Presley of the 1930s and 1940s." "he brought country music closer to the city when he created western swing, a dynamic hybrid of New Orleans jazz, blues, and folk fiddle music that kept a Depression populace on its feet."

Wills tried farming, but his love for music made him strive to make it a career. In spite of a musical financial failure in Borger in 1927, he still wanted music. However, he and his wife and children moved to Amarillo to find work.

It was there he decided he should learn barbering and entered Dendy's Barber College. In the spring of 1928, he took the fourth chair at Ham's Barber Shop in Turkey. Then he got his chance to give all his time to music. In the fall of 1929, a medicine show came to Turkey and Wills out-fiddled the show's top fiddler. He joined the troop, but after two weeks was broke and back home, asking for his job at the barber shop.

The 1930's were the desolate days of the Depression. The ranchers and farmers in the area held family dances and at these dances, Bob and his dad John Wills were the most sought-after fiddle players. But Wills wasn't the only well known name in Turkey those days. In 1927, the Hotel Turkey had been built and is now a state historical site. It ranks right along with the Hotel Menger in San Antonio, the Hotel Galvez in Galveston and other famous

names as one of the best accommodations. It is said to be the oldest continuously operating hotel in the state.

In those days Turkey had five drug stores, four dry goods stores, and several eating places, plus a good farming community with which drummers did business. The main street was lively, and the theatre attracted good crowds. On Saturdays, cars were parked solid in front of the stores.

Talking with Virginia in the hotel drawing room made the memories of by-gone days come alive. The furnishings were early 1900s and the ornate ceiling was a material popular in those days, and irreplaceable today. Slowly revolving was the air conditioner of yesterday, a ceiling fan. Lace curtains graced the windows and French doors opened onto a porch occupied by cane bottomed rockers which had been hundreds of miles. In a small cubicle off the entrance was a "crank-n-holler" phone, whose walnut cabinet bore signs of many conversations.

Looking up at the fan, Virginia said, "During the Depression, Mother took down the fan and traded it to the grocer for meat to serve the family and guests. Times were tough, but we all seemed to grow and thrive in the atmosphere of a small town that relied on agriculture and cattle - and 2,500 residents."

About that same time, Bob Wills formed a group called Bob Wills Fiddle Band. When Leo (Pappy) Daniels hired him for his famous radio show, Wills and the band became The Light Crust Dough Boys. Wills was a showman through and through. His fiddle and big stogie were trademarks. Sadly, he was known to have an alcohol problem. One band member said, "He didn't drink constantly, but when he did... it could be a few days before we saw him again."

Because of his drinking bouts, Daniels told Wills that the next time he got drunk he could fire himself. He did... and he did. It was then he identified the band as 'Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys... formerly The Light Crust Doughboys.'

Daniels sued three times from 1933 to 1935 because Wills used his trademark name. Each time Wills won the case. Finally, Daniels asked him to come back and Bob refused.

Wills and Turkey, Texas contin-

ued to gain attention, partly because Wills always referred to Turkey as, "My home-town." He played there whenever he was in the area and right up to his death in 1975, still relished the chance to come back home.

Ann Coker, Turkey resident, enjoys telling the story of Bob Wills Day. "The first Bob Wills Day was in 1972," she said. "A foundation had been formed and in 1973, the Bob Wills Monument was erected. It has been held every year since and there is now a Bob Wills Museum. In 1993 the United States Post Office immortalized Bob Wills with his own postage stamp. The event has become so big that the Highway Department has to reroute traffic and close off downtown streets to automobiles."

"The Hotel Turkey is sold out a year in advance," said Gary and Suzie. "The Bob Wills Foundation reserves it for the Wills family and remaining members of the Texas Playboys. But, that is only part of the story. People see the publicity and start calling for reservations right after Bob Wills Day. All year long, people come to Turkey to see the museum and have the chance to stay in this authentic 1927 hotel. Our summer months are full and clientele comes from across the

state. "What's really interesting is to see the hoards begin arriving days in advance of the festival. There are motor homes, campers... and every other form of conveyance known to man. People sleep in tents, the back seats of cars and vehicles completely engulf the football field and all the acres around it. Someone called it the world's biggest tailgate party. Some people stay 50 miles away and fight traffic jams to make it to the events that always begin with a big dance on Friday night. When the festival is over, the massive crowd expresses their satisfaction for having been there... and plans are already in the making for

coming back the next year.

"Turkey, Texas is king-of-the-hill for about two weeks every April. This year's Bob Wills Day will begin Friday, April 25. The town is already hard at work preparing for our day," they concluded.

No story about Turkey, Texas and Bob Wills would be complete without something that Ann Coker recounted. "At the first Bob Wills Day, in 1972, Bob came even though he had suffered a debilitating stroke. The program was at the football field and began at 1:00

p.m. Bob arrived in an ambulance and was lifted into a wheel chair and brought to the stage to join his old Texas Playboys. Bob issued the command for Leon McAuliffe to swing into the popular 'Steel Guitar Rag.' After two hours of concert, Bob indicated to Sleepy Johnson that he wanted to try his hand with the fiddle. Tucking the instrument under his chin and with Johnson handling the bow, Bob lingered the notes of the song. That was the highlight of the day, and there wasn't a dry eye in the crowd."

A trip to Turkey, Texas may be a journey into the past for some... but, for others, it's keeping the dream alive and reliving the days we wish were still here.

Standing on the porch of Hotel Turkey, you can almost hear the doodle-bug chug into town and Model Ts clatter up to the front door. Wouldn't those folks relish the festival of Bob Wills Days?

## Howdy!

Ya'll Come Have

A Good Time!

### BOB WILLS DAY

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Don't Miss it! BOB WILLS DAY in Turkey. RHODERICK IRRIGATION Silvertown, TX. Includes illustration of a cowboy.

We're Glad You're Here Enjoy Your Stay & Bob Wills Music! PINKEY'S FLOWERS & GIFTS. Includes illustration of a cowboy.

Welcome Visitors We're Glad You Came! Home of Western Swing BOB WILLS CELEBRATION PANHANDLE COMPRESS. Includes illustration of a man and woman dancing.

"Happy Trails" RAILS TO TRAILS LODGES Restored. Our Goal Your Comfort. 1/2 Block South of Light to Hotel Office Quitaque, TX 79255. Lee & Pearl Tapp Box 146 Phone (806) 455-1344. Includes illustrations of a horse and a bicycle.

Welcome! BOB WILLS DAY CELEBRATION CHAMBERLAIN MOTORS CLARENDON, TEXAS CLAUDE ROBISON. Includes illustration of a cowboy.





Turkey, Texas—Population 600, located at the Junction of US Highways 86 & 70 in the Texas Panhandle, 15 miles east of Caprock Canyons State Park. Bob Wills Celebration last Saturday in April. (photo courtesy Gary L. Johnson)

## Life Of Bob Wills

### The Early Years

Born March 6, 1905 in Limestone County, Texas, Jim Rob Wills was the oldest of ten children born to Emmaline Foley Wills and John Tompkins Wills. Bob was named for his great uncle James Robert Wills.

He was the third generation of his family to be born in Texas. Both of Jim Rob's grandfathers were fiddle players. His father, nine uncles and four aunts also played the fiddle.

Dr. Saladin H. Wills, Bob's great grandfather came to East Texas in 1845 along with three brothers, they were of English and Irish ancestry.

The Wills family moved to Hall County in 1913. Bob was eight years old. The trip was 500 miles. On the way to Hall County they pulled cotton all the way from Limestone County. This was the beginning of the negro influence on his music, the rhythm that he used later in life to pay with more feeling than formal training.

During the winter of 1913 and 1914 the Wills family lived in a dugout. But in the spring of 1914, a farm was rented from the Ogdens Ranch. The house even had a phone. Bob attended Newlin School that year. After renting another farm in 1915 the children went to Friendship School.

Bob's family wanted him to grow up and cherish music but never did they intend for him to grow up and

become a professional musician.

Ranch dances that the Wills family played for were a great influence on Bob's music. This was the main social life of people living on ranches at this time. Bob played the mandolin and backup guitar for his dad.

The first time Bob played in public was in 1916. At 15 years old he played the 6 tunes he knew over and over at a ranch dance until 2 a.m. because his father failed to show up on time for the dance. He continued to play for dances until 1969.

The family then bought a farm between the Big Red River and the Little Red River which was about midway between Turkey and Lakeview near the Oxbow Crossing. About 1922 they built a three bedroom home here and painted it bright yellow.

The first night in the new house a group of riders came by and asked the family to play. One of these was I. D. House of Turkey who later married Eloise Wills.

### The Middle Years

One of his first jobs in the early '20s was as a construction worker in Amarillo. While in Amarillo he made his radio debut at two early radio stations, KGRS and WDAG.

In 1925 Bob returned to the farm once again and began playing for

local dances but was soon roaming again.

Bob began selling insurance in 1927. He also entered barber college in Amarillo in 1927 and took music lessons in his spare time.

The end of 1927 saw Bob barbering for the natives of Roy, New Mexico. While there he organized a band made up of Mexicans. Bob often played the drums with this band. This is where he began to play with the Spanish beat to his fiddle music. He not only had the southwest beat to his music but the negro spiritual and Texas ranch dance music also influenced the beat and rhythm of his music.

While in Roy, New Mexico Bob composed the "Spanish-Two Step" which he rearranged in 1930 to make the hit song "San Antonio Rose."

Early in the spring of the following year he and his wife returned to Turkey. He began to earn \$35 to \$40 per week. The problem was that Saturday was his busiest day and therefore he was not able to play for the dances that he loved.

Jim Rob took the fourth chair at Ham's barber shop. He lived at Turkey over a year this time in a little rented two room house. He and his wife, Edna liked living in Turkey and called it his hometown. On January 15, 1929, his daughter Robbie Jo was born in Turkey. By this time he was one of the best known fiddlers in West Texas. Only his father, John Wills was better known.

The first time he rented a garage in Turkey and had his own dance, his part of the take was \$190.00, more money than he had ever had in his life at once.

In 1929, Bob left Turkey for good. Bob was considered an impetuous and impulsive person who failed to consider how his decisions and actions would affect other people, often bringing misery and unhappiness to himself and often to those closest to him.

In Fort Worth he got a job with a medicine show. He hocked his barber tools and paid \$3 down on a fiddle. He got a band together and showed up at WBAP Radio Station where he had talked to the manager the day before. He and his band began to play a 15 minute show that day for "nothing." Bob and his band worked at the flour mill 10 hours a day and played at 7 a.m. in the morning for \$7.50 per day.

He fiddled in a band with W. Lee O'Daniel. In 1929 W. Lee (Pappy) O'Daniel was the announcer for the Light Crust Dough Boys. He, O'Daniel, was to become governor of Texas in 1938.

From Fort Worth Bob traveled to Waco to try his luck. Problems followed him to Waco and he decided to try out Oklahoma City. He finally arrived in Tulsa in 1934 and remained there to play his special type of music until 1942 on KVOO.

### Later Years

Bob made his first recording in 1935. In 1940 he recorded "San Antonio Rose" which brought him national fame. His first movie was also made in 1940. This was the year that he switched from the string band style music to the big band style.

A lunch honoring Bob was held in Tulsa on February 14, 1941 by the Chamber of Commerce, one of many such honors during his lifetime.

"Take Me Back to Oklahoma" film was made in 1940 with Tex Ritter. He appeared in 26 movies over the years.

Jim Rob Wills joined the army in 1942 to serve his country during World War II.

During his lifetime he composed 600 songs. "Bob was a creator of Western Swing in the southwest and on the west coast, a founding father of country-western music in Nashville, a transitional figure in rock and roll, an idol of musicians in Bakersville and now an influence

on country rock in Austin," states Charles R. Townsend, author of "San Antonio Rose, The Life and Music of Bob Wills and Texas Playboys."

Al Strickland pianist said "Bob was a musical rebel. You didn't build a fence around his music. It was as uninhibited as he was."

### The Last Years

In 1968, he was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. Bob was described by the late Tex Ritter as "The man who originated the Nashville Music."

The Texas Legislature and the Texas Governor honored Bob Wills for his contribution to American Music in 1969. This was the day before Bob suffered the first of several strokes and was partially paralyzed.

On the November 10, 1973 Bob received the American Society of Composers, authors and publishers award.

Bob purchased his first fiddle for \$1.50. Later in life he paid \$12,000 for a fiddle. At one time in Hollywood more than 8,000 people showed up to dance to the fiddle music of Bob Wills at the Venice Pier Ballroom. This is quite a contrast to his beginning tours for dances in a seven passenger Lincoln limousine with two jump seats. Bob's trademark was the white Stetson hat, a cigar and a fiddle.

In 1972, Turkey, Texas had their first Bob Wills Celebration. Since beginning they have erected a eight foot tall red granite monument. The base of the monument is etched with figures of Bob, fiddle, cigar, war record, movie career and a list of his musical hits. The monument is topped with a massive aluminum shaft with a five foot double sided fiddle.

The Foundation has also bought a fire truck, donated \$3,000 to cemetery upkeep, purchased the old school building, turning part of it into a museum of Bob Wills memorabilia. His widow, Bette Wills Sheets supplied the majority of the articles.

Jim Rob Will, King of Western Swing died in May of 1975. There is a fiddle and a bow engraved on his headstone with the epitaph "Within My Heart Lies a Melody."

In 1986 at the outdoor concert Leon McAuliffe began the afternoon concert with these words. "We've had by-passes, hearing aids, new teeth, dyed hair, and laser eye operations but Bob wrote a song about us--Time Changes Everything--then the band began the swing concert."

We're Glad You Came!



**BOB WILLS DAY**  
26th Anniversary  
April 26, 1997

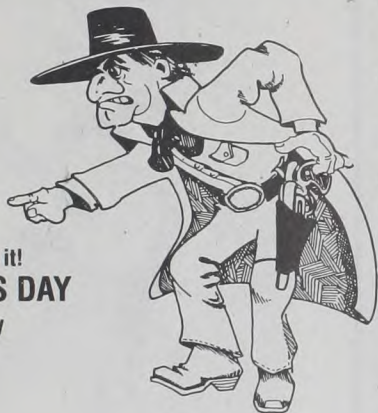
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Bob Wills



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## Wills collector honors King of Swing

By LOUISE ABERCROMBIE  
Ponca City News

— PONCA CITY (AP) — The King of Swing lives on for Johnnie Burnett of Ponca City, who has a collection of over 600 hours of the music of Bob Wills. But Burnett's memorabilia of the great western swing musician and band leader doesn't stop there — far from it.

The focal point of the Wills' shrine is a jukebox filled with more than 50 of his songs, mostly recorded with his western swing Texas Playboys band on 45 rpm records.

Although Burnett says he's just a small collector compared to a lot of other folks, his showcase items are impressive. From one small newspaper clipping about three decades ago, Burnett's tribute to Wills has grown to a roomful of albums, recordings, movies, photographs, books and numerous other memorabilia.

Movie bills and posters hanging on the walls all promote Wills and that wonderful backup western swing band that kept folks dancing through the '30s, '40s, '50s and '60s.

Actually Burnett's mother put him on to collecting. It just comes naturally to gather things one likes and Burnett loved the sound of western swing. Burnett and his mother canvassed flea markets and garage sales and any other potential place where they might turn up a treasure to add to their hobby.

Some of the rare photographs out of the 2,000 that are displayed around the special celebrity room and in various scrapbooks and picture frames are

those of Wills in military uniform. Many of the photographs are in black and white.

From trivia to the factual history of Wills, a Texan from Turkey who made it big by making the transition from country to western swing music, Burnett has the information cataloged. It is work to itemize and catalog but for Burnett he says "It has been a labor of love."

At an early age Burnett was exposed to the music of Bob Wills through his father. Telling how the collection started, Burnett said, "I always liked Bob Wills. I like western swing and it started out with a record or two and just sort of escalated. I saw him in later years at Ralston, where he used to play for the homecoming celebration. The band also played here for the 1939 Cherokee Strip celebration.

"His music is something that just jumped out and grabbed me, I guess you could say. I feel very fortunate that I got to know a lot of the band members, Leon McAuliffe, Al Strickland and Joe Frank Ferguson."

Burnett admits to playing the guitar years ago, but it was "nothing to brag about." But he does have some shirt-tail relation, actually his cousin's husband, Clarence Cagle plays the piano for the Texas Playboys.

Wills and the Playboys also played for dances at Jumps at Fairfax and that is where many of the fans of western swing from this area became acquainted with the undisputed King of Swing.

The song "Faded Love" was named as the official Oklahoma state

western swing song through the efforts of former State Sen. John Dahl of Barnsdall, according to Burnett.

Another legislative act that Dahl promoted was having the fiddle declared the state musical instrument. This was also influenced by Wills, who was not only a fiddler, but a guitar player and banjo strummer. Dahl also instigated a "Bob Wills Day" at the capitol.

Not to be outdone, the governor of Texas declared an annual day dedicated to its native son. Wills' hometown of Turkey, Texas, took the celebration a step further and annually in April a celebration is held honoring the memory of Wills and his music.

Burnett hasn't missed any of the celebrations in Turkey, since the events began in the 1970s. This is a place to hear western swing music, pick up new items for his collection and to enjoy the fellowship of those connected in any way with Wills. This includes former Texas Playboys band members, relatives and other collectors.

Burnett doesn't sell any of his collection, but does trade with various others who are interested. "It's inter-

esting to get hooked on just one thing. I just like Bob's music," he said.

Burnett says his friend Bob Stingley, an Osage County rancher, has a real serious collection of Bob Wills memorabilia. Much of the music Burnett has on tape has been transferred from the reel to reel recordings of Stingley's.

When Wills moved to the west coast in 1941, his brother Johnnie Lee Wills took up the western swing mantle in Tulsa at KVOO and also at the Cain's Ballroom. One of the most popular songs was titled "Take Me Back to Tulsa."

"Bob was a real showman. He was cocky, but he wasn't arrogant. Before playing at a dance he would have the Playboys line up and shake hands with the crowd," Burnett said.

And pack in the crowds they did. Burnett said at one time Wills was the highest paid band director in the United States. He told that when Jimmy Dorsey, Tommy Dorsey and Glen Miller's bands couldn't draw a crowd, someone would say, "Bob Wills must be in town."

## City of Turkey History

In the southwest corner of Hall County sits the city of Turkey, Texas. The little community was originally called Turkey Roost because of the wild turkey roosts along Turkey Creek.

In 1893 the establishment of the post office shortened the name to Turkey, although the city was not officially incorporated until 1926.

Settlers began moving into the Turkey area in the 1890's. The W. M. Coopers settled in this area at this time. In 1890 W. M. Cooper gave several acres of his land for a town site which was named Turkey.

Mr. Cooper's daughter married another early settler, David Lane, and their daughter, Lura, was the first child born in the Turkey community.

On June 13, 1906, the Turkey School District No. 19T was created. This district was abolished in 1973 when Turkey and Quitaque schools consolidated.

In 1927 the Fort Worth and Denver Railroad built a branch through Turkey from Estelline to Lubbock increasing business and population.

The Turkey Chamber of Commerce was established in 1928. The Turkey Volunteer Fire Department was also organized that year after two disastrous fires destroyed most of the business district.

The Peoples State Bank of Turkey opened in October of 1943.

For a number of years the City of Turkey thrived and grew. The farm

land was rich and times for the people of Turkey were good. Between 1927 and 1929 the population of Turkey swelled to 1,200 people.

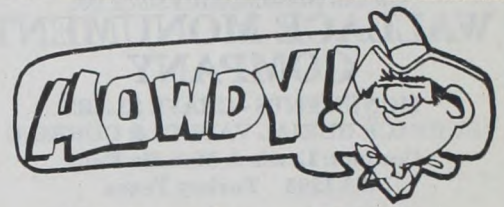
But times got hard and the little town began to dwindle. Today, Turkey has a population of 505.

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**FOR SALE: PINT & QUART** canning jars at 309 Jago in Quitaque on Friday and Saturday, April 25 & 26. 45 1tc

**ATTENTION: FOR SALE** Girls formals. Cash only. No returns. \$10.00 each. Monday, April 28 from 3-5 at Old Time Photo Shop in Turkey. (old Variety Store.) 45 1tc

### WANTED

**WANTED: ANTIQUES 1 ITEM** or an entire estate. Generations Antiques and Collectibles. 118 West California, Floydada. Mon-Tues 9:30-5:30. Call 806/983-6433 or 806/983-5118. 43 4tc  
**WANTED: DINING ROOM SET** with 4 or 6 chairs. Call 806/455-1330. 45 2tc

### FOR SALE/RENT/LEASE

**FOR SALE: BRICK HOUSE,** newly remodeled on large lots; fenced back yard; 3 bedroom with hardwood floors, 2 bath; heat/air; at 3rd & Wilson in Quitaque. Call 806/469-5317. 37 tfn

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### THANK YOU

*The Valley Senior Class of 1997 and parents, would like to thank everyone for supporting our Senior luncheon. We would also like to thank all of the people who brought food to the dinner. A very special thank you for the use of the Bob Wills Center. The proceeds are going to a very worthwhile cause, the Senior Sober Celebration, a drug-free, alcohol free graduation party.* 45 1tc

*To my friends, relatives in Turkey, flomot and Quitaque, Your prayers, telephone calls, cards, food and visits have been my inspiration for my recovery from knee surgery. I love all of you for your concern and thoughtfulness. God Bless You.* Virginia Degan. 45 1tc

*The Turkey Fire Department wants to express their sincere thanks to the Senior Citizens Group who so generously donated to the Fire Department and all other citizens who showed their support by their donations.* Many Thanks, Turkey Fire Department 45 1tc

*We wish to thank each and everybody for the many prayers, phone calls, cards, visits, flowers and generosity shown to the Love Fund.*

*Daddy is still in ICU, but improvement is showing every day. Your prayers and support help us get through one day at a time.* The Harold Ham Family 45 1tc

*Thankfulness fills our hearts for your many acts of love and concern at the loss of our loved one, Viola Calvert. We appreciate the lovely floral arrangements, cards, memorials, calls, prayers and those who prepared and served food at the family luncheon and in the home. We thank God for friends such as you.* Doyle Calvert Family, O.D. (Red) Calvert Family, Barbara Bush Family, Mary Ann Browning Family, Ray Beryl Calvert Family, George Calvert Family 45 1tc

## Trek on Down to Turkey

### April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month

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**WEIGHT WATCHERS IS NOW** meeting every Tuesday in Turkey. For more information, Please call 1-800-359-3131. 3 tfn  
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**ORDINANCE NO. 9704**  
 CITY OF TURKEY  
 Ordinance concerning City Park Regulation: Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Turkey, Texas:  
 A. Motorized vehicles prohibited in park.  
 B. Firearms prohibited in park.  
 C. Alcoholic Beverages prohibited in park.  
 D. Excessive noise and loud music prohibited in park between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.  
 E. Digging of holes or pits prohibited in park.  
 F. Open fires prohibited in park.  
 The penalty for violation of any part or sections of these ordinances shall be a fine of not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00, plus cost to repair any damaged or destroyed property. In the event a violation of more than one section of this ordinance is committed by a person or persons in the same transaction, each violation shall be considered a separate offense and providing for penalties for violation thereof constitutes a danger to the public and creates an emergency.

### Subscriptions Due In April Non-Local \$20.00 per Year

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 Lonnie D. Richmond, Cypress  
 Hubert Setliff, Plainview  
 Tommy Jack Taylor, Salton

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### April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month

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