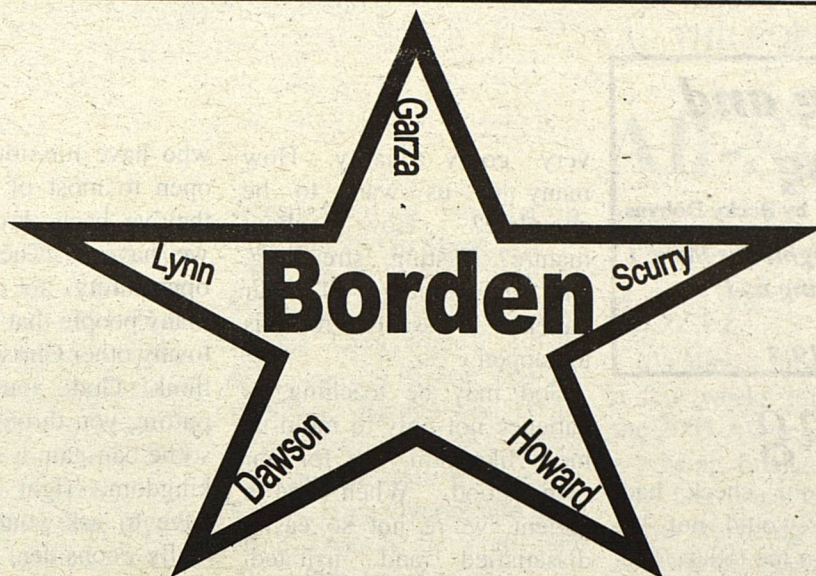


THE

Volume XXXII



STAR

July 13th, 2005

Serving the Counties of Borden, Dawson, Garza, Howard, Lynn & Scurry

Jack Kilby proved that Texas is becoming as well-known for science as it is for Cowboys

By Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

Whenever I have traveled abroad and my hosts learn I am from Texas, they almost always mention "cowboys." The self-reliance, integrity and grit of the cowboy has become part of Texas' personality and the world knows it.

What many people do not realize is that these qualities have helped Texans excel in every field of human endeavor, from sports to science. One man who exemplified these traits in science was Jack S. Kilby, who passed away just a few weeks ago.

Jack was an engineer's engineer who was always listened to because he only spoke when he had something to say. This unassuming man changed the world through his invention of the integrated circuit chips which made the desktop computer and a thousand other marvels possible.

During the hot Texas summer of 1958, Jack Kilby was on duty at Texas Instruments. As a newly hired engineer, Kilby held down the fort at TI's labs

while his fellow engineers went on vacation. He had time to ponder several engineering problems and thought about the way transistors and diodes were manufactured out of semiconductor material and realized more than one of these devices could be made out of the same piece of material.

In doing this, he had the key insight which led to his invention a few months later of the integrated circuit, a discovery which led to the creation of an entirely new electronics industry. The first integrated circuit consisted of a handful of transistors and diodes on a single chip. Today, each ultra large-scale integrated chip holds the equivalent of more than 100,000 transistors and allows the production of low-cost computers and other products. After this breakthrough, Kilby did not rest on his laurels. He ended his career with more than 60 patents, including the invention of the hand-held calculator. Nonetheless, it was the integrated circuit

which won him the Nobel Prize.

Jack Kilby is not the only Texan known for his scientific expertise. I am honored to call heart surgeon Dr. Michael DeBakey a friend. The surgical techniques he pioneered continue to save thousands of lives each year. While serving in combat in World War II he believed many lives could be saved on the battlefield and initiated the first "MASH" unit taking surgical treatment right to the combat area.

In a similar fashion, Texas is a center of the field known as nanotechnology, in which scientists are able to build stronger, lighter and more durable materials molecule by molecule. Rice University's Dr. Richard Smalley and Dr. Robert F. Curl, Jr. have won the Nobel Prize for their work in creating large carbon molecules called "Fullerenes."

As a center for America's manned space program and home of great universities and some of the world's most important computer and semi-conductor manufacturers, Texas is becoming known as not only a land of cowboys but of high technology too.

Neugebauer Statement on London Bombings

Washington, DC-

Congressman Randy Neugebauer made the following statement regarding today's terrorist attacks in London.

"Like all Americans, I'm saddened and outraged by the barbaric attacks in London. My sincerest condolences go out to the victims, their families, and

the British people. These cowardly attacks, coming at the beginning of G8 discussions on alleviating poverty and suffering in Africa, remind us why we are fighting the war on terror.

We will continue to stand with Great Britain and other freedom-loving countries to confront and defeat terrorists."

Summer heat hard on vehicle tires

ABILENE, TX – Standing on the side of the road with the luggage from your trunk on the ground while you get out the spare tire is not a fun way to start a vacation.

It may be summer time, but the "living" is not easy for your tires. Motorists should use caution during the summer to make sure their vehicles are in shape.

According to a 2004 study conducted by the Rubber Manufacturers Association, only 16 percent of Texas drivers properly check their tires – leaving 84 percent who are asking for trouble.

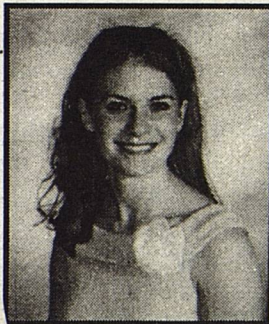
Research sponsored by the tire industry group shows that 32 percent of drivers in Texas wrongly believe that the best

time to check their tires is when they are warm after being driven for at least a few miles. Actually, tires should be checked before you hit the road.

TxDOT is reminding motorists that under inflated tires combined with hot weather and a fully-loaded vehicle can lead to tire failure. Under inflated tires generate excessive heat, which can be dangerous.

If a tire goes flat while traveling at a high rate of speed, drivers should remove their foot from the accelerator and coast to a stop. Do not slam on the brakes, which could cause a rollover.

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Learning and Living

by Becky Dobyns

When I learn your righteous laws, I will thank you by living as I should!

- Psalm 119:7

Times of Waiting

"Why is God making me wait?" is probably one of the most commonly asked questions among Christians. Unfortunately, there is no easy one-size fits—all answer. There are dozens of different reasons why we may have to wait for things we need or want. Here are a few explanations for situations you may be encountering right now!

The first explanation is that we may not actually be waiting. God may be answering our prayers even when we think he's not! A person may have to wait for a promotion at work because God is preparing the person to handle the extra responsibility as fast as he or she will cooperate. Someone may have to wait for a lifetime partner because God is preparing the other for a Christian marriage. Through the time of waiting, it is important to realize that God is *always at work. He never takes a break.* A good example is the story of a missionary who became very ill while on a mission. Sick and needing good food to nourish her, she waited for her check to arrive in vain. It did not come. Still sick, she was forced to consume oatmeal and canned milk for thirty days. This turn of events even caused her to doubt God's goodness. In spite of her measly diet, the missionary recovered. After thirty days, she finally received her check and bought other food. When she finally had an opportunity to speak to a congregation, she related her rough experience to them. Afterwards, a kind doctor inquired about her ailment. When he heard the nature of the digestive malfunction, the doctor said,

"Well, if your check had arrived, you would not be here talking to me today. The treatment we always prescribe for that trouble is a 30-day oatmeal diet."

Sometimes God is moving in our life in ways that we are incapable of seeing. We see only what *we* think we need, even when our knowledge is so limited about the particular time of need we are experiencing. We need to realize our knowledge is nowhere near God's, and we have no right to question what he's doing (Even though we do anyway). To quote The Purpose-Driven Life, "Don't try to second-guess God; just let Him be God!"

The second explanation is that God wants to make us into the best person we can possibly be. God wants to mold us to be as much like Jesus as we can before we die. He wants to prepare us for His heavenly glory and let us experience as much heaven on earth as we possibly can before we actually get there (which means becoming more like God!) If I recall correctly, I Corinthians 12:4 says, "Love is *patient*..." God is Love, and Love is Patient, and as Christians we are supposed to try to be more like God. Get the picture?

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything - James 1:2-4

Patience is a huge element in perseverance, which is a

very godly quality. How many of us want to be complete? How about mature? Testing, stretching, and developing of our patience is essential for this to happen.

God may be teaching us patience not only to mold us more like him, but for our own good. When we're patient, we're not so easily dissatisfied and irritated. Wouldn't we all like to be immune to such disappointment? The answer lies in developing patience. Our world teaches that the only way to achieve satisfaction is to get everything you want, when you want it. But we all know that's very impossible. Even celebrities and high-ranking politicians don't achieve that! Satan wants to direct our dreams toward an unachievable destiny so that we're constantly unsatisfied. He wants to make us waste our lives. However, God wants us to be as happy as possible, and that is why He tells us not to worry.

The third explanation is that God may be preparing you for a mission. We as God's believers have a special privilege when bad circumstances hit us. We know that ultimate good will be made out of them. Unfortunately, there are many non-Christians out there who don't have this kind of security and won't listen to Christians witnesses because they think, "Well, you haven't been through what I've been through. God loves you and has done everything for you, but I've been waiting so long and I haven't had any benefits from God come my way."

Let's say you're a strong Christian, and God sees a bitter type of person coming across your path. At that time you're waiting for God's goodness and an answer for why you're going through this pain. God allows you to go through the same thing they've gone through so that when you talk to them about Christ, they'll listen? I have multiple Christian friends

who have mission fields not open to most of us because they've been through things we haven't. They have the opportunity to witness to many people that won't listen to any other Christians. If you think God sound selfish, putting you through pain just so he can gain a soul for His kingdom, right there you have to ask yourself if you really consider Him your Lord, or just a convenience from which you can reap benefits. Besides, the benefits will be so awesome on the inside, knowing you've brought someone to Christ,

seeing first-hand that light of love enter their heart, that I honestly don't think you'll care that you went through a hard time for God. I know for a *fact* that when you die and Jesus Himself says, "Well done, my good and faithful servant," you definitely won't care that you went through a rough time!

Don't curse your times of waiting because what may be your momentary curse can bring a soul away from eternal pain. Don't allow yourself to become impatient because God wants to teach

Cont. to pg. 3

Roll on over to NBS!

LifeWay VBS

Ramblin' Road Trip

PSALM 25:4 Which Way Do I Go?

Who: Pre-K - 5th grade
(based on last school year)

When: July 24-28
6 - 8:30 pm

Where: First Baptist Church
Gail
Sunday night (24th) will
be Family Night!

SERIOUS FUN AHEAD

4-H News

Shooting Sports Results

Gail Trap Club members Seth Naumann, Austin Tarleton, Tyrell Massingill, Brendan Tarleton, Matthew Roberson and Raylea Underwood traveled to Midland to compete in the District VI 4-H Open, Trap, Skeet and Sporting Clay Shoot.

In the Sr. Division, Austin and Seth won 3rd Place Trap 2-man team and 2nd Place Skeet 2-man team. Austin won 4th in Skeet after a shoot off for 4th and 1st place in 5-stand after a shoot off. Seth won 6th Place in Skeet.

In the Jr. Division, Tyrell and Brendan teamed up as a

2-man team to win 1st in Trap and 2nd in Skeet.

In the Sub-Jr. Division, Matthew Roberson and Raylea Underwood's 2-man team won 1st in Trap and 1st in Skeet. Raylea won 1st in Trap and 6th in Skeet. Raylea also won the Ladies Sub Jr. High Overall and won High Overall in Trap and Skeet Sub-Jr. Division.

Others attending the shoot were Tom Ed and Patty Vestal, Roscoe, Cindy and Kalyn Massingill, Bill Tarleton, Ray Don and Jana Underwood.

Congratulations to all the kids on a fine job!

Next competition will be the 3rd Annual Texas 4-H Shotgun Shootout in San Angelo, Texas on July 14, 15 and 16.

Times of Waiting

Cont. from pg. 2

you to be happy no matter what your circumstances. Don't worry because God is providing for you even when you can't see it. God will reward your obedience in ways you can't even imagine, and that's a promise!

All-School Reunion

Reservations are needed

ASAP

It's almost time! With only a few weeks left, plans for the 2005 All-School Reunion are being finalized. Information has been sent out, and forms are being sent in. The All-School Reunion will be held on August 5th and 6th at the Borden County School in Gail, Texas.

The reunion organizers are hoping for a large crowd of ol' friends and classmates to gather for a fun time of visiting and reminiscing. The reunion will begin on Friday, August 5th from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. with early registration and visiting in the cafeteria. Light refreshments will be served.

On Saturday, August 6th beginning at 10:00 a.m. registration will continue. Pictures of classes, families, friends and individual will be

scheduled if wanted. There will be tours of the school and visiting will take place in the cafeteria. A catered lunch will be served at noon in the County Showbarn. The cost of the meal is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children 11 and younger.

If you do not have a reservation form, they may be picked-up at the County Judge's Office, Sheriff's Office, County Agent's Office or the Coyote Store in Gail. If you live in the Plains Community, they may be picked-up at Judy Kingston's residence. Be sure to get your form in the mail as soon as possible. An estimated count for lunch is needed.

Make plans now to attend the 2005 All-School Reunion and enjoy getting reacquainted with ol' friends, classmates and teachers. A large turn crowd and a good time is being expected for all.

For more information, contact Judy Kingston, Carol Lewis, Joel Dennis, or the Borden Star.

See you at the Reunion!

Dig 4-h!



Sponsored by
Borden County 4-H
And Texas Coop. Extension

- Who:** Any youth entering Kindergarten through Third Grade
- What:** A Fun Day!
- When:** Wednesday, July 20th
From 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Where:** County Show Barn in Gail
- Cost:** \$5 per child (to cover supplies)
- Activities:** It will be a full afternoon of fun activities related to archaeology! We will be making crafts and playing fun games.

Info to know: Afternoon refreshments will be Provided, but please feed your child lunch before dropping them off.

For more information, or to let us know that you will be able to attend, please call or e-mail the Extension Office at 806/756-4336 or borden-tx@tamu.edu.

NOTE: You do not have to RSVP to participate, it will just help us get an idea of how many supplies to prepare.

We look forward to having YOU there!

We will seek to provide all reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for any Extension program We request that you contact the Texas Cooperative Extension office as soon as possible to advise of auxiliary aid that you will require.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, US Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Court of Texas Cooperating

All-School Reunion Information

What: Borden County School Reunion (Held every five years)

When: August 5th & 6th, 2005 (Friday night & Saturday)

Where: Borden County School; Gail, Texas

Friday, August 5th - 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Early registration and visiting in cafeteria with light refreshments

Saturday, August 6th - 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Registration and visiting in School Cafeteria

Pictures of classes, friends, families & individuals

Tours of the school available

Catered Lunch served in County Show Barn

Lunch Reservations Necessary: Please RSVP as soon as possible.

Cost: Adults - \$10; Children below 12 yrs. - \$7.00

Please make checks payable to Borden County ISD Exes, and mail to:

Judy Kingston
751 Borden Co. Rd. 130
O'Donnell, Texas 79351

SUMMER SERIES No. 3

Underground Texas a cool place

By Mark K. Campbell

Photos by Paula Campbell

It seems wrong to be referred to as the "bowels" of something. Whenever you go down in a cave, you're always entering "the bowels of the earth."

That's kind of gross. Why not "the heart of the earth" or even "the pancreas of earth"?

We headed to a trio of Lone Star underground passages. All were different – and none bowel-like (well, occasional formations resembled duodenums, but...)

Cave Without a Name

We knew we could get to three of Texas' finest caves by traveling to Boerne. (That's BURR-NEE to you Yankees.)

Our first stop was 11 miles outside of the town, down a thin road where urbanites fleeing the city are building some gigantic homes.

However, at the end of Krutzberg Road is a place that probably looks like it did back in 1962.

There ain't nothing fancy about the Cave Without a Name. The main building looks decades old and houses the usual assortment of cave stuff – smooth, shined-up rocks, T-shirts, and the ever-present sludge bags.

Unlike the other two places we visited, the entrance to the cave is right next to the main building. An old locked gate keeps folks out until the tour guide arrives.

We got a good guide, a guy who was a cave nut. He mentioned that the cave was first discovered back in the 1920's when some men saw steam coming up from under a boulder. They pried the rock away but didn't explore it. Since they didn't put the rock back, a goat soon fell into the hole.

Eventually, the place became a perfect secret location for brewing moonshine; you can see the blackened cave ceiling near the entrance where the moonshiners concocted their illicit wares.



Nativity: If this nativity formation at the Cave Without a Name was on a piece of cheese toast instead of one hundred feet underground, it could be worth \$28,000.

At the bottom of a staircase, you duck down for a few feet then come out in a massive expanse.

The beauty of The Cave Without a Name is that it's kind of a supermarket of cave formations. In most caves, you have to wander around in various "rooms" where things like curtains, dams, and columns are featured.

In this cave, everything is perfectly aligned like you were at Target: Here's some stalagmites on Aisle 5, here are some "grapes," here's "popcorn." It's terrific.

You still are informed about six rooms, but it's much different from other caves' separated rooms.

It's also the best cave for people who think they might be claustrophobic. The other two caves we saw are much more confined and narrow; The Cave Without a Name is

a vast cavern, really.

It's so big that folks are sometimes married down there and occasional concerts are conducted down under.

And now, two things you've been wondering – one, what's the difference between a cave and a cavern? Not much, actually. A cave is a natural hollow passage under the earth while a cavern is a large underground chamber.

Two: Why is it called "The Cave Without a Name"? A contest held to name the place in 1939 was won by a kid who said the place was too beautiful to name – which sounds like they got a bunch of very weak entries.

This was the coolest of the caves, temperature-wise, at 66 degrees. However, the humidity so prevalent in most caves – 99 percent – makes even the cooler ones feel like

Houston at night.

Some of the groovier formations in The Cave Without a Name are a rocky nativity scene right next to another crazy white formation that defies naming. (Maybe, The Formation Without a Name...), a giant ice cream cone tucked away in a hole on the cavern ceiling, some wavy curtains, and The Leaning Tower of Boerne, a massive 32-foot tall column that's still growing.

It's \$11 to get in and worth it. The external retro feel of the place and the wide open underground space make The Cave Without a Name different.

Cascade Caverns

Just a few miles off Interstate 10 in Boerne is this place, another shockingly old-looking attraction. I expected to see kids in

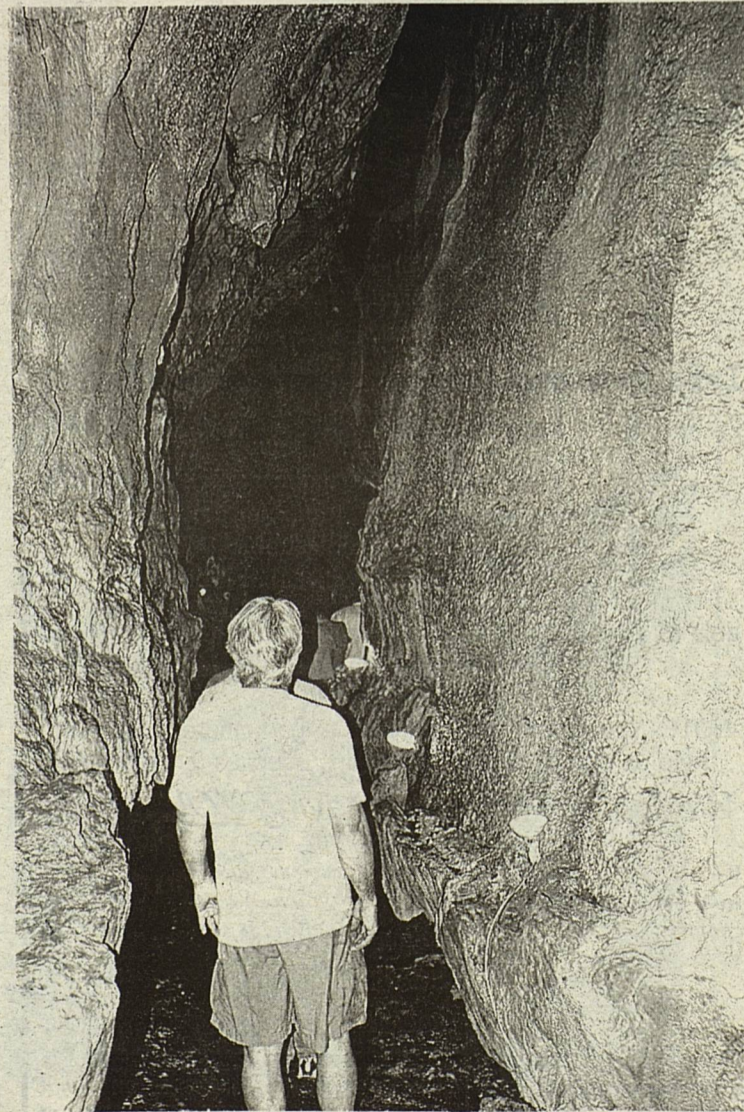
Batman shirts – the Adam West Batman.

The admission office has been relocated because the flood of 2000 destroyed many buildings when water roared everywhere – including in the cave. Everything was pretty much deserted up top as old wooden buildings and picnic tables slowly rotted away.

The cave was very good, however. The fee was \$12 (just about anywhere you can find a \$1 off coupon for up to 12 people).

There's a bit of a hike to the entrance of the cave. On the way, you see the place where a German immigrant lived for 26 years after killing his cheating girlfriend and her lover – on a dinky little ledge. He was eventually caught and killed. His diary is at the Boerne library.

Cont. to pg. 6



Tight squeeze: There are a few tight and wet squeezes early on at Cascade Caverns.

High Plains Vegetable Field Day and Farm Tour Set for July 28th

By Tim McAlavy,

LUBBOCK - Those interested in vegetable production should mark July 28 on their calendars. That's the date for the third Annual High Plains Vegetable Field Day and Farm Tour at the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center here.

The center is just north of the Lubbock airport. Take exit 11 off of Interstate Highway 27, turn east on Farm to Market road 1294 and travel approximately one-half mile. The center is on the south side of FM 1294.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. Attendance is free, and participants will qualify to earn continuing education units approved by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

"We will start off with a walking tour of field plots at the center," said Russ Wallace, Texas Cooperative Extension vegetable specialist headquartered at Lubbock. "The tour will include watermelon, tomato, snap bean and hot pepper variety trials, watermelon and bell pepper fertility trials, and several herbicide trials.

"We will also look at a watermelon growth response trial, where watermelons are grown on a variety of colored plastic mulches. We will wrap up the morning by


visiting the Texas Tech University crops research farm to view a pumpkin herbicide screening trial and watermelon/cantaloupe fertility trials."

Lunch will be provided, but those who plan to attend should make reservations by contacting Wendy Durrett at (806) 746-6101 by July 20, Wallace said.

"After lunch, we will visit Sunburst Market, Apple Country and the South Plains Food Bank farm. This will give us a chance to discuss production practices with area growers," he added. "We should finish the farm tour around 4 p.m."

For more information, call Wallace or Durrett at (806) 746-6101.

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Let Me Get My Hat!

By Dennis Poole,
Borden County CEA-Ag.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Court of Texas Cooperating.

Beef Cattle Short Course

The 2005 Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course will be held August 1-3 and is considered one of the largest and most extensive beef cattle programs in the United States. From the most inexperienced novice rancher to the most experienced cattleman, the Beef Cattle Short Course has valuable beef cattle information for everyone. Changes and new innovations are being introduced to the beef industry and this year's program highlights many of these issues.

The conference will feature 15 different Cattleman's College programs and two general sessions highlighting key industry issues. There will also be several opportunities to obtain up to 6 pesticide CEUs. In addition to the this year's exciting programs, the trade show is shaping up to be bigger than ever with over 80 exhibitors registered to date.

Short Course registration costs \$120 per participant (if registered by July 25), and includes admission to the two-and-a-half day educational conference, including

the Cattleman's College, a copy of the Short Course proceedings (a 300-page publication), trade show admittance, a ticket to the special Aggie prime rib dinner, additional meals and refreshment breaks.

Producers interested in attending may register online at:

<http://animalscience.tamu.edu> or by contacting Dr. Larry Boleman and Dr. Jason Cleere's office at (979) 845-6931 for more information. Our website also contains a current schedule as well as information on sessions, parking, and accommodations. To secure your participation in this event, please register as soon as possible as the deadline, July 25th, is rapidly approaching.

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to be held at the Borden County Arena.

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Big Spring Lamesa O'Donnell 

Underground Texas a cool place

Cont. from pg. 4

Big rains close this cave, too, sometimes. But it's always wet inside. Prepare to get numerous "cave kisses" – water drops from above.

The biggie in Cascade Caverns comes at the conclusion of the tour: a 100-foot waterfall.

That sounds a lot better than it ended up being. A pump circulates water so the falls is always a-fallin' – but the water only slides against the wall into a man-made dam. That took some of the umph out of the experience.

But, again, there are plenty of amazing things to see. This cave is split up into natural distinctive rooms with each offering something different as you drop about 140 feet below the surface.

Like playing a Led Zeppelin record backward, if someone tells you what masked message you're hearing, you *do* hear it. The same applies when eyeing formations. At Cascade Caverns you'll say "Oh, yeah" when a flashlight beam lands on George Washington, a dinosaur, and an elephant's trunk.

You have to backtrack to get out, but, like a hiking trail, the formations look different when seen from a new direction.

Once again, a retro park in a state of gentle disrepair made Cascade Caverns another unique stop.

Natural Bridge Caverns

For all the off-the-beaten path, Old School feel of The Cave Without a Name and Cascade Caverns, Natural Bridge Caverns was as slick and modern as you could possibly expect.

Two tours are offered – \$15 for the North Cavern or \$17 for a different flashlight tour; \$25 for both, for adults. Listen for your ticket color to be announced then herd outside.

We took the North tour and were cattle-prodded along with 48 others to the entrance where you see why the place is so named – a

rock "bridge" spans above the entrance.

If anyone's talking, it's tough to hear the young tour guide. And often the chattering of the guide leading a group behind you is audible.

Still, the cave was exceptional. Another wet experience, Natural Bridge Caverns contains a series of individual rooms. You duck and waddle along – including some precipitous elevation drops – then suddenly there's a myriad of formations before you.

Some are massive columns – where stalagmites and stalactites grow together after thousands and thousands of years – and some crazy formations like thrones and fried eggs.

Most memorable is Sherwood Forest, a room full of individual towering stalagmites reaching for the ceiling far above.

I don't know who named the rooms, but they must've loved progressive rock from the 70's. You'd expect to hear things like Castle of the White Giants and Hall of the Mountain King on a Genesis or Emerson, Lake, and Palmer album.

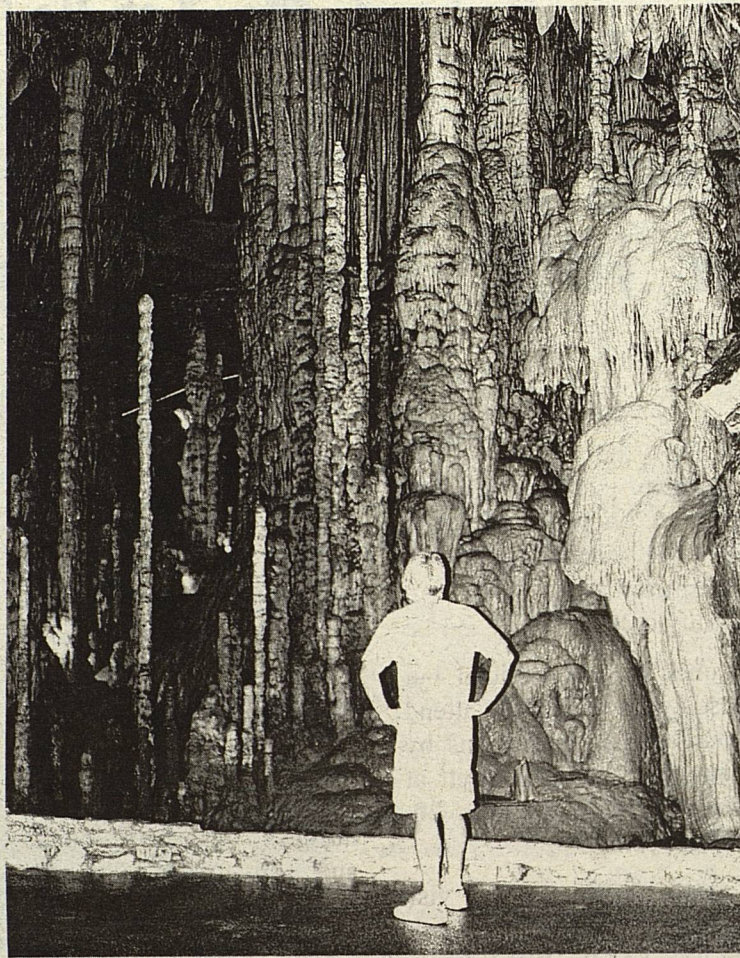
Late in the carefully choreographed, 75-minute walk, you are stopped for a photo available for purchase upon exiting.

At the finale – the Hall of the Mountain King: "Hey, that *does* look like a throne!" – you walk up a ramp and can peer back on the impressive array of formations below.

On the down side, the temperature in Natural Bridge Caverns wasn't as cool as the others. And the humidity had plenty of people soaked through.

But it's fun to squeeze through some areas and it's amazing to get so near to the living cave formations. (Each cave offered exceptionally close access.)

Natural Bridge Caverns was packed. Various nation-



Sherwood Forest: No photo can do the Sherwood Forest room at Natural Bridge Caverns justice. It's full of stalagmites – "They *might* reach the ceiling" – and stalactites – "They hold *tight* to the ceiling."

alities queued up to get their turn in Texas' bowels. Outside, other options include a rock climbing wall and, of

If someone gets claustrophobic, *everyone* must exit the cave as that person is removed. You don't really want to get booed by a cave crowd.

The "pitch black" experience of shutting off the underground lights is fun – for about three seconds for kids.

However, overall, a cave is great fun for kids and a memorable family outing – and kids will love getting to say "bowels" a lot.

course, sluicing opportunities where you can "pan for [microscopic] gems."

This place is a slick production, from the tour guides to the extensive gift shop – you know you're in a touristy place when you can buy giant fly swatters and shot glasses – to the snack bar.

Natural Bridge Caverns is more expensive, but there's that overhead to take care of. Still, it, too, was a worthy experience.

Cave poop

It's wet in those caves; you'll probably come out with some mud on you. You're told to wear good shoes, but we made some routes in flip flops.

Good luck getting a good cave photo. A flash often washes out many formations, yet, unless you have a good low-light lens, you still have to have some sort of illumination.

Film cameras will certainly have very few usable photos. With a digital, at least you can see that you got nothing right off.

Taking a picture of a cave formation is like filming a sunset or a mountain range – they look a lot better in person.

Still, a good camera and a small tripod *can* work out provided the tour guide isn't hurrying you along as they usually do.

VE Caution: School's Out Watch for Children

Message brought to you by this newspaper and the Texas Highway Patrol Association

Neugebauer, Abilene Tell BRAC Commission that Dyess is "Mission Ready"

Washington, DC- Congressman Randy Neugebauer, several Abilene officials, and 12 busloads of Big Country residents traveled to San Antonio on Monday where they touted the strengths of Dyess Air Force Base at the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) regional hearing.

Neugebauer believes that Dyess is up to the task of helping the United States military meet the threats of the 21st Century.

"The BRAC process is about the future," Neugebauer told the BRAC commissioners. "With the 67 B-1's and 29 C-130's assigned to the base, Dyess is prepared to be part of the new Total Force Structure of the Department of Defense and the Air Force."

Neugebauer and members

of the Abilene Military Affairs Committee were allotted a total of 25 minutes to show the panel of BRAC commissioners that Dyess is best suited to be the home of both the B-1 bomber and the C-130 cargo aircraft.

"Dyess has always scored in the top tier-one position for large aircraft bases," Neugebauer added. "The 2005 BRAC is no exception. The data clearly indicate that Dyess has a higher military value than Ellsworth AFB in regard to the bomber mission and a higher military value than Little Rock AFB in regard to the airlift mission."

In May, the Department of Defense (DOD) recommended that the BRAC Commission move 24 B-1's currently at Ellsworth AFB in South Dakota to Dyess and also relocate Dyess' C-130 fleet to Little Rock AFB in Arkansas.

Monday's hearing in San Antonio is one of several BRAC regional hearings being held across the country as the DOD looks to transform its military infrastructure in order to address new and emerging threats. The panel also heard arguments from other groups concerning bases in Arkansas, Oklahoma, El Paso, and several other Texas communities.

The BRAC Commission will send its recommendations to President Bush by September 8th. President Bush then has 15 days to approve or disapprove what the Commission has submitted. Congress will receive President Bush's final recommendations on November 7th and has 45 legislative days to vote on them.

George Boutwell "2006 Texas State Artist" One Man Show at Midland Park Mall

For the last 32 years George Boutwell has been touring Texas showing his Art and looking for interesting things to paint. George got inspired with the diversity of Texas when he was Art Director of Texas Highway's Magazine from 1966 to 1972. Just recently George was chosen by the Texas State Legislature and the Texas Commission on the Arts to be the 2006 Texas State Artist in the Category of two Dimensional Art! In 1986 he got the Idea to produce a Texas Calendar featuring his Art Work and Publish it himself. The Calendar has become very popular because it changes themes every year and portrays a different aspect of the State of Texas. George's

Calendar for 2005 features Vintage Drive-In Restaurants complete with Classic Cars! Some Area Landmarks that George has Painted are the the Girvin Social Club Jo JO's drive in in Odessa, Signal Peak near Coahoma and The Wagon Wheel Drive in in Big Spring. George will be producing a Spanish Missions of Texas Calendar for 2006 and has completed Nine of the paintings so far. George will be having a One Man Show of his work at Midland Park Mall on Thursday thru Sunday, July 28, 29, 30 & 31 George will bring a selection of his Original Watercolors and Prints of his work to the show as well as copies of his previous Calendars. There isn't another Artist who paints as much Variety and it's all in Texas!

First Annual Caregiver conference "Crossing the Great Divide, Journey into Memory Loss"

Midland, Texas - The Area Agency on Aging of the Permian Basin is sponsoring the First Annual Caregiver Conference, "Crossing the Great Divide, Journey into Memory Loss". The keynote speaker is Majid Fotuhi, M.D., PhD, Director of the Memory Disorders Unit at Sinai Hospital of Baltimore and Assistant Professor of Neurology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. His clinical research at Johns Hopkins focuses on finding effective ways to prevent memory loss and Alzheimer's disease. He has

taken a leadership role in educating the public about memory and aging and has received numerous teaching awards and recognition for his teaching.

Other presentations include: Meeting the needs of family members in Long Term Care, Disaster preparedness for Caregivers, Keys to relationships, and Designing safe, Supportive Dementia Care Environments.

This event will be held **July 21, 2005** at the **Alliance Hospital Education Center** from **8 a.m. until 4:05 p.m.**

Nursing Type II Social Work CEUs will be available for \$20.00. Continental breakfast, lunch and afternoon snacks will be provided at no cost to attendees. The conference is sponsored by The Area Agency on Aging of the Permian Basin, Hospice of Midland, Tender Touch, Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors, Mission Health Care, Pharmacy Unlimited, The Gold Pages and Odessa College Department of Continuing Education.

Pre-registration is required by calling Odessa College at 335-6579 or Raynetta Williams at Area Agency on

Have a Great Summer!



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Aging at 563-1061 or 800-491-4636. This conference is free and open to the public and is funded by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services.

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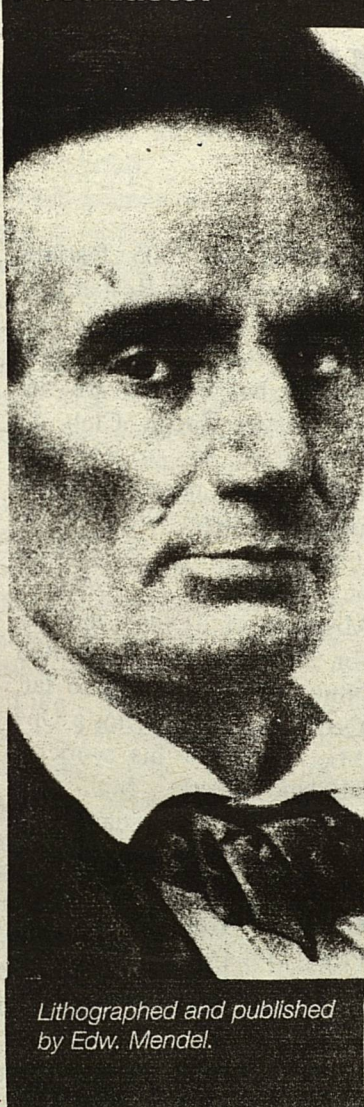
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"Mailbag"

Abraham Lincoln, Postmaster



Lithographed and published by Edw. Mendel.

Two Postmasters became U.S. Presidents later in their careers – Abraham Lincoln and Harry Truman. Truman held the title and signed papers but immediately turned the position and its pay over to an assistant. Lincoln was the only President who had served as a Postmaster.

On May 7, 1833, 24-year-old Lincoln was appointed Postmaster of New Salem, Illinois. Lincoln served until the office was closed May 30, 1836. The *United States Official Register*, Published in odd-numbered years, dutifully records. A. Lincoln as receiving compensation of \$55.70 in the 1835 volume and \$19.48 for one quarter's work in the 1837 volume. Besides he pay, Lincoln, as Postmaster, could send and receive personal letters free and get one daily newspaper delivered free.

Mail arrived once a week. If an addressee did not collect his or her mail from the Post office, as was the custom, Lincoln delivered it personally – usually carrying the mail in his hat. Even then, Lincoln was "Honest Abe."

According to Lincoln's biographer, Benjamin P. Thomas:

Dr. A.G. Henry, one of Lincoln's closest friends, and himself postmaster for a time at Sangmontown, told Isaac N. Arnold that when the New Salem office was discontinued Lincoln had on hand a balance of some six-teen or eighteen dollars which he brought with him to Springfield. Perhaps the Post Office Department overlooked this small sum, for not until months later did an agent call on Lincoln to collect it. During the intervening time Lincoln had been financially hard-pressed, and Dr. Henry, who was present when the agent called, was afraid that Lincoln might not have the money. Henry told Arnold:

"I was about to call him aside and loan him the money, when he asked the agent to be seated a moment, while he went over to his trunk at his boarding house, and returned with an old blue sock with a quantity of silver and copper coin tied up in it. Untying the sock, he poured the contents on the table and proceeded to count the coin, which consisted of such sliver and copper pieces as the country-people were then in

the habit of using in paying postage. On counting it up there was found the exact amount, to a cent, of the draft, and in the identical coin which had been received. He never used, under any circumstances, trust funds."

Other Famous Postal Workers

John Brown

Abolitionist, Postmaster, Randolph, PA

Bing Crosby,

Singer and actor, clerk, Spokane, WA

Walt Disney

Producer, substitute carrier, Chicago, IL

Charles R. Drew

Scientist and surgeon, Part-time special delivery messenger, Washington, D.C.

William Faulkner

Novelist, Postmaster, University, MS

Samuel L. Gravelly

First African-American admiral, Railway mail clerk

Will Hays

President, Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, postmaster General

Sherman Hemsley

Actor, clerk, Philadelphia, PA, and New York, NY

Conrad Hilton

Businessman, Postmaster, San Antonio, NM

Harry Hooper

Baseball Hall-of-Fame, Postmaster, Capitola, CA

Rock Hudson

Actor, letter carrier, Winnetka, IL

Sidney Lanier

Poet, clerk, Macon, GA

Charles Lindbergh

Aviator, contract airmail pilot

Bill Nye

Humorist, Postmaster, Laramie,

Summer heat hard on vehicle tires

Cont. from pg. 1

Proper tire care and safety is easy. The most important factors in tire care are: Proper inflation pressure, vehicle loading, and tire wear, regular inspection, good

driving habits and vehicle condition

The RMA recommends taking five minutes every month and before every long trip to check your tires, including the spare.

To increase safety motorists should also: obey posted speed limits, wear safety belts properly, avoid fast starts, stops and turns, avoid potholes and debris, avoid contact with curbs, and avoid overloading the vehicle.

Motorists can check a vehicle's tire information or owner's manual for the maximum recommended load for a particular vehicle.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

CHEVRON U.S.A., INC., #15 SMITH ROAD, MIDLAND, TEXAS 79705, has applied to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Sprayberry formation, in the following section and lease: Jo-Mill (Sprayberry) Field, Jo-Mill Unit Lease (60465) Well No.s 5522, 6333A, 6334, 6324, 6423, 3621, 15 miles SW of Gail. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from approximately 6500 to 8000 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show that they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 – Telephone (512)463-6792.

BORDEN COUNTY ISD PUBLIC NOTICE

The Superintendent's Office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School will receive bids and/or quotes for propane, diesel, and gasoline for the 2005-2006 school year.

Proposals shall be addressed to Jimmy Thomas; Borden County Independent School District; Box 95; Gail, Texas 79738, and shall be delivered in a sealed envelope marked appropriately as "**Propane Bid**" and/or "**Gasoline/Diesel Bid**". Proposals will be received up to but no later than **12:00 noon on Friday, July 15, 2005**. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated, researched, and selected by the Board of Trustees or its designee as appropriate. Bids received after the specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County I.S.D. Board of Trustees or its designee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposed bids, to waive any and all technicalities, and to accept the proposal that will best serve the needs of the District.

Questions regarding additional information shall be directed to Jimmy Thomas by writing the above address; by e-mail to jthomas@bcisd.net; or by calling 806/756-4313. Transmissions by fax may be sent to 806/756-4310.

By order of the Board of Trustees
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