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97.7 FM (Community Radio)

The Post Dispatch

76th Year Number 5 USPS 439-620 © 2001 The Post Dispatch Newsstand Price 50¢ Thursday, July 5, 2001

West Texas talent shines at first annual Post Country Showdown

by Wes Burnett

There was a lot of foot stompin', hand clappin', hooten and hollerin' going on at the Garza Theatre last Saturday evening, as a packed house roared with approval during the First Annual Post City Radio sponsored True Value Country Showdown.

After two and half hours of sheer top notch entertainment, Mistress of Ceremonies Cathy Whitten announced Amber Peebles of Post as first place, with a spot at the state finals in September.

Judges deliberated for more than 30 minutes following the conclusion of contestant performances. "There were only a few points separating each contestant," Whitten told the audience, "and every single one of these folks are winners!"

The Thrift Store Cowboys took second place, followed by Stephanie Crisp in third. Other contestants included Amberly Sharber, Courtney Short, Gladys Blair, Bettie Cook, Dave Turner, Jose Ladinos, Heather Mason and Carol Mosely.

Thrift Store Cowboys band members are Colt Miller, Clint Miller, Daniel Fluitt, Jeff Dennis, Amanda Shires and Cody Banks.

Crisp is the 15 year old daughter of Mr and Mrs Bert Crisp. Bert is CMC manager at The Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility. Other Dalby employees participating in the event were Peebles and Heather Mason.

Members of The Classics are Brent Jackson, Lonnie Kuss, Alex Blocker and Brian Ashburn. They added a great deal of flavor to the event, providing outstanding back up for the contestants, and filling the air with old time favorites while the judges were deliberating.

Judges for the event were Paul Hudspeth, Lee Ann Hodges, Bunny Lynch, Michele Raben and Noel White.

"This was such a huge success," showdown coordinator Sandy Smith said, "that we've already decided to host it again next year." A tentative date of Saturday, June 29, 2002 has been set at the Garza Theatre.

Sponsors for the event included Sonic, Wells Fargo, Jackson Bros., Holly's Drive In, Pizza Hut, The Bee Hive, Post City Communications CellularOne Authorized Dealer, Post Beverage Barn; Old Mill Trade Days, Chapa's Family Restaurant, McDonald's, Subway, CitizensBank and Southwestern Public Service.

"We could not have done this without the support of our sponsors," Smith added. She also expressed appreciation to Christy Morris, who served as lighting specialist, and to the Garza Theatre board of directors for allowing the event to be held in the historic theater.

Post City Radio, which hosted the event, is a local community based radio station broadcasting at 97.7 FM (low power), on the Internet at www.postcityradio.net and on Classic Cable Channel 12 in Post.

For 20 years, the True Value Country Showdown has been the birthplace for many country music stars. Garth Brooks, LeAnn Rimes, Martina McBride, Neal McCoy and John Michael Montgomery have taken their first steps toward fame by participating in the showdown.

More than \$200,000 total in cash prizes will be awarded in multi-level national competitions. Local and state competitions take place throughout the spring and summer. Texas state finals will be in Lubbock at the South Plains Fair Grounds in September.

In the fall, state winners advance to one of six regional finals. Regional winners then compete in the True Value Country Showdown national finals at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville, Tenn., in November.



Amber Peebles, an employee at the Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility, belted out favorite tunes at last Saturday's Post City Radio sponsored True Value Country Showdown, earning first place and advancing to the state finals in September.

Redistricting hearing rescheduled for July 27 at Community Center

A meeting designed to allow for public input on the proposed redistricting of Garza County's election, justice of the peace and commissioners court precincts has been tentatively rescheduled for Friday, July 27.

The meeting, originally set for Thursday, June 28, was postponed after the attorneys scheduled to be on hand for the session were unable to attend, Garza County Judge Giles Dalby said.

The rescheduled meeting is tentatively set for 7 p.m. in the Post Community Center.

The public is invited to attend the session. Individuals interested in addressing the group should sign a speaker's request form provided upon arrival at the community center. Each speaker will be asked to address the court, identifying themselves and providing their address, commissioners court precinct and the election precinct in which they reside.

According to a press release from Dalby's office, "Comments should be reasonably concise and to the point. The hearing will be conducted under rules of judicial decorum."

It also was noted that a tape recording will be made of the hearing, and any comments entered into record will be transcribed and included with the submission of the proposed Commissioners Court

(Continued on Page 7)

Post ISD fights insurance company on roof damage

The Post Independent School District's ongoing dispute with its insurance company over roof damage continued to unfold in a June 25 called meeting at the administration building.

District superintendent Dr. Bobby Bain said trustees met to discuss the litigation against Hartford Insurance with their attorney. The discussion was conducted in closed session, as is permissible under state law.

Bain said Hartford continues to deny that the school district's roofs were totaled in a May 1999 hailstorm. That storm dropped hail up to 2 1/2 inches in diameter.

To date, Hartford has issued a check of about \$200,000 to the school district for roof damage, but Bain said estimates indicate it will cost \$1 million to \$1.3 million to get the damaged roofs repaired.

Trustees took no action in open session, according to Bain.

NRCS holds public hearings

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) is conducting a series of public listening sessions to receive comments on the role, capacity and capability of private sector vendors in providing on-farm technical services related to comprehensive nutrient management planning for Animal, Feeding Operations and Confined Animal Feeding Operations.

A session will be held Tuesday, July 17, in Austin from 9-11 a.m.

and 12:30-3 p.m. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. The session will take place in the Omni AB Room of the Omni Austin Hotel Southpark, located at 4140 Governor's Row.

The Austin session will be one of six to be held throughout the country.

The session will provide a public forum whereby interested individuals can provide comments and ideas regarding the role, capacity and capability of private sector vendors in providing on-farm technical services related to assisting AFL/CAFO owners and operators with the development and implementation of comprehensive nutrient management plans, or specific elements of these plans.

Possible elements of a CNMP include:

- Manure and wastewater handling and storage
- Land treatment
- Nutrient management
- Record keeping
- Feed management
- Other manure and waste water utilization activities (alternatives to land application)

The following questions will be addressed at the forums and should be addressed in written comments. Interested individu-



The Price of Success

Larry Bond (center), associate warden at the Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility paid the price and went an extra step last week to avoid "lock-up" for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Warden Bond had set a goal of \$800 as his "bail bond," and by Wednesday at 10 a.m. only \$600 had been raised. Warden challenged the facility staff to raise \$200 and if they accomplished that goal, he would go through the final stages of the Emergency Response Team training. In less than two hours an additional \$230 was raised and employees gathered at noon to witness the application of pepper spray to Warden Bond. It was all for a good cause and led the way for other community organizations in the MDA campaign.

als are encouraged to provide detailed answered and comments to the questions below:

1. What do you believe the role of private sector vendors should be in providing technical services to AFL/CAFO owners and opera-
2. What are the technical ca-

tors with the development and implementation of their CNMPs? Is there a distinction in this role as regards to regulated versus non-regulated AFOS?

(Continued on Page 7)

Post Notes

Tennis camp set July 16-19

The Antelope Tennis Camp will be held July 16-19 at the high school tennis courts. Boys and girls entering the second grade through ninth grade will be welcomed. Times are from 8:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. Monday through Thursday. Cost is \$20 per student. Call Coach Vickers at 495-0232 for additional details.

Bold Gold football camp July 23-26

Boys entering the third through eighth grades are encouraged to sign up for the 2001 Bold Gold Football Camp, which starts July 23. Fundamentals, sills, games and fun are scheduled for participants. Call Coach Darrell Daily at 495-4178 or 495-3164 for more information.

Post Dispatch offers on-line service

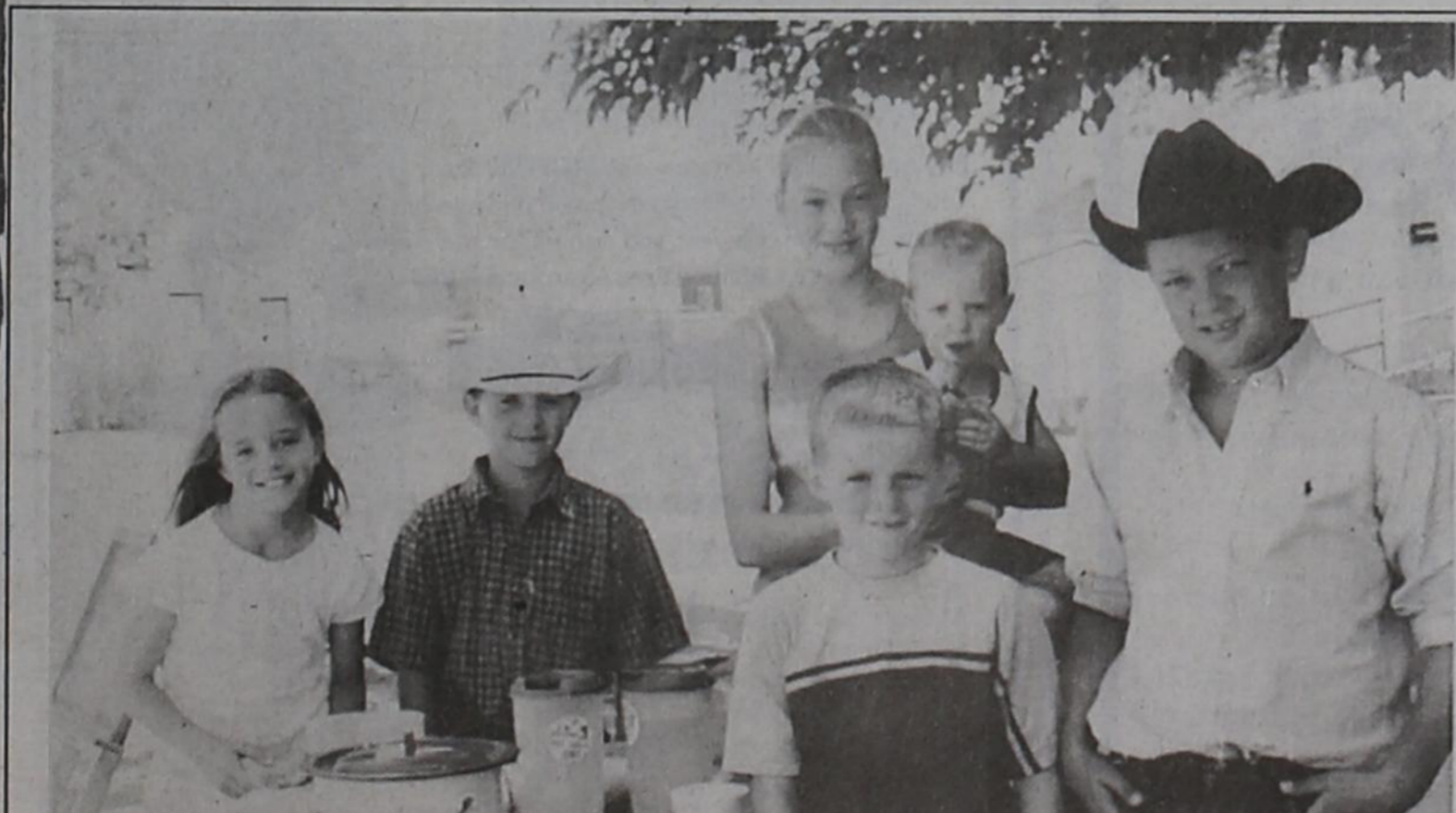
The Post Dispatch is now offering Post news on line. The new internet service is available on the web site: www.postcityradio.net and at this time offers page 1 and obituaries. Users will need to install Adobe Acrobat Reader to utilize the new service.

Redistricting public hearing July 27

The Garza County Commissioners' Court will hold a special session and public hearing on Friday, July 27 at 7 p.m. in the Post Community Center to receive public comments on redistricting of county elections.

VFW sets dance Saturday

The Post VFW will host a dance Saturday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Texas Mesquite will provide music for the event.



Taking advantage of the summer heat are (back left to right) Laurel Tatum and Kale Yarbrow, (front) Kate Lynn Short, Ryan Belongia, Reece Belongia and Cass Tatum with their lemonade stand. (Photo by Sandy Smith)

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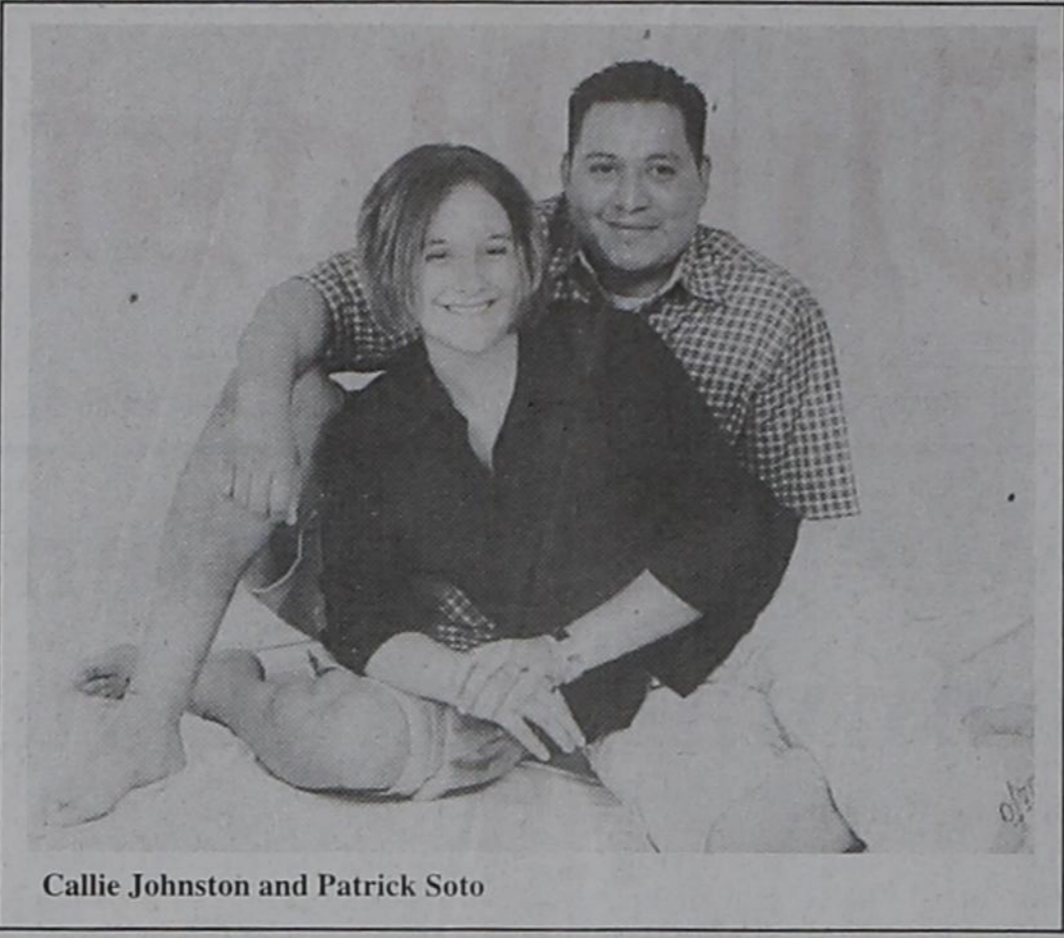
Births

Mabry Ryann Payne

Tray and Heidi Payne have announced the birth of a child, Mabry Ryann, Thursday, June 7, 2001, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. The baby weighed seven pounds, four ounces, and was 19 1/2 inches in length. Proud grandparents are Don and Carol Payne of Lubbock and Don and Jenny Weichmann of Oklahoma City, Okla. Great-grandparents of the infant are E.L. and Margie Wright of Levelland.

Bridal shower honors Mrs Collazo

A bridal shower honoring Mrs. Michael Collazo, nee Jenny Jones, was held June 25 at the Citizens Bank room. Approximately 50 guests were on hand for the occasion. Honored guests included Mrs. Johnny Collazo and Ms. Connie Jones. The honoree was presented with a set of Wearever cookware and a pair of safari lamps. Hostesses for the event were Gloria Abraham, Irene Abraham, Jody Ammons, Tonya Dunn, Rebecca Haney, Marianne Hart, Maurine Hudman, Edna Mae Owen, Carol Payne, Delores Redman and Paula.



Callie Johnston and Patrick Soto

Callie Johnston, Patrick Soto set wedding date

Robert Johnston of Lubbock and Paulett and Donny Lawrence of Post have announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Callie Johnston, to Patrick Soto Jr., son of Pat and Susan Soto of Post. The ceremony is set for Aug. 4, 2001, at the First United Methodist Church in Post.

Ladies Auxiliary elect new officers at meeting

by Lana Comer
The Ladies Auxiliary has been very busy with various endeavors. We elected officers for the 2001-2002 year. Janet Ratliff, District 7 president, installed our officers.

New officers include Jo Ann Stelzer, president; Sandy Smith, senior vice president; Tawana McCrary, junior vice president; Ruth Walls, treasurer; Lana Comer, secretary; Roberta Miller, chaplain; Alva Shepherd, conductress; Shirley Williams, guard; trustees Beth Ann Todd, first year; Melvis Taylor, second year, and Lori Youder, third year; Stacey Edwards, patriotic instructor; Carol Jean Ligh, historian; and color bearers Jo Ellen Sparlin, Maleeey Johnston, Lola Ryan, Glenda Hewitt; Sherrie Riedel, banner bearer; and flag bearer, Kay Edwards.

On June 13, we donated a book about Ellis Island to the Post Library. The next day, June 14, was Flag Day. We had a memorial service at Terrace Cemetery and placed grave markers and flags on the graves of three of our members who have passed away. The members were Rose Mary Stelzer, Dena Morgan and Tot Taff. We know they are in a better place, but we miss them and our prayers go out to their family members.

Our pot luck birthday dinner was held at the VFW Hall June 27. Also, there is a state convention at Dallas from June 27 through July 1. Representing District 7 and our Post 6797 will be our District 7 president, Janet Ratliff, and our president of Post 6797, Jo Ann Stelzer.

There is a pin party planned for July 25. At the pin party, we will be presenting for one year, five years, 10 years and 25 year pins for service in the Ladies Auxiliary.

The Auxiliary would like to say have a safe and happy July 4. Remember this day is to celebrate our independence. Please remember for we have a lot to be thankful.

A Financial Idea

(NU) - One of the biggest financial challenges parents face today is investing for a child's college education. But don't fret. At www.LearningQuestSavings.com, you can access an interactive college cost calculator to help estimate how much money your child will need. For more information about the Learning Quest Education Savings program, you also can call 1-800-579-2203.

Neighbor to Neighbor

by Sara Stevens, CEA-FCS

Tips on Checking Account Can Benefit College Freshman

I remember when I was young and I would ask my mom for something at the store. She would reply, "I don't have any money." I would say, "Come on mom, just right a check." I thought that if you had checks, you had money. Unfortunately, many kids believe this even as they get older.

Students who started checking accounts in high school may have an advantage over other freshmen entering college this fall. "Young people who start bank accounts before they enter college have the opportunity to develop important money management skills," said Dr. Joyce Cavanagh, family economics specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. "One reason is that while children are at home, parents can work with them on managing their checking accounts."

Cavanagh says helping children learn to balance bank statements before they start college is one of the most important roles parents can play because once children are several hundred miles away from home, they are on their own. Young people do not like to balance their statements, she said. The think it's too hard. But it forces them to keep a record of the money they have spent. "It's especially important to do this because if one check bounces, it could cost \$50 or more in fees," Cavanagh said. "Think of what it would cost if three or more checks bounced. It gets expensive."

Some individuals run into major problems when using automated teller machine cards. Many forget or neglect to deduct that cash transaction from their account, she said. According to Cavanagh, students should consider five criteria when choosing an account and financial institution:

* **Cost** — Students can evaluate and compare the costs of checking accounts by finding out answers to questions such as: What is the minimum balance to open an account? What do the fees or service charges cover? Is a minimum balance required to avoid a monthly service charge and how is it calculated? Does the account receive interest? Are canceled checks returned with monthly statement?

* **Safety** — For maximum safety, financial institutions should be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund.

* **Convenience** — Find out if the main office or at least a branch office is located nearby. Also, consider whether or not the bank has walk-up and drive-up services, convenient business hours and a nearby automated teller machine available 24-hours a day.

* **Treatment of Customers** — Research studies by financial institutions show that lack of courtesy is a major reason why they lose customer to competitors. Bank representatives should be courteous in person and over the telephone.

* **Range of Services** — Banks offer a variety of services for customers who open checking accounts. Find out about stop-payment orders, overdrafts and the waiting period for a check deposit to clear before checks can be written against the funds.

Another factor students need to look at is whether to open a checking account in their home towns or where their colleges are located. An advantage to having an account back home is that parents can deposit money and students do not have to wait a couple of days before it reaches the bank. However, students who work and receive a paycheck may want to consider a local institution. Such tips can help students find the institution that best fits their needs, she said.

"Whatever choices individuals make in selecting a financial institution, opening a checking account is a wise decision," Cavanagh said. "There's no need to carry much cash, and it is easier and less expensive to pay bills by mailing a check rather than traveling all over town to make payments."

Remember, a checking account is a huge responsibility. If you are careful and use it appropriately you won't get that dreadful call from the bank saying you are overdrawn, nor will you have to make the even more dreadful call asking mom and dad for money when they just helped you out last week.



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Callie Johnston and Patrick Soto

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Foot stompin, toe tappin' music delights Country Showdown audience



Bettie Cook



Amberly Sharber



Courtney Short



Gladys Blair's comedy routines kept the laughter rolling through the audience at last Saturday's First Annual Post City Radio True Value Country Showdown at the Garza Theatre.



Carol Mosely



Jose Ladinis



Heather Mason



Cahty Whitten delighted the audience with her talents at last Saturday evening's First Annual Post City Radio True Value Country Showdown at the Garza Theatre. Cathy served as Mistress of Ceremonies and was supported by The Classics.



Stephanie Crisp



David Turner



The clarinet first appeared in an orchestra in 1711. The instrument was further popularized by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

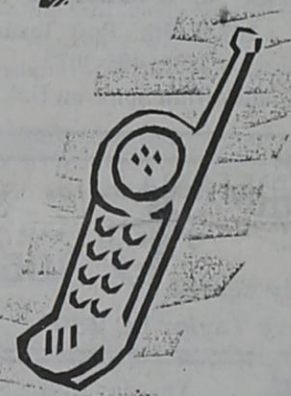


Daniel Fluitt led singing for The Thrift Store Cowboys



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Obituaries

Modena Farmer

Services for Modena Farmer, 84, of Post were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 1, 2001, in the First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Buddy Payne officiating. Burial followed in the Terrace Cemetery under the direction of the Hudman Funeral Home.

She died Friday, June 29, at her home. Born July 8, 1916, in Fluvanna, she married Ira Farmer July 31, 1941, in Snyder. He died June 7, 1999. She was a housewife and a member of the Methodist church.

Survivors include two sons, Don Tatum and Ted Tatum, both of Post; two sisters, Marie Bohanon of Long Beach, Calif., and Lena Ford of Snyder; two brothers, Paul Sullenger of Odessa and James Sullenger of Snyder; four grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Wesley Guthrie

Services for Wesley Guthrie, 62, of Post were held at 4 p.m. Sunday, July 1, 2001, in the Calvary Baptist Church with the Rev. Billie Smith officiating. Burial followed in the Terrace Cemetery under the direction of the Hudman Funeral Home.

He died Thursday, June 28, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Born Sept. 27, 1938, in Moody, Texas, he married Sandy Grantham May 21, 1982, in Lovington, N.M. He was an electrician.

Survivors include his wife, Sandy, of Post; one son, Danny Guthrie of Post; one daughter, Terri Laurence of Post; two stepsons, James Eiland of Natural Dam, Ark., and Tony Eiland of Fremont, Ohio; one stepdaughter, Marla Ryan of Fayetteville, Ark.; two brothers, John L. of Littlefield and Herman of Post; three sisters, Bonnie Taylor, Mildred Massey and Lucille Baker, all of Post; and 13 grandchildren.

Estelle Haynes

Services for Estelle Haynes, 84, of Post were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 3, 2001, in the First Baptist Church with the Rev. Darryl Smith of Huntington officiating, assisted by the Rev. Keith Cooper. Burial followed in the Terrace Cemetery under the direction of the Hudman Funeral Home.

She died Saturday, June 30, at the Golden Plains Care Center. Born May 20, 1917, in Young County, she married Clyde Haynes Feb. 2, 1946, in Snyder. He died March 24, 1987. She was a Baptist and a housewife.

Survivors include two sons, Larry Haynes and Curtis Haynes, both of Post; one brother, B.T. Marchbanks of Alvarado, Texas; five sisters, Dovie Pinkerton of Snyder, Rose Tipton of Lipan, Inez Fiveash and Laura Mae Freeman, both of Abilene, and Ann Wilson of Stephenville; grandchildren Kirt Haneys of Montana, from Post, Scott Haynes, Tracy Haynes, Kim Goodman, Lisa Pierce, Cynthia Haworth and K.K. Haynes and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband; one grandson, Larry Haynes Jr., on Feb. 11, 1994; and one granddaughter, Samantha Haynes, on Sept. 9, 1989, and her brother Arthur Marchbanks.

Wanda Morris

Services for Wanda Morris, 81, of Post were held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3, 2001, in the Post Church of the Nazarene with the Rev. Dan Pool, pastor of the Graham United Methodist Church, officiating, assisted by the Rev. Ron Miner, pastor of the Post Church of the Nazarene. Burial followed in the Terrace Cemetery under the personal care of the Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

She died Saturday, June 30, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Born Sept. 26, 1919, in Peters Burg, Okla., to Everett and Bertha Mae Hill, she came to Garza County in 1924, settling in the Graham community where she attended school and graduated. She married Dillard Morris Oct. 2, 1927, in Posey. Their first home was in Barnum Springs. They later moved to the Close City community. She was a member of the Graham United Methodist Church, having taught the adult Sunday school classes for many years.

She is survived by her husband; one daughter, Sheila Melton of Post; two sons, Jerry Morris of Clarendon and Jack Morris of Post; two brothers, S.E. Hill of Houston and Plez Hill of Post; two sisters, Juane Surface of Dell City, Okla., and Loyce Poudner of Oklahoma City, Okla.; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family has suggested memorials be made to the donor's favorite charity.

Sue Penn

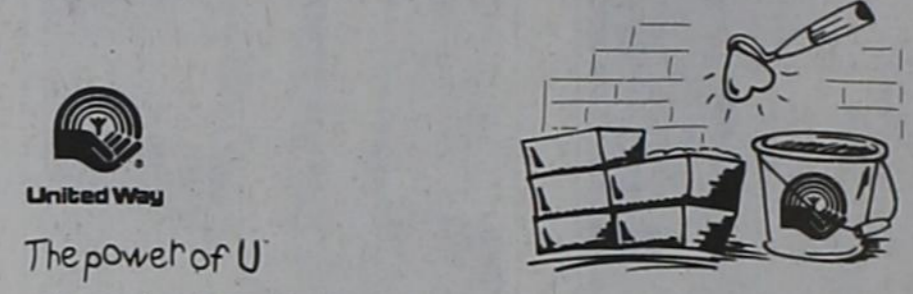
Services for Mrs. Sue Penn of Cooksville, Tenn., were conducted Friday, June 29, 2001, in the Baptist Church of Cooksville. She died June 26.

Born Nov. 3, 1936, to Bernard and Gladys Blacklock in Coryell County's Pearl, Texas, she moved to Garza County during the 1940s. She attended Post schools.

Survivors include her husband, James Penn; one daughter, Debbie; one son, Bennie; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and three brothers, Jackie, Bobby and R.J. Blacklock.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Hulon, C.W. and Billy Blacklock, as well as her parents.

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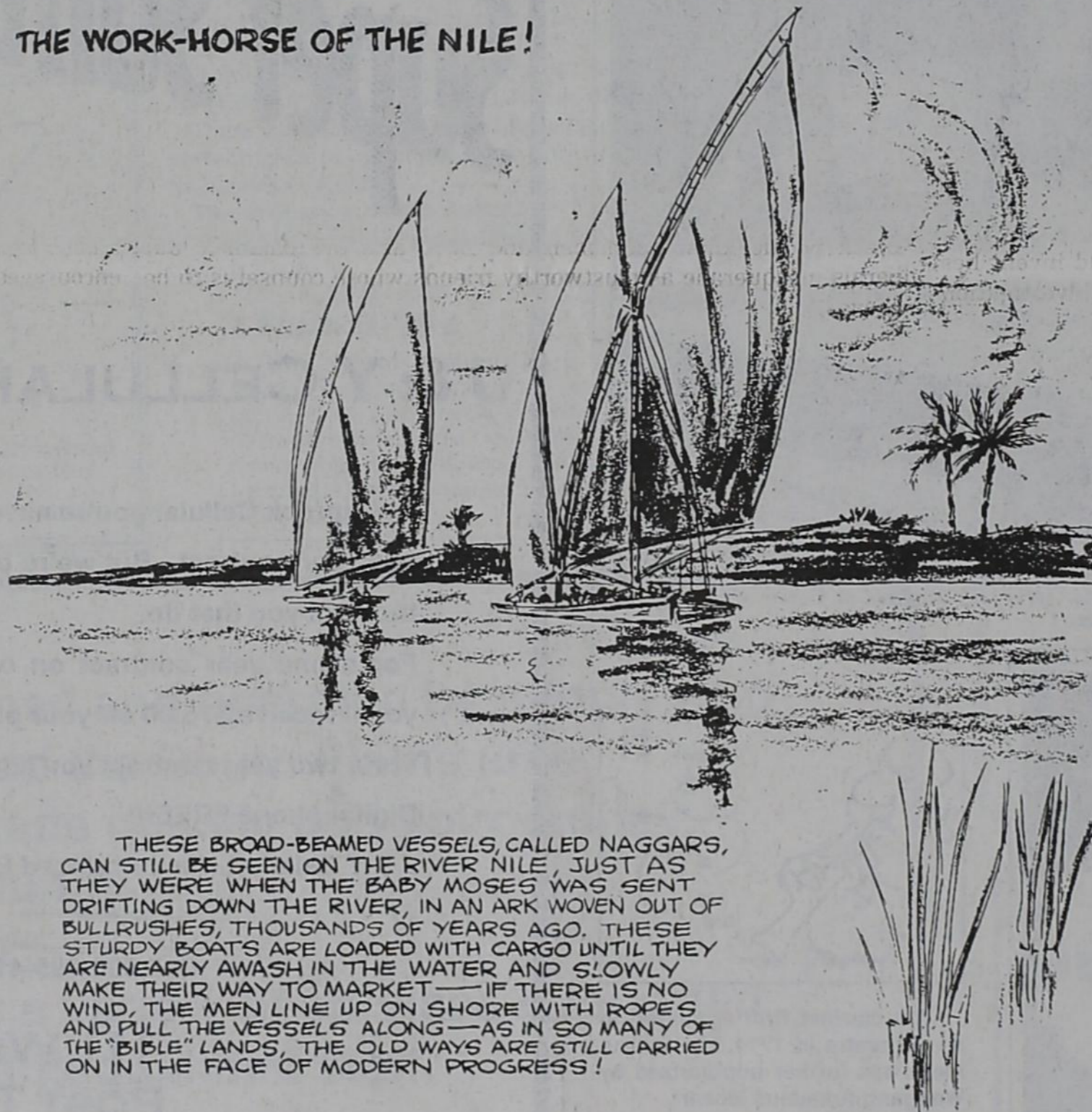
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Opinions



And thereafter, racial double standards

by Walter E. Williams

A measure of accommodation is accorded children because they are not adults and thus not to be held to the same accountability standards. But should that same accommodation be accorded to a race of people?

In the March 2001 edition of *The American Enterprise* magazine, there's an article titled "The Soft Bigotry of Double Standards." Author Jonah Goldberg's first observation is: "Here's one thing we learned from the post-election Florida folderol: Black leaders' can say anything, and the mainstream press will take it seriously."

Jesse Jackson said, "This is a replay of Selma all over again." He yelled that "Holocaust survivors have been disenfranchised." Jackson spoke of the "blood of blacks and Jews." Not one mainstream news media outfit challenged Jackson to substantiate his claims either at the time of the Florida recount or since.

In the midst of the Florida folderol, despite Jackson's ranting, *New York Times* correspondent Lynette Holloway wrote, "Mr. Jackson has been careful not to be inflammatory." Goldberg says that not one of Jackson's allegations — about blocked polling places, "targeted" blacks and Jews, harassed immigrants — was ever brought before an actual judge. Why?

Because they're all lies. Ask yourself whether it is in any way conceivable that a prominent white conservative could invent lies about blacks and stir up white anger without a major investigation and attack launched by the mainstream press? Some years ago, Al Sharpton tried to frame innocent men for a non-existent crime (the Tawana Brawley affair), ruining the lives of the accused.

Goldberg says that, despite this, Sharpton is "treated like Gandhi with a Jerri-curl by many reporters because he's the 'authentic voice' of a disenfranchised constituency." During the presidential campaign, the NAACP ran despicable ads suggesting that then-Gov. George Bush favored the racist murder of James Byrd Jr., a Texas black man. The ad ignored the fact that Byrd's murderers had been sentenced to

death. Only Fox News questioned the propriety of NAACP ads. Peter Jennings of ABC News, suggesting that maybe Gen. Colin Powell was a GOP Uncle Tom, asked, "Do you ever feel that maybe this is the professional wing of the party trying to use you?"

For white liberals, and unfortunately too many blacks, black people such as Secretary of State Colin Powell and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice — two eminently qualified Bush appointees — not to mention senior Bush Supreme Court appointee Justice Clarence Thomas, aren't sufficiently black.

What might really bother white liberals is that Bush hasn't followed the tradition of appointing blacks to "black jobs." "Unfortunately," Goldberg says, "it's almost impossible to exaggerate the degree to which the media have adopted the left-wing propaganda that (a) being black means being left-wing and (b) opposing left-wing blacks is racist."

Much more racially insulting is the media elite's demeaning attitude toward black people by their failure to hold them accountable to the standards to which they hold whites. I don't believe white liberals are racists in the sense that Klansmen and neo-Nazis are, but their paternalistic vision, preconception and attitudes are far more debilitating to black Americans than today's Klansmen and neo-Nazis.

Black people know Klansmen and neo-Nazis are enemies, but liberals masquerade as trustworthy friends whose counsel is to be believed.

Since many white liberals are driven by guilt about slavery and discrimination, I've written a certificate of amnesty and pardon (available under gifts at: www.gmu.edu/departments/economics). My hope is that if white liberals can stop feeling guilty, they might stop behaving as fools in their relationship with black people.

To find out more about Walter Williams, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Which shall it be? Liberty or slavery?

by Wes Burnett

In June and July 1776, a hot, tired and somewhat edgy group of men worked in Philadelphia constructing a statement of intent, designed to clear the air of any doubt regarding a political connection to their home country.

We know that event as the cataclysmic political revolution of modern times, the signal to the world's greatest nation, both economically and militarily, that a subjugated people were fed up with their subjected treatment by a callous and tyrannical government.

Those men were considered at that time to be not only radical, but downright dangerous. They were called all sorts of names: crazy, mad, idiots, trouble-makers, traitors and worse. Most were officially on the "most-wanted" list of their day, and those who weren't, would be branded as such shortly after issuing what we celebrate Sunday as The Declaration of Independence.

"How dare they be so bold as to challenge the King of England!" was the cry heard throughout the colonies. There was but very little public support for such a drastic measure. All around them, men of substance (who had great fortunes to lose) urged caution and compromise.

Compromise, bowing and scraping was still a way of life for most of the colonial subjects of "His Royal Majesty King George." Fortunately for us, there were a handful of men willing to stake their lives and their fortunes for a life of freedom and liberty.

With a master of literacy and craftsmanship chosen to draft a statement, the other 55 sat back and waited for Thomas Jefferson to present them with a proposal. It was simply, a masterpiece of logic, reason and boldness. The compromisers were stunned, the radicals delighted.

When we consume ourselves in food, drink and fun this July 4th, celebrating the efforts of our ancestors, I dare say very few among us will be even remotely aware of the dangers and turmoil that faced those 56 men. Most ended up in poverty, many died during the ensuing conflict, but they will all be remembered for that singularly courageous act of defying their "sovereign king" at the expense of death itself.

The opening of the declaration is astoundingly brilliant, and capsulizes what few of us would dare to say today. Try quoting the opening of this document and see how many people would actually sign it.

Here's what flowed from Jefferson's pen: "When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Forms, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long

established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly, all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World."

The document continues with a long list of abuses. Interestingly, among that list are many abuses under which we suffer today. I challenge opponents to political change to read that list constructed in the summer of 1776. The critic of change today will find the list replete with similar conditions today.

As in Jefferson's time, most people would rather suffer the indignities of a tyrannical government than to take a chance with real freedom and liberty. Nothing much has changed. Today's political radicals, who call attention to the abuses of government, are demonized even more effectively than in those colonial times. The methods may be different, but the outcome is the same.

Because I support the ratification of a new constitution for Texas which reclaims those liberties and freedoms enjoyed by our ancestors, I too have been the subject of ridicule. To me, it is a high honor to be considered worthy to carry the label of those American heroes we celebrate on July 4th.

Whenever government "becomes destructive of these Ends," denying and stripping its people of the very basic unalienable rights defined in the American Declaration of Independence, "it is the Right of the People to

(Continued on Page 8)

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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individuals, guided by the principles so eloquently described in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstone for our freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

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Would You Sign This?

by Timothy O'Brien

Sooner or later, the time comes when people find it necessary to reject the government that rules over them and demand respect for the sovereignty to which they are, by their very nature, entitled.

Consideration for everyone affected compels them to explain the reasons for the change. It is obvious that every individual is free and independent and has certain basic rights — for example, the right to live peacefully and honestly, and to pursue whatever ends he (or she) sees as being in his own best interests so long as he doesn't interfere with the equal rights of everyone else.

The only legitimate purpose of government is to ensure that no one violates anyone else's rights. Therefore, a just government can only serve those people who voluntarily support it.

Whenever any form of government exceeds its legitimate authority and begins destroying the very values it was instituted to protect, it is the right of the people to either change it or abolish it, and to set up a new government designed in such a way that its power is strictly limited to its proper functions.

Of course, common sense says such drastic steps should not be taken except in extreme circumstances. And, historically, people will tolerate a great deal of oppression rather than change a system with which they have grown familiar and comfortable. But, when a long series of abuses, invariably pursuing the same goal, demonstrates a plan to reduce them to virtual slavery, it is their right (indeed, it is their duty!) to reject such government and institute a new system to provide for their future security.

Such is the situation in which Americans now find themselves and the reason they must, once again, demand emancipation from a dictatorial government. The history of the present government is a history of insidious and incessant erosion of rights which has resulted in an absolute tyranny over the lives and property of the good people of this country.

The evidence is overwhelming:

- It has made absolute the power of the majority to rule over individuals, and by legislation, executive order, and judicial decree has created and encouraged a system which rewards indolence and penalizes productive effort.
- It has redefined fundamental rights as privileges and required people by regulations and licensing restrictions to obtain its permission merely to be left in peace to trade honorably in the marketplace.
- It has outlawed numerous peaceful, honest activities and occupations and, in areas not entirely prohibited, required free citizens to give up some of their rights in order to enjoy others - rights which are priceless to honest people and a danger only to despots.
- It has created a massive bureaucracy with unending reporting requirements in order to bury our people in forms and paperwork and, thereby, wear them down and beat them into submission.
- It has harassed, jailed, and murdered individuals who bravely resisted its invasions of their rights.
- In single-minded pursuit of its goal to reduce free people to abject slaves, it has failed utterly in its responsibility to protect people from criminal aggression.
- It has severely restricted the freedom of individuals living under other oppressive governments to move here to seek refuge and the opportunity to be freely productive and, thereby, contribute to the betterment of all.
- It has caused the judiciary to degenerate into a kangaroo court of arbitrary powers that is a mockery of justice.
- It has made its own courts arbiter of disputes to which it is itself a party.
- It has created innumerable new offices and administrative and regulatory bodies sending forth swarms of officers and agents to harass our people and devour the fruits of their labor.
- It has maintained, even in times of peace, a standing military force of frightening and wholly unnecessary proportions.
- It has made both military and police forces superior to and beyond the control of civilian authority.
- It has imposed upon us laws and edicts which are abhorrent to a free people:
- Maintaining large numbers of armed agents among us far beyond what is needed to assist individuals in their self-defense.
- Imposing the doctrine of Governmental Immunity to insulate its agents from responsibility for their wanton and reckless acts.
- Restricting our trade both among ourselves and with other people around the world.
- Imposing taxes without our consent.
- Undermining and finally destroying the jury trial - a free people's last defense against a dictatorial government.
- Conscripting free individuals into involuntary servitude in the military to have life and limb wasted in pointless foreign wars.
- Abolishing the concept of private property and the rights implicit in self-ownership by arbitrary rules, regulations, ordinances, and codes in a relentless expansion of its domination and control over the lives of free people.
- Taking away our most cherished freedoms including the rights to life, liberty, and the peaceful, honest pursuit of happiness.
- Declaring itself invested with the power to legislate for us in all matters whatsoever, even including how our children shall be raised and educated.
- It has abdicated its responsibility by ignoring victims of aggression and, instead, naming itself complainant in criminal cases, all the while preying on honest people for its support by violence and extortion.
- It has plundered our wealth, corrupted our money, and far exceeded its income, creating a massive debt impossible to legitimately retire.
- It has raised up large armies of mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny already begun with a cruelty and ruthlessness scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous age, and totally unworthy of the government of a civilized nation.
- It has employed our fellow citizens to bear arms against us, to become the extortionists and executioners of their friends and families, or to fall themselves to government intimidation.

(Continued on Page 8)

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Delmo E. Gossett and Lonnie Gene Peel

Exhausted taxpayers subsidize crazy stuff

The Libertarian Party used this year's tax deadline day to remind Americans about all the "ridiculous" ways that politicians will use to squander taxpayers' money.

Libertarian Party national director Steve Dasbach released the "Top 10 Most Ridiculous Things That Politicians Are Spending Your Money On This Year."

1. A retirement program for chimpanzees. Congress has created the Chimpanzee Health Improvement, Maintenance and Protection Act (CHIMP), which will spend \$45,000 an animal in 2001. "Proving that once again, politicians are making a monkey out of the taxpayer," Dasbach said.

2. Turning your money into dung. Congress voted to give \$4 million to the International Fertilizer Development Center for waste research.

3. Subsidizing politicians' erections. "Congress's health insurance program actually covers Viagra, which demonstrates that the worst case of erectile dysfunction in the world can be found here in Washington," said Dasbach.

4. Paying teen-agers not to have sex. An "emergency" spending provision in the 2001 military construction bill includes \$20 million to pay for a teen-age abstinence program.

5. A.D.R. Seuss memorial. The HUD (Housing and Urban Development) bill contains \$400,000 for a memorial to the author of "Green Eggs and Ham" - who has left a wealthy estate. Dasbach called it "a classic case of Pork-I-Am."

6. Spying on your e-mail. The FBI's Carnivore computer snooperware program threatens to take the bite out of your privacy and devour the Fourth Amendment.

7. Looking at you naked. U.S. Customs officials at dozens of airports are now using the high-tech Bodysearch scanner, which can see body contours right through your clothes. "These X-rated X-rays have turned airport bureaucrats into peeping Toms and are stripping innocent Americans of their privacy," said Dasbach.

8. Subsidizing a bug lab. Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., stung taxpayers for \$5 million when he inserted money into an agriculture bill to build an insect laboratory in his home state of Mississippi, which explains why Americans are bugged by high taxes.

9. Subsidizing religion. "President Bush's plan to funnel tax dollars to faith-based charities shows that what politicians really worship is Big Government," said Dasbach.

10. Urging fat people to walk. The Centers for Disease Control spent \$14,900 to decorate a stairwell to encourage obese employees to walk, rather than take the elevator. Thank Clinton

The Tax Foundation said Monday that Americans have to work from Jan. 1 to May 3 just to pay their federal, state and local taxes. Every year since 1992, the first day of "tax freedom" gets later and later.

"Since 1992, when Tax Freedom Day fell on April 18, the total tax burden has grown markedly," observed the Tax Foundation's Scott Moody, who attributes the growth to higher federal tax collections.

In 2001, Americans had to work an average of 50 days to pay income tax and 29 days to pay Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes.

Unfortunately for proponents of President Bush's pending \$1.6 trillion tax cut package, the Tax Foundation reports that a one-time reduction in

tax rates will only briefly halt Tax Freedom Day from advancing further into May.

"Because the federal tax system depends so much on the income tax, which is progressively designed, when you have strong economic growth like we've had the last 10 years, people's real income tends to go up ... and [they] are pushed into higher tax brackets," Moody explained.

Though income tax brackets are adjusted for inflation, they are not adjusted for annual growth in real income. "If you wanted to stop [bracket creep] in the long run, you would need to move to a flat rate system," or cut taxes every year, he said.

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor Policy: We require all letters to be signed, however, names may be withheld from publication by request. Letters may be edited for brevity, grammar and punctuation.

What exactly do we celebrate?

Should real patriots celebrate the Fourth of July holiday? I say yes but only so long as we keep in mind what we are and are not celebrating. Here's my lists. You should, of course, have your own lists.

First, what I am **not** celebrating. I am **not** celebrating the betrayal of the American Revolution by a group of federalists who managed to get a constitution adopted that enabled the creation of the current tyrannical regime.

I am **not** celebrating the abrogation of that constitution, however flawed, by a president (Abraham Lincoln) in order to "save the union". He was one of the first presidents who openly violated the constitution and used armed force to back it up.

I am **not** celebrating the "new deal" of Franklin Delano Roosevelt who managed to give us such important modern institutions as the Federal Reserve, amongst others, and who openly espoused the principles of socialism.

I am **not** celebrating the morally depraved Bill Clinton. 'Nuff said about that.

I am **not** celebrating the Whiskey Rebellion, Wounded Knee, Ruby Ridge, Waco, nor any of the other many uses of force to make the government "right".

I am **not** celebrating the use of the American armed forces to play politics in regions that most of us never heard of.

So what the heck AM I celebrating? I am celebrating the courage of a small group of people who took on the military might of the most powerful nation on Earth and won even in the face of local apathy and sometimes outright local opposition.

I am celebrating the leaders of that effort for foregoing the opportunity to set up yet another dictatorship and, instead, tried to set up a government based on the idea that individuals were the bosses and government the servant.

I'm even celebrating that some of those leaders managed to get some fairly minimal protections of individual rights into the new federalist constitution. But, most of all, I am celebrating the fact that the spirit of the American Revolution is still alive here in Texas.

A small group, yes. But a group that is dedicated to reviving that spirit. We may well fail in our efforts to get Texas Constitution 2000 ratified. But, even in failure, I still celebrate the courage and dedication of those who helped write Texas Constitution 2000 and those who are, even now, doing their best to get a wave of support going. Good show, people.

And Happy Fourth of July.
Donald D. Henson, El Paso

Living on the Edge of the Caprock

by Greg Jones, CEA-AG

I run across many articles and get a lot of e-mail from various people. This particular e-mail cam from Roger Haldenby, Plains Cotton Growers, that I thought was interesting and worthy of reading.

Why farmers? not florists?
"Seems like farmers are always crying out for help from the government these days" someone said to me this morning. "What's the deal?"
They continued, "What if I had a business, say a flower shop in Lubbock, and I just couldn't make it. Would the government come in and bail me out, like they do for these farmers?"

Good questions, and ones I'm sure more and more of our city cousins are asking. They are also questions that need answering before the trickle-down effect of one agriculture disaster after another makes its mark on Lubbock and surrounding community businesses, including flower shops.

Let's take a look at some similarities, and then some differences, between farming and flower shops.

Both farmer and florist are self employed. They must not only be experts in their prime occupation, but like every American business person they must be knowledgeable in a whole range of subjects from accounting and budgeting, through business administration, finance and law, to personnel management and customer relations. On top of this the farmer must be mechanic, engineer, chemist, entomologist, agronomist and optimist.

Both farmer and florist must wear these different hats each day of the week. Unless independently wealthy or a recent lottery winner they must both be able to inspire faith and trust in bankers to back their ventures. There's need for capital equipment and business operating budget in both callings.

The differences appear when we look at the big picture over an extended operating period.

Not meaning in any way to detract from the brave move an individual or partnership might take to develop a flower-shop business, it quite frankly involves considerably more risk becoming a farmer than it does becoming a florist. Let me clarify why and how.

Admittedly, whatever capital is brought into either business, it's put at risk. In almost every business other than farming there are few risks over which the business owner has no control. However, in farming the risks over which there is zero control and continuous 100% exposure are many. And it's these that are the killers.

The first is weather. A farmer's entire product is laid out to the vagaries of the weather every day. From before a seed is planted until the last bale or bushel is harvested and safely stored. Insurance can mitigate some of this risk, just as fire and flood insurance would on the flower shop. But the farmer's exposure to weather risk is daily.

The second is government regulation including embargoes. There are no regulations I know of telling florists they cannot sell their flowers and arrangements to a large portion of their potential customer base. But American farmers are deprived access to many potential markets because of international politics, trade agreements and treaties.

And then comes price. A florist can set their own price for their merchandise based on cost of their inventory, their added value plus whatever the market can stand for a profit margin. The relatively rapid turn round of inventory enables adjustments to be made from one buy-sell cycle to another. During a twelve month period the florist, and most other businesses probably need the fingers of both hands and most of the toes on both feet to count marketing cycles.

Not so the American farmer.

He gets one shot at one marketing cycle each year. No second chance. That's a fundamental rule of the game when you're dealing with nature's growing season. America's farmer has absolutely no say whatever in the price he will get for the fruit of his labors. He has no control over what his product will sell for and, what's worse, other than astute hedging in a futures market flooded with speculators, no idea what the price will be until his product is in the bale, the elevator or the packing plant.

Such intensive capital requirements, a one time a year market, no control over price, constant threat from the weather - it's no surprise the farmer needs a safety net.

And the safety net, in the form of support and assistance when these very real and regular risks disastrously strike the most basic industry of these United States of America comes from our government.

The same government that enters into treaties with some countries and places embargoes on trade with others. The same government that imposes regulations and restrictions on production and practices. The same government that has sought to provide affordable and safe food and fiber to its citizens since the depression of the 1930's.

The same government that stands by its farmers in their times of need. I sincerely hope that the florists and other businesses of America never have to walk in the steps our farmers tread.

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Truck driver speaks his mind

Having driven a truck a little ways in my 56 years on this earth, I want to put my two cents' worth of comment in.

In most cases, brick streets are stronger than regular street materials; that is, if they were laid properly to start with.

Most truckers don't want to be on Main Street any more than the merchants down there want them there. Back when my mind was fogged over from participating in the heavy consumption of alcoholic beverages, I did used to drive trucks down Main Street with my chest all poached out, thinking to myself, "Everybody look at me." Now that 12 months have almost passed without that problem, I rarely put a truck on Main Street.

Although Main Street is a state and public highway, I consider it to be a high risk area for big trucks. I am concerned that a little kid will run out from behind a car or a car might back out in front of me. So I use one of the many streets that will allow a trucker to avoid Main. Most local truckers do the same.

As far as outside truckers are concerned, they probably don't know where those roads are. And for oversized permit loads, Central Permit Office in Austin, Texas, assigns loads a very detailed permit route with road and highway numbers to follow. If Central Office says take Highway 380 east through Post, they don't mean drive all over town trying to get to the other side.

They mean use Highway 380. I would guess Central personnel would make amendments to the route if they knew about the ways around town better

WTC pre-registration

Preregistration for the fall semester at Western Texas College in Snyder will be conducted for new students by appointment July 30 through Aug. 17.

Payment or other arrangements must be made by Aug. 15 in order to hold the student's class schedule. Students may call 1-888-GO-TO-WTC for more information or a class schedule. To check the updated schedule online, visit the college's Web site at wtc.cc.tx.us.

Ag issues...

(Continued from Page 1)

abilities and capacities of the private sector vendor in relation to the skills, knowledge and experience needed to provide technical services associated with the development and/or implementation of CNMPs?

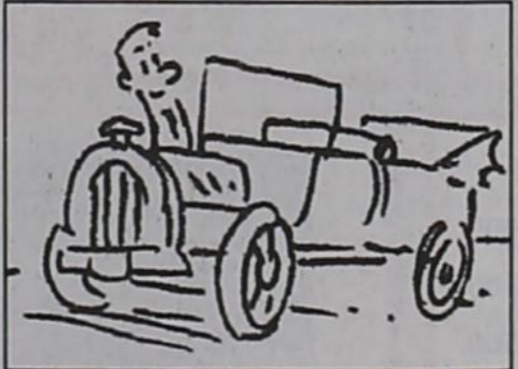
3. How do you see the capabilities and capacities of the private sector vendor community changing over the next few years? Over the next decade?

4. What is needed for a successful public/private partnership that will facilitate AF0/CAFO owners' and operators' development and/or implementation of CNMPs?

To allow for as many speakers as possible, each speaker will be limited to five minutes. Written or oral comments will be officially received as part of the public record.

Written comments will be accepted at the session and by mail or fax. Written comments must be postmarked or faxed by Aug. 15 and addressed to: Thomas Christensen, director, Animal Husbandry and Clean Water Programs, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, 5601 Sunnyside Ave., Mail Stop 5473, Beltsville, MD 20705. Or fax to 301-504-2264.

The session facility is handicapped-accessible. For individuals requiring special arrangements, call 254-742-9800 prior to the session.



The first car radio was installed in a Model T in 1914. Unfortunately, it only worked when the car wasn't moving.



Through the years, various cultures have used the petals from the rose to make salads, pies, syrups, wine, sweets, tonics and sorbets.

than Main Street. The roads would need some work and a few signs put up to make them safe to use. The street east from U.S. Highway 34 and Highway 380, red light east to Arnold Whirlwind and Railroad Tie office, then north one block to 380 is a natural bypass. We use it quite often, although it is a good test site for Monroe Shock Company.

The exit east off of U.S. 84 on 15th Street to FM 207 is another good one, but red light at 15th and U.S. 84 would be necessary to keep ol' codgers riding around, looking at how junky the town is from rear-ending trucks setting in the turn lane, waiting to turn off U.S. 84. The entrance onto 84 from 207 is a total nightmare.

The city and state should get on this project right away in my opinion. Now, for the playa lakes that are beginning to form in the brick surface on Main, I recently contacted a friend of mine who is a Ph.D. and a professor of geology at the Colorado School of Mines up in the great state of Colorado. He tells me that trucks are not making the sinking spots in the brick street.

He says excessive water from the watering of the trees and grass on the islands in the middle of the street is the cause. Due to extremely dry conditions in this area, shrinkage of the sand and bricks allow small cracks to form in the surface.

When 10 million gallons of water are applied to the grass for 12 hours on the islands, with two percent going on the grass and 98 percent headed for South Lake, seepage creeps into the sub-base under the bricks, softens it to the point that cars, bicycles, pedestrians, etc., are mashing the bricks into the base.

No, truckers are not the sole cause of the brick streets becoming a ragged mess. The extremely heavy load and oversized might be to some extent, but water is the No. 1 cause.

I've never seen a truck hit the curbs. Except at the east end where the curb is built in the street with no guide to keep from hitting it.

For the trees, if limbs are over the roadway, the state should send some maintenance people with their little hatchets and haggle them off.

The lady was right—just look outside. Almost everything we see at one time or another rode in on a truck. Even the are we breath or the water we drink.

To me, truckers are a special and necessary asset to the world. They should not be blamed for everything under the sun that goes wrong.

I'm glad I talked to my Ph.D. friend. I would have never thought of such a simple thing as water damage. Course, I'm simple, so I think simple.
O.L. (Ferg) Ferguson

Post ISD...

(Continued from Page 1)

precinct changes to the United States Department of Justice.

Following the public hearing, the court will consider and may take action one one or more alternative plans for the redistricting of the commissioners court precincts.

"The Court reserves the right to take any and all appropriate action regarding the redistricting of Garza County political boundaries, including the acceptance of new boundaries for the Commissioners Court precincts, modifications of any boundaries, and/or tabling the pending proposals for later consideration and/or action," according to the press release.

The Brownie camera, introduced by Kodak in 1900, was named after popular cartoon characters of the time. The tie-in was intended to help get children interested in photography.

Central Bail Bond opens new facility in Lubbock

Grand opening ceremonies for the newest Central Bail Bond location — this one at 719 Broadway in Lubbock — were recently held.

Central Bail Bond celebrated the opening with an official ribbon cutting ceremony hosted by the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce.

Kenneth Knowles, owner and president of the Professional Bond Association, had the event catered, with barbecue served. The special open house event drew more than 75 guests, friends and business associates.

Those on hand representing Central Bail Bonds were Knowles; Rex Enos, general manager; Geno Montana, area manager; Greg Williams, manager; Pam Pavlovsky; Chuck Wilson; Paul Kinsky; Kenneth Williams; and Carey Rehat.

Knowles owns 29 offices had employs 41 agents.

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Family Restaurant

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ACROSS

- output of Arlington GM plant
- TXism: "sneaky" — egg sucking dog
- ex-Cowboy coach Wannstedt
- TXism: "a neon light" (inspired)
- site of '37 gas blast that killed 293 TX kids and teachers
- Frenos, TX
- TXism: "_____ than a dry land farmer needs rain"
- "Cowpokes" artist Ace (init.)
- expression of relief
- Highlands, TX: "Pearl of _____ Jacinto"
- right-slanted letter
- cowboy boots often are point-_____
- TXism: "he camps out in the _____ nail" (religious)
- ex-Astro Drabek (init.)
- TX Gillyay's "A Head-ache — a Heartache Tonight"
- sound at TX Motor Speedway
- Bigfoot, TX named for frontier scout Wallace (init.)
- TXism: "_____ for bear" (equipped)
- Huckleberry _____
- prefix for chute, graph, or medic
- TX Quaid film ('87)
- some salsa
- tac toe
- TXism: "a hard dog to keep under the _____"
- a TX Navy ship
- "coffin nail" residue
- TXism: "_____ sight" (alone)
- most soiled or obscene
- plural of 33-down
- TX Steve Miller sang "Living in the _____"
- TXism: "_____ buster" (farmer)

DOWN

- near Amarillo,
- Caddies
- buried face down
- TXism: "dead _____"
- novel about Sam Houston & his wife Eliza Allen: "The _____ Bride"
- this Sam won the Dallas Open in '45
- TXism: "no flies _____" (attractive)
- TXism: "I _____ that like a duck — needs an umbrella"
- TXism: "she'll take a button and _____ a vest on it" (speculates)
- savior of the Alamo, Clara (init.)
- with "The," film by TX rancher Norris
- TXism: "six of one, half a dozen of the _____"
- prophetic sign
- Ebanos, TX
- TX DPS speed detector (2 wds.)
- with the rear forward
- Cowboy safety Darren
- TXism: "keep _____ under your hat"
- TXism: "got as much _____ do as a hibernating bear"
- TX Jim Reeves' "_____ I Losing You?"
- in Jackson Co., on hwy. 616
- TXism: "strike while the _____ hot"
- old Dallas TV "Slam Bang Theater" host lcky
- TXism: "busy as _____-armed paper hanger"
- TX Benson film: "_____ to Billie Joe"
- Dallas suburb
- TXism: "_____ so bad I could spit"
- a divisive person
- TX "Red" Adair and actor Newman
- cattle "stingin' stick"
- Glen was TX Ranger in "_____ Grit"
- "D' Arc tree dating status: "going _____"

Response Team welcomes Juan Basquez

by Arnold Fry

The Garza County Response Team would like to welcome Juan (Buzzy) Basquez to the team. Juan will be trained in Severe Weather Spotting and Traffic Control. Trained volunteer citizens are a great asset to Post and Garza County, in providing needed services and early warning during severe weather at no cost to

the City or County. All volunteers donate their time to help provide these services with no compensation expected. The Team will be taking applications for 3 volunteers at this time, if anyone would like to join the Team please contact Arnold Fry at (806) 778-1782.

The Team has recently ceased to provide assistance to stranded motorists due to the increase in fuel prices. It has become too expensive for the Team to continue the service, due to very few donations being made to the Team.

The Team hopes to resume assisting stranded motorists in the near future. The Response Team will continue to provide severe weather spotting and traffic control as needed.

The Team would like to thank the Citizens of Post and Garza County for their support over the last two years.

Would you sign this document?

(Continued from Page 5)

*It has caused domestic discontent and has recklessly challenged other dictatorial powers (such as the government of the Soviet Union whose known method of conquest is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions), threatening to bring nuclear annihilation down on us in defense of foreign governments.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A government whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a dictatorship, is unfit to rule over a free people.

Nor have we neglected to admonish our fellow citizens. We have warned them many times of attempts by this government to extend an unjustified jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the principles which formed the foundation of this republic. We have appealed to their sense of goodness and justice, and we have begged them in the name of our common heritage to disavow this renegade government that is leading us inexorably to our doom. However they have been deaf to the voice of reason and fairness.

We must, therefore, of necessity, hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, until such time as they renounce the initiation of force and, thereby, demonstrate their peaceful intentions so that we may once again consider them friends in peace.

We, therefore, as sovereign individuals living in the United States of America, together and singly, relying on the justice of our cause, solemnly publish and declare that we are, and of right ought to be, free and independent people; that we are absolved from all allegiance to the United States Government, and that all political connection between us and the Government of the United States is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that as free and independent people we have the full power to defend ourselves, make alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent people may, by right, do.

Winery offers "salsa dip-off"

The Llano Estacado Winery will celebrate the jalapeño and chili pepper in the Fourth Annual Salsa Dip-Off Saturday, July 14, at the winery.

The event was created to provide area cooks with an outlet to participate in a community-style salsa competition.

For more information, call Russell Gillentine at 806-745-2258.

And for the support of this declaration, with a firm belief in the inevitability of a social order whose highest value is the non-initiation of force, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

[Timothy J. O'Brien, Autumn 1986, Page 2, of The Libertarian Party NEWS]

Editor's Note: Karl Hess; Editor of the LP News

As you have probably guessed by now, the document you have just read is a faithful paraphrase of the Declaration of Independence of the colonial states of America. It was prepared by a libertarian activist and freelance writer, Timothy J. O'Brien, of Troy, MI.

In past experiments, when the original text has been circulated to American audiences, the overwhelming response has been one of rejection. At an American airbase, for instance, most of the people who were asked to sign the declaration refused and gave as their reason their belief that the document was radical, revolutionary - and communist!

The paraphrased version, using more modern language and omitting clearly dated references or bringing them accurately up to date, undoubtedly would strike many people as downright treasonous. And, of course, when the original was published it was treasonous.

Yet, think carefully about it: Isn't it a valid, if extreme, statement of the

way many citizens could reasonably be expected to view their own government these days? Is not that government, in many areas, literally at war with its own citizens?

To be sure, America remains the most free nation on earth. It remains for many people of the earth a steady and beckoning beacon of hope and freedom and opportunity. But, on balance, wouldn't it be prudent to revive the spirit of our original Declaration of Independence?

And isn't that declaration most perfectly reflected, these days, in the positions of the Libertarian Party, and in the principles of the libertarian movement? How would your neighbors react to a request to sign the Declaration of Independence today - particularly our modernized version?

Could this be a way to "feel out" politics in your area? Could this document be used as a support for your own libertarian statements if they are attacked as being too radical?

It is offered here for whatever uses you can make of it - or simply to test your own politics. Would you sign this document? And aren't these truly basic questions for any American?

Above all, this reminder of our American heritage is meant as a reminder also of the reflection of that heritage in the Libertarian Party and in the libertarian movement.

Which is it... slavery or liberty?

(Continued from Page 5)

alter or to abolish it." Jefferson was correct, long established governments are difficult to trim or reduce, but he and the other radicals of his time demonstrated that it can be done.

Let us celebrate this July 4th with a solid reminder of what that event is all about. It is about standing in the face of giant odds, demanding that a tyrannical government and its leaders cease and desist in their attempts to enslave the very people who feed them.

According to the 56 men who signed that document in 1776, it is our duty to do so. Think about that the next time your liberty is restrained and your pocket book robbed.

Whether it be such a simple act as having the flashing lights of the King's highwaymen running you off

the road, or a notice from some government agency that you have violated some nonsensical rule, your status today is not much different from those who signed that great and powerful declaration on July 4, 1776.

Liberty, the unrestrained exercise of free will, was as much valued by our colonial ancestors who demanded and won those rights, as any or all the wealth they owned.

One of those radicals said later, "Give me Liberty, or give me death." And Virginia's Patrick Henry meant it. What do our political leaders say today? "Give me your taxes or give me your life."

Which is to be? Shall we be the slaves of tyranny, or shall we be free to do and say and go as we please, as long as we don't violate someone else's rights?

I for one choose to be free.

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I for one choose to be free.

Funds available for energy help

Eligible Garza County residents may apply for funds set aside to provide assistance to those experiencing energy-related crises or energy-related emergencies.

The South Plains Community Action Association is overseeing the oil overcharge funds, which are to be distributed to eligible persons in need.

Priority will be given to eligible households with individuals 60 years of age or older and/or with handicapped individuals. This priority, however, does not exclude other income-eligible households.

To apply, an individual must provide the utility bill and evidence of income for the last 30 days. Proof of income could include checks, check stubs, award letters, employer statements and other similar documents.

Hours will be from 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m.

For more information, contact Billie Williams or Ysabel Overton at the Garza-South Plains Community Action building, South Highway 84 in Post.

SPC offers summer variety

Registration for the second summer term at South Plains College's locations in Levelland and the Reese Center will be 3-6 p.m. July 9.

Sign-up will be in the Administration Building on the Levelland campus and Building 1, Administrative Offices at the Reese Center.

More than 100 courses, from Anatomy and Physiology II to World Literature I, will be offered, including 10 Internet courses.

Late registration is 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m. July 10-11 on the Levelland campus and 5-7 p.m. July 10-11 at the Reese Center. A late fee of \$15 and a \$5 add/drop fee will be charged.

Classes begin July 10 at both locations.

SPC's 2001 schedules can be accessed on-line at www.southplainscollege.com or by contacting SPC at 894-9611, ext. 2570 or 2375 or the Reese Center campus at 885-3048, ext. 2902.

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| '93 Mazda 929, 4 DR., Green, Auto | \$6,900 |
| '90 Ford Probe GL, 2 Dr., Silver, 5 Sp. | \$2,500 |
| '93 Honda Accord LX, 4 Dr., White, 5 Sp. | \$5,900 |
| '93 Mitsubishi Eclipse GS, 2 Dr., White, 5 Sp. | \$3,900 |
| '95 Nissan 240 SX, 2 Dr., Green, 5 Sp. | \$5,900 |
| '94 Subaru Legacy SW, Green, Auto | \$4,900 |
| '90 Mazda 323 Hatch, Black, Auto | \$2,500 |
| '88 Cadillac Brougham, 4 Dr., White, Auto | \$2,500 |
| '91 Cougar LS, 2 Dr., White, Auto | \$3,900 |
| '95 Mazda MX-6, 2 Dr., Red, Auto | \$4,900 |
| '94 Ford Mustang, 2 Dr., Red, Auto | \$4,900 |
| '96 Chevy Beretta, 4 Dr., Green | \$5,900 |

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