

Ride 'em cowboy!

Gary Puckett is one of several local cowboys set to compete at this year's 61st Annual Post Stampede Rodeo in Post.

City, county wrangle over Sheriff's budget

by Wes Burnett

More wrangling over the Garza County Sheriff's budget took up most of Monday morning's regular county commissioners court meeting. Commissioners questioned Sheriff Kenny Ratke about continued increases, looking at a \$710,000 to \$733,000 budget this year, compared to \$641,000 last year.

Compounding the issue was the announcement by Judge Giles W. Dalby that the City of Post is only budgeting \$300,000 this year. The city has in the past paid one half of the cost of law enforcement, excluding about \$35,000 for the sheriff's salary and benefits.

Commissioner Lee Norman asked if the city was changing its policy regarding jointly funded projects. Judge Dalby picked up the phone and called Mayor Archie Gill, asking him if the city intended to stick to the \$300,000. Dalby said that Gill confirmed that the city has that amount in its early projections.

"If the city isn't going to fund half like they have in the past," Dalby said, "we're going to have a problem." The two government bodies have jointly funded a variety of programs for several years.

Ratke defended his budget, pointing out the need for building repairs and maintenance, the increased cost of fuel and vehicles, and insisted that sheriff's deputies be paid at the same rate of constable deputies.

Judge Dalby suggested that the

county and city would need to sit down together before any final decisions could be made.

During the budget debate, the court aired complaints about radio service and equipment, with Constable Deputy Bo Kimmons accusing emergency management coordinator Arnold Fry of lying. "That's a lie," Kimmons said when Fry told the court that recent repairs and special tuning had improved the radio system.

Kimmons pointed out that radio traffic from Lake Alan Henry hadn't improved and cited a recent problem in Southland, where two deputies there were unable to communicate by handheld radios, although they were only a few blocks away from each other. "That deputy could have been killed," Kimmons said, "just because I didn't know he needed help."

Ratke explained that the radio system repair is an on-going project. "Isn't it better to find out exactly what we need, rather than to go off and spend \$400,000 for a radio system we might not need?" "These fellows spouting off about this new digital radio stuff don't know for sure if it will work either," he added. "But you've got to decide, if you want this expensive system, then let's do it, but I think we need to see if we can get

this done in less expensive ways." According to Ratke, the radio problem has a lot to do with terrain, and said that down in the lake the bluffs block the signal. "With a restriction of five watts for a portable radio," he said, "you just can't get it out. But we're putting up a stronger relay at the lake headquarters, which will act as a repeater for sending the signal back to our tower here."

In other matters, the court approved election judges. Republican nominees appointed by voting box are Lee Ann Hodges (1), Barbara Langford (2), Dianne Windham (3), Mary Miller (4), Bobby Cowdrey (6), Mark Odom (8) and Eddie Jo Miller (9). Democratic nominees appointed were Billie Cross (5), Janet Ratliff (7) and Bill Thomas, early voting.

Democratic nominees approved as alternate election judges were Syd Conner (1), Libby McGehee (2), Betty Striblin (3), Peggy Smith (4), Debarra Ledbetter (6), Shirley Riedel (8) and Fay Maddox (9). The court approved an outdoor burning ban recommended by fire chief Ivan Line, who cited continued dry conditions for the request. The court also approved purchasing of cellular phone service from Cingular by the Constable Daniel Yarbrow and entered into a line item budget review.

Post Stampede Rodeo features local cowboys

Excitement is building for the 61st Annual Post Stampede Rodeo, billed as the "Best Rodeo in the West," August 9, 10 and 11. Several local cowboys will compete in the event.

Nightly TCRA- and CPRA-approved shows will be at 8 p.m., with grand entries scheduled for 7:45 p.m. at the rodeo arena.

Admission will be \$6 for adults and children ages 6 and under will be admitted free of charge.

T&T Rodeo Co. of Anson will serve as producer.

Events will include bareback bronc, one go-round, \$70; calf roping, one head, \$70; saddle bronc, one go-round, \$70; barrel race, \$70; team roping, open, \$140; bull riding, one go-round, \$70; mutton bustin', \$10; girls breakaway roping, \$70; and junior flag, 12 and under, \$10. Flag entries will be limited to the first 10; the top five each night will advance to the finals.

Books will open Sunday, Aug. 5, from 6-9 p.m. for all events and again on Monday, Aug. 6, from 6-9 p.m., all events. Call Randy McKee, 817-453-2374.

To sign up for the junior flag race and the mutton bustin', call Ray Mason at 495-2776.

The annual rodeo parade will be held Aug. 11 beginning at 3 p.m. A

ranch horse competition will be held that Saturday at 9 a.m.

On Friday and Saturday evenings, a slab dance will be held, featuring the Thrift Store Cowboys. Admission to the dance will be \$6 per person.

Sponsors for the event include Caprock Cellular, Cavender's, Lubbock Beverage Co., Cellular One, Town & Country, Monsanto and South Plains Truck & Equipment.

Local businesses helping promote the event include Ammons Printing & Office Supply, Brady's Package Store, Chapa's Family Restaurant, CitizensBank, McDonald's of Post, Nothin' Butt Smokes, Post Beverage Barn, Post City Communications Authorized CellularOne Dealer and Southwestern Public Service.

County adopts new precinct borders

by Wes Burnett

With very little opposition, the Garza County Commissioners Court adopted new commissioner precinct lines following a public hearing on the matter Friday evening, July 27.

Bob Bass of Allison Bass & Associates from Austin, made a presentation outlining two proposals, with "Plan 1" getting the nod from the court. Both proposals met federal guidelines for population distribution, but Plan 1 was deemed more "compact" and contiguous.

Bass pointed out that Plan 1 maintains at least one "racial minority majority" precinct, although under the new plan Precinct 4 will have a larger majority of minority voters.

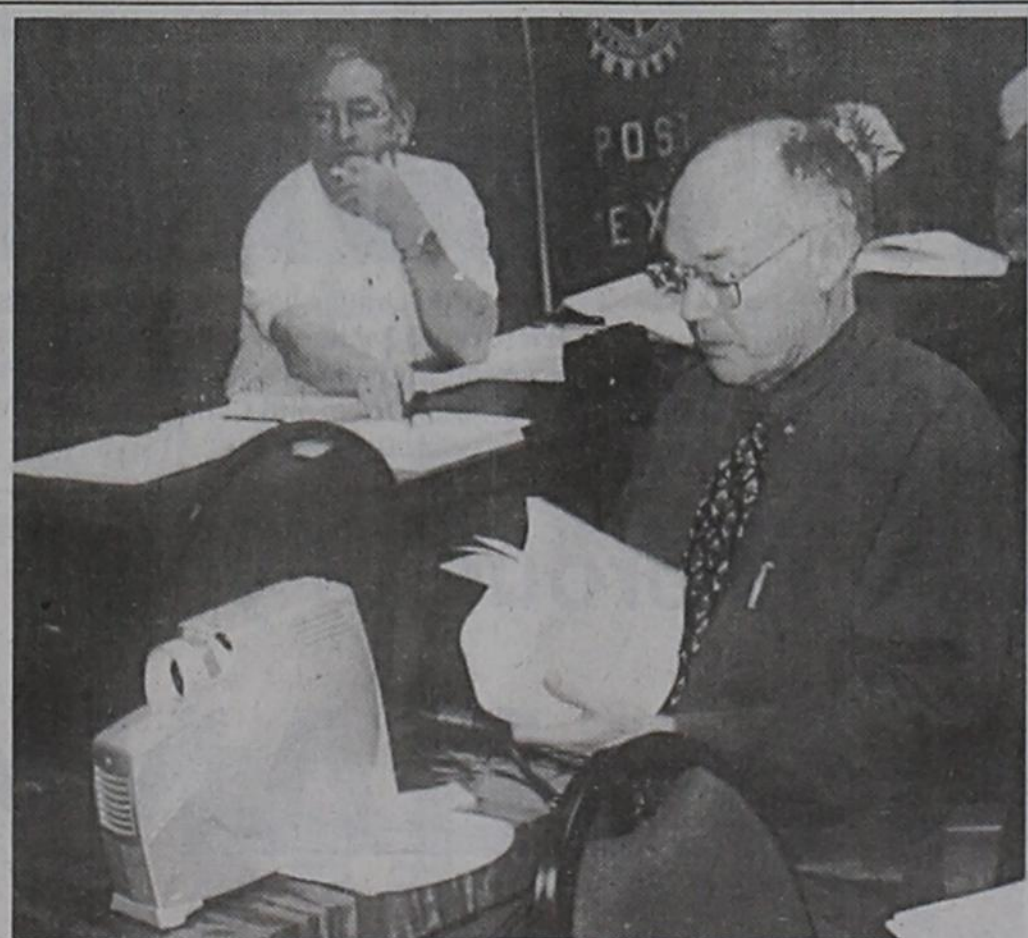
Bass said that the new precinct alignment, which must be conducted every 10 years following the new census, must meet approval from the U.S. Department of Justice prior to its implementation. Bass said he sees no problem with the approval, and expects implementation to begin with the March 2002 primary elections.

The population in Garza County didn't change much from the 1990 census, and new precinct borders keeps all voting booths and county commissioners within the same precincts.

Maps of the new precincts are available at the county clerk's office. The commissioners court had been working on the new precinct borders for some months, with assistance from a citizens advisory board.

Post City Radio

www.postcityradio.net
• Classic Cable Channel 12
• 97.7 FM (Community Radio)



Bob Bass of Austin (right) explained the two redistricting proposals to those attending the public hearing last Friday evening. County Clerk Jerry Hays (left) listens to the presentation.

Post Notes

Reception Thursday for Dr Rao

Covenant Family Healthcare Center is hosting a reception for Dr Uma Rao on Thursday, August 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the clinic, 6703 W. 6th Street. Dr Rao has been serving patients in Post for several years.

Post Middle School orientation

The Post Middle School orientation will be held August 13 at 6 p.m. in the Elementary School Auditorium. All students and parents are encouraged to attend. Students may pick up schedules at the orientation.

Middle school football players meeting

All Post eighth grade football players need to meet at the Middle School field house on Tuesday, August 14 from 5 to 8 p.m. to receive football equipment. The seventh grade players will be issued football equipment on Wednesday, August 15 from 5 to 8 p.m. Physical exams are needed for all seventh grade players prior to the start of school. Exam forms may be obtained at the fieldhouse during weekdays. Contact coach Davenport at 495-3500 for more info.

Post Elementary School enrollment

New students and parents to Post are being welcomed by the Post Elementary School. Parents are encouraged to visit the elementary office to enroll for the 2001-2002 school year. The office is open 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. daily.

Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten classes

Post Elementary School now offers half-day pre-kindergarten class that is open to anyone in the Post ISD district. Students who are four years old on or before September 1 qualify for this program. The school is also enrolling new kindergarten students. The office is open 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. daily. Parents should bring social security card, shot record and birth certificate. Call 495-3414 for additional information.

Post Elementary School offers "paks"

School supplies have arrived at Post Elementary School. They are available beginning August 2. Visit the office daily from 8 a.m. to noon or 1 to 3 p.m.

Close City-Garlynn reunion August 18

The Post Community Center will be the site for this year's Close City-Garlynn Reunion. A \$9 per plate catered meal will be featured. Call Charles Morris at 495-3413 or Laverne Aten at (806) 327-5678 so they will know how many meals to order.

Methodist Church helps Buckner's

The First United Methodist Church is working with Buckner's Childrens Home in Lubbock and Dallas, Southwest Airlines and South Plains Mall to collect shoes, sizes infant through age 18, to send to children in orphanages in Russia, China and Romania. Donations are being taken at the church office or bring them to the hall, going in the entrance at the Guest Services booth. This is the annual Shoes for Orphan Souls project and will continue through August 26.

Founders Day booth spaces available

Booth space reservations for the September 15 Founders Day are now being accepted. Contact Tommy Young at 495-3274, JoAnn Stelzer at 495-3393 or Jana Bullard at 495-2804 or 495-2037. Booths with electricity are \$15, without \$10. Special forms for food booths are also available.

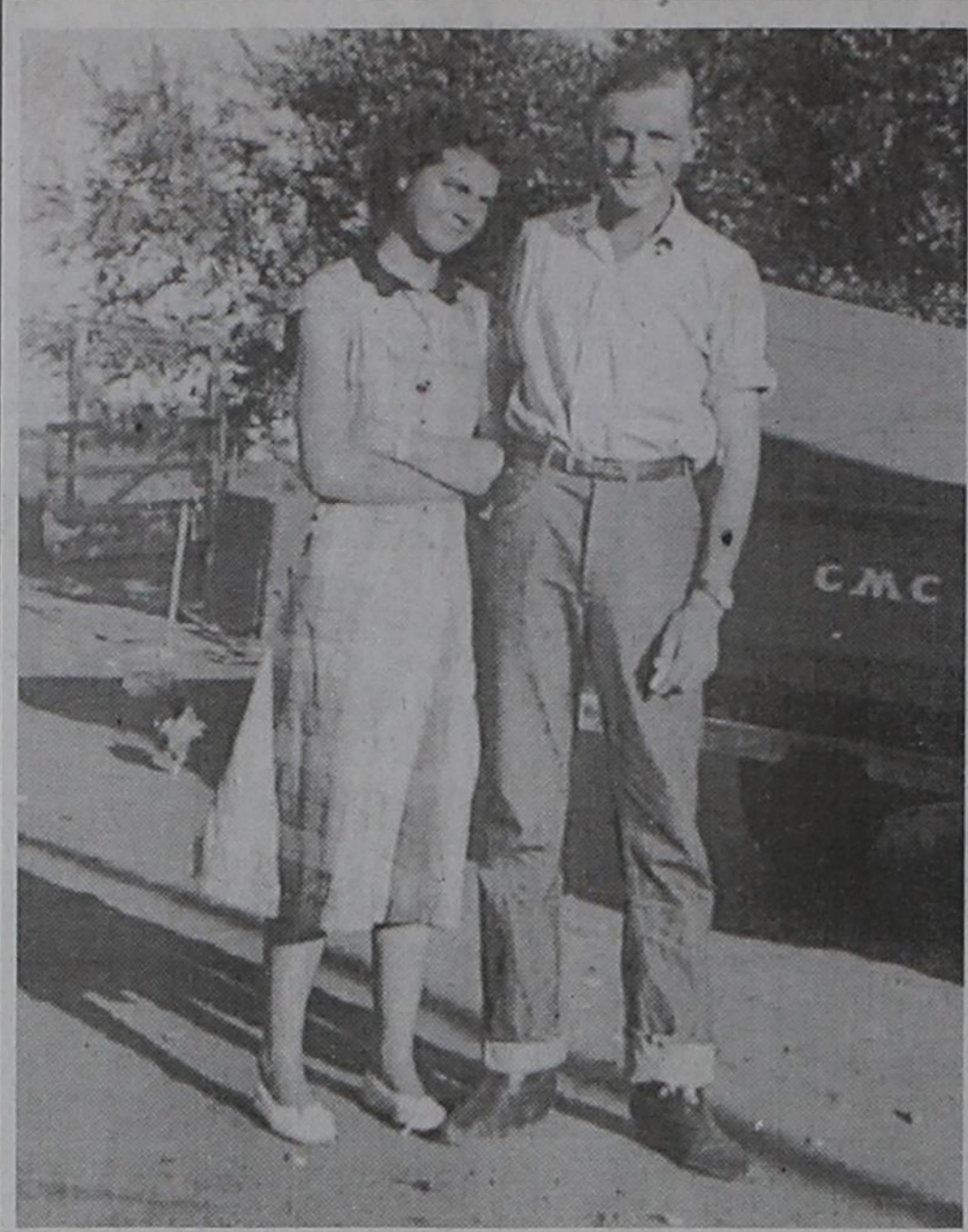
County team roping August 4

The Garza County Team Roping will be held August 4 at 7 p.m. at the Post Stampede Rodeo Arena. Roper may pre-register by August 1 by calling Kellie Macy at 495-2861 or Danny Vernon at 495-2415.

61st Annual Post Stampede Rodeo August 9-10-11



Bill and Inez Gandy will celebrate their Golden Anniversary on August 4 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Wells Fargo Community Room. They are inviting friends to share the celebration with them.



Inez and Bill Gandy in 1951.

Judy's Jabberin'

By Judy B. Bush

Monday morning I had to make a trip to Lubbock for a doctor's appointment. The trip was well worth it because coming home, I ran into a thunder storm in Slaton and enjoyed a wonderful rain.

Now some of you have had rain. All the town folk enjoyed rain Friday and Saturday I believe, and some of the farmers saw some showers over the weekend. As for our "neighborhood" nothing! Maybe I'm just not living right? Anyway, we could sure use some more moisture, so please leave rain on your prayer list.



Exa Fay

I had a nice note from Johnnie Norman this week. She wanted to let me know that they had moved her mom, Exa Fay Gilmore, to Lubbock, much against her will, Johnnie reports.

Johnnie wanted to let Exa Fay's friends know of her address and phone number so that you might keep in touch and make the move a little easier. She now lives at "The Sherrick" in Lubbock, 2502 Utica. Or you can call 785-0471, or even better just drop by to see her. I know Exa Fay would love to hear from you.

Johnnie also reports that George Graham had heart surgery last Tuesday, with three by-passes. He is doing well, but Johnnie knows it would lift his spirits to hear from his friends. His address is P.O. Box 855, Channelview, Texas 77530.

Thanks Johnnie for the info, you and Jim take care.

Family Reunion

The children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of Tol and Innis Thomas met in Dawn, Texas July 20 and 21 for a family reunion.

As I'm sure most of you know, Tol and Innis Thomas were pioneers of Garza County. Their children grew up in Post and attended school here as did a lot of their grandchildren.

Family members attended the reunion from Texas, Alabama, Montana and South Dakota. There were 51 in attendance.

Did You Know

1. Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the US Treasury?
2. Men can read smaller print than women, but women can smell and hear better.
3. The state with the highest percentage of people who walk to work? Alaska.
4. The percentage of Africa that is wilderness? 28%
5. The cost of raising a medium size dog to age 11, \$6,400.
6. The average number of people airborne over the US any given hour, 61,000.
7. Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.
8. That San Francisco Cable Cars are the only mobile National Monuments.
9. Unique math problem: $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$.

Birthdays:

Friday, August 3. Johnny Mosser, Mark Royce, Brandy Merritt, Tandi Yarbrough, Bill Aten, Jim Schooler, Jessica Garza and Coco; Saturday, August 4; Madison Mason, Rosa Reyna, Siddrick Jefferson, Robin Nelson, Jim Fumagalli, Carol Crenshaw and Roger Hair, anniversary, Phil and Meta Tyler; Sunday, August 5, Angel Blevins, Geraldine Wilks, Shane Smith, Donna Roberson, and James Easterling, anniversary, Jay and Susan Strawn, Monday, August 6, Grace Paiz, J.R. Gutierrez, Chris Wischkaemper, Ashlee Davis and Roy Bishop; Tuesday, August 7, Ricky Reyna, Javen Abraham, Davin Agee, Edith Crispin and Brooke Morris; Wednesday, August 8, Sam King, J.C. Chasez, Kerry Clay, Billy Crawford, Roy Gonzales and Jacob Smith; Thursday, August 9, Bryan Looney, Kathy Nelson, Myra Morales, Ashley Wilson, Justin Harris and Ramona Casatana; anniversaries, Bruce and Judy Sanderson and Aaron and Deborah Davis.

Till Next Week

Don't forget Old Mill Trade Day's and also Harley Sadler at the Garza Theatre. May God hold you in the palm on his hand and the angels watch over you. See ya next week.

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with your "jabberin"
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WTC offers classes in Post

Western Texas College will offer several classes in Post for the upcoming fall semester. Classes will meet one evening each week and will include English 1301 on Mondays; Criminal Justice 2325 on Tuesdays; Math 1314 on Wednesdays; and Criminal Justice 1307 on Thursdays. Criminal justice classes will be taught at the Garza County Juvenile

Detention Center, and English and math classes will be conducted at Post High School.

Cost is \$141 for one course, \$267 for two and \$393 for three courses. Students who are not exempt from the TASP test should call the WTC counseling office at 915-573-8511, ext. 313, for testing times.

Testing cost is \$29, and testing may be provided in Post if a sufficient number of students schedule for the same date and time. Registration will be held Aug. 21 at 6 p.m. at Post High, with late registration continuing on the WTC campus.

Applications and concurrent enrollment forms are available at Post High School in the counselor's office or at WTC and may be filled out in advance and brought to registration.

The permission of a principal is needed for a high school student to take three courses. Students will need to provide all high school and college transcripts. Textbooks will be available by mail from Texas Book Company, 915-573-8511, ext. 311.

Live your life as most people do
and you will be forced to settle
for what most people settle for.
—Charles Givens

THANK YOU
for your dedication to the Post community, Dr. Rao!

Covenant Family Healthcare Center is saying good-bye to Uma Rao, M.D., board certified internist. Dr. Rao has served the Post community for several years, and we would like to thank her for her dedication. A reception will be held in her honor on Thursday, August 2nd from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Covenant Family Healthcare Center located at 608 West 6th Street. We wish Dr. Rao much success in her new endeavors.

Covenant Family Healthcare Center
608 West 6th Street
Thursday, August 2, 2001 – 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Honoring Uma Rao, M.D.

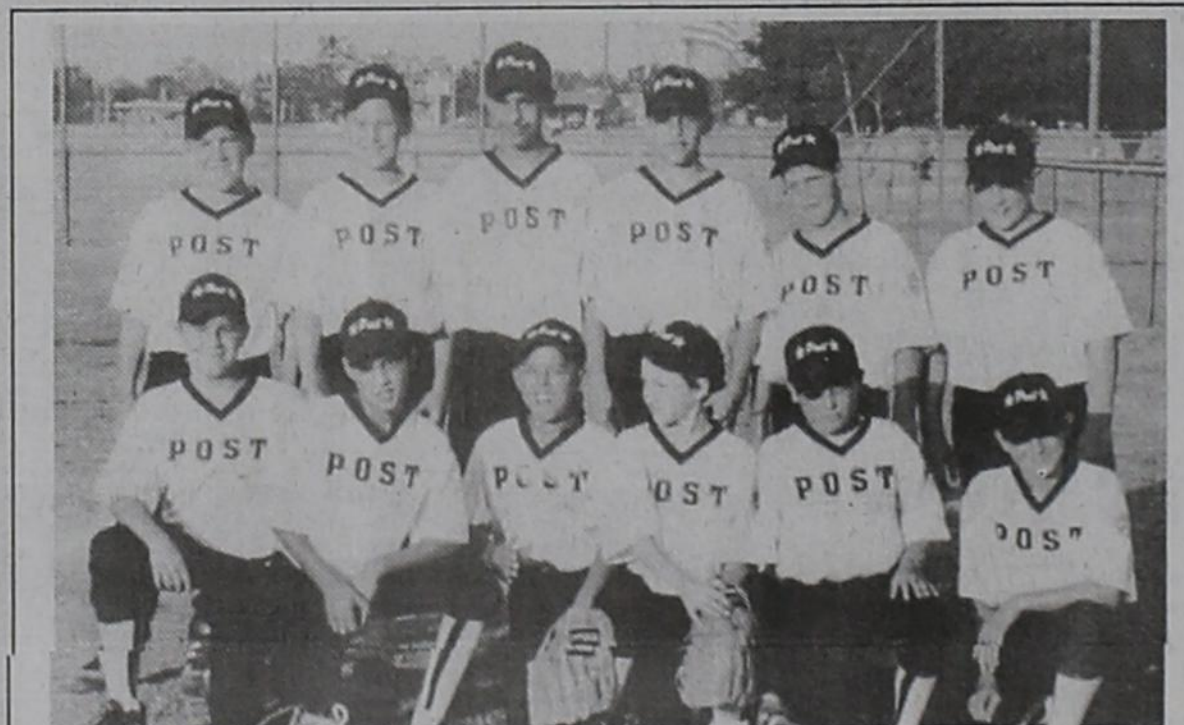
Covenant
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Congratulations!! Post Baseball Little League All-Star Teams



Little League Baseball 9-10 Year Old All-Stars (back row, left to right) John Bocko, Jesse Vera, (middle row) Chase Odom, Jarrett Blevins, Clint Windham, Chad Miller, Patrick Martinez, (front) Flynn Chapman, Giles Wilson Dalby, Trent Babb and manager Gary Blevins. Not available for photo were players Garrett Pena and Allen Duran and coaches Dicky Odom and John Fields.



Little League 11 & 12 Year Old Baseball All-Stars (back row, left to right) Zachary Witcher, Wilson Cash, Edgar Garay, Colter Creech, Pat Reiter, Kamron Shumard, (front row) Steven Hair, D.J. Baiza, Roman Deluna, Asa Rutherford, Tyler Odom and Clint Chapman. Team coaches were Mark Odom, Chris Reiter and Jerry Crenshaw.

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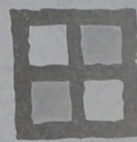


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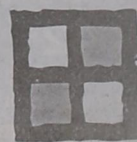
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Extension Extras

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Home Horticulture Tour...

...is scheduled for Monday, August 6, to assist you with yard and plant problems. Dr. Harold Kaufman, Extension Plant Pathologist, will be in the county to answer questions you may have. Call 495-4400 to set up an appointment between 9:00 a.m. and 12 Noon on the 6th.

4-H Rodeo Concession Stand

The 2001 Post Stampede Rodeo is scheduled for August 9, 10 and 11, and as always, volunteers are needed to work 1 hour shifts. This is the major fundraiser for 4-H which enables us to send kids to camps, pay entry fees and buy supplies for our projects and club meetings. Please call Jaquita Blevins or Diane at the Extension Office at 495-4400 to sign up for your choice of work shift.

4-H Achievement Banquet...

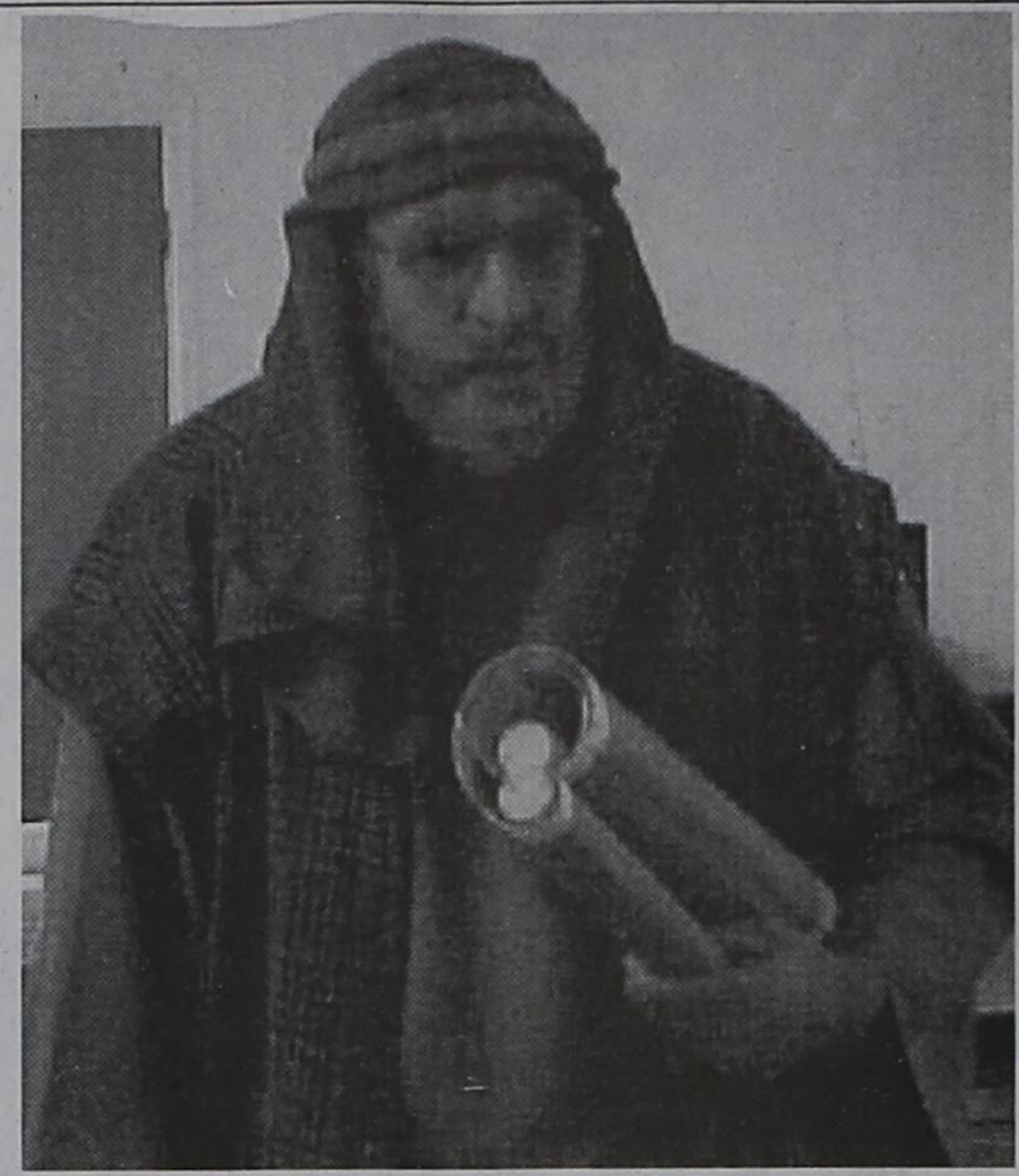
...has been scheduled for Friday, August 24, at the Youth Center at 6:30 p.m. Following the banquet there will be a dance from 9:00 to 11:30 for 4-H families and any youth ages 9-high school.

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Calvary Baptist Church of Post will host a special presentation of "James" on Sunday, August 5 at 10:45 a.m. The dramatic presentation features Larry Jones, Director of Missions for the Lubbock Baptist Association, in Biblical costume with props. All five chapters of James, which is a book from the Bible, are presented in a contemporary narrative with dramatic effects. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Living on the Edge of the Caprock
by Greg Jones, CEA-AG

Ranch estate planning seminar

Estate taxes are a major problem for ranch owners—and their heirs. Dr. Wayne Hayenga, an Attorney with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, will hold a Ranch Estate Planning Seminar on August 8 and 9, 2001, in conjunction with the Annual Beef Cattle Short Course. The Seminar will start at 1:30 p.m. on August 8, and conclude at 4:30 p.m. on August 9, 2001. It will be held at the College Station Conference Center.

Topics covered will include the basic tools of estate planning: Wills, Living Trusts, and Powers of Attorney. But most of the time will be spent on income and estate tax saving plans for ranching families. Irrevocable trusts, generation skipping trusts, bypass trusts, property ownership, community/separate property, special use valuation for ranches, partnerships and corporations will be discussed in the context of the gift and estate tax rules.

Dr. Hayenga is an excellent communicator. He delivers a top notch educational program emphasizing key points with an entertaining style illustrating estate and income tax law provisions with practical examples that make learning a pleasure. His teaching makes full use of his broad background and practical experience as a farmer, banker, and lawyer.

Registration fee is \$100.00 per person. It includes seminar materials, snacks on Sunday evening and lunch on Thursday, as well as refreshment breaks. For more information, call Sharon at (979) 845-2226, Fax: (979) 847-9374 or email: w-hayenga@tamu.edu, or s-wehring@tamu.edu.

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Post Devotional Page



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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

SALOME: ONE OF THE BIBLE'S DRAMATIC CHARACTERS, HAS INSPIRED STORIES, PLAYS, BOOKS, OPERAS, AND MORE THAN ONE MOVIE! NUMBERS OF ARTISTS HAVE PAINTED THIS SEDUCTIVE, DESTRUCTIVE YOUNG WOMAN WHOSE DANCE SO ENRAGED KING HEROD THAT HE VOWED, "ASK OF ME WHATSOEVER THOU WILT, AND I WILL GIVE IT THEE." THAT RASH PROMISE COST JOHN THE BAPTIST HIS HEAD WHICH SALOME DEMANDED—AND GOT—ON A PLATTER! BUT...



ALEXANDRE REGNAULT'S PAINTING—SALOME METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, NEW YORK

NO ONE KNOWS IF HER NAME WAS SALOME—IN FACT, SHE HAD NO NAME AT ALL! IN THE TWICE-TOLD TALE (MATT 14:6FF, MARK 6:22FF) SHE IS NEVER CALLED ANYTHING EXCEPT "THE GIRL" OR "THE DAUGHTER OF HERODIAS." THE NAME SALOME APPEARS BUT TWICE IN THE BIBLE (MARK 15:40, 16:1) AND DESCRIBES ONE OF THE WOMEN WHO, ALONG WITH MARY MAGDALENE AND MARY MOTHER OF JESUS, WEPT AT THE CRUCIFIXION—HARDLY THE KIND OF WOMAN WHO WOULD DO A SALACIOUS DANCE BEFORE HER STEP-FATHER!

**NEXT WEEK:
WHO AND WHY
ARE THE GIDEONS?**

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

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Church Directory

Assembly of God		Church of God	
Bethel Assembly of God (Bi-Lingual)	407 May St.	Church of God of Prophecy	602 W. 14th, 495-3644
Calvary Baptist Church	210 E. 6th, 495-2342	Lighthouse Christian Center Church of God	314 N. Ave I, 495-2237
First Baptist Church	402 W. Main, 495-3554	Power House Church of God and Christ	Pine Ave.
First Baptist Church, Wilson	628-6333	Disciples of Christ	
Justiceburg Baptist Church	Justiceburg	First Christian Church	812 W. 13th, 495-3716
Pleasant Home Baptist Church	E. 14th & N. Ave F	Methodist	
Pleasant Valley Baptist	Hwy 84 & N. 399 (806) 828-4174	First United Methodist Church	216 W. 10th, 495-2942
Templo Bautista	315 W. Main, 495-2416	Graham Chapel United Methodist Church	495-3492
Trinity Baptist Church	915 N. Ave O, 495-3038	Nazarene	
Wilson First Baptist	(806) 628-6333	Church of the Nazarene	202 W. 10th, 495-3044
Catholic		Grassland Nazarene Church	327-5656
Holy Cross Catholic Church	Ave. K and Main St., 495-2791	Non-Denominational	
Church of Christ		Church on the Go	111 N. Avenue I, 495-1400
Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326	Presbyterian	
Graham Chapel Church of Christ	5 miles W. Hwy 380, 2 miles south	First Presbyterian Church	910 W. 10th, 495-2135

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Opinions



And thereafter, rational ignorance

by Walter E. Williams

While people might be motivated by non-economic factors, from a strictly economic point of view it simply doesn't pay individual voters to learn about and take action against the myriad assaults emanating from the political arena.

That's what my colleagues at George Mason University's Economics Department predict: Rational ignorance pays. Politicians know this and exploit it to the hilt.

To gain a fuller understanding, we must disabuse ourselves of our high-school civics lessons, where we're led to believe that when people assume political office, or receive bureaucratic appointments, they're somehow a changed person and motivated by the public interest.



No such thing happens. When a person becomes a politician or bureaucrat, he's still motivated by self-interest, he's simply in a different market with different restraints. Buyers in that market seek favors and privileges from government.

Politicians are suppliers of those favors and privileges — and the prices are campaign contributions and votes. Public choice theory, developed by George Mason University Professors Gordon Tullock and James Buchanan, recognizes that the probability of any voter's ballot making any difference in the outcome of any election, including last year's Florida election, is essentially nil.

In other words, the only way my vote changes the outcome of an election is if my vote breaks a tie, and the probability of a tie is close to zero. Politicians exploit rational ignorance by conferring large benefits on certain constituents whose costs are widely dispersed and borne by the general population.

Take the sugar industry. It pays the owners and workers to organize and tax themselves to raise money to lobby Congress for tariffs on foreign sugar. If they're successful, it means millions of dollars in higher profits and wages. Since they are relatively small in number, the organization costs are small and the benefits are narrowly distributed.

The Fanjul family, who owns large sugar farms in the Florida Everglades,

capture an estimated \$60 million annually in artificial profits. What about the costs? As a result of price supports and import restrictions, millions of American sugar consumers pay a few dollars more per year for the sugar we use.

The U.S. General Accounting Office estimates that Americans pay between \$1 and \$2 billion a year in higher sugar prices. Forget about finding out and doing something about these costs.

After all, how many of us are willing to board a plane or train to Washington to try to unseat congressmen who made us pay \$5 more for the sugar we bought last year? It's not worth it; it's cheaper just to pay the \$5 and forget it.

For workers and owners in the sugar industry, it is worth it to descend on Washington to try to unseat congressmen who refuse to support restrictions on foreign sugar. It's worth \$1 billion or \$2 billion to them, and who do you think congressmen will listen to: your complaining about higher sugar prices or the sugar industry complaining about foreign imports keeping their prices, profit and wages down?

You say: "What's the grief, Williams? Five dollars won't kill you." Washington is home to thousands of business and labor union lobbyists looking for a leg up here and a handout there. After a while, \$5 here and \$4 there adds up to real money.

According to some estimates, restrictions of one kind or another cost the average American family \$5,000 to \$6,000 a year in higher prices. What to do?

I'm stuck for an answer other than to naively suggest that we should force congressmen to live up to their oath of office. Doing so would stop them from doing most of what they do today.

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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War: our proudest export

by Vin Suprynowicz

It's a good thing the Social Security and military retirement programs are actuarially solvent; the armed forces don't need any more money for live-fire training; and Americans have seen their taxes fall till they can pay the remaining federal levies with pocket change (leaving them vast sums to invest in the modernization of private industry, not to mention pricey prescription medicines.)

Because if that weren't the case, one might wonder if our delegates to Washington had temporarily taken leave of their senses, as the House of Representatives this week voted to take \$15 billion of our tax money, bundle it up into huge bales, and drop it on harmless peasants overseas.

Note I did not say they plan to take the \$15 billion and simply drop it in the ocean. As a measure to curb inflation, counteracting the overuse of the currency printing presses in anticipation of that dead-on-arrival "Y2K crisis" a couple of years back, that might actually do some slight good.

Not so the current plans. No, Congress intends to send \$676 to (you're to read this with a straight face, now) "fight drugs and advance economic and political stability" in Colombia and its neighboring South American republics ... an enterprise which has proven about as effective to date as similar efforts in Southeast Asia 35 years ago.

Where most of this money actually goes, of course, is to prop up the oversized armies of repulsive military dictatorships intent on putting down local political insurgencies by burning farms and villages, in between shooting down and killing Michigan missionaries and their babies.

To keep pace with the arms race thus subsidized by U.S. taxpayers, the rebels need more money, which they get by growing and selling drugs (mostly to customers right back here in the U.S. of A.), increasing — not decreasing — both the volume of the drug trade and the ruthlessness of those who control it.

And that \$676 million is actually \$55 million less than the Bush administration wanted to spend on the CIA's latest military-advisor full-employment act.

Congress did at least resist shifting more of these funds to bolster the \$100 million which will now be mailed to a select group of entrepreneurial sub-Saharan kleptocrats who have figured out that (no matter how many times they've defaulted on previous taxpayer-backed loans after diverting most of that "food and medical aid" into their personal bank accounts in Geneva and New York), the doors of the international vaults can be made to swing open one more time if they simply fudge up every traffic fatality as an "AIDS death," leading to much ululation at the reliably credulous U.N. about an "AIDS crisis" which is supposedly wiping out the human race on the continent of its birth.

(Has the population of a single African nation dropped as predicted?)

Which one? What reputable European or American accounting firm has actually gone in and audited these "AIDS death rates" on the ground? If the population of none of these nations actually drops in the next decade, do we get the money back? This is, after all, a part of the world where American retailers report you cannot even reliably mail a **package** and expect any valuable contents to reach their legal recipient.)

Then, as virtual afterthoughts, apparently desperate to shovel out surplus funds which have piled up hip-deep in the halls of the Capitol, our delegates tack on \$768 million for the surly thugs now in charge of the former Soviet Union. (What is it they've done for us ... or for anyone else ... lately? I can't seem to recall. And heaven forfend we should use this loot to compensate the heirs and descendants of St. Petersburg property owners who had their stuff stolen in 1917, or to compensate the Hungarians for 1956, or the Czechs for 1968, or the brave Afghans for that matter, simply mailing Mr. Putin a **receipt** for his \$768 million.)

Oh, and \$2 billion apiece in military aid to Egypt and Israel, apparently on the theory that already heightened tensions in that region aren't good for much if we can't get these two countries to go back to war at least every couple of decades, providing some live test results for our current weapons systems.

Your U.S. Congress, trying every day in every way to prop up waste, fraud, and tyranny around the globe.

Vin Suprynowicz is assistant editorial page editor of the Las Vegas Review-Journal. Subscribe to his monthly newsletter by sending \$72 to Privacy Alert, 561 Keystone Ave., Suite 684, Reno, NV 89503 — or dialing 775-348-8591. His book, "Send in the Waco Killers: Essays on the Freedom Movement, 1993-1998," is available at 1-800-244-2224, or via web site www.thespiritof76.com/wacokillers.html.

Vin Suprynowicz, vin@lvjr.com

"When great changes occur in history, when great principles are involved, as a rule the majority are wrong. The minority are right." — Eugene V. Debs (1855-1926)

"The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace alarmed — and thus clamorous to be led to safety — by menacing it with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary." — H.L. Mencken

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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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What is golf?

by Sheldon Richman

So now the courts are writing the rules for professional sports. What's next? Will they soon tell us that sometimes two of a kind beats a full house?

On May 29 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 7-2 that the PGA Tour has to let Casey Martin ride in a golf cart despite its walking rule.

The real issue at hand is not whether the PGA should voluntarily change its rules so people like Martin, whose degenerative circulatory disease precludes his walking the golf course, may use a golf cart. As a nongolfer, I can find such a change reasonable and decent. I might even agree with Justice John Paul Stevens's statement that a waiver of the walking rule in such cases would not alter the "essence" of the game, as dissenting Justice Antonin Scalia notes, the rules of all games are arbitrary.

Reasonable people may disagree. Reasonable golfers do disagree. Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus, who know a thing or two about the game, testified for the PGA at the trial.

But the issue is not whether the PGA is being stubborn in refusing to permit a waiver of the walking rule in deserving individual cases. The issue is whether any branch of the government should sit in judgment of the PGA.

So whose fault is it that a majority of the Supreme Court has presided over this alteration of the rules of professional tournament golf? Some blame the seven justices and praise the dissenters, Justices Scalia and Clarence Thomas.

That's a mistake. The offending party is not the court but the U.S. Congress, which wrote the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the law applied in the Martin case. The majority said: "Congress intended that an entity like the PGA not only give individualized attention to the handful of requests that it might receive from talented but disabled athletes for a modification or waiver of a rule to allow them access to the competition, but also carefully weigh the purpose, as well as the letter, of the rule before determining that no accommodation would be tolerable." Scalia dissented on the point of congressional intent. But who really knows what was in the minds of the congressmen who voted for the law, which is egalitarianism run amuck and a trampling of individual rights?

The Court of course has the power to strike down the ADA as unconstitutional. It should have done so long ago. But the PGA did not challenge the law per se, only its application in this case. The PGA argued that the law does not apply to pro golfers (who are subcontractors and entertainers) but only to customers and employees. The court replied that golfers are indeed customers of the PGA Tour and that competition is open to the public, albeit with rather stringent conditions. (A \$3,000 entry fee and appropriate letters of recommendation get anyone into the qualifying round.) So, Stevens wrote, the ADA rules about making reasonable accommodations to the disabled apply.

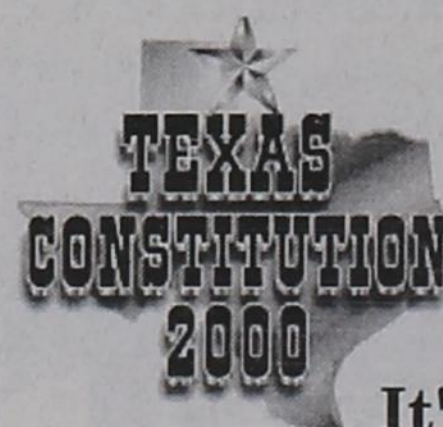
Granted the premises and egalitarian spirit of the ADA, Stevens's point is arguable. The problem is that the premises of the ADA should not be granted. Alas, Scalia, despite a dissent overflowing with verity and humor, grants the premises. His dissent claims that "no one in his right mind" would believe that sports competitors are customers of the sponsoring organization. Thus Martin cannot claim relief under the ADA. Should he become convinced that professional golfers are in some manner customers, he might have to concede that Martin qualifies for relief. (Scalia's dissent contains other grounds for rejecting Martin's claim. He properly finds it ludicrous that the court takes it upon itself to determine "What Is Golf.")

Such are the games justices play when Congress writes bad law. Why is the ADA bad law? Because it forcibly interferes with private, peaceful activity. While it may be nice, as well as good business, to accommodate people with handicaps, it is not a legal obligation under our traditional Jeffersonian idea of individual rights, including property rights, to which we owe our freedom and prosperity. When will we learn, as someone once put it, that a government that can do anything for you can do anything to you?

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation (www.fff.org) in Fairfax, Va., author of the newly published *Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State*, and editor of *Ideas on Liberty* magazine.

God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it."

Daniel Webster



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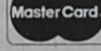
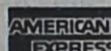
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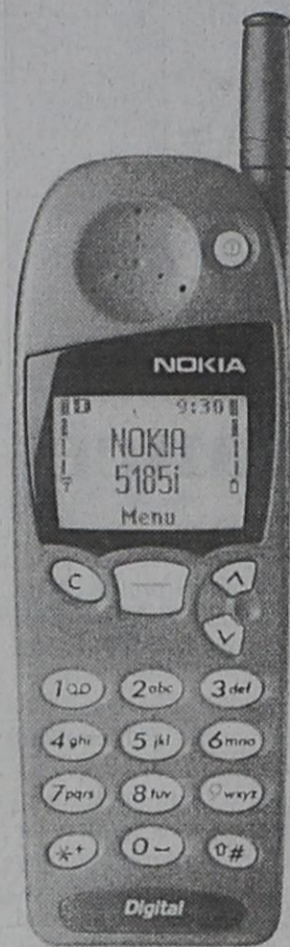


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Big Spring State Hospital gets help with donations

More than 1,200 pieces of donated clothing are given to Big Spring State Hospital patients each month, saving taxpayers nearly \$150,000 a year.

"Many of our patients need immediate hospitalization, and that doesn't allow them time to pack their belongings," said Julie Thompson, the hospital's fashion shop coordinator. "A lot of them arrive with the clothes on their back."

Big Spring State Hospital is responsible for outfitting each patient in appropriate attire, including shirts, pants or shorts, undergarments, jackets and shoes.

Upon arrival, patients visit The Fashion Shop — an on-site store which allows them to "shop" for outfits.

"It's a boutique-style situation," said Thompson. "We keep things coordinated in sizes. We have the men's section and the ladies' section and the purses and the shoes. We have the belts and the caps for the gentlemen."

Treatment teams assist patients who may be disoriented early on in their hospitalization. If patients are too ill to shop for themselves, staff members will choose items for them to wear.

Every two weeks, patients are given the opportunity to shop for a new outfit, which also has therapeutic uses, Thompson said.

"It teaches them to shop," she said. "We have dressing rooms where they try things on. They might bring a friend and ask them what looks good. It's just like your normal shopping trip in the community."

When people live with depression or other psychiatric illnesses, personal hygiene is not a priority, she said.

"That is part of their mental illness," Thompson said.

"We use trips to the Fashion Shop as a reinforcer. We'll tell them that they'll get to go to the Fashion Shop if they clean themselves up."

Thompson usually is one of the first people to notice when patients start feeling better. They take more interest in their appearance, she said.

"If you're depressed, you don't want to get into pretty clothes. Once they start getting better, they want to come over. What lady doesn't like to shop? And you would be surprised at the guys who like to shop. A lot of our patients don't have the resources to go get clothing in the community like they do when they are in here."

People in the Big Spring community provide clothing to The Fashion Shop. Clothes donated to the Volunteer Services Council's resale shop — The Chalet — often can fill in the gaps when their stock runs low.

The Fashion Shop is in desperate need of replenishing its summer stock, Thompson said. High temperatures have depleted the supply of lightweight clothing, particularly women's plus sizes, smaller men's clothing and men's shoes.

"We are really low on our clothing," she said. "We need seasonal clothing, and right now we're in need of large ladies and men's clothing."

Big Spring State Hospital treats children, adolescents, adults and seniors.

"We need all types and styles of clothing," Thompson said. "We need to remember that we have different populations to fill those needs. What an 80-year-old woman would wear would not be what a 16-year-old girl would wear."

People interested in donating clothing may take it to the Community Relations office at the hospital during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Winter clothing may be taken to The Chalet, 1107 E. 11th Place.

"We do ask that the clothing is laundered," Thompson said. "We do not have the capabilities to wash clothing at The Fashion Shop. We also cannot accept items which need to be dry-cleaned."

For more information, call the Community Relations office at 915-268-7535.



Post basketball players taking first place at the recent Firecracker Shoot Out are (back row, left to right) Coach Hector Ozuna, Kylie Easterling, Steffi Norman, Nadia R., Jackie Hays, (front) Britany Ozuna, Sunnie Barbosa, Ausinette V. and Rachel Gray. Not available for photo were K'Nell Dalby and Allison Blevins. The team took second place at the Memorial Day Shoot Out and third place at the Steve Mains Tournament. (Photo by Rhonda Norman)

Notice of Public Hearing on Budget

Garza Central Appraisal District

The Garza Central Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2001 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on August 10, 2001, at 9:00 a.m.

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget.	\$ 223,477.35
The total amount of increase over the current year's budget.	\$ 9,171.33
The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget.	3
	(full-time equivalent)
The number of employees compensated under the current budget.	3
	(full-time equivalent)

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and towns served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the appraisal district office.

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Post LULAC council honored

The Post LULAC Council #1013 received recognition from the City of Lubbock recently.

The council was honored during last week's District I LULAC quarterly meeting. The accolades were made for the group's role in the formation of the LULAC Youth District.

For more information on the organization, contact LULAC sponsor Debbie Hernandez at 495-2221. To contact the District I director, call Cornelio Saldivar Jr. at 744-6998.

Lions Club offers diabetes video tape

Post Lions Club President Lewis Earl and Secretary/Treasurer Joe Duran participated in the Lions Cabinet meeting in Shallowater on Saturday.

Recognizing the need for more information about the growing problems of understanding diabetes among children, the Texas Lions Foundation has produced a 15-minute video on the subject of children with the disease.

Lions Clubs throughout the state will be delivering the videos to public schools this fall. The Post Lions Club will sponsor their quarterly blood drive Thursday, Aug. 2, from 4-9 p.m. at the Church of Christ.

This drive is dedicated to Andy Stelzer. Duran serves on the board of directors of the South Plains Eye Bank and is zone chairman for the clubs in Slaton, Post and Wilson. The club welcomes new members to serve.

The strongest of all warriors are these two—Time and Patience.
—Leo Tolstoy



Post S.T.A.R.S. at Glen Rose.

Post S.T.A.R.S attend camp

The Riverbend Retreat Center at Glen Rose was the site for the 2001 Power Leadership Camp. Fifty-one young people and six sponsors represented the Post community, as well as the STARS organization from Post Middle School.

The group received alcohol and drug education awareness along with leadership skills. They were reminded that they have the power to make a difference in their world.

The camp gave STARS members

new and exciting ways to make an impact on our own community. Dedra Adams and all the STARS members would like to express their gratitude to all the Post clubs, businesses and individuals who made it possible for their group to attend the camp.

"Everyone was impressed how much our community did to get us to camp," Adams said. There were over 500 students and adults from throughout Texas, Louisiana and Mexico at the event. Once again, the Post group was the largest. Those attending from Post included Alejandra Ceja, Courtney Copeland, Mariah Couch, Ashley Crane, Kenneth Garay, Miles Gray, Dionn Heckaman, Jeneé Lott, Colt Mason Haley Massey, Jonathan McGregor, Kayla Morris, Keith Meredith, Keisha Perez, Ashley Powell, Shannon Rasebary, Eric Reyna, Laurel Tatum, Kadie Vernon, Eric Wartes and Ashley Wilson.

Also, D.J. Biaz, Ashley Blevins, Ashley Brown, Wilson Cash, Cora Crane, K'Neil Dalby, Kylie Easterling, Heath Felhauser, Shantana Foy, Edgar Garay, Rachel Gray, Steven Hair, Jackie Hays, Claire Kirkpatrick, Adrian Nava, Blake Nichols, Kelli Martin, Steffi Norman, Bailey Odom, Gabby Paiz, D.J. Rivera, Josh Rodriguez, Becca Striblin, Ricky Vergara, Jose Whisenhunt, Amber Whitehead and Zack Witcher.

Also attending were Alex Chapa and Patricia Hester. Sponsors in attendance included Adams, Hector

Chapa, Carol Hester, Kristi Lowe, Wayne McKim and Jason Powell.

"The Post group of students represented Post great and all of the community should be very proud of them," Adams said. "I could not have made it without the other sponsors. They were all great and made our trip a success. A big thank-you to all involved."

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—Albert Jay Nock

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Nine arrests reported

Nine arrests were made in Garza County in recent days, according to records from the local jail.

A 55-year-old male was picked up for DWI/second on July 26. Also arrested on that date was a 41-year-old male and a 22-year-old male, each for Class A assault. A 28-year-old female was arrested on a Lubbock County warrant.

Two arrests were made July 28, including that of a 45-year-old male for public intoxication and a 20-year-old female on Lubbock warrants.

On July 29, three individuals — a 41-year-old male, a 39-year-old female and a 20-year-old male — were arrested for disorderly conduct. The older man was also arrested for retaliation and resisting arrest.

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