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Friday, January 2, 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY/ GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

All of these meetings are open to the public.

Garza County Ceremony
Swearing-in for newly elected officials
January 1
9 a.m.
Courtroom of Garza County Courthouse

City of Post City Council Meeting
January 6
6 p.m.
Council Chambers
City Hall
105 E. Main Street

Garza County Commissioners Court
January 12
9 a.m.
AgriLife Extension Office
215 W. Main Street

Post ISD School Board Meeting
January 15
7:30 p.m.

Administrative Board Room
501 S. Avenue K

Garza County Hospital District
January 15
6:30 p.m.
Citizens Bank Meeting Room
210 N. Broadway

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

Event info available at press time.

POST ISD Return from Holiday Break
January 5

Legacy Five in Concert and Premier of "Judas the Lost Apostle"
Ragtown Gospel Theater
January 9
7 p.m.

Post Varsity/ JV Basketball vs. Shallowater
January 6
5 p.m.

Post Varsity/ JV Basketball @Denver City
January 9
5 p.m.

Post Varsity/ JV Basketball @Slaton
January 13
5 p.m.

Garza County Junior Livestock Show
January 15-17

Garza County Junior Livestock Show Premium Sale
January 22
Post ISD Cafeteria

GOODBYE 2008



A look back at all the memories for Garza County in 2008

(Editor's note: this is part one of a two part series reflecting on 2008 as compiled by Post Dispatch staff members)

January

Primary election candidates announced

Garza County voters will have some choices in the sheriff's and the county commissioners races when it comes to the March 4 primary election. A preliminary report showed two men – Maurice "Mo" Herridge and incumbent Cliff Laws – have filed to run in the Democratic primary for sheriff. The winner of that race will face Phil Mathews, the only candidate who filed to run in the Republican primary. No candidate filed for Precinct 1 county commissioner's race Democratic primary; Jerry Hays and incum-

bent Gary L McDaniel filed for the Republican primary. Three Democrats have filed in the primary election Precinct 3 county commissioner's race: Tommy Young, Ted A. Brannon and David Woods. The only Republican candidate to file for the post is Cain Abraham. Other filings included: Tax Assessor/collector – incumbent Judy M. Bush, Democrat; Constable #1 – incumbent Daniel A. Yarbrow, Democrat; Constable #2 – incumbent Eric D. Cravy, Democrat; Republican Party county chair – Scott Creech; Democratic Party county chair – Lewis Earl. At this time no one has filed to run for county attorney.

Toys for Tots effort helps 125 children

The 2007 Toys for Tots campaign, spearheaded by the Lions Club served 125 Post and Garza County children. The strong outcome was fueled once again by the generosity of those familiar with the toy campaign. Middle school students gathered a large number of toys to give to the campaign.

Fire department protects old family home from grass fire

Volunteer Fire Department personnel extinguished a grass fire about 12 miles east on Highway 380 at the old Lee Davis home on the Davis lease. The fire appeared to have started on the east side of the abandoned house and moved through tall dry grass in a westward direction toward the house. There were no reports of fire related damage to the house. The emergency call included the use of two water tankers and one water transport truck. Fire Chief Darrell Reece was considering nearby power lines as one possible cause of the fire.

County tables action on new jail financing

Garza County Commissioners, during a special meeting, tabled action on certificates of obligation to be considered to fund a new county jail facility. County Judge Lee Norman told the court the interest rate on the bonds has not yet been determined, forcing county officials to wait until their next regular meeting to consider the certificates.

(Continued on Page 3)



2008 saw the opening of a new skate park in Post (top), plus a threatening storm moved across the county in May.

Staff photos

Aerial fireworks prohibited for 90 days

By Rosa Latimer
News Editor

At the regular meeting of the Commissioners Court on December 22, the Court ordered a 90-day prohibition of certain fireworks in unincorporated areas of Garza County.

The order states that due to the determination of drought conditions in Garza County by the Texas Forest Service, the Court concluded that the normal danger of fire in the unincorporated areas of the county is greatly enhanced by the extremely dry conditions now existing. The order prohibits the sale or use of restricted fireworks in these areas of Garza

(Continued on Page 2)

Legacy Five concert Jan. 9 at Ragtown Gospel Theater

By Rosa Latimer
News Editor

The popular Southern Gospel group, Legacy Five, will appear in concert at Ragtown Gospel Theater Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. Following the group's performance, the theater will premier "Judas the Lost Apostle."

The Friday night show time is 30 minutes earlier than usual. Ragtown's lobby will open at 6 p.m.; concert will begin at 7; the drama is set to begin at 8:45 p.m.

According to the Ragtown Gospel Theater web site, Legacy Five was created by previous members of the popular Cathedral Quartet. "The group's music has been received by audiences with the same enthusiasm and delight that the Cathedrals enjoyed."

The drama, "Judas the Lost Apostle," provides a different perspective of the apostle who betrayed Jesus and is consistent

(Continued on Page 2)

Post Note

Clothes and food available from church

Graham Chapel Church of Christ has food pantry (non-perishables only) and a clothes closet for the needy in Post. Please contact Tim Tatum at 495-3066 or Bill Short at 495-4104.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Fireworks ...

County: "No person may sell, detonate, ignite, or in any way use fireworks classified as skyrockets with sticks and missiles with fins in any portion of the unincorporated area of Garza County."

The order does not prohibit common fireworks or those small enough to be classified as Class C explosives. Neither does it prohibit large fireworks devices designed primarily to produce visible or audible effects. A person commits an offense if the person "knowingly or intentionally violates a prohibition established by this Order." Violation of the order is a Class C Misdemeanor.

Attorney Acker informed the Court that a Garza County Attorney Hot Check fund account was established 12 years ago.

Half of the \$30 check fee is used to supplement the salary of the attorney's secretary and for office needs. Since Acker is leaving office, he requested that the account be audited by the county's auditor.

The Court agreed.

In other business, the Commissioners received an update from the Garza County Soil and Water Conservation Board by Shug Thomas and Glen Killough.

The Court also approved a software contract with Justice Solutions for jail Management software was Sheriff Cliff Laws. This expense is accounted for in the approved budget.

The BJA Implementation Grant Contracts between the Office of the Attorney General and Garza County to fund adjustments in the Victims' Information Notification Everyday (VINE) system was considered by the Court. Jayta Cravy, Victim's Advocate for Garza County, explained how the VINE program functions in the county and the state.

Clerk Plummer added that the grant is necessary to pay for the set-up, configuration, testing and docu-

mentation to the system due to a case management software change in the Clerk's office. The Court approved the grant contracts.

Jodi Williams, Garza County Treasurer's office, was appointed the County Wellness Coordinator and Billie Williams, Garza County Judge's office, was appointed the County Executive Sponsor for the Texas Association of Counties Health and Employee Benefits Pool.

Judge Carter Schildknecht submitted a letter to the Court regarding the 2009 District Court Contract for Indigent Defense with figures showing the benefits of using a contracted public defender compared to hiring a public defender on an "as needed" basis. The only bid submitted was from attorney Arthur Aquilar, the current contracted public defender.

The bid is for the same amount as for 2008, \$66,000 for all four counties in the district with Garza County's share (15.24%) being \$10,058.40. A motion to approve the 2009 District Court Contract for Indigent Defense carried by a unanimous vote.

The Court discussed the setting of bond requirements for County Attorney, Sheriff, County Tax Assessor/Collector, County Commissioners and Constables.

The Commissioners voted to set the bonds for Garza County elected officials within the parameters set by the state law as follows: County Attorney, \$2500; Sheriff, \$30,000; County Tax Assessor/Collector, \$100,000 (for Ad Valorem tax), \$2500 (for Motor Vehicle tax); County Commissioners, \$3000; and Constables, \$1,500.

Routine matters before the Court included approval of minutes from the December 8 regular meeting. Reports were approved and are on file at the Clerk's office. Precinct and countywide accounts payable were approved for December 9 through December 22, 2008.

(Continued from Page 1)

Eat This!

by Ryan Mills

I've put a lot of recipes in this space thus far and have heard a lot of comments about them. I appreciate the comments and I'm actually just glad someone besides my mother and wife are reading it. I had no idea how popular this column would be and I appreciate my readers. I'll keep the recipes coming.

Of all the recipes I've put in, though, there is one that makes almost all of them better.

My wife Marci's famous bread.

I'll tell you a quick story on my introduction to her bread, it wasn't long after my introduction to her.

We had been dating for about a month, circa May 2004, when I decided I'd impress her by cooking dinner for her. I made a dish called Chicken Scarpariello (I'll share it with you soon) and it did impress her. She was studying for finals as she was wrapping up her Accounting degree and I was cooking dinner. It was almost ready and she looked up from her books and said, "Hey, do you want me to make some bread?"

I said that would be fine and wasn't sure what she was going to make (I was hoping it wasn't going to be butter and garlic on white bread in the oven). This will be news to her and I might be in trouble, but as she said it I

turned back to the stove, rolled my eyes a little, and went back to the chicken. Up to that point, which was only a month of dates, she had displayed no culinary prowess.

Needless to say the bread she made is the recipe that follows. She just made it up while a waitress at Desperado's in Amarillo years ago and it has evolved.

It trumped my Chicken that night and I've been requesting it ever since. It's the best bread I've ever eaten and in no way the end of my wife's culinary prowess. Turns out, four years later, she can cook with the best of them.

But the bread is her opus. It is especially good with Italian food but is also good with steaks, chicken, pork or fish. It's even good by itself, cold, the day after much like pizza.

The best part is that it is very easy.

We have served this to countless friends at dinner parties and it never disappoints. It is quite sinful, however, so if you are on a diet this bread will ruin it, at least for the night. Heck, even if you are on a diet, you have to splurge occasionally. If I were you, I'd try this bread. You won't be sorry.

About the only thing I love more than this bread is the creator of the recipe.

A few tips before the recipe:

You can't always get a full french loaf, at least a fresh one. We've made it with french loaf buns before and they work fine. Just cut them in half lengthwise and proceed as directed. We've never made it with fresh garlic, instead we buy the Spice World minced garlic that comes in a small jar. Also, we've used provolone instead of mozzarella for the topping and both are good. My favorite cheese of all is provolone so I sneak it in sometimes.

Marci's Famous Bread

Ingredients

- 1 French loaf
- 8 oz. block of cream cheese, softened
- 1 stick of butter, softened but not melted
- 1 tsp. minced garlic
- 2 tbs. parmesan cheese
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

Directions

Mix cream cheese and butter until well blended. Stir in garlic and parmesan and mix well. Slice loaf horizontally and spread mixture over both sides. Sprinkle mozzarella on top and put under broiler until cheese begins to brown. Remove, slice and serve.

Ryan Mills is the editor of The Childress Index. To contact him about this column e-mail index@chipshot.net.

Ragtown ...

(Continued from Page 1) in quality with the theater's previous dramas.

Tickets for this special event are \$35 and all seats are reserved.

A group discount is offered for 12 or more. Individual tickets may be purchased online or by phone at 1-877-RAGTOWN. Arrangements for group tickets must be made by phone. For more information, visit www.ragtown.com.



The word "icebreaker" means different things to different people. Me, I think first of an ax - specifically, the one my daddy used when he broke the ice for the cows to drink.

But if you say "icebreaker" to an average person, they'll think of a party activity designed to get strangers quickly acquainted. Showing up with an ax at a party like that might really liven things up. It's a thought.

But the last time I went to an icebreaker-type event, I discovered that baling wire does the trick. Reminiscence with me - way back to the days of shag carpeting and Famolare sandals.

The occasion was a convention of mental hospital information officers. The icebreaker was a casual afternoon popcorn and beverage get-together - casual enough for me to wear Famolares.

If you weren't born then, or if you don't remember the style, picture a substantial leather sandal with a very thick wavy rubber sole. Those sandals would have lasted forever if their longevity had depended on the soles themselves.

Instead, the straps were bad about coming loose from the soles, thus ruining a significant investment and requiring the purchase of replacements. Moi, I figured out a way to take a pair of pliers and a piece of baling wire to reattach any detached strap to the sole more securely than it had been glued in the first place.

My technique was to bend a length of wire into the shape of a "U" and then to lift the insole to reposition the detached strap. I forced the ends of the

wire through the strap and then through the sole. Presto.

I ended up with two exposed lengths of wire on the underneath of the shoe. I bent each exposed piece back up into the thick rubber sole, thus securing my handiwork. Out of sight, out of mind.

Until that icebreaker.

It wasn't the best time for the end of a piece of baling wire to work itself loose from the sole and hook the carpet.

Or maybe it was. Help! My foot is stuck to the floor!

Nope, you don't have to take an ax to a social gathering or drink alcohol or both (which could be dangerous) to "relieve inhibitions or tension between people or start a conversation," as my dictionary describes the purpose of an icebreaker. Just get yourself stuck to the carpet with baling wire.

My immediate supervisor was there, pretending not to know me. Onlookers were fascinated. They were from all over the United States, our only common thread being the mental hospital connection.

After I managed to demonstrate that my foot and the carpet were indeed firmly attached to each other, I unbuckled the Famolare, removed my foot and managed to extricate the sandal from the snagged shag. Onlookers remained fascinated. They got to know me - if not by name, by shoe.

We were in Austin, by the way. The slogan "Keep Austin Weird" hadn't yet been invented.

I just happened to be a step ahead.

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2008 in review ...

Post Dispatch files request
The Post Dispatch publisher Wesley W. Burnett has filed a formal request to Garza County Judge Lee Norman seeking a list of county personnel involved in the November 8, 2007 First Amendment violations by government officials. On that day government officials denied entry to the courthouse building to news media representatives with cameras, including the Post Dispatch photographer Timothy W. Burnett and two Lubbock television station news media crews.

City of Post increases rates
Commercial sanitation rates within the City of Post will increase as a result of action taken at the Jan. 8 City Council meeting. City Council members voted unanimously in favor of City Manager Ric Walton's recommendation to bump the commercial rate up to \$35 per container and per lift and to do away with the current industrial rate inside the city limits.

Skate park donation presented to City
Reyes Pequeno and Krisha Bush, presented the first financial donation for the proposed city skate park at a meeting in City Hall last week. City Council member Tommy Basquez and City Manager Rick Walton accepted the contribution.

OMTD announces closing
Old Mill Trade Days, which at one time ushered in thousands of visitors to Post every month will observe its final event in February. The board of directors for OMTD voted earlier this month to make Feb. event the final one.

February County joins regional group
Garza County Commissioners voted to join other West Texas counties in an organization designed to help provide public defenders at lower costs. County Attorney Les Acker explained that Lubbock County spearheaded the formation of the West Texas Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases organization to help lower costs for its member counties in situations involving capital case defendants who are indigent.

Giles McCrary honored
The Rotary Club of Post was privileged last week to host a program honoring Giles McCrary, long-time Post resident and community leader. The event was planned and sponsored by Goodwill Industries of Lubbock.

PHS set for eight team district
The Texas U.I.L. football and basketball realignment for the 2008-2009 school years puts Post High School into an eight team district with Class AA enrollment

of 200 to 429 students. Added to the current district are Abernathy, Littlefield and Shallowater. Dropped from the new district is Tahoka, which will compete in Class A.

Post ISD buys out remainder of AD's contract
The Post Independent School District is searching for a new athletic director and head football coach after district officials voted last week to buy out AD Tim James' contract. By a 5-1 vote, members of the Post ISD Board of Trustees agreed to pay out the remainder of the athletic director's contract in an action defined by district officials as "administrative leave."

21st Annual Willy Awards
Post city manager Ric Walton and Gerald Dolter of Texas Tech University received the Will McCrary Spirit Award at the Garza Theatre's 21st Annual Willy Awards gala at the community center. The event honored outstanding achievements of the 2007 theater season. Ten productions at the Garza during the 2007 season played to almost 4000 patrons, according to theater officials. The historical comedy, "Harvey Girls," directed by Jay Young, drew the highest attendance for the season during its seven performances in September. "Cemetery Club," directed by Stan Tucker, was chosen Best Play for 2007. Karen Dolter received Best Actress honors for her role in "Cemetery Club." The Best Actor award was presented to Stan Tucker for "Dial 'M' for Murder."

Radio personalities host annual Chamber banquet
Approximately 140 citizens of Post and Garza County gathered for the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet. Lubbock radio personalities Jane Prince Jones and Jacqui Neal served as hosts and sprinkled humor throughout the upbeat evening sponsored by the Post Area Chamber of Commerce. Thessa Harp received the Citizen of the Year award. Her father Bob Palmer, a former recipient of the award, was on hand to share the moment. Sammy Palmer accepted the Business of the Year award on behalf of Post Tire & Lube. The business is owned by Ted Thomas.

Middleton lauded as Conservation Rancher of the Year
Tom Middleton was recognized as the Outstanding Conservation Rancher at this year's chamber banquet. Middleton became owner and operator of his family's ranch in 1965. Tom and his wife, Janey, were selected as the Outstanding Farm Family for Garza County in 1974. He served on the Garza Soil & Water Conservation District Board from 1972 to 1988.

(Continued from Page 1)

Clinic groundbreaking
The board of directors of the Garza County Hospital District will conduct groundbreaking ceremonies this week for the district's new clinic facility at the buildings new site at the corner of Avenue S and U.S. Hwy. 84.

March Laws, Brannon, McDaniel win contested local primary races

Two incumbents and a political newcomer were the top vote-getters in the three contested races determined in Tuesday's Democratic and Republican primary elections. According to vote totals provided by the Garza County Clerk's Office, incumbent Cliff Laws defeated Maurice "Mo" Heridge to win the Democratic candidacy for the position of county sheriff. In the race for the Democratic nomination for Precinct 3 commissioner, Ted A. Brannon defeated two other candidates.

Jones hired as AD and football coach

Chris Jones, athletic director and head football coach for Class 4A La Marque High School, was hired last week by the Post ISD to take over as the district's new AD and head football coach. Jones' wife, Sandra, is a teacher who specializes in deaf education. He has two sons, Tyler, a sixth-grade student and Kyle, a fourth-grade student. The new AD will assume his duties in Post March 24.

May election includes contests for city, ISD seats

Contested races have taken shape in the May 10 city council and school board elections. Three Post City Council seats - Wards 3, 4 and 5 - are scheduled to be filled in the election. A trio of candidates has filed for the Ward 3 position, including Janet Dean, Josh Whiteley, a former council member, and Tommy Basquez, the incumbent. Three candidates also seek the Ward 4 post. Incumbent James Easterling will be challenged on the ballot by Delbert Rudd and O.L. (Ferg) Ferguson. Incumbent Rodney Tidwell will run unopposed for the Ward 5 seat. Four individuals have declared candidacy for two open positions on the Post Independent School District's Board of Trustees. Delton Osborn, Randy Conner and incumbents Barbara Hardin and Mark Kirkpatrick will be vying to fill two open at-large school board positions.

Annual Taba'na Yuan'e ceremony forecasts economic year

The traditional Taba'na Yuan'e Sunrise Wind Ceremony was held at the City Park March 22. The event was attended by over 130 people who also enjoyed a breakfast after the crop and economic prediction. Applying an early native Indian ritual, "Chief" Kenneth LeBlanc determined that the wind was from the southwest at sunrise forecasting a poor economic year.

April PHS dinner theater serves up 'The Would-Be Gentleman'

The Post High School Theater Department's annual dinner theater event was held in the school cafeteria and auditorium. Cast members featured in the presentation of "The Would-Be Gentleman" included Call Windham, Allen Heckaman, Kelly Chapa, Bethany Berry, Chad Miller, Tim Wilson, Meagen Howard-Griffis, Quinten Davis, Suhani Bhakta, Chelsey Sapp, Jessica Quisenberry, Stacy Bocko, Zachery



A senior prom was held for residents at the Golden Plains Care Center (above) in 2008, and the Post High School varsity softball team qualified for the playoffs (left).

Staff photos

Kocurek, Zach Nava and Kat Vilalón. Directors include Sterline Marcum, Leslie Tatum, and Tim Tatum.

PHS athletes qualify for regional meet in Abilene

Several Post High School track athletes qualified to compete in the regional track meet in Abilene in April. The boys 400m relay team - Giles Dalby, Clint Windham, Aaron James and Kevin Griffin - grabbed a second-place finish at the district meet to qualify. Griffin will also compete in the 100m dash. Ben Mason earned the right to compete in the pole vault competition after finishing in fourth place with a jump of 9'6" and because one of the top-three finishers was declared ineligible to compete.

Cub Scouts observe Blue & Gold Banquet

The local Cub Scout Pack 316 held its annual Blue and Gold Banquet recently to celebrate the accomplishments of the Cub Scouts. After opening with a flag ceremony, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Cub Scout Promise, Cubmaster Trevor Thuett gave

a brief history of Cub Scouting, and a members gave an explanation of the Advancement Rank he stood to represent. Thuett was honored for his leadership as Cubmaster and Cassandra Boren were recognized as the incoming Cubmaster, as she will take over those duties as Thuett steps down from the pack to continue as Scoutmaster of Troop 316. Seven Cub Scouts were recognized for rank advancement. Blake Boren and Caelan Thuett were recognized for earning the highest rank in cub scouting, that of the Arrow of Light Badge.

Council amends solid waste code, hears VFD report on fuel fund

Recent surges in fuel costs combined with an increase in the number of fires in and around Garza County may force the Post City Council to shovel more money into the fire department's fuel fund. Brandt Taylor, the new Volunteer Fire Department fire chief, advised the council that a "giant red flag" has been waved

when it comes to the department's fuel budget for the year. Taylor also updated the council on the department's equipment issues. In other business, the council unanimously agreed to amend a city code regarding municipal solid waste. City Manager Ric Walton said that county residents continue to bring trash in and place it in the City's dumpsters. By amending the city code, he asked the council to make it unlawful for individuals who do not pay for municipal solid waste service to place refuse in a city dumpster. Under the amended ordinance, the action will be deemed a theft of services and will be punishable by fine.

Concealed Handgun License Classes in Post Jan. 12-13 Dave Tyler (806) 786-5137

Western Texas College Continuing Education Division EMS Program
EMT - Basic & Intermediate Courses to be offered in Spring January 12 & 13, 6-10 pm
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Western Texas College Registration for Spring 2009 Semester January 8th Classes Begin January 12
Contact the Counseling Center @ 325-574-7621 for an appointment.
For a schedule of classes go to www.wtc.edu/schedules

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Asst. Chief-Bradley Cimental
Asst. Chief-Bryan Looney
President-Doug Flannigan
Vice President-Jimmy Solis
Secretary-Mark Short
Public Info-Bryan Looney
Certification-Jason Powell
Chaplain-Les Looney
Congratulations to the 2008 Fireman of the year-Les Looney
Rookie of the year-Dustin Merrit

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The Paperboy

By CHRISTOPHER BLACKBURN

Why does the federal government think they can buy this country out of hard times? Correct me if I'm wrong, but they are at fault - at least in part - for the current problems.

Some 500 people in this country are elected to govern the rest of us. Those individuals should be held accountable for so much, yet they never will be.

Blame Bush you say? Sure. But, seems to me Congress has plenty of votes to disagree with the president once in while. Instead they march lock-step, throwing good money after bad ... making a bad situation worse.

Today, many companies are opting for a handout instead of using normal means to save themselves. However, I don't blame the corporations seeking billions. I blame the government for opening up this Pandora's Box.

Ask yourself this: If someone said you qualified for \$1 million at nearly zero percent interest, and really didn't consider how you would be able to pay it back, would you take it?

People need to understand that things don't always go up. There is an evolution to busi-

ness. Simply put, some are destined to die or become something else.

Does the government really expect us to believe GM can fix itself by March? It can't. It's impossible. They've bought themselves time for one of three things: 1. Ask for more money; 2. Get bought; 3. File for bankruptcy on their own terms.

What really boils my blood is that the president, president-elect and all of Congress know there is no way some of these companies will survive yet they are willing to throw our money into this abyss.

Wonder what the government would do if every citizen decided to stop paying taxes? I imagine they'd just keep printing more money. Who cares about the value of the dollar anyhow.

When I see these jokers on television, it drives me crazy. They are no longer held accountable for any of the terrible decisions they make on a daily basis. The mainstream media, who is supposed to serve us in this once capacity, has lost it's way. Maybe it has decided that Congress can do no wrong. More

likely, they are in bed with the media and the media likes the privilege.

Contact members of Congress and tell them to turn the money-faucet off. It is only making things worse and it is placing way too large a burden on future generations.

Or, tell them to annex Canada and Mexico and sell it back to Americans and the rest of the world to raise enough money to bail us out of our \$10 trillion national debt.

Really, I'm shorting the debt. The actual national debt as of this week is \$10,611,892,686,306.43. The estimated population of the United States is 305,328,096. That comes to \$34,755.70 for every man, woman and child in this country.

By the way: Congress is getting another raise - over \$4,000 next year. Raise for what? Running the country into the ground?

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication. Feel free to comment on The Paperboy at <http://thenewbastion.blogspot.com/>.

White River Weekly Report Dec. 6, 2008

Gauge Reading	Rainfall for 2004
2352.10	43.58"
Feet below spillway	Rainfall for 2005
20'4"	15.57"
Rise	Rainfall for 2006
0"	28.85"
Rainfall Past Week	Rainfall for 2007
0"	24.19"
Rain to Date	
33.61"	

White River Lake has 2,905,613,367 billion gallons left available at the Intake or 27% capacity or 8,917 acre feet. Subtract 17,659,021 MG for evaporation this week in December that leaves 2,887,954,346 MG available as of today. White River's daily average demand for 2007 was 1.26 million gallons per day for all White River Customers. The Oil Company using water for mining has been stopped until the Lake level rises.

White River Municipal Water District is in Stage 1 of its Drought Contingency Plan. Remember that the Water District is there for you if we can assist you in any way let us know.

Source: Mickey Rogers GM White River, general manager, WRMWD

thepostdispatch.com

This week in Post City

By Rosa Latimer
News Editor

Even with the failing economy, pending war on half dozen fronts and what seems like over 200 football bowl games this week, there's still been time during national news coverage to explore the challenges of New Year's resolutions.

We've talked about them at our house, too. My husband remembers when he was a young boy that his mother expected all of her children to seriously consider resolutions. Actually, she required each to write ten New Year's resolutions each year and she did the same. Either she felt strongly about building character and setting goals or she decided that with 6 kids home for the holidays, this was an activity that would keep them quiet for a while.

I really don't know where to begin with my list of resolutions. Seems that the same things always come to mind - lose weight, exercise more, save more money, etc. etc. And, from what I read and hear, those are the most common resolutions in our country plus the issue of smoking. Actually, I think

these concerns are on our mind all the time, not just at the beginning of the New Year. There appears to be a universal attitude that if we can be thin enough or have enough money, our other problems will take care of themselves.

It is easier to make resolutions for other people. A friend of mine related a conversation with her mother. The mother wanted to suggest a New Year's resolution for her daughter. "I'd like you to go to church more often." My friend then asked if she could suggest a resolution for her mother. "I'd like for you to mind your own business." This conversation occurred during a family road trip. My guess is that things got very quiet after this exchange of resolution suggestions.

My family would most likely suggest that I resolve to learn to be a better cook. The joke at our house this Christmas was that when the smoke alarms goes off, dinner is ready. Very funny! Perhaps I'll suggest that my family resolve to be more sensitive to the feelings of those who are cooking-challenged.

Happy New Year!



Kay Bailey Hutchison

UNITED STATES SENATOR, TEXAS

In a highly competitive global economy, the skills of the next generation of Americans will be the prime engine for our country's economic growth. Yet compared with children in other nations, U.S. students are underperforming in the vitally important fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

In 2005, the National Academies released an eye-opening report called "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," which identified alarming trends in America's STEM education.

Their conclusion was clear: if we want to remain the undisputed leader of the global economy, we need to improve our STEM abilities, and we need to do it urgently.

In response to "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," I chaired the Academy of Medicine, Engineering, and Science of Texas (TAMEST) with forming a panel to study ways to improve STEM education in Texas. TAMEST is the perfect organization to help lead this mission. In 2004, I co-founded TAMEST with Nobel laureates Dr. Michael Brown and the late Dr. Richard Smalley to bring together the state's top scientific minds to further position Texas as a national research leader. On December 9, the TAMEST Education Steering Committee released its much-anticipated report, "The Next Frontier: World-Class Science and Math Education in Texas," which includes recommendations that should be read by Texas parents, teachers, principals, and especially policy makers. A link to the report may be found at www.tamest.org/education.

In the words of Education Steering Committee Co-chair Dr. William Brinkley, who is also the Senior Vice President for Graduate Sciences and the Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Science at Baylor College of Medicine-Houston, "the United States is being left behind."

"In China today, over 40 percent of college undergraduates earn engineering and science degrees, while in the U.S., only 5 percent of students do, and Texas is in the bottom half among the states - our students consistently score lower than the national average on math and science proficiency tests. This is simply unacceptable."

Even now, American companies have to recruit heavily from overseas to fill job positions in highly technical fields such as computer engineering and medical science. And whenever possible, U.S. companies simply move overseas to find the necessary workers.

This outsourcing is one of the key reasons China has displaced the U.S. as the world's largest exporter of IT products (while the U.S. has become a net

importer of those products).

According to iThe Next Frontier, two of the best ways to improve STEM education are to expand Advanced Placement (A.P.) programs and strengthen the quality of teachers in STEM fields.

I supported authorization of the first federal grants for A.P. programs, and since 1998, their funding has grown from \$3 million to \$43.5 million per year. In 2007, I cosponsored and helped pass the America Competes Act, which increases the number of A.P. courses in underprivileged schools and bolsters the supply of teachers for A.P. math, science, and foreign language courses.

"Great teachers are the foundation upon which we will build world-class science and math education here in Texas," observed Committee member Kurt Swogger, Executive Vice President of Investments at the Planned Innovation Institute.

As other organizations have pointed out, the most consistent and powerful predictor of student achievement in STEM is the presence of teachers who are fully certified and have at least a bachelor's degree in the subjects they teach.

That's why I've been a strong advocate for Teachers for a Competitive Tomorrow, a project in which colleges and universities encourage undergraduate students to gain degrees in their STEM fields of study with teacher certification obtained through required electives.

This grant program is modeled after the UTeach program at the University of Texas at Austin.

The "Next Frontier" report cited the innovative UTeach program as a model for improving STEM education. Nation-

wide, only 50 percent of new teachers are still teaching after three years, while 80 percent of UTeach graduates are still teaching after five years.

UTeach is now being replicated as a national standard for science and math teacher preparation by the National Math and Science Initiative.

Through TAMEST, our state's brightest science and math academics have created a bold plan to address one of the greatest challenges facing our country. Now it is our responsibility as citizens and legislators - to act on their proposals and renew our commitment to a better and more prosperous future.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas.

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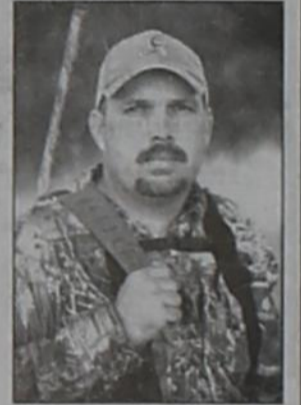
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Russell Graves Outdoors

ARE THESE THE GOOD OL' DAYS? - Part 1
How 60 years of game management has enhanced wildlife populations

By Russell A. Graves



Creeping along Childress County back roads is how I spend many Saturday mornings. For 15 years, I've been traveling the same sandy roads looking for movement in the mixed brushlands of northwest Texas, making note of what I see.

Are there changes?

Yeah, I've noticed changes.

From my own observations, I've seen wildlife numbers, in general, increase. For example, when I moved to Childress from Fannin County in 1993, white-tailed deer were fairly uncommon here except along the Red River. Now, whitetails are everywhere, and the Texas Rolling Plains is arguably one of the hottest places in which to hunt deer in the state. Mule deer numbers have grown as well; it is not unusual for me to see 20 or more deer scattered across a wheat field during my early morning forays. Rio Grande turkeys continue to expand their range and appear in parts of the county where I've never seen them before, and bobwhite quail are still holding strong.

From a hunting standpoint, it seems that we are living in the good ol' days. Never before in the modern history of our state has there existed such an abundance of hunting opportunities. Even in the face of population booms and unprecedented urban growth, Texas game animals seem to be as plentiful as mesquite trees.

Six decades of progress

My thesis is simple: In terms of abundance of game, now is the best time for hunting in the last 100 years. Moreover, the future is bright. I defend my thesis with the help of a book: *Principal Game Birds and Mammals of Texas: Their Distribution and Management*, published in 1945 by TPWD's predecessor agency - the Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission. The book was the first accurate accounting of Texas game animal population and ranges after the U.S. Bureau of Biological Survey released their findings about Texas wildlife in 1905.

The book has an original price of \$2 listed inside, but the information contained throughout the book offers a priceless glimpse of where we've been and how we came to have outstanding hunting opportunities today.

"Here, for the first time, is presented in full an accurate account of the former and present range of the principal game species of this state, and of more vital interest, the factors controlling their abundance," read the opening lines of the foreword. "It is here for all to read, and as the foundation on which Texas may build a sounder game program. Perhaps it shall aid in leading us out of our present desperate plight of flagrant land abuse, which if continued and accelerated will lead game - and man to their oblivion."

Today, the words sound a bit dire. Considering the times in which the book was published, though, the warning was well founded. Fifty years prior, game animals weren't nearly as abundant and, in fact, many animals like wild turkeys and pronghorns were nearly extirpated from their historic ranges and their population numbers nationwide were dangerously low. In fact, around the turn of the 20th century, white-tailed deer numbers nationwide were only about a half-million.

As the United States trudged through World War I and the Great Depression, interest in wildlife conservation grew steadily. Aldo Leopold had established the nation's first wildlife management program (at the University of Wisconsin) and penned the first book published on wildlife management by 1933. Eight years prior to the publication of *Principal Game Birds and Mammals of Texas: Their Distribution and Management*, the federal government passed landmark legislation in the form of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act. Commonly known as the Pittman-Robertson Act, the law places an 11 percent excise tax on guns, archery equipment and ammunition, which is apportioned to each state based on land area and hunting licenses. This pay-as-you-go, hunter-funded system has proven its value as a positive revenue source in the 70 years since its passage.

Make no mistake, though. Modern success in Texas game management hasn't been the result of a singular entity. Since the publication of the book, private landowners, hunters, conservation groups and TPWD have all worked in concert to provide the incredible game opportunities we enjoy today.

Any questions or comments? Contact Russell at russell@russellgraves.com or visit his website at www.russellgraves.com

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In and Around Close City

The Post Dispatch Friday, January 2, 2009 Page 5

by Traci Freeman

WEATHER

As I am writing this it is absolutely beautiful outside, it's about 65 degrees with just a light breeze. We have now ginned around 3,500 bales and still have 3 or 4 guys pulling. We are going to gin more than we initially thought, that is a good thing, since we lost a lot of acres to it being so dry early in the year.

David and Deana Watson spent the holidays at their home with Kyle, who came in from Las Vegas and Matt and Brandi of Slaton. They had a great Christmas together then David, Deana, Matt and Kyle left for Abilene to spend some time with David's family. Brandi stayed home not feeling well, hope you are better, Brandi!

Tino and Linda Alaniz had all of their family together..... Amanda Alaniz of League City; Eric, DeeDee, Hailey and Jace Alaniz of Boiser City, Louisiana; David, Melinda, Quincey and Andrew Quintana of Post. Linda tells me Eric cooked some

great steaks for their dinner. She also told me that Patrick, Laura and Ramiele stopped by.

Dana Jo and her family are here visiting with her parents, Jack and Jean Morris. Dana, her husband, Mike and their daughter, Laura Jean live in Longview.

Mack and Jane Terry had Christmas at their house on Christmas Eve. Those celebrating the holiday were; Mack and Jane; Fannie Ballentine; Jibber and Cindy Herridge; Cody and Emily Nowlain; Ray Don, Jana and Raylea Underwood. On Christmas Day they had Ricky and Judy Bush and Fannie Ballentine. Saturday the whole Ballentine Family traveled to Levelland to Ricky and Judy's house. The families that attended were; Jack Ballentine's family; Jane Ballentine Terry's family; Judy Ballentine Bush's family; Randy and Valerie Melton, who belong to the late Kay Ballentine and of course Fannie Ballentine.

My sister Salli Bess, her husband, Jon and their

children, Journey and Jolie are here visiting. Jon and Salli went home Tuesday while the kids are going to get to stay and visit a little longer. We celebrated our Christmas on Monday night at Mom and Dad's house.

All of us here in Ragtown send our thoughts and prayers out to George Miller and family. George's wife, Ina Lou, passed away last Thursday night. I saw George and his daughter Martha in town on Monday, George was getting along pretty good. Martha said they would come out and see us sometime.

VISTORS

Tom Henley came out and picked up a trailer; Patrick and Laura brought Ramiele out for us to see for the first time. Ronnie and Andra Dunn brought a few of their grandchildren out to visit and get a popsicle on Monday afternoon; Taryn, Brayden and Gage of Lubbock are here visiting while they are out of school. JP and Donna Campillo came out

and watched a bale of cotton being made, that is always interesting. As many times as I have seen it done I still love to watch that bale come out of the press. Cecil Stolle came out for a snack and some peanuts.

GET WELLS

Claudine Tipton fell and broke her hip early Tuesday morning; she is in Lubbock at Covenant.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

January 2nd - Rynn Norman
January 7th - Louis Abraham
January 7th - Chester Morris

Don't forget our Ragtown Folks in the nursing homes; Doug and Claudine Tipton, and Fannie Ballentine in Post and Mary Ethridge and Carmen Abraham in Lubbock. Keep our troops in your daily prayers.

I want to wish everyone a very happy New Year. Stay safe!

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Weekly Inspirations

A NEW YEARS RESOLUTION

by: Michael F. Taylor

The ill fated British luxury cruiser liner TITANIC struck an iceberg and subsequently sank to the bottom of the ocean on its maiden voyage from Southampton England to New York City, south of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland just minutes before midnight on April 14th, 1912.

There were 2,220 people on board the vessel that terrible night and reportedly 1,513 of those people perished in the icy waters including American millionaires John Jacob Astor, Benjamin Guggenheim and Isidor Straus. Most of you are familiar with this story and many of the famous people associated with it.

Today, I would like to tell you another story about a much less heralded person. John Harper was also a passenger on board the TITANIC that fateful evening.

John was born on May 29, 1872, and surrendered his life to Christ 13 years later. John began his preaching ministry at the tender age of 17, training at the Baptist Pioneer Mission in London, England. John then went on to found his own church, the Harper Memorial, which had grown to over 500 in attendance before he had agreed to take the pastorate of Moody Church in Chicago, Ill. John was traveling on the TITANIC with his beloved 6 year old daughter, Nana.

Upon learning that the ship was sinking, John placed Nana in a lifeboat and said his goodbye to her. He then went about the ship calling, "Women, Children, and Unsaved into the lifeboats!"

Many survivors who came into contact with John Harper that night said that he witnessed to anyone who would hear. His conviction was so strong that even after he was struggling in the ice cold waters, clinging to wreckage because he had given away his own life vest, he continued to witness to victims.

Four years later, a survivor of TITANIC uttered these words about John Harper at a church gathering in Hamilton, Ontario. He proclaimed that as he was drifting on wreckage, John Harper came near to him. John asked him, "Are you Saved?" to which he replied, "No, I am not."

John then told him "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be Saved!" The waves then drew John away from the man. But miraculously a second time, John was washed up beside the gentleman. Once again, John inquired, "Are you Saved now?" to which the man replied, "No, I can't honestly say that I am." "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou SHALT BE SAVED!" John implored him once again. A short time later, the gentleman saw John Harper go down into the icy waters to be seen never again.

There in those cold waters, alone and facing eternity, the man believed and was saved. That man was one of only six people plucked out of the chilling waters by lifeboats that early April morning. He was John Harper's last convert to Christ!

Are you making a New Years Resolution this year?

Many folks do this time of year. I am no exception. One of the most popular resolutions in this country today is TO LOSE WEIGHT! Now don't get me wrong, losing weight is a wonderful resolution. I could stand to lose a few pounds, myself. But I pray that your New Years Resolution this coming year might be to urgently witness to those who are lost. Romans 10:14-15 teaches us, "14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" NKJV

My prayer for each of you this week is that you will be resolute in your desire to see souls saved just as John Harper felt such an urgency that he spent his last moments on this earth proclaiming that JESUS SAVES. God bless each of you this week.

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Baptist		Power House Church of God and Christ	Pine Ave.
Calvary Baptist Church	210 E. 6th, 990-2342	Disciples of Christ	
First Baptist Church, Post	402 W. Main St. 495-3554	First Christian Church	812 W. 13th, 495-3716
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Grace Baptist Church	820 N. Ave. S 990-3497	Faith Chapel	1105 Green St., Wilson (806) 628-0018
Justiceburg Baptist Church Justiceburg		Methodist	
Pleasant Home Baptist Church	E. 14th & N. Ave F	First United Methodist Church	216 W. 10th, 495-2942
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Holy Cross Catholic Church	Ave. K and Main St., 495-2791	Family Harvest Church	111 N. Avenue I, 495-1400
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Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326	Presbyterian	
		First Presbyterian Church	910 W. 10th, 495-2135

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Card of Thanks

We would like to take this time and say thank you for the calls, visits, and prayers, that everyone has sent. A big thanks to Dr. Edwards and staff, that took care of me that day and still is. Thanks to the EMS Crew that took me to Lubbock. Thanks to the George R. Brown Bunch for all the phone calls and concerns. Post is a great place to live. Thanks to all again, Chuck, Kristi, Dylan & Rylan Morris Charles & Sharron Morris Tim & Diane Morris

Barry, Amy, Kayla & Brooke Morris

Card of Thanks

The family of Charles Propst wishes to express our sincere appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown during the loss of our loved one. To Vista Care Hospice, we will be forever grateful for the loving care you gave to our loved one in his final days. Also, many thanks for the calls, visits, food, flowers, memorials and prayers. A special thanks to the Post

Masonic Lodge 1058 for officiating the service and to Dee and Janet Justice for all they have done. May God Bless you all! Rhea Propst Pamela Jones Lexie Jones

Card of Thanks

Everyone at Garza County Trailblazers would like to thank all of you who purchased raffle tickets for the shotgun. With your help we may continue to serve five hot meals a week.

We invite everyone to come have a good meal with us. Age doesn't matter. Thanks again for your support and patronage to our center with donations and memorials. All the members and crew at Trailblazers.

Lost and Found

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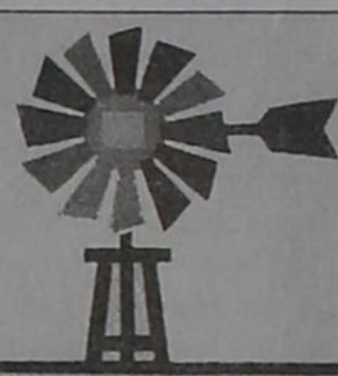
Post ISD

January 5
Breakfast- Sausage on a stick, fruit, milk
Lunch - Burrito, Spanish rice, tossed salad, fresh fruit choice, cookie, milk
January 6
Breakfast - Donut, sausage link, fruit, milk
Lunch - Barbequed chicken, macaroni & cheese, tossed salad, chilled pears, cornbread, milk
January 7
Breakfast - Oatmeal, bacon, toast, fruit, milk
Lunch - Steak fingers, mashed

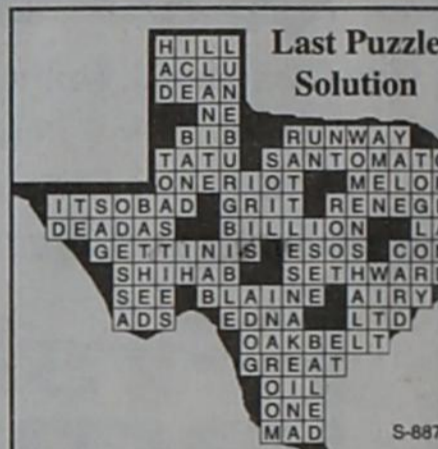
potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, juice bar, milk
January 8
Breakfast - Cinnamon toast, sausage, fruit, milk
Lunch - Fajita chicken, oven rice, broccoli & cheese, corn, bread sticks, fruit fluffs, milk
January 9
Breakfast - Cereal, graham crackers, fruit, juice, milk
Lunch- Pizza choice, tossed salad, fresh banana, chocolate cake, milk

TRAILBLAZERS

January 5 Smothered chicken, macaroni & cheese, grilled veggies, garlic biscuit, banana pudding
January 6 Beef enchiladas, beans, rice, salsa, Mexican wedding cake
January 7 Ham, butter beans, turnip greens, cornbread, brownie
January 8 Goulash, salad, cornbread, crackers, peach cake
January 9 Fried fish, oven potato, coleslaw, beans, cornbread, pears/cottage cheese



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Texas Monthly oil and gas statistics

NOVEMBER PERMITS TO DRILL

The Commission issued a total of 1,517 original drilling permits in November 2008 compared to 1,550 in November 2007. The November total included 1,329 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 53 to re-enter existing well bores, and 135 for re-completions. Permits issued in November 2008 included 314 oil, 366 gas, 788 oil and gas, 45 injection, zero service and four other permits.

OCTOBER CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION

Texas preliminary October 2008 crude oil production averaged 893,676 barrels daily, up from the 873,447 barrels daily average of October 2007.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for October 2008 is 27,703,956 barrels, an increase from 27,076,862 barrels reported during October 2007.

NOVEMBER OIL AND GAS COMPLETIONS

In November 2008, operators reported 824 oil, 842 gas, 103 injection and four other completions compared to 464 oil, 660 gas, 76 injection and three other completions during November 2007.

Total well completions for 2008 year to date are 15,803 up from 13,080 recorded during the same period in 2007.

Operators reported 518 holes plugged and four dry holes in November 2008 compared to 325 holes plugged and 2 dry holes in November 2007.

OCTOBER NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

Texas oil and gas wells produced 558,286,780 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for October 2008, up from the Octo-

ber 2007 preliminary gas production total of 480,315,199 Mcf.

Texas production in October 2008 came from 136,152 oil and 84,398 gas wells.

NOVEMBER TEXAS OIL AND GAS DRILLING PERMITS AND COMPLETIONS BY DISTRICT

RRC District: (8A) LUBBOCK AREA
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 81
Oil Completions: 43
Gas Completions: 2

RRC District: (9) NORTH TEXAS
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 410
Oil Completions: 21
Gas Completions: 83

RRC District: (10) PANHANDLE
Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 101
Oil Completions: 15
Gas Completions: 110

OCTOBER TEXAS TOP TEN OIL PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION

- COUNTY - CRUDE OIL (BBLS)
1. ANDREWS - 2,066,505
 2. GAINES - 2,048,068
 3. YOAKUM - 1,989,431
 4. ECTOR - 1,600,541
 5. HOCKLEY - 1,502,720
 6. SCURRY - 1,258,351
 7. UPTON - 1,150,334
 8. PECOS - 1,032,935
 9. MIDLAND - 850,482
 10. CRANE - 795,418

OCTOBER TEXAS TOP TEN

GAS PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION

- COUNTY - TOTAL GAS (MCF)
1. JOHNSON - 32,393,934
 2. TARRANT - 32,216,635
 3. PANOLA - 23,443,698
 4. ZAPATA - 22,931,632
 5. FREESTONE - 21,958,095
 6. PECOS - 21,323,710
 7. HIDALGO - 18,485,340
 8. ROBERTSON - 17,778,071
 9. DENTON - 17,066,298
 10. WISE - 16,839,801

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• Ranch properties
• 2 BR/2 bath - 915 W. Main Street
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Yesteryears

Compiled by Donna Jones
From The Post Dispatch archives

10 Years Ago December 4, 1999

Newly elected Garza County officials were administered their oaths of office at the courthouse on January 1. At the ceremony were Clerk Sonny Gossett, Judge Giles W. Dalby, Tax Assessor Jeanette Hodges, Justice of the Peace Precinct 2 Dee C. Justice, Hides Inspector Donald Windham, Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 Sheila Melton, Commissioner Precinct 4 Mike Sanchez and Commissioner 2 Mason McClellan.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Norman of Post celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Wednesday, December 30, 1998, with a family dinner at the 50-Yard Line Restaurant in Lubbock. Norman and the former Mary Margaret Duckworth were married January 1, 1949, at the First Baptist Church in Post.

All District football honors went to Luke Williams, Michael Ulm, Ross Babb, Braden Conner, Matt McCallister, Rocky Gomez, Clay Ashley, Justin Gorman, Jay Gorman, Billy Crawford, Clell Knight, Daniel Fluit and Raymond Jefferson.

20 Years Ago January 1, 1989

Wayne Thomas received his 35 year pin from Post postmaster Johnny Kemp. Thomas started his career with the U. S. Postal Service in March 1954 in Lubbock. He was transferred to Post in April 1959 as a clerk and was one of the three original city carriers.

My Special Place, a new Christian day care center under the direction of Cathy Hill opened this week in 1989.

Larry Hopp, Field District Manager for Pizza Management, Inc. announced that Pizza Hut had secured a location site in the 400 block of South Broadway and would open a restaurant here in April.

Ray and Celia Mason announced the birth of their son Ronald Wesley, who was born at 3:30 a.m., December 30, 1988 at Methodist Hospital in Lubbock.

30 Years Ago January 4, 1979

Dwaine Binford presented Junior R. Hagins a certificate of merit for recognition of outstanding performance in the application and maintenance of a high quality conservation program. Hagins had worked with the Soil Conservation Service for 30 years, 26 of them in Post.

Sworn in the district courtroom were County Judge Giles Dalby, County and District Court Clerk Carl Cederholm, County Treasurer Voda Beth Gradine, County Tax Assessor-Collector Ruth Reno, County Commissioners Ted L. Aten and Herbert Walls.

Ida Jan Hall and Timothy Brooks Blair pledged wedding vows in the First United Methodist Church. Bill McBride of the Church of Christ performed the double ring ceremony.

Post got its first real touch of winter over the New Year's weekend. Sleet left a sheet of ice on sidewalks, streets and highways. Temperatures didn't rise above the freezing mark for three days with the low for the weekend being two degrees above zero.

40 Years Ago January 2, 1969

Elected officials administered the oath of office were County Attorney Preston Poole,

County Sheriff L. E. (Fay) Claborn, County Tax Assessor - Collector T. H. Tipton, Pct. 1 County commissioner Paul H. Jones and Pct. 3 County Commissioner Ben Sanchez. The oaths of office were administered by County Judge J. E. Parker and County Clerk Carl Cederholm.

Jim Jackson, who served out the unexpired term of A. C. Cash as president of the post Chamber of Commerce, was elected to the office for the year of 1969. Chamber directors were chosen by mail balloting by members of the organization. The five directors elected were Kenneth Callaway, Gene Moore, E. R. Moreland, Fred Myers and T. B. Odom.

Two outstanding pictures were offered at the Tower Theatre the first weekend in January 1969. One of the pictures was "Mademoiselle Striptease," starring Brigitte Bardot, and the other was "Scandal in Sorrento" co-starring Sophia Loren and Vittoria De Sica.

50 Years Ago January 5, 1959

Little Karen Gail Ringhoffer was the winner of Garza Memorial Hospital's 1959 Baby Derby. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alex H. Ringhoffer of 802 South Avenue P. Ringhoffer is a soil conservationist for the soil conservation service in Post.

Garza County and precinct officials elected in November's General Election were administered their oaths of office in the district courtroom. Sworn in were new County Judge J. E. Parker, Mrs. Ruth Lee, county treasurer; Dean A. Robinson, county school superintendent; E. E. Peel, Precinct 2 commissioner; Mason Justice, new Precinct 4 commissioner; D. C. Roberts Sr., Precinct 1 justice of the peace; Carl Cederholm, county and district clerk, and Mrs. Faye Cockrell, deputy clerk.

The farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Elton (Red) Mathis and most of its contents were destroyed by a windwhipped fire. Some of the household possessions in the one-story frame residence were carried to safety, but many of the furnishings were destroyed by the flames.

60 Years Ago December 30, 1948

Among the Christmas gifts presented to local school officials were a portable radio presented by the Post Antelopes to each, Coach V. F. Bingham and Coach Vernon Ray; luggage given by the Senior Class members to their sponsors, N. R. King and Mrs. H. T. Carr; a maroon shirt given to Coach King by the basketball girls, and a table lamp given by the Junior Class members to each of their sponsors, Mrs. G. E. Fleming and Miss Bessie Pitts.

For the fourth consecutive year, Fannie B. Gordon, long time resident of the flats, played Goodfellow for all the neighborhood boys and girls at her home, 415 North Mill Avenue, on Christmas morning. She gave away 67 gifts, each consisting of colored Christmas candy, oranges, apples, nuts and whistles, and wished each child a Happy New Year.

It would cost more in 1949 to use Uncle Sam's efficient postal service. Although ordinary first class rates would remain the same at three-cents, most other postal rates would go up from five to six cents an ounce.

SUDOKU

	9	1				8	5	
				3			7	
	6		4					
1				5		7		
		8	2					
7							5	2
				8	2			1
	4				3			
		5	6			9		

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

3	8	6	7	4	9	5	1	2
7	9	2	3	1	5	6	8	4
5	1	4	2	8	6	3	7	9
1	2	5	6	9	8	4	3	7
6	4	3	1	7	2	8	5	9
8	9	4	7	5	3	6	1	2
3	2	1	3	8	4	9	6	5
9	6	7	9	5	1	3	2	4
4	8	2	1	3	5	6	7	9
3	9	1	7	2	6	8	5	4

ANSWER:

ACROSS

- 1 football equipment: shoulder
- 5 TX Ivory Joe wrote "Since You, Baby"
- 6 "house" south of the border
- 7 actor Haing of "Vietnam, Texas"
- 8 "Gulf Waterway" runs along TX coast
- 17 head of a big TX company (abbr.)
- 18 creator of large TX dancing frogs sculpture: Bob
- 21 Hall-of-Famer Bob Lilly pos. (abbr.)
- 22 in Fort Worth: "Museum of Transportation"
- 23 lathered up?
- 24 more crass
- 29 TX has born in dry seasons
- 30 abbr. for "legal eagle"
- 31 "yes" south of the border
- 32 1st name: "El del Norte"
- 34 in Liberty Co. on hwy. 90
- 35 TXism: "got the morals of an alley"
- 36 Alamo heroes made to stay and fight basic unit of a chemical element
- 38 singer Braxton
- 39 TXism: "I can't that" (dislike it)

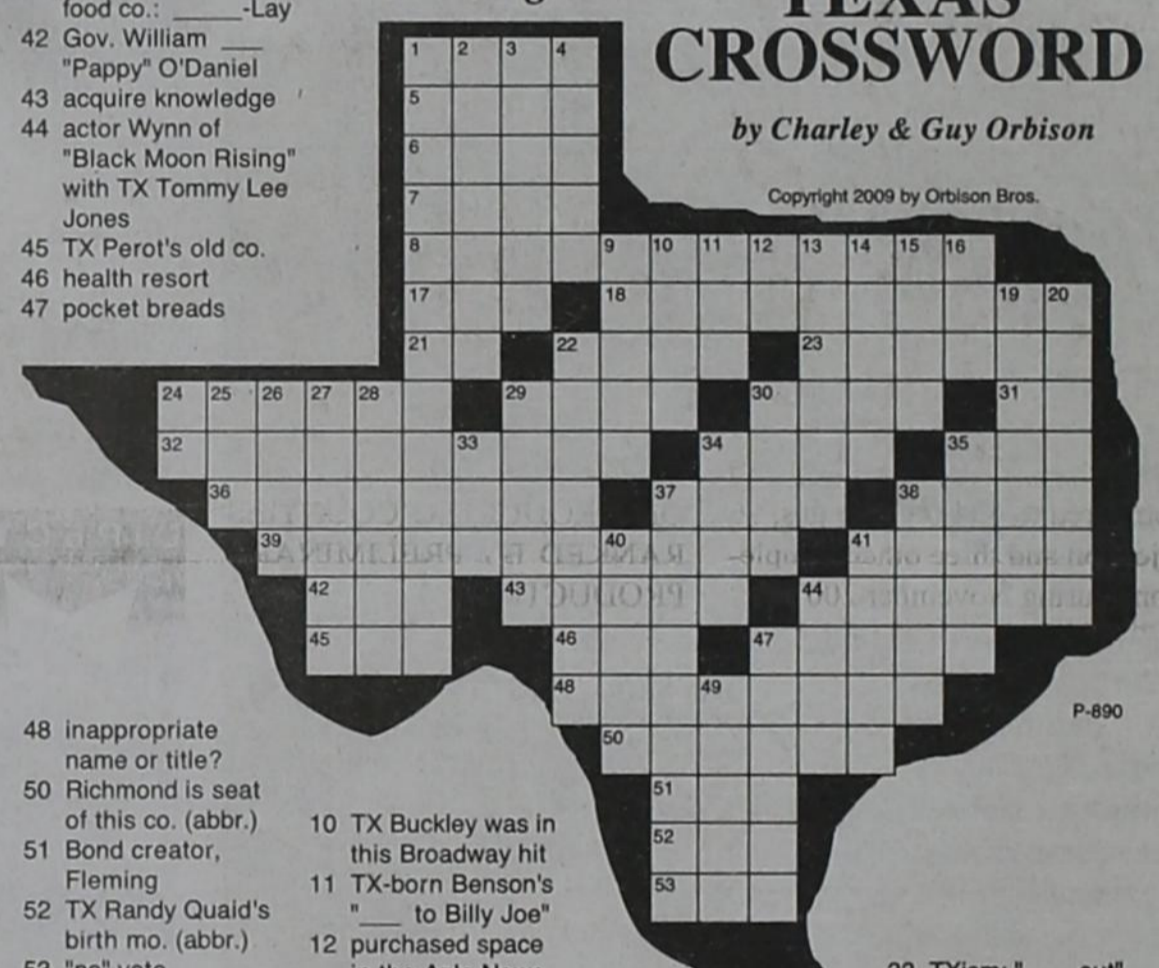
- 41 TX-based snack food co.: Lay
- 42 Gov. William "Pappy" O'Daniel
- 43 acquire knowledge
- 44 actor Wynn of "Black Moon Rising" with TX Tommy Lee Jones
- 45 TX Perot's old co.
- 46 health resort
- 47 pocket breads

The Original

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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DOWN

- 1 UT humanities ctr. has these outfits worn in "Gone With the Wind" (2 wds.)
- 2 TXism: "attracted like steel to"
- 3 so. Dallas suburb
- 4 this TX Belle was the "Bandit Queen"
- 9 TX Tierney film: "A Bell for"
- 14 short horn sounds
- 15 TXism: "salt some" (save)
- 16 TXism: "happy as a kid in Santa's"
- 19 Alamo attacker: Antonio Lopez
- 20 an early band of TX Kenny Rogers: "The First"
- 22 without discomfort
- 10 TX Buckley was in this Broadway hit
- 11 TX-born Benson's "to Billy Joe"
- 12 purchased space in the Azle News
- 13 "got it out of my"
- 14 TX singer Pride (init.)
- 15 TXism: "salt some" (save)
- 16 TXism: "happy as a kid in Santa's"
- 19 Alamo attacker: Antonio Lopez
- 20 an early band of TX Kenny Rogers: "The First"
- 22 without discomfort
- 24 TX singer Pride (init.)
- 25 obsolete measure of radiation dose
- 26 TXism: "he barbed wire for dental floss" (tough)
- 27 unassertive
- 28 corrected writing
- 29 cook a steak
- 30 "love" so. of border
- 33 TXism: "out" (left in a hurry)
- 34 a lot (2 wds.)
- 35 TXism: "egg news" (2 wds.)
- 37 one-half or three-fourths, e.g. (2 wds.)
- 38 tire grooves
- 40 TXism: "in the luxury" (rich)
- 41 honored
- 44 oven for TX-based Acme Brick
- 47 TXism: "savvy" (knows a lot)
- 49 Philippine banana

Fun-n-Facts for Brain-iacs!

Brain Boost!

THE NOT JUST FOR KIDS PAGE

Desert Giant - Saguaro Cactus

Have you ever heard of a monument that is 124 square miles long?

The Sonora National Monument is an Arizona desert and home to the largest cactus plant in the world, the Saguaro. This desert giant can live 200 years and grow as tall as a 5-story building! How does such a massive plant survive in the desert with only 10 inches of rain a year?

I am so glad you asked! Read on....

<http://www.brain-iacs.com>



A saguaro is 90% water. When it rains, the pleats, or folds, expand like an accordion to store water.

A cactus is a succulent, which means it stores water. The saguaro can store water from one rainy season to last 4 years.

CACTUS LIFE

All of these creatures make their home in or around the saguaro cactus. Can you find all 13 in the above word search?

Cactus wren	Diamondback snake	Kit fox	Scorpion	Toad
Gila monster	Monarch butterfly	Elf owl	Gila woodpecker	Roadrunner
Jack rabbit	Kangaroo rat	Tarantula		

Home, Sweet Home

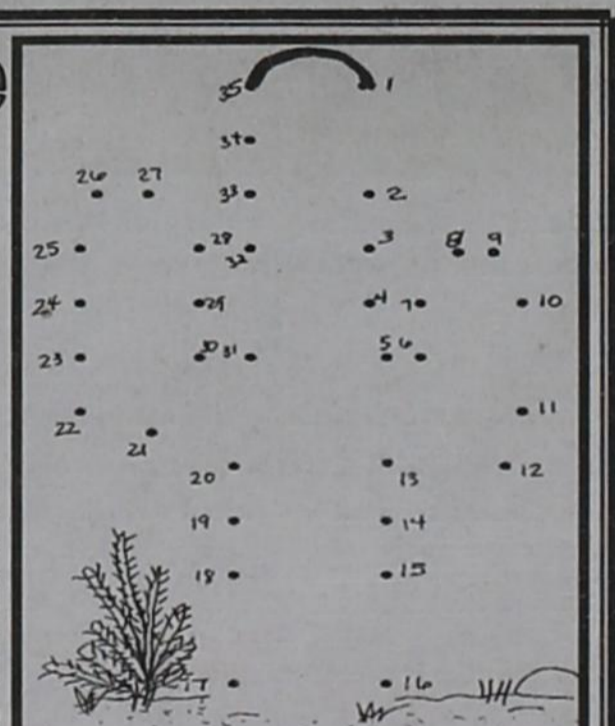


Gila Woodpeckers build their nest by pecking a boot shaped hole in the cactus skin. When the woodpecker moves out, the cactus wren or the 5-inch elf owl move in. Bats, birds and insects eat the nectar from the saguaro flower. The towering saguaro provides shade for desert plants & animals.

A saguaro does not have leaves to carry water to the rest of the plant, instead it has vascular bundles. These bundles inside the stem look like long hollow sticks. When the plant dies these rods are used for firewood and fences.

A saguaro cactus will be 70 year old before it grows its first arm.

The spines (see photo) protect the saguaro from being eaten by desert birds and animals.



To sponsor your Fun-n-Facts for Brain-iacs call 495-2816

FBC Christmas program



First Baptist Christian School presented its Christmas Program at First Baptist Church of Post, Sunday evening, Dec. 14, reciting Scripture and singing. Teachers are Nancy Gordon, Tina Reyna, Elizabeth Haynes. Back row - Kindergarten students: Trent Lewis, Drew Porter, Haddie Flanigan, Ashlyn Wulfjen, Cord Benham, Cutter McNeely. Middle row - PK4 students: Garon Duncan, Macee Rathbun, Jake Morris, Meagan Blair, Cohen Allred, Alex Duran, Cade Edwards, Colson Prather, Addee Williams, Jude Edwards. Front row - PK3 students: Logan Tidwell, Emily Hadderton, Hayden Neill, Kate Hamlin, Jacob McClellan, Koda Bigham, Randall Bell, Isaiah Mitton



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Christmas visit



Santa & Mrs. Claus (aka Doyleene Shumard and Wanda Blacklock) share Christmas cheer at Trailblazers Senior Citizens Center during the Christmas lunch held last week at the Center.

Extension Extras

AgriLIFE EXTENSION
Texas A&M System

Improving Lives. Improving Texas.

Hometown Holiday

Cookbooks may be picked up at the Extension office! Recipes and craft ideas. \$8.00 Each.

GCJLA Stock Show Information

Stock Show January 15-17, 2009.
GCJLA Work Day - Saturday, January 3, 2009 - 9 am
Entries Due - January 8, 2009 - 5 pm
Weigh-In - Thursday, January 15, 2009 - 3 pm
Show Order - Saturday, January 17, 2009 *
9 am - Hogs
11 am - Steers
1 pm - Rabbits
2:30 pm - Lambs
3:30 pm - Goats
Pee Wee Goat Show

Following Goat Show

Premium Sale

Thursday, January 22, 2009 - 6:30 pm Post ISD Cafeteria.

*No Trailer parking on the GCJLA show grounds
*All livestock released at the completion of the Pee Wee Goat Show
*Pen clean-up at completion of the Pee Wee Goat Show

Reminder

The Extension office will be closed on January 1 & 2. Happy New Year!
Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

RED TAG SALE CONTINUES - HURRY IN!

MAKE YOUR MOVE NOW FOR THE BEST CHOICE!



**2009 SIERRA 2500 HD
4WD EX CAB SLE**
Z71, MSRP \$37,525.00
longbed, Red Tag
gas engine. Sale Price \$34,818.38
#G1119S Rebate \$1,500.00
Your Price \$33,318.38



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
3500 2WD EX CAB WT**
Dually, MSRP \$41,172.00
Diesel Red Tag
Engine Sale Price \$37,477.40
#C11370 Rebate \$1,500.00
Your Price \$35,977.40



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
2500 2WD W/T CREW**
Longbed, MSRP \$32,460.00
4X2 Red Tag
Gas Engine Sale Price \$30,176.40
#TC11297 Rebate \$1,500.00
Your Price \$28,676.40



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
2500 2WD W/T CREW**
4X2 MSRP \$40,919.00
Diesel Red Tag
Engine Sale Price \$37,248.13
#C11277 Rebate \$1,500.00
Your Price \$35,748.13

UP TO \$500 COMMERCIAL REBATE

(See dealer for details and qualifications)



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
2500 4WD W/T CREW**
4x4 MSRP \$35,149.00
short bed, Red Tag
gas engine. Sale Price \$32,653.14
#C11185 Rebate \$1,500.00
Your Price \$31,153.14



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
2500 4WD W/T EX CAB**
Long bed MSRP \$33,694.00
4x4 Red Tag
gas engine Sale Price \$31,311.95
#C11209 Rebate \$1,500.00
Your Price \$29,811.95



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
3500 SRW 4WD REG WT**
1 Ton MSRP \$40,690.00
single rear Red Tag
wheel 4x4 Sale Price \$36,990.06
diesel Rebate \$1,500.00
#C11410
Your Price \$35,490.06



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
2500 2WD LT1 EX CAB**
4X2 MSRP \$33,959.00
Gas engine Red Tag
long bed Sale Price \$31,550.37
PW & PL Rebate \$1,500.00
#C11311
Your Price \$30,050.37

Certain 2008 and 2009 Chevrolet, Buick and GMC Vehicles are eligible for depreciation and could be eligible for \$25,000 to \$250,000 in expense deduction when purchased by December 31, 2008. Customers should check with their own tax advisors.



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
2500 4WD W/T CREW**
4x4 MSRP \$35,789.00
long bed, Red Tag
gas engine. Sale Price \$33,239.25
#C11405 Rebate \$1,500.00
Your Price \$31,739.25



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
2500 2WD LT1 EX CAB**
short bed MSRP \$33,914.00
4x2 Red Tag
Pw/PL Sale Price \$31,508.76
gas engine Rebate \$1,500.00
#C11299
Your Price \$30,008.76



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
2500 2WD W/T REG CAB**
4x2 MSRP \$28,399.00
gas engine. Red Tag
#C11387 Sale Price \$26,355.50
Rebate \$1,500.00
Your Price \$24,855.50



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
1500 2WD CREW LS**
4x2 MSRP \$30,215.00
PW & PL Red Tag
LS pkg. Sale Price \$28,210.76
#C11303 Rebate \$2,500.00
Your Price \$25,710.76



**2009 CHEVY SILVERADO
1500 4WD CREW LS**
4x4 MSRP \$34,285.00
PW/PL Red Tag
LS pkg. Sale Price \$31,893.08
#C11261 Rebate \$2,500.00
Your Price \$29,393.08



**4004 Spur 84 Snyder, TX
(325)573-5456 or 1-800-573-5459**



**2009 GMC SIERRA
2500 HD 4WD REG CAB**
4x4 MSRP \$31,664.00
gas engine Red Tag
#IT100 Sale Price \$29,382.08
Rebate \$2,500.00
Your Price \$27,882.08

*Prices may reflect various discounts. Not all buyers will qualify for all discounts. See dealer for details. Photos for illustration purposes only.