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USPS 439-620

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Friday, March 26, 2010

ESSAY WINNERS



Post Elementary Fourth graders who won the essay contest sponsored by The Post Dispatch are (from left): Pete Lazcano, Shailey Miller and Morgan Lynch. In recognition of National Agriculture Week March 15-20, the students wrote essays expressing their appreciation of agriculture and how it touches their lives. The winning essays were published in last week's Dispatch as part of its Salute to Agriculture. The essay winners received a certificate recognizing their achievement, a Sonic gift card and a day pass to Joyland Amusement Park.

Courtesy photo



"Pride of Post" Band - 2009/2010 Sweepstakes Winners

Pride of Post band wins sweepstakes

The Post High School Band has once again earned the title "Pride of Post." The high school band travelled to Sundown on March 11 to compete in the last two phases of the qualification process for the Sweepstakes Award.

A sweepstakes award for a band is the equivalent of winning district in 3 events: marching, concert and sight reading a new piece of music. The last time a PHS

band won Sweepstakes was in 2004-2005.

To be eligible for the prestigious award, the PHS band first had to win the marching contest in the Fall of 2009. The group was successful in doing that. "We were in great position for a win," said Aaron Rathbun, Director. "The kids had a good attitude and worked hard." The band performed "March of the Trolls," "Joyful Journey" and

"Portrait of a Clown" at the March contest.

"My seniors were excellent leaders and the underclassmen did what it took to help them win," Rathbun continued. "The seniors of 2010 have done everything that a successful band can do. There is no higher award than what the band has achieved this year."

Pride of Post Sweepstakes Band members are: Darlene Araiza, Shirley Araia, Trey Barner, Courtney Basquez,

John Bocko, Julie Boren, Juan Cabrera, Ashley Collazo, Fernanda Contreras, Allen Duran, Janelle Delgadillo, Amanda Duran, Katelyn Elmore, Samantha Espinosa, Travis Emmyabbi, James Fannon, Nathaniel Gill, Rebecca Fannon, Justin Hodge, Serafin Lopez, Dalton Holly, Cassandra Luna, Kambry Mason, Jackie Milton, Mariah Morales, Aaron Norrell, Samantha Ortiz, Nichole Ramirez, Ale

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Commissioners consider elevator referendum

By Rosa Latimer
News Editor

Discussion of whether to place a referendum on the November 2010 ballot about installing an elevator in the county courthouse ended in a tie vote, leaving Judge Norman to cast the deciding vote. Commissioner Brannon explained that the discussion in this meeting was not whether to install an elevator, but only whether to let the voters decide the question. Brannon expressed concern about this issue because of the potential high cost of the project. The commissioners also discussed whether the referendum should be binding, meaning that the results of the vote would decide whether to install the elevator. If the referendum were to be non-binding, the vote would simply indicate how voters felt about the project, but the Commissioner's Court would make the final decision.

Judge Norman informed the court of a letter from Advocacy, Inc. written in November, 2009 emphasizing the inaccessibility of the courthouse. A representative from this group has also interviewed Judge Norman about this issue. According to the group's web site, Advocacy, Inc., who has an office in Lubbock, states as their mission: "To advocate for, protect and advance the legal, human and service rights of people with disabilities."

The courthouse elevator has been an issue discussed by Garza County Commissioner's Court for several years. The original estimate for the cost of installing an elevator was between \$400,000 and \$450,000. The court has set aside funds that, when the 2010 budgeted figure is added, will total approximately \$387,000.

Commissioners McDaniel and Brannon voted in favor of putting the elevator issue on the November 2010 ballot; Commissioners Morris and Sanchez voted against. The deciding vote from Judge Norman was against the issue. The motion did not carry.

In other business, the court

approved financing arrangements for a used maintainer for Precinct 3. Commissioner Brannon announced an agreement with Citizens Bank to finance \$111,299 (includes a motor grader and a Ford F150 pickup): \$141,288 less a \$30,000 down payment taken from reserves. The terms are for a 7-year payout at a 3% variable rate. Annual payments will be \$22,678.

Keith Williams of Citizens Bank addressed the court expressing his appreciation of the work of AgriLife extension agents Greg Jones and Nancy McDonald with the youth of Garza County.

Letters of engagement with Joe F. Hays, CPA were approved. These documents are for the audit of financial statements of the Dalby Unit Correctional Facility and audit of financial statements of the Dalby Unit Correctional Facility inmate trust funds. Fees for these services will be between \$6400 and \$6600.

The court also approved Dr. Ben Edwards as the local health authority for Garza County.

One of the current directors of the Lake Alan Henry Water District Board is opting out of the district and will no longer be eligible to serve on the board, making it necessary for the Commissioners to appoint a replacement to the board. The court approved the appointment of Jim Boren to the LAH Water District Board.

A commercial building permit and permit fees for a pump station for the City of Lubbock was discussed. Judge Norman indicated that the City of Lubbock believes that they do not need a permit and that the forms pertaining to this issue were not available at the time of the Commissioners meeting. No action was taken. In another matter related to the LAH pipeline project, it has been reported in Lubbock media that the City of Lubbock has begun the condemnation process for right-of-ways for the project across Garza County roads; however, Judge Norman reported that he has received no official communication regarding this.

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Pride of Post

Our band is certainly the "pride of Post" for winning Sweepstakes this year. Unless you participated in band when you were in school you might not understand just what an awesome achievement this is. This award indicates a consistency and dedication of all the band members as well as the directors. You have to win in the fall at marching contest and then win again in concert contest and finally win in the sightreading competition.

Good job, guys!

We've enjoyed the good coverage lately about the young people of Garza County. It is refreshing to be reminded that these kids are working hard and achieving good things. This helps balance the prevailing attitude in this country that all kids do is get into trouble and have no ambition or work ethic.

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Post Notes

Blood Drive Today

The Dalby Correctional Facility is hosting a blood drive today Friday March 26th from 2:30 - 5:00. Please come and donate if you can and help us to save lives. For any questions, please call Georgette or Jenny at 495-2175.

Boy Scout Hot Dog Fundraiser

On Saturday, March 27, Higginbotham Bartlett in Post is sponsoring a fundraising opportunity for the local Boy Scout Troop. The Troop will be grilling hot dogs in the yard of the store. All proceeds from the hot dog sale will go directly to the local Boy Scout Troop. Please support the Troop as they earn money to attend Summer Camp and the National Jamboree in

Virginia. Cost is \$5 for Hot Dog, chips, and a drink. Additional donations welcome. Grilling will begin around 10:30 a.m. and continue until sold out.

Church of God of Prophecy

The Church of God of Prophecy is selling gorditas plates \$6/each, Saturday, March 27, 11 a.m. Phone in orders 495-3644. Pick up orders at 602 W. 14th St.

Graham Ole Opry

The Graham Ole Opry will be held Saturday, March 27 starting at 7 p.m. at the Graham Community Center, five miles west of Post on US 380 and two miles south on FM 399.

There is no admission charge; a hat will be passed for donations to help

with upkeep on the center. Concession stand with drinks and snacks will be available. For more information contact Noel White at 806-495-3261.

Rotary Broom Sale

The annual Post Rotary Club broom sale will be Tuesday, April 6, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 110 W. Main Street. The event is a fundraiser to provide scholarships to PHS seniors.

Holy Cross Fish Fry

The annual Holy Cross fish fry will begin Friday, February 19 in the church hall, serving 5 to 7 p.m. A plate includes potato salad, cole slaw, beans and fish for \$7. The fish fry will continue every Friday through Lent.

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Entered at U.S. Post Office, Post, Texas for transmission through the mails as Second Class matter, according to an Act of Congress, March 3, 1879. Periodical Rate Postage Paid at Post, Texas 79356. Postmaster: send address changes to: The Post Dispatch, P.O. Box 426., Post, Texas 79356 (806) 495-2816 - Fax 495-2059 William C. Blackburn, Publisher 123 E. Main Street, Post, Texas 79356 e-mail: postcitydispatch@yahoo.com

News Deadline Tuesday at Noon

Advtg. Deadline Monday at 5 p.m.

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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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Chamber News

Our next Old Mill Trade Day Downtown event on April 3 is listed in the events section of the current issue of Texas Highways. We hope the weather is great and we will have another successful event.

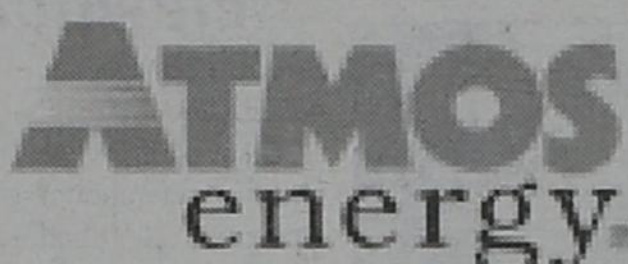
Census jobs are still available. Call 866-861-2010 for details.

Welcome to Dr. Kerry Wink and his staff at Garza County Animal Hospital. We had the ribbon cutting for the new vet clinic this week and are happy to have Dr. Wink and his family as part of our community.

"Peter the Rock" is being performed at Ragtown Gospel Theater. Performances will be Friday at 7:30 and Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

The local Boy Scout Troup will be selling hot dogs at Higginbotham-Bartlett this Saturday.

Congratulations to our and Silver Member MAIN members of the week: Gold STREET MERCANTILE. Member ATMOS ENERGY



MEMBER OF THE WEEK - GOLD MEMBER ATMOS ENERGY



MEMBER OF THE WEEK - SILVER MEMBER MAIN STREET MERCANTILE.

"Peter the Great" Returns to Ragtown

Celebrating its third anniversary, Ragtown Gospel Theater is presenting an encore production of "Peter the Rock" with Glenn Polk in the title role. Every Friday and Saturday through May 22 the theater presents a gospel music concert by Chip Polk, followed by the current drama production. There will be no performance at Ragtown Sunday, April

4. The theater will be closed for Easter. The LeFevre Quartet will present a Ragtown Celebrity Concert Sunday, April 25 at 3:00 p.m. All Reserved Seating for this event is \$29; \$35 purchased on the day of the event; \$25 purchased in groups of 12 or more.

Ragtown... continued on page 6

We salute the "Pride of Post" Band Seniors



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Obituaries



David Charles Rogers, Jr.

Military graveside services for David Charles Rogers, Jr. 54, of Minden, LA and formerly of Post were held Saturday March 20, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. in the Terrace Cemetery at Post. Burial was under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice of Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

David died Tuesday March 16, 2010 in Shreveport, LA. He was born June 24, 1955 in Post to David Charles and June A. (Chastain) Rogers. He was a graduate of Post High School and joined the United States Air Force after graduation. He was an electronic technician for AT&T. He enjoyed nature, cars, building bridges and connecting hearts. He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by a daughter: Kathryn June (Katie) Rogers of Novato, CA; a brother, Donald Wayne Rogers of Round Rock, TX and a nephew, Bobby Blake Rogers of Lubbock.

John Huffman

Services for John A. Huffman, 86, of Post were held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 22, 2010 at the Calvary Baptist Church with Rev. Jimmy Allen of Odessa officiating. Burial in Terrace Cemetery was under the direction of Hudman Funeral Home.

He died Friday, March 19, 2010 in Post. He was born on June 6, 1923 in Coleman to W. E. and Lela Huffman. He moved to Garza County in 1926. He worked in the oil field for most of his life.

Survivors include a son, C. J. & Michelle Bilberry of Post; three daughters: Judi & David Martin of Post; Joni Huffman of Post and Dian & Art Pettet of Cody, WY; a sister, Mollie & Slim Brumit of Carlsbad, NM; a brother, Charles (Huffy) and Elizabeth Huffman of Post; 11 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Jeannie Wilkinson in 1998; a sister, Lillian Fogarty in 1984 and four brothers: an infant brother in 1942, Thomas Huffman in 1936, Calvin "Two Gun" Huffman in 1960 and Cecil Huffman in 1973.



Pat Scott

Pat Scott 79, of Post, died on Sunday, March 21, 2010 at Mesilla Valley Hospice at Las Cruces, N.M.. She was born September 23, 1930 to William Owen and Ruby Stella Coppedge at Sulphur Springs, TX. She attended school there and married Henry Petty in 1946. They made their home at Sulphur Springs and later moved to Lubbock. In 1960 she moved to Post to raise her children.

Her favorite pass time was gardening and her pets. Pat moved to Las Cruces, NM to be with her daughter and son-in-law, Pam and Steve Newby. She is preceded in death by her parents, three sisters, five brothers and a son, Michael Petty, August 7, 2000.

Celebration of Life Services were 2:00 p.m. Thursday, March 25 at the Heritage House in Post and burial followed in the Terrace Cemetery, Post.

A reception was held at the Heritage House after the service from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Arrangements were under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice, Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Survivors include: a daughter, Pam Newby and her husband Steve of Las Cruces, NM; a son: Ronnie D. Petty and his wife Becky of Frisco, a brother, Van Coppedge and his wife Nancy of Lubbock, a sister, Eileen McDonald of Winnboro; seven grandchildren: Todd Petty and wife Nicole of Frisco, TX; Deborah Borgman and husband Brady of Allen, TX; Heather Intres and husband Bradley of Jonesboro, AK; Justin Newby of Albuquerque, NM; Brent Petty and Brandi Petty of Waco, TX and John Patrick Petty of Ft. Worth., TX; four great-grandchildren: Gavin Borgman and Logan Borgman of Allen and Zachary Petty and Jenna Petty of Frisco.

Because of her love for animals, memorials are suggested to Post Animal Refuge Center, C/O Janice Plummer, 914 W 14th Street, Post, TX 79356.

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In and Around Close City

by Traci Freeman

Weather is good so far this week though it's been a little up and down with the temps and of course we have the wind; if all goes well the guys will probably be able to finally get in the fields this weekend unless we get more moisture.

The Morris brothers, Dylan and Rylan celebrated their birthdays together with a family cook out at the home of their grandparents, Charles and Sharron Morris. Dylan turned 11 on March 21st and Rylan turned 3 on March 9th; they are the children of Chuck and Kristi Morris. Another birthday out here was Andrew Quintana who celebrated his 8th birthday at Grandpa Tino

and Grandma Linda's house. Andrew had a Texas Tech cake and a Texas Tech piñata. Helping him celebrate were his parents, David and Melinda; sister, Quincey; his grandparents, Tino and Linda Alaniz; Great grandmother, Eva Gonzales and many Aunts, Uncles and Cousins.

Neil Clary also had a birthday last week that I missed, sorry Neil and hope you had a wonderful Birthday!

Alexa Contreras will turn 1 on March 28th. Alexa's parents, Daniel and Veronica Contreras are giving her a party on Saturday, March 27th at 5:00 in the youth center, downtown and want to invite everyone in the

Close City Community to come help them celebrate. Happy Birthday Alexa!

I want to spend a special get well out to Joyce Overton. Joyce doesn't live at Close City but we love her like one of our own. Hope you feel better real soon Joyce!!!

We are in need of volunteers to help with the Rummage Sale that will be held on April 9th and 10th, if you can help in anyway please call me and let me know. We are still accepting items no matter how big or small, if you have something to donate drop it off to us at the gin during regular business hours or call us and we will come and pick it up.

Visit our blog at <http://closecitycoopgin>.

blogspot.com ; we have all sorts of info on there as well as some really good recipes and some fun pictures. If any of you Close City people have a picture or a recipe you would like for me to put on the site send it to me, I'd be glad to do so.

Cookbooks

We still have some cookbooks left, if you want one you can pick yours up at Cocara's or LaPosta. Or you can come to the gin, we have several here.

Visitors

Last week we had a few visitors out.....

Close City News...
Continued on Page 6

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Weekly Inspirations

I KNOW WHAT I KNOW

By Michael F. Taylor

A few years ago, I had a gentleman who came to me and relayed an interesting problem which he was experiencing. Even more interesting to me was the fact that he had went to see a psychologist about the problem and the response he had received. It seems that my friend had a phobia about loud thunderclaps. As a very small boy, he had been caught in a tumultuous thunderstorm which had left him in fear of the deep thunderclaps which invariably come with the rain and winds. After one particularly loud storm, he promptly made an appointment with a local psychologist to seek some sound medical advice. Upon walking into the office and sitting dutifully on the comfortable recliner, the doctor inquired as to the reason for his visit. My friend explained in some detail as to why he was afraid of the thunderous noise and afterwards, asked, "Well Doc, how do you think I can overcome my problem?" The psychologist sat for several seconds in deep contemplation before speaking. Then, turning to look squarely into my friend's eyes said in his most educated doctoral voice, "Why Mr. Brown, your psychological fear of thunder is quite ridiculous when one thinks upon it. Thunder is certainly a natural phenomenon with absolutely no danger associated. Your fears are completely unfounded and yet you assert that they are unabated by the knowledge thereof. The only thing that I could recommend to your sir, is to do as I myself have done. PLACE YOUR HEAD UNDER THE PILLOW AND IT SHALL GO AWAY!"

Well, I'm not sure that the well educated psychologist's advice is so well founded. But I am here to assure each of you today that when the storms of this life begin to form and the thunder rolls throughout the skies of your world, take heart in knowing that God is there for you. And we don't have to hide our head under the pillow and covers to seek refuge from all that troubles us and gives reason to fear. I cannot think of anyone who said it better than the Psalmist David who tells us in Chapter 46, "1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, 3 though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging." NIV And then in Psalms 62, just a few Chapters later, David says this, " 1 My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. 2 He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken." And in verses 5-8, we are given the best advice I have ever heard when worries assail, "5 Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him. 6 He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. 7 My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. 8 Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge." NIV This week I watched the new apocalyptic movie "2012" and couldn't help but recall these scriptures. I certainly do not claim to know what the future holds but I am assured by the very Word of God that even if the "earth gives way and the mountains fall in the heart of the sea" that He is my fortress. And, as we come close to celebrating Easter-Resurrection Sunday- I can't help but know that because Jesus Christ is Risen and truly is my Salvation, I have REFUGE TODAY! God bless and have a wonderful week.

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

2 Timothy 3:16-17

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		Church of God of Prophecy	602 W. 14th, 495-3644
		Power House Church of God and Christ	Pine Ave.
Baptist		Disciples of Christ	
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First Baptist Church, Post	402 W. Main St. 495-3554	Evangelical Methodist	
First Baptist Church, Wilson	806-628-6333	Faith Chapel	1105 Green St., Wilson (806) 628-0018
Grace Baptist Church	820 N. Ave. S 990-3497	Methodist	
		First United Methodist Church	216 W. 10th, 990-2942
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Pleasant Valley Baptist	Hwy 84 & N. 399 (806) 828-4174	Post Church of the Nazarene	202 W. 10th, 495-3044
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Church of Christ			
Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326		

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Deuteronomy 6:5

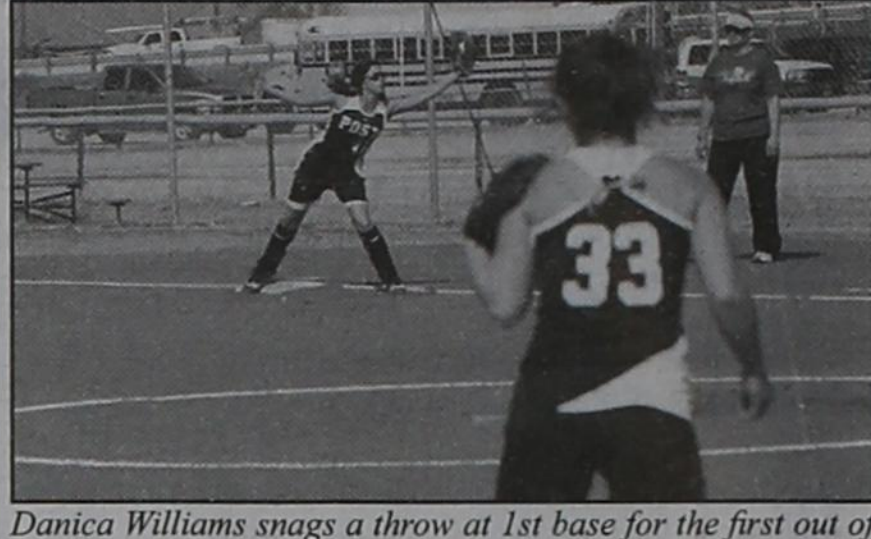
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Kari Dunn sends a single down the right field line vs. Idalou. Photo by Lance Dunn.



Alex Miller is safe at 2nd base vs. Idalou. Photo by Lance Dunn.



Danica Williams snags a throw at 1st base for the first out of district play vs. Idalou. Photo by Lance Dunn.



The Lady Lopes celebrates a win over Idalou behind great relief pitching of Chelsi Hair. Photo by Lance Dunn.



Brandia Stevens dives safely into 2nd base vs. Idalou. Photo by Lance Dunn.



Brooke Morris is all smiles after smashing a double vs. Idalou. Photo by Lance Dunn.

Lake Alan Henry Report

Conservation pool elevation: 2220.00 feet above mean sea level. Elevation as of March 22, 2010: 2216.04 feet, 3.06 feet low. Water Temperature: 49 degrees F. 2010 cumulative precipitation as of March 22: 5.51 inches.

At a Bass Tournament held on March 20, Danny Pool caught a bass weighing 11.90 lbs and Rick Williams caught a bass weighing 9.90 lbs. No reports of catfish or crappie being caught. Mark A. Record, P.G., City of Lubbock, Lake Alan Henry

Lopes split pair of games

By Jim Plummer Sports Writer

Last inning heroics won the second game of spring break last Thursday, March 17 as the Post Antelopes outlasted the Denver City Mustangs, 5-4, at Norm Cash Field. The victory showed team unity and character after the previous day's loss at Shallowater, 24-0. "We as a coaching staff were very proud of the team for bouncing back after a tough loss and coming through in the clutch," said head coach Billy Hardin. Last Wednesday's game against Shallowater is just one of those games you'd rather forget and go on as did the Lopes in the comeback win against D.C. Hardin said "I give a lot of credit to Shallowater because they are a great team, but I feel we hurt ourselves more than Shallowater hurt us." The win over Denver City was Post's first in district end-

ing spring break with records of 1-2 and 4-5-2 overall. Hardin was impressed with his team when "our bats came alive in the last two innings (of the D.C. game) as we scored 3 in the 6th & 2 in the 7th" to overturn a 4-0 deficit going into the last two innings. Starting Lope pitcher Aaron James helped himself get the win when with bases loaded in the bottom of the 7th, he knocked home Chess Postell and Vance Blair for the fourth and fifth runs to end the game. Postell started the rally with a lead off single followed by a walk by Blair, then a balk by the Denver City pitcher advanced the runners and Ernie Saldivar's walk loaded the bases. James pitched the entire game and recorded eight strike outs for the Antelopes. At the plate he was 3 of 4 with the last hit being the game winner. Sidelines Post beat Slaton this past Tuesday, 11-1, and will travel to Littlefield Saturday. Next week, Roosevelt comes here on Tuesday and the Lopes play at Abernathy on Friday.

Lady Lopes take district opener

The ladies didn't get to play the two scheduled games over spring break last week due to weather. The Snyder game scheduled for March 18th was cancelled and will not be made up. The first district game at Idalou scheduled for March 20 was re-scheduled for this past Monday and Post won 7-4.

Also, the girls were set to play Denver City on Tuesday here and will play at Roosevelt Saturday at noon. See next week's Dispatch for the reports of these games. On Tuesday March 30, the Lady Lopes welcome Shallowater at 5:00 P.M. and go to Slaton on Friday for a game at noon.

Abernathy Junior High track and field results

- 8th Grade Boys BOYS Team finished 1st overall.
- 110 Hurdles: 1st Taylor Soto, 2nd Campbell Kirkpatrick, 3rd Stephen Rodriguez.
- 300 Hurdles: 1st C. Kirkpatrick, 2nd T. Soto.
- 100: 1st DJ Brown
- 200: 1st DJ Brown, 4th Christian Pena.
- 400: 2nd Chris Rivera, Alan Alaniz 5th.
- 800: 1st Tyler Jones, Trystan Hilger 2nd.
- 400 Relay: 4th-A. Alaniz, T. Soto, Josh Curtis, T. Hilger.
- 1600 Relay: 1st - C. Kirkpatrick, DJ Brown, T. Jones, Chris Rivera.
- Triple Jump: 1st DJ Brown, 2nd Christian Pena
- High Jump: 2nd A. Alaniz.
- Shot Put: 1st Mondo Martinez, 6th Francisco Gonzalez.
- Discuss: 3rd Trystan Hilger, 6th Marco Erives.
- 7th Grade Boys BOYS
- 110 Hurdles: 3rd Eric Gomez.
- 100: 4th Colton Stamey.
- 200: 4th Dillion Pearson.
- 400: 4th Ethan Self
- 400 Relay: 4th - Ricky Fontenot, Blake Boren, Eric Gomez, Dillon Pearson.
- High Jump: 6th Ethan Self.
- Shot Put: 2nd Jason Walden, 4th Blake Boren.

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Reaction WIRELESS

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LEVELLAND - 1005 Colleve Ave 806-894-4003
POST 410 N. Broadway 806-495-0277

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POST INSURANCE
125 E. Main in Post
806-495-2894

LAH upcoming events

Friendly Bass Tournaments, Saturday, April 10; registration 1 hour before sunrise at boat ramp; start time: safe light; weigh-in: 3 p.m. at crappie dock; contact Erik Atkins, 806-577-2026.

Hub City Open Tournament, Saturday, April 24; registration 1 hour before sunrise at boat ramp; start time: safe light; weigh-in: 3 p.m. at crappie dock; contact Stacy Miller, 806-292-7335.

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p.m., Comm
405 S. Ave. C
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Post Al-Anon
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contact Tony

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Post Classifieds

Personal

Post Group Alcoholics Anonymous 10th and Avenue K, behind United Supermarket, Tuesday night, 8 p.m. Book Study Thursday night, 8 p.m. Closed Meetings. For more info: 806-781-1156 or 806-495-5371. Monday, 8 p.m., Community Recovery Center, 405 S. Ave. C. For more information about the Monday meeting, call 495-3173.

Post Al-Anon

Monday Group meeting meets Friday at 8 p.m., Historic Presbyterian Church, 10th & Ave. K, behind United Supermarket in separate room from AA meeting. For more information call 495-3053.

Help Wanted

Diesel Road Technician with 5 years experience must have tools and a good driving record. Good benefits and 401 K. Limon's Road Service, contact Tony at 210-844-0094.

Need heavy equipment operators. Must pass drug screen and experience in heavy equipment fields. Contact Billy Pike, 806-662-4175

Burnham Country Store & Grill at LAH is hiring part-time/ft-time help. Call 629-4061 or come by and ask for Val York.

For Rent

Office Space for Lease. Great location, across the street from the Courthouse, Post Office and bank. Can be subdivided. Available March 1, 2010. Gene Young, 505-270-8687.

For Sale

DAMAGED! TRUCKLOAD OF SHEDS! 8X12- 12X24 - MAKE OFFER! Morgan Buildings & Spas 806.783.9530

Wanted

Looking for small house to rent in or around Post area. Need by June 1. Also need a place to keep a mule and a horse. Call 806-292-9591.

Cement work, slabs, driveways \$1.25 sq. ft. Also do yard work. Call Jesse 806-544-6484

Bid Notice

Post Independent School District is accepting bids for the sale of Real Property recorded as Block No. 66 in Justiceburg, located in Garza County, Texas. This was the site of the old Justiceburg School.

Bids should be sealed and marked Post ISD Property Bid 10-002. Mail or deliver to 501 South Avenue K, Post, Texas 79356.

Bid date due: 4:00 p.m. on March 31, 2010

Public Notice NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2002, a certain Mortgage Security Instrument was executed by Lois Vukad as mortgagor in favor of Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc., as mortgagee and Robert K. Fowler as trustee, and was recorded on September 3, 2002, as Instrument No. 020630 in the office of the County Clerk, Garza County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage Security Instrument was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the Secretary) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage Security Instrument is now owned by the Secretary, pursuant to an assignment dated December 18, 2007, and recorded on March 17, 2008, as Instrument No. 080381, in the Office of the County Clerk, Garza County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Mortgage Security Instrument in the mortgagor is

deceased, which accelerated the maturity of the mortgage debt and subjected the Property to payment of all principal, interest, and other fees allowed under the Loan Agreement; WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of April 6, 2010 is approximately \$ 72,254.35, with a per diem of \$ 4.67; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of this

default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage Security Instrument to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 C.F.R. part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, notice is hereby given that on April 6, 2010, no earlier than 1 p.m. local time or within three (3) hours after that time, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("Property") will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder:

Commonly known as: 305 Mohawk Drive, Post, Texas 78356-2418

And more particularly described as follows:

A PORTION OF LOTS SEVEN (7) AND EIGHT (8), BLOCK ONE (1), WESTGATE TERRACE ADDITION TO THE CITY OF POST, GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP,

PLAT, AND/OR DEDICATION DEED THEREOF RECORDED IN VOLUME 81, PAGE 228, DEED RECORDS OF GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED BY METES IN BOUNDS IN DEED RECORDED IN VOLUME 91, PAGE 124 AND AS FOLLOWS:

PARTS OF LOTS 7 AND 8, BLOCK 1, WESTGATE TERRACE ADDITION TO THE CITY OF POST, GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 8, BLOCK 1, OF THE WESTGATE TERRACE ADDITION TO THE CITY OF POST, GARZA COUNTY, TEXAS, SAME BEING ALSO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 7; THENCE: N 0° - 13' W ALONG THE WEST LINE OF LOT 7, A DISTANCE OF 30.0 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE: N 88° - 38' E A DISTANCE OF 150.0 FEET TO A POINT IN THE EAST LINE OF LOT 7; THENCE: S 0° -

13' E ALONG THE EAST LINE OF LOT 7, A DISTANCE OF 4.0 FEET TO A POINT IN THE EAST LINE OF LOT 7. SAID POINT BEING THE BEGINNING OF A 350 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE LEFT; THENCE: IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE EAST LINE OF LOT 7, SAME BEING A 350 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE LEFT, A DISTANCE OF 29.0 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 8; THENCE: CONTINUING IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE EAST LINE OF LOT 8, SAME BEING A 350 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE LEFT, A DISTANCE OF 25.0 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE: S 88° - 11' W A DISTANCE OF 154.3 FEET TO A POINT IN THE WEST LINE OF LOT 8; THENCE: N 0° - 13' W A DISTANCE OF 30.0 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.

The sale will be held inside the foyer of the west door leading to the enforcement Annex Building or as further designated by the Foreclosure Commissioner. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development's bid will not exceed the total amount due under the terms of the Loan Agreement as of the date of sale.

When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit payment totaling the total amount due under the terms of the Loan Agreement as of the date of sale, or if any bid exceeds this

amount, the greater of the total amount due under the terms of the Loan Agreement as of the date of sale or the highest bid in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the Secretary of HUD. This amount must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the high

Classifieds... continued on page 6

Poka Lambro Customer Notice
Effective April 1, 2010, the amount of the Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC) appearing on your bill each month will increase as a result of an increase in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) universal service fund contribution factor from 14.1% to 15.3%. The amount of the FUSC on your bill is calculated in accordance with the FCC's rules by applying the new universal service contribution factor of 15.3% (0.153) to the rates for interstate services that you used. The federal universal service fund program is designed to keep local service rates affordable for all customers, in all areas of the United States.

POKA LAMBRO
800-422-2387

THINKING OF BUYING OR SELLING?

I need listings, have prospects.

SPACIOUS BRICK 1 1/2 UNDER CONTRACT H/A, covered patio, w/ 200 W. Main

INVESTMENT PROPERTY! 2 brick houses, great for rental income or live in one and rent the other. Reasonably priced!!! Call for more details! 304 W. 12th St.

FRAME! 3BR/2 B/ 1 Garage. Available to show soon. 124 So. Avenue P

Anne Sims Real Estate
(806) 495-3171

Robinson Lots- discounted price

City lot between Ave. M & N on 15th Street

2BR, 2 bath home on two lots. Large shop in back. Also, smaller house in back that could be easily converted to an apartment.

Mitchell Real Estate

in Post
Kim Mills • 806-543-1055
Barbara Hardin • 806-495-3987
Mike or Wanda Mitchell • 806-783-8487
Mobile • 806-495-5515

Buying or Selling?

Casey McNeeney
For all your Real Estate Needs
806-549-2103 or 806-495-1758

1645 sq. ft. house, 3 BR, 2 bath, on 2 lots in Post

3 BR, 2 Bath Trailer House w/ add-on on two lots in Post

2 BR, 2 bath 951 ~~3000~~ **Sold** free lots in Post

3 BR, 2 bath, 2200 sq. ft CH/A on Sunset Drive in Post. Very Nice!

3BR, 2 bath, 2 car garage on 4 acres in Garza Co. Recently Updated.

2 BR, 1 bath 1700 + sq. ft. Central H/A, new roof in Post

3 BR, 2 bath, 2 car garage, 1777 sq. ft., central H/A in Lubbock, Very Nice!

Post City Market Place

Slaton Bakery
Est. 1923
109 S. 9th on the Square in Slaton
806.828.3253

Home cooking at its best! Let us cater your next event - large or small Catering
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806-495-3726
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Saturday 8 a.m. to Noon
Kerry Wink, DVM

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Instant tan in 8 seconds w/antioxidants and skin firming ingredients
No streaking or turning orange
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Classifieds...

continued from page 5

bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveyancing fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title.

If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD Field Office Representative, be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD Field Office Representative, offer the Property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale is provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

March 17, 2010
Robert D. Forster, II
Foreclosure Commissioner
15000 Surveyor Boulevard, Suite 100
Addison, Texas 75001

(972) 386-5040 Phone
(972) 341-0734 Facsimile

Thank You

To our loved ones, friends, neighbors and churches that have remembered Bill and me in your prayers, also your calls and cards, your love and concern has meant so much to us. Thanks from the bottom of our hearts.

May God bless you and keep you in His loving care -
Bill & Willie McBride

The EMTs - Rodney and the ladies that took such good care of me during my recent trip to the hospital, it is so wonderful to have such caring people to serve our community. May God bless you in your service of love to others.

Christian love,
Willie McBride

Close City News...

continued from page 3
.....Charlie Williams; Steve Norman; Jenny Lou Cowdrey; Ronald and Nancy Thuett. Ya'll come see us, we always welcome visitors, we always have hot coffee and the cheapest drinks and snacks in the county.....

Ragtown folks in the nursing homes we need to remember are.....George Miller in Lubbock; Doug and Claudine Tipton and Carmen Abraham in Post; Odie Kemp in Tahoka; Jean Tipton in San Angelo; Jewel White in

Lubbock. Others are, Doris Wilson in Castorville; John and Mary Gist in Lubbock; Lula Jo Stuart also in Lubbock. Please let me know if there is anyone I need to add to this list.

Birthdays

March 28th - Jon Bill Hedrick
March 30th - Robert Craig
March 31st - Oneita Gunn
Everyone have a great weekend!

Ragtown...

continued from page 2
Best available seating will be assigned on the date tickets are purchased.

Friday performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday performances are at 3:00 p.m.; Tickets are \$20 at the door, \$17.50 in advance; tickets for students and children are \$10.

Groups of 12 or more are \$15 each reserved in advance. These ticket prices are for the regular performances only.

got news?

Menu

Post ISD

March 29

Breakfast- French toast sticks, sausage, syrup, fruit, milk
Lunch- Chicken nuggets, potatoes, carrot coins, fresh apple, hot rolls, milk

March 30

Breakfast- Pop tarts, sausage link, fruit, milk
Lunch- Pizza & tacos, lettuce & tomatoes, Spanish rice, pinto beans, fruit gelatin, milk

March 31

Breakfast- Malt-O-Meal, toast, sausage, fruit, milk
Lunch- Grilled cheese sandwich, soup, broccoli/ranch, strawberry & bananas, crackers, milk

April 1

Breakfast- Donut, sausage link, fruit, milk
Lunch- Pizza & spaghetti, seasoned corn, tossed salad, bread stick, peaches, milk

April 2

Breakfast- Cereal, toast, fruit, juice, milk
Lunch- Chicken patty, tater tots, baked beans, orange smiles, milk

Trailblazers

March 29

Liver & onions or chicken strips, mashed

potatoes, carrots, biscuit, fruit fluff

March 30

Salisbury steak, macaroni & cheese, spinach, garlic cheese roll, cookie bar

March 31

Roast beef, mixed veggies, oven potatoes, roll, peaches & cottage cheese

Southland ISD

March 29

Breakfast- Churros, sausage links, juice, milk
Lunch- Hot dogs, ranch beans, carrots, dessert, milk

March 30

Breakfast- Cinnamon roll, juice, milk
Lunch- BBQ sandwich, macaroni & cheese, pickles, dessert, milk

March 31

Breakfast- Eggs, bacon, juice, milk
Lunch- Oven crispy chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot roll, dessert, milk

April 1

Breakfast- Cereal, fruit, juice, milk
Lunch- Frito pie, salad, corn, dessert, milk

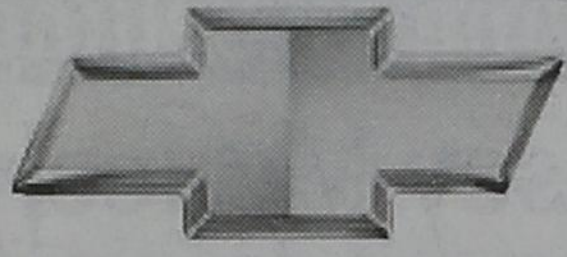
April 2

Breakfast- Biscuits, sausage, juice, milk
Lunch- Sack lunches for early release

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2010 Tahoe LS
3rd Seat, power windows/locks
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2010 Silverado 1500 Crew Cab LS
Keyless remote, V-8 engine, power windows/locks
Was \$32,125
Now \$27,563²



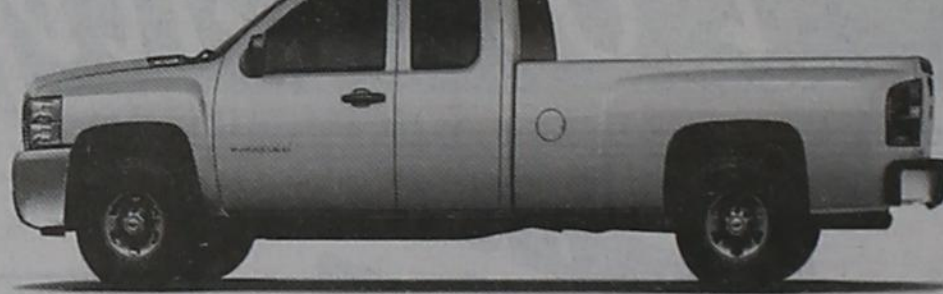
2009 Lucerne CX-2
Remote start, climate control, Bluetooth for phone, XM, Onstar.
Was \$31,830
Now \$26,241³



2010 Malibu
Consumer Digest A "BEST BUY"
for two years in a row
Was \$22,890
Now \$19,393⁴



2010 Impala LS
"Impala will thoroughly meet your needs and probably exceed your expectations" Kelly Blue Book
Was \$25,490
Now \$21,219⁵



2010 Silverado 1500 Ext. Cab
Power windows & locks, V-8 engine
Was \$29,135
Now \$24,805⁶



2009 Avalanche LT 4WD
Sunroof, rear camera display, remote start
Was \$44,720
Now \$34,720⁷



2010 Acadia SLT
Five-Star Crash Test Rating
Was \$41,725
Now \$37,695⁸



2010 Buick Enclave CXL
Consumer Guide Best Buy Award
Was \$40,960
Now \$38,191⁹



2009 Sierra 1500 Crew Cab
Tx Edition, remote start, Bluetooth for phone
Was \$36,710
Now \$28,495¹⁰



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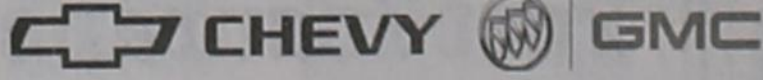
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All prices plus TT&L, all rebates and incentives assigned to dealer. Photos for illustration purpose only. Not responsible for errors in typography or photography. 1) 10 Chev. Tahoe: Stk. # C11844, MSRP \$38,230, Dir. Disc. \$1,924, Rebate \$2,000, Sale Price \$34,306. 2) 10 Chev. Silverado: Stk. # C11832, MSRP \$32,125, Dir. Disc. \$1,562, Rebate \$3,000, Sale Price \$27,563. 3) 09 Buick Lucerne: Stk. # B11518, MSRP \$31,830, Dir. Disc. \$1,089, Rebate \$4,500, Sale Price \$26,241. 4) 10 Chev. Malibu: Stk. # C11731, MSRP \$22,890, Dir. Disc. \$497, Rebate \$3,000, Sale Price \$19,393. 5) 10 Chev. Impala: Stk. # C11876, MSRP \$25,490, Dir. Disc. \$271, Rebate \$4,000, Sale Price \$21,219. 6) 10 Chev. Silverado: Stk. # C11820, MSRP \$29,135, Dir. Disc. \$1,330, Rebate \$3,000, Sale Price \$24,805. 7) 09 Chev. Avalanche: Stk. # C11333, MSRP \$44,720, Dir. Disc. \$4,500, Rebate \$5,500, Sale Price \$34,720. 8) 10 GMC Acadia: Stk. # G11704, MSRP \$41,725, Dir. Disc. \$1,480, Rebate \$2,000, Sale Price \$37,695. 9) 10 Buick Enclave: Stk. # B11750, MSRP \$40,960, Dir. Disc. \$1,269, Rebate \$1,500, Sale Price \$38,191. 10) 09 GM Sierra: Stk. # G11651, MSRP \$36,710, Dir. Disc. \$1,715, Rebate \$5,500, Sale Price \$28,495. In lieu of all rebates, vehicles in stock only. For 0% APR Mo Pymt. for every \$1,000 you finance is \$16.67 for 60 months. All financing with approved credit. Must finance through GMAC. See dealer for details. *Based on the total number of consumer digest best buy awards for 2010.

OPINION

The Paperboy



By CHRIS BLACKBURN

Insurance reform, making sure there is coverage for all Americans, coverage of pre-existing conditions, blah, blah, blah...

Congrats on growing the government a ton? As a business owner and an ordinary citizen, I am all for us taking care of one another. We are a compassionate country and we don't like seeing one another suffer.

That's what is so disturbing about health care reform legislation. It was never about making sure everyone got better insurance or someone without coverage could get treatment. It was about control. It was about growing the government.

I'm sure not here to defend insurance companies. Anyone over the age of 35 has had some issue with an insurance company. I guess it's the nature of the beast.

I've had excellent service and prompt payout in my insurance coverage and I've also had to get an attorney a time or two to get matters resolved.

No dear reader, I'm not here to take up for insurance companies.

But I'm sure not on the side of the government. This entire process - especially over recent weeks, has stunk to high heaven.

The back room deals, the sneaking around the rules ... it's just a sorry way to go about the people's business.

My family has been living with my in-laws for five weeks. I've watched my father-in-law, who did two tours in Vietnam, struggle to do things every day we've been here.

His body is battered and broken from fighting for a country where the elected leaders behave like this?

The bottom line is this: Our government is growing and spending like never before. And now it gets to collect even more taxes and grow even larger.

Furthermore, Uncle Sam gets the money upfront. Years before the entire bill is enacted. I'm assuming this bill is not settled in the Supreme Court or states use "States Rights" and elect out of it, but I digress.

America - we had such a great opportunity to do something grand. We could have had a bill which actually had a positive effect for everyone. Instead, it was squandered. What we got was a piece of convoluted junk.

Just as the Republicans before them, the Democrats have let their power go right to their collective head. And just like the Republicans, Independent voters will likely make Democrats pay come November.

Independents, which put Obama in office and gave Democrats the majorities they enjoy so much, will continue to drop the hammer.

Anyhow, back to our ever-growing government. Hopefully the vast, vast majority of you have heard of Thomas Jefferson, one of the Founding Fathers, the third President of the United States and the principal author of the Declaration of Independence.

Jefferson also feared the size and scope of government as he witnessed first hand what tyranny could do. Here are a few quotes from Mr. Jefferson regarding government:

If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors

of the people under the pretense of taking care of them, they must become happy.

That government is best which governs least.

Were we directed from Washington when to sow and when to reap, we should soon want bread.

I am not a friend to a very energetic government. It is always oppressive.

I hold it, that a little rebellion, now and then, is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical.

Does the government fear us? Or do we fear the government? When the people fear the government, tyranny has found victory. The federal government is our servant, not our master!

When governments fear people, there is liberty. When the people fear the government, there is tyranny.

Where is Mr. Jefferson when you need him?

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication.

Other Views

The Doctors of the House

House Democrats passed President Obama's federal takeover of the U.S. health-care system, and the ticker tape media parade is underway. So this hour of liberal political victory is a good time to adapt the "Pottery Barn" rule that Colin Powell once invoked on Iraq: You break it, you own it.

This week's votes don't end our health-care debates. By making medical care a subsidiary of Washington, they guarantee such debates will never end. And by ramming the vote through Congress on a narrow partisan majority, and against so much popular opposition, Democrats have taken responsibility for what comes next—to insurance premiums, government spending, doctor shortages and the quality of care. They are now the rulers of American medicine.

Mr. Obama and the Democrats have sold this takeover by promising that multiple benefits will follow: huge new subsidies for the middle class; lower insurance premiums for consumers, especially those in the individual market; vast reductions in the federal budget deficit and in overall health-care spending; a more competitive U.S. economy as business health-care costs decline; no reductions in Medicare benefits; and above all, in Mr. Obama's words, that "if you like your health-care plan, you keep your health-care plan."

We think all of this except the subsidies will turn out to be illusory, as most of the American public seems intuitively to understand. As recently as Friday, Caterpillar Inc. announced that ObamaCare will increase its health-care costs by \$100 million in the first year alone, due to a stray provision about the tax treatment of retiree benefits. This will not be the only such unhappy surprise.

While the subsidies don't start until 2014, many of the new taxes and insurance mandates will take effect within six months. The first result will be turmoil in the insurance industry, as small insurers in particular find it impossible to make money under the new rules. A wave of consolidation is likely, and so are higher premiums as insurers absorb the cost of new benefits and the mandate to take all comers.

Liberals will try to blame insurers once again, but the public shouldn't be fooled. WellPoint, Aetna and the rest are from now on going to be public utilities, essentially creatures of Congress and the Health and Human Services Department. When prices rise and quality and choice suffer, the fault will lie with ObamaCare.

While liberal Democrats are fulfilling their dream of a cradle-to-grave entitlement, their swing-district colleagues will pay the electoral price. Those on the fence fell in line out of party loyalty or in response to some bribe, and to show the party

could govern. But even then Speaker Nancy Pelosi could only get 85% of her caucus and had to make promises that are sure to prove ephemeral.

Most prominently, she won over Michigan's Bart Stupak and other anti-abortion Democrats with an executive order from Mr. Obama that will supposedly prevent public funds from subsidizing abortions. The wording of the order seems to do nothing more than the language of the Senate bill that Mr. Stupak had previously said he couldn't support, and of course such an order can be revoked whenever it is politically convenient to do so.

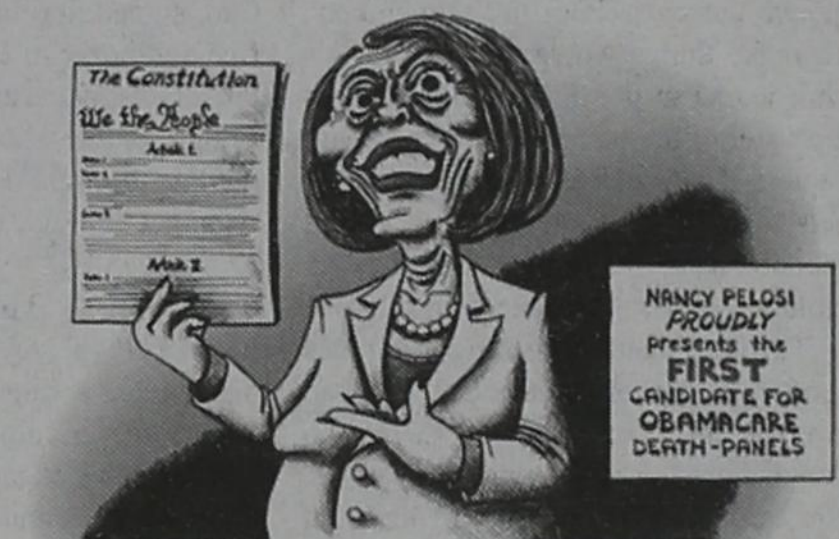
We have never understood why pro-lifers consider abortion funding more morally significant than the rationing of care for cancer patients or at the end of life that will inevitably result from this bill. But in any case Democratic pro-lifers sold themselves for a song, as they usually do.

Then there are the self-styled "deficit hawks" like Jim Cooper of Tennessee. These alleged scourges of government debt faced the most important fiscal vote of their careers and chose to endorse a new multitrillion-dollar entitlement. They did so knowing that the White House has already promised to restore some \$250 billion in reimbursement cuts for doctors that were included in yesterday's bill to make the deficit numbers look good. Watch for these Democrats to pivot immediately and again demand "tough choices" on spending—and especially tax increases—but this vote has squandered whatever credibility they had left.

Mrs. Pelosi did at least abandon, albeit under pressure, the "deem and pass" strategy that would have passed the legislation without a vote on the actual Senate language. We and many others criticized that ruse early last week, and the House decision to drop it exposes the likes of Norman Ornstein of the American Enterprise Institute and other analysts who are always willing to defend the indefensible when Democrats are doing it.

All of this means the Senate's Christmas Eve bill is ready for Mr. Obama's signature, though only because rank-and-file House Members also passed a bill of amendments that will now go back to the Senate under "reconciliation" rules that require only 50 votes. Those amendments almost certainly contravene the plain rules of reconciliation, and the goal for Senate Republicans should be to defeat this second "fix-it" bill. It's notable that Democrats didn't show yesterday for a meeting with the Senate parliamentarian to consider GOP challenges, no doubt because they fear some of them might be upheld.

Though it's hard to believe, the original Senate bill is marginally less harmful than the "fixed" version, not least be-



cause the middle-class insurance subsidies are less costly and it would avert the giant new payroll tax. That's the White House increase in the Medicare portion of the payroll tax to 3.8% that Democrats cooked up at the last minute and would apply to the investment income of taxpayers making more than \$200,000.

If the reconciliation bill goes down, Big Labor and its Democratic clients would be forced to swallow a larger excise tax on high-cost insurance plans, and it would also forestall the private student-loan takeover that Democrats included as a sweetener. In other words, they'd be forced to eat the sausage they themselves made as they have abused Congressional procedure to push ObamaCare into law.

We also can't mark this day without noting that it couldn't have happened without the complicity of America's biggest health-care lobbies, including Big Pharma, the American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, the Federation of American Hospitals, the Business Roundtable and such individual companies as Wal-Mart. They hope to get more customers, or to reduce their own costs, but in the end they have merely made themselves more vulnerable to the gilded clutches of the political class.

While the passage of ObamaCare marks a liberal triumph, its impact will play out over many years. We fought this bill so vigorously because we have studied government health care in other countries, and the results include much higher taxes, slower economic growth and worse medical care. As for the politics, the first verdict arrives in November.

Rewriting the Social Contract

By Bill Wilson

"A contract lawfully made cannot lawfully be broken." — Thomas Hobbes.

Last week, Moody's issued yet another warning that the U.S. was "significantly" closer to having its credit downgraded. In short, if interest owed on the national debt, currently at an annual 8.49 percent of revenue at \$188 billion, rises above 14 percent, the U.S. will lose its Triple-A credit rating.

By the White House's own estimates, the U.S. will hit that dreaded market-imposed limit on sovereign debt some time in 2014. In that year, under Barack Obama's ten-year budget — which includes the unsustainable costs of ObamaCare — annual interest owed at \$510 billion will represent 14.76 percent of revenue.

At that point, there will be nothing to prevent the nation's credit from being downgraded — with interest rates skyrocketing and the dollar losing its status as the world's reserve currency. By then, it will be too late.

In order to avert flying off this precipice, as reported by Bloomberg, Pierre Cailleteau, managing director of sovereign risk at Moody's in London has stated that the U.S. may need to rewrite its "social contract" between the government and the American people.

But, in truth, the nation's social contract was rewritten decades ago. It was rewritten with the ratification of the income tax; when the Federal Reserve was established; when Social Security, and then Medicare were instituted; and when Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were nationalized, and the Troubled Asset Relief Program created.

In short, it was rewritten about the time that half of Americans were removed the tax rolls, and the other half ask to pay their way. When the U.S. became the entitlement state.

The nation's founding document, the Declaration of Inde-

pendence, states that to secure the natural rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness "governments are instituted among men deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." Fulfilling that promise, eleven years later, the Federal Constitution was adopted in accords with its ratification process of 9 of 13 states.

In the end, ratification was unanimous amongst all 13 states. It was a bold experiment in republican government that depended, James Madison said, upon the virtue of the people. At the Virginia ratifying convention, he famously said that without it, "No theoretical checks, no form of government can render us secure. To suppose that any form of government will secure liberty or happiness without any virtue in the people is a chimerical idea."

In Bantam's introduction to its edition of the Federalist Papers, Garry Wills writes that both Madison and the Federalist's other author, Alexander Hamilton, "admitted that a corrupt people can exist, making for a government that would accommodate that weakness."

Now that ObamaCare is the law of the land, it is abundantly clear that the nation's original social contract, based on the consent of the governed, has been completely revoked by the people's representatives. That it has been replaced by a corrupt charter of redistributionism.

Far from the constitutional republic that was once designed to preserve private property rights, this nation has now devolved into a tyranny of welfare recipients, who believe they are entitled to the wealth of others without ever earning it for themselves. Who justify bankrupting the many because, they suppose, it will only be at the expense of the few.

Overwhelmingly, the American people rejected the government takeover of health care, and yet 219 House Democrats chose to defy their clear will, and to instead indulge the whims of those who depend upon government as its willful benefac-

tor.

The nation's social contract, although it was lawfully made, has abruptly been revoked without amendment to the Constitution, the only just means of altering our free form of government. It was rewritten without any lawful referendum by the people of the United States.

Unfortunately, there will be a price to be paid.

Previously, Moody's has warned the U.S. that "If the current upward trend in government debt were to continue and become irreversible, the [nation's Triple-A debt] rating could come under downward pressure."

ObamaCare will cost \$2.5 trillion over ten years once fully implemented and will most certainly add much of that to the debt. Unless it is repealed, it is clear that this upward trend in government debt will almost certainly become irreversible. The die has been cast.

According to Cailleteau, as the "distance-to-downgrade" closes, the U.S. will "have to decide what level of pain they are willing to accept to have a healthy economy." This means painful cuts in spending to reduce the debt burden, or even more painful increases in taxes to pay for the unsustainable growth of government. Which will the nation's representatives choose?

With the passage of ObamaCare, it is agonizingly clear that the U.S. has chosen the path of ever-higher taxes, debt, inflation, and near-certain insolvency over any limits on spending.

Congress has entered the financial Abyss willingly. And as the Ship of State rapidly spins to the bottom, its ability to borrow money from overseas will deteriorate in tandem. To keep from taking on water, the government will increasingly turn to taxpayers to foot the bill.

It is then that we will learn whether a social contract imposed by force, rather than by consent, can be enforceable. Time will tell.



Close City restoration begins
Close City residents (from left) Javier Esparza, Joel Lopez, Julian Esparza help with preparation for a renovation of the old school at Close City. The community has been sponsoring events to raise money to finance restoration of the historic building.

Courtesy photo



Sunrise ceremony prediction
Garza County Judge Lee Norman (center) announced the results of the Taba'na Yuan'e Sunrise Wind ceremony in the city park Monday, March 22. Members of the Taba'na Yuan'e clan who participated in the ceremony are shown with the judge. At sunrise the wind was coming from the southwest, indicating a poor economic year. In Judge Norman's remarks he reminded those who attended the annual ceremony that even though the traditional ceremony signifies a poor outlook this year "we can still be optimistic."

Photo by Rosa Latimer



Members of the Post Area Chamber of Commerce and the community held a ribbon cutting at the Garza County Animal Hospital. Owners, Kerry and Kristi Wink (center) recently opened the veterinary clinic on US Hwy 84 North of Post. Their hours are Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. to Noon; telephone number is 495-3726.

SPEAK UP

continued from page 1
Universal Health Care

More "Scoop"
A candidate for a position on the Post ISD board is the brother-in-law of two current school board members. To make things worse that candidate's wife works in the district office and is the sister of the current board president. I guess if he's elected when the family gets together, it'll have to be a posted school board meeting or they'll be in violation of the public meeting rules.

This political inbreeding promotes conflict of interest, misconduct and bad government. Unfortunately there's no law against this. But with your votes, you can stop an unfit body of decision makers from fulfilling their personal agenda.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! I lived long enough to see Universal Health Care signed into law in this land of the free and home of the brave. God bless President Obama and all the courageous Congressmen who worked so hard to see this through. In six to ten years everyone will praise the Lord.

Thanks

As an "Ag" guy in Garza County for many years I want to say thanks for the Salute to Agriculture in Garza County in last week's paper. I appreciate the local businesses and the individuals who helped promote this as well.

"Speak Up" is a way for readers to send their opinions to the Post Dispatch and have them published each week. No signature is required by the writer; writer identities will be kept anonymous and you can address any topic you want. Published "Speak Up" comments can not exceed 100 words and the Dispatch staff has the right to edit for length or refuse to print materials it deems to be inappropriate.

Drop your Speak Up comments in the box in the front office of the newspaper or in the mail slot in the front door after hours. You can also email your comments to postcitydispatch@yahoo.com.

Garza postpones opening of "The Rainmaker"

Opening weekend of "The Rainmaker" written by N. Richard Nash and directed by Jay Young has been moved to April 2. Performances will be April 2 and April 3 at 7:30 p.m. and April 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m. with a Sunday matinee April 11, 2:30 p.m.

Set in a drought-ridden rural town in the West in Depression era America, "The Rainmaker" tells the story of a pivotal hot summer day in the life of spinsterish Lizzie Curry. Lizzie keeps house for her father and two brothers on the family cattle ranch. She has just returned from a trip to visit pseudo-cousins (all male), which was undertaken with the failed expectation that she would find a husband. As their farm lan-

guishes under the devastating drought, Lizzie's family worries about her marriage prospects more than about their dying cattle.

A charming confidence trickster named Starbuck arrives and promises to bring rain in exchange for \$100. His arrival sets off a series of events which enable Lizzie to see herself in a new light. Jon Steele reprises his role as Starbuck in this current production at the Garza.

Tickets for the performances are: \$12/adults; \$8 for children 12 & under; \$10 for students, Seniors 60 & above, and military. Group rates are also \$10. For reservations call the theatre box office, 806-495-4005.

COUNTY.... continued from page 1

The Commissioners reviewed and approved contracts between the Garza County jail and Fisher and Nolan Counties. Michael O'Brien, Jail Administrator, reported that the population of the jail facility on March 22 is 79.

The court approved an order for the consolidation of election precinct boxes for the April 13, 2010 Republican Primary runoff election. Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 will be consolidated into one voting precinct.

Minutes from the March 8, 2010 regular meeting were approved as amended. AgriLife Extension Agents Greg Jones and Nancy McDonald presented reports

to the court regarding their programs and events.

Precinct and countywide accounts payable for March 9 - March 22, 2010 were approved as presented. One line item transfer was submitted and approved.

Judge Norman summarized a letter from House Representative Joe Heflin inviting the court to attend a pre-legislative hearing Thursday, March 25 in Austin. This hearing will address the issue of the valuation of oil and gas properties. Judge Norman will attend the hearing.

The next regular meeting of the Commissioners Court is April 12, 2010.

BAND.... continued from page 1

Rodriguez, Maricruz Razo, Evette Rodriguez, Vanessa Rodriguez, Victoria Rodriguez, Crystal Sanchez, Smith Taylor, Tavish Soto, Isaac Stern, Kaleb Tanner, Jonathan Trevino, Tania Trinidad, Kalynn Villalon, Kat Villalon, Torie Whisenant, Audree Williams and Monica Ziska.

Rathbun also had kudos for Assistant Bernie Tackitt for his experience and "know how." He also expressed appreciation to the Post Volunteer Fire Department,

the Sheriff's Department, the Chamber of Commerce and Sonic for the outstanding reception when the band returned from the Sundown contest. "The kids asked if I was happy [about the award]," said Rathbun. "I told them that 'happy' is up to me, you guys just made me real proud."

From the expression on the band director's face during the bus parade through town upon the band's return from the competition, he was both proud and happy.

POST NOTES....continued from page 1

Post Little League Try Outs
Little League 9-12 yr olds tryout March 27, 10 a.m. - Noon at Little League Field. (11-12 yr olds must attend try outs.) For more information contact Jona Jones email jonarena@yahoo.com or call 806-782-6296.

Close City Rummage Sale
The Close City Community is accepting items for the Rummage Sale that will be held on April 9th and 10th. If you have items to donate no matter how big or small you can drop them off at the Close City Gin during regular business hours or call Traci at 632-3611 or Nancy at 239-0838 and we will come and pick them up. The sale will benefit the Close City School Restoration Project.

Homestead Exemption Available
Anyone who becomes 65 in 2010, or has a birthday of 1945 or prior, is eligible for the over 65 homestead exemption on school property taxes.

Anyone with business personal property is required to file a rendition with the Garza Central Appraisal District. If rendition is not filed, a 10% penalty will be added to the total tax. Please call Garza Central Appraisal District at 806-495-3518 or come by the office at 124 E. Main in Post to file a homestead exemption or rendition. Due date is April 15, 2010.

OS Museum Spring Exhibit
It's time for an exhibit change and the winds blew in "Spring" at the OS Museum. Spring and Easter art and artifacts are on display from the McCrary's travels around the world. Viewing hours: 10 a.m.

to 12 and 1 - 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Closed most major holidays. OS Museum, 201 E. Main Street and Avenue 1 in Post. Upstairs - elevator for your convenience.

East Side Clean-Up Rescheduled
The next East Side Clean-up has been rescheduled for late April 2010. For more information please contact Community Organizer-Reyes Pequeno 778-2628.

PHS Class of 1990 Reunion
Can you believe it has almost been 20 years since we roamed the halls of Post High School? The date for the reunion is July 3, 2010, here in Post. Pay your reunion fee to Susie Barboza (Class Treasurer) at Wells Fargo. The cost is: \$25 per classmate, \$10 with spouse, or \$40 for the family. We also have an "early bird" special of \$20 for the classmates if you pay by April 1, 2010. For more information visit our website, www.phs90lopelegends.webs.com or call Cornelio "Corky" Saldivar, 956-281-4058.

Class of 1980 Reunion
Class of 1980 is looking for all classmates in preparation for our 30 Year class reunion set for Saturday July 3, 2010. Anyone interested in attending or who would like more information contact Leanna Davis on Facebook or email Jendy Thomas Touchstone at jhtouchstone@hotmail.com or call her at 361-296-3772. We need all classmates' addresses so we can get information to you. Hope to see everyone there.

Music Word Find

Just in time for Music in Our Schools Month, see how many related words you can find and circle in the puzzle.

BAND	INSTRUMENT	PRACTICE
CHOIR	MUSIC	SCHOOL
CHORUS	NOTE	SONG
CONDUCTOR	PLAY	TUNE

C T M E H C G Y D B I B
F W N T C T H S M N B A
G G E E S I U O S I V N
N N U V N R T T I D N D
E O S R O U R C O R G C
L S G H Z U T Y A L P Q
O G C Y M N R N A R B F
O Y I E T G M Z H M P N
H M N R O T C U D N O C
C T M U S I C A H T P G
S O C Y A E Y P E W K Z
L L O B S I Y G S B Y Z

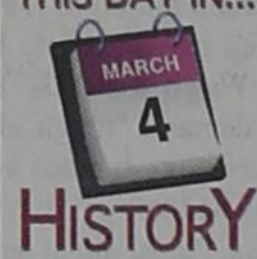
Music Scramble

Unscramble the words to complete the sentences.

1. Many students are in the C R M G A H N I band.
2. Can you sing the M Y D E L O?
3. It is important to S E R E A R H E to play well.
4. Drummers must keep the E T B A.

Answers: 1. marching 2. melody 3. rehearsal 4. beat

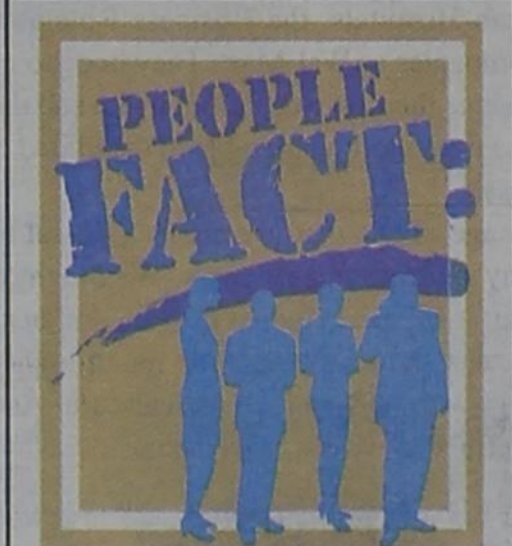
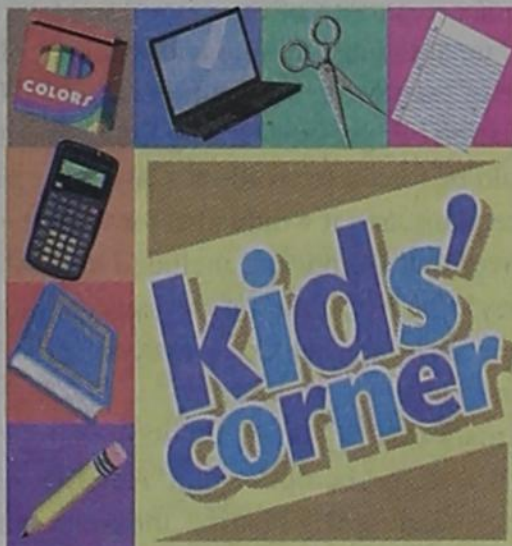
THIS DAY IN...



- 1789: THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WENT INTO EFFECT.
- 1861: ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS INAUGURATED AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
- 1994: FOUR MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALISTS WERE FOUND GUILTY IN THE WORLD TRADE CENTER BOMBING.



PERCUSSION
musical instruments played by striking with a hand or stick



THIS IS THE SECTION OF A MARCHING BAND THAT WAVES FLAGS TO MUSIC AND CHOREOGRAPHY.

ANSWER: COLOR GUARD

How they say that in...

- ENGLISH:** Music
- SPANISH:** Música
- ITALIAN:** Musica
- FRENCH:** Musique
- GERMAN:** Musik

Did you know?

INSTRUMENTS SUCH AS VIOLINS ARE KNOWN AS "STRING" INSTRUMENTS.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: DRUMS

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