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Friday, April 1, 2011

Two Post residents honored for service to Mason Lodge 1058 AFAM



Photo by Chris Atkinson

From left to right: Mason Dave Tyler with Mason Giles McCrary, Mason Jim Boren, Past Master Daniel Yarbro, Mason Lee Norman and Mason Bob Collier.

By Jodi Lincoln
News Editor

Two long-standing members of Post Mason Lodge 1058 AFAM were honored at the Rotary Club's March 22nd meeting for their years of service to the Mason Lodge 1058 AFAM in

Post, Texas. Mr. Giles McCrary was presented a pin for his 60 years of service and Mr. Jim Boren was given his 50 year pin. The pins were presented by past Lodge Master Daniel Yarbro and witnessed by Mason members Dave Tyler, Judge Lee Norman and Bob Collier.

Annual Chamber Banquet Set for April 9

The annual Chamber Banquet is set for April 9, 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. As is the tradition in Post, the Citizen of the Year and Business of the Year along with the Conservation Farmer of the Year will be announced at the event. The Women's Division of the Chamber will decorate for the evening using the theme, "Hang On for The Ride" indicating a memorable year ahead for the community.

Banquet attendees will be served a meal catered by Chamber member PJ's

Catering. The menu will be pork loin, twice baked potatoes, honey-glazed carrots, salad, rolls and cheesecake. Many local businesses have donated items for a silent auction and Bubba Smith will conduct a live auction offering a half-dozen special donated items.

Tickets for the banquet are \$20 per person and can be purchased in advance at the Chamber office now located in the Santa Fe Depot. You can also make reservations by calling the Chamber, 806-495-3461.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Post, Texas — Nearly 200,000 Texas children are reported as abused or neglected every year, according to Child Protective Services, a division of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. April is child abuse prevention month in Texas and in the nation.

"It's a time to focus on ways not only to protect children but also to prevent abuse from ever occurring," said Darla Ingram, Community Initiatives Specialist-Reg. 01. "This is our opportunity to make a difference in young lives." Neglect is the most frequent form of child abuse, according to the state agency charged with

protecting children. "Yes, children die simply because they're put in situations where they are not supervised," said Darla Ingram, Community Initiatives Specialist-Reg. 01. "But parent's are not alone."

The Web site www.itsuptoyou.org contains a wealth of information on how to prevent child abuse, where to go to get help with parenting skills, and what to do if you suspect a child is in danger. Additionally, volunteers from Child Welfare Board, are in the community sharing information from Child Abuse Prevention Kits. Contact your local Child Protective Services office or Child Welfare Board for more information.

Post Notes

One Act Play

Hey, you. Yeah, you! Do you love "Steel Magnolias"? If so then you don't want to miss the wonderful stage play at the Post ISD Auditorium. You have only two chances - 2 pm and 8 pm on Saturday April 9th. Don't miss these two performances. General admission is \$7.00 and \$5.00 for students and seniors

Sponsor The Post Elementary Yearbook

If you are interested in sponsoring the yearbook again this year, we are now taking those donations. The cost to sponsor is \$20.00 for a business, \$15.00 for a family/2 names or more and \$5.00 for an individual. Your name or business name will be featured on our sponsor page in each yearbook. For questions please contact Mandi Criswell at 495-3414. Good things come from small beginnings, elementary begins their future. Thank you for supporting the Post Elementary Yearbook.

Rotary club will have a broom and mop sale Tuesday, April 12, 2011, 8:00am-5:00pm 110 W. Main Street.

Giles Dalby Correctional Facility is putting on a fundraiser for the Post Little League.

They will be cooking and selling chopped brisket sandwiches next Friday, April 1, downtown in front of City Hall. Meal includes

sandwich, chips, drinks and a dessert for \$5.00. 10:00am-2:00pm.

Drive by pick it up and help support our youth!! All proceeds will go to the Post Little League!

Close City Community Bingo Night

Saturday April 2nd will be the Close City Community Bingo Night. This event will be held at the VFW Hall on east Hwy 380; doors open at 5:00 p.m. Bingo games will begin at 6:00 p.m. We will also have door prizes as well as a full concession stand.

Come out and enjoy some great food and fellowship and have a chance to win some great Bingo prizes donated by area businesses.

Brick Laying at Centennial Plaza

Thursday, April 7, at 6:00 p.m. The current brick order is in and these bricks will be placed at this time.

Annual Chamber Awards Banquet

April 9 - 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

Brown Bag Book Talk

Friday, April 29, 11, bring your lunch to The Heritage House and talk about books! Peggy Ashley will lead the informal discussion. You'll hear about new books, old favorites and enjoy time shared with others. We'll begin at noon and end no later than 12:50. The Book Talk group will meet the last Friday of every month. Call 495-4148 (The

Heritage House) or 990-2149 (Post City Library) for more information.

Holy Cross Catholic Church will be hosting their annual Fish Fry with all the trimmings March 11th-April 15th, 5:00pm-7:00pm \$7.00 a plate. For more information please call Juanita Pantoja at (806) 495-3059.

Homestead Exemption Available:

Anyone who becomes 65 in 2011, or has a birthday of 1946 or prior, is eligible for the over 65 homestead exemption on school property taxes.

Anyone with business personal property as required to file a rendition with the Garza Central Appraisal District. If rendition is not tiled, 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 East Main, Post, Texas to file a homestead exemption or rendition. Due date is April 15, 2011.

Post High School Calendar

Friday, 01
•Ag Judging Contest
4:30/7 PM - JV/V Baseball at Coahoma
Looking Ahead:
Ap. 2 - V Softball vs. Coahoma, 12 PM
Ap. 4 - B/G Golf at Coahoma
Ap. 5-7 State Testing
Ap. 5 - JV/V Softball & Baseball at Denver City, 4:30/7:00 PM

Ap. 6 - Spirit Day, wear favorite T-shirt

Ap.6 - District Track Meet at Denver City

Ap. 8 - JV/V Softball & Baseball at Forsan, 4:30-7:00 PM

Ap. 9 - District Track Meet at Denver City

Ap. 11 - B/G Golf at Denver City

Ap. 11 - MS District Track at Roosevelt

Ap. 12 & 13 - District Tennis at Denver City

Ap. 12 - V Baseball at Trinity, 5 PM

Ap. 12 - Softball TBA

Ap. 13 & 14 - NHS Mtg. & Bake Sale, Library, 9:40 AM

Ap. 13 - ARD Mtgs.

Ap. 15 - JV/V Softball & Baseball at Slaton, 4:30-7:00 PM

Post Elementary Post Notes

Monday, April 4th- 5th Grade TAKS test- Math

Tuesday- April 5th- 5th Grade TAKS test- Reading

3rd, 4th and 5th grade students will all be TAKS testing during the month of April. Parents, please make sure that your student(s) get plenty of rest the night before and a good breakfast the morning of their test(s).

The elementary school campus is considered a closed campus on testing days. If you do need to pick up a student or visit the office, please make sure that you go directly to the office upon entering the building and that you have your picture ID ready. We appreciate your cooperation during the testing process.

Find the Post Dispatch on Facebook!

Chamber News

The Annual Chamber Awards Banquet is just over a week away. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW - 495-3461. It will be a great evening that you won't want to miss.

There is a lot to do in Post this weekend. On Friday, April 1, from 10-2 the Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility will be preparing BBQ plates in front of City Hall. The plates are \$5 each and all the money goes to the Post Little League.

Saturday will be another big day. Old Mill Trade Day Downtown will be from 9-5. Chamber Member, Ruby Lane Books, will be having

a book signing this Saturday from 1-3. Come by and meet Texas authors Eddie and Carol Walt.

Ragtown will have two shows this weekend. Friday night at 7:30 and Saturday afternoon at 3:00. The Garza Theatre will have 3 performances of "Insane With Power". Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 and a Saturday afternoon matinee at 2:30.

The latest brick order has arrived and we will have a "brick laying" at centennial plaza on April 7.

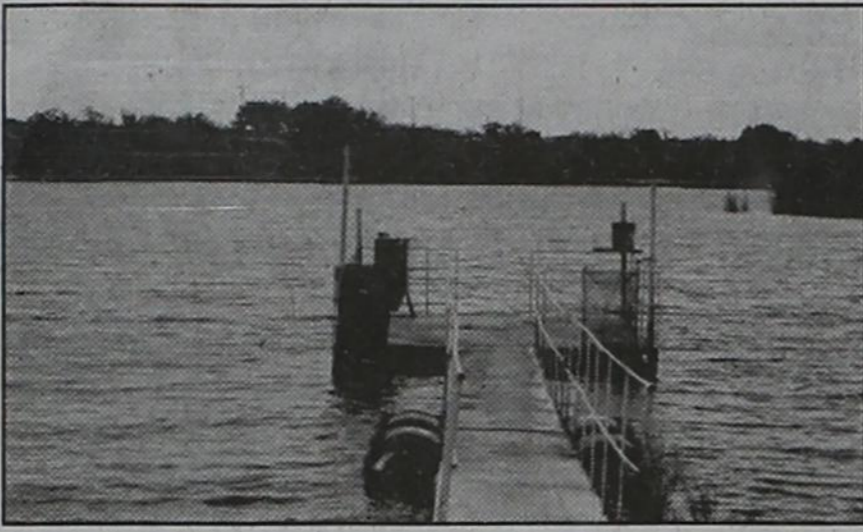
All employers are invited to have a booth at our annual Post & Garza County Job

Fair on May 17. Booths are free for Chamber members and \$25 for non-members.

The High Plains Junior Rodeo is coming to Post on May 21. If you are interested in a sponsorship for this event, please call Trey Poage at 747-7373

A Memorial Golf Tournament has been scheduled for April 29 in memory of Trooper Jonathan McDonald. The tournament will be at Meadowbrook Golf Course and entries are due by April 22. For more information, please call 777-6415.

Congratulations to our Members of the Week:



Silver Member - Two Draw Lake

Garza County Health Care District



Because sometimes in life We all need a helping hand.....

Silver Member - Garza County Healthcare District

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News Deadline Tuesday at Noon

Advtg. Deadline Monday at 5 p.m.

website www.thepostdispatchonline.com

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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.

TPA Member Texas Press Association 2008

SUDOKU

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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!

Level: Beginner

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!

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

ANSWER:

United
Supermarkets

Yesteryears

10 Years Ago

Staci Carol Sims and Leland Wayne Bearden were joined in marriage March 10, 2001. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W.D. Sims of Slaton and the granddaughter of Gene and Thelma Mason.

Members of the PHS U.I.L. One-Act Play taking first place at district competition are Tracy Cole, Jay Cole, Adam Noble, Michael Gonzales, John Goen, Laura Tobias, Tosha Smith, Kesley Wimmer, Heather Bullard and Charles Huff.

Jack Ault accept a \$250 check from MAD DADS Inc, presented by President Rodney Tidwell and Les Looney as part of the "Hat and Beards" promotion to support the Garza Co. Trailblazers building fund.

20 Years Ago

Mayor Giles McCrary declared April 5 as 'Arts Day' in Post in recognition of the Caprock Cultural Association.

Bertha Tobias and Richard Fuentes wed March 16, 1991.

Brent Hewitt and Jan Rudd wed March 9, 1991.

Kimberly Hall and Corby Windham exchanged wedding vows Feb. 2, 1991.

Mark Ray Collins, 31, joined the Army in February and left for basic training on March 19, 1991.

"CHIEF" FRANK RUNKLES, supported by a host of volunteers, conducted the annual Tabana Yuan'e ceremony in the city park. Indicating an average year for crops here.

30 Years Ago

Making All District basketball teams are Luann Kennedy, Leslie Willard and Marinette Hays.

Approximately 35-50 Post Citizens toured the Reece Air Force Base on "Post Day".

Funeral service for Margie V. Dietrich, 89. Longtime resident of Post.

W. O. Fluit purchased the Stewart Service Center at 1321/2 West Main from W.O. Stewart and is operating it under the firm name, Fluit Auto Service.

40 Years Ago

Vic Slater, general manager of Postex Plant, present Mr. and Mrs. Tony Rosas with a 20 year service pins.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tubbs participated in a conference in Atlanta, Ga. for teacher of continuing educational programs in psychiatry for physicians.

Funeral Services for Brenda Sue Ellis, 18, formerly of Post, who was killed in a one-car accident near Paducah, Tex. On March 21, 1991.

50 Years Ago

Bob Warren, a Post pharmacist since 1913, received a certificate from the Texas Pharmaceutical Association for fifty years of meritorious service in the profession.

Powell Shytles re-elected to second term as Mayor of Post.

E.R. (Buster) Moreland and Russel Wilks Jr. re-elected to the board of trustees of the PISD and elected Dr. John E. Carter as a new member of the seven-man board.

Willie Mize and Riley Miller re-elected to the Justiceburg school board and Jim Boren elected a new member.

W.H. Childs re-elected to the Close City school board and R. H. Sappington elected as a new member.

Mrs. Willard Kirkpatrick brought the program on "Be Our Glory Ever More", to the Christian Women's Fellowship. Assisting her were Mrs. J.H. Hair and K. Stoker.

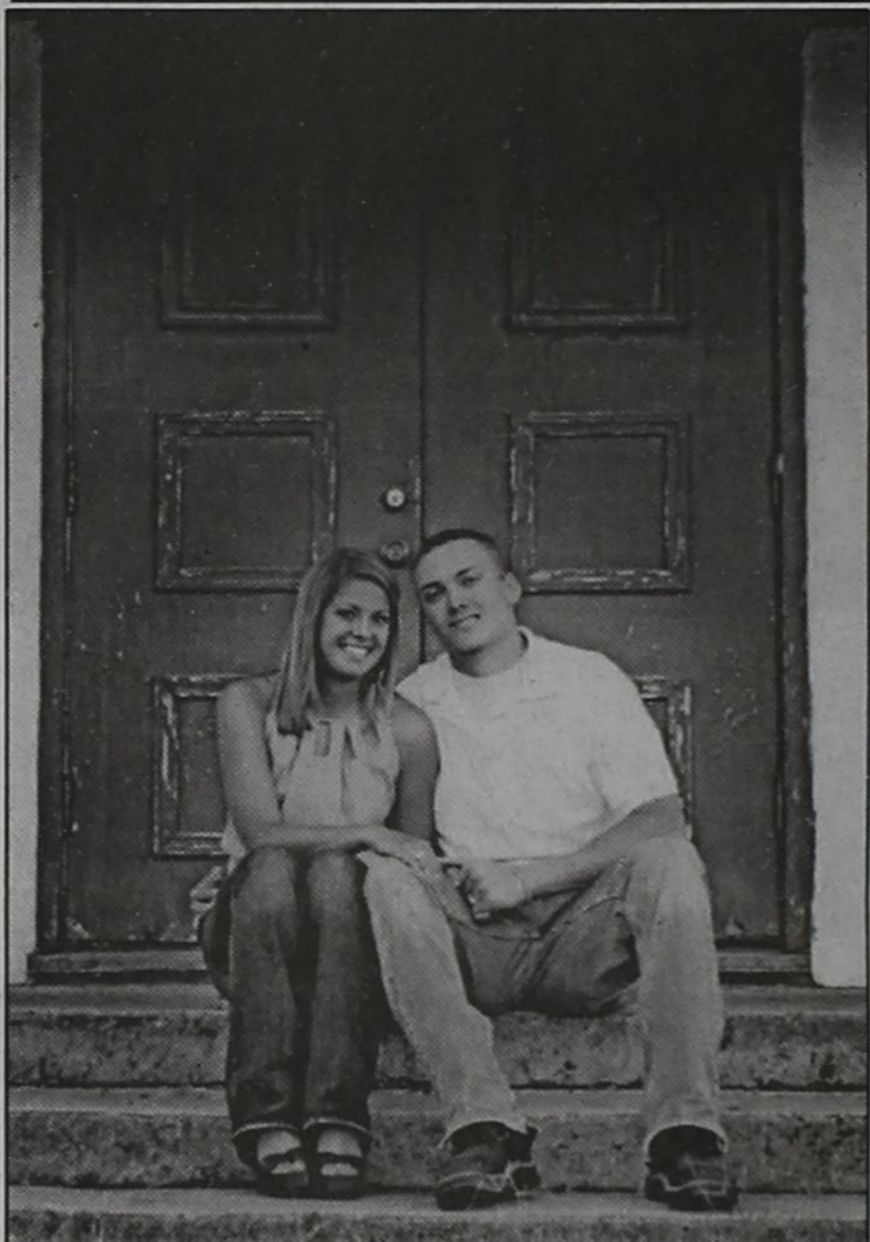
60 Years Ago

Fifty-three new families moved into Post during the past week.

D.C. Arthur elected superintendent of PISD.

Glenda Young, girls' singles and Norman Cash, boys' singles, won first in the district tennis meet at Levelland.

Engagement Announcement



JERRAD GRISHAM AND KELSEY BYARS

Allen and Pixie Grisham engagement of their son, Jerrad Grisham, to Kelsey Byars would like to announce the

of Midland, Texas. Kelsey is a 2007 graduate of Midland Lee High School. She is currently a senior at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, and will graduate from the university in May, 2011, receiving her degree in business marketing. Kelsey is also a member of the 2010 D3 Women's Soccer National Championship team. She is the daughter of Todd and Vicki Byars of Midland.

Jerrad is a 2005 Post High School graduate. He also graduated from Hardin-Simmons University in 2009, receiving a double major degree in business management and business marketing. While attending HSU, Grisham was a member of the HSU Cowboy football team, receiving numerous honors throughout his four years. Grisham is employed by Lufkin Automation, as the Warehouse Manager for the Permian Basin, located in Midland.

The couple plans a June 11, 2011 wedding at St. Luke's Methodist Church in Midland, with Rev. Buddy Payne of Snyder officiating.

Poka Lambro's annual meeting set for March 31

Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is set to host their 60th Annual Membership Meeting - Thursday, March 31, 2011. The meeting will be held at Poka Lambro's main business office located 11.5 miles north of Tahoka, Texas on US Hwy 87.

Member registration will begin at 11:00 a.m. - followed by

lunch at 12:00 noon. The business meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. One important item of business on the agenda will be the election of directors for the Cooperative.

Other meeting highlights will include the reports of officers and directors and the presentation of Poka Lambro Scholarships. All

Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative members are encouraged to attend the meeting. Members may pick up door prize cards when registering at the meeting. Members must be present to win door prizes.

For additional information please contact Amy Preston at 1-800-422-2387.

"Double your fun" at
Ruby Lane Books
Saturday, April 2, 1 to 3 p.m.

Come by and meet these Texas authors

Captain E. R. Walt author of
"The Hall Street Shoot-Out"
A true story of the Dallas police department's
biggest gun battle.

and

Carol Walt
Author of five novels including
"West Texas Classified" and "Aloha, Texas!"
as well as a children's book, "Cousins Camp."

Ruby Lane Books
127 E. Main St. in Post * 806-495-BOOK
rubylanebooks.com

Legends...
Continuation of
Some History of
Early West Texas
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Legends...Garza County Historical Museum

Continuation of Legends: Some History and Life in Early West Texas.

The towns were far apart and the women with large families seldom got to go to town due to the lack of transportation. Most only had farm wagons and teams, very few had buggies. Some that came in the early nineties drove ox teams, my Uncle being one coming from the Hill Country where he first settled after leaving Tennessee.

One novelty for us children was the little prairie dogs—real colonies living in mounds. As we passed by they stood up on their hind legs and barked at us.

Most people lived in dugouts—some having one or two rooms out front. We passed very few homes on our trip from Colorado City, but we especially took note of a large family living in a one-room dugout. They came to the door and watched as we passed by. We only came through one other town, this being Snyder, Texas—just a small country town with no railroad. Most people hauled water for home use from the creek or from windmills, one of which was on our home place where we first settled. There were quite a few settlers then in Kent and Dickens County who had filed on homesteads of 160 acres for a family or 80 acres for a single person.

With the big snow in '98, then the big rains in May, West Texas was soon one great flower garden, but not too soon for us to be initiated as true West Texans with West Texas sand storms. We were fortunate to live near the school house where church was also held, along with other social gatherings held there or in homes. Life was never dull. Buffalo horns were found scattered over the prairie. Most were ruined from the weather. In the early nineties some were still alright and my aunt, Simmie McClain had a hat rack she made from polished buffalo

horns. Some of our faithful pioneer women played the part of the stork, my aunt being one of them. I never knew of any woman dying from child birth, the good Lord seemed to take care of them.

We had lots of wild turkeys roosting in the cottonwood trees in the dry creek beds. The first wedding I ever attended served wild turkey at an elaborate supper in the dugout kitchen.

There were a few lofer (sic) wolves, lobos as they were called. They were quite a bit larger than the coyote. They were gray in color and had such a lonesome howl that would make you shudder to hear them. They could even kill grown cows. The ranchers paid \$5 for their scalps and 50 cents for coyotes. The coyotes would kill young calves and the nesters chickens, even sneaking up to the house and catching them in the day time.

Brown beans and black-eyed peas played a very important part in the West Texas diet, along with dried fruit and wild plums: When Daddy was just back from a trip to the railroad, we might have a sack of Irish potatoes, a keg of kraut pickles, a keg of syrup and for special occasions, chicken with dumplings, pies and butter rolls. Supper often consisted of a big bowl of commel mush with sweet milk, maybe a large bowl of rice, or scalded milk with broken up pieces of homemade light bread. Aunt Simmie called this dish "mathusalam".

The very next fall after we came to Texas was when the four-section law was passed and the land was put on the market to settlers. My father among others settled in the extreme northeastern part of Garza County in the year 1899. Part-three of Mrs. Cravy's "Some History and Life in Early West Texas" continues next week as the family settles in Garza County in 1899.

Busting the feral hog myths



Until recently, if anyone tried to tell you how many feral hogs there are in Texas, they were just blowing smoke, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service wildlife biologist. "When it comes to feral hogs in Texas, separating fact from fiction is becoming a little easier as research reveals more about the pesky porcines," said Dr. Billy Higginbotham, AgriLife Extension wildlife specialist. "There remains much we don't know about this exotic that has inhabited our state for the past 450 years."

Highest ranking among the myths are estimates of the actual number of feral hogs in Texas, Higginbotham said. A common number that has been bantered about for years is 1 to 4 million. But there was just no data to support this estimate. That is, there wasn't until Dr. Roel Lopez, associate director of the Texas A&M University Institute for Renewable Natural Resources, recently used geographic information system procedures to turn the guesstimates into reliable estimates, said Higginbotham, who collaborated with Lopez on the study.

The term "geographic information systems," usually simply called GIS, refers to a procedure that involves diverse data gathering means, from on-the-ground GPS referenced data to satellite to historical records, and organizes it geographically.

"A simpler way to put it is that it's just an electronic map," Lopez said. Using GIS techniques, Lopez was able to quantify first the extent of the feral hog habitat in Texas. He estimates that "approximately 134 million acres, or 79 percent of the state's 170 million acres, represents feral hog habitat," said Higginbotham. By knowing the range of feral hog habitat and the species population density in various types of Texas environments, Lopez also came up with a population estimate that has some meat to it, Higginbotham said. Lopez estimates that the actual number could range from a low of 1.9 million to a high of 3.4 million. Exaggerated claims of feral hog population-growth rates are a related myth. Many of the population guesstimates are based on a purely arbitrary number of hogs in Texas being set at 1 million in the 1970s. This number, which also had no research basis, is then often

extrapolated on using another bit of misinformation: That because of feral hogs' high birth rates, their population is doubling every year. So what are the facts? A 2011 consolidation of past studies done by his graduate student, Janell Mellish, the average litter size in Texas and the Southeast is 5.6 pigs, Lopez said. It is also known, that on average, a sow is about 13 months old when she has her first litter, and that also on average, mature sows have 1.5 litters per year. This means there is a significant population growth rate, but a far cry from the doubling-yearly myth, Lopez said.

"We estimated the population growth of feral hogs in Texas averages between 18 percent to 20 percent annually," Lopez said. "This means that it would take almost five years for a population to double in size if left unchecked."

The study, which was conducted by Lopez and Mellish, used three methods to estimate feral pig population growth in Texas: the statewide number of aerial permits issued for shooting feral hogs; the number of pigs processed in commercial processing facilities; and feral hog control data made available from U.S. Department of Agriculture-Wildlife Services. A common myth is that it's possible to identify the breed

of a given feral hog by its color and markings. "Hogwash," said a Texas AgriLife Extension Service wildlife specialist. (Texas AgriLife Extension Service photo by Dr. Billy Higginbotham)

Another common myth is that recreational hunting alone can control feral hog populations, Higginbotham said. "Of the dozen studies conducted across the nation, hunting removes between 8 percent and 50 percent of a population, with an average of 24 percent across all studies," he said. "In order to hold a population stable with no growth, 60 to 70 percent of a feral hog population would have to be removed annually." Another myth is that it's possible to identify the breed of a given feral hog by its color markings.

"Today's feral hogs are descended from domestic breeds, Eurasian wild boars and, of course, hybrids of the two," Higginbotham said. "But despite claims to the contrary, simply observing the color patterns, hair characteristics and size cannot let you definitively identify which of the three types and individual hog falls into."

One thing about feral hogs is definitely not a myth — the huge amount of damage they do to crops, wildlife habitat and landscapes, Higginbotham said. And from all indications, the damage they do is expanding in scope and range.

"Feral hogs were once largely a rural or agricultural issue in Texas, inflicting over \$52 million in damage annually," he said. "But the porkers have literally moved to town and are now causing significant damage in urban and suburban communities. This damage includes the rooting of landscapes, parks, lawns, golf courses, sports fields and even cemeteries, as they search for food. It has been estimated that a single hog can cause over

\$200 damage annually." The \$200-per-hog estimate doesn't include the damage feral hogs do as they compete with other wildlife species, such as whitetail deer, for food and habitat, he noted. And some of the species challenged by feral hog invasions are endangered species.

It's important to keep in perspective that the bottom line is not an actual hog-head count, but the damage they do and how to develop ways to reduce it.

"For those landowners actively engaged in deer management, their tolerance of feral hogs should be very, very low," Higginbotham said. "Can we (significantly) reduce the damage feral hogs do through control efforts? The answer is 'absolutely yes.'"

"Texas AgriLife Extension Service has demonstrated that through education and outreach and Wildlife Services-led control efforts, damage can be significantly reduced by control efforts," he said. "In a 2006-07 study funded by the Texas Department of Agriculture, agricultural damage was reduced by 66 percent via control efforts in just two years."

Since 2007, subsequent studies done by AgriLife Extension and again funded by the state's department of agriculture confirmed that control measures such as trapping and shooting "prevented millions of dollars in damage by reducing feral hog populations," he said.

"Landowners remain the first line of defense since Texas is 95 percent privately owned land," Higginbotham said. "This means arming the public with Best Management Practices and using various legal control methods to abate the damage by reducing feral hog populations."

For more information on feral hogs, visit the AgriLife Extension website, "Coping with Feral Hogs," at <http://feralhogs.tamu.edu>.

Post Animal Refuge Center honors volunteers

The Post Animal Refuge Center (PARC) honored the organization's volunteers with a dinner Saturday, March 26. The 45 guests enjoyed a great meal prepared by Daniel Yarbro, Frank Tobias and Rick & Nancy Jones. The meal was topped off with a dessert bar prepared by Sherry Cavitt. Sassy Sunflower furnished table decorations that were perfect — white carnation poodles. The attendees were recognized for their donations of time and material to construct a building with 10 pens on the 2 acres of donated land north of town.

The facility currently has 16 dogs available for adoption. To date they have adopted 40 dogs and 15 cats to permanent homes. "None of this would have

been possible without our volunteers. We depend completely on volunteer labor and donations to maintain our program. We are very grateful for the overwhelming support we have received from the community" said Margie Maestas, spokesperson for the group.

PARC is a 501 (c) 3 organization established in Garza County in 2010 to "provide shelter, food and medical care for abandoned or abused animals in Post and Garza County until permanent homes can be found". Donations are welcome and are fully tax deductible. PARC can be contacted by email at postarc@yahoo.com or www.postanimalrefuge.com.

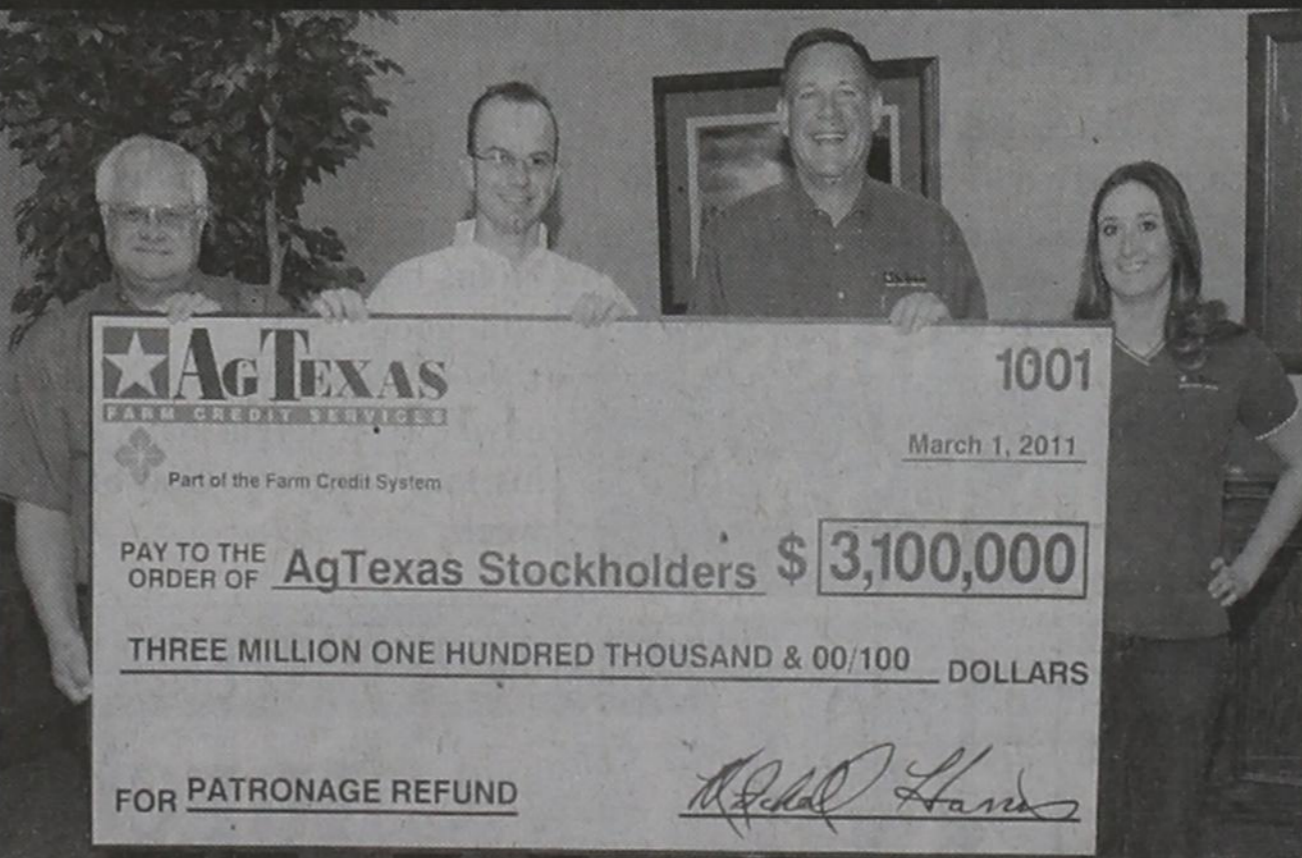
See picture on Page 10.



April Focus: Pulmonary Rehab Program

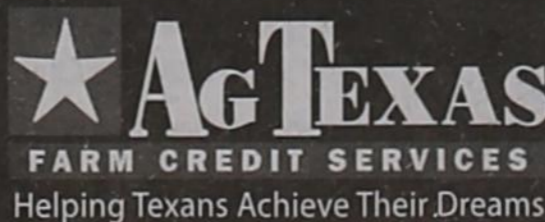
Thoughts of those we care about can always make us smile because the special times we've shared make life seem more worth while..... Happy 50th Birthday Patti Ranae Lechuga. We Love You!

AgTexas is returning **\$3.1 MILLION** in patronage to our customers!



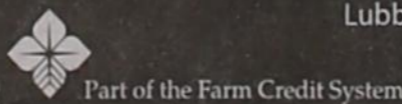
That's the cooperative way.

Director Kevin Buxkemper and staff from AgTexas' Ralls credit office are all smiles about a gigantic check representing the cooperative's \$3.1 million patronage payment to customers. The patronage is based on 2010 earnings. Checks totaling \$2.17 million will be distributed to borrowers this month; the remaining patronage is allocated for future payment. Pictured, left to right, are Buxkemper; Clay Miller, assistant vice president; Rodney Keeton, regional vice president; and Angela Goley, insurance representative.



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In and Around Close City

by Traci Freeman

Weather
Well Tuesday morning I told everyone "it sure is awful wet out there to be so dry" Monday and Tuesday were both just foggy and wet but no rain...go figure.

News
Kayla Morris Richardson is here from Virginia visiting with her family this week. While here she attended the George Strait concert in Lubbock with her family. The whole Morris clan went and all said they had a really great time.
The Close City Community

Bingo night is this Saturday, April 2nd at the VFW Hall on east 380 from 5:00 - 8:00. Come out play Bingo, win some great prizes donated by area merchants, enjoy some good food and visiting with good neighbors. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to help out in the concession stand by working or making baked goods please call the gin and let us know.

Today is April Fools Day... everyone should have some good clean fun with that!

Did you know?

The letter "W" is the only letter to have more than one syllable; it has three. Go ahead admit it...ya'll are all singing the ABC song now, aren't ya?

EYI

Get your cookbooks and T-shirt order forms at CoCara's downtown or you can come by the gin and pick one up.

Check out our Facebook Page under *Close City Community*. If any of you Ragtown people have pics you would like us to put on there let us know.

Visitors

Other than the morning coffee crew Carol Pate; Kristi and Rylan were our only visitors. Come out and visit sometime... we always have a good time.

Close City Birthdays

April 2nd - Mack Terry; Kayla Morris Richardson; Joe Guerro; Jim McCampbell
April 3rd - Lilly Wilke Wright

April 6th - Lorrye Lou Livingston Moore

April 7th - Odie Roberts Kemp

If you or your family are not on our birthday calendar shoot

me a line and I will add them.

Ragtown folks in the nursing homes we need to remember are.....W.C. and Marj Caffey in Marble Falls; Doug and Claudine Tipton; Carmen Abraham in Post; Odie Kemp in Tahoka; Jean Tipton in San Angelo; Jewel White in Lubbock. Others are Mack Ledbetter in Slaton; Doris Wilson in Castorville; John and Mary Gist in Lubbock and Lula Jo Stewart, also in Lubbock. Please let me know if there is anyone I need to add to this list.

Everyone have a great week, be safe and keep rain and our troops in your daily prayers and send me your news! See ya next week.

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Weekly Inspirations

THE ELEVATOR RIDE

By: Michael F. Taylor

John and his seven year old daughter Olivia stepped into the elevator at the local Mall. Needing to meet his wife at the Sears store, John reached out to punch the fourth floor button, only to have Olivia exclaim, "Oh, daddy, please let me push the button!" Seeing the anticipation in her young eyes, John replied, "Sure honey, push number four." Happily, little Olivia pushed the round button with the large 4 on it and giggled a little as the button lit up and the doors of the elevator closed. Not really paying much attention, John did barely even notice the business pant suit clad woman who stepped onto the elevator as the doors opened on the second floor. She stepped to the side and was standing directly in front of him and Olivia. And then suddenly, just as the doors began to open on the fourth floor stop, the woman spun around and slapped John squarely on the right side of his cheek. She then said, "Well, I never!" and stepped from the elevator in a huge huff. Not knowing what to say or do, John stood there with the doors open and his daughter looking incredulously at him.

As if coming to his defense, little Olivia stepped up to him and hugged him around his left leg. With her precious face upturned, she said, "I'm so sorry Daddy. I didn't like her either. Did you know that when she got onto the elevator she stepped on my foot? But I showed her. I PINCHED HER ON THE BOTTOM!"

Well, I would say that the young lady was under a misconception about John! But isn't it so true of our lives many times. And little Olivia would do well to head the Apostle Paul as he gave us some really sage advice in Romans Chapter 12 on how to live our lives in order to avoid misconceptions, "9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. 20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." NIV

What a world we would live in if we could but follow that simple advice. It might have even kept poor old John from getting his face slapped! God bless each of you 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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Devotional Page and Church Directory brought to you by advertisers on this page

Church Directory

Assembly of God		Graham Chapel Church of Christ	
Bethel Assembly of God (Bi-Lingual)	407 May St.		15th & Ave. S
Lifeline Church	108 N. Broadway	Church of God	
		Church of God of Prophecy	602 W. 14th, 495-3644
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
First Baptist Church, Wilson	806-628-6333	Evangelical Methodist	
Grace Baptist Church	820 N. Ave. S 990-3497	Faith Chapel	1105 Green St., Wilson (806) 628-0018
		Methodist	
Justiceburg Baptist Church	Justiceburg	First United Methodist Church	216 W. 10th, 990-2942
Pleasant Home Baptist Church	E. 14th & N. Ave F	Graham Chapel United Methodist Church	495-3492
Pleasant Valley Baptist	Hwy 84 & N. 399 (806) 828-4174	Nazarene	
Southland Baptist Church	Southland	Post Church of the Nazarene	202 W. 10th, 495-3044
Templo Bautista	315 W. Main	Grassland Church of the Nazarene	327-5656
Trinity Baptist Church	915 N. Ave O, 990-3038	Non-Denominational	
		Family Harvest Church	111 N. Avenue I, 495-1400
Catholic		Caprock Springs Fellowship	12th & Ave. I 495-2171
Holy Cross Catholic Church	Ave. K and Main St., 495-2791	Presbyterian	
Church of Christ		First Presbyterian Church	910 W. 10th, 495-2135
Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326		

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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

Visit any one of these businesses and churches and you will find wonderful Post City people and those who support Post.

Post ISD Menu

Post ISD Breakfast Menu: April 4 th -April 8 th	
Monday Ham Egg & Cheese Omelet, Fruit, Milk	Monday Popcorn Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Salad, Pears, Milk
Tuesday Pancake on a stick, Fruit, Milk	Tuesday Pizza, Salad, Corn, Peaches, Milk
Wednesday Oatmeal, Bacon, Toast, Fruit, Milk	Wednesday Steak Fingers, Whipped Potatoes, Green, Hot Rolls, Pudding, Milk
Thursday Cowboy Bread, Sausage Link, Fruit, Milk	Thursday Frito Pie, Broccoli, Western Beans, Cookie, Milk
Friday Cereal, Graham, Cracker, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Friday Chicken Burgers, Tator Tots, Baked Beans, Orange Smiles, Milk

Post ISD Lunch Menu:

Southland ISD Menu

Breakfast Menu for April 4 - April 8	Potatoes, Carrots, Apple, Hot Roll, Milk
Monday Pancake on a Stick, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Tuesday Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Chicken Noodle Soup, Carrots w/Ranch, Fruit, Crackers, Milk
Tuesday Eggs, Bacon, Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Wednesday Crispy Beef Tacos, Pinto Beans, Spanish Rice, Lettuce and Tomatoes, Pudding, Fruit, Milk
Wednesday Muffins, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Thursday BBQ Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Peas, Hot Roll, Peaches, Milk
Thursday Breakfast Bar, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Friday Submarine Sandwiches, Baked Chips, Lettuce, Pickles, Tomatoes, Animal Cookies, Apple or Orange, Milk
Friday Biscuits, Sausage, Gravy, Jelly, Fruit, Juice, Milk	
Lunch Menu for April 4 - April 8	
Monday Chicken Nuggets, Mashed	

Trailblazers Menu

April 4 th -April 8 th	
Monday Beef Enchiladas, Rice, Salad, Jello	Thursday Meat Loaf, Au gratin Potatoes, Carrots/Roll, Pudding
Tuesday Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Black-eye peas, Cornbread	Friday Chicken Fry, Mac & Tomatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Banana Pudding
Wednesday	

Find the Post Dispatch on Facebook and get involved in your community!

Texas Authors in Post Saturday



Courtesy photo
Writer Carol Walt, shown with two of her novels, will be in Post Saturday with her husband, Eddie Walt, also a writer. The couple will be signing books and discussing their writing experiences at Ruby Lane Books, April 2, 1 to 3 p.m.

Texas authors Eddie and Carol Walt will be at the Ruby Lane Book Store Saturday, April 2, 1 to 3 p.m. to discuss their latest books. Eddie, a retired Dallas police captain, has written "The Hall Street Shoot-Out" telling the story

of a 1969 Dallas shootout in which he was one of the participants. This "true story of the Dallas Police Department's biggest gun battle" recently received favorable reviews from syndicated columnist Glen Dromgoole, who writes

about Texas books and authors. "Walt not only describes the action [of the gun battle] but also discusses administrative decisions that impacted, complicated or contributed to the chaos of the event." At the time of the Hall Street Shoot-

Out, Walt was a 24-year-old patrolman. The book includes first person accounts of the shootout as well as interviews with many of the individuals who were there.

Carol Walt has published six books: two romance novels, "Aloha, Texas!" and "Dreaming in Italian," two books of short stories, "West Texas Classified" and "Unidentified Texas Objects: Tales from the Weird, Wild West;" one autobiographical novel, "Assisted Living" and her latest, a children's book, "Cousins Camp." All of these books will be available at Ruby Lane Books Saturday. Her seventh book, a murder mystery will be available later this year.

The characters in Carol's children's book, "Cousins Camp," are based on her grandchildren. In the story, three cousins arrive at their grandparents' ranch in West Texas for their annual Spring Break, dubbed "cousins camp."

AUTHOR...
continued on page 9

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.

Al-Anon

Family Group meeting meets Monday 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.

The Safe and Serene NA Group of Post now meets on Fridays at the Community Recovery Center, 405 S. Avenue C. For meeting information please contact: Miranda at 806-632-7367.

Thank You

We would like to say Thank You, to everyone who expressed love and concern for Robbie during this time. We appreciate all the food, flowers, visits, telephone calls, cards, kind words, and prayers from our family and friends. A special thanks goes out to: Stacy, Jasmine, Amanda and Chris of Legacy of Love Hospice for their loving care. Dee and Janet Justice for your kindness and love toward our family and friends. The Graham Community for the wonderful lunch. Thanks to Maurine's and Sassy Sunflowers for the beautiful flowers and plants. Jody Nix for his musical tribute. Wendell Johnson, Mike Johnson, Jay Scott and Giles Dalby Jr., your words and prayers brought great comfort. All the friends and family on the wagon and horseback showed a great love and respect for Robbie and was such a comfort to our family. We are all very grateful. May God Bless each of you.

The Family of Robbie Gene King

Benefit
For Jack Moore's unpaid medical expenses April 9, 2011 at Post VFW, 11:00am-1:00pm. Brisket plates, Raffles, Auctions, and Dance. For information or to-go plates, purchase tickets, or any donations, please call Ken Bell at 806-786-5146.

Services

CRP and general brush clearing. \$100 per machine hour, no hauling fees over 50 hours! Call 325-236-2417 www.sepcaservices.com.

Acreage Wanted

If you have any CRP acreage for sale, contact Mike Mitchell at 806-495-5515.

Help Wanted

Davis Plant now hiring for Plant Operator. Oilfield experience required. Apply at plant office, 1740 FM 669, Post Texas.

Golden Plains: wanted cook and dishwasher. Also CNA School. See Roberta or Wendy at Golden Plains Care Center 605 W. 7th St. Post. (806) 495-2848.

Help Wanted: Full time and part time shifts available for waitress and cook. Apply in person. Fish in D's, across from entrance at Lake Alan Henry.

TCC Verizon Premium Retailer is now hiring for Store Sales Manager. Must have sales and service management experience, be able to suc-

cessfully coach and develop a sales team, and have a successful record in meeting and exceeding sales quotas. Salary plus commission, medical/dental, paid vacation, and more. Apply at 510 N. Broadway

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Garage Sale

3 Family Sale: 215 West 14th St. Saturday 8:30-? Men, ladies, children clothes, drapes, sheets, lots of stuff.

Multi-Family garage sale: 815 W. 10th St. Saturday 8:00am-12:00pm. Small safe, home décor, wedding items, formal clothes, too much to list.

Legal Notice

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Off Premise License by Chastity Reed, Rick's Place, to be located at 2112 FM #2458, Garza, Texas.

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Courtesy Photo

The 7th Grade Boys track & field team show-off another 1st place plaque from the Abernathy event. The team has won all three of their meets this season.

Softball Round-up VARSITY

Lady Lopes now 4-1 with Win over Roosevelt
By Jim Plummer
PostSportsPage.com

(ACUFF) Both teams lit up the scoreboard on March 26th for a total of 35 runs. The Post Lady Lopes crossed the plate 21 times to Roosevelt's 14 improving Post's record to 4-1 in District 3-2A.

Freshman right fielder Sara Greer led her team on offense reaching base each of her five times at bat including two doubles and four runs-batted-in.

Bethany Curtis went 3-for-4 with two RBIs. Sydnee Jones contributed two hits including a home run and two RBIs.

POST 21, ROOSEVELT 14 (3/26/11)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
POST	8	0	0	1	1	7	4	21	20	8
ROOS	0	0	0	0	3	7	4	14	17	5

W-Pitcher, C. Hair.

POST 14, SLATON 1 (3/22/2011)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
POST	3	0	4	3	4	x	x	14	10	3
SLATON	0	0	0	1	0	x	x	1	2	4

W. Pitcher, C. Hair. L-Pitcher, Esconilla.

Post Claims Third Place at Caprock Classic Ralls Wins Championship

By Jim Plummer
PostSportsPage.com

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The Post Lady Lopes hosted an eight team Caprock Classic Softball Tournament March 10-12 at David Nichols Park. The teams included the Post varsity and JV teams, Floydada, Westbrook, Brownfield, Sweetwater, Roby and the tourney champs, the Ralls Lady Jackrabbits.

The Post varsity started with a 10-3 win against Westbrook, then lost to eventual champs Ralls 10-2, and beat Sweetwater, 8-4, to place third in the tourney.

The Lady Lope JV team struggled against their seasoned varsity opponents but gained good game experience to prepare them for the regular season. The JVers lost all three of their games.

Ralls defeated Roby in a close championship game, 5-4. To get there they beat Floydada, 19-4, and the Lady Lopes, 10-2.

The consolation game was won by Brownfield, 4-3, over Westbrook.

Coach Pyle: This was a good win for the Lopes. We hit some timely hits and played good defense. Ernie Saldivar pitched the complete game for the victory. We are one game out of 3rd place.

SLATON 12, POST 11 (3/22/11)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Slaton	1	4	0	2	1	1	3	12	10	7
Post	3	3	0	4	1	0	0	11	12	6

L-Pitcher: V.Blair (Record, 2-2)

Post Records: 6-6, 1-2 (district).

STATS: Ernie Saldivar 4-5, 3 runs, 3B, 2 SB. Jacob Perez 2-4, SB, 2 RBI.

Aaron Perez 2-3. Dalton Holly 2-4, 3B, 2 RBI.

Coach Pyles: This was a tough loss. We have to bounce back and finish the first half strong. We are still in the hunt for a play-off spot.

FORSAN 7, POST 2 (3/15/11)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
FORSAN	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	6	7	2
POST	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	4	2

L. Pitcher: E. Sladivar

Post Records: 6-5, 1-1 (district).

STATS: Saldivar 1-2, 3B, SB

JV BASEBALL

COLORADO CITY 15, POST 7 (3/28/11)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
POST	1	2	0	4	-	-	-	7	4	2
C-CITY	3	2	8	2	-	-	-	15	4	2

Post Record: 1-6 (season)

Coach Toney: Close game until the bottom of the 3rd, we struggled to make some key plays to get out of the inning which gave them momentum to rack up a few more runs. Top of the fourth we had a rally going, but made a few costly mistakes while running the bases.

ROOSEVELT 14, POST 3 (3/26/11)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
POST	0	0	2	0	0			3	3	3
ROOS	4	0	2	7	1			14	11	1

ROUNDUP...
continued on page 9

(3/10/11)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
WESTBROOK	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	4	2
POST	1	1	0	0	6	2	x	10	14	3

W - Hair
L - Alvarez
Jones - 3 for 4, HR, 3 RBI

(3/11/11)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
RALLS	0	1	0	3	1	1	4	10	5	2
POST	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	5	11

W - Cedillo
L - Hair
Cravy - 2 for 3, 3B

(3/12/11)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
SWEETWATER	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	10	0
POST	0	0	4	0	4	0	x	8	10	1

W - Hair
L - McKoy
Hair - 3 for 3, 2B, 3 RBI

Baseball Round-up

VARSITY

POST 7, COLORADO CITY 2 (3/28/11)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Post	0	1	1	3	2	0	0	7	10	2
C-City	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	4	4

W-Pitcher: Ernie Saldivar (10 K's) (3-1)

Post Records: 7-7, 2-3 (district). C-City Record: 0-5 (district)

STATS: Saldivar-RBI. Vance Blair-1B, Run. Jacob Perez-2 for 4, RBI, Run.

Aaron Macy-2 for 4. Chess Postell-2 for 3, 2Runs, RBI. Nathan Gill-2 for 3, 3B, 2 Runs. Dalton Holly-3 for 4, RBI, Run.

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OPINION



The Paperboy

The answer is all around us

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

In my humble opinion, we know how to create nuclear energy, but we are still not proficient at harnessing it.

If we're going to continue to progress into the clean, green world we all want to live in, we're going to have to face some hard facts.

Looking at the tragedy in Japan, it's apparent that we (developed countries) don't yet know how to properly contain nuclear reactors. Until we do, we need to ask ourselves if it is worth it and what needs to change to make it work and keep us safe?

Factoring in growth, the United States is sitting on 150 years of coal. Using clean coal technology, we can power this country and leave a smaller carbon footprint than at any time since the industrial revolution.

Clean coal technology is growing around the world. China is leading the way and India is quickly catching up. This decade, the emergence of near zero emissions technologies in coal provides an opportunity for the U.S. to reestablish itself as a world leader in production. What does coal mean to us? In one day (24-hours), this is what coal does around the globe:

- Generates power equivalent to 1,340 nuclear power plants.

- Fuels 60 percent of China's industrial sector.
- Provides more than half the electricity for three billion people.

- Provides over 40 percent of the power for 300 billion emails, 110 million tweets and the activation of 300,000 Androids.

In one day, American coal produces:

- More electricity than natural gas, nuclear, oil, wind and solar combined.

- Enough power to supply Alabama for three weeks, Kansas for 50 days and Connecticut for two months.

- 45% of the electricity to operate over 200 million computers and 100 million microwave ovens.

- More kilowatt hours than the United Kingdom uses in almost six days.

- Almost half the power to support 15,000 airports processing over 800 million passengers per year.

As our power demands increase, they must be met. If the U.S. is going to continue to lead the world for the rest of this century, coal is the answer.

Once we find an efficient way to safely harness nuclear energy and/or manufacture cold fusion, we can evolve back into that sector.

It's been proven over and over again that when someone comes out with a better mousetrap, the world accepts it.

When it comes down to it, you have to make it personal... In other words, would you be comfortable with a nuclear power plant in your backyard today?

If we have learned anything about the problems with the nuclear plants in Japan, it's that we don't know enough about creating a fail safe facility.

For the past two weeks, I've listened to "experts" predict all kinds of things regarding the leaking radiation. The fact is we don't know what impact this will have on Japan and the rest of the world. We probably won't fully understand what has happened for years if not decades.

The fact is, we live on a planet which we don't completely understand. If we did, why in the world would we be building nuclear power plants on fault lines and near water sources?

I believe one day we will have the proper technology in place to easily power the world in a variety of ways, but we're not there yet. Until we are, the answer to our problem is all around us.

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

Funding for RC&D in trouble

Hi Good People,

I have an update and a request regarding the funding for Resource Conservation and Development. The funding situation for federal assistance for our Council is approaching a critical point. As the saying goes, it is not the end of the road, but you can see it from here. It will be the end of the road unless our Senators are sufficiently energized to restore funding in the next continuing resolution for FY11 appropriations. The vote will be on April 8.

As you know, the US government is not funded for fiscal year 2011, which began last October 1st. A series of continuing resolutions have kept the government in business, and the process continues. The House went back to the budget and cut a lot of government programs as of last October 1st. Those programs included the RC&D program. The Senate cut the funding from \$50.73 million to \$25 million, which was only enough to last until March 31. A conference will be necessary after the vote in April to determine the final amount. In either situation, the RC&D program will not have federal funding after March 31st. Only if the full \$50.73 million is restored

to the budget will the RC&D program be funded through the remainder of this fiscal year. That does not seem likely, to say the least, but again, it is not over until it is over.

NRCS has no choice but to shut down support to RC&D. The details for all contingencies are being developed at all levels of NRCS. The coordinators will be reassigned to other duties; none will lose their NRCS jobs. As far as Council support, we don't even know if we will maintain our office space with NRCS. My guess is that we will, either as "Earth Teams" or with the Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The loss of federal funding does not impact our status as a 501c3 non-profit Council with several mission areas. Our Council will continue in operation, although there will be details to work through. Our projects that are funded by contracts and grants will continue. We really cannot do any contingency planning other than to go ahead with our projects and programs. We would obviously have to scale back our annual and five year plans, but those decisions can wait until our next board meeting.

Please contact our Texas Senators by any means you are

comfortable with. As a first step, go to their home pages via Google or at hutchison.senate.gov and cornyn.senate.gov (no www for these). You can send an email to them from their home pages. Their contact information is also listed for their Washington DC and district offices. For Senator Hutchison, her district office telephone in Abilene is 325 676-2839. Senator Cornyn's Dallas district office telephone is 979 239-1310. A letter to each Senator at their district and Washington offices would be even better. In your communication, ask that the 50.73 million dollars for FY11 for the RC&D program be restored. Mention that the funding is programmatic and not an earmark. Please make your calls now. I will send within the next few days a sample letter suggested by our national office.

Please contact me if you have questions, comments, or ideas.

Thanks,
Joe McFarland
President,
Leon Bosque RC&D Council

Above the Law

By BILL WILSON

Barack Obama is the unilateral president. He does what he wants, when he wants, and Congress — and the people — be damned.

The examples are too numerous to ignore. Recently, Obama ordered an attack on Libya without so much as consulting with members of Congress. This prompted a letter from House Speaker John Boehner highlighting that fact, and saying, "It is my hope that you will provide the American people and Congress a clear and robust assessment of the scope, objective, and purpose of our mission in Libya and how it will be achieved."

Boehner noted that "A United Nations Security Council resolution does not substitute for a U.S. political and military strategy." And it certainly does not substitute an explicit authorization from Congress, which is the ideal method of engaging a new military operation in a country not previously under attack.

But really, the Obama attack on Libya is hardly surprising, and it reflects a wider concern that this Administration simply does not care what Congress, the people's representatives, think. And for that matter, what the American people think about Obama's policies.

In fact, the attack is just the latest in a long line of arbitrary actions by a man who is seemingly above the law.

For example, the Administration recently announced its in-

attention to no longer defend the Defense of Marriage Act, even though it is the duly-enacted law of the land, and Obama is required to enforce it. In fact, Obama's Justice Department simply declared the law to be unconstitutional, even though it lacks the power to do so.

However one feels about the Defense of Marriage Act or same-sex marriage for that matter, Obama's willingness to simply ignore the law of the land is troubling.

There's more. When a federal judge in Louisiana struck down Obama's moratorium on Gulf oil drilling, Obama defied it and just reissued the same moratorium. The judge eventually found Obama in contempt of court for his refusal to comply with the ruling.

Then, when another federal judge, this time in Florida, struck down the entirety of ObamaCare as unconstitutional, the Obama Justice Department continued to implement regulations pursuant to the law. It waited weeks before finally asking for a "clarification" of the judge's clear-as-day ruling, when Judge Roger Vinson stayed his decision in an act of judicial charity.

Of course, one should also consider the Environmental Protection Agency's carbon endangerment finding, an arbitrary dictate that carbon dioxide — a natural biological gas necessary for the existence of life itself — was a "harmful pollutant" covered under the Clean Air Act.

And then there's the National Labor Relations Board and the National Mediation Board implementing administrative

rules changes to make unionizing that much easier for labor bosses.

And lest we forget, the Federal Reserve's pump-priming since the financial crisis found the central bank purchasing some \$1.25 trillion of mortgage-backed securities, and raising its U.S. treasuries holdings to \$1.3 trillion.

All of these changes and decisions have occurred without any change in law by Congress.

And then, the things that Congress did implement, under the Pelosi-Reid rein of 2007-2010, put in more opportunities for arbitrary administrative dictates occurring from on-high. For example, under ObamaCare, the individual mandate will allow faceless bureaucrats to funnel tens of millions of Americans from their private health plans into government-run health plans.

The Dodd-Frank financial takeover created a permanent bailout-takeover fund, giving the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation nearly limitless powers to levy assessments on bank holding and insurance companies, and to seize, liquidate, and redistribute whatever companies the government deems to be "systemically risky".

All of this has occurred under Obama's arrogant watch. With a willful disregard of the Constitution, the legislative process, and indeed, the consent of the governed. It is the administrative state. Answerable to no one.

Other Opinions

TARP Was Not a Success

By ADAM BITELY

Contrary to Robert Samuelson's claim that TARP has been a success story, it has been anything but.

Writing in the Washington Post, Samuelson claims that "[w]hen the entire financial system succumbs to panic, only the government is powerful enough to prevent a complete collapse." Clearly, Samuelson has never taken an economics course.

First, when the financial markets tumbled in 2008, the correct reaction would have been to allow the financial system to naturally collapse and allow it to rebuild itself by reallocating resources to those entities that were best suited to do that. Instead, the government stepped in and provided the TARP fund, which propped up zombie corporations and companies that had mismanaged resources. Such activity allowed bad business practices to continue.

Second, the government does not exist to prevent businesses from failing. When the Founding Fathers designed the Constitutional system of government, they laid out a system that allows the American citizen to perform at his best with extremely limited government intrusion.

Nowhere in the Constitution is Congress tasked with bailing out corporations that perform badly. But in our modern government, where the Constitution has been so badly per-

verted to mean anything to any politician that wants to do prevent the free market from doing what it does best, the politicians in D.C. created a fund that now exists to prevent favored businesses from failing.

Such a fund is nothing to celebrate. This fund has thus far denied the marketplace from providing its most sacred function of ensuring allocation of scarce resources. When signals are distorted in the market place, as they were with the bailouts provided from the TARP program, it does not allow investors and consumers to have all the information about the firms they do business with.

While Samuelson celebrates that this program did not cost the taxpayer as much as it was originally forecast to cost, he misses the key point that such programs should never exist in the first place. The only good cost of such a program is zero, and the only way to ensure that such a program does indeed cost zero is to never implement it in the first place.

As politicians in D.C. slap themselves on the back from supposedly "saving" the finance market, they should be blamed for staving off a free market correction. If politicians in D.C. wanted to ensure that the financial markets got back on their feet correctly, they should have stayed out of the collapse entirely.

Samuelson should read the wisdom that is offered daily from George Mason University economist Russ Roberts at

CafeHayek.com. As Roberts stated, "remember that the cost of the TARP isn't the cost to taxpayers. Even if banks paid back every single penny, the cost of the TARP is that it reduces current and future prudence."

Sure, Congressional inaction on this matter would have caused some level of pain in the marketplace, but that pain is part of the correction process. And if that pain is the cost of correcting the markets, then it is worth it to ensure that bad business practices are flushed from the system.

What started in 2008 was a long and drawn out process that will never deliver the results that a correction without government intervention would have delivered.

All Congress did was prolong the agony and make the correction slower. They wanted a "soft" landing, and they got one, with growth still less than 3 percent and unemployment still at about 9 percent almost three years later.

TARP was not successful in removing the bad actors from the financial markets, which would have happened had a recovery free of government intervention occurred. Instead, TARP served to prop them up and to allow them to continue with their financial chicanery. Therefore, the government has only proved that it was not powerful enough to ensure a robust recovery that would cleanse the financial markets of its bad apples.



The 501

by Hanaba Munn Welch

Friends of mine are going to Florence. They didn't ask me to go along, so I'm having a Florentine omelet instead — something that's probably not on the menu in Florence.

Only in America, I'm guessing, does Florentine simply mean spinach. Who knows what they call a spinach omelet in Florence, where Florence is Firenze.

My husband, Hugh — Uberto in Firenze — when he's feeling generous, lets me help him with the French words on the crossword puzzles he tackles daily. Monday he asked me this one:

"Five-letter word with French?"

I think he'd already deduced it was "fries," but sometimes he humors me.

Of course in France they don't have French fries. They just have fries.

Daniel, a French teenager, once spent several weeks with me one summer, an unofficial exchange deal. He loved the French fries at a local hamburger joint — not because they were better than "pommes frites" in France but because he could put ketchup on them. Every time he grabbed the ketchup bottle, he smiled and his eyes lit up. Somehow the French hadn't yet discovered ketchup with fries — not then. McDonald's may since have changed everything.

Daniel, by the way, told me I spoke French with the accent of Bourgogne. I thanked him. He told me it wasn't a compliment.

If you're in France and you hear John Wayne French, you might be in Bourgogne.

Back to Italy, because I can't think of anything else to say about France, except I hear there's talk that the French might end

up in charge of the war, or whatever it is we're having, in Libya. I'm guessing that the French might depend on Libya for oil. Just guessing. Where is Libya anyway? Next to Algeria? Ivory Coast?

MAP PAUSE.

Forget Ivory Coast. Libya lies between Algeria and Egypt. I've never met a Libyan, but I've met two Algerians — Djedir in Marseille and Herr Hellal in Vienna, which suggests Algerians get around more than Libyans. Maybe it's because Algerians (at least the two I encountered) speak French, a more universal language than Libyan, thus making them more sophisticated and likely to wind up in other countries. Herr Hellal, as I recall, had a wife in Bulgaria. That's sophisticated.

OK, maybe you spotted my error. They don't speak Libyan in Libya. They speak Arabic, albeit Libyan Arabic. Interestingly enough, the Internet stuff I'm reading indicates Libya's primary second languages (oxymoron intended) are English and Italian. Why not put the Italians in charge of the war thing? Just kidding. Incidentally, they used to rule Libya.

Wow. There for a second I thought I read that terrorism is rare in Libya. I blinked my eyes and saw instead that "tourism" is rare. Close.

The more I read about Libya, the better I understand why they don't get out more. They're always getting invaded. When the world comes to you, you don't have to go anywhere. Think Florentine omelet.

Meanwhile, I'm thinking couscous for supper, Libyan style. Close enough to Tripoli for me.

County Commissioners hear results of annual audit

By Rosa Latimer
Correspondent

In a regular meeting March 14 in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the County Courthouse, independent auditor Joe F. Hays, CPA presented the annual Report of Audit of Garza County and reviewed a summary of the audit. The county general fund showed net revenue of \$1,159,995 and the county was issued a "qualified opinion" for the audit for the year ending September 30, 2010. Hays explained that the opinion is qualified because new accounting principles require that post employment benefits for retired employees be considered and recorded as a liability.

The auditor also reported that the accounting procedures at the Garza County Law Enforcement Facility are sound and that these figures in the audit do not just represent the jail operations, but include all law enforcement activity including the sheriff's department.

Irma Guerra, division director of the South Plains Community Action Association came before the commissioners and submitted the organization's 2009 annual report. She also explained to that federal funding cuts may eliminate some community action programs. SPCAA manages the following services in Garza County: emergency

financial assistance; energy efficiency program; senior companion program; head start and Spartan public transportation.

Commissioner Morris led a discussion regarding an extended warranty on a maintainer. He explained that the original warranty on the Road & Bridge Precinct #2 motor grader and front-end loader has expired. The proposed extension of the warranty would be for four years at a cost of approximately \$15,000. The expense is not included in the budget and would require a budget amendment. Warren Caterpillar representative Lance Wells explained that the unit if sold before the end of the warranty period. The commissioners voted to approve the extended warranty as presented for an amount of \$15,550 to be taken from Precinct 2 reserve funds.

Consideration of extended warranty on Road & Bridge Precinct 1 motor grader was also discussed. The original warranty has expired and the proposed extension for three years would cost approximately \$6,800. This expense was also not included in the budget and would require a budget amendment. The item was tabled.

The commissioners considered two applications for public assistance.

Although, according to County Attorney Mike Munk, neither applicant was considered eligible for assistance according to the county court guidelines, the commissioners voted to pay \$75 toward one applicant's electric bill and denied assistance to the other applicant.

A three-year service agreement renewal with Election Systems and Software for election ballot and coding services was presented to the court by Clerk Jim Plummer. He informed the court that the original agreement began in 2008 and offers a discount on most of the services. The new agreement shows a decrease in ballot printing costs and the coding discounted fees would remain the same. The commissioners approved the renewal agreement as presented.

One sealed bid in the amount of one-hundred dollars was received for county property located at 105 E. 4th Street (Lots 3 - 11, Block 155) in the original town site of Post. Attorney Munk reported that taxes owed on the property are approximately \$1825.47 and court costs owed total \$769. The appraised value of the property is \$1500. The commissioners voted to decline the bid.

Minutes from the February 28 regular meeting were approved as presented.

The following items of information were brought before the court as a written report or for discussion and were approved as presented: District/County Clerk; Treasurer; Budget Usage Analysis; Senior Transportation; Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1; Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2; Garza County Certificates of Obligation Bond Fund, 2008 and Garza County Public Facilities Board Bond Funds, 2005. Precinct and Countywide accounts payable for February 29 through March 14 were approved. There were no line item transfers or budget amendment requests to consider.

During the public comment portion of the meeting Commissioner Morris commented that perhaps there should be a fund to repair damages and other expenses to county equipment during rural fires. Judge Norman and Treasurer Young suggested that funds set aside for volunteer fire department equipment might be used. The court will consider this issue at the next meeting. Judge Norman also commented about proposed cuts by the state that will affect county budgets.

The next County Commissioners' Court meeting is Monday, March 28 at 9 a.m. at the County Courthouse.

Obituaries

MADLINE ALOMARI

Graveside service for Madeline Alomari of Lubbock was 3:00 pm Tuesday at the Terrace Cemetery in Post with Deacon Phillip Maldonado officiating. Services were under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice, Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Madeline was stillborn Monday March 21, 2011 to

Ziyad Kaseem Alomari and Kristal Brianna Alomari.

She is survived by her parents and also by a brother: Aiden Ali Alomari; Maternal grandparents: Chris Rogers and Lisa Ann Lindgren; Paternal grandparents: Doraid Alomari and Tammye Collazo Rangel. Paternal great-grandparents: Jessie and Rachel Collazo, Jr.

Jessie Collazo, III served as pallbearer for Madeline.

HAMLIN BILBERRY

Hamlin Bilberry 94 of Post died Monday, March 21, 2011 at the Golden Plains Care Center. Hamil was born to John Henry and Lucendia Elizabeth (Conner) Bilberry February 17, 1917. They came to Garza County in 1929 to farm for R.B. Taylor. Hamlin farmed and later was a cowboy for many years. He is preceded in death by his parents and all of his syblings, including: L.D. Bilberry, Bolivar Bilberry, Iva Cavender, C.B. Bilberry, Leroy Bilberry and more recently Cephas Bilberry.

Cremation was under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice, Justice-Mason Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Hamlin is also survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and great-great nieces and nephews.

the direction of Hudman Funeral Home.

She died Saturday, March 26, 2011 in Lubbock. She was born November 23, 1919 in Garza County to B. W. "Doc" and Lela Kennedy. She married Edsel Crosson Sept. 5, 1942 in Post. He preceded her in death on August 8, 1965. She married Bill McBride on April 22, 1973 in Post. She was a graduate of Post High School and a member of the Methodist Church and the Eastern Star. She worked for Southwestern Public Service for many years.

Survivors include her husband Bill McBride of Post, two sons: Butch and wife Pam Cross of Mansfield, Texas and Danny McBride of Austin, 1 Daughter: Donna and husband Doug Harden of Austin, 4 Grandchildren and 3 Great Grandchildren.

Congrats to the One Act Play on the advancement to District!



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WILLIE MCBRIDE

Services for Willie Cross McBride, 91, of Post were held at 2 PM Wednesday, March 30, 2011 at the First United Methodist Church with Rev. John Hedrick and Rev. Scott Richards officiating. Burial in Terrace Cemetery was under

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ROUND UP...
continued from page 6

Post Record: 1-5 (season)

SLATON 12, POST 10 (3/22/11)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
SLAT	4	5	3	-	-	-	-	12	7	0
POST	1	6	3	-	-	-	-	10	6	1

Post Record: 1-4. Troy Copeland: 6 strike-outs, 5 walks.

See more on [PostSportsPage.com](#).

**Junior High
Abernathy Track and Field Meet
(March 24, 2011)**

Post 8th Grade Girls, 3rd place team finish

100 M Dash: 2nd, Kelbie Oden; 3rd, Anahica Duran
200 M Dash: 2nd, K. Oden; 3rd, A. Duran
400 M Dash: 1st, K. Oden; 4th, Rebecca Perez
2400 M Run: 4th, Fatima Trinidad; 5th, Lupita Ceja
800 M Relay: 4th, Dakota Greer, Chelby Morris, Tamara Moore, Rose Taylor
1600 M Relay: 4th, C. Morris, R. Perez, Kelsey Griffin, A. Duran

Long Jump: 2nd, K. Oden; 4th, R. Perez

Triple Jump: 4th, R. Perez

High Jump: 2nd, K. Oden; 4th, K. Griffin

Discuss: 2nd, T. Moore

Post 8th Grade Boys, 5th place team finish, 60 points

400 M Relay: 5th, Freddy Araiza, Carson Kirkpatrick, Christian Perez, Blake Boren
800 M Relay: 5th, F. Araiza, Ethan Self, Dylan Pearson, B. Boren

1600 M Relay: 4th, Dylan Pearson, E. Self, Keaton Collins, F. Araiza

110 M Hurdles: 1st, K. Collins; 5th, C. Kirkpatrick; 6th, Erik Gomez

300 M Hurdles: 2nd, K. Collins

High Jump: 4th, K. Collins

Shot Put: 4th, F. Araiza; 6th, B. Boren

Discuss: 2nd, Alejo Rodriguez; 4th, B. Boren

Coach Lackey: *The JH Boys track teams continue their success in Abernathy. Both teams completed hard and represented their community, family, and school very well. Congratulations! The coaches are very proud of the hard work.*

Let's keep it going!

Post 7th Grade Girls, 4th place team finish

100 M Dash: 5th, Sierra Scott
200 M Dash: 1st, Madison Carr
400 M Dash: 6th, Ali Whitfill
800 M Run: 2nd, Kaitlin Walden
1600 M Run: 6th, A. Whitfill
400 M Relay: 4th, Brogan Macy, A. Whitfill, K. Walden, S. Scott

800 M Relay: 3rd, B. Macy, M. Carr, Maelybe Gomez, D. Perez

1600 M Relay: 4th, B. Macy, M. Gomez, M. Carr, K. Walden

Long Jump: 5th, K. Walden

Triple Jump: 5th, Sierra Scott

High Jump: 2nd, Dakota Perez

Shot Put: 5th, S. Scott

Discuss: 6th, S. Scott

Post 7th Grade Boys, 1st place team finish, 245 points

100 M Dash: 1st, Blaine Reece; 2nd, Joel Lopez; 5th, Rafael Gonzalez

200 M Dash: 1st, J. Lopez; 4th, Triston Fannon

400 M Dash: 1st, R. Gonzalez; 2nd, J. Lopez

800 M Run: 2nd, Kyle Jones; 3rd, Alonzo Armendariz; 5th, Chris Rosas

1600 M Run: 3rd, A. Armendariz; 6th, C. Rosas

400 M Relay: 1st, Christian Saucedo, K. Jones, Cambry Gilbert, Aaron Lopez

800 M Relay: 1st, C. Saucedo, B. Reece, Jared Curtis, A. Lopez

1600 M Relay: 1st, R. Gonzalez, C. Saucedo, C. Gilbert, K. Jones

110 M Hurdles: 2nd, C. Gilbert; 4th, Shandon Wiley; 5th, J. Curtis;

300 M Hurdles: 2nd, J. Curtis; 4th, Wyatt Gray; 5th, S. Wiley

Long Jump: 1st, C. Gilbert; 3rd, J. Curtis; 4th, B. Reece

Triple Jump: 1st, J. Curtis; 2nd, S. Wiley

High Jump: 1st, C. Gilbert; 3rd, K. Jones

Shot Put: 1st, Rafael Gonzalez

Discuss: 1st, R. Gonzalez; 4th, T. Fannon

Coach Lackey: *The JH Boys track teams continue their success in Abernathy. Both teams completed hard and represented their community, family, and school very well. The 7th grade boys racked up 245pts to Finish 1st in our third straight track meet! Congratulations! The coaches are very proud of the hard work. Lets keep it going!*

See more on [PostSportsPage.com](#).

**Abernathy Meet High School Track & Field Results
(March 25, 2011)**

VARSITY

Post Boys: 6th place team finish, 38 points

100 M: 3rd, DJ Brown, 11.23;
200 M: 2nd, Brown, 23.92; 5th, Matt Soto, 24.39;
400 M: 2nd, Brown, 53.17; 3rd, Dalton Holly, 54.65; 5th, Soto, 55.49

Triple Jump: 4th, Brown, 39' 8"; 5th, Soto, 38' 4"

Shot Put: Jacob Perez, 38'

Team Totals: Plains 171, Friona 154, New Deal 113, Hale Center 75, Abernathy 53, Post 38, Ascension Academy 12.

JUNIOR VARSITY

Post Boys: 2nd place team finish, 161 points

200 M: 4th, Parker Loftus, 25.56
400 M: 2nd, Caden Dean, 58.96
800 M: 2nd, Tyler Jones, 2:22:37; 4th, Zach Bush, 2:25:47
1600 M: 1st, Isaac Stern, 5:30:78; 4th, Bush, 5:46:92
3200 M: 1st, Stern, 12:09:47

400 M Relay: 5th, Vance Blair, Nathaniel Gill, Troy Copeland, Pake Jones, 49:37

800 M Relay: 3rd, Blair, Gill, Copeland, P. Jones, 1:43:09

1600 M Relay: 3rd, Dean, Alan Alaniz, T. Jones, Campbell Kirkpatrick, 3:57:35

110 M Hurdles: 1st, Tay. Soto, 18.28; 3rd, Kirkpatrick, 19.36;

6th, Steven Rodriguez, 24.12

300 M Hurdles: 1st, Kirkpatrick, 45.46; 3rd, Soto, 48.82; 6th, Rodriguez, 61.11

Triple Jump: 2nd, Blair, 37' 4"; 4th, Christian Pena, 36' 10"

High Jump: 1st, T. Soto, 5' 9"

Discuss: 1st, Travis Greathouse, 110' 11"; 3rd, Armondo Martinez, 103' 11"

Shot Put: 1st, Martinez, 37' 9"; 5th, Gill, 35' 10"

Team Totals: Hale Center 162, Post 161, New Deal 103, Friona 75, Abernathy 67, Plains 45.

See more on [PostSportsPage.com](#).

AUTHOR...
continued from 5

The children experience several adventures and learn valuable lessons, the most of important being that they take care of each other and always stick together. This "chapter book" is for children aged 5 to 11. A portion of the author's profits from "Cousins Camp" goes to the children's programs at the Cross Plains Public Library.

Eddie retired as a captain after 33 years of service with the Dallas Police Force and now he and Carol live on a ranch between Rising Star and Cross Plains, east of Abilene. They now raise cattle and, Eddie says, "We specialize in free-range grandchildren."

Thanks for reading!

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UMC Health System and UMC Physician Network Services are being recognized as two of the "Best Companies to Work for in Texas!"

UMC Physician Network Services has 25 practice sites across the South Plains including the Garza County Health Clinic in Post. With over 120 medical providers, PNS provides care to more than 400,000 patients each year.

Home to Texas' first Level One trauma center, **UMC Health System** is the primary teaching hospital for the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock. With centers of excellence in Cancer, Women's Health, Children's Services, Cardiac and Trauma, UMC is also a Primary Stroke Center.

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Small cattle inventory poses questions for Texas ranchers

Fort Worth, Texas - A state-of-the-industry review of the cattle market will be presented by CattleFax Executive Vice President Randy Blach during the Closing General Session of the 2011 TSCRA Convention Weekend April 1-3 in San Antonio.

"The national cow herd is near a historic low," said Dave Scott, rancher and TSCRA president. "Randy Blach will be at convention to discuss what this means for producers and guide them on potential risks and ways to manage and protect their bottom lines."

Blach is CEO of CattleFax, an organization focused on helping cattle producers make more profitable

marketing and management decisions. CattleFax is the cattle and beef industry leader in timely market information, analyses and research.

As the largest cattle industry event in Texas, the TSCRA Convention is a must-attend for anyone involved in livestock production. More than 2,000 ranchers, landowners and members will gather for a weekend of outstanding programs, educational sessions, a trade show with more than 200 exhibits, plus networking and fellowship with fellow cattle raisers.

A complete schedule of events, information on accommodations, and regis-

tration information can be found at www.tscra.org/convention.

The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is a 134-year-old trade organization. As the largest and oldest livestock association in Texas, TSCRA represents more than 15,000 beef cattle producers, ranching families and businesses who manage approximately 4 million head of cattle on 51.5 million acres of range and pasture land, primarily in Texas and Oklahoma. TSCRA provides law enforcement and livestock inspection services, legislative and regulatory advocacy, industry news and information, insurance services and educational opportunities for its members and the industry.



PARC Banquet.

Groundwater ownership agreement reached

AUSTIN - An agreement was reached in the Senate Natural Resources Committee today recognizing a landowner's vested ownership interest in the groundwater below the surface.

"This agreement is the product of a collaborative effort between senators, the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, the Texas Farm Bureau and various other stakeholders from across Texas," said Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock. "This bill reaffirms that property owners have a vested ownership right in the groundwater beneath their land."

A committee substitute for SB 332 passed unanimously out of committee. The bill was filed by Senate Natural Resources Committee Chairman, Sen. Troy Fraser, R-Horseshoe Bay.

"This bill reaffirms that landowners have a vested ownership interest in the groundwater below their land and recognizes the current authority of groundwater conservation districts," said Dave Scott, rancher and TSCRA president. "We appreciate the hard work of Chairman Fraser, Senator Duncan and the rest of the committee and look forward to getting this bill out of the Senate soon."

The committee substitute for SB 332 now heads to the full Senate for deliberations.

"The Texas Farm Bureau was very pleased to work with Senator Fraser and Senator Duncan to produce a bill that recognizes the rights of landowners with regard to groundwater," said Texas Farm Bureau President Kenneth Dierschke. "The senators showed leadership in developing a substitute bill that also recognizes the important role of underground water districts in preserving this vital resource for future generations."

White River Municipal Water District

Gauge Reading	Feet below spillway	Rise	Rainfall past week	Rain to date
2355.40	17' 1"	0"	.0"	0.99"

Rainfall for	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
	15.57"	28.85"	24.19"	33.61"	12.70"	32.16"

DID YOU KNOW?

White River Lake has 3,799,422,660 billion gallons left available at the intake or 38% capacity or 11,660 acre feet. Subtract 23,545,362 MG for evaporation this week in March that leaves 3,775,817,298 BG available as of today.

White River's daily average demand for 2010 was 1.40 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, which is Voluntary Water Conservation.

Remember that the Water District is there for you if we can assist you in any way let us know.

Mickey Rogers General Manager

Extension Extras

Did you know that 4-H is free to join and open to all kids in 3rd grade or 9 years old to 19 years old in Garza County?

Lamb & Goat Validation
Validation tags need to be ordered by April 13, 2011 if you plan on going to the State Fair of Texas with your Lamb or Goat.

closed on Friday, April 22, 2011.

Extension Office: 215 W Main (806) 495-4400

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Steer Validation

It's that time again! Validation tags need to be ordered by April 14, 2011 if you plan on showing Steers at any major stock show. Contact the office with your order. Tags will be \$10 each.

D-2 4-H Rifle Contest
The rifle contest will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2011. Contest entries are due on Monday, April 11, 2011.

District Roundup
4-H connect opens on Friday, April 1, 2011 and

2011 State Fair of Texas

Poka Lambro to offer Free Computer & Internet Basics classes

"What's a Google?" Do you ever ask that question? Have you heard about the Internet but need a little help learning to navigate it? If the answer is "yes" come join a Poka Lambro Computer Basics class.

Poka Lambro is providing FREE computer and Internet basics classes. A series of three classes are being offered over a three week period. Class one covers the

absolute basics of what a computer is and what can be found through the Internet. Class two demonstrates how to use e-mail and Facebook. The third class reviews everything and dives deeper into your questions.

The first class will be held April 7th at 10:00 a.m. at the Poka Lambro office in downtown Post, 115 West Main Street.

Classes are free but due to

limited space and class size, pre-registration is required. Please pre-register by calling or stopping by the Poka Lambro Store. Classes will be on-going and will be offered on Thursdays at various Poka Lambro store locations. So if you miss this one - don't worry. We'll be back. Contact Poka Lambro to find out when the next series of classes will be held in your area. 806-990-9901.

National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 4 - 8

Navigating construction can be difficult, not to mention risky for both drivers and workers.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) manages more than 1,000 highway projects at any given time on 80,000 miles of Texas roads. To remember victims and raise safety awareness for workers and motorists, TxDOT will join the Federal Highway Administration and other transportation partners April 4-8 to observe the twelfth annual National Work Zone Awareness Week.

Work zones can be hazardous for both motorists and highway crews working to improve Texas'

highways. However, because of increased safety measures and public outreach, TxDOT has seen a 35 percent decrease in work zone fatalities in 2009 from the previous year.

While there has been a significant decline in work zone fatalities and crashes, there is still work to do. In 2009, 108 people were killed in highway construction and maintenance zones in Texas. Since 1938, there have been 270 TxDOT employees killed, with 200 of those deaths occurring in work zones.

Thankfully, in 2009 the Childress District had no fatalities, but we have had nine

crashes that occurred in a work zone. More than four out of five, or eighty-five percent, of those killed in work zones are drivers or their passengers. Speeding and inattention are the most common causes cited. Rear-end collisions account for one in three crashes.

Safety is TxDOT's first priority, no matter what job—behind the desk or on the highway. Slow down and follow posted speed limits. Traffic fines are double in work zones. Pay attention. Workers are often close to traffic. Be patient. Delays can be frustrating, but it only takes a few minutes to slow down in a work zone. Plan ahead. Leave early to reach your destination.

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