

VistaCare Hospice
Big hearts. Better care.

Easy Ways to make a difference through VistaCare!

- Share companionship/ social visits with patients
- Help out in the Vista Care office
- Work from home to make phone calls to Vista Care patients
- Take a patient outside
- Help patients stay focused at meal time
- Provide respite care for caregiver
- Provide Music, Art or Pet Therapy for patient

Call Katherine McLamore • 806-831-1664 • kamclamore@vistacare.com

CHRISTMAS IN JULY SALE Trade Day weekend.
All Christmas items 20% off. All regular store items, 10% off. There will even be some items 50% off

The Lord's Vineyard
Christian Gifts and Books

216 E. Main Street, Post, Texas 79356

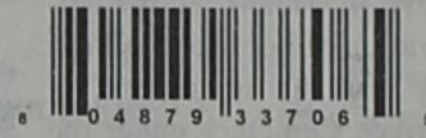
FLEA AND TICK DIP
Saturday, July 9th • 9:00 am to noon
Post Fire house at 202 S Ave H
Reduced rates on all shots
Feline vaccinations also available
Sponsored by The Post Rotary Club
& Garza County Animal Hospital

Garza County Animal Hospital
1445 US Hwy 84, Post, TX • (806) 495-3726



The Post Dispatch

A tradition of excellence since 1926



86th Year, Number 48

USPS 439-620

© 2011 The Post Dispatch

Newsstand Price 50¢

Friday, July 1, 2011

Garza County still pounded by wildfires

By Jodi Lincoln
News Editor

On Friday, June 24th at around 3:00 pm that now dreaded sound of a siren went off alerting the firefighters to respond to yet another fire. This fire started on Highway 84 about two and a half miles from the top of the cap. The fire quickly grew as it ravaged its way across the dry farmland going eastward toward FM 211. Firefighters raced to contain the fire, but high winds quickly whipped the flames into an inferno with a ravenous appetite for the

dry grass, mesquite trees and scrub cedar that served as an unending source of fuel. The Garza County Volunteer Fire Department and the Justiceburg Volunteer Fire Department fought the blaze until early Saturday morning before bringing it under control and putting it out. There is always a high possibility of a fire flaring up after it has been contained in the days after a fire and this one proved to be no

FIRE...
continued on page 8



Photo By Jodi Lincoln

MTC Honors Top Corrections Employees

Captain Susan Little Named Correctional Officer of the Year



Pictured from left to right; Associate Warden Hugh Bryan, Winner Captain Susan Little, Warden Kerry Dixon and Associate Warden Larry Bond.

Courtesy Photo

Management & Training Corporation (MTC) has named Captain Susan Little as Correctional Officer of the Year for her commitment to her job and those she serves. Ms. Little was recently promoted to Captain at the Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility in Post, Texas.

This top honor is part of MTC's Annual Celebrating Excellence Program, where employees, Job Corps students and community members are recognized for their achievements with awards, scholarships and cash prizes.

Human Resources Manager, Charla Miller nominated Ms. Little and

says she is a pleasure to work with.

"Susan's experience and expertise are a huge asset to the facility. Her attention to detail is incredible. She is intimately familiar with policies and procedures and is an outstanding leader."

Ms. Little began her career with MTC in 1999 and has served as Sergeant, Compliance Coordinator, Lieutenant, Disciplinary Hearing Officer and currently as Captain.

Miller added, "Susan is a 'hands-on' supervisor and treats others with great respect. She is a perfect role model for the female staff."

Post Notes

Rotary Dog Dip Set for July 9th

On Saturday, July 9th from 9am - noon, the Rotary Dog Dip & vaccine clinic will be held at the fire department here in Post. This annual event is a wonderful service to the community offering low cost vaccines and dog dips for flea/tick treatment. My staff & I will be offering vaccines for rabies, parvo, etc to all dog owners. Come out and support the Post Rotary club and ensure your pet the best protection from Parvovirus.

MS Bike Ride

The MS Cactus & Crude Bike Ride 2011 will end in Post at the City Park on July 17. They need volunteers to come out to the park and cheer for the riders as they finish the race. The first bikers should arrive around 10:30 a.m.

Ragtown Gospel Theater
The play Abraham's

Promise and the Ragtown Gospel Band will not be performing the weekend of July 4th. Show times will resume on July 8th at 7:30 pm. And will run through July 23rd. Come on out and enjoy the performances of our newly formed band and the play Abraham's Promise.

MEMORIAL PLAZA BRICKS

The next brick order will be sent in on July 22. If you would like to purchase a brick, call or come by the Chamber office. Order forms can also be downloaded on line at www.postcitytexas.com.

Boys and Girls Clubs News Release:

Boys and girls throughout the United States are benefitting from a car donation program. Donated cars do not

Post Notes...
continued on page 8

Post-Garza County EMS seeking driver applicants

The Post-Garza County EMS has requested a variance from the Texas Department of State Health Services that would allow them to run their ambulances with only one certified Emergency Care Attendant (ECA) Emergency Medical Technician, (EMT) or Emergency Medical Technician I, (EMT - I) or a paramedic on board during any emergency run. Prior to requesting the variance, the ambulance service could only respond to calls if two certified crew members were on the ambulance. What the variance would do is allow the ambulance service to transport a patient to the hospital with only one Certified ECA, EMT, EMT - I or a Paramedic on board. Due to the shortage in the daytime staff, the ambulance service had to request the variance in order to have enough staff to transport

patients for medical care and provide the community with dependable emergency medical care.

The Post-Garza County EMS is now seeking people who are qualified and willing to drive the ambulance on emergency runs. The service is now currently looking for those willing to drive an ambulance at various times and would like to become a member of our team. Those who are interested please give us a call and request an application. Training would entail a certain amount of driver training and qualification before a driver would be allowed to drive an ambulance. The training is set to begin very soon. There would be no patient care involved as a driver. A certain amount of patient contact would be required, but no decision making or patient care will be required.

Post-Garza County EMS sponsoring an Emergency Care Attendant Class

The Post-Garza County Emergency Medical Service (EMS) is sponsoring an emergency medical care attendant (ECA) class that will begin in July. The class will be held each Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights from 6:30 - 10:30 pm beginning July 11th through August 18th in the training room above City Hall. When completed and after applicants have passed the National Registry First Responder test and been certified on the state level as an ECA, you will have the opportunity to serve the community with our dedicated team of volunteers. This is not a "band-aid" class, nor is it a "first aid" class. There is a lot of

commitment the applicant must make on their part. If you have ever wanted to help those who are sick or traumatized, this could be for you. Tuition for the class is \$250.00 and the books are around \$100.00. If you are interested in becoming an ECA, please contact Rodney Tidwell for the details. As long as you are committed to helping our patients, we will be committed to helping you get the certifications and qualifications you need to be a very vital member of our team. After completion of the required classes and training, you will become a member of our team, your tuition will be returned to you after you have completed one year of service.

The COLO\$SAL Classifieds
CALL: 1-888-400-1093 EMAIL: ads@thecolossalclassifieds.com
In this issue of The Post Dispatch!

OBITUARIES



Ruth Guindola Martin
Funeral services for Ruth Guindola Martin were held Monday, June 27, 2011, at 10 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Post. The Rev. Steve McMeans led the celebration of her life. Following was the internment in Terrace Cemetery under the direction of Hudman Funeral Home. The First Baptist Church of Post graciously provided lunch to the family after the services.

Ruth was a strong West Texas woman and a cherished mother who was born on July 6, 1921, in Post, TX, and passed into eternal life on Friday, June 24, 2011, in Georgetown, TX, at The Wesleyan at Scenic Drive. Her joys were abundant: giving to others, doting after all children, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, volunteering, being Post Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year, a member of FBC Post, 4H Club, and Extension Club. Her talents were prolific: sewing, knitting, crocheting, cooking, ceramics, canning, gardening, quilting, farming, arts and crafts, and embroidery.

Her loves were great: now reunited in Heaven with her husband of 51 years, Barney Raymond Martin, her son, Connie Raymond Martin, and her sisters, Katie Mae Martin, Claudine Bilberry, and Florene Chambers, and her brother, Winston James. Her memory remains with her other children, Ruthell and Delton Robinson and Gay Martin, her sisters, Elberta Martin and Dolores Baldrige, 5 grandchildren and their spouses, 11 great-grandchildren, numerous extended family members, and her faithful chihuahua, Lucky.

The family is thankful for the service of the pallbearers: David Allison, Lanny Fluit, Gary Lamb, Jimmy Valdez, Greg Williams, and Martin Williams. Additionally, thank you to Rhonda Valdez who so selflessly coordinated all the details in Post of Ruth's celebration of life.

Gratitude is extended to the staff at Wesleyan for the years of unwavering care and for putting up with Lucky, a.k.a. Cujo the killer dog, and to the Wesleyan Hospice staff for their empathetic and supportive care.

Ruth's family will miss her presence on this earth but are full of hope and peace knowing she is finally at home with her Heavenly Father.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Heart Association.



Sammie Pollard
Services for Minta Sam "Sammie" Pollard, 80, of Lubbock will be at 10AM Wednesday at the First Presbyterian Church in Post with Dr. Jerry Koch assisted by Rev. Elizabeth Abraham officiating.

Burial in Terrace Cemetery will be under the direction of Hudman Funeral Home. She died Sunday, June 26, 2011 in Lubbock. She was born August 22, 1930 in Eastland to Milton Park and Ari Anna (Bumpass) Herring. She married James Earl Pollard on April 24, 1948 in Cisco, Texas. They moved to Post in 1995. She worked in accounting for McCrary & Franklin and from 1968 until 2006 she was an accountant for Rucker A Well Service. She was a member of the Eastern Star.

Survivors include 3 Sons: James E. Pollard Jr and wife Pam of Lubbock, Tx, Jay H. Pollard and wife Sherry of Post, Tx and Greg Pollard and wife Kathy of Rowlett, Tx, 3 Brothers: M. P. Herring of Snyder, Tx, Steen Herring of Abilene, Tx and Murray J. Herring of Denver, Co. 6 Grandchildren: Nikki Langford and husband Nathan, Natalie Husen and husband Zach, Jace

Pollard, Jason Pollard and wife Sara, Parker Pollard and Peyton Pollard, 4 Great Grandchildren: Hayden Husen, Alex Husen, Drew Langford and Phobe Pollard.

She was preceded in death by both her parents, her husband James E. Pollard Sr. in May 1955, 2 Brothers: Brooks Herring and Lowell Herring and 2 Granddaughters: Jamie Pollard and Autumn Brookm Pollard.



Maxine Conoly

Maxine Conoly passed away on Wednesday June 22, 2011 and went to be with family members who have gone before her. Maxine was born July 12, 1925 in Tulia Texas, to her father Henry Mack Tucker and mother Virgie Lawrence Tucker. She moved to Post not soon after with her family. She attended Post Schools and graduated Post High School in 1943. She married Odean Cummings and he preceded her in death November 12, 1962. She later married Gerald (Jerry)

Conoly June 7, 1987 here in Post. She worked as the secretary of Post Junior High School in the late 1960's, then she went to work for United Supermarkets where she retired in 1992. Maxine was a positive role model for many teens of Post while at the school and chaperoning Teen Town during the late 60's. She loved the people of Post and was a staple at the grocery store through those years. She served on the city council and was very active in her church. She was a member of the First Baptist Church. Gerald (Jerry) and Maxine moved to Breckenridge in 1995 to retire. They returned to Post in 2009.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, two sisters and a granddaughter.

Maxine leaves numerous family and friends that will miss her kind words, gentle smile and loving heart.. Husband: Jerry Conoly, and 8 kids: Cherri and Steve Simpson (Sulphur Springs TX.), Debbie Ford (Abilene TX.), Larry and Elbia Cummings (Rhome TX), J.O. and Cheryl Cummings (Granbury TX.), David and Joy Conoly (White River Lake TX.) Cindy Pruitt (Lubbock TX), Marty and Cheryl Conoly (Floresville TX) and Pam Kennedy (Lubbock TX.), 26 plus grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Dee and Janet Justice, Justice Mason Funeral Home. Memorial services were at 3:00 p.m. Saturday June 25, 2011 at the First Baptist Church in Post with the Rev. Steve McMeans officiating. Interment at Terrace Cemetery will follow.

Memorials are suggested to Alzheimer's Research.

The family greeted friends at the funeral home Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Jimmie Hunt

Funeral Services were held for Jimmie Hunt, 78, of Post, on Thursday June 30, 2011 at 10:30 in the Calvary Baptist Church. Rev. Darren Weaver, pastor, officiated, he was assisted by Rev. Wayne Shelton of Odessa. Burial was held at 2:30 in the Terry County Memorial Cemetery under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice of Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Mr. Hunt passed away Monday, June 27, 2011 at his home. He was born May 6, 1933 in Lubbock County to Lawrence Elmer Hunt and Era Mae Parker. He was raised and attended school at Old Glory and Aspermont. He worked for BJ Services and after retirement rebuilt antique tractors. He married Jackie Ruth McNeil on Oct. 14, 1959, she preceded him in death in on June 16, 2005. He married Geretha (Gerry) Townsend on April 1, 2006 in Brownfield. They moved to Post in 2007. He served his country in the United States Marine Corps. He enjoyed fishing, family, Bible study and praying. He was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister Annette Atchley.

He is survived by his wife: Gerry of Post Children; Linda and Steve Letz and Deborah and Steve Hopper all of Abilene, Shannon and Shelly Hunt of Midland, Shawnda and Rick Jany of Post, Sheila and Lester Towell of Brownwood and Vicky Campbell of Montague. Two brothers; David Hunt of Amarillo and Gerald and Karen Hunt of Temple, a sister Wanda Morgan of Dumas, thirteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren and Tammy Boen and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials to the Calvary Baptist Church, 210 East 6th, Post, TX 79356

POSTDISPATCHONLINE.COM

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.

website www.thepostdispatchonline.com

All material Copyright 2008 The Post Dispatch

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.

Member Texas Press Association 2008

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

United Supermarkets

AG TEXAS Clay Miller
FARM CREDIT SERVICES
P.O. Box 923 Ralls, TX 79357
Office (806) 253-2506
Fax (806) 253-2060
Cell (806) 392-3920
clay.miller@agtexas.com

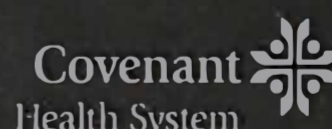
LOANS FOR Real Estate

Covenant Mobile Mammography will be providing screening mammograms in Post.

July 27, 2011
United Supermarket
123 N. Broadway

For information or to schedule an appointment call 1.877.494.4797

Financial assistance, for those who qualify, is funded in part by the Lubbock Komen for the Cure.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

McCool Fruit

NEW! Starting at \$2.29
Mango Pineapple Smoothie

only \$4.99
Chicken McNugget 20-Piece Basket
You can make it a meal, too

McDonald's®
US Highway 84 Post, TX
I'm lovin' it!



The 501

by Hanaba Munn Welch



Red tape. By any other name it's papierkrieg - German for "paper war."

Germans make good soldiers. Maybe it should be no surprise that the German term makes paperwork an enemy to be conquered. Who wouldn't rather be a soldier in the fight against bureaucratization and all its trappings than a victim tied up in an overabundance of tape, unable even to flail? The word "papierkrieg" holds at least some hope of victory.

Have I lost you? Well, it's late. And I've been tied up in red tape myself. Or fighting the paperwork war, if you please.

Anyway, as long as we are noticing how things get cast differently in different languages, consider the operative French word "bureaucratization" as used above, even if it's not totally French. Or maybe it is.

Yep. Oui. It's a real French word, except you change the "z" to "s," which is probably also necessary for the British English spelling. But do we care? I'm past caring. Red

tape affects me that way.

In case you were wondering where we get the expression "red tape," I'll save you some Googling. It's from England, where legal documents traditionally are bound in red tape. But when I myself think of red tape, I see instead the current Southwest Airlines commercial where a guy is being chased by a big ball of red tape or the one where a hapless family gets wrapped up in tape. Southwest to the rescue. If only it were that easy.

Meanwhile, the word "bureau" holds some intrigue. How did "bureau" get to be part of a verb like "bureaucratize?" When I was a child, a bureau was either a piece of furniture or the name of my daddy's favorite organization, Farm Bureau.

Indeed, we were on a Farm Bureau trip to Washington, D.C. in July 1948 when I said my first sentence - "J. Z. gone town" - to the Statler Hotel porter who brought a glass of buttermilk to our room for me.

Other babies drank formula;

I drank buttermilk. At home on the farm we made our own, but at the Statler we were dependent on room service. Mother always remembered how that glass of buttermilk arrived on a silver tray with a small silver shaker of salt. Nice.

Anyway, there I was, an 18-month-old sipping buttermilk and developing verbal skills and no doubt hearing the word "bureau" left and right in the Farm Bureau context and, when back home, hearing my grandmother use the very same word to refer to the chest of drawers. Confusing.

Then I majored in French and found out that the most basic meaning of "bureau" in French is simply "desk," which makes the term "bureaucracy" easy to understand. Lots of desks.

The late Capt. Henry Spicer, my one-time boss in New Orleans, once told me "Give a person a desk, and they'll create a job."

There you have it. We don't have a job shortage in this country. We just need more desks.

LEGENDS...

GARZA COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

BY LINDA PUCKETT

[Linda's note] Folks, this is a rare opportunity to read about the early history of Garza and surrounding counties. As a historian, I believe this to be one of the best accounting that I have read to date, especially regarding the Comanche. I hope you find it as interesting as I do. Part-4 of Jack Alley's story, written by Frank Hill, continues next week.

Part three of the Jack Alley story continues after the Comanche raid and deaths of two men at Yellowhouse Canyon. The burros of the two dead men ran wild for several years, as they were of little use to anyone in this section.

The next day, Bill Slaughter and Charley Hensley got four or five cowboys and followed the Indians out on the Plains to a place called Monument Lake. I don't know where Monument Lake is now, as that was before anything was known of this country and there were no county lines or landmarks, but it must have been west or northwest of Double Lakes, Lynn County or possibly in Hockley County. They attacked the Indians. Many shots were fired with no casualties.

Greatly outnumbered, the cowboys were surrounded by the Indians. When night came on, however, the boys slipped away and came back to the ranch for more cow-

boys. The second posse was composed of Bill Slaughter, Gus Cornelius, B. McDonald, Pink Hayes, Dick Crutchfield, Dick Palmer, Ruby Secrest, a rancher living on the mouth of the Yellowhouse Creek, a man by the name of Ware who had the Post Oak Ranch on Duck Creek, east of Blanco, Charlie Hart, a buffalo hunter, myself, and three other men whose names I don't remember.

The thirteen of us followed the Indian trail to Double Lakes, then southwest to Cedar Lake in what is now Gaines County, and then northwest to Monument Lake. Not finding the Indians, we started back to the ranch. When we got to Double Lakes, we were surprised to find that the Indians had doubled back somehow, had just filled up their water jugs and were making camp about a mile away. We got water and started after them. The chase continued for about fifteen miles south of the lakes.

There was much shooting and excitement. Every once in a while the Indian "Bucks" would stop behind a sand-hill and open fire to hold us off until the squaws got the horses out of the way. The squaws were carrying two or three paposes. We kept within about a quarter of a mile of the Indians and crowded them so closely that they lost their saddles,

tepees and camp equipment, blankets, knives and so forth all along the trail. We were armed with single-shot, 16-pound buffalo guns, which were so big and heavy that we had to get down off our horses to fire with any accuracy. The Indians were shooting Spencer carbines, rim-fire Winchesters, and other obsolete army guns.

When we gave up the fight and turned back, we cap-

LEGENDS... continued on page 8

Yesteryears

10 Years Ago

The First Annual Post City Radio sponsored True Value Country Showdown was held at the Garza Theatre.

Tray and Heidi Payne announced the birth of their baby, Mabry Ryann, June 7, 2001.

A bridal shower honored Mrs. Michael Collazo, nee Jenny Jones, was held at Citizens Bank room.

Response Team welcomes Juan Basquez to their team. The response team provides needed service and early warning during severe weather.

20 Years Ago

Dr. Charles McCook and Halley Fluitt step off on a two-mile race to raise money for Post CARES.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe A. DeLeon celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 7, 1991. They moved to Post in 1954.

Mary Ann Gordon, R.N., graduated May 18, 1991 from Eastern New Mexico University with an Associates Degree in Nursing.

Ronny Ammons graduated May 25, 1991 from Wayland Baptist University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Occupational Education.

30 Years Ago

Librarian Pee Wee Pierce and grandson, Michael Wells, return to Post following a seven day sightseeing tour of Washington, D.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Bird announced the engagement of their daughter, Cindy, to Wade Demere. The couple were married Aug. 7.

Yard of the Week went to Mable Manuel at 623 Pine Street.

40 Years Ago

The largest "community party" since Post's Golden Jubilee back in the fall of 1957 appeared shaping up for the City-County Park Saturday when the Post Chamber of Commerce sponsored its third annual Fourth of July celebrations.

A funeral service for Jesus Luna Collazo Sr., 63, was held at First Baptist Church. Last rite for W. L. "Dick" Wood, 72, was held at First Baptist Church.

Post Jaycees named Billy Williams as "Jaycees of the Month for June."

Silas Short was installed as the new president of the Post Rotary Club.

50 Years Ago

Jerry Thuitt has been presented with a Certificate of Merit in Farm Mechanics, awarded by the Thor Research Center for Better Farm Living, Huntley, Ill., for showing the greatest farm mechanics ability among the graduating seniors of PHS.

Harold Lucas named Garza parole officer for Garza Co.

A record-sized crowd of

some 3,000 Garza folks turned out for the Chamber's Fourth of July Barbecue at the city park.

60 Years Ago

Church of the Nazarene held its ground-breaking ceremony for the building of a new church auditorium.

Steve Strasner, resigned from his position as Post High School principal after five years of service. Strasner also taught in the Post System for six years.

Able and Gloria Abraham announced the birth of a daughter, Sarah, born June 19.

Charlotte Martinez announced the birth of a son, Jose, born June 14.

Frank O. and Julia M. Soto announced the birth of a son, Paul, born June 19.

You deserve a Vacation!

With High Speed Internet Service from Poka Lambro, surfing the Net & planning your summer vacation has never been easier! A super-fast, super-reliable connection from Poka Lambro will have you relaxing in no time!

ASK ABOUT FREE INSTALLATION!

No worries!
Be sure to get your home security system installed BEFORE you go! Call the licensed professionals at Poka Lambro Security! We'd love to schedule a free, on-site security evaluation for you.

ASK ABOUT A FREE BASIC SECURITY SYSTEM & FREE INSTALLATION!!

Also providing: LOCAL PHONE - LONG DISTANCE - AUTHORIZED AT&T RETAILER

1647 Ave J Tahoka 806-561-5600	115 W Main Post 806-990-9901	307 Hill Seagraves 806-387-3333	11.5 mi N of Tahoka Hwy 87 806-662-8805	512 N 2nd Lamesa 806-872-6520
--------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------

*Certain restrictions apply. See stores for details. With a free security system, monthly monitoring is \$29.95. Poka Lambro Security P.O. Box 1340 Tahoka, TX 79373 Ph 800-662-8805 License #B15273

You deserve a Vacation!

CELEBRATING OUR NATION'S FREEDOM!

Celebrate July 4th with us

Friday, July 1!

Come by and enjoy refreshments

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

CitizensBANK

www.bankoncitizens.com
Post, TX (806) 495-3545

Lobby Hours 9-3 M-F
Drive In Hours 9-6 M-F
9-12 Sat

MEMBER FDIC

Early Holiday Deadlines

Due to our office closing for the 4th of July holiday weekend, we will have early deadlines for our **ADVERTISING and EDITORIAL**

For the July 7th issue only

<p style="margin: 0;">Advertising</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Friday</p> <p style="margin: 0;">June 30TH 3PM</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Editorial</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Tuesday</p> <p style="margin: 0;">July 5TH 4PM</p>
--	--

Thank you for your cooperation and patience

-The Staff At

The Post Dispatch

In and Around Close City

by Traci Freeman

Weather

It is still so very hot and dry.....please everyone be so very careful take care of yourselves and our land. This means no fireworks this 4th of July; believe me I am bummed about it also. I love fireworks and between all of us within a mile or two of Close City we normally have a pretty good show out here. It's just too dangerous so we will celebrate in other ways this year.

News

We all want to send a big get well out to Troy Nelson who has been under the weather, hope you are better real soon, Troy!

Cuco, Javier and I got a small garden planted out front with peppers and squash, we've have nearly lost all of our peppers and not to drought...to the rabbits! They are some hungry little varmints so far they have managed

to get all of our squash so hopefully it will make it. Nothing better than fresh fried squash...Yummy!

That's all the news I have for this week; everyone please have a very happy and safe 4th of July!

Did you know...

Cotton can absorb up to 27 times its own weight in water

Visitors

We haven't really had any visitors this week pretty much our regular crew. Ya'll should come join us one morning for coffee and all the teachin' we can give ya!

Don't forget to check out our page on Facebook under Close City Community. Feel free to write on our wall or post pictures. It's a fun place to keep up with friends and happenings.

Close City Birthdays

July 3rd - RuthAnn Young

Ragtown folks in the nursing homes we need to remember are... Marj Caffey in Marble Falls; Doug and Claudine Tipton; Carmen Abraham; Sue Shyles 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; Lula Jo Stewart also in Lubbock. Please let me know if there is anyone I need to add to this list.

FYI

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

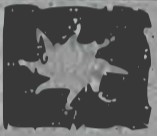
Everyone have a great week, be safe, come see us and keep rain and our troops in your daily prayers and send me your news! See ya next week.



One Company ... Unlimited Possibilities
115 W. Main • Post • 990-9901
Local • Long Distance • Internet



First Baptist Church Post, Texas
1907-2007
Est. 1907



Tanner's

Appliance Heating & Air
"Quality Service You can Trust"
806-495-1612

PALMER

OILFIELD CONSTRUCTION

Roustabouts • Oilfield Welding • Pump Mechanics
New & Used Pumps • Backhoes
495-2710 Mobile (806) 632-8147 • 495-3639

Trust in the Lord!



113 N. Ave. H • 495-3330

Locally Served by Jerry Taylor LC 230

God Bless the USA!

Weekly Inspirations

HE CAN'T EVEN SWIM

BY: Michael F. Taylor

I once heard the story of a church whose pastor retired after fifty five years in the ministry. Now, he had been in this particular congregation for the past two decades and the church was a little apprehensive about finding a replacement that would be able to fill their last minister's shoes. But after much prayer and supplication, they were able to find a couple of really fine candidates to interview. Both young ministers interviewed seemed to be exceptional speakers and had a good knowledge of the scripture, but one of them just seemed to stand out to the church members and almost unanimously, the congregants voted for him to fill their vacant pulpit. Unfortunately, there was one very vocal dissenter, a middle aged deacon who had been in the church all his life. And, vocal about his disagreement was an understatement! Every opportunity he had, it seems that he would express his belief that the church had hired the wrong minister.

Well, things rocked along for a few months, when one of the members of the congregation spoke to the new pastor about going fishing. And without hesitation, the pastor (an avid fisherman) agreed. Being a person who wished to see all the members excited about the new leader of the church, the member also asked the dissenting deacon along. Thinking that if the deacon realized they both had a passion for fishing it might heal the dissension, the well meaning member decided not to inform the deacon that the two would be sharing the same boat. When the trio met at the boat dock, there was a moment of silence as both men agreed to embark upon the fishing trip. Unfortunately, as the got into the middle of the sizable lake, and began to reach for the tackle boxes, the host of the trip noticed that all the gear had accidentally been left on the boat dock. He announced the error and told them that he would just have to turn the boat around and go get the tackle. At that, the new Pastor informed him that it would not be necessary and that he would be happy to retrieve the boxes. He then stepped out of the boat and began walking across the water much like Peter must have done when walking to Jesus.

The grouchy deacon looked at his fellow member and exclaimed, "See I told you we should have never hired him. He can't even swim!"

My word of encouragement this week is simply this: Time in this old world is short. At least as I grow older by each moment, each day, each month, and each year, I come to the realization more and more that my time here is shorter than it was when I was a younger man. And yet my mission is still the same. And He (Jesus) is still the same, "Yesterday, Today, and Forever". And that mission, if I choose to accept it; is to tell others that Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah and that He is truly the Lord of Lords. And it isn't important necessarily exactly how much time I have, but more important is the great commission given to me and to the church. To tell others about the Love of the Lord! Tell others about His promise of Salvation! And that we as Christian believers forget about all the disagreements over doctrine, theology or what color the new carpet should be in the sanctuary, and remember that God sent His Only Begotten Son to Save the World.

Even if we can't Swim, each of us can still spread the Gospel News!!! Benjamin Franklin once said it this way, "Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time. For that's the stuff life is made of." Let's spend our time telling others about THE SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST this week. God bless each of you and have a safe and happy Fourth of July.

"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

LYNN COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
www.lchdhealthcare.org
Tahoka • 998-4533
Physician & Wellness Clinic
Swirl Bed & Physical Therapy

United
Supermarkets

God Bless the USA!

Hudman Funeral Home
615 W. Main • 495-2821

Cogdell Memorial Hospital
Located at: 1700 Cogdell Blvd., Snyder, Texas 79549
Phone: 325-573-6374

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	111N. 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		Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326
Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326	First Presbyterian Church	910 W. 10th, 495-2135

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.

Watch Up For Power Lines
Lyntegar Electric Cooperative Inc.
Tahoka 561 4588
Lamesa - 872-2632
Sundown - 229-3741

Ira
PUMP & SUPPLY CO., INC.
Office:
806-495-3521
806-495-3503
Fax:
806-495-2985

Focus on the Stars and Stripes

by Darren Weaver
Correspondent

When the Declaration of Independence was signed, did the United States have an official national flag? How many stars and stripes were on that first flag? Who designed and sewed the first flag? When do we fly the flag? What is the proper etiquette for flying the Stars and Stripes? All these are valid questions for today's American citizen, but most do not know the answers to them. If we took a test on the American flag, would we pass?

The truth is, most of us know a little about the Star-Spangled Banner as a song, much less the symbol of American freedom. There are many points of etiquette when it comes not only to flying the flag, but in maintaining and disposing of one. Many of us do not know the proper days to display a flag, and when to put it up or take it down. We will address some of those topics, but an exhaustive list of flag etiquette cannot be contained

search criteria.

What days should I fly my flag? Well, actually every day is good to fly the flag if the weather is not inclement, unless you own an all-weather flag designed specifically for that purpose. However, if a daily display is impractical but you want to show your patriotism and your knowledge of flag flying, the following is a list of those appropriate patriotic times: New Year's Day, Inauguration Day, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, Lincoln's birthday, Washington's birthday, Easter, Mother's Day, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Father's Day, Independence Day, National Korean War Veteran's Armistice Day (did you know that one?), Labor Day, Constitution Day, Columbus Day, Navy Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and other days proclaimed by the President. You can also fly the flag on state birthdays and state holidays. Fly the flag at half-staff the following

Pearl Harbor Day, both from sunrise to sunset. Did you know there is one location where the flag is never flown at half-staff? The answer to this trivia question is found at the end of this article.

How do I display my flag? The answer to this one is much more complicated, but stick to these major rules and you should be fine: Don't let your flag touch the ground. If it does, make sure it has not been soiled. You can wash it by hand with mild soap and make sure it is dry before displaying it. Don't fly your flag after sunset unless it is illuminated. Don't fly your flag in inclement weather unless it is an all-weather flag. If your flag should become worn or tattered, it should be repaired or replaced. These are easy rules to follow, and hopefully will encourage everyone to show their patriotism by flying the Stars and Stripes.

Some other interesting facts about flags: Flags displayed on t-shirts are considered "official" flags and should be shown the same respect and care as those flying atop poles. Flags on napkins and paper plates are not official flags and not truly appropriate, since they are designed for temporary use and intended to be discarded. Disposing of a flag is also filled with proper form and etiquette, and should be done with the respect for the symbol of our national colors. Speaking of the colors, they have incredible meaning as well. There are specific color names and numbers associated with the red and blue, in order to adhere to proper flag-making etiquette. The pantone colors are Red 193 and Blue 281. In RGB colors, all three are identified. Dark Red BF0A30, White FFFFFFFF, and Navy 002868. Not only are there specific color names and number to follow, the actual colors have significant purposes and histories. In 1782, the Great Seal was adopted with

these same colors, with the meaning as follows: white for purity and innocence, red for valor and hardiness, and blue for vigilance, perseverance, and justice. Although these colors are designations of the Seal and do not officially apply to the flag, the colors are the same. Some other legends inhabit the colors of the flag, but these cannot be verified as true.

Many wonder if the folds of the flag at a military funeral have meaning. Although there is no official meaning attributed to this ceremony, the American Legion has developed their own meaning for each fold of the flag. These twelve folds are listed as follows: Life on Earth, Eternal Life, the veteran who gave a portion of his life in defense of the United States, Humanity's Weaker Nature and reliance on God during times of war and peace, tribute to Our Country, the state of the American's heart, The United States Armed Forces, tribute to the One who entered the valley of the shadow of death that humanity may see the light of day, tribute to Motherhood, tribute to Fatherhood, the Jewish emblem of the lower Davidic and Solomonian Seal representing the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and the Christian emblem of eternity designed to glorify God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. There are many other rules with flag codes and etiquette, and these can again be found easily by searching the web under "American Flag". By all means, fly your flag, citizens and patriots. If you don't own one, make it a point to pick one up before July 4th. You can even apply to get a flag that was flown over the National Capitol in Washington, D.C., but I'll let you do the research on that one. Above all, show your true colors by flying the Red White and Blue. Oh, and by the way, the flag is never flown at half-staff on the moon.

Parvo – fact or fiction?

By Dr. Kerry Wink, DVM
Correspondent

Two months ago the equine industry had an EHV-1 viral outbreak, causing grave concerns, cancellation of most equine events, and national coverage. Did you know the dog world has the same thing on a regular basis? Viruses so severe it can be lethal, last for years in the environment, and spread like wildfire? Well, maybe I shouldn't use the word wildfire right now.... sorry PVFD! I'm referring to Parvovirus, aka Parvo.

Over the next two weeks I will be writing a 2-part series discussing the facts and fiction of Rabies and Parvovirus. This week Part 1 devoted to Parvovirus. "Parvo" is a very contagious viral disease in dogs. Viral meaning there is no cure; just treatment while it runs its course. Parvo attacks the lining of the digestive system causing symptoms such as lethargy (aka not eating/drinking), fever, vomiting, and bloody or mucousy diarrhea.

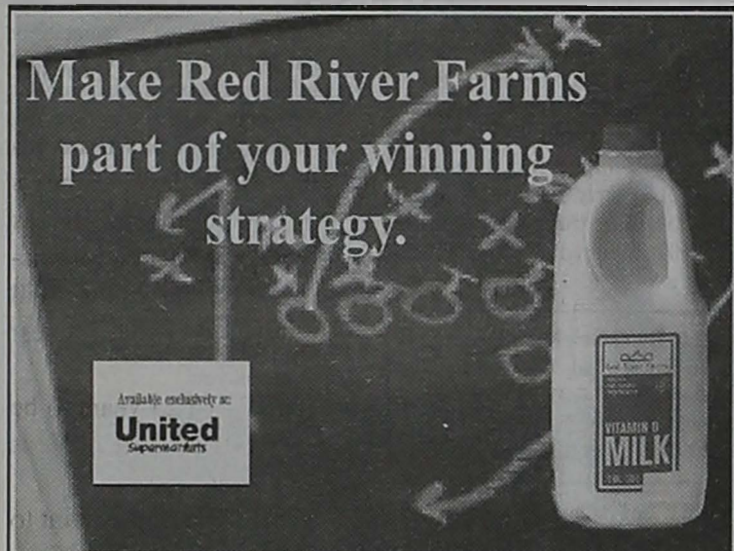
Although I might not seem that old to some of y'all, the first six years of my career I practiced at what I would call the 'Parvo capital of the world'. This extremely busy clinic averaged 5 cases of Parvo EVERY DAY! Let's do the math shall we? That's 25 cases a week, 100 parvo patients a month, or 1300 cases each year! On a normal day we had at least three parvo dogs isolated in the back for treatment. So, for those of you who think I'm too young or inexperienced... I've seen and treated around 8,000 parvo dogs in my career. Needless to say, I've learned a thing or two about Parvo, its symptoms,

and its treatment.

Fact or Fiction: Parvovirus only affects puppies. **Answer: Fiction...** While parvovirus mainly affects puppies (dogs less than 1 year old), it can also affect older dogs. Puppies are more prone since they have an immature immune system, but older dogs with weakened immune systems are just as susceptible. This is why we suggest a vaccination each year for dogs of all ages to sustain the immune system. We recommend a series of 4 Parvo vaccinations for puppies in order to give your dog the greatest protection. A yearly booster is recommended for adult dogs.

Fact or Fiction: My dog can get "Parvo" from the cat. **Answer: Fact.** Shocking right? While dogs are the only animal that can catch parvovirus, cats, dogs, people, and birds can be *fomites* of the virus. A *fomite* is something that can carry the virus on them without them getting affected by it. Since Parvo is shed thru feces, a cat, human, or any other object that comes in contact with contaminated area can spread the virus via feet, shoes, tires, etc. Humans can transmit Parvo thru our hands by petting animals, clothing worn while holding an infectious dog in our arms, etc. A dog must ingest the virus by mouth which makes it easily spread since dogs are prone to lick and sniff, especially other dogs or feces. This is the reason we do not allow owners to visit their dogs if hospitalized for Parvo at our clinic. We don't want any chance of the owner picking up the virus and contaminating other areas such as home, yard, etc.

Compliments of
Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility
Management & Training Corporation



in a single newspaper article. days: May 15 from sunrise to

CALVERT
HOME HEALTH CARE, LTD.
"The West Texas choice for quality home health care!"

**June Focus:
Healthy Feet
Program**

806.495.2990
www.calverthomehealth.com

*Free Blood Pressure Clinic every
Tuesday from 2-4pm.

This Saturday is Post City Trade Day downtown from 9-6. Take advantage of a great opportunity to "shop at home".

We will be placing a brick order for Memorial Plaza on July 22. If you need an order form, you can download one at postcitytexas.com or contact the PACC office.

Silver Chamber Mem-

ber Poka Lambro is now an authorized AT&T Wireless Retailer. Their friendly, knowledgeable staff would love to help you choose the wireless phone and voice or data plan that's right for you. They've got a great selection of cell phones & accessories to choose from! Their store in Post is located at 115 West Main

Street.

The city is offering curbside pickup the second full week of July. Items should be placed by the curb the week of July 11 by 9:00 a.m.

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Bingo Night on August 4. Make plans to come for an evening of fun and prizes.

The 4th of July celebra-

tion at the city park has been cancelled and there is a fireworks ban for all of Garza County. Have a safe holiday weekend.

Congratulations to our Members of the Week:

Platinum Member – PALMER OILFIELD CONSTRUCTION

Silver Member – RAG-TOWN GOSPEL THEATER

PACC News

Claborn Reunion

The 64th annual Claborn Reunion was held in Post, Texas Saturday June 18, 2011.

Food, photos and visiting was enjoyed by everyone.

Those in attendance were as follows: Ebb Ham-

ilton, her daughter Priscilla Mayhar and granddaughter Patsy Mayhar all of Odessa Texas; Cindy Holloway of Granite Shoals, Texas; Renee Claborn, Lisa Elmendorf and sons Douglas and Jonathan Elmendorf, Belinda Baker

and son Billy Baker and grandsons Avin and Canyon Baker all of Lubbock, Texas, Mary Lee Claborn and Peggy both of Post, Texas.

Congratulations were given to recent High School Graduates Patsy Mayhar from Permian High School, Odessa, Texas and Jonathan Elmendorf from Monterey High School. Patsy is the great grandson of the late Fay and Ruby Claborn.

Thanks for
Reading!

Come and Get it!
We are open and have lot's of CASH.
Come get yours!
Loans up to \$1,240⁰⁰

Reliable Finance

410 N. Broadway
Post, TX.
Call: 495-0390

Vanessa Morales- Manager
Frances Armstrong- Assl. Manager

Clay Miller
AG TEXAS
P.O. Box 923
Ralls, TX 79357
Office (806) 253-2506
Fax (806) 253-2060
Cell (806) 392-3920
clay.miller@agtexas.com

LOANS FOR
Real Estate

POKA LAMBRO
Is an Authorized
AT&T WIRELESS
Retailer in POST!

Come see us for all your wireless needs!
Let our friendly, knowledgeable staff help you choose the wireless phone and voice or data plan that's right for you.
Great selection of the latest & greatest cell phones & accessories to choose from!

LOCAL STORE! 115 West Main Street in Post
806-990-9901

POKA LAMBRO
ONE COMPANY... UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES

HIGH SPEED INTERNET • LOCAL PHONE • LONG DISTANCE • MONITORED SECURITY • AT&T WIRELESS RETAILER
Poka Lambro Security - License #815273 - PO Box 1340 Tahoka, TX 79373 800-652-8805

OPINION



The Paperboy

The summer of 2011

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

It was midnight (Monday morning) and I stood outside to see what the temperature gauge would read at that hour. A sweltering 96 degrees. Three months ago, that would have been a warm high for the day.

In 1994, when I was young and foolish, I got word that Childress was going to be at an all-time high. After work that day, a buddy and I went to play golf. It was 117 degrees.

This past Sunday we hit 117 again, tying the all-time record. Ironically, my good friend played golf Sunday during the heat of the day. He joins the prestigious club I started in 1994.

I don't have to tell you what the weather is like. It is abundantly clear. It is nearly unbelievable the extremes - both hot and cold - that we can reach in this part of the country.

When you're watching the news, and you get credit for "leading the nation today" for the highest temperature, that is not a good thing. I guess for one second everyone listening or watching will think, "Thank God I'm not there," but that's about all you get winning that category.

I was going through the National Weather Service database and heat waves of this magnitude happen a couple of times a decade. What makes this one so bad is that it

comes during a severe drought encompassing nearly all of Texas and half of Oklahoma and Kansas. My farmer friends are telling me it's the worst they've ever seen and more than one older farmer has said it's worse than at any point in their lifetime including the 1950s.

But what can you do? The only option is to wait it out.

When I was a child, my grandfather was involved in the Greenbelt Bowl All-Star game in Childress. There was a severe drought and as the story goes, I was sitting in the car at the football stadium and it started to sprinkle. As the water hit the windshield, I asked my grandfather what it was. I think I was 3, which would have made it June of 1971.

The entire incident tickled my grandfather and he passed the story on to a friend of his at *The Dallas Morning News*. Sometime later a blurb appeared on the front page of the DMN referring to a young boy, Chris Blackburn in Childress, Texas, who didn't know what rain was when he saw it.

Again, that's not how you want your town perceived.

We have hired some new people here and three are not from this area. One is from Michigan, one from Denver, and one from Arkansas. I've told them multiple times that this is not normal. I don't know if they believe me or not because I'm pretty sure they think they've moved to the sun.

Back during that heat wave of 1994, my grandfather and his buddies would meet for coffee daily at 3 p.m. I remember one day his friend walked into the paper and said, "Morris, it's 110 outside and I don't know if I can take it."

My grandfather replied, "Buddy, what in the hell did we do before air conditioning?"

That's a valid question. One repeated the other day by my son. He wanted to know how people survived before AC. I told him people they didn't know anything different and they were probably a little tougher than we are today. I also told him that may be the reason no one was smiling in our old family photographs.

I don't know how long the heat wave will last and I don't know how long this dreadful drought is going to last. I honestly don't think anyone does. My heart goes out to the farmers and ranchers trying to cope with the unbearable conditions. It's rough.

Looking at the next week, it looks like the coolest day we have coming up is 106 degrees. I guess that's better than 117...

Copyright Christopher Blackburn 2011

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

Other Opinions

CBO's Fuzzy Math

By BILL WILSON

On July 22, the Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) issued its latest long-term projections on the growth of the national debt. Astonishingly, as bad as the numbers issued by the CBO were, the debt crisis the nation faces is even worse than we are being told.

The CBO analysis does not take into account the full \$14.344 trillion national debt, nor does it reflect the \$430 billion in gross interest payments we are paying every year.

Instead it only considers the \$9.7 trillion 'debt held by the public'. That was cited by the CBO. What was not was the \$4.6 trillion of debt owed to the Medicare and Social Security trust funds. Interest is owed to those programs similarly is not included.

These are real liabilities that the American people are expected to honor, and do honor under CBO's analysis. But because they are not revealed until 2024 and 2036, when the trust funds are fully exhausted, even the dire scenarios that are presented to the American people are actually rosy.

Why would the CBO leave this out of their analysis? Ostensibly, economists would counter that it's just money owed to ourselves, and not a share of debt held publicly. That, those obligations might be repudiated. So they shouldn't be counted until they come due.

In reality, it's just an accounting gimmick that hides that allows the government to understate the dire fiscal condition the Treasury really is in. When the Medicare and Social Security trust funds are exhausted in 2024 and 2036, respectively, the Treasury will be forced to borrow more money publicly anyway to honor the obligations to those programs.

So, it's all going to wind up in the gross debt that's reported at the end of day. That makes public debt and intergovernmental debt a difference without a distinction, but nonetheless a useful sleight of hand for the government to hide the true extent of the problem.

CBO reports that the debt will reach 100 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2021. In reality the national debt will be larger than the entire economy in 2012 if not sooner. At \$14.344 trillion, the national debt already rep-

resents 95.5 percent of the \$15.010 trillion Gross Domestic Product.

Nor are the people warned that total interest payments already exceed the 18 percent of revenue red flag level Moody's has explicitly warned against as being unaffordable. Just as the principal owed to the entitlements are not taken into account, neither are interest payments to those programs. Will Moody's wait until 2024 and 2036 to discover that interest payments have suddenly jumped?

The truth is, we cannot afford to wait 15 to 25 years to be honest about the debt burden we have taken on. The crisis is now.

The projections are bad enough in any event. They point to the need for every member of Congress to take the 'Cut, Cap, and Balance' pledge, which would immediately cut spending by hundreds of billions, cap it at 18 percent of GDP, and send a Balanced Budget Amendment to the states for adoption.

What Congress may not understand, however, is that time is running out to take meaningful action to avert a true crisis.

Chavez And His Dictatorship In Critical Condition

By ADAM BITELYI

From all available reports, Hugo Chavez is in critical condition in a hospital in Cuba. The Venezuelan communist dictator was taken to Cuba several weeks ago for an emergency surgery regarding pelvic swelling, which has led many to speculate that he is dealing with prostate cancer.

In the irony of ironies, Hugo Chavez was faced with the decision to have to leave his own nation, and the health care system that was supposed to be an example for other nations, to receive care from another questionable health care system in Cuba.

Chavez, a believer that the state should control all industry, including medical services, could not receive the adequate treatment for his life threatening condition in his own nation. This could be because he does not trust any of the doctors in Venezuela with his life threatening condition, or, that there are no doctors left in his nation that are capable of undertaking such surgeries with good outcomes.

To receive adequate care, Chavez had to head to fellow communist nation Cuba, where such surgery could be administered. However, even in Cuba, it appears that he is receiving

sub-par health care. This should be a "teachable" moment for all those who believe in centralized health care.

In Venezuela, the right to health care is guaranteed in their constitution. All citizens are given access to a "free" health care system, as Venezuelan Analysis reports. However, this system is terribly run, and hospitals are often overcrowded with people not receiving adequate care. In fact, Cuba sends doctors to Venezuela to help with the shortage that was created out of centralizing the medical system. Even more, the Cuban doctors that are sent to Venezuela defect in large numbers - including somewhere in the neighborhood of 4,000 doctors alone in 2006!

With Chavez being out of the public light since June 10, many are beginning to believe that the dictator may be gone for a long period of time as information on his condition remains murky. This has led to his brother, Adan Chavez, to issue a bizarre statement to Venezuelans that violence is not out of the question to preserve the Chavez regime.

Stating on Sunday that the Hugo Chavez followers may have to resort to violence, Adan Chavez said, "As authentic revolutionaries, we cannot forget other forms of fighting." Chavez went on to quote the violent and ruthless commu-

nist leader Che Guevara, saying, "It would be inexcusable to limit ourselves to only the electoral and not see other forms of struggle, including the armed struggle." These statements hardly make one believe that Hugo Chavez will pull through in strong health.

Setting threats of violence aside, the single payer health scam is brought to light through this episode.

If you are faced with having to flee Venezuela and go to Cuba for adequate health care, you're health care system is in bad shape. As the Des Moines Register recently wrote of single-payer health systems, "A single-payer system sounds great if you don't have all the facts. Persons from all over the world come here for care they can't get in their countries. Any single-payer health system could discourage really talented people from going into medicine. We wouldn't like mediocre health care."

But in Venezuela, Hugo Chavez would have received mediocre care, and made the gamble that he would be better off in an undisclosed Cuban hospital, where he apparently is still receiving mediocre care. Single payer health systems are bad, and Hugo Chavez is now experiencing this first hand.

Florida governor sued for trying to save pensions

By RICK MANNING

The past six months have seen public employee unions protesting around the nation attempting to resist attempts by elected representatives to rein in the massive overspending of their predecessors.

Scenes from Wisconsin to Indiana to even California have found those who have been hired by taxpayers to do the government's business taking to the streets to keep the power, money and pensions that elected officials who they helped elect granted them.

In Wisconsin, the public employee unions even attempted to influence a judicial election in a brazen attempt to overturn the decisions by duly elected officials.

Now, the teachers union in Florida is suing the state over a change that was made in the law which would require their members to pay 3 percent out of their paychecks toward their retirement fund, instead of having that money provided by the taxpayers.

While I can feel some sympathy toward a public employee who entered this past year with one set of economic assumptions and had those assumptions turned on their head. That is

exactly what the rest of America has been feeling for the past three years, largely due to government overspending, keeping these very public employees in the high style that they've become accustomed.

For some reason, public employee unions believe that they should be insulated from the economic hardships that the rest of America has faced, and 2011 has been a cold slap in the face for many across the nation.

Ironically, these very public employees who now are taking to the streets, during their lunch hour, to protest are at the heart of most of the largest budget problems facing our state and local governments.

In a March 3 report entitled, "Just how Big are Public Pension Liabilities" by State Budget Solutions. Author Bryan Leonard takes the pension issue head on when he writes, "One of the most insidious aspects of pension liability is its stealth nature. Pension obligations don't appear on state balance sheets. As such, states with billions in unfunded pension liabilities may technically brag of 'balanced' budgets while being swamped by pension debt."

Newly elected Florida Governor Rick Scott came to office determined to square away the state's balance sheet, finding

an unfunded pension liability that is estimated by the American Enterprise Institute to possibly be as large as \$98.5 billion.

Unfunded pension liabilities are simply accounting tricks where government budget writers use monies that have been promised for the retirement of public employees to pay for other priorities. As the failure to put money into the pension fund snowballs, eventually the numbers become astronomical.

Ultimately, the irony of Governor Scott's successful effort to have public employees pay for a part of their own pensions is that it is the first step in saving the retirement security for these very employees.

Let's hope that the short-sighted attempts by the Florida teachers union to convince the Florida courts to unravel what Governor Scott and the elected state legislature have put in place fails.

Unfortunately, rather than praising the Governor for working to save their pensions, the unions are fighting and suing him every step of the way. Makes you wonder who actually represents the worker, doesn't it?

LEGENDS...Continued from page 3

and turned back, we captured eleven head of the Indian's horses that were worn out from their long trip from Oklahoma. The Red-skins had discarded their tired mounts to use the fresher ones they had stolen. Along the trail we picked up enough plunder discarded by the Indians to load six pack horses.

None of our men were shot in the fight, but we later learned we had wounded two or three of the Indians, though not fatally.

After quenching our thirst at Double Lakes, we started for home. At the head of the Salt Fork, we met Captain Nolan with a small company of soldiers from Fort Sill, Indian Territory, who had heard that the Indian tribe had left the reservation with evident evil intent and they were attempting to follow them. With him was Lieutenant Flipper, the first Negro officer ever turned out from West Point. He also had several Indian guides, who immediately recognized the Indian ponies we had captured and began pointing out and crying "Me pony! Me pony!" Captain Nolan allowed us to keep the horses, however, to partly make up for our losses to the Indians.

Just before the Indian attempt to roundup the Coggin and Wiley outfit, a humorous incident happened that involved an Irishman

who was working for these men. The Irishman had sent off and gotten a brand new center-fire Winchester, the first in this country and the last word in firearms, of which he was very proud. He was a line-rider and frequently boasted of what he would do if he ever ran on to any Indians. One day he was riding line out on the Plains and unexpectedly ran into three Indians skinning a cow. One of the big "Bucks" raised up and shouted: "What do you want you big blanket-blank white man?" The Irishman forgot that he had a gun. He whirled his horse and made a break for the nearby caprock, which he later said he contemplated using for breast-works in the battle against the Indians. "But", he said "when I got to the caprock, it was such a good going down place I couldn't stop"; and the Indians never saw Mike again.

The winter following our fight with the Indians, a company of Texas Rangers under the command of Geo. W. Arrington was sent to Blanco Canyon and established permanent headquarters just above Silver Falls, where they remained for several months, possibly a year. They were sent here to give the West Texas Frontier protection against these renegade Indians and to seek cattle and horse thieves and other criminals. While locat-

ed in Crosby County, they made an expedition across the South Plains by Tahoka Lake, up to the Yellowhouse bluffs, and out to the southwest in search of a bunch of Indians that had been stealing cattle and horses from the settlements further down in the state and driving them across the Plains to New Mexico. They struck the Indian trail but were forced to return in a blizzard half-starved and near death from exposure.

The other Indian raid we experienced was in the winter of 1880. We had the winter horses out fattening up and had brought them in to John Slaughter's headquarters and hobbled them in preparatory to send them out over the ranch for use. The Indians stole all these horses except one roan Indian pony. John or Will, I don't remember which, found this pony and rode her up to the Ranger camp and got Capt. Arrington and his men. Coming back to headquarters, they picked up the Indian trail and followed it across the Plains until dark. Contrary to their usual custom of going west, this band went northwest up the west side of Blanco. That night a big rain came and washed away all signs of the trail. Except for the roan and three or four others that were afterward returned by the Indian agent at Fort Sill, we lost our entire herd of horses.

DROUGHT Continued from page 5

erate temperatures, aquatic plants — mostly single-celled algae — will produce enough oxygen to somewhat offset the low oxygen concentration levels of warm water.

Cloudy days have been rare during the 2011 drought, Higginbotham noted, but when skies are overcast, photosynthesis is decreased and oxygen levels drop further.

"If the pond is too heavily stocked, fish can run into an oxygen debt," he said. "Hot weather can even bring about oxygen debt in moderately stocked ponds."

"Furthermore, small ponds that are intensively managed for high-standing crops of catfish at or above 1,000 pounds per surface acre are going to be among the first ponds to experience oxygen shortages as water levels drop."

Higginbotham said he has found that many pond owners over-estimate the surface acreage of their ponds by a factor of two or three.

There are simple methods to determine the size of a pond, he said. If the pond is more or less rectangular, the simplest way to determine its size is to measure the length and width in feet, then multiply one measurement by the other to get surface area in square feet. Divide this number by 44,000 to get the approximate area in acres.

As an example, a relatively square pond measuring about 200 feet on each side will have 40,000 square feet of surface area, or about one acre.

Calculating a round pond's size is a little more complicated. Divide the distance across the pond by two, square the result, then multi-

ply that number by 3.14.

Once the approximate surface area is determined, the next step is to determine the pounds of fish in the pond, Higginbotham said.

"Usually, the pond owner knows how many catfish were originally stocked in the pond and has a pretty good idea how many have been removed since stocking," he said. "By catching a few fish and weighing them, an owner can estimate the total pounds of fish in the pond."

Pond owners who suspect low oxygen concentrations should monitor their ponds closely, even if their stocking levels are 1,000 pounds per acre or less, Higginbotham said.

"Visit the pond shortly after daybreak," he said. "If fish are crowded up at the surface at first light, that's a pretty good indication that

you've got low-oxygen levels."

If this is the case, pond owners should either immediately harvest fish to reduce the stocking level or aerate that water, Higginbotham said.

"Aerate with a pump or boat motor just to get over the hump and through the immediate emergency in order to raise the oxygen levels, so you don't lose an entire pond of fish."

Post Notes...continued from page 1

begins June 3rd. Research shows a drop in literacy skills among students who don't read over the summer. Encourage your kids to read what they want...as long as it is on or above their grade level to maintain what they have worked so hard to achieve this past year. Summer reading can also help fill an achievement gap. Plan your summer schedule to include reading each day. Keep track of what is read, try new authors and inter-

ests, encourage older family members to read to younger siblings; it's like earning double points! Talk about your books, or to organize your own book club. Parents must accompany children who don't have library card. Library cards are free. During registration pick up your free reading log, bookmark and plan your summer success. Reading can save you from: "I'm Bored, what can I do?" Dig in...Let's READ!

FIRE...continued on page 8

different as the firefighters were called out once again to fight a fire that began in a "hot spot."

On Saturday afternoon at around 2:00 pm the fire came to life again, and once again our firefighters, many still exhausted from fighting this same fire the previous day with few hours to recover. They fought this second fire for another eight hours as valiantly as they have fought all the others. Exhaustion and heat is beginning to take its toll on the firefighters and the many citizens who step up to assist them. Sheriff's Deputy Kerry Clay was overcome with dehydration on Friday and required assistance from the Garza County EMTs who were also on the scene. Clay required fluids intravenously and then was placed on light duty the rest of the evening. A total of about 10,000 acres were burned in that fire known as the Payton fire.

Sunday afternoon around 4:00 pm there was a teasing of a rainstorm out on the Kirkpatrick ranch when according to Jack Kirkpatrick "we got ten drops of rain and a lot of lightening," which struck out in some pastureland and started the next fire which would rage until close to midnight. Once again a tired bunch of volunteer firefighters

responded to do what they do so well, fight a fire. The terrain made reaching the blaze difficult to get to and the salt cedars along a creek bed was its own source of fuel as they just burst into flames one after another making it even more difficult than usual to control the raging fire. Though the fire began on the Kirkpatrick ranch and they lost the majority of the approximately 2500 acres that was burned, the Dalby ranch was not left unscathed. The fire also burned over onto the Dalby ranch before it was contained.

Both fire departments have been very fortunate to have no fatalities or serious injuries, though there have been some instances of dehydration where volunteers needed IV fluids by the Garza County EMT. Their equipment has not fared so well however. There is the never ending round of flat tires as the trucks and equipment cross terrain filled with mesquites, which take a heavy toll on tires. All four of the county precincts have responded to every fire we have had so far this fire season. While their maintainers have also taken a beating, they have suffered no major losses until this fire, when they lost a maintainer that became stuck and was engulfed in flames. The

maintainer was a total loss and will have to be replaced. Fortunately, the county does have insurance on their equipment, but there is still the inconvenience of the loss while the county awaits for a replacement.

Since the Dispatch first began covering the wildfires at the beginning of the current fire season, Garza County has had so many fires and they have been so close together that Michael Isbell, the Emergency Management Director for Garza County has been swamped with trying to keep up with all the paper work that must be submitted on each fire. His approximation of total acres lost this season is somewhere around 140,000 acres and about 25 fires to date. Mr. Isbell promised an update for the Dispatch as soon as he can possibly catch up and give accurate figures. This has been the toughest fire season this county has seen since the drought of 1953. Our firefighters, county precincts and many citizen volunteers who show up to help fight the fires and provide support to the fire departments are to be commended. If you happen to see one of these folks, take the time to thank them for all their hard work and efforts. They have done a tremendous job of protecting this community.

6 Week Childbirth Preparation Class
Tuesdays, 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Cogdell Memorial Hospital Boardroom

Registered Nurses trained and skilled in Obstetrics teach expectant parents about:

- ❖ Birthing methods
- ❖ Pregnancy complications
- ❖ What happens after you give birth
- ❖ Breastfeeding and caring for your baby
- ❖ Safety for baby: Infant CPR, Choking and Shaken Baby Syndrome
- ❖ and much more

Childbirth classes will build your confidence in your body's ability to give birth.

You can discuss your fears about labor and birth with the instructors and other couples with the same concerns.

Your partner will learn about childbirth and how to support you on the big day. You may find that attending childbirth classes together will create a special bond.

Next session begins July 5. Class schedules can be seen at www.cogdellhospital.com

Please register in advance by calling the OB department at 325 574-7150

As a service to our community there is no charge for these classes.

THANKS
FOR
READING!



**New Foxcroft
Blouses just
arrived!
Come see
the beautiful
new colors!**

BLACKBURN'S
family clothier
Gateway Shopping Center • Childress • 937-2771



**3 out of 4
car seats aren't
used correctly.
Surprised?**

Ad Council

U.S. Department of Transportation