

The Post Dispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2013

THEPOSTDISPATCHONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

Growth Seen in Local Oil Play

Demand on local housing remains strong

By Chris Blackburn
The Post Dispatch

Oil play continues to grow at a strong pace in the Post area with an estimated 40 percent of the local labor force involved in the industry.

"Oil investment is huge in the county," said Garza County Judge Lee Norman. "It's 80 percent of our (property tax) evaluation or more."

Norman says there has been a strong trend during the past five years with last year having the largest jump in terms of growth.

"We've seen the biggest jump we've ever seen ... 20 percent in the past year," Norman continued.

The growth has caused a growing need for housing in Post and a demand for labor, which are both strong signs for the local economy.

"We're not to the level of Midland and Snyder, where they're trying to hire right and left," Norman said. "It's more of a strong, slower growth."

Deana Watson, Post City Manager, echoed Norman's sentiment on a housing shortage.

"People want to rent more than they want to buy, but there is a shortage," Watson said. "Housing is very much needed."

Watson said Post is fortunate to be able to buck national economic trends through natural resources.

Casey McNeely, of Rush Realty Company, said rental property is snapped up as soon as it's on the market.

"We stay at 100 percent occupancy all the time," McNeely said. "We currently have a waiting list and the majority of those work in the oil fields."

Property for sale is also in demand.

"If you have decent property, it sells in a reasonable amount of time at a fair price," McNeely said.

Dr. Bernard Weinstein, an economist and associate director of the Maguire Energy Institute and a professor at the Cox Business School at SMU, said the oil and natural gas play in West Texas is just getting started.

"The word is the Cline Shale (out of Garza County) is the next big thing," Weinstein said.

While Garza County drilling will continue to grow, the Cline Shale, particularly the natural gas aspect of it, is expected to be massive placing a growing strain on labor and housing in the Snyder area as well as others.

"There is significant poten-

tial in helping to service the growth from the Cline Shale in Garza County," Weinstein said.

Concerning the price, Weinstein said he expects the price to stay above \$90 a barrel for the foreseeable future.

"Oil prices will stay high for an extended period which is driving exploration," Weinstein continued. "We're going to see extended play."

The current play across the state has entered "boom" status in several areas including Midland.

"No question the state is undergoing a boom unlike anything we've seen in 30 years," said Weinstein. "In the last five years we've come back big time and it's been a real shot in the arm."

Weinstein estimated that severance production taxes will grow to \$7.5 billion during the next biennium with an additional \$1.5 billion or more in sales tax.



Photo by Chris Blackburn/The Post Dispatch
The economic forecast for Post and Garza County remains strong for the foreseeable future thanks to area's oil industry.

Book signing



Photo by Anna Gibson/The Post Dispatch
Author and Historian Gloria Peoples Elam, right, from Springtown, held a book signing at Ruby Lane Books Tuesday. Elam, a published author and 12-year historian, is shown signing "An American Heritage Story - Tracing the Ancestry of William Henry Peoples and Elizabeth Washington Peoples." Linda Puckett, Garza County Museum Executive Director, is shown right.

Sign of change



Photo by Chris Blackburn/The Post Dispatch
Centennial Bank (formerly Citizens Bank) is awaiting new signs. Besides Post, Centennial Bank has two locations in Lubbock, one in Slaton and one in Shamrock.

Dispatch to launch wildflower initiative

Special to The Post Dispatch

The Post Dispatch is launching a wildflower initiative and is looking for partners.

"I've talked to Garza County Judge Lee Norman, Post City Manager Deana Watson and Janice Plummer, Manager of the Post Area Chamber of Commerce, and all were enthused with the idea," said Chris Blackburn, Dispatch Publisher.

"I actually thought about it last year, but with the drought situation like it was, I decided to wait," Blackburn said. "While we're still in a drought, my thought is this will never materialize unless we get seeds down. Then, once we do receive moisture, what a beautiful sight we'll see."

The idea is to have wildflowers growing on

the roadside on the highways and farm-to-market roads leading into Post. Perhaps beginning three or four miles out.

"We have some legwork to do concerning the project," Blackburn continued. "We want to clear it with TxDOT and local ranchers and land owners and we want the community involved as much as possible."

"Janice Plummer has offered the PAAC office as a collection point for seeds and of course we can use the Dispatch office as well."

As far as distributing the seeds in a timely manner, the details are still in the works, but Blackburn is open to suggestions.

"Post is located in one of the more scenic ar-



Photo by Chris Blackburn/The Post Dispatch
The roads leading into Post will hopefully be covered in wildflowers beginning this year. The Post Dispatch is launching a wildflower initiative in an attempt to beautify area roadsides. Above is FM 669 as it descends into Post.

Post Notes

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

Genealogy

The South Plains Genealogical Society will meet Saturday, February 9 at 10 a.m. at the Lubbock Mahon Library, 1306 9th St. Wes Underwood will present, "Capturing the Lost and Forgotten," a program on deserted cemeteries. Visitors are welcome and refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Carla Moore, President, at 794-3320.

Burn association

An organizational meeting for those interested in becoming a member of the Southern Rolling Plains Prescribed Burn Association will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 13 at the Stonewall County Activity Center, west of the courthouse in Aspermont. The association will consist of an 18-county area, including Garza County. For information, contact Derrick Holdstock with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at Derrick.Holdstock@pwd.state.tx.us or 806-217-2911.

Chili supper benefit

Annual Fire Department Chili Supper will be Saturday, February 16, at the Post Fire Station. Time to be decided. Donations only.

GED class

General Education Diploma classes are now in session and are free to the public. Classes meet from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 18 at Post High School. Enter through southwest doors. For information, email Ed Singletary at esingletary@postisd.net or call 495-2770.

Post Elementary

Character Words for the week of February 11-15: PK/K- Self-Discipline; 1/2/3/5- Respect; 4- Responsibility
February is Heart Health month- wear RED on Tuesdays
February 7-14 is Congenital Heart Defect Awareness week- wear RED every day. Feb 11- Progress Reports go home

Little League Sign-ups

Post Little League will have signups for baseball and softball Feb. 7-8 from 5-7 p.m. each day at the Middle School Commons. Ages 4-16 are eligible.

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact Editor Wayne Hodgin at 806-495-2816 or thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

News on the go



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The Post Dispatch, 123 E. Main St., Post Texas, 79356, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Phone 806-495-2816 Fax 806-495-2059 Email thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com

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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstone of 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.

DEADLINES
Advertising: 5 p.m. Mondays
Editorial: Noon Tuesdays

SUBSCRIPTIONS
\$25 a year in the county
\$30 a year outside the county

Call 806-495-2816



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Deaths

Billie Marie Gilbert

Billie Marie Gilbert—or “Monker” as her grandchildren knew her—departed this life on February 3, 2013. She was born on July 23, 1922 in Hale Center, Texas. Billie grew up a country girl, and she remained one at heart for the rest of her life. She married Jim Gilbert on January 2, 1957 in Lovington, New Mexico, and they resided in Lubbock, Texas where they raised their only daughter, Jami. Billie was preceded in death by her parents Bill and Sally Roberson, her sister Dottie Lichte, and her husband Jim Gilbert. She is survived by her



BILLIE MARIE GILBERT

son, Steve Graham, and her daughter, Jami Williams and husband, Jeff, her grandchildren, Laci Talerico and husband, Billy, Casey Williams and

his wife, Kelsey, and a great-granddaughter, Elliot Claire Talerico. Billie was an avid Texas Tech fan, and she spent her life supporting her Red Raiders and attending games. She was also a member of Highland Baptist Church, and a beloved friend and grandmother. Visitation will be Tuesday February 5, 2013 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Resthaven funeral Home with a Funeral Service Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. at Resthavens Abbey Chapel followed by burial in Resthaven Memorial Park. Condolences may be offered at www.resthaven-funeralhome.com

Catfish



Greg Pavur and Aaron Urbanczyk caught this 50.2 lb. blue cat on rod and reel with shad Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013 at White River Lake.

Courtesy photo by AO Smith

Cattle raisers convention offers contests, education and scholarships for young ranchers

Fort Worth – Young cattle raisers can compete in 4 different contests for the chance to win scholarship prizes during the Cattle Raiser Expo at the Cattle Raisers Convention, March 22 -24 in Fort Worth.

Young cattle raisers can show off their creative talents by entering either the TSCRA Youth Art, Essay or Photography contests. Each contest has categories for kids ages 5 to 17. Scholarships will be awarded to top winners in each category of each contest. TSCRA will also host a range & pasture plant identification contest for contestants ages 12 to 17.

Additionally, the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Foundation will host Cow Camp, a full day of fun and education for young cattle raisers during the convention. Cow Camp is Saturday, March 23, at the Cattle Raisers Museum.

All contestants should pre-register for contests and Cow Camp by March 11. Registration forms and guidelines can be found on the convention website at www.tscra.org/convention/youth.

tion/youth.

The 136th annual Cattle Raisers Convention is March 22 – 24 at the Fort Worth Convention Center. Highlights of the convention include the popular School for Successful Ranching, the Cattle Raisers Expo, and general sessions and committee breakout session covering a wide range of economic, ranching and wildlife topics.

A complete schedule can be found on the TSCRA convention website. TSCRA will continue to update the schedule with additional events.

TSCRA is a 136 year-old trade association and is the largest and oldest livestock organization based in Texas. TSCRA has more than 16,000 beef cattle operations, ranching families and businesses as members. These members represent approximately 50,000 individuals directly involved in ranching and beef production who manage 4 million head of cattle on 76 million acres of range and pasture land primarily in Texas and Oklahoma, but throughout the Southwest.

Menus

- Monday
French Toast Sticks, Sausage, Fruit, Juice, Milk
- Tuesday
Breakfast Pizza, Fruit, Juice, Milk
- Wednesday
Breakfast Bar or Cereal, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk
- Thursday
Muffins, Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk
- Friday
Biscuits, Sausage, Gravy, Fruit, Juice, Milk

Lunch Menu for February 4-February 8

- Monday
Toasted Ham and Cheese Sandwich, Broccoli Bites, Garden Salad, Oranges, Baked Chips, Milk
- Tuesday
Crispy Beef Tacos, Charro Beans, Garden Salad, Salsa, Cinnamon Applesauce, Milk
- Wednesday
Chicken Nuggets, Whipped Potatoes w/Gravy, Carrot Coins, Strawberries & Bananas, Hot Roll, Milk
- Thursday
Spaghetti w/ Meatballs, Garden Salad, Savory Green Beans, Sliced Peaches, Milk
- Friday
Hot Dogs, Sweet Potato Tots, Cucumber Dippers, Fresh Seasonal Fruit, Milk

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Reception



Photos courtesy of Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility

A reception was held at the Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility to honor the 2012 Employee and Security Officer of the Year. From left are Associate Warden Larry Bond, Captain Susan Little, Security Officer of the Year Delcy Mathis, Associate Warden Hugh Bryan, Warden Kerry Dixon.



From left are Associate Warden Larry Bond, Captain Susan Little, Employee of the Year Norma Garza, Associate Warden Hugh Bryan, Warden Kerry Dixon.

Trade days

There were 8 vendors Saturday morning all bundled up ready to have a great day at Trade Days. Smiles and conversations went on between vendors and buyers.

Laura Fackelman from Abilene displays a collection of SRTA'S SURPRISES from purses and wallets to jewelry and much more! "Lots of Bling to make your Heart Ring." Laura says, "I just enjoy coming to Post!"

Lucille Clinkinbeard from Snyder has put together her own collection of art called Lucille's Woodcraft. "All wooden art is handmade." She has a great collection of wall crosses, wood burned art, and wood carving art.

Joe Costello from Lubbock brings in his chain saw art on Trade Days. He says, "I love what I do and I get a lot of business here in Post." Joe has many different bears that range in many sizes and colors as well as crosses and other animals.

Stacie Patterson and Amy Patterson from Lubbock are independent distributors for 'It Works Wrap.' A wrap that helps you "See results in as little as 45 minutes!" Stacie and Amy both expressed how they enjoyed the small town atmosphere as well as meeting new people.

Chris and Nicole Dickson enjoy spending Trade Days with their daughter making and selling Kettle Corn to the community in Post. "We love coming to Post. We get great business here at Trade Days," said Chris.

The Girl Scouts, troop 6416 came out to help support our troops as well



as finish raising money for their uniforms and upcoming trip.

Becky Jones from Spur makes her own collection of aprons and hand towels. She calls her hobby, 'Granny B's Vintage Aprons.' Becky says, "I do special orders all the time." She's been enjoying this hobby for over 3 years now and loves it.

Lois Saders from Lubbock brings 'Trunk Chic's' design to the Post Trade Days. Lois says she has been here for a year and gets a lot of business. "Lois's collection has a great variety of clothing, hand bags, and jewelry."



CHOCOLATE FEST

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6:00 - 8:00 pm



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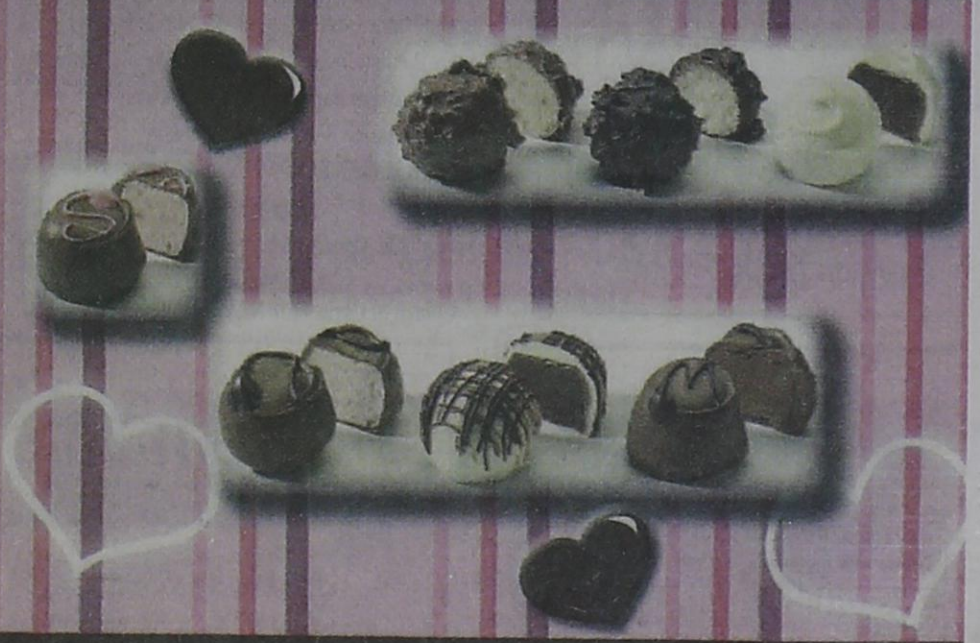
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The Paperboy

Former Navy SEAL Chris Kyle was trying to help a friend.

Kyle, who was known as America's deadliest sniper, was killed Saturday at a gun range in Erath County, Texas. The suspect, identified as 25-year-old Eddie Ray Routh, is a veteran who served in Iraq and Haiti and who has been suffering from some type of mental illness, most likely Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Kyle was an advocate for returning veterans suffering from PTSD and his death has cast the spotlight on something most of us have only heard about.



CHRIS BLACKBURN

However, PTSD has affected soldiers forever. It is nothing new and it is all too real for those suffering. Today, up to 20 percent of our fighting forces suffer from PTSD and perhaps this tragic event will begin a new chapter on treatment and care of those who need it.

"The symptoms can range from mildly disturbing to wholly incapacitating," said Dr. Jeffrey Lieberman, chair of psychiatry at Columbia University Medical Center in New York and president-elect of the American Psychiatric Association.

Lieberman said the nightmares and flashbacks can haunt soldiers long after their return to civilian life. "And we're still limited in our understanding of why it occurs, what it consists of and the best approaches to treatment."

Let us hope that Kyle's death is not in vein and his legacy leads to new discoveries and treatments for PTSD. Our veterans deserve it.

Big news was announced yesterday for U.S. ranchers as the European Union dropped its ban on some U.S. meat imports.

The ban will be lifted Feb. 25, dropping European objections that were based on differing hygiene and husbandry methods in meat production. U.S. farmers and ranchers have long said these concerns are unscientific.

The move should open markets to the U.S. which helps our economy with

WILDFLOWERS

From Page 1

Blackburn said the sooner we get started the better. "It would be wonderful to have seeds down on the major highways in the next eight weeks," Blackburn said. "I don't know if that is feasible, but it's a goal to shoot for."

Blackburn said while the details are being ironed out, Post residents wishing to contribute can drop seeds at the Dispatch office at 123 E Main Street or the PAAC office at #1 Santa Fe Plaza.

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Phone: 325-573-6374

billions per year on the line. If the U.S. and E.U. can get the details ironed out, U.S. beef will be in high demand overseas.

U.S. cattle numbers continued to shrink in 2012. Texas has experienced a 22 percent decline over the past three years, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service livestock specialist.

"Continued drought in 2012 took another year's toll on the nation's cow herd, according to the latest U.S. Department of Agriculture inventory report," said Dr. David Anderson. "USDA reported that the U.S. had the smallest cattle herd since 1952. The 89.3 million cattle in the U.S. on Jan. 1 was 1.4 million fewer than last year."

Overall, we have the smallest cattle herd in the U.S. in 60 years. "Where are we headed in 2013? I think again we will contend with tighter supplies of cattle, high feed costs, but hopefully, drought recovery to go with it."

That last one is huge for area ranchers. The drought is by far the biggest reason for the decline in beef production.

It will be interesting to see how the markets react to the news of a decline in U.S. beef production and the potential opening of the E.U. market to producers.

Want to take a guess at the top selling book of all time?

The Holy Bible is by far the greatest selling book in history with over 8 billion sold. That's more than the number of people currently living on the planet.

Second on the all-time list is "Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-Tung" with over 900 million sold.

"The Lord of the Rings" is third with over 100 million sold followed by the "Guinness Book of World Records" with over 100 million sold.

Coming in fifth is the "American Spelling Book" which has sold just under 100 million.

I'd always heard that the Bible was the top selling book of all time, but I had no idea at how many had been sold. It pleases my eyes when I see such statistics...

Christopher Blackburn is publisher of The Post Dispatch and CEO of Blackburn Media Group.

Blackburn said the sooner we get started the better.

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Yesteryears

10 years Ago
February 6, 2003

CHS postpones clinic closure until April 30, according to an announcement made at Monday night's Garza county Health Care District (GCHCD) meeting.

GCHCD directors approved the extension and agreed to advertise for bids on proposals to manage or provide health care services under the direction of the district. The board announced another meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 6, which lists an executive session.

Both the February 3 and February 6 meetings are in violation of the Texas Open Meetings Act due to improper public notice. State law requires 72 hour posting of public notices for government meetings.

The notice for the February 3 meeting was posted on Friday, January 31 and February 6 meeting notice was posted Tuesday, February 4. Neither posting meets the state law, thereby nullifying any action taken by the board.

20 years Ago
February 3, 1983

Post chamber honors outstanding citizens, business at annual meeting.

The hotel Garza, Paul Jones and Boy Hart were honored at last Saturday's Post Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet.

Jim and Janice Plummer, owners and innkeepers of Hotel Garza, were honored as the Post business of the year. The Plummers recently renovated the hotel, turning it into a popular bed and breakfast.

Post Middle School computer learning system comes on line. Students at Post Middle School were busy last week putting the school's new Jostens computer system through its paces. Educational consultant with Jostens, John Costilla, conducted training seminars for both teachers and students.

The computer system was purchased by the Post ISD School District at its December board meeting. It included software, 25 learning stations for the computer room, the main file server and three additional learning stations for the library.

30 years Ago
February 2, 1983

First womanless wedding

ever held in the Post community had the audience rolling in the aisles so to speak, with laughter. Prudencio Basquez was stunning in 'his' white wedding gown as he was brought down the aisle by father, Jack Alexander to stand before preachers Preston Poole and the Rev. William Scott.

As in most weddings, the mothers of the couple were escorted in to begin the affair with Lane Tannehill, mother of the groom escorted by Dwayne Binford, the father followed by the brides' parents, James Dye mother and Jack Alexander, father.

The matron of honor, Jimmy Redman, took center stage next, followed by the 'beautiful' bridesmaids in their chosen colors of plaids and stripes, long and short gowns and included Dr. Charles McCook, Kenneth Bullard, David Nichols and Bo Joackson.

Flower petals were thrown down the aisle by the flower girls, Ronnie Gradine and Johnny Kemp, followed by ring bearer, Jimmy Jones. Noel White and David Morrow provided 'traditional' wedding music.

Larry Mills, the lucky groom, attired in a Bold Gold shirt, was attended by groomsmen, Charles Johnson, Shug Thomas, Bill McBride, Donnell Harper and Jack Clinesmith.

The event, sponsored by the Post Antelope Booster club netted around \$500 for the organization with proceeds going towards various projects. With the uniting of Miss Bold and Mr. Gold, the bold Gold Legend lives on.

40 years Ago
February 8, 1973

Fund begun for 'Tuffy' Tidwell

The Post Jaycees have opened a special fund to help pay the fast mounting hospital expenses of Rodney Keith (Tuffy) Tidwell, local four-year-old who is in Methodist Hospital at Lubbock suffering from a rare kidney disease.

Jaycees at a special meeting last night voted an initial \$100 contribution for the Tuffy Tidwell Fund being opened today at the First National Bank.

Hunting violations soared during waning days of deer season

Austin- the waning days

of deer season kept game wardens busy across the state.

Wardens file 1,111 hunting violations during December.

Topping the list were 161 citations for hunting at night, followed by untagged deer and killing or possessing deer in closed season.

Not to be outdone by the hunters, 196 fishermen managed to get caught in the middle of some surreptitious act. All but a few were for no fishing license, a \$2.15 investment.

December's hunting and fishing violations netted the State of Texas \$78,706

Harold Lucas Chevrolet - Olds had a "Fabulous February Sale"

"It Only Takes A Minute To Look!" An Impala 4-Dr. Sedan #13 Dark Red, vinyl roof, 350 V8 eng., air, many more. On sale for \$3,950

50 years Ago
January 31, 1963

Fees, fines more than pay Garza salary bill

County Judge J. E. Parker totaled up the figures this week for his first four-year term in office (1959-62) and reported that fees collected by county offices and levied by the county and justice of the peace courts more than paid for all county salaries for the four years. In fact, the fees and fines came within \$8,995.65 of paying for \$55,810.75 in additional law enforcement costs (besides salaries) as well.

For the four-year periods, total county fees collected amounted to \$234,434.85. Fines for the four-year period totaled \$42338.24

This makes a total of \$276,773.09.

All county salaries - including some 15 in all - totaled \$229,975.99 for the same period. These salaries include all county employees, counting Judge Parker's, but do not figure in the county commissioners' salaries, which are paid out of different funds.

Jane Francis becomes bride of Benny George in ceremony here. At a candlelight service at 7 o'clock in the evening, Saturday, January 26, Miss Carolyn Jane Francis and Benny O. George were united in marriage at the First Baptist Church with the Rev. C. B. Hogue, pastor, officiating at the double ring ceremony.

Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Francis and Mr. and Mrs. Dennis O. George of Spearman.

Church Directory

Assembly of God Bethel Assembly of God (Bi-Lingual)- 407 May street Lifeline Church- 108 N. Broadway	Graham Chapel Church of Christ- 15th & Ave S
Baptist Calvary Baptist Church- 210 E. 6th Street, 990-2342 First Baptist Church, Post- 402 W. Main Street, 495-3554 First Baptist Church, Wilson- 806-628-6333 Grace Baptist Church- 820 N. Avenue S- 990-3497 Justiceburg Baptist Church- Justiceburg Pleasant Home Baptist Church- E. 14th & N Ave F Pleasant Valley Baptist Church- Hwy 84 & N. 399 (806) 828-4174 Southland Baptist Church- Southland Temple Bautista- 315 W. Main Trinity Baptist Church- 915 N. Ave O, 990-3038	Church of God Church of God of Prophecy- 602 W. 14th, 495-3644 Power House Church of God and Christ, Pine Avenue
Catholic Holy Cross Catholic Church- Ave K and Main Street- 495-2791	Disciples of Christ First Christian Church- 812 W. 13th, 495-3716
Church of Christ Church of Christ- 108 N. Ave M 495-2326	Evangelical Methodist Faith Chapel- 1105 Green Street, Wilson (806) 628-0018
	Methodist First United Methodist Church- 216 W. 10th, 990-2942 Graham Chapel United Methodist Church (Pastor: John Hedrick) - 611 FM #1313 806-549-1400
	Nazarene Post Church of Nazarene- 202 W. 10th, 495-3044 Grassland Church of Nazarene- 327-5656
	Presbyterian First Presbyterian Church- 910 W. 10th, 495-2135
	Nondenominational Family Harvest Church- (806) 495-1400

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The Post Dispatch

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Legends

A look at the personal history of John S. Boren

Part two of the "Personal History of John S. Boren" continues with young Mrs. Kate Boren's letter writing to her sister. She wrote; Yesterday along about



LINDA PUCKETT

twelve o'clock an old couple named Burford or Buford came driving up and wanted John to tell them where they "were at." They lived down below Snyder and were on their way to Emma visiting and had gotten lost. John told them where they "were at" and invited them to stop for dinner. They got down and ate dinner and talked for a while. The old lady told me she was the mother of fourteen living children, eleven married. She thought it was pretty hard times for an old couple as they were to start out to improve land. She said, if they were as young as John and I, and without children, she wouldn't mind. Oh, we had quite a visit and I'm glad to have met the old lady.

Today we have company for dinner, Mr. Carl Clark, Mr. Will Williams, Mr. Dee Boren, Mr. Buddie Boren, Mr. Oscar Kelley, Mr. Walter Roy and Mr. Walter Wilkes. With our four tin plates, it was rather slow work feeding

them, but when one would get through, another would take his plate (as soon as I could wash it) and help himself to beans (we haven't any pepper sauce) and eat his fill.

The gentlemen went up to the Lanas to vote yesterday and were on their way home today so stopped a while to visit with us. Oh, we have the very place to see everybody. We are in the Herd pasture, right near the main road in the county; also if there is anyone traveling we can see them pass. Wish I had a spy glass and I could watch them ever so far.

I thought I would be awfully homesick by this time, but haven't had time to get lonesome yet.

You ought to have seen John and I washing last week. We hadn't had a chance to wash things up since we were married. So we borrowed Ella's tubs and board and made a boiler out of a five-gallon oil can and went at it. Just as we got well into the merits of things, Dee came along with his "war-sack" full of dirty clothes, so all together we had quite a washing. I couldn't have begun to get them clean by myself, but John rubbed all the big pieces so we got them to look pretty clean. The water out here is so nice, just like rain water.

I have not learned the tricks of the country yet, or I would have sent this letter to the office by Mr. Smith yesterday when he went down after his bride, but I never thought till he

was gone so will have to wait for another chance.

If Ella comes out here next summer, you had better come with her. Maybe you can catch some of the "Yahoos" if you could run them down first.

I don't know a sensible thing to write so will quit. Maybe we will get off the last of the week and I'll have a chance to mail this. Love to all the family. Your Sister Kate.

In 1902 they (John and Kate) started to build their house after living in a dug-out, hauling the lumber from Colorado City. They built a two-story 16 foot square house, having a living room with the upstairs a bedroom. They continued using the dug-out for a kitchen. In 1904 they sold one section of land to Connell, Clark and Scarbrough to improve the other third section and to finish their home. In 1911 Mr. Boren was elected Commissioner of Precinct four. He served off and on as commissioner, taking a great interest in the development of Garza County and politics in general. Mrs. Boren served as County Trustee for several years. Kate Boren died in March of 1932. Mr. Boren continued living on his ranch until his death December 10, 1963 at the age of 95. That's the end of our story, hope you enjoyed it, and we will see you next week.

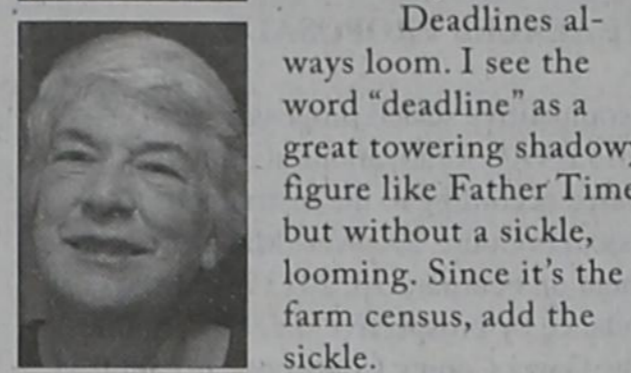
Linda Puckett is director of the Garza Museum and Historical Commission.

The 501

You'll have to draw me a picture, I'm very visual

As I try mightily to write something meaningfully in 501 words, my husband is facing an equally daunting task. It's the farm census. It comes around every five years. He's taking it seriously.

I think they can put you in federal prison if you don't comply. The deadline is looming.



HANABA MUNN WELCH

Deadlines always loom. I see the word "deadline" as a great towering shadowy figure like Father Time, but without a sickle, looming. Since it's the farm census, add the sickle.

By the time you read these words, the deadline will be past, if you don't consider the same one looming five years from now.

So many deadlines. I'm missing mine for this bit of writing. My personal muse must have flown off my shoulder, if muses fly. I think they do.

On second thought, maybe the very idea (light bulb icon here) of images versus words and text is worth some thought, particularly in a time when so many people describe themselves as "visual." Count me in, even though I suspect non-visuals rule the world.

Those of us who claim to be visual are the ones you hear about these days. Just because we're not in power doesn't mean we're not in vogue.

When was the last time you heard someone say, "I'm not a visual person." Do we not hear from the non-visual people because they don't realize they're non-visual and don't care anyway?

At this point, I should admit I really

don't exactly know what it all means nor why I'm convinced I'm in the visual camp. Maybe because I majored in art?

My guess is a visual person understands information laid out in a meaningful way, preferably with graphics and colors and labels, all viewable at once, tacked on a big wall or at least covering a computer screen. The non-visual person, by contrast, grasps the same stuff just by reading about it. Boring. I could be wrong.

INTERNET PAUSE.

Sure enough, the term "visual" has to do with how we learn things. Learning methods are visual, auditory and kinesthetic. If you're kinesthetic, you learn by doing. If you're visual, you've gotta see it. If you're auditory, you listen.

Reading must fall in the auditory category. Whatever you read, you hear. Right?

All that said, communication via images is enjoying a renaissance, wouldn't you say? Thank computers.

Remember when an icon was a picture of a saint painted on a little board? No more.

Remember when infographic wasn't a word? It still isn't, but it's getting there. Look it up on Wikipedia. The example shown is the Washington, D.C. metro system, nicely illustrated in colored lines. Beats text.

By any other name, the ancient pictures drawn on cave walls by pre-historic hunters are infographics.

Is our current trend toward pictographs putting us on par with the cave dwellers? Is civilization regressing?

Your answer may depend on what you think of the cave art.

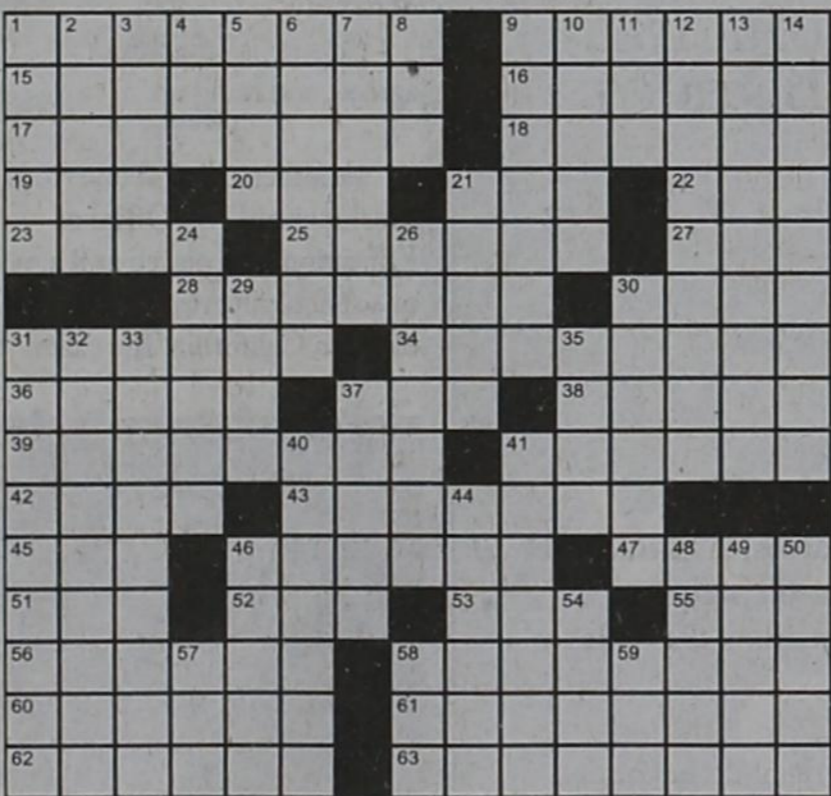
If you had to fill out the farm census, regression doesn't sound so bad anyway.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a contributor and columnist for The Post Dispatch.

Justice-Mason Funeral Home

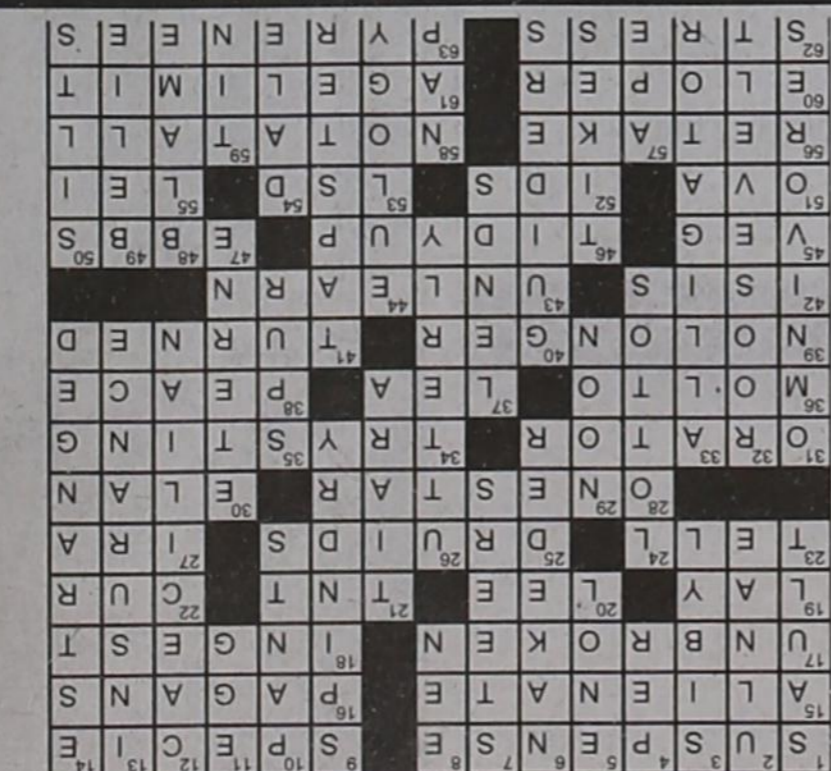
CROSSWORD PUZZLE
Justice-Mason Funeral Home
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806-495-2833

- Across
- Apprehension about what is going to happen
 - Coin
 - Drive off
 - Heathens
 - Intact
 - Swallow
 - ___ it on thick
 - "Malcolm X" director
 - Atlanta-based station (acronym)
 - Blackguard
 - Be a smitch
 - Pre-Christian priests among the Celts
 - Bank offering, for short (acronym)
 - Like a brigadier general (2 wds)
 - Brio
 - Henry Clay, for one
 - Meeting at a certain time and place, esp. lovers
 - Very, to Verdi
 - Grassland
 - Christmas wish
 - Not now (2 wds)
 - Went bad
 - Egyptian fertility goddess
 - Try to forget
 - Engage in passive activities, often with "out"
 - Put things in order (2 wds)
 - Declines
 - Egg cells
 - Driver's lic. and others
 - "Acid" (acronym)
 - "Fantasy Island" prop
 - Second shot
 - By no means (3 wd)
 - One who runs away to get married
 - Club restriction? (2 wds)
 - Beat
 - Mountain range between France and Spain



- Numbers games
- Altogether
- "High" time
- Forever, poetically
- Plant and animal eaters
- New Deal president
- Crocodile relative
- Cowboy boot attachment
- Advances
- Those who show the way
- Bartender
- Laudatory speech for one who has died
- Kiddies
- Hold responsible
- Contradict
- Sedimentary materials
- "Over" follower in the first line of "The Caissons Go Rolling Along"
- "Tarzan" extra
- 40 winks
- Bolivian export

PUZZLE SOLUTION



- Down
- ___ Ste. Marie
 - Arm bones
 - Woman prophet
 - The "p" in m.p.g.
 - Carbon compound
 - More rude
 - Directs
 - Dusk, to Donne
 - Dry by centrifugal forces
 - Imitates a hot dog
 - ___ roll
 - Small tropical wormlike amphibian
 - Financial protection for property
 - Alienated
 - Beauty pageant wear

A1005

Notices of Non-discrimination

Policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicapped Status
Garza County does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or employment in, its program or activities. Lee Norman, County Judge has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR Part 8, dated June 2, 1988).

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement
Garza County does not discriminate on the basis of color, national origin, sex, religion, age and handicapped status in employment or the provision of services.

*Garza County has adopted complaint and grievance procedures regarding its Texas Community Development Block Grant Programs. These procedures outline the steps for a citizen to follow if s/he wishes to file a written complaint about proposed TxCDBG activities. The County will make every effort to respond fully to such complaints within ten (10) working days. Citizens may obtain a copy of these written procedures at the Garza County Courthouse between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Citizens may also request the procedures be mailed to them by calling Lee Norman, at 806-495-4405.

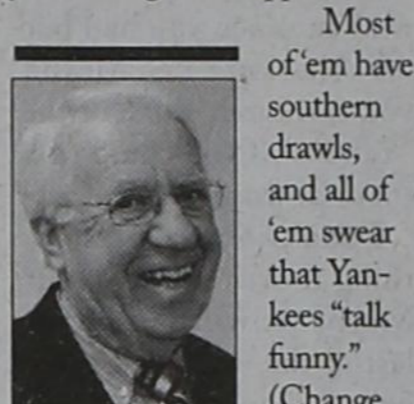
Legal Notice

REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS

Garza County Commissioners Court will receive competitive sealed proposals for HVAC Renovations Work for the Garza County Courthouse HVAC Renovations at 300 West Main Street, Post, Texas 79356. Sealed proposals (prepared according to the Instructions to Proposers) may be sent to Garza County Commissioners Court, 300 West Main Street, Post, Texas 79356. A pre-proposal conference will be held on February 28, 2013 in the Garza County Courtroom at 2:00 p.m., local time. Attendance by prospective bidders is not mandatory. The bid opening location will be held in the Garza County Courtroom at 2:00 P.M., local time, March 28, 2013. Proposals received prior to this time will be securely kept, unopened. Proposals received after this time will not be considered. Proposal Documents will be available beginning February 11, 2013. Hard copy documents may be obtained with a refundable deposit in the amount of \$100.00. Digital documents are available for download at no charge and may be secured from Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc. at 4222 85th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79423, 806.473.2200

The Idle American
Well shut my mouth...

Asking southerners to enunciate more clearly is about as pointless as requesting New Yorkers to start talking with a drawl. It just "ain't" gonna happen.



DON NEWBURY

Most of 'em have southern drawls, and all of 'em swear that Yankees "talk funny." (Change the setting geographically, and the folks up north think the very same thing about us in Texas.) Pick a coffee place where old-timers gather in these parts, and drawls seem even more pronounced....

Anyway, the upbeat spirit

daily at Decatur's Whataburger permeates a gathering of old geezers, some of whom are convinced that any day now, the South will rise again. It's a "come-and-go" deal starting for one or two guys around 6 a.m., expanding to a dozen or so by 8:30.

Why wouldn't they meet there? Coffee is good—and free—and refills are the same price.

Clientele have little regard for time (except to kill it) or space, either (as long as there's close-in parking and a seat inside). They don't "cure the world's ills," but believe if asked to do so, they could....

Delbert White, 80-something and ever-present for java, was the "designated goat" at a recent gathering. Early in the week, he "looked sickly," one comrade said, and comments went down from there.

The others never let up, and Dennis Moffit, a Detroit native and only Yankee in the group, opined Delbert was a stroke victim. Others said he'd been "rode hard and put up wet," and was not "wintering well."

A few days later, Delbert pushed back his half-empty coffee cup, then wobbled toward his vehicle....

DPS Officer Lloyd McKinney insisted on taking him to the hospital, where Delbert underwent a battery of tests.

Later, the patient strained to hear his family's conversation with the doctor. "Burial policy?" he screamed, worried why this topic would come up. His hearing failed him.

"I said it looks like Bell's Palsy," the physician quickly explained. It turned out not to be, and Delbert was back soon with the coffee bunch....

Their topics rarely wander far afield from "way back when." One day, they reminisced about "long distance phone calls." Making—or receiving—such calls was a "big deal."

One joked about a call from a far-away operator who said, "Long distance from New York City."

"It sure is," the Texan agreed, and hung up....

Another call, this one from Washington DC's Office of Education, was placed at 8 a.m. to a school superintendent's office in California. The caller

forgot that it was 5 a.m. out west, where the phone was answered by a custodian who was cleaning the office.

At once the government guy wanted to know about average daily attendance, security policies, grant applications and such.

Interrupting, the custodian said, "Stop right there. When I said 'hello,' I told you everything I know about this school."...

Still another of the nesters spoke of bygone days when friends and family dropped by to visit, as well as for meals if they appeared at chow time. Typically, they were mighty welcome. Hostesses would joke that they'd add "more water to the soup."

Strangers, though, were suspect, sometimes defending reasons for their visit through latched screen doors. One day, a man from the government came to take the census. He explained that every 10 years, the government tries to determine how many men, women and children live in this country.

"Well, you've come to the wrong place," the homeowner said, "cause I don't know!"...

Veteran ministers recall stories about questions sometimes misunderstood by his flock. Dr. Charles Somerville, longtime Presbyterian minister, remembers a response during a sermon for children years ago. "Do you know Jesus?" he asked. A four-year-old, confidently waving his arm, answered, "I know Jesus. We go for birthday parties at Chuck E Jesus!" (Reference, of course, was to the pizza parlor and game room at Chuck E Cheese's.)

Sometimes ministers "humor up" the program without help from anyone else. Somerville once thanked the ladies "for all the beautiful pomeranians decorating the church at Christmas time." When laughter subsided, he corrected with "poinsettias."

He retired recently, and if he lands at early morning senior gab sessions, he'll be the star of the show....

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Metroplex. Speaking Inquiries/comments: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Twitter: @donnewbury. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.

WHITE RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Stage 3 Drought Contingency Plans

Effective August 1, 2012 – April 1, 2013

Severe Conditions Measures

Restrictions: *The use of water is prohibited for the following uses:* Washing of cars, driveways, sidewalks, windows, eaves, landscape watering of lawns, shrubs, gardens, watering of parks, athletic fields, golf courses, street washing, fire hydrant flushing, filling swimming pools, dust control sprinkling.

Commercial/Industrial uses will be controlled to the extent dictated by the Member City Official or District's General Manager depending on the appropriate jurisdiction. Businesses requiring water as a basic function of the business, such as nurseries, commercial car wash, laundromats, high pressure water cleaning, well flooding, livestock watering, etc. will obtain written permission for the intended use from either the Member City Official or District's General Manager, depending on the jurisdiction.

System Priority for water service shall be based on the following priority list: 1 Hospitals, 2 Residential family dwellings, nursing homes, assisted living centers, 3 Schools, 4 Industrial, Commercial businesses, 5 Recreation

Daily White River Lake levels may be viewed at this website

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/tx/nwis/uv?cb_all_00062_00045=on&cb_00062=on&cb_00045=on&format=gif_stats&begin_date=2012-06-08&end_date=2012-06-15&site_no=08080910

The Drought Contingency Plan is available at www.whiterivermunicipalwaterdistrict.com for additional information contact the District office at 806-263-4240.

WHITE RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Etapa 3 Restricciones de Sequía

Efectivo agosto 1, 2012 – abril 1, 2013

Medidas de Condiciones Severas

Restricciones: *El uso de agua esta prohibido para los usos siguientes:* El lavar carros, la entrada del auto, las banquetas, ventanas, aleros y techos, riego de césped, arbustos, jardines, riego de parques, campos deportivos, campos de golfo, lavado de calles, enjuagados de hidrantes de incendios, El vaciar y llenar las piscinas de nadar, riego para el control de polvo.

Comercial/Industrial el uso será controlado a la medida dictado por el Miembro Oficial de la Ciudad o por el Gerente General dependiendo de la jurisdicción apropiado. Los negocios que requieren agua como una función básica del negocio, tales como guarderías de plantas, lava autos comerciales, lavanderías, limpieza con agua de alta presión, inundaciones de norias, agua para el ganado, etc. obtendrán permiso por escrito para el uso peticionado ya sea del Miembro Oficial de la Ciudad o por el Gerente General de Distrito dependiendo de la jurisdicción.

Prioridad de Sistema para el servicio de agua será basado en las siguiente lista de prioridades:

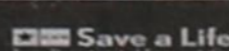
1. Hospitales, 2. Habitaciones Residenciales de Familia, asilo de ancianos, Centros de viviendas, 3. Escuelas, 4. Industrial, negocios de comercio, 5. Recreación

Los niveles diarios del White River Lake pueden ser vistos en este sitio:

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/tx/nwis/uv?cb_all_00062_00045=on&cb_00062=on&cb_00045=on&format=gif_stats&begin_date=2012-06-08&end_date=2012-06-15&site_no=08080910

El Plan de Contingencia de Sequía esta disponible en www.whiterivermunicipalwaterdistrict.com para información adicional contacte la oficina de Distrito llamando al 806-263-4240.

NEW TEXAS CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW



NEW TEXAS LAW
Effective 9/1/2009
A child up to 8 years old, unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches, must ride in a child safety seat.

Most children between ages 4 to 8 will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Safety experts recommend that all children under age 13 ride in the backseat. Adults and children must be buckled up whether they are in the front or back seat.

4 STEPS FOR KIDS

Make sure all children in your vehicle are properly secured. Use a child safety seat appropriate for their age, weight and height.

Site to link requires that you always follow the manufacturer's instructions.



REAR-FACING SEATS
From birth to as long as possible, up to the weight or height limit of the seat. At a minimum, keep rear-facing until age 1 and 20 lbs.



FORWARD-FACING SEATS
From a minimum of age 1 and 20 lbs until the child reaches the upper weight or height limit of the seat.

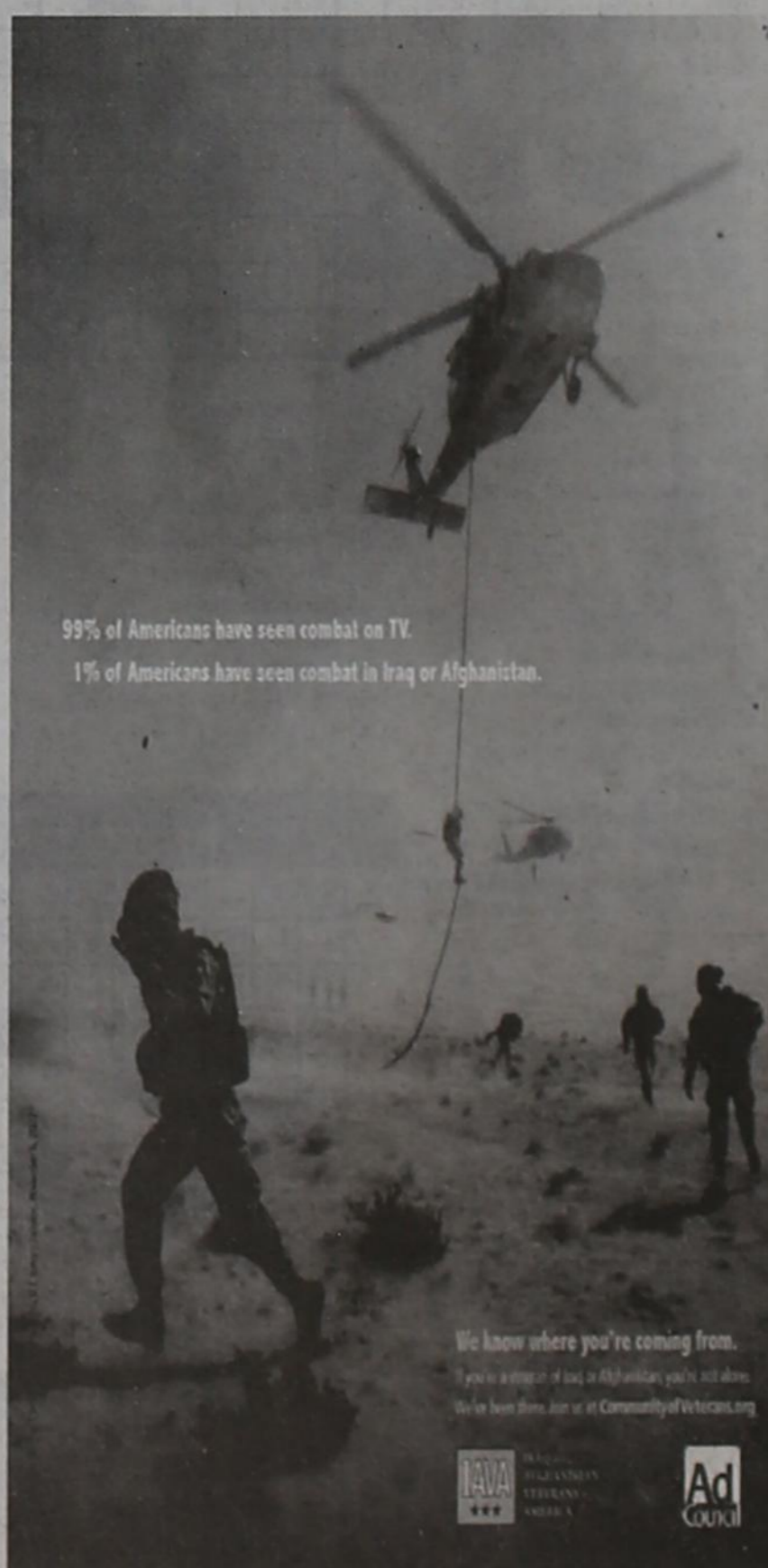


BOOSTER SEATS
From about age 4 to about age 8, or up to 4 feet 9 inches.



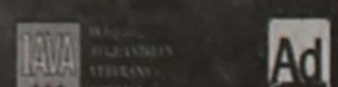
SAFETY BELTS
From 8 years old or taller than 4 feet 9 inches.

Still not sure which safety seat is right for your child? Contact Safe Riders at 1-800-252-8255 for more information.



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Power lifting results

The Bold Gold boys and girls Power lifters competed at Levelland on Saturday. The boys placed 2nd overall at the meet. Several of the athletes were able to raise their totals and continue to get stronger and improve each week. The boys will split into two separate teams to compete at their next meet. One team will travel to Coahoma to compete on Saturday, while the other group will compete at Sweetwater on February the 14th. The girls will also compete at Sweetwater on that Thursday.

Boys team results

Top 5
 Plainview 30 points
 Post 21 points
 Odessa High 20 points
 Andrews 19 points
 Lamesa 15 points
 Girl's individual results
 Andi Soliz 4th in division total 485 pounds
 Katie Dunn 6th in division total 460 pounds
 Mollie Burtch 8th in division total 385 pounds
 Boy's individual results
 114 class
 Jarred Curtis 3rd place 635 total
 Erik Gomez 4th place total 630
 Hayden Belongia 6th place total 625

132 class

Camby Gilbert 3rd place 830 total
 Isaah Jones 8th place 680 total

148 class

D.J. Brown 5th place 960 total
 Alejo Rodriguez 9th place 855 total

165 class

Isaac Stern 2nd place 1100 total
 Paden Babb 10th place 950 total

181 class

Alan Alaniz 12th place 935 total
 Zeb Graves 16th place 880 total

198 class

Edel Sanchez 26th place 650 total
 Tristian Fannon 27th place 640 total

220 class

Nathaniel Gill 2nd place 1180 total
 Caden Dean 3rd place 1070 total

275 class

Bryan Smith 9th place 1015 total
 Jayson Walden 9th place 925 total

275 class

Travis Greathouse also competed
 Jaybren Rodriguez 15th place 730 total

275 class

Mondo Martinez 5th place 1005 total

Post seventh, eighth split with Childress

Monday night the Post Junior High basketball teams traveled to Childress for their second to last games.

The 7th "A" team won their game by a score of 37-8. The leading scorers were

Chance Courtney 8, Damian Garcia 7, Aric Garza 6, Mike Phergson 6, Deelan Reed 6, Pacey Blevins and Brandon Britton each had 2. This brings their record to 15-2 overall and 11-0 in district.

The 8th "A" team lost their game by a score of 43-16. The leading scorers were AJ Reed 7, Dylan Morris 7, and Augie Menchaca 2. This brings their record to 3-14 overall and 3-8 in district.

Post Lady Lopes

The junior varsity Lady Lope team improved on their shooting, but it wasn't enough to stop the JV of one of the top programs in the state. Our sub-varsity team played great defense and created a lot of turnovers for Idalou, but our girls couldn't transition those into scores. Miranda Apolinar finished with 9 points.

Team	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q	Final
Post JV	6	9	7	2	24
Idalou JV	10	10	20	13	53

Lady Lope Varsity 29 - Idalou 45

The state-ranked Lady Cats never could put away the game as our Lady Lopes continued to fight after a slow first quarter. Senior Night and Parent Recognition Night couldn't quite inspire our ladies to be victorious in their last home game of the season, but there were some exciting moments. Foul trouble hindered our ladies throughout the game and led to active play from the Lady Lope bench. Junior, Taylor Osborn led the scoring with 16 points.

Team	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q	Final
Lady Lopes	4	7	9	9	29
Lady Winds	11	12	10	12	45

Head Coach: Shelli Crow email: scrow@postisd.net

Post Lady Lopes JV

The Lady Lope junior varsity continues to improve in their aggressive play as the season ends; however, they fell short of the strong three pointing shooting game of Floydada. Junior varsity Lady Lopes are now 2-7 in district play.

Team	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q	Final
Post JV	0	8	7	6	21
Floydada JV	4	19	3	12	38

Lady Lope Varsity 45 - Floydada 36

The Lady Lopes were on fire at home as they defeated the Floydada Lady Winds. This victory knocked Floydada out of playoff contention. Scoring was spread across the team, Callie Oden had 8, Kelbie Odum had 10, Haily Berry tossed in 12, and Taylor Osborn contributed 15 for the win.

Team	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q	Final
Lady Lopes	12	11	10	12	45
Lady Winds	10	9	7	10	36

Head Coach: Shelli Crow email: scrow@postisd.net
 Assistant/JV: Rebecca Schroeder email: rschroeder@postisd.net
 Assistant/9th: Toby Allen
 Assistants/7th & 8th: Ron Holson and Kylee Ford

Please contact Coach Crow at 806-789-2141 or Coach Schroeder at 817-800-3639.

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 FARM CREDIT SERVICES
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Thanks for reading the Post Dispatch



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The directors and members of GCJLA would like to express their appreciation to all the buyers, exhibitors, parents and volunteers for making the 2013 GCJLA Livestock Show a success. Without their support of the youth of Garza County the show and sale would not be possible. Once again, your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

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message. (0222pd?)

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The City of Post is taking applications for a part time Community Center Opera-

tor. Duties will include, but are not limited to, all event bookings, inventory of supplies, tables, chairs, and keys. Responsible for making sure that all forms are properly completed, all deposits, and rental fees are received and paid in full before the event.

Post ISD is now accepting applications to fill one full-time campus custodial positions. Great benefits and hours! Applicants may pick up an application in person at 501 South Avenue K, Post, or by downloading from the

school website, www.postisd.net, and returning it to the above address. Post ISD does not discriminate against any individual with respect to compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment on the basis of any of the following protected characteristics race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability or any other genetic information

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A1009

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Public Service Announcement:
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To promote fair housing practices, Garza County encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights under the National Fair Housing Law. Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market. For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toll-free hotline at 1-800-669-9777.

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Post Dispatch Weather Summary

Post's Seven Day Forecast

						
Friday Mostly Sunny 65 / 41	Saturday Partly Cloudy 67 / 44	Sunday Mostly Cloudy 65 / 30	Monday Sunny 55 / 27	Tuesday Mostly Sunny 51 / 25	Wednesday Mostly Sunny 54 / 28	Thursday Sunny 58 / 29

Local UV Index



0-2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11+

0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

Detailed Local Forecast

Today we will see mostly sunny skies with a high temperature of 65°, humidity of 33%. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph. The record high temperature for today is 80° set in 1996. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 41°. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph. The record low for tonight is 8° set in 1971. Saturday, skies will be partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 67°, humidity of 30%. South wind 15 to 20 mph.

Weather Trivia

What do you see when you "see" your breath?

?



Answer: Condensed water vapor.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

Day	Peak Times		Day	Peak Times	
	AM	PM		AM	PM
Fri	9:33-11:33	10:03-12:03	Tue	1:30-3:30	1:00-3:00
Sat	10:28-12:28	10:58-12:58	Wed	2:17-4:17	1:47-3:47
Sun	11:21-1:21	11:51-1:51	Thu	3:04-5:04	2:34-4:34
Mon	12:42-2:42	12:12-2:12			

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	
New 2/10	Fri 7:35 a.m.	6:25 p.m.	6:03 a.m.	5:01 p.m.	 Full 2/25
	Sat 7:34 a.m.	6:26 p.m.	6:48 a.m.	6:09 p.m.	
	Sun 7:33 a.m.	6:27 p.m.	7:29 a.m.	7:14 p.m.	
First 2/17	Mon 7:32 a.m.	6:27 p.m.	8:06 a.m.	8:17 p.m.	 Last 3/4
	Tue 7:31 a.m.	6:28 p.m.	8:41 a.m.	9:19 p.m.	
	Wed 7:30 a.m.	6:29 p.m.	9:16 a.m.	10:18 p.m.	
	Thu 7:30 a.m.	6:30 p.m.	9:51 a.m.	11:16 p.m.	

Last Week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days

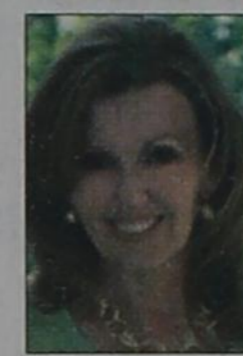
Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days	
					Date	Degree Days
1/29	56	32	54/25	0.03"	1/29	0
1/30	48	24	54/26	0.00"	2/2	0
1/31	63	27	54/26	0.00"	1/30	0
2/1	63	23	54/26	0.00"	1/31	0
2/2	61	30	54/26	0.00"	2/4	3
2/3	62	29	55/26	0.00"	2/1	0
2/4	66	40	55/27	0.00"		

Growing degree days are calculated by taking the average temperature for the day and subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the average to assess how many growing days are attained.

Dixie Divas

What a week it's been since we last talked. Tink, Dixie Dew, and I hit the road for a week of speaking engagements. I had six speaking events and one appearance for a book signing. We traveled from North Georgia to South Georgia across Alabama and into Mississippi, a place that always makes me happy to visit.

Our car was so loaded down with books, luggage, and our laptops that we looked like the Beverly Hillbillies. You know I joke sometimes that Tink grew up next door to the Beverly Hillbillies. That's a bit of an overstatement but there is some truth to it. When he was a teenager, his dad and stepmother, Mary,



RONDA RICH

owned a house that wasn't far from the house used in the show (known as the Kirkeby estate). Tink lived with them for a while when he was in high school. I tell him that was his early training to live in the rural South. By the way, the entrance into that house - remember when the gates opened and they pulled in the drive - has changed so much that you would never believe it is the same house.

Anyway, we'd looked like the Hillbillies as we took off. We started in Effingham County, which is a bedroom community of Savannah. It was a terrific day where we were warmly welcomed. Karen Tanksley, her staff at the newspaper, and the Chamber of Commerce rolled out the red carpet for us. They hosted a wonderful book signing event at the Chamber and so many readers of my column

dropped by. These are the most precious times - when I get to meet people who enjoy my writing. One lady, Marilyn O'Connor, is a transplant from Chicago. She was the most adorable woman who was so excited to meet me and tell me how my stories have helped her through the year. It's times like these when I realize that I am not writing merely to make a living but to entertain and encourage others.

Then she asked about Dixie Dew. Let me tell you - Dixie Dew is the star on the road. People bring her gifts, treats and cards and then they are so happy to learn she is with us (always resting in the car). Tink took Miss Marilyn out to see Dew and pretty soon a little group had formed to see her. This amazes Tink. He just shakes his head.

Into the Effingham Chamber walked a man who said, "I have come all the way from Virginia to meet you and get a hug." It was a gentleman named Ed Dunn who has emailed me a few times and has bought autographed books for gifts. It was a thrill to meet him.

I said to him, "I remember where I was the first time I ever got an email from you. I was at Darrell and Stevie Waltrip's lake house, working on a book." I have a pretty good memory for these things for some reason - something else that amazes Tink. His memory is so bad that I say to him from time to time, "If you ever get Alzheimer's, how will I know?"

I've got to tell you, though, that in a way, Tink is blessed. His mind isn't cluttered up and - this is the best part - he forgets mean things that people say or do to him. So, I just have to remember for him and remind him. Sometimes he will say, "I think that's why God blessed me like this so I can't remember hurtful things and hold them against people."

I remember everything, good and bad. People are impressed that I remember names like I do but I put effort into that. When I'm introduced to someone, I repeat his or her name and then I focus on it for a few seconds.

Ed Dunn was another one who said, "Where's DD? If she's here, I want to meet her." People came to get photos made with Dixie Dew like Kathy and Craig Scott. I looked over and Tink was photographing them with Dew sitting in Kathy's lap. It was a fun day.

That evening, I spoke at an employee awards banquet for the Effingham Health System. They have a little "boutique" hospital there because Savannah has a big hospital. They mainly handle critical care and have 350 employees. They also have one of the finest leaders I have ever met. Their CEO is Norma Jean Morgan, a fiery red-head who values the employees and make them into a real team. It was a pleasure to watch how she motivated the employees and made them all feel so valued. A true leader is hard to find. I've met a lot of smart CEOs but I've met few who were smart and also able to rally people. I'm impressed by those who can inspire respect as well as devotion. That's hard to find.

Our next leg of the journey took us to our beloved Sea Island. I did a book signing/discussion for their members and we had a very good turnout. I normally do these events at the Cloister but it was booked up with a conference so we did it at Sea Island's other property, The Lodge. It was gorgeous. It was a cold, gray winter's day so Miss Marcie and my very dear, dear friend, Miss Frankie, had a fire going in the beautiful Terrace room. No matter how many times I go to the Golden Isles, I am always welcomed enthusiastically and warmly.

You'll have a great week! By the way, this week's photo is from the event at Sea Island's Lodge.


Ronda Rich is a Southern storyteller, humorist and author. Her latest book, "There's A Better Day A-Comin'," is available at rondarich.com, where you also can sign up for her weekly newsletter.

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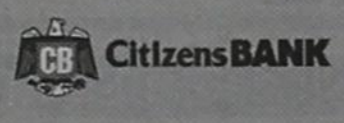
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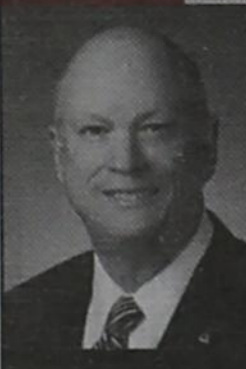
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