

# The Bovina Blade

"In The Agricultural Center Of Parmer County"

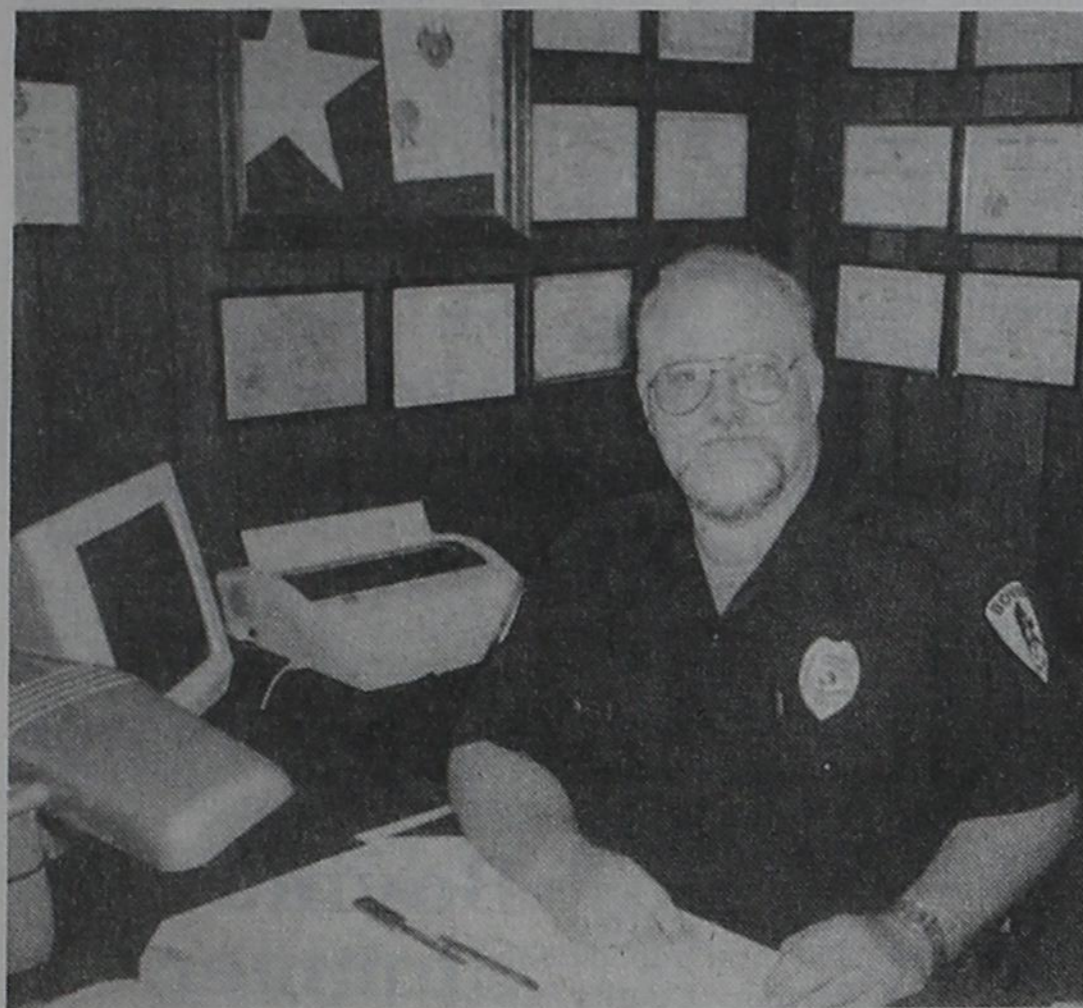
Good News in Bovina For the Past 40 Years

VOLUME 43, NUMBER 47

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1997

SIX PAGES

## 'Meet Your City Employees'



**SALUTE TO THE CHIEF.....**Leon Saddler came to Bovina as a police officer in November, 1992. In March, 1993, he was promoted to police chief. Saddler is married to wife, Elois. They have two children, Karen and Derrick.

## Bovina Chamber Plans July 4th Celebration

The Bovina Chamber of Commerce is planning the July 4 celebration activities. Various businesses have donated prizes to be given away and the chamber is planning a fun day for all.

Sherri Whitten of the chamber, is organizing craft booths for area crafters. Booths will be set-up at the high school football field. The booths are free but crafters are asked to bring their own tables.

Food booths will be allowed but only until 3 p.m. as to not hinder business for the barbeque sale. Interested crafters and cooks should contact Sherri to reserve a spot, 238-1400.

Suzan Hughes, also a chamber member, is in charge of the parade to be held at 10 a.m. To be a participant, call her at 238-1656.

Hughes is also organizing the rally volleyball tournament. Teams and referees are needed.

Teams of six or less will be charged \$30. Teams with more than six, will be charged \$5 each additional person. To register a team or

volunteer as a referee, call 238-1656.

At 5 p.m. the chamber will sell barbeque brisket plates. The price for adults is \$5; 12 and under \$3; and 3 and under eat free.

After the sun goes down, Bovina residents will be treated to a fireworks display.

To help with the upcoming July 4 celebration contact any chamber member. This will only be a success if Bovina makes it a success.



**HAPPY DAY TO ALL FATHERS.....**Sharing the blessings of being a father during this Father's Day celebration is Stan Miller and daughters Heather, 2, and Hannah, 6. He works for Bovina ISD. Happy Father's Day to all you dads and granddads. (Becky London Photo)

## Parmer County Resident Killed In EMS Accident Near Lubbock

A former Friona resident, Dorothy Elizabeth Lovelace, 74, was killed last Monday when the ambulance in which she was riding went out of control near Shallowater, and turned over three times.

Mrs. Lovelace was taken to Methodist Hospital in Lubbock, but was pronounced dead at 7:45 p.m. that evening. On Tuesday, the Clovis EMS attendant, Tim Martin, 38, of Portales, died at 9

a.m. Tuesday of injuries sustained in the wreck. Martin sustained a broken neck, and was air-lifted to Methodist Hospital.

The driver of the ambulance, 29-year-old Paul Eugene Adams of Farwell, was treated and released from Methodist Hospital, suffering only minor injuries.

The victim was the daughter of the late Mary and Howard Mayfield of Friona. She was the wife of Woodrow Lovelace of Farwell.

The Farwell resident was being transferred from Clovis' Plains Regional Medical Center to Lubbock. Spokesmen for the Clovis EMS said that the transfer was considered non-emergency in nature.

Emergency workers said that Mrs. Lovelace was strapped to a gurney inside the ambulance, but the gurney came loose from its rigging during the crash.

DPS investigators said the ambulance was going 70 miles per hour when it hydroplaned on rain-soaked Highway 84. A heavy rain was falling at the time of the wreck. The emergency vehicle turned over three times and came to rest on its wheels in a muddy field.

Lubbock EMS workers came to the scene and transported Mrs. Lovelace and Martin to Lubbock Methodist Hospital.

Like all members of the Clovis Fire Department, Martin served on the city's ambulance crews. Fire prevention officer Karen Burns of Clovis said that the accident had shaken up Martin's fellow workers.

"It's harsh, because this sort of thing has never happened before," Burns said. "It's hard to take

because Martin was such a good person."

The accident occurred at about 5:45 p.m. Monday during a heavy thunderstorm which was moving through the area. The National Weather Service reported that the storm contained heavy rain, damaging hail and wind in excess of 55 mph.

Another ambulance from the Clovis Fire Department was heading in the opposite direction on Highway 84, having met the cast-bound ambulance a few minutes earlier. That ambulance was called and asked to come back to the wreck scene.

Spokesmen from the Clovis Fire Department said Martin began working for the CFD in February of 1994, having moved to Portales from Alamo. "He was very enthusiastic about his job, and was always willing to work overtime and was willing to help the newer firefighters. I really enjoyed working with Tim," said Fire Lt. Jerry Swenson.

A full honor guard of the CFD was to participate in the funeral service for the young firefighter.



**PRETTY, BUT PESKY.....**Travelers throughout Parmer County are no doubt familiar with those tall, purple thistles that line most roads. The flowering plants, officially known as musk thistles, while turning the landscape purple, are a menace to many. They grow to 3-4 feet in height, blocking views of many motorists, and spreading their seeds to the winds. TX/Dot officials had crews out shredding the thistles at press time. (Ron Carr Photo)

Reprinted from 'My Turn' June 19, 1993

**JUNE IS THE MONTH** for weddings and Father's Day. Perhaps the reason for this is to get all those starry eyed little brides to consider what sort of fathers their prospective bridegrooms might turn out to be.

I'm partial to the fathers you never hear about.

They're not on the evening news, the talk shows, or written up in the papers. They're not neglecting, abandoning, abusing or murdering their families. So you never hear about them.

Our daughter did a lovely bit of cross-stitch needlework and gave it to Bill on Father's Day a few years ago. It says "Any man can be a Father, but it takes someone special to be a Daddy."

We should change the name of Father's Day to "Daddy's Day." Then we would be honoring all those special guys whom we never hear anything about.... the ones who work hard all day and show up tired in the evenings.... but not too tired to go back out and help with Little League or Little Dribblers or Boy Scouts.... never too tired to look over a homework paper or lend a hand with a science project.

He'll settle spats between siblings or take a cranky toddler on his lap and make him laugh. He'll cook a burger on the grill, help clean up the dishes or bathe the little tykes and get them ready for bed.

"Daddy's Day" would honor all those gentle fellows who go quietly about earning a living for their families, being responsible, paying the bills. He'll do without that new boat he wanted just because the roof needs repaired or little Janie needs braces on her teeth.

He'll fuss about the cost of their fancy sneakers and Nintendo games, not because he doesn't love those kids, but because he has to make the money last until the next pay check and he's trying to save up enough to take the family on a nice vacation trip, because his family is the most important thing in the world to him.

Talk shows don't have programs about the guy who teaches his kids how to ride a bike, saddle a horse, bait a hook, change an irrigation pipe, throw a Frisbee, or fly a kite.

He'll read a bedtime story, or wait up for the teenager who is out on a date. He enjoys telling the kids about how far he had to walk to school as a boy, or how many sacks of cotton he had to pick every fall.

He says funny things like "If you fall out of that tree and break your leg, don't come running to me" or "Don't ask me, ask your mother."

Here's to the Daddy who sets a good example by practicing family values, Christian morals, and setting lofty goals of self-improvement for himself and his family! He teaches his children by the example he sets. He's not embarrassed to show them that he loves their mother. He shows his sons that people of both genders deserve love and respect and he shows his daughters that gentleness and affection are more "macho" than aggressiveness and abuse.

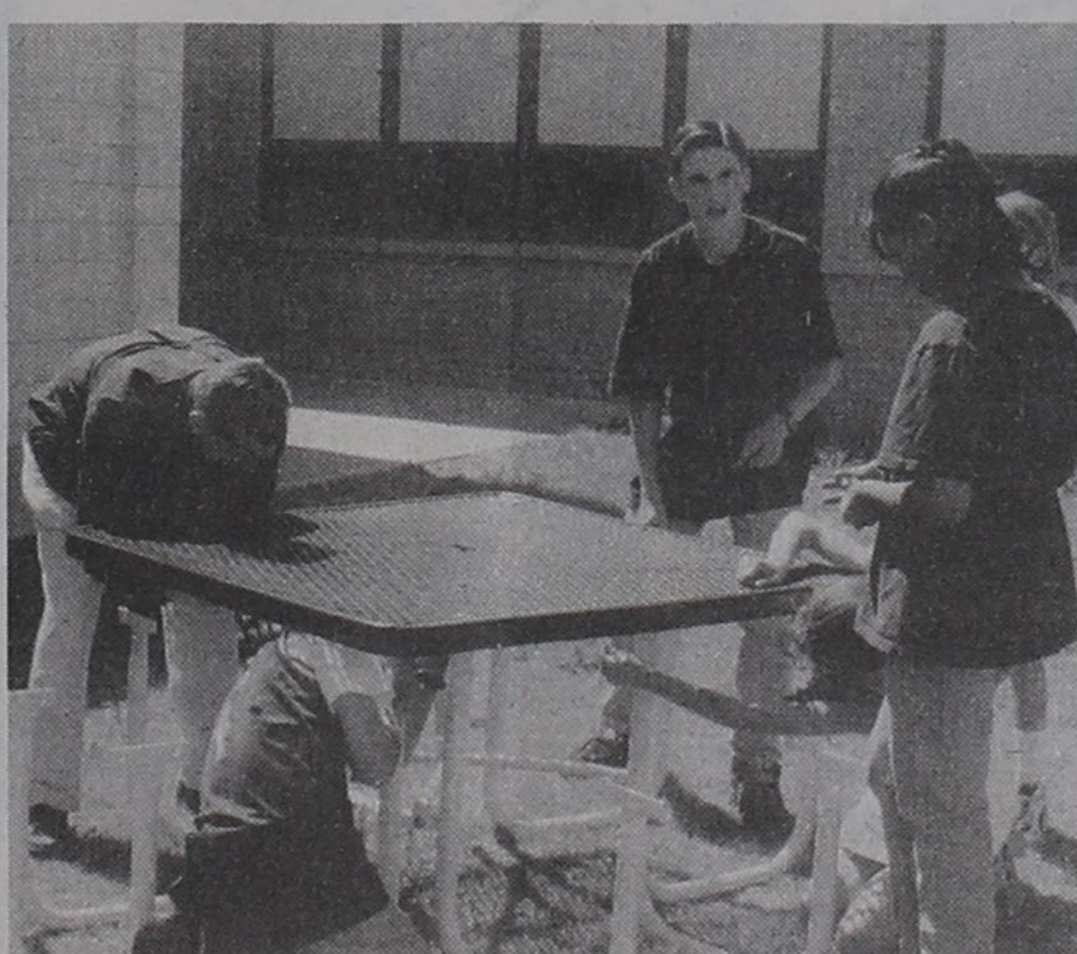
This sort of fathering comes from the heart and can't be legislated.

Some time ago our politicians proposed a Family Preservation Act which, if passed, would accomplish little except to provide pseudo-jobs for social workers. It probably wouldn't persuade the flighty teeny bopper that she should not "sleep" with her street-wise, slack jawed boyfriend of the moment, or make the young fellow realize that if he breeds and fathers a child, he is responsible for its upbringing and support. The babies who are the end result of these couplings will have a sad existence and will probably grow up to be the next generation of social misfits.

It takes more than testosterone to be a real "Daddy."

### MY TURN

By Carol Ellis



**WHERE'S THE INSTRUCTIONS?.....**Middle School principal Robert Rumph lends a hand as the student council assembles one of the two tables they purchased for the school courtyard. The fund-raising projects held by the youngsters during the year funded the table purchase.



RYAN BRIDENSTINE

## First New BHS Coach Arrives In Bovina

Athletic Director and Head Coach Bobby Ortiz has selected the four new members of his 1997-98 coaching staff.

Assistant coach Ryan Bridenstine is the first to arrive in Bovina to assume his coaching duties.

Bridenstine is a 1997 graduate of Panhandle State University in Goodwell, Oklahoma, where he was a mathematics major with a minor in Physical Education.

In addition to serving as assistant football and basketball coach, Bridenstine will also be head golf coach and teach mathematics.

Bridenstine was an outstanding high school

athlete at Turpin, Oklahoma, where he graduated in 1993. He participated in football, basketball, and track, as well as being an outstanding weightlifter.

During his senior year at Turpin, he was selected as Most Outstanding Athlete.

He won honors in high school football as an offensive guard and on defense as a linebacker and was selected to play in the Enid (OK) Bowl All Star game.

Bridenstine will be joining three other new coaches to round out Ortiz's 1997-98 staff. The Blade will introduce the other staff members as they arrive in Bovina.



**WHO WRECKED THE HALLS?.....It is time to clean up and spruce up at Bovina Schools now that all the kids are gone for another year. Oops! Gotta hurry and get ready for summer school that starts Monday, June 16.**  
(Ron Carr Photo)

## Former Bovinan Is Buried Tuesday

Services for Patsy Steelman Bradley, 59, formerly of Bovina and Clovis, New Mexico, were held June 10 at Brooks Chapel in Canyon with Rev. Keith Boutwell of Hospice officiating. She passed away June 6, 1997.

Burial followed at Dreamland Cemetery in Canyon.

Mrs. Bradley was born to March 23, 1938 in Clovis to Albert C. and Wilma Hobbs

## Quirogas Have New Daughter

Pete and Mona Lisa Quiroga of Bovina are parents of a seven pound, one ounce girl, Summer born May 27 at Plains Medical Center in Clovis.

Summer has two brothers, Aaron, 5 and Xavier, 1.

Grandparents are Johnny and Ellice Martinez and Pete and Rosa Quiroga, all of Bovina.

Great-grandparents are Thomasa Diaz and Emiliana Martinez, both of Bovina.

## CCC Dean's List Shows 3 Bovinans

David Bermea, Antonio Flores, and Brentz Thurmond from Bovina were named to the 1997 spring semester Dean's List, according to Dr. David Caffey, Dean of Instruction at Clovis Community College.

Each student earned at least a 3.50 grade point average while enrolled in 12 or more credit hours during the spring semester.

Steelman. She graduated from Bovina High School. She married Colonel Charles W. Bradley in Clovis in 1959.

Mr. Bradley preceded her in death in 1993.

She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

Survivors include her son Charles W. Bradley of Canyon; two daughters, Lisa R. Bradley of Atlanta, Georgia and Cris R. Bradley of Savanna, Georgia; two brothers John A. and Rocky S. Steelman, both of Canyon; and two grandchildren.

Also surviving are her uncle Amos Steelman and cousins Vi Hutto, E.G. and Dickie Steelman, all of Bovina.

## Sr. Citizens Host Their May Lunch

Bovina Senior Citizens enjoyed their monthly luncheon together on Wednesday, May 28.

Members attending were: Joe Looney, Ethel Johnson, Jerry Ware, Dorothy Ellison, Carl Schroder, Erma Schroder, Howard Kelso, Minnie Kelso, Oma Lee George, La Trelle Miehler, Julia Leake, and Edna Scott.

Guests present were Kenneth Johnson, Harry Johnson, Mac Glasscock, Mace Cochran, and Keegan Langford.

After lunch, a short business meeting was held, then games were enjoyed.

May birthday honorees were Dorothy Ellison, Jerry Ware, Lois Smith, and Mace Cochran.

Games are played at the Senior Citizens Center every Saturday evening at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and participate.



ELDA HART

## Elda Hart Is Buried

Graveside services for Elda Hart, 68, of Friona were held Tuesday morning at the Friona Cemetery with the Rev. Vergil Ichtertz and Minister Leon Talley officiating.

Burial was under the direction of Ellis-Blackwell Funeral Home.

Ms. Hart died June 8 at Trigg Memorial Hospital in Tucumcari, New Mexico.

She was born November 26, 1928 in Parmer County.

Ms. Hart was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Friona. She was a lifetime resident of Parmer County. She had been employed at Parmer County Community Hospital for 38 years. She served as administrator for 25 years. She retired in 1996.

Survivors include her sister Wanda Hart; three cousins, Dale Hart, Othelia Bennett and Orma Flippin; and a nephew, John Fred White, all of Friona.

She was preceded in death by her parents Charlie and Grace Hart and her brother, Roy Hart.

Memorial can be made to the Cemetery Association or to a favorite charity.

Pall bearers were Sterling Graham, Wendell Gresham, Alvin Gaines, Don Spring, Dr. Anthony Orme and Verone Leimer.

### 40 Yrs Ago-June 12, 1957

"No serious complaints," water superintendent John Wilson commented Monday when asked about how local folks reacted to the 50 cent increase in water rates and the compulsory sewer charge. This was the first month for the additional charges to be made.

Twenty members of Bovina Boy Scout Troop were awarded Tenderfoot badges in a special Parents' Night program last (Tuesday) night, in the American Legion Hall.

Saturday marks the grand opening of Bovina's newest business. The recently-completed Phillips service station, east of Warren Auto Supply on Highway 60, will swing open its doors in a formal welcome to the public.

A total of 184 people toured the Bovina Jaycee-sponsored "Atoms for Peace" exhibit which was in Bovina Wednesday afternoon of last week, says Charles Don Smith, Jaycee chairman for the showing.

### 35 Yrs Ago-June 13, 1962

A new and different warning system is now being used at the two railroad crossings in Bovina. Announcement of the warning system has been made by Dean Hastings, Santa Fe agent here.

Dave Wines escaped serious injury Sunday afternoon when the 1954 Chevrolet he was driving went out of control as he was approaching highway 86 from the south on FM Road 1731 in Bovina.

County wheat farmers were trying to harvest into full swing this week, with nightly in the form of showers, leaving the grain too wet to harvest.

A new observation well for the artificial groundwater recharge program will soon be added to the High Plains Research Foundation.

### 30 Yrs Ago-June 14, 1967

High, damaging winds, believed by some to be tornado type, hit the Bovina area late Tuesday afternoon of last week.

Eddy Wilmon has resigned as work unit Conservationist of Parmer County Soil and Water Conservation Service.

Bids for the construction of Bovina School's new elementary classroom building will be opened Thursday, June 29, Superintendent Otis Spears announces.

Sheriff Chas. Lovelace reports that tires and wheels taken in a burglary at Watts Tire Co. approximately three weeks ago, were recovered Friday night near the underpass east of Farwell.

### 25 Yrs Ago-June 14, 1972

Bovina City Council has

agreed to cooperate with a federal government program to hire four young people during the summer months.

Three directors to the seven member board of Bovina Medical Clinic will be elected at the annual meeting of the corporation next month, according to Earl Stevenson, board chairman.

Nine members of the 15-member board of directors of Bovina Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture met Wednesday noon of last week at Bovina Restaurant. The board voted to sponsor a monthly "Good Guy" award.

Sixteen boys, age nine through 12, participated in the local Phillips 66-sponsored Pitch, Hit and Throw baseball contest at Bovina's baseball park Saturday morning. Four winners, one in each age group, will advance to district competition which will be in Amarillo Saturday.

\*\*\*\*\*

### 20 Yrs Ago-June 15, 1977

A Farwell family was terrorized last Sunday night when two or three men held them at knife-point, tied them, then beat and robbed them, the Parmer County Sheriff's office reported.

The All-Star's traveled to Levelland on Thursday, June 2, to play in the State Basketball Tournament. Coached by Laura Barlett and Dianna Naegle, ten girls made the trip and did themselves proud. The team got runner-up to the state champions.

The speech and theatre department, West Texas State university, was announced the 1977-78 recipients of the 14 departmental scholarships which are given each year. Among the students who will receive scholarships for next year is Ben McCain, Bovina senior.

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### 15 Yrs Ago-June 16, 1982

Danny Cochran, 28, has been named as the new high school principal for Bovina. Cochran is a Booker native, and has previously been principal at Poteet.

Parmer County was once again hit by stormy weather last Thursday evening, and the loss toll was again high in some areas. The greatest loss from the Thursday storm appeared to be Bovina Feeders.

Mark Lanham, formerly of Vega, will take over the reigns of the Bovina Mustang basketball team next year, it was announced by school sources Tuesday.

\*\*\*\*\*

### 10 Yrs Ago-June 17, 1987

Marle Morgan has been appointed to serve Bovina as Municipal Judge. She will be working two hours each week day.

Todd Ware was one of 400 students attending an energy symposium in Austin last week.

The Bovina Medical Center board of directors held their annual meeting Monday, June 8. Two new board members were elected. They were Linda Marshall and Dennis Willard, who were elected to replace Ellen Estes and Eugene Scott.

### 5 Yrs Ago-June 13, 1992

Ken Sorley marketed the first load of wheat to Sherley Grain on June 4, according to elevator spokesman Harry Johnson.

The crops around the Bovina are ahave had maximum water damage in recent weeks. The area's cotton and wheat also sustained some damage from hail and high winds.

## Bovina Summer Lunches

JUNE 16-20

### MONDAY

Spaghetti w/meat sauce, salad, corn, garlic toast, fruit cocktail, milk

### TUESDAY

Toasted cheese sandwich, chicken and noodles, pickles, peaches, milk

### WEDNESDAY

Nachos w/ground beef, salad, pears, milk

### THURSDAY

Barbeque on a bun, pickles, chips, apples, milk

### FRIDAY

Frito pie, salad, corn, oranges, milk

## The Bovina Blade

(Publication No.-USPS 550-800)  
Published Saturdays, weekly except the week after Christmas at:  
100 Third Street  
Bovina, Texas 79009

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Parmer County, \$13.00 per year.  
Elsewhere, \$15.00 per year.  
Second-class postage paid at Bovina, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Bovina Blade, P.O. Drawer B, Bovina, Tx., 79009.

Bill Ellis.....Publisher  
Ron Carr.....News Editor  
Scooter Russell.....Advertising  
Becky London.....Everything Else

## PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT SPECIAL ELECTION AUGUST 9, 1997

### PROPOSITION NO. 1 ON THE BALLOT

House Joint Resolution 4 proposes a constitutional amendment which would increase the school property tax residence homestead exemption from \$5,000 to \$15,000. The amendment would also authorize the Legislature to limit all or part of the exemption to political subdivisions that are the principal providers of elementary and secondary education within their boundaries.

In addition, the amendment would authorize the Legislature to allow the transfer of all or part of the age 65-and-over tax freeze to another homestead. Specifically, the Legislature would be authorized to provide that the current limitation against increasing school property taxes on the residence homesteads of persons age 65 or older, or their surviving spouse who is eligible to receive the exemption, may be transferred if the person establishes a different residence homestead.

The amendment would also allow the \$10,000 additional amount for the standard exemption to be used to lower the tax rate of persons cur-

rently receiving the 65-and-over tax freeze. Specifically, for a homestead affected by this limitation in 1996 or in an earlier tax year, the Legislature must provide for a reduction in the school property tax limitation in the 1997 tax year and subsequent tax years in an amount equal to \$10,000 multiplied by the 1997 school property tax rate.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment providing school property tax relief by increasing the residence homestead exemption by \$10,000 and providing for the transfer of the tax limitation to another qualified homestead for persons over 65 and a reduction in taxes subject to the limitation."

Este es el informe explicatorio sobre la enmienda propuesta a la constitución que aparecerá en la boleta el día 9 de agosto de 1997. Si usted no ha recibido una copia del informe en español, podrá obtener una gratis por llamar al 1/800/252/8683 a por escribir al Secretario de Estado, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, Texas 78711

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# Out Here

By RON CARR



It has been said that the world would be a better place if we lived our lives as though everything we did would end up on the front page of a newspaper.

There are a few people today, like Frank Gifford, who wish they had heeded the advice.

Everyone is guilty of doing or saying things they regret. Often the regret is instant or immediate. All of us have used sharp words to another human being and immediately regretted it, especially if the other human being proceeded to try and beat the (you know what) out of us.

Perhaps that is where the term "Some day you will eat those words" came from.

The situation in our country has now become laughable. Let's throw in pathetic and ridiculous too.

Just for fun, let me ask you something real quick. "Have you ever committed adultery?"

None of my business, huh? Well does that mean you did or you didn't. If you didn't but you don't say you didn't, that means you did. Or did you?

I love this answer: "No I haven't, but if I had I sure wouldn't tell you." Now that puts my mind at ease.

Adultery seems to be the "in-sin" right now. Not the act itself. People have been committing the act for centuries.

But the word itself is crude and rude and brutal. It is so descriptive and biblical. Adultery. Which commandment was that?

We had been getting along quite well just having affairs, relationships, messin' around, or my personal favorite, having a fling.

"Oh it was nothing, they just had a little fling."

Fling softens it up enough so it doesn't sound so bad. Sort of a low-fat version of adultery. **HAVE A FLING!!** Adultery that's lite and 99% guilt-free.

Then there is the argument on the definition of adultery, i.e., is adultery committed by married persons only. If an unmarried person has sex with a married person, which one is guilty of

adultery?

Lt. Kelly Flinn, the young woman B-52 bomber pilot was not married. Did she commit adultery by having an affair with a man who was married. I don't think so. Neither did she.

Once and for all, can we get it through everyone's head that Lt. Flinn disobeyed a direct order and lied to her superiors.

In the military, disobeying an order and lying is much more serious than adultery. It is not tolerated. Contrary to the howling of women politicians and lawyers, adultery was not Lt. Flinn's downfall.

So how much and how long should someone be punished for adultery.

In Riyadh, Saudi Arabi, a palm fringed plaza near the main mosque has been dubbed "Chop-Chop Square". The plaza has a small metal grate over a drain at it's center.

The drain is to catch blood from the public executions. A Pakistani man convicted of heroin smuggling was executed Monday, bringing the total so far this year to 46.

The form of execution is public beheading, performed by an executioner wielding a 4-foot-long curved sword. That ought to keep anti-death penalty advocates on the edge of their chairs.

Who gets beheaded? Islamic law specifies beheading for murder, rape, treason, drug smuggling, some armed robberies.....and adultery. Whoa! Talk about losing your head over somebody else.

If I am not mistaken, one of the ten commandments also says "thou shalt not kill" which, of course, is precisely what we train the military to do. Talk about your double standards.

By the way, did I mention that the Bible, which says not to kill, advocates death for committing adultery (Leviticus 20:10). Go figure.

Commenting on the fact that living together no longer means you cannot get married in the Roman Catholic Church, Victoria Laskowski, director of Family

Ministries for the Diocese of Harrisburg in Pennsylvania said this:

"If you tick people off by saying only 'Thou shalt not do this' and 'Thou shalt not do that', you will drive them away from church, and that, we know, increases the chances that their marriage eventually will fail."

Well excuse me, we sure don't want to tick anybody off with those pesky commandments.

And now comes four-star Air Force General Joseph Ralston, a decorated Vietnam war hero who has served the U. S. A. for 32 years, rising to within a half-step of the highest position in the military, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

He must have dreamed of that day for a very long time. It is indeed a high honor and well-deserved by Joe Ralston. But, oops, in the 1980s while separated from his first wife, he had one of those fling things that nobody likes, especially if they have never had one.

The danger with flings today is that if you are well-known, famous, or wealthy, the person with whom you "flung" will turn you in.

Even if the affair took place when you were a nobody, as soon as you become a somebody, your former "close friend" blows your cover.

Instead of slipping into something comfortable, these days it's slip on the tape recorder, adjust the video, and keep notes in a diary.

Somebody snitched on General Joe Ralston. To tell you the truth, I am not disappointed that he messed around. I am disappointed that he caved in to the political pressure. I was hoping that he would stand tall and that someone would back him up.

But if you had been nominated for Joint Chief Chairman, it would have meant that your commander-in-chief would have had to support your nomination.

By supporting you, General Ralston, Mr. Clinton would be forced to discuss his position on whether people who commit adultery are

qualified to have lofty positions in the government.

The media and others would have the opportunity to ask Billy Jeff some, shall we say, pointed questions about "hissell" and he ain't talking.

So your 32 years doesn't count, General Ralston. They have to protect our president's reputation. We aren't sure what they said to you to convince you to withdraw your name, but I sure wish you had not withdrawn.

As a grateful citizen, I am sorry that you had to take the fall over an indiscretion that happened long ago and was nobody's business anyway.

From what I read, you have a long exemplary record of military service. Even your former wife said so publicly on television last week. It is a sad commentary that your career is a victim of the sin-of-the-moment mentality of the media and some spineless politicians.

By this time next year, adultery will be out, and some other sin will be in. Maybe it will be nose-pickin'.

If hypocrisy becomes a crime, half the people in the U. S. should be sentenced to gather at Chop-Chop Square.

## Library Receives \$500 Memorial Gift

Friona Public Library has received a memorial gift donation from the Parmer County Historical Commission in memory and in honor of Nelson Lewis presented by Hugh Moseley, Chairman of Farwell.

Lewis, a former 20-year resident of Friona, served as editor for the first Parmer County History Book, "A History of Parmer County" published in 1976 and was also a published author in his own right. "Death Stalks the Canyon" was published in 1975 by Nortex Press.

The self-proclaimed "prairie prowler" loved his Texas home and neighbors and was a history warrior, traveling many a mile to discover local history firsthand.

He was also a regular researcher at the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum Library in Canyon. Nelson

was a dedicated library supporter, having served on the Library Board both as a member and as chairman. He continued to be very interested in the progress of the Friona Public Library up until the time of his death, and he always enjoyed the Friends of the Library newsletter.

In choosing to honor their friend and colleague with this gift to the Library Building Fund, the Parmer County Historical Commission will help generations benefit from their generosity.

Gifts of \$500 or more will be permanently engraved on our donor plaque on display in the front of the Library. "We appreciate this and every gift to provide future generations of Parmer County residents with quality library service," stated Librarian Darla Bracken.

## THANK YOU

The family of Vernon Willard sincerely appreciates all the support from this community during our loss. The many cards, telephone calls, visits, the wonderful food, and the beautiful plants and flowers have been such a comfort to our family. Most of all, thank you for your thoughts, prayers and friendship.

Frances Willard and family

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<p>ALLSUP'S MILK</p> <p><b>\$1.99</b> 1 GAL.</p>	<p>BLUE BUNNY</p> <p><b>Twin Pops or Fudge Sticks</b></p> <p>EACH</p> <p><b>3 FOR \$1</b></p>	<p>BATMAN "NEW SPICY NACHO"</p> <p><b>Doritos®</b></p> <p><b>89¢</b> REG. 99¢</p>	<p>DECKER MEAT</p> <p><b>Bologna</b></p> <p><b>59¢</b> 12 OZ.</p>
<p>MARDI GRAS</p> <p><b>Paper Towels</b></p> <p><b>69¢</b> JUMBO ROLL</p>	<p>SHURFINE</p> <p><b>Ketchup</b></p> <p><b>99¢</b> 28 OZ. SQZ. BTL.</p>	<p><b>WIN!</b></p> <p><b>128 Prizes at Every</b></p> <p>Allsup's Store Plus 8 chances to win one of 8 <b>Classic Mustangs</b></p> <p><small>See Store for Details.</small></p>	
<p><b>Folger's COFFEE</b></p> <p>13 oz can <b>\$3.19</b></p>	<p><b>Shurfine CRACKERS</b></p> <p>1 # lb box <b>89¢</b></p>	<p><b>Shurfine BLEACH</b></p> <p>1 gal <b>\$1.39</b></p>	<p><b>Bolo DOG FOOD</b></p> <p>13 oz can <b>39¢</b></p>

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reg. \$12.50 / sale \$9.00

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Three Wick Parlor Candles -  
reg. \$19.00 / sale \$15.00

Straw Hats - 1/2 price

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\*Sale now in progress. For your shopping convenience you may also enter through our back door while improvements are being made on Main Street.

705 Main • Friona, Texas 79035

Cash & Carry • All sales are final

Please no refunds or exchanges on sale items

# FRIONA/BOVINA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

355 *Facts About The* **BIBLE** *BY JOHN LEHTI*

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of II Kings intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

**The Shunammite's Son**

WANTING TO REPAY THE KINDNESS OF THE WEALTHY SHUNAMMITE WOMAN, ELISHA ASKS GEHAZI, HIS ATTENDANT, WHAT CAN BE DONE FOR HER—AND GEHAZI REMEMBERS THAT SHE HAS NO SON, NOW...

...IN THESE ANCIENT TIMES, THE ONLY STATUS OF IMPORTANCE A WOMAN CAN GAIN IS BY HAVING A SON TO CARRY ON THE FAMILY NAME.

CALL THE WOMAN!

...IN RESPONSE TO GEHAZI'S CALL, THE WOMAN RETURNS

BY THIS TIME NEXT YEAR THOU SHALT HAVE A SON!

NAY, MY LORD, THOU MAN OF GOD—DO NOT LIE UNTO THINE HANDMAID! IT IS MORE THAN I EVER COULD EXPECT!

WITH TREMBLING JOY, THE WOMAN HEARS THIS NEWS! IT IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! IT WILL FULFILL HER LIFE AND GIVE HER IMPORTANCE IN HER HUSBAND'S HOUSE—A POSITION TO WHICH SHE HAD LONG GIVEN UP THE HOPE OF ATTAINMENT—NOW SHE SPEAKS...

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THE FULFILLMENT!

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## FRIONA CHURCHES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b>  | <b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b>   |
| <b>FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b><br>1006 Ashland<br>Bill Boyd, Pastor, 247-2207           | <b>SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br>502 West Sixth<br>T. Leon Talley, Min., 247-2769       |
| <b>TEMPLO "MARANATHA" SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b><br>301 Grand<br>Rev. Daniel Hidalgo | <b>SIXTH ST. IGLESIA de CRISTO</b><br>502 West Sixth, 247-2769                              |
| <b>BAPTIST</b>  | <b>TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br>10th & Euclid  |
| <b>CALVARY BAPTIST</b><br>14th & Cleveland, 247-3000<br>Vergil T. Ichtertz, Min.      | <b>LUTHERAN</b>   |
| <b>FIRST BAPTIST</b><br>Sixth & Summitt<br>Rev. Waide Messer<br>Phone 247-3933        | <b>REDEEMER LUTHERAN</b><br>13th & Virginia<br>Don L. Kirklen, Min., 247-3496               |
| <b>FIRST MEXICAN BAPTIST</b><br>904 Washington<br>Ruben Rivera, Min., 247-8011        | <b>METHODIST</b>  |
| <b>ST. ESTHER'S BAPTIST</b><br>5th & Main<br>Timothy Askew, Minister                  | <b>FRIONA UNITED METHODIST</b><br>8th & Pierce<br>Rev. Don Boren                            |
| <b>TEMPLO BAUTISTA</b><br>403 Woodland, 247-3472<br>Jose Luis Najera, Min.            | <b>PENTECOSTAL</b>  |
| <b>CATHOLIC</b>   | <b>UNITED PENTECOSTAL</b><br>5th & Ashland<br>Vince DeMuth, Pastor                          |
| <b>ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC</b><br>16th & Cleveland<br>Father Ed Swency, Pastor          | <b>IGLESIA COMPANERISMO CRISTIANO</b><br>7th & Washington<br>Ruben Rivera, Min., 247-8011   |
|   | <b>UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br>Union Congregational Church<br>1601 Euclid--Herman Krauel |

## BOVINA CHURCHES

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>BAPTIST</b>   | <b>METHODIST</b>                                   | <b>CATHOLIC</b>   |
| <b>FIRST BAPTIST OF BOVINA</b><br>308 Third Street, 238-1632 | First United<br>Methodist Church<br>205 4th Bovina | <b>ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC</b><br>401 Third Street, 238-1511 |
| <b>MISSION BAUTISTA BELEN</b><br>238-1462                    | <b>LUTHERAN</b><br>Lariat, Texas                   | <b>CHURCH OF GOD</b>                                    |
| <b>PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST</b><br>Pleasant Hill, New Mexico    |  | <b>CHURCH OF GOD OF THE FIRSTBORN</b>                   |
|  |  | <b>BOVINA CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br>500 AVENUE E. BOVINA  |



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**Parmer County Spraying Service**  
Drawer GG Bovina, Texas 79009  
Phone Sharp 225-4990



**West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**  
Phone 364-3331  
Hereford, Texas 79045

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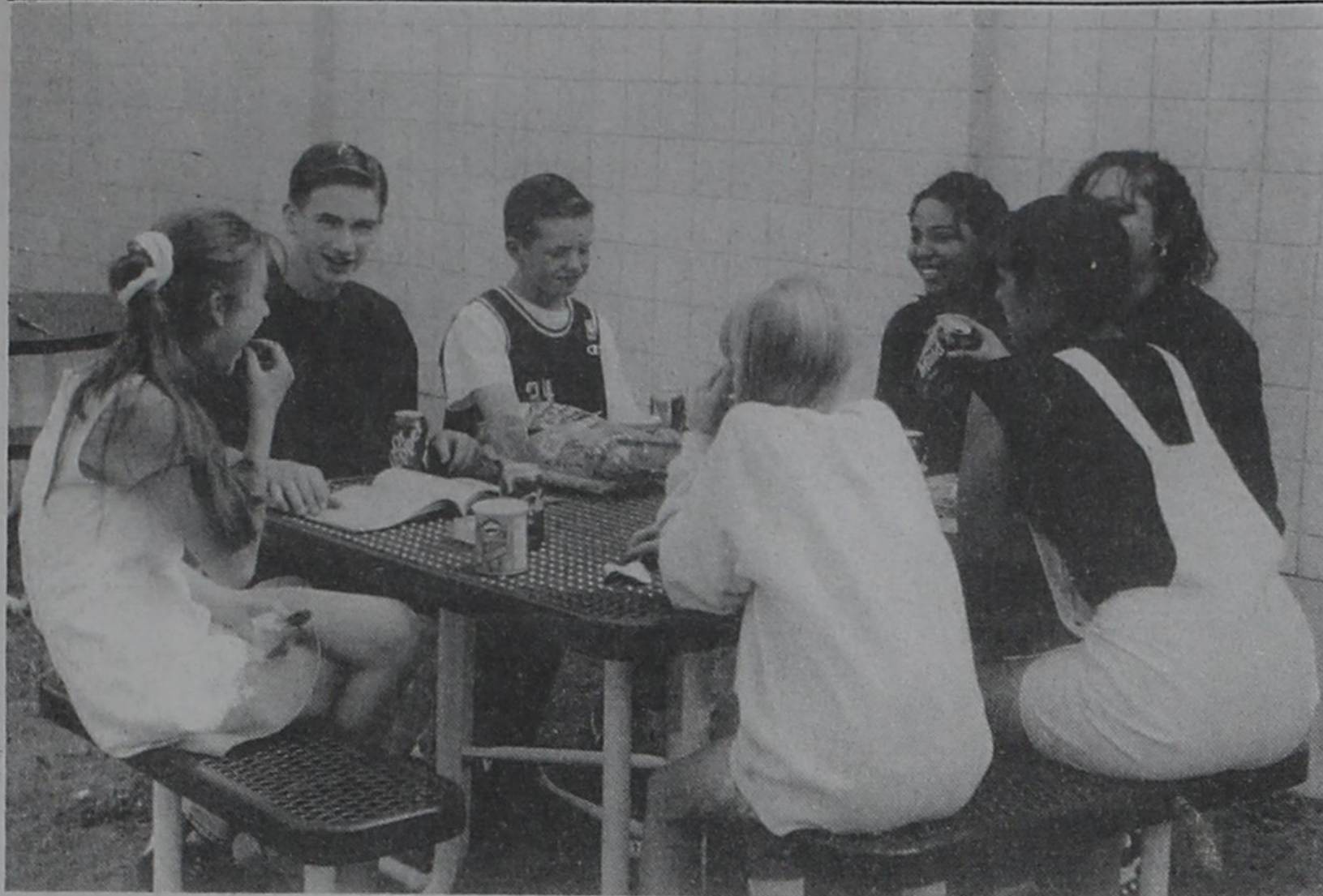
An April in has cre problems say agro A&M Re Center in Cool have slo wet soil while cr rontitio germina many a field w In addit created already herbicid control i

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**LET'S REST & EAT.....**Two things that teens do best. This group of middle school student council youngsters take time out for a snack after assembling two new tables for the school courtyard. The student council used their fund-raising money to purchase the tables.

## Wet Weather Sprouts Problems For Farmers

An unusually cold, wet April in the Texas Panhandle has created a variety of problems for corn producers, say agronomists at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center in Amarillo. Cool soil temperatures have slowed crop emergence, wet soil has delayed planting while creating ideal moisture conditions for weed seed germination, and snowfall in many areas disrupted key field work for several days. In addition, untimely rainfall created havoc with herbicides already applied or delayed herbicide application. Weed control in corn is off to a poor

start. "As a result, producers are faced with difficult decisions on how best to proceed with weed control," said Dr. Brent Bean, agronomist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. "Many are faced with at least one of several different unfavorable scenarios," added Dr. Clay Salisbury, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station agronomist.

Key considerations include herbicide label restrictions, potential for crop injury, expense of weed control and timing treatment to growth stage of the crop and weeds.

In some fields, corn has been planted and herbicide has been applied.

"The recent record rainfall may have leached pre-emergence herbicide out of the weed zone, making it less effective on germinating weeds," the agronomists said.

"The extent of leaching may vary widely across the Panhandle and depends upon the amount of rainfall, the particular herbicide applied

and soil type," they said. Injury to the emerging crop may also occur as a result of herbicide leaching into the crop root zone and slow crop emergence.

"Keep in mind that if weeds and grass emerge before or with the corn, their size may make control difficult," Bean said.

"No matter what course of action the producer takes, the potential exists for crop injury and reduced weed control this season," the agronomists agreed. However, producers can hope that better weather will help with weed control, as they can maximize success by keeping a close watch on their fields to detect developing weed problems, they said.

"Because early season weed control is vital for preserving crop yield, and many herbicides are most effective on small weeds, producers should be prepared to control weeds while small, preferably less than two inches in height," Salisbury said.

## Guy Warren Heads Home From Bosnia

Frionan Guy Warren III is scheduled to arrive back in the U. S. A. sometime within the next week, according to his wife Heidi.

Warren and his Civil Affairs Army Reserve Unit out of Lubbock have been serving in Bosnia since November, 1996. Mrs. Warren says that she expects him to arrive in Fort Bragg in mid-June. She and the children will drive to meet him in Fort Worth where they will spend a few days visiting with his folks.

At this time, there is no definite date for his arrival back in Friona, but she thinks it could be around July 3, if all goes well.

We will try to keep you posted. Welcome back, Guy.

## Accident Victim's Rites Conducted

Funeral services for Dorothy Elizabeth Lovelace, 74, of Farwell were conducted Thursday at Hamlin Memorial United Methodist Church in Farwell with the Revs. Larry Heacock and Beth Harrington officiating. Burial was in Sunset Terrace Cemetery in Farwell.

Mrs. Lovelace died Monday near Shallowater in an ambulance wreck. (See separate story).

She was raised in Friona, the daughter of the late Mary and Howard Mayfield. She married Woodrow Lovelace May 16, 1942, in Roswell. She had been a Farwell resident 55 years--all of her married life.

She helped her husband with the family business, Lovelace Oil Co., until retiring in 1987.

During World War II, Mrs. Lovelace worked in the district court clerk's office in Farwell.

She was a member of Hamlin Memorial Methodist Church, and its choir. She was very active in church and civic work, having served on various committees.

Survivors include her husband, Woodrow Lovelace of the home; one daughter, Diane Mayes of Humble; one

granddaughter, Maggie; two sisters, Jean Blackburn of Albuquerque and Peggy Gikas of Farwell, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Jim Clements, Leon Lovelace, Jerry Lovelace, Tommy Lovelace, John Snider, David Snider, Gene Christian and Mark Bryant.

## L. Mason Receives Nursing Pin

Leah Mason of Bovina was among 31 students in the Clovis Community College Nursing Program who received a Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) pin during a recent ceremony at the college. She successfully completed the two-semester nursing program.

Mason was awarded a Certificate of Completion in Practical Nursing during commencement ceremonies held May 16 at Marshall Junior High Auditorium.

Leah is married to Bryan and their children are Ashton, 4 and Mallie, 2. Her parents are Dickie and Mary Evelyn Steelman.

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Parmer County Commissioners Court is currently accepting proposals for group medical benefits for the Parmer County employees. Bids must be brought or mailed to Bonnie J. Clayton, County Judge, at 401 Third Street, Room 104, P.O. Box 506, Farwell, Texas 79325, to be received no later than 10:00 A.M., Monday, June 23, 1997, at which time proposals will be considered. Please include an original and four (4) copies in your proposal packet.

Personnel information is available from County Treasurer Anne Norton at 806/481-9152. Experience data will be provided upon request, after receipt from Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

The effective date for coverage is July 15, 1997 and the term is for one (1) year, however, proposals for longer than one year will be considered.

Proposals should be for the same coverage and in the amounts now provided under the Blue Cross/Blue Shield policy. Any proposals for more or less coverage should be presented as options and priced as additions or reductions to the premium by classification for the present coverage.

The Commissioners Court will not be considering proposals for a partially self-funded plan or HMO's at this time.

The Parmer County Commissioners Court reserves the rights to accept or reject any or all proposals.

By order of the Parmer County Commissioners Court, Bonnie J. Clayton, County Judge.

46-2tc

### Federal Land Bank Association

316 Main St., Muleshoe (806) 272-3010

Long Term Financing for Farms, Ranches, Rural Housing, Operating and Improvements. Current Variable Rate 7.95%. Fixed rates are available. Call for quote. A Property Rights Advocate and Equal Opportunity Lender.

## Shower To Honor L. Holman

A shower honoring Libby Holman is slated for Saturday, June 14 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at the Bovina Church of Christ.

Hostesses for the shower are Amy Byrd, Gilda Garner, Kelly McClaran, Michelle Johnson, Patti Johnson, Christi Riddle, Esther Steelman and Lauri Vandiver.

Libby's husband is Jay Holman. They have a son, Corbin. Local grandparents are Billy and Linda Marshall.

## Phone 238-1523

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DEADLINE for Classified Advertising in the Bovina Blade's Saturday issue is 5 p.m. Tuesday

## Classified Advertising

Lonely? Afraid? Depressed? Call CONTACT: 1-800-886-4351. Free, Confidential, Anonymous! 24 hours per day. 1-12tp

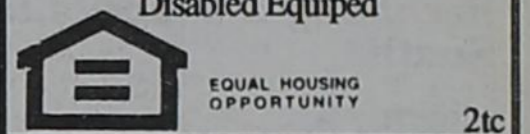
Storage Units For Rent 12x16 units with 36" regular doors. Highway 60 and FM 2290, 238-1107. 46-2tc

BIG SALE 4 pack bedding plants, \$1.10; hanging baskets, \$9.99 and \$7.99. 4 pack tomato and pepper plants, 89¢. BVJ Farms. Green house corner of 7th and Highway 84, Farwell. 46-2tc

Full time Special Education teacher's aide position available. You may pick up applications from Darlene Miller in the Superintendent's Office. Applications need to be in by June 20. Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D. Bilingual preferred. 35-1tc

Now hiring truck drivers to haul grain in Texas. 25 years or older with Class A-CDL, (806) 647-5384. 45-5tc

EASTRIDGE MANOR APARTMENTS Now Leasing 1 and 2 Bedroom Apt in Bovina Call 238-1102 Connie Garza. Disabled Equiped



### LEGAL NOTICE

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

The Central Plains Center for Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse is looking for one (1) volunteer from Castro and Parmer Counties to serve on the Public Responsibility Committee (PRC). The PRC is an independent, impartial third-party mechanism whose functions include the following: protecting, preserving, promoting and advocating for the health, safety, welfare and legal and human rights of individuals.

If you are interested in volunteering for this committee, please submit your name, address and phone number to Mr. Ron Trusler, Executive Director, at 2700 Yonkers, Plainview, TX. 79072. 3tc

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all our friends and neighbors who came to our parents' 50th wedding anniversary celebration. We had a good gathering that was enjoyed by all and it couldn't have happened without each and everyone of you.

Mother and Dad have made many friendships over the years here and we want to express our appreciation to all.

Again, thanks to all, The Carson Children-- Richard, Alan, Gary, Galen and Joan

## Bovina, Texas Income! Income! Income!

Collect \$9,600 + per year income through 1999. Government secured CRP payments. 271 choice acres of beautiful tall grass. Enjoy potential pheasant hunting lease for an additional income period. Underground water potential for domestic, livestock and irrigation for 20 + acres of intensive cultivation. 10 feet + of excellent top soil. Easy access. One and one half miles off highway 60. \$330 per acre. Ann Wilson Kingsley. 505-256-7375 49-4tc

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Friday, June 6-Sunday, June 15

ITALIAN SUB Hard Salami or Pepperoni

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Call In Orders Too! 238-9945



**HOODED SPRAYERS.....**Growers opting to use hooded sprayer equipment are finding many advantages to the reduced-tillage system, especially with the wet weather. Hooded sprayers are quickly becoming a sound alternative to cultivation for growers throughout the South.



**NEW CARE GIVERS.....**A new nurse's aide class finished their studies at Prairie Acres on June 9. They were, front, l-r, Kimberly Earheart, Jessica Tinajero, Gloria Cruz, & Monica Davis. Standing, l-r, Evette Bautista, RN Instructor Velma Lovvorn, & Rosario Chavez.

## Equipment Helps Farmers With Wet Spring, Late Start

The excessively wet spring weather that has plagued farmers throughout the South will continue to cause problems well into the growing season, especially with weed control. But farmers using reduced tillage production systems and a special type of sprayer should be able to compensate for wet conditions that would otherwise hamper some field operations.

"The biggest problems farmers currently face are late planting, increased weed pressure and getting into soggy fields to run equipment," says Lyle Gingerich, technical development manager for Monsanto Company, maker of Roundup

Ultra herbicide. "Farmers producing crops under no-till, reduced- or strip-tillage systems will be able to get into fields the quickest following rain due to improved soil structure and crop residue cover."

According to Gingerich, late planting will make weed control crucial and wet field conditions will make mechanical cultivation to control weeds difficult. "An excellent alternative to cultivations is use of hooded sprayers, which allow in-crop applications of non-selective herbicides such as Roundup Ultra to keep row middles clean," he says.

Running a cultivator down crop rows several times

per season to control weeds is a tradition in many crops, especially cotton. But this traditional thinking is being challenged by research documenting yield losses from root pruning following cultivation, and by new farming techniques that make cultivation less desirable, Gingerich says.

Since 1994, both university and private research studies have confirmed cotton yield increases when hooded sprayers are used in place of cultivation. "Hooded sprayer applications gave an average yield increase over cultivation of 158 pounds of lint per acre for one treatment, and 123 pounds of lint per acre for two treatments, when compared to cultivation," Gingerich says. These studies were conducted in Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, Texas and north Florida.

Gingerich also says that these yield increases might be a good hedge against the yield losses associated with late-planted crops.

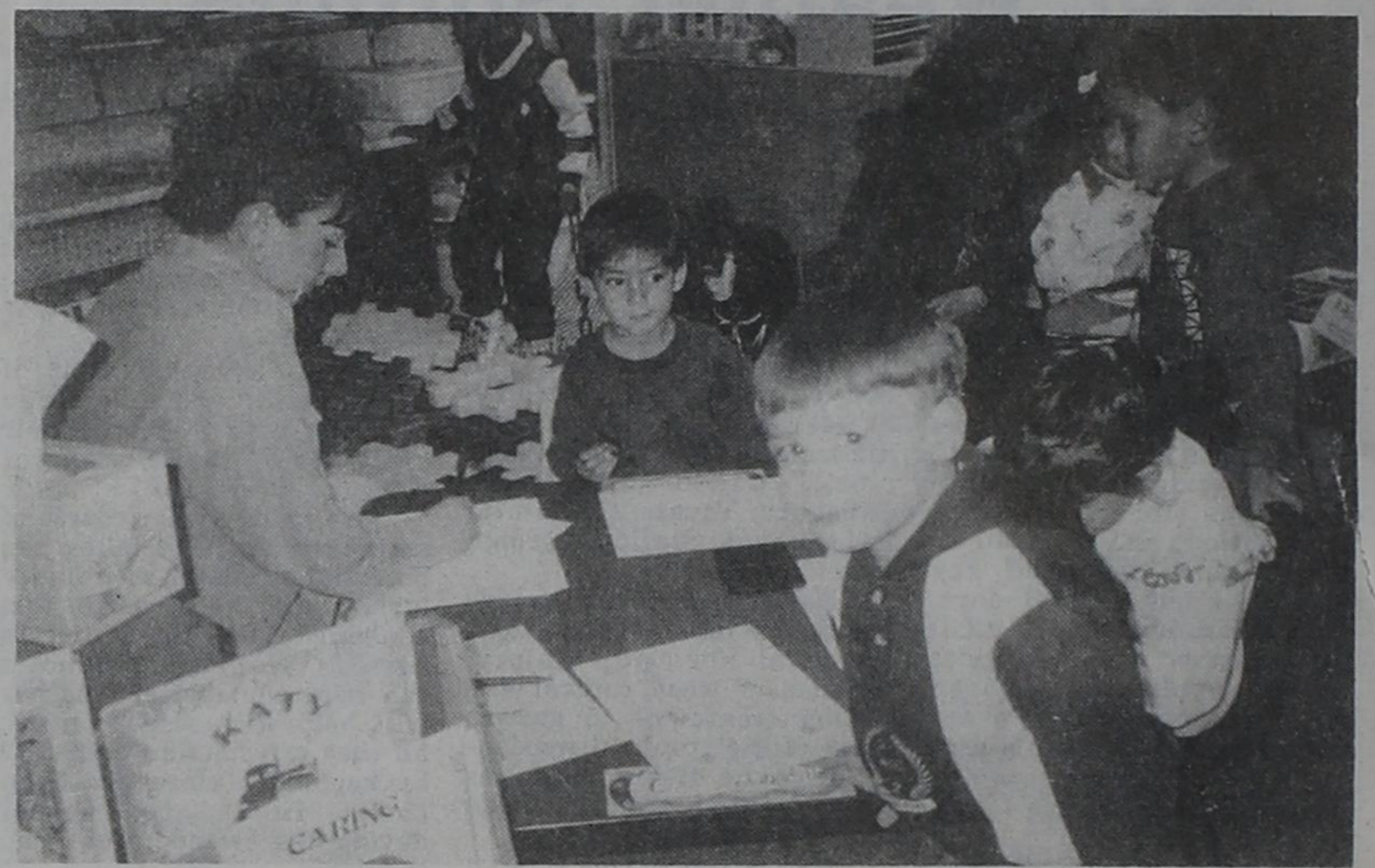
"When you cultivate, you prune roots that would otherwise get at nutrients and moisture more effectively," says Dr. Lowell Zelinski, director of agronomic services for Delta & Pine Land Company, a major producer of cotton and soybean seed, in Scott, Mississippi. Dr. Zelinski and his staff recently reviewed many years of research studies examining the pros and cons of cultivation. These studies encompassed all major cotton-producing regions of the U.S.

"It is important to note that injury to root systems from cultivation occurs in the cotton root zone section with the highest fertility and moisture levels," Dr. Zelinski stresses. "Root pruning forces cotton roots to reach deeper into the soil to satisfy the plants' needs."

Hooded sprayers are fast becoming an attractive alternative to cultivation for many growers, especially in the Southeast. "They allow farmers to effectively and economically control weeds without disturbing the soil surface and cotton root systems," Dr. Zelinski says. "Hooded sprayers help prevent yield losses associated with root pruning."

According to Gingerich at Monsanto, farmers can get into wet fields much sooner with a hooded sprayer than with a cultivator. Sprayers also require less horsepower to pull, so smaller and lighter tractors can be used. "Spraying is faster and provides better weed control than cultivation," he says. "And, unlike cultivation, hooded sprayers don't bring up fresh weed seed to germinate or spread perennial weeds throughout fields."

Hooded sprayer rigs are manufactured by both Custom Ag Products under the name Redball®, and John Deere & Company. Over 2,000 farmers across the South and Southwest currently own these sprayers, which can be used in cotton, corn, soybeans and milo.



**KINDERGARTEN KIDDOS.....**Juan Carlos, Blanca, and Ricardo are ending the pre-kindergarten school year by helping their teacher, Anna Ortiz, finish up the paperwork and packing. They will be ready for kindergarten next fall.

## Wetland Regulations Are Made Available

Wetland issues are often controversial and most often confusing to landusers. I will attempt to make the process as painless as possible for you to know what to do concerning wetlands on your land.

At the present time, nearly all playa lakes in Parmer County are classified as wetlands. In all there's over 6,000 acres in the county. In order for a playa lake to be classified a wetland it must meet the following criteria: it must consist of Randall clay, which is a dark, heavy clay soil found only in playa lakes; it must have a predominance of hydrophytic vegetation or wetland type plants in its natural state; and it must be capable of holding water at least seven days during a given year.

The most frequent questions asked about wetlands are "What can I do and what can't I do to a wetland?"

You are limited to the following activities in wetlands because of your participation in USDA farm programs and by the fact that wetlands are considered "Waters of the U.S." by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**YOU CAN:** Farm a wetland under natural conditions. If it dries up you can plow and plant it. Existing structures that were present prior to 1985 such as pits, ditches, dikes, pumps, terraces, etc. can be maintained to original sizes. In other words, they can be cleaned out, rebuilt, etc. to their former capacity.

## J. Graves Graduates Texas A&M

Diplomas were awarded to more than 4,000 Texas A&M University graduates during May commencement ceremonies.

Among those receiving degrees was Jamie Lane Graves of Bovina. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering technology

Wetlands can be otherwise used for recreational use. No authority is given any federal, state or other group to impose on your private property rights by gaining access to your land because it is a wetland.

**YOU CANNOT:** Convert a wetland to farmland or other uses by draining, dredging, filling or otherwise manipulating it. In other words you cannot do any dirt moving which would make farming it easier. This includes building pits, dikes, terraces, ditches or hauling dirt out or in, or leveling it.

There are exceptions to this and permits which can be given to do dirt work in wetlands. The following is a summary of the steps you now must take to gain permission:

\*If you intend to do dirt work in a wetland you need to contact Thomas Reed and document your intention and you must contact the Corps of Engineers at the numbers listed. The northern 1/3 of Parmer county is in the Red River Watershed and the southern 2/3 is in the Brazos Watershed.

### WETLAND RESTRICTIONS

Effective 1/21/97

Less than 1/3 acre: (approximately 120' square)

Any dirt work: Automatically permitted by Army Corps of Engineers but must be reported to the Corps within 30 days after completion. This includes pivot ramps.

From 1/3 acre to 3 acres:

Must contact the Corps prior to doing any work. This includes activities such as pivot ramps, terraces and waterways.

3 acres or larger

Section 404 permit required by the Corps in all cases.

**RED RIVER WATERSHED**  
Army Corps of Engineers  
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**BRAZOS RIVER WATERSHED**  
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Operations Division  
CESWF-OD-R  
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(817) 978-3990

## Combest Calls for More CRP Acres

As chairman of the house Agricultural Subcommittee on Resource Conservation, U.S. Representative Larry Combest (R-Texas) has told U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman that 3 million more acres should be included now in the Conservation Reserve Program, CRP.

Combest has summoned USDA officials to his subcommittee hearing on Wednesday, June 11 to account for not accepting the full number of new CRP acres directed by Congress, shifting more CRP acres to other regions, and to answer complaints over confusion during CRP sign-up.

Combest's letter to Secretary Glickman, backed by Members of Congress from both parties in the House and Senate, states that the small number of acres at cheaper-than-expected rental rates, point to the conclusion that environmental qualities were not accurately or fully evaluated to qualify fragile lands for CRP.

"Unfortunately," according to the Combest letter, "the results of the fifteenth sign-up announced on May 22, 1997 do not reflect full use of this important environmental program. Despite the fact that the president's budget provided for the acceptance of 19 million acres under the last sign-up, assuming an average rental rate of \$50 per acre, your announcement provides for the enrollment of only 16.1 million acres at an average rental rate of \$39."

Combest's letter predicts that in many states, more than half the sensitive lands that were covered in protective grasses to prevent erosion would be plowed and planted despite the fact that the vast majority of these acres matched criteria to be included in CRP. Combest said USDA's plans for another sign-up in late Fall would come too late for farmers who cannot afford to wait if their land must be prepared for planting.

"In short, landowners cannot afford to lose both

CRP contract income and income from production opportunities," said Combest. "From both a conservation and a budget perspective, it would be unwise to risk the substantial gains CRP has made as well as the significant taxpayer investment, particularly when USDA has the means and the money to enroll more CRP lands."

In particular, Combest called USDA Secretary Glickman's attention to his earlier assurances that there

would not be "major regional shifts" in the location of CRP acres. To the contrary, the Combest letter concludes as much as a 60 percent reduction in some states' enrollment of CRP acres, constituting a major shift away from lands previously protected.

As a whole, Texas as the largest CRP state, lost just over 1 million CRP acres in the announcement, while CRP gains went largely to the Dakotas and dispersed throughout the New England states.



## Flag Day June 14