

# The Castro County News

74th year—No. 18

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, August 6, 1998

50¢

12 pages plus supplements

## Summer's over, kids!

The end of summer vacation is fast approaching as students prepare to register for 1998-99 classes and get ready for the first day of school next week.

Dimmitt students are scheduled to register today (Thursday), Nazareth students will sign up for classes Friday and Hart students will register on Aug. 14.

The new year kicks off next Thursday, Aug. 13, in Dimmitt and Nazareth while Hart is slated to start on Aug. 17.

### Dimmitt

Registration for students in the Dimmitt schools will be today (Thursday) and classes will start next Thursday, Aug. 13.

For Richardson Elementary, registration will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Registration is for students starting kindergarten or who are transferring from another school. Those who attended Richardson last year do not need to register.

Those who do register need to bring a birth certificate, Social Security card and shot records. Also, lunch tickets may be purchased.

At Dimmitt Middle School, students who will be entering fourth grade need to register from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.; fifth grade, from 9:30 to 10:30; and sixth grade from 10:30 to 11:30.

The building will be closed during lunch, then seventh graders will register from 1 to 2 p.m. and eighth graders from 2 to 3 p.m.

All students who will be attending must come and register. Students need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian or have the Social Security number of the parent or guardian available. Students also need to have their own Social Security card with them.

Students who are new to Dimmitt will need to bring records from the last school attended, along with shot records and a Social Security card.

Lunch tickets will be available for purchase, and students will be required to pay any fines owed from last year before registering for this year.

At Dimmitt High School, students will have their pictures taken during their registration time. The school dress code will be enforced.

Juniors will register from 8:30 to 9:30, seniors from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m., sophomores from 10:45 to 12 noon, and freshmen from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m.

### Hart

Hart will start classes Aug. 17. Registration will be Aug. 14. For the high school, seniors will register at 8:30 a.m., juniors at 9:30, sophomores at 10:30, and freshmen at 1 p.m. Eighth graders will register at 2 and seventh graders at 3 p.m.

School pictures will be taken for students in grades 7-11 after registration. Senior picture day will be Sept. 8.

Elementary students who are not preregistered may register Aug. 10-14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Nazareth

Nazareth schools will start next Thursday, Aug. 13. Registration for students in grades six through 12 is set for Friday.

Seniors will register at 8:30 a.m., with juniors at 10 a.m., sophomores at 11:30 a.m., freshmen at 1:30 p.m., eighth grade at 2:30 p.m., and sixth and seventh grade at 3:30 p.m.

While students are filling out their class schedules, individuals will be asked to step out into the science lab for pictures. Senior pictures also will be taken.

Parents are asked to select the option they want for ordering school pictures and send a check with the student.

Students are reminded to dress appropriately and boys must be clean-shaven and have their hair cut to the proper length.

Girls are cautioned about wearing shirts or blouses that are too short at the waistline. Sleeveless blouses are allowed as long as the shoulder is covered.

Long t-shirts must be tucked in and shorts must meet the approved length of no more than three inches above the knee.



**TOP 4-H'ERS**—Rachel Wall (left) and Kristin Hales were presented the 1998 Gold Star Awards Monday at the Castro County 4-H Achievement Banquet. The two girls are longtime members of 4-H and have represented their respective clubs and county at the district and state levels. Both will be honored at the District 2 Gold Star Banquet later this year. Photo by Anne Acker

## Wall and Hales win 4-H Gold Star Awards

Castro County 4-H'ers honored Rachel Wall and Kristin Hales Monday with the highest award presented to a 4-H'er at the county level—the Gold Star Award.

Hales and Wall were among many 4-H'ers honored Monday during the organization's annual awards banquet. Dimmitt Mayor Wayne Collins presented the two with plaques in honor of their achievement.

Kaci Schulte, who has been an active 4-H'er in the county for many years, will be serving as state president of 4-H during the next year, and she was given special recognition for her achievement Monday. Schulte was a delegate to the District 2 4-H Council and served as first vice president. She also was a state council delegate prior to being elected as state president.

4-H'ers prepared and served a roast beef dinner to a good crowd at the Expo Building.

Wall, the daughter of Don and Neoma Williams of Hart, has been a member of Castro County 4-H for eight years, and during that time she has been active in Clothing and Textiles, Food and Nutrition, Photography, Recreation and Public Speaking projects. She has participated in

county, district and state round-ups. Wall represented Castro County at the district fashion show, district food show and the state photography contest. She has served her club as president, vice president and as a county council delegate.

Hales has been a member of Flagg 4-H for nine years. Her 4-H projects include Horse, Sheep, Veterinary Science, Beef, Public Speaking and Beef Cow Production. She has been an active member of the Horse Club and is a member of the horse judging team that competed at state four years, winning the state competition last year. The team competed at the Junior World Horse Show in Fort Worth, where it placed fourth. Hales currently serves as the Horse Club president and has been elected as District 4-H Council Delegate. She is the daughter of Rod and Jobe Hales of Nazareth.

In addition to the Gold Star Award, several other awards were presented.

Nazareth Mayor Ralph Brockman introduced the recipients of this year's Silver Star Awards, Aaron Hart and Jeremy Bishop. The Silver Star Award recognizes an outstanding Junior 4-H'er for achievements in their project area.

Hart has been in 4-H for seven years and his projects have included Swine, Livestock Judging, Gardening, Food and Nutrition, Public Speaking Safety and Sheep. He also has been active in many leadership and community service activities. He has won many district contests with Method Demonstrations and this year he placed at the state contest in College Station. Hart is the son of Vic and Laura Hart of Hart.

Bishop, son of Mickey and Carole Bishop of Dimmitt, has been in 4-H four years, working on Public Speaking, Food and Nutrition, Health, Consumer Education and Recreation

(Continued on Page 9)



**STATE 4-H PRESIDENT**—Kaci Schulte of Dimmitt has been elected as state president of 4-H for the 1998-99 year. Schulte has been active in 4-H for many years, and has served as an officer at the club, county and district levels. Photo by Anne Acker



**"LIFE AS WE KNOW IT TODAY"**—An historical dramatization in Nazareth Saturday afternoon took the crowd back in time, reliving the story of the lives of people who laid the foundation for life in Nazareth today. Those characters are (from left) Father Joseph Reisdorff, portrayed by J. Michael Harter of

Amarillo; Casimero Romero, portrayed by Tony Martinez of Hereford; Thomas P. McCormick, portrayed by Keith Birkenfeld of Nazareth; and Wilhelmina Thier, portrayed by Faye Spencer of Amarillo. The play was held in conjunction with the sixth annual Sustaining Agriculture Weekend. Photo by Joyce Birkenfeld

### DISD board says:

## 'No new taxes'

Read their lips—the Dimmitt school board said "no new taxes" at a special meeting Monday at noon to set a proposed tax rate for the 1998-99 budget year.

The board voted unanimously (all seven were present) to allow the tax rate to remain at \$1.21 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

The district is facing a deficit budget, with \$287,289 more in projected expenses (\$7,727,699) than in expected income (\$7,440,410), but board members agreed that they just could not ask taxpayers to make up any of the difference with a tax increase.

"The ag picture is not pretty out there," said board member Debbie Annen. "What would they do in Dimmitt if they get out of agriculture? A tax increase won't necessarily take farmers out of the picture, but it would add to their problems."

Board members said they would rather make up all of the deficit out of the district's reserve funds.

DISD Business Manager Johnny Hill said there is approximately \$3.4 million in reserve funds, with part of that amount restricted to paying off current projects and some held as a reserve to cover three months of operating expenses. That would leave about \$1,094,000 of unrestricted fund balance.

Taking all of the deficit out of reserve funds would leave approximately \$956,000 in unrestricted fund balance.

"Of course, we do this knowing full well that we probably will have to raise taxes next year," Annen said.

Board member Avery Thrasher agreed, saying, "We have to let everybody know we can't go back there (to reserve funds) next year."

Board member Earl Behrends said, "I hate as bad as anyone to raise taxes. I hate to pull money out of reserves, but we've got the reserve to

be used when we think we need to. I think we should go into the reserve for this year, but be determined not to next year."

Hill said the district could lose as much as \$14,000 in interest income by reducing the reserve funds. How-

(Continued on Page 12)

## Webb races for help after friend falls

Sometimes it takes a lifetime to become a hero.

It took Hercules 12 labors to gain his recognition as a hero. It took the Great Depression to make Franklin Roosevelt a hero. It took Michael Jordan six championship rings—and the uncanny ability to score at will—to earn him the title of hero.

For Kurt Webb, a senior at Dimmitt High School, it only took a heartbeat.

Webb, the son of Gary and Rhenea Webb of Dimmitt, was attending camp at Bluehaven in Las Vegas, N.M., on July 11 when Chris Gee, 17, of Seminole, Okla., fell 20 feet off the cliff of the small mountain he and several others, including Webb, were hiking.

Webb and another boy ran the three miles back to camp to seek help from an EMT. After returning with the EMT, Webb was sent back to camp for a headboard and backboard support for Gee. Gee suffered a

(Continued on Page 12)

### Rain!

|           | High | Low | Pr. |
|-----------|------|-----|-----|
| Thursday  | 99   | 69  |     |
| Friday    | 97   | 64  | .11 |
| Saturday  | 89   | 63  | .28 |
| Sunday    | 93   | 65  |     |
| Monday    | 93   | 66  | .10 |
| Tuesday   | 90   | 56  | .11 |
| Wednesday | 83   | 57  |     |

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| July Moisture   | 1.40 |
| August Moisture | 0.21 |
| 1998 Moisture   | 7.59 |

Temperatures and moisture are recorded each day at 7 a.m. at KDHN Radio, official National Weather Service reporting station.

## 1:1

By Don Nelson

Congratulations to our neighboring city of Hereford on its 100th birthday.

It's hard to believe that Dimmitt is seven years older than Hereford, especially since Deaf Smith County is older than Castro County.

There's a simple explanation. Deaf Smith was created in 1876 from Bexar Territory, but was an appendage of Jack County and then Oldham County until it was officially established in 1890 (by 97 votes) as a self-governing county.

The people created the first county seat, La Plata, in a central location. But when the railroad was built from Amarillo to Clovis, it bypassed La Plata by 20 miles. Bummer.

So the county seat (including the courthouse) was moved to the village of Bluewater, which was on the railroad.

(According to historians, Bluewater was so named because of the deep blue color of the water in Tierra Blanca Creek. How times have changed!)

The Post Office Dept. refused to recognize the town's name because there was already another Bluewater, Texas.

So the people renamed their county seat after the popular new breed of cattle that had originated at Hereford, England.

All of this moving and naming took place in 1898, eight years after Deaf Smith County had become a political entity.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Heat relief available for low-income, elderly

Panhandle Community Services of Dimmitt has money available to help local citizens with home energy expenses, thanks to the recent release of funds through the Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs.

Last week, the Clinton Administration authorized the release of \$100 million in funding to help low-income families pay for soaring home energy bills due to the extreme heat wave.

PCS will administer the funds for TDHCA for the Panhandle area.

Low-income families who need help to purchase, repair or replace air conditioners or who need help in paying home energy bills may apply to PCS for funding. For more information, call 647-3244.

Eligible low-income citizens may include the elderly, disabled, families with very young children, and households with the lowest incomes and highest energy costs.

The target population for this aid

project is households with incomes at or below 125% of the federal poverty guidelines. A family of four, for example, must have a family income not exceeding \$20,563 to be eligible for payment assistance. An individual must have an income not exceeding \$10,063 to be eligible.

Stella Devers, center coordinator for the Dimmitt PCS office, said that local businesses are being contacted about bidding on providing air conditioners and installation.

The PCS funding is channeled through the Weatherization Assistance Program of the TDHCA.

It is not a renovation or rehabilitation program. It does not address cosmetic improvements or other work which does not directly affect the energy efficiency of the home in question.

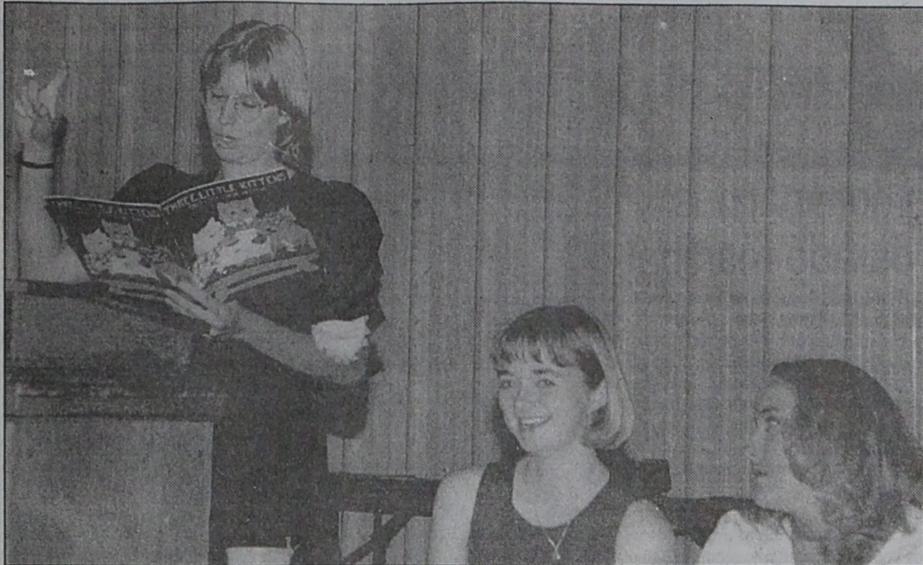
The following work may be performed to decrease a home's air leaks and energy consumption: caulking around windows and door

frames, repairing or replacing doors, repairing or replacing windows or broken glass panes, reglazing loose glass panes, patching holes where air is entering the house, patching holes in floors and ceilings, installing foam gaskets around electric switches and outlets, weatherstripping around doors and windows, installing threshold covers and door sweeps, wrapping accessible exposed water pipes, and installing insulation around inefficient water heaters.

The program limits the amount of money that can be spent on a house for weatherization improvement. The work done on a house will vary based on the condition of the house and the availability of funds.

Energy saving hints include closing curtains to keep out the sun, wearing lighter summer clothing, cooling only rooms that are used, using fans, and turning off the air conditioner when leaving the house for more than four hours.





**KATY WIECK** (left), a Randall County 4-H member, had 4-H'ers and adults laughing Monday night when she presented the program which won her first place in the Share the Fun Division at State 4-H Roundup this year. Wieck's presentation involves

using sounds to mark punctuation marks in the English language, and she read a story, *Three Little Kittens*, using those sounds during Monday's annual 4-H Achievement Banquet. *Photo by Anne Acker*

# Nazareth with Uirgie Gerber, 945-2669

In observance of his 10th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood, Father Darryl Birkenfeld presided at the Sunday morning mass at Holy Family Church.

It was a beautiful service with Father Darryl giving a very meaningful homily.

A brunch followed at the home of his parents, Herman and Marilyn Birkenfeld, for family members, several parishioners and friends from San Jose Church in Hereford; Rafael Partida of Indio, Calif., and Father Keith Neilson of New Brunswick, Canada, who were seminary classmates of Darryl's in Lowain, Belgium; Father Jeff Tehl and Joel Birkenfeld of San Antonio; Phil and Claudia Egger of El Paso; Tim Walter, a good friend of Darryl's from Washington, D.C.; Joe and Rita Woetovech, Darryl's godparents; and Velma Warren of Hereford.

During the evening, a barbecue was held for everyone at the home of Greg and Glenda Birkenfeld.

The family of Art and Loretta Kleman held their annual "Christmas in July" reunion on July 26 at the Nazareth Community Hall with 102 family members attending. Everyone enjoyed the "homemade" auction items and goodwill. Horseshoes and card games as well as a tour of the Nazareth Museum were enjoyed during the afternoon.

Relatives came from Burnet, Amarillo, Canyon, Tulia, Abernathy, Dimmitt, Nazareth and Des Moines, Iowa.

The ordination to the priesthood on July 25 of Eric Pohlmeier, son of Tommy and Sharon Pohlmeier of Paris, Ark., was most impressive to everyone.

Most Rev. Andrew J. McDonald, bishop of Little Rock, Ark., presided at the Rite of Ordination, held at beautiful Subiaco Abbey with 50 some priests attending.

Father Pohlmeier then offered his first Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving on July 26 at St. Joseph Church in Paris, Ark.

Attending the very impressive service were Tommy's sisters, Arlene Williams and family and Carolyn Boyles and family of Amarillo, and Rosella O'Hanlon and family of Oklahoma. Other relatives attending were Max Acker, Leroy and Dorothy Pohlmeier, Betty Wilhelm, Ed and Glen Ramaekers and Ralph and Evelyn Albracht of Nazareth; Myrtle White of Amarillo; Virgil and Vi Pohlmeier of Tulia; Ken and Barbara Acker of Lubbock; and Marvin and Carol Hoelting of Colorado.

The group also visited the Sisters at St. Scholastica Convent in Fort Smith, Ark.

Also going were Kenny and Cince Schulte, Heath and Nicole Schulte and Nikki Wethington and children.

Rodney and Ramona Schulte, Dustin and Tyson drove to Albuquerque, N.M., last Monday, then flew to Los Angeles, Calif.

They drove to Newport Beach to watch some big waves and play in the water. They went on to Hollywood to walk the "Walk of Fame," and did a tour of movie star homes.

Early the next day they had breakfast with the Disney characters, stayed all day at Disney Land and saw the night parade, a great fireworks show and Mickey Mouse's famous laser show with water. It was really neat.

On Wednesday they drove back to Los Angeles and toured Universal Studios all day long. The experienced some great rides, watched how the movies E.E., Backdraft and Small Soldiers were actually made.

As they were touring the sites of Jaws and King Kong, Jim Carey was making his new movie. The boys thought that was really cool.

On Thursday they all went back to Disneyland again—you just can't see all of it in one day.

They flew back to Albuquerque, N.M. and drove home on Friday.

They had a great time that they say they'll never forget.

## Voters can register via Internet

In an effort to encourage more voter registration and participation, Secretary of State Alberto R. Gonzales has endorsed a project that has set up a web site that promotes both voter registration and follow through on election day.

NetVote '98 makes registering to vote as easy as point and click. Any eligible voter from any of the 50 states may quickly and conveniently register from any computer that has Internet access. The web address is: [www.netvote98.mci.com](http://www.netvote98.mci.com)

The prospective registrants can click on their home state and a form will come up that will ask for the proper information required by that

state. Two to three weeks after on-line registration, a completed registration form is then mailed out for the individual's signature and return to their secretary of state. Then for Texans, the voter's registration card will be sent out.

E-mail reminders will be sent to on-line voter registrants to encourage them to vote on Nov. 3.

"The NetVote partnership is a good step toward making the voter registration process easier for all Texans," said Gonzales. "As chief elections officer for the state, one of my main goals while in office is to increase voter turnout for all elections. This process begins by regis-

tering as many people as possible."

"Rock the Ages" is an intergenerational effort involving celebrities, radio stations, Internet links, AARP and Rock the Vote volunteers and citizens of all ages.

Rock the Vote is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that young adults have the knowledge, resources and desire to be active participants in the political and civic realm. Since its inception in 1990 by members of the recording industry, Rock the Vote has used the power of music to bring young people together to participate in the political process and has helped register over 1 million additional young voters.

MCI is participating in the project by providing the technology designed to register tens of thousands of voters through early September.

## TCGA working for FAIR change

As corn prices continue to fall, the Texas Corn Growers Association (TCGA) is calling for changes in the 1996 Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act (FAIR).

"This farm program eliminated the safety net of price supports, higher loan rates, acreage reductions and farmer-owned grain reserves," said Carl King, TCGA president. "In its place came fence-row to fence-row planting and yearly deductions in direct producer payments."

Part of the FAIR Act capped corn loan rates at \$1.89 per bushel.

"By capping the loan, it encouraged prices to drop because the loan works as a floor," said King. "As the floor drops, so do the prices received by the producers. Therefore, the first step to turning the agricultural economy around is to remove the cap on the loan and set the loan at a higher level."

Such legislation has been introduced by Sen. Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) and Congressman Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.).

The proposed bills would set the loan at 85% of the 5-year average price of corn, minus the high and low year. This calculates to around \$2.20 per bushel, which is still "way too low," according to King, but is higher than the current capped right, which is a step in the right direction.

Another step called for by TCGA is to extend the corn loan from nine to 15 months, which would allow producers more marketing flexibility in their selling plans.

Under the current plan, the grain trade knows exactly when the loan expires and the grain will come to market, thus discounting the prices at that time. By extending the loan, corn growers can have an additional six months to market, allowing them to look for higher prices and more marketing opportunities.

## DMS to issue equipment

Football equipment will be issued today (Thursday) for Dimmitt Middle School football players at the middle school fieldhouse.

Eighth grade players need to be there from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and seventh graders from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Seventh grade players are reminded to have a physical before the start of the season.



## Demos to meet

Castro County Democrats will meet Tuesday evening at Dimmitt City Hall to make plans for the fall campaign season and to hear a report on the state convention.

The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. and all interested Democrats are urged to attend.

Location for a headquarters, financing of activities and manpower needs will be discussed so that adequate support for Democratic candidates in the upcoming election will be available.

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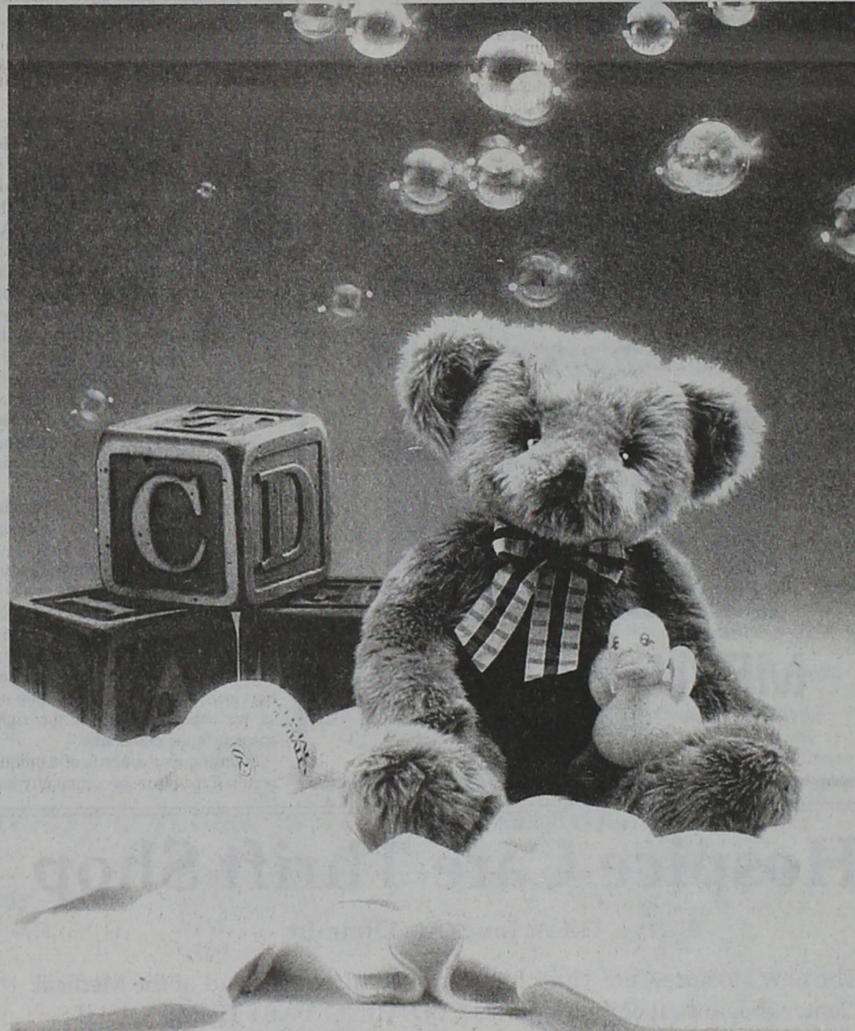
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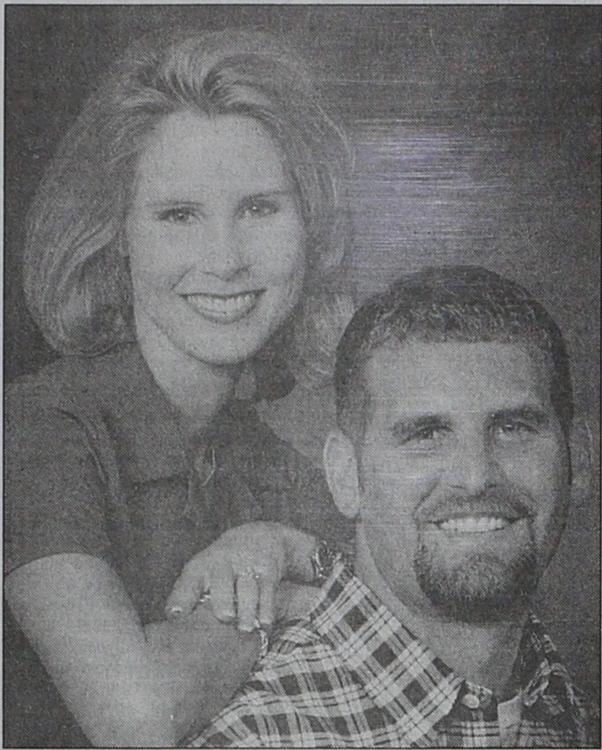
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# People



Jennifer Ann Taylor and James Patrick Killingsworth

## October wedding planned

Judy Taylor and Al Taylor of Dallas announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Jennifer Ann Taylor, to James Patrick Killingsworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Killingsworth of Amarillo, formerly of Dimmitt.

The couple will exchange wedding vows on Oct. 3 in Amarillo.

The bride-elect holds an associate degree in liberal studies from San Diego College. She is currently seeking employment in Amarillo, where the couple plans to make their home.

The prospective groom graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1988. He holds a bachelor of business administration degree in marketing from Texas Tech University. He is an associate territory manager with Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals.

## Chamber seeking nominations for Harvest Days parade marshal

The Castro County Fair Association and Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce are seeking nominations for grand marshal of the Castro County Harvest Days Fair Parade, which will be held in Dimmitt on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Nominations will be accepted through Monday, Aug. 31, at the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce, 115 W. Bedford Street.

Nominees should be residents of Castro County who have made meaningful contributions to our county over an extended period of time. Nominations will be considered for individuals or couples, and may be made by individuals or groups in Castro County.

While detailed nominations are not essential, listing the nominee's accomplishments will be helpful to the selection committee.

The grand marshal(s) will be acknowledged and will ride in the Sept. 12 parade, which is being organized by the Dimmitt Lions Club and the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce.

"This is an excellent time for you or your organization to recognize the people you feel are deserving of this honor," said Bill Sava, executive director of the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce. "Send us a letter or postcard, or drop your nomination off at the Chamber office."

## Craft conference planned Aug. 18

Capitalizing on crafts is the theme of the fifth annual conference of interest to the small and home-based business operator.

"In the last few years we've had many requests for a program especially for crafters," said Mary Blindermann of Amarillo, who chairs the "There's No Business Like Home-Based Business" task force which organizes the annual conference.

The conference will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. Aug. 18, then will be repeated that evening from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center at 6500 Amarillo Blvd. West in Amarillo.

"This year we're bringing a nationally known contemporary quilt artist and book author to Amarillo, said Blindermann. "She just happens to be a professional educator in the field of human environments with the Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service."

Sharon Heidingsfelder, Extension specialist from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock will offer first-hand insights as an artist in her own right, who creates and markets crafts in her spare time. Her contemporary quilts are exhibited in many national and international quilt shows. One of her quilts is in the collection of the Arkansas Art Center's Decorative Arts Museum.

Heidingsfelder received an Arkansas Arts Council Individual Fellowship Grant and her book entitled *Quilts* was published by the University of Arkansas Press. She has published numerous articles on selling crafts and ideas for starting craft-related businesses. Her publications also are listed on various Internet web sites for micro and home-based businesses.

Program topics include craft sales and marketing strategies, business structures, record keeping and unique opportunities for the contemporary crafter.

"We're excited to have Sharon on our program," said Alby Peters, family and consumer science agent with the Potter County Extension Service. "Her name kept coming up as we searched for just the right speaker in the crafts area."

Focusing on the needs of a unique sector of the business community has

been the task force's mission from the start, according to Peters. "Our efforts began about five years ago with a core group of people in the community saw a need to offer help to fledgling entrepreneurs," she said.

Other needs quickly surfaced as some local companies were either downsizing or closing. People were looking for options and needing alternatives.

"Some just wanted to bring in second or third incomes," Peters said.

Blindermann said the conference offers a different theme each year to meet the diversity associated with niche type businesses.

"One year we featured topics of interest to specialty food businesses, making such things as salsa and sweets."

Others have featured computer and Internet literacy, specialized marketing and small business management.

Cost for each session will be \$5. Pre-conference registration is encouraged. Contact Potter County Extension Service office at (806) 373-0713 to reserve space and materials.

## MAPS test to be given here Monday

Amarillo College Testing Services will administer the MAPS test at Dimmitt High School Monday at 6 p.m.

Individuals planning to attend Amarillo College in the fall who have not taken the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP) test may take the MAPS as an alternative to TASP. Students must take either the TASP or an alternative test before they can enroll in any Texas college or university.

Students taking the MAPS test need to bring a photo identification and the \$20 test fee. Testing will begin approximately at 6 p.m. No late examinees will be admitted.

For more information call (806) 371-5445.

*Sharkskin is so rough it is sometimes used like sandpaper for polishing.*



MR. AND MRS. JUSTIN ROBERTS  
... She's the former Jada Ethridge

## Ethridge, Roberts wed in double-ring ceremony

Jada Ethridge and Justin Roberts exchanged wedding vows July 18 in a formal, double-ring ceremony at the First United Methodist Church in Hart.

David Keller of Muleshoe officiated at the nuptial service.

The bride is the daughter of Coy and Vickie Ethridge of Dumas. Parents of the groom are Jackie and Beth Roberts of Dimmitt.

The church was decorated with blue and peach flowers with candles, three candelabras and a unity candle.

Dianna Sigert of Willow Springs, Mo., friend of the groom, was the pianist. Jason Ethridge, guitarist, played a song he had written for the couple.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a formal empire gown of peau de soie over taffeta. It was designed with long, cuffed sleeves and chapel-length train accented with appliques of lace and seed pearls.

For "something old," the bride wore her great-grandmother's pearls. A pair of gloves in her bouquet served as "something blue." She "borrowed" her dress from the groom's mother and her veil was "new."

She carried a bouquet of peach, blue and pink-tipped white roses made around her great-grandmother's gloves.

Maid of honor was Jamie McCarthy of San Antonio, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Jennifer Martinez of Hart and Kristy Abusaid of Amarillo, friends of the bride; and Ashley Newsom of Quitman, cousin of the bride.

The bridal attendants wore teal-length gowns in a spring floral design. They carried long-stemmed peach roses.

Best man was Josh Roberts of Dimmitt, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Shane Gee of St. Louis, Mo., Nathan Strickland of

Tempe, Ariz., and Jeremy Strickland of Amarillo, cousin of the groom.

Joshua Sigert of Willow Springs, Mo., friend of the groom, lighted candles.

Ring bearer was Bradley Coe of St. Louis, Mo., cousin of the groom.

Flower girl was Demis Newsom of Cumby, cousin of the bride. Flower boy was Jeremy Gee of St. Louis, Mo., cousin of the groom.

Ushers were Jonathan Strickland, cousin of the groom, and Dustin Dyer, cousin of the bride.

After the wedding, the couple was honored with a reception at the church's fellowship hall.

The bride's table held the wedding cake, punch and the bride's bouquet. Serving guests from the bride's table were Georgie Miller and Jennifer Genn.

The groom's table was decorated with a camping scene. Cheesecake and coffee were served by Shandra Strickland and Jennifer Heck.

After a wedding trip to San Antonio, the couple established their home in Amarillo.

The bride graduated from Hart High School in 1996. She attended Amarillo College and received her paramedic's degree in May. She is employed at Baptist/St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo.

The groom graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1994 and he is attending West Texas A&M University. He is employed by Advanced Communications Group in Amarillo.

## DISD sets substitute inservice

Those interested in serving as substitute teachers for the Dimmitt schools for the first semester must attend one of the substitute inservice training sessions.

Sessions will be held today (Thursday) and on Aug. 27, at 9 a.m. both days. The training will be held in the DISD administration building at 608 W. Halsell.

Those attending need to bring at least two forms of identification, such as a driver's license and Social Security card.

### Correction

An advertisement for The Village Shop in last week's edition featured "60% Off All Spring and Summer Fashions and Selected Summer Jewelry."

This ad was erroneous. The advertisement should have said "50% Off." A letter from the publisher to this effect has been posted at the store.

The News regrets any inconvenience that this error caused the store or its customers.

Let us put Highlights in your hair!

We offer that and so much more at

**The Headhunter**

Your full service beauty salon.

Ortensia Garcia, Stylist/Owner

We use and sell Redken, Matrix, Lanza & Paul Mitchell Products

409 NW 4th, Dimmitt 647-4159

Further Markdowns  
on Clearance Items!

SAVE AS MUCH AS

**75%**

**MERLE NORMAN**

TAMMY BLACK  
647-5773 • 115 E. Bedford, Dimmitt

## Hospice Care Thrift Shop

112 W. Jones St., Dimmitt

The new Hospice Care Thrift Shop, located in the east end of the Medical Center of Dimmitt complex, offers CLOTHING, BABY ITEMS, DISHES, new and used CRAFT ITEMS, etc., at bargain prices.

### Volunteers Needed!

The Hospice Care Thrift Shop is operated entirely by volunteers, with proceeds used to benefit Hospice Care patients and their families. If you'd like to be a Thrift Shop volunteer, just call Connie Nutt at 647-3785.

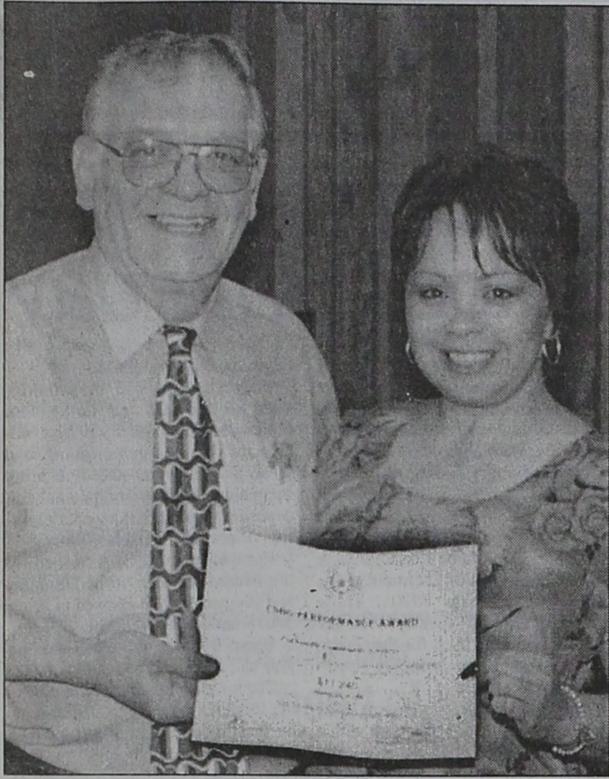
### Donations Welcome

The Thrift Shop depends on donated items for its entire stock, so donations are always welcome. Donations are accepted anytime the store is open, or by pre-arrangement. Just call 647-3020 or 647-3785.

A Division of the Castro County Hospital District

You are invited to a  
Bridal Shower  
honoring  
Barbara Jean Sherlin  
bride-elect of  
Robert D. Moss  
Saturday, August 8  
from 10 to 11:30 a.m.  
in the home of  
Mrs. Norma Conard  
South Highway 385, No. 8

Selections at Coleman Pharmacy, Lochhart Pharmacy,  
Higginbotham-Barlett Co., and Seale Florist.



**ACCEPTING AWARD**—Panhandle Community Services has been recognized by the Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs as an Outstanding Agency. Notification of the honor was sent to each local PCS office. Shown is Stella Devers, center coordinator of the Dimmitt PCS office, and PCS Executive Director Johnny Raymond. *Courtesy Photo*

## PCS receives 'Outstanding Agency Award' from TDHCA

Panhandle Community Services received the Outstanding Agency Award from the Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs at the recent Executive Director's Conference in San Antonio. Phyllis Cook and Pauletta Flores accepted the award on behalf of PCS Executive Director Johnny Raymond.

A cash incentive of \$11,240 accompanied the award. "PCS will utilize the cash incentive to enhance our existing programs aimed at assisting clients to become self-sufficient and to transition out of poverty," Raymond said.

Since the award is based on the case management and overall performance of the staff over the entire 26-county service area of the Panhandle, individual presentations of the award were made to each center, since they share in the award equally.

The award has been given four times, and PCS has won it each time.

## Shot clinic is set today

A shot clinic offering immunizations against several childhood diseases will be held in Dimmitt today from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Dimmitt Middle School Auditorium.

Vaccinations will give protection against polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps and HIB (hemophilus influenza Type B).

The Texas Dept. of Health is charging money to help with the costs of keeping the clinic open.

*The roots of the mesquite tree may burrow over 60 feet to obtain water.*

*Soft drinks got the name "pop" because of the noise they made when the bottle was opened.*

## Head Start enrollment is set today

The Head Start program in Dimmitt will accept student applications today (Thursday) from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon at the Richardson Elementary School Library.

Children who will be four years old on or before Sept. 1 are eligible for the Head Start program.

The child's family must meet income guidelines, or receive some type of public assistance. Eligible children also are those who are disabled or in foster care.

When registering for Head Start, the child should furnish his or her birth certificate, immunization record and Social Security number. Documentation of disability is required, if applicable. The family must provide income verification (check stub, income tax return, etc.) and/or proof of public assistance such as a food stamp card, AFDC benefits, Medicaid, WIC, SSI or HUD. The child's health insurance card also should be presented, if applicable.

Hear  
**The First United Methodist Church**  
Morning Worship Service  
Sundays - 10:45 a.m.  
On KDHN 1470 AM

## Tri-State Fair Bus Tour to stop in Dimmitt Tuesday

Reviving an old tradition, this year's Tri-State Fair will take its show on the road with five stops in the Texas Panhandle, and Dimmitt is included among those stops.

The 75th Tri-State Fair Bus Tour will cover over 200 miles on Tuesday, visiting the cities of Hereford, Dimmitt, Tulia, Silverton and Clarendon.

The tour will stop at the Community Center in Hereford from 9 to 10 a.m., then will travel to Dimmitt, where it will be on the courthouse square from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. The next stop will be at the Memorial Center in Tulia from 12 noon to 1 p.m. The tour will visit in Silverton from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the courthouse. It will wind up at the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce office from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The fair is reviving this mid-1900s tradition as part of an outreach program with Amarillo and its sister communities of the Panhandle. By mission, the fair's purpose is to encourage and develop the material welfare and rebuilding the Texas Panhandle, eastern New Mexico and Oklahoma Panhandle.

Primary interests include agricultural, horticultural and educational pursuits. A round table discussion has been set to allow community leaders the opportunity to get acquainted, learn about the area's largest fair and share ideas of concern and mutual benefit for this 75-year-old regional event.

Lots of fun has been scheduled into the bus tour for area residents. Entertainment will be provided by the Big Texan Opry Singers and country singer Ed Montana.

Community residents also will be able to purchase advance tickets to fair entertainment. Tickets will be available for Steve Wariner concert (\$9.80 each), Wrestle Fest II (\$50,

\$20, \$15, \$10), Kevin Sharp concert (\$5 each), and the professional rodeo (\$12, \$5). All tickets, when purchased in advance, include the price of the fair's gate admission.

Bus tour visitors will be able to receive information on fair discounts, special community nights, educational activities and competitive events.

Fair personnel will be on hand to distribute premium catalogs, entry forms and other fair information. For more information, contact the fair office at (806) 376-7767 or write Tri-State Fair, P.O. Box 31087, Amarillo, 79120.

## Alzheimer's charity walk scheduled

Hundreds of residents throughout the Panhandle will be walking at Westgate Mall to benefit the Panhandle Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association on Saturday, September 26.

Walkers aim to raise \$20,000.00 for the programs and services for the 10,000 families coping with Alzheimer's Disease in the 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle.

Afterwards, walkers are invited to Center Court following the walks to enjoy brunch, an awards ceremony and family entertainment.

There are two categories, the Golden Mile inside walk or the 5K Fun Walk outside. Registration fee is \$10 and the event begins at 8 a.m. at the Cattle Call entrance at the Westgate Mall. Memory Walk T-shirts are available for walkers raising \$50 or more.

Registration forms are available from the Panhandle Chapter, 2200 W. 7th, or call 372-8693. If outside the Amarillo area, call 800-687-8693.



**LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**—Eight Dimmitt High School students attended the Texas Association of Student Councils Leadership Conference on the campus of Angelo State University July 19-24. They are (front, from left) Jacob Larra, Jessica Salinas, Brittany Porter, Daphanie Rivera and Aaron Arguijo; and (back, from left) Lindsey Welch, Brenda Flores, and Julie Merritt. Theme of the conference was "Wow! What if..." These teens were joined by over 250 other students from across the state who learned and practiced leadership skills that they will use in their local high schools and communities. The trip was partially funded through student council fund raisers. *Courtesy Photo*

Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday



Roses are red,  
Violets are blue.  
You're turning 50,  
But we still love you!

Love—  
Your Family!

Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday

# Church Directory

- New Hope Memorial Baptist**  
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Melvin Walker III.....647-2889
- Sunnyside Baptist**  
Sunnyside  
Bennie Wright.....647-5712
- First United Methodist**  
Hart  
Kelly Inman.....938-2462
- La Asamblea Cristiana**  
400 NW 5th, Dimmitt  
Manuel Rodriguez
- First United Methodist**  
110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt  
Rusty Dickerson.....647-4106
- Iglesia De Cristo**  
E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt  
Pedro A. Gonzalez
- Immaculate Conception Catholic**  
1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt  
Guillermo Morales.....647-4219
- Jesus and the Love of God Church**  
(Bilingual) 301 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Felix Sanchez.....647-3668

*Praise to thee, my Lord, for all thy creatures.*

—St. Francis of Assisi

*Attend the Church of Your Choice*

- Church of God of the First Born**  
611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt
- St. John's Catholic**  
Hart  
Jerry Stein.....945-2616
- Church of Christ**  
SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt  
Harry Riggs.....647-4435
- Rose of Sharon Temple**  
407 NE 4th, Dimmitt
- Primeria Iglesia Bautista**  
9th and Etter, Dimmitt  
Antonio Rocha
- First Assembly of God**  
300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
Larry Gilliam.....647-5662
- First Baptist**  
1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
Howard Rhodes.....647-3115
- Lee Street Baptist**  
401 SW 2nd, Dimmitt  
Kevin Wood
- First Christian**  
600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
- La Iglesia De Dios Del Promojenito**  
East Halsell Street, Dimmitt
- Presbyterian**  
1600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
Connie Nieto.....293-7361
- Holy Family Catholic**  
Nazareth  
Jerry Stein.....945-2616
- Hart Church of Christ**  
416 Avenue H, Hart  
Aaron Lee.....938-2267

*This directory is sponsored by these businesses:*

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**B & W Aerial Spray**  
N. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt • 647-2550
- C&S Battery, Inc.**  
301 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
647-3531
- Cerestar USA Dimmitt Inc.**  
A Company of Eridania Beghin-Say  
"Attend the Church of Your Choice"  
647-4141
- Dale's Auto & Salvage**  
200 N. Hwy. 168, Nazareth  
945-2223
- Dimmitt Consumers**  
"Your Co-op Supplier"  
217 E. Bedford • 647-4134
- Dimmitt Equipment Co.**  
Farm Equipment Repair & Irrigation Engines  
411 SE 2nd • 647-4197
- Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply**  
200 E. Bedford • 647-3286
- Dimmitt Ready Mix**  
Commercial, Residential Concrete  
Backhoe & Ditching Service  
718 E. Bedford • 647-3171
- Flagg Fertilizer Co.**  
Farm Chemicals  
"See Us for Your Spraying and Fertilizer Needs"  
Flagg Intersection • 647-2241
- Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home**  
Mike Foskey, Jerrye Lilley, Tom McGill  
208 W. Halsell, Dimmitt • 647-5171
- Hart Producers Co-op Gin**  
Monty Phillips, Manager  
938-2189
- Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.**  
Lumber, Hardware, Housewares,  
Flooring, Garden Supplies  
109 N. Broadway, Dimmitt • 647-3161
- E.M. Jones Ditching**  
North Hwy. 385  
647-5442
- Lockhart Pharmacy**  
107 E. Bedford, Dimmitt  
647-3392
- Lowe's Pay & Save Foods**  
410 Broadway, Hart • 938-2312  
"Proud to Support the Community Churches"
- Mr. Burger**  
219 S. Broadway  
647-3688
- Red X Travel Store**  
320 S. Broadway  
647-4510
- Texas Equipment Company, Inc.**  
Hwy. 385, Dimmitt  
647-3324
- Westway Trading Corporation**  
North Hwy. 385, Dimmitt  
647-3138

## Keepers of the Legend

An Outdoor Musical presented by MuleFLEX Production Co.

**August 7-10, 1998**  
**8:30 p.m.**

**Muleshoe Heritage Center**  
West American Blvd. • Muleshoe, TX

Tickets \$10.00 at gate or \$8.00 in advance. \$5.00 Children Ages 10 and Under  
**GROUP RATES AVAILABLE**

For Information Call 806/272-5612

**BEANS & CORNBREAD DINNER**  
each evening at 6:30 p.m.  
served by the Muleshoe Heritage Foundation  
ADULTS \$4.00 • CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER \$2.50 (per plate)

While in Muleshoe, enjoy our fine shopping, dining and overnight accommodations

Funded in part through the County Arts Expansion Program of the Texas Commission on the Arts, and a grant from the City of Muleshoe.

# ABI Agriculture, Business & Industry



**ICE BREAKER**—Youngsters work on communications skills and group planning in a simple game of tossing the ball to each other during South Plains College's recent Camp for Young Entrepreneurs. The activities were part of a low elements ropes course conducted by Stan Weathered (right), SPC director of student activities. From left

are Robin Tooley of Maple, Jeremy Bishop, Cliff Wright and Thomas Brockman, all of Dimmitt, and John Adams of Morton. Sixteen young people from throughout the South Plains area were on hand for the second annual camp which helped sharpen developing business skills. *Courtesy Photo*

## First United Bank introduces new art check imaging system

First United Bank has announced the introduction of "FirstCheck," a new state of the art check imaging system that the bank says will significantly improve the operating efficiency of the bank's proof, bookkeeping and customer service departments.

The new check imaging system makes photographic images of each customer's checks and deposits.

Executive Vice President Mark Bain said FirstCheck provides numerous benefits to the bank's customers.

The bank's account statements are better organized and more convenient to use in the new format, Bain said. Statements and check images are printed on pre-punched 8.5" x 11" paper, sorted by check number, and ready to be filed in the customer's complimentary three-ring statement imaging binder.

This method of storage provides customers with easy fingertip reference to all of their checking account records, Bain said. This also allows the bank's customers to reconcile their bank statements much easier and faster due to the checks being printed in check number order.

FirstCheck also simplifies tax preparation, Bain said.

The bank's customer service department will not be able to fulfill customer service requests almost instantaneously rather than going through the traditional research requiring hours and sometimes

weeks fulfilling similar requests. The customers will have the option of having research items faxed directly to them within minutes, not days, Bain said. The bank's customers will also be able to receive their monthly bank statement on CD-ROM, allowing the customers convenient access to up to 35,000 returned checks and deposits on a single CD-ROM. This allows the customer to have a greatly enhanced storage and retrieval system.

"The organizational, simplicity and flexibility features are what our customers appreciate the most about FirstCheck," Bain said. "We are also excited about the ability to deliver additional products and services to our customers using the imaging platform."

First United Bank, a subsidiary of Plains Bancorp, Inc., is a \$180 million bank with offices in Dimmitt, Earth, Seagraves and Lubbock.

The first cummerbunds were actually loin cloths worn by natives of India.

The pocket originated as an English unit of measurement. It was a bag that held 182 pounds of wool.

## Groups asked to help 'glean' potatoes Saturday

Salvaging food to feed the hungry is what the Society of St. Andrew is all about, and county residents can help by organizing or participating in "gleaning" projects this summer.

"Castro County Potato Bounty" will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and people of all ages and civic groups are asked to volunteer to pick up potatoes left behind in fields after the farmers' harvest.

Food gathered will be given to food pantries, soup kitchens. Shelters and senior citizens' centers that feed the hungry of northwest Texas.

Those interested in participating should contact Frances Duke, Society of St. Andrew, HC 1, Box 50, Springlake, Texas 79082, or call her at (806) 647-5517.

The Society of St. Andrew can set up group gleanings every Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, weather permitting; and on Saturdays.

Those interested in gleaning for a community service project should contact Duke. She said gleanings also can be set up for early evenings.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to help our community by showing those who are less fortunate that you do care," said Duke. "Just pick a

time and date, call me and I'll make the arrangements. Two or three hours of gathering the food left in the field makes a lot of difference to those who are struggling to make ends meet, the hungry and the elderly."

Duke said donations also are accepted to help defray expenses for the Castro County Potato Bounty, and checks should be sent to Society of St. Andrew, 2808 Fairmont, Suite 300, Dallas, Texas 75201. Those donating should specify that the funds should be used for the Castro County Potato Bounty for the Northwest Texas office.

The special potato gleaning here will begin on Aug. 7 at 6 p.m. with a camp-out, then the gleaning will

begin on Aug. 8 at 9 a.m.

The camp-out will be primitive with no showers and no outdoor outhouses. Cold water will be available for drinking and cleaning, and those attending are asked to bring their own camping equipment such as tents, sleeping bags, proper clothing, insect repellent, etc.

Hamburgers will be furnished by the Methodist Men from Dimmitt, and campers will be allowed to bring marshmallows for roasting.

Games such as volleyball, frisbee golf and more will be held.

Groups participating in the gleaning should bring the produce back to the local food bank or an agency that ministers to the needy.

## Bill would give early cash to drought-stricken farmers

A group of US Senators have introduced legislation designed to aid farmers in Texas and across the country who have been hit hard by the searing heat and unending drought.

The Emergency Farm Financial Relief Act will allow farmers the option of receiving all of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (AMTA) contract payments for fiscal year 1999 immediately once the fiscal year begins in October instead of waiting for the annual payments which usually are made two times a year—in December or January and again in September.

"This legislation will make \$5.5 billion available to farmers as much as one year earlier than usual to help them cope with the effects of the drought, including low prices and massive crop failures. Texas is in the throes of one of its worst droughts in recent memory and our farmers are unable to harvest much more than dust," said US Sen. Phil Gramm.

The bill will leave the option of receiving early payments with the farmers, who can make their decision on the basis of personal circumstances," Gramm said. "For example, it will allow a farmer with 1,000 acres of wheat and a 30-bushel AMTA payment yield, the option of receiving \$19,000 in October 1998,

rather than waiting until December 1998 or January 1999 to receive just \$9,500 and then waiting another nine months for the remaining half."

Gramm is co-signing the legislation along with Sens. Kay Bailey Hutchison, Trent Lott, Richard Lugar, Richard Shelby, Paul Coverdell, Thad Cochran and Lauch Faircloth.

## Classic Cable to donate money to schools

Classic Cable announced their plans to donate money to local high schools with each new cable installation or upgrade.

According to Jennifer Hauschild, Marketing Manager for Classic Cable, the company has committed to donating five dollars to local high schools for each new installation or upgrade during the month of August. HBO will also donate one dollar for each HBO sale.

"We offered a similar campaign in 1997 and generated nearly \$15,000 for local high schools," said Ms. Hauschild. "We have been working very hard this year on being good neighbors in the communities we provide with cable service and we firmly believe the education of our children is vitally important."

Classic Cable provides all schools with free cable television service and has established a college scholarship fund for graduating seniors. In addition, the company makes donations to many community events and donates a large number of toys to needy children during the Holidays.

Individuals wishing to install cable television during the month of August will not only have five dollars donated to the local high school, but will also receive 50% off the regular installation fee. Existing customers wishing to assist with these efforts can do so by upgrading their existing cable service to include any premium service and the donation of five dollars will also be made to the local high school. They will receive 50% off the regular upgrade fee.

According to Ms. Hauschild, customers can call 1-800-999-8876 or stop by their local office to get all the details.

## Conference to showcase cattle

An educational conference designed to showcase the beef cattle industry and provide opportunities will be held Aug. 27-28 at West Texas A&M University in the Agriculture and Natural Sciences Building in Canyon.

Opening registration will be Thursday at 10 a.m. Sessions begin Friday at 8 a.m. and will adjourn at noon.

The cost is \$40 per person due by Aug. 24. Send it to Texas Cattle Feeders Association, 5501 West-40, Amarillo, TX., 79106. Call toll free at 1-800-299-8232.

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# TUNE IN!

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>AGRICULTURAL NEWS</b> .....         | 6 to 7 a.m.  |
|  | and 12:15 to 12:50 p.m., M-F   |
| <b>MORNING SHOW</b> .....              | 7 to 8 a.m. daily  |
|  | Weather forecast, local news, birthdays, anniversaries, American Folk Song, school lunch menus, Great American Farmer, Good Neighbor |
| <b>SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL TALENT</b> ..... | 8 a.m. daily   |
| <b>MARKET REPORTS</b> .....            | 40 past the hour, starting at 9:40 a.m., M-F   |

## KDHN 1470

## Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The Dimmitt Independent School District will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll by 5 percent. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on August 17, 1998 at 12:00 p.m. at the Dimmitt School Administration Building, 608 West Halsell.

- FOR** the proposal: Steve Buckley, Debbie Annen, Paul Garcia, Earl Behrends, John Nino, Chevo Lumbrera, Avery Thrasher
- AGAINST** the proposal: None
- PRESENT** and not voting: None
- ABSENT**: None

The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

|  | Last Year | This Year |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Average Home value   | \$31,540  | \$32,600  |
| General exemptions available (amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions) | \$15,000  | \$15,000  |
| Average taxable value  | \$16,540  | \$17,600  |
| Tax rate   | 1.21      | 1.21      |
| Tax  | \$200.13  | 212.96    |

Under this proposal taxes on the average homestead would increase by \$12.83 or 6 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would remain the same by \$-0- per \$100 of taxable value or -0- percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

### PREMIUM QUALITY LUBRICANTS FOR FARM, HOME & INDUSTRY

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A multi-functional fluid for tractors using a single fluid for the hydraulic system, transmission, differential and wet brakes.

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**Phillips 66 Lubricants meet or exceed most major manufacturer's performance requirements!**

## WEST TEXAS GAS, INC

East Hwy 86 - Dimmitt 647-5166

# County crop tour planned April 14

The 1998 Llano Estacado Crops Tour will be held Aug. 14 at various farms around Castro County, and those attending the tour will be eligible for three continuing education units.

Registration will be from 7:30 to 8 a.m. at the George Sides' south farm, then those registered will see a Bt corn plot on that farm.

Alternative crops and dairy development will be featured at the second stop of the tour on the John Link farm at 8:30 a.m.

The entourage will move to the Bob Phipps farm at 9:15 a.m. for a study of an imi-resistant corn varieties/lightnight plot.

A cotton plant population study will begin at 9:45 a.m. at the Phipps' farm.

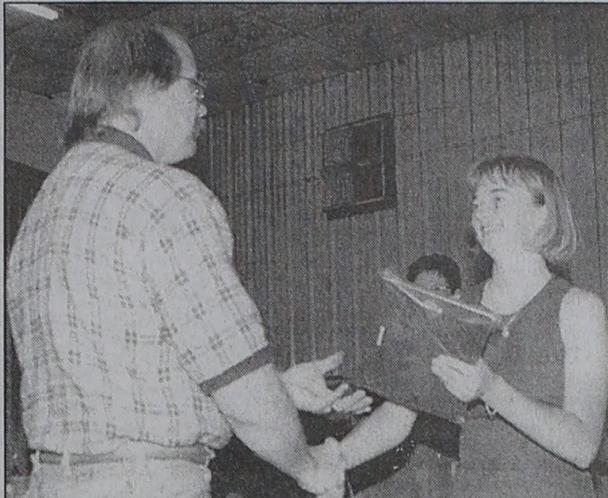
The next stop will be Robert Struve's farm east of Springlake, where discussions will center around cotton seed treatment, cotton plant growth regulators, cotton insects and Round-up Ready cotton.

The Hart Lions Club will serve lunch at 11:45 a.m.

A FARM Assist and Integrated Pest Management biological program will be held during the lunch break.

At 1:30 p.m., the group will travel to the Rod Hales farm near Nazareth, where they will hear an update on improved pasture development.

For more information about the crop tour, contact the Castro County Extension Service at (806) 647-4115.



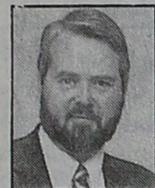
**BUDDY SEAGO** (left) of Cargill Grain Division at Hart, accepts the **Friend of 4-H Award** from **Susan Book**, president of the **Dimmitt/Bethel 4-H Club** Monday night during **Castro County 4-H's annual awards banquet**. Cargill was honored for its service to farm children all over Texas through its **Farm Safety for Kids** program. Cargill Grain was nominated for the award by the **Parent/Leaders Association**.

Photo by Anne Acker

## Minding Your Own Business

### Getting to the heart of the matter

By DON TAYLOR



Don Taylor

If you study business writings, you'll learn that every author has a few pet strategies for business success. Some may focus on technology, branding or positioning. Others may champion quality control, financial management or personnel skills.

If you record all the great writers' "must-do" tips, the list would be a mile long. Most items on the list would qualify as good advice and would help you succeed in business.

I have a "must-do" for that list. I believe satisfying customers should be at the top. You see, satisfied customers are the heart of the matter.

#### The wrong focus

The line was long, and the customers were growing restless. One customer asked if there had been a death behind the counter. Another wondered how you could tell—one was moving. I heard one harried worker tell another to hang on because the owner was on her way.

Sure enough, the owner appeared in moments. She immediately surveyed the lines and went to an order station. I expected the owner to open the register and get things moving. Instead, she ran the register totals to see what volume of business the store had done for the day. After repeating the action on the drive-through register, she disappeared into her office.

A few moments later she came out of the office and began picking up trash and restocking inventory. I wanted to yell, "Please wait on customers, we're all tired of waiting."

For this small business owner, other elements were more important than caring for customers. Customers came after procedures. Customers came after seeing what kind of day the store was having. Customers weren't the heart of the matter, they were just an unwanted by-product of doing business. This business wouldn't exist if the competition was stronger.

#### Getting to the heart

There are many ways to keep your customers satisfied. Here are a few quick tips to help you get to the heart of the matter.

◆ **Focus.** From the top down the emphasis of every organization must be to serve the customer. When the owner has other priorities, employees aren't at fault when the system breaks down.

◆ **Training.** Personnel experts cite stress as a major cause of employee turnover. One major cause of stress is the lack of a thorough training program. Businesses are so desperate for warm bodies to go to work that they just stick the newly hired folks into a slot and hope they can help.

◆ **Make one sale at a time.** It may sound trite, but you really can't do two things at one time. Therefore, put all of your energy into serving one customer and serving that customer well.

◆ **Ignore distractions.** Recently while traveling, I stopped at a well-known ice cream chain to enjoy one of the chain's cool treats. There were only two others in line so I assumed it would be a brief wait. That's when I noticed two store folks were talking which left only one working.

I waited. Finally, the manager noticed I was watching his visit and approached the counter to take my order. Just then the phone rang. The manager excused himself and hurried to the phone. He turned his back to me and began a lengthy conversation. I waited a full minute then left. As I backed out, the manager came to the window and gestured to me that I was still number one in his book.

◆ **You're only as good as your last customer moment.** You can never relax. Customers are like elephants; their memories are good. Every customer service moment must be a positive one, because customers really are the heart of the matter.

Don Taylor is the co-author of "Up Against the Wal-Marts." You may write to him in care of "Minding Your Own Business," P.O. Box 67, Amarillo, Texas 79105.

## Cotton Talks

Agriculture is facing a critical three-month stretch as it strives to find answers to the burgeoning problems of farmers and ranchers across the US.

With the support of a growing number of people in Congress, agriculture's challenge this time is to enact a series of meaningful short- and long-term reforms. The goal is to offset the devastating effects of this year's drought and to fix what many consider to be an inadequate safety net for US agriculture under the Ag Market Transition Act (AMTA).

Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., is taking a leading position on this issue and has participated in a number of planning sessions to develop cotton's game plan for the effort in Congress.

Among the initiatives being formulated are shoring up the Upland Cotton User Marketing Certificate Program (Step 2), developing an additional amount of funding for AMTA payments to growers through the life of the act, reforming crop insurance to provide better coverage to producers in time of loss and uncapping loan rates frozen by AMTA in 1996.

Cotton industry officials are exploring all avenues to shore up rapidly depleting funds for the cotton Step 2 Upland Cotton User Marketing Certificate Program.

USDA estimates project Step 2 funds, budgeted at \$701 million for crop years 1996-2002 will be depleted by Nov. 1 unless market conditions change drastically.

Through July 24, following 55 weeks of continuous payment rates, \$333.9 million had been requested

by domestic cotton users and exporters. Since July 11, 1997, domestic users account for \$207 and exporters \$126 million of this total.

Cotton industry officials and supporters in Congress are currently looking at a number of methods to avert disastrous consequences of the Step 2 program running out of money. At present, should nothing be done to shore up Step 2, import quotas would be triggered when all Step 2 funds are depleted.

A series of workshops designed to help farmers and ranchers prepare for the anticipated disaster assistance application process have been scheduled around the state beginning Aug. 11.

The meetings are being specifically geared to producers wanting to obtain information about low-interest loans available through the US Dept. of Agriculture Farm Service Agency.

In addition to learning how to cope with the application process, growers will also hear from local banking representatives and agronomists about the effects of the drought on 1999 lending practices and hear ideas on managing farmland, pastures and water resources following extreme drought conditions.

Workshops will be held in this area at the following locations on the dates specified: Aug. 11 at 1:30 p.m. at the Dawson County Community Center in Lamesa; Aug. 12 at 1:30 p.m. at the St. John Methodist Church basement in Stamford; Aug. 25 at 1:30 p.m. at the Ollie Liner Center in Plainview and Aug. 26 at 1:30 p.m. at the Texas A&M Center in San Angelo.

## Hay Hotline remains busy

As drought conditions intensify across the state, the Texas Dept. of Agriculture has logged more than 1,700 calls to its Hay Hotline (1-877-429-1998) during the first month of operation.

More than half of the calls to the hotline are from Texas farmers and ranchers needing hay or pasture for their livestock.

As an added service to Texas producers, the hotline is taking information about pasture availability for Texas producers who are looking for pasture for their livestock.

"We're averaging between 80 and 100 calls a day, and with no rain in sight, there is no sign of calls slowing down," said Texas Ag Commissioner Rick Perry. "Several suppliers have already called to have their names removed from the list because they've sold out of hay within a few days. If that isn't a red flag to just how bad conditions are, I don't know what is," Perry said.

Most of the calls requesting hay have come from northeast and east Texas where officials are estimating a 50% to 80% loss in hay production caused by the drought. Statewide, hay production is expected to be cut in half this year.

In addition to suppliers in Texas, producers from 23 other states have also added their names to the list of those with hay.



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**IN BUSINESS**—Cliff Wright, 14, of Dimmitt, learned some tips for his successful pen-making business during the recent Entrepreneurs Camp of the Future 98 at South Plains College in Levelland. Wright is the son of Jim and Danice Wright, and he and his father have sold more than 300 custom-made pen and pencil sets during the two years their company, Wright Pens, has been in existence. At the camp, Wright learned more about marketing techniques. *Courtesy Photo*

## Disaster loans are available from the SBA

Is your business having trouble paying bills because of the recently declared disaster for the entire state of Texas?

If you answered yes, you may be able to get a low-interest, long-term loan from the US Small Business Administration (SBA).

These loans are for small businesses that cannot meet normal operating expenses through other sources.

The drought which occurred June 1, 1997 through July 8, 1998, and continuing; and flooding, hail and high winds which occurred May 25 and 26 have hurt area farmers and ranchers. The ripple effect of their losses has now harmed businesses depending on the farmers and ranchers for much of their trade.

If your business is hurting, you can now apply for a federal loan. For an application or more information, call the SBA toll-free at 800-366-6303 or (817) 267-4688 for the hearing impaired. In addition, nurseries harmed by the drought can also apply.

These loans are for businesses in all Texas counties affected by the drought which occurred. Businesses have until March 23, 1999, to file for the economic injury disaster loan.

The SBA loans range as high as \$1.5 million for the actual disaster-related needs of each business. Interest rates are 4% with terms up to 30 years.

Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for these loans, but may be able to get them through other federal agencies.



**PULLING TOGETHER**—Blindfolded participants in Entrepreneurs of the Future Camp 98 at South Plains College including (from left) Thomas Brockman of Dimmitt, Lauren Fried of Lubbock, Tasha Norman of Muleshoe and Steven Davidson of Levelland learn to pull together during a low

elements rope exercise. In the exercise designed to build communication, team building leadership and trust building skills, they and other members of the group had to find a rope in the grass while blindfolded and form a circle. *Courtesy Photo*

## Happenings in agriculture

By **JOHNNA PATTERSON**  
County Extension Agent, IPM

This week seems to have changed very little from the past several weeks. Hot days in the near 100's and no rain have producers in the desperate mode.

Corn is in the dough stage and some has started to dent. Again, with the lack of natural moisture, sprinklers are having a hard time keeping up with plant needs. Mites and corn borers are starting to increase heavily.

Cotton continues to grow by leaps and bounds. Most of the crop has one to two 1" bolls set in the lower canopy. Nodes above white flower generally range from four to six. If everything holds and no major pest problems occur, high yields could be a reality.

Western and southern corn rootworm adult infestations range from 30% to 53.3% west of Dimmitt, 36.7% to 90% south of Dimmitt, 0% to 26.7% in the Flag/Earth area, 15% to 35% in the Springlake area and 5% to 56.7% in the Hart area. Trap counts averaged 13.3 in one trapping location this week. This is down from 79.7 per trap last week.

Corn earworm infestations range from light to medium in most program fields. Larvae in the ears range from 1/2 inch to larger than 3/4 inch. Zero to three larvae are being found in the ears. Increased infestations in cotton will occur once corn begins to dry down. Currently, very few eggs have been reported.

Southwestern corn borer moth numbers have increased tremendously this week, and egg lay also has sky rocketed in many program fields. Small larvae and egg infestations this week are as follows: 0% to 5% west of Dimmitt, 1.7% to 8.3% south of Dimmitt, 7% to 20% in the Hart area, 2.5% to 22.5% in the Springlake area, and 0% to 136.7% around Flag/Earth.

Second generation eggs are usually laid after tasseling and about 3/4 of these eggs are laid on the upper surface of the middle seven leaves of the plant. These include the ear leaf, two leaves above and four leaves below the ear leaf. Eggs are laid

singly or in masses of two to three or more. Eggs overlap like fish scales or shingles. Freshly laid eggs are creamy white. One day later, three red bands appear across each egg. Eggs hatch in about five days. Small larvae feed behind leaf collars and ears and beneath the shucks of the primary ear. Older larvae bore into the stalk and continue feeding. Mature corn borer larvae reach 1 to 1 1/2 inches in length, are dull white and have a regular pattern of raised black dots over the body. As plant maturity is reached, larvae prepare for overwintering in the base of the stalk by girdling the plant from 1 to 6 inches above the ground. Wind can easily lodge girdled plants. Lodged plants are difficult to harvest and yields are reduced. One of the most effective borer control methods is destruction of this winter habitat to reduce spring moth emergence. Insecticide should be applied when 20% to 25% of the plants are infested with eggs or newly hatched larvae.

Spider mites have really, really exploded this week. Leaf damage ranges from 5% to 80% on the lower 1/3 of the plants, 0% to 40% in the middle 1/3, and 0% to 5% the rest of the way up the plant. Minute pirate bugs and ladybeetle adults and larvae as well as predaceous thrips and mites have been found feasting in mite colonies.

Corn smut has really exploded in the past two weeks. Corn rust continues to be found in a few fields and only increased slightly.

Cotton growth stage in program fields range from pink bloom to several bolls. Cotton aphids and fleahoppers were reported this week, but continue to be below threshold level.

Boll weevil feeding and egg laying punctures were found in Lamb County fields this week. Punctured square counts range from 0% to 8%. Grubs are being found in squares and small bolls.

Adult females deposit an average of 100 eggs during her life span of 30 days. Eggs hatch into larvae, or grubs, within three to five days under summer conditions. Grubs feed within a square or boll and pupate

after seven to eleven days. Adults emerge three to five days later. Recently emerged adult weevils tend to be reddish in color for the first few days before changing to their more characteristic grayish brown color. These 1/4 inch adult boll weevils feed on squares and bolls for four to eight days before mating and laying eggs. The time required for development from egg to adult under summer field conditions averages 17 days, with a complete generation occurring in 21 to 25 days.

If 20% of the squares examined are weevil damaged from the time of squaring to peak bloom, the economic threshold level has been reached and an insecticide application is needed. After peak bloom, or when bloom and boll numbers exceed square counts, treatments should be initiated when 25-30% of the squares examined are weevil damaged.

TAEX boll weevil grid trap catches show one (1) weevil caught in Lamb County trap #7 and no weevils being caught in Castro County.

Cotton is really growing and has great potential for high yields.

The majority of southwestern corn borer moths trapped this week were in the Springlake area which had 1,287 moths. This is a major increase over last week for this location. Second generation flight and egg lay took off with a bang at the end of this week in many program fields.

Beet armyworm trap catches took an amazing jump over the past 12 days. Traps were not run on schedule this past week, so I am not completely sure, but I believe that the increase happened in just the past few days. We have yet to see any major damage in the fields, but with this increase in moth activity, we could see increased egg lay and larval activity soon.

A trap in the Sunnyside area caught the majority of corn earworm moths this week with 920. The trap east of Hart was close behind with 824.

## Together We Can Benefit golf tourney set

A special golf tournament to benefit B.J. Klein of Nazareth will be held Sunday, Aug. 16, at the five-hole golf course at the yellow house under the water tower in Nazareth.

Entry fee is \$5 for those 16 and under and \$7.50 for those 17 and over. The double-elimination 16-and-under tournament is slated to begin at 1 p.m., with the older group scheduled to start at 3 p.m.

Participants will be allowed to use the 7, 8 and 9 irons or wedge and putter. Clubs will be available for those who need them.

All proceeds will help Klein fund his running and competition in Special Olympics and other events.

For more information, call 945-2237.

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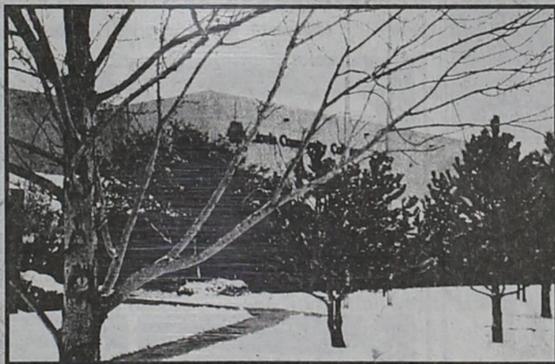


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# TCGA calls for aid for farmers

Carl King, president of the Texas Corn Growers Association, has asked President Bill Clinton, US Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, and US Senators Phil Gramm and Kay Bailey Hutchison to use all of their discretionary powers to help alleviate the plight of farmers due to the drought and the effects of the 1996 Fair Act.

"With cheap prices and the drought in Texas and the Southwest, we are going to lose many producers this fall," King said in letters to Gramm and Hutchison.

King told Glickman that the Fair Act is a disaster, with too-low prices for wheat, corn, soybeans and cotton. He added that the drought on top of that is leveling agriculture in bad shape.

"In my 45 years of farming in West Texas I have never seen it this bad," King wrote to Glickman.

"In all my years with agriculture and my 26 years with TCGA, I have seen drought, before, but not such heat with it. It's a real disaster we are facing," King said Friday.

King also chided the senators from Texas for their votes on the Daschle-

Conrad Amendment, which would have eliminated the current caps on marketing loans and extended the terms of those loans from nine to 15 months. Both voted no.

"It is hard to believe Texas has both Senators that refuse to help the farmer," King wrote. "We need to remove the cap on loan rates to get prices up."

"Low interest loans would help some, but we need an increase in the loan, and extend the loan from nine months to 15 months," King suggested to Glickman. "We need your help . . . to help us survive."

"How many farmers do we have to lose before the Republicans admit the Farm Bill is failing?" Sen. Tom Daschle (S.D.-Dem.) said last month. "The evidence is overwhelming that Freedom to Farm is hurting farmers."

Daschle has said that since passage of the 1996 Farm Bill, farm income has plummeted in more than 30 states, and is down by 30% or more in large parts of the nation. He said that many producers' income is below their cost of production.

"The President agreed with us that there is an urgent problem in rural

America that demands immediate action," Daschle said.

King complained that the Emergency Farm Financial Relief Act, passed by the US Senate last week is merely a cosmetic "bandaid" rather than a real solution to the farmers' problems.

The bill gives farmers the opportunity to receive their Agricultural Market Transition Act subsidy payments for fiscal year 1999 after Oct. 1 of this year, instead of in January and September of 1999, as scheduled. Rather than receiving two payments in 1999, farmers who are already hurting could elect to get their entire subsidy anytime after Oct. 1.

## County CPS Board to meet

The Castro County Child Protective Services Board will meet next Thursday at 9 a.m. and any interested persons are invited to attend.

The meeting will be held at the First United Bank in Dimmitt, 201 N. Broadway, in the downstairs kitchen room.

The board usually meets the second Thursday of each month to oversee the care of the foster children from the county.

"A small amount of time can help provide eye glasses, some clothes, an occasional prom dress, or driver training, among other things," a board spokesperson said.

Those who would be interested in becoming a member of the board are encouraged to attend. For more information, call board members Verbie Nelson at 647-2400 or Joe Josselet at 647-4151. Also, other board members may be contacted for more information—Christine Acker, Gloria Hernandez, Bobbie Bruegel, Jackie Smothermon, Jerry Matthews or Judge Irene Miller.

"This allows farmers to use their payments as collateral for loans, or to buy seed for next year, or to pay their living expenses because the drought killed this year's crops," Hutchison said in a news release issued Friday.

King said the EFFRA merely allows farmers to receive their insufficient payments a little earlier than usual.

However, the bill also calls on President Clinton to use all funds appropriated for the Export Enhancement Program (EEP) to boost exports.

GOP leaders said President Clinton promised farmers that his administration would use the EEP to its maximum to secure foreign markets for US agricultural products. The 1996 Farm Bill made over \$1.5 billion available for EEP in 1996-99. To date (July 17), the administration had used virtually nothing.

Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich said he is "very, very disappointed that the Clinton administration has consistently failed to use the resources available to them" through the EEP, and said the administration should use it to be "much more aggressive in dealing with" subsidized European agriculture.

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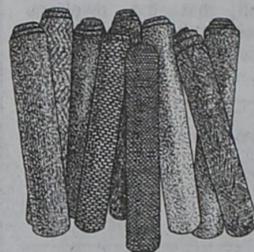
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## Emergency farm loans being accepted in county

Applications for emergency farm loans for losses caused by physical and production losses are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Dimmitt.

Castro County is one of 252 counties in Texas recently named eligible for loans to cover part of actual production losses resulting from the recent drought, according to Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman.

Farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 80% of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue in business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest is 3.75%.

"As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30% loss of production to be eligible for an FSA

emergency loan," said Ed Luebken with the state FSA.

"Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until March 23, 1999, but farmers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing and possibly over into the new farming season," said Luebken.

FSA is a credit agency of the US Dept. of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who are US citizens and to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which US citizens hold a majority interest.

### More about

## 4-H Gold Star . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

projects. He also has been active in community service and leadership activities and qualified for state in two categories this year.

The I Dare You Award was presented to Rusty McDaniel, son of Janet and Donny McDaniel of Dimmitt, by Doyle Davis. McDaniel has demonstrated leadership in a variety of ways this year. He is involved in Horse, Sheep and Beef projects. He has won numerous awards at the district and state levels. A nine-year member of 4-H, McDaniel is a member of the Flagg and Horse 4-H Clubs.

Buddy Seago, representing Cargill Grain Division of Hart, accepted the Friend of 4-H Award for his company. Cargill was praised for its donation of time and money, as well as interest in the well being of farm youngsters all over Texas through its program, Farm Safety for Kids.

This year's Outstanding Adult

Leader Award was given to Janet McDaniel, who has been active as a club manager and in the Parent/Leader Association. She has guided many 4-H youths in their quest to achieve higher goals. With her help, Castro County has been recognized as a state leader in the 4-H Horse program.

4-H'ers who won at the district and state levels were presented with special awards such as jackets, pens, bags, t-shirts, etc.

All 4-H adult leaders were recognized, and each 4-H'er completing a project was presented with either a certificate or award.

Special awards were given to 4-H'ers who created the top record books in the county this year.

The Best Rookie Award was given to Anna Brockman, a Junior I 4-H'er.

The Best Record Book Awards were given to Adrienne Hart for Junior I, Jaci Bishop for Junior II, and Rusty McDaniel for Senior.

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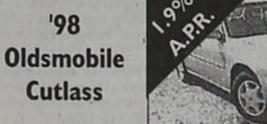
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# Western

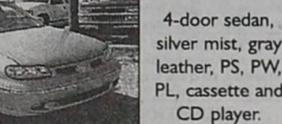
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4-door sedan, silver mist, gray leather, PS, PW, PL, cassette and CD player.

**CHEVROLET-OLDS**

1-800-957-2438 Grand Ave. at Hwy. 60, FRIONA

# Classified Advertising

Buy, Sell or Trade



## 1—Real Estate Homes & Land

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**  
All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or any intention to make any such reference, limitation or discrimination."  
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that the dwellings advertised in the newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

**HOUSE FOR SALE:** Country living, close in. Three bedroom, two bath, double garage, workshop, basement. Located on 5+ acres. New carpet, appliances, 2,300 sq. ft. \$82,500. 1-1/3 mile on West Halsell. Call 647-2631 for appointment. 1-6-tfc

**16X80, 3/2, WILL FINANCE.** Please call 806-372-1491. 1-16-4tc

**2/1 USED MOBILE HOME, \$3,000.** Please call 806-372-1491. 1-16-4tc

**USED DOUBLE WIDE, WILL FINANCE.** Please call 806-372-1491. 1-16-4tc

### LET'S LOOK

Castro Co. - choice 1/4 with new sprinkler and nice pre-conditioning yard, covered working area, boxcar for storage, commodity barn, roller mill, office & scale. **PRICED TO SELL.**  
**SCOTT LAND COMPANY**  
Ben G. Scott, 806/647-4375 day or night

**\$59,500. GREAT LOCATION!** Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, fireplace, covered patio, large yard with storage.

**OVER 2,100 SQ.FT.!** Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, all kitchen appliances, two living areas, fireplace, great condition and super location. Priced to sell. \$78,000.

**3.6 ACRES** in country. Three bedrooms, two baths, 2000 sq. ft. brick with cellar. Must see, \$68,000.

**EXCEPTIONAL HOME** on two large lots at edge of city. Three bedrooms, one full, 3/4 and 1/2 baths. Lots of built-ins, two living areas, dining, fireplace, sprinklers and much more. Beautiful large yard. \$95,000.

**EXCELLENT LOCATION** at edge of city. Beautiful large brick home with lots of extras. \$131,500.

**READY FOR YOU!** Extra nice three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, brick. \$40,000.

**HART BARGAIN!** Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, brick with two car garage. Newer roof. Reduced to \$60,000.

**CORNER LOT** in good location. Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, one car garage. Priced right, \$55,000.

**TWO STORY HOUSE** to be moved.

**THREE BEDROOM,** two bath, garage, brick in good location. Two living areas, new paint. \$67,500.

**DRASTICALLY REDUCED!** Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, two car garage, two large storage, edge of city. \$57,500, firm.

**ASSUMABLE LOAN!** Three bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, two living areas, built-ins in kitchen, nice yard. \$45,000.

**NEW ROOF,** paint and linoleum, three bedrooms, one bath, large yard. \$38,500.

**THRIVING LIQUOR BUSINESS** in a great area. Building, fixtures and inventory.

**FARMS**  
**OVER 2400 ACRES,** 23 wells, seven sprinklers. Five miles southwest of Dimmitt. Extremely clean well producing farm. \$825 per acre.

**80 ACRES** in Swisher County. New 10 year CRP contact. Asking \$365 per acre.

## GEORGE REAL ESTATE

S. Hwy 385 647-4174  
Jimmie R. George, Broker  
Mobile, 647-7942  
Mary Lou Schmucker.... 945-2679

## 1—Real Estate Homes & Land

### MORRIS REAL ESTATE

C.W. George, Broker

**CLEVELAND STREET,** three bedrooms, two baths, two-car garage, large basement, newly remodeled, large kitchen and laundry room. Reduced to \$75,000.

**PINE STREET,** three bedrooms, two baths, two-car garage, large backyard patio, great condition. \$69,500.

**THREE BEDROOMS,** one bath, one-car garage, corner lot, wood fence, storage building. \$42,500.

**2240 SQ. FT. BRICK,** three bedrooms, two baths, two living areas, fireplace, new carpet, remodeled kitchen, large concrete drive. \$86,000.

**THREE BEDROOMS,** one bath, laundry room, carport. \$30,000.

**WEST OF DIMMITT.** Five bedrooms, three full baths, basement, extra large 2-car garage, large kitchen with lots of storage, brick. \$140,000.

**THREE BEDROOM,** one bath, central heat and air, large lot. Great starter house. \$40,000.

**TEN ACRES** with house north of Dimmitt. Three bedrooms, two baths, all highway frontage. \$85,000.

**NAZARETH—**Four bedrooms, two baths, completely remodeled kitchen, new carpet, brick. \$52,500.

**NAZARETH—**Three bedrooms, one bath, one car garage, steel siding. \$22,500.

### FARMS

**1266 ACRES** north of Tam Anne, eight irrigation wells (seven gas and one electric), 157 acres in CRP, one house, one barn. \$525/acre.

**330 ACRES** west of Dimmitt, 12 tower Valley nozzled at 650 with 60" spacings, two wells. \$550/acre.

**DEAF SMITH COUNTY,** north of Hereford, 320 acres, two wells, nice place. \$300/acre.

*We still have several tracts between Dimmitt and Nazareth. Please call for terms.*

### COMMERCIAL

**OFFICE SPACE—**1200+ sq. ft., three offices, receptionist area, two bathrooms, coffee bar, easy access to a bank, lots of parking. \$45,000.

**1950 SQ. FT. BRICK OFFICE BUILDING,** corner lot, abundant parking, nice location, \$117,500.

### SCOTT MORRIS

112 W. Bedford, Dimmitt  
647-3734, Office  
647-3686, Night 647-9325, Mobile

**16X80 LANCER MOBILE HOME.** Best offer. 806-372-1491. 1-16-4tc

**FOR SALE BY OWNER:** Three bedroom, two bath, great location. Recently updated. Call 647-3407 or 647-2145. 1-18-tfc

**FOR SALE:** 14X84 trailer house, two bedrooms, two baths, extremely nice. Central heating and cooling, ceiling fans. Call 647-4238 or 647-7372. 1-9-tfc

## 3—Real Estate For Rent

**DIMMITT SENIOR CITIZENS APARTMENTS**  
622 N.W. 5th  
ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT  
Call 647-2638  
S&S Properties

**3—Real Estate For Rent**

**3—Real Estate For Rent**

**3—Real Estate For Rent**

**3—Real Estate For Rent**

**3—Real Estate For Rent**

## 1—Real Estate Homes & Land

### J-Cross Investments

810 W. Halsell, Dimmitt  
806-647-2302

**NEW LISTING:** Charming two bedroom, one bath, one car garage, refrigerated air, brick barbecue grill in large back yard. Excellent shape. \$32,000.

**TWO BEDROOMS** corner lot, excellent location. **IN CONTRACT**

**COUNTRY LIVING** on 1.6 acres. Three bedrooms, two baths, den, formal living room, basement, oversized two car garage, carport and storage shed. New refrigerated air and heat. Apricot, pecan and apple trees, horse or calf pen. \$70,000.

**WE HAVE THREE,** three bedroom houses for sale at discounted prices. These houses need repairs done. The repairs can be financed in with the house purchase. Call us for more information on these houses.

**WE WOULD LIKE** to thank Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hoard for allowing us to sell their home on Stinson St. and wish the buyers lots of happiness in their new home.

Call Kenny Doss, Agent, 647-3248 or Jerry Cartwright, Broker, 647-2302

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY** for mechanic looking to be owner. Nice 36x86 block building, paved, with two hydraulic lifts, new roof, clean and still operating continuously since 1959.

**THREE BEDROOMS,** one bath on large corner lot. Nice yard, fence, trees, large new storage house.

**NICE BRICK,** two bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, hardwood floors, garage, excellent location. Owner moving.

**TWO BEDROOMS,** one bath, extra large rooms, fenced, new roof, with lots of possibilities. Priced right.

**GIVE ME A CALL!** I am dealing in real estate full time now. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

### GREGORY REAL ESTATE

BILL GREGORY, Broker  
647-5421 Mobile: 647-6034

## 3—Real Estate For Rent

**Stafford Apartments**  
Call 647-2631 or 647-3696 evenings

**FOR RENT:** Approximately 2,500 square foot commercial storage. 647-5244. 1-47-tfc

**TWO BEDROOM HOUSE** for rent. 647-5559. 3-18-1tc

## 5—For Rent, Misc.

**RENT TO OWN**  
NEW TV'S, VCR'S & APPLIANCES  
No credit checks.  
KITRELL ELECTRONICS  
647-2197 Dimmitt

## 6—For Sale, Misc.

**486 COMPUTER,** \$150. With CD-ROM and speakers, \$250. Also VGA monitor, \$80. Dot matrix printer, \$20. 806-355-8011. 6-9-tfc

## 6—For Sale, Misc.

### ROUND-UP APPLICATION

Pipe-wick mounted on hi-boy.  
Row crop and vol. corn.  
30" or 40" rows.  
Roy O'Brian, 265-3247

**FOR SALE:** V-8 five-speed motor, Ford parts; one-button Homer accordion; power rider exercise machine; a rocker-recliner chair; baby stroller; three floor heaters—two gas, one electric; electric kitchen stove. (806) 364-0629, anytime. 6-17-2tc

**BAND STUDENTS** —Rebuilt horns, drums, etc. Also, accessories and payment plan. Call Hereford Music, 806-363-1111. After 6 p.m., call 806-995-2424. 6-13-13tc

**IF YOUR CARPET** is stain resistant, then you need HOST, the Dry Extraction Carpet Cleaning System. Don't void your carpet's warranty with improper cleaning. Some methods can actually destroy your carpet's protective coating. But the makers of StainMaster, Wear-Dated and Worry-Free carpet say the HOST System won't void their warranties. HOST was rated #1 by a leading consumer magazine. Available at Higginbotham-Bartlett Co., 109 N. Broadway, Dimmitt, 647-3161. 6-18-1tc

## 7—Garage Sale

**TULIA, TEXAS FOURTH ANNUAL** City-Wide Garage Sale and City, County and School Public Auction will be on Saturday, Aug. 8 a.m., Garage sale and sidewalk sales begin; 11-1, Kiwanis hamburgers on the square; 1 p.m., Ping-pong ball drop at Ozark Trail Monument; 2 p.m., city/county/school auction at 524 N. 6th. Free maps at Alco Parking Lot, Highway 86 and Highway 87 Intersection, and at the Gazebo downtown. For more information contact (806) 995-2296. 7-18-1tc

## 9—Farm Equipment & Supplies

**FOR SALE:** 1982 Mitsubishi tractor, 22 HP diesel, 4-wheel drive with tiller and shredder. Call 945-2288. 9-17-2tc

## 10—Agricultural Services

**CUSTOM SWATHING AND BALING.** Call David Schulte at 945-2342, home; or 647-7740, mobile. 10-48-52tp

**CUSTOM FARMING:** No-till drill, mini-till tillage equipment. Kenneth or Ashley Heard, 806-945-2270 or 806-627-4623. 10-4-tfc

Call before noon Tuesday to place your classified ad:

**647-3123**

What your ad will cost:

- ✓ The first time your ad runs it will cost at least \$5 (25 cents per word with a \$5 minimum).
- ✓ Each consecutive time you run your ad with no changes, it will cost 25 cents per word with no minimum.
- ✓ A Card of Thanks will cost \$7.50.

Where to find ads:

1. Homes and land for sale
2. Farms for sale
3. Homes and apartments for rent
4. Things people want to rent
5. Miscellaneous items for sale
6. Garage sales
7. Household goods for sale
8. Farm equipment and supplies
9. Agricultural services
10. Feed, seed and grain for sale
11. Farm produce for sale
12. Livestock and pets
13. Automobiles for sale
14. Recreational vehicles
15. Auto parts and supplies
16. Business opportunities
17. Services
18. Insurance
19. Students seeking work
20. Help wanted
21. Notices
22. Lost and found
23. Cards of thanks
24. Legal notices

## 10—Agricultural Services

**ROUND BALE HAULING:** Donald Shelton, 647-3558, 647-7568, mobile. 10-31-tfc

**WILHELM CUSTOM FARMING:** Lavern, 945-2518; Henry, 647-5425. Subsoil and conventional plowing. 10-51-tfc

**CUSTOM SWATHING AND BALING.** Call Roy Schilling, 647-2401. 10-31-tfc

## 11—Feed, Seed & Grain

### Winter Wheat and Fall Forage Seeds

For ALL varieties of Wheat \* Rye  
Barley \* Triticale \* Grazing Blends \* Oats  
Call 1-800-299-9273

**Gayland Ward Seed Co., Inc.**  
Hereford, Texas 79045  
www.wrt.net/~grs1998

Your choice of Registered, Certified or Select Seed.  
Bagged or Bulk.  
Delivery Available

**OATS HAY FOR SALE.** \$3.75 per bale. Nazareth Feed and Supply, 945-2291. 11-9-tfc

## 12—Farm Produce

**PLEASE, PICK YOUR OWN** peaches and apples about Aug. 1. Your liability and our boxes only 4-1/2 miles west of Flagg. Thanks. Fred Kuntz. 12-17-2tc

**CUCUMBERS AND YELLOW SQUASH** for sale. 945-2489. 12-16-tfc

## 13—Livestock, Pets

**AKC TOY POODLE** puppies for sale. Apricot and white with apricot ears. \$125.00. Call 945-2632, leave message. 13-18-tfx

## 14—Automobiles

**1988 FORD ESCORT EXP,** new manifold, new fuel pump, new tires. Nice sports car, nice Pioneer stereo system, runs good. Call (806) 647-4268 or 647-3297, home. 14-11-tfc

**FOR SALE:** 1984 Ford Pickup (parts) \$200. Case 20-ft. Offset disc, \$1,000. Hydraulic rod weeder, \$500. (806) 627-4213 after 5:30 p.m. 14-14-tfc

**1981 TANDEM CHEVROLET** truck with 22" American grain bed. Also have ensilage sides. (806) 945-2271. 14-17-2tc

**1995 GEO PRISM 4-DOOR,** auto, cassette, air conditioning, nice. Call Marisa, 1-800-957-2438. 14-18-1tc

## TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK



### TEXSCAN WEEK OF AUG. 2, 1998 AUCTIONS

**UNCLAIMED PROPERTY AUCTION.** August 15 - Austin, Tx. Over 600 LOTS! Catalog information 1-800-654-FIND. Auction information www.lonestarauctioneers.com or 1-817-740-9400. Video available. Burgess 7878.

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**  
**ATTENTION INVESTORS!** 200% return from recent 30 day period. \$5,000 Foreign Currency investment could have returned \$15,000. Free information. Capital Management International. \$5,000 min. investment. 1-800-380-5211.

**AGENT: AVON NEEDS** representatives. Earn up to 50%. No door to door. Start your own business in '98'. Must be 18. Independent Rep. Call 1-888-339-2866.

**AVON PRODUCTS - START** your own business. Work flexible hours. Enjoy unlimited earnings. Call toll free 1-888-561-2866.

**LOCAL CANDY ROUTE.** 30 vending machines. Earn approximately \$800/day. All for \$9,995. Call 1-800-998-VEND. Multi-Vend, Inc. MANAGERS NEEDED IN your area to market our environmental products. Large income potential. Minimum \$35 investment. Don't miss out, call John, National Clean Air. 1-800-713-6989.

**OWN YOUR OWN** apparel, shoe, western wear, lingerie, bridal, gift or \$1.00 store. Includes inventory, fixtures, buying trip, training. Minimum investment \$18,900. Call Liberty Opportunities. 1-501-327-8031.

**PART-TIME, EARN \$40+** hourly. Sale Managers earn \$6,600+ Monthly marketing environmental products. \$99.00 investment. Call Ruth at Interactive, 1-972-620-2818. Fax 1-972-620-0806.

**DRIVERS WANTED**  
**CARRIER PAID TRAINING.** Conwell Corp. is providing free CDL training. Must have high school diploma or equivalent. Must be able to pass drug screen. Call today 1-800-569-9232.

**DRIVER - MILES, MONEY & Respect.** Glass/Heavy haulers. 34-37c/miles. Great benefits. Consistent miles. Run midwest. 3 years OTR + 1 year flatbed experience. Combined Transport, 1-800-637-4407.

**DRIVER: OTR BONUS.** Benefits, miles, equipment, pay. Covenant Transport has it all!

**NO DOWN PAYMENT? PROBLEM Credit?** Own the home you need now, without a big down payment. Complete financing if qualified. DeGeorge Home Alliance, 1-800-343-2884.

**A DEBT-FREE LIFE!** Confidential help. Cut monthly payments. Reduce interest. Stop collection calls. Avoid bankruptcy. Nation's largest nonprofit: Genus Credit Management. 24 hours, 1-800-317-9971.

**ARE YOU DROWNING IN Debt?** Debt relief, free, immediate, confidential. Consolidate payments, lower interest. Call 1-888-BILL-FREE

**NOTICE:** While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee their products or services advertised. We urge our readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact your local Better Business Bureau for information about the company before sending money.

\*Teams start 35c-37c \*\$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced Company Drivers. 1-800-441-4394, experienced drivers and Owner Operators. 1-800-338-6428, for graduate students.

**DRIVERS: NATIONALLY KNOWN** Carriers are offering free Truck Driver Training, with no contracts & no gimmicks. For more details call 1-888-209-0617.

**DRIVERS - TEAMS & SOLOS.** 3 months + school minimum experience. Drop & hook, no touch freight, assigned conventional freighters, excellent pay & miles. Incredible benefits & miles, miles, miles. CELADON TRUCKING, 1-800-729-9770.

**INEXPERIENCED! FREE CDL Training** \*Pre-hired by company \* Guaranteed job if qualified \* Based out of your area \* \$500-\$700 weekly \* Benefits package \* 1-800-455-4682, Ext.200

**NATIONAL CARRIERS, INC.** is looking for quality Owner/Operators to pull company refrigerated trailers throughout Texas and 10 western states. Positions available with fleet owners. Call 1-800-728-9128.

**RAPID FREIGHT OF TEXAS** is seeking OTR drivers. Minimum 1 year experience. Class A CDL with HazMat required. Call recruiting 1-800-299-7274, ext. 21 or ext.41.

**TOP CARRIER LOOKING** for OTR drivers. Late model equipment, excellent freight with 26 terminals, weekly pay, benefits, bonuses and much more! Call Charles Malone. 1-800-952-8091.

**TRI-STATE SEMI Driver Training, Inc.** \*Job placement assistance before training. \*Tuition loans available, no credit check. \* 17 day training \*\$3001 N145, Palmer, Tx. \*Call 1-888-854-7364.

**EDUCATIONAL**  
**AIR FORCE TRAINING,** experience and education can help you reach your goals. Find out more. For a free information packet, call 1-800-423-USAF.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
**NO DOWN PAYMENT? PROBLEM Credit?** Own the home you need now, without a big down payment. Complete financing if qualified. DeGeorge Home Alliance, 1-800-343-2884.

**A DEBT-FREE LIFE!** Confidential help. Cut monthly payments. Reduce interest. Stop collection calls. Avoid bankruptcy. Nation's largest nonprofit: Genus Credit Management. 24 hours, 1-800-317-9971.

**ARE YOU DROWNING IN Debt?** Debt relief, free, immediate, confidential. Consolidate payments, lower interest. Call 1-888-BILL-FREE

**NOTICE:** While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee their products or services advertised. We urge our readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact your local Better Business Bureau for information about the company before sending money.

or 1-888-245-5373. American Credit Counselors, Non-profit.

**\*\*CREDIT CARD PROBLEMS?\*** Debt consolidation. Avoid bankruptcy. Stop creditor calls. Cut interest. No credit check. One low payment. National Consolidators. 1-800-270-9894.

**GET CASH NOW!** Home equity loans made Good/bad credit OK. We purchase mortgages, annuities, lotteries, Government farm payments, oil/gas royalties. 24 hours, Leader Financial. 1-888-661-1498.

**!!GET OUT OF Debt Free!!** Credit Counseling Centers of America (Member NFCC). Free debt consolidation, lower payments, interest. Stop collector calls. Non-profit, 1-877-936-2222.

**14—Automobiles**

**1976 GMC PICKUP** for sale. 4x4, three-speed. Runs. 647-3241, asking \$1,500. 14-18-11c

**1998 CHEVROLET MALIBU**, 4-door, P.W., P.L., tilt, cruise, loaded. Low miles. Call John, 1-800-957-2438. 14-18-11c

**1998 OLDS AURORA SEDAN**, leather moon roof, loaded. Must see. Low miles. Call Leon, 1-800-957-2438. 14-18-11c

**1998 OLDS SILHOUETTE**, leather, 4-door, power side door. Loaded, low miles. Call Marisa, 1-800-957-2438. 14-18-11c

**1994 VW JETTA II**, sun roof, five-speed, loaded. Low miles, must see. Call John, 1-800-957-2438. 14-18-11c

**1994 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE**, 4-door white, loaded, \$7,450. Call Juan, 1-800-957-2438. 14-18-11c

**1995 OLDS DELTA 88 ROYALE**, leather, P.W., P.L., power seats, low miles. Asking \$9,950. Call Leon, 1-800-957-2438. 14-18-11c

**1995 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN 4x4**, leather, loaded. Call John, 1-800-957-2438. 14-18-11c

**1993 GMC 1/2 EXTENDED CAB**. Loaded, nice, low miles. Call Juan, 1-800-957-2438. 14-18-11c

**18—Services**

**George's Service Station**

**FULL SERVICE**  
Oil Changes  
Car Washes

647-4641  
George Lopez 402 N. Broadway

**Center Pivot Service Sales & Repair**

**Hi-Plains Irrigation**  
ZIMMATIC PIVOTS  
Olton, TX  
1-800-687-3133

SERVICE ON ALL MAKES

**CREATE A NEW LOOK**

Your makeup should reflect your personal style. By analyzing your coloring and the clothing colors you wear, I'll create a look that's uniquely yours. For a free makeover, call Dianna Cleavinger, Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultant, 806-647-5382.

**"THE SELECTORS"**

**PET SITTING SERVICE**  
While you are away, let us care for your special pet.  
Pet Massage • Plants Watered  
Call Anita Eoff at 647-0904

**LET US MAKE A SIGN FOR YOU:** P. D. Q. Signs, Hereford, Windows, boards, magnets, trucks, trailers and logos. 806-364-2530 or mobile 346-2452. 18-16-41c

**WILL BABYSIT** in my home. Call 647-0664. 18-17-11c

**19—Students Wanting Work**

**LAWN MOWING** done reasonable. Call Buddy, 647-5561. 19-17-11c

**20—Help Wanted**

**AVON** representatives needed now. No inventory required. IND/SALES/REP, Toll-Free. 888-748-1759. 20-15-41c

**\$4,000/MONTH.** We have producers within our system who average this much. We would like to have someone in the Dimmitt area. If you have successful agricultural sales experience or an agricultural background with a strong desire to succeed, fax your resume to (806) 647-3334. 20-15-11c

**GENERAL LABORER** needed. Apply in person at DeBruce Grain, Inc., North Highway 385, Dimmitt, (806) 647-2802. 20-17-11c

**ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE** person needed. Experience required. Apply in person at DeBruce Grain, Inc., North Highway 385, Dimmitt, (806) 647-2802. 20-17-11c

**HARVEST TIME:** Texas Sesame/ADM is now hiring for plant positions for fall harvest. Openings in Muleshoe, Flagg, Dodd and Springlake. Hurry. These won't last long. Call SOS at 1-800-242-5369 or apply directly at Texas Sesame locations. 20-18-11c

**20—Help Wanted**

**DIMMITT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL** District is currently taking applications for a school nurse (LVN). All interested applicants will need to have their applications turned in to Dimmitt ISD's Administration Building by 3 p.m., on Aug. 14, 1998. Please contact George Rasor, Middle School Principal, for more information. 20-18-21c

**AVON**, home-based business, flexible hours, no inventory required. Ind/sales/rep. MLM option. 888-748-1759. 20-18-41p

**CASTRO COUNTY DISTRICT** Attorney is now accepting applications for a DA investigator. Must be TCLEOSE certified. Applicants can pick up applications at the Castro County Treasurer's office at 100 E. Bedford, Suite 204. No phone calls will be accepted. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. This county is an E.O.E. 20-18-21c

**KITCHEN HELP NEEDED.** Apply at The Pancake House, 313 N. Broadway, Dimmitt. 20-18-21c

**21—Wanted, Misc.**

**PYBUS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** wants to buy good used toys, dolls, etc. 647-4226 or 647-4779. 21-17-21c

**WANTED:** Small section land, 1/2 acre to acre. Water and electricity available. Good road access. Call 945-2237, ask for Brad. 18-21c

**22—Notices**

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**, 647-4594. 22-18-41c

**25—Legal Notices**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
The undersigned hereby gives notice of application to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Austin, Texas, for a Private Club Permit Renewal to be located at 208 SE 4th, Dimmitt, Castro County, Texas. Said business to be operated under the name of Gerry's First Place

John Douglas Damron, President  
Wayne Niel Christian, Vice President  
Kellie Jo Bradley, Secretary  
15-16-21c

**20—Help Wanted**

**25—Legal Notices**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY DIVISION OF CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**  
1. Dimmitt Independent School District offers career and technology programs/vocational programs in office education, home economics, vocational agriculture and industrial arts. Admission to these programs is based on student's four year plans and student selection.  
2. It is the policy of Dimmitt ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.  
3. It is the policy of DISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.  
4. Dimmitt ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.  
5. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Les Miller, at 608 W. Halsell, Dimmitt, Texas. Telephone (806) 647-3101. 25-18-11c

**AVISO**  
**AGENCIA DE EDUCACION DE TEXAS LA DIVISION DE LA EDUCACION DE CARRERAS Y TECNOLOGIA**  
El Distrito Independiente Escolar de Dimmitt ofrece programas vocacionales, de carreras, y de tecnologia en las areas de educacion de Oficina, Home Economics/Vocational Agriculture/Industrial Arts. Admision a estos programas se basa en la matriculacion de estudiantes en grados 9-12 en las Escuelas de Dimmitt.  
Es la norma de el Distrito Independiente Escolar de Dimmitt de no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, Segun Enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Enmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, Segun Enmienda.  
Es la Norma de el Distrito Independiente Escolar de Dimmitt de no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la Ley de Discriminacion por Edad, de 1976, Segun Enmienda, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, Segun Enmienda.  
El Distrito Independiente Escolar de Dimmitt tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua inglesa no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.  
Para informacion sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el coordinador del Titulo IX, Les Miller, en 608 W. Halsell, Dimmitt, Texas, telefono 806-647-3101. 25-18-11c

**25—Legal Notices**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**Pre-School Screening:**  
The Castro County Comprehensive Education SSA offers a Pre-School program for children 3, 4 and 5 who have problems in the areas of communication skills, concept skills, concept development, gross or fine motor skills. Programming for children with vision or hearing disabilities is available from birth.  
Any child from birth through 21 suspected of having a disability should be referred to the Castro County Comprehensive Education SSA office for individual assessment as soon as possible. Parents or other interested individuals are urged to contact the office at 608 W. Halsell, or phone (806) 647-3103 to schedule an appointment.  
Prueba Pre-Escolar:  
La Educacion Comprensiva SSA del Condado de Castro ofrecera un programa Pre-Escolar para ninos de 3, 4 y 5 anos de edad, que tengan problemas en las areas de desarrollo conceptual, y incapacidades de su sistema de habilidad. Habra programas para ninos que tengan incapacidades visuales o auditivas desde el nacimiento.  
Si usted sospecha que algun nino recién nacido hasta la edad de 21 anos tienen discapacidades, es muy importante que este nino sea recomendado a la oficina de Educacion Comprensiva del

**25—Legal Notices**

Condado de Castro lo mas pronto posible para que las pruebas necesarias sean terminadas. Se les urge a los padres de familia y demas personas interesadas que se comuniquen con la oficina de Educacion Comprensiva que esta localizada por la calle W. Halsell 608 o llame al numero de telefono 806-647-3103 para que haga una cita individual para su hijo o hija. 25-18-21c

**20—Help Wanted**

**CROSSING GUARD** needed for Richardson Elementary School. Contact Clint Seward at 647-4131 for information. 20-18-11c

*The wedding ring is worn on the third finger of the left hand because it was believed a vein ran from there to the heart.*

*Only female mosquitoes are able to "bite".*

**Farmers will take T-L tour**

Five Dimmitt-area farmers will fly to Hastings, Neb., Wednesday for a tour of T-L Irrigation's manufacturing plant and the irrigated crops in that region.  
They'll also look at the latest innovations in sprinkler technology while there.  
They'll be flown to Hastings from the Dimmitt Airport aboard a Beechcraft Kingair 500. They'll leave Dimmitt early Wednesday morning and will return that evening.  
Their trip is sponsored by C&S Battery, Inc., the local T-L dealer. They'll be accompanied by Joe Dee Johnson of C&S.  
This will be the second local group to make the T-L customer tour, according to Cary Jackson of C&S.  
"They'll tour the plant and look at a lot of experimental equipment that T-L has out," Jackson said. "T-L bought the Kingair in December for this purpose, and our farmers are really enjoying this trip."  
Another planeload of local farmers will take the tour next month, Jackson said.

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THE GROCERY STORE FOR PEOPLE ON THE GO!

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12 OZ. CANS, 6 PACK **\$1.49**

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**Chee-tos®** ALL FLAVORS REG. 99¢ **79¢**

**Arizona Tea** ALL FLAVORS 20 OZ. **99¢**

**Meat Franks** 12 OZ. PKG. **69¢**

**Gatorade** ALL FLAVORS 32 OZ. **\$1.49**

**Meat Bologna** 12 OZ. PKG. **79¢**

**Con Queso** 15 OZ. **\$2.99**

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**ALLSUP'S** SUNNY COOKIES 12 OZ. PKG. **99¢**

**ALLSUP'S** SHURFINE BATHROOM TISSUE 4 ROLL PKG. **\$1.19**

**ALLSUP'S** VALLEY FARE DRY DOG FOOD 17.6 LB. BAG **\$3.99**

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# Obituaries

## J.D. Black

J.D. "Preach" Black, 70, of Hale Center, died July 29 at Lubbock Methodist Hospital.

Funeral services were held Friday morning at the First Baptist Church in Cotton Center with Rev. Raymond Jones, pastor of Voss Baptist Church in Voss, officiating. Burial followed at Center Plains Cemetery in Cotton Center under the direction of Freeman-Abell Funeral Home.

Mr. Black was born Dec. 3, 1927, in Hermleigh. He moved to the Cotton Center-Hale Center area in 1946 from New Deal and he farmed.

He married Betty Mayfield on Feb. 12, 1954, in Clovis, N.M. He and his wife owned Hillside Acres Country Club. He was a board member of the Cotton Center Co-op and Hale Center Wheat Growers.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Marie Black and Viola Wilson.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Jeff Black of Hale Center; four daughters, Pam Booher and Susie Thomas, both of Hale Center, Kim Thomas of West Monroe, La., and Buffie Schaeffer of Abernathy; two brothers, J.G. Black of Easter and Henry Black of Lubbock; two sisters, Cleo Crabtree of Arlington and Ovella Reeder of Las Cruces, N.M.; and 13 grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be to the Hale Center EMS, P.O. Box 1027, Hale Center 79041, Hale Center Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 487, Hale Center, 79041, or to the Cotton Center Volunteer Fire Department, c/o John Starnes, Box 52, Cotton Center, Texas 79021.

Pallbearers were Tommy Horsford, Joe Stokes, Morris Applewhite, Keith Jones, Roger Mahagan, Dan Thomas and Kyle Burnett.

## Faye F. Green

Services for Faye F. Green, 88, of Littlefield were held Monday at Crescent Park Church of Christ of Littlefield with Wilburn Daniels, a retired Church of Christ minister, officiating. Butch Sutton assisted. Burial was at Littlefield Memorial Park under direction of Hammons Funeral Home.

She died Saturday at her residence. Mrs. Green was born Feb. 28, 1910, in Jean. She married Barney William Green on July 3, 1927, in Olustee, Okla. They moved to Littlefield in December 1939. Her husband died Oct. 7, 1993. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

She worked for the Lamb County Sheriff's Department as a cook. She worked for Bovina, Lubbock and Littlefield schools. She owned the Mill Drive-In in Littlefield from 1955 to 1963.

Survivors include three sons, Donald of Bonham, Doyle of Farwell, and Dale of Littlefield; three daughters, Wilma Sutton and Jody Davis, both of Littlefield, and Joyce Fowler of Lubbock; two brothers, Tommy Smothermon of League City and Delbert Smothermon of Dimmitt; four sisters, Eula Martin of Altus, Okla., Kate Teek of Dallas, Mildred Burnett of Quanah and Dorothy Sheffy of Dimmitt; 26 great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

A watermelon is about 92% water.

## Dr. Norma Coffee

Dr. Norma Battles Coffee, 55, of Dallas, and formerly of Dimmitt, will be buried Friday in White Deer Cemetery in White Deer. Memorial services were held Tuesday at Northaven United Methodist Church.

Dr. Coffee died Aug. 1 in Dallas.

She was born Sept. 14, 1942, to Roy and Inez Battles. She graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1960 and from Texas Tech University in 1964. She received her doctorate of medicine in 1968 from the University of Texas Health Science Center/Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. She continued her education with post doctoral fellowships in pediatric renal, metabolic and endocrine diseases and rheumatic diseases at Southwestern.

Dr. Coffee worked as an assistant professor of clinical pediatrics from 1974 to 1982 and was director of pediatrics at the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, and was appointed Director of Fellowship in Care of multiple handicapped children in 1981. She served as a guest faculty member from 1980 to 1986 at the Baylor Dental School Dept. of Periodontics, and served on numerous hospital committees throughout the Dallas Metroplex.

In 1982, she began a private practice of pediatrics and pediatric rheumatology.

"She served the precious children who suffered from such terrible diseases until her death," a family spokesperson said.

Dr. Coffee was a member of the following societies: Diplomat, American Board of Pediatrics; Fellow, American Academy of Pediatrics; and Member, Rheumatology Section, American Medical Association. She also has had numerous articles published in a variety of medical journals and periodicals.

She is survived by her spouse, Don R. Coffee of Dallas; a daughter, Leslie A. Coffee of Los Angeles, Calif.; her mother, Inez Battles of Dimmitt; a sister, Dolores B. Earls of Dallas; and three brothers, Roy A. Battles of Colleyville, Danny Battles of Mansfield and Rickey Batles of Ridgecrest, Calif.

## Floy Lee Driver

Funeral services are pending for Floy Lee Driver, 66, of Hereford, and a former Dimmitt businessman.

Mr. Driver died Tuesday at his home after a long illness.

Services are pending with Parkside Chapel in Hereford.

## More about Webb . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

slight concussion and hypothermia. "We were pretty calm about it," said Webb.

After heroes attain the status, there is one defining moment that forever follows them. Hercules' conjures up the image of his triumph over the Hydra; Jordan is immortalized performing his free throw line dunk in the Slam Dunk contest; FDR reminds people of his fireside chats; and now Chris Gee will remember Kurt Webb running.

## Sally Parmer

Services for Sally Parmer, 87, of Dimmitt, were held Friday morning in the Ivey Chapel of Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home with Rev. Mike Summers, interim pastor of Lee Street Baptist Church, officiating. Burial followed in Rest Lawn Memorial Park in Hereford.

Mrs. Parmer died July 28 in Hereford Regional Medical Center.

She was born Jan. 10, 1912, in Georgetown. She married A.D. Parmer on Aug. 17, 1927, in Florence. He died in 1978. She was a member of Lee Street Baptist Church in Dimmitt.

She was a licensed vocational nurse at Deaf Smith County Hospital from 1949 to 1980. She worked at the Lubbock State School as a foster grandparent.

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Carolyn Davenport, in 1993.

Survivors include two sons, Ray of McAllen and T.C. of Georgetown; a daughter, Daine Wall of Dimmitt; 12 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and eight great-great grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 929, Dimmitt 79027; or to the American Diabetes Association, 8008 Slide Road, Suite 12-A, Lubbock 79424.

## More about DISD . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

ever, he added that the \$14,000 could possibly be made up for in savings on the employee health insurance coverage plan.

A public hearing on the tax rate will be held Aug. 17. The tax rate will be set at a meeting of the board on Aug. 24.

The statement on the DISD tax rate from the Castro County Appraisal District shows that the district will be getting 5% more in tax revenue than last year, but that is due to an increase in property values in the district, not to an increase in the tax rate.

Hill said that \$210,000 of the projected budget deficit is due to pay raises given to all employees this year. About \$68,000 of that covered state-mandated raises for teachers. Employee benefits would bring it to \$75,000.

Thrasher said he has a hard time understanding why the district employees seem to expect a raise every year, "whether the funding is available to cover it or not."

"In my opinion, raises will have to look at the money situation first," Thrasher said.

Board President Steve Buckley said, "The sad thing is, for some reason, the employees have gotten on a track of demanding a pay raise. Other taxing entities' employees have gone several years without a pay raise. We are lucky we have the fund balance to rely on, but at some point in time it will be gone."

## Pain may be eliminated for millions

(SPECIAL) — A drug that is exciting researchers in the treatment of pain has been formulated into a new product known as "Arthur Itis," and is being called a "Medical Miracle" by some, in the treatment of debilitating conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, rheumatism, painful muscle aches, joint aches, simple backache, bruises, and more. Although the mechanism of action is unclear, experiments indicate that Arthur Itis, relieves pain by first selectively attracting, and then destroying the messenger chemical which carries pain sensations to the brain, thus eliminating pain in the affected area. Arthur Itis, is available immediately without a prescription in an odorless, greaseless, non-staining cream or new roll-on lotion form. Arthur Itis, is guaranteed to work or your money back.

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 201 NW 2nd, Dimmitt  
 647-3151  
**LOCKHART PHARMACY**  
 107 E Bedford, Dimmitt  
 647-3392

# Police Calls

A 15-year-old Dimmitt youth was stopped for curfew violation around 2:28 a.m. Monday. He was found to be in possession of marijuana in the amount of one gram.

July 28 at 2:39 a.m., a 19-year-old man from Kansas was arrested for public intoxication and possession of marijuana.

Deputies received a report Sunday night that a vehicle was running cars off the road east of Dimmitt. The vehicle was stopped and two Dimmitt men were jailed. A 19-year-old was charged with DWI, first offense, and a 29-year-old was charged with public intoxication.

Charges of escape are being filed on an inmate from the county jail who failed to return to the jail Saturday night after his work release.

In alcohol-related offenses:  
 —Early Monday some suspects were reported for drinking in public in the 600 block of East Dulin. A 42-year-old Dimmitt man was jailed for public intoxication and consumption of alcoholic beverage after hours.

—Monday at 1:21 a.m., a 42-year-old Hereford man was jailed for DWI, first offense.

—At 12:20 a.m. Tuesday, a suspect was stopped in the 1000 block of West Bedford in Dimmitt and had a detectable amount of alcohol on his breath. The charge was listed as driving under the influence.

Warrants or parole violations resulted in the jailing of:

—A 21-year-old Dimmitt woman on July 28 on a motion to revoke probation on charges of assault of a public servant.

—A Hereford woman, 37, on Friday for violation of parole stemming from charges of assault/bodily injury.

—A Dimmitt man, 48, on Friday on warrants for theft by check (over \$500 and under \$1,500) and for violation of parole.

—Saturday night, a 30-year-old Hart woman for violation of probation, which stemmed from tampering with government documents.

—A Dallas man, 30, on Saturday night for violation of probation for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

A suspect was stopped around 2:09 p.m. Saturday in the 100 block of Southwest Fifth in Dimmitt and was found to be driving while license suspended.

July 29 at 3:30 p.m. Osvaldo

Velasquez, 21, of Hart was traveling west on SH 194 about 5 miles east of Hart, when he reportedly drove into the north bar ditch and over-corrected. The 1990 Chevy pickup slid sideways across both traffic lanes and across the south bar ditch, where the passenger side of the vehicle struck an electrical power pole belonging to Swisher Electric Cooperative. Velasquez had been wearing his seat belt. He was taken by ambulance to Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt, where he was reported in good condition as of Tuesday afternoon. Damage to the pickup was rated heavy. Damage to the pole was estimated at \$100. Velasquez was ticketed for failure to control speed and no proof of insurance.

David Verkamp, 16, of Nazareth avoided injury in a one-vehicle rollover Friday a few miles east of Nazareth on SH 86. He was wearing his seat belt when his GMC pickup had a blowout on the right rear tire. He lost control and the vehicle went into the south bar ditch, then skidded across both traffic lanes into the north bar ditch, where it overturned three times and landed in a field. The vehicle had heavy damage. No citation was given.

On July 25 at 11:50 p.m., a three

vehicle accident resulted in injuries to two Dimmitt men. Kevin Reed, 29, was driving a 1989 Ford Aerostar van south in the 200 block of South-west Second and failed to yield right of way at a yield sign. His vehicle was struck by a 1983 Dodge van driven by Daniel Mora, 20, who was heading west in the 100 block of West Belsher. The Dodge van was turned southbound and went out of control into a parking lot and struck a parked, unattended 1980 Ford pickup belonging to Margarito Sanchez of Dimmitt. Damage to Reed's vehicle was moderate to heavy, and was light to moderate on the other two vehicles.

July 28 at 11:30 a.m., Kyla Jo Riley, 31, of Dimmitt, was driving a 1995 GMC Suburban west in the 100 block of East Bedford. Michelle Kovacs, 20, of Amarillo, was driving a 1996 Pontiac Sunfire north in the 100 block of South Broadway. Work was being done on the signal light at the intersection and all lanes had a flashing red light. The Pontiac made a complete stop and continued north and was struck by the Suburban. No injuries were reported. The Pontiac had moderate damage and the Suburban had light damage. Riley was ticketed for having an expired driver's license.

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# Ag REPORTER

A supplement to Canyon News, Plainview Daily Herald, Tulia Herald, Castro County News, Abernathy Weekly Review, Idalou Beacon

INSIDE  
this edition

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High Plains Calendar and a look at what a business in Happy makes from old barnwood

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Abernathy FFA club turns one tractor into a nearly-new model

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Happy Tales by Robert Lee, the markets by Monte Winders and Burt Rutherford's column

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**Page 7**

Migrant farmers are jobless because of the area's dry weather

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News from Castro and Floyd Counties

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Guest columnist gives her opinion and 4-H recipes

**Page 10**

One man's research aides the area's grape industry

**Page 11**

Read the classified ads!

COMING  
next month

**Gourd Decorating**  
Two Abernathy women spend time decorating gourds. Learn some of their techniques!

## Drought could cost Texas economy over \$4 billion

Despite cooler temperatures and scattered rain showers over the past week, West Texas is still in the midst of one of the worst droughts on record.

In fact, last week, Texas A&M economists estimated the drought would cost the Texas economy \$4.6 billion.

Farm and ranch losses alone were placed at \$1.5 billion in the latest estimate.

"This year's drought could easily wind up being worse than 1996 if we don't get significant rain soon," said Dr. Roland Smith of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, who helped compile estimates of drought losses reported from around the state.

The 1996 drought brought agricultural losses of \$1.9 billion and cost the state's economy about \$5 billion.

This year, rainfall was sparse statewide from April to June, a critical time in the production of corn, cotton, sorghum, wheat and forage for livestock.

Cotton, the state's number one cash crop, has been severely affected by the dry weather. Extension service economist Dr. Carl Anderson said Texas cotton farmers could lose more than \$500 million to the drought.

According to Texas Agricultural Extension Agronomist Randy Boman, almost 1.5 million acres of cotton have been failed in the South Plains Cotton growing counties.

Failure or success of the crops depends a lot on whether or not the crop is irrigated.

"Good rain will help on the irrigated crops, but it is too late for most of the dry land situation," said Mark Brown, Lubbock County Extension Agent for Agriculture. "A few dryland producers have received rain fall and are still hanging on."

Idalou producer, Rynn Truett, said the cost of irrigation might not override the income.

"The irrigating farmer can be cautiously optimistic about making a crop, but the output is so high, I don't know if there will be much profit."

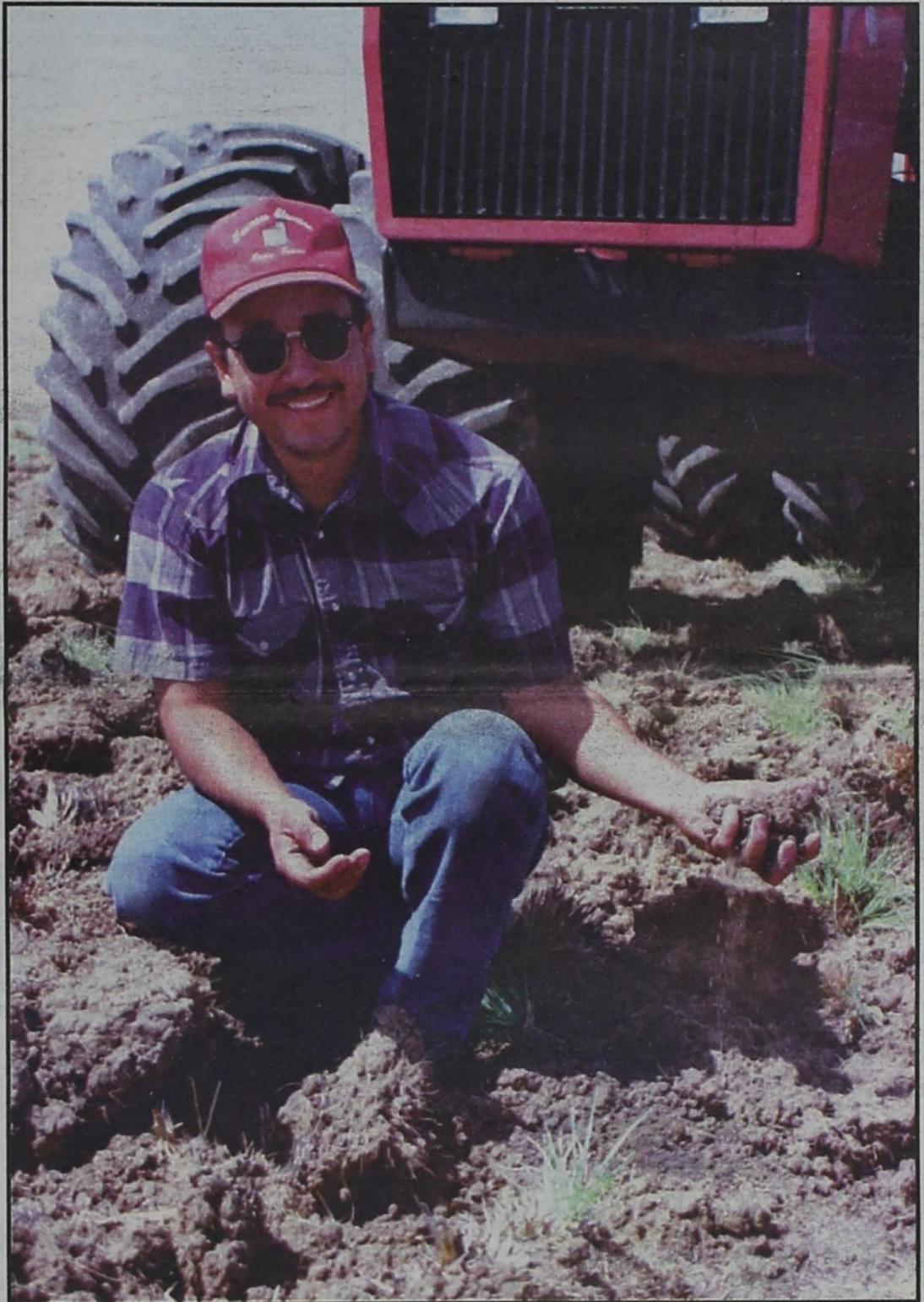
He said the high rate of pumping water has raised the cost of electricity and gas and the overwork is hard on equipment.

Hale County cotton is doing well, Boman said, because most—about 85-90 percent—of the cotton is irrigated.

"We've got some cotton that is eight or nine nodes above the white bloom, which means it's got horsepower (should produce an above average yield)."

The cotton most affected in Hale County is dry land cotton and irrigated cotton without access to much water. Cronholm said the million acres that failed south of Lub-

see Drought on page 6



ANGIE GRAND PRE

Daniel Herrera, an employee for Jerry Sims of Happy, laughs at how hard and dry this farmland near Amarillo is. He was plowing expired CRP land in order to soften the dirt to have a good seed bed when it comes time to re-plant the land. "But as hard and dry as it is, it is hard to do," Herrera said. "If it don't rain, we can't do a whole lot"

## Cloud Seeding used to produce raindrops

Mollie Wright  
special to the Ag Reporter

What happens when there are not enough water droplets or ice particles in a cloud to produce rainfall? "Cloud Seeding," a scientifically-designed precipitation enhancer, is an "attempt to stimulate clouds to generate more rainfall than they would otherwise by add-

ing silver iodide as a seeding agent," according to a publication of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District in Lubbock.

George Bomar, chief meteorologist with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission in Austin, said, "Seeding is done to help clouds produce larger and

more raindrops."

He said that it involves the placement of artificial ice crystals, by aircraft, into growing convective clouds—the types of clouds that often grow into thunderstorms. Bomar said that often the clouds that are seeded are clouds that "may not rain at all," because the

see Clouds on page 6

CALENDAR

**August 12  
Field Day**

The Bushland Crops Field Day will start at 8:30 a.m. with registration. The theme is: 50 years of irrigation research for the Texas High Plains. For more information, call (806) 356-5724.

**August 18  
Water Management**

A program titled, Irrigation Water Management of Commercial Landscapes, will be presented from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the research station near Bushland. For more information, contact Jim Allison at (806) 372-3829.

**August 18-19  
Home-based Businesses,  
Quilting Seminar**

Sharon Heidingsfelder of Little Rock, Ark. will present a quilting seminar on the 19th at the Texas Research and Extension Center in Amarillo.

Two home-based businesses conferences, one in the afternoon and the other in the evening, will be held on the 18th at the same location. For more information on either event, call (806) 373-0713.

**August 26-27  
Summer TCPB meeting**

Texas Corn Producers Board will hold its summer meeting in Lubbock. Call (806) 647-2676.

**August 27-28  
Beef Conference**

The High Plains Beef Conference featuring health, nutrition and the environment will be held at West Texas A&M University. For more information call TCFA at (806) 358-3681.

**September 9  
Ag Chemical Conference**

The 46th annual Agricultural Chemicals Conference will be held at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. Dennis Avery, of the Hudson Institute, is the keynote speaker. For more information, call Larry at (806) 287-1231.

**September 25  
Golden Spur Banquet**

The National Golden Spur Award Banquet & Prairie Party will be held at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. Bob Josseland will be receiving the 21st annual Golden Spur award. For more information, call TCFA at 358-3681.

**November 9  
Cook-Off Recipes due**

Deadline for entering recipes in the 1999 National Beef Cook-Off. Call (312) 823-9300 for more information.

To place your event in the calendar, fax it to (806) 655-0823.

# Business makes rustic furniture from barnwood

Chris Russett  
special to *Ag Reporter*

Happy is a rustic town and in that rustic town is a rustic workshop.

Happy Treasures makes and sells furniture of original design from seasoned barn wood. The articles are intended to appeal to those who prefer the rough hewn country look.

Jim and Eddie Cope of Tulia and Larry and Teresa Carter of Canyon are partners in Happy Treasures.

Eddie and Teresa work together at the Tulia Independent School District and have been close friends for many years. They started together at Highland Elementary 20 years ago.

Larry and Jim met because of their wives friendship.

Their venture came together because of the drought that ended in 1996. Jim had time on his hands because he is a cowboy by trade.

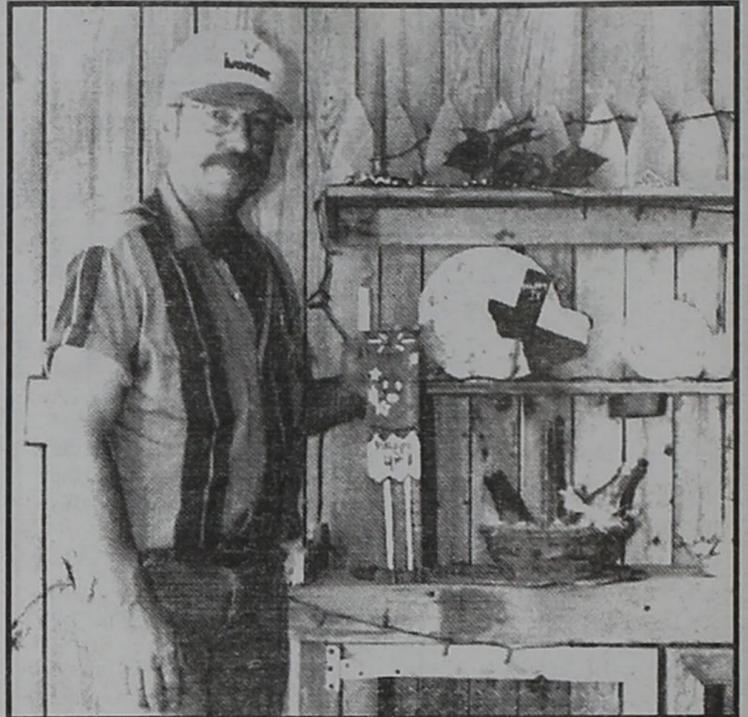
His daughter wanted a cedar post headboard for her bed.

Larry Carter offered his help because he had a table saw and other woodworking tools. They worked out of Carter's garage.

"I thought I'd like to have a rustic bench to put in my yard at home. So I built one and haven't had time to sit on it since," he said.

Someone said, "I'll bet you can sell those."

They had a wood supply so they started in and before long had to move into their present shop at 103 N. Main in downtown Happy,



Jim Cope displays some of the hand-crafted, rustic items for sale at Happy Treasures on Main Street in Happy, Texas.

Texas. That was about April 1997.

"We thought the shop was spacious enough so that we would never fill it up," he said. "But you ought to see it today."

When visitors enter the store they come into a display area and then enter the shop. There the partners have a number of projects under construction.

"Sometimes one of us will come up with a new design," Cope said. "We let that person run his design

and the next similar item made may have basic changes. No two items are ever exactly alike. The first of the hutches didn't have doors and the later ones even have more shelves. Of course, the early hutches cost less, too."

One item will generally give them an idea for another item that people will want.

"The things that I really think will move sometimes don't," he said.

See treasures on page 10

## Attebury Grain

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HAPPY, TEXAS 79042

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# Abernathy FFA restores 1950 John Deere tractor for contest

Scott Luce  
special to the Ag Reporter

Abernathy FFA advisor Gerald Kelley has found a new contest for his students to enter but it still involves a tractor. He has had great success with his tractor mechanics team and the chapter is always well represented in various judging events.

Now, his General Ag Mechanics class will be Abernathy's first to enter Amoco Oil's tractor restoration contest.

They have gone completely through a 1950 John Deere Model R tractor that is on display at Thompson Implement Co.

This is the second year of the contest and Abernathy FFA's tractor won't officially be entered until next September.

The project took six months to complete. Kelley bought the used tractor at a farm sale in Vega for \$900. The class went to work on it in early November.

"We'll eventually know its original destination from the factory," Kelley said.

Their entry will consist of a story about the project with pictures taken at various stages. The picture album to be submitted is also at Thompson Implement and shows just how far down the class had to dismantle the tractor before reassembling it complete with JD green paint and decals.

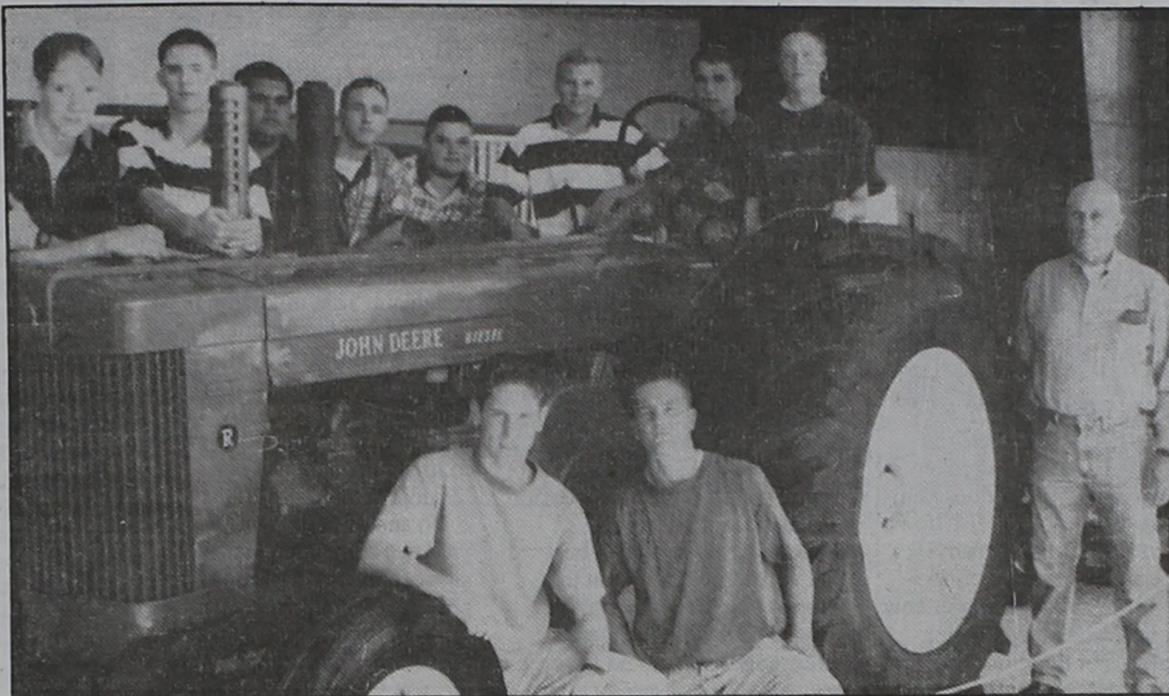
Kelley estimates they have between \$2000 and \$2,500 invested in the restoration project. The original cost was thought to be about \$2,500. The tractor now has an estimated value of \$5,000.

"It's not rare enough. There were 20,000 built," Kelley said.

The students feel a little bit differently about the value. "To me, it's priceless," Shane Springer said.

It tested their patience more than once. After reassembly it was started but they found water in the oil. They went through it three more times to fix the internal leak.

The diesel motor was working when Kelley bought it but the gasoline starting "pony" motor wasn't. Everything was taken apart for cleaning, rebuilding or replacing.



SCOTT LUCE

Gerald Kelley's Ag Mechanics Class restored this 1950 John Deere Model R tractor for entry in Amoco Oil's restoration contest in its second year. The mechanics, from left, are Marshall Miller, David Howard, David Rivera, Ryan Harrison, Shane Springer, Blake Oswald, Brandon Hughes and Ryan Lambert. Kneeling, from left, are Miles Riley and Sky Stephenson. FFA advisor Kelley is standing on the right.

They used all the original mechanical parts. They painted it and did all the body work with fiberglass and bondo. Just taking it apart was a challenge.

"We thought it was all connected, one piece. We had to get chisels to knock the grease off," Ryan Harrison said.

Now, the waiting begins until the judges consider Abernathy's inaugural project but it doesn't stop there. There will be regional winners and the national winner receives a \$2,500 prize.

"This bunch of boys were a good group for this project," Kelley said. "We'll do it again next year. We already have five to rebuild two were bought for the FFA and three others are privately owned."

They also acknowledge the invaluable help from Jimmie and Gale Davis, Tim Hill and Mike Watson.

What happens to the tractor after the contest?

"We'll store it somewhere. We may bring it back for their 20th reunion," Kelley said.

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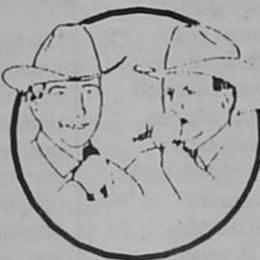
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# OPINION-ISSUES



**Robert Lee**

LONGTIME RESIDENT FROM HAPPY

## Hot and Getting Hotter

I am unable to find a word in my vocabulary, that I can use in polite society, that adequately describes how hot it is. As I start on this little essay at the end of June, the outside temperature is 103 degrees and headed for 106 degrees or more. Hopefully, by the time this is published, the drought will have been broken. It is so dry that if it ever does rain, we'll have to teach the fish how to swim again. Like so many unpleasant experiences, God gives us the ability to forget how bad it was when the situation improves. For those who have forgotten, YES, it has been this hot and dry before.

It is hard to realize but we did survive before air conditioning. I can remember when I experienced my first air conditioning. It was what we now call a swamp cooler and was located in a drug store in Shamrock. The owner advertised it as "frosted air" and it was the only cool spot in town on a hot summer day. People perspired in those days, while some sweated and more than a few stunk. When we traveled, we would put a block of ice in a dishpan and place in under the vent in an effort to cool the car and ourselves. The only cooling that took place was mental as we looked at the ice.

Driving down the road with hot air blowing through the lowered windows was pretty unpleasant.

In 1953, we failed to harvest any wheat and were shipping boxcars of wheat into Happy from Kansas. The temperature was, like now, hotter than Hades. The grain was in the old style boxcar with flat floors and we unloaded it with draglines and wiggletails. Unloading was a labor-intensive job requiring a lot of manual effort. With an exterior temperature of 105 to 108 degrees, it was probably best that we didn't know what the temperature in the car was. A wiggletail was an uncovered screw auger that would have been an OSHA inspector's nightmare and would probably be illegal today. As one moved the apparatus in the grain, it was very important to have a knowledge of where one's feet were because the auger was unable to differentiate between feet and grain. As one perspired, it didn't take long to accumulate a coating of dust, this giving a person the appearance of being stuccoed. I believe this was the most miserable summer of my life.

Another hot June day in 1990, my seed-selling son called me and told me he surely needed a dab of seed hauled to Perryton and Stinnett. I drove by a friend and invited him to ride along and see the country, telling him I thought it would be a pleasant little excursion.

We were enjoying our little trip

until the air conditioner quit outside of Pampa. It was hard to enjoy the scenery as the temperature heated up, reaching 102 degrees at Perryton. Leaving Perryton, we headed for Stinnett. On a lonely farm market road, a million miles from nowhere, the pickup quit.

Died stone dead. It was so hot by now, we left boot prints in the pavement. That night, the news reported that temperature reached 106 degrees.

The next day, I was scheduled to deliver some seed south of Dora, New Mexico. I drove down to my buddy's house and rang the doorbell.

No answer. Searching the backyard, I was unable to see any sign of him until I spotted him peeping from behind the tree where he was hiding. I reckon he's what one would call a fair weather friend.

The other morning, the phone rang and answering it, I found my across-the-alley, slightly older than me, cowboy neighbor on the line.

He very seriously asked, "Robert! Are you all right?"

"Sure, Why?"

"Well, I heard on the radio about the rules for surviving in this hot weather. They said we need to drink eight or nine glasses of water a day. Avoid strenuous efforts. Stay by the air conditioner and check on our elderly friends and neighbors."

So let's drink eight or ten glasses of water a day, check on our elderly neighbors and pray for rain. If by chance, it has rained by the time this is printed (which it has), let's pray for more rain.



**Monte Winders**

FUTURES SPECIALIST

## Market News

### Cattle

No news is not always good news. The live cattle futures have been closing lower on a lack of fundamental direction as the cash trade remains largely absent at the end of the month. The sentiment on the trading floor is taking the attitude that packers many drop their bids, which could hold the price at or below \$59, analysts said.

The showlists have been holding steady for the last 4-5 weeks. Whatever the country has for sale, the immediate problem in this regard seems to be the narrowing demand. If the packers stay with the idea of killing less cattle, it could offset any reduction in the fed offerings in August. Most people believe that packers might ignore improving profit margins—if they can sense any assurance that retail interest will stick around for a while. This, of course, will be linked to the Labor-Day feature that is always a big event in meat movement. Some of the cut-out prices have been the highest levels since early May. Also, the choice and select spread is now more than \$12 the widest level since October 1997. Technically the August cattle has support at 60.55 and resistance at 63.45. The cycle date for a bottom is August 12 with a trend reversal price at 63.57.

**Cotton**  
Most cotton watchers say that there will be consolidation until there's a clearer picture of the size of the 1998-99 US cotton crop. USDA's first official estimate of the crop is scheduled for release on Wednesday, August 12. The USDA is conducting its "objective yield surveys" in 6 cotton producing states: Texas, California, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Arizona. These numbers will be released around the first week of August. Some analysts think that the cotton is ready for a bounce around the first of August. The market will likely establish a base of support or ledge from which to launch the next move after the

report has been released. There are growing ideas that the USDA may be slow to lower the crop size from the 15 million bales estimated earlier this month. The Texas crop size could be reduced but is could be offset by improvement in yield forecasts in the Delta, southeast and California. Some traders fell the West Texas crop will fall below some pessimistic ranges. One trader felt that the losses could not be made up by slow improvement in other areas and could lead to a crop of 14 to 14.5 million bales. Technically we see support at 70.90 then 69.55 with resistance at 73.85 and 74.35. The cycle bottom date is July 29 and the trend reversal price is 77.70.

### Corn

The corn just keeps trading lower, pressured by generally beneficial weather and light fund selling. The beneficial weather of course is the cool and wet weather in the Corn Belt, not the drought areas in the Texas High Plains. This fact, again, shows that most traders don't even worry about this area when the grain markets in the question that is being answered.

Some analysts are saying that the corn trade of late is "like a thousand pinpricks" in the lack of marker-moving and quiet action. The market continues its stair-stepping erosion to lower prices but many don't believe corn will fall to the \$1.75 to \$1.80 level basis. December before the loan price kicks in at \$1.89.

The weather is of course the biggest item here, with pollination going on at good levels. The latest crop progress showed that the corn crop rate is good to excellent at 68 percent. Silking is put at 80 percent with 12 percent of the crop in the dough stage. And many of the long-range forecasts call for normal rains over the region with just average temperatures. Technically, the support for the December contract is a t 225.5 and resistance at 232 then 237. The cycle bottom is due July 3 – August 3

See markets on page 5



**Burt Rutherford**

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR OF TCFA

## Checkoff is key to industry's success

The beef checkoff, as many producers well know, is an essential part of the industry's efforts to bolster consumer confidence in beef. Now, research shows that not only are checkoff dollars convincing consumers that beef is an essential and delicious part of the diet, but that cattlemen's investment in checkoff programs is putting money in their pockets.

The research is part of ongoing work by Dr. Ronald W. Ward with the University of Florida. The peer-reviewed research takes a hard look at the effects of checkoff dollars.

Ward's most recent study concluded that cattle prices received by producers were higher last year than they would have been without checkoff-funded programs. The rate of return, based on U.S. average Choice fed steer prices, was \$6.72 to \$1. "Using each price series, the analysis shows the beef promotions to have a positive and statistically significant influence on cattle prices after accounting for other demand factors," the research states.

According to the study, checkoff gains represent a 1.9%

increase in industry revenues compared with industry revenues without the programs. Corresponding gains for Choice fed prices were 2.5% of industry revenues. "The study shows that the effect of the program is seen whether prices are rising or falling," Ward said in interpreting his research.

That's a key part of interpreting the research, according to Jim Gill, market director for the Texas Cattle Feeders Association (TCFA) "As everyone knows, fed cattle prices, basis the Texas Panhandle, have been falling recently. While there are many theories and opinions about the present state of the cattle market, the basic reason we're seeing low prices is because of normal functions of the cattle cycle."

Presently, the 10-year cattle cycle is at a point where cattle numbers, and therefore beef supplies, are high. The basic law of supply and demand applies, meaning that prices will be low when supply is high. "Making the situation even more difficult is the fact that supplies of competing meats are very high as well," Gill says. "While this is good for the consumer, because

the stores are filled with ample supplies of meat and good prices, it makes for a challenging situation in the cattle market for producers."

Ward's research notes this relationship as well, implying that there are some things, (the cattle cycle, for instance) that the checkoff cannot be expected to overcome. "While the promotions have had a positive effect, they were not large enough to offset those factors that have a negative impact on beef demand," according to the report. It stated that many factors, such as competing meat supplies, income changes and others, can put downward pressure on beef demand. These factors are beyond the cattle industry's control.

What the checkoff can influence is consumer attitude, and therefore consumer purchases of beef. Here, headway is being made. "The beef checkoff has had a positive and statistically significant influence on (beef) servings," the report finds. Using extensive consumer behavior data, Ward demonstrated that though it wasn't enough to offset other factors, checkoff-funded beef promotions do have a positive effect on demand.

The research is good news for cattle producers. It shows that their investment in their future through the beef checkoff is

see Rutherford on page 5



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**Markets from page 4**

with a trend reversal price at 245.

**Wheat**

The wheat trade has pressured by fund selling and leftover pressure from the low world export prices. Wheat has seen some downside pressure build up of late. This market had been the only one of grains that didn't seem to be in a free-fall area. One long-time trader said this market "is like a drunk who just keeps drinking." The best support is as a feed grain and the feed grain market seems to be lower.

The wheat market started the last of July feeling a little bearish from the effects of France's \$86 per metric ton wheat sale to Egypt. USDA Secretary Dan Glickman was

**Rutherford from page 4**

sound. The research shows that, while it can't control the market, the checkoff program is working to increase demand. And while it isn't an insurance for profits, it does move the demand needle in a positive direction—and does so at a rate greater than the investment itself.

**How the Checkoff Works**

Many cattlemen are aware of the checkoff's intent and willingly pay the \$1-per-head that funds a wide variety of checkoff programs, all designed to boost beef demand. However, recent producer research indicates there is some confusion. Here's a look at how the program is structured.

When you buy or sell cattle, \$1 per head is taken from the proceeds and sent to your state beef council, which is governed by a board of cattlemen representing all segments of the industry. Under the law that established the \$1-per-head checkoff, each state beef council has the option to keep up to half of the money collected to go toward in-state beef promotion. The

reported to use export enhance programs (EEP) to respond to trade barriers. This latest sale from France is equivalent to 234 per bushel, about 30 cent under US wheat. The price is also about \$15 per metric ton under the US corn price. US wheat can't compete with those prices. However, there are some countries that are tendering for US wheat right now.

Technically the December KC wheat has support at 285 with resistance at 298 then 306. The cycle bottom should be July 27 with a trend reversal price at 312.5.

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state beef council board will decide how much money they want to keep for state efforts. Any remaining funds can be forwarded to help support national beef promotion efforts.

The other half of the money collected in the state is forwarded to the Cattlemen's Beef Board, an independent agency established by the law to administer the funds.

The Beef Board, comprised of cattlemen, does not conduct any promotion efforts itself. Rather, it accepts or rejects proposals from existing organizations that have the personnel and expertise to conduct demand-building programs. These organizations include the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the U.S. Meat Export Federation, the American National CattleWomen and others.

By combining state-originated programs with nationally-oriented efforts, all under the watchful eyes of cattlemen who pay the money, checkoff dollars are working to improve beef demand.

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### CAPITOL COMMENT

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#### PLOWING BACKWARD ON CROP INSURANCE

There's a story Texans tell about the northern fella who decided to go into farming and got his tractor stuck in reverse. He unplowed three acres.

That pretty much describes what the U.S. Department of Agriculture was planning to do with the way it processes crop insurance claims this year.

Last month the Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency proposed changing the rules governing appraisal and adjustment procedures for crop insurance policies on non-emerged seed resulting from a lack of moisture. In layman's language, this means seeds that fail to grow due to lack of rain.

The draft regulation would have deferred appraisals in such cases to 25 days after the final planting date. During drought conditions, a seven-day appraisal process has been the historical practice.

To me, this was just one more example of bureaucratic excess, rushing to fix a problem without first taking into account all the possible ramifications of a given action.

We see it all the time. Federal regulators jump the gun and step in, often making a situation worse. For example, several years ago the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Austin came up with a conservation plan to provide habitat for the golden-cheeked warbler, a bird which may or may not have been headed for the endangered species list. The plan raised the cost of home sites in parts of Travis County by as much as \$5,000 an acre — good intentions, disastrous execution.

So, while the merits of the federal crop insurance program can and should be debated, it would be highly unreasonable to impose such a change in the middle of a growing season, and suddenly, at that.

I heard from many Texas producers and insurers who were extremely concerned about the possible ramifications of the proposed change. These farmers purchased 1998 policies in good faith, based on their current understanding of how the program works.

It would be grossly unfair to make substantive changes in the administration of these policies now, when the relevant sales closing dates have passed, and when farmers have made critical business decisions based on the original terms of the policies.

The agency asserts that the program is vulnerable to abuse. If that is so, Congress and the Department of Agriculture will need to work together to correct it.

I intend to collaborate with the Department of Agriculture to find the fairest, and most reasonable solution to any underlying problems with the federal crop insurance program. In the meantime, the department's Risk Management Agency has agreed to my request to delay changing the procedures on this year's policies. That will give the USDA and Congress time to revisit how policies can best be structured to prevent these problems in the future. 6.26.98

**Drought from page 1**

bock also were dry land cotton.

"Even though we have some cotton with very weak ground water, the majority of our cotton is on ground where they can water at least twice."

On the other hand, the dry land cotton in Hale County is not doing very well.

The drought is having some effect on irrigated cotton, because of the corn crop.

"We have some irrigated cotton that is stressed because in order to keep corn alive we've had to irrigate it more than usual," taking up water that usually would go to irrigating cotton.

Because corn requires so much water, some farmers haven't been able to irrigate cotton as much as they need to, Cronholm said.

He said corn is also experiencing some stress because of the drought, but still will produce an average crop — between 7,500-9,000 pounds per acre.

But that's not encouraging news to Hale County farmers who harvested an average of 12,000 pounds an acre from last year's bumper crop.

Further north in the state, in Randall County, the past week has brought much needed moisture, but not near enough in a wide enough area.

"It certainly has helped, but the amount of moisture we received has not reversed the effects of the drought," Canyon Deputy Fire Chief Joe Rice said. "It's just not enough. It's going to take a long time to get the moisture back in the ground that we've lost in this long, dry spell."

Sid Ricks with the Soil Conservation office when asked if Randall County is still in a state of disaster responded, "Oh yes, definitely."

Like Rogers and Rice he said that more rain would be needed to make a difference, but he didn't disregard the benefit of the moisture we have received.

"Any amount of moisture we get is going to be beneficial," Ricks said.

However, the hot, dry conditions will increase the evaporation effect and any moisture less than 1/4" is quickly gone, Ricks said.

"We're not getting much penetration," Ricks said.

Randall County needs to receive a couple inches of moisture, then some cooler weather and then a couple more inches of moisture, Ricks said.

"Then we ought to be in pretty good shape," Ricks said.

President Bill Clinton has recently declared Texas a federal disaster area state wide due to the drought.

In response Federal Emergency Management Agency Director James Lee Witt traveled to Houston Monday to meet with federal, state and local officials to assess the drought conditions.

U.S. Phil Gramm sent several of his senior aides to Amarillo last week to assess drought conditions. Sondra Ziegler, director of Gramm's regional office in Lubbock, met in Amarillo last week with local producers and

agriculture researchers to discuss the drought's effects.

"The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station's current assessment of this year's economic impact of the drought in Texas now exceeds \$4.3 billion," Gramm said in a release. "It is important that we work together to identify ways to provide help to struggling farmers and ranchers across our state."

Gramm also showed his support for a recent vote Congress took to allow local producers to let cattle graze their CRP lands or hay it for emergency food supply.

"Texas agricultural producers are in dire need of immediate assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and haying of CRP acreage will provide relief to livestock producers as well as help minimize the hazard conditions," Gramm said in a release.

In return for haying or grazing the CRP land, producers sacrifice a portion of their annual CRP payment.

U.S. Rep. Larry Combest recently urged U.S. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman to see to it that landowners who utilize emergency haying and grazing of CRP lands not sacrifice more than five percent per month of their annual CRP payments.

During the 1996 drought the USDA charged the five percent rate for landowners wishing to hay or graze their CRP lands, according to a release from Combest's office.

"Producers would like to graze CRP land, but are finding it cost-prohibitive," Combest said in the release. "Texas neighbors help each other in severe times as these, and an announcement from Secretary Glickman would ensure that more effective relief reaches the region."

Combest pointed out in the release that landowners can only graze 75 percent or hay 50 percent of their CRP acreage, the current 25 percent reduction in payment makes the relative cost of this program excessively high. But real relief will only come with lots of rain, and Rice echoed the sentiments of many when he summed up this recent rain shower.

"It's wonderful to have rain, but we've got to have much, much more," Rice said.

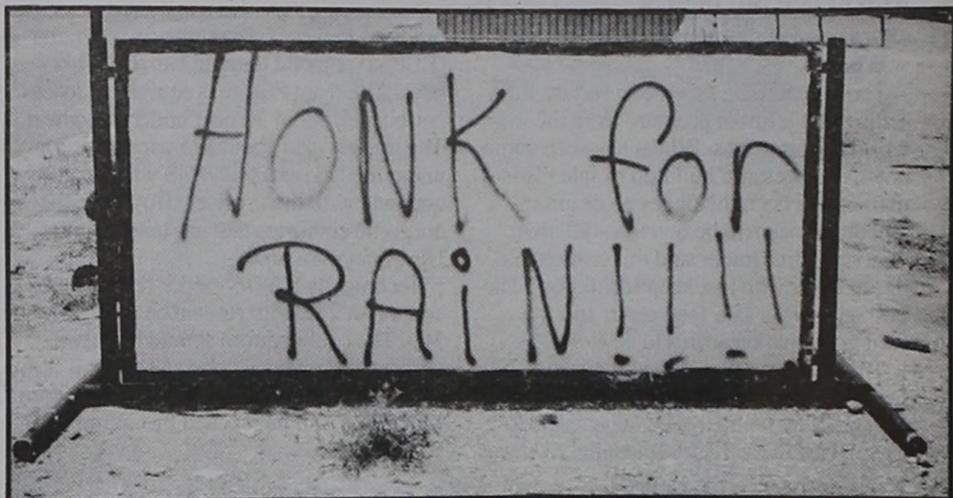
Cronholm said despite the losses, there could be some good news produced by the drought. Boll weevil populations were expected to skyrocket in 1998, but that has not been the case.

"We've only collected about a fourth of the weevils we had anticipated this year," he said.

Of the 30 weevil traps in Hale County and 21 in Swisher County, only three captured any weevils last week. No weevils were caught in Swisher County. Though it is not yet known what's causing the low numbers, Cronholm said the heat is the main suspect.

"We don't really know for sure, because the weevils have never really experienced a drought like this before."

(Jeff Stevens, Plainview Daily Herald, Renee' Fikes, Idalou Beacon and David McDonnell, Canyon News, contributed to this story.)



One of the desperate attempts to get rain is seen on this sign near Idalou.

**Clouds from page 1**

natural ice crystals they contain are too small to produce droplets. Silver iodide crystals "provide additional condensation nuclei to allow more cloud moisture to be converted to large raindrops" that can "reach the ground as meaningful rainfall," reported the district.

Silver iodide is used because its crystal structure resembles the natural ice in the atmosphere, according to the district.

High Plains is currently in its second year of a rainfall enhancement program, which involves cloud seeding, said Carmon McCain, High Plains' information/education director. According to the district, it is the "largest of the four weather modification projects in Texas currently permitted by the TNRCC," covering a "10-million acre target area in the Texas High Plains and east central New Mexico."

Randall is among the list of counties within the weather modification project.

Cloud Seeding, which began in May, will be performed throughout September, said McCain. The project is designed over the five-month agricultural growing season, he said. In 1997, the district contracted Weather Modification Inc. (WMI) of North Dakota to seed its target areas, said Bomar. However, he said, July 1, the district was issued a four-year license and permit to conduct weather modification projects itself.

The Texas Weather Modification Act (Chapter 18 of the Texas Water Code), passed in 1967, "requires TNRCC to regulate the use of cloud seeding through a licensing and permitting procedure," according to information from High Plains. McCain said attaining the license and permit "made good business sense." But as of now, he said the district plans to keep using its current contractors.

Bomar said with the permit the district can become its own seeding contractor in the future if it feels necessary.

Bomar also said that the Texas Legislature allotted \$4.5 million for weather modification projects in 1997.

He said TNRCC uses the funding to pay half the cost of projects.

Bomar said cloud seeding cost a little less than \$600,000 this year.

He said clouds are monitored on a consistent daily basis during periods of seeding. He said meteorologists use a storm detection radar system to locate possible seeding clouds.

McCain said, "The purpose (of cloud seeding) is that we are trying to tap into moisture that is in the area everyday—clouds that come across the area everyday."

The Littlefield Municipal Airport, near Lubbock, houses the "weather radar operations," according to High Plains.

Bomar said seeding aircraft goes out as long as there are potential thunderstorm-producing clouds.

"Explosive growth or well-defined storm characteristics are right for aircraft launches," but, "severe thunderstorms are not seeded," reported the district.

The district also reported using an aircraft that holds "a total of 204 20-gram silver iodide flares for cloud top seeding," and a "pressurized generator that dispenses a silver iodide/acetone mixture" on each wingtip for cloud base seeding.

According to the district one trillion ice crystals are produced from one gram of silver iodide. Bomar said the cloud seeding program was implemented as a longer-term water conservation project before any evidence of the current drought.

In fact, he said that periods of drought are often not the best times to conduct seeding.

Bomar said, "There are often days (during a drought) when clouds are non-existent."

He said that effective cloud seeding cannot be done without the right types of clouds. However, the district reported "there is ample evidence suggesting that seeding can be applied effectively" in droughts. In general, he said, seeding is more of a conservation method than a sole preventive measure against drought.

**"There are often days when clouds are non-existent."**

George Bomar

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# Weather leaves families jobless

Jeff Stevens  
special to Ag Reporter

Every year as the calendar turns to June, hundreds upon hundreds of migrant and seasonal farm laborers begin the trek from South Texas to the South Plains.

They come in anticipation of plenty of work and they hope to earn enough money to make it to the next crop, somewhere down the road.

Every year, they come to the area looking for weeds to chop. Every year, they've found them, until this year.

"The farmers, they buy the new seed and they spray the chemical on the weeds. So we don't have no work," said Jose Lopez, a migrant worker from Rio Grande City. He said the lack of rain has also been a factor.

Lopez, 30, has been traveling the state from town to town and crop to crop for the last 17 years.

He's only been working in the South Plains for the past three years. Before that, he supported his wife and four children working cotton fields in Frederick, Okla., but the cotton there dried up. He and his family started migrating to the Plainview area three years ago.

Now it seems farm labor jobs on the South Plains could be a thing of the past and so could the Lopez's way of life.

"They're saying next year is going to be even worse," said Miguel Soliz, a migrant farm hand for the past 33 years.

Soliz has been in the area since

June 20 and hasn't been able to find any work. He said he'll wait another couple of weeks to see if anything develops.

"If it rains, maybe the weeds will grow and we'll find some work."

Soliz and Lopez are not the only migrant families suffering from current crop conditions.

Olivia Vasquez with the Plainview Salvation Army says that agency has served more than 600 migrant families - from Plainview, Olton, Floydada, Lockney, Hale Center and Abernathy - since the end of May.

"They hit us hard this year and a bunch of them are going back because there is no work."

Irene Favila, director of Motivation, Education and Training in Plainview - a private, non-profit organization helping migrant workers find employment outside of agriculture - agrees that there are a large number of seasonal farm laborers out of work this year.

"We are seeing about 10 families a day. There just hasn't been work for them like there has been in recent years. A lot of farmers this year planted (Round-up Ready) cotton and they don't need any hand labor to remove weeds," said Mrs. Favila.

But there's a reason for that, said local cotton grower Kevin Igo.

"I think they've priced themselves out of a job. It's just not feasible to hoe anymore."

He explained that the reason farmers began looking for alternatives to hand labor was solely an

economic decision."

Lopez and other migrants like him don't see it that way, "They plant this cotton and they don't care about the people."

"That is very misguided," said Plainview cotton grower Mark Teel. "Farmers do not plant Round-up Ready cotton because they don't care about people. We plant it because it allows us better weed control."

Even when the rate of chemicals is not cheaper, the hassles are much less, he added. Teel explained that new federal laws require farm workers be in the country legally and that records are kept, proving such. Unemployment tax has to be paid if a certain number of workers are used and the workers can file for unemployment against the farmer.

The farmer is also required to provide toilets and fresh water in the field and pay Social Security on each worker.

"Texas Rural Legal Aid has helped migrant workers price themselves out of work," Teel said.

On top of all that, Teel said, the farmers are now liable to be sued for unemployment, violations of workers' rights, payment under minimum wage, etc.

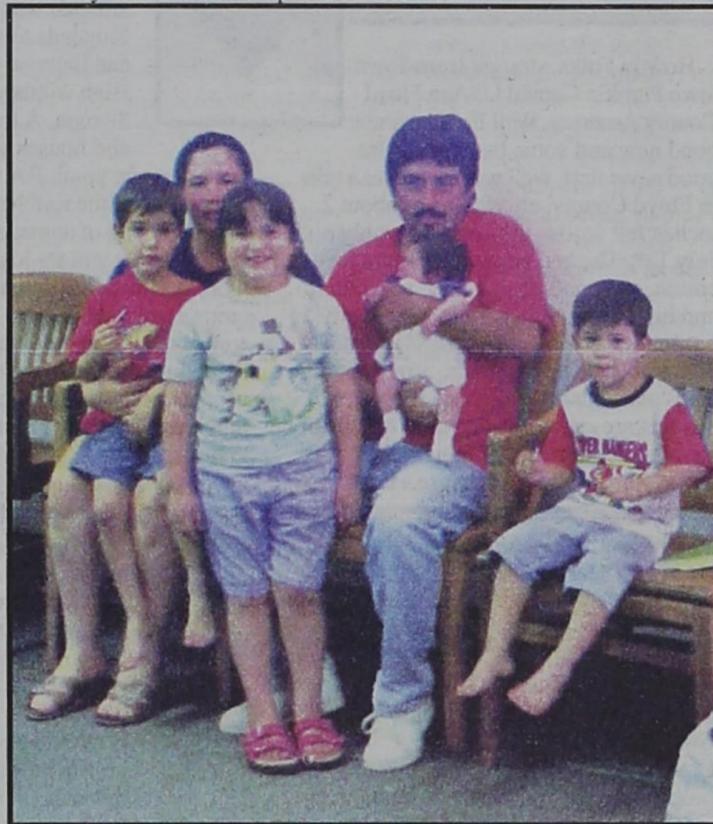
"All this while, the farmers have no recourse for poor workmanship, inflated hours or suits brought forth from disgruntled workers.

"It's unfortunate that more work is not available for migrant workers, but the rising cost and potential liabilities make it impossible to

employ migrant workers on the farm like we did in the past."

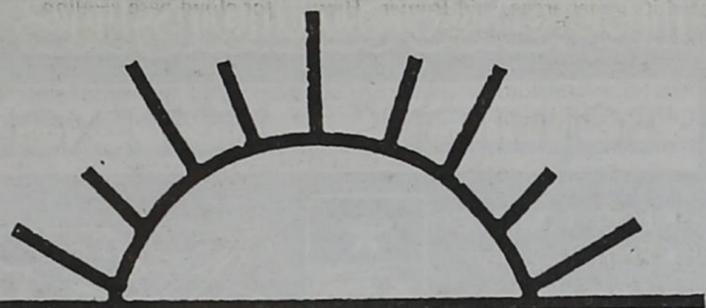
He added that despite the increase in cost to employ farm workers, cotton prices have remained relatively the same for the past 20

years. It costs \$5 per acre to spray weeds and \$15-30 an acre to hoe weeds, said Igo. "When cotton is selling for 60 cents a pound, it doesn't make good sense to pay for labor."



JEFF STEVENS

Migrant farm laborers Jose and San Juanita Lopez and their children Jose (left), Roxanne, Jennifer and Abran recently sought assistance from Motivation, Education and Training (MET). MET is a private non-profit organization providing assistance and job training to seasonal farm laborers. The Lopezes are among an estimated 3,000 migrants currently out of work in the Texas South Plains.



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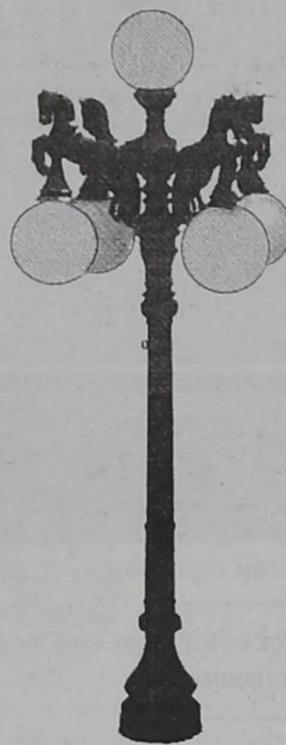
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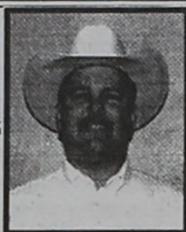
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# Around the Counties

What's going through the mind of your county agent

## J.D. Ragland

FLOYD COUNTY



Howdy Folks, straight from down town Pumpkin Capital USA in Floyd County America. Well I've got some good news and some bad news. The good news first, well we finally got a rain in Floyd County, an average of about 2 inches fell across the county Sunday night July 12<sup>th</sup>. The bad news is we lost a lot of cotton, corn and peanuts due to the hail and high winds. It's hard to say exactly but looks to be around 8,000 acres of cotton, 7,000 acres of corn, around 500 acres of sorghum and about 100 acres of peanuts are estimated at a total loss from the high winds and hail. This was extremely difficult to take cause a large

portion of these acres were irrigated and had a lot already in their crop. The heaviest area affected was due west of Floydada around the Sandhill and Barwise communities. High winds were reported at 88 mph. A lot of barns, pivots, and houses were damaged and

even our own youth P.A.C. Center in Floydada had the roof torn completely off, about \$30,000 of damage. It seems this year we can't win for losing! But on a more positive note much of the irrigated crops around the county look relatively well considering the year, but the problems is producers have a chunk tied up in this years expense due to the heavy irrigation they've applied. Price outlook isn't all that great right now. I've been encouraging county producers to pay close attention to

the market and try and take advantage of the rallies. I also received several calls since the storm about grazing or haying hauled ut corn. High nitrate levels at this point are a huge problem. Be sure before you do anything to have those potential fields tested. If not it could be extremely costly. I know all the fields we've had checked in Floyd County thus far have all come back with extremely high levels. Much of this was tested on irrigated corn that had severe hail damage. As it dries down levels should decrease, but again, be sure you have a nitrate test done before you graze or hay those damaged corn fields.

Pumpkins and peanuts are doing well, we're still anticipating another big pumpkin year, so be sure and save those Halloween and Thanksgiving pumpkin orders for us. O' by the way, Pumpkin Days is set for

October 31, Ya'll be sure and come.

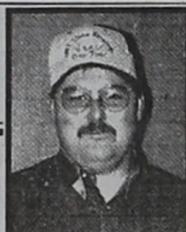
Ag Committee met today and we'll be sponsoring a Floyd County Ag field Day on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Three field stops will be featured. Watch later for more details.

4-H'ers, as always extremely busy. We had a Farm Safety Day Camp on July 10. 57 youth attended and participated in 15 minute Farm Safety demonstrations. A County 4-H Family Day Camp was held July 11<sup>th</sup> in Caprock Canyons State Park. This year we teamed up with Briscoe County 4-H Families for a Bi-county day of fun! 49 4-H'ers and family members attended.

Well I've just about got long winded enough guess I'd better go. Keep a positive attitude, cause enough other people do plenty of complaining! Ya'll come to see us. Til next time, Howdy, cause I just hate to say goodbye!

## Rebel Royall

CASTRO COUNTY



The High Plains Ag Reporter refers to this section as "What's Going through the mind of your County Agent". Well, for myself and probably every other agent in the area, it is the drought. Many producers are calling it the worse summer since the drought of the 1950's. Legislators from Austin and Washington are meeting with specialist on a regular basis to try and get a handle on just how bad the crop situation is. The corn crop is definitely hurt. Just how bad, I don't know. Dryland

crops of any kind are virtually non-existent. Irrigation wells are dipping lower and lower into our water supply. To say the outlook and attitude of producers is good would be a lie.

On the upswing, our cotton crop is doing quite well despite the drought conditions it has been through. Most of our county's cotton is between white and pink bloom, with 7-9 nodes above white bloom. Insect pressure has been very light. We need some help from Mother Nature, but if things would work to our advantage, we could have a fairly high yielding cotton crop on our hands. Of course, Mother Nature has not

cooperated all summer, so I don't know if we can expect her to going into normally the hottest time of the year.

On a more positive note, I just returned from Texas 4-H Congress, I traveled to Austin with two Castro County 4-Hers, 33 other 4-Hers from across Extension District 1 and 2, and 3 other county agents. We were on a Trailways bus that had a less than cool air conditioner, so the trip down was kinda miserable. But upon arrival, us and approximately 400 other 4-H members, chaperons, and guests took part in what I feel is the very best 4-H activity I have ever attended.

Texas 4-H Congress last 2 1/2 days. In that time period, 4-Hers are broken into a House of Representatives, a Senate, a

Press Corp, and a Lobbyist group. Bills that were sent in at an earlier times are sent to committee. If the bills are lucky enough, they are debated on the House and Senate floors, voted on by the members, signed by the 4-H Governor and made into law. The whole activity gives participants a great insight into the legislative process in Texas. The event concluded with Speaker of the House, Pete Laney addressing the delegation. Certain participants even got to tour the Speaker's Quarters and other parts of the capital that the entire group was unable to tour. A great time was had by all, and I'm already volunteering to be the chaperon in the year 2000.

Well, that's about all this month's until next, try to find a shady place.

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## Area 4-H member's recipe

### Buttermilk Wheat Bread from Crystal Combs

**Ingredients**

- 2 pkg yeast
- 1 T salt
- 1/2 tsp soda
- 4 C whole wheat flour
- 2 C unbleached flour
- 2 C buttermilk
- 1/2 C water
- 1/4 C honey
- 2 T butter or margarine



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**Directions:**

- Combine yeast, salt, soda and 2 cups whole wheat flour in large bowl
- Heat buttermilk, water, honey and butter until liquids are very warm.
- Pour warm liquids over yeast mixture and mix for 2 minutes on medium speed of mixer.
- Add 2 cups whole wheat flour, mix, then turn to high speed for 2 minutes. Stir in enough of the unbleached flour to make a stiff dough; turn out and knead until smooth and elastic.
- Place in greased bowl, turning to grease the top and let rise until doubled (1 1/2 hours).
- Punch dough down, cover and let rise 15 minutes.
- Shape to fit 2 (8.5 x 4.5 inch) greased loaf pans, cover and let rise until doubled (1 hour).
- Bake at 375 degrees for 35 minutes. Yield: 2 loaves.

*Crystal is a member of Randall County 4-H.*

## Robin Devin

GUEST COLUMNIST



It's an honor to be the guest columnist for the Randall County Extension Agent this week while he's gone. It's not often that I get the opportunity to "fill in" for such a character. I'm a little bit biased, though, since he's my Dad.

When he asked me to write the column, I questioned what I should write about. I asked him to send me some of his previous articles for examples.

Since he does such a great job of keeping us all informed about the Texas Agri Food Masters, the Master Gardner program and local agriculture issues,

I'll not even attempt to fool you with my limited knowledge in those areas.

Instead, I'd like to talk about what has been near and dear to my heart since I was a little ankle

biter tagging along dear ol' Dad. I'm referring to the American Quarter Horse Association and the

pride I feel that it is located right here in our own backyard.

Believe it or not, not everyone thinks the Texas Panhandle is the mecca of simplicity that we know it to be.

For example, journalists for equine publications were invited to visit the American Quarter Horse Association in early July for a couple of days and were treated to a trail ride in Palo Duro Canyon with a chuckwagon dinner to top things off. Journalists from as far away as New York came to the Amarillo/Canyon area with the thought that they had landed in the middle of nowhere. When they left, however, they were singing a

different tune. They couldn't believe how kind and generous the people around here were to them and how peaceful it is here. Where have they been?

We haven't just reached the corners of the United States, though. AQHA just completed the first ever Youth World Cup here in Amarillo. You may have heard about it since the local press did such a stellar job of covering the event.

Kids and their families from nine countries came to the High Plains for nine days of educational seminars, horsemanship clinics and competition. While they were here, individuals from Australia, Canada, England, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United States also had the opportunity to experience some of the local flavor...and they loved it!

Trips to see Texas and the Palo Duro Canyon, dinners by starlight and ranch style breakfasts at the Figure 3 provided a first hand sample of what life is about here on the plains.

I believe there is a connection between where we live and how we act. We live in a great place...we have a great respect for agriculture, for our food providers.

It's something we pass along to our children every day and hope they pass along to theirs. Thank goodness we live in a place where we can pass it along to our visitors as well.

May they carry their memories home with them and remember the peace they felt while they sat in our awesome Canyon beneath a blanket of stars and crystal clear skies.

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# Research aides grape producers

**Renee' Fikes special to the Ag Reporter**  
Some might say that Jim Irwin of Idalou is a walking contradiction. While an ordained Baptist minister, he studies and cultivates grapes for the production of wine.

Irwin is a technician in the Viticulture Program at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Experiment Station near New Deal. It is his responsibility to maintain the research program that was begun by Dr. William Lipe; gather data; and to supply the grape growers of Texas that data in an usable form. He publishes a yearly research data book for the farmers. Irwin also serves as an extension agent to grape producers.

Irwin is conducting three different studies. The first is a "variety study." It is to determine which grapes are best for the area. The study also determines how to grow

grapes economically and provides the production with scientific data in order to cultivate the best possible crop.

The second is a "clone study." This study is to determine the best possible source of vines that are going to be cultivated.

The third study is a practical test in order to determine the best farming method of spacing between rows and vines. The California system is foreign to the European system. Irwin's research is attempting to find a method that is congruent to both.

Challenges that High Plains producers face are cultural. Grape production was at its peak in 1988 with 2,500 acres. Ten years later there are only 1,200. The weather has not been favorable for the last decade and spring freezes play havoc on the grape crop. The freeze of 1991 caused vines to die down to sur-

face level.

Irwin believes that the High Plains is a good location for grade production. Out of 34 species of grapes, Texas is the home of half of them. Native grapes are grown along the caprock.

"Producers that have taken a realistic view are still in business," said Irwin.

Irwin stated that grapes in the area are of high quality. Due to the west Texas wind, only juice and wine grapes are produced locally.

Due to disease that plagues vineyards in other parts of Texas, Irwin believes that the majority of the grape industry will move to the High Plains. However, the majority of the produce will be shipped to wineries in other parts of the state.

"I know where these grapes are going," Irwin said. "But, I deal with the farmers and the science end of the business. I love what I do."

## Treasures from page 2

"But with patience, they eventually will. We do custom work if people come in and tell us what they want. We're willing to try about anything. The only thing that hasn't worked out was a glider chair. It looked good but it wouldn't glide. It presently resides on the sidewalk in front of our shop."

Some of the more popular items the shop makes are benches, coffee tables with glass topped display case built in, planters both rustic and picket, hutches, rustic crosses decorated with bird feathers, pieces of flint or bone fragments, and barbed wire ornaments.

Eddie and Teresa make birdhouses, Victorian Santa Clauses, Cowboy Clauses, and Christmas, Valentine and other seasonal angels. The shop is filled with many other rustic articles made from seasoned wood.

Their source of raw material is old houses, barns and corrals the partners tear down.

The wood they have in stock now came from Tulia Livestock Auction. The auction replaced wood pens with steel last summer. Cope and Carter also tore down a house east of Tulia.

"I was told that it was Paul Murrell's mother and dad's old homestead," Cope said. "We found coins from the 1920s in the floor boards. This is straight wood free of knots. It is sure seasoned and is very high quality."

"I started most of this with the idea of being yard furniture," he

**"Just give us a call and we'll meet you at the store."**

*Jim Cope*

said. "Most of it winds up inside houses, though, and I know that it will last for years."

Cope finds the work relaxing. "The part that is beneficial to a cowboy is getting to work inside out of the hot and the cold. It gets your mind off of sick cattle and hungry cattle and broken down fences.

Cope said he has found talents he didn't know he had, even though he had wood shop in high school.

Cope and Carter both grew up on farms. Carter has always done repairs and remodeling on his houses.

Cope said, "As long as I've known Larry he's been working with wood. We're both putting our hobby to good use and having a lot of fun, too."

Examples of their work is on display at the Flower Bed and at the Video Wearhouse in Tulia. They also have a display area in the front of their shop.

They are starting regular store hours on Monday through Saturday from 1 - 5 p.m. Visitors have always been welcome at any time by appointment.

"Just give us a call and we'll meet you at the store," said Cope.

They can be reached at their homes or at their new store phone, 558-4025.



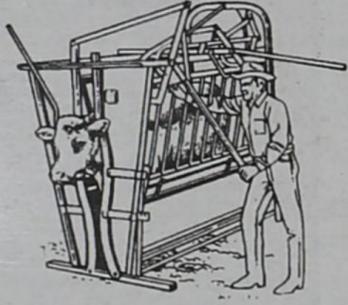
Jimmie Irwin of the Idalou area inspects the fruit on a grape vine that he is cultivating for research.

## GEBO'S

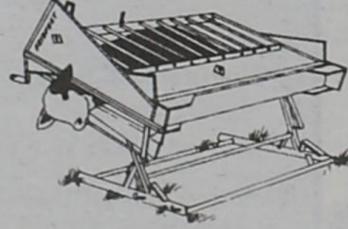


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**Vehicles**

**1984 Chevrolet pickup**. Call (806) 684-2369.

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**1996 Camaro RS** all power, auto posi-trac control, CD, very nice. \$14,988. Call (806) 291-8416.

**1992 Camaro**, V-8, t-tops, 92,000 miles, very clean, \$6,500. (806) 995-2548.

**1979 Chevrolet** 1 ton, 6 cyl. 4 speed, flatbed, \$1,000. (806) 864-3396.

**1990 Ford Lariat LWB**, XLT trim, wide bed. (806) 864-3396.

**1960 Ford F-100** pickup with rebuilt motor. Asking \$1,400 OBO. Call (806) 296-7156 after 2:30 p.m.

**1971 Chevy** long bed pickup. Asking \$550 OBO. (806) 839-2520.

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**1982 Chevy Pickup**: SWB, needs motor. \$900 OBO. (806) 293-8016 after 6 p.m.

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**1986 Jeep Cherokee**, Laredo pkg. All power, maroon color. New motor. \$2,500 OBO. Must sell, (806) 296-2259.

**MUST SELL: 1984 4x4 Jeep Wagoneer**, 4D, auto, V-8, leather interior, dark blue w/ wood grain trim outside. Fully loaded. (806) 296-0557.

**1986 Pontiac Parisienne**, 4 door, power and air. \$1,250. Please call (806) 995-3686.

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**1978 Dodge Casual** motor home 47,000 actual miles. Nice rig. Call (806) 995-3177.

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**1974 Pop-up camper**, sleeps 8, good condition. \$1,200. (806) 293-1149.

**1979 Cruise Air** motor home. 25ft Class A, loaded, 51K miles. 4000 Onan generator. \$4,750. Call (806) 293-1948 or (806) 774-2336.

**1992 Class B Airstream** Mini Mobile. Like new. 19,000 miles. (806) 847-2265.

**1981 Pro Craft 17'**, 150 hp Johnson LCR/Flashers. Lake ready, garage kept. Call (806) 293-7749.

**Boat for sale**. \$1,000. (806) 293-2142.

**2 Suzuki Mopeds**. Call (806) 627-4451.

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**Harris Vegetable Stand**. Now Open—Exit 63 off I-27. (806) 684-2511.

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**Goats for Sale**. (806) 652-1003.

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**Westendorf** front end loaders. Installed on your farm. Bartram's Equipment Sales, Tulia. (806) 995-4081.

**6 cyl. Chevrolet** Irrigation Engine. (806) 292-8543 days, (806) 296-2405 evenings.

**Trailer For Sale**. 1982 Carrie 6'x14', Cargo Goose-neck trailer. \$2,200. (806) 296-7950.

**Draw-Tite trailer hitch**, Class 11, 3500 lb rating. Fits most front wheel drive cars. Cost \$130, now \$50. (806) 296-7460, leave a message.

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**Acreage**

**640 acres**, all of section 619, block D, abst 415, Yoakum Co, Texas. Includes all minerals. \$175 per acre. For information call Garry Petras, hale County State Bank Trust Dept. Plainview. (806) 293-3635, ext. 260.

**10 acres** on SW 3<sup>rd</sup>, west of I-27 in Plainview. Possible owner financing! \$21,000. Kirchoff Real Estate. (806) 293-7542.

**New Listing: 80 acres** (CRP) on paved road, 3 miles out of Tulia. Call (806) 995-4040. Ken Love Real Estate.

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We custom make and fit hydraulic hose for all types of machines. Custom make and fit air conditioner hose for all auto/agricultural applications. Brown's Power & Equipment. (806) 995-4148.

**Homes**

**FSBO: 1507 sq. ft.**, 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA on 4.95 acres of land. Detached one car garage, two car attached carport and metal barn. 1/2 mile west of Happy on FM 1075. \$78,000. Call 6-9 p.m. (806) 764-3436.

**West of Canyon** on Hunsley Road, 6.67 acres, 3BR, 2BA, huge family room with cathedral ceiling, crown molding in family room & master bedroom, jacuzzi size tub, covered patio & porch. 2190 sq. ft. (806) 655-6516.

**Great Country Home!** Waiting for you. Located from Kress, Texas, 6 miles N on I-27, turn W on FM 928, go 7 miles. Nice 3-2-2, brick with isolated master, central H/A, sunroom, 24x35 barn, on pavement and 2 acres of land. \$75,000. Lou Beville Realtor in Tulia.

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**Help Wanted**

**Elevator Maintenance** person needed. Experience required. Apply in person to DeBruce Grain, North Highway 385, Dimmitt, (806) 647-2802.

**Animals**

**Dogs for sale.** Anatolian Shepard Dogs. Excellent livestock guard dogs for sheep, goats, cattle, horses, birds, property, etc. 100% guaranteed. 11 puppies, 8 male-3 female. Born 6-11-98. Anatolian Farm & Ranch, Happy TX. (806) 558-2213. Call anytime day or night.

**Wanted**

**Want to buy** a fiberglass camper shell for SWB 96 Ford pickup. Must be in good shape. (806) 293-4409.

**Would like to buy** good used canoe. (806) 655-1373.

**Misc.**

**Mr. Pickup** chrome bumper \$150; running boards for 1990 model Ford pickup \$75. Call (806) 864-3396.

**For Sale:** Like new shop vac, 6ft ladder, two large chairs, one maple end table. (806) 655-3417.

**Advertising space** on three big signs located on I-27 north of Tulia. Canyon Outdoor Advertising. (806) 655-7121.

# Western Ford

550 N. 25 Mile Ave. in Hereford

(806) 364-3673



1998 Eddie Bauer Expedition. 687A package. X heat & air, third seat, CD, Aux. load leveling..... **\$35,400**



1999 Super Cab, Power Stroke, Auto, and Tow Package Stk. #11251..... **\$25,995**



1999 F-250 4x4 XL, Powerstroke, Automatic, Work Truck.



1999 F-350 Crewcab 4x2. V-10, automatic, XLT, loaded..... **SAVE!!!**

# Western Chevrolet Oldsmobile

1011 Grand in Friona

(806) 247-2701

1998 Chevrolet Tahoe. Leather seats, CD changer, 4x4, heated seats, remote entry.

**\$34,252**



1998 3/4 Ton Chevy extended cab, 4x4, automatic, tilt & cruise, 454 engine.

**\$25,995**



1998 Z71 Chevy pickup, remote entry, power driver seat, vortec engine, power windows & locks.

**\$26,149**



1998 Cheyenne package, extended cab, A/C, cassette, tilt/cruise, deluxe appearance package.

**\$18,661**

