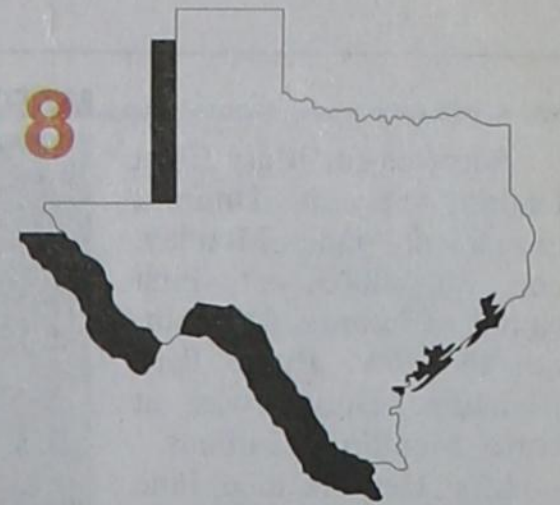


The Castro County News



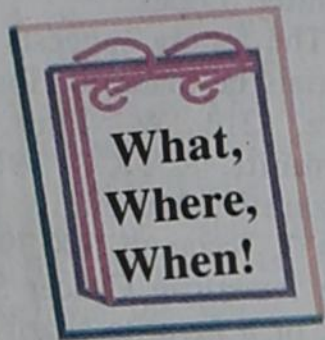
79th year—No. 14

Dimmitt, Texas Thursday, July 3, 2003

75¢

14 pages

Castro County Calendar



31st annual Nazareth German Festival

Nazareth's 31st annual German Festival and Suds 'N Sounds, held in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus, will be Saturday, July 12.

Activities begin at 10 a.m. with an Arts & Crafts Show in the Nazareth Band Hall, sponsored by the Nazareth Art Club.

A meal, including German sausage, sauerkraut, potatoes, beans, salad, fruit, bread, apple crisp and German chocolate cake, will be served from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Community Hall. Tickets for the meal are \$6 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Frozen sausage will be available - 2 pounds for \$5.50 at the meal.

Activities on the grounds of the Community Hall begin at 11 a.m. And include barrel rides and two inflatable water slides. Arm bands can be purchased at the Community Hall.

At 5 p.m., the gates will open at the Nazareth Community Center Ballpark for Suds 'N Sounds, an outdoor concert that will kickoff with local bands performing. Admission is \$20 per person; performances begin at 6:30 p.m. The headline band is "Sixwire" Also performing are Copperhead, Young Guns, Clear Creek Band, Three Kinds, Kracker Jack and Cowboy Cold.

Fourth of July at Springlake

The celebration will begin with a parade Friday afternoon, July 4. All floats, antique tractors, antique cars, bicycles and horseback riders are welcome to join the lineup at 5:15 p.m. at the Community Building on South Hwy. 385. The parade will begin at 6 p.m. and will end at the park on West Hwy. 70. Activities at the park will include the presentation of the parade entry awards, the Springlake

Continued on Page 5

Airport construction almost finished



Despite weather, progress continues

By DAVIE A. BROWDER
Managing Editor

Considering that Castro County has had better than 11 inches of rain in June, work at the Municipal Airport is going well, according to City Manager Don Sheffy.

During a tour of the new parking area and runway, Sheffy said completion "is a few weeks away, weather permitting."

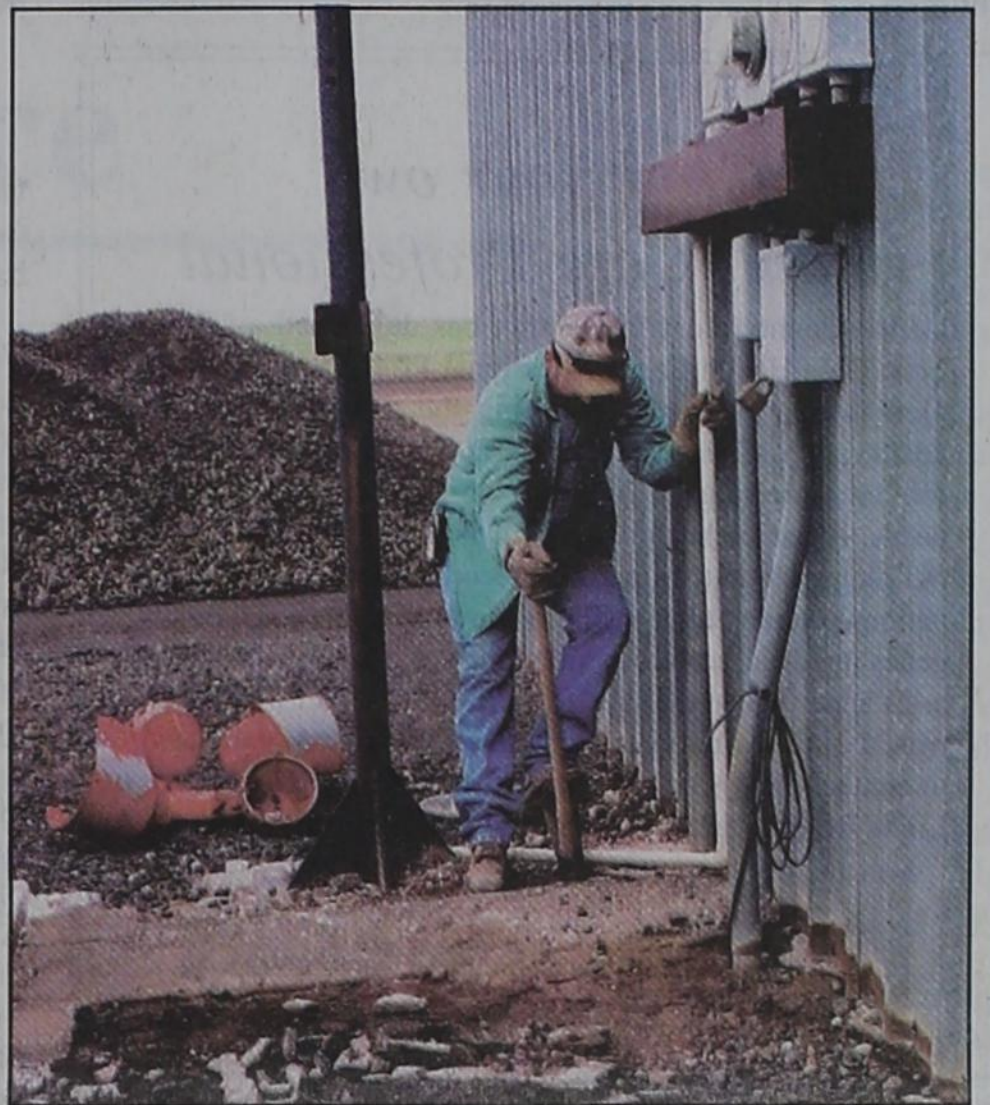
Despite construction, planes have been able to fly in and out of the airport, Sheffy said, because the construction company has cooperated with pilots, enabling crop dusting and other activities to continue.

"The contractor, L.A. Fuller and Sons of Amarillo has worked with the pilots," Sheffy said.

Cost to the city for the construction is \$88,000, which is 10 percent of the total cost. The rest of the cost is coming from the federal government through TXDOT, Sheffy said.

"Our runway is long enough for a small jet to land," Sheffy said. "Our taxiways were so crumbled that they were dangerous to use." Final tests are being done now on the base for the taxiways. Construction started about two months ago.

On Monday night, Sheffy reported to the City Council on the progress and also on suspected vandalism of the beacon at the airport. "The bolt on the arms was removed," Sheffy said. "It fell and did a lot of damage. We're trying to repair it."



AT TOP, the runway stretches toward a cloudy sky, while below, James Swindell, who works for L.A. Fuller & Sons works on the airport beacon that officials think was tampered with and broken. If the beacon can't be repaired, it would have to be replaced. When it was installed in 1991, the cost was \$10,000.

Council considers officer for DISD

By DAVIE A. BROWDER
Managing Editor

The City Council is considering hiring an additional policeman, whose primary duty will be to work with the DISD.

At Monday night's Council meeting, Superintendent Les Miller and Police Chief Ray Aleman both talked to the council about the proposition.

"Mr. Miller and I have had a discussion and the school district would have 75 percent and the city would pay 25 percent," Aleman said. "During the school year, this officer would work in the schools and during holidays and in the summer, he'd work the streets."

Miller told the council the school needed a licensed officer to work truancy, among other duties. "We need someone who could come in and have more authority," Miller said. "We're hoping to build a relationship between the officer, parents and school. Our kids will be on the streets in the summer and they'll already have a relationship with this officer."

Miller said he believes that the officer will pay for himself at the school, since

Continued on Page 6



GLORIA HERNANDEZ shows off a dress that's for sale at The Rose Garden.

Rose Garden gives Hospice needed help

By DAVIE A. BROWDER
Managing Editor

If you're in the market for a pair of shoes for maybe 50-cents, a dress for \$1 or so, maybe a faux fur jacket or even a wedding dress, The Rose Garden may be your cup of tea.

Indeed, you could even purchase a cup, and maybe a teapot, at this secondhand store, located at 112 W. Jones St., next to the Dimmitt Clinic. The shop is run by volunteers and all the profits go to Hospice to help pay for the medicines patients need in the end stages of their disease.

Donna Charanza, head of Hospice Care

The Rose Garden is a resale shop, staffed by volunteers and the money earned there is used to buy medications that Hospice is responsible for buying," said Donna Charanza. "That money is strictly used for Hospice medicines and supplies and equipment."

Continued on Page 5

City reinstates no-parking near Azteca

By DAVIE A. BROWDER
Managing Editor

The City Council on Monday voted to make parking on the north side of the street bordering the Azteca Apartments illegal.

That street would be East Jones and Police Chief Ray Aleman said he had reports of some large trucks being parked there, literally, for years. "Officer (Rita) Sepeda said seven trailer trucks on the north side of the road have been there a long time - one since 1994," Aleman said. "Some don't

have tags, the registrations are expired on others and she feels like it's a problem."

The manager of the Azteca Apartments spoke in favor of the ban.

"A lot of those trucks are abandoned," he said. "It's a safety problem. People work on their trucks and leave old parts behind under the trees."

"We want to get that area mowed. It's all part of an effort to clean up and get the Azteca community looking a little bit

Continued on Page 6



NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE: Members of the Dimmitt Volunteer Fire Department show off part of their fleet. At left is Brian Conyers with the newest fire truck purchased approximately 12 months ago. In the middle is Fire Chief, Tommy Clevenger with the Rescue Truck that was obtained about six months ago. On the right is Training Officer, Billy Patton. This vehicle is about two weeks old and will be used primarily for personnel transport as well as carrying some rescue equipment.

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Bring them by 108 W Bedford in Dimmitt today!

Castro County

	Hi	Lo	Precip	Readings taken every day at 7:00 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Station Service
Wednesday.....	92	66		
Thursday.....	82	54	.87	
Friday.....	71	53	.32	
Saturday.....	80	53		
Sunday.....	86	60	tr.	
Monday.....	89	59	.63	
Tuesday.....	82	60		

June moisture 11.17
2003 moisture 12.28

PEOPLE

Roberts, Smart honored with wedding shower

A shower honoring Joshua Roberts of Dimmitt and Jill Smart of Amarillo, was held June 21 at the home of Linda Shannon.

The prospective groom is the son of Beth Roberts of Dimmitt and the late Jackie Roberts.

The wine-colored tablecloth was decorated with wire teapots and floating candles as well as a wooden bride and groom in the center and a crystal vase filled with burgundy and wine-colored flowers. Lemonade, cheese balls and assorted muffins were served.

The hostess gift was dishes with serving pieces and a lamp.

Special guests were Bessie Strickland of Dimmitt, the grandmother of the prospective groom, and Mary Lee Dunlop of Amarillo.



Emily Dalynn Roberson & Benjamin Glenn Pattison
Roberson-Pattison

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Roberson of Dimmitt have announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Emily Dalynn Roberson to Benjamin Glenn Pattison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Pattison of Perryton.

The wedding is set for Sept. 20, 2003, at Lake

Tanglewood, in Amarillo.

The bride-elect is a 1997 graduate of Dimmitt High School and is employed at Osborn Orthodontics.

The prospective groom is a 1995 graduate of Goosecreek High School in South Carolina and is employed at West Texas Peterbilt.

Shower held for Spring-Townsend

A wedding shower for Kim Spring and Joel Townsend was held recently at the home of Dorothy Nutt, who also gave Townsend's baby shower a number of years ago.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Sue and Charlie Spring; the prospective groom is the son of Diane and Carter Townsend.

The table was covered with a wine-colored damask tablecloth and had a large fruit and floral centerpiece.

Mini cinnamon rolls, sausage balls and mixed fruit were served from crystal and silver table appointments.

Special guests included Waldine Webb and Rhenea Webb, the prospective groom's grandmother and aunt, respectively; and Brandie Thompson, a friend of the bride-elect's.

The hostess gift was maroon and sage-colored bedding.



Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Allen Coleman

Goforth-Coleman

Lindsee Goforth of Hereford, daughter of Miles and Sheree Goforth of Hereford and Benjamin Allen Coleman of Dimmitt, son of Garland and Susan Coleman of Dimmitt, were married June 7, 2003, at Hereford Church of the Nazarene with the Rev. Red Taylor officiating.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Maid of honor was Whitnee Goforth of Hereford, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kara Landrum, Katherine Fry and Jessyi Artho, all of Hereford and Melody Warshaw of Slaton, friends of the bride. Best men were Garland Coleman III and Daniel Coleman, brothers of the groom. Groomsmen were Beau Hill and Bryan Conyers, both of Dimmitt and Matt Cockrall of Plano, friends of the groom.

Candlelighters were Duncan Welch of Friona and Jennifer Wright of Holliday, cousins of the groom. Sam Nelson, cousin of the groom, was ring bearer. Flower girls were Madie O'Rand of Hereford and Riley Durban of Dimmitt, friends of the bride and groom. Ushers were Riley Hall, Travis Bennett, Clayton Cerday and Dillan Welch.

The church was decorated with wrought-iron candelabra, living ferns sitting on columns and tall vanilla candles. Pews were decorated with coordinating mixed flowers.

Pianist was Keith Ann Gearn, friend of the bride and groom. Susan Coleman, mother of the groom, sang "A Parent's Prayer."

The bride's dress was a formal gown of sheer white organza in a princess design. The bodice was decorated with delicate hand-beaded, flowered lace and supported with off-the-shoulder cap sleeves. Three-dimensional beading and clusters adorned the bouffant A-line skirt and hemline, which flowed into a chapel train. The veil was cathedral-length tier of French tulle with corded edging and was caught with a tiara of rhinestones and pearls. The bridal bouquet was an arrangement of Casa Blanca lilies mixed with white hydrangeas.

Bridesmaids wore a two-piece halter top, apple-red dresses and carried a mixed arrangement of purple iris, purple stock, purple larkspur, star gazer lilies, peach Gerber daisies and yellow roses with greenery mixed in and tied with sheer silver ribbon.

The reception was held at the Hereford Country Club. Centerpieces were glass vases with white hydrangeas topped with red roses set on mirrors with candles. Members of the house party were Richelle Miller, Jennifer Pare, Jackie Wright and Crystal Wright.

After a wedding trip to Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas, the couple will live in Amarillo.

The bride attends Amarillo College seeking a degree in interior design and is employed at Wall Trends of Amarillo.

The groom attends West Texas A&M University seeking a degree in business and is employed at U.P.S. and Sherwin Williams.

Hispanic Voice

Continued from Page 3

being strict and I love you. "From Gloria": Dad you always worked so hard for us and gave us everything we

needed. Now that I am an adult, I don't know how you did it, it's hard being an adult. I am so proud that you are my Dad. Love you.

"From Roger": Dad, I just want to tell you how much I love you and want to say thank you for being there, thank you for your love, your support, for putting up with me and for steering me in the right direction and helping me to stay out of trouble. You are a great Dad. Love you. "From Ramiro": Congratulations Dad on your retirement. I love you and I am so proud that you are my dad. Can I borrow \$100? Just kidding, love

you, too. Raymond and Juanita have eight grandchildren and they all want to wish you many relaxing days ahead. Congratulations from all the grandkids too.

Raymond you have been so blessed. Chevo and I want to say that you and Juanita deserve the best that life has to offer. We have been friends for a long time, and we wish you the best. Congratulations on your retirement and don't party too much. Hey, what am I saying? You don't have to get up and go to work. I do! HAVE A GREAT DAY.

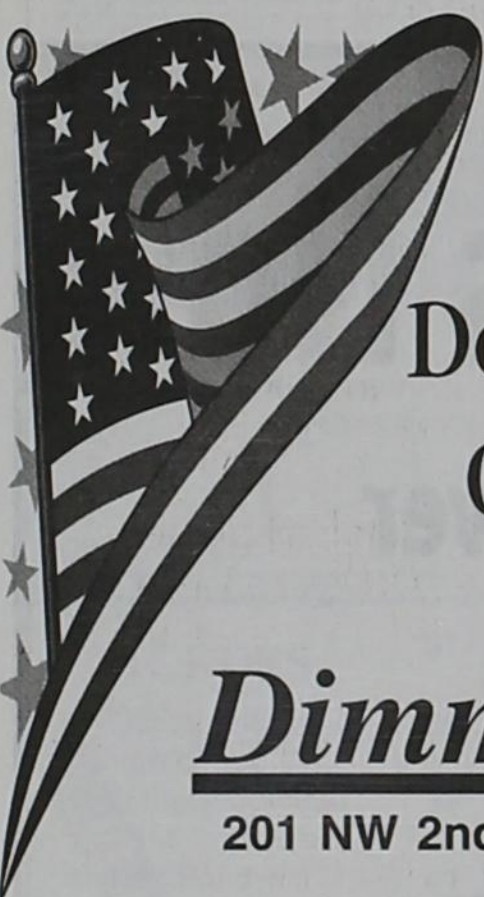
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Bridal Selections:

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Misty Pritchard bride elect of Stuart Sutton
Emily Roberson bride elect of Jim Pattison
Linda Trigo bride elect of Mano Valderez



Laura Kimball

Kimball graduates from Texas Tech

Laura Kimball graduated cum laude on May 17 from Texas Tech University in Lubbock. She holds a degree in agri-business.

She is continuing her education at Texas Tech and is pursuing a degree in nursing.

Laura is married to Staff Sgt. Bradley Shane Kimball, who is stationed in Baghdad. Her parents are Julius and Kathy Birkenfeld and Sandy and Annette Kimball of Ransom Canyon.

Who's New

Maria Arriaga of Dimmitt and Adan Lozano of Friona are the parents of a baby daughter, Adamaris Yulliano Lozano, born at 12:45 a.m., June 24. She weighed 6-pounds, 5.8-ounces and was 18-inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Maria and Rafael Arriaga Jr. of Dimmitt; maternal great-grandfather is Rafael Arriaga



Adamaris Yulliano Lozano

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CHURCH NEWS



Fighting the fight

Just a week or so ago we attempted to have another "Relay for Life" but, due to bad weather, were forced to cancel. The relay is our way of fighting against cancer, encouraging those who have lost loved ones to cancer and to encourage those who are still fighting the disease. Since that rainy Friday night, I have thought a lot about those who have fought and beat cancer and those who continue to fight it even today. Reading the list of memorials that I was to read that evening was quite a sobering thing. It is safe to say that cancer has touched all of us, either directly or indirectly. I was encouraged when I noticed all of the cancer survivors in their different colored shirts. The survivors are the ones who fought hard and won their fight with the disease. What a fight it must be!

There is another fight in this life that we must be aware of and prepared for. It is the fight to remain faithful

to God. None of us are perfect and God knows that better than we do, therefore He doesn't require perfection from us, just simply faithfulness. "Be faithful, even to the point of death and I will give you the crown of life." (Rev. 2:10) The "crown of life" refers to heaven. I don't know about you, but that's one crown I want to wear. All that is required from the child of God to receive that crown is faithfulness.

For the Christian, the temptation is to stray from the faith and go back to the world, which is why we must fight to remain faithful to God. Paul encouraged Timothy to "fight the good fight, holding on to faith and a good conscience." (1 Tim. 1:18-19) "Fight the good fight of the faith." (1 Tim. 6:12) This fight that Paul has mentioned to Timothy is the fight to remain a faithful Christian. Every Christian must fight this fight. My goal is to fight the good fight of



Chuck Ball

faith and at the end of my life truly being able to say the words that Paul did. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (II Tim. 4:7) Notice Paul fought, finished and most importantly, kept the faith. Through it all, he remained faithful to God by keeping the faith. We should pray for those that are fighting the fight against cancer and we should also pray for those that are fighting the fight to remain faithful to God.

Rose Garden

Continued from Page 1

No salaries are paid out of it. "We've got the best bunch of volunteers.

"To be a volunteer, just let us know. If they want to be home volunteers to sit with patients in their homes, they have to take a small course. To work in the Rose Garden, we do a small training course here in town.

"For in the home, they learn how to talk with patients and families in a terminal illness situation."

Gloria Hernandez is the volunteer co-ordinator, a job she slips in between being a city council member and teaching English as a second language.

The reputation of the shop has spread beyond Dimmitt, perhaps because it is so neat and volunteers make sure all the clothes are clean before being put up for sale. In fact, Hernandez said several customers have tried to buy the washer and dryer in the rear of the shop - "But it's not for sale ... it's about the only thing not for sale."

"We've been getting a lot of people from Friona, Muleshoe, Hart," she said. "People see something they like and when they find out where it came from and how much it cost, they come over and try us."

Blouses go from 25-to-50 cents; shoes are in the 50-cent to \$1 range; dresses \$2-\$5; men's suits, \$3-\$5; coats, \$3-\$5. All kinds of knick-knacks are on sale and children's toys are also available.

Once a month, the store has a dollar bag sale. "People can come in and get one of these paper bags and fill it up and it only costs them \$1," Hernandez said. "The sale this month will be Monday, June 23 during regular store hours, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m."

Hernandez said the lifeblood of the store is the donations.

"We get a lot of good things and appreciate everyone who has donated," she said.

"Those donations not only help the Hospice patients, but they help people who need clothes."

And she points out that nothing is wasted.

"Items that don't move are donated to CRC in Lubbock," she said. "I just wish we were bigger so we could take furniture and larger items."

Along with Hernandez, five volunteers put in long days at the store. They are Bea Cole, Yulia Murphy, Betty Touchstone, Cindy

Adams and Tomasa Leal. Hernandez said she has five substitutes she can also call on: Laverne Bernethy, June Brock, Wanda Murdock, Alejandra Aguilar and Oralia Valles.

Calendar

Continued from Page 1

Pioneer Award, a cake auction, hamburger/hotdog supper to benefit the Volunteer Fire Department, the volleyball tournament championship game will be played, there will be Lion's Club dunking booth and fireworks will be at dark.

For more information, call the Springlake City Hall at 986-4211.

Fifth annual Bluegrass Festival

Bluegrass music will fill the air as the Tule Creek Bluegrass Festival is held at Tule Creek Park July 11 through July 13. There will be food and refreshments available from vendors. The festival is from 6 p.m. until midnight on Friday, July 11; from noon until midnight on Saturday; and a Sunday devotional is planned from 9 a.m. until noon. No alcohol

or drugs are allowed on the site and pets must be tethered. Tickets to the festival will be \$8 Friday and \$10 Saturday.

Weekend passes are \$14 in advance and \$16 at the gate. Advance weekend passes may be purchased at the Tulia Chamber of Commerce. Sunday's performance will be free of charge to the public and will feature much gospel and religious music.

Breast Cancer screening set

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Comprehensive Breast Center will conduct a Breast

Cancer Screening Clinic at Castro County Hospital, 310 W. Halsell, in Dimmitt on July 3. Breast cancer affects one in eight women.

The key to winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month.

Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance.

All exams are done by appointment only.

Call (806) 356-1905 or (800) 377-4673 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Sunday Morning Bible Study-9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Morning Worship Service-10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship Service-6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Evening Bible Study-7:00 p.m.

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300 NE 7th, Dimmitt

Sunnyside Baptist
Sunnyside
Bennie Wright.....647-5712

First United Methodist
Hart
Tom Long.....938-2462

La Asamblea Cristiana
400 NW 5th, Dimmitt
Noe G. Marquez.....647-4755

First United Methodist
110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt
Virgil Ichtertz.....647-4106

Iglesia De Cristo
E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt
Pedro A. Gonzalez

Immaculate Conception Catholic
1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt
Father Juan Carlos Barragan.....647-4219

It's 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

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Abundant Life Family Church
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First Assembly of God
300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt
Eric Brooks.....647-5662

First Baptist
1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
Howard Rhodes.....647-3115

Lee Street Baptist
401 SW 2nd, Dimmitt
Jeff Addison

First Christian
600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
Bruce Murphey

La Iglesia De Dios Del Promojenito
East Halsell Street, Dimmitt

Holy Family Catholic
Nazareth
Bud Erpen, Interim.....945-2616

Hart Church of Christ
416 Avenue H, Hart
Aaron Lee.....938-2267

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Custom Plowing
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Cargill, Inc.
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647-4141

Hart Producers Co-op Gin
Troy Tolbert, Manager
938-2189

Westway Feed Products
North Hwy. 385, Dimmitt
647-3138

Dale's Auto & Salvage
200 N. Hwy. 168, Nazareth
945-2223

Beware of phone scam

The Castro County Sheriff's Office has received information of a phone scam that is taking place. This phone scam appears to be targeting senior citizens. The caller advises that they are selling Security Insurance for the person's credit cards and bank accounts and that for a one-time fee of \$392, their accounts would be insured for life.

With any type of phone solicitation, people should never give out personal information or account information to people they do not know or for items that they have not ordered.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: The First Bank of Muleshoe celebrated its 10th anniversary in Dimmitt last week with a hamburger cookout. Left to right are Chaun Gunstream, Kelly Howell, Kenny Ebeling and Kelby Bradley.

Wishing America a happy birthday

By Sen. Kay Hutchison

On July 3, 1776 after having severed America's ties to the British crown, founding father John Adams sent a letter to his wife, Abigail, describing his vision for Fourth of July celebrations in the future. He wrote, "I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary festival. ... It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shews, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other from this time forward forever more." Americans did indeed carry out President Adams' vision and the Fourth of July has become one of the most festive and beloved celebrations in our nation. No single occasion more clearly defines us as a free people than Independence Day. Each year in the Lone Star State, Texans don their red, white and blue garb, string up patriotic garlands and celebrate the Fourth of July

with picnics, parades and fireworks. From Dalhart to Falfurrias, festivities range from backyard barbecues to stadium-sized pageantry. Today's celebrations continue a grand tradition. In 1777, the city of Philadelphia, the veritable birthplace of our democracy where both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were forged, held one of the most spectacular Fourth of July celebrations in recorded history. Armed ships lined the river, discharging 13 cannons in honor of the 13 United States; Congress, the president and military officers attended an elegant dinner with toasts to the patriots and soldiers who gave their lives in defense of freedom. A discharge of artillery and small arms followed, accompanied by live music; soldiers on horseback and on foot paraded through town and the evening closed with the chiming of bells and a grand exhibition of fireworks concluded with 13 rockets

illuminating the sky. Throughout the years as our country expanded westward, celebrations continued, fashioned by local interests and regional flare. In 1848, the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4th. Forty years later a monument to Francis Scott Key was unveiled in San Francisco. In 1960 the 50-star American flag waved for the first time as Hawaii entered the union. Our bicentennial in 1976 rivaled the 1777 Philadelphia displays and lasted for a year. And in 2002, with the September 11th attacks still weighing on our minds, Americans gathered across the country amid heightened security to celebrate the Fourth of July with a new appreciation for the price of freedom. Though early celebrations were quite spectacular, it was clear, even then, that our experiment with democracy would be challenging. President Adams closed the letter to his wife saying, "You will think me

transported with enthusiasm, but I am not. I am well aware of the toil and blood and treasure that it will cost us to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these states. Yet through all the gloom I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is more than worth all the means." He knew too well that freedom isn't free. This year as we gather in celebration of our independence and enjoy our liberties, it is important to reflect on the challenges our young nation still faces today. Threats to our way of life abound. Terrorism is a reality we confront, and our troops are stationed around the globe in defense of our freedoms and placed in harms' way to battle those who wish to destroy our democracy. They will never succeed. This Fourth of July, on the 227th celebration of our nation's independence, I hope you will take the opportunity to celebrate with family and friends the gifts of liberty that is America.

Police Report

June 17	200 block NE 6 th St.	Burglary
June 17	300 block NE 4 th St.	Harassment
June 20	600 block NW 6 th St.	Theft
June 22	600 block NW 7 th St.	Theft, bicycles
June 23	500 block NW 7 th St.	DWLS
June 23	500 block NW 7 th St.	MIP, PI
June 23	200 bl. N. Broadway	Warrant/felony
June 23	200 bl. NE 6 th St.	Theft
June 24	100 bl. E. Bedford	Runaway
June 25	600 bl. NW 8 th St.	Theft, bicycle
June 25	500 bl. W. Halsell	Theft, bicycle
June 25	500 bl. SW 3 rd St.	Assault
June 26	100 bl. NW 9 th St.	Theft, bicycle
June 27	200 bl. NE 2 nd St.	Assault
June 29	400 bl. SE 4 th St.	Warrant/felony
June 29	400 bl. W 6 th St.	Disorderly conduct
June 29	600 bl. NW 6 th St.	Theft, cigarettes

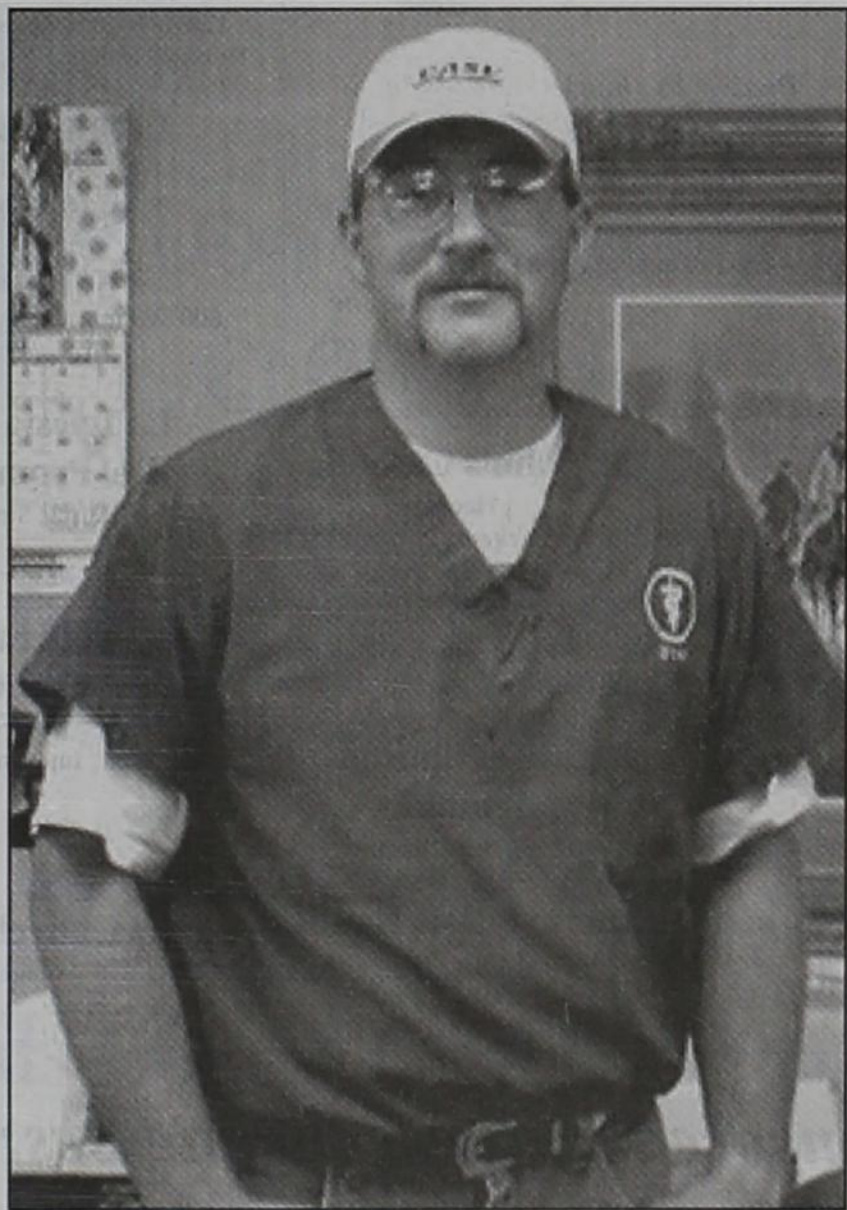
Sheriff's Report

June 23	18-year-old Dimmitt male was arrested for driving while license suspended
June 23	28-year-old Dimmitt man arrested for PI
June 23	22-year-old Dimmitt male was arrested for minor in possession
June 23	27-year-old Dimmitt male arrested for burglary of a build, delivery of marijuana to a minor
June 24	25-year-old Dimmitt male arrested on a warrant for assault causing bodily injury
June 25	33-year-old Amarillo woman arrested, theft
June 26	33-year-old Roswell, N.M., male arrested for DWI
June 27	42-year-old Hereford man arrested for purchasing alcohol for a minor
June 28	42-year-old Dimmitt man arrested for DWI, third or more
June 29	24-year-old Dimmitt male arrested for DWI, third or more
June 29	24-year-old Hereford man arrested for DWI, first, and possession of a controlled substance
June 29	41-year-old Earth man arrested on a warrant out of Lubbock
June 29	33-year-old Hereford man arrested for public intoxication and possession of a controlled substance

Grand jury hands down indictments

A Castro County Grand Jury handed down the following indictments on June 27:

- * Jose Gil, Dimmitt, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle
- * Jesus Federico Aguirre, Dimmitt, injury to an elderly person
- * Manuel Ricardo Rodriguez, Dimmitt, forgery
- * Luis Alberto Cruz, Dimmitt, criminal mischief, two counts
- * Jara Shala Williams, Tulia, bringing a prohibited substance into a correctional facility
- * Jose Delaluz Tarango, Dimmitt, Theft, over \$1,500 and under \$20,000
- * Adolfo Alonso, Dimmitt, securing execution of a document by deception
- * Roxanne Casas, Dimmitt, forgery of a financial instrument
- * Eugene Robert Staskulic, Friona, DWI, third or more
- * Michael Justin Winders, Tulia, burglary of a habitation, burglary of a building and possession of a firearm by a felon



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THE STATE OF TEXAS
 TO: UNKNOWN FATHER, Respondent:
 GREETINGS:
 YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 64th DISTRICT Court, CASTRO County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in DIMMITT, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PROTECTIVE & REGULATORY, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 2nd day of MAY, 2003, against UNKNOWN FATHER, Respondent, and said suit being numbered A7870-0203 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of DEION DESHAWN WARD, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to FIRST AMENDED PETITION FOR PROTECTION OF A CHILD, FOR CONSERVATORSHIP, AND FOR TERMINATION IN SUIT AFFECTING PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP. Said child was born the 15th day of MAY, 1996, in POTTER COUNTY.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under the hand and the seal of said Court at DIMMITT, Texas, this the 26th day of JUNE, 2003.

JOYCE M.THOMAS Clerk,
 64th DISTRICT Court,
 CASTRO County, Texas.

Byrnes-Underwood

Rala Dee Byrnes formerly of Dimmitt and Jason William Underwood of Denver City, were married Saturday, May 31, at First United Methodist Church in Dimmitt with the Rev. Vernon O'Kelly of Amarillo and the Rev. Van Earl Hughes of Dimmitt officiating. David Schaeffer of Dimmitt, uncle of the bride, provided a special reading.

The bride is the daughter of Stanley and Jackie Byrnes of Dimmitt. Grandparents of the bride are Stanley and Geneva Schaeffer of Dimmitt and Bob and Jean DuLaney of Lubbock, who attended the wedding. The bride is also the granddaughter of the late Buddy and Jeri Byrnes of Clovis, N.M.

Parents of the groom are Dale and Pat Underwood of Denver City. Grandparents of the groom are Peggie Gates of Levelland and Connie and Dimple Davis of Shallowater, who attended the wedding. The groom is also the grandson of the late Delbert Underwood.

Honor attendant was Matt Sims of Los Angeles, life-long friend of the bride. Matron of honor was Tessie Stuart of Keller, life-long friend of the bride. Maid of honor was Aimee Corley of Sante Fe, N.M., college friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Shalyn Schaeffer of College Station and Texi Schaeffer of Pampa, cousins of the bride; Amy Hagerman of Plainview, Rana Hoover of Amarillo, Jill Mayfield of Allen and Tana McManigal of Dallas, college friends of the bride; and Michelle Garcia of Lubbock, life-long friend of the bride.

Honor attendant for the groom was Jessica Underwood of Lubbock, sister of the groom. Best man was Dale Underwood of Denver City, father of the groom. Groom's attendants were Eric Tate of Lubbock, Kevin Hart of Lubbock and Blue Bennett, life-long friends of the groom; and Jake Head of Hereford, friend of the groom and cousin of the bride. Farmer Schaeffer and Hondo Schaeffer, cousins of the bride, were honor attendants. Flower girls were Hannah Head of Hereford, niece of the bride, and Faith Underwood of Plainview, daughter of the groom. The ring bearer was Gunner head of Hereford, nephew of the bride.

Ushers were Leon Hagerman of Plainview, friend of the couple; Tate Head of Lubbock and T.J. Head of Amarillo, cousins of the bride and friends of the groom; and Chip Thrasher of Dimmitt, life-long friend of the bride.

Tami Griffitt of Dimmitt, a friend of the bride's family, sang, "Because You Love Me," as the bridal attendants entered the church. Aimee Corley, college friend of the bride, sang "The Parents' Prayer" and Amy Hagerman, college friend of the bride, sang, "This is the Day." They were accompanied by Phoebe Reynolds of Amarillo, friend of the bride's family. L.J. Soler of Dimmitt, life-long friend of the bride's family, was the trumpeter, who played "Trumpet Voluntary," as the bride and her father walked down the aisle.

Church attendants were Briar Head of Hereford, cousin of the bride; Cassie McLean of Canyon, friend of the bride; Kristi Hart of Lubbock, friend of the couple; and Mary Liz Wills of San Angelo, college friend of the bride.

The bride wore a satin, A-line gown with beaded Venise lace and delicate cap sleeves to grace the top of the shoulders. The gown fell to a grand-cathedral train. Her veil was accented with a crystal tiara.

For something old, the bride carried a handkerchief belonging to her maternal great-grandmother, the late Texie Schaeffer. For something new, the bride wore her wedding gown. For something borrowed, the bride carried a



Mrs. Jason William Underwood nee Rala Dee Byrnes

handkerchief belonging to her matron of honor, Tessie Stuart, which belonged to her late grandfather, George Hudson. For something blue, the bride wore a traditional garter, which was caught by Farmer Schaeffer at the wedding reception.

The bridesmaids' dresses were periwinkle and they carried bouquets of vivid spring flowers to compliment their dresses, which were created by a special friend of the bride's family, Carol Lust. The church was decorated with elegant flower arrangements that featured white roses, hydrangeas, orchids, peonies and lilacs.

The wedding reception was held at the Hereford Country Club. Reception attendants were Meggie Lemons and Lauren Carpenter, both of Dimmitt and Robyn Cranmer of Canyon, friends of the bride; Rycke Bullock of Levelland, aunt of the groom; Andrea Hooper of Plainview, friend of the couple; Taylor Bradley of Dimmitt, cousin and friend of the bride; and Jerry Schaeffer of Pampa, uncle of the bride and friend of the groom.

The bride received her undergraduate degree in general business and her graduate degree in education from West Texas A&M University in Canyon. She is a teacher and technology specialist for the Lubbock Independent School District.

The groom is a graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock. He is a teacher and coach for the Plainview Independent School District.

The couple honeymooned at Sandals Royal Bahamian Resort on Cable Beach in Nassau. They will make their home in Lubbock.

Local girls will go to national meeting

Jacqui Hinsley, Region I Vice President of Membership and Maribel Montiel, Region I Vice President of Star Events will be two of 300 Texas delegates attending the 2003 Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America National Leadership Meeting, July 5-12, 2003 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Representing more than 21,000 members of the Texas Association, they will be among 4,500 delegates throughout the nation attending the four-day event.

Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America is a career and technology student organization for family and consumer sciences education students in junior and senior high school. Throughout this FCCLA National Leadership Meeting, members will be motivated and recog-

nized at general sessions, explore ways to prevent teen violence, strengthen their leadership skills, and carry out the youth-developed theme "FCCLA Wants You-Accept the Challenge!"

Ample entertainment combined with thought provoking contest will dominate the week while attendees explore why leadership and service should be celebrated. Students will also participate in competitive events during the week, as well as, share success stories from Texas chapters, where 88 students from Texas will participate in the STAR Events.

The skills these students learn will help them prepare for the Regional Leadership Convention in Midland, and the Fall Leadership Workshop that will be held at Dimmitt High School for local area schools to attend. Last year our Fall Leadership Workshop had 250 students attend from area schools.



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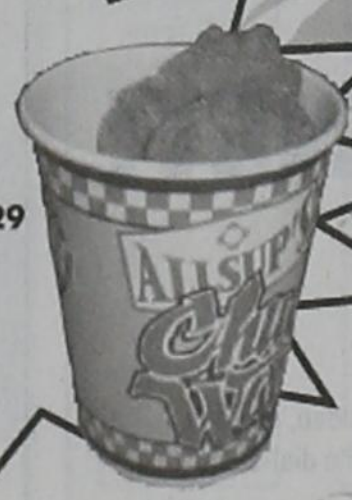
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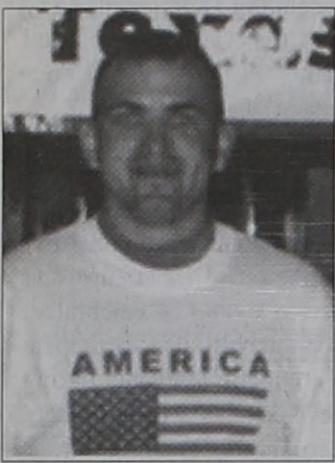
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COMBO NO. 3	BBQ SANDWICH, HOWLER & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$1.99
COMBO NO. 4	BREAKFAST BURRITO, HASHBROWN & 16 OZ. COFFEE	\$1.99

Klein takes gold in World Games



B.J. Klein

B.J. Klein, 29, son of Bill and Bertha Klein of Nazareth, also of Nazareth, competed Saturday in the 2003 Special Olympics World Games in Dublin, Ire., and is bringing home the gold medal.

He placed first in his age group in the half-marathon, 13.1 miles, at one hour and 26 minutes, his father, who coaches him, said. The younger Klein started training two years ago. "He was running the half marathon in two hours and in two

years, took it down to the time he ran Saturday," Klein Sr. said.

He was the first American, and fifth athlete, to cross the finish line. Some 134 countries were represented at the games.

This was his third half-marathon. One in Amarillo and one in Houston; he beat more than 2,000 runners at Houston, his father said.

The marathoner raised the money through donations and with the help of a cookout held by Dimmitt Chief of Police Ray Aleman and his brother Ben, Klein said.

On Monday, the Chief heard about the gold medal.

"I think that's great," Aleman said. "I'm proud of him, very proud. He seems to be a very good athlete. We

had a good turnout for the cookout."

Klein the elder said that while his son "doesn't have the best body in the world, doesn't have the most muscles, but when you coach this young man, he's a 150 pound of heart and 110 percent determination."

"It's pretty hard to be a loser," Klein Sr. said. "I've been coaching him about 12 years."

He said his son is going to try and run both the Boston and Chicago marathons.

He's employed as a recreational therapist at the VA in Amarillo.

Council

Continued from Page 1

the district is paid according to the average daily attendance in school. Making sure students come to school will mean more money for the district, he said. The officer would work sporting events, also.

Aleman said he has seen the number of fights at the school increase in the last year, which meant taking

officers off the streets and sending them out to the school. He said that the incidence of gang-related activities is also on the increase. "We're having more graffiti, a burglary at the school where the bathrooms have been tagged," Aleman said. "Gangs were a problem in the early 90s and are coming back again."

"This summer we've already been extremely busy with incidents of mischief and theft."

Although no official vote was taken, the mayor seemed amenable to plan. "We'll look at our overall budget," he said. "This looks like something that would work out with both the city and school district. It looks like it would be beneficial to all concerned."

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Azteca

Continued from Page 1

better."

Some 10 years ago, the city had lifted the no-parking ban to give truckers a place to park. But council members voted to reinstate the ban, saying that the privilege had been abused.

TEXAS MIGRANT COUNCIL, INC. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Texas Migrant Council, Inc., a nonprofit organization with over 30 years experience providing child care services to migrant families, has the following positions available at its Hereford Center in **HEREFORD, TEXAS.**

Bus Driver/Custodian

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES: Responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of assigned vehicles and facilities and for the health and safety of all passengers transported in the bus. Also performs general building custodial duties at the facility assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High School Diploma or GED preferred. Experience working with children in a Head Start program or licensed childcare setting. Must have a valid Commercial Drivers License (CDL) in the state of employment. Must be certified in First Aid and CPR training. Bilingual in English and Spanish. Good oral and written communication skills. Must be at least 24 years of age. Must meet all Federal Drug and Alcohol testing requirements. Must have an insurable driving record. Must meet state certification requirements to operate a school bus. Should have general vehicle knowledge. Must have the ability to complete required paperwork. This position requires travel in the immediate vicinity and at times further.

Teacher I

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES: Responsible for planning and implementing a child development program for a MHS classroom that conforms with developmentally appropriate practices and meets Head Start Performance Standards, along with other federal state and local requirements.

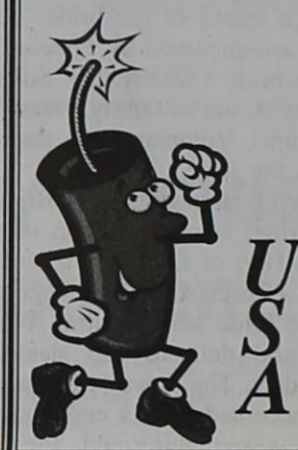
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High School Diploma or GED. Current Child Development Associate (CDA) credential. Associate Degree in a field related to Early Childhood Education preferred. Associate Degree in a field related to Early Childhood Education preferred. Experience working with children in a Head Start program or licensed childcare setting. Must have good PC skills and experience in word processing (Word/WordPerfect), spreadsheet (Excel/Lotus), database (Access/Dbase) and PowerPoint experience (preferred). Bilingual in English and Spanish preferred. Good oral and written communication skills. Must be at least 18 years of age. Ability to communicate effectively with migrant families and all applicable constituencies.

Resume/Application must be received by Friday, July 4, 2003 by 5:00 p.m.

Submit RESUME/APPLICATION WITH COVER LETTER and current salary to:

Texas Migrant Council, Inc.
 Attn: Regional Director
 4630 50th St. Ste 107
 Lubbock, TX 79414
 Phone: (806) 763-4187
 Fax: (806) 763-9136
 Email: gwen.love@mail.tmccentral.org

Swisher Electric Cooperative's office will be closed Friday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy 11th Birthday Ya Ya

Hope your day is magical and fun.
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 Mom and Dad
 Bradley and Ramona
 Eric, Stacey, Gabe, Seth and Wyatt
 Kristie, Jeff, Karissa and Quincey

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The Castro County News announces the publication of
A Pictorial History of Castro County, Texas.

The book will be printed on quality bond paper with a hard back that will be a welcome addition to your library for years to come!

We anticipate 96 pages of Castro County history with more than 200 photographs.

Order your advance copy today and SAVE!
 Advance copies are only \$29.95 plus tax of \$2.47 for a total of \$32.42.

These books will be ready for delivery in the fall of 2003....excellent Christmas Gifts.

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Lions Club meets

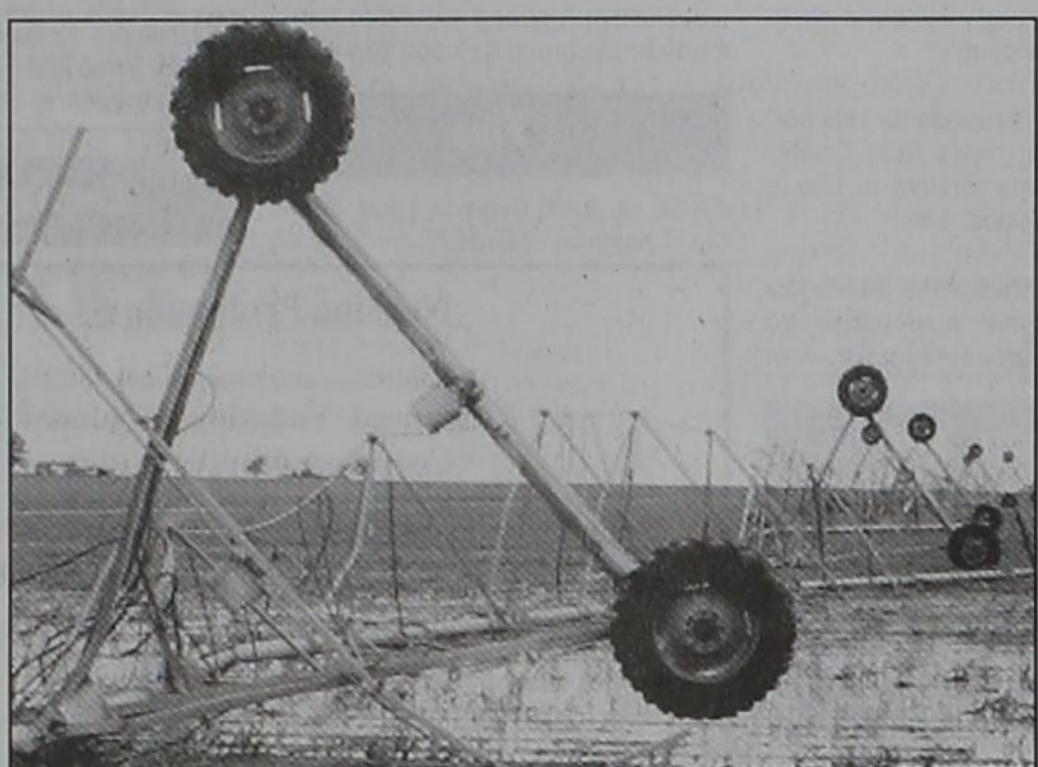


AT LEFT, new Lions Club president Clint Seward presents flowers to Lions Sweetheart Jenna Acker. Above, Chaun Gunstream, receives a plaque naming

him Lion of the Year from Lions Club President Clint Seward.

PASSING THE GAVEL: New club president Clint Seward takes the gavel from last year's president Roy Gonzales.

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TUNE IN!

AGRICULTURAL NEWS..... 6 to 7 a.m.
and 12:15 to 12:50 p.m., M-F

MORNING SHOW..... 7 to 8 a.m. daily
Weather forecast, local news, birthdays, anniversaries, American Folk Song, school lunch menus, Good Neighbor

SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL TALENT..... 8:00 a.m. daily

MARKET REPORTS..... 40 past the hour.

KDHN 1470

DCN Dimmitt Community Network

June Computer Classes

Complete a Network application at Rhodes Memorial Library and sign up for classes. There is no charge for classes through August. A small charge will be made for materials. Classes will be limited. Sign up early. This opportunity for technology learning is made available by a TIF grant, the City of Dimmitt, and DISD. Don't miss out! Classes will be held in the Dimmitt City Hall (CH) "Technology Center" and the Senior Citizens Center (SrC) "Learning Center."

Reminder: You must complete the application forms & receive a password BEFORE you can take a class or use the Network computers.

Beginning Computers

For someone who already knows how to use the mouse, keyboard, turn on and shut down the computer. Learn more about windows, terminology, personalize your computer.

Kids' Camp

Camp 1 July 8, 9-

For students entering grades 3-5.

Use the computer to add a picture to a T-shirt and mouse pad.

Participants must bring their own T-shirt and no more than 2 pictures to be used.

Camp 2 July 10, 11-

For students entering grades 3-5.

Use the computer to add a picture to a T-shirt and mouse pad.

Participants must bring their own T-shirt and no more than 2 pictures to be used.

Camp 3 July 16, 17-

For students entering grades 6-8.

Use the computer to add a picture to T-shirt and mouse pad.

Participants must bring their own T-shirt and no more than 2 pictures to be used.

Digital Camera

Part 1

Learn about a digital camera and how to use it.

Part 2

Must have already taken part one.

Learn about a different digital camera and how to use it.

Microsoft Word

Must already be able to use the mouse, keyboard and windows.

Learn to create documents, learn more about options in Word.

Internet

Must already be able to use the mouse, keyboard and windows.

Learn about the internet, how to use the internet, helpful hints, etc.

Computer Potpourri

Must already be able to use the mouse, keyboard and windows.

Learn how to use a printer, fax machine, scanner etc.

Job Skills

Must already be able to use the mouse, keyboard, windows and Microsoft Word.

Learn to create a resume, cover letter, thank you/follow up letter.

Learn tips for applying and interviewing for a job.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23-Jun	1-July	2-July	3-July	4-July	5-July
Sr C 9-11 Beginning Computers D Steffens-Mondays				No classes Independence Day	
Monday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Monday
7-July	8-Jun	9-July	10-July	11-July	14-July
Sr C 5-7 Digital Camera-part 2 M. Ortiz meet 7/7, 7/14	CH 9-11 Kids' Camp 1-grades 3-5 Tuesday-Wednesday	CH 9-11 Kids' Camp 1-grades 3-5 Tuesday-Wednesday	CH 9-11 Kids' Camp 2-grades 3-5 Thursday-Friday	CH 9-11 Kids' Camp 2-grades 3-5 Thursday-Friday	Sr C 5-7 Digital Camera-part 2 M. Ortiz meet 7/7, 7/14
Sr C 9-11 Job Skills J. Odom meet 7/7, 7/8	CH 5-7 Microsoft Word M. Ortiz-meet 4 times	CH 5-7 Internet M. Ortiz-meet 4 times	Sr C 5-7 Beginning Computers M. Ortiz meet 7/10, 7/17	Sr C 9-11 P.M. Beginning Computers M. Newman	
	Sr C 9-11 Job Skills J. Odom meet 7/7, 7/8	Sr C 5-7 Computer Potpourri J. Odom meet 7/8, 7/9			
	Sr C 5-7 Computer Potpourri J. Odom meet 7/8, 7/9				
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday
15-July	16-July	17-July	18-July	21-July	22-July
Sr C 9-11 Microsoft Excel T McLain meet 3times	CH 5-7 Internet M. Ortiz meet 4 times	Sr C 9-11 Beginning Computers M. Ortiz meet 7/10, 7/17		Sr C 5-7 Digital Camera part 1 M. Ortiz 7/21, 7/28	Sr C 9-11 Microsoft Excel T McLain meet 3times
CH 5-7 Microsoft Word M. Ortiz-meet 4 times		Sr C 9-11 P.M. Beginning Computers M. Newman			CH 5-7 Microsoft Word M. Ortiz-meet 4 times
Wednesday	Tuesday				
23-July	24-July				
CH 9-11 Kids' Camp 3-grades 6-8 Wed & Thurs	CH 9-11 Kids' Camp 3 Grades 6-8 Wed & Thurs				
CH 5-7 Internet M. Ortiz meet 4 times	Sr C 5-7 Beginning Computers M. Ortiz meet 7/24 7/31				

If you have questions please contact Rhodes Memorial Library (647-3532, Tues.-Sat.). Thank you, Melissa Goolsby, Educational Coordinator Tammy McLain, Educational Coordinator

Castro County Classifieds

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\$28,500-TWO FOR ONE stucco with metal roof, two bedroom, one bath, utility, single garage, fenced yard. Stucco with hardwood floor. Needs repair.

COMMERCIAL BUSINESS-BRICK OFFICE BUILDING-3,000 sq. ft., 50 X 150 lot, Two bath, storage room, vault, coffee area, carpet, central heating/air, paved parking.

FARMS-RANCH 11,800 ACRES-ONE OF THE MOST SCENIC AND BEST HUNTING AREAS IN THE PANHANDLE. GOOD COW RANCH WITH EASY ACCESS.

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1000 Pine
Don Cornett-Broker
806-647-6517
Shirley Underwood
Cornett-agent 806-647-5642

211 SE THIRD-nice older 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, central heat/air, fireplace, large LR, large newly remodeled kitchen and dining area, plus a new roof. \$47,500. Contact Marn Tyler @ 364-0153 or 344-4174

NEW 2003 32 X 80 \$396.67* per month. Just \$2,600 down 1-800-830-3515. *\$51,900 sale price \$2,600 down-360 month-9% APR with approved credit.

NEW 2003 16 WIDE 3 Bed 2 bath \$1,000 Dn. \$171.95 per month * 888-539-7780. *\$19,900 sale price 5% dn on \$18,900 to finance 240 months 9.5 apr. with approved credit.

GOOD JOB, RENTAL HISTORY, Car Note-Two out of three will put you in a home. We tote the note. 1-800-830-3515 37-tfc-20

BEEN TURNED DOWN? Stop throwing away your money on rent. We tote the note. Se Habla espanol. 800-830-3515

NEW ON THE MARKET-very nice 3/1-large building in back. Could be used for bedrooms. \$30,000

NEW LISTING-one of the fine homes in town. 3 bedrooms-2-3/4 baths, living room and fireplace, climate controlled sun porch. Sprinkler system-located on cornered lot. \$135,000.

NICE BRICK HOME-1 3/4 bath, 3 bedroom, steel roof, sprinkler system, basement. See to appreciate. \$80,000

PARSONAGE-Large Lot- 3 bed, 2 bath price lowered to \$55,000.

NICE HOME on 7 acres in Nazareth. Includes trailer park for good income. \$120,000.

NICE, WELL-LOCATED-2 bedroom w/ storm cellar-\$30,000

NEW LISTING: 3 bedroom-1 3/4 bath-2 car garage. Everything like new. All amenities included. \$70,000.

NICE LOCATED HOME -4 bed-2 bath-1 car garage-priced to sell-\$47,000.

3 BEDROOMS-1 1/2 BATH reduced. Owner moved out of town-Make an offer!

OLD DAIRY QUEEN building and equipment-\$40,000

LARGE-5 BR, 3 Bath, living, den, dining. Lots of extras. \$159,900 Call for appt.

WEST OF NAZARETH-Great home sites on highway! \$1,000 per acre.

US. Hwy 385 647-4174
GEORGE REAL ESTATE
Jimmie R. George, Broker
Mobile 647-7942
Mary Lou Schmucker...945-2679

MOBILE HOME for sale-1988 Solitaire 16' X 80' to be moved. Two bedrooms/2 baths with a fireplace, new carpet, vinyl and paint throughout. Very nice home with many extras and built-ins. \$22,900 945-2435 10-3tc-29

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOME: Approximately 4,500 sq.ft., four bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, basement, plus 20 acres with large barn, dual corral and grain elevator. For appointment call 647-2623 or 647-7063.

FOR SALE-four unit apartment complex. Units are 2 bedroom-1 bath. Located on three lots with a sprinkler system. Call 647-5191 or 647-3316.



LEE STREET, Price Reduced, Immediate possession of this beautiful three bedroom, two and 3/4 bath, double car garage brick veneer custom-built home w/fireplace, 2 storage buildings, many amenities, beautifully landscaped. Lets Look.
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1st TIME HOME BUYER or Single Parent Program. EZ financing. We tote the note! 888-539-7780.

\$64,000 3/1.75/2 carport-NEW LISTING-Fireplace Jenair cook top, dishwasher, heat pump, large master bedroom, fenced yard, storage building, storm cellar, hot tub, deck, NW part of town. Lots of house and extras for the money.

\$225,000 4/2.75/2-beautiful home-with lots of built-ins & storage, fireplace, tool shed/shop & Rental

\$99,500 3/2/2, Remodeled with new cabinets, carpet, etc. Large shop building, horse barn and pens. All on two acres. This one will go fast. Call today!

\$80,000 3/2/2 NEW LISTING Remodeled, new carpet, paint, cabinets, etc. This is a really nice home with a great large shop, trees and fenced yard. Close to the school and in a quite neighborhood. Don't miss this one! Call today!!!

\$72,000 3/1.75/2 NEW LISTING-Beautiful home. Beautiful home, large fenced lot, great location on Pine Street!!!

Price REDUCED to \$65,000 3/2/2 NEW LISTING-Fireplace, large fenced yard, storage, nice house, great location on Cleveland Street.

\$60,000 - Dental office, fully equipped, or without equipment or **\$45,000**-can be converted back into 3 bedroom home or duplex for good rental property.

\$55,000 4/3/2. Lots of room. Close to Catholic Church, large whirlpool tub. Garage and carport. Lots of possibilities for this one.

\$53,000- 3/2/1 Nice well-kept home with extra lot for expansion or shop.

\$52,000 3/2/2-NEW LISTING- Nice home, good location, fenced back yard, sunken living room, great price for this home, call today!!!

\$48,000-2 homes on 1/4 block, live in one, rent the other for your payment.

\$36,000 3/1/carport-nice brick home close to ball park & Country Club. Owner says sell & will pay closing costs. Call today!

\$34,000-2/1/1, NEW LISTING close to schools, fenced yard, nice storage. Recently remodeled.

\$6,000 -2/1/1 Small house to be moved. Commercial:

\$55,000 and **\$45,000**-Two package stores for sale-GOOD MONEY MAKERS-Call for details!

J-CROSS INVESTMENTS 647-1700 DAY OR NIGHT JERRY CARTWRIGHT/BROKER 647-1700 KENNY DOSS/AGENT 647-3248

NEW LISTING-701 SW 6th, corner lot, 3/1, 2-car garage NICE-Owner READY TO SELL!

BEST LOCATION IN TOWN- approx. 8,500 sq. ft. commercial building with 1/4 block. Was **\$85,000** REDUCED to \$75,000 for just the building or \$85,000 for the building, the video store and the tanning salon.

HUGE STORM CELLAR-comes with this beautiful 3/2 double carport, workshop, appliances on 2 lots. Reduced from \$45,000 to \$33,500. Johnny 647-6504.

FOR SALE-3/2/2 brick, some appliances, large storage building, on Oak. Call Johnny at 647-6504. \$67,500

NEW LISTING-To settle estate. 2/1-1/2/2 in NW part of Dimmitt. Enclosed glass porch, dishwasher, disposal, ceiling fans, central H/A. Very good condition. \$30,900. Johnny 647-6504.

LOCAL LONG-TIME business for sell. Well established-\$45,000

201 NW 6th new carpet, cabinets, siding, windows \$29,500 owner finance (No credit check) for \$27,000 CASH

806 SW 6th-1/1, living area, kitchen on 2 Lots **ONLY \$15,000**

NEW LISTING-3/1 with fireplace, double carport, 2 storage buildings, some hardwood flooring. Located 1 block west of elementary school \$34,000. Johnny 647-6504.

NEW LISTING-2/1 newly remodeled, storage building, nice fenced yard located on Stinson. \$32,500 Johnny 647-6504...by appointment only!

PINE STREET-3/1/1, brick home, VERY nice interior. Large yard in quiet neighborhood. \$58,000 Call Johnny 647-6504 for appointment.

Accepting New Listings- If you have a house for sell please call...

Advantage! Real Estate

200 S. Broadway, Dimmitt
Office: (806) 647-0896

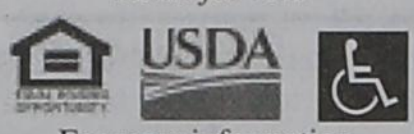
C.W. (Dub) George, Broker
Cell: (806) 647-6085
Johnny Vick, Agent
Cell: (806) 647-6504

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Real Estate for Rent

Dimmitt Senior Citizens Apartments

622 N.W. 5th
One and Two bedroom apartments for rent



For more information, call 806-647-2638
TDD 1-800-735-2989
Ronda Powers, Manager

Stafford Apartments

Call for availability, 647-2631.

FOR RENT-5 bedroom-3 bath house. 401 NE 5th. 647-5598 or 647-6949 14-1tc

RENT TO OWN

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

Ag Services

CUSTOM SWATHING AND BALING-Chris Davis-home 938-2742 or mobile at 647-7698.

CUSTOM SWATHING AND BALING Matt Gfeller, 647-4551, home; 647-6754 mobile. 10-49-tfc-min

CUSTOM PLOWING Hamey-field cultivator, disk-Call Todd Hatla at 647-5183 office or 647-7999 mobile.

Custom Swathing and Baling

Call Roy Schilling
647-2401 home 647-7066 mobile 14-1tp

CRP Shredding- Call Lonnie 647-7663 or 945-2458. 12-tfc

Feed, Seed & Grain

HAY FOR SALE. Small square bales. Oats, \$4.25; alfalfa, \$6.75. Call Nazareth Feed and Supply, 945-2291 18-tfc-20

Beardless Wheat Hay for Sale- Round Bales Call Lonnie at 647-7663 or 945-2458. 12-tfc

FOR SALE-CRP grass seed-8 - 50 lb bags at \$2/lb. 8 ft tractor blade \$225 OBO. Call 806-352-5594 or 806-276-5337. 14-2tc

Subscribe to the Castro County News today!

Real Estate for Sale



COUNTRY. INQUIRE TODAY 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 3 car garage, 2 living, sun porch, office, basement, country home, 3000+ sq. ft., quiet, updated, security, loads of extras, hiway access, over 150 trees on 2.8 acres, south of Friona, TX. Selling for less than appraisal. Call 806-265-7250.



FOR SALE BY OWNER-3 bedroom/1.75 bath-approx. 1,500 sq ft-Newly remodeled. Call 806-647-4161

CASTRO CO. 160 ACRES - excellent farm, one-1/4 mile sprinkler, 2-irrig. wells. Please check our website for this property as well as ranches, farms, feedyards (permitted - with steam), an operating dairy and a "state of the art" horse facility.
www.scotlandcompany.com
Ben G. Scott-Broker 647-4375 or Krystal M. Nelson 647-6063

Help Wanted

A DIRECTOR OF NURSES position is available for a self-motivated, Texas licensed registered nurse with supervisory experience and demonstrated leadership skills. This organized, high energy individual will recruit, interview and hire quality staff; evaluate personnel; ensure compliance with governmental and state regulations; participate in budget planning; be able to perform under pressure, and have teaching and verbal presentation skills. Please apply in person at Tulla Health and Rehab, 714 S. Austin, or fax your resume to 806-995-2263 Senior Health Properties-Texas Inc. A Not-For-Profit Corporation. 20-13-tfc-88

Local Correspondent

The Castro County News is seeking a correspondent:

On The Go correspondent. This person will gather news from Castro County residents relative to travel, parties, visits, clubs, etc.

Contact Chris Bradford at 647-3-123 or you may e-mail a response to cbradford@castrocountynews.com

Garage Sale

Call today to put yours in!

Card of Thanks

Thank You
I am happy to have won the clock made for the Cancer Relay for Life. Cliff and Jinna Wright have shared their talents and time for many community activities, so generously. Thank you for being good role models as leaders of tomorrow.

Also many Thanks to each person who bought tickets on the clock to help raise over \$1200.00 for cancer research. We all pray they find a cure soon.

Ina Cleavinger 14-1tp

Thank You

We wish to thank all our friends and neighbors who have been so kind during Mother's recent illness to bring and send cards, food and gifts and to call and/or come by to visit and especially for prayers that have been offered. It is truly a blessing to live in a community such as ours and to have great friends and neighbors.

Again, thank you and may God bless all of you.

Ben & Mollie Scott & family
Mrs. Lois Scott 14-1tc

Thank You

The family of Clarence Ray Norris would like to express their sincere thanks for all of the expressions of sympathy during our time of grief. We are so thankful for all the flowers, food, memorials and visits. They brighten our days. May God's peace be with you.

Lee Norris
Janet Brigrance and family
June and Gary Norman
Shirley Walker and family
Clara Vick
Ruby Craghead
Joy Nolan 14-1tc

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Misc for Sale

Conklin Products for sale. Contact Robert Duke at 806-647-5517.

BOAT AND MOTOR for sale-120 HP Johnson-17 ft Fiberglass Invader Tri-Hull 647-4388 7-tfc-20

2002 Chevrolet Tahoe LS-Red-neutral leather interior-47,000 miles-\$22,500 firm. Call 806-647-2991 after 6 p.m. or leave a message. 1-tfc-20

FOR SALE-1984 Chevy Pickup and 1985 Ford Thunderbird. \$800 each or \$1,200 for both. 647-5304 13-4tc

FOR SALE-Antique 60's model B10 Allis Chalmers with hydraulics mower tractor with mower attached as well as other equipment. Runs good. 806-647-9200 14-2tp

FOR SALE-'97 GMC 3/4 ton 4 wheel drive-5 speed extended cab-loaded-runs great! \$17,000 806-285-3300 13-4tc

Free

FREE to good home-mid-size mixed breed puppies. 647-5677

Services Offered

Hale County Abstract
(Formerly known as Cowser Abstract and Title Co.)
647-3154 phone
647-4588 fax
Dimmitt, Texas 100 N Main

TUTORING-Reading K-5, Math K-5. Call 647-4676. 13-2tc

Notices

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 647-4594

Lost & Found

Australian Shepherd needs good home. Loving, docile, affectionate. Would be good for the country. 3 years old. Call Judy 806-946-9694.

FOUND 4-6 Black male lab cross County Road 253 near Nazareth. Call 806-945-2408 to claim.

Employment

Nursing Professionals

Dimmitt has current openings for:
*Licensed Vocational Nurses
*Certified Nurses Aides

We offer an excellent salary and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality care please apply in person or contact:

Administrator-Faye Houston
Dimmitt Nursing and Rehabilitation, L.P.
1621 Butler Blvd., Dimmitt, TX 79027
PH (806) 647-3117 FAX (806) 647-5212
For other job opportunities please visit our website at www.daybreakventure.com

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.

Don't Forget!

July 15 is the deadline for pictures to be turned in so that they will be included in the 2003 Castro County Pictorial Book.
Bring them by 108 W Bedford in Dimmitt today!

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

Legal Notice
The undersigned hereby gives notice of application to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Austin, Texas, for a package store permit and a local distributor's permit to be located at 206 Highway 86, Nazareth, Castro County, Texas.
Said business to be operated under the name of Amigos Beer and Wine.
Alex Carrasco, owner and operator. 13-2tc-55

No. PR-2545
IN THE ESTATE OF ALFRED HENRY WEBB, DECEASED

§ IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CASTRO COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ALFRED HENRY WEBB, Deceased, were issued on June 26, 2003, in Cause No. 2545, pending in the County Court of Castro County, Texas, to MARY KATHLEEN WEBB

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: MARY KATHLEEN WEBB
218 NW 12th Street
Dimmitt, Texas 79027

DATED the 26th day of June, 2003.
MARY KATHLEEN WEBB, Independent Executrix 14-1tc



GREG FULLER of Dimmitt takes a ride on a bull named Charlie Brown at the Rodeo de Santa Fe recently.

Fireworks caution urged

Vegetation in south and west Texas is extremely dry and fire-prone, but dry vegetation also exists in other areas of the state as well. With summer heat expected to continue to take its toll on vegetation across the state, state fire control leaders urge everyone to take extra precautions when using fireworks to celebrate our nation's birthday during this year's celebration.

"When dry weather coincides with the Fourth of July holiday period, irresponsible fireworks use increases the likelihood of wildfires," says Bobby Young, associate director for forest resource protection with the Texas Forest Service in Lufkin. "The threat of wildfires is highest in the southern half of the state; but even in the rest of the state where danger is generally low to moderate, vegetation will dry rapidly and become increasingly fire-prone if hot, dry conditions persist for any length of time.

Young noted that in some areas of the state, early season rains produced abundant vegetation. If this vegetation dries out, it could fuel intensely burning wildfires that could be very difficult and dangerous for firefighters to control, he said.

The state fire control leader offered several suggestions for safe fireworks use. Adhere to all county and city fireworks laws. Use fireworks outdoors, in a safe area away from dry grass and buildings. Follow directions carefully — with close adult supervision. Keep a bucket of water, wet towels and a garden hose handy. Never shoot fireworks from metal or glass containers and never experiment with homemade or altered fireworks. Other fireworks safety tips can be found at the following Internet website: www.texasfireworksafety.com.

Young also suggested additional outdoor fire safety tips including: comply with any outdoor burning bans, establish firebreaks around burn barrels and around brush piles to be burned, and avoid burning on dry, windy days.

Avoid using welding and other spark-producing equipment around dry grass. Keep vehicles out of tall, dry grass that might contact hot exhaust systems. Dispose of smoking materials properly.

Nothing in life is free

If you're like most people, you bought a new computer, you loved it for a few months, but then it got REALLY, REALLY slow and now you hate it.

If this has happened to you, chances are your computer is suffering from too much freeware, also known as SpyWare because of its ability to "spy" on you.

Free software usually comes at a price: you pay for it through loss of speed on your computer and your privacy.

Most of the "free" applications available on the internet are designed to run in the background and collect information about your surfing habits and send it to advertisers so that they can send you pop-up ads.

Applications such as Weatherbug, Kazaa, WebShots and others can slow your computer down tremendously and severely deplete your system resources which may cause your computer to crash frequently or freeze unexpectedly.

These applets also clog up your internet connection and can pose severe security risks.

A lot of these applets are installed without your knowledge and hide themselves to avoid being detected.

It is a good idea to frequently go to the Add/Remove Programs in the Control Panel and remove any applications you suspect as being SpyWare.

For a comprehensive list of



Frank Mendoza Jr.

suspected and/or known spyware/freeware applications go to www.csdimmitt.com/spyware. The more of these you remove, the better your computer should run.

If after removing these

application, your computer is still running really slow or crashing, you might want to consider re-installing your windows.

Most name-brand computers come with a "restore CD" that will put the PC back to the way it came from the factory.

Please make sure you back up any important data before running this operation since some of these will completely wipe your hard drive.

In conclusion, don't allow anything to be installed to your computer via the internet unless you have a specific need for it.

Avoid as much freeware as possible and your surfing experience will be much more enjoyable.

Opinions

levied by the District. That way, everyone is taxed at the same rate. Otherwise, should the city and county have to come up with the funds, who's to say who would pay more in a tax increase - city residents or those in the county. Plus, since city residents also pay county taxes, if both entities had to levy taxes, city dwellers would be hit with a double whammy.

The Hospital District may not believe it's their responsibility to purchase capital equipment for the EMS service, but it would seem the fairest way to go. Surely, the District doesn't expect both the county and city to contribute, especially if it means raising taxes. No one wants to be put in the position of hiking taxes.

But I believe that residents of the District under-

stand the importance of an EMS service and would tolerate a tax increase from the hospital District.

Whether those same

people would swallow a city and county tax hike is another question.

Davie Ann Browder
Managing Editor

Hospital District should go to taxpayer for help

County commissioners made a good point last week when they questioned why the county and city should cough up money to help buy ambulances for the EMS service run by the Castro County Hospital District.

Since the Hospital District is a taxing entity, just as are the city and county, there is no reason why it can't raise taxes as easily as the city and county could. Either way, the money comes from the same pocket - the taxpayers.

Which brings to mind the other point made at commissioners court. The hospital has a budget of about \$8 million, \$6.5 of which goes to salaries, according to Linda Rasor, CEO of the Hospital District. It would seem somewhere in that budget, cuts could be made. With the hospital going to critical care status, meaning that the psych wing and the long-term patient care areas are being done away with, it would seem

that there would be some money to spare.

The \$30,000 to \$50,000 that Rasor has requested from both the county and city would be to buy ambulances and new radios, but those are capital expenditures and surely could be budgeted in.

And County Judge Bill Sava made a valid point when he noted that the county runs the 24-hour 911 service, which requires paying the salary of five people in order to staff it round the clock.

That service in itself is worth a lot to the EMS service, since it would have to come up with something of that kind if it were not already in place and being run by the county.

No one would question the necessity of having an EMS service. The people who run and staff the ambulances offer life-saving services to residents of our county.

Why does the Hospital District want to shift the burden of funding the service from the District to the county and city. It would seem more equitable if indeed a tax hike is necessary to keep the service going, that it be

July 15 is deadline to certify

Tuesday, July 15, 2003, is the final date to certify spring-seeded crops.

The FSA office is mailing appointment cards to farm operators to be able to complete this report in a timely manner.

If you miss your appointment or need to change it, call (806) 647-2153, extension 2, to reschedule.

Locations listed for WIC clients

Farmers Market is back for WIC clients, who may redeem their vouchers at the following locations:

High 70 and I-27 (Wal-Mart parking lot)
Wednesday and Saturdays
7:30 a.m. until sell out

Hereford:
111 W. Park Ave.
Wednesdays
4 p.m. until sell out

Plainview:

Kristi's ^(D)
July Clearance

Store Wide

Savings up to **60%**

Shop the "Retired Brighton Collections" of Belts, Handbags, Jewelry and Shoes

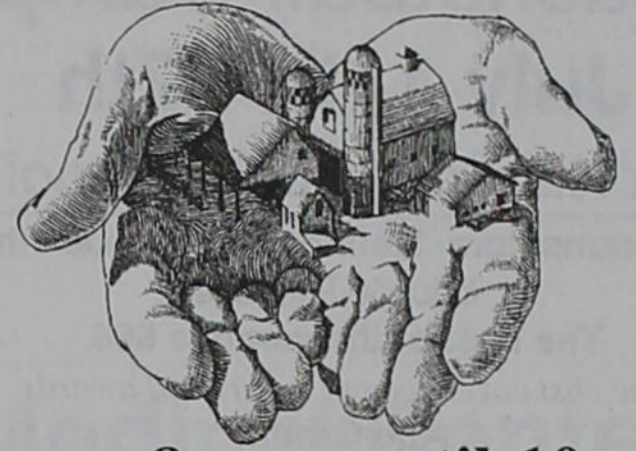
Bring in this Coupon through July 12 th for an additional 20% off all sale items.

Hours 9:30 to 5:30 p.m.

614 Broadway
Downtown Plainview
806-296-7254

Cargill AgHorizons

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Seven days a week!

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Quiroz, Hinojosa will work as summer VISTAS

2CARE for MOMS and Babies and the Baby's Coming Shop, in Dimmitt, is going to have Monica Quiroz and Amanda Hinojosa as summer VISTAS. They will be serving for a two-month term from the second week of June through the first week of August, working not only on local projects, but also participating in area-wide events which will benefit all of the Baby's Coming Shop locations throughout the Panhandle region.

Quiroz served as the middle school nurse this past year and plans to pursue her LVN career elsewhere when her VISTA term is over. She also plans to continue her education at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

Hinojosa is currently attending South Plains as a nursing student. She will return this fall after her summer term as a VISTA.

The summer VISTA project is a pilot program with AMERICORPS, the federal organization which administers the VISTA program - volunteers in service to America. The Coalition of Health Services in Amarillo is very excited to have been granted 15 summer VISTA volunteers to assist with the 2CARE for MOMS and Babies programs - health related incentive programs for expectant moms and infants through the first birthday. A visit to Baby's Coming Shop is the culmination of each program. The Dimmitt Baby's Coming Shop is located at 115-B West Bradford. The main shop is located in Amarillo and there are additional locations in Borger, Pampa, Dalhart and Hereford. In the near future, a satellite is to be opened in Childress.

CCHD receives Critical Care OK

The CCHD Board of Directors held its monthly board meeting on June 26 in the solarium of the Plains Memorial Hospital. All board members were present along with Dr. Bizzell; Linda Rasor, CEO; Joyce Skelton, controller; and Renee Castillo, administrative assistant. The financials and stats for the District were reviewed. It was noted that the collections have been increasing, particularly since billing is being done by the District once again. CCHD continues

to make the monthly payment to the bank for monies borrowed last fall. Equipment needs were discussed for the operating room and recovery room. The district continues to look for grant opportunities to assist with the purchase and upgrading of equipment. The audit for CCHD will begin June 30. It is being performed by Parrish, Moody and Fikes, an audit firm from Waco that specializes in rural hospital. They have been doing the audit for the past five years. The Board also reviewed the minutes of the Medical Staff Meeting and approved the reappointments for the medical staff for two years. The application for Critical Access Hospital designation has been approved by the Organization of Rural and Community Association and has been forwarded to the Texas Department of Health. They will schedule an on-site visit within the next 45-60 days with the designation scheduled to be complete by Oct. 1.

Additional continuing education has been scheduled for staff and physicians prior to the designation. Recent Texas Department of Health inspections were reviewed with the Board. It was noted that the District has had four inspections within the last eight weeks, all of which have been very successful with minimal to no deficiencies. These inspections include a complete inspection of all departments in the hospital, a separate pharmacy inspection and a building inspection, along with a Hospice inspection.

CCHD Hospice Receives Great Inspection

Castro County Hospital District's Hospice program received a great inspection from the Texas Department of Health last week. There were no deficiencies noted and the inspectors were very pleased with the service. They also mentioned that the service was above what is expected. The quality of the people was also commended. Donna Charanza, RN, is the Hospice program director and oversees 12 staff members. The Hospice staff is specially trained to help terminally ill patients and their families. Hospice also holds a bereavement service each year for anyone that has lost a family member. Diane Townsend coordinates this annual service. The inspectors also visited with families in the community that are currently on the Hospice program and were very complimentary. This was Hospice's first inspection since 1998.

Castro County Healthcare



MONICA QUIROZ and Amanda Hinojosa will work as Summer VISTAS.



MIKALA WHITAKER, daughter of Steve and LaNell Whitaker, who live near Hart, received several honors in the Intermediate Juvenile Miss Majorette of Texas contest in Lubbock on June 19 to 21. She placed first in Miss Texas Model, first in Flag, second in Int. Solo, fourth in Strut (Beginner), second in Best Appearing, second in Novice, second in Baton and third in Hoop. Mikala is a fourth grader at H. P. Webb Elementary.

Colleges announce honors

Amarillo College

Amarillo College has released its spring honor roll. Among the 344 students on the honor roll are Maria C. Granado and Margarita R. Machado, both of Dimmitt.

Students on the list must have been enrolled in 12 or more hours in academic courses and have earned a

grade point average of 3.6 or higher.

WTAMU

Luis M. Nino was named as a member of the 2003 Dean's Honor Roll at West Texas A&M University recently. He is enrolled in the College of Education and Social Sciences.

Cotton report

Liquidation of July positions ahead of the contract's first notice day, coupled with a disappointing U.S. mill use figure and improving weather in the Delta and Southeast helped push the market lower this week.

Technical factors drove cotton prices higher on Wednesday, but the week's highs could not be sustained. Early weakness produced by a report of poor U.S. mill use in May could not be overcome Thursday, and futures closed modestly lower in quiet trade that day.

The U.S. Census Bureau released its monthly mill consumption figure Thursday morning indicating U.S. textile mills used cotton on a seasonally-adjusted annualized rate of 6.78 million bales during the month of May.

The figure, while anticipated, was sharply lower than the previous month's rate of 7.06 million bales.

The figure came in at the lower end of market expectations, and although unfriendly, most traders already had factored the cut in domestic consumption into the market.

USDA's latest export sales report showed another good week of shipments but was not strong enough to offset the negative tone of the Census Bureau's consumption report.

For the week ended June 19, export shipments of 214,900 bales were up 2 percent from the prior week but down 15 percent from the four-week average. Shipments remained on track to meet USDA's 11.4-million-bale target. For the remainder of the marketing year, weekly shipments will need to maintain a 215,000 bale pace to ensure the department's estimate is met.

Net export sales for the same period totaled 43,900 bales, 39 percent lower than the prior week and a 59 percent decline from the four-week average. Although the sales were low, traders had anticipated a decrease due to higher cotton prices and the approaching end of the current marketing year.

On the spot cotton scene, online sales by Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas producers decreased as well, totaling only 32 bales for the five trading days ending June 26 compared to the previous week when 13,202 bales changed hands.

In other news, the National Agricultural Statistic Service's (NASS) crop progress report for the week ended June 22 showed little improvement in cotton conditions. In fact, the department's figures indicated that the cotton crop is running behind schedule in every cotton producing state but two.

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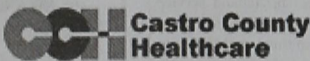


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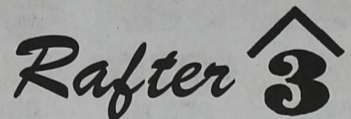


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West Nile Virus, encephalitis a threat to CC horses

A few moments with your local veterinary practitioner in Castro County can help protect horses, mules and donkeys against mosquito-borne diseases, advises Dr. Terry Conger, veterinarian and state epidemiologist for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency. Vaccines are available to protect horses against three viral diseases that pose a risk to Texas horses: West Nile Virus (WNV), and Eastern and Western Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and (WEE). The three diseases are forms of "sleeping sickness," that can cause infected horses to develop debilitating fever, swelling of the brain, muscle tremors, weakness and extreme fatigue, and in about a third or more of cases, death of the animal. "As of June 24, 26 cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) have been reported this year by the Texas Department of Health's (TDH) Zoonosis Control Division, which maintains the

state's statistical database for reporting laboratory-confirmed WNV cases in humans, mosquitoes, birds, and horses," said Dr. Conger. "According to the TDH, the 26 cases have been confirmed in one horse each in Angelina, Calhoun and Van Zandt Counties. WNV also has been detected in six birds and four mosquito pools in Harris County; one bird and two mosquito pools in Dallas County; four mosquito pools in Tarrant County, three mosquito pools in Jefferson and two in Nueces Counties." "In June 2002, Texas had its first case of WNV, and by year's end, 1,699 equine cases had been reported. Castro County had 17 equine cases. Denton County was hit hardest, with 69 equine cases," explained Dr. Terry Conger, TAHC's state epidemiologist. "More unreported cases undoubtedly occurred across the state, as owners may have been reluctant to ask their

veterinarian or the TAHC for assistance. Only laboratory-confirmed cases are included in the state's database. Most private veterinary practitioners send blood or tissue samples for WNV testing to the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) in College Station or Amarillo. "WNV infection was first detected in the U.S. in New York in 1999, and since then, the virus has swept across the country, spread by infected mosquitoes that have fed on birds carrying the disease. Only four states on the U.S. mainland have not reported cases: Arizona, Nevada, Oregon and Utah. Dr. Conger said it is likely that these states also will eventually have cases of WNV. "Sporadic outbreaks of WEE and EEE also occur throughout the U.S., and this year we may have cases in Texas, as South Carolina, Florida and Georgia have already confirmed EEE in horses. Because Texas has a large mosquito population

and history of infection in past years, it is prudent to have equine animals vaccinated against WEE and EEE every year," said Dr. Conger.

"It is important to note that the vaccines for WNV, WEE and EEE do not provide cross-protection. For example, WNV vaccine protects only against WNV." As of late June, 14 horses in South Carolina have been diagnosed with EEE. In Florida, more than 110 EEE cases in equine animals have been confirmed, and in Georgia, a dog, three birds and 16 horses have tested positive for the disease. "WNV, EEE and WEE are going to be with us always, as these diseases have become endemic in our country.

Even if you try to reduce the mosquito population in your area, vaccinating against these mosquito-borne diseases still needs to be part of routine

horse health maintenance," said Dr. Conger. Dr. Conger explained that the WNV vaccine for horses vaccination requires a series of two shots, administered three to six weeks apart.

After the second injection, several more weeks must pass before full immunity is developed. Equine animals vaccinated last year should receive a single WNV booster this year. In areas where mosquitoes are a continual problem year-round, animals should receive a WNV booster every six months. "Owners should take action now to get their equine animals vaccinated, before cases become more widespread," urged Dr. Conger. "EEE and WEE vaccines are available in a combined product. To develop disease protection, the animal will need two injections, 30 days apart. A booster shot is then needed annually or

biannually," said Dr. Conger. "In most cases, horses can be vaccinated for WNV, EEE/WEE at the same time." He said some veterinarians also employ the EEE/WEE vaccine in an off-label use to protect ratites (emus, rheas and ostriches) against the disease. "Last year, Colorado State University followed more than 500 equine animals infected with the WNV in Colorado and Nebraska. The death rate was greater than 36 percent in animals that had not received vaccine. The death loss dropped to around 20 percent for animals that had received at least one dose of WNV vaccine. Of the 13 animals properly vaccinated with two doses of vaccine, a dozen survived," he said.

Dr. Conger said equine animals infected with WNV, EEE or WEE, may exhibit similar signs, including fever, irregular gait, teeth grinding, drowsiness, an inability to swallow. Affected animals may be paralyzed and be unable to rise. He said TAHC and public health officials advise owners to have sick animals tested to diagnose illness or death, because rabies always must be considered when an animal is disoriented or staggers.

If an owner has been exposed to rabies while caring for a sick horse, appropriate preventive health measures must be taken immediately, he said.

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 Dimmitt, Texas
 Castro County

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A Legal Notice Response Form can be obtained from RUS' website at www.usda.gov/rus/telecom.

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