

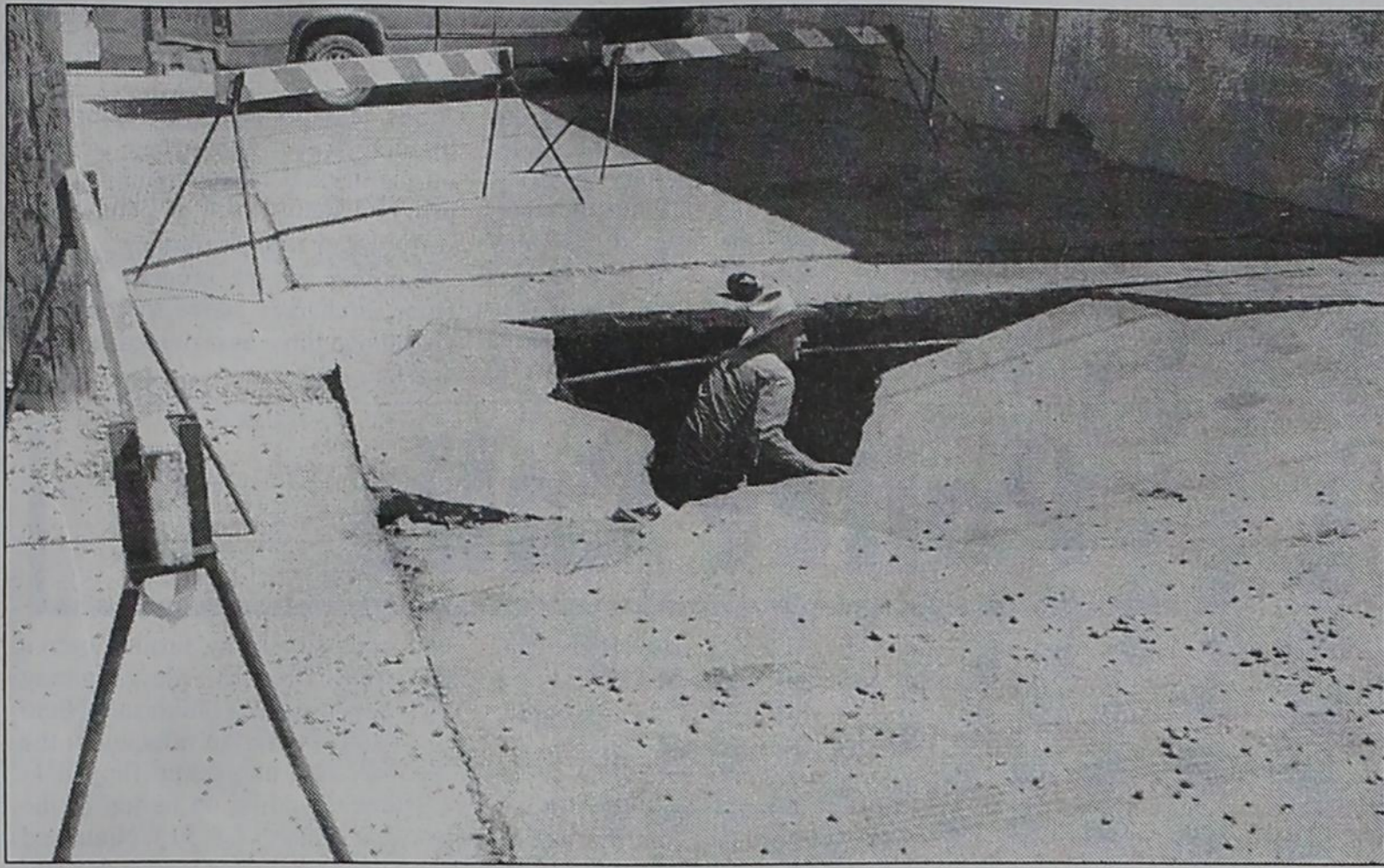
# The Castro County News

74th year—No. 51

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, March 25, 1999

50¢

14 pages plus supplements



**OPENING THAT TRIED TO SWALLOW A VAN**—On Saturday a van belonging to Vicki Aljoe of Dimmitt was parked behind Jack Edwards's law office in the 100 block of East Bedford. People out in the alley heard a noise and saw a hole open beneath the vehicle and the back axle of the van disappeared into the hole. Aljoe was not in the van at the time. Don Elliott brought a tow truck and pulled the vehi-

cle away from the crater in the concrete. Aljoe's husband, Kyle, said the vehicle suffered an estimated \$250 in damage. Further excavation of the hole revealed an opening over 10 feet deep and 15-20 feet across that City Manager Don Sheffy surmised had been a "community cesspool." Here, Sheffy is examining the initial opening in the ground. (See additional photo, Page 9.)

Photo by Don Nelson

## County asked to close dirt road at railroad crossing near Summerfield

A little-used trail that crosses a railroad track and bisects Highway 60 in the northwestern part of Castro County may soon be closed.

Jerry Rector with Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad asked county commissioners Monday if they would consider closing the dirt road, which is in the Summerfield area.

The proposed closing is part of the railroad's Operation Lifesaver program.

"Our goal is to remove crossings that are a danger to the public. We're trying to close some of the crossings that are no longer needed or those

that are unsafe," Rector said. "This is listed as a federal crossing. Ideally, we'd like to see overpasses and underpasses at all crossings in the country, but we can't conceivably do that."

He said if the county does elect to close the road, it would receive \$7,500 from the railroad and another \$7,500 from the Texas Department of Transportation.

The \$7,500 from the railroad can be used for anything the county wants, but the \$7,500 from the Texas Dept. of Transportation would be earmarked for improving other railroad crossings in the county.

The road in question is in Precinct 3, and Pet. 3 Commissioner Bay Baldrige told other commissioners that it is not a designated county road.

"There's really no road there," Baldrige said. "It's really just an old cattle train—a shortcut trail from an elevator across to Highway 60. Personally, I'd like to see it closed. The way it is now, somebody's going to get killed. It is a danger."

Rector said the road isn't used that

often, "mainly by grain trucks during harvest season."

If the road is closed, traffic to and from the elevator would be directed down a road three-tenths of a mile away, so Rector said he doesn't feel like it will create much of a problem.

"Our train traffic is going to increase," Rector told commissioners. "We're in the process of putting in new tracks there and the rail traffic will be going both ways."

Baldrige says he's used the shortcut himself, but admits that "it's scary to cross the railroad tracks now."

Commissioners decided not to take any action on the matter until their next meeting to give Baldrige time to check on who owns the elevator and other matters.

Precinct 4 will buy a new 1999 Caterpillar motor grader from West Texas Equipment for a trade differ-

(Continued on Page 2)

## Eradication program to be established

# Boll weevil program earns support from 75% of voters

Cotton producers in the Northwest Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone have voted to establish a boll weevil eradication program in the five-county zone which includes Castro County.

Final results were 1,441 voting for the program and only 476 casting dissenting ballots.

In addition, producers in the zone voted to set a maximum annual assessment for the program not to exceed \$12 per land acre for irrigated cotton and \$5 per land acre for dryland cotton. Of the ballots tallied, 1,280 were in favor of the proposed costs while 596 were against.

To officially establish a boll weevil eradication program in the Northwest Plains Zone and set an assessment, the propositions had to be approved by a two-thirds vote, or those voting in favor needed to farm more than 50% of the zone's acreage.

"Producers in the Northwest Plains have shown they want an eradication program," said Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs. "We look forward to working with them and the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation in eliminating this costly pest in Texas."

The Texas Dept. of Agriculture

issued 3,395 ballots to cotton producers in the zone who were eligible to vote in the referendum.

Some 1,928 valid ballots were postmarked by the March 12 deadline and were counted.

Cotton producers also elected John Saylor of Bailey County to represent the Northwest Plains Zone on the statewide board of directors for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Founda-

tion, Inc. Saylor is a cotton producer who farms in the zone. Saylor has been serving as the commissioner-appointed director for the Northwest Plains Zone.

Saylor was elected by a 1,326-79 vote.

The Northwest Plains Zone consists of approximately 500,000 acres in five counties: Bailey, Castro, Deaf Smith, Lamb and Parmer.

## Newland killed in crash near Wheeler on Friday

Kimberly Newland, 16, of Plains, and formerly of Dimmitt, died Friday at 8:40 p.m. at Parkview Hospital in Wheeler from injuries sustained in a two-vehicle crash.

The daughter of Jan Newland, the girls' basketball coach at Plains High School, Newland was a passenger in a 1998 Chevrolet Camaro driven by 18-year-old Andrew Hillhouse of Wheeler, according to a spokeswoman for the Dept. of Public Safety at Childress.

Four other people were injured in the crash, including Newland's younger brother, Jarod, 14, who also was a passenger in the Camaro. He was taken to Northwest Texas Hospital and released. Hillhouse was taken to NWTX for facial injuries and a possible broken neck. He was released Saturday, according to a news report in the Sunday *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*.

The crash occurred around 8:15

p.m. at the intersection of US Highway 83 and Farm-to-Market Road 2473 inside the Wheeler city limits, according to the DPS spokeswoman.

She said Hillhouse was traveling south on US 83 and attempted to make a left turn onto FM 2473 when the crash occurred.

The other vehicle involved was a 1985 Ford Bronco driven by David Immel, 30, of Wheeler. He and his passenger, Barbara Himenkamp, 41, of Wheeler, both suffered facial injuries and were taken to Parkview Hospital for treatment, according to the spokeswoman.

Funeral services for Newland were held Monday morning at the Plains High School Auditorium. Newland was a junior at Plains High School and had been a member of the girls' basketball team. She had been active in basketball and the Student Council during the two years she lived in Dimmitt.

# 1:1

By Don Nelson

Uh-oh. Have you ever compiled a list of people you wanted to recognize, and had the list printed in the paper, and, uh...

(You're running ahead of me on this, aren't you?)

Sure enough, in my list last week of basketball coaches who grew up in Dimmitt, I left out at least four—Larry Birdwell of Lorenzo, Johnny Hampton of Nazareth, Justin Shultz of Vega, and Arnold Peralez of Lake Arthur, N.M.

Of course, there's no particular reason for me to remember these former Bobcats. Johnny has only won state championships in both boys' and girls' basketball; Justin only coached the Vega Lady Longhorns to the Class A state title this year (in fact, I mentioned him and his team in this corner just three weeks ago); Larry is only a living

(Continued on Page 13)

## Weather

	High	Low	Pr.
Thursday	59	34	.41
Friday	34	30	.37
Saturday	39	26	
Sunday	62	26	
Monday	68	43	
Tuesday	76	32	
Wednesday	59	32	

March Moisture ..... 1.35  
1999 Moisture ..... 2.93

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

## Candidate lists are finalized

Filing ended March 17 for those wishing to serve on governing boards for local cities, school districts, and the hospital district. Elections are scheduled for May 1.

Early voting will be held on April 14-27.

Persons who are not registered voters may register to vote by April 1 and still qualify to vote in the May 1 election.

Terms that are expiring for the various governmental bodies and candidates who have filed are listed below.

### Dimmitt

**City:** Terms are expiring for Mayor Wayne Collins, and at-large council members Trish Elliott, Lyman Schroeder, and Clint Seward. All incumbents have filed for re-election, with no opponents.

**DISD:** Terms are expiring for Place 3 representative Chevo Lumbrera; Place 6, Debbie Annen; and Place 7, Steve Buckley.

In Place 3, Albert Acevedo and incumbent Lumbrera have filed.

In Place 6, Greg Odom, incumbent Annen, and Robert Wilhite have filed.

In Place 7, Jim Wright, Barbara Bain, and Connie Nutt have filed.

### Hart

**City:** Mayor Tony Leibel's term is expiring, as well as the terms for Aldermen Doyle K. Davis and Harvey Perez. All incumbents have filed for re-election, along with challenging mayoral candidate Marguerite McLain.

**HISD:** Those whose terms are expiring are Coy Myrick and Roy Gonzales. Incumbent Myrick has filed, along with challengers Brian

Nelson and Danny Rodriguez.

### Nazareth

**City:** City Commissioner Glen Ehly's term is expiring. No one filed before the filing deadline.

**NISD:** Terms are up for Rex Ramaekers, who had been filling one year of an unexpired term; and Julius Birkenfeld and Danny Gerber. All incumbents have filed, along with challengers Don Schulte and Jeanie Birkenfeld.

### Hospital District

Terms are expiring for Jerry Annen, Henry Ramaekers and Carolyn Sides. All incumbents have filed, with no opponents.

## DISD

# Meeting set today on drug test policy

A public meeting will be held today (Thursday) at 7 p.m. at the Dimmitt High School auditorium to explain to local citizens a proposed policy for deterring drug and alcohol use among students.

The policy would require all students involved in extra-curricular activities with competitive performances and contests to sign a consent form for random drug and alcohol testing, according to Bruce Dollar, athletic coordinator for the Dimmitt schools.

"I don't want to implement this without community support," Dollar said. The testing policy would cover students in grades 7-12.

"The purpose of the program is not to 'catch' someone (in violation)," Dollar said. He said the purpose is to give students a tool to hang on to, to help them in saying no to temptations.

Dollar said an independent company of licensed professionals would be contracted with to run the testing program. Students would be randomly selected by their Social Security number, chosen by computer from several different "pools." Ten

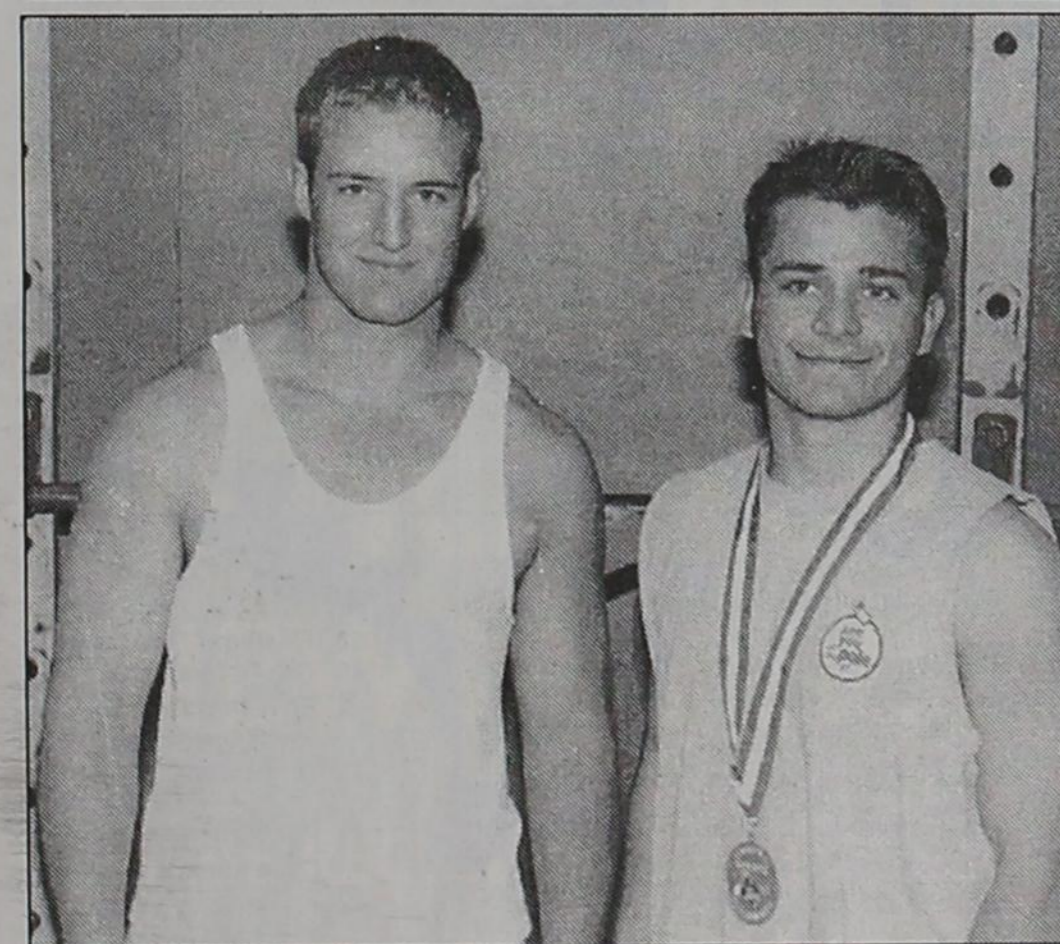
percent of each pool would be tested at each random test date, about once a month.

Dollar said that all participants would be tested when the program is first implemented. Then in subsequent years, all extracurricular participants entering the seventh and ninth grades would be tested, in addition to the random tests. Also, participating students new to the school system would be tested at the first possible random testing date.

Sanctions for students who have a positive test (showing drug or alcohol use) include mandatory substance abuse counseling, suspension from participation and additional required testing. Offenses are cumulative for a participant's enrollment in grades 7-12 in DISD. A fourth offense will result in permanent suspension from extracurricular participation.

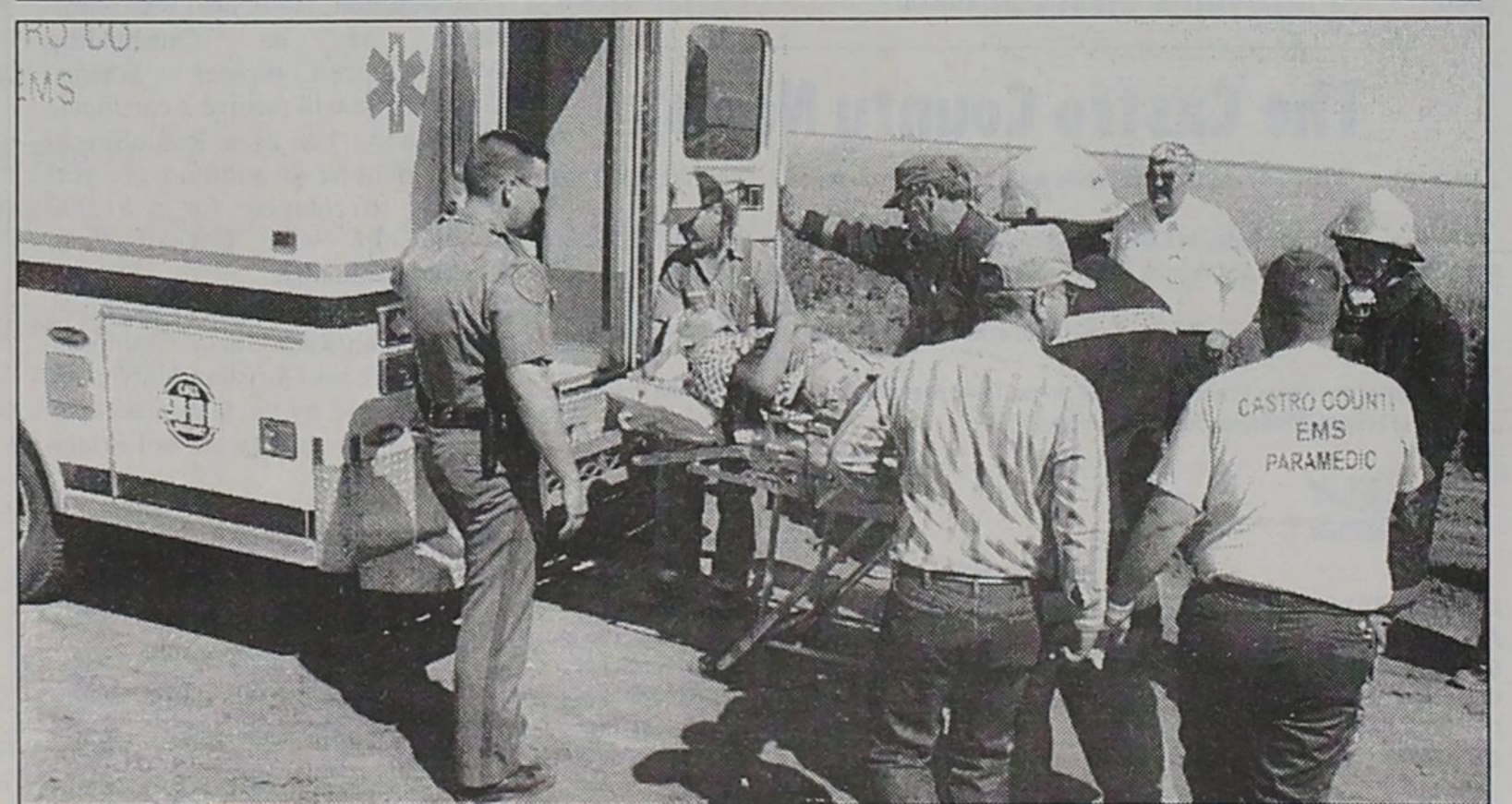
Dollar said that the results of drug tests will not be documented in any student's academic records.

Copies of the proposed policy may be viewed at the school administration office, 608 W. Halsell.



**HEADING TO STATE**—Two young lifters from Dimmitt High School have qualified to participate in the State Power Lifting Competition at Fort Hood at Killeen on Saturday. Beau Hill (left) won first at regional in the 198-lb. class and Gary Jouett took first in his weight class of 148 lbs. They are coached by Monty Gothard.

Photo by Linda Maxwell



**INJURED IN ONE-VEHICLE ROLL-OVER**—Victor Hernandez, 16, is loaded into an ambulance after he was injured in a crash Monday at 2 p.m. 10 miles north of Dimmitt just off of US 385. He was a passen-

ger in a 1994 Nissan pickup driven by his mother, Lily Nieto, 36, of Amarillo. She also was injured, and was transferred to an Amarillo hospital.

Photo by Linda Maxwell



# On the Go with Martha Jo Hyman, 647-2255

Jeff and Susan Lindsey of Dallas spent last weekend with Jeff's mother, Doris Flynt. Also visiting with Doris this week are Sharon Acker of Argyle and son, Andrew. Another visitor for Doris was Steve and Karon Smith of Bakersfield, Calif., and their son, Taron, a student at Texas Tech University at Lubbock, who was having Spring break. The Smiths also visited the Ralph Smiths while they were in town.

Merle Arthur, Gwen Bryant's mom, was hostess to the Thursday Bridge Club. She served the best fudge brownie with ice cream. There were 12 players, and Helen Braafladt won high, with Virginia Crider second.

Connie Aguilar and I left Dimmitt

at 7 a.m., went to Seminole, picked up my dad, Roy Baccus, and drove to Lubbock. He got new glasses and ordered a new hearing aid. We drove him back to Seminole and came back to Dimmitt. That was a fast journey, but it was easier than I had thought it would be.

Martha Dannevik and Olivia Herrera took me to Tulia for speech therapy. I surely do appreciate all the help everyone has been. Friday was the last day for the therapy.

Kendra Nicks came over to Dimmitt to visit her grandmother, Allie Tisdale, Kendra is the cute little blonde who has worked with me in therapy.

Tara Thomas, the girl doing her clinical practice in Tulia, finished up her work as I finished my treatments.

I saw her husband, Shawn Thomas, as they were eating lunch at the El Camino.

Curtis, Leigh and Aubrie Durbin went to Pampa to help Doug and Dorothy Ware, Curtis's brother-in-law and sister, move into their new house. Jack Ware, Curtis's nephew, stayed several days with Curtis and Leigh.

Myrtle Lee, Cindy and Kasie Lee of Hart drove to San Angelo for a bridal luncheon for Tanya Lee, the daughter of the late Larry Lee. The luncheon was hosted by life-long friends, Cara De Wolfe and Julie Biggs. The luncheon was held at the City Cafe and Bakery. The 30 guests were served quiche, a fruit plate, and Italian cream cake.

I saw Bob and Kylene Anthony at

the Hereford Country Club Sunday. They were having lunch with Kylene's parents. She is busy planning a wedding. Casey Gentry of Waxahachie is planning to marry in June.

Jo Hyman, Alma Parrot, and Janet Tarr, employees of McAfee Mortgage, attended a meeting of the National Association of Professional Mortgage Women in San Antonio.

There were high school students working with some patients at the nursing home in Dimmitt recently. After questioning their good actions, we were told they were members of the Y.E.S. program (Youth Exchanging with Seniors). These students work with senior adults in the community for nine weeks. They visit them twice a week and help them with chores and all their needs. It is a part of their Family Health class. The students involved include Rafael Enriquez, Brenda Flores, Stephanie Hinojosa, Jamie Fuentes, Cassie McLean, Leo Olvera, Daphanie Rivera, Allison Roberson, Tonya Robertson, Olivia Rodriguez, Robert Sepeda, Eric Soldevilla, Tiffany Stevens, Jerry Thomas, Tyson Traylor, and Heather Wise. The classroom teacher for this program is Amy Garcia.

Alex Lynsky drove to Childress to meet and bring home Serge, who had been to Padre Island for spring break. Alex took him back to his college, McPherson University in Kansas. Serge will be there two more months and he will have finished his first year of college. Time certainly goes by quickly.

Tonya and Alex ate dinner with me Monday night. We played cards for a while.

Jeff and Christina Addison, the new minister at Lee Street Baptist Church and his wife, hosted an open house at the parsonage Sunday night

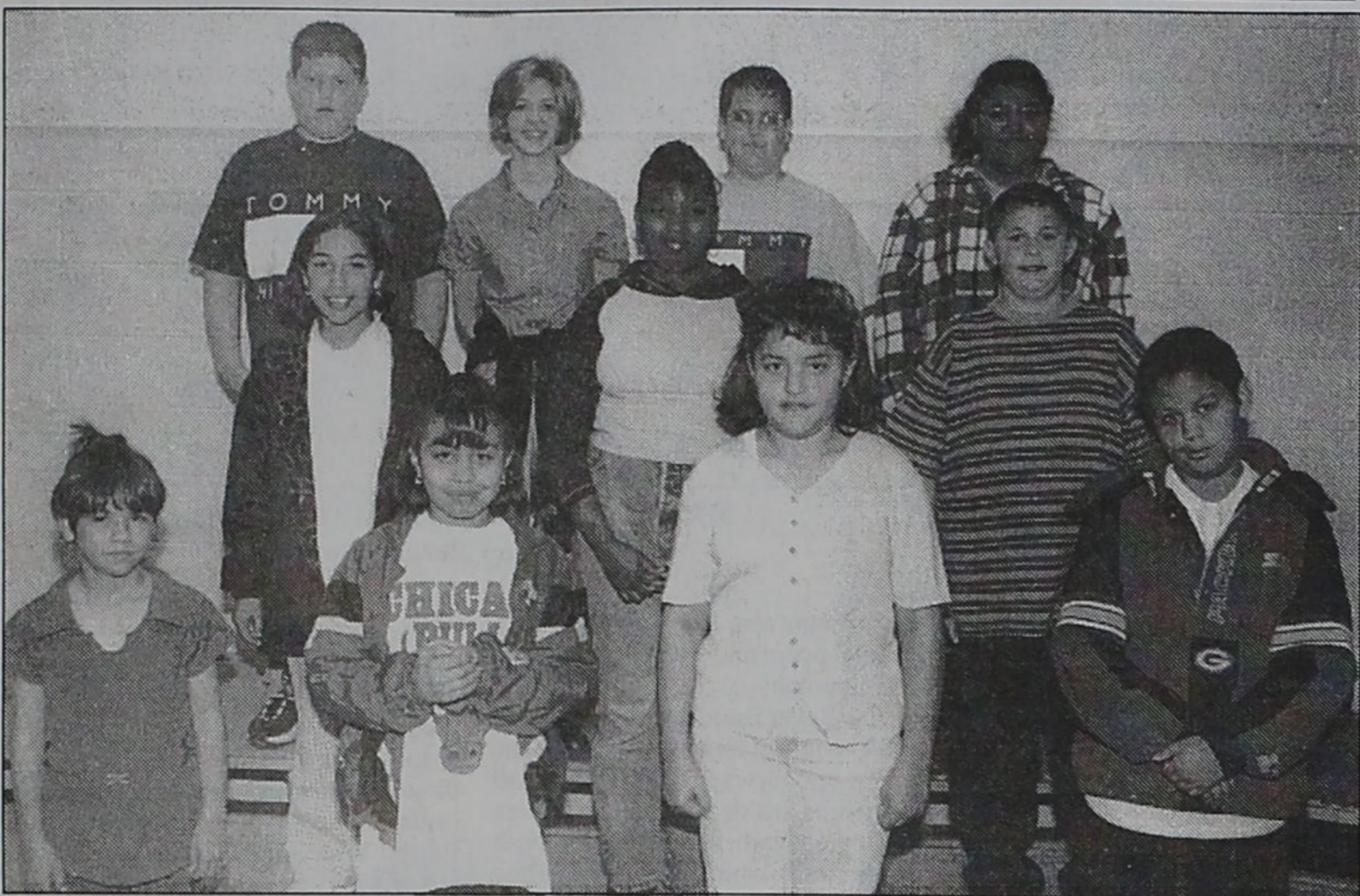
after church. They served sweets and punch and coffee to about 30 or 40 guests. They wanted everyone to see the parsonage after the improvements were made, including new carpet and some new doors.

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STUDENTS OF THE MONTH for Dimmitt Middle School include (front, from left) Gladys Ruiz, Kristy Reyes, Sarah Lopez, and Rigo Presas; (middle, from left) Lilianna Aguilar, Felisha Starling, and Ryan Miller; and (back, from left) Caleb Dickerson, Caitlin Buckley, Ramey Rice, and Sarah Silva.  
Photo by Linda Maxwell

## Nazareth with Virgie Gerber, 945-2669

The Knights of Columbus free throw competition was held over the weekend in Austin at St. Edwards University.

Four thousand kids began several months ago with district and regional tryouts, and only 135 contestants between the ages of 10 and 14 gathered Saturday morning at 9 for registration.

Participating from Nazareth were Dustin Schulte, Kendra Huseman, Jamie Birkenfeld, Jake Hoelting, Tyson Schulte and Kimberly Brockman.

Dustin, Jamie and Kimberly each won third place in their division. Kendra finished fourth. They were told at the closing ceremony that they were all winners to be there.

After lunch and visiting with Wade Hoelting and Rick Gerber's family, Jim and Sandee, Monty and Jake Hoelting, Glenda, Jamie and Matt Birkenfeld, Jerry, Tricia and Andi Rose, Virgie Gerber and Tyson Schulte drove to Harold Gerber's home at Lake Ivie to spend the night.

Evelyn Backus recently spent several days in Wheeler with her family, Dan, and Gail Sams and children. She attended the farewell party for their pastor, Father McGee, who is going to Dalhart.

Paul and Edith Huseman and Mike and Shelly Huseman hosted a dinner on Sunday honoring Jared Huseman, who earned the Eagle Scout Award, which is the highest achievement in

Boy Scouts. Jared is the son of Lori and Allen Freeman of Big Spring. He will graduate from high school there this spring. He will attend Texas A&M University, where he has been accepted in the Corps and will play in the A&M Band.

Attending the party were Mike and Shelly Huseman, Greg and Sherita Huseman, Louis and Gin Huseman, all of Nazareth; Becky and Jesse Ramos of Tulia; Jenny and Kerry Teafatiller of Littlefield; David and Dorothy Huseman, Stephen and Mary Jean Wilhelm and Bart and Colleen Huseman, all of Amarillo; and Lori and Allen Freeman of Big Spring.

The families all enjoyed the day at Paul and Edith's home.

*Right-handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left-handed people do.*

*The sentence "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter in the English language.*

We will not be showing a movie this week.  
See you next week!  
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# Church Directory

- New Hope Memorial Baptist**  
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt 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, 647-0105
- 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
- Immanuel Baptist**  
501 SE 3rd, Dimmitt
- Rosa De Saron**  
411 NE 6th, Dimmitt  
Maria Castaneda.....647-5598
- First Baptist**  
302 Ave. G, Hart  
Jeff Box.....938-2316
- St. John's Catholic**  
Hart  
Guillermo Morales.....647-0105
- Church of Christ**  
SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt  
647-4435
- Rose of Sharon Temple**  
407 NE 4th, Dimmitt
- Primeria Iglesia Bautista**  
9th and Etter, Dimmitt  
Antonio Rocha

- Abundant Life Family Church**  
113 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
Tom and Kay Mullins
- 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  
Jeff Addison
- 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

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- Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.**  
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Flooring, Garden Supplies  
109 N. Broadway, Dimmitt • 647-3161
- E.M. Jones Ditching**  
North Hwy. 385  
647-5442
- Lockhart Pharmacy**  
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320 S. Broadway  
647-4510
- Texas Equipment Company, Inc.**  
Hwy. 385, Dimmitt  
647-3324
- Westway Trading Corporation**  
North Hwy. 385, Dimmitt  
647-3138

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Jeffrey Blackmon Jr. and Angela Lindsey

## Couple plan May wedding

Dr. Robert and Evelyn Lindsey of Plainview announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Angela Lindsey, to Jeffrey Blackmon Jr., son of Jeff and Becky Blackmon of Fayetteville, Ga.

The pair will exchange wedding vows May 22 at the First Christian Church in Plainview.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Eules and Hazel Waggoner and Doris Flynt, all of Dimmitt, and the late Bob Lindsey. She is a graduate of Plainview High School and attended Abilene Christian University. She was a member of National Honors, Big Purple Band and GATA Social Club. In high school she was a member of the Plainview High School Band.

The prospective groom is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Fowler of Newnan, Ga., June Blackmon of Greensboro, N.C., and the late Will Blackmon. He graduated from Fayette County High School in Georgia and attended Abilene Christian University where he obtained a bachelor of science degree in broadcast journalism. He was a member of the Big Purple Band. He is currently employed as a graphic designer at KRBC-TV in Abilene.



Jennifer Jenkins and Todd Braafladt

## June vows planned

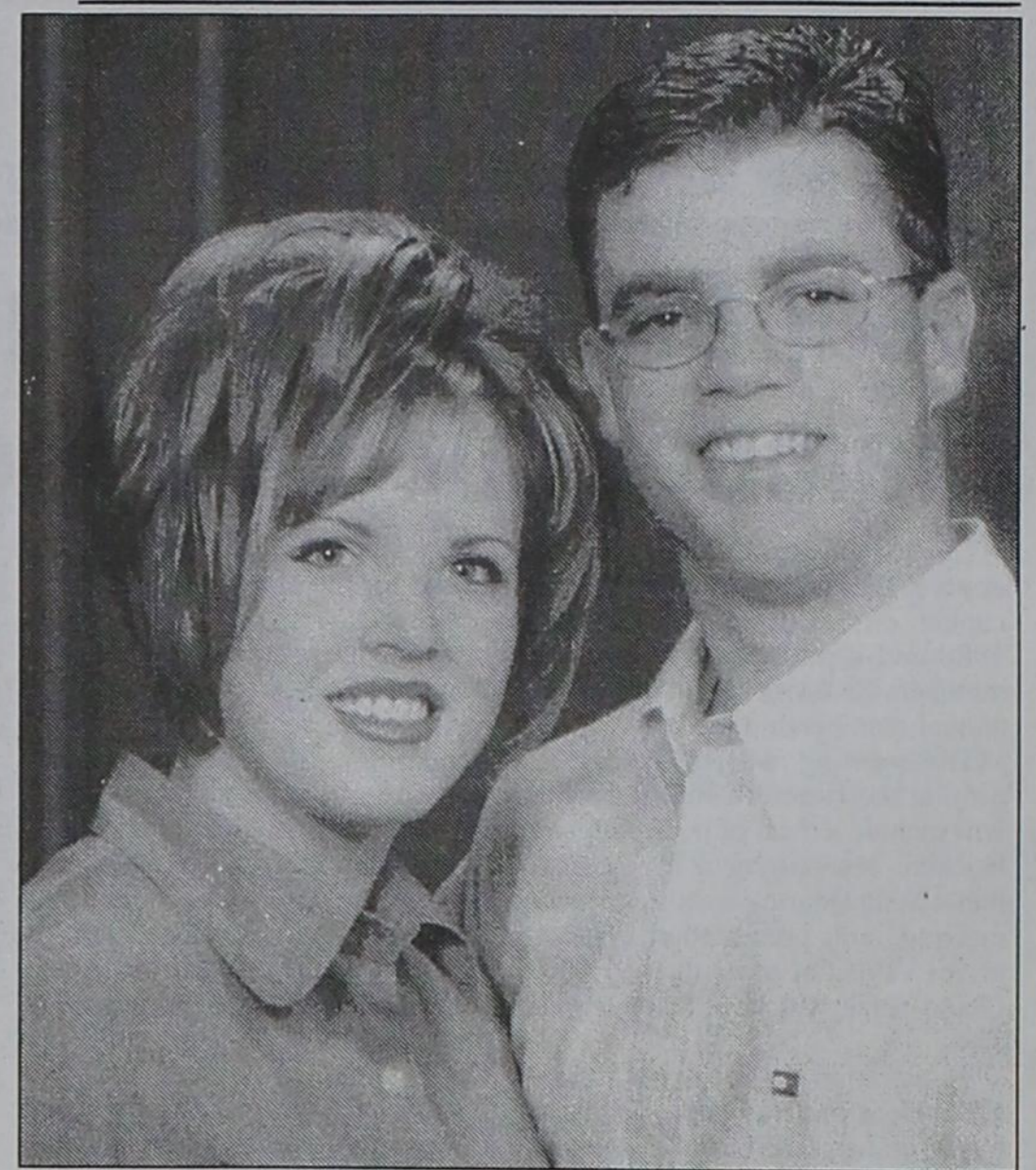
Jennifer Jenkins and Todd Braafladt will exchange wedding vows on June 26 in Coppell.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.T. Jenkins of Dallas. Parents of the prospective groom are Chuck and Patricia Braafladt of Dimmitt.

Miss Jenkins graduated from Nimitz High School in Dallas in 1991. She attends the University of North Texas and expects to graduate in May with a degree in elementary education. She is currently doing her student teaching in the Coppell schools.

Braafladt graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1986. He studied business at West Texas A&M University in Canyon. He is currently employed as a store manager at Office Max.

After the wedding, the couple plan to live in Coppell.



Channing August Cox and Jay Lynn McCormick

## May wedding planned

Channing August Cox and Jay Lynn McCormick are planning to exchange wedding vows at 8 p.m. on May 1 at Country Home Bed and Breakfast in Canyon.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Larry Dean and Judy Cox. She graduated from Amarillo High School in 1996. She is a junior majoring in elementary education at West Texas A&M University. She is employed by Trinity Day Care.

The prospective groom is the son of Dr. R. Dean and Cassa Beddow and the late David McCormick. He is a 1998 graduate of Dimmitt High School and he is currently attending West Texas A&M University, where he is a sophomore agri-business major. He is self-employed by McCormick Livestock.

Following their wedding, the couple will live in Canyon.



Nathan Killough and Kamber Curry

## Curry and Killough to wed

Mr. and Mrs. Eddy Curry of Levelland announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kamber, to Nathan Killough, son of James and Rhonda Killough of Edna, formerly of Dimmitt.

The couple will exchange wedding vows on April 10 at the First Baptist Church in Levelland.

Both are students at Wayland Baptist University. He is a chaplain's assistant in the US Army National Guard.



Amy Beck and Zachary Bell

## Beck and Bell to wed in June

Danna Beck announces the engagement and approaching marriage of her daughter, Amy Beck, to Zachary Bell, son of Mike Bell of Hereford and Michele Torres of Dimmitt.

The couple plan to exchange wedding vows at 6 p.m. on June 5 at the First Baptist Church of Dimmitt.

The bride-elect is a 1993 graduate of Dimmitt High School. She graduated from West Texas A&M University in 1997 with a degree in elementary education. She is employed as a fourth-grade teacher at Highland Park Elementary.

The prospective groom is a 1995 graduate of Dimmitt High School. He graduated from West Texas A&M University in 1998 with a degree in accounting. He is employed by the Randall County Tax Office.

After the wedding, the couple will reside in Canyon.

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Castro County Farm Bureau  
Talent Find Contest

Winner to receive \$100  
Second Place \$50

Winners will go on to the District Contest where winner will receive \$600 college scholarship.

District winners will advance to the State Contest where winner will receive \$2,000 scholarship and runner-up \$1,500 scholarship.

Contestants will be judged on audience appeal, performance, appearance and professionalism.

Details and entry forms in your high school counselor office.

Deadline — April 1, 1999

## SIGN UP TODAY

for the  
Miss Castro County  
Farm Bureau Pageant

Winner to receive \$100  
Second Place \$50

Winners will go on to the District Contest where winner will receive \$600 college scholarship.

District winners will advance to the State Contest where winner will receive \$2,000 scholarship and runner-up \$1,500 scholarship.

Contestants will be judged on personality, poise, speech and appearance.

Details and entry forms in your high school counselor office.

Deadline — April 1, 1999

# ABI Agriculture, Business & Industry



## Deaf Smith REC plans annual membership meeting Tuesday

Deaf Smith Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. will pay \$1,000,000 in capital credits from 1986, 1987, 1988 and a portion of 1989 to its members Tuesday night during its annual membership meeting.

The meeting will be held at 5 p.m. at the Hereford Bull Barn and will include a meal of beef, fish and chicken; entertainment by the Palmetto State Quartet; a short business meeting; and presentation of door prizes valued at more than \$1,000. Grand prize will be a color television.

Registration will begin at 5 p.m. at the Hereford Bull Barn, followed by the dinner. The business meeting is slated to start at 6:30 p.m.

Current members of the cooperative's board of directors are Donald Wright of Dimmitt, chairman; Jerry Roberts, secretary; Clarence Martin, vice chairman; and members Clark Andrews of Easter, Anthony Acker of Nazareth, Vick Christian and Gilbert (Nick) Yosten.

During the business meeting, the cooperative members will elect two directors to serve on its board.

Candidates for Position 1 are incumbent Gilbert (Nick) Yosten of Hereford and challenger Dwight Jesko of Hereford. Those vying for the Position 2 post are incumbent Anthony Acker of Nazareth and challenger Vincent Gerber of Nazareth.

Acker lives on and operates a family farm four miles west of Nazareth, where he was born.

He is a member of Holy Family Catholic Church where he served on the Parish Council for over 14 years. He is also a financial secretary for the Catholic Order of Foresters, a post he has held for more than 40 years. He is active in civic and county affairs and has served on the following boards: Plains Memorial Hospital, Dimmitt Agri Industries, High Plains Underground Water Conservation District, Farmers Home Administration and Nazareth Community Hall. He has served on

the Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative Board for the past 15 years.

Acker says if he is re-elected to his post, he will continue to do his best to keep electric prices as low as possible and keep service at a high standard.

Gerber is a lifelong resident of Nazareth and Castro County, and he has been a member of Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative since 1956. He is an active member of the American Legion and is currently serving on the board of directors of Castro Co-op Gin.

"I've been on Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative's lines all of my life, and I believe the cooperative is doing a good job. If elected, I will represent the membership to the best of my ability," Gerber said.

Yosten and his wife, Marian, moved to Deaf Smith County 40 years ago. He lives six miles west and a mile north of Hereford. He farms, raises cattle and is part owner/operator of a trucking business. He is a veteran of the US Army, having served during the Korean Conflict. He is currently serving his 14<sup>th</sup> year as a director on the Hereford Federal Credit Union Board. He is completing his second term as a director of the Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative.

"I have been a member of the cooperative for 40 years, and I believe that we should maintain the cooperative principle of the best possible service at the least possible cost. If I am re-elected to the board, I will continue to serve to the best of my ability."

Jesko is a farmer in the Westway Community, and he is a lifelong resident of Deaf Smith County. He lives 11 miles west of Hereford on Harrison Highway.

Jesko is a member of the Knights of Columbus and is a past chancellor of the group. He is currently serving as president of the St. Anthony Cemetery Committee and is a

member of the Parish Council of St. Anthony's Church of Hereford.

"If elected, I will work with the board and help make sure all members are treated fairly," Jesko said.

## Clover Kids to enjoy food class Wednesday

The Castro County 4-H Clover Kids will participate in a food class on Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the Extension office in Dimmitt.

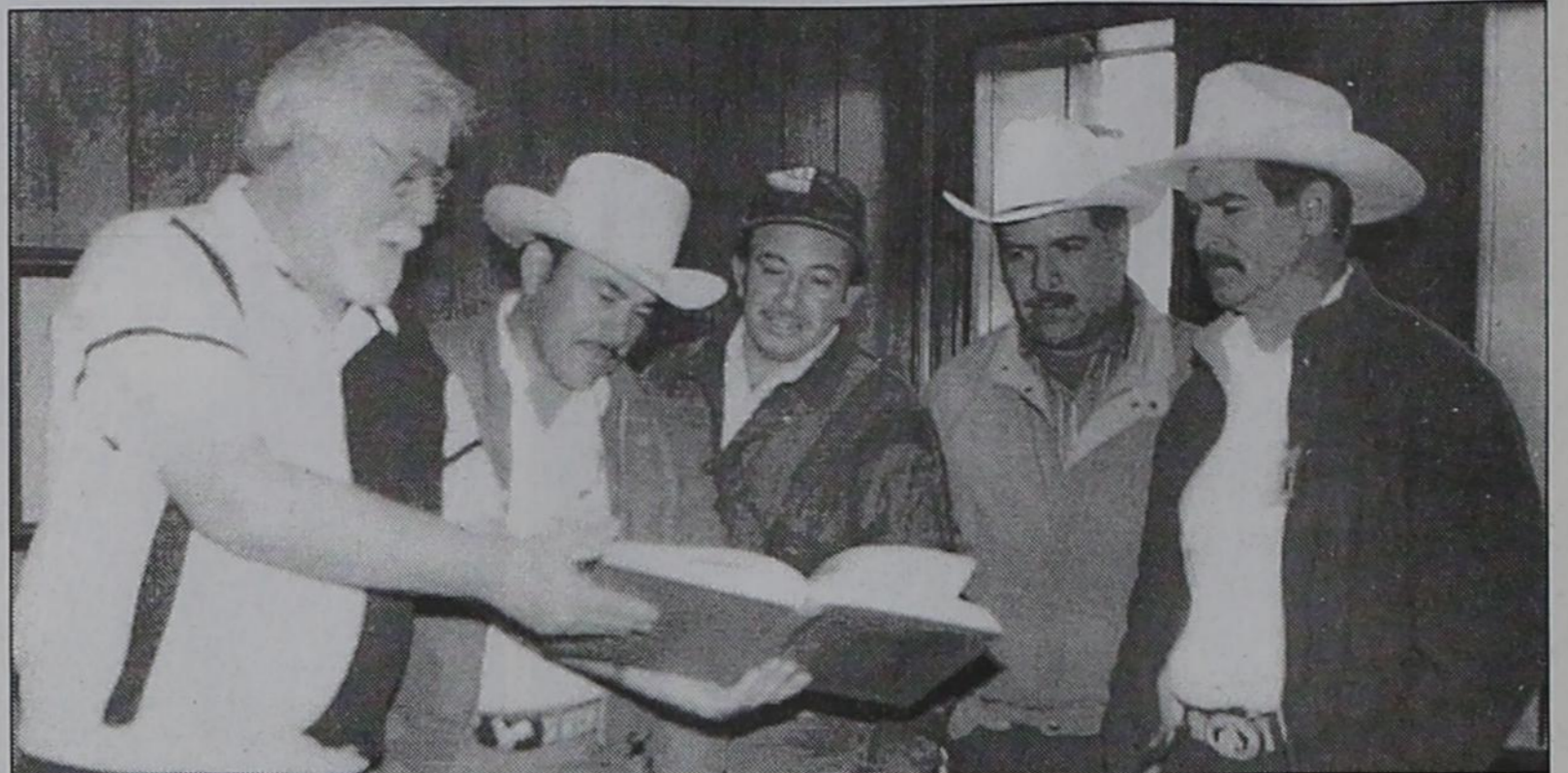
Those planning to attend should call Castro County Extension Agent Marilyn Neal at 647-4115.

## Wildflower Hotline open through May

So you've got friends and family who want to see those famous Texas bluebonnets . . . Where to go? Where to look? Just call the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center's Texas Wildflower Hotline at (512) 832-4037.

The Wildflower Hotline is a 24-hour service that details the locations of the most spectacular roadside displays of wildflowers throughout Texas. The Hotline runs March 5 through May 21 and is updated every Friday by Wildflower Center botanists.

Wildflowers are blooming all over Central Texas, but the best place to see them is still the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Named one of "America's Best Public Gardens" by *Garden Design* magazine, the center is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. During the month of April, the center is also open on Mondays.



"HERE'S WHAT CASTRO COUNTY USED TO LOOK LIKE—Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bill Sava (left) shows a group of farmers from Chihuahua, Mexico, what happened in Castro County during the dust bowl years—before modern farming practices helped diminish the problem of blinding blowing dirt during strong West Texas winds. The farmers were visiting Castro County last week, hoping to gain

knowledge and learn about how county farmers are conserving water with the use of center pivot systems. Hosting the group of farmers was international businessman Tony Rodriguez of Dimmitt. The Mexican farmers touring county farms and feedlots include (from second left) Socorra Vega, Miguel Angel Gonzales, Carlos Rios Taria and Julian Rios Taria. Photo by Anne Acker

## Mexican farmers tour county farms

A group of farmers from Chihuahua, Mexico, were in Castro County last week, touring area farms and feedlots, and getting information about center pivot systems and how the sprinklers can help conserve water.

The four visiting farmers were Socorro Vega, Miguel Angel Gonzalez, Carlos Rios Tapia and Julian

Rios Tapia.

The four were guided on their tour by international businessman Tony Rodriguez of Dimmitt.

"I've told them about the problems we have in the Panhandle with out depleting water supply and how the center pivots can help," said Rodriguez. "They could use this type of equipment to help alleviate the

drought situation in their country. They are to do business with a local company. They are also looking at other farm equipment."

Rodriguez said the farmers raise mainly vegetables, with peppers being one of the primary crops.

The entourage arrived in Dimmitt March 15 and returned to Mexico Sunday, Rodriguez said.

## Farm Service Agency Update

**By TRISH ELLIOTT**  
**FSA County Executive Director**  
 Beginning April 12, our office will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and starting April 14 our office will be closed each Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

This is a new policy that all FSA offices plan to adhere to in order to have some time to work uninterrupted. Your cooperation in planning your time to conduct business in our office during these hours will be appreciated.

### Environmental quality incentives (EQIP) program

This is the program that replaced the old ACP program. If you have conservation practices on your farm that need to be completed, stop by the FSA office and sign up by Wednesday.

There are funds that will be allocated after this sign-up period ends. Producers can choose 5 to 10 year contracts and can elect their own level of cost-share assistance up to 75% of the expense.

Producers will be competing with producers in other counties for available funds. Environmental benefits scoring is similar to that of scoring for CRP.

### Livestock assistance program (LAP)

The deadline for applying for the Livestock Assistance Program is today (Thursday).

Those intending to apply should contact the FSA office as soon as possible. All applications will have to be uploaded for consideration by Friday. To schedule an appointment, call the FSA office at (806) 647-2153.

The FSA office has been notified that the payment limitation for the program has been changed to \$40,000.

If you have filed an application for the Livestock Assistance Program, check with the FSA office to make sure you have filed Form CCC-502 (payment limitation form) and Form AD-1026 (Highly Erodible and Wetland Conservation Certification).

### 1999 AMTA program payments

Producers have until Aug. 2 to request their 1999 AMTA program payments. Producers who haven't received a payment yet who think they should have, should call or stop by the FSA office.

We still have several producers that have not designated shares or requested 1999 payments.

Producers have the option of requesting the 1999 PFC payments in two 50% payments or one 100% payment anytime before Aug. 2.

### Price support loan & loan deficiency (LDP) availability dates

Wednesday is the final day for requesting a 1998 loan or loan deficiency payment for wheat, oats, barley, corn, grain sorghum, soybeans and cotton.

Since loan deficiency payments could be applicable for 1999 crops also, producers are reminded to watch the markets and not sell crops until after they have applied for a loan deficiency payment or POP in the FSA office.

### Dairy relief

All dairy farmers who produced milk during the last quarter of calendar year 1998 are eligible for the new dairy income loss assistance program.

Under this plan, USDA will make payments based upon a dairy operation's first 26,000 hundredweight of milk produced in 1998 or 1997, whichever is the highest.

The final payment rate per hundredweight will be calculated after sign-up ends, but USDA is estimating that it will be between 18 and 20 cents per hundred, with maximum benefits being around \$5,000 per operation.

Producers may apply for the program at the FSA office from April 12

(Continued on Page 9)

## 61st ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1999  
 5 P.M. • BULL BARN  
 HEREFORD, TEXAS

- PLUS... A short business meeting!
- PLUS... A meal of beef, fish, and chicken!
- PLUS... Entertainment by the Palmetto State Quartet!
- PLUS... Door prizes valued at more than \$1,000 will be awarded!

**\$1,000,000**  
 of Capital Credits from 1986, 1987, 1988, and a portion of 1989 will be returned to Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative members

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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, Great American Farmer, Good Neighbor

**SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL TALENT** ..... 8 a.m. daily

**MARKET REPORTS** ..... 40 past the hour;  
 starting at 9:40 a.m., M-F

# KDHN 1470

# SPS offers April bill reductions

Southwestern Public Service Co. customers in Texas will see an ongoing price reduction of about 8%, beginning with April electric bills.

The Texas customers also will see a one-time credit to April bills, reducing the bill for an average home by about one third.

The changes were approved Friday by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

They reflect a \$44 million annual reduction in the fuel-cost portion of future bills from SPS.

SPS residential customers in Texas using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of service monthly will see a drop in their bills of \$3.74, or 6%. The one-time credit for a home typically using 1,000

kilowatt-hours will reduce the April bill by \$19.32.

Commercial and industrial customers of SPS in Texas will see reductions of up to 11%, because fuel accounts for a greater portion of their overall bills.

SPS customers in New Mexico, Oklahoma and Kansas already are enjoying similar reductions in their electric bills. Regulations in those states differ from regulations in Texas, but the price changes are equivalent.

SPS also is providing lower prices to its regional wholesale customers.

The one-time credit and the ongoing reductions in customers' future bills reflect savings SPS has achieved in costs for fuels that fire the boilers at its power generating plants.

The reductions reflect, especially, lowered costs of transporting coal by rail from mines in Wyoming to the coal-fueled SPS plants near Amarillo and Muleshoe. SPS announced the reductions in November, noting that a dispute with the rail carrier—ongoing since 1990—had been settled, allowing significant savings. Also, costs of natural gas and coal generally are down, allowing additional reductions.

SPS's electric rates in 1999 will be 25% lower than they were 16 years ago. By contrast, overall consumer prices have increased 67% during the past 16 years.

The inflation-adjusted price of electricity from SPS has declined 55% since 1983, which means the "real" cost of electricity from SPS today is less than half of what it was in 1983.

SPS, a New Century Energies company, is a regional, investor-owned electric utility providing service to a population of about 1 million in a 52,000-square-mile area comprised of the South Plains and Panhandle of Texas, eastern New Mexico, the Oklahoma Panhandle, and southwestern Kansas.

# 4-H'ers enter stock shows

Castro County 4-H members entered three other stock shows across the state after doing well at the Castro County Livestock Show.

## San Antonio

Evan Huseman showed a Crossbred barrow in the Fifth Class and won fourth place.

Rayne Bradley exhibited a medium wool lamb, "which made the first cut in this very tough lamb show," said Rebel Royall, county agent. "However, she failed to make the sale in the judge's final placing."

Sixteen other 4-H members also showed barrows at the show.

## Houston

"Houston found us with a little better luck than we had at San Antonio," said Royall. "We took 23 swine projects to the sift at Brenham and nine of those made it on to Houston."

Brady Schulte's Berkshire made it to the top of the list by winning the lightweight drive. Cliff Gerber's Duroc placed eighth in the heavyweights. Meggie Lemons exhibited a 12th place middleweight Spot. Brad Lane's Crossbred stood 15th in the fifth class of Durocs. Charlie Nutt showed the 16th place Crossbred in Class 1. Keli Schulte's Crossbred stood 20th in Class 4. Chandra Jordan's heavyweight Yorkshire stood 21st. Garrett Kleman had a 22nd place Crossbred in Class 3. Matthew Kern's middleweight York was 28th.

Three 4-H'er elected to take steer projects to Houston. Meggie Lemons showed a lightweight Shorthorn calf which placed second in its class. This enabled her to attend the Houston livestock Show's premium auction for the first time in her showing career, according to Royall.

## San Angelo

Out of the four pigs local 4-H'ers took to this show, Keli Schulte's middleweight Hampshire was the only one to place. It took third in its class and was awarded a position in the premium auction.



RESERVE BREED CHAMPION YORKSHIRE AT HOUSTON  
... Owned by Justin Hawkins of Hart

# Hawkins drives York to reserve breed title

Justin Hawkins of Hart drove his Yorkshire barrow to the reserve breed championship recently at the Houston Livestock Show.

Hawkins, son of Quincy and Sue Hawkins of Hart, captured first-place honors in his class, the second of three for Yorkshires. That earned him the right to compete for breed champion, then reserve breed champion honors after the top prize went to Tate Newsome of Brownfield.

Hawkins sold his barrow for \$14,000, but he will only receive \$10,000 because of the cap on prize money paid at the show. The rest of the money will go into the Houston Livestock Show Scholarship Fund.

Hawkins, a senior at Hart High School, has exhibited barrows in the Houston show for nine years, and this was his best finish.

Several other Castro County exhibitors fared well in this year's Houston Show. Here's how they placed.

## BARROW SHOW

- Class 1 Cross: 15. Charley Nutt of Dimmitt.
- Class 2 Cross: 2. Adam Wright of Dimmitt.
- Class 3 Cross: 15. Mary Bradley of Dimmitt, 21. Garrett Kleman of Nazareth.
- Class 4 Cross: 16. Trinity Robb of Nazareth, 20. Keli Schulte of Nazareth.

Class 5 Cross: 7. Elizabeth Olvera of Nazareth, 14. Brad Lane of Dimmitt.

Class 1 Chester White: 3. Trevor Barnes of Dimmitt.

Class 2 Chester White: 4. Jeremy Simpson of Dimmitt.

Class 2 Spotted: 12. Meggie Lemons of Dimmitt.

Class 1 Hampshire: 12. Lindsey Martinez of Hart.

Class 1 Duroc: 3. Matthew Wright of Dimmitt.

Class 2 Duroc: 16. Jake Porsch of Dimmitt.

Class 5 Duroc: 8. Clifford Gerber of Nazareth, 18. Tyler Cornett of Dimmitt.

Class 1 Berkshire: 1. Brady Schulte of Nazareth.

Class 2 Yorkshire: 1. Justin Hawkins of Hart (Reserve Breed Champion), 28. Matthew Kern of Nazareth.

Class 3 Yorkshire: 20. Chandra Jordan of Nazareth.

## STEER SHOW

Class 1 Shorthorn: 2. Meggie Lemons of Dimmitt.

## LAMB SHOW

Class 2 Finewool Cross: 10. Jinna Wright of Dimmitt.

No president of the United States was an only child.

# Swisher Electric plans annual meeting tonight

Swisher Electric Cooperative will hold its annual membership meeting tonight (Thursday) at the Ezra Jones School Cafeteria, located at 501 Northeast Fourth Street in Tulia.

Swisher Electric Cooperative is looking into the past, at its very origins 60 years ago, for direction as it enters a rapidly changing era in electric utility regulation. Incorporated on Sept. 30, 1939, the cooperative's 59th annual meeting on March 25 will recognize those who helped build the cooperative over the past 60 years. The new era for Swisher Electric will highlight the official introduction of the cooperative as a Touchstone Energy partner.

Registration and a buffet supper for members and guests is slated to begin at 6:30 p.m. at the cafeteria.

The business meeting will begin at 7:15 p.m. and will be highlighted by election of three directors.

Incumbent directors seeking reelection are Eddie Bryan, president; Richard Tye, vice president; and Dee Inglis, secretary-treasurer. Members nominated by the nominating committee to oppose them are Larry Stevens, Tim Wilhelm and Tom Garrison, respectively. The seven-member nominating committee met on Jan. 21.

Voting in the director election is reserved for current members who registered in person or by proxy representative.

Other highlights of the meeting will include recognition of some former contractor employees who

built lines and substations for Swisher Electric in 1948, brief management and audit reports, attendance packets and door prizes. Members must be present to win door prizes and must have registered prior to the start of the business meeting.

# 4-H County Roundup is slated April 5

The annual Castro County 4-H Roundup will be held April 5 at the Extension office in Dimmitt, and a Mexican stack-up pot-luck meal is being planned.

The Parent/Leader Association will furnish the meat and 4-H'ers are asked to bring something else to add to the Mexican stack-up.

The first Method Demonstration will begin at 5:30 p.m. and presentations will follow until the dinner break at approximately 7 p.m. Method Demonstrations will continue after the meal.

"It is extremely important that you call in and reserve your time for your Method Demonstration," said Castro County Extension Agent Marilyn Neal. "We will reserve 15 minutes per Method Demonstration. Please call the office and let us know what time you would like to do your Method Demonstration."

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# Fish fry is Friday

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church will hold a fish fry every Friday night through March 26.

The weekly fish fries will be each Friday from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the church's cafeteria.

The menu will include fried fish, red beans, potato salad, rolls, cornbread, homemade dessert, tea and coffee. Cost will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Take-out plates will be available.

Proceeds from the meals will help fund ongoing projects at the church.

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Years

Swisher Electric  
Cooperative

1939 - 1999

## 59th Annual Membership Meeting

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Ezra Jones School Cafeteria  
501 N.E. 4th Street, Tulia

Registration & Buffet Supper - 6:30 p.m.  
Business Meeting - 7:15 p.m.

Highlights: Director Elections \* Door Prizes

A Touchstone Energy™ Partner



## Welcome moisture recorded by Water District so far in 1999

Some much needed precipitation fell across most of the 15-county High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 service area over the first two months of 1999, according to rain gauge readings taken at more than 350 soil moisture sites maintained by the district.

"Total precipitation recorded in the rain gauge network for January and February ranged from less than a half inch in Bailey, Cochran, Deaf Smith and Parmer counties to 2.5 inches in portions of Crosby and Floyd counties," said Becky Britten, Water District agriculturalist.

Precipitation totals in Castro County during that period ranged from 1.5 inches to a half-inch. The greater amount of precipitation was recorded in a small area near the center of the county, with the smaller amounts being recorded across the county.

Most of the moisture content occurred in January when National Weather Service forecast offices in Amarillo and Lubbock officially recorded 2.67 and 1.35 inches of precipitation, respectively. Both stations received on trace precipitation in February.

District personnel read rain gauges to obtain data for the annual pre-

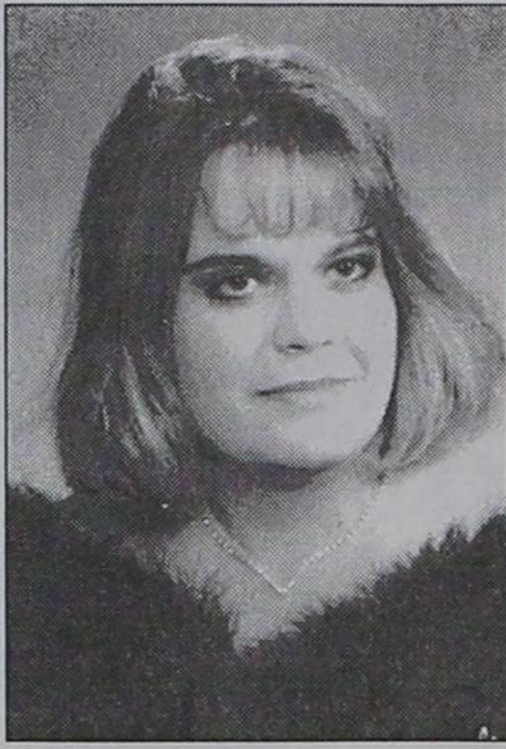
plant soil moisture survey and the precipitation enhancement program. The rain gauge network provides important information to help district personnel determine how much precipitation actually reaches the ground as storm systems move across the area.

Although people are tired of hearing about it, local National Weather Service officials say the El Niño weather phenomenon (now La Niña) is still an important weather event impacting the Texas High Plains region.

"The waters of the Pacific Coast that were once warm with the El Niño phenomenon have now cooled as a result of La Niña. This affects weather patterns and is causing the mild winter that we are currently experiencing," said Walter R. "Andy" Anderson of the Lubbock National Weather Service office.

Anderson told attendees at the March 11 Southwest Crops Conference and Exposition that a strong La Niña pattern usually means limited spring precipitation.

"We are looking at above-normal temperatures and below-average precipitation through the spring with a chance to return to normal conditions later in the summer as the La Niña phenomenon decreases," he said.



Joy H. Long

## Long wins scholarship

Joy H. Long, daughter of Jim and Carlene Long of Dimmitt, will receive special recognition at Amarillo College's annual honors convocation after winning the Leon L. Hoyt Jr. Scholarship for 1998-99.

The award is presented to outstanding students at the school.

The Honors Convocation is a very special Amarillo College event which recognizes AC's outstanding students in the presence of family and friends. The event will be held at the Amarillo Civic Center in April.

Long is maintaining a 3.5 grade-point average at Amarillo College. She is a graduate of Nazareth High School.

## Ground water contamination can be reduced with proper care

By **JOHNNA PATTERSON**  
Integrated Pest Management Extension Agent

Fertilizers and pesticides play a vital role in agriculture and also are commonly used in urban areas.

Fertilizers and pesticides increase crop production and improve lawns and gardens dramatically. They have increased farm production and enabled farmers to manage more acres with less labor. Taking voluntary action to prevent fertilizer and pesticide contamination of ground water will help ensure that they remain available for responsible use.

Commercial fertilizer is a major source of nitrate, which can contaminate ground water. The nitrate-nitrogen maximum contaminant level (MCL—or the level beyond which human health problems can occur) in federal and state drinking water standards is 10 milligrams per liter (mg/l; equivalent to 10 parts per million). Nitrogen levels above the MCL have been found in many water wells in Texas.

Other major components of commercial fertilizer such as phosphorus and potassium are not generally a ground water contamination concern.

Elevated nitrate levels in drinking water can pose serious risk to infants. Infants under 6 months of age are particularly susceptible to health problems, including the condition known as methemoglobinemia (blue

baby syndrome), which is caused by drinking water with elevated nitrate content. Nitrates also can affect adults, but the evidence is less certain.

Young livestock also are susceptible to health problems from high nitrate-nitrogen levels. While livestock may be able to tolerate several times the 10 mg/l nitrate-nitrogen level, 20 to 40 mg/l may prove harmful, especially in combination with high levels (1,000 mg/l) of nitrate-nitrogen from feed sources.

Improper handling of fertilizers can affect ground water by allowing nitrogen to seep through the soil and down into the water. Other potential sources of nitrate are septic system, livestock yards, livestock waste storage facilities and silage storage.

Pesticides work by interfering with the life processes of plants and insects. Some pesticides also are toxic to humans. If a pesticide enters a water supply in large quantities, which could happen with spills or back-siphonage accidents, acute health effects (toxic effects apparent only after a short period of exposure) could occur, depending on the toxicity of the pesticide.

Contaminated ground water used for drinking water supplies may cause chronic exposure (prolonged or repeated exposure to low doses of toxic substances). Chronic exposure may be hazardous to humans and livestock.

Normally, pesticides are not found in water supplies in high enough concentrations to cause acute health effects which can include chemical burns, nausea and convulsions. Instead, pesticides usually occur in trace amounts, and the concern is for the chronic health problems that may result from prolonged exposure.

Proper pesticide and fertilizer management on your property is an important step toward preventing ground water contamination.

Promptly sweep up dry spills and reuse the fertilizer or pesticide as it was intended. Dry spills are usually easier to clean up. Dry pesticide impregnated fertilizer is considered pesticide and, if spilled, should be recovered and applied to the target crop as it was intended.

For liquid spills, recover as much of the spill as possible and reuse it as it was intended. It may be necessary to remove contaminated soil and

spread it on fields, garden or lawn. Have an emergency response plan ready for action. Know where runoff water will flow, how to handle your particular fertilizers or pesticides and whom to call for help.

Reducing fertilizer and pesticide waste makes financial and well as environmental sense, but it means more than just reducing spills. It also means not buying more than you need and keeping records of what you have on hand, and using older products first. Buying only what you need makes long-term storage unnecessary. Storing pesticides during cold weather can make some of them useless.

Record keeping may seem unrelated to ground water contamination, but knowing what you have used in the past and what you currently have on hand allows you to make better purchasing decisions.

Keep records of past applications, rates and effectiveness of each product.

Along with field records, add information such as the manufacturer's name and address, chemical types and handling precautions for pesticides. This information can be important if you must respond quickly to an accident.

Purchase fertilizers only after careful and complete soil testing to determine your exact needs. Using older products first keeps an inventory current and effective.

Unwashed and improperly stored containers can lead to ground water contamination if chemical residues leak onto the ground. Pressure-rinse or triple-rinse pesticide containers immediately after use since residue can be difficult to remove after it dries. Pour the rinse water into the spray tank. Puncture containers and store them in a covered area until you take them to a permitted landfill. Do not simply empty and throw containers into the garbage.

Recycle plastic and metal containers at approved pesticide waste disposal sites whenever possible. Shake out bags, bind or wrap them to minimize dust, and take them to a permitted landfill. Do not bury or burn pesticide containers or bags on private property.

Ground water protection is OUR responsibility. If you purchase or use fertilizers or pesticides, make sure to use, store and dispose of them properly to ensure safe drinking water for everyone.

## Dr. Morris Webb

OPTOMETRIST

Office Hours 9-5

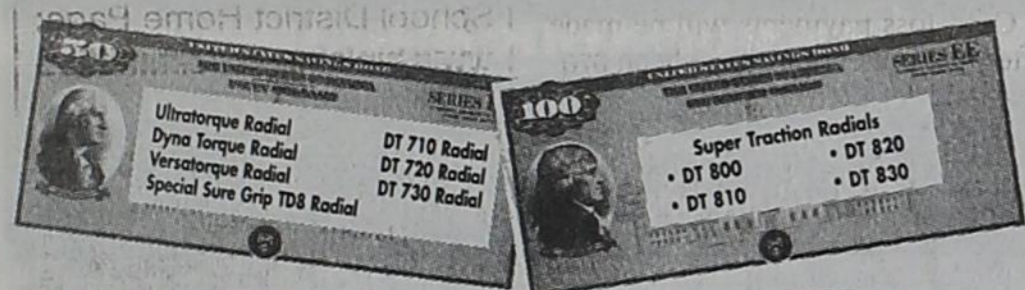
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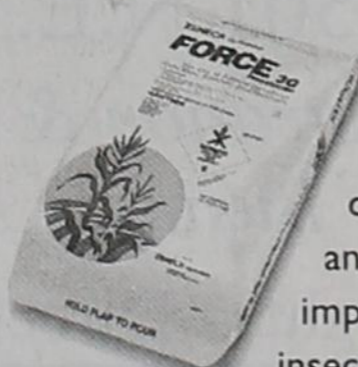
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## Class of '89 sets reunion

The Dimmitt High School Class of 1989 is planning a 10-year reunion for Saturday, July 24, at Country Club of Dimmitt, and organizers of the event are seeking addresses for several class members.

Those planning the event need help in locating the following class members: Robert Anes, Oscar Balderas, Juan Casas, Lisa Dominguez, Rene Enriquez, Paul Espinosa, Alicia Garza, Becky Hernandez, Noemi Ibarra, Jo Ann Juarez (Pena), Victor Medelline, Alma Murillo, Paula Roberson, Elsa Rodriguez, Roger Rodriguez, Becky Rutkowski, Adolph Salazar, Betty Sanchez, Josie Villareal and Curtis Ward.

If you have any information on how to contact these people, contact Chad Davis at (806) 647-2265 (work) or (806) 647-0502 (home); Alicia Bradley at Dimmitt High School, (806) 647-3105; or Mat Bradley at (806) 647-3223.

They would like to have addresses or phone numbers on all class members by April 15.

## Pancake supper planned in Hart

The Hart American Legion will sponsor a pancake supper tonight (Thursday) from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Hart School Cafeteria.

Tickets for the meal are \$3 per person and can be bought from any Legionnaire or at the door.

The all-you-can-eat meal will include pancakes, sausage, bacon, coffee and juice.

## 4-H leaders plan meeting

The Castro County 4-H club managers and parent-leaders will hold a training session and meeting on Monday at the courthouse.

The club managers training will start at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Parent/Leader Association meeting at 7 p.m.







# Kids Inc. basketball starts play in Dimmitt

The Kids Inc. Little Dribblers program in Dimmitt started game action Monday night.

Boys' teams have games scheduled on Monday and Thursday nights, and girls' teams play on Tuesday and Friday nights. Minor leagues play in Cleveland Memorial Gymnasium and major leagues play at the gym at the high school.

Teams, coaches and players are listed below by league.

### Minor League Boys

The Schaeffer, Sutton, Schaeffer & Myatt team is coached by Layne Myatt. Team members are Ross Myatt, Robby Lopez, Eric Odum, Kalan Steinele, Max Sandoval, Isidro Villalba, Rudy Corrales and Wesley Nutt.

Roy's Plumbing is coached by George Rator and Eddie Sutton. Team members are Michael Rator, Houston Sutton, Marcus Herrera, Rocky Navarro, Beau Gonzales, Caleb Snitker, and Diego Salinas.

ALCO is coached by Albert Acevedo. Team members are Chris Gilliam, Jerry Pedroza, Christopher Gregory, Cameron Cluck, Sterling Brock, Julian Eric Saenz, and Zane Matthews.

Lane Dirt Co. is coached by Robert Nelson. Team members are Klay Clearman, Jorge Robles, Cody Eby, Brad Lane, Tucker

Waggoner, Bryce Parker, Scott Martinez, and George Dones.

Bobcat Barber Shop is coached by Ruben Martinez. Team members are Curtis Thomas, Dustin Thomas, Jerry Martinez, Gabriel Todd Martinez, Fabian Lopez, Matthew Ryan Almanza, and Eric Mirelez.

Castro County Hospital District is coached by Willie and Brenda Porsch. Team members are Landon Porsch, Michael Cline, Luis Angel Luna, Joshua Gamez, Zach Stirling, Joshua Norman, Jesus Ortiz, and Victor Ortiz.

Cerestar is coached by Randy Griffith and Tad Cornett. Team members are Kaden Griffith, Toby Ward, Dennis Underwood, Tyler Cornett, Chris Pompa, George Olmos, and Justin Lively.

### Major League Boys

The C&S Battery team is coached by Sal Ortiz and Scott Sheffy. Team members are Stu Sheffy, Nicholas Ortiz, Matthew Calderon, Omar Pena, Bo Sifuentes, and Zjhon Smothermon.

Pancake House is coached by Stanley Maurer and Donovan Ferguson. Team members are Casey Maurer, Steven Caballero, Matthew Larra, Javier Rodriguez, Billy Dollar, Garrett Behrends, and Taylor Ferguson.

Smothermon Ditching is coached by Brent Self and Don Bell. Team members are Tucker Self, Jared Bell, Jordan Bell, Ben Birdwell, Jerrot Ferguson, Omar Catano, Fabian Diaz, and Isaac Aguilera.

First Bank Muleshoe is coached by Gary Hunter and Sara Hunter. Team members are Sean Hunter, Ross Hunter, Ryan Hunter, Darrell Reyes, Charley Saenz, Gerald Thomas, Carlos Escamilla, and Mario James Sepeda.

Coleman Pharmacy is coached by Noemi Ponce and Susan Coleman. Team members are Daniel Coleman, Matthew Ruiz, Jacob Ruiz, Mark Anthony Dones, Jason Todd Cortis, Christopher Lee Saenz, Raul Dones, and Adrian Trevino.

Dimmitt Printing is coached by Ignacio Sifuentes and Ricky Reyes. Team members are Ignacio Sifuentes Jr., Jacob Mirelez, Ricky Reyes Jr., Rudy Salinas, Aaron Herrera, Sergio Saucedo, Christopher Velasquez, and Michael Stevens.

Dimmitt Consumers is coached by Gene Penney and Les Miller. Team members are Layne Penney, Ryan Miller, Jeremy Norman, Jeffery Williams, Weldon Allison, Jose Ramirez, Cesar Mejia, and Jeremy Gamez.

### Minor League Girls

The Red X team is coached by Chris and Jennifer Edwards. Team members are Kirsti Edwards, Natasha Jordan, Brittany Heard, Randi Cates Shaw, Cassidy Watts, Ashley Cotter, and Courtney Jo Garza.

Wright & Sons is coached by Shawna Kenworthy, Carol Summers, and Bobbi Morton. Team members are Kimberly Buffham, Lana Reinart, Amanda Castaneda, Lorena Mendoza, Marisela Saucedo, Roxann Martinez, Carmen Pena, and Ninfa Isela Velo.

Dimmitt Equipment Co. is coached by Glen and Heather Black. Team members are Erin Black, Brandi Alexandra Olvera, Kim Back, Kayla Saenz, Timberly Jenkins, Chauncey Gilbreath, Natacia Sullivan Ramos, and Brittany Allen.

First United Bank is coached by Rita Ramos. Team members are Anna Brockman, Brandy Smith, Jessie Arguijo, Tabatha McAllister, Ashley Fleeks, Haylee Evans,

Loraine Aguero, and Amber Weaver.

Benny's Auto is coached by Val and Yvette Barrera. Team members are KaShondra Sherman, Monica Mirelez, C.J. Gregory, Samantha Howell, Kamryn Steffens, Casey Enriquez, Makenzie Sims, and Heather Marquez.

North Gin is coached by Steve Buckley and Jim Bradford. Team members are Molly Bradford, Ahshley Patlan, Valerie Villarreal, Chelsea Buckley, Dana Sandoval, Joslyn Harmonson, Yvette Arce, and Renee Ross.

### Major League Girls

The team for Gary's Engine is coached by Ronda Wise and Tina Maurer. Team members are Hayli Wise, Brittany Williams, Sarah E. Lopez, Clarissa Herrera, Roxanne Martinez, Corrie Black, Viktorya Navarro, Kelly Reyes, and Mackenzi Pigg.

Seale Florist is coached by Max McClure and Larry Gilliam. Team members are Kristin McClure, Holly Gilliam, Shauna Nutt, Kristy

Reyes, Sabrena Patlan, Vanessa Caballero, Tabitha Sullivan Ramos, Laura Rasor, and Nikita Ross.

Hereford Texas Federal Credit Union is coached by Tod Bradley and Lori Wilhite. Team members are Raynee Bradley, Megan Lemons, Marisa Allison, Haley Heard, Bridgette Velasquez, Esther Velasquez, Shenea Wright, Krystal Mae Martinez, and Ruby Espinoza.

Goodpasture is coached by Darla and Tony Fisher. Team members are Darcy Fisher, Victoria Tarango, Jessica Ortega, Haydee Villalba, Kathy Amador, Melissa Campos, Jessica Navarro, Marissa Demster, and Dakota Pitcock.

Paxton Tire & Service is coached by Joe Nino and Raymond Fuentes. Team members are Jennifer Fuentes, Jennifer Montes, Mandi Ebeling, Sharette Johnson, Ashlee Renee Nino, Kendra Puente, Angelica Quiroz, and Shelley Paxton.

## 5K run, mile walk to benefit athletes

A five-kilometer run and one-mile walk and fun run will be held in Dimmitt April 10 and proceeds from the events will help send three local athletes to the North Carolina World Games this year.

The county athletes who will be competing at the world games include B.J. Klein and Joey and Dene Schacher.

The races will be held at the Dimmitt VFW Post Home, located east of Dimmitt, and entry fee is \$10 per person. Entry fee should be sent to Klein at PO Box 77, Nazareth 79063. Registration will be from 7 to 8:30 a.m. the day of the race.

The one-mile walk and fun run will start at 9 a.m. and the 5K race is slated to start around 10 a.m.

There will be men's and women's division in each race. The mile walk and fun run will be split into five age categories: 20 and under, 21-30, 31-40, 41-50 and 51 and over.

The 5K run will include the following age divisions: 15 and under, 16-23, 24-30, 31-40, 41-50 and 51 and over.

Medals will be presented to first-, second- and third-place winners in each group.

For more information about the race, call Klein at 945-2237.

## Track Results

### W.H. HALLMARK INVITATIONAL at Lockney

**Boys' Division**  
Team Totals: 1. Floydada 105, 2. Abernathy 87, 3. Sundown 79, 4. Springlake-Earth 68, 5. (Tie) Hart and Lockney 55, 7. Crosbyton 32, 8. Vega 17, 9. Ralls 16, 10. Valley 10, 11. Trinity Christian 2.

**Discus:** 1. Gerardo Dozal, Hart, 120-0.  
**Long Jump:** 2. Jared Aven, Hart, 19-7.  
**Triple Jump:** 3. Jeremiah Velasquez, Hart, 38-6.

**Girls' Division**  
Team Totals: 1. Lockney 150, 2. Hart 66, 3. Sundown 63, 4. Ralls 60, 5. Vega 57, 6. Floydada 50, 7. Crosbyton 44, 8. Abernathy 37, 9. Olton 23, 10. Lazbuddie 17, 11. Happy 14, 12. Valley 8.

**High Jump:** 2. Angelica Perales, Hart, 4-11.  
**100 Hurdles:** 1. Angelica Perales, Hart, 16:30.  
**400 Relay:** 3. Hart, 53:30.

### MUSTANG RELAYS at Andrews

**Boys' Division**  
Team Totals: 1. Andrews 131, 2. Big Spring 118, 3. Lovington, N.M., 4. Hobbs, N.M., 5. Nazareth 10, 6. Monahans 1.

**Discus:** 1. Bo Hunter, Nazareth, 155-10.

## Crime Line offers rewards for crime info

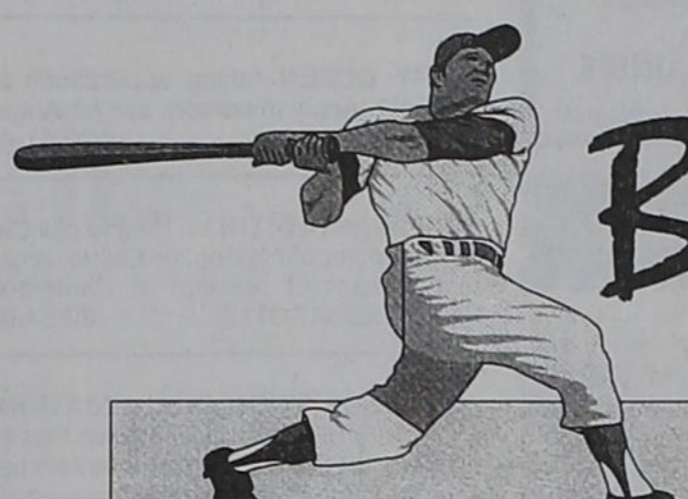
Dimmitt Police and the Castro County Sheriff's Dept. frequently offer rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for crimes that are committed in the area.

However, Crime Line also may pay rewards to informants for information about crimes that may not have been featured in a Crime Line campaign.

Castro County Sheriff CD Fitzgearld said that anyone with information about any crimes that may have been committed in the county are urged to call the Crime Line number at 647-4711. Law enforcement personnel will consider paying rewards for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of a perpetrator.

Informants may remain anonymous, and rewards are paid through a drop system.

Call the Sheriff's Office at 647-3311, or the Crime Line number, 647-4711.



# Battin' Bobcats!

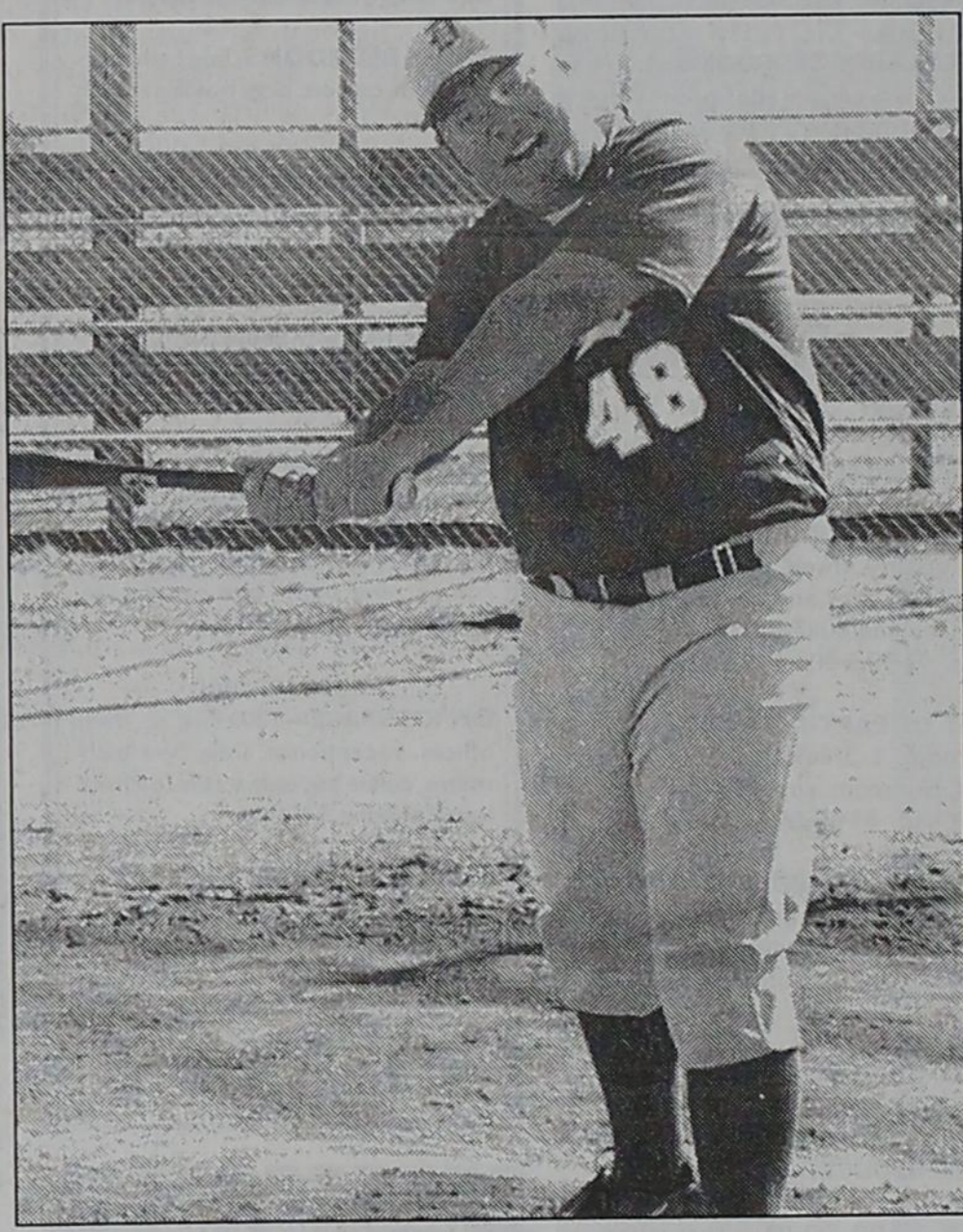
## Good Luck, Bobcats!

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★  
**TUESDAY: Bobcats vs. Tulia, 4:30 p.m., There**



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Senior First Base



**FABIAN SALINAS**  
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- Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply
- Dimmitt Ready Mix
- Don's Wrecker Service & Body Shop
- El Sombrero Restaurant
- First United Bank of Dimmitt
- Gary's Engine & Machine
- Goodpasture, Inc.

- Hereford Texas Federal Credit Union
- Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.
- Hi-Plains Oil Co.
- Insurance Solutions
- E.M. Jones Ditching
- The North Gin of Dimmitt, Inc.
- Pancake House
- Red X Travel Center
- Jimmy & Nancy Ross
- Schaeffer, Sutton, Schaeffer & Myatt
- Tam Anne Cattle Feeders
- Terra International
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# Obituaries

## Wanda Brown

Funeral services for Wanda F. Brown, 66, of Amarillo, the sister of a Nazareth man, were held Tuesday morning in Kingswood United Methodist Church of Amarillo, with Rev. Terry Tamplen, pastor, and Don Novak, pastor of Harvest Christian Fellowship of Amarillo, officiating.

Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery of Amarillo under direction of Rector Funeral Home of Amarillo.

Mrs. Brown died March 20. She was born in Wellington and moved to Amarillo in 1960. She married Leroy Brown in 1952. She retired from Homeland Stores in 1994, and was a member of Kingswood United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Theresa Brown in 1973.

Survivors include her husband; two daughters, Tammy Novak and Tanya Joyce Fahnert, both of Amarillo; three brothers, Dale Johnson of Amarillo, Don Johnson of Channing and Dean Johnson of Nazareth; four sisters, Belva Terry and Robena Duncan, both of Artesia, N.M., Evelyn Callaghan of Clearwater, Fla., and Martha Morris of Wellington; and four grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to a favorite charity.

## Florence M. Foskey

Services for Florence M. Foskey, 72, of Laurel, Dela., mother of Mike Foskey, former Dimmitt resident, will be held Friday at 2 p.m. at Short Funeral Home in Laurel with the Rev. Kevin English officiating.

Burial followed in Blades Cemetery in Blades, Dela., under the direction of Short Funeral Home.

Mrs. Foskey died Sunday at Nanticoke Memorial Hospital in Seaford, Dela., from injuries she suffered in an auto accident.

She was born in Seaford. She was a member of the Seaford Chapter of the Women of the Moose. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John F. Foskey, in 1980.

Survivors include three sons, Jerry F. Foskey of Wilmington, Dela., Wayne G. Foskey of Virginia and Michael A. Foskey of Flagler Beach, Fla.; six daughters, Sandra S. Willin, Sharon L. Marine, Phyllis A. McGee and Kimberly S. Hastings, all of Laurel; Jackie Belson of Milford, Dela.; and Kathy S. Givens; a brother, Jennings O'Neal of Florida; a sister, Dorothy Riffin of Laurel; 22 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Roxy Theater Project, PO Box 665, Olton, Texas 79064.

## Jim McKay

Funeral services for Jim McKay, 67, of Follett, and formerly of Dimmitt, were held Saturday in Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home Rose Chapel with Randy Byrd, pastor of Barn Church, officiating.

Burial was in West Park Cemetery. Mr. McKay died March 17.

He was born in Turkey, Texas, and moved to Deaf Smith County in 1974 from Dimmitt. He moved to Follett in 1993 from Hereford. He married Veda Golden in 1951 at Clovis, N.M. He was a truck driver.

He is survived by two sons, Ronnie McKay of Hereford and

David McKay of Perryton; a daughter, Donna Cornett of Follett; three sisters, Janice Stewart of Turkey, Joyce Reed of Amarillo and Judy Mulnick of Clarendon; 13 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society.

## Kimberly Newland

Funeral services for Kimberly Dawn Newland, 16, of Plains, and formerly of Dimmitt, were held Monday morning in Plains High School Auditorium with Rev. Bill Wright, pastor of First Baptist Church of Plains, officiating.

Graveside services and burial were held Monday evening in Wheeler Cemetery under direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Miss Newland was born May 28, 1982, in Pampa. She lived in Wheeler until she was 12, then moved to Dimmitt. In 1998, she moved to Plains where she was a junior at Plains High School, and played on the basketball team. She was TGCA All-State Class 2A, and had made All-District in 1998. She went to the Amateur Athletic Union national tournament in basketball with the Texas Tar Heels team for the past two years. She played volleyball, was an officer in the Future Homemakers of America, was on the Student Council for two years in Dimmitt, and was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

She was preceded in death by her father, Michael Lee Newland, in 1993.

She is survived by her mother, Jan Newland of Plains; a brother, Jarod Newland of Plains; and grandparents David and Louise Newland of Downing, Mo., and Dale and Lorene Irby of Clovis, N.M.

The family suggests memorials to the Mike and Kimberly Newland Scholarship Fund, c/o Jan Newland, Plains High School, Plains 79355.

## Jose Sifuentez

Services for Jose Sifuentez, 50, of Dimmitt, were held Tuesday morning at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Dimmitt with the Rev. Guillermo Morales, pastor, officiating. A vigil service was held Monday at the church.

Burial followed in Castro Memorial Gardens under the direction of Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home of Dimmitt.

Mr. Sifuentez died at 3:28 a.m. Saturday at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt.

He was born Aug. 3, 1948, in Waco. He moved to Dimmitt in 1958. He attended schools in Nazareth. He worked for AgriFarm Industries in Dimmitt for six years. He was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Dimmitt. He married Israel Casaneda on Jan. 31, 1997.

Survivors include his wife; a step-daughter, Tina L. Gentry of Dimmitt; three stepsons, Cornelino Gentry, Mitchell Gentry and Matthew Gentry, all of Dimmitt; three brothers, Juan Sifuentez of Brownfield, George Sifuentez Jr. of Earth and Pedro Sifuentez of Dimmitt; five sisters, Dionicia Torres of Lubbock, Mary Gonzales of Hart and Selia Sifuentez, Rosa Lucio and Cresencia Sifuentez, all of Dimmitt.



**A SERIOUS ROCK GARDEN**—Wayne Proffitt (left) plants and Gregg Nelson waters while Corky Nelson (right) supervises the further growth of the "rock garden" on the Nelsons' large front lawn at 907 W. Bedford St. Monday. Gregg found these granite boulders in central Nevada after he delivered a Raincat pivot sprinkler system there. Most of the boulders weighed about 1,500 lbs. apiece, although one on the truck trailer in left

background was about three times that heavy, Gregg said. These granite boulders joined a collection of Jacksboro, Texas, sandstone boulders and Nevada "rainbow rock" on the Nelson lawn, and won't show their true color until the limestone powder is washed off of them. "They cut down on the mowing, and they keep people from parking in our yard," Corky quipped.

Photo by Don Nelson

# ACGA discusses current price crisis

Over 125 delegates to the seventh annual convention of the American Corn Growers Association (ACGA) passed a series of important and far-reaching resolutions and special orders of business.

As part of the resolutions session, the delegates reiterated the ACGA's long standing support for an immediate removal of the loan rate cap followed by a cost of production loan rate and an extension of the loan from 9 to 15 months for greater market flexibility. They also reaffirmed their support for ethanol blends, ETBE and the continuation of the federal reformulated (RFG) program.

The following resolutions were adopted:

- The Administration and Congress should enact a new three-year Conservation Reserve Program using short-term cover crops such as legumes and that entry into this new program shall not be limited by the current arbitrary and restrictive EBI scoring system.
- Immediate action should be taken by Congress to fund and authorize an emergency supplemental appropriations to replenish Farm Service Agency (FSA) loan programs and that an additional \$100 million be included for FSA salaries and expenses to provide support for additional employees to timely deliver programs to producers.
- Every farm state should organize a rally to address the crisis in

agriculture and that all groups and all commodities should be included.

- Crop insurance coverage should be made available on crops at up to 100% of production costs, with a portion of the premium being subsidized by the federal government.

- Currency fluctuations should be a part of all future trade negotiations and fast track negotiating authority.

- To overcome the opposition by some buyers of US feed grains, the US Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) should assist producers wishing to export commodities that are non-genetically modified.

- American farmers and farm organizations should be present at the next round of the World Trade Organization meeting, which will be held in the United States this fall, and that those farmers express their opposition to the WTO and GATT agendas.

- Producers should give their support to the expansion of the Minnesota model that requires 2.7% oxygen for all gasoline for all major corn producing states.

- States in which bailment contracts are offered should pass legislation that gives first lien priority to contract growers and that farmers should seriously consider whether a

bailment contract is in their economic or social interest.

- The Federal Government should enact a minimum 10% set-aside tied to usage and ending stock projections.

Special orders of business addressed and approved by the delegates included:

- The ACGA opposes the merger of Cargill and Continental and feels that the US Justice Dept. should strictly and aggressively enforce antitrust laws and investigate the monopoly control in all other sectors of agriculture and specifically genetic engineering and biotechnology in the grain and livestock sectors.

Members are encouraged to call on Congress and appropriate state legislatures to enact legislation that will appoint a national Independent Study Commission to report on the ability of USDA to promote the economic well being of family farmers and ranchers. This commission should report on the potential conflicts of interest with family farmers embedded within USDA's career employee staff.

This legislation would also include the following measures:

- The appointment of a similar state study commission to examine respective State Departments of Agriculture.

- The legislation would prohibit any top career employee or political appointee from gaining employment within the industries they regulate for a period of five years after leaving the USDA or State Department of Agriculture.

Another order of business approved included the examination of the effects of electric deregulation legislation on farmers and rural Americans, and members feel that legislation should be enacted that would:

- Benefit farmers and rural Americans by lowering electricity prices.
- It does not include date specific enactment of electricity deregulation and allows states to proceed with caution and careful deliberation.
- Allow states to take the lead in implementing electricity deregulation legislation.
- Permits utilities to maintain all former service areas and allows affiliates to use the name and logo of parent utilities which will ensure true competition among all retail electric companies.

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