

Berlin Airlift 50th anniversary is marked by widow of aviator

Last month was the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Berlin Airlift, a humanitarian aid effort initiated to help the citizens of West Berlin. Begun by Gen. Lucius Clay, it is still considered one of the greatest air feats of all time.

The city was partitioned following World War II and Russia set up a blockade around the western part of the city in an attempt to effect a total Soviet takeover of the city. Food, fuel and other supplies were delivered to West Berlin's 2.2 million inhabitants by a stream of Allied planes. Over a 15-month period from June 1948 to September 1949, planes flew 377,248 missions to deliver 1.8 million tons of relief supplies.

Participating in nine months of that effort was the late J.G. Davis Jr. of Dimmitt, who was in the US Air Force. He served in the European theater during World War II and won the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Purple Heart, and other citations, according to his widow, Aural Davis of Dimmitt.

Davis said she still remembers the things Jay told her about the Airlift, or "Operation Vittles" as it was sometimes called. She said he flew on deliveries from January of 1949 until the blockade was lifted.

"He came home with coal dust still in his ears," Davis said. Coal for heating homes was one of the items transported.

"If he had stayed a little longer, I would have been able to join him overseas with our three little girls," Davis said. She said she was disappointed in a way that she didn't get the opportunity to see Europe, but she was glad the blockade ended and Jay got to come home.

According to Wes Izzard, airlift planes would take off from Rhein-Man Airbase in Frankfurt and cover a 110-mile stretch held by the Russians. The planes were required to fly rigidly within prescribed corridors and report their exact position at specified control points. Outgoing planes from Rhein-Man would head eastward for perhaps 50 miles, then turn abruptly north. They would fly at altitudes measured in even thousands—four, five or six thousand feet, depending on the weather. Coming back, they would fly another corridor, roughly 50 miles to the west, and at altitudes 500 feet either way from outgoing schedules. Izzard, who was editor-in-chief of the *Amarillo Globe-News* at the time, participated in one of the mercy flights and wrote about it for his newspaper. Parts of that story were reprinted in the June 26, 1998, issue of the *Globe-News* in an article by Earl Moseley.

Davis said Jay flew in C-54 cargo planes. He told her they did a lot of instrument flying and used GCA landings (ground control approach)



FOND MEMORIES—Aural Davis of Dimmitt recalls stories told by her late husband, Jay (in photos). He served nine months in the Berlin Airlift, which stretched from June 1948 through September of 1949. He was a spray pilot after his return to the US.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

due to the weather conditions in the area. If a plane was unable to land, for whatever reason, they couldn't circle around and take another try at it. The stream of planes were spaced at intervals that made a second try impossible, so the plane would just have to go on to its scheduled landing spot.

The planes would usually make the circuit three times a day, Davis said. She said that many times they would be fired upon by the Russians, mainly in an attempt to discourage them, not really to shoot them down.

Davis said Jay really loved airplanes. After he got back to the states, he bought a PT6 trainer plane that didn't have a top. He used it to take people for rides and often did aerobatics. He kept it until a tornado took it away. Quite a while after that, he went into the crop spraying business.

Jay was very civic minded, Davis said. He was instrumental in getting the Dimmitt airport established. He had been a member of the school board and was active in civic organizations.

Davis said Jay always liked to tell the story of the World War II incident that earned his unit the distinguished flying cross. A complete overcast in the weather made it difficult for their crew to see anything, including their intended target. As the lead plane of a 36-plane squadron, they encountered flak during their run. A piece of flak penetrated their plane, striking the bombardier,

and causing him to trigger the bomb load unexpectedly. The plane had a camera that would come on when bombs were dropped to record the target and any damage. They were the only ones to make a direct hit that day, making them "accidental heroes."

"Jay always said that the only dangerous thing about flying is the drive to the airport," Davis said. "He died in a car accident in May of 1966."

Some information for this story was taken from an article by Earl Moseley in the June 26 issue of the *Amarillo Globe-News*. Used by permission.

A farewell party was held recently at the home of Denny and Dolores Heiman for Joey, Stephanie and Spencer Waldo. Hosts of the evening were members of the 19th Hole softball team. Everyone enjoyed golf, horseshoes, bocci ball, and grilled hamburgers. The Waldos will be leaving soon for Bridgeport, where Joey will be teaching math at the high school. We hate to see them leave our community, but wish them well.

The Ball family reunion was held recently in Platte Center, Neb., hosted by the Dreifurst, Hartman and Sueper families, with 120 cousins attending from Texas, Missouri, Kansas, California and Nebraska. Attending from Nazareth were Kyle, Fed and Urban Ball, Carl and Mary Kleman, Esther Braddock of McKinney, Jim and Evelyn Ball of Plainview and Odetta Ball Robison of Amarillo.

Carl, Mary and Esther also drove to Norwalk, Iowa, and visited with Lavern and Karen Kleman.

About half of the Albert Gerber family gathered at Lake Kemp this weekend for our annual get-together. A big thanks to Kevin and Malinda Gerber for sharing their spacious cabin with us. The heat was terrible, but the water was wonderful. With three boats, skis, a knee board, a paddle boat, fishing and tubes everyone had something to do. Television, reading, cards and lots of good food at the cabin made for a great weekend. Monty Hoelting was credited with catching the largest fish!

A report on the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Francis and Betty Wilhelm:

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Nazareth with Virgie Gerber, 945-2669

When Sister Norbert asked the 500 people at the church of the Holy Family at Nazareth not to stifle the song that God has begun in us, in the front bench was an example of a song that has become a symphony.

Francis Wilhelm came back from the war and married Betty Ramaekers in 1948. This was the start of a love story that has blossomed, a story of love with roots strong enough to break through hard, stony patches, love happy enough to rejoice and again rejoice, a love tender enough to cry with the heart-broken.

Five decades later their 13 children, 30 grandchildren, one great-grandchild and hundreds of relatives and friends came together from all over Texas (Dallas, Houston, Austin, and Wichita Falls), and from other states, too (Ohio, Illinois, Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas).

Every single one of the hundreds of people who came to the church and to the dinner reception dance afterwards had reason to be grateful for the love of Betty and Francis. Their grandchildren read the readings, sang well-loved hymns like *Consider the Lilies* and *The Ones I Love*. Betty's brothers led the singing and her sisters gave out communion. Melissa Reed, accompanied by Betsy Wilhelm, summed things up with *The Keeper of the Stars*. We left the church with Sister Norbert's reflections on hospitality in our hearts and a realization of how deeply Christian this marriage is, rooted and founded

in love. A weekend where the core event is the renewal of commitment after 50 years of faithfulness before so many children and grandchildren is a moving event. After 50 years the words are really made flesh—"for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health."

Over dinner and during the dance that followed (led by Charlie Phillips) and for the rest of the next day or two, people talked and talked, and sang and sang (some until 4 a.m.). It was clear that reverberations from one love story have strengthened, cautioned, and encouraged other love stories. Francis drove Betty in the "Hoopie" up the Nazareth wedding hill and then led her in the first dance to the strains of *Let Me Call You Sweetheart*.

The "boats" that have been launched by Betty and Francis know there is a safe harbor to come back to—sometimes physically, more often as a voice in the head and the heart as messages from home: be honest, trust God, work hard, success is not measured in dollar bills—these are the legacies of Betty and Francis to their children.

The threads of family, music, hospitality and tradition ran through all the events of the weekend. We were all refreshed by a fountain of love, stabilized by tradition, warmed by hospitality and uplifted by music.

Indeed, Betty and Francis Wilhelm could sing with justifiable and great pride, "If you want to see love, just look at us."

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Muleshoe musical set for Aug. 7-10

Muleshoe Production Company will stage the fourth annual production of "Keepers of the Legend," a musical by Paula Paul, Aug. 7-10.

An outdoor event, "Keepers of the Legend" will be performed at the scenic and historical Muleshoe Heritage Center.

"Keepers of the Legend" is a fictional account based on early 20th Century Bailey County and its settlers. The history is portrayed through song, dance and dramatic performances by local and area actors and musicians.

Performances will begin each evening at approximately 8:30. The

Muleshoe Heritage Center is located just north of Highway 84 on the west edge of Muleshoe. Parking is provided next door at the Bailey County Coliseum.

Tickets are \$10 for adults at the gate, \$8 in advance. Children 12 and under are \$5. Lap children are free. A season pass may be purchased for \$25. Groups may call for special discounts and accommodations.

Those wishing to purchase tickets in advance, or to obtain more information about "Keepers of the Legend," may do so by contacting Muleshoe Production Company at 806-272-5612 or 806-272-5262.

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People



Amarillo Area Foundation scholarships awarded to locals

The Amarillo Area Foundation recently announced scholarship winners for the 1998-99 academic school year, with seven Castro County residents among the recipients.

Zachary Bell and Casey J. Hoelting were listed among those who received renewals of their A.A. and Hattie Mae Bush Scholarships. Those eligible must be accounting majors attending Amarillo College, Texas Tech University or West Texas A&M University and must be a resident of one of the 26 counties of the Panhandle. Bell is attending WTAMU and Hoelting attends Tech.

Amy D. Matthews, a 1998 graduate of Dimmitt High School, has been named a recipient of a Senator Grady and Andrine Hazlewood Scholarship. She plans to attend Tech. Also, Hazlewood Scholarships were renewed for Marjorie Durbin, Denia Durbin and Angela Fortenberry, students at WTAMU; and for Robin Schulte, who attends Tech.

Those eligible must be from the 26 counties of the Panhandle and may attend AC, WTAMU or Tech.

The 193 scholarships awarded by

the foundation totaled over \$198,000, according to Sandra Gilliland, chairman of the foundation's scholarship committee.

Shower fetes Vanessa Hill

Vanessa Hill, bride-elect of Barry Hill, was honored with a bridal shower recently in the home of Sandy Baker.

Special guests included Vicki Hill, mother of the bride-elect; Sara Hill, mother of the prospective groom; and Geraldine Cox, grandmother of the groom-to-be. The future bride and groom also both attended.

The serving table had a beautiful cut-work tablecloth, and was accented with crystal and mirrored appointments. Refreshments of ham balls, fruit and dip, mock cheese-cake, and punch were served to guests.

The hostesses presented the couple with a contribution toward a bedroom suite.



SALVATION ARMY CAMP—Five local youths attended Camp Hoblitzelle at Midlothian June 19-24 through the sponsorship of the Castro County Unit of the Salvation Army. Shown are (from left) Jason Corlis, camper; Polly Simpson, unit chairman; and Sharette Johnson, camper. Others attending were Tony Lopez, Heath Lunsford and Natasha Williams.

Others involved in this year's camp included Jerry Alexander, Lubbock area supervisor; Sue Howell, junior high counselor, and Krystal Nelson, unit treasurer. The trip was made possible by generous donations to the Salvation Army in care of the First United Bank throughout the year. Photo by Linda Maxwell

Levelland sets music festival

Levelland will host the first annual GTE Hot Burrito and Bluegrass, a music festival, July 31 and Aug. 1.

The festival will begin with a jam session and a burrito supper at the Mexiteria Restaurant from 7 to 10 p.m. on College Avenue in Levelland. Admission for the music is free.

At 9 a.m. at the downtown Gazzebo, musicians will line up to enter the contest of the day. From 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., the banjo and fiddle contest will take place.

The afternoon performance will be from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and will feature Acoustic Plus, Camp Bluegrass Graduates, and Joe Carr and Alan Munde. The afternoon will continue with the best band contest. The evening showcase concert will begin at 7 p.m. with bluegrass bands.

Girl Scouts set Fun Day

The Caprock Girl Scout Council has set a Summer Fun Day for local girls for next Thursday (July 30) at the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce office at 115 W. Bedford.

Girls who are in kindergarten through third grade are invited to "Ducktail Adventure" from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. They will participate in songs, games, crafts and making new friends, according to Shani Shofner of Plainview, membership specialist of the Caprock Girl Scout Council.

Girls who are in fourth through sixth grade are invited to "Science Challenge" from 2 to 5 p.m. They will participate in fun and easy science projects, crafts, songs and games.

Participants are asked to pay a \$5 fee to cover the cost of supplies. However, no one will be turned away because of inability to pay.

"Caprock Girl Scout Council has been trying to get a Girl Scout Troop started in Dimmitt for the past few years," Shofner said. "Unfortunately, we have not been very successful. We have seen an interest from the girls in the area, but we have only been able to start one small troop due to a lack of adult leaders."

Shofner said anyone interested in the scouting program may call her at 1-800-530-4823, or for more information on the Fun Day activities.

Springlake's First Baptist sets celebration

All past members and friends of the First Baptist Church of Springlake are invited to participate in the church's 50th Anniversary Celebration this weekend.

The festivities will start Saturday at 7 p.m. with entertainment by Country Six and a time of visitation.

Sunday morning's activities will begin with visiting in the fellowship hall at 9:30 a.m., followed by a joint adult Sunday school class at 10 a.m., led by Pastor Tim Pruitt.

Everyone is invited to stay for a noon meal which will be provided by the church. After lunch there will be a time of visiting and remembering led by several early day members of the church.

Deborah Clinton

NISD

Clinton is named principal

Deborah Clinton has been named the new principal for Nazareth Elementary, according to NISD Supt. N. Dean Johnson. She was hired at the July 15 meeting of the Nazareth school board.

Clinton is coming to Nazareth from the Hart school system, where she has taught the past 23 years, most recently serving as fifth and sixth grade math teacher. She is following Joey Waldo, who resigned the position to move to Bridgeport, where he will teach high school math.

This will be Clinton's first experience as an administrator. She ob-

tained her mid-management certification from West Texas A&M University in 1996. She obtained her master's degree in education with reading specialist certification from Texas Tech University in 1988, after earning her bachelor's in elementary education in 1974 from WTAMU.

"We hated losing Joey," Johnson said. "But there's lots of excitement with Deborah coming. She has lots of varied teaching experience that she will be able to call upon to perform her administrative duties."

She has experience with Migrant Title I students, junior high reading

and language arts, and fourth and sixth grade self-contained classrooms.

Clinton will start her duties Aug. 3, according to Johnson.

Clinton said her experience as a teacher "gives me insight into teachers' problems and the new techniques and new curriculum developments. It will help me see the teachers' side of issues and will make a real workable situation."

"I'm really excited about starting this job. It will be a really good place to work."

Clinton is married to Kenney Clinton, who is the assistant manager at the Higginbotham-Bartlett Co. in Plainview. They have a son, Berry, 9. Clinton said that Berry will attend at Nazareth.

The family are members of the Earth Methodist Church, and Clinton is a member of Xi Mu Iota, a service organization of Beta Sigma Phi sorority.



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and
Kevin Dan Bruton
on Saturday, the first of August
nineteen hundred and ninety-eight
at six o'clock in the evening
First Baptist Church
Quitaque, Texas

Reception immediately following
in the Fellowship Hall

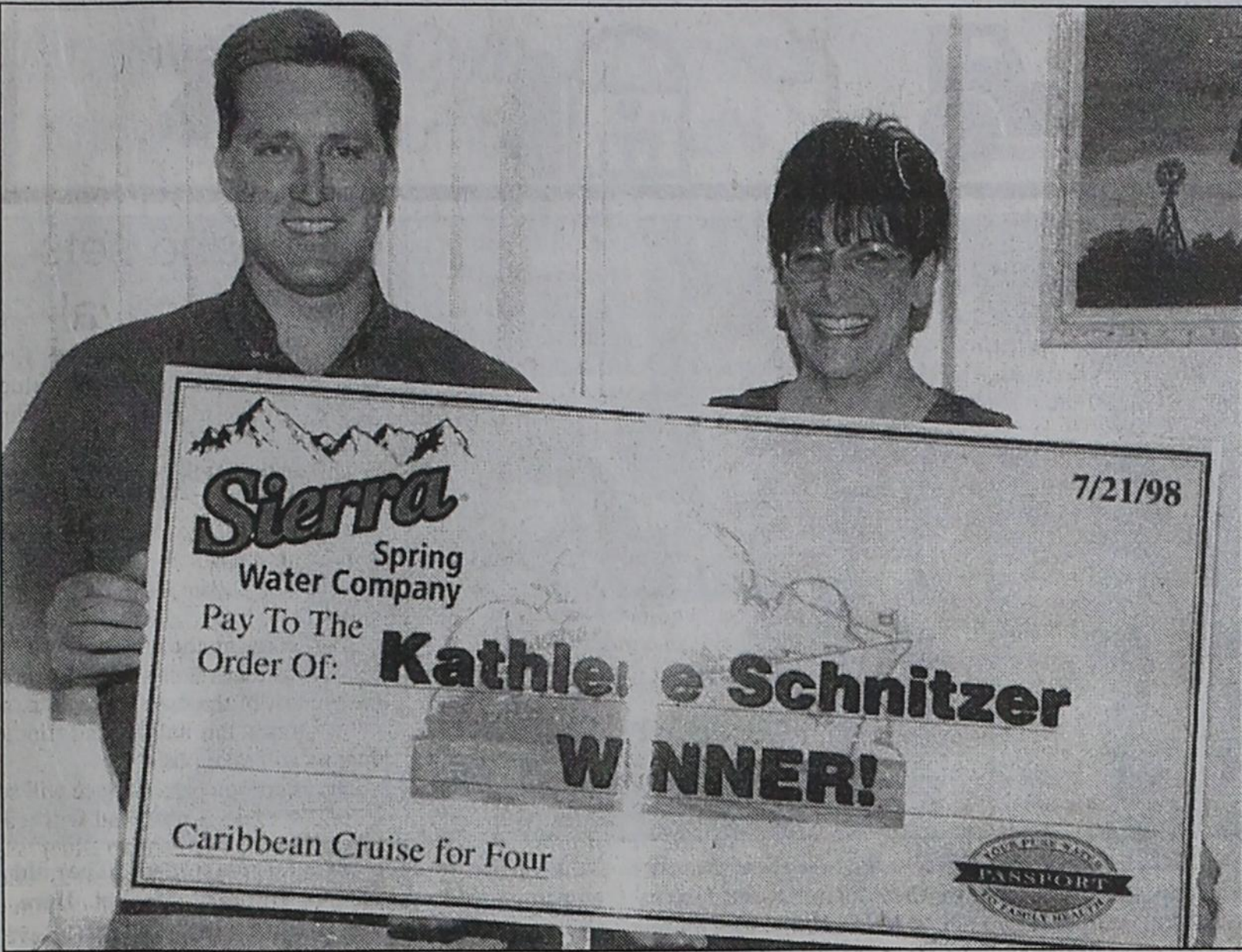
Avie, Kerry and Tami Lewis and Patrick and Ronna Traylor would like to thank the people of Dimmitt for their loving support during the long illness and death of our Mother and Nana. Your prayers, visits, phone calls, cards, letters and food encouraged each of us to face each hour with the knowledge we were being uplifted with continual love and prayers.

To those of you who generously sat with Geneva to give relief to Avie ... thank you.
To the Hospice and hospital staffs ... thank you.
To those who sang in the choir Geneva hoped for ... thank you.
To those who joined our family in celebraton at her service ... thank you.

You are etched in our hearts and minds ... forever.

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CHECK IT OUT—Kathlene Schnitzer of Dimmitt was the winner of a Caribbean cruise for four in a contest sponsored by Sierra Spring Water. She was the only winner named for all of West Texas. She said she is looking forward to the trip and plans to take her parents and a friend with her. Presenting her with the prize "check" is Kevin Drake of Amarillo, Sierra branch manager. Photo by Linda Maxwell

Schnitzer wins Caribbean cruise

Kathleen Schnitzer of Dimmitt has a new appreciation for her water cooler now that she is a winner of Sierra Spring Water's "Passport to Family Health" Crossword Puzzle sweepstakes. As a winner, Schnitzer received a four-day Carnival Cruise Caribbean vacation for four.

Over the course of six weeks, she collected clues accompanying her bottled water deliveries. Schnitzer used the clues to correctly complete a crossword puzzle on the benefits of water. That qualified her to participate in a random drawing of correctly complete entries.

Schnitzer said she is looking forward to the cruise, which she may take anytime in the next 12 months. She plans to take her parents and a friend along with her.

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Bush seeks disaster designation House eyes drought relief

On Friday, Gov. George W. Bush asked the federal government to grant disaster status to an additional 176 counties stricken by drought. If the US Dept. of Agriculture grants the request, all 254 Texas counties will be under a drought disaster declaration.

In a letter to US Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, Gov. Bush describes the economic emergency caused by above normal temperatures and severe drought conditions. If the request is granted, Texas farmers and ranchers will be eligible for emergency loans to cover losses suffered under the drought. The Texas Agriculture Extension Service estimates total losses will be \$1.5 billion statewide.

"I'm asking the federal government to expedite the declaration for all Texas counties because Texas needs immediate assistance," Gov. Bush said.

Two counties—Terrell and Glasscock—had already been designated as disaster areas by the federal government and requests from 76 counties were pending as of Friday.

The Governor said he also is concerned about the risk of fire and the ability of volunteer firefighters to do their jobs. He has written to the heads of each state agency, urging them to grant paid leave to volunteer firefighters who respond to rural emergencies.

"I encourage all agencies to support their personnel who take on this vital community service role," Bush said. "Their response to ongoing fires helps to protect the lives and property of all Texans."

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry has praised Bush's efforts on behalf of farmers and ranchers.

"I applaud Gov. Bush on his push for disaster declarations for every Texas county. Our farmers and ranchers are facing unprecedented economic losses this year because of the drought and many of these pro-

ducers need whatever help they can get.

"Now it's time for the federal government to cut through the red tape and speed up these declarations. Many farmers across the state have been watching their crops dry up under the relentless heat and record high temperatures. Livestock producers have started liquidating their herds because they have no pastures or forage supplies."

US Rep. Mac Thornberry joined Congressman Larry Combest and House Agriculture Committee Chairman Bob Smith in introducing legislation Friday that would provide farmers with some relief from the drought by making \$5.5 billion available to them on Oct. 1.

"I think we're finally getting through in convincing people how serious the situation is," Thornberry said. The bill is called "The Emergency Farm Financial Relief Act. The plan would make \$5.5 billion available to farmers as much as one year early to help them cope with the cash shortage they are now experiencing due to the drought.

Farmers currently receive contract payments twice a year—in December or January and again in September—as part of the Agriculture Market Transition Act (AMTA). The proposed legislation would change that by letting farmers collect their 1999 payment in one lump sum as early as Oct. 1, which is also the beginning of the next fiscal year. Farmers could opt to get the entire payment in October rather than waiting three months to get half of the AMTA payment, and a full 12 months to get the remaining half.

"In effect," Thornberry said, "What this plan will do is provide farmers with an interest-free cash loan of up to a year. Clearly, it's not everything we need. But it is a good start, and something that gets money in farmers' pockets sooner than other proposals being discussed."

Estimated losses due to the drought has reached \$1.8 billion, according to figures from the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. The losses may climb even higher if sufficient rain doesn't fall. They have already surpassed the 1996 levels when agriculture last felt the impact of severe drought.

Littlefield Festival booths available

The Littlefield Homemakers Association, a non-profit and educationally based club, is taking booth reservations for its 16th annual Arts and Crafts Festival, to be held Saturday, Oct. 24 at the Lamb County Ag and Community Center, in Littlefield.

The cost for a booth is \$30 for an 8X10, \$35 for a larger or corner booth, \$5 per table (one table per booth). There is no extra charge for additional exhibitors in the same booth. Electrical outlets are free but limited. Backdrops must be supplied by exhibitor. One table is available upon request for \$5.

The number of booths is balanced and this year's festival will include handmade items only. Commercial items will not be permitted.

Anyone interested in reserving a booth may contact Wanda Jones at RR 1 Box 76A, Anton, TX., 79313, or Toni Foley at 806/385-5990.

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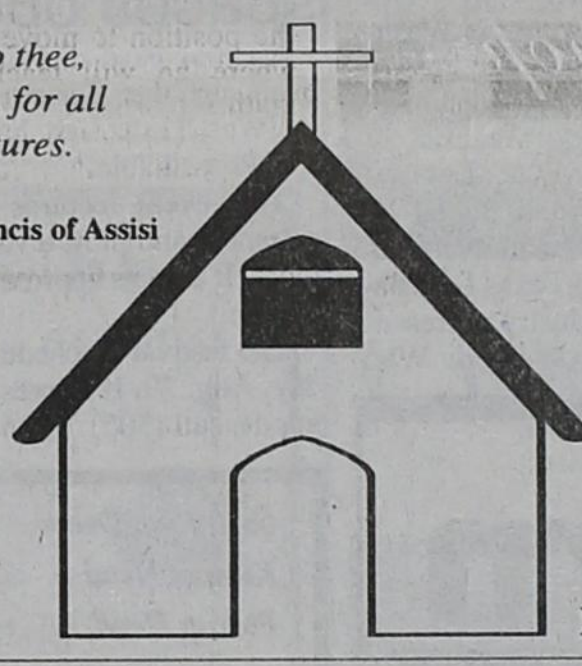
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XIT Rodeo and Reunion slated

It's time for the 62nd annual XIT Rodeo at Dalhart.

This year's celebration will be held Aug. 6, 7, and 8 in Dalhart.

Events also will include a Junior Rodeo on Aug. 1.

Other events during the week will be the XIT Queen's Contest, Pony Express, Amateur Jackpot Barrel Racing, Amateur Team Roping, Cowboy Bronc Riding and Kids' Calf Scramble. New features include the Nickel Scramble for kids and Crawl for Cash for adults.

The PRCA Rodeo performance each evening will be followed by a dance featuring "Redneck The Band" on Thursday, "Exile" on Friday and "The Great Divide" on Sunday.

There will also be free stew on Thursday, a free watermelon feed on Friday and a free barbecue on Saturday.

Saturday will also include a parade beginning at 10:30 a.m.

If interested, contact the Dalhart Chamber of Commerce at P.O. Box 966, Dalhart, TX., 79022, phone 806-249-5646, fax 806-249-4945.



MIXED FAITH, a popular local gospel quartet, performs at the American Cancer Society benefit gala, "A Taste of Castro County," Saturday evening at the Senior Citizens Center. From left are Wayne Proffitt, Tami Griffitt, Susan Coleman and Jim

Hardwick. Mixed Faith was among several musical soloists and groups that performed during the benefit dinner. The event raised more than \$4,000 for the American Cancer Society, according to chapter president Chaun Gunstream. Photo by Don Nelson

Hart 4-H to raffle 'Princess'

Members of the Hart 4-H Club are selling chances on a Princess Beanie Baby to benefit the 4-H Basketball Court Project.

Chances are priced at \$1 each for the popular stuffed animal, which was donated by Louise Jones, owner of Kosy Korner in Hart, a local retailer for Beanie Babies. The Princess Beanie Baby is a purple bear with a small white rose embroidered over its heart.

The winner of the bear will be drawn during Hart Days activities on Saturday.

Chances may be purchased at The Company Store in Hart or Hart City Hall, as well as from any Hart 4-H member.

For more information, contact Neoma Williams, Hart 4-H parent leader, at 938-2640.



RENISE BLAIR sings "You're Getting to Be a Habit" during Saturday night's "Taste of Castro County" gala to benefit the American Cancer Society. With Bill Sava as the emcee, the dinner program also included songs by Jaci Hardwick, Margaret Echevarria, Julie May, Greg and Glenda Birkenfeld and children, and the ensemble, Mixed Faith (Susan Coleman, Tami Griffitt, Jim Hardwick and Wayne Proffitt). The gala also featured a festive dinner, auction and raffle, and raised more than \$4,000 for the Cancer Society. Photo by Don Nelson

Castro County Child Welfare Board experiencing difficulties

A combination of circumstances has put the Castro County Child Welfare Board in a difficult position, according to board member Paula Graham.

Graham said that the resignation of local Child Protective Services worker David Trevino, the illness of a CPS supervisor, and the resignation of two board presidents has made it difficult for the board to continue meeting the needs of children in foster care from Castro County.

Graham said that the two board presidents who have resigned quit because of moving away from the community. She said Trevino resigned for personal reasons. The CPS supervisor from Plainview has been unable to meet with the board due to illness.

"The board has had no input from CPS," Graham said. "Usually the supervisor comes with the local worker to our board meetings and tells us how many children are in care and where and what their status is, but since there is no local worker and the supervisor is sick, we don't know anything."

Graham said board members discussed disbanding at the July meeting, although not very many were in attendance.

"But if we just quit, where does that leave the kids?" she asked.

"They are still there. They need some people dedicated to children and determined to see that the kids are well cared for and are doing well."

She said the initial purpose of the board was to see that foster children were put in the best placement for them and that they were doing as well as possible. However, she added that it seems the work of the board is being reduced to just furnishing the material needs of the children.

Cases here are being handled out of the Tulia office and Trevino is not being replaced yet. There is no local person to call.

"The CPS department has decided it is more cost effective to house a worker in Tulia, Hereford or Plainview rather than in Dimmitt," Graham said. "With the new changes in the department even if Dimmitt does get a new worker that does not mean they will be called to investigate local reports."

Members of the Child Welfare Board include Graham, Bobbie Bruegel, Darlene Walters, Jackie Smothermon, Gloria Hernandez, Verbie Nelson, Connie Wilhelm, and Joe Josselet, as well as ex-officio members Christine Acker, a foster parent, and County/District Attorney Jerry Matthews and County Judge Irene Miller.

Graham said that a demonstration of community support for the board would be beneficial, as well as continued support of the board's efforts to raise money for the foster children.

Graham said the board receives \$1,000 per year from the County Commissioners. Additional funds are solicited through mail-outs placed in local bank statements.

A major change in foster care that has come about from recent restructuring and legislation is that cases have to be resolved within a year, Graham said.

"It used to take too long," Graham said. "Now if a family situation is not resolved within a year, steps will be taken toward termination of parental rights. The child will be evaluated to see if they are suitable for adoption or placement in a permanent foster home."

If someone suspects a child is being abused, the law requires that person to report it.

There is a state-wide hot-line number for reporting suspected abuse. It is listed in the phone directory.

Red Cross gives tips for coping with heat wave

According to the National Weather Service, much of the United States will continue its prolonged heat wave. In response to this, the Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross has provided these tips to endure the fight with the sun:

- Slow down and avoid strenuous outdoor activities.
- Stay indoors as much as possible.
- Wear lightweight, light colored clothing.
- Drink plenty of water regularly and often.
- Eat small meals and eat more often. Avoid foods high in protein, which increase metabolic heat.
- Avoid using salt tablets unless directed by a physician.

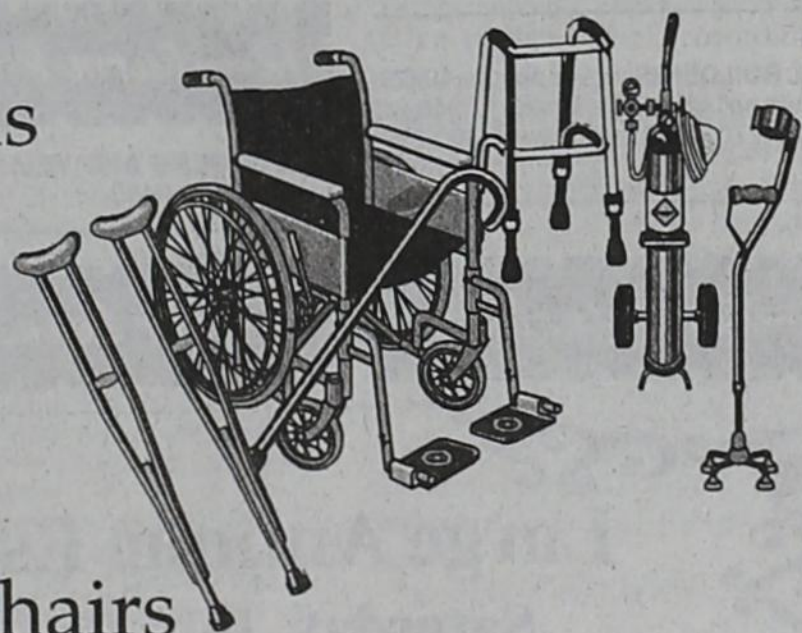
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