

# The Castro County News

75th year—No. 18

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, August 5, 1999

50¢

12 pages plus supplements



**KISSING BEHIND A TREE** is old news. A candy bag held by Cailin Neudorf, 3, of Hart, allows Lance Myrick, 4, of Hart to give a kitten a kiss. The hidden kitten belongs to Brooke Burruss, 8, of Hart. Neudorf's jealous half-Chihuahua, half-Dachshund dog, Chip, watches. Held on Friday, the pet show was part of the Hart Days' Festival.

Photo by Monica Ortiz

## School will start Aug. 12 across county

Teachers and administrators have one more week of freedom before the children of Castro County will invade their classrooms.

The 1999-2000 school year will officially get underway next Thursday, Aug. 12, in Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth schools.

The first bell will ring at Dimmitt High School at 8:10 a.m. on Aug. 12, and after reporting to their first class, students will gather in the auditorium for an opening day assembly. New teachers will be introduced and students will be informed of any changes in school rules, etc., which have been made. The final bell of the day will ring at 3:35 p.m.

At Richardson Elementary School and Dimmitt Middle School, at 8:20 a.m. bell will signal the beginning of school. The school day will end at 3:30 p.m.

Hart schools start on Aug. 12 with the first bell set to ring at 8 a.m. The final bell of the day will toll at 3:15 p.m.

Nazareth schools will start Aug. 12 at 8:05 a.m., then students will report for flag raising and opening day ceremonies on the school lawn. The final bell of the day will ring at 3:15 p.m.

Most schools have completed registration for the new school year, but Dimmitt Middle School and Hart schools will register students today (Thursday) and Monday, respectively.

### Dimmitt Middle School

Dimmitt Middle School will register students from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. today (Thursday).

All students are required to be present for registration and new students must bring all information from their previous school along

with a birth certificate and Social Security card. Students who have pending fines are asked to pay those before registering.

Registration starts with the fourth graders reporting from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. The fifth grade will register between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Registration for the sixth grade will be

from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

After a lunch break, the seventh grade will register from 1 to 2 p.m., followed by the eighth grade from 2 to 3 p.m.

For more information about registration, call the school at (806) 647-3108.

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## Sales tax to be waived on selected items during 'School Dayz' event

Dimmitt merchants are planning a "School Dayz" promotion of special prices to encourage local citizens to shop at home during the "sales tax holiday" declared by the state legislature.

"We urge everyone to check out our local merchants and see what they have to offer," said Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bill Sava. "Especially, be ready for the specials they will be offering in addition to the tax break shoppers will enjoy."

The tax-free period starts at 12:01 a.m. on Friday and will end at midnight on Sunday. The law states that retailers will not be required to collect tax on most footwear and clothing that are sold for less than \$100 during this period.

Sava said that he has been informed that special back-to-school loans will be available during the event. He said those interested should check with their lending institution for further information.

The sales tax holiday does not include sales of clothing and footwear primarily designed for athletic activity or for protective use and that are not normally worn except for the athletic activity or for protection.

The sales tax break was implemented through Senate Bill 441, and

Texas leaders estimate the event will save the state's consumers \$69.2 million.

State and local taxes for Dimmitt come to 8.25%, which would equal

\$8.25 savings for each \$100 spent.

The following chart lists the items on which Texans can receive the sales tax break and those items which will still be taxed.

### Tax Free

Tax-free items include baby clothes, bathing suits, belts with attached buckles, boots (cowboy or hiking), bras, bridal apparel (not rentals), caps and hats (baseball, fishing, golf, knitted), choir robes, coats and wraps, costumes, diapers (adult and baby), dresses, formal clothing, gloves, gym suits and uniforms, hooded shirts and hooded sweatshirts, hosiery, jackets, jeans, jerseys (baseball and football), jogging apparel (such as bras, suits and shorts), lingerie, neckwear and ties, pajamas, pants and trousers, raincoats and ponchos, robes, shirts, shoes (sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking), socks (including athletic), shorts, suits, slacks, jackets, sweatshirts, sweaters, sweat suits, swim suits and trunks, tuxedos (not rentals), underclothes and work clothes and uniforms.

### Taxed

Taxable items include accessories (i.e. barrettes, elastic pony tail holders, wallets, watches), backpacks, baseball cleats and pants, belt buckles (without belt), boots (climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, ski, waders), buttons and zippers, cloth and lace, knitting yarns and other fabrics, dry cleaning services, football pants, golf gloves, handbags and purses, handkerchiefs, hard hats, helmets (bike, baseball, football, hockey, motorcycle, sports), ice skates, jewelry, laundering services, leather goods (except belts and wearing apparel), pads (football, hockey, soccer, elbow, knee, shoulder), personal flotation devices, rented clothing (including uniforms, formal wear and costumes), roller blades and skates, safety clothing, safety glasses, shoes (bicycle-cleated, bowling, golf).

### DISD

## Thrasher resigns; new assistant principal hired

Avery Thrasher, a trustee of the Dimmitt Independent School District representing Dist. 5, tendered his resignation from the board in a letter that was read at the July 29 called meeting of the board.

Board members voted to accept the resignation.

Board President Paul Garcia expressed appreciation for Thrasher's efforts for the board.

The letter from Thrasher, who did not attend the meeting, stated that he was resigning as of July 28 "due to personal problems with my business."

The board will decide on a course of action to remedy the vacancy at their regular meeting set for Monday

at 7 p.m.

DISD Supt. Les Miller said that the board can appoint someone to fill the position, call a special election for Nov. 2 (the next regular election date), or leave the position vacant until May.

Following an executive session, the board voted to hire Cecil Dirickson as assistant principal for Dimmitt High School.

In another matter, despite a 16½% rate increase, the board voted to continue the district's health care coverage with First Care. DISD Business Manager Johnny Hill told the board that even with the increase, First Care's rates were the cheapest bid.

## Weather

	High	Low	Prec.
Thursday	93	62	
Friday	97	66	
Saturday	99	66	
Sunday	96	60	
Monday	87	60	.98
Tuesday	81	62	1.67
Wednesday	84	64	1.00

July Moisture	1.99
August Moisture	3.65
1999 Moisture	22.78

Readings taken every day at 7 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Service recording station for Dimmitt.

## Hospital district contracts with otolaryngologist, cardiologists

Castro County Hospital District has contracted with a doctor who specializes in ears, nose and throat diseases, and head and neck injuries, and the physician will visit Dimmitt every other Friday.

The hospital district also has joined with the Amarillo Heart Group and through that association, will be able to provide cardiology services to local patients on Mondays.

Dr. Russell Jerome Legreid II is the newest physician to begin practicing in Dimmitt. He is an otolaryngologist, which is the technical term for an ears, nose and throat (ENT) physician. He also treats medical and surgical disorders of the head and neck. He will see patients in Dimmitt every other Friday.

As an ENT, Dr. Legreid treats many common conditions such as sinus infections, middle ear infections, tonsillitis and minor hearing loss. He also treats airway problems, uncontrollable bleeding from the nose, vertigo and cancer of the larynx and sinuses.

"We're especially delighted to bring a physician of Dr. Legreid's caliber to our community," said Joe Sloan, chief executive officer of the Castro County Hospital District.

Dr. Legreid received his medical degree from the University of Iowa and served his residency at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, which has one of the top ENT programs in the nation. When he was in private practice in Los Angeles, Calif., Dr. Legreid was also a clinical instructor at the University of Southern California.

After being in private practice in Houston for several years, Dr. Legreid moved to Plainview. He and his wife have two young children.

Mrs. Legreid earned her master's

degree in Spanish literature from the University of Iowa and she taught school while the family lived in Philadelphia.

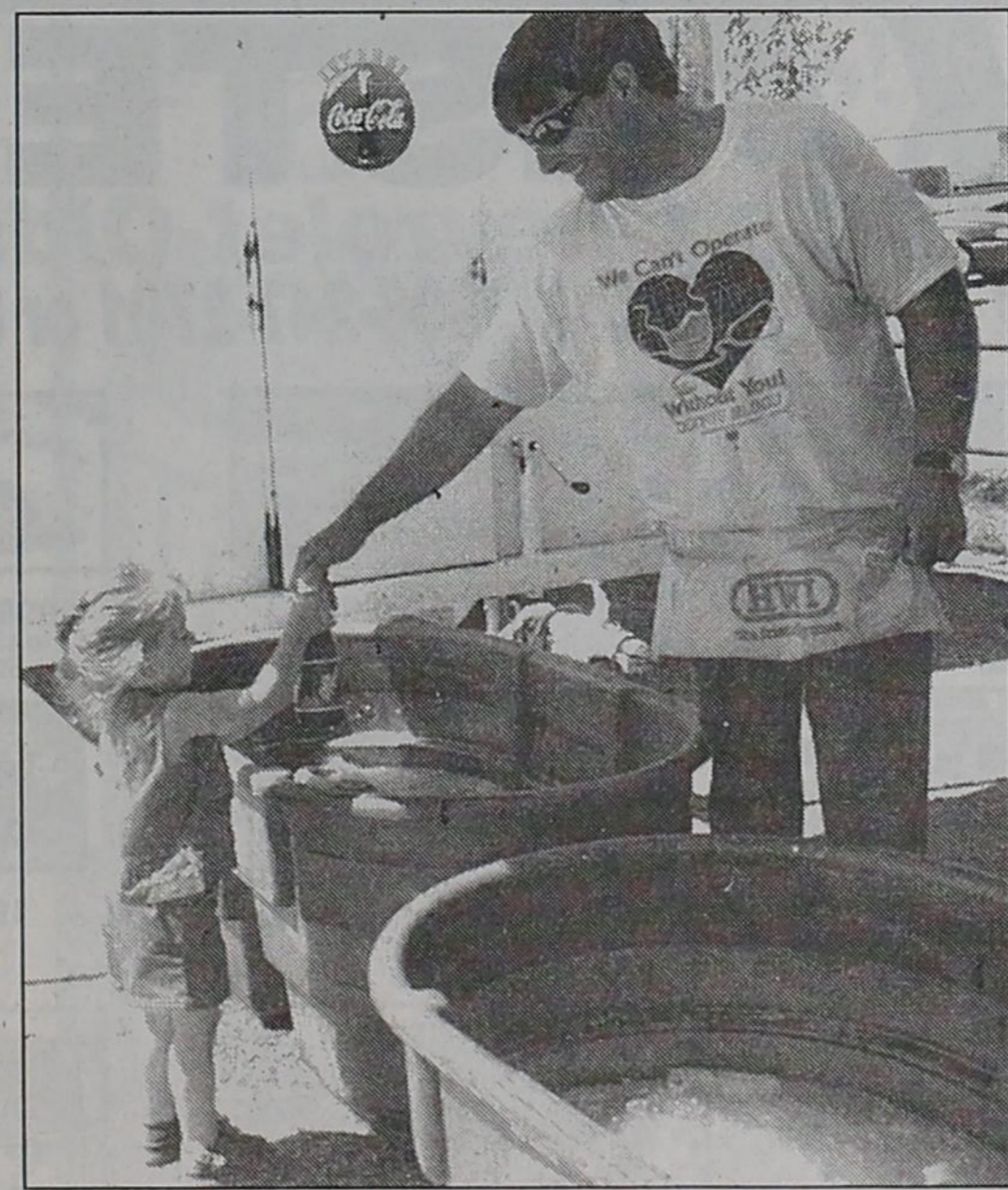
"My wife and I grew up around farming," said Dr. Legreid. "The entire family enjoys outdoor sports and recreation. We love the wide open spaces and beautiful Texas

sunsets.

"I am very excited about extending my practice to Dimmitt."

Physicians from the Amarillo Heart Group will be making regular visits to Dimmitt as part of the hospital district's association with the

(Continued on Page 12)



**A COLD DRINK ON A HOT DAY** cools off this little girl during the Hart Days' Festival Saturday. The temperature was sweltering, but that did not stop people from tasting the many food booths available. Drinks were sold by Hart Lions' Club.

Photo by Monica Ortiz

## Hart and Book earn 4-H Gold Star honors

Leadership and helping others earned two Castro County 4-H'ers the top county 4-H honor Monday night.

Aaron Hart and Melanie Book were presented the 4-H Gold Star Awards Monday at the annual Castro County 4-H Achievement Banquet. The Gold Star Award is the highest honor bestowed upon 4-H'ers at the county level.

The two were joined in the winner's circle Monday by Jennifer Wilhelm, who was presented the 4-H Silver Star Award, an honor given to the top Junior 4-H'er in the county; by Rachel Wall, who received the Danforth I Dare You Award; by Virgil Brockman, who was named Outstanding Adult Leader; and by the Castro County Association of Family and Community Educators, who earned the Friend of 4-H Award.

Also recognized with the South Plains Distinguished Leader Award was George Sides.

Guest speaker at Monday's banquet was Kaci Schulte of Dimmitt, who is currently serving as the State 4-H President.

County 4-H'ers, adult leaders, Extension staff and others enjoyed a Mexican dinner, catered by the women of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. After the meal, 4-H'ers, their parents and adult leaders were recognized for achievements during the past year.

Presentation of the Gold Star, Silver Star and I Dare You winners capped the awards ceremony.

Book, who is currently serving as president of the Castro County 4-H Council, served as mistress of ceremonies for the banquet.

### Gold Star winners

Hart has been a member of the Hart 4-H for seven years, and during that time, "4-H has grown to be a very large part of his life," according to Becky Book, who presented the Gold Star Awards Monday.

"This once-shy youngster has become quite a competitor," Book said. "Public speaking is a well-established talent in his life. Reaching out to help others has also become a

(Continued on Page 9)



**THE CASTRO COUNTY GOLD STAR WINNERS** this year are Aaron Hart (top photo, right) and Melanie Book (bottom photo, left). The two were presented their awards by Becky Book Monday night at the Castro County 4-H Achievement Banquet. The two were among several 4-H'ers honored for top achievements during the past year. Photo by Anne Acker





**THE ZEALOT CLUB** in Hart sold home-made ice cream Saturday morning after the Hart Days Parade as a fund-raising event. The booth was set up in front of Ed Harris Lumber Co. Photo by Linda Maxwell

# Nazareth with Virgie Gerber, 945-2669

The Jacob and Elizabeth Wagner family reunion was thoroughly enjoyed this weekend at Nazareth Community Hall. This very interesting couple married May 1, 1883, and lived in Benton, Wis., until they moved to Texas in January 1909, settling in the Jumbo community. In 1926, they moved once more, this time to Hereford.

Mass was celebrated Saturday morning in Holy Family Catholic Church with Father Darryl Birkenfeld officiating, assisted by Father Jerry Stein, pastor. The readers, servers, Eucharistic ministers, gift bearers, ushers and choir all consisted of Wagner relatives.

After the service, appointed relatives gave an interesting eulogy for each of the family members who have passed away since the last reunion in 1994. They were Meta Stork, Ralph Warren, Thelma Wethington, Trudie Gerber, Glenn Wagner, Ladell Bonds, Eric Rose, Whitney Bowers, Eric Holbrook, Sister Josella Birkenfeld and Paul Cotter. Everyone then went to Holy Family Cemetery for a short prayer and all visited their family graves.

A delicious meal, catered by the Catholic Daughters, was then enjoyed at the Nazareth Community Hall by some 375 relatives. More members joined them during the afternoon for visiting. Many participated in a volleyball tournament, family against family. It was great entertainment for all.

It was a wonderful day of visiting and catching up on news from so many Wagner, Stork, Backus, Kleman and Birkenfeld families.

Dan and Karen Gerber hosted a cookout Friday evening for family and anyone coming in for the reunion. It was great to see Dwayne Stork from Houston and his sister, Debbie Dayhoff of Arizona; Rodney and Jennifer Heiman and children from Pauls Valley, Okla.; and numerous other relatives from the surrounding towns.

LeRoy Pohlmeier was honored with a belated birthday party Sunday

evening at the home of J.C. and Jocelyn Pohlmeier. Fifty of the 54 family members attended as they were here for the Wagner reunion.

The Joe and Loretta (Kleman) Guggemos family held its reunion at the Community Hall on July 24 and 25. The six daughters were present, including Lucille Drerup and Rose Mary Wilhelm, both of Nazareth; Alice Fisher of Midland; Rita Hoffman of El Paso; Stella Shirley of Friona; and Betty Jo Bartels of Hereford. Also present was their sister-in-law, Phyllis Guggemos of Cary, Ill., and her daughter, Ann Horwich and children, Sam and Kat of Rockville, Maryland.

Though the offspring are spread from Maryland to Arizona and California, and from Illinois to Alabama, a large number were in attendance, including 24 of the 42 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

A noon meal was served to 130 people, followed by a short program. First they paused to remember their two brothers, Vincint and Leonard, who, after they both fought the good fight with cancer, went to their reward.

A 1999 supplement to the Joe Guggemos family history book that was written in 1979, was handed out. The family history book goes back to when Barney and Anna Kleman and Charles and Josephine Guggemos came to Nazareth.

A large number of crafts were brought by family members for the silent auction and Chinese raffle. Much fun and laughter came from these activities.

Some of the hottest items were a sculptured crucifix of metal made by Kent DeCardenas and a cross-stitched silhouette of a cowboy and horse made by Pat Shirley.

For the children, a piñata provided a lot of excitement.

In the evening, some of the Kleman cousins came to visit and enjoyed the evening meal.

A Kleman history booklet was available. It was researched by Lucille Drerup and was written by Rose Mary Wilhelm.

The Kleman cousins present included Elmer and Ann Kleman and granddaughter Baylee, Bernard and Irene Kleman, Lavern Kleman, Ed and Leola Ramackers, Ethelreda Burditt and daughters, Mary Jane Sieber and Barbara McBride, Rita Woetovech, and Alvin and Dorothy Kleman.

Many members attended the memorial mass for Joe and Loretta Guggemos and their sons, Vincent, Leonard and Richard; their grandchildren, Jan Shirley, Kenneth Hoffman and the Bartel twins; and their great-grandson, Stanley Drerup, on Sunday morning in Holy Family Church. It was followed by a visit to the cemetery where the relatives' graves were marked.

Everyone gathered for a brunch at the hall and later a large number went to Friona for Ralph and Stella Shirley's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary celebration.

A number of the Guggemos cousins were present including Jerome and Fran Guggemos, Bob and Jan Guggemos, Bill and Nancy Guggemos and their children, Billy, Kimmey and Jenny of California, Don and Helen Guggemos, Charles and Rosemary Weber and their daughter, Carrie Warren, and Helen Waterstom of Minnesota, Jim and Judy Guggemos and Audrey Roppe, Bruce Guggemos and his son, Aaron, Renee Sawyer and children, Julie and Alec of Wisconsin.

## On the Go

with Martha Jo Hyman, 647-2255

Van Earl and Waurayne Hughes celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by enjoying some of the "Music Week" at Glorietta, N.M.

Choirs sang, special bell choirs played and the honored flutist, Bendon McKilley, played each day.

They visited many of their favorite places in Santa Fe, N.M., including the Canyon Road, Santa Fe Trail, Loretto Chapel with the Miracle Staircase, the House of Tile, and several art galleries; and also went on a sight seeing tour.

It was a very relaxing afternoon and they enjoyed coffee and treats at the Sidewalk Café, located in the famous restored St. Francis Hotel.

In January 1955 at Fort Knox, Ken., H.A. Lynn and a friend he had made while in the service shook hands and both agreed they would keep in touch.

They kept in touch, but never saw each other.

A couple of weeks ago, Hank answered the phone and his friend, Horace Leopold was calling. He was in Lubbock for a funeral and had some time before his flight. Hank went to Lubbock and, for the first time in 44 years, renewed his old friendship with his Army buddy.

Horace is in real estate and resides in La Porte, near Houston. He at one time was a musician and played with Jim Reeves until Reeves' death.

Hank enjoyed becoming reacquainted with his old friend. They do not plan to wait another 40 years before seeing each other again.

The annual Aven and King reunions were held in Lillian Carson's home at Sunnyside in July.

## DHS Class of '64 plans 35-year reunion

The Dimmitt High School Class of 1964 will hold its 35-year reunion Aug. 13-15 at the Radisson Inn in Amarillo.

Registration will be Friday evening, Aug. 13, from 5 to 7. An all-day visiting session is planned on Saturday, Aug. 14, beginning with a continental breakfast.

An open visitation period for all friends and family will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Aug. 14. A finger food buffet will be served.

The class will have a business meeting at 3 p.m. to elect alumni officers and discuss future reunions. An evening buffet awards dinner will be held at 7.

Members of the Class of 1964 who have not made arrangements to attend the reunion should call Kaye Stevens at 647-5106.



**KACI SCHULTE** OF DIMMITT, the current state 4-H president, was the guest speaker Monday night at the annual Castro County 4-H Achievement Banquet.

Photo by Anne Acker

There are only four sisters and one brother still living. They are Lola Pearl Jones of Lubbock, Maurice Carson of Hale Center, Lillian Carson of Sunnyside, Ruth Brown of Dimmitt and Leroy Aven of Hereford. They all attended the reunion, along with dozens of cousins.

Justin and Liz Cranford of Pensacola, Fla., were in Dimmitt visiting with Ruby Ramsey recently. Justin had been in Jacksonville, Fla., for the state all-star baseball tournament. He was selected as the Most Valuable Player and his team finished second.

## 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.

His proud Nann and PaPa, John and Nancy Cranford, said the only games his team lost were the ones in which Justin didn't pitch.

Cleo Forson hosted the Thursday Bridge Club this week. High scorer was Loranel Hamilton and second high was Dude McLauren. Others playing were Susie Reeves, Pat Keith, Opha Burks, Helen Braafladt, Virginia Crider, Edith Graef, Carol Lantz, Martha Dannevik and Martha Jo Hyman.

On Saturday morning from 10 to 11:30, Betty Carpenter honored Pam Nutt Kelsey of Abilene, formerly of Dimmitt, with a baby shower for her triplets, who are all boys.

The hostesses' gift was a port-a-crib. Guests were served fruit and cinnamon rolls.

Out-of-town guests were Bonnie Furgeson of Ropesville, Pam's aunt; Ella Nutt of Plainview and Mrs. Wilson of Ropesville, Pam's grandmothers; Mel Nelson Burney of Earth, Pam's friend; and Patsy Ulmer of Plainview, Pam's aunt.

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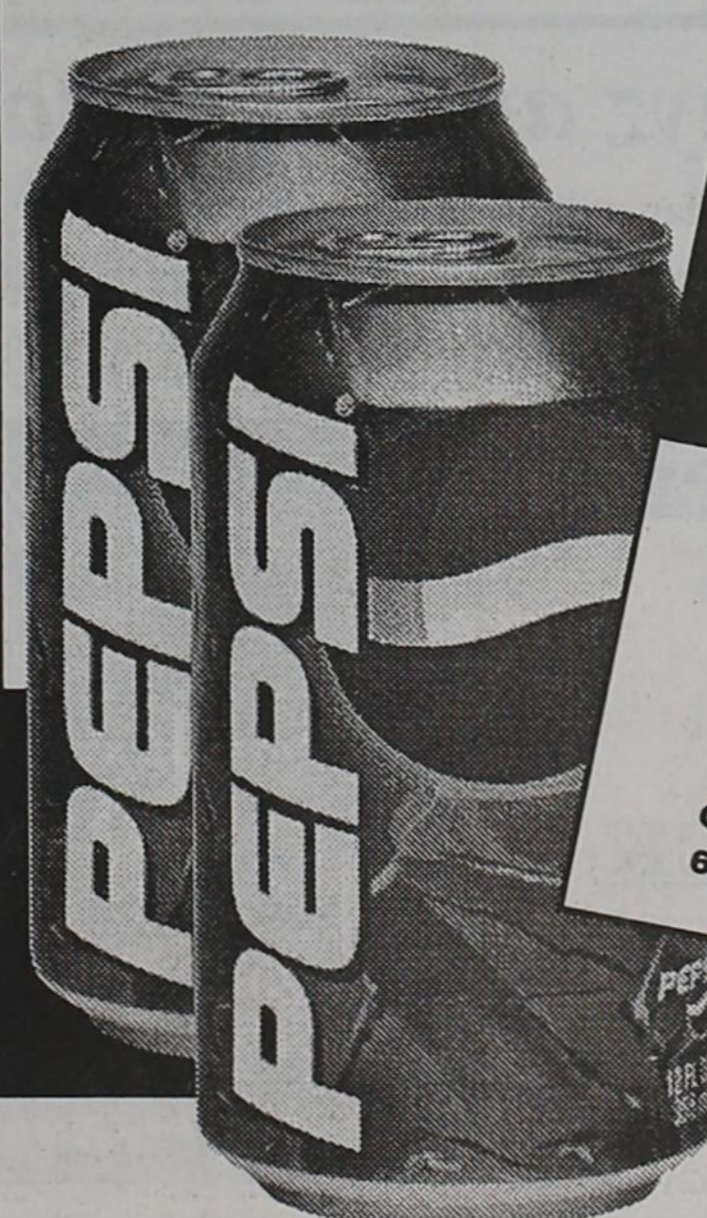


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# People



## Prayer vigil is planned Saturday at local schools

A statewide prayer vigil is being planned on each school campus in Texas, and Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth schools plan to be a part of the vigil on Saturday, at 10 a.m.

The statewide prayer vigil is being coordinated by Fred Seaman of Beaumont and he is working hard so that each school will be simulta-

neously covered by the prayers of concerned parents, friends and school children.

County residents are urged to meet at Dimmitt High School, Dimmitt Middle School, Richardson Elementary School, Hart Schools or Nazareth Schools to pray with friends and neighbors for the safety of children and teachers.

## Pevehouse will undergo stem cell transplant surgery

Ann Pevehouse of Hart, formerly of Dimmitt, has been given the green light by her oncologist, Dr. Zorsky at the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center in Amarillo, and she will undergo a stem cell transplant in mid-September.

After six treatments of chemotherapy and suffering the numerous side effects, the breast cancer cells are not responding as well as hoped.

Her best chance at beating the cancer is to undergo a stem cell transplant. This will require at least a month's stay at Baptist/St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo, numerous blood transfusions and, due to the toxicity of these drugs, several months of bed rest after the procedure.

With no insurance, her medical bills are mounting and the most favorable way of extending her life will cost \$100,000.

A medical fund has been established at First United Bank in Dimmitt to help defray these expenses and those who wish to make a donation may do so at the bank.

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Johnny and Norma Schacher

## Schachers will celebrate 50th wedding anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Schacher of Nazareth will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with a mass of thanksgiving at Holy Family Church Saturday, followed by a reception at their home.

The event is being hosted by the couple's children and their spouses, including Bill and Diane Schacher, Rusty and Lydia Schacher, and Benny and Brenda Schacher, all of Nazareth; Mary Jo and Randy Pope of Santa Fe, N.M.; Ivan and Carrie Schacher of Stapleton, Neb.; Simona and Craig Allison of Arlington; and DeZane Schacher of Houston.

Johnny Schacher married the former Norma Braddock on Sept. 19, 1949, in Nazareth. They have lived

in Nazareth all of their lives.

Mr. Schacher is a farmer. He is a member of the American Legion and is a veteran, having served in World War II. He is a Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus member.

Mrs. Schacher is employed in the food service department at Tulia Independent School District and she has been an Avon distributor for 25 years. She is a member of the Christian Mothers Society and Catholic Daughters of America.

Both belong to Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth.

Mr. and Mrs. Schacher have 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## Western music will be featured at dinner theater set in Nazareth

Lovers of western, bluegrass and country music will have a real treat in August with two concerts planned in Nazareth.

On Friday evening, a dinner theater at the Nazareth School Cafeteria will include a program entitled, "A History of West Texas Music," with narration and songs performed by South Plains College music professors Joe Carr and Alan Munde; and a special performance by Lubbock singer and songwriter Andy Wilkinson.

Then on Saturday, a concert and dance will be held from 8:30 to 11 p.m. at the Nazareth Community Center. Featured performers will be Andy Wilkinson and the Gimme Caps (alias Kenny Maines, Donny Maines and Cary Black of Lubbock).

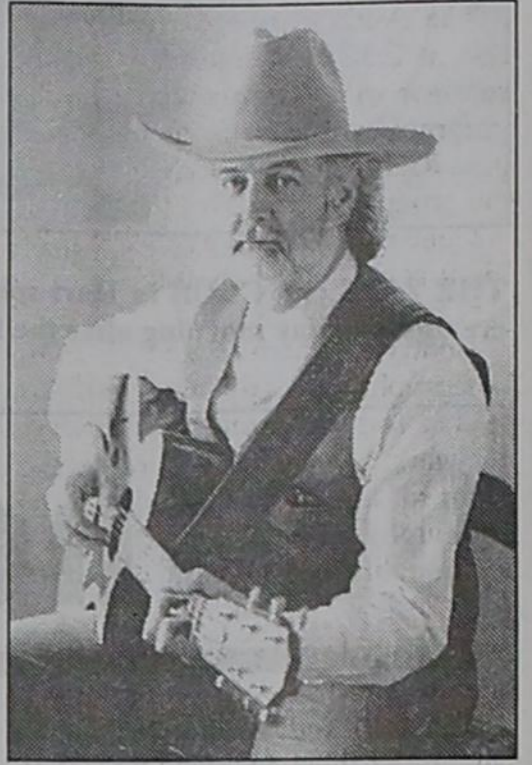
Tickets for the Friday dinner theater are \$20 per person and the 40 available tickets will be sold on a first-come basis.

The concert and dance on Saturday will be \$10 per person.

Both events are being sponsored by the Promised Land Network, an ecumenical rural outreach working to promote the rural communities and local arts.

The meal included with the Friday show will consist of locally-grown foods prepared by Sylvia Boeshart, owner of The Peanut Patch in Turkey. Her cooking received high marks in the July issue of *Texas Monthly*.

Wilkinson has written and recorded several award-winning albums with a company that he helped created, Grey Horse Press in Lubbock. Supported by his fine musicianship and a tenor voice to deliver his exquisite lyrics, Wilkinson's ballads tell the stories of land and people in West Texas.



Andy Wilkinson

Munde and Carr present a unique program of instrumental and vocal music featuring banjo, guitar, mandolin and fiddle. The Levelland-based duo first performed together as part of the internationally-acclaimed bluegrass group, Country Gazette. In 1995, they authored a book for the Texas Tech University Press entitled, *Prairie Nights to Neon Lights: The Story of Country Music in West Texas*.

For reservations, or more information, contact the Promised Land Network Office at (806) 945-2444.

## Brockman wins \$3,000 scholarship

Mitchell Brockman, son of Ralph and Sharon Brockman of Nazareth, has been awarded a \$3,000 scholarship from the Abell-Hanger Foundation.

Brockman, who graduated from Nazareth High School in May, received the scholarship through the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation.

The \$3,000 award is payable \$750 per semester for the first two years. The Abell-Hanger Foundation awarded 28 scholarships to students who participated in the University Interscholastic League academic state meet and who have compiled an outstanding record of academic and extracurricular achievement. Three of the scholarships were awarded to students who plan to major in nursing.

Brockman placed third in Headline Writing at the 1999 UIL academic state meet. He also participated in UIL Computer Applications and Science. He was a member of the football, baseball and basketball teams. He received the national English Merit Award and was president of the National Honor Society, Student Council and FFA. He was senior class vice president and very active in the community. He served as a Little Dribblers coach for three years and was involved with roadway litter clean-up. He helped with St. Nick baskets for senior citizens.

Brockman plans to major in pre-medicine or physical therapy at Texas Tech University.



## Who's New

**PLAINS MEMORIAL**  
Tony De La Rosa and Christina De La Rosa of Dimmitt are the parents of a baby girl, Britney Nicole De La Rosa, who was born at 10:09 p.m. on July 27 at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt. She weighed 6 lbs., 2.4 ozs., and was 19 inches long. Paternal grandparents are Alicia De La Rosa and Fred De La Rosa of Olton. Maternal grandmother is Lela Castaneda of Dimmitt.

## DHS seeks flag corps volunteers

Any student who is interested in being a member of the flag corps for the Dimmitt High School Bobcat Band needs to attend a meeting today (Thursday) at 6 p.m. at the high school band hall.

Only students in ninth through 12th grades may apply.

Vatican City is the smallest country in the world, with a population of 1000 and a size 108.7 acres.

## Jessica Kern earns scholarship from TILF

Jessica Rose Kern, a 1999 graduate of Nazareth High School, has been awarded a scholarship by the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation.

Kern received a John Porter King Jr. Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, payable \$500 each semester for the first year. This year the John Porter King Jr. Memorial awarded a total of 12 grants to students who have participated in the University Interscholastic League academic state meet and who have compiled an outstanding record of academic and extracurricular achievement.

This year the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation awarded 315 new awards and will renew approximately 220 awards for

a total of 535 scholarships for 1998-99, with an approximate value of \$836,000. Recipients may attend any approved college or university in Texas.

Kern placed third in Editorial Writing at the 1996 UIL academic state meet. She also was active in UIL News Writing, Current Issues and Events, Number Sense, One-Act Play, and music competitions. She was ranked second in her class and was a member of the 4-H, tennis team, yearbook staff, FFA, Student Peer Interaction program, National Honor Society, Student Council and Spanish Club.

Kern received the National Merit English Award and the United States National Journalism Award. She also was active in the community. She helped organize a clothing drive, participated in the Adopt-A-Highway program, assembled fruit baskets for the elderly and planted trees in the community.

She plans to attend Texas Tech University and major in pre-pharmacy.

A Danish man will sometimes send valentines that are signed with dots, one dot for each letter of a name. If the woman who gets it guesses his name, he rewards her with an Easter egg on Easter.

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**School Dayz**  
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Spring & Summer Clothing  
**50% OFF**

20% OFF All Fall Clothing  
20% OFF All Brighton  
Purses, Belts, Jewelry, Sunglasses

## Faith Family Church will hold meeting

Faith Family Church in Plainview is planning a "Break Out!" weekend with Dr. Dale Gentry of Fort Worth beginning Saturday morning. The event will begin with breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Saturday and the seminar will continue with a special program by Gentry from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Right after the morning session, the group will break for lunch. Gentry will speak again Saturday night at 6, then again at the 10 a.m. service Sunday morning. Gentry is known around the world as a prophet and a dynamic minister. He is a former pastor, having served 17 years. He was the prayer coordinator for Larry Lea in Rockwall. He has published several books and is well qualified to bring an encouraging word and "Break Out!" seminar. For more information, call (806) 293-4356.

## Breast cancer screening slated Sept. 2

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and Baptist/St. Anthony's Health System will conduct a breast cancer screening clinic Sept. 2 at Plains Memorial Hospital, 310 W. Halsell in Dimmitt.

Participants will receive a low-cost screening mammogram. Each woman screened will receive a breast health risk appraisal and individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination.

Funding is available through the Texas Dept. of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 1-800-377-4673 or 806-356-1905.

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

## Beef conference slated in August

An educational conference to highlight the beef cattle industry will be held Aug. 18 and 19 at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center, 6500 West Amarillo Blvd. in Amarillo.

The conference will provide an opportunity for feedyard managers and employees, cattle feeders, stockers and consultants to meet university researchers, become familiar with current research projects, tour new research facilities and supply input to the research programs.

This year's conference also will include dedication of West Texas A&M University's Nance Ranch Feedlot and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station/USDA-ARS Research Feedlot and Laboratory at Bushland.

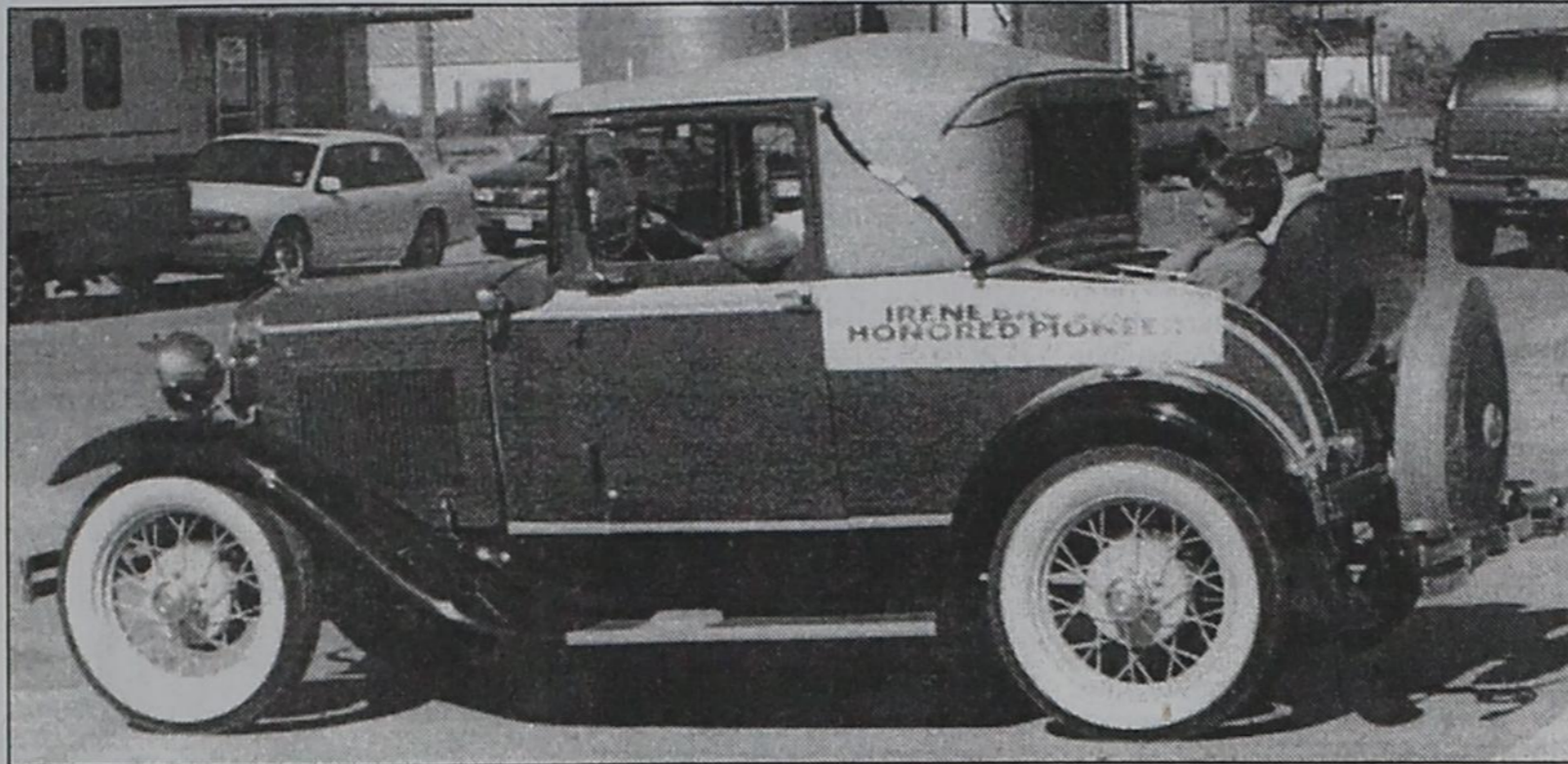
The feedlot dedication will be at 4 p.m. on Aug. 18. The conference registration will begin at 8 a.m. on Aug. 19.

Cost to register is \$15 for feedlot dedication and dinner, \$25 for the conference, or \$40 for both events if registration is received by the Texas Cattle Feeders Association, 5501 I-40 West, Amarillo 79106, by Aug. 12.



'HART LIONS HAVE BIG HEARTS and Sweethearts, too' is the motto on the Hart Lions Club float that was entered in the annual Hart Days parade

Saturday. The entry won first place in the floats division. Photo by Linda Maxwell



HONORED PIONEER IRENE BROOKS served as parade marshal for the Hart Days parade Saturday morning in Hart. She rode in this 1931 Ford Model

A, which also won first place in the antique vehicles division of the parade. It is owned and driven by Thomas Brooks. Photo by Monica Ortiz

## Hart Days parade winners announced

The Hart Lions Club had the first place float among the entries in Saturday's Hart Days Parade in Hart. Winners were announced by emcee Jerry Kittrell as the parade proceeded south on Broadway.

Winners were named in the floats and organizations division, antique cars and tractors.

In the floats and organizations division, the Hart Lions' float featured the club sweethearts and various projects supported by the group. Second place went to Bailey Motor Service with their "Gone Fishin'" theme float. Third place went to the Miss Hart Pageant entry, a bright yellow Corvette featuring this year's Miss Hart, Nikki Burrell, and driven by last year's Miss Hart, Valerie Key. The car is owned by Albert Key.

In the antique vehicles division, first place went to the 1931 Ford Model A which carried "Honored Pioneer" Irene Brooks. Second place was a 1931 Ford Model A belonging to Lytton Stark. Third place was a Mustang belonging to Jack George and carrying District Judge Jack Miller and his wife.

In the tractor division, a 1941 Case SC owned by Bruce Huseman won first. Hill Land & Cattle entered both the second and third place winners—a 1945 IH driven by Joe Reyna and a 1947 International "B" driven by Cruz Ayala, respectively.

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at the following locations:

- The 19th Hole, Nazareth
- Coleman Pharmacy
- Dimmitt Market
- Dimmitt Thriftway
- Fast Stop
- Lockhart Pharmacy
- McLain's Corner, Hart
- Naz Stop, Nazareth
- The Pancake House
- Pay & Save Food, Hart
- Red X Travel Center
- Town & Country Food Store

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## Dandies and Darlins

### Friona duo wins tourney

Andy Hawkins and Goldie Harrison of Friona fired a 95 and walked away with the Dimmitt Dandies and Darlins Tournament crown over the weekend.

The annual tournament was held at Country Club of Dimmitt and featured three flights. Hawkins and Harrison jumped out to an early first-round lead after finishing with 61. They picked up 34 strokes over the second nine to win the Championship Flight of the event by four strokes.

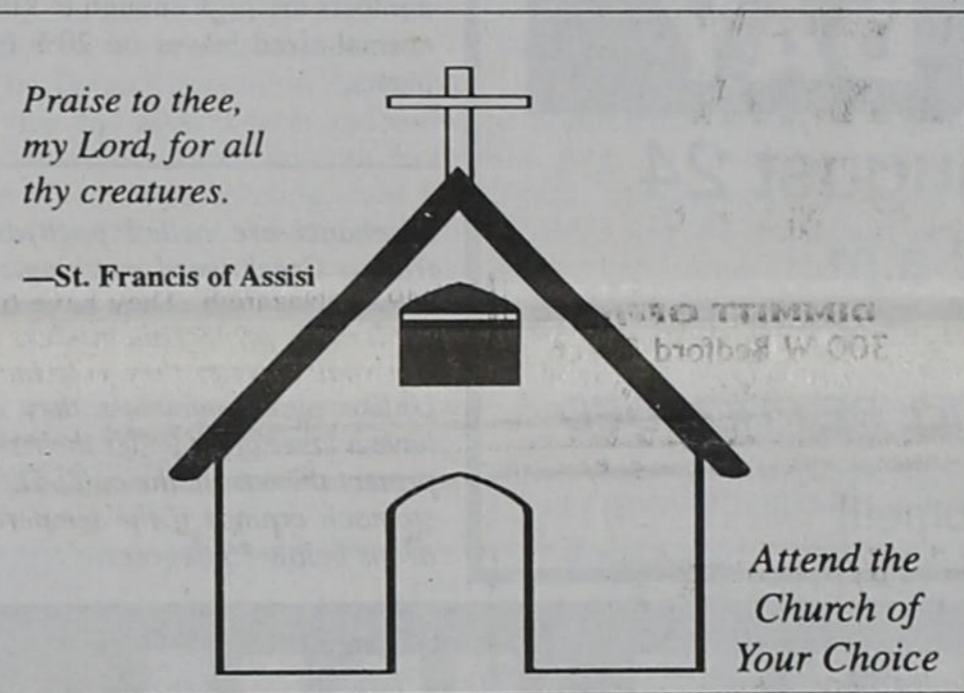
Finishing second in the Championship Flight was the team of Chris Holt and Debbie Holsclaw of Amarillo, 66-33-99. Third-place honors were shared by Amarillo's Cliff Cook and Anna Crook (69-32-101) and Hereford's Bret and Tiffi West (67-34-101).

In the First Flight, Brent Kirkland and Karen Harrelson of Friona took top honors with 103 strokes (73-30-103) while Bill and Bettye Durham of Dimmitt (72-35-107) and Jerry and Kay Strawn of Panhandle (73-34-107) shared second-place glory.

Jim and Phyllis Kirkland of Perryton won the Second Flight with a total of 119 strokes (82-37-119). Brent and Shana Kirkland of Lubbock were second (82-38-120), and Don and Shirley Cornett of Dimmitt finished third (83-39-122).

# Church Directory

- New Hope Memorial Baptist**  
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Bobby Starlings.....647-2889
- Sunnyside Baptist**  
Sunnyside.....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  
Fern Couture.....647-4219, 647-0105
- Jesus and the Love of God Church**  
(Bilingual) 301 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Felix Sanchez.....647-3668



**Church of God of the First Born**  
611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt

**St. John's Catholic**  
Hart  
Fern Couture.....647-0105

**Immanuel Baptist**  
501 SE 3rd, Dimmitt

**Church of Christ**  
SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt  
647-4435

**Rosa De Saron**  
411 NE 6th, Dimmitt  
Maria Castaneda.....647-5598

**Rose of Sharon Temple**  
407 NE 4th, Dimmitt

**First Baptist**  
302 Ave. G, Hart  
Jeff Box.....938-2316

**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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**Lockhart Pharmacy**  
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647-3531

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**Lowe's Pay & Save Foods**  
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647-3117

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**Red X Travel Store**  
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Flagg Intersection • 647-2241

**Texas Equipment Company, Inc.**  
Hwy. 385, Dimmitt  
647-3324

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

**Hart Producers Co-op Gin**  
Monty Phillips, Manager  
938-2189

**Westway Trading Corporation**  
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647-3138

**DeBruce Grain, Inc.**  
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# ABI Agriculture, Business & Industry



## Producers should watch for greenbugs in sorghum

South Plains farmers should keep a close eye out for greenbugs in their grain sorghum.

"Overall, grain sorghum insect counts have been relatively low in recent weeks, but producers should keep an eye on their crop," said Johnna Patterson, Extension integrated pest management agent for Castro and Lamb counties. "With the wide range of grain sorghum planting dates we've seen this year, infestations of insects such as greenbugs probably will vary considerably."

Greenbugs are aphids that damage sorghum plants by sucking out plant juices. They also damage plants by injecting a toxin while feeding. Adult greenbugs are light green in color, about 1/16 of an inch long and have a darker green stripe down their back.

These winged and wingless pests also have small stalks (cornicles), or tail pipes, protruding from their posterior. The tips of the cornicles and the tips of their legs (farthest from

the body) are black.

"Female greenbugs produce living young (nymphs) without mating. Under optimum conditions, greenbugs can complete a full life cycle in only seven days. Each female can produce up to 80 offspring during a 25-day period," Patterson said. "They feed in colonies on the underside of leaves and leave behind a substance called honeydew. Sorghum in the seedling, boot or heading stages will be the most affected by greenbug feeding."

Infested plants will have redish-colored leaf spots—caused by the toxin greenbugs inject while feeding.

Damaged leaves will turn from green to yellow to brown as they die. Larger plants are more tolerant of greenbugs, but they can reduce the crop's yield potential, especially during booting, flowering and grain development. The extent of yield loss hinges on greenbug numbers, how long they have been feeding and overall plant health. They also can

reduce yields by causing lodging after plants reach the boot stage.

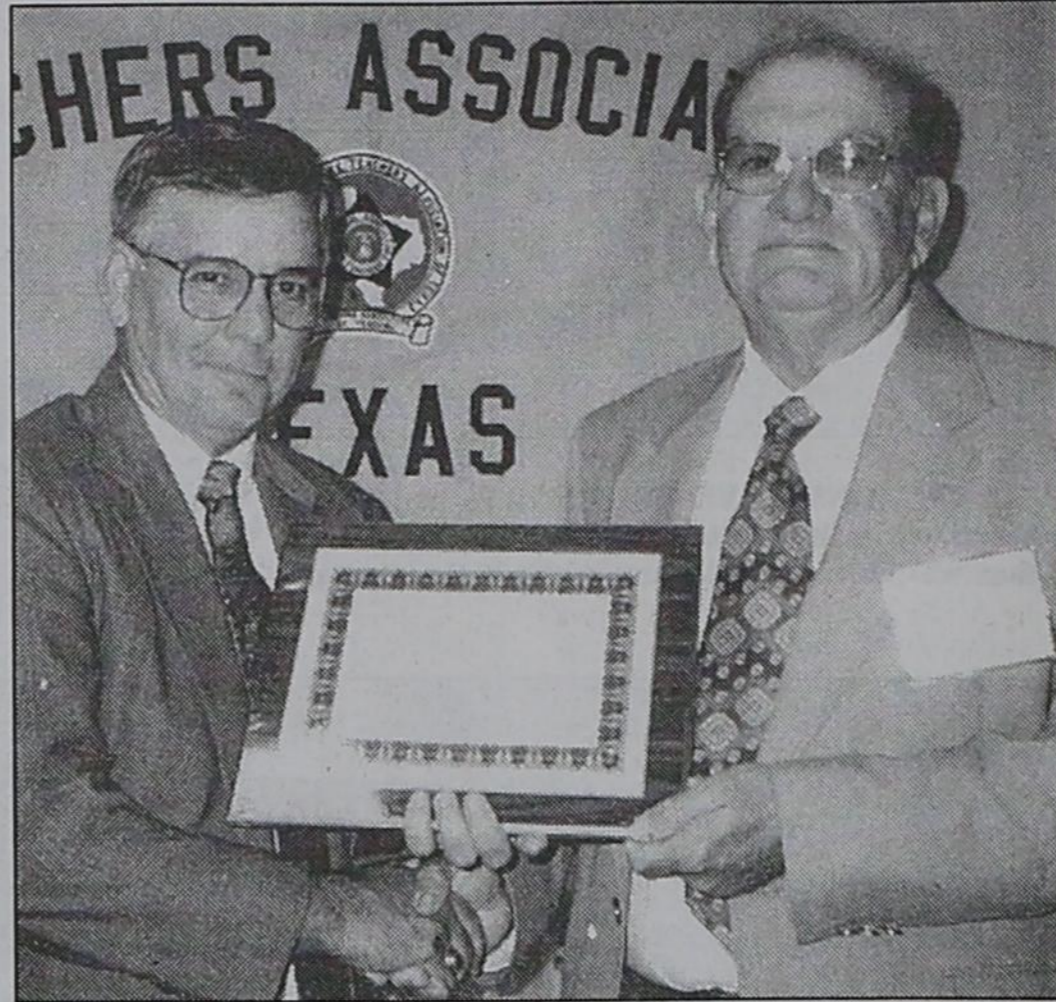
The best way to scout for greenbugs is to examine at least 40 randomly-selected plants per field each week. Greenbugs will not be evenly distributed in a field, so it is wise to examine plants from all parts of a field. Try to avoid examining only plants along the field border, Patterson said.

"Sample more than 40 plants in larger fields, or if the control decision seems difficult. Consider the amount of leaf damage, number of greenbugs per plant, percentage of parasitized greenbugs (mummies), number of greenbug predators (lady beetles) per plant, moisture conditions, plant size and stage of growth, and overall crop health when deciding whether to make a control treatment," Patterson said. "It's also important to scout regularly, so you know whether greenbug numbers are increasing or decreasing from week to week.

"On young plants, from emergence to about six inches tall, a control treatment should be made when 20% of the plants show yellowing leaves and greenbugs are found on the plants. Treat larger plants up to the boot stage when greenbugs are causing red spotting or yellowing of leaves—before entire leaves on 20% of the plants are killed.

From the boot to heading stages, you should treat when you find one dead functional leaf on 20% of plants inspected. From the heading to hard dough stage, treat when greenbug numbers are high enough to kill two normal-sized leaves on 20% of the plants.

*Elephants are called pachyderms, from a Greek word meaning thick-skinned, but their skin is surprisingly tender. To protect themselves from sun and insects, they roll in mud. Unlike other mammals they don't have a layer of fat under their skin to protect them from the cold. They get stomach cramps if the temperature drops below 35 degrees.*



**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS** were presented to Vocational Agriculture Teachers Jerry Mathis of Dimmitt (top photo, right) and David Bownds of Nazareth by Bud Weston, Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas president. The two were honored for their years of service—35 years for Mathis and 25 for Bownds—during the Agriculture Teachers' Professional Development Conference last Wednesday in Waco. *Courtesy Photos*

## Gonzales, Turner to compete in Farm Bureau district events

Valerie Gonzales, daughter of Roy and Robin Gonzales of Dimmitt, will be representing Castro County Farm Bureau at the district Farm Bureau Queen Pageant today (Thursday) in Idalou.

Gonzales was selected as the Castro County Farm Bureau Queen at a county contest in April.

At the district level, contestants will be judged on appearance, poise, personality, speech and response to impromptu questions.

Also participating at the district level in the Talent Find contest will be Castro County's Talent Find winner, Miranda Turner, daughter of

Mike and Julia Turner of Tulia.

Turner won the county contest in April by performing a piano solo, *Hodyn Sonata in D Major*.

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

Both contestants will be competing for college scholarships.

At the district level they will be competing for \$1,000 in each category and will advance on to the state competition, which will be held in Corpus Christi in November. Winners at the state level will receive \$2,500 scholarships.

## County roping slated Aug. 15

Castro County's best ropers will be showing off their skills on Aug. 15 in a special competition.

The Castro County roping will be held Aug. 15 and books open at 3 p.m. that day for those who wish to enter.

There will be three different competitions.

The first is the Castro County Team Roping and teams will get three go-arounds for \$20.

The second event is the Castro County All-Around Competition and competitors will get two shots at heads, two at heels and two at calves for a \$60 entry fee.

The all-around winner will receive a saddle and individual winners in each of the three events will be awarded buckles.

The team roping and all-around competition are restricted to Castro County residents.

The third event is the open roping and for \$20, ropers will be three shots.

All proceeds (after expenses) from the roping will benefit the Castro County 4-H Horse Judging Team.

For more information, contact Lonnie Robb at 647-4332.

## Tierra Blanca Creek to be site of field day, tour

A field day and tour to highlight the Tierra Blanca Creek Water Quality Demonstration Project will be held Aug. 17 and a Castro County site is among those featured on the tour.

Buses will depart from the West Texas A&M University Equine Center, touring sites including Timber Creek Veterinary Clinic, WTAMU Dairy, the Tierra Blanca Creek Property Owners Association and private demonstration sites.

The Tierra Blanca Creek Demonstration Project is the joint effort to protect the water quality of the Panhandle. The program's goal is to persuade local producers to voluntarily implement Best Management Practices into their daily operations by establishing the program's positive effects and benefits through demonstration sites.

Best management practices include efficient irrigation, reduced tillage, integrated pest management, manure management, rotational grazing, vegetative filter strips and water quality management plans.

The majority of the demonstrations are sited in Parmer, Castro, Deaf Smith and Randall Counties.

Registration and bus loading begins at 8:30 a.m. and the tour will depart at 9 a.m. Buses will return to the departure site at 5:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

## Nominations sought for parade marshal

Bill Sava, executive director of the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce, said that nominations are being sought for the honor of grand marshal or marshals for the annual Harvest Days Parade, which will be held Sept. 11.

Nomination deadline is Aug. 15. Names may be submitted by calling 647-2524 or by writing a nominating letter and mailing it or taking it by the Chamber office at 115 W. Bedford.

"We have many local citizens who are worthy of this special recognition, so get those names turned in before the deadline," Sava said.

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# 'Sustaining Agriculture' weekend set in Nazareth

The seventh annual *Sustaining Agriculture* weekend will be held on Saturday in Nazareth.

Theme for this year's event will be "Moving from Producer to Marketer" and featured speakers will be Charles Griffith, a farm specialist for the Noble Foundation in Ardmore, Okla., and Dr. Pamela Brown of Lubbock, a Texas Agricultural Extension Service marketing specialist.

The Promised Land Network, a regional sustainable agriculture organization based in Nazareth, is the

sponsor for the event.

Registration and refreshments will begin at 7:45 a.m. at the Nazareth Community Hall. Registration fee is \$15 per person for the entire day and \$5 per child for the children's tour.

After opening remarks, five outdoor tours will be offered, including whole farm planning, strip grazing, wildlife enhancement on farmland, urban agriculture and farmer's markets, and uncovering rural history. There also will be a children's tour for the entire morning.

At 11:15 a.m., a second session of indoor workshops will cover futures marketing, home cooking possibilities, income from on-farm wildlife, alternative crop options and local songwriting and storytelling.

Lunch will feature locally grown vegetables and pasture-raised meats, and a brainstorming session led by Tim Walter of the Aspen Institute on the topic, "Practical Considerations for Direct Marketing."

After lunch, Dr. Pamela Brown will give a short presentation on "Cashing in on Your Business and Developing Markets."

Her presentation will be followed by a panel discussion featuring five farmer/entrepreneurs who are engaged in different types of market enhancement.

At 3:30 p.m., a final session of workshops will be offered by the five panelists with more details on their marketing strategies.

Evening recreation will begin at 5 p.m. with home brew and refreshments, including an "open mike" conversation on the topic, "What Should be the Government's Role in Agriculture?"

Supper will be served at 6 p.m., followed by an auction to benefit the Promised Land Network, and live music. The evening concludes with a concert and dance with Andy Wilkinson and the Gimme Caps (alias Kenny Maines, Donny Maines and Carey Black).

For more information, call the Promised Land Network Office at (806) 945-2444.

## Corn borer eggs have been found in county corn fields

Farmers growing corn on the South Plains should scout their crop soon for evidence of Southwestern corn borer eggs.

"The second generation Southwestern corn borer recently began laying eggs in Castro County," said Johnna L. Patterson, Extension integrated pest management agent for Castro and Lamb Counties. "As a result, producers should plan to scout their fields soon."

"Second generation Southwestern corn borers usually begin laying eggs after plants have tasseled. Most of these eggs will be found on the middle seven leaves of plants, from four leaves below to two leaves above the ear leaf."

These borers often lay single eggs, but masses of two or more eggs are not uncommon. The eggs overlap each other, much like fish scales or roof shingles. Freshly-laid eggs are creamy white in color, while day-old and older eggs sport three red-colored bands. The eggs usually hatch in about five days.

"Hatching larvae from these eggs will feed behind the plant's leaf collars and ears, and behind the shucks of the primary ear," she said. "Older larvae will bore in the stalk and continue feeding on the plant. When fully mature, these dull-white larvae are about an inch long and have a regular pattern of raised black dots over their body."

"As corn plants reach maturity, these larvae prepare to overwinter in

the base of the stalk by girdling the plant one to six inches up from the soil surface," Patterson said. "The weakened stalks make the plants vulnerable to wind lodging. Blown-over plants are difficult to harvest, and yields can suffer if enough plants are affected."

Producers should consider an insecticide treatment for this pest when scouting reveals that 20 to 25% of plants in a field are infested with eggs or newly-hatched larvae.

"Scouting is the only reliable way to check the crop for eggs and larvae, and to determine whether an infestation warrants an insecticide treatment," Patterson said. "Producers should consult their Extension agent or crop consultant to correctly time an insecticide treatment to achieve the best control."

## Ag recycling project set this week in area

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) is offering rural Texans the opportunity to dispose of empty plastic pesticide containers, used motor oil, oil filters and lead acid batteries, free of charge, in either Dalhart, Vega or Hereford, over the next week.

The Texas Country Cleanup campaign will sponsor 40 one-day collection events throughout rural areas of the state this year. The collection will take place from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The purpose of the campaign is to offer rural areas the same recycling opportunities as metropolitan areas.

Collections will be held at the following locations:

**Tuesday in Dalhart:** Dalhart Consumers Fuels Association, north side of town on Highway 87.

**Wednesday in Vega:** Vega County Barn, north side of I-40, 5 blocks east of Oldham County Courthouse (tires will be accepted at this location only, 50-tire limit, 24.5" rim diameter or less. No automotive

businesses, please.

**Thursday, Aug. 12, in Hereford:** Deaf Smith County Fairgrounds Bull Barn, Dairy Road off of Highway 60 in Hereford.

Empty plastic pesticide containers must be clean, triple-rinsed or high-pressure rinsed to be accepted. No hazardous waste will be accepted. Tires will be accepted only at the Vega site. Oil filters will not be accepted from businesses. TNRCC reserves the right to refuse the service to businesses that are not agriculture-related.

Texas Country Cleanup is sponsored by TNRCC's Small Business and Environmental Assistance Division, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, and the Texas Dept. of Agriculture. The following recycles have donated their time and services for the collection: Hereford Iron Metal, D&K Metals and US Ag Recycling.

For more information about the program, contact the Extension office.



BAILEY MOTOR SERVICE of Hart won second place in the float division of the Hart Days parade Saturday morning. The theme of the entry was

"Gone Fishin'." Riders included Bailey family members.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

## August teleconference will focus on USDA crop report

Farmers can get an up-close analysis of the US Dept. of Agriculture's Aug. 12 crop report and discuss its market implications at a teleconference on Aug. 13 at 7:30 a.m. at the Lubbock County Extension office.

"Our teleconference network features comments from some of the most highly-respected market analysts," said Dr. Jackie Smith, Extension ag economist. "Marketing clubs can call in on 800 lines to participate in the teleconference by listening to the presentations and asking questions."

"Lubbock-area marketing clubs will host our Aug. 13 teleconference under the leadership of Lubbock County Extension Agent Stanley Young and Doug Hlavaty, leader of the Lubbock County Marketing Club."

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service and several farm and commodity organizations sponsor more than 50 county marketing clubs for Texas ag producers. These clubs help growers improve their marketing skills. The teleconference network is a "once-a-month series of meetings featuring expert comments on current market developments and how producers can apply specific marketing strategies to capitalize on the

market. Extension introduced the Master Marketer Program in 1996 to train marketing club leaders who help organize and conduct marketing clubs in their home counties.

"Marketing clubs meet once or twice a month. Members learn how to apply risk management tools such as forward-pricing, futures and options," Smiths aid. "The clubs often trade commodity options as a group to gain limited-risk trading experience."

"Clubs allow hands-on participation and observation of actual market dynamics. Club members learn at their own pace and experience firsthand the costs and benefits of marketing and risk management alternatives. Each teleconference runs for about 45 minutes through toll-free 800 telephone lines."

Pat McClatchy, coordinator of the teleconference network, will conduct the Aug. 13 conference call from Texas. The discussion will enter on USDA's Aug. 12 crop report and its market implications. Marketing club

leaders can call Dr. Carl Anderson at (409) 845-8011 or Smith at (806) 746-6101 to get instructions on how to connect with the teleconference.

Anderson, Smith and the teleconference team will also lead a marketing program beginning at 7 p.m. Aug. 12 in Lamb County. This will be coordinated by Extension Agent Dirk Aaron and is hosted by three Lamb County marketing clubs and Security State Bank of Littlefield.

"There is no registration fee, but space is limited at the Aug. 12 meeting. Still, there may be an opportunity for producers outside of Lamb County to participate," Smith said. "This meeting at Lamb County Electric Coop will include a meal. Producers can call Aaron at (806) 385-4222, Ext. 235, to inquire about registration or participation."

Producers who want to participate in the network's '99 teleconferences should contact their county Extension agent or local marketing club leader.

## Cable upgrade, installation gives money to schools

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

The company will donate \$5 to local high schools for each new installation or upgrade during the month of August.

"We have offered a similar campaign the past two years and generated nearly \$15,000 for local high schools each year," said Jennifer Hauschild, marketing manager for Classic Cable.

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

For more information about the program, call 1-800-999-8876.

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<p><b>'98 FORD TAURUS</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Stk. #30797P, 21,000 miles</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$13,500</p>	<p><b>'95 MERCURY COUGAR</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Stk. #21796, Green over White</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$8,995</p>	<p><b>'98 FORD MUSTANG GT</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Stk. #20179, 25,000 miles</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$16,995</p>

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# Power providers submit merger filings to regulators

New Century Energies and Northern States Power Co., have filed with several states and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for approval of the proposed merger to form Xcel Energy Inc.

"Filing with federal and state regulators is another key step toward merger completion," said Jim Howard, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Northern States Power. "As we announced in March, we are focused on completing the approval process to enable closing in the second quarter of 2000."

Howard will become chairman of Xcel Energy upon completion of the merger.

New Century Energies President Wayne Brunetti, who will become chief executive officer of Xcel Energy, addressed consumer benefits of the merger, noting "Xcel Energy will provide New Century Energies and Northern States Power customers with continued low-cost, reliable energy while maintaining and even improving the high levels of service our customers have come to expect."

New Century Energies filed merger applications in Colorado and Wyoming and Northern States Power filed its application in Minnesota. The companies also filed at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and in Texas, New Mexico, Kansas and North Dakota.

The proposed merger requires approval or regulatory review by these regulators as well as the Securities and Exchange Commission, US Dept. of Justice, Federal Trade Commission and Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The companies indicate that customers of the new Xcel Energy will benefit through the following:

**\* Increased efficiency:** The merger will create efficiencies that will benefit customers and position the company for competition. These efficiencies will produce an anticipated \$1.1 billion in merger-related savings, allowing the companies to offer stable rates to their customers.

**\* Best practices:** After reviewing operating procedures, the companies will implement system-wide the best practices of each utility, thus improving service quality.

**\* Increased diversity:** Diverse locations of the companies will offer benefits, such as cost savings and operating efficiencies due to weather and time zone differences, and divers economic conditions that provide better ability to withstand risk and volatility than on a stand-alone basis.

**\* Financial stability:** Both companies are financially healthy. As a combined entity, they will significantly increase market capitalization, which is expected to result in increased financial flexibility and improved access to capital markets.

Competition will be enhanced by the merger, according to both companies. In the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission filing, the companies commit to independent operation of their electric transmission systems as a condition of the merger and support a competitive market for wholesale electricity. They also will undertake transmission upgrades, providing additional capacity to allow market participants to secure low-cost power in the region.

Shareholders of both companies

approved the merger on June 28. When the merger is completed, Xcel Energy will serve approximately three million electricity customers and 1.5 million natural gas customers in 12 states.

New Century Energies serves approximately 1.6 million electricity customers and more than a million natural gas customers in Colorado, Texas, New Mexico, Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma. Its operating companies include Public Service Co., of Colorado, Southwestern Public Service Co., and Cheyenne Light Fuel and Power. Wholly-owned subsidiaries include New Century International, which owns a 50% interest in Yorkshire Electricity in the United Kingdom.

Northern States Power provides electricity to about 1.5 million customers in portions of Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Michigan and South Dakota. It distributes natural gas to more than 475,000 customers in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan and Arizona. Wholly-owned subsidiaries include NRG Energy Inc., which operates and has ownership interests in non-regulated energy businesses around the world, with major projects in the United States, Australia and Germany.



FIRST PLACE IN THE TRACTOR DIVISION OF THE HART DAYS PARADE ... A 1941 Case SC owned and driven by Bruce Huseman of Nazareth.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

## Big reunion planned for DHS alumni

Dimmitt High School alumni from the classes of 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950 are invited to a reunion on Oct. 1 and 2 at the Fifth Seasons Inn in Amarillo.

Organizers of the event are Bill Birdwell, Billy Hackleman, J.E.

Harmon, Dorothy Dee, Thomas Harrison, Clydene English Damron, Wayne Gipson, Phyllis Mooney, J.R. Fulfer, Lewis Martin, Tiny Rice and Floyce George.

The initial planning has been completed and those planning to attend

the reunion may reserve a room by calling Sandra Henderson at the hotel at (806) 358-7881 or toll-free, 1-800-858-2223. Room rates are \$40 for a room with double beds or a room with one king-sized bed, or \$45 for a suite with a king-sized bed. All guests will receive a continental breakfast.

Guests are expected to begin arriving for the reunion on Friday, Oct. 1, and check-out will be around noon on Sunday.

There is no formal agenda of events planned for the reunion.

The hotel's formal ballroom will be the reunion headquarters and will serve as a meeting place for those wishing to visit and/or reminisce. Tables with snacks, drinks and other goodies will be set up in the ballroom during the reunion.

A general business meeting will be held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2. Future plans will be discussed at that time.

Two class coordinators and a general reunion chairman will be named. A financial report will be given and donations to help meet expenses of the next reunion will be accepted.

For more information, contact Lewis Martin, 1999 reunion chairman, at (806) 355-7977.

## County Farm Bureau leaders to attend development meeting

Castro County Farm Bureau leaders will join other Farm Bureau officials from around the area at a District II policy development meeting on Aug. 19 in Lubbock.

Farmers and ranchers who are members of Texas Farm Bureau are mulling over issues and answers as they prepare to write the policies that will guide the organization in the year 2000.

"Policy is what sets Farm Bureau

*The oldest fossil of a flowering plant in the United States was found in Colorado in 1953. It was estimated to be 65 million years old.*

apart," said Lonnie Robb, president of Castro County Farm Bureau. "No other organization that I know of goes to such great lengths to determine the true grass roots objectives of Texas farmers and ranchers."

Each summer, a policy development meeting is held in each of Texas Farm Bureau's 13 districts. Officers and leaders from county Farm Bureaus discuss the issues that are important to farm families.

"This year, I would say that the low prices top the list," Robb said. "Water, taxes, regulations and the declining ag export market also are getting some attention."


After these discussions, policy

resolutions will be debated and approved at County Farm Bureau conventions this fall. The Castro County convention is tentatively scheduled this year for Oct. 19.

Resolutions will be addressed at the state convention, slated for November in Corpus Christi.

Approved state resolutions become policy at that time and national resolutions will go to the national convention, which will be held in Houston in January.

"Once passed, all of these resolutions become Farm Bureau policy and our volunteer leaders and staff will work to get them implemented," Robb said.

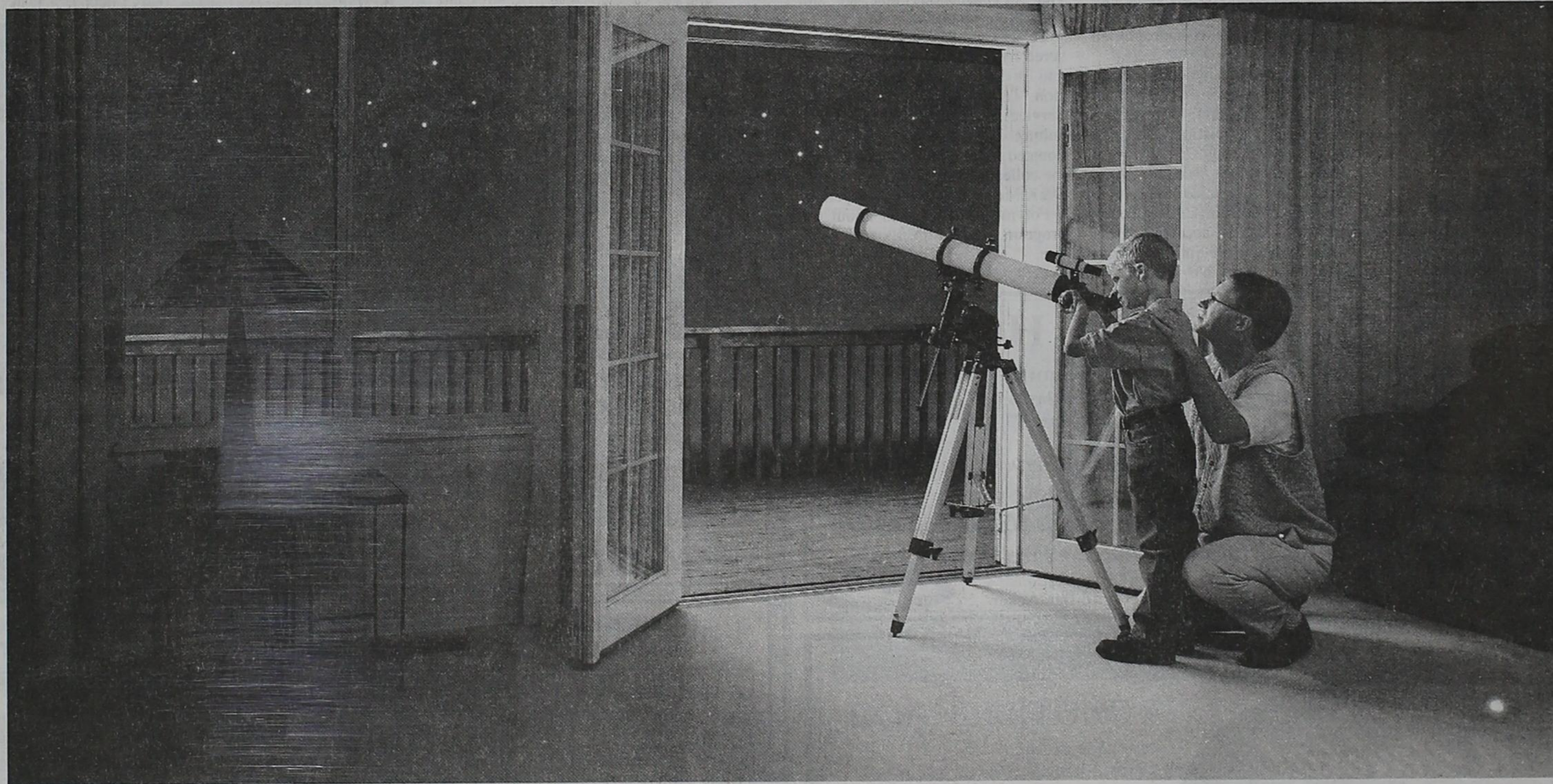


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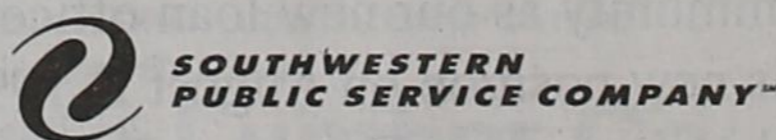
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**More about**

**Hart and Book earn Gold Star Awards . . .**

(Continued from Page 1)

habit. Whether working with senior citizens or other young 4-H members, this outstanding member really understands the importance of building relationships.

"Leadership skills have resulted from his serving on the County 4-H Council, as well as serving in virtually every office in his local club. He has had a variety of projects including Sheep, Public Speaking, Food and Nutrition, Gardening and Horticulture, Livestock Judging, Swine, Clothing, Veterinary Science and Safety."

Hart also enjoys the family involvement through the 4-H program.

"Fun! Fun! Fun! That's the way to describe this 4-H member," Book said as she prepared to introduce her daughter, Melanie Book, as a Gold Star winner.

Melanie Book is a nine-year member of 4-H and "unconventional may be the best way to describe her style," according to her mother. "She's always ready to help with the utmost enthusiasm. A hard worker who is never satisfied until her best has been reached, she is always trying. So shy just six years ago, she has truly blossomed into an accomplished public speaker. Just put her in front of an audience and the actress really comes out."

Melanie Book's strongest project area is Clothing, as evidenced by her placings in district and state fashion show events.

**Silver Star winner**

Winners of the 4-H Silver Star Award must be under 15 as of Jan. 1, of the current school year, and winners are honored for their achievements, leadership skills and contributions to 4-H during their early years of involvement.

Wilhelm was honored with this year's Silver Star Award.

"This year's Silver Star winner is a very determined person," said County Commissioner Bay Baldrige, who presented the award. "Watching this young person mature has been a joy. Beginning with Food and Nutrition and Clothing projects, she has branched out quite a bit with Public Speaking, Swine, Sheep, Beef, Consumer Education and Horse Judging."

"From being too shy to talk, she has blossomed into a confident public speaker. This year she even placed in the top ten with her Method Demonstration at State 4-H Roundup," Baldrige said.

Wilhelm got an early start in developing leadership skills by attending county camps and leader labs. Now she is an Electric Camp pro, having attended the past three years. This year she even managed to go twice—once with 4-H and again with FFA.

**I Dare You winner**

The William Danforth I Dare You Award is presented to a 4-H'er in recognition of excellence in character and well-balanced personal development as well as leadership potential.

As winner of the 1999 award, Wall received a copy of Danforth's book, *I Dare You*.

Wall "truly represents Mr. Danforth's ideal of a young person and a commitment to excellence," Baldrige said. "Courage and determination certainly describes the character of this young person who is always ready to accept a challenge."

Wall has completed projects in Public Speaking, Gardening and Horticulture, Recreation, Food and Nutrition, Clothing, Photography, Housing and Citizenship.

She has served in many local and county offices and her work was instrumental in establishing a new city park for Hart. She has appeared before the Hart City Council and the

Hart School Board. Most recently, she placed first at Texas State 4-H Roundup with a Clothing Method Demonstration.

**Outstanding Leader**

One of the most coveted awards presented at the county level for 4-H is the Outstanding 4-H Leader Award because the recipient is selected by members of the Castro County 4-H Council.

This year's recipient, Virgil Brockman, has earned the respect of youths all around the county. He upholds the tradition of Castro County leaders who unselfishly give of themselves.

"The kids always know they are being taken seriously and that they are respected by him," said Bryce Pohlmeier, who presented the award. "Setting high standards around this leader is expected and the kids always seem to deliver."

**Friend of 4-H**

The Castro County Association of Family and Community Educators, represented by Carolyn Sides at Monday's banquet, was honored by 4-H'ers for its loyalty to county 4-H programs for more than 50 years.

"Through the years, this group has changed its size and name, but definitely not its spirit," said Lucy Pohlmeier. "They work tirelessly every year raising money for county scholarships, and the county stock show would certainly not be the same without those famous homemade pies."

**South Plains Leader**

George Sides has been involved in Castro County 4-H for many years as a volunteer leader, and when his children were involved in the program, livestock was his specialty.

Sides was honored this year with the South Plains Distinguished Leader Award and he was honored at

District Roundup in May as well as at Monday night's county banquet.

"He is still one of the strongest supporters of our county junior livestock show and sale and he has been instrumental in making the 4-H Center a reality," said Wall. "In the past year, he issued a dollar-for-dollar challenge to the Castro County 4-H members to raise money for the next phase of the center."

**Record Books, etc.**

Other awards were presented Monday to 4-H'ers for outstanding Record Books during the past year.

Three county 4-H'ers completed Record Books which will qualify for the State 4-H Roundup. They are Jeremy Bishop, who created his book about recreation; Thomas Brockman, who presented a book on consumer education; and Rusty McDaniel, who based his book on his horse project.

Castro County 4-H presented special awards to three 4-H'ers, one in each age division, for the top entry this year. Winners were Eric Book, Best Junior I Record Book; Adrienne Hart, Best Junior II Record Book; and McDaniel, Best Senior Record Book.

Other 4-H'ers who placed at the district and state levels were also recognized Monday, especially Nikki Burrell and Rachel Wall, who won state with their Method Demonstration on clothing.

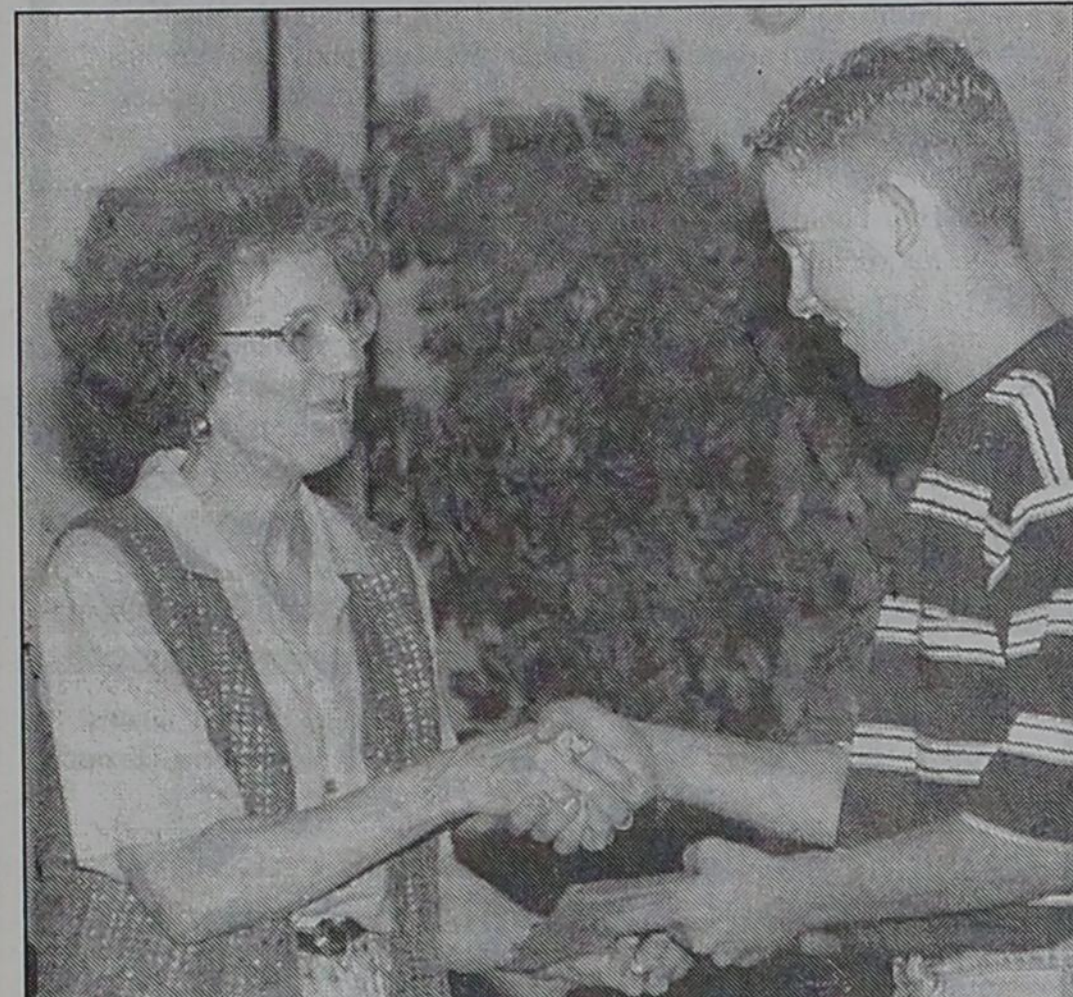
The Hart 4-H Club was presented with a special award for its community service project this year—construction of a new city park, complete with basketball court, in Hart.

The Hart 4-H members raised money for the project and did a lot of the work on the park themselves.

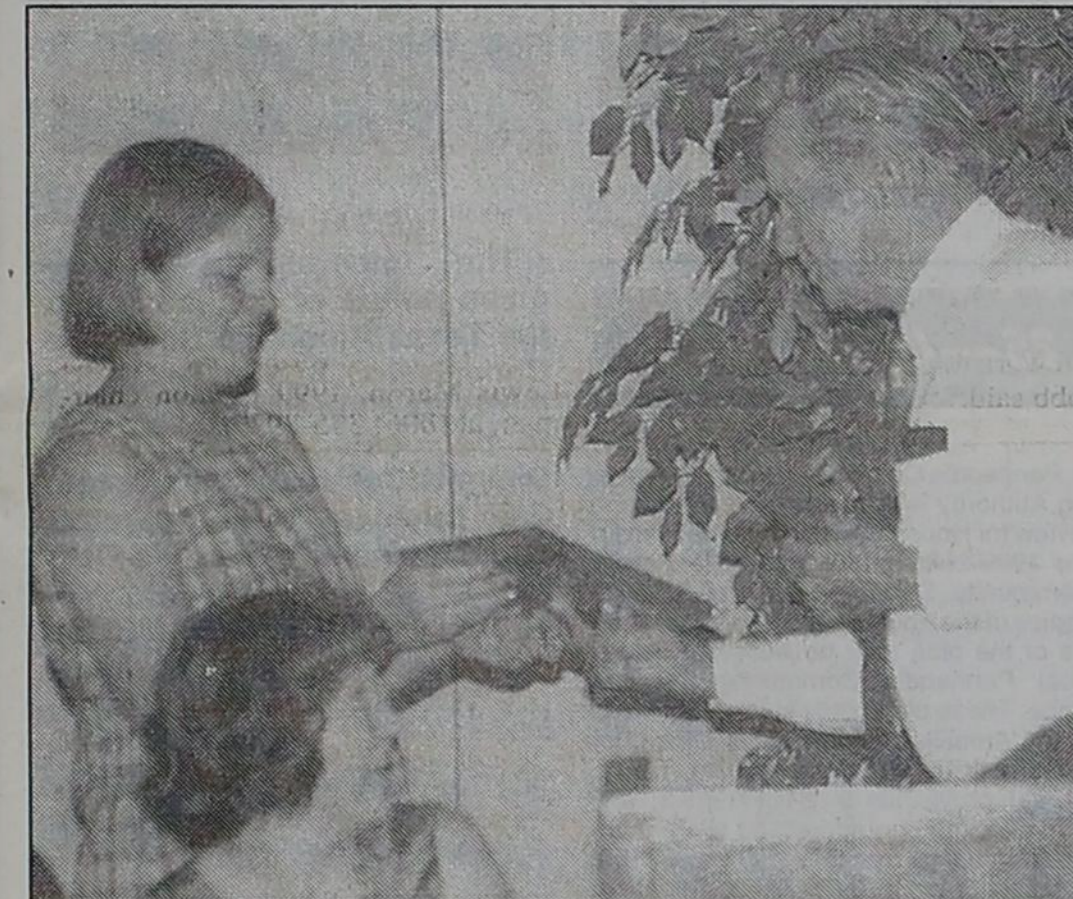
Their efforts were rewarded when they received a national honorable mention through the Colgate Citizenship Program.



**1999 4-H DANFORTH I DARE YOU WINNER**  
... Rachel Wall (right) accepts award from Bay Baldrige  
Photo by Anne Acker



**WE APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF CASTRO COUNTY FCE**  
Jeffrey Stovall (right) thanks 1999 Friend of 4-H, Carolyn Sides  
Photo by Anne Acker



**TOP JUNIOR 4-H'ER FOR 1999**  
... Jennifer Wilhelm accepts Silver Star Award from Bay Baldrige  
Photo by Anne Acker

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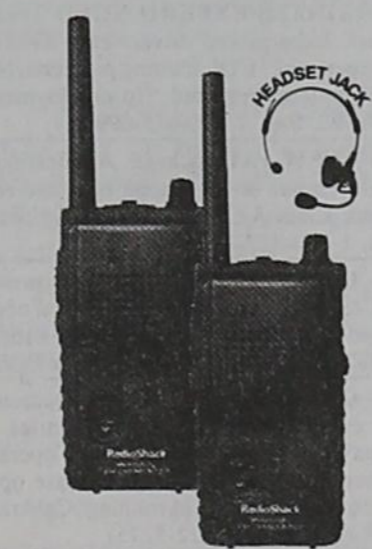
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# City calls special election

The city council voted Monday night to accept a bid on a police car, to go out for bids on medical insurance, to accept the resignation of Lyman Schroeder and call a special election to replace him, and to leave city policy as it is in the buying and

selling of items for the city. They also heard a report on Teen Court.

The single bid received earlier from Western Ford of Hereford was modified by another \$1,000 off the price of a police package automobile and the bid was accepted by the council at \$20,232.55, which also allows \$1,000 for a trade in. City Manager Don Sheffy said he placed advertisements all week in the Amarillo and Lubbock daily newspapers, but no other responses were received.

The council considered a proposal from council member Roy Garza to require the city to go out for bids on all selling or purchasing of vehicles and equipment for the city.

Sheffy said the city already complies with state law in going out for bids on anything that is over \$10,000, and usually tries to on some things that are less than that. He said he also has tried to sell by bids anything the city is selling. He added that it is not always feasible to go out for bids on everything the city buys. He gave an example of when the city needed a motor for one of the water pumps. He said there was not time to go out for bids.

Council members voted to leave the city policy as it is.

Garza asked Sheffy what he planned to do with old tables, chairs and old computers. Sheffy said the old computers which have been replaced in the city offices will be offered to other departments (water and police) to see if they could make use of them. If not, he said the items will be sold by bids.

Schroeder resigned his position as an at-large council member because he is moving out of town. He has one and a half years left on his term. Council members voted to call a special election for the next available election date, which is Nov. 2.

Mayor Wayne Collins expressed thanks to Schroeder on behalf of all the citizens of Dimmitt for his service on the council.

The council gave approval for Sheffy to advertise for bids on health insurance for city employees. The current policy comes up for renewal in October.

A local citizen asked the council what could be done about a property owner who has moved substandard mobile homes into the mobile home park where she lives.

Sheffy said the property owner had not obtained the required permits before moving the structures into the city limits. He said there is a \$500 per day penalty for not getting a

permit and the property owner will be contacted about the matter.

Collins told the council that the city has received a rate increase request from Energas. He recommended that the council consider joining a group of cities that will hire a consultant to examine the request. He said he is opposed to the increase because the company acted in "bad faith" in closing local offices without any prior warning just after the last rate increase was approved. The matter will be placed on the agenda for the next council meeting.

Debbie Annen, director of the Teen Court program, told the council that the program is going very well. She said the court will start meeting twice a month this year, instead of only once a month in an effort to relieve the backlog of cases.

Annen said that the court has had 56 kids who have gone through the program or are currently in the process. Nine of those were referred back to the referring agency because they did not show up for their court hearing, did not complete their sentence, or did not show up for their required jury duty.

"Teen Court makes kids take responsibility for what they have done," Annen said. "I am really proud of our kids."

Annen said the program has had three referrals from Nazareth and will process two from Hart this month. She said if interest from those two cities increases she will approach their governing bodies for help in supporting the program.

## More about

### Hospital district . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Amarillo Heart Group.

A cardiologist from the Amarillo Heart Group will see patients, referred by Dimmitt physicians, on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Specialty Clinic of Dimmitt, located in the east side of Dr. Gary Hardee's old clinic.

"Bringing a cardiologist to Dimmitt on a regular basis is an important step in enhancing the health care for the community, since our population is not large enough to bring in a full-time cardiologist," Sloan said. "A specialist who visits regularly can provide a valuable service to our patients who, in the

past, have had to seek cardiologist care out of town.

"The doctors in the Amarillo Heart Group are skilled professionals who bring a wealth of knowledge and specialized medical care to the residents of Dimmitt," Sloan said. "They have extensive training and experience in both the diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease."

Their specialties include the performance of coronary angioplasty procedures, cardiac catheterizations, echocardiology, exercise stress testing, EKG interpretation and permanent and temporary pacemaker implantation.

## More about

### School starting Aug. 12. . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Hart

Hart schools will hold registration on Monday, and students in grades 7-11 will have their school pictures made that day.

Blunck Studios will be present during registration to take school pictures for those classes and the

school's dress code will be in effect, according to Principal Digger Elam. Seniors will not have their pictures made on Monday.

The registration schedule includes seniors at 8:30 a.m., juniors at 9:30 a.m., sophomores at 10:30 a.m., freshmen at 1 p.m., eighth graders at 2 p.m. and seventh graders at 3 p.m.

## Obituaries

### Inez Crump

Graveside services for Lola Inez Crump, 80, of Paducah, former Dimmitt school teacher, were held Friday morning at the Garden of Memories in Paducah with the Rev. Roy C. Keith, pastor of the First Christian Church in Paducah, officiating.

Burial followed in the Paducah Garden of Memories under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Paducah.

Miss Crump died Tuesday, July 27, at a Childress hospital.

She was born Sept. 16, 1918, in Paducah and was a lifelong resident of the town.

She was a graduate of Paducah High School and Texas Woman's University in Denton. She received her master's degree from West Texas State College in Canyon. She began her school teaching career in Paducah and taught in Littlefield and Dimmitt before her retirement.

She had traveled extensively and traveled around the world several times. She was a member of the First Christian Church of Paducah.

Survivors include a sister-in-law, Mary Dalton Crump of Friona; four nephews, John Crump of Dallas, Randy Crump of Tulsa, Okla., Kevin Crump of Claremore, Okla., and Bob Crump of Edmond, Okla.; and a niece, Patti Arrington of Dolores, Colo.

The family suggests memorials be to the Paducah Cemetery Association or the First Christian Church in Paducah.

### Timoteo Valencia Jr.

Timoteo Garcia Valencia Jr., 69, of Perry, Okla., died Saturday at Perry Memorial Hospital.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Dimmitt with Father Fern Couture, pastor, officiating. Burial followed in Westlawn Memorial Park in Dimmitt under the direction of Brown-Sisson Funeral Home of Perry.

Mr. Valencia was born Dec. 25, 1929, in Mexico. He married Maria Fuentes on March 18, 1956, in Clovis, N.M. He was a farmer. He belonged to the Catholic Church and was a member of the Knights of Columbus in Dumas.

He was preceded in death by his wife.

Survivors include two sons, Tim Valencia and Mark Valencia, both of Perry; a daughter, Norma Bernal of Amarillo; a brother, Antonio Valencia of Redwood City, Calif.; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## Man enters guilty plea

In 64th Dist. Court on July 16, before Judge Jack Miller, John Simons pled guilty to third degree felony charges of possession of marijuana over 5 pounds and under 50 pounds in a Feb. 24 incident.

The terms of the agreement included five years in the Institutional Division of the Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice, probated for five years of community supervision; a fine of \$1,000, court costs of \$261.25, attorney fees of \$250, a \$50 donation to Crime Line, and 400 hours of community service.

## Game night set Friday at Senior Center

The Dimmitt Senior Citizens Center will host a game night on Friday, starting at 6 p.m.

All members of the center are encouraged to attend, and those interested in joining the Senior Citizens also are invited.

Membership is open to all who are age 55 or older, and the membership fee is only \$15 per year.

For more information, call the center at 647-2654, or Edith Graef at 647-4748 or Cleo Forson at 647-4313.

## Police Calls

Police answered a disturbance call Sunday night in the 1100 block of West Andrews and discovered a 12-year-old male juvenile in the back seat of a vehicle parked there. Police said it appeared that the youth was intoxicated to the point of unconsciousness and an ambulance was summoned.

While police were attending to the youth, a 20-year-old Dimmitt man came out to see what was going on around his vehicle. The man was searched and found to be in possession of a substance that appeared to be marijuana. He was charged with being a minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage and possession of marijuana under 2 ounces. The youth was transported to a Lubbock hospital and his condition was unknown as of Tuesday afternoon.

Also jailed early Monday was an Amarillo woman, 21, for Class B Misdemeanor possession of marijuana under 2 ounces.

A 42-year-old Dimmitt man told police Friday that a 41-year-old Dimmitt woman had assaulted him in an incident of assault/family violence/with bodily injury.

Joe Schumacher of Rt. 2, Hereford, told deputies that two mailboxes south of Frio had been apparently struck by a vehicle.

Weldon Stephens of Rt. 2 Hereford, reported to deputies that a mailbox south of the Frio church had been struck by a vehicle driven by an intoxicated or otherwise impaired driver.

Zay Bradley of Dimmitt told deputies July 28 that someone used a .22 caliber firearm to shoot holes in an irrigation pipe south/southwest of Dimmitt.

Lillian Cameron of Nazareth told deputies July 28 that someone took a real estate sign from in front of a building in Nazareth, near Chubby Buns.

Two people reported to deputies recently that they have been receiving harassing or obscene phone calls.

Alcohol-related offenses during the past week:

—July 28, a 23-year-old Dimmitt

man was found inside an empty apartment on Northwest Sixth and he was intoxicated. He was charged with public intoxication.

—Early Saturday, a Hereford man, 35, was jailed for DWI, first offense.

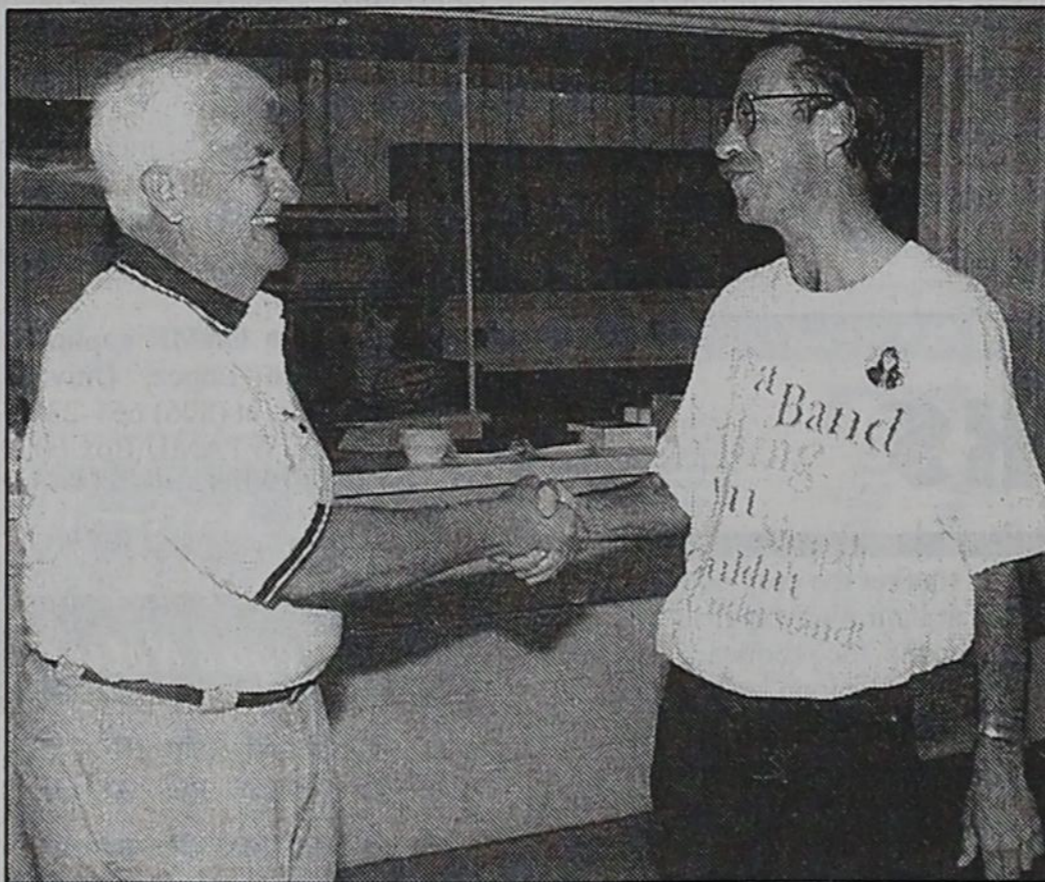
Jailed on warrants during the past week:

—July 28, a 27-year-old Dimmitt man on a warrant for motion to revoke probation stemming from DWI.

—Last Thursday, a Dimmitt man, 18, on a warrant for minor in consumption of an alcoholic beverage; a Summerfield woman, 27, on a Bailey County warrant for theft by check; and a Hart man, 22, on a warrant for motion to revoke probation stemming from unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

—Friday, a Dimmitt man, 38, on a warrant for parole violation.

—Monday, two Plainview men, ages 25 and 26 on unrelated warrants from Lamb and Hale counties.



A WELCOMING RECEPTION—Dimmitt High School's new band director Harold Hinsley and his wife were welcomed with an ice cream and watermelon social Sunday afternoon at the Expo building in Dimmitt. Here, Band Booster member Billy Harman welcomes Hinsley.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

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# BROOM SALE

Coming Wednesday, Aug. 25

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this edition

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The High Plains Calendar. To put your event here, call 806-655-7121.

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Classified Ads!! Vehicles, real estate, for sale, wanted items and much more

COMING  
next month

**From Idalou**

Read next month's issue to discover one Idalou couple's unique collection of those often heard of black-white-red memorabilia.

## Wheat yields high, prices low

This year's wheat crop was a success for at least one area family.

The McManigal's of Happy plant wheat in anticipation of feeding their cattle.

"Jim's philosophy is you grow wheat for cattle to graze," Wille Jane McManigal said of her husband. "Anything you cut is a bonus."

"We had a good harvest this year. We grazed a lot and then cut some too."

This is the third year in a row the McManigal's have been able to cut their wheat after grazing it, according to Wille Jane. She added that yields were average but prices were not good.

According to Swisher County Extension Agent Michael Clawson, Swisher County averaged 25 bushels per acre on dryland and 60 to 65 bushels per acre on irrigated fields. He said yields were above average, which is usually 15-18 on dryland and 45 on irrigated.

Don Lechner, Chief Operating Officer of AgriFarm Industries, said "Everything was just about perfect during wheat harvest this year once it got going, except for the cheap price."

In Randall County, dryland producers averaged 40 to 60 bushels per acre and irrigated land produced 50 to 100 bushels per acre, according to Randall County Extension Agent Robert Devin.

"Some folks told me they cut



COURTESY PHOTO

Jim McManigal, inside tractor, and father-in-law Si Elliott, both of Happy discuss the next job in the on-going process of farming and ranching. The pair are Swisher County farmers.

some of the best dryland crops they have cut in farming history," Devin said. "Those areas that didn't receive hail really had good crops. Some areas with hail damage still cut good wheat."

Above-average precipitation has fallen across most of the area through the first half of the year, according to the High Plains Water District's network of 400 rain gauges within its 15-county service

area. This service area extends from Randall County south to Lubbock County.

"Mother Nature has provided great opportunities for precipitation across our region so far," said Wayne Wyatt, HPWD manager. "While precipitation totals have varied from county to county, it is important to note that the majority of the Water District service area has received above-average rain-

fall."

According to Louis Schenk, general manager at Consumers Fuel Association and Elevator in Canyon, wheat prices were the lowest he has seen during his 11 years in the business.

"To improve the prices," Schenk said, "We will have to see less production or more demand."

Bradley Harrington, Angie Grand Pre and Patricia Gardner contributed to this story.

## Musk Thistle invading Swisher County

**Patricia Gardner special to the Ag Reporter**

It's not Canadian Thistle, but it is a nasty weed that has area farmers like Louie Edwards of Tulia armed with spray tanks, hoes and shovels trying to rid their farms of the invading beast.

"If my sheep won't eat it, then it is a very bad weed," said Edwards.

K.C. Willis, soil conservationist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service in Tulia, correctly identified the pest as *Carduus nutans* L., or Musk Thistle. The weed originated from its native Europe and has spread from coast to coast throughout most of North America, including Swisher County. It is invading the pastures, roadsides and waste areas of Swisher County, and residents are becoming mighty upset by its arrival.

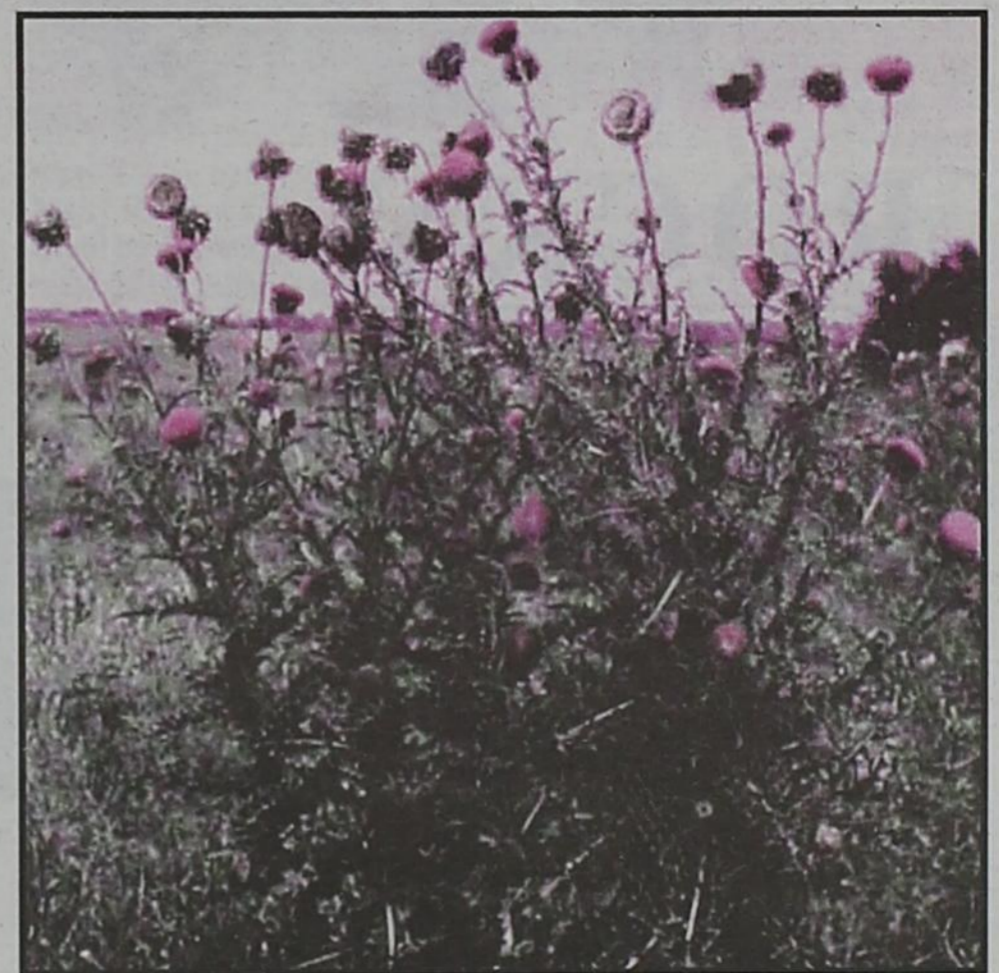
Musk Thistle is an aggressive biennial weed, which means the plant germinates one season and produces seed the next. Seedlings may emerge any time when moisture conditions are favorable, such as the long, cool spring the Panhandle has experienced this year. During the first season, plants normally stay in the rosette stage of growth. In the spring of the second season, plants usually start bolting in mid-April, produce flower heads from May through June and die after seed is produced.

Musk Thistle has solitary flower heads born on long bending stems, giving it the common name "Nodding Thistle." The colorful flowers are usually deep rose to violet or purple. Its leaves alternate dark green with light green midribs and white margins. There are prominent white or yellow spines on each lobe. It has no hairs on its leaves. The thistle can grow as high as five feet.

Musk Thistles reproduce entirely by seed, with each plant capable of producing 10,000 seeds. Some of the seeds may germinate the first year and others may remain viable in the soil for as long a period as five years. The life span of Musk Thistle is five to 10 years. Cattle or sheep do not graze infested areas but will occasionally feed on the flowering heads.

The weed has a taproot system, meaning that the main root develops and pushes straight down into the soil. It may branch throughout its length. The thickened tap root of biennial plants such as this one often serve as organs for food storage, so if it can be treated at its seeding stage, it can be killed.

Musk Thistle is not a serious problem in cultivated fields, as normal farming activity prevents it from seeding. It can, however, become a real problem in alfalfa fields and wheat fields planted in early fall. If seedlings emerge at



COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Musk Thistle has solitary flower heads born on long bending stems, giving it the common name "Nodding Thistle." The colorful flowers are usually deep rose to violet or purple. The thistle can grow as high as five feet.

that time, the plant goes unnoticed and is able to store enough root reserves to survive until the following spring.

Prevention is the first line of defense against Musk Thistle. These easy steps can help keep the weed from starting on your farm:

- Do not bring feed or hay infested with the seed into your area.
- Do not allow any Musk Thistles you may discover to produce seed. If the infestation is small, cut off the flowering head, place it in a bag and burn it. Then See Thistle on page 7

**CALENDAR**

**January 22 - November 15  
Museum Exhibit**

"Plowing the Plains," an exhibit about the agricultural history of the Southern Plains will be displayed in the Alexander Photo Gallery at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon. Call 651-2244 for information.

**August 17  
Randall County Tour**

At 8:30 am the Tierra Blanca Creek Tour leaves from the WTAMU Horse Center. This is an all day tour of the best management practices and demonstrations along the Tierra Blanca Creek, designed to reduce non-point pollution.

**August 18-19  
Beef Conference**

The High Plains Beef Feedlot Conference will be held in Amarillo. Purposes of the conference are to highlight the beef cattle industry; focus on feedyard managers and employees, cattle feeders, stockers and consultants; and provide an opportunity for the beef cattle industry to (1) meet new university researchers, (2) become familiar with current research projects, (3) tour new research facilities and (4) supply input to the research programs and help researchers identify the needs of the industry. For information, contact the TCFA 806-358-3681.

**September 1  
Crops Field Day**

A Summer Crops Field Day will be held at Bushland with registration at 8:30am. The tours and program conclude at 1:30 pm. For information, call 806-359-5401.

**Father and son team up for daily ranch work**

*special to the Ag Reporter*

**OLTON**—They are like two peas in a pod, father and son. They act alike, talk alike, think alike, and even share the same name. They are John and John Tyler Huguley.

John and his 13-year-old son, John Tyler, are cowboys, and they have been working cattle together as long as anyone in the family can remember.

"When Tyler was 4, I took a job outside the house," Pam Huguley said, adding that she worried about what to do with her young son.

She shouldn't have. He already knew what he wanted to do.

"All he ever wanted was to work with his dad. They would leave the house at five or six (in the morning), and driving down that road you could see that little hat right over there by his dad," she said.

Father and son have been together ever since. Mr. Huguley works cattle near Olton for Gerald Allcorn. However, he has his own herd that he runs in the sandhills south of the community.

After growing up on a family farm near Olton where he worked with his father, A.G. Huguley, John began cowboying at the age of 16 and said he has never felt the urge to do anything else.

"Every time I was doing anything else, all I could think about was being on horseback. I like being on horseback," he said.

He also likes being out in nature, and even though some of the work may seem monotonous, it does not bother him.

Those are qualities shared by Tyler.

"I just like that country down in there. I like the hills, I like the cattle, I like all of it," Tyler said.

Although the two enjoy all aspects of their life, both say without hesitation that the best part is being together.

John spoke of his son with pride as he explained that even at 13 he is a good hand. He pointed out that in some ways, Tyler has



RICHARD PORTER

**John Tyler gets a drink of water from the well as his father, John, looks on. The two are out checking their cattle after spending the earlier part of the afternoon working around the pens.**

the potential to be better than he is.

In particular, he said, the young man is good with colts. Although dad admits that occasionally he kibitzes, his son is able to break a colt and train it himself.

However, beyond the pride he takes in watching his son become a man, Huguley said he enjoys most just being with Tyler.

"I guess he would be my best friend and I really cherish it (working with him) a lot. He helps me in a million ways.

"We just talk about everything. We talk a lot about cattle and a lot about horses," he said. Tyler shared that sentiment.

"I enjoy just getting to spend time with my dad and getting to learn new stuff," he

said. The men are not alone in recognizing the value of their relationship.

Mrs. Huguley is thrilled about it. She described enthusiastically the impact spending time with his father, who is a deacon at First Baptist Church in Olton, has had on Tyler.

"John has really instilled a lot of wholesome values in John Tyler. I think he became the person God wanted him to be sooner from having the influence of his father," she said.

Beyond his values, has the father instilled his lifestyle in his son? Tyler answered that.

"Oh, I figure I'll always cowboy," the young man said.



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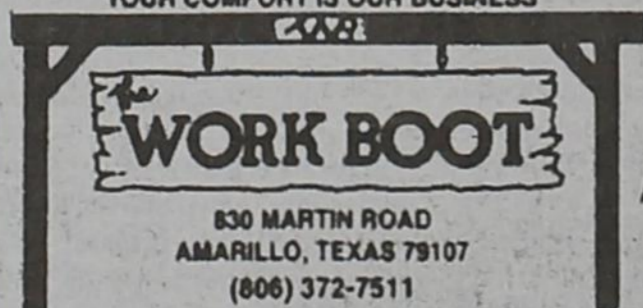
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# OPINION-ISSUES



**Robert Lee**

LONGTIME RESIDENT FROM HAPPY

## Happy Tales

A date, that my granddaughter has been anxiously waiting for, finally arrived last month. She was waiting with eager anticipation. Her dad and I with a certain amount of reluctance. Big brother was apprehensive also. She celebrated her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, and the family helped with all the hoopla and fanfare that we could muster. I am happy to report that she has her priorities in order. The first thing on her schedule was for dad to take her to Amarillo to get her driver's license. Legs are for dancing and playing basketball. If one wishes to go from point A to point B and is not a nerd, one must drive an automobile.

After raising two sons and having three grandsons, a

granddaughter was a special blessing. I am proud of my boys and love them very much, but I discovered that little girls are different. They have a different approach to life. At a very young age, my granddaughter instinctively knew how to handle the male species, especially her dad and me. While still in diapers but old enough to know when she needed a change, she went for a fresh diaper.

Walking past her mother and her MeeMaw, she came over to me, handed me the diaper and plopped down in front of me to be changed. She had decided it was my time. A few years later, she accompanied her dad to Walmart. She was warned in advance that he would not be

buying her anything. He was making his purchases when she approached him with an item in each hand. "Dad, which color do you think I should get?" she asked.

Before she started to school, she spent a lot of time with us, much to MeeMaw's and my delight. Making the rounds with me, she knew most of the people in town. The tellers at the bank knew, without asking, the color of balloon or sucker she preferred. She started steering the pickup for me at a very early age, causing us to receive a ticket when she was 5. We were informed that learner permits are not available at that age. At the age of 9, she was chauffeuring me all over Happy. I doubt if she remembers a time when she couldn't drive. When she was about 8, her family was camping with another family in Colorado. She and her little girl friend were in the car, listening to the radio and playing they were driving. Her little friend accidentally

knocked the gear shift out of park, and the car started rolling toward another car. My granddaughter jammed it back into park thus stopping the car and avoiding an accident. When asked how she knew what to do, she answered, "My PeePaw taught me."

When she spent the night with us, she always arrived with her bop (blanket) and Bugs Bunny doll. Insisting on sleeping with her MeeMaw, I was forced to sleep in another bedroom where I forcefully and loudly complained, mostly about not having a bop. She began to bring two. One for me and one for her. About the age of 8, she gave up her bop, being too embarrassed to take it to her first basketball camp.

Sixteen or not, I think she's still holding on to Bugs Bunny.

Her talking parakeet, our grandbird, is 10 years old. Bert has to be the most spoiled bird in the world.

We are privileged each year to

keep Bert during vacation time. He arrives each year with a detailed booklet of instructions about how to care for him. I have saved them all.

One summer, I taught him to say, "Dirty Bird." The next year, the instruction booklet informed me to refrain from adding to his vocabulary.

Boys seem to start to group around young girls at the age of 16. I certainly hope they will check with her dad, her big brother or me about the proper behavior rules. We're gentle people and we would hate to have to hurt someone because he was ignorant and didn't know the rules.

Miss Robyn, you have been a joy and a blessing all of your 16 years. We're looking forward to sharing many more memories in the future. Remember what I've always told you, "You're real smart and you look good."

One can't beat that combination. Above all else, never lose that sweet disposition.



**Burt Rutherford**

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR OF TCFA

## Negotiations will set tone for years to come

This fall, the world will gather in Seattle to begin the 1999 round of multinational negotiations on agricultural trade. Conducted under the framework of the World Trade Organization (WTO), these negotiations—expected to last several years—will set the tone for international trade for years to come. The negotiations will also largely determine if WTO will assume much-needed leadership in international trade or if it will become nothing more than a toothless dog lying on the porch, unwilling to hunt and unable to back up its bark with any kind of a bite.

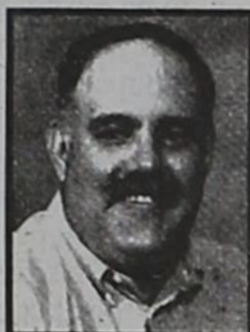
That's the essence of the message that TCFA took to the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR) and USDA during a recent field hearing in Austin. The hearing was designed to seek input on stances and approaches that the US should take when negotiations kick off this fall.

According to Ross Wilson, TCFA vice president, the US needs to stand firm on the issues and philosophies that have allowed worldwide trade to flourish in recent years. The US also needs to take a firm stand in reforming the WTO dispute settlement process.

It's important to accomplish these things, Wilson said, because of the impact that worldwide trade has on US agriculture. "For the beef industry alone, 1998 exports accounted for approximately 8 percent of total US production and 12 percent of beef's total wholesale value," he said. Clearly, this indicates that America's farmers, ranchers and cattle feeders are so productive that adopting a protectionist attitude and closing our borders is not an option.

That said, Wilson was quick to say that the current system of

See Rutherford on page 6



**Monte Winders**

FUTURES SPECIALIST

## Market News

### Cattle

The latest cattle on feed report was declared a bearish report by most analysts. The on feed number was 104 percent, the guess by most traders, while the placements were at 115 percent, on the high end of the guesses. Marketings were 106 percent, also at the high end of the range. Also the semiannual inventory report was slightly higher than expected, which may negatively impact feeder prices. Most floor sources felt there would be lots of bull spreading, which started a couple of days after the reports were released. Toward the end of July most mornings as you read through the meat news, most thoughts were of a non-trading attitude until we could see the cash break loose. Most weeks that occurred late Wednesday or Thursday, then we went back to a real non-event. We have entered on of the slowest meat movement periods and rumors that packers are planning to cut back on kills

has the futures trading in a very small range. Most traders are expecting the board to keep its discount to cash, which should help promote current marketings.

Technically the October live cattle have support at 6490 and 6435 with resistance at 6550 and 6580. The main trend is up with a trend reversal price of 6347.

### Corn

During the middle of July most weather forecasts had the corn belt in a hot, dry mode. Scattered rains are trying to ease dry conditions in the eastern corn belt and forecasts through early August look cooler and wetter. "Rain always makes grains" was one trader's quote as the new reports were being released. Many feel that the yield problems could be declining as the showers reduced the number of acres suffering from dryness stress. Moisture will result in fewer aborted kernels and better filling. Some traders felt since we had seen a bounce off the lows that

many farmers would be more comfortable hedging some of their corn. Another bit of bearish news was that China had been in the market and they were selling corn. The latest USDA crop condition report had a 2 percent drop in the US crops good-to-excellent rating which was less than anticipated. On the other hand the funds were allegedly net buyers taking the other side of the producer and exporter sales. Additionally, some weather watchers are saying that the temperatures in the corn belt should be in the high 80s and 90s so not much respite will be noted.

Technically we see December corn with support at 207 1/2 then 202 and resistance at

218 3/4 and 226 1/2. The main trend is up and a trend reversal price at 204 1/4.

### Wheat

This market has tried to have a mind of its own but the weight of corn and beans trading lower has had adverse effects on it. All of the other grain markets have been lower and risk of substitution has forced wheat values to follow. The wheat has gotten some support from the lower spring wheat condition ratings and the

See Winders on page 6

## HIGH PLAINS Ag REPORTER

The High Plains Ag Reporter is a monthly publication inserted in six newspapers: The Abernathy Weekly Review, The Canyon News, Castro County News, The Idalou Beacon, The Plainview Daily Herald and Tullia Herald. Published monthly by the partner newspapers and printed at The Plainview Herald, Plainview. Editorial and layout is coordinated at The Canyon News, Box 779, Canyon, TX. 79015.

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**Larry Combest**

TEXAS REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMAN

## Keeping our US markets strong

Foreign trade has long been an important part of prosperity for American industry. This week, the U.S. House of Representatives defeated a measure that would have overturned the one-year trade extension announced by President Clinton on June 3, by a vote of 260-170. The resolution would have disapproved of normal trade relations (NTR) status for products from the People's Republic of China.

There are only a few countries that do not have NTR status with

the United States. NTR status allows a country's products to enter into the United States at the same tariff rates that apply to other trading partners. NTR status provides no special treatment. It allows us to treat all countries' imports in the same manner. Failure to do so often has a serious negative impact on American exports, with agriculture being the first to feel the impact of embargoes and retaliation.

Recently, the United States

signed a bilateral agreement with China that will break down the artificial barriers China erected for certain U.S. exports. China has closed its market for far too long to high quality U.S. meat, wheat, citrus and poultry. Under this agreement, China will accept specific science-based standards and our farmers and ranchers will have access to the vast Chinese market. Failure to continue normal trade relations with China may jeopardize this agreement.

China is widely considered to be the most important growth market for U.S. agricultural exports in the 21st Century. The USDA projects that by the year 2003, China could account for 37 percent of future growth in U.S. agricultural exports. Nearly 1.2

See Combest on page 6

# Around the Counties

What's going through the mind of your county agent

## Brant Baugh

LUBBOCK COUNTY



Most of the area cotton is setting bolls and with the help of the recent hot weather, many fields are catching up on heat units that were somewhat lacking from a cool June. The pest situation in Lubbock County has been normal up to this point but has the potential to increase at alarming rates. The three perennial pests that I am most concerned about are boll weevils, bollworms and aphids, and with the price of cotton at all time lows, I think it would be prudent to discuss a little strategy about controlling these pests.

I wish I had an easy answer for weevil control with the deflated price of cotton, but I do not have one. If you have to start making multiple applications starting next week, you really need to sharpen your pencil and figure out a budget before you start spending money on these applications. Producers within eradication zones have difficult decisions as well: Do I wait for eradication in mid- to late-August, or do I start my treatments early? Since I work in an area without an eradication program, I will limit myself to this less than adequate answer. Hopefully your weevil population will remain below economic threshold until eradication starts their diapause treatments. Now with that profound statement of wisdom, let's discuss some strategy.

Chemical choice for weevil control is extremely important and is not that complicated if you break down your pest complex and location. Lets start with location. If you farm around sensitive areas such as municipalities, then your chemical choices are limited to Malathion ULV, Vydate, Phaser and Thiodan. Malathion ULV would probably be the chemical of choice regardless of where you farm, it is cheap and is very effective in controlling weevils but it has definite limitations. Malathion has to be applied with special equipment and very few applicators are equipped to apply this product. Another draw back of Malathion ULV usage is that you stand a chance of flaring aphids. I will discuss aphid control later.

This leaves us with Vydate, Phaser and Thiodan for sensitive areas. These products can be applied through a ground rig, which makes application costs cheaper. Phaser / Thiodan is probably best used for overwintering applications. Using these two products for mid- to late-season control can be effective, but you have to lower your treatment intervals from five to seven days to three to four

day intervals, making application timing difficult if large acreage is involved. If Malathion ULV cannot be applied, then Vydate is my chemical of choice for sensitive areas. However, if you are experi-

encing heavy weevil pressure, then you need to increase your scouting intervals to three to four days and do not go over five days before your next application of Vydate.

If you do not farm around sensitive areas, then your chemical choices increase and the decision of which to use depends on your pest complex and your means of application. Malathion ULV as mentioned above is an excellent material for weevil control but has its limitations. Guthion is another choice and is an excellent material for ground applications and has good activity on weevils. Methyl parathion can be applied by ground, but you must have a special filter on your air intake. Therefore, it should probably be applied by a commercial applicator. Methyl parathion is cheap and has excellent activity against weevils. Malathion ULV, Guthion and Methyl parathion should be applied on a five-day interval.

Lets take a quick look at our pest complex and decide which products to use for weevil control. If you have bollworms and weevils then the product of choice would be a pyrethroid. Pyrethroids will give us excellent control of the weevils and worms. You may want to add Provado to decrease the chance of flaring cotton aphids. You must realize though that under heavy weevil pressure, you will still have to come back five days later for a second application of either Guthion, Methyl or Malathion ULV. If you have aphids and weevils, then you can use Bidrin or Furadan. Bidrin and Furadan will give you both weevil and aphid control. Remember, that you still have to follow up these applications within five days. If you have heavy weevils, aphids and worms, then I would start with a pyrethroid, which gives us excellent control of both weevils and worms and follow up the application within five days with Furadan or Bidrin depending on the number of aphids present.

Now that I have mentioned the use of Furadan 4F, let's discuss how we can utilize this product in our pest management system. Price wise, Furadan 4F does not save us that much money when compared to Bidrin. Furadan at the 8 oz

See Baugh on page 6

## J.D. Ragland

FLOYD COUNTY



Howdy folks, straight from downtown Pumkin Capital USA in Floyd County America. Well, we knew it would eventually turn summer and sure enough it has! Over the last 3-4 weeks, temperatures have hung around the upper-90 range along with windy, dry conditions. Certainly quite-a-bit different than earlier summer months. But just what the doctor ordered as far as what the cotton needed. However, now we sure could use a good 1" general rain. I know what you're thinking. Dang, it's sure hard to keep you Ag guys happy. I guess that's right, but it's been that way forever!

As a whole, all crops in Floyd County look pretty good at this time. What little bit of cotton we have out there looks good, but in many cases it is late as far as its development stage. Some insect problems have occurred and a little irrigation going on at the present. I think a guy sure needs to be careful and watch his expenses on this year's crops in general. Use as little input cost as possible, cause prices don't look much better for the remainder of 1999. As you know, a lot of our hailed out cotton acreage went back to sorghum, soybeans, peanuts, sunflowers and a little guar. These crops are progressing well at this time but could use a good rain. Pumpkins are up and running. About 1,100 acres were planted this year in Floyd County. Ya'll don't forget about us

at Halloween and Thanksgiving time. The Ag Committee met last week planned and organized this year's Floyd County Ag Tour, which will be September 14. Ya'll be sure and attend.

Our 4-H'ers, as always, have had a busy summer thus far. We've had 4-H'ers attend Electric Camp, Leader Lab, Prime Time, Spectra, Teen Ambassador Camp and County Camp. County Camp was quite an experience. Our 4-H Council worked hard planning and organizing this year's County 4-H Day Camp at the Plains Baptist Assembly Camp. A lot of outside activities were planned like hiking, tug-o-war, miniature golf, water balloon volleyball and swimming. We had about 70 in attendance and guess what, it rained all day! We wound up having some events inside, and after lunch, everyone went home. O' well, that's one thing 4-H teaches us "How to Adjust!" Also we had 25 4-H Record Books at District. The 4-H Achievement Banquet is September 12.

On a more personal note just returned from staff conference in College Station. All agents in the state attended. First one we've had in 11 years. I learned that we, as Ag agents, will have to learn how to serve clientele differently than we've done in the past. For example, more usage of Internet worldwide web for information dissemination along with creation of our home page. I'm wondering how many

See Ragland on page 7

## Area 4-H members' recipe

### Hawaiian Macadamia Nut Bread from Leah Schumacher

**Ingredients**

- 1 C pineapple juice
- 3 C bread flour
- 1/4 C non-fat dry milk
- 1 pkg. dry active yeast
- 1 C chopped macadamia nuts
- 2 eggs
- 2 T butter
- 1/3 C sugar
- 2 1/3 tsp salt

**Directions:**

• Place all ingredients in bread pan and place bread machine on dough setting. After dough is finished in bread machine, knead on a floured surface.

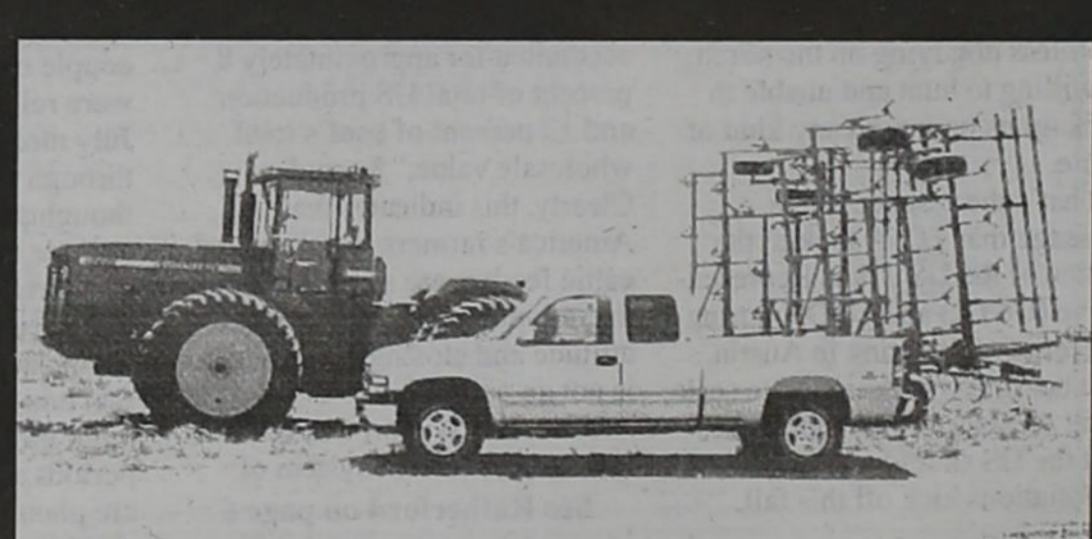
• Place dough in a bundt pan, and let rise for 1 hour in a warm place. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes. Let cool, then brush the sugar glaze over the bread. Serve warm with honey butter. Serves 18 people.

*Sugar Glaze:* Mix 1/4 C water, 1/4 C sugar and 2 T pineapple juice in sauce pan and bring to a boil until thick.

Leah is a member of Hale County 4-H.



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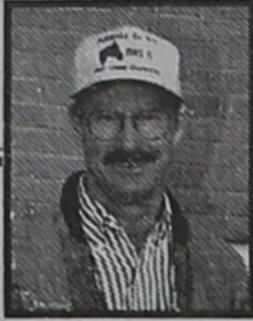
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**Robert Devin**

RANDALL COUNTY



practicing veterinarians and requires two injections, 30 days apart. A booster shot is then needed annually or biannually,

The rain continued in Randall County and along with it have come weeds and mosquitoes. Paramount Herbicide has received a label for use in sorghum in some counties.

It may be used to control broad leaf weeds in grain sorghum in the following counties: Armstrong, Carson, Dallam, Gray, Hansford, Hartley, Hutchinson, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Potter, Randall, Roberts and Sherman.

Application may be made by ground equipment only to actively growing weeds as broadcast applications at 3.0 to 8.0 ounces. As always, read and follow label directions.

Horse owners are advised to have equine vaccinated against encephalomyelitis, or "sleeping sickness," a mosquito-transmitted disease that can cause serious illness or death among affected horses, donkeys, mules or ponies. Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE) has been diagnosed in several horses and emus in East and Southeast Texas and Louisiana.

The disease should not be confused with Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA), an equine virus for which there is no vaccine or cure.

"A vaccine is readily available to protect equine against both the Eastern and Western forms of encephalomyelitis. The vaccine is administered by private

said Dr. Beals, who heads the Texas Animal Health Commission, the state's livestock health regulatory agency. He said some veterinarians also employ the encephalomyelitis vaccine in an off-label use to protect ratites (emus, rheas and ostriches) against the disease.

Dr. Beals encouraged owners to have equine vaccinated with a three-way or "trivalent" vaccine that also protects against the Venezuelan form of encephalomyelitis, if the animals travel or reside south of Highway 90, which crosses from Del Rio, east through San Antonio, Houston and Beaumont.

"Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis (VEE) has not been diagnosed in the U.S. since the 1970s, but cases in Mexico have been reported occasionally, and equine near the border should have the added protection, unless they're to be shipped internationally," he said.

Equine traveling to other countries often are required to have a negative VEE test, and VEE-vaccinated animals may be rejected due to "false-positive" test results.

EEE has been isolated from 27 different types of mosquitoes in the U.S.

The mosquitoes feed on

infected birds and then transmit the encephalomyelitis viruses. Signs of infection in equine may include aimless wandering, fever, circling, convulsions and paralysis.

Because rabies and "sleeping sickness" can mimic each other, the sick animal should be tested to confirm a diagnosis and thereby protect the health of the owner or caretaker.

"Because having the animals vaccinated for the encephalomyelitis viruses, owners should destroy mosquito breeding grounds. Drain containers that hold stagnant water, put fresh water in troughs and birdbaths, and wipe down equine with an insect repellent," said Dr. Beals.

In other news, according to Dennis Avery of the Hudson Institute, the world is currently cropping the land area equivalent of South America, about 5.8 million square miles. It's estimated that a land area equal to both South and North America (15-16 million square miles) would be needed to produce today's food supply without chemistry.

If the world tried to organically feed the projected human population for the year 2050 (8-12 billion people), we'd need to plow under another 30-40 million square miles for food production. That's the equivalent of South and North America, Europe and much of Asia, and that's "AG-MAZING."

Check out this month's Ag Reporter calendar on page 2 for area events.

See you next month.

**Michael Clawson**

SWISHER COUNTY



citizens to improve the quality of life in Swisher County. I am impressed with the level of enthusiasm and dedication of

I hope this issue of the Ag Reporter finds everyone enjoying the last few days of summer. It is hard to believe that it is time for school to begin. It seems that with each passing year, the dog days of summer are fewer and fewer. Does time every slow down? The obvious answer is No. Time will never slow down. It appears to me that we need to slow down and enjoy the time that we are given!!!!

During July, we survived another Swisher County Picnic and Rodeo Celebration, 4-H County Camp and 4-H Record Books. I have always enjoyed working with local citizens in the planning and implementing county-wide celebrations. And the Swisher County Picnic is no exception. When a newcomer moves into a small town, one of the best ways for him/her to get acquainted with others is to volunteer their time to assist with a local celebration. Working side by side and having fun at it, goes a long way toward building friendships and becoming a part of the community. Local citizens put a lot of pride and energy into improving life in their small towns. When a newcomer expresses interest and takes an active role, then that pride and energy is transferred and a sense of inner fulfillment is felt by all. I am thankful that my job as a County Extension Agent allows me the opportunity to work with

all volunteers who strive to make each picnic a little better than the last.

On July 23 & 24, Swisher County 4-H Council held its annual all night County Camp. This year we had 68 4-H members, ranging from 8 to 18 years of age, attend the camp. County Camp is designed to enhance leadership and communication skills, develop team work, start new friendships, and promote recreation and the 4-H program. It takes a lot of enthusiasm and patience to keep a group of 60 plus kids motivated and active all night. With the assistance from a great bunch of county 4-H council members and teen leaders, we were able to succeed. I am also thankful to the group of 4-H parents who made sure that the kids had good meals and plenty to eat. Nothing is worse that a group of unhappy, hungry and tired kids.

Swisher County had 25 record books at District 4-H Record Book Judging. Of the 25 books, Swisher County had 13 first places, one second place and five third places. In the senior division, Matt Cruse placed 1<sup>st</sup> with his photography book, David Lee Hulse placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Public Speaking category and

See Clawson on page 6

FIVE STAR AUCTIONEERS

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### FIVE BIG DAYS

**Tuesday, August 17, 1999 - Sale Time 10:00 a.m.**  
 Combines, Cornheads, Headers, Attachments, Grain Carts, Augers, Combine Trailers

**Wednesday, August 18 1999 - Sale Time 10:00 a.m.**  
 Grain Trucks, Truck Tractors, Implement Trucks, Trailers, Cars, Pickups, Buses, Hopper Bottom Grain Trailers, Livestock Pot & Straight Trailers, Float Trailers, Motor Homes & Travel Trailers

**Thursday, August 19, 1999 - Sale Time 10:00 a.m.**  
 Cotton Strippers, Module Builders Boll Buggies, Cotton Trailers, Livestock Equipment, Stock Trailers, Irrigation, Hay Equipment, Ensilage & Peanut Equipment

**Friday, August 20, 1999 - Sale Time 10:00 a.m.**  
 Tractors, Backhoes, Loaders, Front End Loaders, Construction Equipment, Motor Graders, Forklifts, Crawlers, Tractor Makeups

**Saturday, August 21, 1999 - Sale Time 10:00 a.m.**  
 Selling All Farm Implements, Fertilizer Equipment, Utility Trailers, Tanks, Toolbar Makeups, Shop Equipment Grain Drills

**Deadline For Advertising Equipment: July 25, 1999**  
**Deadline For Getting Equipment In Place: August 16, 1999 At 6:00 P.M.**

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Lamesa	806-872-6516
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Ennis	972-875-5781
Hillsboro	254-582-5336
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## Winders from page 3

lifting of sanctions against Iran, Libya and Sudan. Also some analysts are now putting the Canadian spring wheat production near 740 million bushels, much higher than the earlier estimated of 700 milbu. New crop wheat under loan rose to only 234 milbu while more than a fifth of the crop is estimated to have now been LDPed. Scale down buying has been in the CBT wheat which has helped limit the loss in the face of the other grains. Underlying support at KCBT and MGE has been based on the fact that USDA has tendered for 275,000 tonnes of US wheat. In addition, the CCC also is tendering for 200,000 tonnes of US wheat. The US spring wheat crop latest rating was 64 percent good to excellent, down 5 percent from the previous week. The wet conditions are thought to have caused stress to the crop in parts of SD and MN. There's a possibility of damage from both frost and drought conditions in Montana.

Technically December KC wheat shows support at 290 1/4 then 280 and resistance at 300 and 311 1/4. The main trend is up and a trend reversal price of 283 3/4.

## Cotton

The cotton futures have been following the corn and bean markets just trading in sympathy.

## Combest from page 3

billion people live in China. They are our fourth largest agriculture market, and an estimated 400,000 U.S. jobs depend on exports to China and Hong Kong. Revoking China's NTR status would threaten access for U.S. farm goods at a time of great financial trouble in farm country. Last year, U.S. agriculture exports to China were more than \$3 billion. The Chinese look to world markets to meet some of their agriculture needs; thus, China represents an agriculture market that is vital to the long-term success of our farmers and ranchers.

Agriculture trade with China can strengthen development of private enterprise in that country and bring them more fully into world trade membership. More than 60 agricultural organizations representing producers, processors and exporters support extension of normal trade relations with China. If the NTR status were revoked, China might reinstate their efforts to achieve food self-sufficiency and would likely turn to Europe and other U.S. competitors to meet shortfalls.

The loss of this opportunity would have a serious negative impact on U.S. producers, especially those in West Texas and the Panhandle, who contribute a vast majority of the highest quality beef and pork available today.

We have serious differences with China with which to deal, such as human rights violations, weapons proliferation and espionage.

In light of these problems, I believe we should engage China, not isolate her. We should never back down from talking about China's abhorrent abuse of their own people that has occurred, and we should continue to look into it to prevent any further abuse from happening. I do not think that simply removing

Also there has been some weight added by the fact of the forecasts for cooler and wetter weather in key US growing areas. Much ado has been made about the dull activity before the end of July. Many traders have said the market is very quiet and very boring to the extent that traders themselves spent days making jokes about their next exciting job. Some reports are out that major players in the cotton are trading for two hours in the middle of the day then going home. We may be in a slow period but there's a heap of anniversary lows coming in August and that's something to watch. One analyst was heard saying the market may make a new low in August, there's plenty of room to go down. Traders said they heard some talk of dryness in some US cotton areas, specifically the northern part of the Delta. Crop sources in this region have said additional rain is needed to keep crops in good condition. The market however does not reflect any worries over crop moisture stress.

Technically October cotton has support at 4950 then 4840 with resistance at 5240 and 5390. The main trend is up and trend reversal price at 4915.

Monte Winders, *Financial Freedom & Futures*, 806-358-8621.

China's NTR status will solve these problems; rather, I believe they could make them worse. Normal trade and continued economic engagement will advance the process of opening China, exposing the Chinese people to American ideals, values and personal freedoms. Isolating China by revoking their NTR status would diminish access and merely suit those in China who would block openness.

Engagement with China is necessary to improve bilateral relations, as well as to promote and sell American agricultural products abroad. A continued policy of principled, purposeful engagement reinforces our efforts to move China toward greater openness and broader freedom. This will only become closer to reality with the renewal of NTR status for China and when it joins the World Trade Organization.

The U.S. government must continue to examine ways to nurture reform in China without undermining long-term relations between the two countries. I am encouraged by the progress made by the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) in negotiating the rules for China's accession to the World Trade Organization. The goal is to open China's marketplace and secure China's agreement to trade concessions that result in lower tariffs and improved access. Based on the information provided by the USTR, if the preliminary agreements reached remain part of a final agreement with China, significant progress has been made.

I believe that free and fair trade agreements are good for U.S. agriculture and I have urged the Administration to continue its negotiations. International trade is important for American agriculture and for the success and prosperity of American farmers and ranchers.

## Rutherford from page 3

settling trade disputes between countries can and has worked very well when both parties are determined to bring the case to a swift and sure resolution.

"The current system can also be a dismal failure if one of the parties has a vested interest in delaying compliance indefinitely."

As an example, Wilson reminded USTR and USDA about the tactics that the European Union has employed to prevent more than \$100 million in US beef from entering its market each year. Their stalling and delaying tactics, possible because of the inefficiency of the WTO dispute settlement process, have caused frustration and anger for US cattlemen for more than a decade.

But what's at stake in the current dispute between the US and EU on beef is more than just dollars and dimes. The European Union is undermining the credibility of the WTO and its ability to remain an effective force in global trade disputes.

"The integrity and validity of the WTO as a dispute settlement body requires that WTO members promptly comply with recommendations and rulings of the dispute settlement process," Wilson testified. "This blatant stonewalling is unacceptable and requires aggressive and decisive action to address their cavalier disregard of the WTO trade rulings and policy."

## Baugh from page 4

rate will cost \$4.31 and Bidrin at 8oz will cost \$5.46. Obviously, where Furadan shines, is the increased chance of controlling resistant aphids. But we should look farther down the road and see how Furadan will "fit" into a bollworm, aphid and boll weevil pest complex.

For example, we have a field (mid bloom) that is running 10,000 worms per acre with an average of 25 aphids per leaf and 25 percent boll weevil punctures. You would probably start with a pyrethroid application to take care of the worms and weevils. Now you can put in 2 oz. of Provado (around \$7.00/a) with the pyrethroid application to hold down the aphids (pyrethroids have a tendency to flare aphids). But you are going to have to make a second application for weevils five days following the first application and maybe a third application depending upon weevil pressure. In my opinion, I would leave out the Provado knowing I have to come back anyway for weevils and use Furadan when the aphids climb to over 100 per leaf. Furadan will

## Clawson from page 5

Starlia Frausto placed 1<sup>st</sup> with her Rabbit book. The first place senior books will compete at 4-H State Record Book judging in College Station the first of August.

In the fields, it is safe to say that we need rain, quick. Swisher County missed all the rain that Randall and Armstrong Counties received over the past three weeks. Our soil moisture reserves are depleting fast and hot spots can be found throughout the county. In all crops, we are currently using approximately .15 to .40 inches of moisture per day. Irrigation systems are running full speed on corn and

That's the rub-the WTO has no teeth to bring the EU into compliance. The dispute over the EU beef ban, Wilson said, is a classic example of the primary weakness that currently plagues the WTO-the absence of a timely enforcement mechanism to assure compliance once a ruling is handed down. In fact, Wilson said the bottom line is that there is no incentive for early settlement by the losing party because the current system effectively rewards stall and delay tactics.

"It may be time to discuss either shortening the WTO dispute settlement process or providing a mechanism that allows the winning party to be compensated during the time it takes the losing party to implement compliance actions," Wilson testified. "Perhaps some type of escrow account or bonding requirement could be established where the defending party would begin paying when the case is filed or the initial ruling is made."

Wilson urged the USTR and USDA negotiators, as they prepare for this fall's talks, to consider the following points:

- Maintain current language on the strict use of science-based trading rules that were established in the Uruguay Round Agreement. "This is critical to continued expansion of US beef exports. The US red meat industry does not support opening this part of the current

agreement for further negotiation."

- Protect scientifically-approved technologies, such as genetically modified organisms and beef growth promotants that enhance production efficiency or food safety, by establishing science-based rules.

- Increase access to wholesale and retail trade in importing countries. "This is especially relevant in China, Australia and Canada." Negotiate a reduction and eventual elimination of export subsidy programs. "In addition, stricter disciplines and tougher enforcement mechanisms should be established to prevent the emergence of new schemes to circumvent WTO rules."

- Negotiate continued reduction in tariffs.

"Existing duties in key export markets such as Japan and Korea must be reduced significantly. However, until duties can be eliminated, expand existing tariff rate quotas to permit continued growth in exports."

TCFA supports free trade and the World Trade Organization, Wilson testified. "And cattlemen understand that our growth market is beyond US borders. But we need enforceable global trading rules in place that grant market access, settle disputes on the basis of science and reduce tariffs. Anything less and we risk losing the best, and only, global system available for resolving contentious trade issues."

give us control of both weevils and aphids and decreases our cost of control by at least \$2.69/a. In addition, remember that you can only use two 8oz. applications per field per year before September 30, 1999 so save at least one Furadan application for the late season bollworm run that tends to flare aphids. And if you are farming within a boll weevil eradication zone, I would try to save at least one application of Furadan for control of aphids that might be flared by the use of Malathion ULV.

Now that we have discussed boll weevil and aphids, let's discuss our most common problem, the chronic bollworm infestation. Management decisions on cotton that is being "nickled and dimed" by bollworms is difficult at best. Worm populations will rarely exceed over 9000 per acre that eliminates the "no brainer" decision to treat. Fields will generally fluctuate between 1000 and 3000 worms per acre. Therefore, at any given time you decide to treat, you are actually targeting between 1000 and 3000 worms

per acre. What you actually buy with this application is about three to 10 days of relief from worms depending upon the control measure used. So, can the money spent on the application targeting the 1000 to 3000 worms per acre be recovered from yield that was saved from the small worm population? Probably not. I will agree that the cycle has to be stopped at some time, and all we can depend on is either a massive increase in beneficial numbers or chemical residual. The "friendly" control measures such as Bt products and Larvin are easy on beneficials but are lacking in the extended residual department. The Pyrethroids are devastating to beneficials but can give extended residual activity. As for the question, when do we break the cycle? I would probably rely on the weekly totals of the worms per acre. If your field receives between 9000 and 10,000 worms per acre over the next few weeks then egg lays over 1000 per acre are still occurring and square sets are continually dropping and the cycle should be broken.

cotton to keep up with moisture needs. Besides being late, the cotton crop is trying to produce for the growers. Cotton ranges from pinhead squares to full bloom with nickel size bolls. Cotton is being hit hard from insect pressure. The majority of the cotton has been sprayed at least once for cotton boll weevils. Currently, the number of boll weevil punctures has been down from earlier predicted. However, this could change over night and producers need to continue scouting fields thoroughly. Cotton aphids are quickly becoming the #1 concern. Aphids are common in a large percentage

of the fields and in some cases, treatment has been justified. Beneficial insects, which feed on aphids, are present. Without adequate moisture, fruit retention will become a problem.

The corn crop is at the milk stage with some fields in the soft dough. Southwestern corn borer egg lays and immigrations have been on the increase. Moth counts in traps for European corn borers have also risen over the past week. Once again, rain is needed for the crop to make it to the bin.

Until next month, may the rest of your summer be peaceful and full of joy.

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**Ragland from page 4**

clicks I'll get on mine. One thing you can bet on is mine will be interesting and different.

O' by the way have you heard? I'm wring a book, it's title: "How to Play Golf Not to Win." It'll only be 12 pages long. Now don't let the title confuse ya, cause I'm as big as a competitor as there is. But, my belief is that there's others out there just like me, who only play golf once a year, just for fun. This idea came to me when I just recently played my once a year game. As I was playing, I began to watch other players frustrate themselves with the game. Heck, I don't even keep score when I play. It became apparent to me that there

are entirely too many serious golf players in the world today. Thus, my book came to mind. My first chapter will be titled "J. D.'s Fulosphyies." Chapter 2 "How Every Person, Every Day of Their Life Ought to Spend 99.5% Of It Laughing".

This is as far as I've gotten, but when I finish they'll be copies on all Golf Pro Shops. I'm sure it'll be a top seller. Call if you're interested in your personal autographed copy.

Well, better run, been to long winded this time. O' well, guess I'll cut her short next time. Ya'll come to see us, til next time, Howdy, cause I just hate to say goodbye!

**Thistle from page 1**

remove the plant from the soil. Use a hoe or spade to cut off the plant below the crown area in the soil.

- Mowing can also prevent further infestation, if it is done close to the ground when terminal heads start blooming. If mowing is done after plants are in bloom, some viable seeds will be spread.

Larger infestations may be controlled with chemicals when applied at the proper time and in correct amounts. The plant must be treated in the rosette stage in October and November and then again in mid-March through mid-April before plants start bolting. It is important that plants be actively growing at the time of application of any herbicide. This means spraying when there is adequate soil moisture and daytime air temperatures of above 60 degrees.

The following table lists recom- mended herbicides and their rate of application for control of Musk Thistle:

- Weedmaster: 1 1/2 to 2 pints per acre; 1 ounce per gallon for spot spraying.
- 4-D: 2 to 4 pints per acre; 2 ounces per gallon for spot spray- ing.
- Grazon P+D: 2 to 3 pints per acre; 1 ounce per gallon for spot

spraying.

- Ally: 2/10 to 3/10 ounce per acre; 3 cc per gallon for spot spray- ing. Ally is fairly effective, though some re-sprouting from the base of plants has been observed.

Once the plant is bolting, it is very difficult to treat chemically. In non-crop land, Transline has proved highly effective at-the rate of 1/3 to 2/3 pint per acre; 1/3 ounce per gallon for spot spraying.

A good option for control of in- dividual plants in alfalfa has been Ammonium nitrate.

Place up to one teaspoon of the chemical in the center of each ro- sette that is less than eight inches across.

In heavily infested areas suffer- ing large monetary damage there is a three-part program of control.

First, biological weevils are re- leased at the rate of 500 per site. The weevil, *Rhinocyllus conicus* Froelich, is a natural enemy of Musk Thistle and has demon- strated a 95 percent reduction in population where it has been used properly.

The next step would be to stop seed production in infected pas- tures and adjacent areas through mowing and herbicides.

Thirdly, an integrated method of

spraying rosettes in the fall and from mid-March to mid-April, us- ing the head weevils in May and June and then scalp mowing in mid-July is proving effective at stopping Musk Thistle invasion in other states.

Since it is now early August, about the only currently effective treatment for the thistle is mechani- cal control.

Seed heads need to be removed and burned and the plant removed from the soil. Otherwise, the seed will mature and create really nasty problems in the future. Complete control may not be realized at this point, but it will at least make the plant's presence tolerable until the fall when more drastic steps may insure no return of the plant next season.

Readers who wish to study the Musk Thistle further may refer to these publications: Southern Weed Identification Guide, published by L.R. Oliver, University of Arkan- sas for the Southern Weed Science Society; Integrated Control of Musk Thistle in Oklahoma, No. F-7381, published by the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, Okla- homa State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma; or access the internet at <http://ext.agn.uiuc.edu>.

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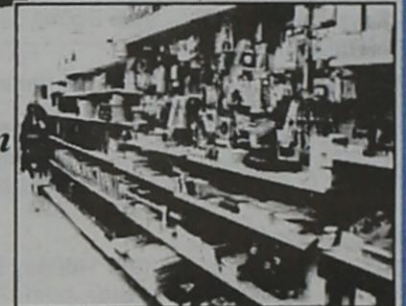
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