

50 Years Ago Crime Was More Violent, Says Corn

BAIRD, July 8 — George Houston Corn, 78, for about 14 years Justice of the Peace here, helped hang a murderer on the local court house lawn, saw Negro rapist fire tortured, and turned down big bribes to let bootleggers ply their trade.

He now administers justice, holds inquests and occasionally performs weddings ceremonies.

"It seems we have less crime now than back in the old days. The type of crime, too, has changed. Now it's mostly liquor law violations, Corn said.

In those days, Corn noted, several murders occurred. "Most of the crime was car theft and pipe stealing. At no time have I ever shot at a criminal or been shot at," he remarked.

Nearly 50 years ago Corn held the hangman "trigger" on a Mexican slayer while the sheriff under whom he served as deputy adjusted the black cap. A crowd gathered to watch the gruesome execution, he said. The Mexican was convicted and sentenced to death.

"Knowing I was performing my duties as an officer of the law I did not feel any scruples about helping in the ordeal," Corn said.

Back in Paris, Tx., in 1907 the mob burning of a Negro rapist was witnessed by Corn. The atrocious execution, he said, attracted thousands and became subject of many articles in newspaper throughout the United States.

Corn served first as a peace officer here under Al Irvine in 1902. In 1918 he was elected sheriff over five or six opponents. No opponents in the second term. But strangely after being defeated for a third term, he turned around two years later and beat the man who had won the previous race.

It was while he was sheriff, during the so-called Prohibition Days, that rum runners teemed, especially in the oil fields. An El Paso bootlegger who operated between El Paso and Texarkana, was quoted as asserting that Baird was the only

place where he could not operate - so vigilant was Sheriff Corn. However, when whiskey was later being run into Cross Plains and Eastland County oil-field communities, a notorious bootlegger sent an emissary to Corn to purchase immunity for piling his trade.

"He offered to pay me \$500 each Saturday that I'd lay off his business," Corn said. "I told the representative to tell the King Bootlegger that he could run his business without cost as long as he could get by with it."

In the sheriff's office here is a photograph of a huge still Corn and his deputy Roy Kendrick, now a stock farmer of Denton Valley, seized on a creek near Oplin. The owner was arrested as he left Cross Plains on a load of sugar destined for the scene of the still.

Corn lived a long time in the jail here. He remarks some prisoners got away - once three, but all were recaptured but one.

The Justice of the Peace was born at Paris, Texas, Dec. 3, 1871. His father and mother had come from Missouri. After attending public schools he farmed until 1900, then he moved to Putnam in 1901 to get away from "chills and fevers." After briefly farming, he opened a grocery business there and operated four years. In 1918 he was elected sheriff, served two terms. A gap of two years intervened, he was elected again. After relinquishing the sheriff position he took employment in the State Highway Maintenance Department here.

About 14 years ago he offered for JP, was elected. He has held the post ever since and is now without an opponent for still another term.

He and Mrs. Corn are parents of five sons and two daughters. Sons are Irvine "Nubbin" Corn, Raymond Corn, Lowell Corn, all of Baird; Ben, a railroader, Marshall, Texas, Weldon Corn, Ajo,

Callahan County Star

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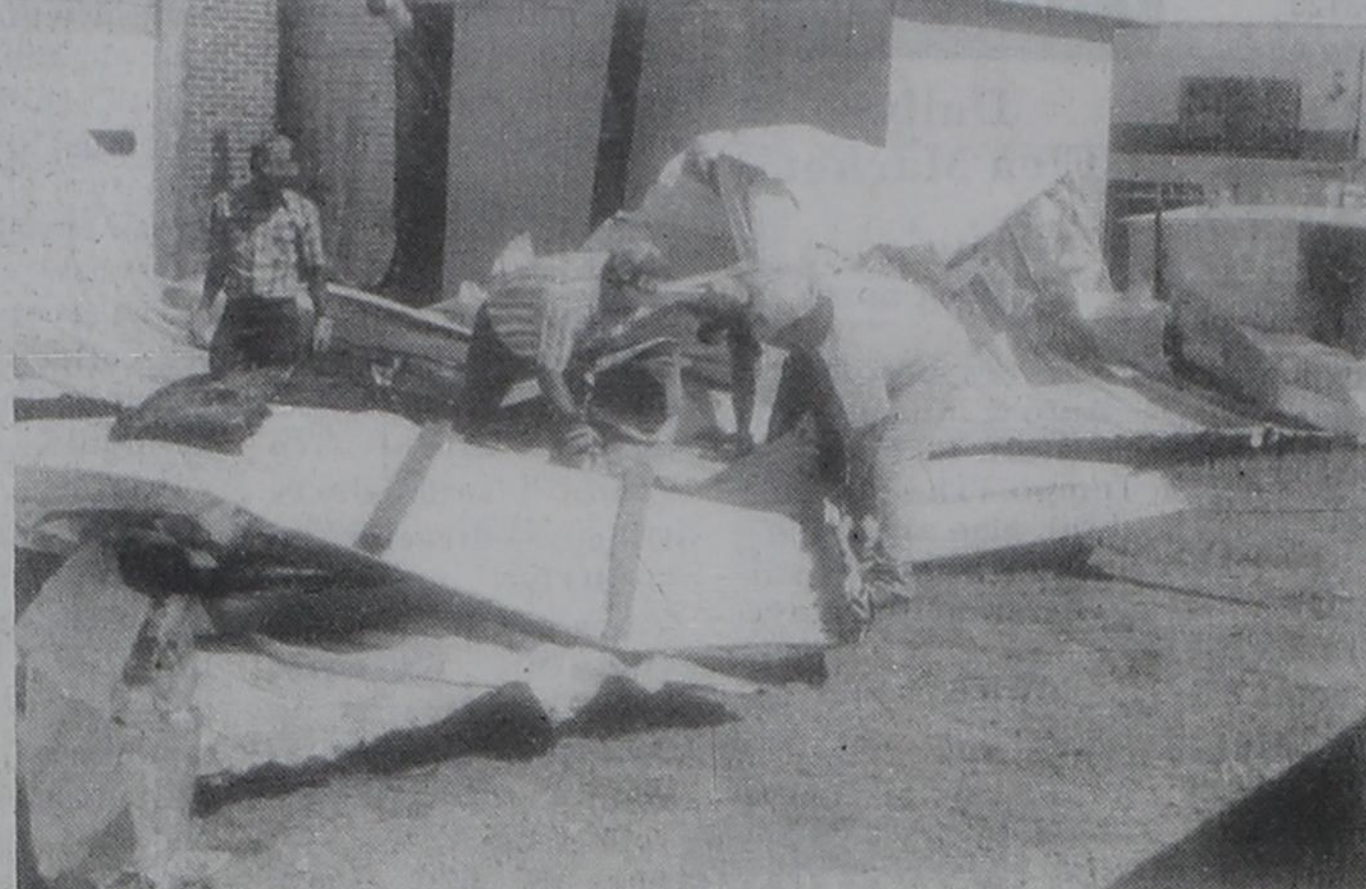
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The Baird Weekly Star, Established December 8, 1887

Volume 109 Number 25 Thursday, June 19, 1997



A severe storm passed through the downtown area of Baird last Saturday which caused an unusual incident. The City Hall lost part of its galvanized metal roof. The roof was located sometime later approximately 250-yards across the street on the other side of the Volunteer Fire Department building near the alley. Apparently, the wind picked up the roof and mangled it and crushed it before laying it down directly behind the fire station. City workers are shown above cutting the metal wreckage in order to dispose of it piece by piece. As for the repair, all that was known by press time is that the city has a \$2,500 deductible.

Ariz., and daughters are Mrs. O. B. Lamb, Ajo, Ariz. He has also a brother and a sister - Charles Corn of Los Angeles, Calif., and Mrs. Will Lamb, Grandfield, Okla.

JP Corn is always on the job. He is in good health and enjoys conversing about days in Callahan County at the turn of the present century.

This article was reported as is by the Abilene Reporter News.

Roan resigns as Baird High Athletic Director

Unconfirmed reports state that Baird Bear athletic director and head football coach David Roan resigned last week to take a position in Aspermont. More on this in next weeks issue.

Baird residents may take their tree limbs and branches blown down by Saturday's storm to Clyde to be ground up on South 1st Street just west of the City Yard.

Abilene Summer Crafts Festival To Be Held Friday And Saturday

To be held June 21-22 in civic center

The fifth annual Summer Arts and Crafts Festival will be held June 21st and 22nd in the Abilene Civic Center. More than 150 exhibitors will fill the foyer and main exhibit hall with original art, handcrafted items, and limited edition prints. Hours for the festival are Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday from noon to 5 pm. There is no admission charge.

Mel Prather, organizer for the two-day event, said the upcoming show would feature a number of new exhibitors, as well as some familiar ones. "Some of the first-time exhibitors will be offering items such as wood carving, welded steel, copper and brass, functional

stoneware pottery, animal caricatures, floral art and ladies' clothing. Also new will be those with tree swings, frogs from clay pots, bird-houses, tole painting, pastel painting, birdhouse lamps, barnwood windows, welcome posts, jewelry boxes and chenille clothing."

Other newcomers will have minatures, porcelain dolls, wood furniture, yard art, gift-baskets, cedar chests, quilt racks, painted cameos, southwest items, stained glass, wire wrapped jewelry, and doughcraft. Rounding out the list will be those with personalized plaques, bread baskets, jar candles, pouting babies, soft sculpture, pecan candy, replic light-house, ceiling fan

pulls, decorated gourds, dried fruit items, potouri, hair bows, pewter on rock, homemade salsa, ceramics, Indian pots, Barbi doll clothes, seasonal wreaths, ornate bird houses, yard wood picks, stuffed dolls, and original clothing.

Returning exhibitors will offer a wide variety of items, including floor lamps, trash bins, table lamps, decorated baskets, candy framed prints, painted signs, original art, name citouts, whirley gigs, floral swags, short sets, tole painting, canned vegetables, honey, quilts, wall hangings, fountains, canster sets, and finished shelves.

'The Arches' Open House

The Baird Chamber of Commerce would like to cordially invite the public to attend an open house on Sunday afternoon, June 29th, from 2:00 p.m. til 4:00 p.m., downtown in their new open air pavilion "The Arches". This is a new project for the Baird Chamber.

This pavilion will be for rent to the public for birthday parties, anniversaries, family reunions, weddings, etc. The Chamber will also be having a 4th Saturday Farmers Market/Trades Fair each month during permissible weather. They would like for you, the public, to come and view their pavilion and what they have accomplished with the historic "Arches". They will have refreshments and hopefully entertainment during

Sunday afternoon June 29th and visit with the Chamber Board of Directors and see what's new downtown Baird with the historic "Arches".

Baird Little League All Star Team Announced

Everyone had a great time Saturday at the baseball field.

The little ones really enjoyed meeting Grounder the mascot of the Abilene Prairie Dogs.

Once again we would like to say a special "Thank you" to all the sponsors, coaches, and other volunteers who made this year possible. The sponsors were, U-U Steakhouse, Hanner Dodge, Richeson Dairy Queen, Russell Surles Abstract, Fairway Mortgage, West T Go, and First National Bank.

During our closing ceremonies each team player and their coaches were recognized and given a ribbon and certificate for their participation. Also the All-Star Team was announced. The team consists of 14 players which

must be between the ages of 11 and 12 were chosen by the players and coaches.

They are as follows: Casey Burford, Ricky Burks, Martin Cerda Jr., Sage Goldsmith, Zach Green, Chance Jones, Daniell Lewis, Mitchell Lewis, LJ Mendez, Zach Riney, Jeremy Sims, Josh Sims, Adam Walker, and Tanner Wilson.

These players will be coached by Rick Burkes, Al Estrada and David Burford.

Our All-Star Team will be playing in the All-Star Tournament in Abilene. Their first game will be July 1st 6:00p.m. on Southern Field which is located just behind Ambers of Buffalo Gap Road in Abilene. We hope to see you all at the game cheering these boys on.

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Booths Needed

4th Saturday Farmers Market/Trades Fair

The Baird Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a 4th Saturday Farmers Market/Trades Fair in the newly refurbished historic "Arches." This is a covered open air pavilion with a concrete floor and electrical outlets, the Chamber is trying to get the Farmers Market/Trades Fair started for the 4th Saturday of every month during permissible weather. They are in need of vendors to fill their booth spaces. Spaces are 10'X10' and spaces rent for \$15.00 without electricity, or \$20.00 with electricity. If you have fresh vegetables you would like to sell or if you do arts and crafts, quilts, have jewelry, antiques, toys, etc., and would like to be a part of this monthly event, please call the Baird Chamber of Commerce and request an application for this event. The Chamber knows this might start off a little slow at first, but is really hoping that it will grow into something big. If you are interested in being part of the endeavor, please call the Baird Chamber office at 915/854-2003. Office hours are Monday 8:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. till 12:00 noon.

A Bit Of History

By Quida Walker
The Callahan County Clarendon, the first newspaper in Callahan County, was published November 15, 1879, in Belle Plain by Albert D. Rust and William R. Lotz. After the Teas and Pacific by-passed Belle Plain in 1881 the county seat was moved to Baird from Belle Plain. Soon after the Clarendon followed. Another early paper was the Tescumsch Banner. The Banner was started in 1886 in the Tescumsch community and was moved to Baird in 1886. This was the first venture in the newspaper business for W. E. Gilliland.

On November 10, Mr. Gilliland bought the Clarendon from Howard Allen.

The last issue of the Banner was published November 17, 1887. Then a STAR was born!

The first Baird Star was published on December 8, 1887. The Star has been in publication since that time. The name was changed to The Callahan County Star in about 1969 when it served both the Baird and Clyde areas.

December 8, 1997 the Star will be one hundred and ten years old, truly a part of the history of Baird and Callahan County.

Most of the above information comes from the 100th Birthday edition of The Callahan County Star, Thursday, December 3, 1987. This paper and most of the Star from December 8, 1887 to the present time may be seen at your library. The Callahan County Library. Also, many of the Clarendon may be viewed on microfilm.

Library hours are from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

CJC Registration July 8

Registration for the second summer session at the Cisco Junior College campus will be held on July 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.

Classes held on Monday and Wednesday will be as follows:

English 2323, Readings in English Lit., 6:15 to 10:15 p.m.

History 1302, History of U.S. Since, 6:15 to 10:15 p.m.

Classes held on Tues-

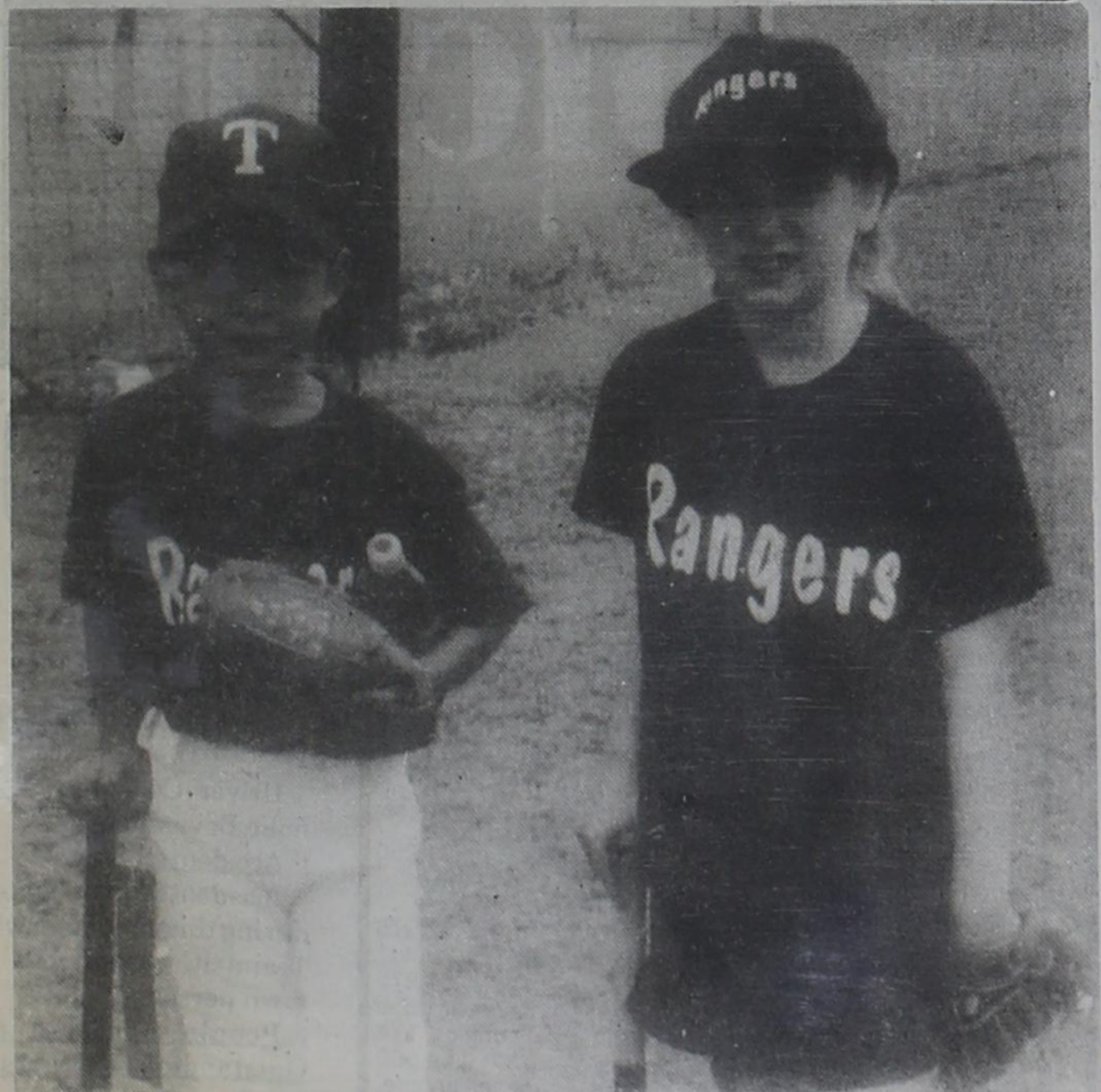
day and Thursday will be as follows:

English 1302, Eng. Comp & Rhetoric, 6:15 to 10:15 p.m.

Government 2306, State & Local Govt., 6:15 to 10:15 p.m.

Math 1316, Trigonometry, 6:15 to 10:15 p.m.

The first class day is July 8 at all locations. For more information, contact the Cisco Jr. College admission's office at (254) 442-2567.



Baird Little League held its closing ceremonies for the season last Saturday at the baseball field. Pictured are Megan Betcher and Jacob. The Mariners placed first place for the season.

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Brusenhan-Campbell

Anne Elizabeth Brusenhan and Shane Hatchett Campbell were united in marriage May 10 at First Presbyterian Church in San Antonio.

The Rev. David Meriwether performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. R.L. Brusenhan, Jr. and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Brusenhan, Sr. and Dr. Jack M. Wright and the late Mrs. Wright, all of San Antonio. The bride attended Alamo Heights High School in San Antonio and Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri. She graduated from Texas Tech with a bachelor's degree in clothing and textiles and is employed by Commerce Land Title Company.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Hatfield of Baird and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Campbell of Hodges. His grandparents are Mrs. Luella Hatchett and the late Buster Hatchett of Baird, Mrs. Eureka Campbell and the late C.C. Campbell of Haskell, and Mrs. Velma Hatfield of Haskell. He is the great-grandson of P.G. and Ida Hatchett and Valson and Sarah Ellen Hodges, all who were early pioneer ranchers in Callahan, Stephens, and Taylor Counties. He attended Baird High School and Sul Ross State University. He graduated from Texas Tech University with a bachelor's degree in agriculture economics and finance and is employed by Americana Land Development Company.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents. Her Venise beaded lace sheath gown was accented with beaded ribbon rosettes and featured a scoop neckline and low square back, long lace sleeves and a detachable cathedral train. At the back of the waist, was a large bow accented with lace beaded appliques. The matching headpiece was a Venise lace cap with cathedral veiling, scattered with pearls.

Kim Brusenhan Youngblood, sister of the bride, and Kelley Traylor Gilpin, cousin of the bride, were matrons of honor; Kendall Elizabeth Youngblood, niece of the bride, served as junior bridesmaid.

Shawn Larry Campbell and Shannon Lee Campbell, brothers of the groom, both served as best

men. Abigail Ewing Youngblood and Maitlyn Alicia Youngblood, twin nieces of the bride, were flower girls. Samuel Coke Youngblood, Jr., nephew of the bride, was ring bearer.

Ushers included Robert Lee Brusenham III, brother of the bride, of Denver, Colorado, Russell Lyle Joy of Baird and Kyle Jeffrey Boone Gilliland of Baird, Kelly Waldon Corn of Baird, and David Michael Bell of Abilene and San Antonio.

The house party consisted of Suzanne Feldman, Bonney Mulloy, Shannon Benton, Allison Gates, Lara Thompson, Lynn Canty and Mollie Calvert.

After a reception at the Oak Hills Country Club, the couple took a wedding trip to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. They are residing in San Antonio.

Read The Classifieds

Texas Tech Announces Graduates And Honors List

More than 2,000 students at Texas Tech University received degrees during 1997 spring commencement exercises.

Graduating students included the following: Cody Lee Watson of Baird, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Magna Cum Laude, son of Robert Watson.

More than 3,600 Texas Tech University undergraduate students qualified for academic honors lists at the end of the spring semester.

Students on the President's List earned a 4.0 (A) grade point average while enrolled in 12 or more semester hours of classwork. Students who earned 12 or more hours with a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.9 qualified for the Dean's List.

Area students making the honor rolls included the following:

Tye Carl Barton, son of Tom Barton, Sophomore, Marketing, Dean's List; Joe Walton Harle, son of Robert P. Harle, Sophomore, Exercise & Sports Sciences, Dean's List; Henry Kirt Harle, son of Robert P. Harle, Freshman, Civil Engineering, President's List.

MEN IN SERVICE

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class David E. Benz, son of Mr. and Mrs. M.E. Benz of 8742 County Road 262, Clyde, Texas, was recently one of nearly 3,00 Sailors and Marines aboard the USS ESSEX, home ported in San Diego, who contributed towards the ship earning three major awards.

Benz helped his ship earn the Navy Awards, given for excellence in food service operations, cleanliness, financial management and

menu preparation; the Golden Anchoe Award, an award given to ships that provide the most opportunities for Sailors and Marines to get the most from their naval careers; and the Battle "E" Award, given to ships that maintain a high proficiency level in maritime warfare, command and control, engineering survivability and logistics. The 1976 graduate of Cooper High School of Abilene, Texas, joined the Navy in November 1981.

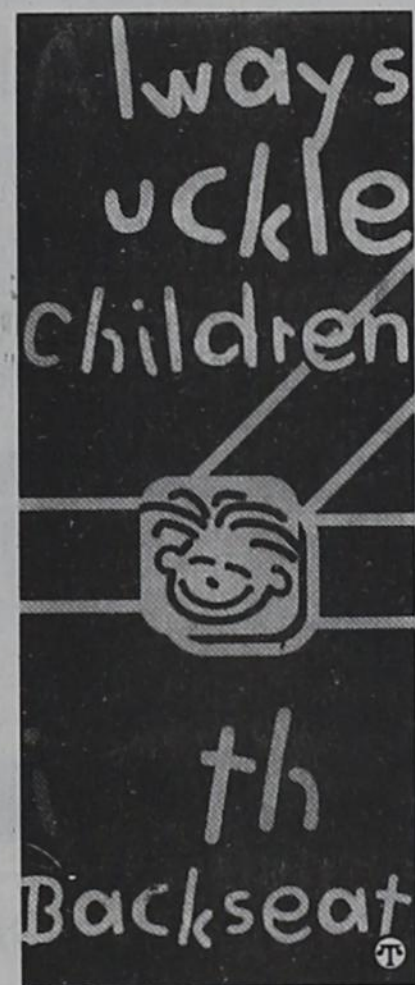
Search Is On For Mrs. Baird's Contestant In Texas Pageant

SAN ANTONIO - Mrs. Texas International officials are looking for the next Mrs. Baird. The woman selected will receive her crown and banner and will have the opportunity to represent Baird at the 1998 Mrs. Texas International Pageant which will be held in San Antonio February 19th-22nd in the spectacular Zaragosa Theater at Fiesta Texas. Married women between the ages of 24 and 54 who have been married for a minimum of two years and have resided in the Baird area for at least six months qualify to enter.

The Mrs. Texas International Pageant is an official preliminary of the prestigious Mrs. International Pageant which honors women for their commitment to marriage and family, professional excellence and community service. "Fifty percent of the score is given in the interview category", says Shonnie Bray, State Director. "Twenty five percent is awarded in the physical fitness category and twenty five percent is awarded in the evening gown category". There is no swimsuit or talent competition and no experience is required. In addition to competing in the state finals, selected city representatives will be invited to partic-

ipate in several community service oriented projects, including the Anthony Robbins Foundation Thanksgiving Basket Brigade, Easter Seal Telethon, the Senior Lifetime Achievement Awards, and Mrs. Texas International's Youth Celebration and Scholarship Program. Last year, Mrs. Texas representatives contributed over 4500 documented hours of community service to civic and non-profit organizations and events statewide.

To receive and application, call (210) 590-6877, or to Bray Creative Service, at 5410 Vista Court, San Antonio, Texas, 78247



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McMurry Univ. Commencement Held May 10

McMurry University held their commencement exercises on Saturday, May 10, at 10 a.m. at Radford Auditorium. Judge William S. Sessions, former head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was the featured speaker at the 74th Commencement.

Graduates from this area were:

BAIRD: Kenneth Shane

McPherson, B.A., Psychology; Diane Hardin Woods, BBA, Marketing; Treavor Lowell Bogard, B.S., Multidisciplinary Studies II, Magna Cum Laude.

CLYDE: Justin Brent Hooper, BBA, Finance; Scotty Dale Johnson, BBA, Accounting; Stephen Craig Roberts, BBA, General Business; Medrith Ann Cole, BS, Multidisciplinary Studies II, Magna Cum Laude; Aida Trevino Franco, BS, Multidisciplinary Studies III.

McMurry University has announced its Dean's List recipients for the 1997 spring semester. To be selected for the Dean's List, a student must take 12 or more credit hours and have a 3.5 or better G.P.A.

Named to the Dean's List were Draper Tobias Rodriguez of Baird, Sophomore, English; Matthew John Acklin, Senior, Sociology; Jennifer Glynn Farha, Senior, Multidisciplinary Studies; Justin Brent Hooper, Senior, Finance; Kristi Jill Hooper, Senior,

Multidisciplinary Studies; Francisco Javier J. Oaxaca, Freshman, Christian Ed/Church Mus.; Miranda Diane Sharp, Senior, Business-Undecided; Shirley Mae Sharp, Freshman, Multidisciplinary Studies; Sara Lindsay Sivley, Sophomore, Pre-Physical Therapy; Julie Denise Walton, Freshman, Multidisciplinary Studies, all of Clyde.

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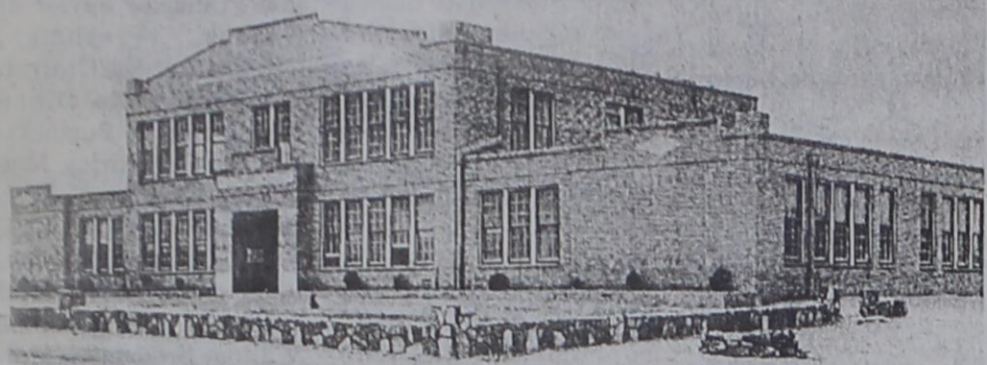


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Morton Valley School

Morton Valley Homecoming July 5

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Break	Cup	Maker	Shop
Cake	Grinder	Mill	Table
Can	House	Plant	

W. Plummer St. in the School Cafetorium (South entrance, parking area).

Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. A \$2.00 registration fee (per person) will be accepted to cover the cost of postage, printing, etc. The noon meal will be catered and will be served at the cafetorium. Tickets are available at \$5.00 per plate.

Visitation and renewing old friends will begin as soon as you arrive! Why don't you dig into the keepsakes and old boxes and bring pictures and reminders of the "good-old-days" at Morton Valley. Most of us can locate an annual or class picture! We will display these for everyone to enjoy. Also, Wanda Beck Skinner (Route 3 Box 300, Eastland, 76448) has encouraged everyone to jot down some memory or event and send them to her as soon as possible. She is putting together a "Memories" book.

After the noon meal there will be a short business meeting and then more visitation.

We are trying to contact everyone so they will be able to make plans to come to this 1997 gathering of Morton Valley people. WE DO NEED YOUR HELP in this effort. If you have family or friends that need to be contacted please either do so yourself or let

Moran News

By Mrs. Luke Huskey

Twelve members of the Moran Birthday Club met last Thursday night at the High Lonesome Cafe in Albany for the June meeting. The "Happy Birthday" Song was not sung for no one present had a birthday in June.

Reminiscing of past, present, and future events were enjoyed.

Those present were Hubert Brewster, Ray Spurgeon, C. L. Miller, Eloise Zuspahn, and Mrs. Dub Midkiff, Mildred Smith, Audrey Brooks, Mae Delle Jones, Alma Maxwell, Florence Brooks and Nadine Brewster.

Funeral for Mrs. Joy Allen of Monahans was held at 9 a.m. Saturday in Monahans with graveside rites in the Moran Cemetery at

us know their names and address. (Barbara Hill 1100 S. Seaman St., Eastland, TX 76448).

It would be appreciated if you could let us know how many meal tickets you will need so that we can better estimate the food preparation. (Remember, everyone is invited).

THIS IS YOUR INVITATION TO A GREAT TIME OF VISITING WITH MORTON VALLEY FRIENDS AND FAMILY. You will not have this chance again until 1999—sooo COME! Bring family and friends back home.

Co-Chairmen:
 R.G. (Buck) Wheat
 Route 2, Box 1946
 Eastland, TX 76448 &
 Bobby Moore
 Moran, TX 76464.

4 p.m. with Rev. Jack Clack officiating. Mrs. Allen passed away Thursday at her home in Monahans after a lengthy illness.

She is a sister of Gaylan and James Johnson of Moran. Other survivors include her mother, Mrs. Delpha Cook of Blue Bonnett Nursing Home in Albany and a sister, Mrs. Nell Nicholas of San Angelo.

Mrs. Ella Mae Thorp and son, Donny, of Odessa visited with her brother, Jim Howard, last Thursday and Saturday.

Moran and community is receiving more rain. The grain is ready to be harvested, but the ground stays too wet for the combines to be in the fields. Some rain has fallen every night for the last several nights. Some hot and dry weather is needed at this time.



Pictured are the Eastland and Callahan Community Leaders that were enrolled in the Midwest Texas Leadership Class that completed their training sessions with a legislative trip to Austin. Pictured front row: Susan Moore, Karen Riddle, Mary Wells, Edith Beggs; second row: State Representative Jim Keffer, Mary Reeves, Susan Schaefer, Adora Roberts and Eastland County Agent Davy Vestal; back row: Donald Hughes, Steve Mack, and Nancy Turnbow.

Midwest Texas Leadership Class Training Completed

Eastland and Callahan community leaders enrolled in the Midwest Texas Leadership class completed their training sessions with a legislative trip to Austin.

The Midwest Texas Leadership program is available to residents in Eastland and Callahan counties and was sponsored this year by the Eastland County Texas Agricultural Extension Service, WTU, and Texas

Midwest Community Network.

The leadership training program is conducted through a once-a-month full-day workshop for a nine month period. Topics covered during the program include team-building, communication and motivation, leadership styles, problem solving and conflict management, conducting effective meetings, data gathering and strategic planning.

The final session for the course was a bus trip to Austin to tour the Capitol, meet with agency officials and receive graduation certificates from State Representative Jim Keffer.

Participants completing the 1996-97 Midwest Texas Leadership Program were Edith Beggs of Rising Star; Donald Hughes of Eastland; Mary Wells from Ranger; Susan Moore, Robert Anderson and Danny Morris, all of Cisco; Adora Roberts and Mary Reeves from Gorman; Karen Riddle, Nancy Turnbow and Nicki Harle from Baird; Tony Reed and Charlie Palmer from Clyde; Susan Schaefer, Keith Lawrence, Melissa Richards, Debbie Gosnell and Steve Mack all of Cross Plains.

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The *British Medical Journal* reports that Chiropractic treatment of low back pain, which affects 75 million Americans, is superior to the standard regimen administered by medical doctors.

The study, published in the summer of 1990, indicated that chiropractic manipulation can relieve severe back pain quicker and at lower cost than medical treatment. Chiropractic patients experienced less pain and disability and missed fewer days work.

At Barry Chiropractic Clinic we are committed to not only getting you free of back pain but treating those conditions which cause your pain. No symptom can be more depressing than persistent back pain. Don't delay treatment when help is readily available.

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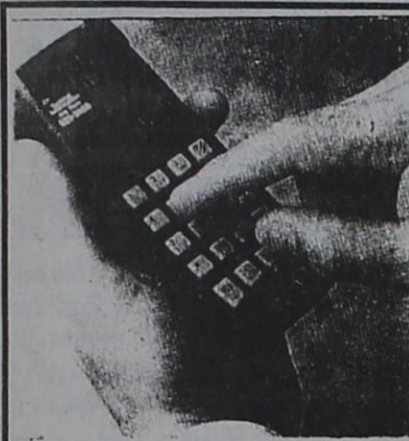
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It's not unusual to find an air conditioning system that has not had service since it was new. It's also true that many units will run for years before a breakdown, but with today's emphasis on energy efficiency, and the desire to save money, it just makes good sense to properly maintain your system. Without it, units fail prematurely, run inefficiently, and cost you more money in utility bills.

Regular maintenance for your cooling system is not something most people think about, so J & J Air Conditioning suggests you let them help you stay on schedule by calling for the Semi-Annual Preventive Maintenance Plan. We call our service agreement an **ENERGY SAVINGS AGREEMENT (ESA)**

This plan includes two routine scheduled maintenance calls; one in the spring (March, April, or May), and the other in the fall (September, October, or November).

By having your system serviced before the really hot or cold weather arrives, you can be assured of cool or warm temperatures inside as the mercury outside changes.

There are a couple of things you can do to help your unit run efficiently between checkups. First and most importantly, you can change or clean your filter often. You can also make sure the area around the outside unit is clear, to facilitate good air flow to that outside coil. Watch out for ants. They seem to like to build around air conditioning units, and if they get in the unit, can short out contactors and cause major problems. Use ant bait often if ants are in your area. Finally, let J & J Air Conditioning take care of your system for your peace of mind.

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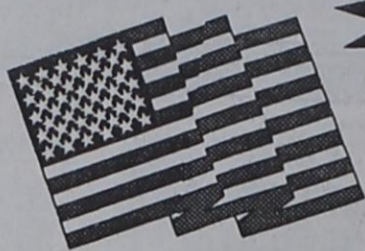
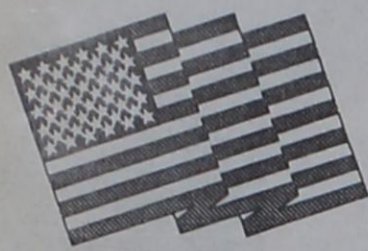
During the spring check-up, the professional technicians at J & J Air Conditioning will:

- ✓ Check the refrigerant charge,
- ✓ Check all connections,
- ✓ Brush-clean the coils,
- ✓ Oil motors and check bearing play, as well as
- ✓ Checking the thermostat for accuracy.

The heating system will be checked in the fall.

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Millionaire Percy Ross is known for his philanthropic work. He offers help and encouragement for those in need. He has earned a fortune and a wealth of knowledge during his lifetime and wants to share both. His motto: "He who gives while he lives... also knows where it goes."

This Type Of Shot In The Arm Is Painless

Dear Mr. Ross: My request is for my 15 year old niece. She has had juvenile diabetes since she was 4 years old and now also has a thyroid disease which has stunted her growth. Her father, my brother, is a preacher and her mother drives a school bus. The burden of so many supplies and medicine is more than they can handle. Their insurance ran out long ago for this. They get her supplies at Rite Aid and although it is the most reasonably priced pharmacy around here, the test strips alone are \$64 for 100. She has to use 4 a day, and then they still have to buy insulin. Knowing how many people they help, I was hoping maybe you could help them. I think you'll agree they warrant a helping hand.

Ms. J. S. ... *The Kentuckian*, Russell Springs, KY

Dear Ms. S.: Every now and then I find a person who is willing to go out on a limb. Such is the case with Rite Aid store manager, Judy Smith. When I explained your letter to her, she was deeply moved. Although she can't slash the already very low prices Rite Aid offers, she asked to be my philanthropic partner in this particular case. Between Ms. Smith and I your family has \$500 on account with which to purchase supplies. May it make a difference, if only for today.



Dear Mr. Ross: Fourteen months ago I was in the worst physical shape of my life. I had reached an all time high weight of 420 pounds! I was 45 years old and decided that with the support of God, family and friends, I was going to deal with why I was so heavy. I began a program of good nutrition and exercise that I've been faithful to ever since. I'm currently jogging up to 8 miles per day and have a dream of running in the Twin Cities Marathon this October. This would be the signature event for me, putting behind forever the old me and proclaiming the new.

It is my hope that you will sponsor me for some

running shoes. I remain a large man and now that I'm running instead of walking, my shoes are only lasting 5 weeks before they begin to break down. I've been warned that I risk injury if I continue to run in shoes that should be replaced. Good shoes for people my size are expensive (\$89) and I'm simply unable to replace them as often as I should. I would be deeply grateful for any help you could give.

Mr. J. W. ... *The Advertiser*, Pine City, MN

Dear Mr. W.: Family and friends must refer to you as the incredible shrinking man. You bet I'll sponsor you for two pair of running shoes. One condition though—seeing how athletes nowadays are riddled with sponsor names on the clothing they perform in, I'm going to see to it you're no different. Along with my \$200, I'm sending a bonafide *Thanks a Million* T-shirt (XXL) which you can proudly sport as you run the race. And on that special day, may you hitch a ride on the wings of an angel.



Dear Mr. Ross: There was a time in my life when I believed in the goodness of people such as yourself. I no longer do. When I learned you didn't respond to my mother's request of getting a new refrigerator, that drove the nail in the coffin for me. So what if I can afford to get her one? That's not the issue. The issue is she wrote you and asked you to get her one. After all this woman has done for me, you'd think you would do something which would help her out. You sure are a selfish person.

Mrs. T. G. ... *Daily News*, New York, NY

Dear Mrs. G.: The only way I'm going to give your mother a refrigerator is if you buy it and put my name on it as the gifter. Perhaps I'm out to lunch, but the last time I checked with my editor, I was helping the needy, not the greedy.

Write Percy Ross, P.O. Box 39000-B, Minneapolis, MN 55439. Include your phone number and the name of this publication. All letters are read. Only a few are answered in this column; others may be acknowledged privately.

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SMART TAXPAYERS AVOID REFUNDS

This year about 70 percent of American taxpayers received refunds, which averaged about \$1,375 each. While most Americans happily accept their checks, smart taxpayers understand that refunds actually cost them money. Here's why:

The government pays no interest on refunds. Kept in your hands, those dollars could have been productive. For example, invested in equity mutual funds, the money could have earned fifteen percent or more over the course of a year. If the money had been added to a 401(k) plan, tax would have been deferred on both the investment and its earnings. Even better, your employer might have matched all or part of your investment, increasing its potential.

Inflation zaps purchasing power. Even three percent inflation would have shaved about \$20 off the average refund. While you might worry about \$20, you could have kept that money.

Refunded cash is not available for use until actually received. Even though most taxpayers get their checks promptly, circumstances or errors can delay (or stop) a refund.

To prevent losing money on tax refunds, consider reducing your withholding or estimated tax payments. For most taxpayers, withholding must equal either the prior year's tax or 90 percent of the current year's liability. If your annual income changes little, it's relatively easy to avoid overwithholding. Determine the amount withheld so far this year, then subtract that number from last year's tax liability. Divide the difference by the number of pay periods remaining this year. Then ask your employer to withhold that amount each period.

For taxpayers with fluctuating income or multiple sources, the problem is more complex. The IRS provides a worksheet with the withholding statement (Form W-4), but many people find the form very complicated. If you'd like assistance adjusting your withholding, contact my office.

935 E. Main Eastland, TX 629-8901

Advertise In The Mailbox Express

"Jim's In" Scuba Shop

Jim Williams decided to make life a little easier this year for scores of people: He put a personalized license plate on his vehicle to let folks know that "JIM'S IN."

As owner and operator of Island Divers in Denton, Williams has become a beacon of knowledge and guidance for divers throughout the North Texas area. The scuba shop has a five-star rating — the highest issued — from the Professional Association of Dive Instructors.

The rating is, in no small part, attributed to Williams' expertise. He is a master instructor who cut his scuba teeth while diving for the U.S. Navy from 1966 through 1972 while on active duty during the Vietnam War.

"Those were the early days of diving, when there wasn't such a thing as

certification or standardized training," Williams recalled. "It was learn as you go; you had to become an expert, because you were diving under extremely adverse conditions."

During his time in the Navy, Williams earned several honors, including the National Defense Medal, the Vietnamese Service Ribbon, the Vietnamese Campaign Ribbon, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry (Presidential), the Presidential Unit Citation, the National Achievement Medal and a Purple Heart with two Bronze Clusters.

After ending his military tenure, Williams moved home to Texas, earning a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Hardin Simmons University in 1976 and

working as chief deputy of the Eastland County Sheriff's Department. Later, he worked as a patrol officer for the Denton Police Department and a criminal investigator for the Denton County Sheriff's Department, and he owned and operated a successful retail tobacco store at Golden Triangle Mall in Denton.

Still, diving continued to beckon. So in 1983, Williams bought Island Divers.

Since then, he has built the business to be one of the most respected in the nation. Island Divers continually receives referrals from other dive-stop operators throughout the United States. And this year, it has been included in the *American Directory of Who's Who in Executives and Businesses*.

Besides full-service instruction, rental, sales, equipment repair and travel services at Island Divers, Williams has added hydrostatic testing for air tanks and an underwater salvaging business.

But the crown jewel of Island Divers is The Oasis, an abandoned limestone quarry in Wise County about four miles east of Decatur. Filling 8.6 acres and dropping to a depth of 25 to 30 feet, The Oasis has become a North Texas hot spot for scuba divers.

The spring-fed dive spot is a mecca for dive instructors because of its submerged teaching platforms and boats, which serve as excellent training adjuncts. During the peak diving seasons of

spring, summer and early autumn, The Oasis maintains a comfortable water temperature of 84 degrees, and visibility averages about 12 feet.

The biggest draw at The Oasis is the fish. Bass, perch and catfish aren't afraid of divers and swimmers; after all, they bring food. It's not unusual for a diver to report being escorted throughout a dive by a couple of bass or perch, having come up on one of the larger catfish hiding in a crevasse on the limestone wall or being caught in the middle of a "frenzy" while feeding the fish under the water.

The Oasis and its denizens even promoted a recent article in *Rodale's Scuba Diving* magazine, a popular periodical for scuba divers throughout the world.

Divers seem satisfied with the fact that amenities at the Oasis extend only to a porta-potty, a changing room and stands on which to place dive gear. Primitive camping recently began at the site, and many families make a weekend of it, with one parent diving and the other swimming with the kids.

"Divers are really the nicest people in the world," said Williams' wife of 27 years, Andrea. "They always leave the place just like they found it. And that's what really makes this all possible."

The Williams family, including daughters Leigh and Stephanie, is dedicated to the dive business and their community.

Andrea Williams is active in a service sorority in Denton, and Jim Williams has served on numerous civic boards, including Denton Spring Fling and the YMCA.

"Jim is always ready to help out where he can," said Denton County Sheriff Weldon Lucas. "When the Hydrofest boat racing was on Lake Lewisville, Jim was an integral part of making sure everything was safe and professional."

It's no wonder that a visitor to Island Divers usually finds a contingent of divers hanging out at the shop or The Oasis, seeking answers from Williams about fine-tuning skills, where to go on trips or how best to maintain equipment.

"I'm a very lucky man," Williams said. "I'm doing what I love to do, and I'm surrounded by great people. Who could ask for anything else?"

Jim Williams is the son of the retired minister of the First Christian Church, Eastland, Dr. and Mrs. Eugene F. Williams.

Andrea Williams (Rhodes) is the daughter of Mrs. Vaneta Rhodes, and the late Gene "Dusty" Rhodes.

Engagement



Murry - Dodd

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby C. Murry are proud to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Terry Lynn to Troy Preston Dodd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Deon Dodd of Melrose, New Mexico.

The bride-elect is a 1996 graduate of Tarleton State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. She is employed at Bill DuBose Farmers Insurance Agency in Canyon, Texas.

The groom is a 1994

graduate of Texas Tech University with a Masters degree in Business Administration. He owns and operates Integrated Genetic Management, Inc. in Canyon, Texas.

The wedding will take place August 2, 1997, 2 p.m., at the Church of Christ in Happy, Texas.

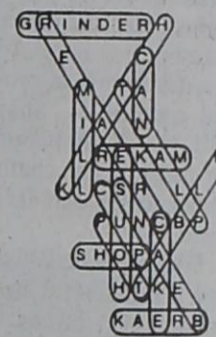
Cottonwood Musical To Be Friday

The Cottonwood Quilting Club is having their country and western musical on Friday, June 20, 1997 at the Cottonwood Community Center in Cottonwood.

The musical will start at 6:30 p.m. The emcee for the evening will be Smokey Callaway. All country and western musicians are invited to attend.

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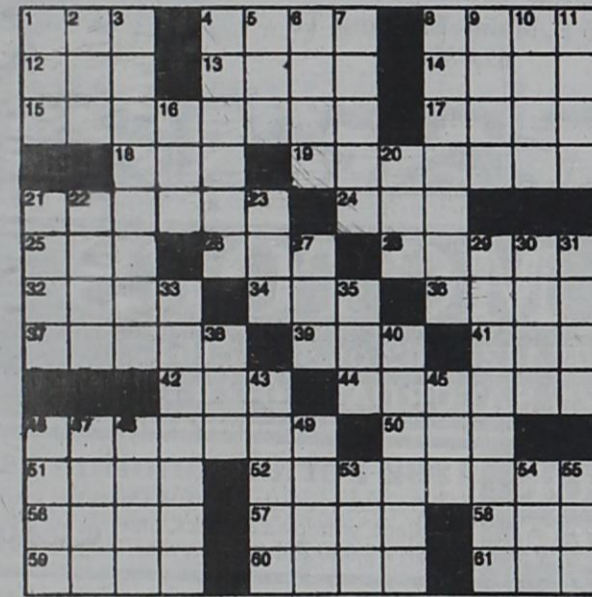
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ON THE BENCH
By Melinda Hill

Mrs. Brenda Beall and her family, husband Tye, daughters, CeeAnn 8-yrs., Zena 6-yrs and two month old daughter Christina, enjoyed Saturday night sitting on their front porch watching the night sky light up with lighting.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Walker recently hosted a pizza party for Mrs. Walker's Sunday school class.

The children enjoyed all the pizza they could eat and lots of ice cream. They played balloon volleyball, egg toss, sit on the balloon and crush Mother-May-I. Mrs. Walker teaches at The First Methodist Church on Hwy 283.

The children who attended are as follows: Kaitlyn Walker, Emily and Wendy Hill, Lauren Thackerson, Cameron McIntire, Rustin Williams, Blake Manning, CeeAnn Hooks and Zena Hooks.

Mrs. Walker welcomes all to attend, there is a class for all ages, and she says if

anyone needs a ride please give her a call. You can reach her at 854-2034.

Laquita Wallace's 14 year old nephew from Lookielame TX, Joey Day, has come to pay a visit with her and the Wallace family. They enjoyed the first day together at the Baird swimming pool.

A few of our local children spent the afternoon at the local library. They have joined President Clinton's America Reads Challenge. This is to help more children to read well and independently by the third grade.

The children are Chance Jones, Monica Estrada, Amanda Estrada, Alex Estrada, Emily and Wendy Hill.

Need A Free Ride
Call 1-800-710-CARR.

The Wednesday Club

The Wednesday Study Club met June 11, 1997 in the home of President Joyce McAuley for a luncheon and workshop. Twelve members were present.

After a luncheon of salads, Inez Wylie introduced Mary Jo Gerngross, Barbara Kendrick and Barbara Corn, teachers in Baird Independent School District. They spoke on mentoring to the children in their classes by members of the club. Each expressed a desire to have mentors for their students and explained how mentors can help in the classroom.

In the business session, President McAuley appointed committees to work with the Mesquite District Fall Board meeting to be hosted by the Wednesday Club October 4, 1997. Between 65 and 75 are expected to attend.

The club voted to donate \$25 toward Christmas lights for Market Street.

A thank-you from Marie Moore, recipient of the Club's \$200 scholarship was read.

Club members prepared caps donated by The Monogrammer of Abilene for mailing to M. D. Anderson Hospital. Club members each donated gifts for the hospital.

Attending were: JoAnn Collinworth, Lavern Crawford, Ruth Fisher, Faye Houston, Ferne Lee, Lucibel Manion, Floy McMullen, Beulah Springate, Margie Warren, Ruby Weathermon, Inez Wylie; hostess, Joyce McAuley and guests: Barbara Corn, Mary Jo Gerngross and Barbara Kendrick.

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The Callahan County Star welcomes news from your clubs, organizations, birth announcements, weddings, engagements, etc.

Rabies

From Page One

sometimes swallow stones, sticks or other things.

Later, when the rabid animal gets even sicker, it will have trouble chewing, swallowing, drinking, or walking. It may not be able to close its mouth, and may appear to be choking. (Never try to clear the throat of an animal with these symptoms.) If you see an animal with any of these signs, call the police right away.



Cisco Woman Dies After Being Pulled From Lake

A number of people were swimming in Lake Cisco Friday at the "Point" when 25 year old Lisa Michelle Cozart was pulled from the water unconscious. Swimming with a group of youngsters, she was heard joking about the possibility of drowning by a bystander before she swam 30 to 40 feet away from other swimmers and farther into the lake. She may have been retrieving a youngster who was going too far out into the deep water.

Other swimmers were not alarmed when Cozart went under, but when she didn't come back up, others started swimming towards her. Eugene Penn found her and pulled her from the water around 4:30 p.m. An individual



Personal service is available from Eugene and Diane Bell (pictured), who have owned and managed Boydston Hardware at 210 Market Street in Baird for the past 11 years. The store stocks a good supply of sporting goods, including fly fishing equipment, and home building supplies in addition to hardware. Such items as tools, ropes, jackets and a few kitchen items can also be found. The Bells also have the local Rheem heating and air conditioning sales and service business.

with a cellular phone called 911 while swimmers were pulling Cozart from the lake.

Efforts at resuscitation were begun, and continued after firemen arrived at the Point. But she wasn't responding and her face was dark. An Eastland ambulance arrived, and with assistance from an off duty Cisco E.M.T., Cozart was transported to the Eastland Memorial Hospital. From there a First Flight helicopter took her to the Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

Cozart was pronounced dead around 3 a.m. Saturday. She had been under water about two minutes, and an apparent heart attack may have also contributed to her death.

For Your Information

LYME DISEASE

Lyme disease is a disease which can cause skin, joint, heart, and nervous systems problems. It can affect people of all ages and can continue for months or years if not treated. It is usually spread by the bite of an infected or ill tick; however, other insects can also transmit the illness. It is now the most frequently diagnosed tick/insect-borne disease in the country. The illness usually begins in the spring or summer when ticks are most prevalent.

- Prevention
1. Keep your pets free of fleas and ticks.
 2. Eliminate unwanted animals (rats, mice, and stray dogs and cats).
 3. Take protective measures when outdoors. This

includes:

- * Wearing light-colored clothing so ticks can be easily seen.
- * Take protective measures clothing so ticks can be easily seen.
- * Tucking pant legs into boots or socks.
- * Using an approved insect repellent.
- * Inspecting yourself frequently.
- * promptly removing attached ticks.
- * If you think you have Lyme disease, see your doctor immediately. Early treatment is more successful. Symptoms after a tick bite may include:
 - Flu like symptoms.
 - Skin lesion - generally circular area that may be lighter colored in the center with a red ring on the outside.
 - Skin rashes.
- For more information about Lyme disease, please see your doctor.

97 American Cancer Crusade

The 1997 American Cancer Crusade has completed. If the volunteers missed you, you may make your donation at the First National Bank, Baird or Clyde by depositing to the Cancer Crusade Fund. The American Cancer Society needs your help to fight this terrible disease.

Donations received for the communities participating: Clyde - \$2,731.44, Baird -

\$1,286.12, Midway - \$100.00 Putnam - \$55.00. The quilt raffle netted \$1,007.00. Sincere thanks to all volunteers who helped with the crusade and to Community Chairman, Joyce McAuley, Frances Whitehead, Ruby Weathermon and Irma Cadda. Special thanks to everyone who donated. Your contribution will make a difference.

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Baird 854-1295 Abilene 670-0670 Clyde 893-5884

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Clyde, Tx 893-2613

Parker Funeral Home
141 E. 3rd Baird, Tx
Skip, Pat & Mike

The Prescription Shop
229 Market St. Baird, Tx
854-1687

Law Office of Robert E. McCool
235 Market Baird, Tx
854-1016

Callahan County Veterinary Clinic
I-20, Clyde-Baird 893-5895

American Legion
Eugene Bell Post 82
100 Chestnut Baird, Tx

Callahan Co. Star
211 Market Baird, Tx
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