# The Castro County News

81st year-No. 23

Dimmitt, Texas

Thursday, September 1, 2005

# CCHD receives good audit report

The CCHD Board of Directors met Aug. 25, and head good needs from the auditors.

For the first time in nine years, bottom line of \$628,000.

There are numerous reasons for this tremendous improvement, according to CEO Linda Rasor.

Access Hospital in 2004 and this designation improved the reimbursement to the hospital from Medicare to where we are now being paid a percentage of cost," she said. "The hospital also brought the billing department back in house in December, 2003. There was a major cleanup done of all billing procedures and improved collections, including small

claims court."

The district also decreased expenses by closing OB and the geripsych departments and reducthe district is showing a positive ing staff through attrition. A change in insurance benefits also decreased expenses. Every department has decreased expenses, Rasor said, noting that the auditor "The hospital became a Critical anticipates this positive trend to continue for the district.

> After a lengthy discussion, the board voted to set the tax rate at .445, which is the effective rate and will raise the same amount of tax monies as last year. Tax revenues for the district will offset the million dollar plus indigent and charity care provided to the county, including inmate care, Rasor said.

"Many people do not realize that it is very costly for the district and all other hospitals to provide care to the uninsured and charity care patients, but it is our responsibility," she said.

The board pparoved selling a building on Front and Bedford that at one time was Dr. Hardee's office. The sale is expected to be complete by Sept. 15.

Stats were reviewed with several departments, including occupational and physical therapy, laboratory, surgery and respiratory therapy and hospice services, all showing an increase in numbers from the prior month and an overall increase for the fiscal year, which began May 1.

Dr. Skylar Bizzell reported for

the medical staff. He said that Dr. Andrew Peterson, D.O., will be interviewing for a Family Practice position this month. He would replace Dr. Percy, as well as relieve viewed. Plans to build a clinic next the need for an ER group to cover Dimmitt's ER, which will help decrease that expense. A third Family Practice physician is needed at the clinic to help provide family primary care, he said. Dr. Sheets and Dr. Conard, ER physicians, were granted consulting privileges by the board.

In other matters, the Five-Year Strategic Plan was reviewed with progress noted on several items, including the new roof, ambulance and new radiology room. Plans continue to be looked at to centrally locate administrative

offices, billing and medical records. The hospital building has not been updated since 1992 and the renovation plan was also reto the hospital were also reviewed. This would help decreased the computer issues, parking problems, lab and X-ray concerns and ER physician issues. All services, including DME, Home Health and Hospice, will be located at the hospital.

All District services will be on one campus, which will also decrease the overhead expense. As a Critical Access Hospital, a percentage of the renovation and building costs will be reimbursed through Medicare, which is a

See CCHD, Page 12

# Friday marks 60 years from WWII end in Pacific

By DAVIE ANN BROWDER

Managing Editor

World War II in the South Pacific never received as much press as did the European war. Maybe because Americans considered Europe closer, therefore the more immediate danger. And to this day, you'll see more documentaries on the end of World War II in Europe, D-Day, the Battle of the Bulge than you'll ever see dealing with Iwo Jima, Tarawa, Leyte Gulf. About the only story that historians like to talk about from the Pacific Theatre is the dropping of two atom bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And then they do it with something akin to an apology.

If you want to know about the war in the Pacific, talk to the people who were there - who saw the hand-to-hand fighting the determination of the Japanese to fight to the last man - and woman - and child. Instead, today, many historians try to make Americans feel guilty about dropping those bombs - and incidentally saving hundreds of thousands of American (and Japanese) lives.

Carroll Webb was only 15 when World War II started - his birthday is Dec. 8. But by Dec. 8, 1943, when he was all of 17, he had signed up for the U.S. Navy and was off to boot camp - for 12 days.

"Then I was sent to Coronado to learn to drive landing craft," Webb said. He was asked what he thought about such a

dangerous job - driving people up to the beaches under fire. "I was a ninth-grade dropout, no education, so I was expendable," he said. "They knew boys driving those landing craft probably weren't going to come back. I fooled them."

After the training, he boarded the USS Uvalde and headed to the Pacific.

J.R. Brown was also in the Pacific Theatre. His job was getting a mobile Army surgical hospital (better know these days as MASH), set up in New Zealand to take casualties from

the various Pacific battles. "As soon as we got the hospital in New Zealand up and running, we had to take it apart and ship it to New Caledonia," Brown said. "The tide of war had turned and we were re-taking the islands that the Japanese had occupied. My job was to make

sure the hospital had the supplies it needed." Brown went into the service in October, 1942. In May, 1943, he shipped out of California with orders reading, "for further transfer outside the continental limits of the United States."

"I didn't know where I was going," he said.

At that time, he said, it was still up in the air as to whether the

U.S. would win the war.

"A lot of people don't realize how close we came to losing the war," Brown said. "Had the Japanese continued their assault on Hawaii and decimated our Pacific Fleet, we'd have been in trouble."

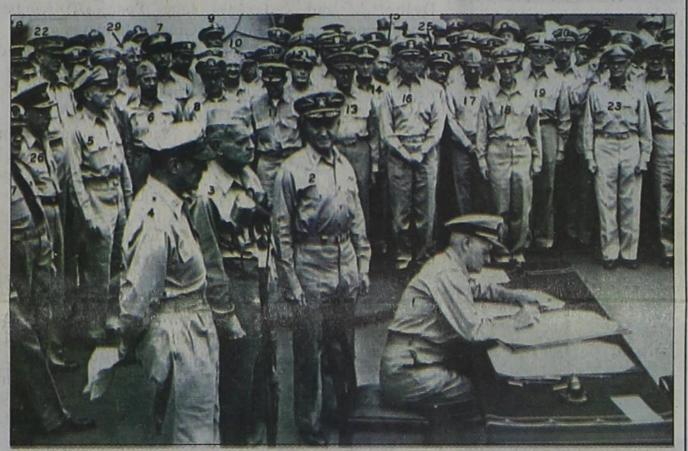
Webb said it took his ship 31 days after leaving the West Coast to reach the Admiralty Islands, his first stop in the Pacific.

"I didn't think there was an ocean that big," he said. "After about four days, I thought 'We're just going around in circles and what's a 17-year-old boy from Leuders, Texas, doing

His second day in port an ammo ship two berths away blew

up and took all 1,500 men on board down.

"I knew then I didn't have any business over there," Webb said. "Then we went to New Guinea. That's when Tokyo Rose told us the Japanese planes were on their way - and they were. SEE WWII, Page 12



Above, U.S. officials at the signing of the peace treaty with Japan at the end of World War II, Sept. 2, 1945, on board the U.S.S. Missouri, in Toyko Bay.





J.R. Brown and, at left, in the Navy





at left, in the Navy

# DISD tax rate stavs the

DISD trustees met briefly at noon on Monday to hear from any taypayers before the tax rate and budget for the 2005-2006 year was approved.

There were no interested taxpayers on hand at the hearing, so after 15 minutes the board adjourned the public hearing and reassembled to vote on the budget and tax rate.

The budget for 2005-06 was unanimously approved, as was the tax rate of \$1.50.

"This is not an increase over last year," said DISD Superintendent Les Miller.

In other action, the board approved a couple of minor amendments to the budget and agreed to a proposal to increase pay for paraprofessionals who have college experience.

The board unanimously approved Miller's proposal that for every 10 hours of college credit a paraprofessional can prove he or she has earned, that person's pay will go up one step on the pay scale.

# High Plains Water District rates stay unchanged

During an Aug. 19 special meeting, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 Board of Directors voted to adopt a 2005 ad valorem tax rate of .0083 cents per \$100 property valuation. This is the same tax rate adopted in 2004. Created in 1951, the

See WATER, Page 12

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# Forum

# No blood, no foul? Legislature left, but reforms still needed

students per teacher — compared to 15.9 for the national

average — the teacher-to-non-teacher ratio is almost 1-

education lobby — schools boards, superintendents and,

inexplicably, teacher associations. Spending more money

on administration has not been shown to increase student

achievement, but putting more resources directly in the

The effort to defeat such common sense reforms

see how school districts spend their money) was so

is the apparent power of school superintendents over

state legislators; the needs of taxpayers, teachers and

(which included provisions to let taxpayers more easily

intense the lobby thwarted even a teacher pay raise. Such

And so Gov. Rick Perry announced on conclusion of

this last special session that he would implement many of

his appointed education commissioner's agency rules, so

Is policy by executive fiat preferred? Not by anyone,

and certainly not me. At least the governor is doing

the stalled reforms either by executive order or through

at least the academic bleeding can be stymied.

to-1. Too many resources are going outside the

Reforms designed to drive more money to the

classroom met a wall of resistance from the public

classroom, and it is getting worse.

classroom has.

By MICHAEL QUINN SULLIVAN

At least the legislature left town without doing any new harm. Small condolence for a state eager to receive tax relief and education reform, one might be tempted to say, but it could have been worse. The political economy of the 21st Century is similar to the age-old rule of pick-up basketball: no blood, no foul.

But in this game Texans have perhaps become so accustomed to bleeding, we don"t notice the flung elbow. How have we bled? Soaring property tax bills, mediocre performance in our schools.

Perhaps that''s why Texans are baffled by the legislature"s inaction.

Since 1960, Texas has tripled real per-student spending (on top of spending for inflation and population growth), but independent test scores and graduation rates have remained mostly static or worsened since the 1980s. We spend more today on public education, than the state spent on all services in the late 1980s.

The drop-out rates are a telling sign of our inability as a people to motivate kids and their parents to remain academically engaged. What is that sign? Part of the problem is no one really knows how many kids are vanishing, though in some school districts the difference between ninth grade and graduation reaches almost half.

One obvious problem is the lack of resources going into the classroom — teacher salary, instructional materials, and the like. In 2003, the state's comptroller found that less than 51 percent of each education dollar reached the classroom.

While the pupil-to-teacher ratio in Texas is 14.8

**YOUR EYES** 

APPLYINGEYEMEDICATION

Do you know the easiest way to put in eye drops or

ointment? Most people don't. Consequently, they feel

Don't try to put in eye drops while lying down. You may get

a drop in, but more likely, you'll just miss the eye itself. It's

easiest if you work in good light. First, pull down the lower

eyelid with your index finger. This will create a small

'pocket" in this lower part of the lid. with your other hand

hold the bottle of eye drops and gently squeeze the drops into

this pocket. Eye ointment also can be squeezed into the

pocket. Do your best not to touch the tip of the bottle to

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44 TXism: "keep your

eyeballs

45 noted TX poet

Crowell (init.)

46 Gov. Ross (init.)

in the fire"

(1886-90)

(in trouble)

47 TXism: "the

Dr Brigance

the eye. The drop or ointment will then spread

itself over the eye with you normal blinking.

If you feel like you're "all thumbs" when

using drops or ointments, it may be best to

have someone do it for you. Don't be afraid to

Brought to you as a community service by

ask your eye doctor for help

ACROSS

Jones film "Eyes

1 TX Tommy Lee

5 TXism: "get your

6 weather phenome-

7 El Paso's first fe-

8 Mills Co. seat

16 popular Dallas

area "West

Ferguson

23 Kiowa chief

Plains"

22 TX "Son of the Pioneers" Farr

21 Gov. "\_ "

17 therapeutic baths

"Orator of the

end"

on "Who's the

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32 TX LeDoux's

24 hair style foam

29 TXism: "at my

(frazzled)

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non "El

awkward, or worse, they don't get the proper of medicine.

# ON THE GO

Continued from Page 3

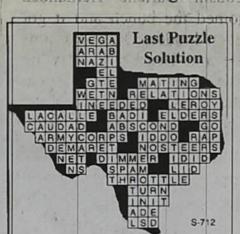
children to the contrary.

was great to get back home to Dimmitt's one stoplight!

Michael and Norman Smothermon and sons, Thomas and John, from Indio, Calif., have been visiting Delbert and Jackie Smothermon and family. Milly Greening, from Quanah, came and visited while they were here.

Delbert Milly is Smotherman and Dorothy Sheffy's sister.

Dora and Shawn Pena are the parents of a baby boy born Aug. 8, at 12:14 p.m., in Victoria.



pounds, 12-ounces and was 18½-inches long.

He has a big sister, Ellie, who is 3.

Grandparents are Robert and Driscilla Storrs of Lubbock; Fernando and Mimi-Jane Pena of Kingsville. Great-grandparents are Bob and Joyce Storrs of Bandera; and Dorothy Sheffy of Dimmitt.

Matt Ray's horse training skills were mind boggling. Jack Howell brought one of his gelding quarter horses in that had never been ridden.

The horse was in a round pen on the back lot that Nolan Shawn weighed 6- adjoins the First Baptist Church.

> Matt was very patient and gentle as he persuaded the horse to trust him.

> After about an hour of teaching the horse, Matt could lead him around the pen and finally stood upon one side with his foot in the stirrup.

**TEXAS** 

**CROSSWORD** 

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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something; the reforms are simply too important for Texas' children and their future.

Maybe his actions will, at a minimum, inspire entrenched bureaucrats and legislators to re-think hardnosed opposition. Some teachers will get a modest pay raise from the governor's use of his executive power, but" not nearly as much as was killed on the legislature's watch.

Superintendents will have more responsibility to direct dollars to the classroom instead of other projects and programs, but none of their demanded new moneywithout-reforms.

What the governor cannot do by order or rule is cut

taxes; only the legislature can do that. So while his ordered reforms will trigger better school spending, gradually improve academic performance, and eventually lower the costs associated with public education, our tax ag burden will not be lightened. It won't be lightened, that is, until state representatives TB

and senators feel greater pressure from the taxpaying public to reduce taxes and reform schools than they feel from hostile superintendents in opposition.

Michael Quinn Sullivan is the vice president of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a non-profit, nonpartisan research institute based in Austin.

### **NAZ NEWS**

Continued from Page 8

Church Fund-Raiser" on Sunday, Sept. 4, in Nazarethel "Honoring Hearts and Hands" is the theme for our paraden this year, which begins at 10 a.m.

Please pray for our sick people and those in the Armeco Forces serving in Iraq. We have one new person to pray for this week. Urban Ball will have open heart surgery at then Lubbock Heart Hospital on Tuesday morning. We wish him

Congratulations to Paul Gerber, who was honored on his 50th birthday with a party at the home of Joel and Mary Beth Gerber. He was given many nice gifts, but his favorite is () pretty, black derby hat. He really looks sharp with that derby B on his head! Way to go!

### **CHRISTIANS**

Continued from Page 5

their brothers and sisters in Christ and have a love for those who are lost in hope that they will find Christ.

"If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not live his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen" (1 John 4:20)?

We must be genuine Christians.

Even if you fool yourself and others you will not fool God as to whether or not you are a genuine Christian.

On the Day of Judgment Jesus will know genuine Christians.

"By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome" (1 John 5:2-3).

#### Prec. Snow High Low Tuesday Wednesday .16 63 Thursday 63 91 Friday 87 56 1.13 Saturday Sunday 81 Monday August Rainfall 6.50 2005 Rainfall 17.63 2005 Snow 3.90 inches Readings taken every day at 7 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Service recording station for Dimmitt.

# The Castro County News

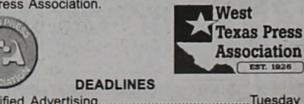
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> Virgie Gerber, Nazareth Angie Arguijo, Hispanic Voice

48 in Seguin: "Texas 16 University" 43 Park, TX 51 TXism: "\_\_\_-horse P-713 50 town" 52 "neither" sidekick 51 53 George H. to George W. (abbr.) 31 European political 52 13 TX Dan Jenkins' DOWN "Life \_\_\_\_ self" 1 San Antonio 14 TXism for "thing" business: "Pizza 15 TXism: "\_\_\_ 35 Marble bien" 18 hubby of 21-

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# On the Go

with Dorothy Hopson, 647-4579

We know that the Truman Touchstones have recently been to London, England. I've not gathered all the information that I'd hoped for about their trip, but I have a letter from my daughter, Susan Owens, who visited London recently.

She related a story about meeting a young wife and mother from Nigeria

"Her name was Thelma. She worked as a clerk in an accessories shop around the corner from our hotel. Each day we would pass the shop on our way to the underground station. Most mornings we stopped to say hello and visit. One day as we entered the shop, we heard praise and worship music playing from her CD player and we began to sing and dance along with the music. Thelma as Christian! She began to laugh and clap and cry all at the same time.

'You're Christians! I just knew you were. You are much too happy to be anything else. I've been watching your faces and expressions and I just knew you were Christians.'

"As we began to know Thelma better, she began to share her story. She and her husband had worked in banks in Nigeria and earned very good money, but because of their faith, their life there became increasingly dangerous. Thelma's father and two brothers were murdered and her mother had fled to London. A few months later, Thelma followed with her two children. Her husband had to stay behind because he could not afford to leave his lucrative riched by life in ways I've salary.

"Contrary to popular belief, racism in England is decades being the United States. Thelma was very fortunate to have the job she

had, though it paid very little. She was supporting her children and mother and sister. Her husband sent an occasional check. Because she is black, she has little hope of having a better job. Immigration laws are very strict and she had no way of getting government aid. When we asked her how they survived, she replied, 'We bless the pot.' She and the members of her household literally stood around the kitchen stove and prayed over the pots and pans. She told us they always had plenty to eat. She could not logically explain it. She said, 'We just keep blessing the

"Having met Thelma enstill not discovered. But each time I get a little materialistic, or when I begin to take my life and blessings for granted, I always thing of Thelma and say a little prayer for her and 'bless the pot' - hers and mine."

On Aug. 13, Dorothy Sheffy flew to Las Vegas, Nev. Her daughter, Donna son-in-law, Tom Stafford, met her in Las Vegas. They boarded another plane and traveled on to Reno, Nev. On Sunday, she visited North Virginia. Church of Christ. The speaker was from South Africa. They drove to Lake Tahoe, Nev., and then to Fresno, Calif., to visit granddaughters Donda and her husband Eric Bott and their children, Savanna and Nolan; and Deidra and Michael Poore and their sons, Andrew, Zackery, Joshua and Noah. Grandsons Mark and Matthew

nity Church in Fresno,

Calif., on Sunday and drove back to Reno that evening, stopping by Donner Lake to Lubbock to spend the night

skiing.

Then it was back to

watch sailboating and water with daughter Driscilla and Robert Storrs. After all the freeways and traffic, it sure See ON THE GO, Page 2

# **Hispanic Voice**

with Angie Arguijo, 647-0106

Hola de nuevo. Hello again. So, is everyone enjoying all the rain? I can't complain, it's nice, but the humidity afterwards, yuck! Here's a little FYI for everyone, I am back on midnights at work, so if you come knocking at my door or try calling, don't get discouraged if I don't answer. I am probably asleep. Just keep trying or try later in the afternoon. It may take me a while, but I'll eventually roll out of bed.

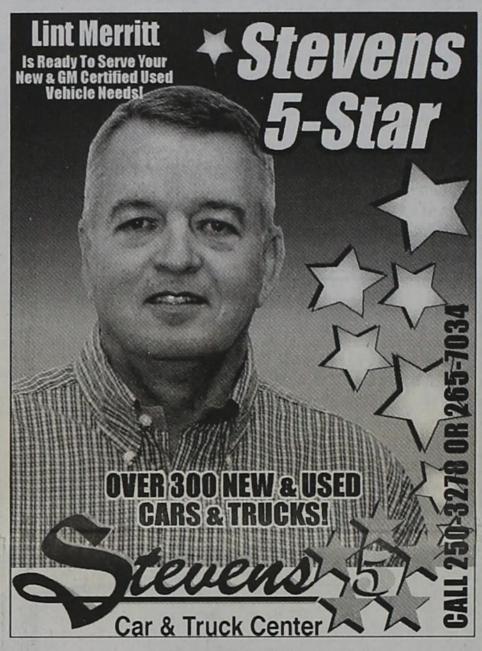
The Arguijo family had a pretty busy Thursday evening. Thursdays are my day off from work and I thought it was going to be a quiet night in front of the TV. Boy was I wrong. A bunch of us got together and went out to the DHS stadium to watch Robert Arguijo play his first football game. I hadn't been out to a football game in about 10 years and had almost forgotten how rowdy it can get up in the stands. It didn't take long before it all came back to me. We all sat in a separate section (I bet the other fans were kinda glad we did) and cheered Robert on. I am not exactly a rowdy person, but it was fun to see all of the family get into the game. Boy, Robert's mom Celia, sisters Gina and Tanya, and cousin Miranda all have quite some lungs on them. Robert's brothers and other family members where there to cheer him on too. Then, cousin Darlene Hernandez joined the bunch and it got even louder. Darlene's sons BJ and Rene, also play on the JV team. Let me tell you, that's a lot of Arguijo blood

Even though the boys didn't win the game, they played good and hard. The Arguijo family would like ALL of the boys that played to know we are very proud of them and hope to make it out to all their games. Oh, back to our busy evening, after the game, our nephew Isaac Arguijo, decided to tag along with us so he could go play with our computer at home. Well, he and Josh went up stairs and played a few games and looked up some interesting stuff on the Internet. When it was finally time for us to take Isaac home, they were both coming down the stairs and Josh had a pretty nasty fall and sliced his finger on the way down. Isaac was very

helpful and somehow managed to get a t-shirt on Josh and we rushed him to the ER. Don't worry, Josh is fine, the ER staff got him sewn up in no time, he even got a snack out of it. After the whole ordeal, we all had a good laugh about it (it's not the first time he's come sliding down those stairs) and I warned him that I was going to have to stop letting him have his nephews over to play if this ever happened again. Of course, I was just kidding.

Congratulations to Liz and Gabriel Reyes on their new baby boy, Gabriel Reyes Jr. Gabriel was born on Aug. 7.

See HISPANIC, Page 6



Congratulations to Mary Gerber, who was honored on her 95th birthday with an "Open House" and family dinner Saturday evening in the Community Hall. It was hosted by her children: Fritz and Julene Gerber, Vincent and Toby Gerber; and Regina and Ronnie Hoelting of Nazareth; Norbert and Helen Gerber of Woodward, Okla. and Dennis and Delores Gerber of Hereford. Also 19 of her 29 grandchildren were present from Oregon, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Some 26 of her 60 greatgrandchildren came and also one great-great-grandchild was there. Many relatives and friends from Nazareth, Amarillo, Vega and Umbarger helped celebrate her special

**Naz News** 

with Vergie Gerber, 945-2669

Many relatives and friends gathered at St. Elizabeth's Càtholic Church in Lubbock on Saturday afternoon to attend the marriage celebration uniting Jeff McCallister and Amy Pohlmeier with the Rev. Ken Keller of Nazareth officiating. A reception and dance were held at the beautifully decorated Frazier Alumni Pavilion in Lubbock.



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#### Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

NOTICE OF CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION APPLICATION General Permit Authorization No. TXG 920622

APPLICATION. PATRICK CAMERON BETZEN, 1514 County Road 603, Hereford, Texas 79045, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) under General Permit No. TXG920000 for authorization to operate a new dairy facility at 4,000 total head, of which 3,000 head are milking, in Castro County, Texas. The notice of intent was received by TCEQ on May 13, 2005. No discharge of pollutants into the waters in the state is authorized by this general permit except under chronic or catastrophic rainfall conditions or events. All waste and wastewater will be beneficially used on agricultural land.

The proposed facility will be located immediately northeast of the intersection of County Road 603 and State Highway 385, said intersection is approximately 5.6 miles north of the intersection of State Highway 385 and Farm-to-Market Road 2397. The facility will be located in the drainage area of Mackenzie Reservoir in Segment No. 0228 of the Red River Basin.

A copy of the notice of intent, application, the Executive Director's technical summary, and the CAFO general permit is available for viewing at the Castro County Courthouse, County Clerk's Office, 100 East Bedford, Room 101, Dimmitt, Texas 79027.

The Executive Director of the TCEQ has made a preliminary decision to approve coverage of this facility under General Permit No. TXG 920000.

PUBLIC COMMENT. Written public comments may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, at the address provided in the information section below, within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of this notice. In addition, the public may request a public meeting. If significant interest exists, the Executive Director will direct the applicant to publish a notice of the public meeting and hold the public meeting. The applicant must publish notice of a public meeting at least 30 days prior to the meeting in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the CAFO is proposed to be located. The Executive Director will consider all relevant information pertaining to whether the applicant meets the requirements of the general permit and will issue a written determination as to any final action on the notice of intent for coverage under the general permit.

INFORMATION. Written public comments should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas, 78711-3087. For additional information, about the application or the procedure for public participation in the general permit process, individual members of the general public may contact the Office of Public Assistance at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. General information regarding the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceg.state.tx.us.

Issued: Aug. 24, 2005

# People



Timothy Lee Herrera Sr. & Oralia Correa

# Herrera-Correa

Mr. and Mrs. Gumercindo Correa Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Guadalupe Herrera Sr. have announced the engagement and approaching wedding of their children, Oralia Correa and Timothy Lee Herrera Sr.

The wedding is set for 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 10, 2005, at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Lubbock.

The bride-elect is a 2005 graduate of South Plains College, Levelland. The prospective groom is attending South Plains College.

# Two from area finish peace officer school

South Plains College recognized Pedro Cruz and Jason Jackson of Dimmitt in

the 2005 Peace Officer Graduation held Aug. 18, at 6:30 p.m. in Levelland.

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# Two from Dimmitt elected FCCLA officers

America organization has FCCLA has been a strong many, many years.

trying to come up with new projects which will benefit nity.

During the 2004 - 2005 school year, the organization was fortunate to have two students elected as Region 1 officers; Candis Rodriguez and Haley Heard. Rodriguez is the new Region 1 Vice President of Correspondence and Heard is the Region 1 Vice President of Programs.

These girls will have responsibilities at the 2006 Region and State Meeting. To learn more about their duties, the girls along with their advisors, Lyndy Nelson

They are now eligible to take the state licensure examination to be a Texas Peace Officer.

The 16-week curriculum meets the requirements of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. includes coursework in law, driving, shooting and other tactical skills.

For more information on the South Plains College Law Enforcement Program contact (806) 896-9611. extension 2291

The Family, Career, & and Marilyn Carter attended Community Leaders of the FCCLA Officer Training Workshop in Denton during been busy this summer at the summer. At the officer Dimmitt High School. training, the two girls spent a week learning and becomorganization in Dimmitt for ing familiar with their fellow officers in Region 1 as well The students are always as the other four regions and the state officers.

The officers participated their families and commu- in workshops which taught them about public speaking, script writing, public relations, letter writing, and team building.

> They also completed a mini-ropes course to help understand the impact of leadership abilities and teamwork skills. Two nights were spent planning the upcoming region and state meetings. Besides the work side of the trip, Candis and Haley were also introduced to the beautiful campus of Texas Women's University, dorm life and college food.

> During the National FCCLA Convention, over 5,400 guests, members, and advisors attended. Texas was represented by 350 delegates.

This was an incredible opportunity for the officers to see and experience other places.

Each officer was responsible for duties such as serving as a voting delegate, ushering, workshops, as well as attending the general sessions and representing Dimmitt High School and Texas. Other area schools who attended with regional officers, contest winners, and STAR Event winners



Candis Rodriguez and Haley Heard were elected Region I FCCLA officers recently.

were Friona and Springlake Earth High School. A project completed at the National Convention was "Quarters from Kids" a National Outreach Project.

After the dreadful Tsunami that hit in December, FCCLA National Officers made a goal to raise as much money as they could for Tsunami relief. Money was collected from December to July at the Regional, State, and National Meetings. FCCLA organizations allover our Nation collected over \$65,000 dollars for Tsunami Relief. With this donation, FCCLA will be able to help rebuild

children's camps and preschools in Sri Lanka that were affected by the South Asian tsunami.

The FCCLA chapter at Dimmitt High School Is looking forward to a great year. Upcoming projects include: selling HOME-MADE Ice cream at the Harvest Day Fair, officer elections, and planning and implementing a training workshop for those elected, as well as our Homecoming Dinner.

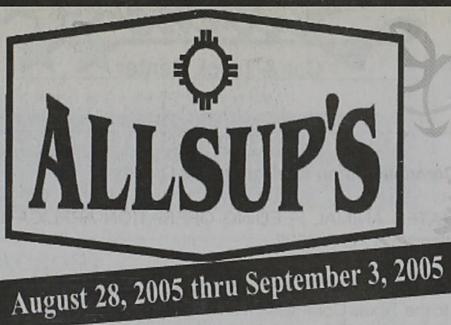
Look for the FCCLA chapter this year and see what a difference they're making at Dimmitt High School and the community.

#### Card of Inanks

Thanks to all of you who sent food and cards during my surgery. Friends like you can't be thanked enough.

Love to all and God Bless you!

Oleda Schumacher



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# CHURCH NEWS



# **Genuine Christians**

The introduction of synthetic and fabricated materials has caused many manufacturers to stamp the word "genuine" or "100 percent" on their products.

It is hard to tell the fake from the real without reading the label.

The same is true for Christians.

It is said that 80 percent of

tian. However, pray is stripped from school, the Ten Commandments are removed from court houses, there is no freedom of religion only freedom from religion. It is sometimes hard to tell

America claims to be Chris-

real Christians from counterfeit Christians.

However there are some

telltale signs which we can look for and see within their

The first trait of a genuine Christian is that he or she believes, with all their heart that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus confirms this in John 8:24.

Those who claim or believe Jesus is anything other than who He claimed to be are not genuine Christians.

This is not just a lip service acknowledgment, but a life changing one.

**Brett Page** The sec-

ond trait of a genuine Christian is their obedience to Christ's commands.

Jesus said, "If you abide in My word, you are My

disciples indeed" (John 8:31). Later in chapters 14 and 15 of the Gospel of John Christ continues His teaching to live Him one must keep His commandments.

A genuine Christian abides in Christ's words and those words abide in the genuine Christian.

How can you claim to be something and not do the very things that you claim you are?

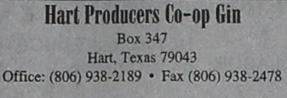
How can you be a medical doctor and never practice or study medicine?

The third test of a genuine Christian is love for the church.

Genuine Christians love See CHRISTIAN Page 2



# Castro County Devotional Page



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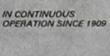
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# Obituaries

**CLEO MAE PARKS** 

Services for Cleo Mae Parks, 88, of Dimmitt, were Friday, Aug. 26, 2005. Private family graveside services were at 11 a.m. Friday at Castro Gardens. Memorial Dimmitt. A memorial service was at 2 p.m. Friday at Fourth and Bedford Church of Christ, Dimmitt, with Dean Wiseman and Brett Page officiating.

Mrs. Parks died Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2005, in Dimmitt. She was born Dec. 9, 1916, in Midland. She was a member of Fourth and Bedford Church of Christ. She and her husband, Carl Clarence Parks, farmed in Castro County for more than 30 years.

She is survived by two sons, Carl Parks of Dimmitt and Don Parks of Midland; two sisters, Monterrey McSpadden of Rankin and Jimmy Lou Rose of Van



Cleo Mae Parks

Buren, Ark.; five grandchildren; and seven greatgrandchildren.

Mrs. Parks was preceded in death by her husband, Carl Clarence Parks; and two sisters, Virnelle Steele and Willie Ruth Horne.



#### JUAN CARLOS HIDALGO

Juan Carlos Hidalgo, 19, was held at Colonial Funeral Home of Dimmitt on Monday, Aug. 29, 2005. Services for Mr. Hidalgo will take place in Camargo, Chihuahua, Mex.

day, Aug. 27, 2005, in Hart. He was born in Camargo on Nov. 28, have lived in Hart since ins. November, 2004.

Survivors include his parents, Juan and Rosa Hidalgo of Hart; a brother,

A memorial service for Daniel Hidalgo of Hart; a sister, Iris Hidalgo, of Hart; maternal grandparents, Vicente Duran Martinez and Rosalia Parra de Duran, both of Hart; paternal grandparents, Feliciano Hidalgo Jaramillo and Mr. Hidalgo died Satur- Maria Louisa Hernandez de Hidalgo of Camargo; an uncle and aunt, Federico and Gloria Hidalgo of 1985. He and his family Lubbock; and several cous-



#### LESLEY FRANKS WESTIN

Services for Lesley Franks Westin, 40, of Hart, were at 10 a.m., Monday, Aug. 29, 2005, at First Baptist Church, Hart, with the Rev. Matt Baird officiating. Burial was at Hart Cemetery in Hart.

Mrs. Westin died Aug. 25, 2005, in Hart. She was born June 10, 1965, in Clovis, N.M.

She graduated from Hart High School in 1983 and attended Rochester Community College in Rochester, Minn.; Texas Tech; and South Plains College in Levelland. She received her registered nurse certification from South Plains College and worked in labor and delivery and neonatal intensive care at St. Mary's of the Plains (now Covenant Lakeside) in Lubbock. She was a former member of First Baptist Church in Hart, where she was baptized and married.

Survivors include a daughter, Sydney Marie Westin of Hart; Sydney's father, Edward Westin of Lubbock; her father, Richard Franks of Hart; and a sister, Laurey Franks Gilbert of Pampa.

Mrs. Westin was preceded in death by her mother,

Carlyn Marie Franks on Jan. 16, 2002. The family suggests memorials be to Ronald

McDonald House; 1501 Streit, Amarillo, TX. 79106 OR Girlstown USA; 600 W. 11th, Amarillo, TX. 79101.

# **Bobbies** compete at San Jac Tourney

The Bobbies played in the San Jacinto Tournament in Amarillo over the weekend and came home with the equivalent of a third-place win.

In pool play, Dimmitt THE DIMMITT BOBBIES competed at the San Jacinto Tournament over the weekfell to the Amarillo Rockets, 25-12, 25-14, then came back to defeat Ascension Academy, 25-20, 25-19. They then lost to El Paso Bethel, 25-23, 18-25, 25-14.

In bracket play, the Bobbies defeated El Paso Bethel, 25-15, 25-19, but lost in the semifinals to the Rockets, 25-17, 25-7.

Head volleyball coach Dene Adams said she was pleased with her team's efforts.

"They did real well," she said. "Last year in this tournament we didn't win a game and it's all the same teams that were in it last year. This year we won two

blocker position. games - that's a big

improvement on our part." She said outside hitter Dani Neri provided muchneeded help at the middle

Thursday, Sept. 1

Friday, Sept. 2

- Here - 7:30

6:30

Football: JV @ Farwell -

Football: Varsity – Farwell

Volleyball: JV& Varsity @

San Jacinto Tournament

ones who are no longer

living are recognized as

well. All in all, the reunion

and golf tournament will be

something to remember for

all who attend. No puedo

esperar para oir todo el

chisme de lo que paso este

ano, siempe es algo bueno. I

can't wait to hear all the

gossip about what happened

this year at the tournament,

Harvest days are just

around the corner. It would

really be great to see more

Hispanics get involved with

the entries this year. Parents,

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it's always good.

"She really stepped up

and had several blocks," Adams said. "Playing a different position in vol-

end. They are, left to right: Mandi Ebeling, Chelsea Buckley, Brandy Smith, Dani

Neri, Clarissa Herrera, Sami Neri, Darcy Fisher. Not pictured in Molly Bradford.

leyball is tough and she did well. That says a lot, her being a sophomore, being able to step up and start for

#### **DISD Calendar**

Monday, Sept. 5 NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY!

Tuesday, Sept. 6 Volleyball: Varsity @ Whiteface - 6:30

Wednesday, Sept. 7

Nothing but EDUCATION on the agenda.

Visit Dimmitt ISD on the web www.dimmittisd.net updated daily!

### HISPANIC VOICE

Continued from Page 3

(Tia Sonia was kind of late getting the news to me). Tia Sonia Garza says that Gabriel was a big surprise to all of the family, but everyone is very proud of Liz and Gabriel and wish them the

I came across Mr. and Mrs. John Nino at the football game, too. They drove down from Memphis, to see John David play his first game. The Ninos have been living in Memphis for quite a few years now and are doing well. Josh is a chaplain for inmates at a prison in Childress and enjoys his work. He also is a deacon at the catholic church in Memphis. I really hope I got all of this info right, I was trying to chase down four little boys at the same time I was talking to them. Not easy to do. Anyway, the Ninos read the Castro County News weekly and say they enjoy reading about everyone in the Hispanic Voice. So, I thought I'd give everyone a little update on how they are doing. Hopefully they will keep in touch from time to time.

The Perez family is gearing up for a very busy weekend. Everyone is extremely busy

getting things in order for encourage your kids to snap the 1st Annual Perez Family some photos, bake some Reunion, which will be held cookies or draw a picture on Labor Day Weekend at and enter it into the fair. It's Rio Grande Valley. a great way to get them Chairpersons for the event interested in something. The will be Joe Perez of San Juan pet contest is always great and Charlie Perez of too and everyone is a Amarillo, both sons of winner. Parents too, get Santos G. Perez and the late those tortillas and tripa David Perez Sr. Treasurer discos into the contest. for the event will be Ofelia Seriously, this is Perez-Venegas of San Juan. community event and The Perezes have been busy everyone should participate. all year planning the event, I'm not extremely talented which will surely be and I can't make tortillas unforgettable. They will be (does that make me a bad enjoying games, food, a wife?), but I've got some dance and, of course, each cute pics of my babies (my other. One of the main kitty cats). Maybe I'll take events at the reunion will be my own advice and enter the David Perez Sr. and Joe some of them. Perez Jr. Golf Tournament. Let me tell you, the Perez Good Luck to all of the family takes this tournament beautiful young ladies who seriously. But, at the same will be participating in the time, they have a blast and Country Queen Contest. I enjoy a little horseplay on have no idea who the judges the green. Many awards and will be, but it's gonna be honors are presented after hard. Those girls are busy, the tournament and loved

> Reminder to the DHS Class of 1995. The 10-year reunion is still scheduled for Sept. 9-10 and there all still many class members who haven't gotten in contact with the organizers. You can get all of the info off of the website. Don't miss out on seeing all of your old friends.

busy, busy getting ready.

Late congratulations to Richard and Bonnie Martinez. Richard and Bonnie celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary on Aug. 11. May God bless you both and give you many more years of happiness together.

Val Caballero y La Tex-Mex Connection performed at this year's Polk Street Block Party in Amarillo. The event showcased many talented surrounding area bands. I've never made out there, but I hear it's the event of the year. There was a great variety of food and music for everyone's liking.

No tengo mas que decir. I have nothing else to say. I have a really busy weekend coming up, so next week's column should be full of interesting info. We'll be celebrating our fifth wedding anniversary and my nephew Mendoza's first Junior birthday on Aug. 26 and my Suegro, Robert Arguijo's, birthday also. So, I'll probably have lots to tell. I hope everyone has a great week. Keep the info coming

angie79027@hotmail.com 647-0106 or 346-3882 Hasta luego.



We honor all pre-need funeral plans from other funeral homes. Mike and Eva Mullins

**Obituary Policy** 

Obituaries are printed in

the Castro County News free of charge and will contain the following types of information: date and details of funeral and place. of burial; date and place of birth and parents names date of marriage; limited biographical information, including the highest level of schooling achieved, service in the Armed Forces profession (and retirement information if applicable); names of relatives who have preceded the person in death; names of survivors (including husband and wife, parents, in-laws, brothers, sisters, grandparents (only the number of grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-greatgrandchildren will be included); and where memorials may be directed. We will be pleased to run a one column black and white photo at no charge. A larger photo or a color photo will cause the obit to be paid. Please keep in mind that everything must be submitted by your funeral home.



# Bobcats fall to New Deal, 42-0

By DAVIE ANN BROWDER

Managing Editor

NEW DEAL - The Dimmitt Bobcats fell to state-ranked New Deal, 42-0, on Friday night, as the Lions rolled up 14 points in the first quarter, 21 in the second and seven in the third period.

"New Deal was bigger, faster, stronger and there were more of them and they were very aggressive," said Dimmitt head football coach Robert Wills. "We got overwhelmed and couldn't recovered.

New Deal out-rushed the Bobcats 289 yards to 80 yards. However, there were bright spots, Wills said.

"Through all the bad, we had some individuals who

performed well," he said. "Diego Salinas played exceptionally well both as a running back and defensive back. And Houston Sutton at running back played well. He averaged 4.5 yards per carry and that's pretty good against this football team.

"We were able at times to move the football on them and we're kind of excited about that."

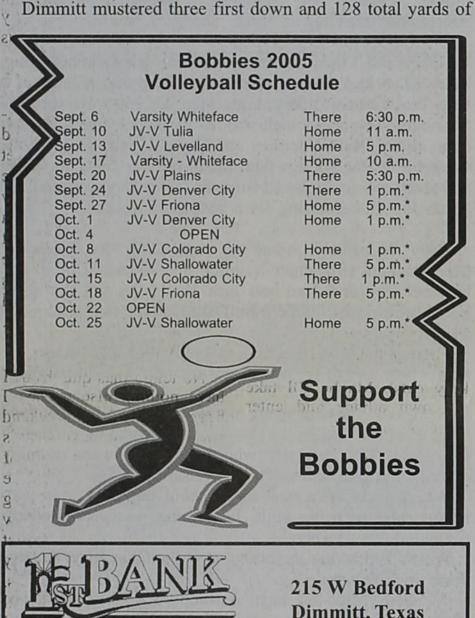
On defense, the Bobcats' technique wasn't where Wills wants it to be.

"We did some things that hurt us early on defense," he said. "We have to continue to work on our defensive technique and get better. New Deal is probably as good a football team as we'll play all year.

"We're going to have to get more aggressive and believe in ourselves. We don't think we're as good as we actually are. When we figure that out, we'll play well."

Sutton led Dimmitt with 53 yards on 12 runs, while Salinas caught one pass for 18 yards. Edward Wait carried three times for 14 yards; Rye Patton had two carries for 12 yards and quarterback Marshall Wills had 11 carries for 11 yards.

Passing, Wills was 2 of 4 for 20 yards. Jordan Bell caught one pass on the night.





Muleshoe Bovina Dimmitt

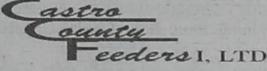
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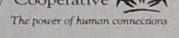
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DIMMITT'S NO. 50 Fabian Diaz, a senior, and No. 8, Edward Wait, a junior, pursue the New Deal ball carrier during Friday's game at New Deal.

offense.

The New Deal Lions had 12 first downs and 507 yards total offense.

Dimmitt lost one fumble on the night and was penalized twice for 15 yards.

New Deal have four penalties for 30 yards. On Friday, the Bobcats host Farwell at 7:30 p.m.

"We match up with them very well," Wills said. "We're just going to continue to improve what we're working on. We've got to improve our execution. I think we're close."



**Edward Wait** No. 8



**Darcy Fisher** 



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# **Dimmitt Bobcats Junior Varsity**

9/1	Farwell	Away	6:30 p.m.
9/8	Abernathy	Home	6:30 p.m.
9/15	Sundown	Away	6:30 p.m.
9/22	Plains	Away	6:30 p.m.
9/29	OPEN	The state of the s	
10/6	Friona	Home	6:30 p.m.
10/13	Olton	Away	6:30 p.m.
10/20	Tulia	Home	6:30 p.m.
10/27	Lockney	Away	6:30 p.m.
11/3	Floydada	Home	6:30 p.m.

#### 7th and 8th

9/8	Abernathy	Away	5/6:30 p.m.
9/15	Sundown	Home	5/6:30 p.m.
9/22	Plains	Away	5/6:30 p.m.
9/29	OPEN		
10/6	Friona	Away	5/6:30 p.m.
10/13	Olton	Home	5/6:30 p.m.
10/20	Tulia	Away	5/6:30 p.m.
10/27	Lockney	Home	5/6:30 p.m.
11/3	Floydada	Away	5/6:30 p.m.



Molly Bradford



**Gerardo Reyes** No. 5

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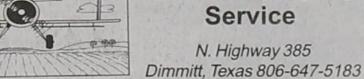
**David Brooks** 

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Duckwall-ALCO Stores, Inc. 401 Cottage Avenue Abilene, Kansas 67410-2832







# Nazareth rips Claude

By DAVIE ANN BROWDER

Managing Editor

The Nazareth Swifts scored five times in their first 10 offensive possessions on Friday night, as they overwhelmed Claude, 63-13.

"I thought our kids played hard," said Nazareth head coach Ricky Peacock. "You worry about it when you get a lead like that, them relaxing, but they continued to play hard. "I was pleased with our offensive and defensive line's

play. They did a good job of controlling the line of scrimmage throughout the game and not letting up."

Zane Farris had a big night on defense with two interceptions, one for a touchdown; a quarterback sack and he caused a fumble.

'Chase (Black) played well on defense," Peacock said. "Some of the young guys that came in played well. It was good they got some time on the field. Eric Book, Brady Schulte and Troy Ramaekers are some backups that got a lot of playing time and showed some good things."

Offensively, junior quarterback Dustin Schulte played well, running the option play from the shotgun. Both Alan and Clifford Gerber each made a couple of good catches, Peacock said.

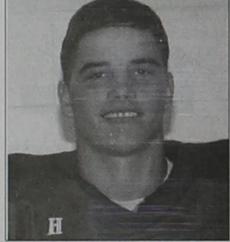
"We had seven rushing touchdowns," he said. "Our running game was in high gear. All our backs looked good."

Scoring for Nazareth were: Farris, two TDs, one on a 13yard interception and another on a 21-yards run; Alan Gerber, who caught a 52-yard pass from Schulte; Josh Braddock, 27 run; Chase Black, 14-yard and 21-yard runs; Brice Sanders, 7-yard pass from Cody Cook; Tucker Waggoner, 7 run; Ethan Hall, 70 yard interception return. Clifford Gerber kicked six PATS, Nathan Huseman kicked one PAT; and Cody Cook kicked a PAT.

Dustin schulte was six of 11 passes for 120 yards and one score with no interceptions. Alan gerber caught two passes for 61 yards and a score; Clifford Gerber caught 2 for 19 yards; Nathan Huseman had one reception for for 19 yards; ross Hunter had one for 15; ramaekers had one for 15 and Birkenfeld had one for 3 yards.

Defensively, the Swifts were all over Claude. Brady Schulte led the team in tackles with 8, followed by Ramaekers, Black, Waggoner and Farris with five each; Skyler Birkenfeld and Tyler Cornett had three each; Clifford Gerber, Book, Keean Lilley and Josh Braddock had two a piece. The game was called with about eight minutes left due to lightning. This week, the Swifts are preparing to host Anton, at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

"We're showing some signs of improvement," Peacock said. "We've got to continue to get better. We're making some progress."



**DUSTIN SCHULTE** NO. 10



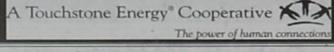
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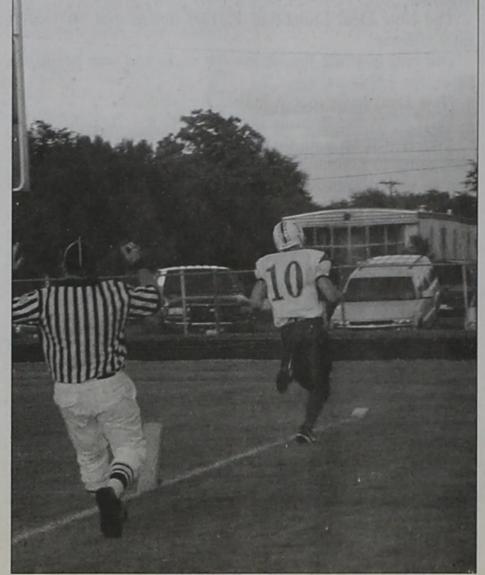
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KDHN 1470 AM



Mark Kleman

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QUARTERBACK DUSTIN SCHULTE, very top photo, takes the ball around right end on a keeper in the second offensive series of the night Friday. Directly above, Schulte crosses the goalline and the referee starts to signal the touchdown Friday night.

Valor Telecom supports the Dimmitt Bobcats and Bobbies, The Nazareth Swifts and Swiftettes and the Hart Longhorns and Lady Horns!

Good Luck!



# 19th Hole

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# **NAZ NEWS**

Continued from Page 3

weekend in Lubbock with their sister, Evelyn Hill. They attended the marriage celebration of Amy Pohlmeier and Jeff McCallister. A great time to visit nieces and nephews and friends! Sunday morning we attended Evelyn's church, Christ the King, and met several of her Lubbock friends. After a delicious, relaxing lunch at Evelyn's, we attended a movie, "March of Penguins." What a wonderful, educational movie!

Henry and Linda Jo Ramaekers are grandparents again. Mary Ellen and Glen Barentine are the proud parents of a baby boy, Colten Landry, born Aug. 23, 2005. He weighed 8-pounds, 12-ounces and was 21.25-inches long. He has three sisters, Hali, Coutrney and Taylor. Linda Jo spent the weekend in Hot Springs with them. Henry, Linda Jo, Kristi and Heidi are going for a visit over Labor Day weekend and Linda Jo will be staying for a couple of weeks.

Betty Wilhelm is home after spending two weeks in Chicago and Cincinnati visiting her sisters, Dottie and husband Don and Jean and Jack Kennevan and her sister Elaine and Joe also came from Dallas, so the four sisters had a great visit.

There is much to see and do in both cities. In Chicago, we took a boat tour to see all the sky-scrapers and old buildings that have been restored. We took a tour in Oak Park, where Dottie lives, of homes where many members of the mob h ad lived. Beautiful old homes that are now owned by citizens of Oak Park. The mobsters who lived there were ordinary citizens, but did their dirty work elsewhere!

We also visited a new high school that Jack was very instrumental in being built. Everything was very moderncomputers everywhere!

We walked across the bridge over the Ohio River to have lunch in Covington, Ky.

We also visited the huge Assumption Cathedral, stained glass windows that are unbelievable!

Back to Chicago to catch a plane back home. A wonderful two weeks with my sisters and being able to see so many different things!

Father Ken Keller is home after spending three days in Canadian with eight other Castro County citizens. They listened to success stories offered by "Home Town Competitiveness," a come back/give back approach to rural community building. We will hear more in the future as we coordinate this through Greater Nazareth 2020 and leadership training throughout Castro County.

We will enjoy seeing our friends from Castro County as we have our "Labor Day Weekend Picnic and Holy Family See NAZ NEWS, Page 2

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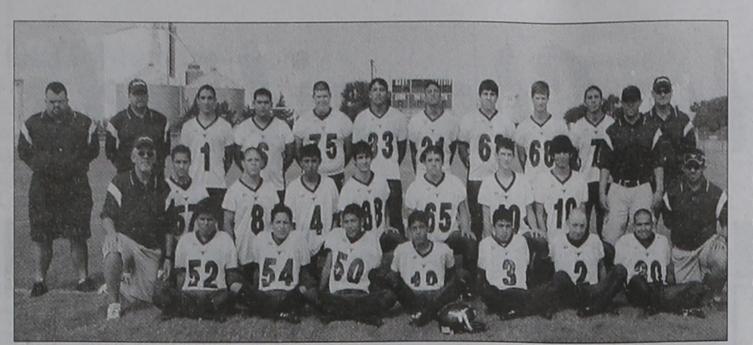
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# 2005 Hart Longhorns

# Kids Inc. sign ups

You may pick up addi-

Also, you may turn in

tional forms at the Chamber

forms early at the DISD

Administration building in

care of Carla Schilling.

of Commerce.

Castro County Kids Inc. will have sign ups for boys and girls soccer and flag football.

Soccer is being offered to kindergarten through sixth grade and flag football is offered to second, third and fourth graders.

Kids Inc. Board members will be at Richardson Elementary from 5 to 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 6, to sign-up children. Please have forms and the \$30 fee.

Depending on the number of sign ups, the board will determine if we can have soccer and/or flag football.

### Nominations being taken for distinguished alumni awards

5 The 2005-06 Hart High again that night at the Homeb School Student Council and coming game with White zisponsors will honor two 5 former Hart High School it graduates with the 2005 Hat nate someone for this honor,

b High School Distinguished contact the high school of-Alumni award. It will be pre- fice for paperwork. Papersented to one woman and n one man and they will be inb troduced at the Homecoming r Pep Rally on Sept. 23 and

Deer.

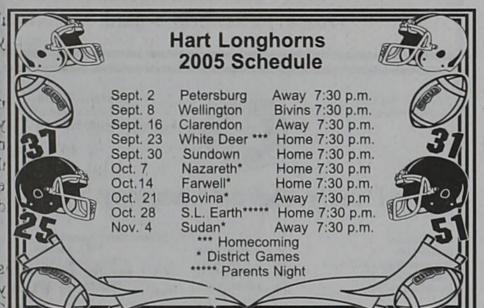
If you would like to nomiwork is due back to the High School office by Tuesday, Sept. 13 The nominees must have graduated before 1985.



Omar Dominguez No. 50



Allen Montemayor No. 75



# Castro Co-Op Gin

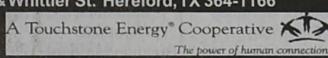
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# TAKS taking more teacher time

By DIGGER ELAM HISD Superintendent

"When worksheets and TAKS drill books are considered an acceptable replacement for creative, dedicated teaching, it's time for me to seek another line of work," said Shari Guthrie, a math teacher from Pflugerville.

Around the first of October the district's test administrator brought her a stack of practice TAKS test and told her that she would administer these to all her students everyday.

The teacher felt overwhelmed because her classes were 45 minutes in length, and these practice TAKS test would take 30 minutes each class to administer.

"We are losing our most inspiring, innovative yes, standardized students," continued Mrs. Guthrie as of the state legislature.

math teacher.

Standardized testing because the Texas Legislature has just turned over a \$755 million dollar

teachers in Texas in favor of check to Pearson Educational a system that produces Measurement (Testing) standardized teachers and Company to administer test through 2010.

Standardized test are she addressed some members here to stay and may cause our inspiring, innovative, I agree with this former and dedicated teachers to soon disappear.

Mrs. Guthrie's and many unfortunately is here to stay other stories concerning too in the form of accountability, much testing can be read in the fall issue of ATPE News.

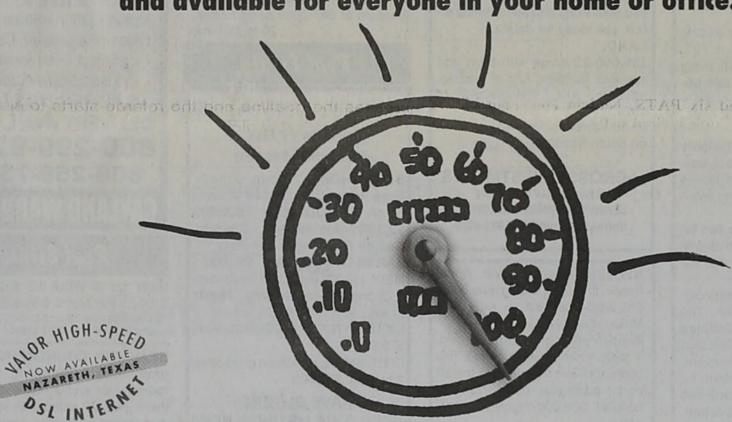
# Longhorns take on Petersburg

The Hart Longhorns had an early bye-week last week after Lorenzo dropped down to play 6-man foot-

This week, the Longhorns will travel to Petersburg for a 7:30 p.m. kickoff.

# 21/12 = 3:40

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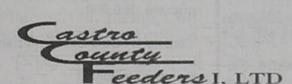
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# Castro County Classifieds

#### Real Estate Homes & Land

#### PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject

dren under 18.

to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discriminationbased on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an Intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. "Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living withparents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of chil-

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#### Real Estate Home & Land

#### **COUNTRY HOME**

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**GREAT BUY-LOTS OF EXTRAS-**2,000 sq ft brick home. 3/2 living room with wood burning fireplace, kitchen, beautiful sun room, new

fence and storm shelter. EDGE OF TOWN- 2 acres-14 X 70 trailer home-1998. Water well, storage building, 20 X 100 barn with two 10 X 20 feed rooms on concrete, box car storage. 1.75 acres

fenced, all frost proof faucets. REMODELED-Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath-living, kitchen, utility room, detached single garage on two

fenced lots-\$35,000. LAND-106 acres with two electric

THREE BEDROOM, 2 bath, living room, kitchen, utility, double garage, fenced back yard, storage building, with a 20' by 30' shop.

**INVESTMENT PROPERTY-Mobile** home park-17 lots and hook-ups. Owns 8 mobile homes and leases 9 spaces. Owner financing avail-

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BEAUTIFUL HOME-approximately 2606 sq ft-3/2.75/2. Two large living areas, remodeled kitchen, new appliances, utility, storage building with basement. Fenced with sprinkler system.

SPACIOUS brick home with two living areas, large kitchen, sunroom, fenced yard, large basement with two bedrooms, living area, lots of storage. Two storage buildings. Separate two room building with bath.

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**Shirley Cornett-Agent** 806-647-5642

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\$95,000-3/2/2 Owner has moved and says sell-fireplace, wonderful location, hot tub, nice shop,

eled. Seller will pay buyers closing

costs as allowed by law.

\$85,000-3/2/2 Basement, deramis tile in kitchen and bath, large corner lot, nice patio.

\$80,000-3/2/2-lots of new paint and carpet, fireplace, corner lot, large

\$70,000-3/2/1-Great home on Pine St., large light parea, fenced yard. \$65,000-3 houses on 1/4 block, lots of income. On the details.

\$55,000-5/3/0-Large country home. You finish and save \$\$\$. Two miles

\$55,000-4/3/2- Lots of house for the money, this home has lots of room, basement, large garage, carport, storage room.

\$53,000-3/2/1- Nice well kept home with extra lot for expansion or shop. \$50,000-3/2/1-Nice home on corner lot,. Secon Come for storage or rental.

\$45,000-3/2/1-Nice home on corner lot. SW-Dignalia. Need to look at

\$40,000-2/2/carport-Wonderful home that has been well-kept. Corner lots with trees and nice storage building, storage camper for camper, etc.

\$39,900-Two homes on large corner lot, owner leaving town. Call

\$36,500-2/2/1 - Large home. Call today for details.

\$29,700-3/1/1-Good location. Needs some repairs.

\$25,000-3/10 ronodeled and ready for new owner. Commercial:

\$80,000- Mobile Home Park with large shop includes five permanent mobile home lots and two mobile homes, all rented. 18 overnight spaces. Lots of depreciation and

\$60,000- Fully equipped Dental office, call today for details. LAND:

\$30,000-25 acres with barn and livestock facilities, lots of grazing, well, etc. Just 7 minutes north of

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HART-314 Ave B-nice 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath home, double garage, central air, lots of storage, good condition.

205 NW 11th-Attractive 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath home, double car garage, central air, lots of storage, good condition.

600 MAPLE-DIMMITT-Lovely 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath brick home, nicely landscaped, corner lot, double car garage, central heat/air, fireplace, new flooring, interior paint and appliances, workshop, many amenities Let's

607 W LEE-Charming 2 bdrm, 1 3/4 bath brick home, nicely landscaped, double car garage, central heat/air, workshop, sprinkler system. 1009 FRONT-Spacious 5 bdrm, 3 bath brick home, double car garage,

central heat/air, storage building, nicely landscaped, edge of town. HILLTOP HOME & HORSE FACILITY-approx. 7.63 acres, exceptional 3-4 bedroom, 2 bath, manufactured home (brick and rustic wood siding), beautiful landscaping, great horse facility w/ horse barns, stalls, training/riding pens & other out bldgs, pipe rail fence throughout.

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600 Maple-Dimmitt-Lovely 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath brick home, nicely landscaped, corner lot, double car garage, central heat/air, fireplace, new flooring, interior paint and appliances, workshop, many amenities. View our website for pics and details.

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19-tfc-min

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\$75,000 CUTE SMALL HOME on good street

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Mary Lou Schmucker

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WELL LOCATED 3 bedroom, 1.75 baths, fireplace, central H/A, 2 car garage. \$80,000 NICE 3/2.75/2 CATP ACYEARS old, central HA 680,000 655 acres in Arney area. 386 acres

in CRP. 2005 CRP goes with sale @ \$350 per acre. 168 ACRES north of Dimmitt. Per-

fect for farming. Own well. \$600/ 160 ACRES-South of Sunnyside. Two wells, sprinkler system. Nice

2 bedroom/2 bath on highway. \$1,300/acre. EXTRA NICE-3/2, basement, sprinkler system like new. Out of town owner says sell! \$78,000

OUTSTANDING HOME-3/2, finished basement, fireplace, many extras. Close to school. \$98,000

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Person to unload bulk railcars. Load bulk trucks. Maintenance and mechanical ability required. Location: Between Dimmitt and Hart. (405)317-

Looking for a driver with a Class A CDL and good driving record. Must be 25 years of age or older. Full-time and part-time positions available. Please call 806-363-2272 for more 19-4tc-32 information.

CDL Drivers needed! Competitive wages and plenty of hours. Apply at Messer Construction, E Highway 60, Hereford 806-364-2762 21-3tc-min TRUCK DRIVER wanted with two years experience. 25 years of age or older. Call 806-276-5617. 22-2tp

NEEDED-Full-time cook with benefits. Experience preferred. 23-2tc-min

Need someone to clean up lot! 945-

#### Ag Services

#### WINTER WHEAT & FALL FORAGE SEEDS

\* NEW FOR 2005 \* **Rust Resistant Varieties** TAM 111 • Jagalene • Cutter \* WHEAT \*

Dumas • TAM 110 • TAM 400 TAM 105 • TAM 302  $\star$  BEARDLESS WHEAT  $\star$ 

Longhorn • Russian Beardless Weathermaster 135 \* BARLEY \*

Tambar 500 \* TRITICALE \* **Bobcat Beardless Blend** 

Presto • T-23 • Full Season Trit Blend • Tamcale 5019 \* GRAZING BLENDS \*

Bobcat Beardless Trit Blend Full Season Trit Blend Custom Order Grazing Blends

\* RYE \* Maton • Elbon • Strain Cross Oklon · Registered, Certified or Select Seed Available

LIMITED SUPPLIES! **BAGGED OR BULK** DELIVERY AVAILABLE 800-299-9273

#### 806-258-7394 **GAYLAND WARD SEED**

#### Real Estate

NEW '05 16' WIDE 3/2 \$1200 Down \$197.19 Per Month 888-539-7780. \*\* \*\$22,900 sale price-5% Dn \$21,700 to finance 300 months 9.99 APR-Se habla Espanol.

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOME: Ap-

proximately 4,500 sq. ft., four bedrooms, four and a half baths, basement, plus 20 acres with large barn, dual corral and grain elevator. For appointment call 806-647-2623 or 806-647-7063.

FOR SALE-Lot 5 and lot 6. 303 5th Street NE 301 5th Street NE 214-943-9205 22-14-min

#### Subscribe Today!

Only \$21 for a full year if you live in Castro County. Call 647-3123 for other rates!

PRICE LOWERED to \$99,500. 1011 Oak Street, nice 3 bdrm 2 1/2 bath house with large utility room, seperate dinning room and basement. Nice sunroom onto back of house with built in shelves, storage bldg in back yard. Please call Carolyn at 806-364-4561 for appointment.

Nice two or three bedroom house located at 1101 Howe Street. Formal dinning room can be 3rd bedroom. Large family room built on back of house with side storage. Single car garage with large carport and extra driveway. Must see to appreciate. \$50,000

Century 21 Gold Star Real Estate

Carolyn McDonald

806-364-4561

NEW '05 28X 80 4/2 Just \$2, 795 down. \$427.62 per month \* 800-830-3515 .\*\$55,900 sale price-5% Dn \$53, 105 to finance 300 months 8.5 APR-Se habla Espanol.

Over 50 repo'd mobile homes tp choose from. Financing guaranteed. Call now...888-539-3515.

CALL OUR 24 HOUR hot-line to see if you qualify for a home loan. 1-800-375-8739.

HOUSE FOR SALE-3/2.75/2 brick home. 3,200 sq ft total living space, large walk-in closets, 2 fire places, basement under garage, central heat and air with heat pump new in 1996, metal roof and eave trim new in 2003, large trees, circle drive, wood and brick fence. Call 806-986-4373 for appointment to see.

#### For Sale

FOR SALE-Rebuilt 100 HP Newman Electric Irrigation motor with switch panel and restart. Call 9806-265-21-2tp-min

#### Want Jo Buy

Want to purchase minerals and other oil/gas interests. Send details to: PO Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201 42-2005-52tp

### Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Judges of the 64th and 242nd Judicial District Courts will conduct a public hearing as required by Local Government Code, Section 152.905. At this time, parties in interest and citizens have an opportunity to be heard on the issue of annual compensation of the Castro County Auditor. The District Judges will be setting the annual compensation of the County Auditor and setting the budget for the County Auditor's Office. The hearing will be conducted in the district courtroom on the second floor of the Castro County Courthouse in Dimmitt, Texas at 5:00 p.m., Monday, September 12, 2005. 23-1tc-124

#### DIMMITT ISD SUBSTITUTE IN-SERVICE

A substitute in-service meeting will be held at the Dimmitt ISD Administration Building located at 608 W. Halsell on Thursday, September 8, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. Any person who did not attend the last meeting and desires to substitute will be required to attend this meeting and they are reminded to bring their Driver's License and Social Security Card. 23-2tc-64

#### **Notices**

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 647-4594

Will do odd jobs such as tree trimming, painting, yards mowed or just cleaning your yard. If you need a helping hand, call Josh at 346-3882. 21-3tp

#### CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE CLASSES

Beginning September 19th Pre-registration is required Runningwater Draw Care Center 806-285-2677

22-4tc-30

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fairly well. Free to a good home. 945-

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www.herbal-nutrition.net/

#### Wanted WANTED-canning jars-any size.

20-4tp-min

23-1tc-23

**Lift Master** 

647-2219 23-1tc-nc Garage Sale Saturday from 8:00 to 5:00.

Children's clothes, toys, king size

mattress, king size headboard, men

and women's clothing, candles ect.

# **C&N Overhead Garage Door**

733 Oak.

scg4herbs4life

706 SW 3rd St Dimmitt, TX 79027

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Repair service on all models Residential \* Commercial

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315 S. Broadway **Dimmitt, Texas** 

647-5244

Nicho Triana

cell-(806) 240-0768

#### **Brooke Insurance & Financial Services**

Todd Pebsworth, Agent Robin Pebsworth, Agent

IN CONTINUOUS OPERATION SINCE 1909



Marsha Cobb

# Hale County Abstract Company, Inc.

Drawer 1149 Plainview, Texas 79073-1149 Phone (806) 293-3674 Fax (806) 293-7991

100 W. Bedford Street Dimmitt, Texas 79027 Phone (806) 647-3154 Fax (806) 647-4588

Swisher County Abstract Bidg. 118 S. Maxwell Tulia, Texas 79088 Phone (806) 995-3564 Fax (806) 995-3590

#### **Nelson Well Service** License # 54758PKT

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Fencing Material Plumbing Supplies **Decorator Supplies** Electrical Armstrong Linoleum Designing Service

Building

Financing Insulation Supplies **Building Material** Merchants All Types Roofing

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309 N. Main Hereford, Texas 364-4287

We loan \$100-\$520 subject to our usual credit policy

SUNESANPANY

Summer vacation time is here!

Come by 309 N. Main and visit with one of our staff.

and Tax Services

#### **DISD Menus**

Friday: Breakfast - State Fair pancake and sausage on a stick with syrup or cereal and apple cinnamon loaf. Lunch - Barbecue brisket on bun, chicken and dumplings, shepherd's pie, potato wedges, collard greens, broccoli with cheese sauce, tossed salad, cole slaw, pasta salad, fresh fruit, fresh Danish, melon, cornbread, biscuits.

Monday: NO SCHOOL Tuesday: Breakfast -Peanut butter/strawberry jelly sandwich or cereal and blueberry muffin. Lunch - Fajitas with peppers and onions, Chinese egg rolls, turkey and noddles, frijoles refrieto, rice dressing, peas, tossed salad, taco condiment salad, watermelon, fresh fruit, fresh melon, flour tortilla, crack-

Wednesday: Breakfast -Donut with peach cup or cereal and Honey Bun. Lunch - Meat loaf with Creole sauce, fried chicken, burrito with chili, butter beans, parsley buttered potatoes, broccoli/cauliflower, Mexipinto beans, tossed salad, taco condiment salad, fresh melon, fresh fruit, tossed salad, taco econdiment salad, rolls, cowboy cornbread.

Thursday: Breakfast -Grilled cheese sandwich or cereal and apple muffin. Lunch - Chicken fillet strips, enchilada casserole, pepperoni pizza, mashed potatoes, frijoles refrieto, green beans, tossed salad, taco condiment salad, fresh fruit, fresh melon, carrot/ celery/raisin salad, rolls, arroz Mexicano.

#### NISD Menus

Friday: Breakfast - Sausage on roll, cereal. Corn dogs, Lunch chicken strips with bread, broccoli and cauliflower salad, rice, peaches, strawberry shortcake.

Monday: NO SCHOOL Tuesday: Breakfast -French toast, sausage, cereal. Lunch - chicken nuggets, steak fingers, bread, tossed salad, potatoes, fruit cocktail, Rice Krispie treats.

Wednesday: Breakfast -Breakfast pockets, cereal. Lunch - Chicken spaghetti with rolls, chef salad, tossed salad, corn, pears, Jello.

Thursday: Breakfast -Sausage and pancake on stick, cereal. Lunch -Ham sandwich, corn dogs, potato wedges, lettuce, macaroni salad, green beans, grapes, cookies.

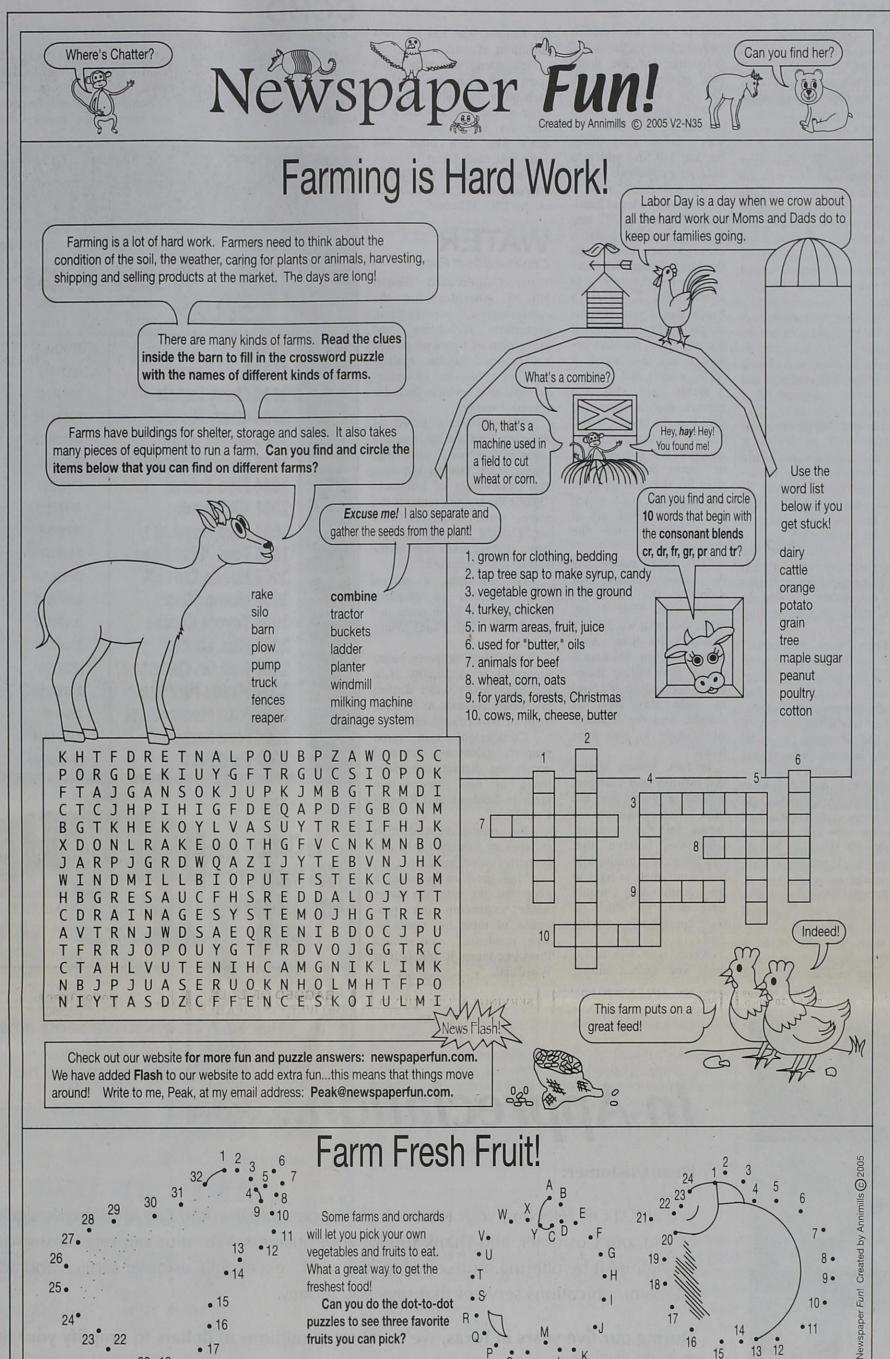
#### Imagine Growing Together: You and Monsanto. Imagine Ideas Growing Through Creativity and Teamwork.

The people of Monsanto are creating breakthroughs in science to improve both crop and animal agriculture around the world. Monsanto has a position open for the following in our Dumas,

SEED TECHNICIAN Responsible for all factors of the sorghum foundation production. Crop Production, Field Work, Harvesting, Conditioning, Packaging, Warehousing and Maintenance. Production growing area is located 120 miles from plant, so travel and overnight stays are a must. Must be a High School graduate or higher and an agricultural background preferred. We seek a motivated self-starter with excellent teamwork and communication skills. Spanish language both verbal and written proficiency is desirable.

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### What's the Law?

. 17

Vioxx suit awarded \$229 million in punitive damages. Then I read that only about \$1.6 million would be awarded. What happened?

A. What happened is that Texas, like many states, caps damages. In the Vioxx suit, the plaintiff was awarded \$450,000 for economic of damages to twice the amount of economic

Q. I read that the jury in the damages, plus up to Vioxx suit awarded \$229 \$750,000 of damages for

mental anguish. In the Vioxx trail, the plaintiff will not be able to recover more than twice \$450,000 [\$900,000], plus \$750,000. The jury may punitive damages, and the have awarded \$229 million, cap is based on the economic but the most the plaintiff will receive is about \$1.6 million.

Q. I am single and just bought a home with \$100,000 damages. Our punitive I inherited. If I get married damage cap limits the amount and divorced, will my husband be entitled to half

fruits you can pick?

the house? A. The house is your separate property and your husband will not have an interest in it. When a couple gets divorced, the court divides all of the community property.

Generally, this includes everything either of you obtain after you are married. Property you owned prior to marriage or property you inherit during marriage, however, is separate property and is not divided as part of the divorce. To insure that your interest is protected, you may want to talk with a family law attorney about entering into a premarital contract, clearly spelling out your rights.

Q. My landlord has locked me out and is holding my possessions hostage until I pay rent. What can I do?

A. Let your landlord know you know the law and that this is unlawful. If you do not pay your rent, the

landlord may change the

locks on the door but he must you get into your apartment. make a key available 24 If that does not work, you hours day. You should should go to the Justice of the request a key from your Peace and file an Application landlord.

If he does not let you in or The Writ of Reentry is an

for a Writ of Reentry.

13 12

15

give you a key, you may order from the Court to let want to call the police to help you back into the apartment.

· Emergencies seen promptly

Insurance and credit cards



accepted OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Thurs.: 8 am-5 pm; Friday: 8 am-noon 320 E. 8th St. • Littlefield • 385-6935

**Hart Menus** 

Friday: Breakfast - Scrambled eggs, biscuits and sausage, cereal. Lunch - barbecue beef on bun, corn dogs, pinto beans, tossed salad, carrot sticks, fresh fruit, sugar cookies.

Monday: NO SCHOOL Tuesday: Lunch - Bean burrito, chicken fajitas, refried beans, tossed salad, pears, peaches,

Wednesday: Lunch - Corn dogs, sloppy joe on a bun, potato puffs, tossed salad, peaches, sugar cookies. Thursday: Enchilada casserole, bean burrito, tossed salad, carrot sticks, dill pickles, Jell-O.

Continued from Page 1

"They blew those docks to pieces."

Next it was to the Philippines where he helped as the Americans retook Luzon.

"I was in the first wave carrying men onto Red Beach," he said. "Of the first 10 landing craft in, I was the only one that made it off the beach. After several days of carrying troops to the beach, the landing craft were used to carry C and K rations to the men and bring wounded men back to the hospital ships.

"We were there nine days and Tokyo Rose told us the Japanese Navy was on its way to destroy us," Webb said. "But Mr. Halsey and Mr. Nimitz changed their minds."

After that, Webb drove his landing craft as we took Okinawa. Before he could land however, the battleships and cruisers had to spend a day firing at the 8x8 wall that the Japanese had built on the beach.

And it wasn't just the Japanese Navy that our men had to contend with. It was the kamikazes - suicide pilots trying in vain to stop the Allies.

"They were desperate," Webb said. "The ship next to us - a kamikaze went down its No. 3 hole, but it had already dropped its bombs, so they just lifted the wreck out and dumped it overboard. The ship I was on shot down four kamikazes."

After that, his ship went back to the states to load up and return for the planned invasion of the Japanese homeland. However, while he was back, the first atom bomb was dropped, Aug. 6, 1945, on Hiroshima. The second one was dropped Aug. 9, on Nagasaki.

Brown had also made it back to the states and was stationed in Oklahoma, but

said he and his buddies stayed close to the radio, believing that the dropping of the bombs meant the war was soon to end.

"There were a lot of mixed emotions," he said. "It was a pretty scary thing, but we felt the end was near, so we were all elated.

"It had been such a vicious war - a lot of handto-hand combat. I saw many wounded Americans go back home with the loss of arms, hands.

"So when the treaty was signed Sept. 2, it was a happy day. I was anxious to get home. Although it seemed like forever before I was discharged, it really wasn't that long."

Webb said that the powers that be were so sure that the bombs would end the war that part of the material for the invasion of Japan was removed from his ship and replaced with rum and coke, which his ship dropped off at Pearl Harbor for the officers club.

"I've heard people say we were ruthless for dropping the A-bomb," Webb said. "But I say thank God that we did or I wouldn't be here. Anytime you can brainwash people into killing themselves for a cause, it's hard to fight that kind of people. And the Japanese were ready to give their lives."

In fact, history shows that women and children, as well as young and old men, were training in Japan for the invasion. Observers believe that had Emperor Hirohito told his countrymen to fight to the death, they would have done so, since he was considered a living

Webb, who was called back and served during the Korean War has his own definition of war:

"It's young men who don't know each other, don't dislike each other, but who kill each other on the orders of old men who do know each other, don't like each other, but don't kill each other."

World War II in the Pacific officially ended Sept. 2, 1945, on the USS Missouri.

# WATER

Continued from Page 1

Water Conservation District No. 1 provides for the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging, and prevention of waste of ground water stored in the Ogallala aquifer within its 15-county service area, which includes Castro County.

"The district's board of directors kept the tax rate the same as last year," said High Plains Water District Manager Jim Conkwright of Lubbock. "While the tax rate remains the same, some taxpayers may see a slight increase in their water district taxes if property valuations increased."

For example, a person with \$100,000 in property value pays \$8.30 in taxes per year to the High Plains Water District.

If the 2005 property value increased to \$110,000, then the individual's water district tax would increase to \$9.13 a year, or an extra 83 cents.

Conkwright said most property valuations increased across the district, especially those in new construction areas in Lubbock and Randall Counties.

Also, areas of oil production in Hockley County likely had property value increases.

"It's great to be able to keep the tax rate the same while expanding our programs to meet the needs of area residents," said Board President James P. Mitchell of Wolfforth.

#### CCHD

Continued from Page 1

tremendous benefit, Rasor said.

She also noted that grant funding is also being researched.

"This will be such a positive step for our facility and community," she said. "It is exciting to move forward and provide the county and

surrounding areas with up to date equipment and a modern facility. It will also aid in economic develop ment for the county."

# LOVE THOSE EMPLOYEE DISCOUNTS -

STOCK #

FE186411

OA925001

OA531243

DA127958

DE533469

FP122391

ZP182246

Æ391855

OA281370

OA036709

OP471015

OP195528

DA007659

JA276146

OA187882

ZP014694

XAA96014

XAA82636

1999 Jeep Grand Cherokee SPECIAL FINANCING ALWAYS AVAILABLE

**2003 Ford Taurus** 

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2001 GMC Jimmy

2003 Ford Mustang

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2005 Nissan Sentra

**2004 Toyota Corolla** 

2000 Jeep Gr. Cherokee

2002 Mits. Montero Spt

2001 Mazda MPV van

2003 Mits. Lancer

2004 Ford Ranger

2003 Ford F150

2005 Dodge Stratus

MODEL

mo\*\*

2002 Ford Taurus mo FA277872

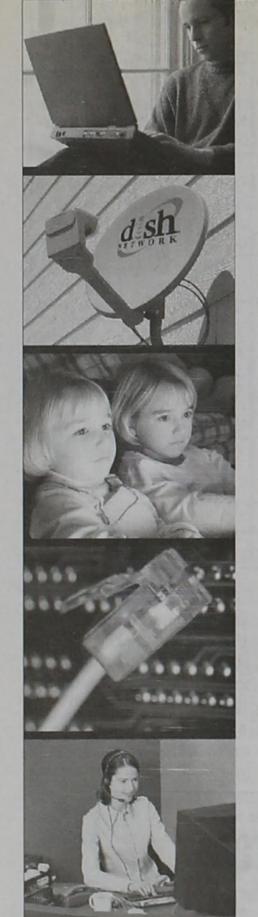
USED!

PAYMENT \$299/mo \$259/mo \$199/mo \$229/mo \$279/mo \$259/mo \$238/mo \$320/mo \$199/mo \$319/mo \$279/mo \$299/mo \$199/mo \$249/mo\*\* \$249/mo \$369/mo

\$339/mo \$329/mo

In Clovis: next to K-Bob's 762-3300





# In Appreciation...

#### **Dear Customer:**

We at VALOR Telecom, your local telephone company, would like to acknowledge the importance of you, our Customer, and Thank You for your business. We value our relationship and wish to strengthen it by offering more of what you want: excellent Customer service and advanced telecommunications services that save you money.

During our five years in Texas, we've invested millions of dollars to simplify your life. For example,

- Thousands of our Customers enjoy High-Speed DSL. We're bringing DSL to more communities soon.
- Our state-of-the-art network provides advanced calling features, bundled with VALOR Long Distance, DSL and DISH Network® Satellite — at great prices, on one bill.
- We've added automated, 24X7 account access. New, Customer online solutions are coming soon at valortelecom.com.

#### VALOR is also connecting with community in important ways.

- We support local activities, such as United Way.
- Our Community Leader Scholarships invest annually in local youth and future leaders.
- Our VALOR Volunteers live and work in the communities we serve.

At VALOR Telecom, we're steadfast in our commitment to serve you well — now and in the future.

THANK YOU for allowing us to consider you our valued Customer.

Sincerely,

Jack J. Mueller

President and Chief Executive Officer **VALOR Telecom** 





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# You haven't got much time.

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This is without a doubt. the best offer Ford has ever extended to the public. Don't miss your opportunity.

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION-EITHER COURT CLERK OF THE COURT OR PETITIONER Joyce M. Thomas 100 E. Bedford Dimmitt, TX. 79027

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY The State of Texas 100 E. Bedford Dimmitt, TX 79027

#### THE STATE OF TEXAS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

To La Herrandura, Defendant, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's original notice of seizure & intended forfeiture petition at or before ten o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after the expiration of twenty days after the date of issuance of this citation the same being Monday the 17th day of October, A.D., 2005 before the Honorable Court of Castro County, Texas at the Court House of said County in Dimmitt, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 28th day of February, 2003, in this case, numbered B8037-0302 on the docket of said court, and styled, The State of Texas Plaintiff, vs. 1989 Chamberlin Semi-Trailer, OK Tag (fictitious) 1058 CM VIN# 1C1MAFZD2AB213056 Defendant.

The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: The State of Texas, Plaintiffs and Ismael Flores, Cecilio Ontiveros, Eagle Trailer Rental and Leasing and La Herrandura are Defendants.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: \* Suit to forfeit the 1989 Chamberlin Semi-Trailer, identified above as contraband as provided by Texas Code Criminal Pro. Ch. 59. as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

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

Issued and given under my hand and the Seal of said Court, at office in Dimmitt, Texas, this is the 19th day of August, A.D. 2005. Attest

> Joyce M. Thomas Clerk District Court, Castro County, Texas By Carlene Long, Deputy

#### **Bobcat Fan Award winners**

These are the students that were awarded the ""Bobcat Fan Award"" last week: kindergarten, Sydney Settle, James Dean Gregory; first, Marissa Fernandez, Pilar Quintana; second, Lindsey Burris, Matthew Oltivero; third, Maria Olmos, Wesley Lindley; fourth, Emily Mireles, George Valasquez; fifth, Elida Bonilla, Gino Saucedo; sixth, Jesslyn Smith, Brandon Hart; seventh, Karina Abrego, Michael Shea; eighth, Elizabeth Jackson, John Wait; ninth, Viviana Quiroz, Alex Salas; 10th, Jill Gonzales, Henrico Cilli; 11th, Jessica Castillo, Victor Ortiz; 12th, Ivy Sanchez, Jordon Bell.

# **Community Calendar**

**Dimmitt Fire Fighters** 'fired up' to help MDA

On Friday, Sept. 2, Dimmitt Fire Fighters will hit the town in the annual Muscular Dystrophy "Fill the Boot" campaign. The firefighters will be on the streets with their boots so motorists may give their dollars and change to help firefighters in their support of MDA. Also, look for your local heroes in the Dimmitt schools collecting funds to help the MDA. In 2004 during the "Fill the Boot" program, Dimmitt firefighters raised about \$1,500 for area children and adults battling neuromuscular disorders. MDA helps children and adults who are affected by any of 43 neuromuscular diseases.

Money raised by MDA goes toward our local clinic at Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital, support groups, medical equipment and repair and summer camp at Ceta Canyon for children with muscular dystrophy.

Please take a moment to drop some cash into a boot when you see your area firefighters out on the streets.

> **RES** early release on Friday, Sept.

Richardson Elementary will have an early release on Sept. 2 at 12:40 for students.

Early release is for Richardson Elementary only. Buses will not run until 3:45 PM.

Arrangements will be made to supervise students that ride a bus, or cannot be picked up until the normal release time of 3:45 PM.

Richardson Elementary staff will have professional development that afternoon until

Monday, September 5 (Labor Day) is a school holiday.

Harvest Days Sept. 8-10

The Castro County Harvest Days will be Sept. 8-10 at the Castro County Exposition Center, 405 SE 4th St., in Dimmitt.

Thursday night will feature a Teen Queen Pageant, tractor pull and a pet show. Queen contest is 7 p.m. with the pet show set for 5:30 p.m. and the pedal tractor pull at 6 p.m. Friday is football game night.

Fair entrees will be due and judged and booth set-up will begin setups on Friday. Registration will be until 6 p.m. Friday and judging of the fair exhibits will take place also at 6 p.m.

Vendors and craft booths will have a chance to set up until 9 p.m.

On Saturday, most of the events occur, including Harvest Days Parade, 10 a.m.; Fiddlers' Contest, 1:30 p.m.; and Lawn Mower Races and Water Polo. Also new this year will be a mechanical bull.

After the Fiddler's Contest, there will be the Best of Parade awards and Cow Patty

Craft and food booths, a petting zoo, rides, a quilt show, traditional fair, a VFW horse shoe pitching and a dance will be included in the celebration.

For more information, contact the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce at (806) 647-2524.

Save receipts, boxtops

The Dimmitt PTO wants the public to know that we have a chance to participate in two programs that allow the PTO to earn free educational equipment and money for our schools

From Sept. 1 through March 31, 2006, the PTO will be able to turn cash register tapes collected from any Lowe's Supermarkets (Dimmitt, Hereford, Hart, Canyon, etc.) into valuable and important educational equipment we otherwise would only dream of getting. Also, all year long you can save all your Box Tops 4 Education found on many Betty Crocker, General Mills, Pillsbury and Old El Paso products. To get our program started, you can help by shopping at Lowe's Supermarkets. Then give your Lowe's register tapes and Box Tops 4 Education to your child, or a child you know, to bring to school for deposit. Ask your neighbors, grandparents, friends and co-workers to collect tapes and box tops too!

Boxes are set up at or near each principal's office. For your convenience, other boxes are set up around town to deposit your receipts and box tops into.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION-EITHER COURT CLERK OF THE COURT OR PETITIONER Joyce M. Thomas 100 E. Bedford

Dimmitt, TX. 79027

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY The State of Texas 100 E. Bedford Dimmitt, TX 79027

#### THE STATE OF TEXAS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

To Eagle Trailer Rental and Leasing, Defendant, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's original notice of seizure & intended forfeiture Petition at or before ten o'clock A.M of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two (42) days after the date of issuance of this citation the same being Monday the 17th day of October, A.D., 2005 before the Honorable Court of Castro County, Texas at the Court House of said County in Dimmitt, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 28th day of February, 2003, in this case, numbered B8037-0302 on the docket of said court, and styled, The State of Texas Plaintiff, vs. 1989 Chamberlin Semi-Trailer, OK Tag (fictitious) 1058 CM VIN# 1C1MAFZD2AB213056 Defendant.

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Attest

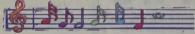
Joyce M. Thomas Clerk District Court, Castro County, Texas By Carlene Long, Deputy



Lowes **Tent Sale Friday and Saturday Only!** September 2 and 3

> 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Lowe's Parking Lot 103 W Belsher Dimmitt, Texas

Band



25¢ Hot Dogs 25¢ soft drinks



**FREE Chile Roasting** 

**FREE Popcorn** 

**Local vendors** 

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# Covering Key To Quality Silage

By Larry Ayers

Southwest Ag Services in Farwell is a full service farm supply and equipment store. They stock all kinds of parts for all brands of tractors, combines, and equipment. If they don't have "it," whatever "it" is, they can get it right away. They repair and custom fabricate all kinds of equipment in their shop. If you need obsolete or hard to find parts, don't despair, call Southwest Ag for a quick repair! They stock all the parts for Caldwell shredders.

In January of this year, Southwest Ag Services purchased the NAPA auto parts and hardware inventory from Hughes Auto Parts in Farwell. With hardware, farm supplies and NAPA auto parts, Southwest Ag indeed has everything for the farm, ranch, home and car.

Wheat silage season is now upon us and Southwest Ag Services has just what you need to pinch every dollar from your silage crop — bunker covers (you know, that white plastic that you see held down by old tires around

dairies and feedyards). Southwest Ag sells *only the best* covers and silage bags by Up North Plastic. In fact, Southwest Ag Services is the West Texas and New Mexico Distributor for Up North Plastic.

According to research done by Kansas State University, one of the key elements in managing silage is to cover it immediately after harvest. This, coupled with the proper job of packing in the pit or bag, is the key for a quality feed ingredient.

Southwest Ag Services has further expanded its service to customers with the all new <u>Southwest Ag Tire</u> Center. If bad tires are holding you up, call the "SWAT" team. They have three trucks on-call 24 hours a day to fix your toughest tire problems, and they have tires for everything from wheel barrows to wheel loaders.

Remember Southwest Ag Services for all your farm supplies, hardware and auto parts. For an easy answer to any farm problem, come by 1017 Avenue A in Farwell or call toll free, 866-481 3395.



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#### OLTON CO-OP GIN OFFERS 4-CENT ACREAGE CONTRACT, PREPARES FOR 2005 SEASON By Shelley E. Huguley

Timely rains and hot weather have Olton CO-OP Gin employees preparing for another record ginning season. Last year, Olton CO-OP ginned 87,409 bales of cotton, its second highest season on record.

"This crop looks a lot like last year's. Now all we need is a hot September and a dry harvest and we'll be in business," says Chris Breedlove, Olton CO-OP Gin manager since 2002.

Olton CO-OP Gin, established in 1944, is owned by about 200 stockholders from Lamb, Hale and Castro counties. For the 2005 season, Olton CO-OP is offering its producers several cotton marketing options.

"Right now, we have a 4-cent equity acreage contract and a FiberMax Pool acreage contract, both of which paid better than selling over the SEAM last year," explains Breedlove. "One of our objectives is to provide ways for our producers to increase their cotton dollar and these contracts will certainly help."

Also helping, is the gin's cottonseed business. In 2003, Olton CO-OP Gin purchased four cottonseed

warehouses, three and one in along the railroad. the warehouses can 32,000 tons of the equivalence of The cottonseed is dairies that use the cattle feed.

"Castro and counties are the fifth largest dairy the state of Texas," says. "And while the



in Springlake
Muleshoe
Collectively,
store up to
cottonseed,
80,000 bales.
marketed to
seed for

L a m b fourth and counties in Breedlove local dairy

market consumes a large portion of the cottonseed, area growers produce more cottonseed than the dairies consume. So, to maintain a more stable market place, we are also railing seed from our warehouse in Muleshoe to dairies in California, the fastest growing dairy state in the country."

During the 2004/2005 ginning season, Olton CO-OP paid its producers \$130 per ton for cottonseed, totaling more than \$971,500 in cottonseed rebate checks.

In an effort to quickly and efficiently pick up modules, Olton CO-OP Gin is running six module trucks this season, says Breedlove. It will also provide an online service at <a href="http://www.oltoncoop.com">http://www.oltoncoop.com</a>, where growers can turn in their modules electronically at the end of each day.

"My gin superintendents and office staff have worked hard all summer to make sure the gin is ready to go at the first sight of a module this season," says Breedlove. "And if this ideal cotton-weather continues, we'll have another bumper year."

Olton CO-OP Gin is a state-of-the-art, high capacity gin that generates 80 bales per hour, 1,500 bales per day. Breedlove says he welcomes new producers to give the gin a try, "they won't be disappointed." For more information about ginning with Olton CO-OP Gin this season, contact Breedlove at 806-285-2525.

#### Forage legumes could help counter sky-high fertilizer prices

By Robert Burns Texas A&M University

As gasoline prices reach for the sky, so do fertilizer prices.

"We're at the point of such high fertilizer prices that people are going to have to learn how to grow forage legumes and manage them properly," said Dr. Gerald Evers, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station forage management expert.

Because nitrogen fertilizer production uses natural gas, its price increase is directly linked to higher fuel costs. Prices for other fertilizers, such as potassium, also climb as transportation costs from mining sites to the farm are also contributing to price increases. As with gasoline prices, the increase has been rapid and dramatic,

Evers said.

Evers noted that in mid-July nitrogen — in the form of ammonium nitrate — was about 40 cents per pound. By mid-August, it was 48 cents per pound.

"That's a 20 percent increase in about a month, and who knows where it's going to go next," he said.

But before they give up on fertilizing, farmers should consider alternative sources of nitrogen, he said.

Legumes can offset high fertilizer prices because they extract nitrogen from the air. As a bonus, legumes have a higher nutritive value than grasses. When over-seeded on warmseason grasses, they can extend grazing five to six weeks and lessen the need for supplemental feeding or hay during winter

months, he said.

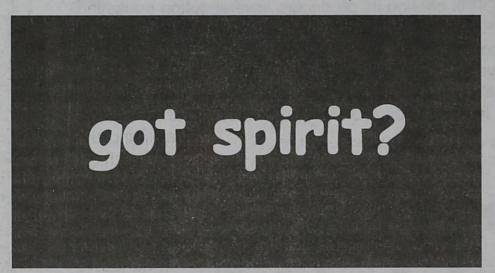
With adequate moisture and good management, a forage legume such as arrowleaf clover can make from 50 to 100 pounds of nitrogen per acre available for the summer bermudagrass pasture.

"Livestock graze the legume ... and return over 90 percent of the nitrogen to the soil as urine and manure," Evers said.

Many producers, but not all, grow some sort of winter pasture already. The most common winter pasture in East Texas is not a legume but ryegrass, he said.

Arrowleaf clover used to be widely grown but fell out of favor due to plant diseases. Arrowleaf seed was mixed with crimson clover seed and grown widely throughout many southern states

Continued on page 33





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#### **High Plains Crop Tour** and Field Day Schedule

August - September 2005

Tour. Contact Terry Millican, CEA-AG. at 432-758-4006.

Sept. 9 — Swisher County Forage Meeting, Contact Michael Clawson, CEA-AG, at 806-995-3721.

Sept. 13 — Yoakum County Crop Tour. Contact Arlan Gentry, CEA-AG. at 806-456-2263.

Sept. 14 — Lubbock County Crop Tour. Contact Mark Brown, CEA-AG, at 806-775-1680.

Sept. 14 — Cochran County Crop Tour. Contact Jeff Wyatt, CEA-AG, at 806-266-5215.

Sept. 15 — Dawson County Crop Tour. Contact Tommy Doederlein. EA-IPM, at 806-872-5978.

Sept. 15 — Terry County Crop Tour. Contact Chris Bishop, CEA-AG, at 806-637-4060, or Scott Russell, EA-IPM, at 806-637-8792.

Sept. 15 - D &PL Field Day, eight information.

Aug. 31 — Gaines County Ag miles south of Lorenzo on the Steve Chapman Farm, 9 a.m. Call 806-740-1600.

> Sept. 16 - Swisher County Crop Tour. Contact Michael Clawson. CEA-AG, at 806-995-3726.

> Sept. 20 - Floyd County Ag Tour. Contact J.D. Ragland, CEA-AG, at 806-983-4912.

Sept. 21 - West Texas Ag Chemicals Institute Annual

Meeting, Holiday Inn Lubbock Plaza Hotel, Lubbock.

Sept. 22 - Bayer CropScience/ FiberMax Field Day, phone 806-765-8844 for more information

Sept. 22 - Lynn County Crop Tour. Contact Bryan Reynolds, CEA-AG, at 806-561-4562.

Sept. 28 — All-Tex Seed Field Day, Levelland, Texas,

Call 806-894-4901 for more





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# TDA hosts town hall meetings across the state

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs will visit with agricultural producers and rural communities at town hall meetings throughout the state to discuss issues impacting rural Texas and the agricultural industry.

The town hall meetings, hosted by the Texas Department of Agriculture, are open forums where producers and community members can discuss issues as well as present their ideas and solutions to the commissioner.

Town hall meetings scheduled include:

#### Friday, Sept. 9

- Childress County, 8 a.m., Fair Park Auditorium, Reunion Room, 1000 N.
   Commerce St., Childress.
- Wichita County, 12:30 p.m., Multi-Purpose Events Center, Ray Clymer Exhibit Hall, Room 8, 1000 Fifth St., Wichita Falls.
- Taylor County, 2:45 p.m., Taylor County Expo Center, Big Country Hall Bldg., 1700 Highway 36, Abilene.

#### Monday, Sept. 12

- Titus County, 8 a.m., Mount Pleasant Civic Center, 1800 N. Jefferson Ave., Mount Pleasant.
- Gregg County, 10:15 a.m., Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Blvd., Longview.
  - Henderson County, 12:30 p.m., Cain Center, 915 S. Palestine St., Athens.
- Nacogdoches County, 3 p.m., Nacogdoches City Hall, Room 119, 202 E.
   Pilar, Nacogdoches.

#### Tuesday, Sept. 13

- Cameron County, 8 a.m., Rio Grande Valley Museum, 2425 Boxwood
   St., Harlingen.
- Webb County, 10:45 a.m., Laredo Development Foundation, Board Room, 616 Leal St., Laredo.
- Val Verde County, 1:30 p.m., Del Rio Civic Center, 1915 Veterans Blvd., Del Rio.
- Uvalde County, 3:30 p.m., El Progreso Memorial Library, Meeting Room,
   301 W.Main, Uvalde.

#### Wednesday, Sept. 14

- · Dallam County, 8 a.m., Rita Blanca Coliseum, 1219 W. FM 281, Dalhart.
- Gray County, 10:30 a.m., Pampa Chamber of Commerce, M.K. Brown Room, 200 N. Ballard, Pampa.
- Deaf Smith County, 1 p.m., Hereford Independent School District Administration Building, 601 N. 25 Mile Ave., Hereford.
- Lubbock County, 3:30 p.m., Texas Tech Food and Animal Science Building,
   Southwest corner of Brownfield Highway and Indiana Avenue, Lubbock.

#### Thursday, Sept. 15

- Walker County, 8 a.m., Huntsville Chamber of Commerce, 1327 11th St., Huntsville.
- Brazos County, 10:45 a.m., Brazos Valley Council of Governments, 3991 E. 29th St., Bryan.
- Washington County, 1 p.m., Blinn College, Student Center Conference Room, corner of 2nd Street and Blinn Boulevard., Brenham.
- Fayette County, 3:30 p.m., Schulenburg Civic Center, 1107 Hillje Avenue, Schulenburg.

"Agriculture and rural communities face so many challenges, and I want to know firsthand about local concerns and issues," Combs said. "Some regions of Texas have very specific needs, and by working with producers, industry groups and community leaders, we can address these issues to ensure that agriculture and rural Texas remain strong throughout the state."

The town hall meetings are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Ryan O'Neal, producer relations specialist at TDA, at (512) 463-4879.

# A SALUTE....

We stand behind agriculture because it's more than a vital component of the future of Texas. It's vital to the everyday lives of families and businesses in and around West Texas, including our wonderful community.

Agriculture fuels our economy, from helping enable us to serve your electric needs to helping stock the shelves at the local market. Every aspect of life in West Texas is made better and strengthened by agriculture.

So, with our sincere thanks and admiration, we salute America's Ag industry and pledge our continuing support of your noble industry. Our cooperative works for you because you work for us.



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Dennis Flowers, General Manager

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Organized in 1935, Farmers Coop of Sudan has served the agriculture community for 70 years, providing crop consultations for all crops at no charge to its customers, and offering a wide variety of ag-related products for same through its farm store.

Among the products available are farm chemicals, fertilizer, tires, tillage equipment, lubricants, all types of

seed, lawn and e q u i p m e n t, clothing, Justin boots, fuel, cotton bearings and lots

Farmers Coop fertilizer and and ground for all In 2004, the



g a r d e n hardware, paint, and Red Wing stripper parts, more.

also applies crop chemicals by air crops.

coop had a record

year, ginning 82,381 bales with record profits returning \$2,500,000 in cash back to customer-owners. And over the past 12 years, the coop has returned a total of \$15,286,155.29 in cast to its customer-owners.

In 2004, we continued to build our history of consistent financial performance. For customers patronage dividends remains one of the most tangible measures of our success," said Dennis Flowers, Farmers Coop of Sudan's general manager.

Farmer's Coop of Sudan remains 100 percent debt free, allowing it to return more profits to stockholders. And upgrading its gin for more capacity and better grades for 2005, allowing the coop to gin around 1,000 bales per day more effeciently than ever before.

JOIN and SUPPORT the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture TODAY.

#### History Notes

In 2001, Texas' agricultural exports totaled \$3.3 billion, with cotton taking the top of the ladder with a total of almost \$465 million, feed grains and related products totaling \$310 million, and wheat and rice products splitting exports of \$165 million.

The previous year, the state's farm and ranch exports were slightly higher at \$3.4 billion.

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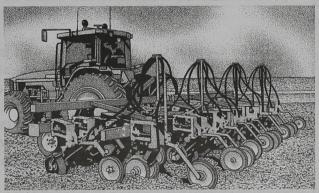
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Dodd Cotton Gin became a member of Windstar Gins, Inc. in March of 2003. Windstar Gins, Inc. started with their first gin in 1977 and now operates five gins including Edcot Gin, Top of Texas Gin, Lakeview Gin and Tule Creek Gin with professional and experienced staffs at each location. Their ginning and cotton marketing skills are greatly beneficial to the area farmers.

Dodd Cotton Gin has updated and improved the inside of the gin and will continue to strive to provide the best service possible for their customers. Robert Boozer is the Gin Manager and Beverly Turney is the Office Manager.

"Give us a call or come by for a visit. I think you will like what you see and if you do, when it comes time, we'd love to gin your cotton and put all of these changes to work for you."

- Robert Boozer

#### Century farm, ranch applications due

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs recently reminded families that the deadline for submitting an application for the 2005 Family Land Heritage Program is guickly approaching.

The program recognizes farms and ranches that have been in continuous agriculture production by the same family for 100 years or more. Applications are also being taken for farms and ranches that have reached the 150-and 200-year milestones.

Families who have their application submitted and approved by Sept. 15, will be able to order their historic farm or ranch gate signs and bronze markers and receive them prior to the holidays. Applications submitted by the Nov. 15 deadline will not be guaranteed delivery of gate signs or bronze markers until after Jan. 3, 2006.

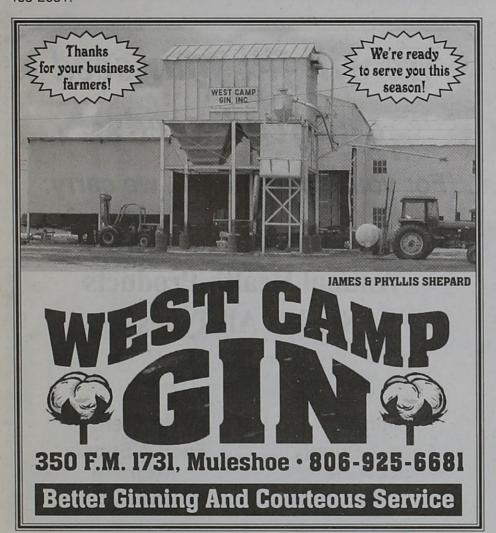
"This program tells the living history of the pioneers who worked the land which provided food, clothing and shelter," Combs said. "And the 2005 honorees will continue to strengthen Texas agriculture through their commitment to hard work and their love of the land."

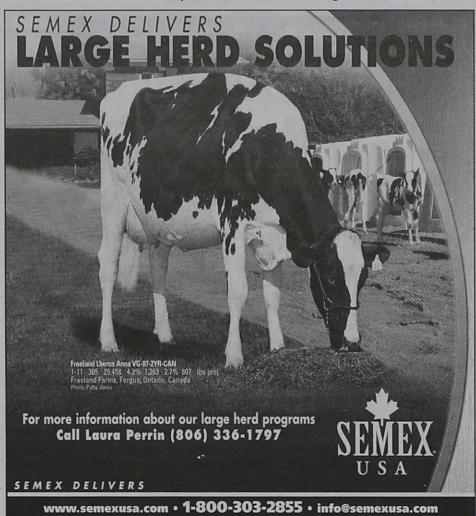
There is no cost to apply for the recognition, and no purchases are required if the farm or ranch is accepted into the program. Acceptance into the Family Land Heritage Program does not put any restrictions on the land nor does it open it for the public.

Farms and ranches that qualify will be honored during a ceremony in Austin on March 17. The history of the farm or ranch will be chronicled in the 2005 Family Land Heritage Registry.

Since the Family Land Heritage Program began in 1974, more than 4,020 farms and ranches in 226 Texas counties have been honored.

Program applications and eligibility requirements are available through TDA, county judges and on TDA's Web site at www.agr.state.tx.us. For more information, contact Family Land Heritage Coordinator Melissa Blair at (512) 463-2631.





# Each day open over 90 days costs \$2-\$5 per day per cow.

(New Mexico Cooperative Extension, College of Agriculture Guide D-302)

Got your attention yet? We thought so. Doing the math, it's easy to see this quickly adds up to staggering economic losses. For example, a dairy with 200 cows and an average days-open per cow of 120 days, the lost profits stack up at \$12,000 at \$2/day and a whopping \$30,000 at \$5/day!

You wouldn't dream of driving your pickup down the road with stacks of hundred-dollar bills blowing out the windows – but that's exactly the scenario if cows don't get pregnant in a timely manner.

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•Strict semen evaluation systems are designed to discard poor quality semen, no matter who the bull is! Semen is processed, frozen and quality-ensured by a laboratory staff with 321 years of combined experience – that's a 15-year average per person! Semex's gold standard for quality is second to none

•Even though our bulls, systems, facilities and people are top-notch, we're not resting on our laurels by any means! Semex, along with our applied research affiliate L'Alliance Boviteq, continues to focus on product research and development, including focused quality management activities, state-of-the-art systems and the development of improved technologies.

The fertility question? Semex settles it!

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#### Nazareth, Dimmitt feed stores offer quality products at a great price

Nazareth Feed and Supply was started in October 1988 by Dwight Acker. Dimmitt Feed and Supply was added in October 2003. The two stores encompass a trade area that includes Castro, Lamb, Deaf Smith and Swisher counties.

"Our motto is to provide our customers with a quality product at a competitive price that will make you, as a producer, more money," Dwight Acker said.

The primary focus of both Nazareth Feed and Supply and Dimmitt Feed and Supply is the sale of bag and bulk feed products for all species of animals, including all types of cattle, horses, swine and dairy, as well as pet food products. Feedyard supplements and health supplements are available as well.

"We also sell top quality hay as well as seed from companies such as Syngenta/NK, Richardson Seed, Browning Seed, Warner, and Frontier," said Acker.

For all your feed and seed needs, call Dwight at Nazareth Feed and Supply at 945-2291 or Dimmitt Feed and Supply at 647-3033. Mobile 647-7218.

#### TCE specialist offers drought dairy tips

By Janet Gregg

Texas A&M University

Drought conditions are still evident in parts of Texas, despite the recent rains, said Dr. Ellen Jordan, Texas Cooperative Extension dairy specialist. That means dairy producers should take action now to deal with forage shortages.

In Texas, dairy country includes the Northeast — where Jordan said drought conditions are still the worst — the area around Stephenville, and the Panhandle.

Jordon offers these tips to help dairy producers survive the drought:

First, feed a balanced, least-cost ration, she said.

"Do not over-feed cows but do feed to maximize net returns or minimize costs," Jordan said. "Feeding for maximum production per cow is not synonymous with maximizing net returns or minimizing total costs."

· Second, cull the herd to get rid of unprofitable cows.

- Third, control replacement levels and, if necessary, sell off some heifers to control feed expenses.
- · Fourth, substitute commodities if necessary. Consult extension agents for help in commodity location and ration formulation.
  - Fifth, book hay, silage or commodities for future delivery at a negotiated price.
- Sixth, learn about the options in futures contracts traded on the Chicago Board of Trade and New York Exchange, which offer dairy producers the opportunity to lock in prices for commodities needed in three, six or nine months.

"Dairy producers interested in using this strategy should seek advice from someone familiar with the futures market and the process of hedging through options contracts,' Jordan said.

· Seventh, control other expenses as much as possible.

The first seven tips are aimed at preventing a worst-case scenario, Jordan said.

"There are some producers who will find dealing with drought creates enough financial stress that they may consider exiting the business, particularly since cattle prices are high," she said. "But I don't expect to have a huge number of producers finding themselves in this position.'

For additional information on drought strategies visit the Web site: http:// texasdairymatters.org

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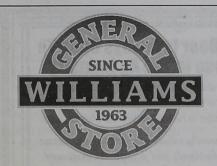
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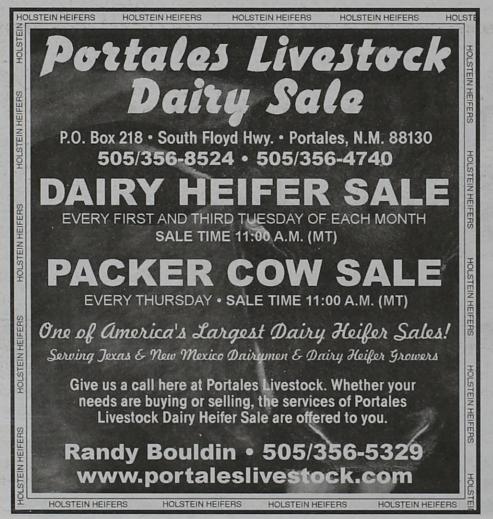
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#### WELCOME

For almost 75 years, Muleshoe State Bank has supported agriculture, both through growth of agri-business and family farms. We are proud to be a major contributor to these endeavors in our community because we do understand that when they prosper, we all benefit. And yes, we will always have our door open to new ideas and ways to create more business opportunities for the Muleshoe and Farwell area.

Besides ag-related loans, including FSA guarantee loans, we offer a full service line of loans, including real estate, commercial SBA guarantee, vehicle, home and home improvement loans as well as personal loans.

We are locally owned and operated and proudly offer a fully trained staff to help you with all your financial needs. Account services include: regular checking, interest checking, savings, CD's, friends free checking and safedeposit boxes for your valuables. With our well-trained staff, we offer Spanish speaking employees at both locations. Besides our well-trained staff, we also offer convenient 24-hour telephone and 24-hour automatic teller service.

We hope you will come by soon and visit us at our convenient locations and thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your future. A friendly smile awaits you at Muleshoe State Bank.

#### USDA seeking input on upcoming farm bill

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is asking for your help in identifying ways to address agricultural issues in the next Farm Bill.

The 2002 Farm Bill (officially entitled the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002) authorizes many USDA programs, including farm price and income support programs. New legislation will need to be enacted prior to the bill's expiration in 2007.

The USDA intends to develop recommendations for the new farm bill and believes that public input is essential to this process.

Written comments may be submitted to USDA online at www.usda.qov/farmbill. Select "Comment on the 2007 Farm Bill," which is the last item located in the middle section, to send your message.

You can also send your written comments by mail to the following address: USDA Farm Bill Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns Office of the Executive Secretariat, Room 116-A Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW. Washington, DC 20250-3355.

In order for your input to be considered, please send your responses no later than Dec. 30, 2005. Comments should address one or more of these six questions:

1. How should farm policy

address any unintended consequences and ensure that such consequences do not discourage new farmers and the next generation of farmers from entering

Continued on page 17

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### Craig Hughes Trailer and RV Center — an evolution!

Craig Hughes has been in the welding and dairy construction business in Portales, New Mexico since 1989, building fences, barns and dairies. In fact, he has built approximately 20 dairies in Eastern New Mexico and West Texas. In January 2000, Craig's business was growing fast and needed more space. The company purchased 13 acres of land on Hwy. 70 and NM 467 in Portales, which allowed the company to dip into other business opportunities.

During the wintry month of January 2000, Craig and his wife, Tina, tested the market by placing three trailers for sale on their new lot, and were pleasantly surprised when they sold quickly. That's when they made the "leap" and began shopping around to find trailers that would be in demand in their little farm town. "There were no other trailer sales lots in the area. Locals were driving cross-country to find the trailers they needed," says Tina Hughes. "We decided this might be an ingenious business prospect."

Craig Hughes Welding became known as Craig Hughes Trailer Sales, and the lot was filled with horse and stock trailers. But, Craig and Tina weren't finished yet. Craig's hobby is drag racing. So, the next step was to launch the sale of enclosed trailers. These trailers come in all sizes and are outstanding for hauling cars, parts, tools, accessories and whatever else you can think of.

Sales took off. But customers wanted to add their own special touches to their trailers. So Craig and his team began customizing trailers. Soon, customized living quarters became the trend. Craig and Tina set their sights even higher.

Next on the lot were motor homes and toterhomes from *Haulmark*. This line expanded the sales area beyond the local market. They have sold these units to people in New York, California, Washington State, Virginia, and Texas, making the delivery themselves. "This was a perfect fit, because these Haulmarks have remarkable towing capacity. I needed that for racing, and other folks need it too," says Craig.

The addition of the Haulmarks meant an expansion of the service team, and the number of people employed by Craig Hughes rose to 40. "When you sell a product, you have to service and do any warranty work needed," states Craig. "We have a topnotch team of technicians on board, getting it done."

To round out the lineup, they recently added the smaller and less expensive Forest River motor homes - the Lexington, the Forester and the Sunseeker, as well as



FunMovers. All can be found on the lot. "We try to keep a large selection of trailers and RV's on the lot at all times. In fact, right now we have about 100 items on display," says Tina Hughes. "Customers like to see and touch what they're buying."

On Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 2005, Craig Hughes Trailer and RV Center, as they are known today, will be celebrating their fifth anniversary and plan to show off their new shop, showroom and offices to the local communities. "You can be sure we'll be getting the word out to everyone — in the newspaper and on our website — about the Grand Opening. We're very proud of our business and look forward to celebrating with our friends and customers," states Craig.



#### Comments sought on USDA farm bill... Continued from page 15

production agriculture?

- 2. How should farm policy be designed to maximize U.S. competitiveness and our country's ability to effectively compete in global markets?
- 3. How should farm policy be designed to effectively and fairly distribute assistance to producers?
- 4. How can farm policy best achieve conservation and environmental goals?
- 5. How can Federal rural and farm programs provide effective assistance in rural areas?
- 6. How should agricultural product development, marketing and research-related issues be addressed in the next farm bill?

Senior USDA officials will host issue-specific forums throughout the nation focusing on these SIX questions. In addition additional forums will address conservation. rural development and nutrition issues. During these specialty forums, the public will be asked to respond questions that are tailored to those subject areas. These questions will be announced prior to the specialty forums and published on the USDA website.

The dates, locations and times of the forums will be announced as they are scheduled and posted on the USDA website. Information on the forums can also be obtained by calling any USDA office.

NOTE: All comments, including names and addresses, provided by respondents are a matter of public record. Comments may be viewed at the

Department of Agriculture. To make arrangements to view comments, please contact the Office of the Executive Secretariat, Room 116A, Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-3355.



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Muleshoe Metal Art specializes in finely crafted metal art decor such as signs, wall art, mirror frames, gate entrances, receiver hitch covers, yard, farm and ranch signs, fireplace screens, mailbox toppers, 3-dimensional cactus garden sculptures and other 3-D metal sculptures among other items.

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Muleshoe Metal Art is owned and operated by Larry and Cheryl Puckett who have years of metal working experience and love creating art with iron and steel. The Pucketts have two employees, Greg Williams and Michael Dean, and all four workers take pride in their work and want you to get more than you expect when you purchase products made by hand right here in Muleshoe, Texas.

New designs and products are added often and can be viewed on the Internet at <a href="https://www.muleshoemetalart.com">www.muleshoemetalart.com</a>. Future plans include producing iron furniture, including bar stools, tables, chairs, beds, floor and table lamps and wall sconces.

Muleshoe Metal Art has a new location — a grand showplace — and we hope you'll come by and see us soon. We're located in the warehouse right next to Leo's Blacksmith at 310 W. American Blvd. in Muleshoe. It's not hard to find, just look for the most unique shop in town!

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"We specialize in poultry feeds and products including gamecock conditioners and supplements," said Duane Castleberry.

Complete Feed & Seed needs, too." carries grains and other feed ingredients — such as whole corn, flaked corn, milo, whole and rolled barley, oats

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other feed lines including Hi-Pro.

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A wide variety of pest products control available at Complete Feed & Seed. Amdro ant killer and

fly control products; equine, cattle. dog and dewormers: flea and tick The store also carries control products; and poison

> for rats and mice are among the products stock.

Complete Feed & Seed offers products for young stock as well, including milk replacer and colostrum, and bottles for calves, goats

and sheep. Pet supply products - such as dog and cat food and wood shavings for bedding, are also

available. And the store carries a complete line of ropes.

"We support our kids and the youth programs in our area." Castleberry said.

"As our first anniversary approaches, we see our inventory growing and want to thank the community for all the support and the business opportunity," said Castleberry.

"We strive to have what you need, when you need it, and try to be very responsive to your needs of seen, feed and animal products," he added.

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### Commentary

#### Eliminating commodity programs reduces net farm income

By Daryll E. Ray

The structure of the 2007 Farm Bill has engendered a lot of discussion at most of the meetings we have attended this summer. Of particular interest has been the impact that trade negotiations will have on the shape of the new farm legislation.

The impact of trade negotiations has generated significant attention since the recent cotton ruling went against the U.S. While not dealing with other U.S. crops, some of the language in the decision makes it clear that government support for other crops might be in danger as well.



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One of the provisions of current commodity support programs restricts those participating in these programs from taking the direct payments and then switching to the production of vegetables and fruits. Because this provision influences production decisions, it could be held to be trade distorting, possibly throwing U.S. direct payments out of the green box (non-trade distorting) and into the amber box (trade distorting).

Some would like to solve the issue of subsidies and boxes by eliminating all subsidy programs in the U.S. and allowing agriculture to respond to market forces. Those who advocate this solution argue that trade subsidies in countries of the global north, like the U.S. and the E.U., are responsible for overproduction and low prices.

Proponents of this view hold that if agricultural markets are allowed to work freely, the agricultural sector will prosper. So that farmers, agribusinesses, and consumers can make efficient decisions, it is necessary to eliminate any government actions that may interfere with market signals.

The expectation is that all market forces — supply, demand, price, and structure — will respond to free market signals and adjust in a timely and efficient manner.

To estimate the potential impact of a policy that involved the elimination of the three major sources of U.S. farm program payments (direct payments, marketing loan payments, and counter-cyclical payments), our office (the Agricultural Policy Analysis Center at the University of Tennessee) conducted a study to see what would happen if subsidies were eliminated. This study is available online at http://www.agpolicy.org/blueprint.html.

Counter to the expectation of the advocates of the elimination of U.S. crop subsidies, in response to the elimination of the three subsidies, total U.S. planted acreage for five crops (corn, wheat, soybeans, cotton and rice) fell only slightly from what would have been expected under a continuation of present policies. By 2011, the five crop acreage decreased by one million acres out of 234 million acres, all of which can be attributed to cotton and rice. This was not unexpected due to the tendency of farmers to plant all of their acres under a wide range of prices and conditions.

Cotton was down slightly less than 900,000 acres from what would have been expected under a continuation of current policies.

Prices for the various crops increased over the 2003-2011 period, but not enough to stop a drop in U.S. net farm income from around \$50 billion a year to \$33 billion to \$36 billion a year, a decline of 25 percent or more.

Government payments dropped by \$14 billion a year, an amount almost identical to the drop in net farm income. For major crop producers, net farm income declines by well over 50 percent. The prices for corn, soybeans, and wheat do not increase while the prices of cotton and rice increase by less than 10 percent in 2011. The general expectation for crop agriculture was that U.S. production would decline appreciably and prices would increase significantly. This was not evident from the simulation. Developing countries were no better off as the result of the elimination of U.S. subsidies than they were under current policies.

This study suggests that the expectations of trade negotiators that developing countries will benefit from the elimination of subsidies may not be realized in the real world.

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### High Plains Water District 2005 tax rate remains unchanged

During an Aug. 19 special meeting, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 Board of Directors voted to adopt a 2005 ad valorem tax rate of .0083 cents per \$100 property valuation. This is the same tax rate adopted in 2004.

"The district's board of directors kept the tax rate the same as last year," said High Plains Water District Manager Jim Conkwright of Lubbock. "While the tax rate remains the same, some taxpayers may see a slight increase in their water district taxes if property valuations increased."

For example, a person with \$100,000 in property value pays \$8.30 in taxes per year to the High Plains Water District. If the 2005 property value increased to \$110,000, then the individual's water district tax would increase to \$9.13 a year, or an extra 83 cents.

Conkwright said most property valuations increased across the district, especially those in new construction areas in Lubbock and Randall Counties. Also, areas of oil production in Hockley County likely had property value increases.

"It's great to be able to keep the tax rate the same while expanding our programs to meet the needs of area residents," said Board President James P. Mitchell of Wolfforth.

Created in 1951, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 provides for the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging, and prevention of waste of ground water stored in the Ogallala aquifer within its 15-county service area. Additional information about the district's programs and activities is available on-line at <a href="https://www.hpwd.com.">www.hpwd.com.</a>

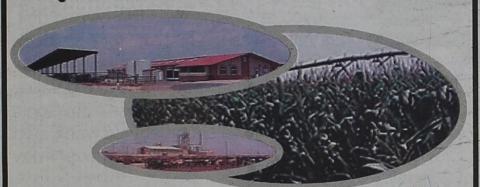
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#### Beef info sweeps into 4-H program

Up to one million Texas kids will have a better understanding of beefs nutrition and health benefits through the cooperation of the Texas beef checkoff program and Texas Extension 4-H instructors.

On Aug. 4, the Texas Beef Council provided updated facts on beefs nutritional advantages in a workshop for the Texas Association of Extension 4-H Agents Conference in Lubbock. The 4-H program's mission is to prepare youngsters from third to 12th grade to meet the challenges of childhood, adolescence and adulthood.

"TBC is making sure tomorrow's adults grow up understanding beefs nutritional benefits," said Erin Worrell, TBC's communications manager. "The 4-H program is a good partner because it works not only with rural kids, but also with urban kids. More than 80 percent of Texas 4-H members live in urban or suburban areas of 10,000 persons or more."

The checkoffs 4-H involvement results from a coordinated national-state initiative. The National Cattlemen's Beef Association used checkoff dollars to generate updated nutrition and physical activity content for two youthdirected manuals published by the National 4-H Cooperative Curriculum

TBC is creating awareness of those materials through the recent 4-H workshop and through a planned direct mail effort. Several of the new checkoff-funded activities targeted to 8- to 10-year-olds appear in the nutrition

In addition, the physical activity manual, with checkoff information directed to 11 to 13-year-olds, explains how nutrient-rich foods fuel active lifestyles. The agents also received information on how to download this information off the Internet for stand-alone uses. The 4-H agents will use these learning aids in regular 4-H activities as well as after-school programs to educate their one million Texas 4-H members.

#### Muleshoe Rotary Club

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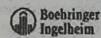
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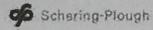


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#### Livestock producers should be aware of transportation regulations

By Tim W. McAlavy Texas A&M University

Summer heat continues across Texas, and recent rainfall across much of the state has boosted forage production and pastures.

Even so, the days are getting shorter and fall is just around the corner — a time when livestock producers contemplate a change of pasture for their stock.

Cattle producers who are contemplating moving their livestock into or out of Texas in the coming months, for grazing or other purposes, should be mindful of state livestock health regulations, said a veterinarian speaking at a recent regional beef and forage conference.

The conference was sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension offices in Castro, Bailey, Lamb, Hockley and Parmer counties. "Tuberculosis regulations are a good example," said Dr. Brad Williams, veterinarian and Panhandle area director of the Texas Animal Health Commission. "Most states in the U.S. were tuberculosis-

free in November 2000. Texas and California lost their TB 'free' status in 2002. New Mexico followed suit in 2003.

"California regained its TB 'free' status this year, and New Mexico is now operating under split status," he said. "New Mexico does require a TB test for all Texas livestock. All breeding stock in Texas and other known-TB states have to be tested before they can leave the state."

The Texas Animal Health Commission provides tuberculosis tests on a fee basis for some 850 dairies and more than 2,000 beef herds in the state, Williams said.

Producers who wish to bring New Mexico livestock into Texas should remember these caveats, he said.

 Sexually intact dairy cattle from New Mexico's accredited TB free area (all counties except Curry and Roosevelt) have to originate from an accredited TB-free herd or be TB tested negative within 60 days of entry. Neutered dairy stock is exempt.

· Beef cattle and bison from New

Mexico's accredited free area do not require a TB test.

- Only Curry and Roosevelt counties comprise New Mexico's modified accredited advanced TBfree area.
- Dairy cattle from an accredited TB-free herd and animals destined for slaughter from Curry and Roosevelt counties require no TB test to enter Texas.
- Sexually intact and neutered dairy cattle from these two counties that are not from an accredited TB-free herd must be officially identified, accompanied by a certificate and show a negative TB test within 60 days of entering Texas.
- Sexually intact dairy heifers less than six months old from Curry and Roosevelt counties may enter Texas under a permit that places them under a hold order, and requires that they be TB tested upon reaching six months of age.
- Beef cattle and bison from an accredited TB-free herd in these two counties or moving directly to

slaughter do not need a TB test.

• Sexually intact beef cattle or bison that are not from an accredited TBfree herd in these two counties must be identified, accompanied by a certificate and show a negative TB test within 60 days of entering Texas.

"Another consideration if you are moving cattle from Texas or Wyoming is brucellosis status," Williams said. "These are the only two states in the U.S. that are not currently classified as brucellosis free.

"In most cases, breeding cattle older than 18 months have to be tested for brucellosis before they can leave Texas. Before you move any livestock out of Texas, be sure and call the state veterinarian in the destination state to make sure you are in compliance with their rules. Texas Animal Health Commission offices statewide can help you make that contact."

More information on Texas Animal Health Commission livestock regulations is available on the Internet at: http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/.

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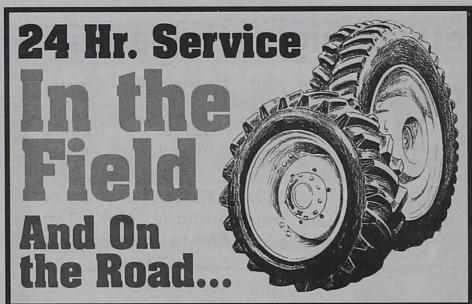
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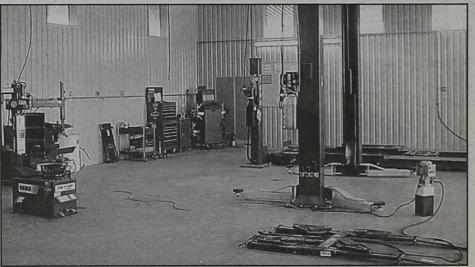
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Randall Gilbert, a native New Mexican, who resides in Clovis, manages Tire Country.

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#### Agriculture facing stiff test during reconciliation debate

By Shawn Wade

With a Sept. 16 Budget Reconciliation deadline looming, members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate Agriculture Committees will have to act quickly to stay on track in the Budget Reconciliation process.

For Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., the National Cotton Council and the rest of U.S. agriculture the goal for the next several weeks is to reinforce the importance of maintaining the structure of the current farm program and that achieving the required savings is best accomplished through equitable reductions across all programs under the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Committees.

House and Senate Agriculture Committee leaders, Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) and Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R-GA), have stated their intention to spread the necessary cuts across all programs and to preserve the structure of current farm law

The U.S. cotton industry shares those goals and will work to ensure that key program components like payment limitations and loan redemptions with certificates are also maintained.

On a related issue, the cotton industry is working to

develop a reasonable timeframe for the eventual elimination of the Cotton Step 2 program. Step 2's elimination is required by the World Trade Organization to bring the U.S. into compliance with the WTO Agreement on Agriculture.

The FY 2005-2006 Budget Reconciliation savings target for agriculture spending is just over \$3 billion over the next 10 years with a first year savings target of \$163 Million.

Upon their return, the House and Senate Agriculture Committees will finalize their spending plans and submit their proposed legislation to the Budget Committee on Sept. 16. Unfortunately, the support of the Agriculture Committee chairman will not be enough to prevent further attempts to significantly undermine the effectiveness of the U.S. farm program by those seeking to change the program outside the structure of a formal farm bill debate.

A regular contributor to these back-door efforts to alter the Farm Bill is Sen. Charles Grassley (R-IA) who is again seeking to make changes to the program through payment limit reform but with a new and broader reaching twist.

Grassley's latest attempt to alter the current Farm Program would halve the amount an individual could receive from the Direct and Counter-cyclical payment programs and also reduces marketing loan program benefits by strictly limiting the amount of loan benefits a farmer could receive when commodity prices are low.

Full access to the Marketing Loan

Program has been a cornerstone of U.S. commodity support programs for decades and is the only farm program element that extends a minimal amount of price protection to all of a farmer's production.

This is especially critical to cotton producers on the High Plains who can experience significant production swings due to factors they have little or no control over and depend on the price floor provided by the marketing loan program.

The coming weeks and months are expected to provide a preview of the challenges High Plains cotton producers and all of agriculture face as they work to maintain the current program during the 2007 Farm Bill debate. High Plains cotton producers will depend greatly on the help of Sen. John Cornyn and Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison and High Plains Cong. Mike Conaway, Cong. Randy Neugebauer and Cong. Mac

Continued on page 28

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#### **About MEDC...**

The Muleshoe Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) is committed to the promotion of high quality development in the Muleshoe Area and to improvement in the quality of life for its citizens.

Formed in 1993, the MEDC has assisted twelve (12) businesses in creations and expansions. The Muleshoe **Economic Development Corporation offers incentives to** businesses based upon job creation and retention and increase in tax base. Coupled with the local government's pro-business attitude, Muleshoe is an attractive location for new and expanding businesses.

MEDC is funded from a one-half cent local sales tax (4A) dedicated to economic development.

#### Reconciliation debate...

Continued from page 27

Thornberry to be successful.

Agriculture has a good story to tell during the budget reconciliation debate. The current Farm Program was carefully crafted to meet the domestic needs of American farmers and ranchers and to fully comply with our international commitments as they were defined at the time of its passage. The farm program is designed to keep U.S. farmers on a level playing field internationally, and to keep them from having to compete against the treasuries of its foreign competitors.

It is no accident that when the playing field is level U.S. agriculture is able to compete for and win new customers while also providing a safe, dependable and affordable food and fiber supply for the citizens of the United States.

Agriculture is the foundation upon which the U.S. was built. The modest investment we make in farm

programs, equal to just one-half of one percent of all federal spending. provides the safety net that protects an economic segment contributing 20 percent of this nation's Gross Domestic Product.

At its heart the Farm Program is a jobs bill just like other important legislative initiatives such as the recently completed Energy and Transportation bills. The U.S. farm program provides critical support to hundreds of thousands of farmers, from the smallest hobby/lifestyle farm up to larger stand-alone operations that provide a majority of the income for one or more farm families.

Yes, farmers benefit from farm programs. Equally important though is to recognize that the industries that provide farmers with the seed, fertilizer, energy, machinery and services necessary to make the engine of U.S. agriculture turn benefit even more.





#### Patronage cash return to Great Plains Ag Credit stockholders reaches new high

The Great Plains Ag Credit Board of Directors have recently paid \$1.376 million of cash patronage to its' stockholder owners and borrowers. The distribution is the highest of record for the lending cooperative and is more than double last year's distribution, according to Dennis Anthony, the Board Vice-Chairman from Friona.

Since 2000, \$8.3 million of GPAC earnings have been allocated to members and \$3.6 million in cash distributions have been paid. Anthony added that the patronage allocation program, which defrays interest cost, is a strong cooperative benefit to producers.

GPAC provides short-term loans through its PCA and real estate mortgage loans through its FLBA throughout the upper South Plains and the panhandle. Loan assets are approximately \$250 million of which nearly one-half are real estate loans.

South Plains offices are located in Dimmitt, Olton, Muleshoe, Friona and Plainview. GPAC originated from the merger of Plainview and Amarillo PCA's, and has served the

region for 73 years. Other area directors are Earl Harkins of Hereford and Dwight Teeple of Lockney.

"The quality of our loan staff is one of our greatest strengths," said Carroll Haygood, the Association's president from Amarillo. He added that they have in depth knowledge of South Plains agriculture and necessary credit requirements.

Haygood said GPAC, as a cooperative operates for the benefit of its member-owners; and that the Association's capital growth is the reason the patronage program has been significantly increased.

Area producers are welcome to inquire about interest rate savings through the GPAC patronage allocation program at any of its' offices.

GPAC is a full service Ag Lender with financing for production agriculture, real estate and agribusiness's. Loans types include farm operations; real estate purchases and improvements; cattle and equipment; feedyards and dairies. GPAC offers numerous interest rate and cash management products; and crop insurance services.



#### Researchers find ways to turn manure into power

By Kay Ledbetter Texas A&M University

Record oil prices and incentives to find alternative fuel sources are lighting a fire under research to turn biomass materials such as manure into energy.

Texas Senate Bill 20, signed recently by Gov. Rick Perry, compliments research underway to determine how and where biomass can be used.

The new law requires more renewable energy to be developed and used in the next 10 years.

Combining consumer energy needs and agriculture industry trends with the legislation will push the research to become reality, said Dr. John Sweeten, resident director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at the Texas A&M University System Agriculture Research and Extension Center here.

Researchers have long worked with manure as a fertilizer and have studied ways to convert it into energy, but this latest push of legislation and research should result in more energy projects becoming a reality, Sweeten said. Research is concentrating on finding alternative uses for the growing supplies of manure, Sweeten said. Irrigated cropland use of manure as a fertilizer is dwindling, but the livestock industry is growing.

Other trends contributing to a potential excess are increasing imports of grain-based nutrients to feed the cattle; less irrigation water; and the switch to crops which use less water and require fewer nutrients.

"Things are in reasonable shape now, but in 10, 20 or 30 years from now, we need to have alternate uses that are not based exclusively on land application," he said.

Energy production has been researched for more than 20 years, but "\$60 a barrel oil recruits a lot of interest in biomass," Sweeten said.

"The question becomes, how do you convert biomass into energy?" he said.

The solid feedlot waste presents a different challenge than the liquid waste from hog or dairy operations, Sweeten said. Researchers are trying to determine what process and what

mix of the product will create the most useable heat and, as a result, energy.

For this study, composite samples of raw/mixed/uncomposted manure from the Experiment Station feedlot at Bushland have been sent for testing at several labs. The manure samples were harvested May 17-June 2 from two types of pens.

One set of pens were paved with flyash, a byproduct of the coal-fired power generating industry, and the other manure was from unpaved pens. The manure was composted and test results from the two showed a large difference for several constituents measured, especially ash content, Sweeten said.

Ash, an unusable material as far as energy is concerned, was lower in the composted manure samples from the paved pens than the dirt pens — 20.2 percent compared to 58.7 percent. As a result, the low-ash manure had about twice the organic matter and heating value, he said.

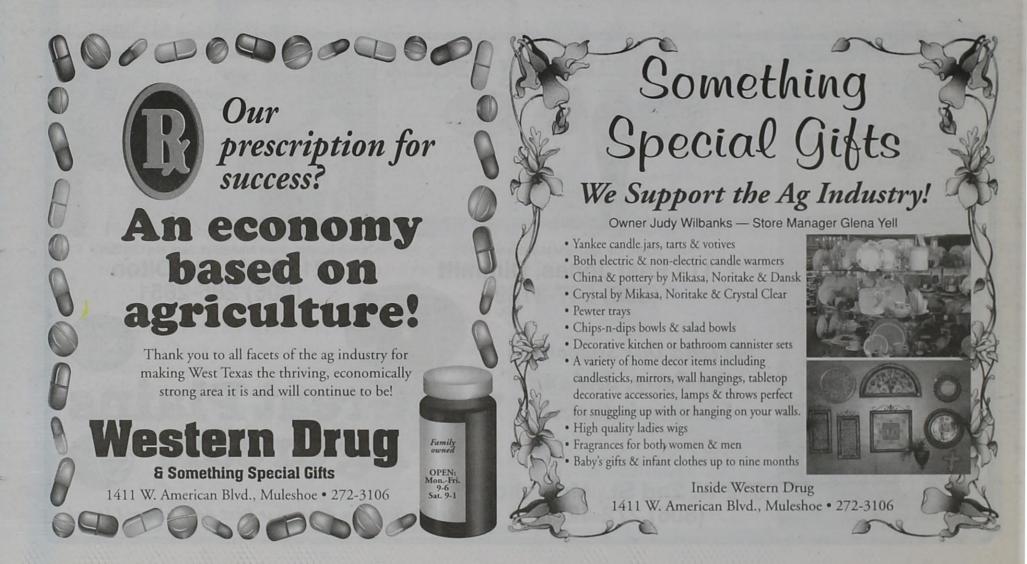
"The low-ash feedlot biomass would be much better fuel than high-ash feedlot biomass," Sweeten said. The problem is, there is not that much of it in the commercial feedlots."

Large bulk samples from the compost pile that came from the paved pens will be tested further in a small-scale combustion testing project in College Station.

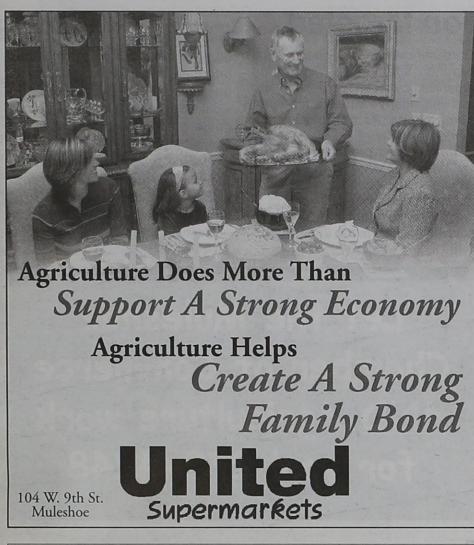
These test results will focus on using pulverized manure samples as reburn fuel in a secondary combustion chamber to lower the nitrogen oxides and specific metal emissions from coal-firing in the primary combustion chamber, Sweeten said.

Another research project involves using the byproduct combustion ash as a fertilizer or construction material, Sweeten said.

"By assuring year-round uses of manure, the cattle feed yards in this area could not only stay current on manure harvesting, but the fuel quality of manure improves with more frequent harvest," Sweeten said. "An even greater benefit is that frequent surface manure harvesting by scraping is an accepted method of dust control."









#### **TAMU Research targets** vegetable production

By Tim W. McAlavy Texas A&M University

Is there a better way to control weeds or grow tastier tomatoes, watermelons or snap beans?

Research under way at the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Lubbock seeks to answer these questions for commercial vegetable producers and home gardeners.

"We conduct applied field research on production methods, weed control options and vegetable variety trials on the Texas High Plains," said Dr. Russell W. Wallace, Texas Cooperative Extension vegetable specialist who holds a joint appointment with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

"We also do some weed control research on field-grown ornamental plants such as cannas, irises and daylilies."

So far, Wallace's research on production practices has centered on using different colored plastic mulches for tomatoes and watermelons. He also evaluates the annual performance of 30 or more watermelon varieties as part of the statewide watermelon variety trials, sponsored by Texas A&M University's department of horticultural sciences.

"We evaluated tomatoes grown on plastic mulches in 2004, and this year we evaluated watermelons," he said. "Plastic mulches help the soil warm up earlier, which can give growers an earlier start with their crops. They also promote uniform growth and are a good tool to use with drip irrigation.

"The theory behind different colored plastic mulches is some colors reflect differing light waves onto plants. We're trying to gauge how plants/crops will respond, if at all, on the Texas High Plains.'

In his 2004 tomato trials, plants grown on silver plastic mulch produced 25 percent more fruit than plants grown on bare ground. Tomato plants grown over red plastic mulch had a yield advantage of 15 percent compared to bare ground — which is equivalent to black plastic mulch.

"We think the silver mulch reflects more light to the plants, which means more growth, fewer insects and less chance of some viruses," Wallace said. "The results of our 2005 watermelon mulch trial are not fully tabulated yet, but we did get excellent early growth over blue and yellow mulches... better than with black plastic mulch."

Screening herbicides for use on pumpkins, cantaloupes, watermelons, chile peppers, tomatoes, onions, potatoes, spinach, leafy greens, and dry peas and beans is another part of his research.

"Vegetable growers have very few choices when it comes to labeled. EPA-approved (Environmental Protection Agency) herbicides," Wallace said. "Spinach growers, for example, only have two herbicides labeled for their crop. We've screened herbicides for 15 crops, but our biggest trial right now is with spinach. We have a large trial at Crystal City in the Rio Grande Valley, funded by the Wintergarden Spinach Producers Board.

"For growers, more herbicides means better crop rotation options and potentially higher yields. It also lessens the chances of weeds developing resistance to one type of herbicide chemistry." If scientists can help industry develop more herbicides for vegetable crops through field and greenhouse screening trials, growers could reap a higher return per acre. Hiring laborers to hoe through vegetable crops costs growers between \$150 and \$300 per acre. The cost of weed control with labeled herbicides is considerably less about \$45 to \$50 per acre, Wallace

Some of his herbicide trials are part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Interregional Research Project No. 4, also known as the IR-4 Project. Directors of state agricultural experiment stations organized the project in 1963 to develop safe pest control products for minor food crops, nursery and floral crops, forest seedlings and turf grass. Biopesticides, or natural pest controls, are also part of this national effort.

"Almost every state with this type of

Continued on page 32

#### Weed control, vegetable production targeted... Continued from page 31

crop production participates in the IR-4 Project," Wallace said. "The data from our university research helps industry develop safe products for growers. It's research that industry basically can't afford to do, even though there is a real need for an effective product.

"Our IR-4 research at Lubbock centers on screening herbicides and application methods for leafy greens such as spinach, lettuce, chicory and kale. We do the initial screening in a greenhouse. Herbicides that work well there are then evaluated in a grower's field."

This year Wallace added another component to his annual vegetable trials. He and research technician John Hodges conducted a liquid fertilizer study in conjunction with their watermelon and cantaloupe variety trials.

They injected a slow-release liquid fertilizer at three different rates, using two different applications.

"We tried one, up-front application at planting, comparing it to split

applications," Wallace said. "Both are common methods with growers. The cantaloupes responded better to one application at planting than to split applications. We didn't see much difference in the watermelons.

"We may repeat the fertility study to see which method would fit best in a crop rotation with cotton. We've had several cotton and peanut growers express an interest in diversifying their crop rotations using vegetables."

Wallace's vegetable variety trials provide useful information for growers and acreages of all sizes \* from large-scale farmers to home gardeners.

"Many of the vegetable variety and production guides written for Texas are not suitable for the High Plains," he said. "This is a very unique climate. We publish the results of our trials on the Lubbock Center Web site, as handouts at our annual vegetable conference, and we invite the public in to see our plots first-hand at our summer field day."

Wallace also shares his vegetable expertise by teaching several Master

Gardener classes each year. He is a regular speaker at meetings organized by extension agents, and answers many requests for farm/home visits from farmers and gardeners.

Time is often a precious commodity for Wallace, who is one of four extension vegetable specialists with statewide responsibilities.

"We stay busy, but that's good," he said. "In the next two to three years, I

hope to get more of our research information and some production guides up on our Web site. And I would like to develop a gardening guide tailored to the Texas High Plains."

Wallace's vegetable Web site is on the Internet at http:// lubbock.tamu.edu/horticulture. More information on the IR-4 Project is online at http://ir4.rutgers.edu.

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#### Experts suggest legumes as fertilizer alternatives... Continued from page 4

from Texas to Georgia. By mixing the early-maturing crimson clover and late-maturing arrowleaf, ranchers and farmers could have forage from February through early June.

Multiple disease problems put an end to the practice. The most prevalent and damaging of the plant viruses and fungal rot was the bean-yellow mosaic virus.

Apache, a relatively new arrowleaf clover developed by Dr. Ray Smith, experiment station legume breeder based at Overton, is highly productive and resistant to bean yellow mosaic virus.

But before farmers and ranchers rush out to plant Apache or any other clover, they should consider several issues, Evers said.

First is soil pH. All clovers need a minimum soil pH of 6. Arrowleaf does better with a soil pH of 6.5 to 7, however.

As it takes four to six months to raise soil pH and pasture legumes must be planted in October, a lime application should be made no later than spring, he said.

A standard soil test will tell producers not only their soil pH, but the need for any soil nutrients.

The next step is to determine which forage legume to plant. When it comes to clovers, one size \* or variety \* does not fit all. Clover species are adapted to specific soil types, and don't perform well on others.

There are about eight types of clover adapted and available for East Texas producers, but three most prominent ones \* arrowleaf, crimson and white clovers \* are adapted to most situations, Evers said.

Arrowleaf clovers do well on deep sandy soils. Crimson clovers

are adapted to shallow sandy soils. White clovers are well adapted to loamy soils like those found in creek bottoms.

The National Resource Conservation Service, a federal agency that has offices in every county, can provide detailed soil survey maps of any farm, Evers said.

Planting rates vary as to the type of clover used, but all plantings should be preceded with a light disking to ensure the seed has good soil contact. Any fertilizer called for by the soil test should be applied at planting or after legume seedlings emerge, he said.

Rhizobia bacteria are responsible for the nitrogen fixation in legumes and should be applied to the clover seed before planting. It's also possible to purchase seed already inoculated with the bacteria, Evers said.

Farmers can use a planter or broadcast the seed. Either way, however, it is a good idea to mix the clover seed with ryegrass seed for two reasons. The clover seed is so small that most planters won't have the correct setting for accurate seeding rates.

Also, ryegrass makes a great mix with clover. The ryegrass will produce forage earlier and lessen the chance of cattle bloating on the rich forage produced by the clover, Evers said.

More information on planting legume forages and winter pasture can be found on the Web site of the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Overton: http://overton.tamu.edu/clover/cool/.



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### TBWEF mails 2005 notices; full payment by September

By Shawn Wade

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation recently mailed 2005 boll weevil eradication assessment notices to cotton producers in eight active eradication zones in the High Plains and Rolling Plains.

Boll weevil eradication assessment payments are due Sept. 30. Growers who pay their 2005 assessments in full before Sept. 15 qualify for a two percent discount on their 2005 assessment.

The 2005 assessments are based on acreage and production practice information cotton producers provide the USDA Farm Service Agency when they certify their crops. If there is an error in the acreage or practice information on their bill, the grower will need to have the information corrected at their local FSA office and then forward the corrected information to the foundation.

Growers with failed acres are eligible to receive a credit on those acres completely destroyed prior to the final certification date. Qualifying acres must remain free of all hostable cotton until a killing freeze to receive the assessment credit.

To aid area growers who have been affected by adverse weather conditions, the TBWEF also offers payment extension agreements for producers whose accounts are current.

"For those having difficulty paying their assessment, help is available by contacting the assessments department and arranging an extension agreement," said Chief Financial Officer Tina Ballard.

Producers entering into an extension agreement must make a 10 percent down payment, and they will be charged a late fee of one percent per month until their accounts are paid.

This late fee begins on the date the signed agreement and down payment are received by the TBWEF Assessments Department. Producers who are delinquent in payment and who do not have an extension agreement are subject to a late fee of 1.5 percent per month.

Producers with extension agreements have 150 days to pay their accounts.

For more information contact the TBWEF Assessments Department in Abilene at (866) 672-2800.

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation is a nonprofit, grower-initiated and funded organization dedicated to eliminating the cotton boll weevil from the state in the most cost effective and environmentally responsible manner possible.



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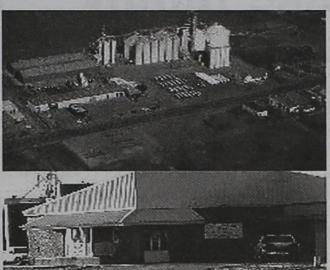
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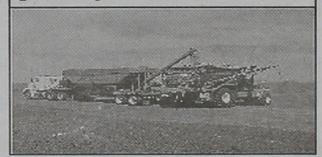


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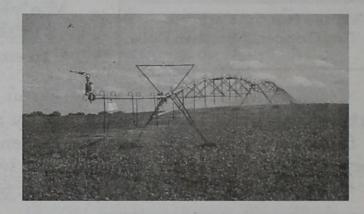
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#### **Cotton Report**

Cotton futures at the New York Board of Trade settled lower Thursday despite a positive export sales report from USDA and an improved mill-use figure from the U.S. Census Bureau.

USDA released its weekly U.S. export sales report on Thursday morning in what sources called an "excellent showing."

Despite sales coming in 10 percent lower than the previous week, market sources were generally impressed by net export sales of 410,000 bales for the week ended Aug. 18.

China was the primary buyer followed by Mexico, Turkey, Colombia and Bangladesh. Sales of 1,400 bales for delivery in 2006-07 were for Indonesia.

Export shipments of 318,800 bales were 28 percent less than the prior week and 36 percent less than the four-week average. Primary destinations included China, Turkey, Indonesia and Mexico.

In the spot cotton market, online trading by producers in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas in the week ended Aug. 25 totaled 5,761 bales compared to the previous week when 14,434 bales were traded.

Average prices received by producers in the most recent week ranged from 35.72 to 39.84 cents per pound compared to 39.86 to 42.77 cents per pound the previous week.

Meanwhile, on Thursday the NCC released its July U.S. consumption figure at 6.39 million bales, on an annualized basis, up from June,s revised figure of 6.27 million bales.

The annualized figure is based on the total amount of cotton consumed by domestic mills in a one-month period as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau.

While the figure was considered "impressive" by most in the industry. it had little effect on the market. Last year's annualized mill-use figure was 6.63 million bales in July.

In other news, the market continued to track the progress of Tropical Storm Katrina this week, but analysts said it could have more of a positive impact on the cotton crop than a negative one.

Katrina likely will bring much needed rains to the crops in Georgia and the Carolinas, providing more of a help than a hindrance, according to market watchers in the area.

The National Weather Service on Thursday said Katrina was strengthening near the Bahamas and could soon hit South Florida where tropical storm warnings and hurricane watches were in effect.

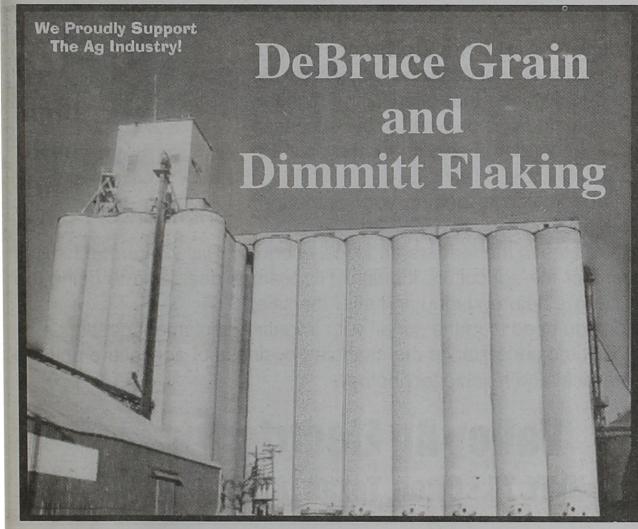
USDA also reported this week that the condition of the U.S. cotton crop slipped slightly in the week ended Aug. 21. Cotton rated good to excellent was placed at 53 percent compared to 54 percent a week earlier due to a deterioration in the Memphis Territory crop.

Boll set, meanwhile, advanced to 91 percent of the crop compared to the five-year average of 95 percent. Fourteen percent of the bolls had opened, six percentage points less than normal.

In Texas, some producers on the High Plains have reported the earliest planted cotton in the area now is reaching "cutout," and no additional moisture is needed.

At this point, they say open skies and warm temperatures would be best to help bolls fully mature. Meanwhile, harvesting and ginning activities are at a peak in South Texas.

All but two gins are operating in the Upper Coastal Bend and Winter Garden areas. Much harvest remains to be completed there and in the Corpus Christi area, but several gins in the Lower Rio Grande Valley expect to finish ginning within a couple of weeks.



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#### Stripe rust may affect future wheat variety selections in the panhandle

By Kay Ledbetter Texas A&M University

Stripe rust resistance may need to be added to the list of considerations when producers make wheat variety selections in the future, said one Texas Cooperative Extension agronomist. Fortunately, those varieties have tested well in this region.

Dr. Brent Bean, Extension agronomist in Amarillo, said stripe rust is not expected to be a constant problem, but it was significant this year.

"It is unlikely we'll experience again anytime soon the widespread infection levels that we saw in 2005," Bean said. "However, I do believe stripe rust is here to stay and we will likely be able to find it in the Panhandle at some level every year.

"For it to be a significant problem, we will again have to have the weather conditions (prolonged cool, wet weather in the spring) to cause it to rapidly spread," he said.

Stripe rust is new to the Panhandle, first showing up three years ago, Bean said. It is now the dominant rust in the area.

It looks similar to leaf rust, except the rust pustules tend to line up between the leaf veins, giving it a striped appearance. Stripe rust thrives in temperatures from 46° F to 58° F when moisture is present, while leaf rust prefers warmer conditions and thrives in 70° F temperatures.

In field trials this year, those with the highest stripe rust infection level had yield reductions of around 20 bushels under both dryland and irrigated conditions, he said.

"When comparing stripe rust tolerant varieties TAM 111 and Jagger to the susceptible variety TAM 110, yield was reduced 37 percent in dryland trials and 23 percent in irrigated trials by stripe rust," Bean said.

Varieties with stripe rust tolerance were the stars in 2005, Bean said. The most tolerant varieties were TAM 111, AgriPro 4342, Overley and Fannin. These were followed by Cutter, Jagger, 2145, Deliver, Jagalene, HG-9 and T 81, with moderate to moderately susceptible tolerance.

In irrigated trials, TAM 111 was the

best variety for the second year, Bean said. TAM 111 had the highest yield average across locations by more than eight bushels, while yielding in the top 20 percent in five of six locations.

TAM 111 is one of the newest varieties to be released by Texas A&M and is being marketed by AgriPro, he said. This relatively tall variety has good straw strength. Seed should be available this fall, but growers should book seed early, Bean said.

Other varieties yielding in the top 20 percent of at least three of the six locations were T81, Texas A&M experimental TX01D3232, AgriPro 4342 (experimental), Overley, Jagger and Jagalene.

T81, a variety from Trio Seed in Colorado with TAM 107 in its background, was looked at for the first time this year, Bean said. The two experimental varieties will not be available for at least a couple of years.

Jagger and Jagalene have performed well in area trials for a number of years, he said. Overley was released by Kansas State University in 2003 and has both Jagger and TAM 107 in its pedigree. In 2004, irrigated Overley yields were only average, Bean said.

Varieties with stripe rust tolerance also tended to yield the best under dryland situations, Bean said. Varieties yielding in the top 20 percent in at least three of the six locations were AgriPro 4342, Overley, TAM 111, T 81, Cutter, Fannin and the A&M experimental TX00V1117.

Fannin is an AgriPro release with reported excellent fall forage production, he said. This is the second year of its widespread testing. In 2004, yield of Fannin was only average. Overley has been in trials for the last two years and was in the top 20 percent of dryland varieties in both years, Bean said.

While stripe rust was the limiting factor this year on yield, each year is different and all varieties have positive and negative characteristics, he said.

In addition, Bean said, just because a variety was stripe rust tolerant in 2005, does not mean it will remain tolerant in 2006.

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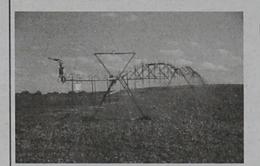
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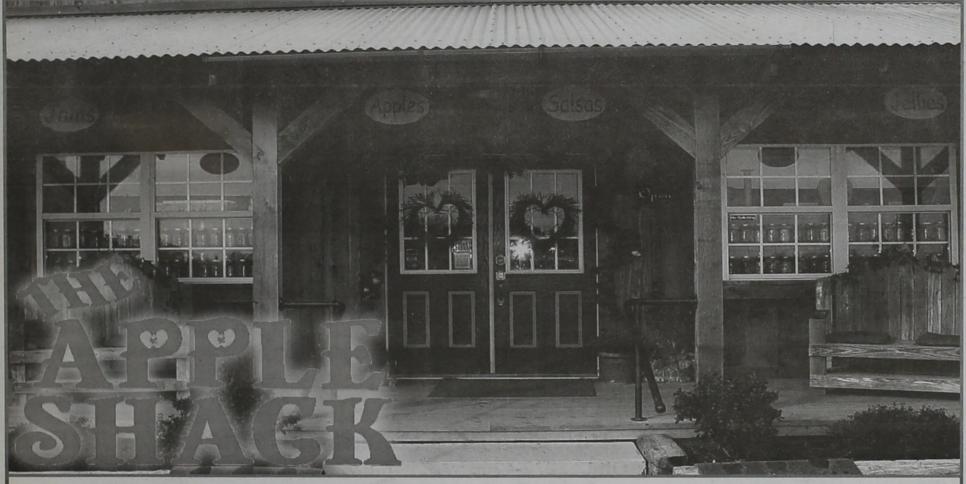
Lary and Wanda Hooten became involved in 1993 when they "moved home" from Houston.

Lary started in sales and management and Wanda lent her expertise in the accounting office, finance and insurance. Robert "retired" to play golf and build furniture in 1997 and Lary assumed the duties of GM, managing all facets of the dealership.

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The event was fun for the dealership employees, the entrants and the visitors. The dealership has already begun planning the second annual All Ford Car Show 2006 and it promises to be an even bigger event!



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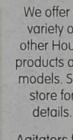
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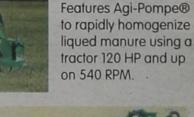


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