

The Castro County News

82nd year-No. 6

Dimmitt, Texas

Thursday, May 4, 2006

www.castrocountynews.com

Town meeting set to discuss fate of Cargill plant

By DAVIE ANN BROWDER

Managing Editor

A town meeting has been called for 7 p.m., Thursday, May 4, at the City Council Chambers to talk about the progress being made on converting the former Cargill plant into one that produces ethanol, said Mayor Wayne Collins.

"We have an agreement in place with Cargill at this time and we want to let everyone know where we are and review a little bit where we were on Jan. 12, 2005," he said.

"I want to let everyone to know

how we got from there to where we plus employees plus 40 contract position on the Economic Develare now.

"I want to brief everyone as to what I see as the future for Dimmitt and the future of this plant.

"I want to talk about the possibility of this plant in the future as well as the 'investment climate. We'll talk about the possibility of local people to invest."

In broad terms, the meeting is to let everyone know what's going on and what it means for Dimmitt.

In January, 2005, Cargill closed down its operation here, putting 90

employees out of work and costing the various taxing entities hun- 30. dreds of thousands of dollars potentially in tax money.

rumors around town and we want everyone to know exactly what's going on," Collins said.

"It's very good news. I'm very optimistic about Dimmitt. I think a lot of good things going to happen in the future."

On Monday, Collins submitted

opment Committee, effective April

It said, in part: "I believe my work here is complete as we have "We know there are a lot of reached an agreement with Cargill and the investor group is almost fully in place.

> "I plan to have an investment and an employment interest in the new company that will convert the Cargill Plan from sweetener to ethanol.

"I believe that this is a rare his letter of resignation from his opportunity for Dimmitt to re-start

the plant, as well as secure several associated businesses."

Collins said he will remain as a volunteer for economic development in Dimmitt to help bring a milk concentration plant project, the prison project, wind farms, the railroad district and many other smaller projects that have been started to a successful outcome.

The letter was submitted to Roger Malone, president of the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce, of which the development committee is a part.



EVEN THOUGH IT'S been irrigated, this wheat crop is about 1-foot tall and is already heading out.

Drought, high temps affect wheat crop

the worst in history, according to some sources. And experts at the Castro County CEA-FCS agree.

yield across the county," said Emilio Nino, Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management. "We didn't have any winter moisture and we've had zero to very little spring moisture. Temperatures have been above normal, as far as daily highs. I feel like the temperatures have sped up the maturing process of some of this wheat. So some of the guys trying to go to silage or hay, and the wheat crop has headed out a little sooner, they don't have as much foliage as they'd like.

"Whenever you get into the 80s in February and March and tipping 90, that wheat is going to respond.

The outlook for the 2005-2006 Texas wheat crop is The lack of moisture and the growing conditions has sped this crop up. If you look around, there are already people cutting it for hay and silage. To me, it's a little "What we see out there is that we'll see a reduction in early. We're not going to have the pounds as far as hay and silage."

> In addition, adding to a poor crop prospect, Nino said, some areas in the county have tested positive for certain wheat viruses this spring and that also directly causes yield reductions.

> "It's not a county-wide occurrence, but there are some occurrences where fields are affected with viruses or certain diseases. There is not treatment for it. It's not going to wipe out the wheat crop."

Wheat streak mosaic virus and the High Plains virus See WHEAT, Page 6

Burn ban lifted to allow some outdoor cooking with conditions

By DAVIE ANN BROWDER

Managing Editor

Castro County Commissioners voted unanimously to amend the burn ban so that Mothers Day might be a little easier for mothers. They agreed that outdoor cooking will be permitted using gas or propane grills that are enclosed. Users must make sure that sparks and flames are confined.

"This must be done using extreme caution," according to the wording of the motion. "Any resulting fire shall cause the person starting that fire to be held responsible."

No outdoor burning using open flames is permitted.

The only other exclusion to the county-wide burning ban is that welding is permitted, given that certain conditions are met. The property owner must contact his or her county commissioner.

Then the commissioner will visit the site where the welding is to be done and make a determination on whether it would be dangerous to weld there. That condition remains part of the burn ban.

The court had planned for a 1 p.m. meeting Monday hoping that the weather reports were correct and Castro County would get significant rain in the latter part of the week or over the weekend. However, the county received only sporadic rain and no other change was made to the burn ban.

Commissioners said that they understand that residents need to burn trash, but feel conditions throughout the county for a wildfire are too great to risk allowing trash to be burned at this time.

Legislature at work on funding bill for schools

BY SHAWN WADE

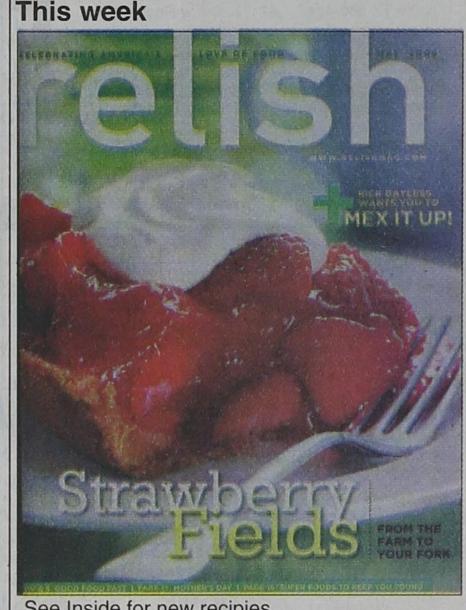
The Texas House of Representatives wrapped up a busy week voting to approve House Bill 5, the last piece of a five-part tax reform plan designed to provide property tax relief and replace the State's current franchise tax system with a broader-based business activity tax.

A Texas Supreme Court ruling that declared the current school finance system unconstitutional and taxpayers calling for property tax relief are the catalysts for change and prompted the Legislature's third called Special Session to try and deal with the situation. Altogether the House voted

last week to approve five separate bills (HB1, HB2, HB3, HB4, and HB5) designed to allow Texas school districts to cut property tax rates by a third over the next few years. The bills also establish a structure to replace the lost funding with additional revenues generated through a broadened franchise (busines's activity) tax, increases in cigarette taxes and changes in motor vehicle sales tax provisions. All funds generated by these changes would be deposited in a dedicated fund, separate from the State's general operating fund that will be used solely for the purpose of funding the State's public schools.

The following are brief descriptions of the changes made by the House passed legislation: House Bill 1 - Uses \$2.1 billion in state surplus funds to buy down property taxes \$0.17 in the first year. House Bill 2 - Dedicates all the revenue raised in the bills to school district property tax relief and creates a Property Tax Relief Fund outside of the general revenue fund. Revenues generated by changes in franchise, cigarette and sales taxes on used motor vehicles must go into the Property Tax Relief Fund, which can only be appropriated to cut school property tax rates.

See SCHOOLS, Page 6



See Inside for new recipies

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Celebrity Car Hop

Relay for Life will sponsor a Celebrity Car Hop with local celebrities. Cancer survivors will be the headlining celebrities. It will be Friday, May 5, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Sonic. So go by Sonic, have a Coke date, take someone out to dinner. All tips will be applied to the Relay for Life, plus Sonic is donating 10 percent of all sales during that period.



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Kerry Winders

304 N. Broadway, Dimmitt

647-5106 Texas Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. Texas Farm Bureau Underwriters Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co. Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co. Farm Bureau County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas

FARM

BUREAU

INSURANCE @

Equitable spending necessary if all students held to same standard

For many years most their particular school. Texans have believed in fair Texas public schools dealing with per student spending by a district. Every student should have access to the same amount of money for the general diffusion of knowledge in

In 1995 the "Robin treatment of students in Hood" plan guaranteed this fairness of educating students in Texas. Students do not all live in the area called Dallas Highland Park. That district should not get to spend \$16,000 per student to educate their students

while students from 900 other districts get \$5,000 per student spent on their educa-

Judge Dietz's decision did not end the "Robin Hood" plan.

His plan addressed a cap on property tax.

"Robin The famous



Digger Elam

Property Tax Protest and 50-195 (01-06/4) Appeal Procedures [41, 41, 41.70]

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- * the market or special appraised value placed on your
- * the unequal appraisal of your property
- * the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll * any exemptions that may apply to you
- * the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- * the taxable status of your property * the local governments which should be taxing your
- * the ownership of property
- * the change of use of land receiving special appraisal * any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district
- or appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affected you.

Informal Review

If you have any questions, you may contact the Castro County Appraisal District at 204 SE 3rd (Rear), Dimmitt, TX 79027, or (806) 647-5131.

Review by the Appraisal Review Board

If you can't resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the appraisal review board (ARB).

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening, Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD will use to uphold their determination. The CAD may ask you for a copy of the evidence you plan to present. The hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to

present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. The CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at 204 SE 3rd (Rear), Dimmitt, TX

Note: You shouldn't try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they haven't talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you're not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal to district court. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 45 days of the date you receive the ARB's order.

Tax Payment

If you appeal and your case is pending, you must pay the lesser of the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is

More Information

You can get more information by contacting Castro County Appraisal District, 204 SE 3rd (Rear), Dimmitt, TX 79027 or phone (806) 647-5131. You can also get a pamphlet describing how to prepare a protest from the appraisal district or from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Division at P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711-

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

Usual Deadline

On or before May 31 (or 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. Good cause is some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have a

Late protests are due the day before the appraisal review board approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

Special Deadlines

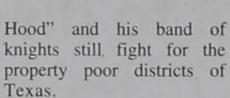
For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is before the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change didn't result from a protest you filed), the deadline is before the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually February 1). The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to

*The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it

The Original



The reason I feel so strong about equity in spending per student is the fact that all students are held up the same accountability standards.

All students must pass all parts of the TAKS test to graduate.

I'm afraid the legislators in this special called meeting do not share my view.

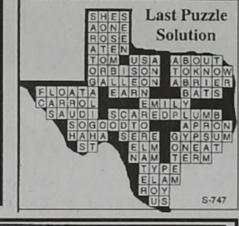
I don't think this group gives a hoot about the property poor districts of Texas and that is sad. Students are students regardless where they live.

My greatest concern with this called Special Session of the Texas Legislature is that this group will just do the bare minimum and get out of Austin.

No new long term financial system will be developed for public schools and that my friend is sad!

My solution is to have a state wide property tax to be collected by the State Comptroller and distributed evenly to all districts.

I know this would hurt some "egos' of some board members in this state but the time has come to do what's right!



P-748

33 sooner than

expected

40 football cushion

41 TX Tarzan Ron

heart bigger

50 steady, fixed look

51 Colorado Indian

56 in Montague Co.

57 TX Gary Morris'

on hwy.81

"One Fall

It Takes"

42 TXism: "got a

48 military group

38 equipment

26 astrological sign

27 this TX Mickey

U.S. Rep.

29 St. John's

was a longtime

28 in '83 this Moreno

killed 6 people

across SE TX

31 clumsy person

32 anger, wrath

of TX Steve Martin

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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ACROSS

- 1 polite TX address to a woman
- 5 "Lady Bird":
- Claudia Taylor Johnson
- 6 stats for Astro or
- Ranger hitters
- 7 this Glen wrote "The German
- Texans"
- 8 TXism: "you can write it in ___'
- 9 TXism: "smells
- house in July" 16 famous western:
- "High 18 Dr. Pepper started
- Old Corner Drug'
- 21 dir. to Albany from Abilene (abbr.)
- 22 Patricia of TXbased film "Hud"
- 23 TXism: "___ the mark"
- 24 TXism: "head " (brain)
- 30 accident that didn't have to

happen

- 34 computer (abbr.) 35 actor Bob in film
- "Riders of the Rio Grande"
- 36 TXism: "still wet
- behind the _ Pass, TX
- 39 TXism: "dead
- (excellent)
- 43 Battleship Texas
- was ____naught
- 44 TXism: "big fish in
- pond" 45 Cougar univ. (abbr.)

- 46 TX "Big Bopper's" "Chantilly
- 47 TX Kenny Rogers' "I Don't 49 TX Zellweger film:
- "Jerry _
- 52 TX Joe ___ Baker
- 53 "Gone to Texas" meant "__ the lam"
- 54 ex-Cowboy Newton
- 55 person who gives unwanted advice at
- a poker game
- 16 18 19 |20 22 31 32 35 46 49 48 52 54 56 57 58 Conway Twitty hit: "__ Angel Cry" 59 candle material 60 TX "Turtle Lady" 60 Loetscher" 12 Gulf crustacean 61 South African 13 TX Fawcett film:

Her

wagging the dog"

a gift horse

like home"

Husband"

15 TXism: "likely

in the mouth"

24 Frank of film "Four

25 TXism: "___ high

for Texas" (init.)

20 in 1861 TXns

voted to

time"

as ____

17 TXism: "

19 "there's _

14 TXism: "the tail

- "Somebody
- golfer Ernie
- DOWN 1 Falls Co. seat 2 person lacking normal
- pigmentation 3 TXism: "he could
- put a loop over _ _ _ mule's
- back" (good roper)
- 4 war sitcom 9 TX Charley Pride's
- "Then Who __ !" 10 TXism: "lower than
- 11 956 is Valley code

falls on a weekend or holiday.

647-3212

LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF DIMMITT ELECTION TO THE REGISTERED VOTERS OF DIMMITT TEXAS:

Subscribe Today

Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 13, 2006, for voting in a City Election, to elect a council member from district (1) and district 4 (4) to fill an expired term.

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE:

Council Chambers at City Hall, 200 East Jones, Dimmitt, Texas.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday beginning May 1st and ending May 9th

between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Exception on Wednesday, May 3rd, and Thursday, May 4th, the hours will be from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Application for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: Karen McGuire or Gloria Ortiz, P.O. Box 146, Dimmitt, Texas

79027 Applications for ballot by mail must be received no later

The close of business on April 28, 2006.

Myrna Langford **Presiding Officer**

Noticia Legal Eleccion de la cuidad de Dimmitt Para los votantes regitradoes De Dimmitt, Texas

Damos notificacion que el lugar De votos aqui escrito estara abierto De las 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m. el martes 13 de mayo 2006. para votar en Una eleccion de la cuidad y Eligir un miembro deconsul del Distrito (1) y distrito (4) para eligir Uno que se le expiro su puesto.

> Lugar de Votar 200 East Jones Dimmitt, Tx.

Votar antes de las elecciones and sanniva ad l'est En persona sera conducido cada dia Entre semana, empesando el primero De mayo y termina el 9 de mayo Entre las horas de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. El miercoles 3 de mayo y jueves 4 De mayo las horas seran 7:00 a.m. A las 7:00 p.m.

Aplicacion para votar por Correo mandelo a Karen Mcguire Y Gloria Ortiz, P.O. Box 146 Dimmitt, Texas 79027

Aplicaciones para votar por Correo deben ser recividas Para 28 de abril 2006 Dimmitt, Texas 79027

	William B	High	Low	Prec.	Snow	
N. S. L.	Tuesday	63	32			
	Wednesday	70	32			
WW	Thursday	70	37			
W	Friday	70	44	TRACE		
_	Saturday	69	37			
Λ	Sunday	84	48			
_	Monday	83	47			
A						
	1					
H	May Rainfall			.00		
	2006 Rainfall		1.76			
_	2006 Sno	1.00				
E	Readings taken every day at 7 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Service recording station for Dimmitt.					

The Castro County News

Office: 806-647-3123 FAX: 806-647-3112 Mobile: 806-647-8316 E-mail: cbradford@castrocountynews.com P.O. Box 67, Dimmitt, TX 79027

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Display and Classified Advertising	Tuesday Noon
Agriculture, Business and Industry New	
Social and Church News	Tuesday Noor
Community Correspondence	Tuesday Noon
Personal Items	Tuesday Noon
General News, City and County	Tuesday Noon
Editor and Publisher	Chris and Joye Bradford
Advertising Department	Chris Bradford
Managing Editor	Davie Ann Browder
Production Department	Chris Bradford
Bookkeeping	Chris Bradford
Community Correspondents	Virgie Gerber, Nazareth

with Vergie Gerber, 945-2669

Sunday was a very special day in Holy Family Church as our First Communicants 2006 were welcomed fully to the table of the Lord, we celebrated with these children and their families: Alexis Bartram, Courtney Bartram, Aubrie Durbin, Lexi Huseman, Dustin Kern, Sara Kleman, Tyler Ramsey, Tyler Rickerd, Madison Samford, Shania Schacher, Lars Schilderink, Carly Wilhelm and Roxanne Wilhelm.

The Youth Mass was held Sunday evening in Holy Family Church followed by fun and games as they honored the High School Seniors.

Church services for Robert Yeary, 75, of Morton were held Monday at First Baptist Church in Morton with Paul Lively officiating. Burial was in the Morton Memorial Park Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Maxine; one son, Bret and wife Kristie of Amarillo; one daughter, Malinda and husband, Kevin Gerber of Plainview; and four grandchildren.

Virgie Gerber and family of Nazareth attended the funeral.

The 31st annual Henry Birkenfeld family reunion was held this past weekend at Nazareth with approximately 100 family members and guests attending. Julia Birkenfeld and her son, Richard, hosted the event this year. A traditional family auction was held with home-made items to help with the expenses. A horseshoe tournament was enjoyed by young and old alike. The winners were Sam-

appreciated.

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and Kyle Birkenfeld.

Mass was attended in Holy Family Church for the Birkenfeld families. A surprise birthday party was then held for Julia Birkenfeld, honoring her on her 80th birthday. She is the same age as Queen Elizabeth and was so honored with a crown and scepter! Bob Birkenfeld explained why there were only "4" 20-year candles on her cake. The "burn ban" couldn't deal with 80 candles!

Julia was really surprised as a large group of the Naz Senior Citizens attended and sang happy birthday to her. They all enjoyed supper and birthday cake with the relatives.

Next year this reunion will coincide with the big Sylvester Birkenfeld reunion to be held in July honoring his 150th birthday!

(Birkenfeld) Laura Kimbell and her 10-monthold son, Brody, were honored with a baby shower Sunday at the home of Sandee Hoelting. Special guests were Brody's grandmothers. Kathy Birkenfeld of Naz and Annette Kimbell of Lubbock and greatgrandmother, Angela Acker. A good group of Laura's classmates and relatives attended.

Shane, Laura and Brody have been visiting here with family. Shane was stationed at Fort Knox, Ky., and is now at Fort Bragg, N.C. Laura and Brody will join him in a couple of weeks.

We are proud of our 10 tennis players who played in the Regional playoffs Wednesday and Thursday in Levelland. Seven of the 10 will now advance to State next Monday and Tuesday.

Grand Opening

Odd Assortments

2 blocks south of stop light

east of Hwy. 385, Springlake, May 4-6

10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Jake Hoelting will defend his 2005 state title in boys singles and Holly Kleman and Lacey Acker will defend their 2005 state title in girls doubles. Charlie and Kami Rundell will play mixed doubles; Taylor Schulte and Matt Birkenfeld will play in second-place doubles. Darcy Schulte and Brittany Birkenfeld played doubles and won third and Candace Birkenfeld won third in singles.

A benefit steak supper, hosted by the K of C's and Holy Family Youth Ministry will be held from 5:30 to 9 p.m., Saturday, May 6. Proceeds will help our youth group to attend the Retreat to Stuebenville West in Arizona again this summer. There will also be a silent auction and a slave auction. Need some odd jobs done at home, come and bid on a slave for the day.

The 62nd annual May Crowning, honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary will be Tuesday, May 2 at Holy Family Church, Congratulations to Kendra Huseman, who was chosen to crown the Virgin Mary this year. The Christian Formation classes will also be receiving awards.

Remember to pray for our Seminarian, Nickolas Gerber, for all of our sick people and those serving in our Armed Forces. New ones on our prayer line are Joe Venhaus, who is in Intensive Care in the Lubbock hospital and Art Albracht, who has pneumonia. Vera Ramaekers is doing well - seems like the highlight of her day is receiving cards!

Ag programs pay for themselves BY STEVE FORD

The Economic Report of the President was released in February and this year had an entire section devoted to agriculture.

It was biased.

The authors argue at one

Ag boosts U.S. trade

balance Agriculture also is one of the few sectors that contributes positively to the U.S.

balance of trade position.

"People That You Know

Tim Farris

President

DHS students participate at TSA events

Students from Dimmitt High 1st; Henrico Cillie, 2nd. School competed in the South Plains Regional TSA On-Site competition held in Levelland on March 31 and placed as follows:

Super Stock Competition: Luis Domingues, 7th; Abraham Alvarado, 8th; Jacob Cardona, 10th, Daniel DeLeon, 11th, Natividad Sias, 13th.

Dragster Design: Zjohn Smotherman, 1st; Jinna Wright, 2nd; Amber Spencer,

Written Test: Manufacturing Technology: Daniel Deleon, 1st; Jacob Cardona, 6th.

Energy, Power and Transportation: Luis Dominguez, Electricity/Electronics: Javier Ibarra, 1st.

Architectural Graphics: Steven Fernandez, 3rd; Victoria Tarango, 5th. Construction Systems: Henrico Cillie, 3rd; Daniel DeLeon, Luis Dominguez, 5th; Victoria 6th; Tarango, Zjohn Smotherman, 7th.

Graphic Solutions: Energy, Power & Transportation Systems: Curtis Thomas, 1st Architectural Construction:

Victoria Tarango, 1st Architectural , Graphics: Victoria Tarango, 4th Cardona, 3rd

Manufacturing Technology: Jacob Cardona, 5th; Daniel DeLeon, 6th

Manufacturing Systems: Daniel DeLeon, 3rd Communication Systems: Luis Dominguez, 7th

The South Plains Regional TSA project competition was held at Cavazos Junior High in Lubbock April 28 and 29. Dimmitt High placed as follows:

Woodworking 1: Curtis Thomas, 1st and BID (best in district), bed; Carlos Munoz, 1st, coffee table; Max Sandoval, first, cedar chest; Fernando Mendoza, sec-Construction Systems: Jacob ond, two Adriondack chairs; See TSA, Page 4

Hispanic Voice

with Angie Arguijo, 647-0106

Angie is a little under the weather this week, but will be back next week with her column.

Cargill Ag Horizons

Job opportunity in Hart...

Cargill's grain facility located in Hart is seeking qualified individuals to join our growing team.

We are looking for a full-time Sales Customer Service Representative to work in coordination with our "On Farm" Sales Team to buy and sell grain and develop long-term relationships with producer customers. Position includes contract entry, wide variety of administrative duties, answering phones and servicing walk-in customers. Ag-related Business experience is desired but not required. Ability to work accurately and consistently to execute complex and detailed procedures is a must.

Cargill offers a comprehensive benefits package, including Health and Dental insurance, life insurance, 401K, Long-Term disability, Pension Plan, Tuition Reimbursement, 11 paid holidays and paid vacation. Successful applicants will be required to pass a company paid medical exam including a drug/alcohol screen, reference checks and a criminal background check.

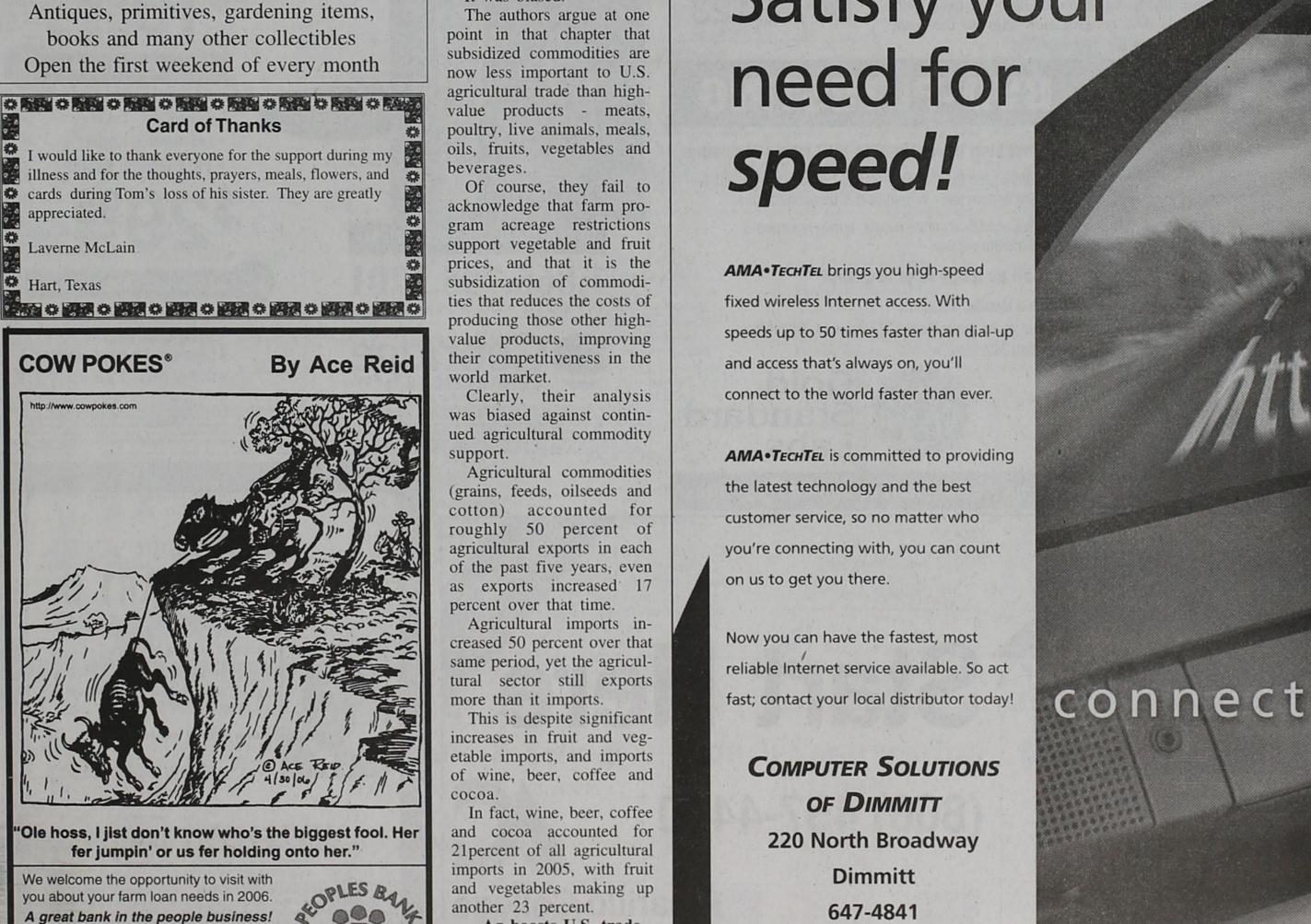
Interested applicants can fax their resume to 806-351-0875 or e-mail to Barry_Lubbers@Cargill.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RETURNED BY MAY 5TH IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED



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Above, Willie and Rosalie Hawkins 25 years ago. Below, Willie and Rosalie Hawkins today.



Hawkins celebrate 25th anniversary

Willie and Rosalie Hawkins Jr. were honored with a 25th wedding celebration Sunday, April 23, at First Christian Church with a dinner after church. Following the dinner, cake and punch were served.

Attending were their children, W.A. Hawkins III, Quincy and Sue Hawkins and brother, Robert Hawkins, all of Hart; Gay and Wayne Reinart and Sonia Dobbs, all of Hereford; Karen Moore of Fort Worth; Suzanne Farris, grandchildren, Adrian and Stephanie and son Hudson, all of Amarillo; Stephanie Schilling and her children, Karlie and Cole of Dumas; Reyla and Ott Coppock and children, Clay, Brandon and McKenna of Amarillo; Dusty and Shelly Hunsacker and children, Kade and Darcie of Canyon; Brandon and Adam Dobbs of Hereford; and Madison Witt Moore of Fort Worth. The congregation enjoyed the meal



Kyla Marie Schacher and Chad Robert Beedy

Schacher-Beedy

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Schacher of Nazareth announce the engagement of their daughter, Kyla Marie, to Chad Robert Beedy, son of Larry Beedy of San Saba and Janie Chambers of Brownfield.

The bride-elect graduated from Nazareth High School in 2002 and is a registered nurse at BSA Hospital in Amarillo'.

The prospective groom graduated from Dumas High School in 1994. He is currently employed at Monsanto Seed Company in Dumas.

Continued from Page 3

Juney Medeles, 2nd, entertainment center; Tony Molina, 3rd, jewelry chest; Javier Ibarra, 3rd, gun cabinet; Erik Porras, DVD cabinet.

Woodworking II: Zjohn Smotherman, 1st; Cindy Alvarado,

Woodworking IV - Research & Design

Jinna Wright; 1st and BID, dresser Metalworking I:

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Club Project: TSA Chapter 31, 1st and BID, 1949 Bentley



Crystal Alaniz and Cruz Vasquez

Alaniz-Vasquez

Sophia Alaniz of Plainview and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Morales of Hart are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Crystal Alaniz to Cruz Vasquez, son of George and Elizabeth Cansino and Pedro Jr. and Sherri Vasquez.

She is the granddaughter of Ramiro Alaniz of Olton and Mr. and Mrs. Frederico Morales of Hart. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Pedro Vasquez Sr. of Plainview.

The bride-elect is a 2006 graduate of Plainview High School and the groom is a 2004 graduate of Hart High School and is employed by Wilbur Ellis in Hart.

The wedding is set for June 3, 2006, at the Edmonson

Community Building in Edmonson.

DISD Calendar

Thursday, May 4

DHS & DMS Choir & Band Contests in Amarillo DHS & DMS - TSA - State Contest - Waco DHS - BPA Field Trip District FFA Banquet - Floydada

Friday, May 5

NO SCHOOL - Weather Day DHS & DMS - TSA - State Contest - Waco Baseball: Bi-District Playoff Game / Bobcats vs Slaton @ Plainview - 6:30

Saturday, May 6 DHS & DMS - TSA - State Contest - Waco Monday, May 8 FFA District Meeting & Test – Abernathy

Baptist Church - Senior Banquet - 6:00 DISD Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:00 Tuesday, May 9

FCCLA Meeting - 4:00 6th Grade Career Day Athletic Banquet - 6:30

Wednesday, May 10 DHS - FCCLA - End -of-Year Banquet - 12:20 4th Grade to Amarillo Symphony

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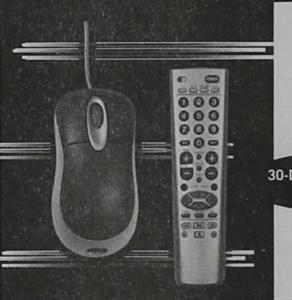
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restrictions and renewability. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company . Bloomington, IL



CHURCH NEWS



Christian survival: Not by bread alone

By Trent Tanaro

Let us take the opportunity to look a little further into the theme of "Survival."

Man cannot live by bread alone, one must have the words of the Father in order to survive the Christian walk. (Matthew 4:4).

What this means is that we need to spend more time in the "Word."

How in the world am I going to make time to be in the Word more? I have to work, eat, sleep, study, spend time with friends and family, go to school, clean house, etc., and rest somewhere in all of

Now you're telling me to stop and read the Bible more?

My dear friends, it's not about finding time, it's about our priorities.

Where does your Spiritual nutrition rank on your "to do" list?

It is a daily struggle to try and place our walk with God where it needs to be,

which is at the top.

Look at it this way, Christianity is a big circle (imagination needed here). Within the circle of Christianity are many other smaller circles.

These small circles are your daily lives and routines.

Think about it a minute ... Our very existence is within the sphere known as Christianity.

Try and picture this as you try and place things in the right area in your

The goal here is to have some kind of order within our lives to where we can avoid being so disoriented and frustrated with life. Striving daily to do so will result in a better outlook and guarantee to survival in our Christina life.

Trent Tanaro is the temporary Pulpit Minister at Fourth and Bedford Church of Christ, Dimmitt.

There's a New Sunday Service Schedule

Abundant Life Family Church

In order to accommodate more people, we will be holding two services on Sunday mornings beginning May 7

New Schedule

Sunday-9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Wednesday night prayer and youth service-7:00 p.m.

Children's ministry and nursery will be provided at all services.

If you need a ride to any of the services, please call 647-5288 (If no answer, please leave a message)

Castro County Devotional Page



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KING IS NOTED IN THE BIBLE, LITTLE HAS

BEEN GAID OF HIG NEIGHBOR TO THE SOUTH—THE QUEEN OF SHEBA. THIS THE MOST SOUTHERN POINT OF SAUDI ARABIA, HAD TO BE AS EQUALLY SMART AS HER MORE FAMOUS NORTHERN COUNTER-COUNTRY HERGELF (CALLED YEMEN TODAY, THE LAND WAG A CROSSROADS OF MANY IMPORTANT TRADE ROUTES TO THE EAST, THUS SHEBA DID PROFIT IMMENSELY) SHE COULDN'T HELP BUT BE IMPRESSED BY THE TALES OF GOLOMON'S TREMENDOUS WEALTH AND THE ABSOLUTE LUXURY OF HIS PALACE... SO SHE ADORNED HER STRANGE DARK BEAUTY WITH HER FINEST GARMENTS AND SET OFF TO VISIT SOLOMON IN

NOW, IT SHOULD BE QUITE OBVIOUS THAT SHEBA'S VISIT WASN'T JUST TO VIEW SOLOMON'S MAGNIFICENCE - FOR THE TRIP ITSELF HAD TO TAKE THE BETTER PART OF THREE YEARS-AND SHE WENT WITH A GREAT TRAIN OF CAMELS LOADED WITH GIFTS, SPICES, PRECIOUS STONES, PEARLS, ONE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY TALENTS OF
GOLD (ABOUT \$185,000). THIS
YOUNG QUEEN WAS "LOADED
FOR BEAR" AS THE GAYING
GOES—AND SHE GOT IT!



THING SHE SAW AND HEARD! SOLOMON'S HEAD HAD TO BE SWIMMING FROM ALL THE VERBOSE FLATTERY WITH WHICH SHE DELLIGED HIM. AND SOLOMON, CERTAINLY A LADIES MAN BY REPUTATION, SEEMS TO HAVE SUCCUMBED TO HER SUBTLE CAMPAIGN—AT LEAST THE RECENT LATE EMPEROR OF ETHIOPIA, HAILE SELASSIE, THOUGHT SO—FOR HE TRACED HIS OWN LINEAGE BACK TO MENELIK, SUPPOSED OFFSPRING OF THE ROYAL COUPLE'S "CONFERENCES". HOWBEIT, WHEN SHEBA LEFT, SHE TOOK BACK TO HER OWN COUNTRY IMPORTANT TRADE AGREEMENTS, PROPITABLE TO HER FOR YEARS TO COME, FOR, IN THE WORDS OF THE BIBLE..."AND KING SOLOMON GAVE UNTO THE QUEEN OF SHEBA ALL HER DEGIRE, WHATSOEVER SHE ASKED...". SMART LITTLE LADY!

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School News

Rasor qualifies for state in 110-meter hurdles

The Bobcats competed in the Region I-AA Track Meet in Abilene Friday, April28 and Saturday, April 29. Marshall Wills finished fourth in the Pole Vaultwith a vault of 13-6.

Michael Rasor Qualified for the State Track Meet inAustin. He finished second in the 110 Hurdles with a fine time of 14.71. Michael will run at 7:10 p.m. at Mike Myers Stadium on Friday, May 12.

Obituaries

JIMMY DALE LAUX

Jimmy Dale Laux died April 14, 2006. He was born September 12, 1939 in Lawton, Okla., to Leo John Laux and Thelma Abrams Laux. Jim grew up in Muleshoe. He graduated from Muleshoe High School in 1958.

Jim attended ENMU and graduated in 1966. Jim married Alice Ann Gordon on April 15, 1960. Jim and Alice moved to Los Alamos in 1966.

Jim married Charlotte Lovato on August 20, 1979. After 33 years with Los Alamos National Laboratory, Jim retired on September 13, 1999.

Jim is survived by his wife Charlotte J. Laux and his son Matthew B. Laux (Kristin) and their children Caleb and Rachael. Step-daughters Holly Lovato and her son Jimmy, Renee Lovato and her daughters Robyn and Morgan and Jenni Lynn Lovato.

Also surviving are sister-in-laws Cynthia (Ramon) Sedillo, Jennie (Randy) Summers and father-in-law Winnie Mabry. He was preceded in death by his parents Leo John Laux and Thelma Abrams Laux, and two infant sons, Steven Paul Laux and Adam Bret Laux. Cremation has taken place.

At Jim's request there will be no memorial service. In lieu of flowers please make donations to Sombrillo Nursing and Rehabilitation Home in Los Alamos, NM, the American Cancer Society or the Alzheimer's Association.

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 school 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 or wife, parents, in-laws, brothers, sisters, grandparents (only the number of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc., will be included) and where memorials may be directed).

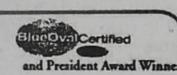
We will be pleased to run a one-column black and white photo at no charge. A larger photo or color photo will cause the obit to be paid. Please keep in mind that everything must be submitted by your funeral home. Also we will charge if the obituary is to be run as sent without any changes in wording. Otherwise, the Castro County News reserves the right to change the wording to fit out style.

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WHEAT

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Continued from Page 1

have been identified, he said, and they're in the process of checking for barley yellow dwarf virus.

"It's been a bad season for wheat this year," Nino said, "and the drought is the primary reason for the drop in production, both for grain, hay and silage."

Steve Young, County Extension Agent - Agricultural said the poor wheat crop has sped up the marketing for stocker cattle.

"And they've also moving them early to feed lots," Young said.

"What it's done is sped up the placement of cattle to feed yards. Cattle that should be on wheat are already on feed in feed lots."

This is the lowest rated wheat crop in the state since reporting has started.

Wheat conditions statewide are rated at 77 percent poor to very poor according to an April 24 report by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service.

This year's wheat crop is estimated at 41 million bushels, 57 percent lower than last year's crop.

"The direct and indirect impact of this crop failure is leaving its mark on the rural landscape.

"Wheat producers have lost two major sources of income this year - cattle grazing and grain production.

"Additionally, farmers are dealing with record high costs for two of our largest inputs - diesel fuel and natural gas," said Jack Norman, Texas Wheat Producers Association (TWPA) President and wheat farmer in Howe.

The national Crop Progress Report released in April by the USDA Economic Research Service reported that U.S. wheat crop conditions were much worse for 2006 than 2005. Nationally, 31 percent of the wheat crop was rated poor to very poor, mainly due to ongoing drought in Texas and Oklahoma.

All U.S. wheat planted acres are expected to total 57.1 million acres, down slightly from 2005.

If realized, this will be the lowest wheat acreage since 1972.

"The TWPA is urging the U.S. Congress and Senate to support Emergency Disaster Assistance for both disaster and economic assistance for the 2006 crop," Norman said.

The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee has already taken a step in this direction by its unanimous approval of an amendment that would provide disaster and economic loss assistance to American farmers. The \$3.9 billion amendment, offered by Senators Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.) and Conrad Burns (R-Mont.), was attached to a near \$100 billion supplemental bill that will largely fund military activities in Iraq and Afghanistan and hurricane relief efforts.

The agricultural amendment would provide a payment rate of 50 percent of the established price of the crop if a farmer has a loss of at least 35 percent.

Unlike in other disaster programs, the 95 percent crop value cap and deduction for crop insurance indemnities were removed from this proposal.

The amendment would also provide a payment of 30 percent of the direct payment for those enrolled in the farm program for the 2005 crop year, as well as USDA grants to states to provide agricultural market and economic assistance, including direct payments.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 1

House Bill 3 - Revises the franchise tax provisions in Texas to ensure that each business pays its fair share of education costs. This bill will be the primary source of funds used to buy down property tax rates.

The primary franchise tax will be lowered from 4.5 percent to 1 percent and an additional \$3.4 billion will be generated annually from businesses, including those that currently avoid paying the franchise tax through loopholes.

Retail and wholesale firms will pay a 0.5 percent rate.

House Bill 4 - Tightens the language and the requirements for the sale of used motor vehicles to replace documents previously dubbed as the "liar's affidavit" requiring sellers to reveal and pay tax on the true sale amount or a minimum of 80 percent of the standard presumptive value of the vehicle.

House Bill 5 - Increases the tax on the sale of tobacco products to raise an estimated \$678 million in revenue for property tax relief.

All five pieces of the House passed plan have been sent to the Texas Senate for further consideration.

Lt. Governor David Dewhurst has noted that the Senate still has questions about the House plan's ability to reduce property taxes as much as promised.

Dewhurst has noted that the remaining challenge for the Legislature is how to utilize the remainder of the current budget surplus and how to adjust revenue rates in the tax plan to provide adequate revenues.

He pointed out that the tax

changes approved by the House only pay for 33-35 cents of the promised property tax relief and that he is concerned about relying too heavily on budget surplus funds to pay for the remainder of property tax cuts.

The Senate worked through the weekend to review the House legislation and to consider other ways to fund public education and cut property tax rates the week of May 1.

In a statement about the Senate's plan of action Dewhurst said if the Legis-

lature can pass a bill that reduces property taxes while improving schools, that the state will make a "giant step' forward in the quality of its education.

He added, "If we can pass out these bills, making the corrections in some case that are necessary . . . and put a bill onto House Bill 1 that pays our teachers more provides incentives, increases performance and dramatically increases academic and financial accountability that's a real win-win for the people of Texas and for the children of Texas."

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE ELECTION

To the Registered Voters of Dimmitt ISD, Dimmitt, Castro County, Texas:

Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 13, 2006, for voting in a General Election to elect a Trustee for Place 5.

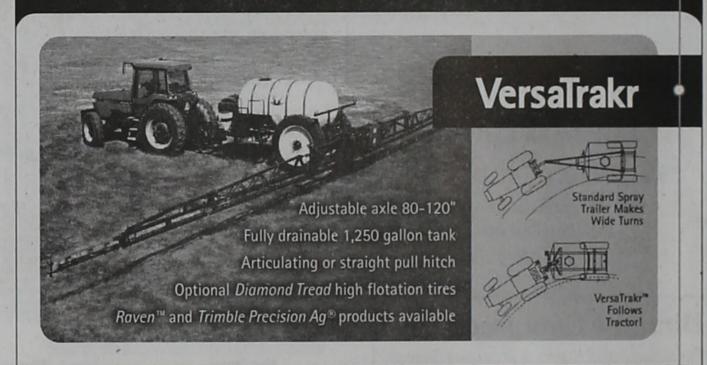
> Location of Polling Place: Dimmitt ISD Administration Building 608 West Halsell, Dimmitt, Texas.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., May 1, 2006, through May 9, 2006 at the above polling place.

Application for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: Darla Fisher Early Voting Clerk 608 W. Halsell Dimmitt, TX. 79027

Applications for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on May 5, 2006.

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KYLE WHATLEY DELIVERS his side-arm pitch against Friona on Monday.

Bobcats down Floydada

The Dimmitt Bobcats made sure they made the playoffs by defeating their last two opponents in district play.

On Tuesday, April 25, the Bobcats downed

Floydada, 6-2. Both teams got the bats going in the fifth inning, as Floydada scored two runs.

However, the Bobcats

came back strong and scored enough for the win in the fifth inning alone.

Aaron Herrera got on base after he was hit by a pitch and Junior Limas took first on an error by the shortstop. The John David Gonzales doubled and scored Herrera and Limas. Kaden Griffitt got to second base after an error by the first baseman.

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

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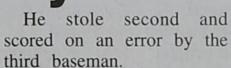


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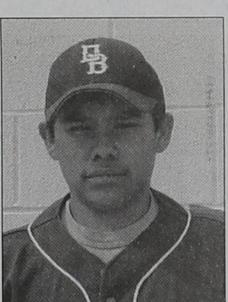
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After that Alex Chavira singled and later scored ending the scoring in the fifth inning as Dimmitt led, 5-2. The Bobcats scored once more - in the fifth inning, Kyle Whatley scored on a passed ball, ending the scoring for the Bobcats and putting them in the playoffs.

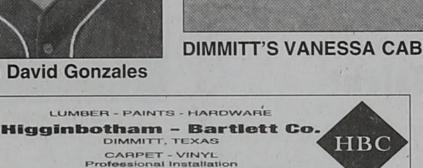
On Monday, the Bobcats met Friona in Littlefield to decide second and third place in district.

The Bobcats fell to Friona, 5-3. They will take on Slaton at 6:30 p.m., Friday, May 5, again at Littlefield.



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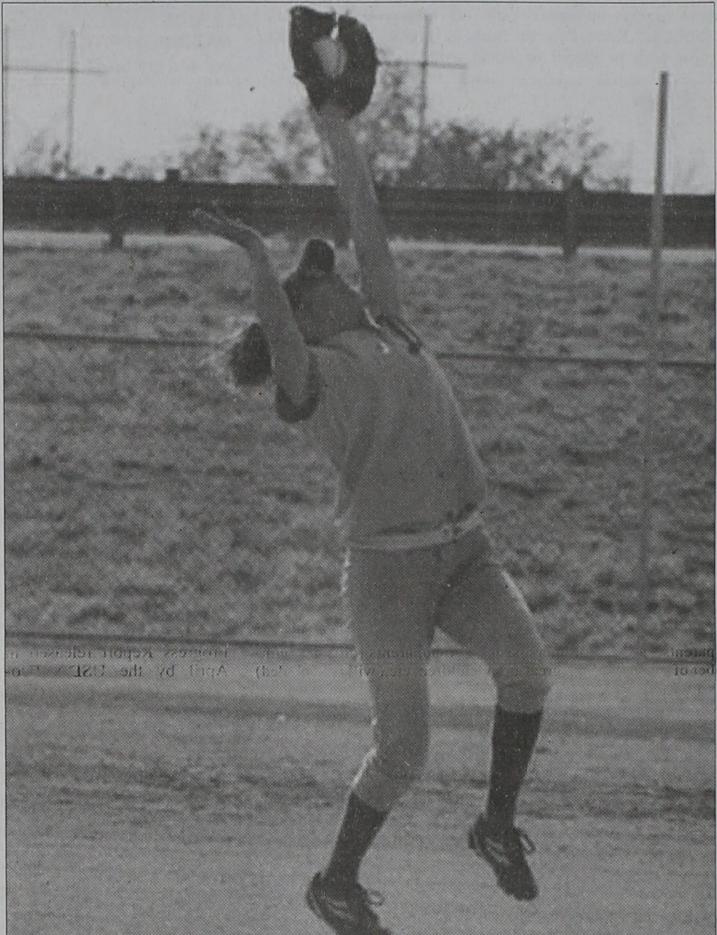
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DIMMITT'S KADEN GRIFFITT gets a hit against Floydada on Tuesday.



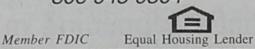
DIMMITT'S VANESSA CABELLERO catches a fly ball against Sanford-Fritch.

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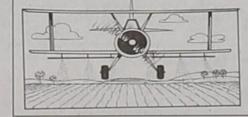


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Swifts take top-seed in district

The Naz Swifts haven't lost a game since their first one one day after winning a state basketball title in Austin.

And on Thursday, the Swifts again defeated New Deal, 7-3, giving Nazareth the top seed in district. However, to win the district title outright, the Swifts must defeat Kress at 4:30 p.m. Friday at home. They got the No. 1 seed on the strength of beating New Deal two times. Right now, baseball coach Ralph Albracht is pleased with his team's performances - at bat and in fielding. "Chris (Acker) was our standout defensive player at third base this week," Albracht said. "He just played great." The Swifts are 11-1 now.

Dustin Schulte, who went six innings was the winning pitcher; he was relieved by Nate Huseman. Schulte was 3 for 4 with a homer, a double and a single; Huseman was 1 for 2 with a double, plus two walks. The team the Swifts will meet next is undecided right now - it could be Vernon, Northside, Knox City or Haskell. Albracht said he won't know their bi-district opponent until May 10 probably.



NAZARETH PITCHER DUSTIN SCHULTE beats the New Deal player to home plate after a passed ball to tag him out and get out of a bases loaded, two out situation early in Thursday's game.



Nazareth regional tennis qualifiers

Agricultural News

Monday through Friday: 6 a.m. to 7 a.m.

Morning Show

Daily: 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

Weather forecast, local news, birthdays, anniversaries, American Folk Song, school

lunch menus, Good Neighbor

Spotlight On Local Talent

Daily: 8 a.m.

Market Reports

:40 past the hour

DHN 1470 AM J

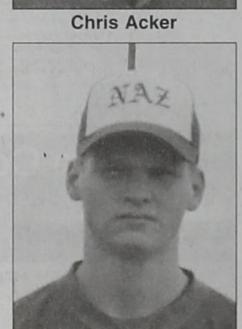
Naz wins three regional titles

gional titles and a got a Eric Debnam, Sudan 6-0,6- Birkenfeld/Schulte def. runner up in a fourth last 0Quarterfinals: Hoelting def. Chrestman/Frei 6-2, 6-3Boys Wednesday and Thursday in Kyle Bray, Meadow 6-1, 6- DoublesMatt Birkenfeld/Tay-Levelland. Jake Hoelting 1Semifinals: Hoelting def. lor Schulte def. Lang/ won boys singles, Holly Tucker Williams, Gruver 6- Martinez, Petersburg 6-0, 6-Kleman and Lacey Acker 1, 6-0Finals: Hoelting def. 0Quarterfinals: Birkenfeld/ won the girls doubles, Charlie Jeremy Morrison, New Deal Schulte def. Burris/Phillips, and Kami Rundell won the 6-3, 6-4Girls" DoublesHolly Wellman-Union 2-6, 6-4, 6mixed doubles and Taylor Kleman/ Lacey Acker def. 4Semifinals: Birkenfeld/ Schulte and Matt Birkenfeld Jacobson/Gass, O''Donnel Schulte def. Graves/ won second in boys doubles. 6-1, 6-0Brittany Birkenfeld/ Hutchens, Rankin 6-1, 6-Brittany Birkenfeld and Darcy Darcy Schulte def. Cruz/ 2Finals: Lemons/Morris, Schulte won third place in Jaime, O''Donnel 6-, 6- Wellington def. Birkenfeld/ girls doubles, and Candace 2Quarterfinals: Kleman/ Schulte 3-6, 6-3, 6-4Mixed Birkenfeld reached the semi- Acker def. Stewart/Granado, DoublesCharlie Rundell/ ResultsGirls SinglesCandace Schulte def. Noggler/ Homen, White Deer 6-1, 6-Birkenfeld def. Rachael Noggler, Vega 6-1, 6-7 (8- 1Quarterfinals: Rundell/ Stubbs, Lefors 6-1, 6- 6), 6-3Semifinals: Kleman/ Rundell def. Baker/Reis, 1Quarterfinals: Birkenfeld Acker def. Chrestman/Frei, Briscoe: Ft. Elliot 6-2, 6def. Amy Tiller, Sudan 6-2, Wellman-Union 6-0, 6- 1Semifinals: 7-6 (7-4) Semifinals: Lauren OMartinez/Theurich, Rundell def. Nutt/Lawlis, Ivey, Imperial-Buena Vista Seagraves def. Birkenfeld/ Wellman-Union 6-0, 6-0Fidef. Birkenfeld 6-0, 6-1Boys Schulte 6-2, 6-3Finals: nals: Rundell/ Rundell def.

Nazareth won three re- SinglesJake Hoelting def. Theurich 6-3, 6-13rd Place: finals in girls singlesRegional Ft. Davis 6-0, 6-0Birkenfeld/ Kami Rundell def. Farrell/

Kleman/Acker def. Martinez/ Kerley/Lujan, Wink 6-2, 6-1





Tyler Waggoner

Braddock set for State Meet to compete in 200-meter dash Josh Braddock will compete at the State Meet in

Austin on Saturday, May 13. He is scheduled to run at 2:55 p.m. that afternoon.

Braddock finished in second place in the 200-meter dash with a time of 22.71 at the Regional Track meet. Other results:

1-10-meter hurdles; Bryce Parker, eighth, 17.63. 100-meter dash; Chase Black, sixth, 11.30 800-meter relay team; Zane Farris, Tucker Waggoner, Chase Black, Josh Braddock, third, 1:32.07

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School Menus

Dimmitt ISD

Friday - Student Holiday

Monday: Breakfast - Sausage and biscuit, breakfast bar, cereal, Honey Bun, Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal bar, apples. Lunch - Hamburgers, Italian spaghetti, fajita sub sandwich, french fries, green beans, frijoles refrieto, hamburger salad, tossed salad, hoagie sub salad, fresh fruit, garlic bread, candy chocolate chip cookies.

Tuesday: Breakfast - Breakfast sticks, chicken bites, peanut butter and strawberry sandwich, blueberry muffin, cereal, Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal bar, orange wedges. Lunch - Corn dogs, turkey salad, grilled cheese sandwich with soup, pork and beans, Mexicali corn, blackeyed peas, cole slaw, potato chips, tossed salad, fresh fruit, pickle spear, fruited gelatin, Fritos.

Wednesday: Breakfast - French toast, Strawberry Pop Tarts, fresh donuts, peaches, cereal, Cocoa Puff cereal bar, Honey Bun, bananas. Lunch - Fried chicken, bean chalupas, hoagie submarine sandwich, mashed potatoes, Spanish rice, vegetable medley, tossed salad, taco condiment salad, hamburger salad, fresh fruit, hot wheat

Thursday: Breakfast - Grilled cheese sandwich, cinnamon rolls, Rice Krispy treats, mixed fruit, apple muffin. Lunch - Stagecoach spaghetti, enchilada casserole, ham and cheese on bun, broccoli with cheese sauce, mixed vegetables, orange wedges, tossed salad, fresh fruit, taco condiment salad, hamburger salad, garlic Italian bread, tortilla chips, crackers.

Nazareth ISD

Friday: Breakfast - Sausage pattie, rolls, cereal. Lunch -Hamburgers, chicken sandwich, curly fries, lettuce, beans, grapes, cookies.

Monday: Breakfast - Honey Bun, cereal. Lunch - Tacos, pizza, lettuce, oriental vegetables, applesauce, cupcakes.

Tuesday: Breakfast - French toast, sausage pattie, cereal. Lunch - Chicken spaghetti and rolls, chef salad, tossed salad, corn, pineapple pudding.

Wednesday: Breakfast - Breakfast Pockets, cereal. Lunch - Chalupas, burger and fries, lettuce, green beans, pears, orange cake.

Thursday: Breakfast - Colby cheese omelette, cereal. Lunch - Pig in a blanket, baked potatoes, tossed salad, peas, fruit cocktail, peach cobbler.

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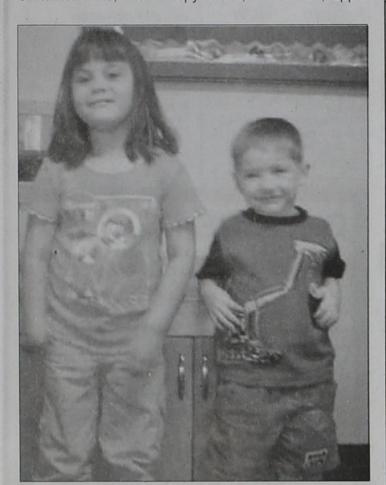
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The winners

Castro County Child Protective Service sponsored its annual coloring contest during the month of April to recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month at Pybus Christian School The winners were above; Arian Mendoza from Mrs. Pybus's class and Sam Settle from Mrs. Sheffy's class. The kids learned different safety tips they can use to stay safe and secure at home and school.



From Curves to Helping Hands

Curves had a food drive in March. At left is Curves owner Mary Lou Schmucker. At right are helping hands volunteers, Frances Smith and Debbie Annen.

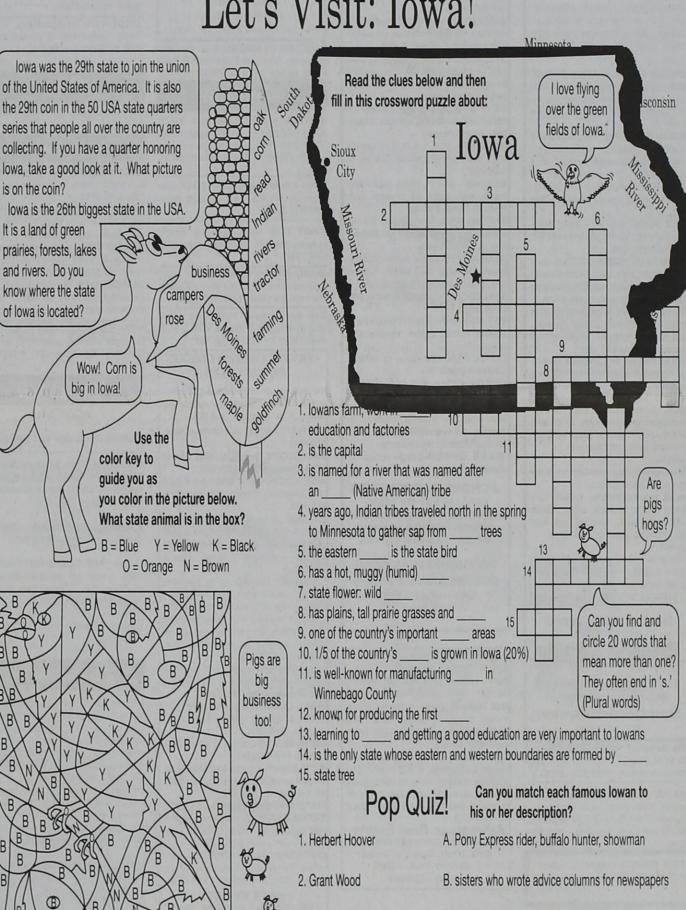
309 N. Main We loan Hereford, Texas \$100-\$1,080 364-4287 subject to our usual credit policy 9-6 Mon-Fri. CIIN LOADDANY Need some fast money? We are now starting tax season!

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Let's Visit: Iowa!



3. William "Buffalo Bill" Cody

C. 31st President of the United States

4. Mildred Wirt Benson

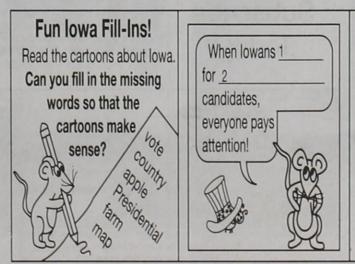
D. Nobel Peace Prize winner, helped create hardier strains of wheat

5. Norman Borlaug -

E. artist whose picture of a one-room schoolhouse is shown on the lowa quarter

6. Ann Landers and Abigail Van Buren

F. she was the first writer of the Nancy Drew series

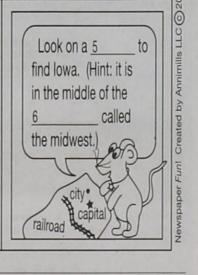


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Castro County Classifieds

Real Estate Homes & Land

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject 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 or custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is1-800-927-9275.

BRICK HOME-approx. 2,800 sq ft, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, living with fireplace, kitchen, sunroom, utility, garage, two car garage, three car garage, storage building. 24 X 40 building. Located in country with 1.8 acres.

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LARGE Country Home 3/21/2/2, den, dining, kitchen, office and basement. Fenced yard with sprinkler system, 30 X 60 barn. 5 acres

BRICK HOME-3/2 living with wood burning fireplace, kitchen, sun room, fence, storage building and

storm shelter, two car carport. REDUCED!-NICE-3/1 living. kitchen, utility, single garage. Two

3/2/2 living, kitchen, utility, storage building, cellar, fenced yard. 20'

X 30' shop. Nice. BEAUTIFUL HOME-3/2.75/2, den, living room, remodeled kitchen with new appliances, utility, storage

building, basement, circle drive. 2 acres-3/2 den, living, kitchen, sun room, basement, single garage, two storage bldgs.. Building two rooms with bath.

INVESTMENT PROPERTY-Mobile home trailer park-27 lots. Own 8 mobile homes and leases 9 spaces. Owner financing available. NICE two bedroom, 1 bath, two living areas, kitchen, utility. Brick with metal roof. Central heat and air. Fenced yard with storage. LAND:

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Real Estate Homes & Land

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\$86,000-REDUCED-3/2/2-Owner has moved, fireplace, great location, hot tub, nice shop. Seller helps with closing.

\$80,000-Great home-3/2/2-lots of new paint and carpet, fireplace, corner lot, nice shop, close to schools. MAKE OFFER-3,100 sq ft home/ store on 14 acres, includes large quonset barn, compressors, tools, tractor, farm equipment, livestock barns and many more treasures. Lots of potential. Owner financing available.

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\$69,900-3/2/2-Great home, lots of new paint and tile, basement, large corner lot.

\$70,000-4/2/0-Approx 11 acres. 15 minutes from Dimmitt or Hereford. Out buildings. Great home.

\$70,000-3/2,25/2-Large House-LOTS of extrem Mother-in-law house in back. Brick Bar-B-Q. Seller helps with closing.

NEW-\$70,000 Vape-Excellent home, country wing with city amenities, trees, fenced.

NEW-\$53.000-3/1/0-Extremely nice well kemp home, close to

\$53,000- 3/2/1- Nice well-kept home with extra lot to park your truck or build a shop.

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\$40,000-2/2/0-Great home that has been well-kept. Soft water. Corner lots, trees, storage building, etc. \$40,000-3/2/1-Close Schools with large loth

\$37,000-3/2/carport-excellent starter home, cellar, fenced yd.

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\$80,000-Price reduced! 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 income.

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1009 Front - Spacious 5 bedroom, 3 bath brick home, double car garage, central heat/air, storage building, nicely landscaped, edge of town. www.scottlandcompany.com

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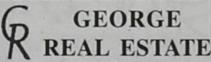
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Saturday, May 6 from 7:00 a.m. to

6-1tc-62

Card of Jhanks

It is through people like you that God's blessings are known. Our family thanks each of you for the kindness that was shown by words of comfort, visits, cards, phone calls, flowers, memorials and your presence through my husband and our Dad's celebration of life. A favorite saying among us has been "a joy shared is doubled; a sorrow shared is halved." You have each helped us carry that sorrow during this time. For that we are forever grateful to you.

Our prayers of thanksgiving for each of you,

Dora Pohlmeier Greg and Linda Pohlmeier Beth and Gerald Harder Theresa and Gary Rider Walt and Lucy Pohlmeier Ralph and Emaline Pohlmeier Frank and Sharon Pohlmeier Rita Pohlmeier Germaine and John Witt Robert and Teri Pohlmeier

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Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate CONSTANCE LATHEA SANDERSON, Deceased, were issued on April 25, 2006, in Cause No. PR2679, pending in the County Court of Castro County, Texas to:

CARROLYN RAE KIRKWOOD. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: JEFF ACTKINSON Attorney at Law P.O. Box 286 Farwell, Texas 79325 Dated the 25th day of April, 2006. JEFF ATKINSON Attorney for Estate State Bar No. 24001624 P.O. Box 79325 Farwell, Texas 79325

Telephone (806) 481-3361

Facsimile (806) 481-9060

6-1tc-113

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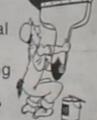
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Community Calendar

Relay for Life activities planned

The local Relay for Life committee is planning a "Celebrity Car Hop" Nat from 5 to 9 p.m., May 5, to be hosted by Sonic.

Local Dimmitt celebrities will be serving your to raise donations for the 2006 Relay for Life.

In additions teams are needed for the Relay for Life.

which is set for June 10 at Bobcat Stadium. Please call this week. You can have committees

composed of fellow workers, families, schools, clubs, churches or classes.

Contact Camille Williams at 647-2974 or Marcus

Brockman at 945-9504.

English classes offered

The First Assembly of God Church, 300 S.E. 2nd Street in Dimmitt is offering free adult English classes, free, starting May 2. The classes will run from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, call 647-5662.

> **Breast Cancer** screening May 4

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Comprehensive Breast Center will conduct a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic at Plains Memorial Hospital, 310 W Halsell, in Dimmitt on May 4, 2006.

Breast cancer affects one in eight women. The key to meal, prayer and a devotional guest speaker. winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a

breast self-exam each month.

Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents age 50 to 64 who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only.

Call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Community Prayer Gathering

There will be a community prayer gathering the first Wednesday of every month at 6 a.m. at Dimmitt Methodist Church, 110 SW 3rd St. There will be fellowship, a free Everyone is welcome. Come and bring a friend. Help lift the whole community in prayer. The final date is

You may qualify for extra help with new Medicare prescription drug program

By Carmie Hill Social Security District Manager, Plainview

By now, nearly all Americans who may be eligible for the new Medicare Prescription Drug program probably know at least something about this historic, cost-saving program. But have you also heard about the extra help that could bring you big savings on your monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription copayments? That extra help could be worth an average of \$2,100 per year for those who qualify.

You could qualify for the extra help if you have limited income (below \$14,700 for an individual or \$19,800 for a married couple) and resources (below \$11,500 for an individual or \$23,000 for a married couple). To learn more or to apply now, visit Social Security online at www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp or call Social Security toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

After you apply, Social Security will review your application and let you know if you qualify for the extra help. If you qualify, you will need to enroll in a Medicare-approved prescription drug plan to get help

If you have been putting off making a decision about applying for the prescription drug program, I would encourage you to act as soon as possible because the deadline for initial enrollment in the Medicare Prescription Drug program ends on May 15, 2006.

To take advantage of these opportunities to enroll in the Medicare Prescription Drug program and, if you qualify, the extra help that may save you additional money, you should act now.

Cotton Report

July cotton futures on the New York Board of Trade gave back early gains Thursday dashing hopes of a corrective rally as technical weakness, the potential for rain in parts of West Texas, and concern over Chinese monetary policies weighed on the market.

China tightened its monetary policy Thursday by raising bank lending rates in a move aimed at stabilizing the country's overheating economy. The People's Bank of China raised all commercial banks' yuan lending rates, effective Friday, with the benchmark one-year lending rate rising to 5.85 percent. The cotton market, treasury bond prices, metal and oil prices all moved lower due, in part, to China"s rate move.

"Imported cotton is still cheaper than their domestic cotton; however, the new move will no doubt squeeze profit margins at Chinese mills," a market analyst said. "China is the largest importer of U.S. cotton and has been listed as the primary buyer in USDA's weekly export sales report for each week of the last two marketing years. Any disruption in the country's economy could affect U.S. cotton," he concluded.

USDA reported export sales of U.S. upland cotton totaled 336,000 bales in the week ended April 20. The figure was 85 percent higher than the previous week and 33 percent more than the four-week average.

China was again the largest buyer with purchases totaling 258,700 bales. Smaller quantities were sold to Turkey, Indonesia and Thailand.

Export shipments of 374,400 bales were unchanged from the previous week, but were 16 percent lower than the four-week average. Major destinations included China, Mexico, Turkey, and Indonesia.

On the spot cotton scene, sales were down slightly from than the previous week. Online trading by producers in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas in the week ended April 27 totaled 7,252 bales compared to the previous week when 7,332 bales were traded. Average prices received by producers in the most recent week ranged from 45.31 to 49.74 cents per pound compared to 45.66 to 48.76 cents per pound the previous week.

In other news, domestic mill use has improved slightly. U.S. textile mills used cotton at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 6.25 million bales in March, up from the 6.16 million-bale rate one year ago, according to the National Cotton Council (NCC). The council maintained its February figure at 6.34 million bales.

Meanwhile, USDA reported new-crop cotton planting in the United States had advanced to 23 percent of the prospective area by April 23.

This represents a 10-percentage-point increase on the week and is six points higher than one year ago. Of the 15 principal cotton-producing states, Kansas was the only one) yet to begin planting activities. Twenty percent of the prospective Texas cotton crop was in the ground versus 17 percent the previous week and 18 percent at the same time one year ago.

Irrigated cotton is in good shape in the Texas Rio Grande Valley, but dryland fields there and along the Coastal Bend with your prescription costs. are in desperate need of rainfall.

Kids Inc. signups set

Castro County Kids Inc. School Cafeteria. will have T-Ball, Softball and Baseball Sign-ups begin Thurs- at time of sign-upu AHTX day, May 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. 11, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Mid-

The fee is \$30.00 payable You must be 5 syears old by Sept. 1, 2006 to play T-

Mother's Day Steak Dinner and again on Thursday, May Steak and all the trimmings!

Sunday, May 14, 2006 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Richardson Elementary Cafeteria

Adults - \$12.00, and Children 12 and under for \$8.00 Advance tickets can be purchased from any Rotarian.

Detten's Carpet Care Subscribe Today 647-3123





What's the Law?

Banks are not required to convert change to bills

Q. Are there any laws that govern turning in counted and wrapped coins? How would I find out where I can turn in a significant amount of coins that have been counted and wrapped WITHOUT paying a percentage of the total amount at a grocery store machine? I went to a bank and they said they don't change coins.

A. To my knowledge, there is no law that requires a bank, or any other business, to give you bills in exchange for coins. Change is legal tender, however, I do not believe the law requires that any business provide the free service of exchanging one type of tender, bills, for another, coins.

Although a bank does not have a legal obligation to exchange coins, most will, as a service to their customers. It sounds like you are going to have to open a bank account. Before you do, be sure to ask if they provide this service.

Q. Is a handwritten will valid in Texas?

A. Yes. A handwritten or holographic will that is completely written in your handwriting, is valid in Texas. Having said this, I do not recommend you use a holographic will. Many attorneys will prepare a will for a very reasonable fee. In my opinion, this is money well spent. A small mistake in a holographic will could cost your loved ones much more than what you saved by not having a professional prepare your will.

Q. I am in the eighth month of a twelve-month lease. I am getting married next month and want to move out. Is this a valid excuse to break my lease?

A. This continues to be a common question, and the answer continues to be no. As I have written many times before, a lease is a contract between a landlord and a tenant. The terms of the lease are whatever the parties agree to. If either party "breaks" the lease, he or she is liable for damages.

What you are really asking is if you have the right to terminate the lease and end your obligation to pay rent because you are getting married. If the lease gives you such a right, you may exercise it. If the lease does not give you this right, you will be breaking the lease if you move out and stop paying rent.

The bottom line is always read your lease carefully before you sign it and pay careful attention to when you have the right to terminate the lease. If you think you might have to leave early include a clause allowing you to do so in certain circumstances.

Q. I owe a lot of money to credit card companies. I am afraid they are going to sue me. All of my money is in my retirement plan and an IRA. Can they take this money if they sue me?

A. No. Under Texas law, money in a retirement account or an IRA, including a Roth IRA, is "exempt" and may not be taken by your creditors.

Q. How long do I have to file a Deceptive Trade Practices Act claim in Small Claims Court?

A. As you seem to know, the Deceptive Trade
Practices Act is our state's consumer protection law.
It protects you against false, deceptive and
misleading acts and practices. Generally, a
Deceptive Trade Practices Act claim must be filed
within two years of when the deceptive act or
practice occurred, or, within two years of when you
discovered or should have discovered it, whichever
is latter. By the way, the time limits in Small Claims
Court are the same as any other court.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE ELECTION

To the Registered Voters of Nazareth I.S.D., Nazareth, Castro County, Texas

Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 13, 2006, for voting in a general election to elect 2 trustees for the Nazareth School Board.

Location of Polling Place:

Nazareth School - North End 101 S. First St. Nazareth, Texas

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., May 1, 2006 through May 9, 2006.

Location of Early Voting:

Nazareth I.S.D.
Outer Principal Office
101 S. First St.
Nazareth, Texas
Mona Brockman, Early Voting Clerk

Q. I went into a nail saloon that I have been to many times in the past. After the services were performed, I went to pay what I had been paying. They told me the price had been raised and I owed twice as much. Is this legal?

A. It is not illegal to raise the price for something, even if you double the amount. In your case, however, the question is not whether the price increase is legal; the question is whether the new price is part of your contract with the salon.

Whenever you have a service performed, you enter into a contract with the service provider. The price is the price you agree to, or if no price is stated, a "reasonable price."

My opinion is that in your case, a reasonable price is the price you had been charged in the past. Unless you were told of the price increase before the service was performed, the new price does not apply to this transaction.

Q. I live alone in my apartment. I heard that a landlord must supply two types of locks and a door

viewer on my entry door. My door has only one lock. I am concerned that someone could easily break into my apartment, so I requested the landlord install an additional lock on the door. He refused to install an additional lock and told me that one lock was sufficient. I don't want to stay with only one lock on the door. Can I get out of my lease?

A. Generally, your landlord is required to install a door viewer and both a keyed and keyless deadbolt lock on your exterior door. After receiving notice from a tenant, the landlord will generally have 3 days to install the required viewer and locks or the tenant may terminate the lease. If, however, your lease contains a provision underlined or in boldface print notifying you of your rights regarding the required security devices, your landlord will have 7 days to install the devices before you can terminate your lease. The bottom line, however, is if he refuses to install the locks, you will be able to terminate your lease.

