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# Happy New Year

## The Haskell Free Press

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"The People's Choice"

12 PAGES-ONE SECTION-50 CENTS

### The end of a business era in Haskell, Lane-Felker closes

By Joyce Jones

For almost 55 years, Lane-Felker has been a part of the business history of Haskell; a landmark that is well known all over the state. It was once characterized as being to the Haskell area what Neiman-Marcus is to Dallas.

Because of their large inventory of the latest fashions and their dedicated service to their customers, Lane-Felker has drawn loyal customers from the urban areas of Abilene, Amarillo, Lubbock, Houston, Midland, Odessa, Wichita Falls, Dallas, Fort Worth and many other areas of the state; and also from out of state.

But as there is a beginning for all good things, there is also an ending and Saturday, Dec. 23, marked the ending of an era in the business history of Haskell. It was the last day of business, under the ownership of Mattie Felker English and Frances Lane, for this oasis of fashion in the midst of the farm and ranch land of the midwest plains of Texas.

With little more than a shoestring and some bad advice, these two sisters who had worked in the local dry good store in Haskell where they grew up and married, opened their own business, Lane-Felker, on March 2, 1940.

When they were young school girls growing up, the two young Walling sisters dreamed of one day opening their own dress shop; but their dream did not get a chance to materialize for a long time because of the Great Depression.

A trip to a nearby town early in 1940 brought some misleading words from a friend who was in the retail business. She told them, "You will love retailing, it's so easy." That was partly right; they did love retailing, but it wasn't easy to make a success of the business.

A short time later, a relative who had a beauty shop in Haskell told the sisters that she would rent them space in the shop if they wanted it for a dress shop. After consulting their husbands, the two couples said yes and went into business. After pooling their savings and borrowing what money they could, the two young couples went to Dallas on their first buying trip.

Then on March 2, 1940, Lane-Felker's was opened in the 20'x80' space next to the beauty shop. They opened with \$27 worth of hosiery and 35 dresses and they paid \$20 down on fixtures for the shop. The most expensive dress in the shop cost \$17.95, but most of them sold for \$3.

For the first year, the two ladies drew no salaries, but put all of their money back into the business. Gradually the business grew and in 1945, they bought the beauty shop which they operated for two years before they sold it. In 1946, for a mere \$5,000, they bought the building they are still in.

The 50's brought more changes to the store; a complete bridal department was opened and in 1953 an additional 30 square feet of space was added to the back of the building.

As the business grew, so did the number of employees. From a staff of Mattie and Frances plus an alteration lady, to the 14 employees today. Patsy Cobb has the longest tenure of any of the employees; she has been with Lane-Felker for 49 years. Hortense Lees (Mattie and Frances' sister) has been with them 42 years and Dessa Jeter, one of the bookkeepers, has worked 32 years. Jerrence Couch has worked 18 years as a bookkeeper also, after retiring from her job as a teacher.

Other employees include Eunice Koehler and Billie Cannon, both in alterations; Thelma Edwards, receiving clerk; Bobbie Hendricks who works both in receiving and sales; Barbara Kimbrough wears three hats, public relations, display and sales; Edith Wheatley, Pauline Norman and Nadine Middleton are all in sales. At one time the store had 19 employees.

Mattie and Frances both credit the dedication of their employees over the years as the majority of the store's success. "We call them our store family," Frances said.

The ladies recall many interesting events happening over the years. Mattie said, "One day, three limousines pulled up in front of the store with ladies who had come here to shop; it caused quite a sensation in Haskell."

Other memories include the future bride who, because of over-excitement, fainted three times during her fitting; Frances not missing a word of commentary at a style show even when her eldest granddaughter spent the majority of the program hanging onto her grandmother; and the out-of-town customer who always brought her brown paper bags because she sometimes hyperventilated.

Mattie and Frances have been honored many times over the years. In 1957, the American Fashion Association featured their shop and their husband's men's shop, which was in the building with Lane-Felker's, in one of a series of articles. Women's Wear Daily (NY) featured the ladies in an article.

The two sisters were chosen "Haskell's Citizens of the Year," in 1986. The honor was bestowed on them by the Chamber of Commerce because of their active parts in the civic and business affairs of Haskell. In 1987, Lane-Felker was the second store to receive the Golden Sun Award bestowed by the wholesale industry in the Dallas Apparel Mart.

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THE BEGINNING—Mattie Felker English and Frances Lane opened their ladies' shop on a shoestring in 1940. The highly successful store closed Saturday, Dec. 23, under the ownership of the two sisters.

## 1995, a year of new beginnings and some endings

1995 was a year of new beginnings and some endings in Haskell and Haskell County. *The Free Press* welcomed a new editor. Two local school districts welcomed new school superintendents. New teachers were added to school administrative staffs. New people were elected to serve on city councils and school boards. A new EDC director was hired for the city. Several new businesses opened up while a few closed their doors. A new banking service was installed at one of the local banks for banking customers. And probably the biggest story of the year was the closing of the Lane-Felker store. These are some of the events that were reported on the pages of *The Haskell Free Press* this past year.

### January

*The Haskell Free Press* welcomed a new editor to their staff, Joyce Jones, a native of Sweetwater.

The Haskell Volunteer Fire Department took delivery of a new firetruck in Baton Rouge, La. purchased from Ferrara Fire Apparatus.

The City Council approved an increase in landfill disposal fees and garbage collection fees.

Marshall Gorman of Plano bought out the local H&R Block office from Evelyn Cobb.

Fifteen Haskell High School students competed in the State Science Olympiad in Austin and attended the inauguration of Governor George W. Bush. Those attending were Jennifer Comedy, Amy Cunningham, Michael Salinas, Tonya Burson, Aaron Earles, Christopher Tatum, Carol Thornhill, Jace Yates, Matt Blanks, Sarah Cothron, Wendy Dulaney, Lyle Fouts, Dacia Phemister, Mary Kay Watson and Chris McSmith. Their sponsors were Terry and Susan Blanks and Mike and Jo McGuire.

### February

The Haskell Indians varsity basketball team claimed their second straight district title as they defeated Rotan 60-53.

Other district basketball champs included the Paint Creek boys varsity team and the Rule Lady Bobcats.

An afternoon fire on Wednesday, Feb. 1, gutted the Rule home Fidel Lopez, his wife and two grandchildren, leaving them homeless. The Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept. assisted the Rule Fire Dept. in extinguishing the blaze, which was brought under control in about three hours.

Mike Gholson opened a software business, Ambassador Software on North 1st St. next to the Haskell National Bank. Robert Tribbey,

owner of Tribbey Real Estate and Custom Homes opened up an office on the east side of the square.

### March

A city-wide teenage curfew went into effect in Haskell on Mar. 1, for teenagers age 16 and under.

Four members of the Paint Creek Lady Pirates basketball team were named to the All-District 20-A team. They were Cindy Howard, Leigh Ann Reel, Capella Tsoodle and Laura Barbour.

Winning Boy's All District 7-2A honors in basketball were Cody Cooley, Mik Everett, Justin Lisle, Shannon Meeks, Quinten Billington and Casey Larned. Cooley was named MVP and Coach Mark Coffman was named Coach of the Year.

Winning Girls All District 7-2A honors in basketball were Jill Mullen, Wendy Gray and Vernicia Gonzales. Anita Rapp was the recipient of the Fighting Heart Award.

Haskell National Bank added an automated teller machine (ATM) to make banking easier, faster and more convenient for their customers.

Farmers National Bank of Rule opened a branch office in Abilene on March 6.

### April

Longtime Haskell resident and physician, Dr. Joseph Thigpen was

honored at the annual Chamber of Christmas Banquet as "Outstanding Citizen for 1994." The honor was bestowed on Dr. Thigpen for his service and dedication as a physician, to Haskell.

Casey Burgess, a sophomore at Haskell High School was selected as Kiwanis "Sophomore of the Year," and was presented a plaque at the Division 35 Council meeting of club presidents and division chairpersons.

Knox County native, Don Welch bought the Lanco Insurance Agency in Haskell. Welch, a veteran insurance representative, bought the agency on April 1.

The Haskell High School band received a Division I rating in Sightreading at the Region II UIL Band Concert held in Hamlin on April 20.

### May

The voters returned one incumbent, Kenny Watson to the Haskell City Council and voted in two new aldermen, Fred Hernandez and Sue Wilkinson Medford in the May 6 election. Incumbent Bob Aycock was returned to the school board and Melissa Robison, who ran uncontested was seated as a new school board member.

The Haskell Indians baseball team secured the District 7-2A title by defeating the Rotan Yellowhammers 12-1 in district play.

They went on to beat DeLeon 4-3 in bi-district play, therefore winning the bi-district title.

The county's four high schools held graduation ceremonies for a total of 78 seniors; Haskell had 48, Paint Creek had nine, Rule had eleven and Rochester had ten. Valedictorian for Haskell was Amy Cunningham; Jennifer Comedy was salutatorian. Valedictorian for Paint Creek was Carri Martini; Lolo Martinez was salutatorian. Allison Pike was Rule valedictorian; Nicole Holcomb was salutatorian. Stacy DeAnn McGhee was valedictorian at Rochester; Karmen Kay Adkins was salutatorian.

Nora Casiano opened a new business, the Cake Garden in Haskell on May 8, located at 10 Ave. D on the east side of the square.

### June

The Haskell Indians baseball team became Class 2A Area baseball champions after batting their way to an 11-3 victory over Eldorado at Hardin-Simmons University's Hunter Field on Wednesday, May 24.

Doyle High, local pharmacy owner, and his friend, Claude Walter of McKinney, completed a 1300-mile trip on their bicycles from Long Beach, Calif. to Haskell. The jaunt was to celebrate High's 50th birthday. High was

also elected to the office of President-elect of the Texas Pharmacy Association.

Jason Briles and Jim Crawford, Haskell County 4-H'ers won First Place with their Electric Energy project at the State 4-H Roundup held at College Station.

Henrietta Rueffer was honored at the District FCE meeting in recognition of 50 years of membership in the Haskell County FCE organization, formerly known as the Home Demonstration Clubs and Extension Homemakers. Two other Haskell Co. FCE Club members were also recognized for 50 years of membership, Mabel Overton and Agnes Winchester.

### July

The Lone Star Railroad Inc. abandoned the 143 miles of track between Wichita Falls and Abilene. Fourteen shippers including those in Haskell, Jones and Knox County used the line and relied on it to ship wheat south to the Gulf of Mexico for export. This left the wheat growers and grain shippers having to depend on shipping grain by truck.

St. George's Parish Church and Stamford's Saint Ann's Parish welcomed a new pastor, Father Mike Melcher, a native of Meadow in Terry County.

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## Indian booster club to sponsor 1995 Holiday Hoop Classic, Dec. 28-30

If you're looking for fun and thrills during the holidays, then the Haskell Indian Gym is where you will want to be. The 1995 Holiday Hoop Classic will begin there on Thursday, Dec. 28 and end on Saturday, Dec. 30. The tournament, sponsored by the Haskell Indian Booster Club, will feature several high school boys' and girls' basketball teams from the area.

Tip-off time is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Thursday and Friday with

games continuing all day. On Saturday, the first game will begin at noon and the final game will be played at 7:30 p.m. that evening.

Winning teams will be recognized and trophies will be presented to them. An All-Tournament Team will be picked and each of those players will receive a medal, as well.

The concession stand will offer a variety of snack food choices and meal choices. An Indian meal

which includes a hamburger, chips and a drink will sell for \$3. Other items served will be nachos, baked potatoes, and Frito pies. Candy, chips and drinks will also be available.

The Haskell Indian Booster club encourages everyone to join the fun and attend the tournament. All proceeds earned will help support the many activities and projects that the club does.

## FICA getting a part of your paycheck

"Who is this guy FICA and why is he getting part of my pay?" asks a young man who has just received his first pay check. That's a good question. The young man should know why the money is being deducted. And, he should know that the letters FICA are the initials for the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, the law that authorizes withholding Social Security tax.

It's important that the young man knows FICA will be deducted from his salary for as long as he works in a job that's covered by Social Security. It's even more important that he knows the value of Social Security in his life.

The young man is a long way from retirement, but he may not be a long way from disability. Studies show that a 20-year-old worker

stands a nearly one-in-four chance of becoming disabled before reaching age 65. A person under age 24 who becomes disabled could begin receiving cash benefits after just one and a half years of work.

Few workers have private, long-term disability. But nearly all workers have Social Security disability protection. More than four million disabled workers under age 65 and 1.6 million dependents (including more than a million children) receive Social Security. Monthly disability benefits could, over the years, equal a \$203,000 disability policy for a worker with an average income who has a spouse and two small children.

Although people don't like to think of death, especially when they're young, they need to understand the value of Social Security survivor benefits. More than 7.4 million people are receiving survivors benefits because a wage earner in their family has died.

And some day, our young worker will retire and enjoy the fruits of his labor. Although Social Security isn't intended to be his sole source of retirement income, the young man should consider its value as he plans his financial future. By the year 2000, all workers will automatically receive an annual statement from Social Security showing the amount of earnings posted to their record and an estimate of the benefits they and their family are eligible to receive.

## Obituaries

### Dianne Bland

Graveside services will be held for former Haskell County resident, Dianne Bland, 54, of Greenville on Saturday, Dec. 30, at Willow Cemetery with Rev. Jim Turner officiating. Memorial services were held Saturday, Dec. 23, at Peters Funeral Home Chapel in Greenville with Glenn Slater and Rev. Melvin Ray officiating.

Bland died Wednesday, Dec. 20 at her home in Greenville. She was born Sept. 12, 1941, in Haskell to H.B. and Coreen Gallagher Montgomery. She married Dwayne Bland on July 3, 1960, in Haskell. She was co-

owner of Home Maintenance and was a member of the Paint Creek Methodist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Dwayne Bland of Greenville; one son, Wayne Montgomery Bland of Bakersfield, Calif.; two daughters, Meredith DiLynn Tull and Allison Delane Fletcher, both of Greenville; one sister, Suzanne Dale of Dallas; and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Greenville Christian School or the Outreach Health Services Patient Fund.

### Margaret Rainey

KRESS—Services were held for former Haskell County resident, Margaret Rainey, 76, of Kress on Thursday, Dec. 21, at the First Baptist Church in Kress, with Rev. Jeffrey Lee, pastor of the church, officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery in Haskell, under the direction of Wallace Funeral Home of Tulsa.

Rainey died Monday, Dec. 18, at Methodist Hospital in Lubbock. She was born Feb. 14, 1919 in Goree. She married Eulice F. Rainey on Aug. 15, 1936 in Haskell. After her marriage, they moved to Weinert and lived there for 25 years, then moved to Plainview in 1962 and to Kress in 1969. She was a member of the Kress Study

Club, Kress Senior Citizens, First Baptist Church in Kress and was active in the WMU at the church.

She was preceded in death by one sister, Betty Pritt in June of 1995.

She is survived by her husband, Eulice F. Rainey of Kress; two daughters and sons-in-law, Loreta and Robert Hill of Odessa and Nell and Frank Allen of Oklahoma City, Okla.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Gary and Linda Rainey of Andrews and Michael and Loyce Rainey of Flower Mound; one sister, Jo Zimmerman of Denton; one brother, J.E. Bicknell Jr. of Arizona; nine grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

## Holiday purchases and repairs

By Att. Gen. Dan Morales

**W**E HOPE you and your family had a happy holiday season. Among the gifts placed under your tree, you may have found a product such as a computer, appliance or home entertainment system. Big-ticket items can mean high-dollar repair bills for you or the recipient of your gift.

If your brand-new power window breaks down in what we hope is the far-distant future, you will have three basic options: replace it, fix it yourself, or have it repaired.

### Replace It

Modern manufacturing techniques have made many consumer goods very durable, simple and inexpensive. These same techniques, however, often make products difficult and costly to repair. This is especially true for

cheaper appliances and electronic goods. So before buying, check the warranty to see if it includes replacement as well as repair. Sometimes it is cheaper to replace the item, even if the warranty is still valid.

### Fix It Yourself

Because of the complexity of their products and the risk of electrical shock, most consumer electronics manufacturers strongly warn against in-home repairs. In other cases, manufacturers often provide technical assistance over the phone, or publish repair manuals for do-it-yourselfers. There are also numerous self-help manuals available at bookstores.

### Have It Repaired

Unless you inform yourself beforehand, having an item repaired can involve hidden costs and unneeded repairs. Before you purchase an expensive product, make sure you fully understand what service options are available, whether they can be transferred when the item is sold, and what your rights and responsibilities are as a buyer.

Generally, there are three types of service: factory service, authorized service, and independent repair service. Factory service means the manufacturer has its own service. Authorized service means that another company acts as the manufacturer's repair agent. Independent repair services are

usually locally owned and operated businesses.

Investigate the warranty before buying to see what type of service is guaranteed (usually some combination of parts, labor and installation) and whether repair facilities are easily accessible to the recipient of the gift. In addition, when you purchase many consumer items nowadays, the sales staff will offer to sell you a service contract.

### Service Contracts

A service contract is essentially a bet you make against the manufacturer. You bet that the item you buy will break after the original warranty expires, and that the cost of repair will exceed what you pay for the contract. A contract differs from a warranty in that it must be bought separately, and is not covered in the purchase price.

Before buying a service contract, investigate the item's reliability and repair history to see if it is really needed — various consumer magazines and services can give you ratings. You might want to be wary of buying service contracts for smaller appliances — oftentimes the cost of the contract may be more than the cost of replacing the item.

You might also consider putting the purchase on a credit card. Many cards enhance manufacturer warranties, and make it easy to return items that break right away. Another option is to wait until the warranty expires to buy the service contract.

### Third Party Warranties

Some companies offer service contracts — referred to as "third party warranties" — that have nothing to do with the manufacture or sale of the consumer goods they cover. Be aware that some of these companies can go out of business unexpectedly, rendering the contracts worthless.

We hope you continue to enjoy the gifts that came your way this past holiday season. For more information, or to lodge a complaint, please contact the Consumer Protection Division office nearest you, or call our toll-free Consumer Protection Hot Line at (800) 621-0508.

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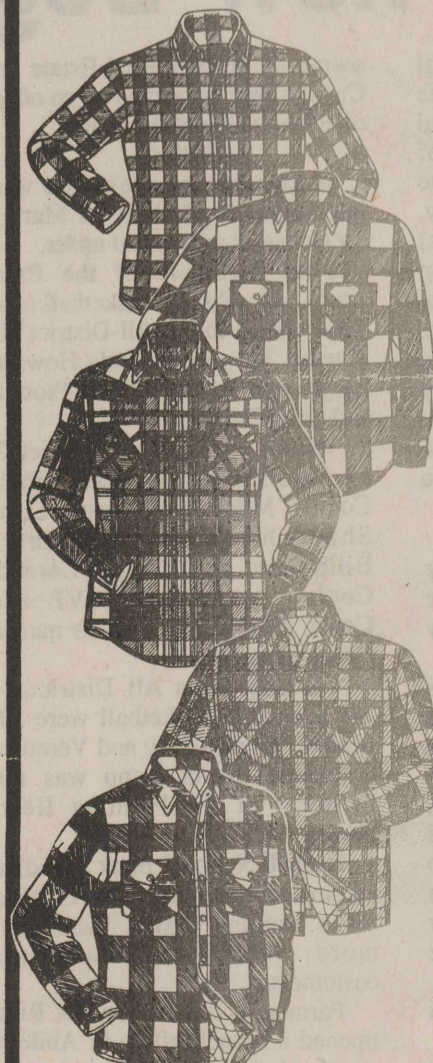
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# LIFESTYLES

## Tonja Jeanne Parr, Stephen Ray Lowry exchange nuptials

Tonja Jeanne Parr of Abilene and Stephen Ray Lowry, also of Abilene, were united in marriage on Saturday, Dec. 16, at the Pioneer Drive Baptist Church in Abilene, with Rev. Fred McNab officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Parr of Abilene. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Casey of Rule and Mr. and Mrs. Travis Parr of Floydada.

The groom's parents are Dr. and Mrs. Neal Lowry of Abilene.

Musical selections were provided by a string quartet, Strings Unlimited, Dan Mitchell on the guitar, and soloists Mindy Wheeler and Jud Hardage who also played the organ.

The bride wore an original gown by Phylliss for Bianchi of candlelight silk organza, fashioned with a fitted elongated bodice, sweetheart neckline and long tapered sleeves of embroidered flower appliques. The long full skirt, enhanced with pearls and lace appliques, fell into a chapel train. A clip of embroidered appliques encrusted with pearls, held her long veil of imported English illusion. She carried a hand-tied bouquet of bridal white roses, dendrobium orchids and stephanotis, tied with ivory bridal satin ribbon.

Laura Yeary of Krum was maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Jennifer Luker of Somerville, Ma. and Beth Ann Corp and Jennifer Burkhart, both of Abilene. Junior bridesmaids were Kristin and Erin Parr, the bride's cousins, of Seguin. Emily Clark, the groom's cousin, of Panhandle was flower girl. Heather Brown of New Home and Jana Clark, the groom's cousin, of

Panhandle served as bride assistants.

The maid of honor and bridesmaids were attired in full length fitted hunter green velvet dresses, fashioned with long sleeve and sweetheart necklines. They each carried 12 bridal white roses hand tied with ivory bridal satin ribbon.

The junior bridesmaids wore tea length, princess style hunter green velvet dresses, fashioned with sweetheart necklines. They each carried six bridal white roses hand tied with ivory bridal satin ribbon.

The flower girl was attired in a tea-length hunter green velvet dress, fashioned with long sleeves, a sweetheart neckline and an empire waist, accented with wide ivory lace. She carried six sweetheart roses hand tied with ivory bridal satin ribbon.

The groom's brother, Timothy Lowry was best man. Groomsmen were Rodney Lowry, the groom's brother, Casey Parr, the bride's brother and Josh Robison, all of Abilene. Ushers were Tommy Galvan of Lubbock, Walter Smith IV of Coppell and Michael Casey, the bride's cousin, of Rule.

The groom wore a black tuxedo with tails, an ivory shirt, a bowtie and a cummerbund.

The groomsmen and ushers were attired in black tuxedos, black bowties and cummerbunds and ivory shirts.

Members of the houseparty were Julie Casey, the bride's aunt, of Rule; Pam Clark, the groom's aunt, of Panhandle; Harriett Schaub, the groom's aunt, of Wellman; Janice Lowry, the groom's aunt, of Vernon; Mignon



MRS. STEPHEN RAY LOWERY

Brown of New Home; Linda Corp and Linda Stricklin, both of Abilene.

A reception was held immediately following the ceremony in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

The groom's parents hosted the rehearsal dinner at the Abilene Country Club.

The bride is a graduate of Wylie High School and is currently

attending Texas Tech University. She will be graduating in May, with a B.A. in Dance and a B.S. in Elementary Education.

The groom is a graduate of Wylie High School and is currently attending Texas Tech University. He will be graduating in May with a B.A. in Music and will begin

Medical School studies in August. He is employed with Eckerd Pharmacy.

After a wedding trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, the couple is making their home in Lubbock.

### Births

Scott and Barbara Montgomery announce the birth of a daughter, Olivia Kay Montgomery, on Oct. 27, at Humana Hospital in Plano. She joins her sister, Morgan Jane Montgomery, who is 22 months older, in keeping their parents busy at home in Frisco.

These girls trace their roots to Haskell County through their grandfather, John C. Montgomery and their late great-grandparents, Howard and Grace Montgomery of Paint Creek.

Meagan Lynn Kimbrough would like to announce the birth of her little brother, Joey Kyle Kimbrough, born Dec. 13 at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene, to parents Joey and Tammy Kimbrough. He weighed 8 lbs., 1-1/2 oz. and was 20-1/4 inches long.

He was welcomed home by all of his grandparents, Joe and Polly Decker of Munday, Joe and Jennabeth Kimbrough and Don and Lynda Flippin, all of Haskell.



The only President's child to be born in the White House was Esther Cleveland in 1893.

## Year end resolutions on spending habits

As you face year-end expenses of holiday, property taxes and the thought of income taxes, reflect over your spending habits. Consider how many of the top ten money mistakes that distract young adults from reaching their financial potential that you have avoided. Ask yourself which ones you will resolve to avoid in the future.

Thomas Garman and Raymond Fogue, authors of the financial education text Personal Finance, have identified the ten ways people mess up their personal finances more easily:

10. Failing to pay self first by saving on a regular basis.

9. Taking a five-year new car loan instead of buying a more affordable used car, thus always driving a car worth less than the amount owed.

8. Buying life insurance prior to the birth of your first child.

7. Failing to telephone and comparison shop for the best insurance rates. In Texas, the Texas Dept. of Insurance published lists comparing rates for every type of insurance for each region of the state. Call for the list you need.

6. Using high-interest credit card debt instead of paying bills in full each month with savings that are repaid as quickly as possible to the savings account.

5. Getting too deep in debt for too many years, often by paying only the minimum required payment for as long as credit terms will allow and thinking you can

afford more credit because you can afford more monthly payments at the lower payment rate.

4. Not joining a credit union, which pays high interest on savings and charges less for loans.

3. Buying overpriced credit life insurance when taking out a loan. Shop for the lowest term life available if insurance is required.

2. Not contributing to a tax-deductible retirement plan with money that otherwise goes to the IRS for taxes.

1. Not borrowing money to finish college when the best jobs of the future will require high technology expertise.

Submitted by Lou Gilly, Haskell Co. Ext. Agent—FCS.



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## Hospital

### Admissions

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Mike McGuire, Haskell  
Marcos De Los Santos, Rule  
Fadua Salman, Haskell  
Ruby Clemmer, Haskell  
Maggie Dunn, Haskell  
Eldon Anderson, Haskell

### Dismissals

Robert Giddens, Lessie Moore,  
Bobbie Sharp, Wanda Thompson,  
Dixie Bradley, Kelsey Smith, Jack  
Martin, Maude Kuykendall, Bruce  
Toney.

\*\*\*

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—Kin Hubbard

If you don't want to work you have to work to earn enough money so that you won't have to work.

—Ogden Nash

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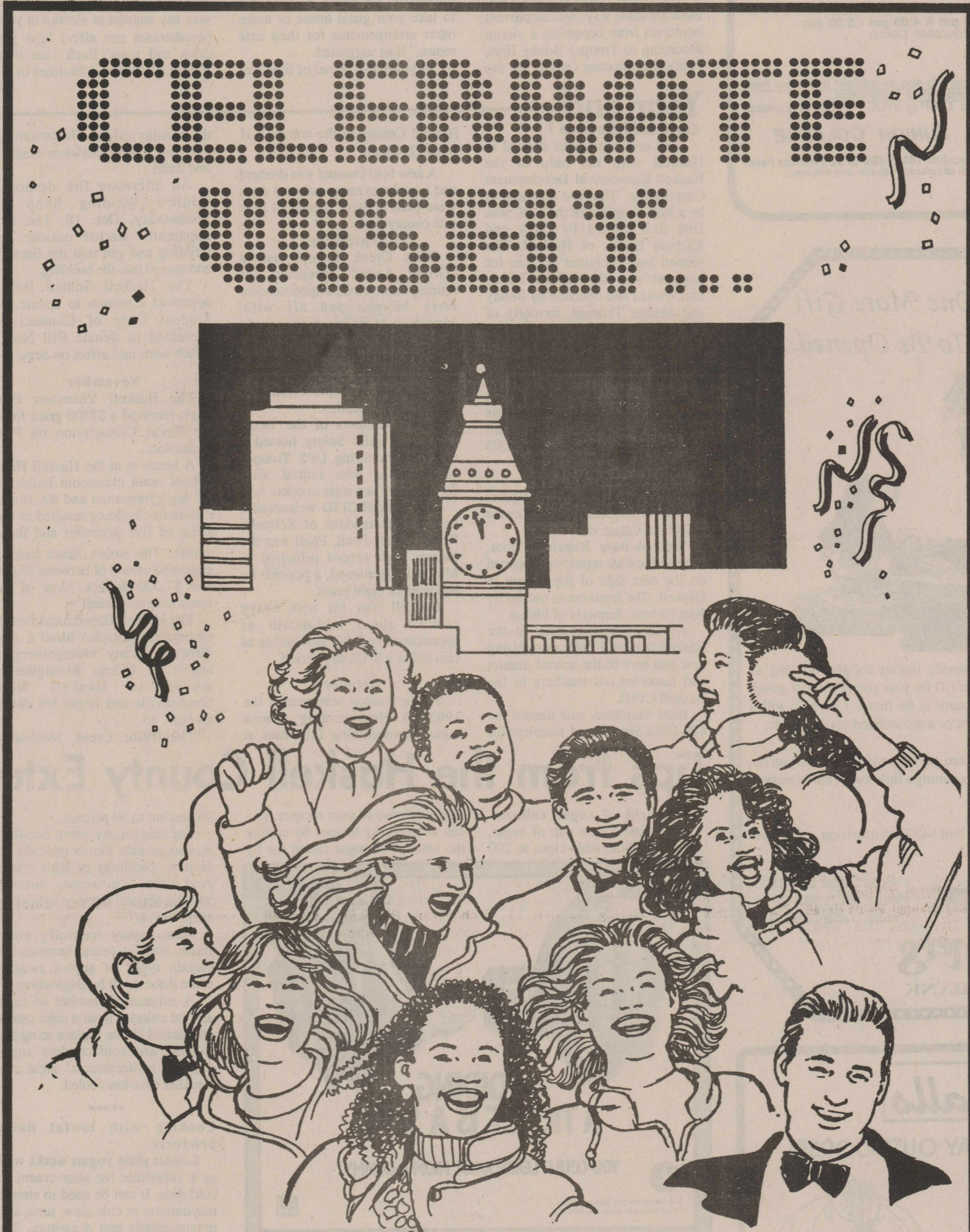
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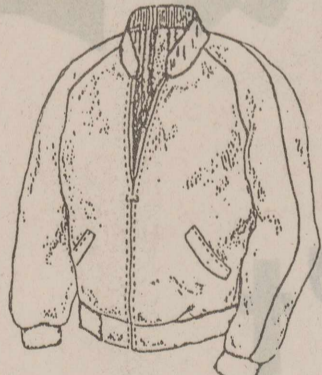
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## DPS cautions against drinking and driving

Happy New Year!! This is the traditional phrase that will sound all across our country as we bid farewell to the old and usher in a new year. However, safety officials fear that many "traditional" celebrations during this period will once again spawn many drunk driving fatalities on Texas roads.

This doesn't have to happen and there are some ways we can prevent ourselves from becoming a victim according to Trooper Bobby Hart, Public Information Officer for the

Texas Dept. of Public Safety. "Planning is the key to a safe holiday. For instance, if you are hosting a party, inform all guests that they will not be allowed to

drive in an intoxicated condition. Take up their car keys as they come in and keep a watchful eye throughout the event. Be prepared to take your guest home or make other arrangements for their safe return," Hart suggested.

"If you know ahead of time that

you will be drinking, have a designated driver who is responsible for all driving. "It's important that these plans be made ahead of the drinking because we know that sometimes our best intentions go out the window after a few drinks," Hart added.

While you may think that one or two drinks have no affect on you, any amount of alcohol in your bloodstream can affect how you think and react. Each year over 20,000 DWI related fatalities in the

U.S. attest to that fact. "When you think about it, there is really no excuse for drinking and driving, especially during this holiday. Troopers will be on the lookout for impaired drivers and if we catch you, you have more to lose than ever before under new DWI laws in Texas," Hart concluded.

Plan to survive this holiday by not drinking and driving. Also, take advantage of your best defense against drunk drivers—a safety belt.

## Year end

Continued from page 1

Two new businesses opened in Haskell with the help of the Haskell Economical Development Corporation. The first business to be a loan recipient of the EDC was Dirt Ski, owned by Gary and Barbara Harris of Haskell. The second loan recipient to open for business was Big Country Blinds Inc., owned and operated by Buddy and Madge Thomas, formerly of Arlington.

Former Superintendent of Haskell Schools, William Stewart tendered his resignation at the July 18 school board meeting. Stewart accepted a position with the Wills Point School Board. He had been superintendent of Haskell CISD since June of '89.

**August**

Bill Wilson Motor Company celebrated 50 years of service as the local Ford dealer in Haskell.

Walk-A-Bout Repair, a boot, shoe and leather repair shop opened on the east side of the square in Haskell. The business is owned by Bart Parham, formerly of Idalou.

A reception was held at the Haskell National Bank recognizing new teachers to the school district and honoring all teachers in the Haskell CISD.

Kaki Stapleton was named the 4-H Gold Star Award recipient for

Haskell County at the annual 4-H Award Program.

A new boat channel was dredged and a concrete ramp and boat dock were built at Scott Memorial Park (the county park).

**September**

Paint Creek School had a "Going Away" reception for retiring Paint Creek Superintendent Jerry Morgan and his wife, Monique Morgan, who taught school at Paint Creek. Morgan had been Superintendent of the Paint Creek School for nine years. He left to take a Superintendent's position at Crandall.

Local members of the Texas Dept. of Public Safety hosted a reception honoring DPS Trooper James Davis who retired after 28-1/2 years as a state trooper.

The Haskell CISD welcomed a new Superintendent of Schools, Robert (Bob) Pheil. Pheil was the former high school principal at Midland Greenwood, a position he had held for eight years.

Haskell was hit with heavy rainfall about mid-month as approximately 3-1/2 to 4 inches of rain fell in a 2-1/2 day period.

**October**

Tonya Burson was named the 1995-96 Homecoming Queen during homecoming festivities at

the Friday night Homecoming Football Game between Haskell and Baird.

An afternoon fire destroyed Eddie's Welding Shop on Wednesday, Oct. 18. The fire apparently started outside the building and got into the firewall and spread into the building.

The Haskell School Board approved a motion to update the Student Code of Conduct as presented in Senate Bill No. 1 which went into affect on Sept. 1.

**November**

The Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept. received a \$7500 grant from the Texas Commission on Fire Protection.

A break-in at the Haskell High School main classroom building, the big gymnasium and the Home Economics building resulted in the arrest of five juveniles and three adults. The stolen items had an estimated value of between \$6,000 and \$7,000 dollars. Most of the items were recovered.

The Haskell Economical Development Corporation hired a new director, Monty Montgomery, a native of Crandall. Montgomery moved to Haskell from Stephenville and began his duties on Nov. 13.

The Paint Creek Methodist

Church held its final church service on Sunday, Nov. 19.

The Paint Creek Independent School District hired a new Superintendent, Larry Shackelford, the former principal at Wylie High School in Abilene.

**December**

The Texas Department of Transportation raised the speed limit to 70 mph on interstates and 4-lane divided highways throughout the state. The new speed limit signs were posted in Haskell County on Wednesday, Dec. 13.

County Judge B.O. Roberson announced his resignation effective Dec. 31 after serving as county judge a total of 22 years in two different terms at the Dec. 11 meeting of the Commissioner's Court. At the same meeting, County Commissioner Ray Perry announced that he would not run for office in the upcoming election.

Randy McLelland, Youth Minister at First Baptist Church resigned his position at the Haskell First Baptist Church to accept the Youth Ministry at the First Baptist Church in Kaufman. McLelland had been at FBC for almost nine years.

Lane-Felker's closed its business on Saturday, Dec. 23 after almost 55 years under the ownership of Mattie Muriel Felker English and Frances Lane.

## Tips from the Haskell County Extension office

**Getting rid of sugar calories**

Every one-fourth cup of sugar, brown or white, adds close to 200

empty calories to your recipes. You can adapt many recipes by cutting the amount of sugar called for by

24 percent to 50 percent.

For starters, try using one-third less sugar than the recipe calls for in pies, puddings or fruit crisps. Add more cinnamon, nutmeg, vanilla, almond or other extracts to spark flavor.

Also, many naturally sweet fruits, such as pears, bananas and certain types of apples sweeten some desserts all by themselves.

A substantial number of sugar and fat calories from a cake can be eliminated if you replace icing and frosting with confectioners' sugar. Sprinkle confectioners' sugar over top after cake has cooled.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Cooking with lowfat dairy products**

Lowfat plain yogurt works well as a substitute for sour cream in cold dips. It can be used to stretch mayonnaise in cole slaw, tuna, and potato salads and dressings. Try half yogurt and half mayonnaise.

Yogurt can also be used in place of sour cream in cooked food, but it tends to separate and become watery. You can overcome this by whisking some flour into yogurt before cooking. Better yet, whenever possible add yogurt to cooked foods after removing them from the heat source.

An excellent imitation sour cream can be made by whirling lowfat cottage cheese, along with several tablespoons of skim milk or yogurt, in a blender until

smooth. This makes a delicious base for vegetable dips and is good replacement for ricotta cheese and sour cream in casseroles.

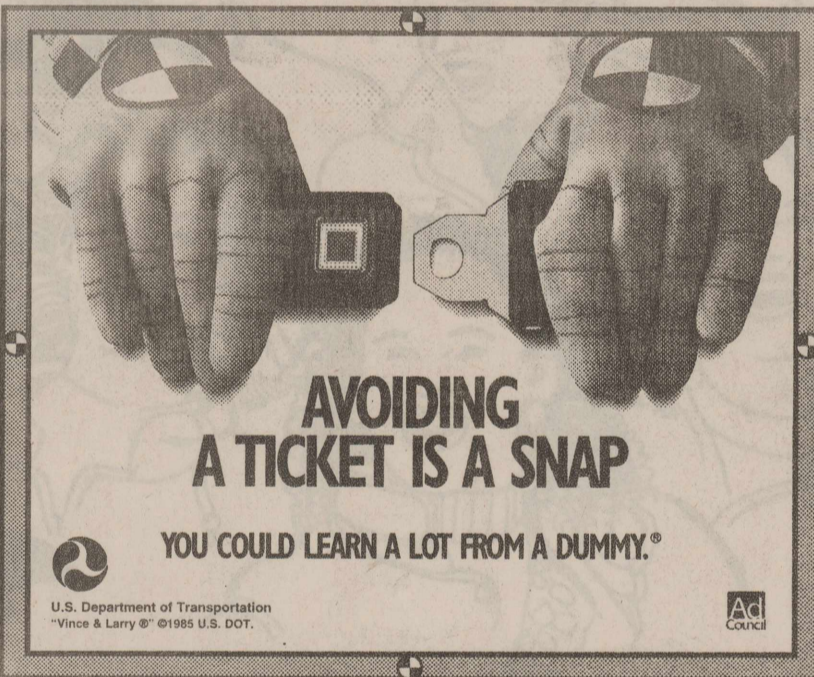
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Should ordinary diets contain dietary supplements?**

Today, sales of foods into pill or supplement form marketed for their health benefit exceed \$6 billion annually in the United States. In 1988, only \$2 to \$2.5 billion annually were spent on vitamin/mineral supplements alone with the expectation that the supplement will insure optimal health.

Don't be easy prey for supplementation abuse. Instead, look to increasing fruit and vegetable consumption (currently 11 percent or less of the population consumes no fruits or vegetables). Also, include other foods containing beneficial health components as part of a varied diet based on the principles of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Guide Pyramid.

Before taking any dietary supplements such as chitin, green tea, certain herbal preparations or other supplements which also could be dangerous, consult your physician as to the real health benefits of the supplement.

Submitted by Lou Gilly,  
Haskell Co. Ext. Agent-FCS.



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# Sagerton News

By Dorothy M. Clark

Christmas Day has come and gone with much visiting going on and now we are ready to get back to our regular routine and plan for a happy 1996.

The community was saddened by the deaths of two of our long-time residents, Ethel Quade on December 20, and Mrs. Vela Meier on December 21.

Ethel became a part of the Sagerton community when she and Glynn were married in 1939 and was active in the Methodist and Faith Lutheran Churches and all other community activities. Her two sons, Larry and Lyndell were an integral part of the Sagerton schools.

Vela Meier moved to Sagerton in 1929 and also lived in the Old Glory community. She was an active member of the former Zion Lutheran Church and then Faith Lutheran. Her children, Luther, Eunice, Buenice and Allen attended the Sagerton schools.

We will all miss these special ladies and extend our sympathy to the surviving families.

The Friendship Club held its Christmas Dinner at Faith Lutheran Church last Thursday with the following people in attendance: Frances Perez, Victoria Benavides, Sam Benavides, Crystal Perez, Alvin and Evelyn Ulmer, Jill, Cade, Tully and Kinsey Brown, Michelle and Clay Toney, Pastor Jeff and Marie Zell, Ed Fouts, Herbert Lammert, Beatrice Puebla, Frieda Knipling, Meta Kupatt, Jacob Manske, Joe Clark, Margaret Wendeborn, Larry LeFevre, Charles and Dorothy Clark, a Kittley, Leroy and Polly Nehring, Hazel and Vernon Wofford, Louise and Adeline Spitzer, Corine Lowack, Delbert and Joyce LeFevre, Mary Neinast, Franklin and Isabell Mrazek, Leo and Minnie Monse Doris Lehrmann, Ronnie, Kathy and Ross Teichelman and Clancey and Helen Lehrmann.

The Melvin Baitz family gathered for their Christmas celebration on Christmas Day with Fred, Tami, Kami and Kacy Baitz, Jordan and Brady Baitz, and Jackie, Gail, Ashley and Clay Morrow.

The Leon Stegemoeller family had their family dinner on Saturday night with all their children present. They included Clayton, Paula, Stephanie, and Michelle of Sagerton, Calvin, Cheri Lynn, Eric, Ross and Christi of Hewitt, Clyde of Richardson, Carl, Beth, Mindi and Jonathon of Hobbs, N.M., Clifford of Arlington, Teresa Engle of Arlington and Emma Raphelt of Stamford.

Harold and Joy Bredthauer from Tulsa, Okla. spent Christmas Day in the home of his father, Alvin and Alice Bredthauer.

Charles and Dorothy Clark were in Abilene for Christmas Day in the home of Bob and Tommie Jo Clark. Other guests included Mrs. M. Y. Benton, Alma Jo Simpson of Rule, Steve, Donna and Shawn Clark of Graham, Kyle Clark of Texas Tech, Judson Clark of U. S. C. and his fiancée Jennifer Nelson of Houston.

The Odene Dudensing family

gathered in her home on Saturday for their Christmas celebration. Lyndale, Renee, Emery, Abby, Molly and Jenny, Larry and Carol Hobratschk of Littlefield with their children, Aaron, Brian and Steven and Harvey Dudensing of Rice Springs Care Home of Haskell were all there.

Stephen and Karen Lehrmann and their children Jennifer, Brian, M'Lynn and Joanna were at Claude on Saturday for the James and LaNell Gunter family Christmas.

Clancey and Helen Lehrmann hosted a Christmas dinner for their children, Gail of Denver, Colo., Steven, Karen and family of Sagerton, Helen's brother, Bud Letz of Abilene and his two daughters, Teri, who is a teacher at Perrin, near Mineral Wells, and Tommy and Celeste Brewster, Justin and Jordan of Eula.

G. W. and Ophelia were treated to a Christmas dinner in their home by some of their children, Boyd and Elizabeth Young of Abilene and Gary, Shonda Apple and sons of Stamford. Ophelia is recovering nicely following her knee replacement and thanks all her friends for their calls, prayers, food and cards that were sent her way during her recuperation.

Eunice Guinn spent Christmas Eve in the home of her son and family, Johnny Lee and Sue Guinn.

Her granddaughter, Deborah Jean of Lubbock also visited with her parents.

Delbert and Joyce LeFevre hosted their family dinner on Sunday with the following children, grandchildren and friends in attendance: Jack and Linda Pierce of Wylie, Rob and Becky Bailey and daughters of Austin, Russ, Brad and Bryan Bailey of Canyon, Vonda Cunningham of Canyon, Eric and Laressa Earthman of Amarillo, Todd Pierce of Berkeley, Calif., Holly Hobgood of Haskell and Texas Tech, Kent, Kathy and Kit LeFevre of Tuscola, Larry, Susan and Shane LeFevre of Rule and Ken, Jill, Tully, Cade and Kinsey Brown of Sagerton.

The David Letzs spent Christmas Eve in Abilene visiting in the home of their son, Dave Letz and family.

Ernest and Corine hosted a family diner for their children and grandchildren on Sunday. They included Charles and Helen Diers, Daron and Kimberly Dorothy of Muleshoe, Alden, Janice and Ricky of Old Glory and Bobby and Kim of Sagerton and Ricky's friend from Aspermont.

The Jack Monse home was the scene for a family gathering on Christmas Day that included their children Dewayne Monse of Abilene, his friend, Barry Smoot

also of Abilene and Donny, Diane, Mitzi and Eric Barbee of Levelland. While here, the Donny Barbee's also attended the Barbee family gathering in Abilene.

The Alvin and Evelyn Ulmer home was the scene for Christmas dinner and festivities on Christmas Day. Children and grandchildren in attendance included Winston and Mary Ulmer of Seguin, Mark, Dawn and Sean Ulmer of Houston, Mark and Paige Stockard of Katy and Keith, Jana and Kyle Whitaker of Meeker, Colo.

Mozelle Manske entertained her children and grandchildren in her home on the 24th. They were Jerry and Shirley Manske of Stamford, Ernie, Sharon Britta, Brennan and Brooke, Betty and Danny Stephens and little Jerry of Stephenville, Tommy, Kathy, Phillip, Brian, and Michael, Johnny, Jana, Jace and Jacob all of Sagerton and Debra Underwood of Stamford.

Jacob Manske, son of Johnny and Jana Manske was baptized Christmas morning at Faith Lutheran Church. His sponsors were Kathy and Shirley Manske and Doug Terrell.

Bill and Margie Hertel were hosts for several days to their family. Misty and Will Smith of Crowell visited with their grandparents several days before Christmas. On Saturday guests

included Jack and Vicky Ralph and children Eric and Jessica of New Braunfels, Dr. Mary Ralph of Universal City and then on the 25th Kenny and Karla Taylor of Crowell, Craig Smith of Old Glory, Gladys Martin of Stamford and Mike, Sheryl, Jeremy, Michael, Kristin and Andrew Hertel and Monty Martin of Rule joined the group.

Reece and Frances spent a quiet Christmas Day at home with many relatives and friends dropping by.

There was a large crowd in attendance at the Methodist Church with visitors in the community for the holiday.

## Lane-Felker

Continued from page 1

But the duties of the business and their participation in the community were not the only priorities in their lives; both ladies raised a family. Frances and her husband, Shady Lane, had two daughters, Frances and Suzanne Lane. Mattie and her husband, Viars Felker raised two sons, Michael and Walter Felker.

For almost 55 years, Lane-Felker has been built on honesty, fairness, attention to detail and dedication to customers, without whom the dream could not have been realized. "Our customers are

Family members and guests in the Joe Clark home on Sunday included Don and Patsy Bivins of Valley View, Tom and Emmalee Bivins of Rule, Ray and Nancy Clark and Emma Raphelt of Stamford, and Pastor Jeff and Marie Zell. Leslie and Kay Baitz of Leander stopped by in the afternoon for a short visit.

Joe and Dorothy entertained friends with a supper on Monday night. Present were Steve, Paula, Joshua, Jacob, Joseph and Rebecca Stoll from Seward, Neb. and Walter, Diane, Daniel, Craig and Barbara Martin of Abilene.

our best friends. We want to give them the best quality garment for their money." This has been a quote of both women for the life of Lane-Felker. The personal touch has been their philosophy.

Even though the store may be purchased and reopened under new owners, it is the end of an era in the business history of Haskell. The much loved and respected Walling sisters will be missed by their loyal customers and friends.

Editor's note: Parts of the story were taken from previous articles in The Haskell Free Press including an article by Suzanne Lane Starr.

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# WORSHIP TOGETHER

Great actions are not always true sons of great and mighty resolutions.  
—Samuel Butler



...Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."  
—II Corinthians 5:17

## THE NEW YEAR CAN BEGIN A NEW CHAPTER IN OUR LIVES

We will be hanging up a new calendar on the wall very soon, even as we celebrate the arrival of the new year with friends and relatives. This is also the beginning of a new chapter in our lives, and even if we are fortunate enough not to have acquired any bad personal habits, there is always some room for improvement. Perhaps we could do more for the poor; even if it's just by giving them those clothes that we expect to wear some day but haven't worn in years. In fact, this would reward us with more room in our closets. Also, we should plan to attend our House of Worship regularly, whether we have been doing this or not. Whatever our faith, this tends to make us happier and better adjusted, and eliminates the need of that long list of New Year's resolutions that we probably wouldn't have kept in any case.

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<p><b>East Side Baptist Church</b> David Page, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. 600 N. 1st East, Haskell</p> <p><b>Christian Church</b> Frank Summers, preacher Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. 107 N. Ave. F, Haskell</p> <p><b>Church of God</b> Eric Clark, pastor • 864-2021 Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:30 p.m. East Hwy 380, Haskell</p> <p><b>Trinity Lutheran Church</b> Bruce Adamson, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 10:30 a.; Wed. 7:00 p. Hwy 380 East, Haskell</p> <p><b>Iglesia Bautista El Calvario</b> Raul Tirado, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. 607 S. 7th, Haskell</p> <p><b>First United Methodist Church</b> Sidney Parsley, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:50 a., 6 p.; Wed. 6 p. 201 N. Ave. F, Haskell</p> <p><b>First Assembly of God</b> Rev. J.C. Amburn Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. 1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell</p> <p><b>St. George Catholic Church</b> Father Michael Melcher Sat. Mass 7:15 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m. 901 N. 16th, Haskell</p> <p><b>Church of Christ</b> Dale Huff, minister Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 10:30 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7:30 p. 510 N. Ave. E, Haskell</p> <p><b>First Presbyterian Church</b> Steve C. Kerr, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a.m. 306 N. Ave. E, Haskell</p> <p><b>Trinity Baptist Church</b> Rev. Kenneth Blair Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7:30 p. 401 S. Ave. D, Haskell</p> <p><b>Hopewell Baptist Church</b> John Lewis, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 11:00 a.; Wed. 7 p. 908 N. Ave. A, Haskell</p> <p><b>Greater Independent Baptist Church</b> Sunday Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a.m., 7 p.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m. 300 N. 3rd St., Haskell</p> <p><b>New Covenant Foursquare</b> Freddy Perez, pastor Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p. 200 S. Ave. F, Haskell</p> <p><b>Mission Revival Center</b> Rev. William Hodge Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6 p.; Tues. 6 p. 1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Jim Turner, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. 301 N. Ave. E, Haskell</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Werth Mayes, pastor Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. Weinert</p>	<p><b>Weinert Methodist Church</b> Rev. James Patterson Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m. Weinert</p> <p><b>Weinert Foursquare Church</b> Rev. Joyce Goossen and Rev. Diane Crownover Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m. Weinert</p> <p><b>Church of Christ</b> Jim Pratt, minister Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.; Wed. 6 p. West on Main Street, Rochester</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Rev. Truett Kuenstler Sun. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 6:30 p. 500 Main, Rochester</p> <p><b>Union Chapel Baptist Church</b> Rev. Andrew Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. Rochester</p> <p><b>Faith Chapel of Rochester</b> Katherine Byrd, minister Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m. Hwy 6, Rochester</p> <p><b>First United Methodist Church</b> James P. Patterson, pastor Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. Rochester</p> <p><b>Sagerton Methodist Church</b> Carol Krumpton, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m. Sagerton</p> <p><b>Faith Lutheran Church</b> Jeff Zell, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m. Sagerton</p> <p><b>Paint Creek Baptist Church</b> Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m. Paint Creek</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Stewart Farrell, pastor Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. 1001 Union Ave., Rule</p> <p><b>Primitive Baptist Church</b> Dale Turner Jr., pastor First &amp; Third Sundays 10 a.m. Corner of 8th &amp; Robins, Rule</p> <p><b>Church of Christ</b> John Grasson, minister Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. 811 Union, Rule</p> <p><b>New Life Baptist Mission</b> Jesus Herrera Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. Elm Street-Hwy 380 E, Rule</p> <p><b>Sweet Home Baptist Church</b> Matt Herrington, pastor Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p. Gladstone Ave., Rule</p> <p><b>West Bethal Baptist Church</b> Rev. Robert Sweet Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 8 p.; Wed. 7:30 p. 300 Sunny Ave., Rule</p>
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# A big loss or just another fat chance

EVERY JANUARY millions of people make New Year's resolutions to get into better shape and lose weight. Another sure sign of a new year are the fitness industry advertisements flooding the media with "special deal" offers for new members.

Working out is a terrific way to meet your fitness goals, and Texas has a number of excellent and reputable health spas. But here at the Office of the Attorney General, we know that the sheer number of establishments can make it difficult for you to sort out the facts from the competing claims and the high-pressure sales pitches. So we have put together some common-sense questions for you to ask if you are considering joining a health club.

## Ask Questions

How can you ensure that your spa is worth your money? Careful investigation before you join is always a good idea. How long has it been in business? Are there complaints filed against the health

club at the Office of the Attorney General or the local Better Business Bureau?

Before you sign a contract, find out exactly what your membership includes, how much it costs, and how long it lasts. Ask about additional fees. If you hear a promise not stated in the contract, get it in writing.

Once you sign a contract with a health club, you have four business days to change your mind. If you decide to cancel your contract, immediately notify the club in writing. They must return all of your money within 31 days.

## What to Look For

Shop around to find the spa that best meets your needs. Visit two or three clubs, preferably at the time of day that you will be using the facility. Is the club too crowded? Does the equipment appear easy to operate? Visit with the staff, and ask about their training and qualifications.

Convenience is probably the major factor in the use and enjoy-

ment of health club memberships. Select a facility that is close to your home or place of employment.

## What to Avoid

Be wary if the spa's fees are excessively low. Some club owners offer inexpensive, nonrefundable memberships, counting on members to quit because of overcrowding. If the locker rooms, showers, pool, or hot tub appear dirty, it could be a sign of poor management and possible financial instability. Equipment that is out of date or in bad condition is another indication that the facility may not be well run.

## Weight Loss Scams

Another common New Year's resolution is to lose weight. Unscrupulous marketers know this and promote a seemingly endless variety of phony weight loss gimmicks. A consumer once wrote to us about a patch which, if worn on the wrist, would allegedly curb your appetite. Independent testing showed that the patch contained only water and a minute amount of crushed oyster shells.

## Be Cautious

Be wary of any program or product that promises fast and effortless weight loss. The old saw holds true — if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Regardless of what advertisers might

claim, there is no patch, pill, or powder that instantly melts away fat.

If you are considering joining a commercial weight loss program, read the fine print in the advertisements and don't be afraid to ask questions. Claims that you can lose weight for a weekly fee may be misleading. Often the program requires that you buy special foods, vitamins, books, or nutritional supplements — all for an additional fee. Find exactly how much your weight loss will cost before you join.

Don't sign any contract without reading it carefully, and without asking some important questions, such as:

- Will your money be refunded if you are dissatisfied with the program? If so, get the refund policy in writing.

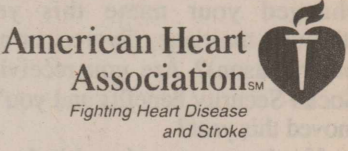
- What is the total monthly or weekly cost? Be sure to get all promises in writing.

Finally, be sure to consult your family doctor before beginning any weight loss program. Once you have your doctor's approval, look for a sensible diet plan that fits your lifestyle.

Regardless of whether you choose to work out or eat light, shedding excess pounds is never easy. But following some common sense guidelines will ensure that you, and not your wallet, end up lighter.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes was sitting in his library one day when Franklin D. Roosevelt called, a few days after his inauguration in 1933, and found him reading Plato, at the age of ninety-two. "Why do you read Plato, Mr. Justice?" "To improve my mind, Mr. President," Holmes replied.

**If you are what you eat, why not cut back on fat?**



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**Paint Creek School Menu**

**Jan. 2-5 Breakfast**  
Juice and milk are served with all breakfast menus.  
**Tuesday:** Teacher workday. Breakfast burrito.  
**Wednesday:** Toast with jelly  
**Thursday:** Cereal  
**Friday:** Donuts  
**Lunch**  
Milk and tea are served with all lunch menus.

**Tuesday:** Teacher workday. Baked potatoes, salad, sour cream, bacon bits, lemon squares.  
**Wednesday:** Chicken pot pie, cream potatoes, blackeyed peas, fruit  
**Thursday:** Chicken fried steak with gravy, pea salad, fruit, hot rolls, scalloped potatoes  
**Friday:** Hamburgers, fries, lettuce, onions, cheese, pickles, ice cream.

**Haskell School Menu**

**Jan. 1-5 Breakfast**  
Juice and milk are served with all breakfast menus.  
**Monday:** No school  
**Tuesday:** No school  
**Wednesday:** Breakfast pizza  
**Thursday:** Biscuits and gravy, sausage  
**Friday:** Cereal, buttered toast and jelly  
**Lunch**  
A choice of baked potato with ham and cheese, salad bar or hamburger and fries, plus milk and tea are served daily on the lunch menu at the high school. Milk and juice are served daily at the elementary school.  
**Monday:** No school  
**Tuesday:** No school

\*\*\*  
To a poet, nothing can be useless.  
—Samuel Johnson

\*\*\*  
We don't understand life any better at forty than at twenty, but we know it and admit it.  
—Jules Renard

## Spirit Wind choir reunion

This summer, the 1996 Spirit Wind Choir will host a reunion weekend in Midland on Friday, June 14, through Sunday, June 16. The alumni will rehearse with the 1996 choir on Friday and Saturday and then participate in the 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. worship services on Sunday.

A social event will be planned for Saturday evening which will offer everyone a chance to renew friendships and catch up on old times.

We are in need of addresses of the former members of Spirit Wind. If you know of anyone in

your church, a friend, or a family member who has been a part of Spirit wind, please send their address so that they may receive all further communication about the weekend.

Please mail or fax any information you may have to Bert W. Bostic, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 3011 West Kansas, Midland, TX 79701. The fax number is 915-694-9608.

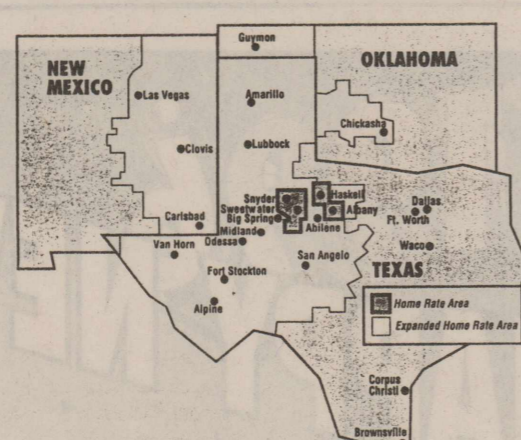
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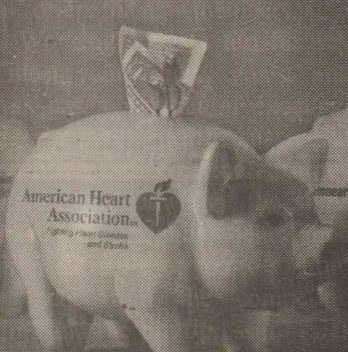


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# End of year reminders from Social Security Administration

Do you have a child born this year who doesn't have a Social Security number? Have you changed your name this year (through marriage, divorce, or any other reason)? Are you receiving Social Security benefits and you've moved this year?

If these are the kinds of

situations that match your circumstances, this is the time of year you should be sure to talk to Social Security. It's a good time to do a reality check to make sure you are on top of your rights and responsibilities under Social Security.

Do you have a child who was

born this year who doesn't have a Social Security number? The law requires you to list the Social Security number on your tax return for each dependent born before Nov. 1, 1995, being claimed on your 1995 tax return. If you have a child born before Nov. 1 who doesn't have a Social Security number, you should make sure you get one before you file your tax return next year. Remember, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will not process a return without correct Social Security numbers for dependents.

If you've changed your name this year (through marriage, divorce, or any other reason) and haven't made sure your new name is listed on your Social Security card and in Social Security's

records, there may be problems posting your earnings to Social Security's files. This could reduce your future Social Security benefits. Also, the Internal Revenue Service may have problems processing your tax return.

To get a replacement card, you usually need one identifying document. To change the name on your card, you need documentation that shows your old name and your new name. If you were born outside the United States, you generally must show proof of U.S. citizenship or lawful alien status. Your replacement card will have the same number as your old card.

If you're receiving Social Security benefits and you've moved this year, make sure Social

Security has your new address. Sometimes people who have their checks sent directly to their bank forget to tell us about a change in their mailing address.

You must notify the post office and Social Security immediately if you change your mailing address. In fact, failure to report a change of address is the leading cause of checks not arriving on time. Your report should include your claim number, your old address and the new address, including ZIP code. Give the names of all family members who should receive benefits or information at the new address.

You should report a new address even if you have direct deposit because important letters from Social Security are sent to your

mailing address, even though your benefits go directly to a bank. Your benefits could be stopped temporarily if Social Security cannot locate you because you have not reported a change of address.

If you receive Social Security and worked in 1995, you need to report your earnings to Social Security by Apr. 15, 1996. The 1995 limits were \$8,160 for people under 65 and \$11,280 for people 65-69. Remember that you can earn more money in 1995 before your benefits are reduced. If you're under 65, you can earn up to \$8,280 next year with no reduction in benefits. If you're 65 to 69, you can earn up to \$11,520 in 1996 with no reduction. If you're 70 or older, there is no limit on your earnings.

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## The new year brings new initiatives

AS THE NEW YEAR unfolds, we at the Office of the Attorney General pledge to continue to provide Texans with the best possible child support services. Through innovative initiatives, new legislation, and pilot projects, we are moving aggressively toward a new and refined system of establishing child support orders and collecting child support payments.

### Re-engineering Child Support

We recently unveiled a proposal to streamline the child support enforcement program. Currently, about 95 percent of all child support cases are resolved without a contested hearing. Yet all cases must go through the courts, even all parties agree to a solution. Common sense tells us that we should do everything we can to lighten the load on our overburdened judicial system. Under our proposal, our child support staff would handle many tasks administratively that are currently being processed by Texas courts.

### Expanding Caseloads

When the child support program was established in the mid-1970s, Texas courts could easily handle the caseload. But in recent years, we have seen tremendous growth in the number of child support cases — from fewer than 180,000 cases in 1983 to more than 750,000 cases this past fiscal year. This growth more than quadrupled the number of cases having to be resolved by the judges of Texas.

And there will be no slowdown anytime soon. At the current rate, more than 17,000 new cases come into our office every month. More than 96 percent of these come to the agency with no court

### Orders. New Procedures Mean Faster Service

To streamline the child support enforcement process, I have made the following seven recommendations:

**Paternity Testing.** The child support enforcement program should have the authority to order paternity testing. Currently, the program routinely files about 1,000 paternity actions per week, resulting in about 500 paternity hearings per week. If it were handled administratively, paternity establishment would be faster and more efficiently.

**Cut Needless Red Tape.** There is no reason why courts have to be burdened with cases where both parents agree to sign child support orders. Why should a judge be held up by paperwork delays — often for weeks or months — simply to rubber-stamp an order already agreed to by both parties?

**Find Non-custodial Parents Faster.** By simply amending the Texas Family Code, the child support program could have more

authority to gather information about a non-custodial parent's location, employment and ability to pay child support. With this reform, the program could go about the business of tracking down recalcitrant parents without waiting for authority from the courts.

**Mandatory Mediation.** As a viable alternative to costly and time-consuming litigation, mediation is fast becoming the preferred way to handle disputes. Child support enforcement is no exception.

**Enforcement Authority.** If the program had the authority to enforce child support orders, collections could be expedited by weeks or months. What kind of authority? Simply to initiate license suspensions, issue wage-withholding notices and file liens when necessary.

**Increased Administrative Authority.** By giving the program the discretion to determine which cases should be handled administratively and which should be handled by the courts, the program can operate more efficiently. Of course, due process would be preserved because either party could still appeal an administrative de-

cision to a state district court.

**Shift the Burden of Proof.** If a party appeals a child support order, the burden of proof should be on that party to prove that the order is faulty. In a jury trial, for example, the party should be required to plead and prove his or her claim like any other litigant in a court of law.

### The Goal: Helping Texas Children

By creating an administrative structure that compels parties to meet informally, without needlessly involving the judicial process, we can vastly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of child support enforcement. At the same time, every citizen will retain the right to appeal to a court of law in any dispute where the administrative structure fails to provide satisfaction.

To adequately meet the needs of hundreds of thousands of Texas children, we must further improve the system. Thus far, our track record has been successful. In the past five years, our office has collected more than \$2 billion for Texas children. I am extremely proud of this record-breaking total, achieved in the face of an enormous and ever-increasing caseload. But we must always strive to do better.

If we keep our eyes fixed on our ultimate goal — the well-being of our children — then I believe we can, and will, find even better ways to meet their needs.

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**1996 HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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Message brought to you by this newspaper and the Texas Highway Patrol Association



# High Plains Vegetable Conference to focus on integrated crop management of vegetables

By Joe Bryant  
Ext. Comm. Specialist  
Strategies to help assure growers of profitable production and marketing of crops will focus on "Integrated Crop Management of Vegetables" during the annual High Plains Vegetable Conference in Lubbock on Jan. 16.

The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Hereford Community Center, 100 Ave. C at Park Ave. It is sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, High Plains Vegetable Growers and Shippers Council, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas Tech University, Deaf Smith County Ext. Vegetable Development Committee, Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce and Texas Dept. of Agriculture.

The program has been approved by TDA for five continuing education units for commercial and

non-commercial pesticide applicators. Applicators are required to obtain five CEUs of training each year to retain certification. The \$25 registration fee includes lunch.

"The conference goal is to improve the competitive position of Texas vegetables and to increase family farm profitability and sustainability," said Dr. Roland E. Roberts, Ext. Service vegetable specialist at Lubbock who has coordinated the conferences since 1971.

"As the federal farm program becomes less supportive, growers of many crops will see advantages of planning more diversification with vegetable crops," Roberts said. "It is wise to conduct a detailed study of cropping systems that include vegetables and investigate marketing opportunities well in advance of launching a new venture in diversification."

"This conference is designed to

enable growers to get information and visualize successful systems of integrated vegetable crop management."

A special feature this year will be a workshop on integrated pest management for melon and vine crops. It will include a survey of grower concerns and needs, presentations of up to date control measures for insects, diseases and weeds, plus successful culture practices. It will include opportunities for growers to ask questions of the speakers and voice their concerns.

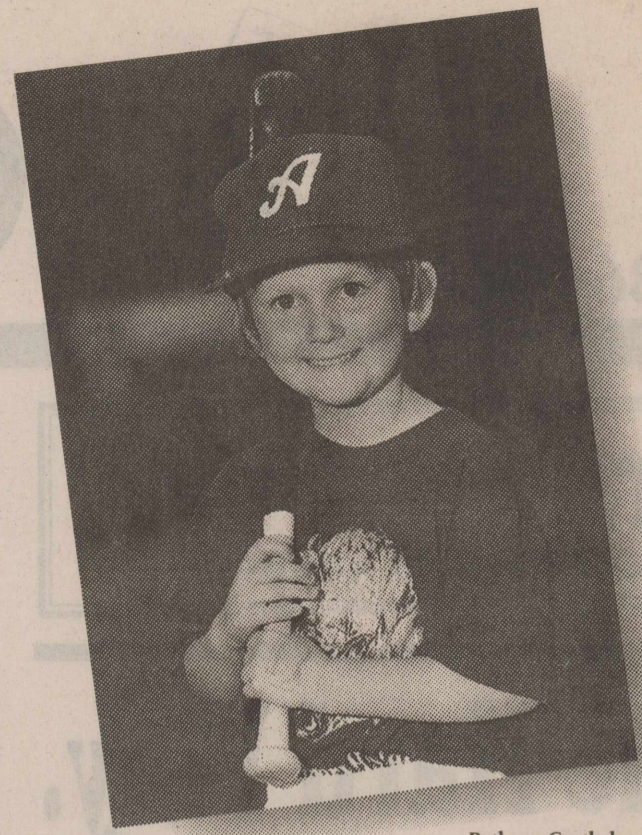
"All growers will profit from hearing detailed discussion of water requirements and irrigation scheduling for vegetable crops," Roberts said.

Other sessions will provide in-depth presentations on potato nematode control, onion varieties

to fit market windows, potential for Jerusalem artichoke, pepper stand establishment and breaking the yield barrier for watermelon. Special breakout sessions will be offered growers of potatoes and chili peppers.

Reports and inspiring stories of successful harvesting and dehydration of millions of pounds of potatoes, carrots and other vegetables from the High Plains will be given by representatives of the Society of St. Andrew, a charitable organization which helps procure food for the nation's needy and Breedlove Dehydrated Foods, the Lubbock plant which processes vegetables for use by food banks.

Some 25 exhibits and educational displays will be presented by agribusiness professionals serving the vegetable industry.



Bethany Cartledge  
In-line skater,  
T-ball slugger,  
Drunk driving victim.  
January 18, 1994  
Cheraw, SC

## Credit repair, debt collectors and your rights

FOR MANY TEXANS, "Happy Holidays" are followed by bills in the mail. Debt collectors and credit repair outfits are gearing up for their busy time. A good credit rating is important when you want to buy your dream home or a shiny new car. If not in tip-top shape, a poor credit rating can put a damper on your financial future.

### Debt Collectors and Consumer Rights

A consumer unable to pay bills on time need not despair. Most creditors will work something out with consumers, but they must be contacted before a bill goes to a collection agency. Even if the creditor refuses to work out a deal, the debtor still retains certain rights.

Although debt collectors have the right to collect debts, state law prohibits them from:

- Using profane or obscene language;
- Threatening violence or other criminal acts;

- Falsely accusing the consumer of fraud or other crimes;

- Sending documents to a debtor that falsely appear to be from a court or other official agency;

- Making collect telephone calls without disclosing the true name of the caller before the charges are accepted;

- Using the telephone to harass debtors by calling anonymously or by making repeated or continuous calls.

In addition, federal law prohibits debt collectors from harassing debtors at work. For example, debt collectors and their attorneys may not contact a debtor at work if the debtor has notified the collector in writing that calls at work are unacceptable. Also, collectors may not call debtors at home before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m., unless the collector knows such times are more convenient for the debtor.

If you owe money to a creditor, you may be liable for some charges in addition to the amount you originally agreed to pay. These extra charges include attorneys' fees, collectors' fees, interest and late penalties. However, not all extra charges that collectors seek are legitimate.

### Credit Clean-up Scams

More courteous in tone, but ultimately more damaging to consumers are some outfits that bill themselves as credit repair bureaus. In exchange for high fees, bogus credit repair outfits often tell consumers they can "erase" bad items on your credit report. The reality is that the only effective way to restore a good credit rating is to pay bills on time, and pay them in full.

The so-called credit improvement companies often promise to fix your credit and erase negative items on your credit reports. While they cannot keep their extravagant promises, they do keep your cash fee, which

ranges anywhere from \$50 to \$500.

Typically, the service credit improvement companies provide is to write credit bureaus and have false items corrected. You can do the same thing yourself for free.

## Pecans, the healthful food

Pecans are one of the more healthful foods you can eat. Even though they have the same kind of fat other nuts have, they contain oleic acid, which makes them better for you. Extension Horticulturist George Ray McEachern says studies show oleic acid can reduce cholesterol.

Pecans work well in special dishes like desserts and also are nice in breads and salads.

But McEachern says pecans need to be dry or they won't keep well. He says if you can take the kernel between your finger and thumb and snap it, then it's dry enough.

Although the pecan season is short, you can have pecans year round. McEachern says pecans will keep for years in the freezer either shelled or uncracked in the shell.

Submitted by Max Stapleton, Haskell Co. Ext. Agent-Ag.

If you don't stop someone from driving drunk, who will? Do whatever it takes.

**FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.**



U.S. Department of Transportation

# Season's Greetings

**Haskell National Bank**

601 N. 1st • Haskell, TX 79521 • 864-2631 Member FDIC