



Basketball games

Haskell
VG Polk City Classic
Dec. 4-6 at Abilene
VB Possum King Tourney
Dec. 4-6 at Graham
JV-VGB vs Stamford
Tues., 4 p.m. at Stamford

Haskell 7th, 8th & 9th
Haskell vs. Holliday
Mon., 4:30 p.m.
Girls Here, Boys There

Paint Creek
Goree Tournament
Dec. 4-6 at Goree
Paint Creek vs. Woodson
Tues., 6 p.m. at Paint Creek

PC Junior High Girls
Paint Creek vs. Goree
Mon., 5:30 p.m. at Goree

Calendar

Christmas party

The annual Haskell Co. Senior 4-H Christmas party will be held Sun., Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Extension Office. Members will leave the office and go caroling and end the evening with refreshments and a Chinese gift exchange. Members are urged to bring canned goods and/or toys for those families less fortunate.

Cemetery Board

The Rule Cemetery Board of Directors will meet Tues., Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Rule City Hall.

Rule Chamber

The Rule Chamber of Commerce will host their annual house and yard lighting contest. To have your house judged, call Marsha at Rule City Hall, 997-2214. Deadline for entries is Dec. 11. Three prizes will be awarded, \$50, \$35 and \$25. Winners will be announced Mon., Dec. 15.

Tour of Homes

The Noah Project-North will hold a Christmas Tour of Homes on Sun., Dec. 7 from 2 to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person will admit you into all of the homes. Tickets may be purchased from any Noah Project-North Advisory Committee member or by calling 940-864-2551 or 1-800-586-0023.

Benefit dinner

The youth of St. George Catholic Church will hold a benefit enchilada dinner Dec. 5 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Church Hall on N. 16th St. in Haskell. Dine-in or carry out orders will be available. Call in orders at 864-3171.

Partners for Children

Partners for Children will meet Tues., Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Haskell Elementary School. What's Cooking? will be the evening's program. Simple and easy things to make for the family or for gift-giving will be presented by Lou Gilly and Cara Thomasson. Register for free babysitting by calling 864-2654.

Social Security

A representative from the Social Security Administration will be in Haskell at the City Hall annex today, Thurs., Dec. 4 at 9:30 a.m.

Lodge meeting

The Sons of Hermann Lodge meeting will be held Sun., Dec. 7 at the Irby Hall. The meeting begins at 3 p.m. The hall opens at 2 p.m. The lodge will furnish ham for the meal. Members are asked to bring vegetables and desserts. In lieu of a gift exchange, members are asked to bring canned goods for the Goodfellows project.

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First Chamber drawing Saturday

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 111--NO. 49, ©DECEMBER 4, 1997

"The People's Choice"

14 PAGES--ONE SECTION--50 CENTS



WENDY GRAY

Funds needed to help Wendy Gray attend Aloha Bowl

After completion of training at a National Cheerleading Association Summer camp in Tarleton, Haskell High School senior Wendy Gray has received the the NCA "All-American Team" award on the basis of her cheerleading technique, leadership and all-around cheerleading ability. As a member of the team, she is eligible to travel with the NCA to Honolulu, Hawaii, where the team will be featured in the Jeep Eagle Aloha Bowl in Dec.

The daughter of Dwayne and Frances Gray, Wendy is a member of the National Honor Society. With a grade point average of 95.4, she is exempt from upcoming tests. Active in sports, she has won

numerous awards in cross country, basketball, track and golf.

Expenses for the trip are not covered by the NCA. The *Haskell Free Press* would like to help Wendy make the trip by helping raise the \$2,300.00 needed for her to attend. She has now had \$300.00 pledged toward the fund.

During the short time left before she leaves on Dec. 19, businesses, organizations or individuals who would like to make a contribution to help Wendy may do so at the *Free Press* office.

While in Hawaii, Wendy plans to see as much of the Islands as possible. She will be back in Haskell on Dec. 26.

Free Press to print kids 'Letters to Santa'

Hey Kids! Don't forget that the deadline for getting letters in to Santa to be published is 5:00 p.m., Mon., Dec. 15.

Letters may be dropped off at the *Free Press* office at 401 South First St. or may be mailed to Santa Claus at Box 555, Haskell, TX 79521.

First Christmas drawing to be held Saturday

The first drawing for seven of the twenty-four "Giant Jackpots" being given away by Haskell merchants and businesses this year will be at 3:00 p.m. this Sat., Dec. 6, on the northeast corner of the square at the gazebo.

Tickets for the drawings, which will be in the form of gift certificates, redeemable at the participating business, are being given for purchases made. Winners

not present at the drawing will receive one half of the prize money. The remaining half will be used to make up additional prizes.

All tickets must be stamped on the back by the business distributing them.

Later drawings will be on Sat., Dec. 13, for seven jackpots, Sat., Dec. 20, for seven, and Mon., Dec. 22, for the final three jackpots.

Christmas lighting contest announced

If you haven't noticed, lights are going on all over Haskell these days. The downtown area is especially festive looking with stores and courthouse ablaze with holiday lights. Homes are also being decorated and lightened up on many Haskell streets.

All citizens and businesses in Haskell who are decorating their places for Christmas should have them ready by Thurs., Dec. 11, to be eligible for the annual Chamber

of Commerce lighting and decorating contest.

To enter the contest all one has to do is have their decorations in place and the lights turned on between the hours of 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. on that night.

Saying that the turnout of participants has been great in past years, David Middleton of the Haskell Chamber expects the 1997 holiday 'light up' to be even bigger and better.

Goodfellows Donations

The Haskell Goodfellows are accepting donations for Christmas boxes to be distributed to needy families this holiday season. On Dec. 6 and 13, the names of those who qualify may be placed by application at the Haskell City Hall, between 1 and 3 p.m. Boxes will be delivered on Dec. 24 to those who have been selected to receive them. Those with donations of food, contact a Lions Club member, toys and clothing may be taken to the Haskell Fire Dept.; and cash donations may be sent to The Haskell Free Press, P. O. Box 555, Haskell, TX 79521.

In memory of Louise Isbell, Betty Rudd and Florene Larned\$50
by Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Larned\$50
Bessie Evans\$10
In honor and appreciation of the Haskell Fire Dept.\$25
by Melvin and Juanita Miller\$25
Hunt-Fields Bible Class\$50
Total to date\$135



COTTON HARVEST-Trailers of cotton continue to roll in and bales of cotton continue to roll out of the local gins. During the favorable weather farmers have been busy gathering the crop. Although 75 per cent of the harvest is in, the gin yards are still filled with many bales to be processed. Locally, the grade quality is showing up good; better than many of the producers expected early on. However, the price is down from last year. As of Mon. morning the Haskell Co-Op Gin Co., had turned out 11,378 bales, and expected to do another 3,000 for the season. The Farmers Co-Op Gin, top picture above, reported 5937 bales tagged in, and more on the yard not yet tagged. They estimate that two more good days of ginning will clear the lot for them.

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 864-2686

Commissioners purchase and sell various motor grader equipment

The purchase and sale of motor graders topped the agenda at the regular meeting of the Commissioners Court Nov. 25. Four new ones were bought and four used ones sold after seven bids were opened.

The four used Caterpillar graders sold for a total of \$543,570.00, which is \$41,915.00 more than the County paid for them new three or more years ago. Winning purchasers were Johnson Equipment of Amarillo, and B&R Equipment of South Lake.

One new John Deere motor grader was purchased by Pct. 4 from Airmaster of Abilene at a cost of \$125,000.00. Also, an additional two years warranty on the power train was purchased for approximately \$1,300.00. Commissioner Bud Turnbow chose the model with small tires, no ripper or push block.

Three new Caterpillar road graders with three year warranties, large tires, rippers, and push blocks were bought from Darr Equipment of Abilene at a cost of \$155,549.00 each. Pct. 2 Commissioner Ronnie Chapman bought one, and Pct. 3 Commissioner Kenny Thompson bought two graders and one \$1100.00 blade extension.

Commissioners Thompson and Chapman stated that the good history of Caterpillar graders in holding their value and their service record was a big factor in his

choosing them. Commissioner Bill Hester said he could not be more pleased with his John Deere machines.

The Caterpillar graders will be delivered within two weeks. The John Deere will be delivered in 120-130 days, with a machine provided in the meantime.

It was decided that the courthouse will be closed at noon on Dec. 24 and reopened on Dec. 29 for the Christmas holidays. Commissioners will plant a live Christmas tree on the Courthouse lawn this week. County employees hung the Christmas lights on the Courthouse.

Rike Real Estate opens in Haskell

Mary Rike is pleased to announce the opening of Rike Real Estate, 411 1/2 First, Haskell. Rike has fifteen years experience in the real estate business and is a licensed real estate broker. Her office specializes in listing, servicing and sale of residential, commercial and farm and ranch properties. In addition, she is available to perform market analysis of properties and has had past experience in all aspects of the real estate business.

Improvement of county facilities continues with new carpet in the tax office, and the library ceiling reinforced.

Pct. 1 is adding two rural dry hydrants for firefighter use.

The state-funded \$5000.00 annual to the County Judge salary supplement will be paid monthly to Judge David Davis.

The County is dropping their insurance policy on the EMS building after the County Treasurer found that it is insured by two entities.

The juvenile detention contract at \$73.00 per day with Nolan County was approved.

Rike is a member of the Texas Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors. She welcomes listings in the Texas Mid-West Region from the counties of Haskell, Jones, Knox, Stonewall and Throckmorton. If you have need of a real estate professional, please feel free to contact her at 940-864-2411 (office) 940-864-2332 (home) or 940-864-3686 (fax), or stop by her office to discuss your real estate needs or questions.

Obituaries

Vernon Forrest Ivy

Funeral services for Vernon Forrest Ivy, 85, of Haskell were held Mon., Dec. 1 at the Church of Christ with Dale Huff officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Ivy died Fri., Nov. 28 at a Haskell hospital.

Born in Nevada, Texas on March 18, 1912, he had been a Haskell County resident since 1921. He served in the U. S. Navy during WWII. He married Haven Marie Hall on Oct. 24, 1930 in Haskell. She preceded him in death on June 5, 1997. He retired from Merchants Motor Lines after 40 years. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by one son, James Gary Ivy; two siblings, Edna Mae Odom and Volly Ivy; three half-brothers, Ray Jacobs, Cecil Jacobs and Doyle Jacobs.

Survivors include one daughter, Judith Anne Ivy Hall of Abilene; four grandchildren, Rachele Renee Browning, Susan Michelle Moore, James Forest Ivy and David Davis; two great grandchildren, Steven Curtis Houck and Katrina Marie Lawrence; two brothers, Henry Ivy of Crane and Leon Ivey of Stamford.

Pallbearers were Charlie Woods, Wayne Peiser, Jerry Stocks, Victor Lowery, Bill Shaw, Hess Hartsfield, Audie Stocks and David Davis.

Floy Mapes

Funeral services for Floy Mapes, 96, of Haskell were held Fri., Nov. 28 at the East Side Baptist Church with Rev. David Page officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Mapes died Tues., Nov. 25 at a Haskell hospital.

Born Feb. 22, 1901 in Comanche Co., she moved to Haskell at three months of age and remained a lifelong resident. She married Elbert Mapes on Sept. 14, 1919 in Haskell. He preceded her in death on April 8, 1972. She was a homemaker and a member of the East Side Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by one daughter, Wanda Newton; two grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Survivors include one daughter, Freida Piland of Haskell; two sons, Bob Mapes of Haskell, Okla., and Gene Mapes of Lubbock; nine grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren and three great great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Brad Mapes, Mike Mapes, Steve Mapes, David Adams, Roy Graham, Keith Graham, Cody Ivy and Cory Ivy.

Honorary pallbearers were Jess Leonard, Wallace Bird, Harvie Furrh, Chunky Tidwell and Frank Jenkins.

L. M. 'Dook' Jeter

Funeral services for L. J. 'Dook' Jeter, 80, of Haskell were held Mon., Dec. 1 at the First United Methodist Church with Kenneth Blair and Rev. Shane Brue officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Jeter died Sat., Nov. 29 at a local nursing home.

Born June 12, 1917 in the Center Point community of Sagerton, he married Dessa Lee on March 3, 1940 in Stamford. He served in the 35th Armored Battalion of WWII from 1942 until 1945. He was a farmer and worked as a gas station attendant for 50 years. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by one son, Larry Don Jeter.

Survivors include his wife, Dessa Lee Jeter of Haskell; one daughter, Patricia Ann Koch of Cincinnati, Ohio; two grandchildren, Keith Carney and Kimberly Meglin; one great grandchild, Christopher Meglin; and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Pat Henry, Richard Van Mathis, Cliff Short, Jimmy Hannsz, Jerry Hannsz and Tony Burson.

Honorary pallbearer was Alvin Dornier. Memorials may be made to the donor's favorite charity.

Ervin Ewalt Puschel

Graveside services for Ervin Ewalt Puschel, 71, of Stamford were held Sun., Nov. 30 in Highland Memorial Cemetery with Rev. Kent Wallace officiating. Services were under the direction of Tankersley Funeral Home.

Mr. Puschel died Fri., Nov. 28 at an Abilene hospital.

Born July 22, 1926 in Haskell County, he married Joyce Turnbow, March 7, 1946 in Sagerton. He was engaged in farming and ranching all of his life. He also drove a truck for Mistletoe Transit for fifteen years. He was a member of the IBBA Brangus Association, Sons of Hermann Lodge and a veteran of World War II. He was a member of the Christ Lutheran Church in Stamford.

Survivors include his wife of Stamford; one son and daughter-in-law, Mike and Lynn Puschel of Tuscola; three grandchildren, Chris Webster of Lake Dallas, Chance Puschel of Austin and Melissa Puschel of Tuscola; three great grandsons, Leighton Webster, Keelin Webster and Braden Puschel; one brother, Gus Puschel of Denver, Colo.; three sisters, Adele Grogan of Athens, Erna Peiser and Leona Seelig, both of Haskell.

Pallbearers were Ralph Pierson, Jap Sprayberry, Howard Moore, Dan Lozano Jr., B. J. Barnett, Bob Philpott, Chris Webster and Chance Puschel.

Memorials may be made to the West Texas Rehab Center.

Sanders family meets for Thanksgiving

Twenty-nine descendants of the Andrew and Fronia Sanders family gathered on Thanksgiving day at the Weinert School Community room for their annual get-together and traditional day of food, fun and festivities.

The farmers in the bunch took time from their harvest and sowing of next year's crop, to take part in the days program, and to eat at the bountiful buffet of turkey dressing, fruit-salad and all the other goodies every one brought from eight different cities.

The honored guests were A-1st Class Marcus and Jamie Phemister, home on leave from Spaughdahlem, Germany, and who had to touch base at their three grandmother's Thanksgiving

dinners and visit a bit with the many relatives gathered at the three places.

Others attending from area cities included Tammi and Brent Proffitt with Tyler; and Cindy Offutt of Wichita Falls, Amanda and Chad King of Brownwood; Janice and Randy Boatright of Brady; David and Peggy Phemister of Weslaco; Greg Phemister, Abilene; Myrtle and John Therwanger of Haskell; Kregg Sanders of Munday; Kole Sanders of San Angelo; Whitney Wood of Abilene.

Weinert hosts were Eddie and Myrnie Sanders, R.S. and Betty Sanders, Alton and Mildred Sanders; Jerry, Joyce, Jeremy and Abby Sanders; and Kenneth and Brenda Sanders.

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OFF TO SIX FLAGS—Paint Creek students won a trip to Six Flags for their participation in the Math-A-Thon to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. From the left, back row, those who will be making the trip in the spring are Courtney Buerger, A. J. Shaw, Chris Hobbs, Ricky Goulet and Lesli Isbell. Left to right, front row: Amy Huggins, Justin Crowson, Brian Scifres, Alicia Combs, Kasey Duniven and Bonnie Emert.



TOP COLLECTOR—Lesli Isbell collected \$137.00 during the Math-A-Thon at Paint Creek to benefit St. Jude's Hospital.

Paint Creek students participate in Math-a-Thon

Students at Paint Creek who recently participated in a Math-A-Thon not only improved their math skills, but also made a contribution to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Obtaining pledging sponsors for each problem and puzzle completed, participating students were eligible to win prizes.

Raising \$35.00 earned a T-shirt, \$75.00 earned a sportsbag, and \$100.00 collected earned an AM/FM Jambox. Each participant was also given a certificate and free admission ticket to Six Flags Theme Parks.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is the leading center for the conquest of cancer, which is the leading disease killer of American

children. Approximately 5,000 children are seen at the Hospital each year. Many others are treated in their own towns with treatments developed at St. Jude; benefiting from the international outreach of the research done there. Supported primarily by public contributions, the monies raised help build an endowment fund to ensure its

continued efforts.

Locally, the Math-A-Thon was coordinated by Mrs. Martha Shackelford. A total of \$597.43 was collected by Paint Creek students, who will be going on a trip to Six Flags during the 'Holiday in the Park' in Dec.

Study Club learns holiday decor designs

Jewels of Nature was the theme for the Haskell Progressive Study Club which met Nov. 13 in the Haskell National Bank Community Room. Carol Hickman of Stamford presented a program on Treasure of Flowers In Decorating Designs for Holiday Decor.

Gladys O'Neal introduced Ms. Hickman who was accompanied by her granddaughter, Reagan Snyder, also of Stamford. Ms. Hickman is a 1961 graduate of Haskell, taught English and Spanish for eleven years, moving to Stamford in Oct. 1977. Her husband and she own Country Drug Store in Stamford. She served as Cowboy Reunion Hostess in 1993, president and officer of Music Club, Garden Club, Preservation League, and has

written many productions for Carnegie library and clubs. She became a national accredited flower show judge after three years of study.

Many floral arrangements were presented by Ms. Hickman and printed material was handed out describing some of the arrangements.

Refreshments were served and guests Carol Hickman, Raegan Snyder and Joyce Howard. The serving table held a Thanksgiving arrangement of fall flowers. A Horn of Plenty was on the speakers table. Hostess were Mildred Berry, Donna Cole, Eva Dunnam, Ruby Holt and Oleta Cornelius.

Members were reminded to bring a new toy for the Child

Welfare Department at the Dec. 11 meeting when Martha Bruns will present a program on Christmas legends-legends and Symbols of Christmas With International Theme.

County FCE Council meets

The Haskell County Family and Community Education Council met Nov. 19 in regular session with chairman Lena Tidwell presiding.

Joetta Burnett, of the Homespun Club, gave a reading "La-La Land" by Barbara Johnson, expressing the absent-mindedness experienced by many of us.

TAFCE chairman, Dolores Medford gave a report from the District leadership training meeting in Seymour on Nov. 18. Lena Tidwell, Jane Smith and Dolores Medford attended along with sixty-four ladies from District 3.

The council accepted the date of April 16 for District meeting.

Refreshments were served by the Homespun Club with a Thanksgiving theme.

Safety is topic of Rule Philadelphian Club meeting

Public Affairs was the topic with "Safety for Older Americans" as the main topic of the Rule Philadelphian Club in the clubhouse.

Members were reminded to bring gifts for the Noah Project at their Dec. 11 meeting. Members were also reminded this is a change of meeting date of one week.

Teacher Ellen Rieger of Rule school and her first grade students will present a Christmas program of Songs and poems.

Program Director for the Day was Tomi May who handed out

brochures on Safety For Older Americans. The brochures stressed ways to help reduce risk against fires, crimes and fraud. Checklists were from the United States Fire Administration on fires, National Crime Prevention Council on various crimes and from the National Consumers League, various types of fraud and some preventative measures one can take.

A serving table was covered with an ercu cloth and held an assortment of snacks. Hostess were Frances Campbell and Opal Grice.

Births

Wayne, Kelly and Hagen Hutchison of Archer City are happy to announce the arrival of Wesley DeWayne Hutchison born Oct. 28 at Wichita General Hospital at 7:33 p.m. Wes weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz. and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Wayne and Nona Hutchison of Chico and Johnny and Marilynn Earp of Weinert.

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Monthly Calendar of Events

DECEMBER 1997 Haskell Independent School District

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	FFA Major Show Entry Deadline 1 Seymour 7-8-9 Boys Here Girls There 5 p.m.	District FFA Anson PPE-Holiday Decorating on a Shoestring Munday: There B-G JV & V 4 p.m.	3	Polk City Classic Abilene VG TBA 4 Possum King Tour. VB Graham TBA	Polk City Classic Abilene VG TBA 5 Possum King Tour. VB Graham TBA	Polk City Classic Abilene VG TBA 6 Possum King Tour. VB Graham TBA FFA Area 2 Leadership Contest Big Spring
7	8 Holiday 7-8-9 Boys There Girls Here 5 p.m.	9 PPE-Whats Cooking Stamford There B-G JV & V 4 p.m.	10	11 Catclaw Tour. Wylie B-G V TBA	12 Catclaw Tour. Wylie B-G V TBA	13 FFA State Leadership Conf. Huntsville Catclaw Tour. Wylie B-G V TBA
14	15 District FFA Banquet, Haskell 6:30 p.m. Archer City 7-8-9 Boys Here Girls There 5 p.m.	16 8th Grade Christmas Play at High School Cisco Here B-G JV & V 4 p.m.	17	18 8th Grade Christmas Play at Elementary Elementary Open House 5 to 6 p.m.	19 Christmas Vacation begins Early Dismissal 12:30 Aspermont There B-G JV & V 4 p.m.	20
21	22 Christmas Vacation	23 Christmas Vacation	24 Christmas Vacation	25 Christmas Vacation	26 Christmas Vacation	27
28 Christmas Vacation	29 Hawley Tour. Varsity B & G TBA	30 Christmas Vacation Hawley Tour. Varsity B & G TBA	31 Christmas Vacation Hawley Tour. Varsity B & G TBA			

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OPINION

Social Security reform: What's Congress up to

Sixth in a series of eight columns prepared about Social Security.

by Charlie Stenholm

Two events took place in August 1995 which captured my attention. The first made national headlines: Social Security turned 60 years old. This caused me to consider the many millions of lives that have been positively impacted by a program created out of the bipartisan wisdom of Members of Congress who are now long gone. Amazingly, over 160 million people have received Social Security benefits since the program first began.

The other event marked a personal milestone for me. My first grandchild was born.

While the successes of the Social Security program are impressive, the birth of Cole Stenholm (and Chase Stenholm since then) cause me to think far out into the future and consider what his world will be like when I am long gone. Thinking of this prompted me to become involved in a number of Social Security activities as a way of protecting their future.

One activity was to convene a Social Security Summit in Abilene on May 30, 1997. Over 200 people from across the 17th District came to learn about the problems currently facing the program. Young and old alike gained a new sense of urgency about improving the system.

On the 60th anniversary of the Social Security Act in 1995, Representative Jim Kolbe (R-Arizona) and I founded the bipartisan House Public Pension Reform Caucus (PPRC). We have used the PPRC to educate our colleagues and their staff members about the Social Security system, inviting leading experts to share their wisdom. The meetings have been extremely productive and have enabled many members of Congress to expand their knowledge about the program and various dilemmas which lay ahead. To date, 72 of our colleagues from both parties have joined the PPRC.

In late 1996, representatives from the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington-based nonpartisan policy organization invited me to serve as a congressional co-chair of the National Commission on Retirement Policy along with Representative Kolbe, Senator Judd Gregg (R-New Hampshire) and Senator John Breaux (D-Louisiana). The Commission will make policy recommendations to Congress and the White House regarding retirement issues, including but not limited to Social Security. The Commission plans to release a preliminary report in early 1998. I am also pleased that Dr. Lanny Hall, President of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene and the former Deputy Director of the Texas Teacher Retirement System, serves as a member of the Commission.

To date, my work has been to discuss with colleagues and constituents the intricacies of Social Security. Over the last few years, however, many suggestions for reforming the program (ranging from raising payroll taxes to completely replacing the existing system with a different program) have been made. Members of a Social Security Advisory Council submitted their proposals in January 1997. Additionally, many Members of Congress and Senators have introduced legislation to reform Social Security. I will examine a few of these plans in my next columns.



From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago
December 3, 1987

Weinert farmers and neighbors of Glenn W. Caddell gathered at his place Saturday to harvest his cotton crop.

The Haskell Future Farmers of America placed third in the Junior Farm Skills, ninth in Senior chapter Conducting, third in Radio and first in Senior Farm Skills at the Area Leadership contest hosted by Howard College in Big Spring.

20 Years Ago
December 1, 1977

The Haskell Indians lost regional last Friday night in Snyder 25-3 to Seagraves.

The Paint Creek Junior High School Basketball Tournament got underway with eight games.

Haskell volunteer firemen answered an alarm Tuesday at about noon to Philpot's Supply on the north side of the square. Extensive damage occurred in the store room part of the building. The blaze was extinguished in about 30 minutes

and was contained in the rear portion of the building.

30 Years Ago
December 7, 1967

Rev. James Ray Story of Amarillo has accepted the pastorate of the Church of God in Haskell, and will fill the pulpit here Sunday.

Johnny Lee Johnson, 17, of Haskell was among 231 Gary Job Corps Center trainees to receive a certificate of completion at formal graduation ceremonies Tuesday, Nov. 21, San Marcos.

Lewis Hester, a retired farmer in the Rochester community, has authorized the Haskell Free Press to announce his candidacy for Commissioner of Precinct 1.

40 Years Ago
December 5, 1957

Haskell's three cotton gins have been literally "swamped" this week as farmers took full advantage of favorable weather in resuming the delayed harvest of the area's cotton

crop. At noon Wed., Haskell gin plants had processed 5,798 bales of the current crop.

Mr. and Mrs. H.M. Smith, Haskell residents for more than half a century, are observing their 60th wedding anniversary at their home today.

Jimmy Byrd, student in Austin College, Sherman, spent the Thanksgiving holidays in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Byrd.

50 Years Ago
December 4, 1947

At the last meeting of the City Council, Harold H. Hodges, city traffic officer for the past year, was appointed Chief of Police on a full time basis, and will have charge of the department in the future.

The Paint Creek six-man football team, representing District 6B, will play the Dickens High School squad, who are carrying the banner of District 5B, for the Bi-District crown Friday night.

From The Inside Out

By Mary Kaigler

We're having little green babies at our house, and I'm excited about it. While not as excited as I was when we had the little pink baby, my somewhat dormant birthing instinct is nevertheless budding out in full flower over this.

After sitting there just holding its own in its original little potted-plant basket for over two years, our Christmas Cactus, a succulent known in botanical annals of science as *Zygocactus*, (*Scumbergera truncata*), is "with leaf". It's a fascinating process to watch. From the tip end of each leaf-like stem, a tiny pinhead size green nodule emerges, and every day it grows a bit to finally become a regular size leaf.

Every morning I go over the whole thing checking for another swollen leaf end; a sure sign of impending new life. Trying to help, and make them comfortable, I bathe the "mother" leaves with a cool spritz, encouraging them with a sort of vegetation Lamaze routine. I count the number of new arrivals, and occasionally, find we've had twins overnight.

To fully understand my enormous wonderment at this small flower pot miracle of life, is to understand my history in the realm of green "thumbism". Since we left the Hill Country near Austin, "where the living (and growing) is easy"; where my begonias, ficus trees, Boston ferns, grape ivies, French violets, and English ivies thrived very well on nothing more than a diet of water, an occasional stick of Jobes fertilizer and a few kind words of appreciation for their cooperation, I haven't had house plants that lasted very far past the season they were in when I got them. The plain fact is, they know and I know that I don't "have a way" with house plants. This little Christmas cactus has been no exception to that, until recently.

Originating from the branches of trees in South American jungles,

world-wide hybridization has made available the multiple colors of light and dark pink, salmon, fuschia, white, red and yellow blossoms in the *Zygocactus*. Touted as an "easy care" plant which will bloom once a year around Christmas (hence the name), ours, nevertheless, has produced only five blooms since the original rosy pink ones finally fell off sometime around the middle of January the first year it was given to us.

Admittedly, I haven't followed the proper nurturing instructions. It just seems a pity to have to put it in a pitch dark place for 13 to 14 hours every day for seven weeks to coax it to bloom. (You'd think most anything would go on and bloom, just to get out of going through that!)

But this year, with all these new botanical babies sprouting out, I'm feeling very solicitous of this plant's welfare. The sheer determination of it, in the face of its environment, has caught my full attention. By Christmas I fully expect we'll be seeing another crop of those delicate blossoms cascading out.

In the meantime, while this little plant is in its mother mood, I may call in and consult with my friend Gladys O'Neal, for some "Green Thumb" horticultural mid-

wifery expertise. Things may soon be getting out of hand and out of pot room. Just this morning I've discovered one plucky little leaf mother with quadruplets crowding each other in the early stages of springing forth.

Unlike the McCaughey's, who recently had seven babies after taking fertility drugs, our little plant did it with no added incentive at all. I'm filled with admiration and joy at the whole process, which I had nothing to do with.

The sense of wonder and awe we feel at all new birth, new beginnings, new seasons; the life cycles that were put in motion by The Giver of life, always brings renewal of hope and remembrance.

Even in this little microcosm of the universe that I'm witnessing in our Christmas cactus, I revel again in the comforting promise of constancy spoken of by the ancient teacher; "For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."

How reassuring it is, in the midst of all we see and experience of personal upheaval and international uncertainty, to be reminded, that according to its appointed way, the world goes on, the sun also rises, and little green leaves know when to sprout.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to commend the communities that joined hands with our community in the effort to obtain a Juvenile Detention Facility. There has been a tremendous rivalry between our communities in football and other arenas and one had to wonder if cooperation was possible. Indeed it was. It was a beautiful and powerful thing for our communities to work together for the common good. We didn't get this one, but I know that

something has already resulted because of our efforts, and we can build on that spirit of cooperation to locate another facility or industry to our area in the future.

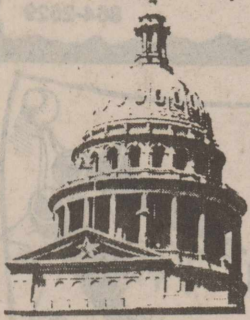
This was our first endeavor of such magnitude. It is overwhelming to think of the pages that made up the proposal and all the effort and information included there. It is incredible that we were able to put together a package that was not only competitive but among the top of the towns who submitted

proposals. I can only think of the many cities with professional teams and resources that weren't available to us. It is a tremendous credit to the economic development team of this area.

Our hats are off to all those who worked so hard and brought us so close. It shows that decisions made concerning economic development in our past were sound decisions. They will pay off in the future.

Lisa Jackson, President
Hamlin Chamber of Commerce

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Lyndell Williams & Ed Sterling
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Texas Secretary of State Tony Garza resigned from office last week to concentrate on his race for the Republican nomination for land commissioner.

Gov. George W. Bush, who appointed Garza in 1995, thanked Garza for "a job well done" but stopped short of a campaign endorsement. "Tony is a close friend and trusted adviser," Bush said, but added, "I said loud and early that I'm not going to be involved in primary elections, and so I'm not going to be."

Four-term Land Commissioner Garry Mauro, a Democrat, is running for governor, opposing Bush.

Also running for land commissioner on the GOP ticket are state Sen. Jerry Patterson of Pasadena and Houston businessmen David Dewhurst and Tim Turner.

Sate Rep. Richard Raymond of Benavides is the only announced contender for the Democratic nomination for land commissioner.

Hopwood Ruling Sought

Four whites who could not enter the University of Texas law school because of a race-based admissions policy have been waiting since spring for a ruling on their \$5.5 million claim for damages.

Kenneth Elliot and David Rogers, two of the four plaintiffs in the 1992 case that resulted in the ending of affirmative action programs at Texas universities, have asked U. S. District Judge Sam Sparks for a status conference to learn why he has not ruled on their claim.

The U. S. Supreme Court let stand a federal appeals court ruling that ended affirmative action policies and sent the case back to U. S. district court to decide damages.

Cheryl Hopwood, the lawsuit's lead plaintiff, is asking for the most compensation - \$2.8 million - for alleged economic and emotional harm.

Bullock Snubs Mauro

Texas' highest-ranking Democrat, Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock, cast aside party loyalty last week by endorsing Republican Gov. Bush for re-election.

In support of Bush, Bullock said: "It just does not make sense to retire a responsive and proven leader."

Though Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mauro said he was "personally disappointed" at Bullock's comments, he didn't exactly reel at the snub. "Texans don't care who endorses whom," Mauro said. "They make their own independent decisions."

Mauro has pledged to eliminate the state's motor vehicle sales tax

and pay for the tax cut by doubling state taxes on liquor and cigarettes and by freezing most state agencies' spending.

Gore Plan to Benefit AFB

During his visit to San Antonio last week to honor retiring U. S. Rep. Henry B. Gonzales, Vice President Al Gore announced his offer of a \$35 million low-interest loan to upgrade Kelly Air Force Base in hopes of making the facility more acceptable to aerospace companies.

Aerospace giant Boeing Company will announce in December whether it will move some of its operations to Kelly. The Air Force is schedule to pull out of the base, which employs 15,000 civilians, in 2001.

The loan, from the Housing and Urban Development agency, would cover the estimated cost of upgrading the Air Force base's C-5 hangar, support shops and ramps.

Gonzales, 81, announced in September that he is retiring from the seat he has held since 1961 in the U. S. House of Representatives. Gore was in town for a \$150-a-plate fund-raiser to help establish the Henry B. Gonzales Archival Library at St. Mary's University School of Law.

Lottery "Rip-off" Alleged

A report by former Texas Lottery director Lawrence Littwin says the average payout for instant winners, now at 62 percent of sales, may have to be cut to as low as 42 percent of sales to meet legislative mandates, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Littwin said the lottery is hiding his report that shows scratch-off game players will be cheated next year. Littwin said he tried to release the report before the lottery commission fired him on Oct 29, but agency officials threatened to sue him if he made any documents public.

Lottery officials said the report was not released because GTECH Holdings Corp., the lottery's operating company, filed a lawsuit after Littwin's firing in an effort to halt the rebidding of its contract.

Interim lottery director Linda Cloud said she believes she can meet legislative mandates to lower prices while keeping payouts at 50 percent of sales.

Last week, in a move to stimulate instant-winner sales, Cloud asked truck dealers to furnish 50 customized, limited-edition pickup trucks as part of the prize for games to be offered next spring.

"Texans buy more trucks than do citizens of any other state. We believe that driving the "Official Truck of the Texas Lottery" will add to the fun for our players," Cloud said.

The Haskell Free Press

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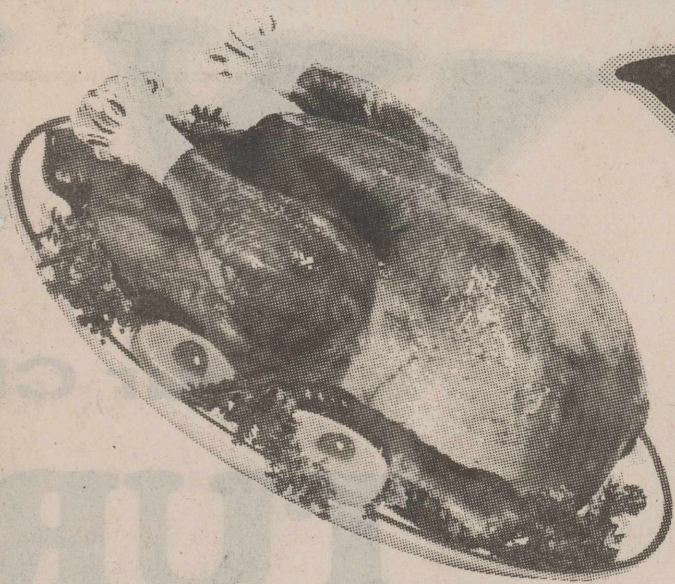
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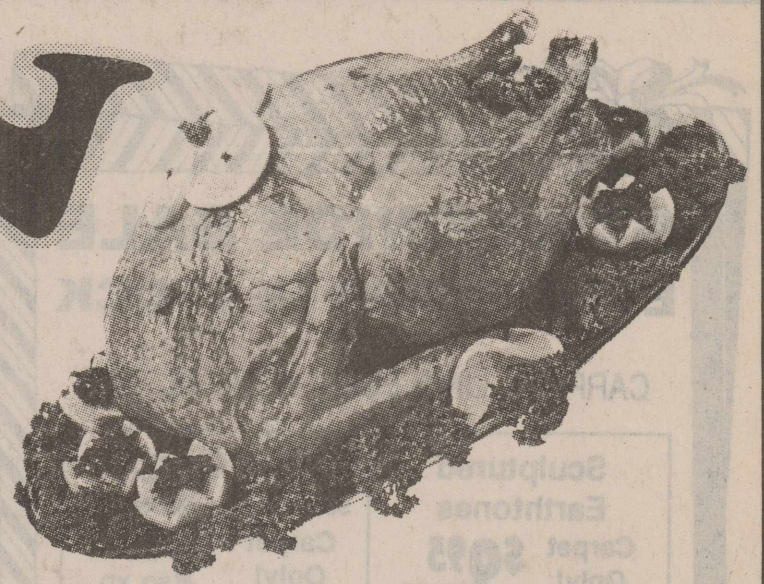




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3. Each store will award one FREE TURKEY — you need not be present to win, no purchase is necessary.
4. Drawing will be held December 22, 1997, at noon.
5. Anyone over 16 years of age is eligible to enter (except employees at participating stores and this newspaper.)

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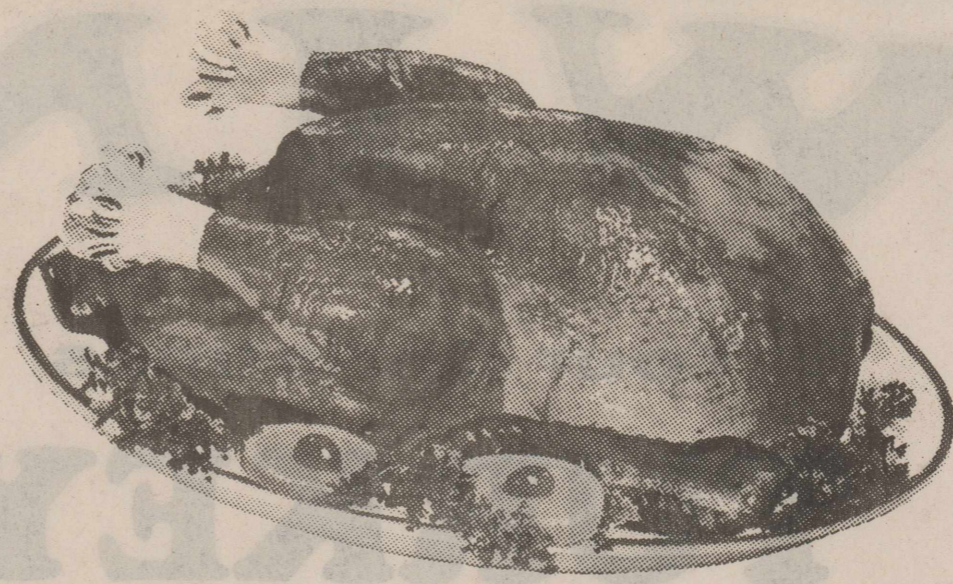
Sculptured Earthtones Carpet Only! \$995 <small>SQ. YD.</small>	Plush Carpet <small>Several Colors Starting at</small> Carpet Only! \$795 <small>SQ. YD.</small>
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#4. 2 Tacos, Rice, Beans, Salad	\$4.50
#5. Carne Guisada, Rice, Beans	\$5.50

Burritos

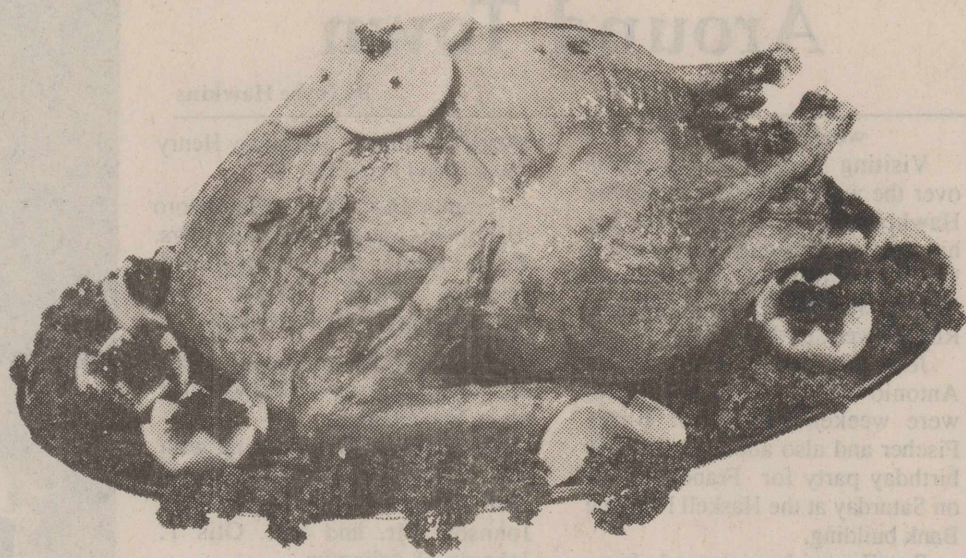
Sausage & Egg, Potato & Egg, Potato, Bean or Beef	\$1.25 ea.
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TAX PLANNING

Written By
Gerald Rodgers, CPA



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CUT YOUR 1997 TAXES

At this time of year, many Americans are preoccupied with the approaching holidays, and they have little interest in taxes. Yet, some tax planning before year-end could be financially rewarding.

Taxpayers who normally take the standard deduction should consider the possible advantage of delaying certain payments. For example, George and Martha file jointly and usually have about \$6,000 of itemized deductions. In 1997, they are entitled to claim the higher \$6,900 standard deduction. Therefore, they get no tax benefit for their \$6,000 of actual deductions. In 1998, the standard deduction is likely to increase to about \$7,100. If George and Martha again have itemized deductions of about \$6,000, they would again receive no benefit from those deductions.

But suppose George and Martha decide to wait until 1998 to pay their \$2,000 1997 property tax? Their tax situation wouldn't change for 1997. But if they paid both their 1997 and 1998 property taxes during 1998, they would be able to deduct \$8,000 or \$900 more than their standard deduction.

Not all deductions can be deferred. But taxpayers can often decide when to pay certain medical and dental bills, property taxes, and charitable contributions.

More affluent taxpayers should get details about making noncharitable gifts prior to December 31. Each year, up to \$10,000 can be given tax-free to each donee. While these gifts provide no income tax deduction, they can reduce estate taxes.

If you are planning marriage anytime soon, find out whether postponing or accelerating your wedding date could significantly affect your tax bill. You might benefit from being able to file a joint tax return, or you may find yourself subject to the "marriage penalty." For the same reason, anyone getting divorced should get details on how the timing of the event could affect his or her taxes.

Tax planning now will not increase the joyousness of your holidays. But it could make you a happier taxpayer next April.

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20 Southwest Third Street
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Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

week of Nov. 27

Visiting with Joyce Hawkins over the weekend was son, Bobby Hawkins of Lewisville. Meeting him here on Saturday was a friend, Lee Roy Steinman of Eastland. Bobby, Sammy Hawkins and Lee Roy all went bird hunting.

Jerry and Barbara Kiner of San Antonio and Carl Kiner of Iowa were weekend guests of Birdie Fischer and also attended the 80th birthday party for Francis Fisher on Saturday at the Haskell National Bank building.

Sue Conner has returned after a two weeks visit with uncle Edwin Ammons and wife, Aunt Bennie and Agnes Oliphant of Pampa. They quilted three quilts while here.

David Fisher of Plano and Dr. and Mrs. Freddie Sagebiel of Sequin visited in home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Fisher over the weekend and attended the birthday party of Francis Fisher on Saturday.

Visiting with Leon Newton on Monday was his sister Sylvia Force from Abilene. She had lunch with Leon at the E.C.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Walters spent Thanksgiving with children Mr. and Mrs. Glendon Hawkins of Irving and Mr. and Mrs. Jake Roysdon.

Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas spent Sat. in Olney with her daughter and husband Mr. and Mrs. John Holcomb. They had their Thanksgiving dinner that day.

Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Pat Henry over the Thanksgiving weekend were their children, Patricia Davis of Houston, Cindy

Henry of Abilene, and Harry Henry and a friend Paula Davis.

Frankie Don White of Jacksboro visited his parents Mr. and Mrs. Frank White. They helped with chores while Joyce was recuperating from knee surgery.

Rene Garcia, of Ranger spent the Thanksgiving holidays with mom, Paula Garcia.

Visiting for Thanksgiving with Rev. L. C. Johnson, Sr. was his children Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Otis T. Johnson of Arlington.

Visiting Mae Lou for Thanksgiving was her granddaughter, Tiphne Jordan and mother, Shirley Clark of Midland, Angela Jordan of Abilene, and her mother of Stamford, and her daughter Birdie and children, sister Susie Mae Jackson and Birdie Benford, son Frank and wife Donna, nephew Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Johnson of Arlington, sister-in-law's Mr. and Mrs. Eloise Felton of Wichita Falls and Virgil Robinson of Abilene.

The Greater Independent Baptist Church wants to thank every one that help to make the Harvest Festival a wonderful success. Especially to Rev. Robinson, Rev. Sammy Wade, Rev. Dever, Rev. Lewis, Rev. Johnson and Elder Hodge, and Birdie and her children for the decorations.

Educators celebrate book week

Children's Book Week was celebrated by Haskell Delta Kappa Gamma members, women who are or have been employed in educational work, by placing children's books in local clinics and hospital waiting rooms.

The local chapter is Beta Chi of the Texas Alpha State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The counties of Haskell, Knox, Stonewall, and Throckmorton compose this chapter.

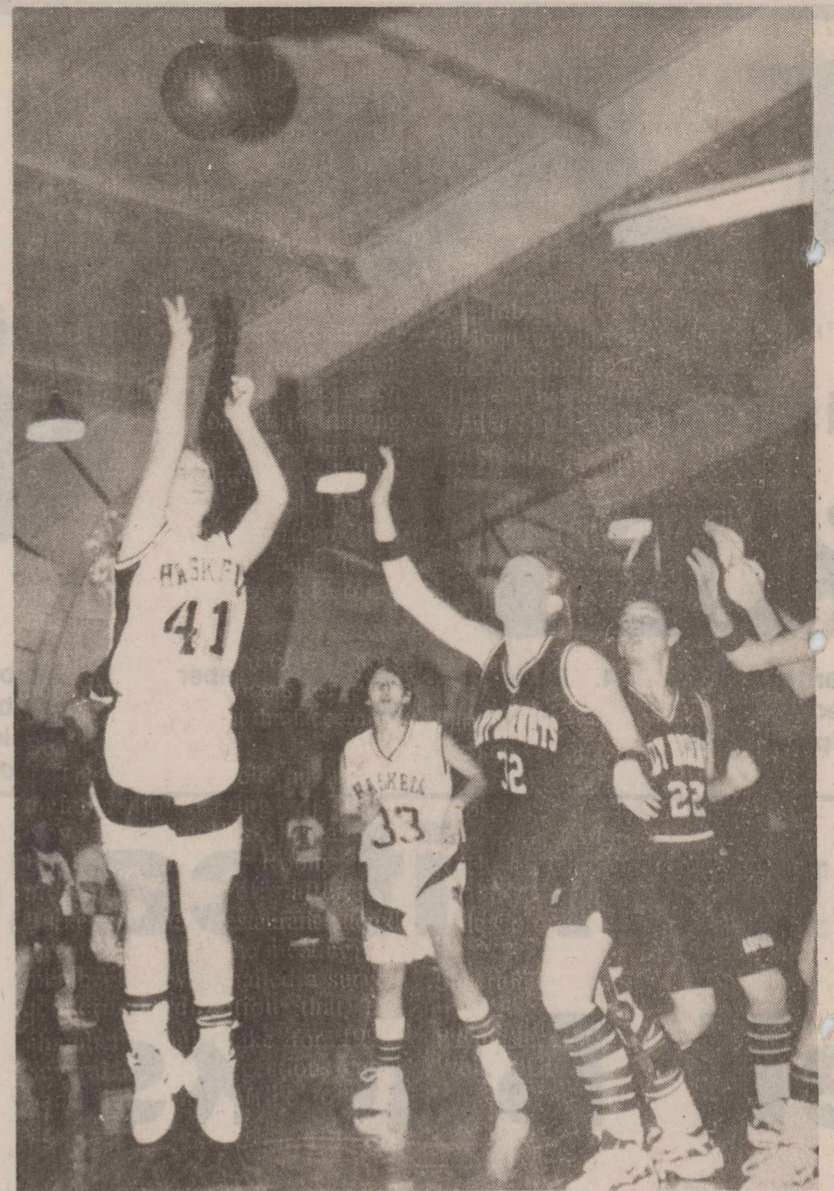
Meetings on issues of interest to educators are conducted seven times during the year. Various towns serve as meeting sites. Maribeth Williams of Knox City is president.

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UP FOR TWO—Bree Burgess takes a jump shot for the Haskell Indian Maidens during the game with Asperment Lady Hornets on Nov. 21. The game ended for Haskell, 71-31.

Photo by Bill Blankenship

Chamber Chatter

By David Middleton

At the monthly meeting in November, the Chamber Board of Directors attended to several important matters affecting the Chamber. With all but one of the Directors in attendance, a productive meeting was held. After an opening invocation, and reading of the minutes and financial report, the Board was given an update on the two ribbon cuttings that the Chamber would hold during the month.

Carol Posey reported on the Christmas drawings to be held on Sat. Dec. 6, Dec. 13, and Dec. 20 and Mon. Dec. 22. The committee has had good response from the local merchants for participation in this program. The board was given a report about hospitality training and voted to have a seminar in early 1998. This training would be conducted by McElmurry Consultants. More information will be announced during the month of December concerning this project.

The Annual Board of Directors nomination and officers for 1998 will be announced at the December Board meeting.

The chamber held an annual membership meeting of Thurs. Nov. 20 at the Haskell National Bank Community Room. The meeting was well attended. Burkett's Family Restaurant catered the meal. Prior to the meeting, the membership was mailed a survey concerning direction that the chamber should take for 1998. Several good suggestions came back into the office of the

Chamber. These suggestions were made available the the annual meeting.

Highlight of the meeting was the announcement of Haskell's outstanding citizen, Doris Jean McMeans. Joe and Sarah Cortez were presented a Haskell Business service award and Dickie Greenwood was presented an outgoing president award. The Chamber congratulates all of our winners of awards.

The downtown area (Square and Courthouse) turned on the Christmas lights Fri. Nov. 28. The Chamber thanks all persons who helped in putting up these lights and decorating our Courthouse. Have a wonderful holiday season and a sincere thank you to all who strive to keep Haskell alive.

Haskell Co. Gin Report

November 29, 1997

Haskell	
Farmers Co-op Gin	5129
Haskell Co-op Gin	11,347
O'Brien	
O'Brien Gin	8050
Rochester	
Rochester Co-op Gin	1564
Rule	
Rule Co-op Gin	4765
Sagerton	
Sagerton Gin	3000
Weinert	
Paymaster Gin	4001
Weinert Gin	4486
Total Bales	43,125

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Green Thumb

By Gladys O'Neal

It's Christmas everywhere we go,

But especially in our hearts, For this is, after all, the place Where Christmas truly starts.

You may say I'm old-fashioned, but sometimes, I feel real discouraged because of how commercialized our holiday season has become. The Dow Jones is at an all time high. Should we measure Christmas this way? I don't think so. I think Christmas should come from our hearts. We should express it in three simple words, "goodwill toward men."

Share every instance and may there be peace on earth and good will toward everybody.

For you who have Christmas Cactus, it likes bright light but not direct sun. It also prefers night temperatures around 63 degrees, although flower bud formation requires temperatures 10 to 15 degrees cooler.

Pot them in an equal mix of peat moss, perlite, vermiculate and soil, which will give the plants good drainage they require.

When summer comes, put the cactus in a cool, bright room, or set it outdoors on a partly shaded side of the house. This is the ideal place to start it blooming for the holidays. It is best to keep your plant away from street and porch lights, which can delay bud formation. You can force your plants to bloom by giving it 13 hours of complete darkness for 13 hours daily. Continue until buds start to form.

Don't let the December weather keep you inside. There are many fun gardening activities to do this time of the year.

Wood ashes contain potassium, a valuable element for root development. Be sure the ashes are cool, then sprinkle them lightly in your vegetable and flower garden or

in your compost piles.

Turn your compost pile at least once this month to ensure even decomposition. Continue to add discarded fruit, and vegetable matter, egg shells, coffee and tea grounds to the pile. Water lightly to speed up the process.

If you have not planted your bulbs, do so immediately, using bone meal below the bulb.

Set out pecan trees and hardy perennials as snapdragons, violets and carnations, if you wish to grow them.

Feed pansies liquid manure now.

Fertilize your hanging baskets when you bring them in for the winter. Use a liquid fertilizer such as Miracle-Gro or Prosal, apply everytime you water them.

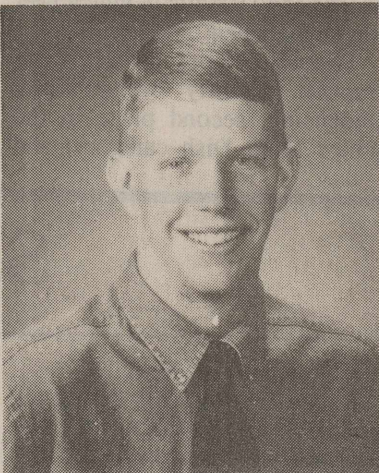
Bed preparedness is the key to a successful garden. Use the "miracle soil" mix which is made from composted cow manure, barn manure mixed with sand, and also aged chicken manure.

For your rose bushes with aphids on them, plant garlic around them and spray twice a week with a concoction of one tablespoon of dishwasher soap, and one tablespoon of cooking oil and one quart of water. The aphids will disappear and the leaves will shine with the oil.

On Dec. 1 and 15 bathe your houseplants with a mixture of three drops of baby shampoo, three drops of lemon scented ammonia, and two drops of antiseptic mouthwash, in a quart of warm water. Spray your plants well, and if your plants look tired and weary, it will be a welcome relief for them.

As we journey through this Christmas season, may each step draw us closer to the one who is the reason we celebrate—Jesus Christ. I hope you have a blessed Christmas and a happy new year.

Shackelford nominated to scholarship program



JASON SHACKELFORD

Jason Shackelford, a Paint Creek senior, has been nominated to compete in the national Principal's Leadership Award Scholarship Program, sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Principal's Leadership Award Program is funded by Herff Jones, Inc.

Debbie Hobgood, principal at Paint Creek, announced the nomination, which places Shackelford in the national competition. One hundred fifty national winners will be chosen this spring to receive \$1,000 college scholarships. Ms. Hobgood stated, "Jason is a fine example of

the outstanding caliber of young people in America's high schools."

While at Paint Creek, Shackelford has been involved in football, basketball, and track, having earned Academic All-District, 2nd team cornerback, and Honorable Mention Defense in football. He is president of the National Honor Society, vice-president of the Senior Class, and a member of the One Act Play. He was an American Legion Boy's State representative and is an Eagle Scout.

The son of Larry and Martha Shackelford, Jason plans to attend Texas Tech University in the fall and major in Ag Science.

Basketball scores

Girls

Haskell 58, Stamford 43
Scoring by quarter: 19, 14, 16, 9
Individual scoring: Comedy 2, Gray 16, Alvarez 10, Gonzalez 4, Tidrow 2, Burgess 3, Rodela 2, McKenzie 10, Bartley 9.

Boys

Haskell 67, Stamford 56
Scoring by quarters: 19, 14, 14, 20. Individual scoring: Spells 3, McGuire 3, Nichols 16, Briles 16, Ortiz 15, Cheyne 9, Steele 5.



A BASKET FULL—Indian Trey Chaney fills a basket to score in the game against Stamford, Nov. 25. Haskell won 67-56.

Photo by Bill Blankenship

FCE Club members hold training session

by Lou Gilly

Haskell Co. Extension Agent Family Community Education (FCE) met Tues., Nov. 18 for a District FCE training meeting. The District FCE Director, Virginia Helton, of Parker County, conducted the training meeting which provided training for FCE members from across the Rolling Plains. Twenty-four counties in the Rolling Plains District have County Extension Agents-Family and Consumer Sciences who provide leadership as advisors for the FCE clubs.

Family Community Education members learn leadership skills, new ways to network together to strengthen family life, support the 4-H youth program and provide community service in the communities.

Those attending from Haskell

County were Dolores Medford, Haskell County TAFCE Chairman; Jane Smith, Haskell County Vice-TAFCE Chairman; and Lena Tidwell, Haskell County FCE County Council Chairman.

FCE is sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, a part of the Texas A & M University System. If you are interested in learning more about this educational opportunity, contact Lou Gilly, County Extension Agent-FCS at (940) 864-2546.

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Local 4-H'ers compete at District Food Show

by Lou Gilly
Haskell Co. Extension Agent

New ways to prepare and serve some old favorites joined traditional recipes as 220 boys and girls from 25 counties exhibited their nutritional knowledge and cooking skills at the Rolling Plains District 4-H Food Show at Wichita Falls on Sat. Nov. 22, at the MPEC Exhibit Hall. Four seniors will advance to the State competition in June 1998. Each received a plaque and ribbon in addition to advancing to the State contest. Second place senior winners will participate in the State event if the first place winners can't take part. Intermediate and Junior Division winners also received ribbons, and plaques, but do not compete beyond the District level.

Intermediate and Junior division winners from Haskell County were Jessica Rieger, first place in the Intermediate Bread and Cereal category and Abby Dudensing, second place in the Junior Main dish category. Other Haskell County 4-H'ers participating in the District 4-H Food Show included: Seniors, Tabitha Coker and Savannah Foster; Intermediate, Bergen Peiser; and Junior Emery Dudensing.

Special cash awards, sponsored by Santa Rosa CattleWomen and Wichita Falls Area CattleWomen

were also presented to first, second and third place winners in Main Dish, Breads and Cereals, and Snacks and Desserts in which beef was an ingredient.

Receiving beef awards from Haskell County were Abby Dudensing, second place in the Junior Main Dish category; and

Tabitha Coker, third place in the Senior Snacks and Desserts category

Each contestant had earned championships in their county to advance to the day-long competition at the District meet. The dishes were judged by panels of professional home economist

and 4-H leaders. Contestants were quizzed on nutritional values, preparation methods and cost of preparation. Helping to quiz 4-H'ers was Renee Dudensing; Haskell County volunteer 4-H leader from Sagerton. She served as one of the judges in the Senior Division.

Sagerton News

By Dorothy M. Clark

week of Nov. 26
Happy Thanksgiving Day to all readers....we rejoice in the blessings we share each day and give thanks to our God who gives us all that we have.

The Thanksgiving dinner of the Friendship Club was held last Thursday at Faith Lutheran Church fellowship hall. The F. A. Ulmers and Herbert Lammert provided the turkeys for the meal and Joyce LeFevre and Mary Neinst did a superb job of baking the turkeys and making the dressing. Ladies for the community joined in to fill the serving tables with a very festive dinner. The birthday song was sung for Emma Raphael of Stamford who will be celebrating her 91st anniversary on Nov. 26. Attending the dinner were Isabell Mrazek, Minnie Monse, Doris Lehrmann, Emma Raphael, Joe and Dorothy Clark, Hilda Kieke, Corene Lowack, Clarence and Rachel Teichelman, Jack and Peggy Tabor, Alvin and Ev Ulmer, Delbert and Joyce Lefevre, Mary Neinst, Edna Diers, Hazel Letz, Clancy and Helen Lehrmann, Leona Schonerstedt, J.B. and Dorothy Toney, Herbert and Christine Stremmel, Leroy and Polly Nehring, Larry LeFevre, Buddy Tredemeyer, Francis Perez, Fred Baitz, Lana Culpepper, Ed Fouts and Pastor Jeff Zell.

Everyone is reminded of the Christmas dinner by the same club to be held the third Thursday of December.

The men's monthly breakfast was held Friday morning at Faith Lutheran Church with Pastor Jeff Zell bringing the devotion. Men in attendance included Marvin Stegemoeller, Marchel Nauert, Dean Quade, Clancy Lehrmann, Leon Stegemoeller, Gene Teichelman, David Letz and Jack Jones.

The Rule basketball games have begun with the following local students playing on the high school teams: Michael and Jeremy Hertel, Brian and Jennifer Lehrmann, Michelle Stegemoeller, and Richie Culpepper. They have made news with high scores and have represented the school well with real "nail-biting" thrillers of last second shots and overtime games. The girls teams placed

second in the tournament this past weekend and Jennifer Lehrmann was selected for the all tournament team. High school games are played each Tuesday and Friday night and Jr. High games are played on Monday nights. Local students on the Jr. High team are Kinsey Brown, M'Lynn Lehrmann, Kami Baitz, Kristin Hertel, Abby Dudensing and Brady Standifer. Jill Brown coaches the girls teams. We wish them all well.

The feasting and family gatherings of Thanksgiving Day are over and we are directing activities toward the celebration of Christmas. Basketball games continue to be the focus of school activities as teams are warming up for the district games that will begin after Christmas.

The Leo Monse family met at the community center for their 1997 Thanksgiving reunion. Those in attendance were Geneva and Virgil Vahlenkamp of Denton, Barry Smoot of Abilene, DeWayne Monse of Abilene, Rick, Carla, Brian and Meagan Lehrmann of Katy, Franklin Mrazek, Jr. of New Braunfels, Donny, Diane, and Mitzi Barbee of Big Spring, Charles Vahlenkamp of Sanger, Isabell Mrazek of Aspermont, Tommy, Debbie, Jason and Jennifer Mrazek of Plano, Doris Lehrmann of Rule, Mike, Marla, and Mikeah of Lubbock, Mark, Brenda, Matthew, and James Ettridge of Denton, Norva, Hollie, Josh and Keli Smith of Rule, Minnie, Jack and Lois Monse of Sagerton.

Donny, Diane and Mitzi Barbee visited in the home of her parents, Jack and Lois Monse, from Wednesday through the weekend. They also spent some time with his parents, J.R. and Ruby Barbee of Rule. On Wednesday, Lois, Diane and Mitzi went to Mineral Wells to shop.

Leon and Mae Stegemoeller hosted a Thanksgiving dinner in their home, on Saturday for Clyde Stegemoeller of Richardson, Clifford, Theresa and Brannon Stegemoeller of Houston, Eric Stegemoeller of Hewitt, Emma Raphael of Stamford and Clayton, Paula, Stephanie and Michelle of Sagerton.

Saturday afternoon Emma Raphael was the honoree at a reception in the Mae and Leon Stegemoeller home commemorating her 91st birthday. Great grandchildren, Stephanie, Michelle and Eric Stegemoeller served the birthday cake and punch to Esther Kinman of Stamford and her daughter, Jeanette, Leslie and Kay Baitz of Leander, Buddy Tredemeyer and Melvin and Annella Baitz and the Stegemoeller family. Josh Freeman visited with them Saturday night.

Helen and Clancy Lehrmann were hosts for a Thanksgiving supper for Pastor and Marie Zell, Steven, Karen, Jennifer, Brian, Joanna and M'Lynn Lehrmann and Jason Briles of Haskell.

Alvin and Ev Ulmer have been visiting with their children and grandchildren, Paige, Mark and Kirby Stockard of Katy, Mark Dawn, Sean and Josh Ulmer of Clearlake. On Thanksgiving Day they all gathered in the home of Brad, Dora, Tyler and Madison Ulmer in Clearlake. Winston and Mary Ulmer of New Braunfels came to join in the festivities.

Chelsea Tonnan of Denison spent a week visiting with her grandmother, Frances Clark. Her mother, Kay and brother, Brian came for her and had Thanksgiving dinner in the Clark home.

Delbert and Joyce LeFevre enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner in the home of their granddaughter, Laressa and Eric Earthman of Weimer. Other family members present were Larry and Susan Lefevre of Rule, Shane LeFevre of Sundown, A.D. and Tommy May of Rule, David, Linda and Keith May of Abilene, a German exchange student visiting in the May home in Abilene. From Weimer the LeFevres went to Schulenburg to visit with a cousin of Joyce's and then on to Houston where they visited with Ladain Anderson. The LeFevre's and the Ulmers both reported heavy thunderstorms on their way to Houston.

Frances Clark visited with her cousin, Juanita LeFevre of Coleman on Friday and went on to be with her grandson, the Clark Don Terrell's of Boerne and daughter, Glenda and Pete Bryant of San Antonio.

The children and grandchildren of Mary Neinst were Thanksgiving Day guests in her home. Visiting here from Emery, were Kenneth and Betsy, Laura Kate from Texas A & M, Judy, Roy and Dustin McEwen from Ralls, Darryl McEwen of Sul Ross University, and Doug McEwen of McMurry.

Joe and Dorothy Clark spent Thanksgiving weekend visiting in the home of Patsy and Don Bivins of Valley View. Other guests included Emmalee Bivins of Haskell, Tom Bivins of Denton, David, Peggy and Christopher Adler of Houston and Jeremy and Anna Willis of Wharton. On Saturday night the Clarks, Patsy Bivins, and Bunny and Ty Worthington of Sanger attended the Shannon Cain Benefit Rodeo in Saginaw, where Jeremy Willis participated in the bareback riding. Jeremy rodeoed throughout his high school years and is currently on the rodeo team of Wharton Junior College.

Lois and Ed Peel and Dahlia Perkins of West Columbia have been visiting with Frieda Knipling and J.B. Toney's. Also visiting in the Toney home were Jon, Rene and Josh McAden of Abilene and Bruce, Michelle, Tara, Clay and Megan of Azle. On Thanksgiving

Day the family had dinner in the home of Frieda Knipling and were joined by Walter and Erna Schaaake of Stamford.

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Happy 16th, Jason!

Haskell's Newest Driver

Haskell School Menu

Dec. 8-12
Breakfast
 Juice or fruit and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu.
Monday: Cereal, cinnamon roll
Tuesday: Breakfast burritos
Wednesday: Waffles/syrup
Thursday: Biscuits/gravy, sausage
Friday: Cereal, buttered toast/jelly
Lunch
 A choice of baked potato with choice of topping or a salad bar are offered daily at the High School.

Milk and juice are served daily at the Elementary School
Monday: Fajitas, pinto beans, sauted peppers/onions, brownie
Tuesday: Lasagna, seasoned corn, cole slaw, hot rolls, diced pears
Wednesday: Steak fingers/gravy, creamed potatoes, seasoned green peas, buttered hot rolls, pudding dessert
Thursday: B.B.Q. on bun, tater tots, sliced pickles, sliced peaches
Friday: Hamburger, French fries, hamburger trimmings, cookies

Paint Creek School Menu

December 1-5
Breakfast
 Milk and juice are served daily.
Thursday: Cereal
Friday: Donuts
Lunch
 Milk is served daily.
Thursday: Baked chicken, gravy, broccoli/rice, carrots, bread, fruit cocktail
Friday: Hamburgers, lettuce, onions, tomatoes, pickles, cheese, fries, ice cream
December 8-12
Breakfast
 Milk and juice are served daily.
Monday: Cereal
Tuesday: Toast

Wednesday: Pancakes and syrup
Thursday: Biscuits and gravy
Friday: Donuts
Lunch
 Milk is served daily.
Monday: Wiener wrap, cream potatoes, peas, peaches
Tuesday: Spaghetti/meat, salad, green beans, pears
Wednesday: Pizza, corn, salad, chocolate cake
Thursday: Tacos, beans, lettuce, cheese, onions, cornbread, hot sauce, coconut cake
Friday: Hamburgers, lettuce, onions, tomatoes, pickles, cheese, fries, ice cream

Head Start Menu

Dec 4-12
 Milk served daily with breakfast. Menus subject to change without notice.
Thursday: Breakfast burrito, orange juice
Friday: Toast, apple slices
Monday: Cream of wheat, pineapple chunks
Tuesday: Waffle w/syrup, orange juice
Wednesday: Corn flakes, strawberries
Thursday: Toast, pears
Friday: Blueberry muffins, orange juice
Lunch
 Milk served daily with lunch.
Thursday: Beef enchiladas, lettuce, tomatoes, Spanish rice, peaches
Friday: Fish sticks, corn, broccoli/cheese, bread
Monday: Baked chicken leg or thigh, green beans, mixed fruit,

bread
Tuesday: Deli sandwich ham and turkey, carrots, apple wedges
Wednesday: Meat loaf, mashed potatoes, apricots, roll
Thursday: Macaroni and cheese with ham, mixed vegetables, orange wedges
Friday: Sloppy joes on bread, salad, apple slices
Snack
Thursday: Carrot sticks, ranch dip, crackers, apple juice
Friday: Lemon cookies, orange juice
Monday: Orange wedges, cheese
Tuesday: Pudding, vanilla wafers
Wednesday: Cheese/crackers, apple juice
Thursday: Cinnamon graham, cracker
Friday: Oatmeal cookies, cran juice

ECC Calendar and Menu

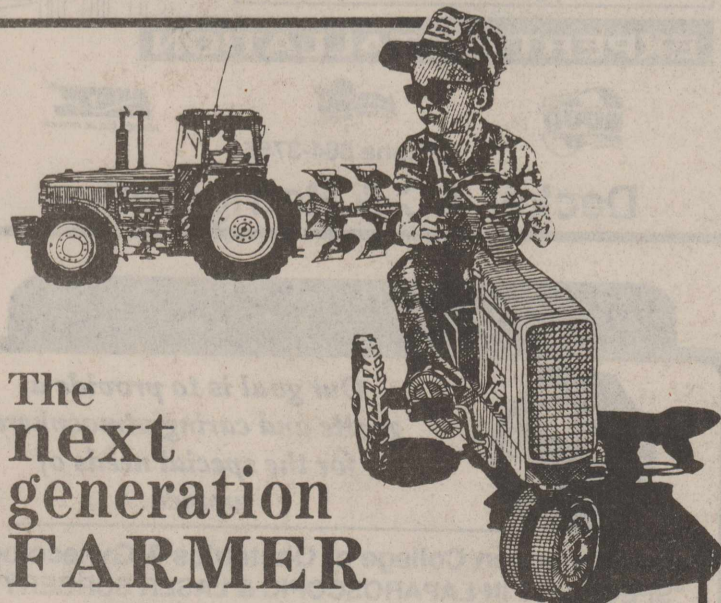
Monday, December 8
 Lunch—Chicken/dumplings, English peas, tossed salad, banana pudding, milk, tea or coffee.
Wednesday, December 10
 Exercise—10:30 a.m.
 Blood pressure check—Concepts of Care—10:00-12:00
 Lunch—Steak/gravy, corn, tomato/okra, potatoes, cobbler, milk, tea or coffee.

Friday, December 12
 Lunch—Pinto beans/hamburger meat, kraut salad, onions, carrots, fruit cocktail cake, milk, tea or coffee.
 All over 60 are invited to come and eat. Call 864-3875 for transportation to the center or for home delivered lunches for the sick or disabled.

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 Tex Little, Rule
 Christine Poteet, Haskell
 Susie Lopez, Munday
 Dora Holley, Haskell

Hazel Rainey, Weinert
 Ora Childress, Haskell
 B. C. Chapman, Haskell
 James Darr, Haskell
Dismissals
 Lucy Hunt, Viola Brueggeman,
 Rudy Latham, Roy Medford,
 Benito Barrera



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FOR SALE: Sofa, loveseat, chair and ottoman. Call 864-2536 or after 6 p.m. 864-3273. 49c

FOR SALE: Love seat. Blue and mauve. Extremely good condition. Call 864-8195, leave message. 49p

NEED CHRISTMAS gift ideas? Fast Trak exerciser (fairly new), king size wooden headboard with place for books, Hewlett Packard Desk Jet 500 printer. Call 864-2284 after 4:30. 49p

FREE PUPPIES: 4 male Boxer puppies. 997-2616 after 5 p.m. or leave message. 49-50c

Lost & Found
REWARD: Lost saddle. 864-3995. 49p

LOST: 11/5/97 small light brown Chihuahua type dog, near Haskell Memorial Hospital. Has tattoo on inside of back leg. Small boy with broken heart needs dog back. \$75 reward. If found, please contact Karen Baxter in lab at Haskell Hospital 864-2621. Wears black and grey collar with two tags from Wellington Vet Clinic. 49-50p

SPECIAL PURCHASE of quality sofas. Choose from several styles of sofas in good looking fabrics at \$449, \$499, and up. Matching love seats and sleepers also available. Kinney Furniture in Stamford has been known for good values, quick free delivery, and small town personal service since 1932. 49c

Cars For Sale
SHARP-LOOKING 1985 Chevrolet pickup (white). 20,000 miles on motor, new tires, mag wheels. Great kids pickup. \$5000. 864-3703 or 864-2311. 49p

Garage Sales
GARAGE SALE: Sat., 7:30 until 7:00 p.m. 1200 N. Ave. J. Lots of stuff. 49p

2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE: Toys, dolls, men's, women's, children's clothing and shoes. Sat., Dec. 6. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. 1018 N. 6th. 49p

YARD SALE: Fri. 8 a.m. Lots of good stuff. South on Hwy. #6. (901 Union St. South, Rule). 49p

GARAGE SALE: Sat. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. 1802 N. Ave. F. Clothes, furniture, appliances. 49p

GARAGE SALE: Sat., Dec. 6. Aluminum storm door, mini-blinds, dog kennel, misc. household items, children's clothing, room air filter. 3 miles south of Haskell on Hwy. 277, down County Rd. #414, 1/4 mile. 49c

Miscellaneous
HOME DECORATORS. Painting, Insulation, Remodeling, water and air filtration systems. Call Bobby O'Neal 940-743-3550. 30tfc

FINALLY, health insurance for the self-employed at affordable rates. 1-888-464-1731. 46-5p

CUSTOM FRAMING. Country Friends and Frames, 101 N. Swenson, Stamford. 915-773-2661. Complete framing needs. Closed Mondays. 49c

CONNOR NURSERY has moved to downtown Haskell, 418 N. First St. Located in the old Johnson Pharmacy building. 49c

For information and applications on the TEXAS TOMORROW FUND, Contact Becky Offutt at Matlock & Associates, days 940-864-3050 or evenings 940-422-4067. "Lock in your child's college tuition at today's cost." Enroll with the Texas Comptroller or a qualified Texas Life Agent. 49p

Jobs Wanted
HOUSE LEVELING. Floor bracing. Free estimates. References. Call 915-675-6369 anytime. David Lee. 19tfc

Wanted
CASH PAID for old lever action Winchester rifles, Colt pistols and most other guns and western memorabilia. A. C. Richardson at store Hwy. 277 N. 12tfc

Help Wanted
CERTIFIED NURSE-AIDE: Certified Nurse-Aide position available for enthusiastic, dedicated individual at Brazos Valley Care Home. Please apply in person at 605 South Avenue F, Knox City, TX 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. 29tfc

TEXAS oil company urgently needs dependable person in Haskell area. Regardless of training, write W. H. Hopkins, Dept. W-79521, Box 711, Ft. Worth, TX 76101-0711. 48-49p

HOME TYPISTS, PC users needed. \$45,000 income potential. Call 1-800-513-4343 Ext. B-2094. 49-52p

HIRING: Instructional aide at the Haskell Secondary School. Contact Haskell High School office for application. 49-50c

PAINT CREEK ISD is accepting applications for a child care worker in the Day Care Center. Salary is commensurate with experience and will follow the regular ten month school calendar. Applications will be accepted through Friday, December 5. Starting date will be January 5, 1998. For more information, please call Eva McCasland or Cherry Pitcock at 864-2471. 49c

NOTICE
The deadline for Classified Advertising is 5 p.m. on Mondays.
Haskell Free Press

Real Estate
FOR SALE: 154 acres. 5 miles west Haskell. All cultivation. Good productivity. 940-864-3476. 42-49p

HASKELL COUNTY, 115 acres near Rochester, all in cultivation with excellent irrigation well. Currently in peanuts and cotton. Take possession at end of this crop or make deal with tenant who has pivot system in place. Price reduced to \$700 per acre to settle estate. Includes 1/2 minerals. Call Wayne Speck at 210-342-4850 or Earlene Townsend at 940-743-3438. 47-52p

FOR SALE: Brick 3 bedroom, 2 bath rock fireplace, double garage, storage shed, water well. New heat pump unit. By appointment 864-2753/8188. 1704 N. Ave. H. 49-52c

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, 2 bath west of Veterinary Clinic, blue house on left side. Call 864-2557 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. 49p

FOR SALE: 100 acres of land, located SW of City of Haskell, mostly cultivation. Call A/C 940-864-2434 for further information. 49-50c

WILLIAM L. GOODE farm for sale. 83 1/3 acres, 3 miles southeast Rochester. Call 940-864-3549. 49tfc

TWO FOR ONE! Buy two great La-Z-Boy recliners for one low price right now at Kinney Furniture in Stamford. These are a gift that will be remembered for many years. We will hold your selection and deliver right before Christmas at no charge. Kinney's has been offering quick free delivery, low prices, and good service since 1932. 49c

Public Notices
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE
A request has been received from Carla Dahlquist (Don Whitfield) to change the following described property: Lot number #4 W45' faces 3rd St., Block 34, Address rear of 207 N. Ave. F other description Original Town of Haskell from residential zoning district to retail zoning district. The applicant proposes to use the property for craft-gift shop open 2 weekends per month if rezoning is achieved.
The planning and zoning commission of the City of Haskell, Texas, will hold a public hearing pursuant to this request on Dec. 19, 1997 at 1:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers. 49c

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Frances Arend Real Estate & Insurance
TWO BEDROOM, 1 bath, carport and storage, cellar. 205 N. B.
KNOX CITY: 2 bedroom, 1 bath brick, 2 car garage. 300 H.
ROCHESTER: 4 bedroom, 2 bath brick, 1 car carport, 2 storage on 3 lots.
BUILDING: 608 S. Ave. E
Medicare Supplement Life Insurance Long Term Care 408 N. 1st 940-864-3880 49c

Thank you to our many friends and neighbors for your every act of kindness and support in our recent loss.
With deep appreciation,
The Family of
Kenneth Quattlebaum

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath brick, CH/A, fenced yard, water well.
FARM FOR SALE: 200 acres all in cultivation. Approximately 1 mile east of Rule. Good productivity, one of Haskell County's best.
PRICE REDUCED: 2 or 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, large dining and living room, brick with C/A, covered patio, fenced backyard, water well, shop/garage. In great location.
2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large shop area, fenced backyard. North part of town.
Large commercial building on west side of square.
2 bedroom, 1 bath, attached garage, large fenced backyard. Great neighborhood. Must see.

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Dear friends:
We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for all you have done for our family during this time. All the food, cards, flowers, visits and prayers were greatly appreciated.
We are very lucky to have such great friends! Sincerely,
The Jack Wilcox Family

Merry Christmas
Farmers Home Apartments
is accepting applications for 2 bedroom apartments. Rental assistance available.
For more information contact Haskell Housing Authority at 702 S. Ave. H or call 864-3685 between 2 and 5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
Equal Housing Opportunity 49c

Tribbey Real Estate & Custom Homes
1501 N. Ave. H. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. CH/A. \$1500.00 down to qualified buyer.
New energy efficient home in Addison. 1607 Derrick Drive. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath. Reduced.
2 story 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath. Large game room. Lots of extras. Shown by appointment only. 310 Bonnie Lane.
90'x140' building lots in Addison Addition. Financing available.
Vacant corner lot. 801 N. Ave. E.
864-2238 • 864-3301 • 4 Ave. D
Trades Welcome!

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Mary Rike, Broker
A FAMILY HOME Large 4 bedroom with two living areas and basement Has new everything - carpet, heating and cooling, wiring, plumbing. Must see to appreciate the abundant space Call Mary today!
WONDERFUL VINTAGE HOME Ready for occupancy Large one and one-half story, 3 bedroom, 3 bath, built-in kitchen with pool and party house, and many extras
EXCELLENT 70 acres cropland located northwest edge of Haskell Great for building site and farm combination
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



BAGGING A BUCK—Yvivi Cadenhead displays the ten pointer she shot in Haskell County with a .243 rifle at 5:10 p.m. on Nov. 22. The buck scored 157 points on the Boone and Crockett scale.

Don't be caught asleep at the wheel

by Lou Gilly
Haskell Co. Extension Agent
The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that 100,000 motor vehicle crashes each year are caused by drivers who fall asleep at the wheel, killing 1,500 people and injuring 71,000 more. Drowsy driving is America's silent killer. Sleepiness slows a driver's reaction time, decreases awareness and impairs judgement, much like alcohol and drugs do.

One explanation for this problem is that we cram so much into each day, and spend less time relaxing and getting sleep time. Most people feel sleepy during the afternoon between 2 and 5 p.m., and between midnight and 7 a.m. Not so coincidentally, those are the times when most drowsy-driver crashes occur.

The following is a list of danger signals of drowsy driving:

- *Eyes close or go out of focus by themselves.
- *Trouble keeping your head up.
- *Can't stop yawning.
- *Have disconnected thoughts.
- *Don't remember the last few miles you've driven.

Tour of Homes set Sunday, Dec. 7

The Noah Project—North will hold its annual "Christmas Tour of Homes" on Sun., Dec. 7, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 per person and will admit you into all of the homes.

The following homes will be on the tour for this year; Ricky and Sharie Dunnam, Roy and Sandy Forehand, Jimmy and Rhonda Lisle, Kyle and Kim Markey, Mark and Kristi Stewart, and Abe and Ruby Turner. Each will be decorated for Christmas in their own and unique and individual style.

*Drifting between lanes, tailgating, or miss traffic signs.

*Keep jerking the car back into the lane.

*Have drifted off the road and narrowly missed crashing.

The following are 5 suggestions to keep alert behind the wheel.

*Be rested...get enough sleep the night before your trip.

*Pick your time...avoid driving during your body's downtime when sleep is almost irresistible.

*Take a break...schedule breaks every two hours or 100 miles. Be sure to walk or exercise before continuing your trip and talk with your passenger.

*Make sure both people in the front of the car are awake. A driver who needs to rest should go to the back seat, buckle up, and sleep.

*Pull over...if you feel sleepy, pull off the road, find a safe, well-lit place and sleep. A 15-20 minute nap can be highly restorative.

Most people know how dangerous drinking and driving is. Driving drowsy can be just as fatal as driving drunk. Drive alert...arrive alive.

County Extension Office sets open house

The public is invited to drop by the Haskell County Extension Office located at 101 S. Ave. D in

Haskell on Tues. Dec. 9 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. for an Open House.

Refreshments, many of which will be made using Haskell County pecans, will be served. A pecan booklet containing the economic impact of pecans on Haskell County, production practices, and recipes will be distributed during the day. Also available will be numerous other publications of interest to the residents of Haskell County.

Lou Gilly, County Extension Agent-Family and Consumer Sciences, Greg Kaase, County Extension Agent-Agriculture, and Tammy Parham, Office Manager

are looking forward to your visit on Tuesday.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this Extension sponsored activity are encouraged to contact the Haskell County Extension Office located at 101 S. Ave. D in Haskell, or phone (940) 864-2658 or 864-2546.

Kids are not cargo

by Lou Gilly
Haskell Co. Extension Agent

Several years ago, Karen Slay of Lubbock read a newspaper account of how a Chevy truck loaded with 12 kids ranging in age from 4 to 13 ran a stop sign near Snyder, which is about a hundred miles southeast of Lubbock. The pickup was broadsided by an 18-wheeler. Two parents and another adult were killed, as were eight of the children, whose mangled bodies lay scattered on the desolate highway. Slay went into action, launching the Kids Aren't Cargo campaign. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) adopted her slogan and logo and she has been recognized nationally for her efforts.

Nationwide, more than two hundred deaths per year are a result of persons riding in pickup cargo beds. Dr. Ricardo Martinez, administrator of the NHTSA said, pickup trucks are a great place for cargo. Kids aren't cargo and need to ride up front with a seat belt on. And it is not only kids that need to stay out of pickup trucks but people of all ages. In 1996, in Texas, six people were killed as a result of riding in the cargo area of a pickup truck. These six people were between the ages of 17 and 21. In addition, 708 Texans were injured as a result of riding in the cargo area of a pickup truck.

Considering using a camper shell and think that it will offer protection? Think again. Camper shells are not structurally enforced and there are no seat belts in the bed of the pickup. The combination can be lethal, according to Marlene Albers, Texas Agricultural Extension Service associate with passenger safety. Ed Carmon, safety education officer with the Texas Department of Public Safety in Bryan/College Station, said the traumatic force of being thrown around inside the camper will damage soft internal organs. If the camper shell remains intact during a crash, it helps keep passengers from being ejected. However, they will suffer injuries from being thrown against the pickup bed and shell. In a worst case scenario, they may be crushed inside. The chance of getting a

severe head injury is greatly increased, Carmon said. If you injure your brain, it may never heal. That's what your seat belts and air bags do for you in a car.

Even though it is legal in Texas for adults to ride in the open bed of a pickup truck, it is not safe, Janie Harris, Extension specialist with passenger safety, said. Riding in the back of pickups is a problem throughout Texas. The current Texas law states that a person commits an offense if the person, at a speed that exceeds 35 miles per hour, operates an open bed pickup truck or an open flatbed truck or tows an open flatbed trailer on a public street or highway when a child younger than 23 years of age is occupying the bed of a truck or trailer.

The speed limit has increased on many Texas roadways, and it is critical that drivers are attentive, follow posted traffic signs, that all passengers and the driver buckle up, and drive unimpaired.

Support the Indians!

Pecan Show set Dec. 9

by Greg Kaase
Haskell Co. Extension Agent

The Haskell County Extension Program Council Executive Board is sponsoring the Haskell County Pecan show on Dec. 9 at the Haskell County Courthouse. The

judging will take place in the courthouse on the 1st floor from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. Pecan show judge will be Gary Bomar, Taylor County Extension Agent.

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