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Jail Open House Sat. 10:30 a.m. ~ Special Section Inside

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 116-NO. 8, ©FEBRUARY 21, 2002

"The People's Choice"

22 PAGES-TWO SECTIONS-50 CENTS

Softball games

JV-V Maidens vs. Abilene Wylie
Tues., Feb. 26, 4 p.m. at Abilene

Calendar

Noah Project

The Noah Project-North Advisory Committee will hold a variety show and silent auction Fri., Feb. 22 at the new Rolling Plains Regional Jail beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets are available by calling 864-2551 or at the door. Brisket dinner and all the trimmings will be served. Proceeds benefit area county victims of family violence served by the group.

ECC brisket dinner

The Experienced Citizens Center will hold a mesquite smoked brisket dinner Sun., March 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the ECC Center. Tickets are \$7 in advance or \$7.50 at the door. Tickets for children over 10 are \$3.50 at the door or \$3 in advance. For tickets call 864-3875 or 864-3703.

Society to meet

The Haskell County Historical & Genealogical Society will meet Mon., March 4 in Haskell City Hall at 7 p.m. Jacklynn Escobedo, daughter of Jackie Escobedo, will present a paper about her grandfather, Chief Escobedo, a Korean War veteran. Morgan Cox, daughter of Bill and Susan Cox, will read a paper about her grandmother, Gertrude Hopkins. Both are students of Mrs. Bellinghausen.

Medicare seminar

A seminar explaining Medicare choices concerning plans, supplemental insurance, savings programs, prescription drug assistance and other cost-cutting programs will be held Wed., March 6 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Experienced Citizens Center, 1401 S. 1st Street in Haskell.

Old Glory musical

The Old Glory Musical will be held Sat., Feb. 23 at the Community Center in Old Glory. The best little concession stand in Texas will open at 5:30 and the music will start at 6 p.m. No admission is charged. For more information call 940-989-2925 or 989-2833.

One-act plays

A "Night of One-Act Plays" will be presented Mon., March 4 at the Haskell Civic Center. Schools on the playbill include Rule, Rochester, Munday and Haskell.

Smorgasbord

Members of the Bethel Lutheran Church will host a Swedish smorgasbord Sat., Feb. 23 in Ericksdahl.

Car Show

The 6th annual Haskell Fire Dept. Car Show will be held Sat., March 16 around the courthouse in Haskell. Entries are \$20. Registration is from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Fire Station. Judging is at 1:30 p.m. followed by a trophy presentation at 3:30. Hot Wheel races will be held for the kids. Kids tractor pull will be held. For more information contact Randy Shaw at 864-2023 or Coy Scoggins at 864-3694.

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Jail dedication, open house set Saturday

The Haskell County Commissioners Court, the mayor and City Council of Haskell and Management & Training Corporation (MTC) will officially open the new Rolling Plains Regional Jail and

Detention Center on Sat., Feb. 23, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

A tour and lunch will be provided following the 10:30 a.m. dedication at the center, located at 118 County

Road 206 in Haskell. The public is invited to an official ribbon-cutting by the Haskell Chamber of Commerce. Those coming should arrive on the North County Road 208.

"We look forward to welcoming the community and building the same kind of positive relationship in Haskell that we have in other Texas communities," said Curtis E. Price

Jr., MTC's vice president of government and community relations.

The new 48-bed regional jail was created through a partnership with Management & Training Corporation, Haskell County and the City of Haskell. MTC expects to hire 24 employees to work in the regional jail. Inmates for the jail will be provided through an agreement with Haskell County. MTC is pursuing possible contracts to fill the detention facility, but has not made any formal agreements.

"We decided that oil and farming would not be able to carry the load in the future," said Haskell Mayor Ken Lane. "We began a quest to change the destiny of Haskell, and the opening of this prison marks the end of the beginning. We are just getting started on a long difficult road to change the economic base for this city."

Haskell County Judge David Davis said, "We are looking forward to the opening of our Regional County Jail and Detention Center. The time has come for that to happen. After three years of hard work, now the results are visible. I want to thank all the people who have supported what seemed to be a lost dream. There are still questions that are not answered, but with time they will be. We look forward to seeing everyone at the grand opening."

James Elam, director of Haskell Economic Development Corporation, said MTC's priority is the safety and security of the community, staff and inmates. MTC also brings a history of helping improve the lives of inmates through education and rehabilitation. It also values relationships in the community through establishing community advisory boards and participating in service projects.

Based in Centerville, Utah, MTC is a leader in the management and operation of correctional facilities, with 17 contracts in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, California, Ohio, Canada and Australia. It is the third largest private operator of secure adult correctional facilities in the world. In addition, MTC operates 23 Job Corp centers for the U. S. Dept. of Labor, where youth ages 16-24 are offered vocational, academic and social skills training. More information about MTC can be found at www.mtctrains.com.



TOURING THE NEW JAIL—Haskell Elementary students listen with as County Judge David Davis tells about the functions of the various monitors in the control room which show all areas of the

prison, and as he describes the functions of the small round video camera placed on the end of the desk. Cameras located throughout the facility allow complete surveillance.

Haskell band students bring home medals

Fifty-five Haskell band students from the 7th to 12th grade competed in the Region 2 South Zone Solo and Ensemble Contest, bringing home a total of fifty medals.

Thirty-four medals were in the 7th and 8th grade division while sixteen medals were in the high school.

Ernest Palacios, Trent Richardson, Jessica Rieger, Laura Baxter, Debbi

Long, Shancee Mays and Albert Palacios qualified for state by performing a brass ensemble. Jessica Rieger also qualified for state with her piano solo.

Other Haskell High School medal recipients are: Hannah Maxey, Eden Thomas, Jacklyn Escobedo, Susie Skinner, Brianna Wheatley and Drew Garison. Winning double medals for

the high school were Jessica Rieger, Laura Baxter and Albert Palacios.

Haskell Junior High medal recipients are: Maggie Teague, Stephanie Grand, Jeff Silba, Jared Webb, Matthew Brown, Tamisha Dever, Shayla Felty, Kayla Tidrow, Sonya Hernandez, Chambray Bartley, Matthew Bowers, Kellye Tidrow, Alexa Roberts, Josh Kimmel, Billy Lusk, Josh Rodriguez, Mollie McKnight, L. J. McCulloch and Lindsay Pannell.

Winning double medals for junior high were: Kristen Martinez,

Roxanne Chavez, Cassandra Reynolds, Diana Mauricio, Sarah Alvarez and Angela Pena. Caleb Hudgens won three medals.

The band students who qualified for State competition will be joined at State by twirlers Bergen Peiser, Katie McKnight, Olivia Messenger and Tracy Richardson, who qualified in September with their twirling routines.

The Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest will be held May 25-27 in San Marcos. Haskell will be competing May 27.

Cotton growers efforts rewarded

Five years after launching an eradication program Rolling Plains Central cotton growers will see their efforts rewarded with a declaration of functional eradication.

Texas Department of Agriculture officials told the Foundation board at its January meeting that TDA is reviewing the data submitted by the Foundation, and the declaration could be made at the Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association annual meeting Feb. 19.

Functional eradication means that on average, no more than one weevil was caught for every thousand traps inspected during the growing season and that no evidence of reproduction was found in the zone.

The zone's final average was only five weevils for every 10,000 traps inspected.

"We're extremely proud to have accomplished what we hoped for when the growers put this program together," said Lindy Patton, executive director of the foundation.

"I want to commend the cotton producers in the Rolling Plains for

making this program work despite legal hurdles and obstacles from the weather."

The Rolling Plains Central zone began eradication in the fall 1996. After a brief shutdown in early 1997, growers reaffirmed their desire to eradicate the boll weevil when 86 percent of the growers voted to continue the program.

The original plan called for a maximum assessment of \$10 with a 10-year payoff

Thanks to cost-share funding obtained by state and federal legislators over the years, the program will pay out in the same number of years, even though farmers haven't been assessed as much as originally planned, Patton said.

Assuming growers in the zone vote to protect their investment in the program, another \$6 million in federal funding will be available to reduce the zone's debt.

"That's nearly \$10 an acre farmers won't have to pay thanks to friends like Congressman Stenholm in the legislature," Patton said.

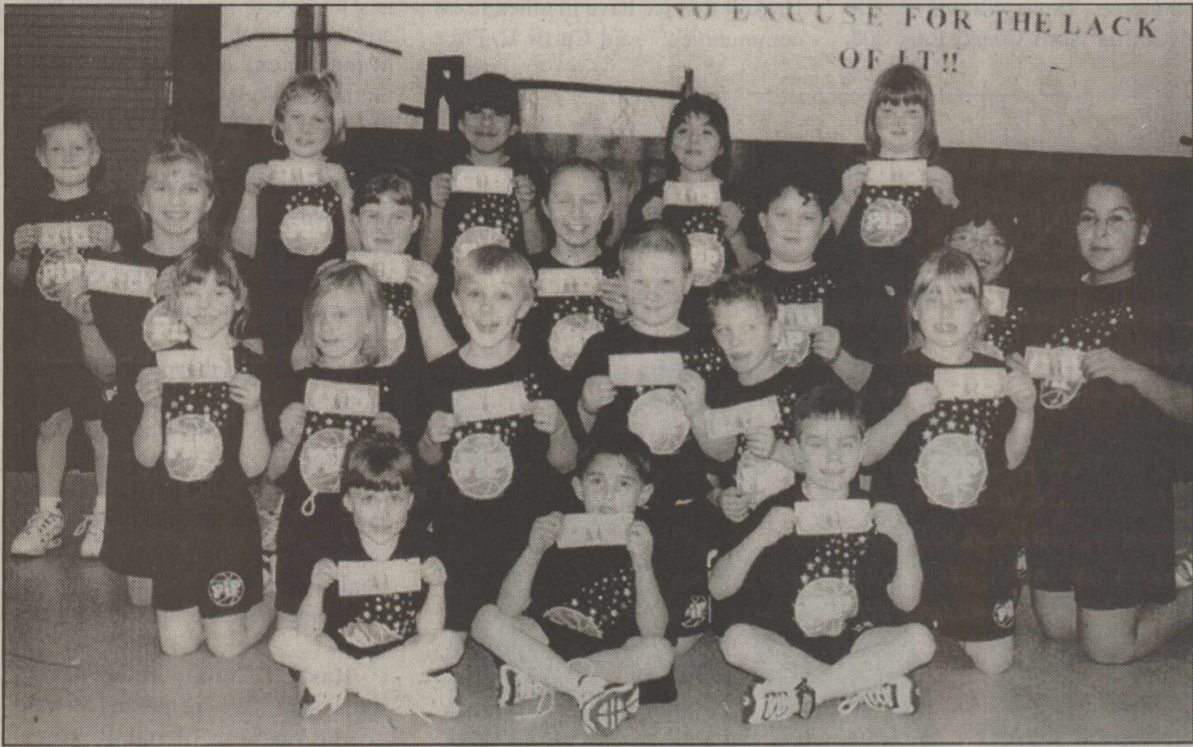


GONE IN A FEW GULPS—The old Gulf station that stood for years on the corner just north of the square in Haskell was demolished and hauled away this week. Underground gas tanks were removed and the buildings leveled by work crews in only two days, clearing the way for progress by the City.

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 864-2686



HASKELL PLAYERS IN PROGRESS—In addition to performing during basketball games the Haskell PIPS donated \$50.00 to the Team in Training project to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.



PIPS' HELPING HANDS—Members of the Haskell PIPS each gave a dollar to aid the Team in Training project to help Angie Land who will perform in a swimming, cycling, running triathlon in June. The two local PIPS groups will give their last performance for the year at ACU in Abilene Sat., Feb. 23.

Producers are reminded that NAP covers grazing

Haskell County small grain forage producers are reminded that small grain forage (grazing) is covered under the Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). The NAP program provides benefits to producers for noninsurable crop losses resulting from natural disasters and adverse natural occurrences.

Producers may purchase a crop policy by filing an application for coverage and paying the applicable service fee. The service fee is equal to \$100 per crop per county or \$300 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of \$900 per producer for

all counties.

To be eligible for NAP benefits, a producer must have a current NAP policy, have timely filed an acreage report, timely reported crop losses, submitted their production evidence and provided all other necessary crop loss documentation. Losses must be reported timely, within 15 days of the loss, such as hail or in the situation of a drought, filing must be done during the apparent period or within 15 days after adequate moisture has been received for the crop that was damaged by the drought.

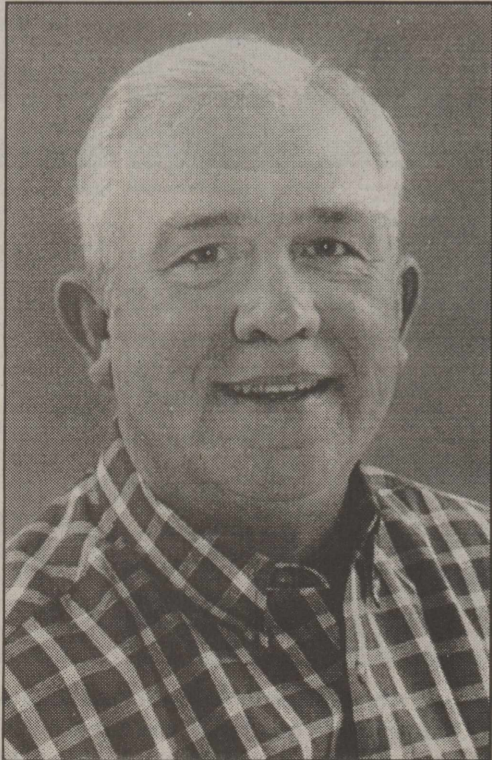
Small grain acreage planting dates are October 1 for fall/full season grazing and November 15 for spring grazed acreage. Acreage seeded after these respective dates are not eligible for NAP coverage for the 2002 crop year.

Producers that feel they have suffered over a 50 percent loss on fall small grain forage grazing planted before or by Oct. 1, 2001, are requested to file the notice of loss immediately. Final regulations for the NAP program have not been published to date. However, this does not prevent producers from timely filing a loss notice or purchasing NAP coverage.

Contact your local Farm Service Agency office at the USDA Service Center. The Haskell County Service Center is located at 607 N. 1st Street East in Haskell or call 940-864-2617, ext. 2.

Jail Dedication and Open House Saturday

To the Citizens, Voters, and Taxpayers of Haskell County:



I am David C. Davis. I have been your County Judge for 5 1/2 years. I am here to serve the needs of the County and have been available 24 hours a day to anyone that needed my services.

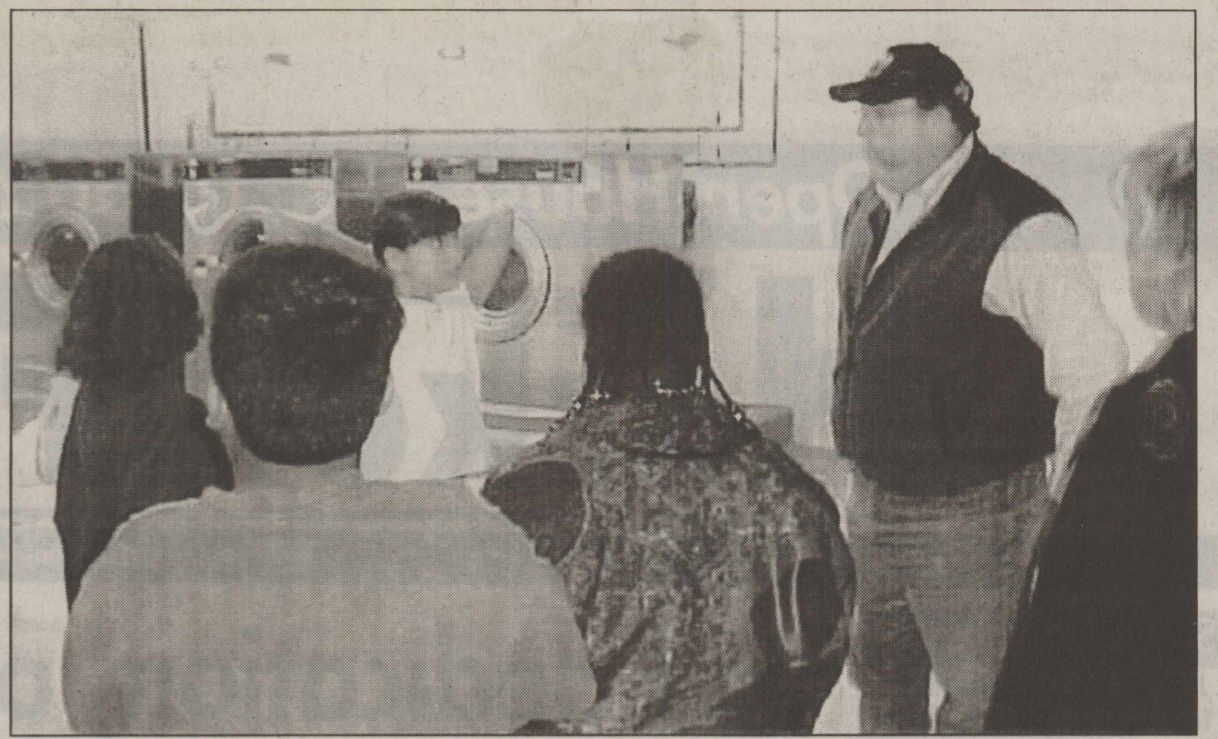
Everyone has not agreed with every decision made, but each was made thinking it was for the benefit and greater need of Haskell County. I want Haskell to prosper and continue to be a place we can be proud to call home. I want Haskell County to be a place people want to live and raise their families.

Our new County Jail and Detention Center is to be open March 1st. It will be the beginning of change for our County.

I am asking for your vote March 12th for another term as your County Judge. I want to continue to work for you. Early voting begins February 25th. Voting is a privilege and right each of us needs to exercise!

GO VOTE!

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY DAVID C. DAVIS, CAMPAIGN TREASURER



LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT—County Commissioner Kenny Thompson says "this is the way we wash our clothes, for 1,000 inmates, that is" during the Haskell Elementary students' visit to the Regional Jail.

Obituaries

Bertha Fay Griffith



BERTHA FAY GRIFFITH

Funeral services for Bertha Fay Griffith, 89, of the Paint Creek Community were held Tues., Feb. 19 at Paint Creek Baptist Church with Steve Russell Griffith officiating.

Burial was in Howard Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Griffith died Sat., Feb. 16 at Haskell Memorial Hospital.

Born March 3, 1912 in the Red Springs Community, Baylor County, she was the daughter of Louis C. and Maude Robinson Dunn. She graduated from Abilene High School in 1929 and later attended Draughon's Business School in Abilene. She married W.B. (Bill) Griffith June 30, 1937 in Abilene. They moved to Paint Creek in 1945 where they farmed. She was a member of the Paint Creek Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her twin sister, Bertie Patterson; and her brother, Charlie Dunn.

Survivors include her husband, Bill of Paint Creek; four daughters and sons-in-law, Jean and Glenn Berry of Vidor, Mina and Harold Hefler of Bedford, Brenda and Ronnie Reel of Paint Creek and Linda and Larry Sanders of Los Alamos, N.M.; one son and daughter-in-law, Jimmy and Dorothy Griffith of Merkel; thirteen grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Pallbearers were grandsons: Mike Berry, Mark Berry, Joel Griffith, Johnny Griffith, Robert Sanders, Jodie Reel and Joe Hefler.

Memorials may be made to Paint Creek Baptist Church, Haskell, Texas 79521 or the donor's favorite charity. PD. NOTICE

Buck J. Conner

Graveside services for Buck J. Conner, 65, of Haskell were held Tues., Feb. 19 in Willow Cemetery in Haskell with Rev. Thural Reid officiating. Services were under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Conner died Sat., Feb. 16. Born Aug. 29, 1936 in Haskell, he served in the U. S. Army. He was an oilfield worker and an accomplished guitar player. He was a member of the Assembly of God Church.

He was preceded in death by his father, Virgil Conner;

two brothers, Wendell Conner and Martin Eddie Conner; one son, Kevin Conner; and an infant daughter, Karen Sue Conner.

Survivors include his mother, Grace Skipworth of Haskell; two sons, Craig Conner and Brandon Conner, both of Lubbock; four sisters, Melba Moeller of San Angelo, Sybil Blackwood of Big Spring, Brenda Autrey of Abilene and Jeannie Forehand of Haskell; three brothers, Troy Conner of Haskell, Kenneth Conner of Abilene and Gary Conner of Amarillo. PD. NOTICE

Making Alzheimer's manageable

"Dementia among the elderly is by far the largest epidemic facing our society today. It dwarfs cancer, AIDS and heart disease, regarding the burden of care," says T. Franklin Williams, former director of the National Institute on Aging. Alzheimer's disease is, of course, the most common cause of dementia among the elderly.

Anyone who has ever known an Alzheimer's patient will tell you that they often find themselves "stuck in time." Unfortunately, it is usually the wrong time. For instance, an elderly woman being cared for by her 55-year-old daughter may have days when she addresses her daughter as her mother, even though her actual mother passed away years ago.

The Alzheimer's victim may be seeing the world through the eyes of her younger self, in another time, perhaps as a young mother with a new baby. Or she may think she is a small child. She is disoriented in time, and cannot seem to grasp her true age and place. Caregivers, even professional ones, have struggled with this phenomenon for years.

The traditional way of dealing with time and place disorientation has been to remind the patient repeatedly of who she is, where she is in the present time and who is taking care of her. The problem is that this almost never works; the patient cannot grasp the present and the caregiver ends up frustrated and dismayed that all her efforts at "reorientation" have failed.

Today there's a new way of caring for Alzheimer patients that is gaining ground among professionals. It is both more compassionate and more effective than reorientation, and anyone who has a loved one with Alzheimer's should know about it, says the American Health Assistance Foundation. It's called "validation therapy" or simply, "validation."

Validation was pioneered by Naomi Weil, a gerontological social worker, now executive director of the

Validation Training Institute in Cleveland, Ohio. It is being used in nursing homes in many countries.

According to Weil, caregivers must learn to identify and empathize with the terrifying disorientation that is the root of so many troubling behaviors on the part of any Alzheimer's patient.

By the time Alzheimer's disease reaches the middle stage, patients are no longer able to learn new things, especially new ways of coping with their losses. We all have mechanisms to help us cope with loss or the threat of loss, and Alzheimer's patients are no different. However, Alzheimer's patients suffer a staggering series of losses, and the biggest loss of all is their orientation to reality. Some patients become very difficult to handle, lashing out in anger, accusing loved ones of terrible deeds, or trying to run away. It may be that by getting angry and accusing others, he is trying to maintain his dignity and self-esteem while his whole world falls apart.

According to the validation theory, the important thing for caregivers to recognize is that the patient is probably struggling desperately to hold on to his identity, and to some version of reality that he can still understand. For whatever reason, this role is what he needs to cling to. A validating strategy would be to calm him down by accepting his version of reality and respectfully asking him questions about it. Once validated, then redirected, most Alzheimer's patients will calm down and move on to something else.

Validation therapy doesn't demand that the patient's world makes sense. In her many years of working with Alzheimer's patients, Weil recognizes that patients with dementia may be responding to long-standing emotional memories that are rooted in the distant past. Even if many years have passed and their circumstances have radically changed, their need for resolution of the feelings can be powerful. The

important thing is to validate what the patient is feeling, whether it's in synchronization with the present time and place or not.

An example: An elderly woman can't stop looking for her little boy, who she says is late coming home from school. Her son is actually a grown man living in another state, but she still paces the house, wringing her hands and crying for him. This upsets the adult daughter who is caring for her, but she can't seem to calm her mother down or convince her that her son is not missing. Validation therapy says there is no point in correcting this patient. Instead, her daughter can validate her by meeting her exactly "where she is" and asking helpful questions like "What was your son wearing?" or "What time does the school bus come by here?" The odds are good that the woman will be calmed by the fact that someone is "taking her seriously," and the daughter can then formulate an "explanation" for why the child is late.

Professionals who work with Alzheimer's patients have learned to recognize that the past is far more clear in their minds than the present, which is shadowy and confusing. That is based on physical changes in the brain, which cannot be corrected. Long-ago memories are "real" because they have not been wiped clear by the disease process. In contrast, new memories are no longer being formed, so recent experience isn't leaving a record that the patient can integrate in her mind.

Many caregivers are finding that validation actually improves a patient's orientation to present-day reality by reassuring them of their worth and making the present less confusing. They are finding that simply taking a few minutes two or three times a day in validating the patient's reality can work wonders in calming these distressed victims. It is a far more humane alternative to the outmoded, and ineffective methods of the past.

Howard Payne group to lead worship at East Side

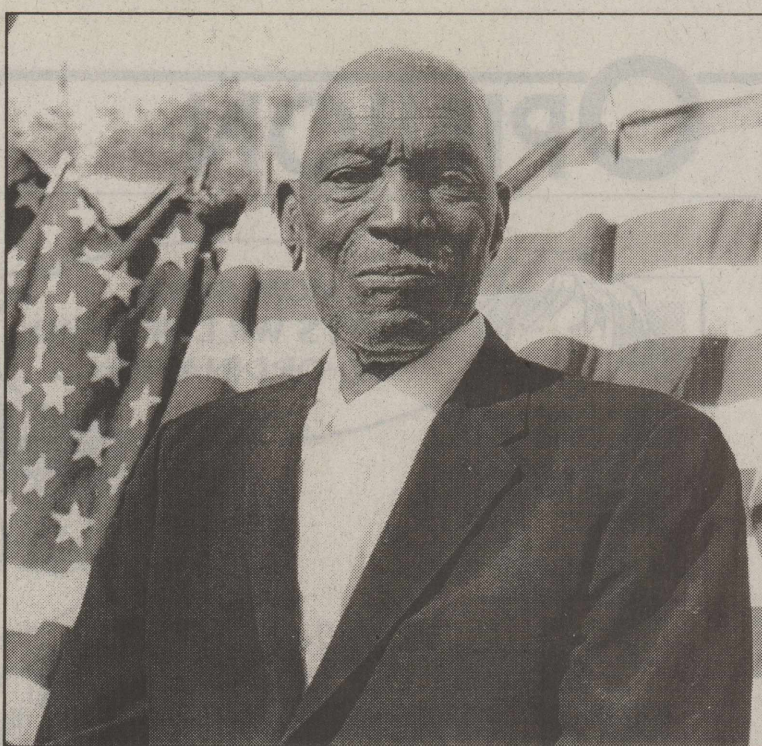
Leading the worship at East Side Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m., Sun., Mar. 3 will be 22:37 (twenty-two thirty-seven), a worship band composed of twelve students from Howard Payne University in Brownwood.

"Our name, as well as our purpose, is taken from Matthew 22:37, Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind," says Haskell native Marci Elmore, member of the group. "We want our worship to reflect that verse, the fact that we love God with our heart, soul and mind. We want to lead others into

that kind of worship, as well."

With a sound that could be described as acoustic, the band's style is one that is enjoyable for all ages. Although they keep up with the most current worship music, they play more traditional music, as well, while always adapting their style and format.

"We try to not get locked into one particular sound, so everyone should enjoy it," Elmore said. "That's not really the point, though. This will not be a concert. Come prepared to worship."



MAJOR LEWIS—Living to be 105 years old, he became a longtime part of the story of Haskell County Black History.

Major Lewis is part of Haskell's history

By Mary Kaigler

Longtime Haskell resident Major Lewis played a major part in the story of Haskell's Black history.

Born in Troy, Alabama to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Lewis, April 28, 1879, he came to Texas in a covered wagon when he was eight years old. With a limited education, but a determined spirit of survival, at a very young age he took a job working on the railroad.

In 1911 he married Alice Collett in Calvert, in Robertson County Texas. To this union were born twelve children. The five Lewis girls were Josephine, Susie, Birdie Lee, Alice and Mae Lou. The seven boys were Ollie Dee, Chester, Major Jr., Ben, Armistice, Robert Lee and Manuel Lewis.

Farming for many years, Major Lewis raised chickens, turkeys, hogs, cows, horses and goats. At the syrup mill on the place he made ribbon-cane and sorghum syrups.

He and his family loved music, enjoying a pump organ and a windup phonograph. Most of his children

had a pretty good education, said daughter Mae Lou, who still resides in Haskell. All of them worked under Major Sr.'s supervision, she said. "But we had a loving and happy family. Not fancy, but a clean Christian life. We had a home, not just a house."

Major Lewis was also a deacon, and a IV letter Mason. He came to Haskell in 1940, after living on the Harrell Farm in Rochester. He worked at the Brazelton Lumber Company until he retired.

He was known as a devoted Christian and a wonderful family man by his children. After a long life, he died in 1984 at the age of 105 at his Haskell home at 1521 N. Ave. A.

Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

Jimmy Boyd of Abilene visited with Joyce Hawkins last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Ross of Irving were in Haskell on Thursday for dental appointments. They also visited with Joyce Hawkins.

Mr. and Mrs. David Conn took their daughter to Dallas on Friday for an appointment. Late Saturday they went to Burnet on business.

Margaret Tatum and Joyce Hawkins went to Lewisville Saturday afternoon to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Hawkins. The group attended church on Sunday at Temple

Baptist Church where Bobby was baptized during the morning services.

Ann and Jean Blair went to Benjamin on Saturday to watch the Paint Creek girls play in a round robin tournament against Rochester and Benjamin.

Lynn Gray of Grapeland visited his mother, Faye Gray, over the weekend. They attended church at First Christian Church with Faye's great grandson, Levi Sorrells, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Sorrells of Garland.

Local garden club members learn about antique roses

Members of the Haskell Garden Club met Thurs., Feb. 14 at the Lutheran Church.

After a business session, president Sue Hertel opened the program with the reading of a poem on Garden Club. Melyn Wittenborn gave a program on antique roses, telling of fourteen different varieties, most of which come from Europe.

Approval was given for the planting of two crepe myrtle plants on the lawn at the Courthouse

gazebo. Dates were announced for the fall and spring conventions and the state convention in Austin.

Those attending were Sue Hertel, Melyn Wittenborn, Melba Lowrance, Florence Alexander, Betty LeFevre, Grace Hannsz, Hazel Hale, Mary Kammenga, Bennie Shelton and guests, Janet Stephens and Margie Cardwell.

The March meeting of the club will be at the home of Melba Lowrance.

Rochester students qualify for UIL Cross-exam meet

Two students of Rochester CISD have qualified for the 2002 University Interscholastic League (UIL) State Cross-examination Meet to be held Mar. 10-16 at the University of Texas in Austin.

Marcie Stoddard and Amy Turner qualified for the state meet by placing first or second at the UIL Cross-examination District Meet in Vernon, Feb. 7.

"UIL debate competition develops skills in our students that directly prepare them for real world situations by challenging their problem-solving and critical thinking abilities," said Jana Riggins, UIL Debate Director. "This year's cross-examination debate topic required students to research extensively the issue of significantly limiting weapons of mass destruction through

United States foreign policy. In the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorists attacks, policy debaters will remember for the rest of their lives the experience of debating such a vital topic at this critical point in our nation's history."

UIL academic contests range from feature writing to accounting, and from computer science to poetry interpretations. Of the 2.2 million students who participated in UIL activities last year, 418,000 completed in one or more of the 22 general academic contests.

Through participation at the State Meet, students qualify for Texas Interscholastic League Foundation (TILF) scholarships. This year, TILF expects to award an estimated 693 new and renewed grants, valued at approximately \$1,315,000.

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•Tartar Control—Mint Flavor
•Tartar Control Plus Whitening

Benefiber Fiber Supplement
3.4 oz. shaker or 14 packet box
\$8³⁹ each
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•Gelcaps •Geltabs

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2 ounce
\$3²⁹ each
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TheraFlu
6 Packets
\$3⁷⁹ each
Your Choice of:
•Non-Drowsy—Max Strength Flu & Congestion
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•Night Time—Regular Strength Cold & Sore Throat

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OPINION

From Out of the Past

From the files of
The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago
February 20, 1992

Ethan Brown of Haskell Pack 136 won the Webelos and championship divisions of the Double Mountain district's pinewood derby in Hamlin. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Brown.

Susan Jarred and Paul Gibson have been named members of the 1992 Texas Baptist All-State Youth Choir.

Craig R. Hanson and Sharla D. Jetton of Haskell were named to the Hardin-Simmons University Dean's List for the 1991 fall semester.

20 Years Ago
February 25, 1982

Paint Creek students, Rhonda Coleman, Maria Martinez, Temple Scott and Sophie Gonzales, were eligible to vote for the Texas State Bluebonnet Award. This is a new state book award begun last year for the best children's book of the year. Susan Cox is their teacher.

Mrs. J.I. Trussell, Mrs. Anna Mae Roberts and Mrs. Frances Fischer were elected as delegates to attend the Extension Homemakers District meeting. Alternate delegates were Mrs. Steve McGuire and Mrs. Adell Thomas.

30 Years Ago
February 24, 1972

At the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet Bob Philpot was named Outstanding Citizen, Milton Christian was named Outstanding Farmer and George Fouts took office as new president of the Haskell Chamber of Commerce.

Buddy Mullino was presented as the FHA Beau and Karen Sharp as the FFA Sweetheart at the Rochester FHA Sweetheart Banquet.

40 Years Ago
February 22, 1962

Nancy Lawson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. Lawson of Haskell, has been chosen Sweetheart of the Haskell FFA.

Leland Thane of the Haskell Implement Company has returned from Detroit, Mich. where he had been attending a Massey-Ferguson school for the past two weeks.

First place in the Farm Bureau talent show went to the Haskell Stage Band; second place went to the Vanguarders of Rule which consisted of Jimmy New, Bob Clark, Carroll Bogard and Ford Cole. Third place went to the Corvettes with boys from Paint Creek and Haskell schools composing the group - James Underwood, Jeff Smith, Vern Howard, Martin Rueffer and Modesto Munoz.

50 Years Ago
February 21, 1952

Doris Anderson of Rule was recently appointed secretary of the City of Rule. She is a 1948 graduate of Rule High School and a graduate of Draughon's Business College in Abilene.

Wayne Josselet, 16-year-old Weinert 4-H club boy, showed the grand champion steer at the annual Haskell County Junior Livestock Show in Weinert. Josselet is the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Josselet. The reserve champion was shown by Douglas Dendy, 16, of Haskell. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Dendy.

The Busy Blue Birds met Tuesday with Sarah Lees in the home of her grandmother, Mrs. J. E. Walling. The girls elected the following new officers: Jane Ann Sego, president; Janice Clay Hattox, secretary; and Karen Adkins, reporter.

90 Years Ago
February 24, 1912

Gaylord Kline of Rule, who is a candidate for County Attorney, was over Monday in the interest of his campaign.

Mrs. P. P. Doss arrived from Denver last week and will be in Haskell while her husband is having the new brick building erected on the east side of the square.

Farm Demonstration Agent Latham attended a district meeting of West Texas agents at Abilene last week. Principal purpose of the meeting was to plan for organizing boys maize clubs on a wide scale in West Texas.

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Mike Cox
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN — The cost of homeowner's insurance has shown up as a rider on this year's list of gubernatorial campaign issues.

Republican incumbent Rick Perry has asked Attorney General John Cornyn to look into the pricing practices of the larger companies providing home insurance coverage.

And Democratic contender Tony Sanchez has said he would like to see more attention paid to regulating rates.

The real winner in this contest may be the homeowner, since both party candidates seem sympathetic to the problem.

The insurance industry says it is just being used for political purposes.

"We're an easy target," said Rick Gentry, head of the Insurance Council of Texas.

The industry has said its premium increases can be attributed to catastrophic losses in Texas last year and the year before, including a sizable blow from Tropical Storm Allison.

Though the Texas Department of Insurance does regulate rates, there is a big loophole. A law designed to enable high-risk and hard-to-insure property coverage allows insurance companies to have unregulated affiliates. That has resulted in about 95 percent of policies sold in Texas being unregulated.

One possibility being kicked around is legislation that would in effect put the state in the homeowner's insurance business.

TKO for Tyson in Metroplex

The Texas Motor Speedway could have been a contender for the Mike Tyson-Lennox Lewis fight, but TMS General Manager Eddie Gossage has said no to hosting the touted heavyweight bout.

"With all the baggage that Tyson carries with him, it's just not worth it for us to be

involved," Gossage told the *Austin American-Statesman*.

Gossage's decision still does not mean that a Tyson-Lewis fight is down for the count in the Lone Star State.

Tyson manager Shelly Finkel said Tyson is interested in San Antonio's Alamodome as a possible match venue.

Location aside, whether Tyson and Lewis duke it out in Texas depends on the action of a state agency—the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

Agency director Bill Kuntz has made no comment on whether he leans toward approving a license for Tyson, who was convicted of rape in Indiana in 1992.

From TNRCC to TCEQ

For the acronymically challenged, that's Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

The last session of the Legislature mandated the agency name change, effective next Sept. 1. That gave time for department personnel to redo the agency's stationery, signage and other materials bearing the old name.

Don't call us...

Evidently a lot of Texans don't like calls from telephone solicitors.

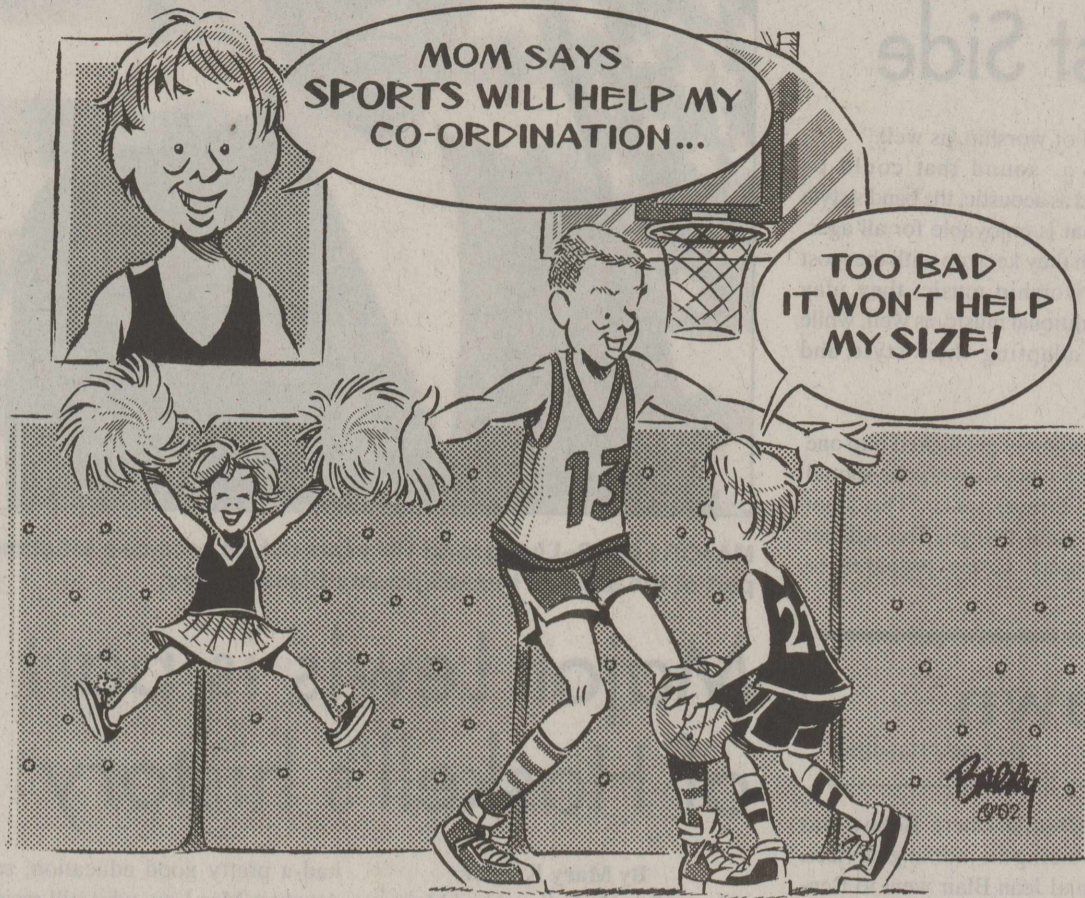
Under a new law setting up a state don't-call list, the Public Utility Commission began signing up people for the list on Jan. 1.

So far, more than 200,000 folks have said, in effect, "Don't call us, we'll call you."

Though there are some exclusions, companies are barred from calling people who have placed their names on the list.

It costs \$2.25 to get on the list, which is updated quarterly.

The phone bank companies have to pay \$45 for the lists.



Too much cotton leads to poor prices for producers

Too much cotton combined with weak demand in world markets adds up to poor prices for U.S. cotton producers, according to two Texas A&M economists.

Unfortunately, that situation isn't likely to change anytime soon. At best, prospects for price improvement for old crop cotton are dim—while those for new-crop (2002) cotton are uncertain.

"We started 2002 with a bearish USDA Supply and Demand Report that cited higher U.S. production, declining mill use, and a market depressing carryover of 8.6 million bales," said Carl Anderson, Texas Cooperative Extension cotton marketing economist. "Domestic mill use was pegged at 7.7 million bales, the lowest we've seen since 1987."

Higher world production and ending stocks further aggravates the situation, noted Jackie Smith, Extension economist-management based at Texas A&M's Lubbock Research and Extension Center. Smith was a featured speaker on price outlook at several recent agriculture conferences hosted by Texas Cooperative Extension on the South Plains.

"China found another 900,000 bales to put on the world market. That helped bring world cotton stocks up to 44.1 million bales, roughly 10 million more bales than would like to see in a reasonable carryover number," Smith said. "The bad news here at home is our U.S. carryover of 8.6 million bales is about five million bales higher than it ought to be."

While some market watchers are looking for U.S. and world cotton acreage to decline this year, U.S. producers would have to cut their acreage by about 4 million acres (25 percent) to make a dent in the large carryover. That probably won't happen, simply because of low price prospects for alternative crops, Anderson said.

"This leaves the U.S. cotton industry in a terrible situation. It's similar to 1931, when the world's planted acreage totaled 39.1 million acres. Production of 17.1 million bales, use of 14.1 million bales and a carryover of 6.6 million bales created an average, market price of 5.57 cents per pound," he said.

Uncertain planting intentions, yields, and consumption in 2002 could mean futures prices ranging

from 25 to 55 cents per pound for the 2002 crop. And that may limit producer's pricing alternatives, since the farm program cotton loan rate is above this expected trading range.

"We've already seen market prices for old-crop cotton move a little higher, and I doubt we'll see any more upward movement," Smith said. "I believe 40 cents is about the top futures price we'll see for March contracts, if that much."

With several million bales of U.S. cotton already in the loan (that may be forfeited), and a substantial amount not eligible for the loan, Anderson doesn't expect old-crop futures prices to rally beyond 42 to 44 cents per pound.

The outlook for new-crop (2002) cotton prices isn't much better, the economists said.

"If we don't see a substantial decline in U.S. and world carryover, we could be looking at a price of 30 cents per pound or less," Smith said. "If you see December '02 futures contracts moving up near 50 cents, I would start selling."

Anderson noted that a price rally up to 66 cents per pound in the A index will reduce producers' loan deficiency payments. "In the year ahead, we are faced with loan rate market prices (51 cents) and whatever additional income we may receive from government payments," he said.

Smith said an 18.5 million-bale 2002 crop combined with existing stocks of 8.5 million bales could put total U.S. supply in 2002 near 27 million bales. If domestic mills consume about 7.5 million bales, and if exports reach an optimistic 10 million bales, U.S. ending stocks could approach 9.5 million bales with a stocks-to-use ratio of about 54 percent.

"If that scenario pans out, we could see futures prices trading between 30 and 32 cents per pound. The one bright spot in all of this is potentially higher U.S. exports. We could ship that 10 million bales, or more, if our prices remain low and if there is another shortfall in foreign production versus consumption," he said. "Even so, producers should stay tuned to the market and watch for any upward price movement. Be ready to sell on those upward ticks, and consider using put options even if you are in a marketing pool."

"It's going to take a global weather event to reduce production and world stocks, and push Dec. '02 futures back near 50 cents. In the meantime, we have to take whatever we can get from the market whenever an opportunity arises."

Herbs score high

by Lou Gilly

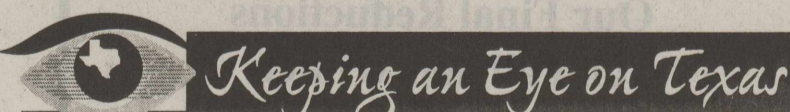
Haskell Co. Extension Agent
According to a recent USDA study, many herbs used to flavor food have more antioxidant power than berries, fruits, and vegetables. Previous studies have shown that foods that score high in antioxidants protect cells and their components from oxidative damage.

Researchers put twenty-seven culinary herbs and twelve medicinal herbs to an antioxidant test. The test measures the ability of a sample to disarm oxidizing compounds, which

our bodies naturally generate as a by-product of metabolism.

Three different types of oregano scored highest on this test. Several other culinary herbs such as rose geranium, sweet bay, dill, purple amaranth, and winter savory also showed strong antioxidant activity. But, it was only about one-half as potent as that of the oreganos.

Medicinal herbs scored lower suggesting that their health benefits mostly stem from other functions in the body.



A "growing" business

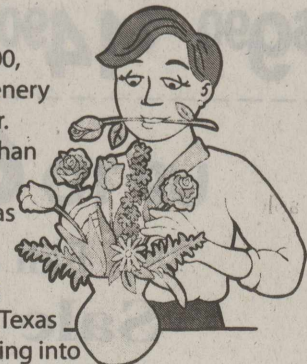
Every year, Texans spend about \$234 million on fresh cut flowers and related products, but 99 percent of the cut flowers sold in Texas are grown out of the state.

- Between August 1999 and August 2000, nearly 275 million cut flowers and greenery stems crossed the Texas-Mexico border.
- Texas flower growers account for less than \$500,000 in annual production
- Even the celebrated yellow rose of Texas history and legend is imported.

The Texas Department of Agriculture has developed a Cut Flower Manual to assist Texas producers who may be considering tapping into this "growing" market. The handbook is available online:

http://www.agr.state.tx.us/marketing/cutflower/docs/mkt_cut_flower.pdf

SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller (www.window.state.tx.us) and the Texas Department of Agriculture.



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This issue mailed Wed., Feb. 20, 2002

Rule students attend math, science meet

Rule ISD students attending the Lake View Invitational Math/Science Meet Sat., Feb. 16. were Kristin Hertel, Emery Dudensing, Jacob Manske, Kendra Scheets and Mathew Turner. They received the following awards:

In Number Sense: Hertel, sixth place; Dudensing, ninth place; Turner, ninth place.

Calculator: Hertel, second place; Turner, seventh place; Scheets, eighth place; Dudensing, fifth place.

Mathematics: Hertel, eighth place; Scheets, ninth place; Manske, tenth place; Dudensing, eighth place.

The Rule Junior High Team was awarded the Third place Sweepstakes Trophy. All students attending did an excellent.

All District 20-A girls team named

Tara Lisle of Rule was named Most Valuable Player on the 2001-2002 District 20-A Division II All-District girl's basketball team.

Also named to the team were: M'Lynn Lehmann, Rule; Tiffany Byrd, Rochester; Melina Garcia, Rochester; Breanna Marquis, Rule; Jessica Zavala, Benjamin; Sandra

Acevedo, Benjamin; Ashley Cartwright, Benjamin; Abby Dudensing, Rule; Diana Gonzales, Paint Creek and Kinsey Brown, Rule.

Receiving Honorable Mention were: Dala Nicholson, Rochester; Nancy Siemens, Benjamin; Lesli Isbell, Paint Creek; Maggie Brzozowski, Paint Creek and Amy Turner, Rochester.

Something bugging your child? It may be head lice

You get a call from the school nurse. Your child has head lice. What's a parent to do? "Don't panic. Head lice infestations are not too common, but parents should keep a watchful eye on their children," says Dr. Michael Lee, assistant professor of pediatrics at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

What to look for:
• Tiny white nits, or eggs, that resemble fuzzy lint balls: Attached to hair by glue-like substance, nits cannot be easily brushed or shampooed from hair. Use a special fine-tooth comb to ensure removal of all nits, or the problem can resume at hatching.

• Little gray or white six-legged bugs. An infestation will have fewer than 20 adult lice per child, on average, and rarely more than 100.

• Irritated or itchy skin, or swollen lymph nodes behind ears or on the back of the neck.

• Although unwelcome, lice are temporary guests. Lee says over-the-counter and prescription-shampoo/cream-rinse products are available, as is a prescription pill.

And remember, infestation is purely by contact, not from poor hygiene. Daily shampooing won't prevent or cure the problem. Uncertain parents should arrange a doctor's examination.

Protect your animals with rabies vaccine

There are times when a soft heart can get you into trouble.

Have you ever noticed a sickly animal and had an urge to pick it up and get help for it? You could have put yourself at risk for rabies. Although it's normal to care about the welfare of sick or wounded creatures, this is something that's better left to the experts.

To protect yourself from rabies, avoid touching any wild animal. Be especially careful of bats. Rabies is very common in bats and if a bat is easily caught, chances are it is sick. If you see an animal that looks sick, call your public health department. Also avoid domesticated animals, such as dogs or cats, that you don't know. There's no way of telling if these

animals are vaccinated. Teach children not to handle animals without checking with an adult first.

Rabies can be transmitted by a bite, scratch or saliva. It is also common in skunks, foxes, raccoons, coyotes, badgers and bobcats.

If you are bitten by an animal you don't know—whether a pet or wild animal—see a doctor immediately. You may have to be vaccinated for rabies. Rabies is fatal when left untreated.

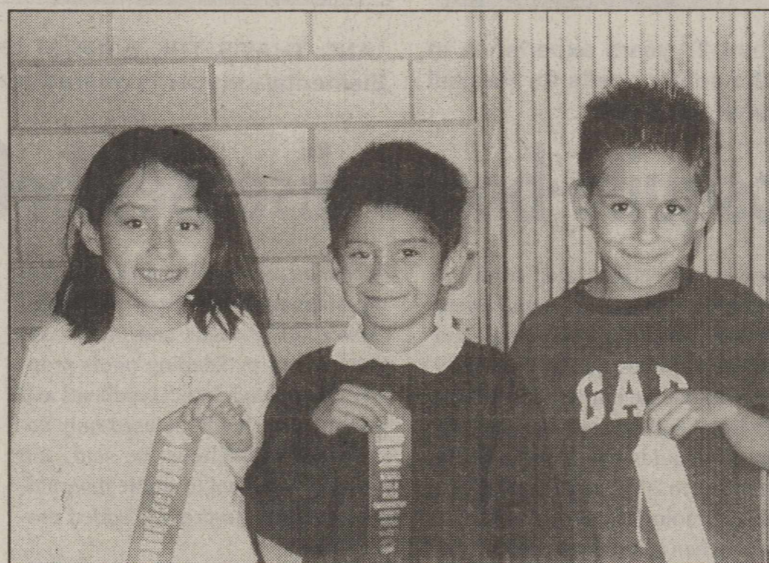
You can help protect your family from rabies by making sure your pets' vaccinations are up to date and by keeping pets from roaming.



POSTER WINNERS—Rochester Kindergarten students winning in the Soil and Water Conservation Poster Contest were: I-r, Colton English, first place; Megan Glover, second place and Maegan Hearn, third place.



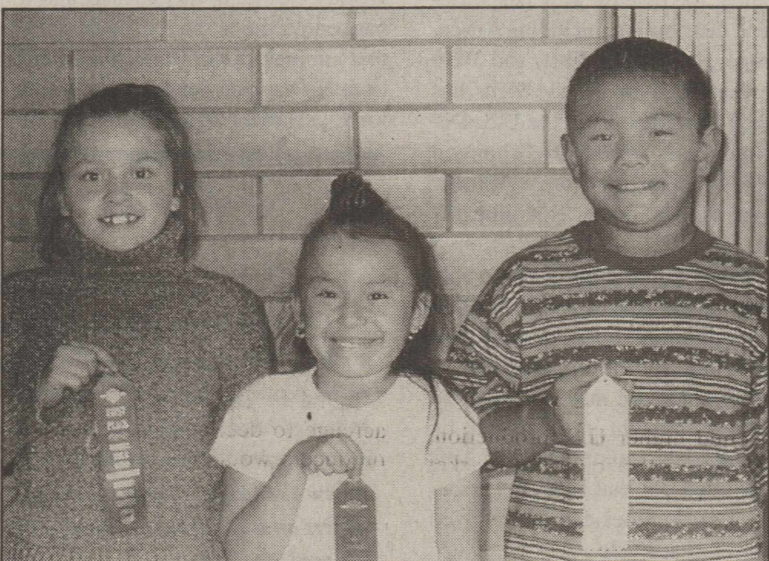
POSTER WINNERS—Rochester fourth grade winners in the Conservation Poster Contest were: first place, Chloe Strickland; second place, Victoria Carrasco and third place, Brittany Baker.



POSTER WINNERS—Rochester first grade winners in the Poster Contest were: I-r, first place, Cassidy Rios; second place, Gus Estrada and third place, Keifer McNelly.



POSTER WINNERS—Rochester sixth grade winners in the Poster Contest were: I-r, first place, Cassy Martin; second place, Amy Hamilton and third place, Jonathan Rincon, not pictured.



POSTER WINNERS—Rochester second grade Poster winners were: first place, Paige Glover, second place, Bertha Carranza and third place, Billy Acevedo.



POSTER WINNERS—Rochester third grade winners on the Poster Contest were: first place; Denise Hibbitts; second place, Cheslee Hearn and third place, Sydney Saucedo, not pictured.

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TAX PLANNING

Written By
Richard E. Rodgers, CPA

TAKE NOTE OF THESE 2002 TAX CHANGES FOR BUSINESS

If you're a business owner, recent changes in the tax law may affect your bottom line in 2002. Here are some of the changes that take effect this year.

Last year's tax law provides additional tax credits to help business owners defray the cost of providing employee benefits. For example, a new tax credit is available for employers who pay all or part of their employees' child care expenses. If your small business starts a retirement plan in 2002, you may be eligible for a new tax credit to help offset the plan's start-up costs during its first three years.

This year you can write off 36.5 cents per mile for business driving, an increase over the 34.5 cent rate in 2001. If you're self-employed, the tax deduction for health insurance premiums increases to 70% this year.

The base amount for computing social security and self-employment tax increases by \$4,500 this year. Both employers and employees must pay a 6.2 percent social security tax on the first \$84,900 of an employee's wages. Self-employed individuals must pay a 12.4 percent tax on net earnings up to this base amount. There's no base limit for Medicare tax imposed on wages and net self-employment income.

If your company maintains a retirement plan for your employees, you can make larger tax-deductible contributions to their accounts. Changes to certain plan requirements may let your company set aside more than previously allowed for owners and key employees.

Starting in 2002, corporations and other entities can contribute to an education savings account (formerly called an education IRA) for any child under age 18. While an employee's eligibility to contribute is subject to income limitations, a company doesn't face this restriction.

If you want to discuss tax changes that might affect your business in 2002, give us a call.

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A TALK WITH THE WARDEN—Interim Warden Larry Johns, who has had 27 years experience in corrections with the Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice, describes life in the solitary cells for Haskell elementary students during their recent visit to the Rolling Plains Regional Jail facility.



"AND THAT'S THE DENTIST OFFICE IN THERE"—Billy Wayne Hester shows a group of Haskell Elementary students where the inmates of the Regional Jail will receive dental attention when needed.

Vaccinate animals against mosquito-borne diseases before 'bug' season starts

By Brandon Anderson
Haskell Co. Extension Agent

Despite blustery days now and again, spring is just around the corner, and animal health officials are urging owners to protect their equids, including horses, mules and donkeys against several mosquito-borne diseases before "bug" season starts.

"Vaccines are available to protect equids against both equine encephalitis, better known as "sleeping sickness" and West Nile Virus (WNV). However, the shots are no value if they aren't given prior to disease exposure," said veterinarian Terry Conger, state epidemiologist for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency. "These vaccines require two doses, administered several weeks apart, and full protection doesn't develop until four to six weeks after the second dose. Realistically, then, it can take up to 10 weeks for the horse to be disease-resistant. That's why it's so important to start the round of vaccinations now."

Dr. Conger noted that cases of "sleeping sickness," or equine encephalitis, occur sporadically in Texas equids, and on rare occasions, humans contract the mosquito-borne infection. Transmitted by mosquitoes that have fed on diseased birds, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE) causes swelling of the brain, result-

ing in staggering, convulsions, and fever. Although horses do not transmit the disease to humans, equids are "sentinel animals," or indicators that infected mosquitoes are in a specific area.

"Veterinarians can administer an effective 'two-way' vaccine to protect equids against EEE and WEE," said Dr. Irby, TAHC equine specialist. "Two injections, 30 days apart, are required, and the animal will need a 'booster shot' annually or biannually."

"Another form of sleeping sickness, Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE), is a foreign animal disease that originated in South America. In 1971, a VEE outbreak swept northward through Mexico, threatening horses in the southern U.S. In two years, due to an all-out effort, more than 2.8 million animals in 19 states were vaccinated against VEE," Dr. Irby said. "On rare occasions, VEE cases still creep into southern Mexico, and if it should move north, it would threaten American animals. Therefore, as an added precaution, equids in South Texas should receive a three-way vaccine that protects not only against EEE and WEE, but also VEE."

Although it has yet to be diagnosed in Texas, another mosquito-borne, encephalitic disease causing concern is West Nile Virus (WNV). Dr. Irby said WNV was unheard of in the U.S. until 1999 in New York,

where seven persons died from the infection and at least 25 equids were infected. In 2000, the virus had spread to 12 states, and by year's end 2001, the disease impacted 27 states, including Louisiana and Arkansas. At least 564 equids tested positive for the disease in 2001, reported Dr. Irby.

Epidemiologists are still uncertain how or when an infected person, bird or mosquito entered the country, initiating the bird-mosquito WNV disease cycle in the U.S. First isolated in 1937 in the West Nile District of Uganda, the disease now has widespread distribution, including Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and West and Central Asia. As the virus has moved across the U.S., the U.S. Department of Agriculture changed WNV's designation from a "foreign animal disease," to an "emerging disease."

"Texas is particularly vulnerable to the introduction of WNV, because major migratory routes for birds pass over a large portion of east Texas. This summer, we may find that the disease is brought into the state by infected birds," commented Dr. Irby. He pointed out that at least 17 species of mosquitoes can be involved in the disease cycle.

"Many horses infected with WNV won't appear to be ill, while, others become debilitated and too weak to rise," he said. "About 20 percent of the horses infected with WNV in 2001 either died or were euthanized because they were so ill."

"Late last summer, a WNV vaccine was approved for equids, and like many other encephalitic vaccines, two injections are needed. For WNV vaccine, the injections must be three to six weeks apart. The timing

of vaccination is crucial, as demonstrated in Florida last year, where 267,000 doses of vaccine were made available. Eighty-six equine that became infected had received only one dose of vaccine. Seventeen other stricken animals received their second dose of vaccine less than three weeks prior to becoming infected," he explained. "Since immunity may not develop for four to six weeks after the second dose, owners should have their animals vaccinated now, so they'll be protected by the time mosquito season begins this spring." Dr. Irby reminded owners to re-

duce mosquito populations by draining stagnant water from birdbaths, flowerpots, troughs and other containers, and by keeping pools properly chlorinated. Insect repellents and insecticides should be used only according to directions, he said, and owners may want to stable their animals at night, to provide added protection.

"WNV is a 'zoonotic disease,' one that also can affect human health," commented Dr. Conger. "Species other than horses, humans and birds are susceptible to the disease, and it has been demonstrated in other states that canines can contract the infection. No vaccine has been approved for dogs, but this information may be

useful in an epidemiological investigation of a potential WNV introduction."

The Texas Department of Health (TDH) also is conducting disease surveillance, for testing mosquitoes, dead crows, blue jays and hawks. To submit a dead crow, blue jay or hawk for laboratory examination, call your regional Texas Department of Health office or the Texas Department of Health in Austin at 1-512-458-7255. TAHC field personnel are collecting blood samples from equids involved in regulatory disease programs, and the agency operates a 24-hour hotline at 1-800-550-8242 for taking reports of unusual signs of disease in livestock, such as: staggering, falling, or

inability to rise; illness affecting a large percentage of animals; sudden death loss; blistering around an animal's lips, teats or hooves; or unusual ticks or maggots

"Only the first three of the disease signs apply to encephalitic diseases, but the other two—blistering and ticks—should be kept in mind, as they could be signs of other very serious disease situations," said Dr. Irby. "TAHC and USDA veterinarians will work with private veterinary practitioners and producers at no charge to help diagnose foreign or emerging diseases. The earlier we can make a diagnosis, the sooner we can take appropriate measures to control or stop the spread of a disease."

Ask the AG

By John Cornyn, Attorney General

Q: A few months ago, I took out a short-term loan to tide me over until payday. I haven't been able to pay it back, and the company is charging me \$30 every two weeks to renew the loan. I have paid \$120 in fees on a \$200 loan. This can't be legal, can it?

A: Unfortunately, you have fallen into the vicious trap that many who use short-term, or "Payday," loans encounter. The Consumer Protection Division of my office frequently hears from people who use these loans as a source of quick money and end up paying more in fees than they originally borrowed.

Payday lenders cater to people who face short-term money problems, live paycheck to paycheck, or do not have access to mainstream forms of credit. These loans are often for a few hundred dollars and must be paid back out of the borrower's next paycheck. Often, the lender has the borrower sign a post-dated check for the amount of the loan plus a service charge. At the end of the time agreed upon, the borrower either allows the lender to cash the check or pays another fee to renew the loan, usually for another two weeks. These loans become very expensive when the borrower has to renew several times.

Texas law limits the interest rate that may be charged on payday loans. If the lender is not licensed by the Office of the Consumer Credit Commissioner, the maximum amount of interest that may be charged is an annual rate of 10 percent. This equals less than \$1 per month for a \$100 loan. If the lender is licensed, it may charge a little less than 15 percent annually, or just under \$15 per \$100 borrowed.

Unfortunately, many licensed lenders attempt to get around the law by hiding the interest in additional service fees. Here are some concrete numbers as examples. Say you borrow \$100 for two weeks, and the lender charges you a \$33 fee. At the end of two weeks, you must either pay back the \$100 or pay another \$33 service fee. If you were to renew the loan for a year, this \$33 charge every two weeks would amount to an annual interest rate of 860 percent. This means you would pay \$860 for a loan of \$100.

Because the interest rates and fees add up so quickly, many consumers cannot pay the loans back. This ensures that they have to keep coming back for more loans, going deeper into debt.

There are some alternatives to payday loans.

- Ask your creditors for more time to pay your bills. Find out what they will charge in late fees or penalties. These fees may be less

than the service charge for a payday loan.

- Find out if you can get overdraft protection on your checking account. This will protect you if you make a mistake in your checking account records and write a check that bounces.
- Contact your local consumer credit counseling service. They can help you work out a plan to repay your creditors on terms that you can afford. Most communities have non-profit groups that offer credit guidance at little or no cost.

If you decide that you need a payday loan, shop around for the best rate available. Make sure that you understand all the fees and charges you will have to pay. And most importantly, only borrow an amount that you know you will be able to pay back immediately.

If you believe that you have been charged too much for a payday loan, you can file a complaint with the Consumer Protection Division of my office. You can request a complaint form by calling us at 800-621-0508. You can also file a complaint online through our Web site at www.oag.state.tx.us.

The Office of the Consumer Credit Commissioner, which regulates licensed lending companies in Texas, also accepts complaints about payday loans. You can reach that office at 800-538-1579 or visit their Web site at www.occ.state.tx.us.

All deadlines are 5 p.m. Monday.

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Vernon Campus

March 2 & 21, April 20, May 1 & 11

Seymour Program
April 11

Deadline for fall 2002 application is May 31.
940.552.6291 ext. 2269 or 2252

NET Testing Dates
RN Generic Program
begins Fall 2002

Vernon Campus

March 2 & 21, April 20, May 1 & 11

Deadline for fall 2002 application is May 31.
940.552.6291 ext. 2268

NET Testing Dates
LVN Day Program
begins Fall 2002

Wichita Falls Center

March 9, 13 & 16
April 10, 13, 20 & 27
May 8 & 11

Deadline for fall 2002 application is May 31.
940.696.8752 ext. 3221 or 3256

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HASKELL INDIANS: Osiel Garcia, Leon Goudeau, Josh Webb, Eddie Loyd, Ryan Burgess, Cliff McGuire, Wes Steele, Kyle Hunt, Zac McGuire, Melvin Garcia and Loren Cole. Coaches: Darrell Hunt, left, and Mark Adams.



INDIANS DISTRICT 8-2A RUNNERS-UP

Photos by KIS Photo



MAIDENS 8-2A BI-DISTRICT CHAMPS



BI-DISTRICT CHAMPS: Front row from left: Whitney Hise, Mandy Adams, Tiffany Lindsey, Mindy Price and Lynzie Harlan. Middle row: Coach David Middleton, Katie McKnight, Morgan Cox, Calina Kendall, Brittany Lindsey, Nikki Wallace, Katie Thompson and Coach Shawna Faircloth. Back: Melissa Buerger.

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Haskell School Menu

February 25-March 1 Breakfast Juice and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu. Monday: Pigs in a blanket Tuesday: Breakfast burrito Wednesday: Cereal, toast	Thursday: Sausage, biscuit Friday: Blueberry donut
Lunch Milk and iced tea are served daily at the Secondary campus. Milk is served daily at the Elementary School. Monday: Steak fingers with gravy, macaroni and cheese, green beans, hot rolls, fruit salad Tuesday: Chili beans with cheese, cornbread or crackers, coleslaw, orange Wednesday: Chicken nuggets with gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, hot rolls, pear halves with cheese Thursday: Pepperoni hot pockets, corn, garden salad/baby carrots, banana pudding Friday: Choice: Tuna sandwich or pimento cheese sandwich, French fries, pickle spears, apple	

Gin Report

February 18, 2002
Haskell
 Haskell Co-op Gin 9,430
 Haskell County Gin 4,528
O'Brien
 O'Brien Gin 22,888
Rule
 Rule Co-op Gin 5,544
 Sagerton Gin 3,400
Weinert
 Griff's Gin 3,838
 Weinert Gin 5,865
 Total Bales 55,493



LOOKING AT THE PLUMBING—Holding the keys as they tour the Regional Jail, Billy Wayne Hester shows Haskell students one of the plumbing chase access areas located in the facility.

This Week's Devotional Message:



FAITH CAN PROVIDE COMFORT WHEN SORROW STRIKES
 Sooner or later, sorrow must cast its dark shadow over all our lives, in many forms and in varying degrees; either directly or indirectly through someone we know. It may be occasioned by the death of a loved one or a dear friend; or possibly a major event such as a broken relationship, a career disappointment or a child in deep trouble. Whatever the source, God's love is ever present to provide comfort and a positive way out of the abyss of sadness, and once you have discovered this, you can help someone else to find it. If you acquire the habit of seeking God's guidance at the Church of your choice before sorrow strikes, you will automatically do so whenever it does.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

- HASKELL**
- East Side Baptist Church**
David Page, pastor
Sun. 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
 - Christian Church**
Dusty Garison, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
 - Church of God**
James Rinker, pastor • 864-2021
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m.
East Hwy 380, Haskell
 - Trinity Lutheran Church**
Gary Bruns, pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30
Hwy 380 East, Haskell
 - Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
607 S. 7th, Haskell
 - First United Methodist Church**
Shane Brue, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell
 - First Assembly of God**
Rev. J.C. Amburn
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - St. George Catholic Church**
Father Michael Melcher
Sat. Mass 7:15 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.
901 N. 16th, Haskell
 - Church of Christ**
Brett Anderson, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 10:30 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - First Presbyterian Church**
Steve Beatty, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - Trinity Baptist Church**
Tony Grand, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.
401 S. Ave. D, Haskell
 - Hopewell Baptist Church**
John Lewis, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell
- Greater Independent Baptist Church**
Samuel Blackwell, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell
- New Covenant Foursquare**
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell
- Mission Revival Center**
Rev. William Hodge
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell
- First Baptist Church**
Kevin Hall, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Church in the Park**
Rev. Tim and Suzann Townsend
Sun. Morn. 10:30 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Gazebo or Pavillion
- PAINT CREEK**
- Paint Creek Baptist Church**
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
Paint Creek
- WEINERT**
- First Baptist Church**
Chris Powell, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert
 - Weinert Foursquare Church**
Rev. Robert Harrison
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert
- ROCHESTER**
- Church of Christ**
Steve Willis, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester
 - First Baptist Church**
Troy Culpepper, pastor
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester
 - Union Chapel Baptist Church**
Rev. Clarence Walker
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Rochester
- O'BRIEN**
- O'Brien Baptist Church**
Kyle Gulledge, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p, Wed. 6 p.m.
O'Brien

Paint Creek School Menu

February 25-March 1 Breakfast Milk and juice served daily. Monday: Cereal Tuesday: Sausage and biscuits Wednesday: Donuts Thursday: Sausage on a stick Friday: Biscuits and gravy	Lunch Milk served daily. Monday: Chili dogs, French fries, cheese, and jello with fruit	Tuesday: Chicken tenders, creamed potatoes, green peas, rolls and chocolate pudding Wednesday: Soft beef tacos, refried beans, salad, cheese, salsa and banana pudding Thursday: Hamburgers, with trimmings, cheese, chips, Jello with fruit Friday: Lasagna, fresh carrots, creamed potatoes, apple crisp
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ECC Calendar and Menu

- Mon., Feb. 25**
 Lunch- Chicken and gravy, green beans, mashed potatoes, tossed salad, bread pudding, milk, tea, or coffee
- Wed., Feb. 27**
 11:00 a.m. Outreach Home Health blood pressure check
 Lunch-Beef stew, tossed salad, cornbread, fruit cobbler, milk, tea, or coffee
- Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.
 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.

Cattle Market Report

The market at the Haskell Livestock Auction was on a run of 688 head of cattle at its sale on Sat., Feb. 16, according to Gary Tate, reporter.

Steady on packers and feeders. Light cattle \$1-\$2 higher.

Jersey, longhorns, holsteins, cripplies, bad eyes, knots, \$5-\$30 less than figures quoted!

Cows: fat, .36-.44; cutters, .38-.47; canners, .20-.32.
 Bulls: bologna, .50-.60; feeder: 68-78; utility: 42-52.
 Steers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.10-1.60; 300-400 lbs., 1.05-1.25; 400-500 lbs., .95-1.08; 500-600 lbs., .85-.98; 600-700 lbs., .80-.90; 700-800 lbs., .77-.87; 800-up lbs., .75-.82.
 Heifers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.05-1.35; 300-400 lbs., .90-1.10; 400-500 lbs., .85-.95; 500-600 lbs., .82-.92; 600-up lbs., .65-.80.
 Bred Heifers: medium frame, 600-675.
 Bred Cows: young to middle aged, 650-750; aged or small 475-650.
 Cows with calves: medium frame No. 1 young and middle aged, 750-950; aged or small, 675-775.

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MUST SELL: 1997 16x80 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Also includes fireplace, garden tub, 16x20 deck and 10x12 storage shed. \$21,500 or make offer. Call 915-365-5624 for more information. 8p

Cars For Sale

TO SETTLE ESTATE: 1998 Oldsmobile sedan. 940-997-2108. 8p

Help Wanted

APPLICATIONS now being taken for LVN or RNs for charge nurse position. Sign on bonus for LVNs. Day and evenings shifts available. Also, CNAs needed. Call Audrey Elizondo, DON at 864-2652. 16ffc

NEED IMMEDIATELY: LVNs. Full-time/part-time. 7 off-7 on. Contact Debbie McCown, RN-DON. TCMH, Throckmorton, Texas. 940-849-2151. 35ffc

TEAKWOOD MANOR has openings for 6-2 or 2-10 shifts. Certified and non-certified nurse aides. Apply in person at 1003 Columbia, Stamford. EOE. 48ffc

WES-T-GO now accepting applications for cashier. Apply in person at store. 400 N. Ave. E. 7-10c

RN NEEDED: Apply in person 605 South Ave. F. Knox City. Contact Administrator for more information 940-658-3543. 6ffc

HELP WANTED: Technician. Prefer GM line, but not necessary. Apply in person at Medford Buick-Pontiac-GMC. 200 N. Ave. E, Haskell. 8-10c

PART-TIME person needed for computer typesetting position. Must be able to accurately type 50 wpm. Hours needed are Mon. & Tues. 8:30 to 5 and Wed. 8:30 to noon. Applicant must be dependable, mature and energetic. Good proofreading skills and attention to detail important. Applicant must be able and willing to perform any duties that arise in a busy, deadline-driven office setting. Computer knowledge a plus. No smoking environment. Apply in person at Haskell Free Press to make appointment for interview. 8ffc

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Miscellaneous

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For Rent

FOR RENT: 103 N. 3rd. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 864-3762. 8c

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FOR LEASE: 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath house. Storage room, carport, fence, sprinkler system, well. References required. First month/last month rent required. \$500 month. 915-548-2568. 3ffc

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 2 carports, fenced backyard. Call 864-3434. 7-8c

FOR RENT: House at 313 S. Ave. E East. Call 940-864-2787. 8p

FOR RENT: Building on east side of square. 940-864-6155 after 6 p.m. or leave message. 8p

FOR RENT: Small cute, cozy house. Semi-furnished, a/c, covered parking. 864-3439. 8-9p

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Large living and dining rooms, kitchen with cabinets, cook-top and oven, dishwasher, Den, utility room. Carpeted throughout. CH/A. Large lot with well and submersible pump. 107 N. 2nd, Haskell. Call 979-696-7156. 8-11c

Garage Sales

MOVING SALE: 1006 N. Ave. F. Fri. & Sat. Couch, queen size bed, childrens toys, clothes, household items, some antiques. 8c

GARAGE SALE: Sat. 8 a.m. 904 N. Ave. G. Lots of decorations, baby items, children and adult clothes. Deanne Morgan. 8c

Real Estate

FOR SALE: Remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick house with double garage. Small down for qualified buyer. 1206 N. Ave. J. 864-3301. 2ffc

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath partially remodeled house. New carpet and tile, new paint and central H/A. 2400 sq. ft. Water well. Under appraised value. 864-2415, leave message. 3ffc

HOUSE FOR SALE in Knox City: 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. 940-658-3284. 6-11c

FOR SALE: House in Old Glory behind old P.O. at location are to be moved. (Cheap). 940-989-2847, 940-989-3422. 7-8p

FOR SALE: Nice house, low payment, 3/1, DR, C/H/A, storage, well. 864-2321. 7-9p

NOTICE
The Haskell Free Press reserves the right to edit and/or delete all news stories and locals for length and liability and to refuse to print anything deemed not newsworthy.

The bad news is time flies; the good news is you're the pilot. We have lots of Spring Air "Never Turn" mattress sets on sale right now. All sizes are in stock ready for quick free delivery at Kinney Furniture in Stamford. We'll haul off your old bedding free of charge. 8c

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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
The annual report of the J. U. Fields and Florence B. Fields Museum is available at the address noted below for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who so requests within 180 days after this publication. Fields Museum, 401 N. Ave. E, Haskell, Texas. Joan Strickland. 8c

POL CALENDAR

The Haskell Free Press is authorized to make the following announcement for the political office in Haskell County, subject to the action of the 2002 Primaries.

Unless otherwise specified the candidates listed paid for the announcement, and have designated themselves as campaign treasurer.

All political advertising and announcements are cash in advance.

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Tiffen Mayfield
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The family of Jack Daniels Sr. wishes to thank all our friends, neighbors, relatives and East Side Baptist family for all expressions of sympathy and compassion in our time of sorrow. A very special thank you goes to Dr. McSmith, Clay Bulls and the medical personnel who cared for Jack.
Sincerely,
Virginia Daniels Jack and Mae Daniels
Vickie Mandrell and family Kimberly Lynch and family
Johnny Daniels and family

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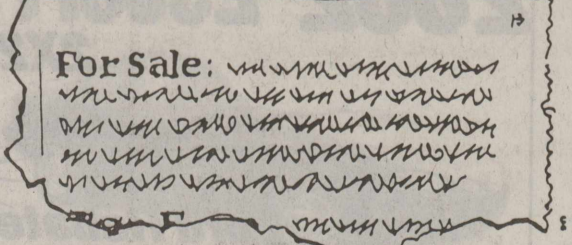
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The Hard Way.



Sure, you can stand in the street in the middle of a major intersection every day for a week with an item you want to sell, put a couple of huge signs on it, and hope someone takes you up on the offer. It might just get the job done. Or you might just end up looking foolish.

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Or, you can place a Private Party Classified ad with us and have people from all over the area clamoring to take your unwanted items off your hands for a handsome profit. Quickly and easily. And for a very small investment. So what are you waiting for? Call now!

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BI-DISTRICT WINNERS—Haskell Maidens proudly pose with their trophy after winning Bi-District playoffs by defeating Holliday 41-39. Standing, l-r, are Coach David Middleton, Katie McKnight, Morgan Cox, Calina Kendall, Brittany Lindsey, Melissa Buerger, Nikki Wallace, Katie Thompson and Coach Shawna Faircloth. Bottom, l-r, Whitney Hise, Mandy Adams, Tiffany Lindsey, Mindy Price and Lynzie Harlan. Photo by Bill Blankenship

Rule Ladycats win bi-district title, lose in area round bid

The Bi-District-winning Rule Ladycats lost 70-68 to Gordon in a heartbreaker game in the Area round of girls' basketball playoffs Fri., Feb. 15. Scoring in the game were Abby Dudensing with 20 points, Tara Lisle 19, Bre Marquis 15, Kinsey Brown

10, M'Lynn Lehrmann 4 and Kristin Hertel 3.

Last week the Ladycats beat Woodson, 41-25, to win the Bi-District Championship.

"Our girls are very committed. They have matured a lot this year and I couldn't be prouder of the way they played Friday night," said Coach Jill Brown.

The Ladycats ended the year with a 24-6 record, with the losses coming to teams that also advanced to the playoffs; Brock, Anson, Paducah, Gordon and Woodson twice. Not losing a district game in two years, the Ladycats ended District with a 6-0 record. Also playing in three tournaments this year, they won the Rule Tournament and came in second in the Woodson and Jayton

Tournaments.

The team is led by junior Tara Lisle, named District MVP for the second straight year. Tara averaged 25 points per game in district. Also leading the Ladycats and making first team in District 20A All-District were sophomores M'Lynn Lehrmann, Bre Marquis, Kinsey Brown and Abby Dudensing. Other members of the team are Kristin Hertel, Lisa Caddell, Melanie Navarette, Misty Davis, Sam Kittley, Becky Johnson, Laci Standefer and Holly Wolsch. They are coached by Jill Brown and Cody Leverts.

"Thanks to all the parents, grandparents, students and community members that have supported us this year. You make it even more fun," said Coach Brown.



PAINT CREEK PIRATES—Second Runner-up for District 20-A Division II title, the Paint Creek Pirates played Woodson at Seymour Tues., Feb. 19 for Bi-District. Standing, l-r, are Tommy Barr, Skeet Hope, Chad Sageser, Craig Lowrance, Chris Hobbs, Eric Hobbs, Jesse Medford, Joseph Serasio. Kneeling are Jeremy Bogle, manager, Coach Johnny Z. Garcia and Chris Brown, manager.

Area basketball scores

Girls

In Class 2A Bi-district basketball playoffs, Haskell High School Girls edged out Holliday in the last seconds of their game, winning 41 to 39. Two late free throws by Nikki Wallace iced the victory for the Maidens, making them eligible to advance to area playoffs.

Wallace had a total of 9 points, Brittany Lindsey 6, Tiffany Lindsey 3, Whitney Hise 2, Mindy Price 4, Katie Thompson 10 and Melissa Buerger 7.

Haskell Maidens lost to Floydada 63-29 in the playoffs.

Scoring for Haskell were: Kendall 1, B. Lindsey 2, T. Lindsey 7, Hise 2, Harlan 7, Price 8 and Buerger 2.

In Class A, Division II Bi-district

playoffs Rochester fell to Throckmorton, 45-40.

Scoring for Rochester were: Garcia with 16 points, Nicholson 12, Martinez 8 and Turner 4.

In Class A Division II Bi-district

playoffs Rule defeated Woodson 41-25.

Scoring for Rule were Dudensing with 6 points, Lisle 18, Brown 2, Lehrmann 8, Marquis 5 and Hertel 5. Rule's record is 24-5.

Students in the News

Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene announces that Haskell residents Amy and Angela Aycock and Katie Cruz made the HSU honor lists for the fall 2001 semester.

Amy and Angela Aycock made the Dean's List, and Cruz made the Honorable Mention Roll.

The HSU Dean's list honors students who completed at least 12 semester hours with a 3.75 grade point average.

The HSU Honorable Mention Roll honors students who completed from 6 to 11 semester hours with a 3.6 grade point average.

Hospital

Admissions

Paul Meinzer, Knox City
Hubert Reeves, Munday
Irene Lankford, Knox City
Emil Dukatnik, Haskell
Dismissals
Gerald Huff, Vivan Tallant, Ronnie Bailey, Lamar Casey, Juanita Ray

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**THE HASKELL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HASKELL &**

MANAGEMENT & TRAINING CORPORATION

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Celebrating the Grand Opening of the*

Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center

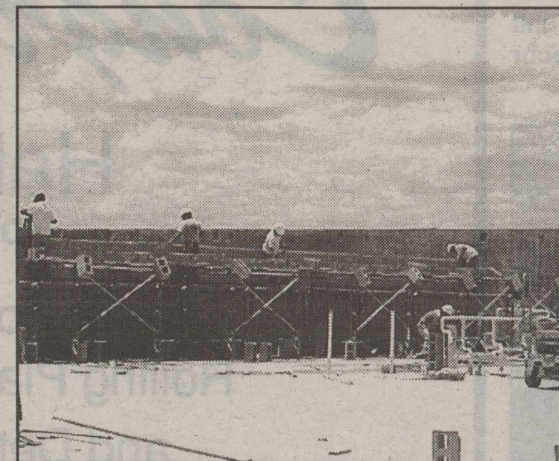


**Sat., February 23, 2002
10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.**

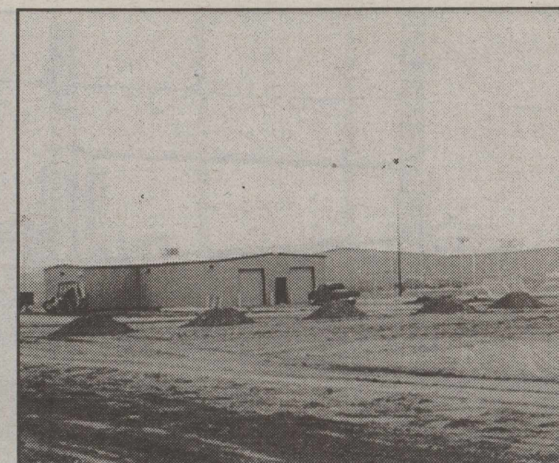
118 County Road 206
Haskell, Texas



Facility tour and lunch
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All events will be held
inside the facilities.

**Public
invited to
attend!**

~ This Page Sponsored by The Development Corporation of Haskell and Management & Training Corporation ~

OPEN HOUSE



Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center

**Saturday, February 23
10:30 a.m.**

118 County Road 206
Haskell, Texas

20

02

Regional Jail and Detention Center is a dream, venture come true

By Mary Kaigler

After four years and countless hours of planning, negotiations and concerted teamwork on the part of many, the Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center has become a reality for the County and City of Haskell.

On Sat., Feb. 23, beginning at 10:30 a.m., the formal dedication of the new facility located at 118 County Road 206 will be celebrated with an open house, facility tour and lunch jointly sponsored by the Haskell County Commissioner's Court, the Mayor and City Council of Haskell and Management and Training Corporation.

What began as a well-researched idea formulated in response to the need for finding new avenues of economic security and job opportunities for local area citizens, the jail is now close to being completed and ready for use. Haskell and other counties will begin housing their inmates in the jail portion of the facility in March. Federal contracts are being negotiated for housing inmates in the prison area in the near future.

The dream was first brought to the public on June 8, 1998, at a

meeting of the Haskell County Commissioner's Court, when a presentation was made proposing the construction of a multi-bed jail facility in Haskell. The City and County of Haskell gave their approval to supporting and pursuing such a plan.

First proposed as a facility housing state inmates, it would be the first of its kind to be constructed in Texas, according to the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. An architect's drawing of the proposed facility was published June 25, 1998, and a delegation of Haskell city and county officials began to meet with other area county officials about housing their jail inmates.

When the Texas Criminal Justice System (TDCJ) made known that it was seeking facilities for intermediate prison inmates, local leaders decided to try to obtain a contract with TDCJ for that type of facility.

Needing input from local citizens about that type of project, a public open forum meeting was held Oct. 6, 1998. With overwhelming approval voiced by a large majority of over 300 Haskell county citizens attending the meeting, Haskell became one

of several communities vying for the Regional Jail.

By December, 1998, the decision was still pending on getting an approval for constructing the project here, and by Jan. 28, 1999, a delay was announced in the TDCJ decision. In early February, Haskell citizens were encouraged by the Economic Development Corporation to wage a letter-writing campaign to the TDCJ in support of obtaining the prison for Haskell.

Losing the bid for the TDCJ Regional Jail and Detention Center, county and city officials scheduled another town meeting on July 10, 1999 to discuss the issuance of Certificates of Obligation to build a 500-bed Rolling Plains Regional Jail. A ballot vote of citizens was taken at the meeting and on July 11, it was announced that by the overwhelming show of support, Haskell County and City of Haskell had approved the initial documents to begin the process of constructing the Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center. Haskell officials announced their decision to pursue the project "with all due speed."

In August 2000, both the

Haskell City Council and Haskell County Commissioners' Court approved resolutions calling an election Sept. 12, for the authorization to issue general obligation bonds for funding of the construction of a prison facility.

In a heavy turnout of voters in both the City and County of Haskell, the result was again overwhelmingly in favor of the measure to help finance the building of a Regional Jail facility.

In a long-anticipated historical event, Dec. 5, 2000, city and county officials and several hundred citizens gathered for the ground-breaking ceremony in the cotton field north of the city of Haskell that would eventually be the site of the Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center.

Built by Hale-Mills Construction Company of Houston, with Lloyd Nunery as project superintendent, work progressed at a steady pace during the next year. Approximately 125 employees were on the job site each day, with seventy-five percent of the construction employees being from Haskell or the surrounding area.

Crews poured thousands of

feet of concrete slabs which were erected as walls. Interior windows of 5/8 and 3/4 inch thick Lexan, electric gates and doors, over 100 cameras, a console of control area TV monitors, a full power-emergency generator, miles of wiring and plumbing, and tempered air units installed were only a few of the areas and equipment completed as work continued each day to stay on schedule with the construction process.

Scheduled to open in March, the new facility is a combination 48-bed jail and 500-bed prison, created through a partnership of Management and Training Corporation (MTC), Haskell County and the City of Haskell. MTC expects to hire 24 employees in the county jail and 125 employees in the detention center.

Following the positive dream of local leaders and citizens for finding a source of diversified economic opportunity for the area, the journey spanning several years of concentrated, dedicated effort, with a few bumps and detours along the way, has brought Haskell County to the edge of a new era and change in direction.

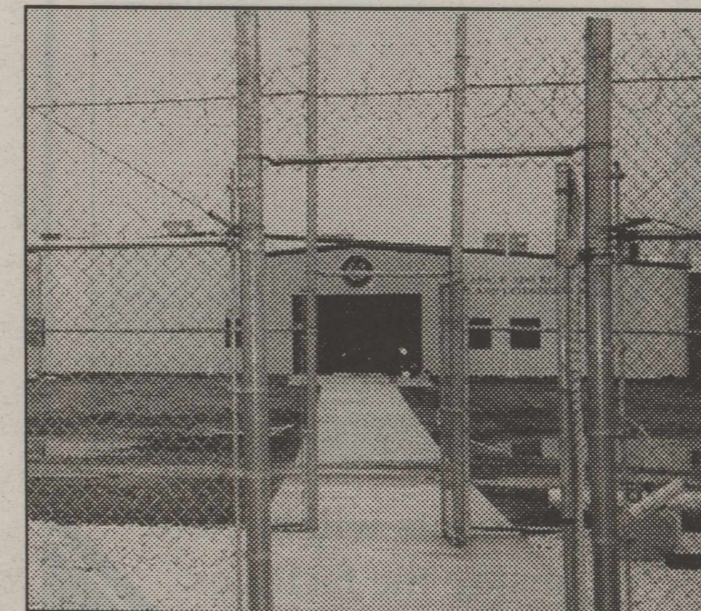
It's a venture well done.



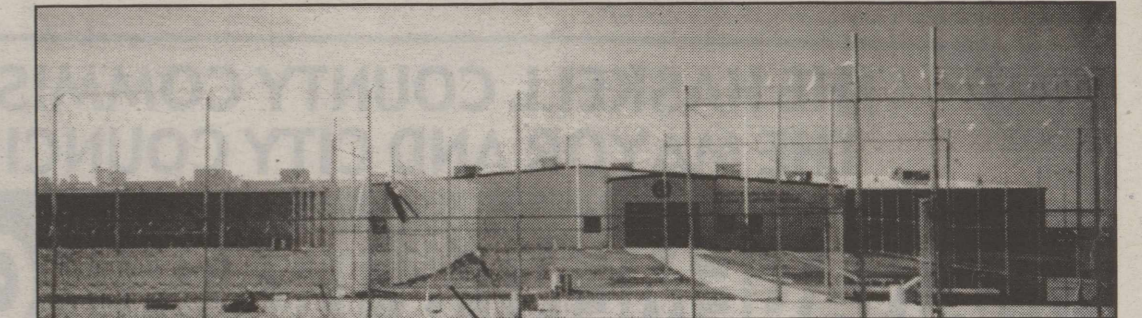
JAIL ACCOMMODATIONS—Bath facilities installed in cells at the Rolling Plains Regional Jail include only a single-unit stainless steel commode and lavatory and an open shower stall.



CELL FIXTURES—Reinforced steel bunk beds and one-unit dining tables and chairs are part of the austere decor featured in the Rolling Plains Regional Jail.



PRISON FENCES—Set behind razorwire-topped double fences, the new Rolling Plains Regional Detention Center nears completion in Haskell.



VIEW FROM THE OUTSIDE—With all inside and outside prison walls now in place, the Rolling Plains Regional Jail stretches across the horizon, as it nears completion.



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Congratulates

Hale-Mills Construction

on the completion of the
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and Detention Center

*"We are proud to have had
the opportunity to aid in
the construction of this fine facility."*

Stephen A. Dial
President

Congratulations

to the Haskell area on the completion of the

Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center

Open House and Dedication Ceremonies

Saturday, February 23 • 10:30 a.m.

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to have been a
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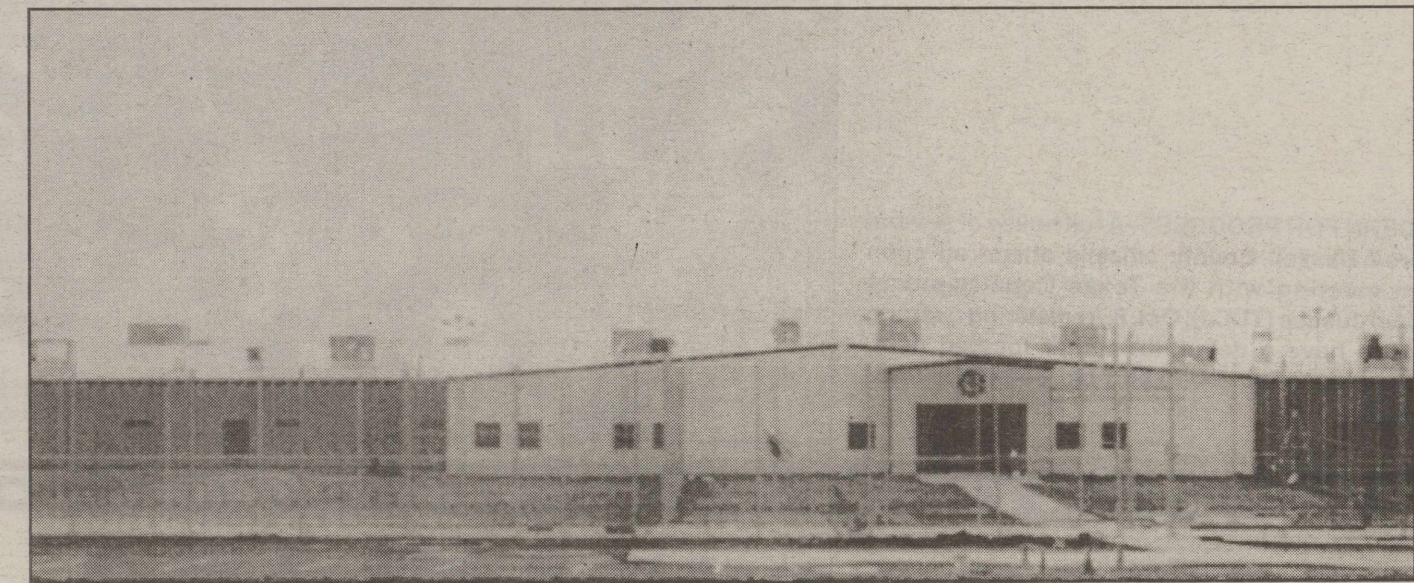


BREAKING THE GROUND—Dec. 14, 2000, Haskell leaders, l-r, Mayor Ken Lane, Mayor Pro Tem Fred Hernandez, Haskell Development Corporation Director Monty Montgomery, County Attorney Shane Hadaway, County Commissioners Kenny Thompson and Tiffen Mayfield, and County Judge David Davis turn dirt in the symbolic beginning of construction on the Rolling Plains Regional Jail. Photo by Bill Blankenship

Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center

Open House

Saturday, February 23, 10:30 a.m.



On behalf of Hale-Mills Construction, we congratulate everybody involved in the development of this project. We are proud to be a part of this very successful project.

We invite everyone to attend the open house Saturday, Feb. 23 beginning at 10:30 a.m. Hope to see you there!

4130 Bellaire Blvd. Suite 210
Houston, Texas 77025

713-665-1100



Attend the

Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center



**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 23**

Dedication and Open House Ceremonies begin at 10:30 a.m.
Facility tour and lunch will follow.

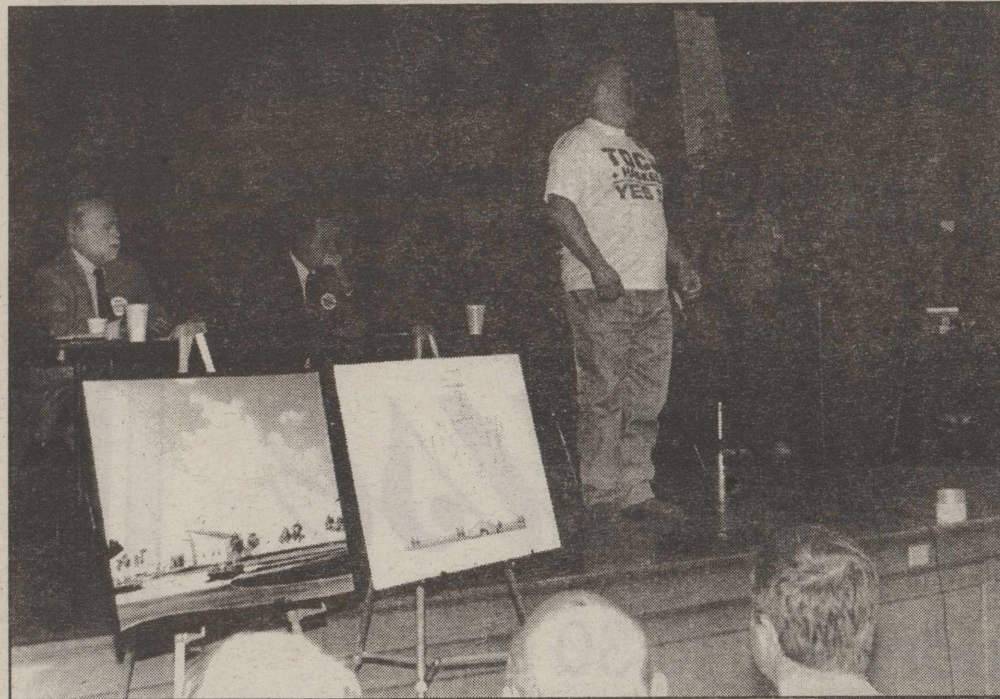
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TOWN MEETING—Haskell County Judge David Davis addresses an overflow crowd of Haskell County citizens about pursuing the building of a regional jail.



CONCERN FOR PROGRESS—A full house of several hundred Haskell County citizens attend an open forum meeting with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ), Oct. 6, registering a strong desire to have a detention center located here, which would bring jobs and help boost the local economy.



JOB FAIR—Brenda Nichols and Derek Brown, human resources managers with Management & Training Corp., met Dec. 11-12 with 299 applicants seeking employment with the Rolling Plains Regional Jail.



BREAKING GROUND—Haskell County, City, and School officials and business leaders were on hand Dec. 14, 2000, to help turn the first dirt at the construction site of the Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center. Photo by Bill Blankenship



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Johnson/McKibben Architects, Inc. congratulates Haskell County and the community on the success of the Rolling Plains Regional Jail 548 bed detention Facility.



JMA a national leader in criminal justice design, was pleased to provide Design Services in the construction of this facility. A project like this brings many advantages to Haskell such as revenues and jobs for employees of the Jail and for the construction. To meet the continual challenges of maintaining security and safety for public, Haskell is to be applauded for its successful efforts.



These computer generated images were used to visualize the final design concept of this detention facility.

These images are all about communication visualizations and understanding. We specialize in creating performance-driven visuals using state of the art hardware and tools.

We appreciate the opportunity that Haskell, Texas has given us to be a part of the community with this project.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Haskell and the surrounding on the opening of the
Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center
Dedication and Open House Saturday, Feb. 23, 10:30 a.m.



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Open HOUSE

Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center

Saturday, February 23, 10:30 a.m.

We Salute

The Haskell County Judge
Haskell County Commissioners
Haskell City Mayor
Haskell City Council
Development Corporation of Haskell
Hale-Mills Construction
Corplan

Gary McKibben, Architect

*and all who lead to the
completion of this fine facility!*

We would like to say a special thanks to
Thomas Rodriguez of the City of Haskell
for all his help in making our job easier
during the construction phase of this project.

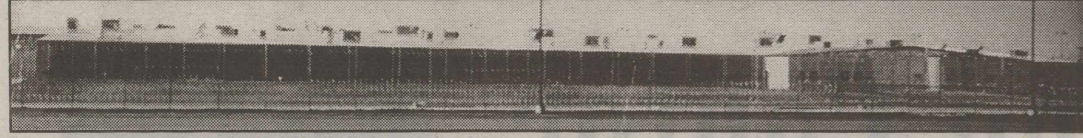
We are proud to be a team player!

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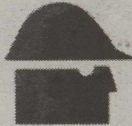
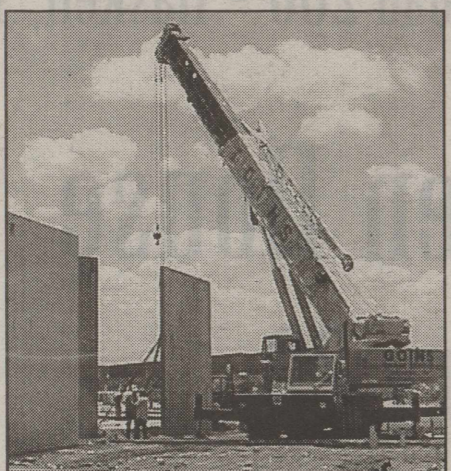
James Davis
Sr. Vice President



Congratulations

to the Haskell area on the completion of the Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center! We are proud to have been a part of this successful project.

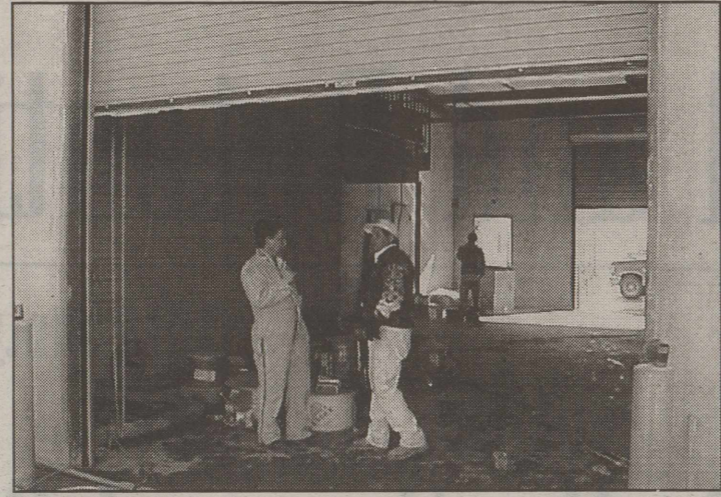
Open House Sat., Feb. 23
10:30 a.m.



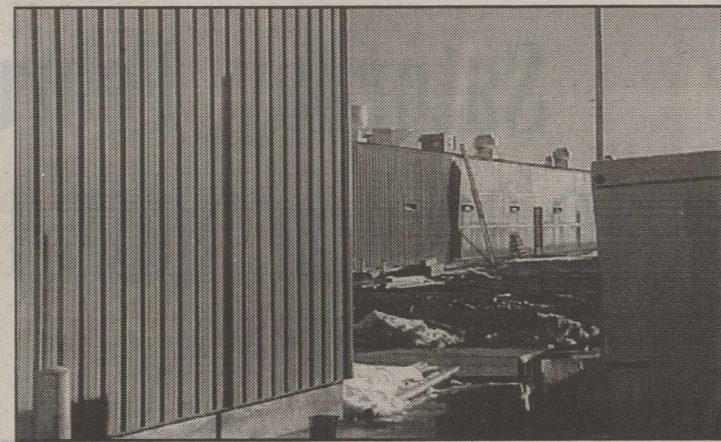
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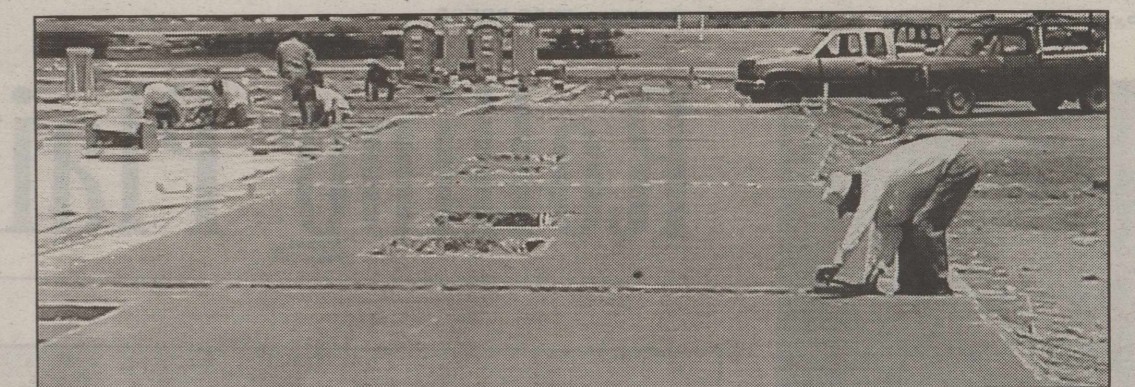
BACK ENTRANCE—Heavy double overhead doors, controlled by security monitors, mark the double entry area on the back side of the jail where all prisoners and supplies will be brought into and out of the facility.



OUTSIDE WALLS—Heavy siding is erected and put in place over pre-formed cement walls to form the exterior walls of the regional jail facility.



PRISON WALLS GOING UP—Heavy cranes tower above the skyline while lifting pre-formed cement slabs into place at the regional jail construction site.



POURING WALLS—Dozens of cement exterior walls are poured into frames on the ground to cure before being lifted into place at the regional jail.

CONGRATULATIONS!



To the Haskell area on the completion of the
**Rolling Plains Regional Jail
and Detention Center**

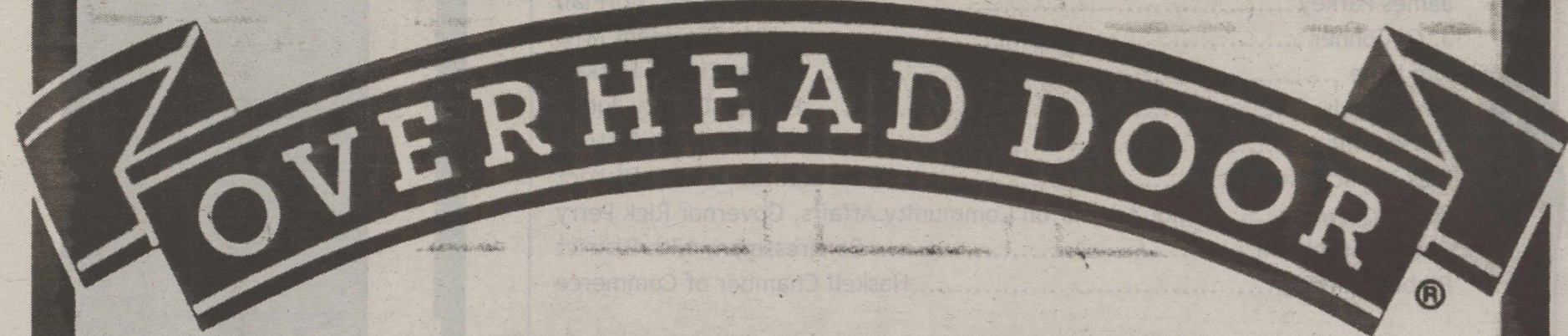
We are pleased to be a partner in the community and look forward to being a part of this successful project.

OPEN HOUSE Sat. Feb. 23
Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center

We encourage you to attend the open house Sat., Feb. 23 beginning at 10:30 a.m.

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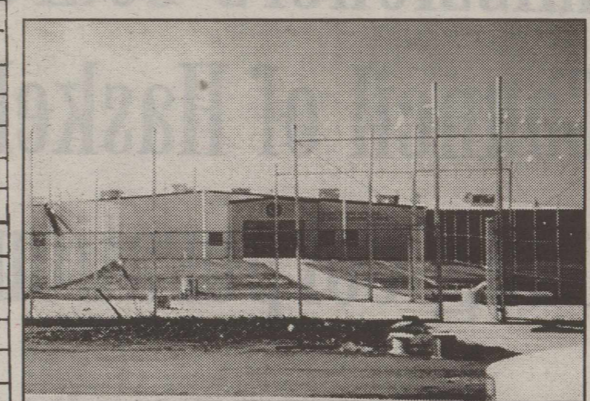
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Grand Opening
of the
**Rolling Plains Regional Jail
and Detention Center**



Sat., Feb. 23
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
118 County Road 206
Haskell, Texas

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Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center

118 County Road 206 - Haskell, Texas



Dedication and Open House

Saturday, February 23

10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Hosted by

**Haskell County Commissioners Court
The Mayor and City Council of Haskell
Management & Training Corporation**

Program

- Master of Ceremonies Randy Hise
President, Development Corporation of Haskell
- Invocation Dusty Garison
James Parkey President, CorPlan
- J. C. Conner Vice-President MTC
- Ken Lane Mayor, City of Haskell
- David Davis Haskell County Judge
- David Counts Representative 70th District
- Rick Hardcastle Representative 68th District
- Robert Howden Senior Advisor on Community Affairs, Governor Rick Perry
- Charlie Stenholm Congressman, 17th District
- Ribbon Cutting Haskell Chamber of Commerce

Tours and lunch provided by
Management and Training Corporation

The Journey

1998

June 8, 1998
Haskell County Commissioners, Haskell City Council and the Economic Development Corporation of Haskell met to hear a proposal from CorPlan for obtaining a regional county jail to be located in Haskell.

October 6, 1998
An enthusiastic overflow crowd of several hundred citizens from around the county attended a public meeting at the High School Auditorium, giving input and overwhelming approval of the proposed jail.

July 10, 2000
At a public meeting called by the County and City of Haskell, overwhelming approval was given for the issuance of Certificates of Obligation to build the 500 bed Rolling Plains Jail and Detention Center.

September 12, 2000
A special election for the purpose of submitting the proposition of issuing general obligation bonds in the principal amount of \$4,700,000 for constructing and equipping a jail was approved in a heavy turnout of voters.

December 5, 2000
City and county leaders and several hundred citizens gathered on a cold afternoon for the formal groundbreaking ceremony for the Rolling Plains Regional County Jail.

July 12, 2001
Work on the prison by Hale-Mills Construction Company continued at a steady pace with 87 employees on the job site each day. 3000 yards of concrete had been poured and walls were being put in place.

December 11-12, 2001
As jail construction neared completion, a job fair was held, conducted by representatives of MTC, for those seeking employment with the 500 bed Rolling Plains Regional Jail. Several hundred people attended.

January 29, 2002
A representative of the U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons visited the site of the facility on a fact-finding mission to gather information about the new Rolling Plains Regional Jail.

February 23, 2002
After a four year journey, the new Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center will be dedicated at 10:30 a.m. Several elected officials will be on hand and the public is invited to attend.

2002