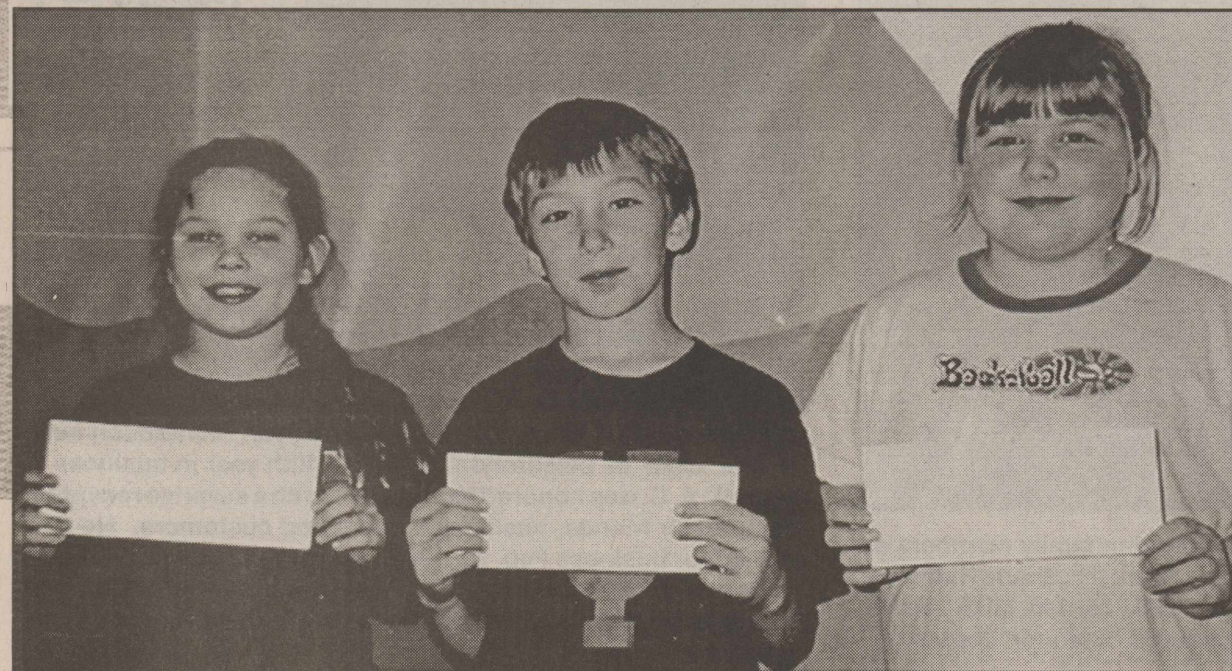




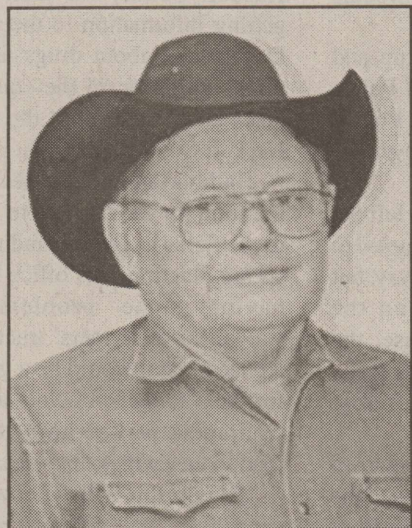
WINNERS—Rochester FFA member, Samantha Saucedo, won second place with her pig at the State Fair in Dallas. Celebrating the occasion, front, l-r, are her mother, Sylvia Saucedo; sister, Sydney Saucedo; Samantha; her father, Conrad Saucedo; and Will Edwards. Standing back: Joe Bonny; Shannon Sherbet; Agriculture teacher, Colby Kristy; Aaron Urich; Stewart Urich and Ricky Urich.



TALENTED—Three Rule Elementary students, l-r, Kymbre Kupatt, 4th grade, Cade Brown, 5th grade and Jenny Dudensing, 5th grade, have qualified for the Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP), which identifies academically talented students and provides innovative programs and resources to support the development of their optimal educational potential. Qualification for the program is based on the student's previous year's TAKS scores.

VOTE AND ELECT BILL GLASS

For Haskell County Sheriff



Hi. This is James Bevel, campaign treasurer for Bill Glass, your Democratic choice for Haskell County Sheriff.

Join me by casting your vote for Bill Glass to be our next Sheriff.

Bill has proven himself effective by his cases resulting in maximum penitentiary time for criminals; one such example of all these cases being an aggravated sexual assault of a Haskell teenage girl, with that offender receiving 99 years in the penitentiary.

Bill gives just as much off duty as he does on duty. Many of you have heard of the kidnapping at gun point story and even though Bill has not rung his own bell about this, I believe you as the citizens should know, Bill while off duty, faced an armed gunman to save the life of another with no concern for his own life and this is just one example of his unselfish giving for our county to be a safer place for all.

Bill is actively involved in our community being a Minister, a Rotarian, a Lion, a Parent and much more.

Bill has worked hard for Haskell County.

Bill has proven to get the job done!!!

Once again, this is James Bevel, asking you to join me by casting your vote for Bill Glass for the next Haskell County Sheriff.

Pd. Pol. Adv. by **James Bevel**, Sr. Treasurer,
1104 N. Ave. G, Haskell, TX 79521



JUNIOR POSSE AWARDS BANQUET—Youngsters attending the Stamford Junior Sheriff's Posse Banquet Sat., Jan. 24, were: front, l-r, Tom Spikes, Jay Jensen, Kelli Pittcock, Kannan Pittcock, Danielle Oliver, Kaley Mathis and Cedar McIlwain. Back, Nathan Meredith, Dalton Isbell, Shelli Terrell, Melissa Neal, Cequin McIlwain, Brittany Rutkowski, Ashton Rutkowski, Kameryn Mathis and Harvey Terrell. The younger age groups first place prize was a shiny new belt buckle. For the older kids, 1st, 2nd and 3rd place all received gift certificates. Every youngster took home a new halter for their horse.

Obituaries

Ofilia R. Salazar

Funeral services for Ofilia R. Salazar, 54, of Mertzon, formerly of Haskell, were held Mon., Feb. 23 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Ed Dorado with Father Joseph and Deacon Julian Estrada officiating. Burial was in El Dorado Cemetery under the direction of Kerbow Funeral Home.

Mrs. Salazar died Sat., Feb. 21 at her residence. Survivors include her son, Daniel Salazar of Mertzon; son and daughter-in-law, Ramon and Molly Salazar of Weinert; son and daughter-in-law, Angie Limones of Stamford; daughter and son-in-law, Christine and Martin Jimenez of Mertzon; brother, Ernest Salazar of Mesquite;

and sisters, Irma Gaudarma of Mertzon, Eloisa Salazar of O'Brien and Margarita Slaughter, Martha Cornejo and Emma Gutierrez, all of Sweetwater; eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Pallbearers were Natalie Romero, Linda Garcia, Junior Cantu, Raul Chavez, Rudy Fuentes Jr., Arturo Romero Jr., Joe Salazar, Moses Alfaro Jr., Raymond Gonzales and Johnny Gaudarma Jr.

Honorary pallbearers were Mike Durran, Hector Romero, Juan Romero and Ray Romero. Memorials may be made to Haskell National Bank, P. O. Box 998, Haskell, Texas 79521. PD. NOTICE

Conservation sign-up announced

Applications for cost-share assistance are being taken now through April 16, 2004 at the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Haskell. The office is located

in the USDA Service Center at 607 North 1st Street East.

Haskell County has four funding sources available for conservation practices this year. 1) EQIP County Based funding, 2) EQIP Seymour Irrigation Area, 3) EQIP Rolling Plains Quail Area, and 4) Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). The cost-share rate for these programs have been set at 50%.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) County Based funding will target two priority practices this year, ponds and brush management.

EQIP Seymour Irrigation Area will target conversion of existing pivot systems to LEPA, Irrigation

Pipeline, Drip Irrigation, and LEPA Center Pivots.

EQIP Rolling Plains Quail Area is an incentive and cost share program to promote the recovery of degraded rangelands to restore habitat for grassland birds including quail. This is a 6 year contract.

WHIP will provide assistance to perform brush management and reseed rangeland for wildlife habitat improvement.

The application window closes April 16, 2004 for this year for all these programs.

For additional information on these cost-share assistance programs contact the NRCS at 864-8516 extension 4.

ECC Menu and Calendar

Mon., Mar. 8

11:00 a.m. Blood pressure check
Lunch—Chicken spaghetti, creamed potatoes, blackeyed peas, tomato slices, garlic toast, banana pudding, milk, tea, or coffee

Wed., Mar. 10

Lunch—Sausage and sauerkraut, vegetables, potato salad, yeast rolls, lemon dessert, milk, tea, or coffee

Fri., Mar. 12

Lunch—Beef stroganoff/rice, savory coleslaw, English peas, onions/pickles, cornbread, pudding cups/cookies, milk, tea, or coffee

Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

Cattle Market Report

The market at the Haskell Livestock Auction was on a run of 124 head of cattle at its sale on Mon., Mar. 1, according to Gary Tate,

reporter. 28 sellers and 18 buyers were present.

Short run due to rain.
Cows: fat, .40-.47; cutters, .44-.51; canners, .35-.39.

Bulls: bologna, .55-.67; feeders, .75-.87; utility, .49-.58.

Steers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.20-1.70; 300-400 lbs., 1.10-1.30; 400-500 lbs., 1.04-1.17; 500-600 lbs., .95-1.10; 600-700 lbs., .87-1.00; 700-800 lbs., .80-.93; 800-up lbs., .72-.84.

Heifers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.05-1.30; 300-400 lbs., .95-1.18; 400-500 lbs., .88-1.05; 500-600 lbs., .82-.94; 600-up lbs., .68-.85.

Bred heifers medium frame, 580-700.

Bred Cows: young to middle aged, 650-750; aged or small, 475-600.

Cows with calves: medium frame No. 1 young and middle aged, 825-975; aged or small, 650-800.

Some wheat varieties are protected

Keeping back some of a crops production for planting the following year is standard practice with many farmers. However, the Plant Variety Protection Act is being more strictly enforced, thanks to the use of DNA plant testing.

The law says farmers may save a limited amount of a protected seed variety for planting. But, selling or giving a protected seed to anyone, without the permission of the variety owner, is illegal. It is a federal offense and can carry fines of up to \$35,000.

Producers should consult their seed provider for further details.

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Extension's Futures Forum set March 29

by Jane Rowan and Brandon Anderson
Haskell Co. Extension Agents
 Are Texans ready to meet the challenge of change? Will their individual and collective efforts to answer local needs result in healthy, sustainable and prosperous communities?
 The answer is "yes" with the right amount of cooperative, proactive planning. That's the goal of this year's Texas Cooperative Futures Forum, a statewide project of Texas Cooperative Extension.
 "The Futures Forum will bring local residents, government, business and other groups together in a 'town-

hall' type atmosphere to identify local needs, issues and problems," said Jett Major, district Extension administrator in Lubbock. "It is a unique opportunity for individuals and groups to join hands to improve their communities and the state as a whole."
 This process is not new to Texas Cooperative Extension, an agency of The Texas A & M University System. "The first Futures Forum was held in 1999, but we've brought local residents into our long-range planning efforts since 1985," said Dr. Chester Fehlis of College Station, Extension director. "Throughout our history, input from local people has

helped us to determine how Extension can best serve the educational needs of the community. The Futures Forum process has brought greater diversity and new partnerships and cooperation into our planning."
 "Extension agents and other trained facilitators will conduct the statewide County Futures Forums this spring in all 254 Texas counties," Fehlis added. The County Forums will generate a priority list of community-wide issues and needs.
 Each community's list will be posted on the Internet for county government, state agencies and other organizations to review and use when formulating their strategic plans. The statewide list of priority needs and issues also will serve as an important part of extension's long-range outreach education plan for 2005 - 2008.

"The results from the Texas Community Futures Forum will help us and our partners to focus our activities on solutions," Fehlis said. "The Futures Forum will facilitate individual, joint, and coordinated action to deliver results that will truly make a difference in the lives of Texans."
 Information about the Texas Community Futures Forum is available on the Internet at <http://futuresforum.tamu.edu>.
 Haskell county will be conducting a Futures Forum Mon., March 29. All interested Haskell county residents are invited to be a part of the Forum.
 For more information about the Haskell County Futures Forum, contact the Haskell County Extension Office at 101 S. Ave. D or call (940) 864-2658 or 864-2546.

Consumer Skills project contest offered to 4-H'ers

by Jane Rowan
Haskell Co. Extension Agent
 A new 4-H project to Haskell County this year is "Consumer Skills." Purpose of the project is to teach 4-H'ers to make good choices when shopping.
 After learning basic buying skills, participants will apply these skills by participating in the "Consumer Decision Making Contest." This contest consists of ranking classes of consumer goods (snack foods, sun screens, watches, T-shirts, etc.) and presenting oral reasons to defend

your rankings.
 For those interested in this project, an informational meeting is scheduled Tues., March 9 at 4:15 p.m. at the Dollar General Store. The meeting will be held in the back room at the store.
 If you are unable to attend this meeting and would like to participate please contact Jane Rowan, county Extension Agent-FCS at the Haskell Extension Office, at (940) 864-2546 or 864-2658, you can be notified of future meetings.

Care home residents enjoy Valentine party

The Haskell Senior Club had a Valentine's party for the Haskell Healthcare Center Feb. 15. The group made cookies and Valentines' for the residents.
 4-H member, Caleb Hudgens, played some tunes on the piano for the residents.
 Everyone has been busy going to the major stock shows. Several of our members did very well.
 4-H'ers are getting ready for the County Photography Contest. Photos are due in the county office by March

12. Photos will be judged and displayed for the public March 23 at the Haskell National Bank Community Room from 2 to 4 p.m.
 The Photography Awards Program will follow at 4:00 p.m.
 The County Fashion Show will be hosted by the Rule 4-H Club and held at the Rule School Auditorium on April 17. Plans are being made to tour the Robert Spence Modeling Agency in Lubbock sometime in April for the participants in the County Fashion Show.

Students in the News

Hardin-Simmons University announces that Haskell residents were added to the honors lists for the fall 2003 semester.
 Jessica Rieger made the President's List for students who completed at least 12 semester hours with a 4.0 grade point average.
 Katie Wooten Cruz made the Honorable Mention List for students who completed from 6-11 semester hours with a grade point average of at least 3.6.
 Texas A&M University has named its honor students for the 2003 fall semester, recognizing students for outstanding academic performance.
 Zachary Adam McGuire of

Haskell, an Agricultural Development student, was named a Distinguished Student, an honor recognizing students who earn a 3.25 to 3.75 GPR while taking at least 15 hours or 12 hours for first semester students.
 Lane Taylor Murphy, a Weinert resident and a 2000 graduate of Munday High School, was named to the Fall 2003 Dean's List at Baylor University for the 2004 fall semester.
 A student must be an undergraduate with a minimum grade-point average of 3.7 while enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours to be named to the list.

Local women attend paint training seminar

Richardson's True Value employees, Jenna Logan, Karen Pittman and Shelley Judd, recently returned to Haskell from Corsicana, where they attended the Regional Paint Training Seminar for TruServe Corporation on Tues., Feb. 24.
 The seminar covered many aspects of the painting process, along with the tools required for the proper applications of paints and stains. Through demonstrations and hands-on experience, those attending learned how paint works and which paint works for different situations.
 Logan began her career at Richardson's in Oct. 2000, Pittman in Mar. 2003 and Judd in June 2003.
 Their knowledge gained at the seminar will be utilized at Richardson's True Value, where a paint-matching computer is available. Any color can be matched by the computer, if a customer brings a sample article that is not transparent and is of a solid color. Individual

customer's matched colors are also stored in the computer, providing them the opportunity of purchasing more of the color in the future, should the need arise.
 The local store management staff reports that these knowledgeable employees are eager to help with any decisions or questions regarding paint or stain, as well as the proper painting tools and equipment needed for the project.
 The TruServe Corporation, which supplies many True Value Stores on a weekly basis, maintains a paint manufacturing facility in Cary, Illinois.

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Births

Evan and Courtney Andrews of Abilene announce the birth of their brother, Andy Glenn Andrews, born Fri., Jan. 30 at 7:47 a.m. at Abilene Regional Medical Center weighing 7 lbs. 6.5 oz. and measuring 20 inches long.
 Parents are Jerry and Debra

Andrews of Abilene. Maternal grandparents are Jack and Charlotte Coker of Rule. Paternal grandparents are the late Floyd and Wilma Andrews of Abilene.
 Great grandparents are Gaines and Bonnie Shults of Alamosa, Colo.

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With Primary Election Day approaching, I would like to take this time to thank the people of Haskell County for your support and the opportunity to serve as your Constable. With the terrorism and violence that occurs in our world, I am thankful to be here in Haskell County. With the efforts of all of us, we can keep this a safe place to live and raise our children. Don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of service to you.

Kim Guess Bassett
 Haskell County Constable
 Paid for by Kimberlee G. Bassett, 8087 FM 2163, Haskell, Texas 79521

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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Mike Cox

Committee hears pros, cons of workers' compensation program

The next regular session of the Legislature is still 10 months off, but the law-making process already is well under way with consideration of various issues in interim and standing committees.

An interim Senate committee charged with taking a look at the workers' compensation system in Texas heard its first witnesses last Thursday.

The committee, chaired by Sen. Todd Staples (R-Palestine), will be making recommendations on the quality of workers' comp, how much it costs, the ease of getting care and other issues. An attorney who specializes in workers' comp issues told the committee that in the private sector, workers have grown leery of health coverage provided by an employer.

The attorney's view was that the workers' comp system has deteriorated with those who have suffered an on-the-job injury having trouble getting care. From the employer standpoint, other witnesses said coverage costs have skyrocketed.

Sen. Robert Duncan (R-Lubbock) said many employers not required to have workers' comp coverage are dropping out of the system due to high costs.

Staples pointed to the health care plan the Legislature set up for public school teachers and suggested that might be the solution for the workers' comp problem.

Budget cuts cost federal dollars...

Legislative budget cuts in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program will cost Texas about \$1.6 billion in federal funding, Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said last week.

Since Sept. 1, she said, 107,000 children have been dropped from the CHIP program.

"That's a 21 percent drop in five months," she said in a speech to the

Texas Mental Health Association, "and Texas was already dead last in the percent of children without health insurance. That's unconscionable."

Money slashed from Medicaid coverage will prevent some 200,000 adults from getting needed counseling or psychological help.

But help is in sight if state officials take action, she said. The comptroller estimated \$583 million is available to restore some of the health care cuts through the governor's budget execution authority and by the Legislature in a special session.

Environmental Commission sets hearings...

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality began a series of hearings across the state to get the public's view on how the agency is doing in its enforcement of environmental laws.

"We are performing an in-depth review of the enforcement process at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality," TCEQ Chair Kathleen Hartnett White said.

The hearings began Monday night in Arlington, with others scheduled in Midland, Harlingen and Houston. For details, check the agency's Web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Talking trash...

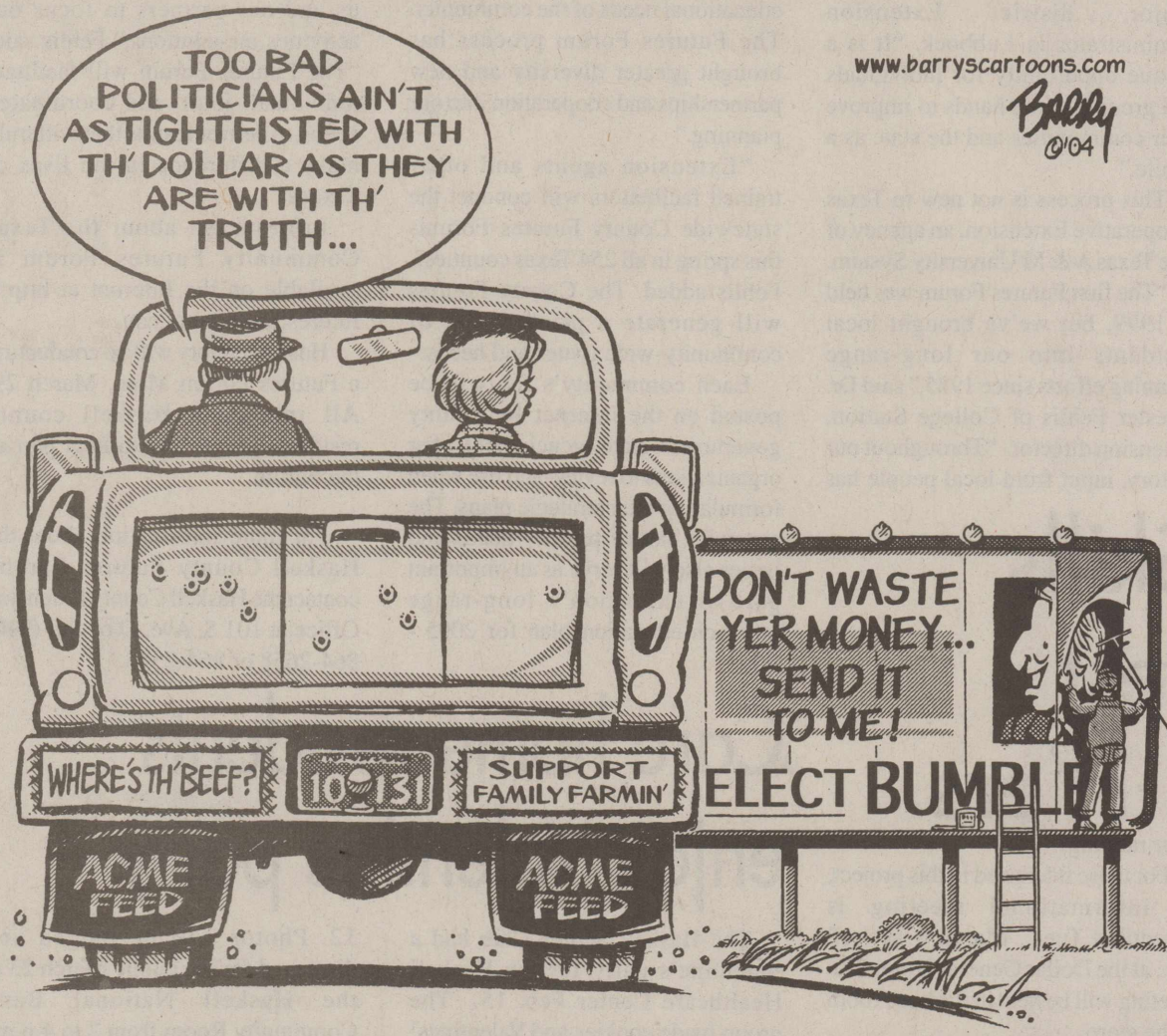
The Seventh Annual Winter Texan Adopt-A-Beach Cleanup removed more than three tons of trash from South Padre Island.

Eighty-plus volunteers collected 6,825 pounds of trash ranging from a crematory tag to a feather pillow. On the up side, someone found a \$10 bill, a little salty but still negotiable.

The annual clean up is sponsored by the Texas General Land Office and the South Padre Island Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Since the state agency began the program in 1986, 5,800 tons of debris has been hauled off from Texas beaches.

For information on the spring cleanup, call 1-877-TXCOAST.



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Weathers Whys

Worst Weather

Q: What place in the United States has the worst weather?

A: A lot of people might have different answers, but one hard to argue against is Mount Washington in New Hampshire, says Kelsey Curtiss of Texas A&M University.

In fact, Mount Washington State Park, located in the White Mountains, brags that it is home "to the worst weather in the U.S." and that might be true. "Some people even consider it the worst weather in the world," says Curtiss. "Mount Washington is 6,288 feet above sea level, the highest mountain in New England, and it is known for its high winds. A large sign there reads "The highest wind ever observed by man was recorded here" on April 12, 1934. That day, the winds registered an incredible 231 miles per hour. But high winds are routine—on average, winds exceeding hurricane force (75 miles per hour or more) occur every three days."

Q: Why are the winds so high there?

A: In addition to its high altitude, Mount Washington stretches across major air masses that often affect the Northeast. "The mountain's topography and the way it is situated creates a sort of whiplash affect on the winds in the area," Curtiss adds. "Add to that the frequent snows and the results can be killers. The mountain gets about 250 inches of snow every year, so the wind chill affects can be lethal. In fact, more than 100 people have died on the mountain, some from falls but most from being improperly dressed and developing hypothermia. That's why the park rangers tell hikers and visitors that proper clothing is a must—not wearing the right clothing can kill in minutes on the mountain, even in summer. The park is home to Mount Washington Observatory, a non-profit corporation that conducts weather research."



From The Inside Out

By Mary Kaigler

Have you ever noticed that we often undo the effectiveness of what we profess to be by the way we practice it ourselves? Our actual actions don't always match up with what we give mental assent to.

In one of his more celebrated stories, the Danish philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard, (1813-1855), told about an imaginary country where ducks lived. Each Sunday morning the ducks waddled to church and squatted in their pews. From behind the pulpit the duck pastor read from the Duck Bible: "Ducks! You have wings, and with wings you can fly like eagles. You can soar into the skies! Ducks! You have wings!"

And each week the church ducks would all shout, "Amen! Amen!"

Then, after church, all the ducks would waddle back home—not fly, mind you, waddle.

Of course, Kierkegaard was disparaging people who professed one thing but whose actions betrayed them. They talked the talk, but did not walk the walk. To him, this was a matter of integrity. And integrity has to be more than just a public facade.

For most of us, there is a certain amount of dissociation between our 'talk and walk.' And sometimes, especially when we don't get our way about something, it slips out in our actions, invalidating whatever good we might be able to do through what we profess to believe.

The following account recently shared by a reader on the subject of Road Rage makes a good case in point.

Two cars were waiting at a stoplight. The light turned green, but the man didn't notice it.

A woman in the car behind him is watching traffic pass around them. She begins pounding on her steering wheel and yelling at the man to move.

The man doesn't move. The woman is going ballistic, ranting and raving at the man, pounding on her steering wheel and dash.

The light turns yellow and the woman begins to blow the car horn, flips him off, and screams profanity and curses at the man.

The man looks up, sees the yellow light and accelerates through the intersection just as the light turns red.

The woman is beside herself, screaming in frustration as she misses her chance to get through the intersection.

As she is still in mid-rant she hears a tap on her window and looks up into the barrel of a gun held by a very serious-looking policeman.

The policeman tells her to shut off her car while keeping her hands in sight. She complies, speechless at what is happening.

After she shuts off the engine, the

policeman orders her to exit her car with her hands up. She gets out of the car and he orders her to turn and place her hands on her car, then handcuffs her and takes her to the police station where she is fingerprinted, photographed, searched, booked and placed in a cell.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approaches the cell and opens the door for her. She is escorted back to the booking desk where the original officer is waiting with her personal effects, and says, "I'm really sorry for this mistake. But, you see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping the guy off in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him."

I noticed the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'What Would Jesus Do?' bumper sticker, the 'Follow Me to Sunday School' bumper sticker, and the chrome plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk. Naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car."

During the recent annual lectureship series held at Abilene Christian University, one speaker, John Scott of Garland, said, "Your care and concern for people validates your preaching."

Perhaps for many of us, the admonition to practice what you preach, could be paraphrased, "Your actions may invalidate your bumper sticker."

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago March 3, 1994

Rochester's great running back Mark Brown was named a first-team selection on the All-American six-man football team. Paint Creek's Will Duniven received honorable mention as a defensive lineman.

Mary Dewey of Haskell Troop 136 was recipient of the Award of Merit at the Double Mountain District banquet in Rule. Doyle Mitchell, Cubmaster, and Kenny Thompson, Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 148, were named Scouter of the Year.

Former Haskell football coach Ray Overton received the Tom Landry award from the Texas Sports Hall of Fame.

The Haskell Indians won their way into the Region 1-2A Basketball tournament with a 68-56 victory over The Wall Hawks in an area playoff game in Abilene. Brian Brzozowski was the team's leading scorer with 21 points and Mart Guess wound up with 19 points.

Haskell High School and eighth-grade band students Ann Rieger, Kaki Stapleton, Dacia Phemister, Kelli Cunningham, Sarah Cothron, Shelly Palacios, Chris McSmith, Wendy Dulaney, Wayne Hodgkin, Charissa Huff, Katy Martin, Andy Martin and Robert Huff earned "I's" in the Region II South Zone UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest.

20 Years Ago March 1, 1984

Mary Jane Short, three year old of Rochester and a group of Mrs. Newton's sixth grade girls, Pam McGhee, Missy Phemister, Teresa Conner, Stacy Merchant and Sheree Marr won first place at the third annual Children's Talent Contest sponsored by the Progressive Study Club.

Tori Jenkins of Rule Elementary won Grand Champion honors with her poster at the Haskell Soil and Water Conservation Poster Contest.

Kenny Forehand of Weinert Elementary received second overall and Lenore Medina of Rochester Elementary won third place overall.

Marty and Tammy Offutt, grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Sanders and Mr. and Mrs. Bud Offutt of Weinert, received honors at Rider High School. Marty made honor society and Tammy was one of twenty-four girls selected to join the Rider A-Cappell choir.

Ollie D. Johnson, son of L. C. and Alice Johnson and nephew of Birdie L. Benford, all of Haskell, was promoted in the U. S. Air Force to the rank of staff sergeant.

Haskell's James and Brenda Griggs, Karen Brown and Martha Toliver attended the all Texas Beauty Show in Dallas at the Fairmont Hotel.

30 Years Ago March 7, 1974

Kyle Wilfong of Haskell won first place in the Senior Division of the Texas State Junior Angus Association Showmanship Contest at the Houston Livestock Show.

Kim Hager showed a lightweight class Angus steer to first place in its division at the Houston Livestock Show. Susan Mullino of Rochester showed a heifer that placed first place in the senior Hereford class.

Alexia Mayfield of Haskell was chosen Miss Champagne Music in a contest in Abilene. She appeared with Lawrence Welk's musical family which includes Ralna Hovis of Haskell.

Kim Forehand, Michelle Raynes and Irene Castillo won first place in the "Pollution-Phew" poster contest sponsored by Weinert Matrons Club.

Haskell's girls' basketball coach, David Burson, in his free time fishing at Lake Stamford caught two black bass weighing 6 lbs. 4 ozs. and 5 lbs. 8 ozs.

40 Years Ago March 5, 1964

Five accomplished seniors tapped for inclusion in Haskell High

School's "Who's Who" were Judy Kay Sego, Beth Vaughter, Eddie Smart, Barry O'Neal and Sammy Lamed.

High tribute was paid to the memory of a Haskell native, the late Charles L. Foote, by the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University where Foote served as professor of zoology for 16 years.

Nelda Gibson of Haskell was chosen Haskell High School's Betty Crocker Homemaking Tomorrow.

Mrs. Walter Patton of Weinert sent in her money to take the Free Press for the seventieth year. The Free Press is in its seventy-ninth year of publication.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. McGath of Haskell were honored with an open house and reception to observe their 50th wedding anniversary.

50 Years Ago March 4, 1954

J. E. Walling Jr., local distributor for Humble oil products, was honored by the company in recognition of 20 years service as Humble distributor.

Harley Reeves of Weinert won honors in the capon and broiler department of the Abilene Fat Stock Show, exhibiting the grand champion pen of five broilers and the grand champion capons. Donald Vaughn of Weinert had the reserve champion broiler.

Three former High School athletes, Bobby Jack Price, Don Payne and Ed Ammons, were among the more than 20 prospects for McMurry College's track and field squad.

100 Years Ago March 5, 1904

Lee Hull sold his interest in the Daylight Restaurant here and will go to Fort Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Day were presented with a baby boy Tues., March 1.

Hollis Fields is now assistant postmaster in the Haskell post office.

The Haskell Free Press

Established January 1, 1886
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This issue mailed Wed., March 3, 2004



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LADY PIRATES—Paint Creek High School girls basketball team members are: front, l-r, Rebecca Hope, Melanie Bishop, Kasey Duniven and Bonnie Emert. Back, Tammy Daniel, Audry Daniel, Coach Keith Medford, Misty Woodall and Jessica Messenger.

Photo by Kis



PAINT CREEK PIRATES—Members of the high school boys basketball team are: l-r, #14 Chris Peyton, #12 Kevin Fowler, #22 Brandon Bryant, #00 Jessie Medford, #5 Jamie Loyd, #40 Roland Cisneros, #51, Rylie Tatum and #44 Abel Cisneros. Kneeling center, is Coach Johnny Garcia.

Photo by Kis

Sagerton Hee Haw set March 25-27

Tickets for the Sagerton Hee Haw will go on sale Mon., March 8 at 3 p.m. at the Sagerton Community Center. Tickets are \$4.

Hee Haw will be presented March 25-27. Doors will open at 5:30 for the meal. Auditorium doors will open at 7 p.m. with music provided until the show starts at 8 p.m.

Tickets may be ordered from J. B. or Dorothy Toney, 1825 FM 1661, Sagerton, Texas 79548 or by 940-997-2688.

TAX PLANNING

Written By
Gerald Rodgers, CPA



HOW LONG SHOULD YOU KEEP RECORDS?

As you gather the papers necessary for this year's tax return preparation, you may be wondering what records you need to keep and how long you need to keep them. Now is an ideal time to set up a recordkeeping system that will help you keep important papers and minimize the clutter. How long to keep records is a combination of judgment and state and federal statutes of limitations. Here are some recordkeeping guidelines.

Tax records. Keep tax returns (and any records used to prepare them) for at least three years after you file the return if you have only W-2 and interest income, preferably seven years if your returns are more complex. That's because the IRS can audit your return for up to three years after it's filed—up to six years if you underreport income.

If you own property or businesses in more than one state, check the statute of limitations in each state since some are longer than the federal statute. Save copies of the tax returns themselves permanently because you might need information in the returns for other purposes.

Homeowner and personal records. Keep homeowner records (deeds, escrows statements, mortgage and title papers, etc.) at least seven years after you home sells. For household purchases and home repairs, keep receipts and cancelled checks for the warranty period of the item. Before you toss insurance policies, check with your agent. Generally, you'll want to hold insurance policies for the life of the policy plus three years.

Investments. Keep monthly or quarterly investment statements until you receive the year-end summary. Save year-end statements and ownership papers until you liquidate the investment, plus seven years. Retain annual reports for IRAs and other retirement plans permanently.

Other records. Important records, including vehicle titles, wills, trust documents, insurance policies, contracts, and birth and marriage certificates, should be kept in a safe place. An inventory of your valuable property, along with photographs or a video, should be made and kept current in the event your house is robbed, damaged, or destroyed.

Before you discard documents, review them for their importance. Call us if you have questions about retaining records.

RODGERS & COMPANY

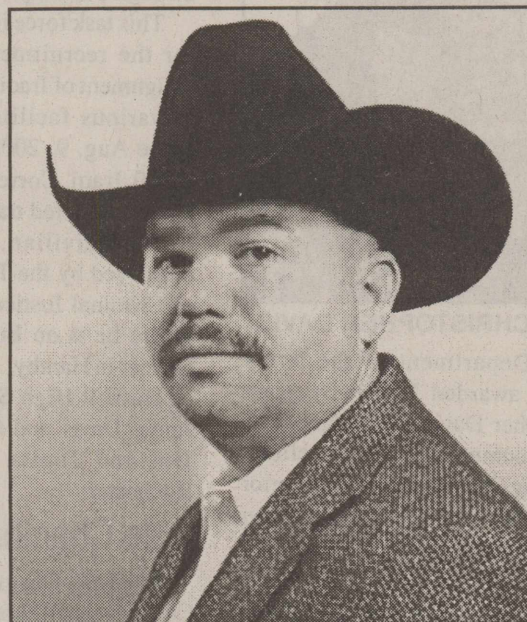
Certified Public Accountant
20 Southwest Third Street
Hamlin, Texas • 325-576-2356

VOTE AND ELECT

★ ★ BILL GLASS ★ ★

For

Haskell County Sheriff



Hi. This is Bill Glass, Democratic candidate for Haskell County Sheriff. We are in the prime of absentee voting with the March 9th election day fast approaching.

I ask you today as the citizens of Haskell County to allow me to become your Sheriff by casting your vote for me.

As your Sheriff, I will make the county the safest environment possible for our children.

I will strive to build an office totally committed to excellence.

I am certified and have ample experience and have proven to be an effective officer working for Haskell County.

I will always be accessible to your the citizens of Haskell County with a never ending desire to serve.

I want to contribute to my community and I want the input of the citizens, after all the Sheriff's office belongs to you!!

I encourage you as the citizens of Haskell County to make an informed decision for your Sheriff.

Each candidate's track record should inform you and speak for itself and I will gladly stand upon mine as merit to be your next Sheriff.

Accordingly, I am respectfully requesting your vote to become the next Sheriff in Haskell County.

Thank you and have a good day.

Pd. Pol. Adv. by James Bevel, Sr. Treasurer,
1104 N. Ave. G, Haskell, TX 79521

10:27 a.m. Saturday



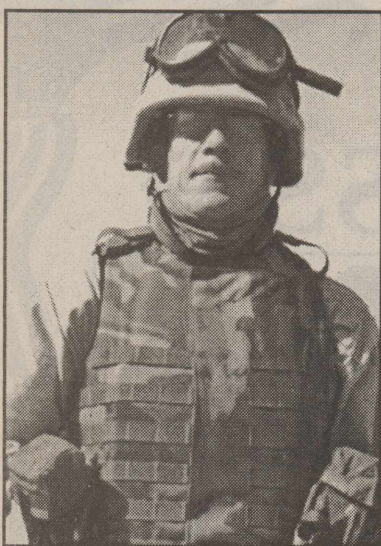
Planting the right tree in the right place.

The right landscaping requires careful planning. Trees and shrubs planted in the wrong place can cause power outages or other hazards. Make sure you plant trees that won't grow into overhead power lines. Keep shrubs at least 10 feet away from electrical equipment and call the local underground line locating service before you dig. Planning ahead helps keep your power flowing safely. **AEP is there, always working for you.**



For more information about electrical safety, visit aep.com. To locate an underground line call 1-800-245-4545.

In the service



MSG. CHRISTOPHER DAVIS

The Department of the Army recently awarded Master Sergeant Christopher Davis the Bronze Star. He was commended for his efforts in training Civil Affairs soldiers prior and during combat actions in Iraq from April 2003 through February 2004.

MSG Davis is currently assigned to the Office of Coalition Provisional Authority at the Ministry of Justice

in the proposed United States Embassy compound. In this capacity, he is a member of a civilian and military task force that coordinates and monitors the refurbishment and/or new construction of 30 detention centers and prisons throughout through out Iraq.

This task force is also responsible for the recruitment, training and assignment of Iraqi correctional staff in various facilities in Baghdad. Since Aug. 9, 2003, approximately 2,500 Iraqi Correctional Officers have completed training.

As a civilian, MSG Davis is employed by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Parole Division where he is an Institutional Parole Officer in Hamby. He is the husband of Haskell High School Councilor, Jamie Davis and the son-in-law of Jim and Junita Beauchamp of Rochester.

Rule Chamber banquet

The Rule Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual banquet March 9 at 7 p.m. at Rule ISD.



OMAR PAYAN

Air Force Reserve Airman 1st Class Omar A. Payan has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio.

During six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

The son of Elizabeth and stepson of Ramon Flores of Haskell, Payan is a 2003 graduate of Haskell High School.

Around Town

Jonathan and Candis Tatum visited with his cousin Terry Hawkins of Marble Falls over the weekend. They were joined by Terry's friend Leisa and all attended the Texas Tech and Texas Longhorn game in Austin on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jake Roysdon of Mansfield visited her sister, Charlene Hawkins, over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. John Castillo were in Abilene for a memorial service.

A group from Cornerstone Baptist Church attended a Cross County Association meeting Monday night at Elm Crest Baptist Church in Abilene.



LEARNING AND SERVING WITH LOVE—Holding the special valentines they made and shared with the residents of Rice Springs and Haskell Healthcare Center as part of a Learn and Serve project, Haskell first graders are: l-r, fourth row, Reagan Hadaway and Carmen Davis. Third row, Kayley Calhoun, Shawnee Hill, Jonathan Pedroza, Reed Lee, Toby Castorena and Jacie Klose. Second row, Alyssa Abila, Rhett Lampe, Harley Foreman and Cierra Moore. Front, Taylor Buchanan, Amie Munoz, Richard Wilson and Cedar McIlwain.



FROM OUR HEARTS TO YOURS—Haskell first grade students display the valentines they made and shared with residents of Rice Springs and Haskell Healthcare Center. Along with the valentine messages, the senior citizens enjoyed cake and punch. Pictured back, l-r, are Hayley Holland, Aaron Silvas, Riley Meinzer, Breezy Gibbs and Kenzie Shelton. Middle, Bradley Winterstein, Abbi Alsbrook, Angelo Pena, Kade Colley and Crissy Bassett. Front, Nathan Reid, Cheyenne Jouett, Harrison Jarred, Adriana Roque, Dustin Wyrick, Warren Flye and Chase Stone.

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Haskell

An Open Letter To The Citizens Of Haskell County From Jack Whorton

Although I was born and raised in Haskell County, I realize that there are many of you that I have not had the privilege to meet and get to know. Over the course of this campaign, I have tried to speak with as many of you as possible, and this is an attempt to touch those that I have missed. I come from families on both sides who settled in Haskell County about the time that most of our communities were getting off to a good start. I take great pride in knowing that my roots here go very deep. I grew up in Rule and have lived most of my adult life here. I knew at an early age that law enforcement was what I wanted to pursue. As a child, my idol and good friend was Rule City Marshall Ollie Kittley. I tagged along behind him for years and the "seed was planted" by him. I learned to appreciate the caring and fair way that he treated all that he came in contact with.

I began my career training in the Law Enforcement Academy in Abilene and over the following 17 years I gained experience in a variety of roles. I was Deputy Sheriff in Haskell, under Sheriff Garth Garrett. As a Deputy Sheriff in Taylor County, I gained valuable experience by working in the Jail Division as the Assistant Jail Administrator, in the Criminal/and Fugitive Warrant Division, and finally the Criminal Investigation Division. I worked with D. A. Joseph Thigpen as the District Attorney's Criminal Investigator for the 39th Judicial District (Haskell, Throckmorton, Stonewall, and Kent Counties). It was during this time that I began a working partnership with Texas Ranger Marshall Brown. We worked together daily assisting all law enforcement agencies in the district. D. A. Sam Oatman hired me as the first Criminal Investigator for the 33rd Judicial District (Blanco, Burnet, Llano, Mason, and San Saba Counties). Due to the failing health of my father, E. B. Whorton, I moved back to Rule and took the position of Rule Chief of Police.

Throughout my years of experience, I have investigated and assisted in the prosecution of homicides, questionable deaths, sexual assaults, child abuse, illegal drugs, burglary, theft, and domestic violence. I feel that this broad range of experience and my personal desire to help and assist the people of Haskell County gives me the ability to be a fair and effective Sheriff for our county.

If you see fit to elect me as YOUR Sheriff,
I pledge to be an honest, fair, and totally dedicated servant of justice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Pd. Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Ella Daye Whorton, Campaign Treasurer
Rt. 1 Box 15, Rule, TX 79547

Speech contest winners named

Big Country Electric Cooperative would like to announce the winners of the annual Youth Tour Speech Contest. The contest was held Feb. 23 at the Roby High School Auditorium. Three winners, Cassidy Pritchard of Stamford, M'Lynn Lehrmann of Rule and Wes Terry of Roby will join approximately 1500 other teens across the country for a 9-day all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D. C. in June.

The purpose of this tour is to provide an opportunity for youth to visit monuments, government

buildings and cooperative related organizations in order to become familiar with the historical and political environment of our nation's capital. They will enjoy the best of Washington, D. C., tour the Smithsonian Institute, Ford's Theatre, the FBI Building, Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials, Mount Vernon and countless other points of interest. The students will experience the sight of Arlington National Cemetery, the Vietnam Memorial, and the changing of the guard at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They

will visit their Congressman's office and find out face to face what's going on in national government. Their Congressman will meet with the students and answer questions about current governmental issues.

Big Country Electric Cooperative wants to offer our area youth a chance for such an experience. Other contestants were Abby Dudensing, Bonnie Emert, Carolyn Marshall, Courtney Buerger, Deborah Long, Erica Peters, Fran Leighton, Jimmy Rincker, Joshua Kemp, Priyanka Patel, Stephanie McLemore and Eli Oldham.

Hee Haw set for Mar. 25-27

Tickets for the 34th annual Sagerton Hee Haw song and comedy show will go on sale at 3:00 p.m., Mon., Mar. 8.

Priced at \$4.00 each, the tickets may be ordered by mail to J. B. and Dorothy Toney at 1825 FM 1661, Sagerton, TX 79548, or by calling 940-997-2688.

The 2004 edition of Hee Haw will be held Mar. 25-27 at the Sagerton Community Center.

Doors to the lunch room will open at 5:30 p.m. Auditorium doors will open at 7:00 p.m., with music provided until the show starts at 8:30 p.m.

As in previous years, the first night's performance will be designated as Senior Citizens' Night for area groups and organizations.

The lunch room menu on Thursday will include sandwiches, homemade pie and drinks. On Friday and Saturday nights, a plate lunch will be added to the menu.

Did You Know?

Rice Springs Care Home offers great care with love and compassion for all of our residents. We are not changing our focus of giving hometown care to **Senior Citizens**. We want our residents to enjoy their golden years and great food, plenty of activities and close companionship.

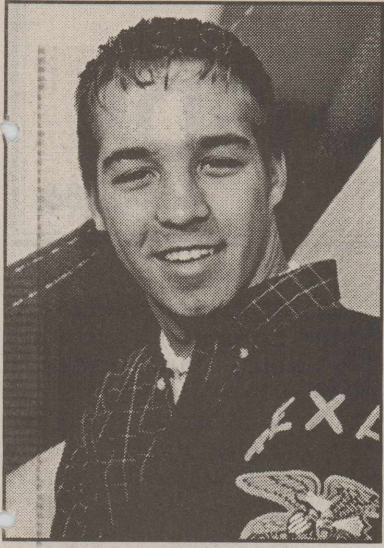
Rice Springs Care Home is now offering more services for Haskell and the surrounding area. Check out our **Secure Unit, Adult Day Care Services, Respite Care and Skilled Health-Care for Children**.

Contact Stephen King, Administrator for more information!

RICE SPRINGS CARE HOME

Your locally owned Care Home, Rice Springs.
"Caring for Those who Cared for Us."

1302 North First • Haskell • 940-864-2652



CHASE COCKERELL

Cockerell attends FFA convention

Chase Cockerell of Haskell was among Area II FFA officers attending the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, the week of Oct. 27 through Nov. 2.

While at the convention, the officers served as voting delegates for Texas, and on committees that developed resolutions for procedural changes for the annual convention.

Copper may play role in starving cancer

by Jane Rowan

Haskell Co. Extension Agent

Scientists at Texas A&M may have found a treatment to slow cancer growth.

Copper, a trace mineral in the human diet, was found to help control cancerous growth. Copper is needed to create blood vessels.

By limiting a person's copper intake, the tumor is starved of its blood supply. In research, no one has been cured, but tumors have stopped growing.

Five of the six people that received this anti-copper drug showed no further growth of their tumors after one year.

Rule sets date for Chamber banquet

The Rule Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual banquet, Tues., Mar. 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rule School Cafeteria.

Planned around a 'Country' theme, the evening will be an occasion for fun and entertainment.

For listening pleasure, Larry LeFevre has put together a group composed of LeFevre, Dickie Greenwood, Randy Hise, Mike Fouts and Danny Letz, who will be featured

on the steel guitar.

The Rule Man and Woman of the Year will be named.

Door prizes will be furnished by local merchants.

A meal catered by the Junior Class will be served in the School Cafeteria.

Tickets are on sale for \$8.00.

The chamber urges everyone to put on their denims and come to join in the 'Country' fun.

WHO program helps abuse victims

The student listened closely to the message being presented by the special guest at school. Later, the student quietly told a school official about sexual abuse suffered in silence. "We were able to get help for that student," said counselor Charles Murphy. "If we can help one student, it's worth it. We're making people aware, through the WHO program."

The counselor at the junior high and senior high schools in Winters, Murphy is one of the dozens of educators and administrators in schools in the Big Country who invite Regional Crime Victims Crisis Center (CVCC) staff and volunteers to present the WHO anti-victimization program to the schools.

WHO ("We Help Ourselves") is designed to teach children in grades K-12 avoid becoming victims and where to go for help if they are victimized. The independent nonprofit agency receives funding from state and federal grants, government and civic organizations and public donations.

Prevention is less expensive than punishment or rehabilitation, according to Judy Kingery, Executive Director, Regional Crime Victim Crisis Center, Abilene.

"A majority of the clients we work with in area drug and alcohol treatment facilities were sexually abused as children," she said. "And some children who are physically abused may grow up to be violent criminals, ending up in prison."

Preventing the abuse is the most cost-efficient solution for Texas taxpayers, Kingery said.

The number of crime victims served by CVCC increased 43% last year. The number of students receiving the WHO programs more than doubled. In response to the increases, CVCC recently added a new counselor and an additional case manager, bringing the agency's staff to a total of six full-time professionals. The agency relies heavily on its volunteers; currently consisting of 54 victims assistance paraprofessionals and 23 certified WHO presenters, to help meet the increasing demand for services.

Additional volunteers are needed for upcoming training classes for victims assistance and WHO certification. Anyone wishing to receive an application for the training or more information may call 325-677-7895 or visit the website at www.regionalcrime.org.

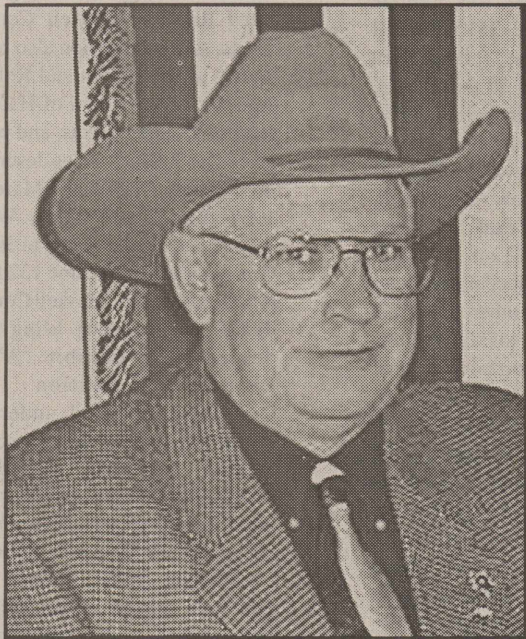


LADY PIRATES—Paint Creek Junior High girls basketball team members are: front, l-r. Jessica Pendergraft, Tabitha Schonerstedt, Annissa Luna, Ariel Blair and Alice Blair. Back, Coach Max Calk, Stephanie Stowell, LaShell Walker, Hali Wolsch, Tara Myers and Kailey McCord. Photo by Kis



JUNIOR HIGH PIRATES—Paint Creek Junior High School's boys basketball team members are: front, l-r, Tracy Medford, Donovan Colley, Jerrick Acosta, Coach Johnny Garcia, Taylor Williams, Johnny Escamilla and Caleb Whitfield. Back, Guy Bruce, Brennan Medford, Michael Gordy, Rusty Rogers, Charlie Myers and Jeremy De la Cruz. Photo by Kis

PLEASE VOTE TO RE-ELECT
DAVID HALLIBURTON



SHERIFF
OF
HASKELL
COUNTY

We, the Deputies and Dispatchers of the Haskell County Sheriff's Department, would like to publicly extend our support for the re-election of incumbent Sheriff David Halliburton.

Sheriff Halliburton, a Haskell County native, is a man of honesty and integrity. He believes in the rights of all citizens and strives hard to bring justice and safety to our county. He is very dedicated to the position of Sheriff as well as to his employees and the county as a whole. He has proven countless times that he is working for the citizens and not for recognition of himself.

Sheriff Halliburton has been and continues to be instrumental in the war against drugs. He, along with the deputies, local, and state law enforcement agencies, have shown great effort and have a proven record that drugs will not be tolerated in Haskell County.

Sheriff Halliburton exhibits great leadership qualities and is respected by many. We believe that with his guidance, Haskell County is a safer place to live.

We ask you to please vote for experience, dedication, and leadership on March 9th. Please vote to re-elect Sheriff David Halliburton.

Respectfully yours,
Friends of David Halliburton

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Winston Stephens, Joe Aleman, Sharon Stephens, Ashley Hearn, Donna Clayton, Felicia Rodriguez, Welda Pannell and Sara Parker Bates

MOVING TO NEW LOCATION

OPEN HOUSE
MARCH 4, 2004
10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

JCS

Jordan Claim Service would like to invite everyone to come by their new office located at 510 North First, Haskell, Texas (Across from Bailey Tolver Chevrolet).

Mike W. Jordan founded Jordan Claim Service in 1991. JCS began as a one man, one office operations. It has grown into a business that consists of a home office, 24 satellite offices and employs 41 field adjusters. JCS covers the state of Texas everywhere north, east and west of Austin.

"Our plans are to be able to cover the entire state by this time next year and offer our services to insurance companies in the southern part of the state as well," Mr. Jordan stated.

"We are also proud to announce that

Mr. Roy Burns will join Jordan Claim Service on March 1st as Home Office Claims Manager. Mr. Burns's duties will be assigning claims to adjusters, reviewing claim adjustments, company and adjuster relations and solicitation. Mr. Burns comes to Jordan Claim Service from REM/Texas Select Lloyds Insurance Company of Dallas where he worked as a claims examiner. Prior to his employment with REM/Texas Select, Mr. Burns was an independent field and catastrophe adjuster.

Please come by and welcome Mr. Burns to our community, visit with the home office staff and see our new JCS office building.

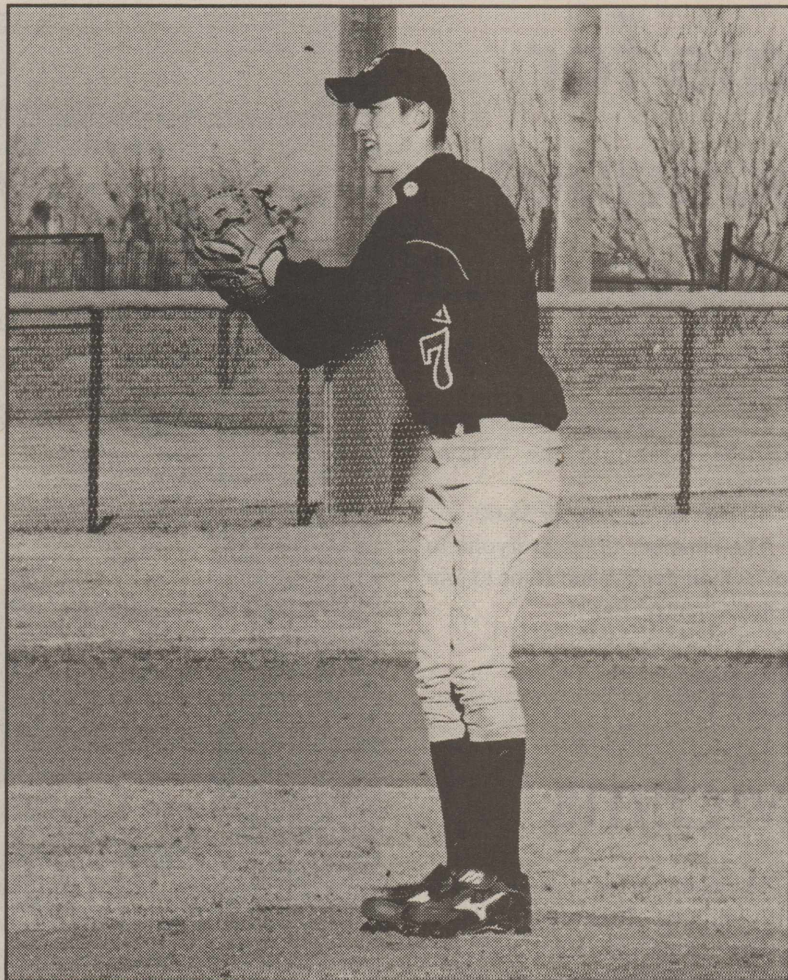
From the Staff of JCS

Mike W. Jordan ~ Owner
M. Shawn Jordan ~ Home Office Director/Storm Coordinator
Roy Burns ~ Home Office Claims Manager
Nikki Jordan ~ Home Office Manager
Angela Markunas ~ Head of Clerical

All deadlines are 5 p.m. Monday.

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 We're giving you a "Spring Break" for the Month of March - Children under the age of 12 ride FREE
 Transportation to Dialysis available Monday thru Saturday
 Call 940-989-2239 or 1-800-722-0137



WOUND UP AND READY-Haskell's Kendall Mitchell gets set to deliver a pitch during the Seymour Tournament.

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Public Notices

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
 PROJECT: 8008-1-41
 PARCEL: 66
 STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF HASKELL
 TO: Ed Richardson, whose residence is unknown, and if he be deceased, the unknown heirs of Ed Richardson, whose names and addresses are unknown.

Emma Richardson, whose residence is unknown, and if she be deceased, the unknown heirs of Emma Richardson, whose names and addresses are unknown.

You are each hereby notified that a hearing will be held at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say Monday, the 8th day of March, 2004, and at District Courtroom in the District Courthouse in Haskell, Texas, to assess the damages of the owner of the property being condemned.

The State of Texas filed a Petition for Condemnation with the Judge of the 50th Judicial Court of Haskell County, Texas, on the 18th day of December, 2003, in Cause No. 11,173 which is styled The State of Texas v. Ed Richardson, et al. The Plaintiff is the State of Texas. The Defendants are: Ed Richardson, whose residence is unknown, and if he be deceased, the unknown heirs of Ed Richardson, whose names and addresses are unknown; Emma Richardson, whose residence is unknown, and if she be deceased, the unknown heirs of Emma Richardson, whose names and addresses are unknown; City of Haskell; Haskell County, Texas; Haskell Consolidated Independent School District; North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority; Haskell County Memorial Hospital District; Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District; Farm-Market Lateral; and Precinct Road.

The name and address of the attorney for Plaintiff is Kelly Wintroath, Assistant Attorney General, P. O. Box 12548, Austin, Texas 78711-2548.

This suit is an eminent domain proceeding in which the State of Texas is condemning a tract of land located in Haskell County, Texas, being a 0.2251 acre tract or parcel of land, being out of and a part of that certain map or plat of the Subdivision of the Isidro Ramos No. 109, Patent No. 165, Volume 18, Abstract No. 351, Haskell County, Texas as recorded in Volume 20 Pages 22 through 23, Deed Records, Haskell County, Texas, said subdivision also being known as the Brown and Roberts Addition to the Town of Haskell, Haskell County, Texas, and being all of Lot 3, Block 33 as described in Warranty Deed dated March 8, 1937 from Matt Justice, Willie Justice and Fredia Siphon to James Cox recorded in Volume 132 Page 606 Deed Records, Haskell County, Texas, such property being fully described in Exhibit "A" of Plaintiff's Petition for Condemnation filed under the above-referenced cause number.

The interests of these Defendants are that they either own or claim an interest in said property, subject to unpaid accrued taxes.

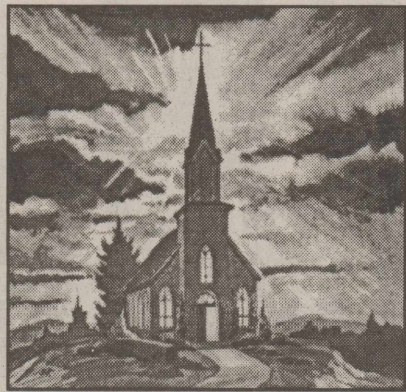
You are further notified that you may appear at the hearing before that Special Commissioners' and present evidence you desire on the issue of damages to be assessed against the State. If you do not appear at the hearing, the Special Commissioners may proceed to assess the damages of the owner of the property being condemned.

If this Notice is not served within ninety (90) days after its issuance, it shall be returned forthwith.

Issued this 20th day of January, 2004.

Joe A. Cortez
 Dolan Brinson
 Lavon Beakley
 Special Commissioners 7-10

This Week's Devotional Message:



FAITH DEMONSTRATES THE FALLACY OF FALSE PRIDE

Pride can be a major stumbling-block to the solution of many of the problems involving our fellow human beings. It is a false facade that often prevents us from seeking needed help, ending a quarrel, forgiving a minor grievance or admitting our own mistakes. Faith can demonstrate

the error of this stubborn trait, by exposing pride as an enemy, totally incompatible with the love that is taught in the Bible. So go to your church and learn how to tear down this barrier of pride that may be the only thing standing between you and happiness.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

- HASKELL**
East Side Baptist Church
 Dr. Jim Helfin, interim 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
- New Vision Family Worship Center**
 James Fincker, pastor • 864-5438
 Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m.
 East Hwy 380, Haskell
- Trinity Lutheran Church**
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30
 Hwy 380 East, Haskell
- Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**
 Art Flores, Interim pastor
 Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 607 S. 7th, Haskell
- First United Methodist Church**
 Allen Brooks, 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 George Roney
 Sat. Mass 7 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.
 401 S. Ave. D, Haskell
- Hopewell Baptist Church**
 Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

- Greater Independent Baptist Church**
 Rev. Tom Collins, 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 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.
 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
- Cornerstone Baptist Fellowship**
 Dr. Gibbie McMillan, Interim pastor
 Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
 1303 N. Ave. I, Haskell
- WEINERT**
First Baptist Church
 J. C. Baker, pastor
 Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
- Weinert Foursquare Church**
 Rev. Robert Harrison
 Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
- 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**
 Jackie Brem, 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
- Faith Chapel of Rochester**
 Katherine Byrd, minister
 Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.
 Hwy 8, Rochester

- First United Methodist Church**
 Dolan Brinson, pastor
 Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
 Rochester
- SAGERTON**
Sagerton Methodist Church
 Melissa Bemis, pastor
 Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
 Sagerton
- Faith Lutheran Church**
 Deborah Nissen, pastor
 Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 Sagerton
- RULE**
First Baptist Church
 Josh Stowe, pastor
 Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 1001 Union Ave., Rule
- Primitive Baptist Church**
 Dale Turner Jr., pastor
 First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.
 Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule
- Church of Christ**
 John Greeson, minister
 Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 811 Union, Rule
- First United Methodist Church**
 Wendall Ferguson, pastor
 Sun. Morn. Worship 10 a.m.
 1000 Union Ave., Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**
 Alfa y Omegas
 Manuel Marin, pastor
 Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
 500 Elm Street, Rule
- Sweet Home Baptist Church**
 Bill Trice, pastor
 Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 Gladstone Ave., Rule
- West Bethal Baptist Church**
 Rev. Robert Sweet
 Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
 300 Sunny Ave., Rule
- PAINT CREEK**
Paint Creek Baptist Church
 Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
 Paint Creek
- O'BRIEN**
O'Brien Baptist Church
 Milton McManus, pastor
 Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p., Wed. 6 p.m.
 O'Brien

Sonic Drive-In
 1402 N. Ave. E
 864-8533
 Managers: Leon & Carolyn Herring

Steele Machine
 Hwy. 280 • 864-2208

Modern Way Food Store
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 107 N. 1st East • 864-2607

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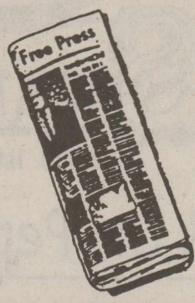
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864-2686

ALL DEADLINES MONDAY 5 P.M.

864-2686

For Sale

FOR SALE: Coastal hay round bales. \$35 per roll. Delivery available. 254-893-4040. Cell 817-313-9077. 8-11c

FOR SALE: Coastal hay. Square bales. \$4 per bale. 864-3384. 9-12c

FOR SALE: Wheelchair, electric hospital bed, \$50 total. 940-864-3248. Cell 806-789-0749. 10p

FOR SALE: Portable Miller welder, good condition. Call 996-0101. 10c

FOR SALE: 1999 Chevy 1500LS Suburban, Pewter, 117,000 miles, very good condition, \$10,000. Large chest freezer, \$100. Various sizes full-view doors, \$30. Call 996-6048, leave message. 10c

Garage Sales

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE: Sat. only, 8 to 2. 1402 N. Ave. G. Furniture, clothes, lots of misc. 10p

GARAGE SALE: Sat., March 6. 8 to 1. 1504 N. Ave. G. 10p

Miscellaneous

HOUSE LEVELLING and foundation repair. No payments until work is satisfactorily completed. David Lee & Co. 325-675-6369. 6tfc

COMPUTER REPAIR-HELP onsite. Hardware/software/training. Steve Livingood 325-773-2616. If no answer, leave message. 6-11p

CUSTOM FRAMING. Country Friends and Frames, 101 N. Swenson, Stamford. 325-773-2661. Complete framing needs. Closed Mondays. 10c

Jobs Wanted

LET US DO your dirty work! New small business starting March 1. Cleaning, commercial and residential, large or small. Also errands for the elderly. References available. Call 996-0101 or 996-9308. 10c

Wanted

WANTED: Newer, small farm tractor in good condition. With equipment. Call Bruton at 214-803-8500. 10-11c

For Rent

FOR RENT: Furnished rooms for rent. Nightly, weekly, monthly. Call Lone Star Lodging 864-2238. 52tfc

FOR RENT: 604 N. 3rd. 1 bedroom apartment. CH/A. 864-3762. 10c

HOUSE FOR RENT: Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$300 month. Call Rosie 940-325-3687 after 3:30 p.m. 10-13p

FOR LEASE: 908 N. 4th. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. 864-3762. 10c

Real Estate

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Lake cabin at Veda's Camp. Financing available. 864-2238. 7tfc

HOUSE FOR SALE: 2 bedroom, CH/A. 600 Elm. Rule. \$8,000. Contact R. Martinez. 972-723-2134. 8-10c

HOUSE FOR SALE: 500 N. Ave. D. 2,000 sq. ft. Living room, dining room, den, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, double garage. \$20,000 cash only. Call 864-2502. 9-11p

HASKELL 3 BR. OWNER FINANCE

Central A/C & Htg., Storage shed. Very nice neighborhood. Easy terms.

Call Jim at 325-518-8128 or Teri at 325-660-2122 5tfc

Help Wanted

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS for all positions at Sonic Drive In, Haskell. Apply in person. 25tfc

S.L.P. HASKELL Healthcare Center is an equal employment opportunity employer. We are located at 1504 N. First Street, Haskell, Texas 79521. We are looking for dependable, honest, hard working and caring individuals for the following positions: Cook/Dietary Aides, Long-term care experience preferred; Certified Nurse Aide, PRN; Housekeeping, PRN. Qualified individuals may apply in person. 940-864-8537. Contact Stella Woodard, Dietary Supervisor or Cindy Guess, Director of Nursing. Stanley I. Song, Administrator. 9-12p

OWNER OPERATORS NEEDED. Flatbed. No trailer needed. Long runs, short runs. Great home time. Paid twice a week. Call Debbie 940-864-5452 or 800-874-5422. 9-10c

RICE SPRINGS Care Home is making a difference. We are looking for 1 CNA 6-2; 1 CNA 2-10. Call Shandra at 864-2652 for information. 10c

TEXAS ONLY DRIVERS needed. Home most every night. Flatbed, no tarps required. No trailer needed. Home every weekend. Paid twice a week. Call Debbie 940-864-5452 or 800-874-5422. 9-10c

GREAT PAY AND MILEAGE for flexible part-time hours. Case manage small caseload in your area. If you have 2 years college, 2 years supervisor experience, licensed nurse or 2 years in healthcare facility, agency or CBA experience fax resume to Community Care 940-322-1754.

Public Notices

NOTICE Tiffen Mayfield, Commissioner Precinct 2, Haskell County is taking bids until March 15, 2004 for a used 90-100 hp farm tractor. Must have cab and air, 540-1,000 rpm PTO, 2 hydraulic plug-ins, decent tires, motor and transmission. Tractor must be in good shape. Maximum bid \$17,500. Mail bids to Haskell County Courthouse, 1 Ave. D, Haskell, Texas 79521. 9-11c

ZERO DOWN Land-Home with low interest rate. NO CREDIT NECESSARY 325-673-8488 35tfc

Old age is when your classmates are so gray, wrinkled, and bald that they don't recognize you. You might not feel so old if you had a La-Z-Boy to relax in. Get a pair starting at 2 for \$499. Kinney Furniture in Stamford. 10c

R & L Home Improvement

Royce C. Meier Complete Home Remodeling and Repair 940-864-2982 940-864-4977

Public Notices

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION PROJECT: 8008-1-41 PARCEL: 142

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF HASKELL TO: Ben F. Thorpe, whose residence is unknown, and if he be deceased, the unknown heirs of Ben F. Thorpe, whose names and addresses are unknown.

Edgar Taylor, whose residence is unknown, and if he be deceased, the unknown heirs of Edgar Taylor, whose names and addresses are unknown.

You are each hereby notified that a hearing will be held at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say Monday, the 8th day of March, 2004, and at District Courtroom in the District Courthouse in Haskell, Texas, to assess the damages of the owner of the property being condemned.

The State of Texas filed a Petition for Condemnation with the Judge of the 50th Judicial Court of Haskell County, Texas, on the 18th day of December, 2003, in Cause No. 11,175 which is styled The State of Texas v. Ben F. Thorpe, et al. The Plaintiff is the State of Texas. The Defendants are: Ben F. Thorpe, whose residence is unknown, and if he be deceased, the unknown heirs of Ben F. Thorpe, whose names and addresses are unknown; and Edgar Taylor, whose residence is unknown, and if he be deceased, the unknown heirs of Edgar Taylor, whose names and addresses are unknown.

The name and address of the attorney for Plaintiff is Kelly Wintroath, Assistant Attorney General, P. O. Box 12548, Austin, Texas 78711-2548.

This suit is an eminent domain proceeding in which the State of Texas is condemning a tract of land located in Haskell County, Texas, being a 0.0335-acre tract or parcel of land, being out of and a part of that certain map or plat of that certain Frisco Addition to the Town of Haskell, recorded in Volume 34 Page 219, Deed Records, Haskell County, Texas being also out of and a part of Outlot 100 of the Isidro Ramos League and Labor, Abstract No. 351, Haskell County, Texas as recorded in Volume 20 Page 23, Deed Records, Haskell County, Texas, and being part of Lot 10, Block 43 of said Frisco

Dodson Concrete Construction Commercial - Residential David Dodson 704 N. Ave. F • Haskell 940-864-2038 Over 20 Years in the Business FREE ESTIMATES 18tfc

WILD HORSE TRADING POST Haskell's General Store and RadioShack. All Music CD's \$8.95 each All Ladies Clothing 30% off our already low price Don't forget - We also have guns and ammo, gifts, musical instruments and ladies clothing! 419 S. 1st, Haskell • 864-2200 Hours: M-F 9-6; Sat. 9-3

Subdivision as described in Sheriff's Deed dated December 8, 1962, from G. T. Garrett, Sheriff to Ben F. Thorpe and Edgar Taylor, recorded in Volume 299 Page 313, Deed Records, Haskell, County, Texas, such property being fully described in Exhibit "A" of Plaintiff's Petition for Condemnation filed under the above-referenced cause number.

The interests of these Defendants are that they either own or claim an interest in said property, subject to unpaid accrued taxes.

You are further notified that you may appear at the hearing before that Special Commissioners and present evidence you desire on the issue of damages to be assessed against the State. If you do not appear at the hearing, the Special Commissioners may proceed to assess the damages of the owner of the property being condemned.

If this Notice is not served within ninety (90) days after its issuance, it shall be returned forthwith. Issued this 20th day of January, 2004.

Joe A. Cortez Dolan Brinson Lavon Beakley Special Commissioners 7-10

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

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 2004 Primaries.

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

All political advertising, announcements, and printing is cash in advance.

Sheriff Bill Glass (Pd. by James Bevel, Campgn. Treas.) David Halliburton Jack Whorton (Pd. by Ella Daye Whorton, Campgn. Treas.)

Attention Homeowners Hail season will be here soon. Get your metal roof on now! Metal prices have gone up: But we've got good news! If you let us put your roof on in February, we will give you the metal at last year's price. Hurry, Hurry!! Spalding Construction Hamlin, Texas James Spalding 325-576-2109

EKDAHL REAL ESTATE 118 S. Swenson • Stamford 325-773-3676 ed@ekdahlrealestate.net FARM AND RANCH LISTINGS 261 ACRES Mattson Community, 43 acres native pasture on Miller Creek, 200 acres of corn and wheat base. \$365 per acre. 247 ACRES irrigated with center pivot. Northwest of Rochester. \$900 per acre. 51 ACRES irrigated coastal. Northwest of Rochester. Fenced, has center pivot. \$800 per acre. 164 ACRES hunting and CRP. Northern Stonewall County.

FOR SALE RIKE Real Estate 864-2411 864-2332 Mary Rike, Broker 411 1/2 South First St. NEW LISTINGS 506 N. 17th, 2-2-carport, living, kitchen, dining, covered patio, sprinkler system and new appliances, CH/A. 906 N. AVE. M, Extras galore. 3-2-2brick, living, sun room, den, crown molding, ceramic tile, well, fenced yard, CH/A. 1171 HWY 277 S, Large 1 1/2 story, 3-3-2, den with fireplace, large kitchen, dining, office and utility room, CH/A. 700 N. AVE. K, 3-2-2, living, dining, den & kitchen combination, fenced yard, CH/A. 509 N. AVE. E, Large 4-3-carport, den with fireplace, large utility, CH/A, well, sprinkler system, storm cellar and storage. 403 S. 3RD EAST, Beautiful singlewide mobile home on three lots, one year old, CH/A, three bedrooms, two baths. HWY. 380 E, 2-2-carport, kitchen-den, living, large utility, storm cellar, CH/A.

You know you're in a small town-if people measure distance in minutes rather than miles. Close out prices on Spring Air "Never Turn" mattress sets. All sizes in stock ready for quick free delivery. Kinney Furniture in Stamford. 10c

OWNER FINANCE STAMFORD 2 BDR. Large older home near schools. Low down, low monthly payments Call Jim at 325-518-8128 or Teri at 325-660-2122 49tfc

EXPERT AUTO WORK REASONABLE RATES See us for all your auto mechanic needs. 20 years experience. We do it right the first time. 305 South Ave. E • Haskell

OWNER FINANCE 1403 N. Ave. K Roomy older home with carports in front and back. Nice yard. Easy terms. Call Jim at 325-518-8128 or Teri at 325-660-2122 51tfc

Do you like choices? Now you have some choices in bedding at Boggs and Johnson. We now have ten beds on the floor for you to choose from instead of six. More choices means more comfort for your bedding needs. Choose from Simmons Back Care, Simmons BeautyRest or Simmons Deep Sleep lineup. All offer you a great choice in bedding for a good night's sleep. **BOGGS & JOHNSON FURNITURE** 864-2346 East Side Square • Haskell

CUTE LITTLE HOUSE Very affordable. Call 325-673-7353 35tfc

\$500 MOVE IN Owner finance. Call Alex 325-725-1449 Sè habla español. 35tfc

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LANGFORD ROUSTABOUT SERVICE SCOTT LANGFORD Roustabouts Backhoes Winch Trucks Dump Trucks Welders Mobile: 940-256-0535 Office: 940-864-3490 Home: 940-864-2565 8348 N. Hwy. 277 Haskell, Texas 79521 Specializing In: Oilfield Repair, Maintenance & Construction

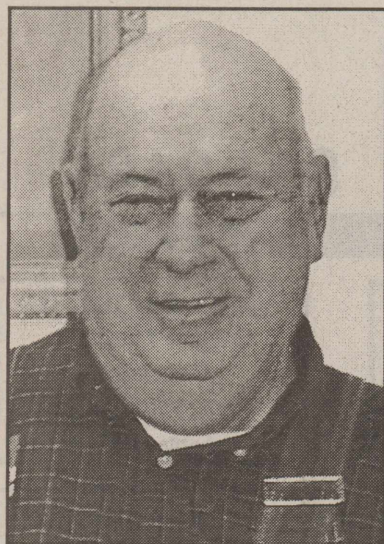
JOB TITLE: Transportation Maintenance Tech II SALARY: \$9.35-\$12.34 per hour LOCATION: 457 West US 380, Haskell, Texas JOB VACANCY NUMBER: 5499 CLOSING DATE: March 15, 2004 Application and a copy of the Job Vacancy Notice may be picked up at the District Office at 4250 N. Clack, Abilene, Texas or any other TXDOT office. Completed applications may be mailed to TXDOT, P. O. Box 150, Abilene, Texas 79604 or returned to any TXDOT Office. "An applicant needing an accommodation in order to apply for this job may call the phone number of the Human Resources Office (325) 676-6817. AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/ AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER 10c

JOB TITLE: Transportation Maintenance Tech III SALARY: \$10.45-\$14.63 per hour LOCATION: 457 West US 380, Haskell, Texas JOB VACANCY NUMBER: 5504 CLOSING DATE: March 15, 2004 Application and a copy of the Job Vacancy Notice may be picked up at the District Office at 4250 N. Clack, Abilene, Texas or any other TXDOT office. Completed applications may be mailed to TXDOT, P. O. Box 150, Abilene, Texas 79604 or returned to any TXDOT Office. "An applicant needing an accommodation in order to apply for this job may call the phone number of the Human Resources Office (325) 676-6817. AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/ AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER 10c

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S) Dist/Div: Abilene Contract 6108-82-001 for REHAB PICNIC AREAS in HOWARD County, etc. will be opened on March 18, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$206,928.50. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 12352 State Office: Constr./Maint. Division, 200 E. Riverside Dr., Austin, Texas 78704. Phone 512-416-2540. Abilene District, District Engineer, 4250 N. Clack, Abilene, Texas 79604-0150. Phone 325-676-6800. Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. 9-10c

Haskell County REALTY 1301 N. AVE. L. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Corner lot. Reduced. 907 N. AVE. L. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Large backyard with nice RV and boat storage. 1307 N. AVE. L. 3 bedroom, 2 bath on corner lot. Storm cellar, water well, garden plot. 104 N. AVE. M. Nice 2 bedroom. 103 N. Ave. E 940-864-2665 1-800-658-6342 or call Robert Tribbey 256-1400 Bridget or Chan Guess 864-6142 Hess Hartsfield, Broker 864-2004

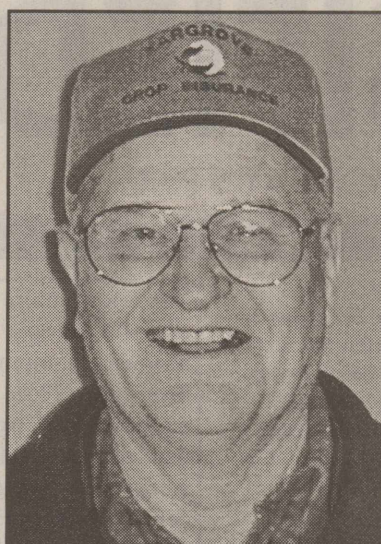
Housing Authority Board adds members



WALLACE BIRD



ADELLA GARCIA



BOBBY TIDWELL

At a meeting of the Haskell Housing Authority Board, Tues., Feb. 10, Jimmy Bowen and Danna Spearman were sworn in as new members.

Honored at the meeting were retiring board members, Wallace Bird, with eighteen years service, Adella Garcia, five year member, and Bobby Tidwell, three year member.

When approved by the City Council, Bob Smith will fill the third vacancy and be sworn in at the next board meeting.

Board member Wallace Emerson was sworn in as the new board chairman, replacing Wallace Bird in that position.

USDA announces payment program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced Feb. 25 that it will begin issuing the second counter-cyclical program payments for 2003-crop rice and peanuts. Counter-cyclical payments are available to producers who participate in the Direct and Counter-

cyclical Program (DCP), authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill. Producers are eligible for counter-cyclical payments when effective prices are less than the "target prices" specified in the Farm Bill.

"This action provides timely benefits to many of the nation's farmers under the 2002 Farm Bill," said Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman.

The second partial payment makes available up to 70 percent of the projected counter-cyclical payment. The first partial payment was made available in October 2003. The second partial payment rate for producers who opted not to take the first partial payment is \$51.80 per ton for peanuts and \$0.63 per hundredweight for rice. Producers who opted to take the first partial payment will receive an additional payment based on a rate of \$15.40 per ton for peanuts and \$0.0525 per hundredweight for rice.

Second counter-cyclical program payments are not available for wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, soybeans and other oilseeds. Market prices for wheat, corn, grain sorghum, and upland cotton have increased significantly since last October and if current market forecasts are realized some

repayment of the first partial counter-cyclical payments for these crops would be required. The projected effective prices for barley, oats, soybeans, and other oilseeds continue to exceed their respective "target" prices.

The 2002 Farm Bill allows producers to receive counter-cyclical payments in three installments: a first in October (up to 35 percent of the total projected rate); a second in February the following year (up to 70 percent of the total projected rate, less any amount received under the first payment); and the final payment after the end of the marketing year.

For each commodity, the counter-cyclical payment equals the payment rate times 85 percent of the farm's base acreage times the farm's payment yield for each crop. The payment rate is the amount by which the "target price" of each covered commodity exceeds its "effective price." The "effective price" equals the direct payment rate plus the higher of: (1) the national average market price received by producers during the marketing year, or (2) the national average loan rate for the commodity.

Final counter-cyclical payments will be determined as soon as practicable after the end of the

respective marketing year for each commodity. The end of the 2003/04 marketing year for each commodity is: Wheat, barley, oats: May 31, 2004; peanuts, upland cotton, rice: July 31, 2004; and corn, grain sorghum, soybeans: Aug. 31, 2004.

Producers who receive partial payments from the first two counter-cyclical installments must repay any excess amounts when these payments exceed the final counter-cyclical payment for each commodity. Producers will be notified after final market prices are determined. Producers may have these amounts deducted from future Commodity Credit Corporation payments, as required by the 2002 Farm Bill.

For more information on DCP, contact your local USDA Service Center.

Storytime

Fun with Friends storytime will be held each Tuesday morning from 10 to 10:30 a.m. at the Haskell County Library until April 20. Children under 5 years old, accompanied by an adult, are encouraged to bring their favorite toy, blanket or pillow. Storytime is provided by friends of the Haskell County Library and the Lebri Foundation.

Haskell CISD sets trustee election May 15

The Haskell Consolidated Independent School District will hold a School Board Trustee Election May 15 to elect two trustees.

The two positions up for election are, Single Member District #1, currently held by Felix Rodriguez, and Single Member District #6, currently held by Stephen Foster. Both of these incumbents have filed for a place on the ballot.

The final day to obtain a place on the ballot is Mar. 15. Applicants may come by Haskell CISD Administration Office at 605 North Avenue E in Haskell to apply for a place on the ballot. The office will be closed between Mar. 8 and Mar. 12 for Spring Break.

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RE-ELECT



DAVID

HALLIBURTON

Haskell Co. Sheriff