

Calendar

Bible school

Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church, 1600 N. 1st, Haskell will hold Vacation Bible School Aug. 1-5 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. each evening. Classes will be held for ages 3 year olds to seventh grade. Call 864-3775 or 864-3004 for a ride.

Band schedule

Haskell Indian Band members are advised of the summer band schedule. Uniform and instrument check out will be conducted Thurs., July 28 from 9 a.m. to noon for grades 9 through 12; and Fri., July 29 from 9 a.m. to noon for 8th graders. Summer band rehearsals will be held Mon., Aug 1, Tues., Aug. 2, Thurs., Aug. 4, Mon., Aug. 8, Tues., Aug. 9 and Thurs., Aug. 11 from 6 to 8 p.m.; Wed., Aug. 3, Fri., Aug. 5 and Wed., Aug. 10 from 3 to 5 p.m.; and Fri., Aug. 12 from 5 to 8 p.m. including a pizza party. Students with khaki pants and black polo shirts need to bring them to the band hall.

Chicken spaghetti dinner

A benefit dinner for Tammy Parham will be held Sun., July 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Haskell Elementary Cafeteria. Price of the chicken spaghetti meal is by donation only.

No meetings

The Haskell Chamber will not have any meetings in August.

Indian football

The Haskell High School football team will begin workouts Mon., Aug. 1. Athletes should report to the field house by 7:15 a.m. For more information, call Coach Brad Brunson at 864-2539.

Summer reading

The Haskell County Library will hold their summer reading program "Go Wild with Reading" Aug. 1-5 from 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. for children ages 3 to 10, accompanied by an adult.

Paint Creek ISD registration

Paint Creek ISD will hold pre-enrollment Thurs., Aug. 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you cannot attend during these hours or need more information, call 940-864-2471.

Family night

The annual family night picnic for Paint Creek ISD will be held Mon., Aug. 8 at 6 p.m. Hamburgers will be served and school programs including Title I items for the 2005-06 school year will be discussed. All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend.

Society to meet

The Haskell County Historical & Genealogical Society will meet Mon., Aug. 1 in Haskell City Hall at 7 p.m. Myra Rainey will speak about scrapbooking family histories.

Haskell High School to register

New students to Haskell High School in grades 9-12 will register Thurs., Aug. 4 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the counselor's office. Students currently enrolled will be able to receive a copy of their fall schedule Thurs., Aug 4 as follows: Seniors 11 a.m.; Juniors 1 p.m.; Sophomores 2 p.m. and Freshmen 3 p.m.

Homecoming 2005

The next Haskell-Mattson-Weinert Homecoming will be held Oct. 7-8. Contact Dorothy Hartsfield, 405 N. Ave. H, Haskell or by email hshessharts@cs.com.

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The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 119-NO. 30, ©JULY 28, 2005

"The People's Choice"

8 PAGES-ONE SECTION-50 CENTS



REPLACING WATER LINE—Employees of Tec Excavation of Midland, were busy Monday, working on the completion of a new waterline

being installed for the City of Haskell along Ave. B from South of the City Park to North 14th Street.

City Council tackles busy agenda; approves stricter animal ordinance

The Haskell City Council met for its regular meeting, July 11, with all council members, city mayor, city secretary, city attorney and 30 Haskell citizens attending.

Mayor Ken Lane gave the call to order, and councilman Jerry Stocks led the invocation.

Leland Godbee, consulting engineer, gave updates on the highway construction and waste water plant. He reported that TxDOT agreed to run the line all the way to the waste water plant at no additional cost to the city, instead of the original being tied to the sewer line, due to a creek crossing that would be a hazardous location to the city in case of flooding. TxDOT will pick up 80% of the cost until the construction

is complete. With only 10% withheld for each payment, the city has to make up the additional 10% during construction, but will be reimbursed. The waste water plant construction should be completed and back in full operation by the end of August, Godbee said.

Haskell Fire Chief Bill Steele reported on lightning damage and a grant received from the Forest Service for computers for the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department. The Council approved taking the money out of the Firemen's budget to pay for a monitor and other expenses not covered by insurance.

Also approved was a stricter new animal ordinance presented by City Attorney Shane Hadaway, giving the

city the authority to impound and dispose of any animals found in violation of the regulations, which were made public in a public notice published in the Free Press on July 14.

City Attorney Hadaway also reported that when hiring a new city administrator, the mayor makes the appointment of the person, with the council making the final approval of the person.

Speaking of procedures for hiring a city administrator, Mayor Ken Lane suggested to the council that the city administrator salary needs to be raised to the point where it is at least on an average with other towns of this size in the state of Texas, and that

when the city advertises for a new city administrator, to increase the salary by approximately \$10,000, making it about \$45,000, and also adding some duties of the Development Corporation of Haskell (DCOH) to the job description.

City attorney Hadaway reported that Santa Rosa Telephone and TV/cable franchise agreements with the city were typical franchise agreements.

Not on the agenda, several citizens attending voiced a variety of concerns and opinions to the council.

Following the approval of paying outstanding bills, the council was adjourned.

Flores convicted for assault of a child

In a jury trial, July 19, held in the 39th Judicial District Court of Haskell, Joe Flores, Jr. of Haskell was charged with aggravated sexual assault of a child under 14 years of age. Presiding Judge was Charles Chapman, with the state represented by District Attorney Mike Fouts. The defendant was represented by Randy Crownover and Sam Mehaffey of Abilene.

After hearing the evidence, the jury of nine men and three women found Flores guilty, and sentenced him to fifty years confinement in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Institutional Division, and a fine of \$5,000.00. Under the parole regulations on this type of offense, Flores will have to serve at least twenty-five years before he even becomes eligible for parole.

In a release to the press, Monday, District Attorney Fouts, said that this type of case is uncomfortable to present, difficult and embarrassing for the victim, and unpleasant for the jury.

"I would like to thank the jury for an outstanding job," he said. "I felt they sent a strong message that the citizens of Haskell County feel strongly about the protection and safety of our children."

Blanks, Silba named to All-State team

The Haskell baseball team which made a run to the Region 1-A championship before falling to New Deal, earned three all-state honors on the 2005 Texas Sports Writers All-State Baseball team.

Pitcher Bradley Blanks, a senior, was named a Class A Third Team pitcher, and also an Honorable Mention designated hitter.

Jeffrey Silba, a junior, was named an Honorable Mention catcher.

Haskell Elementary School to register Tuesday, Aug. 9

Haskell Elementary School will hold registration for new students to the district Tues., Aug. 9 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the elementary office. This registration is also for any students that did not pre-register in the spring for Prekindergarten or Kindergarten and for students that have attended Haskell Elementary in the past, but did not finish the 2004-05 school year at Haskell Elementary.

Parents should bring their drivers license and their child's birth certificate, immunization record, social security card and last report card.

Registration and Back to School Night for all Haskell Elementary students will be held Mon., Aug. 15 and Tues., Aug. 16. On Mon., Aug. 15 students in Head Start, Early

Childhood, Prekindergarten and Kindergarten will register at 5:30 p.m. and students in 1st and 2nd grades will register at 6:30. On Tues., Aug. 16, students in the 3rd and 4th grades will register at 5:30 and students in 5th and 6th grades will register at 6:30 p.m. Parents are encouraged to attend registration with their child/children so they can meet the teachers and fill out necessary paperwork.

Homerom lists will be posted at the time of registration.

School begins Wed., Aug. 17. Classes will begin at 8:00. Kindergarten through 6th grades will dismiss at 3:30 p.m. Kindergarten will dismiss at 1:00 p.m. the first three weeks of school (Aug. 17- Sept. 9).



ACCIDENT SCENE STUDY—Georgia Lucero, Regional Liaison Officer for the Governor's Division of Emergency Management office in Lubbock, presents an accident scene scenario during a tabletop exercise held Monday night at the Haskell Fire Dept. Those participating in the study included representatives of local law enforcement, Dept. of Public Safety, TCEQ, fire departments of Haskell, Weinert and Paint Creek, EMS personnel, Haskell County, City of Rule and Haskell Memorial Hospital.

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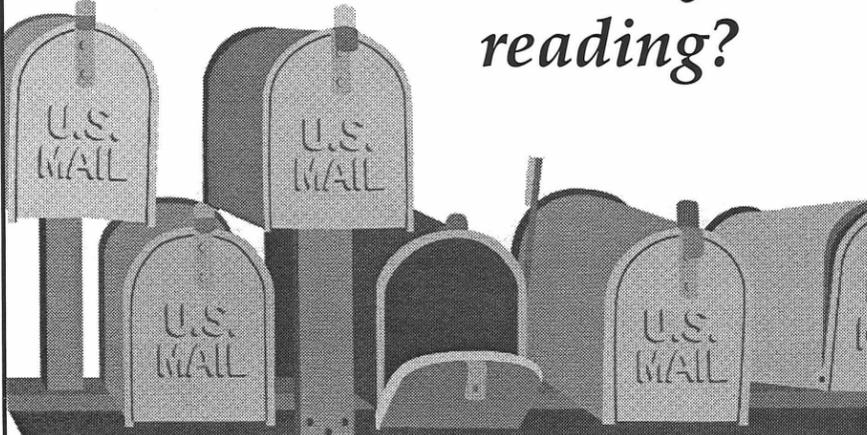
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New wart removal leaves no scars

If burning and freezing warts hasn't worked, ask your dermatologist about getting a shot.

Traditional approaches usually involve methods like applying salicylic acid, burning, freezing, and surgically removing warts one by one, but some UT Southwestern Medical Center doctors now regularly use a different approach when others fail. It involves a shot into a wart, stimulating the body's own natural defense mechanism.

"Our bodies cannot immunologically recognize a wart that's there. If you stimulate the body's immune system locally, you bring in some activated immune cells that will then recognize the abnormal wart present," explained Dr. Jack Cohen, assistant professor of dermatology. "It's essentially using our own body's defense to take care of it."

The therapy can be as effective in many instances as some of the more common therapies, but it doesn't leave scarring, which can occur after burning off warts.

The most common shot used is called *Candida* antigen, derived from the common yeast that causes infections in women, and thrush, a mouth infection. Several other antigens can be used and the latest approaches involve combining antigens to better stimulate the body's response.

UT Southwestern researchers have also tested *Candida* antigen for treatment of basal cell cancer, the most common form of skin cancer. It produced better results than the placebo, but cure rates were not better than with traditional surgical therapies.

One down side of shots, Dr. Cohen said, is: "The injections can hurt in the common wart sites, such as the fingers and feet."

Obituaries

Patsy Darlene (Peek) Howeth

Graveside services for Patsy Darlene (Peek) Howeth, 72, of Haskell were held Sat., July 23 at Sweet Dreams Cemetery with Charles Blair and Tim Jennings officiating. Services were under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mrs. Howeth died Thurs., July 21 at her residence in Haskell.

Survivors include two daughters and one son-in-law, Patty and Robert Payne and Kathy Howeth, all of Haskell; two sons and one daughter-in-law, Eddie Howeth and Bobby and Becky Howeth, all of Haskell; one brother,

James Peek of Goree; eight grandchildren, Missy and Jerry Stanford, Monica and Chris Shelton, Mandy and Tony Grand, and Cooter Payne, all of Haskell, Colin and Christie Howeth of Knox City, Robbie and Angela Payne of Granbury, Rusty Howeth of Vernon and Bucky Howeth of Galveston; and eight great grandchildren, Brett Shelton, Kenzie Shelton, Hannah Grand, Tristen Payne, Ashton Grand, Gracie Howeth, Seth Payne and Aerial Payne.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 149 Willis St., No. 10, Abilene, Texas 79603.
PD. NOTICE

Everybody's Science

by Sandy Miller Hays, Agricultural Research Service

Fire in the Hole!

"Fire in the hole." That familiar phrase may have started with miners who used explosives down in the mines, but it's long since become the traditional warning that someone's about to set off an explosive device.

But down South, if you're familiar with fire ant mounds, you might know about a different kind of "fire in the hole"—the horrible burning stings that can result when those ants come pouring out in response to a disturbance.

We've been living with these pests for a long time; they first landed in the U.S. in 1918 after having hitched a ride on merchant ships coming from South America to Alabama. In the decades since then, they've spread throughout the southeastern United States, much to the regret of the people who live there. It's estimated that as many as 40 percent of people who live in urban areas infested with fire ants get stung each year, and the percentage is even higher in rural communities.

The good news is that the Agricultural Research Service is fighting back. In Mississippi, Tennessee and Alabama, ARS scientists are carrying out regional integrated pest management programs to test biological control agents against the red imported fire ant (*Solenopsis invicta*), the black imported fire ant (*Solenopsis richteri*), and their hybrid. They're also looking at ways to encourage populations of native

ants, which are thought to slow the reinfestation of areas by the fire ants.

My personal favorite weapon (okay, call me gruesome) is the phorid fly. These tiny flies from the *Pseudacteon* genus are ferocious enemies of the fire ant (some scientists have video of the ants fleeing in terror as the flies approach). Here's what happens: A female phorid fly dive-bombs a fire ant, pokes a hole in the ant's body and injects her egg. When the egg hatches, the maggot wiggles its way up to the ant's head, where it proceeds to eat the fire ant's brain and muscles. Then the ant's head falls off—but that's not the end of the process. The developing fly lives inside the head for a couple of weeks, then pops out as an adult fly and begins its own hunt for fire ant prey.

One phorid fly species, *P. curvatus*, has been successfully established on black and hybrid fire ants in a multi-state release program begun in 2002. Flies that were released on just two pastures in Clay County, Mississippi, now have spread across some 560,000 acres up to more than 28 miles from their release sites (that's what I'd call "being fruitful and multiplying"). And there's more good news: The flies are not only attacking the ants, they're harassing them, so the ants are reluctant to go look for food. This weakens the fire ant colonies and gives the native ants more of a chance to compete and move into an area.

On the high-tech front, other ARS

scientists are developing remote sensing techniques to gather information from airplanes about how many fire ant mounds are in an area, and where they are. A geographic information system is being used to track the fire ant populations, so that researchers can map the fire ant mounds, track how well their control efforts are working, and guide efforts in regional management programs.

Of course, "integrated pest management" is exactly that: using a variety of methods to combat a pest. One such tool is insecticidal baits. Chemical bait treatments aren't enough by themselves, because fire ants will reinfest an area after it's been treated. Still, baits can work very well, killing up to 90 percent of fire ant colonies in an area that's treated properly.

An ARS scientist in Mississippi has developed a bait that's water resistant, so it will last longer in the field, and it's also more attractive to fire ants than previous baits. The same scientist is also working on a repellent to keep fire ants away from areas where it might not be practical to use insecticides.

With this combination of approaches, it sounds like we finally have a fighting chance to put out this biting, stinging "fire"!

The Agricultural Research Service is the chief in-house scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Knox City to celebrate the outdoors in style

The Knox City Donald Johnson Memorial 17th Annual Seedless Watermelon Festival and Classic Car Show, July 29-30, will "Celebrate the Great Outdoors-Knox City Style"

A parade will be held starting at 7:00 p.m., Friday. Trophies will be given for winning entries in six categories; Most Original, Best Decorated Bike, Car, Golf Cart (anything with wheels), "You've got To Be Kidding" float, Best Decorated Walking float (anything with legs), Best Business float, and Best Out of Town float. Each of the floats must feature a watermelon; real, fake, drawn, etc.

Immediately following the parade, hamburgers with chips and drink will be available in the City Park.

From 8:00 to 10:00 p.m., Cut Throat Recording artist, Dylan Dean and Out on Bail Band will perform

live at City Park, sponsored by Citizens Bank.

On Sat., July 30, a Golf Tourney sponsored by Knox City Country Club will begin at 8:30 a.m., with a 3-person scramble at \$60.00 per team. For more information, call 658-3911 or 657-3040.

The Festival begins at 10:00 a.m., at City Park located at 110 South East 3rd Street. Vendor booths will open at 10:00 a.m.

Registration for the Classic Car Show, sponsored by Bailey Toliver Chevrolet Cadillac Ford Mercury, will be from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m., with judging beginning at 12:30 p.m. Trophies for 1st-3rd places will be awarded at 3:00 p.m., with judging by the sponsor. Plaques will be given for Best of Show and Farthest Distance Traveled (plus \$50.00 for farthest traveled). A free Dash Plaque and T-shirt will be given each

participant.

The Watermelon Eating Contest will be held at 12:00 noon. Registration will be at Chamber Booth from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Age categories are 11 and under (\$25.00 gift certificate), 12-18 (\$50.00 gift certificate) and 19 and up (\$50.00 gift certificate).

Activities at City Park will feature live music, art and crafts booth, homemade items, free watermelon slices, food booth, free swimming, giant slide, obstacle course, climbing rock wall, giant bouncer, classic cars, watermelon train rides and games.

A rodeo, sponsored by Brazos Valley Recreation Association, will be held Friday and Saturday nights starting at 7:00 p.m., at BVRA Arena. It is an open rodeo, and will feature kids events also. For information, call 658-5185 or 256-4771.

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Alexander descendants hold annual reunion

The annual reunion of the George and Harriet Alexander family, longtime residents of Weinert, was held July 15-17, with over a hundred attending, at the Circle S Ranch, hosted by a grandson, Jacky and Sandra Sanders.

The reunion was started years ago as a gathering to celebrate the birthday of the father and grandfather of the Alexander siblings, to build stronger ties and provide a time to visit those members not seen throughout the year.

Organizers helping with the work of planning the reunion were Troy and Jo Blakeley of Micanopy, Florida, who print and send out invitations each year. Jo Blakeley was not able to come this year, but Troy Blakeley came early spending some time with family in San Antonio. He, along with Travis and Wilma Sanders was the first to arrive at the ranch on Thursday.

The three day event was filled with a variety of activities, including watermelon eating, washer pitching, music and singing, stick horse riding, four wheel riding, auction and visiting.

George and Harriet Lovell Alexander had ten children, nine of whom lived to have families of their own. They were: Minerva Touchstone, Richard Alexander, Nellie Rinehart, Washington Alexander, Sallie Sanders, Lola Cowley, J. T. Alexander, Albert Alexander and Melba Kim, who was the only living child able to attend this year. She was brought from Phoenix, Arizona by her niece Pauline Slade.

Special visitors attending were relatives Kenneth and Brenda Sanders and their children, Kregg and Deanna Sanders, Kyle, Kade and Kareyn of Munday, and Shirley Offutt of Wichita Falls.

Andy Sanders of Cross Plains and Jeannie Whittier of Gorman were auctioneers for the handmade and antique gifts sale held each year to defray the cost of the reunion.

Trophies were awarded in the washer pitching contest in both the senior and junior divisions.

Descendants of the oldest child, Minerva Touchstone, attending were Troy Blakeley of Micanopy, Florida, and his daughter and her family, Joe, Cheryl, Jacob and Jena of Jacksonville, Florida.

Richard Alexander descendants attending this year were: daughters, Edith Ross of Midland, and Frances Babbitt and husband, Bill of Gorman, her daughters Jeannie Whittier and Patty Isbell of Halton City, grandchildren Jeremy, Wendy and Carley Sanders of Stephenville, and Sharla Angelina of Gorman.

Washington Alexander



MELBA KIM

descendants attending were: children Thomas and Sue Alexander of San Antonio; Evelyn Ellington of Muleshoe; J. C. Alexander of Venita, Oregon; grandchildren, Lesa Beck of San Antonio; Terry and Deanna Alexander of Baird; George Alexander's children, Georgia Alexander, Allen and Jeremiah De Felicia of Granite Shoals; Jamie Genee and Jessica Alexander of Saginaw.

Nellie Rinehart descendent attending was June Parr of Phoenix, Arizona.

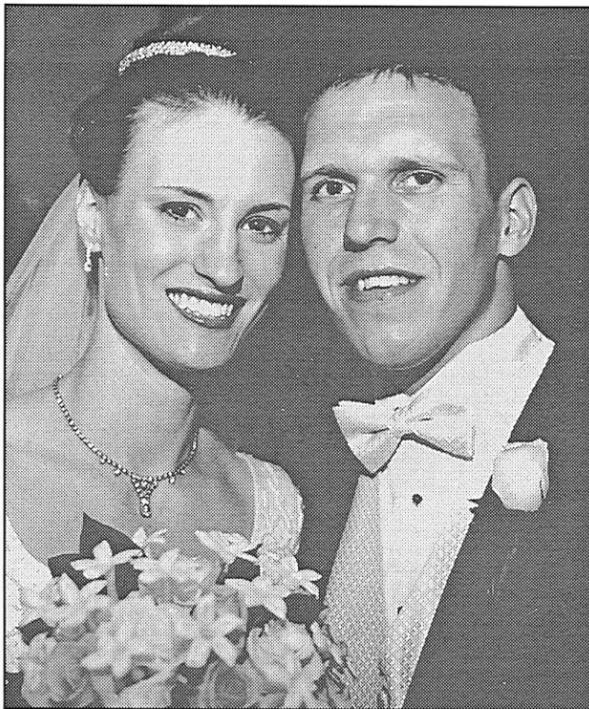
Salle Alexander Sanders descendants attending were: Lona Mae Phelps, Kenneth and Elaine Campbell, Karen, Kendall and Allison Mitchell and friend, Leslie Tonche of Haskell; Travis and Wilma Sanders of Coleman; Andy and Marlene Sanders, Netha and ReNetha Carrouth, Andra Jackson and Johnny Ballew of Cross Plains; Martha and Bill Maupin and Loretta, Hank, Susan and Shawn Ray, all of Odessa; B. D. Kirkland of Fort Worth; Walter and Sue Cox, Brenda, Austin and Sallie Sartain and Annah MacKay, all of Omaha, Texas; Jacky and Sandra Sanders of Weatherford and friend Taylor Russell; Ricky, Shana and Shambry Sanders of Weatherford; Rex, Amanda, Abby and Robert Sanders of Aledo; Rocky and Marsha Sanders, of Abilene.

Lola Cowley descendants attending were: Pauline Slade of Phoenix, Arizona; Charles and Jackie Pittman and David, Marlene, Matthew and Kathryn Pittman of Scotland, Texas; Rocky and Lynn Cowley of Lueders; Rocky Jr., and Misti Cowley, Hunter and Chase of Wichita Falls.

J. T. Alexander descendants attending were: J. W. Alexander of Anna; Bill and Charlene Harlan of Eagle Lake; Terry, Connie, Christi and B. J. Alexander of McKinney.

None of the Albert Alexander family were present.

The next reunion of the family will be held the third weekend of July, 2006.



MR. AND MRS. JIMMY HUFF

Berry, Huff vows read in Alabama

Susan Berry and Jimmy Huff were married June 18 in an afternoon wedding at the Tuscumbia Church of Christ in Tuscumbia, Alabama, with the groom's father, Dale Huff, officiating. The reception was held in the historic Winston Home in Tuscumbia.

The bride is the daughter of Donald and Janice Berry of Tuscumbia. She is the granddaughter of Dardis Thorne of Tuscumbia, and the late Vernice Thorne, and Christine Berry of Littleville, Alabama, and the late James William Berry.

The groom is the son of Dale and Diane Huff of Snyder. He is the grandson of Jimmy and Shirley Jividen of Abilene, and the late Norman and Lurline Huff.

The bride's honor attendants were Jonathan Berry, brother of the bride, and Emily Windle. Other attendants were Emily McCarthy, Charissa

Hobby, sister of the groom, Joy Huff, sister-in-law of the groom, Shannon Rickard, Deanna Arivett, Abby Thorne, Kerrie Myers, Madeline Hayes, Emma Clark and Molly Beth Hayes.

The groom's honor attendants were Robert Huff and Philip Huff, brothers of the groom. Groomsmen were Jared Hobby, brother-in-law of the groom, Zach Cheatham, Daniel Bettis, Logan Light and Scott Ragsdale.

The bride is a graduate of Mars Hill Academy in Florence, Alabama, and Harding University in Searcy, Arkansas. The groom graduated from Haskell High School and Harding University, and will be a graduate student at Purdue University in the fall.

Following a wedding trip to Orlando, Florida, the couple will reside in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Harrell family meets

The Harrell family enjoyed lots of food and good fellowship, Friday and Saturday, July 22-23, at the Haskell National Bank Community Room.

Crafts and useful items were auctioned, raising funds for future reunions.

Visitors and friends of family registering were Lois Ann and Cracker Ballard, Sharon Mullino, Claudia Reid, Malinda Jones and Doyle Strickland, Geneva Robertson,

Marie Culbreth, Joan Dulaney, Sammie Williams, Verlean Adkins and Sierra.

The youngest descendant attending was Austin Shipley of Rockwall, grandson of Roy and Mareta Glover. The oldest present was C. E. Tidwell of Haskell. Traveling the longest distance was Frances Dillard of Arkansas.

Next year's reunion dates were set for July 28-29.

Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

Week of July 21

Visiting with Faye Gray over the weekend were all four of her children: Lynn of Grapeland, Judy and Chuck Hicks of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Gray of Midland and Mr. and Mrs. Woody Turnbow of Haskell.

Charles Gray of California visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Gray. They all visited Faye Gray on Saturday night to play music.

Visiting with Kenneth Blair for a few days were his sons, Kenneth Wayne and Ellen of Ohio, and Walter and Heather and their daughters of Washington. They all attended church at Trinity Baptist on Sunday.

Week of July 28

Mr. and Mrs. Coy Scoggins were

in Austin Friday evening attending a church convention. They also visited with Mrs. Scoggins' niece and her family.

Cody Blair has accepted a coaching and teaching position at Munday.

Visiting with Bernice Hilliard was her son Kenneth Hilliard of Waco.

Denice Conn and girls Sabrina and Amber visited with her mom Doris Carroll and her older sister, Darlene Therwanger and children in Weinert.

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More items have been added to our Clearance Table
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Births

Chad and Jill Hammack of Valdosta, Georgia, have announced the birth of their daughter, Cathrine Hope, born July 13 at 11:18 a.m., at South Georgia Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Sam and JoAnn Watson of Haskell, and Britches Hammack of Fluvanna and La Sonda Hammack of Abilene. Great grandparents are Wilton and Elna Weise of Haskell.

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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Governor tosses undercooked tax, school bills back in oven

AUSTIN—From the start of the governor's first called session that ended July 20 Capitol watchers did not assign much hope to intertwined legislation meant to overhaul the state's taxing system and devise fairer funding for Texas schools.

With tax reform already snuffed in the House, Sen. John Whitmire of Houston deflated the school finance bill by running out the clock with an hour-long filibuster. Whitmire contended that no bill is better than a bad bill, and the Senate could do much better if given more time.

More time indeed ...

Hours before the deadline, however, Gov. Rick Perry saw the bills would fail, so he shocked them back to life with his trusty defibrillator—a proclamation ordering lawmakers to stay in Austin for another called session.

Remember, in 2003 Perry called four 30-day special sessions following the regular session of the 78th Texas Legislature to redraw congressional districts.

So, a few hours after the first called session ended, lawmakers found themselves back at their desks, looking at the same stack of bills and hearing words of encouragement from House Speaker Tom Craddick and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who gave a joint press conference. Both men expressed confidence in the Legislature's ability to compromise for the benefit of most Texans because, they said, most of the work is already done.

Hey, he's doing it again!

Gov. Perry, not satisfied with limiting the special session to the two mammoth issues at hand, without delay added eminent domain and telecommunications to the call. Those issues, even though hashed and rehashed in the regular and first-called sessions, don't quite fall in the brown-and-serve category.

And despite footwork already done on school finance and property tax reform during the first called session, thorny disagreements over teacher pay and the amount of funding that actually benefits children in the classroom haven't

vanished.

Final passage could take more time to resolve than the two weeks Craddick and Dewhurst hinted at in their press conference.

State Rep. Frank Corte, R-San Antonio, refiled his linked bills, House Bill 12 and House Joint Resolution 11 to provide private property owners protection from losing their homes as a result of eminent domain.

Pay hike more than likely

Senate Bill 2, the school finance bill, zoomed through the Senate Education committee and was eligible for consideration on the Senate floor Monday, July 25.

But the only item in the call that truly seems to be on the fast-track is the judicial pay increase—because legislators' pay is tied to judges' pay. If one goes up, the other goes up. This pay hike got everything but the governor's signature in the first called session after the measure passed quietly on voice votes.

Of course, Texans can always call their representatives and ask them if they voted for or against their own pay raise, but without a law requiring recorded votes, proof of aye and nay votes is nonexistent.

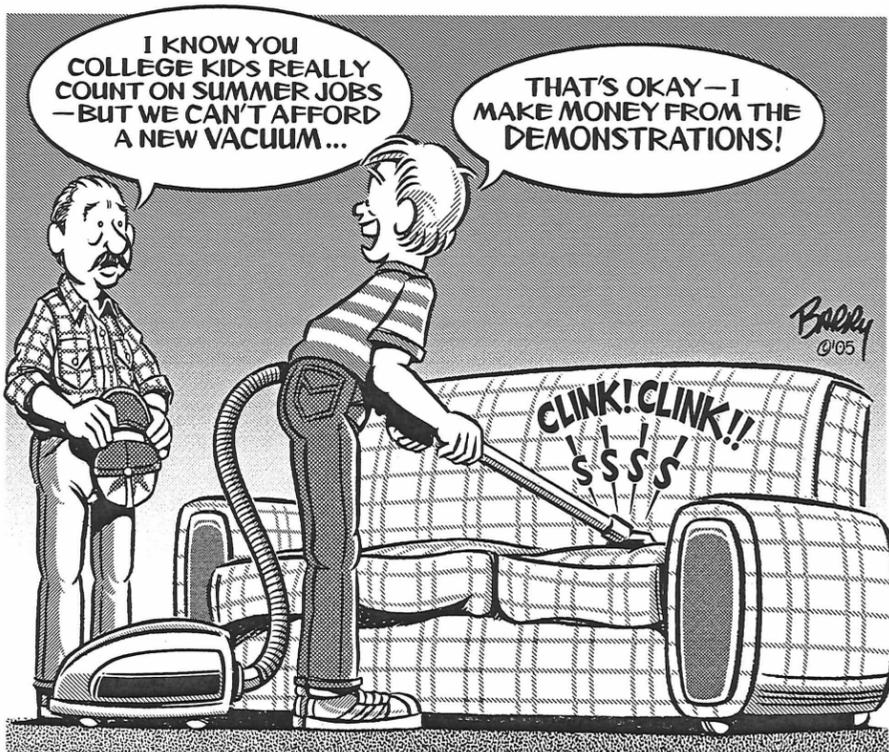
Other Highlights

- First Lady Anita Perry and Secretary of State Roger Williams are traveling to Tokyo to meet with business leaders there in hopes of facilitating commerce with Japan.

- Texas' unemployment rate dropped four-tenths of a percent to 5.1 percent in June, making it the 10th consecutive month of job growth, the Texas Workforce Commission reported.

- A new law effective Sept. 1 requires children attending child-care centers and enrolled in early childhood programs to be vaccinated against invasive pneumococcal and hepatitis A diseases.

- Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs said her agency will return \$2 million to the state's general revenue fund for the 2004-05 biennium. The returned money comes from integrating computer systems and cutting 20 full-time positions in 2006-07.



From The Inside Out

By Mary Kaigler

Who is this Mystery Reader?

I was born in Weinert. I have been married 45 years, have 3 children and 14 grandchildren.

I attended schools at Weinert, Mattson, Haskell, Weatherford and Springtown.

No one knows that I once went into someone's home in Germany, thinking it was a restaurant.

My favorite TV show/program is "NCIS."

My favorite types of music are oldies and rock and roll.

My favorite song is "A Summer Place."

I like to sew, do cross stitch, visit grandkids and remodel my house.

My favorite reading material or subject is romantic suspense.

My favorite food is hamburgers.

My favorite place in Texas is my home in Haskell.

My favorite vacation spot in the world is Honolulu, Hawaii.

My best quality is my smile. My worst quality is holding grudges.

I hate it when people don't do as they promise.

The person from history I'd most like to talk with is Jesus.

For me, the best thing about Haskell is its beautiful homes and yards.

Watch next week for my identity.

UPDATE

Last week's Mystery Reader was Dr. Michael Felker, Chair of the Department of English and Philosophy at South Plains College in Levelland for the last 18 years.

Son of the late Mattie Muriel and Viars Felker of Haskell, he graduated from Haskell High School in 1966, earned his BA, MA, and Ph.D., at Texas Tech University, and did additional graduate work at the University of Nebraska.

After three years at Tech, he served in the Navy for eight years, and two years in the reserves. While in San Diego, California, he volunteered to work at a counseling center and met his future wife,

Elizabeth Kay Brandt of Los Angeles, who was also working there. They married in 1973.

For a time, the couple took turns working so that the other could finish their schooling. During a period when he was working so that she could attend Texas Tech, he managed a gun store in Lubbock, where he was a licensed gun smith, and became a licensed private investigator for a friend who ran a detective agency.

Working at Texas Instruments in Lubbock until he was laid off in their cutback, he began to teach at Texas Tech in 1975, while finishing his degrees. He said that he and his wife were lucky enough to graduate from Tech at the same time.

Living in Lubbock, in 1987, he began his career with South Plains College in Levelland, and his wife began teaching at Ropes High School, which are both in Hockley County. Eventually, because of the taxes they were paying, they decided to move to Levelland, and have never regretted the move, he said. They found it to be a pleasant, smaller town, low-crime environment, yet close enough to the city for shopping. They were lucky to have a friend who built them a house at about cost, that is as "close to our dream home as we can imagine having," Michael said. He added that they have no plans to make a change.

Growing up in Haskell, he was active in Boy Scouts and became an Eagle Scout. He was a member of the Future Teachers of America, a swimming instructor and volunteered two summers as a helper at the hospital. He still has a badge he got for all the hours he spent there. Working two summers as a life guard, he earned enough money to buy a guitar, and played in a little band with Steve Harper and some others. Other memories are of working in his father's Dad 'n Lad clothing store, and for two "special ladies," his Mom and Aunt Frances Lane, marking merchandise, etc., in the back of Lane

Felkers.

Citing the solid grounding he received in the Haskell school system's teaching from Bill Blakley in math, Gerald McCoy in science and Dr. Hazel Weaver in English, Dr. Felker said he feels that he got as good an early education as he could have received anywhere. When Robert Slaughter, Haskell class of '55, was retiring as a teacher at Texas Tech, and heard that Felker, who was replacing him, was from Haskell, the rather big and gruff man added his endorsement; "Well, I know you know English."

Loving the outdoors, the Felkers like to go camping, skiing, scuba diving and traveling. On one trip to London, he did research at the British Library at Oxford University. Another trip there at Christmas with a group of West Texas people interested in theatre arts, included seeing five plays.

Doing his doctoral study on Renaissance Drama, Michael has great respect and special admiration for English poet, John Milton, who became one of the supreme poets of the world. "Milton was the most intelligent, best read writer. He spoke and understood at least seven languages, and had probably read every book to that time," he said, adding that he would like to speak with him about his great classic, "Paradise Lost."

"I would like to ask him if he had any idea it would become one of the world's most influential works of literature, along with Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales."

With only two cousins still living in this area, and many of his fellow classmates gone, Michael said he doesn't get back to Haskell very often. But he still enjoys hearing and reading about it. His younger brother Walter Viars, Jr., who has been living in California for the last 15 years, is now on a temporary stop over in Levelland, while deciding whether to settle in Dallas or Austin.

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago
July 27, 1995

Champion Carl Hopkins of Haskell won the Double Mugging Championship at the Stamford rodeo.

Klavs Nielsen, a former exchange student from Sorring, Denmark, who spent a year in the home of Gwen and Duward Campbell of Haskell in 1983-84 returned 'home' for a short visit with his 'other family.'

Melanie Michaels, a senior at Haskell High School and Amy Barbour, a junior at Paint Creek High School, were delegates that attended the Future Homemakers of America National Leadership meeting held in Washington D.C.

20 Years Ago
July 25, 1985

At the 'Champion of Clubs' event in Merkel members of the Haskell Horse Club Jay Emerson won an all-around saddle, placed second in the barrels and poles and first in the stake race. Carl Hopkins placed tops in the stake race. Justin Emerson placed first in the goat-hair-pulling. Shelly Briscoe came in second in poles and flags and 7th in the stakes.

Troy Nuckles was the winner of the Bob Mobley Invitational golf tourney. Second place went to Tom Perry and third to Troy Womack.

Jerry Don Klose caught a rattlesnake in an abandoned cellar on his farm that measured 59 inches long and ten inches in circumference.

30 Years Ago
July 24, 1975

M. C. Wilfong, owner and operator of M.C. Wilfong Texaco Station, received a special "Mystery Car" Award from a representative of the Gates Rubber Company, Denver, Colorado.

Emily Cox, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Cox Jr. of Haskell, was named "Outstanding Camper" at the second session of Camp Boothe Oaks, Sweetwater Girl Scout Camp.

Winners of the championship flight in the couples golf tournament at the Haskell County Country Club were Jack and Ruby Medford.

40 Years Ago
July 22, 1965

Haskell's Wallace Wooten broke 200 out of 200 targets for a perfect score at the 19th annual Trap-Shoot Tournament in Cortez, Colorado.

Bill Tibbett, a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, was promoted to head football coach at Rule High School.

Mary H. Martin, Haskell High School English teacher, attended and completed the NDEA sponsored Linguistics Institute at Sul Ross State College.

Jim Medley of Weinert and James D. Freshour of Haskell, both registered pharmacists and graduates of the University of Texas School of Pharmacy, became associated with the Oates Drug Store in Haskell.

50 Years Ago
July 28, 1955

Air Force ROTC Cadet George D. Christian of Haskell graduated from a four-week summer training program at Williams AFB, the nation's first jet fighting school.

Haskell County's oldest resident Mrs. Lou Miller (Granny Miller) of Rochester spent her 101-year birthday quietly at her home.

Alice Ann Ash, granddaughter of Mrs. J.T. Hester of Haskell, was awarded a 10-day expense-paid trip to the National Homemaking Conference at Ames, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Aycock and Mr. and Mrs. M.V. Ivey returned home after a ten day stay in the mountains of Colorado sightseeing and trout fishing.

100 Years Ago
July 22, 1905

J. F. Bolander of the Munday neighborhood was here. We learned that he had finished threshing his wheat crop, getting a total yield of 6,247 bushels, or a fraction over 20 bushels to the acre.

Maggie Gibson, who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Irby of the east side, left for her home in Deming, New Mexico.

Mrs. S.W. Scott returned from an extended visit at Woodward, Oklahoma Territory.

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This issue mailed Wed., July 27, 2005

Weathers Whys

Weather Balloons

Q: Does the weather service still use weather balloons?

A: Yes it does, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University.

Many of the uses of weather balloons can now be utilized by weather satellites, which orbit hundreds of miles above the Earth.

"But weather balloons are still used regularly by several agencies," McRoberts reports. "In fact, there are dozens of weather balloons released every day in the United States. Weather balloons carry sensors that measure specific readings, such as

temperature, humidity, wind speed and even air pollution. This information is relayed back to a sensor on the ground. There are two types of weather balloons—free-flying and tethered. The free-flying balloons often reach 90,000 feet or more into the atmosphere."

Q: When were the first balloons used?

A: It's believed the first weather balloons were used in France around 1892, McRoberts adds.

"One big problem was that winds carried them long distances and the weather experts on the ground often

had to wait until they descended, sometimes 700 miles from where they were supposed to land," he notes. "Gradually, technology improved and in 1936 the first radio transmitters—called radiosondes—were installed in balloons. NASA began using balloons over 40 years ago and some of their balloons were designed to stay aloft more than a year at a time and circle the globe numerous times at about 80,000 feet. It should be noted that balloons and the equipment in them are often subject to many aviation regulations because they can be a hazard to commercial airliners."

Prepare and dress for success when job hunting

You've got the degree, you've got the training, you've got the drive.

Now all you need is the job.

Searching for a job takes time and effort, said a Texas Cooperative Extension expert. Dr. Joyce Cavanagh, Extension family economics specialist, advises to start by doing your homework. Decide where to apply and learn as much as possible about those companies, she said. The next step is writing a resume and a cover letter.

"A lot of people will tell you to gear your resume and cover letter to the specific job you are applying for" in order to highlight the skills you have for that particular job, Cavanagh said.

When listing experience on your resume, be sure to include any volunteer service or membership in organizations or committees you may have.

"Highlight whatever skills you learned, used or strengthened in the experience," she said.

Keep resumes as direct and to the point as possible, Cavanagh said—and don't pad the information. Include your contact information such as name, address and telephone number; educational background and training, work experience if any, memberships and/or offices in organizations, volunteer work, awards or honors received, and cooperative experience if any.

Include "reference available upon request" or list one or two names of references with contact information—provided they have given permission first, Cavanagh said.

And don't worry about the length of your resume, she added. "For a first job, I think one page is probably realistic."

Once your resume has been accepted, it's time to consider the interview. Even though a job interview can be stressful, Cavanagh offered some advice to help it go smoother.

Consider recruiting a friend, relative or teacher to help you with a mock interview, she said. "Have them ask sample questions (so you'll be prepared for the kinds of questions interviewers ask. How would you respond if the interviewer asks 'Why should we hire you?'"

Think about other possible questions and decide what information you need from the interviewer.

"If you're given the opportunity to ask questions, one might be the idea of the salary range for that level or position," Cavanagh said. "You don't want to be blunt but it is a legitimate question. It might not be the first and only question you ask, but I don't think it's inappropriate. At some point you're going to have to know."

Before going to the real interview, make sure you're neatly groomed and professionally dressed, Cavanagh said.

"It's important to look professional," she said. "Not every job requires you wear a suit or jacket, but that doesn't mean it's not appropriate to wear business attire for the interview. Dress a step higher than what you'll actually wear on the job."

Do not wear shorts, cutoffs or other casual clothes, even if those

are appropriate for the job, she said. For example, if applying for a job as a lifeguard, wear a nice dress or khaki slacks and a neat shirt but not a bathing suit.

"Make sure your hair is neatly groomed and your fingernails are clean," Cavanagh said. And if you have body piercings or tattoos, keep them covered as much as possible and leave the jewelry at home, she advised, adding that the business community is still conservative.

"When you're interviewing, it's obviously important to be there on time or even a little early—never be late," she said. "Be courteous, shake hands, have good eye contact, listen (to the what the interviewer says). Make sure to be prepared ahead of time so you know about the organization you're interviewing with. Go on the Internet and look at their Web site; ask for materials; get a copy of the shareholders' report."

If during the interview you discover this is not the company for you, "finish the interview," she said, "and view it as a practice, as a learning experience—to prepare for your next interview."

For more information on interviewing, Cavanagh suggested visiting the Web at <http://www.jobweb.com/>. The site is especially useful for recent college graduates, she said, "but some (tips) apply to someone with a high school education."

For more information on family economics issues, visit Extension's Family and Consumer Sciences Web site at <http://www.fcs.tamu.edu/> and click on the link to "Money."

From the AG

By Greg Abbott

Steer Clear of E-Mail Business Offers from Strangers

More and more frequently, my office receives e-mail inquiries from consumers asking about business offers they receive over the Internet. Consumers are wise to seek independent information about a business they've never heard of, and we always stress that just because we don't have negative information about the business, that doesn't mean it's safe.

While the Internet is a tremendous resource for consumers, it is also a vehicle for rampant fraud. You can shop safely on the Internet—millions do every day—but you must take some simple precautions.

Be cautious if you cannot find any information about a business except what the business itself offers. You should be able to figure out where the business is physically located and you should be able to find independent information about it.

Be doubly cautious when the business contacts you through unsolicited e-mails—spam. Don't be fooled just because it looks like an individual e-mails you personally.

When the e-mail comes from an individual whose name you don't

recognize, be aware that the person's name (and Internet identity) has likely been hijacked by a spammer. It may look like a personal message from someone who happened to hear about you, but it is not. It is one of millions of baited hooks being dangled in front of people to try and steal their money.

Legitimate retailers and services who market over the Internet generally do so by maintaining Web sites and online catalogs. You can use a search engine to find sellers of products that interest you. The Web site will provide a physical address and the business will be listed in all the usual directories (like local phone directories). Many offer toll-free telephone contacts as well.

Legitimate retailers and services who market over the Internet generally do not market their products by sending unsolicited e-mails. On the contrary, they generally provide visitors to their Web sites the opportunity to sign up for e-mail special offers and then scrupulously honor customers' requests to opt out of further unsolicited e-mail contact.

If an offer sounds too good to be true, it is most likely a scam. If you are asked by a stranger in an

unsolicited e-mail to send an up-front fee to get more money later, please think twice.

The reasons offered for you to send money may include all sorts of investments, earnings, debt or mortgage services and complicated financial deals. The stories are getting more and more sophisticated and persuasive.

By now, many Internet users are too savvy to fall for the sad story of the widow of the political fugitive who was the Minister of Finance needing to transfer \$30 million out of his worn-torn country. Today the offers sound more like business transactions and employment opportunities. Don't lose sight of the fact that a stranger is simply asking you to send money on a promise.

If a stranger approached you on the street and said, "Give me money and I'll make more money with it and share it with you later," would you do it? Not likely. It doesn't make sense to do business that way. When someone you don't know sends you an e-mail and the bottom line is that you should send him money, delete the e-mail and forget about it. It is a trap.

Library Notes

By Joan Frazier

"Go Wild With Reading" This is the title of the Summer Reading Program at the Haskell County Library this year.

The program will be held everyday for a week, Aug. 1-5, 10:00 to 11:15 a.m. Ages 3-10 years, welcome, with parents.

This should be a fun time for all who come this summer. Paula Rennegarbe and Linda Lane-Blaise will be our presenters this year. There will be stories and crafts each day.

Children can come in to the library to sign up now. They will receive a reading log to write the book titles they have read this summer. It is important for children to read during school breaks so as to not fall behind when the new school year begins. At the end of the reading program, each child will receive a reading certificate suitable for refrigerator art!

Come and join the fun and Go Wild With Reading at the library!

Recent memorial donations made to the Friends of the Library are as follows: Doylene Strickland, Glenda Drinnon, Emma Bland, Delbert Howell, Paul Clayton, Sudie Mae

Melon grafting

by Wes Utley
CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.

Experiment Station scientists have found a way to manage vine decline in melons through grafting. Vine decline damages the root system so the melon can't get water or nutrients. To combat this, scientists grafted a scion cantaloupe onto a squash's root system. Since the squash is resistant to the disease, the melon is protected.

More testing will be needed before the scientists can say the grafting was a success. Grafting is expected to reduce the amount of fungicides a grower has to purchase and use. It will offer a solution until resistant varieties can be developed.

Currently, the disease is controlled with a chemical that is not environmentally friendly. The chemical's use will soon be banned by the EPA.

Doerr, Christine Greene, Eddie Adkins, Vernay Burson, Buck Speer, Howard Hopkins, Ola Smith, Ollie Layman, Iva Lee Gipson, Oris Gibson and Dorothy Brown.

Also, in memory of Mr. and Mrs.

Sam Griffith, two Spanish/English Bibles have been given by Emilee and Bill Goff.

Cash donations made are: Rattlesnake Racing and Progressive Study Club.

**Haskell County Country Club
Junior Golf Tournament**
Monday, August 1
Ages 6 to 8 start at 9 a.m.
Ages 9 to 18 start at 9:30 a.m.

For more information or to register
contact Sam Rodriguez 940-864-8752
or the Country Club at 864-3400.



Lunch will be provided for participants.

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Cody Cochran, pastor

West Nile still a possibility, even with dry weather

Even with the recent dry weather, Texans should still take precautions against mosquito-borne diseases, advised an expert with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dry weather is perfect for the southern house mosquito, the major urban vector of West Nile Virus and an older virus, St. Louis encephalitis, said Dr. Jim Olson.

Like its name implies, the southern house mosquito likes to enter houses. And even though it feeds primarily on birds, when the mosquito is inside a house, it will feed on the next-best thing: humans. That is how the West Nile and St. Louis encephalitis viruses are transferred to humans, Olson said.

"The dry weather is perfect because about the only water we have left now is standing and stagnant," he said. "This is the type of water the (southern house) mosquito likes to lay its eggs in and the larvae like to develop in."

And, because this is about the

only kind of water left, birds are congregating where the water—and the mosquitoes—are. This proximity amplifies the ability of the mosquitoes to infect birds with the virus.

"So, in essence, we have little virus incubators going on," Olson said.

West Nile virus has been found in mosquito populations from the Houston-Beaumont area along the Gulf Coast and East Texas to Swisher County between Amarillo and Lubbock to El Paso and even in Austin, he said.

In addition, two human cases in the Houston area—one from a mosquito bite and the other traced to a blood donation—have been found. Some cases have also occurred in horses, he said.

St. Louis encephalitis has also "reared its ugly head again," he said.

Testing procedures have found a pool of infected mosquitoes in Houston, and a possible human case has been reported in the Lower

Rio Grande Valley.

Texans may have been lulled into a false sense of security this year because the major backyard mosquito that bites humans, the Asian tiger mosquito, has not developed large populations, Olson said. Without mosquitoes biting on a regular basis, people may think the insects are not a concern.

"This is, of course, wrong," Olson said. "It just not the Asian tiger mosquito that is active."

Also active, but perhaps not biting as much, are the species like the southern house mosquito that like to breed in standing, stagnant water, he said.

He urged everyone to take all the precautions necessary to prevent mosquitoes from entering homes and breeding on their on property or premises.

"And continue protecting yourself when you are outdoors during times of the day and evening when mosquitoes are actively out seeking blood meals," he said.

"Keep up the vigilance. We're not out of the woods yet."

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Entry forms for Miss West Texas Fair and Rodeo Queen available

The Miss West Texas Fair and Rodeo Queen Scholarship Pageant will be held Friday Sept. 9-11. The Queen competition will be in the categories of horsemanship, speeches, modeling, questions and interviews.

Prizes will include a crown, banner, roses, handmade spurs, hand

tooled spur straps, buckle and more. The winner of horsemanship will receive a saddle blanket with hand tooled corners.

Contestants should wear Wranglers for all areas of competition except for modeling, which requires a dress, or skirt and jacket or vest. Leather will not be judged above non-

leather. Fit, color coordination and presentation will be the criteria for modeling.

Entry forms are available at the offices of the West Texas Fair & Rodeo for young ladies between the ages of 15-24, who live within a one hundred mile radius of Abilene. Entries must be received in the West Texas Fair & Rodeo office by 5:00 p.m., Aug. 19. Orientation will be Aug. 26.

The winner will reign over the 2005 West Texas Fair & Rodeo Sept. 13-17. She will also represent the West Texas Fair & Rodeo at various other rodeos, parades and activities in the West Texas area during the year, and will be eligible to compete in the Miss Rodeo Texas Pageant held in San Antonio in June.

Entry forms may be obtained by calling the West Texas Fair & Rodeo office at 325-677-4376, or they may be picked up at 1700 Hwy. 36, Abilene.

Playday results

The Haskell Horse Club held a playday, Sat., July 23.

Results were:
Barrels
 8 and under Novice: 1. Callie Cude 2. Zhenia McTashey 3. Jaedan Gass
 8 and under: 1. Lucy Carmichael 2. Kathryn Cude 3. Tyler Harvey
 9-12: 1. Laramie Stewart 2. Nathan Meredith 3. Ryder Cude
 13-15: 1. Ashton Rutkowski
Poles
 8 and under Novice: 1. Callie

Cude 2. Jaedan Gass 3. Zhenia McTashey
 8 and under: 1. Lucy Carmichael 2. Tyler Harvey 3. Kathryn Cude
 9-12: 1. Laramie Stewart 2. Nathan Meredith 3. Kaycee Wilcox
 13-15: 1. Ashton Rutkowski

Flags
 8 and under Novice: 1. Callie Cude 2. Zhenia McTashey 3. Jaedan Gass
 8 and under: 1. Lucy Carmichael 2. Kathryn Cude

9-12: 1. Laramie Stewart 2. Ryder Cude 3. Claire Carmichael
 13-15: 1. Ashton Rutkowski

Stakes
 8 and under Novice: 1. Callie Cude 2. Jaedan Gass 3. Zhenia McTashey
 8 and under: 1. Kathryn Cude 2. Tyler Harvey
 9-12: 1. Ryder Cude 2. Nathan Meredith 3. Laramie Stewart
 13-15: 1. Ashton Rutkowski
 Next playday will be Aug. 27.

Cattle Market Report

The market at the Haskell Livestock Auction was on a run of 363 head of cattle at its sale on Sat., July 23, according to Gary Tate, reporter. 46 sellers and 28 buyers were present.

Packers \$1 to 3 lower. Stockers \$2 to 4 lower. Feeders \$1 to 5 lower. Cows: fat, .46-.53; cutters, .45-.56; canners, .34-.39.

Bulls: bologna, .68-.73; feeders,

.84-.98; utility, .62-.67.

Steers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.40-1.90; 300-400 lbs., 1.25-1.55; 400-500 lbs., 1.15-1.30; 500-600 lbs., 1.05-1.20; 600-700 lbs., 1.00-1.14; 700-800 lbs., .95-1.09; 800-up lbs., .84-1.05.

Heifers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.30-1.75; 300-400 lbs., 1.15-1.38; 400-500 lbs.,

1.10-1.25; 500-600 lbs., .95-1.15; 600-up lbs., .78-1.05.

Bred heifers medium frame, 725-900.

Bred Cows: young to middle aged, 925-1100; aged or small, 675-850.

Cows with calves: medium frame No. 1 young and middle aged, 1050-1400; aged or small, 850-975.

FSA committee nomination deadline extended to Aug. 15

The deadline for nominations for positions on the Farm Service Agency County Committees has been extended to Aug. 15, said Glenn Brzozowski, County Executive Director for Haskell County.

Learn how you can take a seat and have your voice heard on your local FSA County Committee by contacting your local FSA office, 607 North First East in Haskell or by calling 940-864-2617 for more information.

This Week's Devotional Message:



FAITH BIDS US TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN MENDING A QUARREL

You two have been good friends for a long time. Perhaps you share a common interest, and that might be some really worthwhile project. Your relationship has survived a number of minor disagreements with no hard feelings—until now. Suddenly a major quarrel erupted, beginning with a mere difference of opinion and ending with some heated words; so that you are no longer on speaking terms. However, your assurance that you were right is being replaced by a

very miserable feeling about the whole episode, and for all you know your former friend is suffering the same pangs of remorse. There is just one thing to do: go to your house of worship and pray for the courage to being making amends, no matter who was at fault. Your faith forbids you to let your pride end a close friendship because of one incident, so take that first step without any further delay. You will feel much better for it.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

- HASKELL**
- East Side Baptist Church**
Danny Manross, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
 - Christian Church**
Dusty Garrison, 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**
Joe and Loretta Stulir, pastors
864-3465
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m.
East Hwy 380, Haskell
 - Trinity Lutheran Church**
Ron Renegarbe, pastor
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**
Rev. Daniel Echols, 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**
Jim Yates, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 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.
114 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. T. L. Griffin
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**
Greg Gasaway, 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 Pavilion
- Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church**
Dr. Larry Nail, pastor
Sun. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
1600 N. First St., Haskell
- WEINERT**
- First Baptist Church**
J. C. Baker, 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**
Fred Garvin, interim pastor
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:00 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 6, Rochester

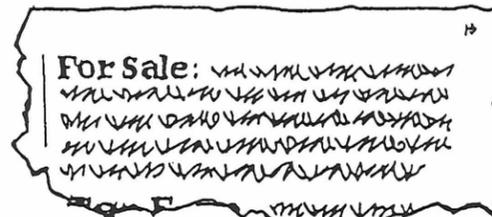
- First United Methodist Church**
Rev. Daniel Echols, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Rochester
- SAGERTON**
- Sagerton Methodist Church**
Terry O'Rear, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.
Sagerton
- Faith Lutheran Church**
Deborah Nissen, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Sagerton
- 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**
Terry O'Rear, pastor
Sun. Morn. Worship 8:30 a.m.
1000 Union Ave., Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**
Alfa y Omegs
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**
Jim Reid, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p, Wed. 6 p.m.
O'Brien

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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FOR SALE: 2005 Hollywood/Terry 26' travel trailer. \$10,000. Under full warranty. Call Perry Pogue 235-665-1226. View on FM 600, Haskell. 29tc

FOR SALE: Beginner computers. Cheap. 940-864-3397. 29-30c

FOR SALE: 30' fifth wheel. Country Star. Slide out, Onan generator, Bedroom remote start and stop. All fiberglass, \$14,500. Club Car golf cart, \$1,200. 325-773-5365. 30-31p

FOR SALE: Attention crafters. We have remodeled a 1950's home and have 30 wooden window sashes and screens. Call 940-675-1206. 30c

Cars For Sale

FOR SALE: 1988 Cadillac DeVille parts car. Motor in good condition. Call Bob at 864-8555. 30-31p

Garage Sale

MOVING SALE/TAMALES: 305 S. Ave. F. Sat. 8 til noon. 30p

GARAGE SALE: 804 N. 5th. Fri., July 29. 8 to 3. Clothes, DVD's, household items, furniture. 30c

GARAGE SALE: 309 Bonnie Lane. Sat. 7:30 a.m. to noon. 30c

Miscellaneous

HOUSE LEVELLING and foundation repair. No payments until work is satisfactorily completed. David Lee & Co. 325-675-6369. 1-888-486-8588. 6fc

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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
All are invited to come to the Paint Creek Volunteer Fire Department meeting on Monday the 29th of August, 2005. We will be discussing a Building Grant from the USDA to help defray the cost of the building.

Any and all people that have any questions are asked to attend. The meeting will start 7:00 p.m. It will be held at Paint Creek School Cafeteria. Please come join us to hear about our plans. 30c

PUBLIC NOTICE
Haskell Consolidated Independent School District is seeking bid proposals for technical services contract. Bid proposal specifications may be obtained from the Haskell Consolidated Independent School District Central Administration Office. All bid proposals must be received on or before August 11, 2005. Please contact Eddie Bland Superintendent, Haskell C.I.S.D., P.O. Box 937, Haskell, Texas 79521. 940-864-2602. 30-31c

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE
A request has been received from Jesse Ray Medford to change the following described property: Block D, Lot 1, Addition Haskell, address 1201 Block N. 9th, Haskell, Texas, other description Tandy and Pinkerton from single family residential zoning district to mobile home zoning district. If zoning is achieved, the applicant proposes to use the property for single wide mobile home. The planning and zoning commission of the City of Haskell, Texas, will hold a public hearing pursuant to this request on Fri., Aug. 12, 2005 at 12:00 noon in the City Hall Council Chambers. 30c

You may be getting old if your ears perk up when a new laxative commercial comes on TV. Feel younger by taking a nap in a La-Z-Boy recliner. Over 100 in stock and nobody beats our prices. Get a pair starting at \$499 for 2. Kinney Furniture in Stamford. 30c

Real Estate

HOUSE FOR SALE by owner: 1206 N. Ave. M. 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. New carpet. Fresh paint. Fenced-in backyard. Well. Sprinkler system. Lower price. Call Kimberly, 325-725-3806. 9tc

HOUSE FOR SALE in Rochester. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, brick home. Central heating/air. Corner location with two added lots. Landscaped and fenced yard. Carport, storage buildings, water well. 2,400 sq. feet. 806-657-4664. 28tc

HOUSE FOR SALE: 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 600 S. 4th. \$12,000. 864-2808. 29-30p

For Rent

FOR RENT: Furnished rooms for rent. Nightly, weekly. Call Lone Star Lodging 864-2238. 21tc

HOUSE FOR RENT: 2 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. Water well. 806-983-5211, after 5:30 p.m. HUD approved. 26tc

We are now taking applications for full-time DON. LTC-DON experience preferred. **Rice Springs Care Home**
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Help Wanted

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

GIBSON CARE CENTER under new ownership effective 7-1-05. New owner is Stonewall Memorial Hospital. Positions needed: RN's, LVN's, Certified Nurse's Aides or Non-Certified Nurse's Aides. Please Call 940-989-3526 E.O.E. 29-30c

RICE SPRINGS Care Home is making a difference. We are taking applications for CNAs. Contact Shandra at 864-2652. 30c

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HANDYMAN home repairs, painting, carpentry, roof repairs. Top workmanship. Free estimates. Call Denton 940-256-4916. 30p

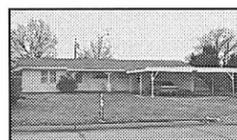
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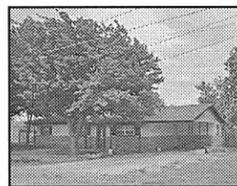
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Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept.
is seeking volunteers who are willing to make a commitment to community service by becoming a volunteer fireman. The department is in need of volunteers willing to be active in meeting the needs of this community in many ways including serving as a fireman, helping with weather watches, working on equipment, helping with various fund-raisers, earning firefighting certification and others. If you would like to pursue an opportunity to serve your community, call Bill Steele 940-864-2208; Sam Watson 940-864-2355; Randy Shaw 940-864-2023; Jerry Stocks 940-864-3455 or ask any Haskell fireman for an application.

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103 S. Ave. P. Immaculate 3-2-carport with all new amenities such as heating and cooling, fixtures and ceiling fans, paint, carpet, ceramic tile and much more. **SOLD**

167 ACRES. 80 acres of cultivation with one well, 87 acres of old CRP in Love Grass (still has crop bases). Property is located on FM 617 on the east and CR140 on the west. There is irrigation water on three sides of this property. **Come by Rike Real Estate for a complete list.**

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Haskell County REALTY
255 ACRES southeast Haskell County, 119 acres pasture, 36 acres cultivated. 3 tanks. 1307 N. AVE. L. Nice home. Great condition. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, C/A, 2 living areas. Cellar, water well, storage building. Corner lot. Priced reduced to sell. 1605 DERRICK DR. Beautiful home, built in 1995. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Lots of amenities. 104 N. AVE. M: Newly remodeled. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Fenced yard. Water well. 1 car garage. Need to sell ASAP. Reasonable offers will be considered.

75 ACRES approximately 7 miles from Haskell off of FM 618 South in southeast Haskell County. 25 acres cultivated. 50 acres pastureland. One tank. City water availability. 13 AVE. K EAST: Immaculate home. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. Large living area.

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or call
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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)
Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 6115-90-001 for MGBG, SGT's AND BRIDGE RAIL in JONES County, etc. will be opened on August 23, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$239,042.00.
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. If applicable, 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: 17167
State Office: Constr./Maint. Division, 200 E. Riverside Dr., Austin, Texas 78704. Phone 512-416-2540.
Dist/Div Office(s): 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.



NEW BANK OFFICIAL NAMED—Haskell First National Bank president, Wallace Emerson, left, welcomed Cody Mathis of Stamford to Haskell Monday, when announcing Mathis' election as an assistant vice-president by the First National Bank's board of directors.

Local bank names new assistant vice president

Wallace Emerson, president of the First National Bank of Haskell, has announced on behalf of the Board of Directors, the election of Cody Mathis of Stamford as an Assistant Vice President of the bank.

The son of Gary and Wanda Mathis of Stamford, Mathis finished high school in Stamford and is a

graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock. His wife, Misty, is the daughter of Roger and Judy Detamore, also of Stamford.

The couple has two sons, five-year-old Caden and two-year-old Tate. They are members of the Stamford Church of Christ. The family will be moving to Haskell in

the near future.

Mathis was previously employed by Swenson Land & Cattle Co., and has been active in various civic organizations, including the Stamford United Way, Stamford Country Club, Stamford Kiwanis Club and the Texas Cowboy Reunion. His interests are hunting, fishing and being with his family.

USDA loan funds available for renewable energy projects

USDA Rural Development has announced that up to an estimated \$200 million in guaranteed loan funds are now available for investments in renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements by agriculture producers and rural small businesses. The \$200 million (\$11.4 million in actual cost to the government) is part of the \$22.8 million announcement made in March of 2005 by Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns.

"USDA Rural Development will focus efforts to bring together agricultural producers and rural businesses to spur the development of our renewable energy options. Rural Texans have ideas and solutions that make a difference in the rural economies in which they farm, ranch and do business," said

Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development, State Director.

In the March announcement, Johanns indicated that the \$22.8 million would be made available in two stages; In March of 2005, USDA would begin receiving grant applications while the remaining \$11.4 million, which will convert into an estimated \$200 million in guaranteed loan funds, would be delayed pending the publishing of the application guidelines for the guarantee loan program. The period for receiving grant applications closed on June 27, 2005.

Section 9006 of the 2002 Farm Bill established the Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements loan and grant program to encourage

agricultural producers and small rural businesses to create renewable and energy efficient systems. The funds announced today will be available to support a wide range of technologies encompassing biomass (including anaerobic digesters), geothermal, hydrogen, solar, and wind energy, as well as energy efficiency improvements. To date, the Bush Administration has invested through this program nearly \$45 million in 32 states.

Funds announced will be set aside through August 31, 2005 for renewable energy and energy efficiency guaranteed loans. Final details on how to apply for these funds will be published in the Federal Register on July 18, 2005. Any funds not obligated under the guarantee loan program by August 31, 2005, will be reallocated to the competitive grant program as of that date.

USDA Rural Development strives to ensure that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. To learn more about the conference, please call USDA Rural Development in Temple at 254-742-9780.

Hay harvest down

by Wes Utley
CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.
Dry weather has reduced the state's hay harvest by about 50-percent. That yield reduction has made quality hay harder to find.

Since most hay is grown in house by livestock producers, the yield drop affects them the most. It has put some producers in the market to buy hay.

When shopping for hay for cattle, choose hay that has at least 8-percent protein with few weeds.

Although things are dry now, Extension specialist Wayne Hanselka said it wasn't time to worry. Most of the state's rain falls during the fall and spring. That means there's still time for forage lands to get the moisture they need.

Sales tax holiday set Aug. 5-7

This year's sales tax holiday for clothing and footwear begins at 12:01 a.m. Fri., Aug. 5, and ends at midnight Sun., Aug. 7. The tax break is expected to save Texas consumers millions in state and local sales taxes. This is one time hard-working Texans can keep their money in their pockets for their families' priorities.

Here are some highlights about the sales tax holiday:

- The tax holiday occurs every year on the first Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of August. Qualifying items are exempt from state and local sales taxes.

- Most clothing and footwear priced at less than \$100 will be exempt from sales tax. Customers will receive the break on individual items, regardless of the total amount they buy. For example, sales tax is not due if a customer buys six shirts each priced at \$99.99. But full tax is due on a shirt sold for \$100; the first \$99.99 cannot be exempted.

- Clothing and footwear used primarily for athletic activities or for protective wear are not eligible for the exemption. Customers buying golf cleats or football pads, for instance, must pay sales tax. Athletic wear that is also used for participation in other non-athletic activities can qualify for tax exemption. For example, tennis shoes, baseball caps, and jogging suits are worn during everyday activities and thus may be purchased tax free during the holiday.

- Also excluded from the sales tax holiday are accessories such as jewelry and watches; items that are carried rather than worn, including handbags, briefcases and wallets; clothing rentals, such as formal wear and costumes; and repairs and alterations.

For more information about the sales tax holiday, visit www.window.state.tx.us or call 1-800-252-5555.

Students in the News

Two Haskell students were among the spring 2005 graduating class at Tarleton University in Stephenville.

Jennifer Nicole Bryan graduated with honors, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies.

William Harper Stewart received a Master of Education degree in Educational Administration.

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IT'S ALL ABOUT

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