

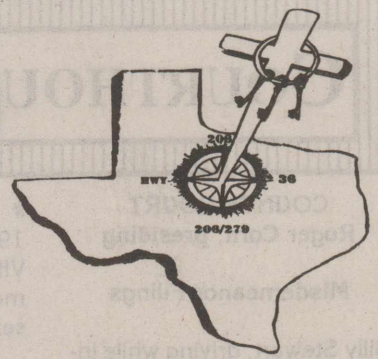
Rich in Agriculture
Abundant in Wildlife

Masthead Designed by Deborah Lowitzer

Cross Plains Review

"Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution" "A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, March 27, 2003



Keys to our Past,
Present and Future
Hinge on the Cross

95TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

PRICE 50¢

NUMBER 1

DOWN HOME

EDITOR'S NOTE: This poem written by Cross Plains resident, D.B. Gunn, seemed appropriate during these difficult times, and it expresses how Americans feel about their precious freedom. Please continue to pray for our President, leaders, military branches and civilians involved in the war in Iraq. If you are not already flying Old Glory, let's get her out and show our support for those fighting for our continued right to be free. *Vanda Anderson Creech*

"Freedom"

Oh God, please bless old America and help us to love each other true, to make old America the kind of place, where everything we do, is filled with love and kindness, a dwelling place for Thee.

And help us, God, each moment to live most helpfully, for, Father, Old America is a land where love abides, where foreigners come as guests. Surely, Father, it's a land of freedom, where the heart can find rest.

For America is like a mighty lamp, to foreigners it's radiance warms and cheers their way, And all their pathways dark and lone are brightened each day.

But many come not as a guest, but to destroy our freedom, to bring us sorrow and pain. They have killed many Americans, with our own airplanes.

For they hate us and are trying to destroy our freedom. But old America will always stand for peace, love and comfort, for all human men.

For we so treasure our freedom, more than you could ever understand. For, friend, it is the finger of our God, Touching old America with love and faith, that keeps freedom standing for all men.

D.B. Gunn
3-10-2002

Immunization Clinics Schedules for County

Texas Department of Health will hold the following immunization clinics in Callahan County:

Wednesday, April 9th
10 a.m. - 12 noon and 1:30-3 p.m.
Clyde Community Resource Center
306 N. 1st

Monday, April 14th
10 a.m. - 12 noon
Baird Cafetorium
400 West 7th

Monday, April 14th
2 - 4 p.m.
Cross Plains Multi-Purpose Center
701 Beech Street.

For more information call (915) 754-4945.

Early Morning Fire Destroys Cottonwood Family's Home

By Vanda Anderson Creech
Editor

Last Wednesday, March 19, at approximately 1:30 a.m. the family of Joe, Deana and Kathleen Terstegge were awakened to find their double-wide home in flames. The flames falling from the ceiling, along with the light fixture on the fan falling, woke Deana and her daughter who had fell asleep in the living room earlier. Kathleen received some minor burns to her chin, knee and elbow.

Deana started spraying water on the roof with a hose, while her husband called 911. Joe suffers from heart problems and the smoke was affecting him.

Eddie Albrecht was first to respond, followed by Walter Thomason with the Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control fire truck. Other volunteers arrived along with the Cross Plains Volunteer Fire Department. The Callahan County Deputy Sheriff Mark Goetz was also there assisting.

Thomason stated the cause of the fire was determined to be electrical, as the attic was blazing. He noted that some of the roof had to be removed to bring the fire under control.

However, at 4 a.m. the flames flared again and the Cottonwood unit was called back. Deana said, "Something just told me to stay around for a while, and it was a good thing I did."

Deana expressed her appreciation to God for saving their lives. The Terstegge family are overwhelmed by the response of friends and even strangers to their dilemma. They feel fortunate to live in a community with

such compassion.

Several incidents weren't reasonable according to the firemen. Usually a mobile home structure burns to the ground but this one did not. No one can explain how the firemen were able to stand on the roof—they should have fell through according to the damage. It is obvious that the Lord had His hand on everyone.

All this happened on Joe's birthday and he remarked that he didn't want this type of excitement ever again.

The Terstegge family will not be able to rebuild. They noted that what remained of the structure could only be used perhaps as a storage type building. Their household items received smoke and water damage. They were able to secure most of their clothing. The family did not have insurance to cover their losses.

A "Community Shower" to replace the family's belongings has been planned. The shower will be at the home of Cliff and Connie Kirkham on Saturday, April 5, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. Selections are at Higginbothams, Johnson's Dry Goods and Bryan's Variety for your convenience. If you would like to help with the shower, please call (254) 725-6111.

Deana Terstegge is the daughter of Harold and Betty Baxter of Cross Plains. Currently Harold is in very serious condition at Hendrick Medical Center Hospice Wing. This family has suffered greatly and now is the time for our "Caring Community" to lend a helping hand. Please keep them in your prayers and offer your assistance with a gift at the shower.

Local Business Announces Closing

Charlie's Truck and Trailer Repair officially closed March 21, 2003, after eleven years in business.

Charles Strength opened Charlie's Truck and Trailer Repair in July 1992, and the decision to close was difficult. Charles and Linda would like for their cus-

tomers to know that the state of the economy, and not health issues, resulted in their closing. They regret any inconvenience it may have caused anyone.

If you need to reach the Strengths, please call (254) 725-6871 or write them at P.O. Box 162, Cross Plains.

Cross Plains Review Celebrating 95 Years

By Vanda Anderson Creech
Editor

The *Cross Plains Review* is celebrating its 95th anniversary this week. The front page states the fact that it is the oldest business institution in Cross Plains, having been established in 1908.

For those who may not know, the old printing press was installed into the ground and the two-story building was constructed around it. Of course, the printing press remains to this day, though it is no longer utilized. Our office still houses newspaper equipment from yesteryears. The antiques hold great fascination for our customers, as brief tours are taken almost weekly.

In honor of our 95th year, the

masthead of *Cross Plains Review* has been redesigned. Deborah Lowitzer, who assists when we have multiple inserts, etc., created the artwork and message thereunder. She and her husband, John, moved to Cross Plains a couple of years ago and are currently building on the house of their dreams.

Deborah displayed her true talents as she combined the shape of Texas with the extended cross representing our city's name, plus the fact that Cross Plains is located at a cross section of highways. The cross also symbolizes the strong faith residents of our community hold so dear. The keys are symbolic of our community's past, present and

future, and indeed, all hinge or depend on the cross.

The barn, tractor and wheat represent the agricultural ties of farmers and ranchers in this area. The deer symbolizes the importance wildlife now plays in the economy of our community.

Don Tabor, the Publisher, and I feel that Deborah produced a professional new look for the *Cross Plains Review* and we hope our readers will agree.

In honor of the newspaper's 95th birthday we will be hosting an open house Friday, March 28th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Everyone is invited to come by for refreshments and help us celebrate 95 great years!!!

Love Fund Started for Cottonwood Family

A Love Fund has been established at Texas Heritage Bank for Joe and Deana Terstegge and their daughter, Kathleen. Their home in Cottonwood burned last Wednesday. They did not have house insurance and they suffered a great loss.

The family moved here a couple of years ago. Deana is the daughter of Harold and Betty Baxter of Cross Plains. Joe is employed at Village Market in the meat department.

Your kind donations would be greatly appreciated by the Terstegge family. You may drop by the bank or mail your contribution to:

Texas Heritage Bank
P.O. Box 699
Cross Plains, Tx. 76443.

Ballot Positions Told for Local Elections

The Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustee election will have five candidates vying for the two positions. Incumbent Tony Wyatt was the final candidate to file.

Donnie Dillard and Tony Wyatt's 3-year terms are expiring.

Ballot positions were drawn on March 24th as follows:

1. Larry Thomas
2. Michael Smith
3. Donnie Dillard
4. Reggie Pillans
5. Tony Wyatt.

The City Council election will have six candidates seeking three positions. The two-year terms of James Nichols, Edwin Weiss and Joe Ingram are expiring. Eddy Glen Wyatt being the last candidate to file.

Ballot positions are as follows:

1. Eddy Glen Wyatt
2. Edwin Weiss
3. Joe Ingram

4. Gene Dillard
5. James Nichols
6. Marvin Mosley.
Early voting in both elections will be held at the Cross Plains City Hall, 201 South Main Street between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. beginning April 16 and ending April 29.

The general elections will be held May 3, 2003 at the Community Center between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Homecoming Meeting this Monday, March 31st

A meeting will be held Monday, March 31, at 7 p.m. at Jean's Feed Barn to discuss the upcoming 2003 Cross Plains High School Homecoming.

The Homecoming is a big event in Cross Plains and a date has been set for September 13th so make plans to attend.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the meeting and help with the planning and determine preparations for the festivities.

Pioneer Historical Association Schedules Community-wide Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Pioneer Cemetery wants to encourage every one in the community and surrounding areas with interest in the Pioneer Cemetery to come and participate in a community-wide meeting.

We want and need your input in all concerns for the cemetery. Several projects have been mentioned and we want to hear from you.

This meeting will be Monday, March 31, at 6:30 p.m.

Project Graduation Committee Meeting

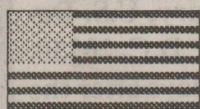
The Project Graduation Committee will be meeting Friday, March 28, at 5 p.m. at the local Dairy Queen.

All Junior and Senior parents are invited to attend and help plan this year's Project Graduation.

If you would like to help and cannot attend, please contact Connie Kirkham at (254) 725-6500 or Jean McWilliams or Lurene McNutt at (254) 725-6121.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR

MILITARY LEADERS — SOLDIERS — CIVILIANS



OUR PRESIDENT

MAY GOD BLESS THEM ALL!



Texas Heritage Bank

"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"



Presents:

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COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURT
Roger Corn, presiding

Misdemeanor Filings

Billy Stewart, driving while intoxicated (DWI).

Misdemeanor Minutes

Mellisa Floyd, motion to revoke probation granted.

Marriage Licenses

Christopher Newton Smith and Christal Starlite Miller, both of Abilene.

William Gordon Cribbs and Betty Faye Thomas, both of Abilene.

42nd DISTRICT COURT
John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filings

The State of Texas vs. 1999 International truck tractor, VIN

2HSFHAERXXC026373; 1982 Truehauf flat bed trailer, VIN # 1HHP045268F092102, model # PBX-TC-45, notice of seizure and intended forfeiture.

Civil Minutes

Kimberly Anne Rhynes and Christopher Clarence Rhynes, divorce granted.

Donna L. Herridge vs. Ford Motor Company, Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc., and Brownwood Ford-Lincoln-Mercury, Inc., plaintiff's notice of non-suit with prejudice granted.

Criminal Minutes

Stephen Lynn McDowell, order discharging defendant from probation under deferred adjudication granted.

Tony Ponce, order dismissing motion to revoke probation and amending conditions of probation granted.

OBITUARIES

Oddie Dawkins

Oddie Dawkins, 87, of the Sabanno Community, passed away Saturday, March 22, 2003, at Eastland Memorial Hospital in Eastland, Texas.

Services were held at 1:00 p.m. Monday, March 24, 2003, at Higginbotham Chapel with C.P. Floyd officiating. Interment was in the Sabanno Cemetery in Eastland County, Texas with Higginbotham Funeral Home of Cross Plains in charge of arrangements.

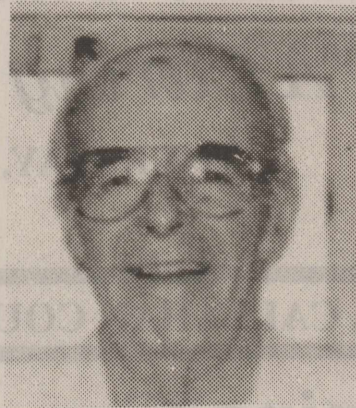
Oddie was born December 30, 1915 in Jonesboro, Arkansas to Henry Newton Lawson and Lula Dabbs Lawson. She was a long-time member of the Sabanno Quilting Club, and was an avid gardener. Oddie and her late husband, Truitt, loved to fish at Lake Brownwood. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Cross Plains.

Survivors include nieces and nephews, Floyd Thate of Round Rock, Lawson Brooks of Hitchcock, Jimmie Brooks of Texas City, Diana Anderson of Sonora, Judy Lovelace of Abilene, Janey Linebarger of Ranger, Glenda Martin of Bastrop, Jackie West and Mary Ann Stuart, both of Cisco; several great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Truitt Dawkins; one son; one daughter; two brothers; and two sisters.

Pallbearers were Brent Key, Lawson Brooks, Jimmie Brooks, Floyd Thate, Robby Thate, Robbin Martin, Jeff Key and Darrell Stuart.

Memorial may be made to West Texas Rehab, Heart Association, or your favorite charity.



Arnold Horton

Arnold Horton, age 77, of Brownwood, passed away Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at his home in Brownwood.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, March 15, 2003, at the Higginbotham Chapel with Dwaine Clower officiating with Higginbotham Funeral Home of Cross Plains in charge of arrangements.

Arnold was born August 10, 1925 in Canton, Texas, the 11th of 13 siblings, of Wesley C. Horton and Annie Bernard Horton. He was a Baptist and served his country in the U.S. Navy. He retired as a meat cutter after 41 years and moved to Cross Plains and lived with his sister, Eunice Pointer. He was helpful on the farm and the siblings enjoyed being together. Arnold was a regular at the Cross Plains Senior Citizens' Center playing dominos, Skip Bo, etc. He was "Lion Arnold" after becoming a member of the Lake Brownwood Lion's Club. He also helped prepare hundreds of meals at the Baptist Encampment at Lake Brownwood. The kids called him "Mr. Arnold" and he said this job was so much fun. Our dear friend has left us for now, but will wait for us to join him in the heavens some day soon.

Survivors include his daughter, Paula Schumacher of Corpus Christi; a son, John Paul Horton; a sister, Eunice Pointer of Cross Plains; two brothers, Albert Horton and Wesley Horton, both of Ft. Worth; nephew, Johnny Horton of Ft. Worth; and Kandy Jones of Cross Plains.

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DEMONSTRATION OF STRENGTH— Duane DeGravel of Power One Ministries uses his physical strength to reach youth on a spiritual level.

DeGravel to Perform Rising Star/April 1

Duane DeGravel of Power One Ministries will be performing in Rising Star on Tuesday, April 1, at 7:00 p.m. at the Colquette Williams Park. Faith Cowboy Church is hosting the event.

Duane has performed for audiences of all ages, but his unique style appeals to junior high and high school ages. His main focus is on youth groups. He has performed at many public and private school functions. He also speaks and performs at business seminars and in the prison ministry.

All are invited to come out and enjoy his feats of strength. Duane bends steel bars with his teeth; rips phone books in half with his bare hand; breaks through 10 bricks with his forearm; and performs many other feats of strength.

There is no admission. You can check Duane out on-line at www.poweroneministries.com. For additional information call (254) 643-5502; (254) 643-1521; (254) 643-4404; (254) 643-1026;

There is no admission. You can check Duane out on-line at www.poweroneministries.com. For additional information call (254) 643-5502; (254) 643-1521; (254) 643-4404; (254) 643-1026;

Cross Plains Masonic Lodge No. 627

Stated Meeting
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
www.cross-plains.tx-mm-0rg
www.gltexas.org

Sec. (254) 725-7530

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

(USPS 138-660)

DON TABOR, PUBLISHER
VANDA CREECH, EDITOR
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

MEMBER
TPA
2003
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Oplin Volunteer Fire Department Bake Sale Set for April 5th

On Saturday, April 5th, the Oplin Volunteer Fire Department will host a bake sale at the Oplin Community Center. All proceeds from this bake sale will go to assist the fire department with the maintenance and general upkeep of their equipment and fire station. The bake sale will be held during the Community Wide Garage and Craft Sale held from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. or until all baked items have been sold. The fire department will also have sandwiches for sale during the garage sale.

Department is also looking for a few good volunteers. If you live in the Oplin area and are interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter stop by our bake sale and talk with some of our volunteers, we'd be glad to have you. If you are not able to attend the bake sale, call Butch Woodard at 529-3129 or Tom Rumfield at 529-4522 for further information.

Remember to mark your calendar for April 5th. Gather the family and drive on out to Oplin and don't forget to bring your sweet tooth.

Submitted by Pam Rumfield

CHURCH DIRECTORY

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

209 S.W. Hwy 36

CROSS PLAINS

Welcomes You!

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Sun. 6:30 p.m. Worship & Word *** Wed. 7:00 p.m. Bible Study "An Apostolic Church"

PASTOR, Phillip R. Schaefer (254) 725-7140

Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Full Gospel Non-Denominational Apostolic Restoring And Equipping The Saints

Sunday 10 a.m. * Monday Prayer 7 p.m. * Wednesday 7 p.m.

Pastors: Colleen Anderson and Maxey Evans

Glenda Tidwell - Praise & Worship

Linda Fortune - Youth Pastor

For Information Call (254) 725-6800 1-800-252-3629

Union Center Baptist Church

"Service to God Through Service to Man"

Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

5 miles north of Rising Star - 1/2 mile east of Hwy 183 on CR 292

Jerry Eckhart, Pastor (254) 643-1027

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time.....7:00

Matt McGowen, Pastor (254) 725-4599

Church (254) 725-6266

Friendly Church

Bible Teaching

ROWDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy. 36 at Rowden - 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....11:00 A.M.

Pastor: Carl Mauldin

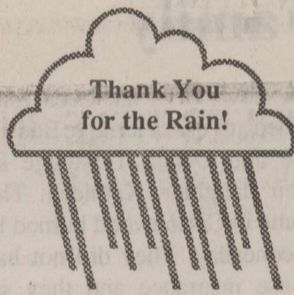
Come Worship With Us!

NIMROD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sponser: Pioneer Baptist Church

Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

Bill Armstrong - Pastor



125th Year for Burkett Baptist Church

Burkett Baptist Church will be celebrating their 125th year on Sunday, April 6th. Pastor Wright Price invites everyone to help them mark the occasion by attending Sunday School from 10:00 a.m. till 10:45 a.m. and worship services from 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Lunch and fellowship will follow directly.

Pastor Price will welcome

guests at 1:30 p.m. Dwaine Clower, pastor of Pioneer Baptist Church in the Pioneer Community, will be the special speaker. Gospel singing will also be enjoyed. The church history will be given, along with the recognition of former members.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the Burkett Baptist Church's 125th anniversary.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

Comanche Electric Cooperative Association is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utility Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's non-discrimination compliance efforts is Alan Lesley, Director of Human Resources and Loss Control. Any individual or specific class of individuals, who feel this organization has subjected them to discrimination, may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

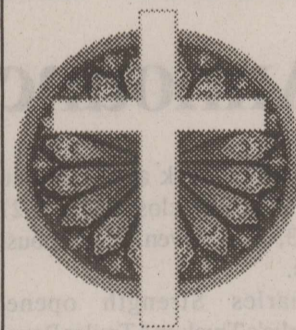
First Baptist Church

725-7629

3rd & Main

Cross Plains

Ronnie B. White, Pastor



You're Invited!

Worship With Us

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
7:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer/Worship

Are You A Credit To Your Maker?

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Van Service Available - Call (254) 725-7694



N. Main (Hwy. 206)

Cross Plains, Texas

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Worship - 10:45 a.m.

Rev. C. Michael Redd, Pastor

Sunday's Sermon

"For God So Loved The World"

PIONEER NEWS

The quilting ladies had another productive day Tuesday. We did get Jean A.'s Quilt out. It is very pretty and is quite a keep sake as it was pieced by Della Browning. We are working on Lou's pretty red and white top and Cody's "Log Cabin." We had a visitor, Janiesia Hutton, the grand daughter of Sandy Hutton. She has really grown since the last time she visited. Come back Janiesia. We always like to see you.

Jean Fore and Frankie Smith attended the church association meeting at Rowden Mission. We enjoyed the music. John Wayne was a very good speaker. He had a good sermon. Saturday, Jean and Frankie attended the musical at Brownwood Lion's Club with Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Blount.

Paul and Juanita Harlow of Wallford returned home after visiting a few days with Vi Harlow in Cross Plains, and Jean Fore in Pioneer. These girls always love to have Juanita and Paul come to see them. They all attended the church meeting at Rowden and the musical, Saturday, at Brownwood Lake.

Jim Chesshir came again last weekend to see his mother, Charlene Chesshir. He put out some fruit trees Saturday. Then visited Jerry and Christene King Saturday night. Jim says he welcomes anyone who wants to help eat his garden, to come out in a

few weeks and help hoe. Say, Jim, you just might have takers on that, especially when those tomatoes and black-eyed peas get planted and come up. Charlene has been sick with a cold for several days. Maybe that rain and all that lighting will make Charlene feel better. They had three tenths inch on Monday night.

Glenda Phillips went to see Krista play basketball last week. Allen and Logan ate lunch with Glenda on Friday. Glenda had lunch with Allen, Janice, and family on Sunday. Emily Harris spent the night and day with Krista. They ate lunch with Glenda. They do have such a good time together.

Granddaughter Terry and her baby, Garrett, visited their grandmother, Laverne Hutton, on Thursday. Monday, Laverne went to Eastland for some lab test then came back by Cisco and visited with Tabitha Jordan and little girls Lauren and Hannah on her way home. Laverne has some very precious great-grandchildren.

The community was very happy and thankful to see the rain. The bluebonnets are peeking their heads out. Soon the roadsides should be so pretty.

WORDS OF WISDOM: Good character, like soup, is made at home!

RISEING STAR NURSING CENTER

We have many events coming up in April. Our Residents have started a Rhythm Band. We use a wash tub, bells, tambourine and various items to create music. Leading us on piano is the talented Gene Moore. The residents have a lot of fun with this activity and we plan on performing April 29th at 2:00 p.m. at a party to honor our volunteers.

April 10th we are having pet day to celebrate National Prevention of cruelty to animals month.

April 18th we invite all children ages 1-12 to come to the Nursing Center and hunt Easter Eggs, at 10:00 a.m.

On Saturday, April 26th we are having a Bake/Garage Sale to benefit the Cross Plains EMS. We will be accepting items for donation here at the Nursing Center. If you live in Cross Plains you may take items to Verna Matthews home, Rachel Riley's home or Ricky Gibson's home. We appreciate everyone's support.

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

March 31 - April 31

MONDAY--Salmon Patty, Pickled Beets, Broccoli Normandy, Banana Pudding, Bread, Milk
TUESDAY-- Chicken Strips w/ gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Line Gelatin w/pineapple, Roll, Milk
WEDNESDAY-- Meatloaf, Fresh Carrots, Cabbage, Peaches, Cake, Bread, Milk

THURSDAY--Pork Chop w/ gravy, Yam Patty, Broccoli, Brownie, Bread, Milk
FRIDAY--Hamburger on Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Pickles, Oven Fries, Chery Cobbler, Milk

BREAKTHRU

By Bob Pipes
Cross Plains Church of Christ
433 N. Main
(254) 725-6117



Perhaps you like fresh cream from the cow's milk as much as I. There was a time when I wasn't too crazy about it—but I am now! I believe just as surely as the cream comes to the top of the milk, great eatin' comes from that cream. If you'll give me some fresh cream, I'll put it on cereal or peaches, strawberries or some cake, and double or triple the eatin' pleasure of any one or all of them! If you'll just give me the fresh whole milk, I'll even skim it in order to get the cream—but please don't ask me to milk the cow. That's too much!

Isn't that the way we are about a lot of things? Everyone wants the cream—but not one wants to milk the cow!—at least few are willing to. Cold, rainy, early in the morning; dirty cow, lots of dirty cows: swish of the cow's tail—in the face!—a kick of the bucket and half the milk's gone. There is a tremendous price and effort to pay to enjoy the cream—even at best. But to have the cream, someone has to milk the cow!

Why can't we learn this simple lesson? We all want privilege and pleasure without responsibility and work. It's the mark of our modern society, seemingly. All play...life is a game... escapism...thrills and highs—and then crash landings! We must pay our dues, learn our trade, start at the bottom and work up. There may be instant "tators" but not instant adults—nor instant success. Someone has to milk if there's going to be any cream—and we can't expect the other person to do all the milking. Paul said, "If any will not work, neither let him eat," II Thessalonians 3:10. Though all this does find application in simply having to work for a living, its application is much farther reaching—like even counting the cost of discipleship. Are you willing to "milk the cow"?

Come learn with us "the cost of discipleship"—and the rewards! We really do care about you!

Sunday Morning Bible Class...9:45a.m. Sunday Evening Worship...6:00p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship...10:45a.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study...7:00p.m.
Friends & Neighbors Caring In Jesus

COTTONWOOD NEWS

By WALLACE BENNETT

Terstegge's House Fire Cottonwood Fire Volunteers Respond

Joe and Deana Terstegge's home received considerable damage in the fire last week. The Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control unit responded quickly but was not able to save the structure. In fact, the fire volunteers responded twice. It has been reported that the double-wide mobile home is no longer liveable.

Family and friends are saddened by the Terstegge's loss and are striving to help the family as much as possible to restore their home life. More details will be printed later.

Jones Family to Hold Reunion

The family and descendants of Jim and Effie Jones will hold an all-day Family Reunion at the Cottonwood Community Center on Saturday, April 5.

Historical Association Sets Board Meeting and Work Day

The Cottonwood Historical Association will finalize plans for its annual membership meeting of the Board on Saturday, March 29, at 9 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Cottonwood Community Center and will be followed by a work day to clean both the old and new cemeteries, and to spruce up the old Post Office building and the old Cottonwood

Methodist Episcopal Church South, both of which the Historical Association owns.

The Annual Membership of the Association is scheduled for May 3, 2003. Tentative plans call for the meeting to include a general business session, a speech presentation by Nancy Robinson Masters, a noon meal and a story telling contest in the afternoon. The intention is for former and current residents of Cottonwood to enjoy a great deal of visiting, renewing and building of new friendships.

President Albert Lovell has stated that all citizens of Cottonwood are welcome to participate in the affairs of the association and has urged all to participate in the May 3rd general meeting, as well as the work day following the board meeting (this coming Saturday). Please bring garden tools, other tools and a light lunch, in case work beyond the noon hour is necessary.

Please Mark Your Calendar for Two Other Upcoming Cottonwood Quilting Events April 12 is the Community Center Work Day.

May 10 is the Bake Sale for the Cottonwood Quilting Club to be held at the Village Market in Cross Plains. Details on both events will be printed later.

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QUIPS, CLIPS & COMMENTS

By KAY MOSLEY

Notes: Remember to mark your calendar for the Cross Plains Garden Club Annual Flower Show. It will be held at the Senior Citizens' Center (on Main Street next to Higginbothams) on April 19, in the afternoon. There is no admission charge. If you are interested in preparing an arrangement for judging, you do not have to be a garden club member. However, you must go by the rules set out in the garden club rule book. Also, if you have beautiful flowers you have grown and would like to exhibit them in the horticulture division, the flower you exhibit must have been in the ground at least 3 months prior to you entering it. If you are interested, please call either Bob or Barbara Powell at (254) 643-2404, or Julene Franke at (254) 725-7712 for more information.

Hint: It's a good idea to "test" your new packet of seeds before going to the trouble of preparing the seed bed. Fold 3 or 4 seeds in a wet paper towel and place in a small plastic bag. Sprouts should develop overnight from small seeds; or 3 or 5 days for larger or tougher seeds.

"Bait for Beds"

Things just kinda went to pot around our house last summer; due to my being laid up and ill. DECREPIT even!

We are going to have to just about completely re-do our herb garden and some of our flower beds, also. Most of the devasta-

tion was due, by and large, to the scourge of grasshoppers that have been loitering in these parts for two years or more.

Marvin started some digging in the front flower bed this week. He's got a lot to do; just getting started. We are hoping that by removing the plants in the flower beds, rototilling each bed and administering some insecticides, this will eliminate insects that eat the plants and roots. The grasshoppers and crickets ate almost all of my chrysanthemums last year, as well as a lot of my dusty miller, coreopsis and a few others. There are nests of crickets, grasshoppers, etc. in the ground underneath the roots. Then when the plants are in the beds we will put out snail bait to get rid of those little critters—early on! Those snails eat their share of flowers also. Insects such as lady bugs, praying mantis, etc. are good for your garden and plants.

I've been thinking of making one flower bed with plants from the past; plants like Mama and Granny grew—hollyhocks, gladiolas, zinnias, pansies, forget-me-nots, larkspur and sweet peas. I already have bluebonnets and they will be blooming too, if this warm weather holds. Some bluebonnets across the street get the benefit of the early morning sun, where as ours have to wait for the noonday sun. It really makes a difference in when they bloom. Bluebonnets are my favorite flower. Which flower is your favorite?

GARDEN TIPS

By JAMES NICHOLS

Have you found a treasure in your garden lately? Beets are among the most healthful vegetables. One half cup of cooked beets provide four times the fiber of an equal amount of shredded cabbage, as much potassium as a banana and 25 percent of folic acid we require daily.

Today beets range in color and shape from red, golden and light yellow, "Detroit Supreme", "Pacemaker 111", "Red Ball" and "Red Ace".

Some beets produce tasty greens as well as large, baseball size roots.

Planting should be done in a raised bed with a lot of organic matter and light amount of manure. A cup full of 5-10-10 fertilizer can be used if you prefer. One cup full for every five to six foot of row. Plant early because beets can tolerate a light frost. Sow seeds about 1 inch deep and 2 inches apart, or broadcast over bed.

COTTONWOOD CEMETERY UPDATE

To all citizen, anywhere, please come to the new Cottonwood Cemetery on Saturday, March 29, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., and celebrate the death of six Afghan Pine trees. With a bulldozer, in a matter of minutes, the deed was done to the landscape--\$3,500-- on last Friday, March 21. Be sure and come, you can see the remaining Afghans trimmed or maybe killed! On this bright day, Harold and Norma Strahan will serve coffee and cookies to all protesters who show up! You will be regularly updated on this tragedy.

Harold Strahan

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Please Bless Us With Your Presence At A

"SPECIAL" Birthday Party For

Joe Howser

Thursday, March 27th
7:00 - 8:30 P.M.

At The Home Of Cliff & Connie Kirkham (20235 FM 2707)
Your Presence Is Gift Enough!

Cross Plains Musical this Friday Night

The Cross Plains Musical will be held this Friday, March 28, at 141 South Main Street. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. and musical entertainment begins at 6:00 p.m.

There will be a snack bar featuring barbecue, ham and pimento cheese sandwiches, desserts and soft drinks.

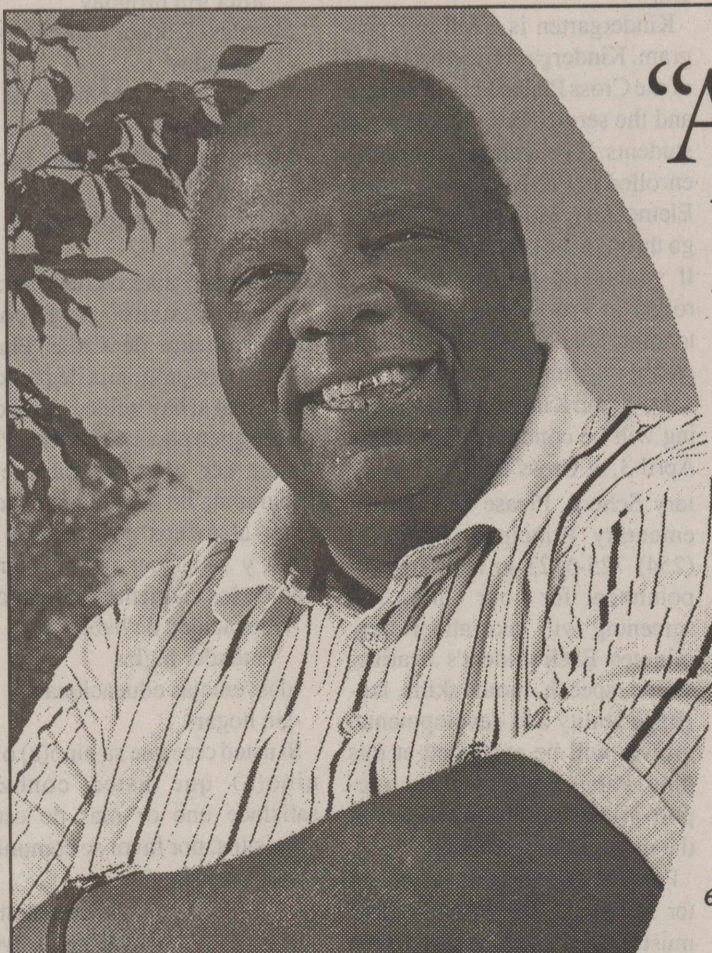
All ages are welcome. There is No Admission Charge!

LIBRARY NOTES

March 17-21

Statistics

Circulation:
Books 92
Donations - Books:
Linda and Latricia Chandler - In Memory of Minnie Swann
Calvin Champion
Louise Foster



"Abilene Regional Knows Hearts!"

I picked Abilene Regional for convenience but I'd go back because of their excellent care and outstanding attitude. The staff has shown me their heart while treating mine.

— Sye Mays

Workforce Management Specialist

Think Abilene Regional Medical Center for heart care. The hospital's Heart Team performed the area's first heart catheterization and first open heart surgery in the region. Our outcomes for coronary bypass surgery have consistently been better than those experienced statewide or across the nation. You'll be glad you came to Abilene Regional!

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C.P. STUDENT REVIEW



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Buffaloes Compete at Bronco Relays

The Cross Plains High School track teams traveled to Sonora on March 15 to compete in the prestigious Bronco Relays. In a highly competitive meet of AA and AAA schools, the Buffaloes did an outstanding job.

The Lady Buffs finished the meet in 8th place among 14 teams with 35 points. Leading the way for the girls were Kim Mosier with a 1st in the 400m dash, Kelsee Richards with a 1st in the shot put, and Ashley Cook who finished 2nd in the 300 meter hurdles.

The Varsity boys finished the meet in 15th place with a total of 4 points. The Buffaloes were led by Andy Bennett who placed 5th in the 1600 meter run, pole vaulter Thomas Dimitri 6th place and Michael Allen 200 meter dash 6th place.

The high school tracksters will travel to Baird on March 22 for the Baird Bears Relays.

Varsity Boys Results:
Pole Vault - 6th, Thomas Dimitri, 11'6"
200 Meter Dash - 6th, Michael Allen, 23.40
1600 Meter Run - 5th, Andy Bennett, 4:45.68
Varsity Girls Result:
400 Meter Dash - 1st, Kim Mosier, 1:01.86
200 Meter Dash - 4th, Kim Mosier, 27.16
300 Meter Hurdles - 2nd, Ashley Cook, 49.85
100 Meter Hurdles - 6th, Ashley Cook, 17.46
Shot Put - 1st, Kelsee Richards, 35.275"
High Jump - 5th, Kim Mosier, 4'8"

Cross Plains Tennis Tournament Results

"A" Singles
 Richards - Cross Plains, 6-2, 6-1 over Agnew of Rising Star.
 Halick of Veribest 6-0, 6-0 over Alexander of Rising Star.
 Agnew wins consolation 6-6, 6-2 over Alexander.
 Halick wins the championship 6-0, 6-3 over Richards.

"B" Singles
 Hutton of Cross Plains 8-6 over Love of Rising Star.
 Bennett of Cross Plains 9-7 over Book of Veribest.
 Wilson of Veribest 8-5 over

Winfrey of Rising Star.
 Love over Book 8-5.
 Winfrey wins consolation 6-2, 6-2 over Hutton.
 Hutton 8-4 over Bennett.
 Wilson wins the championship 7-5, 6-3 over Hutton.

Doubles
 Luna/Flavel of Veribest win the championship with a win over Reyes/Reyes and a 3 set win 7-6, 6-7, 6-2 over Hood/McGinn of Rising Star.
 Mooney/Delaney of Veribest win consolation with a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 win over Reyes/Reyes.

Students Participate in Brownwood Tourney

Dayna Bennett played in her first tournament and did very well. She lost the first match in a tie breaker 8-10. Her second match she lost 0-8 and her third was 4-8.

Samantha Hutton was able to bring home consolation after dropping her first match 2-8, she was able to win the second match 8-4 and her third match she won in a third set tiebreaker 11-9 well into the darkness.

Kelsee Richards brought home

silver as she was able to win second place. Richards won her first match 6-4, 6-3. She was not as successful in her second match dropping it 0-6, 1-6.

Russell Allen met up with some tough competition also in Brownwood. He dropped his first match 0-8 and his second 1-8.

J.D. Cook played well, but also faced some good competition. Cook dropped his first match 4-8 and his second 5-8.

Buffets Compete Strong at Baird Relays

The Lady Buffs and Buffaloes traveled to Baird on March 22 to compete in the Baird Bears Relays. In spite of the rainy weather conditions, the Buffaloes did an outstanding job.

The Lady Buffs scored 57 points as a team and finished in 3rd place. Leading the way for the girls were Kim Mosier with a 1st and Shana Hyles 4th in the 400m dash. Amanda Rivard 3rd in the 2 mile. Christin Hyles 3rd and Amanda Rivard 6th in the Mile. And, Kim Mosier 2nd in the 200 meter dash.

The Varsity boys finished the meet in 1st place with a total of 87 points. The Buffaloes were led by Andy Bennett 1st place and Caesar Ramirez 2nd in the 2 mile. Michael Allen 2nd place in the 200 meter dash.

The high school tracksters will host the Pioneer relays at home on March 29.

Varsity Boys Results:
2 Mile - 1st, Andy Bennett, 11:16.76; 2nd, Caesar Ramirez, 11:41.66
200 Meter Dash - 2nd, Michael

Allen, 23.44; 6th, Jeff Champion, 25.00
1600 Meter Run - 3rd, Andy Bennett, 5:14.89; 5th, Caesar Ramirez, 5:32.66
Mile Relay (1st place) - Dusty Dickson, Dustin Purvis, Thomas Dimitri, Michael Allen
Sprint Relay (3rd place) - Jeff Champion, Dusty Dickson, Marcus Williams, Dustin Purvis
800 Relay (2nd place) - Dusty Dickson, Dustin Purvis, Thomas Dimitri, Michael Allen
Varsity Girls Results:
2 Mile - 3rd, Amanda Rivard
400 Meter Dash - 1st, Kim Mosier, 62.27; 4th, Shana Hyles, 68.54
200 Meter Dash - 2nd, Kim Mosier
1600 Meter Run - 3rd, Christin Hyles, 6:44.46; 6th, Amanda Rivard, 7:13.84
Mile Relay (3rd place) - Naomi Isabell, Ashley Cook, Shana Hyles, Kim Mosier
Sprint Relay (6th place) - Naomi Isabell, Kelsee Richards, Ashley Cook, Rainey Bacon

Girls Junior High School Track Results

Friday, March 7, 2003 the Jr. High kids loaded up about 1:30 and took off for the first TRACKMEET of the season in Winters, Texas.

The Junior High girls competed in the "B" Division against Winters, Ballinger, Coleman, and Baird. The team ended up in third place with 118 points.

Team Results:

Field Events
Shot - Douglass, 1st 25'11"; Scott, 2nd 23'7 1/2"; Wallace, 3rd 22'6"
Discuss - Douglass, 2nd 60'1"; Wallace, 4th 53'10"; Avants and Walker
High Jump - Libey, 3rd 4'0"
Long Jump - Burrhus, 3rd 13'2"; Milam, 6th 11'9"; Mathews

Running Events
400 Relay, (2nd) 1:01.07 - Scott, Burrhus, Biggs, Douglass
800 Relay, (2nd) 2:10.67 - Scott, Burrhus, Biggs, Douglass

1600 Relay, (1st) 5:06.30 - Scott, Burrhus, Libey, Douglass
100 Hurdles - Cook (3rd) 22.24, Milam (5th) 22.73
800 Run - Avants, Mathews
100 Dash - Libey (5th) 15.59; Wallace and Walker
400 Dash - Libey (5th) 1:17.90; Milam and Walker
200 Dash - Wallace
300 Hurdles - Cook (4th) 1:04.94
1600 Run - Avants (6th) 8:13.31, Milam

Team members for this meet: Christina Avants, Hailey Biggs, Christi Burrhus, Macayla Cook, Mykea Douglass, Brittani Libey, Betty Mathews, Kassie Milam, Karen Scott, Tiffany Walker and Michaela Wallace.

Special Helpers: Tracey Randolph and Jesse Norris

All these young ladies did a very fine job and represented Cross Plains well.

Registration for next year's Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten will be held on Thursday, April 4. This screening is open to students that will be 3, 4, or 5 years old before September 1. Parents will need to bring the child's social security card and shot record. Parents will be asked to call the elementary school at 725-6123 and schedule an appointment following Spring Break (March 24).

ELEMENTARY EXTRA

BY NANCY RANDOLPH

Everyone is now rested from the week off for Spring Break. The elementary will be working very hard to finish the year with year end activities. The students will be working hard to meet their AR goals in grades K-6th to go to the Mr. Gatti's reading trip. It will be a fun filled day to reward students that meet their AR goal. The last day for AR goals to be met is Friday, May 2.

The student's next holiday will be Friday, April 18. Monday April 21 will also be a holiday. Students will attend school on May 9th to make up the other bad weather day.

Do not forget to turn in EPI cookie dough fund-raiser packets on Thursday, March 27. The dough and prizes will be sent out in mid-April.

Registration for next year's Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten will be held on Thursday, April 4. This screening is open to students that will be 3, 4, or 5 years old before September 1. Parents will need to bring the child's social security card and shot record. Parents will be asked to call the elementary school at 725-6123 and schedule an appointment following Spring Break (March 24).

Pre-K/Kindergarten Registration Told

Parents are asked to register their children who will enter Pre-Kindergarten next fall. Cross Plains Elementary offers Pre-Kindergarten to all children who will be four years of age on or before September 1, 2003. Also, students who will be five years of age on or before September 1, 2003 are eligible for Kindergarten.

Kindergarten is a full day program. Kindergarten is a basic part of the Cross Plains School system and the service is available to all students. If your child is currently enrolled in Pre-K at Cross Plains Elementary, you will not have to go through the screening process. If your child had not been enrolled in Pre-K, and will be attending Kindergarten in the fall, please register for screening.

Pre-K and Kindergarten screening will be conducted Thursday, April 3, at Cross Plains Elementary School. Please call the Elementary Principal's office at (254) 725-6123 to make an appointment for your child. The screening will take about sixty minutes. Each student's hearing, vision, speech, motor skills, language ability and developmental growth will be evaluated at this time. Parents will be given a report on their children's progress at the time of the screening.

Parents are reminded that to enter school in Texas the student must have a state approved birth certificate and a current immuni-

zation record.

Immunization Requirements:
 Hepatitis B-3 doses by age 4
 DTaP- 4 doses with 1 on or after 4th birthday
 Haemophilus Influenza Type B- 1 dose on/after 15 months unless a series is completed @ 12 months
 Polio- 3-doses with 1 on or after 4th birthday
 Measles- 2 doses on/after 1st birthday
 Rubella- 1 dose on/after 1st birthday
 Mumps- 1 dose on/after 1st birthday
 Vaericella- 1 dose by age 4.

Estimado Padre o Guardian:
 El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Cross Plains ofrecera un programa de pre-kindergarten si hay quince ninos que eualifiquen para tal servicio. Para poder ser elegible para este programa, un estudiante debe tener al menos cuatro arios de edad y satisfacer por lo menos uno de los siguientes requisitos:
 -incapacidad de hablar y entender ingles
 -desventajas educacionales
 -sin hogar.

Si usted cree que su nino(a) o un nino(a) que usted conozca satisfaca uno o mas de estos requisitos, por favor se comunica con la escuela.

Sinceramente,
 Margie Sowell
 Director de la Escuela

Cross Plains National Honor Society in Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off

ABILENE, Texas—More than 1,300 groups are expected to participate on April 5 in the Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off, one of the nation's largest single-day cleanups.

Among those already signed up to participate are two Callahan County Adopt-a-Highway (AAH) groups. They are the Cross Plains National Honor Society and the Baird High School Student Council.

Last year alone, one million pounds of trash was picked up by more than 70,000 AAH and Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) volunteers all across Texas, making it one of the most successful years in Trash-Off history.

"The annual Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off brings people across the state together to clean up our roadsides and take pride in Texas," says Mary Beth Kilgore, Abilene District AAH coordinator. "The large number of volunteers who turn out for this event each year shows that citizens are genuinely concerned with beautifying the state and Jones County," she added.

"Since we started counting in 1994, volunteers have picked up more than 14 million tons of trash on Texas highways," reports Doris Howdeshell, Director of the Travel Division for the Texas Department of Transportation, the organization that runs the state litter prevention campaign. "This equals 1,417 pounds for every man, woman and child in Texas."

Abilene resident Donna Albus, president of Keep Texas Beautiful, the grassroots arm of Don't Mess with Texas, agrees. "In order to bring together the volunteers who will take to the highways during this year's roadside collection, every organization in every community plays a vital role. The goal is to heighten the visibility of the event to make this year the biggest and best yet."

Callahan County AAH groups who wish to participate in the April 5 Trash-Off and who have yet to sign up may do so by calling the Abilene District coordinator at 915/676-6806 or Rudy Rodriguez at 915/854-1353.

Band Boosters to Meet Monday

The Band Boosters will meet Monday, March 31, at 5:30 p.m. at the Band Hall. New officers will be elected at this time.

Anyone interested should attend this meeting.

Also, band members are to pick

up their new band uniform at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 31. However, if you participate in Junior High Track, pick up your uniform at the Band Hall immediately after school on Tuesday, April 1st.

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

March 18, 2003

The Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees met in a called meeting with the following members present: Vicki Dillard, Susan Schaefer, Donnie Dillard, Jim Cook, Monty Richards and Tony Wyatt.

The following administration

and guests were also in attendance: Superintendent Jackie Tennon.

Prayer was led by Jackie Tennon.

They interviewed the following Athletic Director candidates: Steve Gunter, Bill Black, Kent Bode and David Hagler.

Motion was made by Richards and seconded by Wyatt to adjourn. For 6 Against 0

Childhood Obesity: The new epidemic

By Patti Patterson, M.D.

We see trends come and go in this country. But one that is growing at an alarming rate is the percentage of children and adolescents who are overweight.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 1999, 13 percent of children aged 6 to 11 years and 14 percent of adolescents aged 12 to 19 years in the United States were overweight. This prevalence has nearly tripled for adolescents in the past two decades.

This trend is serious because of the health complications caused by obesity. Risk factors for heart disease, such as high cholesterol and high blood pressure, occur with increased frequency in overweight children and adolescents compared to children with a healthy weight. Type 2 diabetes, which is closely linked to obesity, has increased dramatically in children and adolescents.

Overweight adolescents have a 70 percent chance of becoming overweight adults. This increases to 80 percent if one or both parents are overweight or obese. New evidence from the Framingham Heart Study shows that obesity doubles the risk of heart failure in women. A man with 22 extra pounds has a 75 percent greater chance of having a heart attack than one at healthy weight. The most immediate consequence of being overweight in childhood is social discrimination. This is associated with poor self-esteem and

depression.

Obesity in children and adolescents is generally caused by lack of physical activity, unhealthy eating patterns, or a combination of the two, with genetics and life-style both playing important roles in determining a child's weight. Several studies have linked sedentary activities such as watching television or playing computer and video games to obesity in children. A recent Harvard University study linked the consumption of soft drinks containing sugar with obesity.

Doctors and other health care professionals are the best sources to determine whether your child's weight is healthy. If necessary, they can help rule out rare medical problems as the cause of unhealthy weight and can help you formulate a plan of good nutrition and exercise to improve your family's health.

Parents can make a lifelong difference in their family members' health by modeling healthy eating habits; turning off the computers, television and games; and planning family activities that provide fun and physical exercise. It is also important to encourage your child's school to provide healthy meals, opportunities for exercise and to limit access to unhealthy snacks and soft drinks.

Patti Patterson, M.D., is vice president for rural and community health at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

SCHOOL MENU

MARCH 31 - APRIL 4

<p>BBREAKFAST</p> <p>MONDAY--Oatmeal, Toast, Assorted Juice</p> <p>TUESDAY-- Waffle, Sausage, Assorted Juice</p> <p>WEDNESDAY-- Breakfast Burrito, Assorted Juice</p> <p>THURSDAY--Cereal, Toast Assorted Juice</p> <p>FRIDAY-- Cheese Toast, Assorted Juice</p>	<p>LUNCH</p> <p>MONDAY--Hot Dog w/ chili & cheese, Tater Tots, Peaches</p> <p>TUESDAY-- Steak Fingers w/ gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Pears</p> <p>WEDNESDAY--Meat-Cheese Nachos, Salad, Corn, Fruit Crisp</p> <p>THURSDAY--Pizza, Salad, Carrot Sticks, Rosy-Applesauce</p> <p>FRIDAY-- Hamburger, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Fries, Cookie</p>
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Rising Star Trade Days March 28-30

Rising Star has a new attraction -- the Rising Star Trade Days will open March 28, 29, 30 for business! It is located at 713 West College (Hwy 36) in Rising Star, Texas.

The trade days is situated on two beautiful acres which less than a year ago was three separate properties - two of which had been abandoned for years. It is now ready for sellers and shoppers and has about 140 vendor spaces, roads for easy access, and electric and water hoop-ups for sellers bringing an RV.

It will be open monthly on the fourth weekend each month and expects to have visitors from all over the Big Country! Shoppers will find a wide variety of mer-

chandise for sale as many of our sellers have cleaned out garages and closets; many have hand-made crafts; and many will be selling new merchandise such as sunshades, purses, shoes, t-shirts, hats, gloves, jewelry and much, much more. Others will have antiques, collectibles, books, videos, CD's and miscellaneous used merchandise. In addition, several food vendors will be on the grounds with their delicious offerings!

Admission is free -- parking is free -- and rest rooms are provided. Come on out March 28, 29, and 30th and join in the fun! Next month's trade days will be April 25, 26, 27 and May will Memorial Day weekend. See you there!

Ricci Named Who's Who

ABILENE, TX -- Hardin-Simmons University announces the Laura Ricci of Cross Plains has been selected by a faculty committee at HSU to Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

The body charged with the responsibility for making recommendations from HSU was required to evaluate the student's academic achievement, service

to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities, and potential for future achievement. The undergraduates must have also completed at least 60 semester hours in order to be nominated to receive this honor.

They will join an elite group of students from more than 2,300 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several foreign nations.

School Choice Good for Texas

AUSTIN, Texas -- Testifying before the Texas House Committee on Public Education, the Texas Public Policy Foundation's director of education research said Tuesday that the time for school vouchers is long overdue.

"The great myth is that vouchers are some kind of experiment," said Chris Patterson. "When Texas established the public schools in 1876, it did so using a voucher system. And there have been programs operating in Vermont and Maine for the last 150 years."

The public education committee was considering legislation that would create a voucher pilot program in Texas. The Foundation will next month release a collection of new reports on school choice and vouchers that cover the spectrum of political and ideological positions on the issue.

Patterson said 10 states offer school choice options to parents and children -- either as vouchers, tax credits or tax deductions. She noted that research by the RAND

Corporation and others have shown real, long-term academic gains resulting from school choice programs, especially for under-achieving and disadvantaged students.

"Vouchers will offer Texas students the opportunity to attend the schools that will best meet their needs," she said. "Texas has improved public schools dramatically over the past two decades, but some children are still left behind. The voucher program proposed today offers new hope to those children."

Patterson said legislators "can give children renewed hope for the best educational opportunities possible" by supporting school choice.

"Vouchers do not hurt public schools, and have in fact been shown in many cases to help improve them," she said. "Research on the effects of school choice in Edgewood ISD and Milwaukee, as well as in Florida, Arizona and Michigan, find that public schools definitely improve when they are forced to compete for students and dollars."

A&M's New Corp Commander Has Ties to Cross Plains

By Loretta Fulton
Abilene Reporter-News Staff Writer

EDITOR'S NOTE: Will McAdams is the son of former resident Terry Dukes and husband, Grant, of Abilene and Jim McAdams of Huntsville. He is the grandson of Wilma Edington who now resides in Abilene. **Vanda Anderson Creech**

Will McAdams already held the titles of captain and president. Now, he can add commander.

McAdams, a 2000 graduate of Colorado High School in Colorado City, was named corps commander for the 2003-04 school year at Texas A&M University. He was selected from 27 candidates by a board of military officers and current cadet leaders.

As corps commander, McAdams will become the highest-ranking cadet in the 2,000-member Corps of Cadets, which is in its 126th year.

"It's pretty big down here in Aggieland," McAdams said in a

telephone interview.

A junior political science major, McAdams currently serves as sergeant major of the corps. As corps commander, McAdams will help shape corps policy and head the corps' interaction with the university.

McAdams was well-prepared for his service when he enrolled at the university. He is a fourth-generation Aggie, captain of the football team at Colorado High School, president of the student council, a member of the National Honor Society and class president four years.

At Texas A&M, McAdams not only is an officer in the corps, he also is a member of the Ross Volunteer Company, the state's oldest student organization. The volunteers serve as an honor guard to the governor.

Next year McAdams plan to run for student senate at Texas A&M, serve as corps commander and keep up his top-notch grades. He isn't expecting it to be easy.

"It'll be something else," McAdams said.

Burcham Graduates Basic Combat Training

Army Pvt. James L. Burcham has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky.

During the nine-week training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremony, weapons, rifle marksmanship and bayonet training, chemical warfare, field

training and tactical exercises, armed and unarmed combat, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, traditions, and core values.

Burcham is a 1997 graduate of Rising Star High School.

Wrangler Belles Auditions Sunday

Auditions for the Cisco Junior College Wrangler Belles are scheduled for Sunday, March 30, at 2 p.m. in the CJC gymnasium. Students who are accepted into the group will be recipients of an activity grant that ranges from \$1,600 to \$2,000 per year.

The CJC dance group is a close-knit organization with an emphasis placed on positive attitude and individual growth. The small, friendly campus provides a family atmosphere that the girls truly miss as they depart for large universities, for beginning their careers or for pursuing their personal educational goals.

The Wrangler Belles actively promote the college through numerous appearances around the Big Country. This organization also provides training in professionalism, individual character, poise and self-esteem. Any young woman who would like to audition for the team should contact Debbie Baker at Cisco Junior College (254) 442-2567, ext. 140 to confirm an appointment for the audition. Young ladies who are unable to attend this audition should make arrangements with the director to audition at another time.

College Days at ASU Set for April 5

"College Days," sponsored by Angelo State University on Saturday, April 5, will provide prospective college students a taste, both literally and figuratively, of educational experience and opportunities available to them once they enroll at ASU.

In addition to sampling the various academic and extracurricular programs available at the university, students and their families will also be treated to a free lunch and the opportunity to enjoy the ASU Jazz Festival 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the University Mall in front of the Houston Harte University Center.

Activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. with check-in at the C.J. "Red" Davidson Conference Center in the University Center, 1910 Rosemont on the ASU campus. The program will begin at 10 a.m. in the Davidson Center with a welcome by ASU President James Hindman. Tours of campus will then be conducted, including a stop at the Food Service Center for the complimentary lunch.

After lunch students and their

families will return to the Davidson Conference Center for the ASU Expo, where information will be available on academic programs, student organizations, extracurricular activities, financial aid, Carr Academic Scholarships, residence halls and their areas of interest to prospective students and their parents.

Special information sessions also will be presented for students interested in ASU pre-professional programs, including education, nursing, physical therapy, pre-law and pre-health professions.

Throughout the event ASU faculty, staff and students will be available to welcome guests to campus and to answer their questions about all aspects of student life at ASU.

College days Coordinator, Bonnie Stennett said the event provides a window into the genuine education available at Angelo State.

For more information on College Days, contact the Office of Admissions at (915) 942-2058.

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 4, 2003

This was a regular meeting of the Cross Plains City Council. All members were present. By general consent, minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Don Gosnell, Chief, gave the monthly police report. He reported 77 calls for service, 1 criminal mischief, 2 thefts, 2 accidents, 3 gas drive-offs, 2 prowlers, 4 assaults, 1 warrant served, 1 terroristic threat, 1 harassment, 1 burglary, with 2 criminal trespass warnings given and 43 warnings and 46 citations. By general consent, the council approved the report as presented.

Bob Hill presented the monthly judge's report. He reported 46 citations for February with 21 remaining outstanding. There are 10 citations outstanding for January and 4 remaining outstanding for December. By general consent the council approved the report as presented.

Discussion was held concerning the DPS Emergency Management Plan. The council asked Debbie to check with the county concerning their plan.

James Nichols moved to pay Don Gosnell for 40 1/2 compensatory hours. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

Jerry Cassle moved to order the May 3, 2003 election. Dean Dillard seconded and motion carried.

James Nichols moved to appoint Esther Kerr as election judge. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

Edwin Weiss moved to pass an agreement between the City and the School District to share an early voting judge and an election judge, as well as the same polling place. Dean Dillard seconded and motion carried.

Debbie Gosnell, EDC Director, presented the proposal for "Potter Game Tables" and informed the council that the Economic Development Board has passed unanimously to grant to Potter Game Tables a loan/grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 to replace the roof and purchase additional equipment. Edwin Weiss moved to approve the proposal as pre-

sented to the council. James Nichols seconded and motion carried unanimously.

James Nichols moved to pay the bills. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

Charles Rodenberger, President of the Cross Plains Public Library Board, met with the council to ask the council to consider increasing the annual contribution to the library. It was noted that the City currently gives \$3,500.00 to the library and the county gives \$2,000.00. The request was that the city and county begin giving \$25,000.00, or whatever the city could afford to increase. The council discussed the matter at length and due to the deficit in the city's budget, by general consent the council did not increase the contribution at this time.

Discussion was held concerning the Motel/Hotel Tax. By general consent the council asked Debbie to request from the Chamber of Commerce a financial statement of expenditures on the tax.

Joe Ingram moved to go into executive session to review personnel salaries. James Nichols seconded and motion carried.

Discussion was held at length concerning salaries.

James Nichols moved to return to the open session. Dean Dillard seconded and motion carried.

Mayor Ray Purvis instructed Debbie Gosnell that there would be no salary increases this budget year. He also instructed Debbie to increase the sewer rate \$1.50 per household. This would increase the amount from \$13.00 to \$14.50. The council instructed Debbie to make the changes to the budget and set up a workshop to finish the budget at that time. Debbie is to also set up a public hearing prior to the end of the month to discuss the budget.

James Nichols moved to pay the bills. Edwin Weiss seconded and motion carried.

Edwin Weiss moved to adjourn. Jerry Cassle seconded and motion carried.

Ray Purvis, Mayor
ATTEST:
Debbie Gosnell, Secretary

Happy Birthday!

MARCH 29
Tonja C. Davis
Randy Reddick
Bill Hedrick
Homer Parsons
Randy Jones
Tiffany Aiken
C.M. Fitzgerald
Mrs. Jerry Erwin
Stephen Baugh
Joyce Marie Wilson
Randall Lynn Jones
Lisa Fortune

Virginia Sheppard
Edna M. McCormick
Bonnie Rogers
Bethany (Meador) Parker
Bob Kirkham
April (Jennings) Netzhammer
Florence Stewart
Bill Strength
Glen Maxwell
Flo McDade
Linda Boudreaux

MARCH 30
Eddy Albrecht
Feleta Jane Bell
Wesley Kelly
Jerry Ann Perkins
Mrs. Granvel Scott
Robert Williams
Mrs. Grady Scott
Elena Reyes
Matthew Chase Smith
Ector Junior Mireles

APRIL 2
Ronnie Pittman
Mrs. Sterling Odom
Kailea Hunter
Lynanne Hill
Cody Self
April Shay Foster
Charlesea Jean Ethington
Anthony Ring
Kathy Anderson
Mildred Smith

MARCH 31
Lynn Nabers
Sharon (Ingram) Pope
Ruth Clyatt
Rusty Wayne Johnson
Todd Kennedy
Eva McGough
Ector Mireles, Jr.
Lyceria Juarez
Blake Ryan Nickerson

APRIL 3
Louis Cavage
Mrs. Roy Stambaugh
John Baird
Randall Segura
Mrs. F.L. Merrill
Steve Letney

APRIL 1
April Hall
Shae (Pancake) White
Mrs. H.H. Hutson
Phil Rutledge

APRIL 4
Beth (McCowen) Bogue
Glenn Phillips
Orean Peevy
Gregory Wilson
Mrs. Harold Freeman
Debbie Meroney
Sonya (Renfro) Barnett

To get your name on the Birthday Column, send your name and date of birth to *The Cross Plains Review*, P.O. Box 519, Cross Plains, Texas 76443. There is no charge for this service. **To delete a name due to death or other reason send name and birth date (Month and Day) or Call (254) 725-6111.**

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OFFICE SUPPLIES AT
THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

Callahan County makes top ten in disposition of cases

Callahan County has made the Top Ten list. According to a report just released by the Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Records Division Callahan County disposed of 85% of the cases reported in the county in 2001. The only county with 100% disposition was Borden County with only one case filed and disposed without going through court.

Harris County had a 97% disposition rate. Sterling County and Victoria County tied for third with a 91% rate. In fourth place was Lavaca and Matagorda counties with 88% disposition and fifth place was Scurry County with an 87% rate. Jackson County disposed of 86% of reported cases and Parmer and Callahan Counties both disposed of 85% of reported cases. The study reflected that Callahan County had 324 cases reported.

Two hundred and forty four counties disposed of less than 85% of their cases. At the bottom of the list Jeff Davis County reported 0% of 8 cases, King County 0% of 10 cases and Zavala County 0% of 38 cases disposed. Brazos County reported only 1% of 4,920 cases reported and Hunt County reported 1% of 1,824 cases. Loving and McMullen counties reported no cases reported or disposed.

The DPS report examines the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) report provided by each county upon arrest.

The CJIS report is generated by the County Sheriff's Office upon arrest and follows a case through the prosecutor's office, the courts, and the clerks' offices. Each office plays an important part in the process and the report provides a basis for the defendant's criminal history which is kept on record in Austin. The lower results of some counties may be explained by poor reporting by the offices in those counties.

Of the surrounding counties Eastland County rated 75%, Taylor County had a 72% rate of disposition, Brown County disposed of 61% of its reported cases, Jones and Shackelford counties rated 53%, Coleman County disposed of 36% of its cases.

Eddie Curtis is Sheriff of Callahan County, Roger Corn is County Judge, John Weeks is District Judge, Allen Wright is the County Attorney, Sharon Owens is the District Clerk and Jeanie Bohannon is the County Clerk. Each of these public officials is supported by excellent staff as reflected by high disposition rating in the DPS report.

These results reflect the efforts and good working relationship of each of the offices involved. The fact that Callahan County is in the top four percent in the State, even over larger counties with greater resources and larger staffs, reflects well on everyone in the county courthouse.

Callahan County's M. Johnson Ranch recognized for 111 years

AUSTIN—Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs honored 94 Texas farms and ranches during the 28th annual Family Land Heritage ceremony, March 21 in Austin. The ceremony recognizes families who have kept their farm or ranch in continuous agricultural production by the same family for 100 years or more.

The ceremony was held at 2 p.m. in the Lyndon Baines Johnson Auditorium on the University of Texas campus.

This marks the third year that the Texas Department of Agriculture honored farms and ranches in the 150-year category. TDA recognized 11 properties that were established between 1835 and 1852.

"The history of Texas is in many ways the history of agriculture, and the families being honored have made an enormous contribution to that heritage," Combs said. "It's amazing to realize that

some of these families have farmed and ranched in Texas for more than 150 years. That kind of dedication by Texas farmers and ranchers is one of the main reasons that agriculture is the second-largest industry in the Lone Star State."

Among those recognized for 111 years of continuous operation include the M. Johnson Ranch in Callahan County. The ranch was established in 1892. Current owners include Maxine Johnson, Mary (Johnson) Sherrard, and Mollie Elizabeth "Betsy" (Johnson) Wilson.

Ron Stone, a well-known Texas broadcaster and historian, served as master of ceremonies. Red Steagall, noted Texas cowboy poet and songwriter, performed following the certificate presentation.

The Family Land Heritage Program has honored more than 3,700 properties since its start in 1974.

Oplin Community Center Garage and Craft Sale Set

The Oplin Community Center will host a Community Wide Garage and Craft Sale on Saturday, April 5, 2003 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Booth space is limited, if you are interested in renting a space for this sale please contact Liz Boggess at 529-4303 or Pam Rumfield at 529-4522. Booth spaces are leasing for \$10.00 per space and tables are available on a first come basis. Spaces are available both inside and outside the community center. A bake sale and sandwiches will be sold during

the garage and craft sale by the Oplin Volunteer Fire Department.

For those of you who are in the process of doing your spring cleaning and want to make a few bucks on the side, or for those of you who love to make crafts and need a place to sell them; this is the answer for you. Rent a booth, sell your items and make a little extra money.

For those of you who just like to go to garage and craft sales, mark your calendar, Saturday, April 5, 2003. We'll see you there.

Submitted by Pam Rumfield

Robert E. McCool
Attorney at Law

Law Offices at:
235 Market St.
Baird, Texas 79504
(915) 854-1016

Abilene Area Marketing Club holding special meeting Friday

The Abilene Area Marketing Club will hold a special meeting on Friday, March 28, 6:00 PM at the Taylor County Extension office. The purpose of the session is to meet with Kevin Smith of Cimarron Commodities to discuss how to open a commodity trading account and how to use the futures market as a marketing tool.

Following this meeting, the group will adjourn for dinner at 7:30 PM. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Abilene Area Marketing Club may do so at this time.

For additional information, contact the Taylor County Extension office at (915) 672-6048.

Pregnancy Assistance Center to Open in County

Plans are currently underway to open The Haven, a multi-faceted women's center that will serve Callahan County. The Haven includes a crisis-pregnancy center offering free pregnancy testing, placement of unwed mothers and babies, and assistance in the form of clothing, food, and necessary nursery items. The Haven will offer support to encourage mothers to choose life. For every one unwed mother statistics show that there are three abortions. The Haven will be networking with other crisis-pregnancy centers to bring life and healing to our county.

The Haven also includes a women's training center. It will serve as a Bible-based alternative to the social programs offered by our government and will be a networking center for faith-based monies that can make a difference in Callahan County. Training programs will be offered that include everything from childcare and parenting skills to job-training and GED classes.

The Haven is not another government program. It is not just an assistance program. It is a means by which our communities and churches can join together to rebuild the moral and spiritual foundations that are disappearing in our society. It is neighbor helping neighbor, older women training and instructing younger women, building relationships and getting personally involved with one another. It is being a community, offering others what you have that they need. It is an opportunity to make a difference.

We need you to be a part of The Haven. To find out more about it and how you can be involved, please come to an area-wide meeting on Thursday, March 20, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at the Clyde Lions Club Building. For more information call Christy at 893-4003 or Nancy at 893-5442.

Want To Write Your Elected Officials? Here are their addresses:

Austin

Rick Perry, Governor, Room 200, State Capitol, Austin, TX. 78711.
Harvey Hilderbran, State Representative, P.O. Box 2910, Austin, Texas 78768-2910.
Troy Fraser, Texas Senate District 24, P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711 or call (512) 463-0124.

Washington

George W. Bush, President of the United States, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20000.
Charles Stenholm, Congressman, 17th Texas District, 1211 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.
Phil Gramm, U.S. Senator, Room 370, Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-4302.
Kay Bailey Hutchison, U.S. Senator, Room 703, Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-4301.



MR. AND MRS. MARK THOMAS WRIGHT

Childress-Wright Exchanged Wedding Vows in Ft. Worth

Stephanie Beth Childress of Denton and Mark Thomas Wright of Fort Worth were married on December 28, 2002 in Fort Worth, Texas. Rev. Ronnie White of Cross Plains officiated the evening ceremony at Rose Chapel, located in the Fairmount Southside Historic District in Fort Worth.

Parents of the couple are Dr. and Mrs. Scott Childress of Cottonwood and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wright of Fort Worth.

Friend of the Bride, Sarah Brickey of Cresson, was Maid of Honor and Veronica Wright of Fort Worth, and sister of the Groom, served as Bridesmaid.

Best Man was John Deegan of Denton and Groomsman was David Estrada of Tucson, Arizona, both friends of the Groom. Serving as ushers were David Estrada and Trevon Warren of San Diego, California, who are stationed on the USS Gonzales in Norfolk, Virginia along with the Groom. Kate Montagna, friend of the Bride from Port Aransas, kept the guest register.

The Bride wore a strapless diamond-white wedding gown with a chapel train designed by Maggie Sottero. The bodice, train and overskirt trim were embellished with Swavoraski

crystals. She also wore a matching crystal tiara headpiece and carried a Swavoraski crystal beaded bouquet which she created herself. The Bride's attendants wore matching black strapless evening gowns and carried red crystal beaded bouquets, also created by the Bride.

The Groom wore a black tuxedo with a silver brocade tie and vest. In his lapel, he wore a crystal beaded boutonniere created by his Bride. The Best Man wore the same style tuxedo as the Groom with black tie and vest and wore a red crystal beaded boutonniere, complimenting the Bride's attendants. The Ushers were dressed in Navy Dress Blues.

Music selections for the ceremony included a mix of songs chosen by the Bride and Groom, and walked down the aisle to "Love in the Open Air", a classical composition by Paul McCartney.

The alter was decorated with hanging silver shepherd lanterns, ivy, and red gladiola flower arrangements created by the mother and sister of the Groom. Pew candles, draped in ivy, decorated the center aisle.

A celebration buffet dinner was served to guests in the Rose Chapel Ballroom immediately

following the ceremony. Hundreds of silver origami cranes, a wedding symbol representing loyalty and longevity, were folded by Stephanie and Mark prior to their wedding and were used throughout the decor. Guest tables were graced with the silver cranes, red candle votives and tall glass urns with red gladiola bouquets. Large hanging white Japanese lanterns completed the decor throughout the ballroom.

A three tiered Red Velvet wedding cake, topped with a stained-glass bride and groom, and the Double-Chocolate Groom's cakes were also decorated with traditional cranes. The couple chose "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong for their first dance. Joe Martin of Ontario, Canada, friend of the Groom, served as DJ for the evening.

After honeymooning at The Ashton in Historic Downtown Fort Worth, Mr. and Mrs. Wright are now at home in Norfolk, Virginia. Mark is stationed on the USS Gonzales where he gives his duty to the U.S. Navy as a signalman and Stephanie has entered an accelerated masters program for English and Secondary Education at Old Dominion University.

WTU Retail Energy rate increase petition approved
 HOUSTON (March 24, 2003) —Last month, significant increases in the price of natural gas led CPL Retail Energy L.P. and WTU Retail Energy L.P. to file requests with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to raise electric prices in South and West Texas respectively. Today, the PUCT approved the rate increases for CPL Retail Energy and WTU Retail Energy residential and small business customers.

The change will become effective immediately and will increase residential customers' bills by approximately \$14.00 - \$17.00 for usage of 1,000 kilowatt hours per month.

The increase follows other utilities' rate increases due to the dramatic surge in natural gas prices—more than 40 percent since May 1, 2002.

About CPL Retail Energy and WTU Retail Energy

For more than 75 years, CPL Retail Energy and WTU Retail Energy have provided electricity to residential and small business customers in the South and West Texas regions. CPL Retail Energy serves customers in South Texas, including Corpus Christi, Victoria, McAllen, Laredo and Harlingen. WTU Retail Energy serves customers in West Texas, including Abilene, Alpine and San Angelo. The companies were recently acquired by Centrica US Holdings Inc. from American Electric Power, and combined, serve approximately 810,000 customers, making them part of the third largest retail electric provider in Texas.

Cross Plains Review
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 Ads Noon on Tuesday
 Articles Noon on Monday

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SPECIAL GUESTS AT CROSS PLAINS KIWANIS MEETING— Rhonda Brown (left), and Lisa Daniels (right) were guests of Kiwanian Benny Callaway Tuesday, March 25th, at the Kiwanis meeting. Lisa talked about her new business, Lisa's Game Room and Gift Shop, and Rhonda assisted. The Kiwanis Club meets every Tuesday at noon at Jean's Feed Barn.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hello C.P.,

We hope all of you are doing fine. We had a long flight from Japan to Germany. We left Tokyo on February 12 and did not arrive in Frankfurt until the 14th. So far, Germany is great.

If anyone would like to write, here is our address:

Warren Parson
PSC2 Box 8883
APO AE 09012.

We hope to see ya'll soon.

Warren Parson and Family

Dear Editor,

At sporting events, during the playing of the national anthem, old geezers hold their caps over their hearts and sing without embarrassment. They know the words and believe in them.

Old geezers remember World War I, the Depression, World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Normandy and Hitler. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, the Cold War, the Jet Age and the

moon landing, not to mention Vietnam.

If you bump into an old geezer on the sidewalk, he will apologize. If you pass an old geezer on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a woman. Old geezers trust strangers and are courtly to women. Old geezers hold the door for the next person and always, when walking, make certain the woman is on the inside for protection.

Old geezers get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children, and they don't like any filth on TV or in movies. Old geezers have moral courage. They seldom brag unless it's about their grandchildren.

It's the old geezers who know our great country is protected, not by politicians or police, but by the young men and women in the military serving their country.

The country needs old geezers with their decent values. We need them now, more than ever. Thank God for old geezers.

C.J. Evenden
Abilene

'Ranchers' Resources' short course series offered

Texas Cooperative Extension is sponsoring a three-night "Ranchers' Resources" short course series April 7, 14, and 21. The course sites are Abilene Auction (April 7), Ben Richey Boys Ranch (April 14) and the Sears Ranch (April 21).

A total of four Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) continuing education units (CEUs) will be available for persons completing the series.

Gary Bomar, Taylor County Extension agent and a program coordinator, said the short course is designed to provide producers with the latest technical knowledge available. "We'll have everyone from feedlot operators to wildlife folks here to address just about any scenario a West Texas rancher could imagine," said Bomar. "We've tried hard to put together a quality program to really meet the needs of our region's cattlemen. It'll be tough to find a program anywhere with as much practical information as this one offers. We're sure proud of the finished product."

The Abilene Auction located on Interstate 20 North will concentrate on marketing. Speakers and topics include a beef cattle outlook by Stan Bevers, Vernon-based Extension economist, and Randy Carson, Abilene Auction owner. Rex Bland, owner of Cal-Texas Feedyard at Trent, will join Carson for a quality and price live cattle evaluation session that will round out

the evening.

The Ben Richey Boys Ranch, located on Loop 322, will feature Dr. Allen McGinty, Extension range specialist in San Angelo. He will offer a hands-on brush control demonstration entitled "Back to the Basics of Range Herbicide Management."

Speakers for the final session on the Sears Ranch, located on Highway 277 southwest of Abilene, are Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo, and Billy Henderson, local TDA inspector. Rollins will share his thoughts on livestock and wildlife interactions and Henderson will offer CEUs in herbicide laws and regulations.

The program is being sponsored by the Extension offices in Taylor, Callahan, Jones, Shackelford, Nolan and Fisher Counties.

Preregistration prior to April 1 is \$25 per person for the three-session short course and \$35 for late registrants and at the door. A single session is \$15 per person. Mail checks, made payable to Taylor County Extension, to 1982 Lytle Way, Abilene, TX 79602. Include name, address and phone number. For further information, contact Gary Bomar at 915-672-6048.

Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aid or accommodation are asked to contact the Taylor County Extension office one week in advance of the program.

Businesses have April 15 deadline for filing property tax renditions

AUSTIN—The Texas State Comptroller's office reminded Texas businesses to render their property with county appraisal districts by April 15. To render is to list the taxable inventory, furniture and fixtures, machinery and equipment and other property that a business owned or managed as of January 1, 2003. Appraisal districts use the information to set property values.

Business owners and operators are required by law to file an annual property tax rendition, but any property owner—including homeowners, farmers and ranchers—may render their property with county appraisal districts. Rendering allows property owners to record their opinion of their property's value and ensures that the appraisal district sends them a notice before placing a higher value on their property.

If more than one appraisal district appraises a property, the property owner should render in each appraisal district office.

The Comptroller's office also announced that owners whose property was damaged by a storm, flood or fire last year may file a special decreased value report that could lower their final tax bills. Property owners have until April 15 to file the decreased value report, which indicates their property's condition on January 1, 2003.

For more information about rendering property, deadline extensions and rendition forms, taxpayers may contact their county appraisal district office, email the Comptroller's property tax division at ptd.cpa@cpa.state.tx.us or call the property tax hotline at 1-800-252-9121 for general property tax information. In Austin, call (512) 305-9999.

Columbia recovery operations still needs help finding shuttle material

LUFKIN, TEXAS—The Columbia Shuttle Recovery Team is deeply appreciative of those who have helped discover and retrieve shuttle material. With the coming of Spring, trees, bushes, vines and grasses are beginning to grow. Eventually, this growth will cover shuttle material remaining unfound.

Any piece of shuttle material could prove to be an essential piece for investigators trying to understand what happened on February 1, 2003. But there are several critical parts that will become less valuable if they are not found soon.

"If you find something you believe may be shuttle material," says Allen Flynt, NASA oversight manager, DFO Lufkin, "please report it immediately to the Recovery Center using our toll-free hotline: 1-866-446-6603"

"If you have had problems getting through on this telephone line, if you have not been called back about your previous report, or if the material has not been picked up, please try again," advises Scott Wells, federal coordinating officer with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"We are committed to recovering as much of Columbia as possible and returning it home. We deeply appreciate your help in this important effort," continued Wells.

Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from March 16, 2003 through March 22, 2003 include:

Cases Investigated
Warnings—116
Complaints—99
DWI—4
Possession of Marijuana—4
Fugitive Arrest-Larceny-1
Vehicle Accidents

There was one vehicle accident investigated during this time span.

People Arrested On Outstanding Warrants
There were 32 outstanding warrants issued for a total of \$10,030.00 collected.

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*10/A. with 2bd/2 bath doublewide, 30x60 new metal barn, new septic system, water well, on pavement, close to town. \$60,000
NEW LISTING--3bd/13/4 bath, on 3/4/A in Burkett, several out buildings, garage, RV shelter, 17 Pecans Trees, Cabin with kitchen and bath, all for \$41,900
REDUCED-3/A and 3bd/2 1/2 bath, CH/A home on Pecan Bayou, garage, 2 car ports, on pavement, basement, city water, excellent fishing, retirement dream spot. Coleman Co., \$55,000
REDUCED-4.89/A with 1,880 sq. ft. 3 bd/1 3/4 Bath, nice, close to town, large storage bld. city water and waterwell. \$70,000
NEW LISTING--3/2 brick, 18/A. on pavement. 62x35 metal barn. Good pens. 7 miles S.E. of Cross Plains. Rural water lines \$135,000.
NEW LISTING--41/A. coastal with 2/2 double wide, Central H/A, new septic, new 30x60 barn, well, stock tank. On Pavement. \$90,000.
NEW LISTING--50/A, 2bd home, barn, pens, water well, improved grass, good location. \$120,000
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* 1996 Model Mobile Home w/decks, on 2 lots at Tamarick Mountain, on Brownwood Lake. \$54,000 Call Pauline.

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Ice Well Services, Inc. - 1802 Hensen- Abilene, TX 79603 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Moutray (Formation), Harris - Barton, Scott - Barton, and Tom Barton (Lease Name), Well Number 17, 1-WI, and 2. The proposed injection well is located 8 miles southwest of Baird in the Callahan County Regular, in Callahan County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 1102-1194, 1093-1098, and 1098-1210 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/ 463-6792).

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UNDER CONTRACT

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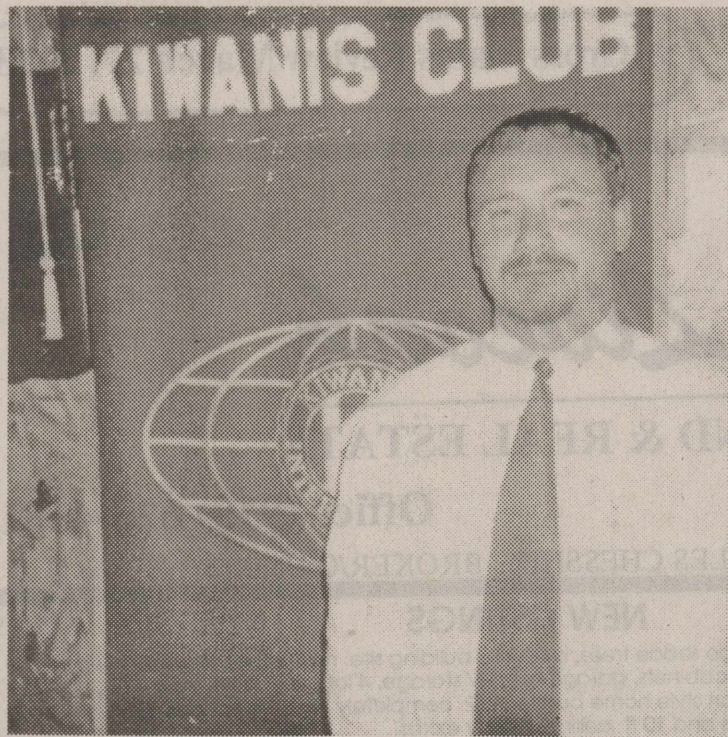
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KIWANIANS LEARN ABOUT THE USE OF ACUPUNCTURE—March 18th, Dr. Devin Koenig told the Kiwanis Club about the use of acupuncture in his Chiropractic practice in Cisco. He was invited by Don Clark. The public is invited to attend the Kiwanis meeting every Tuesday at noon at Jean's Feed Barn.

Social Security Rep Schedule Announced

A representative from the Social Security Administration office in Abilene will be in Eastland on the First Floor of the Courthouse on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. April 22, May 27 and June 24. You can call Social Security toll-free any weekday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 1-800-772-1213. Effective July 2003, Social Security visits will be on a quarterly basis and not monthly. You may contact Social Security on the internet at www.ssa.gov or by calling the toll-free number shown above.

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Homebound Elderly and Disabled Could Qualify for FREE Monitoring Services

ABILENE, TX (February 26, 2003)—Elderly, disabled or chronically ill Texans may be eligible for a free monitoring system that gives them an instant connection to the outside world from their homes. Outreach Health Services (OHS), a statewide leader in home health care, announced today that it is launching an awareness campaign to inform residents of Abilene and surrounding communities that they may qualify to receive the program, called Emergency Response Services (ERS), for free through the Texas Department of Human Services (TDHS).

The ERS program is available free of charge to individuals who meet certain income and Medicaid eligibility requirements. Offered by Outreach Health Services, the ERS program is a 24-hour monitoring and communication system that allows chronically ill, disabled or elderly persons to feel more secure in their homes.

ERS clients wear a lightweight help button at all times. The help button works in conjunction with an ERS console, which is placed at a central location in the client's home and is connected to a phone line. When clients find themselves in an emergency situation, they press the help button, and the ERS console sends a signal to the Outreach Health Services Emergency Monitoring Center.

Trained professionals, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, then notify the individuals who the client has pre-selected to respond to his or her specific situation. Responders may be family members, neighbors, friends or emergency personnel. Responders must live close enough to the client to be able to reach the client's home quickly.

The Outreach Health Services ERS program is available at no cost to individuals who meet certain income and Medicaid

eligibility requirements under the TDHS Community Care for the Aged and Disabled (CCAD) program. Other individuals may receive ERS at no charge through the TDHS Community Based Alternatives (CBA) program. To qualify, they must meet Medicaid eligibility requirements, live alone or be alone at least eight hours a day, have a phone line and be mentally alert enough to use the equipment.

The State of Texas allocates funds for ERS. When funds are not available, the names of interested persons are put on a waiting list, from which individuals are selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Some individuals choose to personally pay for ERS until they can receive the service at no cost to them. The cost of service on a private-pay basis ranges from \$30 to \$40 per month, depending on the features selected.

The Outreach Health Services ERS program is designed to help individuals live independently in their own homes and provide an instant connection to family, friends, neighbors and emergency personnel when help is needed.

An innovator in Emergency Response Services, OHS was one of the first providers of this service in Texas, piloting the program for TDHS in the San Antonio and Dallas/Fort Worth regions more than 20 years ago.

"OHS recently became a licensed ERS provider in other regions of the state and we feel an obligation to let the public know this service may be available at no charge to those who need it," says Brian Partin, Director of Community Care Services for Outreach Health Services. "It's a great comfort to be able to live independently and know you are safe and secure in your own home. If you or someone you care about needs help, anytime day or night, our ERS system is there with a simple press of a button."

Those interested in this program for themselves or a family member should contact Outreach Health Services at 1-800-347-7590 or their local Texas Department of Human Services office.

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Protecting yourself from West Nile Virus

By Patti J. Patterson, M.D.
As the summer approaches it's easy to head outdoors without thinking about risks in the environment. Many of us fail to keep ourselves hydrated, use sunscreen, and most of us forget to apply insect repellent. With recent worries about West Nile virus, this last step could help save your life.

Mosquitoes carry West Nile virus, and spread an encephalitis-like disease to horses, birds and other animals. Humans are also susceptible to getting ill from mosquitoes carrying the virus. Symptoms include fever, headaches, vomiting, nausea, muscle weakness and skin irritation. According to Ronald Warner, D.V.M., Ph.D., associate professor at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, one out of 150 people infected will develop serious complications. There is more of a concern for people 65 years of age or older if they contract the virus.

Currently, a vaccination for the virus is not available. If a physician diagnoses a person with West Nile virus, a specific medicine does not exist to treat the virus. This means doctors have to treat the symptoms and not the virus. It is possible that many of us have been infected with West Nile virus without knowing it because our system has developed immunity to the virus.

Here are a few tips to keep you and your animals safe. First, mosquitoes need water and warm temperatures to thrive, so it's important to practice good mosquito control. This means making sure there is no free-standing water around our homes, farm buildings and live-

stock areas. If you have horse troughs, empty them several times a week. Do not let water sit in wading pools, birdbaths, or any other containers. Keeping your lawn mowed will also help since mosquitoes will hide in tall grass.

Second, be sure to use insect repellent when you are outside. It is recommended that you use a repellent that has DEET as one of its ingredients. Repellents come in many forms, such as lotions and sprays. Adults should use a repellent that contains 20-35 percent DEET and children should use a repellent containing 6-10 percent DEET. In most cases, repellent lasts four hours unless you are in the water or perspiring, so reapply as necessary. Also, do not use scented cosmetics, hairspray or deodorant, because this will attract mosquitoes. If possible, be sure to wear light-colored clothing, long-sleeve shirts, pants and hats.

Third, if you have animals, there are steps you can take to ensure their well-being. Last year's outbreak of West Nile virus among horse populations reminded owners how important it is to keep stables dry and clear of trash. There is a vaccination available for horses which your veterinarian can discuss with you.

These simple steps could keep you from becoming a statistic. Should you feel that you or someone you know has West Nile virus, please see your health care provider.

Patti J. Patterson, M.D. is vice president of rural and community health at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

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