

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

# Cross Plains Review

## "Cross Plains' Oldest Business Institution"

### "A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, July 24, 2008



Rich in Agriculture  
Abundant in Wildlife  
Mast head designed by Deborah Lowitzer

100th YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 19

## DOWN HOME

**Editor's Note:** We had a similar story not too long ago, so getting this point across must be urgent. When someone brings me information, I feel that God needs to make a statement. He has to use individuals to deliver His messages. Reggie Pillans brought this in and it is meaningful and timely. Many men and women get so dedicated to their careers that their family life suffers. **Vanda Anderson**

### "Can I Borrow \$25?"

A man came home from work late, tired and irritated, to find his 5-year old son waiting for him at the door.

"Daddy, may I ask you a question?" asked the son.

"Yea sure, what is it?" replied the man.

"Daddy, how much do you make an hour?" the boy said. "That's none of your business. Why do you ask such a thing?" the man said angrily.

"I just want to know. Please tell me, how much do you make an hour?" the son requested.

"If you must know, I make \$50 an hour."

"Oh," the little boy replied with his head down. "Daddy, may I please borrow \$25?"

The father was furious, "If the only reason you asked that is so you can borrow some money to buy a silly toy or some other nonsense, then you march yourself straight to your room and go to bed. Think about why you are being so selfish. I don't work hard everyday for such childish frivolities."

The little boy quietly went to his room and shut the door.

The man sat down and started to get even angrier about the little boy's questions. How dare he ask such questions only to get some money?

After about an hour or so, the man had calmed down, and started to think maybe there was something he really needed to buy with that \$25.00. And he really didn't ask for money very often. The man went to the door of the little boy's room and opened the door.

"Are you asleep, son?" he asked. "No Daddy, I'm awake," replied the boy. "I've been thinking. Maybe I was too hard on you earlier," said the man. "It's been a long day and I took out my aggravation on you. Here's the \$25 you asked for."

The little boy sat straight up, smiling, "Oh, thank you Daddy!" he yelled. Then, reaching under his pillow he pulled out some crumpled up bills. The man saw that the boy already had money and he started to get angry again.

The little boy slowly counted out his money, and then looked up at his father. "Why do you want more money if you already have some?" the father grumbled.

"Because I didn't have enough, but now I do," the little boy replied.

"Daddy, I have \$50 now. Can I buy an hour or your time? Please come home early tomorrow. I would like to have dinner with you," the 5-year old pleaded.

The father was crushed. He put

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WONDERFUL SERVICE PROJECT—Mattie Peevy (front left) is shown with volunteers from Mansfield Church of Christ. (More photos on Page 9)



PAINTING THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE—Students were busy painting the front porch.

## Local Resident's Home Chosen for Joint Church Service Project

By Vanda Anderson  
Editor

Mattie Peevy's home was chosen for a summer service project for college students attending Mansfield Church of Christ. Former resident Dennis Koenig, son of Lucille and the late James Oscar Koenig, and his wife, Julie, are co-ordinators for the group. Not desiring to travel a great distance, they decided on Cross Plains and developed a joint venture with the Cross Plains Church of Christ.

Last Thursday, approximately 15 volunteers started trimming trees and cleaning the yard which

entailed raking and filling 30 bags of leaves. The large amount of huge oak trees makes keeping up with the falling leaves a huge undertaking.

The crew then started scrapping the house in preparation of a fresh coat of white paint. Other minor repairs around the house were also completed. The supplies used on the project were purchased in Cross Plains boosting our local economy.

When I took photos on Friday morning the clean white paint was looking great! Mattie was beaming in approval of her beautiful yard and home.

The Mansfield group has been

staying in the homes of local Church of Christ members, Wilma Lawrence, Lucille Koenig and Charles and Kathy Chessir. Bob and Patsy Pipes, the Jamie Wootton family and Elvin Goode family assisted with meals. The group has been treated to meals at local restaurants, also. So our entire community benefited from this mission.

While I was interviewing Julie, a beautiful chorus of voices went up in song. The students were singing as they worked. What a blessing they have been in their unselfish gift of time and energy. Don't you know God is so pleased with these young people!!!!!!

## Quilt Drawing and Love Fund Established for Young Family

By Vanda Anderson  
Editor

Once again one of our own needs help. David and Denese Whiteley Watts and their two children, Bill and Hannah, have had several medical emergencies that have created a financial crisis.

Denese is the daughter of Frances "Sally" Whiteley of Cross Plains. She was a 1994 graduate of Cross Plains.

In May of 2008 David was in an accident that resulted in his thumb being amputated. Then in June their little 2 1/2 year old daughter, Hannah, had ear surgery and it was determined that she is deaf.

Denese had emergency surgery resulting in five masses being removed from her stomach.

On top of all of this, their car broke down, it's still in the garage, as they cannot afford the cost of the repairs.

This family could use some assistance. Sally has donated a quilt that her mother, the late Jesse Casey, quilted when she was in her seventies to sell tickets on as a fund-raiser. The multi-print is a 12 patch and it can be seen at Connie's Cuts and Curls on Main Street in Cross Plains.

Connie is organizing the fund-raiser and all proceeds will benefit the Watts family. Tickets will be available for \$1.00 each

or six for \$5.00. The drawing date will be announced at a later time.

Please participate in this worthy cause. As Connie said, "We are here to relieve burdens and be the hands of the Lord."

A Love Fund has also been established at Texas Heritage Bank for the family. If you would like to be of assistance, please donate to Account #998834.

Your generosity would be greatly appreciated and you will be blessed.

If you would like to send a card, etc. to Denese and David Watts their address is:

72 Chatman Drive  
Mineral Wells, TX 76067.

## Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet Thursday

The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet will be held Thursday, July 24th at 6:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Fellowship Hall.

Special guest speaker will be Dr. Don Newbury, former President of Howard Payne University, philosopher, author, humorist, teacher and patriot. With 5,500 speeches under his belt in 45 of these United States, he is all of these and more! He has accumulated thousands of interesting and hilarious experiences. His hilarious memoirs of 40 years in higher education and almost a million miles on the speaking trail have been highly acclaimed by numerous newspapers and thousands of readers.

His first book published was *When the Porch Light's*

*On...Stories of People, Popcorn and Parasails.* Three more include *Life by the Seat of the Pants, A Few Geese Short of a Gaggle, Stories from the Sunny Side, Funnier than Fiction and A Wheelbarrow Guy in a Digital World.*

This is sure to be an interesting evening with a man of his vast experiences.

The meal will be catered by Roger Goodwin of Early. Brisket, sausage, potato salad, beans, bread and cake will be served.

Some tickets are still available at the Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce, located at Susan Schaefer's office on Main Street. The cost is \$15.00 each. You may purchase tickets at the door also. For further information call 254-725-7251.

## Food Plaza Employee Helps Free Two Girls from Kidnapper

By Vanda Anderson  
Editor

Sunday, July 13th, proved to be an exciting day at Food Plaza, the convenient store located on Highway 36 East in Cross Plains. Darla Robertson, assistant manager, stated that at approximately 5:30 a.m. an automobile pulled up with a young man and two young women inside. The man and one girl got out and entered the store.

On their way to the bathroom, the girl looked at the clerk and mouthed, "Help Me!"

The clerk noticed that the young man went into the restroom with the girl and she knew something was wrong.

Robertson immediately called the Callahan County Sheriff's department to report the situation and they summoned local Chief of Police Don Gosnell.

When the two came out of the restroom, the young man realized that Robertson was on the telephone to the authorities. He started toward the door, but the girl turned back. He tried to get into her car to drive off, but she had her keys. At this point he ran off on foot, barefoot at that.

Two local citizens were instrumental in locating the young man. One man saw him run from behind his office on Highway 36

West and another saw him cross the highway and lay down on a bench under the Robert E. Howard Pavilion.

Chief of Police Don Gosnell noted that after a two hour search, local Highway Patrolman Travis Hounshell found the man at the Howard Museum grounds and detained him until Gosnell could arrest him. Adam Delacruz, of Abilene, was charged with kidnapping and taken to Callahan County Jail.

Gosnell remarked that Delacruz, 24, had an extensive criminal record consisting of around 22 prior arrests, mostly of a violent nature.

The two young ladies had picked up Delacruz near Easy Mart at Lake Brownwood where his van was broke down on the side of the road. One of the girls knew him through an acquaintance or they said they wouldn't have stopped.

The girls stated he wanted them to take him to Abilene but they

See Food Plaza Page 9

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**Walter Pope** Morning Worship ...11:00 AM  
Evening Worship ...6:00 PM  
Wednesday Night Bible Study ...6:00 PM



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Sun. 6:30 p.m. Worship & Word \*\*\* Wed. 7:00 p.m. Bible Study  
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**COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**

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

Matt McGowen, Pastor (254) 725-4599

Church (254) 725-6266

Friendly Church

Bible Teaching

**Brushy Creek Cowboy Church**

112 W. Travis in Putnam

Pastor: Sam Stone

Sunday Morning Worship ...10:30 AM  
Wednesday Worship ...7:00 PM

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For Information

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Al Taylor, Preacher

Phone: 254-725-7522

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Pastor:

Rufus Wilson  
254-725-4589

Sunday School ...10:00 am

Sunday Morning Worship ...11:00 am

Sunday Evening Worship ...6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer Service ...7:00 p.m.

Music Director: Barbara Jo Medley 254-725-4589

**Living Water Ministries Fellowship**

Restoring And Equipping The Saints

Sunday ...10:00 am Wednesday ...7:00 pm

Pastor Max Evans

For Information Call (254) 725-7418

**Rowden Baptist Church**

Pastor: Wayne Lenz

Music: Karen Lenz & Diane Woods

Bible Study ...10:00 am

Sunday Morning Worship ...11:00 am

2990 Highway 36 at Rowden 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

**OBITUARIES****James Madison Griswold**

James Madison Griswold, of Abilene, went to sleep at 10:20 p.m. Sunday, July 20, 2008, at Hendrick Hospice Care with his wife and family by his side, and woke up in the hands of his Heavenly Father with a new pain and cancer free body.

James was born February 4, 1955, to John Griswold and Shirley Byers Bryan in Abilene, Texas. He graduated from Cooper High School in 1973 and later attended TSTL. He joined the Marines and worked on A-4's and F-4's, something he was very proud to talk about. After a stint in the Marines he joined the National Guard. He loved his country and often said if he could, he would gladly take the place of anyone of these young guys who have not lived their lives and go fight in their place. He knew he had already lived a great and blessed life.

James never met a stranger. He was always talking with everyone he came in contact with. When Deborah couldn't find him, he was visiting and praying for someone at church.

He began a ministry of mixing anointing oils, one was Frankincense and the other he called Deborah's Dream, named after the love of his life, who he mixed it for. He had a very strong ministry in this and it was a blessing to him learning that the oil had gone to many countries anointing many people with healing. He found it an honor to make it for a group of ladies going on a Cross Country Walk to Emmaus. While in the hospital undergoing a round of chemo, he prayed over each individual bottle and wrapped them in white and tying them with a red ribbon.

He handed out bottles of oil to all his nurses and prayed for each and everyone of them. He ministered to many on Parker 7 because he loved his nurses dearly.

When James was first diagnosed this time with cancer, he told everyone that either way it went, he was a winner. If he were to die, he would get to go home and if he was cured he

would be a testimony to all. You never saw him with a frown, he always had a smile no matter how bad he felt.

He was active in his church as Gatekeeper until the cancer and chemo made him too weak to perform his duties and he asked to resign.

James and Deborah married on September 21 and 28, 1994. They loved each other dearly and their faith in God kept them strong through it all. They continued to praise God through the bad times, as well as the good, because God had blessed them in so many ways.

Survivors include his wife of 14 years, Deborah Griswold of Hawley; three sons, Randy Griswold (Amanda), James L. Griswold and David Griswold (Jessica), all of Abilene; one step-daughter, LaTrisha Clark (Lowell) of Abilene; eight grandchildren, Skyler, Anthony, Gloria, Brian, Justin, Zackery, Whitney and Jennifer, plus two more due this year. Also surviving James are three sisters, Can-Can Humphreys and Sherry Glenn, both of Breckenridge and Shawn Bryan of DeQueen, Arkansas; one brother, Ben Griswold of Oklahoma City, OK; a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Bobby and Lori Haddox of Welty, OK and sister-in-law, Levoy Arnold of Livingston. He also had three special friends, Carol Denney, Karen Evans, the mother of his three boys, and their grandmother, Ouita Morris of Novice and a host of other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a grandmother, Etta Peters.

A celebration of James' life will be held at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, July 24, 2008, at Fountaingate Fellowship Church with Pastor Scott Beard officiating, assisted by Rev. Bobby Haddox. Visitation will be Wednesday, July 23, from 5-7 p.m. at Community Memorial Funeral Home, 1443 North 2nd Street, Abilene.

James' sons and step-sons will serve as pallbearers with honorary pallbearers being his co-workers and second family at Warren Cat.

The family would like to thank the nurses on Parker 7 oncology and on the 6th floor cardiac, and especially Dr. Victor Hirsch and all the folks at AHOG for the great care given to James. May God bless each and everyone of you in a very special way.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Fountaingate Fellowship Church building fund or to KGNZ radio.

**Freddie B. Burton**

Funeral services with full military honors for Freddie B. Burton, 78, of Coleman, were held at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 12, at the Coleman City Cemetery Pavilion with Chaplain Steve Baker officiating.

Mr. Burton died Wednesday, July 9, 2008, at Bangs Nursing Home. He was born June 10, 1930, in Burkett, the son of Omar Isaac and Zula Porter Burton. He grew up in Burkett and attended school there. Burton served in the U.S. Army. He was married to Freda Morgan in Coleman on February 28, 1958. He retired as water

production superintendent for the City of Coleman. He was Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife, Freda Burton of Coleman; two sons, Freddie L. Burton of Talpa and Chris Burton and wife Linda of Coleman; four granddaughters; two great-grandsons; one great-granddaughter; a sister, Willie Rider of Early; and two sisters-in-law, Madie Burton of Coleman and JoAnn Burton of Abilene.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Lisa Kay Burton in 1981; two brothers, Marvin Burton and Arnold Burton; and a sister, Thelma Lee Hindman.

**Down Home**

his arms around his little son, and he begged for his forgiveness.

It's just a short reminder to all of you working so hard in life. We should not let time slip through our fingers without having spent some time with those who really matter to us, those close to our hearts.

Do remember to share that \$50 worth of your time with someone

you love.

If we die tomorrow, the company that we are working for could easily replace us in a matter of hours. But the family and friends we leave behind will feel the loss for the rest of their lives.

Author Unknown

**Reba Tennison Lane**

Reba Tennison Lane, 91, beloved wife, mother and manmommy, passed away on Wednesday, July 16, 2008 at Windcrest Care Center in Abilene.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, July 19, 2008, at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel in Cross Plains with Tommy Lane and Rev. Michael Ingram officiating. Burial followed in the Cross Plains Cemetery.

Mrs. Lane was born in Duster, Comanche County, Texas on May 31, 1917. She was the oldest of twelve children of Ira Mark Tennison and Jenny May Decker Tennison. The Tennison family moved from Comanche County to Cross Plains when Reba was a child. She married Sam Lane in Pioneer, Texas on October 16, 1937. They were married 51 years before Sam passed away in 1988. Together they raised three daughters.

Reba worked at various jobs until she and her husband purchased Lane's Variety Store in Cross Plains, which she operated for twenty years. After they sold the variety store, she was

employed by Colonial Oaks Nursing Home for about 15 years, retiring in 1996. Reba loved yard work. She always had a beautiful yard which she loved to show, and she loved to share the flowers from her yard. She also enjoyed her craft work.

She lived in Cross Plains until she moved to Abilene to be close to her daughters in 2006. Upon the death of her daughter, Wanda Heatherly in January 2008, she moved to Windcrest Care Center.

While living in Cross Plains, she attended the Cornerstone Evangelical Methodist Church. After moving to Abilene, she attended the First United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Sam; one daughter, Wanda; her parents; seven brothers, Virgil, Raymond, C.W., Deotis, Bill, Delbert and Clois; and two sisters, Bertha Sears and Doris Mason.

Survivors include two daughters, Virginia Childers and husband Aubrey, and Peggy Pecchioni and husband Louis, all of Abilene; a son-in-law, Bill Heatherly of Abilene; her two precious grandchildren Debbie Smith and husband Steve and Rick Waldruff and wife Kristy of Abilene; and four great-grandsons, Bryan Smith of Austin, Greg Smith, Bradley Waldruff and Matthew Waldruff of Abilene. She is also survived by one brother, Robert Tennison of Abilene and one sister, Ladora Garcia of Yuba City, California; as well as a number of nieces and nephews. Her much loved little dog, Dolly, survives her.

Grandsons served as pallbearers. Memorials may be made to the Cross Plains Cemetery Association.

**Marciel Rich Carthen**

Marciel Rich Carthen, 72, of Cross Plains, passed away Wednesday, July 2, 2008, at Kindred Hospital in Fort Worth following a lengthy illness. She had been in Abilene Regional Medical Center for a month prior to being transferred to Fort Worth. Her body was cremated.

Marciel was born May 28, 1936, the daughter of Marvin and Lucille Rich, longtime past residents of Cross Plains. She attended Cross Plains High

School graduating with the Class of 1954. She dearly loved her classmates. She will always be remembered as the pretty majorette with the beautiful red hair. Marciel was a homemaker and an avid reader. She attended Rising Star New Life Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Becky Slayton of Fort Worth; two grandsons, Jacob and Josh; and a granddaughter, Charlene.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Bob Carthen.

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PUBLIC FAX (254) 725-7225

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Sunday Morning Worship 10:45AM

Office Hours: Tues and Thurs 2pm - 7pm

Wed and Fri 9am - 1pm

**Rev. Margaret A. Friend**

Church Office 254-725-7377

1000 North Main Street

web site: www.crossplainsumc.com

email: crossplainsumc@gmail.com

**First Baptist Church**

Sunday School

9:30 am

Sunday

Morning Worship

10:45 am

Sunday

Evening Worship

6:30 pm

Wednesday

6:30 pm Prayer/Worship

Youth Bible Study "The Show" 6:30 pm

Ronnie B. White, Pastor

(254) 725-7629 3rd & Main, Cross Plains, TX 76443

# COTTONWOOD NEWS

By WALLACE BENNETT

## HAPPY TIMES ARE HERE AGAIN

I woke up one morning recently feeling great. The birds were singing in the trees. Cardinals were playing in the water of the bird bath. Hummingbirds were bussing everywhere. Rabbits eating up my garden and squirrels, the pesky devils were playing leap frog on my front lawn. Ah, I said to myself, God is in his heaven and all is right with the world. But not so!

The TV was on and they were blurring out destruction and death and higher taxes, higher prices at the pumps were outrageously high and the political campaigns were slinging mud and according to the news all is bad in the world. It all reminded me of two short tales I read in a book at the beginning of WWII. One was of a Mr. and Mrs. May, who operated a Mom and Pop grocery store. One day the meat salesman delivered his goods to the store and said, "Mr. May, the price of meat is going up in June." The cereal distributor came by and said, "Mr. May, the price of cereal is going to go up in June." Then the milk man and the other wholesales persons said the same bad news.

Mr. May looked at his wife and said, "Well Mama, looks like the first of June will be the end of May."

## Pleasant Hill Baptist to hold Deacon Ordination Service Sunday, August 10

Pleasant Hill Baptist invites all interested persons to the deacon ordination service of Earnest Massey, 2:00 p.m., Sunday, August 10th.

The Ordination council will meet at 1:30 p.m. Pleasant Hill Baptist is located between Rising Star and Cisco on FM 2526 headed east toward Carbon.

Submitted by Baylis Pope

The other story was a man who had suffered a series of bad luck. His wife had left him, her lawyers were after him for child support and he mused to himself, "Well, I have been stuck with disasters, my wife left me, I am being sued by her lawyers, I have been stuck with income taxes, county taxes, state taxes, and property taxes. But I haven't given up. I'm gonna stick around to see what can possibly happen next." So much for good news! And the news reporter knows how to make a guy feel sad.

## COTTONWOOD ROUNDUP

Recently Mike Friend, Tom Stephenson and I took a trip to Thurber, Texas. Yep, that's where we went. And it has been a long time since anyone went to Thurber as a destination point. Tarleton State University had built a new building there which intrigued us. It is known as the Thurber museum and research center.

The museum is a very nice place to visit for a good look at the hey-day when Thurber was a thriving city of coal mines and brick kilns. The smoke stack of the kilns remain as the most visible structure left standing. But I do remember the foundation stones of the old brick factory left standing by the highway.

But, what has intrigued me since that time is a book that contains a

Master's thesis, never before published, of Mary Jane Gentry, who was born in Boston and raised partly in Thurber, Texas, and had returned there to begin her teaching career. Her mentor for the thesis has been Dr. Walter Prescott Webb who himself had been born in Ranger, Texas, and was noted Historian and writer of history, i.e. "The Great Plains," a history of the settling of the land west of the Mississippi River. Dr. Webb remained a life long friend of Mary Jane Gentry.

She later taught at Odessa, San Angelo, and in Austin Public Schools. And in the meantime she became a world traveler, visiting such countries as those of the near East, England, Germany, France, China, Japan, and other countries of the far West.

Her thesis was discovered by Dr. T. Lindsay Baker, now a professor of history at Tarleton State University, who discovered her unpublished manuscript and arranged to have it published. Dr. Baker wrote a good biography of Mary Jane Gentry as an introduction to her thesis.

Anyway it turned out to be a great day after all.

Please send personal or organizational news to me at 11093 CR 440, Cross Plains Texas 76443, or call 254-725-7474, email csb5@airmail.net. Remember, I can't write about it if I don't know about it.

## SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

JULY 28-31

**MONDAY-** Chicken Rice Broccoli Casserole, Sweet Potatoes, Mixed Veg., Pears, Bread

**TUESDAY-** Pinto Beans w/ Ham, Tomatoes & Okra, Mixed Greens, Peach Cobbler, Cornbread

**WEDNESDAY-** Beef Stew, Pea Salad, Applesauce, Spice Cake, Cornbread

**THURSDAY-** Tuna Salad, Tomato Soup, Macaroni Salad, Peanut Butter Cookie, Crackers

2nd & 4th Tuesdays Domino Night (42 & 84) Begins at 5:00 p.m.

## 20th Annual Tension Reunion at Cross Plains

The Tension Family Reunion will celebrate 20 years of gathering for fellowship this year. They will have a two-day reunion on August 2-3 at the Cross Plains Community Center beginning at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday.

All family and friends are encouraged to attend.

## Southern Baptist Convention of Texas Cross Timbers Southern Baptist Association Seminary Extension Course Starting Soon

This fall we will be studying NT 0177 Galatians, a 2 hour course using the Tyndale Commentary by Cole and *Pulpit Notes*. We will be meeting in Breckenridge Thursday evenings and DeLeon Tuesday evenings but will be interested in talking with you concerning starting a class closer to your home.

If your church has interest in joining our study in the fall (August 5th - December 11th) notify Baylis Pope at his home phone, 254-725-7749. This is a Cross Plains number. Again we appreciate the opportunity to serve this association. Thanks for your support throughout the years.

## Community Cancer Walk Management Meeting Scheduled for Friday, August 1st

If you were involved or participated in any way in last years Community Cancer Walk, it's time to plan for this years!

Please come to a meeting on Friday, August 1st at the Texas Heritage Room on Main Street at 7:00 p.m. We will brainstorm ideas and plan for an exciting time for our town and worthy cause.

## KIWANIS Upcoming Speaker

July 29th- Mark Crouch Lt. Gov. District 12 TX/OK Kiwanis

## LIBRARY NOTES

Weekly Stats July 14-18, 2008

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Patrons                | 137 |
| Summer Reading Program | 47  |
| Other Programs         | 19  |
| Books Checked Out      | 204 |
| Copies                 | 74  |
| Reference              | 8   |
| Internet Users         | 33  |
| Interlibrary Loans     | 0   |

**Book Donations:** Charles and Lou Rodenberger Ginny Hoskins

**Donations:** Norma Strahan Norma Lee Northern

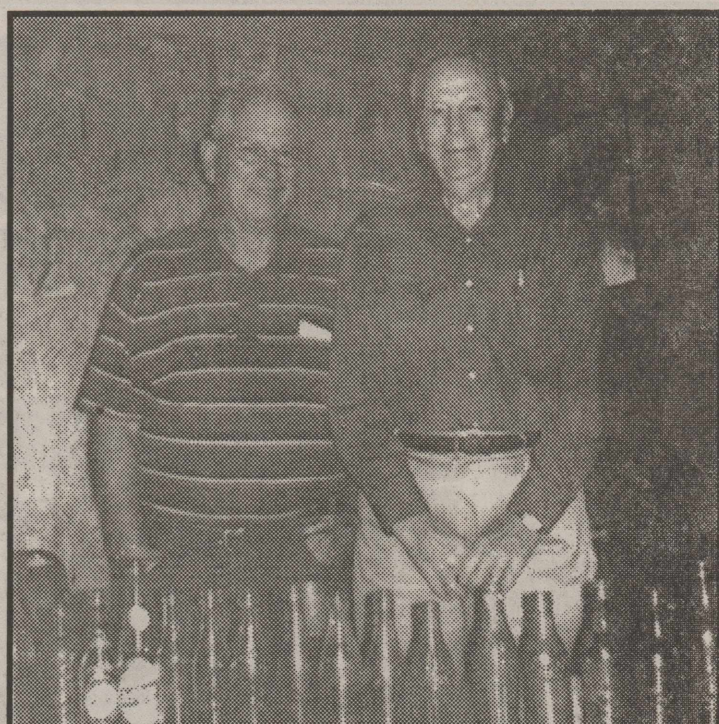
**Memorials:** Cross Plains High School Class of 1954 In Memory of Marciel Rich Carthen Charles and Lou Rodenberger In Memory of Wesley Rutherford and Tim Bishop Erra Jamerson In Memory of Bill Adams

**Volunteers:** Sharon Parr, Sue Bennett, Megan France, Kathleen Terstegge, Wilma Lawrence, Michele Kaiser, Azalee Womack, Arlene Stephenson, and the many Mothers who gave their time organizing and supervising games at the library.

## Cross Plains Review

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July 24, 2008



INTERESTING GUEST SPEAKER—David Cole, of Bangs, was the guest of Kiwanian Roy Stambaugh. Cole is a bottle collector specializing in Coke and Dr. Pepper bottles from 1890 to present with Texas on them. He has over 3,000 bottles.

## Help Us Help Them

Cross Plains area residents know what it's like to have disaster hit and homes, businesses, and belongings destroyed or damaged. Recently we have seen on the news many more natural disasters with the floods in the Midwest. We also know what it is like to have the nation respond with financial and other assistance in the form of volunteers, with kind hands and tools, and others with gifts of comfort sent with cards and words of encouragement.

We have an opportunity to help and respond in kind in a small way, to potential victims of the next hurricane, flood, or wildfires. The FUMC of Cross Plains is participating in a flood bucket collection which will help to replenish the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Sager Brown Depot in Louisiana. The UMCOR's Sager Brown Depot has recently sent several truck loads of flood buckets to Iowa and will continue to send supplies as rivers crest and levees breach. But their warehouse supply has dwindled and in order to be ready for the next hurricane season, the United

Methodist Church is calling all UM churches to collect supplies for flood buckets.

If you would like to help us help them, we will be gathering the requested supplies in the next two weeks, and on Sunday afternoon, August 3, at 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., meet in the church fellowship hall to pack the supplies in new 5-gallon buckets. The number of supplies and buckets will depend upon the response from church members and community people who can help. If you would like to donate funds or provide one or more items for the buckets, (such as latex gloves, work gloves, heavy-duty trash bags, insect repellent spray, sponges, bleach and other specified items) please contact Carol Bennett, 254-725-7474, or Margaret Friend, 725-7377, for specifics.

Information about the flood buckets can be found on the church website at [www.crossplainsumc.com](http://www.crossplainsumc.com). Please help with the packing of flood buckets on August 3, and help us, help them.

Submitted by Carol Bennett



WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE OUR CROSS PLAINS, COTTONWOOD & SCRANTON MEMBERS WE ARE HERE TO MEET YOUR NEEDS Phone: 877-TEC-1939

## BEARS WATCHIN'

Store hours changing effective July 22, 2008

|           |                       |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| Tuesday   | — 10:00 am to 6:00 pm |
| Wednesday | — 10:00 am to 6:00 pm |
| Thursday  | — 10:00 am to 6:00 pm |
| Friday    | — 10:00 am to 6:00 pm |
| Saturday  | — 10:00 am to 6:00 pm |

We have gifts, collectables, sewing and quilting supplies, and an assortment of fabrics.

Come see our selection under the watchful eye of the Bear. We are next door to Kimmy's, just across Highway 36 from Village Market.

## BREAKTHRU

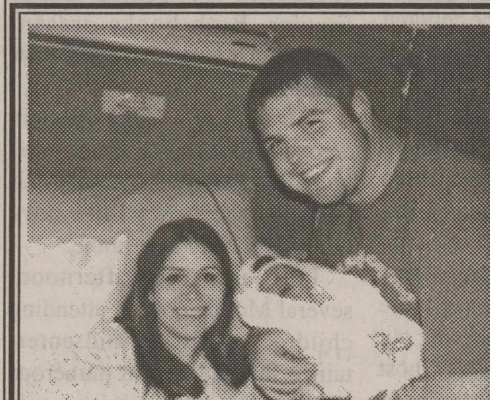
By Bob Pipes  
Cross Plains Church of Christ  
433 N. Main  
(254) 725-6117



In last Friday's comics, *Frank and Ernest*, they're on the golf course with one about to tee off. One of them- he's caddy (and I can't tell one from the other!)- tells the other, who is golfing, "If it goes to the right, it's a slice. If it goes to the left, it's a hook. If it goes straight, it's a miracle."

While I can enjoy the humor of that but it certainly illustrates a lot of people's understanding of what a miracle really is. As wondrous as the birth of a baby is, it is not a miracle; the birth of Jesus, born of a virgin, was! Jesus' miracles were instantaneous; when He healed people of diseases and raised people from the dead, it was instantaneous. When He calmed the sea, it was in a moment! I could illustrate this with numerous other biblical examples, but the bottom line is that a miracle is a happening that is completely against nature. Next week: "Have miracles ceased?"

I encourage you to share in times of Bible study and worship with us as we strive to "sign our lives with the excellence of God." 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



## It's A Boy!

Ben and LeAnne Lagasse of Lubbock, Texas are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Isaac Benjamin Lagasse.

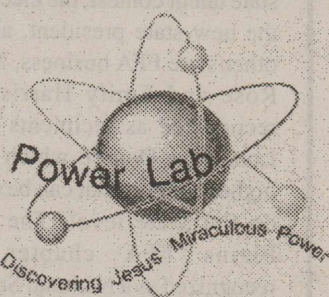
Isaac was born Thursday, July 10, 2008 at 3:05 p.m., at Lubbock's Covenant Medical Center-Lakeside.

He weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Eddy and Kim Gibson of Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Paternal grandparents are Larry Lagasse of Slidell, Louisiana and Lynda Lagasse of Richardson, Texas.

Great-grandparents are Ellowayne Tatom and the late Roy Neil Tatom of Cross Plains.



## Cottonwood Baptist Church VBS 2008

August 6th - 10th 5:30- 8:30 p.m.

A meal will be served from 5:30-6:00 each night

Family Day and Fellowship Meal on Sunday, August 10th

Come discover Jesus' Miraculous Power at Vacation Bible School

For more information call 725-6819 or 725-4599

19-2c



**LEARNING ABOUT LONGHORNS**—The children heard the history of the famous Longhorn cattle.



**LITTLE READERS HAVE FUN**—The children designed their own story telling truck.

## Children Learn About Longhorns at the Cross Plains Public Library

Coach's Shadow was the featured guest at the Cross Plains Public Library last week. Sharon Parr brought the gentle longhorn and introduced him to the children attending the Summer Reading Program. Before a trip outside to see the longhorn, Sharon spoke about the history of the longhorn cattle in Texas. She also amazed the children by visually showing the children how long the horns can get because they never stop growing until the animal dies. After measuring out 75 1/2 inches, the length of Ghost Dancer's horns, Sharon placed about 10 children in a line to cover the length of another steer whose horns are 102 inches long! The illustration was remarkable and made a great impression on the children.

Sharon presented to the library two books about longhorns. One is *Learning from the Longhorn* by Glen Dromgoole and Lester Galbreath. The author's share with readers the insight gleaned from years of observing the Texas

Longhorns. The second book is *What I Learned on the ranch, and other stories from a West Texas childhood* by James Bruce Frazier. Both books present wonderful information and a great reading experience.

Sue Bennett's Little Readers enjoyed stories about trucks that go rattlely bump! They made and designed their own little story telling trucks to take home.

For part of the afternoon, several Mothers of the attending children organized and entertained the children in numerous groups with board games, cards and dominos.

We are midway through our eight weeks of special programming for the summer. Children who have completed their 300 minutes have placed another cowboy hat on the board, and have had their name added to a container so they have a chance to win passes to Frontier Texas, The Grace Museum or the Abilene Zoo.

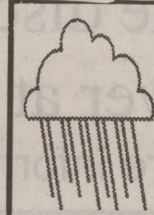
This week a very special dog

that does tricks will entertain the children for the Summer Reading Program. Next week we will have Mother Goose as our special visitor. Have you ever met Mother Goose? Come on in and meet her!

Submitted by  
Linda Burns, Librarian

## FFA Members Attend State Convention

During the weeks of July 14 - July 18 seven Cross Plains FFA members attended the 80th State FFA Convention in Lubbock. Members attending the convention were Tiffany Walker, Tiffany Holland, Kayla Lawrence, Shasta Bacon, Zach Snell, Justin Golson, and T.J. Warren. The member voted on the state talent contest, the election of the new state president, and the other state FFA business, Mandy Rose and Emily Harris were recognized as recipients of the Lone Star Degree which is the highest degree that can be earned on the State level. The Cross Plains FFA chapter was recognized as a National Superior Chapter Silver Emblem and as a Golden Horizon Silver Emblem Chapter. On Thursday of the convention Tiffany Walker was presented with the Dick Wallrath Educational Foundation State FFA Scholarship in the amount of \$10,000. All the members had a great time and proudly represented the Cross Plains FFA Chapter.



Pray  
For  
Rain

## SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

A called meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cross Plains Independent School District will be held on **July 24, 2008**, beginning at **6:00 p.m.** in the High School Administrative Board Room. The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as follows:

### Open Meeting

1. Discuss and take action on selling used computer
2. Executive Session
  - A. Discuss hiring new employees
3. Take action on executive session items
4. Adjourn

If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will convene in such closed meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code. Before any such meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting.

This notice was posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act on **July 18, 2008**, at **10:00 a.m.**

Jackie Tennison  
For the Board of Trustees

### Cross Plains Review

# 4

July 24, 2008

## Remember —Texas Tax-Free Weekend Set for August 15-17th

AUSTIN, Texas—July 14, 2008 - In what has become a Texas tradition for visitors to the Lone Star State, Texas' annual tax-free weekend is scheduled for August 15-17, 2008. During tax-free weekend, the State of Texas grants shoppers a break from state and local sales tax, allowing lower prices on back-to-school shopping.

The savings begin at 12:01 a.m., Friday, August 15, and end at midnight on Sunday, August 17. Savings apply to individual clothing items costing less than \$100, including athletic shoes, hiking boots, dresses, shirts, jeans, pajamas, sports jerseys, and school uniforms. Shoppers can save approximately \$8 for every \$100 spent. Lay-away plans can be used again this year to take advantage of the sales tax holiday. Baby clothes, backpacks for use by elementary and secondary students, belts with attached buckles, Boots - cowboy, hiking, Caps/hats - baseball, fishing, golf, knitted; Coats and wraps, Diapers - adult and baby; Dresses, Gloves (generally), Gym suits and uniforms, Hooded shirts and hooded sweatshirts, Hosiery, Jackets, Jeans, Jerseys - baseball and football, Jogging apparel, Neckwear and ties, Pajamas, Pants and trousers, Raincoats and ponchos, Robes, Shirts, Shoes - sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking, Socks (includ-

Handkerchiefs, Hard hats, Helmets - bike, baseball, football, hockey, motorcycle, sports, Ice skates, Jewelry, Laundering services, Leather goods - except belts with buckles and wearing apparel, Pads - football, hockey, soccer, elbow, knee, shoulder, Personal flotation devices, Rented clothing (including uniforms, formal wear, and costumes), Roller blades and skates, Safety clothing, glasses, Shoes - bicycle (cleated), bowling, and golf.

"Tax-free weekend is an opportunity for Texans and visitors alike to experience significant savings," said Julie Chase, Chief Marketing Officer, Office of the Governor, Economic Developing (athletic), Shorts, Suits, slacks, and jackets, Sweatshirts, Sweat suits, Sweaters, Swimwear, Underclothes, Work clothes and uniforms.

Some of the items which will be taxed are accessories (generally) - barrettes, elastic ponytail holders, wallets, watches, Backpacks - unless for use by elementary and secondary students, Baseball cleats and pants, Belt buckles (without belt), Boots - climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, ski, waders, Buttons and zippers, Cloth and lace, knitting yarns, and other fabrics, Dry cleaning services, Football pants, Golf gloves, Handbags and purses.

ment & Tourism. "In addition to the excellent shopping opportunities, travelers can take advantage of the weekend by treating their families to fun-filled activities that our Texas cities offer - from rivers and dude ranches to theme parks and museums."

Attractions and hotels across the state are also offering special deals this summer to help visitors offset the cost of gas. Specials range from free hotel nights to discounts on admissions in such cities as Houston, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Austin and the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. For more information on travel discounts in Texas this summer, visit <http://www.TravelTex.com> and click on Travel Packages.

And for a complete list of tax-free items available during Tax-Free Weekend, August 15-17, visit [http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs/tx98\\_490/tx98\\_490.html](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs/tx98_490/tx98_490.html).

Tourism is one of the largest industries in Texas, employing 521,000 Texans. In 2006, travelers spent almost \$54 billion in Texas. Travel expenditures generated \$2.7 billion in state taxes and \$930 million in local taxes. For more information on Texas travel events and vacation destinations, visit [www.TravelTex.com](http://www.TravelTex.com) or for a free Texas State Travel Guide call 1-800-8888-TEX.



HAILEY BIGGS (left) AND MACAYLA COOK

## Recipients of the Terry Jane McWilliams Wyatt Memorial Scholarship Told

Hailey Biggs and Macayla Cook were chosen as the recipients of the Terry Jane McWilliams Wyatt Memorial Scholarship for 2008.

Hailey is the daughter of Charlotte and Robert Lee and the late Delbert Biggs. Hailey has been a great asset to many community organizations and benefit projects. She has been involved in Cheerleading, FFA, FCA, Key Club and National Honor Society.

Hailey also received the Masonic Lodge Scholarship and the Beta Sigma Phi Scholarship for 2008. She is currently attending Cisco Jr. College to obtain a degree in Medical Assisting. We know that Hailey will be a great asset to the medical field.

Macayla Cook is the daughter

of Jim and Patricia Cook. She has been involved in Tennis, Basketball, Key Club, National Honor Society, Track and Field, FFA and Cheerleading.

Macayla was chosen as recipient of the McMurry University Scholarship, Deans Scholarship, Alumni Scholarship and the First United Methodist Church Scholarship. She plans to attend McMurry University and become an athletic coach with a teaching degree in Language Arts.

Thanks to the Sponsors of the Festival and to those who donated items for the Scholarship Fund. Without the sponsors and those who attend the festival these Scholarships would not be possible.

GOOD LUCK to Hailey and Macayla and all Seniors of the Class of 2008.

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 reasons send name and birth date (Month and Day)  
or Call 254-725-6111

Send or Receive Faxes (254) 725-7225  
At The Cross Plains Review

## CROSS PLAINS RECYCLING

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|------------------|------------|
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| Long Iron        | \$140/Ton  |
| Car Bodies       | \$150/Ton  |
| #1 Copper        | \$3.00/Lb. |
| #2 Copper        | \$2.85/Lb. |
| Aluminum         | \$0.60/Lb. |

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13-4c

## Statewide fitness test reveals few youth meet fitness benchmark

AUSTIN—The concept is simple: 3Es for Healthy Living - Education, Exercise and Eating Right.

"Texas is at war with a deadly obesity epidemic, and frankly, we are losing," Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples said. "Taxpayers are footing the bill for poor eating choices, and we must change the trend."

Commissioner Staples wants schools and parents to adopt the three-pronged approach to battle obesity among Texas youth. This call to action becomes even more critical in light of results from a state approved fitness assessment of more than 2 million Texas students. The study reveals student physical fitness declines as they progress to the next grade level.

Commissioner Staples has toured the state encouraging schools to adopt the 3Es. Since the implementation of the Texas

Public School Nutrition Policy, several Texas schools have already been recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for outstanding nutrition and healthy breakfast/lunch options.

"I recognize the progress schools are making by improving the nutritional value of school meals and enhancing overall child health," Commissioner Staples said. "But we are losing our children after the school day is done. Texas must adopt a more comprehensive approach that results in overall healthier lifestyles and healthier students."

Commissioner Staples is looking forward to working with the Legislature to make the 3Es as recognizable to students as the 3Rs were to previous generations.

Results of the fitness assessment can be found on the TEA website at [www.tda.state.tx.us](http://www.tda.state.tx.us).

## Workers' Compensation educational session offered in Abilene on August 19th

AUSTIN—The Abilene Field Office of the Texas Department of Insurance Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI-DWC) is hosting a brown bag educational session for health care providers employers, human resource managers claims adjusters, case managers and employee organizations on Tuesday, August 19, 2008. The topic is the *Designated Doctor: What They Do and What Is New*.

This free session will be held from 11:50 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the West Texas Health and Human Services Complex, Room K-101, 4601 South 1st Street in Abilene. Following a presentation the session is an open forum in which participants can ask questions.

# July is 'watch your car month'

Every five minutes, a car is stolen in Texas, and every two minutes, a vehicle is burglarized for contents or parts. Stolen vehicles are often used to commit other crimes, including theft, drug smuggling, human trafficking, domestic/international terrorism, and countless other offenses. In addition, vehicle burglary incidents such as gas siphoning, stealing personal identification items, and theft of vehicle parts containing valuable metals are on the rise. Now, more than ever, Texas drivers must become actively involved in vehicle crime prevention by practicing "Lock, Take, Hide": lock vehicles, take keys, hide belongings. The Texas Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority (ABTPA) will highlight this philosophy throughout "Watch Your Car Month" this July.

During "Watch Your Car Month", hundreds of law enforcement task force representatives funded by ABTPA will be working in their communities reminding Texas drivers to take extra precautions when leaving their vehicles unattended. To raise awareness about the role

of auto theft in secondary crimes, ABTPA personnel will heavily promote the "You Hold the Key" campaign, which is designed to remind all owners and operators that vehicles should never be left running while unattended, and keys should not be left inside.

In 2007, approximately 94,000 vehicles were stolen in Texas resulting in financial losses well into the hundreds of millions. And in almost half of all auto theft incidents, keys were left inside, which means the vehicle owner was, in some cases, an unwitting accomplice to more heinous crimes. Recent statistics from Texas law enforcement agencies indicate the top three locations from which vehicles are stolen are: residences/homes (41.6%), public parking lots/public garages (28.7%), and roadways/highways/alleys (12.2%), which proves no area is truly safe from vehicle crime activity.

"We can not stress enough to Texas drivers that they 'hold the key' to auto burglary and theft prevention," said Michelle Lanham, program manager for ABTPA's Reduce Auto Theft in Texas (RATT) task force in Ar-

lington, Texas. "Being aware of techniques to prevent these crimes, such as utilizing visible deterrents and anti-theft devices, will help discourage thieves and make neighborhoods safer." Susan Sampson, ABTPA director, adds, "Vehicles are frequently stolen and burglarized for the resale of their parts, insurance fraud, identify theft, and to commit gateway crimes. Texas drivers must become educated about these problems and solutions to avoid becoming victims."

The ABTPA, an office of the Texas Department of Transportation, was created by the Texas Legislature in 1991 to fund programs to reduce vehicle thefts. Since 1991, the vehicle theft rate has been reduced by 59%. For more information on Texas vehicle crime statistics, the Texas ABTPA, contacts for any of ABTPA's 30 vehicle crimes task forces in Texas, public service announcements, or to schedule an interview with task force personnel, call 800-CAR-WATCH or visit the following websites: [www.txwatchyourcar.com](http://www.txwatchyourcar.com) OR [www.nctcog.org/cs/ratt](http://www.nctcog.org/cs/ratt).

## This Week in Texas History

By: Bartee Haile

### Spaniard survives eight years in Texas Wilderness

July 23 - 29, 2008

After wandering for eight years in the dangerous domain yet to be named Texas, Cabeza de Vaca reported in person to the Spanish viceroy in Mexico City on July 25, 1536.

A decorated defender of the Spanish empire, Al Nunez Cabeza de Vaca was rewarded in 1527 with an all-expenses-paid trip to the New World. But no sooner had the expedition made landfall on the coast of Florida than he wished he had stayed home.

Sending the ships on ahead, the reckless commander led the rest of his men into the unmapped everglades. When their comrades were a no-show at the rendezvous, the impatient fleet weighed anchor.

Preferring to take their chances at sea rather than face certain death on dry land, the stranded soldiers cast off in a fragile flotilla of handmade boats. All but two of the crude craft vanished beneath the waves, and the remaining pair washed ashore on a desolate strip of sand off the Texas mainland.

Even though the ferocious Karankawas seemed friendly enough at first, the sunburned Spaniards chose to play it safe and put back to sea. But the crashing surf swamped their small boats and ensured an indefinite stay on Galveston Island.

While four intrepid souls headed inland, the first Europeans to set foot on Texas soil, the other 80 or so conquistadors dug in for the winter. Ravaged by disease and driven by hunger to feed on the dead, only 15 survived until spring. Warm weather revived their wanderlust, and those that could walk fled the deathtrap they called Malhado, the Isle of Misfortune.

Too weak to travel, Cabeza de Vaca and two more sickly Spaniards were left to the not

so tender mercy of the local Indians. Having lost many tribesmen to the same epidemic that claimed the lives of the white strangers, the Karankawas blamed the calamity on the uninvited visitors. However, instead of executing the trio, the aborigines drafted them as medicine men.

When Cabeza and his terrified companions turned down the offer, the Indians simply starved them into submission. If they wanted to eat, they had to play doctor.

Depending upon folk remedies and the power of prayer, the Spaniards reluctantly treated the stricken Indians. The miraculous recovery of several patients surprised no one more than the nervous amateur physicians.

Cabeza regained his own health about the time the unpredictable Karankawas picked him to be the tribal slave. Constant labor and physical abuse eventually convinced him he had nothing to lose by making a break for freedom, and he successfully escaped into the interior.

For six years, Cabeza subsisted as a combination trader and healer never knowing whether the next day might be his last. According to legend, his medical skill improved to the point that he actually performed the first surgery in Texas history by removing an arrowhead from the chest of a wounded warrior.

Loyalty kept Cabeza in the hazardous vicinity of Malhado. Once a year he risked his neck by returning to the island to beg the last Spaniard to go to Mexico with him. The fainthearted friend finally agreed in 1532 only to grow homesick and scurry back to Galveston.

Cabeza was not alone for long because he soon stumbled across three of his countrymen, who years earlier had abandoned him.

Although their exact route is not known, in the months that followed the quartet may have roamed as far as modern-day New Mexico.

In 1536 a party of slave hunters was shocked to find four Spanish-speaking skeletons in northern Mexico. The emaciated adventurers were escorted to the capital, where they found out that civilization would take some getting used to. For weeks loincloths and the hard ground were preferred over clothes and feather beds.

The viceroy could have cared less about amazing accounts of tattooed Indians and exotic terrain. He pressed Cabeza de Vaca for details of treasure, and to please his superior the dog-tired explorer passed along fanciful tales of pueblos of gold. That was exactly what the viceroy wanted to hear, and by 1540 an expedition was searching the Southwest for the Seven Cities of Cibola.

While Coronado pursued a phantom fortune, Cabeza was promoted to an important post in Paraguay. At age 52, he looked forward to ending his career in luxurious leisure, but a sudden revolt spoiled his retirement plans.

Carted back to Spain to face charges of misrule, Cabeza was convicted and banished in disgrace to Africa. The harsh verdict was later overturned and the elderly exile allowed to spend his twilight years as a lowly clerk.

Sixteenth-century Spain had its own warped version of the Golden Rule. Cabeza de Vaca had failed to bring home the gold, so he was not entitled to any glory.

*"Revolution & Republic: Texas 1832-1846" - the latest "Best of This Week in Texas History" collection now available for \$10.95 plus \$3.25 postage and handling from Bartee Haile, P.O. Box 152, Friendswood, TX 77549 or order online at [www.twith.com](http://www.twith.com).*

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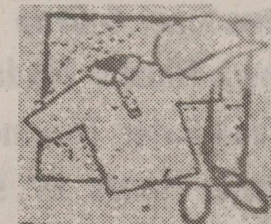
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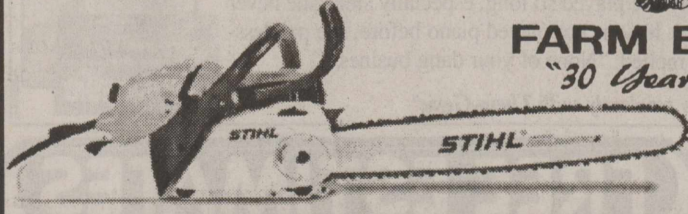
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AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> | AREDC

Cross Plains Review

5

July 24, 2008

## National Coalition of Ministers Offer Answers to Substance Abuse Problems

At a national inter-faith gathering of ministers in April 2008 in Oklahoma, leaders of the meeting realized that by working together, they possessed viable solutions to the problems resulting from substance abuse and addiction. To make these solutions broadly available, they formed the Congress of Inter-Faith Alliance on Addiction and established a new conference in August to distribute these solutions across the country.

Leading the effort to spread the news is Rev. James McLaughlin, an African Methodist Episcopal minister. Rev. McLaughlin serves as the Global Mental Health and Substance Abuse Director of the AME Church and the Chaplain at the Narconon Arrowhead Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Center in Canadian, Oklahoma. He announced the dates and agenda of the Minister's Round Table Forum to be held on August 21 and 22, again in McAlester, Oklahoma.

"At our meeting in April, one starting fact that came to light was that most of the social problems suffered in our communities were related to drug and alcohol abuse," stated Rev. McLaughlin. "The homeless, the jobless, the poor, spousal abuse, child abuse and crime were all points of concern rooted within the increasing substance abuse problems."

"I believe that God is calling us to move from behind the 'Wall of Silence,'" Rev. McLaughlin

declared. "By that I mean we must demonstrate our faith through involvement and active participation. Obviously, talk doesn't change things—action does. Those who are ready to take action should join us and learn how these problems can be solved to the benefit of our congregations and our communities."

For years, Rev. McLaughlin and his wife, Cleo Glen Johnson McLaughlin, have been delivering Faith Step First Step Program workshops around the country. These workshops teach participants how to use drug education to prevent substance abuse problems from starting and how to break the chains of those addicted to drugs or alcohol. "From our experience with our Faith Step First Step Program workshops, we are able to provide the tools that enable one to develop a purposeful, mission-driven life," Rev. McLaughlin concluded.

The conference will be held at the Narconon Arrowhead Community and Educational Convention Center located in McAlester, Oklahoma on Thursday, August 21 and Friday, August 22, 2008. Registration for this conference is open now.

Those who would like more information or who are interested in registering should contact Rev. McLaughlin at 1-800-468-6933 or 713-539-9409.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**JULY 26**  
Maxine Kellar  
Jerry Erwin  
Ricky Potter  
R.B. Dillard, Jr.  
J.H. Byrd  
Lauretta Bomar  
Mrs. Zed Bright  
Vivian Franke Lewis  
Mrs. Billy E. Pope  
Oneitta Fortenberry  
R.H. Wooten  
Zachary Alan Hinkle  
Tammy (Guill) Brown

**JULY 27**  
Betty Golson  
Mrs. David Gray  
Iris McKay  
Neva Davis  
Ronnie Smith  
Mrs. Quinn Harris  
James Montgomery  
Beverly Havner  
Edie Ann Switzer

**JULY 28**  
Jeff Worley  
David Clark Rodgers  
Debbie Jan McNeel  
Ethel Collier  
Nicole Peterson  
Lori (Erwin) Crisp  
K-Trina Sue Meador  
David Ingram White  
Dewanna Darlene Wyatt  
Lona Rutledge  
Mrs. Lon Duncan  
Michael Klinger  
John Wagner  
Kelley Rene Harris  
Carrie Ferrel (Kay) Green

**JULY 29**  
Shannon Nichols  
Lastyn Winfrey  
David Gray

Corrine Barnett  
Linda Joyce Gambill  
Eula Covington  
Linda (Gould) Brady  
Ashlee (Hutchins) Mathews  
Wesley Kyle Scott

**JULY 30**  
Cheryle Marie Toothaker  
Chris Strength  
Betty King Westerman  
Emily (Horan) Williams  
Roy Stambaugh  
Chris Sims  
Randy Walker  
Randy Pancake  
Gary Odom  
Rev. Jimmy Mobley  
Larry Crockett  
Sheryl Ann White  
Mary Coggin  
Robert C. Walton  
Tommy Burrhus

**JULY 31**  
Shari Watson  
Jon Newton  
John Chesshir  
Karman (Key) Ellis  
Wendy Rose  
Melinda Richardson  
Robert Baudreaux

**AUGUST 1**  
Rhonda Beford  
Jim Williams  
Mrs. Marion McMillan  
Mrs. N.L. Long, Jr.  
Freddy Lane  
Timothy Strickland  
Rene Gary Baize  
Mrs. Jess Bigbee  
Mike Montgomery  
Mrs. H.G. Thornton  
Teresa (Merrill) Koenig  
Bertha Hutchins Calderon

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 reasons send name and birth date (Month and Day) or Call 254-725-6111

## Cancer Services Network offers Living Beyond Cancer Support Groups

ABILENE, Texas - Cancer Services Network will offer Living Beyond Cancer, a 6 week educational support group for those interested in learning to live beyond a diagnosis of cancer. The support groups will be held in Abilene, Sweetwater, and Brownwood.

**Abilene** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Thursdays, March 27th to May 1st, Episcopal Church of the Heavenly Rest, South 6th and Meander

**Sweetwater** - 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Tuesdays, March 25th to April 29th, First Presbyterian Church, 1311 McCauley

**Brownwood** 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Wednesdays, March 26th to April 30th, First Baptist Church, 208 Austin

The six-week sessions are for patients, caregivers, family and friends affected by cancer in anyway. In a supportive and interactive environment, this group will focus on the practical, emotional and physical aspects of living with

cancer. Aimee Colley, LMSW, Director of Social Work at Cancer Services Network, will facilitate the groups. Mrs. Colley has ten years experience in the area of oncology. There is no charge associated with the support groups. Register by calling (325) 672-0040 or via e-mail [HYP@PERLIN@CANCERSERVICESNETWORK.ORG](mailto:HYP@PERLIN@CANCERSERVICESNETWORK.ORG)

This program is made possible by a grant from Texas Cancer Council. Cancer Services Network is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that provides emotional and financial support to underserved cancer patients and their families in a 19-county area of West Central Texas, including: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor and Throckmorton.

For more information please call Nancy Estes, Executive Director at (325) 672-0040.

## 6-Cross Plains Review July 24, 2008



GET YOUR TICKET FOR A 4-WHEELER NOW—Purchase a ticket for a Polaris 4-wheeler for \$10.00 or 6 for \$50.00 from any Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce Board of Director, EDC Board Member; at Texas Heritage Bank or the local City Hall. Proceeds from the fund-raiser will be used to reconstruct the restrooms at Treadway Park, etc.

## Low-income electricity discount to resume Customers to get 20 percent reduction through September

The Public Utility Commission (PUC) has authorized a 20-percent discount effective May 2008 through September 2008 for low-income residential electric customers in areas participating in retail electric competition.

Most customers who are eligible for the discount are automatically enrolled through a matching system operated by the Low-Income Discount Administrator (LIDA) using data provided by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and retail electric providers. Approximately 366,000 customers are currently matched.

Customers who qualify for the Low-Income Discount but are not automatically matched are encouraged to apply directly by calling 1-866-454-8387 toll-free. In addition, customers who self-enrolled over the past year need to reenroll. Self-enrolled customers are required to reenroll every seven months. Every self-enrolled customer should have received an application and information by mail. Customers who have not received this information should call the above toll-free number. The Web site

[www.puc.state.tx.us/ocp/assist/liteup/index.cfm](http://www.puc.state.tx.us/ocp/assist/liteup/index.cfm) also contains this information in both English and Spanish.

Completed applications must be mailed with a copy of the most recent electric bill and income documentation to: LITE-UP TEXAS, 1779 Wells Branch Parkway, Ste. 110B, #320, Austin, TX 78728-7022

A customer qualifies if family income is at or below 125 percent of federal poverty level guidelines (\$26,500 annually for a family of four), or if the customer receives certain benefits from HHSC, including food stamps or Medicaid.

The customer must have an electric account in an area with retail customer choice. Residents of master or sub-metered apartments cannot get the discount. The discount does not affect eligibility for any other government benefit.

Funding for the discount comes from the System Benefit Fund. The fund collects 65 cents per 1,000 kWh from electric customers in areas of retail electric competition within Texas.

## Rolling Oaks Golf News

The Saturday Scramble July 12, had 29 players teeing off against each other. And boy was it exciting! Seth Simmons' team of Marcia Dodrill, Kerry Johnson, Daniel Purcell, Mike Jaynes and Byron Tolbert won with 14 under. Although they were very happy to win, it was not the highlight of the day. That came on hole number 16! Phil Davis hit a hole in one on the Par 3, 16.

Phil was rather nonchalant about it. Apparently this was the third time he had hit a hole in one. I am not sure where he hit the first two but this was his first at Rolling Oaks. Phil is our ambassador. He plays almost every day, and if you need anyone to teach you, he is excellent. ("I know first hand, he has lots of patience. I think I hear him in my sleep. Just hit the ball, Debbie. Just hit the ball.")

Tuesday, July 15, 2008, 28 players teed off in the Tuesday

ABCD Scramble. Closest to the pin on 14 went to Corey Morris and on 16 it went to Chaz Odum. The scramble was tied between Terry Odum's, Bruce River's and Corey Morris' team with a 7 under and will be carried over until next Tuesday, July 19. To play on Tuesdays come to the course before 6:00 p.m. and sign up if you want in the next scramble.

Come play in the new 2 Man Scramble. The cost is \$25.00 per player which includes all fees. Mulligans will be distributed per handicap so you will need to turn in scorecards to the Pro Shop. Places will be paid according to the number of teams entered each week. Register ahead of time by calling 254-643-4563 or coming by the Pro Shop.

There are many new members and previous ones are coming back. Come out and check things out.

### Clyde Hardware & Supply

119 Pecan Clyde, Tx. 79510  
325-893-4260 Fax: 325-893-5262  
HOURS: MON.-FRI. 7:30 AM TO 5:30 PM SAT. 7:30 AM TO 12:30 PM  
<http://clydehardware.bigcountrybiz.com>

### SUMMER IS HERE!

Look at these HOT items!

Sevin - 10% Dust

10 lb. bag \$12.99

Amdro Yard Treatment-Fire

Ant Killer 2.5 lb. bag \$16.99

Lawn Pro Fertilizer & Iron

31-1-9 \$8.99

Turf Builder Fertilizer

30-3-3 \$13.99

Fertilizer Spreaders,

Broadcast & Drop

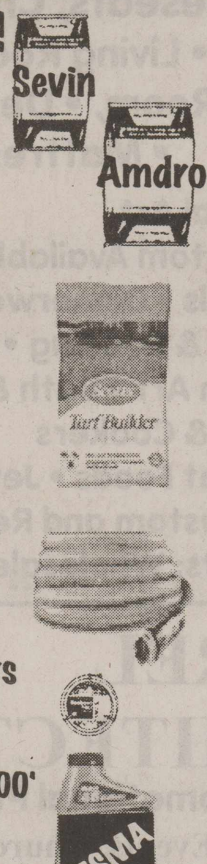
Lawn Mower Blades & Filters

Weed Eater Trimmer Line

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MSMA-Kills grassburrs

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### Woman plays piano for 14 straight hours after using Thera-Gesic®

BEXAR COUNTY—After applying Thera-Gesic® to her arthritic hands, Mary Ann W. played piano jazz music for 14 straight hours. When asked why she played so long, especially since she never took lessons nor played piano before, she painlessly replied, "None of your dang business!"



### FREE ESTIMATES

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• ERECT METAL BUILDINGS  
• LANDSCAPING  
**NEWMAN CONSTRUCTION**  
(325) 669-6830

# Barb's Cues

By Barbara Holmes Worcester

## A Clyde Character

I have written about some of Clyde's characters. In my estimation, my dad J. T. Holmes was one of those. You either loved him or you didn't. I loved him very much and I share my son Jim Worcester's memories of his grandfather.

This is dedicated to a man that I know mainly through other people's stories and through images recalled from the memories of an admittedly impressionable nine year old! So I beg your indulgence if the next page is a bit biased, but then again I'm allowed. He was my grandfather.

He came from a time when gay was a state of emotion, grass was something to be mowed — not smoked — and politically correct meant the governor wasn't on the take. He was a man who grew up believing that hard times were a challenge to be overcome and a good life was something that was earned, not owed.

By all accounts he was a generous man who would give you the shirt off his back if he thought you deserved it, but who had no trouble telling you to go figure out a way to get your own shirt if he thought that was a lesson you needed to learn. He learned it at an early age himself. He wanted a new suit but had no money to get it. So he thought about what he did have and what the man who made the suits needed. One day he went to the man and said, "I need that suit and you need wood for the winter, let's deal." I can only imagine the pride he felt as he put that suit on after having

earned it with hard work.

I never knew him to be a devoutly religious man but he had a faith of his own. After outfitting an underprivileged little boy with a "real cowboy" suit he looked from the beaming face of that child and said, "You know, that's what I figure Christianity is all about." He also had an ability to remind others of their own faith. He once told a young girl who was frightened by tornados that "that God you worship is strong enough to control the weather." I can't attest to his belief but I can say that the young girl wasn't nearly so scared of tornados after that.

He was a man who loved life, who was happiest when he was fishing and who had that quality that seems to be elusive in today's society: contentment. He once commented that he had no real desire to go anywhere, that he'd rather just stay at home and enjoy what he had. Maybe that's because he had more than he ever expected to have.

He taught me how to cast and retrieve a lure so a bass would think it was real. He gave me my first legal beer and showed me how to tell when a hushpuppy or a piece of fried catfish was done. There are a lot of little things like that that make up my impression of the man.

He wasn't perfect. He drank a bit too much and at times was a lot funnier to himself than he was to anyone else. I'm sure that my image of him is like his stories, sometimes larger than life. But that's O.K. Because that's how I remember him and

that's the ideal that I hope to achieve when I have children and grandchildren. After all, isn't that what heroes are all about? So, in loving memory, this is for him.

James Thomas Holmes  
October 23, 1914 -  
March 13, 1990

## COLD CREAM

2 c. Crisco  
2 Tbsp. olive oil  
2 Tbsp. glycerin  
2 Tbsp. lanolin  
2 Tbsp. castor oil  
8 oz distilled water

Combine all ingredients and mix. Pour into cosmetic jars and store in refrigerator.

Elaine Kirkpatrick

## HAND CREAM

1 lb. unibase (purchase at any pharmacy)  
24 oz. distilled water  
3 Tbsp. baby oil  
8 oz glycerin

## BEVERAGES. MIXOWAVE & MISCELLA- NEOUS

Mix with mixer in a large bowl until smooth and creamy. I mix mine until it bubbles up to the top of the mixing bowl (maybe 5 minutes), so that it is not so heavy. It makes a large recipe and you need a lot of jars, so you might want to split the recipe with someone. I buy all the ingredients at the Wal-Mart pharmacy. The unibase is \$11.95 and the glycerin costs a few dollars, but this is not expensive when you consider the fact that it lasts you a year or longer.

Elaine Kirkpatrick

# Texas Times: Water from on high

By U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

Water is the lifeblood of Texas. Starting with our state's early inhabitants, the availability of water determined where Texans would live.

The insatiable demand also led to creative attempts to produce more water. Experiments in rain-making began in drought-plagued areas of Texas more than 100 years ago. In a memorable experiment in 1891, college professor John T. Ellis fired cannons at explosives that had been launched with balloons over South Texas.

"After several delays because of unsettled weather, a two-day bombardment of the sky apparently paid off with a downpour. But cynics said that Ellis had simply stalled until rain appeared inevitable, and doubts remained about the practicality of the technique," according to the Handbook of Texas.

As populations increased, Texans wanted dependable water reserves. Where towns sprung up, so did water towers. The municipal water tower is often the first sight as you approach most Texas towns. Along with their primary function, water towers provided city leaders an opportunity to welcome visitors and to advertise their community and its points of pride.

In Poteet, host of the Strawberry Festival each April, the tower is painted to resemble the town's most famous product. The water tower in Luling, home of the annual Watermelon Thump festival, depicts its leading crop. Crockett promotes "Paradise in the Pines."

While all water towers rise above the landscape, some

stand out for their design or message. Kemah on Galveston Bay built a water tower shaped and painted to resemble a lighthouse — in addition to operating as a lighthouse as well. Alice bills its tower as the "world's tallest, cement water tower."

Kermah, near the New Mexico border, painted its tower to resemble the beloved frog star of children's television. A tower in Plainview bears the name of another town, Rustwater, the fictional place featured in Steve Martin's 1992 film, Leap of Faith. San Benito's tower recognizes the town's famous son and Grammy-winning singer, Freddy Fender.

The most common tower design, however, is the "Tin Man" shape, reminiscent of The Wizard of Oz character. Other designs are used: Pedespheres sometimes are described as a "golf ball-on-a-tee." Standpipes are tall columns. Some water tanks are supported by tripod structures. Many cities are building water spheres, which are large tanks supported by a number of pillars.

Some towers are central to local history. "In 1918 the six-year-old Fentress water tower collapsed onto the town's only bank; cashier J. W. Lipscomb saved his life by dashing into the vault. This high water mark in Fentress history was viewed by some as divine judgment," the Handbook of Texas reports.

In Columbus, the original tower — built of 400,000 bricks with walls 32 inches thick — defied attempts long ago to demolish it with dynamite. It now serves as

a history museum.

Texas water towers promote the names of high school sports teams, including the Fighting Wildcats, Gladiators, Cubs, Pirates, Yellowjackets, Trojans and Badgers. In Progreso, home of the Mighty Red Ants, the top of the tower is painted to resemble an ant hill.

Whatever their size or shape, water towers are designed to ensure stable water pressure. Homeowners and businesses depend on them, as do firefighters. Many are used as backup when emergencies threaten water availability.

By continuing to invest in lakes and reservoirs, water treatment systems, conservation and re-use programs, desalination plants, weather modification and new technologies, and by safeguarding the quality of our water, we can meet the future needs of Texas towns, agriculture and businesses. This is an important part of being good stewards of the State we call home.

Sen. Cornyn serves on the Armed Services, Judiciary and Budget Committees. In addition, he is Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Border Security and Refugees subcommittee and the Armed Services Committee's Airlaid subcommittee. Cornyn served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice and Bexar County District Judge. For Sen. Cornyn's previous Texas Times columns: [www.cornyn.senate.gov/columns](http://www.cornyn.senate.gov/columns).

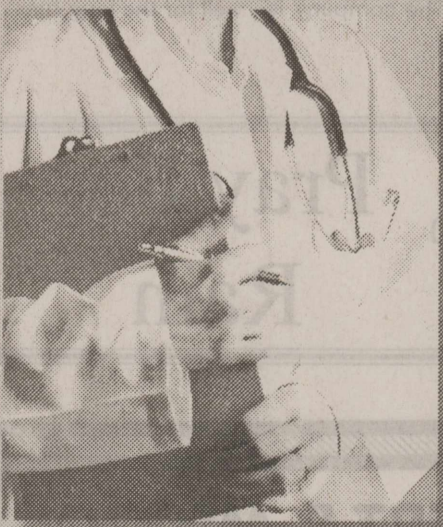
## 7 - Cross Plains Review July 24, 2008

### THE BAD NEWS:

You don't know why it hurts.

### THE GOOD NEWS:

We will. And we'll help make it better.



Life isn't perfect. Sometimes bad things happen. And sometimes you need emergency care. Fortunately, we're always close by, with advanced medical technology to diagnose and treat you right away, and a compassionate, dedicated staff that will help make you feel better in every way. The bad news is, life isn't perfect. The good news is, we have the right care, right here.



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## 2008 Property Tax Rates in CALLAHAN COUNTY

This notice concerns 2008 property tax rates for CALLAHAN COUNTY. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

|   | General Fund  | Special Road/<br>Bridge Fund |
|---|---------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Last year's tax rate:</b>  |               |                              |
| Last year's operating taxes   | \$1,135,794   | \$358,861                    |
| Last year's debt taxes  | \$0           | \$0                          |
| Last year's total taxes   | \$1,135,794   | \$358,861                    |
| Last year's tax base  | \$392,234,693 | \$383,767,511                |
| Last year's total tax rate  | 0.28957/\$100 | 0.09351/\$100                |
| <b>This year's effective tax rate:</b>  |               |                              |
| Last year's adjusted taxes<br>(after subtracting taxes on lost property)  | \$1,110,083   | \$350,453                    |
| + This year's adjusted tax base<br>(after subtracting value of new property)  | \$368,123,464 | \$359,943,664                |
| = This year's effective tax rate<br>for each fund   | 0.30155/\$100 | 0.09736/\$100                |
| Total effective tax rate<br>(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)  | 0.39891/\$100 |                              |
| <b>This year's rollback tax rate:</b>   |               |                              |
| Last year's adjusted operating taxes<br>(after subtracting taxes on lost property and<br>adjusting for any transferred function tax increment<br>financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or<br>enhanced indigent health care expenditures) | \$1,110,083   | \$350,453                    |
| + This year's adjusted tax base   | \$368,123,464 | \$359,943,664                |
| = This year's effective<br>operating rate   | 0.30155/\$100 | 0.09736/\$100                |
| x 1.08 = this year's maximum<br>operating rate  | 0.32567/\$100 | 0.10514/\$100                |
| + This year's debt rate   | 0.00000/\$100 | 0.00000/\$100                |
| = This year's rollback rate for<br>each fund  | 0.32567/\$100 | 0.10514/\$100                |
| This year's total rollback rate   | 0.43081/\$100 |                              |

### Statement of Increase/Decrease

If CALLAHAN COUNTY adopts a 2008 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.39891 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2007 taxes by \$155,998.

### Schedule A: General Fund Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

| Type of Property Tax Fund  | Balance   |  |                                 |                      |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Schedule B: General Fund<br/>2008 Debt Service</b>  |   |  |                                 |                      |
| The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable). |   |  |                                 |                      |
|  |   |  |                                 |                      |
| <b>Description of Debt</b>   | <b>Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes</b> | <b>Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes</b> | <b>Other Amounts to be Paid</b> | <b>Total Payment</b> |
| Enter Text Here  | \$0   | \$0  | \$0                             | \$0                  |
| Total required for 2008 Debt Service   |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| - Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A   |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| - Amount (if any) paid from other resources  |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| - Excess collections last year   |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| = Total to be paid from taxes in 2008  |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| + Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 95.00% of its taxes in 2008   |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| = Total debt levy  |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |

### Schedule A: Special Road/Bridge Fund Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

| Type of Property Tax Fund  | Balance   |  |                                 |                      |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Schedule B: Special Road/Bridge Fund - 2008 Debt Service</b>  |   |  |                                 |                      |
| The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable). |   |  |                                 |                      |
|  |   |  |                                 |                      |
| <b>Description of Debt</b>   | <b>Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes</b> | <b>Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes</b> | <b>Other Amounts to be Paid</b> | <b>Total Payment</b> |
| Enter Text Here  | \$0   | \$0  | \$0                             | \$0                  |
| Total required for 2008 Debt Service   |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| - Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A   |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| - Amount (if any) paid from other resources  |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| - Excess collections last year   |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| = Total to be paid from taxes in 2008  |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| + Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 95.00% of its taxes in 2008   |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |
| = Total debt levy  |   |  |                                 | \$0                  |

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 132 West 4th St., Baird, Texas 79504.

Name of person preparing this notice: Bun Barry.  
Title: Chief Appraiser

Date prepared: July 14, 2008

## Cross Plains' 2008 retail sales still running below 2007 sales

The City of Cross Plains' one percent city sales tax payments in 2008 are running just over two percent behind 2007 sales tax payments, according to the Texas State Comptroller's office.

Texas State Comptroller Susan Combs reported the city's sales tax payment on Monday, July 14th.

Cross Plains' 2008 sales tax payments for the year totalled \$102,263.93, which is 2.23 percent lower than the \$104,605.98 in sales tax rebate payments collected in 2007.

The payment to the city for July 2008 was \$15,822.41, which is 11.83 percent higher than the \$14,147.41 payment made in July 2007.

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs today announced that the state collected \$1.7 billion in sales tax revenue in June, up 8.4 percent compared to June 2007.

"Through June 2008, fiscal year-to-date state sales tax collections have increased 6.1 percent compared to fiscal 2007," Combs said. "While we have seen the national economy slowing, growth in Texas sales tax revenue continues at a steady pace."

Combs sent July sales tax allocations totaling \$467.8 million to cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, up 4.8 percent compared to July 2007.

Combs sent July sales tax allocations of \$311.9 million to Texas cities, up 2.6 percent compared to July 2007. So far this calendar year, city sales tax allocations are up 5 percent compared to the same time period last year. Texas counties received sales tax payments of \$28.9 million, up 5.5 percent compared to last July. So far this year, sales tax allocations to counties are up 6.3 percent compared to 2007.

Combs sent \$17.5 million to 135 special purpose taxing districts, up 19.5 percent compared to last July. Ten local transit systems received \$109.3 million in sales tax allocations, up 9.1 percent compared to a year ago.

State sales tax collections in June and local sales tax allocations in July represent sales that occurred in May and were reported to the Comptroller in June.

For details of July sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the Monthly Sales Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports on the Comptroller's Web

### CROSS PLAINS SALES TAX PAYMENTS

|                                  | 2007         | 2008         |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total yearly sales tax payments  | \$104,605.98 | \$102,263.92 |
| Total monthly sales tax payments | \$14,147.41  | \$15,822.41  |

site at [www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allccsum/compsum.html](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allccsum/compsum.html).

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, August 8th.

Other Callahan County towns reporting sales tax payments include:

—The City of Baird reported that sales tax payments in 2008 started the year 5.60 percent higher than the 2007 payments. The city has received \$59,774.10 in 2008, while the 2007 tax payments to the city totalled \$56,601.29.

Baird's monthly payment for July 2008 was \$7,805.57, which is 13.45 percent higher than the \$6,880.03 payment made in July 2007.

—The 2008 sales tax payments in the City of Clyde are 6.12 percent higher than the payments made to the city in 2007. The sales tax rebates for the City of Clyde have amounted to \$272,063.65 in 2008. The 2007 payments to the city during the same payment period were \$256,368.57.

The City of Clyde's monthly payment for July 2008 was \$35,669.86, which is 12.55 percent higher than the \$31,691.73 payment made in July 2007.

—The City of Putnam reported the 2008 payments to the town totalled \$8,691.87, up 7.17 percent from the 2007 payments to the city in the amount of \$8,109.91.

Putnam's tax payment for the month of July 2008 was \$1,273.12, which was 16.38 percent higher than the \$1,093.92 payment made in July 2007.

Countywide, sales tax payments for 2008 in Callahan County are up 4.01 percent ahead of the 2007 payments in the county. Callahan County towns received sales tax payments in 2008 amounting to

\$442,793.54 while the 2007 payments to the county towns totalled \$425,685.75.

The tax rebate in Callahan County for the month of July 2008 was \$60,570.96, which is 12.55 percent higher than the \$53,813.09 sales tax payments made in July 2007.

Merchants collect the state and local sales tax and send it to the Comptroller's office with their tax returns. The state keeps its 6 1/4 percent share and returns the local one percent sales tax each month to the local governments. Cities and counties may levy a combined tax of up to two percent above the state's sales tax.

Clyde businesses collect 2.00 percent including one percent for the City of Clyde, one-half of one percent for the Clyde Economic Development Corporation and one half of one percent to reduce property taxes (Proceeds to benefit the Clyde Volunteer Fire Department.)

Cross Plains collects 1.75 percent in local sales taxes, of which 1.00 percent is allocated to the city and 0.75 percent is allocated for economic development in the town.

Baird collects 1.50 percent in local sales tax of which 1.00 percent is allocated to the city and 0.50 percent allocated to the community's economic development corporation.

Putnam collects 1.00 percent in local sales tax of which all 1.00 percent is allocated to the city.

All local sales taxes must be approved by local voters and may be used for any legal city or county expenses. Most areas put the money in their General Fund and use it for normal operations like fire fighting, maintaining roads and law enforcement, the Comptroller said. Some cities use up to an additional one percent city sales tax to help fund local economic development and to reduce property taxes.

## Callahan County's unemployment rate increases to 3.9% in June

The unemployment rate in Callahan County rose six-tenths of one percentage point to 3.9 percent in June 2008, according to jobless figures released Monday, July 21st by the Texas Workforce Commission. The unemployment rate in Callahan County rose from 3.3% in May 2008 to 3.9% in June 2008.

Of the 7,132 civilian labor force in Callahan County, 6,854 were employed during June 2008, and 278 were unemployed, giving the county an unemployment rate of 3.9%. The county's unemployment rate one year ago in June 2007 was 4.1%.

Callahan County's unemployment rate was 3.3% in May 2008. Of the 7,071 civilian labor force in the county during May, 6,836 had jobs while 235 or 3.3% were unemployed.

Previous monthly jobless rates in Callahan County included: 2.9% in April 2008, 3.2% in March, 3.4% in February, 3.6% in January 2008, 3.2% in December 2007, 3.3% in November, 3.0% in October, 3.5% in September, 3.4% in August, and 4.0% in July, according to the unemployment figures.

Big Country area counties, bordering Callahan County, and the counties' unemployment rates for June 2008 include: Brown, 4.7%; Coleman, 4.1%; Eastland, 4.9%; Jones, 5.0%; Runnels, 5.1%; Shackelford, 2.9%; Stephens, 3.8%; and Taylor County, 3.9%.

The Abilene MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) unemployment rate, which includes Taylor, Callahan and Jones Counties, stood at 4.0% in June 2008, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. Abilene's Combined Labor Force is 81,700. There were 78,400 employed during June 2008, while 3,300 were unemployed, giving the Abilene MSA an unemployment rate of 4.0%.

The state's unemployment rate for the month of June 2008 was 4.8 percent. Last month's statewide unemployment rate was 4.3 percent. The state's unemployment rate in June of 2007 was 4.7 percent.

The United States unemployment rate for June 2008 was 5.7 percent. The nation's unemployment rate for the previous month of May 2008 was 5.2%. The United States unemployment rate one year ago in June 2007 was 4.7%.

### Highlights of the Texas Labor Force (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

The unemployment rate in Texas increased five-tenths of a percentage point to 4.8 percent for June 2008. This increase was below the ten-year-average increase of seven-tenths of a percentage point for June. The current unemployment rate was tied with June 2000 for the second lowest rate of unemployment for the month of June since 1976, the beginning of the time series. The United States unemployment rate increased five-tenths of a percentage point to 5.7 percent. This month makes an entire year that the State of Texas unemployment rate has been below the national rate.

• The Texas Civilian Labor Force increased by 100,200 individuals for the month of June for an estimate of 11,775,400; annually, it has increased by

## UNEMPLOYMENT

| Callahan County Unemployment | May   | June  |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| 3.3%                         | 3.3%  | 3.9%  |
| Total Labor Force            | 7,071 | 7,132 |
| Total Employed               | 6,836 | 6,854 |
| Total Unemployed             | 235   | 278   |

219,400 workers. The Civilian Labor Force annual growth rate was at 1.9 percent in June 2008.

• The number of employed individuals in the Texas labor market has increased by 30,800 jobholders for an estimate of 11,205,700. Annually, the state has added 193,800 individuals into the ranks of the employed. The number of people seeking employment has increased by 69,400 individuals, creating an unemployment level of 569,700 individuals for June 2008.

• The number of individuals that were receiving unemployment benefits in the state of Texas increased 5,700 people for June 2008 and totaled 98,600. This month, five Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) showed a decrease in claims activity and 20 showed an increase for the month of June. The San Angelo MSA produced the largest over-the-month decline, dropping 4.7 percent. The Lubbock MSA and the Odessa MSA recorded, the largest increases in claims activity at 54.2 percent and 23.6 percent, respectively.

• All 25 MSAs in Texas recorded an increase in their number of unemployed between May and June 2008. These increases are mostly attributed to normal summer seasonal patterns. Nine MSAs noted a decrease in their unemployment rate from year-ago levels. The Midland MSA continued to have the lowest MSA unemployment rate in Texas at 3.1 percent for June 2008. The Midland MSA has had the lowest rate for 42 consecutive months.

### HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATE

#### KLN Steel Products Consolidates

SAN ANTONIO, TX (San Antonio Business Journal)—KLN Steel Products Co. LLC plans to invest \$25 million in a plan to consolidate national operations to its production facility in San Antonio. The move should allow KLN to expand its San Antonio furniture manufacturing facility and create 500 new jobs. The company already employs 200 people at its present location on San Antonio's East Side.

"KLN Steel Products has explored a variety of options in regards to our relocation and growth," KLN CEO Edward Herman says. "After many months of deliberation, KLN Steel Products has come to the conclusion that San Antonio is the city that best fits our needs." KLN manufactures institutional furniture for colleges, universities, military quarters, and job corps centers. The company is

based in San Antonio.

#### AT&T Headquarters Moves to Dallas

DALLAS, TX (The Dallas Morning News)—AT&T Inc. is moving its headquarters to downtown Dallas from San Antonio, bringing 700 workers and becoming the area's second-largest company. For now, AT&T's new headquarters will be in downtown Dallas. Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert said he hopes to keep the telecom giant in the central city. The blockbuster move, which will begin immediately, is the culmination of a quiet, yearlong recruitment drive by the mayor.

"We're a growing global company with customers and operations around the world," Randall Stephenson, AT&T's chairman and chief executive officer, said in a prepared statement. "Being headquartered in Dallas will benefit our long-term growth prospects and human resources needs, and our ability to operate more efficiently, better serve customers and expand the business in the future."

#### Bauer Chooses Conroe

HOUSTON, TX (Houston Business Journal)—A 200-year-old German company that manufactures equipment to build the foundations for some of the world's largest construction projects has chosen Conroe as the site of its first manufacturing facility in the Americas. Bauer Manufacturing Inc. inked a deal to buy 80 acres of undeveloped land in Conroe Park North. Construction on Phase I will involve about 210,000 square feet of space — and 300 new jobs — but the entire area could be built out to as much as 700,000 square feet, depending on growth the first few years.

#### Beef Products Company Moves to Lufkin

LUFKIN, TX (Corpus Christi KRIS (NBC) Channel 6)—A Tyler-based beef products company is moving into a vacant plant in Lufkin and plans to employ more than 200 people by the end of 2010. Loggins Culinary announced plans to move into a facility once used by Armour Eckrich Inc. and will have about 85 workers when it begins operations later this year. "This is a success story for our entire community," Lufkin Mayor Jack Gordon said in a news release. "Not only does it take an idled and vacant commercial facility and create new jobs, it does it with a 21st-century process that should fare well for the long run."

## Truck Wrecks

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### Cross Plains Review

# 8

July 24, 2008

### Russell and April Wheeler are excited to announce their new son, Anthony Jacob Levi Wheeler.

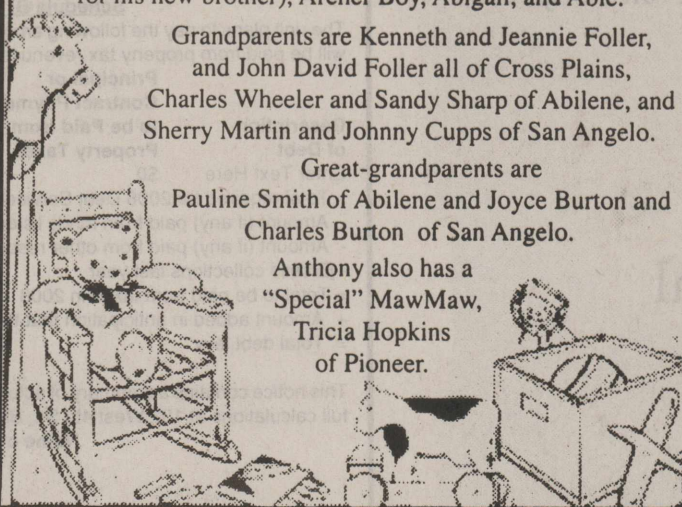
Anthony was born December 20, 2007 in Hillsboro, Tx. He came to the Wheeler family at 4 weeks of age, and was pronounced an "Official Wheeler Boy" on Tuesday, July 1, 2008 at 9:25 a.m. when the adoption became final.

Anthony now has a very big family to love him including: his five siblings, Aaron Augustus, Alexander (who wished very hard for his new brother), Archer Boy, Abigail, and Able.

Grandparents are Kenneth and Jeannie Foller, and John David Foller all of Cross Plains, Charles Wheeler and Sandy Sharp of Abilene, and Sherry Martin and Johnny Cupps of San Angelo.

Great-grandparents are Pauline Smith of Abilene and Joyce Burton and Charles Burton of San Angelo.

Anthony also has a "Special" MawMaw, Tricia Hopkins of Pioneer.



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LOOKING GREAT—The Peevy house lends beauty to North Main Street.



SINGING WORKERS—These young girls were singing as they painted.

## Food Plaza-

didn't want to. They encouraged him to get out at Easy Mart, but he refused. Then he took a license plate and folded it in half threatening to slit their throats if they didn't cooperate.

They started toward Abilene when the driver talked him into letting her go to the bathroom at the Food Plaza in Cross Plains so she could get some help.

Thanks to the observant assistant manager at Food Plaza the two girls were freed and unharmed.

## Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from July 13, 2008 through July 19, 2008 include:

### Cases Investigated

Warnings—227  
Complaints—65  
DWI—2  
Driving While License Invalid—1  
Possession of Marijuana—2  
Fugitive Arrest-Theft by Check—1  
Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle—1

### Vehicle Accidents

There was one vehicle accident investigated during this time span.

## Reduce Colon Cancer?

By: Lil Spitzer, Executive Director of Beckstrand Cancer Foundation

March 2008 marks the ninth National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Colorectal cancer, also known as colon cancer, is the third most common cancer found in men and women in this country. The American Cancer Society estimates almost 150,000 new cases of colon cancer in the United States for 2008. In many cases, colon cancer can be prevented. It almost always starts with a small growth called a polyp. If the polyp is found early, doctors can remove it and stop colon cancer before it starts. Here are six lifestyle commitments that can be made to reduce the risk of colon cancer:

### Over 50? Schedule a Colon Cancer Screening.

Then actually go to the appointment. More than 90% of colon cancer cases occur in people age 50 and older. American Cancer Society research indicates that by age 50, one in four people has polyps. Getting screened is an excellent colon cancer prevention method.

### Pay Attention to Family — Especially Family Medical History.

A family history of polyps and certain cancers (such as colorectal, stomach, and liver) may increase risk of colon cancer. If this is the case, testing for polyps should begin at a younger age.

### Eat a Balanced Diet.

Diets high in fat and cholesterol, especially from animal sources, have been linked to increased colon cancer risk. High-fiber diets, however, have shown a protective effect. Incorporating fruits and vegetables into daily

snacks is a great way to help maintain a balanced diet.

**Eat Less Than One Pound of Red Meat Each Week.** (According to recent findings issued by the American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR), consuming more than 18 ounces, or a little over a pound, of red meat (beef, pork, lamb and goat) each week can significantly increase the risks for developing colorectal cancer.

### Kick the Habit — Stop Smoking Today.

Yes, it's a risk factor for colon cancer, too. When inhaled or swallowed, tobacco smoke transports its carcinogens to the colon. Tobacco use appears to increase polyp size, as well.

### Get Moving — Maintain an Active Lifestyle.

Research from the American Cancer Society indicates that exercising can reduce colon cancer risk by as much as 40%. Exercise also tends to reduce the incidence of other risk factors for colon cancer, like obesity and diabetes. While obesity raises the risk of colon cancer in both men and women, the link seems to be stronger in men.

Not only will these modifications help reduce the risk of colon cancer, they will also result in a healthier lifestyle. New data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows that colorectal cancer testing in the United States has been rising steadily since 2002, a sign of slow but encouraging progress in the fight against a cancer that's largely curable when caught early, and can even be prevented in some cases. For more information about cancer prevention, visit [www.Beckstrand.org](http://www.Beckstrand.org).

## Texas Public Utility Commission Approves Wind Transmission Plan

This morning, (Thursday, July 17th) the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) selected a transmission scenario that will eventually transmit a total of 18,456 megawatts of wind power from West Texas and the Panhandle to metropolitan areas of the state.

The PUC selected scenario 2, which is estimated to cost \$4.93 billion, or approximately \$4.00 per month per residential customer once construction is complete and costs are reflected in rates. It is expected that the new lines will be in service within four to five years.

Earlier this year, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), the agency which oversees the state's electric grid, responded to a PUC order to provide several scenarios to the commission. The four scenarios contained a total of 12,053, 18,456, 24,859, and 24,419 MW of installed wind generation distributed among five Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZs) in West Texas and the Texas Panhandle.

Senate Bill 20, which the state legislature passed in 2005, directed the PUC to select the most productive wind zones in the state and devise a transmission plan to move power generated from these zones to various populated areas in the state.

## Cross Plains Review

# 9

July 24, 2008

## Cross Plains Review

### Deadlines

Articles 2pm on Monday  
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### PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Cross Plains voted at their July meeting to begin charging several fees that are not currently charged. The council added a \$10.00 late fee to every bill that is not paid by the due date. Currently the city does not charge a transfer fee or a service trip fee, however with the new fee schedule the cost for a transfer or trip charge will both be \$25.00. The returned check fee which is currently \$25.00 will increase to \$35.00. In addition a \$35.00 fee for the use of the Sewer Jet Machine has been added. If a citizen has a stopped up sewer and requests the sewer jet machine a \$35.00 fee will be added to their monthly water bill. However, if the sewer stoppage is on the city there will be no charge for the service. Fees will begin August 1, 2008. If you have questions concerning the fees or how they will relate to you, please do not hesitate to contact the City Hall at 254-725-6114.

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The Cross Plains I.S.D. is accepting bids for the 2008/2009 school year on the following items:

#### MILK GASOLINE

Please fax or mail to Jackie Tension, Superintendent, 700 North Main Street, Cross Plains, Texas 76443. Fax #254-725-6559 Bid deadline is 4:00 p.m. August 19, 2008.

### HELP WANTED

**SPECIAL WRITER**— to cover the Cross Plains ISD School Board meeting and Cross Plains City Council meetings, please bring resume by the Cross Plains Review, 116 SE 1st Street. Good writing skills and accuracy of events required.

**TAKING BIDS ON MOWING AND WEEDING CEMETERIES**— in Cottonwood. Call 254-725-7369 for information.

**PIANIST NEEDED FUMC**— Paid staff position, Sundays and Choir practice Wednesdays. Call 254-725-7474 to apply.

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VANDA ANDERSON, EDITOR  
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**MEMBER 2008**  
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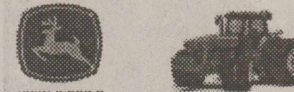
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--64.452/A, 3 miles south of Cross Plains. Excellent hunting, thick cover, 1 tank, lots of oaks, 1 shed, county road frontage, electricity on property with rural water. **\$3,000/acre.**

NEW LISTING--117/A, Callahan County, excellent hunting, deer, hog, turkey, large food plots, excellent fences, cross fenced, 20 acres SOLE BERMUDA, 5 ponds, 74 acres heavy woods with large Live Oak, & Post Oak, creek, 50 gpm water well, irrigation system, old farm house elevations, secluded. **ONLY \$2,300/acre.**

\* 129.17/A in Brown County, good hunting, good fences, 3 ponds, Live Oak, Pecan, Mesquite, Post Oak, cross fenced into 3 pastures, some Coastal Bermuda, good soil, rural water. Nice Place! **ONLY \$1,595/A.**

NEW LISTING--161.75/A with 80/A SOLE BERMUDA, 2 ponds, excellent fences, post oak & mesquite trees, super cattle place, some hunting, home sites. **ONLY \$1,300/A**

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NEW LISTING--97.97/A with 2BD/1Bth frame home with metal roof, located in Callahan County, 2 miles East of Cross Plains, paved frontage, 2 water wells, RV hook ups, good fences, coastal bermuda grass, good hunting, hay barn, 7 stall horse barn with 75 x180 pipe turn out pens with tack and feed rooms, pens, GREAT HORSE PROPERTY!! **\$459,900.**

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 1.94 Ac.- Great for horse or ag projects with small field, outbuildings, creek, nice 2/2 MH 63,900  
 4 Ac.-Great location, small acreage with views, 1BR-1B, lg. metal barn, great potential 59,000  
 4.1 Ac.-3 or 4BR-2 1/2B brick home, fireplace, lg. den, nice large shop, much more **REDUCED** 249,000  
 6.7 Ac.-Beautiful colonial 3BR-2B with wrap around porch, swimming pool, oak trees 214,900  
 7.5 Ac.-Large 2BR-1B w/guest house, fireplace, live oak & post oak, pens for animals 216,900  
 15 Ac.- Great opportunity- endless possibilities for horses with sm. acreage & ranch style home 139,900  
 18.5 Ac.- 3BR-1B quaint farm house on paved road with good underground water 99,500  
 20.2 Ac.-Cute new home, UNDER CONTRACT nice pond behind house 107,000  
 25 Ac.- Dream home in the country, SOLD town, 3BR-2B liveoaks, workshop, must see 244,900  
 30 Ac.- Well built 3BR-2 3/4 B home, oaks, stocked pond, 20x30 shop, beautiful views, paved road 345,000  
 37.5 Ac.- Great 3BR-2B home with roping arena, hay barn, horse stalls, and coastal field 289,000  
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23.79 Ac.-Secluded small acreage with water wells, septic, electric & propane already on site 65,448  
 39.17 Ac.-Great potential home-site with views, lush oak coverage, liveoaks, & Hwy access 117,553  
 40.249 Ac.-2 ponds, large oak trees, view of rolling hills, quiet and secluded, good hunting 120,747  
 50 Ac.- Hill top view, Clear-fork of Brazos, Ft. Phantom Lake, hunting, 15 min. from Abilene 160,000  
 50 Ac.- Beautiful views, some large oaks, good fences, great place to build your dream home 89,000  
 97 Ac.-3 tanks, haygrazer, beadall, oak groves, 3 birms, recreation or cattle, secluded 242,850  
 98.3 Ac.- Excellent cover for wildlife, electric available, new water well, secluded, easy to get to 255,166  
 98.5 Ac.- Nice small ranch, great home sites, 2 excellent water wells, oaks, electricity, pecan trees 186,658  
 109 Ac.-Rolling with beautiful views, seasonal creek, huge oaks, abundant wildlife, county water 295,700  
 110 Ac.- Great combination for hunting, fishing, and cattle, mesquite, oak, pecan, sandy soil 287,500  
 124 Ac.- Secluded along Clear-fork of Brazos, thick live oak, post oak, shinnery for hunting 297,882  
 148 Ac.-2 tanks, 2 water wells, UNDER CONTRACT The soil, fenced, cross fenced 340,975  
 148 Ac.-Excellent hunting, beautiful hill for home site. within 30 min. of Abilene - Jones county 296,000  
 160 Ac.-Cultivation, trees, brush, & 1 tank, great for deer, quail, and turkey hunting 192,000  
 208 Ac.- Great hunting on Clear-fork of Brazos, huge oak, pecan & elm, 3 small fields 543,504  
 220 Ac.-Mesquite, oak, hackberry for wildlife, 4 irrigation wells, Klein grass, coastal for livestock 264,000  
 237 Ac.-Rolling with coastal, oak, & pecan, 18 ac & 3 ac lakes, 40 ac brush, 68 ac under pivot 807,738  
 249 Ac.-Well stocked ponds & plenty of deer, beautiful 6yr old home, hunter's cabin **REDUCED** 649,000  
 324.94 Ac.- South of Santa Anna, Very nice game ranch, bunk house, large stocked pond 1,400,000  
 331 Ac.- Scenic hills, lots of Liveoak, Post Oak, and Native Pasture. Abundant wildlife, near I-20 827,093  
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2600 AC. HUDSPETH CO. - This place is full of lot of color, from the foliage to the hills. Lots of wildlife for hunting + Indian artifacts. Beautiful views & elevation changes. Was \$1,085,000...Now reduced to \$1,027,000! #CP-3199

275 AC. HALL CO. - Hunt or graze this property. Lots of wildlife & 4 food plots. Deep ravines, some improved grasses, 2 tanks & electricity on property. Only \$1,500/ per acre. #CP-3208

159 AC. BROWN CO. - Half wooded & half native pastures. Good elevation changes & beautiful views. CR frontage 2 sides. \$413,400! #CP-1003

143 AC. FISHER CO. - 2277sf 3/1 3/4 brick home with new updates, lighted arena, 40x80 barn w/concrete floor, 1800sf - 4 stall horse & hay barn, 2 lg equip. sheds, 2 holding pastures, 3 water wells & 3 metal grain bins. Was \$500,000...Now reduced to only \$425,000! #CP-3207

86.5 AC. EASTLAND CO. - Hwy 36 frontage. A beautiful place to build a home or use for recreation. Close to Cross Plains. Has 4 tanks & 1 wet weather creek. Nice large trees. Older water well & electricity is available. Priced at only \$2,200/acre. #CP-2007

69+ AC. EASTLAND CO. - Excellent elevation changes, native pasture with lots of nice trees. Sabanna River & a wet weather creek runs thru it. Great hunting. \$224,542.50! #CP-1001

58 AC. CALLAHAN CO. - Small well kept frame home in the country, 1 tank, lots of trees, small food plot, fenced. Excellent small recreation/hunting property. Only \$193,050! #CP-2008

30 AC. CALLAHAN CO. - Great small hunting place. Only \$67,500! #CP-1002

20 AC. CALLAHAN CO. - Located just SW of Cross Plains. Water & electric available. 1 tank,

good to new fences. Build here! Only \$56,000! #CP-2006

5 AC. BROWN CO. - Vacant land on Hwy. 279. Possible building site. Wooded, nice trees. \$20,450! #CP-3202

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1309 BOOKER, BRWD. - Nice sized lot in quiet area, near HPU. Only \$3,500! #CP-3206

2.7 AC. CALLAHAN CO. - Very nice 3/2 doublewide, nice trees, paved frontage. Very affordable at only \$68,000! #CP-1007

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**Cross Plains Review**

**11**

July 24, 2008

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**THE 2008 BAR-K RANCH RODEO TEAM WERE THE CHAMPIONS OF THE MILLS COUNTY COWBOY CHURCH RODEO IN GOLDTHWAITE ON SATURDAY, JULY 19—** The team consisted of Shane King of Bangs (from left), Clay Koenig and Scott Mackey both of Cross Plains, and Jody Hook of Brock. Standing are the Rep. from RFD TV and the pastor of The Cowboy Church. Others in the picture are Scott's sons Tanner and Trampas and Jody's son Jordan. The team won the wild cow milking and the team doctoring as well as placing as high 3rd and 4th in the other events for a combine score of 29 points. They received a cash award and bible cover. All had a great time.

## Attorney General Abbott Reaches Agreements That Will Help Protect Texans From Identity Theft

AUSTIN - Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott reached settlement agreements with Select Medical Corp. and RadioShack that will help protect Texans from identity theft. The settlements resolve two state enforcement actions, which charged both defendants with violating state laws governing the disposal of customer records that contain sensitive personal information.

Under the agreements, the state will receive nearly \$1.5 million that will ultimately fund future identity theft investigations and prosecutions. Equally important, both defendants will strengthen their existing information security policies by implementing new employee training programs that highlight identity theft prevention and educate staff about proper document destruction protocols. Under Texas law, vendors must take specific precautions before discarding documents that include customers' bank accounts, driver's license and Social Security numbers.

"Recognizing that identity theft is one of the nation's fastest growing criminal enterprises, the Texas Legislature passed laws to protect Texans from this crime," Attorney General Abbott said. "Under today's agreements, both defendants will implement new procedures that will better safeguard their customers' personal information. Equally important, nearly \$1.5 million in proceeds from these settlements will be used to fund future identity theft investigations and prosecutions."

The state's agreement with Select Physical Therapy Texas L.P. requires the health care provider to amend its existing information security procedures to ensure future compliance with identity theft prevention laws. Select Medical must implement a new training program that educates their Texas employees about newly established privacy

procedures and reviews state laws governing the disposal of customer records.

Under the agreement, all Select Medical Texas employees must take the training annually for the next five years. The mandatory course will explain identity theft, its costs to individual customers and the importance of complying with the company's newly implemented document disposal protocol. To further ensure that employees comply with the new protocol, each of Select Medical's Texas locations must post signs detailing records storage and disposal requirements. They also must maintain certification records that show each employee's compliance with the training requirements.

Select Medical agreed to pay the state of Texas \$990,000, which includes \$100,000 in attorneys' fees. Under the Identity Theft Enforcement and Protection Act, the remaining sum will be appropriated for the investigation and prosecution of future identity theft cases.

The state opened its investigation into Select Medical after the Levelland Police Department reported that more than 4,000 documents containing customers' sensitive information were found in garbage containers behind a Select Physical Therapy Texas Limited Partnership location in that city. The records discovered by authorities contained patients' bank account numbers, sensitive medical evaluations, drug and alcohol testing verification results, plan of care forms, insurance verification sheets, and social and vocational therapy questionnaires.

An agreement with Fort Worth-based RadioShack similarly requires the electronics retailer to enhance its existing information security procedures and implement a new employee training program. RadioShack's training

curriculum will largely mirror the requirements outlined in the state's agreement with Select Medical. Additionally, RadioShack agreed to conduct unannounced compliance audits at all of its Texas stores at least twice a year. RadioShack agreed to pay the state \$630,000, which includes \$50,000 in attorneys' fees. Under the Identity Theft Enforcement and Protection Act, the remaining sum will be appropriated for the investigation and prosecution of future identity theft cases.

The state's enforcement action against RadioShack began when state investigators learned that the retailer's Portland location exposed thousands of customers' personal identifying information by dumping sensitive records into a publicly accessible trash can. Documents recovered from the trash included a customer's 1998 credit application and a receipt for a shredder one customer purchased to prevent identity theft. The records contained customers' Social Security numbers, credit and debit card information, names, addresses and telephone numbers.

Although neither investigation revealed confirmed incidents of personal information being obtained or misused by identity thieves, customers whose records may have been contained at the affected locations should carefully monitor bank, credit card and similar financial statements for evidence of suspicious activity. Texans should also annually obtain free copies of their credit reports from [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) to guard against this growing crime.

Consumers who wish to file a complaint may contact the Office of the Attorney General at (800) 252-8011 or do so online at [www.texasattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov), where they can also obtain information on identity theft detection and prevention.

# Water from on high

By U.S. Senator John Cornyn

Water is the lifeblood of Texas. Starting with our state's early inhabitants, the availability of water determined where Texans would live.

The insatiable demand also led to creative attempts to produce more water. Experiments in rain-making began in drought-plagued areas of Texas more than 100 years ago. In a memorable experiment in 1891, college professor John T. Ellis fired cannons at explosives that had been launched with balloons over South Texas.

"After several delays because of unsettled weather, a two-day bombardment of the sky apparently paid off with a downpour. But cynics said that Ellis had simply stalled until rain appeared inevitable, and doubts remained about the practicality of the technique," according to the Handbook of Texas.

As populations increased, Texans wanted dependable water reserves. Where towns sprung up, so did water towers. The municipal water tower is often the first sight as you approach most Texas towns. Along with their primary function, water towers provided city leaders an opportunity to welcome visitors and to advertise their community and its points of pride.

In Poteet, host of the Strawberry Festival each April, the tower is painted to resemble the town's most famous product. The water tower in Luling, home of the annual Watermelon Thump festival, depicts its leading crop. Crockett promotes "Paradise in the Pines."

While all water towers rise above the landscape, some stand out for their design or message. Kemah on Galveston Bay built a water tower shaped and painted to resemble a lighthouse - in addition to operating as a lighthouse as well. Alice bills its tower as the "world's tallest, cement water tower."

Kermit, near the New Mexico border, painted its tower to resemble the beloved frog star of children's television. A tower in Plainview bears the name of another town, Rustwater, the fictional place featured in Steve Martin's 1992 film, Leap of Faith. San Benito's tower recognizes the town's famous son and Grammy-winning singer, Freddy Fender.

The most common tower design, however, is the "Tin Man" shape, reminiscent of The Wizard of Oz character. Other designs are used: Pedespheres sometimes are described as a "golf ball-on-a-tee." Standpipes are tall columns. Some water tanks are supported by tripod structures. Many cities are building water spheres, which are large tanks supported by a number of pillars.

Some towers are central to local history. "In 1918 the six-year-old Fentress water tower collapsed onto the town's only bank; cashier J. W. Lipscomb saved his life by dashing into the vault. This high water mark in Fentress history was viewed by some as divine judgment," the Handbook of Texas reports.

In Columbus, the original tower - built of 400,000 bricks with walls 32 inches thick - defied attempts long ago to demolish it with dynamite. It now serves as

a history museum.

Texas water towers promote the names of high school sports teams, including the Fighting Wildcats, Gladiators, Cubs, Pirates, Yellowjackets, Trojans and Badgers. In Progreso, home of the Mighty Red Ants, the top of the tower is painted to resemble an ant hill.

Whatever their size or shape, water towers are designed to ensure stable water pressure. Homeowners and businesses depend on them, as do firefighters. Many are used as a backup when emergencies threaten water availability.

By continuing to invest in lakes and reservoirs, water treatment systems, conservation and re-use programs, desalination plants, weather modification and new technologies, and by safeguarding the quality of our water, we can meet the future needs of Texas towns, agriculture and businesses. This is an important part of being good stewards of the State we call home.

*Senator Cornyn serves on the Armed Services, Judiciary and Budget Committees. In addition, he is Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Border Security and Refugees subcommittee and the Armed Services Committee's Airland subcommittee. Cornyn served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice and Bexar County District Judge. For Senator Cornyn's previous Texas Times columns: [www.cornyn.senate.gov/column](http://www.cornyn.senate.gov/column).*

### Cross Plains Review

# 12

July 24, 2008

## Texas Partnership promotes the riches of rural Texas communities

AUSTIN—Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples announced a partnership between the Texas Department of Agriculture and the Texas Travel Industry Association to present a series of one-day workshops advocating rural tourism.

"We are proud to recognize the richness and vitality of our rural communities through the Tourism Workshop Program," Commissioner Staples said. "This collaborative initiative will salute the success stories of rural Texas while further invigorating rural economies through tourism."

The first of six workshops will be presented August 14th in Kingsville and will feature guest speaker Dan Quandt of the South Padre Island Convention and Visitors Bureau. Topics of discussion during the workshops will include the development of tourism as a viable economic engine; rural business development; creative ways to leverage local and regional tourism partnerships; and managing and marketing aspects of rural tourism.

The Texas Travel Industry Association recognizes that economically vibrant rural communities are critical to the health of the overall tourism industry. That same vision is shared by TDA's GO TEXAN Rural Community Program, which is a comprehensive membership network designed to help rural communities leverage marketing dollars to promote economic growth and prosperity while sharing successful initiatives.

Other rural Texas communities participating in the Tourism Workshop Program include Plainview, Odessa and Tyler. Those workshops will be conducted prior to the end of the year.

To learn more about the Tourism Workshop Program and the GO TEXAN Rural Community Program, visit [gotexan.org](http://gotexan.org).

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