

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cross Plains I.S.D. will be held on July 16, 2009 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library. The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as follows:

Call Meeting to Order

1. Open Forum
2. Superintendent's Comments
3. New Business

A. Review and Approve Payment of Bills and Financial Report

B. Discuss and Take Action on Bids for Fire Alarm, Bell and Clock System for Primary Building

C. Set Date for Budget Workshop (Aug. 20, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.?)

D. Consider Change in Policy DEC Local Concerning Leaves and Absences as Recommended by TASB Policy Services

E. Set Date for Budget Hearing and to Adopt the Proposed 2009-10 Budget and Tax Rates (Monday, Aug. 31, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.)

F. Consider Taking Bids on Milk and Fuel for the 2009-10 School Year

4. Approve or Correct Minutes of June 18 2009

5. Elementary Principal's Report School Lunch Program/Lunch Breakfast Prices

6. Superintendent's Report A. "School First" Rating B. TAKS Testing and Results C. Drop Out Report for 2008-09

D. Coaching School

- (July 19-23)
- E. Cheerleading Camp (July 20-23)
- F. Drinks in Gym?
- G. Gate for Jr. High and Jr. Varsity Games?
- H. Student Insurance?
- I. 6 Hours of Dual Credit
- J. Football Schedule
- K. August Agenda
 1. Appraisal Calendar
 2. School First Report
 3. Certified Values
 4. Propose Tax Rate to be Advertised in the Paper
7. Executive Session
 - A. Resignations and Recommendations for Hiring (if needed)
 - B. Review and Discuss Consulting Pay for Past Employee
8. Take Action on Executive Session Items (if needed)
9. Adjourn.

If, during the course of the meeting, an 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 is posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act on July 9, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. by Superintendent Phil Mitchell for the Board of Trustees.

Big Country Immunization Coalition Free Back to School Immunization Schedule

FREE Back to School Immunization Schedule
0 - 18 YEARS OF AGE, VFC Eligible

Monday, August 3rd at the Mall of Abilene, 4310 Buffalo Gap from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 12th at the Mall of Abilene, 4310 Buffalo Gap from 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 13th at the Mall of Abilene, 4310 Buffalo Gap from 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 15th, National Days for Kids Nelson Park from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Thursday, August 20th at the Medical Care Mission, 1857 Pine (*Please note new address for Medical Care Mission) from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Please bring your child's immunization record.

No appointment necessary. Child must be accompanied by parent or guardian.

For additional information please call: 2-1-1 A Call For Help or visit: HYPERLINK "http://www.bcbstx.com/carevan" www.carevan.org

2009-2010 4-H Sheep & Goat Tag Orders

2009-2010 Sheep & Goat Tag orders are due to the Extension office by August 24th. If you plan on showing Market Lambs or Market Meat goats at the local, county or major shows you must call in your tag order no later than August 24th. Major show tags are \$7.00/tag and County tags are only \$3.00/tag.

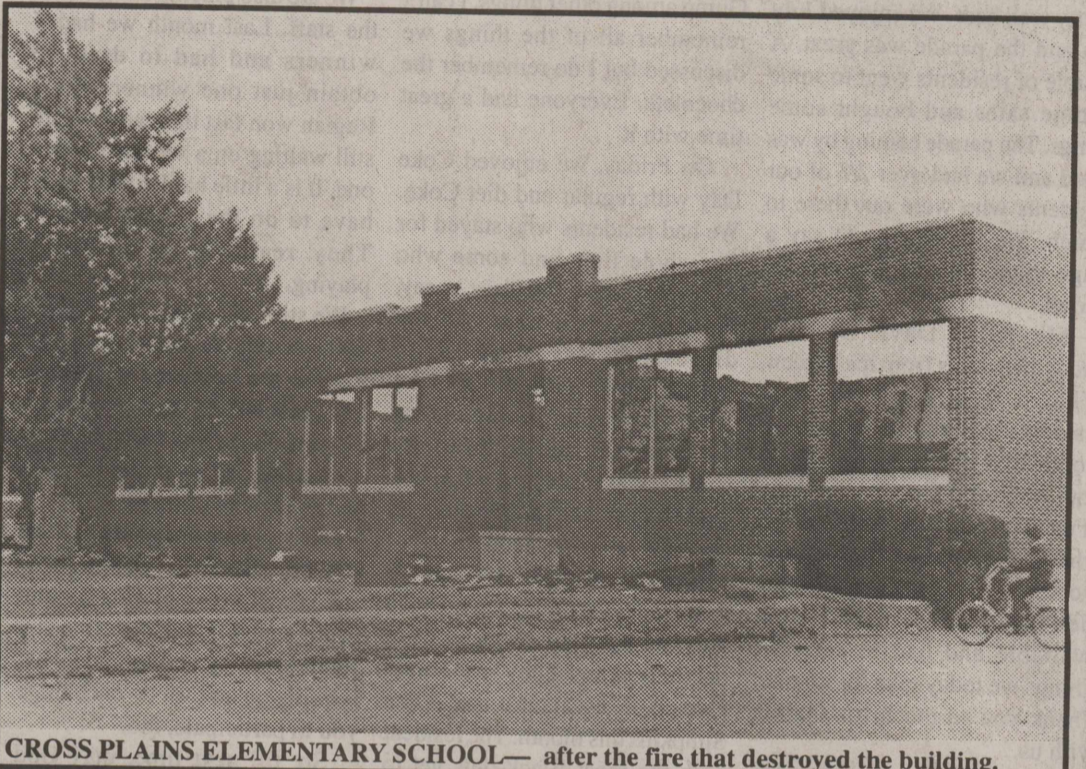
All tag orders must be paid for by August 31st!

Contact The Extension Office to place your tag orders at 325-854-5835.

Submitted by:
Hoss Sasin, CEA-Ag



CROSS PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL— District Track Champs.



CROSS PLAINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL— after the fire that destroyed the building.

4-Cross Plains Review July 16, 2009

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THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

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- * Well Woman & Health Step Exams
- * Licensed Professional Counselor Available.
- * Walk-ins Accepted!! * Appointments Offered!!

OPEN TUES. & THURS. UNTIL 6 P.M.

Submit YOUR
School Day Photos
to be published in
the
Cross Plains Review
prior to the
2009 C.P.H.S.
HOMECOMING
scheduled for
Saturday, September 19

Mail Photos to:
Cross Plains Review
P. O. Box 519
Cross Plains, TX 76443
(w/self-addressed
return envelope)



BEAUTY CONTEST WINNERS— Shelly Key (from left), Pam Strength and Kami Hargrove.

C.P.H.S. Homecoming is Just Around the Corner

By Vanda Anderson
Editor

It's only two months until Homecoming which is slated for September 19th. If you haven't made plans to attend, get busy because you are running out of TIME!!!!

Eddy Don Edmondson and Sid Newton called the *Review* to check out the dates. Sid stated that he had been in contact with Rick Latson and had hopes that he might attend again this year. Rick lives out of state so he would have to make special arrangements.

Barbara "Cookie" Clark Robinson stops by my office often and I have been encouraging her to attend. Conflicting events have prevented her from attending the past few years. Some of the 1967 classmates haven't seen her since graduation, and guess what— she is just as pretty as she ever was!

I had a great telephone conversation with my friend Beth (Hutchins) Arnold when the Atwell Cemetery Historical Marker was being promoted. We talked about looking forward to Homecoming. Many friends you only see every three years when they come home for this special event.

Sharon (Stansbury) Fry and Marlene (Stansbury) Cowan

came by the office recently and I missed them as I had gone to the bank to make a deposit. They usually come to Homecoming so I will get to see them then. Then, JoVeda (Fleming) Watson came by to announce her upcoming marriage to Neil Bush. Samantha said she was glowing and said she would be moving to Lubbock. Best wishes to you both!!!! I missed all the fun that day. Now you see why I love to work at the *Cross Plains Review*, every day is like Homecoming. You never know who will drop by or call and a flood of memories come back.

I never know when Carolyn (Tunnell) Ogden might pop into my office. She visits with Cecil and Mary Beth Barton regularly and she always graces me with a visit. The last time she was here she stated that she wouldn't see me again until Homecoming. Carolyn seems to have a knack of being there every time I REALLY need someone to talk to. I hold our friendship since childhood very precious.

Jack and Barbara Baum are in my office when they are in town working on restoring the Bryant house. Jack always says, "Now, do I know you???" Sometimes he doesn't recognize me according to what color my hair is. This is our standing joke. They will be meeting with the Class of 1965.

I got to see Jay McCuin, Tommy Cowan and Jack Hinkle at the recent Barbarian Festival. I enjoyed talking with them and of course they plan to attend Homecoming. They have been faithful to return every three years to be with their Class of 1966.

Nearly every Homecoming someone shows up that you haven't seen in years and years and it is terrific! If you haven't seen your classmates in a long time, surprise them and plan on having a great time reminiscing.

The C.P.H.S. Ex-Student Association goes the extra mile to make the festivities memorable. It is a big day in Cross Plains with the streets literally full of folks with smiling faces and vehicles everywhere. The old town seems to come alive, especially when the grand parade takes place. Many dedicated classes take pride in preparing extraordinary floats representing their graduating class. The array of classic cars is outstanding!

It is my hope that I've made you think about school days, good times and friends. Lifetime friendships are rare in today's society and are to be treasured.

Remember September 19th and come home for a fantastic reunion with former classmates, teachers, and administrators.

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Are We Setting Ourselves Up For A Jobless Recovery?

By Tom Pauken

The Texas unemployment rate jumped from 6.7 percent in April to 7.1 percent in May. While the percentage of Texans out of work is much lower than the 9.4 percent national figure, continued unemployment claims for individuals out of work for more than a week are 175 percent higher than they were in our state a year ago.

The national jobless rate is the highest since July 1983, and this current economic environment has a more worrisome feel to it than the recession back then. What is troubling is the sense that there is no place to hide when it comes to loss of jobs in the private sector. The job losses are across the board, with the manufacturing sector being one of the hardest hit in terms of layoffs and plant closings. Moreover, debt levels are much higher today than they were back in the early 1980s.

A major reason why this national recession appears worse — and more persistent than previous recessions is the higher debt levels in the U.S.

During the "go-go" years of what turned out to be a bubble economy, consumers, businesses, and most governmental entities (the Texas state government being a notable exception) went on spending sprees as though there were no tomorrow — and no day of reckoning.

The credit excesses, beginning in the 1990s and continuing throughout this decade have resulted in a "mountain load of debt." John Riley of Cornerstone Investments has cited figures about overall debt to GDP (gross domestic product) which should concern all of us. In 1981, when President Reagan assumed office, debt to GDP — that is, consumer debt, corporate debt, and government was 91 percent. In

1930, at the time of the Great Depression, it was 300 percent. At the end of 2008, it was nearly 400 percent. That is way too much debt to get this economy moving again. Moreover, rather than reducing government debt, the Obama Administration is piling on more government debt with a stimulus package designed to get the American consumer to spend our way out of this serious national economic recession. Our federal budget deficit is expected to be nearly \$2 trillion this year. The Bush Administration tried to engineer a similar short term fix in early 2008 with a \$168 billion package of tax rebates to individuals (including money to those who had never paid taxes in the first place).

Are we setting ourselves up for a jobless recovery?

The Bush Plan didn't work; and, I submit, the Obama stimulus plan won't work either to get our economy out of the ditch — and growing again. Consumers aren't going to spend if they are worried — as they are today — about whether they will have a job tomorrow, or about the very survival of their businesses. Instead, Americans are saving again — putting money away for their own "rainy day" fund. Personal savings were at 4.5 percent in April and jumped to 5.7 percent in May.

Meanwhile, however, government spending at the national level is totally out of control. With these massive budget deficits (and huge trade deficits as well), don't we run the risk of opening the door to runaway inflation, similar to what happened to Germany in the Weimer Republic after World War I?

Government cannot create jobs — only the private sector can. While the government may seem to create jobs when it hires people or buys things, it

destroys at least as many jobs as it creates when it does so. That is why you need a vibrant private sector to pay for and support the public sector.

The number one economic issue facing us today is — how do we encourage job creation in the private sector — particularly, small businesses where most new jobs originate — and put America back to work?

The federal government does not have to spend trillions of dollars it doesn't have in a vain attempt to stimulate the economy. Instead, we need to reform our job-killing, business tax system which rewards debt while penalizing companies that save and invest in order to create jobs in the United States. Under a proposal by Austin businessman David Hartman, we would replace our onerous business tax system with an 8-percent border-adjusted consumption tax. That would level the playing field with our foreign competitors for U.S. businesses operating here at home. We need to quit exporting prosperity abroad, rebuild our manufacturing base, lessen our dependence on foreign energy, and bring good paying jobs home to America again. The Hartman Plan would do just that.

The time for action — along with a new direction in economic policy — is now. Let's put America back to work.

Tom Pauken is Chairman of the Texas Workforce Commission

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the programs it offers in unison with its network of local workforce development boards call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.

Connie Kirkham Is "A Spy Among Us"

Former CIA agents James and Meredith Olson recently presented a program about their adventures working undercover for the United States government at the Cross Plains Public Library's "I Spy Fish Fry" which was concluded with Connie Kirkham being "outed" as the local spy among us. I sat down with Connie to discuss her years as a local agent.

MK: Connie, what has been the reaction of your friends and family to the news that you've been an agent for the United States government all these years?

CK: Most were shocked and displayed disbelief; only a few were disappointed that I hadn't been truthful to them.

MK: Was your husband Cliff, among those?

CK: No. Cliff was actually relieved. You see, lately he had begun to think that my mother (Alice Roby of Cross Plains) was losing her faculties.

MK: Why is that?

CK: Well, for instance, I would tell him that I was spending the afternoon with mama, when I was really out on assignment and then when he asked her how we enjoyed our day together, she would reply that she hadn't seen me that day. I would then have to cover my tracks and tell him she was confused. Now that he knows the truth, he's relieved that mama is of sound mind.

MK: And how did your mother react to all of this?

CK: She was a real trooper! She was proud of what I had done, saying, "I always knew she was up to something!" She was relieved also, because she was beginning to think that maybe she really WAS forgetting times we had spent together.

MK: When did you begin working for the government?

CK: It all happened quite by accident. I had travelled to Paris

for a vacation. I was in a taxicab at a stoplight when a gentleman jumped in next to me and told the driver to "follow that car." At first I thought maybe it was customary to share a taxi in France, but quickly discovered that we were in hot pursuit of the ringleader for a counterfeiting operation. To make a long story short, I helped break the ring of thieves and that's how my name got on the list of contacts for the French Foreign Legion. Of course, I had to sign a letter of nondisclosure and was unable to tell anyone about my exciting time in Paris.

MK: Did you continue working then?

CK: No, I actually came home and went about my business as usual. Then, in 1997, France declassified the FFL's contact list and the CIA recruited me. They (the CIA) were working on a formula to change the color of skin darker or lighter as needed, for their agents to infiltrate other countries.

Makeup worked for some operations, but in countries like South America, they needed the entire body color to change. You see, it would be difficult for an agent to appear on the beach in a swimsuit or shorts as a native with white legs. Also, make-up did not sufficiently cover parts like the palms of hands, the bottom of feet, the ears, nasal passages and gums.

This formula, when drunk daily, would change the entire body's color gradually over 3 weeks. As long as the formula was ingested the color would remain; but once the dosage was discontinued, the body would revert to its natural color.

MK: So this was your primary job?

CK: Yes. My salon (Connie's Cuts and Curls) provided the perfect cover for the delivery of

all the chemical I needed—hence the large deliveries of "bluing." At first, I worked in the basement of our home, but after our home burned to the ground in 1999, the agency recommended that I work in the salon.

MK: Ah, so that's why witnesses saw men in three-piece suits getting out of black cars and sifting through the ashes of your home before you were allowed in?

CK: Yes, they needed to remove any evidence. I almost threw in the towel back then, thinking that perhaps I had accidentally blown up the place, but when it was discovered that the attic wiring was the cause, I decided that what I was doing was very important for our country and I needed to forge ahead.

MK: What about customers who thought your rollers emitted a strange sound—any truth to that?

CK: Well yes. The pink foam rollers held tiny transmitters that sent signals to other operatives. When certain "clients" came to the salon wearing receivers, I used those rollers and any data was transmitted to their receiver; they later downloaded the information and passed it on to the "higher-ups." Anyway, the special rollers got mixed in with the others by accident and if a customer was wearing anything brass, they would hear static from the transmitters.

MK: Just who were these special "clients"?

CK: I'm not at liberty to identify any of them; let's just say you'll all have to wait until they announce their retirement (if they choose to do so).

MK: Well, Connie, it has been most informative speaking with you. We thank you for your service to our country and for being such a good sport.

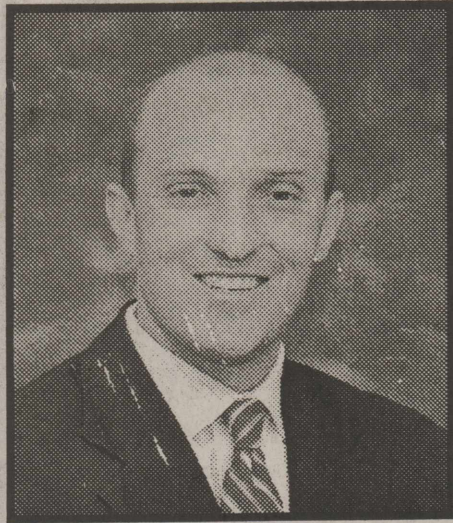
CK: It's been my pleasure to be a part of this TALL TALE!

Submitted by Michelle Kaiser

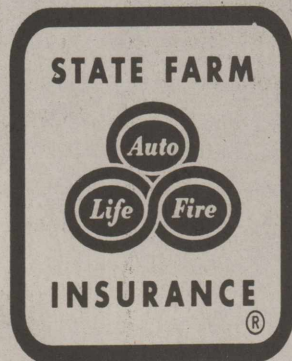
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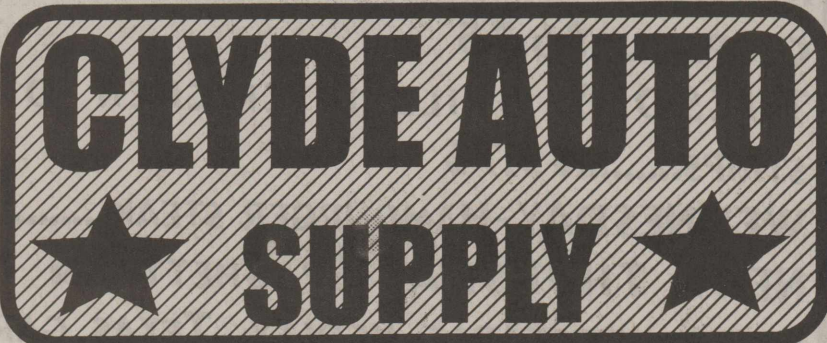
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