## Fate Of Rural Influence Now In State Senate Hands; House Votes To Gut 17th District

State Rep. Bob Hunter o Abilene is to be commended or voting the will of the people who voted for him, hired him and sent him to Austin.
Rep. Hunter, a Republican, voted against the Republican-led effort, which will, if passed by the State Senate, gut what little rural West Texas influence there is remaining in Washington. Rep. Jim Keffer, also a Republican, voted for the measure which passed the House Tuesday. He is quoted as having said that he considers U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm, D-Abilene, a friend. But he voted to pit Stenholm, the longtime 17th Congressional District incumbent, against Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock who was elected a couple of months ago in District 19.

It was the best map for West Texas the House leadership would accept," Keffer said.

It would seem that Rep. Hunter voted for the people in his district rather than the leadership in Austin
The "new map" splits what is essentially District 17 , into District 19 (anchored by Lubbock) and District 11 (anchored by Waco)

The entire deal could be killed in the Senate where the House plan now goes, but many doubt that it will be. Senate rules require a twothirds vote before issues can before issues can be debated in the 31-member chamber.


That means 11 of the 12 Several Reporter-News) Democrats could defeat the plan by voting not to take up

Rep. Sid Miller (RStephenville) and Rep. Pete Laney (D-Hale Center) voted against the bill. Campbell of San Angelo, Hardcastle of Vernon and Hilderbran of Kerrville also voted for the bill.

A Senate commitee completed its redistricting hearings around the state Wednesday, setting the stage for senators to begin debating the issue in Austin. At least three senators are expected to release redistricting maps that differ from the one passed by the
House early Tuesday.

Republican and Democrat say they cannot support the House map because it divides some communities and could eliminate key rural members of Congress.
State Sen. Troy Fraser, RHorseshoe Bay, said his goal is to preserve the existing West Texas districts as much as possible. Fraser represents Eastland and Callahan Counties among others.

I'd like the district Abilene is in to remain a lot like it is as Abilene is the dominant city" Fraser said "The truth is, I think Republicans are with the district it stand today. They feel strongly that they will do well in the next

## election cycle."

House Republicans sa their map could give the GOP as many as 21 of the state's 32 congressional seats Democrats currently have a 17-15 edge in the delegation. Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said the House map will not pass the Senate without changes

Lubbock and chairman of the committee, said he has no plans to draft his own congressional map. He said he plans to work toward preserving West Texas existing congressional districts.
"I think what we heard in San Angelo and Lubbock and from what I'm hearing from constituents is they don't want to see district lines changed...," said Duncan, who represents San Angelo, Lubbock and parts of the Big Country. "There are certainly areas of the state that don't need to redistrict, even for partisan reasons, in order to protect communities of interest."
"I don't like it," Cong. Charles Stenholm is quoted as having said of the new redistricting action.
"The current plan (the one now in use) seemed to have pleased everybody but Tom DeLay. It has support from our Texas Delegation on both sides of the aisle. It is a plan very appropriate for Texas." He suggested that citizens should express their feelings to their representative and to Sen. Troy Fraser who covers much of the same district. The Senate is to consider the House Bill immediately. Cong. Stenholm pointed out that the $\$ 1.7$ million cost of the special session is just
be saved with a single blood donation. Those in need blood include cancer patients, trauma victims, surgical patients, premature babies and patients with chronic anemia According to a Meek Blood Center spokesperson, as little as three teaspoons of blood can save the life of a premature baby. A trauma victim may require as many as thirty pints of blood upon arrival to the emergency room, while a cancer patient may require as many as eight units of platelets a day while undergoing chemotherapy treatment. July 23 At Clyde Post Office

## Blood And Water Drive To Be

The Clyde Post Office will host a blood drive on Wednes Center Bloodmobile unit will be parked at the Post Office from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m blood drive, the Clyde Pos Office will also be accepting bottled water donations which will be donated to the Christ's Community Resource Center Post Office officials will have a mail cart situated in the Pos Office lobby to accept dona tions of bottled water for the resource center.

As many as three lives can

## Call Margaret with all your local news and upcoming events at 854-1008 or 254-629-1701 or fax your news to 254-629-2092

at the tip of the iceberg for Blood donors must be at the tip of the iceberg for at least 110 pounds and be in 2001 to get the existing plan good health. Aspirin and most in force was $\$ 7$ million. maintenance medications, Texas could spend nearly that much defending the
such as blood pressure, cholesterol, hormones and antidepressants are acceptable There are some restrictions regarding some medications, certain medical conditions and travel outside the $\mathrm{U} . \mathrm{S}$.

Anyone with a question re garding donor eligibility may call Meek Blood Center a (325) 670-2805. The blood donation process takes be tween 45 minutes to 1 hour. Each donor will receive a patriotic T-shirt and a complimentary cholesterol reading Cholesterol results may be obtained two days after the blood drive by calling ( 325 ) 670-2799.


#### Abstract

17 years of age, weig


 proposed plan in federal ourts. And this plan will be hallenged."Laird Chamber Golf Tournament

The Fifth Annual Golf Tournament sponsored by Baird Chamber of Commerce is scheduled Saturday, July 19th.
Entry fee for the two person scramble at Shady Oaks Golf Course is $\$ 30$ per person plus cart and

## green fee

There will be prizes for tournament winners and hot dog/burger supper following the tournament, according to Susan McCool who is Chairing tournament.


Wit's End Shop and Cafe


Every nook and cranny of Wit's End is filled with something delightful.


Wit's End Is Charming Inside And Out

By Margaret Hetrick One of the nice things about Baird are the various eating establishments throughout the town.
I have already written
bout the Whistle Stop Cafe on Market Street, which is very popular stop for locals as well as tourist taking a stroll through the downtown area. continued

## OBITUARIES

## Reo F. Jolly

CLYDE-Reo F Jolly, 87, of Eula died Sunday, July 6, 2003 at his home.
Services were held Tuesday, July 8, 2003 at 2 p.m. at the Eula Methodist Church, C. Lee Smith and Rev. Bob Karlin officiated. Burial was in the Eula Cemetery directed by Bailey Funeral Home. Reo was born December 18, 1915 to Marion and Bettie Cole on the Kennard Ranch outside of Clyde. He attended school in Eula, Clyde and Lone Oak graduating from Baird High School in 1933 He married Nellie Sith on August 24, 1935 in Abilene. He served as Callahan Co Precinct 1 Democratic Chairman and Election Judge for over 60 years. He was a member of
He was preceded in He was preceded in drother Marshall Jolly; two sisters, Maude Hannaford and Alta Jolly and one son-in-
law James Massengale Survivors are his wife Nellie; two daughters, Fran Massengale and Lela Rose and her husband Charles Dick all of Abilene; two brothers, Forrest Jolly of Arcadia, Ok and Grady B. Jolly of Abilene; one sister, Pearl Edwards of Clyde; four grandchildren and their spouses, Lorri and Kyle Routh, Philip and Tanya Massengale, Liana and Steve Poole, Denise and Doug Scales; nine great-grandchildren, Leslie Nixon, Matt Routh, Justin Scales, Abby Massengale, Kari Routh Kelli Routh, Cody Scales, Harley Poole, and Gracie Poole.
Memorials may be made to Hospice of the Big Country 4601 Hartford, Abiiene, TX 79605 or Eula Cemetery As sociation in care of Rose Farmer 5930 FM 603 Clyde, TX 79510.

Avi T. Deshmukh, M.D., F.A.C.S. Board Certified in Urology

Frank V. Terrell, M.D. Da-Thuy Van, D.O.
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## Joe Ingram

CROSS PLAINS - Joe CROSS PLAINS - Joe Friday, July 11, 2003 at Scott and White Hospital in Temple, Texas after a 15 year battle with cancer.
Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, July 14, 2003 at First Baptist Church with Ronnie White officiating and Burlie Taylor assisting. Mr. Ingram was born February 5, 1929 in Cross Plains, to W. H. (Bill) and Althea Ingram. He married Wesley B. Profitt on January 21, 1950 in Phillips January 1, 1950 in Phillips, Texas. Joe worked for Phillips Petroleum for 17 years in Phillips, Texas before returning to Cross Plains, wherehe was a farmer and rancher. He also served as Callahan County Commissioner for two terms and several years on the Cross Plains City Council.
He is survived by Wesley, his wife of 53 years; four daughters and sons-in-law, Patsy and John Moran of Abilene; Sherry and Brad Harris of Lexingon, KY, Barbara and Donnie Dillard of Cross Plains, Edith and Rex Beggs of Cross Plains; a ister, Wanda Tyler of Eula; two brothers, Mike Ingram of Mammoth Lakes, CA an Mack Ingram of Richmond, Texas; 12 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildden; as well a host of friends.
He was preceded in deat by his parents; and two sisters, Willie Mae Ingram and Bonnie Ingram Honoring their grandfather as pallbearers are hi
grandsons, Elvan Goode, $\mathrm{J}_{\mathrm{r}}$ Donnie Dillard, Jr., Jo Moran, Jr., Tony Beggs Joseph Dillard, Bo Harris Honorary pallbearers include rwin Clark, Franzelle Odom Arvin Brashear, and R Merryman

Memorial may be made to the Cross Plains EMS; First Baptist Church; or the American Cancer Society

Letter To The Editor
This is Joint Petition No. for the following
The Honorable George W Bush, President of th United States of America; The Honorable Kay B Hutchison, Texas Senator; The Honorable John Thn, Texas Senator The Honorable Charles tenhoim, U.S. Representa We humbly pray that yo shall use an extra amount of discernment with this Peti-

## dion. Patri ticer

Patrick Henry said that the Bible is worth all other books which have ever been printed. George Washington said "It is impossible to rightly avern people without God warned against becoming entangled with foreign na tions. Since we believe that George Washington knew more about what is best for his nation than some of ou present leaders, especially the Supreme Court, we want enactment of the four fol-
lowing resolutions: The right for unrestricted Christian prayer in our public schools. 2. "One nation under God" kept in the pledge to the flag. 3. The right to read and/or teach the Bible in our public schools. 4. Since the United Nations is controlled by terrorist, atheist, heathen, pagan, countries; and also since one of the UN's main objectives is to confiscate all of our personal guns, and also that the majority of the members of the UN have no reason to tell the truth, we believe that we should withdraw from the organization; moreover the money which is spent on the UN could be used better at home.

Sincerely,
Jim Hicks 1290 FM 604 N Clyde, TX 79510

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| 00 Ford Taurus SE, 4 dr., loaded, (red), 62K | \$6450 |

Callahan County (Baird) Star

Texas Historical
Commission To
Hold Workshop

A free, all-day Regional Workshop for community leaders, preservationists, students and interested citizens will be presented by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) on Wednesday, August 13.
The Workshop - Celebrating Our History - is from 8:30 a.m. -3.30 p.m. (Registration at 8 a.m.) in the Kemp Center for the Arts, 1300 Lamar, Wichita Falls,TX.
The THC invites interested persons to join the staff and guest speakers for a full day of learning and sharing information about promoting preservation in your community. The program emphasized is sues specific to Central and West Central Texas
Workshop hi-lights include a Welcome by Wichita Falls Mayor Bill Altman and the THC Executive Director Larry Oaks, a Keynote by Doug Harman, President and CEO of the Fort Worth Convention and Visitors Bureau, How to Save a Historic Building, Texas Historical Markers, Downtown Revitalization Better the Second Time Around, Archeology Stewards/Historic Texas Lands Plaque Program, Grant Writing 101, Optional local tour of historic downtown Wichita Falls, Optional afternoon (4 p.m.) guilded tour of the nearby historic Archer County Courthouse currently undergoing restoration.
Celebrate the THC's 50th anniversary during lunch. As your contribution to the please bring photographs, news clippings and other mementos that represent the history of preservation efforts in your community or organization. During the workshop, we will pin these items to a Forts/Hill Country Region memory board. You may take home your items at the end of the workshop.

This event is free, but reservations are requested. A charge of $\$ 8$ will be made for lunch.

For more information or reservation forms, contact Jennifer Haisten at 1-800/ 799-6732 or 940/716-5500.
A block of rooms is re served at the Radisson Hotel 100 Central Freeway, Wichita Falls, 940-776-1730. Pleas reference the Texas Historica Commission workshop to receive the special room rate of $\$ 70$ for Tuesday, August 12 on a first come, for served basis. For other accommoda tions, call the Wichita Fall Convention and Visitors Bu reau at 1-800/799-6732.


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## News For Veterans

Department of Defense compensation program for announces new Combat- many disabled military Related
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Compensation
The Department of Defense, working together with the Department of Veterans Affairs, has announced the start of a new

## Starshine

Greetings from Windy Hill!
This is not usually what I am sending this time of morning, but it seems clear that it will be some time (if ever) before I send any more. columns
So, this is a heartfelt "Thank You" for those of you who have borne patiently (as far as I know) with my nit-picking about my "stuff." And I am aware that I get pretty pickish at times. You are appreciated, whether we've ever met or not My email address worthy@big planet.com. Feel free to use it anet.com. Julia Worthy
Julia Worthy
Read The Classifieds
/www.dmdc.osd.milcrscd Your Callahan Count Veterans Service Office will have the application forms
and other and other information on the new program. A call to 325 .
$854-1520$ on Mondays and 854-1520 on Mondays and Tuesdays will get copies in the mail to you. It appears to be well worth the time for those who are eligible.

## Korean War

On July 5, 1950, Pvt Kenneth Shadrick of Skin Fork, West Virginia, became the first U. S. serviceman to die in the Korean War. Think of him and all the others who died in that terrible war when you observe the Armistice which came about fifty years ago on July 27, 1953 TAPS
Each day the papers carry news of more buddies who have answered the last call Our area is no exception and we are saddened to know the loss of Dr. Robert V. Bailey, Jr., USN born in Clyde, Frank Bartek, USA Cross Plains, William Brannon, USA Eula DuWayne L. (D.L.) Clark USAF Clyde, Lark Poindexter, USA Oplin, and Lyle Ancell, USAF Clyde, a good friend to so many. Our condolences are extended to the families of these Veterans, men who served their country

Monday, July 14, 2003

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Callahan County (Baird) Star
Reich Reunion To Be July 20 The ahnual Reich reunion share pictures and memories will be held on Sunday, July of their German heritage and
20,2003 at the Redeemer the blessings and freedoms 20, 2003 at the Redeemer the blessings and freedoms
they have since their ancesLuthern Parish Hall. Matilda were both born in Baranvo, Germany and were married there on June 15,
1882. One son was also born there. On Nov. 4,1884 they there. On Nov. 4,1884 they
came to America. They were came to America. They were
one of the first German immigrants to locate in the Cisco area where they lived
and raised ftheir thirteen children. nieces, nephews, cousins, all nieces, nephews, cousins, al
descendants of Adolph and descendants, of Adolph and
Matilda Reich will gather for Matilda Relgh will gather for
a potluck dinner and fellowa potluck dinner and fellow
ship at 12 noon. They will

## James Scott Is Spring

 Graduate Of Texas A\&MCOLLEGE STATION Diplomas were awarded to approximately 5,000 Texas A\&M University graduates during spring commencement ceremonies.
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## Lakeside Country Club

 Guys and Dolls ResultsTEXAS
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Lakeside Country Club hosted their Guys \& Dolls Tournament on July 5-6 2003. Thirty-two teams participated in the 2-day tournament and the players were served pork chops, macaroni salad, green beans and apple cobbler on Saturday night. The Closest to day Pin was won by Da the Pin was won by Dan Scott from Stephenville The Men's Most Accurat Drive was won by Russell Walker and the Women's Most Accurate Drive was won by Karol Matlock from Fort Worth.

The Championship Flight was won by Barry and Sharon Fletcher with 125 , Second was Tom Broom and Sherry Bowden with 127, Third was Bob and Donna McCoy with 137 and Fourth was Eddie and Kery Clay with 139.
The First Flight was won by Randy and Nancy Harris with 138 , Second was David McCoy with Sylvia Snook with 138, Third was Eddie and Jan Clay with 139, Fourth was Sam Rodriguez and Karol Matlock with 140, Fifth was Jason Hutt and Lori Whatley with 140 and Fifth was Ronnie and Jean Hicks with 147.
The Second Flight was won by Joe and Lana Johnson with 142 , Second was Judd Duncan and Christy Potts with 143 , Third was Lonnie and Myra Gaylor with 144, Fourth Mas Joe and Marti Heyser with 145, Jerry Dudley and Delores Tankersley with 145, and Larry and Maria Duncan with 145 and Fifth was Ron and Georgia Gibson with 147

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The Third Flight was won by Harold and Helen Tilghman with 148, Second was Rick Mannke and Elaine Clark with 149, Third was Pat and Donna Hogan with 150, Third was Hank Smith and Jamie Thomas with 151, Fourth was Lanny Hand and Pat Byrd with 152 and Fifth was Rod Straw and Pam Thomas with 153.
The Fourth Flight was won by Russell Walker and Vickie Driscoll with 153, Second was Dickie Zarfas and Roxie Penn with 156, Third was Dale and Pam Wilson with 158 and Fourth was Buddy Bird and Evett Pundt with 158.

The Fifth Flight was won by Jack and Linda Straw with 156, Second was Dan and Pam Scott with 158, Third was Ronnie and Mickey Edwards with 162, Fourth was Ken and Sammie Blades with 164 and Fifth wa with 164 and Fifth wa Chance Bruno and Julie Sharp with 171
The next tournament will be the Cliff Beck 2-Man LowBall on August 9-10, 2003. The entry fee will be $\$ 120.00$ per team. For more information call 254-629-2892.

## Remember to Renew Your Subscription. Check the due date at the top of your mailing label.

## Summer Sounds

Coming To Harpersville Music Festival By Lindsay Meeks The Harpersville Music Festival will kick off August 8 th and will continue on through the weekend until the 10th as some of most talented songwriters of Texas and the neighboring states entertain crowds ing states entertain c with their melodies. The event was planned as a farewell to summer and introduction to the exciting artists and the June Leland Wildlife Foundation (the organization sponsoring the event.) All of the festivities are to raise money for the threatened Lesser Prairie Chicken while bririe familin while bringing families and friends together to listen to music and have a good time.
Jack Williams will set the mood of the event as the host and will be followed by award winning act like by award winning acts like Gary P. Nunn, Kevin Welch, Tish Hinojosa, Trout Fishing in America, Sisters Morales, Jimmy

LaFave, Lloyd Maines', and the young rising group, the South Austin Jug Band. Sunday, the show will start early at noon) with a song service featuring the blues music and eight piece band of Kay Kay and the Rays.
Camping is encouraged on the 600 -acre ranch and is free with the purchase of threeday advance tickets. The campsites are furnished with estroom and shower facilities.
Ticket prices are $\$ 15$ Friday and Saturday and $\$ 25$ on Saturday if purchased by mail or on-line ahead of time. For all three days, the price per ticket is $\$ 49$ and includes camping and children under 12 free. Tickets may be purchased at the gate during the festival for an additional \$5 per ticket or all three days for \$60. Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

For more information bout the festival, go on-line www.harpersvillemusic. or call toll free at 1-866-631 0705. Come join the fun!

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## John＇s Travel Notebook．．．

John C．Jones Travel／Food Writer

## The Elegant Sawgrass Marriott Resort

 There she is，rising up fromthe 4,800 acre of luxurous landscape surrounding her－ the elegantly appointed Sawgrass Marriott Hotel of Ponte Verdra Beach，Florida． Here is a resort that will spoil you for anything else－it has all the amenities for those who except excellence． ＂Charm and grandeur＂of hand in hand with＂fun and activities＂at this gilded re－ sort．As I walked into the lobby where the seventy－foot breathtaking atrium engulfs me－a look up reveals an in－ credibly mammoth skylight， and I have just started to re－
alize the extraordinary expe－ riences that will be unfold ing．From the lobby looking ing．From the lobby looking
out at the picturesque 13th out at the picturesque 13th
hole of the TPC at Sawgrass Stadium Course makes your wait for tee－time tomorrow seem even further away From Jacksonville take I 95 South to 9 A an onto St ． Johns Bluff Blvd．and when you end at A1A turn south three and a half miles to the resort．It is only about thirty five minutes from the airport． This elegant resort offers the golfing opportunities I detailed in a previous article， as well as three outdoor pools（two heated），24－hour exercise room，tennis with 17 courts（five lighted），jogging
trails，miniature golf，horse－ trails，miniature golf，horse－ back riding，bicycle rentals，
golf clinics，fishing，as well as programs for the children and baby－sitting services． and baby－sitting services． among the PGA players，and is located in the fitness，cen ter．I had the privilege of hav－ ing the masseuse that is as－ signed to Tiger Woods and his dad（Muriel Hattori）as gifted hands have brought relief to the PGA＇s finest players．One treatment and I understood why！And yes，if Tiger is not in，you may re－ quest her as your masseuse． Various massage types are available，as well as facials． In spring 2004，the resort has plans to open a 20,000 square foot spa with full－ser－ vice hair and nail saloon， whirlpool area，juice bar with health drinks，and as mine a fitness room a
Marriott can produce！
With 508 guest rooms，vil
With 508 guest rooms，vil－
las，and suites to choose from，you will find one that meets your needs，for cer－ tain．There are 4,800 acres surrounding the hotel（which includes 350 acres of fresh water lakes and lagoons，live oaks，magnolias and palms）． There are 508 rooms，villas suites and the choice of 324 with views of water．Conven－ tions will find ample facili－ ties to meet their needs with ballrooms， 12,500 sq．ft．ex－ hibit space，pavilions for weddings，and did I mention this is the largest meeting facility at a resort between Atlanta and Orlando？There need and Champs Lounge provides an abundance of nightlife to the resort．
viting is not just the revolu viting，is not just the revolu－ cater to family needs beaches，tennis，and golf－but it is only minutes away from the historic St．Augustine where you find yourself walking back into time．Next time I＇ll walk down the cobble stone streets of St． Augustine with you．
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CJC＇s Dinner Theatre To Present ＂Guys and Dolls＂July 17－20，24－27

Cisco Junior College＇s senting＂Guys and Dolls＂as the second production of its 2003 summer season．
Directed by Le Jones， Guys and Dolls＂is Broadway favorite and also Frank Sinatra and Marlon Brando．
The story involves two gamblers who are to give up ＂the game＂for the women they love．Nathan Detroit （Le Jones）has been en－ gaged to Miss Adelaide Dorothy Dowell）for 14 years and must relinquish his ole as locator for the ongo ing dice game to marry her． McClain）pursues Sarah McClun（ pursues Sara Brown（Angela Kennedy）an vangelist at the Save－a－sou Mission and is to leave gam－ Mission and is to leave $g$
bling to save his soul． muffin

1／4 cup pasta sauc
$1 / 4$ cup broccoli florets，cut in fine pieces
1／4 cup light shredded mozzarella cheese
Wash hands．Split the English muffin in half and

TWC Approves Allocation For WCTWD Board

The Texas Workforce Commission（TWC）an－ nounced its approval of an $\$ 11,134,555$ allocation to fund workforce services pro－ vided through the West Cen－ tral Texas Workforce Devel－ opment Board（WCTWDB） for Fiscal Year 2004 money allocated．The WCTWDB is used to variety of solutied to fund a variety of solutions，including services for employers to as－ sist them in finding qualified workers．This is accom－
plished by screening appli－ cant lists，scheduling inter cheduling inter－
place them cut side up on a cookie sheet．Use a spoon to put 1 Tablespoon of pasta sauce on each muffin half Place 1 Tablespoon of broccoli on each muffin half Top each muffin half with Tablepoon shredded Bake each muffin in the oven at 375 degrees until ches melts and the muffin is toasted，about 10－15 minutes．Serve hot．

views and arranging space for the interviews，if necessary．In addition，funding is provided to assist job seekers in obtain－ ing skills required for jobs that are available in the re－ gion．Welfare and food stamp recipients are provided ser－ vices to help them become self－supporting through job－ search assistance and job readiness classes，basic skills training，and support services， including childcare and trans－ portation．
The Wést Central Texas Workforce Developmen Board serves nineteen coun－ ties，including Brown Callahan，Coleman， Comanche，Eastland，Fisher， Haskell，Jones，Kent，Knox， Mitchell，Nolan，Runnels， Scurry，Shackelford， Stephens，Stonewall，Taylor and Throckmorton counties The WCTWDB is onties． Phe lof of ment boards throughout the state that，in partnership with TWC，delivers workforce so－ lutions through the state＇s 279 Texas Workforce Centers． The primary goal of the state－ wide workforcesystem is to guarantee that a skilled and qualified workforce is in place to meet the needs of Texas＇employers through lo－ cally controlled，employer driven workforce develop－ ment initiatives and pro－ grams．All employers，as well as workers and job seekers， are eligible to take advantage of these services，which are primarily federally funded and generally probided at no charge to the customer．

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## Randolph Ford

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## Cisco Press 442-2244 Eastland Telegram 629-1707

Monday, July 14, 2003

allahan County (Baird) Star
Ag Talk

BSE Update
$\qquad$ high marks for its handling of the one isolated case of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), or mad cow disease.
A report by an international panel of four animal health experts has praised the "comprehensive scope, level of analysis and thoroughness of the investigation."

According to this pane Canadian experts collected and assessed a level of information that far exceeds the investigations done in most other BSE-affected countries. The panel noted that the BSE risk management measures that were already in place in Canada reduced the spread and development of the disease, and that the Canadians are an example of dedication and competence.
The United States is still working diligently with the Canadian Government to ex amine when the beef export market borders will again open between the two coun tries.

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program Hearing
Last week, the House Ag riculture Committee held a hearing regarding the Department of Agriculture's Distance Learning an Telemedicine Program
This Program provides grants to rural schools and health care providers so that they eam invest in telecommu' nication facilities and equip ment to bring educational and medical resources to those in rural areas who otherwise might not be able to receive

This is an important program because, given the cur rent changes in rưral America health care for elderly rural residents is becoming more urgent.

And rural West Texas is hit the hardest due to the high cost of medical care and a short supply of qualified health care professionals.

Last week's hearing fo cused on how the program can be improved through better access and quality

Disaster Assistance
Sign-up
According to the state FSA office, the necessary tools and preparations for disaster assistance sign-up now appear to be in place.
Some folks had been expe riencing delays, either be cause their local FSA office did not have the computer capability or the staff training to complete the sign-up.
In fairness to the FSA offices, they have had plenty to do in finishing up the sign-up for the Direct and Countercyclical Program (DCP), the general CRP sign-up, and processing the acreage reports that were due June 30th.
The only problem that may arise is that the Risk Management Agency (RMA) is still updating its crop insurance information, but we have been assured that county officials are going to let farmers sign up, even if they don't vet have the official production evidence from RMA.
I know the FSA personnel
will appreciate your patience and understanding as and understanding as they work long hours to process all programs require.

Bankruptcy Protection for Farmers Passes House Last week, the House passed legislation to extend special bankruptcy protections for an additional six months, therefore allowing family farmers the ability to family farmers the ability to
reorganize their debt while reorganize their debt while
still holding onto their assets. We anticipate that the Senate will act quickly on this measure and, hopefully, send
it directly to the President for his signature.

FY 2004 Agriculture Appropriations Last week, the House Appropriations Committee approved an agriculture appropriations bill for fiscal year
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { 2004. } & \text { express serious concerns } \\ \text { This bill would provide } \\ \text { about potential problems with }\end{array}$

This bill would provide $\$ 17$ billion for agriculture department and related programs; however this amount is a reduction of almost one billion dollars from spending for the current year.
One of the most controversial sections of this bill would prevent USDA from spending money to imporng country-of-origin labeling country-of-origin labeling provision that was included in
the 2002 Farm Bill.
At a hearing this past week, number of us on the Agriculture

Committee continued to
about potential problems with the mandatory country-of origin labeling that is sched uled to go into effect in the fall of 2004.
It is not clear how the Senate will proceed with this matter, but I understand there is talk about a legislative pro posal that would allow pro posal that would allow livetheir animals' country-certify heir animals' country-of-origin.
USDA officials have said that the new requirements will not have a positive effect overall and that the unintended consequences on pro-

ducers and the distribution Ag Subcommittee Holds Hearing on Packer Ban The House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock and Horticulture recently held a field hearing in Grand Island, Nebraska, to review proposals to ban the ownership of livestock by packers. There were about 80 producers present, and these producers present, and these producers expressed mixed feelings about the wisdom of
packer ownership ban.

## Recipe Corner

Yummy Trail Snack Mix cup bite size shredded wheat

## 1 cup bite size pretzel

 cup raisinscup dried diced fruit cup sunflower seeds cup chocolate chips Wash hands. Kids need to
easure ingredients into mixing bowl. They can use a poon to mix it up. Kids hould measure portions of Trail Mix into 12 baggies, sing half cup of mix for each one. Store at room emperature until ready to

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## Callahan County (Baird) Sta

## Texas Private Landowners

## Receive Conservation Grants

Agriculture Commis
ioner Susan Combs an Aoner Susan Combs an grants totaling more than $\$ 850,000$ were awarded to individuals or groups for conservation projects on private lands for threatened, endangered or at-risk species. The grants were the first awarded in the state under the new Private Stewardship Grants Program.
"Private landowners are fiitst and foremost stewards of Texas lands," Combs said. "With more than 97 percent of the state privately owned, landowners are important partners in resource and speies conservation
"The Private Stewardship Grants Program is a tremendous partnershtp with the federal government that will continue to conserve the beauty and diversity of Texas for years to come," Combs said.
The Private Stewardship Grants Program, administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildife Service, provides federal grants to individuals and groups engaged in vol-

| untary conservation efforts | landowners who wish to re- |
| :--- | :--- |
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n private lands that benefit store 20,786 acres of habi
ndangered, threatened or at-
tant for at-risk species and risk species. Each grant must other grassland species. $\begin{array}{ll}\text { risk species. Each grant must } & \text { other grassland species. } \\ \text { be matched by at least } 10 \text { per- } & \text { Another grant of } \$ 36,000\end{array}$ cent of the total cost in per-non-federal contributions.
"By working cooperatively with private landowners, we create a framework in which public and private partnerships serve to reward not punish, landowners who restore habitant and take other steps to protect and recover endangered, threatened or at-risk species on their land," said Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior David P. Smith.

Obviously, the key conservation of natural re sources in Texas is working in close partnership with private landowners, so the Private Stewardship Grants Program is a great tool for forming partnerships and preserving habitants," said Dale Hail, director of the U.S.Fish and Wildlife's Southwest Region. Among the Grants awarded was $\$ 91,875$ to the Texas Prairie Rivers Region Inc. in the Northeastern Texas Panhandle.This will assist andowners who wish to re went to Cook.s Branch Con servancy in Montgomery County.This grant will cre ate 12 red-cockaded woodpecker cluster recruitmen ites.
A grant of $\$ 4,345$ went to Pines and Prairie Land Trust in Bastrop County. This will construct a small, shallow breeding pond for the Houson Toad.
Also in Bastrop County, $\$ 300,000$ was granted to the Coastal Prairies Coalition of the Grazing Lands Conse vation Initiative The project will involve the reclamation restoration and f r native coastal prairie Texas, including grasses native wildflowers, various birds, and the Texas Horned Lizard (Horned Frog)
A grant of $\$ 100,000$ is go ing to the Texas Wildlife As sociation Foundation in Bell, Coryell, Hamilton and Kerr Counties.This projec will implement black capped vireo habitant restoration along with the Leon River Restoration and the Guadalupe River Restoration Projects.
A grant of $\$ 100,000$ was also made to the Peregrene Fund, Northern Aplomado Falcon in Andrews, Brewster, Cochran, Crane Crockett, Culberso Dawson, Dimmitt, Duval

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Frio, Gaines, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, and a number of other Southwestern Texas counties. This project is the continuation of a program to reestab lish wild populations of this endangered species in the Southwestern United States and Northern Mexico.
A grant of $\$ 220,841$ wen A grant of \$220,841 went
to the Wild Turkey Center, Riparian Habitat ImproveRiparian Habitat Improve-
ment in Briscoe, Donley, ment in Briscoe, Donley,
Hemphill and Lipscomb counties.This is a cooperative project among private land owners in Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma who own land along the Canadian River and its tributaries to improve the environment. Some 6,000 acres are targeted for this effort. Native trees and grasses will be re-planted and endangered species of prairie chicken and othe wildlife will be protected It sound like these gran It sounds like these grants will be a real help to landowners and groups who are try ing to protect the environment and save Texas vegetation and wildlife.
We note that nothing has been granted in the Eastland and Callahan County area, but this may change in the future.


## Cross Cut Reunion

 Is Set For SundayThe annual Cross Cut Reunion will be held Sunday July 20th, 2003, at the Crosi Plains Community Center. All alumni, friends and family are invited to attend this event, as we enjoy a covered dish luncheon and silent auction folcheon and silent auction followed by the annual business meeting of the Cross Cut
emetery Association Lunch is at noon but the doors will be open at 9:00 a.m. for those wanting to drop off their covered dishes and or items for the silent auction. Please call Chris or Jerry Biggerstaff at (254) 725-4189 for more information or to be

## Rep. Hilderbran Named To

 School Finance CommitteeAustin - Representative recommendations pertaining Harvey Hilderbran, R- to the state's role in providKerrville, was appointed to ing compensation to school serve on the Select Commit- district employees, including tee on Public School Finance. health insurance and salary The committee is studying the schedules
state's tax structure and its "I am very pleased tha public school finance system Speaker Craddick chose to with a goal of completely re- put me on his committee. Invamping the state's tax code surance and compensation for and its method of funding school district employees are chools.
The process will likely abolish "Robin Hood", the existing method of funding chools, which could be ound unconstitutional after he Supreme Court has determined that several school dis ricts that have sued the star over the plan may pursue their awsuits
Representative Hilderbran will serve on the Employee Benefits/Compensation Subcommittee. The subcommitee will examine and make


LOCALIY
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By: Walter Williams Americans have always
been a mobile people. This been a mobile people. This is especially observable with 1930's. They filled a vacuum created by mass production of the automobile and the desire of Americans to investigate beyond the horizon. For a fact, these $20^{\text {th }}$ century migrants had a survival motivation in striking out for observed the beauty of the land and lived in harmony with it. Living in their tents and homemade trailers, they became the first vacationers with purpose. Today, due to the pressures of structured work schedules, school grades for the kids, and personal interests, the trend is to multi-task even on vacation. Travelers are not content to simply relax while on vacation, but to enjoy the beauty of America while pursuing hobbies and teaching their children through observation and touch.
Montana, especially Custer Country in the southeastern section of the state, offers a myriad of vacation and historical opportunities that fit the modern agenda. Over 20 years ago, the author had the opportunity to visit the Little Bighorn Battlefield. The white marble markers and the granite Obelisk o

## from pg. 1

## Wit's End

## take a break from the mid-da

 heat and enjoy a sandwich, soup, salad or dessert is the Wits End located at 400 Pine Orginally a shop for collectables and gift items, now lunch is also served there from 11:00 to 2:00, Monday through Saturday. "We are adding lunch on Sundays," owner Anita Mays said. The featured meal sounded so delicious that I felt it would be worth a drive for that alone.Inside and outside, Wit's End is a charming place to look at and browse in - not to mentioned the perfect place to enjoy a piece of freshly baked buttermilk pie!
Anita tells me that they also have children's tea parties. The girls dress up as real ladies in lacy, silky, feathery creations. It sounds like the perfect idea for gir birthday celebrations!

Last Stand Hill were markers and maps, the events impressive. However, and fateful decisions of additional research was necessary to understand what happened on that hoı June day in 1876 when General Custer and 245 seventh Cavalry soldiers lost their lives at the hands of the Sioux, Cheyenne, and Arapaho warriors camped at Greasy Grass on the banks of the Little Big Horn River. Today, with a museum and bookstore on the site, as well as auditory

## Help Wanted

The Eastland County
Commissoners' Court is accepting Applications supported by resume for the
position of Eastland County position of Eastland County
Cooperative Dispatch Administrator.
The position is a Department
Head Supervisor/Ad position.
Applicants should possess skills
consistent with consistent with management of
eight (8) employees eight (8) employees,
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emergency emergency services
procedures, intergovernmental procedures, intergovernmental
coordination and management coordination. In addition, Applicant's should possess general management skills that support record
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operations of an emergency operations of an emergency
service organization. service organization. he position will pay $\$ 10.00$ per
hour with benefits (or $\$ 21,000.00$ a year, plus benefits). the Eastland County Auditor's office in the Eastland County Courthouse, 100 West Mai
Ste. 205, Eastland, Texas Applications, with resume are due in the Eastland County Judge's office on or before 5:00 p.m. July $24,2003$.
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## For Sale

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and fateful decisions of
Custer and Reno are much Custer and Reno are much understand. In addition, the GarryOwen, located at the Greasy Grass campsite offers a tremendous collection of Battle site and Plains Indian artifacts. At least one curator
Bozeman trail nearby, th

## RISING STAR AUCTION COMPANY

 Dorothy Dunn Estate Auction Sunday July 20th 1:00 No Buyers premiums No Registration fees - No hidden charges res. Located in downtown Rising Star just three hours or less from anywhere



$\qquad$
 mers: yard blower and much more. Large selection of good quality wrought
iron patio forniture: tables: chairs and occasional unomiture, Shop tools:
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$\qquad$
$\qquad$ discover many more interesting items as the balance is hautled and sorted,
Watch our photo abum update beginning July 1 tht for additional photos of
$\qquad$

## Rising Star, TX 76471

$\frac{\text { rsac@ eassland net }}{\text { exas Auctioneer's As }}$ TXS 10874 entrance.

While in Custer Country, visit the Culture of the Apsaalooke or Crow Nation. Chief Plenty Coups State Park near Pryor is a great spot for an afternoon grill or picnic. Cloaked by the Wolf Mountains and with the

## Monday, July 14, 2003

about the museum and battle bout the museum and battle
ste. Crow Park Rangers will site. Crow Park Rangers will
join the traveler in your vehicle and take you throughout the battlefield. They will give you the Indian perspective of the battle. There is an additional charge of about $\$ 30$ per hour - money well spent for the historical buff.
In 1988 Russell Means, founder of the American Indian Movement (AIM), led a protest over the lack of an Indian memorial at the site of the battle. The result is a 2.3 million dollar monument honoring the Indian warriors and scouts at the battle. Located just below the $7^{\text {th }}$ Cavalry monument, the Native American Monument is open to the four corners of view featuring three hors view featuring three horses
and riders silhouetted against the sky. A weeping wall and pool is located in the southern Dull Knife, "if
the art at a gallery and paid a lot of money and don't know what it is, it is probably Indian art because you have the rest of your life to figure it out."

## Publisher.

 Editor.Custer Country offers an abundance of lakes and rivers with fishing and boating activities as well as horseback riding in the outdoors. Billings has several museums but the Western Heritage Center is the premier attraction. Across the street from the museum is an Indian Art shop that specializes in Plains Indian clothing and decorations. Pompeys Pillar is just outside of Billings and is a tremendous site where Captain William Clark carved his name in a limestone face of the pillar. It is located beside the quite Yellowstone River on I-94, Exit 23. Plan to take a picnic lunch. Even during the heat of the day, the giant cottonwoods will
shelter the visitor from the sun. The view from the top of the Pillar is breathtaking and a perfect spot to phone back home and let everyone know how you're doing.

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