

Calendar

Musical set

The Noah Project—North Musical will be Sat., July 16, at 6:30 p.m. at the East Side Baptist Church in Haskell. The admission is free and monetary donations will be accepted and appreciated. Brian Burgess will emcee for the evening and will introduce all of the people that are giving their time and talents to perform. All donations will be used to help victims of family violence.

Church homecoming

Greater Independent Baptist Church, 301 N. 3rd St. in Haskell, will host their 43rd Homecoming and Memorial Service Sat., July 16 at 7 p.m. and Sun., July 17 at 3 p.m. The theme, "Go Home and Tell of the Good News," will be led by sermons brought by Rev. Tom Collins of Odessa and Rev. B.J. Robinson of Wichita Falls.

Golf scramble

A two day, three person golf scramble will be held July 16-17 at the Haskell Municipal Golf Course. Tee times are 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.. Call Casey Larned at 864-2749 for entry information.

Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., July 16 from 10 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. at 206 S. 2nd (building east of Civic Center) in Haskell.

Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., July 16 from 9:30 a.m. til 11 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Rule.

Benefit event

A benefit event for Rosalinda De Los Santos Gomez, formerly of Rule, will be held Sat., July 16 at the Lions Club building in Rule. Breakfast burritos will be served from 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. Beef and cheese enchilada plates will be sold from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A silent auction and bake sale will continue all day. Proceeds will help with medical expenses for Gomez. For more information, contact Idalia Fuentes 940-224-9231, Lucie 940-224-4457 or Oralia Laredo 325-518-5659.

Bible boot camp

St. George Catholic Church in Haskell will hold their Bible boot camp (Vacation Bible School) July 18-22 from 6 to 8 p.m. for children ages 4 through the fifth grade. For information call 673-8294 or 203-2376.

Burn ban issued

A burn ban is in effect for Haskell County. The use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment by any person is prohibited. Combustible materials specifically include, but are not limited to, fireworks, camp fires, welding and any other pyrotechnic material, which in the manner or means of its use could result in a wildfire. A person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

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Prevent theft ~ Lock your vehicles, take your valuables

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 125—NO. 28, ©July 14, 2011

"The People's Choice"

8 PAGES—ONE SECTION—75 CENTS

Haskell 4-H'ers compete at state Round-up

by Jane Rowan
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.

Haskell County 4-H members competed in a variety of 4-H contests and activities during the State 4-H Round-Up held June 13-17

on the Texas A&M University campus. These senior age 4-H youth qualified in their respective contest areas at the district level earlier in the year earning the right to represent the Rolling Plains

District and Haskell County at the state level.

Kicking off a full week for Haskell County 4-H was announcement of Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarships. Ten year

members, Jenny Dudensing and Allison Petty were each recipients of a \$16,000 4-H Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Scholarship. Jenny Dudensing was also recognized as recipient

of a \$1,000 San Antonio Rural Youth Award. Molly Dudensing received an \$1,800 Collegiate Scholarship from the Volunteer Leaders Association of Texas. The 4-H scholarship winners were recognized the first afternoon of State 4-H Round-Up.

Qualifying for State 4-H Fashion Show were Allison Petty of Rule, Jenny Dudensing of Sagerton and Emily Fouts of Sagerton. Petty placed first in the Construction Specialty Division, Dudensing finished seventh in the Buying Dressy Division, and Fouts took fifth place in the Construction Dressy Division. Petty also represented District 3 in the Natural Fiber-Cotton competition placing third.

A relatively new competition to the week of events was the "4-H Quilt Challenge." This Clothing and Textiles project allows individuals, teams, or clubs to complete a quilt using the designated challenge fabric. Participating in the challenge was Jenny Dudensing. Members of the Haskell Quilt Guild provided leadership for this project locally. In addition to this competition, Dudensing's quilt will be featured with an exhibit of quilts created by Texas 4-H youth at the International Quilt Festival in Houston in November.

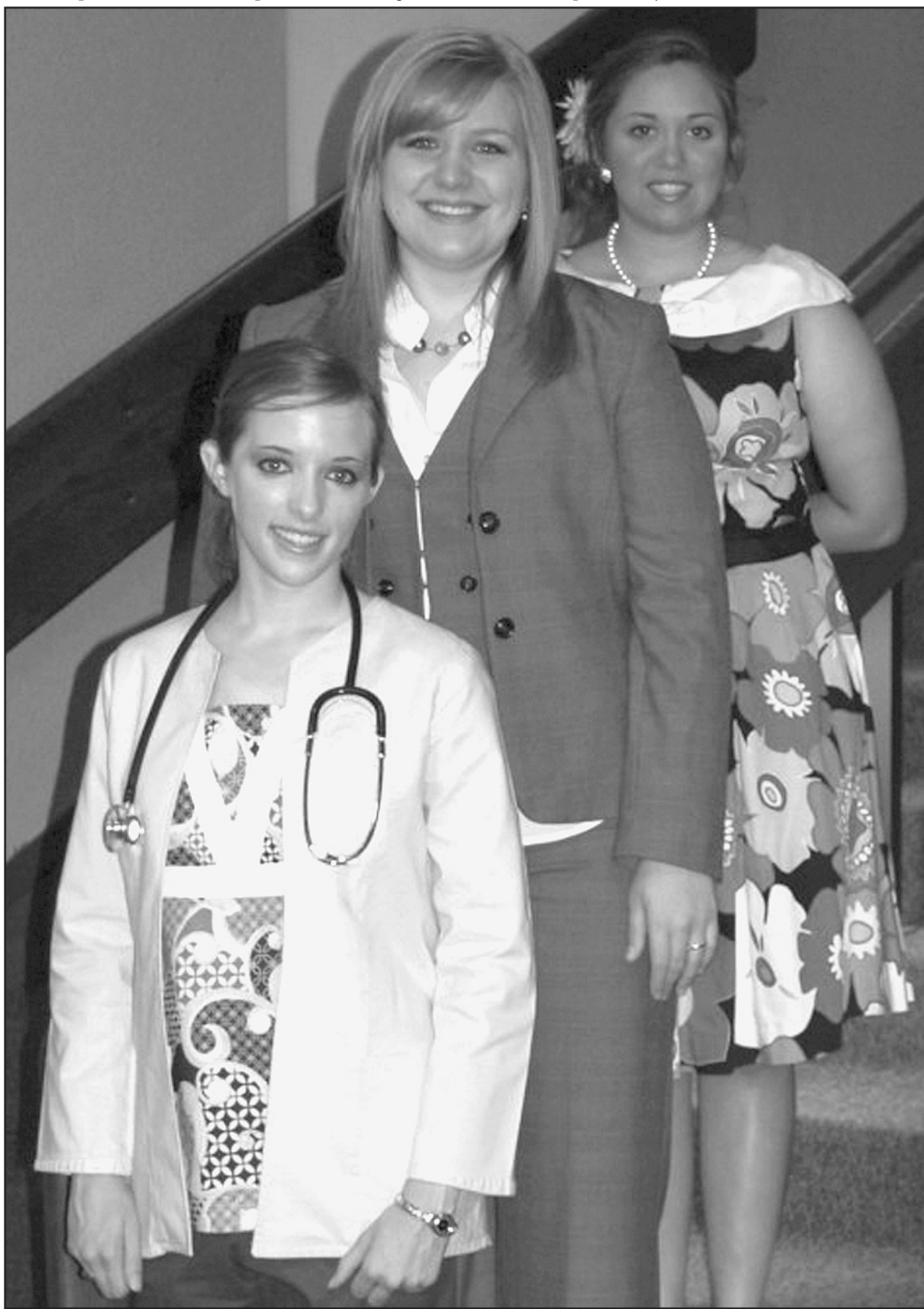
Qualifying for the State 4-H Photography Show were, River McTasney of Haskell, 1 Blue Award; Jenny Dudensing of Sagerton, 3 Blue Awards, 1 Red Award; Emily Fouts of Sagerton, 1 Blue Award; and Allison Petty of Rule, 2 Blue Awards, 1 Red Award.

Haskell County had one youth participate in the Meat Judging and Identification contest. Payne Utley placed 19th in this event.

Rounding out the week, Emily Fouts placed seventh in the Public Speaking competition. Fouts presented a persuasive speech focused on young Americans involvement in the legislative process.

In addition to the competitive events the participants enjoyed other activities including workshops, the second annual "4-H Has Talent" competition, and evening dances. These youth wish to express their appreciation to the Texas Extension Education Association (TEEA) of Haskell County and the Haskell County 4-H & Youth Development Committee for helping with some of their expenses for the competitions.

4-H is the youth development and leadership program of Texas AgriLife Extension, a part of the Texas A&M University system. Local County Extension Agents provide leadership for the 4-H program in each county. The Haskell County Extension Office is located at 101 S. Ave. D in Haskell.



FASHION SHOW PARTICIPANTS—Participating in the State 4-H Fashion Show held June 13-17 at Texas A&M University were, l-r, Allison Petty, Jenny Dudensing and Emily Fouts.

Haskell sees rise in burglaries

Haskell Police Chief Steven Grand encourages Haskell citizens to be aware that burglaries are on the rise this summer.

Items stolen include prescription medications,

stereo equipment, purses, check books, money and guns.

Thieves have been successfully targeting unlocked vehicles.

Lighting around your

home along with trimmed shrubs can help thwart criminals.

But, the best deterrent is simply taking valuables out of your vehicle and locking the doors.

To report information about any thefts or burglaries, contact the Haskell Police Department at 940-864-2323 or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

Emergency haying OK'd for CRP

In response to drought conditions, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) authorized emergency haying use of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for 73 Texas counties, including Haskell and surrounding counties.

Haying authorization will end Aug. 31, 2011.

"Eligible producers who are interested in emergency haying of CRP must request approval before haying eligible

acreage," said Brzozowski. "It is also important for producers to obtain a modified conservation plan from the Natural Resources Conservation Service that includes haying requirements," he said.

Upon approval of emergency haying, producers must leave at least 50 percent of each field or contiguous field unharmed for wildlife. For those counties that are eligible for emergency haying and grazing, the same

CRP acreage cannot be both hayed and/or grazed at the same time. For example, if 50 percent of a field or contiguous field is hayed, the remaining unharmed 50 percent cannot be grazed; it must remain unharmed and ungrazed for wildlife.

In addition, participants are limited to one hay cutting and are not permitted to sell any of the hay. There will be a 25 percent CRP payment reduction depending on the number of acres actually

hayed.

To take advantage of the emergency haying provisions, authorized producers can use the CRP acreage for their own livestock or may grant another livestock producer use of the CRP acreage for the purpose of haying.

For more information on and to request approval for emergency haying of CRP acres contact the Haskell County FSA office at 607 N. 1st E Suite B in Haskell or 940-864-2617 ext. 2.

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 940-864-2686

Calendar

Volleyball night

First Baptist Church in Haskell is hosting an open gym for volleyball every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. Volleyball players of all ages are welcome to come and play. There is no charge. For more information, call the church office at 864-2581.

Cancer support

The Haskell Area Cancer Support group meets every other Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Haskell Memorial Hospital Educational Building. For more information, call 940-864-5964.

Deadlines

All deadlines for issues of the Haskell Free Press are at noon on Mondays.

Homecoming

The Haskell-Mattson-Weinert-Rochester Homecoming will be held Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 2011.

Summer lunches

Haskell CISD announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service program. Meals will be served at Haskell Elementary School Cafeteria, 306 S. Ave. G, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday ending July 29. Anyone ages 6 months through 18 years of age is invited to come eat free. Adults are invited to come and eat for the price of \$3.00 per plate.

Donations needed

The Haskell Experienced Citizens Center is in dire need of donations. The center needs to cover expenses from the replacement of a dishwasher, \$3,000; the replacement of a convection oven, \$2,500; and the repair of a large standup freezer, \$1,000 for the parts, not including the labor. If you would like to make a donation, drop by the center at 1404 S. 1st or contact Jennabeth Kimbrough at 864-3875 for more information.

Bible school

Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church in Haskell will host its annual Vacation Bible School Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, Aug. 1-3, from 6 to 9 p.m. for children entering grades K-7. This year's theme is "God's Word-My Treasure" and will include treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, life-size Bible scenes, games, crafts and food. A come-and-go Registration Rally with bounce houses, hotdogs and guided tours for the whole family will be held Sun., July 31, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. To register early or for more information contact the church office at 940-864-5557 or email vbscornerstone@yahoo.com.

Al-Anon

Al-Anon meets

Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. at the AA building across from the RV park in Haskell.

BBQ in the park

The Haskell Area Cancer Support Group will host a BBQ in the park Sat., July 23 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The menu will include burgers and hot dogs. Those attending are encouraged to bring favorite yard games. Proceeds benefit the fund to help cancer patients with medications and information concerning the fight against cancer. For information call 325-864-4466 or 940-864-5964.

Men's Day

East Side Baptist Church in Haskell is celebrating Men's Day July 24 and will host the men of Teen Challenge of Texas. They will lead our free men's breakfast at 9:45 and be a part of our 11 a.m. service. You will be blessed and encouraged by the testimonies of these men who have been delivered from lifelong addictions and are now being restored to their families and communities. Following the service, you will have an opportunity to meet them, and be part of their recovery by purchasing the wood crafts and jewelry they make to help support the ministry. For more information, call 940-864-2738 or go to www.tctexas.org.

Obituaries

Guadalupe Alvarez Herrera



GUADALUPE HERRERA

Funeral services for Guadalupe Alvarez Herrera, 87, of Haskell, were held Tues., July 12 at Iglesia Bautista Alfa Y Omega with Manuel Merin officiating. Burial was in Rule Cemetery under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes of Haskell.

Born June 13, 1924 in Golaid, she was the daughter of Juan Alvarez and Santos Garcia. She was a long time resident of Rule and a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Herrera; her parents, Juan

and Santos Alvarez; and a sister, Concha Alvarez.

Survivors include six daughters, Manuela Reyna and husband George of Rule, Santos Espinoza and husband Robert of Knox City, Adela Reyna of Rule, Margarita Miranda and husband Margarito of O'Brien, Victoria Medrano of Stamford, Maria Torres and husband Leocacio of Knox City; two sons, Robert Herrera, Jr. of Stamford and Daniel Herrera of Olney; 25 grandchildren; and 47 great-grandchildren. PD. NOTICE

Ask the Mayor

By John Gannaway, Mayor of the City of Haskell

Thanks to Brandon Anderson for writing the column last week and for the kind words he sent my way. Have received many very positive comments about how much they enjoyed his column. Hmm, he may have many opportunities to be the guest columnist.

We enjoyed our time in the mountains but it wasn't the same: the dryness is depressing and the smoke from over 8 fires in the state made its way to Ruidoso. I've always heard, "If you smell the smoke, get off the mountain." These New Mexicans are a hardy bunch; guess they learn to live with forest fires as a way of life. Can't say this flat-lander coped that well—it was hard to breathe (altitude and smoke and the additional weight I've been toting around for too many years). We did have one nice event (besides enjoying the races where one of our friend's thoroughbred won his race). Wilda and Anita Medford joined us one evening for dinner at Willmon's Restaurant (one of our favorites). We were seated next to a very nice gentleman, his wife and their friends and as the conversation progressed something was said about "Haskell," then in Aggie fashion I whipped out, "I'm John Gannaway." His response: "Bob Lilly...and I do know where Haskell is." We talked up a storm even with the attractive waitress waiting for our orders... this was more important. I slipped off to call Robert Starr in Abilene expecting to rub it in that I'd met Bob Lilly and he said, "Yes, isn't he the nicest guy?"

I received a note from Tom Alvis pointing out an error I'd made in listing a family name as Ethel Davis Alvis and it should have read Ethel Howard Alvis in the published crape myrtle memorials. My apology, Tom. Now if I were some business mogul I'd just blame it on "my secretary," but I don't have one. Jan and Carolyn Graston worked their fannies off sending out letters and preparing lists for the papers, but it was my responsibility. Did I fail to thank those two for their help?

And speaking of those "d...crape myrtles" we drove by the park before we went home and blessings

of all blessings...most are blooming RED. Jim Young did an excellent job of watering these trees the week before the 4th of July—he came early and stayed late. Thanks, Jim, for a job well done. Matthew Duran and his staff are to be commended on their hard work—the park is greener thanks to their watering.

I continue to be surprised that this column generates interest from outside the county. It just proves to me that "once an Indian, always an Indian." Dr. Jim Ratliff, who is a retired dentist and lives in Austin, recently attended a Ratliff Cousins Reunion in Haskell. He wrote back, "If I'd known about those Haskell apple fritters while I was there I'd have brought sacks of them to Austin." He went on to say that he reads Mayor Gannaway's column and remembered an incident from his childhood related to the Gannaway name. He said, "When I was in high school I worked for Henry Atchison in his grocery store...a Mrs. Gannaway made butter and brought it in weekly to be sold...there were customers who would not buy butter made by anyone other than Mrs. Gannaway. I think this was a compliment to her." And he wondered if we were kin. Yes, Jim, I'm her oldest child and I remember well churning that butter. I think all of the family who were old enough had our turn at that chore. Mom would mold it and wrap it in wax paper and take it in to Mr. Atchison. He would count out cash and Mom would buy groceries from that money. Times were hard and that butter helped feed us. Thanks for jogging a memory.

The Beautification Committee, chaired by Troy Culpepper, has received a bid for lighting the gazebo at the park from Stacy Bridges. We have a fund of \$100 started by Jim and Mary Byrd and I still must answer a phone call from John Patrick McCoy, who left a message stating he wants to do something for the beautification of Haskell. See, what I mean? People who were reared in this community have a love for this town, school, people. Maybe you have to leave it before you really appreciate it. Sort of goes with the old saying, "You don't appreciate things till you lose them."

My wife who is pushing her slogan of 'Haskell...We Grow'em Good' simply said, "SEE!"

The Beautification Committee reminds me that all of you who attended our city-wide Forum chose to align yourself with one of the groups that was to your liking. The medical forum that hopefully you attended this week was one of those concerns. The Haskell Memorial Hospital took the ball, secured a grant and addressed this concern. Is there anything that should be done to make sure that all of the other interest groups have an opportunity to meet and move forward with their particular endeavor?

I'd like you to do something for me. As you drive into Haskell from each direction, try to look at the city as if you were a stranger seeing it for the first time and calculate which areas, businesses, residences need some restoration, some cleaning up or obliteration. This is much like my request some time ago that you get off your beaten path, drive into areas of Haskell you usually don't visit. We often get so used to the same sights we really don't see them as they are. On the other hand, I have noticed citizens keeping their yards manicured and green (and that's a job in a drought).

Speaking of yards and plants, I have some Turk's Cap in the front yard and it is showing symptoms of damage similar to that caused by a phenoxy herbicide. I thought that most of the phenoxy herbicides were not formulated so as to minimize drift. I haven't seen these symptoms since I retired from the cotton industry. Hope nobody else is seeing this.

The Church of Christ Singing School kicked off this past Sunday evening. We'll be keeping some giggly girls from age 10-12. This is our first experience with the venture that has been going on for 46 years in Haskell. We're excited but fear they'll run us ragged as we're older than dirt. Friday night, July 15, everyone is invited to the closing program which is usually well attended by the citizenry.

It's good to be home where we can breathe once again.

Deadline to apply for SURE benefits is July 29

Haskell County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Glenn R. Brzozowski, announced that the deadline to apply for assistance for 2009 crop losses under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program is July 29, 2011.

"The SURE program compensates producers for production and/or quality losses during times of disaster," said Brzozowski. "All producers who have experienced crop production and/or crop quality losses must apply for SURE

program benefits by the July 29th deadline," he said.

To meet program eligibility requirements, the farming operation must be physically located in a county that was declared a primary or contiguous disaster county by the Secretary of Agriculture under a 2009 Secretarial Disaster Designation.

Producers located in designated disaster counties must have suffered at least a 10 percent loss on a crop of economic significance and purchased crop insurance through the Federal Crop

Insurance Act or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).

However, an operation located in a county that did not receive a primary or contiguous disaster designation, can still qualify for SURE benefits if the actual farm production was less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a qualifying disaster event.

Producers and legal entities collectively cannot, directly or indirectly, receive more than \$100,000 in SURE and other FSA disaster assistance payments. FSA disaster programs include SURE, Livestock Forage Program (LFP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP).

Producers or legal entities, whose nonfarm income is more than \$500,000, are not eligible for SURE program payments.

For questions regarding the SURE program, contact the Haskell County FSA Office at 904-864-2617 ext.2 or come by at 607 N. 1st E Suite B in Haskell.



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MR. AND MRS. JOHNNY T. EDWARDS

Edwards celebrate wedding anniversary

Ruby Lou Hadaway and Johnny L. Edwards of Lubbock will celebrate their thirtieth wedding anniversary July 15.

The couple married in

Haskell July 15, 1981 at the home of her parents.

They will also be celebrating their 79th birthdays Aug. 13 and 16.

Alzheimer's support group to meet July 18

by Jane Rowan

CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.

The Haskell County Alzheimer's Support Group will meet Mon., July 18 at the Haskell County Extension Office located at 101 S. Ave. D in Haskell. The one hour meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. Caregivers, family members and friends of individuals with Alzheimer's or a related dementia, should consider attending this meeting that is open to anyone in Haskell County or the surrounding area.

This meeting is a week earlier than the regular scheduled time due to conflicts with the fourth Monday date in

July. Beginning again in August, the support group will continue to meet the fourth Monday of every month from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The monthly meetings offer a confidential environment where participants can share their concerns, support each other, and learn ways to cope with the challenges associated with long-term caregiving.

For more information you may contact Jane Rowan, County Extension Agent/FCS at 940-864-2546 or Alzheimer's Association North Central Texas Chapter at 325-672-2907 or 1-800-272-3900.

4-H record book district winners named July 7

by Jane Rowan

CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.

Winners in the Texas AgriLife Extension Rolling Plains-3 District 4-H Record Judging were selected July 7 when screening groups met at the Wilbarger Memorial Auditorium in Vernon, according to Kelli Lehman, Extension 4-H Program Specialist for the twenty-four Rolling Plains counties.

Sixty-six Junior records, 78 Intermediate records, and 74 Senior records scored in 39 different subject matter areas. Records were placed first through fifth place in all categories and age divisions. First place Senior records will be submitted for state judging.

Submitting records from Haskell County and their results were:

Juniors: Bailey Hawkins,

Making plans for long-term care

When planning for life as a senior citizen, it would be smart to include Long Term Care on that bucket list. Statistics show that 70 percent of people over 65 will need long-term care services of one kind or another, and it can be very expensive.

Medicare coverage will not pay for most of the long-term care services that may be needed. There are federal public programs, such as the Older Americans Act, that pay some long-term services, but like Medicaid they target people with the most functional and financial need.

The National Clearing House for Long-Term Care Information reports that there is a very good chance some or all of the services may have to come from personal income and resources. Even with a modest need for assistance at home with personal care, such as a home health aide visit three times a week, based on 2008 average costs could run \$18,000 per year.

To help seniors understand the types of Long-Term Care available, the Mayo Clinic has broken down the various types of services that may be required:

Home Care. Personal or home health aides may help with bathing, dressing and other personal needs at home, as well as housekeeping, meals and shopping. Home health nurses provide basic medical care at home.

Day Program. Day programs for adults offer social interaction, meals and activities—often including exercise, games, field trips, art and music—for adults who don't need round-the-clock care. Some programs provide transportation to and from

the care center as well as certain medical services, such as help in taking medications or checking blood pressure.

Senior Housing. Many communities offer rental apartments intended for older adults. Some senior housing facilities offer meals, transportation, housekeeping and activities.

Assisted Living. Assisted living facilities offer staff members to help with medications, bathing, dressing and basic medical care, as well as meals, transportation, housekeeping and activities. Some assisted living facilities have on-site beauty shops and other amenities.

Nursing Home. Nursing homes offer 24-hour nursing care for those recovering from illness or injury. Nursing homes also offer end-of-life care. Services may include help with bathing, dressing and toileting, wound care, rehabilitative therapy, and can help with respirators or ventilators.

Continuing-Care Retirement Community. Continuing-care retirement communities offer several levels of care in one setting—such as senior housing for those who are healthy, assisted living for those who need help with daily activities, and round-the-clock nursing care for those who are no longer independent. Residents can move among the various levels of care depending on their needs.

The costs of services in some community programs, such as adult day service programs, are often provided at a per-day rate, but vary based on overhead and programming costs. Many care facilities charge extra for services provided beyond the basic room-and-board charge, although some may have "all inclusive" fees.

The average costs across the nation in 2009 were:

- \$198/day for a semi-private room in a nursing home
 - \$219/day for a private room in a nursing home
 - \$3,131/month for care in an Assisted Living facility (for a one-bedroom unit)
 - \$21/hour for a home health aide
 - \$19/hour for homemaker services
 - \$67/day for care in an adult day health care center
- The total amount spent

on long-term care services in the U.S. in 2005 was \$206.6 billion. That doesn't include care provided by family or friends on an unpaid basis, only that of a paid provider.

On an aggregate basis, the biggest share, 49 percent, is paid for by Medicaid. On an individual basis, however, "who pays for

long-term care," can look very different. People with their own personal financial resources do not qualify for Medicaid unless they use up their resources first paying for care, so-called "spending down." If you have reasonable income and assets, most likely you will be paying for care on your own.

E-mail your news, photos and ads to The Haskell Free Press at hfpnews@lycos.com or hfp@valornet.com

This week's Discounted Items

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Bridal Selections for Darin and Mary Drury

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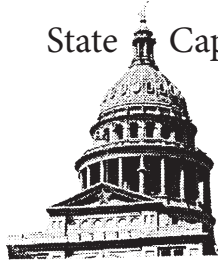
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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Governor calls EPA rule 'federal overreach'

AUSTIN—A new rule announced July 6 by the U.S. Environmental Protection puts new controls on energy-related industries in Texas.

The EPA's Cross-State Air Pollution Rule requires 27 states including Texas to improve air quality by reducing power plant emissions that contribute to ozone and/or fine-particle pollution in other states, the agency stated.

Gov. Rick Perry, whose name is being circulated as a possible GOP candidate in the 2012 presidential race, reacted on July 7, calling the EPA's action "another example of heavy-handed and misguided action from Washington, D.C., that threatens Texas jobs and families and puts at risk the reliable and affordable electricity our state needs to succeed.

"From the attack on Texas' successful clean air program, to threatening endangered species listings in West Texas oil fields, to banning offshore energy exploration, the Obama Administration seems intent on increasing energy costs for American consumers and making us even more dependent on foreign energy.

"Texas will keep standing up to this destructive federal overreach and working to enhance environmental protection and domestic energy exploration and production," Perry said.

The EPA reported that the Cross-State Pollution Rule is intended to reduce the following:

- Premature mortality;
- Non-fatal heart attacks;
- Hospital and emergency department visits;
- Acute bronchitis;
- Upper and lower respiratory symptoms;
- Aggravated asthma; and
- Days when people miss work or school.

Trucking agreement is reached

Remember the North American Free Trade Agreement, an effort launched in 1994 to smooth commerce among the nations of our continent?

Well, the giant sucking sound of NAFTA may get a couple of notches quieter. On July 6 the United States and Mexico signed an agreement to resolve an old trucking dispute. (H. Ross Perot, Dallas businessman and 1992 presidential candidate, warned that NAFTA, if passed, would be a drain on the U.S. economy and Americans would recognize it as a "giant sucking sound.")

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples said the Lone Star State will benefit from the agreement.

According to his office,

"Mexico's punitive customs duties on 99 U.S. products will be cut in half within the next 10 days. The remaining tariffs will be removed later this summer within five days after the first carrier is inspected and certified by the Department of Transportation to participate in the trucking program."

"For too long," Staples said, "Texas farmers, ranchers and consumers have paid the price for longstanding trade disputes between our two countries.

In these tough economic times, it is imperative that the voice of reason speaks on behalf of our hardworking U.S. farmers and ranchers as well as consumers. As neighbors, Texas and Mexico have worked hard for decades to create harmonious trade protocols and this agreement is another step forward in a mutually beneficial partnership."

A USDA report released earlier this year indicated tariffs alone reduced the total value of targeted U.S. agricultural exports by \$240 million from March 2010 to February 2011. Mexico's list of retaliatory tariffs has a direct affect on \$190 million in Texas agriculture products, including pork, wine, peanuts, onions and dozens of other commodities, Staples' office reported.

Combs hires security chiefs

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs, who has been under fire this year for not preventing the exposure of current and former state employees' personal data, last week announced the hiring of Elizabeth Rogers to be the agency's first chief privacy officer.

Combs said Rogers will be in charge of:

- Designing and updating privacy standards;
- Performing risk reviews to identify exchanges of personally identifiable information between the agency and other entities or individuals;
- Identifying new privacy risks and developing mitigation strategies; and
- Collaborating with chief privacy officers at the state and federal level on privacy related initiatives.

Rogers is a former general counsel of the State Bar of Texas.

Combs also announced the hiring of Jesse Rivera as the agency's chief information security officer to oversee information technology security and risk assessment; direct cyber security audits and ensure technologies are in place to reduce risks of attacks; and work on network security architecture based on the agency's business needs and security regulations.

Rivera is a former employee of the Central Intelligence Agency.

10 Years Ago July 12, 2001

Three Haskell County residents received degrees from Hardin-Simmons University during spring commencement exercises. Receiving Bachelor of Behavior Science degrees are Jodi Andress of Haskell, Leigh Ann Reel and Casey Thompson, both of Paint Creek.

Diana White, daughter of Joe and Joyce Davis of Haskell, has been named principal at Jacksboro ISD. She has served as assistant principal at Jacksboro Elementary for the past five years.

George and Helen Fouts celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a dinner held at The Branding Iron and hosted by their children.

20 Years Ago July 11, 1991

Capt. Richard Vincent, a 1980 Haskell High School graduate, was presented the

U.S. Air Force commendation medal at Kadena Air Base. The medal was awarded for meritorious military service as weapons assignment officer.

Annie Goebel celebrated her 80th birthday as about fifty friends and family gathered in the annex of the Trinity Lutheran Church for a dinner in her honor.

Mrs. W.A. Lyles of Lyles Jewelry has for the fifth consecutive year donated an 84-piece flatware set to the American Legion Rogers-Cox Post 221. The donation will be used in a fund-raiser.

30 Years Ago July 9, 1981

H.L. "Cooter" Boles was honored with awards and a special ceremony during the worship service of Sweethome Baptist Church. The certificates and plaques were presented in appreciation and recognition of his many years of volunteer service.

Jimmy Owens, manager of Farmers Cooperative Society No. 1 of Haskell, returned recently from Houston where he attended the 8th Annual Cooperative New Managers Conference.

Special thanks and recognition was given to donors of the Red Cross Bloodmobile by chairman Brian Burgess. Recognized as new gallon donors were Jerry Stocks, Thula Perry and Dennis Grand. Also recognized were Olen King for 82 units, Cotton Whitfield for 35 units and Elbert Johnson for 32 units.

40 Years Ago July 15, 1971

A fire in downtown Rochester completely destroyed four businesses. They were Ruby Watkins Beauty Parlor, C.W. Berryman's Service Station and Garage, Claude Norman's Barber Shop and Acree Oil Company.

Marie Ivey and Helen Owens, office secretaries for

the Haskell County Farm Bureau, attended an area conference where they had the opportunity to discuss ways and means of improving office procedures.

Three high school students from Haskell County will travel to Baylor University to attend a Citizenship Seminar. Attending will be Joan Caddell and Sue Hager, both of Weinert and Pat Harris of Haskell.

50 Years Ago July 13, 1961

Jack Harvey, formerly employed with Bill Wilson Motor Co., is the newest member on staff at Sheriff Garth Garrett's office.

Dr. B.L. Langston, optometrist, has announced the opening of his office at 606 N. 1st St.

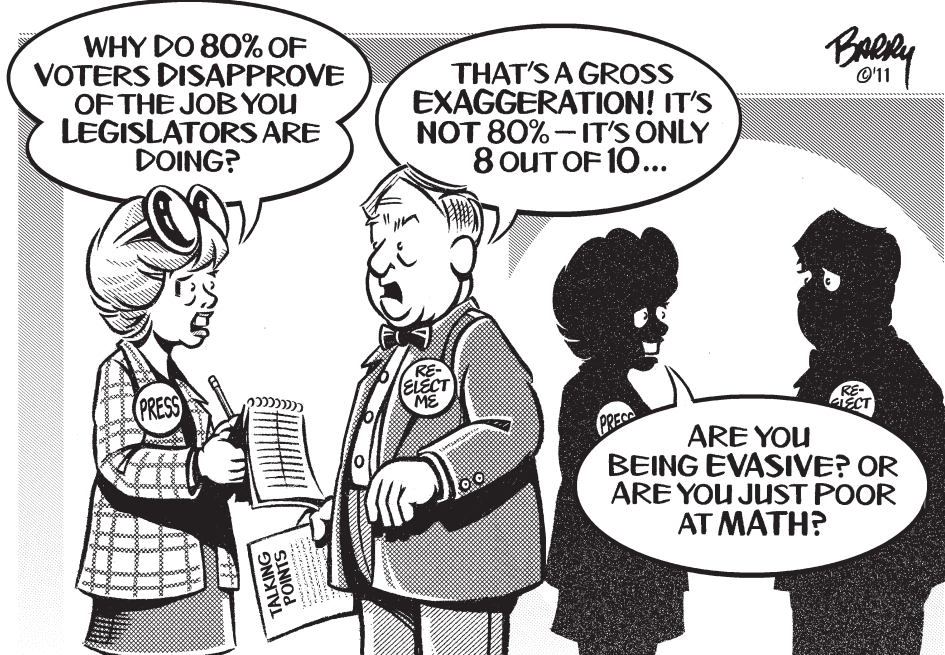
Dr. Frank Spencer of Baltimore, Maryland, son of Mrs. Frank Spencer, has accepted an appointment as Professor of Surgery with the new medical school at the University of Kentucky.

100 Years Ago July 15, 1911

Large delegations from Rule and Sagerton were in the city, seeking to get the Commissioners' Court to bridge the Brazos opposite these places.

Mrs. Bob Wilfong and son of Oklahoma City are visiting relatives in this city. Her late husband built the second house erected in this city in 1884.

George Turnbow was in town and reported a big rain fell in his neighborhood. He said he bought a 20-horsepower engine and was going to use it to break land.



Letters to the Editor

Dear editor,

This is an open letter to the person/persons who burglarized my automobile on the night of June 30.

There were a number of items much more valuable than the items you took (they are no longer in there); however, you did take the two items most valuable to me, my nebulizer (breathing machine) and my Bible. I truly hope you never have trouble breathing and have to fight for every breath when you do not have a machine to help you. The Bible was my late husband's, given to him by his children, one of who is no longer alive. That hurts me to know it is gone.

I'm sure right now you think this is a lark and that you can get away with something, but I can tell you no one ever does wrong without paying for it at some time. If you keep on, in time you will be caught.

I just want you to know I forgive you and am praying for you. Now, you need to read my Bible and ask God to forgive you and help you. It would be wonderful if you would return my items to me. No questions asked—just leave them on my porch.

In Christ's love,
Frances Clark

Dear editor,

This is to acknowledge and say 'thank you' to those who serve in our Haskell Volunteer Fire Department. These unpaid servants are often overlooked and taken for granted until an emergency arises. They leave their paid jobs and come running in a moment's notice, or miss time with their families and even lose sleep.

We needed these awesome

men and because of their quick response, we had a home to sleep in that night. The extreme fire danger that we are in and have faced for months has called them out more than usual.

All of us should take time to tell them how much they are appreciated and support the fire department in whatever ways that we are able.

Once again, 'thank you.'
Billy and Suzie Seelke

Dear editor:

I am writing this letter in apology to the Haskell/Mattson/Weinert Homecoming Committee for the club minutes published in the paper of our last meeting in May where we voted to provide the homecoming luncheon. We don't meet throughout the summer, and considering we have been responsible for the luncheon for the past four homecomings, we have to vote at year-end in order to plan ahead just in case. The article sounded like we were, in fact, doing the meal, when what the vote was actually for was to do it IF we were approved and that all the proceeds be designated for the fund to build the Haskell County Veteran's Wall of Honor. This was personally relayed to some members of the committee. Unfortunately, we were disappointed to learn that the committee having met recently has different plans for the luncheon this year. In actuality, it will probably be nice for club members to be able to enjoy homecoming without all the hard work that goes into the planning.

However, moving onward, we wish to let everyone know that through the kind

generosity of the Clear Fork Crime Stoppers, we are being allowed to provide lunch for their annual Clear Fork Clay Shoot to be held on Labor Day weekend on Sept. 3-4... all proceeds to be donated towards building the Wall of Honor. Thank you to Clear Fork Crime Stoppers for recognizing the importance of this endeavor that we, as a club, are undertaking for our county. Come home and hunt...come participate in this fun event or just attend and watch...there are some great prizes to be awarded! Of course, we hope you will join us for lunch!

This has been quite a project! The Progressive Study Club has raised over \$30,000.00 towards the \$60,000.00 goal mainly by letters requesting donations from current and former residents, the collection of scrap metal and by one aluminum can at a time! We have had the cooperation of many individuals, as well as city and county officials, who have been willing to provide support, approval or services in the collection of these items, and we truly could not see this project happening without all those who have, like us as a club, wanted to see those who have served our country be honored by our county!

In talking to City Manager, Brandon Anderson, we understand that he fields several calls per week regarding the unsightly mess that people perceive of the roll-off that collects scrap metal on the city lot on Hwy. 380 one block north of the traffic light. Unfortunately, we regret the appearance of this; however, in answer to the questions proposed to Brandon as to how long this

will go on...we would like to say that the more money donated to this project and the quicker it happens, the sooner we will not have that roll-off on the city lot. We told Brandon to refer callers to us so we could explain what we are doing. Please be forewarned that we will ask you for a donation if you call to expedite this goal. Any donation is greatly appreciated!

Finally, what we need, besides donations, are names! We need names of any military veteran who was born here in Haskell County, who lived or lives here, or who is buried here. The first memorial bevels which are going to be installed shortly contain the names of those who died serving our country... the names we currently have were published in the July 7 edition of the Haskell Free Press. If you have a name to be added to these bevels or a name to be added to the Veteran's Wall, please contact me at 940-864-2038, Dorothy Hartsfield at 940-864-2044, or Susan Cockerell at 940-864-8151. Please leave a message if you don't reach us personally, and we will call you back.

Thank you to all of you who, like us as a club, wish to honor those who have served our country for our freedoms. If you have any questions, or if you wish to make a donation or help in any way possible, including fundraiser possibilities, please contact us or any Progressive Study Club member!

Sincerely,
Lynn Dodson
President
Progressive Study Club of Haskell

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'Watch Your Car Month' emphasizes the gateway aspect of vehicle crimes

How many additional crimes can be tied to stolen and burglarized vehicles? The answer: almost all crimes can have a connection. Stolen vehicles can be used as transportation for perpetrators to and from other criminal activities. Stolen vehicles can be used to transport criminal contraband, such as weapons, drugs and illegal individuals. Burglarized property from vehicles can be used to perpetrate identity theft and home invasions. Stolen vehicles and burglarized property can be sold to fund criminal activities ranging from drug use to acts of terrorism. And with a vehicle stolen in Texas every seven minutes and a vehicle burglarized every two minutes, criminals

have plenty of opportunities to make such unlawful connections.

Historically, July is the month when the most vehicle thefts and burglaries occur in Texas. Now, more than ever, Texas drivers must become actively involved in vehicle crime prevention by practicing "Hide, Take, Lock": hide belongings, take keys, and lock vehicle doors. The Texas Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority (ABTPA) will highlight this philosophy throughout the 2011 "Watch Your Car Month," which is being recognized statewide in July.

During "Watch Your Car Month", hundreds of vehicle crime task force representatives funded by ABTPA will be working

in their communities reminding Texas drivers that leaving vehicle doors unlocked, keys inside, and valuable property in sight provides an open invitation to thieves and burglars who are constantly on the prowl for opportunities to steal. Law enforcement officers and support personnel will be spreading the message by distributing vehicle crimes prevention literature and issuing mock citations to drivers who leave keys and belongings in their vehicles. In addition, task force staff will increase their presence at locations where vehicle crime is experienced most often, including convenience stores, gas stations, day care centers, retail shopping centers, entertainment complexes, fitness centers, and large businesses.

In 2010, reported vehicle thefts in Texas totaled 68,220. In approximately half of those cases, vehicles were unlocked, and in over one-third of the incidents, keys were left inside, which means the vehicle owner was an unwitting accomplice in the theft and, in some cases, an accomplice in additional crimes. And last year, 261,166 vehicles were burglarized in Texas. Recent statistics from Texas law enforcement studies indicate the top three locations from which vehicles are burglarized and stolen are: residences/homes (42.1%), public parking lots/garages (32.5%), and roadways/highways/alleys (11.2%). This proves no area is safe from vehicle crime activity.

"We cannot stress enough that drivers must take an active role in preventing auto theft and burglary," said Michelle Lanham, program manager for ABTPA's Reduce Auto Theft in Texas (RATT) task force. "By leaving vehicles unlocked and unattended with keys in the ignition and property in full view, drivers might as well be giving thieves open invitations to steal their property. Individuals who step away from their running vehicles for only a minute to pay for gas, buy a soda, drop off a child at day care, or engage in other perceived "quick" activities are providing the opportunities thieves look for everyday. Any neighborhood and any type of vehicle can be targeted. And absolutely anything an individual leaves in their vehicle might be of value to a thief. We suggest that drivers leave their vehicles looking as they did the day they rolled off the factory floor—nothing more in the vehicle than the parts it is made with."



RECEIVE ACADEMIC AWARDS—Three Haskell Co. 4-H members received academic awards in an awards ceremony June 13. Receiving awards during the ceremony on the Texas A&M University campus were, l-r, Allison Petty, Molly Dudensing and Jenny Dudensing.

Local youth earns state 4-H academic awards

by Jane Rowan
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.

Three Haskell County 4-H members were awarded Texas 4-H scholarships totaling \$34,800 during a scholarship awards ceremony June 13 in Rudder Auditorium on the Texas A&M University Campus. A total of 249 scholarships for almost \$2.1 million were awarded ranging from \$1,000 to \$16,000.

Receiving 4-H scholarships sponsored by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo valued at \$16,000 each were Jenny Dudensing and Allison Petty. Dudensing is the daughter of Lynn Dale and Renee Dudensing of Sagerton. Petty of Rule, is the daughter of Rod and Julie Petty. Both have been extremely active in 4-H for ten years. Dudensing was also recognized as recipient of a \$1,000 San Antonio Rural Youth Award.

Several scholarships are also awarded each year to individuals who were active in 4-H and currently attending college. Molly Dudensing received an \$1,800 Collegiate 4-H scholarship from the Volunteer Leaders Association of Texas. She is also the daughter of Lynn Dale and Renee Dudensing of Sagerton.

The scholarship recipients were selected from 400 who applied. The Texas 4-H Foundation is the organization responsible for coordinating the program and for resource development for the Texas 4-H program. The scholarship application process began last January and concluded with personal interviews in May.

The Foundation's scholarship program has 50 donors including the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo, Fort Worth Stock Show Syndicate, Southwestern Exposition & Livestock Show, Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo, and the Rio Grande Valley

Livestock Show along with the Richard Wallrath Educational Foundation, individuals, corporations, foundations, producer associations, Texas AgriLife Extension Service professional associations, individual honorary funds and individual bequests. Donors share the Foundation's vision of investing in the future of Texas youth by helping them pursue an education which in turn, should eventually benefit their communities, state, country and world.

Scholarships are provided to assist 4-H members who will attend universities and colleges throughout the state. The scholarship program is a celebration of achievement for 4-H members across Texas. It recognizes the development of qualities inherent to the Texas 4-H program—personal responsibility, civic responsibility and leadership.

The program rewards hard work and dedication of young people involved in 4-H.

The Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation Opportunity Scholarship Program is the nation's largest 4-H scholarship program. It began as a single \$1,000 scholarship given by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in 1959.

The Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose members promote and support youth development in leadership, vocational skills, social skills and citizenship. The Foundation's Board is a diverse group of 41 Trustees who share a common passion for improving the lives of Texas youth. Trustees work to secure private funding to support scholarships and programs for Texas 4-H youth.

City Council report

The Haskell City Council met in a regular meeting Mon., July 11 with Mayor John Gannaway, Mayor Pro Tem Randy Bowers, Councilmen Stacy Bridges, Sue Medford, Dan Hoover and Jill Druessedow in attendance.

Bridges gave the invocation.

The Zoning Board's recommendation was approved on the request by Sammy Decker to rezone Block A, Lot TR 5B NWC 97x133 of the Carney OL 129 Addition on S. 2nd and Ave. M from single family residential to commercial with the purpose to use the property for an electric shop.

The Zoning Board's recommendation was approved on the request by Ron Stanford to rezone (1) S.W. Scott (OL78 Orig. Town) Haskell; NE 80x35 of Lot 8; Back 80x35 at 604 N. 6th; (2) S.W. Scott (OL78 Orig. Town) Haskell; SW 70x107.6 of Lots 8 & 9 at 606 N.6th from single family residential to commercial with the purpose to use the property for an auto repair with a special use permit for Ron Stanford Auto Repair only and ceases to be available if Ron Stanford ceases to have the business and it will revert back to residential at his closing.

The council approved the budget amendments presented.

In a public hearing, Mayor Gannaway swore in the witnesses Shane Whitt and City Inspector Cloetta Shotts, who testified in the substandard structure public hearing.

The council approved the case involving the property located at 206 S. Ave. C; Original Town Haskell; Blk. 13; Lot 1. The council was

asked to find the structure dilapidated, substandard, unfit for human habitation and a hazard to the public health, safety and welfare, and that the structure be repaired, removed or demolished, any holes filled, lot cleared, any wells capped and cesspools filled within 90 days.

The council approved the request by Mike Turner closing the west half of the alley, 20'x164', between N. Ave. E and N. Ave. D. This alley runs east and west, south of the Church of Christ. (The city will keep this easement).

Budget workshop dates are July 25 and Aug. 1 at 6 p.m.

No changes were made in appointments or committee assignments.

Police Chief Steven Grand gave the June police report.

In the City Administrator's report, Brandon Anderson said:

- The AEP franchise agreement is being worked on by our city attorney and the attorney for AEP. Anderson hopes to have a completed one to approve at our next meeting.

- Anderson reminded all citizens to please not put tires in their dumpsters. These items have to be pulled out of the landfill and then the city must dispose of them properly. There is a charge to the city and ultimately to you as a taxpayer.

- We have two Eagle Scout projects awaiting approval from the Boy Scout Council. Max Weise will be repainting and refurbishing the city basketball court and Aaron Waggoner will be painting the old street signs in town.

- A Civic Center board meeting will be held Mon., July 11 and a Golf Course Board meeting is set Tues., July 12.

Commissioners' Court report

The Haskell County Commissioners' Court met in a regular meeting Tues., June 28 with all members present.

Sheriff David Halliburton reported that he has received two bids on the flooring for the Sheriff's office. One is from G&G Carpet for tile only, and one is from Carpet Express for carpet or tile.

Commissioner Kenny Thompson reported on a fire that started at Rockdale Road on Sat., June 25. Thompson said the fire appeared to have been electrical and he expressed his gratitude to the Haskell, Rule, Weinert, Stamford and Lueders Volunteer Fire Departments in taking quick action.

Fred Baitz was hired full time for Precinct 4 as of July 1.

A motion to continue the Interlocal Agreement between West Central Texas Council of Governments 9-1-1 Department and Haskell carried.

A motion to purchase a pickup from Larned Sales Center with Time Warrants for \$9,800 passed.

A motion for an engineering firm to bore County Road 284 carried. The firm will be designated at a later date.

One bid was received for a new County Auditor from Jerry Love CPA of Abilene. The firm was hired for one year.

Judge David Davis expressed his gratitude to Haskell, Rule, Stamford, Lueders and Weinert Volunteer Fire Departments for all their help in the recent fires.

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The Movie Store

7 Ave. E • 940-864-3594 • Haskell

Spaces between the Raindrops

Raindrops wet the earth where they land, but the ones we've seen lately have not been enough to give it the good soaking it needs. There's too much space between the drops. Talks with God nourish the soil of our soul and our spirit, but if we allow the busy-ness of our lives to get in the way with those talks then we disconnect ourselves from our God. Then we aren't getting the God-soaking we need. There's too much space between our conversations with Him.

God offers a standing invitation to talk, any time, any place. He won't force Himself into our lives. Acceptance of His offer is always up to us. God never changes His mind. When we want to talk, He's there. When we don't want to talk, He's there. We are the one that decides what gets tended to, and what doesn't.

Ignoring the warning signs like touchiness, uneasiness, less joy and more stress will add to our soul becoming parched and our spirit dehydrated. We need to maintain a deep walk with God, a spiritual soaking. If we aren't careful we are caught up in living the small story of our life on earth instead of the big story of our life eternal.

Stand in the midst of His downpour, get soaked in His love and His guidance. I pray you have no space between the raindrops.

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In need of relief: Volunteer first responders deserve our support

By Chris Barron
It's hard to wrap your head around the far-reaching devastation inflicted on land, lives and livelihoods caused by this year's wildfires and drought. Since January, more than 11,000 blazes fueled by a drought and tinderbox conditions all across Texas have burned more than 3 million acres of Lone Star land and destroyed more than 1,300 structures. Drenching rains from Hurricane Alex last July delivered considerable plant growth that was killed off by the repeated blasts of

artic air and ice that hit Texas earlier this year. Add in the driest March in state history, and together you have the perfect storm to fuel a wildfire outbreak. Unless you witness the destruction first hand, as I have done, it may seem too remote or too far removed from your own home, but there is most certainly justification in calling this year's wildfires the worst in our state's history. The situation is so dire in our state that it quickly became all hands on deck. Communities battling fires saw a full range of our state resources, including the Texas Forest Service and the Division of Emergency Management, mobilize and join the fight. But, it's the men and women of Texas' volunteer fire departments that earned a hero's recognition for their valiant efforts on the front lines of these blazes. And, these volunteers are also people and organizations that desperately—and quite deservingly—now need our help.

A great majority of our firefighting resources in Texas take the form of volunteers, and while their courage and commitment is unlimited and unwavering, their resources are strapped. Of the 1,400 volunteer fire departments in Texas, 86 percent of these volunteer firefighters must use personal funds to meet the day-to-day equipment and supply needs of their fire departments. That's why the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas recently announced the formation of the Texas Wildfire Relief Fund (www.txwildfirerelief.org), a non-profit entity created to raise funds and awareness about the work of these volunteer first-responders.

When we evacuate and move to safety, our volunteer firefighters answer the call to protect our lives and property, and Texans owe a debt of gratitude to them for the job they've done this wildfire season. The relief fund will help properly equip our volunteer firefighting departments with the tools and materials they need to battle these and

future fires—while ensuring they're also able to protect themselves. And, Texans are already stepping up to the plate. The Texas Farm Bureau has pledged to match county Farm Bureau donations on a \$3 to \$1 basis, up to \$1,000 per volunteer fire department through November. The Independent Insurance Agents of Texas seeded our fund with an extremely generous \$100,000 donation, but much more is needed to support these first responders now and to prepare them for future fire seasons. Many volunteer fire departments operate with lean budgets in the best of circumstances, and the wildfires only make their work more challenging and stretch their already limited resources to the bone.

That's why I hope that every Texan, even if those not been touched directly by a wildfire this season, will stand in solidarity with these men and women who have gone in first and early and work until the fires are out, year after year.

ECC Menu

Mon., July 18
Chicken enchiladas, Spanish rice, pinto beans, garden salad, chips, salsa, Coke cake, tea or coffee

Wed., July 20
Porkie meatballs and tomato gravy, green beans, creamed potatoes, bread slice, misc. dessert, tea or coffee

Fri., July 22
Ham slice, creamed potatoes, blackeyed peas, beets, fruit, cookies

From the AG

By Greg Abbott

Keeping Young Texans Safe On Digital Playgrounds This Summer

With the end of the school year and the arrival of summer, some young Texans will have more unsupervised time at home—and in an increasingly digital world, that means more opportunities to visit potentially dangerous online playgrounds. Unfortunately, cyber predators do not take summer breaks. Texas parents are the first line of defense against criminals who use the Internet to prey upon children. Families must stay engaged in their child's activities online, set boundaries and know the capabilities of minors' mobile phones and handheld gaming devices. Cyber crime investigators across the state have seen firsthand the dangerous criminals that lurk online. Texas parents must remain vigilant and remind their children that cyber predators pose a constant and very real threat. Parents should make sure children know never to agree to a face-to-face meeting with a stranger they meet online and never to share their personal information with Internet acquaintances.

Informed and active parents can help protect their children from all types of online threats. By surfing the Internet with their children and fostering open conversations about the websites they visit, parents can both teach and learn from their children. Parents should give children and teenagers ground rules for their Internet usage—including the hours they can access the Web and the types of websites children can visit. Texas parents should also establish boundaries for children's mobile phone usage. Cyber Crimes Unit investigators with the Attorney General's Office have arrested several sexual predators who used wireless devices to call or text children. These communications often include sexually explicit language or images and are intended to lure children into a sexual encounter. Wireless devices that allow users to surf the Internet may also give children an opportunity to go online and access sexually explicit content, chat rooms and social networking sites.

Parents should monitor their children's mobile phone Web usage and teach them to avoid calling or texting people they do not actually know. Young Texans should also avoid giving out personal information via their wireless device. Any child who receives a communication—including a photo or video—that is inappropriate, hurtful or otherwise makes them feel uncomfortable should immediately notify their parents. If parents suspect criminal activity or believe

that their child is in danger, they should save the image or message and immediately contact law enforcement authorities. Fortunately, many wireless carriers offer controls that allow parents to monitor and manage their child's cell phone usage. These controls allow parents to set limits on incoming and outgoing text messages and phone calls. For example, parents can restrict specific phone numbers, limit the quantity of text messages and prohibit communications during certain hours. Depending on the provider, parents can also filter or completely block websites from being accessed by their child's wireless device. Increasingly, wireless devices are also equipped with global positioning system (GPS) features that give parents the ability to track their child's whereabouts.

Finally, Texas parents should be aware that video game systems now have many of the same capabilities as home computers. In particular, these gaming devices allow users to interact with other players through typed messages, voice communication or even online video chats. Parents should be cognizant of the fact that child predators can use these game systems to prey upon and contact children. Although children may enjoy playing video games with their friends online, parents should carefully consider whether to enable a gaming system's online chat feature. During online conversations, predators may look for clues that reveal a child's physical location. Parents who choose to allow online chatting should strongly caution their children not to discuss anything personal while playing online games with players they do not know. Video game systems typically have parental control features that can be used to restrict game features that pose increased risks. These controls allow a parent to:

- Enable or disable a game console's chat features or manage with whom and how a user can communicate and play;
- Enable or disable Web browsing;
- Permit or block access to online games; and
- Restrict games based on maturity ratings.

Parental control features on a wireless phone or game system are designed to give parents peace of mind. While these tools are important, actual parental supervision offers the best level of control. To keep young Texans safe while they enjoy their summer break, parents should communicate openly with their kids and set clear limits on Internet, wireless device and gaming system usage.

This Week's Devotional Message:



God is wherever you may go

Even though your faith and your church have their regular place in your daily walk of life, do you remember to include them in your vacation plans? Whatever highway you travel, God is there to provide you and your loved ones with His unfailing guidance and protection, if you will only reach out and avail

yourself of it. He is everywhere, in the beauty of all the mountains, lakes and valleys of this world which He created, and so are His churches. You can easily find them anywhere throughout the land. Remember that God never takes a vacation from you; don't take a vacation from Him!

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

—HASKELL—
East Side Baptist Church
Jay Beerley, Senior pastor
Shawn Smith, Youth Worship pastor
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell

Christian Church
Frank Slayton, minister
Sun. 10:45 a.m.
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell

Church of God
Bruce Ray, pastor
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wed. 7:00 p.m.
714 North First East, Haskell

Trinity Lutheran Church
Rev. David White, pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30
Hwy 380 East, Haskell

Iglesia Bautista El Calvario
Art Flores, Interim pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
607 S. 7th, Haskell

First United Methodist Church
Rev. Dustin Wilhite, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.
Wed. 6 p.m.
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell

First Assembly of God
Rev. J.C. Amburn
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell

St. George Catholic Church
Father George Roney
Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.
901 N. 16th, Haskell

Church of Christ
Philip Sims, minister
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.;
Wed. 7 p.m.
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell

First Presbyterian Church
Kelly Pigott, interim pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell

Trinity Baptist Church
Larry White, pastor
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.
114 S. Ave. D, Haskell

Hopewell Baptist Church
Sun. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

Greater Independent Baptist Church
Sun. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell

New Covenant Foursquare
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 7 p.
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell

First Baptist Church
Rev. Jim McCurley
Jason Daniels, minister of Youth and Music
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell

Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church
Morris R. Johnson, pastor
Sun. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wed. 7 p.m.
1600 N. First St., Haskell

God Loves You Ministries
Mark Wallace, pastor
Church Service 10 a.m.
West side of square, Haskell

—WEINERT—
First Baptist Church
Dan Bullock, pastor
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert

Weinert Foursquare Church
Rev. Robert Harrison
Sunday 11 a.m
Weinert

—ROCHESTER—
Church of Christ
Steve Willis, minister
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester

First Baptist Church
Joseph Barrett, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.;
Prayer Time/Team Kids 5 p.m.;
Wed. Youth meeting 7 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester

Union Chapel Baptist Church
Clovis Dever
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Rochester

Faith Chapel of Rochester
Randy Hollingsworth, minister
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 6 p.m.
Hwy 6, Rochester

—SAGERTON—
Sagerton Methodist Church
Stephania Gilkey, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.
Sagerton

Faith Lutheran Church
Rev. Dr. Keith Palmquist, pastor
Sun. 10:30 a.m.
Sagerton

—RULE—
First Baptist Church
Russell Stanley, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1001 Union Ave., Rule

Primitive Baptist Church
Dale Turner Jr., pastor
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule

Church of Christ
John Greeson, minister
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
811 Union, Rule

Primera Iglesia Bautista
Alfa y Omegas
Manuel Marin, pastor
Sun. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
500 Elm Street, Rule

Sweet Home Baptist Church
Russell Stanley, interim pastor
Sunday 9 a.m.
Gladstone Ave., Rule

West Bethal Baptist Church
Rev. Clovis Dever
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
300 Sunny Ave., Rule

—PAINT CREEK—
Paint Creek Baptist Church
Sun. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
Paint Creek

—O'BRIEN—
O'Brien Baptist Church
Jim Reid, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p., Wed. 6 p.m.
O'Brien

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Sales tax receipts reported for the month of July

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said that state sales tax revenue in June was \$1.72 billion, up 7.2 percent compared to June 2010.

"The state's sales tax revenue has now increased for 15 months in a row," said Combs. "Strong business spending boosted sales tax revenue in sectors such as the oil and gas industry and manufacturing, and the retail sector continued to show growth."

On July 11, Combs sent sales tax allocations totaling \$474.5 million

to cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, up 7.2 percent compared to July 2010.

Texas cities received \$315.5 million, up 6.2 percent compared to July 2010. So far this calendar year, city sales tax allocations are up 6.3 percent compared to the same time period last year.

Texas counties anticipate sales tax payments of \$29.7 million, up 10 percent compared to last July. So far this year, sales tax allocations to counties

are running 12.4 percent ahead of this point in 2010.

Combs sent \$20.8 million to 177 special purpose taxing districts, up 13.3 percent compared to last July. Ten local transit systems received \$108.3 million in sales tax allocations, up 8.2 percent compared to a year ago.

July sales tax allocations represent sales that occurred in May.

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation will be made Fri., Aug. 12.

Haskell County had a 10.73 percent increase for July 2011 of \$34,025.46 in comparison to \$30,727.29 for July 2010. 2011 payments to date of \$279,010.23 reflect a 19.96 percent increase over 2010 payments to date of \$232,578.41.

The City of Haskell had a 12.94 percent increase for July 2011 of \$31,875.38 in comparison to \$28,221.66 for July 2010. 2011 payments to date of \$250,869.53 reflect a 17.65 percent increase over 2010 payments to

date of \$213,225.25.

The City of O'Brien had a 41.10 percent increase for July 2011 of \$113.31 in comparison to \$80.30 for July 2010. 2011 payments to date of \$1,931.51 reflect a 27.85 percent increase over 2010 payments to date of \$1,510.74.

The City of Rochester had a 6.40 percent decrease for July 2011 of \$330.40 in comparison to \$353.00 for July 2010. 2011 payments to date of \$3,427.90 reflect a 5.47 percent decrease over 2010 payments to date of \$3,626.50.

The City of Rule had an 18.93 percent decrease for July 2011 of \$1,581.02 in comparison to \$1,950.20 for July 2010. 2011 payments to date of \$21,277.60 reflect a 65.92 percent increase over 2010 payments to date of \$12,823.94.

The City of Weinert had a 2.63 percent increase for July 2011 of \$125.35 in comparison to \$122.13 for July 2010. 2011 payments to date of \$1,503.69 reflect an 8.02 percent increase over 2010 payments to date of \$1,391.98.



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GARAGE SALE: Sat. 8 til noon. 606 N. 17th. 28c

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EASTSIDE Baptist Church in Haskell is looking for a guitarist to join our worship ministries team. If you are interested, please contact Shawn Smith at 940-864-2738 or ssmith@esbhaskell.org. 26-29c

Jobs Wanted

GENERAL DOZER WORK. Fully insured. Ranch and oilfield. W/ D6D Cat with winch. Home 940-849-3401, Cell 940-862-3401. 25tfc

Wanted

BUYING JUNK CARS, trucks and scrap metal. Call Joe 325-514-0427. 28-31c

Help Wanted

SONIC DRIVE IN in Haskell is now taking applications for all positions. Apply in person. 44tfc

STONEWALL MEMORIAL Hospital in Aspermont, Texas, is looking for a Licensed Psycho-Therapist/Counselor (LMSW, LCSW, LPC, LPCi), and a Mental Health Technician for their outpatient gero-psych program. If interested, call Sherry Nixon, RN at 1-940-989-3551 ext. 266, for an application. 25-28c

EASTSIDE Baptist Church in Haskell is looking for a part-time administrative assistant. Computer skills a must. Pay commensurate with skills and experience. Email resume to jbeerley@esbhaskell.org or fax to 940-864-2771. 26-29c

CITY OF HASKELL Public Works Department now hiring Streets/Water Laborer. High school diploma or GED. Class A Texas CDL. One year of experience in water and street maintenance (preferred). Employment application. Contact City Hall for application information at 301 S. 1st street or call 940-864-

2333. The City of Haskell is an equal opportunity employer. 28-29c

WANTEDCNAsandLVNs for Gibson Care Center located in Aspermont. Please contact April Roby, RN, DON at 940-989-3526. EOE. 28-29c

Public Notices

NOTICE The City of Rule will be accepting bids until July 6, 2011 to sell an 8'x10' Bangor Walk In Cooler with working compressor. Please mail your bids to City of Rule, P.O. Box 607, Rule, Texas 79547 or drop them off at Rule City Hall, 701 Union Ave, Rule, Texas.

Buyer will be responsible for the disassembly and moving of cooler. For more information, please call 940-996-2214. 28-29c

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before the City of Haskell City Council on the 27th day of June, 2011 at City Hall, 301 S. 1st Street, Haskell, Texas 79521, to determine whether the following structures are in violation of the Haskell Structural Standards Code:

Case No. 1. Kevin Billington, owner. 1307 N. Ave. D, aka Block 14, Lot 4, College Heights Addn., Haskell, TX. Order: Structure is to be demolished within 30 days, lot cleared, any holes or cesspools filled, any wells capped and any underground tanks removed.


Christina O. Bryant Ortega, owner. 904 S. 1st, aka Block 2, W 40' of Lot 14 & E 23' of Lot 13, Kirby Addn., Haskell, TX. Order: Structure is

to be demolished within 30 days, lot cleared, any holes or cesspools filled, any wells capped and any underground tanks removed.

Stella Bartley, owner. 305 S. Ave. B East, aka Block 15, N 1/2 of Lots 1 & 2, Brown & Roberts Addn., Haskell, TX. Order: Structure is to be demolished within 30 days, lot cleared, any holes or cesspools filled, any wells capped and any underground tanks removed.

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Complete copies of the orders may be obtained from the City Secretary at City Hall, 301 S. 1st Street.,

Haskell, Texas 79521. John Gannaway, Mayor 28c

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Public Notice - Place 4

Helen Farabee Centers has an opening on its nine-member volunteer Board of Trustees for Place 4—representing Baylor, Haskell and Knox Counties.

Helen Farabee Centers is a not-for-profit public agency providing community based services to persons with mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Centers serve over 2,700 individuals every month through more than 30 service sites located within the Centers' 19-county catchment area of North Central Texas.

If you have an interest in guiding a healthcare system that is vital to your community and if you can donate approximately 8 hours a month to Board activities, please request further information from one of the following entities:

Helen Farabee Centers	Jan West	940-397-3102
Baylor County Courthouse	Honorable Linda Rogers	940-889-3553
Haskell County Courthouse	Honorable David C. Davis	940-864-2851
Knox County Courthouse	Honorable Travis Floyd	940-459-2191

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NORTHEAST HASKELL COUNTY. 1,338 +/- acres of income producing cultivation and abundant wildlife. Property is very secluded and has trophy deer, turkey, quail, dove and hogs but has never been leased out for hunting. Property is located west of Throckmorton on CR 273. Some minerals area available. \$995 per acre.

HASKELL CO. SOUTH CREEKS. 744 +/- acres of land with the perfect balance of income producing cropland and native pasture. Six tanks, seasonal creeks and excellent hunting. Bordered by CR 437, CR 440 and CR 438. Property may be divided. \$799 per acre.

NORTHWEST HASKELL CO PRAIRIE FARM. 283 +/- acres of Haskell County cropland with some areas of coastal grass for hay production. Property has cotton base of 213.1 acres and is a good wheat farm. \$800 per acre.

HISTORIC SPIDER ROCK RANCH. 2,128 +/- acre ranch located in Haskell and Stonewall Counties with approximately two miles of Brazos River Frontage. Property has approximately 1,278 +/- acres of native pasture and 850 +/- acres of cultivation. This one-of-a-kind scenic bluffs overlooking the Brazos River, the Salt Fork running to the west and the Double Mountain Fork running to the east. Recently REDUCED to \$1150 per acre.

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Summer reading program continues for children at Haskell Co. Library



POSTER PAINTING—At the Summer Reading Program session at the Haskell Co. Library Thurs., July 7 the children painted pictures with watercolors following the reading of “Miss Lady Bird’s Wildflowers: How a First Lady Changed America” by Fonda Newton. Readers were, front row, l-r, Jameson Daniels, Reagan Daniels, Arian Contreras and Fonda Newton; back row, Ezra Anderson, Grady Vasquez, Ramiro Olvera, Taylor King, Ozrah Contreras, Marina Wagner and Tana Contreras. Not pictured is Evan Enriquez.

It is time for the Summer Reading Program at the Haskell County Library. Children ages five to eleven are welcome and encouraged to come listen to a story, make a craft and have refreshments.

The theme for this summer is “Dig up a good book.” The library has lots of good books available for children to read.

The program will be held each Tuesday and Thursday in July from 10 to 11 a.m.

Come in and register for this summer program and pick up a reading log. Keeping the children’s reading skills up during the summer is very important so they don’t forget and fall behind when school starts.

This program is sponsored by The Texas State Library and Archives Commission, the Haskell County Library and the Friends of the Library.

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4-H members participate in Leader Lab

by Jane Rowan
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.
“The Great Outdoors” was the theme of the annual regional 4-H Leadership Lab held June 20-22 at the Texas

4-H Center in Brownwood. Four Haskell County 4-H youth participated in the three day event to develop and enhance their leadership skills. A variety of leadership

development workshops and team building activities were conducted each day with the evenings devoted to recreational activities.

District 3 4-H Council

officers were also elected during the lab. 4-H members desiring to serve on the district 4-H Council had to submit an application, interview with a panel of judges and present a speech. Selection was based on the application, interview and popular vote.

Emily Fouts, Haskell County 4-H member, was elected as 2nd Vice President. She will serve a one year term and be responsible for helping to plan and conduct 4-H activities and events across the twenty-four counties comprising the district.

Others participating in the leadership lab were Allison Petty, Jenny Dudensing and Payne Utley.

Crop certification deadline is July 15

Haskell County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Glenn R. Brzozowski, reminds producers that the annual crop certification deadline for spring-seeded crops is Fri., July 15, 2011.

Producers who file accurate and timely reports for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage can prevent the potential loss of

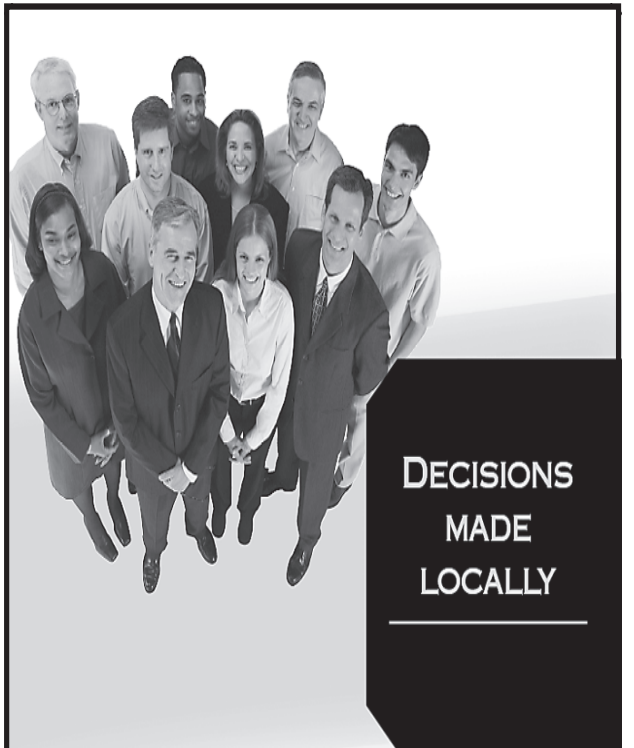
FSA program benefits.

“I encourage all producers to visit the Haskell County FSA office to file an accurate crop certification report by the July 15 deadline in order to comply with FSA program eligibility requirements,” said Brzozowski.

Considering the current drought situation in Texas, producers are also reminded to report crop losses

insured through Federal Crop Insurance and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) within 15 days of the disaster or after the loss is apparent.

For questions regarding crop certification and crop loss reports and appointments to certify, contact the Haskell County FSA Office at 940-864-2617, ext. 2.



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