

Track

HASKELL
V State Qualifiers Meet
Fri.-Sat., May 4-5, TBA

Softball

HASKELL
Maidens vs Santa Anna
Fri.-Sat., May 4-5
Best two of three
at TBA

Calendar

Community garage sale

The Haskell Chamber of Commerce will hold a community-wide garage sale Sat., May 5. Application forms are available until May 1 at the Chamber of Commerce office at 510 S. 2nd St. or by calling 864-2477.

Vendor applications

To receive a vendor application for Wild Horse Prairie Days to be held June 1-2, contact Jennabeth Kimbrough at 940-256-2163 cell or 940-864-3875 office. Booths are first come, first served and are \$50 each.

HHS sports banquet

The Haskell High School sports banquet will be held Monday, May 7 at the Haskell Civic Center. Athletes may come by 5:30 to have their photo made. The freshman class is catering the meal of beef enchiladas, rice, beans, salad and dessert beginning at 6 p.m. Plates are \$9 each. Take outs are available. Purchase your meal ticket from any freshman or class sponsor. The awards banquet will follow at 7 p.m.

Rule revival set May 6-9

A revival will be held Sun., May 6 through Wed., May 9 at the First Baptist Church in Rule. Services will be at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday. Monday through Wednesday services will begin at 7 p.m. Herman Cramer will bring the message.

Veterans' pictures

The Haskell Free Press is seeking pictures of veterans to be published in the Thurs., May 24 edition. Space is limited to the first sixteen pictures received. Please bring your original picture to the Free Press office, email to hfpnews@lycos.com or call 864-2686 for details.

Day of prayer

The Ministerial Alliance of Haskell will sponsor a time of prayer on the National Day of Prayer from noon to 1 p.m. Thurs., May 3 at the gazebo in the park. A light lunch will be provided for those on their lunch break from work. Prayer will be held for the world, our nation and state. Individual prayer partners will be available for those who desire one on one prayer.

Art Association

The Brazos West Art Association will meet Mon., May 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Church of Christ annex. Ginger Test of Novice will give a demonstration in watercolors. Hostesses will be officers and volunteers. Everyone is welcome.

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Early voting continues through Tues., May 8

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 126-NO. 18, ©MAY 3, 2012

"The People's Choice"

18 PAGES-TWO SECTIONS-75 CENTS

Wild Horse Prairie Car Show, Cookoff successful

The results of the Wild Horse Prairie Cookoff held last weekend include:

Ribeye steak jackpot: Joe Campbell, Abilene.

Pinto beans jackpot: Sarah Campbell, Rule.

Cobbler jackpot: Roger Roewe, Haskell.

Chicken: 1. Chad Gibson, Haskell; 2. Joe Campbell; 3. Roger Roewe.

Pork spare ribs: 1. Joe Campbell; 2. Brandon Anderson, Haskell; 3. Josh Heran/Corky Speck, Rochester.

Brisket: 1. Chad Gibson; 2. Joe Campbell; 3. Roger Roewe.

Grand champion: Joe Campbell; reserve champion, Chad Gibson.

Results of the Wild Horse Prairie Car Show held Sat., April 28 were:

Best of Show: Sam Bitner, Haskell.

People's Choice: Robert Stalding, Hamlin.

Cars pre-1950: 1. Sam Bitner; 2. Robert Wingrove, Stamford; 3. Elmer Adams, Weinert.

Cars 1951-72: 1. Darin Drury, Rochester; 2. Terry Coker, Graham; 3. Dwayne Lawrence, Aspermont.

Cars 1973-up: 1. Randy Willes, Sweetwater; 2. Tammie Riley,



COOKOFF WINNERS—Winners of the Wild Horse Prairie Cookoff held last Friday and Saturday at the RV Park were, l-r, Brandon Anderson, Sarah

Campbell, Joe Campbell, Chase Gibson, Emma Roewe, Chad Gibson, Sidney Campbell, Josh Hearn and Roger Roewe.

Throckmorton; 3. Derral Davis, Throckmorton.

Trucks pre-1950: 1. Bill and Becky Tubbs, Anson; 2. Donald Cunningham, Haskell; 3. Wes Steele, Haskell.

Trucks 1951-72: 1. Jim and Jordan Whitfield, Throckmorton; 2. Doyle

Lipham, Aspermont; 3. Carlos Andrada, Haskell.

Trucks 1973-up: 1. Bobbie Cothron, Haskell.

Motorcycles, trikes: 1. Trey Burson, Haskell.

Motorcycles, two wheel American: 1. Phil Coleman, Haskell; 2. Rodney Miller, Haskell; 3. Rodney Miller.



REGIONAL UIL MEDALISTS—Students from Haskell High School who are regional UIL medalists are, front row, l-r, Garrett Brueggeman and Zachary Tatum; Cailey Foster, Madison Mayfield, Maci Colley, Kaly Wheatley, Madison Homeyer and Ashley Adams.

UIL students qualify for state

Haskell High School competed at the 2012 Region 2 1A Academic Meet at Abilene Christian University Sat., April 21. Seven students qualified for the state meet which will be held at the

University of Texas May 21-22.

In order to advance to the state level, a competitor must receive either first place through third place as an individual or be on the first

City-Wide Clean Up set

Haskell City-Wide Clean Up Week will be held May 7-12. The landfill will be open Mon., May 7 through Thurs., May 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fri., May 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sat., May 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The City of Haskell no longer has trailers to borrow.

Citizens will be able to weigh their trailers and loads at the landfill on the scales. There will be no charge, but the landfill must keep up with the weight as per TCEQ.

Items that will not be accepted during clean-up week are chemicals, tires, batteries, anything with Freon, asbestos, any roofing materials and paint.

Bulky items will be picked up if they are by the dumpster, but only if arrangements have been made through City Hall by calling 864-2333.

This service is provided for citizens in the city limits of Haskell only. Citizens may be asked for proof of residence, such as your water bill.



CAR SHOW WINNERS—Top two at the Wild Horse Prairie Car Show held last Saturday at the City Park were, l-r, Sam Bitner, who had the Best of Show entry; and Robert Stalding, who had the People's Choice entry.

Relay for Life events

by Caron Yates

Organizers and team members have been working tirelessly in anticipation of this weekend's big event. The 2012 Knox/Haskell County Relay for Life is scheduled for Sat., May 5, at the Munday High School track, beginning at 2 p.m.

One person can make a difference. According to the American Cancer Society, in 1985, Dr. Gordy Klatt, a Tacoma colorectal surgeon, wanted to show support for all his patients who had battled cancer. He decided to personally raise money for the fight, by doing something he enjoyed—running.

Dr. Klatt spent a grueling twenty-four hours circling the track at Baker Stadium, running some eighty-three miles. Throughout the night, friends donated \$25 to run or walk with Dr. Klatt for thirty minutes. His efforts alone raised \$27,000 to fight cancer. While circling the track, he began to envision a team relay event that could raise money to fight cancer. Hence, The Relay For Life was born.

At least twelve teams will be participating, offering all kinds of fun activities and delicious food, as well as an opportunity to win some great prizes.

Tattoo and face painting, bounce house for kids, cake walk, dart game, dunking booth, train rides, water balloon toss,

name that tune and much more will fill the stadium with fun.

Throughout the evening several area bands and singers will be performing. A special treat you will not want to miss, is the "Mr. Relay" contest and the "Bras for the Cause" display.

Although every Relay for Life is a little different, there are certain traditions at all Relays, that help participants celebrate, remember and fight back.

The Relay begins with a Survivors' Lap. This is a very inspirational time when survivors are invited to circle the track together and help everyone celebrate the victories that have been achieved over cancer. The next lap is in honor of the caregivers of cancer patients, with the third lap, the team lap, beginning the team relay.

A time of remembering will take place with a Luminaria Ceremony. This is a time of honoring people who have been touched by cancer and remembering loved ones lost to the disease. Luminarias, set up around the track, will light the way as the names of each person being honored is read aloud.

You don't have to be on a team to join in the fun or fight against cancer on Saturday. Everyone in the area is encouraged to be at the Munday High School track, for this important event, which not only raises money, but also raises awareness in the fight against cancer.

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JEAN MERCHANT

Merchant is top agent

A Hermann Sons fraternal insurance agent representing the Haskell County area is among the 34 agents who have qualified for recognition based on their performance in 2011.

Grand Vice President-Marketing Buddy Preuss, FIC, Order of the Sons of Hermann in the State of Texas has announced that Jean Merchant has qualified for the Grand President's Club. This is the fourth year in a row that Merchant, who lives at the Hermann Sons Retirement Home in Comfort, has qualified for this club. She finished in the top 10 in the state in premium income generated.

The agents were recognized March 31 during the annual Agents' Awards Banquet held in San Antonio.

First-time Grand President's Club qualifiers receive a plaque, blazer and cash bonus. Those who qualify more than one year receive cash awards based on the amount of premium income generated. Ten agents qualified for this club in 2011.

Hermann Sons is a fraternal insurance society. It offers its members a variety of life insurance plans, annuity and IRA products plus other services.

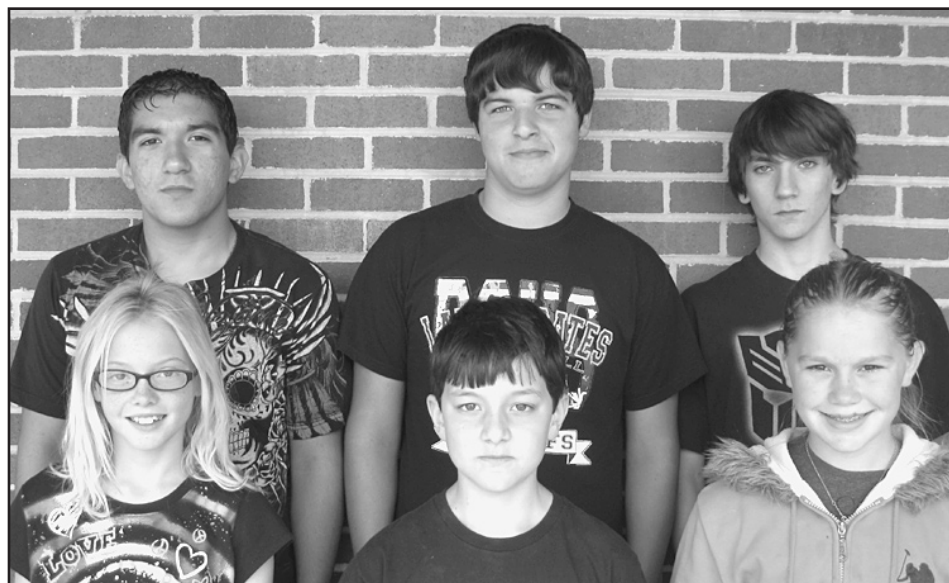
The more than 73,000 members belong to one of 138 local lodges across Texas and have access to a wide range of fraternal benefits. The Grand Lodge, which was formed in 1890, is located in San Antonio. The Order operates 32 tuition-free dance schools and a youth camp for its junior members and a retirement home.

To learn more about Hermann Sons life insurance products and the fraternal benefits you may enjoy as a member, call Merchant at 830-995-3396.

Cancer support

The Haskell Area Cancer Support group meets the last Tuesday of the month from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Haskell Memorial Hospital Educational Building. For more information, call 325-864-4466.

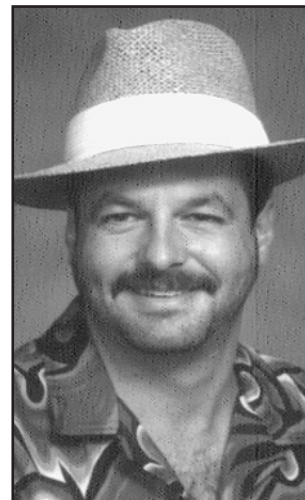
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PAINT CREEK ATTENDANCE WINNERS—67 students received Sonic Gift Cards for having perfect attendance during the fifth six-weeks grading period at Paint Creek School. The big winners of an iPod touch or iPod nano for having perfect or near perfect attendance are, front row, l-r, Gracie Oliver, Zak Elkins and Zhenia McTasney; back row, Paul Nieto, Bryant Booe and Dalton Einhaus

Obituaries

Roy Don Klose



RON DON KLOSE

Roy Don Klose, 54, passed away in Riverside, California.

Born Oct. 31, 1957 in Haskell, he was the son of Elton and Ruth Ann Klose of Haskell. He attended Haskell schools where he was affectionately called 'Count Calculus' by his peers. He

was selected to appear for the second year in Who's Who Among American High School Students. Along with being Highest Ranking Boy at Haskell High School, he was president of the National Honor Society, attended Texas Boy's State, and lettered in basketball and track.

Graduating from Haskell High School, he enrolled in Rice University in Houston and later in the University of Texas at Austin, achieving his Electrical Engineering Degree. He held several positions with firms before joining the faculty of the University of California Riverside located in Riverside, California. As a Systems Clinic Project Engineer, he was a scientist with UCR School of Engineering, as part of a team with the Robot Challenge Program, which

traveled to Japan for Japan's first robotic competition, his team entering their robot 'The Schlepster' in the competition.

He enjoyed sports including golf, tennis, scuba diving, soccer, baseball and racquetball.

He was preceded in death by grandparents, George and Dora Klose of Haskell and Aulton and Nila White of Stamford; and nephew K.C. Klose of Burleson.

Survivors include his parents, Elton and Ruth Ann Klose of Haskell; two brothers, Eddie Klose and wife Terri of Haskell and Kelly Klose and wife Connie of Burleson; one nephew, Beau Klose and wife Andrea of Austin; and two nieces, Jasmine Klose and Jacie Klose, both of Haskell.

PD. NOTICE

FSA adds 400,000 acres for wildlife initiative

USDA Texas Farm Service Agency (FSA) Acting Executive Director, James B. Douglass announced that FSA has allocated an additional 400,000 acres nationwide to the State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) program that improves habitat for high-priority wildlife species.

"SAFE is a voluntary conservation initiative that provides an opportunity for grassroots conservation partners to develop related projects to address high priority wildlife needs through habitat restoration," said Douglass.

SAFE project area proposals are being accepted for the purpose of improving habitats for the designated wildlife species in new areas as well as possibly expanding current SAFE project areas by requesting additional acreage. SAFE project sponsors must submit all project proposals as soon as possible as the State Technical Committee is scheduled to complete the proposal review process on May 23, 2012.

The Texas FSA State

Committee will complete the final review and submit recommended proposals to the National FSA Office for final evaluation no later than June 1, 2012.

Various conservation practices currently offered under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) are fine-tuned through the SAFE proposal to improve, connect or create higher-quality wildlife habitats by promoting healthier ecosystems in the project areas identified as essential to the effective management of high priority wildlife species.

Douglass added, "Once a project proposal is approved and acreage allocated, the SAFE program is implemented through a continuous CRP sign up allowing USDA to accept producer acreage offers year-round."

As with other Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) initiatives, the land and producer must meet certain eligibility requirements. Once approval of the SAFE project is announced,

interested landowners can submit offers to voluntarily enroll qualifying acres in a SAFE project/CRP contract for a term of 10 to 15 years. In exchange, SAFE/CRP program participants receive annual rental payments, project incentives and cost-share assistance to establish habitat-enhancing natural covers on eligible land.

According to Douglass, Texas currently has 76,376 acres across the state enrolled in existing SAFE program project areas benefitting targeted wildlife species including the Lesser Prairie Chicken, the Ocelot and the Mottled Duck as well as other wildlife species that are present in the enhanced habitat.

Completed SAFE project proposals can be submitted to the Texas State FSA office via email to Gaye.DeLeon@tx.usda.gov or Micky.Woodard@tx.usda.gov. For additional SAFE project area details or other questions, contact your local FSA Office or visit the website at: http://www.fsa.usda.gov; click on "Conservation Programs."

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If you answered **YES** to any of the above questions and live in Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Stonewall or Throckmorton counties, you may be eligible for assistance from the **Aspermont Small Business Development Center, Inc.** The Community Services Block grant (CSBG) and the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) funds are used by ASBDC, Inc. to provide services to low-income households. There is an application process to determine eligibility for assistance, so call ASBDC, Inc. for more information.

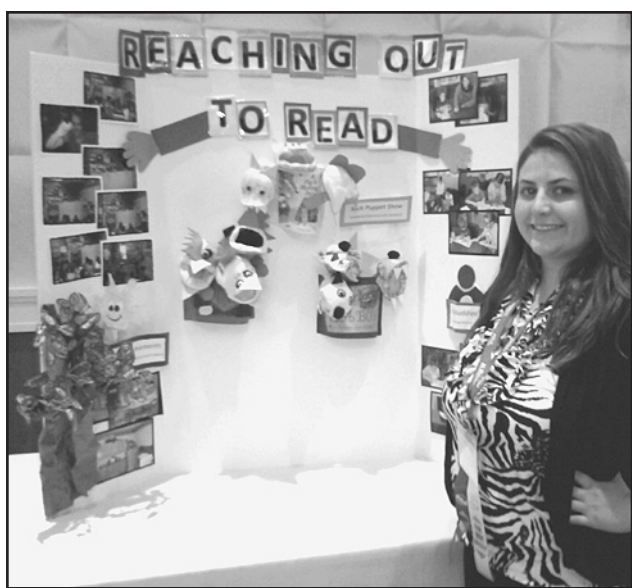
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Si contesta si a uno de las preguntas y vive en los condados de Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Stonewall o Throckmorton, es posible usted puede elegible para ayuda del **Aspermont Small Business Development Center, Inc.** El Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) y los fondos del **Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP)** están usado por ASBDC, INC. para suministrar servicios a las familias con ingresos bajos. Hay un proceso de aplicación a determinar elegibilidad para ayuda. Llame usted ASBDC, INC. para mas información o si tiene preguntas.

940-989-3538 o 800-722-0137



COMPETES AT STATE—Dannes Holland competed in Dallas at the State FCCLA Leadership Meeting April 13 in Chapter Service Project Display. She prepared a display and oral presentation with power point of one of Rule FCCLA's service projects this year, "Reaching Out to Read." After placing fifth at the regional meet, the top six in each event advanced to state.

Fall prevention series set for May

by Jane Rowan
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.

Falls can be catastrophic for seniors. A broken bone may not be a big deal for a ten year-old, but for a senior it can be an immense setback. Fortunately, with the right precautions, most falls can be avoided. "A Matter of Balance" is an 8-part series designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase the activity levels of older adults who have concerns about falling. Participants will learn to view falls and fear of falling as controllable; set realistic goals for increasing activity; change their environment to reduce fall risk factors; and promote exercise to increase strength and balance.

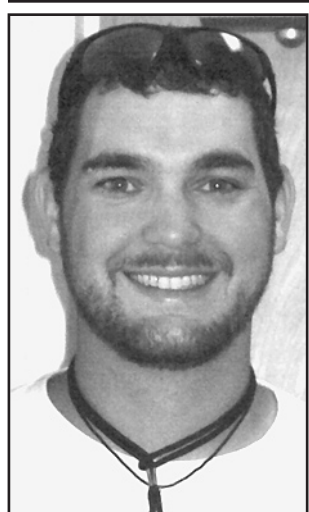
This award winning program will be offered in Haskell during the month

of May. Participants must be at least 60 years old to participate and must pre-register for the series of classes.

The "Matter of Balance" series classes will meet each Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for four weeks (8 total classes). The course will begin May 8 and continue through May 31. Classes will be held at the Haskell Memorial Hospital Education Building in Haskell.

The program series is free of charge but enrollment is limited. To register for the course or for more information contact Jane Rowan, County Extension Agent/FCS, Haskell County, 940-864-2546, j-rowan@tam.u.edu, 101 S. Ave. D, Haskell.

Rule ISD Employee Spotlight



JASON JOSSELET

Jason Josselet of Rule is the head boys coach/history teacher at Rule school. He has coached football for one year and boys basketball and track for two years.

He has a four year old, Brennden.

He enjoys golf, basketball and reading.

His favorite quote is, "Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." Author Unknown

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TRTA members hold April meeting

The Haskell County Chapter of Texas Retired Teachers Association met Wed., April 18 at the Pit & Grill in Haskell, with eighteen members and one visitor present.

President Tommye Jo Clark called the meeting to order. Marijane Cunningham led in prayer, followed by the reading of the minutes by secretary Myrtle Kutch. Members were encouraged to get their dues in as quickly as possible.

Shirley Sloan described and asked for volunteers for the Summer Reading Program, held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Haskell County Library during June and July. Anyone interested in reading to children, ages six to about ten, may contact her for more information.

Members were encouraged to support the upcoming Noah Project Spring Fling.

Sue Burgess, district president of TRTA, presented

the program. She reported on the State Convention and the work being done by the organization. TRTA is the only voice for retired school personnel in Austin. She emphasized the importance of presenting a united front to legislators regarding issues of concern. This is best accomplished by all retired school personnel joining the membership. Burgess also pointed out that spouses of members, as well as currently employed school personnel are eligible to become associate members.

Another important way to be heard is to contact state representatives and senators and let them know how you feel about issues of concern.

Burgess said that two major issues for the next legislative session will be teacher pension and health care. Currently school retirees receive a defined benefit, or the guaranteed same amount each month after retiring. There seems

to be a push by some, to change it to a defined contribution plan, which will result in a fluctuating amount depending on the markets. Burgess added that TRTA is working diligently on these matters.

In the March meeting, the nominating committee made up of Janice Browning, Shirley Sloan and Jane

Coston presented a slate of officers for the upcoming term. Voted into office are Tommy Jo Clark, president; Vida White, vice-president; Marijane Cunningham, second vice-president; Myrtle Kutch, secretary; and Joyce Ivy, treasurer.

The next meeting will be held Wed., May 16 at 11:30 at the Pit & Grill.

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Food protection classes to be held

by Jane Rowan
CEA/FCS, Haskell Co.

A two-day Food Protection Management training for food service managers in the Big Country area will be held May 21-22 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Taylor County Extension Office located on the Taylor County Expo grounds in Abilene.

The training will allow food establishments permitted by the Texas Department of Health to meet their certification requirements if they pass the exam. The exam being used is the National Restaurant Association's ServSafe exam. The class covers twelve food safety concepts related to personal hygiene, cross contamination, time and temperature, sanitation, pest management, foodborne illness and related areas.

The course is sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension in Haskell, Jones, Nolan and Taylor Counties and the Environmental Section of the City of Abilene.

Cost for the class is \$115, which includes the course book and exam. The cost for the exam only is \$65. Registration deadline is Fri., May 4. Registration information is available by calling the Taylor County Extension Office at 325-672-6048, Jones County Office at 325-823-2432, Nolan County Office at 325-235-3184 or Haskell County Office at 940-864-2546.

Al-Anon

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

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Nurse's Week - May 6-12
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Mother's Day is May 13
Find the Perfect Mother's Day Gift for your Mom, Grandmother, Aunt, Sister or Friend

Graduation Registry

Many area seniors have made selections. Please call or come by to purchase gifts for the graduates on your list. We will contact each senior to pick up his or her gifts.

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Laci Townsend and Cody West

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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Texas, Amazon.com come to terms

Texas last week resolved a multi-year dispute over uncollected revenue with Seattle-based Internet sales giant Amazon.com, a company with a physical presence in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Comptroller Susan Combs, in an April 27 announcement carrying an Austin and Seattle dateline, said Amazon.com Inc. will:

- Begin collecting a state sales tax on July 1;

- Begin creating at least 2,500 jobs in Texas over the next four years; and

- Make at least \$200 million in capital investments in Texas.

The three-pronged agreement, according to Combs' statement, "resolves all sales tax issues between Texas and Amazon." Officially, Combs is "chief steward of the state's finances, acting as tax collector, chief accountant, chief revenue estimator and chief treasurer for all of state government."

In the announcement, Combs also suggested that "Congress should enact federal legislation that will give states access to revenues that are already due, which would resolve this issue fairly for all retailers and all states."

Amazon.com presently collects state sales taxes in only a few states.

Drought declaration extended

Continuing exceptional drought conditions in Texas prompted Gov. Perry on April 20 to once again extend the state emergency disaster declaration of July 2011. The three-month extension applies to 180 or more than 70 percent of Texas' 254 counties.

Roads program funds OK'd
The Texas Transportation Commission on April 26 approved \$40 million "for repair and rehabilitation of roadways used frequently by the energy industry."

According to the agency that oversees the Texas Department of Transportation, "The energy industry has helped Texas remain an economic strength among states, but subsequent impacts on roadways and bridges, traffic, safety, and the environment have brought about a need for collaboration to lessen the impacts."

Work projects to be scheduled to begin this summer.

GEAR UP grant awarded

The Texas Education Agency on April 27 reported it is one of seven states to be awarded a \$33 million federal grant to improve the postsecondary awareness, readiness and success of middle and high school students.

A seven-year grant for Gaining Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, or GEAR UP, will support some 6,000 students in the Class of 2018, from seventh

grade through graduation from high school. The new grant also includes a seventh year designed to help support students in their first year of college, the agency reported.

Take Mom to state park

Mother's Day 2012 is Sunday, May 13, and looking forward to it, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department floated this novel idea on April 23.

"Why not do something special this Mother's Day by treating Mom to an outdoor adventure and a picnic lunch amid appetite-stimulating scenery at a one of more than 90 Texas State Parks? Not only will mom and the family enjoy a healthier and happier day, but they also will be helping state parks close a budget gap."

Parks and Wildlife, which suffered along with other state agencies in budget cutbacks dealt by the Texas Legislature in 2011, is working toward recovery from a \$4.6 million funding gap.

Veterans may borrow more

The Texas Veterans Land Board on April 26 voted unanimously to increase home and land loan limits.

Texas veterans may now borrow up to \$417,000 for a home and up to \$100,000 for a parcel of land as small as one acre, "making it easier for veterans to buy lots closer to urban areas," according to information published by the Texas General Land Office.

A Texas military veteran can simultaneously have a land loan, a home loan and a home improvement loan through the Texas Veterans Land Board, the agency said.

Fleet vehicle grants available

Texas Railroad Commissioners on April 27 announced the availability of about \$700,000 in grants "to help public fleets, such as those operated by school districts, cities and counties, purchase new, ultra-low-emission natural gas vehicles."

Funding originally for propane-fueled vehicles is now also for natural gas vehicles "and can be used to offset some or all of the incremental costs of a natural gas fuel system on a new or retrofitted vehicle," the agency reported, noting however that matching funds for the purchase of the vehicles must come from non-federal sources.

Agency enforces Payday Law

The Texas Workforce Commission on April 26 reported it helped workers collect almost \$7 million in unpaid wages in 2011, under the Texas Payday Law.

Through the agency's Labor Law program, Texas workers have an administrative alternative to costly litigation in resolving pay disputes. The agency reported its investigators annually conduct more than 15,000 wage claim investigations statewide.

10 Years Ago May 2, 2002

Kailey McCord, student at Paint Creek Elementary School, won second place in the Area V Texas Soil and Water Conservation poster contest. She competed against entries from 51 North Central Texas counties.

The Rule FFA Dairy Judging team won first place at the state competition, held at Texas A&M University. Team members, which will compete in the National Contest, are Craig Simpson, Tara Lisle, M'Lynn Lehrmann and Kami Baitz.

Haskell High graduates and current Hardin-Simmons University education majors Angela Aycock and Amy Aycock, were recipients of the John J. and Fanny P. Toombs Award, while Betsy Coleman received the Long Bristow Award.

20 Years Ago April 30, 1992

Haskell High School junior Brook Baker, co-editor of The War Whoop, and senior Amanda Mamykon, staff artist, won the "Tops in Texas" award for an advertisement they created for Lane-Felker.

Representing Haskell High School at the FHA convention in Fort Worth, were Amy Cunningham, Katy Martin and Kellie Reid.

Darlene Walton, public education chairman of the Haskell unit of the American Cancer Society, received a plaque for outstanding service, from Wanda Brawne, district field representative for the American Cancer Society.

30 Years Ago May 6, 1982

Three Haskell artists have won honors in area art shows. Laverne Barnett won the Merit Award on a landscape titled "Old Cream Cans,"

while Pauline Norman won a yellow ribbon on a painting titled "Seascape." Fern Livengood won the Purchase Award on a landscape titled "Evening Stroll."

Major Lewis of Haskell, celebrated his 103rd birthday. His only first cousin, Minnie Lewis Rowe, a spry 89, "hopped" the bus in Waco to attend the celebration.

DeAnn Pendergraft, senior at Paint Creek High School, qualified for regional track in the 100 run, 200 run, high jump and long jump.

40 Years Ago May 4, 1972

Honor students of the 1972 graduating class of Haskell High School are Judy Lehde, valedictorian; Pam Colbert, salutatorian; Milton Schmidt, high ranking boy; Denise Roberson and Jim Mickler, honor students.

Pam Gibson will receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education at the commencement exercises of Midwestern University. A 1969 graduate of Haskell High School, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Harris.

A.D. (Doug) Foster, rule native, was elected vice-president of Gifford-Hill and Company, by the company's board of directors, following the annual meeting of stockholders.

50 Years Ago May 3, 1962

The Haskell High School chapter of the National Honor Society inducted new members Pamela Baird, Trisha Chrietzberg, Julia Drinon, David Gannaway, Bobby Herren, Tom Bill Holden, LaVern Jones, Jodie Kennedy, Marlene Letz, Sandra Letz, Ken McCollum, Bassett Owens, Shirley Smith, Lonnie Sturdy, Lowell Wallace and Shirley Young.

Army Privates Billy

R. Trussell and Leon R. Kretschmer of Haskell, and Bobby R. Camp of Rochester, have completed eight weeks of advanced individual training at The Field Artillery Training Center, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

100 Years Ago May 1, 1912

L.A. Stewart got a telephone order from W.A. Earnest at Munday, for 100 yards of gravel to be shipped from this point at \$1.25 per yard.

On Thursday afternoon, at the beautiful bungalow home of Mrs. M.S. Pierson, the Ladies Aid Society of the Baptist Church gave an informal reception for their new pastor, Rev. and Mrs. T.R. Waggoner.

There was a jail delivery here this week and two prisoners made a getaway. Sheriff Falkner returned one of the men, but the second has not been apprehended. A third prisoner did not leave, but telephoned the sheriff after the others had left.

Crime of the Week

Sometime during the day, Mon., April 23 a burglary of a habitation occurred in Haskell. Among the items taken were fishing poles and a cast iron skillet.

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers, in cooperation with the Haskell Police Department, is offering a reward for information which leads to the arrest of the person or persons who committed this crime. Anyone with information is urged to call the tipline 800-222-TIPS or text CFCS at CRIMES.

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers offers rewards of up to \$1,000 for information that leads to arrests for crimes committed in Haskell, Jones, Stonewall, Shackelford, Kent and Fisher counties. All callers remain anonymous.

Letter to the Editor

Dear editor,

The Camo Chicks and Sa's Pals Relay for Life teams would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who took part in the second annual 2012 Mom Prom. Without the participation of these wonderful ladies, who came from Saginaw, Abilene, Stamford, Aspermont and Haskell, it would not have been the success that it was.

There was a crowd of over the top "prom dresses," dancing to great music, awards and lots of fun. The main purpose of the prom was to raise money for Relay for Life and to let ladies get together and have a wonderful time achieving that goal.

This year's prom earned over \$1,000 that will go to the Knox/Haskell Relay for Life this weekend.

Susan Cockerell

Haskell Co. Arrest Report

The following arrests were reported by the Haskell County Sheriff's Office during the week of April 23-29:

Brook Aaron Tankersley, disorderly conduct.

Billy Mac Chaney, Lubbock County warrant.

Christopher Yates, theft of property.

Michelle Phelps, theft of property, Jones Co. warrant.

Derrick Anthony Lucero, city warrants, Stamford.

Joseph Martin, violation of progressive sanction.

Toby Dean Phillips, parole violation.

Paul Reagan Griffin, possession of drug paraphernalia.

Adan Alberto Vasquez, unrestrained child under eight, possession of drug paraphernalia.

Erica Kay Bishop, failure to identify.

Vicente Castillo, Jr., burglary of a building, motion to revoke.

Thirty-six calls were made to 911.

Ask the Mayor

By John Gannaway, Mayor of the City of Haskell

The first Wild Horse Prairie Car Show and Cook-Off started on Friday and finished on Saturday. I certainly hope you had a chance to attend 'cause if you didn't, you missed quite a show. I did not hear one cross word about how these two happenings were conducted. When the Betterment Committee was in the planning stages of this affair, there were a few nay-sayers who were just pretty certain the events were doomed for failure. You will always have a few of those around—hopefully, they will see that it was a success and will join in and help next time around. Our purpose was to draw people into our community and that we did with about 50 entrants to the car show from many area towns. The cook-off had 11 cookers for ribeyes on Friday night and five for the remaining meats, beans and cobbler on Saturday. Next year when we do a bit of "fine-tuning" I predict that we'll have a bunch of cookers. When word gets around that the payoffs were good and the awards were unusual and beautiful next year we'll have more. For our "rookie year" in the cookoff we were pleased. We had a good time Friday night at the Calcutta—wish there had been more for many a good laugh! Our auctioneer was Colby Christie from Rule who has a talent for getting people to turn loose of their money. I know several people who thought they were just

scratching their noses and learned they'd just upped the ante.

The car show was inside the park where the owners could take advantage of the shade, a cool breeze, with a nice scenic view. Kids were playing on the equipment and many spread blankets or brought out their lawn chairs. One could walk around, stop and visit. Cliff Morris and his band entertained for about four hours with familiar songs one could sing along with. We sold hotdogs and Frito-chili pies, chips and cold drinks. We've already begun to think about next year with perhaps the addition of popcorn and snocones.

While I was making my way through the park admiring the many vehicles, I overheard some folks talking about the cost of some of these cars. Wow! I realized very quickly that my pockets were not nearly deep enough to get involved as an owner of an antique car or truck. But then again I do own a 1979 Ford pickup, Old Blue, who obviously is not in this category. I am always fascinated by the motorcycles. Matter of fact, I owned one while in college and I enjoyed many hours of riding it to and from class as well as hours of pure pleasure-riding. One of the hazards of riding a motorcycle is the opportunity you have to make contact with a fair sized insect at about 60 miles an hour. That bug might not have been very big but it sure does

hurt when colliding with your face. I also was a quick learner concerning keeping your mouth closed while riding—you don't have to swallow many bugs...you get the picture.

The only thing I was disappointed in is the fact our efforts to get a van to take people to the square for shopping fell through. We'll do better with that too next year. We are appreciative of the merchants' support for this initial endeavor—look for your names on the back of our turquoise T-shirts. And Lord willing, we will not ask you to repeat your monetary support next year.

I want to express my sincere thanks to each individual and every business who helped make these two events a success. Thanks to all who entered vehicles in the car show and to all of you 'chefs' who entered the cookoff. The car show judges had a 'keen-eye' as they made their way through the park looking over, under and around each and every entry in an effort to select the 'Best of Show.' Those of you who helped judge the entries in the cookoff had your 'tasters' in top notch condition. Our city employees had the park in excellent condition, the members of the Betterment Committee put forth a monumental effort, the volunteers assistance was appreciated—again, 'Thanks' to one and all for making this happen.

As you can tell from this

column, The Betterment Committee including the chairmen of these two events: Volly Ivy and Ben McGee and yours truly have thought of nothing else for some time. I can't speak for the rest, but for me I hadn't had a decent night's rest until Saturday night after it was all over. Hit the hay at 7:30 and didn't awake until 6 a.m.

Now onto some other exciting things. We still have Wild Horse Prairie Days Rodeo the first weekend in June—make yourself available to the Larneds and lend a hand. This is also a big draw for our community. We have Mother's Day in May and wouldn't it be a nice tribute to all our mothers who've gone to their reward if we made a push to get the cemetery in good shape. We were out there today and the desert willows are all in bloom and lovely. You can tell how dry we are if you take a walk through it. I'm personally too tired to spear-head this issue this year, but I will support anyone who will pick up the gauntlet, so to speak. We haven't forgotten the fountain issue either so there are items still to be dealt with. And that Weight Watcher lady in Abilene hasn't gotten back to me either; I'll call her this week and get some definitive information. I was told that the Hospital's Education Building would be available to us on Thursday nights for these meetings. So let's get started seeing less of each other!

The Haskell Free Press

Established January 1, 1886
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
420 North First Street • P. O. Box 555
HASKELL, TEXAS 79521
Phone 940-864-2686 • Fax 940-864-2687
hfp@valornet.com

John McDougalPublisher
Lisa ShawBusiness Manager
Doris McDougalProduction
Caron Yates.....Editor

Periodical Paid Haskell, Texas 79521
(USPS 237-040)

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Haskell County, one year, \$25.00.
Outside of Haskell County, one year, \$34.00.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC-Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any firm, individual or corporation will be gladly corrected upon being called to the attention of the publisher.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Haskell Free Press, P.O. Box 555, Haskell, TX. 79521-0555.

This issue mailed Wed., May 2, 2012



2012



HASKELL MAIDENS Bi-District Champions



HASKELL MAIDENS—Team members of the 2012 Haskell Maidens softball team are, front row, Maci Colley, Coach John Foster, Reagan Hadaway, Jasmine Klose, Claire Carmichael, Laycee Tullos, Maegan Gonzales, Meghan Glover, Madison Homeyer, Jacie Klose, Breezy Caitlin Johnson, Delecia Garcia, Veronica Robledo and Gibbs, Morgan Frierson and Cailey Foster; back row, Asst. Coach Kassie Meacham.

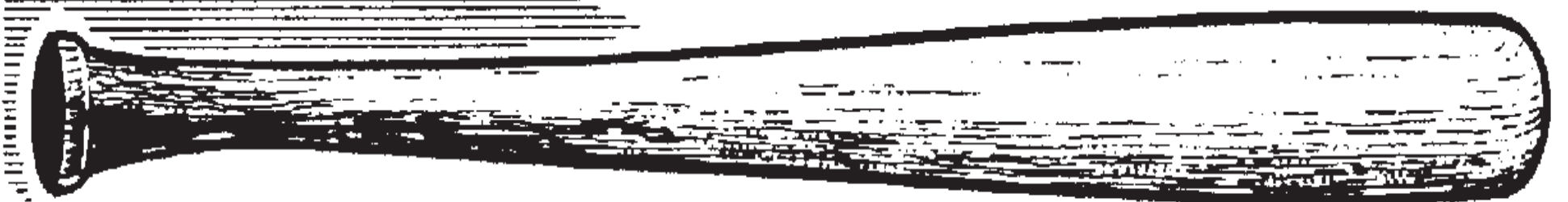
Maidens vs Santa Anna Fri.-Sat., May 4-5

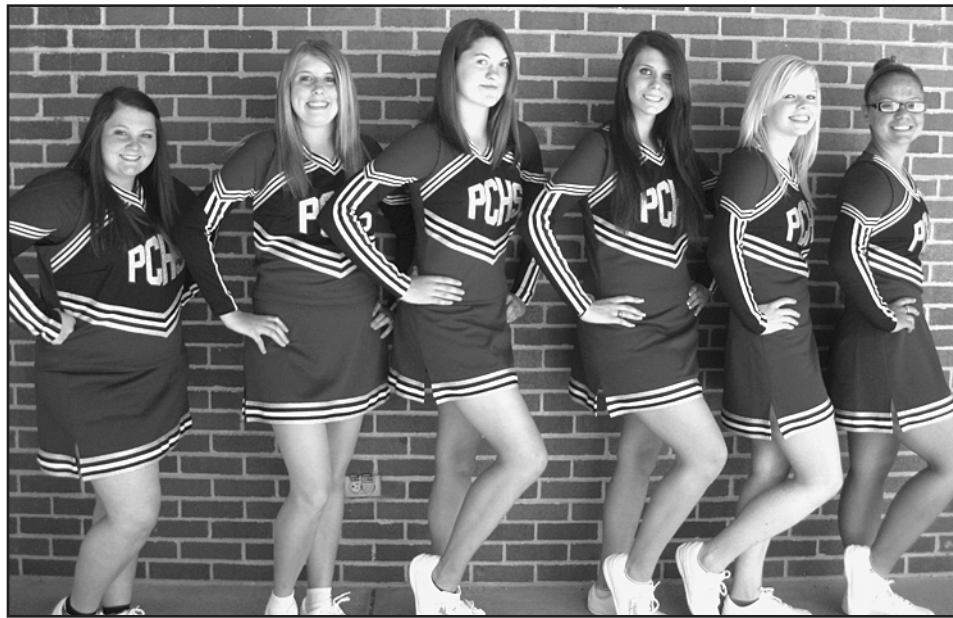
Best two games of three at TBA

GO MAIDENS

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PAINT CREEK PIRATE CHEERLEADERS—Cheering for the High School Pirates next year will be Charitie Winterstein, senior; Danielle Oliver, senior; Kadie McCord, junior; Katie Jones, senior; Samantha Barnett, junior; and Stormy Darnell, sophomore.



PAINT CREEK PIRATE CHEERLEADERS—Cheering for the Junior High Pirates next year will be Katelyn Jenkins, seventh grade; Bailey Hawkins, sixth grade; Brittany Yanez, sixth grade; and Felicity Hannsz, seventh grade.

Rule ISD names honor rolls

Rule ISD has released the names of students on the honor rolls for the fifth six weeks of school. Included are:

First grade: A honor roll, Karleigh Hertel, Kelly Lowack, Cory Mathis and Austen Sanford; A-B honor roll, Julian Trevino.

Second grade: A-B honor roll, Jillian Herrera and Daena Diaz.

Fourth grade: A-B honor roll, Danny Kreger and Madalyn Navarrette.

Fifth grade: A honor roll, Kourtney Hertel and Avery Tanner; A-B honor roll, Del Fritzer and Leann Manske.

Sixth grade: A-B honor roll, Christina Moore.

Eighth grade: A honor roll, Kade Lowack; A-B honor

roll, Chris Holder, Samantha Lewis and Braden Tanner.

Tenth grade: A-B honor roll, Brandon Cooper and Marissa Holder.

Eleventh grade: A honor roll, Joshua Quintero and Darryl Williams.

Those on the perfect attendance list were:

EE: Rylan Green.
Pre-K: Max Hollabaugh and Kaylee Silvas.

Kindergarten: Astrid Guzman and Shelby Saffel.

First grade: Karleigh Hertel and Kelly Lowack.

Second grade: Hannah Ervin, Patrick Lightfoot, Abigail Ortiz, Alfonso Ramos and Bryson Silvas.

Third grade: Carlos Cassal, Dean Kreger, Yesenia Moreno and Taylor Silvas.

Fourth grade: Kiya Bailey, Kennedy Fritzler, Danny Kreger, Madalyn Navarrette, Jessica Ramos Cruz and Tyler Williams.

Fifth grade: Isaiah Castillo, Joseph Chavez, Del Fritzler, Kourtney Hertel, Leann Manske and Avery Tanner.

Sixth grade: Adolfo Gonzalez, Pablo Sandoval and Thomas Short.

Seventh grade: Abel Sandoval Cruz.

Eighth grade: Gabriel Baiza, Kade Lowack and Braden Tanner.

Ninth grade: Josh Starr.
Tenth grade: Gloria Gonzalez.

Eleventh grade: Joshua Quintero, Jennifer Starr and Darryl Williams.

Child care assistance available

On Fri., April 27, Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas Board, and Child Care Services (CCS) announced the availability of child care assistance to help qualifying families pay their child care expenses so they can work, go to school, or attend a training program. Customers receiving child care assistance must meet federal, state, and local guidelines and must be able to answer "yes" to the following statements in order to qualify

for child care assistance:

- Do you live in one of the following counties: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor or Throckmorton?
- Do all of the adults in your household do at least one of the following:

- *Work at least 25 hours per week?
- *Go to school full-time?

*Work and go to school combined for at least 25 hours per week?

Does your family meet the CCS income guidelines?

•Do you have children between 0-13 years of age that need child care?

Child Care Options

Families who are determined eligible for child care assistance may choose from a wide variety of child care arrangements for their children. Child Care Services (CCS) has contracts with licensed child care centers, licensed child care homes, and registered child care homes to provide care. In addition, families may choose to have an eligible relative care for their child.

Application Process

If you believe you may be eligible for child care assistance, you will need to complete an application form, collect some verifying information and submit it to the Child Care Services (CCS) office located at 400 Oak St., Suite 317, Abilene, Texas 79602 or visit our website at www.workforcesystem.org and go to "Child Care" heading.

Questions regarding this child care assistance may be directed to the Child Care Services office at 325-795-4283, or 1-800-542-4045.

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GOING TO STATE—The Rule FFA Judging team received fourth place in the Area 2 Competition held in Lubbock April 14 and went to the State competition in Stephenville April 19. Kade Womack received the High Individual Award. Team members are, l-r, Chris Holder, Braden Tanner, Kade Lowack, Samantha Lewis and Christina Herrera.



PLAYS IN TOURNAMENT—Haskell's 8u softball team, the Diamond Darlins, participated in the Abilene Fastpitch Softball Association's March of Dimes tournament April 20-22. Team members playing were, l-r, Jolie Torres, Abby Andress, Tess Homeyer, Jacey Rodriguez and Piper Smith; back row, Emma Roewe, Desiree Silvas, Delaney Hanson, Amaris Rodela, Melody Martinez and Breannah Luce.

Title vehicles or face financial penalties

Not transferring a vehicle in 30 days can cost Haskell County residents big money.

A new state law requires those who purchase vehicles in a private sale, whether it's in or out of state, to obtain a new title within 30 calendar days or face financial penalties.

"In some counties people are finding they owe hundreds of dollars in title penalties for failing to title within a month of purchasing their new car or truck," said Connie Benton, the Tax Assessor-Collector for Haskell County. "Please don't let this happen to you," Benton added.

Failure to title within the 30 days results in an automatic \$25 penalty, plus another \$25 for each month the title is late. There are no waivers for these penalties, which means the Haskell County tax office and the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles cannot reduce or forgive what you may owe.

The law does grant an additional 30 days to active-duty military personnel, which gives them 60 days to transfer the title before facing late title penalties.

While the penalties may seem harsh, it's important to remember this helps to protect you when you go to

sell a vehicle. "When vehicle buyers don't put the title in their name when you sell them a car or truck, anything they may do with that vehicle is going to trace to your name," Benton explained.

Sellers don't have to rely solely on the buyer to do the right thing.

Whenever you sell a vehicle yourself or even trade one in to a dealer, it is important to file the free Vehicle Transfer Notification on the TxDMV website, www.TxDmv.gov. "Sellers must file the Vehicle Transfer Notification within 30 days to receive the state-guaranteed protection from liability," Benton said. "This way you cannot be held responsible for anything the buyer does with your old vehicle."

Buyers need to realize that titling the vehicle in their name also offers protection. "When a vehicle is titled in your name it gives you proof of ownership," Benton said.

Benton offers these tips for people planning to buy or sell a vehicle.

Texas Buyers

- For your protection, never buy a vehicle in a private sale without receiving the title.

- Be sure the seller gives you the title. If the title is from Texas, you can go to

Title Check at www.TxDmv.gov to see if it's a clean title.

- The seller must sign, date and enter the odometer reading on the title back.

- Be sure the seller signs, dates and enters the sales price on Form 130-U. If you are purchasing the vehicle out of state, have the seller download the form from the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles website, www.TxDmv.gov.

- Go to your local county tax office within 30 days to title the vehicle in your name.

Texas Sellers

- Sign, date and enter the odometer reading on the back of the title.

- Fill out your section of the mandatory Form 130-U. The buyer needs this to title the vehicle out of your name.

- Take off the license plates and transfer them for free to the new vehicle you buy. (That plate number ties directly to your name.)

- File the Vehicle Transfer Notification online at www.TxDmv.gov to remove your liability for the vehicle in the event the buyer does not transfer the title. You only have 30 days to file the Vehicle Transfer Notification to receive this state-guaranteed removal of liability.

Watch out for motorcycles

The Texas Department of Public Safety is reminding drivers to take extra precautions around motorcycles on Texas streets and highways, as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month begins May 1.

"Motorcyclists face unique safety challenges on Texas roads because they are smaller, more difficult to see and less protected than cars and trucks," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Motorcyclists can protect themselves on the road by obeying traffic laws and wearing their helmets. Motorists can help by looking twice for motorcycles and giving them additional space."

DPS recommends all drivers "Share the Road" and "Look Twice" for motorcycles, which are public awareness campaigns that highlight motorcycle safety. Motorists should take caution, especially at intersections and when changing lanes—the two places where serious motorcycle collisions occur. Half of all fatal motorcycle crashes in Texas occur because the car or truck driver never saw the motorcyclist.

The number of motorcyclists killed annually since 2000 has more than doubled, from 196 in 2000 to 472 in 2011. The 472 motorcycle drivers and passengers who lost their

lives in Texas accounted for 16 percent of traffic deaths in the state. Eighty-seven percent of motorcycle crashes result in death or injury of the motorcyclist. The number of motorcycles on Texas roadways has more than doubled in the last decade.

Motorcyclists must be properly licensed to operate a motorcycle in the State of Texas. The DPS Motorcycle Safety Unit coordinates training courses at more than 200 locations around the state for both basic and experienced riders.

For more information on motorcycle training, please call 1-800-292-5787 or visit www.dps.texas.gov/msb.



ATTEND SPRING LUNCHEON—Haskell attendees at the spring TMCN luncheon held in Throckmorton recently were, front row, l-r, Jackie Lackey, Lynn Dodson and David Davis; back row, Wallace Emerson, John Gannaway, Brandon Anderson, Susan Cockerell, Mary Drury, Randy Bowers and Sally Rueffer.

Haskell represented at regional TMCN luncheon

Haskell was well represented at one of the six network luncheons sponsored by Texas Midwest Community Network this spring. Ten local and county representatives were in attendance. Brandon Anderson currently serves as president of the regional organization. The luncheon at the Imprint Ministry Building in Throckmorton was last Thursday.

Immediately following lunch, discussion focused on "Communities of Achievement." The informal program included a brief video about TMCN and

information about the awards program available to member communities. Haskell received the "Community of Achievement" Award in 2011. There was an in depth discussion about the importance of rural West Texas cities being prepared for the future with the projected outflow from metropolitan areas of the state. Also discussed was the need for rural communities to have vision with a cross-section of the community leadership being involved and "on the same page."

Cities represented at the Throckmorton luncheon

included Albany, Aspermont, Breckenridge, Haskell, Knox City, Munday, Stamford and Throckmorton.

Texas Midwest Community Network is a one-of-a-kind regional organization founded in 1994 for economic development, tourism development, regional awareness and promotion, and legislative awareness. It is an organization of "communities working together to accomplish what one community cannot do alone." For more information about TMCN call 325-795-8626 or visit www.texasmidwest.org.

BCEC to offer services

Big Country Electric Cooperative (BCEC), in partnership with TransWorld Network, Corp. (TWN) will offer Wi-Power High-Speed Internet and Digital Phone service to residents and businesses in the BCEC service territory and surrounding areas. Initial network construction will begin this fall with initial service availability at the beginning of 2013. After the core network construction is complete, additional coverage will be added continuously in areas that still require service.

Wi-Power High-Speed Internet is a fixed, wireless, line of sight Internet technology that gives residential customers download speeds of up to 5 Mbps with even higher speeds available for

businesses. Unlike other types of Internet technology like satellite or DSL, Wi-power is not subject to certain issues like rain fade, proximity to populated areas or interrupted communications due to latency. Wi-Power Digital Phone service uses a high-speed Internet connection to make and receive local and long distance telephone calls. This technology eliminates the need for a landline phone and offers the same great features as traditional phone service such as call waiting, call forwarding, voice mail and 911 services. Bundled Internet and phone packages start at around \$60 per month.

"Our goal is to bring reliable, affordable broadband Internet and phone services to all consumers who want

them, regardless of their location. Additionally, customers in more populated areas that have other options available will find Wi-Power a competitive alternative to their current provider," says Colin Wood, CEO for TransWorld Network, Corp.

Updates will be provided to members by TWN and BCEC as new areas are served. "Our mission is to provide service to our members and we believe TWN operates under that same core principle. TWN has a proven history of providing reliable products to consumers throughout the United States. We look forward to TWN bringing the same value to BCEC members through our new partnership," says Fredda Buckner, BCEC General Manager.

Capital Farm Credit makes payouts

Capital Farm Credit mailed a record \$38.4 million to its stockholders in March. It represents the cash portion of the total patronage refund of \$126.6 million. The remaining \$88.2 million is in the form of allocated equities and is eligible for future cash payouts.

Because of careful management by our customers and our staff, Capital Farm Credit posted record earnings from 2011, enabling the Association to add to a long tradition of strong earnings and patronage. Our ability to return patronage each year

strengthens our mission to provide financing and related services to support agriculture and rural America, and affords our membership lower net borrowing costs than from many competitors.

"Capital Farm Credit values its customers and the more efficiently we operate, the more dollars can go back in their pockets," said Ben Novosad, chief executive officer. "We believe this is a value-added service that sets us apart from other financial institutions."

Capital Farm Credit is the state's largest rural lender and has 95 years of experience providing financing to farmers, ranchers and other rural property owners. Headquartered in Bryan, it has more than 70 offices located throughout Texas. For more information about Capital Farm Credit, its patronage program and its office locations, visit www.CapitalFarmCredit.com.

HNB receives award

Haskell National Bank is proud to be recognized as a 5-Star Superior bank by the nation's leading bank rating and research firm, BauerFinancial, Inc. A 5-Star rating indicates that Haskell National Bank is one of the strongest banks in the nation. Among other factors, to earn this rating Haskell National Bank must not only report impressive capital levels, but also an enviable loan portfolio with negligible levels of delinquent loans. The fact that Haskell National Bank has earned this 5-Star Superior rating for the last 80 consecutive quarters puts it in an even more elite group of "Sustained Superiority Banks." Only seven percent of the nation's banks can claim this distinction.

Karen L. Dorway, president of BauerFinancial, would like to congratulate

the entire team at Haskell National Bank. "Under the leadership of Robert A. Howard, CEO, Haskell National Bank is one of the U.S. banks that evokes an image of a brighter banking future for our communities. That's good news regardless of your age and income bracket."

Haskell National Bank first opened its doors in 1890 and has proudly been serving its local communities ever since. It operates through conveniently located offices in Abilene and Haskell.



Trent McKnight will fight for jobs, water & schools for rural Texas

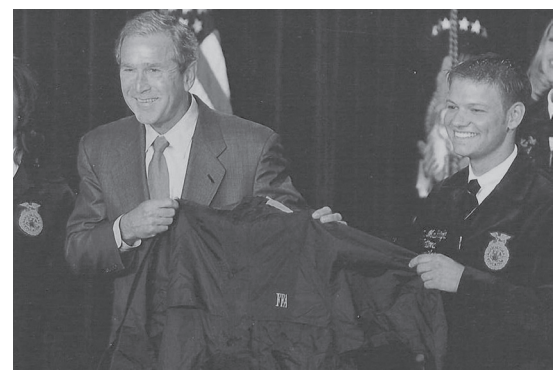
A Common Sense Conservative Republican For Haskell County

Trent FAVORS:

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Trent OPPOSES:

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Trent presents President Bush an honorary FFA jacket

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FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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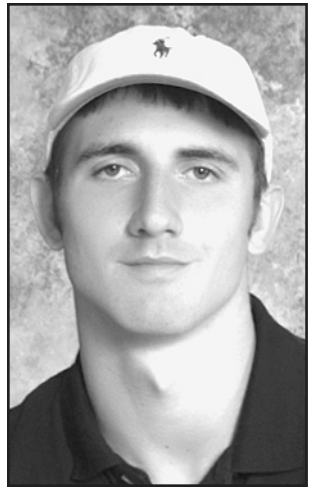
District 68 serves 22 counties: Childress, Collingsworth, Cooke, Cottle, Crosby, Dickens, Fisher, Floyd, Garza, Hall, Hardeman, Haskell, Jack, Kent, King, Montague, Motley, Stonewall, Throckmorton, Wheeler, Wilbarger, & Young Counties.

www.TrentMcKnight.com

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PAYNE UTLEY

Students visit Rotary Club

Omar Mexicano is the son of Raul Mexicano and Catalina Mexicano.

He attends the Catholic church.

At Haskell High School, he participates in football and soccer. His awards include track awards in Mexico; first place in 4x100 relay; and first place in 100m dash.

He enjoys soccer, TV and the Internet.

He plans to play soccer in Europe.

Payne Utley is the son of Wes and Barbara Utley of

Haskell.

At Haskell High School, he participates in FFA, FCS, football and track.

He received the track award in 2011, was a state track qualifier, took third place in the state mile relay and was a state qualifier in the sprint relay.

He enjoys livestock judging, hunting and showing pigs.

He plans to attend Clarendon College, later transferring to Texas Tech University, studying to be an Ag teacher or county extension agent.

Haskell School Menu

May 7-11 Breakfast

Milk is offered daily.

Monday: Biscuits, sausage gravy or Berry Puffs cereal, peaches, apple juice

Tuesday: Cinnamon toast or Lucky Charms cereal, majestic pears, orange juice

Wednesday: Scrambled eggs with sausage or Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal, mixed fruit, fruit punch juice

Thursday: Pancakes with syrup or Cocoa Puffs cereal, sour green applesauce, apple juice

Friday: Cinnamon roll with sausage or Trix cereal, pears, orange juice

Lunch

Milk is offered daily at all cafeterias. Iced tea is offered at the high school cafeteria only. An energy meal includes a sandwich and a cookie.

Monday: Choice of one: Italian beefy macaroni with roll or Italian antipasto salad or energy meal with bologna and cheese; Choice of up to three: glazed carrots, sweet corn, fresh kiwi fruit, apple

slices, white slushy

Tuesday: Choice of one: Chicken nuggets with gravy and roll or fajita chicken salad or energy meal with turkey and cheese; Choice of up to three: mashed potatoes, green beans, whole wheat crackers, majestic pears, white slushy

Wednesday: Choice of one: Chicken fajita enchiladas or garden pasta salad or energy meal with ham and cheese; Choice of up to three: Mexicali corn, charro beans, fresh orange, mixed fruit, white slushy

Thursday: Choice of one: Baseball Park hot dog or zesty tuna salad or energy meal with tuna salad; Choice of up to three: Scalloped potatoes, whole wheat crackers, sour green applesauce, peaches, white slushy

Friday: Choice of one: Tony's pizza or chef salad or energy meal with po-boy sandwich; Choice of up to three: tater tots, pork and beans, fresh grapes, chocolate chip cookie, white slushy



GOING TO STATE—Rule will continue their track success by sending representatives to the state track meet in Austin on May 11-12. Michael Perez, sophomore, right, placed second in the 3200 with a time of 10:33. He also qualified for regionals in the 1600, but did not qualify for the state meet. Darryl Williams, junior, finished third in the 100m dash with a time of 11.16 seconds. Williams is tied for the "wild card" spot to run at the state meet. The decision is pending at this time. He also qualified in the 200m dash but did not qualify to advance. This rewarding track season for the Bobcats will continue on May 11 at 9:40 a.m. when Perez runs the 3200. If Williams qualifies for the 100m dash, he will run Sat., May 12 at 1:15 p.m.

Haskell, Rule track meet results

The Haskell Maidens and Indians competed at the regional qualifiers track meet Fri., April 20.

Maiden results include:
400: 3. Jacie Klose, 1:06.10.

800: 5. Kaley Mathis, 2:48.45.

1600: 3. Shawnee Hill, 6:12.00.

3200: 4. Shawnee Hill, 13:38.11

100 hurdles: 2. Reagan Hadaway, 17.82.

800 relay: 2. Haskell, 1:58.50. Team members, Taylor Burson, Lucy Carmichael, Hayley Holland and Dana Rodriguez.

Indian results include:

800: 1. Kelby Bell, 2:06.76.

1600: 5. Angelo Pena, 5:11.20.

3200: 3. Angelo Pena, 11:09.93; 4. Eddie Martinez, 11:37.35.

1600 relay: 2. Haskell, 3:34.11. Team members:

Gabriel Torres, Henry Smith, Kelby Bell and Ryan Markey.

The Haskell Indians and Maidens and Rule Bobcats participated in the Region II-1A track meet held at Elmer Gray Stadium Friday and Sat., April 27-28. The top two qualifiers advance to state.

Boys results:
Haskell scored 35 points. Rule scored 8 points.

3200: 2. Michael Perez, Rule, 10:33.45; 6. Angelo Pena, Haskell, 10:57.98.

800 meter run: 3. Kelby Bell, Haskell, 2:02.46.

100 meter dash: 3. Darryl Williams, Rule, 11.16.

800 meter relay: 3. Haskell, 1:31.53.

1600 meter relay: 2. Haskell, 3:28.40.

Girls results:
Haskell scored 1 point.

3200: 6. Shawnee Hill, Haskell, 13:21.67.

Maidens defeat Colorado City, 8-3

Jasmine Klose had two extra base hits as the Maidens took home an 8-3 victory over Colorado City in seven innings at Sweetwater on Thurs., April 26.

Klose homered in the third inning and doubled in the seventh inning.

Madison Homeyer handled Colorado City's lineup with ease, racking up 10 strikeouts. Homeyer allowed one earned run, six hits and six walks over seven innings.

Haskell was sparked by Klose and Maegan Gonzales, who teamed up for four hits and four RBIs.

The Maidens went up for good in the second, scoring four runs on an error, a

fielder's choice, and two singles.

Haskell added three more runs in the top of the third. The inning looked promising, as Klose homered, bringing home Laycee Tullos to kick things off. That was followed up by Gonzales' solo home run.

After pushing across one run in the bottom of the seventh, Colorado City faced just a 8-3 deficit. An RBI single by S. Baugh set off a Colorado City rally. Homeyer ended the game by getting A. Morrison to fly out.

Haskell will now face the winner of the Van Horn and Santa Anna match-up on Monday in Big Lake.

Paint Creek School Menu

May 7-11 Breakfast

Juice and milk are served daily.

Monday: Toast or cereal

Tuesday: Waffles

Wednesday: Muffins

Thursday: Biscuits, sausage, gravy

Friday: Cinnamon rolls

Lunch

Milk is served daily.

Monday: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, peas, gravy, rolls, apple crisp

Tuesday: Lasagna, green beans, salad, garlic bread, peas

Wednesday: Corndogs, fries, fruit cups

Thursday: Tacos, refried beans, salad, pineapples

Friday: Ham sandwiches, chips, cookies

ECC Menu

Mon., May 7

Meatballs with tomato gravy, mashed potatoes, turnip greens, rolls, peach cobbler, tea or coffee

Wed., May 9

Beef enchiladas, Spanish rice, pinto beans, salsa, chips, strawberry cake, tea

or coffee

Fri., May 11

Creamy mushroom steak, cream potatoes, blackeyed peas, cornbread, jello, brownie, tea or coffee

Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

This Week's Devotional Message:



Our world was once filled with the animals and birds of God's creation, but throughout the ages some species have fallen by the wayside while others have managed to remain viable despite all the storms, floods, droughts and earthquakes that nature could inflict upon them. However, our increasing demands for progress and recreation have encroached upon the wilderness areas, putting our

wildlife in greater jeopardy than from all the natural disasters combined. Even those hardy survivors may not be able to withstand the cruel or unthinking actions of human beings. We must act humanely toward them, and by example teach our children to do likewise. The denizens of the wild, as well as the family pets, are all God's creatures, so let's treat them with all due respect and kindness.

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

Phillip 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 Omegs
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 Bethel 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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Garage Sale

GARAGE SALE: 701 N. 1st Street, old Video Mania building. 5/4 6:00-? 5/5 8:00-? Namebrand clothing and shoes, original Haskell ceiling tiles, furniture, household goods, tools. All new items. 18c

INSIDE CHURCH SALE: Haskell Church of God, 714 E. Hwy. 380. Tools, household goods. Sat., 8 a.m. til? 18p

GARAGE SALE: Thurs. and Fri., May 3-4. 8 to 5. Cynthia and Delight have cleaned closets. Come and see what they have found. 607 S. Ave. G. 18c

MULTI-FAMILY yard sale in Haskell Sat., May 5, 8:00 a.m. at 1104 N. 8th. Men's, women's and kids clothing, salonequipment, furniture, workout equipment, home decor and much more. 18c

GARAGE SALE: Lots of good stuff. 1102 N. Ave. L. Sat., 8 til. 18c

Lost and Found

FOUND: One female black cat and one female Siamese cat at 1105 N. Ave. K. 18c

For Rent

FOR RENT: 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. 864-3762. 18-19c

Real Estate

HOUSE FOR SALE: 109 West Duvall, Weinert. 940-256-5005. 12tfc

FOR SALE: Spacious corner lot at N. 9th St. and Ave. L with utilities. Ready for a home site or travel trailer. \$2000. Call 940-207-1998. 18-19c

Help Wanted

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

NOW ACCEPTING applications for Certified Nurse Aides. Please apply in person at Brazos Valley Care Home, 605 S. Ave F, Knox City. 17-18c

WANTED: Class A or B CDL drivers. Apply at office at 175 Hwy. 277 S., Haskell. Strickland Bridge. 18-20c

BASIC ENERGY Services in Knox City is accepting applications for drivers with a Class A CDL. Please call the office at 940-658-1366 or Raymond at 325-721-4169 for details or come by the office at 211 W. Main to pick up an application. 18-19c

WANTED: Full time LVNs at Gibson Care Center. Contact April Roby, RN, DON at 940-989-3526. EOE. 18-21c

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CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS needed. Responsible for the custody and discipline of inmates assigned to the unit. High school diploma or equivalent required. Applications can be picked up at Rolling Plains Detention Center or online at www.emeraldcompanies.com. 18-19c

Help Wanted

COOK SPECIALIST needed. Responsible for the preparation of all facility meals in accordance with pre-planned menus. High school diploma or equivalent required. Applications can be picked up at Rolling Plains Detention Center or online at www.emeraldcompanies.com. 18-19c

MAINTENANCE WORKER: Reports to maintenance supervisor. Conduct regular inspection of buildings, grounds and equipment to ensure proper repair, facility improvement and preventive maintenance in compliance with program requirements and safety/building codes. Perform maintenance tasks on buildings, grounds and equipment as needed and maintain an effective work order system. High school diploma or equivalent required. Please go online to www.emeraldcompanies.com to apply or come by Rolling Plains Detention Center to pick up an application. 18-19c

Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT
Ginnings Company, 900 8th St., Ste. 820, Wichita Falls, TX 76301 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for

Public Notices

a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Canyon Diamond lease, Well Number 4702. The proposed injection well is located 9 miles northeast of Haskell in the Humphrey-Chapman, E. Field, in Haskell County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2500 to 2650 feet.

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

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Underground Injection Control Section, Oil and

Public Notices

Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792). 18c

NO. 4,481
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF RUTH COLVIN, DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR HASKELL COUNTY, TEXAS NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the court signed an order admitting to probate as a nument of title the will of Ruth Colvin, Decedent, on April 19, 2012. All persons having claims against Decedent are required to present the same within the time prescribed by law at the following address: Patricia Ann Kittley, c/o W.H. Brian, Jr., P.O. Box 9238, Amarillo, TX 79105-9238. 18c

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO THE

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ZONING ORDINANCE
A request has been received from Tribco LLC (Robert Tribbey) to change the following described property: Block 36, Lot E77' of 1 & 2; Addition: Original Town, Haskell; Address, 303 N. Ave. G, from single family dwelling district to general residential zoning district. 18c

If zoning is achieved, the applicant proposes to use the property for apartment complex.
The planning and zoning commission of the City of Haskell, Texas, will hold a public hearing pursuant to this request on Fri., May 18, 2012 at 12 noon in the City Hall Meeting Room. 18c

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ATTEND BANQUET—Coaches Kent Colley, left, and David Middleton, right, attended the Chuck Moser Day hosted by the Rotary Club of Abilene Fri., April 27. Colley introduced Middleton, who received the Coach of the Year, Female Athletics Award.

Middleton honored with Coach Moser Award

by Caron Yates

Haskell High School Girls' Basketball Coach David Middleton, has added yet another award to an already impressive list.

Fri., April 27, Middleton was honored as the Coach of the Year, Female Athletics by the Rotary Club of Abilene, when he was presented the Chuck Moser Award. He was introduced by Kent Colley.

This is the fourteenth year the award, established in memory of Chuck Moser, has been presented. Moser, who compiled a 141-28-2 record while coaching high school football, made national headlines when his Abilene High Eagles won 49 straight games, setting a national record.

He brought much more to the game than just winning. He also stressed academics, class attendance and citizenship. It is only fitting, and certainly reflected in Middleton, that these are also the qualities essential to coaches selected to receive this award.

Although Middleton's high school coaching career has spanned forty-five years, he is not just about coaching. Perhaps the Chieftain, the Haskell High School yearbook, described Coach Middleton best when they called him "The Encourager." In its dedication, the Chieftain continued, "Although his enthusiasm for sports is contagious and his basketball coaching talents are legendary—it is the behind-the-scenes caring that endears him to his players and his students. Students can count on words of encouragement or an extra pat on the back from Coach Middleton."

After graduating from the University of North Texas, he began his coaching career at Haskell, where he was raised, in 1959. Interestingly, he was next hired by Chuck Moser as an assistant coach at Abilene High School. In fact in 1969, Moser recommended him for the next step in his career, Head Boys' Basketball coach at Brazoswood High School. Always up for a challenge, Middleton actually started up the basketball programs for Brazoswood High School and his next stop, Klein Forest High School. Both were brand new schools. While it took time, effort and skill to build a new program, the payoff for the teams was three district championships and three bi-district titles.

He retired in 1990, but after eight years he felt education and coaching was

where he needed to be. He rejoined the Haskell CISD staff in 1998, coaching not only basketball, but also girls' and boys' golf. He has led the Maidens to two district championships and four bi-district titles.

With a career record of 896 wins, Middleton has been named Coach of the Year eight times in Class A through Class 5A competition, including the Greater Houston Area Coach of the Year. He has had the honor of coaching the Texas High School Coaches' South All-Star team, as well as serving as the TABC All-Star Coach for the Girls' Blue Team. Middleton has been named the recipient of

the Gold Award and in 2009 was inducted into the Texas High School Basketball Hall of Fame.

Middleton has spent the past fourteen years at Haskell High School. Not quite ready to hang up his whistle, he will be assuming coaching duties at Munday High School next year.

A most humble man, Coach Middleton says one of the most rewarding parts of his many years of coaching and teaching is witnessing the achievements of students as they continue into adulthood.

What an immeasurable positive impact he has had on young lives over the past 45 years.

PC Pre-K, K registration

Paint Creek School will hold registration for Pre-K and Kindergarten students for the 2012-2013 school year Tues., May 8. Pre-K students currently enrolled at Paint Creek need not enroll until fall registration. Come by the school office between 12:00 noon and 3:30 p.m. to complete needed paperwork.

To attend Kindergarten a child must be 5 years old on

or before Sept. 1, 2012. To attend Pre-K a child must be 4 on or before Sept. 1, 2012. Parents should bring their driver's license, and their child's immunization record, birth certificate, and social security card to registration.

If you cannot attend registration, but have a Pre-K or Kindergarten student, call the school at 940-864-2868 and make arrangements to come at another time.

Commissioners' Court report

The Haskell County Commissioners' Court met in the regular meeting place Mon., April 9 with all members present.

The monthly and quarterly reports from the County Treasurer and the Experienced Citizens Center were accepted.

Judge David Davis will call Chris Medford with TxDOT about the rap from the state. Commissioner Tiffen Mayfield will donate material to Trey Burson for the cemetery roads.

The County voted to help the City of Haskell with road repairs to S. Ave. M, N and O and S. 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th, along with N. Ave. P and N. 1st to 3rd St.

The monthly participation fee for the library support technology contract is \$35 per month per library. The

monthly fee entitles the county library to one hour of tech support either by phone or remote. Unused hours may be carried forward or banked. Regular rate after all banked hours have been used is \$45 for all services. The contract was accepted as presented.

The resignation of County Librarian Joan Frazier was accepted effective July 1.

The Jerry Love CPA

contract was tabled.

A motion to continue with CIRA as the email provider for 2013 was accepted.

Mike Fouts spoke with Judge Davis and the Commissioners about joining the West Texas Regional Public Defender for Capital Case Program and asked that they give consideration on undertaking this program.

A motion to not join the program passed.

Calendar

Teamkid

Teamkid "Jumping the Hurdles" meets on Wednesdays from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. at the Family Activity Center of the First Baptist Church in Haskell for students ages 4 years through the sixth grade. Parents may call the church office at 864-2581, if their child needs a ride.

Box Tops drive

The Haskell Elementary PTO and students are collecting Box Tops for Education. Box Tops for Education are found on many grocery and other items. Each box top turned in equals 10 cents for our school. Over \$500 in box tops for the fall semester were turned in. Box tops from anyone will be accepted to help us beat the amount collected in the fall semester. If any businesses would like a collection jar for Box Tops, one can be provided. For more information, email haskellelementarypto@gmail.com or leave a message with the elementary school secretary.

Deadlines

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



VOTE BERT

Sat., May 12
for
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- 1) Visit the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) electric choice website at www.powertochoose.org. If you don't have access to a computer, you can call the PUCT's Electric Choice hotline at 1-866-PWR-4-TEX (797-4839).
- 2) Use the information you receive to contact different REPs to collect more information on various services and offers. Also contact your current REP at the number listed on your electric bill for other offers that may be available. Ask about contract terms and prices and be sure to look at the REPs' Electricity Facts Labels to make a good comparison.

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Customers having trouble paying their electric bills and wishing to avoid disconnection should discuss their concerns with their current retail electric provider. All REPs are required to offer deferred payment plans to eligible customers who express an inability to pay. REPs also offer balanced billing plans, which allow eligible customers to pay an average amount each month year-round.

Additionally, many community action agencies may be able to help with electric bills or energy efficiency programs. For more information, contact the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) at 1-800-525-0657, e-mail at info@tdhca.state.tx.us or visiting one of the following websites.

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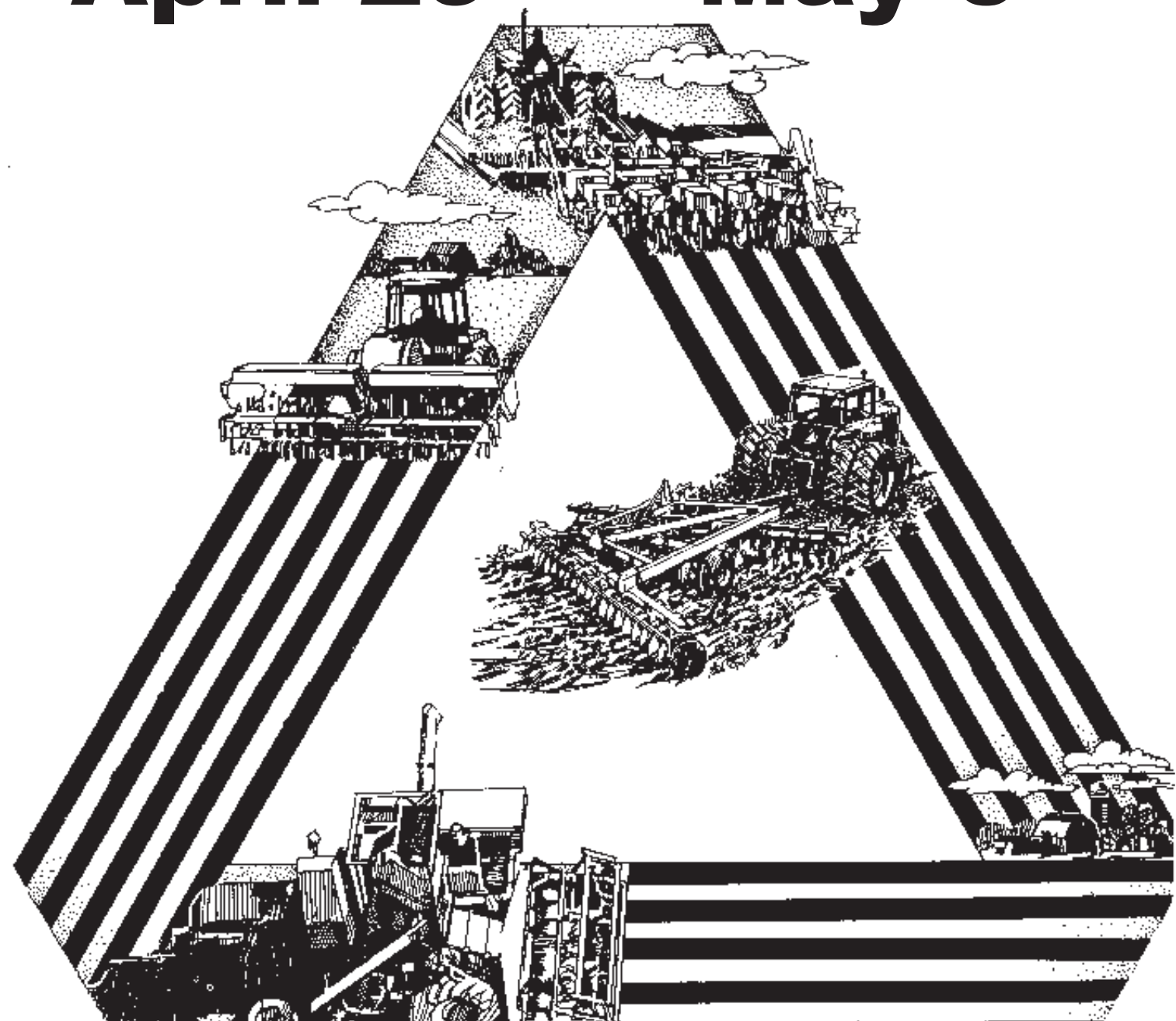
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MUNDAY - HASKELL - STAMFORD


Soil Stewardship Week

April 29TH – May 6TH



We're a nation blessed with natural resources...soil and water resources that make us one of the richest agricultural countries in the world. And we want to keep it that way. Support soil and water conservation efforts through your local soil and water conservation district. The Haskell Soil and Water Conservation District gratefully acknowledges the advertisers in this special section for making its publication possible and the 1000 cooperating farmers and ranchers in Haskell County for their conservation agreements.

The Haskell Free Press

with Haskell Soil & Water Conservation District

May, 2012

8 PAGES

Soil to Spoon is theme of Soil Stewardship week

As a part of Haskell County, the Haskell Soil and Water Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a connection to natural resources. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is celebrating the 57th year of Stewardship week during April 29-May 6, 2012. The 2012 Stewardship Week is themed "Soil to Spoon." Soil is the starting foundation of all of the food we eat.

Kenneth Sanders acts as the chairman for Haskell SWCD. The District was formed to assist people in Haskell County. During Stewardship Week, Haskell SWCD will be distributing educational materials to the area schools. Grades Pre-K through sixth grade in Haskell County will be receiving activity booklets. The district also sponsors the annual Soil and Water Stewardship Poster Contest and Essay Contest. Each year the district also distributes book covers to all the schools in Haskell county.

"Making the connection back to the soil, where our food gets its start is so important, says National Association of Conservation Districts President Gene Schmidt." The next time you sit down to a meal, take a minute to think about where your food came from, and the farmers and ranchers who helped produce it." As they work

to produce food for the growing population, today's farmers and ranchers are dedicated to using responsible land-management practices to ensure a sustainable food supply and healthy land and soil for future generations.

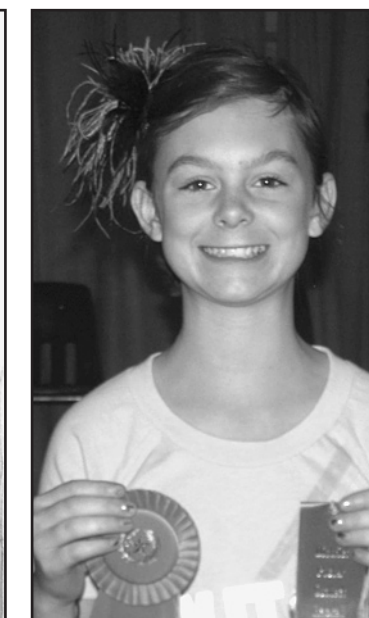
Haskell SWCD is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) which oversees the Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to promote conservation. NACD represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, which were established to encourage resource conservation across the country.

Additional information about the Soil to Spoon project and other natural resource education is available on the NACD website at www.nacdnet.org/education/resources/.

The National Association of Conservation Districts is the non-profit organization that represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, their state associations and the 17,000 men and women who serve on their governing boards. For almost 70 years, local conservation districts have worked with cooperating landowners and managers of private working lands to help them plan and apply effective conservation practices. NACD's website is at www.nacdnet.org.



**DISTRICT WINNER
FIRST PLACE**
Ariel Wolf
Rochester JH sixth grade



**DISTRICT WINNER
SECOND PLACE**
Bailey Hawkins
Paint Creek fifth grade



**DISTRICT WINNER
THIRD PLACE**
Ernie Homeyer
Haskell fifth grade

Poster contest winners named, Hawkins advances to Area

Winning the Haskell SWCD district poster contest were: 1. Ariel Wolf, Rochester Junior High School, sixth grade; 2. Bailey Hawkins, Paint Creek School, fifth grade; and 3. Ernie Homeyer, Haskell Elementary School, fifth grade.

Haskell

First grade: 1. Tess Homeyer.
Third grade: 1. Cash Bassett; 2. Ashton Grand.
Fourth grade: Mrs. Sloan's class, 1. Addyson Wilhite; 2. Lauren Alexander; 3. Halee Alsbrook.

Fourth grade: Mrs. Parks' class, 1. Kara Stout; 2. Kobie Walker; 3. J.R. Brown.

Fourth grade: Mrs. Homeyer's class, 1. Landry Hanson; 2. Kourtney Gibson; 3. Heavenly Perez.

Overall fourth grade: 1. Landry Hanson; 2. Kourtney Gibson; 3. Addyson Wilhite.

Fifth grade: Mrs. Wallace's class, 1. Ernie Homeyer; 2. Hayden Guzman; 3. Allie Andress.

Fifth grade: Mrs. Roewe's class, 1. Hannah Stout.

Overall fifth grade: 1. Ernie Homeyer; 2. Hayden Guzman; 3. Hannah Stout.

Sixth grade: 1. Ariel Wolf; 2. Lori Rodgers; 3. Julia Fuentes.

Paint Creek

Fifth grade: 1. Bailey Hawkins; 2. Zoe Webb; 3. David Land.

Bailey Hawkins of Paint Creek Elementary won the area competition and will be recognized at the Texas Soil and Water Conservation Board's Conservation Awards banquet to be held May 10 in Stephenville.

Proclamation

Whereas fertile soil and clean water provide us with our daily sustenance, and

Whereas effective conservation practices have helped provide us a rich standard of living, and

Whereas our security depends upon healthy soil and clean water, and

Whereas stewardship calls for each person to help conserve these precious resources,

Therefore, I do hereby proclaim April 29 to May 6, 2012

STEWARDSHIP WEEK



County Judge of Haskell County

Backyard Dirt

by Sasha Walker

As a child, my view of soil was only the dirt in my backyard that I would play in and in which my older sister would search for worms to scare me. My lack of attention and consideration for soil comes from my disadvantage of not growing up in a farm family; therefore, I am not aware of the hard work that is put into developing a good crop from fertilized soil. Before recognizing the importance of soil conservation, I did not think it had purpose in my life to conserve such a small speck of dirt that I cared so little for. After much research, I have discovered that soil conservation is not only, dirt, but is the basic foundation of our ecosystem function, filters our water, provides nutrients to our crops and helps regulate temperature along with our

greenhouse gases.

A nice glass of pure water is all that we need at times to cool us down from a long hot day, but without the soil community, water would almost be impossible to drink without being hazardous. Soil is the solution to the clean water that not only hydrates our bodies, but is a necessity to our everyday lives. Soil works as a physical strainer, a biochemical renovator and a biological recycler of all wastewater passing through it. Which means that soil eliminates pathogens and turbidity, pathogen is bacteria in dirty water that can cause diseases and turbidity is a cloudy invisible fluid that is caused by stirring up foreign sediment. Although the lake is always fun to relax and spend numerous days at during the summertime, there is no way that I would prefer my drinking water in the condition it is in before it cycles through infiltration, water that surfaces the ground and enters the soil.

Without the nutrients that soil carries, our farmers would not be able to produce well fertilized crops. "The 13 mineral nutrients, which come from the soil, are dissolved in water and absorbed through a plant's roots." (Plant Nutrients 1) Soil affects each of us in our everyday lives whether we realize it or not, from the food we eat to the foundations our houses and roads are built upon.

"Science proves that healthy soil grows healthy food and healthy food nourishes healthy people. However, extreme soil erosion, depleted aquifers and decreased biodiversity threatens the safety, quality and biodiversity of the food supply." (Healthy Soil, Healthy Food 1) It is obvious that our soil is polluted everyday and knowing that a portion of our food comes from polluted soil makes that destructive to our health. "Plants derive their food from soil, chemicals that are in the soil are absorbed by the plants. Root crops and vegetables containing these chemicals are consumed by humans. People absorb the same harmful chemicals and suffer from various health problems linked to chemicals present in the food supply." (Can Our Soils Produce 1)

We can help ourselves to prevent harmful chemicals into entering our body by gardening our own fruits and vegetables or by eating organic foods. Although this is impossible for most people to do, the cycle of polluted soil will never end. If only I knew then what I know now about soil conservation, my childhood days of spending numerous hours playing in my backyard dirt would have been more considerate for the fact that soil provides for us more than what we think of it and is a basic necessity to our lives.

Essay contest held

Each year the Haskell SWCD holds a Scholarship Essay Contest. The district offers two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors in Haskell County who write an essay on the Soil Stewardship Week theme of the year.

The essays are judged by area judges who have interest in and know about soil conservation. Co-

sponsors of the contest are Haskell National Bank, First National Bank-Haskell, Central Texas Farm Credit, Rule Banking Center and Capital Farm Credit.

Included in this supplement are some of the essays written by area seniors.

These essays do not reflect the results of the judging.

The Nature of Soil

by Lynna Billington

Growing up in a rural community has instilled me with the knowledge of soil's importance. From mud pies to homegrown vegetables dirt has crept into our homes making a lasting impression. In this past year alone due to the lack of precipitation our crops have suffered, but our soil is in a more severe state.

Erosion is a common factor in the agricultural areas of the world for more reasons than one. "Soil erosion is common in areas with steep slopes, where trees have been cut down, in droughts when crops and other vegetation grows poorly and in rural areas which are overpopulated," (Soil Erosion).

The loss of soil is caused by numerous factors such as nature as well as human activity.

Although farmers often hope for rain, studies have shown rigorous amounts of water factors cause brutal effects on top soil. "Both rainfall and runoff factors must be considered in assessing a water erosion problem. The impact of raindrops on the soil surface can break down soil aggregates and disperse the aggregate material," (Soil Erosion-Causes and Effects).

Another component in soil erosion believe it or not is wind. "Wind erosion occurs in areas with little or no vegetation. It takes one of two forms. It either happens when small particles are picked up by the wind and deposited in another region, or when these particles collide against other surfaces and cause erosion by abrasion," (Interesting Facts About Soil Erosion).

Though nature seems to play

a major role in the negative effects on soil, these are not the only causes the breaking down particles. Poor farming techniques have been a problem in the past. The Dust Bowl is an example of human activity affecting soil erodibility. "When people mismanage agricultural lands or when natural forces otherwise conspire to destroy soil the results can be devastating." (Soil Conservation)

Though there are several reasons for the decomposition of top soil, there are various ways to prevent the erosion before the effects are devastating. "The main impact of soil erosion is reduction of soil quality that results from the loss of the nutrient-rich upper layers of soil," (Interesting Facts About Soil).

Bad soil is not only bad news for farmers, but the production of our nation's food source depends on the soil quality. Over ninety percent of fruit and vegetable produce in the United States

comes from American farmers. Therefore, dirt plays a major factor in our nation's food availability.

Rural communities such as my hometown depend solely on agricultural reproduction. Soil conservation is one way to keep farmers producing for years to come. There are multiple ways to conserve soil such as, establishing and maintaining ground cover vegetation, mulching, and prescribed burning. Conservation is not only for farmers and rural communities, but for any one that is willing to make a difference.

Soil Stewardship Week

April 29 ~ May 6

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Changing Lives, Preserving Soil

by Lisa Hibbitts

Too often we take for granted the natural side of life such as clouds in the sky or trees in the park, but one particular resource is overlooked the most: soil. We know that clouds produce rain, and trees produce oxygen, but we are not familiar with what soil does for our lives and the unseen lives around us. Soil affects humans, but the earthy substance also has an impact on many plants and animals we often forget exist. Because of many nutrients, amoeba, bacteria, beetles, decomposers, fungus, moles and worms, (The Dirt, 1) the ground is packed with a lively environment, helping plants, animals and even humans. Seeds are planted; the soil is fertilized and watered; a plant is born; nutrients derive from the plant, and we rely solely on nutrition to survive. Without this terra firma, obtaining nutrients for our health would be much more difficult. Although we

neglect soil at times, when we stop to think about the importance of the land, we realize how blessed we are to have fertile soil, but conserving the brown terrain becomes a question: How?

In the small-town farming communities of Texas, one can drive for miles and see only wheat, corn or cotton fields. Controlling the use of the fields (allowing the fields to "breathe" in-between planting seasons), planting, vegetation, shrubs, trees and ground cover, creating windbreaks, applying mulch to retain moisture, constructing surface runoff barriers, using contour farming when farming on sloped areas, trying terrace farming and gardening are many different ways to prevent soil erosion. (How to Prevent, 1) along with those three little words with huge definition: reduce, reuse, and recycle. As Aldo Leopold once said, "We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which

we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect (A Sand, 1)."

Some say water is the most vital necessity of life, but I believe soil and water have an equally important duty in our society. Water grows crops, lessens the erosion of soil and maintains human health, but without soil, crops, nutrients and even water for plants would be only an imaginary existence. With the prediction of the world's current population of 5.8 billion to reach 8 billion by 2025, the demand for food will increase dramatically (Preserving Soil, 1), and if we aren't careful now to preserve our precious producer, food shortages will arise, wiping out a vast majority of the human and animal kingdoms. Soil with become irreparable and irreplaceable if we continue to damage and destroy the components of our brown, rocky friend. Soil erosion, desertification, intensive agriculture and land contamination are only a few

of the many ways the terrain becomes rugged and unusable, destroying the

One Burger, Easy on the Soil

by Claire Carmichael

Ever sunk your teeth into a mouth-watering hamburger and took a second to imagine eating a spoonful of...soil? While that thought may lead to a bitter taste, it is actually what we consume throughout our daily meals. Funny to think that a burger actually comes from the earth beneath our feet. Every component of a hamburger and many other foods are produced through a cycle which all begins with a single nutrient-rich ingredient: dirt. Meat is provided when animals consume the hearty crops grown in farming operations, while hundreds of fruits, grains and vegetables are grown and harvested worldwide. Simply put: no soil, no life.

Coming from a family that receives an income from the crops my father raises on a yearly basis, I believe it is vital for individuals to recognize

components to dust (How to Prevent, 1).

the significance of soil. Realizing the amount of work and stress that goes into a single crop can totally transform one's outlook on agriculture and soil conservation. The "dirt" that most of us turn up our noses to is key to our existence. The U.S. Bureau of Soils says that "all of our amino acids eventually come to us from plant life, sometimes through the meat of plant-eating animals." Many families' lives revolve around natural resources such as sunlight, water and soil. In fact, their livelihood is a constant gamble hoping that each resource corresponds correctly to generate a crop which benefits the entire country. Despite the fact we benefit from the foods soil provides, we also receive oxygen. The author of "The Importance of Soil," says "out of all the resources in our planet, soil is probably one of the most ignored elements." Living in a nation where food is the mastermind behind a widespread obsession, this fact is unbelievable. Natural habitat is another big issue in the importance of soil. Thousands of animals claim the soil as part of their environment, as well as humans. With so many essential roles soil plays in our lives, the least we could do is put forth an effort to help conserve our personal market lingering beneath us. The author of "Organic Guide," states that "good soil structures need to be protected." Planting trees, watering the soil, building terraces and even no-till farming are just some of the small steps we can take to protect our natural giver of life.

A buffet full of delicious foods is the same as an open pasture filled with plants, vegetables and fruit rooting up from the dirt within. If we appreciate the wide variety of food available to us and enjoy the feeling of a full stomach, it is not an option to take soil for granted. Soil benefits every being on the planet in more ways than one, whether it's supplying oxygen, providing a natural habitat for animals as well as humans, or even benefitting us with a simple hamburger.

Soil Management

by Sara Duncan

With every season comes new challenges and difficulties for a farmer to face. Growing up as a farmer's daughter, I have learned the importance of soil. Without the messy brown substance, living creatures would cease to exist due to lack of food. In order for crops to grow properly, farmers must manage the land they work with. To keep the soil from washing away, they build terraces and water ways to control heavy rain fall. To keep the soil from eroding due to wind, they plow the fields or plant cover crops. Sometimes the crops are planted in strips, and other times to cover the land. "Erosion is a serious problem for productive agricultural land and for water quality concerns. Controlling the sediment must be an integral part of any soil management systems to improve water and soil quality." (Al-Kaisi, 1).

The plants grown in the soil in the field as well as the surrounding land, feed the people and animals of the world. Soil is not any less important

than the sun or oxygen. "Without soil, we wouldn't be able to plant trees, food crops hence, we wouldn't be able to eat or have shelter to rest from the sun. In short, our soil is just as important as any other element in our planet." (The Importance of Soil, Farm Communities, 1). The nutrients of the soil feed organisms and plants that feed the animals around the world. The nutrients needed for humans and animals to survive are found in plants. The meat that we eat is rich in nutrients from plants eaten by the animals. The canned vegetables found in the aisles of the local grocery store were once a small seed planted in the soil in a large field. "Healthy soil has food, air and water to help plants grow. The more nutrients available in the soil, the more the plant can take up. The more nutrients in the plant-the more available for animals and humans." (The Importance of Soil, Soil Association, 1).

Although erosion is a natural process, humans have had an effect on erosion, especially in expansion of

urban places, deforestation, and some agriculture activities. When farmers plant the same crops every time they plant, the soil is more likely to erode, but if they rotate the kinds of crop

from one year to the next, the soil will not erode as much. Soil management is one of the most important aspects of a farmer's life, because their jobs are at risk if the ground is not taken care

of properly. People do not realize how important our earth is, but the truth is, without the soil that we walk over on a daily basis, humans, animals and plants would not be able to survive.

Soil Stewardship Week April 29TH - May 6TH

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Chocolate Cake and Soil

by Mackenzie Thomas

Food. When we hear that word many different snacks and meals comes to one's mind such as apples, bread, or maybe even one's favorite dinner cooked by a parent. As a farmer's daughter, the first two words that come to my mind are cake and soil. Those are a strange combination of words to most people, but to me they are easy to compare because I think of soil as being like a chocolate cake, the best part is on the top, top soil being the sweet icing to finish off what's underneath and the best part to use for planting. The farther down into the cake one goes, the more thoroughly the dessert is cooked, making the cake harder and finally to the burnt bottom, which is like soil in the way that the farther down one goes the more rocks one finds in the soil until there is eventually solid rock that will much later erode and turn into more top soil for us to use.

My father farms cotton and

wheat, and I have grown up learning how important growing crops is for everyday life. My dad harvests both crops in the same field at different parts of the year, he is doing what is called crop rotation, which helps conserve soil. According to Buzzle.com, "continuous cultivation of the same crop leads to imbalance in the fertility of soil... [crop rotation] is a method of growing a series of dissimilar crops in an area, it also helps in the improvement of soil structure and fertility" (1). We as humans know without food we wouldn't survive, but we often don't think about how we receive our nourishment. On the Children of the Earth United website, we learn that "it can take 1,000 years to form one-inch of soil" (11). The food chain as we know it wouldn't be possible without this underestimated necessity that we often take for granted. Without plants we wouldn't have food, and without soil we wouldn't have plants.

By planting trees and flowers and harvesting crops we help our dirty plants have to hold them down, drink water, and many other vital activities. The Facts Underneath It All article says, "[roots] split rocks in to pieces that later become soil" (4). As the hair-like substance searches for water

beneath the surface they break rocks and go through layers of soil to reach this essential liquid, while holding the dirt crumbs that aren't compacted to the surface and safe from the wind.

If we don't conserve these brown crumbs of the earth like we would with a chocolate cake, always wanting to eat every last crumb, we

could eventually deplete the soil so important and unavoidable for our survival. Without farmers who wake and go to work before the sun is visible in the morning and come home long after the moon is out, we wouldn't have food to consume, and without soil, farming wouldn't be possible.

Taking a Gamble

by Paige Glover

In our society, we do not often contemplate where our food comes from before it is shipped to the local grocery store. Most nonagricultural people are not concerned how their food developed from "soil to spoon," but for the most part, farmers take great interest in the necessities they need to make their living. It is shown in Farm Policy Facts (1) that "Americans spend just 9.5 percent of their income on food—less than any other country." "Soil to spoon" is a long process that depends on many people across the country and sometimes around

the world. "The most profitable side of the food business is in processing and marketing, not the farmer's share." (Real Facts 1) In NC State University, College of Agriculture and Life Science (1), it was stated that "Consumers spend \$547 billion for food originating on U.S. farms and ranches. Of each dollar spent on food, the farmer's share is approximately 23 cents. The rest are for costs beyond the farm gate: wages and materials for production, processing, marketing, transportation and distribution." Though farmers do not profit much for the crops they create, there is still

the challenge they set for themselves to provide consumers with the highest quality food possible.

Farming is not one of the easiest jobs; some may refer to it as gambling. Being a farmer's daughter, I know firsthand that times can be difficult when the crops, that consume thousands of dollars for fertilizers, keeping wild animals out of or even just to be watered daily can be ruined by nature in an instant. With the excessive flooding in the northern states and the prolonged droughts in the southern, many farmers, including my father lost a large amount or even their entire crop they had spent an exceptional amount of money, as well as time and effort attempting to save what mother nature decided to destroy.

With the population expending, much of our agricultural land is disappearing. Farmers are losing a great deal of the property they once grew their crops on to new homes and shopping centers. "Newly released statistics show that in this country, we've been losing more than an acre of farmland every minute. That stacks up to nearly one million acres per year converted to highways, shopping malls and poorly planned development. The nation's best and most productive agricultural land—including the land that grows fruit and vegetables—is disappearing the fastest." (Farmland Report 1) With our agricultural land being overtaken, there will not be available property to plant new crops and numerous agriculture personnel, more than six times as many employees as the U.S. automotive industry will be out of work.

The Bearer of Life

by Garrett Brueggeman

Growing up in a small Texas farming community, the idea of soil quickly becomes a hollow thought after spending hours upon hours working outside only to come home covered in sweat and dirt. For most residents here in Texas the mention of dirt brings back recollections of dust storms, in which the ground almost seems to rise up and engulf the sky along with any and every object that stands in the brown-blanket's path. As the winds howl during the storm and the specks of soil pound against the sides of houses and the skin of anyone unlucky enough to be stuck outside, fond thoughts of soil and the role it plays in our lives rarely occur. However, if we take even a brief second from our busy lives to reflect on the benefits of soil, we will surely be much more appreciative of this dusty particle of life.

After years spent traveling and working with my dad, I've been able to see the many intricacies involved in building waterways and tanks across Haskell County. The aspect that I most enjoyed of work was the opportunity to return after a few months and see the finished project. While the work was technically over once the tank was dug, the empty hole and mounds of dirt always seemed unfinished until a rain came and completely filled the tank with water. With the tanks full, cows and other animals were able to satisfy their thirst with the water that they do desperately need to survive. Quite unlike the savage beast of a dust storm, the soil had now become a gentle nourisher of nature.

There's no surprise that Texas

leads the nation in production of cattle, goats, cotton, and hay (A Look at Texas Agriculture 1) after driving only a few miles outside of town only to see freshly planted crops and herds of livestock covering the fields on each side of the road. With approximately 1,100 various soil types within its border (Texas 1), Texas is well suited for all kinds of growing, from home gardens to commercially owned fields. When first planted, it's often difficult to find much worth in the empty rows of loose dirt, but once the sprouts pop their green heads through the soil and the crops that we rely on throughout everyday life begin to magically multiply in the fields, the value of that simple "patch of dirt" quickly increases. After the

crops are fully grown, they are harvested and then produced and sold in the clothes we wear, products we use, and food we survive on every day, all helping to generate \$81 billion for Texas (Quick Facts 1).

The impact that soil carries in this world has never been more drastic then right now. From the water we drink to the food that sits on our tables every night, everything comes straight out of the ground as the dirt we walk on daily literally holds our lives in its palm. Soil. While personally I still prefer to keep this "dirty" substance away from my dinner table and silverware, the role this dusty particle plays in delivering the resources we need to live truly earns soil the title of bearer of life.



April 29 ~ May 6, 2012

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April 29 - May 6

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