

Calendar

Golf tournament set June 1

A One Man Mulligan event will be held at the Haskell Municipal Golf Course Sat., June 1. Contact Brad Bevel at 940-203-0117 for more information.

Vets Post 221

A meeting will be held Mon., June 3 at 6:00 p.m. for all interested Veterans and spouses to discuss the need to continue operations of Post #221 at the American Legion Building. Hot dogs and all the fixins' will be served. Please RSVP to the County Judge's Office 940-864-2851. This is a very important meeting.

Basketball camp

The 2013 Rising Stars-Maiden Basketball Camp will be Mon., June 3 through Wed., June 5 at the Haskell High School gymnasium. Incoming third through fifth graders will be from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and incoming sixth through eighth graders will be from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call Blake Eddleman at 940-249-3111.

Library reading

The summer reading program "Dig Into Reading" will be held at Haskell County Library June 4 through July 30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The program will not be held on Tues., July 2 and Thurs., July 4. The program will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. for ages K-third grade. Children are invited to come enjoy reading, crafts and cookies.

WHPD parade

The Wild Horse Prairie Days parade committee would like to encourage businesses, clubs and individuals to participate in the WHPD parade set June 7. The parade will start at 5 p.m. from the Civic Center. Applications are available at the County Judge's office in the County Courthouse. For more information, call 940-864-2851.

Bible school

Vacation Bible School will be held at First Baptist Church in Haskell June 9-13 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for students who have completed 4 year old Pre-K through sixth grade.

Medical fund

An account has been established at Haskell National Bank for the benefit of Danny Langford. If you would like to make a love offering to help with medical expenses it would be greatly appreciated.

Water conservation

The City of Haskell has implemented stage three of the Drought Contingency Plan of the City of Haskell Water Conservation Plan. Stage three calls for a mandatory 25% reduction in water use by all City of Haskell water customers. Please make every effort to conserve and help secure our water supply as long as possible. For more information or a copy of the water conservation plan, contact Haskell City Hall.

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Congratulations graduates

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 127-NO. 22, ©MAY 30, 2013

"The People's Choice"

16 PAGES-TWO SECTIONS-75 CENTS

Haskell County schools to graduate 53 students

Haskell County will have fifty-three seniors receiving diplomas during graduation ceremonies.

Haskell High School will graduate thirty-eight seniors during commencement exercises at Indian Stadium on Fri., May 31, beginning at 8 p.m.

Those graduating are: Ashley Adams, Adrian Alexander, Taylor Burson, Norma Camacho, Sidney Cassidy, Phillip Coleman, Maci Colley.

Felipe Deanda, Shawn Duncan, Shelby Dunnam, Cannon Edwards, Drake Everett, Cailey Foster, Morgan Frierson.

Delecia Garcia, Carson Hadaway, James Hammond, Cole Ray Hutchinson, Hunter Ivy, Caitlan Johnson.

Doug King, Ryan Markey, Madison Mayfield, Tillie McGuire, Preston Morrow, David Newton.

Ashley Pendergraft, Trevor Reese, Cassidy Rios, Veronica Robledo, Myra Rodriguez, Allison Rodriguez.

Maegan Rodriguez-Gonzales, Steven Schmegner, Brett Shelton, Tori Taylor, Daniel Turner and Kalyn Wheatley.

Valedictorian is Madison Mayfield, daughter of Deborah Mayfield

and Mondy Mayfield. Salutatorian is Cailey Foster, daughter of John and Cindy Foster.

Paint Creek

Nine Paint Creek seniors will receive diplomas during exercises to be held Fri., May 31 at 8 p.m. in the school gymnasium.

Graduating seniors include Matthew Booe, Cheyenne Buerger, Blake Edwards, Katie Jones, Hunter Jordan.

River McTasney, Danielle Oliver, Jamie Todd and Charitie Winterstein.

Paint Creek valedictorian is Katie Jones, daughter of Rebecca Hubbard. Salutatorian is River McTasney, son of Jim and Leiza McTasney.

Rule

Six Rule High School seniors will receive diplomas at commencement exercises held in the school auditorium on Fri., May 31, at 7 p.m.

Graduates are Celeste Caddell, Clay Morrow, Josh Quintero, Nicole Smith, Jennifer Starr and Darryl Williams.

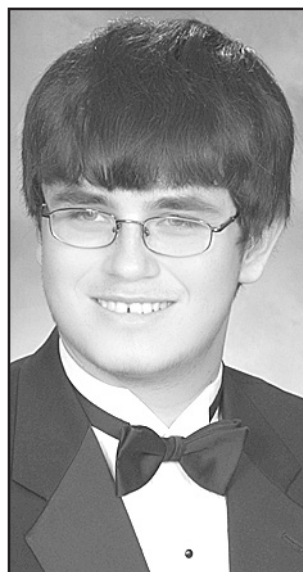
Class valedictorian is Joshua Quintero, son of Ramiro and Mary Quintero. Salutatorian is Darryl Williams, son of Mary Williams and the late Robert Williams.



MADISON MAYFIELD
VALEDICTORIAN
HASKELL



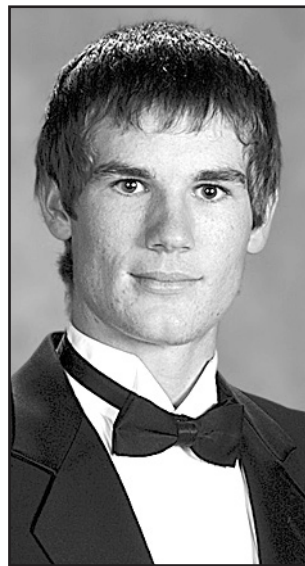
KATIE JONES
VALEDICTORIAN
PAINT CREEK



JOSH QUINTERO
VALEDICTORIAN
RULE



CAILEY FOSTER
SALUTATORIAN
HASKELL



RIVER MCTASNEY
SALUTATORIAN
PAINT CREEK



DARRYL WILLIAMS
SALUTATORIAN
RULE

Round up the family for Wild Horse Prairie Days

by Caron Yates

Eighteen years ago, after much planning and significant hours of labor from many different people, the first Wild Horse Prairie Days was deemed a huge success. It has continued each year since, even growing as new activities have been added.

In 1998 the John Wallace Memorial Roping was added to the lineup of events. John Wallace was known far and wide as a cattleman. When he wasn't buying and selling cattle for himself and others, he was roping them, competing all across Texas and Oklahoma. After Wallace's death, Howard Hopkins, another well-known

figure around the roping arena, came up with the idea of a calf roping in conjunction with the WHPD to memorialize Wallace.

It is now the "kick-off" event for the WHPD activities. This year, it is scheduled for Sunday, June 2, beginning at 3 p.m. at the Howard Hopkins Memorial Arena. For entry information contact J.W. Wallace at 864-3509 or Carl Hopkins at 864-5299.

The weekend of June 7-9 will be filled with activity, beginning with the Sam "Snakey" Graves Memorial Cutting at 9 a.m. on Friday. At 5 p.m., everyone is encouraged to gather around the square

for the WHPD parade. Pictures of each entry and plaques for first, second and third places will be awarded. Anyone interested in having an entry should contact Susan Cockerell at 864-2851.

On both Friday and Saturday, from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m., inside the Civic Center, a Craft and Trade Show will be held. A chuck wagon meal will be served from 5-7 p.m. each night, inside the Civic Center for more comfortable dining.

The main event, the rodeo, will begin at 7 p.m. both nights. Teams scheduled to compete on Friday night are returning teams from the Crutch Ranch, Sandhill Cattle Co., Myers Cattle/96 Ranch, Nail/Bar D Ranch, X Cross X/Adams Ranch and Spires Ranch. New teams competing on Friday night will be Wills Cattle Co./21 Cattle Co., Goldsmith/Scarborough, Slate River Ranch and Driver Land & Cattle Co.

Saturday's roster lists Tongue River Ranch, Lazy 8 Ranch, Prothro/Britten Ranch, Circle Bar, Pitchfork Land & Cattle Co., Hager Ranch, Swenson Land & Cattle, Thompson Ranch, Rocker B Ranch and WT Waggoner Estate ranch.

Several of these teams are from local and area ranches, so you probably know some of these cowboys. Six of this year's competing teams made it to the World Finals last year. Driver Land and Cattle Co. finished third in the World Finals 2012. On the average four or five teams which compete in the WHPD, qualify for the finals each year

in November. Consequently, competition will be stiff again this year.

Those attending the festivities will certainly notice the upgrades and improvements that have been made in time for this year's rodeo. Thanks to many very generous sponsors, new bucking shoots, new public address system, new billboard for all events and new fencing on the access road and entrance, have been made possible.

A ranch horse competition will be held at 9 a.m. on Sat., and the always exciting Jr. Ranch Rodeo with "Pokey" the clown will begin at 11 a.m. Saturday's activities will conclude with a dance from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. featuring the Hired Guns band.

City Wide Clean Up Week set June 1-8

Haskell's City Wide Clean Up Week will be held beginning Sat., June 1, and continuing through Sat., June 8.

The landfill will be open during the following times: Sat., June 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Mon., June 3 through Thurs., June 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Fri., June 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Sat., June 8 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

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

It takes many hands to put on a successful event of this magnitude. Any and all volunteers are needed and appreciated. Contact Sammy Larned for more information or to volunteer your services at 864-2749.

On Sunday, popular cowboy preacher Jeff Gore will conduct church services beginning at 10 a.m. at the God Loves You Ministries building on the west side of the square.

On Sunday, June 9, beginning at 1 p.m. a WTBRA Barrel Race competition will be held.

You won't want to miss any of these activities. So round up your family and friends and come be a part of the fun at the eighteenth annual Wild Horse Prairie Days.

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

The city of Haskell no longer has trailers to borrow. Things 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, only if arrangements have been made through City Hall at 864-2333.

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

City explains use of storm sirens, emergency notification system

Haskell City Administrator Brandon Anderson offers the following information

concerning the use of the emergency notification system and city sirens in Haskell.

About four years ago Haskell County and the City of Haskell enrolled in an emergency notification system called Global Connect, which was recently bought by Code Red Notification Systems.

This system notifies all customers in the county of any notices that the Cities' or County's Emergency Management Coordinators may send—including severe weather and other notifications.

The system has been used in the past to notify customers of water outages.

It can be used to notify citizens at anytime about any danger or emergency. It uses land lines as established by the 911 system.

Citizens may have their cell phone number added to the system by calling City of Haskell at 864-2333. The city went with this system after the warning siren located by the sheriff's department blew down and was damaged.

Information received at the time noted that with the improvements in insulation and windows and doors used by homes and businesses, a siren system was not as effective as it once was because citizens could not hear them.

Sirens are still useful for the public who may not be near a phone. The warning sirens were tested last week and the two current ones are working fine.

The City is looking to repair and reinstall the siren located at the sheriff's office. Also during severe weather Haskell emergency services crew and weather watchers have certain locations where they observe storms. If conditions warrant, these weather watchers will drive specified routes within the city limits to help notify citizens.

The City of Haskell is doing a cost assessment to upgrade the siren system.

This information will be available to the City Council at their next meeting June 10.



WILD HORSE TRADING POST
Haskell's General Store and **RadioShack** dir.

Gifts & Gift Certificates for Graduates

Don't forget—
We have guns and ammo, gifts & musical instruments!
419 S. 1st, Haskell • 864-2200
Hours: M-F 10-6; Sat. 10-3




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NEW
Bacon Guacamole CRUNCH
Hungry-Buster ORIGINAL

100% all-American beef loaded with bacon, guacamole, pepper jack cheese, a tangy three-chili sauce and onion rings. Quite possibly our best Hungr-Buster® ever.

DQ That's What I Like About Texas: **TEXAS ORIGINAL**

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Obituaries

Barbara Golding Kimbrough



BARBARA KIMBROUGH

Funeral services for Barbara Golding Kimbrough, 90, of Haskell were held Sat., May 24 at First United Methodist Church in Haskell with Rev. Dustin Wilhite officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery directed by Smith Family Funeral Homes of Haskell.

Mrs. Kimbrough went home to our Lord Wed., May 22 at her home in Haskell.

Born May 7, 1923, in Houston, she was the daughter of Frederick Mark Golding and Marie Bridewell Golding. She graduated from Kinkaid High School, Houston, prior to attending Rice University in Houston

and Marymount Manhattan College in New York City.

At 18, she married the great love of her life, John Aleck Kimbrough, also known as "Jarrin' John" Kimbrough of Texas A&M fame, at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in New York City. They moved back to his hometown of Haskell, when their son, John Dudley, was almost two, which was her home for the rest of her life.

She happily delved into life as a wife and mother of two. Barbara was always the life of every party, including her 90th birthday party last May 7 and loved being surrounded by family and friends. She excelled at and was passionate about everything she did, including horseback riding, hunting, fishing, teaching swimming, bridge, dominoes and gourmet cooking—just to name a few.

One of Barbara's favorite things to do was assisting women find "just the perfect garment" at Lane-Felker for many years. She always had such a wonderful sense of style and loved to share.

Her greatest triumph was surviving Type I Diabetes from the age of nine years old, earning her a 75-year Medal of Honor from Joslin Diabetes Clinic of Boston, Massachusetts. Her life is a light to anyone battling the disease.

Survivors include her son, John Dudley and his wife Jamie of Castle Rock, Colorado; daughter, Barbara (Bobby) Wiseman of Haskell; brother, Frederick Mark Golding, Jr.; granddaughter, Brooke Kimbrough; grandson, John Kyle Kimbrough; and two great grandchildren, John Augustus and Elaina Ann.

Pallbearers were Wesley Alsbrook, David Anderson, Dawson Druessedow, Larry Fisher, Robert Herren, J. Don Morris and Joseph Thigpen.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made in the name of Barbara Golding Kimbrough to the Joslin Diabetes Center, One Joslin Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02215 or the Golding Chapel, Christ Church Cathedral, 1117 Texas Avenue, Houston, Texas 77002. PD NOTICE

USDA announces general CRP sign-up period ends June 14

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack reminded farmers and ranchers that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will conduct a four-week Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general sign-up beginning May 20 and ending on June 14. Vilsack also announced the restart of sign-up for continuous CRP, including the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement Initiative, the Highly Erodible Land Initiative, the Grassland Restoration Initiative, the Pollinator Habitat Initiative and other related initiatives. Sign-up for continuous CRP began on May 13 and will continue through Sept. 30, 2013.

"As always, we expect strong competition to enroll acres into CRP, and we urge interested producers to maximize their environmental benefits and to make cost-effective offers," said Vilsack. "CRP is an important program for protecting environmentally sensitive lands from erosion and sedimentation, and for ensuring the sustainability of our groundwater, lakes, rivers, ponds and streams. Through the voluntary participation of our farmers and ranchers, CRP helps us to protect our natural resources, preserve wildlife habitat and bring good paying jobs to rural America related to hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation.

Vilsack encouraged producers to look into CRP's other enrollment opportunities offered on a continuous, non-competitive, sign-up basis.

CRP has a 27-year legacy of successfully protecting the nation's natural resources through voluntary participation, while providing significant economic and environmental benefits to rural communities across the United States. Producers enrolled in CRP plant long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion and develop wildlife habitat. In return, USDA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contract duration

is between 10 and 15 years. Currently, 27 million acres are enrolled in CRP through 700,000 contracts on 390,000 farms throughout the U.S., with enrollment in 49 states and Puerto Rico. Contracts on an estimated 3.3 million acres will expire on Sept. 30, 2013. Enrollment authority for all types of CRP, which had expired Sept. 30, 2012, was extended through 2013 by the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012.

Offers for general sign-up CRP contracts are ranked according to an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI). USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) collects data for each of the EBI factors based on the relative environmental benefits for the land offered. FSA uses the following factors to assess the environmental benefits for the land offered:

- Wildlife habitat benefits resulting from covers on contract acreage;
- Water quality benefits from reduced erosion, runoff and leaching;
- On-farm benefits from reduced erosion;
- Benefits that will likely endure beyond the contract period;
- Air quality benefits from reduced wind erosion; and
- Cost.

CRP soil rental rates for non-irrigated cropland were updated this year to better reflect location and market conditions. A nationwide cap was placed on the maximum amount that may be paid per acre for the general sign-up. Taken together these steps help ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent in a fiscally responsible manner while producing the maximum environmental benefits for each dollar spent.

CRP is the largest USDA conservation program and continues to make major contributions to national efforts to improve water and air quality, prevent soil erosion, and protect the most sensitive areas including those prone to flash flooding and runoff. At the same time, CRP has helped increase populations of pheasants, quail and ducks and is recognized as benefiting certain rare species like the sage grouse, the lesser prairie chicken and other grassland

birds. Highlights of CRP accomplishments include:

- The restoration of more than two million acres of wetlands and two million acres of riparian buffers;
- Prevention of more than 600 million pounds of nitrogen and more than 100 million pounds of phosphorous from flowing into our nation's streams, rivers, and lakes.

•Providing \$1.8 billion annually to landowners—dollars that make their way into local economies, supporting small businesses and creating jobs; and

•Sequestering more carbon than any other conservation program in the country. By placing vulnerable cropland into conservation, CRP sequesters carbon in plants and soil and reduces both fuel and fertilizer usage. In 2011, CRP resulted in carbon sequestration equal to taking almost 10 million cars off the road.

USDA has made a concerted effort to deliver results for the American people, even as USDA implements sequestration—the across-the-board budget reductions mandated under terms of the Budget Control Act. USDA has already undertaken historic efforts since 2009 to save more than \$828 million in taxpayer funds through targeted, common-sense budget reductions. These reductions have put USDA in a better position to carry out its mission, while implementing sequester budget reductions in a fair manner that causes as little disruption as possible.

The Obama Administration, with Secretary Vilsack's leadership, has worked tirelessly to strengthen rural America, maintain a strong farm safety net and create opportunities for America's farmers and ranchers. U.S. agriculture is currently experiencing one of its most productive periods in American history thanks to the productivity, resiliency and resourcefulness of our producers.

For more information on CRP and other FSA programs, visit a local FSA service center or www.fsa.usda.gov.

HASKELL COUNTY ALL NIGHT PARTY 2013

2012-2013 HS & COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2013
10 PM TIL 4 AM
HASKELL CIVIC CENTER
NO ONE ADMITTED AFTER MIDNIGHT

What's there to do?

FOOD
INDOOR GAMES
Live DJ/Dance
OUTDOOR GAMES
DOOR PRIZES
3:30 BREAKFAST

ADMISSION \$7
\$10 W/TSHIRT (SEE BELOW)

Seniors admitted free

Guests are allowed if they were in HS or College in 2012-2013 and pay \$7


Graduating Seniors

Tired of hearing that all the good gifts are gone when it is your turn? Want to make \$100???

At **2:00 am** we will do a roll call for **\$50 cash**.
At **3:50 am** we will do another roll call for an additional **\$50 cash** and **you get the tshirt free.**

New this year

\$10 will cover your admission and you get this year's tshirt if you stay until 4 am.
Bring your \$ and sign up with Mrs. Hadaway or your school secretary by **May 30.**



You will have to sign in and out when you leave. Chaperones will be patrolling the buildings and the grounds at all times. This is an alcohol-free, drug-free celebration. You will be asked to leave if necessary.

Wanda Thompson retires from HHS after 31 years

by Caron Yates

As the final school bell rings on May 31, students and teachers alike excitedly anticipate their "summer freedom."

For many, plans include summer jobs, vacations or just relaxing. For Haskell High School family and consumer science teacher Wanda Thompson, it includes making plans for the next chapter in her life.

Thompson is retiring at the end of the school year, after 31 years of teaching.

Thompson was raised in the Paint Creek community, graduated from Paint Creek High School in 1970, and in fact, still lives about 50 yards from the house in which she was raised. She says, "We love Haskell County."

She married her husband Kenny of thirty-seven years, at Paint Creek Baptist Church, where they were both baptized. They have two children. Son Casey and his wife Erin, are both in the education field. He has recently accepted a position as athletic director in Sterling City. They have two children, Kendall and Barrett.

Their daughter Katie and husband J.T. Thompson, live in San Antonio, where she is a copywriter for Security Service Federal Credit Union. J.T. is a banker at Citibank.

Following in her sisters' footsteps, Thompson attended Hardin-Simmons University for two years, before transferring to Texas Tech University.

She began her teaching career at Jal, New Mexico, where she taught two years. She has spent the past twenty-nine years at Haskell High School, teaching homemaking, which was later renamed home economics and then family and consumer science. She also taught a seventh grade English class.

Thompson recalls how wonderful it was her first year at Haskell High, to teach with Jill Harris, Delight Jones' daughter-in-law.

In 2000, she became the Food Service Director for Haskell CISD, so her teaching duties dropped to a half day. She is pleased that beginning this fall, family and consumer science classes will return to a full day, thereby allowing more choices for students.

She acknowledges that being food service director and teaching classes, presented a time management issue for her. For the past thirteen years, her director duties stretched from Aug. 1 through the middle of June. Thompson says, "I had to plan out every week in the summer, or it would just slip by and I wouldn't reach my goals."

Difficulties in food service has at times been frustrating for Thompson. She says the government, or Texas Department of Agriculture and USDA, have changed the food guidelines tremendously over the past three years and the food is not the star quality that Haskell CISD had been



WANDA THOMPSON known for. And of course, there is a huge amount of paperwork that goes along with the program.

Thompson has loved working for Haskell CISD and knows she will miss being there next year. She does however, feel blessed beyond measure, and will hold dear the happy memories and funny stories of her students.

Her most cherished memories are of wonderful role model teachers that she worked with both in the past and present. At the top of that list of amazing teachers, is Jo Cox. Thompson says, "Jo really loved her students and that inspired me."

As far as retirement plans, foot surgery is first on the list. She also hopes to spend more time with her grandchildren, substitute teach, continue some hobbies/crafts and do some traveling.

Although it is hard to know for sure what retirement will bring her way, Thompson says she will try to be attentive and aware of what God has in store for her.

TRTA news

Twenty-three members of the Haskell Chapter of Texas Retired Teachers Association met at the Pit & Grill on Wed., May 15, for the final meeting of the year.

President Tommye Jo Clark called the meeting to order. Minutes were read and approved. Joyce Ivy gave the treasurer's report.

Vida White, gave an update on legislation being brought before the House. TRTA has been in Austin throughout this legislative session, working with senators and representatives to promote the passage of bills which are of vital importance to not only retired, but current school personnel. Everyone was encouraged to contact their representatives to thank them for supporting the legislation.

The program was given by Rhonda Lisle, an accredited staging professional and real estate agent with Haskell County Realty.

Lisle, a longtime kindergarten teacher, said that after retiring, she began looking at other opportunities for a new career path. During the process of obtaining her real estate license, she was introduced to the "staging" concept. This is a fairly new area in the real estate business. She went through very intense training to become an accredited staging professional.

There are many advantages to the seller to incorporate

staging techniques, when having their house on the market. The primary purpose of staging a home is to appeal to buyers, sell the house much faster and allow it to appraise at a higher value.

Lisle emphasized that staging a home is all about marketing, not decorating. She said statistics have shown it is a very effective tool, even

in small towns.

While Lisle knows for sure, that she was called to be a teacher, she says that this new career has also been very satisfying.

The door prizes were won by Nancy Toliver and Jackie Leonard.

The chapter will meet next on Wed., Sept. 18, at the Pit & Grill in Haskell.

Like what you're reading?
Call 940-864-2686 to subscribe.

GIFTS for GRADUATES
Selections for:

- Ashley Adams
- Taylor Burson
- Norma Camacho
- Maci Colley
- Shelby Dunnam
- Morgan Frierson
- Delecia Garcia
- Maegan Gonzales
- Carson Hadaway
- Caitlan Johnson
- Madison Mayfield
- Tillie McGuire
- Veronica Robledo
- Kalyn Wheatley

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South Side of Square Haskell, Texas

Buckle up, seat belts can save you money and your life

After so many years of having seat belts standard in vehicles, it would seem that buckling your seat belt before driving off would be second nature. When President Johnson signed the legislation that became effective in 1968, seat belts became mandatory in all passenger vehicles. Texas passed their first seat belt law in 1985. Since then millions of lives have been saved and injuries prevented as a result of these laws. Fortunately, most motorists do buckle up, but for some groups there is still more work to be done. Pickup truck drivers and their passengers, teens and people who live in rural areas are still not convinced.

Crash data from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) show that there has been an 11% increase in traffic fatalities from 2011 to 2012. Wearing a seat belt is the single most important thing that drivers and passengers can do to help survive a crash. Yet in Texas in 2012, 45% of persons killed in crashes were reported as being unrestrained. Among pickup truck drivers

killed in crashes 50% were unbuckled. Nearly half of teens killed in crashes are unrestrained. According to a recent study by Texas A&M Transportation Institute, in Texas only 78.4% of teens wear their seat belts. And, in rural Texas where most fatalities occur, seat belt use is also lower.

Pickup truck drivers and their passengers sometimes depend on their bigger pickup truck to protect them in a crash. Yet, pickup trucks are twice as likely to rollover than passenger cars and pickup crashes can be especially serious— even deadly—due to their tendency to roll over and for unbelted occupants to be thrown from the vehicle.

Teens are inexperienced drivers and subject to distractions in the vehicle. Seat belts are life-saving for these young drivers and their passengers, yet they are not consistently wearing them on every trip.

The Click It or Ticket campaign has been successful in bringing Texas's seat belt rate to 94% from only 76.1% when the campaign first started in 2002. It is estimated

that the campaign can be credited with saving almost 3,700 lives and preventing more than 50,000 injuries in Texas.

This year the campaign is scheduled for May 20-June 2, which included the Memorial Day Weekend. During this time, extra law enforcement representatives will be on the roads enforcing the seat belt and child restraint laws in an effort to save lives.

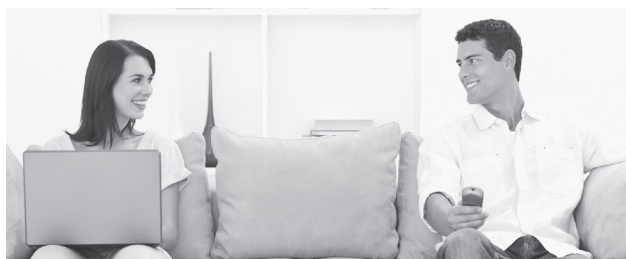
The law in Texas requires seat belt use for all passengers—front and back. Children younger than eight years old, unless taller than 4'9", must be in a child restraint. Fines for seat belt violations can range from \$25 dollars to \$250 dollars. Buckling up can save you money and, more importantly, save your life!

Rule FBC sets VBS June 3-6

First Baptist Church, 1001 Union Avenue of Rule, invites all children ages 3 years old through completed the fifth grade to Vacation Bible School June 3-6 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. each day.

The adventure includes interactive Bible fun and great music, super science, cool crafts, hands-on mission work, global games, snow cones and more. To be a part of the excitement, call the church at 940-997-2321 or pastor Scott Hensley's cell 940-200-0241 if you need help finding us.

Kids, parents and everyone else are invited to the free VBS kickoff cookout Sun., June 2 at 5 p.m. at the Rule City Park. Hot dogs, snow cones and a bounce play house for the kids will be available. Bring your own chair and join us.



TURN UP, TUNE UP OR TUNE IN!

Turn up SRTC high speed Internet Service or IPTV Television Service and we'll waive the standard connection fee.

Tune up your existing high speed Internet by boosting your connection speed and we'll provide six months of Secure It computer security at no charge.

Tune in to entertainment when you want it, where you want it by adding whole home DVR service and we'll waive the monthly fee for the first two months.

But, don't wait – spring into action and Turn up, Tune up or Tune In today.

Some restrictions may apply. TV and Internet services and Internet speeds where available. Please contact SRTC for details. Offer ends May 31, 2013.



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Vernon, TX 76384
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(888) 886-2217

HASKELL OFFICE
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Haskell, TX 79521
(940) 863-1125
(888) 863-1125

SEYMOUR OFFICE
310 W California
Seymour, TX 76380
(940) 889-1125
(877) 889-1125

ask@srcaccess.net

City of Haskell Residential Yard Watering Schedule

DAY TO WATER:	HOUSE NUMBER ENDING IN:
Monday	0 or 1
Tuesday	2 or 3
Wednesday	4 or 5
Thursday	6 or 7
Friday	8 or 9

Residential yard watering is restricted to the period from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.

COUPON

Bring this Coupon to The Drug Store in Haskell to save **25% off** one **GIFT** item!

Limit one coupon per family. Limit one coupon per purchase. Limited to stock on hand. No Layaways. Discount taken off regular price. Some restrictions apply. Sale items, prescriptions, HBA and Candy not included. Cannot be combined with any other discount. **Must present coupon before purchase.** Coupon good May 30-June 1

COUPON

Need to purchase graduation gifts? **Our Graduation Gift Registry** makes buying graduation gifts EASY! Many area seniors have made selections. **YOU** buy the gifts. **WE** gift wrap them! **WE** contact each senior to pick up their gifts!

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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

End comes to Legislature's regular session

AUSTIN—Texas lawmakers finally passed Senate Bill 1, a state budget for fiscal biennium 2014-2015, on May 26, the 139th day of the 140-day regular session of the 83rd Texas Legislature.

Next stop will be Gov. Rick Perry's desk for the \$197 billion budget—which came in at about \$7 billion more than the estimated budget for the current fiscal biennium. Perry had asked lawmakers to make about \$2 billion in tax reductions, but the budget he will be looking at brings in cuts totaling an estimated \$1 billion.

Various other legislation also on the way to Perry, for example, changes student testing requirements, benefits charter schools, increases Medicaid funding, allows issuance of campus "carry" permits and much more. Among bills Perry already has vetoed was one that would have identified individual citizens who donate to so-called "dark money" organizations. The veto period will end June 16.

In passing the budget on the Senate side, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, credited his committee and each member of the Senate for producing a "fair and reasonable" document. House Appropriations Chairman Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, who along with Williams was the main architect of the budget on the House side, credited his committee for its work.

One piece of legislation that passed in the final week of the session does not require any action by the governor is Senate Joint Resolution 1, a proposed amendment to the state constitution that will appear on the Nov. 5 statewide election ballot. Voters will decide if they want to finance water infrastructure improvements by amending the constitution to create a state water implementation fund in the state treasury, outside of the general revenue fund. The money, \$2 billion initially, would be withdrawn from the state's so-called Rainy Day Fund, a savings account built up primarily from natural gas tax and oil production tax revenue, that may be used to respond to emergencies such as those caused by wildfires, hurricanes and drought. The transfer of funds out of the Rainy Day Fund requires enabling legislation, in this case, HB 1025.

Supplemental bill passes

House Bill 1025, the supplemental appropriations bill, covers various funding shortages in the current state budget until Aug. 31, the last

day of the fiscal year. The bill, heavily amended in the Senate, is undergoing scrutiny in the House.

Authored primarily by Chairman Pitts and Chairman Williams, HB 1025 includes \$450 million to repair, maintain and improve state roadways in areas impacted by energy exploration and development, such as the Barnett Shale in North Texas and the Eagle Ford Shale in South Texas. Money to repair county roads, however, is not included in the legislation.

HB 1025 also would put \$200 million in new money into public education. Combined with the education funding increases already in the budget bill, that works out to between \$80 and \$400 more per student in nearly every district in the state.

Lawmakers also passed HB 500 by House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Harvey Hilderbran, R-Kerrville. The bill revises exemptions and deductions under the business franchise tax and expands the kinds of businesses that qualify for a reduced-tax rate for retail trade. HB 500 also excludes a number of expenses from being counted as revenue and revises "cost of goods sold" deductions.

Disasters are proclaimed

In a disaster proclamation he signed on May 21, Gov. Rick Perry certified that the severe storms and tornado outbreak that occurred on May 15 have caused a disaster in Ellis, Hood and Johnson counties.

The proclamation directs that all necessary measures both public and private as authorized by state law be implemented to meet the disaster.

On May 20, Perry renewed the emergency disaster proclamation he originally issued on July 5, 2011, certifying that exceptional drought conditions posed a threat of imminent disaster in specified counties in Texas. The number of specified counties in this 30-day extension of the proclamation was 201, or nearly 80 percent of Texas' 254 counties.

Meanwhile, a federal, state and local investigation of the April 17 deadly fire and explosion at farm supply and fertilizer facility in the small town of West continues.

DPS patrols to increase

Texas Department of Public Safety on May 21 announced plans to increase trooper patrols this Memorial Day weekend.

Friday, May 24, through Monday, May 27, more troopers than usual were assigned to look for drunken drivers, speeders, seat belt violators and other traffic violators statewide.

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago May 29, 2003

Bro. Jim and Sammy Turner of Azle, were honored on their 50th wedding anniversary, with a family dinner hosted by their children and grandchildren. He served as pastor of First Baptist Church in Haskell, before moving to Azle.

Haskell Elementary first graders recognized for reaching 100 accelerated reading points by reading over 200 books, were Robert Williams, Aaron Waggoner, Zachary Tatum, Shelton Toliver, Daniel Contreras, Micah Thomas, Hector Ramirez, Kaley Mathis, Emily Fouts and Dana Rodriguez.

Diana Gonzales, daughter of David and Rosa Gonzales, has been selected to represent Paint Creek ISD in the Texas Six Man All-Star basketball game, to be held in Lubbock.

20 Years Ago June 3, 1993

Brian Burgess, local State Farm Insurance agent, has been recognized as a new qualifier for the Texas Leaders Round Table. This is an honor organization affiliated with the Texas Association of Life Underwriters, which recognizes the top 7% of life insurance professionals.

Crystal Watson was inducted into the Junior National Honor Society at Granbury Middle School. She is the daughter of Lynda Watson of Granbury and Bobby Watson of Haskell. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bob Watson of Haskell and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lane of Granbury.

Royce Williams has been re-appointed to the board of directors of the North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority.

30 Years Ago June 2, 1983

Kerry Therwhanger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Truman

Therwhanger of Haskell, finished in third place in the long jump in the NCAA Division II Track Championship to qualify for All-American status. He is a sophomore at Angelo State University.

Jill Jennings of Haskell will compete for top state honors in the State 4-H Food Show in College Station. A sophomore at Haskell High School, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Jennings.

Mark Stewart and Danny McGuire, students at Weinert High School, recently won a silver medal in Conference A Debate at the State UIL Literary Meet in Austin.

40 Years Ago May 31, 1973

Kathi Hutchinson of Weinert, was honored by over one hundred friends with a surprise "Citizenship Party" at the school. She moved to Weinert from Roth, Germany, after marrying her husband, Lester. She

had recently passed the citizenship test and had been sworn in as a U.S. citizen.

Teresa Rhoads became the bride of Edward Briles in a ceremony at the First Baptist Church in Rule. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Rhodes and he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Briles.

Danny Isbell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen (Jiggs) Isbell of Paint Creek, received a Bachelor of Arts in Speech from Hardin-Simmons University during commencement exercises.

50 Years Ago May 30, 1963

Eugene Mullins, son of Mrs. Bessie Melton of Haskell, has been promoted to the rank sergeant. He is stationed with the U.S. Army in Orleans, France.

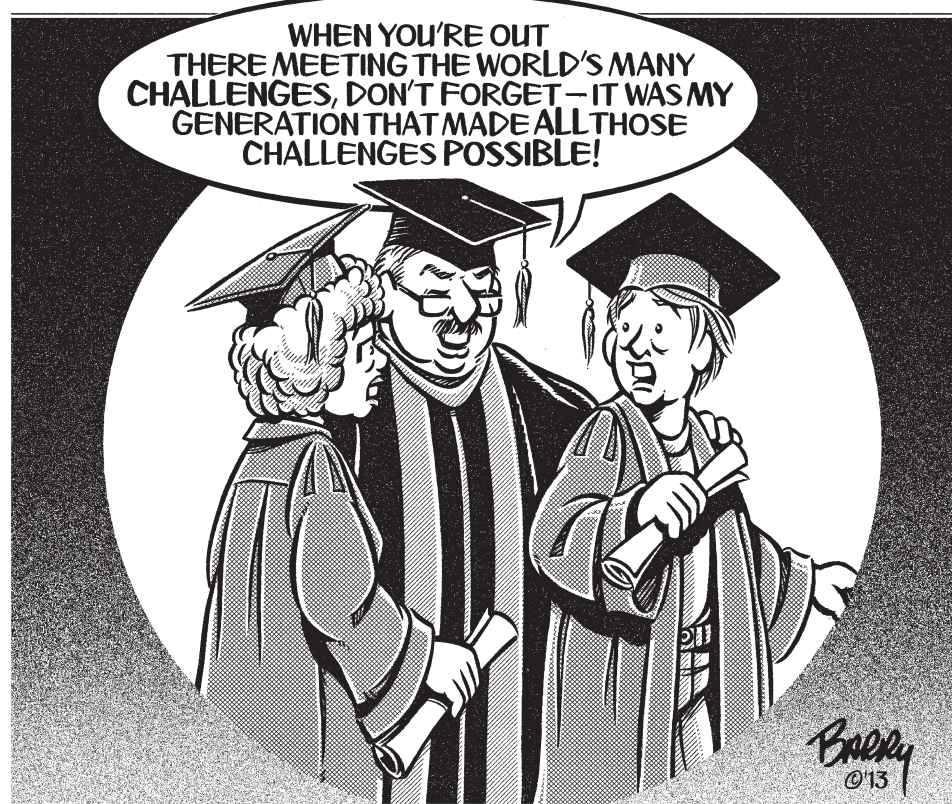
W.P. McCollum, Haskell High School principal, announced that high school student David Follstaedt and science instructor Gerald McCoy, have been chosen to attend the third annual Atomic Energy Symposium at the University of Texas.

Senior Scotty White and junior Dolores Stryker were presented awards of honor for citizenship at Rule graduation exercises.

100 Years Ago May 31, 1913

Judge Irby and Mrs. Irby arrived from Van Horn. He is attending the district court and she is visiting her parents, the F.G. Alexanders, in this city.

Walter Roberts was bitten by a snake as he was preceding the rest of his family into a dugout. When bitten, the family ligated the limb and called in Dr. Odom, who scarified the wound and immersed it in a bucket of kerosene oil.



Ask the Mayor

By John Gannaway, Mayor of the City of Haskell

The tornadic activity in Moore, Oklahoma was horrible. Should put all our problems in perspective. I can't imagine searching for your child not knowing if he/she were alive or dead. Speaking of storms, our warning system via telephone that was put in place about four years ago has resulted in many very favorable comments from our citizens. When we got ours, Jan answered and said, "Oh, Hi, Matthew," only to realize it was a recording and felt really dumb. Along with this messaging system, we will also use the sirens that were used many years ago. When the sirens were tested, only two of the three were working—the one located near the sheriff's office had blown down and was damaged. We are in the process of getting it operable. Also during severe weather, our weather watchers and emergency services crew will drive specified routes throughout the city limits warning citizens if the severity of the weather warrants such. Also, I would recommend you find a secure place in either your house or in your neighborhood if a storm approaches. We used to suggest you go to the Courthouse, but not anymore because it is only open during working hours, plus if all of the employees there and some of the folks in stores around the square seek shelter there—it will be full. Plus you don't want to be out on the road with severe weather approaching.

Guess the electric company hired the tree cutters or I should say mutilators as they've been in town about a couple

of weeks. Looks to me like it would take only a few more minutes to trim the trees in an aesthetic way instead of just gapping the heck out of the middle of them. I'm hoping if they come by my house that I'm here to save them off. I'll pay for trimming my own trees rather than seeing them disfigured.

Aftermath of the storm scare we had Thursday night, found many citizens out cleaning up their yards from fallen branches on Friday morning. Seems things that should have been blown down withstood the winds and those things you'd think would have been okay suffered. Reminds me of the tornado we had in Haskell in 1962. My dad had a saying, "It hit everything that wasn't insured." Those darned pecan trees and even some cedars littered my back yard. Good friends called and offered their storm cellar, but three dogs just wouldn't fit. So we gathered pillows, cellphones, blankets and put them in the small bathroom in case we needed to pile in. Then I sat out front watching the clouds (that's what you do when you've been reared in the country) and then moved to the back secondary patio until the rain came. Jan kept watching the TV and when she signaled I needed to move inside I complied. Always better to be safe than sorry—the only thing I'm sorry about is the paltry rainfall—0.7" here at the house. Just hoping there was more at Miller Creek Reservoir.

Many thanks to Billie Wayne Hester, County Commissioner of Precinct

One who offered his equipment and crew to dig up the concrete on the city-owned land where a Gulf service station once stood and a strip shopping area including a beauty shop, Farm Bureau, Pogue's Grocery. This is the spot where the Progressive Study Club had their salvage area. The Better Bodies gym, Encore Vision and Chan Guess' Insurance and Realty Company had all written the city asking for it to be cleaned up from nails that had punctured many of their tires and/or to convert it to a much needed parking area. So the city agreed to convert it to a parking area and had bid it out for resurfacing. All of our county commissioners have stepped up to help out the city when we have a need. Most of the time they just volunteer their help and equipment without being asked. It is this type of cooperation that is paramount in our little town. We're all in this together and it helps when we can "scratch each others' backs."

Our little corner of the city has lost another of its stalwart members. Our neighbor and good friend, Barbara Kimbrough passed away in the early morning hours of Wednesday. We'd just had a most enjoyable 90th birthday party for her about two weeks ago. If you did not go to her funeral service, you need to visit with someone who was at the graveside service. In typical Barbara Kimbrough fashion, the last statement that Dustin made was something to remember: In the name of the Father, the Son and...

Stage 3 of our Drought

Contingency Plan is now in effect. It contains some stringent rules and regulations concerning water use. I would strongly suggest you apprise yourself of what is required of you so as to avoid a significant increase in the rate you are charged for your water and possibly even a fine. Our water situation or rather lack thereof is now in crisis mode. However, maybe there is some good news concerning our lack of water. The residents near the lake at Paint Creek reported receiving about 3 inches of rain, Big Spring got about 4, San Antonio had flooding due to 10 inches of rain—at least we know that big rains are a reality.

Our city wide cleanup week is scheduled for June 1 through June 8. This is your golden opportunity to get rid of some 'stuff' that is too good to throw away and yet not worth keeping. Bulky items you place by your dumpster will only be picked up if you make prior arrangements with the folks at City Hall at 864-2333. Items that we cannot take at our landfill include chemicals, tires, batteries, anything containing freon, asbestos, any roofing materials and paint. This service is only provided to citizens living within the city limits and you would be wise to have something in your possession that shows your proof of residence before making the trek to the landfill.

This is the week of Memorial Day, when we pause to remember our soldiers and all citizens who served and thank them for their service in protecting our country and all of us. God bless them all!

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Critical action to help families and homes survive tornadoes

As nearly uninterrupted severe weather threats continue following tornado destruction last week through today, the nonprofit Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) is highlighting critical actions that will help families and homes survive when tornadoes or severe storms strike.

•The ultimate life safety protection is a tornado safe room. Tested and certified tornado safe rooms protect families from winds and windborne debris up to 250 mph. The rooms can be built or retrofitted into closets or bathrooms inside the home or placed outside in a garage or shed. Additionally, a range of pre-fabricated safe room options can be purchased and installed inside or outside the home. From affordable egg-shaped bunkers to above-ground rooms made from concrete, panelized steel or Kevlar, families now have many ways to survive even the strongest tornadoes.

“Tornado safe rooms save lives, even when EF4 or EF5 tornadoes strike,” said FLASH President and CEO Leslie Chapman-Henderson. “Some of the families who survived the Texas and Oklahoma tornado outbreaks have proved that yet again, and we want all families in harm’s way to know and understand their life-saving potential.”

A tested and certified safe room can add to a home’s value as well. According to a 2007 study by Professor Kevin Simmons, an economist with Austin College, sales prices increased 3.5 percent on average for homes with a safe room, or approximately \$4,200.

Tornado safe room information, including a cost calculator, structural details and resource links are available at www.flash.org.

•For less than half the cost of a traditional NOAA weather radio, new life-saving smartphone apps provide severe weather alerts that are faster, cheaper and more portable. Families need to know right away when they are under a tornado watch or warning, especially at night. The new FLASH Weather Alerts app reliably delivers GPS, precision text-to-speech weather hazard warnings on more than 100 options from tornado to flood to wildfire and more.

“Often, surviving a deadly tornado comes down to a matter of seconds,” said Chapman-Henderson. “We are proud to partner with the country’s premier weather data provider to offer this powerful, easy-to-use app that combines new technology with real-time severe weather information. The audible warning feature gives families the advantage of every available second to take shelter. This is especially urgent at night because nocturnal tornadoes are historically the deadliest.”

During 2013 tornado events, the FLASH Weather Alerts app provided severe weather warnings from the National Weather Service nearly 20 minutes earlier than similar apps. FLASH Weather Alerts is now available from the Apple AppStore and Google Play. Visit www.flashweatheralerts.org for more information.

•Most tornado damage occurs below EF4/EF5 level, so minor investments in enhanced building or rebuilding techniques can make a major improvement in a home’s resistance to tornado forces. The National Climatic Data Center estimates that 77 percent of U.S. tornadoes are in the EF0 to EF1 range and 95 percent have wind speeds less than

EF3 intensity. A recent cost study revealed that using an average of \$0.50 per square foot or \$1,000 in metal connectors installed from a home’s roof to its foundation can upgrade a home’s ability to withstand wind uplift from an EF0 to an EF2 tornado.

Additionally, homes built to more modern, model codes will have the advantage of enhanced connector methods using nailing. For example, the 2009 International Residential Code requires only two toenailed connections on the rafter to top plate compared to the 2012 International Residential Code which requires a minimum of a third toe-nailed connection. The cost of using the third nail is less than \$100 for an entire roof, but the increased uplift strength grows by 50 percent.

“Many will be surprised to learn that homes can be built to withstand damage from EF0 to EF2 tornadoes which historically cause most of the damage,” said Chapman-Henderson. “A modest investment of a handful of additional nails or metal connectors can strengthen homes and protect families from needless injuries, death and property damage from tornadoes. We believe this makes a clear case for prompt and continuous adoption and enforcement of model building codes.”

“Tornado safe rooms, enhanced weather alerting technology and better building practices mean that we no longer need to be at the mercy of tornadoes,” said Chapman-Henderson. “This is an important message as the nation witnesses the devastation of this past week, the massive tornado now ravaging the Oklahoma City metro area and the expected severe weather ahead.”

Keep food safe this season

With warmer temperatures and backyard grills resuming their place in the sun, UT Southwestern toxicologists say a few cautionary steps can help you and guests avoid food poisoning.

“Make sure your guests carry home fond memories instead of stomach aches or worse with sound food handling and preparation practices,” says Dr. Kurt Kleinschmidt, a toxicologist at UT Southwestern.

Preparation

•Refrigerate or freeze perishable foods as soon as you get them home from the store.

•If you’re not going to use meats within a couple of days, freeze them. Once you’ve thawed meat, cook it. Don’t re-freeze thawed meat.

•Pack plenty of ice in coolers to store raw or leftover foods at tailgate parties.

•Keep meats for grilling cold until you put them on the grill.

Handling

•Before handling food, always wash your hands thoroughly in warm, soapy water or use hand sanitizer.

•Don’t leave food standing for long periods of time. A general rule of thumb is not to leave foods out for more than one hour.

•Eat hot foods as soon as they’re cooked or while they’re still hot.

•Remove cold foods from the refrigerator just before serving and put them away quickly.

•Wash hands, surfaces, and utensils that come in

contact with raw meats. Use different dishes and utensils with cooked meats and raw meats.

Cooking

•Cook foods at recommended temperatures to kill bacteria. Use a meat thermometer to be sure the food is thoroughly cooked. That’s especially important for ground beef. When grilling, cook hamburgers until they’re no longer pink inside, or until juices run clear.

•Generally, grilled meats should be cooked to at least 145 degrees Fahrenheit and poultry to at least 160 degrees. Pork should be cooked to an internal temperature of at least 155 degrees in order to destroy the parasite that causes trichinosis. This disease causes abdominal pain, diarrhea, muscle soreness, fever and swelling around the eyes. If you’re grilling pork ribs, you don’t want the meat to be red near the bone.

Nutritional trade-offs for grilling season feasts

There are plenty of options for cutting calories as well as substitutes for some of the more high-calorie options.

“Not everyone is going to be satisfied with the salad bowl. If you’re not ready to replace your entire plate with healthy alternatives, you can still significantly cut down on calories and fats by blending your favorites with some lower-calorie options and alternatives,” says Lona Sandon, a clinical nutritionist at UT Southwestern.

Be realistic, she added. Fat free does not necessarily equate to lower calorie intake and the lack of flavor of some substitutes might actually lead people to want to eat more.

Offer taco salad bowls instead of burgers, substitute lean ground turkey and beans for beef or cold cuts, offer subs with lots of salad-style fixings and use less cold cuts, or grill some vegetables to help fill the plate. In addition, pay attention to

how much and how many portions you’re taking.

Below are some nutritional alternatives:

•Dip: Try salsas, low-fat sour cream dips or yogurt instead of traditional chip and vegetable dips, or low-fat versions of dressing instead of traditional ranch dressing. Substitute fat-free or lower-calorie ingredients such as vegetarian-style refried beans or whole beans, sour creams, low-fat cheeses and ground turkey to reduce calories for 7-layer dip.

•Pizza: If selecting more than one slice, substitute a slice of thin crust, veggie pizza for a slice of three-meat pizza. Or make homemade pizzas substituting lean ground turkey instead of hamburger or sausage and use low-fat cheese and wheat pizza doughs.

•Wings: For chicken wings, take the skin off, bake or grill instead of deep frying. Consider grilling chicken pieces instead of traditional wings. Make

The importance of using credit cards responsibly

We’ve all heard stories about college students who racked up thousands of dollars in credit card debt. These cautionary tales remind parents about the importance of protecting their children from making bad financial decisions. But, even more so, these stories serve as reminders that newly minted high school graduates can make “adult” decisions that will haunt them for years to come.

As millions of high school seniors prepare to graduate later this month, it’s a natural time for these young adults to look forward to greater independence, responsibility and the realities of adulthood. This is also a natural time for parents to sit down with their children to talk about the dangers of credit cards and how to use them responsibly. As part of this conversation, parents need to educate their children about how credit works and empower them to take an active role in their financial future by using credit responsibly.

Building Credit

There is great value in building a healthy history of credit by responsibly obtaining and managing credit accounts. A good credit history can mean paying less for apartment rent and insurance products, and receiving a lower interest rate on future purchases.

Parents and young adults should team up to develop a plan for using credit and building a strong credit history before children begin using personal credit cards. Talk to your local banker about opening a low-

limit credit card in your child’s name, but put strict parameters around its use. Making one or two small purchases on the card each month and paying off the balance will help your child build a good credit history.

Don’t Fall for the Gimmicks

Credit card companies love to lure in young customers with t-shirts and other cheap merchandise, especially on college campuses. However, many of these cards carry annual fees and high-interest rates that can end up costing a great deal more than the “free” item is worth.

Encourage your children to resist the urge to fill out credit applications for freebies, even if they say they’ll never activate the credit card upon approval. There are many ways to build credit, and this isn’t one of them.

Consider Freezing Your Credit

A useful tool for young people and concerned parents alike is the credit freeze, a service available through credit bureau websites Experian.com, Transunion.com and Equifax.com. When your credit is frozen, no new creditors can look at your credit history without you lifting the freeze. This prevents new credit accounts from being opened without concerted effort. It also protects the credit card user from making hasty decisions about opening new credit accounts and limits potential losses from accounts opened fraudulently.

If you already have credit

cards and want to prevent yourself from making impulsive purchases, take the old advice of freezing the cards in a block of ice. Let the card thaw out—without help, of course—and then decide if that purchase is still worth it. Remember, just because you have credit doesn’t mean you have money to repay the debt. Be sure to factor in your current financial situation before making a decision to buy on credit.

Commit to Actively Monitoring Your Credit Report

If you don’t want to go to the extreme of freezing your credit, you can actively monitor your credit account for inaccuracies and fraudulent activity. Unfortunately, there are many firms that want to charge you for this service that you can access each year for free at annualcreditreport.com, the only site authorized under federal law.

Each of the three credit bureaus—Experian, Transunion and Equifax—allows you to pull the report once per year so ideally, you could rotate pulling your credit report from one of the bureaus every four months. [Annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com) serves as a free gateway that allows you to request your credit report from each bureau—there is no need to visit the bureau websites to make these requests. By checking your credit report several times per year, you can ensure that your timely payments are being recorded accurately and no unauthorized activity has occurred.

Avoid burns while grilling

Grilling can provide some tasty dishes, but it also can cause unexpected burns, scalding, and fires. To help avoid unintended consequences, physicians at UT Southwestern urge caution for those who are grilling as well as socializing.

“When you’re smelling the barbecue, it’s easy to forget that grills—both gas and charcoal—are still an open source of flame and a potential danger,” says Dr. Brett Arnoldo, a burn surgeon at UT Southwestern.

Some common precautions to prevent burns include:

•Don’t pour water

directly on coals. Beware of steam that can rise up unexpectedly and scald.

•Use baking powder to help contain grease fires. Always have an extinguisher nearby in case flames get out of control or something else nearby catches fire.

•Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and pets and away from any source of heat, including grills and fire pits. Never use gasoline as a source of ignition.


•Never leave a lit grill unattended and designate an area around the grill for children to avoid. Children and pets should remain at least three feet from a grill to help avoid burns or

accidentally knocking over the grill. Don’t lean directly over the grill. Be aware of clothing such as scarves, shirt tails, or apron strings that can catch fire when bending over. Consider flame-retardant oven mitts and long utensils to avoid burns.

•Never try to move a hot grill. Be sure to wait for coals to cool off before disposing.

Also remember to avoid toxic fumes from charcoal. Burning charcoal produces carbon monoxide, a colorless and odorless gas. Never burn charcoal indoors or in garages, tents, RVs, campers, or other enclosed spaces.

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It's always a good time to shop locally

It's an ideal time to show support and patronage of your local community. Shopping and banking locally have personal and economic benefits. In many towns throughout the country, including here in the great state of Texas, once-thriving main streets have been replaced by strip malls and retail outlets. The quaint subtleties of shopping "in town" have been exchanged for trips to behemoth shopping centers that clutter the sides of nearby interstate highways. However, the movement of the past decade towards a "bigger is better" mindset in doing business has been

challenged by the recent economic downturn. Now, more and more consumers are looking to ditch the big guys and go back to local businesses that more directly impact their community. So, what are the benefits of buying and banking locally?

Invest Here, Multiply Here

Every dollar spent locally has a multiplier effect on your local community. According to The 3/50 Project, a small business group, \$68 dollars of every \$100 spent at local businesses return to the community versus \$43 at national chains. Generally, none of what is spent online stays at home,

providing no benefit to your community.

When you spend money at your local community businesses, you generate tax revenue for your city and county. Furthermore, you support the local business person who puts money into the community through civic activity. You also help these business people pay back their loans to the local community bank, which make the majority of small business loans and also reinvest in a variety of ways. Simply put—the little decisions we all make can amount to a great deal of prosperity in our communities.

Bank Local

Lost in our desire for the bigger and, supposedly, better is the banking relationship. This has resulted in less financially literate citizens who, too often, pass along their bad financial habits to the next generation of

consumers. By finding a local community bank, you have the opportunity to begin a banking relationship with someone whose livelihood depends on connecting to the financial health of the community. Additionally, local community banks in your neighborhood exist and thrive because of relationships with consumers just like you. They want to create lifelong customers who share a stake in the community. They can be your best asset in helping to teach your children about establishing savings goals, balancing their bank accounts and using credit and debit wisely. These bankers want to help you and all you need to do is walk in their bank.

There are endless ways to support your community and now is a perfect time to shop, bank and do everything else you can local.

Quick nutritional fixes for a healthy heart

Most people know that a heart-healthy diet includes olive or canola oil rather than butter, less animal protein and processed foods, and more fish, beans, whole grains, and vegetables. Recent trends indicate that people are shopping for less processed foods and that food companies are responding by reducing the number of added ingredients, minimizing trans fats, adding more whole grain, and reducing sodium content.

"It is encouraging that heart-healthy eating habits are becoming more prevalent, but nonetheless, preparing a healthy dinner while trying to squeeze in a little exercise and help with homework still presents a daily challenge," says Susan Rodder of UT Southwestern Medical Center's Preventive Cardiology Program.

Rodder, a registered dietitian, offers these solutions to this common work-week dilemma.

•'Fix and freeze' meals. If you do this as you unpack your groceries, you'll have prepared at least one ready-made meal for the upcoming week.

•'Slow-cook' Sundays. Use a slow-cook recipe to minimize food preparation

and cleanup time—you'll feel like it's still your day off, and there could be leftovers to pack for lunches.

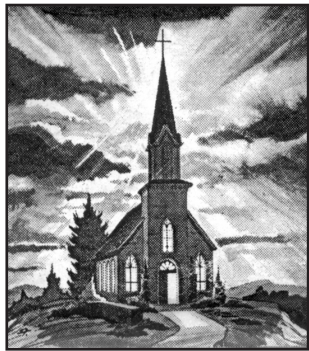
•Meatless Mondays. This concept started during World War I to ration protein for the troops. Today, it is also one way to reduce the amount of heart-unhealthy fat that we get from animal products. Rice and beans, with a side salad of packaged prewashed lettuce, tomatoes, and a splash of olive oil with balsamic vinegar is a typical offering.

•Pre-cook protein. It's easier to prepare dinner if you have precooked fish, chicken, or lean meats ready to serve with easy side dishes such as instant brown rice and frozen vegetables, which are flash frozen soon after harvesting and still have a high nutrient content.

•Pack in potassium. One of the cornerstones of a heart-healthy diet is lowering sodium intake. Studies of the DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stopping Hypertension) diet also have shown that getting sufficient potassium is equally important. Serve foods rich in potassium such as fruits, milk, and yogurt, lower-sodium tomato products (e.g. sauce, paste), and beans.

Help support the Wall of Honor Project by donating your aluminum cans!

This Week's Devotional Message:



You never graduate from the school of faith

The completion of your education, whether high school or college, brings you literally to the threshold of life. You have now been given all the skills you will need to go out into the 'real' world and face whatever problems and challenges will be thrown in your way. In the same manner, your religious education will

prepare you to come to grips with life; only there is no 'graduation' from this school. Faith must be continually studied, renewed and practiced, and your education never stops; but the rewards are the confidence and peace of mind which enable you to face any situation that may arise. This knowledge is available to you at the church of your choice every Sunday.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

—HASKELL—

East Side Baptist Church

Shawn Smith, Youth Worship pastor
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.

Christian Church

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.

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.

First Assembly of God

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

St. George Catholic Church

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

Church of Christ

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

First Presbyterian Church

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

Trinity Baptist Church

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

Hopewell Baptist Church

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

Greater Independent Baptist Church

Rev. Earnest Flanders, Jr., pastor
Sun. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell, 940-863-4405

New Covenant Foursquare

Bill and Renee Glass, pastors
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Wed. 7 p.

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.

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

Mitchell Greer, minister
Sun. 10 a.m., 10:45 a.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester

First Baptist Church

Bishop Helsley, 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.

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

Scott Hensley, 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 Bethal Baptist Church

Rev. Clovis Dever
Sun. 10 a., 11:00 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

Haskell Co. Arrest Report

The following arrests were reported by the Haskell County Sheriff's Office during the week of May 20-26:

Paden Scott Brown, city warrant failure to control

speed, also city warrant child under age 8.

Aldo Ivan Rodarte, non payment of child support.

Jessica Renae Jackson, possession of substance penalty group one crystal meth.

John Ray Patterson, driving while intoxicated first.

Ronald Tibbetts Lord, public intoxication.

Thirty-five calls were made to 911.

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers
1-800-222-TIPS

Save WATER Now!

Ways to Conserve Water...

- We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
- Check the root zone of your lawn or garden for moisture before watering using a spade or trowel. If it's still moist two inches under the soil surface, you still have enough water.
- When buying new appliances, consider those that offer cycle and load size adjustments. They're more water and energy efficient.
- Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
- Upgrade older toilets with water efficient models.
- Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds soil moisture better than if it is closely clipped.
- When cleaning out fish tanks, give the nutrient-rich water to your plants.
- Use sprinklers for large areas of grass. Water small patches by hand to avoid waste.

Every Drop Counts!

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Estate Sale

LIVING ESTATE SALE: May 31-June 1. 602 East Rotan, Stamford. Cash only. 8:00 til 6:00 years of accumulation. Bedroom, living room, dining room furniture, appliances, dishes (sets), small appliances, patio furniture, piano, grandfather clock, hutch, buffet, shelving, bedding, and much more.

For Rent

FOR LEASE: Retail and office space. Big Country Real Estate 864-2238. 13tfc

Wanted

RESPONSIBLE non drinker 42 years old looking for deer lease for me and my 10 year old son for 2013/14 season. Would like to have 1,000 acres exclusively to ourselves. Please call or email Brent Davis 214-405-5497 auxnir@gmail.com. 13tfc

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

Help Wanted

TRUCK DRIVERS NEEDED: Strickland Concrete & Materials have immediate openings for full time drivers having a Class A or B CDL for our mixer, agg, and tanker trucks. Please apply in person to SCM at 175 Bus. Hwy. 277 South, Haskell. 6tfc

HASKELL CISD is now accepting applications for a full-time janitorial position at Haskell Elementary School. Must have or be capable of getting a CDL license with passenger endorsement. Also, pass a drug test and undergo a criminal background check through the Texas DPS. All applicants must have knowledge of basic principles of janitorial duties. You may pick up an application at the Haskell CISD Administration Office at 605 N. Ave. E or go online at www.haskell.esc14.net Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Haskell CISD is an equal opportunity employer. 22-23c

Real Estate

FOR SALE or lease: Service station in Rule. Call 940-997-2412. 21tfc

Public Notices

CITY OF HASKELL, TEXAS DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN
Section I. Declaration of Policy, Purpose and Intent
A Drought Contingency Plan (Plan) is defined as, "A strategy or combination of strategies for temporary supply and demand management responses to temporary and potentially recurring water supply shortages and other water supply emergencies" (30 TAC Chapter 288, Subchapter A, § 288.1, 4). The City of Haskell has established this Plan in order to establish criteria for determining various stages of drought and to establish corresponding policies that will be enforced during each stage of drought, during

times of other water shortage or in times of emergency. The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all persons, customers, and property utilizing water provided by the City of Haskell. The terms "person" and "customer" as used in the Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities. Water uses regulated or prohibited under this Plan are considered to be non-essential and continuation of such uses during times of water shortage or other emergency water supply conditions are deemed to constitute a waste of water which subjects the offender(s) to penalties as defined in Section II of this Plan.

This Plan has been developed with consideration given to public input. Citizens served water by the City as retail customers and as wholesale customers have been given opportunity to voice opinion. This public input was gathered during the September 2012 Council Meetings held at the Haskell City Hall. The meetings were advertised via the local newspaper, radio and posted agenda.

In order to conserve the available water supply and protect the integrity of water supply facilities, with particular regard for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire prevention and to protect and preserve public health, welfare, and safety and minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortage or other water supply emergency conditions, the City of Haskell hereby adopts the following regulations and restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water.

C. Stage 3- Severe Water Shortage
• Target Water Use:
a. The goal for water use reduction under this drought stage is to limit total treated water use by all system users to less than .45 MGD.
• Conditions:
a. Stage 3 will be implemented when the water level in Miller Creek Reservoir is equal to or less than 6000 acre feet.
• Restrictions:

a. Commercial yard watering is restricted to the period from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and is determined as follows:
(1) Only on Tuesdays for even numbered addresses.
(2) Only on Thursdays for odd numbered addresses.
(3) Residential yard watering is restricted to the period from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and is determined as follows:
DAY HOUSE NUMBER TO ENDING IN:
Monday 0 or 1
Tuesday 2 or 3
Wednesday 4 or 5
Thursday 6 or 7
Friday 8 or 9
NOTE: Water will not be allowed to run in the gutter or otherwise be wasted. Water that is allowed to run more than 75 feet past the property line will be deemed a violation under Stage 3.
(4) Restaurants will serve water to customers only on request.
(5) Washing of

residential, commercial, public or industrial driveways, sidewalks, parking areas, windows or structures is prohibited.
(6) Filling of private swimming pools is prohibited.
(7) Residential washing of vehicles is prohibited.
(8) Use of bulk loading stations is prohibited.
(9) Use of ornamental fountains is prohibited.
(10) Watering of public properties is restricted to the period of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. only on Mondays.

• Residential Water Rate Structure:
a. 0-10,000 gallons: No rate change. Use current rate structure.
b. 10,001-20,000 gallons: 1.5 times standard rate.
c. 20,001-30,000 gallons: 2.5 times standard rate.
d. 30,001 gallons and more: 3.5 times standard rate.

• Violations of any of these restrictions or residential usage of 20,000 gallons or more per billing period for two consecutive billing periods, while under Stage 3 conditions, is subject to a fine of up to \$100.00 period violation.
• Notify wholesale water customers of the initiation of pro rata curtailment of water diversions and/or deliveries for each wholesale customer according to the procedures specified in Section 3 of the City's Drought Contingency Plan (as a wholesale water supplier).

Section III. Enforcement
During Stage 2, Stage 3, Stage 4 and Stage 5 water use restrictions, the following personnel shall be designated as "official observers" of any violation of this drought contingency plan, and shall have the right to initiate legal action against offenders.
A. Any member of the City Commission
B. The City Manager
C. The City Comptroller
D. All City Department Heads
E. Code Enforcement Personnel
F. All Water Department Personnel
G. All Water Office Personnel
H. The Animal Control Officer
I. All Police Department Personnel
J. All Fire Department Personnel
K. Any other City Employee.

D. Enforcement of Pro Rata Allocations
During any period when pro rata allocation of available water supplies is in effect, wholesale customers shall pay the following surcharges on water diversions and/or deliveries:
• 1.5 times the normal water charge per million gallons for water diversions and/or deliveries in excess of the monthly allocation up through 5 percent above the monthly allocation.
• 2.0 times the normal water charge per million gallons for water diversions and/or deliveries in excess of the monthly allocation from 5 percent through 10 percent above the monthly allocations.
• 2.5 times the normal water charge per million gallons for water diversions and/or deliveries in excess

of the monthly allocation from 10 percent through 15 percent above the month allocation.
• 3.0 times the normal water charge per million gallons for water diversions and/or deliveries more than 15 percent above the monthly allocation.
• The above surcharges shall be cumulative.

21-22c
Haskell County APPLICATION NOTICE HOME-HOMEOWNER REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Haskell County APPLICATION NOTICE HOME-HOMEOWNER REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

FOR RENT
Bobcat & \$125
Bucket per day
Forks \$25 per day
Digger 9" & \$50
12" Auger per day
Tree Sheer \$75 per day
Steele Fire
940-864-2208

TO RECONSTRUCT HOME FOR LOW-INCOME HOMEOWNERS
The County of Haskell has received funds through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to administer a HOME Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance Program within Haskell County. This program is designed to reconstruct homes for eligible low-income homeowners who occupy their homes.

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200+/- acres SE of Rochester, TX. In two tracts north and south of CR 132 at intersection of CR 133. All cultivation sitting fallow at present. Cotton, wheat, grain and peanut bases.

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• **205 W. BEVERS-WEINERT-NEED SPACE THIS IS IT!** 4/2. \$34,900. **UNDER CONTRACT**
• **902 8TH-RULE-NICE BRICK HOME ON 1 +/- ACRES WITH WATER WELL!** 2/2. \$46,000. **NEW**
• **200 S. AVE. L-COMFORTABLE AND WELL MAINTAINED.** 3/2. \$47,500. **UNDER CONTRACT**
• **504 S. AVE. F-GREAT CURB APPEAL! PACKAGE DEAL!** 4/1. \$53,000. **NEW**
• **506 S. AVE. F-COZY! PACKAGE DEAL!** 2/1. \$32,000. **NEW**
• **903 N. 3RD EAST-MOVE IN READY!** 3/2. \$58,900. **NEW**
• **911 N. AVE. H-RECENTLY UPDATED!** 3/2. \$54,900. **NEW**
• **1005 N. AVE. F-HISTORICAL HOME, ORIGINAL HARDWOOD FLOORS, GREAT CURB APPEAL.** 2/2. \$67,900.
• **1506 N. AVE. E-MUST SEE INSIDE-SITS ON 1.5 ACRES.** 2/2. \$72,500.
• **1806 N. AVE. G-GREAT LOCATION W/ CORNER LOT!** 3/2 \$74,500. **NEW**
• **504 N. 7TH-SURPRISINGLY SPACIOUS!** 3 (or) 4/2. \$74,500. **REDUCED**
• **1605 N. AVE. E-NEW IMPROVEMENTS!** 3/2. \$95,500.
• **1009 N. AVE. H-2010 BUILT! MOVE IN READY!** 4/2. \$99,500. **SOLD**
• **2062 HWY. 380W-SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME ON 2.5 +/- ACRES!** 4/3. \$99,900.
• **116 HWY. 380 W-INCREDBILE PROPERTY!** 3.5 ACRES +/- IDEALLY LOCATED ON OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN! 4/2. \$199,000. **SOLD**
• **231 CR 106-PICTURE PERFECT ON 12 +/- ACRES!** 3/3 \$225,000. **UNDER CONTRACT**
• **7485 HWY. 380E-RANCH LIVING, LOG HOME ON 40 +/- ACRES!** 5/2 \$235,000. **REDUCED**
• **2245 FM 2163-ROCHESTER-LARGE BRICK HOME ON 12 +/- ACRES.** \$199,900. **REDUCED**
• **8047 CR 1694-KNOX CITY-40 +/- ACRES. GREAT COUNTRY LIVING!** 4/2. \$275,000.
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The application period will be open from May 30, 2013 to July 1, 2013. The 20 households to (1) complete and return the application information, (2) provide all requested information to verify eligibility, (3) meet all eligibility requirements and (4) agree to participate in the program will be

served. Application packets will be available for pick up at Haskell County Court House 2nd floor Susan Cockerell office starting on May 30, 2013. Haskell County is an Equal Housing Opportunity entity. 22-23c

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1208 N. THIRD-Site built. 4/3 with split bedroom arrangement on acreage. Don't miss. \$89,500-NEW
13 AVE. E-Completely remodeled commercial building ready for new owner. \$56,000-NEW
707 N. AVE. H-4/3 with two living areas, dining room, large utility room and large multipurpose barn. \$212,500-NEW
701 N. AVE. E-Large 4/3 close to schools and churches. \$64,500-NEW
2112 EAST ROAD-2 acre lot perfect for new construction. \$8,500.-NEW
509 N. AVE. F-3/3 with open floor plan on corner lot. \$55,000-NEW
95 ACRES-Close to the Haskell City Limits. Beautiful view and two large tanks-NEW
28 ACRES ON FM 600-BACK ON THE MARKET
1001 N. 4TH ST. EAST-3/2 well maintained, storage house, large carport and water well. \$75,000
806 UNION, RULE-2/1 in great location, original wood floors. \$16,000
703 N. AVE. E- 4/3. Perfect for entertaining. \$192,000
170 CR 251, WEINERT-Wonderful brick home on 5/Ac. +/- with over 3,000 sq. ft., three full baths and two half baths, very large kitchen. \$175,000-PENDING
1103 N. AVE. J-Neat 2/2 with office, wood burning stove and spectacular shop. \$49,500-PENDING
101 E. DUVAL, WEINERT-Immaculate 3/3, plus barn. \$65,000
NORTH HASKELL CO.-160 Ac. +/- cultivation with some minerals. \$950/Ac.-PENDING
1102 N. 7TH-Large 3/2 with upgrades. \$82,500-PENDING
461 ACRES ON CR 130-461 acres of cultivation and pasture with rock 3/1 home. \$795/ac.-PENDING
1102 NORTH 8TH ST., RULE-3/2 on half acre, well and sprinkler, excellent condition. \$65,000-REDUCED
107 N. AVE. C-Large 4 or 5/2 close to downtown Haskell \$55,000-REDUCED
206 SUNNY AVE., RULE-Large 4/2 with upgrades \$62,500-REDUCED

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POKEY THE CLOWN

Pokey to host Jr. Ranch Rodeo

Ranches, horse clubs, families and anyone who enjoys learning about the skills used by working cowboys on ranches, or just likes fun competition, is invited to come be a part of the Junior Ranch Rodeo with "Pokey" the Clown.

The fun begins at 11 a.m. on Sat., June 8 in the grassy area by the Howard Hopkins Rodeo Arena. Spectators are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs and enjoy a ringside seat as young competitors from age 3 to 16, show off their skills.

The Junior Ranch Rodeo is designed for the entertainment of children and also to enable them to experience some of the skills used by real working ranch cowboys. The activities are designed to encourage the youngsters to work together in teams to accomplish competitive goals.

Teams will consist of four members and will be divided into four age groups. They include Super Peewee, ages 3-5; Peewee, ages 4-7; Junior,

ages 8-11; and Senior, ages 12-16. An entry fee of \$20 is charged for each team, with each member receiving a t-shirt.



Events for the junior rodeo include a Pony Express Race, Steer Doctoring, Wild Cow Milking and Calf Branding. All events will involve the use of custom made wooden 'livestock,' and all will compete on beautiful, handmade stickhorses.

Medals will be awarded to the winning team in each age division, along with an invitation to compete in the National WRCA Junior Rodeo in Amarillo next November.

For more information, entry blank and copy of the rules, call Larned Sales Center at 864-2749.

4-H Horse Show set June 19-22 in Vernon

by Tammy Parham
Haskell County
Extension Office Manager

Top young riders throughout the Rolling Plains District will match their skills June 19-22 in the 46th annual Rolling Plains District 4-H Horse Show in Vernon.

More than 1504-Hers will compete in Showmanship, Roping, Reining, Western Pleasure, Western Riding, Western Horsemanship, Pole Bending, Barrel Racing, Stake Race and Futurity Classes. In addition to prizes and ribbons, 4-Hers from the Rolling Plains will represent the District in the State 4-H Horse Show later this year, said Tammy Parham, Haskell County Extension Office Manager.

Representing Haskell County will be River McTasney in the 2 Year Old Western Pleasure Futurity. Zhenia McTasney in Hunter Showmanship, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, 2 Year Old Western Pleasure Futurity, Yearling Halter Filly Futurity, Yearling Longe Line Futurity, Mare 4 and Under, Stock Horse Trail and Stock Horse Pleasure. Kaley and Kameryn Mathis will each be competing in the Barrel Racing, Pole Bending and Stakes Race.

Competition will be held at the Wilbarger County Events Center in Vernon. Registration will begin at 2:00 p.m. June 19. Cutting horse

competition will begin at 3:00 p.m. Roping will follow at 6:00 p.m. On Thursday, June 20, registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. The first event of the day will be Working Cow Horse at 8:00 a.m. followed by 3 Year Old Working Cow Horse Class. Stock Horse Trail will be next followed by 3 Year Old Futurity Trail, Stock Horse Pleasure and then Reining. Timed events begin at 5:30 p.m. Team Penning begins at 9:00 a.m. Fri., June 21. At 1:00 p.m. English Events (Hunter Showmanship, Hunter Under Saddle, and Hunt Seat Equitation) will start followed by 2 Year Old Western Pleasure Futurity, Yearling (Filly & Gelding) Futurity Halter, Yearling Longe Line, 2 Year Old Futurity Pleasure Pattern, 3 Year Old Futurity Pleasure Pattern, 3 Year Old Reining, 2 Year Old Pleasure, 2 Year Old Versatility, Trail, and High Point Open Show Awards.

Saturday events begin at 8:00 a.m. with Showmanship followed by Halter Classes, Western Pleasure and Finals, Western Horsemanship and Finals and Western Riding and Finals.

Timed event finals will be next followed by an awards program.

4-H is the youth development and leadership program of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, a part of the Texas A&M University System.

Bluthardt to speak to Historical Society

Bob Bluthardt, site manager of Fort Concho National Historic Landmark in San Angelo will be the featured speaker at the June

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.

3 meeting of the Haskell County Historical Society.

Bluthardt will speak about the Texas Fort's Trail, preservation and local heritage tourism.

Anyone interested in history is invited to attend. The society meets at 6:00 p.m. the first Monday of each month in the Haskell County Library.

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



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TO THE CITIZENS OF HASKELL:

I would like to thank everyone for their support in the May 11th election for the City of Haskell.

To everyone who offered words of encouragement, allowed me to put a sign in their yard and who voted for me in the election, I thank you. I am looking forward to serving the citizens of Haskell as City Alderman for the next four years.

Thank you,

ALLEN MORROW

Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Sherri Morrow, Campaign Treasurer

SUMMER Celebration SALE

GET A CHANCE TO WIN A FREE OUTDOOR GRILL!

During the month of June, SRTC will waive the standard installation fees for any new or additional telephone, internet or television service.
(Up to 3 connections. After 3 connections, \$20 each.)

THE WEATHER IS GETTING HOTTER AND SO ARE THE DEALS FROM SRTC!

Sign-up today and be entered in the drawing for a free grill.



Drawing to be held June 28, 2013. Some restrictions may apply. Services where available.

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18th Annual
Ranch Rodeo
HASKELL EXPO CENTER
June 7 & 8, 2013

June 2, 2013
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Friday, June 7:
8 am- 8 pm- Craft & Trade Show/Haskell Civic Ctr
9 am- Sam "Snakey" Graves Memorial Cutting
5 pm- Wild Horse Prairie Days Parade
5-7 pm- Chuck Wagon Meal
7 pm- Wild Horse Prairie Days "WRCA" Ranch Rodeo

Saturday, June 8:
8 am- 8 pm- Craft & Trade Show/Haskell Civic Ctr
9 am-Ranch Horse Competition
11 am- Jr Ranch Rodeo w/"Pokey" the Clown
5-7 pm- Chuck Wagon Meal
7 pm- Wild Horse Prairie Days "WRCA" Ranch Rodeo
10 pm- Ranch Horse Competition Finals
9 p.m.-1 a.m.-Dance Under the Stars with HIRED GUNS

Sunday, June 9, 2013
10 am- Church Services w/ Cowboy Preacher Jeff Gore
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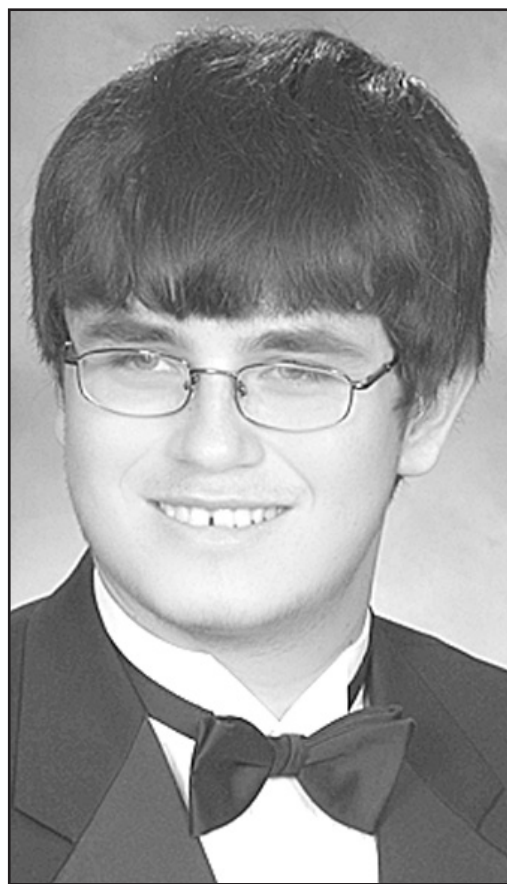
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES



Madison Mayfield
Valedictorian, Haskell



Katie Jones
Valedictorian, Paint Creek

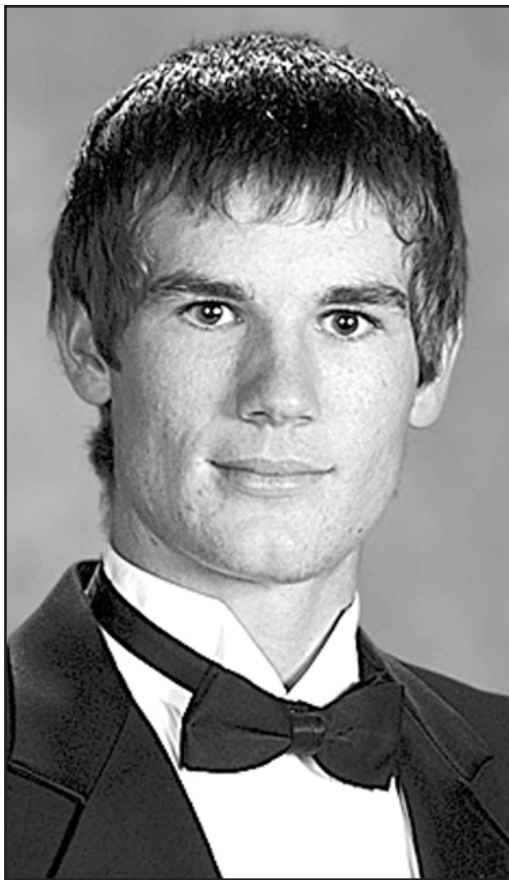


Josh Quintero
Valedictorian, Rule

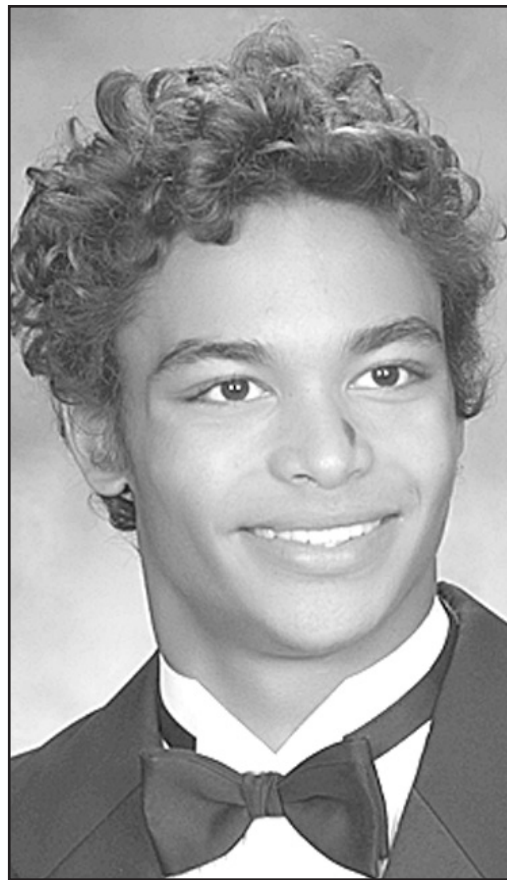
*We Proudly Salute the 2013
Haskell County Honor Students*



Cailey Foster
Salutatorian, Haskell



River McTasney
Salutatorian, Paint Creek



Darryl Williams
Salutatorian, Rule

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MEMBER FDIC

Legacy Banquet honors top graduating seniors

By Caron Yates
In spite of strong thunderstorms, damaging winds and a temporary power outage, the seventh annual Legacy Banquet, hosted by the Haskell CISD Educational Foundation, went on as planned. The Legacy Banquet, held in

memory of founding board member Roberta High, honors Haskell High School's top graduating seniors. Master of Ceremonies and foundation vice-president, Susan Turner, welcomed parents, grandparents, teachers, students, board members and business men

and women. Turner stated, "Communities are known for the monuments they build to honor the things they value most. In 1996, citizens of Haskell County chartered the Haskell CISD Educational Foundation, a monument to scholastic excellence and innovation."

Since its beginning, the foundation has awarded close to \$28,000 to Haskell CISD classrooms, through its mini-grants, presented scholarships to graduating seniors each year, and celebrated the accomplishments of graduates and teachers at the Legacy Banquet. This of course, is only possible through the generous support of the community, both individuals and businesses, as well as support from the school district personnel and administration.

Turner acknowledged not only the compassion members of the Class of 2013 hold for each other, but the unusually high academic achievements of the class. She then paid tribute to former president of the Educational Foundation board, the late Wallace Cox. His many years of guidance and leadership is both greatly appreciated and missed.

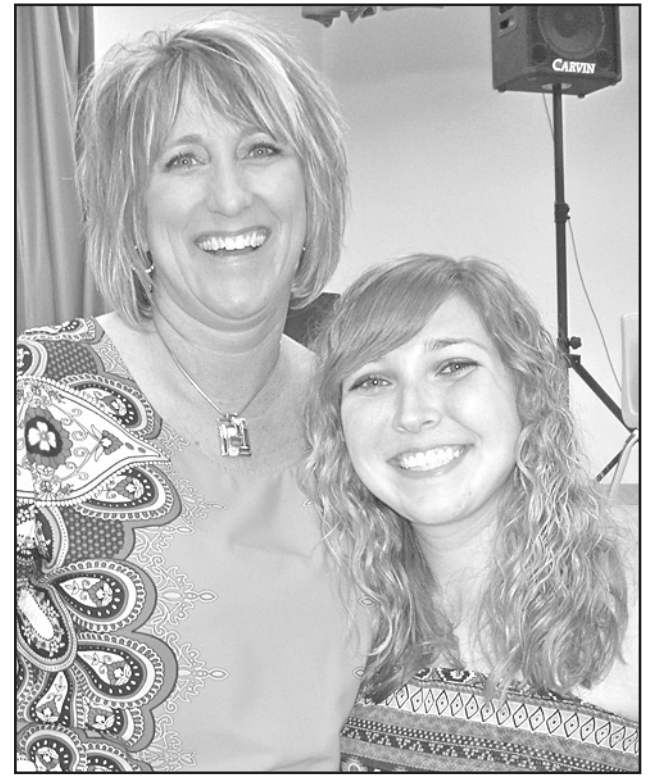
After recognizing school administrators, school board members, mini-grant recipients and foundation board members, the invocation was given by First Baptist Church youth minister, Jason Daniels. Entertainment was provided by Haskell Elementary third graders, as they presented "Tweet!" Directed by music teacher Pam Gibson, and assisted by teachers Vickie Bredthauer, Tonya Cypert, Vanessa Shiplett and Debbie Miller, the group sang about learning, preparing and finally spreading their wings to fly from the nest. They concluded with the message, "Life is what you make it to be."

Special guest speaker for the banquet was founding board member Doyle High. Although he lives in Austin now, he acknowledges that Haskell will always be "home." Feeling he has truly been blessed in this life, High offered, through humorous stories and anecdotes, some insightful observations about life. High says, "Life is a learning experience and there are certainly more good people than bad in this world. We should thank God for America and for the opportunities to live the 'American Dream.' Life is what you make it." He concluded with this thought, "Anything you do for yourself stays with you, but anything you do for others, goes on and on."

After a meal catered by Jennabeth Kimbrough and professionally served by Haskell Junior High students, the 2013 Legacy students were recognized for their many accomplishments and activities, and were presented with a certificate for a laptop computer along with a monogrammed carrying case.

Students then paid tribute to a special teacher they felt had made a difference in their lives. Through entertaining narratives, each senior told of the positive influence their selected mentor has had in their school education.

Maci Colley, daughter of Kent and April Colley, honored math teacher and UIL coach Kendra Bevel; Cailey Foster, daughter of John and Cindy Foster, paid tribute to her coach



BANQUET HONOREES—Madison Mayfield, right, honored her accounting teacher Amanda Hadaway during the 2013 Legacy Banquet hosted by the Haskell CISD Educational Foundation.



BANQUET HONOREES—Kalyn Wheatley, right, honored Teresa New, teaching assistant, during the 2013 Legacy Banquet held at the Haskell Civic Center.

and dad, John Foster; Carson Hadaway, daughter of Shane and Amanda Hadaway, recognized the influence of agricultural science teacher Justin Cox; Madison Mayfield, daughter of Deborah Mayfield and Mondy Mayfield, honored accounting teacher Amanda Hadaway; and Kalyn Wheatley, daughter of Lynn and Jacklyn Wheatley, shared her appreciation of teaching assistant and church friend Teresa New.

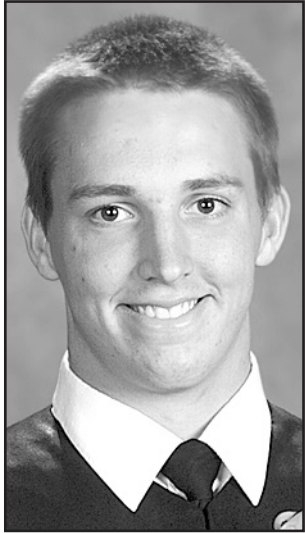
In closing, Turner reminded the audience,

"Public education is the most American thing about America. We believe every child should receive a free and appropriate education."

The Educational Foundation is proud to honor outstanding student achievement and outstanding educators. The success of the Educational Foundation is only possible through the donations of community members, alumni and others who care about the Haskell CISD school system, its teachers and its students. Anyone can contribute to the cause through monetary donations in memory or in honor of an individual, or by purchasing bricks in memory or honor of someone. Donations may be sent to Haskell CISD Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 305, Haskell, TX 79521.

2013

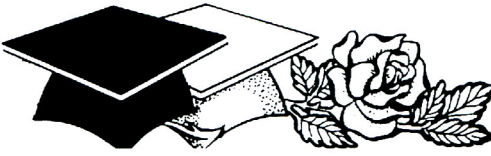
SENIORS



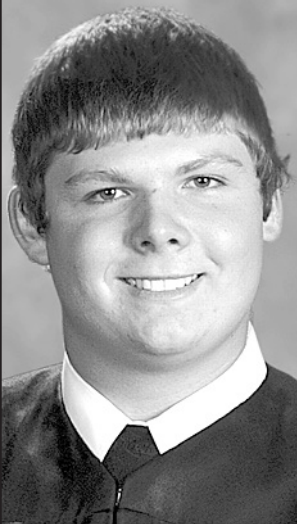
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Best Wishes




to the

Class

of

2013!



SHAWN DUNCAN

DANIELLE OLIVER



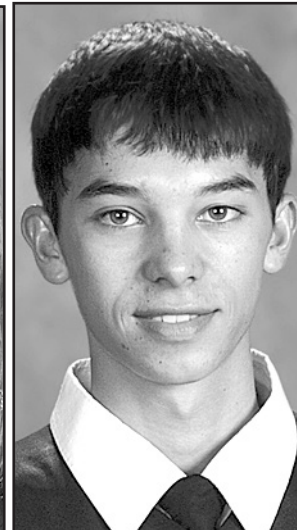
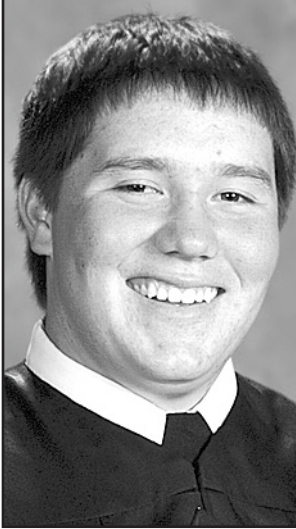
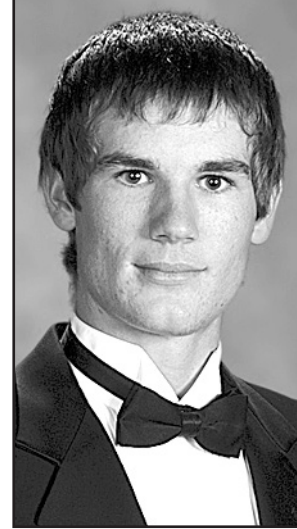

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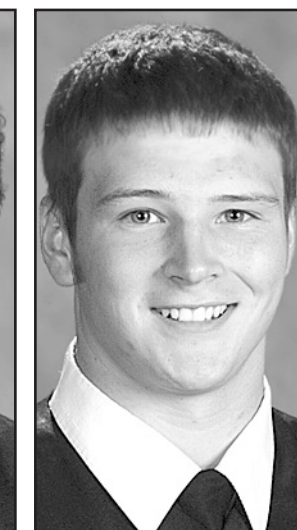
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HATS OFF

TO THE **Class of 2013**

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May sales tax receipts reported

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said that state sales tax revenue in April was \$2.15 billion, up 3.9 percent compared to April 2012.

"Sales tax collections were up in a range of sectors from construction and manufacturing to restaurants," Combs said. "As expected, the rate of growth in state sales tax revenue is moderating compared to double-digit growth rates we recently experienced."

Combs sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts their May local sales tax allocations totaling \$668.5 million, up 5.6 percent compared to May 2012.

The sales tax figures represent monthly sales made in March as well as January, February and March sales by businesses that report tax quarterly.

Haskell County had a 7.04 percent increase for May 2013 of \$51,927.41 in comparison to \$48,509.61 for May 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$231,956.98 reflect a 2.56 percent increase over 2012 payments to date of \$226,152.16.

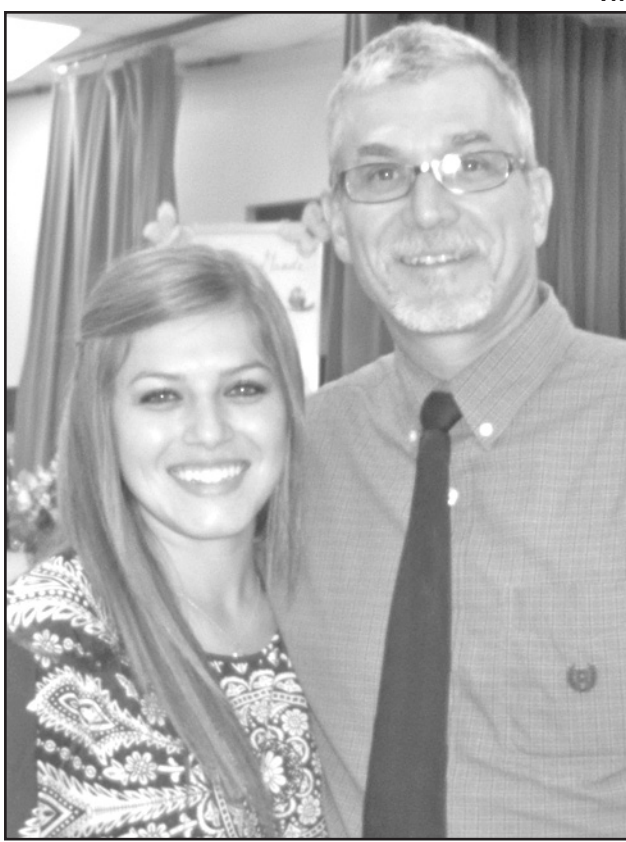
The City of Haskell had a 8.48 percent increase for May 2013 of \$47,730.21 in comparison to \$43,998.42 for May 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$216,584.21 reflect a 2.72 percent increase over 2012 payments to date of \$210,834.08.

The City of O'Brien had a 16.2 percent decrease for May 2013 of \$231.98 in comparison to \$276.85 for May 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$1,647.27 reflect a 26.04 percent increase over 2012 payments to date of \$1,306.91.

The City of Rochester had a 6.41 percent decrease for May 2013 of \$734.67 in comparison to \$785.02 for May 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$2,498.77 reflect a 3.14 percent decrease over 2012 payments to date of \$2,579.79.

The City of Rule had a 7.31 percent decrease for May 2013 of \$2,799.24 in comparison to \$3,020.24 for May 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$9,978.10 reflect a 1.72 percent decrease over 2012 payments to date of \$10,153.42.

The City of Weinert had a .51 percent increase for May 2013 of \$431.31 in comparison to \$429.08 for May 2012. 2013 payments to date of \$1,248.63 reflect a 2.29 percent decrease over 2012 payments to date of \$1,277.96.



BANQUET HONOREES—Cailey Foster, left, honored math teacher and coach John Foster during the 2013 Legacy Banquet hosted by the Haskell CISD Educational Foundation.



BANQUET HONOREES—Carson Hadaway, right, honored FFA Advisor Justin Cox during the 2013 Legacy Banquet hosted by the Haskell CISD Educational Foundation.



BANQUET HONOREES—Maci Colley, left, honored math teacher and UIL coach Kendra Bevel during the 2013 Legacy Banquet held Thurs., May 23.

Congratulations, Seniors



DRAKE EVERETT

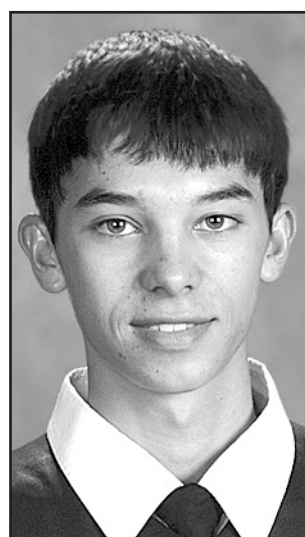


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Best Wishes to the Class of 2013!



KATIE JONES



CANNON EDWARDS



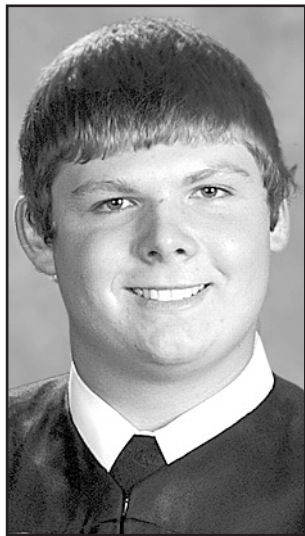
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Best Wishes Seniors '13

'13



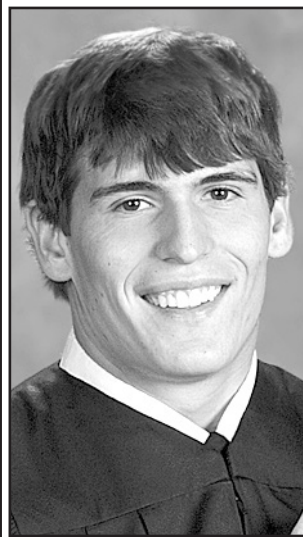
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SHAWN DUNCAN



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COLE RAY HUTCHINSON



MADISON MAYFIELD



PRESTON MORROW



DANIEL TURNER



KALYN WHEATLEY



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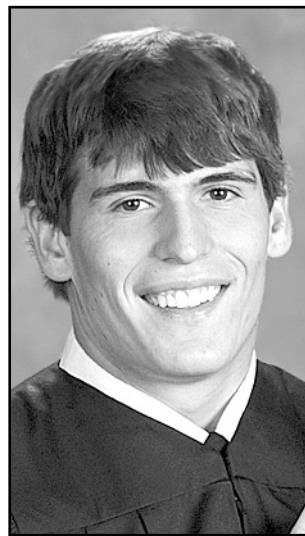
Congratulations Class of '13!



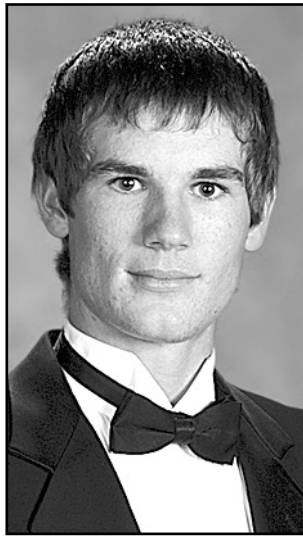
PHILLIP COLEMAN



MORGAN FRIERSON



COLE RAY HUTCHINSON

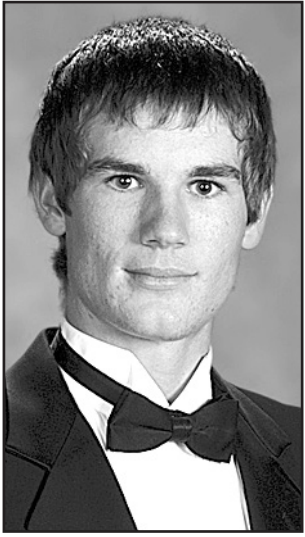


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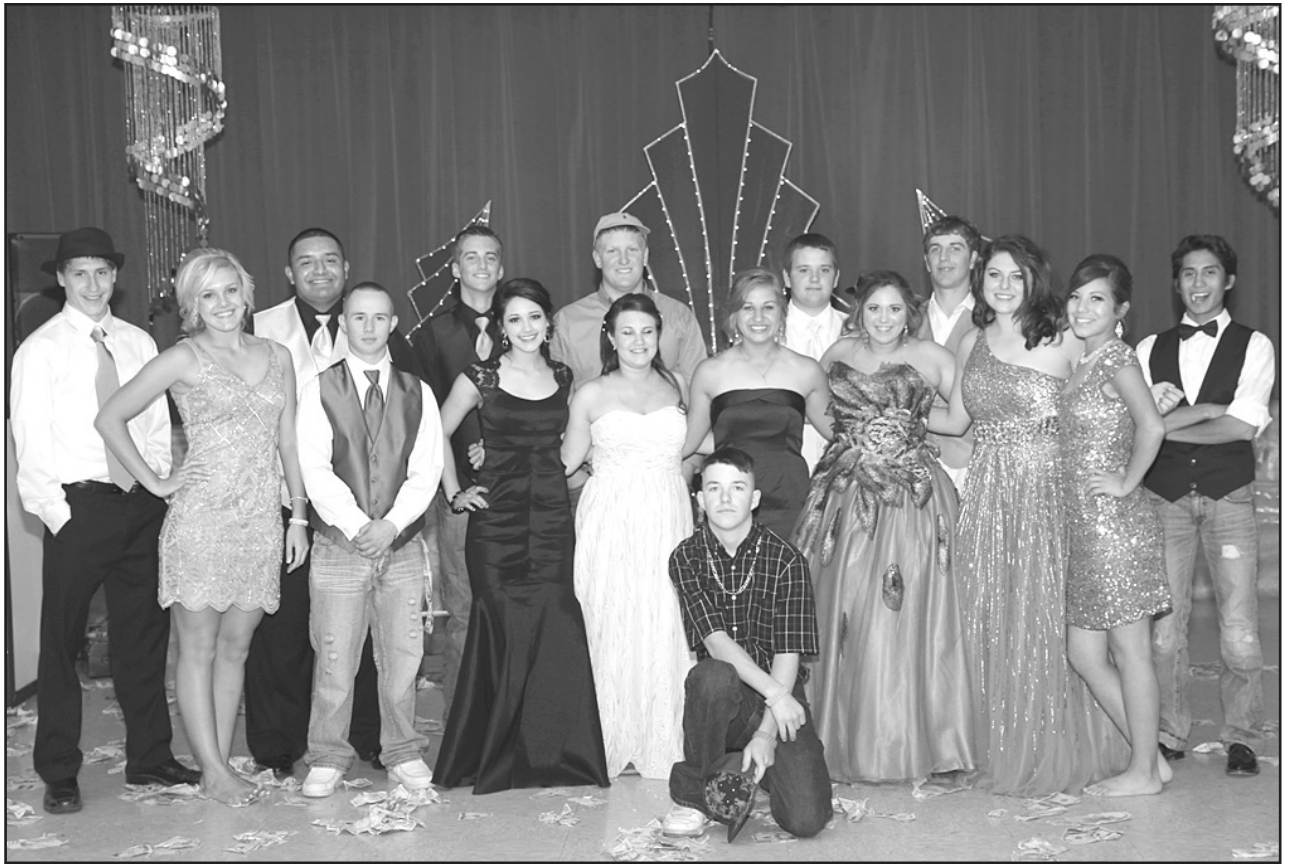
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Congratulations, Seniors!




RIVER MCTASNEY

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ATTEND PROM—Some of the members of the Glover, Max Weise, Madison Davis, Josh Frame, Haskell Junior Class attending the prom were, Madison Homeyer, Zach Tatum, Emily Fouts, Aaron I-r, Kelby Bell, Kaley Mathis, Daniel Contreras, Waggoner, Camden Smith, Morgan Garcia, Gus Estrada, Matthew Martinez, Kyle Kimbrough, Meghan


BEST WISHES




PRESTON MORROW

Class of 2013!

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Congratulations Class of 2013



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All Night Party to be held Friday night

The Haskell County All Night Party 2013, is scheduled for Friday, May 31. Students who attended high school or college during the 2012-13 school year are invited to come join the fun.

The chaperoned event will take place at the Haskell Civic Center beginning at 10 p.m. and concluding at 4 a.m. No one will be admitted after midnight.

\$10 will cover your admission and you will get this year's t-shirt, if you stay until 4 a.m. Those wanting a t-shirt must sign up and pay your money to Mrs. Hadaway or your local school secretary by May 30. Admission at the door will be \$7, with no t-shirt.

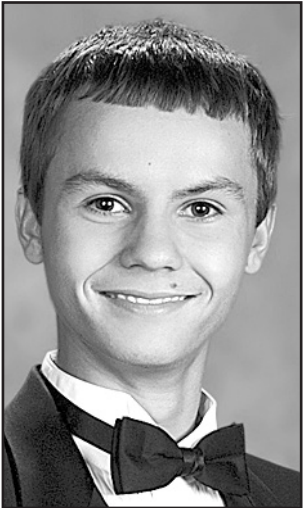
Seniors will be admitted free, and will receive a t-shirt at no cost, if they stay until 4 a.m. Guests are allowed, if they were in high school or college this school year.

Activities will include food, indoor games, outdoor games, a dance with a live DJ, as well as many door prizes. A breakfast will be served at 3:30 a.m.

New this year, will be a special treat for graduating seniors. At 2 a.m. and again at 3:50 a.m., there will be a roll call. Seniors still in attendance will receive \$50 each time.


This alcohol-free, drug-free celebration is an opportunity for Haskell County students to enjoy their friends in a safe environment, as they mark the end of another school year.

Our Sincere Congratulations to all of the Seniors - Wishing You a Great Future!



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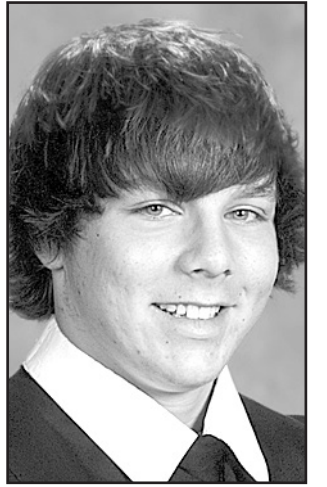
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NORMA CAMACHO

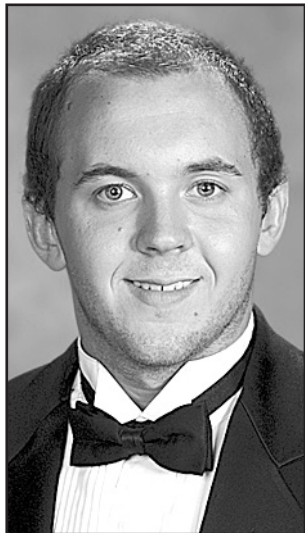
to the Class of 2013!



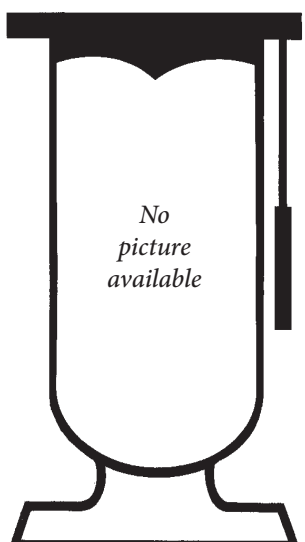
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Congratulations, Seniors



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Rule ISD is awarded loss prevention grant

Rule ISD has been awarded a loss prevention grant of \$3,000 for the sixth consecutive year from the TASB Risk Management Fund. Grant monies help implement loss prevention and safety initiatives to raise awareness of safety issues and reduce the potential for property losses and on-the-job injuries. This award is part of \$620,000 in grants the fund gave this year to 221 Texas school districts and educational entities. Since 1998 the Fund's Loss Prevention Grant Program has distributed 2,451 total grants of more than \$6.24 million to fund members in the workers' compensation and property and auto programs.



RECEIVES AWARD—Texas Association of School Boards Risk Management Fund honored Rule ISD as a Loss Prevention Grant Recipient for six consecutive years recently. A plaque was presented by William Black, right, to Rule ISD Superintendent Barry McBroom.

"The TASB Risk Management Fund's commitment to members is shown through the Fund Five "S" Difference in facing significant challenges, even during periods of economic steadiness," said Clem Zabalza, director of TASB Loss Prevention Services. "The Loss Prevention Grant helps prevent worksite injuries and protect physical assets by encouraging members to identify hazards and providing monies to address them. This grant showcases the Fund's Five S's: the Strength to give back to its members, particularly when economic times add to their challenges. These grant projects can restrain claims cost, resulting in significant Savings to our members over the long run," he said.

The 2013 grants were awarded to 213 school districts, three regional education service centers, two community colleges, two county appraisal districts, and one shared service arrangement. Workers' compensation grants focused on fall prevention, personal lifting devices, and personal protective equipment. Facilities security initiatives, driver improvement, and vehicle safety were the primary areas receiving grants under the property and auto programs. "This year's program was as competitive as ever, and selecting grant recipients was difficult because applicants continue to do a great job analyzing their exposures and the best ways to mitigate them," Zabalza said. "More than 40 members will receive their fifth or more consecutive grant award, demonstrating the Stability the fund brings to the relationship."

"This program is in its sixteenth consecutive year because the Fund Board

is committed to providing Service and resources that put a priority on preventing losses and elevating safety in the workplace. The Loss Prevention Grant Program has been vital in raising awareness of hazardous situations and reducing opportunities for losses. We



will continue to offer Simple ways to support our members so they can educate their staffs about workplace safety and resource protection. The fund is dedicated to a strong partnership with our members to support their loss prevention and safety initiatives," he said.



CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES

Best Wishes to the
Class of 2013!
Mike & Julia Harrell
940-864-3983


All the best to you, Grads!


May this be the beginning of a lifetime of success!

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Congratulations



to the Class of 2013



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'13

Students in the News

Dawn Skinner of Haskell was recently named to Tarleton State University's Distinguished Students List for the spring 2013 semester. Skinner is enrolled at the university's Stephenville campus, and is majoring in Art.

have a minimum 3.25 grade point ratio (GPR) and no grade lower than a 'C,' and juniors and seniors who have a minimum 3.5 GPR with no grade lower than a 'C.' All must be in good standing with the university.

semester at the University of North Texas.

To be named to the Dean's List, undergraduates must complete at least 12 academic hours with a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.9.

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Students on the list include freshman and sophomore students who

Caleb Seth McCord of Haskell was named to the Dean's List for the 2013 spring

Good Luck, Class of '13!



TAYLOR BURSON

PHILLIP COLEMAN

MACI COLLEY



BLAKE EDWARDS

CAILEY FOSTER

MORGAN FRIERSON



CARSON HADAWAY

RYAN MARKEY

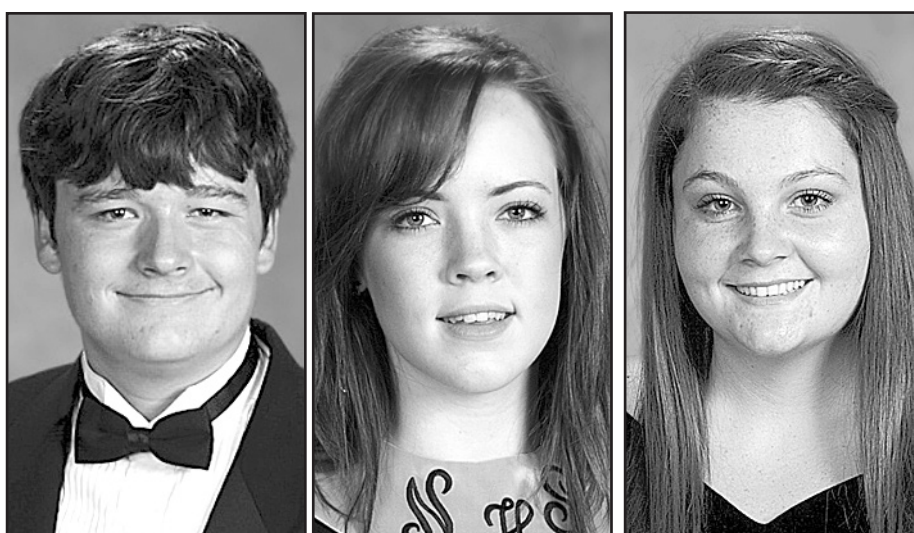
DAVID NEWTON



MYRA RODRIGUEZ

ALLISON RODRIGUEZ

MAEGAN RODRIGUEZ-GONZALES



JAMIE TODD

KALYN WHEATLEY

CHARITIE WINTERSTEIN

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Haskell

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Haskell

Students visit 12th Armored Division Memorial Museum

Forty-one students on Thurs., May 9. These in the third through fifth grades at Haskell Elementary were taken on an educational and fun field trip to Abilene

on Thurs., May 9. These students toured the 12th Armored Division Memorial Museum on North 2nd Street and had lunch and games at Mr.

Gatti's as a reward for their overall performance on Accelerated Reading during the 2012-2013 school year. On their tour of this unique museum the students learned of World War II events as experienced by the men of the 12th Armored Division "Hellcats" unit. The artifacts, photographs and written accounts of the unit are featured at this memorial museum. Memorial bricks with unit members' names pattern the floor throughout the building. Students were fascinated by the displays which included weapons, uniforms, vehicles, lifelike dioramas, and a POW exhibit. They had an opportunity to go inside a wooden replica of a tank and look out, just as World War II soldiers would have done. Then pictures were made of the students by each grade as they stood around tanks and other heavy equipment.

After the museum tour, the group proceeded to Mr. Gatti's for pizza and an afternoon of games and rides.

These students have had a great year with reading and AR and ended the year with a well-deserved reward.



FIELD TRIP—Haskell Elementary third graders taking an educational field trip to Abilene May 9 were, front row, l-r, Tess Homeyer; middle row, Nathan Martin, Wayland Damron, Emily Turner, Breanna Johnson, Delaney Hanson, Melody Martinez, Jacey Rodriguez, Piper Smith and Emmalee Wilhite; back row, Brayden Brzozowski and Taylor King.




FIELD TRIP—Haskell Elementary fourth graders taking an educational field trip to Abilene May 9 were, l-r, Nate King, Ashlyn Payne, Jacey Hudson, Spencer Simons, Hadley Sloan, Shane Stanfield, Brody Frierson, Kiannah Luce, Cade Anderson, Kolby Rubio, Eddie McBroom and Cash Bassett.



FIELD TRIP—Haskell Elementary fifth graders taking an educational field trip to Abilene May 9 were, l-r, Koby Compton, Fernando Torres, J.J. Rubio, Landry Hanson, Autum Gibbs, Valerie Andrews, Braelyn Bevel, Adaline Utley, Kourtney Gibson, Addyson Wilhite, Naomi Larned, Logan Burson, Caleb Wright, Ramiro Olvera and Andrew Zavala. Kneeling in front is Krislyn Tatum and Emmilie Arretche.


Congratulations!
Class of 2013



ASHLEY PENDERGRAFT

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'13 Good Luck
Class of 2013!





STEVEN SCHMEGNER

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Best Wishes
Class of 2013


MACI COLLEY



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Class of 2013!



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FBC SENIORS RECOGNIZED—On Sun., May 19 First Baptist Church took time during their morning worship service to recognize seven seniors that will be graduating from Haskell High School Friday night. They were also honored that morning with a breakfast. Seniors are, l-r, Tillie McGuire, Ashley Adams, Phillip Coleman, Caitlan Johnson, Maci Colley, Taylor Burson and Madison Mayfield.

Beware the dangers of distracted driving

With technology at their fingertips, drivers are constantly faced with distractions, such as talking or texting, which places their safety and that of others at serious risk. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has launched the Talk. Text. Crash. campaign to raise awareness of the dangers associated with distracted driving and to encourage Texans to put down their cell phones while driving.

Distracted driving is becoming increasingly common and dangerous, causing traffic crashes and fatalities. This deadly trend is widespread in Texas, where nearly one in four crashes involves driver distraction, according to TxDOT. In 2011 alone, over 81,000 Texas crashes involved distraction in the vehicle, driver inattention, or cell phone use. Sadly, 361 of those crashes were fatal. Cell phone use contributed to 3,147 crashes, 40 of which were fatal.

Drivers can be distracted by conversing with other passengers, eating, smoking, manipulating dashboard controls, reaching for something in the vehicle, and talking or texting on a cell phone. Among the many distractions drivers face on the road, cell phone use is one of the most common and a major cause of distracted driving traffic accidents and fatalities. At any given moment during the daylight

hours, over 800,000 vehicles are being driven by someone using a hand-held cell phone, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Teen drivers are more likely than other age groups to be involved in a fatal crash where distraction is reported. This age group has the largest proportion of drivers who were distracted; 11 percent of all drivers under the age of 20 involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crash. In Texas, 46 percent of urban teens and 52 percent of rural teens talk on a cell phone while driving, and nearly the same percentage text while driving. (Texas Transportation Institute).

"Drivers simply do not realize the dangers that are posed when they take their eyes and minds off the road and their hands off the wheel and focus on activities other than driving," said Carol T.

Rawson, P.E., TxDOT's Traffic Operations Division Director. "Talk. Text. Crash. reminds Texans of the consequences associated with distracted driving. Eliminating distractions and putting away their cell phones while driving can and will save lives."

The Talk. Text. Crash. campaign aims to reduce distracted driving, not only for National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, but throughout the year. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agent, Jane Rowan, from Haskell County reminds drivers to put away their cell phones and wait until they arrive at their destination to use their phone. Although cell phone use is the most easily recognized distraction, all in-vehicle distractions are unsafe and can cause crashes or fatalities. Keep your eyes on the road and arrive alive!

Grads,
All the best to you.
There's no limit to what you can achieve, now that you have your hard-earned diploma in hand.

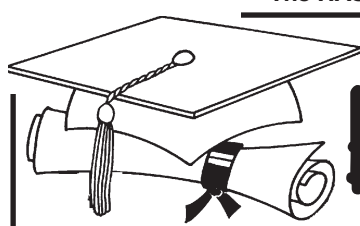
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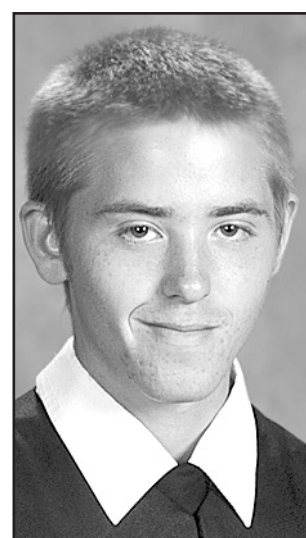
'13

Congratulations, Seniors!

'13



CASSIDY RIOS



TREVOR REESE

Haskell Save-A-\$

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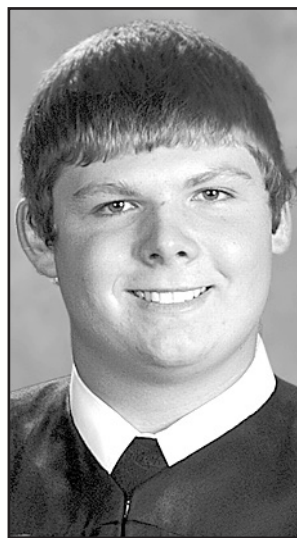
Good Luck Class of 2013



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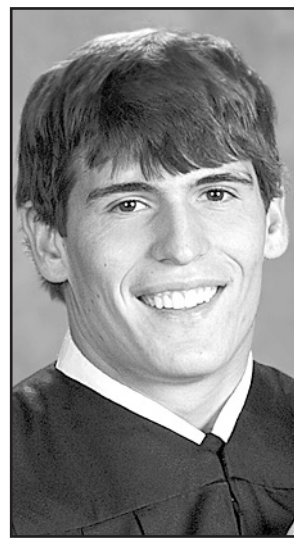
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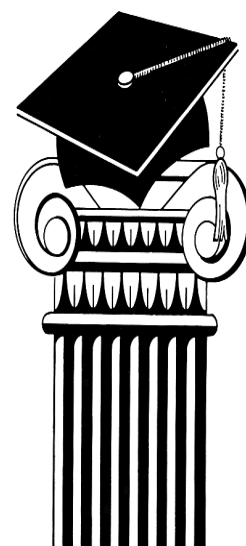
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CAILEY FOSTER



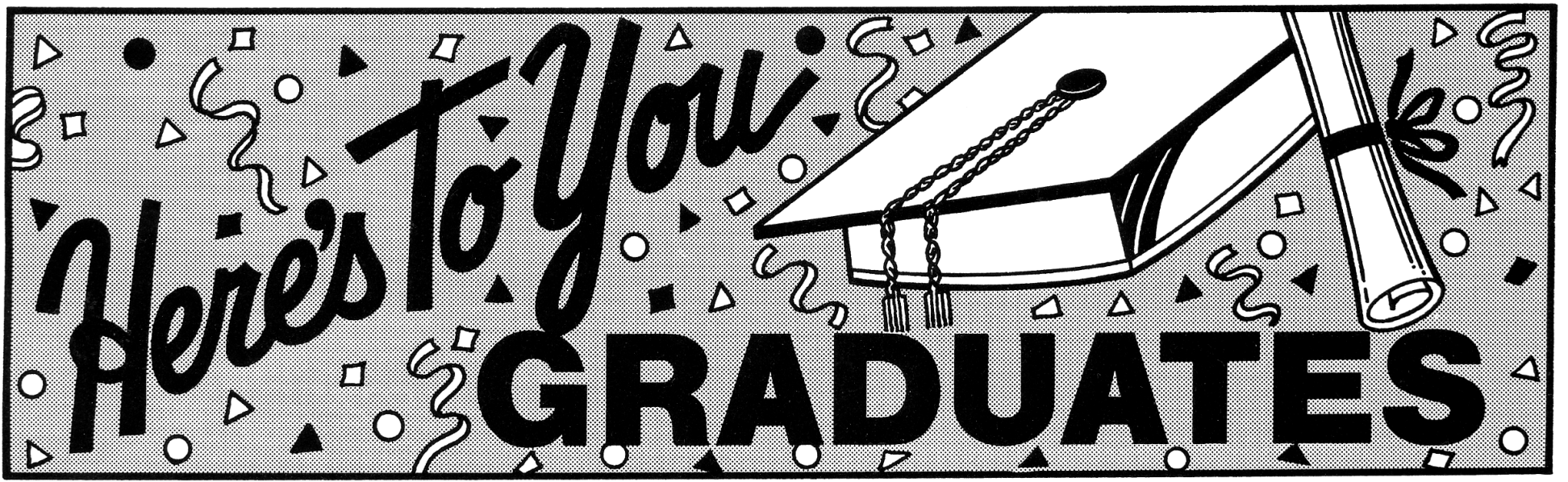
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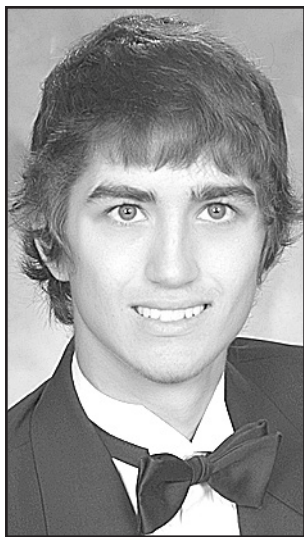


BEST WISHES TO THE RULE HIGH SCHOOL

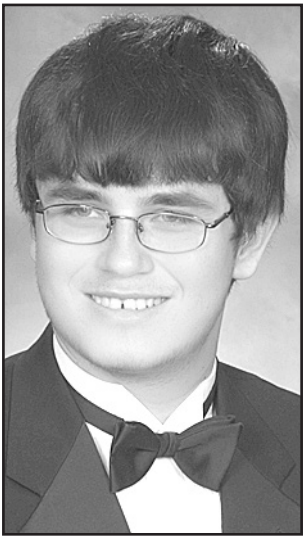
CLASS OF 2013



CELESTE CADDELL



CLAY MORROW



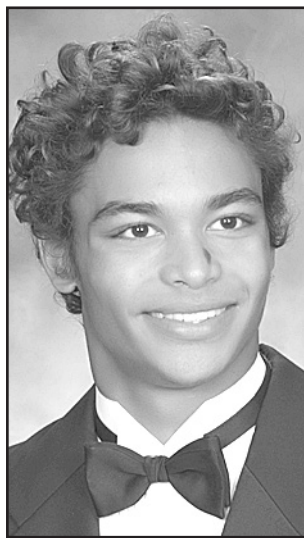
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Good Luck
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