

## Shop Haskell first

# The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 123—NO. 51, ©DECEMBER 17, 2009

"The People's Choice"

10 PAGES—ONE SECTION—75 CENTS

## Basketball

### HASKELL

JVG-B, VG-B, vs Knox City

Fri., Dec. 18, 4 p.m.

at Knox City

PAINT CREEK

VG-B vs Throckmorton

Fri., Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m.

at Paint Creek

VG-B vs Jayton

Tues., Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m.

at Jayton

### RULE

VG/VB vs Benjamin

Fri., Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m.

at Rule

VG/VB vs Woodson

Tues., Dec. 22, 6:30 p.m.

at Woodson

## Calendar

### Puttin' on the Hits

Rule High School Theatre Arts Class will be Puttin' On the Hits Thurs., Dec. 17. Preceding the program will be a baked potato supper, with dessert, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. with the program starting at 7 p.m. Cost will be \$5 for the supper and program. Cost to attend the program only will be \$2. Children under five will be admitted free. All proceeds benefit the Theatre Arts Class for UIL One Act Play competition.

### Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., Dec. 19 from 10 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. at 206 S. 2nd (building east of Civic Center) in Haskell. Volunteers and boxes are needed.

### Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., Dec. 19 from 10 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Rule. Volunteers are welcome.

### Candlelight service

The First United Methodist Church of Haskell invites each of you to join us Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. for a very special candlelight Christmas Eve service. Together, we will "Ring the Bells" to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

### Christmas service

St. George Catholic Church in Haskell will hold a Christmas service Dec. 24 at 8 p.m.

### Lighting contest

The Rule Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the Home and Yard Lighting Contest. Prizes will be first place \$50, second place \$35 and third place \$25. There is no charge to enter. Judging will be Fri., Dec. 18 so get your decorations up and turn on your lights.

### Cookbooks

The Committee to Help Haskell County's cookbook, comprised of recipes from Haskell County cooks, is available at the Tax Assessor/Collector's office and at Susan Cockerell's office in the courthouse for \$15. This is one of CHHC's major fund-raisers for providing an academic award for a graduating senior at each of our three county high schools.

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## Pair leads officers on high speed chase

Thurs., Dec. 10 at approximately 11:30 a.m. Trooper L.P. Adams attempted a traffic stop on a speeding vehicle. Adams

activated his lights to stop the vehicle when the driver of the speeding car decided not to stop.

Trooper Adams called

dispatch and advised that he was in pursuit of the vehicle east bound on Highway 380 west of Rule with speeds above 100 mph.

Officers of surrounding counties heard the call and began heading in the direction of the chase in an attempt to intercept and

help in stopping the fleeing vehicle.

The vehicle went through the city of Rule at speeds above 100 mph and headed in the direction of Haskell. Haskell Chief Deputy Winston Stephens attempted to set up spike strips to deflate the tires of the vehicle.

Midway between Haskell and Rule, the fleeing vehicle ran out of gas and pulled onto Farm to Market Road 2407 and stopped. The driver bailed out and ran into the pasture. The passenger got out and surrendered to Trooper Adams.

Other officers arrived and set up a perimeter around the pasture and the Wiseman house.

When officers had the area secure, a sweep of the pasture began. After a short search the driver was taken into custody without incident.

After further investigation, the driver admitted that he had stolen the vehicle in Wichita Falls that morning. The driver was helping the passenger out by driving him to a court hearing in Abilene that day. The passenger was not aware that the vehicle was stolen.

The driver, a 32 year old white male, was arrested and charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and fleeing to elude in a vehicle. He was transported to Haskell County Jail.

The quick response of Knox County deputies, Stonewall County deputy, Rule Police Department, Rochester Police Department, Haskell Police Department, District Attorney Investigator, DPS Narcotic officers, Troopers from Stonewall and Knox Counties and Haskell County Sheriff's office helped prevent these suspects from running around for a while or getting away with this crime. It takes the team work of all law enforcement working together in small counties and cities to get criminals off the streets.



**BEST FLOAT**—Cliff's Garage had the first place winning entry Christmas Airplane in the Haskell Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade held Sat., Dec. 12. Taking second place was the entry by the Girl Scouts, followed by the third place winning Christmas Train.

## Twelve Indians on All-District teams

by Caron Yates

What a season the Haskell Indian football team has had! In the words of their coach, Kent Colley, "It was a great run and I feel fortunate to be a part of it. The kiddos did such a great job of hanging together and not giving up."

That may very well have been one of the key factors to their success. This group of young men presented themselves as a team. Each and every one gave their all each week, not so much for individual glory, but for the advancement of the Indian team.

Early on, at least by others' estimation, this team was expected to finish somewhere in the "middle of the pack" in district play. Perhaps others did not see the fierce determination, pride and desire the boys and their coaches had.

Finishing second to Hamlin in district, the Indians seemed to get better each week. Surviving close bi-district and regional games, they blew away their quarterfinal opponents. Even in the semifinal game, up against a much larger and more experienced Canadian team, they played until the final whistle. That speaks well of their work ethic.

You know you've achieved success when twelve different players on the team receive all district honors. Simon Rodriguez, a junior offensive/defensive lineman was selected as a district MVP. He finished the season with 102 tackles, 57 of which were solo, four sacks, three fumble recoveries and five forced

fumbles. Freshman running back/defensive lineman, Tyrone Neskoriak, was named Defensive Newcomer by the district. He had 36.5 tackles with 16 being solo, 2.5 sacks, 2 fumble recoveries and seven big hits.

Listed on the first team offense for Haskell are junior quarterback Christian Myers, senior running back Tyler Rodriguez, senior fullback James Williams, senior tight end Austin Marshall, senior center Clint Hamilton, senior guard Ethan Frierson and senior offensive tackle A.J. Benton.

Myers had 156 rushes for 851 yards, 29 pass completions for 406 yards with 17 touchdowns. Tyler Rodriguez finished the year with 192 carries for 1554 yards, accumulating 20 touchdowns. Williams rushed 257 times for 1260 yards, accounting for 9 touchdowns. Marshall added three touchdowns and 40 tackles to aid the cause, while Hamilton had 38 tackles and three forced fumbles.

The first team defense includes defensive tackle Benton whose stats show 46.5 tackles, 19 of which were solo, as well as 3 sacks. Frierson was named all-district defensive end. 16 of his 38 tackles were solo tackles, and he had 2.5 sacks. Of the 60.5 tackles first team cornerback Tyler Rodriguez accounted for, 41 were solo tackles.

Junior Marco Gonzalez was named first team defense utility player, as well as second team offense receiver. 17 of his 35 tackles were solo, and he added 6 touchdowns to the effort.

Senior Scottie Rodriguez was named to the second team as an offensive lineman and to the second team defense as a kicker. Kelson Aguero, a junior, was voted second team defense safety. He ended the season with 61 tackles, 30 solo tackles and 3 forced fumbles. Marshall was included on the 2nd team defense as a defensive end, while Williams was named as outside linebacker with 28 solo tackles and a total of 51.5 tackles for the season.

In addition Brett Shelton and Frierson were named to the 2009 Academic All District Team.

The Indians have not

been to the semifinals since 1978. In 2004, they made it to the fourth round of the playoffs, which at that time was the quarterfinals.

Colley, who has coached for fifteen years, nine of those at Haskell, has been head coach for the past two seasons. Colley says, "My tenure at Haskell has been a great experience that I would not trade for anything. I hope that we can make many more great runs in the playoffs in the future here at Haskell."

To all the Haskell Indian players and coaching staff, congratulations on a job well done. You have proven that determination and hard work can equal success.



**MEMORIAL DONATION**—Members of the Haskell Progressive Study Club met at the Veteran's Memorial and flag display on the southwest corner of the square to receive a check for the fund to expand the existing veterans memorial on the courthouse square, a project of the club. Lonnie Meredith of The Drug Store in Haskell presented Dorothy Hartsfield of the Progressive Study Club a check for \$1,000 for the fund. Others present were, l-r, Hess Hartsfield, a veteran of both World War II and Korea; Lynn Dodson, whose father-in-law served in World War II; Connie Benton, who father served in World War II; Susan Turner; Haskell County Judge David Davis, who served in Vietnam; and Julia Harrell, whose husband Mike is a veteran of Vietnam.

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



# Census Bureau seeks applicants

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting and testing motivated individuals to work in local communities across the state of Texas for the 2010 Census. Testing for these positions is taking place now, and testing information is available at 866-861-2010.

Pay is based on position and location, with flexible work schedules of up to 40 hours per week. Peak hiring will take place in May, but applicants may be offered temporary positions as early as January. The Census Bureau hires locally, offers paid training and gives mileage reimbursement.

"Our goal of recruiting individuals from every neighborhood is crucial to achieving an accurate Census count," says Gabriel Sanchez, the Census Bureau's Regional Director for the Dallas Region, which is comprised of Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. "The decennial census is mandated at a national level, but cannot be successful without the help from the communities within the region."

Census Day is April 1, 2010, and the Census Bureau's Dallas Region has begun operations to ensure that every person is counted in the 2010 Census. A total of 38 Local Census Offices are operating across Texas. Based on the workload, these offices will need to recruit and employ approximately 84,000 workers during peak 2010 Census operations throughout Texas.

To apply for employment, applicants should call 866-861-2010 and schedule a 30-minute employment test which will include basic math, reading and organization skills. Applicants may visit [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov) to find a sample test.

# Obituaries

## Daniel W. 'Danny' Hill



**DANNY HILL**

Funeral services for Daniel W. 'Danny' Hill, 76 of Fort Stockton were held Fri., Dec. 11 at First Baptist Church with Pastor Matt Sams officiating, assisted by Rev. Dr. Jim Miles. Graveside services were held Sat., Dec. 12 at Willow Cemetery in Haskell with Rev. Brian Hill officiating. Arrangements

were by Shaffer-Nichols Funeral Home of Crane.

Mr. Hill passed away Tues., Dec. 8 in Fort Stockton.

Born March 15, 1933 in Navarro County, he married Jessie Pearl Kreger Nov. 29, 1953 at the Curry Baptist Church in Haskell County. He worked with his family's farming occupation as a youth, and on his own after marriage. He worked 37 years for El Paso Gas Company and other gas companies before retiring in 1994. He also spent much of his life working in building trades and as a general contractor. He enjoyed airplanes, trucks and machinery. In his youth, he performed weekly on the Big State Jamboree in Abilene, where he performed with and met many famed

country music people with whom he made good friends.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Paula Jane Hill in 1980; and his parents, Wilburn Jennings Bryant Hill, Sr. and Ethel Lorene Barnes Hill.

Survivors include his loving wife, Jessie Hill of Fort Stockton; his brothers, Melvin Ray Hill and his wife LaVerne of Clyde, Howard Hill and his wife Corien of Abilene, Robert Hill and his wife Loretta of Odessa, Wilburn Bryant Hill, Jr. and his wife Barbara and Joe Billy Hill and his wife Shirley, all of Clyde; his sister, Betty Louise Cook and her husband Richard of Post; numerous nieces and nephews, cousins and special friends. PD. NOTICE

## Shirley Ann Williams Curd

Funeral services for Shirley Ann Williams Curd, 59, of Graham were held Fri., Dec. 11 in Morrison Funeral Home Chapel in Graham with Jamey Burrus, pastor of Cowboy Church Gatherin', officiating. Burial was in Pleasant Valley Cemetery in Haskell County under the direction of Morrison Funeral Home of Graham.

Mrs. Williams passed away Dec. 7 in Graham.

Born May 7, 1950 in Haskell, she was the daughter of the late O.T. and O'Leta Mae Israel Williams. She married James Ira Curd, Sr. May 28, 1966 in Haskell. She was an office manager for Fred Garrison Oil Company in Graham. She was a member of the Asphalt Aviators of Mineral Wells, a lifetime blood donor, American Red Cross, Boy Scout leader, "Mom's Taxi Service," and a member of the Trinity Baptist Church

in Haskell. She was preceded in death by brothers, Oran Rex and Jerry Max Williams.

Survivors include her husband, James I. Curd, Sr. of Graham; sons, Jamie Curd and wife, Lisa of Jermyn and Bo Curd of Graham; grandchildren, Laramie Curd of Granbury, Ky Plowman and husband, Mark of Weatherford, and Trey Curd of Jermyn; great grandchildren, Ryon Curd of Granbury and Kyndryck Plowman of Weatherford; brother, Jim Bob Williams of Azle; sisters, Betty Sue Raynes of Weinert, Sammie Kay Howeth of Breckenridge, Peggy Maxine Selman of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma and Patsy Lou Brooks of Abilene; numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Graham Regional Hospice. PD. NOTICE

## Lorene Hood Bonner

Funeral services for Lorene Hood Bonner, 89, were held Sat., Dec. 12 at East Side Baptist Church in Haskell with Bro. Jim McCurley officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery in Haskell under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mrs. Bonner passed away Wed., Dec. 9 in Longview after a long battle with a serious health condition.

Born Ethel Lorene Muse on Jan. 20, 1920 in Somervell County, she was the daughter of C.C. and Irene Muse. She married Leonard Hood July 17, 1937 in Shackelford County. She later married Newt Bonner May 23, 1970 in Abilene. She was employed by Safeway Stores for many years in Stamford and Abilene prior to her retirement in 1985.

She was preceded in death by her parents, both husbands, five brothers-in-law and five

nephews.

Survivors include one son, Walter Hood of Lake Cherokee and his wife, Jane; three grandchildren, Tricia Bolin and husband Davy and daughter Taryn of Abilene, David Hood and wife Gina and daughter Heather of Odessa, and Cindy Winfrey and husband Michael, son Jason and daughters Kaetlyn and Brianne of Odessa; two step grandsons, Tanner Terry and wife Carrie and son Noah and daughter Bethany of Longview, Trevor Terry and wife Heather and son James of Lufkin; two sisters, Dorothy Cox and Ruby Martin, both of Haskell; one nephew, Stanley Martin of Haskell; two nieces, Jody Biba of Haskell and Nelda Rogers of Austin; and several grand nephews and grand nieces.

Memorials may be made to the American Alzheimers Association. PD. NOTICE

## Education Center receives DLT grant

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that 111 projects in 35 states have been selected to receive more than \$34.9 million in grants that will increase educational opportunities and access to health care services in rural areas. The funding will be provided through USDA Rural Development's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program. Five projects in Texas have been selected to receive \$1,443,395.

"The Obama Administration is working to ensure that rural citizens have access to a full range of educational opportunities

and access to quality medical care," Vilsack said. "The funding we are announcing today will deliver these opportunities by expanding telecommunications, educational resources and computer networks throughout rural communities."

"Schools and health care providers in rural Texas have increasingly tighter budgets. Grants such as these are powerful tools for providing expanded educational and health care opportunities which otherwise may be unavailable," said Paco Valentin, USDA Rural Development State Director

of Texas.

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Grant Program provides access to education, training and health care resources in rural areas. Funding is contingent upon the recipient meeting the conditions of the grant agreement. These funds are part of USDA's annual budget and are not part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Among the Texas recipients was Region XIV Education Center, located in Abilene, will receive \$500,000 to provide high definition video conferencing systems to 42 school districts located in 13 counties which enable them to provide staff development programs for teachers and expand student developed video projects. USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development fosters growth in homeownership, finances business development and supports the creation of critical community and technology infrastructure.

Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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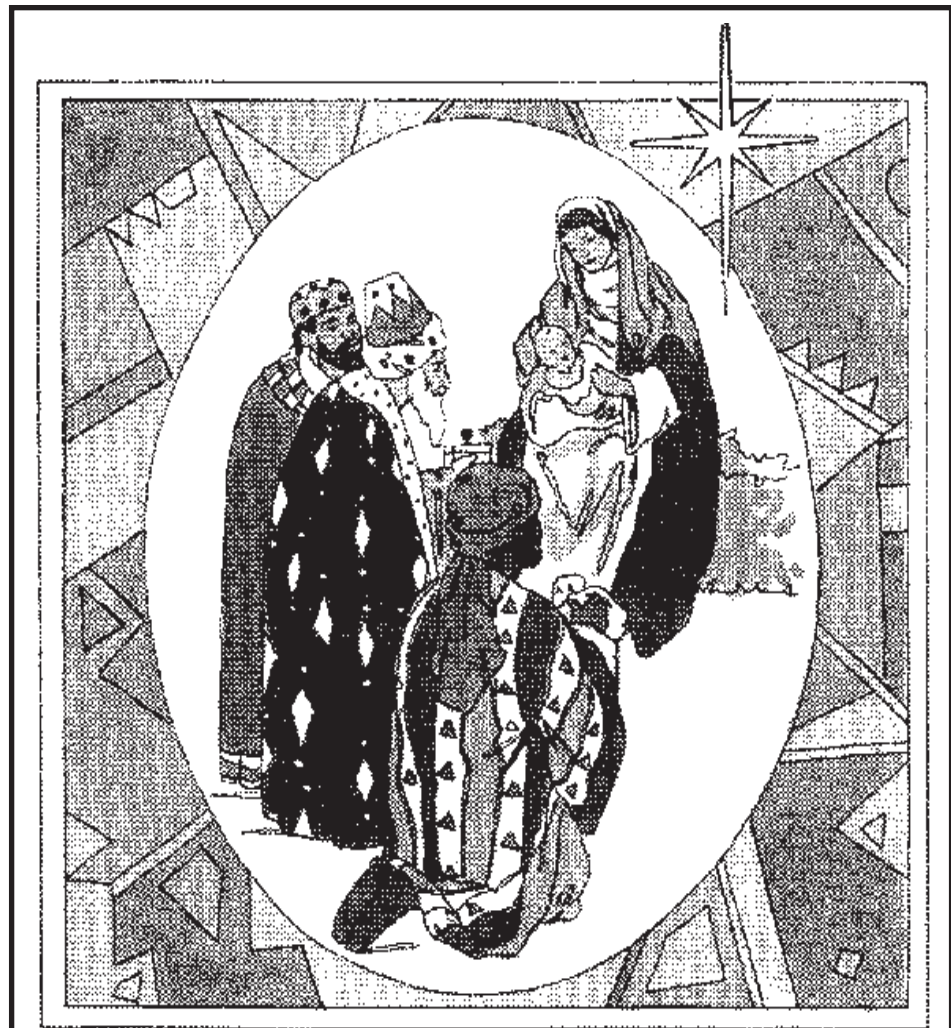
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# Frierson retires after 35 years at Farm Bureau

Janette Frierson, secretary for the Haskell County Farm Bureau, is retiring after 35 years of service. Frierson began work at the agency Sept. 23, 1974.

She has worked with many agents and agency managers during this time including Leo Fields, 1974-78; Eddie Chambers, 1978-81; Lonnie Tate, 1981-84; Charles 'Ike' Neal, 1984-93; Dennis Patterson, 1993-99; and Kenny Tanner, 1999 to present.

Frierson has received many recognitions from Texas Farm Bureau, one of which has been for a continuous membership gain in Haskell County. A goal obtained even during tough economic times. She has also

helped Haskell's renewal rate for memberships. Haskell's rate has been over ninety percent for eight consecutive years, a number above the state average.

Vernie Glasson, Executive Director of Texas Farm Bureau said, "Janette has been a role model for other county secretaries around the state. She is dedicated and has the desire to do the job right the first time."

She is married to David Frierson and has six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Frierson will be honored at the office, located at 508 N. 1st St., Wed., Dec. 30 from 1 to 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to drop by and wish her well.



MR. AND MRS. TOM ALVIS

## Couple celebrates 50th anniversary

Tom and Geneva Alvis of Lubbock are celebrating their 50th anniversary.

Thomas V. Alvis and Geneva Ann Franklin were united in marriage Dec. 20, 1959, at the First Baptist Church in Haskell.

They celebrated their anniversary with a cruise to Alaska.

Their three children, Berry Alvis, Sherri Rodriguez and Beth Hennington will celebrate at the Alvis home with a family party.

Tom works as interim superintendent, sells farm/ranch real estate with Cliff Land Brokers, manages T&G Alvis farms and is a consultant for Moak, Casey and Associates.

Geneva is a retired school counselor and teacher and supports her extended family.

To congratulate the

couple, cards may be sent to Sherri Rodriguez, 700 South 18th Street, Slaton, Texas 79364.

## Calendar

### Cancer support

The Haskell Area Cancer Support group meets every other Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the First Assembly of God Church. For more information, call 940-864-5964.

### Immunizations

The Texas Dept. of Health in Stamford will hold an immunization and H1N1 clinic Thurs., Dec. 17 at the Haskell Hospital Educational Building. Clinic times are from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. For more information call 325-773-5681.

You are invited to join us for a very special candlelight Christmas Eve Service  
 Thurs., Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Haskell  
 Together, we will 'Ring the Bells' to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

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# Rochester women enjoy luncheon

The Rochester Woman's Club met Dec. 2 in the home of Sharon and Dolan Brinson for the annual Christmas luncheon and program.

A treasury report was given by Jane Short.

Leader for the day, Verlene Stegemoeller, read "The Christmas Story" from the Bible and "The Littlest Angel," a cute story that she reads to her grandchildren every Christmas season.

Modelle Barton read a letter written by her niece for a newspaper article for which she won a prize. The true story was titled, "Love Through the Eyes of a Child." All stories were beautiful and gave the true

meaning of what this season is all about.

After singing several songs and following the program, everyone agreed that it was a great way to start off the Christmas season.

Sharon Brinson stated that hosting the club's Christmas luncheon helped her get her home decorated early!

Attending were Modelle Barton, Elaine Glover, Mary Anna Johnston, Gerri Newberry, Jo Evelyn Patterson, Jane Short, Betty Thompson, Verlene Stegemoeller, and guests Karen Byrd, Betty Ruth White and hostess Sharon Brinson.

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# OPINION

## TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



### HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

#### Governor blasts back at EPA health ruling on carbon dioxide

AUSTIN—Gov. Rick Perry on Dec. 9 wrote to Lisa Jackson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency director, in hopes of having the agency withdraw a ruling that admits to the health danger of carbon dioxide in the air we all breathe.

The EPA announced Dec. 7 that greenhouse gases (water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone) threaten the public health and welfare of the American people. EPA also cited evidence that "GHG" emissions from on-road vehicles contribute to that threat.

Perry, joined by state officials and industry chiefs, held a press conference in La Porte Dec. 9 to talk about the EPA ruling.

"The unelected bureaucrats at the EPA have effectively and unilaterally ended any honest debate on this vital issue," Perry said. "A cap and tax system would force Texans to bear more than their share of negative effects, including an average increase in annual living costs of approximately \$1,200 per household and the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs. I'm a firm believer that Washington's one-size-fits all approaches don't work, whether you're talking energy policies, health care reform or economic development," he said.

Perry refers above to "cap and trade," a federal plan to control air pollution by limiting the amount of pollutants a company may discharge. If a company uses all of its pollution "credits," it may buy credits from another company that has some to spare.

Cap and trade operates under the theory that companies will cut back or clean up their emissions, and cumulatively, the less pollution, the cleaner and healthier the air.

Public Utility Commission Chairman Barry Smitherman said cap and trade "will cost trillions (of dollars) with no guarantee of results, except lost jobs and higher electricity prices."

#### Letters target uninsured motorists

The Texas Department of Insurance announced Dec. 8 that about 100,000 Texas drivers will receive a one-page letter because they could not be matched with an active auto insurance policy for a period of at least 60 days.

The letters come through TexasSure, a vehicle insurance verification program available to the state's 254 county tax assessor-collectors since June 2008 and state law enforcement since October 2008.

The goal of the program is to reduce the number of uninsured drivers. The presence of uninsured drivers on the road drives up auto insurance costs for insured drivers.

#### Appliance rebate program is set

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs on Dec. 11 announced the state will use about \$23 million in federal stimulus funds for a mail-in rebate program for consumers who purchase certain energy efficient household appliances between April 16 and April 25, 2010.

The rebates are for consumers who buy eligible Energy Star appliances and replace the same type of old appliance that is functional. Included are Energy Star certified refrigerators, freezers, room air conditioners, central air conditioners, heat pumps, water heaters, clothes washers and dishwashers, Combs said. An additional \$75 recycling rebate will go to consumers who buy an eligible appliance and recycle the same type of functional old appliance.

The 10-day purchase period was set to coincide with Earth Day, April 22, 2010.

#### State sales tax intake declines

Comptroller Combs on Dec. 11 said the state collected \$1.7 billion in sales tax in November, down 14.4 percent compared to November 2008.

Collections were down in oil and natural gas production, construction, manufacturing and retail trade.

#### Language extends tolling ban

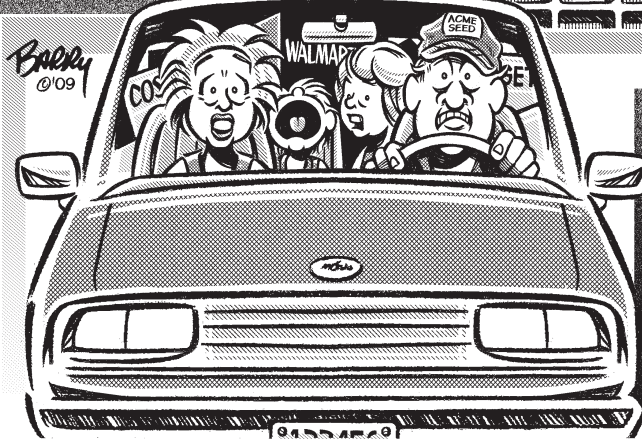
U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, a member of the Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations subcommittee, on Dec. 11 announced that her language reinforcing a current ban on placing tolls on existing interstate highways in Texas through September 2010 was included in pending legislation she expects to be signed into law.

#### Bill contains Ike recovery money

The U.S. House on Dec. 10 and the U.S. Senate on Dec. 13 passed a \$1.1 trillion spending bill, which includes funds to help Galveston and other communities hit by Hurricane Ike in September 2008. The bill awaits President Obama's signature.

Language in the bill makes matching community development block grant funding available for hurricane-damaged cities in Texas coastal areas still in need of recovery assistance. The language was inserted into the bill by U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards, D-Waco.

SO—WHO DID THEIR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT LOCAL STORES?



AND WHO SHOPPED IN THE BIG CITY?

## From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

#### 10 Years Ago December 23, 1999

The Haskell FFA Radio Team consisting of members Kira Poteet, Kristi Christian and Tara Hamilton placed second in district, first in area and second in the state competition.

Named to the first team all-district six-man football team are Mike Casey, Jody Harvey, Joe Soteo, Josh Smith, Cody Tibbetts and Jeremy Hertel, all of Rule. Also named were Manuel Gonzales, Josh Rodriguez, Cody Ray Byrd, Eric Aguiler and Cody Joshua Byrd, all of Rochester.

Lighting contest winners were Personality-Slipper Shoppe, business category; Barry and Karen Katliff, residential category; Rob and Amy McKnight, overall lighting effect.

#### 20 Years Ago December 21, 1989

The Haskell Indians captured the championship over Breckenridge during the annual Haskell Booster Club Basketball Tournament. Scoring was led by James Rike, Harper Stewart and Shane Osborne.

A Progressive Christmas dinner was held in the homes of Ernestine Herren, Nancy Toliver and Jerrene Couch for members of the Progressive Study Club.

Haskell County students graduating from Texas Tech University were Randy Roewe, BBA; Sam Toliver, BS in Physical Education; April Turner, BS in Home Economics; and

Darla Griffis, BA in Social Welfare.

#### 30 Years Ago December 20, 1979

Fire Chief Tom Watson says plans are under way for a dedication and open house for the new fire station. To date donations total \$52,732.

Kim Lane was named to the all-tournament team during the Roscoe tournament.

Christi Sue Optiz of Haskell, graduated Summa Cum Laude from Southwestern State University with a degree in pharmacy.

#### 40 Years Ago December 18, 1969

Marsha Shaver of Rochester, currently the South Plains Maid of Cotton queen, was named as one of the finalists to the National Maid of Cotton contest in Memphis, Tenn.

Haskell National Bank president Abe Turner, announced the resignation of two members of the Board of Directors, R.C. Liles and Buford Cox.

Army Specialist Four Lynn Berryhill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Berryhill of Rochester, received the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service.

Wanda Dulaney was in charge of the annual White Christmas Service at the Haskell Christian Church, which included a slide presentation, candlelight service and music.

#### 50 Years Ago December 17, 1959

W.H. Baccus, Jr. operator of the Mobil Service Station has recently completed special training in the latest methods of service station operation.

Mrs. Ben Charlie Chapman gave a delightful review of the book, "Christmas with Ed Sullivan" to members of the Haskell Business and Professional Women's Club during their Dec. meeting.

Gary Ivy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Ivy of Haskell, and Abilene Christian College graduate student is entering his fifth year as a member of the ACC Wildcat Band.

Mr. and Mrs. Evans Ray, prominent Haskell County farm couple, will observe their golden wedding anniversary at the family home.

#### 100 Years Ago December 18, 1909

W.H. Parsons has traded his store building for a farm.

There have been several real estate deals reported this week in which farmers traded for homes in Haskell, where they will have the advantages of our public school system.

There will be a Stock Law election in Haskell and considerable interest is already being shown in the issue.

About 7 o'clock Tues. evening, Drew Day was injured when his team ran away with him, throwing him out of his wagon.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear editor,

This is to express my appreciation to area schools for my getting to help with the judging in the interscholastic league competition which was held at Rule ISD recently.

The children from the various schools were absolutely precious and presented themselves remarkably well. I was very impressed by the teachers and all of the displays and equipment at Rule ISD.

I'd also like to mention how much I enjoyed the Veterans' breakfast at Haskell Elementary. The children were very cordial and our teachers and administrators are hereby commended. Visit our schools, you will be impressed.

Sincerely,  
H.L. Guess

## Newborns to be screened for CF

The Texas Department of State Health Services has begun testing for cystic fibrosis as part of a state program to screen all newborn babies for certain inheritable and congenital disorders.

The Texas Legislature approved funding earlier this year to add cystic fibrosis to the list of 27 other disorders screened for in Texas' Newborn Screening Program. All babies born in Texas are required by law to have two rounds of screening tests for the disorders.

Cystic fibrosis is an inherited disease that causes thick, sticky mucus to build up in the lungs and digestive system. The mucus can trap germs that can cause infections. Early detection and treatment can improve growth and brain development, reduce hospitalizations and help people with cystic fibrosis live longer.

Testing for the 28 disorders requires a "heel stick" blood sample taken from newborns shortly after birth and again at one to two weeks of age. The lab process detects those infants who have an abnormal screen. An abnormal screen triggers follow-up with a health care provider for confirmatory testing.

Early detection of these disorders allows early treatment that can prevent serious complications such as growth problems, developmental delays, deafness, blindness, intellectual disabilities, seizures and early death.

The Newborn Screening Program began in Texas as a pilot program in 1963 and was legislatively mandated in 1965. DSHS screens approximately 800,000 newborn specimens annually. Texas babies also are screened for hearing loss.

Information about the DSHS Newborn Screening Program and the disorders covered are available online at [www.dshs.state.tx.us/newborn/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/newborn/default.shtm).

## From the AG

By Greg Abbott

#### Holiday Shopping: Product Safety

With the holiday shopping rush underway, Texans are understandably concerned about product safety. Though most consumer products are safe when used properly, Texans are encouraged to regularly check the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Web site at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) to make sure they do not have items that could pose a danger to themselves or their children.

CPSC regulates the safety of over 15,000 different kinds of consumer products. The federal agency regularly tests consumer products to ensure they are safe and issues warnings whenever products do not meet certain safety standards.

Many of the alerts posted by CPSC involve toys, car seats and other items for children. In November, for example, CPSC recalled 2.1 million baby cribs after receiving more than 100

complaints about drop-side detachment incidents. When the drop-side detaches, it creates space between the drop-side and the crib mattress, posing a suffocation hazard to children.

When a recall is issued, Texans should stop using the product and remove it from their homes. The product's manufacturer often provides information about replacing a recalled product or obtaining a voucher for a replacement item. The recalled stroller's manufacturer provided purchasers with a free repair kit.

Parents and grandparents might be particularly interested in the "Toys" and "Child Products" section of the CPSC Web site, which provides information on recent recalls. To ensure they are notified when a manufacturer issues a recall, buyers should always return warranty and product registration forms after purchasing new toys. If manufacturers do not receive

the registration forms, they do not know to include the purchaser on a notification list.

Texas shoppers with video games on their families holiday shopping list should also pay careful attention to the Entertainment Software Rating Board's age and content ratings when purchasing computer and video games. ESRB ratings are an effective and informative resource that allows parents to evaluate whether video game content is appropriate for their child.

Texas with product safety concerns may contact the Office of the Attorney General at 800-252-8011 or online at [www.texasattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov). We will gladly help residents find federal, state and local resources that will assist them in gathering critical information about a product's safety record or reporting their concerns.

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This issue mailed Wed., Dec. 16, 2009







**CERTIFICATION RENEWED**—Clear Fork Crime Stoppers board members display their renewed Texas Crime Stoppers certificate. Board members, l-r, include Don Haynes, Jones County; Bill Nemir, Haskell County; Sheila Shields, Jones County; Pat Martin, Stonewall County; Lynn Gibson, Fisher County; Steve Alsabrook, Haskell County; Dowell Matthew, Jones County and Dudley Cockerell, Jones County. Board members not pictured are Don Howard, Jones County; Bobby Russell, Shackelford County; Jack Brown, Fisher County and Kathy Castaneda, Stonewall County.

## Clear Fork Crime Stoppers renews official certification

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers recently received their renewed certification from Texas Crime Stoppers. Every two years crime stopper groups must reapply for official certification from the state organization.

In its two years of operation Clear Fork Crime Stoppers has paid out over \$8,000 in rewards for tips that have lead to numerous arrests across the six counties served by CFCS. Information provided by anonymous tipsters has helped solve crimes that include burglary, arson, indecency with a child, possession of narcotics, sale of prohibited substance, theft and vandalism. Over \$40,000 in stolen goods has been recovered.

Citizens in Fisher, Jones, Haskell, Kent, Stonewall and Shackelford counties are urged to report any information about crimes occurring in the counties to the 24 hour tipline 800-222-TIPS or text tips to CFCS at CRIMES. All callers remain anonymous.

CFCS would like to thank the law enforcement officers, the media and the citizens of our counties for their support of our organization.

Donations can be mailed to Clear Fork Crime Stoppers, P.O. Box 246, Stamford, Texas 79553. Donations are tax deductible.



**PAINT CREEK JH ONE ACT PLAY**—The Paint Creek Junior High One Act Play received second place at the District 11-A contest. Members of the play Rikki-Tikki-Tavi include, front row, Cody Mayfield, Katie McCord, Stormy Darnell, Shady Blue Dunlap, Caitlyn Mengwasser and Shawn Myers; back row, Andrew Hearne, Hanna Colley, Micah Waggoner, Justin Bailey and Marco Martinez.

## Paint Creek OAP places second

Paint Creek received second place with the play Rikki-Tikki-Tavi at the District 11-A contest. The student's performance was outstanding on stage.

Students recognized for their performance include, Honorable Mention Cast, Cody Mayfield, Andrew Hearn and Micah Waggoner; and All-Star Cast, Shalon

Heidenheimer, Stormy Darnell, Skylar Bridges and Kadie McCord.

Other students on the cast include Justin Bailey, Shady Blue Dunlap, Brad Winterstein, Shawn Myers, Caitlyn Mengwasser, Marco Martinez and Hanna Colley. These students had a major part in making the play a success.

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### Paint Creek School Menu

**Dec. 21-22**  
**Breakfast**

Juice and milk are served daily.

**Monday:** Biscuits, sausage, gravy

**Tuesday:** Toast or cereal

**Wednesday:** No school

**Thursday:** No school

**Friday:** No school

**Lunch**

Milk is served daily.

**Monday:** Corndogs, fries, carrots, brownies

**Tuesday:** Ham sandwiches, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, cheese, chips, fruit

**Wednesday:** No school

**Thursday:** No school

**Friday:** No school

### ECC Menu

**Mon., Dec. 21**

Lunch—Beef-a-roni, cream potatoes, blackeyed peas, cornbread, strawberry cake, tea or coffee

**Wed., Dec. 23**

Lunch—Frito pie and trimmings, pinto beans, onions, pickles, jello, choco chip, tea or coffee

**Fri., Dec. 25**

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

### Haskell Co. Gin Report

**Dec. 14, 2009**

**Haskell**

Haskell Co. Gin.....2,094

Haskell Co-op Gin.....1,150

**O'Brien**

O'Brien Co-op.....10,000

**Rule**

Rule Co-op Gin.....3,725

**Weinert**

Griff's Gin.....98

Weinert Gin.....2,850

Total bales.....19,917

*Wishing you a Beautiful Holiday Season  
and a New Year of Peace and Happiness*

*Andy*  
*Betty Sue*  
*Rubi*  
*Pam*  
*Gina*  
*Paula*  
*Robbie*  
*Carla*

*Kathryn*  
*Meranda*  
*Commi*  
*Donna*  
*Pam*  
*Amanda*  
*Randy*  
*Mylene*

## Christmas Open House

Wednesday, December 23rd, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
We will be open Dec. 24th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon., Lobby and Drive-In.  
We will be closed (including drive-in) December 25.  
The Drive-In will be open Dec. 26th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.  
We will be closed (including drive-in) Friday, January 1.  
The Drive-In will be open Jan. 2nd from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

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**FUN PATCH VISIT-** The Daisy and Brownie Girl Scout Troop #7122 of Haskell visited with Haskell Police Officer Jeff Caparoon to earn a fun patch. The girls toured the officer's police car. Officer Caparoon showed the girls the equipment in his truck, talked to them about how everything works and where a person sits if they were arrested. Enjoying the visit were, l-r, Kristen Guzman, Angelle Maynard, Autum Gibbs, Larissa Villarreal, Kayla Hollingsworth, Desiree Silvas, Desiree Vela and Jalista Sanchez.



**PAINT CREEK ELEMENTARY UIL-** Participating in UIL at Paint Creek Elementary School include, front row, l-r, Jr. Bogle, Bayden Graham, Daniel Salinas and Jarrett Lopez; middle row, Melisa Rock, Cheyenne Elias, Zhenia McTasney, Corey Mengwasser, Catherine Lemond, Abby Blair and Dalton Einhaus; back row, Shalon Heidenheimer (seventh grade), Gabriel Todd, Caleb White, Katelyn Jenkins, Buddy Trotter and Ryan Reid. Not pictured are Jaclyn Snelling and Felicity Gentry.

## USDA accepting applications for single family housing loans

USDA Rural Development has announced their allocation for direct single family loans for Fiscal Year 2010. Due to an increased level of funding as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, USDA

Rural Development in Texas has more than \$130 million in direct funding available to help families achieve the dream of home ownership. "USDA Rural Development is proud to assist rural Texans in

meeting their housing needs, which is critical to the long term sustainability of our communities," said Paco Valentin, USDA Rural Development State Director.

USDA Rural Development's direct program provides low-interest, no-down-payment loans to help eligible families living in rural communities and rural areas to purchase their own homes. The Direct Rural Housing Program is geared toward low to very low-income families. No down payment is required for the program and closing costs may be included in the loan. Under this program an applicant may be eligible for payment assistance, which would subsidize the interest portion of the house payment down to as low as 1%, lowering the overall monthly payment amount. In many cases, the total monthly house payment, including taxes and insurance, may actually be less than a family is paying for rent.

Homes must be located in a community of 10,000 persons or less and locations not closely associated with urban areas. Under certain circumstances loans can be made in towns and cities between 10,000 and 25,000 in population. Never assume an area is not eligible.

If you would like to find out more about one of our housing programs, contact the Abilene office at 325-690-6162, extension 4 or visit the website at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx).



**PAINT CREEK JH UIL-** Participating in UIL at Paint Creek Junior High School include, front row, l-r, Dalinne Reed, Tarah Trotter and Paige Ramirez; middle row, Haley Jackson, Caitlin Medford, Cody Mayfield, Kadie McCord, Shawn Myers, Baleigh Lopez and Bryant Booe; and back row, Justin Bailey, Andrew Hearne, Micah Waggoner, Marco Martinez, Samantha Barnett and Joey Bosnjak.

## Paint Creek School UIL results

Paint Creek School students participating in Elementary UIL activities and their places include:

Second grade: Creative Writing, Jaclyn Snelling, second place.

Third grade: Ready Writing, Daniel Salinas sixth place; Spelling, Gabriel Todd, fifth place; Team, Todd, Jr. Bogle and Salinas, third place.

Fourth grade: Number Sense, Cheyenne Elias, third place; Team, Elias, Abby Blair and Caleb White, second place. Oral Reading, Felicity Gentry, fifth place. Ready Writing, Katelyn Jenkins, second place, Bayden Graham, fourth place.

Fifth grade: Dictionary Skills, Catherine Lemond, third place; Corey Mengwasser, fourth place; Team, Lemond, Mengwasser and Zhenia McTasney, third place. Listening, Lemond, second place; Buddy Trotter, sixth place; Team, Lemond, Trotter and Melisa Rock, first place. Maps, Graphs & Charts, Trotter, first place; Lemond, third place; Team, Trotter, Lemond, Rock, first place. Oral Reading, Lemond, third place. Ready Writing, Lemond, first

place; Trotter, third place. Social Studies, Lemond, fifth place.

Sixth grade: Dictionary Skills, Paige Ramirez, sixth place; Team, Ramirez, Sebastian Acosta and Dalton Einhaus, third place. Number Sense, Acosta, third place. Social Studies, Ramirez, third place; Acosta, sixth place; Team, Ramirez, Acosta and Jarrett Lopez, second place.

Jr. High UIL participants include:

Seventh grade: Editorial Writing, Hanna Colley, fourth place; Micah Waggoner, fifth place. Listening, Joey Bosnjak, second place; Shalon Heidenheimer, fifth place; Team, Bosnjak, Heidenheimer and Brandon Luevano, second place. Maps, Graphs & Charts: Micah Waggoner, second place; Bryant Booe, sixth place; Team, Waggoner, Booe and Brad Winterstein, second place. Mathematics: Waggoner, fifth place; Booe sixth place; Team, Waggoner, Booe and Bosnjak, second place. Number Sense: Micah Waggoner, fourth place; Team, Waggoner, Booe and Bosnjak, third place. Science I: Chris Elias, sixth place;

Team, Elias, Waggoner and Stormy Darnell, second place.

Eighth grade: Art: Cody Mayfield, fourth place; Team, Mayfield, Andrew Hearn, Dalinne Reed, Samantha Barnett and Haley Jackson, third place. Calculator Applications: Tarah Trotter, sixth place; Team, Trotter, Justin Bailey and Mayfield, third place. Dictionary Skills: Shawn Myers, third place; Team, Myers, Kadie McCord and Baleigh Lopez, third place.

Listening, Myers, first place; Team, Myers, Caitlin Medford and Samantha Barnett, second place. Maps, Graphs, & Charts, Bailey, fourth place; Mayfield, fifth place; Team, Bailey, Mayfield and Andrew Hearn, second place. Mathematics, Mayfield, sixth place; Team, Mayfield, Marco Martinez and Medford, third place. Modern Oratory, Myers, first place. Oral Reading, Haley Jackson, third place; Mayfield, fourth place. Ready Writing, McCord, second place. Science II, Martinez. Social Studies, Seth Rock. Spelling, Medford, fourth place; Team, Medford, Mayfield and Myers, third place.

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**CHRISTMAS CANTATA**—Members of the Haskell Community Choir presented "On This Very Night," at First Baptist Church Sun., Dec. 13. The choir was under the direction of Jason Daniels, Youth and Music Minister at First Baptist Church of Haskell.



**SECOND PLACE FLOAT**—This entry by the Girl Scouts took second place in the Haskell Chamber of Commerce held Sat., Dec. 12.



**THIRD PLACE ENTRY**—This Christmas train entry took third place honors in the Haskell Chamber of Commerce "Wild about Christmas" parade Sat., Dec. 12.



**ATTEND HOMECOMING**—Members of the Paint Creek Class of 1966 attending homecoming in November include, l-r, Jerry Scheets, Ronnie Medford, Nelda Morrison, Curtis Bittner, Allen Schmidt, Doyle Blake and Milla Perry.

## H1N1 and holiday meats

With H1N1—or swine flu—continuing to make headlines in the media, many people who traditionally feast on ham are wondering whether it's necessary to skip pork and go all-turkey or even vegetarian this holiday season.

Lona Sandon, assistant professor of clinical nutrition at UT Southwestern Medical Center, said diners should go ahead and enjoy ham at their holiday celebrations.

"You can't catch swine flu from eating pork or pork products," said Sandon, a spokeswoman for the American Dietetic Association. "Cooking pork to an internal temperature of at least 160 degrees Fahrenheit kills most bacteria and viruses, including H1N1."

Raw pork is also safe from swine flu, but individuals handling raw meat of any kind should make sure they wash their hands with soap and warm running water afterwards to avoid spreading bacteria found on raw meat that can cause food poisoning, she said.

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## Harris plays in tournament

The Brock Lady Eagles and Kenisha Harris traveled to Burnet and played in the Hill Country Classic Tournament beating Lampasas in the first round 65-44. In the second round, they defeated Austin LBJ, 57-28.

While the Eagles were playing LBJ, Austin Westlake was defeating Burnet, who is the number six team in the state in 3A, by 12 points.

The final was a defensive battle the entire game. Westlake started out shooting hot from behind the arc shooting 67 percent on their threes in the first half. But Westlake went in at halftime down one point to Brock 23-22.

Harris had also started the game hot, scoring the first ten points for Brock. Neither team scored much in the third quarter as both teams opened up the second half with defensive intensity. Brock opened up a seven point lead with 4:30 left but Westlake had a run left in them closing to two. Brock finally held on to beat the 5A Westlake team by four and take home the gold for winning the championship.

Harris was named to the all-tournament team.

District play will begin soon. District rivals include the Peaster Lady Hounds who are ranked fourth in 2A. Brock is still ranked first.

Over the Christmas holiday, Brock will play in the Whataburger Classic in Fort Worth where they will meet lots of good competition including a team from Anchorage, Alaska.

Harris is the daughter of Jim and Evett Harris and the granddaughter of Jerry and Jerry Ann Harris of Haskell. She is the great granddaughter of Euanna Hicks.



**MAKES A SCORE**—Kenisha Harris of the Lady Brock Eagles makes a shot during the Hill Country Classic Tournament.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Scopes	<input type="checkbox"/> Paint Creek Hoodies
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# Shiloh to present concert at Cornerstone Dec. 19

Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church in Haskell will host an incredible evening of inspirational Christian music and worship Sat., Dec. 19 when they open their doors for internationally known Shiloh with a Christmas concert beginning at 6:30 p.m.

With over a decade behind them, this Texas based trio is known for their unique and progressive sound that combines inspirational, praise and worship, progressive southern gospel, and many other styles of music with an added special Texas flare that Shiloh audiences have

come to appreciate. Shiloh's trademark sound is derived from their extraordinary musical arrangements, closely-knit harmonies, and powerful and distinctive vocals. Their professionalism and quest for excellence is only surpassed by their ability to connect with an audience and share the message of God's love, grace, hope and forgiveness.

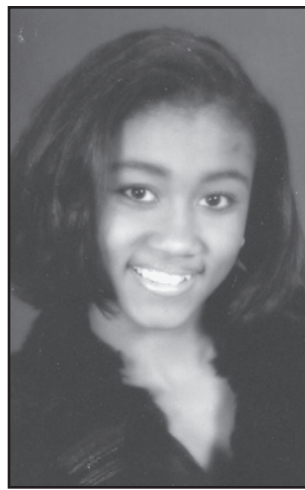
Shiloh ministers almost 200 times a year world-wide. The group recently returned from ministering in the Islamic nation of Indonesia, and two years ago sang a Christmas concert at the White House for President and Mrs. George W. Bush and their guests.

There is no charge for the concert. It is a gift of love from Cornerstone to the community.

Make your plans now to join Shiloh at the Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church, 1600 North First Street, for an amazing event filled with a life changing message.



**CHRISTMAS CONCERT-Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church in Haskell will present internationally known Shiloh in a Christmas concert at the church Sat., Dec. 19 beginning at 6:30 p.m.**



**LACRESHA ESCAMILLA**

## Student visits Rotary Club

Laciresha Escamilla is the daughter of Edward and Mary Jane Escamilla of Haskell.

She attends First Baptist Church of Haskell.

At Paint Creek High School, she participates in cheerleading, FFA, FCCLA, track and cross country. She is a member of the yearbook staff and the newsletter staff.

She plans to attend Hardin-Simmons University and pursue a career in family law.

## Area basketball scores

### Girls

**Moran 58, Paint Creek 43**  
Scoring for Paint Creek: Waggoner 16, Buerger 10, Walker 8, Armstrong 5, Martinez 2, Bosnjak 2.

**Rule 47, Knox City 43**  
Scoring for Rule: Polk 21, Lyon 10, Rowan 8.

**Moran 53, Paint Creek 48**  
Scoring for Paint Creek: Waggoner 12, Walker 10, Buerger 9, Armstrong 4, Martinez 2.

**Boys**  
**Paint Creek, 32, Moran 29**

Scoring for Paint Creek: Bishop 15, Hall 6, Abner 5, Atkins 2, Garcia 4.

**Hawley 56, Haskell 33**  
Scoring for Haskell: Rodriguez 10, Myers 7, Howard 6, Marshall 5, Wittenborn 3.

JV: Hawley 38, Haskell 36.

### PIPER INVITATIONAL

**Boys**  
**Rule 36, Trent 31**  
Scoring for Rule: Short 10, Large 10, Shelton 8, Turner 6, Stewart 2.

**Hamlin 43, Rule 30**  
Scoring for Rule: Large 11, Brown 8, Short 4, S. Turner 4, D. Turner 1.

**Knox City 38, Rule 27**  
Scoring for Rule: Short 10, Large 9, Brown 6, Turner 2.

**Girls**  
**Trent 39, Rule 38**  
Scoring for Rule: Benavides 14, Polk 9, Rowan 9, Lyon 6.

**Hamlin 47, Rule 42**  
Scoring for Rule: Polk 19, Lyon 11, Benavides 6, Petty 2, Rowan 1, Diaz 1, Salas 1.

**Knox City 38, Rule 36**

Scoring for Rule: Polk 12, Lyon 10, Benavides 9, Petty 5.

### ALBANY TOURNAMENT

**Boys**  
**Merkel 62, Haskell 22**  
Scoring for Haskell: Marshall 6, Llewellyn 5, Neskovic 2, Wittenborn 2, Bird 2, Howard 2, Rodriguez 1, Shelton 1.

**Haskell 55, Big Country Home School 34**  
Scoring for Haskell: Myers 21, Marshall 9, Howard 9, Rodriguez 9, Aguero 4, Edwards 3.

**Cisco 53, Haskell 47 (2OT)**

Scoring for Haskell: Marshall 21, Neskovic 13, Wittenborn 5, Rodriguez 4, Llewellyn 3, Bird 1.

All tournament team: Austin Marshall, Haskell.

**Girls**  
**Bangs 46, Haskell 23**

Scoring for Haskell: Short 6, Bassett 5, Alvarez 3, Torres 3, Johnson 2, James 2, Burson 1, Wilcox 1, Rodgers 1.

**Haskell 43, Munday 23**  
Scoring for Haskell: Torres 12, Bassett 8, Wilcox 6, Rodgers 6, Burson 4, Short 4.

**Haskell 54, Big Country Home School 42**

Scoring for Haskell: Bassett 13, Short 12, Rodgers 11, Torres 10, Johnson 6, Wilcox 2.

**Haskell 45, Hawley 39**

**Consolation**  
Scoring for Haskell: Bassett 18, Torres 9, Short 6, Rodgers 4, Johnson 4, Wilcox 2, James 2.

All tournament team: Aubrey Bassett, Brië Torres and Lisa Rodgers, all of Haskell.

## Disease and quail decline

by Wes Utley  
CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.

"Quail season has been disappointing," said Dr. Dale Rollins, AgriLife Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo. "By Texas standards, wild quail hunting has been sub-par since 2006, and I'm wondering if disease might not be part of the puzzle. Certainly, it's probably not the key reason, but I'm starting to suspect it may be a contributing factor."

Rollins said coccidiosis (malady caused by parasitic protozoans of the digestive system) is often blamed, but exactly what disease might be behind the drop in quail populations, or even if there is a disease contributing to the problem, is currently unknown. He said there are other potential threats, including West Nile Virus, avian influenza, avian cholera and avian tuberculosis that may be factors.

Sick quail don't last long before something eats them, so disease surveillance in wild quail is a tough proposition, according to Rollins.

"I've always been intrigued by the possible role disease plays in quail dynamics," Rollins said. "When you think about it, the birds offer a perfect biological fuse for disease spread among the population. They are social birds, and when a covey dwindles to less than about six birds, they go join another covey."

"Blue quail used to be common over areas as far east as Throckmorton, but they disappeared over much of their range in 1988; December 1988 to be exact in my opinion. While hunting in Crockett County that December, I dressed several birds with spotted livers, but didn't think much of it. I just took some photographs and discarded the birds. Within months, blue quail had vanished as far west as the Pecos River. I can't explain such a die-off except by some mystery disease. Suffice it to say my antennae are up for sick quail now."

Rollins asks quail hunters to be on the lookout for sick quail this season. If birds taken are too light for their size or if a green discharge from the vent is spotted, he said it would be worth noting. He said to pay special attention to whether the liver has white or yellow nodules in it which are signs of a bacterial infection.

If disease is suspected, Rollins asks hunters to place the bird in a plastic zipper-type bag, refrigerate it and call him as soon as possible at 325-653-4576 or 325-776-2615.

Rollins is also the director of the 4,700-acre Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch at Roby. He said they are currently live-trapping quail at the ranch for leg-banding to support a radio telemetry project. At the same time, they also are collecting samples for disease and parasite testing.

"We'll submit about 200 samples for screening of viral, bacterial and parasitic diseases," he said. "These data will help us better understand whether various diseases really are a factor."

"A separate research project on eye worms and intestinal parasites was started in September in collaboration with the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute. Preliminary testing from quail collected on the research ranch last winter showed parasite infestation in the eyes, which may be noteworthy. When you're a bobwhite, you live on the edge as it is; any debilitating factor like worms under your eyelids can't be good."

"At the research ranch, we're seeking to unravel just what's happened to bobwhites and blue quail across much of the Rolling Plains," he said. "We've adopted a philosophy of 'leave no stone unturned.' So, we're investigating some heretofore overlooked agents, namely disease and parasites to see if they possibly are playing a more than minor role in the demise of Texas quail."

## This Week's Devotional Message:



### Let Love Adorn Your Home with Holiday Happiness

Your favorite stores are all a-glitter with lights, ornaments, tinsel, candles, wreaths and gift wrappings. However, these seasonal adornments may not put you in a gala holiday mood, and if so, assuming that you have no major problems or sorrows, something must be wrong. Have you quarreled recently with a relative or friend? Are you normally impatient with

people? Then it's time to get rid of these negative tendencies. Mend that quarrel, not matter whose fault it was. Let your house of worship put some love and kindness in your heart before you plug in the Christmas lights. Then your home and your life will be much brighter during the upcoming holidays, as well as at all other times of the year.

## ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

### —HASKELL—

**East Side Baptist Church**  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
600 N. 1st East, Haskell

**Christian Church**  
Jim McCurley, pastor  
Sun. 10:45 a.m.  
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell

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

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Ron Rennegarbe, 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. Tom Long, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.  
Wed. 6 p.m.  
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Mission Revival Center**  
Rev. William Hodge  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.  
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell

**First Baptist Church**  
Greg Gasaway, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.  
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell

**Church in the Wind**  
C.C. Curran, pastor  
Sun. fellowship 5 p.m. Church 5:30 p.m.  
Tues. Bible Class 7:30 p.m.  
203 S. 1st East, Haskell

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

**God Loves You Ministries**  
Mark Wallace, pastor  
Sun. School 10 a.m.; Church 10:45 a.m.  
West side of square, Haskell

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Sweet Home Baptist Church**  
Larry Neal, pastor  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m.;  
Gladstone Ave., Rule

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

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

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

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### Help Wanted

THE NEW SONIC Drive In in Haskell is now taking applications for all positions. Apply in person. 44tfc

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### Help Wanted

Solutions, 1000 E. Divide Ave., Bismarck, ND, 58506, and provide the office with a copy of this advertisement. Job Order #206635. 50-51c

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### Real Estate

FOR SALE: Brick, 2 bedrooms, 2 bath. CH/A. Large rooms. Great location. Expandable to 3 bedrooms. Bill Jackson Realtors, 325-773-3358 or 325-669-8691. G.W. Clark, agent. 20tfc

### Public Notices

**NOTICE TO THE CITIZENS OF WEINERT**  
The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) has notified the City of Weinert water system that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Nitrate. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

### Public Notices

has established the MCL for Nitrate at 10 mg/L, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for Nitrate indicates a level of 22.8 mg/L.

Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

You do not need to use an alternative water supply. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you.

At the present time we are currently looking into ways to correct this problem. If you are pregnant or have an infant under six months included in this public water system as a customer, we have made arrangements with local grocery store in Haskell (Modern Way) so that you may get bottled water at the City of Weinert's expense.

If you have any questions or would like to know if you are currently being served as a customer of this public water system please feel free to call or contact the City Secretary Patricia Horan, c/o City of Weinert, Box 248, Weinert, Texas 76388 at 940-673-8223.

Our Public Water System ID# is 1040004. 51c

Applications are being taken for a full-time secretary at Haskell County Farm Bureau. Salary DOE. Stop by the office at 508 N. 1st in Haskell to pick up an application. HCFB is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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**1100 N. 5TH ST. EXTRA LARGE HOME.** 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom, brick home, large den with fireplace and walk down cellar, great storage, formal living room and dining room, large newly painted kitchen with built in bar, utility room, corner lot, fenced yard with water well and underground sprinkler system, three car garage, great storage building.

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### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)  
Dist/Div: Abilene

Contract 6120-41-001 for ON DEMAND MGBF in CALLAHAN County, etc. will be opened on January 5, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office for an estimate of \$331,180.25.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 31555  
State Office: Constr./Maint. Division, 200 E. Riverside Dr., Austin, Texas 78704. Phone 512-416-2540.

Dist/Div Office(s): Abilene District, District Engineer, 4250 N. Clack, Abilene, Texas 79604-0150. Phone 325-676-6800.

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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**700 N. 17TH ST.** Great three bedroom, two bath with a large living room, dining area and a built-in kitchen. Property has a split floor plan with a large master bedroom and bath leading into a large area and utility room. There are large closets throughout the dwelling and a basement room for stormy weather. The yard has an automatic sprinkler system, garden plot and workshop building. Don't miss this one.

**601 S. AVE. G EAST** Country living at its best! Large older three bedroom, two bath stucco home on one-half acre. Two bedrooms, living, dining and large kitchen are downstairs and one-half. There is a large room and bath upstairs. The yard is well landscaped and has lots of trees. Property has C/HA, city sewer, city water and is all electric.

*Come by Rike Real Estate for a complete list.*



# Group 'works out' at cemetery

by Caron Yates

As 2009 quickly fades into the sunset, many are beginning to anticipate the new year. New Year's resolutions are being made, or at least thought about. In addition to the traditional resolutions such as work out more, eat healthier, or organize the house, why not add some community service to the list.

There is a small group of ladies who have taken on just such a service. They have already spent several hours working at the Willow

Cemetery, trimming back trees and bushes, as well as pulling and cutting weeds along the fence line.

According to the Haskell County Cemetery Records Volume One, published in 1998 by the Haskell County Historical & Genealogical Society, it was back in 1884 when a small child, whose family lived near Rice Springs, was bitten by a rattlesnake and died. This created an immediate need for a burial place, and thus Willow Cemetery was begun. There were mentions

of a Haskell cemetery in old editions of The Haskell Free Press for the next ten years.

It was in 1905, as documented in the Haskell County Cemetery book, that the Haskell Ladies Cemetery Association informed the county court they owned block 93, which contained about 10 acres of land. They had subdivided it into lots, streets and alleys for the purpose of creating a cemetery.

Throughout the following one hundred years or so,

many improvements and additions of land have been added to the original cemetery. Today the Haskell Cemetery Association, made up of volunteer members, is responsible for selling lots, as well as maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery.

The Association employs a most capable full time grounds keeper, Joe Camacho. Due to the size of the cemetery now, it is a very big job just keeping up with the general maintenance, leaving little time for extra duties.

While many families tend to their individual plots, there are many other sites where no local family is available. There are also many older, unmarked sites. In clearing out some brush around trees, the group reported finding two headstones, almost buried, they had not seen before. Much of the curbing has also been buried through the years, and needs to be uncovered.

The idea behind this undertaking, was to help make the cemetery a tranquil and soothing place. It has in return provided therapeutic, physical activity in addition to an opportunity for friends to have fun working together, all while giving back to their community.

They plan to have a "Work the Cemetery" day in the future, and they welcome any and all help. For more information contact Gayla Nanny, Ruby Turner or Nelda Lane.

If you enjoy the great outdoors, and are looking for a way to give back to your community, add this to your list. It would probably even qualify as a "work out more" resolution.

## Filing period underway for March primary election, ends Jan. 4

The March primary is just a few months away. Anyone planning to run for local office in that election, must file with the county clerk's office by January 4.

According to Rhonda Moeller, county clerk, completion of the forms and payment of filing fees to the party chairman are required by this deadline.

Several four-year term county and district positions will be up for election this year. They include District Judge, County Judge, District Clerk, County Clerk, Tax Assessor-Collector, County Treasurer, Justice of the Peace and Commissioners for precinct two and four.

Voter registration cards are now being mailed. If you

are a registered voter, and have not received your card by the end of this month, you can contact the tax assessor-collector's office. Any card received where the person no longer lives at that address, can either be brought to the tax assessor's office, or put back in the mail with a note indicating they are deceased or have moved.



WINDOW DECORATION CONTEST WINNER—The Carousel was the winner of the decorated window contest, sponsored by the Haskell Chamber of Commerce, held Sat., Dec. 12.

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers  
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## Goodfellows Donations

The Haskell Goodfellows are accepting donations for Christmas boxes to be distributed to needy families this holiday season. Boxes will be delivered on Dec. 24 to those who have been selected to receive them. Those with donations of food, contact a Lions Club member, toys and clothing may be taken to the Haskell Fire Dept.; and cash donations may be sent to The Haskell Free Press, P. O. Box 555, Haskell, TX 79521. Friendly Folks Sunday School Class

First United Methodist Church.....	\$100
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Bill and Carol McSmith .....	\$500
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#3 BBQ SANDWICH & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.09
#4 HOMESTYLE POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.79
#5 SPICY POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.79
#6 3 TAMALES, HOWLERS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.69
#7 2 HOT LINKS WITH BREAD & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.59
#8 2 CORN DOGS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.69
#9 CHIMICHANGA & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.49
#10 2 BEEF & BEAN BURRITOS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$2.69