THE BAVALOR OF BYLLIR OF "xy ce of the Rolling Plains" 1 10/31/2008 PHIL BAREFIELD BOX 025 QUITAQUE TX 79255

Volume 47 Number 24

* Quitaque, Texas 79255

Serving ~ Briscoe ~ Hall ~ Motley ~ Counties *

Thursday, January 3, 2008



A'Love Fund' has been set up at the First National Bank of Quitaque for Fidel and Susanna Valdez and their young son who lost their home and all their belongings in a fire around midnight on Sunday, December 30 in Quitaque.

The young couple had no insurance at the time of the fire. If you wish to help the family, your donations can be taken by the First National Bank of Quitaque or to Quitaque City Hall.

Jamboree This Saturday In Turkey

This Saturday, January 5th will be the first jamboree of 2008 and a chance for everyone to wish each other a happy new year if you have not seen them over the holiday season. The show will be as always at the beautiful and warm Gem Theatre in downtown Turkey, Texas where the admission is free and so is the parking! There will, as always, be a great meal prior to the show and the meal of Taco soup with all the trimmings and dessert will benefit the Turkey Roost Museum. The meal will be \$5.00 and they will start serving at 6p.m.

The show will start off with keyboard stylist Turkey's own Gary Johnson, a real talent and crowd pleaser. He will be followed by the Adams Brothers, Jimmy and Les, from Clarendon and Canyon. The third contestant vieing for the cash prize will be country song stylist Kathy Whitton

There will also be the Talent Showcase and everyone is invited to try to entertain the audi-

The 'Premier Band of West Texas' will conclude the night. They are eight of the most talented musicians as individuals and when they get together they are super talented!

For anyone who has not attended one of these shows be assured they are family oriented and no one has ever been displeased with the talent or the content of these shows. All ages will enjoy

The \$100.00 cash prize for the winner was donated this month by Billy ray Hardcastle and Dr. Sidney Ontai. The \$25.00 Door Prize was donated by Imogene Molloy, of Memphis. There are also many many prizes to be given out between acts from baked goods to electronics.

We hope to see y'all on the 5th of January, and remember bring a friend or two!

Hall County FSA Begins **Making Disaster Payments**

Hall County Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director Billy Foster announced on December 26, 2007 that FSA has been authorized to immediately begin making disaster payments.

"These payments are for approved Crop Disaster, Livestock Compensation and Livestock Indemnity Program applications Said Foster, Hall County Executive Director. "Payments made in Texas represent a portion of nearly \$1 billion dollars in disaster assistance to be issued through FSA nationwide, to date

The Livestock Compensation program 2005-2007 (LCP) provides benefits to livestock producers in designated disaster counties who suffered feed losses or incurred additional feed costs directly resulting from natural disaster occurring between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007, including losses resulting form blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into January 2007

Livestock Indemnity Program 2005-2007 (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers in designated disaster counties for livestock deaths caused by natural disasters that occurred between January 1, 2005 and February 28, 2007, including losses because of blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into January 2007

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered losses to the 2005-2007 crops from natural disasters and related conditions as long as the actual crop lost was planted or prevented from being planted before February 28, 2007. Producers who incurred qualifying losses in 2005, 2006 or 2007 must choose only one year for which to receiv benefits and may receive benefits for multiple crop losses if all were in the same crop year.

Sign up for LIP and LCP began on September 10, 2007 an sign up for CDP began on October 15, 2007; no sign up deadlines for these disaster assistance program shave been set.
For more information about disaster payments, contact the

Hall County FSA County office located at 1002 West Noel Street, Memphis or call 806-259-2166



Stock Show Just Around The Corner

The Briscoe County Stock Show is scheduled for January 10 and 12, 2008 at the Showbarn in Silverton on the 10th and at the Vance Price memorial Building at Valley School on the 12th.

Schedule of Events: Thursday, January 10 at 5:00 p.m.- Cattle, Lamb and

8:30 a.m. - Swine Show; 5:00 p.m. - Buyers' Brisket Supper; 6:00 p.m. Awards Presenta-

Snow fell, in varying amounts, over the Valley area during the Christmas holiday causing travel difficulties for some travelers. Snow on the Caprock made a beautiful sight, helping set the stage for a truly 'Caprock Country

Briscoe Co. Commissioners Vote To Hold Joint Primary In March

The Briscoe County Commissioners Court met in regular session on December 10. Present for the meeting were County Judge Wayne Nance, Commissioners Terry Grimland-Pct 1, Dale Smith-Pct 2, Larry Comer-Pct 3, John Burson-Pct 4, County Clerk Bena Hester, and County Treasurer Mary Jo Brannon. After attending to regular monthly court business the following items were addressed:

* A motion passed to approve Resolution #07-004, which approves of a Joint Primary for Saturday, January 12 at the upcoming March 8, 2008 Primary Election and any necessary primary runoffs.

* A motion passed to approve the Courts 2008 Holiday Schedule as presented.

* A motion passed to cast ballots for the Briscoe County Tax Appraisal Board members as follows: Wayne Nance - 850; Dale Smith-850; Kathy Kingery-42.

With no further court business the meeting was adjourned

Palo Duro Basin Oil & Gas 2007 Summary

2000 to 2007 Palo Duro Basin Oil and Gas Activity:

In the six counties of Briscoe, Floyd, Hale, Hall, Motley and Swisher there are forty-one wellbores of interest:

One old shut-in wellbore has been plugged and abandoned

* Three wellbores have been re-entered: One re-entry is producing oil and two re-entries are shut-in

* Twenty-two new wellbores have been drilled: two new wells are producing oil and or condensate; Two new wells are currently being tested; One new well is currently ongoing horizontal re-completion; Two new wells are awaiting pipeline connections. tion; Fifteen new wellbores are shut-in; Two new wellbores have been plugged and abandoned.

* One scheduled re-entry is awaiting operations to begin.

* Three new wellbores are awaiting drilling operations to begin

* Ten drilling permits have expired without the wellbore being drilled

* One drilling application was dismissed by the Railroad Commission of Texas, Oil & Gas Division. Current Palo Duro Basin Oil and Gas Activity as of January 1, 2008

Three producing oil wells: Briscoe County - OGL Holding - G. Mayfield -Well #1; Floyd County - Apollo Energy - W.D. Miller - Well #1; Motley County - Tyner Texas Operating - R.G. Stephens - Well #1.

Currently Being Tested: Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well #176; Motley County - Bankers Petroleum

 $\label{lem:horizontal} \textbf{Horizontal Re-Completion: } \textit{Motley County} - \text{Bankers Petroleum - Cogdell 64 - Well $\#1$} \\ \textbf{Awaiting Pipeline Connection: } \textit{Floyd County} - \text{PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \textit{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - PetroGlobe Energy - McIntosh - Well $\#1077$}; \\ \textbf{Floyd County - Mc$

What's Happening In The Valley Area This Week?

January 3

- * Valley School Begins 4th Six Weeks January 5 * Turkey Jamboree @ 7 p.m. Supper @ 6 p.m.
- before show Silverton Clothes Closet Open Today
- January 7 *Quitaque Lions Club meeting @ 6:30 p.m. January 8
- * Valley School Report Cards * We The Women meeting @ 12 noon
- January 10

* Turkey City Council meeting @ 7 p.m.

* Matador Masonic Lodge meeting

It Is FREE To Add Your Events To This Calendar **Deadline Is Noon Tuesdays**

To Add Your Event Call: 806-455-1101 or email:vtaylor@caprock-spur.com



Samantha Noel Ferguson

Cory and Becky Ferguson and Kaitlyn are the proud parents and sister of a baby girl, Samantha Noel. She was born on November 7, 2007. She weighed 7 lbs. 14 ozs and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Samantha's grandparents are Ike Ferguson, Frances Ferguson and Kevin and Treva Cunningham. Great-grand-parents are E.G. and Barb Reed, Linda Ferguson, Jan Morgan and larry Cunningahsm, and great-great-grandma Goldie Horton. larry

Look Who's New



Payton Joe Pinkerton

Billy and Margie Pinkerton have a new grandson, Payton Joe Pinkerton, born November 27, 2007 in Lubbock. He weighed in at 7 lbs and was 19 inches long at birth.

Proud parents are Tommy and Shauna Pinkerton. Payton arrived 3 weeks early and had to spend time in intensive care on a respirator, but has improved and was able to go home from the hospital on Sunday, December 11th. Since doing great and received a good report at his doctor's

OBITUARIES

Arlowene M. Williams

Funeral services for Arlowene M. Williams, 90, of Turkey, will be held Monday, December 31, 2007 at the First United Methodist Church, in Turkey. Interment followed in Dreamland Cemetery at Turkey, under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of

Mrs. Williams passed away Friday, December 28, 2007 in Lubbock. Arlowene married V.B. Doc' Williams on November 14, 1936 in Hollis, Okla Mrs. Williams had been a resident of Turkey since 1936 before moving to Lubbock for the past four years. She was a homemaker and worked for West Texas Utilities as a clerk for a number of years. Mrs. Williams was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Turkey, The Order of Eastern Star, and had served on the Turkey City

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1979, and by a son, Harve Wade Williams, September 6, 2005

She is survived by one son, Terry Doc Williams, of Abilene; one daughter, Bridgett Johnson, of Idalou; one daughter-in-law, Betty Williams, of Turkey; two brothers, Nelion Majors, of Lorenzo, and O.H. Majors, of Lubbock; one sister, Betty Connell, of Pampa; five grandchildren; ten great-grandchil-

Pallbearers were: Greg Williams, Kyle Williams, C.J. Bollinger, Darryl Cash, David Majors, & Richard Johnson.

Courage is the ladder on which all the other virtues

~ Clare Booth Luce

Courage is the price that life exacts for granting peace. ~ Amelia Earhart



Joe Ernest "Ernie" Lee

Joe Ernest "Ernie" Lee, 31, died Sunday, December 23, 2007 in Amarillo, Texas

Services were held on Thursday, December 27, 2007, in the Community Fellowship Church in Clarendon with the Rev. Roger Smith, Pastor, and Rev. Darrell Burton, Pastor of the Martin Baptist Church in Clarendon, officiating. Interment was in Citizens Cemetery in Clarendon.

Ernie was born March 3, 1976 in Groom to Joey & Brenda Lee. He lived in Clarendon most of his life and graduated from Clarendon High School in 1994. He worked for Chamberlain Motor Company until 1999 and had been working for Lee's Insurance Agency since that time. He was a member of the Turkey Lions Club. He was also a member of the Martin Baptist Church since November 11, 1984.

Ernie was preceded in death by his grandfather, Fred Row on February 27,1997; his grandmother, Marjorie Row on November 25, 2007; & 2 sets of great-grandparents.

Survivors include his par-ents, Joey & Brenda Lee of Clarendon; 2 brothers, Robert Lee and wife Kylyn, & Jason Lee, both of Amarillo; his grandparents, Orville & Ruth Lee of Flomot; 2 uncles, Ricky Row of Clarendon, & Roger Lee and wife Shonda of Flomot; an aunt, Teresa Lee of Turkey; and many cousins, classmates, & friends.

In lieu of flowers the family quest memorials be to a lo cal Lions Club of choice or the Lions Eye Bank of District 2T-1/Northwest Texas Hospital, 1501 S. Coulter / Amarillo, Texas 79106.

Turkey Senior **Citizens** News

The annual Christmas party was held December 18th with a Chinese gift exchange. There were 22 people present including two nurses from home health. Before the delicious meal, J. R. Bradshaw said the prayer. Our next meeting will be

Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 6:00 pm. Blood pressure checks will begin at 5:30 pm. If you are a senior, come and join us for some food! fun! and fellowship!

Life shrinks or expands in proportion ot one's courage ~ Anais Nin

Concentration comes out of a combination of confidence and hunger.

~ Arnold Palmer

Opal Faye Hill McClure Opal Faye Hill McClure, 89,

of Silverton, died Friday December 28, 2007. Services were held on Monday, December 31, 2007 at the First Bap-Brother Ed Norris officiated. Burial followed in Silverton Cemetery under the direction of Myers-Chancellor Funeral

Opal was born August 20, 1918 in Munday, Texas to Walter and Alma Brannon

She married Richard Hill on December 31, 1937 in Quitaque, Texas. He preceded her in death in 1969. Opal married T.V. McClure March 6, 1970 in Plainview, Texas. He preceded her in death in

Opal enjoyed a career as a licensed beautician. She was a lifetime member of the First Baptist Church and a member

Opal is survived by five children, Walter Richard Hill and wife Dianna of Plainview, Fred Hill and wife Lois of Canyon, Faye Pascal and husband Norman Plainview, Garland McClure of Walnut Grove California, and Carrol McClure of Hunstville, Alabama, nine grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by four brothers.

The family requests memorials be made to HospiceCare of the Southwest 1500 S Coulter Suite 3, Amarillo, Texas 79106.

You have to have confidence in your ability, and then be tough enough to follow

~ Rosalunn Carter

Self confidence is the first requisite to great undertak-





THE VALLEY TRIBUNE

Successor to The Quitaque Tribune, Which was established at Quitaque in 1960 Published every Thursday at Quitaque, Texas 79255 Vince F. Taylor, Owner/Publisher Laura Taylor, Editor

Earlyne Jameson, Flomot Correspondent Patsy Herrington, Quitaque Correspondent Postmaster Send Address Changes To: The Valley Tribune P.O. Box 478

Quitaque, Texas 79255 Periodical Postage Paid At Quitaque, Texas 79255 Publisher #621-020

Yearly Subscription Rates:

\$25°° - Briscoe, Hall & Motley Counties \$20°° - Over age 65 in Briscoe, Hall & Motley Counties \$30°° - Elsewhere in United States (Except Hawaii & Alaska)

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Expiration Date Of Subscription

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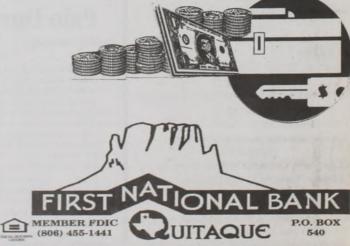
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Monday, January 7 Wednesday, January 9

Baked Chicken

Whipped Potatoes Macaroni Salad Green Peas Bread/Dessert*

Milk

This Week's Menu Sponsored By

Friday, January 11

Soup/Crackers Bread/Dessert*

at the Baptist Church in Flomo. at the Bapust Church in Production, conducted the services, Ty, glowing candle reflected the pour

Special music was presed vannah Young, "The Christman Clifton and Sarah Clay of Pani The congregation joined Accompanying them on the Mrs. Kathy Mulder played the by Mrs. Theda Jenkins Anders

**** Mrs. Judy Rhodes of Cypre dren, Mrs. Marian Rhodes, Ch. visited from Christmas day un father, Everett Shorter, brot Shorter, Marian's husband, Dr. U.S. Air Force in Afghanistan, Janice and Butch Hughes w in the home of son and family, Hughes of Floydada. Christm dada on son and family, Ro

Christmas guests of Mr. a December 23 were children at brink, Karlee and Kyler of Clifts , Tanner and Sarah of Panhan Ryleigh and Parker of Turkey Jaxon and Laney of Flomot. Visiting Clois and Kathy St. days were daughters and farr Emily and Haley of Petersbur Brian of Ropesville.

Christmas day guests of M Washington, Brazos and Blu, Roaring Springs, Anissa Huck Cory Franks, Madison and Hi Idalou Mr. and Mrs. Conway Matador, Clint Cowart of Po and Mrs. Jerry Barclay and C Christmas holiday visitors were daughters and families Brittany of Vernon and Kayla Holiday guests of Mr. and

Mrs. Cody Barclay, Lane and Barclay, Kayla, and Colton of Tylee, Trent and Trevor of M Wilburn Martin visited in home of daughter and husbar had a family celebration Sur Wilburn's grandchildren, cole say Martin of Amarillo; Con Mason and Bob cooper of Bo

Kendra Cooper of Pampa. Cally and Will Sperry, Sav tended the Christmas eve celeb Pigg of the Gray Mule commu in Lubbock with her grandm

Holiday visitors of Mr. ar Starkey were Mr. and Mrs. yon, Mrs. Nola Long and C Bobbie Hanna of Warner, (L.T. Starkey of Ralls and Phy

Visiting during the holid son and Mrs. Beverly Vinson son, Kaitlyn, Morgan and B son, Allison and Elise of Lul

James, Darla and Daniell the Gwinn home in Matador ing were Aly Gwinn, Mrs. Sa bock, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ho and friend, Rebecca of Flo Charles "Chig" Gwinn of Ma Mary Ellen "Dude" Barto luncheon in the Matador ho their family. Before return

Bunday Hal Campbell and t Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse a night celebration in her hom Regina and Chad Sewar Goldwaithe, Mr. and Mrs. Cl Cruse of Turkey, Mr. and Mr. flat and their parents, Mr. a Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clifton ner Smith, Cutter and Jaxo Denver, CO, Mr. and Mrs. I Tally of Happy, Mr. and M Whiteflat and Fannin Gwin Cruse of Flomot and their h of Canyon, Mr. and Mrs. Ke Derrick Cruse of Casper, W Mrs. Jackie Sperry of Q tended the funeral of Erni

Family' Family Me * Compe

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FLOMOT NEWS By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man. Happy New Year! Christmas Candlelight Church Services

Candlelight services were held Sunday night, December 23 at the Baptist Church in Flomot. The Rev. Nathan Mulder, pastor, conducted the services, "Twelve Powers of Christmas". Each glowing candle reflected the power of Christ illuminating a world

Special music was presented by Mrs. Kathy Shorter and Savannah Young, "The Christmas Lullaby". Karlee Kleibrink of Clifton and Sarah Clay of Panhandle sang "Away In The Manger". The congregation joined in singing Christmas hymns.

Accompanying them on the piano was Mrs. Anna Beth clay. Mrs. Kathy Mulder played the organ that was given to the church by Mrs. Theda Jenkins Anderson, former Matador resident.

Mrs. Judy Rhodes of Cypress and daughter in law and children, Mrs. Marian Rhodes, Chase and Wyatt of Tampa, Florida visited from Christmas day until Friday December 28 with her father, Everett Shorter, brother and wife, Clois and Kathy Shorter. Marian's husband, Dr. Rick Rhodes, stationed with the U.S. Air Force in Afghanistan, is an orthopedic surgeon.

Janice and Butch Hughes were guests Sunday, December 23 just a in the home of son and family, Ricky, Tasha, Kason and Kendall paper Hughes of Floydada. Christmas day they were guests in Floy dada on son and family, Roger, Tiffany, Reagan and Tara

Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay Saturday, December 23 were children and families, Lori and Kevon Kleibrink, Karlee and Kyler of Clifton, Larry and Angelia Clay, Kelsey , Tanner and Sarah of Panhandle, Tina and Pat Carson, Walker, Ryleigh and Parker of Turkey, Julie and bill Edwards, Caden, Jaxon and Laney of Flomot.

Visiting Clois and Kathy Shorter during the Christmas holi-days were daughters and families, Christi and Dwain Milam, Emily and Haley of Petersburg and Keri and Kevin Sehon and Brian of Ropesville.

Christmas day guests of Mrs. Erma Washington were Matt Washington, Brazos and Blu, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Washington of Roaring Springs, Anissa Huckert, Colton Barclay, Mr. and Mrs Cory Franks, Madison and Hudson of Lubbock, Cary Franks of Idalou Mr. and Mrs. Conway Clary, Caleb, Micky an Kenzie of Matador, Clint Cowart of Post, Mr. and Mrs. Coy Franks, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Barclay and Cara Franks of Flomot

Christmas holiday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Johnson were daughters and families, Lucretia and Breck Dockery and Brittany of Vernon and Kayla and Neil Guest of Turkey.

Holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Barlcay were Mr. and Mrs. Cody Barclay, Lane and Ashton of Borger, Mrs. Sherryll Barclay, Kayla, and Colton of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Ty Barclay, Tylee, Trent and Trevor of Matador.

Wilburn Martin visited in Borger Sunday and Monday in the home of daughter and husband, Marilee and Fred Cooper. They had a family celebration Sunday night and other guests were Wilburn's grandchildren, cole Martin of Portales, NM, and Lindsay Martin of Amarillo; Cory and Becca Cooper, Gavin and Mason and Bob cooper of Borger, Carl Cooper of Amarillo and Kendra Cooper of Pampa.

Cally and Will Sperry, Savannah, Blayne, Gage an Cash attended the Christmas eve celebration held in he home of Johnnie Pigg of the Gray Mule community. They visited Christmas day in Lubbock with her grandmother, Mrs. Sue Pool.

Holiday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Starkey and Johnie Starkey were Mr. and Mrs. Michael Starkey and Ben of Canyon, Mrs. Nola Long and Christen of Winnewood, OK, Mrs. Bobbie Hanna of Warner, OK, Lola Jewel Starkey of Clyde, L.T. Starkey of Ralls and Phylis and Roy Gladson and Tonya of

Visiting during the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Roger Vinson and Mrs. Beverly Vinson were Mr. and Mrs. Shannon Vinson, Kaitlyn, Morgan and Bubba and Mr. and Mrs. Dana Vinson, Allison and Elise of Lubbock.

James, Darla and Danielle Gwinn joined family members at the Gwinn home in Matador on Christmas eve. Others attending were Aly Gwinn, Mrs. Sarah Hurt, Emily and Annie of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Holcomb of Floydada, Fannin Gwinn and friend, Rebecca of Flomot, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Raetz and Charles "Chig" Gwinn of Matador.

Mary Ellen "Dude" Barton was a guest at a Christmas day luncheon in the Matador home of Judy and Butch Renfro and their family. Before returning home, she visited Dixie and

Bunday Hal Campbell and their holiday guests.

Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse and her family enjoyed a Christmas cat photos are welcome. The night celebration in her home in Flomot. Those attending were Regina and Chad Seward, Allison, Quaid and Macy of Goldwaithe, Mr. and Mrs. Chancey Cruse of Clarendon, Roegan Cruse of Turkey, Mr. and Mrs. Talon Cruse and Colton of Whiteflat and their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Cruse of Flomot; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clifton of Elk City, OK, Mr. and Mrs. Tanner Smith, Cutter and Jaxon of Floydada and Skylar Clifton of Denver, CO, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Patton, Thor, Tory, Teah and Tally of Happy, Mr. and Mrs. James Gwinn and Danielle of Whiteflat and Fannin Gwinn of Flomot, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Cruse of Flomot and their holiday guests, children, Leah Cruse of Canyon, Mr. and Mrs. Keane Cruse and Reese of Turkey and Derrick Cruse of Casper, WY.

Mrs. Jackie Sperry of Quitaque and Mrs. Cally Sperry at-tended the funeral of Ernie Lee held in Clarendon Thursday



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Letters To The **Editor**

Dear Vince and Laura (Valley

Thank you so much for your willingness to help the Quitaque First United Methodist Church with stories about activities in our church. I appreciate your kindness and smiles when I email a late article and you work just a little later to get it in the

Not only do I appreciate the help with the FUMC, but the willingness to print articles for the Quitaque Ambulance Service is greatly appreciated.

Printing the articles helps the Ambulance Services in Quitaque, Turkey and Silverton meet the public awareness requirements in order to qualify for Regional Advisory Council state funding.

Thank you so much for the great work you do with the Valley Tribune. I greatly enjoy the

> Sincerely, Dianne Washington

Cutest Dog & Cat **Photo** Contest Open To Area Residents

The TX State Chapter of Dog & Cat Lovers of America in partnership with IPOC is proud to announce that many cash and prizes are up for grabs including a \$1,000.00 Cash Grand Prize in the 2008 Spring Cutest Pet Photo Contest. 10 lucky entrants will also be selected to have their photo grace the cover of an internationally distributed pet book. We refer to them as Cover Pets," states Rosa Bonbeur, contest chairperson. Recent winners include Candice (\$1,000.00 Cash) and Connie Ernske of Ohio (\$1,000.00 Cash).

Pet owners from the Valley area are welcome to win a share of the prizes. The deadline for the contest is Feb 15th. The contest is open to every several and may include different pet types in the same photo. There is a strict limit of one photo per household to avoid disqualification. "Every pet owner has at least one photo that shows just how cute their pet is," says Bonbeur, "When people learn about the contest, they get excited about the chance of winning and the potential for national atten-

tion," continued Bonbeur.
The preferred method of entry is to enter directly online

www.CutestPetContest.com. You may also submit your photo by postal mail. Please send one photograph full color or black and white of any size. All photo entries must include the photographer's name and address on the back. Photographs should be sent to: TX 2008 Spring Cutest Pet Photo Contest, P.O. Box 4470, Olathe, KS 66063. Entries must be postmarked by Feb 15th 2008.

Dog & Cat Lovers of America is an organization dedicated to bringing pet owners from around the world together for fun and fellowship. Membership in the organization is not required to participate and the entry is free. Past winners are listed at www.cutestpetcontest.com

01 MAIN - QUITAQUE, TEXAS - 455-1429 OPEN Monday - Saturday / 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY'S FRIED

Noon Buffet

11:00am - 2:00pm **Night Buffet** More Chicken Gizzards & Livers 5:30pm-8:30pm

ACROSS

FRIDAY'S **BAR-B-QUE** & CATFISH

Noon Buffet 11:00am - 2:00pm Night Special **Catfish Dinners** Fixin's & Salad Bar 5:30pm -8:30 pm

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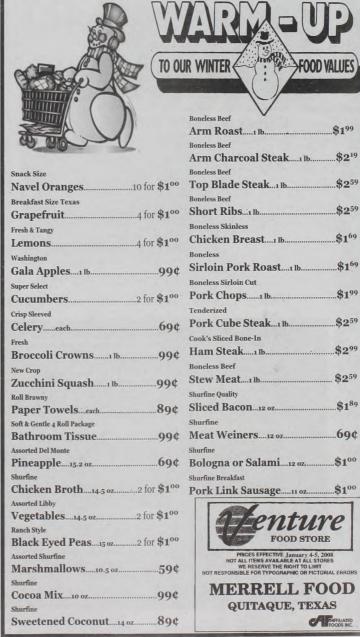


"The _____ Never Blinks"

I was always looking outside myself for strength and confidence, but it comes from within. It is there all the time. ~ Anna Freud

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More Texas Sunshine In Washington

By U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

At a time when government seems to be growing by the day, Congress made an important move at year-end towards increasing government openness, transparency and accountability. Both the Senate and House approved the most sweeping reforms to our freedom of information laws in more than a decade

I first introduced the OPEN Government Act with U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., two years ago. After months of hearings and negotiations, it was finally approved overwhelmingly in December. The Cornyn-Leahy bill will not merely be a victory for transparency in federal govern-

ment operations. It will be a vital building block to strengthen our democratic process.

Texas has long had one of the nation's strongest open government laws. When I served in state government as Attorney General, I had a key role in enforcing that law. So bringing a little Texas sunshine to the federal government was a top legislative priority for me when I arrived in

Washington five years ago.

The Cornyn-Leahy bill updates the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to address undue delays and onerous burdens that often greet Americans looking for information from their gov-

The underlying FOIA law was initially enacted more than 40 years ago. Achieving prompt responses has been a serious problem in its enforcement from the beginning. Some pending requests for information are more than a decade old, possibly sitting in a bureaucrat's drawer somewhere. And many information requests can only be resolved through costly lawsuits, which

effectively prevent citizens from receiving information they're entitled to.

The bill restores meaningful deadlines—with consequences—to the FOIA system, encouraging government agencies to provide timely responses. It creates a new initiative for tracking pending FOIA requests and an ombudsman to review agency compliance. It provides safeguards against misuse of the law, and closes loopholes used to avoid compliance. It recognizes changes in the way information is circulated, and allows journalists and public representatives equal access to information. access to information.

The OPEN Government Act bolsters the most fundamental requirement for an effective democracy—a free and informed citizenry. It reinforces Abraham Lincoln's notion of a government "of the people, by the people, for the people" by facilitating the flow of information into the hands of Americans. I have tried to advance these principles throughout my years in public

These FOIA reforms come after years of legislative work that required significant bipartisan cooperation. In a year when gridlock seemed periodically to take over Congress, Sen. Leahy and I are proud that we were able to achieve consensus in both chambers, and among both parties, for this bill. It is clearly one of the signature accomplishments of the current Congress.

James Madison once declared: "The advancement and diffusion of knowledge is the only guardian of true liberty." But I know firsthand that government, unless proded, has a natural tendency to suppress distribution of information particularly when it is inconvenient or employed.

tendency to suppress distribution of information, particularly when it is inconvenient or embarrassing to those in office.

There are always exceptions to the rule that must be observed, such as the need to keep confidential information that could compromise our national security. Our FOIA reforms recognize that. But our underlying principle is this: when information can be made open and available in the standard of the st

These reforms will require federal agencies to make significant changes in the way they operate. I will be watching closely to make certain they comply. And Congress itself needs to do much more to improve transparency. The earmark process—when legislators insert narrow projects into a massive spending bill—should have far greater openness and accountability. I

Texas has long prided itself on its wide-open spaces, and open government. Accountability is also an important Texas value. Our state has been a national leader in advancing the ideals of transparency in our public business. We are all safer, and our liberty more secure, whenever Washington adopts more of that Texas sunshine



Tips for Success: Helping Students Avoid Common Mistakes in Preparing for College

Preparing for college takes hard work. High school students sometimes have difficult choices to make as they prepare themselves for the next level of education. Below are five common

1.Taking the easy road—Students who take the easy road when choosing high school classes—opting for courses that require the least amount of work and brain power—are probably hurting their chances for success in college. College classes are very difficult and demanding. Students who don't take challenging courses in high school are likely to struggle even more with college coursework.

2. Slacking off senior year-It's very tempting for students to slack off during their senior year of high school, taking easy courses that give them more time to have fun. Students who hope to succeed in college, however, should avoid this temptation. Those who "take their senior year off" may actually find themselves behind academically when they arrive at college. The best way for students to prepare for success is to do the opposite: keep taking challenging courses

and academically push through senior year.

3. Focusing too much on GPA—Grades are certainly important when it comes to getting into college. However, colleges tend to look not only at students' grades but also at the specific courses they took. Earning a "B" in an advanced course such as calculus or physics can mean more to college admissions officers than earning an "A" in an easier course such as business math or general science. Students who sacrifice advanced coursework for a high GPA may be ore harm than good in the long run.

4. Waiting until high school to start planning-Some students wait until their junior or senior year in high school before they start planning for college. By then, it may be too late to take the courses needed to qualify for college, yet alone succeed once they get there. The best time for students to start planning and setting goals for the future is in middle school, when there is plenty of time to set the right course for success. It's never too early to start thinking about your future

5.Not asking for help and advice-Counselors, teachers, administrators, and parents may seem out of touch about some of the things that are important to teenagers. When it comes to planning for college and the future, however, they tend to know what's important. Teens should ask these adults for help and advice when preparing for the college. Don't miss out on some of your most valuable resources.

To learn more about college and career planning, visit ACT's student website: www.actstudent.org . ACT—Helping people achieve education and workplace succ

Getting ahead in a difficult profession requires avid faith in yourself. That is why some eople with mediocre talent, but with great inner drive, go much further than people with vastly superior talent.

~ Sophia Loren



Valley Varsity Boys



Jr Varsity Boys

Valley Varsity & Jr Varsity Boys & Girls vs Matador Friday, January 4 @ 4 p.m., there

> Valley JV Boys & Girls vs Spur Tuesday, January 8 @ 4 p.m., here

Valley Varsity Boys & Girls vs Patton Springs Tuesday, January 8 @ 6:30/8 p.m., here



Valley Varsity & Jr Varsity Girls

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great big cheer! The Lions Club bar very nice with many v Methodist ladies of tu I had a large group the Christmas season led by Linda Lemons of working with them The new water to newly painted white a The Lonnie Cagle's ing with them for son. He is eighteen and w Canadian. They com. his permanent home. Candy Jones Kern and Ben have been h Buster Chadwick over Amber Stark was in out with only a few b wasn't so lucky, but is

sophomore in high so ment and school chor Visitors over Chri daughter, Kim and Re Austin, son Max and granddaughter Traci daughter Lisa Herrin Bella of Austin and se Emery of Floydada. Scotty Stark has be his doctor at his chec On Christmas eve

Billy Jean and Wel

their daughter and h

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Jill Johnson spent Johnson and wife, Ja On Christmas da Mayfield and wife, D with her, Joyce Price On Friday of that w Alex, of Odessa came visited Caprock Canyo Imogene Bethel, Rub

On Thursday night ter dinner that night, ter started home to C most blizzard cond Welborn, accompanie snow wasn't' so fierce get home in the snow The season brings

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ON THE QT

By Patsy Herrington

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Christmas is no longer here, but the memories will remain long and dear. Let's all embrace the coming year, and give a great big cheer!

The Lions Club banquet held Monday night a week ago was very nice with many visitors and a delicious meal cooked by the Methodist ladies of turkey, dressing, and all the trimmings

I had a large group of carolers come by my house to enhance the Christmas season by singing Christmas songs. These are led by Linda Lemons and Verla Barrett and they do a great job of working with them.

The new water tower is like a tall beacon of light, all now newly painted white and gleaming in the sunlight.

The Lonnie Cagle's have had their grandson, Robbie here living with them for sometime. He is from Ohio, but loves it here. He is eighteen and works with them each week at their jobs in Canadian. They come home on weekends. He may make this his permanent home.

Candy Jones Kern of Plano and her children Holly, Stephen and Ben have been here visiting her mother An Chadwick and Buster Chadwick over the Christmas holidays

Amber Stark was in a bad car wreck recently, but luckily came out with only a few bruises. The other girl in the opposite car wasn't so lucky, but is recovering.

Billy Jean and Weldon Griffin spent Christmas in Canyon at their daughter and husband's home, Cindy and Steve Venerable, Emily and Ben. Emily is a sophomore at college; Ben is a sophomore in high school and very active in he music department and school choir of which many times he has the leading

Visitors over Christmas at Patsy Herrington's home were daughter, Kim and Ron Eudy, Marshall, Parker, and Gracie, of Austin, son Max and Anne Marie Ham, Chase of Crosbyton and granddaughter Traci Ham Dykstra, of Nashville, Tennessee, daughter Lisa Herrington Welborn and Bud, Blake, Betsy and Bella of Austin and son Lex and Dana Herrington, Everett and Emery of Floydada. They all had a good time visiting and eat-

Scotty Stark has been very ill, but is "quite a bit better", says his doctor at his checkup last Thursday

On Christmas eve there were candlelight services at both the Methodist and Baptist Churches. Patsy was asked to play the organ at the Methodist in the absence of Delene Tyler. She asked her grandson, Parker Eudy, to accompany her on the violin. They played (as the congregation joined in) "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear", "O Come All Ye Faithful", "Away In A Manger", and "Silent Night" With Bro Dorn's message, it was a very mov-

ing service, especially when the candles were all lit.

Parker Eudy plays with a fiddle group in Austin, all his age or round about (sophomores), eight in all. One of their favorites is Bob Wills music. They play at county fairs and many social events. Parker's great-grandfather Clayton Ham, used to barber alongside Bob Wills in Turkey, Texas. His mother, Kim Ham, was the 1st Bob Wills queen.

Jill Johnson spent Christmas with her brother, John Lynn

Johnson and wife, Janet at his cabin near San Antonio. On Christmas day Ruby King had her grandson Danny Mayfield and wife, Debbie of Lubbock visited and eat dinner with her, Joyce Price ate also.

On Friday of that week Jerry and Wanda King and grandson, Alex, of Odessa came for a few days visit with Ruby King. They visited Caprock Canyons State Park and other friends while here. Imogene Bethel, Ruby's sister of Lamesa, also visited her for a

On Thursday night we received over tow inches of snow. After dinner that night, Traci Ham Dykstra, Patsy's granddaughter started home to Crosbyton. The weather had turned to almost blizzard conditions. Daughter Lisa's husband, Bud Welborn, accompanied her to the top of the Caprock where the snow wasn't' so fierce. Even at that, it took her three hours to get home in the snow and ice

The season brings all kind of things - A year that's new and a wish for you - Happy New Year

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Cash Giveaway At Old Mill Trade Days In Post This Weekend

This weekend shoppers will have an opportunity to win cash at Old Mill Trade Days in Post. "Everyone could use a little cash after Christmas," explained Rosa Latimer, General Manager of the event, "so we decided to have a cash giveaway for our cus-

OMTD will give away cash all 3 days of the January event which begins this Friday. Each day shoppers can bring \$50.00 (or more) in OMTD vendor receipts (with that day's date) to the Antique Mall & Gift Shop in Two Bush Knob and trade the receipts for one draw from the Old Mill Money bin. The money bin will be full of cash from \$1 up to \$100, free passes to Trade Days, special discount coupons from vendors and gift certificates redeemable for meals at OMTD food vendors.

With an average of 60 to 65 vendors each weekend, Trade Days offers a variety of merchandise, some only available in Post. "We have several vendors who began with Trade Days over 14 years ago. Plus, with each event we have new vendors offering a variety of merchandise," the General Manager explained. "Old Mill Trade Days is a great mix of familiar and different. It

changes every month as new vendors participate and our regular vendors bring in new merchandise."

Vendor products include handmade jewelry, antiques, exotic birds, gourmet food & coffee, and a variety of home décor items. Food vendors offer bar-b-que, hamburgers, funnel cake, pizza, turkey legs, nachos, fajitas and various desserts.

Other recent changes have placed Trade Days in a position to appeal to the shopper and vendor of this decade. Online shopping on the OMTD web site was established and an area of approximately 3,000 square feet in the Post City Building was

designated as an Antique Mall & Gift Shop.

"As we talked to potential new vendors during the past couple of years we discovered that many are not willing or can no longer afford to travel to Post for the weekend to sell their merchandise," the General Manager continued. "The Antique Mall

has been a successful alternative for the vendors as our staff handles sales for the vendors in the Antique Mall area."

Several OMTD vendors are selling merchandise via www.olfmilltradedays.com and this option will expand in 2008. "We have contracted with a web site service that will handle all online shopping/selling. This service is not limited to Trade Days

vendors but is available to any small business that wants to participate in online selling. The cost of using the Trade Days web site is much less than developing a web site," Latimer continued.

First Friday Old Mill Trade Days is this weekend, January 4-6, and every first Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the year. It is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Sunday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Admission on Friday is \$1.00 for adults/free for Senior citizens and on Saturday and Sunday \$2.00 for adults. Children under 10 are always admitted free when accompanied by an other self-incompanied by adult and parking is free. Call 495-3529 or visit www.oldmilltradedays.com for more information.

Turkey News

Billy and Margie Pinkerton spent five days in Snyder helping Tommy take care of Clayton and Kelcey. This past week, they went to Gunter for a few days. Margie has been released by her orthopedic doctor and has finished therapy. Billy has been to his heart specialist since returning home and will have tests run after Christmas

Turkey Roost Museum News

Work at the museum has been on hold since Margie's injury but since her improvement things have picked up again. We are hoping to have the museum open again by the first of March. We are in the process of clearing out the front room so that we can finish painting the walls and then we are repainting the floor. Our electrician has done more work and we have been moving some of the displays around.

The Christmas Tree Skirt that was donated to the museum by Bonnie Jo Choate for us to sell chances on was won by Delores Price. We certainly appreciate all those who bought chances on the skirt. The money will be put to use on our projects.

We also received a very unique donation from Tamera Chambless to the museum as gift to Bonnie Chambless. Tamera's letter expressed appreciation of the museum and our desire to preserve the past history of families who once lived in Turkey.

There are admirable potentialities in every human being. Believe in your strength and your youth. Learn to repeat endlessly to yourself, "It all depends on

~ Andre Gide

Attempt easy tasks as if they were difficult, and difficult as if they wer easy; in the one case that confidence may not fall asleep, in the other that it may not be dismayed. - Baltasar Gracian

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HARDEMAN COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL * Scott Nail, CEO *

HARDEMAN COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL provides quality medical care to the people of this area, located in Quanah, at 402 Mercer Street, phone number (940) 663-2795. This facility has modern medical technology and their personal attention to make each patient's visit as pleasant as possible. Whether a patient comes to HARDEMAN COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL for minor surgery, diagnostic testing, rehab or home health services, or inpatient medical care, the entire staff is dedicated to making their hospital visit a beneficial one. The medical professionals here make this hospital a quality choice for primary, outpatient and preventative care, as well as for surgical, rehab, and emergency treatment. From the registered therapists and well-trained nursing staff to the technicians and customer service staff, the group as a whole is always ready and helpful to serve their patients. The administration of the facility continues to look for ways to develop its services to the community while maintain-

ing determination to keep costs to a minimum.

We, the editors of this 2008 New Year's Business Review and Reference Guide, know they are committed to meet this area's medical needs with expert knowledge, advanced technology, and compassion. When you are in need of medical, surgical, outpatient, or emergency treatment, remember that Hardeman County Memorial Hospital stands ready to help and declares that Nothing Is More Important Than Your Health.



Irrigation Timing, **Technology Headline** Jan. 16 Conference

Producers trying to maximize water resources and meet the demand to produce more corn can find the latest information on irrigation technology and timing at the annual irrigation conference in Amarillo, said a Texas Cooperative Extension spe-

The High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show is scheduled for Jan. 16 at the Amarillo Civic Center, said Leon New, Extension irrigation specialist and agricultural engineer. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$15 and includes

"We want to present current information that will help grow-ers make wise decisions in preparing for the approaching crop

Program topics will include pump efficiency, power and pumping cost; matching crop acreage to available irrigation; crop water management; crop production and economics; and biofuel crops, he said.

A highlight will be a growers' panel, New said. Growers continually make changes in their irrigation system and fuel needs, crops grown, marketing strategies, chemicals applied, tillage practices, equipment purchased and other management practices to offset increasing production costs. This year's conference includes five experienced growers who will share how they have changed to confront the challenge.

Continuing education units have been applied for and will be offered for pesticide applicators, certified crop advisers and Irrigation Association certified irrigation designers. For more information, contact New at 806-677-5600.

Partnering, Licensing **Opportunities With ARS** Now Available on RSS

By Kim Kaplan

Agricultural Research Service (ARS) technologies available for licensing and partnership opportunities now can be accessed through Really Simple Syndication (RSS) as well on the ARS web site. RSS is a convenient electronic format that allows users to view or receive all the new content from multiple sources

agency has available for licensing, as well as research for which it is seeking commercial partners for Cooperative Research and Development Agreements. To subscribe to this information via RSS, visit www.ars.usda.gov/Busines

Examples of technology available for licensing that can be accessed through RSS include:

* A new chemical method to convert soybean oil into indus-

trial products such as lubrication fluid.

* Two new methods that can be used for developing tissue implants that could potentially be used in biomedical applications, such as making prosthetic medical devices.

* New antimicrobial fusion proteins that is active against Staphylococcus aureus and three streptococcal mastitis patho-

ARS has more than 600 active patents and more than 300

In addition to RSS feeds for ARS licensing and partnership 2008. opportunities, the agency offers a feed of daily news reports on ARS scientific discoveries. To subscribe to any of the agency's feeds, visit: www.ars.usda.gov/News/ docs.htm?docid=6697

RSS can be set at the user's preference to display new items on a web home page such as iGoogle or Yahoo or to email the new items. Users will first need to download one of a variety of RSS readers, which are available free of charge.

For more information about ARS Office of Technology Transfer and partnering opportunities, see www.ars.usda.gov/Busi-

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Handling Pesticides Associated with Greater Asthma Risk in Farm Women

Newswise - New research on farm women has shown that contact with some commonly used pesticides in farm work may increase their risk of allergic asthma

"Farm women are an understudied occupational group," said Jane Hoppin, Sc.D., of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and lead author of the study. "More than half the women in our study applied pesticides, but there is very little known about the risks

The study was published in the first issue for January of the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, published by the American Thoracic Society

The researchers assessed pesticide and other occupational exposures as risk factors for adult-onset asthma in more than 25,000 farmwomen in North Carolina and Iowa. They used selfreports of doctor-diagnosed adult asthma, and divided the omen into groups of allergic (atopic) or non-allergic (nonatopic) asthma based on a history of eczema and/or hay fever.

They found an average increase of 50 percent in the prevalence of allergic asthma in all farm women who applied or mixed pesticides. Remarkably, although the association with pesticides was higher among women who grew up on farms, these women still had a lower overall risk of having allergic asthma compared to than those who did not grow up on farms, due to a protective

effect that remains poorly understood.

"Growing up on a farm is such a huge protective effect it's pretty hard to overwhelm it," said Dr. Hoppin. "[But] about 40 percent of women who work on farms don't report spending their childhoods there. It is likely that the association with pes ticides is masked in the general population due to a higher seline rate of asthma.

n. moppin also found that most pesticides were associated only with allergic asthma, even though non-allergic asthma is generally more common in adults. "Asthma is a very heterogeneous disease," said Dr. Hoppin. "This finding suggests that some of the agricultural risk factors for allergic and non-allergic asthma may differ.

Some legal but rarely used compounds, such as parathion, ere associated with almost a three-fold increase in allergic asthma. But even some commonly used pesticides were associated with a marked increase in allergic asthma prevalence. Malathion, for example, a widely used insecticide, was associated with a 60 percent increased prevalence of allergic asthma.

in one location on their computer desktop.

Of all the compounds examined, only permethrin, a commonly used insecticide that is used in consumer items such as insect-resistant clothing to anti-malaria bed-nets, was associ ated with both allergic and non-allergic asthma

This is the first study to examine pesticides and asthma in farm women, and it points the way for future research to clarify the relationship. "At the end of the day, you have to remember that we're looking at cross-sectional data, thus we cannot es tablish a temporal association between pesticide use and asthma," cautions Dr. Hoppin. "There is a difference in asthma prevalence between women who did and did not use pesticides

but whether it is causal or not remains to be seen."

Dr. Hoppin and her colleagues are in the midst of planning a large scale prospective study that will better evaluate the links between pesticide exposures and asthma. "We want to characterize the clinical aspects of this disease, as well as lifetime exposures to agents that may either protect against asthma or increase risk," said Dr. Hoppin. "We hope to start the study in

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Congress Approves Additional Disaster Funds As **FSA Delivers First Assistance Payments**

Growers who thought passage of the Senate's 2007 farm bill was going to be the last major agriculture highlight of the year received a welcome, but not totally unexpected, pre-Christmas gift from the U.S. Congress with the inclusion of \$600 million in additional crop loss disaster assistance funding

The holiday season stocking stuffer will allow the current 2005/2006/2007 Crop Loss Assistance Program to include all eligible crops planted during the 2007 growing season

Prior to this latest Congressional action, the 2005/2006/ 2007 disaster program was limited to only those 2007 crops planted before February 28, 2007. Not so anymore as the official eligibility date for 2007 losses has now been extended to December 31, 2007 for eligible crops.

The extra ag disaster assistance money was approved as part

of the \$555 Billion Omnibus Appropriations Bill that Congress sent to President George Bush December 19. The Omnibus measure wraps up all of the previously unfinished Congressional spending bills and also included additional discretionary funds, such as the ag disaster money, and a \$70 billion supplemental

appropriations package to support the Iraq war effort.

Primary motivators for Congress providing the additional money were losses that occurred in the drought-stricken Southeastern U.S. The extra ag disaster program authority is a significant boon to producers nationwide, including many right here on the Texas High Plains. Texas High Plains where sporadic hail storms and other weather combined to cause some isolated, but significant losses in 2007

Altogether some 170,000 acres of High Plains cotton are forecast to have been iose to one cause or another during the growing season by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service. That figure is also just more than half of the 300,000 or so cotton act that are projected to have been lost nationwide this year.

Next Step: Figure Out Logistics of 2007 Loss Claims

The first piece of advice for growers who think they will have their greatest eligible loss come from the 2007 growing season is to be patient and wait for the USDA Farm Service Agency to ather all the information it will need to process those claims.

Knowing how long it took for the initial data collection process to take place for the original 2005/2006 program, one of the most important questions for FSA officials to work out is how soon they will be able to get the required federal crop in-

surance data on 2007 crop losses.

For many spring-seeded crops there are still a few weeks left in the insurance period for the 2007 growing season, so one of the first hurdles for FSA to cross will be working with the USDA Risk Management Agency to determine when 2007 insurance data can be provided.

How that question is answered will in large part determine what options will be considered for handling 2007 loss claims At this time the possibilities include simply modifying current regulations and software to allow growers to put 2007 information in the mix when determining which is their greatest loss year or handling the 2007 claims as a separate sign-up that would occur once RMA data is received.

A major concern for growers who might have suffered a significant 2007 loss, but already filed for and received a claim for a lesser amount in either 2005 or 2006 is whether or not they will be excluded from the opportunity to have a 2007 loss, that is greater than a loss they have already received, from being

While nothing is set in stone regarding the handling of this type of situation, there is no indication that a grower that has already received a loss benefit, from either 2005 or 2006, would be prevented from filing for a 2007 loss.

The presumed method for handling such a situation would

be to have the grower file for 2007 claim and then compare the total amount due from that claim to any benefits they have already received. If the 2007 benefit is calculated to be higher than the payment the grower has already received, it is expected that FSA would issue a supplementary benefit payment for the difference in the two amounts.

If timing is not an issue growers who suffered a loss in 2007, in addition to having an eligible loss in either of the other two years, and have not yet signed up for program benefits are also advised to be patient and allow FSA to work out the details before heading to the FSA office

Additional information about the handling of 2007 Crop Loss Assistance claims authorized by the Omnibus Appropriations bill will be reported as soon as it becomes available.

An interesting side-note to the approval of the additional funds is that it coincided with the release of the first round of Crop Loss Assistance payments by the USDA Farm Service

FSA offices nationwide had been waiting for the go ahead to release payments to growers that had signed up for the program since enrollment was opened November 15.

FSA's announcement that the payments were being made followed a flurry of questions earlier in the week from Plains Cotton Growers and Lubbock-area Congressmen about why it was taking so long to get the final program rules published.

The man who has confidence in himself gains the confidence of others. ~ Hasidie saying

Courage is the art of being the only one who knows you're scared to death.

~ Harold Wilson

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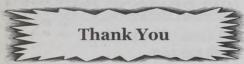
23-3tc RN's needed - every other weekend or two weekends a month. Flexible hours. Contact Wendy or Rosie at Hackberry Creek Care Center 806-347-2942 or fax resume to 806-347-2916.

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Hackberry Creek Care Center, Inc. is looking for the following positions:

Housekeeping and Cooks, no experience necessary, will

DON, Director of Nursing needed at Hackberry Creek Care Center, Inc. please call Rosie or Wendy, or fax resume to 806-347-2916.



A BIG 'Thank You' to all the students and faculty at Valley School for donating all the personal items and canned food gathered from their Annual Christmas Program to Tri-County Meals. These items were distributed to our clients during the holidays and were greatly appreciated.

Tri County Meals

Things That Make You Go Hmmm... By Laura Taylor

Wishes For The New Year

Several years ago, someone (author unknown) composed the following list of wishes for the new year:

May your hair, your teeth, your face-lift, your abs, and your

stocks not fall; and may your blood pressure, your triglycerides, your cholesterol, your white blood count and your mortgage interest not rise.

May you get a clean bill of health from your dentist, your cardiologist, your gastroenterologist, your urologist, your proctologist, your podiatrist, your psychiatrist, your plumber, and

May you find a way to travel from anywhere to anywhere during rush hour in less than an hour, and when you get there

may you find a parking space.

May the new year find you seated around the dinner table, together with your beloved family and cherished friends, on a regular basis. You will find the food better, the environment quieter, the cost much cheaper, and the pleasure much more

fulfilling than anything else you might ordinarily do that night. May you have the strength to go through a year of presidential campaigning, and may some of the promises made be kept. May you believe at least half of what the candidates propose, and may those elected fulfill at least half of what they promise, and the miracle of reducing taxes and balancing budgets hap-

May what you see in the mirror delight you, and what others see in you delight them.

May the telemarketers wait to make their sales calls until you finish dinner, may your checkbook and your budget balance, and may they include generous amounts for your church

May you remember to say "I love you" at least once a day to your spouse, your child, and your parent(s).

May we live as God intended, in a world at peace with our-selves and others, with the awareness of the beauty in every sunset, every flower's unfolding petals, every baby's smile and every wonderful, astonishing, miraculous beat of our heart.

May God bless you with happiness, great health, peace, and much love during this new year and all those that follow.

ННМММ....

Open Government Requires Participation, Says First Amendment Scholar

Newswise - In spite of the fact U.S. citizens can't vote on each individual issue or dilemma facing our nation, that's no excuse for Americans to refrain from participating in their own governance, declares Dr. Larry Burriss, a First Amendment scholar and journalism professor at Middle Tennessee State

We have a republican form of government, which means we elect people to represent us," Burriss says, "(but) that does not mean we abdicate all responsibility and sit back and let 'them' do whatever they want, to 'us.'

"Just because we can't vote on every issue and problem that faces our neighborhood, county, state or nation doesn't mean we can't participate in our own governance. But the only way we can participate is if we know what is going on with our elected representatives. And that seems to be something 'they' are mightily opposed to.'

In spite of the fact the U.S. endorses an open government, "For some reason, many of our elected leaders think that once they get into office they should be above the law," observes Burriss, who also holds a J.D. from Concord Law School. "They think we should just leave them alone to do what they want, which usually means lining their own pockets at our expense. But of course, we have no way of knowing that because we don't have access to many of the records that would point out such

For Burriss, however, the solution to local, county, state and federal officials who think it's OK, even necessary, to limit how much information the public is entitled to knowing, is quite simple

Says Burriss: "Pass a law that says no secret meetings, no secret discussions, no secret decisions. Period. We get to know how much money each representative receives from which lobbyist. We get to know each and every time a city council member, county commissioner or state representative or senator

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meets with any group, lobby

ist or concerned citizen-and

that also goes for agency and

budget and police report. For

agency heads and representa-tives, we get a copy of their tax

returns, their business tax re-

turns and their medical

As for those elected repre-

sentatives who don't care to

says, again is quite elementary

Further, he adds, "The same rules apply to public records: we get to see every contract,

department heads. Period."

This Week In Texas History!

Dec 23, 1880
Sheriff pat Garrett kills
Charlie Bowdre and captures
Billy the Kid at Stinking
Springs, N.M. Later Billy escapes from the Lincoln County
Courthouse. The Kid Bowdre Courthouse. The Kid, Bowdre and Tom O'Falliard are buried at Fort Sumner, N. M. but residents of Hico, Texas will dispute that, as they claim their "Brushy" Bill Roberts was the Real Billy the Kid and died in Hico in 1950.

Dec 24, 1905 Howard Hughes was born in Houston.

Dec 24, 1852

The first locomotive in Texas, the General Sherman, was put into service at Harrisburg. The locomotive was scrapped in

Dec 25, 1868

The U.S. Cavalry, under the command of Maj. Andre W. Evans, defeated a large group of Nokoni Comanche Indians on the North Fork of the Red River in the Eastern Texas Panhandle

Dec 26, 1842 The Mier Expedition surrendered to Mexican forces after a battle lasting several hours. The Texans were taken to prison in Mexico were later one of ten was executed. Dec 27, 1887 Col. Charles Goodnight and

his wife Mary Ann moved from their dugout in the Palo Duro Canyon to house on their ranch south of Goodnight. Dec 28, 1839
Austin Civic Leader, Robert
Brackenridge was born in Indiana. The Austin city hospital

named in his honor.

Dec 29, 1945
On this date, a commemorative three cent stamp was issued by the U. S. Post Office on the centennial of Texas becoming a state.

Dec 30, 1842
Under direct orders from President Sam Houston, a company of Texas Rangers stole the government seal and archives in Austin and at-tempted to move them to

Dec 31, 1842

A group of angry citizens formed a "vigilance committee" and caught the fleeing Texas Rangers. The Seal of the Republic and the archives were recaptured and returned to

Jan 1, 1877

Pvt. Adam Paine, a Congressional Medal of Honor winner for his action during the battle of Palo Duro Canyon, was shot and killed by a sheriff at Fort Clark near Brackettville. He was a black Seminole Indian scout and earned the medal when he led his scouting party back to camp after they lost their horses. At the time of his death he was a fugitive wanted

for murder.
Jan 2, 1856

Camp Cooper was established on the Clear Creek Fork of the Brazos River in Throckmorton County. It wqas abandoned on Feb 21, 1861

Jan 3, 1826 Lt. Col. J.C. Neill assumed command of the texans in the comply, the solution, Burriss Jan 4, 1895

A stage route was established between Plainview and Ama-

Jan 5, 1861 A group of delegates from the

southern states advised Texas to join the Confederacy. Jan 5, 1861

A mob destroyed the printing office of Die Union in Galveston.

Jan 6, 1836 The Texas government orders all volunteers in San Antonio to abandon the Alamo and march south to join Gen. Sam. Houston's Army in an invasion of Mexico.

Jan 6, 1540

Spanish Viceroy Antonio de Mendoza appointed Francisco Vazuez de Coronado to lead an rs. expedition to the Seven Cities of Cibola.



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"Throw them out. Any rillo. council member, commissioner or representative who makes any kind of noise about limiting public access to the decision-making process should be voted out of office,' Burriss suggests. "(And) maybe if a few of them lost their jobs, the rest would get the idea that the public's business should be conducted in public; not in smoke-filled

records.

facilities." Keep your fears to yourself, but share your courage with others.

rooms, restaurants or sports

Prediabetes: A Wake-Up Call to Make **Changes to Prevent Diabetes**

Newswise - New data suggests that 54 million Americans may be on track to develop diabetes within the next 10 years

They have prediabetes, a condition where blood sugar is higher than normal but not high enough to be classified as type 2 diabetes. A special diabetes report in the November issue of Mayo Clinic Women's HealthSource covers prediabetes and what can be done to prevent it from becoming type 2 diabetes, a potentially debilitating and life-threatening disease.

Overlooking prediabetes is easy, because often there are no symptoms. And blood tests for prediabetes aren't given routinely.

People age 45 and older who have never been tested for diabetes should discuss prediabetes screening with a physician. A blood glucose test will likely be recommended for people who have any of these risk factors:

A family history of diabetes A body mass index of 25 or higher

Low levels of high-density lipoprotein (HDL or "good") cholesterol and high triglycerides, another blood fat

- High blood pressure

A history of gestational diabetes (diabetes during pregnancy) or giving birth to a baby

weighing more than 9 pounds

Polycystic ovary syndrome

An ethnicity that is disproportionately affected by diabetes, including African-American, American Indian,
 Hispanic-American/Latino and Asian-American/Pacific Islander.

PAT CARSON could lower the risk of diabetes in high-risk individuals by SURANCE



For those who have predia-etes, making healthy lifestyle changes can significantly re-duce the risk of developing diabetes. One large research study found that diet and exercise that resulted in a 5 per-cent to 7 percent weight loss



Getting Help for Substance Abuse

Alcohol and drug abuse are common medical conditions in the US. Nearly 9% of women 18 and older are considered heavy drinkers—meaning they consume three or more drinks at one sitting on five or more days per month. In 2001, 8.3% of nonpregnant women and 3.7% of pregnant women reported illegal drug use

Substance abuse is a problem that affects women of all backgrounds, regardless of age, socioeconomic status, or race, and can lead to devastating consequences for w

Women are more vulnerable to problems, such as heart and liver complications, at lower levels of alcohol intake than men are. Even before they know they are pregnant, women who drink alcohol may put their fetuses at risk for fetal alcohol syndrome, the leading cause of mental retardation and other developmental disorders. Women are also especially susceptible to the effects of combined alcohol and tobacco use, particularly cancers of the head, neck, esophagus,

Women who use illicit drugs may experience a number of physical and mental health issues, such as depression, and pregnancy and newborn-related problems. They may also be at increased risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases and encountering domestic violence and

poverty.

Many women are reluctant to admit that they have an addiction, fearing reper-cussions at work or with the police, social isolation, or loss of their children. Others may not be aware of the extent of their dependence on drugs and alcohol or may be in denial. But if you or someone you

know has a substance abuse problem, it is important to seek help.

T-ACE is a screening test that was developed just for women to identify problems of alcohol

* Tolerance: How many drinks does it take to make you feel high?

* Have people Annoyed you by criticizing your drinking?

* Have you ever felt you ought to Cut down on your drinking?

Eye opener: Have you ever had a drink first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or get

rid of a hangover?

If your answer to the tolerance question is more than two drinks, give yourself a score of 2. Score 1 for each "yes" answer to any of the other questions. A total score of 2 or more could mean that you have a drinking problem. You can modify these questions to test for drug

Substance abuse is a treatable condition. Talk to your doctor about your drinking and drug use. He or she can refer you to health professionals and support groups that can help you throughout your recovery. Your doctor may also suggest medication, counseling, or other strategies to help you quit. No matter what methods you use, kicking a substance abuse habit is an ongoing and difficult process, so the sooner you start on the road to recovery, the better.

Courage and perseverance have a magical talisman, before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish into air.

~ John Ouincu Adams

A hero is no braver than an ordinary man, but he is braver five minutes longer. ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

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One man patted a strange bulldog to see if it was affectionate. Itwasn't.

One man sped up to see if he could beat the train to the crossing.

One man touched an electric wire to see if it was dead. It wasn't.

One man cut out his advertising to see if he could save money. He Didn't.

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