

The Post Dispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2013

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75 CENTS

Plane wreaks havoc in south Garza

By Wayne Hodgin and Anna Gibson
The Post Dispatch

Garza County sheriff's officials seized a small aircraft recently after reports it damaged highline wires crossing U.S. 84 about 5 miles south of Post.

Sheriff Terry Morgan said 9-1-1 received about 70 calls regarding a southbound aircraft that was flying too low to the ground about 8 a.m. April 24. Callers reported the aircraft looked like a stunt plane with an Air Force-type star on it.

According to reports, the aircraft hit three electrical highline wires and landed on the east side of U.S. 84. The downed wires immediately started a grass fire. Callers reported the plane took off again, made a loop and headed north.

"We assumed we may have had

an airplane down somewhere, so we called (the Federal Aviation Administration), in addition to surrounding county law enforcement and (Department of Public Safety) to see if anyone had reported a crashed airplane," Morgan said. "DPS sent up a helicopter to see if they could help find the wreckage."

Post volunteer firefighters were summoned to the scene, Morgan said, and it took them nearly three hours to put the grass fire out.

In addition, DPS officers spent about an hour searching from the air.

After a few phone calls, local sheriff's officials had some answers.

"The description we were given by the public was helpful, and we were told the description fit one of two planes housed at Town & Country



Courtesy photo

Garza County sheriff's officials seized this small, single-engine plane at Town & Country Airpark outside Lubbock on April 24 after reports the plane was flying too low to the ground about 5 miles south of the city of Post. The plane nicked highline wires crossing U.S. 84, causing a grass fire in the area and left the scene without reporting the incident.

See **PLANE**, Page 11

Water woes worsen at White River

By Wayne Hodgin
The Post Dispatch

White River Municipal Water District officials certainly aren't waiting or depending on a cloudburst to help fill the regional reservoir that serves the cities of Post, Crosbyton, Ralls and Spur.

As the daily lake level continues to fall, district officials are working diligently not only to identify new sources of groundwater but also to rehabilitate existing wells that will ensure the district's 10,000-some-odd customers have enough water to meet their needs.

As of Tuesday, the lake was at 30.98 feet below the dam. At 32 feet, the state considers the lake dry.

The only other lake in the region to report worse numbers is Lake McKenzie near Silverton, which was reporting 93.81 below the spillway. McKenzie's capacity, however, is about 35 percent more than White River's however.

Despite recent rainfall that has greened up pastures in regions north and east, White River Lake has starved while badly needed precipitation drops everywhere but in its own watershed.

Last week, Tom Fulton, executive director of the White River Municipal Water District, implemented stage 4 of the district's drought-conservation plan.

See **WATER**, Page 11



Wayne Hodgin/The Post Dispatch file photo

White River Lake, as seen from Al O'Brien Dam, stood at 30.98 feet below the dam Tuesday.

Recognition



Courtesy photo

Texas Tech head football coach Kliff Kingsbury awards Post High School senior and scholar-athlete Dalton Holly with an award from the Texas Tech Chapter of the National Football Foundation at an April 24 ceremony at the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center in Lubbock.

Holly honored by National Football Foundation

By Wayne Hodgin
The Post Dispatch

LUBBOCK — The Texas Tech Chapter of the National Football Foundation recently honored Post High School senior Dalton Holly for his accomplishments on the football field and in the classroom.

Holly was recognized along with 16 other high school student athletes and coaches and collegiate athletes and coaches April 24 at the Student-Athlete Banquet and Awards Program at the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center at Texas Tech University.

See **HOLLY**, Page 11

Library re-opens after renovation project

The Post Dispatch

The Post Public Library has re-opened after closing for a shelving project provided by the Tocker Foundation.

The library was awarded about \$50,000 in grant money to install new shelves, slat walls, table and chairs for laptop users, two side chairs, display shelf and new computer chairs.

The Tocker Foundation began in 1964 to implement the philanthropic interests of Phillip and Olive Tocker. Phillip Tocker was a practicing attorney, but changed careers in his

later years by purchasing the Waco outdoor advertising plant.

The Waco tornado of 1953 destroyed his business, but Tocker rebuilt and later expanded to own outdoor advertising plants throughout the United States.

His vocational career culminated to the position of president of the Outdoor Advertising Association of America. After retiring to Austin in 1973, Phillip and Olive Tocker actively pursued their avocations.

See **LIBRARY**, Page 11



Anna Gibson/The Post Dispatch

Librarian Peggy Ashley (standing) and Linda Collazo place books on the new bookshelves recently installed at the Post Public Library. The renovation project was made possible with a grant from the Tocker Foundation.

Post Notes

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

Muffins for Mom

Graham Chapel United Methodist Church, 611 FM 1313, would like to extend an invitation to attend Muffins for Mom at 10 a.m. Sunday in the fellowship hall. Come join us and get your morning started right by enjoying muffins, coffee, juice and awesome fellowship. Special Mother's Day services will follow at 11 a.m. For information, contact the Rev. John Bill Hedrick at 495-1400 or email jbhedrick399@gmail.com.

Track practice

Post Jackalope track practice will begin at 6 p.m. Monday. Practices will be held Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m. For information, call Marcie Oden 806-781-3247.

Post Elementary

The prekindergarten program is slated for 8:30 a.m. May 28 at the elementary school. The elementary awards program will be at 10 a.m. May 29. Kindergarten graduation will be at 9 a.m. May 30. Prekindergarten enrollment for 2013-2014 is open. For information, call the school office at 495-3496.

Coyote Clover 5K Fun Run

The Borden County 4-H group will sponsor the first-ever Coyote Clover 5K on May 18. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. in the Borden County Event Center at the corner of U.S. 180 and Willow Valley Road in Gail. Cost is \$20 for individuals or \$35 for families of three or more. Race begins at 8:30 a.m. For information, contact Julie Smith at 756-4336 or Julie.smith@agnet.tamu.edu.

Borden 4-H fundy

Members of the Borden County 4-H group are selling raffle tickets for an iPad and a Yeti cooler. Cost is \$5 each. Drawing will be during the annual Sunday luncheon fundraiser from noon to 2 p.m. May 26 at the Borden County Event Center. For information, contact Julie Smith at 756-4336 or Julie.smith@agnet.tamu.edu.

Volunteers needed

Post City Festivals is in need of volunteers to help build a number of the miniature houses on site at Silent Night Village. If interested, call Jackie Cruse at 990-9907.

Support Group

6 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month in Council Chambers at City Hall, 105 E. Main St. For information, call 495-2811.

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact Editor Wayne Hodgin at 806-495-2816 or thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

News on the go



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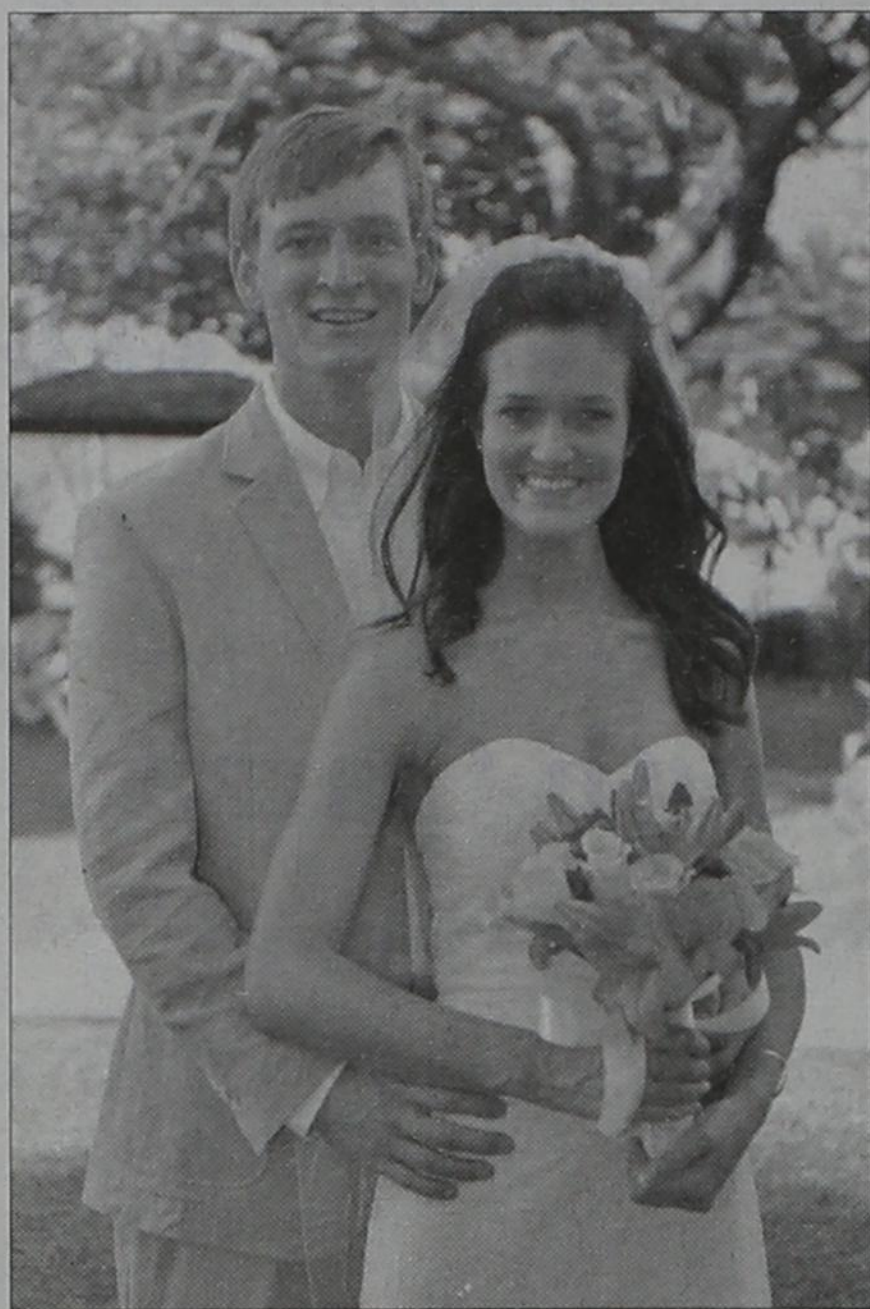
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Thanks for reading!

Celebrations



Submitted photo

Timothy Wilson and Jennifer Anderson were mar-

Wilson, Anderson exchange vows in S. Lucia

Timothy Wilson, son of Robert and Julie Wilson of Post, and Jennifer Anderson, daughter of R.C. and Kay Anderson of Rockwall were married April 6.

Timothy and Jennifer chose a romantic wedding at St. Lucia, a lush island at the southern tip of the Caribbean.

The scenery was breathtaking, a dreamy tangle of turquoise sea, creamy ivory, fresh tangerine and soft sand overlooking perfectly blue sunny skies.

The bride's gown was a timeless and elegant Chantilly lace over satin gown in soft ivory and featured a sweetheart bodice with a princess neckline falling into a slim and stunning silhouette line.

The gown was floor-length strapless, detailed with a side-draped subtle ruching of lace flowing into a sweeping train edged by delicate scalloped lace.

The bride held a lovely bouquet of peach roses, tangerine and yellow lilies and petite orchids.

Her veil was chapel length flowing ivory tulle held by a satin comb, cascading over her long softly curled brunette hair.

On the warm sand the

couple stood under a bamboo arch covered in white flowing chiffon, exchanging rings and vows just steps away from the sea and rose-glow of the sunset over the island. Both fathers prayed over the couple while exchanging their vows.

Ocean waves welcomed the guests to a private gazebo illuminated by candles and stars, to enjoy a four-course dinner and show. Caribbean music, fire dancers and island limbo entertained the guests into the evening. Fresh petals of orchids showered the couple as they escaped to their private bungalow, beginning their life of love together.

In attendance were the bride's parents, sister Kristina and her husband, James Abarquez; the groom's parents, sisters Amber Wilson and Ashley Bufe and nephew Brock; guests Kristin Box, Lauren Monroe, Nathan and Lauren Quisenberry, and Brendan Skipworth.

Both Timothy and Jennifer are 2012 honor graduates of Lubbock Christian University and make their home in Lubbock where they both work. Timothy will attend Texas Tech medical school this fall.

Endorsements

Keep Gill in mayor's seat

Post municipal voters are urged to elect Mayor Archie Gill to his second first full term on the City Council.

Gill was longtime mayor of the city of Post from 1999 to 2005 and was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Thessa Harp, who resigned last October.

Since filling in the gap, Gill has overseen the hiring of a new city manager and worked to iron out the 40-year contract between the city and the White River Municipal Water District that had dragged out for more than three years.

In addition, Gill has overseen the process to identify new sources of groundwater for Post residents and negotiate successful water-purchase contracts with Slaton and Southland that will reduce dependence and consumption of a dwindling supply of drinking water at White River Lake.

Gill also has been an integral part, along with county officials, to hire a new, full-time manager for the Post City-Garza County Municipal Airport, seen by some as a top-notch facility that adds to the region's quality of life.

Gill is a retired electrician and has the time to devote himself to the position and to the demands of the office.

Return Kirkpatrick to school board

Two seats on the Post Independent School District board of trustees will be filled Saturday.

The two incumbents whose seats are up for re-election both have filed to run again, including Drew Kirkpatrick.

The Dispatch urges voters to return Kirkpatrick to the board as a voice who places utmost importance on the needs of students and educators alike while

continuing to do what's best for the district as a whole.

Kirkpatrick is ending his first three-year term on the board. He has two children enrolled in the district.

"I grew up here, have two kids in school here and care a great deal about the school and want it to be the best it can be," Kirkpatrick said.

During the last year, the board has overseen the district's first successful bond election that will pay for a nearly \$29 million renovation of school facilities, including the construction of a new high school and renovations of the elementary and middle schools. In addition, the bond money will renovate the football stadium, which is currently under construction.

The success of the election is seen as a boon not only to the district but also a testament to the melding of a successful group of leaders the likes of which Post ISD has not seen in a long time.

Kirkpatrick is part of the board's success.

The two other candidates for election include incumbent Robbie Williams and political newcomer Ray Perez.

The Dispatch will not endorse a second candidate due to the fact that several attempts made to contact the other two candidates went unsuccessful.

The Dispatch has an open-records request pending with the school district for the election-qualification documents of each of the three candidates, which includes basic information on how to contact those candidates.

We believe that information is public record and should be made available to members of the voting public to ascertain whether candidates are residentially qualified to be on the ballot.

Chamber to sponsor 'Cash Mob' for U.S. 84 businesses

The Post Dispatch

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a "Cash Mob" for businesses on U.S. 84 on May 23.

The event will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. During that time, anyone spending \$20 or more at one of the participating businesses can come by the Chamber booth, which will be set up at La Posta, and draw for cash and prizes.

"The purpose of this event is to encourage people to shop locally," Chamber director Janice Plummer said.

Business owners who want to participate in this event, should contact the Chamber by May 7 so the business can be included in the advertising.

"The only requirements are that you have a business on Highway 84 and agree to send people that spend \$20 or more during the designated time to the Chamber booth to participate in the drawing," Plummer said.

Donations also are needed for the drawing.

"The Chamber will put in cash, but we ask the businesses to contribute in the form of a gift certificate, in-store coupon or coupon for a free gift," she said. "We want the winners to have to come into your place of business to claim their prize. We will accept donations for the drawing from any business in town regardless of location. This is a good way to get all of our local businesses involved."

The Chamber sponsored two of these events last year for the north and south sides of Main Street.

"It's a great way to remind people how important it is to shop at home," Plummer said.

For information, contact Plummer at the Chamber of Commerce at 495-3461 or email chamberofcommerce@postcitytexas.com.

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Troy and Carolyn

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Ad **SEPA**

Yesteryears

**10 years ago
May 8, 2003**

Voters voiced a resounding "no" against the proposal to construct a \$10.5 million hospital, while a green light was given to a pair of municipal propositions in Saturday's elections.

A total of 861 voters, or almost 31 percent of the district's registered voters, cast ballots in the Garza County Health Care District election. Of that total, 113 voted in favor of the district's hospital proposal, while 743 voted against the plan.

Garza County and the State of Texas collected \$31,875.50 in March for traffic fines issued here, according to reports of the two Justice of the Peace courts.

The fundraising program, operated by county and state agents, takes advantage of travel victims who violate state commercial transportation codes.

**20 years ago
May 12, 1993**

Cost effectiveness and getting the most for their buck convinced the Post City Council and spend a little green to assure the Main Street project covering five blocks of the business district in downtown Post remains green. The council approved a request from the Main Street Board to contract out the lawn and tree care of the project to Bo Jackson at its May 4 meeting.

The lawn chairs were kept full during the Post Lions Club blood drive held last week. According to Lions Club member Paul Jones, 50 people came to donate blood at the Church of Christ. He said a total of 45 units of blood

were collected during the drive. Donors received juice, cookies and a free cup along with a colorful bandage for giving blood.

**30 years ago
May 11, 1983**

Junk vehicles parked on city streets, front yards, driveways, or "out-back" are the subject of a campaign to rid the city of these eyesores through the enforcement of a city ordinance, discussed at Monday evening's regular Post City Council meeting.

City manager Becky King was directed by the council to continue the enforcement and was given a show of support for the city staff's efforts.

There have been a number of recent improvements at the Staff, Doctorial and Hospital board members to meet the medical needs of our community.

**40 years ago
May 10, 1973**

Chamber President J.B. Potts told Chamber members attending the first quarterly breakfast last Friday morning in the community room that Chamber membership has not climbed to a new record total of 151. He said this includes the 76 individual members and 75 business memberships.

Three Post High School girls, each 17, were arrested during the noon hour here last Thursday and charged with possession of marijuana.

The three are Karla Josey, Jill Cash and Jo Beth Grandy.

Sheriff J.A. Holleman said three small bags, each containing about an ounce of marijuana, were found in the purse of one of the girls. He told The Dispatch that the arrests resulted when City Patrolman Dave Roberts was sent to investigate a complaint that somebody was in a rent house at 312 West 14th St. from which the tenant had moved.

**50 years ago
May 9, 1963**

Almost all farming areas of Garza County received a "cotton planting rain" Sunday afternoon although most of the county didn't receive the 2.34 inch deluge which flooded Post's streets and knocked some 300 telephones out of service.

Two members of the Post High graduating class have tied for top academic honors with a grade average of 94.35 each for the past two years and are co-valedictorians of this year's class.

Rains Sunday, which fell in the area drained by the White River brought a "six foot head of water" rushing past the new White River dam now under construction in Crosby County.

Observers said the six-foot crest receded and then built back up to six feet again.

Compiled by Anna Gibson

The Paperboy How much is your commute?

Saw a story on the news the other day which reported that commuters in the U.S. spent an average of \$9,000 a year getting to and from work.

The older I get, the more I'm thankful for life in the small town. I stay busy and the thought of spending three or four hours stuck in traffic five days a week is not appealing at all.

For the record, my commute to the office is around two minutes. Half of that time is taken up by walking from my truck to my desk.

I haven't added up the annual cost for my commute, but I'd put it closer to \$9 than \$9,000.

I always thought of Al Gore as sort of a stiff board with an ego. The kind of guy who thinks he's an expert on everything. The internet comes to mind as well as a dozen other examples.

Apparently, there are others who have a higher opinion of the man.

Nearly president Gore is a money-making machine. In fact, he's making much more money than he ever would have or could have as president.

Since the Bush v. Gore Supreme Court decision in 2000, Al Gore's net worth has gone from \$1.7 million to around \$200 million. A big part of that, around \$100 million, occurred in January of this year.

Current TV network, which Gore helped start in 2004, was sold to Qatari-owned Al Jazeera Satellite Network for \$500 million. Gore banked \$70 million from the deal. A couple of weeks later, Gore exercised some Apple stock options and netted a cool \$30 million.

Between those maneuvers and the books, documentaries, etc. on global warming and climate change, Gore can now afford some more houses and a larger jet to help the climate change continue.

He may not have won the White House, but his windfall looks to have eased his pain.

Not long ago I was using some vinegar to clean my coffee maker at home. My wife and I began a conversation about the product and the fact that my mother used it for a great many things.

On the website vinegartips.com they claim to have 1,001 uses for the product. What I learned on the website was the long history of vinegar.

According to the site:

"The word vinegar comes from the French word 'vinaigre' which means 'sour wine.' It was probably discovered by accident thousands of years ago - after a cask of wine had gone bad. When the wine was first made, natural sugars were fermented into alcohol. Over time, bacteria in the air transformed the alcohol into acetic acid, which gave the 'sour wine' its bite."

Historically, vinegar has been used all over the world.

The Babylonians used vinegar to pre-

serve and pickle food.

- Hippocrates prescribed vinegar as a remedy for a variety of ailments.
 - Caesar's armies used vinegar as a beverage.
 - Hannibal drenched huge boulders in hot vinegar which cracked them into small pieces, enabling his army to continue its journey across the Alps.
 - Helen of Troy bathed in vinegar to relax.
 - Jesus was offered vinegar before he was crucified.
 - Early Europeans used vinegar as a deodorizer.
 - During the Bubonic Plague people poured vinegar on their skin to protect themselves from germs.
 - Cleopatra dissolved pearls in vinegar to prove that she could consume a fortune in a single meal.
 - Sailors used vinegar as a food preservative during long voyages.
 - World War I medics used vinegar to treat soldiers' wounds.
- It's hard to believe the same product you can use to eliminate corrosion can be used to soak vegetables making them pretty tasty.
- Check out the site if you want to learn more about this inexpensive liquid. You'll find it tough to think of a product that gives you more bang for your buck.

Christopher Blackburn is publisher of The Knox County News-Courier and CEO of Blackburn Media Group.



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House-Senate panel still working on budget bill

By Ed Sterling
For the Dispatch

AUSTIN — May 27 will be the last day of the 140-day regular session of the 83rd Texas Legislature. There is a mountain of work for lawmakers to pack into the remaining few days.

First among lawmakers' duties is to pass a budget for fiscal years 2014 and 2015. The task of reconciling two versions of the budget is now in the hands of a 10-member House-Senate conference committee. Members are weighing and measuring their way toward an agreement over the final composition of a budget likely to total in the neighborhood of \$195 billion.

They will have to come to terms on how much of that enormous amount to put toward public education, health care and transportation. Once agreed upon by the conference committee, a budget of about 850 pages in length will be returned to the House and Senate for more or less ceremonial votes before reaching the governor's office for a signature of approval or a veto.

Big-ticket items in the budget are health and human services, about \$75 billion; public and higher education, about \$75 billion; public safety and criminal justice, about \$12 billion; and business and economic development, about \$25 billion.

Water bill slows down

CSHB 11, by House Natural Resources Committee Chair Allen Ritter, R-Nederland, was stopped on a parliamentary point of order in House floor debate on April 29. The bill would pull some \$2 billion from the state's "rainy day fund" for deposit into a state water implementation fund that the Texas Water Development Board would mete out for qualified local and regional water conservation and infrastructure projects.

Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-Houston,

raised the point of order against further consideration of the bill on grounds that the general appropriations (budget) bill had not yet been certified by the comptroller. Speaker Joe Straus sustained the point of order.

The bill was returned to the House Committee on Appropriations.

House OKs funding patch

On April 29 the supplemental appropriations bill, Committee Substitute House Bill 1025, moved to the Senate, after having been passed by the House on April 26.

Authorized by House Appropriations Committee Chairman Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, the bill would add \$875 million to the current state budget, which ends Aug. 31. Public schools would get \$500 million of the amount to help fill the gap left by a \$5.4 billion cut in education funding passed by the 2011 Legislature. Prison-related managed health would get \$39 million to cover projected costs through the end of the fiscal year.

Some \$170 million of CSHB 1025 will come from the Rainy Day Fund to help the Texas A&M Forest Service and other agencies cover costs from wildfires that ravaged areas of Central Texas in 2011. Some \$2 million of the supplemental funding is designated for the recovery of West, Texas, where a fertilizer plant caught fire and exploded on April 17, resulting in 15 deaths, more than 160 injuries and catastrophic public and private property losses.

Agency would be renamed

The Senate on May 2 passed SB 212, the Railroad Commission of Texas sunset bill reauthorizing the state agency that regulates the oil and gas industry for 10 more years.

Authored by Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville, the bill would rename the agency the Texas Energy Resource Commission to reflect its actual purpose.

Legends Remembering C.W. Post

Last week you may have noticed a few visitors in town, but actually they are not strangers to our community, they were members of the Post-Montgomery families and executives who gather twice a year.

J Cruse hosted a reception and tour of Silent Night Village. Next they paid a visit to the Garza County Historical Museum and then to the Heritage House. I certainly do enjoy their visits each time.



LINDA PUCKETT

It seems appropriate to remember our founder, C.W. Post, this week. It was on May 9, 1914, that Mr. Post passed away at his home in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Mr. Post had suffered with chronic appendicitis for years. When his condition became very serious, he chartered a special train to take him as quickly as possible from Los Angeles to Rochester, Minn., to the Mayo Clinic. The president of Santa Fe Railroad was a personal friend, and he was able to direct his travel as expeditiously as possible. Once he arrived at the Mayo Clinic, an exploratory surgery was performed, revealing a much-enlarged appendix. Following the surgery, C.W. Post returned to Santa Barbara, and was thought to be much recovered, but for some reason he seemed to have lost his will to live.

The tragic news of his death reached Post, Texas, that afternoon, and two days later a telegram arrived from Battle Creek instructing the UU Company to close its offices and the cotton mill on Thursday noon when Post's body was to be brought to Battle Creek.

The citizens of Post drafted a resolution as follows:

follows:

"Whereas: In the death of Mr. C.W. Post, we, the Citizens of Post City, realizing that we have lost a friend and benefactor, a man loved and respected by all, desire to show our appreciation of his many acts of kindness and generosity toward us and the community at large. Mr. Post with unusual foresight and magnificent courage planned and developed this city, providing employment to hundreds of people and arranging for their comfort and pleasure in many ways. His heart was large and tender, and his hand was ever ready to reach out to assist the needy and unfortunate. This city and surrounding country will feel his loss most keenly, as all felt his personality to be one of the great influences for good in the future development and prosperity of this section."

Settlers of Post began to feel apprehensive about the future of little town, now that its founder and protector had gone, but his heirs were determined to carry on his same policies.

On May 18, Post City received a letter from the Battle Creek office:

"We beg to assure you and the various interests of Mr. Post in and around Post City, and the people in that section of the state generally, that no change whatever will be made in Mr. Post's policy with reference to carrying on his various business interests and activities."

Needless to say, C.W. Post had already put in place very capable people who had been carefully selected and trained to carry on his activities in case something were to happen to him.

As you read this, just pause a moment in remembrance of C.W. Post, an American icon. See you next week.

Linda Puckett is director of the Garza County Museum and Historical Commission.

Menus: Week of May 13-17

Southland ISD

Breakfast
Monday: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk
Tuesday: Sausage and egg biscuit, fruit, juice, milk
Wednesday: Eggs, bacon, toast, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk
Thursday: Muffins, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk
Friday: Biscuits, sausage, gravy, fruit, juice, milk
Lunch
Monday: Chicken patty sandwich, baked fries, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, fruit, cookie, milk
Tuesday: Ultimate taco salad, lettuce and tomatoes, seasoned corn, fresh fruit bowl, lime bar or sherbet, milk
Wednesday: Steak fingers, whipped potatoes with gravy, savory green beans, fruit, rice crispy treat, milk
Thursday: Chicken quesadilla, beans, garden salad, salsa, fruited gelatin, milk

Friday: Pizza choice, garden salad, fresh veggie cup, mixed fruit, milk

Post ISD

Breakfast
Monday: Biscuits, sausage, gravy, fruit, milk
Tuesday: Muffins, sausage link, fruit, milk
Wednesday: Cream of wheat, toast, sausage, fruit, milk
Thursday: Cinnamon toast sticks, syrup, fruit, milk
Friday: Cereal, toast, fruit, juice, milk
Lunch
Monday: Burrito, broccoli bites, garden salad, orange wedges, baked chips, milk variety
Tuesday: Crispy tacos, garden salad, charro beans, salsa, cinnamon applesauce, milk variety
Wednesday: Salisbury steak, whipped potatoes, carrot coins,

strawberries & bananas, roll, gravy, milk variety
Thursday: Spaghetti with meatballs, garden salad, green beans, sliced peaches, milk variety, pudding cup
Friday: Hot dog, sweet potato tots, cucumber dipper, fresh fruit, milk variety

Trailblazer's

Lunch
Monday: Salmon patties, lima beans, coleslaw, cornbread, fruit, milk
Tuesday: Hamburger steak, baked potato, zucchini, roll, birthday cake, milk
Wednesday: King Ranch casserole, pinto beans, rice, tortilla, fruit, milk
Thursday: Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, milk
Friday: Hamburger, tater tots, pork and beans, brownie, milk

Thanks for reading
The Post Dispatch

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Church Directory

Assembly of God
Bethel Assembly of God (Bi-Lingual)- 407 May street
Lifeline Church- 108 N. Broadway

Baptist
Calvary Baptist Church- 210 E. 6th Street, 990-2342
First Baptist Church, Post- 402 W. Main Street, 495-3554
First Baptist Church, Wilson- 806-628-6333
Grace Baptist Church- 820 N. Avenue S- 990-3497
Justiceburg Baptist Church- Justiceburg
Pleasant Home Baptist Church- E. 14th & N Ave F
Southland Baptist Church- Southland
Temple Bautista- 315 W. Main
Trinity Baptist Church- 915 N. Ave O, 990-3038

Catholic
Holy Cross Catholic Church- Ave K and Main Street- 495-2791

Church of Christ
Church of Christ- 108 N. Ave M 495-2326
Graham Chapel Church of Christ- 15th & Ave S

Church of God
Church of God of Prophecy- 602 W. 14th, 495-3644
Power House Church of God and Christ, Pine Avenue

Disciples of Christ
First Christian Church- 812 W. 13th, 495-3716

Evangelical Methodist
Faith Chapel- 1105 Green Street, Wilson (806) 628-0018

Methodist
First United Methodist Church- 216 W. 10th, 990-2942
Graham Chapel United Methodist Church (Pastor: John Hedrick) - 611 FM #1313 806-549-1400

Nazarene
Post Church of Nazarene- 202 W. 10th, 495-3044
Grassland Church of Nazarene- 327-5656

Presbyterian
First Presbyterian Church- 910 W. 10th, 495-2135

Nondenominational
Family Harvest Church- (806) 495-1400

Office:
806-495-3521
806-495-3503
Fax:
806-495-2985

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The Post Dispatch

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Bi-district softball



Lance Dunn/For the Dispatch

Bethany Curtis prepares to bunt during the April 29 bi-district matchup with Coahoma in Snyder. The Lady Lopes lost the match, 8-3.



Lance Dunn/For the Dispatch

Kelbie Oden connects during the Lady Lopes bi-district matchup with Coahoma on April 29 in Snyder. The Lady Lopes lost the match, 8-3.

Thanks For Reading!



Rodney Oden
Account Representative

Mobile 806.201.1434
roden@impactchemtech.com

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SINCE 1926**

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gmail.com | www.thepost-
dispatchonline.com

Dispatch files open records request for candidate info

The Post Dispatch

Post Dispatch Editor Wayne Hodgin has submitted an open records request to the Post Independent School District in order to retrieve information regarding candidates for Saturday's school board election.

School officials have refused to release basic information regarding

candidates for the race, including incumbents Drew Kirkpatrick and Robbie Williams and political newcomer Ray Perez.

In his open records request, Hodgin stated he believes the basic information, such as address and phone number, would ascertain whether the individuals running for the board of trustees in fact

were residentially qualified to be on the ballot.

The school has 10 days from the date of the request to respond.

The school board election is Saturday at the Post Community Center to be held in conjunction with Post mayoral election between incumbent Mayor Archie Gill and challenger, local businessman T.K. Thompson.

Post Lions Queen



Solis named 2013 Queen

The Post Dispatch

Post High School junior Andi Soliz has been named the Post Lions Club 2013 queen.

She is the daughter of Richard and Valerie Soliz of Post and recently competed as the Post Lions Club queen in the District 2 T 2 Convention in

Lubbock.

Past District Governor Tom White introduced the contestants to the crowd of Lions and parents.

Abbie Burnett, 2012 queen of Cotton Center, made her final remarks before the Young Ladies Scholarship Contest.

District Governor Peg

White said, "Andi was a beautiful young lady with great poise and confidence."

Post Boss Lion Chuck Ratliff said, "The Post Lions Club was very fortunate and thankful to have such a charming and delightful young lady to represent our club, Post High School and Post, Texas."

Justice-Mason Funeral Home

CLUES ACROSS

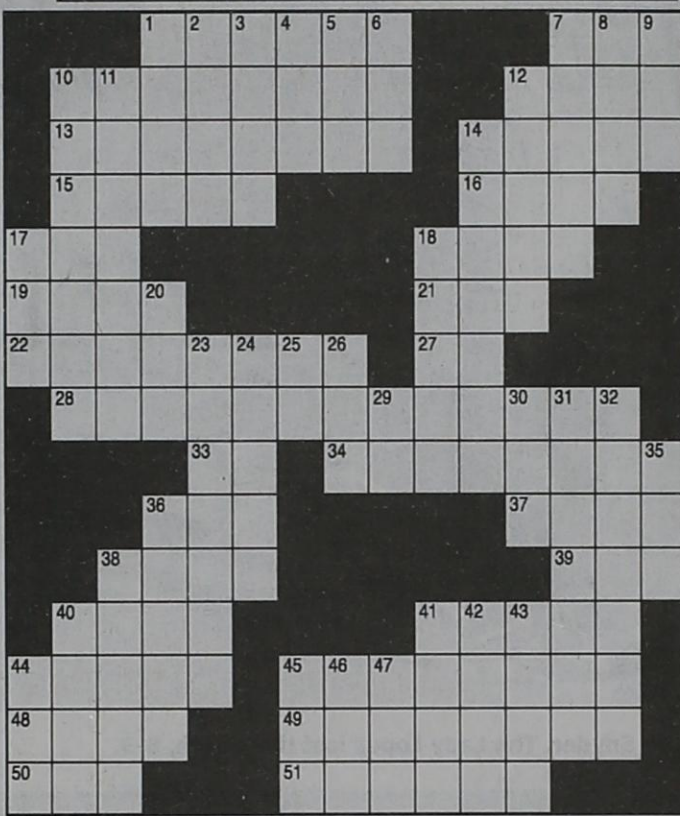
1. Steady
7. Rural Free Delivery (abbr.)
10. Intended to assist memory
12. Indian frock
13. Salt treatment
14. Clear wrap
15. Pop singer Springfield
16. Horse fly
17. Rock TV channel
18. Picasso's mistress
19. Ooze out
21. The last part of anything
22. Exchange
27. 39th state
28. Word of many parts
33. Bleak House author's initials
34. Idol worshiper
36. 21st Greek letter
37. Mama's partner
38. Most important
39. Jar cover
40. Comportment
41. Drop behind
44. Russian prison camp
45. Betrothal
48. Actor Ladd
49. Pasta flour
50. Big London clock
51. Fingerless glove

CLUES DOWN

1. Bunks
2. Utter sounds
3. Teapot warmer
4. Black tropical Am. cuckoo
5. Memorial architect Maya
6. Microgram
7. More uncommon
8. Hand grenade
9. Blare
10. Non-presidential elections
11. New (French)
12. Dish of raw vegetables
14. A disgraceful event
17. 7th zone W. of Greenwich
18. _____ Park: 94025
20. Poundal (abbr.)
23. Print made from an engraving
24. Av _____ g: shunning
25. Foreign Service
26. So you know (abbr.)

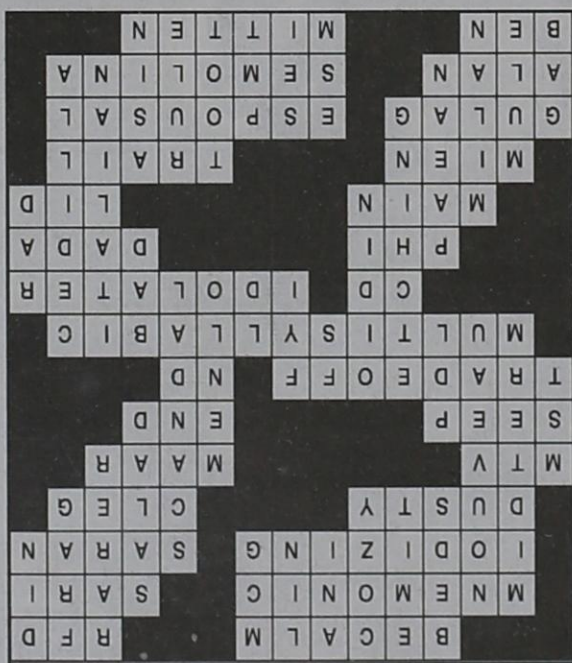
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Justice-Mason Funeral Home
301 West Main Street
806-495-2833



29. Libyan dinar
30. Not good
31. A citizen of Italy
32. Diacritical mark
35. Radioactivity unit
36. Encomium
38. Lombardy capital
40. Backless slipper
41. Honk
42. What a monarch does
43. 7th Hindu month
44. Talk
45. Energy Saving Module (abbr.)
46. Type of whale
47. Payment (abbr.)

PUZZLE SOLUTION



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for
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WOTE!

The Post Dispatch
BEST
OF POST, TX
2013

We want to know what the community of Post thinks!

The Post Dispatch would like to promote the Best of Post with the help of your voting! We want to know what the community says about who, what and where the best of Post is. So with a ballot there comes rules or the ballot will not be valid.

- Each item must be filled out completely
- One ballot per person per week
- Must choose from locality

WHO, WHAT AND WHERE IS THE BEST OF POST?

- RESTAURANT _____
- BUSINESS _____
- CHURCH _____
- PASTOR _____
- EVENT _____
- COFFEE _____
- LUNCH _____
- NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION _____
- CLOTHING STORE _____
- GIFT SHOP _____
- REALTOR _____
- BANK _____
- INSURANCE AGENT _____
- BURGER _____
- DESSERT/ICE CREAM _____
- SALON _____
- HAIR STYLIST _____
- PLACE FOR A COLD DRINK _____
- LOCAL DOCTOR _____
- LOCAL NURSE _____
- CUSTOMER SERVICE _____
- MEXICAN FOOD _____
- FAMILY RESTAURANT _____
- GRAPHIC DESIGN _____
- LOCAL BAND _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Ballots may be dropped off at the Dispatch office or mailed to 123 E. Main St., Post, Texas 79356

Global cotton analysis Texas Tech economist unveil outlook

Special to the Dispatch

LUBBOCK — A new cotton outlook analysis from Texas Tech University's Cotton Economics Research Institute notes that global growth is projected to remain at 3 percent over the next five years, then slow by half a point during the following five.

"The global outlook for cotton remains less optimistic as a result of a weaker global economy in the years ahead as advanced countries continue to work on narrowing current output gaps and deficits," said Darren Hudson, director of the institute.

Meanwhile U.S. growth is expected to slow; from 2.1 percent last year to 1.8 percent this year amid a large output gap emerging from a series of global financial calamities dating back to 2008.

In terms of cotton production, Hud-

son said productivity gains have slowed for the time being, and yield growth is projected to decelerate. In the absence of new yield-enhancing technologies and flat acreage, Hudson said cotton production growth is lower than the long-term average.

There is a positive aspect, though. Looking out a decade, Hudson said, world cotton production is projected to increase from 118 million bales to around 138 million bales. The leading producers of cotton are projected to be India (26 percent), China (23 percent), United States (12 percent), Pakistan (9 percent) and Brazil (6 percent).

Separately, annual forecasts released by the institute show that cotton mill use is projected to grow by about 32 million bales over the next 10 years. Mill use is projected to remain concentrated in Asia.

BMG takes reins of Stonewall Courier

The Post Dispatch

CHILDRESS — Blackburn Media Group has recently purchased another newspaper in West Texas, owner and CEO Christopher Blackburn has announced.

The Stonewall County Courier in Aspermont has been continually published since the mid-1980s and will begin publishing under the BMG moniker May 2. The publication formerly was owned by Jay and Cynthia White.

"We're thrilled to be in Stonewall County," Blackburn said. "We've gotten a very warm welcome from residents and members of the business community in Aspermont, and we look forward to carrying on a tradition of bringing community news, outlooks and publicizing events for them."

The Stonewall County Courier came dangerously close to closing in the last few weeks, and Blackburn

said this was not an option for the community.

"Towns like Aspermont and Old Glory and Swenson and Peacock — they deserve to have a community newspaper that focuses on their residents," he said. "It's important these communities have a voice and a historical record."

The editorial and advertising operations for the newspaper will be overseen by Haskell native Wayne Hodgins, who will serve as executive editor of the publication.

Hodgins is a 2001 graduate of Texas Tech University with a degree in journalism. He served as editor of the Tech student newspaper — a 15,000-circulation daily — for two years prior to graduation. Since that time, he has managed successful weekly and daily publications in the Lubbock, Houston, Abilene, Wichita Falls, Atlanta and Savannah, Ga., markets.

Hodgins is also editor and general manager of

The Post Dispatch and the Knox County News-Courier. He will continue to serve Blackburn Media Group in all capacities capacities.

"Wayne brings a wealth of industry knowledge with him, and we're lucky to have such a professional with his background in Stonewall County," Blackburn said.

Blackburn Media Group is owned by Blackburn and his wife, Sharon, who serves as the company's vice president.

The company publishes seven other community newspapers throughout West Texas, the Panhandle and southwestern Oklahoma, including The Childress Index — its flagship publication — The Post Dispatch, the Wellington Leader, the Hall County Herald, the Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, the Knox County News-Courier and the Hollis (Okla.) News.

Take Care of Texas
Saving Water Saves Money.
Try these simple tips to help you conserve water and save money on your bill, too.

Water Wisely.
Lawn and garden watering make up as much as 40% of total household water use. Water your yard thoroughly, but only as needed—usually no more than 1 inch, once a week. Consider using drip irrigation for plants and gardens, and water early in the morning to minimize evaporation.

Check Faucets and Toilets for Leaks.
A leaky faucet can waste up to 3,000 gallons of water per year. Toilet leaks: up to 73,000 gallons a year.

Install Water-Efficient Plumbing Fixtures and Faucet Aerators.
Water-efficient plumbing fixtures can reduce water consumption by 25% to 60%. Installing aerators will cut in half the amount of water used by each faucet.

Take Care of Texas.org
How is our customer service? www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/customerurvey

Take Care of Texas
Ahorra agua ahorra dinero.
Pruebe estas sencillas sugerencias que le ayudarán a conservar agua y a ahorrar dinero en su cuenta también. Siga prudentemente. El riego del pasto y el jardín forma el 40% del uso total de agua en el hogar. Riegue su jardín a fondo, pero sólo según sea necesario: por lo general no más de una pulgada, una vez por semana. Considere usar riego por goteo para plantas y jardines, y riegue temprano por la mañana para minimizar la evaporación. Revise las llaves y los inodoros para ver si tienen goteras. Una llave que gotea puede desperdiciar hasta 3,000 galones de agua al año. Las toaletas que gotean: hasta 73,000 galones de agua al año.

Instale artefactos de plomería que usen agua eficientemente y aireadores para las llaves.
Artefactos de plomería que usen agua eficientemente pueden reducir el consumo de agua entre 25 y 60%. Instalar aireadores reducirá por la mitad la cantidad de agua usada por cada llave.

Wash Full Loads of Laundry.
Washing only full loads of laundry can save up to 3,400 gallons of water each year. Need a new clothes washer? Invest in an Energy Star-qualified model, which typically uses 50% less water and 37% less energy per load.

Try a Native Landscape and Use Collected Rainwater.
Plants that are native to Texas typically require lesser amounts of water, pesticides, fertilizers, and maintenance. Collecting rainwater for landscape use is not only great for the plants, but can save you water and money.

How Do You Take Care of Texas?
Visit TakeCareOfTexas.org for more water-conservation tips and other ways to do your part. Use the online calculator to find out how much water, energy, and money you can save!

Lave cargas completas de ropa.
Lavando sólo cargas completas de ropa puede ahorrar hasta 3,400 galones de agua al año. ¿Necesita una nueva lavadora? Invierta en un modelo calificado como Energy Star, que típicamente usa 50% menos agua y 37% menos energía.

Pruebe plantas nativas en su paisaje y uso agua de lluvia.
Plantas nativas típicamente requieren menores cantidades de agua, pesticidas, fertilizantes y mantenimiento. Recolectar agua de lluvia para usar en el jardín no sólo es bueno para las plantas, sino que también le puede ahorrar agua y dinero.

¿Cómo cuida usted a Texas?
Visite CuidosTexas.org para más sugerencias sobre la conservación del agua y otras maneras de hacer su parte. Use la calculadora en línea para ver cuánto agua, energía y dinero puede ahorrar!

Cuidea Texas.org/lo-your-part-es
¿Cómo le parece nuestro servicio al cliente? www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/encuestadcliente

The 501 Missing muse

If you've got a muse, you don't miss her 'til she's gone. Mine flew the coop last night. If she doesn't return, I'm on my own.

Muses are like that. Flighty. They don't punch time clocks.

The classic Greek ones are Melpomene, Calliope, Thalia and I'll bet you can't list them all either. If you've studied art history, maybe you can find them in a Titian crowd, and you know the Three Fates and the Four Humors too. What a gang.

Muses inspire creativity. More about the Fates and Humors later, unless my muse shows up with other plans.

Willie Nelson, wearing his composer's bandana, once remarked in a televised interview that music is everywhere, hanging in the atmosphere ready to be picked like fruit. Those aren't exactly his words, but that's the image he suggested. Pulling tunes out of the air is a muse-compatible view of how artists get things done. Right? Inspiration comes mysteriously from somewhere.

Muses have to be fed, by the way. My muse likes coffee and chocolate. Willie's muse probably has different tastes — whatever gets you to 80. I myself am having coffee and chocolate-filled Oreos right now, waiting for my muse to land on my right shoulder. Except you never really know when they come and go. There's no thump, no whoosh.

Moving right along, consider the Three Fates — Birth, Life and Death. The first Fate spins the thread of life, the second one puts it through a needle and the third one cuts it with shears.

Simple. I'm going to have another Oreo in honor of the middle one. And that's all I have to say about that trio, except I need to look them up to see if I got it right.

WIKIPEDIA PAUSE. The one with the shears snipped my Internet connection. What a trickster. Maybe later.

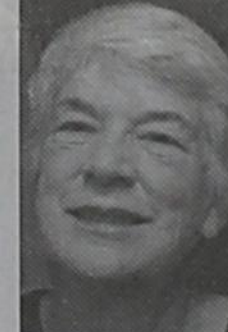
The Four Humors are more complex. You probably know them mainly as the four elements of the ancient world — earth, air, fire and water. Talk about easy chemistry. In the science classroom-lab where I blew up a thing or two, the wall chart listed 96 elements, or thereabouts. I'm either correct or close. For all I know, they've since found more, the same way astronomers aided by their muse — Uranus, according to my dictionary — have discovered more planets.

What makes the Humors doubly significant is their relationship to humanity's four temperaments — sanguine, lethargic, phlegmatic and air-headed. OK, I made up the last one. I have no Internet.

DICTIONARY PAUSE. Two out of four ain't bad. It's sanguine, phlegmatic, choleric and melancholic. Oddly enough, I visited a Wednesday-night Bible class a few years ago where the main study book categorized personalities according to the Humors and confirmed it all with Scripture. I guess somebody figured there was no reason to reinvent the Zodiac wheel, where the Humors also prevail.

To that I say, truth is where you find it. Really. To my muse I say, please come home. I've saved you some Oreos.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a columnist and contributor to the Blackburn Media Group family of newspapers.



HANABA MUNN WELCH

WHITE RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Stage 4 Drought Contingency Plans Effective May 1, 2013 – July 1, 2013

Emergency Conditions Measures

Restrictions: The use of water is prohibited for the following uses: Washing of cars, driveways, sidewalks, windows, eaves, landscape watering of lawns, shrubs, gardens, watering of parks, athletic fields, golf courses, street washing, fire hydrant flushing, filling swimming pools, dust control sprinkling.

Commercial/Industrial uses will be controlled to the extent dictated by the Member City Official or District's General Manager depending on the appropriate jurisdiction. Businesses requiring water as a basic function of the business, such as nurseries, commercial car wash, laundromats, high pressure water cleaning, well flooding, livestock watering, etc. will obtain written permission for the intended use from either the Member City Official or District's General Manager, depending on the jurisdiction.

System Priority for water service shall be based on the following priority list: 1 Hospitals, 2 Residential family dwellings, nursing homes, assisted living centers, 3 Schools, 4 Industrial, Commercial businesses, 5 Recreation

Daily White River Lake levels may be viewed at this website

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/tx/nwis/uv?cb_all_00062_00045=on&cb_00062=on&cb_00045=on&format=gif_stats&begin_date=2012-06-08&end_date=2012-06-15&site_no=08080910

The Drought Contingency Plan is available at www.whiterivermunicipalwaterdistrict.com for additional information contact the District office at 806-263-4240.

Etapa 4 Restricciones de Sequia

Efectivo mayo 1, 2013 – julio 1, 2013

Medidas de Emergencia Condiciones

Restricciones: El uso de agua esta prohibido para los usos siguientes: El lavar carros, la entrada del auto, las banquetas, ventanas, aleros y techos, riego de césped, arbustos, jardines, riego de parques, campos deportivos, campos de golf, lavado de calles, enjuagados de hidrantes de incendios, El vaciar y llenar las piscinas de nadar, riego para el control de polvo.

Comercial/Industrial el uso será controlado a la medida dictado por el Miembro Oficial de la Ciudad o por el Gerente General dependiendo de la jurisdicción apropiado. Los negocios que requieren agua como una función básica del negocio, tales como guarderías de plantas, lava autos comerciales, lavanderías, limpieza con agua de alta presión, inundaciones de norias, agua para el ganado, etc. obtendrán permiso por escrito para el uso peticionado ya sea del Miembro Oficial de la Ciudad o por el Gerente General de Distrito dependiendo de la jurisdicción.

Prioridad de Sistema para el servicio de agua será basado en las siguiente lista de prioridades:

1. Hospitales, 2. Habitaciones Residenciales de Familia, asilo de ancianos, Centros de viviendas, 3. Escuelas, 4. Industrial, negocios de comercio, 5. Recreación

Los niveles diarios del White River Lake pueden ser vistos en este sitio:

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/tx/nwis/uv?cb_all_00062_00045=on&cb_00062=on&cb_00045=on&format=gif_stats&begin_date=2012-06-08&end_date=2012-06-15&site_no=08080910

El Plan de Contingencia de Sequia esta disponible en www.whiterivermunicipalwaterdistrict.com para información adicional contacte la oficina de Distrito llamando al 806-263-4240.

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Re-elect Drew Kirkpatrick Wanting the best school for our kids



I would appreciate your vote!

Early voting April 29 -May 7

Election day Saturday May 11

Political Advertisement Paid For By Drew Kirkpatrick

Nancy's Notions

Balancing work and family

More moms than ever are in the work force. According to American-Progress.org, "women now make up half of all workers in the United States, with nearly four in 10 homes having a mom that is also a working mother."

Being a full-time working mother can lead to feelings of guilt and stress because of divided attention between work and family. The key is to focus on a plan, get organized, and find the right balance between profession and parenthood.

Here are seven ways to help make sure both your career and your family flourish according to the Parents magazine.



NANCY MCDONALD

Let go of the guilt
Rather than dwell on how you're not with your child, think about how your employment is benefiting the family.

Find quality childcare
A good childcare provider should have extensive experience, excellent references, and a record to prove it. A good daycare facility should have flexible hours, a low teacher-to-student ratio, outdoor space, up-to-date licenses and employees who have had their backgrounds checked.

Make the mornings easier
Avoid starting the day on a frazzled note by getting organized the night before. Pack the kids' lunches, lay out their clothes, plus your own. You should also decide what to make for breakfast, and repack the diaper bag, backpacks, purses or work bags to be placed by the door, right next to your keys, so you can grab them and lock up on your way out.

Create and organize a family calendar
Figure out your family's priorities. A calendar can include dates when bills are due, a chore chart for the kids, a list of school and family events, extracurricular activities, birthdays, and more. Google calendars can be easily shared and synced on smart phones.

Stay Connected During the Day
Stay connected with your children even when you're not together. For traveling moms with younger kids, consider recording yourself talking or singing on a video or record your voice reading along to a children's book. If you're going to miss or be late to an older child's event, give her something special in the morning, like a good-luck charm or a personal note. Look into options for filming the event so you can watch it later and not miss a moment.

Limit distractions and time wasters
Be disciplined and set time limits when checking email or making phone calls, things you can do when the kids are sleeping. Try to avoid multitasking, especially when spending time with your children.

Create special family activities
Making time for your kids is crucial, both during the week and on the weekends, to nurture your family dynamic and allow everyone to bond. If you're pressed for time, have a family breakfast or a family night with board games or movies. When you do have family outings, avoid talking about work or checking your phone. Instead, focus on your kids' interests such as friends, classes, and hobbies. With older children, ask for their activity suggestions and try to meet their needs. In the end, it doesn't really matter what you do as long as you do it together.

By managing time wisely, you can fit in valuable "me" time regularly. Because your time is divided between your home and your career, make sure to manage your energy well.

You can't be an effective spouse or parent if you're cranky, so take time to care for yourself to feel relaxed and effective. Lose yourself in a book before you go to sleep, take a bubble bath, or treat yourself to a spa day.

Fit in time for exercise or focus on a hobby. Remember to eat well and get enough rest — simple things that even the smartest moms neglect.

Happy Mother's Day!

Nancy McDonald is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Texas A&M AgrLife Extension Service in Garza County.

Pet of the week



Janice Plummer/For the Dispatch

This is Wanda and Winston, two Chihuahua/min Pin mix puppies. They are both lively fun babies and would be a great addition to an active family. Please contact Post Animal Refuge Center if you are interested in adopting one or both of these babies at postarc@yahoo.com or on Facebook at Post Arc.

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I'm lovin' it

Catholic bishop to celebrate rural life masses

Special to the Dispatch

LUBBOCK— During the month of May, Bishop Plácido Rodríguez, leader of the Catholic Diocese of Lubbock, will celebrate rural life with special mass May 15.

The mass follows three other special events to celebrate Rogation Days throughout the area.

Rogation Days are tied to spring planting with a primary purpose of asking God to bless the fields, pray for rain and pray for the safety of all who work in agricultural industries. This celebration is commemorated Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before Ascension Sunday.

Bishop Rodríguez will also celebrate the 30th annual Diocese of Lubbock Rural Life Mass, the longest running diocesan event at 6 p.m. May 15 under the direction of Doug Hlavaty, the rural life director for the Diocese of Lubbock. All parishioners are invited to the J.T. Dolle Farm at 3344 US 385, Littlefield.

Participants may bring containers or sacks of soil and seed from gardens, yards or fields, which Bishop Rodríguez will bless. Also, participants are asked to bring side dishes or desserts to share during a dinner following the Mass.

The annual Mass — celebrated on or close to the May 15 Feast of Saint Isidore and his wife, Saint Maria de la Cabeza, patron saints of rural life and agriculture — is, with the annual Our Lady of Guadalupe Procession, among the longest-running diocesan celebrations.

For information, contact Hlavaty at 777-0640.

30th annual Diocese of

WHEN: 6 p.m. May 15
WHERE: J.T. Dolle Farm, 3344 US 385, Littlefield
DIRECTIONS: Travel on U.S. 84 to Littlefield. Travel south on Highway 385 for five miles. J.T. Dolle Farm located on east side of the road

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LOANS FOR
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Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- the market or appraised value of your property
- the unequal appraisal of your property
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- any exemptions that may apply to you
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- the taxable status of your property
- the local governments which should be taxing your property
- the ownership of property
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affects you.

Informal Review
(Insert description of appraisal district's informal review process. If any, then give name and telephone number of person taxpayer should contact.)

You may call (806) 495-3518 to discuss your property with a CAD employee and try to come to a settlement.

Review by the Appraisal Review Board
If you can't resolve your problem informally with the county appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the appraisal review board (ARB).

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. The law provides that before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your agent and the CAD shall each provide the other with a copy of any written material intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests where the owner has submitted an independent appraisal before the hearing, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property's value by clear and convincing evidence. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at:

(insert address)
Garza Central Appraisal District
124 East Main
Post, Texas 79356
(806) 495-3518

Note: You shouldn't try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they haven't talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court or an Arbitrator or SOAH
After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you're not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB's order. In certain cases, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may file, not later than the 45th day after you receive notice of the ARB order, a request for binding arbitration with the county appraisal district. In certain cases originating in certain counties, as an alternative to filing an appeal in district court, you may appeal to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). An appeal to SOAH is initiated by, not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB's order, filing with the chief appraiser of the county appraisal district a notice of appeal. Appeals to District Court, Binding Arbitration, or SOAH all require payment of certain fees or deposits.

Tax Payment
You must pay either the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

More Information
You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at:

(insert appraisal district name, address, telephone number)
Garza Central Appraisal District
124 East Main
Post, Texas 79356
(806) 495-3518

You can also get a pamphlet describing how to prepare a protest from the appraisal district or from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711-3528.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

Usual Deadline
On or before May 31 (or 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. Good cause is some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are due the day before the ARB approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

Special Deadlines
For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change didn't result from a protest you filed), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

(You may insert deadline for protests concerning omitted property if doing so would avoid taxpayer confusion.)

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually February 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or holiday.

The Idle American Out-smarted by smart key

Introspection of retrospection should never be taken lightly. Generally, getting on with life is preferable to dwelling on what might have been.

On rare occasions, though, it is profitable to re-visit bad decisions, declare intent never to make them again, and share details of painful experiences. Perhaps I can help others avoid the pitfalls, which open wide to me.

I was "chewed up and spit out," and can just now smile about an avoidable ordeal a month ago caused me to shed tears.

It was car-buying time, a process faced no more than twice a decade. A few details are given. My wife always wants a white vehicle that gets good gas mileage and has leather upholstery. I shoot for cars two to three years old with low mileage.

Eureka! I found a hybrid that commonly delivers 40 mpg. It met all our specs. I whistled a happy tune all the way home.

If I had known then what I know now, I would have at least given pause to the seller's mention that the vehicle has just one "smart key." Assured that I could get another one, I gave the matter little thought.

First I had to learn what a "smart key" does. I found out it joins horseshoes and hand grenades in "coming close" effectiveness. As long as it's carried in pocket or purse, the car "knows" it's nearby. Locked cars are magically unlocked, and the ignition requires no insertion of key.

What a "smarty-pants" it is. "Smart key" and auto are in a state of harmonious "geehaw," and the motor purrs at the push of a button.

All the while, the "smart key" lays low in pocket or purse.

Even I, the incurable optimist, knew at least one more "smart key" would be needed, so I visited a locksmith to see what it would cost to get two duplicates "made." He was patient with me — mostly explaining that much has changed — it's no longer 1957.

That was the year I bought my first car. I was age 20; the 1949 Nash Ambassador was only a dozen years my junior. It had "plain" keys — three, as I remember. The car set me back \$300, had a bloated appearance and almost no distinguishing

features, save the fact the front seat backs lowered to make a bed. I could have made my bed and lain in it, I guess, though I never did.

I digress. The locksmith, unable to help, suggested a visit to the dealership. There, I was stunned to learn that an additional "smart key" called for detailed programming on an expensive machine that had a \$350 price tag — \$50 more than my first car. If I wanted two, the cost would be \$700, plus tax.

Had my wife been along, she'd have noticed face-reddening and asked if I'd taken my heart medication.

"Get some 'smart keys' on the Internet," another shopper whispered. "Take 'em to a locksmith for programming and save a bundle." So I did.

I should have listened to the first locksmith — the one who referred me to a dealer.

The Internet has many sites trumpeting availability of "blanks" for "smart keys." (No doubt some could provide "dumb keys," too.)

The purchase was not seamless. The blanks ran \$85 each, programming not included. I spent the equivalent of two full days, visited five locksmiths and drove more than 200 miles before finding a shop that would tackle the programming procedure.

Woe is me! The first blanks I ordered weren't the right ones — my mistake — and only one of the second shipment worked.

Thankfully, Jay Reed, a Colleyville locksmith some 30 miles from our home, took pity. His work ran into hours, tying up the "super-duper" machine that programs "smart keys." The result, though, was two additional "smart keys."

All told, though, the bill was well short of \$700. This doesn't include, of course, two wasted days spent on the project, emailing/telephoning the Internet supplier, or the 200-plus miles driven all over the Metroplex.

My wife, experienced at cutting to the chase, found silver linings.

"You didn't lose the 'smart key' before getting the extras, and as to the time thing — you're retired."

I hear the latter a lot.



DON NEWBURY

Don Newbury, former chancellor of Howard Payne University, is a humorist and motivational speaker.



New members inducted into NHS

The Post Dispatch

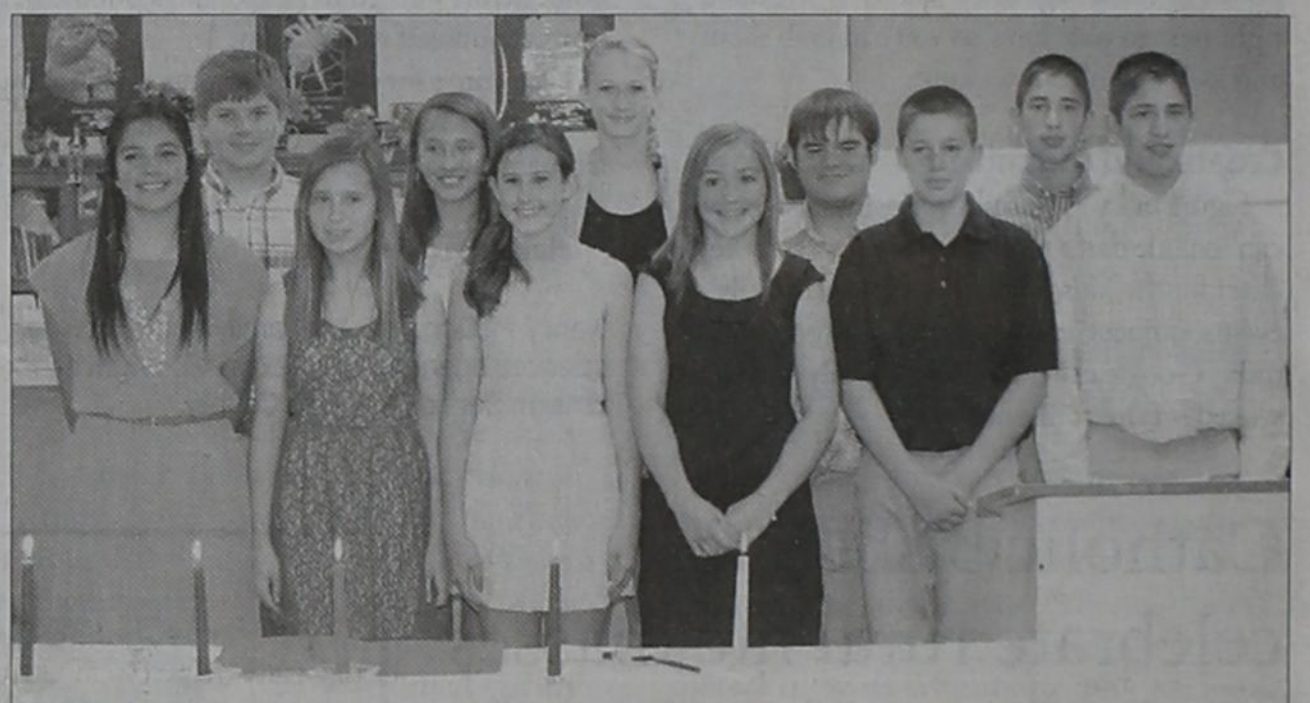
The Post High School chapter of the National Honor Society held its annual induction ceremony on April 30 in the Post High School library.

Seven new members were inducted, including Cheyenne Gill, Dakota Greer, Kelsey Griffin, Carson Kirkpatrick, Kellie Oden, Sarah Stinson, Colton Stamey. During the induction, President Dalton Holly, Vice President Kayla Comeaux, Secretary Taylor Osborn and Student Council Representative Campbell Kirkpatrick reiterated the characteristics by which new members were selected: scholarship, service, leadership and character.

During a candlelight ceremony, the inductees recited the pledge of the society. Current members Haily Berry, Morgan Deen, Audree Williams, Katie Dunn and Sara Greer also participated in the ceremony.

NHS faculty adviser Amy Easterling presented NHS patches to last year's inductees who maintained their standing in NHS: Katie Dunn, Sara Greer, Campbell Kirkpatrick, Taylor Osborn.

Easterling also presented senior certificates to Haily Berry, Kayla Comeaux, Dalton Holly, Morgan Deen, Audree Williams. Each senior then briefly spoke about his/her post-graduation plans.



New members inducted into NJHS

Post Middle School National Junior Honor Society Induction was held Wed., May 1 at the middle school library. Current president, Kally Comeaux, conducted the ceremony, along with current members Russ Morris, Caycee Holson, and Lucas Record. Audree Williams, senior at Post High School, spoke to students about the importance of academics and community service. Mr.

Self, principal, presented eighth graders with NJHS certificates, and Caycee and Lucas presented membership cards to new members: Yvette Armendariz, Chloe Reiter, Brooke Blair, Brandon Britton, Landon Greer, Michaela Self, and Austin Britton.

Cake and beverages were served to parents of the students. Sponsor for NJHS is Pam Humble.

Mike Porter and Kevin Rainwater will be playing on the patio this Friday, May 10th.

Kevin Rainwater and Moonlighters will be playing May 24th to kick off Memorial weekend.

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PLANE

From Page 1

Airpark south of Lubbock," Morgan said.

The airport is a privately owned facility. According to most-recent records from the FAA, the facility is home to 69 aircraft, 60 of which are single-engine planes.

Sheriff's officials found the aircraft fitting eyewitness descriptions at the airport and immediately seized the plane for investigation.

"When we walked over to the airplane you could see where the highline wires had hit the prop," Morgan said. "They had a sheet thrown over the tail wing. We then removed the sheet and found where they had ripped part of the tail off. We also found where the wires almost cut one of the wheels off of the plane."

Morgan contacted FAA officials, who arrived to take an incident report.

The Post Dispatch has submitted a federal open records request for that report. Federal Aviation Administration officials have 20 days to respond.

Morgan said the investigation was being treated as criminal because the incident was not officially reported to authorities.

On Monday, Morgan said he had released the plane back to its owner after the owner's attorney called sheriff's officials and offered to pay restitution.

"The attorney said his client was willing to pay full restitution and offered the plane had a fuel-to-air ratio mixture problem, which caused the accident," Morgan said.

Morgan said he released the plane after restitution was paid in the amount of \$5,642.47, including \$950 to DPS for use of a helicopter, \$1,550 to the Post Volunteer Fire Depart-

ment; and \$3,142.47 to Stelzer Drilling to replace the power lines.

According to the FAA registry, the aircraft with registration number N642BC belongs to Branden Cohen of Carbondale, Colo. The 2012 Cessna fixed-wing, single-engine turbo prop has a valid registration issued Sept. 26, 2012, and expires Sept. 30, 2015.

Morgan was adamant the plane did not belong to Cohen. He said he did not know who was flying the plane at the time of the incident but that the pilot was not required to file a flight plan.

An unofficial spokeswoman at the FAA office in Lubbock said the FAA registry is updated daily and that the record likely was accurate.

HOLLY

From Page 1

Other high school students honored includes, Ty Lust of Abernathy, Guillermo Esparza of Andrews, Gregory Hewett of Coronado, Malik Williams of Estacado, Tylo Kirkpatrick of Idalou and Preston Woodard of Levelland, Travis Windham of Lubbock-Cooper, Raleigh Anderson of Lubbock High, Jake Allen of Monterey, Ryan Johnson of Muleshow, Kyler Bean of New Deal, Dexter Longley of Seminole, Kade Willis of Shallowater and Smith McLelland of Tahoka.

Guest speakers included Tech Athletic Director Kirby Hocutt, head football coach Kliff Kingsbury.

In addition, to honoring the student athletes for their academic and athletic abilities, the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame also recognized regional football legend E.J. Holub as a Dis-

tinguished West Texan; legendary high school football coaches Louis Kelley and Johnny Taylor; Outstanding Official Ken Patterson; Coaches of the Year: Brad Davis of Frenship and Kyle Maxfield of Shallowater; Assistant Coach of the Year Bob Stanley of Monterey; Texas Tech Scholar Athlete Cody Davis; and also awarded Joey Alexander of Coronado with the John Coronado Award for Excellence in addition to a \$500 scholarship.

Post's Holly said he was honored just to be part of such a momentous occasion.

"It was just a real honor to even be in the same room as some of those folks," Holly said. "It was a great event that caps off a terrific senior year."

Holly will attend Lamar University in Beaumont during the fall semester and has signed a letter of intent to run on the school's track team.

LIBRARY

From Page 1

Philip and Olive Tocker endowed the foundation with their estates in 1994 and 1993 respectively. After years of supporting a wide range of community-based causes, the foundation discovered a need in small, rural, Texas libraries serving populations of 12,000 or less.

In 1992 the foundation board then began focusing their grant distribution in this way. The foundation partners with community libraries to meet their particular needs.

Post Librarian Peggy Ashley said her involvement with the Tocker Foundation began during the Texas Library Convention last year in Austin. The convention was a requirement of the Promoting & Enhancing the Advancement of Rural Libraries (PEARL) grant the local facility received in 2010 from the University of North Texas.

At the convention, Ashley said she met a representative of the Kennedale-based Vance Hunt Libraries, Craig Tappe, who told her about the Tocker grant.

"We exchanged ideas about library design and he mentioned the grant," Ashley said. "I returned from the convention, unloaded books, processed new ones and never thought the Tocker Foundation would ever venture this far west for a proposal."

However, Tappe did arrive in Post.

"He measured our library facility, created a blueprint and accepted a grant proposal in one day," Ashley said. "The Tocker Foundation directors reviewed the grant and send a contract."

Soon later, directors from the Tocker Foundation sent two librarians from the Central Texas Library System for a site visit and proposed changes. Their consultation, Ashley said, resulted in a partnership and the renovation of the library.

"We're grateful to the Tocker Foundation and the city of Post for its support," Ashley said. "This renovation will allow our visitors many years of reading enjoyment."

WATER

From Page 1

Basically, the move from stage 3 to stage 4 opens the district up to receive state aid if necessary, Fulton said.

"The use of water for washing cars, driveways, sidewalks and even landscaping purposes remains prohibited," Fulton said. "Commercial and industrial water usage remains under the control of the district or the businesses member city."

That said, for residents within the city limits of Post, however, those rules don't apply.

City Manager Deana Watson said Monday the city remains in stage 2 of its own drought-contingency plan.

"Under the contract we

have with White River, we are not required to adhere to their drought-contingency plan," Watson said. "Our residents have gone above and beyond what we've asked of them during this conservation period. Through our water-purchase contracts with Southland and Slaton, we don't feel like it will be necessary to increase our contingency plan at this time."

Watson said she would comment on the issue until after her City Council could meet.

"I'm not even sure some of our own council members even know about White River," she said, referring to the move from stage 3 to stage 4.

The City Council next meets at 6 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall.

Watson said she would not recommend council increase the city's stage level.

"The city of Post is in a good position right now to continue supplying the water needs of our own customers," she said. "In the last few months since moving to stage 2 — where we remain — our customers have consumed about 30 percent of their water usage. We were only required to conserve 10 percent at stage 2."

Despite entering what the state would consider "emergency" status, the lake has been in a similar state back in 2008. Then, however, the lake remained in stage 2 of the district's drought-contingency plan.

Andrea Morrow, spokeswoman for the Texas Com-

mission for Environmental Quality in Austin, said drought plans vary from region to region.

"Not all plans are the same. Some are more stringent than others from stage to stage," Morrow said. "Still you can't compare the drought then to the drought now, if only because the media seems to be impaling itself on drought stories more than then."

"There are 26 different systems at various stages of drought across the state of Texas right now. Comparing one system to the other would be like comparing apples to oranges."

Despite Morrow's inability to put the local drought issue into perspective, Fulton, White River's general manager, remains upbeat about the situation.

"We're within a 60 days of having at least 10 of our groundwater wells up and running," he said. "Our customers will not be running out of water anytime soon. We've been preparing for this for the last year or year and a half. We knew this day was coming."

Last summer, the district was awarded about \$2.1 million in state emergency aid to rehab and even drill for new groundwater wells.

"Even if we don't get any rain until September, we'll have more than enough water to meet the needs of our customers until then — and probably even then some," he said. "If we hadn't taken the steps we have in the last year, we could be in much worse shape than we are now."

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2004 Chevrolet 2500HD Crew Cab 4x4 LTZ, White/Black Leather, Duramax Diesel, 172K, #50771	\$11,250
2005 Chevrolet 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, Blue-Black Cloth, 5.3 V8, Z-71, #50671	\$12,300
2006 Chevrolet 2500HD Ext Cab 4x4, White/charcoal cloth, 6.0L V8, 89K, #50952	\$12,500
2006 Chrysler PT Cruiser, Black/Gray Cloth, 4 Cyl, Auto, 80K, #50636	\$7,250
2007 Chevrolet Equinox V6 LS, Maroon/tan cloth, #50945	\$8,900
2007 Dodge Durango SLT 4x4, gray/gray leather, all power, V6 Auto, 78K, #50695	Reduced \$13,800
2008 Toyota Camry 4DR SE, red/black cloth, 4 Cyl, Auto, Sunroof, 50K, #50905	\$14,800
2008 Chevrolet 2500HD 4x4 L/B, White-Gray Leather, Diesel, Auto, Bedliner, Pwr Windows/Locks, #50943	\$17,850
2008 Chevrolet 1 Ton SRW 4x4 Crew Cab, Black-Gray Leather, Flatbed, Duramax Diesel, 125K, #50153	\$27,000
2008 Chevrolet 1500 Crew Cab, 2WD, white/charcoal cloth, 5.3 V8, Auto, LT Pkg., Steering Wheel Controls, Pwr Seat, 62K, #50865	\$19,955
2008 Chevrolet Colorado Crew Cab 2WD, red/ebony cloth, 1LT, 71K #50606	Reduced \$13,550
2008 Pontiac Solstice Convertible, Inferno Orange-Charcoal Cloth, 4-Cylinder, Manual, 6K, #50499	\$17,500
2009 Chevrolet Impala LS, Black-Black Leather, LTZ, Sunroof, Duramax Diesel, Front Bumper Replacement, Rhinoliner, 58K, #50937	\$37,500
2009 Pontiac G6 GT Sedan, Gray-Black Cloth, V6, Auto, Aluminum Wheels, 55K, #50498	\$13,500
2010 Chevrolet 1500 2WD Crew Cab, Silver-Charcoal Cloth, 5.3 V8, Pwr Seat, Steering Wheel Controls, 27K, #50819	\$24,900
2010 Chevrolet Avalanche 2WD, black/black leather, bucket seats, Texas Edition, heated seats, 82K, #50840	\$21,500
2010 (2) Chevrolet Impalas LT, V6, 26,000 miles, goldmist/charcoal cloth	\$18,075
2010 Chevrolet 1500 Crew Cab 2WD, White-Gray Cloth, 5.3 V8, Auto, Front Bucket Seats, LT1 Equipment Pkg., 31K #50836	\$27,000
2011 Chevrolet 1500 Ext Cab 4x4, White/black leather, All Star Edition, Pwr Seat, 22K, #50954	\$24,725
2011 Chevrolet Malibu 1LT, White-Gray Cloth, V6 Auto, 47K, #50939	\$13,850
2011 GMC Sierra Denali Crew Cab AWD, diamond white/tan leather, 6.2L V8 Auto, Bose stereo, 16k, Like New, #50827	\$40,500
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2012 GMC Acadia 2WD, Silver/Red Leather, 15K, SLT-1 Pkg, 2nd Row Buckets, Rear View Camera, Remote Starter, #30099	\$31,000
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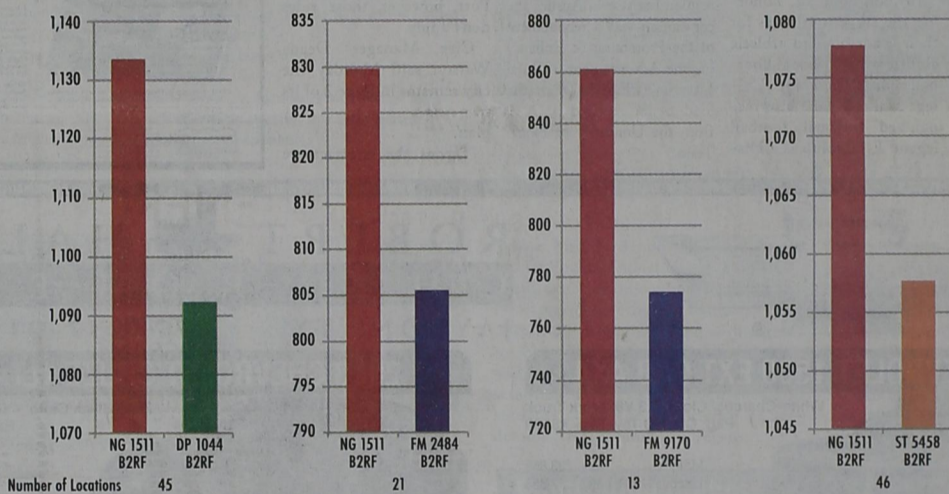


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Post Dispatch Weather Summary

Post's Seven Day Forecast

Friday Mostly Cloudy 77 / 56	Saturday Partly Cloudy 79 / 53	Sunday Mostly Sunny 79 / 54	Monday Sunny 86 / 58	Tuesday Mostly Sunny 86 / 59	Wednesday Partly Cloudy 88 / 62	Thursday Mostly Cloudy 85 / 61

Local UV Index

0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

Detailed Local Forecast

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 77°, humidity of 56%. North northeast wind 15 mph. The record high temperature for today is 99° set in 1967. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, overnight low of 56°. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph. The record low for tonight is 44° set in 1980. Saturday, skies will be partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 79°, humidity of 40%.

Weather Trivia

Can a rainbow appear at night?

Answer: Yes. When the moon is extremely bright, it can produce a rainbow.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

Day	Peak Times		Day	Peak Times	
	AM	PM		AM	PM
Fri	11:22-1:22	11:52-1:52	Tue	3:03-5:03	2:33-4:33
Sat	12:40-2:40	12:10-2:10	Wed	3:49-5:49	3:19-5:19
Sun	1:28-3:28	12:58-2:58	Thu	4:34-6:34	4:04-6:04
Mon	2:16-4:16	1:46-3:46			

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

Weather History

May 10, 1987 - Jamestown, N.D., soared to a record high of 96 degrees. Thunderstorms along the central Gulf Coast deluged Lillian, Ala. with 14.5 inches of rain and nearby Perdido Key, Fla. with 12.8 inches of rain.

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
First 5/17	6:48 a.m.	8:35 p.m.	7:15 a.m.	9:25 p.m.
Sat	6:47 a.m.	8:36 p.m.	7:59 a.m.	10:16 p.m.
Sun	6:46 a.m.	8:36 p.m.	8:46 a.m.	11:04 p.m.
Mon	6:46 a.m.	8:37 p.m.	9:35 a.m.	11:48 p.m.
Tue	6:45 a.m.	8:38 p.m.	10:27 a.m.	Next Day
Full 5/24	6:44 a.m.	8:38 p.m.	11:20 a.m.	12:29 a.m.
Thu	6:44 a.m.	8:39 p.m.	12:14 p.m.	1:07 a.m.

May 11, 1987 - Early morning thunderstorms produced up to four inches of rain in southern Texas, with flooding reported from Maverick County to Eagle Pass. Evening thunderstorms in northern Illinois produced hail the size of golf balls and wind gusts to 70 mph.

Last Week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days			
4/30	93	57	79/50	0.00"	4/30	25	5/4	6
5/1	77	42	79/51	0.00"	5/1	10	5/5	4
5/2	50	35	79/51	0.00"	5/2	0	5/6	10
5/3	71	27	79/51	0.00"	5/3	0		
5/4	76	36	80/52	0.00"				
5/5	71	37	80/52	0.00"				
5/6	72	47	80/52	0.08"				

Growing degree days are calculated by taking the average temperature for the day and subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the average to assess how many growing days are attained.

Dixie Divas When Mama made up her mind

Mama was stubborn. "Set in her ways," is what country folks call it, and, boy, was she. When she made up her mind, nothing stopped her. Especially when she set her jaw and punctuated her declaration with a firm nod of her head. If she also threw that

expanded her little home business by buying fabric cheap, selling for a profit, and sewing up "spec" dresses that yielded a tidy profit.

Mama was diligent in her business and her bookkeeping, always recording what was earned, what was spent and what was owed, because Mama had "house" accounts for her best customers. She kept spiral-bound notebooks she called her "sewing books" and listed every customer's detailed measurements and the orders they placed.

It paid off. For both Mama and me. She managed to pay for two bachelor degrees — journalism and broadcasting — at an expensive college. When time came to pay the quarterly tuition, Daddy would always say, "Do you need any money?" Not that he had a lot, but he always had a bit tucked away.

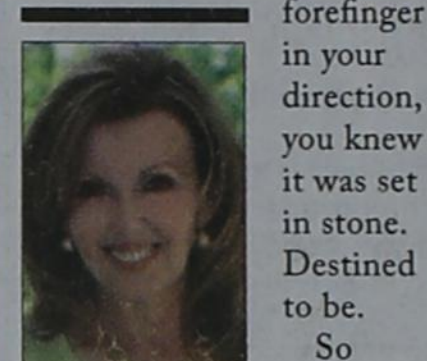
Inevitably, Mama would say, "No, I've got it. The good Lord has provided and sent enough business to pay for another quarter." It meant everything to her to do it on her own.

Now, I could have gone to a less expensive college and that would have been fine with me. But Mama had a dream for me to go to a place called Brenau. As a young wife, whose husband was away for two years fighting in the South Pacific in World War II, she had rented an apartment in an old, antebellum home near the Brenau campus. She would sit on the steps and watch the pretty girls on campus and think to herself, "One day, I'm gonna have a little girl who goes to that school." It was a grand and lofty dream for a woman who had grown up in a four-room, tin-roofed house with no indoor plumbing.

The other day, that college inducted me into its Hall of Fame. I felt a bit embarrassed and fraudulent accepting an honor that isn't mine. It belongs completely to Mama. Since she's with Jesus now, I went to the ceremony and accepted in her honor.

I'm so proud of her.

Ronda Rich is a Southern humorist, storyteller and best-selling author. Her latest book, "There's a Better Day A-Comin'," is available at rondarich.com.



RONDA RICH

she would pay for it. Now, Mama was a hard worker. There's no two ways about that. Except for a brief three-year spell when times turned bad in our household, so Mama took a job in a sewing plant to help see us through. She had never worked outside the home. Besides her remarkable talent at fixing things with masking tape and duct tape, she was most skilled at sewing.

With the wily ingenuity of her people, the Scotch-Irish, Mama "figured it out," a term she used quite often. In the spare bedroom of our little house, she set up her old tan and brown Singer sewing machine Daddy had bought her 25 years earlier and went to work. In retrospect, she was amazing, though I couldn't fully appreciate it then. She took in sewing and alterations, charging \$25 a dress.

Mama had an eighth-grade education because that's as far as her one-room schoolhouse in Nimblewill Valley went. But, eager to learn and knowing early that education was important, she started school at 4 and stayed until she was 17.

The sweet teacher did her best to find ways to keep teaching her, because Mama was the only student she ever had who went to school seven years longer than required.

She knew the basics of economics: She could add, subtract and spend less than she earned. In time, she

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