The Host Bispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2013

THEPOSTDISPATCHONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

Rain will be a boon to cotton crop, experts say

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

Stopping just shy of singing in the rain, area cotton producers are still reveling in last week's fortuitous precipitation brought about by a rare July weather pattern that moved across the region last week.

The slow-moving system was accompanied by unseasonably cooler temperatures — as much as 20 degrees cooler — brought to West Texas by an upper-level low that originated oddly enough in the Northeast.

As the wacky weather system moved in an uncharacteristically reverse direction from west to east, rain in some portions of the region between Sunday and Thursday.

Most of the region received at least an inch over the course of the week, according to the West Texas Mesonet, a weather-monitoring system developed by Texas Tech University.

The rain could not have been more timely for many producers trying to maintain a cotton crop, said Mary Jane Buerkle, spokeswoman for Plains Cotton Growers in Lubbock.

"This was such a timely rain, especially for dryland farmers," Buerkle said. "While it wasn't enough to pull us out of the drought, it's a boost

it dumped upward of six inches of to the crop. Farmers are saying it was a real blessing."

Greg Jones, agricultural agent for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Garza County, said total rainfall throughout Garza County ranged from 2 to 4 inches at various locations.

The Graham community recorded 2.25 inches, Post 2.86 inches and Lake Alan Henry reported 3.26 inches, Jones said.

"The rain has been a true blessing for everyone," he said. "One of the good things was the unseasonably low temperatures that allowed the rain to soak in, and we did not experience any high winds after the

See RAIN, Page 6



Cotton fields standing in inches-deep water was a common site last week on top of the Cap as a backsliding cold front dumped up to 4 inches of rain on portions of Garza County.

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.

New exhibit

The OS Museum, 201 E. Main St., offers "The Many Faces of Art" as its 2013 summer exhibit. Viewing hours are 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The exhibit will close Sept. 28. For information, call Marie Neff at 806-495-

Healthy Living Class

Trailblazers is hosting free Tai Chi classes from 1 to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays through Sept. 5. Classes teach how to move with better balance. For information, call Doylene at 495-2998.

New exhibit

The OS Museum, 201 E. Main St., offers "The Many Faces of Art" as its 2013 summer exhibit. Viewing hours are 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The exhibit will close Sept. 28. For information, call Marie Neff at 806-495 3570.

Raffle Tickets

The Post Lions Club is selling raffle tickets for \$10 with cash prizes of \$1,000 for the club's annual Teachers Appreciation Dinner on Aug. 20. Tickets may be purchased from any Lions Club member or at Porter Hardware, 311 E. Main St. during regular business hours. For information call Jason Porter at 495-1040.

Cross country

Teams will meet for the first practice at 6 p.m. Monday at the high school arena for a quick meeting and practice to follow. Enter arena through back doors. Call Coach Richard Soliz at 806-786-8550 for information.

Football camp

The Post Bold Football Camp for youth in grades 3-8 will be from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday at the practice field. Cost is \$40 per camper or \$60 for two (sibling or friend). Registration forms can be downloaded at postisd.net and are due by Wednesday to coaches Steve Smith or Ron Holson. For information, call Post ISD 495-2770.

Fishing derby

The Post Masonic Lodge 1058 AF&AM and the Texas Parks and Wildlife will host thee fourth annual Fishing Derby for children ages 12 and younger will be from 8 to 11 a.m. Thursday at Post City Park and followed by a hot dog lunch. Rods, reels and bait provided. For information call Archie Gill at 806-620-3830.

Corrections

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

News on the go



Use your smartphone to scan the quick response, or QR, code to visit us online.

88th Year, No. 47 USPS 439-620

The Post Dispatch

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Dispatch garners WTPA accolades

The Post Dispatch

DECATUR — The Post Dispatch was recognized last weekend with two first-place awards among others in the West Texas Press Association 2013 Better Newspaper Contest.

In addition, Editor Wayne Hodgin was recognized as one of the organization's Journalists of the Year at its 83rd annual convention at the Decatur Civic Center.

Publisher Christopher Blackburn, CEO of Blackburn Media Group, said the latest honors for the Dispatch cap off a tremendous re-building year for the newspaper.

"We've worked really hard over the last year to bring journalistic standards and integrity back to the pages of the Dis-

patch," Blackburn said. "It really has been a re-building year, and we're very proud our hard work is being recognized by our peers throughout the region and across the state.

"More importantly, though, we hope our readers are taking notice of these standards of change and celebrate with us these latest achievements in journalism for their hometown newspaper."

The Dispatch brought home a first-place award in the contest's Special Coverage category for Hodgin's series of articles revolving around the water issues in the county and the White River Municipal Water District in 2012.

Those articles not only dealt with the dwindling water supply at White River Lake but also the city of Post's ongoing negotiations with the water district in securing a 40-year water-purchase contract and its work in to ensure an emergency back-up water supply for its customers.

No other newspaper in the Dispatch's division was awarded in this category.

The Dispatch also was awarded first place in features writing for two articles, penned by Hodgin, including a story published March 23, 2012, and headlined "The Power of Prayer." The article focused on local student Adam Smith who was celebrating his 18th birthday with a communitywide party to bring awareness to childhood stroke victims while thanking the faith community for its

support during his illness and recovery. The second entry, published June 15, 2012, and headlined "The Road Less Traveled," was a feature story on 70-something-year-old longrider Gene Glasscock, who was passing back through the area on his 5,000-mile return journey from the West Coast to the East Coast and back in a covered wagon pulled by two mules.

Other winners in the features category included The Clarendon Enterprise, second; and the Ozona Stockman, third.

The Dispatch also took home an Honorable Mention for news writing for Hodgin's articles on the annual Tabana Yuane wind ceremony from March 30, 2012, and for a story in which local law enforcement officials call out a local organization that ministers to drug and alcohol addicts for a possible increase in the county's crime rate. Other winners included the Ozona Stockman, first

See **DISPATCH**, Page 6

New Visitors Guide



Pixie Grisham, chairwoman of the City Council's Hotel Occupancy Tax Committee, and Post Area Chamber of Commerce Director Janice Plummer thumb through a copy of the 2013 Post Visitors Guide, which was released this past week. The guide was paid for through the city's collection of money from the hotel-motel occupancy tax, and all local businesses were invited to submit advertising free of charge. The guide is distributed through the Chamber and placed in various locations throughout the county and state.

United boycotts Rolling Stone sales

Controversial cover prompts local supermarket chain to pull copies of popular magazine

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

United Supermarkets officials are boycotting the August issue of Rolling Stone by

THE ARCTIC ICE MELT

H:1(H:0)

pulling copies of the popular magazine from store shelves. The controversial

issue, which was scheduled for release last Friday, features Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev on its cover.

"This was an easy business decision for us," said Robert Taylor, CEO of United Supermarkets. "To do anything that would glorify terrorist behavior simply goes against what our company stands for."

The Aug. 1 cover story is written by Rolling Stone contributing editor Janet Reitman, who for the last two months has been working on the

piece, according to the magazine. The decision to feature Tsarnaev immedi-

ately ignited a firestorm of controversy, with critics accusing the venerable music-andnews magazine of glorifying terrorism. The national drugstore chain CVS, along

number of United Supermarkets, Market Street, Amigos and United Express locations. The issue isn't the only controversial cover in the magazine's

with some other nationwide retailers, also

August issues of the magazine.

is among some retail chains refusing to sale

United spokeswoman Lauren Griffin said

not regularly carry the

magazine. She said

the magazine is only

available at a limited

the supermarket chain's Post location does

near 50-year history. Its first anniversary issue in November 1968 featured John Lennon and Yoko Ono as its first nude cover subjects, which completely sold out. In June 1970, the magazine featured an exclusive prison interview with Charles Manson, "the most dangerous

Copies of the August issue of Rolling Stone magazine, featuring a photo of the alleged terrorist and Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar ket location.

person alive," as its Tsarnaev, will not be sold at any United Supermarcover story. A naked David

Cassidy shook off his bubblegum image with a nude cover on the magazine in 1972 with a story blatantly describing his drug use. While scores of celebrities took to social

See BOYCOTT, Page 6

BMG BLACKBERY MEDIA GROLD

The Post Dispatch, 123 E. Main St., Post Texas, 79356, Is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Phone 806-495-2816 Fax 806-495-2059 Email thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com

PUBLISHER William C. Blackburn

EDITOR/GENERAL MANAGER Wayne Hodgin

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DEADLINES Advertising: 5 p.m.

Mondays Editorial: Noon Tuesdays

SUBSCRIPTIONS \$30 a year in the county \$35 a year outside the county

Call 806-495-2816

Deaths

Jackie Hays

Jackie Hays, 80, of Post and formerly of Lubbock, died Saturday, July 20, 2013, at Golden Plains Care Center in Post. Jackie was born July 23, 1932, in Texline to James Mitchell Monroe and Mattie Brazoria (Lee) Hays.

The Hays family moved to Post, and Jackie attended Post schools. At the age of 17 he joined the Marines and was discharged February 10, 1956, as a sergeant. He then served in the Reserves until October 9, 1959.

He returned to Post and was a volunteer firefighter for several years. He later married Shirley Ann Pitts on October 9, 1970, in Clovis, N.M. She preceded him in death May 8, 2011. They lived in Lubbock, and Jackie worked for the city of Lubbock as an electrical inin 2011 due to health.

Coast to coast



JACKIE HAYS

loved to play golf, working on clubs, hanging out while talking golf or just anything to do with golf.

He also is preceded in death by his parents; a son that died January 6, 1957; two sisters and five brothers.

Jackie is survived by son spector. He moved back to Post Michael Wayne Hays and daughters Anita Shockley and Jackie's passion was golf. He husband, Roy, of San Angelo

and Heidi Hays of Crosbyton; stepdaughter Sheryl Shields and husband, Bill, of Lorenzo; brothers Pete Hays of Post, Herbie Hays and Donnie Hays and his wifem Tippy, all of Austin; five grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by numerous nephews, nieces, great-nephews, greatnieces. His great-niece Kelsey visited him, and he always looked forward to her visits.

Services were at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday July 23, 2013, at the Calvary Baptist Church in Post. The Rev. Arthur Kelly and Ted Tatum officiated. Military graveside rites by the Marines were at the Terrace Cemetery, Post. Arrangements were under the personal care of Dee and Janet Justice, Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

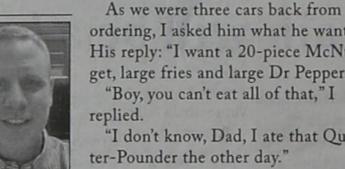
The family received family and friends Monday, July 22, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Patti Walker/The Stonewall Courier

The Paperboy The beginning of a bottomless pit

y 7-year-old son Sutton Hawk and I went to McDonald's last week. If you have children or grandchildren, you may be aware of the power of McDonald's over much of the planet's youth.

Anyhow, it wasn't too long ago when a Happy Meal of either the McNugget or cheeseburger variety would be sufficient. Those days are gone.



BLACKBURN

ordering, I asked him what he wanted. His reply: "I want a 20-piece McNugget, large fries and large Dr Pepper." "Boy, you can't eat all of that," I

"I don't know, Dad, I ate that Quar-

Which was correct. So, wanting to see what kind of

damage he could do, I ordered the 20-piece. Now before you get on to me for mistreating my son and the epidemic

of childhood obesity, Sutton Hawk is not a small child. He's a head taller than the kids his grade and weighs 90 pounds. One thing that exists on both sides of his family is size. So, he's the size of a fourth-grader or even a fifth-grader.

Back to the story:

We get home, and since my wife and other son are gone, we decide to eat in the living room and watch one of the Batman movies.

After sitting there a few minutes, I noticed he had stopped eating.

I asked, "Are you OK?"

"I'm pretty full," he said.

"What's the damage?

"I ate 15. I'm sorry I didn't eat them all. I think I drank too much Dr Pepper first."

I'm sitting there in disbelief. And at that exact point, I realized I should probably be raising cattle, because this child may grow up to be a very large human. My other son, Jackson, is tall and thin. Sutton Hawk

outweighs him by 10 pounds. Believe it or not, Jackson eats more than his brother. So the days of the Happy Meal, and all other children's

meals, look to be over. So could be the days of eating out. I'm a big guy, and I can remember eating large when I was a teenager. Even when I was stuffed, it was a matter of hours before I was starving. But that was when I was a teenager. Now I have two boys who out-eat their mother and are closing in on me!

My wife and I consider ourselves blessed that our boys love Ramen noodles. Even if it does take several pack-

Christopher Blackburn is publisher of this newspaper and CEO of Blackburn Media Group.

Bike tour winds West Texas Press Association WTPA.org through through county

The bicyclists stopped at Aspermont City Hall to eat lunch before heading westward to Post



Share Curiosity. Read Together. www.read.gov

interval from 3584' - 3810'.

of publication to the:

By Patti Walker For the Dispatch

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID

INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Texland Petroleum, L.P.

777 Main Street, Suite 3200

Fort Worth, Texas 76102

is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a

permit to inject fluid into a formation which is produc-

tive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid

into the Glorieta formation, Rains #2 in Garza County,

Texas. The proposed injection well is approximately 12

miles North of Post, Texas in the Sims (Glorieta) field.

Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth

Legal authority: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code,

as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resource Code,

as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can

show they are adversely affected, or requests for fur-

ther information concerning any aspect of the applica-

tion should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days

Railroad Commission of Texas

Oil & Gas Division

P.O. Box 12967

Austin, Texas 78711

512-463-6792

Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

A group of bicyclists, including 12 high school students and two college chaperones, passed through Garza County last week on a 43-day tour from Charleston, S.C., to San Diego.

The group travels are much as 100 miles a

The two leaders were Nichols Geisler of Hill, N.C. Ithaca, N.Y., and Alexis Felix of Salisbury, Md. The students were Jake Gershon of West tures.com. Their group is ACC1.

Hartford, Conn., Joshua Stone of Providence, R.I., Jack Amoroso of Charlotte, N.C., James Gerrish of Croten-On-Hudson, N.Y., Samantha Pierce of New Gloucester, Maine, Lauren Rayson of Carlisle, Mass., Tristen Fekete of Springfield, N.J., Brad Ravenelle of Portland, Maine, Patrick Fricke of Merdahm, N.J., Leigh Steinberg of Wynnewood, Pa., Lucy Kapples of Wellesley, Mass., and Sophia Gettes of Chapel

Follow their trip by visiting apogeeadven-

Plug into your local news source for the best local news

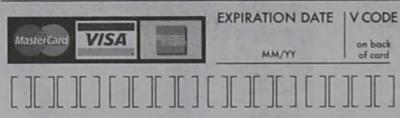
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Or you can find your local newspaper at any of these locations!

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Ziska's on the Brazos 2515 US Hwy 84, Justiceburge Brady's Package Store

501 E. Main St. McDonalds

102 N. Broadway St.

George's Family

Restaurant 202 S. Broadway St.

Beverage Barn

612 E. Main St.

White River Marina 261 Marina Rd., Spur Chapa's Family

Restaurant 3000 N. Hwy 84

Stripes 115 S. Broadway St.

Thanks for reading!

Pet of the Week



Boutros (BooBoo) is a very small male Chihuahua mix and a real sweetheart. He and his sister, Margarita, are currently at Post Animal Refuge Center and both need loving homes. Please contact PARC at postarc@yahoo.com or on Facebook at Post Arc for adoption information.



P.O. Box 923 Ralls, TX 79357 Office (806)253-2506 Fax (806)253-2060 Cell (806)392-3920 clay.miller@agtexas.com

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Welcomes



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Dr. Martinez will begin seeing patients on August 1, 2013. Call 325-573-1300 to schedule an appointment.

5009 College Ave., Snyder, TX Visit our web page at www.cogdellhospital.com

Good! I'm "well" instead must have hea its way out, an

> HANAI MUN WELC

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USDA Special to the Dis U.S. De

Agriculture

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announced an Farm Service reporting dead Farmers a have an addition days to subm report of acrea FSA county deadline exter 15 to Aug. 2 reporting dea extended.

program benef reports accurtimely manner land uses, incl and failed Administrator Accurate a necessary to maintain elio

"We want

producers

Menu for

Lunch Monday: P potato, spir salad, roll, n Tuesday: mashed p beans, apple Wednesda enchiladas, refried be

tortilla chips

The 501

Good v. well: A feud for the aged, er, ages

o my television ears deceive me? I just heard a guy answer the question "How are you?" with the response "Well." Good! I'm glad someone finally said he was "well" instead of "good." What's more, millions must have heard him say it. Maybe "good" is on

its way out, and "well" is making a comeback. That'd be good.

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Haven't you noticed for years that people routinely have been saying they're "good" when asked how they're doing? If it were true, virtue would be on the rise. At first I thought the obvi-

ously improper use of the word "good" was just a cutesy little short-lived trend. I supposed all who proclaimed HANABA themselves to be "good" did MUNN so with a certain awareness that either a rule of grammar WELCH was being broken or that they

were not really answering the question being asked - or both, depending on how you analyze the issue. Now "good" is

As for what social forces have converged to inspire virtually everyone to say, "I'm good," well, who knows? Maybe it's a "Me Generation" thing. We (I'm leading-edge Me) are supposed to be self-absorbed and narcissistic. What's good about that? But who's more likely to believe and proclaim himself or herself to be "good" than a narcissist, even if the original question isn't truly being answered?

That's why I myself hereby resolve never to say "I'm good" whenever I'm asked how I am. It's a moral issue. From my grammatically correct traditional use of the response "well," I shall look down on all the narcissists who say they're "good." So there. I'm parting with my generation on this one. I feel almost good enough about my resolution to say, "I'm good."

INTERNET PAUSE.

The temptation was too great. Having mounted my grammatical high horse, I just had to do a little Googling to see if posses are already out there riding after the "good" offenders. Not surprisingly, I learned I'm not the only person bothered by the "I'm good" bunch. That's the Internet for you. You can always find compadres, whatever the cause.

Meanwhile, one of my newfound fellowenforcers of Morality via Grammar (I just made up that name for our worthy aim) quoted an impeccable authority:

"And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments."

That's Matthew 19:17, King James Version. The context is Jesus in conversation with a rich young man, who could be the poster boy for the Me Generation.

Hmmm. What we have is the makings of an evil conspiracy:

Television, the platform for the transformation of our society into whatever those amoral people behind the scenes want us to become, is a place where "I'm good" is said over and over, notably on talk shows at the beginnings of interviews. The afore-mentioned rampant narcissism is nurtured by the expression.

If you buy my theory, consider yourself deputized for the good guys' posse. Let's ride.

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



Puppeteer Tricia Gregory performs with one of her characters Monday during an event at the Post Public Library.



A number of area children and parents are entertained Monday by a puppet show at the Post

Puppet show helps kids pick out books

The Post Public Library held a free puppet show Monday afternoon for area children that taught them how to "dig up a good book."

Puppeteer Tricia Gregory, who was raised near Fluvanna, helped the children dive into the "Oceans of Fun" show flippers first as her puppets came alive.

A pirate boy, rainbow, fish and mermaid told Fund. stories and sang songs about life under the seas. A magical gold fish multiplied before their eyes and then a dancing skeleton came alive. A big treasure was found and the children had a big splash learning about the ocean and how to dig into books.

Gregory has been in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex performing as a children's entertainer for 20 years and has been a puppeteer for more than 30 years.

She was recognized as the Best Clown of Texas in 2007 and volunteers for the Make A Wish foundation and for the Children's Cancer

Gregory not only entertains with puppets or clowns, but she is also a balloon artist, magician, funny girl, face painter and much more.

Anna Gibson

USDA extends acreage reporting deadline

Special to the Dispatch

U.S. Department Agriculture officials have announced an extension of the Farm Service Agency acreagereporting deadline.

Farmers and landowners Assistant Program (NAP). have an additional 18 calendar days to submit their annual report of acreage to their local FSA county office with the deadline extended from July 15 to Aug. 2. Only the FSA reporting deadline has been extended.

"We want to ensure our producers maintain their program benefits by filing their reports accurately and in a timely manner for all crops and land uses, including prevented and failed acreage," said Administrator Juan Garcia.

Accurate acreage reports are necessary to determine and maintain eligibility for various

programs, such as the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program of (DCP); the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE); the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP); and the Non-insured Crop Disaster

Acreage reports for FSA are considered timely this year when filed at the county office by the new applicable final crop reporting deadline of Aug. 2. Producers should contact their county FSA office if they are uncertain about reporting deadlines.

Farmers are reminded to usda.gov. report any loss within 72 hours of discovery to their insurance company. Farmers must report prevented planting acreage to their insurance company, in writing, within 15 calendar days after the final planting date. Losses must be reported and an insurance adjuster

must view and release the crop before the crop is destroyed. Farmers are also reminded to contact their insurance agent if they have any questions about coverage, prevented planting, or for reporting and processing a

Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. Contact a local crop insurance agent for more information about the program. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers or on the RMA web site at rma.

Producers also should visit their USDA Service Center to complete acreage reporting for FSA. For questions on this or any FSA program, producers should contact their FSA county office or seek information online at fsa.usda.

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Visit our web page at www.cogdellhospital.com

Menus

Menu for July 29-31

Trailblazers

Lunch Monday: Pork loin, baked potato, spinach, dry jello salad, roll, milk Tuesday: Meat loaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, apple fluff, roll, milk Wednesday: Beef enchiladas, Spanish rice, refried beans, brownies,

tortilla chips, milk



Words are not enough to express how wonderful the people of Post, Texas are. We are so grateful for the money raised to help our Mom with her fight against cancer. Every penny is greatly appreciated. Thank you Karen Palmer,

Anita Morris, Stephanie, Kathy Hair, Miranda, Ashley, Theressa Hair, David Tyler, Delton Osbourn, Delphina Castillo and everyone that participated in the softball tournament. Thank you and God bless you all from the bottom of our hearts!

The Sherita Hair Family



Sweet summer treat

Knox Chamber marks festival's quarter century

By Wayne Hodgin

The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY - Mark Twain once quipped that once you've tasted it, you then know what angels eat.

summertime treat throughout the nation, nowhere more is watermelon more celebrated than right here in Knox each year," Dillon said. County.

About 2,000 people are expected to converge in the Seedless Watermelon Capital of the World this weekend for the 25th annual Donald Johnson Memorial Seedless Watermelon Festival.

folks here in Knox County, but what may not be to those outside of the region, is that the seedless watermelon was, for all intents and purposes, developed right

As watermelon lore goes, in the midto late-1970s, an Indiana scientist was looking for a place to develop a marketable seedless watermelon, said longtime Knox City resident and horticulturalist again will donate this year's melons. Jim Dillon.

College, was friends with Knox County Eigsti the sandy loam soil in the middle of the Rolling Plains was perfect for growing melons, as was the 100-degree downtown corridor with a street dance

summertime temperatures.

Together, they teamed up to develop the seedless watermelon.

By the early 1990s, Johnson, who by this time had established the Johnson Melon Corp., was growing 15 to 20 mil-In what has become the venerable lion pounds of seedless watermelon a

"They would haul out tons of melons

Although Johnson died in the early 2000s, his legacy lives on in the annual Donald Johnson Memorial Seedless Watermelon Festival in downtown Knox

This year will mark the 25th annual What's common knowledge to the event, which is held the last weekend in

> While the Johnson Melon Corp. no longer exists and the melons aren't as prolifically grown in Knox County as they were decades ago, the Chamber of Commerce, which hosts the event each year, relies on outside entities to donate the melons each year.

Lawrence Bros. supermarkets once

The two-day festival kicks off at 3 That scientist, O.J. Eigsti, of Goshen p.m. Friday at Knox City Park, where a number of food, arts, crafts and retail farmer Donald Johnson, who convinced venders will set up shop alongside water slides and bounce houses for children.

The parade will begin at 6 p.m. in the



In this photo from last year's Watermelon Festival, a heart has been carved into the center of a slice of a red seedless melon to display for passers-by at the Knox City Chamber of Commerce

from 8 p.m. to midnight with Caleb Hodges and the County Line Band.

Saturday's events will fire up about 9 a.m. at the park, where free watermelon will be given away all day - as much as you can eat. The pool will be open for free swimming from 1 to 5 p.m.

Other highlights of the two-day event will be honoring Knox City's Most Appreciated Citizen.

As is par for the weekend, near 100-degree heat will be fended off by wide-brim hats, caps, umbrellas, sunscreen, and — free watermelon.

Rural public broadcasters eligible for grants

velopment Acting Under vices in rural areas. Funds ment. Continuation of powered rural America to Secretary Doug O'Brien can be used to acquire, reliable public television continue leading the way announced that USDA is lease or install equipment service for all rural resi- - strengthening Ameriaccepting applications for or software necessary to grants to help rural public television broadcasters sition. complete the transition to digital signals. Fund- nications

support of telecommuni- digital transition of their facilities, businesses and government is a strong

complete the digital tran-

The Federal Commu-Commission ing is available through required television broadthe Department's Public casters to convert trans-Television Station Digi- mitters to digital signals tal Transition Grant Pro- in 2009, but the deadline for analog-to-digital The announcement of conversion of translators almost \$2.8 million in is Sept. 1, 2015. As a reavailable funding is part sult, many rural stations of USDA's continued have not completed full

for many rural broadcast- and rural communities.

cations is Aug. 30.

President plan for rural America has brought about historic investment and resulted in stronger rural communities. Under the president's leadership, these investments in housing, community

TEMPLE — Rural De- cations and broadcast ser- stations across all equip- infrastructure have emdents remains a priority ca's economy, small towns

> USDA's investments in The deadline for appli- rural communities support the rural way of life that stands as the backbone of our American values. President Obama and Agriculture Secretary Vilsack are committed to a smarter use of federal resources to foster sustainable economic prosperity and ensure the

entrepreneurs and working families in rural com-

USDA, through its Ruprograms designed to improve the economic stability of rural communifarmers and ranchers and in rural America.

USDA has made a concerted effort to deliver sequester budget reducresults for the American tions in a fair manner that people, even as USDA causes as little disruption implements sequestration as possible.

partner for businesses, - the across-the-board budget reductions mandated under terms of the Budget Control Act.

USDA has already unral Development mission dertaken historic efforts area, has a portfolio of since 2009 to save more than \$828 million in taxpayer funds through targeted, common-sense ties, businesses, residents, budget reductions. These reductions have put improve the quality of life USDA in a better position to carry out its mission, while implementing

Watch Up For **Power Lines** Tahoka - 998-4588 Lamesa - 872-2632 Sundown - 229-374

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

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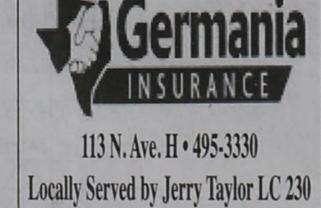
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Amateur Track League

Jackalopes compete in Lubbock meet



Members of the Post Jackalopes summer track club who recently participated in the Texas Amateur Athletics Federation track meet in Lubbock on July 13 were (back row) Hayden Belongia, Miranda Perez, Addisen Rodriguez, Zach Courtney, Treyson Crow and (front row) Haley Perez, Jacob Isbell, Michael Tadlock, Trak Crow, Bryan Saucedo.

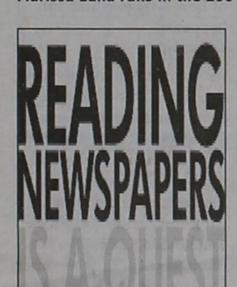


Marcie Oden/For the Dispatch



Marissa Luna runs in the 200-meter dash.

Georgette Isbell/For the Dispatch



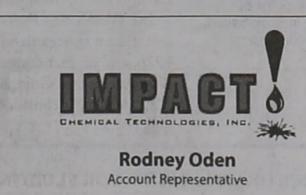


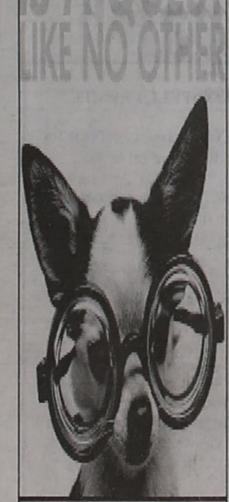
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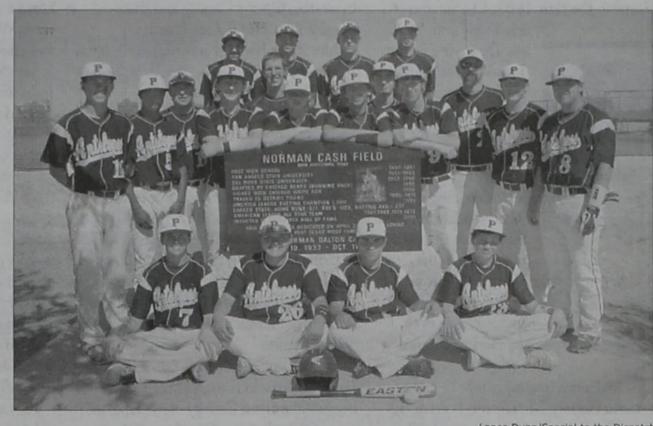


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All-District Baseball

Antelopes named to All-District, academic teams for baseball



Lance Dunn/Special to the Dispatch The 2013 Post High School varsity baseball team.

Members of the varsity baseball team at Post High School recently were named to the All-District baseball team. Following are their ac-

Post Baseball All District

Pake Jones, junior, infield — Batting Average .300, HR, 405 OBP

Nathan Gill, senior, designated hitter — Batting Average .400,18runs, 11 RBIs

Brayden Pyles, freshman — Newcomer of the Year, Batting average 395, 12 RBI's

2nd Team

colades:

Dalton Holly, senior, outfield — 538 average,

Christian Saucedo, freshman, infield — 300 average, 24 runs

Honorable Mention

Campbell Kirkpatrick, junior, outfield — 318 average, 15 RBI's, 14 Runs

Paden Babb, junior, outfield — 400 average, 18 RBI's

Aron Lopez, freshman, pitcher — 4-2 record

Special Recognition All-District

Vance Blair, senior — 400 average, 19 runs.

Academic All-District Baseball

Dalton Holly Campbell Kirkpatrick

Carson Kirkpatrick

Cambry Gilbert Blaine Reece

Alex Ramirez

Colton Stamey Adam Smith

Compiled by Jerry Pyles

Puzzle of the Week

CLUES ACROSS

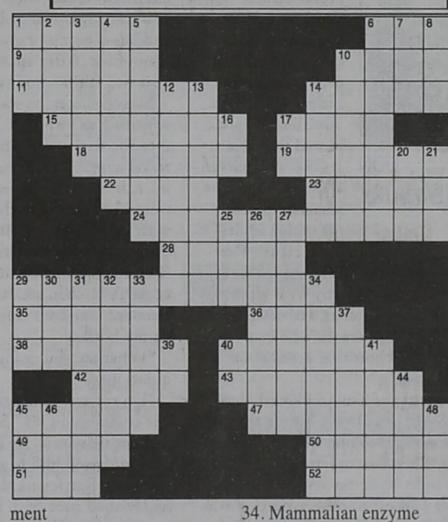
- 1. Athenian philosopher
- 6. Basics
- _d: praise greatly
- 10. Redirect
- 11. Angelic
- 14. Island in the Firth
- of Clyde 15. Public executioners
- 17. Cain and
- 18. Mexican shawl 19. Large artillery
- 22. Gambling town 23. Source of choco-
- late
- 24. Trash container 28. Playful harassment
- 29. About an EMT
- 35. Seaport in Finland
- 36. 6th Jewish month 38. In an arched man-
- 40. The highest points 42. Dressed
- 43. Overhung
- 45. Soft and sticky
- 47. Of an empty sink
- 49. Float on the water 50. Reap (Spanish)
- 51. Grey sea eagle
- 52. Enlighten

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Public TV 2. Wife of Jacob
- 3. Assumed name
- 4. Processes leather
- 5. Matured beyond
- 6. Access to pressured
- air space 7. Women's undergar-
- 8. Co-tangent (abbr.)
- 10. Spectacle locations
- 12. Give forth
- 13. Removed from
- power 14. Manila hemp
- 16. Point midway be-
- tween N and E
- 17. Atomic #89
- 20. No (Scottish) 21. Drunkard
- 25. A citizen of Thai-
- land
- 26. Fled from confine-

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

POST DISPATCH



ment

- 27. More bead-like
- 29. Vinyl paint polymer

A B C

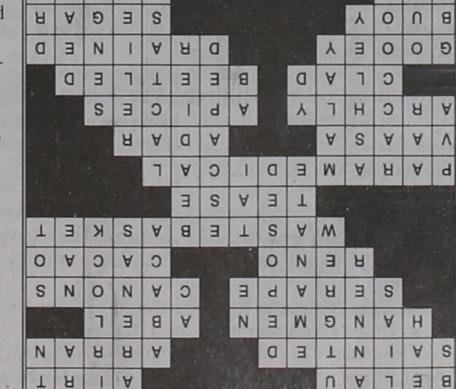
- 30. Jack P___: talk show host
- mal
- 31. Nocturnal masked mam-
- 32. GWTW's Mr. Wilkes 33. S.E. Asian peninsula
- 39. 36 inches (abbr.) 40. Blood group
 - 41. Grey faced shrew 44. People who cannot hear

37. Counted on

45. Gaborone airport code

EBN

- 46. Relevant to us 48. Not wet
- **PUZZLE SOLUTION**



West of the present location of New Home in the early 1890s, J.L. Vaughn of



LINDA **PUCKETT**

Plainview established the Deuce of Hearts Ranch. Its southern border touched the edge of the northern edge of T-Bar Ranch.

Little is known of its early days, but a few years later, a man who probably branded more cattle than any other man in the West, J.K. Milwee, and his partner, Van Sanders, took over

the ranch. Milwee later became the sole owner.

An old-time cowboy before he came to Lynn County, Milwee was born in Paris, Texas. At age 18 he drove a herd of government cattle across West Texas (1868). That was before the cavalrymen, buffalo hunters, cowmen, or settlers had corralled the Comanche Indians. Milwee saw the Old West as it really was.

He was no romanticist, but he liked to hear and tell the facts of the old days. Milwee had a strong distaste for the exaggerated, untrue "hokum" of the movies and Western magazines. By 1897 he was working with John Chisum on the Pecos

River in New Mexico during the Lincoln County Range War. The IOA Ranch, covering the southern half of Lubbock County, hired him as cow boss by 1884. He helped tend the land and drilled the first water well in Lubbock County.

From there he ranched with Bill Lay in western Crosby County, and then operated the Two Buckle Ranch on White River. He sold out there and came to Lynn County. By this time he was already nearly 50 years old.

His partner, Van Sanders, head been an early day surveyor, as had Van's brother Will. Van married Minnie Tubbs and they spent their later years in Lubbock.

The ranch used the Deuce of Hearts brand and sometimes the Flying M. In 1901 or 1902, part of the ranch was sold to pioneer Jack White, but Milwee bought back a portion in 1909-1910. White, meantime, bought the George Shumake farm in 1910, which still remains in the White family.

In 1915 apparently a portion of the ranch had passed from Milwee hands because the Lynn County News reported part of the ranch was for sale in 160 acre tracts by a Miss McFaddin.

Milwee operated the Deuce of Hearts until his health failed. He moved from Lynn County about 1934 but lived to the

The cowman talked of the many wild turkeys in the "breaks," as well as the bear found there, especially in Palo Duro Canyon in the 1880s.

He told Ben Moore of an encounter with the Apaches in the 1880s on the trail of the North Concho to the Pecos.

He and four cowboys had made camp. Just after dark a dozen Apaches charged into their camp, but meeting a volley of shots from the cowboys' Winchesters, turned their horsed and fled.

From the retreating band, Milwee heard a scream resembling a woman's voice. When dawn broke, Milwee found a wounded Indian woman in a small ravine, apparently left for dead. He brought water from the river and was surprised she showed no fear of him.

Then, a half dozen Apaches returned and signaled they meant no harm. Milwee gladly stepped out of the picture while the Indians retrieved the woman and rode

The incident always puzzled him. Three aspects were unlike the Indian nature. First of all, the Indians always picked up their wounded before leaving a fight. Secondly, Indians placed no importance on a woman's life, and, thirdly, Indian women were usually deathly afraid of the white

He never found the answers. Linda's note: It would be my guess the Indian woman was the daughter or wife of the chief or another important member of the tribe. I'm not sure about the Apache, but the women of the Cherokee tribes were held in high honor. One example would be Wilma Mankiller who became

chief of the Cherokee. See you next week.

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

thepostdispatchonline.com A decade in Post



Janice Plummer/For the Dispatch

Members of the Post Chamber of Commerce helped Rosa Latimer, owner of Ruby Lane Books in downtown Post, celebrate her 10th year of business on Friday at her bookstore on East Main Street. Latimer recently added an art gallery space in her store, which features both new and used books. An ongoing exhibit will feature the work of area artists. Ruby Lane Book, 127 E. Main St., is open from 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays. Pictured is Kathy Beach, Mary and Brock Norman, Kathy Stevenson, Scott Richards, Sherrie Richards, Carolyn Black, Doris Giddens, Lee Norman, Latimer, artist David Leake, Steve Norman and Harry Record.

RAIN From Page 1

The weather event also came with as many cons as it did

"On the flip side, with all of the cloud cover we had, the limited solar accumulation caused cotton to shed some of its smaller squares," Jones said. "In addition, with all this rainfall, cotton farmers will need to watch for weeds."

Victor Ashley, executive director for the Garza-Borden County office of the USDA's Farm Service Agency, said prior to last week's rains the drought had claimed anywhere from 16,000 to 40,000 acres of cotton in Garza County and anywhere from 8,000 to 20,000 in Borden County.

"The cotton acreage that remained standing after the rain, along with some replanted hay and grain sorghum, will benefit from the moisture," Ashley

BOYCOTT From Page 1

media to vent their anger over the apparent romanticizing of an alleged terrorist, Jack Osbourne, the son of Ozzy and Sharon Ozbourne, took things a step further by organizing a petition for Rolling Stone to donate all profits from the current edition - including retail and advertising revenue - to victims, surviving family members and first-responders adversely affected by the Boston Marathon bombing.

In defending their position by publishing the cover story, Rolling Stone released this statement:

DISPATCH From Page 1

place; The Eldorado Success second place; and the Big Lake Wildcat, third place.

The West Texas Press Association was organized in 1926, and its first convention was held in Colorado City. WTPA is considered

PCG's Buerkle said based on crop reports from growers, gin managers and other experts, about 60 to 65 percent of the 3.7 million estimated planted acres are still in the game for 2013 at this point throughout the High Plains.

"A significant amount of dryland acreage failed because of dry conditions at the beginning of the growing season, and severe weather has destroyed cotton acreage in multiple counties across the region," she said. "However, the crop overall certainly is expected to improve after this week."

Buerkle also noted that markets did not seem to react too much to the weather event, with December futures still hovering around the 85-cent mark.

Jones, with the Garza County Extension, noted additional rainfall would be needed in the next few weeks when cotton is in mid- to late-bloom, a stage which has the highest demand for moisture.

"It's kind of like that old saying," he said. "The most important rain is the next one."

"Our hearts go out to the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing, and our thoughts are always with them and their families. The cover story we are publishing this week falls within the traditions of journalism and Rolling Stone's long-standing commitment to serious and thoughtful coverage of the most important political and cultural issues of our day. The fact that Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is young, and in the same age group as many of our readers, makes it all the more important for us to examine the complexities of this issue and gain a more complete understanding of how a tragedy like this happens."

the "largest regional association in the world" because of its vast geographic area. The association is composed of weekly, semi-weekly and small daily newspapers in the great West Texas area with Fort Davis, Fort Stockton, Hondo, Gatesville, Perryton, Vernon, Burkburnett, Decatur and Dallas being the fringe area cities.

The Idle American Let this cup pass

his account blows holes in the old adage claiming folks who want jobs done right should tackle them themselves. Whoa, not every time. Sometimes, when the stars align with precision and all is in place for the perfect storm, delegation is critical clearly the, uh, "prudent" thing to do. A high percentage of failure to

delegate occurs, of course, with



DON NEWBURY

professionals. Clergy, in general, come to mind. Often alone at the peak of Mount Independence are ministers deeply rooted in music.

One such parson is Gerre Joiner, associate pastor for senior adults at Decatur's First

Baptist Church. For decades, he's been involved mostly with all things musical in churches. He never saw a score whose measure he couldn't take nor a choir that couldn't be "choraled."

Graying of hair and lengthening of tooth, he's always been a team player, eager to pull his part of the load. There are times, though, when he might be better served handing some jobs off to others, particularly when he is somewhat "out of his element."

Speaking of elements, he wound up in a spot "neither fish nor fowl" a few weeks ago. Though he'd participated in Lord's Supper observances from time to time, rarely had he been involved in preparation — and never for a care center observance. He was helping Pastor Ken May prepare the "travel

kit" - a small valise used in such observances held away from the sanctuary. Later in the afternoon, they'd visit a local care center where some residents would participate in the Lord's Supper.

Joiner found plenty of communion wafers, but grape juice - the other important element in the symbolic observance - was nowhere to be found. He searched every shelf, wondering if one or more colleagues had been "taking nips." No matter. "I'll just run down to Dollar General and buy a bottle of grape juice," he announced. After all, the care center visit was still an hour away.

Minutes later, he was back, whistling as he emptied the bottle into the flask, or whatever they call travel containers for communion juice. In a matter of seconds, it would be secured in the kit, along with the wafers and tiny cups.

Luckily, administrative assistant Bree Kirklie walked through the church's kitchen area at the precise moment Gerre was tossing the empty bottle.

"What are you doing?" she questioned.

"I'm replenishing grape juice in our communion kit," he responded, wondering why she asked.

She advised him to re-read the label. Retrieving the bottle, he lavished Bree with much appreciation. The label clearly read "prune juice." (Joiner, ever the optimist - smiling with head held high — reminds me when we see men with heads held extremely high, they're likely not used to their

Thankfully, there still was time to keep the care center commitment. This time, Bree went to the store for grape juice.

Years ago, at a small church in Oklahoma, a weeklong revival broke out. There were 19 professions of faith at a church where Sunday services typically attracted 40 to 50 worshipers. It was announced that following the final service, all 19 who walked the aisles would be baptized, after which the Lord's Supper would be observed.

In-laws, cousins and others swelled attendance to more than 100, and the head deacon - a man they called "Nuh-Uh" because he opposed almost every proposal that cost money — had a sinking spell. He'd prepared the communion elements and was certain there wouldn't be enough.

He had flagging hope that at least a few of the visitors wouldn't partake. "Nuh-Uh" and fellow deacons froze, however, when they ran out of communion cups two rows from the back. The minister, sensing the shortfall, asked him to replenish from the church kitchen, even if with "kitchen glasses."

Time passed. Hymns were sung. Two gave testimonies. There was a cloud of uneasiness.

Finally, "Nuh-Uh" reappeared, explaining all he could find were a few plastic glasses and a handful of teabags, so they'd finish communion with tea!

At a hastily called business meeting, deacons voted to buy two dozen more communion cups and a full gallon of grape juice. And Deacon "Nuh-Uh" made the motion! (Years later, the "new" communion cups were still packaged.)

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

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

RJD Management Co., Inc., P.O. Drawer 2130, Lubbock, Texas 79408, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Clearfork formation, Tyler 82 lease, well number 1. The proposed well is located 11 miles East of Post, Texas in the Hoople field in Garza County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3,475 to 3,600 feet.

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

Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (512-463-6792).

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Shenandoah Petroleum Corporation is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a waterflood permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Spraberry. KJJ "167", well number 4. The proposed injection well is located 11.4 miles SW of Post, TX, in the Coulter, in Garza County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 5215' to 5237' feet.

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

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Underground Injection Control Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

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The District and County Clerk's office of Garza County is looking for a qualified person to serve as a Deputy Clerk. Qualifications, application and submission details can be found on the Clerk's page of www.GarzaCounty.net Garza County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (0726)

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Post Dispatch Weather Summary

Post's Seven Day Forecast

Monday

Mostly Sunny

95 / 71











Last

7/29

New





101 / 76





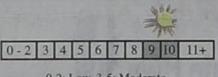
Wednesday Thursday Mostly Sunny Sunny 97/75

Local UV Index

Friday

Mostly Sunny

97/72



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

Weather Trivia

On average, how many thunderstorms occur in the United States each year?

thunderstorms. 10% are classified as Answer: Approximately 100,000

Weather History

July 26, 1987 - Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced hail two inches in diameter in McHenry County, Ill. and wind gusts to 70 mph at Auburn, Maine. A wind gust of 90 mph was recorded at Blairstown, N.J. before the anemometer broke.

July 27, 1943 - On a whim and flying a single engine AT-6, Lieutenant Ralph O' Hair and Colonel Duckworth were the first to fly into a hurricane. This flight was the first of what would become regular Air Force flights into hurricanes.

Detailed Local Forecast

Tuesday

Mostly Sunny

99 / 73

Today we will see mostly sunny skies with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 97°, humidity of 43%. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph. The record high temperature for today is 104° set in 1974. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, overnight low of 72°. East northeast wind 5 mph. The record low for tonight is 60° set in 2004. Saturday, skies will be mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 93°, humidity of 48%.

Peak	Fishing/H	unting Ti	mes This	Week
	Peak '	Times		Peak '
Dan	AM	DM	Dov	AM

		Peak Times			Peak Times		
	Day	AM	PM	Day	AM	PM	
angel	Fri	2:02-4:02	2:32-4:32	Tue	5:13-7:13	5:43-7:43	
	Sat	2:50-4:50	3:20-5:20	Wed	6:00-8:00	6:30-8:30	
3	Sun	3:38-5:38	4:08-6:08	Thu	6:48-8:48	7:18-9:18	
	Mon	4:25-6:25	4:55-6:55	www	w.WhatsOurWeather.com		

		K				
	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	
١	Fri	6:55 a.m.	8:48 p.m.	11:23 p.m.	11:16 a.m.	-
	Sat	6:55 a.m.	8:48 p.m.	11:59 p.m.	12:17 p.m.	
1	Sun	6:56 a.m.	8:47 p.m.	No Rise	1:17 p.m.	
	Mon	6:57 a.m.	8:46 p.m.	12:36 a.m.	2:14 p.m.	
۱	Tue	6:57 a.m.	8:45 p.m.	1:14 a.m.	3:09 p.m.	1
1	Wed	6:58 a.m.	8:45 p.m.	1:54 a.m.	4:03 p.m.	1
			THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN		The state of the s	



First

4:53 p.m. 6:59 a.m. 8:44 p.m. 2:38 a.m. Last Week's Almanac & Growing Degree Days

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days				
7/16	76	61	92/68	0.09"	Date Degree Days		Date Degree Days		
7/17	77	65	92/68	2.21"	7/16	18	7/20	28	
7/18	80	67	92/68	0.31"	7/17	21	7/21	28	
7/19	85	52	92/68	50.20"	7/18	24	7/22	31	
7/20	88	67	92/68	0.00"	7/19	18			
7/21	90	67	92/68	0.00"	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.				
7/22	91	71	92/68	0.00"					

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Tet Offensive remembered



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Members of the Garza County Commission on Monday honored local veterans and members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6797 by approving a resolution in remembrance of the 45th anniversary of the Tet Offensive. The infamous military campaign during the Vietnam War was launched on Jan. 30, 1968. The day that followed would become the bloodiest for Americans serving in the nation's longest war as 246 U.S. soldiers killed and more than 2,000 wounded in a 24-hour period. The TET Offensive cost more than 50,000 lives, including more than 14,000 civilians and 3,895 American soldiers with 543 casualties suffered during a week in mid-February alone.

Beaux Brooks Booher has arrived, making her debutton July 9, 2013. This little bundle of joy weighed 5 lbs. 4oz. and was 19 inches long. Her lucky parents are Brandi (Puckett) Booher and Stacy Booher of Wolfforth. **Loving grandparents** are Lommy and Linda **Puckett of Post** and Rowena **Booher of** Wolfforth. "We better start saving now for it looks like she might be a Tech grad

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Dixie Divas Oh, the stories they told

y parents told great stories. I've told you that. How they would both weave long, intriguing tales from not much Lof a story or one that was so good to begin with that it took little embellishment.

The good-to-begin-with story needed only a dusting of wellplaced words, while the not-so-good-ones-but-still-worth-telling were spruced up and shined to a fare-thee-well. My parents only

introduced me to the art of storytelling, so once I graduated I moved on to a masters program: sports reporting.

Now no one, I don't care who it is, tells a story better than an athlete, coach, racer or car owner. They've all got a repertoire of stories that just won't quit. As a young sports reporter, I would spend hours sitting in a high school coach's office while seven or eight coaches spun tales of every game they had ever seen.

Here's the funny thing about all that: I have never met a coach or a race-car driver who could RICH not recite every moment of his career. They can tell you what the player weighed who was carrying the ball for an 80-yard touchdown,

when the player had his last tetanus shot and every play called for that entire game.

Same for race-car drivers. Ask them about any win or loss, and, in great detail, they will tell you which shocks or springs were used, which driver bumped him and how many seconds each pit stop

But don't — I'm just warning you — ask them the date of their wife's birthday or their anniversary. Don't even ask them the year they got married, because they'll probably say something like, "Well, let me see. It was the year Alabama won the national championship with Namath. The last one they won with him. What year would that have been? '64 or '65? Wait a minute. It was '64 all right because Namath was Rookie of the Year in '65."

None of that had anything to do with the bride.

Once I asked a friend, a famous coach, if he knew when Valentine's Day was. He thought for a minute. "Isn't it during basketball season?"

Another friend, a stock car racer, didn't hesitate. "I don't know for sure what the date is, but it's during the time we're always in Daytona for the 500."

He was real proud of himself.

"I always call the florist before I leave and arrange for the flowers." Once a pro baseball player told me, "Ask me any stat on any player in the league and I can give it to you, but I can't even remember my own birthday. I never can remember if it's the 28th or 29th. I have to call my mama and ask. My wife won't tell me because I don't remember hers. I don't know what I'll do when Mama dies."

Listen, I'm just saying I find that interesting how their minds work. But, boy, they can all tell a great story. It usually starts with, "I remember that time when..." Or "Let me tell about the day that..."

A few years ago, I was in the drivers' paddock at the NASCAR races where they park their coaches. All afternoon, I had watched these little runts not much bigger than I am at 5-foot-2 hurrying back and forth across the garage. For many years, drivers had been big and most were six feet or taller.

Richard Petty was standing next to me. "Richard," I asked, "What's the deal with all this little guys? Drivers used to be much bigger."

He swigged some water then answered. "Pow'r steerin'."

"Back when I come along, you didn't have pow'r steerin,' and it took a lot of strength and muscle to wrassle those cars. Not any more."

Then the stories began. And, boy, can Richard Petty tell a story. I wonder, though, if he knows when his birthday is.

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



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