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# Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

"A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, May 16, 2002



THE FIGHTING BUFFALOES  
 Masthead designed by Barbara J. Sowell



ROBERT E. HOWARD MUSEUM

Price 50¢

94TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 8

## DOWN HOME

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** We have all lived in the valley described in the following poem. We may wonder why at the time, but looking back we can see what we have learned from the experience. May these words give you strength and hope for the future.  
**Vanda Anderson Creech**  
 "It's In the Valleys I Grow"

Sometimes life seems hard to bear,  
 Full of sorrow, trouble and woe  
 It's then I have to remember  
 That it's in the valleys I grow.

If I always stayed on the mountain top  
 And never experienced pain,  
 I would never appreciate God's love  
 And would be living in vain.

I have so much to learn  
 And my growth is very slow,  
 Sometimes I need the mountain tops,  
 But it's in the valleys I grow.

I do not always understand  
 Why things happen as they do,  
 But I am very sure of one thing,  
 My Lord will see me through.

My little valleys are nothing  
 When I picture Christ on the cross  
 He went through the valley of death;  
 His victory was Satan's loss.

Forgive me Lord, for complaining  
 When I'm feeling so very low,  
 Just give me a gentle reminder  
 That it's in the valley I grow.

Continue to strengthen me, Lord  
 And use my life each day  
 To share your love with others  
 And help them find their way.

Thank you for valley, Lord  
 For this one thing I know  
 The mountain tops are glorious  
 But it's in the valleys I grow!

Author Unknown

## Believer's Fellowship Has Two New Pastors

Believer's Fellowship, East Highway 36, welcomes new pastors, Raymond and Rhonda Paulton, formerly of Fairfax, Oklahoma.

Believer's Fellowship invites you to come by and get acquainted.

## Attention Musicians and Singers SIGN UP NOW

Time is fast approaching for the second annual City of Cross Plains Fourth of July Celebration.

This year we are asking our local musicians and singers to share their talents for an Old Time Gospel Sing.

So, get your groups and solos together and help us celebrate!

If you would like to participate, please contact Debbie Gosnell (254)725-6114 or Susan Schaefer (254) 725-7251 by June 1st.

Submitted by Susan McNeil

## Cottonwood Musical This Friday

The Cottonwood Quilting Club is holding their Country and Western Musical on Friday, May 17, at the Cottonwood Community Center.

The ladies will be serving sandwiches and different kinds of pies, tea and coffee beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The musical will commence at 6 p.m. with emcee Mary E. Weaver.

Admission to the musical is free. Come enjoy an evening of fellowship and musical entertainment.

## Nimrod-Monroe Cemetery Association Meeting This Sunday, May 19

The Nimrod-Monroe Cemetery Association Meeting will be held Sunday, May 19, at the Nimrod Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. The Nimrod Baptist Church also celebrates the re-opening of the church in 1985 in conjunction with meeting.

Sunday School will begin at 10 a.m. and church services commence at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon and each family is asked to bring a covered dish and a dessert.

A business meeting will be held at 1 p.m. followed by gospel singing and fellowship.

Everyone is invited to attend.

## Junior High / High School Awards Program 8:30 a.m.

Friday, May 17th

At

New Gymnasium  
 All Parents Welcome  
 To Attend



**POSTAL FOOD DRIVE A SUCCESS**—The letter carriers at Cross Plains Post Office collected 674 pounds of non-perishable food and \$100 in donations to help stamp out hunger. Pictured are Johnnie Bland (from left) and her granddaughter, Caitlyn, and Barbara Dillard, representing the local Food Pantry; Larry Crockett, Amanda Wagner, Chris Connelly, Alvin Hutchins, and Billie Kelly, all postal employees.

## Project Pride Hosting Howard Days June 7-8

Project Pride will be hosting a dinner on Friday evening, June 7, during the Robert E. Howard Remembrance Days. The public is

invited. "The Influence of Texas In Howard's Works" is the chosen topic of Fred Blosser, the featured speaker. Time is 7 p.m. at the Cross Plains Community Center. Tickets are \$10 each and are available at Texas Heritage Bank and the Cross Plains Public Library or you may call (254) 725-6498 to make arrangements.

Two full days of activities are planned for Friday and Saturday, June 7 and 8. The Howard House will be open and Howard works will be on display at the Library. Schedules will be available during registration at 10 a.m. both days at the Howard House on West Highway 36. Howard, noted fantasy writer, made his home here from 1919 to 1936 and most of his writings were done here.

## Paint and Palette Club Meeting

Paint and Palette Club Meets Friday, May 24, at 2 p.m. at the Multi-Purpose Center in Cross Plains.

The program will be a painting demonstration by Sandra McSwain from the Brownwood Art Association. She is an artist with many years of experience who will be able to share her knowledge for an enjoyable afternoon.

This is the last meeting of this year. Membership dues are needed to plan the next season's program, beginning in September. The time and place will be the same and visitors are welcome.

## National Honor Society Members Announced

On Tuesday, the Cross Plains High School National Honor Society Chapter held its annual Spring Induction and Honor Ceremony. This was a very special candlelit ceremony to honor our graduating members and recognize and induct new members to the society.

Dr. Athena Bean, Dean of Students, Howard Payne University in Brownwood, was the guest speaker and assisted in the presentation of the honor stoles, pins and certificates.

Graduating members were Tony Beggs, Greg Black, Melanie Chesshir, Joe Dillard,

Keali Eppard, Josh Hopkins, Judith Mauricio, Sarah Nixon, Stephanie Parker, Kandra Poole, James Ross, Erin Stephens, Angela Swift and Shena Thomas.

Our active members are A.J. Carouth, Ashley Cook, Judith Hartman, Nathan Joy, Cole Koenig, Dani Rivard, Kevin Scott, Chris Sliger, Mack Taff and Emily Winfrey.

New inductees this year were Bree Dillard, Kati Wooten and Jennifer Young.

A reception followed with punch and cake being served in the gymnasium foyer.

Submitted by Melissa Wooten Chapter Adviser

## Bi-District Playoffs Cross Plains Buffaloes

VS

Gordon Longhorns

Tarleton State Baseball Field  
 Friday May 17th 7 p.m.



**QUILT WINNER**—Loraine Kilgore won the "Flower Basket" quilt raffled at the annual Fire Department Fish Fry. Loraine and her husband, John, are proudly displaying the beautiful handwork.

## Volunteer Fire Department Annual Fish Fry Big Success

The winner of the quilt this year was Loraine Kilgore, congratulations Loraine.

The Fire Department would like to thank everyone who helped make the annual Fish Fry great success this year. We would like to thank the following: Charlie Humphries in Cisco for the case of coleslaw. Without the support of the community we would not be able to continue to serve as a volunteer department, and we appreciate your continued support of the Cross Plains Volunteer Fire Department.

We would also like to thank all the volunteer firemen who did all the cooking and the folks who helped set tables at the Community Center. A special thanks to the Cross Plains Quilting Club for quilting the quilt for us, you did a wonderful job. The ladies who helped cook and served, as well as the extra ladies who came into help before, during and after the meal, thanks so much. We would like to extend a special "thank you" to Cross Plains Frozen Foods for allowing us to store and cut the fish there.

nize and make an event like this work, and we appreciate all who helped make this year a success.

Submitted by Cross Plains Volunteer Fire Department

**Texas Heritage Bank**

"We're Proud of Our Local Heritage"

MEMBER FDIC

**Presents:**  
 "What's Inside"

Birthday List	Page 5
Church Directory	Page 2
Cottonwood News	Page 2
County Roads	Page 10
Courthouse News	Page 2
Library Notes	Page 3
Pioneer News	Page 3
Student Review	Page 4

# COURTHOUSE NEWS

COUNTY COURT  
Roger Corn, presiding

## Misdemeanor Minutes

End of term order discharging defendants under deferred adjudication: Dale Schwesinger, German Z. Barrientos, Daphana Belyeu, Michael Dennis Clark, Victor Delacruz, Maurice A. Delloiacono, Jeremy Wayne Martin, Jarrod W. Page.

End of term order discharging defendants under misdemeanor probation: Tony Harbuck, Byron Dan Voss.

John Wooten, order extending probation granted.

Marques Duke Molinar, motion to dismiss to possession of drug paraphernalia granted, dismissed for plea to other case and jail time.

Marques Duke Molinar, plea of guilty to possession of marijuana, 10 days in jail, \$242.25 court costs.

Brandon Bruton, plea of guilty to driving while intoxicated (DWI), 5 days in jail, \$250 fine, \$242.25 court costs.

Michael Sullivan, plea of guilty to DWI-2nd, 2 year probation, \$400 fine, \$243 court costs.

John Morales, plea of guilty to theft of service, 6 month probation, \$50 fine, \$292.25 court costs \$339.15 restitution.

John Morales, transfer request from Callahan Co. to Rockwall Co. granted.

Rhonda Swinney, plea of guilty to theft of property by check, 6 month probation, \$50 fine, \$292.25 court costs, \$63 restitution.

Alfonso Baca, order extending probation granted.

Charles John Mantooth, motion to withdraw as surety and application for warrant granted.

Donna Campbell, order amending conditions of probation granted.

## Marriage Licenses

Donald Lynn Carpenter of Clyde and Connie Beth Nowell of Abilene.

Kenneth Wayne Reed and Annette Regina Valdez both of Baird.

42nd DISTRICT COURT  
John Weeks, presiding

## Civil Filings

Dena Lyndel Wilsher and Cory Dwain Wilsher, divorce.

# Spray schedule for pecan nut casebearers

Time is approaching to start scouting for one of the most important nut-infesting insects of pecans, that is the pecan nut casebearer. The adult casebearer is a gray almost black moth about 1/3 inch long. The moths are active at night, when they lay eggs on pecan nuts. From research and working with producers we are confident that egg lay will occur 7-10 days after the first catch of the moths using pheromone traps. In Callahan County our first significant catches were made around May 8-10. Eggs are oval, flat and tiny, just large enough to be seen with the unaided eye. Nut clusters with eggs can be tagged with a piece of ribbon and checked each day to determine exact hatch date. Insecticides need to be applied 1-2 days after the first eggs hatch. With catches on May 8-10, nut entry is predicted to occur 12-16 days after this catch which would give us the spray schedule of May 20-24. Proper scouting is suggested to determine the best time for insecticide applications.

Homeowners have very few choices, one being malathion 50% EC at 2 tablespoons per gallon. Before purchasing and applying any insecticide, always read the label to determine if the product is labeled for use on the target plant or site. For more information contact the Callahan County Extension Office at (915) 854-1518.

# OBITUARY

## Christene Rayburn

Christene Rayburn, age 65, of Cross Plains, passed away Monday, May 6, 2002, at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, May 11, 2002, at the Higginbotham Chapel with Brother Ronnie White officiating. Burial was in the Cross Plains Cemetery in Cross Plains, with Higginbotham Funeral Home of Cross Plains in charge of the arrangements.

Christene was born October 25, 1936, in Colorado City, Texas to John Virgil Davis and Oma Ola Payne Davis. She was a member of the Baptist church.

Survivors include her brother, Virgil Lewis Davis of Amarillo; four sisters, Betty Jo Swallow of Marquez, Nova W. Castor of Valdesta, Georgia, Violet D. Davis of Springville, Utah and Della Mollenhour of Argyle; a son-in-law, Billy Beauchamp; and four grandchildren, Jason, John, Cory and Christy Beauchamp.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a daughter, Leisa Beauchamp.

Pallbearers were Jason Beauchamp, John Beauchamp, Cory Beauchamp, Danny Locke, Michael Swallow and Kyle Bradshaw.

## Callahan County DPS Report

Calls received by the Callahan County Department of Public Safety from April 7, 2002 through April 13, 2002 include:

### Cases Investigated

Warnings-53  
Complaints-65  
DWI-1  
Possession of Marijuana-1  
Public Intoxication-2

### Vehicle Accidents

There were seven vehicle accidents investigated during this time span.

### People Arrested On Outstanding Warrants

There were 35 outstanding warrant issued for a total of \$10,571.00 collected.

2 -Cross Plains Review May 16, 2002

## Atwell Homecoming/ Cemetery Association Meeting Announced

The Atwell Homecoming and Cemetery Association meeting will be held May 26, beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Atwell Shelter. The program committee for this year is Recie Tatom, Bim Goble

and Grady Scott.

All who attend are asked to bring a picnic lunch. The bread, drinks and ice will be furnished by the association.

## Burkett-Adams Cemetery Association Meeting May 26

The Burkett-Adams Cemetery Association will hold its annual Memorial Service on Sunday, May 26, at 2 p.m. under the tabernacle in the Burkett Cemetery. In

the event of inclement weather, the service will be held in the Community Center.

Submitted by  
Cemetery Board of Directors

## CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

(USPS 138-660)

DON TABOR, PUBLISHER  
VANDA CRECH, EDITOR  
CROSS PLAINS REVIEW



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## CROSS PLAINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Continues to Promote Local Members

We are now listed with [areawide.com](http://areawide.com), an internet site, that provides a link to [crossplains.com](http://crossplains.com), where all Chamber members are listed.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 TH & AVE D. CROSS PLAINS

WORSHIP SERVICE.....9:30 A.M.

BIBLE CLASS.....10:30 A.M.

REV. HENRY GRUBBS, PASTOR  
EVERYONE WELCOME

### Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Full Gospel \_\_\_ Non-Denominational \_\_\_ Apostolic  
Restoring And Equipping The Saints

Sunday 10 a.m. \* Monday Prayer 7 p.m. \* Wednesday 7 p.m.

Pastors: Colleen Anderson and Maxey Evans

Glenda Tidwell - Praise & Worship

Linda Fortune - Youth Pastor

For Information Call (254) 725-6800 1-800-252-3629

### COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.

Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.

Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.

Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time.....7:00

Matt McGowen, Pastor (254) 643-3276

Church (254)725- 6266

Friendly Church Bible Teaching

### ROWDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy. 36 at Rowden - 12 Miles West of Cross Plains

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....11:00 A.M.

Pastor: Carl Mauldin

Come Worship With Us!

### NIMROD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sponser: Pioneer Baptist Church

Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.

Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.

Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

Bill Armstrong - Pastor

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AT ROWDEN

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES

STARTING AT 7:00 P.M.

STUDY TOPICS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS.

1. Is there really a God?
2. Is Genesis relevant today?
3. Did God create in 6 literal days?
4. Why is there death & suffering?
5. Do Animals Evolve?
6. Where did the "Races" come from?
7. What is the only answer to Racism?
8. Dinosaurs - in the Bible?
9. How can we raise Godly children?
10. Fossils & the flood - What's the connection.
11. How can we Evangelize?
12. A secular world - Part 1 & Part 2.

Rowden Baptist Church has a free book entitled "Refuting Evolution" for any student or teacher in the area who would like a copy. Call and we'll get one to you.

Pastor: Carl Mauldin

www.Twoacres@itexas.net 915-356-5491

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.rowdenbc.com

Connect to the Internet  
Call:  
Vanda or Amber  
725-6111  
Cross Plains Review

Cross Plains E. M. S. Still Need Your DONATIONS Towards a New Ambulance

The Living Word  
Sponsored By: Dean Brannan  
Proverbs 31:30,31 Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

Cross Plains Masonic Lodge No. 627  
Stated Meeting  
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
www.cross-plains.tx-mm.org  
www.gltexas.org  
Sec. (254) 725-7530

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
3rd & Main Cross Plains (254) 725-7629  
Sunday, May 19  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service  
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Service  
Ronnie White - Pastor  
Kevin & Kim Cassidy - Youth Frank O'Banion - Music  
Welcome!

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Van Service Available - Call (254) 725-7694  
N. Main (Hwy. 206)  
Cross Plains, Texas  
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  
Worship - 10:45 a.m.  
Rev. C. Michael Redd, Pastor  
Sunday's Sermon



# C.P. STUDENT REVIEW

## SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

The Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees met in a called meeting with the following members present:

Vicki Dillard, Susan Schaefer, Donnie Dillard, Scott Childress, Monty Richards and Tony Wyatt.

The following administrators and guests were in attendance: Superintendent Jackie Tennison.

They canvassed the school board election returns. Received 232 total votes and 42 absentee

votes: Bryan Bennett - 136; Monty Richards 116; D.T. Crockett, Jr. 94; and Larry Thomas 60.

Motion was made by V. Dillard and seconded by Wyatt that they advertise bids for a minimum 37 passenger diesel, automatic bus with or without air. For 6 Against 0

Scott Childress left the meeting early.

Motion was made by V. Dillard and seconded by Wyatt to adjourn. For 5 Against 0

## N.H.S. Walks for Worthy Benefit

Last week, most of you witnessed an amazing event! Students were walking down Main Street and along the Pioneer Highway during school.

Curious onlookers watched. Some of you stopped and offered us a ride.

No, it wasn't P.E. class. It was the National Honor Society's annual walk to help raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

In May, for the past several years, the National Honor Society members have raised money and braved the heat for this worthy cause. This is one of the chapter's primary service projects for the year. With your help and support, the students were able to raise about \$500 for this charity.

We appreciate your support. Even though we didn't actually walk to Pioneer, we made it to the county line and then back to town. If you know of a need or on-going project in our community that these students can help with, please contact Melissa Wooten at the school. These students are an energetic group and need your help to be active in service and volunteerism to help meet the needs of our community.

"Thank you" to all the parents and community members who donated to this service project.

Submitted by Melissa Wooten Chapter Adviser



4-H'ERS GARNER AWARDS—Callahan County 4-H members who won awards in the District 7 4-H Roundup held at Angelo

State University on May 4 include: Starla Schaefer, Tracey Ben Schaefer, Jarrod Hamilton, Shelby Randolph and Weston

Hamilton. Back row left to right include: Starla Schaefer, Tracey Randolph, Ashlie Green and Rebecca Hamilton.

## SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cross Plains I.S.D. will be held on May 15, beginning at 8 p.m. in the high school administrative board room. The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as follows:

- Prayer
- Swear in new board members
- School Board re-organization and update signature cards
- Minutes
- Open forum
- Principal's report of District TAAS scores
- Discuss/act on Workers Compensation Renewal for 2002-2003

- Discuss/act on contract with Big Country Library Media Co-op for Library Consultant for 2002-2003

- Discuss/take action on removal of existing floor from new gym
- Executive Session

- Personnel
  - Accept resignations
  - Discuss/take action on extra days for Technology Director

- Review Bills/Financial reports
- Adjourn.

This notice was posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act on May 10, 2002 at 10 a.m. by Jackie Tennison for the Board of Trustees.

**May 24th**  
**Last Day to Order 2002 Annuals**  
**\$30.00 each**  
 Payment must accompany annual order. See Lurene in High School or Peggy in Elementary.  
**NO EXTRAS WILL BE ORDERED!**  
 So be sure to get yours now.

**SCHOOL MENU**

May 20- May 24

<b>BREAKFAST</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
MONDAY--Oatmeal, Toast, Assorted Juice	MONDAY--Burrito w/Chili & Cheese, Corn, Crackers, Mixed Fruit
TUESDAY--Waffle, Peanut Butter Syrup, Assorted Juice	TUESDAY- Salisbury Steak w/Brown Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Rolls, Honey
WEDNESDAY--Eggs, Bacon, Toast, Assorted Juice	WEDNESDAY-- Fiesta Salad (Chili Beans, Corn Chips, Cheese,) Rice, Salad, Pineapples
THURSDAY-- Cereal, Toast, Assorted Juice	THURSDAY--B-B-Q Weiners, Cheesy Potatoes, Slice Bread, Peach Cups
FRIDAY-- Donuts Assorted Juice	FRIDAY--Sandwich, Chips, Salad, Pickles, Cookie

## Students Visit Museum in Dallas

On Wednesday, students from the eighth grade class traveled to Dallas to visit The Science Place, a museum dedicated to the enjoyment and hands-on experimentation of science concepts.

The students spent the day enjoying hands-on science exhibits and then attended two science programs linked to their current studies of matter and energy.

The day was complete with dinner at the Golden Corral in Fort Worth.

Thank you parents for donating snacks and soft drinks for the trip. It was a great trip enjoyed by all.

Submitted by Melissa Wooten

## Buff Baseball Update Told

The Buffs played two practice games last week--losing to Rotan 18-16 and defeating Evant 16-4.

In the first game, Rotan used 8 hits, 3 errors, 2 base on balls to score 11 runs in the 1st inning.

Cross Plains then scored 2 runs on 2 base on balls and an error to score 2 runs.

Rotan scored 0 points in the 2nd inning, but the Buffs scored 6 runs. Purvis singled, Ross and Beggs walked to load the bases. Hopkins singled to drive in 2, Dillard then singled to drive in 1, then Butler walked. Dickson tripled to drive in 3. The score was Rotan 11 Cross Plains 8.

In the 3rd inning Rotan scored 0 and the Buffs 2. Koenig doubled, Ross singled to drive in Bennett who was pinch running for Koenig. Then Beggs hit a sac fly to score Ross.

Rotan then scored 3 in the 4th on 2 errors and 2 base hits. Cross Plains scored 0 in the 4th bringing the score to Rotan 14 Cross Plains 10.

In the 5th Rotan scored 1 while Cross Plains scored 2. Beggs walked, Hopkins was hit and Dillard then tripled to drive in 2. The score was Rotan 15 Cross Plains 12.

In the 6th the Buffs scored 0 and Rotan scored 3 on 2 base on balls, 1 hit batter and 2 doubles. Rotan 13 C.P. 12

In their last at bat Cross Plains scored 4 on singles by Hopkins, Dillard and Byrd; a double by

Wilson; and a triple by Duran making the final score Rotan 18 Cross Plains 16.

In the 2nd practice game, Cross Plains scored 7 in the 1st. Beggs singled; Hopkins waked; Wilson singled to drive in the first run. Then Hopkins scored on an error. Butler then drove in the third run. Purvis walked and Koenig walked to drive in a run. Beggs then singled in two runs and scored on an error.

Evant scored 4 on three singles- 3 base on balls and a hit batter. The score was Cross Plains 7 Evant 4.

Neither Cross Plains or Evant scored in the 3rd inning. The Buffs scored 2 in the 4th. After 2 outs, Wilson walked, Dillard reached on an error, then they stole 3rd and 2nd and scored on a single by Butler. The score was

C.P. 9 Evant 4.

Evant and Cross Plains scored 0 in the 5th. In the 6th the Buffs scored 1--Hopkins walked, Wilson singled to put Hopkins on 3rd, then scored on an overthrow to 1st.

In the 7th but Cross Plains scored 6. Duran walked, Rogers singled and put Duran on 3rd. Beggs hit a sac fly to score Duran. Hopkins and Williams walked to load the bases. Dillard drove in 2 with a single and Butler walked. Then Dickson hit a single to drive in 2 and one scored on an error.

Evant scored 2 in the 7th. Casey Pack picked up the in, going 7 innings, gave up 7 hits, 7 walks and 9 strike outs. The Buffs next game is the Bi-District Playoffs in Stephenville against Gordon on Friday, May 17, at 7 p.m.

Submitted by Coach Mitchell Atchley

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**CROSS PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS CHECK OVER KEY CHAINS AND T-SHIRTS**—Brenda Mitchell (right), brought these items to the school for the graduating seniors. A key chain will be given to each graduating senior while the t-shirts will be used as door prizes during Project Celebration 2002. These tokens, which display the slogan "Zilch, Zero, None, Nada, Celebrate Sober" are reminders to the students to remain drug and alcohol-free around prom and graduation time. The students are Sarah Nixon (from left) and Angela Swift. Mitchell is the traffic safety coordinator for the Texas Department of Transportation's Abilene district. TxDOT is also providing a mini-grant of \$350 to support Cross Plains Project Celebration 2002. (TxDOT photo by Mary Beth Kilgore)

## C.P.H.S. Receives TxDOT Grant/Gifts for Project Graduation

ABILENE, TX.— Cross Plains High School continues to be a recipient of a mini-grant provided by the Texas Department of Transportation for their graduation activities. Called Project Celebration, TxDOT is again providing 29 high schools in the Abilene district a \$350 mini-grant each for Project Celebration 2002. Other Callahan County high schools participating in this program are Baird, Clyde and Eula.

"I am thrilled TxDOT continues to support graduation activities across Texas," Brenda Mitchell, Abilene district traffic safety coordinator, said.

"It's important that we do our part to help communities provide graduating students a safe and

sober occasion they can treasure for a life time," Mitchell said. "Being a parent myself, I can appreciate the importance of knowing the seniors are being offered all-night parties where they and their friends have the opportunity to have a wonderful and memorable night while avoiding the temptations they and their friends face this time of year."

Mitchell also visited each high school and presented the Project Celebration chairperson key chains for each of the graduates who attend their high school event. These mementos bare the slogan, *Zilch, Zero, None, Nada, Celebrate Sober*. T-shirts displaying the same slogan were also donated as door prizes.

These graduation souvenirs are

designed to be a reminder to the students to remain drug and alcohol-free around prom and graduation time, Mitchell said.

Transportation officials report that this program, which began in 1984 with only two schools, is one of TxDOT's most popular and well-received projects offered throughout the state.

According to Mitchell, these mini-grants are not intended to fully fund a Project Celebration event, but to provide seed money for schools to start and support alcohol and drug-free parties for high school students. The funds are to be used to cover expenses such as printing, materials, postage, supplies, room rentals, and the like.

## Abilene Quilt Show Set for June 1-2

The Abilene Quilters Guild invites you to the 7th annual Stars Over Abilene Quilt Show at the Abilene Civic Center, 1100 N. Sixth, on Saturday, June 1 and Sunday June 2. You are invited to view the quilts on display, watch demonstrations and shop with the vendors as your listen for your name to be called as a door prize winner. There will be a snack bar available.

The Post Office has created a commemorative cancellation stamp to honor the quilt show for this year. The Post Office will have a booth at the show on Saturday, June 1, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. where envelopes may be stamped with this hand stamp. The Amish Quilt Stamps and envelopes will also be available so you can create a unique souvenir of the show. This may be one of the last chances to purchase these stamps as they will not be reissued when postal rates change.

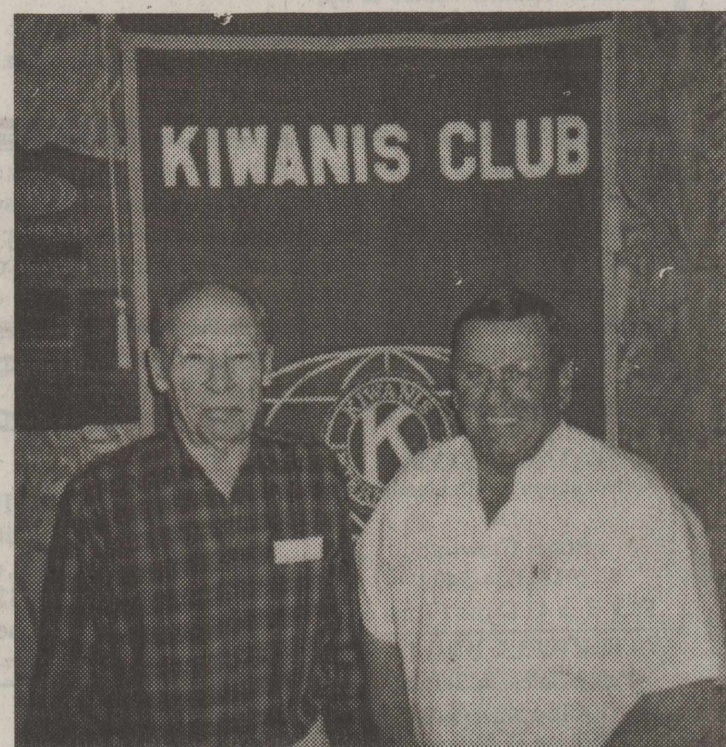
The drawing for the Show Quilt, Random Stars, will be on Sunday afternoon. This lovely creation of blue and white stars will be on display, and tickets to select the owner of the quilt will be sold for \$1 each. Profits from the Show Quilts will be donated for breast cancer research.

Quilters from throughout the Big Country have been invited to enter their quilts for display along the quilts from among the 127 Abilene Quilt Guild members. This is a non-juried show, but ribbons will be given for viewers choice.

The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, June 1, and from 12 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 2nd. Admission is \$4.00 a day or \$6.00 for both days. Senior citizens are eligible for a \$1.00 discount.

The Abilene Quilters Guild meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Wylie Methodist Church, 3130 Antilley Road. Visitors are welcome. We will begin a new year exciting programs, interesting projects, community service projects and delightful fellowship together on July 8.

Additional information is available from Marilyn Sallinger (915-676-9859) e-mail mas\_quilter@hotmail.com or Anne Coffey (915-675-0378)



**GUEST SPEAKER AT KIWANIS**—Scott Odom, the Executive County Director for the Farm Service Agency in Callahan County (right), was the special speaker on May 14 at the Kiwanis meeting. He spoke about the farm programs in general. Odom was the guest of Carl Edington. The Kiwanis Club meets each Tuesday at noon Jean's Feed Barn.

## Farm bill interpretation program schedule told

SAN ANGELO - The long-awaited farm bill has cleared the House and Senate conference committee and specific details can now be examined. Texas Cooperative Extension has scheduled a "Farm Bill Interpretation Program" at 9 am May 17 in the Texas A&M University San Angelo Research and Extension Center's auditorium to help producers and ag lenders better understand the ramifications of the new farm bill.

"Basically, what we've done over the last several months is speculate on what the new farm bill would contain and what the many changes would mean to producers," said Dr. Jason Johnson, District 7 Extension economist. "Now we have the details of the bill in place. We've designed this program specifically to help producers and lenders understand the effects of the farm bill on the agricultural economic climate of West Texas and what specific actions producers need to take in order to take full advantage of the farm policy provisions."

Johnson said Dr. Joe Outlaw will conduct the program. Outlaw is an Extension economist with the Agricultural Food and Policy Center at Texas A&M University, College Station. Outlaw has been monitoring the farm bill debate and has been assigned responsibility for coordinating the farm bill educational program for producers.

The program will start with a general overview of the farm bill and its program and crop commodity changes. The overview will be followed by an

explanation of the target prices, loan rates, fixed payment rates, counter-cyclical program, base and yield updating and payment limits.

"We'll also talk about the farm bill's considerable conservation-related program changes and what producers need to do to speed up the processes associated with these changes," said Johnson.

For further information contact Dr. Jason Johnson, Extension economist at San Angelo, at (915) 653-4576.

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## UNEMPLOYMENT

Callahan County Unemployment	Mar.	Apr.
Unemployment	3.5%	3.3%
Total Labor Force	6,483	6,767
Total Employed	6,253	6,547
Total Unemployed	230	220

## Unemployment rate falls in County to 3.3%

The unemployment rate in Callahan County for the month of April 2002 fell to 3.3% from March's 3.5%, according to jobless figures released Monday, May 6 by the Texas Workforce Commission.

Of the 6,767 civilian labor force in Callahan County, 6,547 were employed during April 2002, and 220 were unemployed, giving the county an unemployment rate of 3.3%. The county's unemployment rate one year ago in March 2001 was 3.7%.

Callahan County's unemployment rate was 3.5% in March 2001. Of the 6,483 civilian labor force in the county during March, 6,253 had jobs while 230 or 3.5% were unemployed.

Previous monthly jobless rates in Callahan County included: 3.8% in February 2002, 3.8% in January 2002, 3.3% in December 2001, 3.6% in November, 3.6% in October, 3.8% in September, 3.9% in August, 4.1% in July, 4.8% in June, 3.8% in May, 3.5% in April, according to the unemployment figures.

Big Country area counties, bordering Callahan County, and those counties' unemployment rates for April 2002 include: Brown, 4.6%; Coleman, 8.1%; Eastland, 3.7%; Jones, 3.1%; Runnels, 3.0%; Shackelford, 3.2%; Stephens, 5.8%; and Taylor County, 3.8%.

The Texas actual series unemployment rate dropped by two-tenths of a percentage point to 5.6 percent from February's rate of 5.8 percent. The rate has not been this high for March since 1996 when it stood at 5.7 percent. The current unemployment rate is 1.4 percentage points higher than last March's rate of 4.2 percent. First quarter 2002's average unemployment rate was 5.8 percent—the highest three-month moving average since August of 1997 when it was 5.8 percent. The United States unemployment rate stabilized at 6.1 percent in March. This is the sixth consecutive month that the state rate has been at or lower than the national rate.

The unemployment rate in Texas for April 2002 was 5.6%, down two-tenths of one percentage point from February 2002.

Of the 10,575,700 civilian labor force in the state, total employment was 9,980,900 in April. The total number of unemployed in April 2002 was 594,800.

The United States unemployment rate was 6.1% in April 2002. The nation's unemployment rate for the previous month of March 2002 was 6.1%. The United States unemployment rate one year ago in April 2001 was 4.6%.

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Shane Austin Sharpe  
Billy Wagner  
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Jennifer Goble  
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**MAY 19**  
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Audrey (Sabatis) Skiles  
Mrs. Elgene Linscott  
Ray Liles  
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Valerie Chamber  
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Sally Whitely  
Keith Lawrence  
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Benji Wagner  
Becky Ford  
Mrs. Robbie D. Stephens  
Tim Mosley

**MAY 22**  
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Harvey Koenig

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## DPS and local law enforcement to crackdown on drivers who fail to buckle up

AUSTIN—Police called it a "miracle of safety technology" that 17-year-old Lindsay Canright of Austin is alive today after a devastating car crash.

About a year ago, after school had let out for the summer, Lindsay was driving down the freeway with two of her best friends in the car. Out of nowhere an SUV swerved in front of her. She turned the wheel sharply to avoid hitting it and consequently spun off the road and crashed.

The front and rear windshields of her car were smashed. The car was totaled. But because everyone in the car was buckled up, the only injuries Lindsay or her friends sustained were minor bruises from the airbags deploying.

Unfortunately, serious car crashes like Lindsay's are all too common in Texas. In fact, the Lone Star State leads the nation in traffic fatalities. That's TxDOT and the Texas Department of Public Safety this week launched a special statewide safety belt public education and enforcement campaign called "Click It or Ticket."

From May 20 through June 2, DPS and local law enforcement officers will participate in a statewide crackdown on drivers and passengers who fail to buckle up or buckle up children.

Reminders carrying the "Click It or Ticket" message will be delivered via television and radio announcements and on billboards around the state during May.

This week during a news conference held at the state Capitol to help launch the "Click It or Ticket" campaign, Lindsay

summed up her experience: "The simple, easy task of buckling a safety belt saved my life and the lives of my two best friends."

"When safety belt use in Texas reaches 85 percent, we estimate that each year 241 lives will be saved and 5,275 nonfatal injuries will be prevented," said Dr. Jeffrey Runge, administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). "The state could also save an estimated \$392 million dollars in associated societal costs."

Transportation officials hope to increase the safety belt usage rate by nine percent, raising it from 76 percent to 85 percent. State law requires drivers and front seat passengers to wear seat belts. Children under 17 years old sitting in the front or back seat of a vehicle must be secured with a seat belt or in a child safety seat.

"If the possibility of protecting yourself in a crash isn't enough, law enforcement will give you another reason to buckle up: a citation that can cost you from \$25 to \$200, plus court costs," said DPS Lt. Colonel Frankie Waller. "As Texans plan for their Memorial Day holiday, they need to remember that not buckling up can cost them, whether it's a fine, a serious injury or worse." The "Click It or Ticket" campaign is a cooperative project supported by the Texas Department of Health, the Texas Department of Insurance, the Texas Municipal Police Association, the Texas Police Chiefs Association, hundreds of law enforcement agencies and scores of community organizations across Texas.

## Texas Civil War monument dedicated in Mississippi

RAYMOND, Miss. - The Texas Historical Commission (THC) dedicated a monument to Texas soldiers who fought in the Civil War battle of Raymond, Mississippi at a May 4 ceremony in that community. The monument commemorates 7th Texas Infantry soldiers who participated in the May 12, 1863 battle of Raymond under Col. Hiram B. Granbury. The battle was part of the Union army's larger efforts to capture the strategic port city of Vicksburg on the Mississippi River, where the THC rededicated a restored monument to Texas soldiers in 2001. The battle of Raymond, in which 22 Texans died, 73 were wounded and an additional 63 were missing in action, is considered a precursor to the siege of Vicksburg. "The battle of Raymond is a fine example of the courage and determination exhibited by Texas troops under fire," said THC Executive Director Larry Oaks.

The eight-foot high Civil War monument constructed of Texas "Sunset Red" granite was erected through donations and assistance from Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc., the Austin Civil War Round Table, the Society of the Order of the Southern Cross and other supporters. The State of Texas has erected Texas Civil War monuments at 14 sites in Texas, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Tennessee.

The Texas Historical Commission is the state agency for historic preservation. The agency administers a variety of programs to preserve the archeological, historical and cultural resources of Texas.

## Annual meeting of the Belle Plaine Cemetery Association May 27

The Belle Plaine Cemetery Association will hold its annual business meeting on Monday, May 27th. Arrive by 10:30 a.m. to ensure convenient parking.

The Association will place a flag on the grave of known veterans; however, we may miss some. Flags will be available at the sign in table if you wish to place one prior to the ceremony. Please let an officer know of any veterans buried in unmarked graves.

The ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. with the traditional fly over by the Big Country Squadron of the CAF based at Elmdale Airpark. The Dyess Air Force Base Color Guard will assist in the flag raising ceremonies.

Chaplain Bill Libby (Col. USA Retired) is our guest speaker this year. Bill lives about two miles south of Belle Plaine and currently teaches the Old Testament and Cross Country Track at McMurry University. His speech will center on the Belle Plaine community and the importance of remembering the past.

A potluck dinner will follow the business meeting. Everyone should bring a covered dish to compliment the meat and drinks provided by the Association.

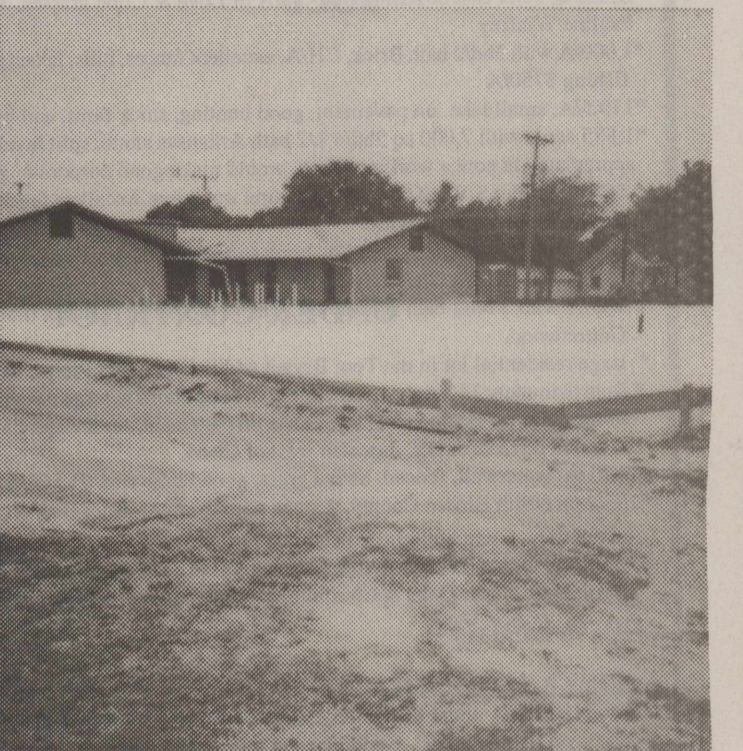
Please mark down May 27 on your calendar. We look forward to seeing you!

Submitted by  
Ginny Roden, Secretary

## Works in Progress



NEW PARK BESIDE CITY HALL—The cement work on the fountain and gazebo have been completed. A paved stone wall adds charm to scenery, along with the street lamps. Watch to see what is added each week.



FAMILY LIFE CENTER CONSTRUCTION — First Baptist Church has laid the foundation for their building project.

## Texans urged to learn more about protecting and conserving water

TEMPLE, Texas—Many Texans are realizing the importance of conserving water as our population grows and demand increases during the sweltering Texas summer.

Governor Rick Perry and the Texas Water Foundation have declared the month of May as "Water Month" in Texas. During the month of May, Texans are urged to learn more about making a difference through protecting and conserving water.

Governor Perry said that he had "designated the month of May for an awareness campaign to remind Texans that the responsibility lies within each of us to be wise stewards of our water resources."

One agency active in water conservation and preservation in Texas is the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) headquartered in Temple. The TSSWCB promotes wise and productive use of the state's soil and water resources through cooperation with soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs), landowners, and state legislature.

There are 216 SWCDs in Texas, and each is governed by a five-member board of directors elected by landowners in the district. Each SWCD is designed to deliver local conservation programs that best conserve and promotes the wise use of renewable natural resources.

Not only does the TSSWCB coordinate programs with SWCDs by providing technical and financial assistance to improve soil and water quality, they are also responsible for implementing constitutional provisions and state laws for the protection of soil and water resources.

The TSSWCB has implemented several programs to aid in water conservation and preservation in Texas. The Water

Quality Management Plan Program (WQMP) assists agricultural and silvicultural producers to comply with the state water quality rules and regulations.

The State Brush Control Program develops and implements resource management plans to increase the available supply of water in areas impacted by brush.

The Statewide Management Program assists in the protection of water quality from nonpoint source pollution and administers funds from the Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant Program.

The Total Maximum Daily Load Program works closely with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), local SWCDs and other entities to identify water bodies that do not meet state water quality standards for their use and then decide the maximum amount of pollutants that the body of water can receive on a daily basis without seriously harming its beneficial uses.

Lastly, the Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program works closely with the Coastal Coordination Council to develop a federally approvable program to provide for the implementation of best management practices to control coastal pollution from an unidentifiable source.

The TSSWCB is dedicated in its work to preserve renewable natural resources in Texas. During Water Month this May, the TSSWCB urges everyone to conserve today what we will need tomorrow.

For more information about programs or water conservation in your area, contact your local soil and water conservation district, the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board at 254-773-2250 or visit their website at

[www.tsswcb.state.tx.us](http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us).

## Pickett's Guide to Big Country Golf on Sale

Shady Oaks Golf Course, located between Baird and Clyde, and Rolling Oaks Golf Club near Rising Star are featured in a new book that offers golfers a directory with needed information about Big Country golf courses—plus coupons for free green fees.

Al Pickett, former sports editor of the *Abilene Reporter News*, has published the *Guide to Big Country Golf*, which has addresses, directions, phone numbers, scorecards, green fee and cart rental prices and other interesting facts about 26 Big Country golf courses.

Each course also has a coupon in the book, good for a free green fee. The book includes coupons worth \$400 in free green fees. Participating golf courses include Fairway Oaks Country Club, Diamondback Golf Club, Willow Creek Golf Center and Maxwell Municipal Golf Course in Abilene; Quicksand Golf Course in San Angelo; and Tangle Oaks Golf Club in Hawley. Eighteen other courses in Anson, Albany, Breckenridge, Cisco, Eastland, Lake Leon, Comanche, Brownwood, Lake Brownwood, Blanket, Winters, Coleman, Colorado City, Haskell, Hamlin, Stamford, Sweetwater, and Lake Sweetwater are also included in the publication.

The book sells for \$35, including tax. It is currently on sale at the Shady Oaks pro shop, at Golf Etc. in the Crossroads Shopping Center in Abilene and a Cypress Street Station and the Abilene Convention and Visitors Center in downtown Abilene. It is also on sale at pro shops at Fairway Oaks Country Club, Diamondback Gold Club and Willow Creek Golf Center in Abilene; Sweetwater Country Club; Tangle Oaks Golf Club in Hawley; Bell's Western Auto in Hamlin; KVRP Radio in Haskell; Feather Bay Golf Resort at Lake Brownwood; Brownwood Country Club and Shady Creek Golf Course in Blanket. It will

also be on sale soon at other Big Country locations.

To order a book, call Al Pickett at (195) 691-5474.

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# COUNTY ROADS by Ginny Greene

## Wind driven.

It's like a living thing this morning, the wind. Cold came with it, somehow overwhelming the heat. In a few short hours the wind subdued temperatures in the mid-90s to a chilly 48 degrees, and left summer whimpering, "Uncle."

So many winds live here in West Texas - winds I never knew in Seattle. These winds have no names that I know of. A wind that brings cold into battle with hot, dry desert winds, and wins, should have a name.

Wind names are monsoon and typhoon and Santa Ana. There are gales and hurricanes, and breezes like gusty and zephyr. Somewhere in the world is a wind with the beautiful, deceptive name, Mariah.

But that's not enough. The North Pole populations list something like 31 names for snow, because they have a lot of snow. There's enough wind in West Texas for at least 31 descriptions.

A rare wind came by the other day. It passes by at least once a summer close to a spot I'm standing.

This wind is a wind among winds. It wears a skin - a strong, tightly knit wind skin to keep it from dissipating into the general winds. It has a nucleus, a tail, a body that propels it on airborne feet.

This wind needs to have a name. The name should tell how it barges across the land, a rude interloper, a wind devoid of

manners. It is a loud, brash, show-off wind, unmindful of its path, intimidating livestock and shoving trees sideways.

The name must tell of its voice, for it has a bellowing howl that runs with it. It's a voice that sounds like a motor wound up to top speed.

This wind comes on fast and barrels across our property, racing some unseen timekeeper. One summer, this strange wind charged through a stillness. Other years, it challenged a wider, bigger wind. Its small but wiry size lets it dodge and ram and punch its way past, the whole time yelling at the top of its raspy bass.

I heard it coming the other day. I heard its voice - that warning, swelling, raging voice that announces its coming and leads it off into the distance.

I stood mesmerized, watching its invisible passing as if it were a train going by. It leaped our boundary trees, cascaded into the field, rushed headlong across the pasture, leaned up hard against the fence. At the break in the roadside trees, it made its wild escape through the driveway. I could hear it roaring across the road into the neighboring field.

This wind has such a presence. In a way, it is like the water in a stream plummeting down a mountainside, crashing over cliffs, and surging over rocks. A wind like this must have a name.

© Ginny Greene 2002  
Write to Ginny at  
Rosegreen@aol.com

## Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Weiss Celebrating Golden Wedding Anniversary Saturday

The children and grandchildren of Edwin and Betty Weiss cordially invite you to attend a reception honoring them on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The celebration will take place on May 18th at the Cross Plains Community Center from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The Weiss' were married in

Coleman, Texas on May 18, 1952. They have lived and worked in the Cross Plains area most of their married lives and have many good friends and memories here.

Please come and help celebrate with them. Your presence will be a cherished gift to the couple.

## SBA approve Gov. Perry's request for Shackelford County aid

AUSTIN—Gov. Rick Perry announced today that the Small Business Administration (SBA) has granted his request to declare Shackelford County—along with the contiguous counties of Callahan, Eastland, Haskell, Jones, Stephens, Taylor and Throckmorton—a disaster area following severe rain, flash flooding and hail that occurred April 25.

The governor formally requested assistance from the SBA on May 3, following damage assessments showing that homes and businesses in the county had suffered an uninsured or underinsured loss of more than 40 percent. The Governor's Division of Emergency Management conducted damage surveys of the area and based the aid requests on those surveys.

"SBA assistance means the people of Albany and Shackelford County can begin the rebuilding process following this devastating storm," Perry said. "With this disaster declaration, assistance from SBA will now be

available in the form of long-term, low interest loans to citizens of eight West Texas counties."

Perry noted that citizens in those specific counties will be eligible to apply for physical damage home loans. Affected businesses will be eligible to apply for both physical damage business loans and economic injury business loans. These fixed-rate loans enable disaster victims to repair or replace property that was damaged or destroyed in declared disasters.

To apply for loans, contact the SBA toll-free at (800) 366-6303 or TDD at (817) 267-4688 for the hearing impaired. Applications can also be obtained from the U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Area 3 Office, 4400 Amon Carter Blvd., Suite 102, Fort Worth, Texas 76155.

Applications for physical damage can be filed with the SBA until the close of business on July 8, 2002. Economic injury loan applications can be filed with the SBA until the close of business on February 10, 2003.

## Payne Inducted Into Tarleton's Alpha Chi

STEPHENVILLE, TX.—Jodi Payne, a Tarleton State University student from Cross Plains, was inducted into Tarleton's Texas Alpha Kappa Chapter of Alpha Chi, the national collegiate honor society.

Payne is a graduate of Cross Plains High School and the daughter of Bobby and Cindy Payne. She is majoring in Computer Information Systems at the University.

There were 66 Tarleton students inducted into Alpha Chi during the spring 2002 semester.

Membership in Alpha Chi is limited to members of the junior and senior classes who excel academically. Grade point averages must be 3.60 or better. The objectives of the honor society are to promote and to recognize superior scholarship and those elements of character that make for effective service.

Originally called "Scholarship Societies of Texas", Alpha Chi was founded in 1922 at Southwestern University in Georgetown. There are now more than 300 chapters in 45 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Alpha Chi represents the highest academic honor on any member campus and since its inception, over 255,000 students have been inducted.

The Texas Alpha Kappa Chapter at Tarleton was established in the fall of 1968. There are seven regions across the country and Tarleton's chapter is a member of Region I which includes parts of Texas and New Mexico.

## Cisco Junior College Wrangler Belle Auditions

Auditions for the Cisco Junior College Wrangler Belles are scheduled for Saturday, May 18, at 2 p.m. in the CJC gymnasium. Students who are accepted into the group are recipients of activity grants that range from \$1200 to \$1600 per year.

Any young woman who would like to audition for the team should contact Debbie Baker at Cisco Junior College (254) 442-2567, ext. 140 to confirm an appointment for the audition. Young ladies who are unable to attend this audition should make arrangements with the director to audition later in the summer.

We Have Garage Sale Kits to help you with your Garage Sale.

## Federal Land Bank Annual Stockholders Meeting Set

The Federal Land Bank Association of Texas recently held area stockholder meetings in Brownwood, Coleman, Haskell and San Angelo. Voting Stockholders of the Association re-elected three directors to serve three-year terms.

They were Chris West of Baird, Clayton Lavon Beakley of Rule and Randall W. Lloyd of Blackwell. Also serving on the board are Donald Johnson, Andrew Lange, Jerry Richardson, Milton "Macky" Spurgin, Leroy Williams and Bruce Williams. Also elected to the 2003 Association Nominating Committee were Thomas L. Petross, Gregory Gerngross, Billy Middlebrook and Paul Jansa.

James Isenhower, CEO, informed the local stockholders of the association's financial condition as well as the recent patronage distribution of \$600,000 returned to its customers. In the past 4 years the association has returned over \$4,000,000 to borrowers in the form of patronage refunds.

The Federal Land Bank Association of Texas consists of

10 -Cross Plains Review May 16, 2002

## Beggs-Moses Wedding Saturday, May 18th

Mr. and Mrs. Rex Beggs of Cross Plains invite you to share a day of happiness as their daughter, Ashley Diane, and Gary Wayne Moses begin a life of love. The couple will be united in

marriage on Saturday, May 18, at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 301 North Main Street, Cross Plains.

Friends and family are cordially invited to attend.

## Callahan County Is New Member of Information Resource Agency

On May 13, 2002 County Commissioners Court executed an interlocal agreement to become a member of the County Information Resources Agency (CIRA).

Until recently, each county has been on their own when it comes to technology and information resources with no centralized coordination or planning on the state level.

Acting as a central technology information resource for county government, CIRA will work to coordinate with state agencies in the planning and deployment of new programs involving the use of technology.

CIRA was a result of recommendations from the Texas Association of Counties' E-County Task Force after more than a year of studying and discussing technology issues facing counties. The Task Force is made up of representatives of each of the county officials' organizations, county information technology employees, representatives from various state agencies and staff from the Texas Association of Counties and its technical consultants.

"This is a proactive step in getting Callahan County the resources it needs to expand on-

line services to our constituents," said Stan Reid, Director, County Information Resources Agency. "It is also a way for county governments to work together to take advantage of new technologies that have quickly become a commonplace part of our everyday lives."

CIRA long range objectives (dependent on funding) also include:

- hosting county web pages and citizen to government applications that interface with the state portal -- Texas Online.
- providing on-line services and applications such as financial accounting and reporting systems and
- building a "virtual county network" that ties all of the counties together allowing them to securely exchange data and information among each other and with the state

The County Information Resources Agency is an interlocal governmental entity created under the provisions of the Interlocal Cooperation Act and supported by the Texas Association of Counties. There is no cost for a county to be a member.

## Public Transportation Meeting Scheduled for Abilene May 16th

ABILENE, Texas — The Texas Department of Transportation has scheduled a meeting in Abilene to discuss public transportation services for elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

The meeting is set for Thursday, May 16, 2002, in the Abilene district's Training Center at 4250 N. Clack, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

All persons interested in public transportation needs in Borden, Callahan, Fisher, Haskell, Howard, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall and Taylor Counties are invited to attend.

For additional information, contact Debra K. Rector, Abilene district public transportation coordinator, at 915/676-6811.

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