

Have a Safe and Happy New Year!

Now in our
100th
year of
providing
the news of
Mitchell County.

Colorado City **Record**

Serving Mitchell County since 1905.

Colorado City
Loraine • Westbrook

Thursday.
January 1, 2004
Vol. 100 No. 1 Pub. No. 122800
50¢

Answerline

Q. When will the next UIL realignment be announced?
A. In February.

Briefly

Garcia Family Fund

Please help the city of Loraine collect items for Noah and Yolanda Garcia, who lost their home and all of their belongings in a house fire Sunday morning December 13. You may drop off any donations for the couple at Loraine City Hall, 111 S. Main in Loraine. For information call 737-2222 or 242-1674.

Project Celebration

There will be a Project Celebration meeting on Monday, January 5, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the High School Library. Seniors and parents need to mark your calendars for Project Celebration meetings have been scheduled for the first Monday of each month in the high school at 7 p.m.

Scholarship Fund

The Wildcat Booster Club Scholarship Fund and the Dakota Dawson Scholarship Fund are accepting donations for May 2004 graduation. For further information, please call Westbrook ISD at 325-644-2311.

Hospital Auxiliary

2003 Hospital Auxiliary Cookbooks are here, just in time for Christmas. Only \$9.75, the books contain recipes from your favorite nurses and staff members as well as auxiliary members. See them at the Hospital Gift Shop now.

New Years Eve Dance

The Menudo Cookoff Committee will be sponsoring a New Year's Eve Dance beginning at 8 p.m. Wednesday, December 31 at the Civic Center featuring music by "K'Lorr". Tickets are \$12 in advance and will be \$15 at the door. This price includes party favors, champagne, snacks and a \$50 drawing for a designated driver. For more info or for tickets call Mi Ranchito or Cold Spot at 728-5591 or 242-1827. All proceeds to benefit the Menudo Cookoff Committee.

Immunization Clinic

The Texas Department of Health will hold an Immunization Clinic Tuesday, January 6 from 10 am-12 noon and from 1:30-3 pm at the Wallace Center. Please bring child's immunization record to clinic. For more information call 325-754-4945.

Antique Association

The Antique Association will resume the regular scheduled meetings January 20. Happy holidays to all!

Deaths

**Gill, Ellis, Leslie,
Ramos**

Around Town

Happy birthday **Jerry Reynolds** (Jan. 4)... **Mathew Molina** (Jan. 2)... **Sam Rivera** (Jan. 1)... **Jonathan Blasingame** (Jan. 2)... **Marissa Reyna** (Jan. 5)... Happy 16th birthday **Henry Reyna Jr.** (Jan. 4)... Happy 84th birthday **Lee Woods** (Jan. 2)... Happy 29th anniversary **Dr. Dan and Leslie Scott** (Jan. 4)... Ask **Jessica Hernandez** how close she was to rap singer Nelly at the Bull's game... Ask **Brian Valenzuela** if he got to see snow for Christmas...

Lake Levels

Lake Colorado City.....2062.08'
Full at 2,070.30'
Down 8.22'
Lake Champion.....2034.60'
Full at 2,083'
Down 48.40'
Levels courtesy of the United States Geological Service, as of 5 p.m. Tuesday, December 30, 2003

City change halted 'cozy relationship'

Three months ago, the city government of Colorado City embarked on a new course.

Ted Willis, the new interim city manager at the time, charted a plan that was accepted by most city employees and most City Council members.

There were department heads who felt constrained by Willis' new directions because he was pushing those city officials to become stronger leaders, and even prove if there were

enough duties to warrant continuing certain city positions.

Three months ago, Willis' leadership and professionalism quashed the type of cozy relationship City Council members Sammy Contreras, Faye Ross and Bob McNeal cultivated with former City Manager Steve Shutt from the time they were elected to office until his retirement at the end of September.

Relatives of Contreras and

Ross were also hired as city employees after they were elected to the City Council.

Contreras' son is still employed in the city's sanitation-street department, while Ross' former son-in-law officially resigned his position with the water department but in actuality was "let go" from his job by Willis.

City Attorney Jeanie Fuller said the City Charter does not

See CITY, page 5

Livestock show gains entries

The Mitchell County show barn west of Colorado City is going to be bustling with activity Jan. 8-10 -- more than in past years.

The annual Mitchell County Junior Livestock Show has attracted more entries in three of the four categories scheduled compared to the 2003 show.

Sponsored by the Junior Livestock Association, the show is open to 4-H and FFA mem-

bers from Colorado City, Loraine and Westbrook.

The public is invited to attend.

John Senter, County Extension agent-agriculture, said the show begins at 5 p.m. Jan. 8 at the show barn with the weighing of all animals.

The steer show begins at 3 p.m. Jan. 9. The hog show starts 30 minutes after the completion of the steer show.

Activities Jan. 10 get under way at 8 a.m. with the goat show. The sheep show begins around 10, or at the close of the goat show.

Senter said refreshments will be served at 5 p.m. to buyers, prior to the start of the premium sale.

He said animals sold at the auction do not change possession, with the exhibitor retain-

See 4-H, page 3

Century of news covered by the Colorado Record

With the Jan. 1, 2004, edition, the *Colorado City Record* begins its 100th year of providing local news to Mitchell County residents.

The publication has been in operation since October 1905 when the *Record* was one of two weekly newspapers in the City of Colorado.

Mr. and Mrs. Kindred started the *Record* and sold it in January 1906 to F.B. and A.L. Whipkey -- two brothers who moved to West Texas from McLennan County.

They had published a newspaper there for 12 years.

In 1926, A.L. Whipkey sold his interest to W.W. Whipkey, his nephew, and son of F.B.

The younger Whipkey took full charge of the plant as owner and manager.

In the spring of 1952, Whipkey sold the *Record* to Joe Bell of Fort Worth and Roy Fox of San Saba.

Bell bought out Fox a year later and stepped in as editor and publisher from 1953 to the early 1970s.

Mac McKinnon of Colorado City bought the newspaper from Bell in August 1971 and worked with Bell until September 1972 when he took over its operation.

McKinnon sold the *Record* in November 1980 to Western Communications -- a San Angelo-based company that owned several rural newspapers in West Texas.

Earl Plagens purchased 10 percent of Western Communications and began work as publisher in May 1982.

In October 1985, he purchased the remaining 90 percent of the stock to assume complete ownership.

Plagens continues to publish the newspaper in 2004.

100th
year

Local option election set in Loraine

A local option election to legalize "the legal sale of beer and wine for off-premise consumption only" in Loraine is set for Feb. 7.

Mitchell County Commissioners Court called the election during its Dec. 8 meeting.

The election will be held for all municipal precincts within county Precinct 4 of the City of Loraine only from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Loraine Senior Citizens Building.

County Clerk Debby Carroll, who will serve as early voting clerk, said early voting starts Jan. 21 and continues through Feb. 3.

Early voting will be held at the Loraine Senior Citizens Building from 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. Jan. 21-23, Jan. 26-30 and Feb. 2.

Early voting hours Feb. 3 are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Applications for ballots by mail and ballots voted by mail should be sent to Debby Carroll, County Clerk, Early Voting Clerk, 349 Oak St., Room 103, Colorado City 79512.

During their Sept. 16, meeting, commissioners voted in favor of requiring the City of Loraine to reimburse the county for all of the expenses of holding the local option election.

The county will pay for the initial cost of holding the election in accordance with the Texas Alcohol Beverage Code.

The local option election is being held following the efforts of Loraine businessman Linton Ray Webb.

Webb turned in before the Nov. 7 deadline petitions carrying the necessary number of signatures required to have an election called.

County Voter Registry Faye Lee said Webb turned in petitions with more than the 64 signatures required.

Lee said she certified signatures of 80 registered voters, who live within the City of Loraine.

Lee said that anyone wanting to vote in the election must register to vote 30 days before the election.



COLORADO CITY RESIDENTS Joanna and Luis Salazar add Christmas trees to the pile at Kiwanis Park on 2nd Street as part of a communitywide effort to place the trees in Lake Colorado City to provide habitat for the fishery. The Salazars disposed of six trees left over from Fuller Foods' annual tree sale that also included donating trees to the Mitchell County 4-H Club, the Wallace and Ware prison units and several families. Trees can be left at the location until Tuesday, Jan. 6.

Christmas tree recycling program in full swing

Mitchell County residents have until Tuesday, Jan. 6, to take part in an effort to provide habitat for the Lake Colorado City fishery.

Keep Colorado City Beautiful, the Beautification Action Team and the Kiwanis Club are teaming up with Lake Colorado City State Park Superintendent Tracy Ferguson to help improve the ecosystem of the 1,600-acre lake.

KCCB president Chuck Fisher said live, cut Christmas trees (no artificial trees) are being collected to place into the lake to provide habitat for the fishery, including recently stocked red drum, catfish and bluegill fingerlings.

Fisher said residents can take the trees, minus all decorations, including tinsel, to the concrete slab in Kiwanis Park next to

See TREES, page 4

Water district focuses on future needs

"Water -- an evaporating resource. You don't want to be without it."

It's not an official slogan by any means, but the increasing demand for water in 2004, and in the future, is a constant concern for Texas residents.

For Mitchell County residents, directors of the Lone Wolf Groundwater Conservation District are working to en-

sure water needs, as well as water quality, are met in years ahead.

Directors have approved a 10-year water management plan, and at their December meeting, added two items to the plan at the request of the Texas Water Development Board.

Windi Fuller, the district's executive director, said directors approved adding a 50-year

water demand projection and a comparison of the 50-year water supply to the projected demand.

The Santa Rosa Aquifer provides groundwater for most residents in Mitchell County, with an area west of Loraine highly conducive to recharge.

"It showed that by the year 2040, we will exceed our supply of current ground and sur-

face water," Fuller said.

"Water is becoming as important, and as financially lucrative as the oil industry," she said.

Fuller said the district's water management plan addresses ways to help recharge the water supply, including brush control and using silver iodide to increase the chance of producing

See WATER, page 5

Rabies bait drops working statewide

A decade of feeding hungry coyotes and gray foxes in the dead of winter may not have kept these wild animals fat and happy, but it certainly has caused the incidence of canine and gray fox rabies to plummet.

In 1995, the Texas Department of Health (TDH) began the Oral Rabies Vaccination Program (ORVP). The plan

was to create zones of vaccinated coyotes and gray foxes to first stop the spread of the rabies virus and then eliminate canine and gray fox rabies.

Now, with stacks of favorable statistics at hand, TDH is again set to airdrop bait food filled with oral rabies vaccine over portions of South, Central and West Texas including Mitchell County.

In early January, about 2.7 million baits will drop from four specially-equipped airplanes flying across 47 counties. The first flight takes off Jan. 6, weather permitting, from the Zapata County Airport in South Texas. The second portion of the drop will begin about Jan. 15 from the Kimble County Airport in Junction, and the final phase

will fly from the Pecos County Airport in Fort Stockton beginning about Jan. 22.

TDH initiated the program in South Texas where canine rabies in coyotes and domestic dogs had reached epidemic proportions and threatened to invade San Antonio and other major population areas. The next year, an air drop began in

See RABIES, page 4

local news

Candidate list grows

A flurry of candidates in Mitchell County have filed for election in the March 9 primaries since Monday, Dec. 29.

The last day to file with the respective party chairmen for the Democratic and Republican primaries is Friday, Jan. 2.

The filing fee is \$750, or a petition can be filed in lieu of the filing fee.

Early voting begins Feb. 23.

It is also the deadline for independent candidates to file their declaration to run. They can file with County Judge Ray Mayo.

The county's Democratic and Republican parties' chairmen are among nine candidates to file for election since Monday.

GOP chair Jay McCollum filed Monday, Dec. 29, while Democratic chair Geory Martin filed Tuesday, Dec. 30.

Candidates filing for GOP precinct chairs are Frank Brownfield, 046; John W. Beckmeyer, 025; Leslie Scott,

Precinct 3; and D'Dee Morris, Precinct 2.

Three other candidates have filed for election to Mitchell County commissioners' positions, with one filing creating a contested race.

Mitchell County native George Hardegree filed Monday, Dec. 29, for Precinct 3 in the GOP primary, while Larry Johnson's filing Tuesday, Dec. 30, created a contested race for the Precinct 3 job.

Incumbent Precinct 3 Commissioner Wendy Inman filed for re-election to a third term Dec. 4, but he has drawn opposition in the Democratic primary from Harrell Crawford, who filed Dec. 3.

Jimmy Ray "Jug" Rees created a three-way race for the Precinct 1 job when he filed for the Democratic primary on Tuesday, Dec. 30.

Larry Don Watlington filed Dec. 3, while Brooks Wallis filed Dec. 5.

Incumbent Precinct 1 Commissioner Ed Roach said he will not seek re-election in 2004.

Roach said he plans to retire after his term expires next year, giving him 20 years as a county commissioner.

Several other incumbents have filed for re-election.

Tom Rees Sr. is seeking re-election as Mitchell County attorney. He filed Tuesday, Dec. 16, for the Democratic primary.

Rees is seeking his first full term as county attorney.

County commissioners appointed Rees to fill the unexpired term of Mark Piland, and he was elected to the position in November 2002.

Mitchell County Sheriff Patrick Toombs and Tax Assessor Collector Faye Lee have both filed for re-election in the Democratic primary.

Also scheduled to be on the ballot is the constable's position for Precincts 2 and 3.

Tom Scott is the current constable for those precincts.



COLORADO CITY RESIDENT Mary Smith, right, donated her collection of photographs and stories to The Heart of West Texas Museum that museum executive director Beth Purcell, center, and board member Bobbie Banks said will provide insight to African-American culture in Mitchell County and more information about the city's history.

Collection provides insight to African-American culture

Mary Smith's priceless donation to The Heart of West Texas Museum fills in another vital piece of learning more about Colorado City's history.

A lifelong resident of the city, Smith's contribution of her collection of photographs and stories is expected to open the door to the museum receiving more items providing insight to the African-American and Hispanic cultures in Mitchell County.

Smith's collection includes photos of the Payne Chapel C.M.E. Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, and community leaders like the Rev. C.C. Beck, pastor of Mount Zion, and the Rev. Robert Bracy, pastor of St. James Baptist Church.

The photos and stories were dated from the 1940s and 1950s.

Beth Purcell, the museum's executive director, said the collection "helps us show a more comprehensive history in Colorado City, and a more correct history of Colorado City."

Purcell said the museum has been requesting photos and documents from county residents reflecting the African-American and Hispanic cultures.

She said the collection will help with special projects such as the one board member Bobbie Banks plans to prepare for the Wallace School reunion.

Banks, who resided in Colorado City from 1950 to 1963, said the collection "shows the closeness of the African-American community back then."

"We were all located in one concentrated area during the

time of segregation."

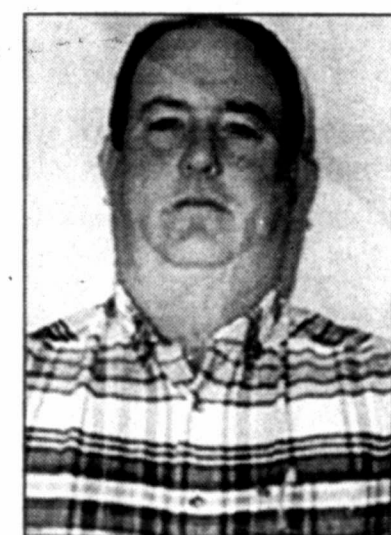
Banks said segregation was under way at the time, but "we were such a united group of people. We lived in the same area and worshipped together at church services."

Banks said members of Payne Chapel and Mount Zion would worship together and take part in church picnics.

"We came together for fellowship. There was so much to enjoy at the time because of the tight-knit African-American community back then."

Purcell said the collection provides an insight to history in Colorado City as to what structures existed in different areas.

"Every time we get more items in our collection, it gives us more to pull from and makes it more exciting for people to see," she said.



George Hardegree

George Hardegree has filed for election as the Precinct 3 commissioner in Mitchell County.

Hardegree, a lifetime county resident, filed Monday, Dec. 29, for the March 9 Republican Primary.

Incumbent Precinct 3 Commissioner Wendy Inman and Harrell Crawford have filed for the March 9 Democratic Primary.

The 43-year-old Hardegree

said, "I believe it is important that a commissioner be available at all times for their employees and constituents."

"I have been concerned for several years about the wasted time and resources of our precinct. Precinct 3 is large in area, making it impossible to bring equipment to the yard every day."

"As a result, sometimes equipment is left for several days before it is moved. I realize that there is a need for equipment of all kinds, and that it is not all used everyday."

"I believe that all equipment should be at least inspected every day, and preferably moved."

"I question whether it is feasible to haul material from one side of the county to the other. We have several roads that are in need of some TLC."

"I believe too much time and money are being spent on hauling top-notch material long distances which translates to neglected areas."

"Top-notch material is nice, but there are areas where a lesser quality material can be used."

Hardegree added, "The economy is something that

should be continually addressed. I believe that strides in this area have been made."

"Now, we must go further and attract more businesses to the area. More business equals more taxpayers, and/or tax base which will mean lower taxes in time."

"Our location along the railroad and I-20 and close proximity of north-south routes, combined with a better water safety net, a new hospital, and sports complex should all be incentives for businesses and families to come to Mitchell County."

"It is now up to the leadership and the Board of Economic Development to find other magnets for this to become a reality."

Hardegree is a 1978 graduate of Colorado High School and 1982 graduate of Texas Tech University, with a bachelor of science degree in agriculture education. He is in the farm and ranch business.

He and his wife, Tammy, reside in the Dorn Community with their three children, Kaylynn, 6; and Kynzie, 3, and Kyler, 3.

Six injured in I-20 accident

A two-vehicle accident late Sunday afternoon, Dec. 28, sent five people to the Mitchell County Hospital while a sixth was airlifted to Abilene and then to Lubbock.

Department of Public Safety Trooper Jeremy Usener said the accident occurred around 6:15 p.m. 3 1/2 miles west of Westbrook on Interstate 20.

Usener investigated the accident along with Trooper Sonny Flores.

Usener said a 2001 Chevrolet Suburban, driven by Epifanio Morales of Gonzales, La., and a 2000 International truck, driven by James Morales of Lawton, Okla., were traveling westbound on I-20.

Usener said the Suburban was traveling in the left lane while the truck was in the right lane, when the Suburban's driver became distracted by something in the vehicle, veered to the left, then overcorrected to the right, hitting the left side of the truck.

Usener said the Suburban skidded into the center median, rolled over onto its right side, slid across the eastbound lane of I-20 into the south ditch, rolled back onto its wheels and came to rest on the south service road facing southeast.

The Mitchell County EMS took Epifanio Morales and three passengers to Mitchell County Hospital where they

were treated for minor injuries and released.

Usener said the four occupants were wearing seat belts.

Two other passengers, Edwin Morales, also of Gonzales, La., and Luz Victoria Morales of Mexico were in the back seat of the Suburban. They were not wearing seat belts and both were ejected from the vehicle.

Morales also was taken to the hospital where he was treated for cuts, bruises and lacerations. He was held overnight.

Usener said Luz Morales suffered serious injuries and was airlifted from the scene by Critical Air of Sweetwater to Abilene and taken to Lubbock by Acro Care.

Debra Kraft, a spokeswoman for Critical Air, said weather conditions between Colorado City and Lubbock prevented them from taking the patient directly to Lubbock.

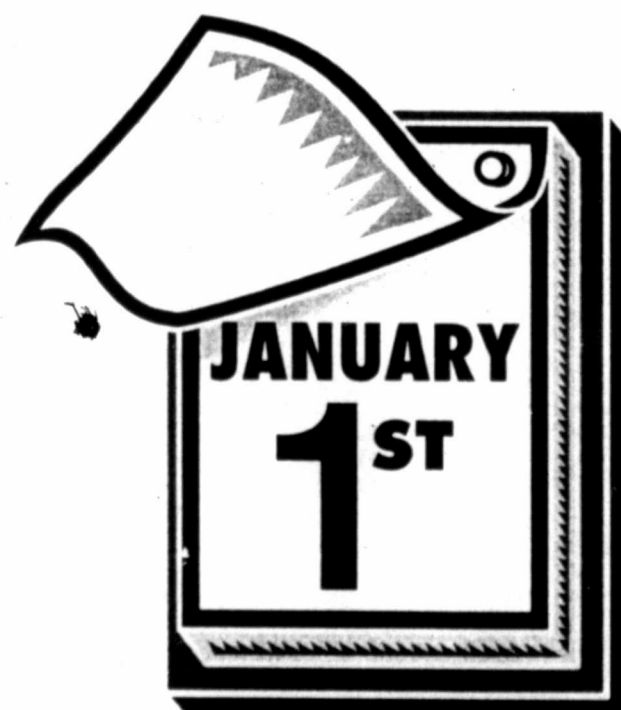
The International truck driver was not injured.

Usener said the accident closed the south service road, and "we did shut down the eastbound right lane of I-20."

Usener said the accident is still under investigation.

Assisting at the scene were Mitchell County Sheriff's deputies David Moore and Chris Adames and reserve deputy Jimmy Browne, the Colorado City and Westbrook volunteer fire departments.

Also, EMS personnel Jason Cooper, Shane Terry, Rick Goodney, Loran Rule and Tim Campbell; and DPS Sgt. Lee Tarter and Trooper Lynn Pierce of Snyder; and PJ's Wrecker Service.



To our friends and customers...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

May you have a healthy
and prosperous 2004!

From the officers, directors and employees of...

THE CITY NATIONAL BANK

of Colorado City
Member City National Bancshares, Inc.

228 Elm Street Downtown Colorado City Member FDIC www.cnbccity.com

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local news

OBITUARIES

Melvin Allen "Jeff" Ellis

1917-2003

Mr. Melvin Allen "Jeff" Ellis, 86, died Friday, December 26, 2003, in a Grapevine Care Center. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Monday in the 22nd and Austin St. Church of Christ with Gary Dennis officiating. Burial followed in the Dunn Cemetery, under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Ellis was born to Jackson and Bertha Chandler Ellis on December 7, 1917, in Ira. He married V. Fern Iverson on August 14, 1941, in Clovis, New Mexico. She preceded him in death on October 8, 1997. He and other family members hired out to drilling contractors to learn how. They then pooled Ellis family resources and drilled for oil on the family farm. The Ellis Drilling Co. was formed and later Ellis Production. He was a 1935 graduate of Dunn High School and attended Texas A&M University. He was a member of the Church of Christ and had lived in Mitchell County from 1949 until 1997, when he moved to Southlake.

He is survived by two daughters, Judy and husband, Bob Dow of Southlake and Carol and husband, Karl Williams of Fort Worth; four grandchildren, Amber Dow of Southlake, Stacy and wife, Lori Dow of Fort Worth, Jeff and Brook Williams of Saginaw and Nick Williams of Abilene; one sister, Julia and husband, Lynn Fox of Snyder; four brothers, Buck Ellis of Big Spring, Othal and wife, Essie Pearl Ellis of Colorado City, Ather and wife, Mary Ellis of Colorado City and Wayne and wife, Sandy Ellis of Tyler.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 56 years, V. Fern Ellis and one brother, J.P. Ellis on October 3, 2003.

Lee Edward Gill

1926-2003

Mr. Lee Edward Gill, 77, of Snyder, died Thursday, December 25, 2003 in a Lubbock care center. Services were held Saturday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Chapel with Rev. Dan Crawford, pastor of Victory Baptist Church, officiating. Burial followed in Hermleigh Cemetery, under the arrangements of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Gill was born November 17, 1926, in Bell County. He married Dorothy Green on August 20, 1949 in Colorado City. He was an equipment operator for Scurry Co., Precinct 3 for 43 1/2 years. At the time of his retirement, Mr. Gill had worked for Scurry County longer than anyone else.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy Gill of Snyder; three daughters, Margie and husband, Larry Williams of Colorado City, Sharon Gill of Snyder, Vickie and husband, Mark Arrendale of Snyder; one son, Roy and wife, Cindy Gill of Hermleigh; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Louise and Harvey Stevenson of Snyder and Cherry and Clint Hembre of Snyder; 11 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; and three step-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Leslie and James Gill; one sister, Bessie McCalley; and two grandsons, Rocky Gill and Cody Botts.

Josefina O. Ramos

1933-2003

Josefina O. Ramos, 70, of Big Spring, died Sunday, December 28, 2003 at her residence. Vigil services will be held Thursday, January 1, 2004 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, January 2, 2004 at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, with Rev. James Plagens, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born on March 12, 1933, in Zamora, Michuacan, Mexico and married Pedro Ramos on August 14, 1956 in Juarez, Mexico.

Mrs. Ramos came to Big Spring in 1971 from Colorado City and had worked for Herman's Restaurant for 12 years. She became a United States citizen in the mid 1980's. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Survivors include her husband, Pedro Ramos of Big Spring; five sons, Juan Hernandez of San Antonio, Ramiro Ramos of DeSoto, Luis Ramos and Mario Ramos, both of Big Spring and Marcos Ramos of Abilene; three daughters, Hilda Carnero, Irma Vincent and Yolanda Booth, all of Big Spring; 24 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces & nephews from Mexico.

She was preceded in death by 11 brothers and sisters.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 600 S. Gregg, Big Spring, TX 79720.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Bob Leslie

1922-2003

Bob Leslie, 81, of Houston, died Friday, December 26, 2003. Graveside services were held Tuesday in the Eastland City Cemetery with Rev. Sarah Miller officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Edwards Funeral Home in Eastland.

Mr. Leslie was born in Colorado City on February 13, 1922, the son of Judge and Mrs. W. P. Leslie. In 1927, his father was elected to the Court of Civil Appeals in Eastland, where they moved, and Bob graduated from high school there in 1939. He joined the Naval Officers Training School at Northwestern University a week after graduation from Yale University in 1943. A month later, he entered Harvard Business School, where the Navy created the first class to spend two terms at the business school. After completing his naval training he was assigned to the Naval Air Transport Service. In 1946, Bob was discharged having reached the rank of Lieutenant. He then returned to Harvard Business School and received his MBA in February 1947. Bob returned to the University of Texas where he graduated from law school in 1949. He began his corporate career with Texas Gulf Sulfur in Houston and later was employed as an assistant in the office of the Chairman of the Board of Socony Vacuum (now Mobil) in New York.

Mr. Leslie is survived by a sister, Rosalie Leslie Loreto of Eastland; a sister-in-law, Mrs. Geraldine Leslie of Eastland; and a nephew, Allen Leslie of Eastland; his long-time close friend, Mrs. Frances Evans of Houston; as well as many friends. The family wishes to express their gratitude for the many years of loyal friendship from his loyal secretary, Mrs. Roy (Sharon) Hedgepeth. The family requests memorials be made to the First United Methodist Church in Eastland and St. Luke's Methodist Church in Houston.

County to award bid for sheriff's office vehicle

Mitchell County Commissioners Court is expected to open and award bids for a new sheriff's office vehicle at 9 a.m. Monday, Jan. 5.

Commissioners approved specifications and gave County Sheriff Patrick Toombs the go-ahead to seek bids during their Dec. 8 meeting.

Toombs said his office is wanting to purchase a new pickup truck to replace a 1999 Ford Crown Victoria the county plans to sell at the Loraine farm sale in March.

He said vehicles used by Sheriff's Office personnel have anywhere from 120,000 to 180,000 miles.

Toombs said the new truck will not have four-wheel drive.

He added that the cost of the new vehicle is included in the Sheriff's Office's new budget.

The new truck will give the Sheriff's Office two trucks and two cars in addition to a Ford Expedition used by Toombs.

Also at the December meeting, commissioners Ed Roach, Carl Guelker, Wendy Inman and Bill Preston approved

county holidays for 2004.

They are Jan. 1; New Year's; Jan. 19, Martin Luther King Day; Feb. 16, President's Day; April 9, Good Friday; May 31, Memorial Day; July 5, Independence Day.

Also, Sept. 6, Labor Day; Nov. 11, Veterans Day; Nov. 25-26, Thanksgiving; and Dec. 24, Christmas.

Commissioners also approved a \$30,095 maintenance agreement with Net Data Corp. of Sulphur Springs for the county's computer software systems for 2004, and a joint resolution and joint primary for the Republic and Democratic March 9 primaries.

Commissioners also approved a Mitchell County joint resolution establishing an emergency management program with the cities of Loraine

and Westbrook; mutual aid agreement with the West Central Texas Council of Governments; and mutual aid agreement between Mitchell County and the cities of Colorado City, Loraine and Westbrook.



LONGTIME MITCHELL COUNTY Hospital District employee Norma Sorrells retired after 25 years of service to the district. In honor of her retirement, hospital employees donated cash for a money tree and held a reception in the hospital lobby on Tuesday. Ms. Sorrells is a Licensed Vocational Nurse who dispensed medications for the hospital patients. She began her employment Nov. 12, 1978 and her last day was Tues., Dec. 30, 2003.

4-H

FROM PAGE 1

ing ownership.

Senter said more entries will be shown in the hog, goat and steer divisions over 2003.

He said lamb show numbers are down slightly.

Senter said 146 hogs have been entered by 62 exhibitors, reflecting an increase of 20 entries.

In the goat division, 86 entries will be shown by 35 exhibitors -- an increase of at least 15 over last year.

He said 26 lambs will be shown by 15 exhibitors.

Senter said the biggest increase for 2004 is the steer category where 33 will be shown by 13 exhibitors -- doubling the number of steers shown in 2003.

Overall, 289 head will be shown by 91 exhibitors.

Senter said the increase in show numbers in the three categories, especially the steer division, is youngsters showing animals for the first time, and those who are feeding more animals than in the past two

years.

Senter said the Jan. 10 livestock auction premium money "is critical to help 4-H and FFA members offset expenses at the midway point of their projects and continue the development of their projects for major shows."

He said the Mitchell County show also "allows exhibitors to offset expenses they incur when they participate in the major stock shows in the spring."

Senter said animals purchased at the major stock shows become the property of the buyers.

Major shows are scheduled the first of January in Odessa; the first of February in Fort Worth; the second week of February in San Antonio; the third week in February in San Angelo; the first two weeks of March in Houston; and the third week of March in Austin.

Senter said the Austin show for Mitchell County exhibitors is limited to market lambs.

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DATE: January 5, 2004
TIME: 2 p.m. - 7 p.m.
LOCATION: CCNet Lab, Inside Administration Bldg.
PHONE: 325-728-1018
EMAIL: ccnet@city.esc14.net

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local news

RABIES

West-Central Texas where an epidemic of gray fox rabies had been occurring since 1988.

"The Oral Rabies Vaccination Program continues to show excellent results," said TDH veterinarian Tom Sidwa, ORVP director. "Look at the data: No human cases of rabies in either area since the vaccine airdrop began. No animal cases of either canine or gray fox rabies outside the original zones since the program's be-

ginning. No canine strain of rabies at all in Texas since 2001 and a significant drop in the number of gray fox rabies cases."

The number of canine rabies cases in South Texas declined from a high of 142 cases when the program began in 1995 to one in 2001 and none since then. Gray fox cases are down as well from an all-time high of 265 cases in 1994 to 61 in 2003 through October.

Appealing to specialized

tastes, the customized baits offer a treat of fish meal to coyotes and dog food containing molasses and vanilla flavoring to gray foxes. Each bait contains two milliliters of oral rabies vaccine.

"The vaccine inside the bait cannot cause rabies in people or animals," Sidwa said.

Because baits contain a biological agent and are less likely to be eaten by wildlife if people have touched them, they should not be handled. Each brown bait, which measures 1 1/4 by 1 1/4 by 3/4 inches, is marked with a TDH toll free number, 1-877-722-6725, that people may call for information.

Sidwa emphasized that owners of domestic animals need to get their pets vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian as required by law. A domestic animal's rabies vaccination can be safely given even if the animal recently ate an oral rabies vaccine bait, he said.

Counties in the 2004 West-Central Texas vaccine distribution area are Bandera, Brewster, Brown, Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Crane, Crockett, Edwards, Gillespie, Glasscock, Howard, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Mason, Maverick, McCulloch, Menard, Midland, Mills, Mitchell, Nolan, Pecos, Reagan, Real, Runnels, San Saba, Sterling, Taylor, Terrell, Upton, Uvalde, Val Verde and Zavala.

TREES

FROM PAGE 1

Plagens Printing and Office Supplies.

Numerous trees have been left at the location.

Using the trees as habitat is also expected to help extend the life of the city's landfill, which is being filled faster than expected.

Ferguson said placing live, cut Christmas trees in the lake "provides good habitat for the fish" and also offers protection for the 1-3-inch fingerlings and other life housed in the lake.

Ferguson said state park personnel will be placing the trees.

"Right now, we're looking at putting them in the areas of the two fishing piers in the park," Ferguson said. "One is in the Little Day Area and the other in the tent camping area."

Santos Reyes, assistant park superintendent, said Christmas trees were collected in the early 1990s and anchored in the lake to serve as habitat for crappie.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department started restocking the lake this year after the deadly golden algae destroyed the fishery, including the popular redfish and largemouth bass.

Ferguson said scientific evidence indicates that as the trees' green needles begin to decay, a chemical reaction takes place which limits the amount of golden algae bloom.

MARKET REPORT

Colorado City Livestock Market Report
December 17, 2003

Receipts: 484 Hd.	
STEERS	
300-400 lbs.	\$111.00-\$134.00
400-500	\$102.00-\$121.00
500-600	\$92.00-\$103.00
600-750	\$84.00-\$91.00
HEIFERS	
300-400 lbs.	\$100.00-\$112.00
400-500	\$92.00-\$101.00
500-600	\$88.00-\$92.50
600-750	\$83.00-\$89.50
BRED COWS	\$575 to \$710.00
PAIRS	\$675.00-\$840.00
PACKER COWS	\$42.00-\$58.25
OLD & SHELLEY	\$35.00-\$40.00
PACKER BULLS	\$62.00-\$70.00

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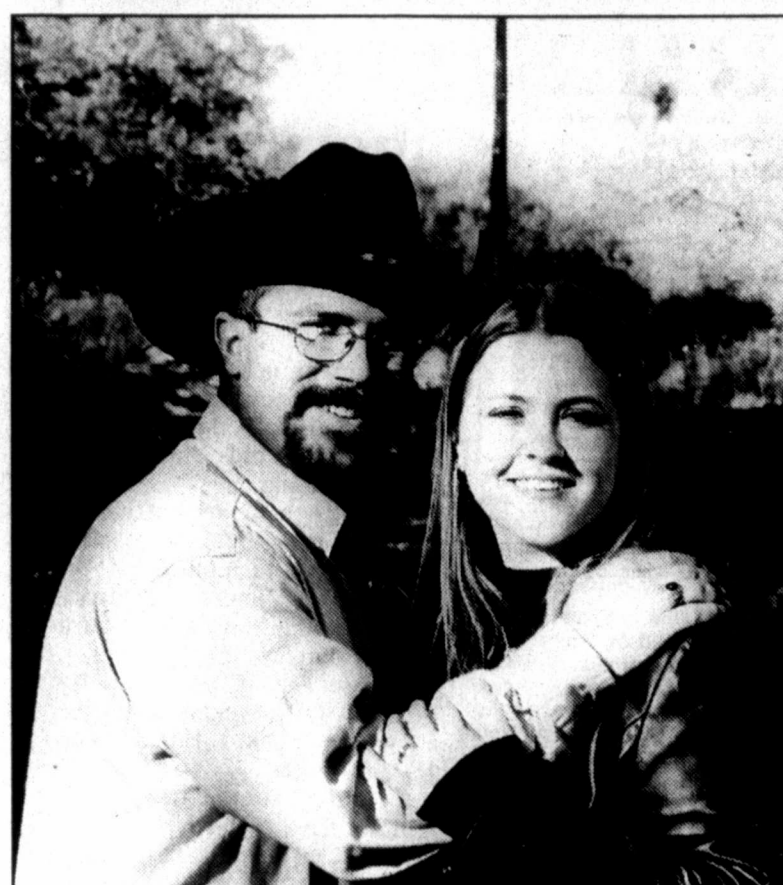
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societypage



Jared Lee Fester and Amy Jo McNeal

McNeal, Fester engagement announced

Robert and Cheryl McNeal, the proud parents of Amy Jo McNeal, would like to announce the engagement of their daughter to Jared Lee Fester, son of Buddy and Christine Fester.

Amy is a 1998 graduate of Colorado High School and 2000 graduate of TSTC in Sweetwater receiving her LVN degree. Jared is a 1999 graduate of Colorado High School and 2003 graduate of TSTC in Sweetwater receiving his certificate in Diesel Technology.

The wedding will take place on February 1, 2004 at Christian Temple Church.

Jared and Amy plan to reside in Colorado City after a honeymoon in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Couple united in marriage

Jean Graham of Lancaster and Larry Moss of Dallas were united in marriage at 3 p.m. Saturday, December 27. The double-ring ceremony took place in the home of her brother and sister-in-law, Carl and Sandy Graham of Loraine.

Given in marriage by her son, Dustin Medlin, the bride wore a white linen suit and carried a bouquet of red roses and baby's breath.

For something old, the bride wore her mother's pearl necklace, something new was her dress and something borrowed was her mother's pearl earrings.

The couple said their vows under an arch of greenery and red roses.

Serving as the matron of honor was Lee Franklin, sister of the bride of Colorado City. She wore jeans with an ivory blouse and carried a long stem rose.

The groom wore a gray suit with a blue shirt. His best man, Wayne Childs of Brownwood, wore a black western-cut suit with a white western shirt.

The Rev. (retired) Ronnie Skaggs of Abilene performed the ceremony. Just prior to the saying of the vows the song "True Love" by Patsy Cline was played.

A reception was held following the wedding with a white two-layer cake with roses and dove trim along with pineapple punch was served to the guests by April Latimer and Michael Kinnan, grandchildren of the hosts.

The couple will reside in Lancaster, Texas after a brief honeymoon.

Local students graduate from Angelo State

Angelo State University conferred degrees upon 322 students during 2003 Fall commencement exercises December 20 in San Angelo.

The 2003 fall graduates include the following from the Colorado City area: Cynthia L. Aguilar, BA; Alison Diane Alvarez, BS; Amy Franco, BS, cum laude; Angela Victoria Leanos, BA; and Lorie Lindsey, BS.



Mr. and Mrs. Larry Moss

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She said a co could arise if t ber is asked to ter concerning

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"It's a real folks to be ver ferent ways to West Texas ins it out."

Fuller said study is unde Docum I Gi method state looking at to p ter statewide.

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Fuller said every region i ing water shor 50 years," but not have the elsewhere in th

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Fuller said river's flow is Colorado City salty areas," i the river south

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She said r stream "rema consumption" is diverted up

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She als "tremendous laws in comi Legislature, water is capt permitted to

No need

A classifi attention!

forum

CITY

FROM PAGE 1

provide any rule prohibiting a City Council member's relative from being employed by the city.

She said a conflict of interest could arise if the council member is asked to consider a matter concerning the employee.

WATER

FROM PAGE 1

rain from a cloud -- a program already under way.

Fuller said the issue of water supply vs. demand is not uncommon, especially in West Texas, but the projection remains that "the demand will exceed the supply in the majority of West Texas within the next 50 years."

"It means we need to get more creative in the ways we use water, and it means we need to find creative ways to distribute water."

"It's a real opportunity for folks to be very creative in different ways to bring water to West Texas instead of shipping it out."

Fuller said a desalinization study is under way on the Docom 1 Group, and one method state legislators are looking at to provide more water statewide.

"It will be interesting to see how that study turns out and how it will affect us," Fuller said.

The highest quality and quantity of water is located in the northeast part of the county in the Loraine area where the City of Colorado City has its water wells.

"The further south you go here in the county, the more brackish the water gets," she said. "Water quality west of the Colorado River is generally very poor and generally very low in supply."

Fuller said that "almost every region in the state is facing water shortages in the next 50 years," but West Texas does not have the supply to ship elsewhere in the state.

She said it is inevitable that state water managers will be forced to develop a plan to desalinate water from the Gulf of Mexico and transport it, although an expensive process.

"One way or the other, desalinated water will be shipped from the Gulf," she said. "It's inevitable. It has to happen."

"We are going from the days when water was a fairly cheap commodity to an expensive one for years to come."

Fuller said that in the West-brook area water can be found as shallow as 30 feet, but the water is not suitable for human consumption.

She said some water located in that area is suitable for livestock consumption.

Fuller said all groundwater in Mitchell County appears to flow toward the Colorado River.

"A lot of groundwater leaves the county through the Colorado River," she said. "The groundwater feeds into the river."

Fuller said a portion of the river's flow is diverted north of Colorado City because "it hits salty areas," and is returned to the river south of the city.

"That is why you don't see the flow as high as it should be, or could be, west of the city," Fuller said.

She said river water downstream "remains suitable for consumption" because the flow is diverted upstream.

Fuller said larger municipalities like San Antonio and Austin downstream on the Colorado River have "priority rights on the river because of the permits they got 100 years ago allowing them access to the water."

She also looks for "tremendous changes in water laws in coming sessions of the Legislature, redefining how water is captured and who is permitted to capture it."

Ross and Contreras were in contact with Shutt at least three different times by phone when controversy surrounding the Opera House and members of the C-City Opry erupted in early November, Willis said.

The controversy carried over to the council's Nov. 11 meeting when the three council members turned the early part of the meeting into chaos and turmoil, disputing Willis' recollection of what happened the night of Nov. 4.

In addition, Willis addressed two issues regarding McNeal that were disregarded in past years, and even after he was elected to the City Council.

McNeal was issued a citation and charged with violating the city's weed, rubbish and brush ordinance.

McNeal has pleaded not guilty to the charge. He waived a jury trial in favor of a bench trial before Municipal Court Judge Belinda Blassingame.

The pre-trial hearing has not been set.

McNeal was sent four letters, including one by Willis in November, asking him to clean up his property or he would given a citation.

Former Code Enforcement Officer Billy Ray Williamson sent McNeal certified letters in February 2000 and January 2001, notifying McNeal that he was in violation of the city code.

McNeal received a third notification -- this one from Code Enforcement Officer Charles Rice -- but it was dated Oct. 23 -- just 25 days after Willis stepped in as interim city manager.

McNeal's situation was disregarded for almost three years, including nearly five months as the District 2 representative on the council, and Shutt's last four months as city manager.

Willis' letter of Nov. 25, 2003, also tagged McNeal for

operating a plumbing business without a state license.

"Based upon the magnitude of junk around your two houses," Willis wrote, "it appears that you are operating a plumbing business there. If this is correct, you must have a state plumbing license."

"No further plumbing business will be permitted by you until this license is obtained. Citations will be issued if further plumbing business occurs prior to your obtaining a license."

Willis, a veteran of 37 years in city government, resigned Dec. 9, citing a lack of cooperation by the three council members as his reason to leave.

Willis also said constant interference by Contreras, Ross and McNeal limited his ability to accomplish the council's overall goals.

Willis started as interim city manager Sept. 29, and until he resigned in early December, he said, "As best I can determine is that he (Shutt) had a very cozy relationship with them."

Their "cozy relationship" also paved the way for constant battles and confrontations with Mayor Bob Reily during City Council meetings when Shutt was a city employee, and continuing when Willis stepped in.

During the Nov. 11 meeting, Contreras criticized Reily's use of the gavel to maintain order after Ross loudly complained she was being interrupted and not allowed to voice her opinion.

Willis said the three council members "spent most of their time wanting to criticize the mayor and the rest of the council and try to get me to buy into it. That's what they spent most of the time on."

"They wanted to know exactly what the mayor has said or done, or other council members, so they could react to it."

"Their agendas are not

what's good for the city or the citizens. Their agendas are let's do everything we can to embarrass the mayor and the rest of the council."

Willis said the three used to "have their own way until September. They had a cozy relationship with the manager and those three people were in control."

"What I am primarily focusing on is that he spent all of his time trying to cozy up to these three individuals and make sure he had their vote instead of working with the council."

Willis described the three council members as uncooperative and unprofessional.

"I am not complaining to anybody about the way I was treated," he said. "I think it was just regrettable that these three people can't work with the balance of the council better, nor with the staff."

"They can't come together on the time of day. None of them represent any leadership in the community."

"The seven council members and the staff have a responsibility to work together cooperatively and professionally so that you can get city services delivered."

To clarify another matter, Ross stopped by the *Record* office after it had closed Tuesday, Dec. 16, to deliver a statement regarding Willis' comments.

Her statement was provided on a cassette tape, but the *Record* does not have the equipment to listen to it.

In addition, the three council members were mailed letters by the *Record* prior to the Christmas holidays if they wanted to respond to any of Willis' comments.

The three were informed of the *Record's* early holiday deadline, but they did not respond.

Seniors keep the U.S. economy running

By Tumbleweed Smith



It's the older generation that spends money. People sixty, seventy and eighty are healthy, active, have good minds and shell out money for vacations, concerts, plays and movies. In any upscale restaurant most of the diners have white hair. In short, they're building memories.

In this generation, many are still working way past retirement age. They have organized their jobs and lives so they can still work and have time to do the things they want to do. This is the generation that has saved money for most of their working lives. They aren't necessarily thinking about themselves, either. They are thinking about their children and grandchildren.

Many of this group think the best thing they can do is be with their families. So they take cruises and rent vacation homes so everybody can be together for a week or so every year.

Sixty used to be the age when people slowed down. Not any more. Sixty seems to be what forty used to be years ago. Grandparents don't look like the grandparents they had. Their grandparents looked and acted old at fifty. They seemed to come from an ancient culture. Today's grandparents might be jet pilots or CEO's with no thoughts of slowing down. They ski, bicycle, dogsled, scuba dive, jump out of planes and ride rapids.

Seven out of ten workers between the ages of 50 and 70 say they never expect to quit working. Deborah Russell, who writes about economic security and work for the American Association of Retired People says, "A lot of us feel that work is part of what defines us. We want to stay connected and we plan to live a long time, so why quit working? It's not just about needing a paycheck."

We've heard about Grandma Moses or Colonel Sanders who didn't start building their empires until they were over sixty. There are more and more people doing that. I interviewed a woman the other day who writes and sings parodies at cabarets in Dallas. She looks 50. She is 79. Her office and studio are in her house. The walls are filled with her art work. She talked about her kids and her boyfriend. It's the older folks who are living life to its fullest.

Lauren Hutton, who has been called the world's most enduringly beautiful model, has just turned sixty and recently started a new makeup line for older women. Tim Conway is in his 70's. Bob Barker is 80. I interviewed a man who had just graduated from college. He is 82.

Dating is a big thing for people over sixty who suddenly find themselves single. They place personal ads in magazines they read and meet dates in coffee shops and develop relationships. One man said dating has never been so interesting, mainly because there are so many players. Higher divorce rates, longer life spans and a greater tendency never to marry mean there are more single Americans than at any time in the nation's history. The US Census bureau says of the 97 million Americans who are 45 and older, almost 40 percent...36.2 million...are on the loose. It costs money to date.

Robert Browning said it: "Grow old along with me. The best is yet to be."

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By Ace Reid



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IT'S A BRAVE NEW YEAR ...

PUBLIC RECORDS

FILED WITH COUNTY CLERK

Linda Farmer, Richmond Farmer to Janice L. Nelms, Deed in Lieu Agreement.

Helen Roddy Allison to Royalty Clearinghouse LTD., Assignment of Oil & Gas.

Washington Mutual Finance LLP Gen. Ptr., Washington Mutual Finance LP TX LTD Ptrs., Jose Leal Jr. Vice Pres/Operations to Richard Tamez Reyna aka, Richard T. Reyna, Anita Reyna, Release of Lien/DT.

World Wildlife Fund Inc., David P. Flickinger Deputy Gen. Counsel to Dr. R. Gerald Turner Pres., Southern Methodist University, Asgmt. & Bill Sale.

Gustavo Frank Vice-Pres., Associates First Capital Corp. Succ. by Mc., Associates Financial Services Company in, Ismael Aguirre Palacio, Maria Victoria Aguirre to Mortgage Funding Corporation, Asgmt. of Lien/DT.

Mortgage Funding Corporation, Jon Runnels Vice-Pres., Maria Victoria Aguirre, Ismael Aguirre Palacio to Union Planters Bank NA, Transfer of

Lien.

Vtex Energy Inc., Vector Energy Inc. fka, Steve Noser President to Larry Don Dawson, Asgmt. & Bill Sale.

Larry Don Dawson to Morgan Creek Production Co. Inc., Asgmt. & Bill Sale.

MARRIAGES

Gary Wayne Fox Jr., Colorado City to Suzanna Maria Epperson, Colorado City, 12-22-03.

ARRESTS

Theresa Thompson, 45, MCSO, warrants, 12-22-03.

Isaac Barrera, 21, THP, warrants Ector Co., modified, 12-22-03.

Darrell Hackler, 21, MCSO, mtr, 12-22-03.

Felipe Perez, 27, THP, DWLI, 12-25-03.

Chad Eldon Langley, 29, MCSO, Ellis Co. warrant, TBC, 12-25-03.

Oscar Ramirez, 45, THP, DWLI, 12-25-03.

Richard Sanchez Badillo, 35, THP, DWLS, 12-26-03.

Jimmy Lee Gonzales, 18, CCPD, theft u/50 class C, 12-26-03.

Christopher Bolin, 22, CCPD, DWI, 12-26-03.

Sharon Martinez, 41, MCSO, warrants, 12-26-03.

Janie Hicks, 26, CCPD, POM u/2 oz, 12-27-03.

James Burl Penn, 51, MCSO, FV, class A assault, 12-27-03.

Isaac Garza, 19, CCPD, warrants, 12-27-03.

Oscar Vasquez, 24, CCPD, assault FV, 12-28-03.

Andy Ybarra, 48, THP, harassment Gregg Co., 12-29-03.

FILED IN COUNTY COURT

Barry Lynn Magill, 12-23-2003, driving while intoxicated 2nd.

Larry Jay Hess, 12-23-2003, fail to identify fugitive.

Nathan David Murphy, 12-23-2003, driving while intoxicated 2nd.

Nathan David Murphy, 12-23-2003, unli. carrying weapon.

Jeremy Brian Gonzales, 12-23-2003, poss. marij. <2 oz.

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CARD OF THANKS

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

GARAGE SALES

Card of Thanks
The family of John McGregor would like to thank the Mitchell County Hospital District EMS and hospital staff for their prompt and efficient service. A special thanks to Dr. Roach and Bill Everett. We will always remember and appreciate the kindness shown us during the time of his last medical needs.
Raye McGregor
Pat & Shirley McPhaul & children

LEGAL

LEGAL

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

Dist./Div.: Abilene

Contract 6109-14-001 for MOWING HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY in MITCHELL County, etc. will be opened on January 21, 2004 at 1:30 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$98,554.50.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 11791

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

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

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

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed proposals for Concession Stand Operator (CSO) at the Mitchell County Sports Complex will be received by Judge Ray Mayo at 349 Oak Street until 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 12, 2004. Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Mitchell County Courthouse 2nd Floor Courtroom at approximately 9:00 a.m. on January 12th at which time the court may award the proposal. The CSO will be required to operate the Concession Stand during all scheduled games and tournaments at the Complex. The CSO shall provide a variety of soft drinks, candy and food. The CSO shall obtain a food handlers permit from the City of Colorado City. The CSO shall obtain a minimum \$300,000 liability insurance. The CSO shall obtain a sales tax permit through the State of Texas. The County will furnish a refrigerator and freezer and pay for all utilities. For additional information regarding the CSO contract, contact Windi Fuller at 325-728-2298. Mitchell County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals and/or waive any and all formalities. Sealed Proposals should be clearly labeled "Proposal for Concession Stand" on envelope.

NOTICES

NOTICES

MITCHELL LODGE
NO. 563
A.F. & A.M.
195 1/2 Oak St.
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79512
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Tuesday of the Month.

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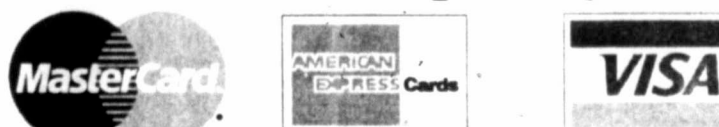
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Colorado City Record



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2 bd, 1 bath, central heat & air, 737 Hickory, \$16,000.
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0435.

Resolutions to live healthier can add years to your life

It's that time of year when people make resolutions. You know the vows: clean out the garage, keep in better touch with friends and family, save money.

But there are some health and fitness resolutions that could save your life, according to Texas Commissioner of Health Eduardo Sanchez, M.D. "If people would remember to do just five things, they could live longer, healthier lives," Sanchez said.

The five are:

- Eat smart;
- Get fit;
- Get shots;
- Get checkups and screens; and
- Don't smoke

Each of these suggestions alone is good for anyone to consider, Sanchez said. But together they provide a solid plan to help a person get healthy and stay that way.

First, more than 60 percent of the people in Texas are overweight or obese. Preliminary analysis by the Texas Department of Health (TDH) suggests that overweight and obesity cost an estimated \$10.2 billion in 2001 in Texas.

Healthy benefits come, nutritionists say, if people eat five to nine servings of fruit and vegetables a day. Other good choices include eating whole grains; taking smaller portions; selecting lean meat, fish and poultry; and reducing or

eliminating fat, fried foods, sugar and salt.

In addition to an improved immune system, people who eat smart may avoid or delay problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol and triglycerides (fats in the blood) that can lead to heart disease and stroke.

Next, are you having trouble getting moving? You are not alone. Urban sprawl means more time in the car for many, and busy schedules make getting fit a challenge.

Think about ways you can start slowly and build your activity level. Just 30 minutes of moderate to brisk exercise daily can strengthen your heart.

"Make it a family activity," Sanchez said. "Try fun runs, walks and other activities that can include family members of all ages."

Third, getting shots is something many adults don't think about; but pneumonia, one of the most serious infections for seniors, is easily prevented with a two-shot vaccine. While an influenza vaccine can't always completely cover all strains circulating, it does provide protection, and is especially important for those at risk of serious complications or death.

"Check with your health care provider about what shots are recommended and when," Sanchez said. "Most adults should get vaccinated against

pneumonia and flu, especially those over age 65."

Or when is the last time you had a tetanus shot? The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends adults get a booster every 10 years.

Fourth on the list is getting checkups and screens. Many people don't visit a doctor until a problem occurs. This procrastination can be deadly.

Pap smears, mammograms and colorectal exams can detect cancerous activity early when treatment is most effective. Tests for cholesterol, triglyceride levels and blood pressure, along with a family history, can indicate if you are at risk for heart disease. People at risk of developing diabetes can prevent serious complications or death if the disease is diagnosed and treated.

And finally, it's been repeated often; but, again, smoking is bad for your health. Tobacco use can lead to deadly diseases such as lung cancer, emphysema and stroke. When quitting, ask your doctor if nicotine replacement products are a good idea, get a friend to remind you of all the benefits of being smoke-free, and be patient - many people quit several times before they kick the habit for good.

"Make 2004 a year for positive behavioral change," Sanchez said. "You just may save your life."

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2003 Sports in Review... Basketball

The year 2003 was a good year for the Wolves and Lady Wolves basketball teams with each making it into the post-season playoffs.

The Lady Wolves represented District 3-2A as the third place team with a district mark of 6-4.

The girls opened district with a 48-38 loss to Stanton before rebounding with a 54-32 win over Coahoma.

State-ranked Seagraves was the next opponent with the Lady Wolves losing by the score of 46-35.

The Lady Wolves came back with two wins in a row, defeating Crane 74-65, and Forsan by the score of 57-22.

After losing to Stanton in the second round by the score of 56-36, the Lady Wolves came back with a win over

Coahoma by the score of 54-35.

Then came another loss to Seagraves by the score of 72-39 before the Lady Wolves won the last two district games with a 54-41 win over Crane, and a 60-23 blowout over Forsan.

The Lady Wolves drew Tahoka for the bi-district round, losing to the Lady Bulldogs by the score of 54-28.

The Wolves opened district play with a bang, defeating Seagraves by the score of 67-47. After defeating Crane the next week, the Wolves dropped a 56-49 game to Forsan to fall into second place in district play.

That game was followed with six straight wins over Stanton, Coahoma, Seagraves, Crane, Forsan, and Stanton again.

The Wolves lost a buzzer-

beater to Coahoma in the last district match by the score of 62-61 to finish district play at 8-2, good for second place.

In the bi-district round of the playoffs the Wolves took on Idalou.

Getting off to a slow start, the Wolves lost to the Wildcats by the score of 53-39.

The loss put the season record for the Wolves at 18-11 under head coach Danny Keeton. With only one senior starter in Jonathan Spear, the Wolves are expected to be even stronger for the 2004 season.

The Westbrook Wildcats were the only other county team making the basketball playoffs.

The District 13-A runners-up to Blackwell lost their bid for a bi-district title when they lost to Stephenville Huckaby by the score of 86-66 in action played at Eula.

Former coach and football pioneer dies

By Carl Graham

When former Roscoe head coach Gordon Wood passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 17, at Abilene Regional Hospital, a legend faded away into glory.

Wood, 89, won 396 games while losing only 91 games during a coaching career that began in 1940 with a stint in Rule, spending two years there before joining the Navy during World War II.

After serving his country during the war, Wood coached at Roscoe, Seminole, and Winters before taking over at Stamford in 1951, winning 80 games and two state champion-

ships in his seven years with the Bulldogs.

Before ending up at Brownwood, Wood coached for two seasons at Victoria High School before heading back to his beloved West Texas, taking a \$2,500 pay cut to take the job with the Lions.

While at Brownwood, Wood won 257 games enroute to seven state titles in the 26 years as the head man there.

He retired from active coaching after the end of the 1985 season as the winningest coach in Texas history.

In April 2002, Wood joined Sammy Baugh, Don Maynard, Charles Coody and Mindy (Myers) Flowers in the inaugu-

ral group named to the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame.

Malcom Hammack, a freshman player on Wood's Plowboy football team in 1943, said Wood instilled in his team the desire to perform to the best of their ability.

"Though I was the smallest player on the team, coach Wood saw something in me to keep me on the varsity as a freshman," said Hammack who went on to play for the Florida State Seminoles and the St. Louis Cardinals in the NFL. "He taught us that you could not measure the heart of an individual, that no matter how large or small an individual was in stature, it was the size of the heart that mattered the most."

Coach Wood wrote about Hammack in his autobiography "Coach of the Century" when he told the story of Hammack's mother cornering Wood at the local grocery, telling him that Malcom was upset because the football program had him still listed at 95 pounds after he had gained up to the 100 pound mark. Wood assured his mother he would take care of it before the next game. When the programs came out that week Hammack was listed at 110 pounds.

Among the hundreds of people attending Wood's funeral in Brownwood were former Lt. Governor Bill Barnes, State Senator Charlie Stenholm who played for Woods at Stamford, former Texas Tech coach Spike Dykes, and former Baylor coach Grant Teaff, a native of Snyder.

Attending the funeral from Colorado City was Hollis Gainey, longtime coaching friend of Woods.

Gainey stated Woods was one of the best mentors he had ever known.

"Gordon was a very unique coach," said Gainey. "He didn't become the best high school football coach in Texas by reading books or watching films. He never really changed his coaching philosophy over the years. He got the most out of his player's ability."

Correction

In a story that ran in last week's Record, it was stated that Jacobie Russell was the first Wolf to make all-state since Hollis Gainey was named to the All-State team in 1954.

Two former Wolves, current CMS coach Zack Love, and former Wolf running back Aerian Emerson, were the most recent Wolves to be named to the first-team. Marcus Sanchez, an offensive lineman, was named to the third-team all-state team that year.

Both Love and Emerson went on to attend Angelo State University on football scholarships.

Another former Wolf, Dan Steakley, was named to the All-State team as defensive back after the 1967 season. He went on to play for University of Texas

By Bessie Ann Vaughn

We hope you had a good Christmas and that 2004 will be a great new year for you.

Don't forget about the new year's party at the center Wednesday at 7 p.m. Take some goodies to share and exchange. There will be music, games and fun.

Danny and Pam Butler had all their family visiting for Christmas. They include Krystal and David Barrera from Laredo, Dawn Kropp and girls Danielle and Elizabeth from Conroe. Dawn's husband, Paul, joined the family after making an appointment at Lubbock Health & Science Center Med School International.

Pam's brother, Brad Hughes and his wife Tracy and their two girls, Tamara and Brooke and a friend from New Mexico also visited.

They exchanged gifts, ate Christmas dinner, played games and had a great holiday get-together.

Tom and Brenda Linam had all of their kiddoes home for Christmas: Chad and Lynette Harman, Hunter and Tanner, Jill and Joe Tanner and Cutter and Holt, Dwaine, Martha and Seth Linam and Marol Ilyanova.

J.A., Y. and Mike Sadler spent Christmas day at Pat and Pat's and Brittany Sadlers in Sweetwater. Also present was Bari Sadler of Corpus Christi, Amy Hall of Shultz and Heather Sadler and Sharon Sadler of Lubbock, also Bertie Colson of Sweetwater.

Geraldine and Virgil Parnell went to Big Spring for Christmas with their daughter Nylene and Al Fulcher.

Durwood and Ina Vay McAdams spent Christmas day in Hedley with her sister and brother-in-law, Gary and Jaleta Owens.

Charlene Walker enjoyed a great early Christmas with all her children on the 20th. They exchanged gifts, had a Christmas dinner and had fun being together.

I spoke with Maz Webb Monday morning and she reports that she feels some better. She was appreciative of all the calls, cards and inquiries about her health. We wish for her continued progress.

Millie Rose had her daughter, Sherry Ann Rose, and one daughter and two grandchildren, her sons, Sidney of Ft. Worth, Sylvester of Wichita Falls, and Kenneth from Eastland, home for Christmas. Millie said she did a lot of cooking for her big old boys and they all enjoyed mama's cooking. They had a lot of fun being together and enjoying the holiday.

Dorothy Haltom went to Abilene to spend Christmas with Calvin and Barbara Haltom, Jamey Haltom and family also were there from Argyle. Barbara Haltom brought Dorothy home and spent part of the day in Lorraine.

Betty Chandler had her sister Barbara Hall and brother-in-law Jim Hall to visit from Alabama on the 24th. They went to B&B's in Colorado City for lunch then Jim drove around to see his farms. He also enjoyed seeing some of his old friends. Later that day, Betty joined them in Brownwood for Christmas. Betty went back through Abilene to have Christmas with her kids before returning home.

Grady and Elnora Mitchell had a nice holiday get-together on Christmas. Coming home were Judy and Ray Macha from Lockney, Herman and Penny Mitchell of Lorraine, Henry and Kelly Mitchell and children, Doyle and Debbie Mitchell of Lorraine, Kelly's sister, Mel of Colorado City, Neil Miles of Colorado City and David and Betty Mitchell from Brownfield. Also Mandy

Mitchell of Snyder visited. The family exchanged gifts, ate a nice Christmas dinner and had a good time being together.

Jay Henderson, Doris Henderson and Pauline Smiley had their family Christmas get-together in Midland with Brad and Pennie Henderson and their two daughters, Morgan and Ashley.

Last Friday, Doris Henderson and her son, Jay, attended the 60th wedding anniversary of Sug and Howard Bynum in Colorado City, which was a nice family affair.

Senior Center
Happy new year to all.

We count Ina Vay McAdams, our center manager, as one of our blessings for the new year. In the past, she has done a fine job and kept things going well. Also thanks to her husband, Durwood, as he often plays music to help entertain us and works hard around town on different projects. Our board of directors also get a big thank you along with our volunteers.

Monday, the 29th, Durwood and Ina Vay McAdams presented a Christmas musical program which everyone enjoyed.

Glenda Hemphill, daughter of Bobbie and Wanza Graham,

had lunch with us Monday.

We are looking forward to our birthday meal Wednesday and celebrating with the seniors that have birthdays in December.

Having a wonderful Christmas with her children was Nell Doyle. Coming home was Tommy and Becky and Shannon Doyle of Arlington, Chester and Beverly Collier of Westbrook, Jimmy, Jodi and Hudson of Wall, brother and sister, Frank and Gloria Hernandez from Sweetwater. Nell said they exchanged gifts, ate too much and had a lot of fun.

Just in Fun

Mama skunk was worried because she could never keep track of her children. They were named In and Out and whenever In was in, Out was out; and if Out was in, In was out.

One day she called Out in to her and told him to go out and bring In in. So out went Out and in no time at all he brought In in.

"Wonderful," said mama skunk. "How did you find him so quick in all this forest?"

"It was easy," said Out. "In stinck."

Thanks to all the readers who shared their news this past year. We hope you do so again in 2004. Happy New Year!

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TAYLOR HARRIS, (r), killed her first buck Tues., Dec. 23 while hunting on the Spade Ranch with her friend, Megan Bullard. Megan also killed her first buck earlier this season. Taylor is the daughter of Justin and Heidi Harris and Megan is the daughter of Randy and Julie Bullard, all of Colorado City.

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