

"Collecting more taxes than is absolutely necessary is legalized robbery."
- Calvin Coolidge.

Roby Star Record

Our 90th Year * The Voice Of Fisher County Since 1907 * 50 Cents Single Copy

Fisher County The Home Of

Madison Atkinson
Reba Wagoner
Rodney Tankersley
Damie Mullins

Volume 90 - Number 41
Thursday
June 5, 1997
Rotan, Fisher County, Tx.
8 Pages

The People Have The Right.....

Under the fundamental philosophy of the American constitution form of representative government that adheres to the principle that government is the servant and not the master of the people, it is the policy of the State of Texas that each person is entitled, unless otherwise expressly provided by law, at all times to complete information about the affairs of government and the official acts of public officials and employees. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.

Rotan Advance

Rotan Mayor Admits That The First Discussed Out-Of-City Water Adjustment Was Too High, More Talk Is Due

Mayor Jerry Marshall admitted that he made a mistake. He said that in his opinion the first set of figures discussed in May as potential new rates for out-of-city customers was too high. "Hey, I'll take the blame for not being a good leader. I should have advised the council to slow down. I personally don't agree with the rates that were tossed around in May. I think they were a little unreasonable," stated Mayor Marshall.

There were about sixteen other folks, residents west of Rotan, outside the city limits of Rotan, who also felt the rates were a bit unreasonable. They appeared before the council to let councilmen know that they didn't agree with a first set of figures that spelled a 142-percent increase in their water rates.

Mayor Marshall, in beginning the discussion on water rates, stated that it costs money for maintenance (line maintenance), money for water losses and money to cover maintenance cost of vehicles. He also stated that the City of Rotan has worn out vehicles and that our cost (City of Rotan cost) has gone up and up and up. Marshall was attempting to justify to those present the need to increase water rates for residents living outside the City Limits of Rotan.

Mayor Marshall watered down the first set of preliminary figures and presented Council members with the following figures - Level A - City Limit of Rotan meters - \$8.50 minimum for 2,000 gallons and \$3.25 a 1,000 over minimum. Level B - Meters in Water Authority taxing district - \$13.50 minimum and \$3.45; Level C - Meters outside the City Limits and outside the Water taxing district - \$18.50 and \$3.65 and Level D - Meters outside Fisher County - \$22.00 and \$3.85.

The Mayor made it clear that the new figures were his personal choice and that the council would discuss the entire rate proposal issue again on June 14th, at their regular meeting.

Those present to talk rates were: C.J. Thornton, Irene Nowlin, Ellen Gruben, Janis Copeland, Janie Rains, Irene Etheredge, Betty McCright, Carol Roberts, Harold Roberts, Evelyn Nowlin, Madilene Murphree, A.D. Acker, Jerry Deen, Andrew Williams, Dihna McKinney, Darlene Carter, James Carter and Mickey Early.

Councilman Ward Hayes said that the proposed rates were not meant to be discriminatory. "Maybe the first set of figures were too high."

Councilman Scotty Daniel pointed out that the residents of the City of Rotan paid, in addition to their part of the water district tax, 1/3 of the interest and bond payments made by the water authority.

Jerry Deen asked why it took two or three City of Rotan personnel to read meters.

Bobby Gruben pointed out that the water loss was calculated in the cost of water, therefore the users outside the City Limits of Rotan were sharing in the loss.

When asked where all the money came from that the Water Authority has in the bank, Bobby Gruben said a lot of it came from interest when interest rates were at 12, 15 and 18 percent several years ago.

Rotan Economic Development Approves Nowlin Loan, Talks Of A Full-Time Coordinator

Rotan Economic Development Commission directors voted unanimously on Wednesday, May 28th to grant Lisa Nowlin of Southern Styling a \$10,000 - five year loan to diversify her business. She will be purchasing the old Hometown Cleaners building to the west of her present building and enlarging her Southern Styling business.

Rotan EDC members also discussed a previous motion to spend \$6,543 for materials to roof the old Young's Grocery Store building at the corner of Sammy Baugh Avenue and Cleveland Avenue. Prisoners from the Price-Daniel unit at Snyder will be doing the roofing labor. Rotan EDC board members are in hopes of renting, selling or leasing the building to a business after the roofing is completed.

Board members discussed an Economic Development meeting that several attended in Hamlin recently. One of the 'hot' items in the area is that local economic development commissions hire full-time coordinators to actively search for business to locate in a specific area. Greg Pruitt stated last week that the area towns of Hamlin, Haskell and Stamford all have full-time economic development coordinators working in the best interest of those respective towns. "Maybe we can't afford not to have one," stated Pruitt in response to the need to hire a full-time person.

Rotan EDC directors went so far as to agree to place the item "Discuss full - time coordinator" on the agenda for the June meeting.

Board member Larry Markham said, "I think our long term and short term goal should be the establishment of new businesses."

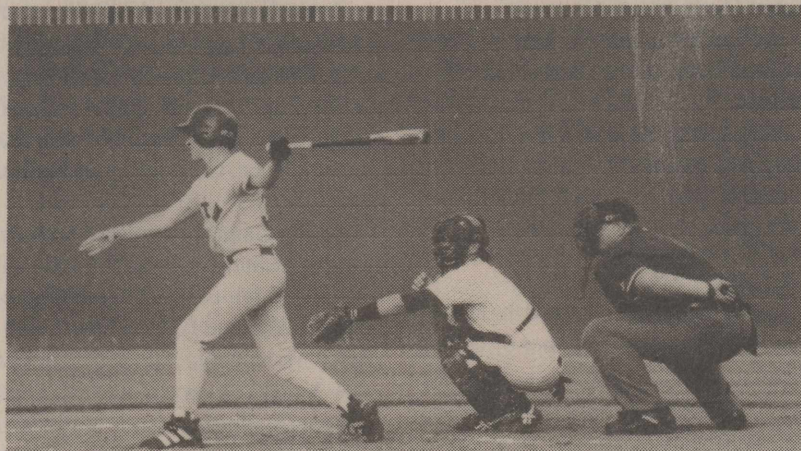
Greg Pruitt said, "I feel we should be going after business to locate in Rotan that employ five or so people - not 100 people. Realistically, we don't have the housing for a hundred people."

Larry Landes said, "I think we need to move forward. We need a cheerleader."

Jim Gruben agreed with the consensus of opinion that the issue of further study of a full-time Rotan EDC persons be placed on the June agenda.

Rick Taylor, Economic Development coordinator for Hamlin is scheduled to speak to the Rotan Lions Club on Tuesday, June 10th at noon. The Lions have invited members of the Rotan EDC and Rotan Chamber of Commerce to be present.

Board members listened to a report from Greg Pruitt and Harold Sanders concerning representatives of 'People For Progress' looking at potential sites for a Head Start building in Rotan.



Claude Rains On The Hammer Teams Parade

The Rotan Yellowhammers were eliminated from the State Baseball Tournament by Claude last Saturday in Lubbock - but one consolation is that they will forever be able to claim that they were one of the top eight teams in Texas in Class A in 1997.

Claude jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Rotan never was able to muster enough offense to get near the Panhandle boys who beat the locals 4-1 in seven full innings.

"It was a great season. I'm not unhappy with the guys. I'm happy the way they progressed all year. Seems whoever is on that particular day wins. Our guys never quit, they battled to the end, we just didn't have it last Saturday," said Ronn Langthorn, Head Baseball Coach.

Russell Price managed two hits off Michael Pillard of Claude. Others collecting a hit were Joey Lujan and James Flores.

Mikeal Harrison pitched a six-hitter. Only Pillard managed two

The Newspaper Office To Close Each Friday

Effective on Friday, June 6, 1997, The Newspaper Office will be closed each Friday during June and July.

\$5,000 Oil Well Is Reported Stolen To Sheriff

An oil well in south Fisher County is missing a pump jack because someone familiar with the area and oil field equipment saw fit to steal it, according to Sheriff Gene Pack.

"Someone went in and stole the entire pump jack, even the concrete block of cement sometime Saturday or Saturday night," said Pack.

The theft was estimated at \$5,000. "We have developed a suspect. Someone who is wanted in several neighboring counties for the same offense", said Pack.

The well is owned by Greg Goodall and is known as the Waddell, 1B lease on County Road 212. The pumper reporting the incident was Gene Walton of Hamlin.

Rotan Pool Opening Is Delayed

'Splash Day' at Rotan has been delayed until June 10th, according to Harold Sanders, Rotan City Secretary.

"I found a school that they (potential lifeguards Justin Moffett and Katy Cade) can attend this weekend, but the water is not quite clear at the pool so we need that extra week to get everything in tip, top shape," said Sanders.

On Tuesday, June 10th the Rotan pool will open for 'Splash Day' from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. and there will not be an admission charge.

There are some corrections that need to be made in the information released by the City of Rotan last week concerning ages and pool prices. The below information is correct. Season ticket prices are \$20 for ages 11 and under and \$30 for ages 12 and over. Individual daily admissions are \$1.00 for 11 and under and \$1.50 for 12 and over.

hits.

Team members of the 1997 Rotan squad are Stoney Carrillo, m Joey Lujan, Rusty Goodwin, C.W. Robertson, James Flores, Ray Yanez, Brandon Carreon, Mikeal Harrison, Russell Price, Guy Duke, Adon Garza, Bradey Murphree, Byron Kennedy, Chris Huggins and Baldemar Frausto.

Eight Hammers Selected To All-District Squad

A total of eight members of the Rotan Yellowhammer baseball team were selected to either the first or second 7-A all-district team, according to Ronn Langthorn, Head Baseball Coach.

Players -

Mikeal Harrison, Senior, was named as the defensive MVP of the District which included Rotan, Lorraine, Westbrook, Aspermont and Ira.

First team selections were: Joey Lujan, Junior, pitcher; C.W. Robertson, Senior, catcher; Stoney Carrillo, Junior, infielder; James Flores, Junior, infielder and Rusty Goodwin, Senior, outfielder.

Second team selections were: Russell Price, Senior, infielder; and Guy Duke, Sophomore, outfielder.

Ray Yanez was named honorable mention outfielder.

Other first team players - Bear Cooper, Lorraine, MVP, offense; Miquel Gomez, Lorraine and Richard While, Westbrook, catchers.

Infielders - Kevin Chisum, Aspermont; Anthony Aguilar, Lorraine; Justin, Hill, Westbrook; Jerek Brown, Ira.

Outfielders - Rene Garcia, Lorraine; Jesse Limones, Lorraine; Tony Alaniz, Westbrook.

Fisher County Meetings Of Interest

All meetings open to the public.

Fisher County Commissioners
9:00 a.m. Monday, June 9
Commissioners Court

Rotan School Board
7:30 p.m. Monday, June 9
Rotan School Cafeteria

Roby School Board
7:30 p.m., Monday, June 9
Homemaking Department

Rotan City Council
6:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 10
Rotan City Hall

Fisher County Appraisal Dist.
8:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 11
District Court Room

Rotan Chamber Of Commerce
5:30 p.m., Thursday, June 12
Rotan Chamber Building

Rotan Water Authority
11:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 18
Bart Strayhorn's Office

Rotan Economic Development
3:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 18
Rotan City Hall

Fisher County Hospital Board
6:30 p.m., Monday, June 23
Hospital Cafeteria

DPR Rural Water Supply
7:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 24
DPR Office

Cost To Close Rotan Landfill May Approach \$120,000

Gary McKay, engineer for the City of Rotan, informed the members of the Rotan City Council last Tuesday night that the cost of closing the Rotan Landfill could approach \$120,000.

McKay is expected to have a more concrete figure in two-weeks when the council meets for their June meeting.

The bulk of the cost involved in closure centers around moving dirt over the area where debris was buried.

Editor's Column

By Kimball G. Pease

DOZENTHINGS TO BE THANKFUL FOR: Clean sheets, people who keep a promise, beautiful sunsets, a deep laugh, pets, tree swings, Dr. Vick Burk, grandchildren playing in a mud hole, good attitudes, a baby's yawn, disposable razor blades and Bisquick.

SOMEONE ONCE SAID: Don't know who, but if I did I would sure give the person credit - "If evil be said of thee, and it is true, correct it; if it be a lie, laugh at it."

HAPPY FATHERS DAY: There are some fathers who are not in this category, but there are some who are - read on. An old crank from Snyder said, "Some fathers worry more about their golf swing than they do about their offspring."

CONGRATULATIONS: To all those in Fisher County farmers and ranches and interested people who made trips to Austin, made personal contacts to Senators and Representatives and who otherwise are responsible for getting the Boll Weevil Eradication program back on track.

ATTORNEY GENERAL DAN MORALES: Records of 9-1-1 calls, including originating phone numbers and addresses, are confidential under the Health and Safety Code. The Attorney General said other exceptions in the Public Information Act may apply to information not otherwise confidential in the Health and Safety Code. The opinion was requested by the city of El Paso which said it had received several open records requests relating to 9-1-1 calls made from particular addresses.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Bryan Mauldin a graduate of Roby High School who lived at Sylvester. He was one of 150 students at Angelo State University to receive degrees during the spring commencement. Mauldin received an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing degree, with a major in Nursing.

POT HOLES REPAIRED AROUND SCHOOL: The City of Rotan finally repaired all the pot holes around the school last week, the day before graduation. I counted that they filled about 125 holes ranging from saucer-sized to giant craters within a few blocks of the school. We don't need to let our streets get in that shape in the future - 125 pot holes in a three-block area borders on gross neglect and doesn't speak well for the City of Rotan and their responsibility to the tax payers of the city.

LITTLE LEAGUE REGULAR SEASON PLAY ENDS: The regular season play for the Rotan Little League officially ends on Friday, June 6th. However, the kids still play in the County Tournament and All-Star game.

TAKES A NEW JOB: My youngest son John and his wife Suzy and two children Mikaylee and Victoria are moving from Hood Junior High in Odessa, a feeder school to Odessa Permian to a junior high school in Allen, Texas. Suzy will be teaching 3rd graders and John will be coaching and teaching science. They start school on July 27th.

BOARD MEMBER ASKED PRICE WHAT HE PAID: Word got back that a Roby School Board member asked George Price how much he paid me to put his name in the paper under 'things to be thankful for'. He didn't pay me anything, he didn't even know about it - that makes it neat. Price is a good man and is doing a good job as Roby Superintendent. Surely he'll offer me one of the famous Roby home-made hot rolls some day from the cafeteria.

ROTAN SUPERINTENDENT IS IN PLACE: New Rotan Superintendent Jim Copeland is finally sleeping in Rotan on a full time basis. He was hired back in January after Wes Hays retired in November of 1996. Copeland has been attempting to serve as Superintendent in Allison until they found a replacement and has been doing a lot of commuting over the weekend. He and his family are in Rotan and he's in his office at school on a full-time basis as of last week.

WHERE ARE THEY AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?: The Kersh girls. Rita and Betty, daughters of Marvin and Norene Kersh of Rotan. They have lived in Rotan for the past 45 years. Their oldest daughter - Rita Warner, lives in Hamlin and is employed by the Hamlin Hospital, working in the office. She also sells real estate for Myla Black of Black Investments. Rita and her husband Jackie have two daughters - Heather, age 21 of Hamlin a para-legal who works for Jack Willingham and Amber, age 18, a 1997 graduate of Hamlin High School who will be a freshman at South Plains College in Levelland. The second daughter - Betty Bredemeyer, is the new owner of Betty's Bernina Sewing Store in Snyder. She has two children - Melissa, age 18 who works at Betty's Bernina and Nicholas, age 15, a sophomore at Snyder High School.

RESTAURANT TO RE-OPEN: Ellen St. Clair closed St. Clair's Restaurant a few months ago. I ran into Zanna Anderson of Roby at Circle D last week and he indicated that he was in the process of re-doing the kitchen and making other improvements with plans on re-opening the restaurant in August. He plans on carrying fresh-made pizza and bringing back the weekly fish-night.

Continued to page 2

Continued from page 1

WHERE ARE THEY AND WHAT ARE THEY DO-ING?: The Thomson children - children of Perry and Rheta Thomson of Rotan. Their oldest child - **Charlotte**, age 40 is living in Machala, Ecuador with her husband **Garry Wester** and two children **Tara** and **Daniel**. **Charlotte** and **Gary** have been missionaries to Ecuador for the past eight years assigned by the Southern Baptist Convention. **Tara**, age 17, has been home schooled and plans on entering Baylor next year. **Daniel**, age 12, is still being home schooled. **Perry** and **Rheta's** second child is **Perry Paul Thomson**, age 37, an employee of West Texas Utilities in Anson. He is the Assistant Fire Chief there. His wife **Cathy Hull Thomson** is employed with the First National Bank in Anson. She is the sister of **Donald Hull**, **Mike Hull**, **Reva Jo Harbin** and **Brenda Oliver**. Third child is **Eddie Thomson**. He is a Sergeant First Class in the United States Army. He's a tank commander at Fort Collins, Colorado. He and his wife **Bonnie (Duhadaway) Thomson** have three children - **Cindy** age 12, **Robert** age 10 and **Anna**, age 7.

CITY EDITION OR COUNTRY EDITION: The self-proclaimed Mayor of Hobbs, **Andrew Williams**, wanted to know if we had two editions of the paper. He wanted to be sure that we mailed him the country edition.

DINNER AND A MOVIE: Drove over to Snyder one night last week and had dinner at The Shack, owned by **Roy Carter** and saw a movie. The movie was the pits - the meal was great. Don't waste your money on a movie advertised as 'the funniest movie you'll see this summer.' **Romy & Melissa - Class Reunion** it stinks. I thought my son **Kip's** recommendation of 'Dumb and Dumber' was the worst movie I ever sat through until last week. **Roy Carter** explained that within the past two months he completed his collection of old license plates from the 50-states. The two states he needed to complete his collection were Delaware and Connecticut. He was talking to a man from Pennsylvania about needing Connecticut and Delaware and the man said he'd keep an eye open. While the man was vacationing in Florida, he parked next to a car with Connecticut plates. After visiting with the man about **Roy's** collection - the man from Connecticut said he had some old license plates at home and would send him one. Bottom line - the guy from Connecticut sent the two plates to the man from Pennsylvania and he forwarded them on to **Roy**. In addition, **Roy** has a full collection of Texas license plates going back to 1866. **Ed Singley** had a collection going from 1866 to 1952; **Lewis Singley** had a collection from 1901 to 1981. The two collections were placed on display at the Shack by **Carl Singley**. **Roy** said **Bob Spikes**, Rotan High School Principal, went through Snyder schools while Roby was Assistant Principal. **Roy** also has fond memories of teaching some of the baseball players during the five weeks he substituted for **Brandi Woods** while she had her baby. **Roy** taught algebra, trigonometry and geometry.

TAKE NOTE: Lawyers would have a hard time making a living if folks behaved themselves and kept the promises they made.

REMINDER: 'Rotan Days - 1997' is Saturday, June 14th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Newspaper Office will be closed each Friday during June and July. In case of emergency contact Kim Pease at 735-3115.

ONE TEXAN IN FIVE LIVES IN POVERTY: Information from the Texas Comptroller states that close to one fifth, 19.6 percent, of Texas' population lives in poverty. The counties with the highest percent of poor in 1993 were along the Texas - Mexico border and in West Texas and East Texas. The median household income in Texas was \$28,803 in 1993, while the poverty threshold for a family of four was set at \$14,350. That means if you made less than \$1,195.83 a month or if you made less than \$278.10 a week or for a 40-hour week - if you made less than \$6.95 an hour and were supporting a family of four - you were classified as poor.

WHERE ARE THEY AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING: The Stinson children. Children of **Reggie** and **Joy Stinson** of Rotan. **Reggie**, age 28 lives in Lubbock and works for Plains Cotton Company where he trouble - shoots computer programs. **Lucy**, age 26, lives in Dallas and works for Telco Communications as a sales representative. Neither are married. **Reggie** and **Joy** have lived in Rotan for the past 50 years.

ADS GO IN THE TRASH CAN: We toss a lot of out-of-state classified ads in the trash can for a few basic reasons. First, because I believe they are a scam and stand the potential of bilking my readers out of hard-earned money, second because the person wishing to place the ad fails to send a money order to pay for the ad. Trying to collect for a classified ad after it has run in the paper is like trying to collect for a meal after it has been eaten. Point - we don't guarantee the legitimacy of all ads but local folks can rest assured knowing that a few folks at The Newspaper Office have screened each ad in an attempt to cut down on aggravation on your part.

UPCOMING EVENTS: June 5 - World Environment Day; 7 - National Family Day; 8 - National Flag Week and National Little League Baseball Week; 14 - Flag Day; 15 - Father's Day; 21 - First Day of Summer - in addition June is Dairy Month, Iced Tea Month, Pest Control Month, American Rivers Month, Cancer in the Sun Month, National Rose Month and Vision Research Month.

PRISON HAS BEEN ECONOMIC WINDFALL: The prisons at Snyder, Abilene and Colorado City are all employing Fisher County residents. The new prisons have been an economic windfall for Fisher County. One employee, **Donna Moffett** of Rotan, is the Curriculum Supervisor for Region 5 for the Windham School District which is the school district for the prisons in the West Texas and Panhandle region for the State of Texas.

ANYONE KNOW: Had a friend ask me to find out when the Rotan School added the 12th grade (what year) and also what year the Rotan ISD was integrated. Anyone know?

FORGOT A MANAGER: A few weeks ago when we mentioned the Little League managers in attendance at the Marfa - Rotan game at Crane, who had managed Yellowhammer team players, we left off **Brian Harrison**. He managed **Mikeal Harrison**, **Ray Yanez** and **Adon Garza** when they played for the Little League Rebels..

SOMEONE IS WATCHING: Fellow came into my office a few weeks ago and alienated everyone with his obnoxious behavior - when he left, one of the girls remarked that she read the following - and it really fit this Sunday Christian. "There are people looking at us six days a week to find out whether we really mean what we say and do on the seventh." and this guy failed miserably.

History Notes

From The Newspaper Office Files

25 Years Ago June - 1972

Four from Western Texas College received honors - Terri Hartman, Susan Adams, Andi Whitfill and Lou McCombs.

Horace Carters celebrated their 25th anniversary.

Bret Clements was on the dean's list at Cisco Junior College.

Janet Callan and Melody Walker were entered in the Aspermont Rodeo.

Randy Upshaw was hired as the new Ag. Teacher at Idalou.

20 Years Ago June - 1977

Larry Landes was named the President of the Rotan Chamber of Commerce.

Anne Graham was named Miss Texas Teenager.

The Rotan Western Auto Store conducted their open house.

Exchange student Uta Will arrived to stay with the Wayne Harris family.

15 Years Ago June - 1982

Donnie Carl Gruben, Jared Cook and John Pease were second place winners on the 4-H Grass Identification Team.

Alan Kiker was named the Vice Chairman of the 4-H District.

Trey Gardner, Jeff Branson and John Everett won the 4-H Junior Entomology Identification contest.

Myra Adams received her degree from Angelo State.

Thirty-seven seniors graduated from Rotan High School.

10 Years Ago June - 1987

Rotan twirlers for 1987-88 were Shanna Bennett, Vanessa Peek, Jennifer Dickson and Carye Gruben. Junior High Cheerleaders were - Christi Garcia, Jennifer Martinez, Angela Peace, Christi Parr and Julie Parr.

David Gauna completed recruit training at San Diego, California.

Junior high twirlers named were Terrye Warren, Czrena West and Missy McKinney.

5 Years Ago June - 1992

Horace Curlee was named the President of the Fisher County Hospital Board.

David Smith was installed as the President of the Rotan Lions Club.

Rotan Council members were Emma Denton, Connie McQueen, Hank Day, Larry Markham and Lonnie Starnes. Jerry Marshall was Mayor.

Ronnie Ammons was the Fisher County Hospital Administrator and was excited about securing the services of Dr. Myra Tomasevic.

Fisher County Tax History

A 9-Year History Of Tax Rates Adopted By The Fisher County Taxing Entities.										
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Hospital Dist.	.302	.415	.382	.437	.497	.560	.590	.590		
Roby School	.890	.890	.946	.300	.334	1.26	1.26	1.30	1.49	
Rotan School	.940	1.03	1.03	.435	.493	1.42	1.27	1.43	1.43	
Fisher County	.595	.570	.550	.628	.730	.795	.825	.872	.895	
Roby City	.490	.490	.520	.535	.535	.560	.500	.520	.520	
Rotan City	.581	.617	.570	.591	.616	.631	.639	.659	.692	
Rotan Water	.080	.080	.096	.106	.106	.106	.080	.080	.080	

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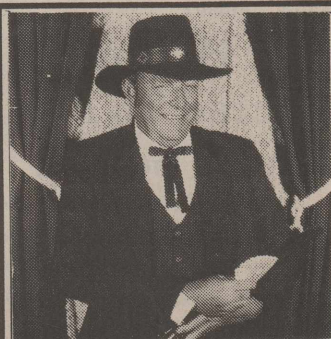
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Administrator
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Norvelle Kennedy
735-2123
Rotan, Texas

**Weathersbee
Funeral Home**
735-2255
Rotan, Texas

Builder's Transport
Brad Rivers, Manager
735-3677
200 South Garfield
Rotan, Texas

**Snyder Savings &
Loan Association**
College Ave. & 27th St.
Member F.D.I.C.
915-573-9305

CLINIC PHARMACY
735-2500
Cleburne Murdoch, RPh
Rotan, Texas

Fisher County Devotional Page

Seeds From The Sower

Michael A. Guido, Metter, Georgia

Julia Ward Howe wanted a senator to meet a friend who needed help. But he said, "I've outlived my interest in individuals."

"Fortunately," she answered, "God hasn't."

The God who made the world and who controls it, is interested in you and your prayers and your problems.

To Him your problems are possibilities. Have you made a mess of things? You can be born again. As you a slave to sin? You can master it. Is your life ugly? It can be beautiful.

Remember this; not that you're a hopeless sinner, but that God can make you a saint - If you'll let Him. You will, won't you?

Calvary Baptist Church

Rev. Ruben Osuna
735-3464
SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00
Rotan, Texas

Church of Christ

Appointment Pending
776-2496
SS - 10:00 - Worship 10:45
Roby, Texas

Church of Christ

Barry Day, Minister
735-2344
SS - 9:45 - Worship 10:45
Rotan, Texas

Cross Roads Baptist

Rev. Joe Baucham
735-2178
SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00
Rotan, Texas

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Appointment Pending
735-3143
SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00
Rotan, Texas

First Baptist Church

Rev. Mickey Wagoner
776-2159
SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00
Roby, Texas

First Baptist Church

Rev. Werth Mayes
735-3471
SS - 9:45 - Worship 11:00
Rotan, Texas

Foursquare Church

Rev. Robert Kennedy
735-2553
SS - 9:45 - Worship 11:00
Rotan, Texas

First United Methodist

Rev. Jeff Sedberry
SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00
McCaulley, Texas

First United Methodist

Rev. Steve Patterson
776-2308
SS - 9:45 - Worship 10:50
Roby, Texas

First United Methodist

Rev. Larry Holder
735-2334
SS - 9:30 - Worship 10:30
Rotan, Texas

First United Methodist

Rev. Jeff Sedberry
SS - 9:30 - Worship 10:00
Sylvester, Texas

Hobbs Baptist Church

Rev. Dee Threatt
SS - 9:45 - Worship 11:00
Rotan, Texas

Little Zion Baptist Church

Rev. Mark Smith
735-2362
SS - 9:45 - Worship 11:00
Rotan, Texas

Mission Bautista Calvario

Rev. Jim Lawliss
SS - 9:45 - Worship 11:00
Roby, Texas

McCaulley Baptist Church

Rev. Bruce Cox
SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00
McCaulley, Texas

St. Joseph's Catholic

Father Johnrose Hayden
Sunday Morning 9:00 a.m.
735-3285
Rotan, Texas

Sylvester Baptist

Rev. Bruce Hess
993-4479
SS - 10:00 - Worship - 11:00
Sylvester, Texas



City Auto Supply

735-2242
Rodney, Laura, Andrea
Rotan, Texas

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Legal Notice

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF FISHER

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable 32nd Judicial District Court of Fisher County on the 23rd day of May, 1997 by the Clerk thereof, in the case of Rotan Independent School District vs. Lue Ann Bowen; Cause #4538

and to me, as Sheriff directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the 1st day of July, 1997 which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the North door of the Courthouse of Said Fisher County, in the city of Roby, Teas, the following described property, to wit:

Tract I: Being all that certain South

316 2/3 Feet of the West Half of Block 4 of the Patton Addition to the City of Rotan, Texas, and being more particularly described in that certain Deed of record in Volume 609, Page 115 of the Deed Records of Fisher County, Texas.

Tract II: Being all that certain East Half of Block 4 of the Patton Addition to the City of Rotan, Texas, and being more particularly described in that certain Deed of record in Volume 609, Page 115 of the Deed Records of Fisher County, Texas.

Levied on the 23rd day of May, 1997 at the property of Lue Ann

Bowen, Route 1, Box 15, Rotan, Texas 79546; to satisfy a judgment amounting to \$2,207.75 with interest from the 4th day of April, 1997 at 10 percent, per annum, and all costs of suit in favor of Rotan Independent School District, et al.

Given under my hand this 23rd day of May, 1997.

Gene Pack
Sheriff Fisher County, Texas
by Kirk Williamson
Deputy
41-3tc

DPR Rural Water Supply Emergency Notification Numbers

In case of emergency, please contact DPR personnel by using one of the following numbers. The DPR Office Is located in The Newspaper Office. The office can be reached by dialing 735-2562 or 735-2278. Office FAX number is 735-2230.

Other emergency numbers are -

Kim Pease - Office	735-3115 - H
Evonne Teague - Office	735-2302 - H
Alan Adelhardt - Company	735-3093 - H
	338-6921 - M
Jack McCall - President	735-2596 - H
CleDon Coffman - Vice Pres.	735-2308 - H

NOTICE

The Fisher County Tax Office/Motor Vehicle Division will close early on Friday, June 6th at 4:00 P.M., due to taking inventory. This will also include the substation in Rotan. We hope this one hour early closing will not be an inconvenience to our customers.

Betty Mize, Tax Assessor/Collector

THANK YOU

We would like to express our most sincere thanks and gratitude for the outpouring of love and sympathy in the death of Loran Little. A very special thanks to Bro. Werth Mayes for the comforting message and also to Carolyn Weathersbee, Evelyn Nowlin and Bobby Smith for the beautiful music. Thanks to Mac Weathersbee, Clay and Julie Hargrove, and for Bro. Bob for the services they provided and a special thanks to those who served as pallbearers. Our particular thanks go to so many for the visits, phone calls, cards, and flowers, and also for the food you prepared and served to the family.

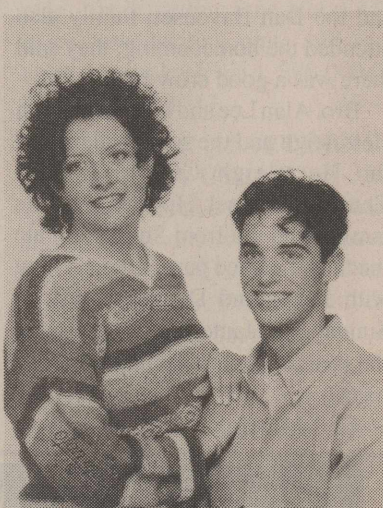
May God Bless You.

Joe W. Little

Janel & Wayne Holcomb & Family
Gayleta & Bob Pugh & Family

Stephanie Frierson Engaged To RA Morris

Tommy and Becca Frierson of Roscoe are proud to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Stephanie Blanche, to RA Landon Morris of Rochelle, Texas.



Stephanie Blanche Frierson
& RA Landon Morris

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Of Defensive Driving
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JUNE CLASSES

June 9-10 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
June 14 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**You must attend both classes to receive credit and must take Monday class before taking Tuesday class.
Please arrive 15-20 minutes before class starts to fill out all registration paper.

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735-2562

Fisher County Round Up

By Joy Walker

There were some bad storms in and around Austin Tuesday evening, with a terrible tornado in Jarrell, with so much loss of life, and nothing much left of the town. I called Melody but she said they lived a long way from Jarrell, but they did have a bad storm with lots of wind.

We had a bad thunderstorm here in the night Thursday with so much lightning and thunder. Also I got a

good rain, one and two tenths inches in all, so everything is soaked again and the fields are too wet to plow or plant as the case may be. The little cotton is coming up, but in lots of fields it is crusted over, and lots of farmers had to work Sunday to try and get the cotton up after the heavy rain. I saw a number of tractors run-

ning in various places, and know that the farmers were trying to get that little cotton to come up. The wind didn't blow, thank goodness, so they didn't have to fight the sand.

Congratulations to the Rotan baseball team, who although they lost to the Claude team Saturday evening in Lubbock, played so well and it was

an exciting game; I listened to it on the Haskell radio.

Visiting with George and Josie Maule for a few days was Vince Halder from Alpharetta, Georgia. It had been two years since he last was here, and George and Josie sure enjoyed his visit. Vince is the son of Linda and Ron Halder of McLean, Virginia, and the grandson of George and Josie Maul of Camp Springs.

We have been seeing lots of Brad Maule on the television this past week, as he was introducing all the new doctors who are going to be on the new soap opera, Port Charles, which will be on every day. It is in conjunction with General Hospital, and some of the characters will be on both of the soaps some of the time. Brad is the son of George and Josie Maule of Camp Springs.

Sam and Roxie Etheredge attended the Camp Springs Homecoming which was held Sunday at the Northwest Community Center. Lila Guinn and the Dan Bavousett family also attended the homecoming; they said there was a good crowd there.

Bro. Alan Lee and his family from Hermleigh and the song leader from the Hermleigh Central Baptist Church, Michael Howard and his family who are from Snyder, all ate lunch and visited part of the evening with James and Dianne Ratliff on Sunday. The James Ratliffs attended the musical at McCaulley Saturday night.

Carl Murff is now in the Rehab

Wing at Hendrick Memorial Hospital in Abilene.

Sam Smith from Sweetwater, representing the Gideons, spoke at the Roby Methodist Church in Roby on Sunday. Bro. Steve Patterson and his family were on vacation.

Mrs. Guy Kemp is now home from the Fisher County Hospital.

Marcos Medrano went to Stephen Lopez's graduation at Coahoma last Thursday. Ginger Couch and Doris Diamond and their children who are all from Carrollton were also there. Stephen gave the Benediction, he was vice-president of the senior class. He is the son of Esther and Junior Lopez and plans on attending the University of Texas in Austin. He is the grandson of Marcos Medrano and the late Sue Medrano.

We were saddened to hear of the death of Miguel (Mike) Soto of Abilene. Mike used to live out here at Camp Springs with his family and his kids all attended school at Hobbs. Our sincere sympathy goes out to his five sons and two daughters, and to the remainder of his family.

We are also sorry to learn of the death of Ruth Witherspoon of Rotan, who taught for a total of 50 years, 43 of them at Rotan. Our sincere sympathy goes out to her husband, and two sons Robert and John and to the remainder of the family.

Carol and Wilber Gruben went to visit La Verne and Preston Upshaw in Ransom Canyon, east of Lubbock, Saturday. They spent the day with

them and they all attended the Rotan-Claude baseball game.

Dan and Carla Bavousett are being honored with a reception for their Silver Wedding Anniversary Sunday, June 8th, at Hobbs Baptist Church, from 2 until 4 p.m., given by their daughters Frances and Emily.

I visited with the Wilber Grubens Tuesday as little Clancey was there. That night we all attended the Fisher County 4-Hers Share the Fun program and the demonstrations which they will be giving at A&M University this week. They will be leaving Wednesday and we want to wish them all the very best of luck with their demonstrations and Share the Fun etc.

Sheila and Donnie Gruben visited with the Donnie Carl Grubens and the twins all day Friday. The twins are rolling over now and are getting along so well. They will smile and coo and are so very cute. Happy anniversary to Donnie Carl and Julie whose anniversary is Thursday, 5th of June.

See you next week.

Roby Sixth -Six Weeks All A Honor Roll:

3rd Grade: Chelsey Callan, Brit-tany Lakey, Dakota Rasberry, Britini Stuart.

4th Grade: J.W. Chick, Cherish Dowell, Toby Guerra, Adree Lakey, Jance Morris, Michael Ortiz, Mat-thew Pippin, Brent Scherwitz, Hunter Stuart, Chrissie Waldon.

5th Grade: Kristi Claxton, Kim-berly Garcia, Shalee Griffith, Jacob Kenyon, Kayla Kiser, Stuart Posey, Josh Sepeda, Rachel Smith, Shane Stuart, Wesley Terry.

6th Grade: Denise Bolton, Kandra Lakey, Lyndi Stuart.

7th Grade: Bryan Kenyon.

8th Grade: Gena Stevenson.

9th Grade: Karen Carriker,

Cassandra Griffith, Sahala Hardin, Leticia Leyva, Julie Terry.

10th Grade: Denise Caswell, Au-tumn Daniel, Shella Graves, Joshua Griffith, Mindy Mahaffey, Rosa Sanchez, Cassie Terry.

11th Grade: Jaycee Carey, Latrice Moffett.

12th Grade: Philip Goodwin, Makala Herron, Robert Onofre.

Roby Sixth-Six Weeks AB Honor Roll:

3rd Grade: Josh Faglie, Art Flores, Zane Graves, Kaleb Kenyon, Kasey King, Ryan Rivas, Brent Terry, J.R. Valenzuela, Kasey Williamson.

4th Grade: Jessica Arenivas, Jes-sica Knox, Tammy Williams.

5th Grade: Judd Bond, Lance Evans, Candace Flach, Brandon Hampton, Jeb Harwell, Ashley Hernandez, Jeri McLain.

6th Grade: Jacob Foil, Nikki Mays, Cody Polk, Bryant Terry, Cecille Terry, Toby Terry, Chelsie Thane, Josh Williamson.

7th Grade: Candace Anderson, Candas Boyd, Tara Carey, Stephanie Carriker, Kasey Crill, Danelle Evans, Chris Fowler, Irene Gonzales, Klay McWilliams, Lance Patterson, Sabrina Vahlenkamp.

8th Grade: Brittany Cary, Curt Douglass, Jennifer Griffith, Jeremy Griffith, Melissa Griffith, Megan

Harwell, Justin Lands, Juan Leyva, Misty Mahaffey, Lance Moore, Perla Sanchez.

9th Grade: Jason Amador, Stacy Barrera, Ike Crill, Timothy Haigood, Brandie Herrley, Lindy Kelley, Al-cia Ortega, Robert Pippin, Wesley Pullig, Clinton Smith.

10th Grade: Wesley Arnold, Ja-son Bailey, Mondo Barrera, Kristi Bond, Sarah Boyd, Ashley Douglass, Micah Evans, Meggan Herron, Amanda Johnson, Jesse Loeza, Kyle McWilliams, Chasity Valenzuela.

11th Grade: Candice Brown, Billy Floyd, Mike Haigood, Matt Harris, Wendy Harwell, J.D. Hearn, Mandy Taylor, Misty Taylor, Rusty Thomp-son, Jeremy Valdez, Ty West.

12th Grade: Shea Feagan, Chris Gloyd, Beau Heart, Kim Hudnall, Edward Marquez, Konnett Mays, Jacob Whitaker.

Second Semester All A Honor Roll:

3rd Grade: Chelsey Callan, Brit-tany Lakey, Dakota Rasberry, Britini Stuart.

4th Grade: J.W. Chick, Cherish Dowell, Toby Guerra, Jance Morris, Matthew Pippin, Brent Scherwitz, Hunter Stuart, Chrissie Waldon.

5th Grade: Kim Garcia, Shalee Griffith, Brandon Hampton, Jacob Kenyon, Kayla Kiser, Joshua Sepeda, Rachel Smith, Shane Stuart, Wesley Terry.

6th Grade: Leslie Bolton, Kandra Lakey, Lyndi Stuart.

7th Grade: Candace Anderson, Danelle Evans, Chris Fowler, Bryan Kenyon, Klay McWilliams.

8th Grade: Gena Stevenson.

9th Grade: Karen Carriker,

Cassandra Griffith, Sahala Hardin, Leticia Leyva.

10th Grade: Kristi Bond, Sarah Boyd, Denise Caswell, Autumn

Daniel, Shella Graves, Mindy Mahaffey, Rosa Sanchez, Cassie Terry.

11th Grade: Jaycee Carey, Billy Floyd, Wendy Harwell, J.D. Hearn, Latrice Moffett.

12th Grade: Makala Herron, Rob-ert Onofre.

Second Semester AB Honor Roll: 3rd Grade: Joshua Faglie, Art Flores, Kaleb Kenyon, Kasey King, Brent Terry, Kasey Williamson.

4th Grade: Jessica Arenivas, Jes-sica Knox, Adree Lakey, Michael Ortiz, Tammy Williams.

5th Grade: Judd Bond, Kristi Claxton, Lance Evans, Jeb Harwell, Carolina Hinojosa, Jeri McClain, Stuart Posey.

6th Grade: Jake Foil, Nikki Mays, Cody Polk, Toby Terry, Chelsie Thane.

7th Grade: Stephanie Carriker, Kasey Crill, Sabrina Vahlenkamp.

8th Grade: Curt Douglass, Jen-nifer Griffith, Jeremy Griffith, Justin Lands, Teryn Lester, Juan Leyva, Misty Mahaffey, Lance Moore, Perla Sanchez.

9th Grade: Stacy Barrera, Adam Gomez, Tim Haigood, Brandie Herley, Lindy Kelley, Alicia Ortega, Robert Pippin, Wesley Pullig, Ashley Smith, Clinton Smith, Julie Terry.

10th Grade: Wesley Arnold, Ja-son Bailey, Ashley Douglass, Micah Evans, Joshua Griffith, Meggan Herron, Amanda Johnson, Jesse Loeza, Chasity Valenzuela.

11th Grade: Candice Brown, Mike Haigood, Terry Moreno, Mandy Tay-lor, Misty Taylor, Rusty Thompson, Jeremy Valdez, Ty West.

12th Grade: Shea Feagan, Chris Gloyd, Phillip Goodwin, Beau Hart, Kim Hudnall, Tommy Lands, Ed-ward Marquez, Konnett Mays, Justin Smith, Jacob Whitaker.

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Fisher County NEWS BRIEFS

Rotan Methodist VBS

First United Methodist Church in Rotan will be holding their Vacation Bible School June 9-13, from 8:30 until 11:30 for ages 3 years through 6th grade. For more information call 735-2260.

Newman Cemetery

Newman Cemetery Association will hold a meeting on Saturday, June 7, at the Newman Cemetery. There will be a covered dish meal at noon and a business meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Wild Horse Prairie Days

Haskell's Wild Horse Prairie Days a celebration of the Legendary Texas Working Cowboy will be held in Haskell on June 6, 7, and 8. The Ranch Rodeo beings at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday night at the Haskell Rodeo Arena in Haskell City Park.

Baird Trades Festival

Baird Trades Festival will be held June 7 in downtown Baird. Events include Antiques, Arts & Crafts, Mini Train Rides, Children's Games, among many other activities.

Back to Rath's Trail

Back to Rath's Trail celebration will be held June 6, 7 and 8 at Hamlin. Various activities and exhibits are planned for each day.

Want A Shot At a Million?

Mend-A-Child Million Dollar Hole-In-One Golf begins with qualifying rounds on Thursday, June 5, and Friday, June 6, from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. at Willow Creek Golf Center at 1166 Ben Richey Drive, off South Treadaway, in Abilene. They take the 22 golfers who were closest in the qualifying rounds to the finals on Sunday. Finals begin at noon. Anyone making a hole in one on Sunday wins \$2 million, Mend-A-Child gets \$1 million and golfer keeps \$1 million. Qualifying round balls are \$1.00 each.

Roby Baptist VBS

First Baptist Church of Roby will hold Vacation Bible School June 9-13th, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. For transportation call 776-2794 or 776-2159

It is with great pleasure that we announce the opening of our new office.



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Betty's Bernina Class Schedule for June 1997

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 15% Sr. Citizen Discount Every Monday	3 Machine Mastery I 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	4	5	6 Trade-In Your Husband Day	7 Trade-In Your Husband Day
8	9 Apron Yourself 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon	10 Machine Mastery II 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	11	12	13	14 Machine Mastery 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
15	16	17 Machine Mastery III 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	18 Open Early For Western Swing Festival	19 Round Robin Serging 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	20 Round Robin Serging 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	21 Round Robin Serging 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Machine Mastery 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
22	23 Patriotic Checkers 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon	24 Quilt Class & Machine Mastery IV 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	25	26 Sergers Guide Class 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	27	28 Bag Lady Day Machine Mastery 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

MACHINE MASTERY CLASS Teaches Basics Of Your Machine Stitches & Techniques. If You Purchased A Machine In The Past 6 Months This Class Is Included In The Purchase Of Your Machine. If You Need A Refresher The Class Can Be Bought For \$10 Per Session.
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Real Estate

West of Roby - 121 acres of C.R.P. grassland on FM 1657 just off of Highway 180; also 78 acres of C.R.P. in Hobbs area...Call Black Investments (915) 735-3091. 34:tf

West of Rotan - 8 newly fenced acres on pavement with water well PLUS remodeled country home with great front porch...call Black Investments (915) 735-3091. 34:tf

Southwest of Roby - 49 acres with nice country home; for a total of 160 acres also purchase the adjoining 111 acres...Call Myla Black (915) 735-3091. 34:tf

RELOCATION COMPANY IS MOTIVATED SELLER of this 3 BR, 1 3/4 bath brick home south of Roby on Highway 180...Black Investments (915) 735-3091. 34:tf

203 Acres East of Roby, excellent stock farm, water, house. Call Black Investments 735-3091. 41:tf

FOR RENT: 1 BR house. For more information call 735-3171. 17:tf

FOR SALE: House in Roby, 3 BR, 1 bath, storage building, comes with six lots, recently remodeled. Call 776-2568 or 776-2720. 39:tf

FORSALE: 3 BR, 1 bath, 2 carports, large storage, (915) 573-9087. 39:tf

FOR SALE: House at 904 E. Johnston in Rotan, 3 bedroom, garage, 1 bath, ceiling fans, storm windows, new heating unit and roof, large fenced back yard, \$20,000.00. Call 972-366-1217. 40:4tp

IRVIN PLACE APARTMENTS: FINANCED BY USDA/RD: 2-3 BR apartments available with central heating and air-conditioning, maintenance and lawn care provided as well as a stove and refrigerator. Some utilities provided. Rent is based on your income. Rotan Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Housing Agency and welcomes all applicants regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, family status, religion or political belief. From more information, please call (915) 735-3613. Rotan Housing Authority, 202 W. McArthur, Rotan, TX 79546. 13:tf

HUD APARTMENTS: 1-2-3-4 BR apartments available. Maintenance and lawn care provided as well as a stove and refrigerator. Some utilities provided. Rent is based on your income. Rotan Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Housing Agency and welcomes all applicants regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, handicap, family status, religion or political belief. For more information, please call (915) 735-3613. Rotan Housing Authority, 202 W. McArthur, Rotan, TX 79546. 13:tf

Help Wanted

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Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: Friday and Saturday, May 6th and 7th, at 404 E. Lee in Rotan. Two expaorative coolers, two window fans and lots of miscellaneous. 41:1tc

GARAGE SALE: 605 E. Sammy Baugh Ave., Saturday, June 7, 1997, 8:00 A.M. to ? Odds, ends, and junk. 41:1tc

NOTICE: The McCaulley 'Flea Market' has been cancelled for June. 41:1tp

GARAGE SALE: From 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Saturday, June 7th at 801 E. 8th in Rotan. Lots and lots of stuff. 41:1tc

Services

WESTAR ELECTRONICS - Your complete TV-VCR Satellite Sales & Service Center in Sweetwater. Also, Primestar Sales & Rental Agent, plus the 18" Dish Network is also available. Dependable, guaranteed work and pick-up and delivery available. Come by 1106 E. Broadway or call 235-3335. 37:tf

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WEIGHTWATCHERS IS MEETING EACH WEDNESDAY IN ROTAN. Come try "The Freedom Plan" with the "Weekends Off" Option! Call 1-800-651-6000. 26:tf

SUMMER TUTORING: K-8, individual lessons. If interested call Mrs. Smith 735-2993. 39:3tp

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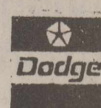
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FOR SALE: Natural gas Dearborne heater. Large size with automatic pilot and shut off safety feature. Like new, in very good condition, \$200.00 or best offer. Call 776-2542 after 5:00 p.m. 41:1tc

FOR SALE: "And I Grew Up In The Country," a 39 page book of poems by Bertha Warren, is For Sale for \$8.00 plus \$1.00 S/H, at The Newspaper Office at Rotan, Silver Star Cafe at Roby and Wood's Boots at Colorado City, or call 776-2658. 41:2tc



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(915) 574-6886

Notice of Certification of Power Supply Contracts

This notice is sent to you pursuant to an Order of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) dated February 11, 1997, in PUCT Docket NO. 15100, *Requests of Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc. for Determinations Required by Section 32 (K) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act and for Certification of Contract*. In that Order, the PUCT granted approvals needed by Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Golden Spread) to purchase wholesale power from its affiliate GS Electric Generating Cooperative, Inc. (GSEGC). The PUCT also certified wholesale power purchase contracts between Golden Spread and GSEGC, and between Golden Spread and Denver City Energy Associates, L.P.

Midwest Electric Cooperative purchases part of the electricity that is supplies to you from Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc. Golden Spread also provides wholesale power to nine other electric distribution cooperatives in Texas and one in Oklahoma. The demand for electricity in this area has been increasing. Golden Spread has conducted extensive analyses to determine the most economical way to serve your electrical needs and the needs of other retail customers in the area.

As part of this process, Golden Spread considered building a new generation facility itself and also solicited competing bids for approximately 400 megawatts of capacity from other suppliers. A nationally recognized consulting firm, R.W. Beck, was selected to perform an independent evaluation of the different supply options. Based upon the independent evaluation by R.W. Beck and separate evaluations by Golden Spread and the PUCT, Golden Spread has decided to purchase electricity from Denver City Energy Associates, L.P. (a limited partnership formed by LS Power Corporation and Quixx Corporation, a subsidiary of Southwestern Public Service Company) and from GS Electric Generating Cooperative, Inc. (an affiliate of Golden Spread). The electricity will come from a new, technologically advanced gas fueled generating plant to be built near Denver City, Texas. The PUCT has approved/certified those portions of the power purchase contracts that recover the capacity related costs. Fuel supply arrangements have not yet been finalized or submitted to the PUCT for approval.

Under current law, Golden Spread is entitled to recover its reasonable, necessary and prudently incurred costs. It is the position of the PUCT that if the law is changed to restructure the electric industry in a way that permits retail competition, and, if it turns out the market price for electricity is less than the contract price, then recovery of the difference (standard costs) will depend upon the law in effect at that time, not the PUCT's recently issued certification order. Based on current and projected market conditions, however, the PUCT has found that the certified contracts provide the lowest reasonable system cost of all the alternatives studied.

Questions concerning this matter should be directed to Robert W. Bryant, President and General Manager, Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 9898, Amarillo, Texas 79105-5898, telephone 806-379-7766, or to Vesta Orr, General Manager, Midwest Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 518, Roby, Texas 79543, 915-776-2244.

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK



TexSCAN WEEK OF 6-1-97

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RAPID FREIGHT IS currently hiring OTR drivers. Minimum 1 yr. verifiable experience class A CDL with hazmat. Call recruiting 1-800-607-5695.

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SUNSET TRANSPORTATION'S FLEET expansion underway. Owner-operators needed hauling scrap, sand, rock year around. 98% Texas. Trailers available. Home weekly. 100K potential. Call Scott 1-888-215-HAUL.

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POOL COMPANY IS accepting applications for experienced roustabouts, floorhands, derrickworkers, and crane operators to work on offshore rigs every Monday thru Friday from 9:00AM to 11:00AM and 1:00PM to 4:00PM. You may apply at Pool Company, 3640 Peters Road, Harvey, LA or call 504-365-3243 to request that an application be mailed to you. Provide addresses and telephone numbers of previous employers. Should possess willingness for hard work under harsh conditions. Clean drug and alcohol screen is a condition of employment. E.O.E. Minority/female/disabled/veteran. Qualified indi-

viduals only need apply!!!

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MONTHLY FLEA PROGRAM need help? Kill fleas & ticks on contact with the Happy Jack 3-x flea collar. Available OTC at County Co-ops.

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Call this newspaper for details on how to advertise statewide.

Obituaries

Josephine Kelly Patterson

Josephine Kelly Patterson, 76, of Austin, formerly of Rotan, died Monday, May 26, at the home of her daughter in Austin. Graveside services were held at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 29, in the Rotan Cemetery with Rev. Scott Mayer officiating.

Mrs. Patterson was born August 23, 1920 in Taylor County and was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kelly. She grew up in Snyder and Rotan. She graduated from Sul Ross State University in Alpine in 1942, and while there, was the editor of the school newspaper. She attended State University of Iowa, working on her master's degree in speech. She married Dr. Marcel Patterson Dec. 25, 1947. Dr. Patterson passed away in 1986. They had lived in Boston and San Francisco before settling in Galveston in 1954. Mrs. Patterson taught school in Galveston for many years. She was active in the League of Women Voters, the Beta Study Club, and the Women's Auxiliary of the University of Texas Medical Branch, and the Democratic Party of Galveston County. In 1986, she established lectureships and awards at UTMB in honor of her late husband. She was a member of the Trinity Episcopal Church and completed studies in Episcopal Fellowship Ministries. She was a supporter of the Trinity Episcopal Church and the William Temple House.

Survivors are one daughter, Margaret (Mrs. Heinz) Aeschback of Austin; two sons, Guy Kelly Patterson, M.D., and wife, Tessie of Houston, and Robert Marc Miller Patterson of Galveston; 1 aunt, Lora Huggins of Odessa; 3 grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Elderhaven Adult Care Center, 3710 Cedar St., Austin Texas 78705.

Annual 'Rotan Days' Celebration To Be Held Saturday, June 14th

The annual 'Rotan Days' celebration will take place on Saturday, June 14th from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. with street dance from 8 p.m. until midnight.

The following events are scheduled -

Parade which begins at 9:00 a.m. Anyone interested in entering a float in the parade can contact Laurie Stephens at 735-3287.

The 'Mr. and Miss Rotan' Pageant will begin at 2:00 p.m. under the direction of Pat Boone. Entry fee is \$10 per entry. For further information call 735-2489.

Irma Carreon has been selected to

be in charge of this year's Pet Show.

The 1997 'Rotan Days' car show will be under the direction of Stephen Stephens. For information call 735-3287.

Sherrie Rodgers will be in charge of the 'Bake Off'. She can be contacted at 735-2241. Any type of desert, pies, cakes, cookies can be entered. Prizes will be awarded. Entries should be at Rotan City Hall by 9:30 a.m., Saturday morning. Judging will be done at 10:00 a.m.

Emma Denton is the person in charge of the 1997 quilt show. People who have made quilts that they would like to display can bring the quilts to

Emma's Fabric and Notions at 105 North Garfield. Entries need to be in place by 5:00 p.m., Friday afternoon, June 13th. Prizes will be awarded.

For the first time, there will be a volleyball tournament at 'Rotan Days'. Team entry fee is \$25. For more information contact Donna Hargrove.

Jerry Boone is in charge of the 'Car Bash'.

Jerry Huggins is in charge of water balloons.

The Cow Patti Bingo will again be held. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from any Rotan Chamber of Commerce member.

Frank Cockrell will be in charge of the 1997 Cow Chip Throw. Entry fee is \$2.00 a person. T-shirts will be awarded for the finishers in the top three places in the mens, ladies and team classes. In addition two other divisions are open to boys and girls 'Little Chippers'.

There will be a raffle for a 19-inch color television. Raffle tickets are \$1. each or 6 for \$5.00. These tickets are available from Rotan Chamber of Commerce members.

The 1997 domino tournament will be headed by Jackie Martin.

Tammy Huggins is in charge of craft booths. Anyone interested in additional information can contact 735-3434.

In addition to the above listed events there will be Rotan Fly-In activities.

Cow Chip Throwing Contest

The second annual Texas Cow Chip Throwing Championship will be held as part of Rotan Days, June 14. The Rotan throw is sanctioned with the World Championship at Beaver, Oklahoma. The defending champions are Norvelle Kennedy, men's open, and Katie Kennedy, ladies open.

Also, Roy Kygan, World Champion cow chip thrower will attend. He has been world champion five times at Beaver, Oklahoma, the site of the world championship throw.

This year teams have been added so businesses and individuals can enter a team of four people. The four scores will be added for a total team score. In addition to teams, there will

be the following: Men's Open, Ladies Open, Boy 'Little Chippers', Girls 'Little Chippers'.

The entry fee is \$2.00 per person. T-shirts will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize winners in the mens, ladies, and team classes. The little chippers will be given certificates and their entry fee will be \$1.00 per person.

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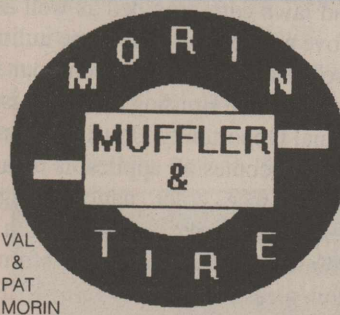
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*A special thanks to you, dear friends
for the visits, phone calls and prayers
during my surgery in Dallas. After my
return home for the prayers, visits,
phone calls, food and flowers. You are
very special, may God bless you.*

Gene Harvey

Fisher County

Agricultural News

County Home Extension Agent News

By Beth Dannheim

Summer Grill Out Safety:

Cookouts on a grill are a favorite activity during the warm or hot weather activity of the summer season. Often, during this season, family sports-type activities or social events or vacation events involve transporting, preparing and serving foods. Safe food handling practices are important to prevent the incidence of foodborne illness.

Warm weather temperatures are ideal for dangerous bacteria to grow if safe food handling guidelines are not followed. Following are suggestions for keeping grill out foods safe.

Shopping for foods. When shopping for meat, poultry and seafood for cookouts, put them in the shopping cart last. When available use the plastic bags usually available in these departments to corral these products, so juices from raw products won't drip on other foods. Juices from these raw products may contaminate other

products. For storage until cooking, store these products on the lowest shelf of the refrigerator so raw juices won't drip on other foods.

Marinating. Some recipes recommend to marinate foods to be grilled, either to tenderize or to flavor. Always marinate foods in the refrigerator, not on the kitchen counter. It's best not to reuse marinade that has been used for raw meat, poultry or fish.

Thawing and Precooking. Thawing in the refrigerator is the safest way. Food may be thawed and then partially cooked in the microwave prior to grilling. Food Safety precautions recommend that these products be immediately and thoroughly cooked after thawing or precooking, with no interruption between defrosting and cooking.

Reuse of utensils/platters. It is best not to reuse utensils and platters that were used with raw meats, these raw juices will contaminate the cooked meat.

FDA Warns Against Consuming The Arise and Shine product "Chomper".

The Food and Drug Administration is warning consumers not to purchase or consume "Chomper", one of a line of dietary supplement products distributed by "Arise & Shine" or Mount Shasta, Calif. FDA has determined that this product has been associated with a severe injury and that it may contain substances that may result in an abnormal heart rate and rhythm, and could potentially cause cardiac arrest.

FDA has learned of a recent case where the consumption of this product as part of Arise & Shine "The Cleanse Thyself" program by a young woman apparently resulted in abnormal heart rate with heartblock, a potentially life-threatening condition. The agency is also investigating if other injuries have been associated with this product.

The "Chomper" product is pro-

moted as an "herbal laxative" and "cleansing" agent to be used as part of a regimen of dietary products distributed by this company. Laboratory analyses of the product revealed that it contains substances similar to those that affect the heart. Use of these powerful substances, which are found in a number of poisonous plants, may result in a severe, potentially fatal heartblock, even in otherwise healthy individuals. The agency has found that "Chomper" poses a potentially significant and unreasonable risk to public health. FDA urges all individuals who may have this product to avoid consuming it and to immediately consult their health care professional if they are experiencing any adverse effects associated with use of the product. These effects may include nausea, vomiting, dizziness, headache, confusion, hypotension (low blood pressure), vision disturbances and abnormal heart rate and rhythm.

The Below Listed Businesses Make The Presentation Of This Page Possible

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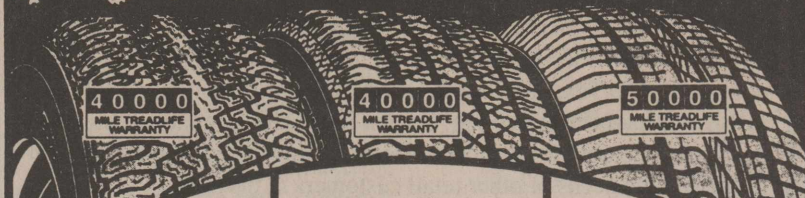
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GOODYEAR

Students Receive Awards At Roby Lions Award Banquet

The following awards were given and received at the 1996-97 Roby Lions Awards Banquet.

Edwin Jackson made a Midwest Electric Presentation to Mindy Mahaffey. National Guard Awards were presented to Chris Gloyd and Konnett Mays by Gary Daniel.

Social Studies awards presented to Mindy Mahaffey for World History; Kim Hudnall for U.S. History; Robert Onofre for Government; and Konnett Mays for Economics by Lonnie Hines.

The speech award was presented to Chris Gloyd by Perry Graves. The health award was presented to Wendy Harwell by Perry Graves.

Harold Scott and Eddie Onofre presented the following science awards: Physical Science award to Sahala Hardin and Vicente Ortiz; Biology I award to Billy Floyd and Leticia Leyva; Physics award to Beau Hart; Chemistry I award to Candice Brown; Chemistry II award to Kim Hudnall and Mike Haigood; Anatomy and Physiology award to Autumn Daniel.

The Spanish I award was presented to Kristi Bond; The Spanish II award was presented to Rosa Sanchez; The Spanish III award was presented to Wendy Harwell. All were presented by Alvaro Mandujano.

John Fenton presented the Algebra I award to Misty Mahaffey; the Algebra II award to Cathy Marquez; and Most Improved Algebra II award to Micah Evans.

Erika Ramirez, Konnett Mays, Beau Hart, Philip Goodwin, Sarah Boyd, Candice Brown, Jaycee Carey, Denise Caswell, Shella Graves, Meggan Herron, Terri Moreno, Katrina Rains, and Rosa Sanchez all received yearbook awards presented by Peggy Jones.

Peggy Jones also presented the Art award to Joshua Griffith and Eric Bailey; the English I award to Julie Terry; the English II award to Denise Caswell and Rosa Sanchez; and the English III award to J.D. Hearn and Billy Floyd.

Kay Graves presented Poetry awards to Kim Hudnall, Sahala Hardin and Shella Graves; she also presented the Prose awards to Sarah Boyd and Beau Hart.

Barbara Martin presented the following awards: Food Science and Nutrition I award to Eric Bailey and Edward Marquez; Advanced Housing Development award to Adam Torres; Comprehensive Home Economics award to Julie Terry and Ashley Smith; Apparel award to Erika Ramirez; and Parenting and Child Development award to Tim Haigood.

Reggy Spencer presented the following awards: Ag. 101 award to Clinton Smith; Animal Science award to Makala Herron; Wildlife Management award to Makala Herron; Ag. Mechanics award to Billy Floyd and J.D. Hearn; Metal Fabrication award to Shea Feagan; Ag. 102 award to Robert Pippin; Horticulture award to Autumn Daniel; Plant and Animal Science award to Sarah Boyd; Home Improvement award to Misty Taylor and Mindy Mahaffey; Plant and Soil Production awards to Matt Harris; Top Sales awards to Amanda Johnson and Wes Pullig; Volunteer awards to Mindy Mahaffey; Swine Project award to Monroe Moore; star Greenhand award to Wes Pullig; Star Chapter Farmer award to Jacob Whitaker; Top Hand award to Tommy Lands and Shea Feagan; and

Roby Summer School To Be Held June 9-20

Roby Elementary and Jr. High School will begin Summer School on June 9 and run through June 20, weekdays from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

All Roby students from kindergarten through 8th grade are welcome to attend remediation classes in Math and Language Arts.

Mrs. Roxie Herron and Mrs. Kay Moore will be teaching summer classes. Call 776-2224 if your student(s) will be attending.

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Outstanding FFA Member Award to Shea Fegan.

Michele Terry presented the BCA award to Candice Brown, Leticia Leyva and Karen Carriker. She also presented the BCA II award to Neal Faglie and the Keyboarding awards to Jacob Whitaker.

Ron Smith presented the English I award to Karen Carriker; the English II award to Mindy Mahaffey; the English III award to Jaycee Carey; the English IV award to Robert Onofre; the Creative Writing award to Makala Herron; the Advanced Placement award to Makala Herron.

Top Reader awards were presented this year by Jan Price. These awards were: Top Freshman Reader, Karen Carriker; Top Sophomore Reader, Kristi Bond; Top Junior Reader, Latrice Moffet; Top Senior Reader, Makala Herron.

Beth Donham presented the Trigonometry award to Jaycee Carey; the Geometry award to Mindy Mahaffey, Autumn Daniel, and Candice Brown; the Statistics award to Jacob Whitaker; and the Cheerleading award to Wendy Harwell.

Shane Faucett presented the following awards in band: Junior High Most Improved Boy was Kasey Herley; Junior High Most Improved Girl was Terry Valdez; Junior High Director's Award went to Bryan Kenyon. In high school, each player of the month was recognized. The High School Director's Award went to Beau Hart and Latrice Moffet. The John Phillip Sousa Award went to Kim Hudnall.

Offensive Player of the Year in football was Shea Feagan. Defensive Player of Year was Billy Floyd. The Fighting Heart award for football was presented to Chris Gloyd.

Mr. Basketball was awarded to Shea Feagan. Miss Basketball was awarded to Shella Graves. The Fighting Heart award for boys' basketball was awarded to Tommy Lands. The Fighting Heart award for girl's basketball was awarded to Amanda Johnson and Kristi Bond.

Outstanding Girl in track was awarded to Konnett Mays. Outstanding Boy in track was awarded to Mike Haigood.

Outstanding Girl in cross-country was awarded to Cassie Terry. Outstanding Boy in cross-country was awarded to the state boy's team consisting of Mike Haigood, Ty West, Robert Onofre, Joshua Griffith, J.D. Hearn, Tommy Lands, and Ermando Barrera.

Outstanding Girl in golf was awarded to Sarah Boyd. Outstanding Boy in golf was awarded to Shea Feagan.

Outstanding Girl in tennis was awarded to Shella Graves. Outstanding boy in tennis was awarded to Chris Gloyd.

Most Improved Girl overall was awarded to Leticia Leyva. Most Improved Boy Overall was awarded to J.D. Hearn.

Best All Around Girl was awarded to Shella Graves. Best All Around Boy was awarded to Shea Feagan.

Robert Onofre received a sportsmanship award.

Rotan And Roby Rain Gauge Report

Rain gauge report information taken from the Horace Carter Farm, two miles north of Rotan and from Jimmy Price, Roby City Hall.

Month Year	Rotan Month - YTD	Roby Month - YTD
May 96	0.60 in. 02.40 in.	0.83 in. 2.46 in.
Jun. 1996	4.66 in. 07.06 in.	2.33 in. 4.79 in.
July 1996	1.35 in. 08.41 in.	2.21 in. 7.00 in.
Aug. 1996	6.32 in. 14.72 in.	3.56 in. 10.56 in.
Sept 1996	3.34 in. 18.07 in.	2.30 in. 12.86 in.
Oct. 1996	0.93 in. 19.00 in.	1.91 in. 14.77 in.
Nov. 1996	2.70 in. 21.70 in.	1.70 in. 16.47 in.
Dec. 1996	0.00 in. 21.70 in.	0.00 in. 16.47 in.
Jan. 1997	0.28 in. 00.28 in.	0.00 in. 0.00 in.
Feb. 1997	4.91 in. 05.19 in.	3.82 in. 3.82 in.
Mar. 1997	0.15 in. 05.34 in.	0.10 in. 3.92 in.
Apr. 1997	4.51 in. 09.85 in.	3.58 in. 7.50 in.
May 1997	2.32 in. 12.17 in.	2.37 in. 9.87 in.

Obituaries

Ruth W. Witherspoon

Ruth W. Witherspoon died Monday May 26, 1997 at Titus Regional Medical Center in Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

She was born July 11, 1919 to Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Winter in Newton County, Missouri. Early in life she became a Christian. She attended public school at Diamond, Missouri and received her B.S. and M. Ed from the University of Missouri. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Pi Lambda Theta, AAUA, TSTA, NEA, and Eastern Star. She served several times as Fisher County delegate to the TSTA State Convention. She was employed as a classroom teacher for 50 years, including 43 years in the Rotan Independent School District. Most of those years she taught either first or second grade.

Survivors include her husband, Robert G. Witherspoon, Sr. of Rotan; two sons, Dr. Robert G. Witherspoon, Jr. and wife Susan of Mt. Pleasant, Texas, and John W. Witherspoon and wife Jan of Henderson, Texas; nine grandchildren; a brother, E. Winter of Diamond, Missouri; a sister, Lois Pace of Spokane, Washington; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by two brothers and a sister.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, May 29, at 2 p.m. at the Forrest Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery near Mt. Pleasant. Rev. Mike Kessler, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Mt. Pleasant, officiated.

Forrest Callan Perkins

Forest Callan Perkins, 77, of Roby died Tuesday, May 27, in Abilene Regional Medical Center. Services were held at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, May 29, in First United Methodist Church of Roby with the Rev. Loren Gardner officiating. Burial was in Roby Cemetery under the direction of Weathersbee Funeral Home.

Mr. Perkins was born Dec. 19, 1919 and was a lifetime resident of the Fisher County area. He was a farmer and rancher and worked for Fisher County Precinct 1 for 25 years.

He was a U.S. Air Force veteran and was a member of First United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents Ernest and Lucy Perkins; four brothers, Landon Perkins, Cecil Perkins, Alton Perkins, and Jack Perkins; four sisters, Fannie Mae Jameson, Buna Kiser, Jean Kiser and Ernestine Estes; one son, Fred Hale and one great-grandson Kyler Hale.

Survivors include his wife, Geneva Perkins of Roby; a daughter and son-in-law, Beth and George Turner of Princeton; a sister, Louise Killingsworth of Abilene; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were nephews, Cecil Kiser, Ricky Kiser, David Estes, Raymond Perkins, Harold Kiser, and Ernest Mac Perkins.

Club Lamb And Goat Sale For West Texas Rehab Center Is Set For Saturday, June 14th

The Eighth Annual Club Lamb and Meat Goat Sale is set for Saturday, June 14, at the Wylie FFA Showbarn at 7:30 p.m. The Showbarn is located behind the Wylie High School football field on Antilley Road

in Abilene.

The sale benefits West Texas Rehabilitation Center. Only lambs and goats purchased during this sale will be eligible for the WTRC Jackpot Show which will be December 6, at the Dortehea Griffin arena at the fairgrounds, Abilene.

Lamb Chairmen for the event are John Helmer, Merkel; Wade

Stephens, Cross Plains; Gaines Price, Roscoe; and Charlie Palmer, Clyde. Meat Goat Chairman is Tracy Ellis of Roscoe, assisted by Jennifer Morris of Colorado City. Chairmen expect 150 lambs and 50 goats to be donated for the sale. Breeders from Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, Missouri, and Illinois have already donated animals to this sale.

To donate a lamb or goat or for more information, call West Texas Rehabilitation Center in Abilene 915-691-7290 or in San Angelo 915-949-9535.

Legal Notice

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF FISHER

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable 32nd Judicial District Court of Fisher County on the 23rd day of May, 1997, by the Clerk thereof, in the case of Rotan Independent School District vs. Freddie Joe Alls; Cause #4560 and to me, as Sheriff directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the 1st day of July, 1997 which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the North door of the Courthouse of said Fisher County, in the City of Roby, Texas, the following described property, to wit:

Tract I: Being all that certain Lot 4 in Block 318 of the Inside Addition to the City of Rotan, Texas, and being more particularly described in that certain Deed of record in Volume 505, Page 244 of the Deed Records of Fisher County, Texas.

Levied on the 23rd day of May, 1997 as the property of Freddie Joe Alls, 1009 North McKinley, Rotan, Texas 79546, having been duly served with citation in the manner and for the length of time required by law, failed to file a written answer or appear and wholly makes default; Montgomery Ward and Company, Inc. (In Rem Only), a Corporation, by serving its Registered Agent, Prentice Hall Corporation, 400 North Saint Paul Street, Dallas, Texas 75201, having been duly served with citation in the manner and for the length of time required by law, failed to file a written answer or appear and wholly makes default; Sears, Roebuck and Company (In Rem Only), a Corporation, by serving its Registered Agent, C.T. Corporation System, 350 North Saint Paul Street, Dallas, Texas 75201, having appeared by heretofore filing a written answer; to satisfy a judgment amounting to \$3,405.48 with interest from the 4th day of April, 1977 at 10 percent, per annum, and all costs of suit in favor of Rotan Independent School District, et al.

Given under my hand this 23rd day of May, 1997.

Gene Pack
Sheriff Fisher County Texas
By Kirk Williamson Deputy
41-3tc

Legal Notice

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF FISHER

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable 32nd Judicial District Court of Fisher County on the 23rd day of May, 1997 by the Clerk thereof, in the case of Rotan Independent School District vs. Ruby Faye Wynn Cause # 4111 and to me, as Sheriff directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the 1st day of July, 1997 which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the North door of the Courthouse of said Fisher County, in the City of Roby, Texas, the following described property, to wit:

Tract II: Being all those certain Lots 9, 10, 11 and 12 in Block 205 of the Inside Addition to the City of Rotan, Texas, and being more particularly described in those certain Deeds of record in Volume 396, Page 290 and Volume 395, Page 74 of the Deed Records of Fisher County, Texas.

Tract III: Being all that certain .000525 Royalty Interest in Rotan Town Site Unit #21, Lease #2730, Fisher County, Texas, and being more particularly described in those certain Oil and Gas Leases of record in Volume 304, Page 227, Volume 305, Page 221 and Volume 306, Page 472 of the Deed Records of Fisher County, Texas.

Levied on the 23rd day of May, 1997 as the property of Ruby Fay Wynn, if living; Mae Wynn also known as Mable Wynn, P.O. Drawer J, Rotan, Texas 79546, having appeared by heretofore filing a written answer; to satisfy a judgment amounting to \$477.28 with interest from the 4th day of April, 1997 at 10 percent, per annum, and all costs of suit in favor of Rotan Independent School District, et al.

Given under my hand this 23rd day of May, 1997.

Gene Pack
Sheriff Fisher County, Texas
by Kirk Williamson
Deputy
41-3tc

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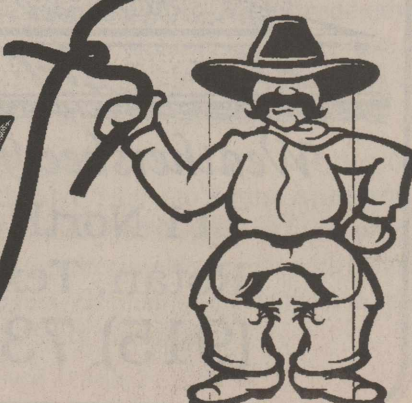
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Rotan Graduation Honors And Scholarships Awarded

The following Rotan Graduation Honors and Scholarships have been awarded:

JayBen Alls: Rotan High School student Congress Scholarship, \$150; The United States Army reserve Scholar/Athlete Award for Academic and Athletic Excellence.

Laura Blackwelder: Awarded the "Semper Fidelis" award for Musical excellence from the United States Marines Youth Foundation and the Marine Corps League in Recognition of Diligence, Dedication and Musical Excellence as a Performing High School bandsman and Soloist; University Interscholastic League Scholar Award in recognition of Top 10% placement in class while excelling in academics and UIL Participation; First National Bank of Rotan Scholarship - \$2500.

Larry Booth: Awarded the Distinguished Athlete Award from the United States Marine Corps for displaying courage, poise, self-confi-

dence, and leadership as a high school athlete.

Deon Duke: \$800 Scholarship to Western Texas College; Bettye J. Wallace Scholarship from Outreach Health Services for \$500.

Mandy Dycus: Awarded a minimum of \$2,000 in Grants and Scholarships from Lubbock Christian University.

Jason Hargrove: Masonic Lodge #956 Mirabeau B. Lamar Award and a \$200 Scholarship; Rotan Classroom Teachers Association Scholarship for Education in the amount of \$150.

Katie Kennedy: Honor Graduate certificate for being the highest ranking graduate in the senior class, pays tuition to any state supported College or University in Texas; Valedictorian Scholarship in the amount of \$200 from the Texas Tech Ex-Student Association; McFadden Leaders Scholarship for \$2,000/\$500 per semester from Texas Tech University; Academic All-State Recognition in Basketball; University Interscholastic League Scholar Award in recognition of Top 10% placement in class while excelling in academics and UIL Participation; Channel 9 Sports Classroom Champion in recognition of outstanding citizenship and accomplishment as a student athlete; Fisher County Hospital District Health Career Scholarship in the amount of \$250.

Zach Morris: Rotan Chamber of Commerce Scholarship in the amount of \$250.

Erlinda Natividad: Lulac Scholarship in the amount of \$250; Rotan High School Student Congress Scholarship in the amount of \$150; Awarded the Scholastic Excellence Award from the United States Marine Corps for academic achievement and leadership as a high school scholar.

Marla Phares: \$300 Academic Scholarship Western Texas College; \$500 Housing Scholarship Western Texas College.

Adriana Velez: University Interscholastic League Scholar Award in recognition of Top 10% placement in class while excelling in academics

and UIL Participation.

Aaron Wylie: Awarded the Truman Swinney Memorial Health Career Scholarship for \$250.

Rusty Goodwin: I Dare You Lead-

Senior Citizens Menu For June 5-10, 1997

Senior Citizens Menu June 5-June 10, 1997.

June 5: Lasagna, Buttered Carrots/Green Beans, Salad, Bread Pudding, Milk, Bread, Butter.

June 6: Tacos, Beans/Spanish Rice, Tortilla Chips, Jello, Milk, Butter.

June 10: Swiss Steak, Green Limas/Macaroni-Cheese, Cole Slaw, Pudding, Milk, Bread, Butter.

NOTICE

The deadline for Classified Ads and News Is Noon On Tuesday.

THANK YOU

The Perkins family wish to thank all those who shared our grief in the loss of our loved one, Forrest.

Words cannot express our thanks and appreciation for the prayers, phone calls, visits, floral arrangements and the many hours spent preparing food, both for the home and the church.

Thanks to Rev. Steve Patterson for the many hours he spent at the hospital with us. A special thanks to Rev. Loren Gardner for the comforting service performed in Steve's absence.

The Perkins Family

ership Award in recognition of personal integrity, balanced living and motivation for leadership.

Amy Gruben: I Dare You Leadership Award in recognition of personal integrity, balanced living and motivation for leadership; \$300 Academic Scholarship from Western Texas College; The United States Army Reserve Scholar/Athlete Award for Academic and Athletic Excellence.

Russell Price: DeKalb Award in recognition of a Senior Agricultural Student demonstrating superior scholarship, leadership, and agricul-

tural experiences; Star Chapter Farmer Degree awarded after meeting numerous qualifications set forth by National FFA Organization.

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Clean seed treated with Vitavax-200 (left) helps produce a healthier plant and a more extensive root system, along with an average yield advantage of nearly six bushels per acre, compared to uncleaned/untreated seed (right).

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- Helps wheat emerge faster.
- Helps allow for earlier grazing, and crop can better withstand cattle stress.
- In hundreds of field trials, Vitavax has boosted yields by an average of 3.6 bushels an acre compared to untreated seed.

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Rath City RECORD

JUNE 1997

"BACK TO RATH'S TRAIL" SOUVENIR SECTION



Join us as we go

"Back to Rath's Trail"

June 6, 7 & 8, 1997

Rath City *A Brief, But Important Time in History*

By Gary Ford

For hundreds of years, the Double Mountain Fork of the Brazos River had served as a watering place for deer, antelope, foxes, cougars, wild turkeys, coyotes, and buffalo. The area looked quite different then—mesquites had not yet encroached beyond the bounds of a small thicket southeast of the Double Mountains; junipers, often called cedars, were not yet in abundance.

A lush covering of prairie grasses stretched to the horizons and cottonwood trees dotted the banks of the river. The deep canyons adjoining the river provided good protection for animals during the harsh winters and welcome shade during the hot summers.

"Civilization" had not reached the area in 1876. Cities such as Weatherford and Mineral Wells were beginning to crop up west of Fort Worth, which at the time was being hailed as "The Gateway to the West." The posts of Ft. Griffin and Ft. Concho marked the western edge of settlement on the Texas map, with all land west of these outposts designated as Kiowa and Comanche hunting grounds. Little did anyone suspect that events taking place 400 miles to the north would set in motion major changes for the area.

The states of Kansas and Colorado were no longer isolated from the rest of the country. Railroads had pushed to the border between the two in a frenzied effort to gain large landholdings that had been promised for swift completion. This activity, coupled with years of killing by hunters, had depleted the great Northern Herd of buffalo. Hunters were forbidden by law from hunting in Indian territory, later to become Oklahoma. Yet they knew that large herds of buffalo migrated northward each year almost to the Arkansas River in Kansas before turning around and heading deep into Texas.

Charles Rath had made quite a fortune selling supplies to the buffalo hunt-



Charles Rath
...about 1878

(Courtesy of Boot Hill Museum, Inc.)

ers and making a market in buffalo hides, which were being shipped from Dodge City, Kansas, to the East Coast and Europe to be used as buffalo robes, rugs, and decorations. Rath was a visionary, and his instincts told him that the prospects for profits in the area were slim. He talked to his partner, Robert Wright, and they struck a deal with Lee & Reynolds, who were established freighters, to take the hunters and the supply store to the buffalo.

Rath set his compass on due south and the oxen-drawn wagons carrying everything needed to carve trails, build the store, and outfit the hunters set out. Along the way, they added supplies from Fort Elliot and picked up Charlie Sing and his Chinese laundry equipment. Altogether, over two hundred wagons joined the expedition with some reports running as high as three hundred wagons.

Just after Christmas, 1876, the wagon train reached its destination—a mesa covering 200 or so acres of land, seventeen miles southeast of the Double Mountains. The Brazos River lay just a few miles to the north and a clear spring

between the river and the site provided good water. The laborers quickly discovered a limestone outcropping just one-fourth mile to the west, and they began cutting and moving the stones up to the location Charles Rath had selected for his store.

After clearing away the prairie grass and setting the foundation stones, the workers began making adobe blocks with which they constructed the walls. Cedar poles were cut and used to support the roof, which consisted of sod-covered lumber. The windows and doors were fashioned from lumber, nails, and glass hauled from Kansas. Aside from an occasional cactus, the only plant that managed to fight its way out of the prairie grass was Agarita, also spelled Algerita, a plant similar to holly that probably added to the Christmas and New Year celebration as the new store was completed.

Always one to supply all of the needs of his customers, Charles Rath had freighted whiskey, tobacco, foodstuffs, and ammunition supplies. He also designed his store with room enough to accommodate several bunk beds in a dormitory-style room. The walls between the sleeping section and the store were fashioned solely of buffalo hides. These continually gave off their tal-lowy, drying leather smell, which combined with the smell of rotting carcasses and stretched hides soon became a normal part of life for city residents.

Most hunters were sleeping outside under hides stretched around cedar poles. The makeshift tents were very low to the ground and part of the hide served as a tent flap, making a fairly warm shelter with a dirt floor.

Charlie Sing set up his laundry as part of Rath's cluster of buildings. Some accounts put it in the back of Rath's Store, while others speak of a separate building adjacent to Rath's. The original group of buildings supposedly included a brothel and a whiskey house—

both seen as necessary entertainment businesses to attract customers. Rath was selling everything on credit to the hunters and accepted payment in hides. Just as he did around Dodge City, Rath served as a trader, paying the hunters for the hides, "baling" them similar to cotton bales, and freighting them by oxen-drawn wagons to his store at Ft. Griffin and finally on to Ft. Worth.

Rath City began to grow rapidly in the spring of 1877. A hideyard and corral were created out of sod blocks. George Aiken put in a saloon and restaurant with dirt floors. He apparently did a booming business until another businessman decided that a saloon with a wooden plank floor would draw more customers to the "working girls" for dancing. Each weekend the empty hide wagons would return to Rath City from Ft. Griffin, bringing a new set of girls with them.

With entertainment firmly entrenched, the hunters needed a place to clean up and take care of medical needs. A barbershop appeared to be the answer, and soon hunters could take a bath, get a shave and haircut, and have teeth pulled without leaving the building. A blacksmith also set up shop and the town was almost complete.

The two mile round-trip to obtain drinking water from the spring seemed a bit tiresome, and Smokey Thompson decided there was money to be made, so he dug a cistern in Rath City's main street and hauled water from the spring into town in barrels and sold it by the bucket. With a ready supply of fresh water, Mr. Thompson found that the

On the Cover

A typical buffalo hunters' camp as it would have been during the period of 1876 and 1879. Camps such as this will be on display near the Rath City site, Saturday, June 7.

**W
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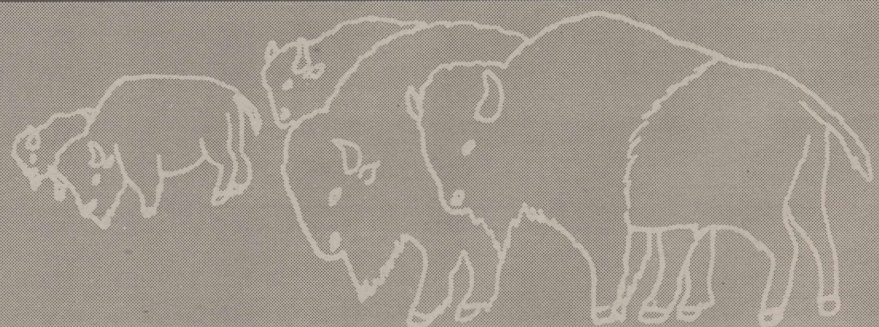
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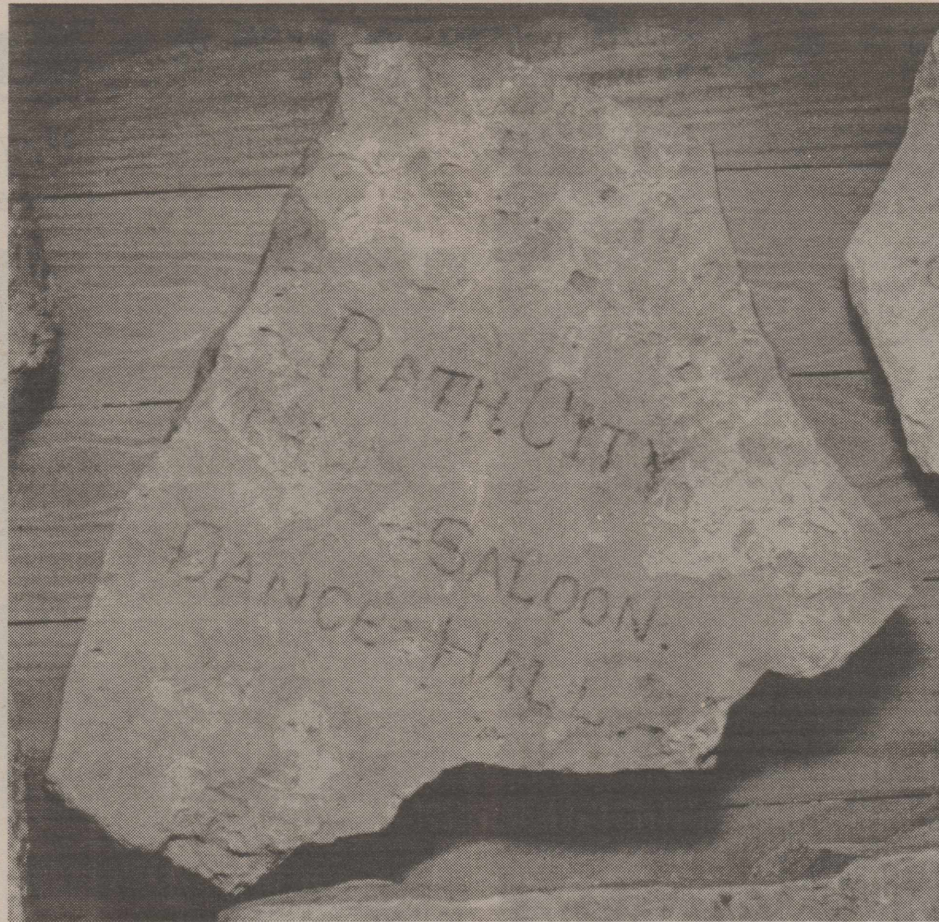
576-3750

hunters despised the imported liquor available at the saloons, so he began producing his own beer and other beverages, becoming probably the first brewery in Stonewall County.

By fall of that year, a view from atop the Double Mountains might have been quite astonishing. There, one hundred miles from civilization and deep in Comanche territory, lay a bustling little combination of buildings surrounded on all sides by sometimes 300 tents of one style or another. Farther out on the flat land above the breaks of the river, acres and acres of buffalo hides were pegged to the ground, curing in the sun before being stacked three stories tall to await shipment to Ft. Worth. Forty miles in any direction the grassland was dotted with slaughtered and skinned buffalo, some missing their humps and their tongues, which were fast becoming delicacies both for the hunters and the eager markets back east.

The wholesale slaughter of over one million buffalo in the three years of Rath City's existence infuriated the Comanches and the Kiowas. To them, it was a tragic waste to kill such a large animal and not make use of every part of the carcass. They looked with rage at rotting meat that would never feed their families. They felt disgust for hunters that did not have the courage to face an animal head-on in death, but instead shot the animals from 100 to 300 yards away. The Indians even used the dried bones of the buffalo for implements, but the white hunters simply left them on the prairie.

The summer of 1877 was an unusually hot one, and no doubt it served to inflame the Indians to rid the land set aside for them by the state of its chief parasite. Several raids were led on Rath City. The hunters had received word of Indian uprisings and during one raid all of the wagons were circled tightly around the main buildings and all of the stock, both horses and cattle, were guarded within the sod corral. Later raids were more successful, due in part to the confidence that the hunters felt while staying at Rath City. Once, Indians rode at a gallop down the main street, past Rath's Store, making a circle around the hide



Way stone marking trail to Rath City

From the collection of the Corpus Chrisit Museum of Science and History

piles before leaving to the north and taking every horse that wasn't in use at the time.

The buffalo hunters and traders weren't the only ones losing livestock. Ranchers from around the Albany area travelled to Rath City and offered saddle horses to any hunters willing to ride after the Indians and bills of sale on the hundreds of stolen horses which the Quohada Comanches drove the horses up into the blue sandhills near Plains, Texas, where they met with Apaches from New Mexico to trade their stolen goods. They reasoned that lawmen from one area would never travel so far to retrieve livestock.

One New Mexico resident came to Rath City that first year while hunting buffalo west of the Double Mountains. After hearing about the Indian problems, Pat Garrett left a card on his dug-out that simply said, "Gone to Rath's Store." He followed a trail to the Double

Mountains, and like most travelers, found a way stone at the base of the mountains that pointed southeast and was inscribed with "Rath City, Saloon and Dance Hall." Garrett supposedly returned to the Ruidoso-Ft. Sumner area and four years later killed Billy the Kid.

Other signposts pointed the way to Rath City. From the north, piles of buffalo skulls could be found along the trail from Dodge City to Adobe Walls, to Rath City, each with a stake in the middle holding a sign that announced Rath's Store, much like interstate billboards today. From the south, the 10th U.S. Cavalry, also known as the Buffalo Soldiers, came to Rath City from Ft. Concho (San Angelo) under orders to drive the Indians back to the reservation at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. They teamed up with the buffalo hunters and chased the Indians onto the caprock, down to the Colorado River, and back to the caprock before giving up in the heat of that terrible summer.

If Rath City came in with a bang, it went out with a whimper. Three years of non-stop hunting had decimated the Southern Herd. Buffalo hunters then spoke of travelling to Colorado or perhaps the new territory opening up in Wyoming. Charles Rath held the store open until it was no longer profitable, then directed his manager to remove all remaining merchandise and any fixtures that he could. He planned to consolidate his southern stores at Ft. Griffin.

The hunters told of a time between 1874 and 1876 when the buffalo were so thick north of the Double Mountains that "you could walk to the horizon on their backs." Where there had been a sea of brown, there remained only the new breed of entrepreneur—men who scavenged the prairie for the dried bones and skulls of the buffalo. They loaded large wagons twenty feet high with them and took them back to Ft. Worth to be sold for fertilizer.

Even the animals knew that the end of an era had come. Hunters talked about seeing the buffalo wolves, a species much larger than regular wolves, all moving northwesterly following the remnants of the herds to their new northern homes in Canada. Legend also has it that the rare herds of white buffalo travelled all the way to Alaska, where a small remnant is said to have survived to this day.

Rath City is only a memory today—a memorial to a level of commerce unimaginable by any standard we choose. It is a tribute to a pioneering spirit that acted when the Texas and United States governments couldn't or wouldn't. But it is also a sad testimony to the tremendous destruction that man is capable of committing and the insensitivity we are capable of showing to those we do not or cannot understand. The great natural riches of that time are no longer here for us to enjoy today. We may never thrill in our hearts to see the large herds of buffalo grazing just outside our city. Nor will we know the awe of climbing a ridge and sighting hundreds of tepees nestled next to the Brazos River. There is much to learn from Rath City. That is the reason we go "Back to Rath's Trail" today.

Welcome to Back to Rath's Trail

We hope you enjoy our
look back at our area's
rich heritage

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Entertainment



The Rueffer Boys
to perform Friday for Frontier Ball

Haywire
to perform Saturday for Frontier Ball



Welcome to Back to Rath's Trail
We salute those who are working
to preserve the history of Hamlin
and the area.



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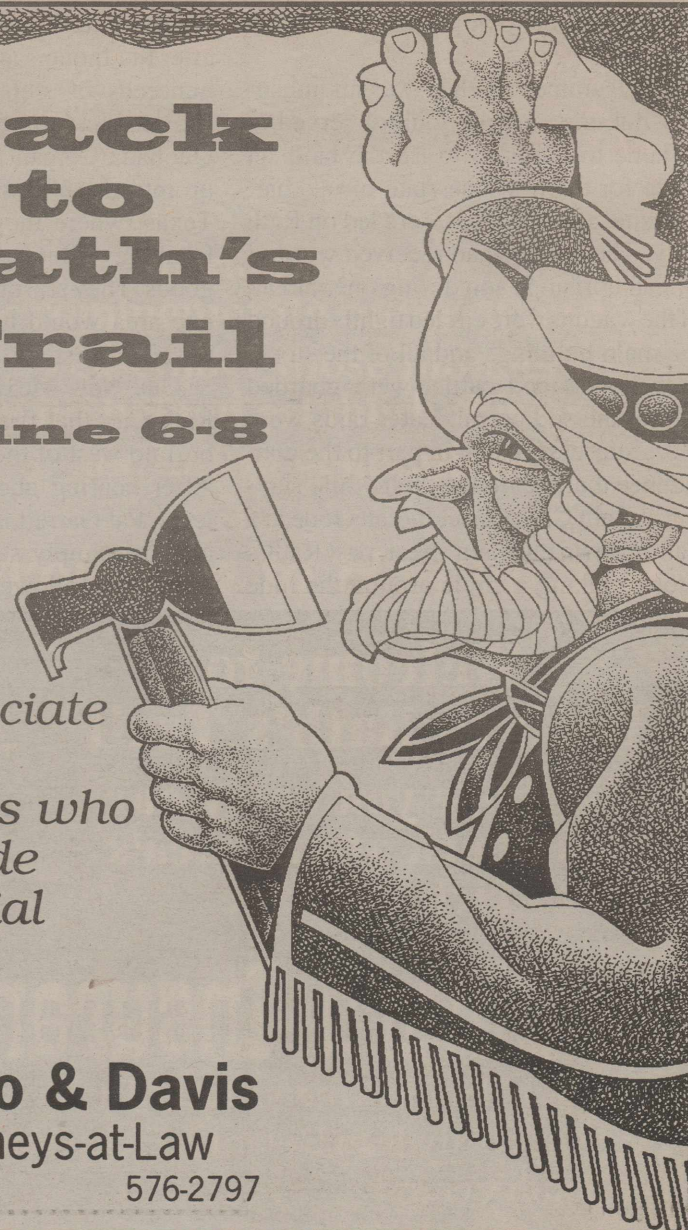
June 6-8

We appreciate
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Three Groups to Provide Musical Entertainment

A wide range of musical entertainment will be offered during "Back to Rath's Trail." The first will be Friday night when the Rueffer Boys of the Metroplex perform for the first Frontier Ball. The ball will be from 8:45 p.m. to midnight on the Hamlin National Bank parking lot.

Saturday, the Catclaw Creek Boys from Abilene will perform during three sessions. Show times are 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. All three performances will be in front of Hamlin National Bank.

The six-piece band will perform period music, along with a special tribute to hymnwriter John B.F. Wright. Mr. Wright composed more than 200 hymns in his lifetime, of which "Precious Memories" was his best known. The hymn was composed just outside of Hamlin in 1923.

Haywire will close out the weekend's musical entertainment with the second Frontier Ball Saturday. The dance will be from 8:45 p.m. to midnight on the bank south parking lot.

The balls commemorate the time when dancing girls were brought to Rath City from Fort Griffin.

There is no admission charge, but donations will be accepted during the dances. Dancers and listeners are encouraged to bring a lawn chair.

The Rueffer Boys is a father-son three-piece country-western oriented trio. Father, Dennis, has played for various groups in and around Dallas-Fort Worth for 22 years. A native of Haskell, Dennis started playing guitar in a local teenage group.

Sons Reggie and Chad both were part of a neighborhood bluegrass band in the early 80's. They progressed from there through different rock bands and alternative groups. Reggie has worked for such notables as Ray Price and Johnny Bush.

The "Boys" work the famous Hermann Sons Lodge at Old Glory two to three times a year and will return to the lodge June 21.

Members of the Catclaw Creek Boys are Dr. Ronnie Prevost, Bill Casey, Dr. Taylor Rankin, Dr. Herb Grover, Dr. Paul Madden and Greg Young. The group performs gospel, bluegrass, western and original music.

Haywire is not stranger to area residents with many of the band being former members of Triple Shot who performed for last year's Frontier Ball. Members of the group are J.D. Josey, vocals and drums; R.P. Seher, lead guitar and vocals; Ranny Wheeler, bass guitar and vocals; Danny Letz, steel guitar and vocals and James Holley, vocals and rhythm guitar.



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Welcome to Hamlin

The Story Behind the Grave at Rath City

By H. H. KINCAID

Twelve miles northwest from Hamlin in Jones county, and just south of the northern boundary fence where the old T-Diamond joins the W.P. Moore Ranch, there is a lonely, grass covered graveyard. It is the "boot hill" of old Rath City. Only one grave was ever marked, but for years it bore this crude legend: "Thos. Lumpkins, April 27-77."

To the east of this grave is the present pasture road, and if one should care to kick about in the grass he would discover that it had once been an old wagon trail. Some 600 feet down this trail and buried among the grass roots, might be found an other grave yard—that of broken bottles and crumbled adobe walls. It is the remains of a little buffalo hunter's town that used-to-be.

But there is a story back of that lonely grave of young Tommy Lumpkins. And this story begins early in Feb., 1877, when news of Indian trouble reached the scattered buffalo hunters out on location. By the last of the month some 300 of them had gathered at Charley Rath's little village for a council of war against Black Horse and his braves. Some of these buffalo men had been at Adobe Walls three years before when Quanah Parker led his Comanches from the Ft. Sill reservation, and they did not intend to be caught flat footed again. Yet one of their number, Marshall Soule, had already been killed.

"Why leave it to Black Horse to choose the time and place?" demanded Pat Garrett, who later became sheriff of Lincoln County N. M., and killed Billy the Kid. "Let's do the choosing and flush him out of his lair."

"You're right!" declared Hank Campbell, an old Indian fighter from northern Kansas.

An expedition was decided on and 45 men, under the leadership of Campbell, volunteered to go. The men carried their Sharps buffalo guns and pulled wagons loaded with 250 pounds of ammunition for each man, besides bar lead, powder, primers and reloading outfits.

But here friction developed. It seems that Tommy Lumpkins, who proved quite handy with his tongue, opposed the entire plan—much to the disgust of Murphy, another buffalo hunter.

Feelings did not subside between the two men who chose to remain in Rath City; and it came to a head during a poker game a few days after the expedition left. Murphy proved the quicker on the draw.

Spotted Jack, a government scout, buried young Tommy Lumpkins and

carved out the headpiece from a slab of white pine that had been part of an ammunition box. Thus his proved to be the first casualty of a costly campaign that nevertheless achieved its purpose—that of forcing the Indian to accept the reservation and desist from being a menace in West Texas. And it was the grave of young Lumpkins that established the "boot hill" of Rath City.

Mary Moore Hill, the daughter of the late Mr. W.P. Moore, provided this account of the shooting of Thomas Lumpkins which was published in the column "True Stories of West Texas."

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Dr. and Mrs. Longbotham

## Longbothams Return with Buffalos Bill And Cody

Buffalo Bill and Cody and their owners, Dr. Jack H. and Elisabeth Prude Longbotham of Clyde, will return for their second trip to "Back to Rath's Trail" Saturday. The live bull and cow buffalo be on display from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the south parking lot of Hamlin National Bank.

The two buffalo from the couple's live herd are the subjects for the books, "The Adventures of Buffalo Bill and Cody 1 & 2," written by the Clyde authors and ranchers. It is a tale which centers around the basic instincts of the largest native mammal of the American West. The book, written to appeal to young readers, provides understanding of one of America's most beloved animals, which almost became extinct.

The couple will be selling and autographing the books when in Hamlin.

Dr. Longbotham has been a Professor of Education at Hardin-Simmons University for 25 years, and his wife, a descendant of the John Prude family of Del Rio, own their own ranch where quarter horses, cattle and buffalo are raised, including Buffalo Bill and Cody.

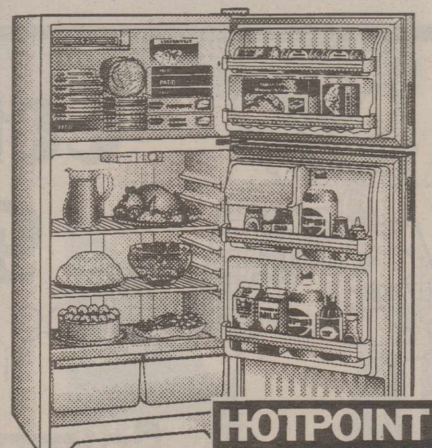
Mrs. Longbotham taught some 17 years at Clyde and is a former Clyde school board member. She also taught at A&M Consolidated and Georgetown as well as McMurry University.

"We have had our buffalo for about three years. Since then, we have traveled over 2,500 miles to schools and other events to teach people about one of the most recognizable aspects of the West," Mrs. Longbotham says.

The couple displayed the buffalo to Hamlin Elementary students this spring during Western Days.

# Fifth Anniversary Sale

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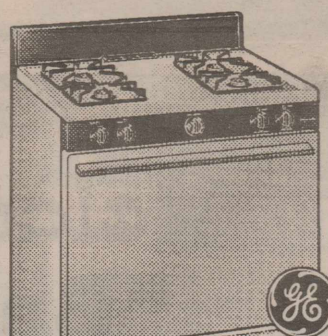
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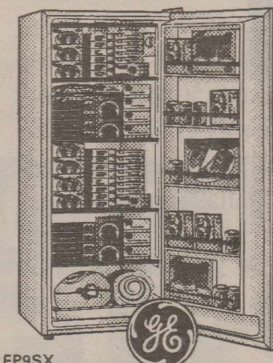
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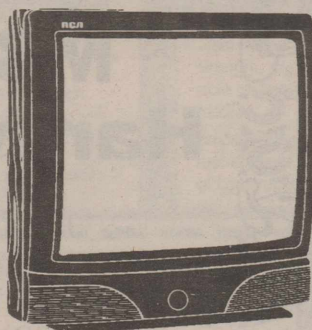
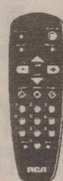
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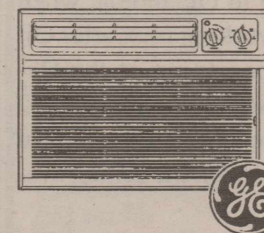
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# Symposiums

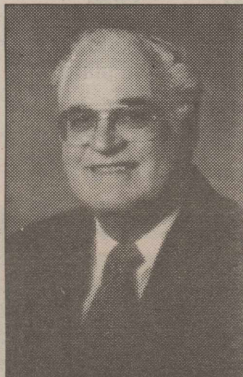
History of the Rath City area and the Plains will be presented during symposiums scheduled throughout the day Saturday in the Hamlin Masonic Lodge Hall located on S.W. Second, a half-block west of South Central.



**Clive Siegle**, associate professor of history at SMU will provide a look at the Plains Indians in his presentation entitled "Ever the Warriors: Indians of the Rath City Area." His presentation will be from 2:50 to 3:30 p.m.

Siegle teaches history classes in 19th century Texas and Southwestern history at SMU. The Dallas professor has been a key resource for information concerning Rath City and has been involved with "Back to Rath's Trail" since it began.

**Charles Anderson** of Snyder will recount the life of buffalo hunter J. Wright Mooar during his presentation from 2 to 2:40 p.m.



A diligent researcher, Anderson has spent many hours pouring through collections of photos, letters and documents for his fourth book *Confederate General William R. 'Dirty Neck Bill' Scurry*. The book is due out this summer.

Anderson was born in a tent on an Indian reservation in Oklahoma, when his parents were working for Carter Oil Company at the beginning of the Depression. He is retired from Snyder ISD where he was a teacher and principal during his 32 years with the school system.

Kent Biffle, Texas columnist of *The*

*Dallas Morning News* says of Anderson's *In Search of the Buffalo, the Story of J. Wright Mooar*: "No one is better equipped to record this Western saga of J. Wright Mooar than historian Charles G. Anderson. He tells the tale with the accuracy and wallop of a buffalo rifle."

**Elmer Kelton**, well-known author, will "reflect on the past" during his presentation from 1:15 to 1:50 p.m. Kelton was recently selected as the greatest western writer of all time in a survey of 100 members of the Western Writers of America, Inc.



The author of 35 novels, he is the six-time winner of the prestigious Spur Award for excellence in his Western fiction. Kelton's *The Good Old Boys*, was made into a 1995 TV movie for the TNT cable network, starring Tommy Lee Jones.

Kelton's work has been published over about 40 years and includes *The Pumpkin Rollers*, *The Far Canyon*, *Slaughter*, *Honor at Daybreak*, *The Man Who Rode Midnight*, *Stand Proud* and *The Wolf and the Buffalo*. Three of his novels have appeared in Reader's Digest Condensed Books.

Four books have won the Western Heritage Award from the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, Oklahoma City. *The Time It Never Rained*, *The Good Old Boys*, *The Man Who Rode Midnight*, and the text for *The Art of Howard Terpning*.

The six that won the Spur award from Western Writers of America were *Buffalo Wagons*, *The Day the Cowboys Quit*, *The Time it Never Rained*, *Eyes of the Hawk*, *Slaughter* and *The Far Canyon*.

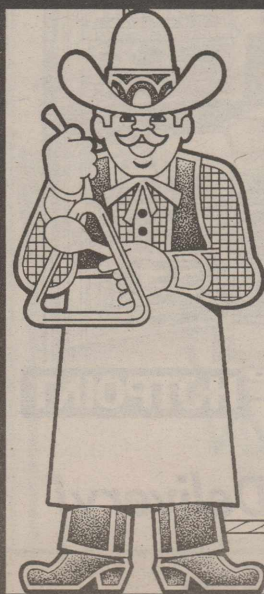
In 1987, he received the Barbara McCombs/Lon Tinkle Award for "con-

tinuing excellence in Texas letters" from the Texas Institute of Letters. In 1990, he received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Western Literature Association.

He is a native of Crane where his father was with the McElroy Ranch Co. for 36 years. He earned a B. A. degree in journalism in 1948 from the University of Texas at Austin. He spent 15 years as farm and ranch writer-editor for the *San Angelo Standard-Times*, five years as editor of *Sheep and Goat Raiser Maga-*

*zine* and 22 years as associate editor of *Livestock Weekly*, from which he retired in 1990.

Both Kelton and Anderson will be at the Hamlin Economic Development Office, 220 South Central, for sales and autographing of their work.



## Come and Get It!

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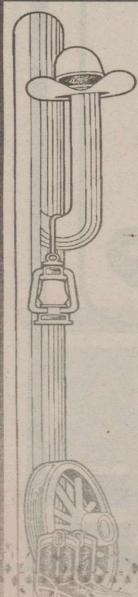
## Welcome to Back to Rath's Trail

*We hope you enjoy your visit to Hamlin as we relive our area's past*

### Derrell H. Davis, DDS

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Rath City began with an idea—an idea founded upon entrepreneurial spirit.

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## 'Evening in Rath City' Helps Fund Annual Event

**April Dinner Raises \$13,800**

The second annual "Evening in Rath City" drew over 250 people to raise funds for the 1997 "Back to Rath's Trail." The event was held under a large tent on the south parking lot of Rath City Steak House Monday, April 21.

The steak house catered the meal which grew from 150 people last year to 250 this year. Entertainment was provided by Jimmy Lee Jones of Luckenbach.

The evening was planned by a committee consisting of Billy Don and Linda Cooper, O.H. and Marolyn Weaver, Dwight and Patrice Griggs and Larry and Sandra McCoy.

The dinner, silent auction and live auction of donated items raised over \$13,800. The proceeds are being used to fund this weekend's Fifth Annual "Back to Rath's Trail."



### *We Appreciate Our Gold Star Sponsors of "An Evening in Rath City"*

Cecil Sellers Cattle Co., Inc. • Adell Matchett  
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What do we offer in our Gallery? Framed art, oils, mirrors—Flowers for the home—Western art by Kenneth Wyatt—Fifth Avenue Crystal boxes, vases, bells—Accent tables, furniture—Decorator boxes—Faroy stonecast collection and figures—Dolls—Plush animals—Southwest baskets—Western figures—Flatback hand-carved figures—Fenton Art Glass—Austin Sculptures—Majolica reproductions—Fruits and vegetables in bottles—Claire Burke fragrances, candles, potpourri—Wreathes and garlands—Collector's teapots—Carolina Candles and accessories—Candlesticks—Heritage Lace for tables—Wedgwood vases, accents—Children's Wedgwood sets by Peter Rabbit—Collector's miniatures—Mary Englebreit prints—Manual Weavers place mats, tapestries, throws, bell pulls—Small gifts in silver—Pictures frames—Unique baskets—Raquel Handpainted collections—Forever Chelsea fragrant bath seeds, soaps, lotions—Desk accessories—Paul Tiffany lamps—Artificial trees—Tole containers—Candies—Memorial flowers—Professional Wedding planning, services, flowers

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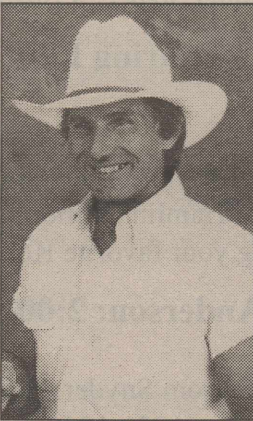


# Cowboy Poetry

Three cowboy poets will entertain listeners while telling of life as a cowboy in the West. All three will recite poetry in the Hamlin Masonic Lodge, located on S. W. Second Street, just west of South Central.

**Wallace Rennels** of Lawn will perform at 9:10 and 10:55.

**Don Pitts** of Abilene will follow at 9:45 and 11:30 a.m. Pitts, a natural resource manager for Dyess Air Force Base is a humorist as well as a poet. His biographical sketch includes some of his humor.



## Worship Services To be Held Sunday At Rath City Site

In what may be a historical event, worship services will be held at Rath City Sunday morning. The services will begin at 8:45 a.m. and end by 9:30 a.m. so visitors may also attend worship services in their home churches.

**Alvin G. Davis** of Lubbock will lead the service. He will be joined by cowboy poet Mike Querner and musician Stephen Reynolds, formerly of Hamlin.



Davis has devoted his entire life to the promotion of Western heritage and the cowboy culture. He currently serves as president of both the Western Music Association, American Cowboy Culture Association and the West Texas Performing Arts Society. He is chairman of the Texas Cowboy Poets Association and the national Cowboy Symposium and Celebration.

Founder of the American Junior Rodeo Association, Davis is an active member of the Western Writers Association and served for 13 years as executive vice president and general manager of the Ranching Heritage Association.

A businessman, sculptor, auctioneer and horse breeder, he was the first inductee into the Texas Tech Rodeo Hall of Fame and is a lifetime honorary member of the Former Texas Rangers Association, National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association and the Western/English Retailers Association.

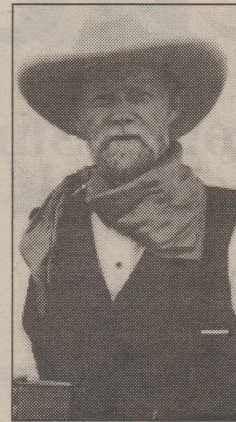
His work history includes "several years as a farrier (that's a horse shoer with a thesaurus), horse trainer, horse and cow trader, windmill greaser, ranch manager, ranch flunky, feed and seed salesman, cow magazine ad salesman, cattle and sheep raisin'. Extensive OJT in the rodeo dance and bar room brawl."

He lists his best paying job as a cowboy technical advisor and part-time actor and rodeo rider for a movie. "They never released the movie, but they did release me," he said.

He has had over 70 poems published, all humor, in various horse, cow and ag publications and maybe 100 humor articles published.

**Mike Querner** from Lubbock, is no stranger to the Western way of life. His family has been involved in ranching for five generations. Querner was raised around cattle and horses and still day works on ranches as time permits.

He has been writing and performing cowboy poetry since 1989. His poetry has taken him throughout the western United States to perform at various cowboy gatherings and symposiums from



Texas and New Mexico to Wyoming and Nevada.

Querner is a member of the advisory board of the National Cowboy Symposium and Celebration held in Lubbock each September, the largest event of its kind in the United States.

He also serves on the board of directors of the Texas Cowboy Poets Association.

In addition to his performance Saturday, Querner will be reciting during the worship services to be held from 8:45 to 9:30 a.m. Sunday at the Rath City site.



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# Schedule of Events

## Thursday through Sunday

### Tri-State Entertainment

10-Ride Carnival  
200 Block of S.W. Avenue A



## Friday

### TMRA "Rath's Trail Rally"

Bikers arrive in afternoon and evening  
Hamlin Park (free camping)

### Frontier Ball featuring "Rueffer Boys"

8:45 p.m. to midnight  
Hamlin National Bank south parking lot. Non-alcoholic, bring your lawn chairs. In case of inclement weather will be moved to Fire Station, corner of SW. Ave. A and East Lake Drive



## Saturday

### Chuckwagon Breakfast

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.  
Benefitting the West Texas Rehabilitation Center  
Corner of Texas 92 West and N. W. Ave. A

### Tours of Rath City

9 a.m. to noon & 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Located 6.9 miles north of the north city limit sign.

### Exhibits Open

9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Includes: Artifacts, Art, Quilts, Arts and Crafts, Living History Demonstrations, Petting Zoo, Food Booths

### Historical Exhibits/Symposiums

#### Live Buffalo Exhibit-Discussion: 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

South Bank Parking Lot  
Dr. and Mrs. Jack Longbotham of Clyde, Texas. Authors of *The Adventures of Buffalo Bill and Cody, Books 1 & 2.*

#### Blacksmith Exhibit: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thanksgiving Place Park; Dan Cochran of Clyde, Texas

#### Living History Monologue by Lee N. Coffee:

11:10-11:45 a.m.; 1:55-2:35 p.m.

Hamlin National Bank Lawn

Critical Care Nurse, E.R., of Brooke Army Medical Center. Will portray the part of Sgt. Emanuel Stance, a Buffalo Soldier.

#### "Reflections of the Past" featuring Elmer Kelton:

1:15-1:50 p.m.

Hamlin Masonic Lodge

Novelist and six-time winner of the Golden Spur Award.

Book signing Noon to 1 p.m. Hamlin Economic Development Office, 220 S. Central. Bring your favorite Kelton book.

#### Symposium by Charles Anderson: 2:00-2:40 p.m.

Hamlin Masonic Lodge

Author/Historical Researcher from Snyder: Topic; "The Life of Buffalo Hunter J. Wright Mooar, 1851-1940"

Book signing and sales Noon to 1 p.m. Hamlin Economic Development Office, 220 S. Central

#### Symposium by Clive Siegle: 2:50-3:30 p.m.

Hamlin Masonic Lodge

Associate Professor of History, SMU; Topic: "Ever the Warriors: Indians of the Rath City Area."

#### Symposium by Alex Barker: 3:40-4:15 p.m.

Hamlin Masonic Lodge

Curator of Archaeology and Director of Science Programs for the Dallas Museum of Natural History; Topic: "The Buried Treasures of Rath City"

### Historical Entertainment

#### The Catlaw Creek Boys:

10-10:35 a.m.; 12:30-1:05 p.m.; 3-3:35 p.m.

Hamlin National Bank Lawn

Will perform period music, along with a special tribute to hymnwriter John B.F. Wright. Mr. Wright composed more than 200 hymns in his lifetime, of which "Precious Memories" was his best known. It was just outside of Hamlin in 1923 that he composed this best-loved hymn.

#### The Texas Gunslingers: 10:50 a.m.; Noon; 1:30 p.m.

North Hamlin National Bank parking lot

Re-eneactors from several locations in the Texas Midwest will recreate gunfights. All gunfights will be in memory of Rodger Grimes, a fellow gunslinger who recently died of cancer.

### Cowboy Poetry

Wallace Rennels: 9:10 -9:35 a.m. and 10:55-11:20 a.m.

Hamlin Masonic Lodge

From Lawn, Texas

*Please check map on back and posted maps and schedules of events for any changes plus information on restroom locations, eating establishments, etc.*



# ts ~ June 6, 7 & 8

**Don Pitts: 9:45-10:10 a.m. and 11:30 -11:55 a.m.**

Hamlin Masonic Lodge  
From Abilene, Texas

**Mike Querner: 10:20-10:45 a.m.**

Hamlin Masonic Lodge  
From Lubbock, Texas. Querner will also be at the Sunday morning  
worship service at the Rath City site, 8:45 to 9:30 a.m.



**Sunday**

## Authentic Chuckwagon Breakfast

7 -8:30 a.m.

At Rath City site, limited number of tickets for sale at Chamber  
Office for \$5 each.

## Cowboy/Buffalo Hunter Worship Service

8:45 - 9:30 a.m.

Bring your lawn chairs. Service to be led by Alvin Davis of Lub-  
bock, president of the National Cowboy Symposium: Mike  
Querner of Lubbock, cowboy poet; and Stephen Reynolds, music.

## Christian Motorcyle Assoc. Worship Service

8 a.m..

Hamlin City Park

## Rath City Golf Tournament

1:30 p.m.

Three-Person Scramble Hamlin Country Club

## Motorcyle Rally

**Rath Trail Run: 10 a.m. to Noon**

Pre-planned route through the scenic Double Mountain area

**Field Events: 1:30 p.m.**

Hamlin City Park

**People's Choice Bike Judging: 4-5 p.m.**

Hamlin National Bank South Parking Lot

**Motorcyle Light Parade: 9:15 p.m.**

Downtown Hamlin

## Frontier Ball

**8:45 p.m. to midnight Featuring "Haywire"**

Hamlin National Bank south parking lot. Non-alcoholic, bring your  
lawn chairs. In case of inclement weather will be moved to Fire  
Station, corner of SW. Ave. A and East Lake Drive

## Tours of Rath City

Living history camps by the "1880's Saddletramps" along with  
re-enactors from all over Texas and Oklahoma will provide  
interpretive aspects as to the site itself, its inhabitants, and the  
purpose it held in the westward expansion of this country. The  
Dallas Museum of Natural History will be doing on-site  
archaeological digs for the general public to experience. This  
research began one year ago and will continue until all  
possible history of the site can be ascertained.

*Location Open from 9 a.m. to noon and 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.*

## Directions to Rath City

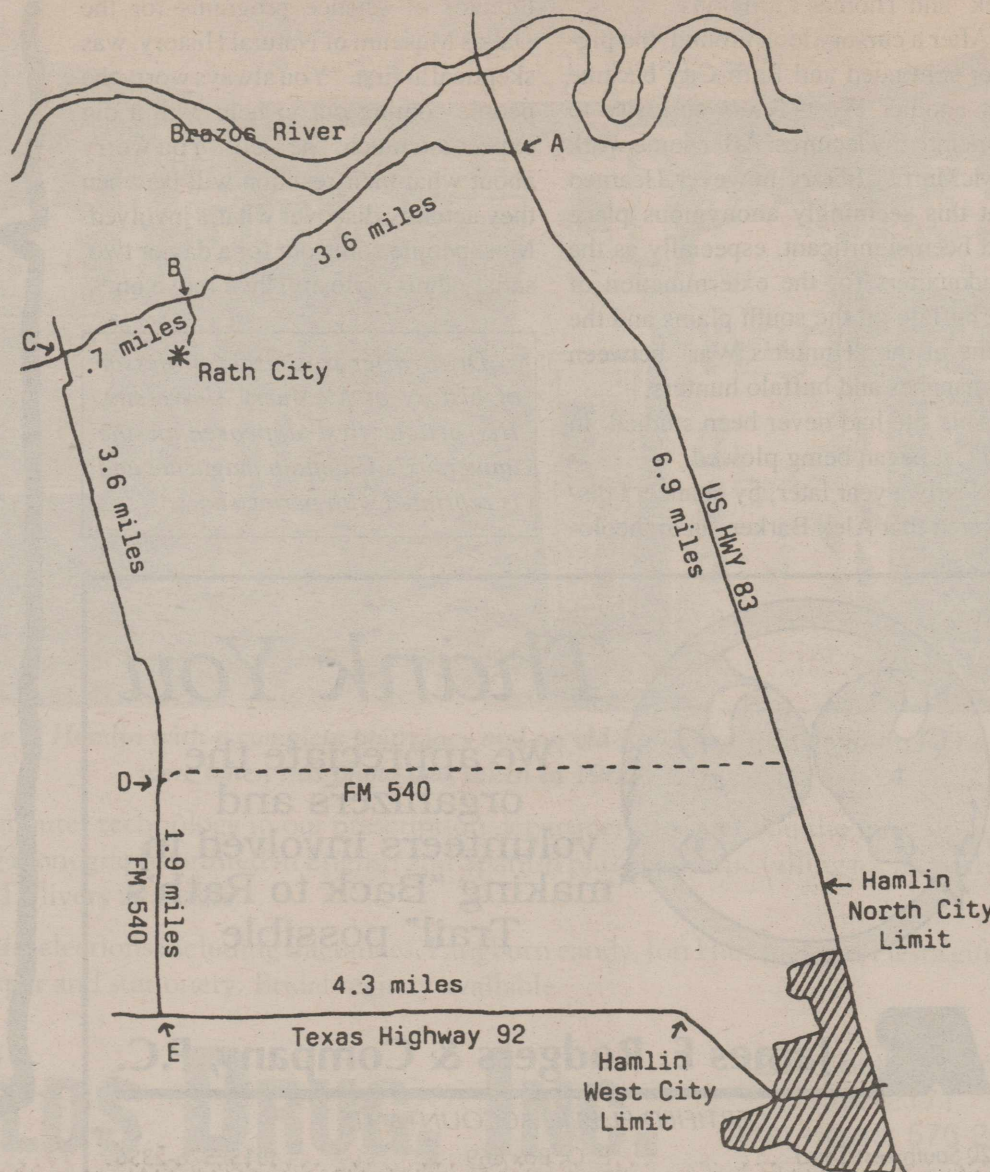
Proceed north on U.S. 83. From the north city limit, travel 6.9 miles  
to Point A. Turn left (west) on to a gravel road and travel 3.6 miles to  
the Moore-Moutray Cemetery (point B). Guides will show you to the  
Rath City site.

### Dry Weather Return Route

Continue west another 0.7 miles on gravel road to the intersection  
at point C. Turn left (south) and travel 3.6 miles to intersection of FM  
540 (point D). Continue south on paved FM 540 for 1.9 miles to the  
intersection of Texas 92 (point E). Turn left (east) and travel 4.3 miles  
to the west city limits of Hamlin.

### Wet Weather Return Route

Return to U.S. 83 (point A) and turn right to return to Hamlin. You  
will be advised of this at Rath City.





# Rath City Dig

*Students get their hands dirty for the sake of historical research*

By Dr. Don Frazier

Buried treasure comes in a wide variety. For McMurry University students Jim Allen, Dwayne Wolfe, Marcus Morris and Dan Wisniewski, the mother lode lay beneath the furrows of a wheat field near Hamlin, Texas.

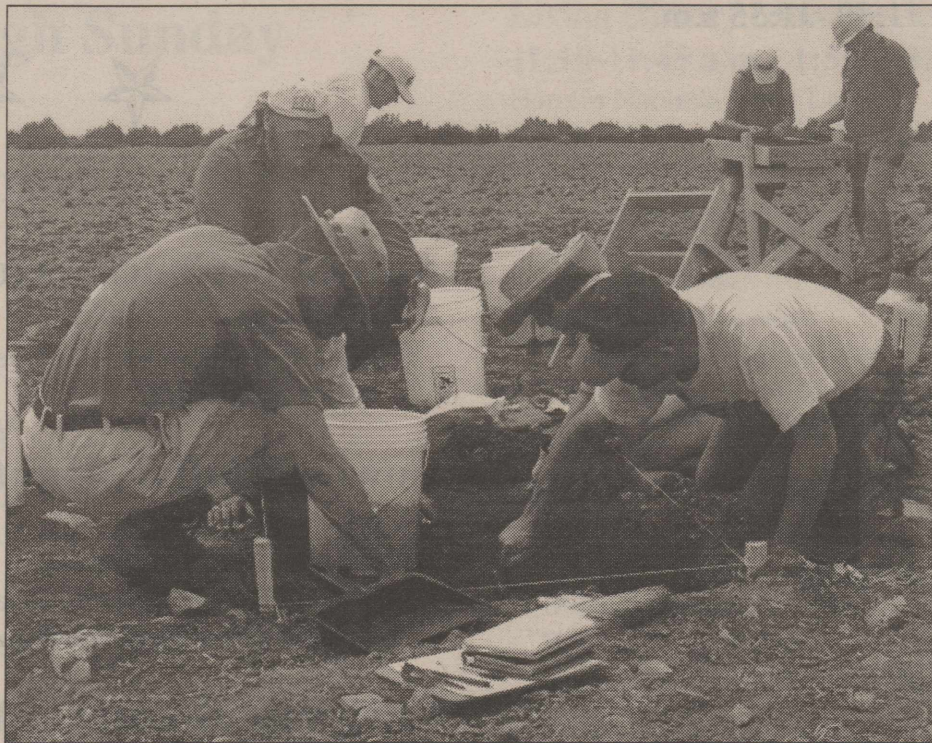
Shortly after arriving at McMurry, I was discussing Southerners and their traditional food supply in an American history class. The topic turned to free-range pigs, many of whom went wild. These feral hogs then became a fixture in the South. One student, Dickson Ferguson, mentioned that these animals infested his ranch, and invited me to try my luck at hunting them. When we made our expedition to the Double Mountain Fork of the Brazos, Dickson and his father, John, showed me the site of Rath City, an eight-building village that had existed from 1877-1879.

The place was nondescript. A mile-by-mile expanse of plowed field with tell-tale debris mixed in near the middle. Closer inspection revealed thousands of shards of purple glass and china fragments. At one end of the field were two stone cairns, each with a headstone—the supposed resting places of "Spotted Jack" and Thomas Lumpkins.

After a cursory look around, the pig-hunt continued and Rath City became just another West Texas curiosity to work into my lectures. After some work at McMurry's library, however, I learned that this seemingly anonymous place had been significant, especially as the headquarters for the extermination of the buffalo on the south plains and the scene of the "Hunter's War" between Comanches and buffalo hunters.

This site had never been studied. In 1971, it began being plowed.

Nearly a year later, by chance, I discovered that Alex Barker, an archeolo-



Archaeological dig at Rath City site

gist from the Dallas Museum of Natural History, had received funding through the Summerlee Foundation to study the site, prompting me to explore the chances of getting McMurry students involved in some "hands-on" history.

Barker, the curator of archeology and director of science programs for the Dallas Museum of Natural History, was skeptical at first. "You always worry the people coming out to help with a dig expect too much," he said. "You worry about what their reaction will be when they actually discover what's involved. Most people come out for a day or two, satisfy their curiosity, then move on."

*Dr. Frazier is assistant professor of history at McMurry University. His article first appeared in the university's Chieftain magazine and is reprinted with permission.*

Luckily, neither I nor my students knew what was involved, so we gamely forged ahead when Barker agreed to lead an archeological field school. In exchange for 48 hours of field work and a research paper, the McMurry students

would receive three hours of advanced U.S. history credit. Our education came quickly.

Excavating a historic site involve many hours on one's knees, scraping away at the soil with a hand-trowel. Slowly, but steadily, these McMurry students burned away their July and August weekends to create a series of 1 x 2 meter holes, 10 centimeters at a time.

"I was really expecting to come out here and dig up rifles and pistols and buffalo skulls," Wolfe said. "Not glass shards that have been plowed over."

"I don't think Indiana Jones ever did this kind of work," added Allen.

Barker's fears seemed well-founded, at first, as morale and enthusiasm wilted in the summer heat. But as he explained the project and the work progressed, interest revived. "Finding the corner of a building was a major turning point," said Barker. "Without finding intact fill, all this site could do was bolster the existing documentary evidence and other stories that surround this place." Barker, though, had other goals.

"I was looking for a project that was

—Continued on next page

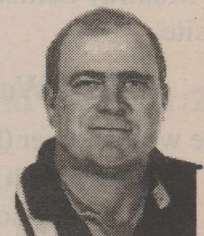
## REWARD

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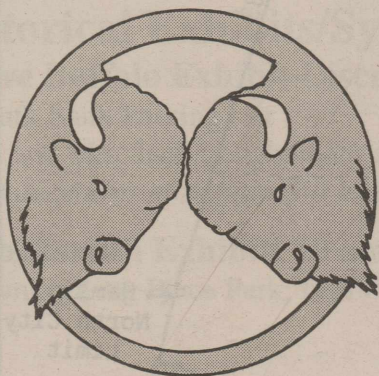
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# Rath City Dig

interdisciplinary. In this case, he wanted to mix history with a study of the 1870s West Texas environment. "Soil and charcoal taken from within the building sites should reveal what the environment was like before and during the bison kill-off. There have been many other buffalo hunter sites excavated, but few that were asking these broader environmental questions."

So far, a wide variety of interesting yet uninterpreted items have been unearthed, including bone fragments, spent shell-casings, charcoal, nails, a piece of buckshot and pounds of glass. "I think these people drank pretty heavily out here," Barker said. "A lot more, I think, than up at Adobe Walls."

Despite the hardships, though, the partnership between McMurry and the Dallas Museum of Natural History has been mutually rewarding.

"I wanted to learn a little bit about archeology," Allen said. "I've thought about it, but have never had the opportunity." Since then, he has become familiar with line levels, surveying equipment, log sheets and screens. "Archeology is more precise than what I thought. You never see this part-taking measurements, using a trowel, that sort of thing."

Indeed, Barker, who is also an ad-

junct professor of anthropology at Southern Methodist University, as well as a fellow of the Clements Center for Southwestern Studies, made sure that the technical aspects of his field were hammered home on his McMurry pupils. "An average archeology field school lasts six to 12 weeks in the field. I was concerned that these students wouldn't receive adequate training. I've tried to make sure that the things we've learned, we learned well."

Barker also mentioned that he was impressed with the McMurry work ethic. "It's been great to have these students here because they've been reliable. We would have been out here anyway, we just would not have gotten as much done. As it is, we've had an extremely rewarding and productive summer."

Lana Coggeshall, the educational programs coordinator at the Dallas Museum echoed the sentiment. "They're interested and willing to learn. It's always cool when people want to be here. I'm impressed with their perseverance. Not too many people would sacrifice their weekends for three hours credit."

But for Allen, Wolfe and Morris, who all have jobs and full-time responsibilities, a weekends-only summer school class was perfect.

"I needed three hours, and all the other summer classes I signed up for didn't work out," said Wolfe, pastor at Tye United Methodist Church. The people who have been here have been

great—a lot more fun than the digging."

"Even with the heat and the mind-numbing tedium, I'm really enjoying myself," he added. "Even though I haven't seen any wild pigs."

## Barker to Present Findings From Rath City Dig

### Public May View Archaeological Dig Saturday

"The Buried Treasures of Rath City" will be presented by Alex Barker, curator of archaeology and director of programs for the Dallas Museum of Natural History at 3:40 p.m. Saturday in the Hamlin Masonic Lodge. Barker will show items recovered during the museum's archaeological dig at the Rath

City site that has been underway for a year.

In addition, Barker and others will be at the site Saturday to allow the public to see the dig in progress. The excavation of the site will continue until all possible history of the site can be ascertained.

## Thank You

The Historic Rath's Trail Association sincerely appreciates the assistance and support of the landowners of the Rath City site:

Mrs. Elmo Joy Ferguson

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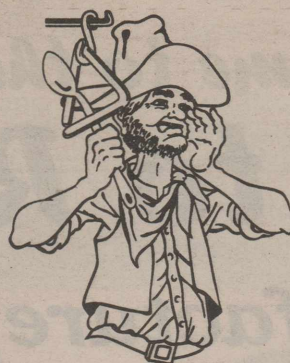
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## Coffee Returns To Portray Buffalo Soldier

Lee N. Coffee Jr., a critical care nurse in the Emergency Room of Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, will assume the identity of Sgt. Emanuel Stance, a buffalo soldier, when he comes to Hamlin Saturday. His appearances in front of Hamlin National Bank are set at 11:10 a.m. and 1:55 p.m.

He uses the role of Sgt. Stance, Company F, 9th U. S. Cavalry, who received the Medal of Honor June 28, 1870, to tell audiences of the rich history that is missing from the pages of school history books.

Post Civil War, "An act to increase and fix the military peace establishment of the United States..." was approved by Congress. It authorized six all Black Regiments, four of Infantry and two of Cavalry, to be commanded by white officers.

From 1866 to 1890, the all Black Cavalry and Infantry units came "to the rescue" of pioneers, telegraph and rail workers, stage coaches, etc. and literally saved the West.

Coffee emphasizes, "This heritage is one for all Americans to be proud of, not just African Americans. While teaching the history to school children, I am also able to use the positive characteristics like self belief, determination and courage to facilitate my efforts to teach anti-drug, anti-gang and self esteem to 'at risk' youth."

Coffee has been in the U. S. Army for more than 18 years and through his program, "To the Rescue," is reaching out to those "at risk"—of dropping out of school, of using drugs, of getting into trouble by being a member of a gang, or of other various ways of letting trouble find them.

## Thank You

to the following for the use of their facilities and assistance:

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Hamlin ISD

City of Hamlin

Hamlin CAP

Scout Troop 143

Rodney Dunham

First Baptist Church

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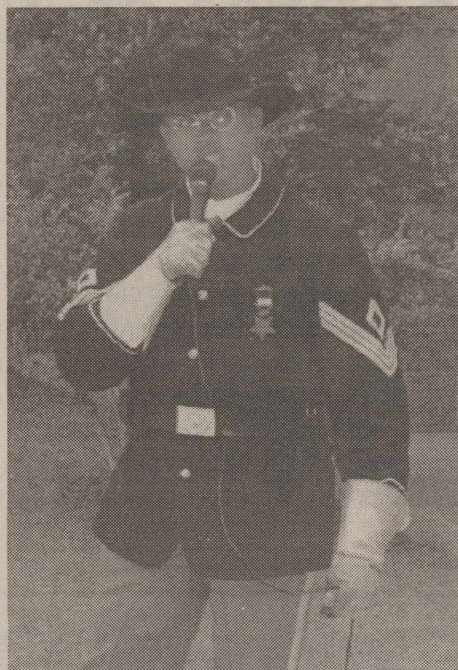
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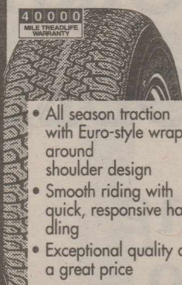
*They are nearly as big as a saddle blanket!*

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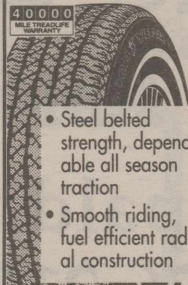
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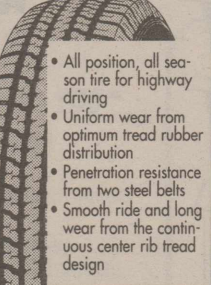
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# Indians Used Buffalos as Source of Many Items

From the Rocky Mountains to the Mississippi River, from southern Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, the Great Plains formed the vast, undulating, sod-covered home of one of the world's great animal populations—the 60 million or more bison (American buffalo) that migrated seasonally in huge herds.

Three dozen or more tribes made use of the Great Plains in the early historic period (c.1700-1850), including the Arapaho, Arikara, Blackfoot, Cheyenne, Crow, Hidatsa, Iowa, Mandan, Osage, Pawnee, Sioux, Wichita, Kiowa-Apache, Plains Cree, and Sarci.

The Great Plains had been occupied for thousands of years by pedestrian nomads who foraged a living in its river bottoms and developed various methods of exploiting its bison herds. More than a thousand years ago peoples of the Eastern Woodlands cultural tradition established farming villages along the western tributaries of the Mississippi River.

## Hunting Without Horses

The hunters had worked out cunning methods by which they could kill enough buffalo to supply the tribe with meat and hides. If the herd was scattered, a few hunters might move softly among the animals and shoot several without scaring the others.

In snowy weather, Indians would encircle a herd and kill many of the animals before they could flounder away in the drifts.

Another effective method was to drive the herd over a cliff. One man, draped in a buffalo robe, would move ahead of the herd toward the cliff. Then other Indians would jump behind the animals, shouting and waving robes. The buffalo would begin to trot, then gallop in terror, the animals in the rear pushing those in front.

The decoy leader would dodge to safety at the last minute, and the crazed herd would pour over the precipice. Many were killed in the fall. The injured were disposed of with spears or clubs.

Many Plains tribes gave up permanent villages after they got horses. Among the tribes which changed were the Sioux (or Dakota), the Blackfoot, the Crow, the Cheyenne, the Arapaho, the Comanche, and the Kiowa.

Each tribe knew where the buffalo should be from month to month in the tribe's hunting ground and moved as necessary for convenience in hunting. To get horses, the Indians traded their most valuable goods, raided the camps of other tribes and white traders, and roped any wild ponies they found.

## Hunting With Horses

On a big hunt, the many bands in a tribe gathered in a huge camp. Their tepees were much larger after the Indians had horses to haul the heavy covers on the travois.

Buffalo runs were wild, exciting affairs. First scouts located a herd. Then the long line of mounted hunters rode forward. Sometimes fantastically dressed medicine men trotted ahead, chanting and shaking rattles. At a signal the hunters charged among the buffalo at a gallop.

Guiding his trained buffalo horse by

knee pressure, the hunter pulled alongside his quarry and drove an arrow into its body. He gripped a pair of arrows in the left hand, which held the bow, and held another in his mouth. A quiver with spare arrows hung from his shoulder.

A brave, skillful, and lucky hunter might kill four or five animals during a run. The number increased after the Indians got guns from traders.

## After the Hunt

After the hunt, the work of the women began. They skinned the carcasses and cut up the meat. Some choice parts were

—Continued on next page



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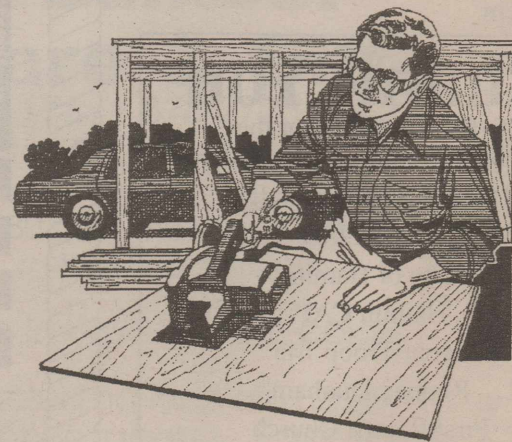
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## BACK TO RATH'S TRAIL



eaten right away. The meat might be hung on green branches over the fire to cook. Or it could be boiled by dropping hot rocks into the cooking "pot." The pot too came from the buffalo. A buffalo stomach or a piece of hide was fitted into a hole in the ground and used for cooking. Rawhide bowls were also used.

Most of the meat was cut into thin strips and "jerked." Jerking meant hanging the strips on a rack in the dry wind that swept the plains. This dried meat would keep for a long while. Sometimes it was pounded fine and mixed with melted fat and dried berries, then stored in containers of skin or membrane. Called pemmican, this was an excellent concentrated food for warriors or hunters.

#### Indians' Fate Sealed

With the introduction of guns and the westward movement of trappers and pioneers, the fate of the bison and Plains culture was, however, soon sealed. By 1880 bison no longer existed in sufficient numbers to permit the summer hunts, tribes were being shunted to reservations, and the Great Plains culture was essentially destroyed.

The often-fierce and bloody conflicts between Plains Indians and whites culminated in 1890, when a group of Sioux followers of the revivalistic Ghost Dance movement encountered cavalry units at Wounded Knee, South Dakota, where nearly 300 native Americans, mainly women and children, were massacred by the 7th Cavalry, Gen. George Armstrong Custer's former unit.

Although the resistance of the Plains peoples was eventually broken, many of the most powerful tribes escaped being driven outside their own territories. Although on the reservations they had little or no opportunity to maintain their traditional way of life, certain aspects of Plains culture have nevertheless been preserved although in adjusted form.

## Bison

Where has he gone?

The great shaggy beast.

The wild one.

The provider,

The warmth from the cold.

The food to drive away hunger.

The robe and moccasins for my feet.

The leather for my shirt.

The skin for my tent.

The bones for my tools.

The sinew for my bowstring.

The horn for my spoon and cups.

The stomach for a bag to carry my things in.

The rawhide.

I look for him on the plains and he is not there.

I look for him in the meadows and the valleys and at the water and he is not there.

I cannot live without him

Tonye Carter



A display of the many items the Plains Indians created from the buffalo that once roamed the Great Plains.

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*Life of Billy Dixon* by Olive Dixon

*The Buffalo* by Francis Haines

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*The Buffalo Hunters* by Charles McRobinson

*Fort Griffin on the Texas Frontier* by Carl Coke Rister

*The Comanche Barrier to the South Plains Settlement*  
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*Baronets and Buffalo* by John Merritt

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*A Texas Frontier* by Ty Cushion

*In Search of the Buffalo* by Charles G. Anderson

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*Honor at Daybreak*

*Elmer Kelton Country*

*The Time It Never Rained*

*The Day the Cowboys Quit*

*The Good Old Boys*

*The Men Who Rode Midnight*

*Wagontongue*

*The Wolf and the Buffalo*

*Stand Proud*

*My Kind of Hereos*



Jack and Elisabeth  
Prude Longbotham will  
be selling and  
autographing their  
books: *The Adventures  
of Buffalo Bill and Cody  
No's 1 & 2* from 10 a.m.  
to 1:30 p.m. at the Bank  
Parking Lot.

245 South Central  
576-3501



# Bison, Not Buffalo Roamed Great Plains

A bison is either of two existing species of the wild cattle genus *Bison*. One, commonly but incorrectly known as the buffalo, is the American bison. The other, the European species, is the wisent.

The bull of the American buffalo (bison) may weigh more than 2,000 pounds and stand more than 6-feet high. The massive head and forequarters are covered with long hair, and the body slims down toward the hindquarters, which are covered with shorter hair. The female of the species is somewhat smaller. Both sexes have horns, but those of the male are more massive. During the breeding season, July and August, bulls leave their bachelor groups and mingle with the cow-calf herds. A single calf is born after a gestation period of nine months.

The bison was a principal resource of the Plains Indians, furnishing them with food, skins for shelter and boats, bones for tools and utensils, and "buffalo chips" (dung) for fuel.

The great bison herds moved northward in the spring and southward in late fall. The migrations covered up to 400 miles, in a roughly circular route. Dur-

ing their Great Plains journeys the beasts swam swift-flowing rivers and climbed and slid down steep banks and cliffs.

Routes were the same year after year. The southward movement was made usually in single file. Bison trails in some places were worn as much as 3 feet deep. The northward movement began in the spring, after the calves were strong enough for travel. In this movement the herds were smaller. The bulls ranged in an outer circle around the cows and calves. When threatened, the herd bunched, and the bulls faced outward toward the danger. Ice weakened by the spring sun would sometimes break under the weight of a migrating herd, and many of the animals would drown.

Few wild animals have undergone a more devastating encounter with humans than the bison. The grasslands from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains were the home of 30 million prairie bison when white settlers first arrived. These numbers were reduced to about 500 near the end of the last century, and then slowly increased to an estimated 35 to 50 thousand on refuges and ranches today.

## Chamber Hosting Kid's Korner

The Hamlin Chamber of Commerce will host a Kid's Korner in conjunction with the petting zoo which will be located in the 400 block of South Central. The kid's area will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will offer crafts and awards for children up to age 12.

In addition, an air castle will be open for children. A carnival will begin Thursday and run through Sunday in the 200 block of S. W. Ave. A.

While the kids are busy at the Kid's Korner, parents may shop at the many arts and crafts booths which will be open

from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The booths will be located on South Central at the old Fire Station and the old Albritton Motor building.

Food booths will be open all day in the 300 block of South Central.

The annual quilt show, featuring old and new quilts, will be held in G&G Carpets, 335 South Central. Artifacts dating back to the 1800's will be on display in the lobby of Hamlin National Bank throughout the day. Arrowheads, guns, and memorabilia from this area will be on display.

## Come See our New Look and New Arrivals at Back to Rath's Trail Everything is Marked Down!

*We will be open during  
the motorcycle light parade*

*Open Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturday, June 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.*

**HAMLIN  
CLOTHESLINE**

224 South Central

576-3841



*It's Going to be  
a Fun Time and  
We're Glad  
You're Here!*

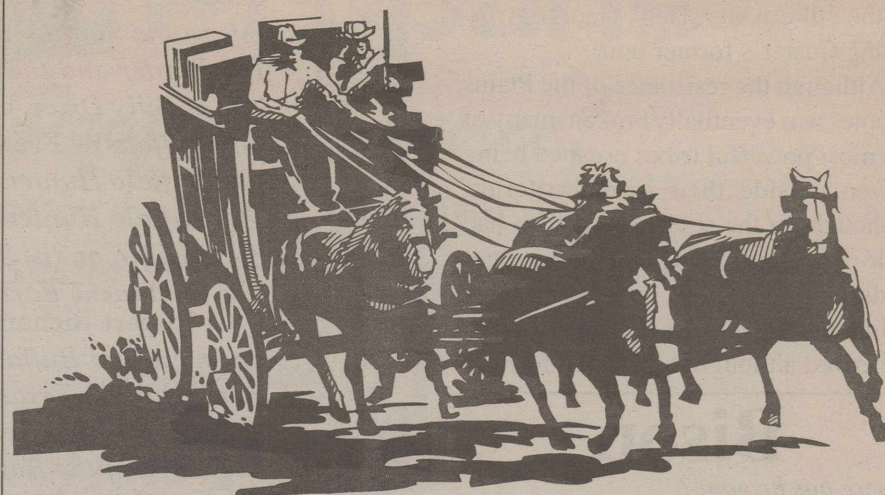
**LAKEY  
FERTILIZING**

*Ground application of  
fertilizer and pesticides*

**(915) 576-3750 or  
1-800-258-6051**

**Welcome to "Back to Rath's Trail"**  
See us for all your backhoe and  
oilfield construction needs

**BRETT HIGHT BACKHOE**  
710 N. W. AVE. D 915-576-2031



**When Your "Wagon" Needs Repairs  
Call Us-**

*We've been serving the auto body  
and glass needs of the  
Hamlin area since 1950*

**Now doing Windshield Repairs**  
Insurance will pay 100% of repair with no deductible

**HAMLIN PAINT & BODY**

33 S. E. Ave. A ~ 576-2161



# Buffalo Trails Hindered Early Settlers

Jones County, named for Anson Jones, the last president of the Republic of Texas, was created Feb. 1, 1858, from the counties of Bexar and Bosque. The county was re-created in 1876 and organized in 1881.

The first permanent settlers to Jones County were believed to be John and Creed Roberts and J. G. and Mode Johnson. In 1873, the Roberts brothers pitched camp on the Clear Fork near the present site of Nugent, and the Johnsons settled on Chimney Creek, northeast of Nugent. Their camps were five miles apart.

Some few Indians were still to be seen in this section, so the first settlers found it necessary to take every precaution to keep their camping place unknown.

In 1873, there were enough buffalo in Jones County to be considered a nuisance by the stockmen. They cut deep trails, which a horse found too narrow to follow conveniently, and frequently the rider found it necessary to put his feet across the horses neck when following one of the trails.

The buffalo would drift in great numbers as far as Coleman in the fall, and in the spring would go toward the north again, according to the author of the autobiography, "Frontier Experiences of Emmett Roberts."

Mr. Roberts writes, "I have seen the time when I could step out from our house or tent and shoot several early in the morning without moving from the front of the door. We frequently roped buffalo both large and small. They would fight, and for that reason we generally used a long rope when practicing with buffalo. It was good practice to teach a horse to hold, but it was dangerous sport. They were about as difficult to hold as cattle of corresponding age and size, but they were quicker especially on the turn. When chased, a buffalo would never run east or south—always west or northwest."

Only a few of Jones County's early settlers found the buffalo so numerous as did the Roberts brothers. By the time the settlement of the county was in full sway, there were only the bleaching bones of the animals left. In the fall of 1875, John W. Mooar and his brother, J. Wright Mooar, organized an extensive buffalo hunt in West Texas.

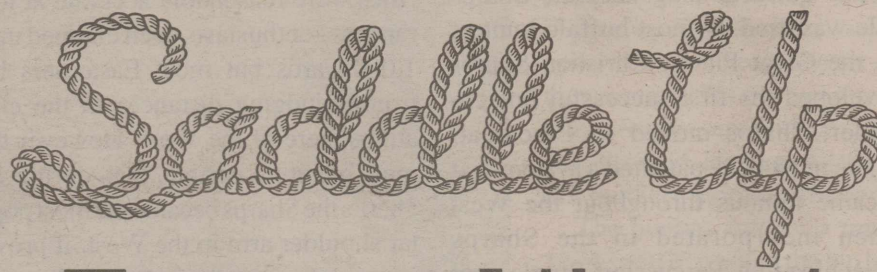
The ruthless destruction of the buffalo carries with it a touch of pathos, but undeniably the disappearance of the animal hastened the coming of civilization to Jones County. The Indian had depended upon the buffalo for food, clothing, shelter and fuel. Now with his chief source of these necessities of life

gone, the Indian was willing, more and more, to become a ward of the Federal government. The last buffalo seen in Jones County was in 1879, according to the late T. J. Scott. T. J. (Cottonwood) Scott was credited, in an interview in the 50th anniversary edition of the Western Enterprise, with killing one of the last two buffalo seen in the county.

~ ~ ~

**References:** First 100 Years of Jones County, written, compiled and published by the late Homer Hutto and the late Hooper Shelton.

*The Texas Almanac* published by the Dallas Morning News.



**For a good time at  
"Back to  
Rath's Trail"**

**Mike Byrd Casing Crews**

Hiway 83

915-576-2781

## The buffalo may have vanished, But not your local bank.



*Celebrating our 90th Anniversary—  
Proudly Serving the Rath City Area Since 1907*

# HNB

# HAMLIN NATIONAL BANK

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(915) 576-2731

231 South Central



## Sharps Rifle was Weapon Used by Most Hunters

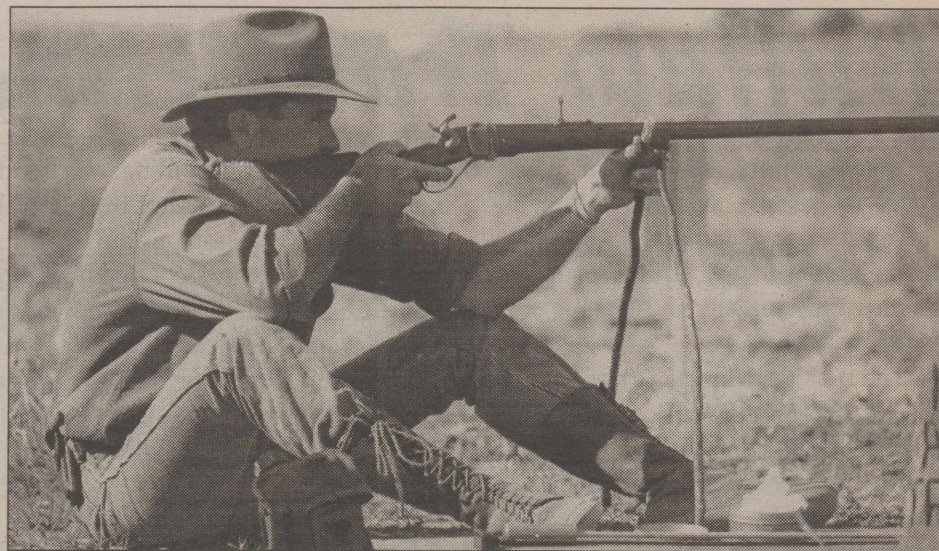
The quick-loading accurate Sharps rifle was used by most buffalo hunters on the Great Plains. Christian Sharps developed the first successful breech-loader. Sharps moved to Cincinnati where in 1848 he patented a system that became famous throughout the West when incorporated in the Sharps Breechloading Percussion Single-shot Carbine.

This revolutionary weapon—short-barreled and ideal for western use—employed a linen-or paper-wrapped cartridge with ball attached, though it would take loose ball and powder also. In loading with a cartridge, the trigger guard acted as a lever which lowered the breech block and exposed the chamber. The cartridge was then inserted. Returning the breech block to closed position sheared off the end of the cartridge and exposed the powder, so that when the trigger was pulled and the percussion cap exploded, ignition of the powder took place and the gun fired. A skilled shooter could deliver four or five shots a minute in this fashion.

In a variety of calibers from .36 to .52. Sharps breech-loading carbines and

rifles were reasonably accurate at long ranges—enthusiasts even claimed up to 1,000 yards but most Easterners had trouble judging distances in the clear atmosphere of the West. However that may be, it is certain that during the 1850's the Sharps became the most popular shoulder arm in the West. It proved superior for hunting buffalo or humans.

It was carried in covered wagons on the Oregon and California trails, and it played a leading role in the bloody pro- and anti-slavery fighting in Kansas that preceded the Civil War. John Brown and his fellow abolitionists carried Sharps rifles. They were called "Beecher's Bibles" because Henry Ward Beecher, the renowned antislavery preacher of Boston, was said to have sent a shipment of them to Brown in Kansas in crates labeled "Bibles." Beecher supposedly said that one Sharps would be more persuasive in the slavery conflict than one hundred Bibles. At any rate, John Brown's men were armed with these famous breech loaders when they attacked the U.S. Armory at Harpers Ferry, Virginia, in 1859, an incident that got Brown hanged.



Wyman Meinser shoots a Sharps rifle as it was done near Rath City.

### Welcome to Hamlin

Enjoy "Back to Rath's Trail"  
**TERRELL OIL & GAS  
PRODUCTION Co.**

50 Southeast Second

576-2751

### WELCOME TO "BACK TO RATH'S TRAIL" ENJOY THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES

Baler Wire ..... **\$38.50**  
Baler Twine ..... **\$23.75**

**Maytag Appliances**

**JOHNSON BUTANE**

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576-3585

Richard and Almeta Young

### Welcome to Hamlin

*We hope you enjoy your trip  
"Back to Rath's Trail"  
to see a part of our area's heritage*

**Cecil Sellers Cattle Co.**

Stamford Highway

(915) 576-3618

Join the citizens  
of Hamlin as we  
commemorate our past and  
remember those pioneers  
who helped establish this area  
for future generations.

*Welcome to Hamlin and  
"Back to Rath's Trail"*

**COOPER OIL Co.**

12 South Central

576-3101



# WANTED

The following individuals, businesses and merchants have been observed contributing money, talents and time to the success of the fifth annual "Back to Rath's Trail." Without their support, the days' activities would not have been possible. If seen, approach with caution, but thank immensely.

Woman's Literary Club  
Renee Hymer  
M&C Lumber & Hardware, Inc.  
Hamlin Quilters  
Yates Bits and Spurs  
Bogle Construction  
Coye Pritchard Trucking  
Museum of the Horse  
Gary Conn  
Gianfranco Ferre  
Emanuel Ungaro  
Larry Rawls  
Billy Don and Linda Cooper  
Carpenter Interiors  
Watts Trucking  
Cooper Oil Company  
Tate Gallery  
Elbert Payne  
Payne, Cooper and Payne  
Nelson's Fashions  
Loyce Gregory  
Pied Piper Mills  
Jimmy Shivers  
Francys Flanagan  
Dr. Allen Bolt  
Isaac Castro  
Nell's Beauty Salon  
Robert and Marge Fowler  
Dr. Russell Dressen  
Hobby Flowers, Etc.  
Friend's Shop/Country Corner Cafe

Rath City Steak House  
Reynolds Drug  
Hamlin Memorial Hospital  
Carolyn Houghton  
TCI Cablevision  
Cheryl Lewis/The Book Nook  
Rick Taylor  
Jane Murphree  
Jack and Elisabeth Longbotham  
Jan Sellers  
Tri-County Sprayers  
Dr. Lawrence Clayton  
Vellanne Rowland Howle  
Pied Piper Grocery  
Wayne Baize  
The Doll House  
Lakey Fertilizer  
Revillon Furriers  
Louise Goodgame  
Tincy Blanton  
Chic Hewett  
Waldrop's Furniture  
Sam's Club  
Inez McCoy  
Tone & Tan  
The Garden Room  
The Hamlin Herald  
Luskey's Western Store  
Hamlin Appliance & Tire  
Hamlin Paint & Body  
Carol's Western Outfitters  
Bell's Western Auto

Hamlin Chamber of Commerce  
Hamlin Industrial Foundation  
Wes Abbott  
Lucho's  
Luca Luca  
Hamlin Clothesline  
Jeffrey and Wendy Davis  
Ben Gonzalez, Jr. Construction  
Burt Oliver  
City Food Market  
Cuts & Styles  
Dillard Insurance Agency  
Steve Evans Agency  
Hamlin Auto Parts  
J&J Mini Storage  
Jordan's Drive-In  
Lawrence Bros. IGA  
Outreach Health Services/Employees  
Pied Piper Inn  
Adell Kerbow  
Don Norris  
Dwight Griggs  
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Bryant  
Mr. and Mrs. C.L. White  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe E. Ford  
Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Lewis  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lewis  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Young  
All who purchases baked goods and tickets to the benefit evening  
All volunteers



# Location of Exhibits, Restaurants, Public Restrooms and RV Parks

## Exhibits

- A Hamlin National Bank:  
**Lobby**  
 Artifacts/Art Show  
 Visitor's Center  
**Front**  
 Catchlaw Creek Boys-musical entertainment  
 Lee N. Coffee-Buffalo Soldier
- B G&G Carpets: Quilt Show
- C Old Fire Station & Cooper Building: Arts & Crafts
- D Thanksgiving Place Park: Blacksmith Exhibit by Dan Cochran
- E EDC Office: Authors/Book Signings: Charles Anderson, Elmer Kelton
- F South Bank Parking Lot:  
 Frontier Ball Friday and Saturday  
 Live Buffalo Exhibit by Jack and Elisabeth Longbotham  
 People's Choice Bike Judging
- G 200 Block S.W. Ave. A: Tri-State Carnival
- H Masonic Lodge: Poets: Rennels, Pitts, Querner  
 Authors/Historians: Kelton, Anderson  
 Historians/Archaeologists: Siegle, Barker
- I North Bank Parking Lot: The Texas Gunslingers
- J Chamber of Commerce: Rath's Trail Headquarters, Artifacts
- K 400 Block of South Central: Petting Zoo
- L Corner of N.W. Ave. A and West Lake Drive:  
 West Texas Rehabilitation Center Chuckwagon Benefit Breakfast  
 (7:30 to 9:30 a.m.)
- M Hamlin Riding Club  
 Hamlin FFA Alumni Heifer and Steer Prospect Show

## Restaurants

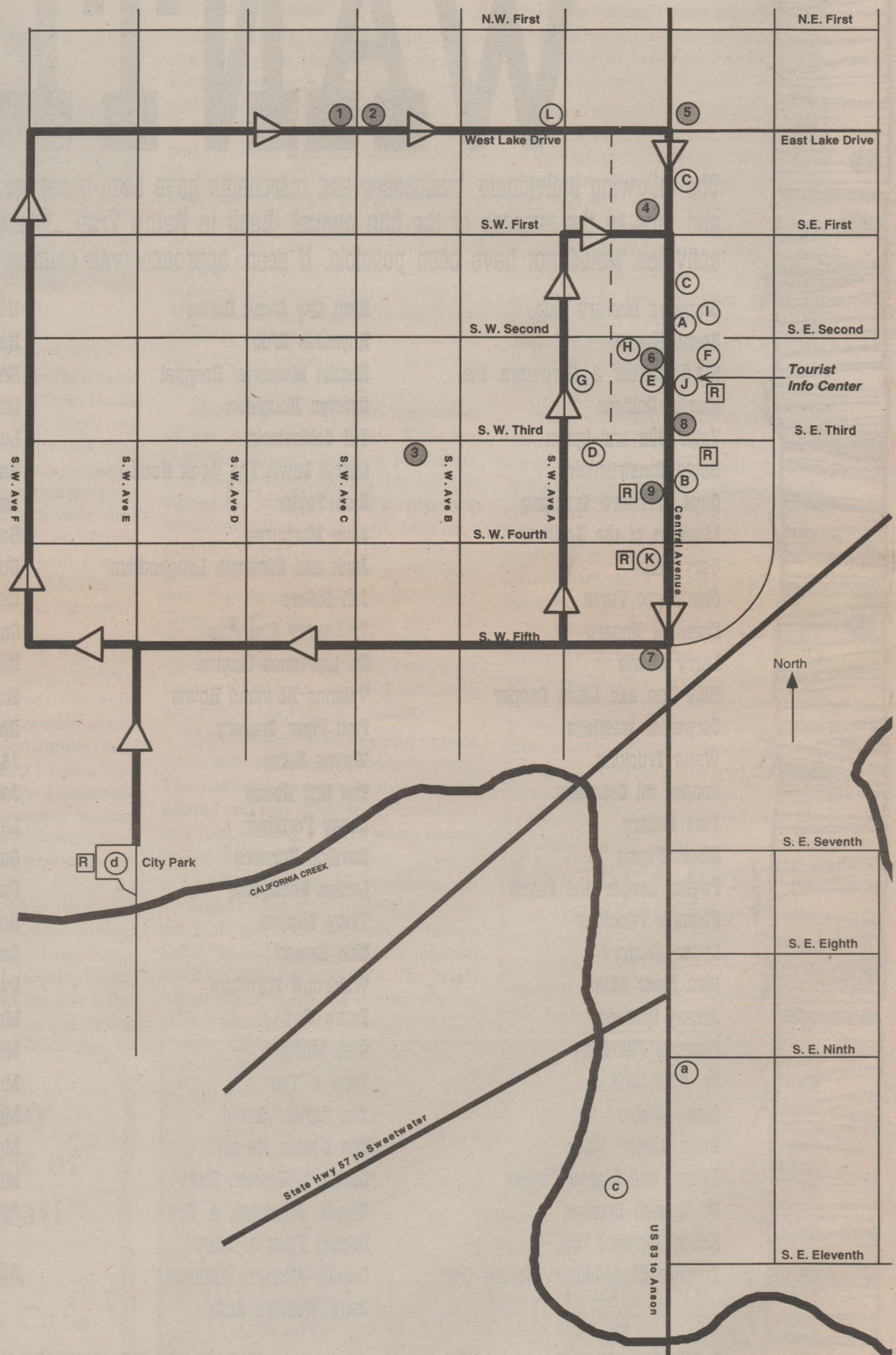
- 1 Pied Piper Grocery & Deli, Pizza Pro, 310 West Lake Drive
- 2 Jordan's Drive-In, 250 West Lake Drive
- 3 Embrey's Snack Bar, 207 S. W. Third
- 4 Dairy Queen, 32 S. Central Ave.
- 5 Hatahoe, 1 N. Central
- 6 Country Corner Cafe, 218 S. Central Ave.
- 7 Rath City Steak House, 11 S.W. Fifth Street
- 8 Kountry Korner Kitchen, 253 S. Central
- 9 Food Fair, 300 Block of S. Central

## Motel and RV Hook-ups:

- a Pied Piper Inn, U.S. 83 South
- b Hamlin RV Park (water, electricity, sewer) 300 block of North Central
- c Roadside Park (electricity, water), U.S. 83 South
- d Hamlin City Park TMRA "Back to Rath's Trail" motorcycle rally, (water, electricity), S.W. Ave. F

(M) Approx. 1 Mile north

(b) 3 Blocks north



[R] Restroom Facilities

● Restaurants

○ Exhibits

— Parade Route