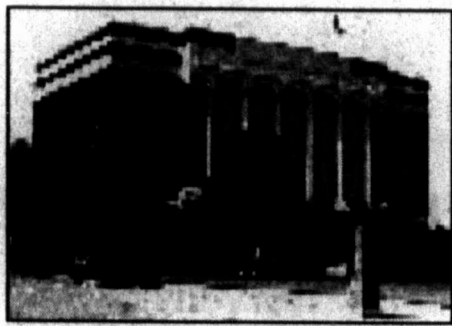




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Thursday, March 15, 2007

'Proud History, Promising Future'

Colorado City, Loraine & Westbrook

Geez, I wonder where I can find a job?

Finding a job in Mitchell County isn't that hard ... because everyone needs help

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

Ever heard the adage claiming if you didn't want a job, don't go to town? Well, you're living in that community.

Despite state figures that show Mitchell County sporting one of the highest unemployment rates in the area, jobs abound throughout Mitchell County as no less than 10 businesses have hung out the "Help Wanted" signs in an effort to fill vacancies. Locally, more than 40 jobs are available in

CHS students brush up on their job skills

See story on Page 3

See JOBS, Page 3

Court: suit against city can go forward

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

The 11th Court of Appeals in Eastland gave the City of Colorado City some bad news on Friday—and gave former Chief Financial Officer Connie Ponko the words she had been waiting weeks to hear.

Her suit alleging the city wrongfully terminated her from her position with the city can move forward.

ward.

According to Holly Williams, a Midland-based attorney representing Ponko, the Court of Appeals rebuffed the city's claim that the suit was inadmissible because it was filed without following proper grievance procedures. The city had previously appealed a judge's decision to allow the trial to go forward.

"Basically, the opinion of the court affirmed the judgment of the trial court," said Williams. "It said we can proceed with the case by saying since there was no grievance policy in place, there was no requirement for her (Ponko) to file a grievance before she filed a suit."

According to Williams, Texas governmental entities are immune

See CASE, Page 6

Railhead Trade Days scheduled for March 17-18

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

Railhead Trade Days is returning to the Mitchell County scene this weekend, drawing hundreds into downtown Colo-

rado City on Saturday and Sunday.

The event is scheduled to run from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday,

March 18.

All activities will take place in and around the Railhead Building, which is located at First and Elm streets.

See TRADE, Page 14

C-City may have chance to land new IGCC plant

Tommy Wells

Colorado City Record

In an announcement last Friday morning, TEF officials said they have started the planning process to build two integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) commercial demonstration plants in Texas. TEF is the holding company created by Kohlberg, Kravis Roberts & Co. (KKR) and Texas Pacific Group (TPG) to acquire TXU Corp. in a \$45 billion deal.

According to the release, TEF officials will select the sites from the 11 sites they had previously considered for a \$10 billion project to build 10 coal-fired power plants. Mitchell County's Morgan Creek facility was one of the original sites eyed by TXU.

"It's going to be a pretty competitive and time-consuming deal, but we're going to go after it," Woody Anderson told members of the Mitchell County Commissioners Court on Monday.

Anderson said he expected the IGCC talks to last for some time,

possibly even years.

"We could be looking at five years or more before a decision is made," he said.

In connection with this plan, TXU will issue a request for proposal (RFP) from companies offering

coal gasification technologies with carbon dioxide capture. TXU's new Sustainable Energy Advisory Board (SEAB) will review the proposals.

The SEAB is comprised of individuals who represent the following interests: the environment, customers, Texas economic development and ERCOT reliability standards, including representatives from Environmental Defense and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

See TXU, Page 6



Jim Baum



Robert McNeal



Sammy Contreras



Justin Harris

City, school, hospital election ballots are finally completed

Tommy Wells

Colorado City Record

It's all done except for the voting ... and, maybe a few write-ins.

The deadline for candidates to file passed quietly Monday afternoon as only two candidates added their names to the May 12 ballot to decide municipal, school board and hospital board races.

The only new candidates to file

for races were Linton Ray Webb and Rosemary Aguilar, both of whom are seeking spots on the Loraine Independent School District Board of Trustees.

According to state election laws, the only way for a candidate to enter the race at this point is to file as a write-in candidate by 5 p.m. on Monday, March 19. Individuals

See ELECTIONS, Page 3

CISD official recovering from brain surgery

Colorado Independent School District board member John Martinez was in "good" condition this past weekend, according to family members, after undergoing emergency brain surgery last Wednesday



John Martinez

at a Lubbock hospital.

See CISD, Page 6



Tommy Wells

WESTBROOK'S CASSIE HOLBROOK stretches the ball during the Lady Cats' win over Aspermont Saturday. The win was Westbrook first-ever in high school softball. See story on Page 10.

Around Town

Happy birthday Priscilla & Raymond Molina Jr. (Mar. 21)... Happy birthday Daphne Fowler (Mar. 16)... Happy birthday Brenda Linam (Mar. 14)... Happy belated birthday Mason Wyrosdick (Mar. 8)...

Obituaries

SEE OBITS ON PAGE 2

Richard Cooper, Loraine Della Cain, Abilene Lillian Schaefer, Willis Point Eula Taylor, Waco

Answerline

Q. What is a dollar bill made of?

A. The so-called paper money is in fact a cotton and linen blend, with red and blue minute silk fibers running through it. It is actually material. A special blend of ink is used and overprinted with symbols and then starched and pressed to give it that nice, crisp look.

Briefs

Relay for Life

Check out the Team Registration and Information Booth at the Railhead Trade Days. Team packets are \$10 each which goes toward team fundraising goals.

Dough on the way

Colorado City residents who ordered cookie dough as part of the Kelley Elementary fund-raiser can expect the dough to be delivered after spring break.

Fabric Sale

Wallace seniors will have a Fabulous Fabric Sale Thurs., Mar. 15, at the Wallace Center, S. Hwy. 208. Come to

buy upholstery, drapery, clothing and quilting fabrics at ridiculously low prices. Sale begins at 10 a.m.

Band Boosters

The CHS Band Boosters will meet Tues., Mar. 20 at 6 p.m. in the Band Hall.

Christian Concert

Desert Reign, a Christian country band, will play at Christian Fellowship Church on Thurs., Mar. 29 at 7 p.m.

Donkey Basketball

On March 30, the Westbrook Volunteer Fire Department will host a Donkey Basketball Game in the old Westbrook

ISD gym at 6:30 p.m. Teams will be made up of department members, Westbrook teachers and students. Door prizes will be awarded and two blankets will be raffled. Advance tickets are available from Mindy Hale, 325-242-2127 or may be purchased at Railhead Trade Days.

Parks Board

The Colorado City Parks Board has openings for three new members. If you live inside the Colorado City limits and are interested in our park, please call Donna Madrid at 728-5331 or Sheila Plagens at 728-3413.

Thought of the Week

To have a right to do a thing is not at all the same as to be right in doing it.

G.K. Chesterton

Lake Levels

(as of March 13, 2007)

Lake Colorado City...2064.53'

Full at 2070.3' Down 5.95'

Lake Champion...2040.51'

Full at 2083' Down 42.49'

LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Richard Cooper 1948-2007

LORAINÉ — Mr. Richard Cooper, age 58, of Loraine, died Thurs., Mar. 8, 2007 at his residence. Services were held Sunday in the First Baptist Church in Loraine. Burial followed in the Loraine Cemetery, under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Cooper was born Aug. 4, 1948, in Gregg, NY to James H. and Frances Monteverde Smith and has lived in the Loraine area since 1978. He married Isabella Davila on Jan. 12, 1978 in Mississippi. He was a retired teacher and coach. He was also a member of the Baptist church.

He is survived by his mother, Frances Cummins of Loraine; his wife, Isabella Cooper of Loraine; two daughters, Catina M. Cooper of Jackson, MS and Amanda N. Ashby of Loraine; two sons, Richard G. Cooper of Colorado City and James Thomas Cooper of Loraine; a brother, Robert E. Cooper of Loraine; two sisters, Marie Garrison of New Orleans, LA and Beverly Carrera of Macedon, NY and seven grandchildren.

The family requests memorials made to the Mitchell County Public Library.

Della Cain 1923-2007

ABILENE — Mrs. Della Cain, age 84, of Abilene and formerly of Westbrook, died Fri., Mar. 9, 2007, at her residence in Abilene. Services were held Tuesday in the Kiker-Seale Chapel with Rev. David Smith officiating. Burial followed in the Roscoe Cemetery, under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Cain was born Jan. 30, 1923, in Tahoka to Fred and Ethel Haygood Moore. She married William L. Cain on Sept. 28, 1945, in Hermleigh. He preceded her in death on July 11, 1995. She helped in the farming operation and was a homemaker. She was a member of the Westbrook Baptist Church.

She is survived by a son, William Cain of Arkansas; four daughters, Bertha Roe of Kyle, Mary Foster of Llano, Linda Cain of Arkansas and Debra Cain of Abilene; two sisters, Sue Rawlins of Sweetwater and Selma James of Brownwood; 16 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; a son, William Ernest Cain; two sisters and four brothers.

Lillian Pauline Schafer 1919-2007

WILLS POINT — Funeral services for Lillian Pauline Schafer, 87, of Wills Point, formerly of Colorado City, were held Wed., Mar. 14, 2007, at the First Assembly of God Church in Wills Point with Rev. Phil Appenzeller and Rev. Kevin Langford officiating. Interment followed at Roselawn Memorial Park in Seagoville, under the direction of Allan Fuller Funeral Home in Wills Point. She passed away Sunday afternoon, March 11, 2007, at her residence.

Lillian was born Aug. 18, 1919, in Coleman, the daughter of Gilbert Shelton and Alice Curry Shelton. She was raised in Coleman. On Nov. 13, 1939, she was married to Junior Lee Schafer in Westbrook. She lived in Colorado City for many years before moving to Seagoville. In 2000, Lillian moved to Wills Point. She was a member of the First Assembly of God Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Junior Lee Schafer on January 6, 1997; two brothers, Aubrey Shelton and Henry Shelton.

Survivors include three daughters, Shirley McGlothlin of Wills Point, Patsy Boyd of Wills Point and Joyce Buzack and husband, John of New Port Richey, Fla.; one son, Lee Schafer and wife, Bonnie of New Caney; two brothers, Dumas Shelton of College Station and George Shelton of California; one sister, Evelyn Durham of Snyder; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.



Eula W. Taylor 1918-2007

WACO — Eula Lorene Wallace Taylor, 88, formerly of Waco, passed away on Tues., Mar. 6, 2007, in Wharton, Texas. Services were held at 10 a.m., Fri., Mar. 9, at Parkview Baptist Church in Waco, with Dr. John Collier officiating. Burial followed at City Cemetery in Colorado City at 4 p.m. Visitation with family and friends was from 6 to 8 p.m., Thurs., Mar. 8 at Connally/Compton Funeral Directors in Waco.

Eula was born the daughter of Claude Allen and Julia Echols Wallace in Bonham, on Dec. 28, 1918. A loving, successful marriage of 67 years began with Eula eloping with her sweetheart, Louis Taylor, on Sept. 15, 1939 in Sweetwater. They were both longtime members of Parkview Baptist Church in Waco. She implemented the Mailbox Club, a children's ministry involving Bible studies, which touched the lives of many young people over the years.

Preceding Eula in death were her parents, infant son, Louis Taylor, Jr., and brothers, James and Floyd Wallace.

Survivors include her husband, Louis Taylor of Wharton; daughter, Mary Lou Lynch of Wharton; a brother, Jack Wallace and wife, Charlene of Keller; sisters, Ethel Brown and husband, Roy of Waco, Ola Grimes of Odessa, and Pauline Sullivan and husband, Charlie of Waco; grandchildren, Terry David Lynch, Christa Lynch, and Kelli Martinez; great-grandchildren, David Lynch, Cody Boatwright, Jordan Martinez, and Sarah Lynch; and great-great-grandson, Logan Lynch.

Commissioners OK purchase of roller/packer

The Mitchell County Commissioners court approved the purchase of a roller/packer on Monday morning after bids were opened.

The roller/packer, which is being bought from Handy Hitch Mfg., is valued at \$13,997.

The Heritage Society of Austin CIRCA ANTIQUES SHOW

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Have you dreamed about
owning your own home?
Impossible, you say?
Well, maybe not anymore...

Big Country RC&D has invited representatives of the USDA Rural Development to Colorado City on Mon., March 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Colorado City Civic Center, 157 E. 2nd. They will be presenting information on how to qualify for a no-down payment loan to purchase or build a home in Mitchell County and surrounding areas.

Several programs are available to provide assistance to applicants of various income levels, from low to moderate.

Mitchell, Howard to share trapper services

Tommy Wells

Colorado City Record

Mitchell County won't be the only place you can find USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services trapper Rick Gilliland these days. That's because the wildlife management specialist has seen his area increase two-fold with a recent decision to merge his services with neighboring Howard County.

Gilliland, who has been employed by the county since 1991 as

a trapper, notified members of the Mitchell County Commissioners Court of his pending inclusion of Howard County Monday morning, saying the expansion would enable both counties to have trapping services as well as reduce the financial requirements of the county.

"There are a lot of counties out there that would love to have a full-time trapper," Gilliland said. "but there just isn't the federal funding to accommodate everyone. When

Howard County approached me about wanting a trapper for their growing feral hog problem, I told them I didn't have one. This could be a win-win situation for both."

Under the new plan, Gilliland said Mitchell County would see two benefits for the sharing on the trapper position, including a reduced financial cost to the county which contributed about \$17,000 a year to the position. Gilliland also said the plan — which will start with a 1-year trial basis — would eliminate the need for local farmers/ranchers

to help subsidize the position.

Gilliland said the reason for the expanded coverage — even though it would increase the overall workload — was a desire to help the trapper position balance its budget. The position has operated in the red for the past few years, he stated.

"I realize there are some that won't want to share their trapper, but I assure you, we'll take care of everyone. We're not going to turn our backs on anyone, we're just trying to make it better business-wise."

County to have 27 buildings reappraised

Members of the Mitchell County Commissioner's Court granted county officials permission to enter into an agreement with American Appraisal Association to reappraise

27 county-owned buildings. The last appraisal performed on the structures was in the 1980s, according to county auditor Susan Buckalew.



Record Photo/Tommy Wells
THREE-YEAR-OLD Racheal McNeal enjoys a grape snowcone during last weekend's Texas Feast at the Railroad Building. The annual event was staged by Hutchinson Elementary.

Commissioners agree to give old police car to Loraine

The Mitchell County Commissioners Court gave its approval to the Mitchell County Sheriff's Department on Monday to donate one of its old police cars to the City of Loraine.

"That's just a neighbor helping

a neighbor. I don't have a problem with that," said commissioner Carl Guelker of the deal, which must be reviewed by County Attorney Tom Rees, Sr.

Mitchell County Sheriff Patrick Toombs said the police car was one of the two his department was looking to phase out. The county recently purchased two new vehicles.

Currently, the City of Loraine police officer is performing his duties while driving one of the city vehicles.

County tables burn ban request

Members of the Mitchell County Commissioners Court voted unanimously on Monday morning to table a request from the Texas Forest Service to implement a burn ban, saying the recent rain had created a safe environment.

For now, Commissioners, noting the state had been asking county's to impose a ban to help prevent wildfires, said a ban could be necessary if the region went an extended period without precipitation.

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LOCAL NEWS



ECLECTIQUES' BUSINESS OWNER Janine Lemons talks to CHS junior Mindy Pina during a mock interview held last week during the high school's job fair. Several local business leaders participated in the event.

Business leaders help CHS students brush up on their job interview skills

With the end of the school year rapidly approaching, Colorado City business leaders teamed with the faculty at Colorado High School last week at a special job fair to give students a heads-up on what businesses will be looking for when they apply for positions.

During the March 7 job fair, CHS juniors and seniors participated in mock interviews with business owners in order to practice the interview process. The students also had their resumes and their ability to act and look professional evaluated.

"Our goal is for our students to make a good first impression with the employer, and receive constructive criticism on their performance during the mock interview," said CHS Counselor Jincy Ross, who helped sponsor the event with the sponsored by the school's Career and Technology Department.

During the job fair, interviews were held from 9 a.m. to approximately noon. Each student had

a 15-minute interview with a local business owner who, in turn, completed a brief evaluation form that could later be used by the teacher and student to improve their job interview skills. The students received grades based their your evaluation.

The job fair was part of the school's recent effort to prepare students for possible summer employment.

"Our focal point in the classroom for the past few weeks has been to emphasize the proper ways to create a resume, interview for a job, and general skills to help our students be successful in an interview and ultimately in the workplace," said Ross.

Ross said the experience provided by local business leaders would be invaluable to CHS students this summer, and later in their lives.

"We are lucky to have such prominent business leaders in our community! I would like to thank them for being such a great example for our future leaders," she said.

KCCB to usher in spring with special bonfire celebration

Keep Colorado City Beautiful will help bring spring in with a glow Tuesday, March 20, by holding a celebration bonfire.

Also known as the Spring Equinox, this is the time of year when day and night are equal. Energy is building as the days become warmer with promise. It is a time to celebrate fertility, fruitfulness and renewal as the earth awakens from its winter sleep.

The festivities will take place on East Business 20 at the intersection of Country Club Road on the south side of I-20. The fire will be lit at dusk or around 6:30 p.m.

There will be plenty of room for tailgating. People attending the event should remember to pack in lawn chairs and blankets as well as telescopes for stargazing. Feel free to bring snacks, beverages and trash bags.

Tex Blankenship will be there with his barbecue pit to grill hamburgers.

Native American drummers are welcome and everyone is encouraged to bring drums of all kinds, rain sticks, flutes and rattles to help raise our spirits in an expression of celebration and gratitude of this occasion.

The Colorado City Volunteer Fire Department will light and tend the fire and watch over the dying embers throughout the night following the event.

People can drop off armloads - or truckloads -- of wood such as downed trees and brush on Saturday, March 17 through Tuesday, March 20, between 2 p.m. and dusk. KCCB volunteers will be at the bonfire location at those times to check and help unload. Chemically treated wood, metal, plastic or garbage cannot be accepted.

Further information can be obtained by calling 728-3766, 728-3134 or 728-2553.

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JOBS

the customer service sector, as well as countless more through the state and area oilfield industry.

If you want a job, odds are all you have to do is ask.

"Right now, it seems as if everyone is looking for people to work," said Fuller Foods manager Rick Alvarez. "We're just like everyone else, we desperately need people to work."

How deep in the job pool in the county? Consider these numbers, last week in the classified section of the Colorado City newspaper, there were 25 advertisements from local businesses seeking employs. Additional, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Wallace and Ware units have been dealing with a shortage of employees for months.

"There are a lot of jobs out there if someone wants to work," said Alvarez. "They may not be the highest paying or most glamorous jobs, but they're jobs."

One of the largest businesses in Mitchell County, Fuller Foods normally employees approximately 85 people on full-time and part-time schedules. Currently, Alvarez said the store was 6-8 persons understaffed as cashiers, stockers, etc.

Like Fuller Foods, the community's two Skinny's convenience stores are seeking help as clerks, while Sonic-Drive-In, Pizza Hut Dairy Queen and other fast-food operations are searching for help.

The search for quality workers in an on-going process for Sonic manager Mike Bazany. He said his company is always searching for help -- even though he expects the local outlet's employee needs to ease following spring break when a majority of the students begin looking for summer opportunities.

"We're always looking for good help," Bazany said. "Even if we were full staffed, if a good worker came in we would hire them. It's tough to find people who want to work."

If the fast-food industry isn't your cup of tea, there are plenty of other opportunities. Several local businesses, including Browne Brothers and the City of Colorado City, have openings. Browne Brothers is seeking welders to help produce farm implements and industrial products.

The City of Colorado City is currently seeking a Waste Water Treatment Plant operator and a full-time supervisor for its Water Distribu-

tion/Sewer Collection systems.

Additionally, there is a need for employees at area care homes. Kristi Lee Mañor is currently taking applications for its nurse's aide program in an effort to development more staff.

from page 1

NOW OPEN

In Mitchell County....



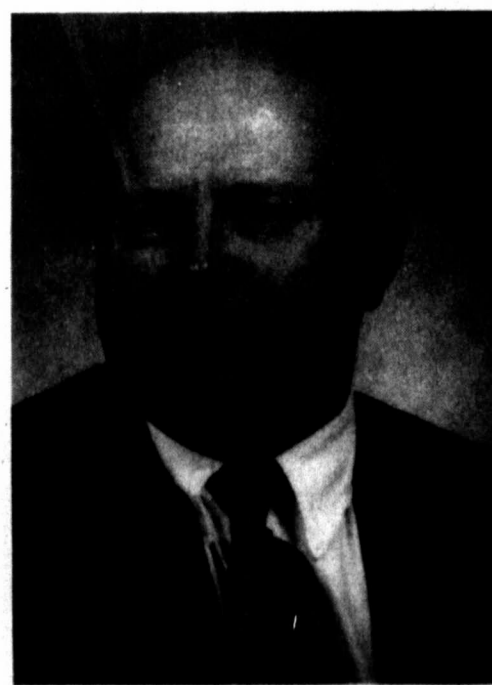
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ELECTIONS

from page 1

who file as write-in candidates will not have their names on the official ballot, but must have voters write their names on the ballot.

In Colorado City, the race for the three available terms on the city council will be have plenty of old faces looking to return to their old places. As of the March 12 deadline, only the incumbent councilmembers had filed, including Robert McNeal, Sammy Contreras and Justin Harris. Jim Baum was the only person to file for the mayor's position.

Harris, who represents District 5, has been on the city council for the past two years. He had served on the council previously as well.

In the Loraine municipal election, both incumbent city councilmembers filed for re-election as did mayor Ina Vay McAdams. Also seeking to return to the council are Susan Sanchez and Shirley Kendall.

In the Colorado Independent School District school board race, Larry Mason was the only candidate to file for office.

In Loraine, three people en-

tered the race for the two spots available on the LISD Board of Trustees. Among the candidates to join Charles Bowen in the race are Linton Ray Webb and incumbent Rosemary Aguilar. Longtime LISD school board president Frank Garcia did not file for re-election.

Aguilar serves as the LISD school board secretary.

In Westbrook, Tom Whitesides and Lynn Gaston both filed for re-election to their at-large seats on the WISD board. Bruce also filed for one of the two available at-large positions. Also, Jason Morris will be running to fill the 1-year unexpired term of former school board member Chip Roemisch.

If selected to fill Roemisch's position, Morris will complete the remainder of the year and have to run for re-election next May.

Four candidates filed for seats on the Mitchell County Hospital District's Board of Directors, including incumbent board member Geneva Ratliff, Florence Bodine and Jerry Reynolds. Patty Pharis is the only newcomer seeking a spot in the board.



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OPINION & COMMENTARY

TUMBLEWEED SMITH The news from Qatar

A friend of mine, Dr. Nancy Allen, is spending three years teaching in the Middle Eastern country of Qatar. She was home recently and told me some things about that place.

"It is a peninsula off Saudi Arabia," said Nancy. "The country is almost entirely Muslim. They have been so hospitable and made me feel so comfortable. In fact, this past Christmas was my first Christmas away from home, so I tried to ignore it. Christmas evening I went out with friends and when I got home, in front of my door was a completely decorated Christmas tree surrounded by presents."

Qatar is the richest country in the world due to the abundance of natural gas. Nancy says there are no bars in Qatar except in hotels. Non-Muslims can get a liquor license for \$400, which gives them the right to purchase liquor from a heavily-guarded store in the desert. The booze is for home consumption only.

Nancy says they are very careful as to who takes up residence in Qatar. She had to have a complete criminal and medical check and have a Qatar residency card before she could get her utilities turned on or apply for a driver's license.

Nancy teaches at the University of Qatar. One of the four wives of the Wmir is very intent on improving the educational reform. The University has a male side and a female side. The only classes that have both genders are in graduate school. Nancy says women have lots of opportunity in Qatar.

Camel races are a big deal in Qatar. "Until two years ago they used small boys to ride the camels in races. That is a dangerous situation and several jockeys were killed every year. The human rights people insisted they change that, so they now have robots that are strapped to the camels. They are about two feet tall and have little whips. Camel owners ride in Land Rovers alongside the camels and work the controls."

Nancy lives in the capital city of Doha, which she says resembles Austin. The city has great malls, which have Starbucks, Dairy Queen and Toys R Us. A French company has put in a Wal-Mart type store. Everybody loves KFC.

The country has no dogs, no crime, no graffiti. Nancy feels safe in Qatar and has never seen any violence. Folks there eat lots of lamb. Mexican food is expensive. A meal will cost \$100. The last two years has seen much new building in Doha. Under their robes, women wear the latest fashions. Nancy says all marriages are arranged and most all of them are among first cousins. It is a rare family that does not have a special needs child. You cannot leave the country without an exit visa, which takes up to three weeks to obtain.



I think I'm ready to say it now

OFF THE BEATEN PATH...

By
TOMMY WELLS
EDITOR



lay there fighting lung cancer. Eleven years since the last time I saw him.

Even more importantly, it's been 11 years since I missed the chance to tell my father I loved him. It's something I should have done, but just didn't. I figured there would be time for that later.

When my father found out he had inoperable lung cancer, he was the bravest man I know. I remember when he sat me down and told me he had about nine months to live.

I tried to make a joke of it, blowing it off.

He laughed, slapped me on the back ... and told me now that he was done with that let's go find something fun to do.

I should have told him then, but for whatever reason I didn't.

Several months later, the rattle was apparent. He had lost a lot of weight and almost never left the bed. As I did almost every morning, I drove the short few blocks to my parent's house and checked in.

"It won't be long now," my mother said. "He may not make it through tonight."

I walked to the side of his bed and smiled. Don't get me wrong, my father knew I loved him. I just never told him.

It is our style, you know.

"Dad, I'm going to have to run and deliver papers," I said. "I'll come back when I'm done and we can watch the Astros on TV if you feel up to it."

Armed with that, I left to deliver the newspapers to the stores. She-Who-Must-Not-Be-Made-Mad and I owned a small

weekly paper in Palo Pinto County at the time, and as small papers owners do, we did everything ourselves to save money.

Halfway through the delivery process, my mother called and said Bobby Bervel Wells had passed away with only my mother and old sister, Rita (Remember, I have an "ancient" and "old" sister) by his side.

By the time I got to the hospital, it was too late to say anything.

It's just our style.

The same thing happened when my older brother, Danny, passed away after years of fighting troubles he brought back from two tours in Vietnam. His heart just gave out on him — only three months after my father passed away.

I never told Danny I loved him. There would be time for that later, you know.

I idolized my four brothers and two sisters. Danny was also so tough, Wayne was always so smart around animals. Butch was like Superman to me, and John, well ... he was just like me. Rita (Old) was very close to me and often helped me clean up the messes I "accidentally" had when I was younger and afraid of the dark. Barbara (Ancient) was always kind even though she was grown and had a family of her own when I came into being.

I don't think I've ever told them I love them, either. That would be way to mushy.

I think this weekend I'm going to take my children to the Merriman Baptist Cemetery and give them the chance to see where my dad and brother are buried. I think I'll tell them I love them — even though it'll be just a whisper.

I think I'll hunt down my mother and my brothers and sisters and tell them, too.

Maybe, if I can do that, my children won't have to stare at the road when they get older. Maybe they won't have a weight on their shoulders.

COW POKES® By Ace Reid



"Hey Oldtimer, looks like the thunderin' herds ain't as big as they used to be when you wuz pushin' 'em up the trail!"

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Tuesday, 3 p.m.

FILED WITH COUNTY CLERK

Timothy K. Ivie, Ex-Dir, To Dept of Housing & Comm Affairs, Manufactured Housing Division to Noel Castonguay, Statement of Home Location.

Hugh Roland Craft to City of Westbrook, Warranty Deed.

Doris Peck Affiant to Public, August G. Armstrong Deceased, Affidavit Heirship.

Cade Proctor to Bob E. Lively, Marsha L. Lively, Warranty Deed.

City National Bank Colo City, Royce D. Clay Pres to Cade Proctor, Release of Lien.

First United Methodist Church of Lorraine, Dorothy F. Fowler to Lorraine Seed & Delinting LLC, Warranty Deed.

Ruby M. Griffin Indiv & Ind Exec, O.D. Wells Estate to Lorraine Seed & Delinting LLC, Warranty Deed.

Tommy D. Wright, Janie Elizabeth Wright to Lorraine Seed & Delinting LLC, Warranty Deed.

Mitchell County, Ray Mayo County Judge, Ina Vay McAdams Mayor, City of Lorraine, Lorraine ISD, Mitchell Co Education Dist, Frank Garcia Pres Board of Ties to Lorraine Seed & Delinting LLC, Tax Deed.

City National Bank of Colorado City, Royce D. Clay President to Larry Compton, Maggie Compton, Release of Lien.

Clark G. Thompson Ind Exec, Paul C. Bundy Estate, Betty Jo Thompson Indiv & Ttee, Betty Jo Thompson Trust, Kay Bundy Schmidt, P.C. Bundy aka to Paul C. Bundy Interests LLC, C/C Conveyance Deed.

City National Bank Colo City, Royce D. Clay Pres to Jarret Kevin Frizzell, Mary E. Frizzell, Release of Lien.

City National Bank Colo City, Royce D. Clay Pres to Dave H. Houston, Gayle Houston, Release of Lien.

James William Carpenter Mayor de Edad, Dominican Republic, Cedula de Identidad Y Electoral #PASP. 10 to Robert Earl Dennis Jr., Ruby Karen Jaco, Miscellaneous.

Scott Etheredge to First Ag Credit FLCA, Colateral Assignment.

Rodney Gale Hallman Ttee, The Rock Trust, Billy Roy Hallman, Kenneth Jerold Hallman, Bobbie Joyce Walker Dever, Royce Gilbert Walker to Rodney Gale Hallman Ttee, The Rock Trust, Kenneth Jerold Hallman, Bobbie Joyce Walker Dever, Royce Gilbert Walker, Billy Roy Hallman, Partition Deed.

Billy Gene Laminack to James Williams, Warranty Deed.

Dept of the Treasury - Internal Rev Service, Kerry Bayley Revenue Officer Advisor, Tech Services/Gulf States Area to Billie K. Brookover Estate, Rogene Spruell Qualified Heir, Release/Federal Tax Lien.

Associates Financial Services Co. Inc., Kristin E. Care VP, Swartz & Brough Inc. to Travis Deen, Lura Deen, Release of Lien.

Mitchell County Texas, Ray Mayo County Judge to Lamar Outdoor Advertising Co of Abilene, Tim Ritter VP/GM, Sierra Outdoor Signs, Rel of Lease.

Leda Morris Vice-Pres, Swartz & Brough Inc., Ashley M. Gonzales to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Asgmt of Lien.

Leda Morris Vice-Pres, Swartz & Brough Inc., Martina Gonzales to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Asgmt of Lien.

City of Colorado City, Jim Baum Mayor to David Arispe, Yolanda Arispe, Quitclaim Deed.

Fanelle Edwin to Alpha Nuevo Inc., Warranty Deed.

Marvin A. Duke Jr. to Julie Duke, Power of Attorney.

Don Driver, Jeanette Driver to Douglas M. Whitaker, Mary Sue Whitaker, Warranty Deed.

Evangelina LeClerc to Angie's Express, Assumed Name.

Billy Gene Laminack to Lavon O. Mayo, Warranty Deed.

Jose A. Chapa Jr. to Sherri K. Mendoza, Child Support Lien.

Chaparral Texas LP to JPMorgan Chase Bank NA, Scott Fowler Ttee, Deed of Trust.

Tommy Meeks Jr. to GMAC Mortgage LLC dba, Ditech.com, Deed of Trust.

Hart Royal Sr. Dist Judge, State of Texas, Robert Boyd Cox Resigning Ttee, James Edwin Cox Testamentary Trust to Marcelene B. Cox Succ Ttee, Abstract Judgement.

Chad Daniel Morris, Krissy Ann Morris to Texas Savings Bank SSB, Jeffrey Martin Pres, Extension of Lien.

Chad Daniel Morris, Krissy Ann Morris to Texas Savings Bank SSB, Jeffrey Martin Pres, 2nd Extension of Real.

Carmen D. Herrera to Texas Savings Bank SSB, Jeffrey Martin Ttee, Deed of Trust.

Mike Speck, Lori Speck to Charles Mac Henson Jr., Gift Deed.

Maurice D. Watson Sr. Estate to Public, Michael Alan Watson Applicant, CC Probate.

Mike Jordan, Marsha Jordan to City National Bank of Colo City Tx, Royce D. Clay Ttee, Deed of Trust.

Mike Jordan, Marsha Jordan, Bolin Construction Inc., Jeane Bolin President to Bolin Construction Inc., Jeane Bolin President, City National Bank of Colo City Tx, Mech & Mat Lien.

Ted Henderson Allison to Mark Etheredge 2005 Investment Trust, Vicky Etheredge 2005 Investment Trust, Steven Etheredge 2005 Investment Trust, Jay S. Etheredge Ttee, Warranty Deed.

Donald Burnett, Sharon Burnett to Royce D. Clay Ttee, City National Bank of Colorado City, Tx., Deed of Trust.

Mike Jordan, Marsha Jordan to City National Bank of Colo City, Tx, Royce D. Clay President, Reinstatement Agr.

First National Bank Colo City, Mark Waldrup Pres to Alpha Nuevo Inc., Release of Lien.

Troy T. Hunt to Pioneer Bank, Jon E. Hitchcock Ttee, Cor Deed of Trust.

Shawn Ragland Sr. Vice Pres, American State Bank to Billy Jones, Release of Lien.

Billy Jones to Elizabeth Ann McFall, Warranty Deed.

Carolyn Foster Terry Indiv/Ind Exec/Ttee, I.W. Terry Deceased U/W/O to Sharp Image Energy Inc., Mineral Deed.

Sharp Image Exploration LLC, Vince Hatfield Manager to Petrosources Inc., Asg Orr Roy Intr.

New Atlantis Oil & Exploration LLC, Vince Hatfield Manager to Petrosources Inc., Asg Orr Roy Intr.

Crestone Royalties LLC A Subsidiary, Noble Royalties Inc. to Fruitvale Gardens LLC Retirement Trust, Robert G. Baumann, Patricia A. Baumann, Bruce Miller Beasley, Elden Corporation, Mel Bond, Donna J. Bond, Clara Elizabeth Bristol, Elizabeth Debyrie Buino Ttee, Elizabeth Begryse Buino Living Trust, Edward J. Collins, Dorothy R. Collins, John H. Coogan Ttee, Joan S. Coogan Ttee, Coogan Family Trust Did 3-16-87, Brian Crawford, Lisha Crawford, David Dunlap, Beverly Dunlap, Theme Family LP "B", Kokopelli Management Inc., Osprey Associates LLC, Fintan M. Flanagan Ttee, Carol Jean Flanagan Ttee, Flanagan Revocable Trust, Kraig Robert Fletcher, Linda Lou Fletcher, Neil G. Galatz Ttee, Elaine B. Galatz Ttee, Galatz 1997 Family Trust, Oldemiro M. Garcia Co-Ttee, Maria G. Garcia Co-Ttee, Oldemiro & Mari Garcia Family Trust 1997, Robert A. Gortberg Ttee, Elizabeth A. Gortberg Revocable Trust 200, Spring Park Ranch LP, Michael Wayne Hopkins, Judith I. Jacoby, Jonathan C. Javitt, 46-50 Broadway LLC, Nitrin Kuman Ttee, Veena Kuman Ttee, Nitrin & Veena Kuman Living Trust 1991, George F. MacIntyre Ttee, George F. MacIntyre Declaration of Trust, Naomi A. MacIntyre Ttee, Naomi A. MacIntyre Declaration of Trust, 7225 N Western LLC, Timothy Alan Martin, Gita Development, Sugako Marmumoto Ttee, Sugako Marmumoto Trust DTD

7-1-05, T. Marumoto DTD 7-16-03, Printech II LLC, mark Mendillo, Mary Alice Mendillo, David L. Miller Ttee, Devonna J. Miller Ttee, David L. & Devonna J. Miller Living Trust, Hark Moon Paik Ttee, Taihi Paik Ttee, Paik Family Trust, Ventria M.N. Patout, Potts Family Corporation, Jesup Gym Equipment Inc, Michael J. Reuter, Joan E. Reuter, Paul N. Rogers, Judith F. Rogers, Rosella H. Samson, Rosella H. Samson Revocable Trust, Concetta Schmeising, Schuck Properties LP, 1220 Broadway LLC, Frank Serio Ttee, Doreen Serio Ttee, Frank J. & Doreen M. Serio Family Trust 19, Hung Hui W. Shih Ttee, Shih Trust DRD 11-21-95, Norman Read 1985 Trust, David Stewart Ttee, Tschannen Properties Ltd, Donald A. Warming Ttee, Donald A. Warming Trust, Got Gas LLC, Alma W. Whitt, Jack B. Wood Jr. Ttee, Jack B. Wood Jr. Ttee, Carol S. Wood Ttee, Wood Family Trust DTD 11-19-03, William Yee, Richard W. Munn, Boscamp Family LP LLP 2006, Lamar E. Loyd, Zache Family Royalties LLP, Vail Consulting LP, Two CS Futures LLC, Wiley Family Holdings LLC, Hanschen Wolf, Crestone Royalties LLC, N. Noble FLP LLP.

Nabors Well Services Ltd., Lauri McDonald Director of Credit to Platinum Exploration Inc., Amended Mineral Lien.

Marvin A. Duke, Julie A. Duke Atty in Fact & Individually to Jimmy Hall, Warranty Deed.

Jimmy Hall, Shirley Hall to Lone Star FLCA, Daron Gates Ttee, Deed of Trust.

Bobby E. Lively, Marsha L. Lively to Ronald T. Parham Jr., Tiffany Parham, Warranty Deed.

Ronald T. Parham Jr., Tiffany Parham to Myron E. Kimball Jr. Ttee, MERS, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Primary Residential Mortgage Inc., Deed of Trust.

FILED IN COUNTY COURT

William Robert Bain Jr., 3-5-07, Speeding/Ap-pel from Lower Court.

Leslie Carol Strickland, 3-6-07, Driving While Intoxicated/Open.

Angel Gutierrez Juarez, 3-6-07, Driving While License Invalid.

Santos Espinoza Rodriguez, 3-6-07, Driving While License Invalid.

Victor Ramirez, 3-6-07, Driving While Intoxicated.

Rene Silva, 3-6-07, Driving While Intoxicated.

Henry Espinoza, 3-6-07, Fail to Identify Giving False.

Latasha Diane Murphy, 3-7-07, Driving While License Invalid.

ARRESTS

Marcus Lynn Wyrosdick, 24, THP, Poss Drug Paraphernalia, 3-2-07.

Robert Michael Arispe, 17, THP, DWI 1st, Open Cont, Minor in Poss TAB, 3-3-07.

Jaramy Bruce Grigg, 29, THP, Poss Marij >2 oz <4 oz, 3-3-07.

Amy Rebecca Hulme, 36, THP, Wnt x 2, Wnt x1 Big Spring, 3-3-07.

Jose Raul Sanchez, 29, THP, Fail to ID, Class C x3, 3-4-07.

Jose A. Rico, 19, THP, Hold for Border Patrol, Class C x4, 3-4-07.

Jonathan Sitar, 20, THP, POM "A", 3-4-07.

Earnest Leroy Mills, 24, THP, Live Oak Co., FTA - DWLI, 3-5-07.

Tosha Marie Tiday, 31, MCSO, MTR - DWI, 3-6-07.

Christy Renee Garrett, 34, THP, Parole Violation, Poss of Contr, Subst., 3-6-07.

Roger Dale Kelly Jr., 41, THP, Wnt - Theft, 3-7-07.

Jennifer Selvera, 30, CCPD, DOC - fighting, 3-9-07.

Eli Johnson Flores, 24, CCPD, Criminal Trespass, 3-10-07.

Robert Diaz Jr., 24, MCSO, PI, 3-10-07.

Thomas Shane Huff, 29, MCSO, Burg. Of Hab-it., 3-11-07.

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An open letter to the people of Mitchell County

First of all, we'd like to say, "Thank you."

We appreciate the support that many of you have shown toward TXU Power's expansion proposals over the last few months. Many of you have worked hard to support our efforts, and we appreciate and value the strong partnerships we've forged with you. At TXU, we're more committed than ever to working with the people of Texas to meet our state's near-term and future energy needs.

Secondly, we would like you to know that the recently announced transaction involving TXU and a group of new investors will enable us to become a more customer-focused and innovative company, further strengthening our business. We will be able to move even more quickly to provide reliable, affordable and cleaner energy. And we will be better able to offer the kinds of pricing, service and products that our customers want and need.

For more than 100 years, we've been serving Texas – and that's not going to change. Together we've improved our communities and watched them grow. We've provided financial assistance to customers paying their electric bills in times of need and we share a fundamental belief in the power of the community.

Although the expansion plans may have changed, our long-standing commitment to be good members of the communities in which we operate has not wavered.

Sincerely,

The Employees of TXU

LOCAL NEWS

TXU

"We have been listening to and following the lead of Governor Perry, legislators and interested parties all over Texas. We are announcing our intention to dedicate two sites for these new facilities. We are inviting representatives from communities across the state to contact the company with their views on the various site options. It's time to start exploring how we can bring better technology to Texas so we can generate clean, affordable, reliable power in the future," said Michael MacDougall of TPG.

CASE

from page 1

to many suits, because they require potential suits to go through a grievance process before any legal matters can be undertaken. Colorado City, Williams said, did not have that grievance process in place when Ponko was terminated by Colorado City City Manager Paul Catoe.

Ponko, who now serves as the city secretary in Loraine, was placed on administrative leave with pay on Jan. 5, 2006 and notified her position was being eliminated on Jan. 20 due to reorganization within the municipality. Ponko contends Catoe fired her after she approached members of the Colorado City city council and questioned the legality of the city paying for a cell phone used by Catoe's wife, as well as several other financial moves.

In July, visiting judge Joe Connolly ruled the suit should be halted for 60 days to determine whether Ponko had to meet requirements. The city appealed the trial court's decision to the 11th Court of Appeals in Eastland because its attorneys believed the case should be dismissed instead of delayed.

For its part, Colorado City officials say they remain confident the courts will rule in their favor as the suit moves forward.

"The City remains confident that its position will be vindicated on the merits, as the City did not violate the Whistleblower Act when it eliminated Ponko's for position," read a prepared press release from officials in city hall about the court's decision.

City attorneys say Ponko's suit should be dismissed because she did not follow proper procedure, and that the law prohibits retaliation by the city or any other public employee, who in good faith reports a violation of law by the city or another public employee to an appropriate law enforcement official. The city contends before an employee can file a whistleblower lawsuit, he or she must initiate a grievance or appeal to the governmental employer and invoke an appeal of their termination within 90 days of the alleged retaliation.

City attorneys claim Ponko did neither of the requirements and that the suit should be dismissed.

Williams said the city had several options in front of them, including filing a motion with the Texas Court of Appeals to reconsider their opinion, or filing a "Petition for Review" with the court. The city could also appeal the case to the Texas Supreme Court, which can accept or deny the case.

Either way, Williams said, the case would move forward.

"At this point, we'll go back to the trial court," she said.

CISD

from page 1

Martinez, the owner of Texas Caps & T-Shirts, was operated on for an abscess in his cranial cavity by doctors at Lubbock Covenant Hospital.

According to family members, the Colorado City native went to Mitchell County Hospital last weekend complaining of severe headaches. He was later transported to Lubbock where doctors drilled a hole in his skull to relieve pressure caused by the condition.

Doctors were scheduled to perform another surgery Wednesday, March 14, to remove more of the abscess.

"This project is further evidence of TXU's new commitment to move forward immediately to develop the next generation of low-cost, clean-burning technologies," said Mike Childers, CEO of TXU Generation Development. "This project will enhance our selected vendors' ability to drive toward technical leadership across a range of the newest, most environmentally efficient technologies."

This RFP represents the first stage of TXU and TEP's new

commitment, per the recently announced merger agreement, to explore the potential of IGCC technology to meet Texas' energy reliability requirements.

From the proposals received, TXU will select two or more competing IGCC technologies that can be developed and commercially deployed with carbon dioxide capture in power plants utilizing Powder River Basin (PRB) and lignite coals, respectively, as the primary fuel source.

This project will focus on driving efficiency improvements, emissions reductions and technological breakthroughs that could enable IGCC to meet the growing energy needs of Texas. Linking the technological expertise of selected providers with TXU's operational expertise will create a combination capable of redefining research and development in the power sector.

Selected partner companies will be focused on two major objectives: (1) research and development

aimed at improving the efficiency, cost profile and environmental performance of gasification technologies; and (2) front-end engineering and development for IGCC units at existing sites originally reserved for the now-suspended pulverized coal units. One of the new facilities will use PRB and the other will use lignite coal, making it among the first lignite IGCC power plants in the country. In addition, the identified plant sites will be well-situated to support carbon capture

and sequestration projects. If acceptable proposals are submitted in response to the RFP, these new facilities could be the first power plants in the world to separate and sequester carbon dioxide.

"The deregulated Texas market has unleashed the spirit of innovation. This initiative represents the next step toward meeting Texas' future power needs with the most reliable, economic, and environmentally efficient power supply," said Fred Goltz of KKR.

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EXTRA SALES HELP LIVING ROOM SUITES Sofa & Loveseat Nice size. Choice of colors. Reg. \$99.95 SALE \$498 3 Piece Livingroom Sofa, chair & ottoman Closeout price Reg. \$299.95 SALE \$788 Lane Reclining Sofa In off white decorator cover - Closeout price Reg. \$999.95 SALE \$577 Smith Sofa & Love Discontinued - Great Value Reg. \$999.95 SALE \$1177 Several Loveseats Choice of styles and colors. All on Sale! SALE \$168 & Up	CREDIT CO. ON DUTY BEDROOM SUITES 5 Pc. Bedroom in Pine Finish Dresser, mirror, chest, night stand & headboard Reg. \$99.95 SALE \$277 5 Pc. Standard Bedroom Dresser, mirror, chest, night stand & headboard Reg. \$299.95 SALE \$647 5 Pc. Black Laquer w/Chrome Accent Bedroom Dresser, mirror, chest, night stand & headboard Reg. \$299.95 SALE \$677 Ashley King Size Headboard/Footboard 1 only Reg. \$99.95 SALE \$348 6 Pc. Bedroom Dresser, hutch, mirror, chest, night stand Cannon Ball head & foot 1 Only Reg. \$299.95 SALE \$788	PLENTY OF PARKING DINING ROOM 1 Only Large Size Ashley Glass & Tile Coffee Table Closeout Price Reg. \$299.95 SALE \$148 5 Pc. Crown Mark Dinette White & Natural finish Reg. \$369.95 SALE \$178 5 Pc. All Wood Round Pedestal Table 4 all matching chairs. While they last! Reg. \$99.95 SALE \$198 5 Pc. Large Round Oak Table with 4 all wood chairs. Reg. \$99.95 SALE \$388	UP TO 55% OFF TRUCKLOAD PRICING ON MATTRESS SETS Bionic Rest Sets 2 Pc. Twin Set Reg. \$69.95... SALE \$88 2 Pc. Full Set Reg. \$99.95... SALE \$138 Posture Spirit Sets (15 Year Warranty) 2 Pc. Twin Set Reg. \$99.95... SALE \$158 2 Pc. Full Set Reg. \$149.95... SALE \$218 2 Pc. Queen Set Reg. \$199.95... SALE \$288 3 Pc. King Set Reg. \$299.95... SALE \$298 Patriot of America Pillow Top Sets (15 Year Warranty) 2 Pc. Twin Set Reg. \$99.95... SALE \$188 2 Pc. Full Set Reg. \$149.95... SALE \$218 2 Pc. Queen Set Reg. \$199.95... SALE \$288 3 Pc. King Set Reg. \$299.95... SALE \$368		CREDIT TERMS OCCASIONAL Large Group End Tables Choice of styles & finishes. 1/2 Price 16 Pc. Classic West Dinnerware Set Closeout Price Reg. \$69.95 SALE \$88 Ashley Buffett Closeout, slight damage Reg. \$399 SALE \$169 All Rustic Furniture Choice of lots of items - all at SPECIAL SALE PRICE SLEEPER SOFAS Berkline Oversized Queen Sleepers in rich brown cover Reg. \$899.95 SALE \$648 Lane Loveseat Twin Size Sleeper Decorative cover Reg. \$99.95 SALE \$547 ALL ITEMS SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE.	ONE DAY SALE CHAIRS & RECLINERS Large Group Rocker Recliners In choice of colors Reg. \$299.95 SALE \$197 Large Choice of Kiddie Rugs Choice of colors & patterns 1/2 Price Swivel Rocker In choice of colors. Hurry for these! Closeout price Reg. \$219.95 SALE \$99 Glider Rockers with all arms. Nice covers. Choice of colors. Reg. \$269.95 SALE \$178 3 Position Recliners in rich blue cover. These won't last long! Reg. \$169.95 SALE \$88	9 HOURS ONLY CLOSEOUT CORNER All Remaining Bean Bags In stock of colors and sizes. Close out price! Reg. \$39.95 SALE \$15 1 Only Queen Size Memory Foam Top Of Line Mattress by Spring Floor Sample Reg. \$899.95 SALE \$588 Group of Occasional Chairs Choice of styles & colors. SALE \$97 & Up 1 Only Light Biege Corner Wedge Closeout Price Reg. \$199.95 SALE \$47 1 Only Leather Chair in beautiful tan tone - Floor sample Reg. \$1199.95 SALE \$697
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SOCIETY



MEMBERS OF THE COLORADO CITY Chamber of Commerce held their ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Studio Twenty Gallery recently. Attending the ceremony were (back row, left to right) Nell Gainey, Carla Hammond, Russell Banks, Carol Compton, Buddy Compton, Don Wood, Jeremiah Wood, Jerry Reynolds, (front) Bobbie Banks, Penny Gassiot, Lulu Boyd, Leada Wood, Evelyn Helm, Crystal Helm and Wilma Reynolds.

Studio Twenty Gallery to hold grand opening on March 17

Leada Wood is opening her Studio Twenty Art Gallery next to Wood's Boots on East Interstate 20 in Colorado City. Her vision is to bring local artists together and have a place where they can exhibit and sell their work.

Leada is a water media artist who enjoys both experimental and realistic painting. She delights in entertaining her viewers with a playful attitude and letting them have a glimpse of how she sees the world.

Leada's unique works have won numerous awards and have been accepted into many juried shows

around the state. Her works has also appeared in a national magazine, Watercolor Magic.

Among the artists represented by Studio Twenty Gallery are: Lulu Boyd, potter and Raku artist, Buddy Compton, wood turnings, Scott Gassiot, stained glass artist, Penny Gassiot, stained glass and textile artist, Estelle Howard, oil paintings, Linda Rupard-Irvin, oil painting and Leada Wood, acrylic paintings and jewelry.

Buddy Compton's woodturnings are true works of art, specializing in mesquite wood inlaid with crushed turquoise, each piece unique and one of a kind. Buddy has been working with wood for 20 years and his works may also be seen at the Texas Mesquite Art Festival in San Angelo, Ruidoso Art Festival, Texas Mesquite Art Festival in Fredericksburg, Rustic Star in Fredericksburg and Main Street Market in Bronte.

Lulu Boyd specializes in Raku Pottery as well as Functional Pottery. Her Copper Matt and Horsehair Pottery are amazing in that they survived 1,700-degree firings and come from the flames, licked by the fire to create beautiful designs on the clay. Lulu also enjoys digital photography and working with the computer to create her works.

Scott and Penny Gassiot are a

husband and wife team who enjoy working together with stained glass. Scott uses colored and beveled glass to create his unique glass glyphs. Penny is learning a new technique, glass fusion, which takes glass to a whole new level. Penny is also a Textile Artist who enjoys designing with material, piecing and quilting. Her quilts are hand-stitched with love and patience.

Estelle Howard is a talented artist in both oil and watercolor. Estelle has won numerous awards and been accepted into many juried shows across the state. Her work may also be seen in the Cloudcroft Gallery and Southwest Art magazine. Estelle lives in Big Spring.

Linda Rupard-Irvin is a multi-talented artist who works in all mediums. Her oil paintings will be on exhibit at the gallery. Linda's works can also be seen at A Touch of Color Gallery in her hometown of Big Spring.

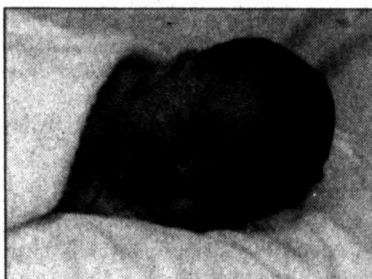
Don and Leada Wood invite you to the grand opening of Studio Twenty Gallery on March 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a reception to meet the artists from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. There will be drawings for prizes donated by the artists during the reception. Please come and support our local artists and view their work.



VISIONS OF SPRING... Faye Nell Herm and granddaughter, Cloey, and Carol Higdon admire the beautiful daffodils at the Samaritan Hospitality House. The daffodil bulbs were purchased from the Colorado City Garden Club last fall.

Contributed Photo

BIRTHS



Hadley Stockton is a proud big brother. He would like to announce the birth of his little sister, Zayli Brooke Stockton. She was born on February 20th at 6:02 p.m. She was delivered at Midland Memorial West Campus and weighed 6 pounds 15 ounces and was 19 inches long.

Zayliis welcomed home by parents, Jeffrey and Dana Stockton. Grandparents are Ray and Janet Mayo and June Watts, all of Colorado City, and Joe and Juanita Stockton of Missouri. Great-grandparent is James Earl "Moon" McMullen of Colorado City.

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B&PW Club holds monthly meeting

Business & Professional Women met to review mid-year board activities and discuss ways to help with Christmas in Action. Civic participation committee hosts encouraged all members to participate in some way.

Cancer myths were discussed and a gift to M.D. Anderson was made in memory of Vonda Stanford. The Women in History report was given by Shirley Delaney, featuring past local club president Ida Kirschbaum.

Woman of the year committee chairperson Bobbie Banks and members Donna Barlow and Nancy Crow, will be choosing a local member to be honored at the April meeting.

Good cheer committee chair Nancy Crow presented a birthday gift to Banks and collected bags from new grandmothers Sue Womack and Pauline Light.

The world affairs committee chair, Shirley Scott, will host the April 3 meeting.

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Celebration Schedule:

Friday Night Celebration Service

April 13, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Night Youth Service

April 14, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning Celebration Service

April 15, 10:40 a.m.

Sunday Celebration Dinner

Following Celebration Service

Please RSVP the number in your party for the Sunday Celebration Dinner by April 1, 2007

Reservations by phone at 325-728-5296,
by mail to 333 Chestnut St., Colorado City, TX 79512
or by e-mail at fumc79512@sbcglobal.net

SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL MENUS



CISD THIRD GRADERS Christopher Reyes and Seth Meyers discover a brand on the side of the Texas Caps & T-Shirt building they had been studying in class. The entire third-grade class looked at the brands while visiting Kiwanis Park on March 7.

Westbrook perfect attendance announced for 4th six weeks

Westbrook ISD has released the list of students with perfect attendance for the fourth six weeks of the school year.

They are: Jasmine Alaniz, Damon Bell, Douglas Bell, Harley Bell, Holly Bradbury, Michael Bray, Austin Buckalew, Zane Clemmer, Randall Compton, Zachary Dalton, Lisa Dykstra, Ruben Fuentes, William Geiger, Miranda Goswick, Kassy Grobl, Gabriel Gutierrez, Adrian Hale, Brianna Hale, Ian Hale, Shea Lynn Hale, Carly Hill, Kassie Holbrook, Bradyn Lamb, Sean Llewelyn, Caleb Maros, Sierra Milani, J.T. Mize, Jacob Morris, Rowdy Morris, Jared Pierce, Hadley Redwine, Katlyn Rees, Madison Rice, Sebastian Rincones, Ashley Vicars, and Klanci Whitesides.

ALEX SALINES
WATCHES his ball roll toward the hole while putting at the Texas Fest gala last weekend in the Railhead Building.



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Colorado ISD Head Start
Breakfast Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - dry cereal, toast, chilled juice, milk.
Tuesday - cream of wheat, toast, chilled juice, milk.
Wednesday - graham cracker, yogurt, orange half, milk.
Thursday - scrambled egg, toast, chilled juice, milk.
Friday - oatmeal, toast, chilled juice, milk.
Colorado ISD Head Start
Lunch Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - beef and mac, glazed carrots, Texas toast, peaches, milk.
Tuesday - ham chunks, slice of bread and butter, sweet peas, mixed fruit, milk.
Wednesday - chicken sticks, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, half slice bread, crushed pineapple, milk.
Thursday - peanut butter and jelly sandwich, golden corn, mixed fruit, milk.
Friday - corn dog, potato wedge, fruited jello, milk.
Kelley & Hutchinson Elem.
Breakfast Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - sausage, toast, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.
Tuesday - biscuit and jelly, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.
Wednesday - breakfast burrito, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.
Thursday - morning roll, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.
Friday - dry cereal, toast, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.
Kelley & Hutchinson Elem.
Lunch Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - wolf burger, French fries, pickle cup, canned fruit, choice of milk.
Tuesday - beef stew, cornbread, pickle spears, canned fruit, choice of milk.
Wednesday - turkey and gravy, mashed potatoes, sweet peas, hot rolls, canned fruit, choice of milk.
Thursday - Frito pie, pinto beans, golden corn, canned fruit, choice of milk.
Friday - pizza, carrot sticks with ranch, green beans, brownies, fresh fruit, choice of milk.
CMS & CHS
Breakfast Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - dry cereal, biscuit, sausage & biscuit, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.
Tuesday - dry cereal, biscuit, sausage & biscuit, pancake w/syrup, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.
Wednesday - dry cereal, biscuit, sausage & biscuit, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.

Thursday - dry cereal, biscuit, sausage & biscuit, pile on burrito, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.
Friday - dry cereal, biscuit, sausage & biscuit, breakfast sandwich, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.
CMS & CHS
Lunch Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - tasty rib basket, wolf burger, French fries, pickle cup, fresh fruit, choice of milk.
Tuesday - grilled ham and cheese, beef stew, cornbread, pickle spears, canned fruit, choice of milk.
Wednesday - birdie on bun, Salisbury steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, sweet peas, hot rolls, canned fruit, choice of milk.
Thursday - burrito with cheese, chilaupa, Spanish rice, golden corn, fresh fruit, choice of milk.
Friday - garden salad, slice of pizza, French fries, carrot sticks with ranch, brownies, canned fruit, choice of milk.
Westbrook ISD
Breakfast Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - waffles, cereal, fruit juice, milk.
Tuesday - French toast sticks, cereal, fruit juice, milk.
Wednesday - scrambled eggs, toast & jelly, cereal, fruit juice, milk.
Thursday - sausage & gravy, biscuits & jelly, cereal, fruit juice, milk.
Friday - blueberry muffins, cereal, fruit juice, milk.
Westbrook ISD
Lunch Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - pizza choice, seasoned corn, tossed salad, sliced peaches, milk.
Tuesday - corn dog, oven fried potatoes, fresh broccoli with ranch, sparkly apples, crispy cereal treat, milk.
Wednesday - oven crispy chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, hot roll, fancy gelatin, milk.
Thursday - nachos grande, lettuce & tomato, orange smiles, cornbread, milk.
Friday - stuffed baked potato, baby carrots with ranch, fresh fruit cup, Texas toast, milk.
Loraine ISD
Breakfast Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - cereal, toast, fruit, milk.
Tuesday - sausage, biscuit, juice, jelly, milk.
Wednesday - cheese toast, fruit, banana, milk.
Thursday - pizza, juice, milk.
Friday - muffins, fruit, milk.

Loraine ISD
Lunch Menu
Mar. 19-23
Monday - hot pockets, salad, tater tots, mixed fruit, dressing, milk.
Tuesday - burritos, corn, fresh carrots, orange halves, cheese, milk.

Wednesday - baked chicken, mashed potatoes, broccoli, jello with fruit, biscuit, gravy, milk.
Thursday - pork chops, potato salad, green beans, bread sticks, milk.
Friday - hamburgers, salad, pickle, shape-up, mustard, chips, milk.

ACT late registry held until March 23

College-bound high school students can register by March 9 for the next national ACT test date. The test will be administered nationwide on Sat., Apr. 14, 2007. Students who miss the March 9 deadline can do a late registration for an additional fee. The late registration deadline is March 23. Students can register online at www.actstudent.org, or they can get registration materials from high school counselors.

The ACT is accepted by all colleges and universities that use admissions tests in their application process. It's an academic achievement test covering four subject areas: English, reading, mathematics and science. Students can choose to take the ACT with or without the optional Writing Test. The ACT costs \$29 without the Writing Test and \$43 with writing. The majority of colleges don't require a writing score, so students should check with colleges they're considering before registering for the test. The late

registration fee is \$19.

Colleges and universities use ACT scores, along with other information, to determine if a student is academically ready for college-level coursework. Students with lower ACT scores are likely to need remedial courses to help bring them up-to-speed for college-level courses. This is why many juniors take the ACT, check their scores, and then take additional coursework to address academic weakness before re-taking the ACT as seniors.

With the ACT, students can choose not to report any scores automatically to colleges. Later, after receiving their scores, students can decide to test again before reporting scores. Colleges only see the scores that students choose to report - they don't see all scores for each time a student takes the ACT.

For more information about the ACT, including sample tests and online preparation, go to www.actstudent.org.

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Western Texas College
Campus e•news
Issue Ten
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First Presidency Candidate Visits Campus

The first candidate for Western Texas College's vacant presidency visited with many people around campus before his interview on Thursday evening. Dr. Michael L. Dreith, president of Frontier Community College in Fairfield, Ill., and his wife were given a chance to meet with faculty and clerical staff before being given a tour of the campus by WTC recruiter, Deborah Baremore....Continued at www.wtc.edu.

WTC Sports Fill March Calendar

If you are into sports, WTC's got 'em. There are currently five different sports in season and the games are filling up the calendar. Men's and Women's Golf, Softball, Baseball, Rodeo and Men's and Women's Basketball all have events listed on the March calendar.

During Spring Break, the Men's Golf Team will be at Harbor Lakes Golf Course in Granbury, TX and the Softball Team will be in Midland on Saturday March 17....Continued at www.wtc.edu.

Riggan Teaches Financial Planning

Several people from the community are taking advantage of the Financial Planning and Investing class being taught by Russell Riggan of Edward Jones at Western Texas College.

The class is held on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 PM. The course is designed to teach proven techniques to improve individual's financial situation. In the class, Riggan is helping people understand 401k's, stocks, mutual funds, bonds, IRA's, and savings accounts to help people further understand the different investments that are out there and how they can help individual people and small business owners determine where they are financially and set goals as to where they want to be....Continued at www.wtc.edu.

Meats Team Wins Reserve

Western Texas College Meats Evaluation Team has won Reserve Champion Honors at the Southwestern National held in Fort Worth. The contest was sponsored by the Southwestern Livestock Expo and the American Meat Science Association. Twenty-one college and Universities and 170 contestants competed at the contest. WTC's team was first in Beef Grading and in Lamb Judging, Second in Pork Judging and in Placings. This gives the WTC Team a ranking of second in the nation....Continued at www.wtc.edu.

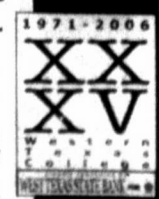
Scholarship Honors Drs. Krenek and Fleer

The Social Science Department at Western Texas College voted unanimously to honor Dr. Harry Krenek, former College President, and Dr. Gil Fleer, former Social Science Professor, by renaming the Social Science Scholarship to the Harry Krenek/Gil Fleer Social Science Scholarship....Continued at www.wtc.edu.

SOS Session Begins After Spring Break

Spring Opportunity Session at WTC will be held March 19 thru May 3. Registration and classes begin March 19. Classes being offered are: Math/ Business/Economics I & II, Elementary Statistics, Fundamentals Math II, and Intro to Computing. For more information call 573-8511 ext. 313.

1-888-GO-TO-WTC
www.wtc.edu



SCHOOL NEWS

Westbrook honor roll listed

The All A and AB Honor Roll lists have been announced by Westbrook ISD for the fourth six-weeks of the school year.

All A Honor Roll

First grade: Damon Bell, Kaci Ferris, Weldon Fitzgerald, Lillie Gutierrez, Jayce Lamb, Peyton Lamb and Marla Nash.

Second grade: Ben Brown, Christopher Haggerton, Shea Lynn Hale, Allison Jones, Aubrianna Jones, Bradyn Lamb, Brianna Lathers, Rowdy Morris, Sebastian Rincones and Emily Whiteley.

Third grade: Holly Bradbury, Jayton Schreiner and William Shell.

Fifth grade: Jasmine Alaniz, Makena King, Jacob Morris, Madison Pardue and Madison Rice.

Sixth grade: Brianna Brown, Kaitlyn Forbes and Alexis Nobles.

Seventh grade: Klanci Whitesides.

Tenth grade: Schelli White.

Eleventh grade: Tate Burleson and Colton Nobles.

Twelfth grade: Jonathan Beaird, Kourtney Bisnette, Allison Bray, Lisa Dykstra and Lauren Johnson.

AB Honor Roll

First grade: Austin Cain, Rebecca Campos, Mazzy Gonzales, Kassidy Groeb, Aaron Lamb, Haiden Lopez, Caleb Matos, Gabriell Ousley, Brady Polich, Kalee Rich and Gabriel Rivera.

Second grade: Jocelyn Cain, Brandy Clark, Ivy Gutierrez, Kyle Lastly, Jaiden Lopez, Nathan Perez, Katlyn Rees, Cheyenne Reyes, Georgianna Rivera,

Madison Rivera and Baylee Whisenhunt-Raff.

Third grade: Garrett Brownfield, Seth Burleson, Zane Clemmer, Anthony Gutierrez, Dacota Kirk, August Lane, Shannon Morris and Danye Vigil.

Fourth grade: Madison Anderson, Sarah Andrews, Alesia Bean, Brandon Brown, Randall Compton, Chloe Garrett, Donovan Harvey, Trevor Lamb and Skylar McCollum.

Fifth grade: Alexander Dalton, Zachary Dalton, Ian Hale, Kaylea Holbrook, Brianna Jones, Keeley McCollum, Kohl Rich and Draven Valverde.

Sixth grade: Kaitlynn Andrews, Reanna Krapf and Kenzey Morris.

Seventh grade: Casey Bass, Hardy Berber and Kayla Furgerson.

Eighth grade: Lucia Hamilton and Bracken Schreiner.

Ninth grade: Hannah Berber, Eli Farrell, Milina Funderburg, Stormy Haggerton, Kirk Hahn and Kimberlin Johnson.

Tenth grade: Laremi King and Ashley Vicars.

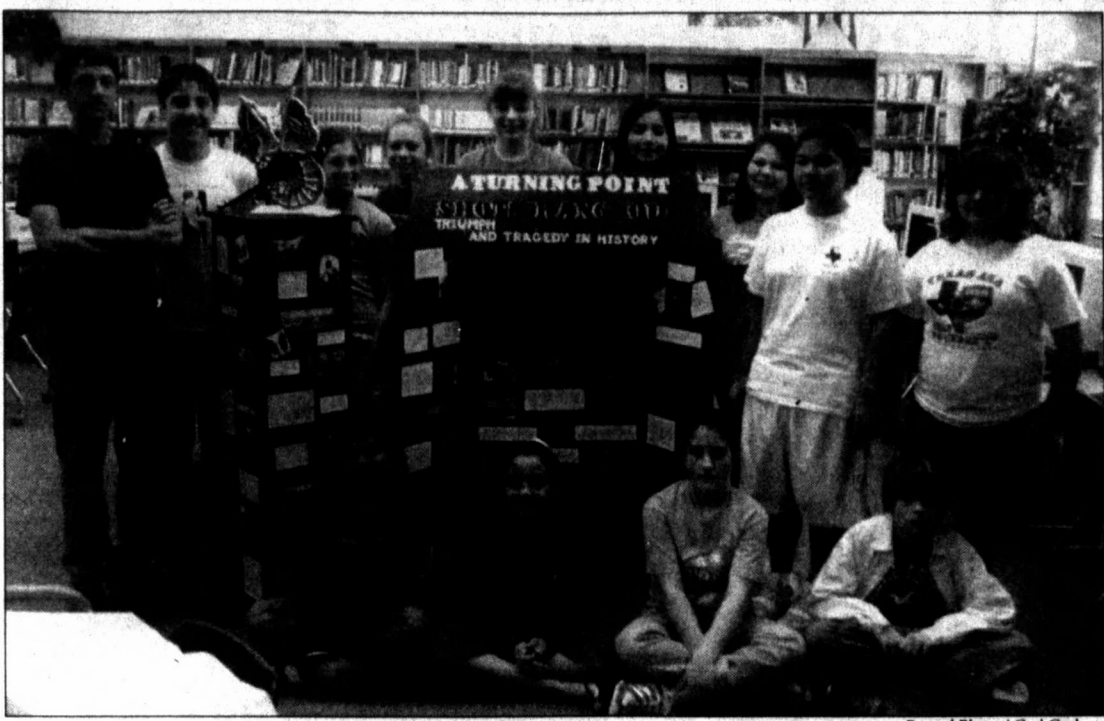
Eleventh grade: Dirk Dykstra and Drake Thurman.

Twelfth grade: Sean Llewellyn and Jordan Truelove.

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PICTURED ARE STUDENTS OF CMS THAT WERE CELEBRATING NATIONAL HISTORY APPRECIATION DAY are (back row, l to r) Chris Madrid, Nick Reyna, Cassie Lemons, Taylor Harris, Lara Higgins, Destyne Gaona, Kristi Barnett, Olivia Luera, and Kristine Gaona. Bottom row, l to r: Kaley Molina, Brittany Vasquez, Alyssa Levertson, and Hayden Redwine. Not pictured were Huntlyr Messick, Jaci Wulfjen, and Daniel Hammond.

LORAINÉ STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY

ARE:

(l to r)

William

Smith,

Annette

Davila, and

Adrian

Talamantes.

Record Photo / Carl Graham



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Western Texas College Adobe Classes

Introduction to InDesign - An introductory course to understand the basic concepts of Adobe InDesign. Using InDesign, you can produce professional-quality, full-color documents on high-volume color printing presses, or print to your own desktop printer.

Tuesdays - 5:30 to 7:30 pm, for six weeks, beginning March 20. Held in the Faculty Innovation Center, 4 spots available.

Cost - \$78.75

Instructor: Michelle Kuhl

Introduction to Photoshop - An introductory course to understand the basic concepts of Adobe Photoshop. Photoshop is professional image-editing software.

Thursdays - 6 to 9 pm, for four weeks, beginning March 22. Held in the Faculty Innovation Center, 4 spots available.

Cost - \$78.75

Instructor: Cory Knipe

Introduction to Photoshop - An introductory course to understand the basic concepts of Adobe Photoshop. Photoshop is professional image-editing software.

Mondays - 6pm to 9pm, for four weeks, beginning March 26. Held in the Faculty Innovation Center, 4 spots available.

Cost - \$78.75

Instructor: Christie Funk

Introduction to Photoshop - An introductory course to understand the basic concepts of Adobe Photoshop. Photoshop is professional image-editing software.

Thursdays - 1pm to 3pm, for four weeks, beginning March 29. Held in the Faculty Innovation Center, 4 spots available.

Cost - \$78.75

Instructor: Christie Funk

For more information or to register please call the Continuing Education Division at (325) 573-8511 ext. 390. This office will be closed for Spring Break March 12 - 16, and re-open on March 19.

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SPORTS

Sports Briefs

Lady Hawks to hold open tryouts

The Howard College women's basketball team will be holding a pair of tryouts this spring for high school athletes interested in playing ball at the junior college level.

The first tryout will be held on Sunday, March 18 at 2 p.m. at the Harold Davis Fitness Center located on the southwest corner of the Howard College campus in Big Spring. The second tryout will be held on Sunday, April 22 at 2 p.m. also at the Harold Davis Fitness Center.

Athletes interested in attending one of the two women's basketball tryout sessions need to reserve a spot by calling Coach Rodewald at (432) 816-4327.

Lady Wolves to face Haskell on Tuesday

After the Colorado Lady Wolves got off to an 0-1 start in district play on a 12-2 loss to arch rival Coahoma last Tuesday, the girls are enjoying spring break this week before returning to district play Tuesday by hosting the Haskell Lady Maidens at 7 p.m. at the Mitchell County Sports Complex.

Following the game with Haskell, the Lady Wolves will face the Hawley Lady Bearcats on Friday in a crucial road game also scheduled for 7 p.m.

"It's important for us to get back to playing well after our break," said coach Sara Davies. "Haskell is the new team in our district so I don't know a lot about them," said Davies. "Hawley, on the other hand, will be contending for the district championship with us and Coahoma. I feel like these are the three teams that have the best chance Hawley always plays us tough, but we just need to take one game at a time. We went into spring break on a very positive note when we won the Slaton tournament. We are still not where I would like for us to be, but we are certainly heading in the right direction," she said.

The Lady Wolves have won 17 games while losing five, two of which were to Coahoma.

LHS track team to compete in Roscoe

The Loraine High School track team is scheduled to compete in the Roscoe Invitational Track and Field Meet on March 17.

The Bulldogs, who came off a solid performance at Spur last week, are led by Felicia Gibson, Derek Martinez and Kenny Esquivel.

The LHS thinclads will return from spring break on March 22 when they travel to Roby for the Lions Relays.

Wolves to play doubleheader with Clyde

The Colorado High School Wolves will resume their 2007 high school baseball season on Friday when they face the Clyde Bulldogs in a double-header, beginning at 11 a.m. at the Mitchell County Sports Complex.

Colorado City returns to District 5-2A action on March 20 when they host Haskell at the sports complex. The game will begin at 7 p.m.

The C-City junior varsity will be competing in the 5-2A JV Baseball Tournament from March 15 to March 17. The times for the Wolves' games are yet to be determined.

Russell's 2 no-hitters leads Lady Wolves to Slaton title

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

There may be no better way to erase a nasty district-opening loss to rival Coahoma than to come back with six straight wins and win a softball tournament.

Just ask the Colorado High School Lady Wolves.

Colorado City, behind an outstanding effort from senior pitcher

Kateshia Russell, streaked to the top spot at the Slaton Invitational Softball Tournament this past weekend.

The CHS girls easily won six straight games and walked away with first-

Coahoma curse lives on

See Page 11

place honors.

Russell had 41 strikeouts in the 25 innings she worked in the six games.

In the six games Russell threw two no-hitters -- as well as a one-hit shutout.

The Lady Wolves fought back to down Lubbock Cooper in the finals of the tournament. Colorado

See SLATON, Page 11

Castillo leading Lady Wolves with potent bat

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

Lady Wolves' senior Jessica Castillo is your prototype lead-off batter. She manages gets on base more than half the time she goes to bat.

Castillo, in the Lady Wolves' early season, has an on-base percentage of .538, and is leading the team in hitting with a

.363 batting average.

The smooth-fielding short-stop has 13 walks, 16 singles, four doubles and a triple to her credit. Her speed also allows her to beat out hits and steal bases -- which she does quite often. She has been struck out only three times this season -- another great attribute of a

See BAT, Page 11



Record Photo/Tommy Wells

LORAIN HIGH SCHOOL junior Whitney Martin looks skyward while performing in the squats competition earlier this season. Martin will become Loraine's first state competitor since 1994 when she participates in the state powerlifting meet this weekend in Killeen. Her sister, Lindsay, spots her in the background.

Sister Act

Rivalry with twin sister propels Loraine junior to Class A state powerlifting meet

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

Whitney Martin knows the secret to her success when it comes to powerlifting. It's fear. It's a fear that follows her to school and home every day.

It's a fear she wouldn't take the world for. It's the fear that spurred the junior to etch her name into the Loraine High School history books last weekend by becoming the first Lady Bulldog to ever qualify for the state powerlifting meet. Overall, she is the first Loraine athlete -- or team -- to reach the state finals in any athletic event since 1994.

Meet Whitney Martin's biggest motivation ... her twin sister, Lindsay.

"I don't like to lose, especially to my sister," joked Martin, who will be competing in her second state powerlifting meet this weekend in Killeen. "She's good, and that makes me want to work that much harder. It's really fun though because we work together and push each other. Without her, I probably wouldn't be where I am."

Martin made sure she would get the chance to win it all last weekend by earning a berth in the Class A state meet. She turned in a solid effort at the regional meet, winning her fourth meet of the year by dominating the 198-pound division.

Lindsay, who is the oldest of Russell and Melanie Martin's two girls by a mere 10

See SISTERS, Page 9



WHITNEY (LEFT) AND LINDSAY Martin's sisterly rivalry has motivated them to become multi-sport stars at Loraine.

Lady 'Cats rally for first-ever softball win

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

The Westbrook Lady Wildcats collected their first-ever win in high school softball action Saturday afternoon by claiming a wild 12-11 come-from-behind victory over the Aspermont Lady Hornets at the Mitchell County Sports Complex.

Westbrook ace Milina Funderburg, and freshman slugger Kimberlin Johnson keyed the victory. Funderburg kept the AHS batters off-balance late in the game, allowing Johnson and the Westbrook bats to grind out several clutch hits in a 6-run sixth inning.

With the win, Westbrook improved to 1-1 in District 3-A action -- and to 1-1 in the school's two-game softball history. The Lady 'Cats lost the season-opener last week to Hamlin.

Aspermont, now 0-2 in the district race, got off to a solid start

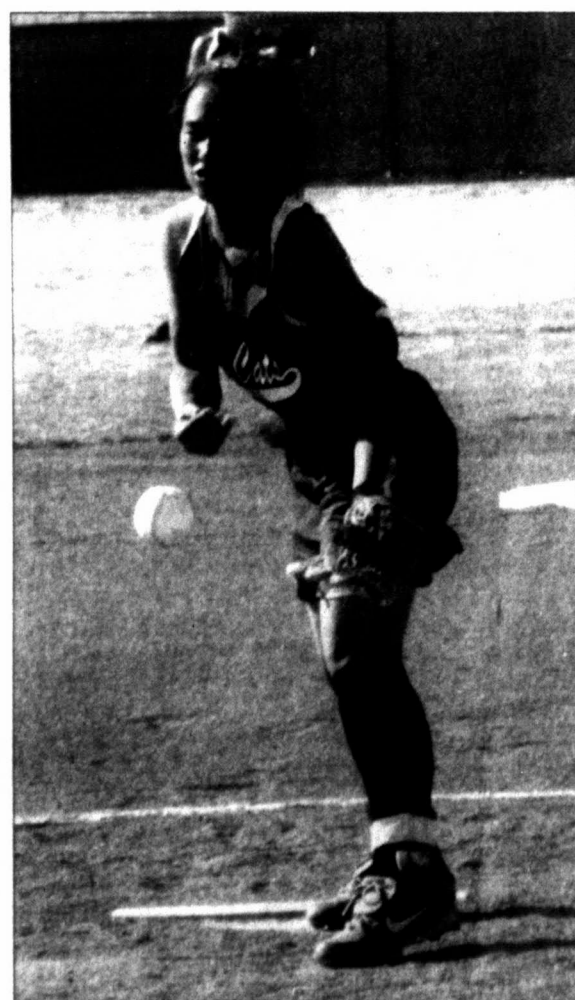
District 3A Standings

Team	W	L
Hamlin	2	0
Trent	1	0
Westbrook	1	1
Loraine	0	1
Aspermont	0	2
Hermleigh	0	2

against the WHS girls. The Lady Hornets reeled off 11 runs in their first five trips to the plate and built a seemingly comfortable 11-6 lead in the top of the fifth inning.

Westbrook was far from through, however. The Lady Cats, keyed by a clutch run-scoring single by Johnson, stormed back to score six times in the top of the seventh to streak to a 12-11 advantage.

Westbrook will return to action March 20 when they travel to Hermleigh for a bout with the Lady Cardinals. The game is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. at the HHS softball field.



WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL'S Milina Funderburg delivers a pitch to the plate during the Lady 'Cats' 12-11 victory over Aspermont at the Mitchell County Sports Complex. The win was Westbrook's first-ever victory in high school softball competition. The Lady Cats are now 1-1 heading into their March 20 bout with Hermleigh.

Ollison garners spot in finals

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

Hann Ollison always knew he could run with the best on the college track scene. Now everyone else knows, too.

Ollison, a Colorado High School graduate, was one of three members of McMurry's men's track program picked to represent the school this week at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track Championships. The NCAA Division III Men's and Women's Track and Field meet was held at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Ind.

Ollison, Zach Shew and Thomas Dimitri all competed in one event for McMurry after posting provisional qualifying marks in their respective events. Ollison was selected for his performance in the 55-meter dash with a time of 6.42.

At the national meet, Ollison finished seventh in his heat, running the course in a mark of 6.53 seconds. Shew's jump of six feet eight inches was picked up in the high jump and Dimitri's 16 foot vault was recognized in the pole vault competition. Eddie Bynum, of Salem State College, won the 55-meter national title with a mark of 6.33.

McMurry has concluded its indoor season and will begin the outdoor season March 24 at Abilene Christian University.

Jim Ned takes C-City tourney title

The Jim Ned Indians collected key hits when they needed them this past weekend and rolled to the team title at the Colorado City Invitational Baseball Tournament.

The Indians, after rolling through the first three rounds of the two-day event, nailed down the championship on Friday with a 9-3 romp over the Forsan Buffaloes.

Jim Ned opened the tournament with a tough 8-4 victory over the Colorado Wolves. From there, the Tribe hammered out wins over Post (3-1) and Wall (10-3) en route to earning a spot in the finals.

Three Indians made the all-tournament team -- Ty Hodges, Jon George and Garrett Brown.

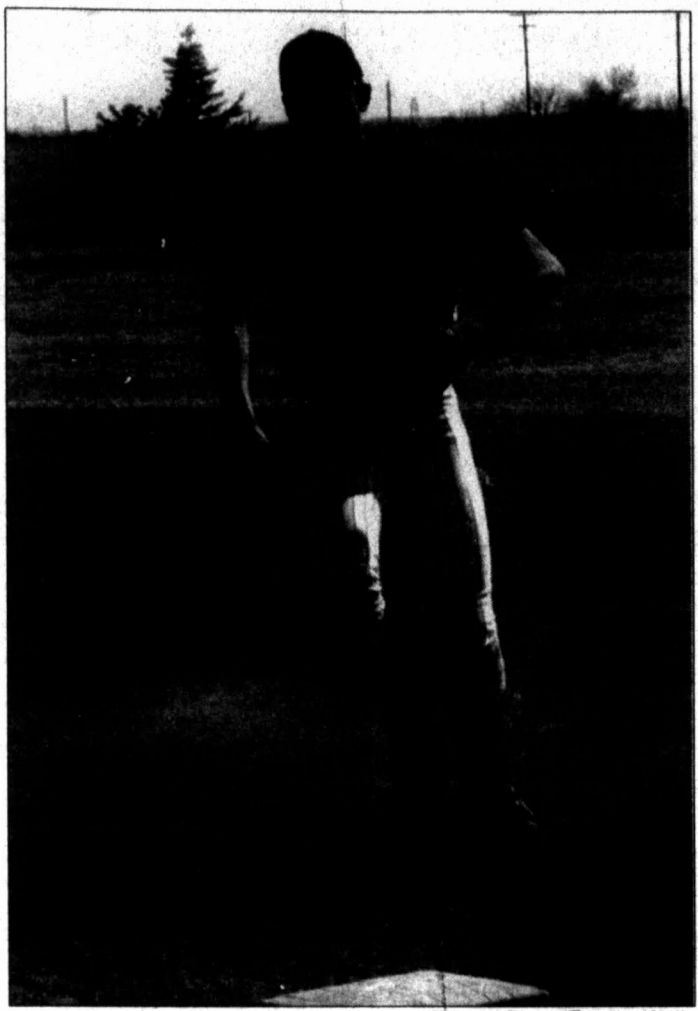
Hawks' season ends at Region V tournament

The Howard College Hawks men's basketball team saw its 2006-2007 season come to an end Saturday afternoon at the Region V Basketball Tournament in Belton when they suffered a 55-46 loss to South Plains.

With the loss, Howard College, under head coach Mark Adams, finished the season with a 25-7 record.

SPORTS

Bulldogettes race past CHS in 5-2A opener



Record Photo/Tommy Wells
LORAIN HIGH SCHOOL first baseman Jimmy Gris-sam runs toward the bag after fielding a grounder in the Bulldogs' game with Aspermont Saturday. Loraine is scheduled to host Ira at Ray Preston Field on March 20, beginning at 4 p.m.

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record
The Coahoma Bulldogettes' domination of district opponents continued last week – thanks to a little help from the Colorado High School-Lady Wolves.
Coahoma, which has never lost a district softball game, took advantage of eight CHS errors last Tuesday afternoon and rolled to a 12-2 victory over the Lady Wolves in the District 5-2A opener for both squads. The game was called after five innings due to the 10-

run rule.
Kateshia Russell started on the mound for the Lady Wolves, but gave way to Brittany Hill in the fourth inning. The two combined to give up 14 hits while striking out eight, walking one, and hitting one batter. The CHS pitching staff allowed two home runs – one that cleared the fence and one inside-the-park shot.
Coahoma scored quickly on the Lady Wolves. The Bulldogettes scored four in the first inning before adding three more in the sec-

ond to take an early 7-0 lead.
Coahoma added single runs in the third and fourth inning before putting the game away in the top of the fifth inning.
The Lady Wolves had one good inning when they sent six players to the plate.
Russell got on base on a sharply hit ball past the Coahoma shortstop. After Russell moved to third,

Hill delivered an run-scoring hit to drive her home. Michelle Arispe then sacrificed Hill to second to set the stage for Latesha McDuffie's RBI single.
"The first two innings when we committed so many errors really hurt us," said coach Sara Davies. "I really thought we would do better here at home, but we were our own worst enemy."

SLATON

from page 10

City, after being down 3-1, rallied late in the game, picking up a clutch two-out single from Michelle Arispe. From there, Veronica Pena drove in Arispe with a triple.
Jessica Castillo followed with a run-scoring single to spur the Lady Wolves to 4-3 win.

Just the previous weekend, the Lady Wolves were rolling during the San Angelo tournament, racking up a 9-0 win over Bangs, a 13-0 win over San Angelo Lake View, a 16-0 win over Ozono, and a 7-0 shutout over Grape Creek before getting shelled 18-0 by Coahoma.

The Lady Wolves finished third at the San Angelo tournament.
In the Slaton tournament, Colorado City made sure no one was going to upend their cart.

The Lady Wolves defeated Idalou, 6-2 in their opener and then got a 4-0 one-hitter victory over Denver City.

In that game, Russell struck out five.

After downing Denver City, the CHS fens rode a no-hit effort by Russell to an 8-0 win over Lamesa. Russell struck out seven batters.

The C-City standout duplicated her no-hit effort in the Lady Wolves' ensuing game against Hamlin. She recorded nine strikeouts en route to guiding Colorado City to an 8-0 victory.

The Lady Wolves downed Den-

ver City for the second time, 7-2, before ending the tournament with a win over Lubbock Cooper.

"We really had a great tournament in Slaton," said coach Sara Davies. "Kateshia was a real batter. She kept her opponents off balance all during the tournament. We also got some good hitting in as well as playing much better in the outfield."

"It was a good confidence builder for us in getting ready to take on Hawley next week," she added.

Hawley, along with Coahoma, are the top district contenders along with the Lady Wolves.

Hawley and Colorado City will face off Tuesday at 7 p.m.

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SISTERS

from page 10

minutes, just missed earning a trip to state. She finished third in the same classification.

Originally born in Austin, Martin's path into Loraine High School history began two years ago after her parents returned to Texas after spending several years in Chilhowie, Virginia. Initially, they settled in Lampassas, where Martin – then a freshman – became interested in the sport.

"I really don't know why I became interested," the 16-year-old said. "I never really played sports when we lived in Chilhowie. One day I just decided I wanted to do something that is pretty much an individual thing, but still be part of a team. Powerlifting was that for me."

As a freshman, Martin made an immediate impact. She advanced to the Class 4A regional powerlifting meet.

As a sophomore, Martin made up being disqualified at the regional meet for an improper lift. After placing in every meet, she dominated the regional meet and went on to place sixth in the Class 4A division at the state powerlifting meet.

"I was thrilled when I did that," said Martin, who was ranked No. 1 in the Class A ranks throughout the 2007 season. "Then, our par-

BAT

from page 1

leadoff batter.

"Jessica has been one of our leaders of the team," said coach Sara Davies. "She has been playing softball since she was able to hold a bat, I think. She does everything that is asked of her, including moving behind the plate to catch for us last season when we lost our regular catcher (Krisha Rivera) due to an injury."

"She does whatever it takes to get on."

Castillo, who could have graduated at mid-term because she had enough credits to do so, was talked into coming back after the Christmas break in order to make one last run at a state title.

She, along with Michelle Arispe, Paige Newby, Brittany Hill and Kateshia Russell, are all former members of the Lady Bugs' youth softball team. All of them are also seniors this year which means this will be their last chance at the Coahoma Bulldogettes.

The two previous meetings between Colorado City and Coahoma have ended in an 18-0 loss at the San Angelo tournament and a district-opening 12-2 loss last week.

ents told us we were going to come here."

This season, she was equally impressive. Placing in every meet – and winning the top honors at two meets, including the Coahoma Powerlifting Invitational.

It's enough to make first-year Loraine powerlifting coach Patrick Gainey smile.

"I'm just thankful I've been blessed with each of them," he said. "For a first-year program like ours, you can't imagine what it has done for our other athletes just to be around Whitney and Lindsay."

Lindsay, who was ranked third in Class A during the regular season despite being in only her second year in the sport, says she is fine with her sister's success because it will only make her better in the long run.

"To me, it's great," she said. "I want to beat her, so it means I'll have to work harder next season. I don't like to lose to her, either," she laughed.

"That's the thing," she said. "We're both hate to lose and we use that to push each other."

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The Colorado City Record reserves the right to reject any and all classified ads considered by the publisher to be objectionable in subject matter, phraseology or opposed to the public interest or policy of this newspaper. No fraudulent, dishonest or misleading ads will be knowingly published. Each advertiser who submits classified advertising shall be responsible to indemnify and hold harmless the Colorado City Record for any cost, injury or liability imposed upon it because of the content of any ad so submitted.

BID NOTICES

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS
Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)
Dist/Div. Abilene
Contract 6158-98-001 for LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE IN SCURRY County, etc. will be opened on April 19, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$6,400.00.
Contract 6158-999-001 for LITTER REMOVAL IN FISHER County, etc. will be opened on April 19, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$75,125.00.
Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 22884
State Office
Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)
Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone: 325-676-6800
Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

LEGAL NOTICE
RFP# 07-5143

Notice is hereby given that the Colorado Independent School District acting by and through its Governing Board, will receive sealed bids for the purchase of 1 vehicle: 1 - SUV, 4 door, Gas Engine (General Transportation). Bids addressed to Business Manager, Shelia Redwine, P.O. Box 1268, Colorado City, Texas 79512 will be received in the Business Office until 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 22, 2007. Bids will be tabulated at this time and publicly read aloud at the Regular Board Meeting on April 16, 2007.
Bid packets with specifications can be obtained from the Business Office, 1132 Hickory, Colorado City, Texas, or by calling (325)728-5312.
The District reserves the right to reject any and all Bids and to waive any irregularities or informalities, and to be the sole judge of the merit and qualifications of products and services offered and to award the RFP considered most advantageous to the District.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mitchell County Hospital District, the Mitchell County Hospital, Valley Fair Lodge, Mitchell County Home Health, Mitchell County Ambulance Service and Family Medical Associates is an equal opportunity employer. Health care facility. Employment offered to qualified persons without regard to race, color, sex, age, national origin, handicap, or religion.

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Mowing, weedeating, cleaning, chain saw jobs & other odd jobs. Call John 728-5466.
Bullard's Backyard Basics. Mowing, yards & lots, yard waste & junk hauled off, minor tree trimming. Call Rick Bullard, 728-8242, 242-0747.

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 - 4 LVN - Wallace Prison Medical Clinic 3pm to 11pm
- These are full time positions with competitive salary and benefits
Contact Human Resources at (325)728-3431 ext 7105

The City of Colorado City is accepting applications for a Pool Manager, Assistant Pool Manager and American Red Cross Certified Lifeguards. American Red Cross Certified Lifeguard training will be offered for interested applicants. Applications may be picked up at City Hall, P.O. Box 912, 180 West 3rd Street, Colorado City, Texas 79512. The City of Colorado City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Need drillers, rough-necks to work for a home-grown Big Spring oil company which owns its own rigs. Drilling in West Texas area close to home. If hired, you will receive a \$250 bonus after working one week. Health insurance available. Must be able to pass drug test. Call 432-238-3832.

Now accepting applications. Apply in person at Subway, 150 E. I-20. Nurses Unlimited, Inc. needs attendants to assist with personal care, meal prep, and light housekeeping. Part-time. Call Mon-Th 8-5, Fri 8-12, 1-888-859-0640 EOE

Midwestern Services, Inc. Tank cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60+ hrs per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid & \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage & bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 1913 7th St., Snyder, Tx.

Needing CNAs for 8 hour shifts. Apply in person to Roscoe Health Care Center, 201 Cypress. Gas card available.

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Metal Detectors by Whites Electronics. New and used. 728-2494

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1114 Nicolosa
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March 16 & 17
8 - ?
Too much to list!

GARAGE SALE
113 E 22nd
Sat., March 17
7-1
Clothes, electronics, baby stuff, misc.

YARD SALE
Oak Street Baptist Church Youth Camp
931 Oak
Thurs. - Sat.
Thurs. & Fri.
11-1 & 4-7
Sat. 8-7
Little bit of everything!

GARAGE SALE
857 E. 13th St.
Fri. 9 - 1
Sat. 9 - 1
Mowers, weed-eaters, tools and misc. Lots of girls, boys clothes. Mens' 36-38 size jeans.

INSIDE AND OUTSIDE GARAGE SALE
433 Locust St. (Pink House)
Sat. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
3-17-07
Sun. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
3-18-07
Furniture, glassware, kitchen items, cast iron skillets, stove, tools, Sears Rear Tire Tiller, fishing, clothes and lots of misc. items.

GARAGE SALE
705 Jefferson
Fri. & Sat.,
Mar. 16 & 17
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Little bit of everything!

GARAGE SALE
531 East 16th
Thurs., Mar. 15
8:30 - ?
Girls and women's clothes, toys, dishes, misc.

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AUCTIONS

ESTATE AUCTION
Sat., Mar. 17th 10:00 a.m.
Preview 8 a.m. till sale time
411 E. Main Street Forsan, Tx.

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CONTRACT PENDING es, fireplace, fenced, barn, basement, \$97,000.

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Home Phone: 325-728-3982 Home Phone: 325-728-8236
website: fletalewisrealestate.ws

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3 bd, 2 bath, central heat/air, stucco, 905 Walnut, \$75,000.

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Your lender will then calculate how much money you may be eligible to borrow prior to an application for a loan. Your lender may even provide you with a Conditional Qualification Letter which determines your likelihood of obtaining a loan. However, all information submitted during pre-qualification is subject to verification at the time the loan application is submitted. Because your financial situation has yet to be verified, there is no guarantee of a home loan until everything has been verified. And you move to the next step to get pre-approved verifies all the information is correct that was given to them to pre-qualify. When you move to the next step you will sign disclosures for them to verify the information is correct that to get pre-approved.

What does it mean to get pre-approved?

When you are pre-approved for a loan you actually fill out a mortgage loan application. After an extensive examination of your financial situation, your lender will send all your loan status goes to underwriting to give you loan approval. Then lender will then give you a letter in writing, to fund your loan, pending a successful appraisal and a few other conditions. There is no commitment on your part to follow through with the loan. Otherwise, this is just a pre-approval to start looking and knowing what you can afford or can't afford. But getting a pre-approved for a mortgage typically enables you to move quickly when you find the home of your dreams, and let that seller know your offer is serious and could prevent you from losing out to another purchaser who already has financing arranged before they started looking for a new home.

A few things to remember a lender will recheck a consumer's credit before sending closing instruction to an Abstract Company. It's important to abstain from applying for any other kind of loan, or even applying for other types of loans like a new car or credit card or who every may want to inquire about your credit scores. When they pull your credit to may drop your credit score. And the underwriter may come back to ask you to explain why there has been inquiries on your credit history before closing your loan.

And you don't want to pay any thing late during this process even if it is just a mistake of you over looking a bill. It's very important to pay on time that can affect your credit score to and show a recent late payment.

Get your finances in order

If you don't know how much of your money you want to devote toward housing, it's difficult to know what you can afford and can't. If you haven't done so already, get a copy of your credit report. Checking your credit report regularly is the best way to spot identity theft, credit report errors or other financial mishaps that do happen that could very well affect your ability to buy a home. The fair housing and accurate credit transactions act of 2003 made it possible for consumers to access free copies of credit reports at www.annualcreditreport.com.

Be smart, take steps to secure your finances, and get pre-approved for a home loan. Stop by Texas Real Estate and let Tresa McMillan help get you information on qualifying for a mortgage loan.

There are all types of loans that are out there and I am sure we can find one that best fits your needs. All types of credit are welcome. Even if you don't qualified now, we help get you get in touch with the right lender to help you get back on track to cleaning up your credit report so you can have the American dream of owning your own home. We do have special lenders to help with grant money that is used to help with downpayment assistance programs. A new loan program is also available to **FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS** FOR THIS AREA CONTACT Texas Real Estate for more details and we can help get you with the right lender that best fits your needs, and help you find that special home. Remember we are a MLS listing data base company and can help get your property sold ASAP.

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This article is submitted by Tresa K. McMillan
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Groups asks for \$52,000 in tax funds from city

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

The Colorado City City Council found out one thing Tuesday evening at its regular meeting: Helping promote tourism is an expensive business.

City council members heard request from nine local entities seeking allocations from the city's Hotel/Motel Tax funds. In all, more than \$52,000 was requested to help fund projects aimed at increasing tourism in Colorado City.

The total amount of the requests put council members in a tough situation. Council members, in authorizing city manager Paul Catoe to come up with an amount for each of the groups, advised everyone there was only about \$45,000 to be disbursed this year.

Among the groups asking for funds was the Colorado City Area Chamber of Commerce, which asked for \$30,000. Chamber director Sue Lowrance said the chamber needed the funds to continue its efforts to promote Colorado City as a prime tourism destination, and to help fund many of the projects it is involved in throughout the year.

Last year, the chamber received the lion's share of the hotel/motel tax allocation from the city, getting \$20,000.

The Heart of West Texas Museum also asked for a hefty sum, requesting \$7,000 to make improvements to various Museum-related items. Last year, the city awarded the museum \$4,000.

The Colorado City Main Street Program and the Juneteenth Celebration 2007 groups also weighed in with request. Colorado City Main Street manager Cecilia Scott requested \$3,000 to help the or-

Hands out ...

In all, nine entities asked the Colorado City City Council for more than \$52,000 in Hotel/Motel tax money. Below is a look at the entities and their requested allocations.

Group	Requested
Antiques Assn.	\$2,500
Boer Goat Cook-Off	\$1,500
CC Riders	\$2,000
Chamber	\$30,000
HOWTX Museum	\$7,000
July 4 Fly-In	\$2,000
Mitchell Co. Reunion	\$350
CCVFD Burn-Out	\$500
Main Street	\$3,000
Juneteenth 2007	\$2,500
St. James Baptist	\$705
Total	\$52,055

ganization promote events such as the Junktique Jamboree. The Juneteenth group, represented by Dom Emerson, asked for \$2,500 to help promote a three-day Juneteenth celebration planned for Ruddick Park this summer.

The Colorado City Antiques Association also asked for \$2,500.

CCVFD Boer Goat Cook-Off officials submitted two requests, including one for \$1,500 for the annual cook-off. They also sought \$500 to help promote the annual burn-out event.

Like the fire department, the CC Riders automobile club asked for funds to help pay for the cost of promoting its annual car show in Colorado City. The club, which gave out more than \$2,500 in college scholarships to local students, asked for \$2,000.

Others requesting funds included officials with the July-4 Fly-In (\$2,000), the Mitchell County Reunion (\$350) and St. James Baptist Church (\$705) for its annual Gospel musical event.

Council votes to proceed with \$8 million water/sewer project

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

The Colorado City City Council voted by a 5-2 margin Tuesday evening to move ahead with a plan to submit a request for an \$8 million dollar water/sewer project grant to the USDA.

Despite the news TXU would not be building a plant in Mitchell County, council members said the project was desperately needed to improve the city services -- and to allow for future growth.

"We need the services," said councilman Robert Brookshear. "In the past, we haven't made any progress. We need to do something or we're going to see our community dry up and blow away."

According to Ken Martin, an

Abilene-based engineer, the project would help the city's residents in various ways, and help the municipality meet Texas Commission on Environmental Quality standards.

A scaled down package -- meeting only TCEQ mandates without allowing for growth -- would have cost the city about \$6.3 million.

TRADE

from page 1

Railhead Trade Days is an arts and craft fair sponsored by the Colorado City Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We invite the public to come out to Railhead Trade Days and hunt for some great buys," said chamber director Sue Lowrance.



LORAINE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR Annette Davila turns her back on castmate Bivian Hermosillo during rehearsals for the school's one-act play, "John Lennon and Me." The students will stage a public premiere of the show on March 19.

LHS to stage performance of One-Act Play on March 19

The Loraine High School One-Act Play cast will unveil their 2007 rendition of "John Lennon and Me" on Monday, March 19, at a special premiere for Mitchell County theatre fans. The show will be held in the LHS auditorium.

Seating for the show will begin at 5 p.m. A special Mexi-

can dinner will also be available for a \$5 charge, with the show starting at 7 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and from 7:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday at Auto Mart in Colorado City.

By Bessie Ann Vaughn, Loraine Correspondent

Greetings from a wet West Texas town. Did you remember to spring forward? I didn't spring. I sorta moved forward slowly. Children and grown ups will now have more daylight to run and play.

Providing special music at First Baptist Church Sunday morning was Jennifer Zuniga, Durwood McAdams and Danny Butler. Durwood accompanied their singing with the guitar. It was very well received.

All residents of Loraine are urged to make sure their house numbers are visible from the street. This will be a big help to the first responders if you have an emergency.

Time to respond is critical in many situations.

A nice crowd attended the chili supper and evening of music Saturday, March 10th at the center. We appreciate all the help and support from the community.

A special thanks to Jack and Linda Kidd for cooking the chili and to all who brought desserts. It was reported that a good time was had by all.

Several ladies of the New Life Bible Ministries met and socialized at the Pastry Palace in Colorado City Wednesday, March 7th.

Those attending were: Nita Blake, Lillie Funderburg, Sandy Graham, Darlene Lane, Jan Millering, Nelma Ritchey and Nancy Thomson. The ladies felt blessed to have spent the time together.

Did you go to the rattlesnake roundup? Neither did I. Some are surprised that this yearly event brings people from all over the United States. Last year a family of four came from Germany and two men from England to witness the event.

Can you believe they came all that way to see snakes? I just want to run the other way if one is within a mile.

Gerrie Wooddell had two brothers from Mansfield, La. visit on Thursday. Don Hubbard and his wife Joyce and also Richard Hubbard were here.

The brothers also visited a sister Betty Dawson from Loraine and a brother from Colorado City who recently had surgery. His name is

Forest. Betty went home with her brothers and families to visit a while.

Bob Neely called Thursday to let us know that his mother, Mattie Neely had a very nice birthday February 21st. She received many cards and letters from this area and was very pleased to do so.

Former Lorainians Doyle and Liz Mays, who now reside in Sealy, were at the care facility to help Mattie celebrate. It is good to know they are doing well too. We all enjoyed knowing Mattie and her sisters while they all lived here.

Our belated condolence goes to the family and friends of Richard Cooper. He passed away last Thursday and his funeral service was held on Sunday at the First Baptist Church in Loraine. Burial was in the Loraine Cemetery.

Joan Long's children called to tell her that her grandson, Keaton Merket, came in fourth place in showing his steer at the Houston Stock Show. For such a big show, he did very well.

Congratulations to Keaton.

Special music was provided at the United Methodist Church in Loraine Sunday morning prior to the message by Leon and Wanda Applin.

Wanda played piano and Bobby Richardson played guitar for Charline Hays and she sang, "I'm So Glad He Found Me."

I saw in the church bulletin where Rev. Kiefer Cauble will have a birthday on March 15th. We wish him a happy birthday and a wonderful year ahead.

A book was returned to me some time ago that I had lent to a friend. I re-read it and laughed and I cried.

Hal Haralson, a former Lorainian wrote the book entitled *Gentle Mercies: Stories of Faith in Faded Blue Jeans*. He and his family lived north of town. He graduated high school here, then attended Hardin-Simmons University. He felt called to preach, served in the Army, graduated law school and worked as a lawyer. He tried to kill himself many years ago. He was later diagnosed as manic-depressive and takes lithium.

He knows Texas and West Texas, the people and churches like the back of his hand. You can't put the book down before you devour it. It's about chewing tobacco, bag ladies, pick-up trucks, boots, blue jeans, warm and tender love and it's deeply spiritual.

Hal, a Record reader, sent me an inscribed copy. I treasure it.

We have concerns for Sandy Graham who is back in Mitchell County Hospital. This time she has a blood clot in her right leg. She went home Monday morning only to return that night.

Attendants at the First Baptist Church were very pleased to have Rev. Doyle Combs and his wife at the morning worship service Sunday.

Rev. Combs said he was ordained and preached his first sermon here at the First Baptist Church. He is now pastor at Star, Texas.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

SPECIAL ELECTION MAY 15, 2007

PROPOSITION 1 (SJR 13)

SJR 13 would amend the Constitution to authorize the legislature to adjust the public school ad valorem tax or tax rates for taxpayers who are aged 65 or older, or are disabled, and who are owners of an exempted homestead. The amendment would thereby allow the legislature to provide tax relief to such elderly or disabled taxpayers who did not receive tax relief as a result of the school tax rate reduction passed in the 79th Legislature, 3rd called session.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for public school purposes on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect any reduction in the rate of those taxes for the 2006 and 2007 tax years."

Published by Secretary of State Roger Williams.

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Mission

Mitchell County will have numerous items to sell at the Loraine Fireman's Annual Auction. The auction will be held on Saturday, March 31, 2007, at the Loraine Co-Op Gin Yard, beginning at approximately 9:00 a.m. List of items to be auctioned available at the County Auditor's Office.

Susan Buckalew
County Auditor

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Loraine will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in Loraine at 111 S. Main St. to finalize and adopt the budget for fiscal year 2007-2008. If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact City Hall at (325) 737-2222.

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