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The Post Dispatch

73rd Year Number 43 USPS 439-620 Home Delivery 50 cents © 1999 The Post Dispatch Thursday, March 25, 1999

Gill stands alone on ballot for mayor

Former city councilman Archie Gill will be the sole candidate for the mayoral seat this May, according to reports from city hall. Mayor Jim Jackson, who has served in the city's top spot since 1991, did not seek re-election as he is moving to a new residence outside of the city limits.

Ward 1 Councilwoman Juanita Pantoja will run unopposed. Marion Cruse, who was appointed to fill the unexpired Ward 2 term, will be challenged by Dick Odom for the Ward 2 council seat.

Candidate filings closed March 17, with write-in filings closing this past Monday.

Early voting in the election will run April 14-27 at city hall.

All three incumbents have filed to maintain their at-large positions on the Garza Hospital District board of directors, the district administrator said Tuesday. However, the filing period for the hospital district election remains open until April 5.

Incumbents Jack Alexander, David Nichols and Zoe Kirkpatrick have each filed for places on the May 1 hospital district ballot.

Early voting in the hospital district election will run April 9-27. There will be no trustee election this May in the Post Independent School District, according to reports from a district representative.

At the close of the candidate filing period Monday, only the incumbents — Mark Kirkpatrick and Barbara Hardin — had filed for the open seats on the school board. Under state law, school districts may waive the prescribed election process when no contested races exist.

The original deadline for filing candidacy for the school board election was last Wednesday, March 17. But because that date fell during the Post ISD's spring break holiday, district officials opted to extend the filing period until 5 p.m. Monday to ensure that anyone interested in filing as a candidate would have the opportunity to do so.

City manager search narrowed to five candidates

A list of 18 applicants for the position of Post city manager was whittled down to five Monday afternoon during a special called council meeting.

The council met to review applications and determine which applicants, if any, would be interviewed, according to reports. The group decided to schedule five of the applicants for interviews.

Those interviews will be conducted March 29 in the city hall council chambers. (Continued on Page 3)

Heart attack kills county prisoner

A 55-year-old Post man in the custody of the Garza County Sheriff's Department was rushed to Lubbock for medical treatment last week but was pronounced dead on arrival.

Larry Cleveland Bowerman had remained hospitalized in Lubbock for several weeks due to health problems, Sheriff Kenny Ratke said. He had just been released back into the custody of the sheriff's department when he began complaining of a tightness in his chest. Department officials immediately took Bowerman back to Lubbock for further medical attention but the man died before arriving at the hospital.

According to records, Bowerman had been in the custody of the local sheriff's department since Aug. 25 when he was arrested and charged with aggravated sexual assault in connection with an alleged incident involving a 12-year-old girl.

Just prior to his arrest, Bowerman had been airlifted from Post to Lubbock, complaining of chest pains, and was hospitalized.

Had he survived, Bowerman could have faced a sentence of five to 99 years or life had he been convicted of the first-degree felony.

Hospital district issue waits for legislative committee

by Wes Burnett

Ooops. That's the best I can express the oversight in last week's story about the proposed legislation in Austin to create the "Garza Health Care District." A note came by fax last Thursday, pointing out that in 1977 Garza County voters approved an increase in the tax rate ceiling for the hospital district at 75 cents per \$100 valuation.

My sincere apologies for not being aware that this rate was already in effect. In fairness to the GHD board of directors, the rate has never come close to the maximum allowed.

However, the new legislation proposed by State Representative David Counts creates several important questions which need to be answered before voters and taxpayers here can make a proper judgment on whether to support or oppose HB 2616.

In a fax I sent Monday to State Representative Tom Ramsay, chairman of the County Affairs Committee which is to consider Counts' proposed legislation, I asked the following questions:

1. How does Article 9, Section 9 of the Texas Constitution (1876, as amended) provide authority for the establishment of a health care district? I have read this portion of the constitution, and find no authority for the legislature to create a health care district.

Article 9, Section 9 of the Texas Constitution provides authority for the legislature to create and establish hospital districts, for the purpose of operating and maintaining a hospital, which is charged with the responsibility of caring for the "needy inhabitants" of the district. Since neither the Garza Hospital District nor the proposed "Garza Health Care District" include the operating of a hospital, it appears that there is simply no constitution authority for the committee to even consider this proposal.

In addition, the hospital district or the "health care district" have authority to provide or financially support facilities or operations only for the "needy inhabitants" of the district. Now, even though the hospital district's attorney says that the district may provide care for all people in the county, it is an established fact that only those declared indigent are authorized to benefit from tax funds collected by the district. If the legislature intends for the "health care district" to declare all people living in the district as "needy," then the tax burden here will certainly be unmanageable.

2. If HB 2616 is enacted into law, will it dissolve the Garza Hospital District as established by HB 1325 (Acts of the 60th Legislature, Regular Session, 1967)?

So, if the County Affairs Committee decides to overlook its limitations imposed by the Texas Constitution (Article 9, Section 9), and approves the creation of a health care district, will Garza County taxpayers then be burdened with two taxing authorities... a defunct hospital district and new health care district? Will the board members now serving on the hospital district wear two hats, one for the hospital district and one for the health care district?

Since the proposed legislation does not address this issue at all, it seems imperative that the County Affairs Committee make some alteration to declare the hospital district dissolved.

3. If HB 2616 is enacted into law, will there be an election in Garza County as required by Article 9, Section 9 of the Texas Con-

stitution for the creation of the "Garza Health Care District?"

Article 9, Section 9 also declares that no district may be created without voter approval: "Provided, however, that no district shall be created by special law except after thirty (30) days' public notice to the district affected, and in no event may the Legislature provide for a district to be created without the affirmative vote of a majority of qualified voters in the district concerned."

But since the proposed legislation (HB 2616) does not specifically address this issue, and voters here have proper reason to question the authority of the Legislature to establish a health care district, the issue of voter approval must be clarified.

Hopefully our questions to the committee will not be ignored.

"The Housekeeper" opens Friday at the Garza Theatre

The Garza Theatre's "The Housekeeper" will open this weekend with performances set for Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoon.

The comedy stars Steve and Amy Sever, who will also serve as the production's directors.

In addition to this weekend, performances are scheduled for April 2-3 and 9-11. Curtain times will be Fridays and Saturdays, 7:45 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. for the Sunday matinees.

Tickets cost \$8 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-12.

The theatre's next production will be "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" to be performed during May and the Harley Sadler Tribute, "Curse You, Jack Dalton!," which is set for late June and early July. For more information, contact the Garza Theatre at 495-4005.

Covenant to shut down 24 hour service at clinic

The local clinic operated under the authority of the Garza Memorial Hospital District will no longer be open 24 hours per day after May 1.

Following the Garza Memorial Hospital District board of directors' acceptance of the new Rural Health Clinic Operation Agreement March 12, clinic hours will be limited to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, Mondays through Fridays, and from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

The clinic's altered schedule was the sole change adopted through the agreement, said Maritta Reed, hospital district administrator. The shift in hours was made to enable the facility to "better utilize

(Continued on Page 3)



Another rough year predicted by Taba'na Yuan'e

"Chief" Frank Runkles pointed his feather toward the southwest Monday morning, signifying another "poor" year for agriculture in this area. The annual Taba'na Yuan'e ceremony, sponsored by the Post Commerce & Tourism Bureau, recreates the traditional plains Indians observance on the first full day of spring by testing the direction of the wind at sunrise. The event was held this year at the City/County Park.

Post Notes

Spring Revival Services

Dr Landrum Leavell and "Servant" will be featured March 28-31 at First Baptist Church's spring revival. Dr Leavell is the former president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. "Servant" is a gospel quartet from Lubbock. Sunday's services are at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday evening services are at 7 p.m.

Class of '89 seeks lost classmates

Organizers for the PHS Class of 1989 10th reunion are seeking help in location "lost" classmates. The list includes Rolanda Brown, Billy Brumalaw, Robert Brumly, Elio Camacho, Julie Clark, Jessie Espitia, Kathy Gonzales, Brandon Hardin, Adam Martinez, Marivel Nava, Mary Ann Price, Machel Solis, Mark Solis, Mario Villa, Erma Harper and Jesse Sanchez. Anyone able to help locating these classmates should call Tandi Yarbrough at 495-2804 or (806) 828-4855 after 6 p.m.

Benefit for Angelina Rodriguez

A benefit garage and bake sale and gorditas lunch plates to help with medical expenses for Angelina Rodriguez will be held Saturday at 916 W. 14th St in Post beginning at 8 a.m. Call Lena Duran at 495-3860 or Linda Hampton at 495-3193 or Josefina Serrano at 495-3756 to reserve lunch plates. In case of wet weather, the event will be moved inside.

Rotary Broom Sale Tuesday

The Post Rotary Club will conduct its annual Broom Sale fund raising event Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the middle of West Main Street at the intersection with Broadway.

Shooting Sports meeting March 29

The 4-H Shooting Sports meeting will be held Monday, March 29 at 7 p.m. at the stockshow barn. Registration will be at the extension office. For more information call Benjie Smith at 495-4029.

AAU girls' basketball teams

Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) needs girls 16 and under and 13 and under to form two AAU girls basketball teams in the Post area. Sign-ups will be held at the Post Middle School Science Building on Wednesday, March 31 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Birth certificates of participants will be needed. Call 495-3733 after 5 p.m. for more information.

Holy Cross fish fry on Fridays

Members of the Holy Cross Catholic Church will continue providing fish plate suppers on Fridays beginning at 5 p.m. through Friday, March 26.

Pinewood Derby March 27

The Fellowship of Christian Youth will sponsor the 2nd Annual Pinewood Derby at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 27 at the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Registration will be held at 9 a.m. at the church. Call Will Morrow at 495-3411 after 5 p.m.

Little League try-outs March 27

The Post Little League baseball tryouts will be held Saturday, March 27 beginning at 4 p.m. at the baseball park. Any player who has reached the league age of 9-12 must try out if not already on a team. Players must try out to participate.

Summer rec program seeks youth

It's time to start planning summer recreation activities, and the Garza County summer rec program is seeking job applicants through March 26. Call 495-3748 for more information about how to apply.

City-County auction April 10

A combined City, County, Post ISD and Garza Hospital District auction will be held April 10, 1999 beginning at 9 a.m. at 305 E. 5th St. in Post.

Youth Disciple Now weekend

Area youth are invited to attend a Disciple Now Weekend on April 22-25 at a cost of \$30. Interested youth may call 495-3554 (First Baptist Church) or 495-0212 (Brent Spears) to register. Deadline for the program is April 16.

AARP defensive driving course

The Garza County Trailblazers are hosting an AARP defensive driving course on April 21 and 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the center. The course is available to anyone aged 55 or older at the rate of \$8 per person. A lunch break will be included. The deadline for registration is Friday, March 19. Call the Trailblazers at 495-2998 to sign-up. Completion of the course may qualify the student for insurance discounts.

Parents night out

The First Baptist Church youth group will offer a "Parents' Night Out" on Saturday, March 27, from 5 to 10 p.m. at the church. Any children in the community are welcome. The youth group will babysit and feed the children. Donations will be accepted.

It's easy to Post Notes ...

call 495-2816

Birth

Dylan Rayne Morris

Chuck and Kristi Morris are proud to announce the birth of their son, Dylan Rayne, born March 21, 1999.

Dylan weighed seven pounds and was 20 1/4 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are: Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Shobert of Lubbock and the late Weldon Gainer.

Paternal grandparents are: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morris.

Maternal great grandparents are: Mr. and Mrs. Noel Cooksey of Keller.

Paternal great grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Chester Morris.



Dylan Rayne Morris



Post Opry opens at Tower Theater April 3

Auditions, tapes & CD's, and phone calls are being taken for the NEW POST OPry at the Tower Theater in Post, TX. This new change of format at the Tower will kick off a new season of fun and entertainment, showcasing the talents of performers all across the South Plains on the first scheduled Opry, April 3.

All performers should call or write to secure an upcoming position on an Opry show, and there are still some spots open for the April 3rd Opry. All interested entertainers from singers, comedy acts, dancers, and instrumentalists, to story tellers should contact theater owner, Schahara Hudelson at 806-894-3552 or email schahara@sprynet.com.

Audition materials can also be mailed to Ms Hudelson at BX 8555 Levelland, TX 79338. Hudelson, who still resides in Levelland, says she is looking forward to an eventual residence in Post.

"I have been receiving tapes and phone calls for the last year, preparing for this big kick off. We are really excited to be able to offer this opportunity to feature other performers in the theater. And I want to really encourage all the performers in the area to hurry and get their tapes in or give us a call even if you already have turned one in."

"We want to know you are still interested. This is such a wonderful venue to get to play. The stage is big, the house band is great, and the backdrop mural by Bob Chenault makes for great Promo Shots of you singing in front of it."

One of the larger Opry houses around, she says, "We can seat over 450 people, and we even have a dance floor for those boot scooters who can't sit still during the Opry. We always encourage dancers to use the dance floor anytime they want."

"The audience loves to watch the dancers too. And when we fill up those 450 seats, we will open up the balcony. This is a GREAT theater!" Responding to questions about how she came to own the Tower, "A lot of folks know I bought this theater for \$1,000. So they need to come out and see what \$1,000 will buy in West Texas."

Plans are also to tape each Opry so that performers and family members can obtain copies not only for keepsakes but to use for demo purposes. Hudelson said that lots of performers need demo tapes but don't have the money to invest in such a big project. But that this will also help out the performers in getting future gigs.

The Tower is a beautiful renovated theater with comfy seating and is climate controlled for each season. A new addition will be that a dinner will be available for customers each Opry Saturday night: hot dogs, BarBQ, and a few other surprises, in addition to the regular concession fare of popcorn, candy, and drinks.

"And we want to continue our show to be in conjunction with Old Mill Trade Days. We hope that the folks who come to Trade Days will plan ahead and want to stick around for this event. That's the weekend before the first Monday of each month. And our Opry will be Saturday nights."

For the past four years, the Tower has featured Rusty Hudelson's Knights of the West and special guests, with an admission charge. The Knights of the West have begun touring again, but the core band will continue to be the Opry House Band, accompanying the variety of guests.

While the Knights will no longer do a scheduled show during the Opry, she said that if the audience requests a special number Rusty Hudelson & John Hartin will make sure the audience gets to hear it.

The Post Opry will be NO admission, but Ms. Hudelson says that in compliance with all the other Oprys on the South Plains, that the traditional "hat" will be passed. "Folks in West Texas are generous in their response to good music," she admits.

The Post Opry at the Tower will open the doors at 6 p.m. for early arrivers and diners, and the music will begin at 7 p.m., continuing until 10 p.m. Guests for the April 3 show are already being scheduled, and guests for the June 5 show should respond as soon as possible for a position on that show.

Ms Hudelson also said that performers on the Post Opry at the Tower will especially enjoy this Opry because of the quality of the house band. "Rusty Hudelson on keyboards and John Hartin on guitar are two of the finest musicians in the world."

"If you are a singer or a picker, you will want to take advantage of the opportunity to be on the same stage as these talented, enthusiastic, and wonderful musicians. It just doesn't get any better than this folks. 117 Main Street in Post, TX. See you at the Opry."

Schahara Hudelson <http://www.musicmessage.com> <http://www.musicmessage.com/Romance.htm>

The Post Dispatch 495-2816

Judy's Jabberin'

By Judy B. Bush

Here we are for another week. Hope all of you had a wonderful weekend. The weather was just about made to order after that cold spell.

Crop Forecast

Well the forecast was not what we all wanted to hear for our farmers, but just maybe it will be off this year.

For those of you who missed the Tab'a Yuan'e, it was nice to see so many folks, local and not, out so early to attend.

The ceremony is really so pretty and my hat is off to all of the people that make this possible each year. It had been a few years since I had attended and I had forgotten how special it is.

Our Commerce and Tourism Bureau sponsor this event each year.

Question??

I am a little curious about something so thought I would send out a feeler.

I'm sure several of you have received the questionnaire from Covenant in the mail. Mine was addressed correctly but ask about the care concerns in Curry county. Someone else in Post received one addressed to his deceased Mother, who had never lived at his address and it ask about the care in Fisher County.

Have any of you out there received the questionnaire with similar errors? Let me know.

Birthdays This Week

Birthdays for this week: Thursday 25; Azul Vera, T.K. Thompson and Morgan Williams; Friday 26; Jessica Rodriguez and Eric Soto; Anniversaries; Chris and Jo Ann Stelzer and Steve and Janice Mason; Saturday 27; Jesse Vera, Jr. and Mario Tobias; Sunday 28; Clifford Williams, Armondo Ayala and Kristan.

Monday March 29; Pam McClain and Ysabel Overton; Anniversary; Dan and Jenifer Fumagalli; Tuesday 30; Scott Parker; Wednesday 31; Jade Ortiz, Alex Perez, Casey Williams and James Lee Morgan.

We missed a birthday on the 24th, happy late to Jonthnan Ayala.

e-mail quotes

You might be in a Texas country church if.....
You miss worship one Sunday morning and by 2 o'clock that afternoon, you have had a dozen calls inquiring about your health.

Special Day

I'm really looking forward to this Friday. Rick and I, along with my Mom are heading to San Antonio to attend the retirement party for my brother Jack.

I can hardly believe the time has finally arrived for him. We are all excited because his retirement will move them closer to home and we will be able to spend more time with them.

Sure sign of Spring

For those of you who love to watch the kids track meets, there will be one this Saturday.

The weather should be great according to the weatherman (hope), although I remember a few cold track meets. So if track is your thing, go out and support our kids.

Till Next Week

Guess that is all for now. Hope everyone has a nice weekend and remember those prayers for rain.

Call Judy with your "Jabberin" 495-2816



Happy 80th Birthday Clifford!

From your family...

Thank you!

We wish to thank all our lovely friends and neighbors who participated in our wedding reception. Thanks to all the hostesses for all the gifts and to all who came to join us in our celebration.

We love each and every one. May God Bless.

Sam and Jo Ann Bevers

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412 N. Broadway 495-2648



Living on the Edge of the Caprock

by John Senter, CEA-AG

Check now for range & pasture weeds

Just as "April showers bring May flowers", we can expect "rains in winter" weeds up front and center! By late spring and early summer, heavy weed infestations have already removed much of the soil moisture necessary to kick our warm season grasses into higher gear. As summer approaches, high or even moderate densities of healthy, robust weeds can present livestock access problems to the grasses that are beginning to more readily compete with the maturing weeds for available moisture.



The "downside" of heavy weed infestations such as common broomweed can be reduced grass growth with reduced cattle production and increased incidence of eye infections as cattle continually irritate their eyes while trying to graze beneath the solid canopy of broomweed. The "upside" of heavy broom weed infestations can be an increase in quail survival as the canopy of broomweeds provides an umbrella of protection from the all-seeing eyes of hawks and coyotes. And with a good quail year comes the possibility of good hunting lease dollars.

If you are more interested in grass production, when do you need to consider weed control? Weed control demonstrations have shown that with eight or more common broomweed or western ragweed plants per square yard, grass production will be significantly reduced. In a wet year, weed density may greatly exceed this eight plants per square yard rule-of-thumb.

Result demonstrations conducted over the years have shown that for every pound of weeds controlled, a pound of grass was grown. Also shown was that an increase of 750 to 1,000 pound of grass production per year paid for most of the common herbicide treatments used. Usually the benefits from the weed treatments lasted more than one year because of the improved grass cover.

What is the \$ value of good grass to the pocketbook? Simple calculations will show that trying to replace lost grass by buying hay at a cost of from \$20 to \$30 a ton, assigns a value of from 1 to 1.5 cents per pound of grass replaced. That doesn't even include the physical costs of transport and feeding the hay. If you could grow an extra 1,000 pounds per acre of grass from weed control, then (if all of the grass production was available to the grazing animal, which it's not) that extra forage would be worth from \$10 to \$15 per acre.

If only half of the grass is available for consumption, then it is worth from \$5 to \$7.50 per acre. So, if you are growing a bumper crop of weeds this year (a density of eight or more plants per square yard), then you may want to consider weed control.

A weed density survey may be easily taken for each pasture by either stepping off a square yard sample area in random locations across the pasture, counting the number of individual weed plants within and calculating an average density. Another method would be to construct a square yard frame or use several yard-length sticks to set up a frame on the ground and count the weeds within. Take an average from several frames.

Most annual weeds and many perennial ones can easily be controlled with herbicide applications made between early March and mid-April during seedling and earlier growth stages. Later applications can be made in order to control later growing weeds, but the earlier maturing species may be harder to control by that time. Often, later applications will require higher rates of herbicide in order to provide sufficient control.

Herbicides commonly used on native and improved pastures in Texas are 2,4-D, Weedmaster, Banvel, Grazon P+D, Tordon 22k, Ally and Amber. Several of these herbicides are listed as either federally Restricted Use and/or State Limited Use, and require proper identification in pesticide application to purchase and/or apply. For specific herbicides and rates to use and for timing of application see: "Chemical Weed and Brush Control" Suggestions for Rangeland (B 1466), which can be made available through the Garza County Extension Office.

Programs conducted by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, handicap or national origin.

Texas Agricultural Extension Service
The Texas A&M University System
Extension Extras

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Graham 4-H Club.....

.....will meet Thursday, March 25th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Graham Community Center. Any youth interested are welcome to join. Rodney Tidwell with Madd Dads will present the program.

4-H Horse Project Group

Anyone interested in participating in the 4-H Horse Project Group please call the Extension Office ASAP.

Walk Across Texas

Want to have fun in a free eight-week fitness program designed for individuals or for the whole family. The Walk Across Texas program provides friendly competition while walking, jogging or biking as individuals or teams of eight or less. Distances are recorded on a Texas map and prizes are awarded.

Anyone interested is welcome to attend registration at 5:30 p.m., Friday, March 26th., at the Garza County Extension Office at 102 South Avenue L. For more information call Kelly Ahrens, CEA-FCS, at 495-4400.

Gannon brothers take honors in show circuit

Kelly and Colby Gannon, sons of Eddie and Stefanie Gannon of Jayton and grandsons of Adell Gannon of Abernathy, took honors at the Junior Meat Goat Show Circuit's annual awards banquet held March 7 at the San Angelo Stockshow & Rodeo.

Kelly Gannon received two top 10 jackets, finishing fifth in the 13-14 age division and fifth in junior showmanship.

Colby Gannon finished 11th, a single point out of the jackets in the 11-12-year-old division.

This year the Gannons competed in 21 different shows across the state. Season highlights included Kelly's showmanship victories at the West Texas Fair, Colorado City and Seymour. Colby also won showmanship at Colorado City (day two) and Champion Meat Goat at the King County Fair.

The brothers combined their efforts to place seven goats in the top 10 at Odessa, San Antonio, Houston and San Angelo, but say they consider all of the new friends they met and the opportunity to travel to different places around the state as the biggest awards of all.

Spiny-skinned sea animals, named echinoderms, have radial symmetry. Their body parts are arranged around the center of the animal like the spokes of a wheel around the hub.

City manager

(Continued from Page 1)

The city manager's post has been vacant since Feb. 1 following the resignation of Rick Hanna, who accepted a similar job with the City of Muleshoe.

Applications for the local position are still being accepted, city officials said, and the process is scheduled to remain open until the city manager's post is filled.

Clinic...

(Continued from Page 1)

resources," Reed said. The provision of a 24-hour clinic is costly and local residents were not routinely utilizing the "after-hours" portion of the facility's schedule.

The clinic, which is operated through an agreement with Covenant Health Services, will soon see the addition of two new medical personnel — a physician and a nurse practitioner, Reed said. Also, new services are scheduled to be added in coming weeks.



Participating in Monday morning's Taba'na Yuan'e ceremony were (left to right) Linda Puckett, Ken LeBlanc, Sarah Kirkpatrick, Jayta Cravy, "Chief" Frank Runkles, Shirley LeBlanc, Zoe Kirkpatrick, Jack Ramey of Flower Mound, John Cory Sr of Lubbock and Michael Cory of Lubbock.

Neighbor to Neighbor

by Kelly Ahrens, CEA-FCS

Walk Across Texas!

Dust off your walking shoes, gather up a few friends, co-workers, or family members, and Walk Across Texas! How can we walk across Texas? It's simple. Walk Across Texas is an 8-week walking program for teams of eight people (or fewer). The teams will have a friendly competition to see who can log the most miles walking, jogging, or biking.

Those miles will be recorded on a Texas map posted in the Extension office and other places around our community, so everyone can see our progress! The team who walks farthest • across Texas • will win, but everyone who participates will take home a healthy habit-walking for fitness. Prizes will be given too!!!!

Many people are unaware of the positive benefits of exercise. According to the American Heart Association, heart disease is the No. 1 problem in the United States. The risk of heart disease could be significantly reduced by regular exercise. According to the Texas Department of Health, the positive effects of physical activity are not limited to lowering the risk of heart disease.

Not only does regular exercise help relieve stress and anxiety, physically active people outlive inactive people.

- Physical inactivity is a serious nationwide problem. It is a public health problem, because it is linked to unnecessary illness and premature death.
- More than 60% of Americans are not getting enough physical activity to receive health benefits from it.

- Twenty-five percent of adult Americans report no physical activity in their leisure time.

- Regular physical activity can substantially reduce the risk of developing or dying from heart disease, diabetes, colon cancer, and high blood pressure.

- Regular physical activity can reduce the symptoms of depression and anxiety, improve mood, and enhance the ability to perform daily tasks.

Moderate physical activity has been defined as 30 minutes of moderate-level physical activity a day at least five days a week. Many people will have to work up to being active for 30 minutes a day.

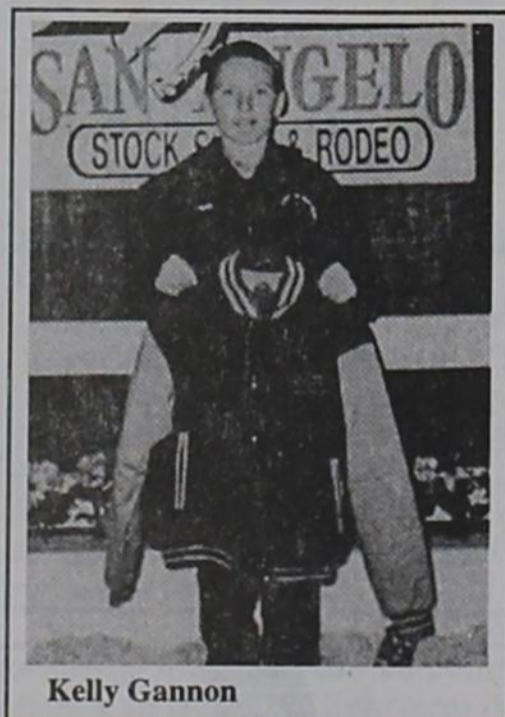
Starting slowly (like walking 10 minutes a day) will improve the chances of success. Physical activity doesn't have to be strenuous to produce health benefits. Walking the dog, taking walking breaks during the day, or taking the stairs instead of the elevator are all good ways to work walking into your daily schedule.

Participating in Walk Across Texas is not only a great way to get involved with our community, it's a healthy habit. To participate in Walk Across Texas, first get a team together, or if you choose, you may do so individually.

This fitness program is for everyone, young or old. There are no age limits. Biking and jogging teams are limited to four people. Team captains will be chosen, and teams will have names.

Competition kicks off at 5:30 pm on Friday, March 26th at the Extension Office, 102 South Avenue L. Post. Registration of teams will take place then. Come out and have fun. For more information, contact the Extension Office at 495-4400.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, sex, color, religion, disability or national origin.



Kelly Gannon

Linda's Restaurant

Wanna home cooked meal??

Join us at Linda's

Lunch buffet daily or great menu!

Best fried fish around on Friday nights!

dine in or take out

507 S. Broadway 495-0297

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Tax 'n Facts
by Terri Cash
Social Security and Taxes

Uncle Sam gets us coming and going on Social Security. When we're working, we pay FICA taxes - a Social Security tax of 6.2 percent on wages up to \$72,600 plus Medicare tax of 1.45 percent on all earned income, twice those rates if we're self-employed. When we retire and get Social Security benefits, we pay tax on that, if our other income is high enough. The litmus test is "base income": adjusted gross income plus any tax-exempt interest received plus half of Social Security benefits received. If the base is \$32,000 to \$44,000 for couples (\$25,000 to \$34,000 for singles), tax is due on as much as half of the benefits. Above that income, up to 85 percent of benefits may be taxable.

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Obituaries

Dennis D. Bush Sr.

Services for Dennis D. Bush Sr., 50, were held Saturday, March 6, 1999, at 2 p.m. in the Ruth Lindsay Auditorium of the First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Florida, with the Rev. Tom Crisp officiating. Burial was in the Riverside Memorial Park. The family received friends from 6-8 p.m. Friday, March 5, at the Town & Country Funeral Home. He died March 3.

A native of Lubbock, he was a 34-year resident of Jacksonville. He served in the U.S. Navy as a chief and was employed by the U.S. Postal Service. He was a member and deacon of the First Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Pamela D. Bush; one son, Dennis D. "Denny" Bush Jr.; one daughter, Nina N. Bush; his father, Charles E. Bush of Covington, IN; a sister, Barbara Graham of Lubbock; and several nieces and nephews.

The family has requested that memorials be made to the Disabled Veteran's Association in honor of Dennis Bush, P.O. Box 1437, St. Petersburg, Florida 33731.

James Davis Walker

Graveside services for James Davis Walker, 74, were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 13, 1999, in the Elmwood Memorial Park. Abilene Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

He died Thursday, March 11, at his home.

Born in Grassland, he graduated from McMurry University. He was the widower of Pearlina S. Walker, whom he married in Grassland in 1955. He was an Army veteran of World War II, a former prisoner of war, and received two Purple Hearts, the Bronze Star, Infantry Combat Medal, Eastern Service Medal, Europe-Africa-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, American Theater Service Medal, World War II Victory Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. He was a member of the VFW in Post.

Survivors include one daughter, Marie Carlisle of Abilene; seven grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and one nephew.

The family has suggested memorials be made to the donor's favorite charity.

Ascencion Sanchez Jr.

Services for Ascencion Sanchez Jr., 66, of Post were held Thursday, March 18, 1999, at 10 a.m. at the Holy Cross Catholic Church with the Rev. Malcolm Neyland officiating. Burial followed in the Terrace Cemetery under the direction of the Hudman Funeral Home. Rosary was said at 7 p.m. March 17 at the funeral home.

He died March 15 at University Medical Center, Lubbock.

Born Jan. 31, 1933, in San Antonio, he was a member of the Catholic Church.

Survivors include four sisters, Mary DeLeon, Elvira Sanchez and Dora Vargas, all of Post, and Rosalinda McFarlin of Plainview, and three brothers, Ben Sanchez and Mike Sanchez, both of Post, and Robert Sanchez of Slaton.

Roy Sneed

Graveside services for Roy Sneed of Post were held Wednesday, March 24, 1999 in the Terrace Cemetery, Post. Ken Horn, chaplain, officiated and Military Rites followed. Burial was under the personal care of Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Mr. Sneed died Tuesday, March 23, 1999 in the Golden Plains Care Center, after a lengthy illness. He was born in Star, Texas, to Robert and Freda (Gummelt) Sneed and served in the US Army during WWII.

In 1954 he came to Garza County to farm and later worked for his brother R.G. Sneed, until his retirement. He was a lifetime member of the John Miller VFW Post 6796. He was preceded in death by his brother, R.G. Sneed, March 29, 1983.

Survivors include two sisters: Vallie Daniels of Post and Evelyn Rost of Brenham and four nieces: Wilma Williams of Post, Joyce Skiles of San Angelo, Waunice Bessent of Lometa and Karen Guy of Lubbock. One nephew: Lynwood Rost of Brenham.

W.M. "Dutch" Reed

Services for W.M. "Dutch" Reed, 50, of Post will be at 2 p.m. Friday, March 26, 1999, in the First Baptist Church with the Rev. Arthur Kelly officiating. Burial will follow in the Terrace Cemetery under the direction of the Hudman Funeral Home.

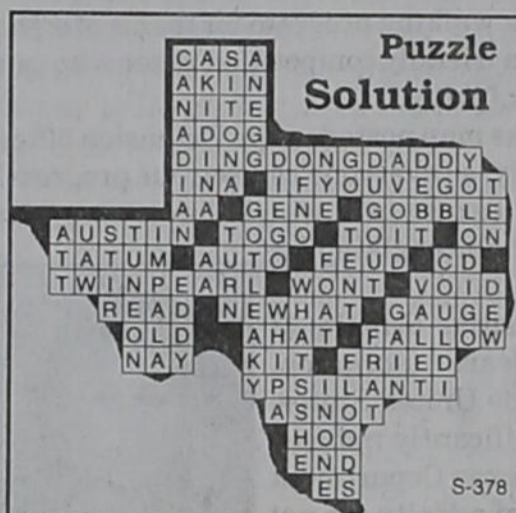
He died March 22 at 2:05 p.m. at University Medical Center, Lubbock. Born Nov. 16, 1948, in Lamar County, Texas, to William Reed and Alberta Hill, he was an oilfield worker and a Baptist.

Survivors include five sisters, Dorothy Pringler and Dora Williams, both of Post, Anna Bennett of Oklahoma City, Viola Humphrey of Paris and Dorothy Sue Griffin of San Jose, California, and four brothers, Bill H. Reed and Dana Reed, both of Post, Charles Reed of Lubbock and Harold Reed of Dallas.

SPS announced dividends

New Century Energies (NYSE: NCE), the holding company for Public Service Co. of Colorado and Southwestern Public Service Co., on March 17 declared quarterly dividends on all outstanding common stock.

The board of directors of NCE declared a 58-cents per share dividend on common stock payable May 15, 1999, to shareholders of record April 23.



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First Assembly of God (Spanish) 407 May St.
Baptist
Calvary Baptist Church 210 E. 6th, 495-2342
First Baptist Church 402 W. Main, 495-3554
First Baptist Church, Wilson 628-6333
Pleasant Home Baptist Church E. 14th & N. Ave F
Templo Bautista 315 W. Main, 495-2416
Trinity Baptist Church 915 N. Ave O, 495-3038
Justiceburg Baptist Church Justiceburg, Don Blackcock, pastor
Pleasant Valley Hwy 84 & North 399 - (806) 828-4174
Catholic
Holy Cross Catholic Church Ave. K and Main St., 495-2791
Disciples of Christ
First Christian Church 812 W. 13th, 495-3716
Church of Christ
Church of Christ 108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326
Graham Chapel Church of Christ 5 miles W. Hwy 380, 2 miles south
Church of God
Church of God of Prophecy 602 W. 14th, 495-3644
Power House Church of God and Christ Pine Ave.
Lighthouse Christian Center Church of God 314 N. Ave I, 495-2237
Church of the Nazarene
Church of the Nazarene 202 W. 10th, 495-3044
Grassland Nazarene Church 327-5656
Non-Denominational
Church on the Go 111 N. Ave. I 495-1400
United Methodist
First United Methodist Church 216 W. 10th, 495-2942
Graham Chapel United Methodist Church 495-3492
Presbyterian
First Presbyterian Church 910 W. 10th, 495-2135

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Mind Your Business

by Don Taylor

At the Front of the Pack: The Art of Leadership

If you think you're a born leader, but have no followers, you may just be taking a walk.

- a paraphrased proverb
Many people talk about leadership; few really know what it is. Many set out to become great leaders, but few accomplish the task.

For those of you who would like to develop your leadership skills, I offer these words of wisdom. I gleaned them from some great resources, which I list at the end of this column.

Leadership Characteristics

a. Leaders Are Laborers Worthy of Their Hire. A leader is one who "shows the way," "marks the course for others" and "guides by example." Leaders can expect no more effort from their followers than they put forth personally. Leaders love to labor and they love their labor.

a. Leaders Are Earnest. The word earnest means to be "serious and intense," "zealous and sincere" and "focused on the most important matters." One of the great characteristics of leadership may be the ability to discern what is important that needs attention, and what is trivial that can be ignored.

a. Leaders Maintain Positive Attitudes. As I grow older, I become more convinced that maintaining a positive attitude is critical to personal success. I am also convinced that it is easy to maintain a good attitude simply by following the advice found in Philippians 4:8.

a. Leaders Are Diligent. The word diligent describes those who are "hardworking," those who work with "careful, steady effort" and those who are "dependable and steadfast." Great leaders from history have demanded diligence from those around them. They got it because they set the example with their own diligence.

a. Leaders Are Filled With Enthusiasm. W. Clement Stone described enthusiasm as "inspiration to action." Leaders are inspired to act. And they inspire action in others. When people are filled with excitement they talk. When they are filled with enthusiasm they act. Actions have always spoken louder than words and produced more results.

a. Leaders are Responsible. I've noticed that difficult tasks tend to move toward those who are willing to do them. Personal growth comes from exercising your will to accomplish, and accepting the responsibility for getting it done. Harry Truman had a sign on his desk that read, "The buck stops here."

a. Leaders are Self-confident. I believe there is a direct link between confidence and capacity. As you grow in the assurance of your abilities you acquire the capacity to achieve more. More than 2,000 years ago, Publius Vergilius Maro - the Roman poet better known as Virgil - wrote: "They can do all because they think they can."

a. Leaders are Humble. All great leaders give credit to others. Alexander Pope wrote "Who builds a church to God and not to fame, will never mark the marble with his name." I might add that the more you blow your own whistle the more likely you are to run out of steam.

a. Leaders have Integrity. To me integrity is "the quality of sound moral principles," "dealing with honesty and sincerity" and "avoiding spin, lies, and strategic omissions." Remember this: Truth is eternal, lies are temporary. A friend in the insurance business says that honesty is the only policy, but there aren't nearly enough policyholders.

a. Leaders Prioritize Their Lives. Leaders work on the most important tasks first. Their lives are structured around their most important priorities. Matthew 6:33 offers great advice in the area. When your priorities are right, living is great.

The following books provide many great leadership examples and further direction: "The Bible," "Developing the Leader Within You" by John C. Maxwell and "The Book of Leadership Wisdom," by various business leaders.

Don Taylor is the co-author of *Up Against the Wal-Marts*. You may write to him in care of *Minding Your Own Business*, PO Box 67, Amarillo, TX 79105.

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Obesity in Children

Extra weight in our children is a public health concern that warrants our attention. As many as 25% of U.S. children and adolescents are overweight. Statistics show that 14% of obese infants become obese adults, 41% of 7 year olds and a concerning 70% of obese 10-13 year olds grow up to be obese adults. This can lead to isolation, depression, low self esteem and peer discrimination. Left unmanaged, child hood obesity results in an increased risk of diseases such as high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, even some cancers.

Obesity in a child is determined by comparing their weight to their height and taking in to consideration their age and gender. Although this may sound somewhat confusing, your health provider can determine this easily by measuring the child's body mass index (BMI) and obtaining a complete history about the child's activity and eating habits.

Treatment for childhood obesity should include three major components: diet, exercise and family based behavior management. DIET: Most children should not be put on restrictive diets. Fad diets frequently fall into this category. Appropriate diet therapy focuses on decreased caloric intake, improving food choices and reducing dietary fat intake. EXERCISE: Sedentary activities such as watching TV, playing video and computer games, have been linked to childhood obesity. Our schools do a good job of seeing that our children get physical exercise and this should be continued at home. Setting a good example, planning family activities that provide exercise and fun, limiting sedentary activities are just a few ways to increase exercise at home. BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT: Any plan must include the caretakers, who are many cases are also overweight or obese. Parents and caretakers are also the ones who model eating behaviors and support behaviors that discourage or promote physical activity.

Genetics plays a powerful role in determining weight and body shape, so we must be realistic about identifying an "ideal" weight. The objective is to help the child find a weight that is ideal for him that results from a healthy, balanced diet and active lifestyle.

Our schedules, the fat laden fast-food market and the decrease in physical activity that comes with our advances in technology, make this an uphill struggle, but one worth tackling for the sake of our children's long term health.

MICHAEL TRAVIS PA-C
UMC EMERGENCY CENTER

Opinions

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A 10 Percent Tax Cut? Repeal the 16th Amendment Instead

by Jacob G. Hornberger

In 1913, the 16th Amendment — the income tax amendment — was added to the U.S. Constitution. It was a watershed event in American history, for it fundamentally transformed the relationship between the American people and the federal government.

For approximately 125 years, the American people had lived without a federal income tax. Individuals were free to earn unlimited amounts of wealth, and there was nothing that Congress and the president could do about it. The Constitution had not granted the federal government the power to levy a tax on incomes.

Why didn't our Founding Fathers grant the government such a power in the first place? The answer is found in the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Jefferson emphasized that all men have certain fundamental rights with which no government can legitimately interfere. Among those rights are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

What was truly revolutionary about the Declaration is the notion that the exercise of such rights is actually immune from the control of government, even if the government is democratically elected. For example, even if 97 percent of the American people demanded a law requiring everyone to attend church on Sunday, their duly elected congressmen would not have the power to enact such a law.

Whether to worship or not is immune from majority rule. The reason that the Founders did not grant the federal government the power to levy an income tax is that they believed that a person's income — that is, the property he acquires through labor and exchange — is itself immune from majority vote.

That is, they believed that an essential aspect of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness is the right of each person to acquire wealth and property and then decide what to do with it. What was central to the thinking of the Founders was the notion that the individual, not the government, is sovereign and supreme over his own life and his own income and savings.

Government officials were viewed merely as servants, their primary duty being to ensure that violent people did not interfere with the exercise of fundamental rights, e.g., the unlimited accumulation of wealth.

The 16th Amendment inverted this relationship between the American people and their national government. By nationalizing income, the amendment caused the federal government to become sovereign and supreme and the citizens to assume the role of servants. Nationalizing income? Yes, that's exactly what the 16th Amendment did.

Today, the federal government owns everyone's income and, by setting the percentage of tax to be paid, in effect provides each citizen with an allowance. Sometimes they are good to us and permit us to keep more of our money. Sometimes they are not so good and permit us to keep less.

But what matters is not the exact percentage of income tax but rather the fact that government officials have the power to set the percentage. Assume that I am your pharaoh and, as such, have the power to force you to work for me seven days a week.

I decide to be nice to you and force you to work for me only one day a week. Does my benevolence change the nature of our relationship? Of course not. You remain my slave even though you are working six days a week for yourself, because I'm the one giving you permission to do so.

If I'm the one setting the percentage of time you must devote to me, I am the master and you are the servant. A much more honest and direct approach — one that would truly reflect what the 16th Amendment has done to the American people — would be to impose a 100 percent withholding tax on everyone, enabling all income to flow directly to Washington; each citizen would later be sent a U.S. Treasury check as his governmental allowance.

At least then, the American people would be able to see clearly how the passage of the 16th Amendment fundamentally changed their relationship to their government. Should Congress give us a 10 percent income tax cut and IRS reform?

Shouldn't we be asking a more fundamental question: Why not recapture the principles of liberty on which America was founded by simply abolishing the income tax and the IRS through the repeal of the 16th Amendment?

Mr. Hornberger is president of The Future of Freedom Foundation, 11350 Random Hills Road Suite 800, Fairfax VA; 22030 Tel. (703) 934-6101 Fax (703) 352-8678 E-mail: FFFVA@compuserve.com <http://www.fff.org>

THE POLITICAL COMEBACK



Congress can not be trusted

by Walter E. Williams

There are issues about Social Security, our national Ponzi scheme, in addition to its pending bankruptcy. Read the Social Security Act, Section 208 (42 U.S.C. 408), paragraph 8, which says, "Whoever discloses, uses, or compels the disclosure of the Social Security number of a person in violation of the laws of the United States shall be guilty of a felony and upon conviction thereof shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both."

During the 1930s, many Americans were concerned that Social Security numbers would become national identity numbers. Congress put in paragraph 8 to allay their fears. My Social Security card issued in 1949 says "Not For Identification Purposes." Today, there's little one can do without giving one's Social Security number, whether it's getting a driver's license, filing tax returns, opening a bank or stock account, getting a job, or even bringing a baby home from the hospital.

That's a standard practice of Congress. They say one thing just to get a law passed. Then they change it to something we would have never accepted when the law was first written. Most Americans think they have a legal right to the "contributions" they made into Social Security. They don't.

In *Flemming vs. Nestor* (1960), Ephram Nestor sued the federal government, claiming he had a right to collect Social Security benefits since he had paid his Social Security taxes. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that workers have no legal right to Social Security, saying, "To engraft upon the Social Security system a concept of accrued property rights would deprive it of the flexibility and boldness in adjustment to ever changing conditions which it demands."

That means Congress can cut or eliminate Social Security benefits anytime it pleases regardless of worker contributions. That decision was consistent with the court's earlier opinion in *Helverigh vs. Davis* (1937), where the court pointed out that Social Security was not an insurance program:

"The proceeds of both the employee and employer taxes are to be paid into the Treasury like any other internal revenue generally, and are not earmarked in any way."

That means Social Security is a tax like any other tax. Congress can spend as it pleases regardless of what promises were made back in 1935 when Social Security began. To add insult to injury, politicians feed us lie after lie about the Social Security trust fund, but they are increasingly being cornered into admitting the fraud.



The Office of Management and Budget in its "Budget of United States, Fiscal Year 2000," says: "These (Trust Fund) balances are available to finance future benefit payments ... but only in a bookkeeping sense. ... They do not consist of real economic assets that can be drawn down in the future to fund benefits. Instead, they are claims on the Treasury that, when redeemed, will have to be financed by raising taxes, borrowing from the public, or reducing benefits or other expenditures."

That, ladies and gentlemen, translates into saying there is no trust fund. The White House and many congressmen say they want to use what they're calling a budget surplus to save Social Security rather than give across-the-board tax cuts.

They're lying, and they're going to get away with it because most Americans can't or don't bother to think.

What Congress really wants, in their so-called saving Social Security scheme, is to keep money coming to Washington, in the name of Social Security, so they can spend it on bread and circuses as they've done in the past — and Americans are buying into their ruse.

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Why democracy is evil and un-American

by Vin Suprynowicz

J.D. writes in from Orange County, California: "Hi Vin — In arguments with my friends who lean heavily to the left and also declare that we live in a democracy (predominantly), with only a few necessary socialistic type programs, I've argued that we do not live any longer in a democracy but instead are governed by a purely socialist autocracy."

"Am I correct in asserting this? If not, please describe precisely just what kind of government in your opinion we now live under."

I replied: "Howdy, J.D. — I can tell you one place you're going wrong: You appear to be accepting "democracy" as a definition of the form of government intended by our founding fathers, and counterposing it to socialism as though the two are somehow mutually exclusive."

If enough children are led into the error of believing socialism is wise and good (as is likely to happen, for instance, if you entrust their "education" to the tender ministrations of our current government youth propaganda camps), then the people almost certainly will, as von Mises observed, realize they can "vote themselves a stipend out of someone else's pocket."

At that point, there will no longer be any distinction between democracy and socialism; they become one and the same.

The founders guarded against this by erecting many barriers against untrammelled democracy, recognizing unlimited democracy as the pernicious system which has been appropriately defined as "three wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for supper."

Yes, the "democratic vote" was the method the people were to use to elect their House of Representatives. But this was to be only one component of our great experiment in a government of checks and balances, giving the common man standing to choose one branch to express his views.

The House could only "propose" laws. Those proposals would go nowhere if not embraced by the U.S. Senate, which was never envisioned as being democratically elected. Instead, the senators were supposed to be the oldest and wisest representatives of the states, chosen by the state legislatures, never in any popular baby-kissing contest.

Their job was precisely to block bad laws (which is to say, most federal laws), to make sure the states always remained sovereign, independent republics — Jefferson himself warning us we would know tyranny had arrived if the separate states ever degenerated into mere "administrative districts" of the central authority, "like the departments of France" — should the states, for instance, ever have to bow to some uniform federal standard when it came to how they must fund the education of the handicapped ... if at all.

Next, any proposed law which would alter traditional liberties — for instance, a tax which weighed more heavily on the man who creates more wealth, rather than a "capitation" tax which assesses the same fee against each adult, like a bridge toll — would naturally be vetoed by the president,

who again was not to be elected "democratically," but rather chosen by a college of electors, who were not and are not required to cast their votes according to the popular votes in their states. (The first electoral vote cast for a woman was not for Geraldine Ferraro in 1984, but for Libertarian Toni Nathan 12 years before. The man who cast it was not punished in any way; in fact, elector Roger MacBride later became the Libertarian Party's 1976 presidential nominee.)

If even the senate and the president violated their oaths and allowed an unconstitutional law to pass (for instance, a law which in any way "infringed" the right of the individual citizen to keep and bear military-style weapons like machine guns, or the right to persist in an unenumerated 9th amendment "retained right" like buying and selling cocaine), then as few as five members of the Supreme Court (not "democratically elected" by anyone) could and were expected to toss out any enactment offensive to our rights.

Finally, regardless of what any of those turkeys in Washington might say or do, no American can be punished for any newly made-up "crime" if merely one juror in 12 declares it's no crime and all, and sets him free.

So the answer is that — poisonous constitutional amendments having eroded our right to be free of an income tax (with all the government oversight and control of our finances that implies), the safeguard of senators not being popularly-elected having also gone a-glimmering in 1913, and current court voir dire procedures having eliminated our right to trial by a randomly selected jury — we do indeed live today in a full-bore democracy, which (very much as democratic elections in Weimar Germany created the same result in 1933) is now in the process of delivering us into the hands of a national-socialist police state — fascism being defined as a form of government under which private title to property and industries is still permitted, but where the detailed control of their operation is in fact in the hands of government "regulators," taxmen, and functionaries.

And it doesn't make a damned bit of difference what we call it.

Vin Suprynowicz is the assistant editorial page editor of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. His new book, "Send in the Waco Killers" is available at \$21.95 plus \$3 shipping (\$6 UPS; \$2 each additional copy) through Mountain Media, P.O. Box 4422, Las Vegas, Nev. 89127-4422. The 500-page trade paperback may also be ordered via web site <http://www.thesperito76.com/wacokillers.html>, or at 1-800-244-2224.

Vin Suprynowicz, vin@lvj.com
 The evils of tyranny are rarely seen but by him who resists it. — John Hay, 1872

The most difficult struggle of all is the one within ourselves. Let us not get accustomed and adjusted to these conditions. The one who adjusts ceases to discriminate between good and evil. He becomes a slave in body and soul. Whatever may happen to you, remember always: Don't adjust! Revolt against the reality! — Mordechai Anielewicz, Warsaw, 1943

Revenuers take \$29,301 off travelers

by Wes Burnett

February's take off unsuspecting volunteer highway criminals put Garza County's highway revenue pot at \$65,439.62 according to reports from the two Justice of the Peace courts here.

In February, JP 1 collected \$17,956 on 70 "criminal cases," while JP 2 took in \$11,345.37 from 40 "criminals" for a total of \$29,301.37. These victims of highway theft voluntarily gave up their right of travel by declaring themselves "motor vehicle" operators, through applications for certificates of title as well as "motor vehicle" licenses.

Although the Texas transportation code technically applies only to those people involved in commercial use of the highways, the vast majority of January's "criminals" tagged in highway traffic fines were paid by "volunteers." Very few, if any, of those victims realize that the cars and trucks they drive are not included in the regulations related to the transportation code.

The Texas Transportation Code defines commercial use of the highways as those carrying passengers or property for hire.

Cars and trucks, which are not used for hire in carrying property or passengers, are not "motor vehicles" as defined by the code.

Carrying around a state driver's license is also a severe limit on freedom and liberty... that little piece of paper wrapped in plastic declares the holder to be an "operator of a motor vehicle."

So, when citizens voluntarily apply for a certificate of title to their "motor vehicle," they have placed themselves under the jurisdiction of the traffic laws, which can constitutionally only apply to those who voluntarily declare themselves owners of "motor vehicles."

Contesting this system can be more expensive than paying the highway pirates, who have the backing of legislative thieves and a judicial system that puts statutory rules above constitutional guarantees of individual rights. Under the current Texas legal system, it's a "no-win" situation for most people, unless they are fortunate enough to have one of those "exempt" license plates.

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Card of Thanks

The family of Spencer Bevers would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to our community for the many acts of kindness shown to Spence and our family these past few years. Words cannot express our gratitude for your prayers, for the visits, cards, flowers and food.

We feel so blessed to have friends and family that care. Thanks for your kindness. Oreta, Bill, Barbe, Shawn, Shane and Slade Bevers, Larry and Cheryl Bevers, Laura, Justin, Trey, Tricia, and Jordon Conner, Joe, Kayleen, Whitney and Jordon Bevers, Sue and Ronnie Hart, Mark, Lora and Austin Bevers

To all of the wonderful folks in Post. Thank you so much for all of your call, cards, visits, flowers and prayers during my scare! All of your concern means so much. I am feeling better and the Doc will get me there! To you Judy a big thank you for your get well message. Thank you from my heart, Gladys Blair

A special "thank you" from my heart to everyone that prayed for me, called or

sent cards. What a blessing! May God bless each one. Louise Hagins

We wish to thank everyone for all of your love and kindness during our recent loss of Arthur Kelly, Sr. There are no words to express our appreciation for so much you have given for us. Family of Arthur Kelly, Sr.

Many thanks to everyone who sent cards, flowers, food, your prayers and your concern during the loss of our loved one, Ascencion Sanchez, Jr. To the Holy Cross Catholic Church, for the wonderful food, fellowship and love. May God bless each of you, The Sanchez Family

We want to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown to us during the illness and death of our loved one, Fleta Walls. All of the prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, flowers and food were greatly appreciated.

A special thanks to G.H. and Alyne Clanton, John and Mary Gist, and Mattie Belle Fluit for having been and being the best neighbors ever. You've all helped out for many years.

Thank you to the EMT'S who have made several runs with us over the last few weeks. Thanks to everyone who had a part in the funeral service. To Reverend David Graves for the soothing message and to Mary Graves and Margie Maestas for the beautiful music.

A very special thank you to Dee and Janet Justice for the warmth and compassion shown to our family as well as their professionalism in another service well done. We couldn't have gone through this without you.

Thanks to Jayson Fry, Lucas Walls, Bradley Roberts, Jeff Roberts, Riley Odom, Jason Smith and Bobby Fouquet for being pallbearers for their great-grandmother.

If we've forgotten to mention anyone, you know who you are, and we thank you. Our love to all of you for your concern and kindness.

God Bless you all, Pete Walls, Herbert Walls and family, Geneva Belongia and family

Personals

Post Independent School District invites the Senior Citizens of the district to come by the Superintendent's office and receive a gift of a complimentary general admissions pass that will admit you to all school functions. (You will be asked to present identification so that a pass can be issued in your name).

Post Group of Alcoholics Anonymous Meets every Thursday night at the First

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Lunch Menus

Trail Blazer

Friday, March 26, 1999 Turkey/dressing, sweet potatoes, macaroni salad, cabbage, hot roll and dessert.

Monday, March 29, 1999 Pork chop, beans, salad, onion/beet, hot roll and pumpkin bar.

Tuesday, March 30, 1999 BBQ polish sausage, baked potatoes, broccoli and cheese, stuffed celery, wheat roll and pears.

Wednesday, March 31, 1999 Liver/onions, chicken strips, creamed potatoes, cabbage, biscuit and apple sauce cake.

Thursday, April 1, 1999 Roast beef sandwiches on toast, tater tots, peas/carrots, fresh tomatoes and fruit salad.

Wednesday, March 31, 1999 Breakfast: Cinnamon toast, sausage, juice and milk.

Lunch: Dorito casserole, green beans breaded okra, cornbread, jello and milk.

Thursday, April 1, 1999 Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit and milk.

Lunch: Soft beef tacos, salad, rice, chocolate cake and milk.

Post ISD

Friday, March 26, 1999 Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit and milk.

Lunch: Fish, macaroni and cheese, peas, carrot sticks, hushpuppies, fresh apple and choice of milk.

Monday, March 29, 1999 Breakfast: Churros, sausage links, fruit and milk.

Lunch: Pork patty on bun, salad, sweet potatoes, cobbler and choice of milk.

Tuesday, March 30, 1999 Breakfast: Malt-o-meal, bacon, toast, fruit and milk.

Lunch: Burrito, salad, corn, cookie and choice of milk.

Wednesday, March 31, 1999 Breakfast: Waffles, butter and syrup, sausage, fruit and milk.

Lunch: Meat loaf, whipped potatoes, gravy, green beans, hot rolls, Skittles Candy and choice of milk.

Thursday, April 1, 1999 Breakfast: Cereal, toast, jelly, fruit and milk.

Lunch: Enchiladas, Spanish rice, pinto beans, salad, apricots and choice of milk.

Southland ISD

Friday, March 26, 1999 Breakfast: Cereal, toast, juice and milk.

Lunch: Chicken taquitos w/picante sauce, corn, waffle fries, ice cream and milk.

Monday, March 29, 1999 Breakfast: Eggs, bacon, biscuit, juice and milk.

Lunch: Nachos, salad, corn, oatmeal cookie and milk.

Tuesday, March 30, 1999 Breakfast: Oatmeal, toast, juice and milk.

Lunch: Corn dogs, pork-n-beans, French fries, pudding-n-graham crust and milk.

- Birthdays
- Quincieñeras
- Anniversaries
- Weddings



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'Lopes lose 5-1 road game to Coahoma

The Post Antelopes dropped a 5-1 road game to Coahoma Friday, March 19.

Winning pitcher was Delwin White, who struck out 19 of the 21 outs.

"That was the main difference in the game," said Coach Fred Postell. "We only put four balls in fair territory — one hit each by Braden Conner and Justin Acevedo and a ground out by Ricky Halford and a fielder's choice by Joseph Abraham.

Post's only score of the game came in the fifth inning. Coahoma scored single runs in the first, second and sixth innings and two runs in the third.

"We played well defensively, we were just unable to get a lot on the ball offensively," the coach said.

Braden Conner went 1-2, Justin Acevedo went 1-3.

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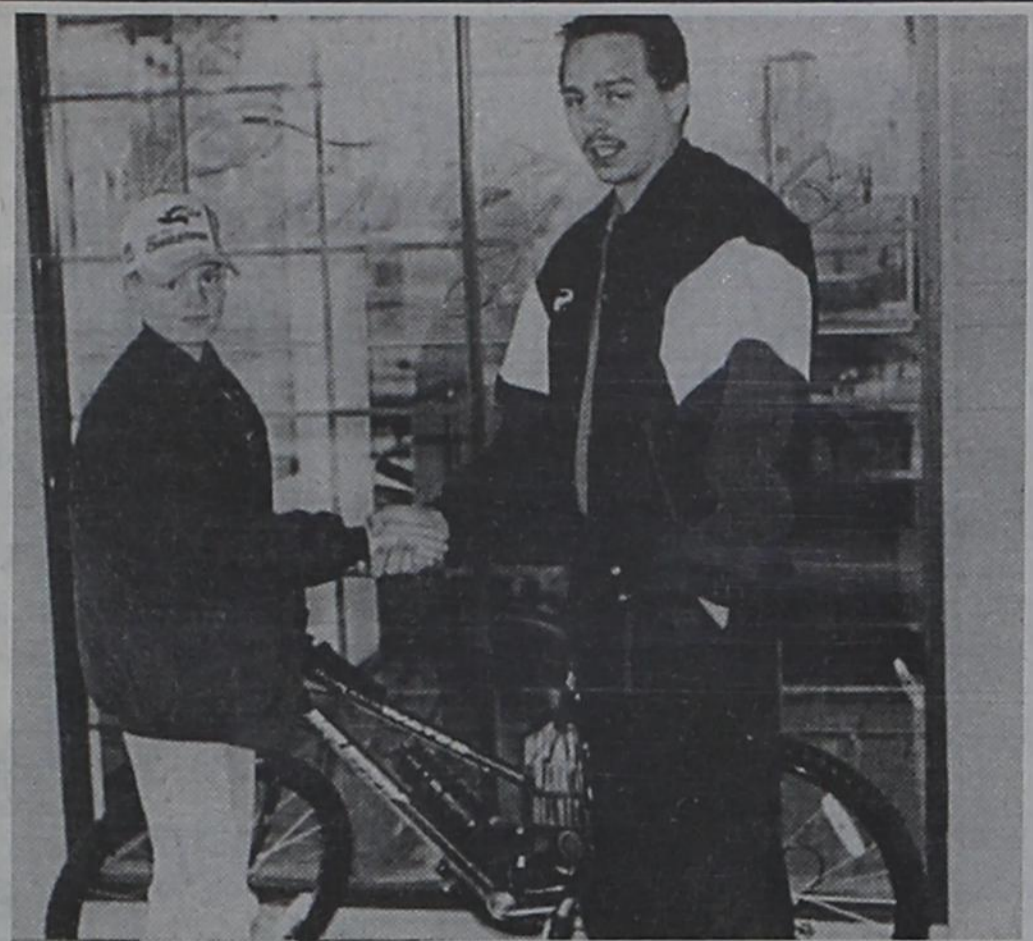
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Casey Williams (left) is congratulated by Sonic's Jose Alvidrez on winning the drawing for the Sonic/Coca-Cola bicycle during Sonic's anniversary celebration last week.



Helping youth help themselves

by Rodney Tidwell
495-1244

This letter is going to go in a different direction than what you have been hearing from me.

This time I want to focus in on the parents that do not get involved in their own kids' activities at school or at play. You know if I am talking about you or not by the way you participate in your kid's life when they are not at home.

Do you only get involved in your child's life when they get in trouble with school or other authorities? Are you one of the parents that says, "My child would never do something like their child did."? Are you one of the many parents that the teacher at the school has never seen?

Do you love your child enough to get off your butt and get involved? If you answered yes to one of the questions, then please activate your life to focus around your child's life. It does not matter if you kid is 18 years old. That kid still loves you and would like to see you pay more attention to him or her. Not just coming down on them when they do wrong. Here's a thought — maybe they are doing wrong to see if you really love them enough to say something to them.

Young people may act like they do not want discipline, but what they really want is to know that they are loved by the ones that brought them into the world. It is your responsibility to "train up a child." If you have not done this until now, it may not be too late. Get active and get involved.

Little Dribblers basketball is going on right now as I write this letter. Summer league baseball sign-ups are going on. There are lots of activities going on to be active with your child in. If your kid is not involved in these things, make a point to find out what your child's interests are and get involved.

My message has been "get involved with another child's life" but now I want to force this message — GET INVOLVED IN YOUR OWN KID'S LIFE FIRST, THEN GET INVOLVED WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S.

Too many young people are slipping through the cracks and falling into drugs, alcohol and sex to fill the emptiness in their lives left there by parents' unwillingness to get involved.

Teens, you are not off the hook. I will focus on you next week.
Rodney Tidwell

Women's Division kicks off new year

The Women's Division of the Post Bureau of Tourism & Commerce, with 14 members in attendance, kicked off its 1999 year with the installation of the years' new officers.

JoAnn Stelzer, the organization's new president, presided over the session.

Letters of appreciation were read, as was an article about St. Patrick

and the beginning of Christianity in Ireland. Mrs. Olive Shaw displayed a Shamrock pin and explained its significance.

The group voted to present a scholarship to a deserving high school graduate, who must be nominated by Post High School. The recipient must be attending the college of their choice before the scholarship will be in effect. The scholarship will be paid directly to the school on the student's behalf. If the student continues in school and makes good grades, a scholarship for the following semester will also be granted.

The Women's Division is a public service organization and is open to all women in the county who are interested. The group sponsors various projects during the year and has a variety of fund raisers. Meetings are held at noon on the third Wednesday of each month at the little room of the Community Center (enter at the back east door). Meals are catered for the convenience of the membership.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor Policy: We require all letters to be signed, however, names may be withheld from publication by request. Letters may be edited for brevity, grammar and punctuation.

Reach for the sky

I bet those pilots eat a lot of beef, wear a lot of cotton and hunt a few deer. Personally I don't care if they fly over my front yard. In fact, I am quite fascinated when I see those big majestic machines fly by.

In the past, I've spent many a night in my 18-wheeler waiting to unload at Abilene's cattle feeders' feed lot. Seems the bombers come off the runway at Dyess AFB directly over the feed yard. I don't remember ever seeing one cow miss a bite. Anyway, I sort of understand the ranchers' complaints to some extent. But it would be my guess that animals and people would soon get used to it.

I lived close to Reese AFB quite some time, and rarely did I ever notice the jets were even around. This letter is not an attempt to convince the Air Force to come in, but merely an opinion that the planes are not going to really create that much interference. I've seen both deer, antelope and jackrabbits in the Reese area, and they didn't seem too much concerned with the planes.

If people keep complaining to the Air Force, we may ruin our chances of ever having a missile testing range like White Sands, N.M. And if the D.O.E. sees all this hassle, they probably won't ever consider this area for a nuclear waste dump site, all those jobs will be down the drain. The space shuttle probably won't ever land at the Post airport either.

O.L. (Ferg) Ferguson

Sheriff clarifies misconceptions

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify a few points concerning a recent letter to the editor and another misconception that has recently been brought to my attention.

A few weeks ago a concerned parent had her young daughter struck by a car in the 200 block of South Avenue M here in Post. First, the main concern we had at the time of the accident was the welfare of the young lady involved. I don't think most parents would really want it any different.

There was never a complaint (written or verbal) received concerning the accident. The fact that there was no citation issued at the time of the accident for failure to maintain proof of financial responsibility understandably caused the child's mother to believe none would be issued.

The investigator gave the driver, a state employee, the benefit of the doubt as he and other staff have on numerous other occasions, allowing the driver to bring his proof of insurance into the office before the accident report was finalized. Most people appreciate that kind of attitude from officers. I think that is one of the reasons we choose to live in small towns. When the officer was furnished the insurance card he called the agent to assist the mother. As the agent was unavailable, his only choice was to leave a message. Several days later, the agent returned the officer's call and it was determined that the driver's insurance was not in effect at the time of the accident. The officer promptly issued the driver a citation.

I checked the citation and it was issued to the driver prior to the letter to the editor being published. I personally went to the home of this same concerned mother and explained the details the day the paper came out. I also explained that she could pursue the incident with the Department of Public Safety to recover her medical bills. She, in my opinion, was stunned that I wanted to talk with her, that I cared about her daughter and that I had no ill feelings toward her.

Although it doesn't directly relate to this incident, I'd like to address several bizarre lies that are being circulated about town. My wife and I don't have any marital problems. I have not pursued any employment at San Antonio or anywhere else and have made no plans to move from Post.

These lies about me being paid by drug dealers and being the focus of a Texas Rangers' investigation involving drug money seemed to surface since a recent narcotics-related case was made by DPS officers. Let's look at this logically for just a minute — if I was taking drug money from the person who was arrested, might he be looking for a way out? Wouldn't he turn state's evidence against me for a better deal in the courts? Next time the lie being spread should be halfway believable.

I know most people in the county aren't accustomed to me being this blunt but enough is enough. I decided to deal with liars in this manner after I watched my wife cry at our kitchen table after hearing one of these rumors, asking me why I love such a thankless job. The real tragedy of whole situation is that after research, I found that only one man in Garza County history has ever drawn a retirement benefit of any kind. This is appalling. Several years ago I instituted due process in our office to protect staff against false allegations. This was not the case previously, I think, because it limited the sheriff's discretion to terminate employees without good cause when it was good for politics. This backing of employees when they are right or retaining of employees who show promise cause agitation with some people and many feel their only recourse is to falsely attack the character of others.

These gossip mongers are part of your drug problem. By breaking the 9th Commandment and spreading lies and falsehoods, they erode the credibility of honest law enforcement officers to the point the public doesn't have faith in their service. If this doesn't stop, you'll never see stability in small law enforcement agencies — that's the travesty of justice.

Kenny Ratke

18 arrests recorded by Sheriff

Eighteen individuals were booked into the Garza County Jail during the past week, according to departmental records.

On March 15, a 45-year-old male was booked for possession of a controlled substance (released the next day on a PR bond) and on March 16, a 31-year-old male was picked up for DWI and possession of cocaine (released the same day after posting bail bonds of \$1,500 and \$3,000).

Four were booked on March 18, including 24-year-old Mathew John Alford on charges of manslaughter (relating to a fatal automobile accident that occurred several weeks ago, according to Sheriff Kenny Ratke; Alford plead out on the charge). Others included a 19-year-old male and a 22-year-old male, both held for the Border Patrol (picked up March 19) and a 26-year-old male picked up on a warrant/possession of marijuana, under two ounces.

Eight names were added to the jail log March 19, including that of a 22-year-old male, possession of marijuana/Class B (released the same day on \$1,500 bond); five individuals — all males, ages 21, 35, 21, 18 and 21 — for weekend commitments (each was released March 21); and a 30-year-old male and a 23-year-old male, each for possession of marijuana, under two ounces (each released the

next day on bonds of \$1,500).

Picked up March 20 was a 35-year-old male for public intoxication and no proof of automobile insurance (released the next day after paying fines and court costs).

Those booked on March 21 included a 29-year-old male placed in protective custody (released the same day on the authority of MHMR; no charges filed); a 23-year-old male, probation violation and credit card abuse; and a 19-year-old female, possession of marijuana, under two ounces (released the next day on \$1,500 bail bond).

More than 90 calls for service were handled by the department's dispatchers during the past week, including, on March 15, a report of criminal mischief (vehicle being egged) in the 500 block of West Main.

Calls handled on March 16 included a report of a major automobile accident — a single-vehicle rollover with injuries — south of Justiceburg on U.S. 84 (EMS and fire department responded) and a request for medical assistance in the 800 block of West 8th Street (EMS responded; transport made to Methodist Hospital in Lubbock).

Calls received March 17 included a report of criminal mischief in the 200 block of West 11th (damage to a vehicle); radio and speakers taken from a vehicle parked at Burlington Place; a theft in the 300 block of West 14th (a hen

reportedly stolen); and a grass fire on CR 210 (fire department responded).

On March 18, calls included a report of an automobile accident without injuries (no further details recorded); cruelty to animals on Avenue M (no further details recorded); and a gasoline drive-off at a South Broadway business (\$13.02 worth of gas reportedly taken).

Two more drive-offs were reported at the same business on March 19 (amounts not disclosed); a theft (a rooster reportedly taken) in the 400 block of North Avenue F; and burglary of a motor vehicle in the 100 block of East 5th (a stereo reportedly taken).

Another gas drive-off was reported at a South Broadway business March 20 (amount not disclosed). Other reports included a car on fire about 10 miles out on U.S. 84 north (fire department responded); criminal mischief (a vehicle egged) in the 100 block of West 4th; criminal mischief to a vehicle (no details given), 200 block of East 7th; an automobile accident on Avenue S (fire department responded; no further details recorded); a cat trapped in the attic of a residence, 300 block of Mohawk (fire department officials responded); and criminal mischief (antenna broken) in the 200 block of East 7th.

A minor automobile accident was reported in the 100 block of West 7th on March 21. Also reported was a grass fire about 12 miles south of CR 669 (fire department responded).

On March 22, the reported theft of



Old English poetry generally didn't rhyme, but was held together by a pattern of alliteration.

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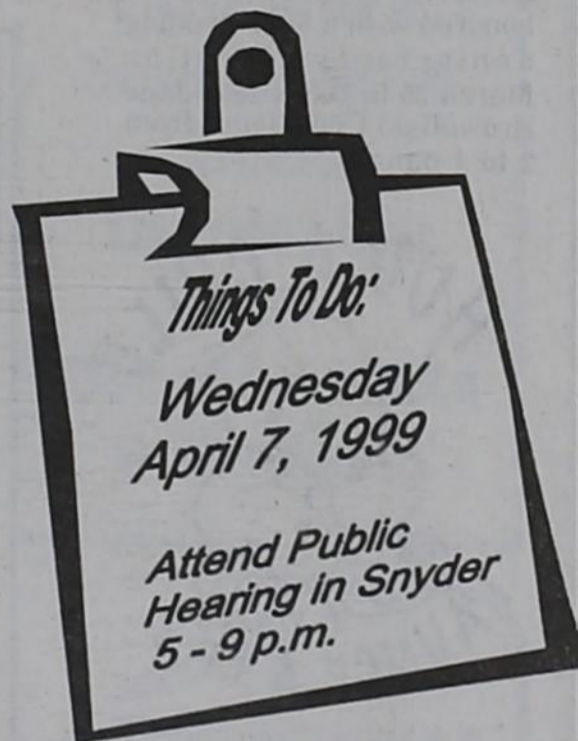
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

You need to invest an evening of your time to find out about the Air Force Realistic Bombing Training Initiative (RBTI) proposal to turn this area* into a low-level bomber training site.

Come to the public hearing on April 7th at the Snyder High School. It is the only hearing in our area. DON'T LET THEM THINK WE DON'T CARE!

- ✓ If we do not stop the RBTI now, the USAF will proceed with their plans by the end of the year.
- ✓ If they go through with this our lives and our land will be changed forever. The economy will suffer.
- ✓ It will be almost impossible to get them to leave once they are here!



What: Public Hearing -The USAF will be holding a hearing on the proposed establishment of the low-level B-1 and B-52 bomber training site over our property.

When: Wednesday, April 7th 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Note: This is the only hearing in our area.

Where: Snyder High School - located at 3801 Austin Avenue in Snyder

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