



7 p.m. August 24, 2002
Garza Theatre - Tickets on Sale Now!

The Post Dispatch

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White River announces big rate hike beginning Sept. 1

by Sheri Lewis

City water rates could be increased in the upcoming fiscal year thanks to a price hike being handed down by the municipality's water provider, the White River Municipal Water District.

Post City Manager Fred Stephens, as well as city managers for White River's other member cities — Crosbyton, Ralls and Spur — received a faxed notice Monday from White River's Tommy O'Brien outlining the wholesale water rate increase.

"During the White River Municipal Water District's regular board meeting on May 9, 2002, the board of directors decided to increase the member city water rates to \$2.10 per 1,000 gallons," the brief memo read. "This rate increase will generate the necessary revenues to upgrade the water treatment plant to meet the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. About \$1.3 million will be needed for the improvements."

The rate hike, the first since

March of 1999, is slated to begin Sept. 1, according to O'Brien's memo.

For Post, the increase will mean a jump in the wholesale cost of water from \$1.45 per 1,000 gallons to \$2.10 per 1,000 gallons — an increase of 65 cents, or about 45 percent.

At the current rate of \$1.45 per 1,000 gallons, the city pays approximately \$352,000 per year for water from White River Lake. At the new rate, that amount will climb to an estimated \$510,000 per year.

And if the new rate takes effect Sept. 1 as suggested in O'Brien's memo, the municipality will be tapped for an additional and unbudgeted expense of about \$13,000 to cover the increase in water costs at the close of the fiscal year.

Stephens said he cannot predict the impact this move will have on Post city water customers, but he did indicate the city's water rate will "probably require an adjustment."

The funds generated by the WRMWD increase will, over a three-year period, enable the water district to recover the costs incurred in upgrading the water treatment plant. O'Brien said federal mandates will require "a different means of disinfection and monitoring" of water in place by January 2004.

Work on the upgrade will begin immediately, he said, and should be completed prior to the deadline.

As of Tuesday afternoon, O'Brien said he had received no feedback from any of the city managers regarding the looming price hike.

"The increase could have been \$1.80 (per \$1,000 gallons)," O'Brien said, "and there are reasons behind that, but I'm going to leave that to the (Post) city

council.

"They were not willing to get the loan," he said. "I wrote an article about this that was published in your paper.... That's all I'm saying."

According to O'Brien's letter, written and published several weeks ago in the Dispatch, the WRMWD was prepared to apply for a low-interest loan from the Texas Water Development Board. Loan money was to be used primarily for improvements to the water treatment facility.

But because the City of Post, one of four member cities comprising the WRMWD, refused to sign a new 20-year contract with White River for the provision of water, the water district was unable to borrow at the state program's 3.5 percent interest rate.

All three of the water district's other member cities entered into new 20-year contracts.

According to Stephens, the council is reluctant to enter into a long-term contract extension with White River based on reports that the lake holds enough potable water to serve member cities for just under one and one-half years.

With the contract extension, the city would be liable for costs outlined in the document whether or not water could be delivered to the city, Stephens said.

According to a copy of the contract, provided by city officials, municipalities signing the new agreement "shall be obligated to pay the aforesaid charges... regardless of whether or not the district actually delivers... water...."

"We could be spending a lot of money that may or may not be able to help the City of Post," the city manager said. "It there was an eight- or 10-year supply (of water at White River Lake),

there'd be no question."

O'Brien confirmed the estimate of potable water still available via the lake, but pointed out that the body of water realized a one-half foot rise during a good rain a couple of weeks ago.

"And if you're going to mention that, you've got to mention the groundwater supplies," he said. "They exist and will meet Post's needs."

When asked how generously the wells would serve Post's water needs, O'Brien again referred to the letter he wrote and had published earlier this year.

"The wells have been tested and are capable of delivering about 2.2 million gallons of water each day," O'Brien's letter reads. "(Post, Ralls, Crosbyton and Spur) use an average of about 1.1 million gallons of water each day during the winter months. If we must use the wells on a year-round basis and depending on the lake level, then there may be water rationing to limit water usage to what is typically used during the winter months, thereby restricting outside water usage."

"There are no immediate plans to ration water," the letter states. "Water rationing will occur when the wells are used on a regular basis."

The city's existing contract with the WRMWD will expire in mid-2005.

In the meantime, Post city officials have ironed out a deal with the City of Slaton to purchase water at a cost of \$1.20 per 1,000 gallons. That effort, however, will require construction of a pipeline between the two cities — a project Stephens said is well over a year away.

Water supplied to Slaton comes from Lake Meredith through a contract with the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority.

Post Notes

Elementary School Field Day

The Post Elementary School will celebrate Field Day Friday, May 17 beginning at 8:30 a.m. The program includes pre-k through fifth grade at the track and practice field, concluding at 3:15 p.m. Parents are reminded to make sure children wear sunscreen and appropriate clothing, including shoes for running and playing. School will start and dismiss at regularly scheduled times.

Elementary School awards assembly

The Post Elementary School awards assembly will be held at the school auditorium Tuesday, May 21 beginning at 10 a.m. The assembly will recognize student achievements for pre-k through fifth grade. Parents are urged to attend.

First "Post Toaster" May 16

The first "Post Toaster" event will be held Thursday, May 16 at 7 p.m. in the Garza County Trailblazer senior citizen center, 201 E. 10th St. Former Post mayor and "world traveler" Giles C. McCrary will be the featured speaker. He has just returned from another trip to Rome to help finalize details for the Vatican Exhibit.

"The River" in concert Saturday

The First Baptist Church is hosting "The River" praise and worship event Saturday at 7:37 p.m. at the park. "The Thousand Hills Band" will lead the event, which is open to all. Those attending are encouraged to bring picnic baskets and a blanket.

Grassland church offers revival

The Grassland Church of the Nazarene is hosting a revival beginning Sunday, May 19, featuring evangelist Nathan Covington. The revival continues through Wednesday, May 22. Sunday services are 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., with an all church fellowship luncheon after morning worship. Weekday services will begin at 7 p.m. The public is invited. For directions and information, call the church office at 806-327-5656 or Pastor Greg White at 806-893-6615.

Response team hosts garage sale

The Garza County Response Team is hosting a "huge garage sale" Saturday, May 18 at the Santa Fe Depot building beginning at 8 a.m. Proceeds will benefit funding for the response team. "It's a warehouse full of a little bit of everything."

PHS awards assembly Monday

The annual Post High School awards assembly will be held Monday, May 20 at 7 p.m. in the Elementary School auditorium. Students excelling in academics, U.I.L. activities, leadership and coursework will be recognized. Scholarships for seniors will also be presented at the assembly. The event offers an opportunity for the community to honor students who have committed to high standards in the classroom and in co-curricular activities. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

Youth offer car wash Saturday

Bethel Assembly of God church youth are providing a car wash Saturday between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at United Supermarket parking lot. Funds will be used to assist with summer camp funding.

Free Texas Forum May 21

Garza County citizens interested in learning more about the benefits of a new Texas constitution are encouraged to attend the May 21 monthly Free Texas Forum. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. at Chapa's Family Restaurant. The Free Texas Forum is held monthly on the third Tuesday. For more information call 495-0122.

Public swimming pool opens May 25

The Post public swimming pool opens Saturday and Sunday, May 25 and 26 from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information or to reserve the pool for private parties and water aerobics, call (806) 780-2333.

VFW hosts Memorial Day breakfast

The Post VFW will host a Memorial Day breakfast on Monday, May 27 beginning at 7 a.m. at the VFW Hall on the Clairmont Hwy (U.S. Hwy 380 East). A flag ceremony and program will follow at 10 a.m. at Terrace Cemetery, with Post Church of the Nazarene's Rev. Ron Miner as guest speaker.

Ladies' Auxiliary VFW sell "poppies"

The Post VFW Ladies' Auxiliary will accept donations for "Buddy Poppies" Friday, May 24 from 9 a.m. until noon at CitizensBank and Wells Fargo. Saturday, May 25 the ladies will be at United Supermarket from 9 a.m. until noon. Money collected will go to the Disabled Veterans of Foreign Wars and their families.

EMT classes begin May 28

The EMT-Basic Course will begin May 28 and continue through August 30, 2002. Classes will be at 107 E. Main in Post. Registration forms may be obtained from Rodney Tidwell at MAD DADS or call 495-1244 for registration information. Deadline for registration is May 25. The course is \$385 plus books. Students will be refunded the cost after serving 52 shifts of duty. Borden County EMTs will serve as instructors for the course.

Class of '02 Salute May 23

Area businesses and advertisers are encouraged to call soon to reserve their favorite 2002 high school graduate for the popular graduation salute published by The Post Dispatch. Graduating seniors at Post, Southland and Borden County high schools will be featured. Call 495-2816 to reserve a sponsorship, still only \$25 (the same price since 1983).

Summer food service program

The Post ISD announces the sponsorship of the summer food service program, to be held Monday through Thursday beginning June 3, 2002. Breakfast and lunch will be provided at the school cafeteria through June 28. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and lunch from noon until 1 p.m. Children 18 years of age and younger are eligible to participate.

Cancer survivor walk

The Relay for Life Survivor Walk will be held Friday evening, June 7 at the Post ISD track. If you or someone you know is a cancer survivor and would like to participate, please contact Nancy McDonald at 495-3315 or Pat Bilbo at 495-3613. Everyone is welcome. There will be a reception immediately following the walk for all survivors and their families.

National Nursing Home Week

National Nursing Home Week is May 13-17, with local observations being led by the staff and volunteers at Golden Plains Care Center. The week includes: Thursday is "Sports Day" and Friday is "Ice Cream Social Day." Festivities begin at 10 a.m. each morning. The public is invited to join in the fun.

Burn ban extended by county

Continuing dry weather conditions led county commissioners to vote Monday to extend the existing burn ban for another 90 days.

County Judge Giles Dalby said fire department officials suggested the continued ban due to dry conditions and a continued absence of rainfall.

The ban, which has been in place since January, could mean empty skies in Garza County when the Fourth of July holiday rolls around. However, Dalby did say that if the area receives enough rainfall to green up parched plants and fields, the ban could be rescinded in time to permit the use of fireworks for the national holiday.

In other business, commissioners:

- Approved a resolution that will provide \$5,000 in state funds earmarked for the defense of indigents.
- Discussed road maintenance in Precinct 3.
- Discussed hiring an employee to handle the emergency management program and sewer inspections.
- Approved the distribution of \$150 in public assistance.
- Received a report from James Easterling, technology coordinator for the Post Independent School District, who is working on a grant proposal on behalf of the county, city and school district. If the proposal comes to fruition, it will provide computer-networking capabilities between the entities, as well as additional computer-related benefits. The county's cost of participating in the effort will be \$7,500, according to the county judge.
- Approved the continued cooperative efforts between the West Texas Center for Mental Health/Mental Retardation and Garza County.
- Discussed the need to relocate an Army surplus vehicle the county owns to Lake Alan Henry for use as a relief ambulance. Dalby said the four-wheel drive vehicle is needed in the lake area due to the rough terrain.



2002 Excellence Awards were presented last week at the Giles W. Dably Correctional Facility to (left to right) Ruby Williams, administrative supporter; Garza County Sheriff Kenny Ratke, community supporter; Earnest Back, correctional staff supporter and Charles Cate, programs supporter.



Staff, volunteers and residents at Golden Plains Care Center unleashed a flurry of balloons Monday morning in the opening day celebration of "Nursing Home Week." The balloons, with notes inside for those who find them, drifted swiftly to the southwest behind a crisp northeasterly breeze.

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Shelly Bertrand Boehler (right) graduated May 11, 2002 from Texas Tech School of Law. She was hooded by her husband, Charlie Boehler (left). After taking the bar exam this summer, she will be employed in September at the law firm of Hunton & Williams in Dallas. Shelly is the daughter of Ronald and Betty Sue Bertrand of Lubbock, the niece of Jane Odum and Bo Hutchins of Post and the granddaughter of the late Mozelle Hutchins.

Texas Cooperative EXTENSION

The Texas A&M University System

Facts, Fun & Family

Grilling Outdoors Safely

Outdoor grilling is a popular way to prepare food during warmer weather while enjoying the company of family and friends. However, grilling does "open the door" to food borne illness if proper cleanliness and preparation measures are not followed. Also, excessive smoke and charring may be unhealthy and should be avoided.

To keep your cookout a fond memory rather than a regretful experience, follow these simple steps from the Texas Cooperative Extension:

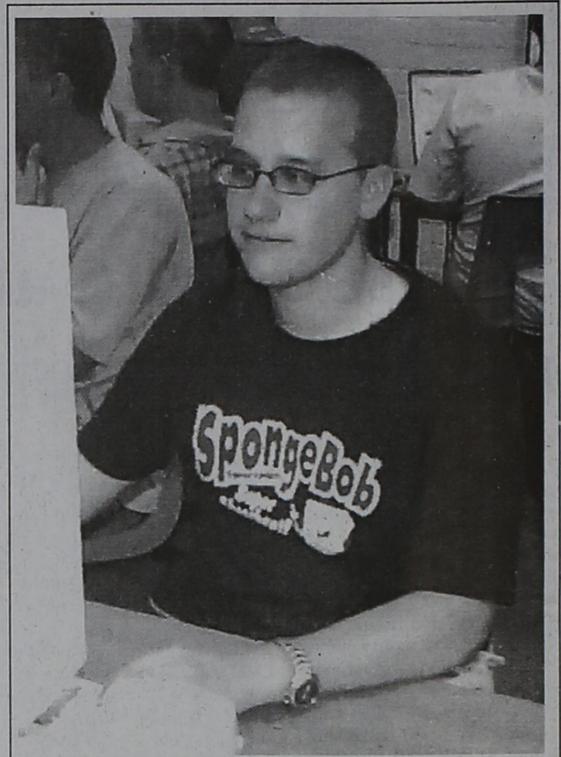
Food Preparation:

* Select fresh meat, poultry, or seafood that is high quality for best cooking results. * Keep these perishable products at 40o F or colder until immediately before grilling. Thaw frozen foods in the refrigerator or defrost in microwave and immediately place on grill. * Marinate foods in the refrigerator and discard leftover marinade. * Wash your hands before and after working with raw meat, poultry or seafood. * Wash your work surfaces and cutting boards with hot soapy water before and after preparing food. To sanitize use 1 tsp bleach per quart of water. If possible, use a separate cutting board for fresh produce and raw meat, poultry, or seafood. * When away from home, keep your meat and poultry away from other food in a separate cooler with ice. * After placing raw meat on the grill, wash utensils and platters with hot, soapy water before using them to serve cooked food. * Cook foods to an internal temperature that destroys harmful bacteria. Check the temperature by placing a thermometer in the center-most part of the meat, not touching the bone. Internal temperatures for thorough cooking to prevent food borne illness are: whole poultry 180o F; poultry breasts 170o F; ground beef patties 160o F; ground poultry 165o F; beef, veal, or lamb steaks, roasts, or chops 145o F; all cuts of pork 160o F. * Serve food immediately after grilling or keep at 140o F or above until served. * Place on a clean platter. * Refrigerate all leftovers immediately at 40o F or below. * Discard any food left out longer than 2 hours or 1 hour if temperature is above 90o F.

Grilling Tips

To prevent heavy smoking or charring of food and less smoke in your eyes follow these tips:

* Choose low-fat meats or trim excess fat before grilling. * Precook meat in the microwave or by boiling to release juices that may cause flare-ups. Do not interrupt cooking. Immediately transfer precooked food to the grill to finish cooking and provide "cookout" flavor. * Avoid high-fat marinades or basting sauces. * Cover grill with aluminum foil. Punch holes between grids to remove juices. * To decrease heavy smoke from dripping fat, rearrange the food to another place on the grill, rotate the grill, or decrease the heat. * Cook meat until done but not charred.



Post High School junior Chase Miller was recently awarded "webmaster" for the newly created Post Commerce & Tourism Bureau's website. Miller was chosen winner from contestants in Mrs. Melvena Moore's PHS computer webmaster class. Mike Burk, a Lubbock webmaster, assisted students and helped make the final selection. Miller will serve as webmaster with updates to the site. The web address is www.postex.com and includes a calendar of events, maps, attractions, accommodations, restaurants and other local information.

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Garza County EMTs respond to medical emergencies

Most people know that when emergency medical help is needed, dialing 9-1-1 on the nearest telephone brings a quick response. But some people may not think about exactly who is answering that call for help.

Post-Garza County EMS and the Texas Department of Health have teamed up in an effort to remind everyone that emergency response teams provide a lifesaving link between ill or injured individuals and medical care in Post and Garza County.

"Emergency medical response across Texas is provided everyday by dedicated, training professionals working in ambulances and trauma centers stocked with lifesaving equipment," Kathy Perkins, chief of the TDH's Bureau of Emergency Management, said.

Ambulances staffed with at least two trained medics respond to calls for ill or injured people. The Texas Trauma System, made up of 185 trauma centers across the state, coordinates in-hospital care so patients receive the type of care they need as quickly as possible. This system is on alert, ready as soon as someone calls 9-1-1.

"Nearly 45,000 trained, certified

emergency personnel are part of the Texas EMS," Perkins said. "They respond to people in need and give the best emergency care possible."

"These highly-trained medics treat patients from the emergency scene to the hospital and are an integral part of our emergency care system for victims of sudden and serious illness and injury."

In Texas, this system begins with an informed public able to recognize a medical emergency and make the call for help. The system then moves through a network of care to trauma centers that provide highly specialized treatment for the most seriously ill or injured.

To learn what to do in a medical

emergency prior to the arrival of the EMS, order a copy of "When Minutes Count: A Citizen's Guide to Emergencies" by calling 512-834-6700 or by writing the TDH Bureau of Emergency Management, 1100 West 49th St., Austin, TX 78756.

Texas EMS Week is observed May 20-26 and May is Texas Trauma Awareness Month.

For more information on how to become an emergency medical technician for the Post-Garza County EMS, contact Rodney Tidwell at 269-3960 for a registration form and a class schedule. EMT training will begin May 28 at 6 p.m. at the EMS training room located at 107 E. Main between City Hall and the public library.

Sandra Sez...

The glory of young men is their strength, but the beauty of old men is their gray hair. (Proverbs 20:29)



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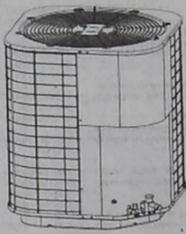
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Attention Merchants and businesses...

We are now taking reservations for our salute to the graduating Class of 2002 - Deadline Thursday, May 23 for the May 30 Salute!

Call us at 495-2816 to reserve your name under the photograph and biography of a graduating senior from Post, Southland or Borden County.

The Post Dispatch



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Living on the Edge of the Caprock

by Greg Jones, CEA-AG

Texas' Downgrade for Cattle TB Status Due about June 1

Texas livestock health officials are alerting cattle producers, veterinarians and livestock markets that the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) will strip Texas of its "Free" status for cattle tuberculosis (TB) eradication on or around June 1. The TB status downgrade will mean that the 150,000 or more breeding cattle hauled out of Texas each year must have a negative tuberculosis skin test prior to being moved. The USDA has placed a moratorium on additional restrictions until at least January 2003, when the state's feeder cattle must be identified with official ear tags before being transported out of state.

"Since late February, we have worked with the USDA and cattle industry groups to prepare for the loss of Texas' TB-free status, which we initially thought would occur as early as April," explained Dr. Linda Logan, Texas' state veterinarian and executive director of the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency. "This loss of status will have a great impact on the Texas livestock industry and, until producers are familiar with the process, it could slow the movement of breeding cattle out of the state."

"The downgrade in TB status comes as a result of the diagnosis and subsequent depopulation of two TB-infected cattle herds during 2001," she said.

"Both infected herds were detected by slaughter plant inspectors, who found carcasses with internal lesions indicative of TB. Lesion samples were submitted to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) for examination, and we began skin-testing the herds where the animals originated. We closely examined the carcasses of test-positive animals from the herds and submitted lesions to the NVSL for examination and confirmation of TB."

Dr. Logan said the two infected herds, found in South Central Texas in summer 2001, and in Southwest Texas in fall 2001, have been depopulated. More than 130 other herds have been tested, as TAHC and USDA officials search for the origin of the disease outbreak, and where it may have spread. No other infected herds have been detected, and veterinary epidemiologists have been unable to pinpoint the source of infection.

"Federal regulations mandate a loss of TB-free status when a state has two or more infected herds disclosed within a 48-month period. Texas will move from the TB-free status it has held since November 2000, to modified accredited advanced status, the second highest rung in an international five-tier ranking system for cattle TB eradication," said Dr. Logan. She said it will take at least two years without an infected herd for Texas to regain its coveted TB-free status enjoyed by all other states except Michigan.

The loss of status will immediately impact producers who move or sell breeding cattle out of state, explained Dr. Logan. Breeding animals are bred heifers, bulls and cows. Since many cattle sold at livestock markets are hauled out of state, producer groups have struggled with logistical problems sure to be encountered when untested animals are presented at livestock markets. She said breeding cattle are exempted from the interstate testing requirement only if they are from a TB accredited-free herd (a herd that is tested for TB yearly and is enrolled in the TAHC's accreditation program), are moving to an approved feedyard, or are

consigned directly to slaughter.

"If sellers arrive at the livestock market with untested breeding cattle, the market management will need to designate the untested animals as 'Texas-only' cattle, restrict the cattle to slaughter only, or they will have to make arrangements for having the animals tested so they can move interstate," explained Dr. Logan. "Producers can avoid delays in moving their cattle, if they'll have their accredited veterinarian test animals prior to sale."

A TB skin test takes 72 hours to complete and must be conducted by an accredited veterinarian, who injects tuberculin into the skin near the animal's tail, in a site called the 'caudal fold.' After a 72-hour waiting period, the veterinarian examines the injection site for a response, such as redness or swelling.

Animals without a response can move. If a response is detected, Dr. Logan said a second test must be applied on the animal's neck by a state or federal regulatory veterinarian. This comparative cervical test also requires a waiting period of 72 hours after injection before it can be read, she said. Animals with negative results on the comparative cervical test also are free to move.

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

Menus

Post ISD

May 20-Breakfast - Biscuit & gravy, ham, fruit, milk

Lunch - Corn dog, french fries, mixed vegetables, cobbler, choice of milk

May 21- Breakfast -French toast, sausage link, fruit, milk

Lunch - Tacos, lettuce & tomatoe, pinto beans, corn bread, pears, choice of milk

May 22-Breakfast -Donut, sausage, fruit, milk

Lunch - Fried chicken, gravy, whipped potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, pudding, choice of milk

May 23-Breakfast -Oatmeal, toast, bacon, fruit, milk

Lunch - Pizza, salad, corn, peaches, choice of milk

May 24- Breakfast - Cereal, toast, fruit, orange juice, milk

Lunch - Sandwich, chips, salad, pickle spears, orange, choice of milk

Southland ISD

May 20 - Breakfast - Pancake on a stick, juice, milk

Lunch - Corn dogs, pork-n-beans, fruit, milk

May 21 - Breakfast - Cinnamon rolls, juice, milk

Lunch - Manager's choice

May 22- Breakfast -Biscuits, gravy, bacon or sausage, milk

Lunch - Sack lunch

May 23 - Breakfast - French toast, juice, milk

Lunch - Sack lunch

May 24- TEACHER WORKDAY!

Garza County Trailblazers

May 20- Chicken w/mushroom sauce, black-eyed peas, cabbage salad, sliced tomatoes, cornbread, fruit, cinnamon sugar cookies

May 21- Baked ham, navy beans, carrot & zucchini, cornbread, pineapple cobbler

May 22- Roast beef, mashed potatoes, beets, sliced tomatoes, hot roll, pumpkin dessert

May 23- Beef tips & rice, spinach, broc. & cauli. salad, cornbread, apple cobbler

May 24- Catfish, baked beans, coleslaw, okra, cornbread, fruit salad

Middle School tennis team excels at district meet

Post Middle School made a strong showing at the district junior high tennis tournament at Sundown earlier this month.

In eighth grade girls singles, Dionn Heckaman beat Cindy Marquez of Tahoka, then lost to B.J. Precure of Sundown 8-3. Erin Wartes beat Kari Schilling of Idalou 8-2 then lost to Brandi Raindi of Tahoka 8-0. Heckaman and Wartes postponed their third place match until May 8.

In eighth grade girls doubles, Barbosa and Lott lost to Saldana and Andrews of Tahoka 8-1. Morris and Wilson defeated Medina and Morales of Tahoka 7-5, then lost in the championship final to Kirkland/Huffaker of Idalou 8-3 to finish second.

In eighth grade boys singles, Colt Mason lost to Creighton Henderson of Sundown 8-1.

In eighth grade boys doubles, Barbosa and Norman lost to Meinzer and Campbell of Idalou 8-

2, then lost to Garcia and Cantu of Tahoka 9-7.

In seventh grade boys singles, D.J. Baiza lost to Damon Moore of Tahoka 8-5.

Nichols and Fellhauer lost to Valdez and Garcia of Tahoka 8-2 in seventh grade boys doubles. Ruth-erford and Nava lost to Baker and Autry of Tahoka 8-0.

Claire Kirkpatrick lost to Jaquez Justice of Tahoka 9-7 in seventh grade girls singles.

In seventh grade girls doubles, Easterling and Norman beat Pollard and Castro of Sundown 8-0, then beat Jackson and Rodriguez of Sundown 8-0 for the district championship in the seventh grade girls doubles.

"The kids really worked hard all week, had a lot of fun and learned to compete better," the coach said. "It really was a great group of junior high kids."

New Texas constitution featured at monthly event Tuesday

Garza County citizens interested in ratification of a new Texas constitution will meet Tuesday (5/21/02) at 6 p.m. in Chapa's Family Restaurant to review Texas Constitution 2000.

The new Texas constitution contains nine articles, with a transition plan as an addendum. "It's written in plain ordinary English," Burnett emphasizes, "and is very specific as to the rights of individuals."

Based on the American Declaration of Independence, Article 1 clearly defines the meaning of "life, liberty and ownership of property." All the subsequent articles (2-9) are in direct support of the Declaration of Rights.

That declaration makes Texas Constitution 2000 a unique document of its kind, binding government firmly to the task of securing the rights of individuals.

The constitution and ratification

plan are available for review at www.trcf.com or www.freetexans.org Call Burnett at 495-0122 for more information.



PHS senior Kelly Moore (left) placed fifth at last Saturday's U.I.L. Class AA state track meet in Austin. Franklin's Bekka Russ (right) edged out front at the finish line in fourth place with a 46.88 run. Running into a very stiff wind, Kelly recorded a 47.05 run. Others in the final heat were Boyd's Marianne Willbanks, 45.02; New Diana's Kandace Traywick, 45.88; Tom Bean's Dreu Harris, 46.29; Hamlin's Mallory Rodgers, 47.53; Comfort's Chandra Bulk, 48.13 and Kaufer's Kellie Hubert, 49.40.



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Caprock Cultural Association

Don't Miss our
Post Toaster Program

Thursday, May 16 - Speaker Giles C. McCrary,
"Vatican Experiences"

7 p.m. - Garza County Trailblazers - 201 E. 10th St. (495-4148)

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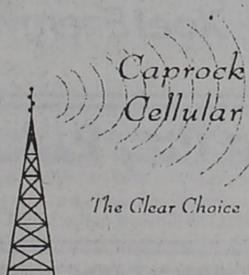
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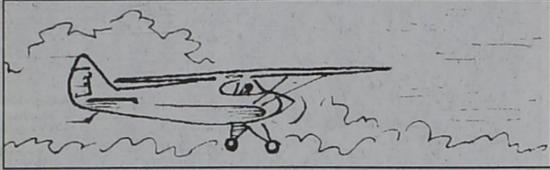
Obituaries

Freddie Conner

Graveside services for Freddie Conner, 63, of Post, were held Wednesday May 15, 2002 2:00 PM at Terrace Cemetery with Bo Jackson officiating. Burial was under the personal care of Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

Mr. Conner died on Monday May 13, 2002 at his Residence. He was born on August 12, 1938 to Harvey and Edith (Carnathan) Conner in Rimersburg, Pennsylvania. He started school there and in 1952 moved to Odessa with his family and attended school there. He worked as a cook for many years and moved to Post in 1993.

He is survived by Mother: Edith Barnes of Post Two Brothers: Claude Conner of Post and Edward Conner of Odessa. One sister: Audrey Hughes of Odessa.



The first President to hold an airline pilot's license was Dwight David Eisenhower.

Harry E. Wood

Services for Harry E. Wood, 74, of Odessa were held at 10 a.m. Friday, May 10, 2002, at the Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Robert Scofield officiating. Burial followed at the Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring.

He died Tuesday, May 7, at Medical Center Hospital. Born April 11, 1928, in Post, he married Anita Bennett Nov. 22, 1967, in Big Spring. He worked for Union Wire Rope, a division of Armco Steel, for 21 years. He served in the U.S. Navy for two years and was a member of the American Legion and a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors include his wife, Anita Wood of Odessa; two daughters, Kathy Coleman of The Colony, Texas, and Nancy Hall of Tom Bean, Texas; two brothers, W.L. Wood of Satellite Beach, Florida, and Bobby Dean Wood of Lubbock; and four grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested memorials be made to the Bethany Baptist Church.

Hospice of Lubbock hoes team roping for fund raiser

Hospice of Lubbock's Second Annual Lubbock Hospice Classic Team Roping and Barrel Racing Fundraiser will take place the weekend of May 31, June 1-2 at the Caprock Equestrian Center at 8005 CR 6930 in Lubbock.

Participants may enter the barrel racing events on May 31 at 6 p.m., with riding beginning at 7 p.m. Barrel racing entry fee is \$15.

Entries for team roping events will be on June 1-2 at 9 a.m., with roping beginning at 10 a.m. Winners will receive a 65 percent payback; additional prizes include two trophy

saddles and five Gist buckles.

For more information or a schedule of events, call Tom Williams at 535-4803 or Jody Lewis at 795-2751.

The Lubbock Hospice Classic benefits Hospice of Lubbock and supports unfounded and under-funded programs and services. As the region's only non-profit hospice organization, Hospice of Lubbock is committed to the highest quality of compassionate care and support for the terminally ill and their loved ones, regardless of ability to pay.

Funds raised by the Lubbock Hospice Classic help support the services and programs provided by Hospice of Lubbock. While Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance covers most hospital services, some patients have no funding source.

Hospice of Lubbock's promise to the communities that are served - Lubbock and 17 surrounding counties - is that they will never turn away anyone in need of hospice care, regardless of their ability to pay.

Since admitting the first patient in 1987, Hospice of Lubbock has served more than 3,000 patients and fami-

lies in the area. It also continues to provide bereavement services for adults and children to the families of hospice patients, as well as to the public, at no charge.

Hospice care and support is provided through an interdisciplinary team comprised of the patient's physician, nurses, social workers, chaplains, certified nurse's aides and hospice-trained volunteers. This team approach enables Hospice to meet the patient's physical, emotional, spiritual and psychosocial needs.

Referrals to Hospice of Lubbock may be made by anyone, but most often come from physicians, families and friends.

For more information regarding hospice services or the upcoming classic, call Hospice of Lubbock at 795-2751.

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.
—John Wesley

Post Devotional Page

Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

ISRAEL'S FIRST KING

AMIDST CRIES OF "GOD SAVE THE KING," A YOUNG BENJAMINITE, THE CENTER OF ATTENTION, IN THIS HUGE THROG OF ISRAELITES STANDS OUT LIKE A BEACON ON A STORMY NIGHT. HANDSOME, MODEST, TALLER BY A HEAD AND SHOULDER THAN ANY OTHER MAN, THIS IS HIS GREATEST MOMENT FOR HE HAS BEEN ANNOUNTED KING OVER ALL THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL. WHAT A PITY THAT FROM SUCH A MOMENTOUS START THIS MAN'S DESTINY WILL LEAD HIM TO THE DRESS OF DEPAIR, DEFEAT, AND A VIOLENT END. SAUL, SON OF KISH, THE FIRST KING OF ISRAEL, WHOSE FUTURE EXPECTATIONS WERE SO GREAT BUT WHOSE REALIZATIONS WERE DOOMED TO IGNOMINIOUS FAILURE. ALL OF WHICH HAS BEEN RECORDED IN SAMUEL, CHAPTERS 8, 9, 10.



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Bethel Assembly of God (Bi-Lingual)	407 May St.	Church of God of Prophecy	602 W. 14th, 495-3644
Baptist		Lighthouse Christian Center Church of God	314 N. Ave I, 495-2237
Calvary Baptist Church	210 E. 6th, 495-2342	Power House Church of God and Christ	Pine Ave.
First Baptist Church	402 W. Main, 495-3554	Disciples of Christ	
First Baptist Church, Wilson	628-6333	First Christian Church	812 W. 13th, 495-3716
Justiceburg Baptist Church	Justiceburg	Methodist	
Pleasant Home Baptist Church	E. 14th & N. Ave F	First United Methodist Church	216 W. 10th, 495-2942
Pleasant Valley Baptist	Hwy 84 & N. 399 (806) 828-4174	Graham Chapel United Methodist Church	495-3492
Templo Bautista	315 W. Main, 495-2416	Nazarene	
Trinity Baptist Church	915 N. Ave O, 495-3038	Church of the Nazarene	202 W. 10th, 495-3044
Wilson First Baptist	(806) 628-6333	Grassland Nazarene Church	327-5656
Catholic		Non-Denominational	
Holy Cross Catholic Church	Ave. K and Main St., 495-2791	Family Harvest Church	111 N. Avenue I, 495-1400
Church of Christ	108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326	Faith Chapel	1105 Green St., Wilson (806) 628-6612
Graham Chapel Church of Christ	5 miles W. Hwy 380, 2 miles south	Presbyterian	
		First Presbyterian Church	910 W. 10th, 495-2135

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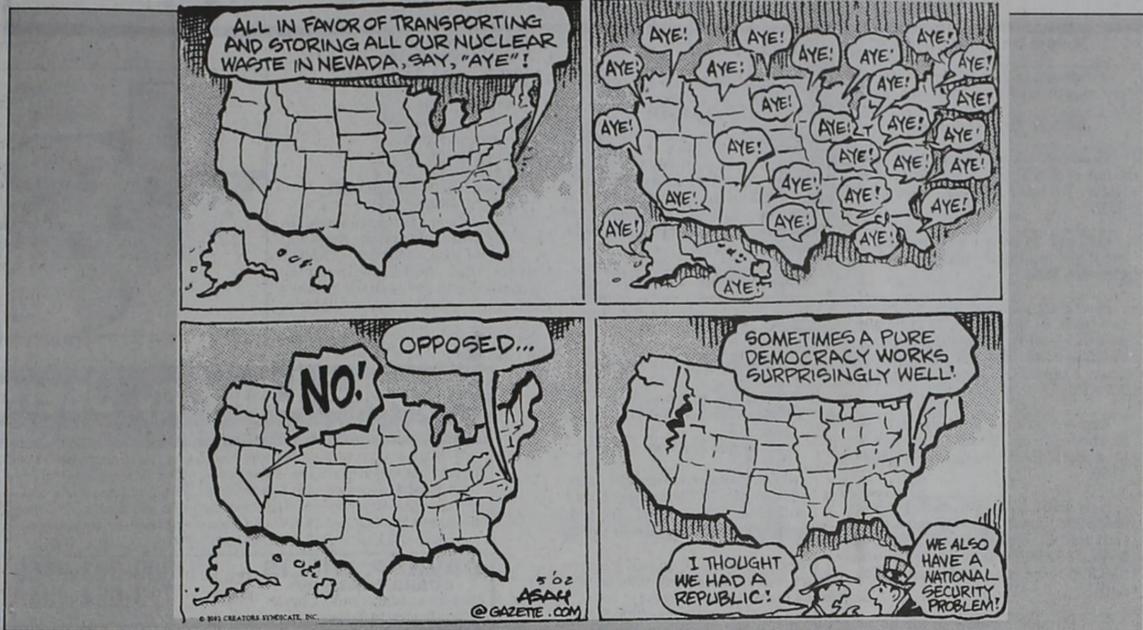
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Opinions



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"Economic Freedom"

by Jacob G. Hornberger

In a May 1 editorial, the Washington Post called on Cuban dictator Fidel Castro to honor a petition signed by 10,000 Cuban citizens demanding that a national referendum be called on freedom of expression, free elections, the right to private enterprise, and amnesty for political prisoners. The Post correctly praised those 10,000 people for putting "their names to an initiative that essentially seeks to replace Mr. Castro's stale totalitarianism with the political and economic freedom that now prevails everywhere else in the Western Hemisphere."

But what is meant by the term "economic freedom"?

Does it mean the economic freedom that characterized the United States, say in 1890, or does it mean the "economic freedom" that characterizes the modern-day welfare state in America?

By economic freedom, our ancestors meant: no income taxation, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, welfare, public schooling, occupational licensure, drug laws, immigration controls, trade restrictions, and economic regulations. That's why Americans in 1890 lived without any of those things.

On the other hand, to advocates of the socialistic welfare state, "economic freedom" means the extent to which government has the unfettered power to watch over and take care of the citizenry and to tax them to pay for such care and control. Thus, the paternalistic government programs that our ancestors rejected as violations of economic freedom are embraced by welfare-state advocates as essential aspects of "economic freedom."

This raises an interesting question: How many advocates of the welfare state in America would favor the following aspects of Cuba's socialist economic system: income taxation, old-age assistance, public schooling, national health care, welfare, coercive redistribution of wealth, economic equality, drug laws, occupational licensure, immigration controls, trade restrictions, and economic regulations? Indeed, how many welfare state statisticians would endorse the Cuban government's gun-control laws?

In the same editorial, the Post argues that the U.S. embargo against Cuba should not be lifted. But what's an embargo if not the deprivation of economic liberty of American citizens? Doesn't economic liberty entail the right to do what you want with your own money? If the federal government can punish an American citizen for spending his money in Cuba, how is that different in principle from the Cuban government's restrictions on what Cubans can do with their own money?

Thought for the week...

"For the majority of people liberty means only the system and the administrators they are used to."—Albert Jay Nock, *Selected Letters of Albert Jay Nock*

"The citizen of the United States is taught from his earliest infancy to rely upon his own exertions in order to resist the evils and the difficulties of life; he looks upon social authority with an eye of mistrust and anxiety, and he only claims its assistance when he is quite unable to shift without it.... When a private individual meditates an undertaking, however directly connected it may be with the welfare of society, he never thinks of soliciting the cooperation of the government, but he publishes his plan, offers to execute it himself, courts the assistance of other individuals, and struggles manfully against all obstacles. Undoubtedly he is often less successful than the State might have been in his position; but in the end the sum of these private undertakings far exceeds all that the government could have done."—Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*

U.S. Justice in the War on Terrorism

by Jacob G. Hornberger

Suspected pipe-bomb terrorist Luke J. Helder should be counting his lucky stars that he was captured by the American police before the U.S. military could intervene. Just ask Afghan warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who was recently the target of a missile fired by CIA forces in Afghanistan.

Even though Hekmatyar was not part of the Taliban or al-Qaeda, he has nevertheless been labeled a "terrorist" by U.S. officials. Why? Well, as one Pentagon official put it, "We had information that he was planning attacks on American and coalition forces, on the interim government, and on Karzai himself."

So there you have it — U.S. government "justice" in the war on terrorism. No probable cause. No warrant issued by an independent judge. No arrest. No grand jury indictment. No trial. No conviction. No appeals. Just, "Hey, we've got (confidential) information that that guy intends to commit a crime and that's good enough for us. We don't need no warrants, lawyers, judges, trials, or constitutional technicalities. Fire that missile, boys, and let's make the world a little bit safer by taking out one more terrorist."

And thereafter, caring about the future

by Walter E. Williams

How often do we hear politicians, labor bosses, business leaders and other Americans expressing concern about the nation's children and their children? I generally dismiss such concern as disgusting hypocrisy because their actions don't begin to match their words.



If people really cared about the well-being of future generations, what kind of behavior might we expect? To answer, let's use a simple example that can be made as complex as we want it to be.

Pretend there are two farmers who express concern about future prosperity of their children. How might we test their sincerity? Let's say that as winter arrives, both Farmer A and Farmer B have 50 pounds of corn seed. Farmer A uses 40 out of his 50 pounds to make popcorn to consume over the winter, leaving him with 10 pounds of seed for spring planting. Farmer B uses only 10 of his 50 pounds for winter popcorn, leaving him with 40 pounds for spring planting. It's a no-brainer to conclude that Farmer B is more serious about the future; he is more willing to make greater sacrifices of current consumption. He has a much higher saving and investment rate.

The nation's gross domestic product (GDP) stands at \$10 trillion. The federal government consumes one-fifth, or \$2 trillion, of it. State and local governments consume about \$1.5 trillion. Some government spending does benefit future generations, such as those spent for national defense, highway construction and public health. Most government spending is for current consumption. The major items are Social Security (\$460 billion) and Medicare (\$226 billion). Plus, there's pressure for increased current consumption in the form of a massive prescription drug program for senior citizens.

What's the impact of government spending on future generations? More government spending means higher taxes. In turn, higher taxes means less money left in the private sector to be used in many ways,

including investment. Less investment means that we bequeath fewer resources to future generations. As a result, future generations will have less wealth.

It's easy for people to feign concern for future generations and at the same time rip them off. Why? Future generations have no representation in Congress, and today's young people who'll face the 2030s Social Security disaster have very little. It's a matter of political expediency.

Imagine the fate of a congressman who says, out of concern for future generations, "I refuse to vote for a massive prescription drug handout for senior citizens." He'll get no support from the beneficiaries of his actions because future generations don't vote and young people don't vote very much. Selfish senior citizens, who vote in large numbers, will trounce him. Plus, what congressman or senior citizen has a stake in what's going to happen in 2030 or 2050? They'll all be dead.

I'm one of today's senior citizens, and what I can't figure out is where the notion came from that just because one is 65 years old one is entitled to use the coercive powers of government to live at the expense of younger people. It surely wasn't a value instilled by our parents.

You say, "Williams, today's seniors are part of the great generation that won World War II, and we owe them something." Yes, they did save the nation from the evil forces of Nazism, but the nation's history is one of great generations since 1776. If anything, today's seniors might be called the nation's most morally corrupt generation, for they have made the greatest contribution toward undermining the founding principles of our nation as expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and its Bill of Rights.

To find out more about Walter Williams, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Using physical force to enforce 'voluntary' tax

by Sheldon Richman

"I know ev'rybody's income and what ev'rybody earns; And I carefully compare it with the income-tax returns."—W.S. Gilbert, *Princess Ida*

April is the cruelest month, for reasons other than what T.S. Eliot had in mind. This is the month in which you must account for yourself to Caesar. The authorities, having relieved you of a goodly portion of your earnings before you even caressed the banknotes, now demand you show cause why you should not remit still more.

And in further demonstration of the principle that the citizen in this beloved democracy is the master and the government the mere servant, you are requested to affix your signature 'neath these calming words: "Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return and accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, they are true, correct, and complete."

Those who find such threats - sorry, I mean words - unduly harsh have clearly not visited the friendly IRS website. There you will find much useful information, including the "truth about frivolous tax arguments." These are the sundry claims that no American citizen is legally obliged to pay the income tax. The IRS apparently feels it is necessary to educate any American who labors under the delusion that he may not be deprived of his property against his will.

The first "frivolous argument" is that filing an income tax return is voluntary: "Proponents point to the fact that the IRS itself tells taxpayers in the Form 1040 instruction book that the tax system is voluntary." Considering the source of the argument, it might seem something more than frivolous. But, alas, the government subscribes to the Humpty-Dumpty philosophy of language found in Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking-Glass*: "When I use a word," Humpty Dumpty said, in a rather scornful tone, "it means just what I choose it to mean - neither more nor less."

As the IRS explains, "The word 'voluntary,' as used in *Flora* [v. United States] and in IRS publications, refers to our system of allowing taxpayers to determine the correct amount of tax and complete the appropriate returns, rather than have the government determine tax for them.. The court clearly states, 'although Treasury regulations establish voluntary compliance as the general method of income tax collection, Congress gave the Secretary of the Treasury the power to enforce the income tax laws through involuntary collection.'"

That, I submit, is a most peculiar definition of "voluntary." My American Heritage Dictionary has a rather different take on the

word. Its primary definition is: "Arising from or acting on one's own free will." The second definition includes the words "done willingly." But that's not what the IRS means at all. By "voluntary" it means: Volunteer or else! But what if one should choose not to volunteer to determine the correct amount of tax and complete the appropriate returns? I have a feeling the IRS will not respond thus: Well, we just thought we'd ask. Thanks anyway."

If filing is not voluntary, how about actually paying the tax? No dice. According to the IRS, the two go together like love and marriage. "The requirement to pay taxes is not voluntary," the website states.

Let us pause. The IRS has established, at least to its own satisfaction, that we have no choice about filing returns and paying taxes. Failure to comply can bring fines and imprisonment. What does this prove? It proves what libertarians have been saying for eons: that taxation is theft. Here it is right from the taxman's mouth: taxation is not the price we pay for civilization; it is not dues for country-club privileges; it is not a sacred rite of democracy. It's theft - unalloyed and unabashed.

I can accept the government's theft. I don't like it, but I can live with it if I must. (What choice have I?) What I can't accept are insults to my intelligence. Memo to the IRS commissioner: Drop the word "voluntary" from your literature. We're not idiots.

But I risk frivolity, don't I? And we all know the penalty for that. Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at *The Future of Freedom Foundation* (www.fff.org) in Fairfax, Va., author of *Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State*, and editor of *Ideas on Liberty* magazine.

Taxation is evil, it is sinful. It violates God's commandment:

Thou Shalt Not Steal
 (When you force payment from someone against their will, that's theft)

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Classified Advertising

Card of Thanks

Backyard Missions thanks all the volunteers who helped with roofing the project last week.

We would like to take this way of thanking everyone who helped us before and after Pat's death. For all the visits, phone calls, cards and stamps. For all the beautiful flowers, especially those whom I have been unable to contact, including her high school graduating class. To the ladies who prepared and served the delicious meal at the church. To Dee for his patience and moral support. May God bless each of you in his own way.

The family of Patricia Ann Crowley
 Congratulations to Wallie Aguirre of Lubbock on winning the Mother's Day Raffle which included a \$50.00 gift certificate to 50 Yard Line and flowers. Thanks for your support Post. Holy Cross Catholic Church

Personals

Post Group of Alcoholics Anonymous
 Meets every Thursday night at the First Presbyterian Church, 901 West 10th at 8pm. Closed meetings are

held except on the last Thursday of the month, which is an open meeting. All meetings start at 8pm. ANYONE WISHING TO TALK ABOUT OR ASK ABOUT AN ALCOHOL PROBLEM... CALL 781-1156 or 495-4185.

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Garage Sales

Garza Co. Response Team will be having a huge garage sale on Saturday, May 18th at the Santa Fe Depot from 8am until whenever! A warehouse full of a little bit of everything. Proceeds will benefit finances.

Yard Sale: Thur, 9-5, 310 N. Ave. K, clothes, shoes, pots & pans, furniture, dishes, flowers & knick knacks.

Feed & Seed & Livestock

Round bells of wheat for sale. Call Jerry Bush at (806)327-5613.

Legal Notices

To whom it may concern: property abandoned at 118 Tennessee Street in Southland, Texas, if not claimed, will be disposed of after June 6, 2002.

Garza County Commissioners Court will be accepting bids on the following automobiles:

1974 Ford Dumptruck-9000 Series Call 778-3945 with any questions
 1989 Chevrolet Astro Van Call 495-4414 with any questions
 Bids will be accepted in the Judge's office until 12:00 pm on May 21, 2002 and approved at the May 24th regular Commissioners Court meeting.

Garza County retains the right to accept or reject all bids.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGES IN ELECTION PRECINCTS

Pursuant to 42.035, Texas Election Code, the Commissioners court of Garza County, Texas, herein provides notice of changes in County political boundaries as adopted by the Commissioners Court, and as preclered by the United States Department of Justice on the 12th day of April 2002.

Interested individuals may review the adopted changes in the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours.

The changes in county election precincts were necessitated by redistricting of County Commissioners Court precincts in compliance with the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. 1973, also known as the Voting Right Act, following the release of 2000 census data. Changes in county election precincts were designed to achieve numerical balance between the four commissioners court precincts, and to insure the voting rights of all citizens of Garza County, Texas.

Jerry Hays
 County Clerk

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Hockley County Senior Citizens Association, Inc., will be accepting sealed bids for the construction/renovation of an Adult Day Care Center. Bid packets and specifications can be obtained from the central office of Hockley County Senior Citizens Association, Inc., located at 1202 Houston Street, Levelland, Texas 79336, Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closing date for acceptance of bids will be two weeks following the final publication of this ad. Bids will be opened on May 30, 2002 at 3 pm at the above address. The winning bid will be contacted via certified mail. For additional information or to obtain a bid packet please visit the central office at the above address.

Linda Mayo, Executive Director

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

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

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

District: Lubbock
 Contract 0905-00-031 for MISCELLANEOUS CONSTRUCTION IN LUBBOCK COUNTY, etc will be opened on June 04, 2002 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Contract 6077-33-001 for MOWING OF HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY IN GARZA COUNTY will be opened on May 31, 2002 at 2:20 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$147,310.15.

All prospective bidders are encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference for Contract 6077-33-001 to be held on May 17, 2002 at 9:30 am at the LUBBOCK DISTRICT OFFICE TRAINING BLDG, MESQUITE ROOM LOCATED AT 135 SLATON ROAD, LUBBOCK, TX.

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 District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO:6406
 State Office

Construction Division
 200 E. Riverside Dr.
 Austin, Texas 78704
 Phone: 512-416-2540
 District Office(s)

Lubbock District
 District Engineer
 135 Slaton
 Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771
 Phone: 806-745-4411

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.

Need grass cut or painting done-call Olin Looney at 495-3633.

Puzzle Solution

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 Doctor-Lawyer in full time Law Practice
 Richard A. Dodd, L.C.
 Timothy R. Cappolino, P.C.
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1-800-460-0606
www.birthtraumalaw.com

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MANNA SQUARE! Shops, Beauty Salon, Income Potential. Possible owner financing. 207 E. Main.

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LOVELY SPACIOUS BRICK! New information available on 3/3/2, formal dining & living areas, large family room/FP, game room, sun room, C-H/A, built-ins, abundance of storage, 2 lots on corner. 815 W. Main.

DELIGHTFUL! Brick 3/2/2/2 **UNDER CONTRACT** or paint, R.V., storage, rock waterfall **UNDER CONTRACT** e. R.

PRICED TO SELL! 2 lots, 603 W. 11th. Other acreages available.

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- 3 BR, 2 BA, needs repairs & priced to sell, 408 Mohawk.
- Good rental property for sale in Justiceburg, 15 minutes from Lake Alan Henry - and/or home.
- NEW LISTING: 2 B **In Contract** e, carport, C-H/A, 1 car garage, storage building. 802 W. 4th.
- NEW LISTING: 3 BR/2 BA, CH/AC, large gameroom, LR/DR & Utility, 1 car garage, 916 W. 8th.
- All On Hwy 84:
- 3 BR/1 BA, 2 car garage, CH/AC, close to downtown. 306 W. 10th
- 6.43 Acres - Cedar Hills Addition.
- City Lots for Sale - Robinson Addition

DOWNTOWN:
 • 2 buildings on W. Main, owner will finance for right party.

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Mike and Wanda Mitchell - 495-3104 or **495-5515** or **495-5146**

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TexSCAN Week of
May 12, 2002

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 Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.
A BABY TO LOVE. Hi! We're Laura and Pete. We'd love to give your baby a life of security (a full-time mom) as well as fun (we love parks and riding bicycles). We value education and planning for the future, but family is our real priority. Please call us anytime! Laura & Pete, 1-800-260-0051.
ADOPTION: CONSIDERING ADOPTION for your baby? Call and let us send you information on many couples anxious to adopt and shower your baby with love and laughter. Open/closed adoption. Help with legal/medical expenses. 1-800-675-3407.

AUCTIONS
REAL ESTATE AUCTION 6 PM, May 23rd Excellent location for development. Rockwall, Texas South of I-30. Manning's Auction Co. 1-903-883-4586. TX Lic. 6648, www.manningauction.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
A+ CANDY ROUTE. \$4,375/mo (realistic) - 25 Super Vending Sites. No competition, 6hr/mo. \$8,750 cash required. Accent Marketing. 1-800-268-6601 (24 hours).

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DRIVER-ASAP! 21 OTR Drivers. Up to 38 cpm + \$40 tarp for OTR. O/O's - up to 90 cpm. Nine months OTR required. Call Melfon Truck Lines, 1-800-635-8669, today.

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 Rachel McAr

Extension Extras

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

Wildlife for Fun & Profit

Wednesday, May 15, 6:30 p.m., Cash Two-Bit Ranch 15 miles northeast of Post on Hwy. 651.

Wildlife Seminar

The Sustainable Wildlife III program will be held May 16, 8:30-4:10 p.m. at the Wagon Wheel Guest Ranch north of Snyder. Registration will be \$30 at the door. For more information come by the Extension Office at 102 South Avenue L in Post.

Brisket Sale Friday

Garza County 4-H will cook briskets this Friday and help is needed from 4-H families to cook and deliver. If you are interested in ordering a half or whole brisket, please contact the Extension office at 495-4400 by 5 p.m. today. Briskets will be \$15 for a half and \$25 for a whole. If you order one, you may pick it up at the park between 6 and 7 p.m. or it will be delivered Friday evening.

2002 4-H Bears

If you would like to order a 2002 4-H Bear call the Extension Office. Cost of the Bear will be \$10.

Steer Projects

Anyone interested in showing steers need to contact Greg Jones at the Extension office. State and county validation (on feed) deadline is June 30. County validation will be June 25, 2002.

Camp Applications

All 4-Hers who want to attend any of the camps this summer need to come by and pick up an application. There are various camps with various due dates including Prime Time, Spectra, Range Workshop, Goat Camp, Lamb Camp, Leadership Camp and Electric Camp. Deadlines for these camps are coming up soon.

Birthdays This Week

- May 16-Nathanie Espinoza
- May 17-Betty Kane, Roy McCarley, Tony Soto
- May 19-Zane Marts, Amanda Soto, Chane Dissinger, Quentin Benham
- May 20-Janet Justice, Stephen Ellis, Kelsie Holly, KateLynn Bentle, Becca Striblin, Tricia Pruitt
- May 21-Brandon Martin, Charlotte Taylor
- May 22-Cristan Ledbetter, Rachel McAnulty

Accustom yourself to not knowing what your opinions are till you have blurred them out, and thus find out what they are.
—John Jay Chapman

A man is known by the company his mind keeps.
—Thomas Bailey Aldrich



THE WELL DRESSED RODEO FAMILY—The Walter B. Holland family is pictured above modeling the clothes a "well dressed family" will wear during the Western Apparel Week. Note hat, neckpiece or shirt. Left to right, they are Scharlene, Mrs. Holland, Marca Dean and Walter B. (Dispatch Photo.)



Agent Kenneth Williams from the Central Bail Bonds office, located at 101 W. Main in Post, recently attended the Company Annual Training Seminar at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Lubbock. Each year Central Bail Bonds conducts a training seminar to educate its agents on new legislation and criminal law changes that affect the bail bond industry. Agents are also tested on company rules and policies. Each agent receives a Certificate of Completion.



Because he and President Andrew "Old Hickory" Jackson were so close, James Polk was often referred to as "Young Hickory."

Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
by Tumbleweed Smith

Georgetown's Palace gets its glitter back

The Palace Theater in Georgetown opened in 1926 to show silent films. When talkies came in a couple of years later, the theater had standing room only crowds. In a small town, the movie house is the main entertainment venue.

The Palace, just a block away from the Williamson County court house, was a prominent downtown structure. It had a long and productive life as a movie house. Television took its toll, of course, so did the big multi-screen cinemplexes in nearby Austin.

The Palace closed in the late 70's. Some residents couldn't stand the thought of their precious theater closing down, so they bought it and formed an organization to start a renovation project. About 75 volunteers went to the theater to do everything from scraping chewing gum off the floor to painting the walls.

The Palace re-opened and started showing movies and offering live productions. The group got serious in 1998 and started a capital campaign to raise money for some major updating. The theater closed for two years during the remodeling. It was an enormous task. The back wall was removed to allow bulldozers to come in and level the floor.

It had been designed for movie audiences. The new floor can accommodate people who attended live theater as well. In the course of the work, the equipment uncovered a flowing spring. The water had to be diverted away from the theater. The total cost of the renovation is a million and a half dollars.

The Palace is the only Art Deco building on Georgetown's nationally recognized historic town square. It opened with a Gala Performance last October. It seats 300 people in comfortable, renovated seats restored in 1930's style. The Palace has state of the art sound, lighting and film projection equipment.

The Georgetown newspaper wrote an editorial in December of 1990: "A palace of dreams. That was what the local movie house represented to young people in Georgetown. Without the Palace, it is hard to imagine what would have sparked the creative and questing urges of thousands of youngsters who grew up here during the Depression, World War II and the drought-plagued 50's." The Palace gets lots of use.

"We're trying to average 20 nights a month," says Sonja Asendorf, board secretary. "We have quite a variety of events. Everything from weekly Gospel and Country Western music programs to movies and stage productions. We also rent the theater to groups needing an auditorium." Georgetown has plenty of talent.

Sun City, a retirement community, regularly stages variety shows featuring residents. Nearby Universities and colleges also contribute to the talent pool. "The Palace is a community gathering place," says Sonja.

Pfc. Collazo completes training

Marine Corps Pfc. Jamie L. Collazo, son of Linda L. and Johnny R. Collazo of Post, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Collazo successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Collazo and fellow recruits began their training at 5 a.m. by running three miles and performing calisthenics. In addition to the physical conditioning, he spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments, which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. They performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

Collazo and other recruits also received instruction on the Marine Corps' core values - honor, courage and commitment - and what the words mean in guiding personal and professional conduct.

Collazo and fellow recruits ended the training phase with The Crucible, a 54-hour team effort, problem solving evolution that culminated with an emotional ceremony in which the recruits were presented the Marine Corps emblem and were addressed as "Marines" for the first time since boot camp began.

Collazo is a 2001 Post High School graduate.

Well-timed silence hath more eloquence than speech.
—Martin Farquhar Tupper

ACROSS

- 1 Boerne or Azle h.s. class
- 5 TXism: "sure"
- 6 one who gets old
- 7 Yo ___ Digo Creek
- 8 TXism: "smells like a wet ___"
- 9 in NE Dallas Co.
- 15 TX McMurry's "Lonesome Dove" was TV ___ series
- 16 TXism: "as welcome as a skunk ___"
- 19 across the Rio Grande from McAllen
- 21 TXism: "___ hear it" (disappointing)
- 22 tiled designs
- 27 TXism: "take a stab ___" (attempt)
- 28 TXism: "got it from the ___ mouth"
- 29 TXism: "stands on his ___ feet"
- 30 TXism: "a ___ do you do"
- 32 ___ Hamlin created "Ailey Oop" in Iraan, TX
- 33 TX Nolan Ryan achievements
- 36 milled wood
- 37 TXNs like it iced
- 38 TXism: "he'd have ___ up to be a half-wit"
- 39 TXism for "animals"
- 41 TXism: "irritating enough to turn Casper the friendly ___"
- 44 a Gulf pirate: Louis-Michel ___
- 45 phrase heard on a golf green? (3 wds.)
- 46 TX Perot was salesman for this corp.
- 47 activity for males on Padre Island at spring break? (2 wds.)
- 50 this Peter was in "Silk Stockings" with TX Cyd Charisse
- 51 a George W. brother
- 52 feminine suffix
- 53 San Jacinto victor (init.)

DOWN

- 1 Santa ___ Natl. Wildlife Refuge
- 2 birth month for TX Steve Martin (abbr.)
- 3 in TX, 3rd DWI offense as ___
- 4 TXism: "nervous ___ pan"
- 8 expires
- 9 "Mr. Sam" Rayburn served in the United States ___
- 10 Ozona h.s. class
- 11 TX singer Pride (init.)
- 12 TXism: "if he was a dog he wouldn't wag ___" (lazy)
- 13 TX Howard Hughes produced film "___ face" ('31)
- 14 TXism: "tie up the loose ___"
- 15 Field Scovell was ___ Bowl
- 16 "a ___ apple"
- 17 "I face ___ day"
- 18 Olympic host Bob ___
- 20 this Redding and TX Janis were in film "Monterey Pop" birth state of TX Belle Starr (abbr.)
- 23 TXism: "he'd be late to his ___ funeral"
- 24 TXism: "___ slinging drunk"
- 25 TXism: "more disgusting than throwing slop ___"
- 26 ___ was in Dixie ___
- 28 TX golfer Byron book: ___ Played the Game"
- 31 Maureen O' ___ was in "McLintock" with TX Chill Willis
- 34 elephant tooth
- 35 former cowboy ___ Tall" Jones
- 37 college semester
- 40 bath vats
- 42 this Carter was in "The Grass Harp" with TX Sissy ___
- 43 TXism: "___ on" (get drunk)
- 48 Dublin wasn't named after ___ city
- 49 CSA Gen. Lee (init.)

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by Charley & Guy Orbison
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P-541

Response Card

(Check all that apply)

- Yes! Send me a Garza Relay for Life Team Captain Packet.
- Yes! I am a cancer survivor and will be attending the Victory Lap My Shirt size is: _____
- Yes! Contact me, I'd like to volunteer.
- Yes! I would like to buy a luminaria. (\$5 donation per luminaria. Please include money and make checks payable to American Cancer Society.)

Your Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Please provide name for each luminaria

1. Name _____

"in memory" -or- "in honor"

2. Name _____

"in memory" -or- "in honor"

3. Name _____

"in memory" -or- "in honor"

4. Name _____

"in memory" -or- "in honor"

5. Name _____

"in memory" -or- "in honor"

Mail Form to:

Crystal Peña
203 South Ave E
Post, Texas 79356

Questions? Call Us.

Crystal Peña - Phone: 806.495.2112
or 1.800.ACS.2345

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor Policy: We require all letters to be signed. Letters may be edited for brevity, grammar and punctuation. Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect those of The Post Dispatch nor its staff.

Big Thank You!

A special "thank you" to all of the individuals and organizations who donated money to the Garza Theatre for the purchase of a popcorn machine of our very own.

A special "thank you" goes to the Golden Plains Care Center for loaning us their popcorn machine to use for the past few plays.

Your help and support is very much appreciated by all those who strive for continued success of the Garza Theatre.

Sincerely,
Garza Theatre Board of Directors
Mitchell Britton, president; Christy Morris, managing director; Jay Giles, secretary; Fred Stephens, Giles McCrary, Jack Alexander, Cordell Green, Maxine Earland Naomi Matsler, office manager.

Not a complainer, but ...

By nature, I am not a complainer and I try not to worry about the "small stuff". However, there are some things, in my opinion that need to be said: I spent the first forty years of my life in East Texas, in a small town very similar to Post.

I am sure that during that time the Post Office there "misplaced" its share of mail - all humans error. However, since moving to West Texas in 1992, I have found that sending and/or receiving mail can be most challenging, and frustrating.

Our first Christmas in Lamesa (1992), a friend from Snyder sent us a Christmas card, which to this day we have yet to receive. I once found a letter in our box here on March 11th,

postmarked from Lubbock on January 14th!

A couple of months ago, my husband mailed a utility payment, from our mail box at home-it ended up about two blocks from us. The recipient was kind enough to call us and let us know he had the check. One of my neighbors had her long distance calling card delivered to a street address across town instead of to her Post Office Box. (She learned about it when the calls started showing up on her bill - calls she had not made.)

Last week I got a letter addressed to someone on Osage St - I live on 11th - and the names were not even similar. And I consistently receive mail addressed to the previous owner of our house - who has been deceased since 1997 - in spite of my writing "DECEASED" on every one of the envelopes and placing it back in the box.

Until now, I have laughed it off and remained silent. But the latest fiasco pushed me over the edge: My daughter filed her income tax in February and has been patiently waiting for her refund check. Yesterday, she contacted the IRS to learn that they had mailed the check TO HER HOME ADDRESS, and the Post Office here returned it to them on May 3rd as "undeliverable". She immediately went to the Post Office to inquire about the "mistake". She was told by someone there that they would need to see the correspondence before they could tell her why they returned it! If she had received the check, and had been able to show it to them, there would be no reason to complain in the first place.

Needless to say, she will now have to wait an additional four to six weeks for the IRS to re-issue the check. I wonder

how many pieces of important mail I have not gotten, and don't even know about? My "junk" mail seems to make it to me in record time.
Darlene Prueett

The Post Dispatch - 495-2816

Elder abuse can be avoided

The 73-year-old woman put her trust in and handed over her financial resources to two supposed caregivers. In return, they stole all of her money and other assets - even her house - leaving her destitute and without shelter.

This situation occurred recently, and it's one of many crimes committed against senior citizens throughout the United States. They lose an estimated \$40 billion annually to scam artists, thieves and con artists, according to the America Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

Often the culprits are caregivers or even family members. The U.S. Administration on Aging has designated May as Older Americans Month, and it is a particularly appropriate time to examine financial elder abuse. For more information about Older American Month, log on to www.aoa.dhhs.gov.

There are a few common characteristics in most elder financial abuse cases. The perpetrator uses trickery, intimidation or coercion, or the victim is too confused to give informed consent. Often the victim lives alone, is physically impaired and depends on another person for assistance.

Wells Fargo Community Banking President Charles Hardin said that financial institutions that truly focus on their customers train their staff to look for signs that might indicate their elderly customers are being victimized. National and state government agencies and nonprofit groups such as AARP and state banking associations provide information on the topic and actively support law enforcement efforts to pursue the crooks.

The best defense against financial abuse is for seniors and their loved ones to be aware of the enormity of this crime; be able to spot its occurrence; and know how to report any incidents or attempts.

Some of the more common scams include:

- Misappropriation of funds - A criminal obtains a senior's bank account or credit card numbers and uses this information to steal funds.
- Sign here - A scammer convinces an elder to sign over control of investments, real estate and other assets.
- Bank examiner - A crook posing as a bank examiner asks a senior to help nab a "suspected employee embezzler" by withdrawing cash and giving it to the "examiner."
- Pigeon drop - One or two crooks pretend to find cash in a public place and offer to share the funds with a senior if he or she will put in some of their own money.

• Telemarketing/mail fraud - This can take many forms, including fraudulent contest prizes, bogus magazine subscriptions and phony vacation offers.

• Unsolicited work - A workman comes to a senior's home and offers to do inexpensive repair work. Then comes the unexpected charges - for a shoddy job or for work that isn't even done.

• Investments/donations - The thief solicits a donation to a nonexistent charity or for an investment in a "high-return, low-risk" deal.

As more is learned about these tricks and scams, thieves continue to invent new ways to separate elders from their hard-earned funds and assets. Here are a few steps elders and their loved ones can take to prevent victimization:

- Never give anyone personal identification information or credit card or bank account numbers. Thieves do not need an actual credit card to steal. A credit card number works nearly as well.
- Never bend to pressure to withdraw a large amount of money or agree to an offer. Ask for details in writing and review them with a trusted professional or loved one.
- Never sign anything you don't understand.
- Stay agree to a construction project before obtaining multiple estimates from people who have references and prove that they are licensed contractors.
- Never pay in advance for work.
- Never let strangers into your home.
- Stay socially active. Isolation increases the risk of becoming a victim.
- Get to know your banker, attorney and investment adviser. Review with them all investment offers you receive.
- Be cautious about opening a joint bank account. With equal access, the other person can drain the account without your permission or knowledge.
- Pay for items with a credit card. If an offer turns out to be fraudulent, it's easier to get your money back than if you pay with cash, check or money orders.
- Use a phone answering system to screen calls.
- Open and post your own mail. Make sure your mailbox is secure. One of the most frequent ways thieves get personal information about victims is by stealing items from a home mailbox.
- Check bank statements carefully for unauthorized transactions. This can be done with a home computer if the financial institution offers online banking.
- Sign up for direct deposit for your

pension, Social Security and other income.

Anyone who believes they may have been a victim should report the incident immediately to the bank and police department. Save all documentation from suspicious transactions - including mail offers (even the envelopes), canceled checks, telephone bills and credit card statements. Take notes during phone conversations and include the date and time they occurred.

To find out more about elder financial abuse and how to avoid becoming a victim, contact any of the following:

- American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) - (800) 424-3410 or www.aarp.org (or check the local telephone directory for the nearest office).
- National Center on Elder Abuse - (202) 898-2578 or www.elderabusecenter.org.
- National Fraud Information Center - (800) 876-7060 or www.fraud.org.
- Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center - (877) 382-4357 or www.consumer.gov/know/fraud.
- Better Business Bureau - www.bbb.org (or check the telephone directory for the nearest office).

Remember this adage - if it sounds too good to be true, it's probably neither good nor true.



Short height and speeches on behalf of the Democratic party earned President James Polk the nickname "Napoleon of the Stump."

Sheriff reports six arrested

Six individuals were jailed locally during the past week, according to records of the Garza County Sheriff's Department.

On May 6, a 49-year-old male was jailed for injury to a disabled individual.

On May 8, a 25-year-old male was arrested on a Garza County warrant. Arrests for public intoxication - those of a 49-year-old male and a 17-year-old male - were made on May 9 and May 11 respectively. Also, a 35-year-old male was jailed May 11 for driving while license suspended.

On May 12, a 29-year-old male was jailed on charges of Class A DWI, evading arrest and aggravated assault/family violence.

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