

*****3-DIGIT 791
 743 12-31-05 W 21P 273
 RAZE BOOKBINDING
 514 W. 7TH ST.
 AMARILLO TX 79101

Post Notes

Rummage sale benefits youth camp

The 2nd Annual Rummage Sale to benefit White River Youth Camp will be held Friday and Saturday, April 4 and 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the GCJLA Livestock Barn. New items will be arriving on Friday night as well. There are household items, furniture and clothes for the entire family. All proceeds benefit the scholarship fund for the camp. Call Salli Bush at 495-2132 or 73-4503 to donate items or for more information.

Bake Sale Saturday for our troops

"Operation Post - Support our Troops" presents a bake sale Saturday, April 5 at Old Mill Trade Days (just outside south gate) beginning at 9 a.m. All proceeds go toward the cost of sending care packages to our troops overseas.

Fish fry at Holy Cross Friday

Members of the Holy Cross Catholic Church are offering fish fry with trimmings, dessert and drink Friday from 5-7 p.m. for \$6 per plate.

Blood drive set Friday at Dalby facility

United Blood Services is conducting a local blood drive Friday from 1-6 p.m. at the Dalby Correctional Facility parking lot. Donors must be 17 years of age or older and in good health. All donors will receive a T-shirt. For an appointment contact event coordinator Deanna Bruton at 495-2175.

'Day at the ball park' April 5

"A day at the ballpark" is set for April 5 as Post summer baseball gets started. There will be a hamburger cookout beginning at noon. The cookout includes hamburger, chips and drink for \$5 per plate. Games will be played and sponsors recognized. A small garage sale will be held, and anyone who missed out on registration and welcome to sign up at the event.

Fastpitch softball sponsors raffle

The South Plains Girls Fastpitch Softball players are selling raffle tickets to earn funds for uniforms and equipment. A total of three tickets will be drawn with first prize of \$100 gift certificate to United Supermarkets, second prize is a Sanyo CD player and third prize a \$50 gift certificate to United Supermarket. Tickets are \$1 each with the drawing to be held April 13 at 2 p.m. at the ballpark. Do not need to be present to win.

Community rally to support troops

Operation Post-Support our Troops will host a community rally Saturday, April 12 at the city park from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The event will feature entertainment, food, auction and raffle. All proceeds go toward the cost of sending care packages to our troops.

'12 Angry Men' at the Garza Theatre

The Garza Theatre presents "12 Angry Men," with performances March 28, 29 and April 4, 5, 6, 11 and 12. The play, written by Reginald Rose and adapted by Sherman Sergel, is directed by Jeff Conner. Cast members are Ricky Reyna, Chris Gilmore, James Cutrea, Mitchell Britton, Stan Tucker, Dangle Tabor, Steve Berry, Bill Woodard, Tim McIntire, Cordell Green, Darryl Lippe, Rudy R. Reyes and Patrick Jones. Call the box office at 495-4005 for reservations.

Christian School registration 2003-04

Applications for enrollment and registration fees are now being accepted for the 2003-2004 school year at First Baptist Christian School. Applications are available at the church office, 402 W. Main or contact Nancy Gordon at 495-3554. Classes are available for PreSchool three years old and PreSchool four year olds, as well as kindergarten. FBCCS is a member of Christian Schools International.

Photos of troops needed

The First Baptist Church Christian School is seeking photos and addresses of those from the community who are currently serving in the military. The photos are designed to show students the faces of those for whom we pray and for writing to them. Bring a photo by the church, providing name, address, age and relation to family, where they are serving and other information that might help us to know them and pray for them.

Operation Post-Support Our Troops

A group of Post citizens have formed "Operation Post-Support Our Troops," which is organized to bring about community awareness and show support for our troops. The organization is coordinating the sending of care packages, which will be sent to Garza County service people. Items sought for care packages are sunscreen, lip balm, wet wipes, wrap-around sunglasses, toilet tissue, Kleenex, individually wrapped candy, gum, snacks and drink mixes, toiletry items such as shaving cream, razors and toothbrush kits (travel size). Collection boxes are at United Supermarkets, First United Methodist Church, County Extension Office, Brady's and the courthouse. For more information or a more complete list of supplies, contact Angela Massey at 495-4405, Sandy Smith at 495-9900 or Pixie Grisham at 495-2942.

Donations to help with eye surgery

The Post Church of Christ is coordination donations to help pay for eye surgery for Ryan Belongia. The son of Tracy Freeman, Ryan is undergoing expensive surgery. Those interested in helping should call 495-2326 or 495-0887.

Benefit for Ryan Belongia April 26

A benefit supper will be held Saturday, April 26 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Post Community Center, Youth Center to assist Ryan Belongia. The event features beans, cornbread and sausage meal, bake sale and raffle for a VHS/DVD player with tickets at \$1 each or six for \$5. Contact Meg Nelson at 495-4405 or LuAnne Tetry at 495-4422 to purchase tickets.

PHS Junior Class seeks items for auction

The Post High School Junior Class is seeking items for use at an auction during its "Casino Night" during the May 17 prom. Those businesses and individuals interested in donating items should contact Mitchell Mills at 200 W. 6th Street, Post, Texas 79356 or call 495-2770 (high school office).

"Signs and Symbols of Spring"

The OS Museum is presenting "Signs and Symbols of Spring" with a special exhibit. There is no charge at the museum, which is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. The OS Museum is located at 201 East Main Street upstairs. An elevator is available.

Relay for Life Luminaria form

The "Relay For Life" Luminaria order form is available for those interested in making a donation to help the American Cancer Society. Forms may be obtained by contacting Lisa Copeland at P.O. Box 105, Post, Texas 79356.

Antelope picked for All-Star team

Post Antelope football senior Bryan Looney has been invited to participate in the Texas All-Star Football team competing at this summer's "NO KA OI" Pigskin Classic in Hawaii. Looney is seeking financial assistance for travel and expenses of more than \$2,000. Call 495-0454 to help.

Colgate Country Showdown talent sought

Country music singers and bands are encouraged to apply as contestants to the 2003 Colgate Country Showdown, hosted again this year by KPOS Radio. The event will be at the Garza Theatre, 7 p.m. Saturday, June 28. Applications are available at The Post Dispatch office or by contacting KPOS Radio e-mail pcr1@arn.net, or by mail to P.O. Box 490, Post, Texas 79356. Deadline for applications is May 31, 2003.

Baseball try-outs April 5 and Carnival

Try-outs for summer Little League baseball will be held April 5 at 3 p.m. and April 17 at 6 p.m. A baseball carnival will also be held April 5 with an umpire clinic beginning at 9 a.m. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. hamburgers and sausage wraps will be served and prizes to win. At 1:30 sponsors will be recognized, followed by safty meeting for all coaches and youth, ending with try-outs at 3 p.m.

The Post Dispatch

77th Year Number 44 USPS 439-620 © 2003 The Post Dispatch Newsstand Price 50¢ Thursday, April 3, 2003

Voters face ballot choices on May 3 local elections

Thursday, April 3, is the final day to register to vote in any of the May 3 elections.

Voters in the City of Post, the Post Independent School District and the Garza County Health Care District will go to the polls next month to decide a variety of posts and proposals; however, in order to be eligible to cast a ballot, a voter must be registered by April 3.

City ballots will ask voters to fill the mayoral and three vacant council seats, as well as to consider a pair of propositions. Proposition 1 will ask voters to decide on the adoption of an additional sales and use tax at the rate of one-half of one percent to offset a

corresponding reduction in the ad valorem tax rate. Proposition 2 will deal with the proposed adoption of a sales and use tax at the rate of one-half of one percent to fund the creation of a 4B corporation that will oversee the finance, management, acquisition, transport and furnishing of water through the Slaton water supply project. Mayor Archie Gill will run unopposed in his bid for re-election, and two council members - Juanita Pantoja in Ward 1 and Dick Odom in Ward 2 - will have no opposition in their bids to return to two-year council positions. A fourth candidate, Joshua Whiteley, is running for an unexpired, one-year term in Ward 3. That council seat, previously filled by appointment, was left vacant following the death of Councilman John Redman.

Eight candidates will compete to fill three open Post ISD trustee seats in the upcoming school board election. Candidates, as they will appear on the ballot, include Rex A. Cash, Diana Gonzales Looney, Alexa M. Collier, Mark E. Short, David Davis, Delbert Wartes, Milton Williams and Scott Creech, according to district officials. Cash, Looney and Short are the incumbents.

The three open positions are at-large seats with three-year terms. In the health care district, two candidates - incumbent Zoe Kirkpatrick and newcomer Terry Bartlett - will seek a pair of open positions on the district's board of directors.

Also, voters will be asked to voice their opinion on the proposal to construct and operate a new hospital facility in Post. The proposal calls for the construction of a \$10.5 million, 10-bed hospital/24-hour ER/rural health clinic to be built through the sale of tax-revenue bonds. To meet the financial obligation, which is projected to be paid off over a 15-year term, district officials have proposed a tax rate increase of approximately 30 cents per \$100 valuation.

Early voting by personal appearance in all three elections will run April 16-29.

Constable Yarbo lists personal items charged on county credit card

by Wes Burnett

Garza County Constable Daniel Yarbo appears to be the only county officer having used the county's American Express charge card for personal uses in the calendar year 2002.

A review of the American Express account for the calendar year 2002 shows Yarbo purchased a total of \$1,008.19 in personal items, and reimbursed the county \$271.19 in 2002.

According to records provided to The Post Dispatch by Garza County Treasurer Ruth Ann Young, the remaining \$731 was reimbursed on March 13, 2003.

The following items were marked as personal uses by Yarbo: 1/2/02, Cabella's Inc., Sidney, Nebraska, shoes, \$77.90; 1/10/02, Ranger Joes, winter clothing gear (Deputy B. Kimmons), \$130.80; 3/15/02, The Safety Boot Store, Amarillo, work boots, \$116.24; 3/29/02, Gail's Inc., Kentucky, four work shirts, \$108.27; 4/1/02, The Safety Boot Store, Amarillo, work boots, \$148.86; 8/5/02, My Family Ancestry Store, Utah, Online Family History Research Site, \$99.95; 8/30/02, Record Town Inc., N.Y., four DVDs, \$42.87; 9/6/02, VIDBIDNESS Inc., Valencia, Calif., holster, \$53; 10/11/02, Quartermaster, Calif., field watch, \$85.45; 10/18/02, Quartermaster, Calif., Smith & Wesson high caliber range bag (Deputy Cliff Laws), \$44.90 and 11/5/02, My Family Ancestry Store, Utah, Online Family History Research Site, \$99.95.

(Continued on Page 2)

County seeks new JDC management

by Wes Burnett

Plans for contracting the Juvenile Detention Center took front stage at last week's (3/24/03) Garza County Commissioners' Court. County Judge Giles W. Dalby explained that he hoped that new management could be

in place before April 30.

The court met again Friday (3/28/03) to approve publishing of the "Request for Proposals" and will meet again April 17 to open any bids that might be received. Dalby said he'd been in contact

(Continued on Page 2)

Treasurer provides requested info

by Wes Burnett

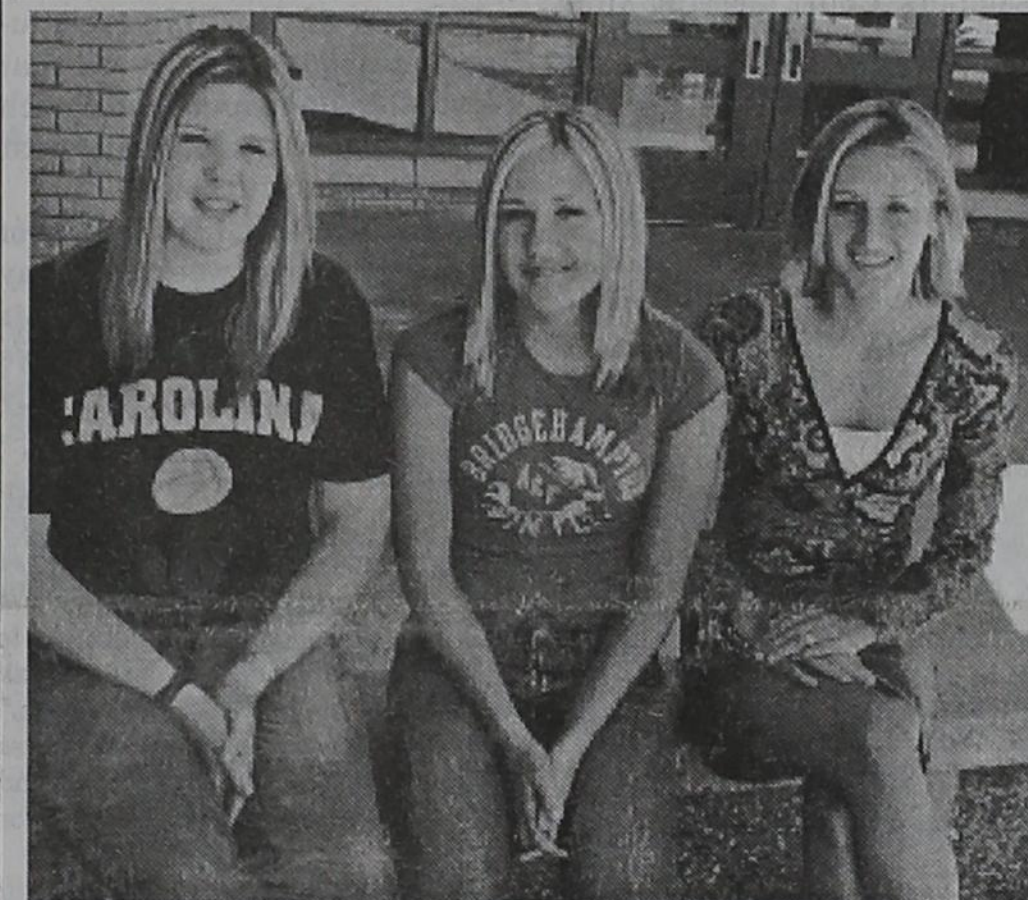
Garza County Treasurer Ruth Ann Young provided copies of American Express monthly statements last Wednesday (3/26/03) as had been requested by The Post Dispatch.

Mrs Young correctly pointed out to us that the law allows 10 days delivery time, and she fulfilled the request within five days.

The comprehensive report included a total of 47 pages, with notations by county officers on each item charged to the American Express account during the calendar year of 2002.



PHS All-District Academic basketball players are (left to right) Lady Lopes Logan Gregory, Meagan Hoover, Donae Dalby, Kaycee Gorman and Brittney Courtney.



PHS Lady Lope basketball players earning All-District honors were (left to right) Nikki Norman (1st team), Kaycee Gorman and Brittney Courtney (honorable mention).



PHS basketball players earning All-District Academic Honors are (back row, left to right) Mitchell Mills, Sterling Smith, Bryce Easterling, (front row) Jordan Tatum, Kenny Ratke and Jarrett Vickers. Vickers was also named to the first team All-District and All South Plains First Team.



Texas Department of Transportation crews were busy recently removing the old striping on U.S. Hwy 380 adjacent to the middle and elementary schools. Scraping off the old paint were (left to right) Larry Valdez, Robby Dean and Richard Martin. The striping returns the roadway to its traditional two-lane status, removing the turning lane which had been requested by the City of Post and Garza County Sheriff's Department.

Local News • Live Post High School Sports on KPOS Radio
 Cable Network Advertising & Classic Cable Channel 12 • 97.7 FM (Community Radio)

JDC management

(Continued from Page 1)

with Cornerstone of Colorado, which has visited and has shown interest in managing the facility.

In other matters, commissioners approved one indigent application for rent and utility assistance.

Obsolete and used computer equipment will be donated to Post's MAD DADS Inc. following a request for the transfer by commissioner Lee Norman.

The court also approved a recommendation by Mason McClellan to allow employees to

work on their days off, holidays and vacation. Commissioners John Valdez and Mike Sanchez joined McClellan in the vote, with Norman voting against the measure.

Dalby provided information to the court concerning expected funding cuts from various state programs in the coming fiscal years. All agencies are expecting big cuts, with impact locally for the extension service, probation office and criminal justice.

Judy's Jabberin'

by Judy (Ballentine) Bush

Greetings for one more week. Hope all of you had a wonderful weekend past and that you all have a great one coming up. Don't forget this is Old Mill Trade Day week end.

FOR JOE Today is a sad day for me. Joe Williams passed away Sunday morning and will be laid to rest today. Joe was known and loved by lots of people, but he was so special to me and to the other members of Graham Methodist Church. He and Alma have been members for many years and devoted members at that. Joe loved our little church and gave freely of his time and heart to keep it strong. I know Alma will miss him as will many folks, but my goodness what a special angel he will be.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ANDREW Mr. David Andrew

Credit Card...

(Continued from Page 1)

Yarbo indicated on the statement that the family history was "for the purpose of locating an individual or his whereabouts or family's whereabouts for a case filed in the DA's office."

There were no indications as to whether or not state or federal taxes were included in the personal charges.

The issue of personal use of county credit cards was publicly aired at the Garza County Commissioners' Court meeting Monday, March 10. County Judge Giles W. Dalby recommended changes to the county's procedures for reviewing American Express monthly statements.

Without naming anyone, Dalby said that one elected official had been in arrears, but had paid what was due. "We've all done this," Dalby said, and emphasized that when he used the card he always reimbursed his part as soon as the statement arrived.

It appears from the American Express statements for 2002, that Yarbo was the only county official making any personal charges to the account.

Quintana celebrated his first birthday March 21st. Family and friends enjoyed food and cake. Andrew is the son of David and Melinda Quintana and brother of Quincey. Hope you had a great time Andrew!



TOO FUNNY The following is a bit lengthy, but too funny not to include. Thanks to Gene Posey for sending it to me.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY I want to wish a happy birthday to my brother-in-law, Mack Terry. I won't disclose his age cause I don't want to make him mad at me, but just hope he has a great day today (Wednesday). Also to my daughter and son-in-law, happy anniversary April 7th.

CRYSTAL Just wanted to let Crystal Mason know that I'm glad she is feeling better after her recent gall bladder surgery. Crystal, I heard you got a really pretty cactus???

REMINDER Just wanted to remind everyone about meeting at the flag pole every day at noon. This is a prayer time to support our troops.

GAGE I know everyone remembers the little boy in Ferg's letter. Well he (Gage Firestone) is being presented with a hand operated, three wheel bike this Friday evening at 50 Yard Line restaurant in Lubbock. He has ask that Ferg, Mike Babb and Leon Couch be present. I think that is a neat story. Good luck to Gage.

TILL NEXT WEEK Hope all of you have a great weekend. May God bless each of you and our troops. Most of all God bless America. See you next week. Judy

'12 Angry Men' at Garza Theatre

A Sunday matinee performance will be offered this weekend in addition to two nightly performances of the Garza Theatre's latest play, "12 Angry Men."

The matinee performance will be at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, while the Friday and Saturday performances are slated for 8 p.m.

Final performances of the show will be April 11-12.

Directed by Jeff Conner, the play features cast members Ricky Reyna, Chris Gilmore, James Cutrera, Mitchell Britton, Stan Tucker, Dangie Tabor, Steve Berry, Bill Woodard, Tim McIntire, Cordell Green, Darryl Lippe, Rudy R. Reyes and Patrick Jones.

Tickets are \$9 for adults or \$6 for children ages 6-12. Tickets may be purchased at the theatre's box office.



PHS Honorable Mention All-Star Cast members for the District Champion One-Act Play are (left to right) Adam Nobles, Renee Hatley, Lesley Rutherford, Jordan Tatum and Christina Zellmer.



Proudly displaying a new sign at Golden Plains Care Center in support of U.S. troops at war are Christy Rutherford, T.F. Davis, Pito Bustoz, Cleo Sappington, Gene Hays, Tony Ortiz, Bob Munns, Pam McClain, Mari Bustoz and Cindy Polk.

You are cordially invited to the Retirement Reception honoring **LaVerne Aten** 4-6 p.m., April 4 Close City Coop Gin



Al Bendeck, PA-C



OASIS MEDICAL CLINIC



Christy Hale, PA-C

Building Healthy Families Open Five Days a week for your convenience Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For Appointments Call 828-3087 New Patients Accepted Walk-ins Welcome! 235 W. Garza St. - Slaton



Because the Customer ---

Because the customer has a need, We have a job to do.

Because the customer has a choice, We must be the better choice.

Because the customer has sensibilities, We must be considerate.

Because the customer has an urgency, We must be quick.

Because the customer is unique, We must be flexible.

Because the customer has high expectations, We must excel.

Because the customer has influence, We have the hope of more customers.

Because of the customer, we exist!

CitizensBANK

Post, Texas (806) 495-3545

Lobby Hours 9-3 M-F Drive In Hours 9-6 M-F 9-12 Sat



Member FDIC

GHD studies PNS contract issues

by Wes Burnett

Members of the Garza County Hospital District devoted a big chunk of last Thursday's (3/27/03) meeting to a proposed contract with Physicians Network Services (PNS) to manage a district owned health clinic here.

In consultation with the district's attorney Calloway Huffaker of Tahoka, board members offered a variety of changes, which are to be reviewed by PNS. Among the changes is a provision that the "medical provider" be approved by the GHD board.

The PNS proposal is expected to cost the district approximately \$5,700 per month for management services, plus the district will be responsible for payroll and other operating expenses of the clinic. The total expected monthly cost of operating the health clinic hasn't been announced.

The current clinic operation under Covenant Health Systems will cease on April 30. GHD has paid a monthly tax subsidy of \$25,000 to CHS to operate the clinic.

The board has set a meeting Thursday, April 3 at 6:30 p.m. in CitizensBank Community Room to consider the contract.

In other matters, board members agreed to retain the precinct voting arrangement, based on the uncertainty of obtaining "pre-clearance" approval from the U.S. Justice Department for a centralized voting place.

DANCE LESSONS

Now being offered in Post!!

Lessons include

Ballet • Tap • Jazz • Mexican Folk • Flamenco • Hip Hop

Ages 4-adult. Lessons will be at the Post Community Center, the instructor will travel to Post once a week. Space is limited!!! For more information call: 781-0853

ONLY \$40 per month*

800 Anytime Minutes
Unlimited Nights & Weekends
1,000 Mobile-to-Mobile Minutes
FREE Nationwide Long Distance

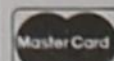
Come See The New 'Flip Phones' from Audiovox & Kyocera

Post City Communications
Cell Tone of Plainview

CELLULARONE[®]

Authorized Dealer

495-0277 OPEN Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to
FAX 495-0511 5:30 p.m. & Saturday 8 a.m. to Noon



206 E. Main

Obituaries

Joe Williams

Services for Joe Williams, 91, of Post, were 2:00 p.m. Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church with Rev. Charles Addington, First United Methodist Church of Wellington officiating and the Rev. John Hedrick, Pastor of the Graham Methodist Church assisted. Masonic and Military Graveside Rites followed at the Terrace Cemetery under the personal care of Justice-Mason Funeral Home.

He died Sunday, March 30, 2003 at UMC in Lubbock.

Born January 2, 1912 at Bruno, Ark. to Roland and Nettie Mae (Ingle) Williams. At the age of six he and his family moved to Lexington, Oklahoma, where he lived until the age of 17. His family then moved to Needmore, near Sudan, in West Texas. Joe always said he wasn't born in Texas, but he got here as fast as he could. In 1940 he joined the Army and was stationed at Camp Brownwood, where he met his wife to be. He married Opal Shuffield Nov. 18, 1942 and she preceded him in death January 20, 1977. He served stateside in the military police, but was in the medical corps overseas. He received three bronze stars and could give you a first hand account of the Battle of the Bulge. After returning home he went to work for the Texas Dept. of Transportation on a special crew and moved to Post in 1960 as the superintendent until his retirement January 31, 1977. He served on the Post Volunteer Fire Department for 15 years and After retirement he volunteered for the City-County Ambulance Service for several years.

He married Alma McBride Feb. 2, 1978 here in Post and also gained three additional children: Auvy McBride, Shirley Cranford and David McBride. Auvy preceded Joe in death Feb. 9, 1998.

He was a member of the Post Masonic Lodge # 1058 having served as Worshipful Master of the lodge in 1967 and 1978. The lodge awarded Joe with the Golden Trowel, which is the highest honor a Mason can have bestowed upon, other than the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. He also was a member of the Graham Chapel Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife; Alma; Three sons: Larry and his wife Colene Williams of Mansfield, Jimmie and his wife Pat Williams of Dallas and David McBride of Post. One daughter: Shirley Kay and husband Claude Cranford of Texarkana. 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.



Operation Post-Support Our Troops sets goals

An assortment of items is being collected as an effort to help support the U.S. military troops fighting in the Middle East.

"Operation Post-Support Our Troops" is a group of citizens organized to show support to service men and women by collecting items to be sent to troops fighting overseas. Items collected will be shipped to troops with families in Garza County.

The following items, as suggested by the American Red Cross, are being collected:

- Individually-wrapped pieces of hard candy and gum (Twizzlers, Tootsie

Rolls, Tootsie Pops, bubble gum, Skittles, lollipops, Life Savers, candy sticks, Sweet Tarts, etc.) • Cookies • Peanuts, pretzels and other snack foods • Microwave popcorn • Wet wipes • Sunscreen • Lip balm • Wrap-around sunglasses • Batteries • Small pencil sharpeners • Kool Aid and other drink mixes • Blank greeting cards (birthday, anniversary, etc.) • Toiletry items, including shaving cream, razors, travel toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower soap and gel • Videos, DVDs, music CDs, cassettes • Playing cards • Small board games (chess, checkers, dominoes, Parcheesi, Yahtzee, Uno, cribbage and jigsaw puzzles) • Paperback books (mysteries, action, drama, sci-fi are highly read; recent titles are suggested) • Puzzle books • Toilet tissue and Kleenex

Collection boxes for donated items will be placed at United Supermarket, the courthouse, the Texas Cooperative Extension office, the probation office, the Methodist church office and at Brady's.

Funds also are needed to assist in mailing expenses. Collection cans will be available, and fund raisers will be held to help raise money for postage. Anyone interested in helping or needing a question answered should contact Angela Massey at 495-4405 or 495-0198 or Sandy Smith at 495-9900.

Additionally, free yellow ribbons may be picked up either inside or at the drive-through at Nothin' Butt Smokes.



U.S. Hwy 84 North

Family Restaurant

495-3848

South Plains Answering Service

The personal touch for your business

495-3069

KPOS Radio

97.7 FM & Cable Channel 12

Post Insurance

Serving Post since 1911

- Auto
- Business
- Home
- Farm & Ranch

128 E. Main 495-2894

Post Devotional Page

Upcoming Events: April 4, 5 & 6
May 2, 3 & 4

OLDMILL TRADE DAYS
Located at Historic Postex Mill
(806) 495-3529 • www.oldmilltradedays.com

MASON BROS. CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
495-3400 - Post, Texas

GERMANIA 118 N. Ave. H
495-3330
Locally served by Jerry Taylor LC 230

Pizza Hut Tuesday Buffet 5:30-8 p.m.
Buffet - \$4.29
Sun-Fri 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
402 S. Broadway 495-2844

Golden Plains Care Center
"Where Your Family becomes Our Family"
605 W. 7th Street Post, Texas 79356
(806) 495-2848

Watch Up For Power Lines
Lytegar Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Tahoka - 561-4588 or 561-4811
Lamesa - 872-2632 Sundown - 229-3744

Senior Citizen Coffee Special 28¢
(55 & Older)
we love to see you smile

HACKBERRY CO-OP GIN
Earl Brown, General Manager
(806) 996-5311
Serving you and your neighbors since 1939

Ira PUMP & SUPPLY CO., INC.
Office: 806-495-3521
806-495-3503
Fax: 806-495-2985

PALMER OILFIELD CONSTRUCTION
Roustabouts • Oilfield Welding • Pump Mechanics
New & Used Pumps • Backhoes
495-2710 • 8(Mobile)06-632-8147 • 495-3639

CitizensBANK
Post, Texas (806) 495-3545

Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

Copyright © John A. Lehti, Distributor Liturgy-Plus, Middletown, NY NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Dal Advertising Service, P.O. Box 10278, Goldsboro, NC 27532

THE BITTER WATERS OF MARAH!

WITH THE ISRAELITES' WRATH, EXPRESSED IN EXPLOSIVE WORDS OVER THEIR DISAPPOINTMENT AT NOT BEING ABLE TO DRINK THE WATER, MOSES TURNED TO THE LORD... AND THE LORD SHOWED HIM A TREE, WHICH WHEN HE HAD CAST INTO THE WATERS... (EX. 15:25)...



WHILE ALL THE PEOPLE WATCH SILENTLY, THE TREE IS POISED ABOVE THE WATERS....



...AND, WITH A MIGHTY SPLASH, IT IS IMMERSED IN THE WATERS OF MARAH—BUT NOT A SOUND IS HEARD FROM THE PEOPLE AS THEY WATCH....

JOHN LEHTI

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK... CONTINUED NEXT WEEK...

This Devotional Page is made possible by these businesses who encourage us to attend worship services

Church Directory

Assembly of God	Church of God
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	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	Faith Chapel 1105 Green St., Wilson (806) 628-6612
Church of Christ 108 N. Ave. M, 495-2326	Presbyterian
Graham Chapel Church of Christ 5 miles W. Hwy 380, 2 miles south	First Presbyterian Church 910 W. 10th, 495-2135

GRAHAM CO-OP GIN
"The Business The Farmer Owns"
Route 3 Box 57 - Post, Texas
495-2179

Tanner's Appliance Heating & Air
#TACLBO21934E
495-1612 or Mobile: 778-3230
Factory Trained Service on all brands of appliances

KPOS Radio
Classic Cable Channel 12 97.7 FM
Post, 216 W. Main, 806-495-2804

KPOS Radio
Classic Cable Channel 12 97.7 FM

H&M Dirt Contractors Inc.
Clairemont Hwy • 495-3293

Holly Bros. Muffler & Wrecker
Muffler Specialists • Minor Repairs • Oil Change
• Wash Job • Complete Exhaust Systems
New & Used Tires • Road Service
515 N. Broadway - 495-3180

Lynn County Hospital District
www.lchdhealthcare.org
Tahoka - 998-4533
Physician & Wellness Clinic
Obstetrical Services
Home Health Services
Lynwood Assisted Living Center

United Supermarkets

Holly's Drive In
"God Bless You"
615 S. Broadway
495-2704 Phil. 4:19

Call for Reservations
HOTEL GARZA
806-495-3962
www.bbhost.com/hotelgarza
hotelgarza@gte.net

El Aguascalientes
Burritos • Breakfast & Lunch • Menudo & Tamales
Lemonade, Orchata & Cokes
601 Broadway, Post 495-5272

JACKSON BROTHERS
"one steak or the whole cow"
specializing in beef jerky and smoked german sausage
121 S. Avenue H - Post, Texas 495-3245

Hudman Funeral Home
615 W. Main
495-2821

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.

Thanks to parents

I would like to take a moment to say how proud I am of the parents and students at Post Elementary!

Last week we started collecting goodies to send to the soldiers overseas, and let me tell you that we have had such a wonderful response! We have already collected enough to send four boxes to different soldiers from Post.

I would also like to thank Jackson Brothers for donating five pounds of beef jerky for us to pack in those boxes. That was so generous of you. I know the soldiers will appreciate a little of our hometown jerky.

I would also like to thank Charles Hardin and Wells Fargo for paying for two of the boxes to be shipped.

It is great to see such support for our soldiers. May God bless you all. Crystal Peña

Blood drive set Friday at Dalby parking lot

A blood drive will be conducted in the parking lot of the Dalby Correctional Facility Friday from 1-6 p.m. The mobile coach of United Blood Services will be utilized during the drive.

To donate, an individual must be 17 years of age or older and in good health.

Donors may make an appointment to donate by contacting Deanna Bruton of the correctional facility at 495-2175. All donors will receive a T-shirt. Out of every 100 individuals needing blood, more than 50 percent will require type O.

"That's the reason we are trying to sign up more O-positive and O-negative donors for our upcoming blood drive," said Bruton, coordinator for the event.

Thirty-seven percent of the population has O-positive blood, making it the most common type. Sadly, many with O-positive blood assume there are plenty of O-positive donors to meet blood demands; however, because it's the most common type, it also is the type most commonly used by patients needing transfusions. More O-positive donors are needed.

O-negative blood is essential for several reasons. Only 6 percent of the population has O-negative blood, but nine of 100 patients receive O-negative transfusions. That's because O-negative blood is the universal blood type and can be given to anyone in an emergency situation where there is no time to cross match the donor's blood with the patient's. Another need for O-negative blood is in the treatment of babies. Neo-natal care facilities require fresh units of O-negative blood each day to treat their tiny patients.

"If you have never donated blood, but you know that you have O-positive or O-negative blood, remember that you're O, so special to area patients," said Connie Hollinshead, community relations representative for United Blood Services. "In view of the problems in the Mideast, it is important that all blood donors and would-be donor of the South Plains take the time to donate blood at this local drive."

Dramatic performances at Garza

by Joy Pool
"Twelve Angry Men" is a courtroom drama being staged at the Garza Theatre. This is a "must see" for anyone who likes a tense drama that demands his undivided attention

from beginning to end.

This drama is directed by Jeff Connor, a Lubbock attorney. His personal experiences add zest and flavor to this production.

The 12 jurors have been carefully selected by Connor, and each depicts a particular character role that creates a fascinating deliberation in the jury room, which will not soon be forgotten.

Post is very fortunate to have a production such as this at our theatre. Take advantage of the opportunity that is in our town and enjoy an evening of superb entertainment that is available without traveling several miles. Remaining performances are scheduled on April 4, 5, 6, 11 and 12. Don't miss this one!

Dee C. Justice certified at seminar

Judge Dee C. Justice was certified at the recent Twenty-Hour Justice of the Peace Seminar held March 25-28 in Austin.

The seminar, sponsored by the Texas Justice Court Training Center, a division of Southwest Texas State University, is one of four held for elected justices of the peace. The purpose of the seminars is to enable justices to fulfill their continuing judicial education requirements.

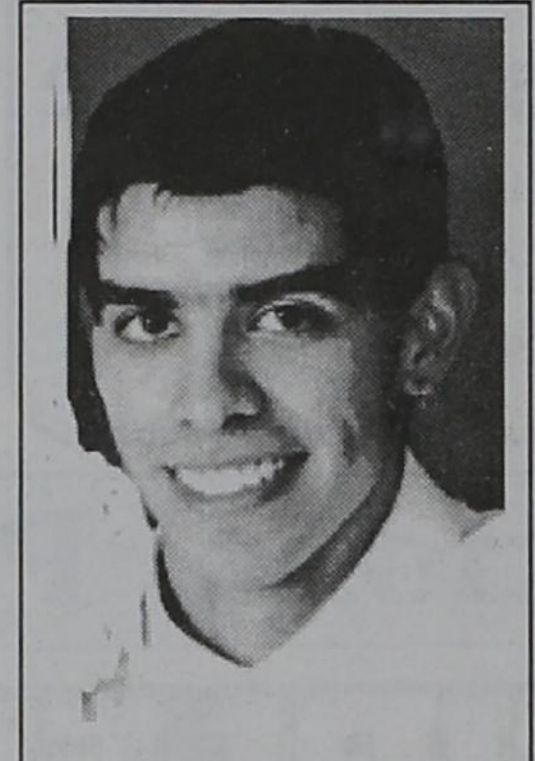
The seminar Justice attended addressed topics such as judicial ethics, juvenile law, small claims, traffic laws, parks and wildlife laws, legal research, magistrate duties, probable cause and search warrants, landlord/tenant issues, contract for deed, miscellaneous hearings, financial management, torts and deed restrictions.

The seminar Justice attended addressed topics such as judicial ethics, juvenile law, small claims, traffic laws, parks and wildlife laws, legal research, magistrate duties, probable cause and search warrants, landlord/tenant issues, contract for deed, miscellaneous hearings, financial management, torts and deed restrictions.

Sheriff reports six arrests

Six arrests were recorded in the Garza County Jail log during the past week, according to records supplied by the sheriff's department.

A 27-year-old was picked up on a Scurry County warrant, and a 31-year-old was picked up on a commitment. Two individuals, one 31-year-old and the other age unlisted, were picked up for public intoxication. Another 31-year-old was jailed for Lubbock County and City of Brownwood warrants. Also, a 22-year-old was arrested on Lubbock County and Garza County warrants.



Michael (Mikey) Collazo graduated from Wyoming Technical Institute March 21 in Laramie, Wyo. He earned an associate of Occupational Studies degree, auto-diesel vehicle technology. He is the son of Linda Collazo and the late Johnny Collazo Sr., and grandson of Angelita Banda of Littlefield and Mike Sanchez of Post. Michael has been offered a position with Mercedes Benz in Oklahoma where he and his wife Jenny will be living.



TSgt. Kenneth Boteler, 41st Flying Training Squadron at Columbus AFB, Miss. was named NCO of the Year. Boteler is the son of Carl and Ingrid Boteler of Post, grandson of Mrs. H.C. Boteler of Floydada and step grandfather A.W. Parker of Earth.



Serving their nation...

Operation Post Support Our Troops

by Sandy Smith

You can feel the pride it's like a breeze (that has nothing to do with the wind) that sweeps across Garza County. We are all so very proud of our young men and women from our hometown and across America.

If you have not heard the good news about Operation Post Support Our Troops, let me fill you in. To begin with there will be a rally on April 12th to raise funds to send care packages to support our military from Post area.

We will have local speakers, entertainment, cook out, and an auction. It will be a great day for our community to get together and hold hands and pray for our military. And to be thankful to those in the past that have also served. If you have any questions or would like to participate please call Sandy Smith 495-9900 or Angela Massey 495-4405.

All of the funds raised will be used to put together and send care packages to our troops and let them know we care and want to help them in every way we can. Some of you may not know, but we do have local young men from Post who are in front lines of Iraq.

We do not want to forget those who are state side either. They are trained and ready to defend our homeland every minute. After 9-11 we never know anymore what dangers our homeland may be in. There will also be donation boxes and cartons throughout town if you would like to donate.

I want to thank all of our local merchants and many others who have already donated time, money, and efforts to this mission. God Bless you all. If you have not heard about Operation Post and would like to help please contact Angela Massey or myself. We do need a list of every local Veteran so that we can contact them to be present for the rally.

Any one, who can help us by getting names, addresses and pictures of local military we would appreciate the help. The picture we will scan and get the original back to the rightful owner. You can drop this off at United. David Capps the manager of United and Shawna Jaquess cashier, along with Operation Post are in process of putting up an honor wall for everyone to see at United.

The Ladies Auxiliary is a great part of this mission also and we would like to thank them for all they have done over the many years of dedication and hard work they have served in our community.

Susan and Darrel Radle proud parents of Spec. John Radle stationed at Ft. Riley, Kansas and Capt. Michael Radle stationed at Tinker Air Force Base Oklahoma City, Ok. Susan reports that John is in the infantry and carries a 240 Bravo Machine Gun or sometimes drives a tank humv. John while stationed at Ft. Riley maintains homeland security.

Capt. Michael Radle on the AWACS plane and also does the surveillance aircraft over seeing Washington DC area and East Coast. What a great job you are doing Capt. Thank you both for your service and sacrifices for our country. We are very proud of all that you are both doing and hurry home safe.

PFC David A. Benham is the son of Frances and David Benham. The Benham's report that David left March 30 at 6 am for Iraq. PFC Benham had been stationed at Ft. Hood, Tx. with 4th Infantry Cavalry Scouts. David stay safe and know our prayers are with you and your family.

I know many of you know Tommy Binford and his wife Kyla. Sgt. Kyla M. Binford has been called to active duty. She reported to Ft. Polk, La. last week. Sgt. we know your husband and children miss you and need you home soon. Please know that we are with you all in thoughts and prayers as Sgt. Kyla and her family also pay the sacrifice to be separated to serve our country. God be with you and bring you home soon.

It has been brought to my attention that we can not mail a Bible or Christian literature overseas to Iraq or Kuwait. They are Muslim countries and they do not allow that literature in their land. If any one has any insight on this please let me know.

As the war continues and our military also continues to serve the call of duty, I am so grateful to live in a free country to pray in public for our military that our Lord will continue to bless these families and bring them all home safe. And the freedom to write and read about our God.

WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

CENTRAL BAIL BONDS
Kenneth Knowles, Owner

30 Locations In Texas • 50 Agents • 24 Hours

Kenneth Knowles, President
Se Habla Español

1-800-999-4484
Visa, Mastercard, Discover, American Express

Great values on tobacco.

Marlboro LIGHTS
Carton Cigarettes
All Varieties, 8 - 10 ct.

25⁹⁹

Marlboro Pack Cigarettes
20 ct. Packs **2.99**

TimberWolf
Fine Cut Natural, Long Cut Wintergreen, Long Cut Straight, Fine Cut Wintergreen, Cool Wintergreen or Long Cut Natural

1.99

Levi Garrett Chewing Tobacco
40% OFF

2.39

Muriel Little Cigars
Regular or Black & Sweet, 20 ct.

2 for 3

United Supermarkets
Get more. Without paying more.

Prices effective April 1 - 30, 2003
We reserve the right to limit quantities. © 2003 United Supermarkets, Ltd.
unitedtexas.com

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking Causes Lung Cancer, Heart Disease, Emphysema, And May Complicate Pregnancy.

WARNING: Chewing Tobacco is not a safe alternative to cigarettes.

Lynnwood

Independent & Assisted Living Center

Come see our beautiful new facility with Studio, One-Bedroom and Couples rooms featuring large walk-in closets, and kitchens equipped with microwave oven/refrigerator units.

PRICING:

Studio (One Large Room) 471 sq. ft.	\$1,750.00
One Bedroom 512 sq. ft.	\$1,950.00
Large One Bedroom (Double Occupancy) 593 sq. ft.	\$2,850.00

Prices include all of the following amenities:

- Conveniently located adjacent to Lynn County Hospital District health care facilities
- Spacious living accommodations to be furnished with resident's own furniture and choice of decor
- Utilities included in room prices
- Three nutritious meals served daily in our large dining room
- Regularly scheduled social activities
- Personal laundry facilities and housekeeping services provided
- Assistance with medication (we will not administer medications, but will give medications to residents at the appropriate times for self-administration)
- Staff help in coordinating trips to see physicians, shopping, etc.
- Resident parking available
- Library, beauty shop, and other amenities
- Independent living with safety and security
- Caring and friendly staff
- Homelike, dignified living for your loved ones
- RESIDENT'S OBLIGATIONS: Telephone and Cable TV service, if desired, may be made through individual billing arrangements with those companies, paid directly by residents.

1801 Country Club Road
Tahoka, Texas
(806) 998-1226
Susie Sosa, Lynnwood Administrator

Owned and Operated by
Lynn County Hospital District

"Our goal is to provide our residents with a safe, homelike environment, yet have the privacy, independence and dignity to live a long and healthy life. Each resident will be afforded the highest level of genuine care."

Fac. ID #100713

Opinions

Entered at U.S. Post Office, Post, Texas for transmission through the mails as Second Class matter, according to an Act of Congress, March 3, 1879. Periodical Rate Postage Paid at Post, Texas 79356.

Postmaster: send address changes to: The Post Dispatch, P.O. Box 490, Post, Texas 79356 (806) 495-2816 - Fax 495-2059

Wesley W. Burnett, Managing Director and Publisher
123 E. Main Street, Post, Texas 79356

Subscription Rates:
For addresses in Texas or the U.S. - \$30.00 per year
6 Months: \$16.00 or 3 Months: \$12.00

Deadline:
Tuesdays at Noon

Advertising Rate: \$6.00 per column inch (SAU)
e-mail: pcr1@arn.net or postxdispatch@aol.com

All material Copyright 2003 The Post Dispatch

It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individuals, guided by the principles so eloquently described in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstone for our freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

TA

Member Texas Press Association 2003

You're entitled to your uninformed opinion

by Bill O'Reilly



Although it was the least-watched Oscar telecast of all time, there was a great irony in Roman Polanski winning the Best Director Award for "The Pianist." Mr. Polanski could not have won this award without the dastardly deeds of Adolph Hitler, and one wonders whether 'ol Roman would have thanked The Evil One had a long-standing child rape charge not prevented his Oscar appearance.

"The Pianist" is the heartbreaking story of a musician who survived the Holocaust,

which of course was brought on by a psychopathic dictator and his fanatical followers, who imposed a reign of homicidal terror that ultimately resulted in the deaths of 55 million people. That dictator, Hitler, could have been stopped if the world had united against him in the 1930s. But as this column has pointed out, the world did not unite. It appeased. And look what happened.

Since Hollywood liked "The Pianist," so much, and since many actors are so outspoken about current historical events, I would like to give Susan Sarandon, Julianne Moore, Martin Sheen and all the other anti-war stars a short historical quiz. I want to ask them what they know about the Treaty of Versailles, the appeasement conference at Munich and the structure of the German police state as it compares to Saddam's organizational capacity.

Also, I want to discuss Saddam's human rights record with Richard Gere, who for years has been chanting with the Dalai Lama about freeing Tibet. Gere is right about Tibet; the people there are being spiritually crushed by the totalitarian Chinese. However, chanting may not be the most effective way to change that. But then again, Richard Gere lives in Los Angeles.

If the Hollywood crowd could pass my quiz and answer my rather boorish questions, I would apologize to them and listen intently as they told me that Hans Blix should have had more time to find anthrax in an uncooperative country the size of California. I would sit enraptured as Sean Penn explained the benefits of living under Saddam, Uday and Qusay Hussein. I would gladly pin the dove on Meryl Streep's lavish gown as she regaled me with her vision of peace and understanding in the age of Al Qaeda.

But most anti-war stars are not real big on confronting complicated historical questions. It is much easier to flash peace signs to like-minded compatriots at award programs and then retire to eat lavish dinners paid for by fawning sycophants.

In the midst of the verbal insanity streaming out of Hollywood, came one very cogent comment that passed virtually unnoticed. Renee Zellweger, an excellent actress, admitted that the war unsettled her but told one reporter that she wasn't going to speak out because she didn't know enough about the big picture.

Renee, thank you. You are exempt from the quiz, and I will tutor you free of charge.

All I am asking is that all Americans study up before bloviating about the Iraqi situation and the war on terror. Is that too much to wish for? Hey, Adrien Brody, glad you won the Best Actor statuette, but do you really understand the true nature of evil, the force that enveloped your character in "The Pianist"? If you do, I'm glad. If you don't, you might want to rethink that dove on your lapel.

I wonder if any pianists in Iraq are wearing dove pins? I suspect that there isn't too much dissent against the Saddam government by musicians and actors in Baghdad. Hey, Hollywood, those artists are people, too. And soon, they'll be free. Unfortunately, chanting and dove pins will have nothing to do with it.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the new book "The No Spin Zone," in addition to last year's best-selling book "The O'Reilly Factor: The Good, the Bad, and the Completely Ridiculous." To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. This column originates on the Web site www.billoreilly.com.

COPYRIGHT 2003 BillO'Reilly.com.

a government entity. There will be as little talk of privatizing the oil fields of Iraq as there is of privatizing Social Security or education by the Bush administration within the United States.

The ancient Greeks said that those the gods would destroy they first drove mad. Those in the upper decision-making echelons of the Bush administration are mad with the hubris of power. They dream dreams of remaking entire regions of the world in their own image. They conceive of peoples and nations as so many pieces on a chessboard to arrange and rearrange according to a shape and design they consider best and desirable. And they have hallucinations that they know better than the multitudes of humanity what is in their best interest.

Madmen also have bizarre ways of seeing connections and conspiracies among people and events where, in fact, none exist. Everyone is seen as being against them and threatening what they hold most dear. And they hear voices that tell them what "history" or "destiny" or "God" dictates they do, and all for the good of others.

When such madmen have political power, the end results have almost always been tragedy and destruction for the millions for whom they claim to want only the best. The United States, it seems, may be the next example of this terrible phenomenon.

Richard Ebeling is the Ludwig von Mises Professor of Economics at Hillsdale College in Michigan and serves as vice president of academic affairs at The Future of Freedom Foundation in Fairfax, Va.



And thereafter, ruled by scoundrels

by Walter E. Williams



The March 10 issue of Human Events carried a special report on the 10 most outrageous government programs. Their 18 judges included conservative/libertarians such as former Rep. Dick Armey, R-Texas, former Delaware Gov. Pete Dupont, Mark Levin, president of the Landmark Legal Foundation, and David Boaz, Cato Institute's vice president.

The Legal Services Corp. headed the list, followed closely by the McCain-Feingold Campaign Finance Reform Act and the Davis-Bacon Act of 1931. Rounding out the list were: Americorps, Endangered Species Act, No Child Left Behind Act, Amtrak, Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) Standards, Title X Family Planning Act, and the provision of welfare payments to non-citizens and illegal aliens.

Human Events, a conservative, Republican-leaning publication, unlike Democrats who protect scoundrels in their party, wasn't reluctant to list the presidents who sponsored or supported these outrageous government programs. Most of the programs were born during Republican administrations.

Herbert Hoover was in office when the Davis-Bacon Act was written in 1931. Richard Nixon presided over the births of the Legal Services Corp. (1974), the Endangered Species Act (1973), Amtrak (1971) and the Title X Family Planning Act (1970).

Gerald Ford sponsored CAFE standards (1975), and George W. Bush signed off on the No Child Left Behind Act (2002). These laws interfere with and federalize our lives in harmful ways. The more federal control over education, the worse it becomes.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) has attacked and trivialized private property rights. CAFE standards, by forcing auto companies to produce lighter, and hence less safe cars, have cost thousands of highway fatalities, and it goes on and on.

One of the more disgusting revelations of the Human Events report came when a simple question was put to high-level bureaucrats in charge of running these outrageous programs. Human Events asked them to state the constitutional authority for the programs.

Warren Flatau, Federal Railroad Administration spokesman, said

he wasn't a legal scholar but opined that the same question could be asked of other agencies. Chris Tollefson, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, answered that it was his understanding that authority for ESA "is based on the commerce clause."

Former Rep. John Erlenborn, R. Ill., now president of the Legal Services Corp., answered: "Probably the same one that lets the federal government build highways. I don't know. The general welfare clause." The correct answer to Human Event's question about the constitutional authority for these outrageous programs is: There is no constitutional authority whatsoever.

Grossly ignorant or conniving politicians tell constitutionally ignorant Americans that it is the general welfare clause that authorizes these programs. You figure it.

Here's what James Madison, the father of our Constitution, said about the welfare clause: "With respect to the two words 'general welfare', I have always regarded them as qualified by the detail of powers connected with them. To take them in a literal and unlimited sense would be a metamorphosis of the Constitution into a character which there is a host of proofs was not contemplated by its creators."

Thomas Jefferson said, "Congress has not unlimited powers to provide for the general welfare, but only those specifically enumerated." The detail or enumeration to which Madison and Jefferson refer is found mostly in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution. Rep. John Shadegg, R-Ariz., has introduced the Enumerated Powers Act several times.

It would require each act of Congress to contain a concise and definite statement of the specific constitutional authority relied upon for the enactment of each portion of that act or else the bill could not go forward.

Shadegg's Enumerated Powers Act (HR 175) went down to three crushing defeats. Can we ask for more compelling evidence of Congress's contempt for our Constitution, or do you think our congressmen are simply reflecting the constitutional contempt of the people?

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.

COPYRIGHT 2003 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

The costs and madness of empire

by Richard M. Ebeling

The costs of the American Empire become clearer with each passing day, as the U.S. government releases information about its various global actions and plans. The latest ones relate to the ongoing Muslim insurgency movement in the Philippines and the outlines for the making of a new Iraq after a victorious war.

On February 20, 2003, the U.S. government announced that it was sending almost 2,000 troops to the southern islands of the Philippines to undertake combat operations against a Muslim extremist group called the Abu Sayyaf. Unlike 1,300 U.S. military "advisors" who were temporarily in the Philippines last year, this new force will remain there indefinitely until the Abu Sayyaf guerrillas are defeated. And they are assigned the specific task of searching and destroying, alongside Philippine military units.

Why are American army, marine, and special-operations forces being sent into harm's way in a remote part of Southeast Asia? Because, according to Pentagon officials, the Abu Sayyaf is thought to have formed ties with other terrorist groups in the region, and the intervention is meant to send a message that the United States can invade Iraq and simultaneously track down and defeat terrorists anywhere in the world. The long arms of America envelope the entire globe at all times.

In announcing the deployment of U.S. forces in the Philippines, the government did not include any estimate of the financial cost of stationing combat forces and related military support personnel in the surrounding area. Nor did the government suggest how long it might take to eliminate the Abu Sayyaf forces, which are estimated to number around 250-500 men on the island of Jolo. And neither was there any hint of the likelihood of possible American casualties or how much or for how long the United States was willing to ratchet up its military participation if the enemy resisted being defeated.

In the name of demonstrating the American "will" and "ability" to strike anywhere and at anytime in the world, the U.S. government has injected combat forces into an indigenous civil war that has been ongoing in the southern islands of the Philippines for decades. Indeed, Muslim groups first took up arms against American military forces in the same part of the country a hundred years ago, at the beginning of the 20th century, when the United States was establishing its control over the Philippines immediately following the Spanish-American War of 1898.

How many wives and mothers in America will now constantly worry whether they will ever see their husbands or sons alive or whole again simply so some policymakers in Washington, D.C., can rest easy at night, knowing they have "made a point" to some illusive and ambiguous "enemy" somewhere "out there"?

And even before President Bush has formally announced that he is ordering an American military conquest and occupation of Iraq, the blueprints are being constructed for socially engineering the postwar

redesign of the country's political, social, and economic institutions. The United States will maintain total and unilateral military and civilian control over Iraq, once the war has ended, for at least two years, and in the estimates of some military analysts perhaps for as many as five years.

To ensure that the Iraqi people view the American forces as liberators and not conquerors, immediately behind the combat soldiers will be military personnel who will be distributing food and other essential items. Once Iraq has been "secured," an American "of stature" will be appointed by the president as "supreme civil authority" to begin the task of reconstructing and redesigning the country into a post-Saddam Western-style democracy. After the Iraqi military, police, and bureaucratic structures have been purged of war criminals and other accomplices of the Saddam Hussein regime, the "cleansed" elements will make up the personnel of the new domestic security and civilian governmental institutions.

The United States will also see to it that no "undesirable" political forces interfere with the American design for the new Iraq. The Kurds in the north of the country will be prevented from declaring their independence, and any groups too closely tied with either Iran or Saudi Arabia will be prevented from wielding any influence or power in the new Iraq. Nor will Iraqi exile groups be permitted to immediately contribute to the redesigning of their own country. They will be allowed only to offer "advice" in a limited capacity to the American supreme military and civilian rulers.

Make no mistake about it: this is global central planning by a "conservative" Republican administration. The central planners in the White House, the Pentagon, and the State Department are deciding what is good and right for the 24 million people of Iraq.

Just like Stalin, who decided the fate of numerous ethnic and national groups in the Soviet Union in the 1930s and 1940s through heavy-handed top-down rule, the U.S. government, in its own wisdom, will determine whether the Kurds of northern Iraq will be permitted autonomy of some sort. They most certainly will not be allowed independence, for fear that it might undermine the long-time policy of the Turkish government of repressing their own Kurdish minority.

President Bush and his circle of wise men in the administration will decide what type of parliamentary system best fits their conception of the needs of the Iraqi people. They will determine who and what groups may participate in the political processes of their own country, and when and under what terms. They will dictate how the revenues of the Iraqi oil fields will be used for domestic purposes and for defraying U.S. expenses to bring them an American-designed version of freedom.

And it is a sure bet that in operating the oil fields of Iraq and distributing the funds from the oil sales, it will be done purely as a socialist enterprise. That is, the oil fields will be owned and operated as

