

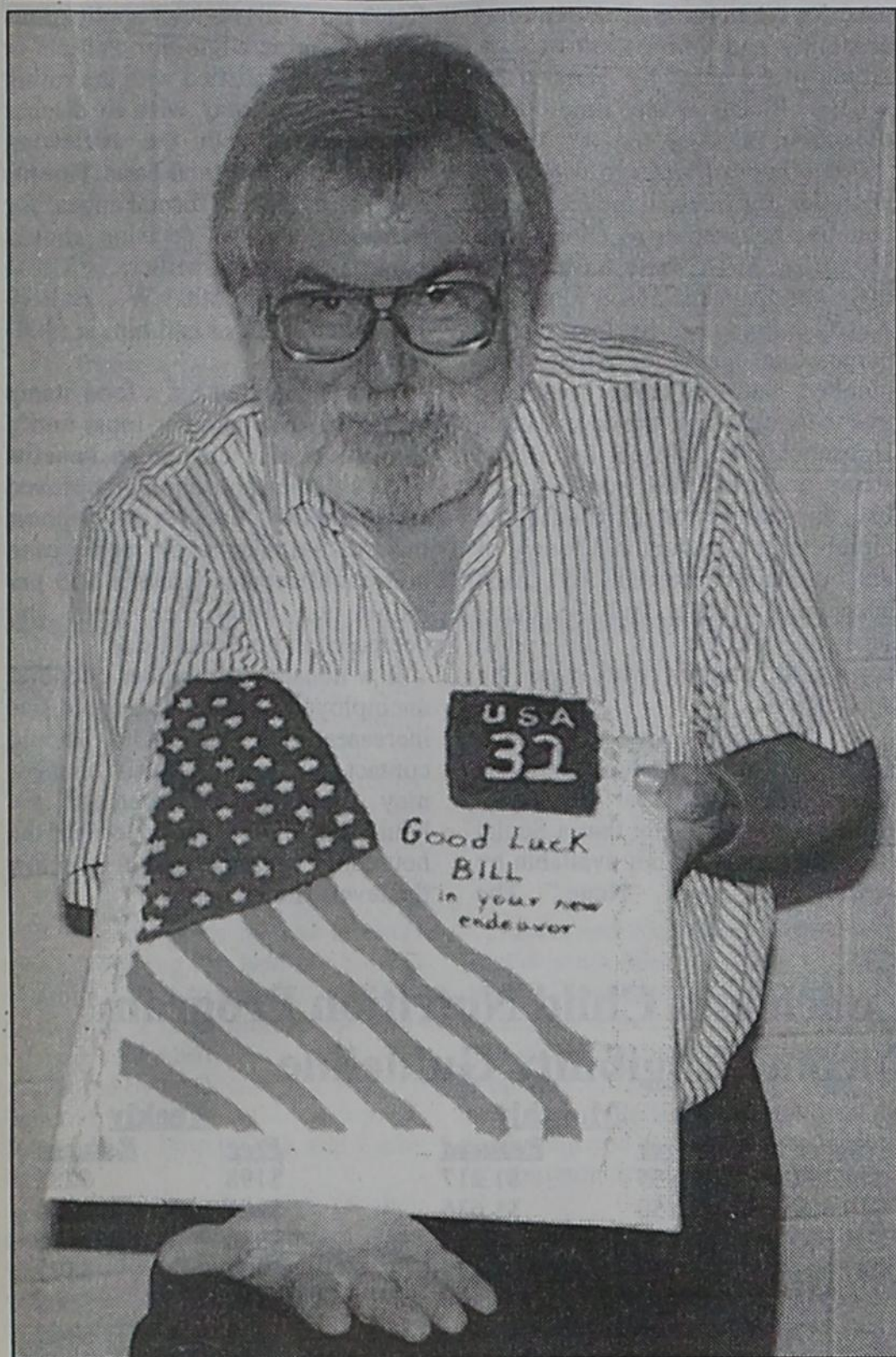
The Castro County News

73rd year—No. 18

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, August 7, 1997

50¢

12 pages plus supplements



THE LAST PACKAGE that Bill Sava handled as Dimmitt's postmaster was this "Good Luck" cake, made by Sharon Kinser and presented by the post office staff during a surprise retirement party last Thursday. Sava was with the US Postal Service 36 years, almost 32 of them in Dimmitt. He resigned the post to become the new executive director of the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce, effective Aug. 1. Marilyn Taylor-Loveless of Tulia is serving as the officer in charge at the Dimmitt PO. Photo by Donna Rehnart

Hospital district operations 'much improved'—auditor

The hospital district's balance sheet is "pretty strong" and its operations are "much improved" financially, the district's auditors told the hospital board last Thursday night.

Bill Parrish of the CPA firm of Parrish, Moody & Fikes in Waco noted the shifts in the ways hospital districts—including this one—earn their money.

"Your inpatient revenue has continued to drop significantly as a percentage of total revenue," he said, "while (income from) Home Health has increased significantly."

The Home Health Agency's revenue climbed from \$715,802 in 1996 to \$1,866,175 in 1997. At the same time, Plains Memorial's inpatient revenue dropped from \$1.49 million

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Registration set for Nazareth, Hart

School starts Tuesday for Dimmitt students

Dimmitt ISD students will begin classes on Tuesday while students in Nazareth and Hart prepare to register Friday and Monday, respectively.

The bell will toll for Dimmitt High School students at 8:10 a.m., Tuesday morning. They will begin the year with a special ceremony at 8:10 a.m. in the auditorium.

Dimmitt Middle School classes will begin at 8:20 a.m. Tuesday morning. The bells will also ring at 8:20 a.m. for students at Richardson Elementary. The kids will meet in the cafeteria to say the Pledge of Allegiance at this time.

Nazareth High School and junior high students will register for the coming year Friday. The seniors will begin registration at 8 a.m. The junior class of 1997-98 will then register from 9:30 to 11 a.m. The sophomores will report to the school to register at 11 a.m., and the incoming freshmen will register from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Junior high students will register this year also. Seventh and eighth grade students are asked to report to the school from 2:30 to 3 p.m.

Elementary students will register the first day of school.

Students reporting to register must have their hair length in accordance with school policy in order to register.

Nazareth will begin school next Thursday, Aug. 14. An opening ceremony that morning at 8:05 a.m. on the front lawn will kick off the new year.

Principal Don Wood wanted to remind parents off the dress code as they are shopping for school clothes.

"Parents need to be aware that t-shirts have to be tucked in and that shorts can not be shorter than three inches above the knee cap as they are buying

(Continued on Page 11)

County looking at 8% tax increase

With declining property values in the county, the effective tax rate for Castro County for the coming fiscal year has been set at 45 cents per \$100 of property valuation. That is the tax rate needed to raise the same amount of tax revenue as last year. Last year's tax rate was 44.1 cents.

The County Commissioners proposed last Thursday to set the tax rate at 8% above the effective rate, which would be 48.9 cents per \$100 of property valuation. Of that, 37.3 cents goes to the general fund and 11.6 cents goes to road and bridge. Even at that, County Auditor Mareita Smithson said the county will have to dip into reserve funds to meet expenses for the coming fiscal year. It just won't have to be quite as big a dip as it would have been without a tax increase.

One of the big increases in ex-

penses for the county has been the payment of the settlement on the election lawsuit. Other increases for next year's budget include improvements to the jail required by the jail standards commission, purchase of a different vehicle for the Constable, and trade-in two cars for the Sheriff's Dept.

The budget has pretty well held the line on most other expenses, according to Smithson. The commissioners said it should be time to give county employees a raise, but that will have to wait another year as well.

The 8% increase in the tax rate is expected to generate \$1,326,000 in revenue to supply the largest share of the estimated \$1,769,875 in revenue for the general fund. Another \$874,733 is expected in revenue for

(Continued on Page 11)



AGRICULTURALIST AWARD WINNER—During the lunch break of the Llano Estacado Crops Tour Friday, Dr. Bob Robinson, District Director of the Extension Service, (right) awards Bob Phipps (left) with the Agriculturalist Award for all the work he has done for the Crop Tours and Extension Service. In the background is Emilio Nino, demonstration technician for the Extension office. Photo by Scott Brockman

Proposition 1

Balloting is Saturday

Saturday, Texas voters will vote on Proposition 1, which would increase the amount of the homestead exemption allowance and would make the senior citizen tax freeze transferrable. These changes would only affect property taxes for school districts.

Early voting ended Tuesday.

Balloting Saturday will be held from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the eight county voting precincts. Voters should bring their voter's registration card to simplify the voting process.

Balloting locations are:

- | Voting Pct. | Location |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 101 | Hart Golden Group |
| 105 | Sunnyside Baptist Church |
| 201 | Immaculate Conception Church |
| 206 | Flagg Fertilizer |
| 301 | First Baptist Church, Dimmitt |
| 307 | Easter Community Center |
| 401 | District Courtroom, Courthouse |
| 408 | Nazareth City Hall |

Note that the location for Pct. 408 has been changed for this election only, due to a scheduling conflict at the Community Building.

On the ballot, the proposition is worded, "The constitutional amendment providing school property tax relief by increasing the residence homestead exemption by \$10,000 and providing for the transfer of the tax limitation to another qualified homestead for persons over 65 and reduction in taxes on homesteads subject to the limitation." Voters are asked to vote "for" or "against" that proposition.

The homestead exemption applies only to homeowners, however, and will not benefit businesses or renters.

Taxes on homes are figured on the appraised value of the home. With school property taxes, an exemption is granted for a home claimed as a "homestead" or principal residence of its owner. In the past, \$5,000 would be taken off the appraised value before taxes are figured.

Proposition 1 would increase the exemption by \$10,000, so that homeowners would be paying taxes on \$15,000 less than the appraised value

of their home.

In the Dimmitt school district, on a \$20,000 home, a property owner would have paid \$176.25 in taxes with the \$5,000 exemption, based on the tax rate of \$1.175 per \$100 of taxable value. With the \$15,000 exemption, taxes would come to \$58.75 at the same tax rate, representing a considerable savings.

For a \$100,000 home, the savings wouldn't be quite as dramatic. At the old exemption and the current tax rate, the taxes paid would have been \$1,116.25; with the new exemption level and the current tax rate, it would be \$998.75.

The other part of the proposition, concerning the "tax freeze" for senior citizens, is referred to as the "portability provision."

There is a current constitutional amendment that allows school property taxes on residential homesteads of persons 65 years of age or older to be "frozen" at the same dollar amount, as long as the dwelling is used as a homestead, or until the value of the property is increased significantly by making improvements.

If the person buys and moves to another house, he or she would have to requalify for the tax freeze.

Under Proposition 1, the tax freeze would be "portable." If the person moves to another house, the original tax freeze, with some adjustments, would apply to the new home.

The adjustment is made on a percentage basis, according to Dr. Judith Stallmann of College Station, an economist. She said if the tax bill on the original home is 60% of what it would be without the freeze, the tax bill for the new home will be 60% of what the tax bill would otherwise be.

If Proposition 1 is not approved, voters will have another opportunity to vote on the portability provision in the Nov. 4 constitutional amendment election. The Aug. 9 election is necessary to allow school districts time to revise their tax rates if the proposition is approved.

DATA Club Car Show, Poker Run scheduled

The annual Dimmitt Alumni Technology Association Club Car Show has been set for Saturday, and will be preceded by the Poker Run on Friday.

Proceeds from the show will benefit the Castro County Senior Citizens Association.

Show hours will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Expo Building. Admission to view the show will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for 12 and under.

A luncheon of turkey and dressing and all the trimmings will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for \$5 per plate, with carryouts available. Members of the Senior Citizens Association will be admitted free to the show and can enjoy the meal for only \$4.

Entries in the show will be accepted up until show time. Each entry in the car show will be \$15, with trophies awarded for first, second and third places in several dif-

ferent classes. Also, a "people's Choice Award" will be given, along with a "DATA's Choice Award." Competition will also include motorcycles and customized bicycles.

Entries in the model car division will be \$3 each, and radio-controlled vehicles will have a \$7 entry fee. Trophies will be awarded.

Those wishing to enter in advance may call Alene Thomas at 647-2208 or Don Moke at 647-4264.

The Poker Run will begin at 7 p.m. Friday at the west parking lot of Dimmitt High School and will conclude at the gazebo on the courthouse square. Registration cost is \$5 per player. Players follow a specified course and draw playing cards at designated stops along the route. The entrant with the best poker hand wins a prize, and so does the one with the worst hand.

Maps of the course will be distrib-

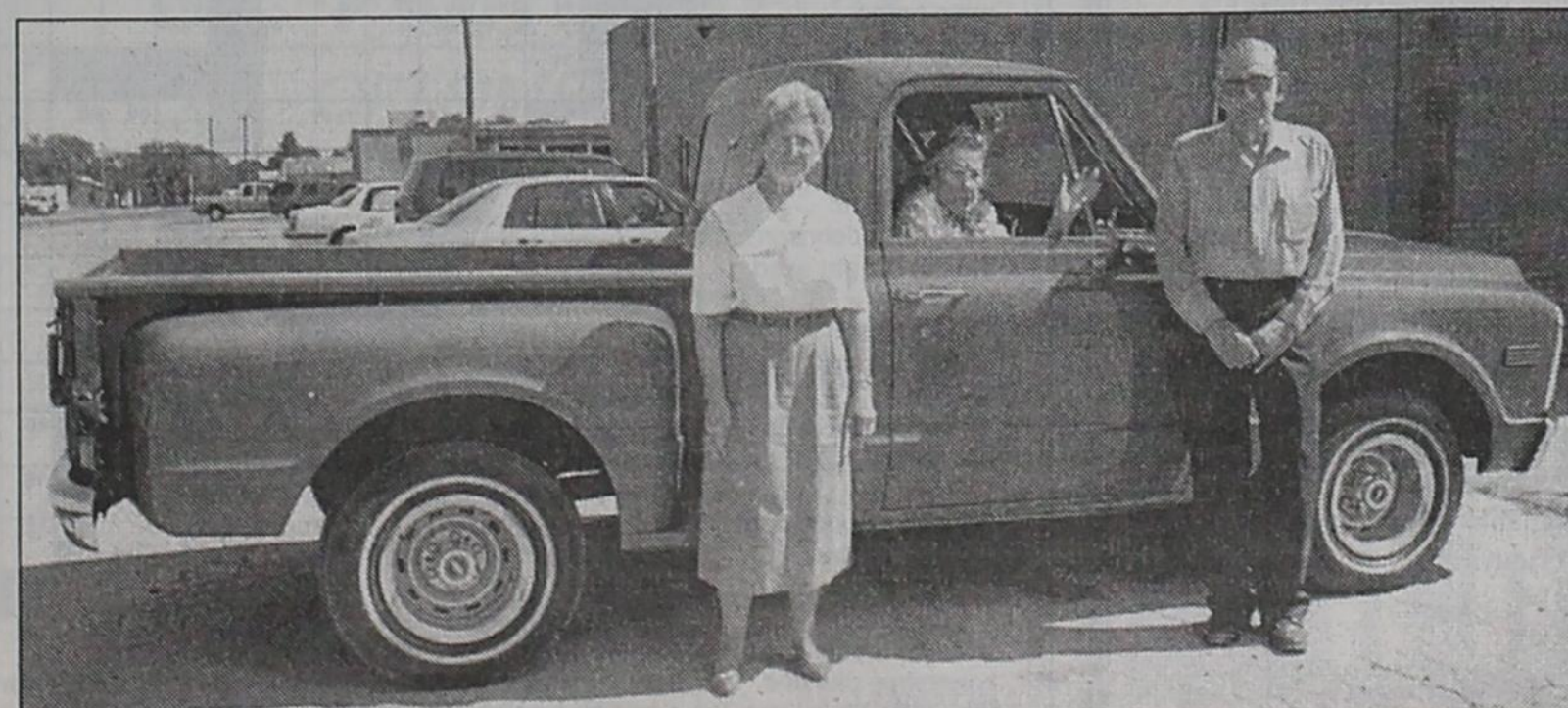
uted at the start of the run.

The DATA Club is celebrating its 10th year as an alumni organization branching from the Dimmitt High School Technology Education program, although members are not required to have been students here.

The group's activities include raising money for scholarships and active support of the current high school program.

The principal goal of the group was establishing a scholarship, and three have been set up now. The Gary Bruegel Memorial Scholarship has been elevated to a self-supporting scholarship. In addition, the Shawn Cotter Memorial Scholarship has been set up, along with a DATA Club scholarship for books.

Club members also have helped sponsor students who attend the Industrial Arts State Contest in Waco each year.



CATCHING A RIDE FROM A STUDENT—Well, a former student anyway. Cleo Forson (center), retired Dimmitt school teacher, is ready to take a ride in this 1969 Chevrolet step side pickup, which belongs to her former second grade pupil Danny Bruton of Dimmitt.

Forson is a member of the Castro County Senior Citizens Association, which will benefit from the annual DATA Club Car Show, scheduled for Saturday at the Expo Building. Other association members are Louise Mears (left) and Bill Thornton (right).

Photo by Linda Maxwell

City council adopts effective tax rate

Because property values went down in Dimmitt, this year's tax rate will have to be one cent higher than last year's just to raise the same amount of revenue for the city.

Last year's tax rate was 23.7 cents per \$100 of property value. The Dimmitt City Council voted Monday night to set this year's rate at the effective tax rate 24.7 cents. That is the rate needed to raise the same amount of money as last year.

The 24.7 cent-rate is expected to bring in \$303,555 in ad valorem taxes.

City Manager Don Sheffy told the council that he felt the city could hold the line on expenses, provided that nothing major comes up.

He also told the council that the city may receive a block grant for replacement of the old water tower located in downtown Dimmitt. He said grant funding will be finalized after proposals are reviewed by the state in the spring. The amount re-

quested for the replacement project was \$250,000, with the city supplying \$63,000.

In another matter, council members voted to call a special election for Nov. 4 to fill the vacancy left by Council Member Henry Acevedo of City District 3, who resigned because he is moving away. Candidates for the position may begin filing for office in September, early voting will begin in October, and the election will be held the same day as the general election.

The council voted to authorize Sheffy to advertise for bids for a new garbage truck for the city. Sheffy said he expected it to cost less than \$100,000. He said there will be enough excess funds in this year's budget to cover the purchase unless anything major crops up before the end of the fiscal year.

A bid was accepted for the pur-

(Continued on Page 2)

Weather

	High	Low	Pr.
Thursday	88	64	Tr.
Friday	89	64	
Saturday	92	63	
Sunday	95	63	
Monday	95	65	.43
Tuesday	90	61	
Wednesday	90	61	.96

July Moisture	2.46
August Moisture	1.39
1997 Moisture	14.97

Temperatures and moisture are recorded each day at 7 a.m. at KDHN Radio, official National Weather Service reporting station.

What's cooking? In Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth Schools

Here are the school lunch menus for Dimmitt and Nazareth for August 12-15.

DIMMITT
Pre-School-1st Grade Lunch
 TUESDAY: Italian spaghetti, savory green beans, tossed salad with dressing, french bread and 1% lowfat milk.
 WEDNESDAY: Hamburger on a roll, potato rounds, hamburger salad and 1% lowfat milk.
 THURSDAY: Pizza supreme, mixed vegetables, cantaloupe and 1% lowfat milk.
 FRIDAY: Hoagie submarine sandwich, potato chips, watermelon and 1% lowfat milk.

2nd-12th Grade Lunch
 TUESDAY: Choice of Italian spaghetti, ravioli with meat sauce or beef taco; savory green beans, potato wedges or Mexipinto beans; tossed salad, taco condiment salad, hay stack finger salad or cucumber/tomato salad; french bread, white hot rolls, arroz Mexicano, corn tortilla or crackers; and 1% chocolate, 1% lowfat or skim milk.
 WEDNESDAY: Choice of hamburger on a roll, grilled cheese or beef/bean burrito with chili; potato rounds, refried beans or watermelon; tossed salad, taco condiment salad or hay stack finger salad; crackers, assorted muffins, old fashioned combread, tortilla chips or Spanish rice; and 1% chocolate, 1% lowfat or skim milk.
 THURSDAY: Choice of pizza supreme, lasagna or green enchilada casserole; mixed vegetables, Mexipinto beans or cantaloupe; tossed salad, raw spinach salad, applesauce or taco condiment salad; french bread, hot wheat rolls, fideo Mexicano, tortilla chips or crackers; and 1% chocolate, 1% lowfat or skim milk.
 FRIDAY: Choice of chicken fried steak, hoagie submarine sandwich or nachos with cheese; potato chips, mashed potatoes or refried beans; tossed salad, taco condiment salad, cucumber/tomato salad or carrot-raisin salad; assorted muffins, white hot rolls, arroz Mexicano, flour tortilla or crackers; and 1% chocolate, 1% lowfat or skim milk.

NAZARETH
 THURSDAY: *Pizza or hamburger and fries, salad, beans, fruit, dessert and milk.
 FRIDAY: *Nachos or corn dogs, salad, corn, fruit and milk.
 (Entrees designated with an asterisk will be served to elementary school students, while secondary school students will be allowed to choose between the two entrees.)



Sugarland Mall 400 N. 25 Mile Ave. • Hereford TX
 Business Office: 364-0101 • Movie Hotline: 364-8000

August 8-15

AIR FORCE ONE
 2:00 - 4:30 - 7:05 - 9:35 R

CONSPIRACY THEORY
 2:05 - 4:35 - 7:05 - 9:35 R

GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE
 1:50 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:05 PG

GOOD BURGER PG
OUT TO SEA PG-13
 1:45 - 7:30 3:45 - 9:25

SPAWN PG-13
 2:10 - 4:20 - 7:10 - 9:15

NOTHING TO LOSE R
 2:15 - 4:25 - 7:15 - 9:20

Adults: \$4.75 Kids & Seniors: \$2.75
 Bargain Matinees: \$2.75
 All Shows before 6 p.m.

Marshal sought for HD parade

A parade marshal is being sought for the annual Harvest Days parade, scheduled Aug. 23 in Dimmitt. The marshal should be someone who, as a county citizen, has made worthwhile contributions to life in the community. Nominations may be made at the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce office at 115 W. Bedford or by calling 647-2524. A person's name and a brief reason why they would be a good choice should be given. Nominations are welcome from everyone and are due by Aug. 18.

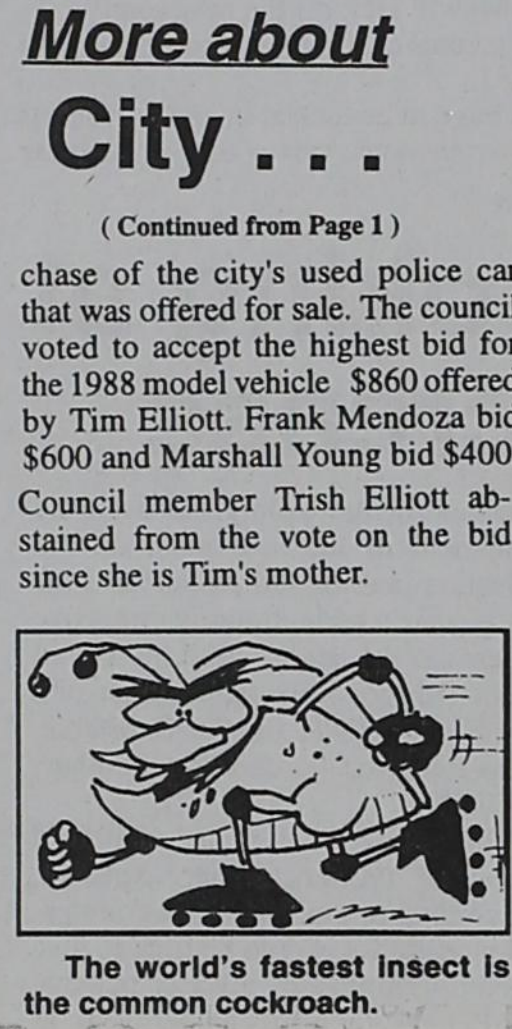
Memorial run set at Hereford YMCA

The Greg Black Memorial 10-K run, 2-mile fun run and 2-mile walk will take place Saturday in Hereford. Sponsored by Hereford Cablevision and Hereford and vicinity YMCA, the 10-K run will have six age divisions for the men's and women's divisions. Age divisions include 13 and under, 14-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50 and over. The 2-mile fun run and 2-mile walk will feature a men's and women's division (open to all ages), and there will be a wheelchair division. Those interested in entering should send \$10 to Race Director, Hereford and vicinity YMCA, 500 E. 15th Street, Hereford, TX 79045. The event will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday morning at the Hereford YMCA.

More about City . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

chase of the city's used police car that was offered for sale. The council voted to accept the highest bid for the 1988 model vehicle \$860 offered by Tim Elliott. Frank Mendoza bid \$600 and Marshall Young bid \$400. Council member Trish Elliott abstained from the vote on the bid since she is Tim's mother.



You're Welcome!
 Lee Street Baptist Church
 Celebrating 40 Years of Ministry!
 A good church getting better.

647-5474 410 SW 2nd, Dimmitt
 or 647-3665

DISD releases policy for free, reduced-price meals

Dimmitt Independent School District has announced its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the National School Lunch and breakfast programs. Each school campus and the administrative office has a copy of the policy on file, and the policy may be viewed by any interested party. The household size and income criteria identified below will be used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits. Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Foster children who are the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court may also be eligible for benefits regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. Eligibility for the foster child is based on the child's income. Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for children. Applications also are available at the principal's office at each school. To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households must fill out the

application and return it to the school. Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and verification of data. Applications may be verified by school officials at any time during the school year. For school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits, households receiving food stamps or AFDC only have to list their child's name, food stamp or AFDC only have to list their child's name, food stamp or AFDC case number, and an adult household member must sign the application. Households who do not list a food stamp or AFDC case number must list the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member and the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult who signs the application does not have a Social Security number, that household member must indicate that a Social Security number is not available by writing the word "None." The

application must be signed by an adult household member. Under provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, DISD Food Services Director Charles Ketchum will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewing official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision should contact Les Miller, DISD superintendent, 608 W. Halsell, Dimmitt 79027, or call him at (806) 647-3101. Households that list a food stamp or AFDC case number must notify the school if a change in benefits occurs. Other households approved for benefits based on income information must report increases in household income of over \$50 per month or \$600 per year and decreases in household size. If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels shown below.

National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Program 1997-98 Income Eligibility Guideline

Family Size	Annually		Monthly		Weekly	
	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	\$10,257	\$14,597	\$855	\$1,217	\$198	\$281
2	\$13,793	\$19,629	\$1,150	\$1,636	\$266	\$378
3	\$17,329	\$24,661	\$1,445	\$2,056	\$334	\$475
4	\$20,865	\$29,693	\$1,739	\$2,475	\$402	\$572
5	\$24,401	\$34,725	\$2,034	\$2,894	\$470	\$668
6	\$27,937	\$39,757	\$2,329	\$3,314	\$538	\$765
7	\$31,473	\$44,789	\$2,623	\$3,733	\$606	\$862
8	\$35,009	\$49,821	\$2,918	\$4,152	\$674	\$959
9	\$38,545	\$54,853	\$3,213	\$4,572	\$742	\$1,056
10	\$42,081	\$59,885	\$3,508	\$4,992	\$810	\$1,153
11	\$45,617	\$64,917	\$3,803	\$5,412	\$878	\$1,250
12	\$49,153	\$69,949	\$4,098	\$5,832	\$946	\$1,347
Ea. Add'l Family Member	+\$3,536	+\$5,032	+\$295	+\$420	+\$68	+\$97

Immunizations today

Dimmitt Middle School will host an immunization clinic today (Thursday) from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. This immunization clinic will give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lockjaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps and HIB (hemophilus influenza type B). The Texas Department of Health is charging money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount of money charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay.

The Castro County News

PO Box 67, Dimmitt, TX 79027

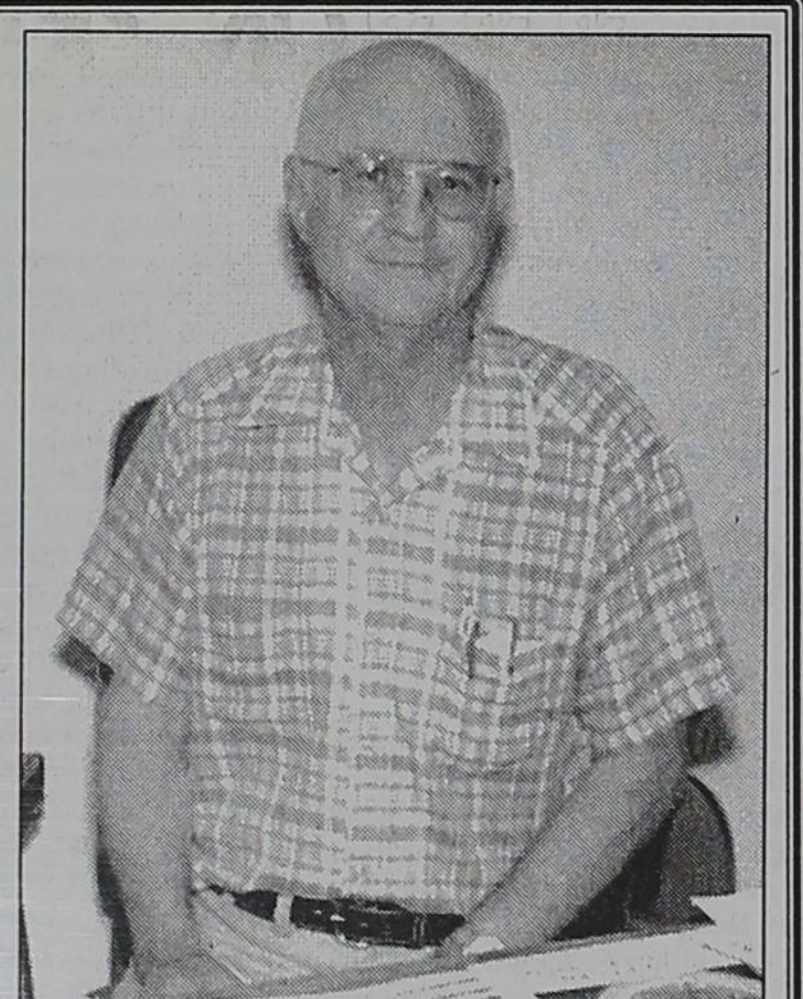
647-3123 FAX 647-3112 Mobile 647-9125

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Local People Caring for Local People



Dr. Bill Murphy

Dr. Bill Murphy is the dean of Castro County's physicians, having practiced family medicine in Dimmitt more than 32 years. We're proud to have him on the staff of the Medical Center of Dimmitt. Dr. Murphy serves our local people in all phases of family medicine, including limited surgery. He also is certified in advanced cardiac life support and advanced trauma life support. He has been a member since 1963 of the American Academy of Family Practice, which requires 150 hours of continuing medical education every three years to maintain certification. In addition to treating thousands of patients and performing countless surgeries, he has delivered more than 2,000 babies. Dr. Murphy was raised in Dimmitt. His father, Andrew, farmed here and his mother, Ola, was the Castro County clerk for many years. He was an all-regional football player in Dimmitt High School, and still is an enthusiastic fan of our local teams. After graduating from high school in 1951, he attended Abilene Christian University and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical

School, receiving his M.D. degree in 1959. He practiced medicine in Littlefield five years before joining Dr. R. E. Cogswell here in 1965. He owned and operated the Dimmitt Medical Clinic from 1966 through 1995, then joined the Medical Center of Dimmitt in early '96. His main hobbies are fishing and bird hunting. He also is a trained musician and singer. (His youngest brother, Fawayne, was a career tenor with the Metropolitan Opera in New York.) Dr. Murphy's main avocation in recent years has been missionary work in the Ukraine. He has been to the Ukraine "six or seven times" for periods up to two months, teaching Christianity and performing medical services. It was on a missionary trip there that he met his wife, Yulia. Dr. and Mrs. Murphy, who are members of the Church of Christ, plan to go back to the Ukraine for about three weeks in October. "I enjoy practicing for the people of Castro County," he said. "I like to try to keep Castro County as healthy as possible." Dr. Murphy is available by appointment Mondays through Fridays at the Medical Center of Dimmitt, 647-2194.

Medical Center of Dimmitt
 A DIVISION OF CASTRO COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
 647-2194 • 112 W. Jones St., Dimmitt

Last Puzzle Solution

- ACROSS**
- TXism: "never eyes on it"
 - TXism: "he's deep he'll never climb out"
 - Alpine FM station
 - confederate officer: Gen. Robert
 - Mr. Neiman, the partner of Marcus
 - East TX wildcatter C.M. " " Joiner
 - TXism: "nothing to write home"
 - TXism: "two pod" (alike)
 - TX-made Sally Field film: " in the Heart"
 - TX president: Johnson
 - TXism: "bright eyed and bushy "
 - TXism: "later"
 - pickup's spare
 - TX family
 - TXism: "useless as ear rings "
 - TXism: " as ticks on a hound dog"
 - TXism: "brave enough to eat in town cafe"
 - wrong directions for horseshoe pits due to sun (3 wds.)
 - TXism: "cut a boarding-house pie" (divided)
 - TXism: "keep your eyeballs peeled"
 - mother of TX Ginger or John Connally
 - chill is the state
 - TX Chesnut tune: "Old Have New Names"
 - TX TV doctor " Duke
 - San Antonio is the of the Alamo
 - TX Willie Nelson's 4th wife
 - national organization for gun-totin' Texans (abbr.)
 - TXisms: "chews his own (independent)"
 - TXism: "dohicky"
 - TX's country
 - Ross State University resort
 - TXism: "sweating"
 - TXism: "got the morals of cat" (immoral)
 - Galveston
 - TXism: "couldn't find an egg under a sitting hen"
 - Christian
 - Dallas' first elected woman mayor
 - TXism: "smack in the middle"
 - likely
 - hardwood tree in Angelina Co.
 - real first name of TX "Bum" Phillips
 - alma mater of Troy Aikman
 - TX Orblson's rock group: " Kings"
 - TX pest: fire
 - TX Bush's missile program (abbr.)
 - TX network journalist Donaldson (init.)
 - TX eatery: " Folks
 - TXism: "he's tighter than bark tree" (miser)
 - honky tonk bill
 - TXism: "fast from a gusher"
 - TXism: "a real ring tailed "
 - TX Willis: "Ah take it away Leon"
 - skimming across a TX lake
 - exotic antelope raised in TX
 - TX Dan Jenkins book: " -Tough"
 - pecan is the TX state
 - rasslin' mat
 - TXism: "dot the i's and cross the "
 - "be alert" on a ball field (2 wds.)
 - TXism: "plain as the nose on your "
 - festive celebration

The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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On the Go with Mary Edna Hendrix, 647-3343

Some of the 4-H members worked at the museum one day last week. Marilyn Neal brought them and picked them up and took them out to lunch. Raphard Smithson and Bill Birdwell came to supervise—thanks to all who worked. Members were Jody Stovall, Jeremy and Brandon Furr and Holly Lane. On their break they gave us a mini concert on the organ. Jody played "Lean on Me," "The Wizard" and "The Weeping Willow." Holly played "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." Brandon played "Dropped my Dolly." They all wanted to get in the act. Eliza Melendez has been working

at the museum this summer through the Chamber of Commerce program. Out-of-town visitor at the museum last week was Brett Sutton from El Paso who came with her grandmother, Emma Jean King of Sunny-side. On Thursday evening the museum held their monthly board meeting with Clara Vick presiding in the absence of Dale Winders. Other members were Madge Robb, Rosetta Bellinghausen and Mary Edna Hendrix with guests Velma Lambright and Clara's sister, Joy Noland of Michigan. Sandwiches, chips, lemonade and rocky road ice cream was served. Where were the

men? Emily Clingsmith was hostess to the Thursday Bridge Club and she served a delicious peach cobbler and ice cream. Susie Reeves won high score and Carol Lantz won second high score. Others playing were Virginia Crider, Helen Braafladt, Dude McLauren, Cleo Forson, Ina Rae Cates, Bernice Hill, Louise Mears, Alma Kenmore, Bill Thornton, Elizabeth Huckabay and Loranel Hamilton. Emily Clingsmith stayed six weeks with her daughter in

Fredericksburg during the peach harvest. The Chamber of Commerce gave the museum a book, "Economic Base Report" prepared in July 1969 and I found this information interesting: Pioneer Natural Gas minimum charge was \$1.91 per month; City Water was \$3.50 per month for the first 2,000 gallons; and Southwestern Public Service for lights was \$7.50 per month. Of course the salaries were much smaller. Bro. Howard Rhodes' morning message was "How can we get out of the mud?" Recognize why we got stuck in the first place and remember that Jesus can push us out. He mentioned when they lived in Oklahoma Lane, someone gave their daughter a pig and they had it so clean when they entered it in the Fair, but as soon as they brought it home he enjoyed laying in the mud again! Freddie and Cheryl Upshaw sang a special "He Washed my Eyes with Tears" and "Something Beautiful."

Bobby and Wanda Murdock and their granddaughter Alyson Smith of Amarillo went to Colorado Springs, Colo., for the 1997 Basketball Congress International ball games at the U.S. Air Force Academy. This tournament was founded by Larry Walker who passed away December 1996. There were 60 teams from all over the United States participating. They were from Texas, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Minnesota, Oregon, Indiana, Kentucky, New York, Utah, Washington,

Nebraska, Wyoming, Arkansas and Alabama. On the Dimmitt team were Derek Buckley, Stuart Sutton, Casey Smith, Jared Townsend, Wes Wright, Jacob Lara, Dirkston Sherman, Jerry Thomas, Charley Sanders, Daniel Flores, Kevin Sanders and Nick Whatley and the sponsors were David Schaeffer and Mat Bradley. Bob and Wanda also took their granddaughter, Alyson Smith, for a three hour ride on the cog rail up Pikes Peak. They then went to James A. Dodson's Focus on the Family.

Nazareth with Uirgie Gerber, 945-2669

Nazareth parishioners were honored to have our new bishop, John W. Yanta attending Saturday evening Mass in Holy Family Church. He gave a wonderful, sincere homily during mass at the CCD Building. He surely makes a good impression with everyone he visits with.

Prayers are also asked for Ronnie Birkenfeld, 57, of Texas Creek, Colo. He suffered a stroke and was a patient in the Cannon City Hospital for two weeks. He is paralyzed on his left side and is now in the Rehab Center in Colorado Springs for treatment.

the Nazareth courts. Karleen Hoelting and Travis Schulte won first, Karen Gerber and Cory Hoelting placed second and Dan Gerber and Amy Pohlmeier took third in the mixed tournament.

Ruth Cochran spent a few days with her aunt in Texarkana before school starts.

ROLLING STONE, Peter Travers
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A farewell party for our teachers who are leaving was held last Sunday evening at the Nazareth School Cafeteria with a large number of well-wishers attending. The party was sponsored by the Nazareth Home and School for Mark and Kim Makeever, June Parker, Penny Rich and Cathy Lane. The Makeevers have left for their new home and jobs in Graham. They will be missed as their family fit in with most families here in this small community. Bobbie Schmucker and Karleen Hoelting accompanied them to Graham to help relocate as Kim had to report for work at the school on Tuesday. We all wish them well in their new jobs and in the community.

Hubert and Joan Backus have returned home after spending several days in Washington D.C. Hubert was chosen to represent the Texas division of Terra at the Agri-Dealer Legislative Conference. They visited with their State Representatives and really enjoyed the many sites in the Washington area. Nazareth kids enjoyed a tennis tournament this past week on the tennis courts at school. Brittany Hampton won first in singles and first in round robin doubles with eight wins. She was followed by Bradley Gerber with seven wins, Taylor Schulte with six wins and Corey Makeever with three wins. In the 9 and 10 year old division, Clifford Gerber won first in singles and Jake Hoelting and Jordan Hampton won first in doubles. Clifford Gerber and Kelcee Kleman won second and Nathan Huseman and Ricky Pena took third. In the 10, 11 and 12 year old division, Monty Hoelting won first in singles and first in round robin doubles with eight wins. Brett Hoelting and Andrew Brockman tied for second with six wins, and Koty Huseman was third with four wins. In the 13 and 14 year old division, Shawna Gerber won first in singles, with Megan Hoelting second. Mandy Hoelting and Tara Kleman placed first in doubles and Shawna Gerber and Kyla Schacher took second. There was also an adult tournament held Friday and Saturday on

I missed reporting the golf results last week in Odessa when Gene Gerber squared off against his sister, Donna Charanza. Although Gene has been playing a long while, age tells—he shot a 53 against Donna's 38! Leonard and Rose Mary Wilhelm celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on August 2 with a mass at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Church with Rev. John Hickey, celebrant, assisted by Rev. Neal Dee and Rev. Jerry Stein. Also attending the Mass was Rev. Mario Stortz and a large number of relatives and friends from all over Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Mississippi and California. Also in attending were the original attendants at their wedding August 6, 1947, Lucille Drerup, Stella Shirly, Betty Jo Bartles, Francis Wilhelm, GeorgeBook and Grace DeCardenas. Followed by a reception in the Community Hall, there were lots of old memories renewed and shared. During the dinner, several cowboys sang old-time songs and recited Cowboy Poetry. One of the highlights of the day was when Most Rev. John W. Yanta, Bishop of Amarillo came to the hall and gave Leonard and Rose Mary his special blessing. The following morning, a large number of friends and relatives had brunch before returning home. Rev. Brendan Sherry joined them for the brunch. He had planned to be present for the celebration but could not get an earlier flight out of Ireland.

The Bethel community will hold a garage sale and its end-of-the-summer ice cream social on Saturday. The garage sale will be held from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bethel Community Building, located nine miles west of Dimmitt and a mile south on County Road 505. Proceeds from the sale will be used to replace the building's roof and make other needed repairs. The ice cream social also will be held at the Bethel Community Building and it is slated to begin at 7 p.m.

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A bridal shower, honoring Robin Schulte, bride-elect of Todd Straley of Wolforth was held Saturday at 11 a.m. at the home of Vera Ramaekers. Special guests were Marcia Straley, of Wolforth, mother of the groom, Lisa Schulte of Nazareth, mother of the bride; Gladys Morris of Lamesa, grandmother of the groom; Joanne Lacy of Hart, grandmother of the bride and Martha Schulte of Nazareth, grandmother of the bride. Also attending were Sara Huggins and her mother Melinda Huggins of Dallas, friends of the bride; and Adrienne Reed of Michigan, a friend of the bride. A great number of family and friends attended the party hosted by friends.

July rebates soar in Dimmitt, Hart; Nazareth sees decrease

payments to date comes to \$9,880.08 compared to \$7,436.26 received at this time last year. Nazareth earned a rebate check totaling \$512.57 which is down from the July 1996 total of \$620.71. The year to date total is at \$6,736.12, which is up 13.28% from last year's total to date of \$5,946.00. Castro County's rebate in July showed a large increase of 60.09% from last year's July total. The payment this year was \$29,843.47, while last July's payment was \$18,640.66. For the year, the county has received \$176,674.24, which is up 3.81% from last year's \$170,176.66. This month's sales tax rebates include local taxes collected on May sales by businesses filing monthly returns and reported to the Comptroller in June.

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COSMETIC PUFFS 300 COUNT **59¢**

Congratulations to Henry and Virginia (Rossi) Gerber of Amarillo who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday in Amarillo at the beautiful Wellington Square reception room, with a catered meal being served at noon. The immediate families of both parties attended. The event was hosted by their four children and grandchildren; Bob and Elaine Gerber of Hereford, Ray and Nadine Berends of Hereford, Mark and Irene Riley of Lubbock and Debbie Gerber of Amarillo. We had a wonderful time visiting, viewing old pictures and taking many, many more new pictures. Ray and Nadine Berends for continued prayers for their son, Marcus, who is still taking radiation and chemo-therapy for a brain tumor diagnosed in early May. He is a 1997 graduating senior.

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Francis and Bea Acker

Marvin Jones is home after having more extension surgery at the V.A. Hospital in Amarillo on the eye that he lost sometime ago due to cancer. He is waiting for reconstructive work to be finished now. Prayers are asked for him. Tony and Angela Acker ask for prayers for Donald Wright of Dimmitt who is at the Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, Ariz., for tests. Prayers are asked for Jesse Olvera, 35, who underwent heart valve surgery at Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo. He still has to cope with problems and he needs our prayers.

Our sympathy to the family of Karleen (Schwaller) Vaughn, 67, who died Wednesday, July 30, in Tullia. She was raised in Nazareth and attended school in Nazareth and graduated from Amarillo High School. Graveside services for the immediate family were held Saturday morning at 10 a.m. in Rose Hill Cemetery with Monsignor B.A. Irpen, officiating. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at a later date. Prayers are asked for the continued good health for John Womack who underwent surgery recently for a permanent stent in the upper portion of his heart. He was a patient in Lubbock Methodist Hospital.

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People



Poppy Cline and Charles Walker

Engagement is told

Mr. and Mrs. Milas L. Cline Jr. of Dimmitt announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Poppy Michelle, to Charles K. Walker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Walker of Alexandria, Va. The couple plan to wed on Sept. 27 in Sam Houston Park in Amarillo. They will reside in California after the wedding. The bride-elect is a 1995 graduate of Dimmitt High School and studied management at Amarillo College. She is employed at the Olive Garden in Amarillo. The prospective groom graduated from high school in El Toro, Calif., in 1989, and majored in criminal justice at California State at Fullerton. He is in the US Marine Corp.

Stephens is Eastern New Mexico graduate

Robin Stephens, a Dimmitt High School graduate, is among the 122 summer graduation candidates at Eastern New Mexico University-Portales, with seven students receiving associate degrees, 81 receiving bachelor's degrees and 32 receiving master's degrees. Stephens received a master's degree in music in music education. Students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.8 to 4.0 will graduate summa cum laude, while 3.7 to 3.79 grade point average students will graduate magna cum laude. Cum laude graduates must have a 3.6 to 3.69 GPA. Students with a 3.25 to 3.59 GPA graduate with distinction.

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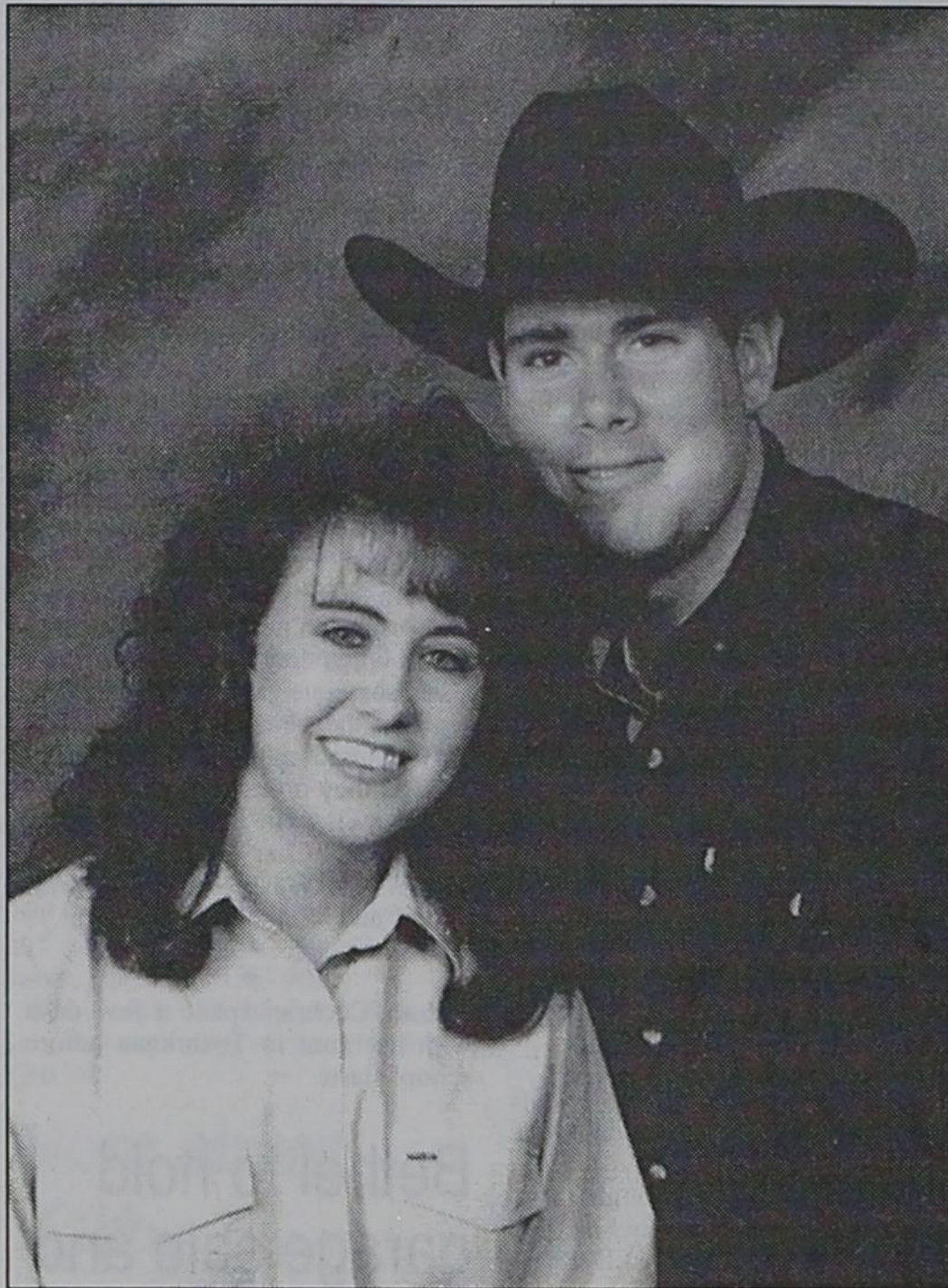
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Robin Schulte and Todd Straley

Schulte and Straley to wed

Clyde and Lisa Schulte of Nazareth announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Robin, to Todd Straley, son of Gery and Marcia Straley of Wolfforth. The couple will exchange wedding vows at 5 p.m. on Aug. 16 at Southcrest Baptist Church in Lubbock. Miss Schulte graduated from Nazareth High School in 1996. She is a sophomore majoring in multi-disciplinary studies at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. Straley is a 1994 graduate of Frenship High School and he is a senior at Texas Tech, majoring in agriculture economics. He is employed at Scott Tractor in Lubbock. After the wedding the couple plans to reside in Lubbock.

Thomas named as Frenship assistant superintendent

John R. Thomas, former Dimmitt High School counselor and coach, has been named the new Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for the Frenship Independent School District. Thomas had been the superintendent of school at Ralls ISD. He will begin his duties at Frenship ISD on Aug. 12. Frenship is located in Wolfforth and southwest Lubbock, and has an enrollment of over 500 students. Thomas worked in the Dimmitt school system as a teacher, coach and high school counselor from 1977 to 1989. He served as middle school principal in Lamesa ISD from 1989 to 1994 and has been employed the past three years at Ralls. Thomas and his wife, Leasa, have three children, Leah Beth, who will be a senior at Frenship High School; David, who will be an eighth grader at Frenship Junior High; and Sara, who will be enrolled in the second grade.

Flame Fellowship to focus on Freed Friday

Sandie Freed of Bedford will be the speaker Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the August meeting of the Dimmitt chapter of Flame Fellowship at the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce. Freed has travelled nationally and internationally, most recently ministering in the revelation of interpreting dreams and visions. She has been a featured guest on James Robinson's "Life Today" television broadcast, speaking on the importance of dreams and visions as well as affirming positive approaches to eating disorders. Freed and her husband, Micky, pastor together at Zion Family Church in Bedford. They are ordained by Christian International and are the Mid-Southwestern Regional Directors of the Christian International Networking of Churches (CINC). Flame Fellowship allows everyone to attend the meeting.

Who's New



Out of town
Scott and Suzanne Simpson of Abilene announce the birth of a baby boy, Samuel Wyatt. He was born June 14 and weighed 7 lbs., 9 ozs. and was 19 1/2 inches long. His paternal grandparents are Bob Simpson and the late Cecelia Simpson. Scott is the associate pastor at First Central Presbyterian Church in Abilene.



Chris Kleman and Natalie Schmucker

September vows planned

Ray and Mary Lou Schmucker of Nazareth announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Natalie, to Chris Kleman, son of Alvin and Dorothy Kleman, also of Nazareth. The couple has planned to wed Sept. 27 at 3 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth. The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Nazareth High School and she graduated from Cosmetology School South Plains. She is employed at La Coiffures in Dimmitt. The prospective groom graduated from Nazareth High School in 1987 and from DeVry in Dallas with a degree in electrical engineering technology. He is employed at Applied Materials in Dallas. The couple will reside in Plano after the wedding.

Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW to hold convention this weekend

The local district of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, District 13, will follow the theme of "Serving America—With a Caring Heart" during their convention Saturday and Sunday at Littlefield. The theme was chosen by new president Patricia Kemp of Orange. Kemp was elected and installed as State President for the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States at the 71st annual convention held in San Antonio June 28. Kemp has been an active member of the Orange VFW Auxiliary 2775 in District 2 since 1969. She joined on the eligibility of her deceased father, Herman Theodore Conroy, who served in the U.S. Navy, in the Pacific. She served as President as her Auxiliary in 1975-76 and has served as Americanism Chairman for more than 25 years. She has entered the State Record Book competition for Americanism 11 times and won first place 10 times. She placed in the top 10 or won first place in the National competition each time. Kemp has chosen the theme, "Serving America—With a Caring Heart" for the 1997-98 auxiliary year, and she has chosen the Shriner's Hospital for Children as her Special Project. For more information on the District convention this weekend,


contact Sylvia Stubblefield at 647-5786.



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... State President,
VFW Auxiliary

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Anessa Scott
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Cody Myrick,
son of J.D. & Freddie Sue Myrick,
on Saturday, August 9, 1997
at 7:30 p.m.
at the home of Ben G. & Molly Scott
S. Front Street, Dimmitt, Texas

Casual Attire, Please

Sunnyside with Teeny Bowden



Guy Leatherwood Jr. and Renee Alexander

Leatherwood to wed Alexander

Renee Alexander and Guy Leatherwood Jr. plan to exchange wedding vows Sept. 13 at Plymouth Park Baptist Church in Irving.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Alexander of Irving. She is a graduate of Nimitz High School in Irving and works for Darr Equipment.

The prospective groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Leatherwood of Dimmitt. He graduated from Dimmitt High School and he works for Southern Cross Medical Services as an Executive Rehab Consultant.

Following their wedding, the couple plans to live in Irving.

Gospel Jubilee set for Saturday in Amarillo

The third annual Gospel Jubilee concert will be staged from 7 to 9 p.m. this Saturday at the Sam Houston Park Stage in Amarillo.

Presented by Panhandle Community Services, the event will feature artists from the Texas Panhandle performing their gospel favorites.

Families in Training (FIT), the Gospel Jubilee beneficiary, is an education driven program which provides rental assistance and case management to families making the transition from poverty to self-sufficiency. FIT has 142 current participants, 78 percent single parents. Students are in training occupations such as education, occupational therapy, court reporting, metrology, nursing, computer, physical therapy and many more. The average wage rate for participants is over \$9 per hour.

The FIT program has no supportive services for clients. In client case management other area resources are recommended, but often emergency situations emerge forcing families to discontinue their education. Generated funds from the Gospel Jubilee will allow FIT families to apply for a responsibility loan designed to prevent disruption in reaching their educational goals. All proceeds will directly benefit FIT clients.

Panhandle Community Services is a non-profit agency striving to help families who are faced with extreme

poverty and crisis. In addition, programs and staff encourage families to dream for a future, turn poverty into opportunity, and seek to attain a higher quality of life by achieving self-sufficiency.

There will be a drawing at the concert which will feature all kinds of prizes. Tickets are \$1 per ticket donation or six tickets for \$5 and will be available at a local PCS office, from PCS staff, and at the event.

Cash and prize donations will be accepted.

Labor Day picnic scheduled in Naz

The Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth will host its annual Labor Day picnic on Sunday, Aug. 31 at the Community Hall.

Events this year will begin with a parade starting at 10 a.m. Activities following the parade will include a roast beef dinner, bingo, arts and crafts show, auction, children's games, raffle, hamburger supper and horseshoe tournament.

The day will conclude with a dance at the Community Hall featuring Southern Sky from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

For more information contact the Holy Family Church at 945-2616.

My rain gauge showed .70 of an inch of rain for Tuesday night and two inches for Wednesday afternoon and evening. The Dukes and the Kings had about the same, but to the south it was a different story. The Alairs received 2½ inches Tuesday night and 4½ inches Wednesday afternoon. It flooded their basement on Wednesday. A four-mile area around them showed several lakes over the roads. The Dawsons received 7 inches. Tommy and Louise Alair had planned to go to the funeral services of his brother-in-law, John Smith of Rockdale, but the basement had too much water in it to leave. Louise said it was like moving.

Ezell and Verba Sadler have been at Hubbard Creek Lake all week, preparing for and hosting the Hensley Reunion. This is Mrs. Sadler's family, and the last reunion for this year. Larry and Laura Sadler, Matt and Kristen went down Friday to the reunion.

Glenn and LaWanda Wilson attended the funeral services of her uncle, Paul Brooks in Hart last Friday. He and LaWanda's daddy Jim Brooks of Clovis, N.M. were brothers.

Rev. Bennie and Joyce Wright left Wednesday for San Antonio to visit with their son and his family while Joyce had two days off at Wayland. They got back Sunday night, and she

went to Wayland Monday morning.

Don Howard of Clarendon, son of Noble and Frieda Howard, former residents of the community, died this week and his funeral services were held Thursday morning at 10:30 a.m. with burial in the Happy Cemetery at 2 p.m. Robert and Frances Duke went to the funeral and took Noble's sister, Alberta Dyer of Dimmitt. Don's sister, Nancy Hollingsworth, lives in Hereford. If you would like to send a card, sent it to Frieda Howard, Rt. 3 A-8 Box 1477, Nocona, TX 79255. They lived about a quarter of a mile south of the Dukes when they lived here.

Robert and Frances Duke gleaned potatoes at Harold Smith's farm close to Hart with a lot of help, 23 in all, most from Hereford. All but six were gleaning for the first time. They ended up gleaning 3,240 lbs on Tuesday. They will be gleaning again Saturday.

Robert and Frances are responsible for the Duke Hall Reunion each year at the Ramada Inn in east Amarillo. It was held Saturday and Sunday August 2-3. Seventy-six were registered including Frances and Robert,

Larry and Lori Duke, Ashlee and Alyssa, all of Lubbock, and Sandra Duke of Canyon.

Hershel and Retha Wilson, Adam and Angela Freeman, and Zela Mae Epperson left the 17th for LBJ Lake for the Epperson Family Reunion. Lonnie and Renee Wilson, Jessica, Andrea and Flossie Jones went also. Samantha and a friend joined them from A&M. Also, Debbie Elder joined them from Lubbock.

They all came home Wednesday, Hershel and Retha came back through Ropesville for a visit with Hershel's Aunt Bonnie Ferguson and they also visited with his uncle and aunt, Bob and Frances Roach from

Dallas. His mother Ruby Wilson and sister Dorothy Nutt.

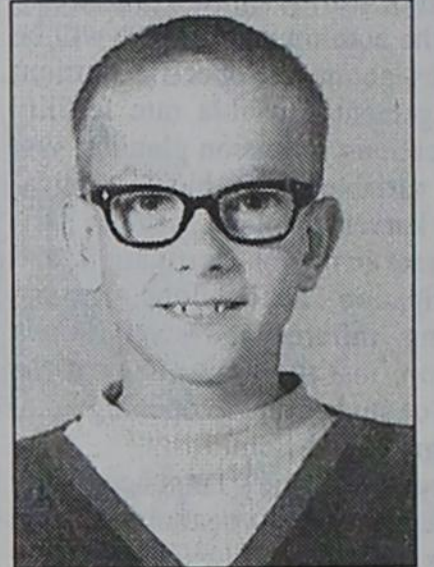
On the 27th, Hershel and Retha went with David and Karen Hutson to San Isabel Lake in Colorado. Ron Morgan and his family joined them and they went to the Capulin Volcanic mountain at Sugarite. They came home Saturday.

Billie King attended the Farmers' Coop meeting and supper at Springlake-Earth cafeteria along with several others of the community.

Mike King of Canyon visited with Billie and Emma Jean Friday afternoon.

40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40

You may not act like you're 40,
But the calendar says you are.
You've done some wild things in your life,
And that's not counting wrecking your first car!
You've always had knee problems,
And surgery has sent you to bed.
But you've made it this far and
We wish you many more!
Happy Birthday, Fred!
From the Nephews & Family



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before the
Dimmitt Lions Club's
BROOM SALE
coming Tuesday, Aug. 26

ABI Agriculture, Business & Industry



Precision Agriculture is revolutionizing Texas farming

By PAUL WAYLAND
Agronomist

Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc.
Historic agronomic practices have been developed on the Texas High Plains from the time the sod was first broken by the plow.

The additions of irrigation, water control practices, commercial fertilization, hybrid and variety development have all been embraced by the agricultural producer.

This is the first in a series of articles that will deal with various facets of precision agriculture as it is being applied or incorporated into the main stream of our agriculture practices.

In the coming weeks there will be articles about site-specific nutrient management, variable rate fertility applications, precision planting systems, variable rate herbicide applications, harvest mapping systems, variable rate irrigation, fertigation, and chemigation applications, remote sensing, infrared and spatial wave dilation, just to name a few of the areas of study that are opening up to the agronomic field.

A completely new language is only now entering the vocabulary of the Texas farmer.

Words and phrases such as spatial variability of nutrient status; discrete sampling data acquisition, integer resolution "on the fly," pseudo range solutions, operational management zones, electromagnetic induction yield mapping, "fuzzy" soil interpretations, time-warps, real-time and real-space dimensions, are only a

few examples of a new language that will be spoken and understood down on the farm as "GPS" and "VRT" are understood today.

Agronomic practices and recommendations have been made on a field basis, sometimes with little economic benefit, rather than on soil-specific properties that might influence tillage, seeding, fertilizing and weed control practices.

The advent of soil conservation began to lead soil management toward topographic and soil-specific features. The completion of detailed soil surveys has provided a database of great magnitude of soil site-specific details.

Information from this data base was not used by farmers for a number of reasons.

The advent of computer software to process "spatial data" together with geostatistical analysis and georeferenced records and display as management maps has changed the whole concept of inter-field application and harvesting, and the unused database has become very important—especially since a large percentage of yield differences are related to soil features.

In our market economy on the Texas High Plains, technology, products, and services are not adopted by producers or ag suppliers unless benefits exceed the costs or the result of government regulation.

Recent research on profitability of precision farming for production

agriculture is illustrating the fact that the technology is destined to pass the "profitability test" on a very large number of production operations.

But it is well to go beyond the farm to examine whether precision farming is good for the Texas High Plains as well as for society on national economic, social, and environmental bases.

The nationwide economic impact of precision farming is dependent upon whether the technology mainly saves inputs and costs or mainly increases output. By combining soil tests with yield responses and fertilizer application data that may be combined with hybrid and plant populations, and pesticide applications, that are all site-specific, a data base of unprecedented value is created.

The database can more precisely dictate optional economic input and crop yield on a scale never before achieved by the producer. As a result, Texas High Plains producers achieve greater crop yield per unit of fertilizer, irrigation water, seed, and pesticide.

If the enlarged output-input ratio comes from using less fertilizer, etc., (inputs), it will cut the producer's costs and save natural resources. Several university studies across the nation indicate this scenario. On a nationwide basis, eventually this cost saving benefits could well be bid into land prices.

If the enlarged output-input ratio does not save fertilizer, irrigation, and other inputs, but instead comes as greater yields, the result will be lower food prices with higher quality produce benefiting the consumers on the High Plains and nationwide.

In reality, the economic benefits of precision agriculture are coming from more efficient use of production inputs as well as from additional yield.

Successful early adopters of precision farming will gain the most because they will increase their bottom line before output prices fall. Producers who do not adopt precision techniques will become the losers due to more efficient production by their neighbors.

Considering historic experience with agriculture production technology, I can but conclude that more long-term economic benefits of precision farming will accrue for the producer who adopts the precision systems and for the consumers who utilize the production.

Those producers who are unable to adopt the new production systems will not be a part of the agriculture scene in the not-too-distant future.

The social impact of precision agriculture on family farms and the rural farm communities like Dimmitt depends heavily on what effect it has on two areas.

First is the economics of size—the



FARMERS LISTEN AT A STOP DURING THE CROP TOUR
...Paul Wayland at Dimmitt Agri Industries discusses Precision Agriculture and shows off the Flex-Air, the vehicle used in the new technique.
Photo by Scott Brockman

costs of production on large versus small farms. The second is labor requirements of precision farming.

Precision farming practices can be as effective per acre on a small farm as on a large operation. But economics comes into play on the large as well as the small operation because precision farming requires investment in machinery, equipment, grid sampling, soil testing, etc.

Computer controlled fertilizer, pesticide, and seed application require a higher level of operational and maintenance skills. A co-op is able to provide precision application services to the large as well as the small operations, none of which can afford a stand-alone precision farming system.

The economics of precision production practices will work the same for the small operations as for the large. However, many of the smaller operations will choose not to adopt because of too much bother. The large operations will be forced to adopt to stay in the economic main stream.

From a social standpoint, precision farming will have slight impact on the farm structure and the small farm communities, due to three reasons.

First, all types of precision farming do little to save labor. Operations will not need to expand to better utilize the labor force.

Second, regardless of farm size, the economics of precision agriculture will require higher priced equipment, machinery, and inputs. Much of this additional cost can be shared through the use of co-ops.

Finally, the impact on rural communities will not be great due to the lack of impact on farm size, numbers, and population.

The effects of the impact of precision farming are very different from the impacts of the tractor, combine,

hybrid seed, etc.

The efficiencies of precision farming are not due to increase size of operations, larger machinery or the introduction of tractors, etc., or a smaller labor force, but to increased efficiency from the use of databases and current production knowledge.

To precisely add production inputs to any area of a field to meet that area's requirements, greatly increases the efficiency of production of the total field that can be measured in increased net profit.

The third area of major impact from precision farming in the Texas High Plains the effect on the environment.

The conventional blanket application of fertilizer and pesticides across the entire field or group of fields results in excessive application on some areas and inadequate application on other areas.

Applications in excess of plant utilization results in surplus crop nutrients and pesticides carried away or leached into our water supplies.

If, as some environmental experts believe, producers on the average will apply less fertilizer under precision farming practices, then there will be less fertilizer available for runoff.

It has been my experience, however, that conventional applications greatly shorted the areas of a field that produced the high yields and a high fertilizer response will occur for additional fertility application in those areas. In such cases, fertilizer use generally increases slightly and the entire field becomes much more efficient in response to soil fertility.

Pesticide saving is more common than fertilizer saving, because producers often apply blanket applications of pesticide to fields requiring only spot treatments. Many producers will successively broadcast fields with one pesticide to control one

weed species or insect and another application to control another pest—adding up to several applications for the season. Sensing systems currently developed and under development, coupled with precision mapping software, can better tailor the type, volume, and location of pesticide application to site-specific requirements.

Precision farming will raise the productivity of our soil resources, decreasing the land requirements to meet food and fiber demands. This alone frees land resources for soil conservation practices. In addition, precision farming is one of the tools that can be used to provide vegetative cover to help control erosion.

The site-specific control used in precision farming can tailor chemical applications to ameliorate environmental hot spots and provide a means to reduce application on sites contributing to water quality problems.

Is precision farming good for the Texas High Plains as well as Dimmitt?

Considering what we know now, precision farming as it is being used on the Texas High Plains will provide greater efficiency of fertilizer, ag chemicals, seed and water-use inputs. Precision agriculture will also reduce the upward pressure on food prices and the use of our natural resources.

Compared with the introduction of the farm tractor, it will not displace farm families or interrupt the farm community's social fabric.

Indeed, precision agriculture will be a tool that can be used to help stabilize the "family farm" on the Texas High Plains and it is here to stay.

Next week: Precision Agriculture—Site-Specific Nutrient Management Systems.

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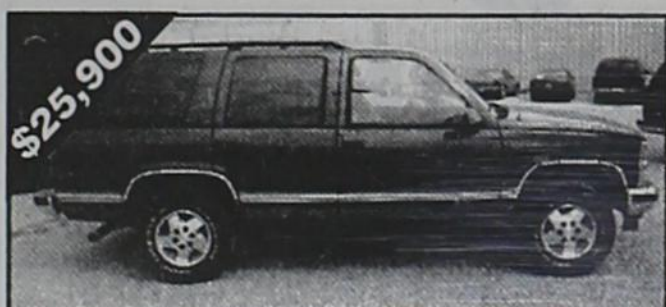
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MOM GETS A REPORT CARD, TOO—Dana Cobb shows her transcript to her children, Christopher (left), 7, and Celena (right), 8½. She has only one more semester of studies to complete to obtain her

bachelor's degree in nursing through Amarillo College. She receives help with her living expenses through the Panhandle Community Services Families In Training program. *Photo by Linda Maxwell*

PCS Week

Local woman celebrates association with PCS office

By LINDA MAXWELL
A local woman is proudly helping celebrate Panhandle Community Services Week in Castro County this week, as declared in a proclamation issued by the County Commissioners.

Dana Cobb of Dimmitt is attending nursing school with the help of the Families In Training (FIT) program of Panhandle Community Services. She will complete her bachelor's degree after one more semester. She qualified for a grant for part of her living expenses while she is attending school, so that she doesn't have to juggle work along with her classes, studying and family responsibilities.

"I realize how lucky I am that I have had time to study," Cobb said. "I am so fortunate that I'm not having to work. I have been able to take as much as I possibly could and get in and get out in only a year and a half instead of two years."

She said others who are taking courses with her are having to spread their studies out over a longer time. The grant from PCS helps pay the rent and utilities for Cobb while she is attending school.

"It helps having a home and a roof over your head. It gives you a sense of independence, even though you're getting help with it," she said. "You can't do it without a tremendous amount of help."

Cobb said she has had lots of help, from her parents and from her children, Celena, 8½, and Christopher, 7.

"They have been very supportive," Cobb said. "There's no balance in (the different areas of) your life. You can't go to school with any balance, but I've learned to handle the stress."

Cobb said the staff at the Dimmitt PCS office also have been very supportive of her efforts.

"I can't tell you how many times when the stress of school, ex-spouse, and bills would pile up on me and I'd get down and my self-confidence would be down, every one of them would give me a pat on the back or some encouragement.

"It picks you right back up when someone objective—not in your family—says 'you're doing okay, look how far you've come, you can do it.'"

"That kind of encouragement makes all the difference in the world. You can get through another day or another week."

As she nears the completion of her studies, Cobb said it is nice to see how all of the courses she has taken fit together.

"There's a lot more to nursing than what I expected," Cobb said. She added that it is special to her to share that vocation with her mother, Bonnie Cobb, LVN, who is employed with the Home Health Service in Dimmitt. She said her brother also just graduated from nursing studies at Tarrant County Junior College in May.

Cobb said nursing can be emotionally draining.

"It's important to evaluate your feelings as a nurse and understand them. You have to deal with the emotional part before you can give the best care," she said. "I can't stress enough how hard it is emotionally. It spills out on others sometimes. This has been the most emotionally draining semester I've had."

She said she has had clinical rotations in pediatric and neonatal care this semester, including intensive

care, and even helped in delivering a baby.

Cobb was selected to participate in a new PCS program in which she was given a loan for part of her child care expenses while she attended a summer session of classes.

"The FIT program is very adaptable. They're willing to work with you," Cobb said. "The help is there and people should find a way to take advantage of it. The paperwork is irritating, time consuming and confusing, but it is worth the time it takes."

"If anyone really wants to change their life, they should... be stubborn enough not to look around and see how scary it is," she said. "They should go to school and get an education. To be independent in all senses of that word, including financially, you need to go to school."

She said she feels this experience has been good for her children, too, in that they have learned that college is attainable—maybe scary and intimidating, but attainable.

For part of her studies, Cobb said she had to give a presentation on a subject of her choosing. She selected PCS, telling about the wide range of services they have available for people of all ages.

Cobb said what impresses her most about PCS is that although many organizations give contributions and volunteer their time, this one in particular has a direct impact on the community.

"The people you are helping through PCS are the people you see every day. I will be, hopefully, providing health care here in this town, and people will be able to see how their help is working," Cobb said.

Local Red Cross to celebrate 80th anniversary

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross (Deaf Smith, Castro, and Parmer counties) will celebrate the 80th anniversary of its charter from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the Hereford Community Center.

A program of recognition, honoring Red Cross volunteers of the past and present and extolling the history of the chapter, will begin at 3 p.m.

There will be a display of the equipment necessary to care for the victims of disaster. The teaching aids used in first aid instruction will be on exhibit, and volunteers will be on hand to explain their functions.

The public is invited to attend the event to pay tribute to the volunteers and to learn what the Red Cross has meant for the community during the past 80 years.

Booth spaces are available for festival

Booth spaces are still available for the 15th annual Littlefield Arts and Crafts Festival sponsored by the Littlefield Homemakers Association.

Many artists and craftsmen will be showing their wares on Saturday, Nov. 15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lamb County Ag and Community Center, located on Highway 385 and 17th Street in Littlefield.

Fifty booths will be filled with an array of handmade items. No commercial items are allowed.

For further information on reserving a booth space contact Mechelle Curry at 106 E. 18th, Littlefield, TX, or call (806) 385-6269; or Toni Foley at (806) 385-5990.

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Classic Cable will make donations to local schools

Classic Cable recently announced their plans to donate money to local high schools with each new cable installation.

In 1997, the company has been focusing its efforts on community, commitment and customer services. According to Jennifer Tremblay, Marketing Manager for Classic Cable, the company has committed to donating five dollars to local high schools for each new install during the month of August.

"We felt like this would be good timing for this type of effort with most students going back to school later this month," stated Tremblay. "We have been working very hard this year on being good neighbors in the communities we provide with

cable service and we firmly believe the education of our children is vitally important. This effort will demonstrate our commitment to our customers, their communities and their children."

Classic Cable currently provides all school with free cable television service and has established a college scholarship fund for graduating seniors.

In addition, the company makes donations to many worth while community events and donates a large number of toys to needy children during the holidays.

Individuals wishing to install with cable television during this month will not only have the five dollars donated to the local high school, but

will also receive 50% off the regular install fee.

Existing customers wishing to assist with these efforts can do so by upgrading their existing cable service to include any premium service and the donation of \$5 will also be made to the local high school. Again, they too, will also receive 50% off the regular upgrade fee.

According to Ms. Tremblay, customers can either call 1-800-999-8876 or stop by their local office to get all the details.

"During the month of August everyone can win. Customers will have the best home entertainment value in town, the local high school will receive a donation and we will have a valued customer," Tremblay said.

Police Calls

A 50-year-old Dimmitt man was jailed Sunday night on second-degree felony charges of aggravated assault/family member/ with a deadly weapon. He remained in jail Tuesday afternoon in lieu of bond. The police report stated that the man threatened a woman with a knife during a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of Northwest Fourth.

A 29-year-old Dimmitt man remained in jail Tuesday afternoon after being jailed Sunday night on charges of assault with bodily injury/family violence. The police report said the man hit a woman with his fist in an incident at the Azteca Complex.

Three Dimmitt people were jailed for alcohol-related offenses on July 30 at 4:12 p.m. The arresting officer was DPS Trooper Smith. Two women, ages 27 and 33, were charged with public intoxication, and a 46-year-old man was charged with felony DWI (third offense).

Three people were jailed for alcohol-related offenses at 6:15 a.m. Sunday. A 17-year-old Friona woman was charged with DWI, first offense; a 20-year-old Dimmitt man was charged with DWI, third offense; and an 18-year-old Dimmitt man was charged with public intoxication.

Martha Reyes of Dimmitt told police Monday night that someone had used a B-B gun to shoot at a vehicle belonging to Ysidro Zarazua of Dimmitt.

Michael Smith of Dimmitt reported an incident of burglary of a habitation to police the evening of July 28. He said a movie projector, grease gun and spray paint can had been taken from his residence in the 600 block of Northwest Fifth, but the projector was recovered at the location.

Picked up on warrants and parole violations were: A Dimmitt man, 31, on July 29 for contempt of court in a child support case; 24-year-old Hereford man July 30, violation of parole, DWI, first offense; Dimmitt man, 20, July 30, theft by check warrant; on Friday, a Friona man, 22, release violation, failure to appear; Friday, a Dimmitt man, warrant for purchasing alcohol for a minor; Saturday, Amarillo man, 27, warrants for violation of probation, evading arrest and DWI, first offense.

Ignacio Gil, 17, of Dimmitt was taken to Plains Memorial Hospital July 25 after a pickup accidentally ran over his foot in the driveway of his home. Driver of the pickup was Enequina Lara of Bovina.

July 30 at 11:51 p.m. Antonio Lopez Jr., 10, was taken to Plains Memorial Hospital when the rear tire of his bike was struck by a pickup driven by Lynn Nelson, 23, of Dimmitt. The boy had been riding east in the 800 block of East Bedford. The police report said that Nelson said all he saw was a white T-shirt and swerved to miss, and struck the rear of the bike. The report also said Nelson said the bike had been crossing the street at an angle. Lopez told police his bike did not have reflectors or brakes and said he did not see the pickup. The report said Lopez was not injured.

Alvin Bernal, 21, of Portales, N.M. was ticketed July 28 for no driver's license and no insurance after his 1983 Buick collided with a chain-link fence in the 700 block of Southeast Third. Damage to the vehicle was rated moderate. Damage to the fence, belonging to the City of Dimmitt, was estimated at \$320. Bernal was not injured, but a passenger in his vehicle, Oviedo Hernandez, 20, had a possible injury.

Going to Nationals

The Castro County 4-H Horse Judging team is raising money to go to two national contests. One is this week and one is in October. The goal is **\$10,000**. Donations are welcome. Call **647-4115**.

4-H Horse Judging Team

4-H Horse Judging Team at Nationals

The Castro County 4-H Horse Judging Team is scheduled to compete in the judging contests at the Junior World Quarter Horse Show in Fort Worth this week.

The team qualified to participate on the national level after winning first at State earlier this summer.

Team members have planned several activities to raise money for this trip and a trip to the Quarter Horse Congress in Columbus, Ohio, later this year.

During Harvest Days, team members will have a Team Rodeo, a Stick Horse Race for children age 8 and younger, a Ladies' Greased Pig Contest, a roping dummy, rope sales, and a silent auction.

Entry fee for the Team Rodeo will be \$100 for a four-person team, with 60% pay back offered. Events for the rodeo will include a remuda race, trailer backing, branding, pony express race, bunk house/rescue race, and a hide race.

The Stick Horse Race is for those age 8 and under. Participants must bring their own stick horse and pay a \$1 entry fee, with the jackpot going to the winner.

The Ladies Greased Pig Contest is another team event, with the entry fee \$20 per two-person team. A 60% pay back is offered for this event, too. Teams are encouraged to challenge other teams.

Advance sale tickets for the rodeo will be \$4 for adults and \$2.50 for children ages 8 to 18. At the gate prices will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Under 8 will be admitted free.

The entry deadline for team events is Aug. 20.

Other fund raising activities planned include bake sales, candle sales, a car wash, a "sale-a-goat" event, and collecting aluminum cans.

For more information or to make a donation, contact any team member or call Cody Annen, 945-2558; Kristin Hales, 945-2202; Rusty McDaniel, 647-3764; Rusty Wooten, 647-2224; Scott and Suanne Bagley, 647-4780; or the Extension office at 647-4115.

Ladies Play Day golf winners announced

The Dimmitt Country Club Ladies' Golf Association has announced the results of its Play Day winners for the month of July.

On July 1, Mozelle Lilley and Tina Maurer were the winners. Betty Durham and Lilley took the Play Day titles for the 8th of July.

On July 15, Caroline Watts and Betty McClure were the winners, while on the 22nd, Maurer, Jerry Horton, Lilley and Sandy Lookingbill were the champions.

The chip-in winner for the month was Mozelle Lilley. The birdie winners were Horton, Durham, Maurer and McClure. One-putt winner was Treena Matthews.

Monthly scramble winners for the month were the team of Maurer, Carla Luna, Mozelle Lilley and Audrey Shottenkirk.

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New Century Energies formed

SPS merger is finalized

The long-awaited merger between Public Service Co. of Colorado and Southwestern Public Service Company cleared the final regulatory hurdle in the companies' plans to combine under one common holding company—New Century Energies.

This two-year effort marks the first successful merger of more than 20 pending or withdrawn investor-owned electric utility mergers or acquisitions recently announced in the midst of major utility restructuring.

The Securities and Exchange Commission approved the merger in a written order received Friday, Aug. 1. With this SEC approval, the merger became effective Aug. 1.

The okay from the SEC follows numerous federal and state regulatory approvals already received from such entities as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the public utility commissions in the six states in which the new company will operate—Colorado, Texas, New Mexico, Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma. The merger was originally announced August 1995.

With the completion of the merger, shares began trading on the New York Stock Exchange Monday. It

will trade under the "NCE" symbol and be one of the nation's largest geographic electricity and natural gas companies.

"Considering the dramatic efforts of the two companies in the past two years, it is an understatement to say that we are extremely pleased that our merger of equals has been finally approved," said Bill D. Helton, the new chairman and CEO of New Century Energies.

"As we said two years ago and we repeat today, this merger is about providing our customers with continued reliable services at low rates. We expect to save \$770 million in costs during the next 10 years from this merger, and these savings will be reflected in lower energy bills for our customers."

Helton noted that electricity customers in Colorado are already enjoying the benefits of an \$18 million annual rate reduction, and customers in areas served by Southwestern Public Service have been guaranteed similar annual savings.

Wayne Brunetti, current president and CEO of Public Service Co. of Colorado and vice chairman, president and chief operating officer of New Century Energies, said this merger is important for shareholders, as it enhances their investment in the evolving electricity and natural gas marketplace.

"New Century Energies offers an opportunity to leverage our strengths, reduce our weaknesses and move ahead as a leaner and much more competitive player in the national and international energy marketplace," he said.

The new holding company will include the operating companies of Public Service Co. of Colorado, Southwestern Public Service Co. and Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power.

Additionally, New Century Energies will be the parent company of various subsidiaries including Quixx

Corp., e prime, Natural Fuels Corp., Utility Engineering and WestGas Interstate, Inc. The newest subsidiary—New Century International—owns a 50% interest in the United Kingdom's Yorkshire Electricity Group, which serves approximately 2 million customers in east central England.

New Century Energies will have annual operating revenues of more than \$3 billion and serve more than 1.6 million electric customers and a million natural gas customers. NCE will employ approximately 6,300 employees, with corporate headquarters in Denver.

As previously disclosed, the chairman and chief executive officer of New Century Energies is Bill D. Helton. Wayne H. Brunetti is vice chairman, president and chief operating officer. Other key officers under NCE include Richard C. Kelly, executive vice president and chief financial officer; Patricia T. Smith, senior vice president and general counsel; David M. Wilks, president of retail services; Doyle R. Bunch, senior vice president of corporate planning and development; and Henry H. Hamilton, executive vice president of commodity services.

The board of directors of New Century Energies is made up of six directors from Southwestern Public Service Co.'s board and eight directors from the former Public Service Co. of Colorado board. The directors from Southwestern are: Bill Helton, Coney Burgess, Danny Conklin, Giles Forbess, R.R. Hemminghaus and J. Howard Mock.

Directors from Public Service Co. of Colorado are: Wayne Brunetti, Gayle Greer, A. Barry Hirshfeld, Will Nicholson Jr., J. Michael Powers, Rodney Slifer, W. Thomas Stephens and Rober Tointon.

It is anticipated that New Century Energies initially will pay dividends on its common stock of \$2.32 annually, subject to final determination by the NCE board of directors. The board's determination will be based on NCE's results of operations, financial condition, capital requirements and other relevant considerations.

A shareholder rights plan has been adopted that automatically attaches the right to purchase preferred stock to each share of NCE common stock.

JEWELRY & WATCH REPAIR FOR THE DIMMITT AREA



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VISA MasterCard

Life is not a problem to be solved but a reality to be experienced. —Sören Kierkegaard

Energas closes office in Dimmitt

Energas has closed its local office in Dimmitt meaning that beginning Monday, Energas will no longer process gas bill payments, night deposits or payment arrangements at their office in Dimmitt.

For all billing inquiries, service requests or emergency service, call (806) 647-2168.

Customers can still continue to pay by mail, sign up for convenient automatic bank draft by calling the above number or pay at Dimmitt Market.

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You're in good hands.

Bikers Welcome.


Hereford, Texas
Betty Jones, LUTCF
Exclusive Agent
1013 W. Park Avenue, Hereford
(806) 364-6874 or (806) 647-4247



For motorcycle insurance - Being in good hands is the only place to be.™

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Western NOW DOWN



1996 Mustang Convertible
Blue, V-6, White Roof, Automatic
\$349 mo.

1994 Dodge Dakota
V-6, 4x4, supercab
\$262 mo.

1997 Mountaineer
4x4, V-6, Tow Package, CD Player, 15K Miles
\$499 mo.

1995 "Eddie Bauer" F150
29K Miles, Loaded, "Warranty"
\$310 mo.

1992 Ford F150 XLT
Auto, Cruise, PL, PW
\$210 mo.

1997 Mercury Tracer
27K Miles, PW, PL, Cruise, Tilt
\$242 mo.

1997 F150 Pickup
Graphics, Stepside
\$322 mo.

1994 Mercury Villager
Local Owner, 7 Passenger, V-6, A/C
\$249 mo.

1996 Taurus
PL, PW, CR Tilt, Pw Seats and More!
\$262 mo.

1994 Ranger
XLT, Topper, Nicer
\$182 mo.

1997 Mustang Coupe
2 dr., -6 Auto, 12,000 miles, PL, PW, Cruise
\$322 mo.

1992 Ranger
V-6, automatic, shell
\$221 mo.

1996 Thunderbird LX
Red, PL, PW, CL, tilt, power seat, V-8
\$281 mo.

1996 Contour
Low miles, Power locks, Windows & seats.
\$221 mo.

1996 Cougar XR7
V-6, Loaded, Top Chrome
\$322 mo.

1996 Windstar
7 Passenger, Warranty, Loaded! Quad Capt. Chairs
\$349 mo.

TT&L Down 12.5% Apr 72 mo. With approved credit. See dealer for details.

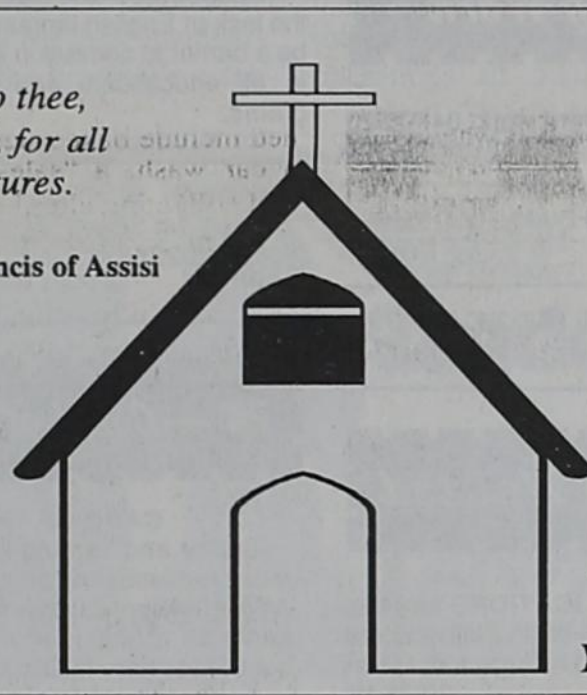
Ford Lincoln-Mercury, Inc.
550 N. 25 Mile Ave. • Hereford, TX
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Church Directory

- New Hope Memorial Baptist**
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt
John Gentry.....647-2189
- Sunnyside Baptist**
Sunnyside
Bennie Wright.....647-5712
- First United Methodist**
Hart
Greg Kennedy.....938-2462
- La Asamblea Cristiana**
400 NW 5th, Dimmitt
Manuel Rodriguez
- First United Methodist**
110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt
Rusty Dickerson.....647-4106
- Iglesia De Cristo**
E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt
Pedro A. Gonzalez
- Immaculate Conception Catholic**
1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt
Guillermo Morales.....647-4219
- Jesus and the Love of God Church**
(Bilingual) 301 NE 7th, Dimmitt
Felix Sanchez.....647-3668

Praise to thee, my Lord, for all thy creatures.

—St. Francis of Assisi



Attend the Church of Your Choice

Church of God of the First Born
611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt

St. John's Catholic
Hart
Jerry Stein.....945-2616

Church of Christ
SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt
Harry Riggs.....647-4435

Immanuel Baptist
501 SE 3rd, Dimmitt

Rosa De Saron
411 NE 6th, Dimmitt
Maria Castaneda.....647-5598

Rose of Sharon Temple
407 NE 4th, Dimmitt

First Baptist
302 Ave. G, Hart
Gerald Aalbers.....938-2316

Primeria Iglesia Bautista
9th and Etter, Dimmitt
Antonio Rocha

Harvest Family Church
500 S. Broadway, P.O. Box 502, Dimmitt
Gary Reid.....647-4195

First Assembly of God
300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt
Larry Gilliam.....647-5662

First Baptist
1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
Howard Rhodes.....647-3115

Lee Street Baptist
401 SW 2nd, Dimmitt
Kevin Wood

First Christian
600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
647-5478

La Iglesia De Dios Del Promojenito
East Halsell Street, Dimmitt

Presbyterian
1600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
Andy Blair & Janell Blair.....995-2141

Holy Family Catholic
Nazareth
Jerry Stein.....945-2616

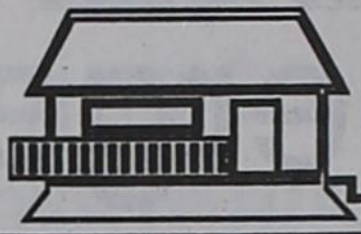
This directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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B & W Aerial Spray
N. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt • 647-2550
- Bryant Sales & Services**
315 N. Broadway, 647-5576
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- C&S Battery, Inc.**
301 SE 2nd, Dimmitt
647-3531
- Cerestar USA Dimmitt Inc.**
A Company of Eridania Beghin-Say
"Attend the Church of Your Choice"
647-4141
- Circle M Irrigation**
"Attend the Church of Your Choice"
647-5250
- Dale's Auto & Salvage**
200 N. Hwy. 168, Nazareth
945-2223
- Dimmitt Consumers**
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217 E. Bedford • 647-4134
- Dimmitt Equipment Co.**
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411 SE 2nd • 647-4197
- Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply**
200 E. Bedford • 647-3286
- Dimmitt Ready Mix**
Commercial, Residential Concrete
Backhoe & Ditching Service
718 E. Bedford • 647-3171
- Ernie's Bar-B-Q**
510 S. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt • 647-2231
"We Appreciate the Business"
- Flagg Fertilizer Co.**
Farm Chemicals
"See Us for Your Spraying and Fertilizer Needs"
Flagg Intersection • 647-2241
- Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Home**
Mike Foskey, Jerrye Lilley, Tom McGill
208 W. Halsell, Dimmitt • 647-5171
- Hart Producers Co-op Gin**
Monty Phillips, Manager
938-2189
- Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.**
Lumber, Hardware, Housewares,
Flooring, Garden Supplies
109 N. Broadway, Dimmitt • 647-3161
- E.M. Jones Ditching**
North Hwy. 385
647-5442
- Lockhart Pharmacy**
107 E. Bedford, Dimmitt
647-3392
- Lowe's Pay & Save Foods**
410 Broadway, Hart • 938-2312
"Proud to Support the Community Churches"
- Texas Equipment Company, Inc.**
Hwy. 385, Dimmitt
647-3324



Classified Advertising

Buy, Sell or Trade



1—Real Estate Homes & Land

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or any intention to make any such reference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that the dwellings advertised in the newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Let us help you with all your real estate needs.

GREGORY REAL ESTATE

BILL GREGORY, Broker
Phone 647-5421

GREAT BUY on three bedroom, one bath, one-car garage, two living areas. Wheelchair-accessible. \$35,000.

SMALLER HOME in Nazareth. Good starter home.

THREE BEDROOM, one bath, large storage and nice yard. \$28,000.

LOVELY THREE BEDROOM, two bath, two living areas, fireplace, on corner lot. \$75,000.

NEW ON MARKET, three bedroom, 1-3/4 bath, good neighborhood. \$59,500.

THREE BEDROOM, ONE BATH, central heat and air, fireplace. Nice home at a nice price. \$33,500.

EDGE OF CITY, three bedroom, two bath, two-car garage, fireplace, built-in. Priced right.

THREE BEDROOM, one bath, central heat, carport, Morgan building. \$30,500.

MUST SEE. Two large living areas, three bedroom, two baths and lots of storage. \$45,000.

VERY NICE three bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, two living areas, free standing fireplace, great yard. \$48,000.

AUSTIN STONE. Three bedroom, one bath, one car garage, storm windows and storage building. Reduced, \$37,500.

NICE THREE BEDROOM. 1-3/4 bath brick home in Hart. Good location, \$65,000.

FARMS SECTION JOINING city of Hart. 4 wells, 2 sprinkler pads, highway frontage. Older house. \$850 per acre.

FIVE SECTIONS in Hartley and Moore County. One to be developed in excellent water.

GEORGE REAL ESTATE

S. Hwy 385 647-4174

Jimmie R. George, Broker
Mobile, 647-7942

Mary Lou Schmucker..... 945-2679

2—Farms For Sale

CASTRO CO.
Let's look at this pre-conditioning yard complete with nice home, commodity barn, large truck/cattle scale, covered working area with hydraulic chute, on pavement. We also have irrigated land, dry land and ranches in a 4-state area.

SCOTT LAND CO.
Ben G. Scott, 806-647-4375 day or night

Classifieds gets results

1—Real Estate Homes & Land

MORRIS REAL ESTATE

C.W. George, Broker

THREE BEDROOM, one bath, central heat and air, large lot. Great starter house. \$40,000.

TEN ACRES with house north of Dimmitt. Three bedroom, two bath, all highway frontage. \$85,000.

GRANT STREET, three bedrooms, two baths, one car garage, corner lot, storage building, large kitchen. \$60,000.

SIX BEDROOMS, four baths, two living rooms, corner lot, two storage buildings, 2,899 sq. ft. \$42,000.

MAPLE STREET, 3,700 sq. ft., three bedrooms, two full baths, two half baths, one 3/4 bath, two-car garage, fireplace, finished basement with fireplace, bar, dishwasher, bathroom, sprinkler system front and back. \$175,000.

THREE BEDROOM, two full baths, two-car garage, central heat and air, fence, corner lot, \$60,000.

DARLING two bedroom, one bath, one car garage, nice size kitchen, approximately 1300 sq. ft. \$28,000.

SUNSET CIRCLE, three bedroom, two bath, large living area, fireplace, two-car garage, \$75,000.

THREE BEDROOM, one bath, one-car garage. Corner lot, \$30,000.

FARMS

320 ACRES between Nazareth and Hart. Comes out of CRP in October. \$300 per acre.

330 ACRES west of Dimmitt, 12 tower Valley nozzled at 650 with 60" spacings, two wells. \$550/acre.

615+ ACRES west of Dimmitt on Highway 86, five wells—two gas and three electric. Highway on two sides. \$550/acre.

300 ACRES close to town, three wells, one quarter mile pivot, perfect cattle farm. \$425/acre.

160 ACRES in the Sunnyside area, sprinkler, good water. \$850/acre.

TWO 10 ACRE TRACTS with one well per tract, between Dimmitt and Nazareth. \$15,000 per tract.

COMMERCIAL OFFICE SPACE—1200+ sq. ft., three offices, receptionist area, two bathrooms, coffee bar, easy access to a bank, lots of parking. \$45,000.

SCOTT MORRIS

112 W. Bedford, Dimmitt
647-3734, Office
647-3686, Night 647-9325, Mobile

3—Real Estate For Rent

DIMMITT SENIOR CITIZENS APARTMENTS

622 N.W. 5th
ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT
Call 647-2638
S&S Properties

Stafford Apartments
One, two and three bedroom apartments. Call for availability. Call 647-2631 or 647-3696 evenings.

Equal Opportunity Housing

5—For Rent, Misc.

RENT TO OWN

NEW TV'S, VCR'S & APPLIANCES
No credit checks.

KITRELL ELECTRONICS

647-2197 Dimmitt

6—For Sale, Misc.

BALDWIN ACROSONIC piano, good condition, 1974 Chevy Impala, wrecked, 350 Engine. (806) 647-3175, please leave message before 10:30 p.m. 6-15-tfc

IF YOUR CARPET is stain resistant, then you need HOST, the Dry Extraction Carpet Cleaning System. Don't void your carpet's warranty with improper cleaning. Some methods can actually destroy your carpet's protective coating. But the makers of StainMaster, Wear-Dated and Worry-Free carpet say the HOST system won't void their warranties. HOST was rated #1 by a leading consumer magazine. Available at Higginbotham-Bartlett Co., 109 N. Broadway, Dimmitt, 647-3161. 6-18-11c

FOR SALE: Sharp Camcorder, extras included. \$250. Call 647-3629. 6-18-21c

10—Agricultural Services

ROUND BALE HAULING. Donald Shelton, 647-3558; 647-7568, mobile. 10-31-tfc

CUSTOM FARMING: No-till drill; min-till tillage equipment. Kenneth or Ashley Heard, 945-2270 or (806) 627-4623. 10-4-tfc

WILHELM CUSTOM FARMING. Lavern, 945-2518; Henry, 647-5425. Subsoil and conventional plowing. 10-51-tfc

CUSTOM SWATHING and baling. Call Roy Schilling, 647-2401. 10-31-tfc

ROUND-UP APPLICATION

Pipe-wick mounted on hi-boy.
Row crop and vol. corn.
30' or 40' rows.

Roy O'Brian, 265-3247

11—Feed, Seed & Grain

FOR SALE: Oats hay, small square bales, \$3.50 a bale. Alfalfa cubes, 50 lb.-bag, \$4.75. Nazareth Feed & Supply, 945-2291. 11-18-tfc

WHEAT STRAW BALES for sale. Call (806) 945-2489. 11-13-tfc

14—Automobiles

Kent's Auto Sales

116 E. Jones St., Dimmitt, TX 79027
Phone (806) 647-3427 or (806) 647-5561
Fax (806) 647-2810

1993 Chev. Corsica, 4-Dr.

1993 Ford Tempo, 4-Dr.

1991 Buick LeSabre, 4-Dr.

1991 Dodge Spirit, 4-Dr.

1990 Oldsmobile 98 Regency, 4 Dr.

1989 Mercury Sable, 4-Dr.

1988 Oldsmobile Delta 88 Brougham, 4-Dr.

1992 Dodge D-150, Long Bed Pickup.

1985 Chev. Suburban—Trailer Puller.

4 other 1985 Models in good condition.

3—Real Estate For Rent

14—Automobiles

Scott's Trading Post

Dimmitt's Oldest Dealer
S. Hwy. 385 647-3414

1995 BUICK LeSABRE LIMITED
4-Dr., All Power, 14,700 miles.

1991 BUICK PARK AVE.
4-Dr., All Power. Very nice car.

1986 CHEV. CELEBRITY
Good Clean Car.

1990 Ford Ranger Pickup
4-Cyl. Automatic. Good Pickup.

18—Services

Center Pivot Service Sales & Repair

Hi-Plains Irrigation
ZIMMATIC PIVOTS
Oilton, TX
1-800-687-3133
SERVICE ON ALL MAKES

George's Service Station

FULL SERVICE
Oil Changes
Car Washes
MasterCard 647-4641
George Lopez 402 N. Broadway

19—Students Wanting Work

WILL MOW and do yard work. 647-2520 19-9-tfx

LAWN MOWING, call Buddy, 647-5561 or 647-7358. 19-8-tfx

WILL BABYSIT, Call 647-2304. 19-17-tfx

20—Help Wanted

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS for Rns, LVNs and CNAs for all shifts. Call or come by, (806) 364-7113; 231 Kingwood, Hereford. 20-35-tfc

HELP WANTED: "AVON" & "AVON OUT-LET" Representatives Needed! No Inventory required, IND/SALES/REP, Toll Free, 800-236-0041. 20-18-4tp

HELP WANTED: General mechanic, fleet maintenance. Contact Hill Feed Yard, 938-2156 or 938-2648. 20-12-tfc

22—Notices

WE PAY YOU to lose weight. Call now, 1-800-555-5770. 22-15-6tp

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 647-4594. 22-18-4tc

BUY IT. SELL IT. FIND IT. CLASSIFIED

20—Help Wanted

Licensed Vocational Nurses Hereford, Texas

Positions available to work full-time or on call with HomeHealth Preferred.

For more information contact:
St. Mary Hospital
Human Resources Department
4014 22nd Place, Ste. 9, Lubbock, TX 79410
(806) 796-6673
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Call before noon Tuesday to place your classified ad:

647-3123



What your ad will cost:

- ✓ The first time your ad runs it will cost at least \$5 (25 cents per word with a \$5 minimum).
- ✓ Each consecutive time you run your ad with no changes, it will cost 25 cents per word with no minimum.
- ✓ A Card of Thanks will cost \$7.50.

Where to find ads:

- Homes and land for sale
- Farms for sale
- Homes and apartments for rent
- Things people want to rent
- Miscellaneous items for rent
- Miscellaneous items for sale
- Garage sales
- Household goods for sale
- Farm equipment and supplies
- Agricultural services
- Feed, seed and grain for sale
- Farm produce for sale
- Livestock and pets
- Automobiles for sale
- Recreational vehicles
- Auto parts and supplies
- Business opportunities
- Services
- Insurance
- Students seeking work
- Help wanted
- Wanted, Misc.
- Notices
- Lost and found
- Cards of thanks
- Legal notices

22—Notices

NAZARETH ISD PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Nazareth ISD offers career and technology education programs in Family and Consumer Science, Agricultural Science and Agricultural Business. Admission to these programs is based on interest and aptitude.

It is the policy of Nazareth ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Nazareth ISD will take steps to assure the lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, N. Dean Johnson, at Box 189, 101 1st Street, Nazareth, TX 79063, (806) 945-2231. 22-18-1tc

24—Card of Thanks

CARD OF THANKS

Lanny and I would like to thank all of those remembering us in this time of loss. All the flowers, cards and special gifts will serve as a reminder of just how special our friends here in Dimmitt have become. A very special thanks to my co-workers and D.O.N. at the hospital who all put in extra hours and gave up their days off to cover my being gone. You're the greatest! Our sincere thanks and appreciation, LANNY, BELINDA, TAIT, TOBY AND TRAVIS CROW 24-18-1tc

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Shirley Womack Stephens accepts all of you kind expressions of sympathy with sincere appreciation. The prayers, cards, visits, calls, food, flowers and memorials were wonderful and reminded us of the many acts of kindness you have extended to our family throughout the years. We will always be grateful for your thoughtfulness.

JOHN L. AND MARGARET WOMACK
THE LESTER WOMACK FAMILY
THE JESS WOMACK FAMILY
STAN AND RITA MCDANIEL AND FAMILY

RONNIE AND CAROL FARRIS AND FAMILY
JIM AND PAULA COWSERT AND FAMILY
JO ANN MONTGOMERY 24-18-1tp

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you for all the prayers, calls, food and phone calls while I was in the hospital and home.
JOHN AND MARGARET WOMACK 24-18-1tp

20—Help Wanted

24—Card of Thanks

CARD OF THANKS

The Castro County 1997 State Champion 4-H Horse Judging Team wants to express our thanks and appreciation to the following businesses and persons for donations and supporting our many fund raiser projects. It is with the support of our county that enables us to represent Castro County and Texas during the national competition at the Junior World Quarter Horse Show in Fort Worth and the Quarter Horse Congress in Columbus, Ohio.

B G Farms/Ben Scott, B&W Aerial Spray, Brown, Graham and Co., Bruce Braddock, Cornett Equipment, George and Pat Bagley, Bill Birdwell, Dave Buske, DeBruce Grain, Leta and Edgar Dennis, Dimmitt Agri Industries, Dimmitt Consumers, Dimmitt Equipment, Dimmitt Veterinary Clinic, Dimmitt Welding and Electric, Ernie's Bar-B-Que.

First Bank of Muleshoe, First United Bank, John Fuller, Gary's Engine and Machine, Hereford Federal Credit Union, Hi-Plains Oil Co., Troy and Billie Kirby, Lane Dirt Co., Bob Laws, NAPA, Marilyn and Dan Neal, Paxton Tire, Doug Proffitt, Stanley Schaefer, CPA-office, Terra, Texas Equipment Co., West Texas Gas Co.

Jay Nelson, Jan Baca, Gilbreath Brothers, Kevin Shaw, Don Sheffy and City Hall, Justin and Kay Lynn Gleghorn, WestWay, Max Ellison, Hart Beat, Castro County News and Mr. Scivally.

4-H HORSE JUDGING TEAM
CODY ANNEN, RUSTY MCDANIEL, KRISTEN HALES AND RUSTY WOOTEN 24-18-1tc

25—Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

The Dimmitt Board of Adjustment is scheduled to conduct a public hearing on August 12, 1997 at 6:30 p.m. in the Aldermen's Chambers at the City Hall, to discuss and consider a variance of Section 14-21 of the City code for Richard Gonzalez, 211 N.W. 11th. He plans to construct a carport which will be located within the 5 ft. side lot line property and the 20 ft. front property line "No Construction Zone" as established by Section 14-21 of the City Code.

Persons wishing to make comments both for and against this request for a variance may attend the public hearing or they may review the request for a hearing at the office of the Department of Public Works, 217 E. Jones between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Dimmitt Board of Adjustment does exercise all rights and privileges as established by article 1011g of the Vernon's Civil Statutes.

VICTOR BURROS
Building Inspector,
City of Dimmitt
25-18-1tc

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Castro/Swisher County Juvenile Board, Tullia, Texas, will receive sealed bids for:

A. Secure long-term residential bootcamp services.

B. Secure short-term detention services in a bootcamp setting.

C. Electronic monitoring services.

Bids will be received until 5 p.m. on Aug. 11, 1997, at which time all sealed bids will be opened and read aloud. The bids will be presented to the Castro/Swisher Juvenile Probation Board at a regular meeting scheduled to be held at the Swisher County Courthouse, Tullia, Texas, 79088, at 6:30 p.m., Aug. 11, 1997. At this time the bid will be awarded.

Requirements may be obtained from Dena Berry, Director of Juvenile Probation, Swisher County Courthouse, Tullia, Texas 79088.

The board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and waive all formalities for the best interest of the Castro/Swisher County Juvenile Probation Department.

DENA BERRY
Director, Juvenile Probation
25-17-2tc

There is nothing harder than the softness of indifference.
—Juan Montalvo

25—Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

The undersigned hereby gives notice of application to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Austin, Texas, for a Private Club Permit Renewal to be located at 208 SE 4th, Dimmitt, Castro County, Texas. Said business to be operated under the name of Gerry's First Place.

John Douglas Damron, President
Wayne Niel Christian, Vice President
Jeanne Frazier, Secretary
25-17-2tc

More about

1:1 . . .

(Continued from Page 1)
proposal? How will it work?
I can't explain it, but our governor can.
This week, Gov. Bush listed the most frequently asked questions that his office has received, and penned his answers:

How will the \$1 billion property tax work?

The Texas Legislature has budgeted \$1 billion to cut local school property taxes. If voters approve Proposition 1, the Texas Constitution will mandate a \$15,000 standard homestead exemption for residential property taxpayers. This exemption will add to any local option homestead exemption granted by school districts. Local school property taxes will be cut by \$1 billion, or an average of \$142 per home, per year. The August election gives school districts time to prepare for the additional

state education funding to offset the local property tax cuts.

Where does the \$1 billion for the tax cut come from?

During the past two years, state government has been efficient and lean. We saved money. Last December, I suggested that rather than spending these savings on bigger government programs, we should return \$1 billion to the taxpayers by cutting property taxes. The Legislature approved a balanced budget which funds essential state services and sets aside \$1 billion to cut property taxes.

I'm over 65. Will the property tax cut impact my property tax freeze?

Yes. Under Proposition 1, Texans over 65 can take advantage of the higher homestead exemption and have their property taxes cut and refrozen at a lower level. For the first

time, a portion of the property tax freeze will be portable for older Texans who change residences.

Is this just a one-time tax cut?

No. The \$1 billion will be used by the state to fully reimburse all school districts, at their current tax rates, for the cost of local cutting of property taxes. No school district should use this tax cut as an excuse to raise taxes.

Will future public school needs be met?

Yes. Besides the \$1 billion set aside for property tax relief, the 1998-99 state budget contains an additional \$1.4 billion for public schools. The state budget included more than \$800 million for new students, \$145 million for a teacher pay raise, \$32 million for the Governor's Reading Initiative, and \$200 million for school facilities. The new budget preserves local control of schools and

continues to make education our No. 1 priority.

My home is not very expensive. Will this tax cut help me?

Yes. This property tax cut will be especially significant for working Texans, senior citizens and those living on a fixed income. Lower valued homes will see a bigger percentage cut in their school property taxes. For example, the owner of a \$40,000 home with a \$1.42 local school property tax rate will receive a 29% school property tax cut. The owner of a \$60,000 home will receive an 18% cut; a \$100,000 home, an 11% cut; and a \$200,000 home, a 5% cut.

Does Proposition 1 reform the property appraisal process?

Appraisal reform is not part of Proposition 1, but Texans will have an opportunity to vote on appraisal reform in November. Those reforms will include capping homestead appraisal increases at no more than 10% per year, putting the burden of proof on the tax appraiser, and allowing homeowners to defer paying higher taxes caused by appraisal increases of more than 5%.

Proposition 1 is the only thing on the ballot Saturday. You go in, mark a single X, and that's it.

If we approve it, it will cut your taxes.
So. Now will you go vote?

More about County . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

the road and bridge portion of the budget. However, expenses for the two sections of the budget are estimated at \$1,898,507 for the general fund and \$878,835 for road and bridge. With estimated total carry-over at \$662,938, the \$132,734 deficit should be covered.

The commissioners voted to set the public hearing on the tax rate for Aug. 21 at 5 p.m.

In discussing budget matters, Pct. 2 Commissioner Larry Gonzales asked the other commissioners to consider dividing up the road and bridge monies equally, rather than the way in which it is divided now. He said he feels he needs more money for his precinct. If the money were divided equally, Pct. 1 and Pct. 4 would receive less than they do now, and Pct. 2 and Pct. 3 would get more than they presently do.

Pct. 1 Commissioner Newton Rowland said he did not think his constituents would be in favor of such an arrangement at all. He said more road money is needed for his precinct because so much of the land is under irrigation, which makes road maintenance more difficult.

Gonzales said he has a high percentage of irrigated land, too.

Gonzales said he would like to have the matter put to a vote at the next meeting of the commissioners, but promised to drop the issue after that.

More about

Hospital operations improve . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

to \$1.36 million.
The hospital's outpatient revenue was up, though, from \$1.5 million to \$1.7 million.

These shifts in revenue reflect the "shorter stay" demands on hospitals by health maintenance organizations, insurance companies, Medicare and Medicaid. Fewer patients are being hospitalized, and for shorter terms, and are receiving more and more of their health care at home or as outpatients instead.

The Medical Center of Dimmitt continued to increase its revenues during the last fiscal year, to \$619,488, compared with \$452,559 in 1996 and \$341,798 in '95, Parrish reported.

"Contractual deductions" hit the hospital district hard in fiscal 1997. These deductions, Parrish explained, are "the agreed difference between payment and established rates."

Medicare and Medicaid have their own payment schedules for various services, while HMOs and PPOs contract the rates for their members, no matter what the hospital's estab-

lished rates may be. The hospital must live with their fee schedules if it wants their business.

Contractual deductions, which had totaled \$914,000 in 1996, climbed to \$1.53 million in fiscal 1997. Charity care was up, too, from \$94,000 in 1996 to \$125,000 in '97.

Other deductions were down, though, from \$142,248 in '96 to \$88,677 in '97.

Meanwhile, Disproportionate Share and other credits—which are aimed primarily at offsetting rural hospital losses on services to Medicare and Medicaid patients—continued to drop, from \$375,210 in 1996 to \$347,219 in 1997.

After all revenues, deductions, credits and contributions were tallied, the hospital district had net revenues of \$4,193,453 in fiscal 1997, compared with \$3 million in 1996 and \$3.4 million in 1995.

After all operating costs and tax income were tallied against revenues, the district showed a net loss from operations of \$210,745 in fiscal

1997, compared with \$33,113 in 1995 and \$791,783 in 1996, the audit firm reported.

The district's major expense is in salaries, which accounted for 43.91% of total expenses last year. The second biggest expense is in payment to physicians, 8.44%.

Parrish said that expenses as a percentage of gross revenue are 26.7% lower, mainly because of increased patient-service revenue.

Also, he said, the net cash flow from operations was up \$620,000 because of the district's new services and its "new focus on profitability." He complimented Chief Executive Officer Joe Sloan and the hospital board for making a "turn-around" on the cost-income ratios during the past year and for "the overall health of the hospital district."

"I think the report reflects the progress we've made in the past year," Board Chairman Bill Clark said, "and credit goes to the administrator and the board."

"The credit goes to about 135 people here," Sloan commented.

More about

School starting . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

clothes for the new year," he said.

A school day in Nazareth will run the same as it was last year, from 8:05 a.m. to 3:12 p.m.

Hart High School and Junior High have set Monday as the date for students to register.

Seniors at Hart High School need to report to the High School Library at 8:30 a.m. From 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., juniors will be allowed to enroll. Sophomores will enroll from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., and freshmen will report to the library at 1 p.m.

Eighth grade students in Hart will register from 2 to 3 p.m., and seventh graders will report to the library at 3 p.m. to enroll.

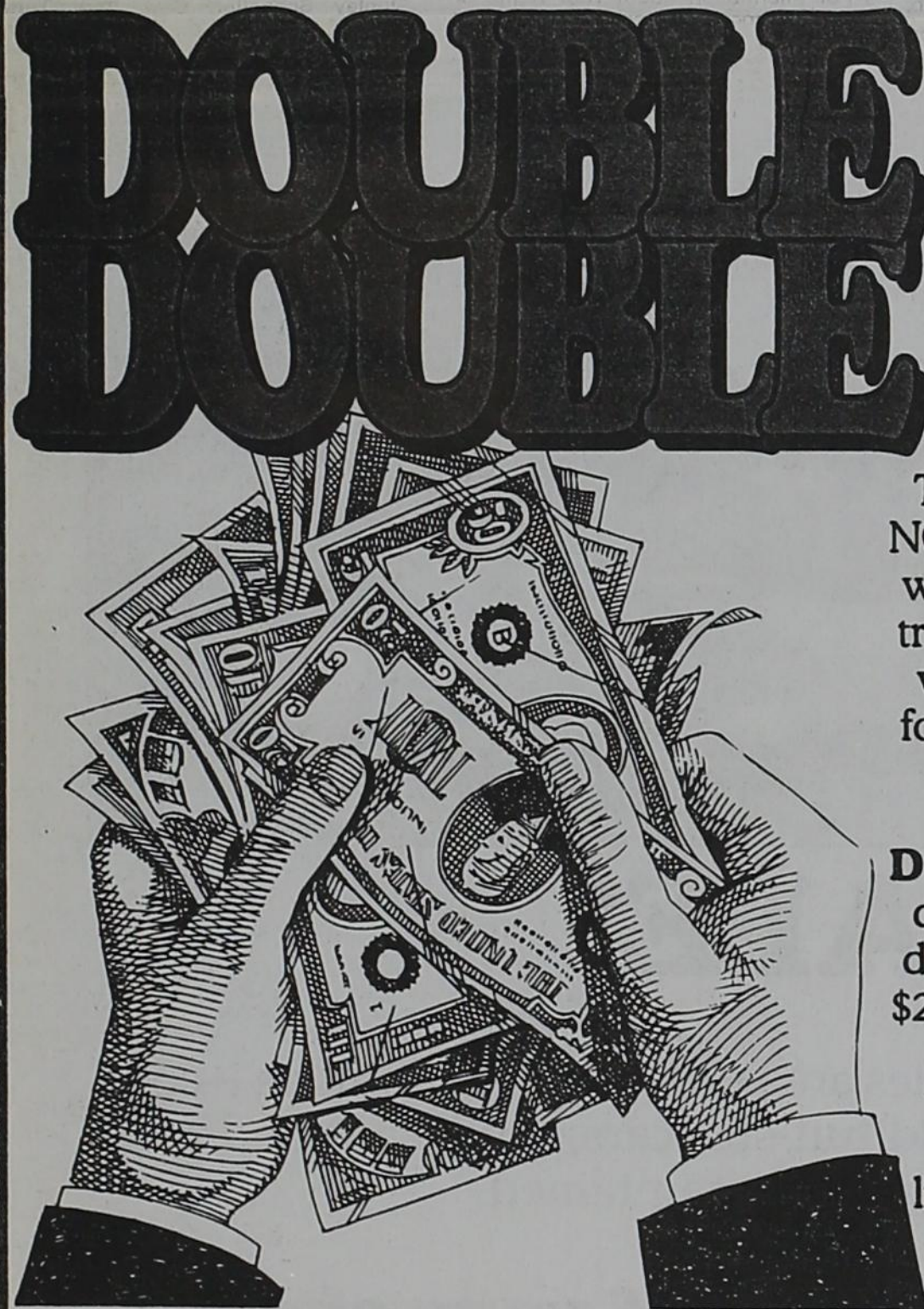
Blunck's Studio will take senior pictures and senior panel pictures in the gym immediately after registration. Other class pictures 7-11 will also be taken in the gym after enrollment. Principal Digger Elam reminds students to dress up for the pictures.

Hart will begin school Aug. 18.

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Obituaries

Bobby Henley

Services for Bobby Ray Henley, 64, of Lubbock were Monday in Monterey Baptist Church with the Rev. Jim Brown officiating.

Burial was in Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park under direction of Franklin-Bartley Funeral Home.

Mr. Henley died Friday in St. Mary Hospital.

He was born Feb. 16, 1933, in Lynn County. He received a bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University in 1954. He was a US Army veteran, and he was a member of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's honor guard during the Korean War. He was a member of Monterey Baptist Church, and he was a charter member of Pi Kappa Alpha. He married Mary Nell Dowdy on Aug. 31, 1962, in Dimmitt. He farmed here before moving to Lubbock in 1975.

He was a retired agribusiness man and musician. He founded the Route 5 Serving Band.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Eddie of Dimmitt; two daughters, Zana Smith of Lubbock and Lena Kidd of Meadow; a brother, Horace Jr. of Bastrop; a sister, Zana Gandy of Lubbock; and three grandsons.

The family suggests memorials to Monterey Baptist Church Building Fund, 3601 50th St., Lubbock 79413.

Narciso Hinojosa

Mass for Narciso "Chico" Hinojosa, 58, of Lubbock was to have been celebrated at 10 a.m. Wednesday in St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Lubbock with the Rev. Aidan McGuire and the Rev. Reynaldo Reyes officiating.

Burial will be in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under direction of Rix Funeral Directors.

Hinojosa died Sunday at his residence.

He was born March 18, 1939, in Hondo. He was a Catholic.

He was a custodian at Forrest Heights United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his mother, Maximiana Diaz of Lamesa; two daughters, Elizabeth Perez and Rose Marie Hinojosa, both of Lubbock; three sons, Narciso Jr. of San Antonio, Henry of Slaton and Eddie of Lubbock; three sisters, Dominga Enriquez of Lamesa, Paula Tovar and Martina Diaz, both of Fresno,

Calif.; a half sister, Margaret Reyes of Midland; a half brother, Lolo Hinojosa of Dimmitt; 14 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Jaime Martinez

Jaime Martinez, 15, of Hereford, brother of Angelica Resendez of Dimmitt, died Monday.

Services will be at 11 a.m. today in Gililand-Watson Funeral Home Rose Chapel with the Rev. Luis Orozco, pastor of San Pablo Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in West Park Cemetery.

Martinez was born in Perryton and moved to Deaf Smith County in 1986. He was a student and a member of San Pablo Methodist Church.

Survivors include his mother, Carmen Chavira of Hereford; his father, Frank Galvan of Vega; two brothers, Romero Arjona of Idaho and Frank Galvan III of Vega; two sisters, Angelica Resendez of Dimmitt and Elizabeth Lopez of Hereford; and grandparents, Maria Martinez of Hereford and Francisco Galvan of Vega.

Bonefacio Nicolas

Bonefacio "Boney" Nicolas, 27, of Clovis, N.M., brother of Alberto Nicolas Jr. of Dimmitt, died Friday.

Mass was celebrated Tuesday at San Jose Catholic Church. Burial was at Sunset Terrace in Farwell by Muffley Funeral Home of Clovis.

Mr. Nicolas was born in Amherst. He was a lifetime resident of Farwell, and the Texico, N.M. area. Mr. Nicolas was a laborer in the farming industry and was currently employed with Town and County Food Stores in Texico. He was a member of San Jose Catholic Church.

He married Cynthia Galvan in 1996 at Farwell.

Survivors include his wife; his parents, Alberto and Sahara Nicolas of Farwell; five brothers, Tony Nicolas of Farwell, Adrian Nicolas of Clovis, Issac Nicolas and Ramiro Nicolas, both of Bovina and Alberto Nicolas Jr. of Dimmitt; and four sisters, Alma Orozco and Maria Chavez, both of Muleshoe, Maria Nicolas of Eagle Pass and Violet Nicolas of Bovina.

A trust account has been set up in his memory at Muleshoe State Bank in Muleshoe.

William Sanders Jr.

Services for William Sanders Jr., 73, of Hereford will be held today at Avenue Baptist Church in Hereford with the Rev. J.C. Sanders, pastor of Emmanuel Temple of San Antonio presiding.

Burial will be at Castro Memorial Gardens in Dimmitt under direction of Foskey-Lilley-McGill Funeral Homes.

Mr. Sanders died Saturday, Aug. 2, at V.A. Hospital in Amarillo.

He was born June 11, 1924 in Lockhart. He married Verdell Farmer on April 22, 1944 in Lockhart. He resided in Springlake before moving to Hereford in 1971.

He served in the U.S. Navy from 1942 to 1945. He was a member of Sunrise Baptist Church in Herford.

He was preceded in death by a son, William Sanders Jr., who died in 1974.

Survivors include his wife; six sons, Garrison Sanders and Roden Sanders, both of Seattle, Wash., William Sanders III and Alfred Sanders, both of Hereford, Larry Sanders of Plainview and Julius Sanders of Amarillo; six daughters, Virginia Bossett of Tulsa, Okla., Joyce Thomas of Dimmitt, Frances Bossett of Hereford, Gussie Willis of Chandler, Ariz., Darlene Jackson of Plainview and Stacey Sanders of Valdosta, Ga.; one brother, J.C. Sanders of San Antonio; two sisters, Della Byrd of Austin and Gladys Nelson of Corpus Christi; 34 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers for the service were Billy Ray Thomas, Gerald Thomas, Robert Ewing, Kenneth Sanders, Gregory Harrison and Corey Scott.

Karleen Ann Vaughn

Karleen Ann Schwaller Vaughn, 67, a former Nazareth resident, died Wednesday, July 30.

Graveside services for immediate family only were Saturday in Rose Hill Cemetery with Monsignor B.A. Irpen, former pastor of St. Williams Catholic Church, officiating.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at a later date.

Mrs. Vaughn was born in Milford, Iowa. She moved to Nazareth at the age of six months. She attended school in Nazareth and graduated from Amarillo High School in 1947. She attended Amarillo College for two years.

She married Kenneth Gwyn "K.G." Vaughn in 1949 in Amarillo.

She was a bookkeeper for Vaughn Co., which she and her husband owned.

Mrs. Vaughn was a homemaker and a member of Church of the Holy Spirit. She also was a member of St. Williams Ladies Organization, the Liturgy Ministry and the Home Artist Club. She was a past secretary and treasurer of Good Shepherd Ministries in Tulia.

Survivors include her husband; five daughters, Gwyn Ann Shannon of Tulia, Mary Beth Minchew of Wylie, Lori Francis Scarborough of Albuquerque, N.M., and Janis Kathryn Miller and Sharon Elizabeth Wilkes, both of Lubbock; four sons, Thomas Neal Vaughn of Colorado Springs, Colo., David Rex Vaughn of Spur, William August "Bill" Vaughn of Virginia Beach, Va., and Timothy Bart "Tim" Vaughn of Lubbock; a sister, Byrlea Nussbaum of Canyon; and 16 grandchildren.

Lee Street Baptist Church is celebrating 40 years of ministry

Lee Street Baptist Church in Dimmitt is celebrating its 40th year of ministry this month, and the congregaaton has planned several events to highlight the anniversary.

The celebration will be Aug. 15-17 at the church, and several past members and ministers have been invited to participate.

Former pastors will address the congregation and music will be provided by several individuals.

Among the former pastors planning on attending the celebration are Murray Brewer, Ronnie Travis and Ron Redding. Special music will be provided by Gene Jones and "Between Two Hearts," a vocal duet.

The church is also planning several fellowship meals during the anniversary weekend.

On Aug. 15, following evening church services, there will be an ice cream fellowship.

A lunch will be served at noon on Aug. 16, and a supper has been planned at 6 p.m.

Another lunch will be held on Aug. 17 and the celebration will conclude with a reception at 3 p.m.

Evening services during the anniversary observance will be held Aug. 15 and 16 at 7 p.m. Aug. 17 services will be held at 10:55 a.m. and 2 p.m.

All current and former members and friends of the church are invited to attend the celebration.

For more information contact Pastor Kevin Wood at 647-5474 or Bessie Strickland at 647-2431.

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Ag REPORTER

A supplement to Canyon News, Plainview Daily Herald, Tulia Herald, Castro County News, Abernathy Weekly Review, Idalou Beacon

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COMING next month

Swine Industry
Special issue featuring the growing swine industry in the Texas Panhandle

Many other features



ANGIE WELCH

Tommy Jarnigin, a custom harvester of Canyon, discusses the maturity of Sideoats Grama with grass seed grower, A.B. (Burl) Jones of Tulia. Both Jones and Jarnigin do custom work for Roberson Seed Company of Amarillo.

Planting grass seed is profitable for farmers

Angie Welch
Ag Reporter staff

Next time you are debating what crop to plant, don't forget to consider grass. Yes, that's right grass — it is a crop and it is considered profitable. Little Bluestem, Big Bluestem, Yellow Indiangrass, Sideoats Grama, plus over 180 other seeds for livestock and wild-life consumption can be found at Roberson Seed Company in Amarillo.

According to company owner, Mark Roberson, the advantages of planting grass versus a traditional crop such as cotton, corn or wheat is the reduced expenses.

Grasses are perennial seeds, meaning they grow each year without replanting.

"There is so much expertise on the development of crops, but success on the plains may depend on grass," said Roberson. "Grasses cut out expenses, but can maintain a constant revenue through

the grazing of livestock."

With the ever-increasing prices of the main ingredients - equipment, repairs, fuel and fertilizer - farmers and ranchers are looking

for options other than traditional crops, which are planted yearly, according to Roberson and others involved in the farming industry.

"So many good farmers have gone out of business because of the costs of production," said custom harvester Tommy Jarnigin of Canyon. "The cost of production has skyrocketed."

"As input costs go up, grasses are going to be looked at more," Roberson said. "This is a very ideal area with warm days and

cool nights. We have new warm and cool season grasses, that have excellent water efficiency, drought resistant and fertilizer efficiency."

Two of the most looked at options this planting season are the family of cool season grasses and the development of new grasses for the plains, according to Roberson.

Roberson Seed Company was started by Roberson six years ago as a one-man company out of a single building on the southeast side of Amarillo.

Today, the growing company is still in the same building but has added several warehouses and recently acquired cleaning facilities

in Plainview. The company now has six full-time employees and a new headquarters is in sight within eight months.

The company specializes in the production, processing and selling of a wide range of both warm and cool season grass seeds.

Besides grass seeds, it also sells forbs, alfalfa, and wild flower seeds.

Roberson said his company goes the extra mile for its customers, especially in the cleaning process of the operation.

Cleaner seeds result in planting lower bulk pounds per acre to get the required amount of PLS pounds per acre, according to Wilhelm.

"The seeds from Roberson have been the cleanest I have ever planted," Wilhelm said. "This results in a more consistent grass stand."

see ROBERSON on page 14

"There is so much expertise on the development of crops, but success on the plains may depend on grass."

Mark Roberson

CALENDAR

August 2-9

Hereford Town and Country Jubilee

Rodeo, parade, sidewalk sale, entertainment and a quilt show are all part of this family event. For more information, contact Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce at (806)364-3333.

August 9

3rd Annual Tulia City Wide Garage Sale

This event will start at 8 a.m. with maps available at local merchants. An equipment auction by the City of Tulia and Swisher County will begin at 2 p.m. A ping pong ball drop will be at 1 p.m. at the Ozark Trail marker and Kiwanis will be cooking hamburgers on the square.

August 7,8

Rural Recycling

Rural Texans will have the opportunity to dispose of empty plastic pesticide containers, used tires, used motor oil, oil filters and lead acid batteries free of charge. Collections will take place from 8 a.m. to noon. On Thursday the collections will be held in Dimmitt at Castro County Expo Building. On Friday, the collection site is in Plainview at Ollie Liner Center. For more information, contact your local county extension agent.

August 9

Annual Car Show

D.A.T.A. Club Annual Car Show will be held at Expo Building in Dimmitt from 9 a.m. to 4

p.m. A noon meal of turkey and dressing to benefit the Dimmitt Senior Citizens Club will be served. For more information, contact (806)647-4264.

August 10-11

Ranch Estate Planning Seminar

A two-day seminar talking about complicated tax topics will be held at College Station at the Texas A&M University in conjunction with the Annual Beef Cattle Shortcourse. For more information contact Wayne or Christine at (409)845-2226.

August 22-23

Castro County Harvest Days

On Friday, entries are due, a goat roping will be held, a dance will be at the VFW and the DHE Class of 1987 reunion starts. On Saturday, a parade will be held along with all day activities at the County Expo Building.

Events include county fair, fiddlers contest, tae kwon do exhibition, quilt show, kids tractor pull, games, pet show and a carnival. A barbecue supper, a rodeo and a dance will also be held. Call (806)647-2524.

September 6

Canyon Country Jubilee

The first Saturday of each month from 7-10 p.m. the Canyon Country Jubilee is held. The event is at the Cole Memorial Community Center. For more information or if your band would like to play, contact Cody at (806)558-4005 after 6 p.m.

What is the High Plains Ag Reporter

Linda Maxwell

Ag Reporter correspondent
Welcome to the inaugural edition of the *High Plains Ag Reporter*.

You'll find a copy of the High Plains Ag Reporter inserted into six area newspapers the first Thursday of each month. It will also be given away at several Ag locations throughout the area.

The six "partner" newspapers include *The Canyon News*, *Castro County News*, *The Abernathy Weekly Review*, *The Idalou Beacon*, *The Tulia Herald*, and *The Plainview Daily Herald*.

High Plains Ag Reporter will focus on agricultural news and issues and offer an area-wide forum for advertisers as well.

The six participating newspapers have a total paid circulation of 19,100. Ag locations will distribute another 1,500 for a total of 20,600. Using the conservative estimate of two people reading each copy of the paper, 41,200 readers will be reached in a 10-county area.

Features include farming, cattle, dairy and swine industry features, timely articles specific to this area,

commodities and futures analysis, local stories of interest to readers, a page for opinions and letters to the editor, monthly columns, tips from area Ag Extension Agents and even a recipe or two.

Classified advertising is available at the rate of 50 cents per word with a 15-word minimum (\$7.50).

Display advertising costs \$9.75 per column inch, with a minimum size of 10 column inches.

Advertising space must be reserved by the 20th of each month, and copy must be turned in by the 24th.

Those wishing to submit articles or advertising may any of the partner newspapers for more information.

The publication was the idea of Brad Tooley, publisher of *The Canyon News*, and Rollie Hyde, publisher of *The Plainview Daily Herald*. Tooley said it is a "spin off" of the *West Texas Country Trader*, a weekly insert product that had been distributed in 1993-95.

Tooley said they felt a weekly publication was just too much for the project, so they set a monthly

schedule to better guarantee a quality product. The Canyon paper is in charge of editorial and layout work and the Plainview paper does the printing. The other four partner papers in the venture insert the *High Plains Ag Reporter* into their newspapers and contribute advertising and articles.

"The magic part of it is that we have 20,000 paid circulation," Tooley said. "This is a way that small newspapers can compete in a big marketplace. It is a way we can offer a product to rival the circulation of the really large Ag publications. We already have a larger circulation than most Ag publications in the country, and it is concentrated in a 10-county area."

Angie Welch is reporter and assistant editor of the *Reporter*. She is a senior Ag journalism major at West Texas A&M University, and has three years of experience with a Portales newspaper and an associates degree in graphic arts.

Thanks for reading the High Plains Ag Reporter. We depend on you, our readers, for our success. Give us your ideas for Ag related stories and let us know how we can best serve you!

United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency

of Randall County is accepting nominations thru October 27, 1997 for County Committee.

The Northwest area of the county (Umbarger, Bushland and northwest Canyon) will be voting. Petitions are available by calling (806)655-2578 or stopping by the new office location at 2315 11th Ave in Canyon.

Washington policy makers to tour region

About 20 graduates of the Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership (TALL) will be taking Washington agriculture policy makers on a tour of this region Aug. 13-16.

According to Plainview farmer Glen Schur, the TALL graduates will serve as hosts to the visitors, giving them an up-close look at the diversity of agriculture in this region.

Schur says there are about 36 graduates of the TALL program

in the region.

TALL was begun several years ago by the Texas Agricultural Extension Agency and Texas A&M to train future agriculture leaders in Texas.

"We believe in just a few days, these policy makers will get a much better view of the many facets of production agriculture in this region of the country and be more attuned to the problems and challenges we face," said Schur.

Washington visitors will be staying in the homes of families in the area.

The Washington group's tour or information will include:

- The International Textile Center at Texas Tech
- Plains Cotton Cooperative Association with emphasis on cotton marketing technology, cottonseed processing and genetic engineering
- The annual Farmers Stockman

Show

- Cotton and corn production on the High Plains including specialty alternative crop production
- American Cotton Growers denim mill in Littlefield
- Pea and bean operations in Muleshoe
- Organic farm tour and apple processing facility
- Video on rainfall enhancement
- Successful small town business
- Corn, wheat and cattle produc-

tion

- Meeting with host families "in the field"
- Panhandle Milling
- Custom cattle feeding at Dawn, near Amarillo
- Meet with cattle producers in Shamrock, Dumas and Booker
- Cattle production and ranching
- The historical/musical drama, "Texas" at Palo Duro Canyon.

Cotton crop will be late in Hale County

Angie Welch
Ag Reporter staff

An abundance of rain and cool weather have caused 1997's cotton crop in Hale County to be a little late and a little less than normal, according to Hale County Extension Agent Bob Benson.

"The cotton production is now three weeks behind," Benson said. "We started finding the first blooms about the 18th. The normal date for blooms is the 11th of July."

Hale County is usually ranked in the top three counties in the state for cotton production. They are in close competition with Gaines and Lubbock. Benson said the cotton had a slow start because of large amounts of rain and cooler temperatures than normal. Hale County has had about 19 inches of rain thus far in 1997. Last year as this time the rainfall level was just seven inches.

According to assistant Hale

County Extension Agent, Kevin Kuhlmann, cotton is a warm weather crop, but the weather hasn't been as hot as usual.

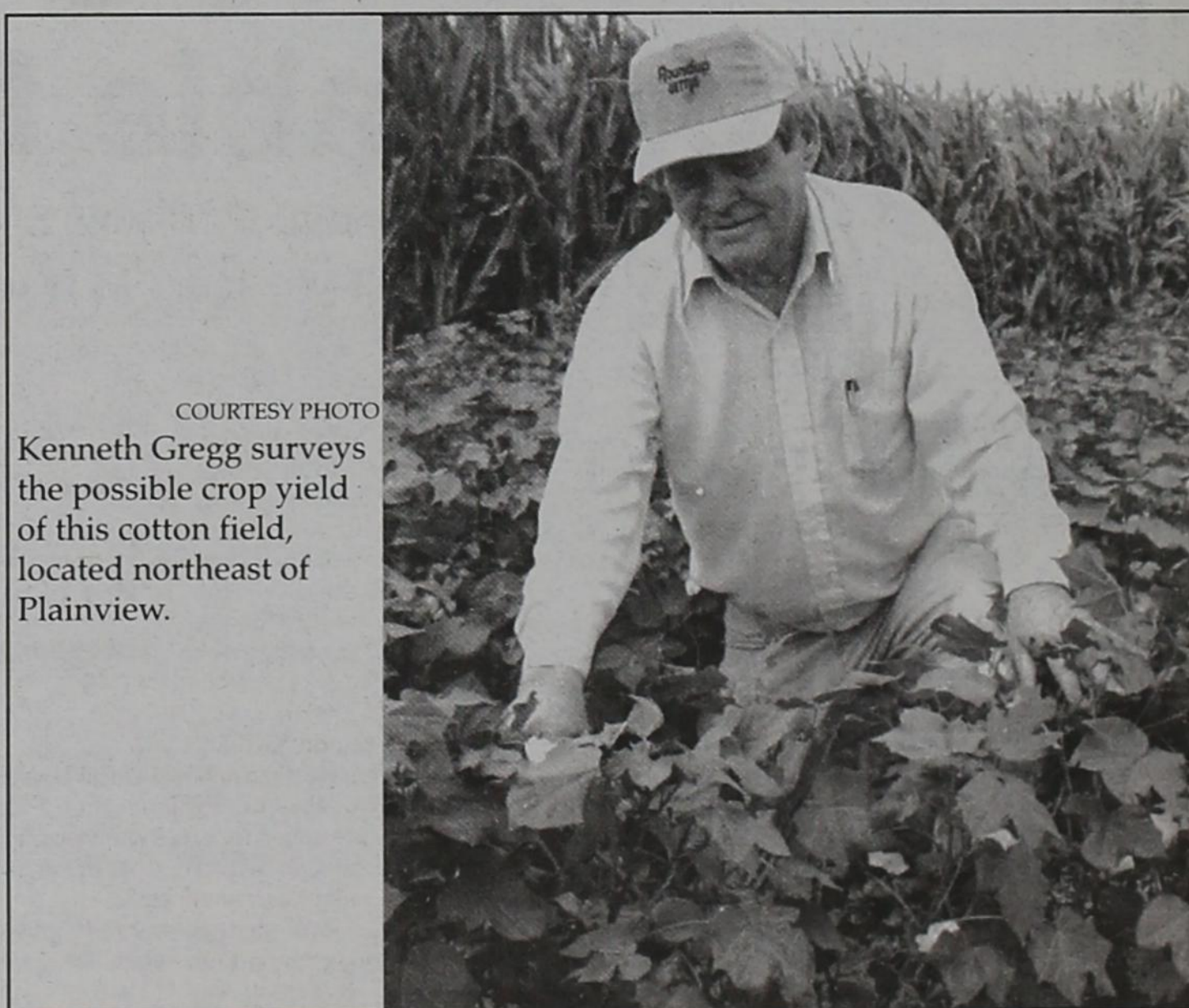
"The big deal is that the cotton is not maturing as fast this year, the ground temperature is a lot cooler," Kuhlmann said. "The cotton is going to be average, it is just going to be late."

"What will dictate the quality is the September and October weather."

Benson said because of some early hail storms that about 10,000 acres were lost but that 190,000 acres are still in production.

"We would like to have had 220,000 to 225,000 acres," said Benson "And hopefully at its very best the cotton will bring 70-71 cents a pound."

According to Benson, the cotton market has been level for the past five months and on the low end the crop should sell for at least 65 cents a pound.



COURTESY PHOTO

Kenneth Gregg surveys the possible crop yield of this cotton field, located northeast of Plainview.

Roberson Seed Co.



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OPINION-ISSUES



Robert Lee

LONGTIME RESIDENT FROM HAPPY

Is It Going To Rain?

I know that the Texas Panhandle can be the most beautiful place on earth when it rains. I, along with everyone else, have certainly enjoyed this year's rainfall. Following the drought of 1996, this is an especially nice year.

Some years ago, I was taking a cattle feeding course. Our instructor was very knowledgeable. One could tell by looking at him and by his speech that the cattle business had walled and stomped him a few times. Of course, if you're in the cattle business, that happens occasionally. I think saying, "Rags to Riches," and "Riches to Rags," originated with the cattle business. This fellow was doing his best to educate us about feeding cattle in the new and fast growing commercial feedlot business. Down on the front row, paying careful attention, sat five or six fellows in suits and ties. One could tell that they were serious money makers and were trying to figure a way to guarantee a profit in the cattle business. They asked numerous questions which the wise old instructor would carefully answer after asking, "First, tell me this, Is it going to rain?"

A good profit and loss statement in the panhandle is very dependent upon rainfall.

It's been good to see the activity in our little town. A month or so ago, I had trouble getting to the coffee shop because of the cattle being shipped out on numerous cattle trucks. I've noticed the worry lines are gone from the banker's forehead and the other day, I caught him whistling.

The wheat harvest that followed the cattle shipping added a little more cheer. It's been years since we've had a good harvest. The trucks were not lined up for blocks like they were in the fifties but one has to consider the size of the trucks. No more pick-ups and four-wheel trailers. We had one fellow that hauled his wheat crop in barrels. Three hundred bushels was a large load with the average load being more like two hundred bushels.

Harvest back then was a family affair with most Momma's driving the old truck loaded with grain to town. One of our customers had sent his wife to town with a load of wheat. They had about a fifteen mile haul and on the way, the old truck had two tires blow out. That night, while eating a late supper, she was chewing him out pretty severely about worn-out tires, etc. He patiently listened for a while, looked up, smiled and said, "Well Hon, We got all

there was out of those tires, didn't we?"

During harvest, the hours were long and sleep was a precious commodity but one hasn't lived until they have eaten a home cooked meal, washed down with a quart of ice tea, in the shade of a grain truck. In Happy, Texas, we eat dinner and supper. We take our eating too seriously for brunches and lunches.

I was teaching school when my father-in-law made me an offer I couldn't refuse to join the family grain business. I don't think he was all that fond of me but was awful lonely for his little girl. The first few years, I thought he was trying to run me off. He referred to me as his wife's son-in-law and we worked all the time. I remember one milo harvest, I started the harvest with a flat-top haircut. Before the harvest was over, I was parting and combing my hair. The barbershop was only a block away, but we were too busy for such foolishness. Momma brought my meals to the elevator and I'd go for days at a time without seeing my house in daylight. We'd fill up all our storage and then pile grain where ever we could find an empty space. The secret to those bountiful harvests was water, irrigation water. It played out and we are now dependent, once again, on rainfall.

Occasionally, someone will ask me for my opinion about what I think the future has in store for us. Before I answer, tell me this, "Is it going to rain?"



Larry Combest

HOUSE AG COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN

Research is at the Roots of Agriculture

The public's fancy is captured by news of research using corn to deice airport runways, tobacco plants fighting cancer, and an ice plant teaching crops to survive in desert heat.

Stories of "gee-whiz" research understandably get attention. However, I believe there is a lot of "gee-whiz" behind the solid, reliable research results from integrated pest management, no-till and low-till preparation of the land. Not very fancy, but vitally important.

This month, I began a series of hearings in Congress - leading up to the first comprehensive plan in 20 years for agriculture research. Research is the important stabilizing roots of our agriculture system.

A farmer would never go into the field without months of land preparation and financing. The seeds of research have taken years to cultivate what we harvest today as the breadbasket of the world. This research has led to a sixfold increase in agriculture labor productivity since 1948. Almost 50 years ago, the number of people fed by one farmer was 15. Today, one farmer is able to feed 96 other people. Our region's agriculture-driven economy is a living laboratory for research. In particular, the Plant Stress and Water Conservation Institute at Texas Tech University continues to make strides in improving the drought and heat tolerance of crops grown in arid areas.

Throughout agriculture,

federal, state and private researchers work with farmers and ranchers perfecting innovations benefiting our need for quality food and clothing.

I have always felt that our cutting-edge technology, dependent on strong research and development efforts, is what gives American agriculture the advantage over the rest of the world. We are blessed with the most productive people and land in the world, yet we cannot remain competitive on the world market without continued investments in agricultural research, extension and education.

Fundamental changes from the 1996 Farm Bill will expose producers to new challenges and risks that research may address. In light of this substantial change in farm policy, it is even more critical that strong support for research programs is maintained to ensure our competitive edge in the technology arena.

While this is our goal, the degree of difficulty involved is multiplied as we balance a tight federal budget with many competing needs. I will continue to encourage the other committees in Congress to recognize the vital importance of maintaining our investments in agriculture research. At the same time, I will also focus the debate on efforts to improve current research, striving to make every research dollar go as far as possible.



Burt Rutherford

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR OF TCFA

Consumers enjoy favorable beef prices

Average retail beef prices this summer have remained very attractive for consumers, and backyard chefs across the country have taken advantage of the bargains by firing up their grills and enjoying that truly American pastime of backyard cooking.

And it appears that backyard chefs most often pick up their favorite steak or a package of ground beef when they get the hankering to fire up. A recent study commissioned by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association found that 50 percent of American most often select steak and 39 percent choose hamburger over other beef items.

When you look at the prices of these items, it's easy to see why consumers are enjoying their steaks and hamburgers this summer. The NCBA/Cattle-Fax Beef Featuring Analysis Program, which tracks monthly beef prices, found the average featured beef retail price in June was \$2.49 per pound, compared with \$2.44 in May and \$2.44 in June 1996. This price comes from analyzing newspaper ads that feature beef, which is an important trend to watch since 50 percent of the beef purchased at retail

sells on feature. By cut, the average feature price in June showed ground chuck selling for \$1.58 per pound, T-bone steaks going for \$4.76 and Sirloin steaks at \$3.95.

What's more, consumers in our part of the country enjoy cheaper beef prices than anywhere else in the U.S. The NCBA analysis breaks down the average featured retail beef prices by region and shows the Central part of the country, which includes the TCFA region of Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico, enjoyed an average price of \$2.26 per pound in June—the least expensive price in the nation. The Western states were next at \$2.32, followed by the Southeast at \$2.46 and North Central at \$2.62. The most expensive area to buy beef was the Northeast, with an average price of \$2.75 per pound.

The reason that retail beef prices are so attractive is the ample supply of beef cattlemen are producing. And, even though the herd liquidation phase of the cattle cycle is drawing to an end, indications are that beef supplies will remain ample throughout the summer and fall. Beef production in the third quarter (July

through September) is expected to exceed year-ago levels by 4% or more, with a 3% to 4% increase expected again in the fourth quarter. Beef production for the first half of the year was slightly off last year's pace, meaning, for the year, beef production is expected to exceed 25 billion pounds and be similar to the 25.59 billion pounds (carcass weight) last year. To put this in perspective, the all-time record beef production occurred in 1976 at 25.67 billion pounds.

However, analysts expect beef production to decline cyclically through the end of the decade, hitting around 23.5 billion pounds in the year 2000. That means the supply picture for cattlemen, and therefore prices, appears to be looking up.

Let's look at a little history. In March and April last year, the monthly average for steer calves was less than \$60 per cwt. and feeder cattle prices averaged less than \$54 per cwt. What's more, much of the Southwest was dealing with severe drought. The 1995 corn crop, if you'll remember, was a disappointing 7.4 billion bushels. During May 1997, the monthly average price for steer calves averaged \$90.44 per cwt. and feeder cattle averaged \$79.25 per cwt. The 1996 corn harvest totaled 9.3 billion bushels. The dramatic change in calf and feeder cattle prices is a direct reflection of lower corn prices and better pasture conditions. Generally,

see TCFA page 5

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Cattle market pushing higher

Livecattle
Weekly sales have reached over 109,000 head at \$66 about \$2 higher than a week ago. The showlist has been cleaner up in the Texas-Oklahoma Panhandle. Cattle have been in a bull market with some corrections but they have always come back, many times we have new contract highs made. The technical trend-line support for the October contract should be around \$69.92. The next support area should be around \$69.

Weekly showlists are 84,000 for Nebraska, 89,200 for Kansas and 103,200 for Texas. Nebraska sales are done for the week with most cattle going for \$66-67 area. Kansas has sold 85,200 with most sales done around the \$66 area. The Texas Panhandle sold their showlist at the \$66 area with many yards asking for \$67 for the next weeks cattle.

Feeders
The feeder market has been pushing the cattle markets higher but many analysts have noted the divergence between October feeders and October live cattle hints at a possible top. Corn has led the feeder rally but many think it is very topy and could be poised for a set back. Many people are talkin, that the feeders look kind of pricey as opposed to the fat cattle.

Technically speaking on the August contract we could have a set-back to the \$79.20 to \$79.50 area before any buying could hit this market. The 61.8 retracement should be around the \$78.60 area with 50 percent retracement at \$79.50. With many analysts feeling this market is over-bought we

TCFA from page 4

it's understood that for every 10 cent increase in corn prices, feeder cattle prices decrease by around \$10 per cwt. The small 1995 corn crop led to astronomically high feed prices in 1996 and therefore, sharp declines in calf and feeder prices.

This year is much different. The 1996 corn crop at 9.3 billion bushels lowered feed costs to a reasonable level and calf and feeder prices rebounded. This year's corn crop, barring any unforeseen weather disasters in August, should be even bigger—early projections are that the 1997 crop will range from 9.6 to 10 billion bushels. The Midyear Inventory Report, released July 18, shows smaller cattle numbers are on the horizon. That leads analysts to expect prices for all categories of cattle to increase annually from 1998 through 2000 as beef supplies decline.

With cattle production making up a major part of the agricultural economy in the TCFA area, this is good news indeed. All cattlemen—ranchers, stocker operators and cattle feeders—can look forward to several years of better prices.

should see some set back before the summer is over.

Corn
For the week the corn has been leading the other grains higher for the past week. The funds have returned as buyer in midweek. Weather has dominated the trade with, cool, dry weather with a warm-up into the week-end. This July has been the driest one on record for the midwest. Some climatologists are stating the Illinois precipitation is at only 62 percent of normal.

Wheat
The wheat market has been struggling off late with no real news to help the situation. The only export tender has been to Pakistan which many people knew was coming. Wheat tour participants are scouting North Dakota, now, it should show the best wheat on the tour but not as

good as previously thought. The funds have been as the biggest sellers of late. This market has come up off of the lows that were made around the first of July. Some forecasters have been buying the December K.C. contract and looking for a test of the \$3.98 1/2 to \$4.04 area in the near future.

Cotton
Many analysts are waiting to see which way the cotton market is headed. According to some sources the market is range bound between \$73.50 and \$76 basis the December contract. Many are saying that the dry conditions in the Delta and parts of the Southwest are setting the stage for lower crop yields. The next 2 weeks will be critical in the outcome of this year's crop.

The December contract should go back up to the \$76 area before it starts another wave lower to the \$73-\$73.50 range. Many analysts are looking for production levels around 17.5 million bales. The crop conditions could continue to deteriorate with the eventual output continuing to decline well into the fall.

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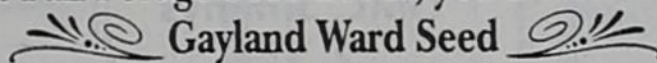
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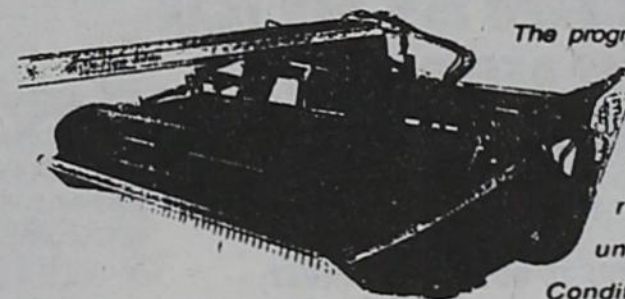
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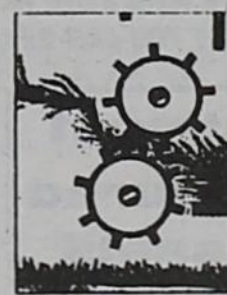
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Voters to decide on property tax amendment

Texas voters will be able to vote on a school property tax amendment on Aug. 9 that could have an impact on their homestead exemption and the tax freeze for people who are 65 years old or older.

Economist Dr. Judith Stallmann of College Station said House Bill 4, passed at the end of the recent legislative session, increases the residential homestead exemption from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

Additionally, persons who are 65 years old or older will be able to transfer their tax freeze, with adjustments, from their current home to a subsequent home.

The homestead exemption applies only to homeowners - renters and landlords will not see benefits from it, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service economist

said. Increasing the homestead exemption by \$10,000 will lower school property taxes by \$140 for the average Texas homeowner. The actual amount will depend on the tax rate in each district. For example, in a school district with a tax rate of 1.23, the increased exemption will result in a tax savings of \$123. The people who would benefit the most from the increased homestead exemption would be those who live in the highest tax rate district, said Stallmann.

"People are concerned about their property taxes," she said, "particularly the school property tax because it has doubled in the last 10 years."

If passed, the increase in the homestead exemption will de-

crease tax revenues for local school districts, affecting school districts with a low tax base more than other districts because it may exempt a larger percentage of their taxable value, she said.

Lower school property tax revenues from this amendment would be offset by about \$1 billion set aside by the state for this purpose over the next biennium. Beyond that, elected officials are not sure how the losses would be handled.

These lower revenues are "certainly a concern that school districts are going to have to address," she said. Citizens may want to contact their state representative to find out how this is going to be addressed in the future, Stallmann suggested. The proposed amendment also includes a revision of the tax code

for senior citizens. Currently, homeowners over 5 years old receive a tax freeze on their home as long as they live in the house and do not make significant improvements. If the person buys and moves to another house, he or she has to requalify for the tax freeze.

Under the proposed amendment, the tax freeze is "portable," Stallmann said. If the person moves to another house, the original tax freeze, with some adjustments, applies to the new home.

The adjustment is made on a percentage basis. If the tax bill on the original home is 60 percent of what it would be without the freeze, the tax bill for the new home will be 60 percent of what the tax bill would otherwise be.

Stallmann did not foresee this

tax freeze change having a big impact on school districts in the immediate future because the number of people over 65 who change homes in a single year is not significant.

Over time, however, the numbers could become significant and the impact on tax revenues may be greater as "baby boomers" begin to age and retire. Voters should determine several things before voting on this amendment, Stallmann suggested.

First of all, they should estimate the impact on their current tax bill and on their tax bill when they turn 65.

Additionally, they should consider whether the constitutional amendment is preferable to exercising the local options that are available.

Emergency loans available from FSA and SBA

Applications for emergency farm loans for physical losses caused by a snow storm are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices located many area counties.

Ten counties in Texas were recently named by Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman eligible for loans to cover part of actual physical losses resulting from the snow storm. The counties are Bailey, Castro, Deaf Smith, Hartley, Lamb, Moore, Oldman, Palmer, Potter and Randall. Also included in the snow storm disaster area are Curry and Quay counties in New Mexico.

Baker said farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 80 percent

of their actual physical losses. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.75 percent.

"As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent physical loss to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan," Baker said. Farmers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance program will have to figure in proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

"Application for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until February 16, 1998 but farmers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing and possibly over into the new

farming season," said Baker.

FSA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who are U.S. citizens and to farming partnership, corporation or cooperatives in which U.S. citizens hold a majority interest.

Most FSA offices open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, but are available usually from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.. For more information, contact your local FSA office.

Loans for businesses depending

on farmers and ranchers in the same ten counties are available until March 2, 1998 through the U.S. Small Business Administration.

These four percent loans are available to help the business meet installments on long-term debt, accounts payable and overhead expenses that would have been met had the disaster on April 24 and 25 not occurred.

The snow storms, ice, freezing temperatures, high winds and driving rain caused many farmers and ranchers to experience reduced incomes which may have had an adverse economic effect on business depending on these producers.


Economic injury disaster loans for businesses depending on farmers and ranchers in Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Collingsworth, Donley, Gray, Hall and Wheeler counties are also available from the SBA. These loans are available because of excessive rain April 2 through April 30 in the above listed eight Texas counties.

The SBA loans are designed for those business with substantial disaster-related needs and is intended to supplement monies the business owner can provide from other sources. For more information, interested business owners may call the SBA at 1-800-366-6303.

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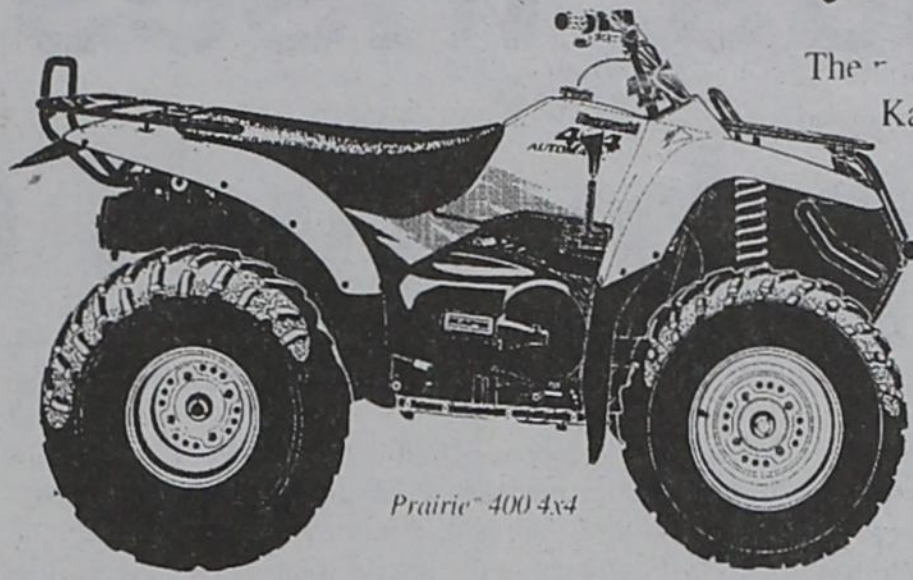
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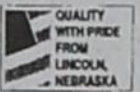
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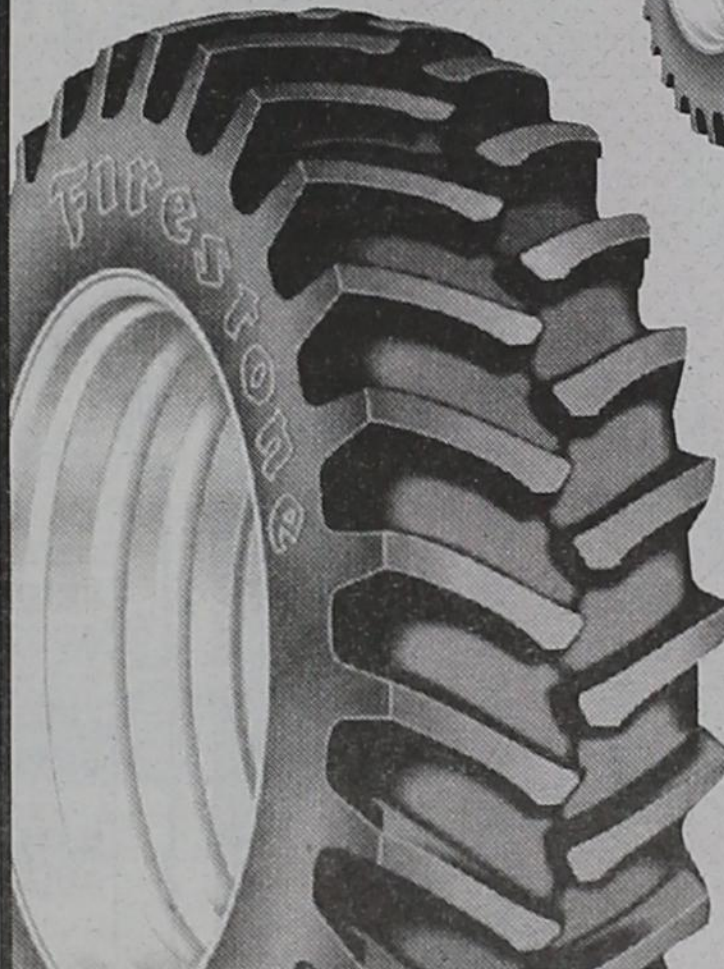
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Cannas, Irises raised as a crop by two Olton men

Teresa Cox
Plainview Daily Herald

In the springtime, when most corn and cotton fields are still full of mystery, Royce McFadden and Dewey Hukill know their crops will be beautiful. But it has nothing to do with secret fertilizer or machinery. . . its the crop itself.

Hukill and McFadden own Agri Gold Corporation, and do business as Pride of the Plains Bulb Farms. There, they grown over 200 acres of cannas and 100 acres of irises sold commercially across the globe.

And while it's a somewhat unique crop for the small, agricultural community, both men will admit the bulbs have turned out to be just the ticket for the two farmers.

McFadden started growing the cannas on his land near Olton back in 1960s and was selling the bulbs through a mail order business. But after several years, lack of specialized machinery and the sandy land needed to grow the flowers meant he eventually sold out of the booming business altogether.

But in 1984, he and Hukill - who both still farm individually - decided the bulbs might just be the key to staying afloat.

"The ag economy was not very good at the time," says Hukill. "We were looking for an alternative crop."

Knowing it would be profitable based on his past experience, McFadden and his partner decided to jump head-first into the flower business. They bought new planting bulbs and had to modify, and in some cases

build from scratch, the machinery needed to work the fields.

Operating solely as a large-scale commercial production business, Pride of the Plains started with 30 acres and has more than tripled its acreage in the last 13 it has been in business.

Most of the buyers for the company are Dutch, says McFadden, but the firm also does business from coast to coast. And while finding buyers for their colorful products has not been a problem, keeping up with the steady demand has been a challenge.

The typical growing term of the cannas begins in late March or early April, when approximately 14,000 bulbs per acre are planted. Harvesting is done in mid-October, when the bulbs are cleaned, separated slightly and trimmed in the field before going to the warehouse for further processing.

The irises are planted in July and August and harvested one year later. Hukill says the irises are rather labor-intensive for the one month when harvesting and replanting overlap, and at that time the company must hire extra help for the fields.

Ordinarily, the firm has seven full-time employees. However, they employ anywhere from 50-130 employees during peak seasons fro processing and shipping duties.

The bulbs are stored five to six months before they are shipped to the different distributors, and they must be stored at 60 degrees Fahrenheit in order to preserve the best freshness.

The pair currently grows 12 standard and four dwarf varieties of cannas. They also grow 40 varieties of irises, both standard and dwarf. They are also looking into other flowers to grow and are currently growing several test plots.

Although their crop is significantly more attractive than traditional farm crops, Hukill and McFadden are quick to point out that it isn't necessarily easier.

"When you're growing and marketing and processing, you've got everything from the UPS to fertilizer to deal with," says McFadden.

But both agree that they enjoy the bulb business more.

"Like any work, there are parts you wish you didn't have," says Hukill. "But we do enjoy it more."

"Like any work, there are parts you wish you didn't have, but we do enjoy it more."

Dewey Hukill



COURTESY PHOTO

Irises are grown commercial in Olton by Royce McFadden and Dewey Hukill.



COURTESY PHOTO

Cannas are one of the flowers grown by Hukill and McFadden of Olton. The men have sold commercial flowers for 13 years.

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Cattle feeders push for equal regulations



ANGIE WELCH

EARL MOSELEY
Ag Reporter Correspondent
 Cattle feeders, who have long battled the United States Department of Agriculture for equitable regulations between cattle and poultry, may have finally seen a glimmer of victory.

A federal district court in Iowa recently ruled that adding up to 8 percent of water in poultry is no longer acceptable without requiring such practice in labeling.

The verdict calls for all chickens to be 100 percent chicken, up to a point. Cattle have fallen under the 100 percent ruling several years without any reservations.

Apparently, many Texans in the chicken business haven't as yet been fully informed of the court's ruling in the water matter.

John Brown of the Sunnymead Poultry Farm at Idalou told the *Ag Reporter* the ruling appears aimed at broilers.

Actually, the ruling covers both broilers and turkeys, according to James Graham, who heads the Texas Poultry Federation in Austin.

Graham explained the federal judge's ruling is still in line with what the federation has supported all the time. The birds are ex-

pected to be dry, "but failure does not constitute a disability in the ruling if some water does appear."

He said the USDA is currently involved in an investigation of moisture control in both poultry and livestock, "and we have agreed to cooperate with the USDA all the way."

Texas Cattle Feeders Association spokesman Burton W. Rutherford of Amarillo explained that red meat, which includes both beef and pork, still can legally have no added weight for commercial consumption from additional water.

"You can't wash down a carcass, for instance, because it can add water," he said. "But poultry can add 8-percent water" without having to tag it as required by the USDA for cattle.

"You can make a lot of money selling water to people," Rutherford commented.

The USDA also has relented partially in one phase of the clean carcass rulings. Steam vacuuming is now permitted — but not until after it is federally inspected. Rutherford believes the post-inspection regulation defeats the purpose of the vacuuming.

"The beef industry has done a lot of research on scientific meth-

Cattle feeders in Texas are concerned that meat regulations should be uniform.

ods involving carcass cleanings and it can be improved," Rutherford maintained.

One item under question has to do with removing bacteria.

"If you don't clean the knife after using it on one carcass, bacteria can easily be spread to a second carcass."

At this point, no regulation covers this action, he said.

He also pointed out that organic acid or steam vacuuming a carcass could kill bacteria.

"Both of these deals could be

applied effectively (before inspection) to control any bacteria on a carcass," Rutherford stipulated.

The heat that comes from a steam vacuum has been scientifically determined to be a killer of any bacteria, he explained.

"We would like the USDA to consider science instead of the old trimming rules," he said. "In case bacteria has been found, there's a lot of trimming required there."

"But we don't want to stop the trimming unless one or both of the new scientific systems can be ap-

plied." Rutherford said TCFA has worked on this problem four or five years through the USDA.

"There are three different ways to go about it," he said. "One, work with the agency that administers the regulations, which in the past has not been successful."

A second alternative would be to enlist legislative help, which in the past hasn't been successful.

"A third would be to file a suit against the USDA, which we have done," Rutherford added.

Seed breeding farming foundation

Matthew Yi
Associated Press

GILROY, Calif. (AP) — For growers, finding the right variety of crop to plant can be

a key to successful farming. And it all starts with one of the most basic agricultural products — the seeds.

Seed breeding is a tedious and meticulous task that

takes years of research. "It takes about three years just for trial runs with about 10 different seed varieties," said Yong Duk Lee, general manager of Hungnong Seed

Inc. "The entire process can easily take up to 10 years before the final product comes out."

Lee heads the Gilroy, Calif., facility for Hungnong, a South Korean company that breeds seeds ranging from peppers to cabbage to watermelons.

"One of the key things about producing a seed type is its purity," Lee said. "You have to come up with seeds that will produce the exact same vegetable or fruit, generation after generation. If

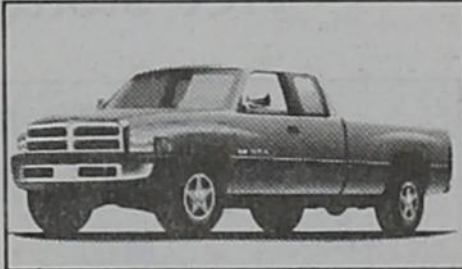
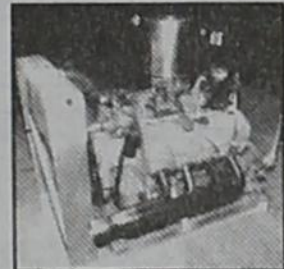
the final product is good, then you know the seed production and research has been very difficult."

The breeder develops different seeds for each type of vegetable.

"You may have different branches and you may have different flower pods. The breeder segregates each one so you can use one plant as the female and cross different things with that female," said T.J. Tribolet, Hungnong's North American sales manager.

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Comeback of cattle is tempered with caution

Mark Babineck
Associated Press

THROCKMORTON (AP) — Watching the mercurial cattle market is enough to make outsiders queasy. For those riding that roller coaster-on-the-range, undulating prices are merely the everyday perils of doing business.

In few other trades could anyone take such a boom year in stride, especially with bitter memories of a 1996 bust still so fresh.

"It's not uncommon at all," said Bill Carey, president of Throckmorton Land & Cattle Co., about 1997's sudden turnaround for cattle producers. "Very often, if there's been a drought for three or four years, there will be three or four months of good rains and things turn around all in one year."

The bovine breakout from horrendous prices last fall coincided with the first long spate of widespread showers in years. Cattle, the foundation of Texas agriculture since the Spanish began raising beeves here, is back.

But for how long?
"It isn't as though you can increase a cow herd in one year by much," said Carey, addressing concerns that improved weather and prices will tempt cattlemen to over-produce, reigniting a surplus and another slump. "It takes a couple of years. When they say that people are restocking, they're buying animals coming from somewhere else."

In other words, cattle are simply moving from owner to owner right now, he said. If ranchers aggressively restock, as some economists fear, it would take another 11/2 years for their numbers to blunt the robust prices.

"Just because the big pressure to sell and liquidate is behind us, it doesn't mean overnight that they'll turn on the spout and increase beef production," said Chuck Lambert, a Washington-based economist with the National

Cattlemen's Beef Association.

Parched pastures, expensive feed and a oversupply wreaked havoc on Texas cattle, with the nadir coming last spring. A poor summer was followed by rainfall and price relief, leaving cattle producers who were feeling like ground chuck a year ago wearing porterhouse grins today.

Calves that sold for 87 cents per pound in February 1995 plummeted to 47 cents by May 1997, nearly a quarter off the break-even mark for many raisers.

The Texas Department of Agriculture figures stagnated around 60 cents until the end of the year, when they began their current escalation. The state estimated an average calf cost of 92 cents per pound for last June.

A mass slaughter of calf-bearing heifers put a dent in supply nationwide. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates stocks will drop 2 percent this year, good news for a industry rebounding from a glut.

Liquidation was a buzzword in Texas last year. Herd size dropped about 8 percent to 5.5 million in January, according to state statistics. Strong national price trends should cushion the near-term effects of wholesale restocking in Texas, Lambert said.

"There's a reason for optimism, but right now we might be seeing extreme optimism," said Carroll Haygood, president of the Amarillo Producers Credit Association, which extends credit to Panhandle-area ranchers and farmers. "However, the optimism is backed by strong positions in the futures market."

Indeed, trading on the Chicago Mercantile market has remained consistent and strong since the spring of 1996, when prices went into the stock tank.

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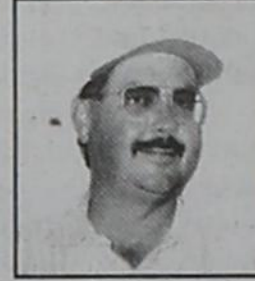
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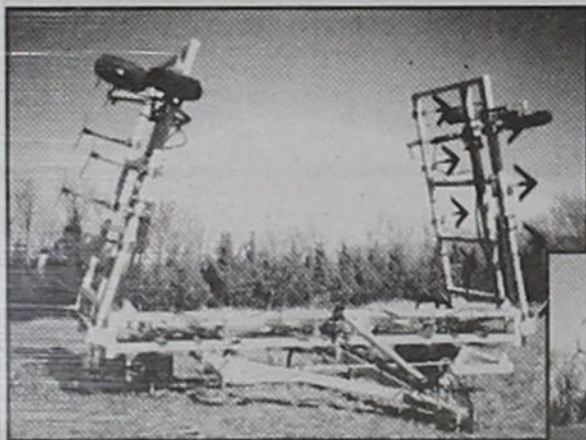
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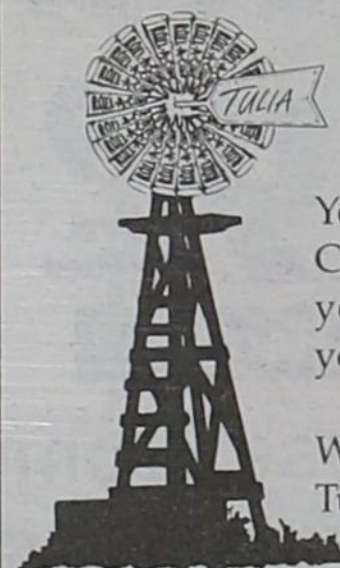
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Around the Counties

What's going through the mind of your county agent

Robert Devin

RANDALL COUNTY

I've got to admit that it was with some reservations that I agreed to attempt this column when Brad called. But Brad didn't ask about my grades in English, and I didn't volunteer any information!

Wheat harvest is complete and if you listen close, you can hear the corn growing. What a contrast from a year earlier!

It seems that the spring weather has also been favorable to grasshoppers. This has become increasingly apparent as the weeds begin to dry and the pesky insects increase in size and appetite. They will not only devastate native grass and agriculture crops, they will also reek havoc on homeowners, particularly those in rural Randall County. I visited with Dr. Carl Patrick, our Extension Entomologist, and he shared the following

recommendations:

Around the house: Sevin Orthene or Dimethoate are recommended. Be sure to read and follow the label and check to be sure the product is not phytotoxic to the plant you are treating. Also, follow the guidelines for days between application and harvest in the garden.

Best results are to use the products as a border treatment to control the grasshoppers before they begin to feed on the plants you are trying to protect. This will become increasingly important as they increase in size and appetite. Other practices that will help, are to keep weeds and tall vegetation mowed to discourage egg lay.

This summer has also been favorable to other of nature's little wonders. I spent an enjoyable evening on the patio watching a couple of toads feast on unsuspecting June Beetles. In fact, I became so entranced in the speed of their

tongues, I almost over cooked the burgers. But, then I'm easily entertained.

And speaking of entertainment, Randall County 4-Her's have enjoyed a long but rewarding summer racking up success from State 4-H Round-up to the State Dog Show, State Trap & Skeet and State Horse Show.

Mark your calendar for August 14th, the next private pesticide license training. Contact the Randall County or Potter County Extension office for more information. The Farmer's Market is off to a good start and business is brisk. The market is held on the Square on Tuesday's evening at 5:30 and on Saturdays, beginning at 9 a.m. If you have any used roller skates, you might give Bill Dugan a call. He claims his tomato plants are growing so fast he has to put skates on the tomatoes to keep them from being drug off.

See you next month.

Rebel Royall

CASTRO COUNTY

The 1997 Llano Estacado Crop Tour was held Friday, August 1. Its sponsors were: The Castro County Extension Agriculture Committee, The Castro County IPM Committee, and the Castro County Office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Registration was at Flagg Fertilizer. The tour consisted of the many result demonstration plots that have been conducted in Castro County this growing season. Demonstrations included: Corn Varieties, Bt Corn, Drought Resistant Corn, Ultra Narrow Row Cotton, Pre and Post Plant Herbicides for Cotton, Cotton Plant Populations, Seed Treatments vs. In Furrow Fungicide Treatments for Seedling Disease Control, Soil Insecticide Treatments for Cotton, and Roundup Ready Cotton. Six

continuing education units (C.E.U.s) were given to commercial, noncommercial, and private pesticide applicators.

Train the Trainer Program

Representatives from the Texas Department of Agriculture were in Dimmitt at the Courthouse Assembly Room to conduct a Pesticide and Agricultural Worker's program. This program trains producers to train their employees on pesticide safety, and to issue the green and blue worker and handler cards. This training was good for 2 C.E.U.s for commercial, noncommercial, and private pesticide applicators.

Texas County Cleanup will be held in Dimmitt at the Castro County Exposition Center on August 7 from 8 a.m. to noon. Producers and home owners are encouraged to bring their empty plastic pesticide containers (high pressure or triple rinsed) used motor oil and oil filters, used tires

(except for rear tractor tires) and lead acid batteries for recycling. The address for the Castro County Expo is 403 S.E. 4th street.

Signs of Sorghum Ergot

Growers are being urged to keep an eye out for a debasing fungus called ergot. The disease was discovered in South Texas earlier this year and is infecting sorghum crops. Farmers should look for white-powdery spots on the leaves and yellowish-tan honey secreted from the flowering heads of the plant. Ergot attacks as the plant begins to pollinate. Extension agronomists are confident this year's commercial grain crop is safe because it pollinates quickly reducing the chance of infection. The risk is higher to seed production fields in the Panhandle.

Texas supplies 90 percent of all the sorghum seeds used worldwide. The industry could be devastated if ergot destroys those seed crops.

4-Her's recipe - Pumpkin Roll

Pumpkin Roll

- 3 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 2/3 cup pumpkin
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 3/4 cup flour
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp ginger
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- 2-1/4 cups powdered sugar

- 1 8 oz. pkg cream cheese
- 1/4 cup softened butter
- 1/2 tsp vanilla

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees. At



Palitza

high speed on mixer, beat eggs for 5 minutes. Gradually add sugar and beat well. Stir in pumpkin and lemon juice.

• In separate bowl, combine flour, cinnamon, baking powder, salt, ginger and nutmeg. Add to pumpkin mixture and blend well.

• Spoon batter into a well greased and floured 15x10x1 inch jelly roll pan. Spread batter to corners.

- Bake in 375 degree oven for 15 minutes.

• Turn cake out onto a towel sprinkled with 1/4 cup powdered sugar. Beginning at narrow end, roll up cake and towel together. Cool 1 hour.

• Combine 2 cups powdered sugar, cream cheese, butter and vanilla. Beat with mixer until smooth and creamy.

• Unroll cake and spread with filling. Roll cake up again and chill, seam side down. Garnish at desired.

• Will freeze well. For serving, cut with electric knife. Makes 20, 1/2" slice, servings.

Recipe by Anne Marie Palitza, an Intermediate member of the T-Anchor 4-H Club of Randall County.

breeders anywhere. Periodically, he has had more acres of his varieties under cultivation in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas than any other wheat breeder," said Bill Nelson, TWPBPA executive vice president of Amarillo.

The second honor was presented in March by the Texas Seed Trade Association. The organization of industry seedsmen commemorated Porter's 50-year career with its "distinguished member" recognition and their prestigious "First the Seed" award.

According to Dr. Ed. A. Runge, head of Texas A & M's

soil and crop sciences department, supporting students also has been a lifelong project for both Dr. Porter and his wife Marion.

"The Porters are two of the nicest people one could ever meet," Runge said. "Their generosity has endowed the Kenneth and Marion Porter Undergraduate Scholarship (in the department). Their legacy and contributions to society in general and wheat improvement in particular will continue to be a model for all of us."

-Angie Welch contributed to this story

PORTER from page 10

grown in the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandle, Kansas and Colorado is TAM 107."

The scientist was honored recently with two major awards for distinguished service to wheat production.

The first, presented by the Texas Wheat Producers Board and Producers Association last December, cited Porter and his colleagues with the small grains research group or their contributions to Texas agriculture and excellence in wheat breeding.

"Our organizations have long recognized Dr. Kenneth Porter as one of the most prolific wheat

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Only one 'yes' vote remains before milk organizations join

The dairy farmer leaders of four of the nation's largest milk marketing cooperatives have set August 8 as the deadline to determine whether their organizations will proceed to the next phase of consolidation discussions.

The boards of directors of Associated Milk Producers, Inc. (AMPI) of Arlington, Texas; Mid-America Dairymen, Inc. (Mid-Am) of Springfield, Mo; Milk Marketing Inc. (MMI) of Strongsville, Ohio; and Western Dairymen Cooperative Inc. (WDCI) of Thornton, Colo., recently met in Denver to hear proposals on governance and organizational structure and to review financial projections for the proposed new organization.

The meeting was the second joint gathering of the four boards to discuss possible consolidation.

The talks, which began in December 1996 and resulted in a memorandum of understanding signed last May, could lead to the formation of a new dairy cooperative.

The as yet unnamed co-op would market about 25 percent of the nation's milk supply.

According to Herman Brubaker, MMI president and dairy producer from Ohio, the goal of the proposed consolidation is to enhance dairy farmer profitability and to

secure long-term stable markets for member milk.

"Historically, among our four cooperatives, there has been overlap and duplication of services in marketing and moving member milk," explained Brubaker. "Most of the projected cost savings would come from efficiencies gained by combining the four co-ops resources and capabilities. If dairy farmers are serious about being competitive in the future, this is the kind of structure we must build."

Since May, committees headed by key leaders and management from the four organizations have studied all aspects of the proposed consolidation.

In a report to the boards, Mid-Am president Carl Baumann, a dairy farmer from Illinois, and the chair of the governance structure committee, outlined a proposed system to maximize local dairy farmer participation.

"As farmer-owners of our organizations, the prime objective is

to assure that we continue to participate in and control our own destinies," said Baumann. "This new cooperative would be farmer-owned, farmer-controlled and farmer-driven. It would be small in the country and big in the marketplace."

Baumann explained that the proposed structure would include seven areas. Each would be governed by an area council. To ensure local dairy farmer input and control, the area councils would be further subdivided into districts.

The proposal also calls for establishment of a 36-member corporate board. Following a three-year transition period, each area council would elect board representatives based on a formula that reflects member numbers and milk volume in an area.

Directors also reviewed a financial model that includes plans for capitalization and member returns.

AMPI president Charles

Beckendorf, who farms in Tomball, Texas, and serves on the financial study committee, said the new cooperative would be capitalized under a base capital plan. Current member investment in the existing co-ops would carry over to the new organization.

Beckendorf explained that a major accounting firm has conducted an in-depth financial analysis of all four cooperatives.

"The study shows that all organizations involved are financially sound, but could gain financial strength through this consolidation," he said.

During the two-day meeting, the boards examined the potential benefits and effects of consolidation on member-farmers.

Tom Camerlo, WDCI president and Colorado dairy farmer, pointed out that one of the greatest benefits of consolidation would be to increase returns by building a bridge to world markets.

"We must adapt to meet the challenges ahead," Camerlo observed. "Whether we admit it or not, we've been domestically oriented. Conditions have changed so radically that past marketing efforts by dairy farmers and their cooperatives just won't do."

Camerlo told board members that in today's climate of deregulation, increase milk price vola-

tility and changing markets, consolidation could help to assure dairy farmers of the capital needed to increase manufacturing efficiencies and expand production of value-added products.

"It's time to step up to the plate," Camerlo said. "An estimated 95 percent of the world's population lives outside the United States. We've got real marketing opportunities, but none of us can do it alone - a combined organization can get us there."

If the boards of all four cooperatives approve continued action by the August 8 deadline, they will reconvene in September to review and act on a formal plan of consolidation.

The plan would then be submitted through each organization's voting process, as governed by each co-op's bylaws. December 31 is the target date for consolidation.


To date, the board of WDCI, Mid-Am and AMPI have voted to continue the consolidation discussions. AMPI's Southern Region Board voted unanimously to proceed; the organizations North Central Region Board, however, voted not to proceed as part of the consolidation. MMI's board will make its decision next week.

"As farmer-owners of our organizations, the prime objective is to assure that we continue to participate in and control our own destinies."


Carl Baumann

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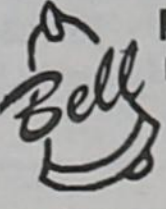


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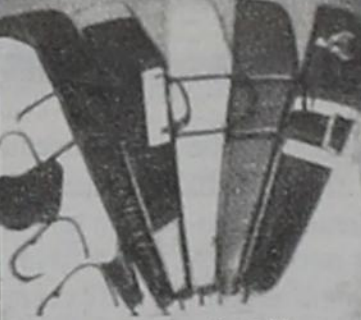
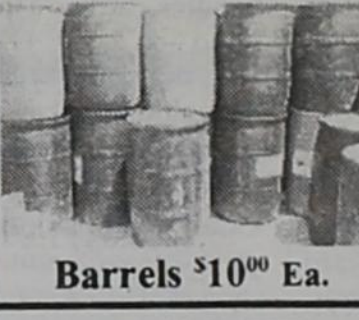
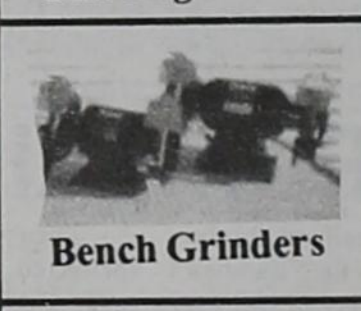

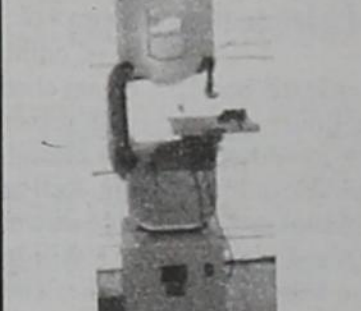
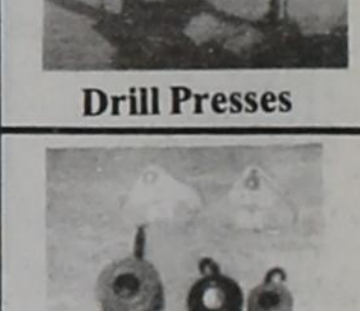


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University designs program to keep up with industry

Angie Welch
Ag Reporter staff

Since the day Dr. John Pipken arrived at West Texas A & M University, he has been working towards what he was hired to do — develop a top quality equine industry program at the Canyon university.

In early 1993, then WT President Barry Thompson put together a special legislative initiative to launch an equine industry program at WT to better educate students for the future of the fast growing industry.

Before 1995, students wanting a degree related to horses majored in general agriculture with equine emphasis. Today, those same students can receive a degree designed specifically for them — equine industry and business.

Michelle Yost, a graduate student at WT, is one of 50 students under the new equine industry program. She said with the new program, which is the reason she came to WT after graduating from Texas Tech, her expectations have been met. Yost will graduate in August.

"I love it here," said Yost. "I have made more contacts, got more experience and had more opportunities than I would have had anywhere else. It is mainly due to the faculty and the way the program is set-up."

Yost is a graduate student under Dr. Pipken's program, but the first undergraduate students to complete the degree will graduate next year and be prepared for jobs in the equine industry, according to Pipken.

"All aspects of the industry have grown tremendously in the past 10 years," said Pipken. "Depending on what source you look at, there are approximately 1 million horses in Texas. With that many in Texas, look at the whole Southwest and there is a tremendous economic impact."

Yost said that as long as the economy is good, the equine industry is going to grow. The more income people have, the more the industry will grow because it is such a recreational program.

According to information provided by the Texas Quarter Horse Association (TQHA) the Texas horse industry produces

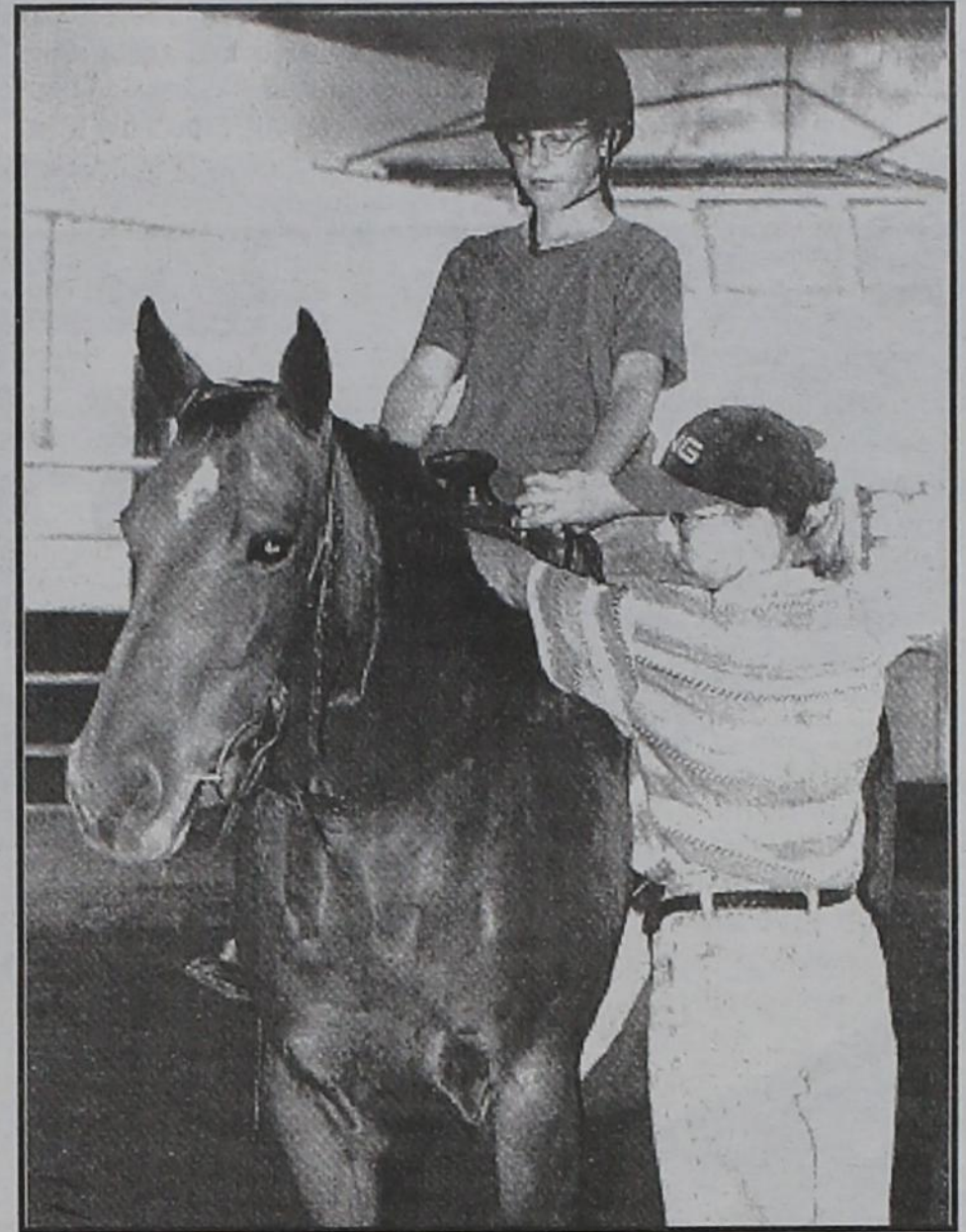
goods and services valued at \$1.7 billion and the national industry has a \$7.1 billion impact on the Texas economy.

Also, according to TQHA, the Texas horse industry provides 29,100 full-time jobs and 606,300 Texans are involved in the industry as horse owners, service providers, employees and volunteers.

With WT's new curriculum designed by Dr. Pipken for the equine industry program, WT graduates should be well prepared for the myriad of opportunities in the equine industry. According to Pipken, the Texas Higher Education Board approved curriculum for the program to provide students with a sound base of business training with a good science

"All aspects of the industry have grown tremendously in the past 10 years."

Dr. John Pipken



ANGIE WELCH

Michelle Yost helps Chelsea Finney prepare to ride in one of WT's summer horse camps. Hands-on experience is one of the main points of the Equine Industry Program at WT.

background and hands-on horse involvement.

Today the employment possibilities range from ag-journalism to the animal feed industry and from the health industry to the production end of horses, according to Pipken.

"The intent is for students to be prepared for either the production position of running their own or someone else's

operation to more of the business aspects of allied industries like the health and food divisions," Pipken said.

Pipken, along with the help of Dr. Lance Baker and Rebekah Bachman, offers WT students a degree that gives them a lot of flexibility.

"There is flexibility in this ab

See PIPKEN on page 14

Texas's father of wheat honored

Kansas native, Dr. Kenneth Porter gives credit to other scientists

Pam Dillard
Texas Agricultural
Experiment Station

The age of technology has caused plenty of changes in the agriculture business. And Kenneth B. Porter has been a big part of changes for the better in the wheat industry.

Sometimes referred to as "the father of modern wheat varieties" developed by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Porter was honored recently for his decades in wheat development.

But he doesn't take all the credit.

"These wheat varieties are not something one man puts out, a lot of wheat breeders in Texas helped," Porter said from his Amarillo home. "Wheat varieties are not all mine, they don't belong to any one of us."

"The breeders work together and test each others material. Commercial and public institutions work together. That was one of our real strengths," Porter said. "One person I have to mention is Dr. John Smith (deceased), he did a lot with the scouts."

Porter, now in his 50th year of research and service to Texas agriculture, officially retired from the Texas A & M System in 1988. However, the longtime wheat breeder who's now emeritus professor of agronomy, hasn't stopped working to develop wheat varieties designed

to put profits into the pockets of farmers.

"I still do a little work on wheat seedlings," said the 1940 graduate of Kansas State

University (KSU), "and I enjoy playing tennis."

Porter arrived at the Bushland Experiment Station in 1947 and

began changing the nature of wheat production by first altering the plant itself. Back then, wheat grew tall - as high as farmer's shirt pockets, some producers recall. The high winds and hail traditional to the Plains flattened wheat in the field, and wiped out profits for farmers with alarming regularity. But bread on America's tables had to be, Potter said.

With a vision to improve stalk stability and yields, Porter's 50-year career has had the greatest impact on producer profits, and ultimately the price of bread itself.

In a brief half-century, the work by this unassuming scientist has helped solve these and many other problems associated with one of the world's most widely grown foodstuffs. He has produced not

only the first, but many subsequent generations of semi-dwarf, stronger-stalked and high-yielding varieties.

"Regardless of our goal," Porter said. "We would like to develop wheat that was resistant to some of the hazards like drought and wind."

Today, more than 13 percent of the hard, red winter wheats found in America are credited to Porter and a group of colleagues who started their quest revolution back in the late 1940.

"These wheat varieties is not something one man puts out, a lot of wheat breeders in Texas helped. Wheat varieties are not all mine, they don't belong to any one of us."

Dr. Kenneth Porter

At that time, many producers and scientists alike doubted the job could be done.

According to scientist colleagues, each of Dr. Porter's many varieties has been a landmark - the development of the first shorter-stalked, hard red winter wheat virtually eliminated yesterday's reliance on the taller, more vulnerable varieties.

Just two decades ago, Porter's efforts resulted in the most successful hard red winter wheat varieties grown across the Great Plains. His work helped solve the farmer's need for a true

winter-hardy, tough-grained plant that wasn't sensitive to day lengths.

"In an era when new wheats have a life expectancy of about three years, Dr. Porter's wheats still are grown as widely as those of any other origin," said Dr. David Worrall, a breeder at the Vernon Experiment Station.

"Today's scientists and wheat breeders credit Porter as doing more to stabilize wheat production and increase farm profitability than any other American

wheat breeder," he added.

"He is the individual most responsible for the success of wheat in Texas. In addition, there are great benefits of his research throughout the Great Plains," said Dr. Edward Hiler, vice chancellor and dean of the Texas A & M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in College Station.

A KSU wheat breeder, Dr. Rollie Sears of Manhattan, said Porter's wisdom and guidance are appreciated by scientists across the Great Plains.

"Every breeder has been a

student of Dr. Porter's at one time or another," he said.

Porter is a Kansas native, being raised on a wheat farm in Straford, Kan. Owned by his parents, Lee and Bertha Porter.

Porter remains a vital part of the station's small grains research group composed of scientists around the state, according to Amarillo's Experiment Station director, Dr. John Sweeten.

"The varieties in development now, and our most recently released line, TAM 110 possessing biotype E green bug resistance, are linked directly to Kenny Porter's research. Today, his experience spans a half century in small grains breeding and has been of tremendous value to producers. For the scientist, his work is a virtual road map to successfully meeting the needs of the American farmer," Sweeten said.

While Porter's wheat varieties were initially tailored to Texas High Plains production, farmers in Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas and New Mexico also asked for seed. Even today, TAM 107, another Porter variety, is grown over a large acreage many years after its debut.

"TAM 107 was a very popular wheat not only in Texas, but also in the surrounding states," said Porter. "Today, I bet 25 percent (3-4 million acres) of the wheat

see PORTER page 11

ROBERSON from page 1

According to Roberson, the company keys its grasses specifically for livestock production. He said grazing is excellent on grass but that overgrazing is bad. "Overgrazing will weaken the

grass plant allowing a severe cold or drought to kill the plant," Roberson said. "Grass is stimulated by grazing, especially by rotated grazing which allows rest periods for the grass."

The company has all native grasses that are used in CRP plantings, plus a full line of wildlife enhancement grasses.

According to Wilhelm, there has been a lot of interest in the CRP

program since it started in 1985.

The 1997 CRP planting for Randall County requires a mixture of three native grasses plus at least 10 percent wildlife seed.

"We do something a little bit unique, we work heavily with cool season grasses," said Roberson. "We work hard at pinpointing grasses that work in different areas which can be grazed the same periods as wheat but producers can use in lieu of wheat to cut yearly planting costs.

"What we are trying to do is come up with cool season grasses that work in very wide regions. Certain grasses work in this area, while others work in that area.

"We work heavily on finding the grass that will work best with specific soil types. Warm season is our main stay of grasses, the cool seasons are just the newest."

There are several new cool season grasses: Newhy, Matua, Gala, Hycrest Crested Wheatgrass, Russian Wildrye as well as the old standbys of Luna Pubescent and Josa Tall Wheatgrass.

The advantages of cool season grasses are the extended growing period and their ability to grow in winter, providing that the winter is warm enough. Growth cuts off

at temperatures below 32 degrees, said Roberson.

"Our whole purpose is to come up with cool season grasses that will perennate. If we can get those to be tough enough to survive our climate on dryland (we already have them on irrigation). Our goal is to enable the farmer to get basically the same type of gain as he gets from his wheat pasture."

Roberson's growers range from Junction, Texas to Vernon, Texas to Straford, Kan.

A. B. Jones of Tulia is one of the closer ones. Jones has had success growing 40 acres of grass (producing as high as 300 PLS pounds per acre of grass seed) for Roberson.

"It's a pretty good stable crop," said Jones. "One of the last six years the wind got it and last year a fire destroyed part of it but that can happen to any crop. Raising grass has reduce my expenses, in return, increasing my net profit."

According to Roberson, the grass growing industry is becoming more popular each year.

So next time you're debating what to plant, remember the other crop - grass.



ANGIE WELCH

Eddie Williams, an employee of Roberson Seed Company, puts Randall County grown Blue Grama grass seed through the first of up to four cleaning processes.

PIPKEN from page 13

degree; but we wanted a broad degree," Pipken said. "It is diverse because it brings in the business training and there are some business classes that are equine related too. No one else offers that.

"The program is different than anything else in the country," said Pipken. "It is

complementary to the program at College Station. We intended to have a complementary program that would add to what the system already has to offer."

The department feels as they now offer a program that provides the fundamentals of both science and business background with agriculture training that provides students

enough diversity of subject matter that they can be marketable in a lot of different ways, said Pipken.

Along with the Equine Industry Program, WT offers a wide range of extra-curriculum activities. Related associations include: Horseman's Association, Intercollegiate Horseshow team, Intercollegiate Horse

Judging team, the rodeo team, plus more.

"The program itself is more than just the curriculum, it is the whole combination of activities," Pipken said. "The opportunity for hands-on and practical experience."

Yost said since the development of the program that students like her are more

catered to.

"Students are offered more specific equine classes and more internships within the industry," said Yost. "All equine classes are designed to give the students equine experience."

Dr. Pipken is the Director of the Equine Industry Program and Associate Professor of Animal Science.

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1992 Rockwood XL Pop-up. Self contained, shower, air conditioner, \$6700. 2301 W 20th. 296-2585.

RV Super Sale! Travel trailers, fifth wheels, tent trailers, cab-over campers, Ultra lites, Hi-Los, new, used. Huge selection, unbeatable prices. No down & EZ financing available. Camper Roundup, Amarillo, 355-3902 or 1-800-939-8677.

Boats & Motors

1992 Kawasaki TS 650 Jet Ski with trailer. Lake Ready! Excellent Condition! \$2400 Call 889-3492

FOR SALE OR TRADE Kawasaki X-2 Jet Ski Lots of High Performance Extras! Mint Condition. Call 293-3497 after 6 p.m.

Motorcycles

1971 Suzuki 90 CC Motorcycle Running Condition - \$125 Call 806-839-2883 (local)

1982 H-D FLHC Belt - Drive \$10,499 Call (505) 760-3716

1991 250 KTM - Great Condition! New Back Tire & Lots of New Equipment Just Put On! \$2100 Please Call 291-8416

1995 Harley Davidson Ultra, Classic. 4000 miles, \$18000, 655-3609 after 6.

Farms/Ranches

We have a buyer for a working ranch—\$3 million. Must be in contract before 8/30/97. Closing in 1997 or Jan. 1998. All cash/ 1031 exchange. Call John J. Kirchhoff Real Estate Broker 293-7542.

CASTRO CO.
Let's look at this pre-conditioning yard complete with nice home, commodity barn, large truck/cattle scale, covered working area with hydraulic chute, on pavement. We also have irrigated land, dry land and ranches in a 4-state area.
SCOTT LAND CO.
Ben G. Scott, 806-647-4375 day or night

Horse Stalls
Wrangler stables now renting stalls with runs. 655-0171 or 655-0783

SIZZLIN' SALE. We're not expensive, we just look it. Antique furniture and collectibles. Antiques & More, 122 N. Maxwell, Tulia.

Guns, Sporting Goods

Remington 22-250; Marlin 30-30; Colt 32-20; Colt 38 Spl.; Browning 9mm Hi-P; Browning 280 cal.; Ruger SS Mini-14; Ruger Blackhawk 357 mag.; Weather by 300 Mark V Deluxe; Volquartsen 22 Auto Pistol. Call 296-0557 or 774-1296 after 6 p.m.

Harvesting & Plowing

Custom Plowing: Wheat land or shredding with Tandem behind or separate. Also Cultivating. Call 293-7349

Swathing & Baling Wanted. Custom swathing and baling. Round and Conventional. Crawford Wesley. 995-3687.

Custom Swathing and round baling. Call Walter Tucker or Jerry Tucker. 668-4631, 627-7638 or 995-2792.

Shredding, shredding lots. Call Bobby McAlister at 298-2855.

CRP grass seeding. All kinds of native and introduce grass seed available. 12 years experience in establishing native grass. Pat Wilhelm. 488-2402.

Round Bale Hauling. Donald Shelton, 647-3558 or 647-7568.

CUSTOM FARMING: No-till, drill; min-till tillage equipment. Kenneth or Ashley Heard, 945-2270 or 627-4623.

Wilhelm Custom Farming. Lavern, 945-2518; Henry, 647-5425. Subsoil and conventional plowing.

Custom Swathing and baling. Call Roy Schilling, 647-2401.

Round-Up Application. Pipe-wick mounted on hi-boy. Row crop and vol. corn. 30" or 40" rows. Roy O'Brian, 265-3247.

Livestock & Poultry

Beginner Horse Back Riding Lessons. Call Pat at 293-9809

Very honest barrel and pole horse for sale. Will run the same pattern everytime, indoor, outdoor, big or small. Was a reining horse before trained for speed events. Would make a young girl an excellent junior rodeo and queen contest horse. 11-year-old gelding. Call 655-5323.

Autos

1981 Monte Carlo \$600 OBO. 293-7215, ask for Valarie

1982 Firebird Great Condition! \$1800 OBO See at 906 South Austin or Call 296-2449

1987 Ford Aerostar Mini Van. 291-8110 after 5 p.m.

1988 T-Bird Excellent school car, loaded, new tires. \$4400. 293-2614.

1991 Ford Taurus White w/ blue interior. New transmission and A/C compressor. Automatic doorlocks & windows. Cruise, tilt wheel, AM/FM/cassette. \$4200 OBO. Call 291-0317

1992 Geo Storm Hatch back. Red, auto., air, 48,000 miles, excellent cond. \$6000. 293-7305.

Bright Red 95 Cutlass Supreme. \$11,800 Negotiable. Fully loaded! Call 293-8152 for info

CARS FOR \$100!!! Seized & Sold Locally this Month! Call 1-800-522-2730 x 3526

GREAT SCHOOL CAR 1991 Hyundai Excel GL. White, 4 door. \$1750, negotiable. 291-0027.

MUST SELL! 1996 Pontiac Grand Prix. Call the Credit Dept at Floydada Ford. 1-800-945-4260

RARE 1992 5 spd Lexus SC300 \$25,000 for this Creme Puff! Gold pkg includes wheels. 45K miles. Warranty available. Call 806-293-2618

WANT TO SELL your car, pickup, etc? Call Rick at McGavock Motors Inc., 296-2788.

FOR SALE: 1986 Tan Jeep Wagoneer 4X4, air conditioner, power locks, 4-door. Excellent condition, \$2,500. Call (806)995-3195.

FOR SALE: 1984 Nissan 300 ZX Turbo 50th Anniversary, 106,000 miles, good condition, runs good. 647-0314.

1983 Dataun 280ZX 2+2, turbo! Silver and black, loaded with leather, T-tops, A/C, stereo, etc. 97M actual miles. Looks and runs great! \$2,950 OBO. 373-3900

'92 Mustang, clean car, runs great, 806-358-2936.

'94 Cougar XR7. Teal with gray leather interior, 39,000 miles, fully loaded, tinted windows, keyless entry, excellent condition, \$10500. Call 655-4992 or leave message.

96 F250, power stroke, extended cab with sleeper, loaded. 38000 miles, extra nice. \$21,500. 806-488-2290.

For Sale: 1986 Ford Ranger Supercab pickup, need work, \$500 OBO, 655-7874.

Lawn & Garden Equipment

5 hp RotoTiller. Cub cadet rear tine. Excellent! Call 296-0557

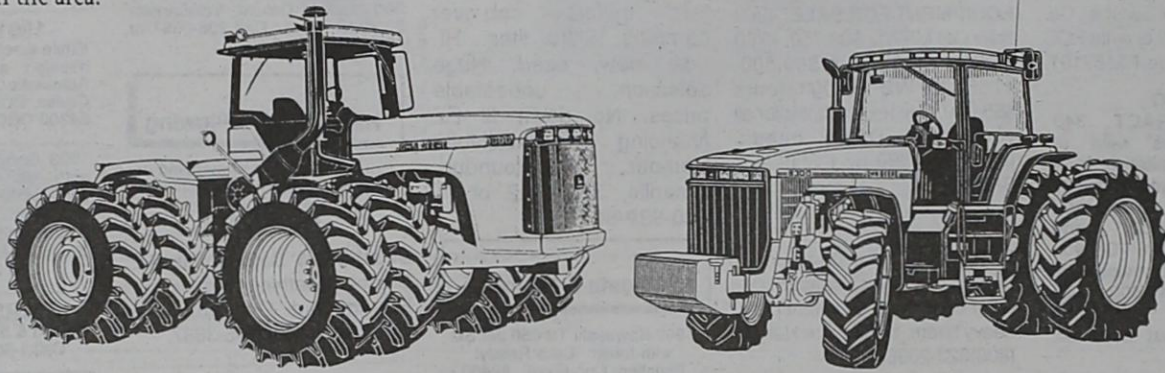
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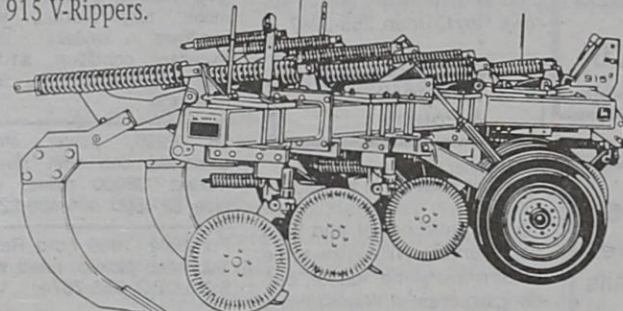
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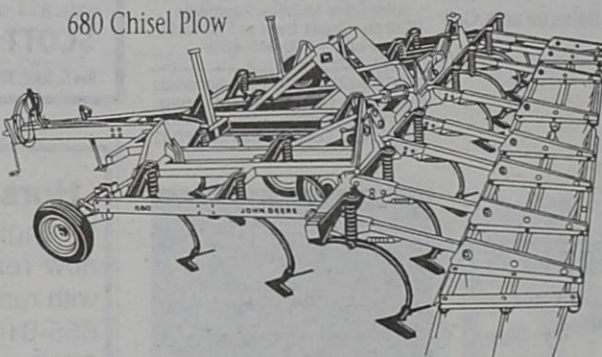


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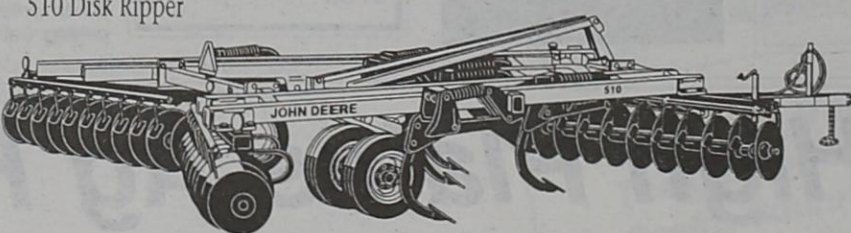
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