

# The Castro County News

71st year—No. 10

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, June 15, 1995

50¢

16 pages plus supplements

## Clinic finances 'a mess,' hospital officials claim

After an investigation of the Castro County Community Clinics administrative offices and records, the hospital board and the new CCCC administrator reported this week that:

—More than \$70,000 worth of Medicare, Medicaid and insurance claims have not been filed in time.

—Patients' checks dating back to June 1994 have not been cashed or deposited.

—The rural health clinics evidently have lost almost half a million dollars during the past year.

—More than 80% of the clinics' accounts receivable are delinquent.

The investigation followed a change in CCCC administration. Vince Moss submitted his resignation as administrator May 24, and the hospital board named Arthur Bailey as the interim administrator June 1, effective June 2.

Prior to Moss's resignation, the board refused for two months to approve the CCCC's proposed budget for fiscal 1996 pending a review of the financial situation. In the meantime, the board has been allocating 1/12 of the proposed

budget per month to meet expenses.

In a prepared statement issued this week, Hospital Board Chairman Bill Clark said:

"The board of directors . . . met in regular session on Wednesday, May 24. At that meeting, the rural health clinic administrator, Vince Moss, and his sister, Valerie Moss, who is a medical transcriptionist, turned in their resignations in compliance with the employee 30-day notice policy.

"On Thursday, June 1, the board . . . hired Arthur Bailey to fill the position of chief financial officer and interim rural health clinic administrator. His duties were to begin on Friday at 8 a.m. . . .

"On Friday, June 2, Hospital Administrator Steve Goode went to the rural health clinic offices with Arthur Bailey and informed the employees that Mr. Bailey was the new interim administrator and their duties until June 23 are to respond to his directions and questions. He asked for and received the office keys from Vince and Valerie Moss.

(Continued on Page 16)

## Cleanup continues after tornadoes

A big dent—no pun intended—in tornado clean up efforts was made Friday and Saturday when crews went out to pick up debris in fields around the county.

The cleanup was coordinated by Cary Acker of J&H Equipment. By the time things got rolling, there were a dozen employees from J&H joined by several folks from Dimmitt Welding and Electric and three workers from Dimmitt Equipment Co.

"It started out we wanted to help some of our customers and just kept on going from there," said Don Cornett at J&H. "We just got in there and everybody helped everybody. People needed help, and we helped them."

The crews used forklifts, tractors, front-end loaders, trucks and muscles to pick up, move and haul debris.

"We got about 25 truckloads of junk altogether on Friday and Saturday," Cornett said. "We finally had to quit so we could all go back to work."

"We're not through, though. We still have stuff we're hauling out of Donny Nelson's fields and some other places. We're trying to get our work done and then get out there."



**TRACTOR, IMPLEMENTS DAMAGED**—This John Deere is one of two tractors which sustained damage in the June 2 tornado near Dimmitt. The tractors were near the settling ponds owned by American Maize-

Products northeast of the city. The storm scattered implements weighing hundreds of pounds throughout the area to the north-northeast of where the equipment had been parked.

Photo by John Brooks

## 1:1

By Don Nelson

I don't usually cover tornadoes. Not that it's not my job. It's just that . . . well, heck—few journalists ever get around to covering a tornado.

"I'm 56 years old," Danny Bruton said, "and I had only seen two tornadoes in my life until last week."

Ah, last week. Another week, another 18 funnels.

Now there are 10-year-old kids all around our county who can say, "Guess what—I've seen more tornadoes than Grandpa!"

The big 'un hit Dimmitt during my watch. John Brooks was on vacation in Oklahoma. Anne Acker

(Continued on Page 16)

### Think summer!

Readings taken every day at 7 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Service recording station for Dimmitt.

Thursday	90	57
Friday	93	60
Saturday	88	63
Sunday	72	47
Monday	77	48
Tuesday	90	54
Wednesday	96	57
June moisture		2.53
1995 moisture		9.68

### Inside

•Pete Steiert, alligators helped conquer Okinawa, Page 12.

•City reviewing franchise for GTE—Page 9.

•County reopens basement for shelter—Page 9.

•Dimmitt students better on TAAS tests—Page 10.

## Board plans to remodel center for new clinics

Work is expected to begin next week on converting a large building in the 100 block of West Jones Street into a medical center.

The hospital board voted at its June 1-2 meeting to purchase the shopping center-style building from Jack Bradley of Hereford for \$85,000 and turn most of it into the new home for the Medical Center of Dimmitt.

Board Chairman Bill Clark said the purchase should be final "probably this week."

The board hopes to complete the project for about \$200,000, including the purchase cost. This would be one-third to one-fourth the cost of building a new clinic, based on construction bids submitted last month.

The clinic will provide offices, examining rooms, lab rooms and waiting rooms for three physicians and two mid-level practitioners. The hospital district already employs two physicians (Drs. D. S. Patel and Jobey Claborn) and two MLPs (Sherry Whiteaker and Kim Hunter). A third physician, Dr. Leon Joplin, is scheduled to arrive in August.

The clinic will operate as a certified independent rural health clinic, with all the physicians and staffers employed by the hospital district.

Drs. Patel and Claborn currently are practicing at the former High Plains Clinic. Whiteaker and Hunter are dividing their time between the rural health clinics in Dimmitt and Hart.

When the new clinic is completed, the former High Plains Clinic building will house the hospital

district's fast-growing Home Health Service.

The board started its latest meeting Thursday night, June 1, at the hospital and—to get the clinic project underway—finished it the next morning in the office of board member Jerry Annen.

After the building committee recommended Thursday night that the board examine the Bradley building—one of three that the committee had looked at—Clark recessed the meeting until 9 o'clock the following morning.

At that time, the trustees gathered at the Bradley building with contractor Don Hargrove and spent most of the morning inspecting the building from top to bottom. Then they went to Annen's office to finish their meeting.

"After a good discussion of the options available to the board, it was decided that the building was in sound condition, is partially designed as a health clinic, has sufficient space, can be occupied quickly and can be converted into a practical clinic that could house three doctors, two nurse practitioners and administrative offices, and would have room for future expansion if necessary," Clark said.

The building, which is a half-block wide, previously housed the South Plains Health Provider, which no longer operates here. It already has a complex of examining rooms along two hallways, which is expected to reduce the remodeling cost considerably.

(Continued on Page 16)

## Prison helps cleanup

Inmates from the Tulia Unit of the Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice performed yeoman work around Dimmitt and other places in the region in the wake of tornadoes on June 2-4.

Trustees from the prison and volunteers from staff members worked into the night of June 2 to help clear debris, then came back the next three days to assist in the cleanup.

"We had as many as 23 folks over there," said Maj. William E. Walker of the Tulia Unit. "We had two outside trusty squads and asked for volunteers."

Many of the volunteers were staff members who left their families in Tulia to come to Dimmitt to help with the cleanup.

"We were already on storm watch here at the unit and our warden (John H. Adams) was out on mobile storm watch," Walker said. "We got a call from Swisher County Sheriff

Larry Stewart about the tornado in Dimmitt.

"We didn't know at the time if there were any casualties but we wanted to help out. We loaded up two squads and all the hand tools we could find—shovels and axes and things because we didn't know what was needed."

"We caravanned down Highway 86 to where the road was out (near the damaged homes) and got busy. We also had gotten a medical squad ready at the unit for triage, and they were ready to roll if they were needed."

When the caravan got here they met with Castro County Sheriff CD Fitzgearld, who assured them there were no casualties. The inmates then went to work, cleaning up for about two hours before calling it a night.

"We asked if we could come back the next day, and we came back for two more days to help with clean up," Walker said.

Walker said many of the staff members who pitched in were off duty and came in to help anyway.

"They had to leave their families, and Tulia had some bad weather, too," Walker said. "They got their families to safety then headed for Dimmitt. Some of them drove their own vehicles through hail and high water to get there."

"They are Panhandle people, and they knew they were needed somewhere," Walker said. "I'm from Houston, and that's one of the reasons why I like it up here so much, because everybody is ready to help out in any way at any time."

"We enjoy working in the community. Sometimes prisons get a bad rap because of movies, but we're really not that bad. Our No. 1 priority is the care and custody of our inmates, but we are ready to help in an emergency."

### Letter

#### Sheriff says thanks to all

**To the citizens of Castro County:** I and the members of my department wish to thank everyone that came forward and gave assistance during the disaster caused by the tornado June 2, 1995.

It is a good feeling to know that during a time of need everyone is willing to pitch in and help out in any way they can.

Thank you to the many people that brought food and beverages to the emergency workers.

Thank you to all the people that offered their time, services and equipment.

Also, a big thanks to the law enforcement, fire department and emergency services personnel from this county and the surrounding counties. All of these were very much appreciated.

CD FITZGEARLD  
Castro County Sheriff

## More about the storm, Page 13

## Klein ready for success at world meet

By SCOTT BROCKMAN

B.J. Klein is not your average athlete going to your average olympics. He is a dedicated, hard-working, yet retarded athlete, going to the World Special Olympics next month in New Haven, Conn.

One of only nine athletes from Texas who will participate, Klein was an unanimous choice of 49 judges to compete in the games, which will attract up to one million spectators.



**BILL AND B.J. KLEIN**  
...Ready for World Special Olympics

Photo by Scott Brockman

training camp in San Marcos to prepare for the games.

"It was pretty neat. But it was also real hot and sweaty," he said.

He added that they ran a lot, and he could tell that some kids were not in very good shape.

B.J. is the opposite, though. "He runs three to five miles a day to stay in shape," Bill said. "He is 21 now. In high school his body had the maturity level of a 12 or 13 year old, but now it has matured to a 17 or 18 year old body. He is really reaching his peak."

He added that the doctors believe that all the running he does has kept him out of the hospital and in good health.

Being dedicated and working hard has a little to do with that, too.

After graduating from Nazareth High School, B.J. went to Amarillo College to work on a degree in physical therapy. He is currently working at the Veteran's Hospital in Amarillo and was recently named the retarded employee of the month for the City of Amarillo.

Because of his commitment to the Special Olympics, B.J. was named to be the spokesman for Region 16. He goes around and talks to area disabled youth.

He is busy to say the least.

He will fly from Amarillo to Houston on June 30 to meet with the other participants. They will then fly to LaGuardia Airport in New York

City. The athletes will then be driven the short way to New Haven.

Klein will compete in the 5,000 meter run, 400 meter run, the running long jump and the 1600 meter relay with one other Texan and two from Missouri.

He said that his goals are to win the gold in every event except the running long jump, because he is weakest in that area. There will also be tough competition in that event along with the other three.

"When people think of the Special Olympics, they think of kids in wheelchairs, but some of these kids are very talented," Bill said. "Some of the preliminary times are comparable to the best times in 1A and 2A competition."

Of course if B.J. thinks that he can take the gold in all the events, who is to doubt him?

He surpassed insurmountable odds to be able to compete in the Olympics, since over 1,500 athletes tried out for nine spots, but he's been overcoming odds that tall all of his life.

He was diagnosed at birth with Fragile X Syndrome. He was faced with difficulties walking and talking, and he also had trouble with learning disabilities. He has been able to overcome those obstacles to become one of the world's top Special Olympians.

(Continued on Page 16)

# Op-Ed

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## Dads make a difference

New studies reveal that the major cause of violent crime is not poverty, but family breakdown—specifically, the absence of a father in the household.

Today, right now, one-fourth of all the children in the US are living in fatherless homes. That's 19 million American children growing up without fathers—19 million kids who are twice as likely to drop out of high school as children from two-parent families, twice as likely to have emotional problems, twice as likely to have children out of wedlock, and five times more likely to wind up in poverty.

More than 70% of all juveniles in state reform institutions come from fatherless homes. A boy raised without a father is twice as likely to resort to crime, and three times as likely to do so if he grows up in a neighborhood in which most homes are missing a father.

Patrick Fagan of the Heritage Foundation reports that the rise in violent crime over the past 30 years "parallels the rise in families abandoned by fathers." In every state in our country, he says, the rate of juvenile crime "is closely linked to the percentage of children raised in single-parent families."

Fagan points out further that "high-crime neighborhoods are characterized by high concentrations" of fatherless families. Even in such neighborhoods, however, "well over 90% of children from safe, stable homes do not become delinquents," while 90% of children from "unsafe, unstable homes" do.

Fagan says the widespread notion that "poverty is the primary cause of crime" is "absurd." The facts simply do not support this view. He also rejects racial explanations, citing the high incidence of broken families in the black community as the real reason for "the large disparity in crime rates be-

tween whites and blacks." There is overwhelming evidence that "teen-age criminal behavior has its roots in habitual deprivation of parental love and affection going back to early infancy," Fagan observes.

"A father's attention to his son has enormous positive effects on a boy's emotional and social development. But a boy abandoned by his father is deprived of a deep sense of personal security," says Fagan. "In a well-functioning family," he continues, "the very presence of the father embodies authority," and this paternal authority "is critical to the prevention of psychopathology and delinquency."

In a new book called *Fatherless America: Confronting Our Most Urgent Social Problem*, David Blankenhorn, founder of the Institute for American Values, calls fatherlessness "the most harmful demographic trend of this genera-

tion." He says it is "the leading cause of the decline in the well-being of children. It is also the engine driving our most urgent social problems, from crime to adolescent pregnancy to child sexual abuse to domestic violence against women."

Blankenhorn insists that "every child deserves a father" and argues that "a good society seeks to maximize the likelihood that every child will grow up with two loving parents."

This Sunday, those of us who are lucky enough to have one will make a big fuss over our father, especially now that we have the documentation to show how important they are. The sad thing is, for 19 million kids in America, it will be just one more day without a dad.

Behind the Headlines is a syndicated column distributed by America's Future.

## Speak out!

Do you have an opinion about any of the articles on these pages, or about any of the things happening in our local, state or national government? Write and tell us about it. (*Castro County News*, P.O. Box 67, Dimmitt, 79027.)

And if it's an issue that needs the attention of our legislators, here is a list of where you can write or call some of them as well: (Contact us for a more complete listing.)

### TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The mailing address for all State Representatives is Texas House, P.O. Box 2910, Austin, 78768-2910; FAX (512)463-0695.

**Pete Laney, 85th District:**  
Speaker of the House. Austin phone (512)463-0604.

## Letter Highway Dept. thanks everyone

Dear Editor:

The Texas Dept. Of Transportation in Dimmitt wishes to convey the most sincere thanks and appreciation to the citizens, businesses, agricultural community and many other individuals for the cooperation, assistance and encouragement we received during the performance of emergency work the weekend of June 2-4, 1995.

When individuals from the private sector join efforts with business, city, county and state entities in an emergency situation to promote the safety and well being of all concerned, a very high degree of pride is evident throughout the community.

Such evidence of pride in this community exists and was proven by the combined efforts of all in our local emergency last week. We would appreciate your advising everyone of our deepest appreciation.

Sincerely,

ROY C. PILGRIM

Roadway Maintenance Supervisor IV

Thank you  
for shopping  
Dimmitt!

Last Puzzle Solution  
ANDRU  
HOED  
ESSU  
AHOO  
ROTTENTHROUGH  
TWO DEPRESSION  
AS GEAR TUINET  
MANHAS WANT LANA DE  
ADEADBREATHS FROMA SOLD  
DANVILLE AAAAA COW  
GIGEM OLIN PANNA  
ASACALFIN TOMESS  
RESTRICTEDAREA  
TEAMDOCTOR  
KACT  
ETA  
GTP  
HISA



BEN SARGENT  
©1995  
Lynchburg, Virginia

State Capital  
  
HIGHLIGHTS  
By Lyndell Williams & Ed Sterling  
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN — A few months after Martha Whitehead was appointed state treasurer by then-Gov. Ann Richards, she shocked capitol observers by saying the office should be abolished.

In 1994, Whitehead, a Democrat, ran for a full term on a pledge to give voters a chance to merge the agency with the state comptroller's office. She won, kept her campaign promise and voters will decide the issue on Nov. 7.

Other proposed constitutional amendments on the ballot would:

- Permit the issuance of \$500 million more in bonds for veterans' housing assistance.
- Allow the Legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation certain property having a value insufficient to recover the cost of collecting the tax.
- Let local governments exempt from property taxes commercial fishing and shrimp boats.
- Allow the Higher Education Coordinating Board to issue \$300 million more in bonds to finance loans to Texas-resident college students.
- Tax land used exclusively for wildlife management (i.e. hunting leases) on the basis of its agricultural productivity.
- Halt bond-issuing authority of the Superconducting Super Collider research facility, which is being shut down.
- Abolish the office of constable

in Mills, Reagan and Roberts counties.

■ End the constitutional prohibition against investment of the Texas Growth Fund in companies that do business in South Africa.

■ Allow the Legislature to exempt Masonic Lodges and other state-chartered charitable groups from property taxes.

■ Permit home-owners to refinance their houses to pay off an income tax lien or settle a divorce.

■ Re-direct \$200 million in bonds from the state farm and ranch purchase program to be used for loans to build or expand agricultural-related businesses.

■ Allow the homestead property-tax exemption of a person over 65 to be passed on to the surviving spouse, if the spouse is at least 55 years old.

■ Raise the exemption from property taxes on property owned by disabled veterans or by the surviving spouses and surviving minor children of disabled veterans.

### Senator Denies Conflict

Harris County District Attorney John B. Holmes Jr. confirmed last week his office is investigating state Sen. John Whitmire's \$4,000 a month consulting contract with the Harris County Adult Probation Department.

Whitmire, a Houston Democrat who rewrote the Texas penal code in the 1993 legislative session, defended the propriety of the two-year-old contract after it was made public that he had been paid more than \$80,000.

Whitmire said his contract was approved by a group of state district judges who serve as the board of the adult probation department, and that he was assured his compensation would come from locally generated funds, not state funds.

"I never thought I would get in trouble working. In hindsight, I might have underestimated that some individuals would perceive the probation department as a special interest. I thought it was very consistent with good public

policy," Whitmire told the *Houston Chronicle*.

The state constitution prohibits legislators from benefiting directly or indirectly from legislation for which they appropriate money.

Whitmire's contract calls for him to explain changes in the revised penal code to Harris County Probation Department employees, Holmes said.

"The accusation, and it has yet to be confirmed, is that Whitmire was paid with state criminal justice grant funds," Holmes told the *Chronicle*. "There are either two contracts, or they are confused about what the contracts are really for. I am a little concerned about what (Whitmire) is being paid for. That right there ought to raise some questions."

State District Judge Jan Krockner, who took office after Whitmire's contract went into effect, said, "I think there clearly is an appearance of impropriety. You have a consultant to a department who was largely responsible for the legislation that made probation mandatory."

### New Security System

Those familiar prison towers occupied by armed guards is beginning to give way to more advanced security methods, according to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

An automated system called "perimeter security" is being installed at the Ellis Unit north of Huntsville.

Ellis Warden M. Bruce Thaler said a network of motion-detection cameras soon will be on line, backed up by sensitive fencing that sounds alarms if disturbed. Thaler said at least one roving guard will always be on duty to retrieve would-be escapees.

Although expensive, officials say the new technology will be cheaper in the long run.

State Comptroller John Sharp says doing away with the "obsolete" towers in new prisons and adding sensor fences could save as much as \$310,000 per year in eliminated personnel costs.

## The Castro County News

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### DEADLINES

Display and Classified Advertising.....Tuesday Noon  
Agriculture, Business & Industry News.....10 a.m. Monday  
Sports, Social and Church News.....Monday Noon  
Community Correspondence.....Monday Noon  
Personal Items.....5 p.m. Monday  
General News, City and County.....Tuesday Noon

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News Department.....Anne Acker, John Brook  
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Page Composition and Photo Lab.....Linda Maxwell  
Bookkeeping.....Anne Acker, Paula Portwood  
Community Correspondents.....Mary Edna Hendrix, Dimmitt;  
Virgie Gerber, Nazareth; Teeny Bowden, Sunnyside

## News Quiz

This newspaper quiz for prizes is open to all students in the county. All the answers are in this issue. After completing the test, deliver it or mail it to the *Castro County News*, 108 W. Bedford St., P.O. Box 67, Dimmitt 79027. Tests will be graded at 4 p.m. Monday. All test sheets with perfect scores will go into a drawing Tuesday for a free 2-liter soft drink, and the winner will be notified. Each week's winning test will go into a drawing for a \$200 Grand Prize to be held in November.

- LAST WINNER: No Entries Received.
- 1. What days will the Nazareth City-Wide Garage Sale be held?
- 2. EPA approved the use of what chemical on grain sorghum?
- 3. How many ounces are in the new Super Tallsup drink?
- 4. What will be served for breakfast Thursday at the Dimmitt school cafeteria along with juice and milk?
- 5. Inmates from where helped clean up after the June 2 tornado?

- 6. Who is going to the World Special Olympics next month?
- 7. What was the score of the winners in the championship flight at the Kenneth Cleveland Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament?
- 8. In what percentile did DHS sophomores rank in writing on the exit TAAS?
- 9. How much is a 24-inch mechanic's plastic tool box from NAPA?
- 10. Why will the Castro County Tax Assessor/Collector's office be closed June 19?

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

6/15/95

### ACROSS

- 1 TXism: "bust \_\_\_\_" (try hard)
- 5 TXism: "\_\_\_\_-loop man" (good roper)
- 6 \_\_\_\_ and reels
- 7 TX poets products
- 8 TXism: "couldn't find hide \_\_\_\_ hair of it"
- 9 TX Roddenberry genre: \_\_\_\_-fi
- 12 a Stars "high stick" is above the \_\_\_\_
- 17 TXism: "a knee \_\_\_\_" (funny)
- 19 TX capital city
- 21 TX actress Valerie
- 22 TX Sandra Brown is known for her \_\_\_\_ novels
- 23 seat of Armstrong Co.
- 28 in McLennan Co. off I-35: Elm \_\_\_\_
- 29 confederates
- 30 to bring about by force
- 31 TXism: "primed and \_\_\_\_" (prepared)
- 35 TXism: "\_\_\_\_ warm your gullet" (nice)
- 36 TXism: "naked as \_\_\_\_"
- 42 the \_\_\_\_ Garden of Austin's Zilker Park
- 44 blue jeans feature: copper \_\_\_\_
- 46 TX Keyes film: "Gone With the \_\_\_\_"
- 47 WBAP has the \_\_\_\_ Limbaugh talk show
- 49 name for a King Ranch employee
- 50 X-mas egg drink
- 51 TXism: "\_\_\_\_ bien" (is good)

- 52 Houston's Zina Garrison eliminated Chris \_\_\_\_ from U.S. Open ('89)
- 53 oceans
- 54 TX Barbara Jordan received the '92 Wallace Truman Award
- 55 TX writer Molly Ivins humor style
- 57 TXism: "don't get your shorts \_\_\_\_ knot"
- 58 stupid or clumsy person
- 59 TXism: "\_\_\_\_ wit" (idiot)

### DOWN

- 1 famous SMU alumnus TV producer
- 2 TX Tommy Lee's "The \_\_\_\_ Boys"
- 3 softball pitch
- 4 \_\_\_\_ Harper of "Tender Mercies" now lives in Dallas
- 9 TXism: "would have to prime my mouth to \_\_\_\_" (thirsty)
- 10 TX Rip Torn's "A Stranger is Watching" was set in NY's Grand \_\_\_\_
- 11 anger
- 12 TXism: "the fur \_\_\_\_ flying" (fight)
- 13 Tlaga, TX street named for its singing cowboy Gene (2 wds.)
- 14 TX Tanya's "Can \_\_\_\_ You Tonight?"
- 15 TXism: "take a \_\_\_\_ at it" (try)
- 16 TX Heisman winner Brown et al.
- 18 Astro, Star or Spur
- 20 home of Rangers Yankees foe (abbr.)
- 23 TX Dan Rather's co-anchor (init.)
- 24 Yo \_\_\_\_ Digo Creek
- 25 TX Jim Reeves' "\_\_\_\_ Losing You?"
- 26 TX Orbison tune
- 27 Val Verde Co. seat
- 32 peak: \_\_\_\_ Capitan

## The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-178

# On the Go

With  
Mary Edna Hendrix  
647-3343

Rosetta Bellinghausen celebrated her birthday for a week! She started on Sunday by going with the birthday group to Hereford to eat at the Sirloin Stockade.

She had to share her celebration with June Koelzer, who was having a birthday as well. They each received a small birthday cake. Others enjoying this special day were Donald and Agnes Schilling, Leander and Clara Reinart, Charles and Rena Richard, Andy and Oleda Schumacher, Clyde and Bobbie Damron, Edna Reinart and Florene Leinen.

On Wednesday evening Andy and Oleda Schumacher invited Rosetta and Lawrence and Vernice Green to their home for hamburgers, homemade ice cream and cookies.

Thursday on her birthday, I took her to "The Place" for a chicken enchilada lunch. Thursday evening, Charles and Rena Richard took her to El Sombrero for a Mexican supper. On Friday, Mary Frances McGaughy of Pampa was a guest in Rosetta's home, so she took her to K-Bob's to celebrate her birthday.

Rosetta's family from Pompeii, Italy called her on her birthday to wish her a "Happy Birthday." They told her they had seen pictures of the Dimmitt tornado on the Italian television! (And my kids in Dallas did not see any news about the Dimmitt tornado on their news!)

Larry and Susie Gonzales are proud to announce that their son, Stacy Gonzales graduated from Texas Tech University May 13, with a Bachelor of Architecture in Design.

Their other son, Josh, graduated from Texas Tech on May 15, 1993 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Design Communication. He now lives in San Antonio where he is employed by the Summit Group.

Rose Acker of Huntsville is a great-grandmother! Colby and Lisa Oldham of Huntsville are the proud parents of a baby girl, Alicia, who was born June 6 weighing 9 pounds and 9 ounces. The grandmother is Alice Acker Elisor. The great-grandfather is O.A. "Shorty" Oldham of Dimmitt.

Dude McLauren was hostess to the Thursday Bridge Club that met at the Senior Citizens Center for lunch and a day of bridge. Dude served a delicious tropical cake with peach icing. Susie Reeves won high score and Johnnie Vannoy won second high.

Others playing were Ina Rae Cates, Bobby George, Elizabeth Huckabay, Louise Mears, Virginia Crider, Mary Small, Ferne Dickey, Cleo Forson, Alma Kenmore, Bill Thornton, Helen Braafladt, Retta Cluck and Neva Hickey.

Rhonda Murdock and Holly of Portales, N.M. and Katie Murdock of Clovis were guests in the home of Bobby and Wanda Murdock on Saturday. They celebrated Holly's birthday while she was here. Alyson Smith was here as well, so her parents, Doug and Debbie Smith, came to take her home to Amarillo on Sunday.

The Church of Christ members honored Carlos and Annie Calvert on Sunday with a dinner and a money basket to help them in their misfortune.

While Mary Frances McGaughy of Pampa was in Dimmitt she visited with friends Ethel Fry, Doris Gabel, Elberta and Harley Dyer and Rosetta Bellinghausen. Mary Frances was a Dimmitt resident in the 50s and 60s, and her husband, Dexter, was the manager at the Dimmitt Motor Co. Dexter and

their son were killed in a car wreck.

A reception honoring Wannic Stevens on her 75th birthday was held on Sunday afternoon at Rhoads Memorial Library. The celebration was hosted by her family, Barbara Wheat and daughter, Toni, of Albuquerque, N.M., and Bill and Kay Stevens of Ruidoso, N.M. Toni presided at the guest book, and Barbara, Kay, Melba Glass and Teri Beth Teaschner served the refreshments of a red and white heart-shaped cake with 75 and Happy Birthday written on the top, thumbprint cookies, fresh fruit, strawberry punch, nuts and mints. Baskets of red and white silk roses and carnations completed the table decorations.

The First Christian Church quartet of Dr. Bill Murphy, Sharon Kinsler, Jim Hardwick and Linda Maxwell sang a few of Wannic's favorite gospel songs, with Ruby Teaschner at the keyboard. Wannic joined them in singing "I'll Fly Away." The crowd joined in singing "Happy Birthday" to Wannic.

Church friends and Eastern Star friends were among the many guests. Out-of-town guests included Pat Piner, Norris, Donna Stevens and children of Canyon, Lynn Frazier of Canyon, Roy and Nona Barringer of Hereford, L.V. and Louise Thomas, Melba Glass, Sherry, Kortney and Cody Oliver of Amarillo, Tommie Graham of Clovis, LuAnn Loftin of Plainview, and Lavonne and Frank Hinkson of Muleshoe.

Irene Carpenter's nephew and wife, Stanley and Jacque Pittman of Fort Worth, were in Dimmitt on Saturday to visit relatives. They were in their motor home and stopped here before going on to Colorado for their vacation, where they will visit James and Joyce Autry in Rocky Ford.

On Saturday other relatives joined Irene and the Pittmans, including Jim and Floyce George, Shelley Rice, and Bryce and Darlene Dowell, and they all went out to eat at K-Bob's and enjoy visiting.

Jean Kemp of Fort Worth was visiting in Dimmitt last week. While she was here, her friends, Esta Vandiver, Sue Merritt, and Dorothy Sheffy took her to "The Place" for lunch one day and enjoyed visiting.

The bridal shower honoring Shanna Daniel, bride-elect of Justin Shultz, was held in the lovely home of Sue Summers on Saturday morning. It was good to see Jerre Shultz again. She was in the receiving line with Sue, Justin, Shanna and her mother and grandmother. Hostesses served fresh strawberries, miniature muffins and punch. The hostesses were having more fun than anyone! (I think they were relating stories they had heard at Vacation Bible School.)

As soon as school was out, Martha Jo Hyman, Jackie Byrnes and Shari Bradley left for an eight-day sightseeing tour of New York City and then on to the New England states. They flew to New York and toured Manhattan Island, Queens, Bronx and Brooklyn. They saw the Empire State Building and the Statue of Liberty. They were the typical tourists! They saw *Sunset Blvd.* and *Show Boat*, the current shows on Broadway.

From New York City the trio caught a train to Providence, R.I. and drove on to New Port Beach and took a boat ride around the piers.

While there they toured Hammersmith, the summer country home of the late Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. Other mansions were Rose Cliff, where *The Great Gatsby* was filmed, and The Breakers, built by Cornelius Vanderbilt. They saw the "Green Animals" (green shrubs trimmed to look like animals) at Cory's Lane, Portsmouth.

They rode a train to Sandwich Village that is on a hill and the train

backs down since there is no place to turn around. They raise cranberries there, and they grow flat on the ground.

They went to Hyannis Port and saw all the Kennedy mansions. They went to Cape Cod and to Boston, where they toured downtown and saw the replica of the *Mayflower* and Plymouth Rock. After a fun week, they flew home from Boston.

Anita Adams and daughter, Sha Ebeling and family, Kenny, Mandie and Jake, recently enjoyed a trip to Canyon Lake to attend an Adams reunion at the home of David (Bullet) and Shirley Adams. Anita's daughter, Raneta and Bill and Rye Patton of Houston were there, too. Teresa Reed (David and Shirley's daughter) and her family, Gene, Allison and Amanda of Gonzales, were there, too.

Some of the others attending were Eddie Adams and family, Jimmy Adams and sons, Johnny Adams, Edith Adams and grandson Curtis and wife of Mangum, Okla.,

Edith's daughter, Sandra Sims and granddaughter Kara of Burkburnett and son Shawn and friend of Wichita Falls, Sandra's daughter, Mickey and family of Tennessee, and Tina Adams and son Tommy of San Antonio and many more cousins and friends.

They had a fun time tubing the Guadalupe river, swimming, pitching horseshoes and washers, playing softball with grandkids and much more.

David has several deer that he feeds in his front yard. The grandkids were able to walk up to them and feed them out of a bucket. It is really a beautiful place.

Out-of-town visitors at the museum last week were Amanda and Justin Parrish of Amarillo, who came with their grandmother, Grace Anderson; Dr. Roy King of Holdenville, Okla.; Decimae Dennis of Midland, who came with Edgar Dennis and Dennis Underwood; Kathie Collins of Richmond Hill, Ga., who came with Gabriel Garcia; and Melissa Ruedal.

## Dr. Morris Webb

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# Sunnyside

WITH  
TEENY BOWDEN

James Norrell took his father, Kelsey Norrell, to Van (near Dallas) to attend the funeral of his brother. The funeral was last Tuesday. Mrs. Redford Norrell, Kelsey's wife, stayed with Joan Norrell while they were gone.

David and Daneen Travis and son, Austin, of Mansfield (in the Dallas-Fort Worth area) went with Hershel and Retha Wilson on a trip to Oregon, Washington and Montana.

They saw Yellowstone and Glacier national parks as well as many sites along the way. There was snow everywhere and it was cold. They got back last Thursday night.

Friday night they all went to Lonnie and Renee Wilson's for a birthday party honoring Andrea Wilson. Flossie Jones of Olton was also present. David and Daneen went home Sunday.

Mozelle Hall, Billie Lois Kirby

and Teeny Bowden acted as the Sunnyside School Committee making final plans and preparations for the school reunion, which will be July 15. Several have responded that they are coming. The meeting was June 7.

David, Gay and Larry Sadler came home from Hubbard Creek Lake on June 7. Gay came home with an infection, but made the trip fine. The doctor took out a pus pocket and she is fine now. She still can't lift or move heavy things.

Stacy Norman and Laura Sadler went to the lake June 6 and attended a Chem-Dry carpet seminar in Dallas on Wednesday and Thursday. They and Sharon Sadler came home Friday.

Melody and Walter Roye, Shaina, Samuel and Spencer of Hobbs, N.M., and friends J.C. and Donny Turner, also of Hobbs, came on Saturday and went back Tuesday.

Ruth King came Friday to help Gay with packing. Sharon also helped.

Ezell Sadler left for the lake Friday for a few days.

Francis Duke went to Lubbock Saturday to help Lori Duke with a garage sale. Sandra Duke, who has recently moved to Canyon, also helped with the garage sale.

Laura Bradford of Dimmitt spent Saturday night and Sunday with Tracy Damron and attended the Sunday morning church services with her.

## Summer clothing projects to begin

The first session of the summer clothing project will be held Friday, June 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Fabric House at 113 SE 2nd.

Connie Wilhelm will teach the session which will focus on beginning sewing. Supply cost for each session will be \$2.

Enrollment will be limited, so if you want to attend, you must pre-register at the Extension Office.

The second session will be Friday, June 23, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Extension Office. It will be on "Looking Good-It's Your Choice." Call the Extension Office to pre-register.

# Nazareth

WITH  
VIRGIE GERBER.  
945-2889

Evelyn Backus, Mike and Camille Albus of Hobbs, N. M. and family friends Don and Molly Click of Waco recently flew to Springfield, Mo. and then drove to Branson, Mo. They spent several days sight-seeing and enjoyed many musical shows. One day they drove to Silver Dollar City, just a short distance from Branson. They did a lot of walking, and listened to lots of good music. They enjoyed beautiful flowers and trees everywhere and attended many arts and crafts shows. The great trip was enjoyed by all. If you love country and western music, this is the place to go.

Bernadette Hochstein recently graduated from Amarillo College as a Medical Data Specialist. Those attending from Nazareth were her mother, May Hochstein, Joe and Angie Hochstein, Doris Hatla, and Max and Delise Ellison and girls, Sarah and Adrian. Bernie's fiancée Matthew Hatla, Julie and Scott Adams, Nancy Hatla and Alex Hochstein, all of Amarillo, joined them. Bernie is employed by Northwest Texas Hospital as a medical transcriptionist.

Donna Charanza, Sandee Hoelting and children Whitney, Monty and Jake spent the weekend in Odessa with Gene, Susie and Jenny Gerber. They enjoyed seeing the new home the Gerbers have recently moved into.

Holy Family Parish welcomes Deacon John Hickey, who will spend a summer internship here

before returning to Cromwell, Conn., for his last year in the seminary before his ordination to the priesthood. He seems to just fit right in with the parish and is very interesting to talk with.

Relatives and friends of Gregg Gerber and Cynthia George attended and enjoyed the celebration of their marriage Saturday afternoon at Holy Family Church with Rev. Neal Dee officiating. Reception, dinner and dance followed at the Nazareth Community Hall.

A great number of relatives honored Tony Gerber on his 90th birthday on Sunday at the Community Hall. The dinner and party was hosted by the family, Fritz and Julene, Ed and Eileen, Vincent and Toby, Norbert and Helen, Denis and Dolores, Jerome and Glenda, Regina and Ronnie Hoelting, and Dorothy and Don McQuilliam.

Vic Brockman of Midland spent several days here with his sister Mattie and her husband Ray Swirczynski. Ray's son, Tom of Muenster, also visited with them.

Evelyn Backus recently drove to Wheeler to attend the Confirmation and First Holy Communion of her grandson, Landon Sams, at St. Mary's Catholic Church. He is the son of Dan and Gail Sams of Wheeler. Landon's uncle, Michael Albus of Hobbs, was his confirmation sponsor. Also attending was Michael's wife Camille and daughters, Ashley and Andrea.



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# People



MRS. BRYAN EDWIN RAMSEY  
... She's the former Tracy Jean Drerup.

## Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey make home in Canyon

Tracy Jean Drerup became the bride of Bryan Edwin Ramsey in a double-ring ceremony June 2 at Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth.

The bride is the daughter of Joe and Imogene Drerup of Nazareth. The groom is the son of Dwight and Anita Ramsey of Silverton.

Tammy Drerup of College Station, the bride's sister, was the maid of honor. Bridesmaids included Kayla Ramsey, Amy Fuston and Dara Ramsey, all of Silverton, the groom's sisters, and Jaime Heard and Jenny Schulte, both of Nazareth, friends of the bride.

Best man was Rhett Monague of Canyon, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Wil Bomar, Kirk Couch, Wayne Henderson and Jamie Frizzell, all of Silverton, and Denny Hill of Tulia, all friends of the groom.

Candlelighters were Natalie Schmucker of Nazareth and Jill Pohlmeier of Lubbock, friends of the bride. Flower girl was Tori Fuston, the groom's niece.

Ushers were Langdon Reagon of Canyon, friend of the groom; Kyle Fuston of Silverton, brother-in-law of the groom; and Kim Drerup of Nazareth and Wade Drerup of Plainview, brothers of the bride.

The Rev. Neal Dee, pastor, officiated. The church was decorated with ivy and a spiral candelabra with ivory candles. Dried flowers and ivory bows decorated the pews and altars.

Musicians and singers were Greg and Glenda Birkenfeld, Alan Birkenfeld and Courtney Hoelting, friends of the bride.

Given away by her parents, the bride's dress was made of Shantung silk and embellished with imported Emil Katz lace on the bodice, sleeves, the dress hem and around the edge of the train. The lace was beaded with ivory pearls and French crystal sequins. The dress was sewn and beaded by her mother.

The bride carried an arm bouquet of fresh spring flowers. She carried her grandmother Drerup's handkerchief and her mother's rosary and wore her mother's pearl earrings.

Bridal attendants wore dresses of hunter green material and carried an arm bouquet of fresh flowers. The flower girl carried a basket of rose petals and wore a flowered hunter green dress.

The reception was held at the Nazareth Community Hall. The wedding cake was decorated with an arrangement of fresh flowers. The groom's cake was decorated with dice and cards.

The couple enjoyed a wedding trip to Las Vegas, Nev.

The couple is now at home in Canyon. The bride is attending West Texas A&M University in Canyon and works at U-Haul in Amarillo. The groom works at Backyard Adventures south of Amarillo.

### Expo Building to hold commodity distribution

The Commodity Distribution will be held June 21 at the Castro County Expo Building. The doors will open at 10 a.m.

Items to be distributed include: butter, pinto beans, rice and tomatoes.

## July vows planned

Mr. and Mrs. J.D. McElroy, Jr. (Bud) of Levelland, formerly of Dimmitt, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Sharon Johnson of Levelland, to Ricky Jenkins of Hurlwood, son of Lee and Betty Jenkins of Brownfield.

The couple plans to marry July 1 at 2 p.m. at College Ave. Baptist Church in Levelland.

The bride-to-be is a 1972 graduate of Dimmitt High School. All friends and relatives of the couple are invited to attend.

## Reservations accepted for Nazareth show

Reservations are now being accepted for booth spaces for the arts and crafts show, part of the Nazareth German Festival on July 8.

Also planned are a German sausage meal and the annual Suds and Sounds concert, along with games and other fun events.

The arts and crafts show will be sponsored by the Nazareth Art Club. The show will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Booth spaces are 8 ft. X 10 ft., with one table and two chairs provided for \$15. Persons reserving booths should specify when registering whether they need a table and their preference for a wall or center booth. Information about the items for sale at the booth should also be enclosed.

Booths will be reserved on a first-come basis, and the \$15 must be paid in advance to reserve a booth. The last day for reservations is July 1. Checks should be made payable to the Nazareth Art Club.

More information and registration is available with Lucille Drerup, Box 3, Nazareth, 79063, 945-2562; or, Rose Mary Wilhelm, HCR 2, Box 13, Nazareth, 79063, 945-2583.

The annual German sausage meal will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Nazareth Community Hall on July 8.

Later, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m., various bands will entertain at Suds and Sounds at the Nazareth Community Center (ball park). Proceeds from Suds and Sounds will benefit the Nazareth Community Hall and the Deaf Program of the Knights of Columbus.

## LULAC helps Friona tornado victims

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is looking for donations for tornado victims in Friona.

Some 25 victims are in need of supplies because of tornado damage. Enough clothes have been gathered, except for men's, women's and children's underwear.

The donations are asked to be delivered to either Mary Lou Lumbrera at 206 N.W. 4th in Dimmitt, or Gloria Hernandez at 219 N.W. 11th in Dimmitt as soon as possible.

For more information, call Lumbrera at 647-4225 or Hernandez at 647-4571.

## Kenley named to president's list

Barbara Kenley of Dimmitt was named to the Hardin-Simmons University President's List.

The list requires taking at least 12 semester hours and completing all courses with a perfect 4.0 grade point.



Here are the school breakfast and lunch menus for Dimmitt for the week of June 19-23.

### DIMMITT

#### Breakfast

MONDAY: Assorted fruit juices, assorted cereal with milk, plain graham crackers and 2% lowfat milk.

TUESDAY: Fresh assorted fruit, French toast with syrup and 2% lowfat milk.

WEDNESDAY: Assorted fruit juices, assorted cereal with milk, plain graham crackers and 2% lowfat milk.

THURSDAY: Assorted fruit juices, deep fried glazed donuts and 2% lowfat milk.

FRIDAY: Fresh assorted fruit, assorted cereal with milk and 2% lowfat milk.

#### Lunch

MONDAY: Beef enchiladas, refried beans, arroz Mexicano, tossed salad, fruit cocktail and milk.

TUESDAY: Sausage and pepperoni pizza, tossed salad, green beans and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Cheeseburger on a roll, French fries, hamburger salad and milk.

THURSDAY: Hot dog on a bun with chili, pork and beans, potato salad and milk.

FRIDAY: Taco salad, refried beans, arroz Mexicano, orange wedges and milk.



Todd Miller and Michelle Herriage

## August vows planned

James and Bertie Herriage of Earth announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Michelle, to Todd Miller, son of Rodney and Diane Miller of Dimmitt.

The couple plans to exchange vows on Aug. 26 at 2 p.m. at the Lee Street Baptist Church in Dimmitt.

The bride-to-be is a 1989 graduate of Springlake-Earth High School and will graduate with an associate degree from the Radiology program at Amarillo College in August 1995.

The prospective groom graduated from Dimmitt High School in 1991. He attended Texas State Technical College in Waco and Amarillo. He is employed at Goodpasture in Dimmitt and plans to pursue his degree in instrumentation.

The couple plans to reside in Dimmitt after the wedding.

## Nazareth plans annual garage sales

Nazareth will hold its annual city-wide Garage Sale June 30 and July 1.

The sales will start at 8 a.m. each day, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m., various bands will entertain at Suds and Sounds at the Nazareth Community Center (ball park). Proceeds from Suds and Sounds will benefit the Nazareth Community Hall and the Deaf Program of the Knights of Columbus.

Anyone interested in holding a garage sale should contact Nazareth City Hall at 945-2285.

### Omission

The names of Arthur and Michelle Bailey were omitted from a thank you letter in the June 8 News from senior students, parents and sponsors.

The class appreciates the efforts of the Baileys.

## Breastfeeding will be studied

Special classes on Introduction to Breastfeeding will be held beginning June 20 at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt.

Cindy Ellis, RN, childbirth educator, will cover topics including anatomy and physiology, advantages and disadvantages, and possible problems encountered with breastfeeding.

The class is open to all women who are presently breastfeeding, who are planning to breastfeed, or are interested in learning about breastfeeding. Fathers or potential fathers are also invited and encouraged to attend.

Classes are free of charge and will be held in the Ettie McDermitt Conference Room at PMH beginning at 7 p.m. Interested persons may enroll by calling 647-2191 and asking for Linda Rasor or Cindy Ellis.

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# Formal, double-ring vows unite Spinhirne, Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Todd Alan Johnson are making their home in Tulsa, Okla., following their wedding Saturday in Lubbock.

The bride is the former Jacqueline Louise Spinhirne, formerly of Dimmitt. She is the daughter of Walter and Louise Spinhirne of Dumas, former Dimmitt residents. The groom is the son of Phillip and Bobbie Johnson of Mobile, Ala.

The couple was married by the Rev. Timothy Judd at Christ the King Cathedral in Lubbock in the formal, double-ring ceremony on Saturday evening.

Ronna Traylor of Houston, friend of the bride, was maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Renee Luman of Lubbock and Sherri Rucker of Dumas, friends of the bride, and Dawn Bentley of Amarillo, sister of the groom.

Best man was Bryan Davis of San Marcos, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Patrick Traylor of Houston and Carl Curry of Canyon, friends of the groom, and Neil Bentley of Amarillo, brother-in-law of the groom.

Ring bearer was David Delesandri of Madisonville, cousin of the groom. Flower girl was Kaitlyn Willitt of Amarillo, niece of the bride. Ushers were Shawn Johnson of Amarillo, cousin of the groom, and Will Johnson of Garden City, Kan., cousin of the groom.

The cathedral was decorated with two large altar arrangements using hot pink carnations, yellow lilies, purple statice, white daisies and baby's breath accented with jade green ribbon. A brass candelabra accented the decorations.

Organist Darryl Berry of Lubbock accompanied Stacy McConnell of Lubbock, friend of the bride, on *There Is Love* and *The Wedding Prayer*.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore an elegant gown of white satin and schiffli lace designed by Mori Lee. The bodice, beaded with sequins and pearls, featured a sweetheart neckline, Juliet sleeves and a basque waist. The full ballgown skirt featured a large satin bow at the back waistline, beaded lace appliques and an extended cathedral train.

The bride wore a floral wreath highlighted with a double pouf and two-tiered silk illusion veiling.



**MRS. TODD ALAN JOHNSON**  
... nee Jacqueline Louise Spinhirne.

The bride carried a cascading bouquet of white roses, stephanotis and daisies accented with ivy and baby's breath.

For something old, the bride carried her maternal grandmother's handkerchief. Something borrowed was her mother's rosary, and something blue was the bride's garter. Something new was her dress.

Bridal attendants' dresses were blue spruce embossed faille with a sweetheart neckline with fitted dropwaisted bodice with basque waistline, back keyhole bodice accented with double candy box bows, short butterfly sleeves, and embossed faille skirt with high/low hemline.

The attendants' bouquets were identical to the altar arrangements. A reception followed at the Best Western Lubbock Regency Hotel. Servers were Marcy Phillips and Mary Ann Marnell of Lubbock, friends of the bride; and Allyson Jones of Knoxville, Tenn., and Sara

Bezner of Lewisville, nieces of the bride.

The bride wore a white sleeveless dress, white hose and white shoes on her way to a honeymoon cruise to the Bahamas.

The bride is a 1987 graduate of Dimmitt High School and a 1991 graduate of Texas Tech University. The groom is a 1987 graduate of Duncanville High School and a 1992 graduate of Texas A&M University.



## Presbyterian Church

Palo Duro Presbytery will meet Saturday at 1 p.m. at Grace Presbyterian Church in Lubbock.

Sunday is Father's Day. Sunday Church School classes will meet at 10 a.m.

"Who Says a Good Man is Hard to Find?" will be the subject of Pastor Edward D. Freeman's sermon at the Sunday morning worship service at 11.

Mid-week Bible study will be Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the manse.

## First Christian Church

Sunday is Father's Day and all the fathers present will be given special recognition. Also, members of the high school Sunday School class will lead in various aspects of the Sunday morning worship service at 10:45.

The Backyard Fellowships on Wednesday nights at 7 are continuing. Leroy and Linda Maxwell will host the gathering June 21 in their backyard at 711 SW 6th, with those attending asked to bring soft drinks, chips and dips, and their favorite toppings for hamburgers.



**Kim Doyle and Greg Gross**

# Gross and Doyle to wed

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie A. Doyle of Lubbock announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kim, to Greg Gross, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Gross of Ransom Canyon. He is also the grandson of Al and Anna Dee Gibbs of Dimmitt, Wilma Gross of Azle, formerly of Dimmitt, and the late Buck Gross.

The couple plans to exchange vows on Aug. 5 at the Lakeside Church of Christ in Lubbock.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of Borden High School. She is currently a sophomore at Lubbock Christian University and majoring in teaching. She is employed at Alternative Home Care, Inc.

The prospective groom graduated from Sharyland High School in 1989. He is a senior ag science major at Lubbock Christian University. He currently works also at Alternative Home Care, Inc.

The couple plans to reside in Lubbock after the wedding.

*Together We Can*

# Church Directory

**New Hope Memorial Baptist**  
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Rev. Claude Mullins

**Sunnyside Baptist**  
Sunnyside  
Anthony Sisemore.....647-5712

**First United Methodist**  
Hart  
Lillith Arduerumly.....938-2462

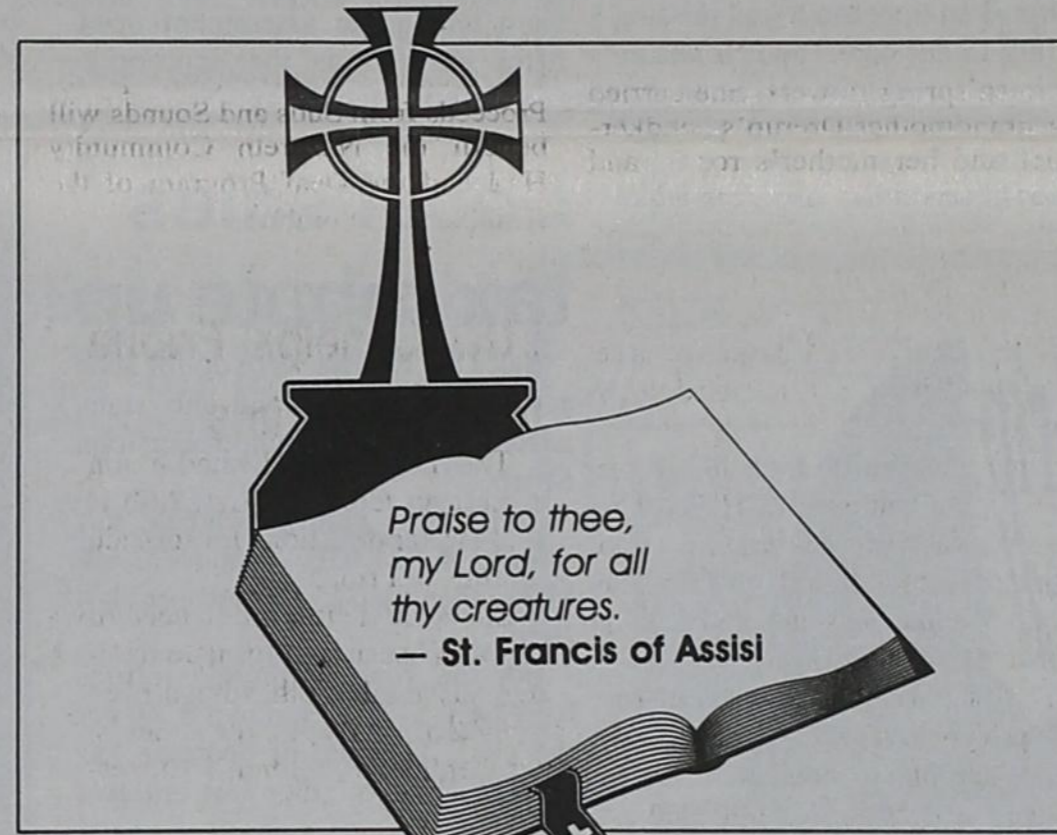
**La Asamblea Cristiana**  
400 NW 5th, Dimmitt  
Ruben Velasquez

**First United Methodist**  
110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt  
Johnny Robertson.....647-4106

**Iglesia De Cristo**  
E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt  
Pedro A. Gonzalez

**Immaculate Conception Catholic**  
1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt  
Guillermo Morales.....647-4219

**Primera Iglesia Bautista Mexicana**  
301 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Antonio Rocha.....647-4373



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

**Immanuel Baptist**  
501 SE 3rd, Dimmitt

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

**St. John's Catholic**  
Hart  
Guillermo Morales.....647-4219

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

**Rose of Sharon Temple**  
407 NE 4th, Dimmitt

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

**Grace Fellowship**  
508 S. Broadway, Dimmitt  
Curtis Wood.....647-2801

**First Assembly of God**  
300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
Claude Hendricks.....647-5662

**First Baptist**  
1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
Paul Kenley.....647-3115

**Lee Street Baptist**  
401 SW 2nd, Dimmitt  
Ronald Redding.....647-5474

**First Christian**  
600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
Jim Hardwick.....647-5478

**La Iglesia De Dios Del Promojenito**  
East Halsell Street, Dimmitt

**Presbyterian**  
1510 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
Rev. Edward D. Freeman.....647-3214

**Holy Family Catholic**  
Nazareth  
Neal Dee.....945-2616

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We thank God for a community that has such fine people.

Thank You,  
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# ABI Agriculture Business Industry



## MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS



By DON TAYLOR

### Passing the monkey

No, this is not a column about how our children are doing in school. Nor are we going to address mandatory achievement tests. The school year is already over.

I do want to share a little story I read recently that demonstrates effective business management. The story was an analogy that compared passing responsibility for work to shifting a monkey to someone else's back, that is "passing the monkey."

Recently, a small-business owner made this analogy become very clear to me. During a consulting session, this harried owner complained that he never had enough time to get things done. At the same time, he felt that his employees were spending a lot of time standing around waiting for work they could do.

This businessman's situation is pretty typical. He works hard to improve his business, and takes a very "hands-on"

approach toward running it. He has difficulty letting employees make decisions even though he has a very competent crew. He finds it hard to let anyone else take care of any of his monkeys.

### It's your monkey

Intelligent but under-motivated employees are quick to take advantage and give the monkey back to the boss. For example, imagine that the manager of a machine shop is walking through the shop when the lathe operator motions him over. "I'm going to need more bar stock soon," the lathe operator states. Then he passes the monkey to the manager, saying "Could you check on our order with the steel company?" The manager agrees to check and walks off with the monkey.

On the way back to the office the drill press operator hollers at him. When the manager nears the press, the operator tells him the belts are slipping badly. The press operator asks if there are any new belts. The manager says he'll have to

look and thereby accepts another monkey.

Arriving back at his office the manager finds more monkeys arriving. A customer brings a cage of monkeys and asks, "Can you look at these blueprints and give me a quote in the morning?"

"I'll do my best," the manager replies, accepting the monkeys. Then the phone rings and more monkeys arrive.

Meanwhile, the lathe operator runs out of bar stock and digs out a magazine to read while the boss checks on the order. The drill press operator plods along at 20% efficiency while the slipping-belt monkey hangs forgotten around the manager's neck. Not until he's driving home will the manager remember the bar-stock monkey and the slipping-belt monkey. A sure-fire guarantee for another restless night.

### Give the monkey back

Smart managers soon learn to hand the monkeys back. In the previous illustration the manager could instruct the

lathe operator to call the steel company and check on the delivery. "Let me know where it stands," he instructs as he walks away without the monkey.

When the manager confronts the slipping belt problem, he first asks the operator to check the belt tension. If tightening the belts doesn't solve the problem, he directs the operator to get the belt number and give it to the office manager who will order it right away.

Of course, there are some problems that will require the manager to take care of the monkeys. For example, he will gladly accept the customer's cage of monkeys. He'll enlist the help of others to have the quote finished and faxed by early the next morning.

Occasionally, monkey problems will reappear again and again. Despite good management, some problems come with a monkey-back guarantee.

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

# Cotton Talks

Collection of the High Plains boll weevil eradication assessment on the 1995 crop adds a new set of responsibilities for both producers and landlords.

According to Lubbock-based Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. (PCG) the recently passed assessment mechanism will take some getting used to, at least until producers get accustomed to the system and some of the bugs can be worked out.

For now, PCG officials say, there are two main concerns being expressed by producers. The first is how assessments paid early will be affected by the loss of a crop before the July 15 final certification date. The second is how to inform landlords of the amount of their boll weevil assessment and when the assessment is due.

The goal of the Boll Weevil Eradication program is to eliminate the boll weevil as a threat to High Plains cotton production. In order to make the program successful it is in the best interest of everyone involved to

develop whatever mechanisms will guarantee a smooth running, effective program.

"The problem that we seem to be having now is that many producers are reluctant to pay the assessment until they have a better feel for what this year's crop is going to do," explains PCG Executive Vice President Donald Johnson. "Unfortunately, this increases the chances of a producer inadvertently missing the final due date of July 15."

Johnson explains that the boll weevil assessment is due at the time the crop is certified and is calculated according to the producer's planted acreage. The last day a producer can certify 1995 cotton acres is July 15.

"The tricky part will be making sure everyone who needs to be notified of their assessment amount is informed so they can avoid missing the July 15 due date," adds Johnson.

In order to address this issue, before it becomes a significant problem for both the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation and individual

producers and landlords, several alternatives are being discussed.

Producers who pay their assessment when they certify and then lose their crop before July 15 can request that their current year's assessment be carried over and credited toward their assessment the following year. All requests of this nature must be made in writing to the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation office in Abilene.

All assessments can be paid at the county Consolidated Farm Service Agency (CFSA) office at the time of certification or before July 15. Assessments can also be paid directly to the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation office in Abilene. Individuals who make their payments directly to the TBWEF should include with the payment the county from which the assessment originates as well as the appropriate CFSA farm number(s).

## Local sales tax rebate up

Sales tax rebates were up for June across the county and the state, according to State Comptroller John Sharp.

Dimmitt is getting a rebate this month of \$21,036. That is 32.6% higher than the \$15,869 received last June.

For the year, Dimmitt's rebates have been \$136,174, down 8.3% for the year. The rate of decrease has slowed, though, since last month's report.

Hart's rebate this month is 8.8% lower, at \$706.89. Last June, the rebate was \$774.61. For the year, Hart is running ahead of the 1994 pace with \$7,930 received so far. Last year through six months, Hart had earned \$7,060.

Nazareth, which didn't earn a rebate last June, will get a rebate of \$579.26 this year. For the year to date, Nazareth has received \$5,267, 11% higher than the \$4,746 for the first six months last year.

Castro County's rebate this month was \$8,561, up 25.3% from last year's June rebate of \$6,833. For the year, the county has earned \$58,917, down 6.4% from last year's \$62,975 for the first six months of 1994.

Sales tax rebates were also significantly higher this month for Hereford, Plainview, Amarillo and Lubbock. The state recorded an 8.7% increase in June rebates to 1,076 cities and 111 counties.

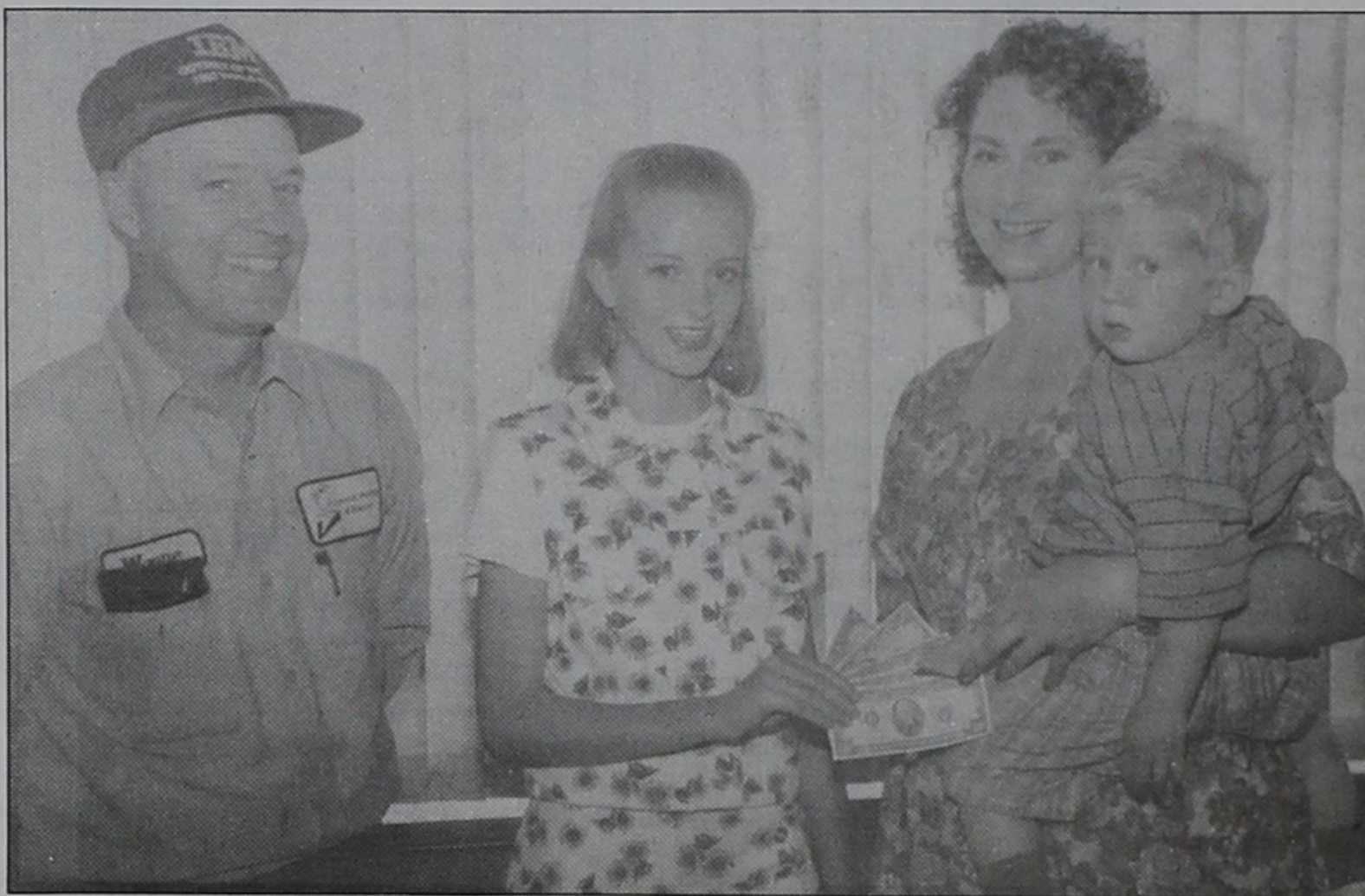
## Langford makes Dean's Honor Roll

Jeremy Langford was named to the Dean's Honor Roll for the Spring Semester at Stephen F. Austin State University.

Recognition of the award requires that a student be enrolled in at least 12 hours and maintain a 3.0 or "B" average for the semester.

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WALES WINS \$100—Tara Wales (right) won \$100 cash in a drawing conducted by the Odyssey of the Mind teams in Dimmitt. Presenting her with her money are Wayne Proffitt, who coached the OM team

which placed at the world competition, and Julie Merritt, who was on a state-qualifying OM team. Wales donated the money back to the OM program to defray future expenses.

Photo by John Brooks



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# Dimmitt Agri Industries, Inc.

# Tips on Turf

By J.D. RAGLAND

For the next six weeks, the Castro County Extension Service will be providing a series, "Tips on Turf." These articles will offer helpful tips to homeowners addressing lawn, garden and tree care management practices.

Are you following the "Don't Bag It" lawn care program? Once again, the Castro County Extension Service is encouraging all homeowners to be a "Don't Bag It" lawn care participant. The program is made up of three parts:

- **Mowing:** For best results, mow every five to six days. As a rule of thumb, don't remove more than one-third of the leaf at a time. Don't Bag It reduces mowing time by as much as 38%.
- **Watering:** During the driest part of the summer, your lawn will need about one inch of water every five to six days.
- **Fertilization:** For slow, even growth, use a fertilizer that has at least 1/4 of its nitrogen in the slow release form (preferably 1/2). Apply no more than one pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per application. New fertilizer guidelines for our area have been released for 1995. You should fertilize:
  - Common bermuda: May 1, June 15, Aug. 1 and Sept. 15 (1/2 rate).
  - Tif Bermuda: April 15, May 15, June 15, Aug. 15 and Sept. 15 (1/2 rate).
  - Buffalo: May 15 and Aug. 15.
  - Tall Fescue: March 1, June 1 (1/2 rate) and Sept. 1.
  - Zoysia: May 1, June 15 and Aug. 1.

Remember, use three parts of Don't Bag It: Mowing, watering and fertilizing. Don't Bag It Demonstration Lawn display signs are available at the Extension Office.

Control now! Bagworms are one of the major pests of junipers and other trees and shrubs in Texas. Spring hatch began in early May this year. Hatching is usually completed in about three weeks. Insecticide control is most effective in early June when bagworms are small.

Bagworm larva emerge from hatching eggs inside last year's bags

and begin feeding on foliage. They soon begin to construct their own protective bag of silk, twigs and leaves, making them camouflaged and hard to see. As the larva and their bag continue to grow, control becomes more difficult. Since the bagworm only completes one generation a year and spreads very slowly from plant to plant, picking the bags off infested plants in the winter will help toward controlling this pest. But if bagworms were present on plants last year and control measures were not applied, chances are very good that an insecticide will be needed this spring.

Insecticides which can be used include sevin, dursban, diazinon, malathion and orthene. The biological insecticide "Bacillus thuringiensis" can also be used. Thorough coverage is important. The addition of a small amount of liquid soap or surfactant to spray solution will improve control because it helps adhere the insecticide to the treated trees and shrubs. **Always read and follow label instructions.**

If you have any questions concerning lawn and garden problems, feel free to contact the Castro County Extension Office at 647-4115.



**MAJOR INTERSECTION GETS SMOOTHED OUT**—Workers with the Texas Dept. Of Transportation closed the intersection of US Highway 385 and State Highway 86 on June 7 to smooth out the intersection. The top of the roadway had been bladed

off several weeks before to eliminate rough spots caused by heavy traffic. Recent rains threatened to erode the road base, prompting crews to work fast to rebuild the top layer.

Photo by John Brooks

## Oil recycling sites established in area

The Panhandle Environmental Partnership is setting up a network of used oil collection sites in the top 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle.

The Partnership is a program of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC) and the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (TNRCC), which made the program possible with a grant of almost \$300,000.

The Partnership is opening the sites in cooperation with the region's local governments, giving "do-it-yourselfers" convenient locations to dump used motor oil. Dumping used oil in unauthorized places is illegal. Oil can seep into soil and contaminate underground supplies of water, thus endangering the health of thousands of area residents who depend on underground water for drinking and agriculture. While some area residents already have access to used oil recycling centers, others do not. Until now, many residents in smaller communities

have had to carry used oil to distant or inconvenient recycling stations.

"Rural residents are no less environmentally conscious than urban dwellers, but recycling has been slow in coming to many rural communities because of the high cost of implementing programs," said Gary Pitner, PRPC executive director. "But through cooperative efforts, we can offer rural communities the same convenient oil-recycling facilities found in larger areas."

The recycling stations consist of one, 465-gallon fiberglass tank that sits inside a small fenced area. "Do-it-yourselfers" can pour oil directly into the tank and deposit used oil filters in a nearby container.

Borger-based CEG Industries will collect the oil and filters when containers are full. CEG will then deliver the waste oil to the Phillips 66 Co. refinery in Borger, where it will be re-refined and recycled back into petroleum products. All this is free-of-charge to residents.

The network will consist of more than 100 stations in the 26-county area, all within easy access of almost every Panhandle community. In some towns, the Partnership is setting up stations at community recycling centers. The hours the stations will be available will be set by local governments and posted at the sites.

To hear more about the network, area residents with touch-tone service are encouraged to call 1-800-SAVE-OIL, a toll-free number that accesses a 24-hour, computer assisted hotline. Residents with rotary service should call that number between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information on the Panhandle Environmental Partnership, contact John Kiehl at (806) 372-3381.

## EPA okays use of Asana on milo

The US Environmental Protection Agency has agreed to allow Texas grain sorghum growers to use Asana XL to control a midge outbreak under a crisis exemption until EPA rules on a specific exemption request submitted by the Texas Dept. of Agriculture in February.

Midge are threatening blooming grain sorghum crops in the Coastal Bend. South Texas and Coastal Bend growers were allowed to use Asana XL beginning Friday, June 2. Growers in other sections of the state will be allowed to use Asana XL as grain sorghum crops bloom. The pesticide's use is allowed on up to 455,000 acres of grain and seed sorghum.

Without the use of Asana XL, Texas sorghum producers could face losses of up to \$4.2 million, according to TDA estimates.

Before applying Asana XL, farmers should contact their local county extension agents or dealers for information on proper application methods and restrictions.

## Perry appoints new councilmen

Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry has appointed a group of Texans to serve two-year terms on the Texas Dep. of Agriculture's Producer Advisory Committee, which meets quarterly.

Perry created the committee when he first took office in 1991 to encourage a better working relationship between the agricultural industry and TDA.

"This committee has been a valuable sounding board for myself and TDA staff," Perry said. "I look forward to working over the next two years with the new members, who will help me prioritize agricultural issues and generate ideas to keep Texas agriculture vibrant."

Newly appointed members are: Sid Brough, an Edroy cotton gin owner; Rick Dockery, a Falls City part-time rancher; Lawrence Freisenhahn, a Knippa corn grower;

Pat George, a Tulia grain sorghum producer; Larry Gibson, a Dublin dairy producer; W.H. "Billy" Green III, an Albany cattle rancher; John Lackey, a Weslaco shipper and fruit and vegetable grower; Morris Light, a Snyder cotton grower; Gary Murphy, a Dawson wheat grower and elevator operator; Burt Richards, a Buffalo livestock auction owner; Billy Roeder, a Fredericksburg sheep and goat raiser; and Jim Schwertner, a Schwertner feedlot owner.

Members reappointed to the committee are: Bettie Chandler, an Edinburg producer; Ed Edmondson, an executive with the Texas Association of Nurserymen in Austin; Delmon Ellison Jr., a Seagraves peanut grower; and Terry Legan, a Prosper egg producer.

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# Sports

## Holcomb, Reeves team to win Cleveland Tournament

A former player for the late Kenneth Cleveland teamed with another Lubbock man to take the championship in the first Kenneth Cleveland Memorial Scholarship Tournament last weekend at the Country Club of Dimmitt.

Brad Holcomb, who helped lead the 1984 Bobcats to the state tournament, teamed with Randy Reeves for a 135 to take a one-stroke win in the tournament's championship flight.

They bested the Amarillo pair of Marvin Dick and Tommy Dement.

Mike Earl and Charlie Longbotham were third in the top flight at 137.

Other flight winners included Terry Burton and Terry Ott of Muleshoe, who won the first flight with a 140; Terry Crews and John Lee of Sundown, second flight at 150; and Doug Ware and Neal Hoelting of Pampa, third flight at 152; and Danny Ebeling (another former player) and Van Hopson of Dimmitt, fourth flight at 164.

Forty-five teams played in the two-day, low-ball partnership. The Country Club of Dimmitt donated \$1,006, all of the entry-fee money. The sponsorship money totaled

\$3,200, while player auctions totaled \$526.

"I'd estimate the tournament netted \$3,600 for the scholarship fund," said Shelly Nutt, activities director.

Here are the results from the tournament:

### Championship Flight

1. Brad Holcomb and Randy Reeves, Lubbock, 135; 2. Marvin Dick and Tommy Dement, Amarillo, 136; 3. Mike Earl and Charlie Longbotham, Amarillo, 137.

### First Flight

1. Terry Burton and Terry Ott, Muleshoe, 140; 2. Chaun Gunstream and Bill James, Dimmitt, 145; 3. (Tie) Bill Glenn, Dimmitt, and Gary Renner, Friona; and Stan Byrnes and Jim Bradford, Dimmitt, 149.

### Second Flight

1. Terry Crews and John Lee, Sundown, 150; 2. Richard McCormick and Jacky Johnson, Lubbock, 152; 3. (Tie) Hal Wood and Tommy Gunstream, Muleshoe; and Carlos Mendez and Bobby Valdez, Hereford, 154.

### Third Flight

1. Doug Ware and Neal Hoelting, Pampa, 152; 2. (Tie) Don Carter and James Atwood, Muleshoe; and Lyman Schroeder and Danny Chisum, Dimmitt, 156.

### Fourth Flight

1. Danny Ebeling and Van Hopson, Dimmitt, 164; 2. Andy Rogers, Dimmitt, and Jerry Killingsworth, Hereford, 171; 3. Jack Bradford and Steve Nutt, Dimmitt, 172.

## District Horse Show

### to be held in Lubbock

The District II Horse Show will be held on June 17-18 at the South Plains Fairgrounds in Lubbock.

The Saturday show will begin at 1 p.m. with the roping events. On Sunday, the show will begin with a cowboy church service at 9 a.m. followed by classes at 10 a.m.

For more information or questions contact the Extension Office or Scott Bagley at 647-4780.

## Earth Rodeo to take place

The Earth Rodeo, the biggest rodeo in the southwest for the size of the town, will take place Friday and Saturday.

The two-day affair will kick off with a parade at 5 p.m. Friday. Prizes will be awarded for best floats.

The rodeo, which is TCRA approved, will begin at 8:30 p.m. each night, with a dance following. The dance is four miles east of Earth on Highway 70. Music is by Dangerous Destiny, and admission is \$5.

Admission to the rodeo is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students 12 and under. Events include calf roping, bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, girls barrel race, and bull riding.

Special attractions include the wild cow milking contest, stick horse race and goat roping on foot for kids.

## Basketball camp slated

The annual Dimmitt Camp of Champs boys' basketball camp will be held next week at the Dimmitt High School gymnasium.

Registration for the camp is \$40, which will include "a t-shirt and a week of fundamentals and fun." Forms are available at Thriftway Supermarket and IGA Foodliner. Registration will also be available at 8 a.m. on the first day of the camp.

The camp will run from 8:30 a.m. to noon each day. Steidle and other coaches will direct the camp's instruction.

## Area team roping schools approaching

Area 4-H Clubs and Extension Services are sponsoring Team Roping Schools at Clarendon College in Clarendon, June 15-16, and South Plains College in Levelland, June 22-25.

The Donley County 4-H Clubs and the Extension Service are sponsoring the Second Annual Open 4-H Team Roping School in Clarendon. Applications must be in by June 13.

The Hockley County 4-H Horse Club and Extension Service are sponsoring the Sixth Annual 4-H Team Roping School in Levelland. Deadline is June 16.

For more information on these schools call the Extension Office at 647-4115.

# Social Security

Are you a student in search of a summer job? Or, will you be graduating in June and looking for your first job? If so, here are several things you should know about Social Security that will make your job hunting a little easier.

First of all, you need a Social Security number -- it's one of the first things your prospective employer will request from you. You should take your Social Security card with you when you apply for work. If you don't have a number, or lost your card, call Social Security's toll free number, 1-800-772-1213, and you can get one within two weeks of completing the application process.

Secondly, while Social Security tax is automatically deducted from your earnings in most jobs, some types of summer jobs require special reporting. These include jobs where you earn tips, jobs where you work around someone's house, and jobs on a farm.

If you work at a job where you make \$20 or more per month in cash tips, that income is covered by Social Security. That means you and your employer are required to pay Social Security and Medicare taxes on this income. And reporting tips and other income now will mean more Social Security benefits for you and your family later when you retire, or if you become disabled or die.

When you earn tips, you must keep a daily record of the tips you receive. This includes tips received

in cash directly from customers or from other employees and tips added to a credit card charge. If your tip income totals \$20 or more in a month, you are required to report the amount to your employer. Your employer is responsible for reporting the correct tip and wage information to the Social Security Administration and the Internal Revenue Service.

If you get a job doing farm work, you will need to earn at least \$150 a year for work to be counted for Social Security purposes. Your employer should be taking money out of your wages each time you get paid and sending it to the federal government to cover your payment to Social Security.

If you work as a babysitter or do other work in another person's household (cutting grass, painting, gardening) you also need to earn a certain amount before your wages count for Social Security purposes. How much depends on how old you are. If you are 18 or over, you would need to earn at least \$1,000 before your employer would need to deduct Social Security taxes from your wages. If you are under 18, your wages as a household worker are not covered under Social Security, so no tax would be deducted.

To get a statement request form, all you have to do is contact the nearest Social Security office or call our toll-free number: 1-800-772-1213. Ask for the "Request For Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement" (Form 7004).



**LIVESTOCK INJURED**—These cattle were among several injured in the June 2 tornado northeast of Dimmitt. Livestock belonging to Donnie McDaniel and

Bob Sheffy sustained the heaviest losses, with several head killed and others injured. The injured livestock are expected to recover.

Photo by John Brooks

## TSCRA tells Mexican cattlemen 'trade has not been two-way'

The virtually one-sided flow of live cattle from Mexico into the United States in recent months tears up the notion of "trade as a two-way street" under the North American Free Trade Agreement.

That's what the president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association told members of the Mexican National Cattlemen's Association at their annual convention Monday night in Cancun, Mexico.

Chaunce O. Thompson Jr., a rancher from Breckenridge, is president of the 118-year-old TSCRA. He empathized with the Mexican cattlemen over the worst drought in northern Mexico in 40 years. The drought has killed hundreds of thousands of Mexican cattle and forced the liquidation of 1.5 million head, of which 80% are finding their way into Texas. Also driving the cross-border migration of cattle and dollars is Mexico's devalued peso and austerity

program, which have severely limited imports of US beef into Mexico.

"Feeder cattle imports from Mexico are up 68% from a year ago and slaughter cow numbers are up an astounding 2,000%," Thompson said. Historically, Mexico sends about one million head of cattle to the US annually, but some estimates put this year's number at 1.5 million or higher.

Citing the gloomy profit picture for US cattle producers, Thompson told the Mexican cattlemen, "We have shared your burden. We have accepted your feeder cattle, your slaughter cattle and even some of your breeding cattle. At issue in Texas is how much more Mexican cattle can we absorb and at what price to our domestic cattle industry?"

Thompson, who said his group continues to support NAFTA, emphasized that Mexico needs Texas and Texas needs Mexico in cattle and beef trade, but ways must be

found for both sides to prosper. He asked the Mexican cattle group and the Mexican government to consider several TSCRA recommendations, including:

—Creation of a plan to orderly market all classes of Mexican cattle to the US to minimize market disruptions.

—Purchase of US beef of all grades, by whatever means available, to offset the increased burden of extra imports of Mexican live cattle.

—Development of a self-help program for the Mexican cattle industry similar to the dollar-per-head checkoff program in the US to fund research, promotion and education about beef to Mexican consumers.

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# County re-opens courthouse basement for shelter

County citizens will again be allowed to use the basement of the Castro County Courthouse after a change in policy Monday by the commissioners' court.

Commissioners voted 4-0 Monday to reopen the courthouse basement to persons seeking shelter from tornadoes. The basement was closed a few years ago after the basement

## City studying franchise pact for telephones

Dimmitt's city council is mulling an offer from GTE for a new telephone franchise agreement with the city.

District Manager Larry King of Brownfield made the pitch to the council for a new agreement at the council's June 5 meeting. The new pact would supersede an agreement made in 1984 that won't expire until Jan. 15, 2004.

The last franchise agreement came at a price for GTE. Before a new franchise was granted, GTE had to install a new state-of-the-art switch at the central office in Dimmitt to replace a deteriorating electro-mechanical switch.

Mayor Wayne Collins, who was a councilman when a series of public hearings was held, told King that GTE needed to take more steps here for better service. Collins said there is a need for fiber optic cable in many parts of the city, including the central business district, hospital and schools.

"It will be many, many years before fiber optics will go to a lot of places," King told the council. "Some customers have a need for greater bandwidth."

"We want to grow and prosper, and the only way to do that is with state of the art telecommunications," Collins said.

"I can give you that commitment, that we will work with you," King said. "We know that sometimes you feel things aren't the same for rural areas and metropolitan areas. We will give you the very same service we have in Denton and Dallas."

King said GTE wants to go to a "flat fee" contract that would have the same language for Dimmitt and Tulia and the other areas served by the company. The contract would be good for five years.

To entice the city to have a first reading on the new agreement before July 15, King told the city GTE would pay a bonus franchise fee of \$3,152.38 to the city. That bonus fee would not be passed along to customers; GTE and other customers pay the franchise fee as a small part of their monthly phone bill. The franchise fee is based on the number of lines in the city on Dec. 31 of each year.

The city received \$8,210 last year from GTE.

The city deferred action on the agreement. A first reading would not mean the city approves the agreement; it would have to be read and approved at a later meeting before it would go into effect.

The city also approved a resolution for financing a new garbage truck through First United Bank, which offered a 6.5% interest rate for the \$60,000 truck.

Commissioners also heard about a new way to close off water lines to repair leaks without shutting off water to large areas of the city.

## Take the challenge

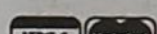
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area sustained severe damage inflicted by persons seeking shelter. Most of the damage was done to ceilings, walls and equipment in the basement area.

The basement shelter will only be open once sirens sound warning of a tornado. The basement will be open only to 150 persons and will be policed by a reserve officer from the Dimmitt Police Dept. Persons who get out of line in any way will be ordered out of the courthouse.

Pct. 2 Commissioner Larry Gonzales said Monday he had promised

to look into the shelter situation when he was running for office.

"I brought it up before and it was tabled," Gonzales said. "We need to do something for the people who need shelter. There were several people who called up here during the last storm (June 4) and they were told no, they could not use the shelter."

County Judge Irene Miller, who helped answer telephones in the county sheriff's office on the night of June 2, said several persons

stayed in the hallway outside the sheriff's office during the storm.

"We have a need to provide shelter," Gonzales said. "The last time (there was damage) wasn't the first time, and the whole community doesn't need to suffer for the actions of one or two people."

"There are many people in the community who don't have a cellar, and it would have been a shame to have someone killed because they couldn't use a building they own."

People will have to stay in the assembly room area on the west side

of the basement. Persons will not be allowed to stay in the area around the vault, and will be allowed upstairs only to use restrooms.

Commissioners turned down a request from the Castro County Fair Association for a key to the Castro County Expo Building.

Becky Stovall and Brenda Bruton of the fair group told commissioners they felt they needed a key because they needed regular access to the Expo. Commissioners, though, said they didn't want extra keys issued. Howard Smithson, Expo Building superintendent, and Annette Flores in the county judge's office are the only persons with a key. A key must be obtained from them for legal entrance to the building.

"If you need a key for two or three days or need one for today and tomorrow, there's no problem with keeping them until you're through," said Pct. 4 Commissioner Vincent Guggemos. "We're not picking on anyone, we just pulled in all the keys."

Guggemos alleged that several locks were cut inside and outside the building and quonset barns at the fairgrounds last year. Most of the damage, Guggemos charged, was done during livestock show season.

"We had as many as 20 keys out, then people used boltcutters to cut off other locks," Guggemos said. "We also had them break in to the PA system right after we had that fixed. We're trying to keep unauthorized people out."

Stovall and Bruton also said they needed direct access to the association's goods. They are cached in a large storage box that is usually kept under the bleachers at the Expo. That box and other fair property is now out from under the bleachers and is in the northeast corner of the building.

The pair from the fair group also balked when they were told they would have to be responsible if there were any damage to the Expo during the fair.

The county also gave City Manager Reeford Burrous the okay to build backstops for two softball diamonds on a block owned by the county near the Expo Building. The county bought the property several years ago for a prospective jail site.

The land is now used for parking during Harvest Days and other events at the fairgrounds. Burrous promised commissioners the lots would be available for use as needed.

Several groups have asked for places for softball games in the city.

Commissioners also agreed to advertise for bids on several pieces of unused equipment and approved the purchase of a cellular phone and vertical blinds for the library. The library purchases will come from memorial funds.

## City seeking name for park

City officials are still looking for a good name for the new park and lake complex in south Dimmitt.

The park has to have some sort of name that can be put on a permanent plaque at the park site. Possible names for the park are being solicited from the general public.

The suggestions may be mailed to the Park Name, City of Dimmitt, PO Box 146, Dimmitt 79027. The letters should be made to the attention of City Manager Reeford Burrous.

City officials will consider all names and make a recommendation later to the city council. Name suggestions should be submitted no later than 5 p.m. Friday.



PENS SUSTAIN DAMAGE—These pens northeast of Dimmitt were damaged in the June 2 tornado. Several head of livestock were killed and others were injured;

there was also damage to several pens belonging to Bob Sheffy and Donnie McDaniel in the area, strewn debris for over a mile.

Photo by John Brooks

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# Dimmitt students improve on TAAS scores

Dimmitt students improved in all areas in their TAAS scores this year, the Dimmitt school board learned Monday.

When compared with the same students' scores in 1994, the 1995 tests showed nice improvements in reading, writing and math.

"It's a credit to our faculty and our administrators and to our students," said Supt. Les Miller. "We want to thank our staff for a job very well done."

Last year's scores had dipped to as low as the 29th percentile for fifth grade math students. That is just above the unaccredited level (25th percentile and below). This year's fifth graders scored in the 56th percentile. Last year's fifth graders scored in the 70th percentile this year, as sixth graders.

The best overall scores in the district were turned in by third graders, who scored in the 81st percentile in reading and the 76th percentile in math. Also earning high marks were sophomores taking the TAAS exit test in writing, where they scored in the 89th percentile.

Exit scores weren't quite so high in other subjects, though, with a 65 in reading and a 52 in math. Those scores are down from last year's

students, who recorded a 73 in reading and a 56 in math.

The scores on the exit test, taken by sophomores, were higher than the last time they took the TAAS test, in the seventh grade. They recorded remarkable improvement in all three subject areas.

TAAS tests are currently taken each year by all students in grades 3-8, and sophomores take the exit-level test. All sections of the exit-level test must be passed before a student may receive a diploma.

The school board approved the Dimmitt High School handbook Monday night, with a few minor changes incorporated.

The new handbook will be incorporated in a new class for freshmen beginning in the fall. DHS Principal R.L. Stockstill explained the class will teach "school survival skills" to freshmen, including study skills.

"Many students lose one-half to one credit in their first year because of poor time management and study skills," Stockstill said. The handbook will be included as part of the agenda for the class.

The handbook includes the bell times for the new block schedule, which will begin Aug. 16 at DHS. Classes will begin each morning at 8:20 and dismiss each afternoon at 3:20.

DISD Business Manager Johnny Hill said the summer food program has met with lots of success in the first two weeks of the program.

The program averaged 70 youths a day for breakfast and 189 for lunch

in the first week. On Monday, there were 118 at breakfast and 246 at lunch.

Hill and Miller said the program would be profitable, with a profit of \$211 for the first week of the program. The meals are served at Richardson Elementary School each day and are open (no strings attached) to all youths ages 1-18. The school district is reimbursed by the Texas Dept. of Human Services.

School district funds will be deposited at First Bank of Muleshoe-Dimmitt Branch for the next two years.

The board voted 5-1 (Steve Buckley opposed) to move its

accounts to First Bank. The move will result in a higher rate on SuperNOW accounts and on certificates of deposit. First Bank will pay the same rate for all CDs, regardless of length of deposit. First United Bank offered a lower rate on CDs of less than 180 days.

Most of the school district's CDs are in the bank for 30-60 days.

In other business, the board: —Set a budget workshop for the week of June 26.

—Moved the July board meeting from July 10 to July 13.

—Approved Cornell and Co., an Amarillo accounting firm, for the DISD annual audit.

—Began preliminary plans for air conditioning and heating systems at DHS and Dimmitt Middle School.

—Renewed contracts with the Region XVI Education Service Center.

After an executive session, the board accepted several resignations, including Richard Wood, who is the new boys' basketball coach in Aspermont; Neila Malcom, new girls' head basketball coach in Amherst; Reena Johns, who will be

coaching in Lubbock; Judy Stewart, who will be principal of Kress High School, and teachers Stacy Wilson, Denise Kirby and Nancy Greer. Greer is retiring.

New hirings include Terry Stovall, DHS math; Susie Gonzales, DHS Spanish; Patrice Hill, DMS special education; Brad Stradley, DMS content mastery; Whitney Kirby, seventh grade reading; June Sutton, fourth grade language arts; and Irene Horton, first grade bilingual.

## CPR and first aid classes to be held

Plains Memorial Hospital and Amarillo College will be offering a First Responder/Industrial course in Dimmitt June 26, and 28-29.

Classes are Monday, June 26, at 5 p.m.; and Wednesday, June 28, and Thursday, June 29, from 5-9 p.m.

The classes will be 16 clock hours. Eight hours will be spent in CPR and eight more will be dealing with First Aid.

Cost is \$25 per student. For more information contact Mitzie Brockman at 647-2191.

## Wayland offers summer classes

Wayland Baptist University is offering three more microterm sessions this summer, beginning June 19.

Summer Session II is scheduled from June 19 to July 7, Summer Session III July 10 to July 28, and Summer Session IV July 31 to Aug. 18.

These undergraduate and graduate classes enable students to collect up to three hours credit in three weeks, and usually meet from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday through Friday, with night classes from 6-10 p.m.

Summer II offers undergraduate classes in Organized Crime, Composition and Rhetoric, Modern Poetry, U.S. History since 1865, Intermediate Algebra, Photojournalism, Music Appreciation, Business Mathematics, Weight Training, and Safety and First Aid.

Classes are also offered in State and Local Government, Psychology of Exceptional Children, Developing Reading, Study and Thinking Skills at the Secondary Level, and New Testament History.

For further information contact the Registrar's Office at (806) 296-4706.

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For more information or to purchase tickets or make donations, contact Kim Boozer at 647-2582 or Melody Link at 647-2867.

Larry R. Karrh, M.D.  
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Telephone (806) 293-5169

To All Our Patients and Friends:

The past few years have seen dramatic changes in the practice of medicine in this country, and Plainview certainly has been no exception. Our local hospital has undergone three changes in management. In addition, terms such as "HMO", "PPO" and "managed care" have become almost household words in recent months, dramatically changing the manner in which our office does business.

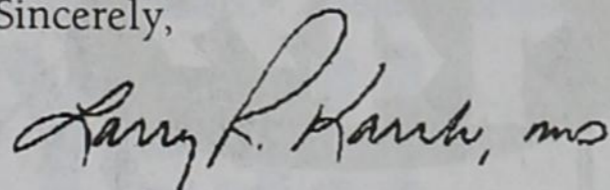
Throughout this time, our office has been able to meet the challenges brought about by change and has continued to provide each of you with the quality family health care you have come to expect from us. The changes have, however, placed an increasingly large burden upon my office staff, my family and myself. This has led us to pursue alliances with other health care institutions in order to ensure our survival in this "new market" and best position ourselves to meet your health care needs.

As a result of lengthy discussions, we are proud to announce our association with St. Mary Family Healthcare Centers effective July 1, 1995. We believe this association will ensure our ability to continue to provide health care to all our established patients as well as others whom we have not been able to serve in the past. We feel our alliance with St. Mary—one of the region's most trusted health care providers—will give our patients, my office staff, my family and myself the greatest security and assurance of continued quality medical care into the 21st century.

This change will only affect the business portion of our office operation. Daily patient care, hospital care and/or referral patterns will remain the same, and we will continue to work to strengthen and stabilize Plainview's medical community.

For the next several months we will continue to conduct business as usual at our current location at 2222 West 24th Street, Suite 1. We will, however, be moving our offices to the new St. Mary Family Healthcare Center at 3409 Olton Road this fall. We greatly appreciate your ongoing support and anxiously await the opportunity to be of continued service to you.

Sincerely,



Larry R. Karrh, M.D., D.A.B.F.P., D.A.B.Q.A.U.R.P.



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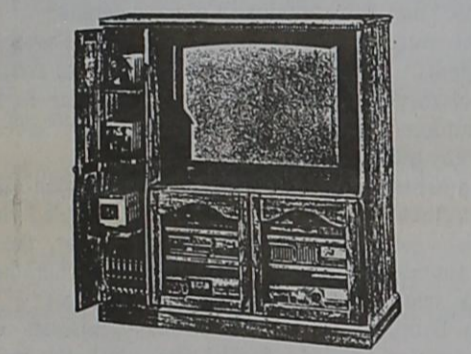
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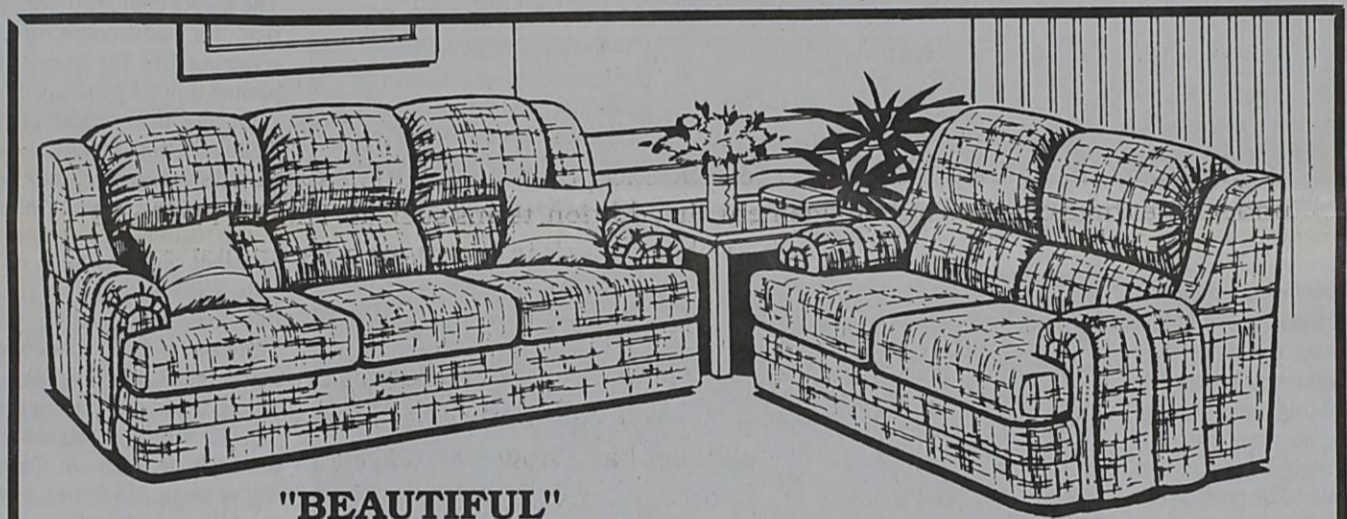
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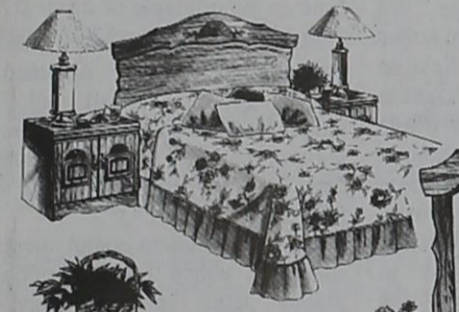
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# Steiert, alligators helped take Okinawa

By PATRICK J. STEIERT

A lifelong resident of the Hart area, Pete J. Steiert was inducted in the Army on March 22, 1941. He had trained to become a tank mechanic until the US entered WW II.

Steiert climbed to the rank of sergeant and served for over four years in the military. He saw combat action on several isles of the Ryukyu Island Chain. He also participated in the liberation of the Philippines, and the invasion of Okinawa.

Following the outbreak of the war, Steiert was assigned to B. Co. 718th Amphibious Tractor Battalion. During the course of the war he would eventually become an Assistant Wave Commander in his company.

In March 1943, Sgt. Steiert became an instructor at Fort Ord, Calif., where he trained soldiers on amphibious operations. It was here that he personally trained the men he would fight with in the Pacific theater campaigns.

Allied forces discovered by 1941 that the Pacific theater was not conducive for current tank warfare, so in 1943 they adapted the use of the Amphibious Tractor (AMTRAC) to partially fill the void left by the absence of tanks.

The AMTRAC was a multi-purpose amphibious tractor used to transport troops and light equipment to shore line objectives. It held the nickname of the "alligator." Unlike the heralded LCVP, the AMTRAC was very traversable, maneuvering like a tank on land. When inclement weather made roads unusable, the alligator assumed most of the responsibilities for logistical transportation.

Like their vehicles, alligator crews had special nicknames depending on how battles were going. Steiert recalls: "If things were going well, we were referred to as a bunch of damn fools on floating tanks. If things were being hotly contested, and we were called in to re-supply or evacuate soldiers, we were called 'Angels of Mercy on Floating Bathtubs.'"

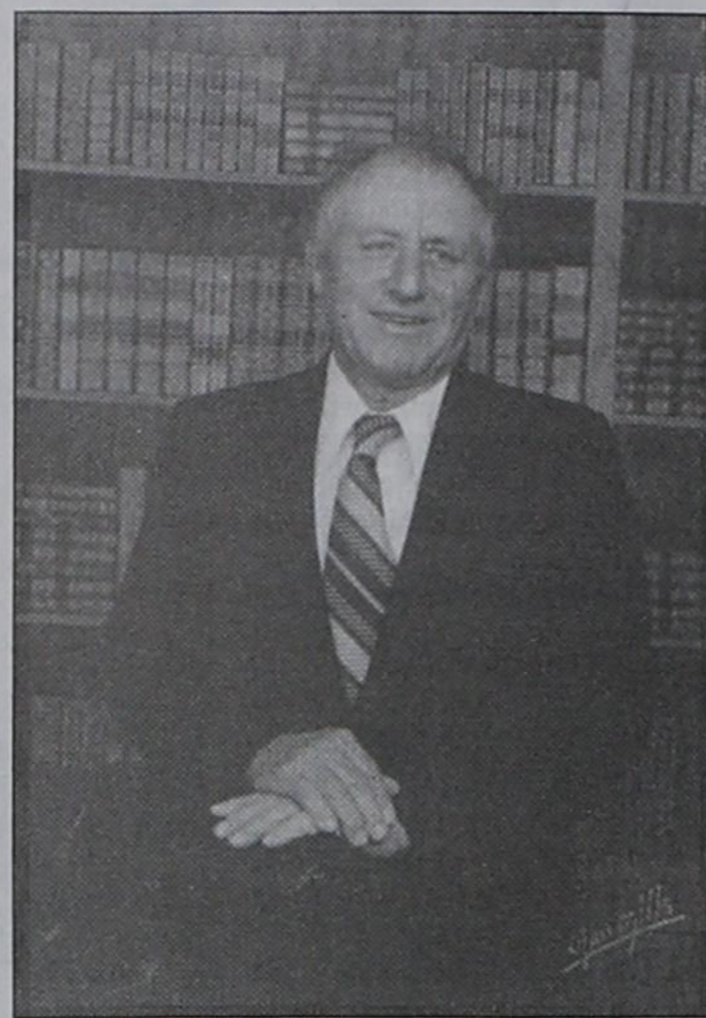
Lightly armed, the alligator carried two .50 caliber machine guns on the forward portion of the tractor. Some were installed with a light .20 mm cannon. But when fully loaded with personnel, every man kept his weapon at the ready to provide massed fire on strafing planes.

During action on one of the Ryukyus island chains, Steiert's alligator was strafed. He recalls the incident: "We were taking a load of soldiers to the shore line. A Japanese plane started a run at us. We turned our .50's on him, and the troops put up a wall of bullets too. The plane banked away. We knew from the way his engine was sputtering, and shooting smoke, he'd not be back again."

Steiert was very fond of the .50 caliber. "That was one fine weapon. It could really open up a Japanese zero quick."

One of the hardships that the alligator crews faced was the continuous exposure to hostile fire. "The troops were very nervous riding in our tractors. The bullets and shells were splashing all around us, and doing a great job of scaring and soaking everybody. Then we'd drop them off on shore, and turn around, and drive back out to the fleet to pick up our next group of soldiers or supplies. Then we set off towards land, exposed to the same shelling again."

Among the Ryukyus, the Philippines were the largest land mass area. Sgt. Steiert was there when the US forces invaded on Oct. 20, 1944. "The invasion effort was a see-saw battle for several weeks. The Japanese had a large force there, and they would always fight to the last man."



PETE STEIERT as a dashing young soldier in World War II (left) and as he is today, farming near Hart.

"They were well entrenched, and capable of launching counter-attacks day or night."

US forces conducted numerous landings on many islands, and supplies were crucial to the success of each operation. AMTRACs were constantly traveling back and forth to the fleet to load up with supplies to support the troops now on shore. Steiert emphasized: "Having the ability to take ammunition up off the beach, and right to the front line elements was the difference that allowed our troops to win some close fights."

When beach heads were established, and supply routes secured, alligator crews reverted to infantry status. Steiert's company was involved in patrols, and jungle warfare. After one engagement, he recalls his thoughts about the Japanese soldier as an individual:

"The Japanese were our enemies, but I didn't hate them as a people. They were fighting for what they believed was a righteous cause. We believed by fighting and killing them, we were accomplishing a greater goal of protecting our nation and ridding the world of tyranny."

"Yet, when I looked into the face of a dead Japanese soldier, I saw several similarities we had in common. We were both young. We were both soldiers upholding our nation's interest. We both came from families who watched us march off to war. His family probably loved him as much as mine loved me. The only true difference between him and myself, was...he was dead, and I had survived to fight another battle."

Alligator crews were sometimes called upon to engage the enemy. Steiert tells of one such incident when he was ordered to do a seemingly impossible task: "We had just got back to the fleet to pick up another load of personnel. Instead we were designated to take a pre-determined position. The only problem was that the pre-determined position was occupied by a very real and very active Japanese pill box. It was armed with an artillery gun. I was convinced there had to be some kind of mistake, so I asked the officer in charge. He told me there wasn't a mistake. Take the gator right in front of the pill box."

"Do I have to drive right in front of it?" I asked. "Well, not only did he want me to take the gator in front

of the pill box, he also wanted my crew to knock the pill box out after we got ashore."

"As we traveled towards that gun, it immediately began to traverse and engage us. It fired continuously, and we dodged the rounds. One round long, another short, but they all kept getting closer. I looked back at our highly explosive cargo hoping we'd get to shore safely. Then one of our soldiers asked the ultimate dumb question. 'Hey Sarge, what if we get hit.' I reassured him, he wouldn't ever feel a thing."



US FORCES found out the hard way that tanks did not do well in the Pacific Theater.

"We were just getting close enough to take a pop shot with our little cannon. I suppose we might have knocked a hole in that pill box if we hit it a few times, but we never got the chance. Our attention was diverted to the sky when we heard a plane diving above us. We turned our .50's skyward, but the plane was past us already. He released his bomb. We watched it tumble down. It landed right on top of the Japanese pill box, and completely destroyed it. The plane was gone so fast, we were never able to identify it as Navy or Marine. All I know is that at that exact moment, I'd gladly given my whole month's wages to that pilot for what he did. We made it to the shore, and delivered our supplies."

The Philippines were declared secured in February 1945 and immediately Steiert began preparation for the Okinawa invasion. The US 10th Army was given the mission to take Okinawa. Over 182,000 troops were initially committed, but by the time the island was secured, over 500,000 men would fight on Okinawa. The Navy sent a fleet of 1,457 ships of which 430 were troop ships.

The invasion of Okinawa began at 4:06 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 1, 1945 saw 50,000 US troops on Hagushi beach before sun down. A beach head was established that was two-to-three miles inland and over eight miles in length. The landing was virtually unchallenged. The Japanese forces could not be located. US troops pressed northward, finding little resistance for five days, unaware that the Japanese forces were south with over 100,000 men.

From April 6 until late June, the Japanese air force would continuously attack the Navy with kamikaze planes in the hopes of crippling it, and leaving the invasion

forces without supplies. The Japanese hoped to crush the US invaders, who would be trapped between mass Imperial forces, and an empty sea. The Japanese gamble failed.

On April 16, the 77th Infantry Division landed on Ie Shima island. The island was believed to be unoccupied, and the US forces wanted it for a land base air strip. Before the island was secured, US forces fought and killed over 300 concealed Japanese soldiers.

Steiert details a story of an actual rescue mission his gators were sent

to one of my friends and said I was really glad that group missed us. He shook his head and said back: 'I'm not sure it did.'

"During the month of May 1945, the US forces began their march south. The farther south they advanced, the greater the resistance became. The Japanese commander, General Ushijima, launched two major counter-offensives to drive the US back. Both attacks were repelled, costing the Japanese many casualties and equipment that they could ill afford to lose. Steiert tells of one such ill-fated Japanese counter-attack.

"We had a strong hunch something was up, when some of our guys spotted the periscope of a Japanese mini-sub offshore from our sea wall perimeter. We were well camouflaged, and they didn't spot all of our elements. But as a precaution, our command had the entire area reinforced.

"Late that night, we spotted Japanese landing crafts heading right towards our area. They had no naval or land artillery supporting their assault. Apparently, they never spotted our positions. We waited for them to reach shore, and as they landed on the beach, our units began firing."

The firefight was brief, but complete. Following day break, the casualty count recorded the entire force of over 300 Japanese soldiers was wiped out.

Following his two failed attacks, General Ushijima decided to continue a frantic war of attrition. For every inch of soil the US captured, he intended to make them pay for it with human blood.

During May and June, heavy rainfall hampered US efforts. Roads were turned into quagmires. Military reports indicated that the forward thrust of US troops had slowed so much that barely a hundred yards of terrain were captured per day. It was during this critical period that the alligators were adjusted to carry mortars and light artillery pieces. The gators could provide supporting fire for advancing troops, and covering fire for troops who were pinned down by enemy elements.

During this period of inclement weather, the Japanese reinforced their defensive positions on key hill tops. Every major hill had fortified-gun positions which were protected by other gun positions on adjacent hills. Hills with names that sounded like they belonged in fairy tales, Strawberry Hill, Chocolate Drop, and Sugar Loaf Hill, became major killing fields. Despite air superiority, the US forces struggled to capture the high grounds on Okinawa. By day or night, US forces were subject to artillery barrages.

Steiert recalls one of the funny incidents that happened on Okinawa following an artillery barrage: "We heard the artillery coming in, so we ducked out into our fighting positions. The rounds landed right in front of our location. The whole earth seemed to shake. We thought the next round would surely land on top of us. Then it was suddenly over, and the whole area was dead quiet."

"We peered up cautiously to observe the area. We couldn't see any thing for awhile because of the smoke and drifting dirt. Finally as things began to settle down, I turned

to one of my friends and said I was really glad that group missed us. He shook his head and said back: 'I'm not sure it did.'

"Confused, I asked him what made him think such a thing. He kept staring straight ahead, then pointed and said: 'Cause, there comes Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus right towards us.'

"We all scrambled over to his area to peer in his direction. From out of the smoke and haze a man suddenly appeared, leading a woman who was carrying a bundled baby.

"Their appearance reminded us all of a Christmas post card, minus the donkey. Some guy in our group asked: 'Do you think it's really them?' At that moment, nobody volunteered an answer.

"The family approached us, and much to our surprise, they spoke English. They were once teachers on Okinawa, now they were refugees like all the inhabitants. We told them where to go to find refuge, and they departed our area peacefully. To this day I still laugh when I think about the sudden appearance of Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus."

On June 21, 1945 the island of Okinawa was declared secured although scattered pockets of resistance were still reported. The battle for Okinawa cost the 10th Army 7,203 lives. Another 31,081 men were wounded. The US Navy lost 34 ships, and had another 288 damaged costing the lives of 4,907 men with another 4,824 wounded. The Japanese losses could never be totally verified. Among the estimated 100,000 Japanese troops on the island, only a few hundred were captured. General Ushijima committed ceremonial suicide on the same day Okinawa was declared secured.

Sgt. Steiert remained on Okinawa until the war ended on Aug. 14, 1945. The Japanese formally surrendered on Sept. 2, 1945. Steiert's feelings about the war, and the use of the atomic bomb reflect the opinion of many veterans.

"I was glad when the allies agreed to use the bomb. Despite its awful damage, it brought the war to a quick end, and probably saved millions of lives."

Steiert left active service in November 1945. He resided in Plainview for about a year, then returned to Castro County, where he resumed farming north of Hart.

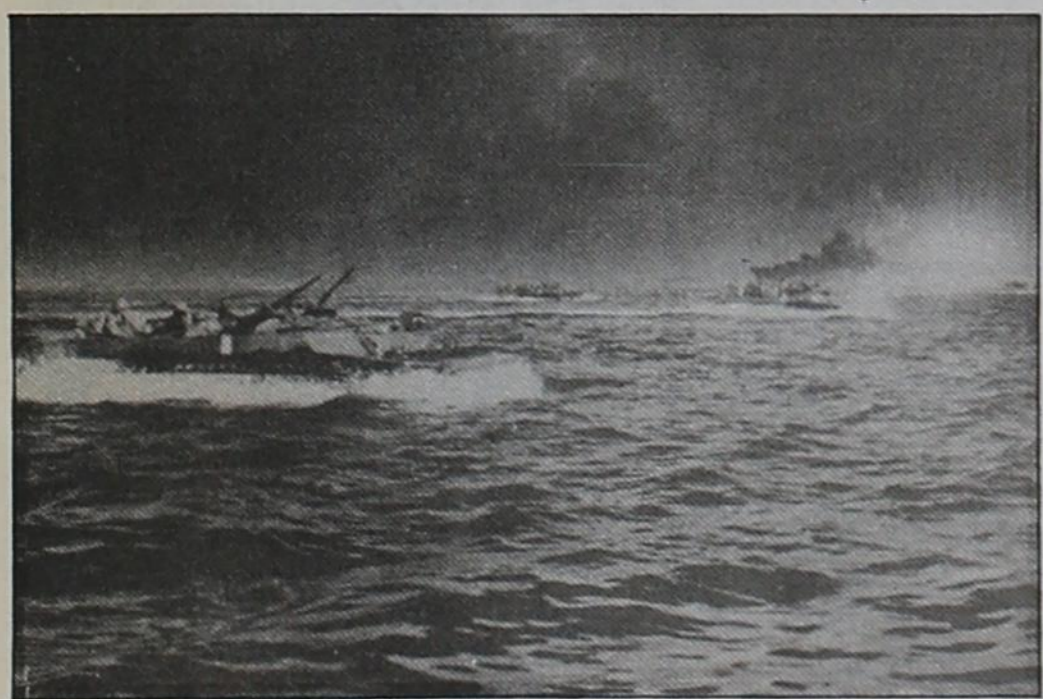
Involved in so many episodes of actions, Steiert does not look upon his actions as being unique nor heroic. He explains: "Heroic efforts came a dime a dozen out there. Every body seemed to do the heroic. It was 'common place.' Nobody did it on the thought of gaining a medal. It was survival. Every thing was done on the principle of survival."

Steiert remains convinced that the outcome of the war obtained a greater good. "We still enjoy a unique freedom that no body else in the world shares. I hope this nation and our young people never take that for granted."

Steiert's comment complements a statement which remains popular among many veterans today. It states: "For those who have fought for it, freedom has a taste that the protected will never know."




THIS IS ONE of Pete Steiert's alligator crews. Steiert is seated bottom left holding an island monkey.



THESE ARE ALLIGATORS approaching the shores of Okinawa. battleship in the background is engaging enemy positions and trying to give the alligators some cover.

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## Tracking the tornadoes

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1995

**6 p.m.:** Tornado reported on the ground south of Edmonson, moving northeast. Funnel activity and cloud rotation also reported south of Hart.

**6:30:** Car forced or thrown off highway south of Hart; occupants (Hart residents) escape injury.

**6:40:** Two funnels reported in the air four miles east of Hart on Highway 145, moving northwest.

**6:44:** Tornado reported on the ground three to four miles east of Hart, moving to the northwest.

**6:48:** Second funnel reported five to six miles east of Hart, moving northwest.

**6:51 p.m.:** First funnel reported dissipated; second funnel receding back into clouds.

**6:56:** Second funnel reported on the ground again; receding two minutes later. Meanwhile, severe storm activity is reported south of Nazareth, west of Dimmitt and in the Summerfield area.

**7:32:** Tornado reported seven miles west of Dimmitt, moving eastward at 20 mph, but two other spotters in the vicinity report that they can't see it.

**7:49:** Cloud rotation reported "high and low, moving every direction" in storm cell over Summerfield that had spawned the Friona tornado earlier. Cloud rotation also reported near Flagg. Meanwhile, hail ranging from marble size to golfball size reported along FM 1055 (Flagg road) and in and around Dimmitt.

**7:59:** Tornado reported on the ground three miles east of Nazareth, apparently moving toward the city.

**7:59:** Tornado reported on the ground three miles south of Dimmitt, on west side of Highway 385, traveling northward. This report prompts another spotter to comment, "It looks like we've got two on the ground at once."

**8:01-8:02:** Dimmitt tornado crosses Highway 385 and hits the Bryce Dowell home; is moving northeast toward the Goodpasture plant.

**8:06:** Dimmitt tornado crosses Highway 194 near Goodpasture plant, going northeast, and "has doubled in size on the ground in the last four minutes."

**8:07:** Dimmitt tornado reported going down Rodeo Road on east edge of Dimmitt, described by spotters as "massive" and "the biggest one I've ever seen," cutting a path a quarter of a mile wide.

**8:10:** Spotter reports, "The thing is farther east than everybody thinks."

**8:10-8:15:** Dimmitt tornado reported turning to northwest, then to west toward the Azteca Complex, then to southwest toward Dimmitt; ultimately crosses Highway 86 a mile east of town, still going north.

**8:17:** Dimmitt tornado appears to be in the vicinity of the city landfill, and appears to be weakening as a white "finger funnel" spins out of the dust cloud.

**8:17:** National Weather Service reports a tornado on the ground five miles east of Nazareth.

**8:18:** Casualties reported along Highway 86 just east of Dimmitt, immediately west of Huggins Addition. Two homes hit "really bad"; highline poles and lines down, and "the pavement is gone out here."

**8:20-8:45:** Utility poles and high-voltage power lines reported down and across highways near Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth. Traffic is stopped on many roads.

**8:30:** Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Calvert and Mr. and Mrs. Don Carpenter, who were in the basement of the worst-hit home east of Dimmitt, are admitted to Plains Memorial Hospital emergency room. Carpenters are treated and released; Calverts are admitted for observation.

**8:45:** Rain and heavy hail reported at Nazareth, but no tornado on the ground.

**8:46:** "A lot of rotation" reported in clouds north of Hart.

**8:52:** Another low cloud reported moving into Dimmitt from the south, but it passes over without incident.

**9:05:** Report from Huggins Addition: Lots of damage to fences and poles, some damage to homes, but no injuries.

**9:20:** Danger apparently past at Hart and Nazareth. Emergency repair and clean-up work underway across the county. Tornado reported at Happy.

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 1995

**2:30 p.m.:** Funnel cloud reported northwest of Dimmitt, three miles southeast of FM 2397 (Easter Road). Other storm cells to the south building rapidly.

**3:00:** String of funnels reported west and south of Flagg. Deputy Sheriff Glen Snitker gets picture of six funnels in the sky at one time.

**3:07:** Baseball-size hail reported on FM 1055 (Flagg Road) south of Andy Rogers Feedlot. Sheriff CD Fitzgearld loses his windshield.

**3:13:** Large tornado reported on ground two miles south of Flagg; "blows out" within two to three minutes.

**3:27:** Funnel reported on the ground north of FM 303 (Dodd Road) and west of FM 1055, going east.

**3:31:** Funnel has receded but is now on the ground again; ultimately dissipates.

**3:00-4:00:** Heavy rain with hail reported by spotters throughout central, southern and western areas of county.

**4:00:** Highways 385 south of Dimmitt, 194 southeast of Dimmitt and 86 east of Dimmitt all closed because of flooding. 1.82 inches of rain reported in Dimmitt with up to four inches elsewhere in county.



The sugar beet industry owes its beginnings to Napoleon Bonaparte. Cut off from sugar producing countries, he ordered his scientists to develop a substitute for cane sugar. They developed the methods for producing beet sugar.

# Cows flew over S. Friona

(Editor's note: This story is one of several in the June 11 edition of the *Friona Star*. Friona, like Dimmitt, had a devastating tornado on June 2.)

By BILL ELLIS

By the time we caught up with Terry Sharrock on Thursday, the events of last Friday (June 2) seemed more like an adventure out of *Jurassic Park* than a normal day's work. But the adventure will be forever etched in his mind.

Sharrock was one of the "closer" witnesses of the funnel cloud that devastated the Baileys' trailer house, the Mendozas and White residences, etc. As a matter of fact, the Sharrocks became a part of the storm themselves.

Terry, who has been employed by Friona Wheat Growers about six years, saw the funnel "set down" near the Highway 214 overpass. It proceeded northeast, and as he was at the company's new fertilizer plant, thought it might go on north of him.

But the twister struck the large elevator bins, and made a 45-degree turn and came back in a southerly direction.

(The funnel left a residue of the light brown mud where it hit the elevator, like that seen on the tombstones at Friona Cemetery.)

The Sharrocks jumped in their van and tried to get away, but the twister's force prevented them from escaping.

"It ripped the windows out of the van, and we were trying to cover up our baby daughter, Megan. Then, I looked out of the corner of my eye and saw a couple of cows flying through the air," Sharrock said.

YOU DID WHAT??

Yes, I heard him right the first time.

"They looked to be full-grown, mother type cows. They were sailing through the air, on their sides, about 10 or 12 feet off the ground," he added.

## Dimmitt storm rated at 'F3'

Dimmitt's tornado of June 2 has been rated as an F3 by the National Weather Service in Amarillo.

An F3 tornado would have top winds of up to 205 MPH.

Jose M. Garcia Jr., meteorologist-in-charge at the Amarillo NWS office, said the tornado has been rated an F3. That's in the middle of the Fujita Scale that is used to measure tornadic storms.

"The Fujita Scale is an estimate of the wind based on the damage we see," said Garcia. "In a more populated area it might have been rated higher."

Garcia said the rating is based upon the amount of damage he is able to measure in an area. In a more densely populated area there would have been more damage to assess, making the measurement more solid. With few homes in the area, the damage assessment is a little more inexact, Garcia said.

"The Fujita Scale is certainly not an infallible scale," Garcia said. "It is really an objective scale."

The Fujita Scale was developed by a professor at the University of Chicago to measure levels of tornadic winds and damage. Most



**TRUCKLOAD OF DEBRIS**—One of 25 truckloads of debris is dumped Saturday by volunteers helping to clean up tornado damage. Workers from J&H Equipment, Dimmitt Equipment Co. and Dimmitt

Welding and Electric pitched in to clear several area fields. Don Cornett of J&H Equipment said the workers helped clear the debris because "people needed help." Efforts are ongoing. *Photo by Don Nelson*

tornadoes are F0 or F1, with winds generally less than 120 MPH. There

have been very few F5 tornadoes, with winds up to 317 MPH. The

scale goes to F6, but no F6 tornadoes have been recorded.

## Nazareth area also gets damage

Heavy wind and hail pummeled parts of Nazareth and other areas of the county during the big Friday night storm that spawned the tornado east of Dimmitt.

A tree in front of Joe Johnson's residence in Nazareth collapsed and fell on the house. There was no serious damage to the home.

"I heard a roar, then yelled at everyone to take cover," said Janette Johnson, Joe's wife. "Tara (their daughter) came running from the bedroom at the south end of the house and said that she had seen the tree fall."

All of this took place about 9 p.m. that night.

Across the street from the John-

son's, a portion of metal roof on the Luis Pena residence was damaged.

At the Nazareth ballpark, the metal awning that covered the bleachers was torn off and blew away. The electrical lines at the diamond were also down.

Several houses in the country had windows knocked out by hail.

Joe Hochstein, Billy Ed Hoelting and Kent Birkenfeld, who all live south of Nazareth, had windows knocked out. Birkenfeld had skylights damaged.

Also south of town, corn eight to twelve inches tall was shredded. Several power lines were down and some poles were snapped. Some sprinklers were also damaged.

East of Nazareth, at the Leroy Pohlmeier and Francis Wilhelm residences, several windows were gone because of hail.

Not all the damage was done to

houses or crops. Bob Sheffy had 40 head of cattle at his place, north of Carlos Calvert's home. Thirty-one were alive, but most of them were splintered by boards. His pens were also destroyed.

**Castro County Hospital District** is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Jobey Claborn** to its medical clinics.

Dr. Claborn previously practiced in Phoenix, Arizona. He is certified in family medicine and has served a three-year program in dermatology.

Dr. Claborn's medical practice will include:

- Family Practice
- Dermatology
- Acne Treatment
- Skin Cancer Treatment and Surgery
- Obstetrical Services

To make an appointment, call: **Medical Center of Dimmitt**  
213 W. Etter  
Dimmitt, TX 79027  
1-806-647-2194

The Castro County Tax Assessor/Collector's Office *will be closed* **June 19** due to installation of computer equipment.

No business can be transacted on that day. We are sorry for any inconvenience.



18- Services

HEADHUNTERS family hairstyling, 409 NW 4th. 647-4159. New customers get a 20% discount on all services.

WILL DO OUTSIDE trim and window painting. Winston and Judy Waggoner, 647-5755.

AMARILLO-AREA PREGNANCY Crisis Center Hotline. Call collect, 0-354-2244.

ROOFING SYSTEMS. For quality hall-resistant roofing, call Robert Duke at 647-5517.

Dimmitt Ready Mix & Construction. Commercial & Residential. Septic Systems. Plumbing. Licensed, Bonded and Insured. Call 647-3171.

Call Us For LUMBER • PLYWOOD HARDWARE • PAINT ROOFING • SIDING. We contract NEW HOMES—ADDITIONS—REMODELING. RESIDENTIAL—COMMERCIAL. Call Ed Harris Lumber Co.

NEED YOUR TENNIS RACQUET RESTRUNG? Call Brent or Bryan Portwood at 647-2541.

19-Students Wanting Work

NEED YOUR LAWN MOWED? Call Tyson Adams at 647-4397 or Brent and Bryan Portwood at 647-2541.

WILL BABYSIT this summer. Call Amy Matthews at 647-3201.

WANTED: Lawns to mow. Need a lawn mowed? Call Zachary Bell or Brad Beck at 647-5456.

GOING ON VACATION? Call Carrie Sheffy at 647-4682. I will take care of pets and water house plants.

21-Wanted, Misc. I WOULD LIKE TO BUY your used gold jewelry—broken, worn out or otherwise. Call 647-3250, evenings.

GOOD GOLFERS needed. See Chaun or Morris at First Bank—Dimmitt.

22-Notices WEIGHT WATCHERS is now meeting every Monday in Dimmitt. For more information please call 1-800-359-3131.

23-Lost & Found FOUND! Set of keys during election at Dimmitt City Hall. Identify and claim in person at City Hall.

24-Card of Thanks CARD OF THANKS Thank you so much for the many, many prayers sent in my behalf during my surgery and recuperation.

DAVEINE WALL 24-10-11p

24-Card of Thanks

CARD OF THANKS Castro County Memorial Post 8056 would like to thank the community for helping with the first chili cook-off.

25-Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON APPLICATION FOR WASTE DISPOSAL PERMIT AMENDMENT

TNRCC DOCKET NO. 95-0910-AGR

SUNNYSIDE FEEDYARD, L.C., HCR 1, Box 90, Dimmitt, Texas 79027 has applied to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (Commission) for an amendment to Permit No. 01387 to authorize an increase in the number of cattle at the feedlot from 10,000 head to 20,000 head.

The Executive Director of the Commission has prepared a draft permit based on the application submitted by the applicant and other information presently available.

A Hearings Examiner of the Commission will conduct a public hearing at 9 a.m., Thursday, July 20, 1995, Castro County Courthouse, District Courtroom, 100 East Bedford, Dimmitt, Texas to receive evidence on the conditions, if any, under which the permit may be issued, and determine whether State Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act may be issued.

The record of this proceeding will include evidence and testimony taken at the public hearing. The hearing may be continued from time to time and place to place, if necessary, to develop all relevant evidence bearing on the subject of the hearing.

Persons desiring to protest the granting of this application, who have not previously requested a hearing in writing, should file written protests with the Commission prior to the hearing date and serve copies of the written protest on the applicant and all designated parties, if any.

Additionally, any representative who has been retained for this proceeding will be expected to attend the hearing and to participate in settlement negotiations and other matters.

Issued this 6th day of June, 1995. GLORIA A. VASQUEZ, Chief Clerk Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission 25-10-11c

Classifieds gets results

25-Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: J. HOWARD DAVIS, MABEL DAVIS, LORRETTA LONGMIRE AND VIOLET MARIE DAVIS JAGOU and if any of the individuals named were ever married, complaining of their spouse, whose name is unknown, and if any of the above named Defendants are deceased or their spouse is deceased, complaining of the heirs, the unknown heirs and legal representatives of each, all and every one of the individuals hereinabove named, all of whom are hereinafter referred to as Defendants in the cause herein described in this citation.

You, and each of you, are commanded to appear and to answer before the 64th District Court in the Castro County Courthouse in the City of Dimmitt, Castro County, at or before 10 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, being at or before 10 a.m. on Monday, the 31st day of July, 1995, then and there to answer the Petition of Porter McCall in Cause Number A-6940-CV-0695, styled PORTER McCALL vs. J. HOWARD DAVIS ETAL, in which E.P. McCALL is Plaintiff and J. HOWARD DAVIS, MABEL DAVIS, LORRETTA LONGMIRE and VIOLET MARIE DAVIS JAGOU and if any of the individuals named were ever married, complaining of their spouse, whose name is unknown, and if any of the above named Defendants are deceased or their spouse is deceased, complaining of the heirs, the unknown heirs and legal representatives of each, all and every one of the individuals hereinabove named, all of whom are Defendants.

A suit to authorize the execution by the County Judge and to declare the validity of a Geophysical Option and Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease for the owners of an undivided one-half (1/2) mineral interest of the West One-Half (W/2) of Section Twenty-Nine (29), Block S-2, Cert. 1086, E.L. & R.R. Ry. Co. Survey, Castro County, Texas.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned, unserved.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THIS COURT on this the 12th day of June, 1995, at Dimmitt, Castro County, Texas.

JOYCE M. THOMAS, Clerk of the District Court of Castro County, Texas

By: CLARA M. PATTON, Deputy 25-10-11c

Obituaries

Manuela Mendoza

Manuela Mendoza, 53, of Dimmitt, died Thursday.

Services were Saturday at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Dimmitt with the Rev. Guillermo Morales, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Westlawn Memorial Park by Foskey Funeral Home of Dimmitt.

Mrs. Mendoza was born May 18, 1942 in Villamada, Chihuahua, Mexico. She moved to Dimmitt in 1981 from Muleshoe. She married Mauro Mendoza in 1962 in Guadalupe, Mexico. She was a housewife and a Catholic.

Survivors include her husband; four sons, Jose Mendoza and George Mendoza, both of Friona, and Beto and Mauro Mendoza, both of Amarillo; three daughters, Lupe Rosas of Friona, Maria Ramos of Dimmitt and Melva Saucedo of Seminole; her mother, Genoveva Cepeda of Mexico; six sisters, Eulalia Mendoza of Mexico, Mercedes Sanchez of Van Horn, and Nena Arzate, Alicia Cepeda, Isela Soto and Leticia Cepeda, all of El Paso; three brothers, Angel Cepeda, Alfredo Cepeda and Arturo Cepeda, all of Mexico; and 14 grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Jose Mendoza, Beto Mendoza, Mauro Mendoza Sr., and Mauro Mendoza Jr., and Angel and Arturo Cepeda.

The family suggests memorials be to National Kidney Foundation, 3801 19th St., Suite 402, Lubbock, TX 79410.

Carlos Padilla

Carlos D. Padilla, 57, of Friona died Monday.

Services were Wednesday at St. Teresa's Catholic Church in Friona with the Rev. Ed Sweeney, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Friona Cemetery by Ellis-Blackwell Funeral Home.

Mr. Padilla was born Sept. 23, 1937, in Bernal, N.M. He was a Catholic. He was a laborer in the construction business.

Survivors include two sons, Carlos Padilla Jr., and David Dimas, both of Friona; his mother, Leontina Padilla of Friona; seven brothers, Juan Padilla, Toddy Padilla Sr., Daniel Padilla Jr., and Raymond Padilla, all of Friona, Lorenzo Padilla of Levelland, Salvador Padilla of Earth and Sebastian Padilla of San Antonio; four sisters, Rita Padilla and Veva Zamora, both of Earth, and Veronica Espinosa and Frances Anes, both of Dimmitt; and two grandchildren.

'Living with Cancer' series concludes in Hereford

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center will conclude a four-part "Living with Cancer" support group series at the Hereford Community Center, 100 Avenue C, June 20 and 27, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m..

The series is entitled "A Series for People whose Lives have been Touched by Cancer." The two previous installments were held June 6 and 13.

The "Living with Cancer" support group is sponsored by The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center, Hereford Regional Hospital, First National Bank of Hereford and the Hereford Chapter of the Circle of Friends. Anyone interested in further information can contact Gerry Kelly at 1-800-274-4673 or (806) 359-4673.

The topics to be addressed will be "Living a Healthy Lifestyle" and "Living up to your Potential." The programs will be presented by physicians and staff members of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center.

Police Calls

Area law enforcement had their second slow week in a row, crime-wise, in Castro County.

Reports in the county included someone shooting at a trailer house in the western part of the county and a disturbance near Hart.

Reports in Dimmitt over the past week included burglary of a house in the 700 block of SW Fourth, with money, a wallet and checks taken; light damage to a building and signs on N. Broadway; a burglary attempt in the 300 block of NW Fourth; driving while intoxicated on Friday night at Broadway and Bedford; an egg thrown at a church's door in the 400 block of NE Sixth; damage to a phone and electrical boxes in the 600 block of NW Sixth; public intoxication Sunday night in the 600 block of E. Dulin; someone driving on the grass at Dimmitt High School on Friday night; and a domestic violence assault Sunday in the 100 block of NW 11th. A 17-year-old man was charged in that case.

Friona tabloid to sell in Dimmitt

A 12-page pictorial tabloid special section on the Friona tornado that hit June 2 is available at the Castro County News office, Dimmitt Thriftway and IGA Foodliner.

The special section is \$1 each, printed on book paper and complete with photos and stories of the massive destruction caused by the Friona tornado, which was similar in force to Dimmitt's twister.

One thousand extra pictorial tabloids were printed, and they have already sold out in Friona.

Shop Dimmitt first!

ALLSUP'S RATTLESNAKE ROUND-UP! Instantly Win Up To \$5,000 Cash! Weekly Drawings To Win Free Gas For a Year! Win A 1995 Ford F-150 Super Cab XLT! DIMMITT PRICES EFFECTIVE THROUGH JUNE 17, 1995. SAVE ON PEPSI-COLA 12 OZ. CANS, 6 PACK \$1.99. INTRODUCING THE NEW SUPER TALLSUP BIG 64 OZ. CUP FILLED WITH YOUR FAVORITE SOFT DRINK \$1.09. ALLSUP'S SAUSAGE, EGG & BISCUIT FOR ONLY 99¢. BEEF & SALSA BURRITO FOR ONLY 99¢. ALL PURPOSE RUSSET POTATOES 10 LB. BAG \$1.29. LANA'S PORK EGG ROLL 2 \$1.00 FOR. MELLO-CRISP SLICED BACON 1 LB. PKG. 99¢. DECKER BOLOGNA OR SALAMI 6 OZ. PKG. 99¢. SHURFINE GRADE A LARGE EGGS 18 CT. CTN. 99¢. IN-STORE SAVINGS DECKER CHOPPED HAM 6 OZ. \$1.29. LAY'S RUFFLES/DORITOS REG. 69¢. GRAB BAGS 2 FOR \$1.00. ALLSUP'S 1.5 LB. LOAF SANDWICH BREAD...69¢ EACH OR 2 FOR \$1.00. REG. \$1.39 ALL FLAVORS LANCE POTATO CHIPS EA. 99¢. ALLSUP'S PREMIUM, PLAIN OR ALMOND ICE CREAM BARS EA. 69¢. \$50.00 WORTH OF GASOLINE FREE!!! TAKE THIS COUPON TO BIG COUNTRY FORD 2400 MABRY DR. CLOVIS, NEW MEXICO 88101. IF YOU PURCHASE A NEW VEHICLE BEFORE AUGUST 19, 1995 YOU WILL RECEIVE \$50.00 WORTH OF FREE GASOLINE COURTESY OF ALLSUP'S.

Take the challenge

Win Great Free Products & Discounts!

More about

1:1

(Continued from Page 1)  
 was at home in Nazareth, and had her hands full there that evening, with three kids and three confirmed sightings.

This one was my baby. I couldn't turn it loose. And it wouldn't turn me loose.

From Friday evening, June 2, until we went to press Wednesday, I took time out only for church Sunday morning. The rest of the time I was tracking that monster—taking pictures and notes, measuring distances, chasing down victims and eyewitnesses, taping interviews, trying to decide how to break up and organize all the details of this incomprehensible event in some comprehensive fashion.

In the meantime, Anne took over the ad sales last week, and any semblance of business management around here was put on hold for the duration.

I told Annie Calvert that what she was going through was the same thing many men experience in war. Shellshock. Combat fatigue. Battlefield trauma. Flashbacks.

I'm here to tell you: A reporter can get shellshock, too.

I couldn't see the tornado from our house—not even from an upstairs window—because of our big mulberry tree. And I wasn't dumb enough to go out looking for it. I was keeping an ear to my scanner and an eye on my watch, and taking notes. We had two on the ground at once right then.

But I saw enough of it later. More than enough, really.

Journalists try to be objective. It's a built-in professional habit. But I found it impossible to be objective about this monster. In the course of covering the story—no, afterward, actually—I realized: *I've become a victim of that danged tornado.*

After the paper was out last Wednesday, I told the staff I wouldn't be in the next day—I was going to get out of town.

So Verbie and I went to Buffalo Lake and Palo Duro Canyon last Thursday, spotted deer and wild turkey and Arizona cardinals, and saw *TEXAS* that night in balmy weather, under a partly cloudy sky.

(While eating fried chicken at the Cottonwood Picnic Grounds, we watched the heavy clouds forming and drifting northward along the "dry line." These clouds would later build into the storm cell that spawned the Pampa tornado.)

After Thursday, I thought I was ready to get back in the saddle. But Friday, I wasn't worth a darn. Couldn't keep my mind on my work.

Friday night I finally relaxed and watched TV for the first time in a week. After nodding off and fighting to stay awake for an hour or more, I started bedward. Then some question about one of the tornado stories popped into my mind—I don't even remember what

—and I picked up the paper again to check it.

After re-reading some of it, I was "wired" again. I didn't get to sleep until 2 a.m.

If, God forbid, we ever have another bad tornado here, I'll be inclined to say "Been there, done that," and skip it.

But I guess I won't.

If I experienced shellshock from this tornado, I'm sure all the spotters, emergency workers and volunteers are having some of the same symptoms (or worse), although I haven't had time to ask any of them.

Especially Sheriff CD Fitzgearld, who did a superb job of supervising the storm tracking, emergency services and security. He went several nights with little or no sleep. I wonder how much he's getting now.

As the storms developed, one of the stories I had in mind to write—until it got crowded out—was how big a part the "co's" played in our storm-watch system: coordination, cooperation and concern. We had a lot of bona fide heroes that night—from those in surrounding counties who helped, to our volunteer fire-

men, our emergency medical teams, our law officers, our neighbors...

One thing I did compile but we had to leave out last week because of space restrictions was the chronology of the storm and the tornado sightings. It takes up a third of a page. We're printing it this week, though, for historical purposes.

(By the way, there was one tornado reported on the ground six or seven miles west-southwest of Dimmitt that night that wasn't confirmed. Clyde Dameron confirmed it this week. He had to replant the crop that it destroyed.)

Friena Star Editor Bill Ellis and I stayed in contact by phone during the week, comparing nightmares.

Tuesday, he said, "By the way, did I tell you that we lost our roof?"

"No," I said. "To your house or the newspaper office?"

"The house," he said.

"You mean the tornado got it?" I asked.

"Well, not exactly," he said.

"Hail?"

"No. Cinder blocks. Our roof got pummeled by chunks of cinder blocks."

At another home in their neigh-

borhood, a cinder block went through the roof and ceiling and landed in a baby carriage—just moments after the mother had taken the baby out of it.

(How do you tell the insurance company that your roof got blocked?)

Elsewhere in this issue, there's a feature story from last week's *Star* about the cows that were sighted in Friena's tornado.

We've also brought in a hundred copies of the *Star's* 12-page tabloid special on the Friena tornado. They're on sale for \$1 per copy at the *News* office and at Thriftway and IGA Foodliner supermarkets.

There's still cleanup work to be done here. If you can help, contact J&H Equipment Co. or the Sheriff's Office.

The cleanup work isn't all just here, either.

Bryce and Darlene Dowell got one of their old cancelled checks back Tuesday. It was a 1986 check that was among some bank statements that had been stored in the attic of the Dowells' garage.

Jo Beth Mays brought it back to them. A relative of Jo Beth's had found it in her back yard—on Dell Street, in east Amarillo.

More about

Remodeling...

(Continued from Page 1)

The building also includes the Edwards Laundry on the east end and Troy's Sweet Shop on the west end. The space being used by those two businesses will not be incorporated into the clinic, Clark said.

The building was built in the 1950s by Ray Bearden. Originally known as the Bearden Shopping Center, it housed supermarkets and a Gibson's Discount Store through the years before it was remodeled for South Plains Health Provider.

A large crowd attended the Thursday night discussion on whether to build or buy, but made few comments.

The building committee reported that it had studied contractors' bids on a new clinic building; they ranged from \$551,000 to \$698,000, with the cost per square foot varying from \$74.09 to \$93.80.

The committee recommended that "we inspect the Bradley building real close, and if it is acceptable, submit an offer to Jack Bradley."

"The remodeling can be accomplished in 60 days," Clark said. "It's important that we be ready by Aug. 1 when Dr. Joplin arrives."

In answer to a question from the audience, Clark said that another alternative—adding onto the present Medical Center building—"is not impossible, but we feel that this is a lot more economical... I believe that we can purchase and

remodel (the Bradley building) for less than \$200,000."

He added, "The changes in Medicare and Medicaid, with the advent of PPOs and HMOs and alliances, are one reason we don't feel comfortable investing any more money than we have to in this clinic building."

But Clark defended the rural health clinic concept here, and its planned role in keeping the hospital healthy.

"This board has been dedicated in the past to trying to maintain local control of our hospital," he said. "I think that once we get the clinic situated and fully staffed, you're going to see it all start to fit together. Dr. Patel is doing an excellent job; he's pulling in patients from outside the area, and the other doctors will also. And the reason we're signing contracts with HMOs and PPOs is to assure that our hospital is the first-care facility for our local residents."

After an executive session, the board hired Arthur Bailey as the new chief financial officer of the hospital district at a salary of \$28,000 per year, and also named him the interim administrator of Castro County Community Clinics at a salary of \$1,000 per month.

In the CCCC post, Bailey succeeds Vince Moss, who submitted his resignation May 24.

A native of Sewanee, Tenn., Bailey holds a degree in business administration and political science from Vanderbilt University.

His wife, Michelle, is a Registered Nurse and anesthetist at Plains Memorial.

Bailey served five years' military service as a commissioned officer, and operated an anesthesia service with his wife. Since moving to Dimmitt, he has been in money management and investments.

The board also approved and signed new contracts—three in all—with Dr. D. S. Patel. One is for medical services at Plains Memor-

Committee launches a CUFUPU challenge

Dimmitt residents are being urged to "Take the Challenge" this month as CUFUPU Month in Dimmitt.

CUFUPU means Clean Up, Fix Up and Pride Up, and Dimmitt folks are being urged to do what it takes to make Dimmitt look better.

Avery Thrasher is serving as beautification chairman for the committee, which is sponsored by the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce. He started his efforts with his own house and lawn at SW Fifth and Jones. He has now motivated his neighbors across the street south and west to plant new grass and shrubs.

"Now I want to challenge each individual to beautify and clean up their own personal properties and businesses," Thrasher said.

A Junior Girl Scout troop, guided by Jerry and Diane Cartwright, adopted the mini-park on the north side of the square. Other projects include the Rotary Club repainting the sign at the Senior Citizens Center, and Beta Zeta Upsilon sorority killing weeds around the center and planting flowers.

Businesses with wooden barrels are encouraged to plant flowers in them if the barrels are still in good shape. Businesses that have barrels in disrepair are urged to call the chamber so the barrels can be hauled off.

A CUFUPU fact sheet is being distributed this month to let people know how to dispose of items like tires, batteries, refrigerators, junk

cars, grass and yard clippings. Clippings should be put only in specially-marked green dumpsters or placed beside regular dumpsters. For pickup of yard waste, call the city warehouse at 647-4492.

An all-out push for cleaning up will be held June 24.

More about Clinics...

(Continued from Page 1)

At 4 p.m. Valerie Moss turned in her time card and marked it final.

"Vince worked until about 6 p.m. that evening and when he left, it was expected that he would be back Monday. He called Monday morning and stated that he would not be back.

"When Mr. Bailey began his review of the office operation, he found an extreme condition of disarray, with many stacks of paperwork scattered around the office on desks or in drawers. Among those papers were found several checks made payable to the clinic that were uncashed. Some were dated back as far as June, 1994.

"Upon examination of the stacks, it was quickly determined that the clinic administration had failed to file numerous claims to Medicare, Medicaid and insurance companies in a timely fashion and had lost in excess of \$70,000 in reimbursement. There were also many claims that were about to expire that needed immediate attention. There also was evidence that all of the records had not been located.

"After viewing the overall situation in the rural health clinic administration office, the decision was made to call in a rural health clinic consultant to assist in organizing the system, to hire a collection firm to handle the delinquent accounts and an outside firm to catch up with claim filing.

"A study will also be made of the claim filings that have expired to see if there is any way they can be submitted with a fair chance of collection."

According to Clark, 83% of the

More about Klein...

(Continued from Page 1)

If he does come up short, though, he can refer to the Special Olympic motto for support: "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

His coach and dad also lends him some support.

"Just to get nominated means that he's won. It's a dream just to get to where he is."

Bill said that B.J. is paying his own way and transportation itself will cost \$1,000.

rural health clinics' accounts receivable are delinquent.

Regarding the lapsed claims, Clark said, "We're calling in a specialist and when the study is done, we'll try to make a special appeal to Austin to submit these claims. But as the rules stand now, we've lost that money."

However, Bailey said that he hopes "to get back a substantial portion of the \$70,000 in delinquent claims" by resubmitting them.

Bailey said one of his first projects after taking over as interim administrator was to compile an income statement for the rural health clinics. He said his accounting showed losses totaling \$490,293.39 (unaudited) for fiscal 1995.

"It's clear we can no longer do things this way, and the community deserves to not have this kind of situation," Bailey said.

He said billing was "the major problem" right now.

"Our main goal now is to get the cash flow going," Clark said.

"Until the clinics are in the black, I'm going to take only 85% of my salary," Bailey said. "And we plan to adjust some hours for some of the hospital and clinic personnel. I've talked to some of the hospital staff about it. Nursing services have been very good about it; they've provided excellent leadership."

He added, "The hospital and clinics are in no danger. We do have 2-1/2 million dollars in reserve and one million in accounts receivable.

"We plan to run the hospital and the clinics as for-profit businesses, with absolute emphasis on patient care," Bailey said.

If anyone would like to help fund the trip they are asked to send their donations to B.J. Klein, Olympic Fund, Box 77, Nazareth, TX 79063.

**Kids!**  
 Win a 2-liter soft drink and a chance for \$200!  
 Enter the News Quiz on Page 21

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