

Baseball games

Haskell vs Memphis
Area Playoff
Best 2 of 3 games
Vernon College Field, Vernon
1st game
Fri., May 20, 4:30 p.m.
2nd game
Sat., May 21, 10 a.m.
3rd game, if needed
30 minutes after game 2

Calendar

Fish fry

A catfish fry will be held Sun., May 22 beginning at 12 noon at the Fellowship Hall of East Side Baptist Church. The meal will include fried catfish or chicken strips. Donations will be accepted. Proceeds will benefit a mission trip planning in July to Chelcia, Vermont.

Sports banquet

The Haskell High School athletes will be honored at an All-Sports banquet Mon., May 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Haskell Civic Center. To purchase tickets, contact Mynea Short at Haskell National Bank, First National Bank, Sport-About, Rosemary Brown or the School's Administration Office. Tickets are \$7.50 May 2-13 and \$8.50 May 14 until at the door.

Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., May 21 from 10 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. at 206 S. 2nd (building east of Civic Center) in Haskell. Volunteers are needed.

Summer program

The 21st Century Books & Beyond Learning Center's summer program dates will be June 13-July 1 for the first session and July 18-29 for the second session from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Students will participate in academic activities, snacks, lunch, swimming, community service, games, recreational outings, college planning, financial planning, golf, gymnastics, archery, cooking, and other sports activities. All registered Haskell and Rochester students in grades K-7th are eligible. Registration will be held May 20 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Haskell Elementary Cafeteria. For more information call Crystal Trotter at 325-721-5904.

Early deadline

Deadline for news and advertising for the June 2 edition of the Haskell Free Press will be Wed., May 25 at 5 p.m. The Free Press offices will be closed Thurs., May 26 and Mon., May 30.

Society to meet

The Haskell County Historical & Genealogical Society will meet Mon., June 6 in Haskell City Hall at 7 p.m.

WHP art contest

The Brazos West Art Association will sponsor an art competition in conjunction with Wild Horse Prairie Days at the Civic Center in Haskell. Entry time is Fri., June from 9 to 11 a.m. 12 divisions will be available for adult and youth artists. For more information call Betty Berry at 864-3122 or Haskell Chamber of Commerce at 864-2477.

WHP parade

The Wild Horse Prairie Days parade will be held Fri., June 3 at 5 p.m. Lorie Rodriguez is this year's parade chairman. To enter, call the Haskell Chamber of Commerce at 940-864-2477. The Hardin-Simmons University Six White Horses along with Tom Moorhouse, grand marshal, will join the parade ranks.

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Safe a life ~ Buckle your seat belt

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 119-NO. 20, ©MAY 19, 2005

"The People's Choice"

8 PAGES-ONE SECTION-50 CENTS

One-Act Play cast makes appearance at state

For the first time since 1978, this year Haskell High School had an entry at the one-act-play state contest. Previously, the school also had an entry at state in 1956 and 1967.

Haskell senior Jaelyn Drinnon was named Best Actress at the state competition in Austin, and junior Ryan Davis received Honorable Mention All-Star Cast.

Members of the cast and crew were: Andrew Silvas, Kristen Martinez, Jaelyn Drinnon, Kory Foster, Ryan Davis, Ashley Foster, Teddye Harris, Mike Payne, Lindsay Pannell, Caleb Hudgens, Maggie Teague, Jared Webb and Jimmy Fuentes.

The Haskell students performed Joe DiPietro's dramatic comedy, "Over the River and Through the Woods." Crew member Mike Payne said, "We had the perfect cast for that play."

First-time play director, Melissa Tatum said the key to their success was the dedication of the cast and crew. "Following auditions, we met for the first time Jan. 5, and practiced four days a week until zone competition," she said. "I had no background in directing. I remember watching my friends in the one-act-play in high school, but I had no idea I would ever be a director of one." She credits the school's technology coordinator, Shawn Schlueter for his help with their march to Austin.

"He helped with the makeup and gave suggestions to improve the play," she said. Four characters in their 70's each required about 30 minutes makeup time. Previously, Schlueter directed award winning plays at Roscoe for four years.

Haskell's play finished as one of the top eight in the state 1-A competition. The UIL season began with 309 plays.

The trip to Austin began on Mar. 24, when Haskell competed in the zone contest at Rotan, against Hamlin, Munday and O'Donnell. Five students earned awards at this meet. Jimmy Fuentes received Best Actor; Jaelyn Drinnon and Caleb Hudgens were on the All Star Cast; Ryan Davis earned Honorable Mention Cast, and Mike Payne received Technical Award for lighting.



ONE-ACT PLAY CAST—Members of the Haskell High School's One-Act Play performing at the UIL State competition in Austin, were: front, Andrew Silvas, Middle row, l-r, Kristen Martinez, Jaelyn Drinnon, Kory Foster and Ryan Davis. Back row, Ashley

Foster, Teddye Harris, Mike Payne, Lindsay Pannell, Caleb Hudgens, Maggie Teague and Jared Webb. Not pictured is Jimmy Fuentes. This group marks the first time since 1978 that Haskell has had an entry in the state One-Act-Play contest.

At District competition with Crosbyton, Munday and Ralls on April 2, once again Haskell and Munday advanced. Haskell received five medals. Fuentes and Hudgens made the All Star Cast, Drinnon and Davis earned Honorable Mention and Payne the Technical Award for lighting.

At Area competition in Lubbock, April 16, Haskell competed against Munday, Plains, Patton Springs, Wilson and Whiteface. Haskell and Whiteface advanced to the regional contest. Hudgens was named Best Actor, Drinnon, Best Actress, and

Fuentes received All Star Cast. Andrew Silvas earned the Technical Award for lighting.

At the Regional meet in Levelland, April 21, Haskell, Channing, Clarendon, Iraan, Rankin and Whiteface all competed, with Haskell and Channing advancing to

state. Fuentes and Davis were named to All Star Cast. Drinnon received Honorable Mention.

The 2005 one-act-play cast and crew's finish as one of the top eight in state 1-A competition is now a new part of the proud history of Haskell High School.

WHP Queen's contest

The Wild Horse Prairie Days Queen Pageant will be held Sat., May 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Haskell High School Auditorium.

This year's event will feature twenty-eight young ladies from Haskell County, or directly connected to the ranches entered in the Wild Horse Prairie Days Ranch Rodeo.

The pageant will begin with the Little Miss competition, followed by

the Junior Miss, and will conclude with the crowning of the Wild Horse Prairie Days Queen by the reigning queen, Robbyn Tribbey.

Jerry Don Hudgens will be Master of Ceremonies, and Caleb Hudgens, High School Senior, will serve as accompanist. Entertainment will again be provided by Megan Cheek, Wylie High School Senior, who was voted New Female Artist of the Year at the Grapevine Opry.

WHP art competition

The 2005 Wild Horse Prairie Days Ranch Cowboy Art Competition, sponsored by the Brazos West Art Association, will be held at the Civic Center in Haskell during the Wild Horse Prairie Days celebration, June 3-4, open to all artists exhibiting their own original work.

Divisions for entries are: Miniatures (unframed max. 5"x7"); Landscapes; Still Life; Sculptures; Wood Working and Carving; Hand-crafted Leather items (no saddles); Youth-18 years and under; Portraits, Photography; Metal Art; Hitched Hair and Braided Items; and Hand-crafted spurs, bits, buckles.

Awards will be given for Best of Show, \$50.00; first place in each

division, \$15.00; second place in each division, \$10.00; third place in each division, \$5.00; Ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd and Honorable Mention.

Fees include Miniatures, \$2.00 each; Youth Division, \$2.00 each; all others, \$5.00.

Entry time is Fri., June 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Pickup time will be Sat., June 4, at 4:00 p.m.

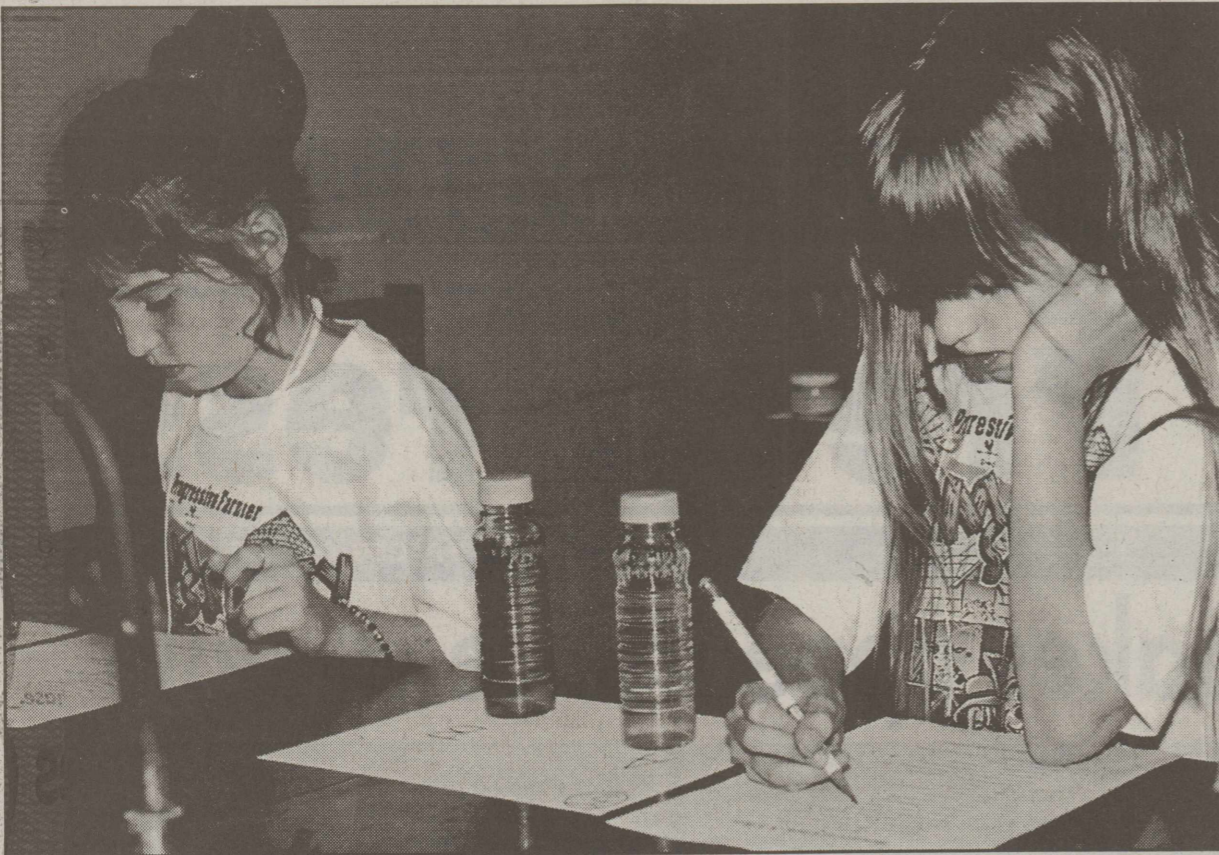
All paintings and photographs must be wired for hanging. No saw tooth hangers allowed. Picture size is limited to 48" either way. Each entry must have information on the back giving the artist's name and address. Divisions may be combined depending on the number of entries.



GIRLS WINNING SOFTBALL TEAM—The Haskell Maidens' team winning the 1-A Regional Conference Semifinal with their game against Winters, May 5 at ACU in Abilene are: back row, l-r, Coach John Foster, Alexa Roberts, Kayla Tidrow, Eden Thomas, Kimberly Medford, Erin Hise, Coach Betsy Coleman. Middle row, Shannon Bird, Natalie Lopez, Jerrica Escobedo, Angela Pena, Paige Wheatley, Cody Foster and Ty Coleman. Front Row, Calina Kendall, Chambray Bartley, Hannah Foster, bat girl, Roxanne Chavez, Kellye Tidrow and Cailey Foster, bat girl. The team was scheduled to play Eula for the State Qualifier, Tues., May 17.

Photo by Bill Blankenship

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 864-2686



LEARNING SAFETY—Megan Kimbrough, left, and Allison Petty try to determine which unmarked bottle contains apple juice or a household cleaner at the Farm Safety Camp.

Farm safety camp set for kids

by Jane Rowan
Haskell Co. Extension Agent
 Power takeoff entanglement, grain suffocation, chemical burns and getting stepped on by farm animals—all in a day on the farm?

The coordinator of a Progressive Farmer Farm Safety Day Camp being held May 28 in Munday believes rural parents can do more to ensure that farm accidents don't become a part of their kids' childhood memories. According to Jane Rowan, County Extension Agent/FCS in Haskell County, one way to start is by having their 8-14 year-old children attend the Progressive Farmer Farm Safety Day Camp scheduled for Sat., May 28 at the Munday High School in Munday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The day camp is designed to

increase children's awareness of a wide variety of farm hazards, as well as providing them with hands-on, first aid training to help themselves or someone else survive a farm accident should one occur.

Parents can register their children to participate in the camp by calling

the Haskell County Extension office at (940) 864-2546 or the Knox County Extension office at (940) 459-2651. A \$10 registration fee for the event covers lunch, snacks, a take-home packet and a farm safety camp T-shirt.

Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

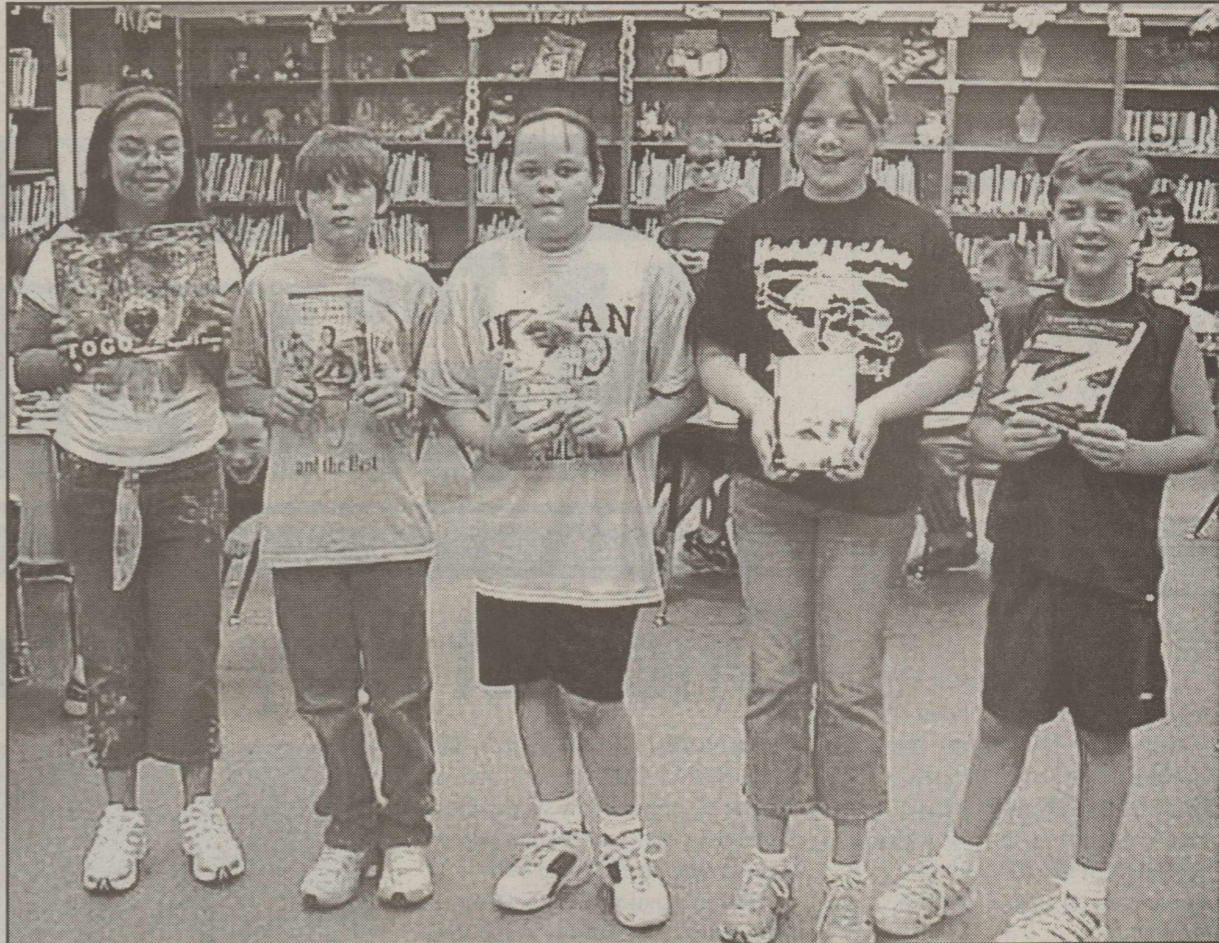
Charlotte Foreman of Odessa spent the weekend in Haskell celebrating son, Flint Nanny's birthday and Mother's Day with her mother, Lois Redwine. She stayed with her sister and brother-in-law, Jean and Hyrum Richards. On Sunday, Flint, Lisa and Austin

Nanny, Christian Myers, Jean, Charlotte and Lois attended services at the First Baptist Church.

On Friday, John and Monica Childs, Alan, Richard, Joshua and Matthew of Midland came to Haskell. They spent the night with Monica's aunt and uncle, Jean and Hyrum Richards. They also visited her grandmother, Lois Redwine and her brother, Flint Nanny and family. They went to Dallas Saturday morning where Richard played in a soccer tournament.

Ariel Blair celebrated her 14th birthday Sat. at her home with cake and ice cream. 20 people helped her celebrate.

On Saturday, Keri Magby of Lubbock and her mother-in-law, Nell Magby of Muleshoe visited with Keri's grandmother, Joyce Hawkins and Margaret Tatum. The men were at the lake on Sunday evening and Keri and husband and son came by for a visit on their way home.



READERS REWARDED—Top Bluebonnet/Accelerated Readers at Haskell Elementary School who received awards at the recent Bluebonnet Breakfast, were: l-r, Angelica Gonzalez, Stewart Ulrich, Felysha Walker, Carson Hadaway and Aaron Waggoner.

Elementary readers honored at annual Bluebonnet breakfast

A Texas Bluebonnet breakfast was held Tuesday morning, May 10 in the Haskell Elementary library for the largest number of students ever.

Held annually, this occasion recognizes students in the third through sixth grades who have not only read, but also passed the required number of Accelerated Reading tests on the current year's Texas Bluebonnet Award books.

The Texas Bluebonnet Award Program is a reading program for Texas students in grades three through six in which students in participating schools are encouraged to read at least five of the twenty nominated books each year to be able to vote for their favorite book in the statewide election in January.

The Haskell students were treated to a breakfast of blueberry muffins, blueberry pancake sausage-on-a-stick, assorted fresh fruits, milk and juice, provided by the Haskell Elementary lunchroom.

The twelve sixth graders in attendance hosted a game show, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" with questions based on the Bluebonnet books. The tables with the most correct answers were rewarded with special pencils.

Drawings were held for free Bluebonnet books, and seven children won books from the Bluebonnet lists.

Top readers from each grade were recognized and presented a Bluebonnet Book. The top Bluebonnet/AR readers for each grade were: Aaron Waggoner, third grade; Carson Hadaway, fourth grade; Stewart Ulrich and Felysha Walker, fifth grade; Angelica Gonzalez, sixth grade. Gonzalez was also the overall top reader, having passed thirteen Accelerated Reading tests over the these books. She was presented with an autographed copy of this year's Texas Bluebonnet winner, "Togo," by Robert Blake.

The fifty-two students eligible to attend the honorary breakfast this year were: Zierra Alexander, Kelby

Bell, Jessica Boggs, Colton English, Meg Glover, Dana Rodriguez, Dakota Silvas, Nathaniel Dever, Kaley Mathis, Baleigh Lopez, Braeden Alves, Marlee Andrada, Destiny Billington, Lucy Carmichael.

Daniel Contreras, Gloria De Los Santos, Jarred Escobedo, Elizabeth Flores, Emily Fouts, Nikki Ortiz, Shelton Toliver, Christina Villa, Aaron Waggoner, Max Weise, Cole Casey, Maci Colley, Levi Grand, Madison Mayfield, Gabriel Torres, Kalyn Wheatley, Ashley Adams, Cailey Foster, Tillie McGuire, Drake Everett, Morgan Frierson.

Carson Hadaway, Cheyenne Hill, Victor Vasquez, Stewart Ulrich, Felysha Walker, Codi Foster, Ashlee Short, Daren Wilson, J. J. Aguilar, Bailey Fillmon, Angelica Gonzalez, Chelsea Hearn, Nathan Meredith, Austin Nanny, Rosa Nieto, Sara Weise and Ross Wittenborn.

"These students are to be congratulated for their good reading and hard work," said Haskell CISD Librarian Betsy McManamon.

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 Grades 1-6

Overnight Camp A — June 19-22, 2005
 Grades 3-8

Overnight Camp B — June 22-25, 2005
 Grades 6-12

For more information or to register, please contact:
Head Coach, Shanna Briggs
 Phone: 325-670-1468
 E-mail: sbriggs@hsutx.edu

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Delivery will be **Friday, May 27**, at the times listed for the following towns and locations.

Sweetwater - Feed & Supply	325-235-4955	8:00-9:00 a.m.
Abilene - Acco Farm & Ranch	325-676-3302	10:00-11:00 a.m.
Anson - Farmers Co-op Gin	325-823-3122	12:00-1:00 p.m.
Haskell - Richardson's	940-864-8551	2:00-3:00 p.m.
Knox City - Benjamin Fertilizer	940-657-3642	4:00-5:00 p.m.

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Calendar

Immunizations

The Texas Dept. of Health in Stamford will hold an immunization clinic Thurs., May 19 at the Haskell National Bank Community Building in Haskell. Clinic times are from 2 to 4 p.m. For more information call 325-773-5681.

Storm sirens

The City of Haskell will test the storm sirens at noon on Fridays.

Homecoming 2005

The next Haskell-Mattson-Weinert Homecoming will be held Oct. 7-8.

PC homecoming

Paint Creek will hold their homecoming this fall. To update your mailing/email address, contact Max Calk, 3200 Golden Oaks Circle, Granbury, Texas 76049 or maxcalk@earthlink.net.

Insomnia can signal larger problems

by Jane Rowan
Haskell Co. Extension Agent
 Sleep is just as important for adults as it is children. However, as we age sleep can become fleeting.

Those sleepless hours could be signaling other health problems. Hypertension, hot flashes, decreasing hormonal levels, changes in breathing, acid reflux, depression, and arthritis can cause trouble sleeping. Often times, the medications to treat these health

problems can also lead to insomnia. To help improve your sleep, remove work materials, computers, and televisions from the room. Maintain a regular sleep and wake time, even on the weekends. Keep your sleep environment dark, quiet, comfortable, and cool. Quit eating at least two hours before bedtime. Exercise regularly, and avoid alcohol, nicotine, and caffeine close to bedtime.

Fly population bad news for cattle

by Wes Utley
Haskell Co. Extension Agent
 South Texas' fly population exploded with the onset of warm weather. The population usually begins to rise in May, but the onset began in April this year.

The pests' early arrival is causing problems for cattle. Extension experts report horrific pink eye

problems. When horn flies get water from cattle's eyes, they pick up the infection and spread it to other cows. However, there are several options to control the pests. Oilers full of insecticide can be strung around feeding areas. Ear tags infused with insecticide can be applied when cattle are wormed and will provide continual protection for six months. Growth regulators fed to cattle are also commonly used. Experts suggest using a combination of the methods.

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FASHION WINNERS—Haskell County 4-H students winning awards in the Fashion Show were: front, Emily Fouts. Middle row, l-r, Andrea Anderson, Kate Rowan, Candace Brister, Jenny Dudensing, Allison Petty. Back row, Brianna Riggins, Caleb Hudgens, Cheyene Favor, Kim Williams, Molly Dudensing.

Brister, Favor advance to state 4-H fashion show

by Jane Rowan
Haskell Co. Extension Agent

Fourteen Haskell County 4-H members advanced to the Rolling Plains District 4-H Fashion Show April 30 after winning first place honors at the Haskell County 4-H Fashion show. The district show was held at the Petrolia High School where 4-H contestants from 24 counties participated in the annual event sponsored by the Texas Cooperative Extension and AEP.

Cotton Awards, donated by the Rolling Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. were given to the first place best cotton garments in the construction and buying categories in each division. The Women's Auxiliary Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers provided awards for wool garments.

Theme of the District Show was "The Wild West." Clay County 4-H leaders hosted the event.

Results of the day's competition were:

Junior Construction Casual: 5th place, Breanna Riggins;
Junior Construction Popover Skirt/Pant: 5th place, Emily Fouts;
Junior Construction Specialty: 1st place, Jenny Dudensing;
Junior Buying Casual: 3rd place, Stephanie Threet;
Junior Buying Dressy: 1st place, Kymbre Kupatt; and
Junior Buying Specialty: 5th place, Allison Petty.
Intermediate Construction Casual: 3rd place, Andrea Anderson;
Intermediate Construction Dressy: 1st place, Molly Dudensing
Cotton Award: 1st place, Molly Dudensing;

Intermediate Buying Casual: 1st place, Kate Rowan; and
Intermediate Buying Dressy: 1st

place, Brooke Bullinger.

Senior Construction Casual: 3rd place, Kimberly Williams;

Senior Construction Dressy: 1st place, Cheyene Favor;

Cotton Award: 1st place, Cheyene Favor;

Senior Buying Casual: 1st place, Candace Brister;

Senior Buying Dressy: 2nd place, Caleb Hudgens; and

Wool Award: 1st place, Caleb Hudgens;

First place senior division winners, Candace Brister and Cheyene Favor, will advance to the State 4-H Fashion Show June 8 in College Station.

Three Haskell County youth also placed in the "Fabric & Fashion Design" phase of the fashion show.

Placing were:
Junior Apparel: 2nd place, Allison Petty;

Junior Textile: 1st place, Jenny Dudensing;

Intermediate Apparel: 1st place, Molly Dudensing.

Six Haskell County Volunteer 4-H Clothing Project Leaders were selected to serve as judges for the district competition. These leaders were: Debbie Brister, Lou Gilly, Valiene Bullinger and Lorrie McBroom, all of Haskell; Renee Dudensing, Sagerton; and Sharazan Riggins, Rule.



GLORIA WILLINGHAM

Willingham honored by Texas Educators

Gloria Darnell Willingham, a librarian at the Academy of Irving ISD was honored recently as a state finalist for educator of the year by the Irving Local Chapter of the Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) at their yearly banquet.

Each year local school districts elect representatives for the awards in the following categories: administrator, associate, elementary teacher, secondary teacher, and special services/professional support. The district finalists then proceed to the regional level, before going to the state finals. At state Willingham was named a finalist in the Special services/Professional support category.

Willingham is the daughter of Burl and Doris Darnell of Haskell.

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Art Club installs officers

The Brazos West Art Association met Mon., May 9 for their final meeting of the club year.

After a salad supper, new officers for the coming year were installed by Carolyn Everett. They were: Denia Cunningham, president; Jennie Lyckman, first vice-president; Betty Berry, second vice-president; Nelwyn Beakley, secretary; Betty Hook, treasurer; Peggy Middlebrook, reporter/historian. Named to the telephone committee were Marsha Whittemore and Jennie Lyckman.

Other members present were Bobbie Harrison, Martha Spitzer, Doris Reeves, Adeline Laird and Fern Livengood.

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~Tuesday~ Lasagna, Garlic Toast, Salad	~Wednesday~ Beef Enchiladas, Beans, Rice, Salad
~Thursday~ Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans	~Friday~ Chopped Beef Sandwich, Chips, Beans

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Graduation Gifts Galore!

Many area seniors have made selections. Please call or come by to purchase gifts for the graduates on your list. We will be happy to contact each senior to pick up his or her gifts.

Let our Pack & Mail Pros pack and ship your gifts to out of town graduates.

Graduation Barbie 2005 \$9⁹⁹	Congrats Grad Balloons 12", 8 ct. 99¢
Texas Hold 'em Game Set \$4⁹⁹	Men's Travel Kit Selected Styles \$7⁹⁹
First Aid Kit 52 pc. with plastic case \$4⁹⁹	Cooler Jug Set 3 piece set \$12⁹⁹
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Study Club ends year, installs new officers

Twenty three members of the Haskell Progressive Study Club met in the home of Darlene Smith, Thurs., May 12 to mark the finale of their club season and to enjoy a salad supper before adjourning until September.

Club president, Julia Harrell introduced special guest, TFWC Mesquite District President, Sandi Conway of Albany, who held an installation of the club's elective officers for next year, using a ceremony of colored ribbons symbolic of the duties of each office.

Officers installed for the 2005-2006 season were: president, Julia Harrell; first vice-president, Joe Ann Thane; second vice-president, Kathryn Schonerted; corresponding secretary, Tinka Nelson; recording secretary, Jeanie Richards; treasurer, Bettie Wainscott.

Following the installation, the guest speaker recounted the events of the recent Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Convention held in Beaumont, and told the club about upcoming events, including the TFWC convention, which will be held in Abilene in 2007, hosted by the Mesquite District.

In a business session, discussion was held about the club's ongoing projects of wildflowers, the flag-shaped flower bed being installed in the park, the collection of used cell phones for recycling, and a class on grants writing scheduled during June.

Hostesses for the evening were Social Committee members, Dorothy Hartsfield, Nelda Lane, Tinka Nelson, Shirley Reed and Ruby Turner, and Yearbook Committee members, Oleta Cornelius, Evelyn Cobb, Betty Berry, Franciene Johnson and Darlene Smith.

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Mexico Mission Fund-raiser
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1958 Haskell graduate named to Hall of Fame

Jimmy Don "Jim" Brock, a 1958 graduate of Haskell High School, was recently inducted into the first class of the Kids Inc., Hall of Fame, at a banquet celebrating 60 years of serving the youth of Amarillo and surrounding cities. About 1000 persons attended the event held at the Amarillo Civic Center.

Brock was the number four inductee following the late Cal Farley, founder of Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, the Maverick Boys Club and Kids Inc., a neighborhood/sports program that is unique by organizing the programs in the school neighborhoods with volunteer coaches and officials. It is the largest local organization of its kind in the nation.

Brock served as a volunteer with Kids Inc., from 1962 to 1973, as a coach, round-up person and guardian before taking the reigns as Director/CEO in Dec., 1973 until Aug. 1983. He then returned to the Amarillo ISD as Director of Health, Physical Education, Safety, Soccer, Softball and Wrestling, until his retirement in the summer of 2004. He was instrumental in developing several of the sports activities, such as T-Ball (founded in Amarillo), soccer and track. He has been responsible for the development of many sports facilities throughout Amarillo during the past 43 years. The National Co-ed Softball program and the National Little Dribblers basketball program were patterned after the Amarillo Kids Inc., program.

Second inductee was Ralph Dykeman, first director of Maverick Boys Club and Kids Inc., who assisted Cal Farley in his development of all three organizations that have served thousands of youngsters since 1939.

Third inductee was Bus Dugger, the first volunteer coach that Farley sent to organize a school neighborhood football team when Kids Inc., officially began. Brock was followed by the pioneer banking Ware family and home-owned Amarillo National Bank, who have donated more than one million dollars to Kids Inc., each of the past five years, and \$200,000 in 1998 to the building now housing Kid's Inc., offices, storage and community meeting rooms. Number ten inductee was 2000 Olympic Gold Medalist wrestler, Brandon Slay, an all-district football player and three-time state wrestling champion who is now attending Dallas Theological Seminary. After this year, only one inductee will be added each year.

Other awards Brock has received include the 1970 National PTA Outstanding Service to Youth; 1978 Amarillo Y's Men's Club for

Outstanding Service to Youth; 1978-79 Amarillo Classroom Teacher's Association, Human Relations Award; 1983 West Texas State University's first Distinguished Alumni Award; 1997 Texas High School Wrestling Association Hall of Honor.

After serving all the youngsters in Kids Inc, Amarillo ISD and the City of Amarillo Park Department, Brock now enjoys chasing three grandsons in Canadian in their sports activities. He has served on the State Boards for HPERD and Texas High School Wrestling the past 21 years, and found time to teach children's Sunday School classes at Kingswood United Methodist Church for 33 years.

The son of the late Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Brock, Jim Brock is married to

Barbara Elliott Brock, and is the son-in-law of Helen Elliott and the late Jean Elliott of Haskell.



JIM BROCK



CATCHER AT WORK—Haskell's Alexa Roberts catches in the Maidens' winning game with Winters at ACU in Abilene, May 10. Photo by Bill Blankenship



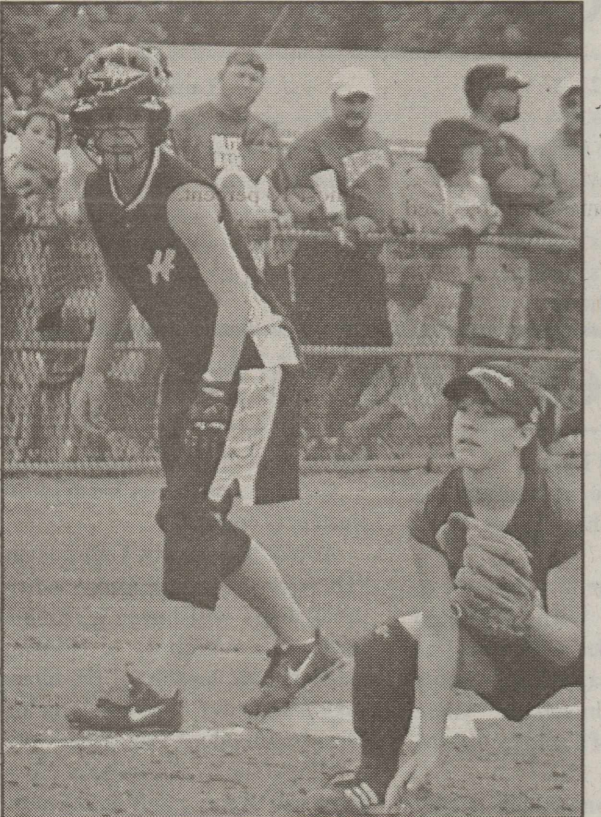
PITCHING A WIN—Haskell Maiden Calina Kendall is intent on a pitch in the 2-0 win over Winters at ACU in Abilene, May 10. Photo by Bill Blankenship



MAIDEN ON BASE—Haskell's Natalie Lopez is ready on third base in the game with Winters in Abilene, Tues., May 10. Photo by Bill Blankenship



GUARDING FIRST BASE—Haskell Maiden Eden Thomas works on first base in the game with Winters played in Abilene. Photo by Bill Blankenship



RUNNER ON THIRD—Calina Kendall stops on third base in the game with Winters played at ACU in Abilene, May 10. Photo by Bill Blankenship



POISED AT THIRD—Haskell's Chambray Bartley waits for a chance to run in the Maidens' game with Winters in Abilene. Photo by Bill Blankenship

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TAX PLANNING
 Written By
Richard E. Rodgers, CPA

THINK TAXES - EVEN AFTER YOUR RETURN IS FILED
 After you file your 2004 tax return, you may feel like forgetting about taxes and finances for a while. But that's not a good idea. This is the best time of the year for tax and financial planning. You can take some important steps now to reduce your 2005 taxes and improve your financial well-being.

- First, check your withholding for 2005. The best indicator that you need to make a change in your withholding is either a large refund or balance due on your 2004 tax return. A large refund means you've given the IRS an interest-free loan—money that you could have invested yourself. A large balance due can mean you end up paying penalty and interest charges on top of your regular tax liability. To change your withholding, file a new Form W-4 with your employer. Newly retired individuals who will no longer have withholding should review their need to start making quarterly estimated tax payments.
- Maximize the benefit you get from making tax-deductible contributions to a retirement plan by making your 2005 contribution as early in the year as possible. You then extend the period during which your investment can grow tax-deferred.
- Now is a good time to establish your long-term tax planning strategies. Some possibilities to consider: a salary-deferral arrangement with your employer, investing in assets that will appreciate rather than produce current income, shifting income among family members to take advantage of lower tax brackets, and structuring your borrowing to maximize interest deductions.
- Now is also the time to get your tax and financial records organized if your current system leaves something to be desired. Organization will help you capture tax deductions you might otherwise miss.

The longer you delay tax and financial planning for 2005, the less effective any strategy will be for you this year. So don't just file your tax return and forget about taxes until next April 15. Take time to determine a strategy and make some moves that can reduce your 2005 tax bill and make your financial situation better a year from now. For assistance in your planning, give us a call.

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Big Country Electric Co-op members meet in Hamlin

Big Country Electric Cooperative held their 6th annual meeting of the membership Sat., April 30 in Hamlin with more than 650 members and guests in attendance.

Member-owners elected three board members. Re-elected to District 1 was John Ben Glover of Rochester who was unopposed. In District 5 and also unopposed, Roger Blackwelder was re-elected. District 6, vacated by retiring board member Jerry Upshaw, saw a close race

between Jeff Branson and Todd Coker. Coker was elected by the membership for District 6 by 36 votes.

Upshaw was elected to the board of directors at Midwest Electric Cooperative in 1984. He served as secretary at Midwest Electric from 1992 until the consolidation of Midwest and Stamford Electric in 1999.

A country crafts and creations show featured vendors from the Big Country with booths in the Hamlin

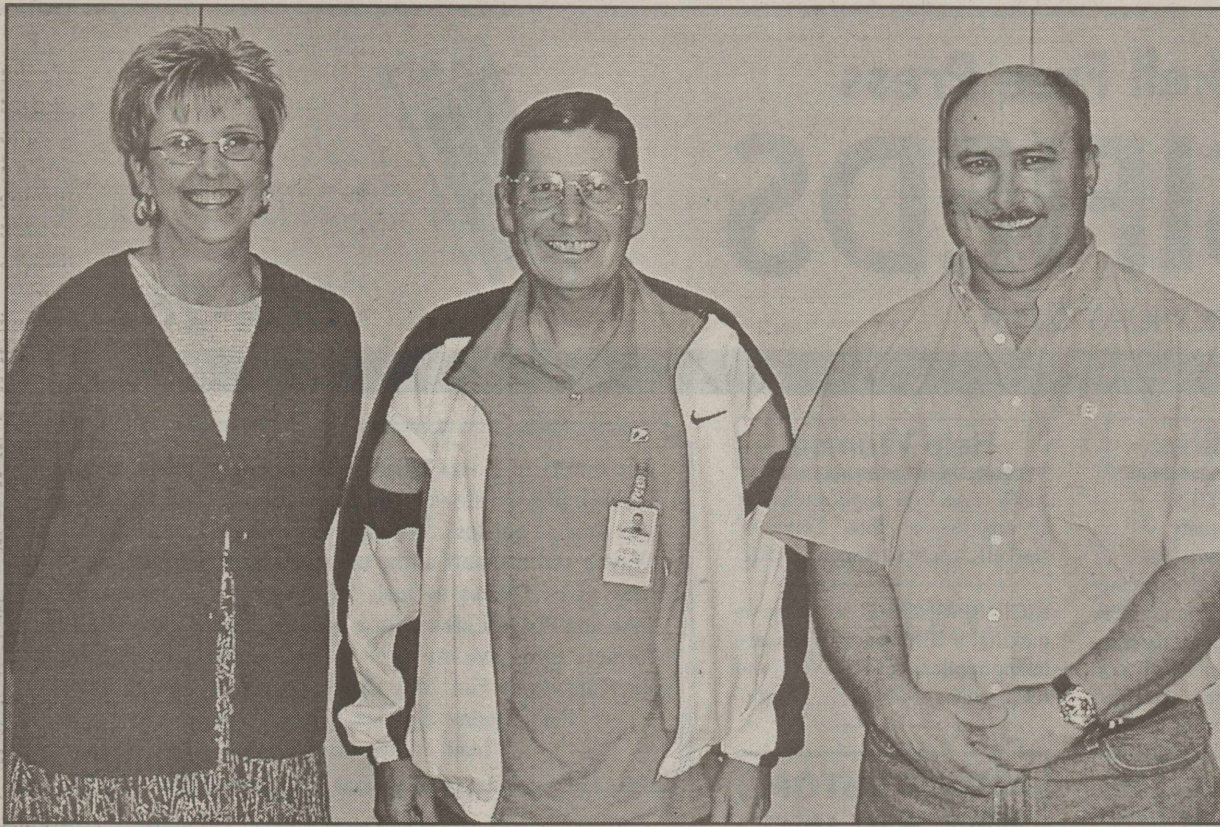
High School gym. A bar-b-que meal was served. Entertainment was provided by Megan Cheek of Wylie.

This year children enjoyed a giant air castle in front of the Hamlin High School while the center of attention for member-owners and their guests was a 2005 hybrid car.

Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept.
 is seeking volunteers who are willing to make a commitment to community service by becoming a volunteer fireman.
 The department is in need of volunteers willing to be active in meeting the needs of this community in many ways including serving as a fireman, helping with weather watches, working on equipment, helping with various fund-raisers, earning firefighting certification and others.
 If you would like to pursue an opportunity to serve your community, call Bill Steele 940-864-2208; Sam Watson 940-864-2355; Randy Shaw 940-864-2023; Jerry Stocks 940-864-3455 or ask any Haskell fireman for an application.

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Register for Summer II semester while registering for Summer or Summer I. For more information on Summer II classes, see schedule on VC Web site.	
Classes begin May 31	
Register for Continuing Education classes at anytime.	
See the schedule at www.vernoncollege.edu	



CITY OFFICIALS—Receiving the oath of office at noon Mon., May 16, to serve on the Haskell City Council, were: l-r, Sue Medford, W. L. Wolf and newly elected councilman, Jimmy Roberts. They join Jerry Stocks and Dan Hoover, who also serve on the council, and Mayor Ken Lane.

City Council picks bank

At the regular meeting of the Haskell City Council, Mon., May 9, a two-year depository bid was accepted from Haskell National Bank.

Also accepted was the bid of \$100.00 from Darryl Goetz for the removal and purchase of the tin ceiling at the Perry building.

Joey Kimbrough was reappointed to the North Central Texas Municipal Water District Board.

Appointed to the Assisted Living

Center Board were Wilda Medford, Wallace Emerson, Wallace Cox, Bob Smith and Jimmy Bowen.

Joe Higgins of the Texas Department of Transportation, made a presentation of new TxDOT programmed Haskell County projects, and the requested projects of rehab and widening on farm-market roads.

City Attorney, reported that the city's at-large dog ordinance is being rewritten.

In his report, City Manager Sam Watson led a discussion of progress made on the waste water plant, the highway rerouting project, and the sewer line which will be laid on South 6th St. to the waste water plant.

Watson reported that the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department has received a \$10,000 grant for training materials, and a \$1,000 grant for a new computer, both from the Texas Forest Service.

All night party set May 27

The All Night Party 2005 for Haskell County high school students will be held Fri., May 27 from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. at the Haskell Civic Center.

Sponsored by Haskell County parents, the event is an alcohol and drug free activity to help keep students safe on graduation night. Activities will consist of inflatable games, a dance, indoor games and

drawings for prizes.

This event, which has been a huge success in the past, is also made possible through generous businesses, individuals and clubs in the Haskell County and Abilene area.

Any Haskell County high school student for the year 2004-2005 (freshmen-senior) or college student is invited to attend. Students are asked to bring \$2.00 and a donation

of food to get in the door. Juniors should bring a 2-liter soft drink. Sophomores are asked to bring a large bag of chips. Freshmen are asked to bring a package of store-bought cookies. Seniors are admitted free and not asked to bring a donation.

All county students are invited to attend and make this graduation night one to remember.

Maiden golf team has great year

The Haskell Maidens' golf team finished their season on a long drive.

After winning the 6-A District Championship, the team of Candace Brister, Robbyn Tribbey, Mollie McKnight, Calina Kendall and Mali Torres, traveled to Lubbock to compete in the Region 1 golf tournament, where they finished in 4th place.

Finishing in that position was quite an accomplishment, topped only by Candace Brister winning 2nd Medalist and qualifying for a spot in the State Championships.

The Class A tournament was played on Monday and Tuesday, May 9-10 at the Morris Williams Golf Course in Austin. Forty-six of the state's best in Class A girls golf were there. Brister shot a two-day total of 178 and finished in 19th place.

For a freshman, Brister had quite a year; winning 5 tournaments, placing 2nd in 2 tournaments, 4th in one, and 19th at the state tournament.

Robbyn Tribbey placed as 2nd Medalist in the district tournament.

The team won 3 tournaments, placed 2nd in 2 tournaments and 4th at the regional. The girls look forward to following the sun again next season.

Students in the News

Two area students attending Vernon College in Vernon received academic awards for the fall and spring semesters by the Vernon College awards committee.

Included were Bonnie Emert of Paint Creek who received an award from the Snell Foundation and Haley Morrow of Rochester who received an award from Agness Russell.

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From the AG

By Greg Abbott

Consumer Loans: Know the Rules!

Loans are an everyday fact of most consumers' lives. We use them to purchase vehicles, homes and other goods, and we use credit cards for many personal expenses. Most consumers understand that they may have to pay interest, but we are often asked how much interest is too much.

State laws specify maximum legal interest rates at which loans can be made. These consumer protection laws are called usury laws. The term refers to the charging of an exorbitant interest rate on a loan. Our state usury laws were enacted to protect consumers from this predatory lending practice.

A commercial loan is a loan made primarily for use in the operation of a business, or for purposes of investment, agriculture or similar ventures. Commercial loans are authorized by Chapter 306 of the Texas Finance Code. They are currently subject to a commercial usury ceiling of 18 percent annual interest, which may float with inflation to 24 percent. Loans exceeding \$250,000 may charge up to 28 percent interest.

Consumer loans are those made to individuals for personal use and various kinds of purchases. Limits on these loans vary. The law that governs the financing of motor vehicle sales, for example, allows an effective annual interest of up to 27 percent. Pawn shop loans can have maximum interest rates of 240 percent annually.

The Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner (OCCC) is responsible for setting the maximum interest rate for various types of loans, including rates for credit cards, pawn shop transactions and rent-to-own purchases, according to the guidelines set by state law. Rates can vary greatly depending on the type of credit. For more information on current rates, you can contact the OCCC directly at (800) 578-1579.

Overly high interest rates are not the only form of predatory lending. Consumers should be careful when

considering loan solicitations. You should be aware that there are bogus credit companies that will collect a fee up front and then simply abscond with your money.

Always beware of companies that claim they can guarantee a loan for a fee paid in advance. The fee may be as much as several hundred dollars. It's against the law for them to request or accept payment until you actually get the loan or credit.

In addition, legitimate lenders will never guarantee or strongly imply that you will get a loan or credit card before you apply, especially if you have bad credit, no credit or have ever filed for bankruptcy.

Some credit companies may claim to be able to get your mortgage

"released" by the holder for a fee of \$2,000. Needless to say, your mortgage cannot be dismissed for a fee. There are no legitimate businesses that offer a real service making debts "go away."

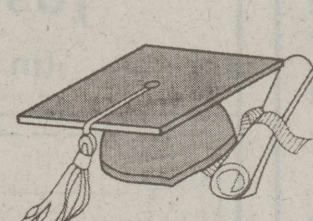
If you have credit problems, consider a consultation with a non-profit credit counseling service. Remember that there are no easy answers. Rebuilding your credit will take time and good management. Don't allow yourself to be further victimized by credit repair scams.

I understand how important your good credit is to you. If you feel that you have encountered a business that has violated usury laws or defrauded you in any way, do not hesitate to contact my office at (800) 252-8011.

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Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

The law gives property owners the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these procedures if you have a concern about:

- the market or special appraised value placed on your property
- the unequal appraisal of your property
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal roll
- any exemptions that may apply to you
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal
- the taxable status of your property
- the local governments which should be taxing your property
- the ownership or property
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, appraisal district or appraisal review board that applies to and adversely affected you.

Informal Review: Haskell CAD staff, 940-864-3805.

Review by the Appraisal Review Board: If you can't resolve your problem informally with the appraisal district (CAD) staff, you may have your case heard by the appraisal review board (ARB).

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that review problems with appraisals and other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems. If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date, and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening, Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD will use to uphold their determination. The CAD may ask you for a copy of the evidence you plan to present. The hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative will present evidence about your case. You may cross-examine the CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. The CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at Haskell CAD, 604 North First Street, Haskell, Texas.

Note: You shouldn't try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. The law requires ARB members to sign an affidavit saying that they haven't talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court: After it decides your

case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you're not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal to district court. If you choose to go to court, you must start the process by filing a petition within 45 days of the date you receive the ARB's order.

Tax Payment: If you appeal and your case is pending, you must pay the lesser of the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute or the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken.

More information: You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at Haskell County Appraisal District, P.O. Box 467, Haskell, Texas 79521, (940) 864-3805.

You can also get a pamphlet describing how to prepare a protest from the appraisal district or from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Division, P.O. Box 13528, Austin, Texas 78711-3528.

Deadline for filing protests with the ARB*

Usual deadline
On or before May 31 (or 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed if you miss the usual deadline for good cause. Good cause is some reason beyond your control, like a medical emergency. The ARB decides whether you have good cause.

Late protests are due the day before the appraisal review board approves records for the year. Contact your appraisal district for more information.

Special deadlines
For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is before the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change didn't result from a protest you filed), the deadline is before the 30th day after the notice of the determination was mailed to you.

If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually February 1). The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

*The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or holiday.