

Early voting underway for city, school elections

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 120—NO. 18, ©MAY 4, 2006

"The People's Choice"

18 PAGES—TWO SECTIONS—75 CENTS

Softball games

Haskell V vs Follett
Fri., May 5, 6 p.m.
at Altus, Oklahoma
Haskell V vs Follett
Sat., May 6, 1 p.m.
at Altus, Oklahoma

Golf

Boys and Girls State Meet
Mon.-Tues., May 8-9
Morris Williams, Austin

Calendar

Veterans' pictures

The Haskell Free Press is seeking pictures of veterans to be published in the Thurs., May 25 edition. Space is limited to the first nine pictures received. Please bring your original picture on Wednesday evenings from 1 to 4 p.m. to the Free Press office. Pictures of veterans who have not been previously published are preferred. Call 864-2686 for details.

Queen's contest

The Wild Horse Prairie Days queen contest will be held Sun., May 21. Four categories of entries will be accepted, Little Miss (Kindergarten through second grades), Young Miss (third through fifth grades), Junior Miss (sixth through eighth grades), and Queen (ninth through twelfth grades). Entry forms are available at all Haskell County schools, the Chamber of Commerce office and the Personality-Slipper Shoppe. Entry deadline is May 12.

Garage sale

The Haskell Chamber of Commerce will hold a community-wide garage sale Sat., May 6. Application forms are available at the Chamber of Commerce office at 510 S. 2nd St. or by calling 864-2477.

Art Association

The Brazos West Art Association will meet Mon., May 8 at 7 p.m. at the Haskell National Bank Community Room for a salad supper.

Summer school

Haskell CISD will offer a summer school program for limited English speaking students entering kindergarten or first grade next year. The school will be held Mon.-Fri., June 4-July 28 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Transportation or meals will not be provided. Ten or more children must enroll for the classes to be held. Contact Cindy McCulloch at 864-8007 for more information. Deadline to enroll is Thurs., May 11.

Cinco de Mayo

Cinco de Mayo and Jamaica will be held at St. George Catholic Church in Haskell Sun., May 7 from noon to 5 p.m.

Burn ban issued

A burn ban continues to be in effect for Haskell County. The use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment by any person is prohibited. Combustible materials specifically include, but are not limited to, fireworks, camp fires, welding and any other pyrotechnic material, which in the manner or means of its use could result in a wildfire. The ban continues until conditions warrant otherwise, stated Haskell County Judge David C. Davis. A person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

Story time

Story time will be held at the Haskell Co. Library each Thursday morning at 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs, activities, crafts and story telling by Paula Rennegarbe will be featured.

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BRISTER ADVANCES TO STATE—Candace Brister placed second medalist at the Regional golf meet held Fri., April 28 at South Plains in Levelland to earn a place to compete at the state golf tournament to be held May 8 and 9 at the Morris Williams Golf Club in Austin.

Police chief warns Haskell citizens of phony check scam

A local senior citizen was scammed by a dangerous new phony check scam last week reports Haskell City Police Chief Tom Bassett.

Reporting the cost of \$4617.00 by this citizen who responded to a letter from Union Trust Finance Inc. of St. John, NF, Canada, Bassett hopes to warn others of this and similar lottery or sweepstakes scams.

In the letter the citizen was advised that they had won in the second category of a lottery drawing held Jan. 25, 2006 and was tagged a compensation draw. A ticket with a serial number was given attached to a lucky winning number which entitled the citizen to a lump sum of \$275,000 by certified check. The letter also contained a cashier's check for \$4,700 which was said to be deducted from the citizen's winnings.

The letter went on to state that the enclosed check was for payment of non-residential government service tax payable to a Canadian tax office, gave the name of a tax agent and stated that the money was to be paid by Western Union of Moneygram. A claim agent's name and phone

number was also given.

The authenticity of the cashier's check was very good. A local bank didn't pick up on the counterfeit check. The citizen was able to deposit the money in a newly opened account and withdraw \$4617 of which \$2840 was made by check as instructed to the Union Trust Finance company and \$1777 in cash mailed to the scamming company.

The money sent to the scammer was lost because the cashier's check sent to the citizen in the mail proved to be worthless.

Bassett warns citizens to be very careful of this and other scams. Many people are on a lot of mailing lists and it is very easy for these scammers to get your mailing address.

If you have any doubt of mail claiming that you have won the lottery or sweepstakes, contact the Haskell Police Department for information about the authenticity of your letter. Information on these types of scams can be verified before a citizen loses money to these phony companies.

Detention Center to use new security measures

More information was released to the public this week from the County Judge's office concerning the escape of inmates on Sat., April 15.

The two prisoners who eventually escaped were allowed their recreation time on the yard at Rolling Plains Regional Detention Center the morning of Sat., April 15. These inmates were not allowed to mix with the general population, so they were placed in the yard between the normal recreation yard and the area leading to the front gate. This was the normal recreation area for these inmates. The inmates had previously discovered a gate which allows emergency vehicles access to all parts of the Detention Center yard which was improperly secured. Every inside fence between each separated yard of the prison has an emergency gate. The inmates were sure they could open this gate with out problem.

Saturday of each week is visitation day for the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) prisoners. These two inmates knew this fact. On Saturday morning they dressed in several layers of clothing with the top layer being sweats. They were left in the recreation yard unattended, and took off the sweats and buried them. Underneath the sweats they were wearing jeans and t-shirts. They opened the gate between the two yards and were in the area from the main outside gate to the front door of the prison building. At that time, they walked to the front gate and said they were ready to leave as if they had been some of the I.C.E. visitors to the prison. All cell doors are opened from a central control room inside the Detention Center, and the guard operating the system opened the gate. As they walked through the second open gate a guard on the Detention Center yard spotted the inmates and called out to them. The guard then notified the guards inside who called 911 at approximately 9 a.m.

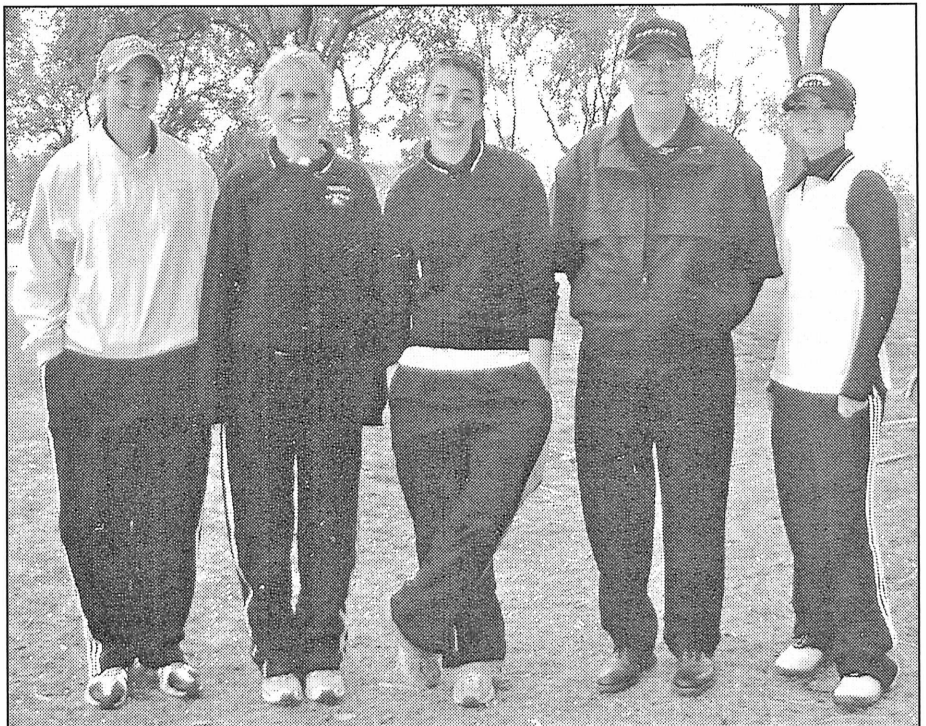
The detention officer calling 911 advised the dispatcher of the escape and the man hunt ensued.

One inmate surrendered to a deputy at approximately 11 a.m. on Saturday. The other was apprehended Sunday evening at approximately 8

a.m. in Stamford.

Recommendations for better security at the Detention Center made by Sheriff David Halliburton and agreed to by Emerald Correctional Management include:

- All inmates in the facility will wear a uniform of some type. (Single color or striped).
- No inmate shall have any type of civilian clothes in the cell or in their possession at any time.
- Inmates shall be supervised at all times—inside or outside the building.
- Inmates on any recreation yard will be supervised by a guard.
- Security checks on all gates in and around the facility will be performed at least once daily (preferably twice daily).
- Front desk officer will advise the central control room when anyone, other than known staff or local officers, leaves the building and will be going through the front gate on their way off of the Detention Center property.
- Unsupervised movement of inmates inside the facility will be limited.
- Due to the time required for the roving guard checking traffic in and out of the back gate, another roving guard will be provided to be on the perimeter during this time or a guard will be stationed at the back gate full time to leave the roving guard free to do that duty.
- The Haskell County Sheriff's office will be notified of any type of incident that happens at the Detention Center.
- A policy to have the roving guard leave his post to follow any escapees, even if the guard cannot apprehend them alone.
- Sirens will be placed at the unit to sound letting the immediate residents near the Detention Center know of any condition at the prison which may affect them including escapes, riots, etc.
- A new search plan for escapes will be created to designate fixed perimeter points for guards and officers to man during an escape. Fixed perimeter points should be designated at various ranges from the Detention Center in the event any search may need to be expanded.



COMPETE AT REGIONAL MEET—The Haskell Maidens golf team placed seventh with a team score of 392-08-800 at the Regional golf meet Fri., April 28 at South Plains in Levelland. Team members and their individual scores are, l-r, Lacey Peiser, 118-115-233; Robbyn Tribbey, 95-97-192; Mollie McKnight, 106-116-222, Coach David Middleton, and Candace Brister, 73-80-153. Brister was 2nd medalist and will advance to the state tournament to be held May 8-9 at the Morris Williams Golf Club in Austin.

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Paint Creek girls' golf team competes

The Paint Creek girls golf team participated in the Region II-A golf tournament at Maxwell Municipal Golf Course Tues., April 25 and placed fourteenth with a 480-494-974 score.

Teams members are Kailey McCord 15-124-239; Rebecca Hope 124-117-241; Alice Blair 120-122-242; Kristen Barr 121-131-252 and Ariel Blair 127-139-266.

Calendar

Storm sirens

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

Obituaries

Lela Brock Pettit

Funeral services for Lela Pettit, 80, of Tuscola were held Fri., April 27 at Elmwood Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was in Elmwood Cemetery under the direction of Lawrence-Adams Funeral Home of Anson.

Mrs. Pettit died Mon., April 24 at her home.

Born April 24, 1926 in Haskell, she was the daughter of the late Robert Lawrence and Lamiez (Brown) Brock. She married Dale Harris of Haskell. They had two sons, Jimmy and Don. She moved to Anson in 1975 and later married John L. Pettit. He preceded her in death in 2005. She moved to Tuscola in 2005. She was self-employed in the insurance business and was a Presbyterian. She was

a member of the Eastern Star and the VFW Auxiliary. She was preceded in death by one son, Don Harris; and one brother, Ben Brock.

Survivors include one son, Jimmy Harris and wife, Reta of Tuscola; daughter-in-law, Pam Harris of Hawley; four brothers, Lonnie Brock of Lubbock, Robert Brock and wife, Joan of Big Spring, Mabry Brock and wife, Bobbie of McKinney and Jimmy Brock and wife, Barbara of Amarillo; one sister, June Bowen and husband, Vernon of Lubbock; seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren. PD. NOTICE

Randell Linton

Graveside services for Randell Linton, 55, of Bertram were held Wed., April 26 in the Roberts Cemetery in Haskell with Dale Turner officiating. Services were under the direction of Edgar Funeral Home of Burnet.

Mr. Linton died Sat., April 22 in Bertram.

Born Jan. 10, 1951 in Haskell, he was the son of Oscar E. and Lona L. Turnbow Linton. He had worked for the Haskell Training Center for many years before moving to

Bertram. He was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Vineta Linton.

Survivors include one brother, Dalton Linton and wife, Dale; one sister, Janoma Rueffer and her husband, Herbert; nieces and nephews, John, Cindy, Glenn, Rowena, Manena, Eddie and Jeff. PD. NOTICE

Jerry Lynn Kuykendall

Jerry Lynn Kuykendall, 64, of Amarillo died Sat., April 29 in Amarillo. Arrangements were under the direction of Blackburn-Shaw Memorial Chapel in Amarillo.

Born Oct. 8, 1941 in Mills County, he was the son of B.L. and Pauline Kuykendall. He grew up in Haskell

County and also lived in Lubbock. He was a mechanic and truck driver in the cattle industry. Survivors include two daughters, Terry Weise of Haskell and Gina Johnson of Glen Rose; one son, Jim Bob Ferguson of San Angelo; one brother, Bedford Lee Kuykendall of Utah; and six grandchildren. PD. NOTICE

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Correction

Information appearing in the obituary for Bobby Ray Roberts in the April 27 edition of The Haskell Free Press should have read:

Memorials may be made to Hendrick Hospice, 4601 Hartford St., Abilene, Texas 79605; American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 102454, Atlanta, Georgia 30368-2454; or to the East Side Baptist Church building fund, 600 N. 1st East, Haskell, Texas 79521.

Holden - McCauley Funeral Home
304 N. 2nd Street • Haskell
940-864-2151

Haskell CISD, Paint Creek ISD receive safety awards

Two Haskell County schools, Haskell CISD receiving the Diamond Award and Paint Creek ISD receiving the Diamond Star Award, are among more than 472 participating schools, receiving awards for significant savings to their respective districts. Haskell CISD was represented by Eddie Bland, Superintendent. Paint Creek School was represented by Don Ballard, Superintendent. The schools were recognized by the West Texas Educational Insurance Association for their success in implementing safety programs

designed to prevent employee injuries in the workplace. The workers' compensation program has assisted Texas schools in avoiding over 17,778 employee injuries since 1991. Plus, districts have saved over \$213 million dollars through lower costs to the schools.

Wesley Slade, CEO of CAS, explained, "Our insurance programs were created to offer the safest working conditions and the lowest cost for Texas school districts, creating savings of tax dollars while providing safer work environments for employees. Fifteen years of success for this program is proof of the district's and CAS' commitment to providing Texas schools with the safest working environment for school employees and the lowest cost to the district."

Rochester anniversary


Rochester exes are asked to email both physical and email addresses to Sandra Fry at sfryrochester@yahoo.com.

Pictures for a presentation for the Rochester 100th anniversary and homecoming weekend to be held Oct. 13-14 are also needed.

At CAS, our number one priority is providing the safest possible workplace for district employees while keeping costs at a minimum.

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Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone Number _____

Directions to Location (include street names and county road numbers):

Ms _____ Ms _____
Mr _____ Mr _____
Work or Contact Number 8:00am to 5:00pm Cellular Numbers _____

Property Access

The undersigned hereby agrees to grant unto Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Inc. the right to excavate, install, replace, maintain and use a strip of land not to exceed three feet (3') in width of the property occupied by the undersigned, for the purpose of laying, maintaining and operating any wires or cable for telephone services or IPTV.

Signature _____ Date _____

Date Received by office _____ Date Drop Installed _____ Initials _____

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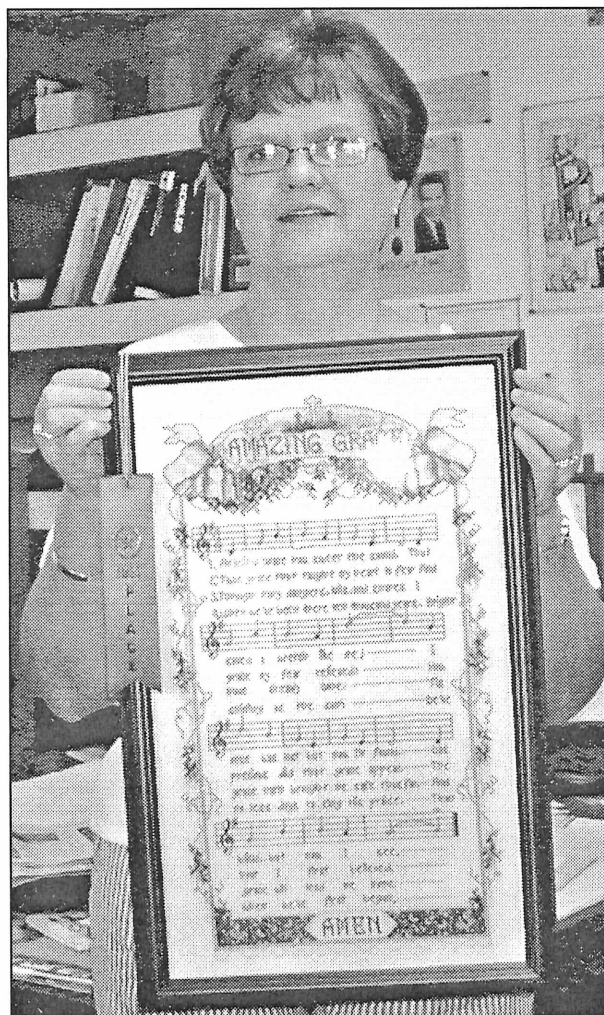
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CULTURAL ARTS WINNER—Muriel Nanny shows off the Amazing Grace cross-stitched art she entered in the hand stitchery division of the cultural arts contest held during the Rolling Plains District 3 Cultural Arts/Spring Conference held March 28 by area EEA Clubs. Nanny received a first place award for her entry and is eligible to compete at the TEEA State Convention in Lubbock in September.

EEA Club goes bananas

The Haskell TEEA club met at the Haskell County Extension office kitchen April 13. Ten members and Agent Jane Rowan answered roll call to "What exercises to you do for your heart?" Rowan gave the opening exercise with a reading of the "Five Finger Prayer."

The annual District 3 Spring Meeting and Cultural Arts conference held March 28 in Haskell was a great success, with 130 members in attendance. Plans were finalized for the Tri-County Rally Day to be held April 18. Counties included are Knox, Baylor and Haskell, with Haskell serving as host

Births

Janice Caddell and Kenneth Billington, both of Haskell, announce the birth of their daughter, Z'Phia Asia Nevaeh Billington, born April 18 weighing 6 lbs. 1.1 oz. She was 18 1/2" long.

She was welcomed home by her sister, Cassie Brunkow and brothers, Za'rance Billington and Issac Sanchez.

Proud grandparents are John Earl and Gussie Billington of Haskell and Linda Caddell of Rule.

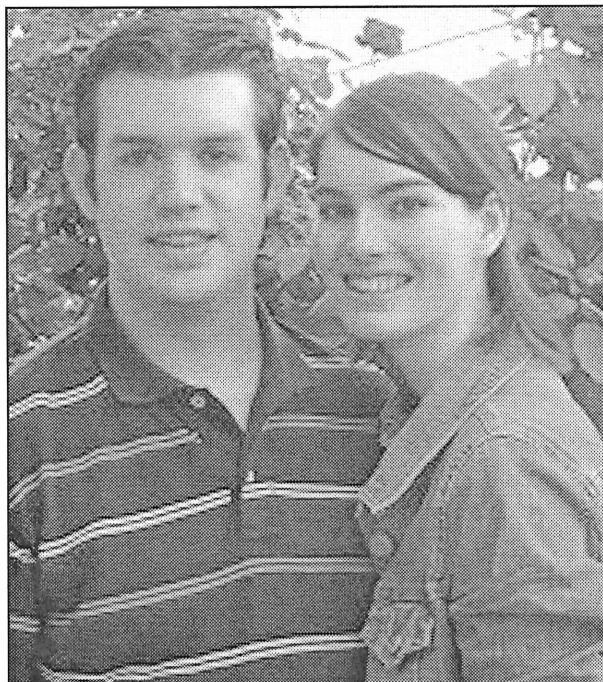
county.

Rowan presented a program entitled "Going Bananas." Rowan reported that the banana is the most popular fruit, and the average person consumes 33 pounds per year. Bananas are easily digested and a nutritious addition to any diet. Different types of bananas include the Plantain, the Red, the Cavendish (most common in stores), the dwarf and the apple. The color of the banana indicates how it should be used. Bananas with green tips should be used for cooking or to let ripen, yellow are for eating, brown-speckled for baking, and overripe bananas can be frozen for later baking or for smoothies.

Around Town

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Vaughn of Lueders visited his aunt, Joyce Hawking last Thursday evening.

Margaret Tatum, Creora Tatum, Joyce Hawkins, and Mrs. and Mrs. Christopher Tatum attended a bridal shower for Jimmy and Barbara at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Cockerell in Abilene Saturday evening.



DAVID THOMPSON - CHRISTI SORRELLS

Sorrells, Thompson to marry in August

Paul and Tammy Sorrells of Haskell are announcing the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Christi Sorrells, to David Thompson, son of Rick and Teresa Thompson of Bedford.

The bride-elect is a 2003 graduate of Haskell High School and plans to graduate in December with a BBA degree in Management Information

Systems from Midwestern State University.

The prospective bridegroom is a 2003 graduate of L.D. Bell High School and is working on a Vocal Performance degree from the University of North Texas.

An Aug. 20 wedding is planned in Azle.

Chapter inducts new members

Four educators were initiated into the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International during the Beta Chi Chapter's April 2 meeting held at the Knox City High School. Inducted were Rachel Byers of Knox City, Terri Fletcher, Sandy King and Lianne Tidwell, all of Munday.

The chapter also celebrated its 70th birthday with cake served by the Knox City hostesses as members perused memorabilia from the 50th birthday celebration.

The chapter's next meeting will be a noon luncheon Sat., May 6 at the First United Methodist Church in Munday.

Don't Miss Our
National Scrapbook Day
Crop & Sale
Saturday, May 6
10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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National Teacher's Day ~ May 9
Nurse's Day ~ May 6

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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Senate panel approves tax reform bills passed by House

AUSTIN—After nearly two decades of attempts by lawmakers and judges to improve how Texas finances public education, big and widespread changes to the tax code seem increasingly likely at midpoint in the 30-day special session.

Five separate tax-reforming bills sped through the full House on April 24 and 27 and crossed over to the Senate.

Straightway on April 28, the 15-member Senate Finance committee passed three of those five pieces of legislation.

Votes were party-line, with Democrats Judith Zaffirini of Laredo, John Whitmire of Houston, Royce West of Dallas and Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa of McAllen registering "nays" because, they said, the legislation is too much about cutting taxes and not enough about educating children.

The five pieces of legislation

•House Bill 1, by Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, taps the state's budget surplus to buy down the school district maintenance and operation property tax rate to what some feel is an acceptable \$1.33 per \$100 valuation. HB 1 has been labeled the "get out of Dodge" bill because it is a short-term fix that does not address long-term problems in the current system of taxation.

•HB 2, by Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, dedicates all new revenue from House bills 3, 4 and 5 to a fund that would only be used to reduce school district maintenance and operation tax rates.

A substitute for HB 2, by Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, was adopted by Senate Finance, making it eligible for consideration by the full Senate. The substitute provides that new revenue from the three bills will reduce maintenance and operation tax rates until the average rate gets down to \$1.

•HB 3, by Rep. Jim Keffer, R-Eastland, kills the franchise tax and replaces it with a business activity or "margin" tax. It is the most revolutionary bill of the batch. Finance passed this bill, and it is eligible for consideration by the full Senate.

Supporters say HB 3 brings property tax relief, broadens the base of businesses that must pay it, and generally lowers the tax rate for all taxable entities.

Opponents say the tax is an income tax in disguise, and it will shock business owners by costing them more than the present taxing scheme. Such a tax, they said, also would slow down commerce and cause businesses to close or leave Texas.

•HB 4, by David Swinford, R-Amarillo, is the so-called liar's affidavit bill that would force a buyer of a used car to pay sales tax on the book value of the car. Senate Finance passed this bill, and it is eligible for consideration by the full Senate.

•HB 5 by Peggy Hamric, R-Houston, increases the state sales tax on cigarettes by \$1. If passed, the tax on a pack of cigarettes will be \$1.41.

Background on special session

The main purpose of this (3rd) special session of the 79th Texas Legislature is to cure the stamp of "unconstitutional" placed on the state's method of school district property taxation by the Texas Supreme Court last fall.

The high court found that hundreds of the state's 1,049 school districts, left with no choice but to set the maximum allowable rate of \$1.50 per \$100 valuation, had lost "meaningful discretion" in setting rates.

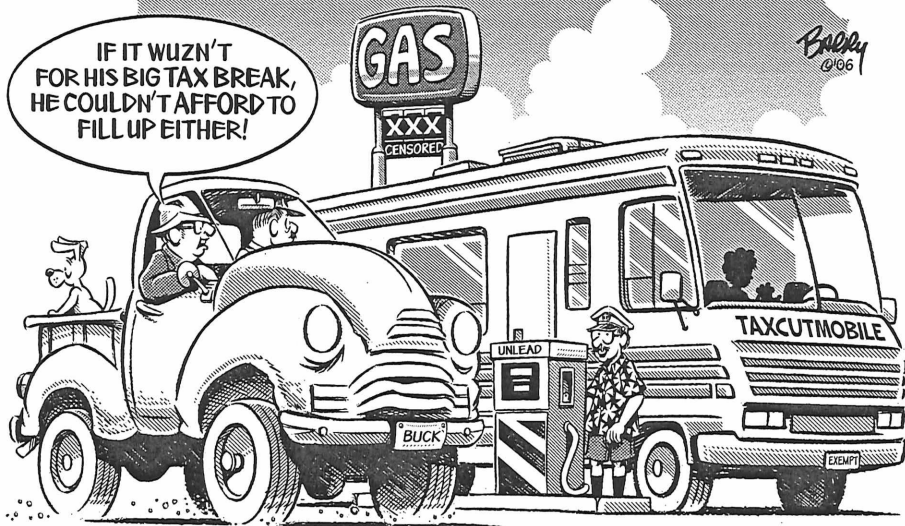
The high court then ordered the governor and Legislature to fix the tax system by June 1.

Gov. Rick Perry called on former state comptroller John Sharp to head a new 24-member tax reform commission. The commission soaked up input from citizens and businesses across the state in a two-month series of public hearings. In March, the Perry-Sharp tax reform proposal was completed.

Pro-immigrant march scheduled

Up to 40,000 people were expected to participate in a downtown Austin rally and march to the Capitol on May 1, in support of immigrants living and working in Texas, and in reaction to a federal crackdown on businesses employing undocumented workers.

IF IT WUZNT FOR HIS BIG TAX BREAK, HE COULDN'T AFFORD TO FILL UP EITHER!



From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago May 2, 1996

Haskell High School sophomore, Wendy Gray is headed for the state golf tournament. Gray is the daughter of Haskell Head Coach, Dwayne Gray and Frances Gray.

The seventh and eighth grade bands competed in the Quanah Band Festival. The seventh grade band received a Sweepstakes trophy for a Division I rating in concert and sightreading. The eighth grade band received a trophy for a Division I in concert.

A tree, a birthday gift to Margaret Ratliff from her friends, was planted in the City Park. City Administrator, Sam Watson and city employees, Kenny Bullard and John Narvis, plant the tree as part of a city-wide beautification plan.

20 Years Ago May 1, 1986

Bill Perry of Haskell was presented the "Scouter of the Year" award during the Chisholm Trail, Northern District, appreciation banquet in Abilene. Perry, cubmaster of Pack 136, was recognized for his "dedication and support of the scouting movement in the Northern District."

Haskell High School cheerleaders for 1986-87 were Lorie Alvarez, Sheree Dumas, Joy McKeever, Tammi Miller, Mindy Smith and Vicky Chavez.

Bobbie Owens, a first grade teacher at Burks Elementary School in McKinney, was named MISD Teacher of the Year at the Chamber of Commerce banquet in McKinney. She is the daughter of

Mrs. Moreland Glass of Haskell.

Junior High cheerleaders for 1986-87 are Tiffany Williams, Amanda Diaz, Corie Brzozowski, Becky Cline and Kim Gilly.

Eric Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, has been honored as a University Scholar by the Faculty Senate at Abilene Christian University.

30 Years Ago May 6, 1976

JRB Super Market held its grand opening. The store has 15,000 square feet of floor space and the parking lot will hold 100 cars. Randy Wheeler is the manager. Ivan Thrapp is the assistant manger. Frankie Lee is the market manager and Patsy Casselberry heads the Family Center Department.

Little Dribblers 11-12 year old All Stars were Emily Cox, Laurie Reynolds, Cam Klose, Melinda Blakley, Mynea Jones, Beverly Barksdale, Shannon Lane, April Turner, Tina Morris and Leann Turnbow. Coaches are Bill Blakley and Jimmy Browning.

Mrs. Vern Foreman, Flint and Monica Nanny and Sara Avila of Odessa spent the weekend in Haskell.

40 Years Ago May 5, 1966

Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Speer of Haskell are the recipients of a certificate, certifying that they have satisfactorily completed the prescribed course in shelter management.

Diane Summers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Summers, has been named Valedictorian of the 1966 Haskell High School graduating class.

Steve Harper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe S. Harper, has been named Salutatorian of the 1966 Haskell High School graduating class.

50 Years Ago May 3, 1956

Gladys Conner, Haskell High Senior, will compete in Austin in the UIL shorthand contest.

Capt. Theo Moore, U.S. Army veteran who has been in Europe for the past two and one half years, spent the week here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Moore, and other relatives.

Mrs. Allie Ford, chief operator in the Haskell telephone exchange, returned from San Angelo where she attended a two day conference of General Telephone Co.

Haskell High School career day was being described as "inspirational," "helpful" and "informative" at the general assembly of teachers and students in HHS Auditorium.

Construction of the concrete block building located one block south of the square on Ave. D is expected to be completed. The new building will house the Bob Williams Boot and Saddle Shop.

100 Years Ago May 1, 1906

Simmons Bros. are remodeling the front of their livery stable.

C.D. Long placed an ad to buy live badgers. He will pay \$2 to \$2.50 for the animals delivered to him.

C.W. Zug of Stamford has located in Haskell and will be associated with the Haskell Lumber Company. He is an experienced lumber man.

Weathers Whys

Tornado Wind Speeds

Q: It was reported that the recent tornado that hit Evansville, Ind., and killed over 20 people was unusually strong and had wind speeds of 200 miles per hour. What's the highest

wind speed for a tornado?

A: It is not easy to measure wind speeds of tornadoes because the equipment to do so is rarely at the site where the tornado is, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M

University. But a fairly recent tornado probably has the record.

"In 1999, a tornado hit the town of Moore, Okla., and by chance, a research team from the University of Oklahoma was less than a half mile away," he reports. "Their equipment, capable of measuring such winds, recorded a top speed of 318 miles per hour. That's believed to be highest wind speed ever recorded in a tornado."

Q: What are some other tornado wind speeds?

A: The previous record was 286 miles per hour inside a tornado that hit Wichita Falls, Texas on April 2, 1958, McRoberts adds.

"That tornado and the one that hit Moore are likely the two that produced the strongest winds, but that doesn't make them the most powerful as far as damage goes," he explains. "Often, the highest winds in a tornado occur about 200 feet off the ground, not at ground level. What was unusual about the recent tornado in Evansville, Ind., is that it moved about 75 miles per hour on the ground, almost twice the rate of speed that most tornadoes travel once they touch ground. It also stayed on the ground for about half an hour. But in 1917, a tornado stayed on the ground for 293 miles—from Missouri to Indiana."

USDA collects data from producers

The Agricultural Yield Survey is a primary tool used by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to measure crop production throughout the growing season. Data are collected each month from producers of

- Small grains (May-August)—winter wheat;
- Hay (August-October)—alfalfa, other hay;
- Row crops (August-November)—corn, cotton, dry edible beans, peanuts, rice soybeans, sorghum.

The Agricultural Yield Survey is conducted in all states except Alaska and Hawaii. Data are gathered from a selected sample of producers who grow at least one of the crops of interest.

The first month, respondents provide information on acres planted, acreage for harvest and expected yield per acre. In the following months, the same operators update their expected yield per acre, enabling NASS to track any production changes that might result from changing growing conditions.

Data collection methods include:

- Telephone—Computer-assisted telephone interviewing (or CATI) is the primary method.
- Mail—Participants fill out and mail back the questionnaire that was mailed to them.
- Internet—A new, secure electronic data reporting (EDR) option is the

timeliest, most cost-effective method.

•Personal interviews—An interview with a NASS representative can be requested by the respondent.

Data from the Agricultural Yield Survey is a critical component of NASS's Crop Production report, which provides a monthly measure of the current state of U.S. agricultural production. The survey enables NASS to track and report on any changes that might occur due to weather, pests, disease and other factors.

All sectors of the U.S. agricultural industry—producers, buyers,

Where are the breeds today?

by Wes Utley

CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.

The U.S. Meat Animal Research Center at Clay Center, Nebraska, recently evaluated progeny of sires from the seven breeds with highest registration figures. Three of these were British breeds (Angus, Hereford and Red Angus) and four were Continentals (Charolais, Gelbvieh, Limousin and Simmental).

Little difference was found among the seven breeds in weaning weight, finished weight, cow weight, or cow frame score. (British-sired were higher in marbling and lower in percent lean.)

Pain at the pump

Traditionally Memorial Day kicks off the season of summer vacation driving and rising gas prices. However, this year gas prices got a jump on breaking records. Although many drivers are looking seriously at hybrid cars and finally getting it together to car pool, according to experts right now extra miles can be squeezed out of every fill-up if drivers followed a few simple rules.

Car care and driving habits including getting a tune-up will help with gas mileage, extend the life of your car and ensure a safer ride, but there are many cost-free ways to save money.

- Smooth out your driving style by avoiding "jack rabbit" starts and sharp braking. Both waste gas and can present a hazard for others on the road.

- It is estimated that every mile per hour driven about 55 mph costs 1% in fuel economy. So, slowing down can be both safe and fuel-efficient. Maintaining a constant speed also maximizes your car's performance. If road conditions permit, use your car's cruise control.

- Air conditioners can account for a 10-15% impact on mileage. If you can't avoid it, do not turn on the air conditioner as a first response to the heat. Start your drive with the windows open to exhaust the hot air out of the rear windows and then put on the A/C if needed. This will also enable the air conditioning to work faster and more efficiently when turned on.

- Accelerate a little as your approach a hill, rather than hitting the gas and switching gears once on the incline.

- Lighten the car's load by removing all unnecessary items from the trunk. Every 200 pounds of weight reduces gas efficiency by one mile per gallon.

- If you have to carry a lot of baggage, avoid using a roof-top container, which will increase the air drag. If you drive a pick-up, the open bed will have the same impact, so put a cover on it.

- Keep your tires inflated to the level recommended by the manufacturer. Incorrectly inflated tires impact fuel efficiency.

- Plan your trip route and combine trips to minimize travel.

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This issue mailed Wed., May 3, 2006



LaBRIERE HOUSE DONATION—Lonnie Rolls, director of the Haskell Probation Department of the 39th Judicial District, presents a \$250 check to Franciene Johnson, representative of the Progressive Study Club, to help the club with their matching grant of \$10,000 from the Dodge Jones Foundation to restore the LaBriere house in Haskell. Also present were l-r, Tiffany Mueller, Administrative Assistant; Patsy Bivins, Community Service Coordinator; and Ryan Peacock, Community Supervision Officer; all of the Haskell Probation Department.



YOUTH ART WINNERS—Haskell fifth grade students participated in Youth Art Appreciation month recently and Sierra Stewart, front, was overall winner. Other winners are, l-r, Cassidy Rios, Drake Everett, Matthew Booe, Maci Colley, Carson Hadaway, Kalyn Wheatley, Caitlan Johnson and Taylor Burson. Not pictured is Macy Bingham.

Rolling Plains Health Care Systems receive USDA loan

Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, has announced that Rolling Plains Health Care Systems, Inc. was selected to receive a \$3 million direct loan through the agency's Community Facilities Loan Program. The effort is part of the USDA Rural Development mission to help rural areas build and enhance essential community facilities.

"USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Programs help rural communities keep pace with the needs of their rising populations," said Daniel. "Rural residents can utilize our programs to help provide essential public services that will enhance the quality of life for all rural residents."

The funds will be used to construct an assisted living facility consisting of 20 units, a full commercial kitchen, staff office, storage spaces, resident lounges and other spaces required by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services.

In fiscal year 2005, \$31.8 million

in Community Facility Direct and Guaranteed Loans were obligated in Texas. Funds are used to enhance the quality of life for residents of rural areas by providing the means for construction, expansion, or enhancement of community facilities, telecommunication and distance education programs, and water and waste disposal systems. These programs are important because they supply a number of growth opportunities to communities with improved utility facilities, increased job availability, and technology and educational resources. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development's Community Programs have awarded \$1.8 billion for these purposes, and touched the lives of more than 1.16 million households in the process.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve

their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Abilene Local Office at 325-690-6162, ext. 4, or visit <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

Haskell fifth grade artists participate in art contest

Forty-three Haskell Elementary fifth grade students participated in Youth Art Appreciation month art contest as proclaimed by Mayor Ken Lane and sponsored by the Progressive Study Club. Each student received a certificate of participation.

The Brazos West Art Association judged the entries. Winners in Sherry Adams' class were 1. Cassidy Rios; 2. Drake Everett; and 3. Macy Bingham. Winners in Trish Johnson's class were: 1. Matthew Booe; 2. Maci Colley; and 3. Carson Hadaway.

Winners in Bonnie Fouts' class were: 1. Kalyn Wheatley; 2. Caitlan Johnson; and 3. Taylor Burson. Overall winner was Sierra Stewart.

NOTICE

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation has a limited amount of Cost-Share Funds available for Drip Irrigation in Haskell and Knox Counties.

The deadline for applications is May 19, 2006. For more information, contact USDA at 940-864-8516 ext. 4.

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Cattle profits remain strong

by Wes Utley
CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.

Since 1976, the Livestock Marketing Information Center has estimated annual cow-calf returns less cash costs, including an allowance for fair market pasture lease.

Returns are usually highest during initial periods of rebuilding the nation's cow numbers. Such a high was reached in 1991, when returns averaged about \$78/cow. But by

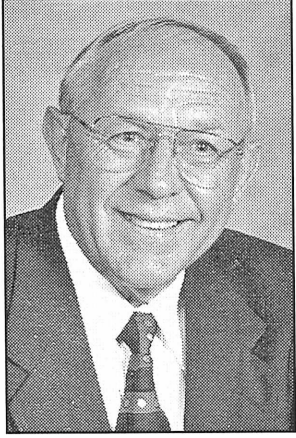
1996, returns were negative, about \$90/cow.

Conditions improved after that, reaching \$7/cow in 2002, \$86/cow in 2003, and \$148/cow in 2004. Last year, returns decreased slightly, to \$139/cow. Cow numbers are reported to be increasing, reversing the trend of the longest cattle-numbers cycle ever recorded.

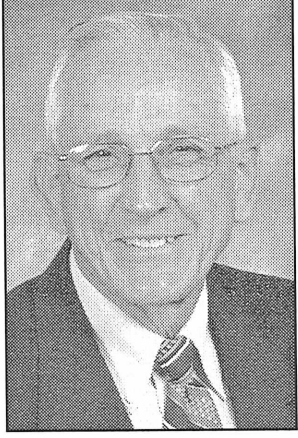
What will 2006 hold? The experts predict another good year, though how good remains to be seen.

VOTE MAY 13

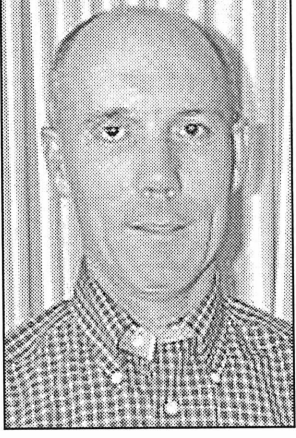
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KEN LANE
MAYOR



BOBBY NEIL SMITH
CITY COUNCIL




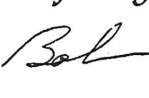

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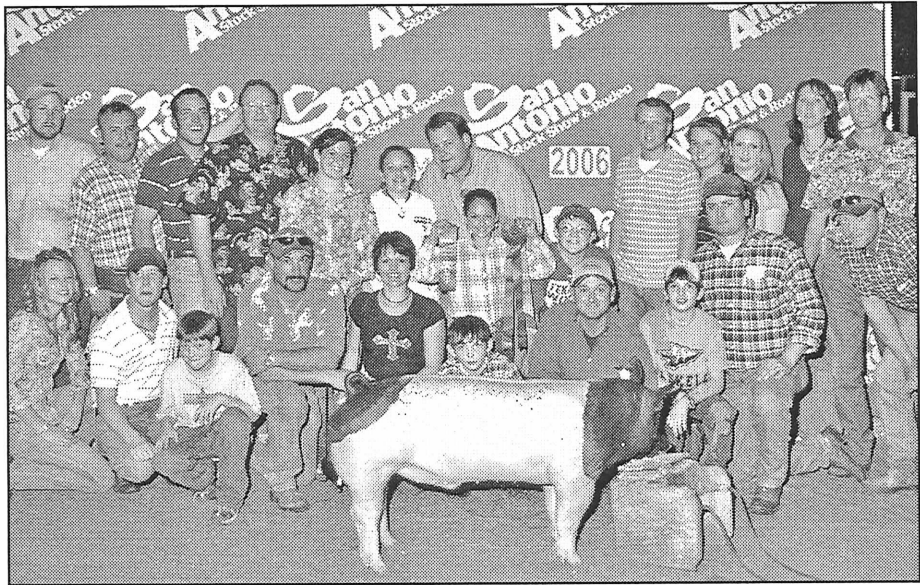
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FIRST PLACE WINNER—Meghan Glover exhibited the first place winning lightweight division champion cross at the 2006 San Antonio Exposition. Helping her display her entry are front, l-r, Brittney Davis, Byron Norton, Trevor Craig, Ricky Ulrich, Melissa Glover, Aaron Ulrich, Meghan Glover, Will McNelly, Chad Glover, Stewart Ulrich, Wes Utley and Shawn Craig; back row, Chad Christie, Steve McNelly, Justin Homen, Canda Maze, Sterling Coomer, Paige Glover, Colby Christie, Shane Swenhaugen, Brittney Boxwell, Faye Ulrich, Mrs. Bellmon and Jim Bellmon.



WINS SECOND PLACE—Paige Glover exhibited the second place winning lightweight crossbred pig at the 2006 San Antonio Exposition. Helping her display her winning entry are front row, l-r, Billy Davis, Cheyenne Davis, Colby Christie, Meghan Glover, Paige Glover, Wes Ultey, Aaron Ulrich, Stewart Ulrich and Will McNelly; back row, Brittney Davis, Sterling Coomer, Cacey Davis, Chad Glover, Melissa Glover, Faye Ulrich and Ricky Ulrich.

Big Country Electric members meet

Big Country Electric Cooperative's meeting of the membership held April 20 was a success.

With more than 740 members and guests in attendance, Big Country Electric Cooperative member-owners elected three board members.

Sue Stephens was re-elected to District 9. She was opposed by Dean Wemken. Carl Williams was re-elected to District 8. He was unopposed. Steve Moore was elected to District 7, which was previously held by Mickey Sterling, who elected to retire.

Board president, Carl Williams and General Manager Fredda Buckner addressed the membership. Buckner expressed pride that the cooperative was competitive with other local utilities with savings of up to eighteen percent.

Manager Buckner also expressed appreciation to Mickey Sterling for his many years of service. He was elected to the board of directors at Midwest Electric Cooperative in 1989.

The meeting began with displays by various vendors followed by a Texas style bar-b-que meal. Entertainment was provided by The Hogg Maulies.

Children enjoyed tattoos and balloons while the center of attention for member-owners and their guests were the hybrid cars.

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Rolling Plains producers vote to continue boll weevil program

The Texas Department of Agriculture has announced that cotton producers in the Rolling Plains Central Boll Weevil Eradication Zone have voted to continue program operations. Final results were 1338 voting "for" and 107 voting "against" continuation.

TDA issued 3,191 ballots to cotton producers who were eligible to vote in the referendum. A total of 1,445 valid ballots were postmarked

by the April 17 deadline and counted.

In addition to deciding if an eradication program should be continued in the zone, voters elected Woody Anderson to serve as the board member on the statewide board of directors for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Inc.

The Rolling Plains Central Zone includes all of Baylor, Callahan, Comanche, Eastland, Erath, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Knox, Mitchell,

Nolan, Palo Pinto, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton, Young and parts of Archer, Borden, Brown and Taylor counties.

Members to get dividend

First Ag Credit, Farm Credit Services stockholders should watch their mailboxes for their part in the \$7.4 million cash patronage dividend being distributed based on 2005 financial results. The patronage dividend will reduce most customers' net cost of borrowing by approximately 70 basis points, or almost three-quarters of a percent.

This marks the eighth consecutive year that over 6,500 First Ag Credit stockholders will receive a cash dividend from their agricultural financing cooperative. With the year's distribution, First Ag Credit has returned \$49 million in cash patronage and stock retirements to its stockholders as a result of the 2001 merger.

Keith Vandivere, chairman of the board of Lubbock said, "The refund is a result of the financial strength of the association as well as the value we try to create for our stockholders."

Cattle Market Report

The market at the Haskell Livestock Auction was on a run of 897 head of cattle at its sale on Sat., April 29, according to Bill Cox, reporter. 43 sellers and 36 buyers were present.

Feeders, \$2-4 lower. Stockers, steady. Packers, \$2 lower.

Cows: fat, .44-.49; cutters, .43-.47; canners, .28-.38.

Bulls: bologna, .55-.63; feeders, .65-.85; utility .52-.59.

Steers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.45-1.90; 300-400 lbs., 1.30-1.49; 400-500 lbs., 1.20-1.37; 500-600 lbs., 1.10-1.30; 600-700 lbs., .94-1.13; 700-800 lbs., .85-.95; 800-up lbs., .75-.94.

Heifers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.30-1.75; 300-400 lbs., 1.25-1.35; 400-500 lbs., 1.10-1.29; 500-600 lbs., .90-1.17; 600-up lbs., .70-.93.

Bred heifers medium frame, 700-925.

Bred cows young to middle aged 825-950; aged or small, 500-725.

Cows with calves: medium frame No. 1 young and middle aged, 950-1275; aged or small, 725-850.

11:15 a.m. Tuesday



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WINS CONTEST—A 4-H team of young ladies from Haskell County took first place honors in the District 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest held April 12 at the Wilbarger Auditorium in Vernon. Team members, l-r, are Aubrey Bassett, Jane Rowan, County Extension Agent/FCS, coach; Brooke Bullinger and Jordan Burson, 3rd High Point Individual.

4-H team brings home first place consumer project title

by Jane Rowan
CEA/FCS, Haskell County
4-H youth from the Rolling Plains District 3 competed in the District 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest held April 12 at the Wilbarger Auditorium in Vernon. The event and awards were sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension and AEP. Twenty-four counties make up the Rolling Plains Extension District.

The 4-H Consumer Decision Making project includes a fun judging event which enables 4-H'ers to learn more about making choices in the marketplace and in personal affairs. Contestants are provided an opportunity to make decisions based on knowledge through comparisons of alternatives. Contestants are also required to give oral reasons for making the decisions.

For the third straight year a team of young ladies from Haskell County took first place honors in the competition. Team are Aubrey Bassett, Brooke Bullinger and Jordan Burson. Burson was also recognized as the 3rd High Point Individual in the contest.

Jane Rowan, County Extension Agent/FCS, served as the teams coach.

City Council report

In the absence of Mayor Ken Lane and Mayor Pro-Tem Sue Medford, the City Council appointed Councilman Jerry Stocks to serve as acting Mayor Pro Tem for the April 24 regular meeting of the Haskell City Council.

A motion by Dan Hoover to park all city vehicles from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. except for emergency due to the high price of gas died for the lack of a motion.

In the matter of use of city vehicles, a motion was made by Jimmy Roberts, and seconded by Dan Hoover, to leave at the discretion of City Administrator Brandon Anderson the proposed policy on personal vehicles including the use of city vehicles for City of Haskell use only with use of City vehicles after hours by employees limited to employees on 24 hours call when needed for city business. Personal use of vehicles during work hours will be subject to approval by a supervisor or the city administrator.

A motion concerning the possible sale of a vacant lot at 802 S. First was tabled until a later meeting.

The council discussed the trade out of street material and labor from Haskell County Community Service Supervisor and workers for the use of the landfill for disposal of flooded houses at the lake. Decisions concerning the matter were left to the

discretion of the city administrator. A motion was tabled until a later date on action concerning the interlocal interdiction agreement presented by Officer Mathew Cunningham.

It was reported that Mayor Lane and Administrator Anderson had discussed street repairs and seal coating with Skip Lipham of Lipham Construction to be done during the company's off season.

The council approved a resolution for the application to receive funding to build the Rice Springs Branch Corridor Enhancement Project. The city would be responsible for 20 percent of in kind labor and 15 percent to TxDOT for overseeing the project.

In the administrative report, Anderson announced: Bill Steele will serve as the city's Emergency Preparedness Director.

The copy machine contract with Lanier was discussed with the administrator seeking advice from the council on the matter.

Kenneth Campbell is working in the ticket house at the landfill part-time.

Early voting for the upcoming city election is underway with hours through May 9 set from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Election day hours on May 13 are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All voting will be done at City Hall.

Cleanup week continues through April 29.

The new utility software is installed and when all the kinks are worked out will be a nice upgrade.

The prison reports 153 employees and 512 inmates comprised of 22 county inmates, 263 Wyoming inmates and 227 immigrations inmates.

Wear bike helmet for safety, but be careful too

Warm weather means kids outside riding their bicycles. And while helmets are a good idea and may be the law in some communities, people shouldn't assume that they protect against every kind of injury, says Dr. Ramon Diaz-Arrastia, associate professor of neurology at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

"People need to be aware that wearing a helmet is no panacea," he says.

Helmets can protect against skull fractures, for instance, but can still leave a child susceptible to closed-head injuries such as concussions, Dr. Diaz-Arrastia says. So have your child wear a helmet, but make sure he or she still knows how to ride safely.

A properly-fitting bike helmet

should be horizontal on the head, with a snug but comfortable fit, using the manufacturer's foam pads if necessary. The front should be about two fingertips' width above the eyes, the

"Y" of the side straps should meet just below the ear, and the chin strap should be snug enough that when the child opens his or her mouth very wide, the helmet will pull down a bit.

Carla's Sweet Shop

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Breckenridge 1822 W. Walker St. (254) 559-1885	Haskell 10 Ave. D N. (940) 864-8585	Sweetwater 1418 Hailey St. Ste. C (325) 235-0300	Trio Wireless 4310 Buffalo Gap #K1110 (325) 692-5195	Wireless 4 U 4310 Buffalo Gap Rd. (325) 691-9900	Aspermont Trinity Cellular 612 E. Broadway (940) 989-2543
				Breckenridge Trio Wireless 3732 W. Walker (254) 559-5045	Colorado City Lone Wolf Cellular 1044 Hickory (325) 728-9000
					Snyder Trio Wireless 4515 College Ave. (325) 573-6240
					Sweetwater Sierra Satellite Systems Inc. 1102 A Lamar (325) 235-5445
					Trio Wireless 407 N.E. Georgia Ave. (325) 235-1210

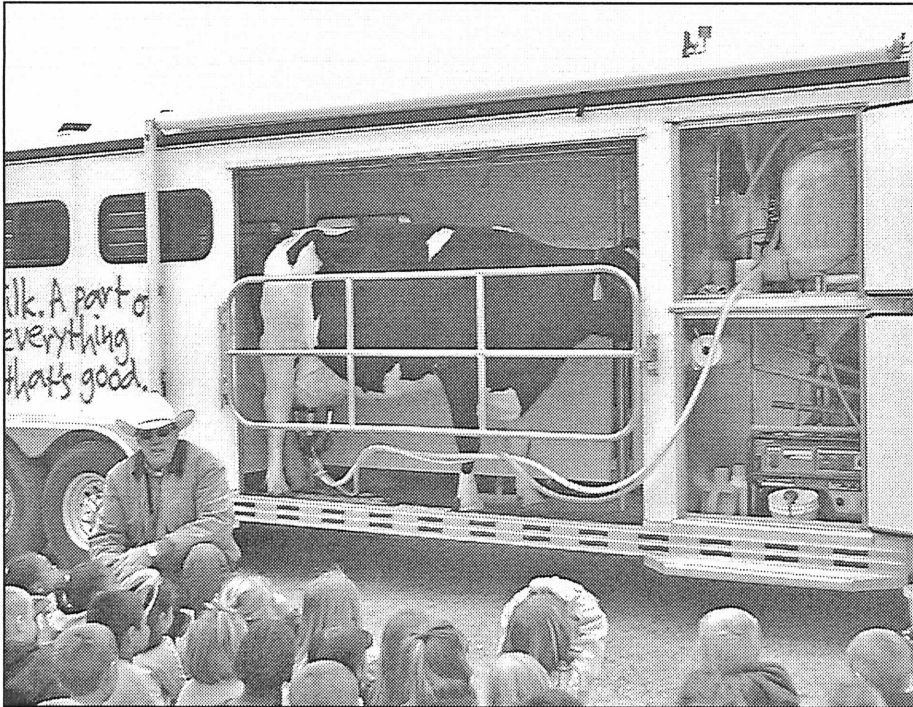
America's Largest Network: Claim based upon independent research analysis in December 2005, which compared marketed coverage patterns at the time of their creation of each wireless carrier without allowance for variations due to electrical interference, customer equipment, topography & each carrier's translation & defined preferences of their own internal engineering data. My Circle: Available to new and existing customers on current select rate plans \$59.99/mo & higher. My Circle applies to ten numbers per account, which must be shared among all lines on account. Not available on prepaid plans. Customer may not designate own wireless or voice mail number. Directory Assistance or 900 numbers as any of the ten available numbers. Calls must begin & end in your plan's calling area. Designated numbers must be within the U.S. Program may be discontinued at the discretion of Alltel. Phone Promotion: Phone available at sale price to new customers & eligible existing customers. Requires activation of a qualifying Alltel rate plan. Contact Alltel to determine if you are eligible. Mail-In Rebate: Phone & applicable rebate available for a limited time, while supplies last, with activation of a qualifying rate plan. Limit 1 rebate per qualifying purchase. Phone cannot be returned once mail-in rebate certificate has been submitted. Customer pays applicable taxes. See rebate certificate for details. Additional Information: Limited-time offer at participating locations. While supplies last. Activation of a qualifying Alltel rate plan, credit approval & approved handset required. \$20 non-refundable activation fee applies per line. \$200 early termination fee may apply per line. Offers are subject to the Alltel Terms & Conditions for Communications Services available at any Alltel store or alltel.com. All product & service marks referenced are the names, trade names, trademarks & logos of their respective owners. Screen image is simulated.



The Haskell Free Press

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HASKELL COUNTY
THAN ANY OTHER
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PEPPER VISITS—Pepper the milk cow and Mike Reeves instructor with the Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom of Lubbock visited Haskell County schools in Haskell, Rule and Paint Creek last week. Sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension—Haskell County, elementary students were taught about the dairy industry and the importance of drinking milk.

Pepper the milk cow and mobile dairy visits schools

by Wes Utley, CEA-Ag/NR, and Jane Rowan, CEA/FCS, Haskell County

The Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom made a visit to Haskell County April 25.

ECC Menu and Calendar

Mon., May 8
Lunch—Meatballs, gravy, buttered corn, sliced onions, blackeyed peas, yeast rolls, peach cobbler, milk, tea, or coffee

Wed., May 10
Lunch—Sloppy joes on bun, pinto beans, potato salad, onions, pickles, strawberry cake, milk, tea, or coffee

Fri., May 12
Lunch—Ham slice, cheese potatoes, English peas, cranberry slice, yeast rolls, orange cake, milk, tea, or coffee

Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

Sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension—Haskell County, the educational program was presented to elementary youth in an effort to increase their awareness of agriculture and its impact on the food supply.

Beginning the day at Rule, the classroom later traveled to Haskell

Elementary and finished the day at Paint Creek.

Mike Reeves of Lubbock is an instructor for the Southwest Dairy Center and he travels with a live Holstein cow named "Pepper." The team entertains the students while teaching about the dairy industry and the importance of drinking milk.

Haskell School Menu

May 8-12 Breakfast
Juice and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu.
Monday: Breakfast pizza
Tuesday: Funnel cake
Wednesday: Cereal, animal crackers
Thursday: Breakfast on a stick
Friday: No school

Lunch
Milk and iced tea are served daily at the Secondary campus. Milk is served daily at the Elementary School. Secondary campus: choice of

entree or baked potato with cheese and ham.
Monday: Chicken fried steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, hot roll, peaches
Tuesday: Chili cheese hot dog, pickle spears, french fries, fresh fruit
Wednesday: Pepperoni pizza, corn, garden salad, strawberry cake
Thursday: Ham and cheese sandwich, baby carrots, pickle spear, chips, cookie, bottled water
Friday: No school

Paint Creek School Menu

May 8-12 Breakfast
Juice and milk are served daily.
Monday: Grilled cheese sandwich, cereal

Tuesday: Pancakes
Wednesday: Toast or cereal
Thursday: Toast or cereal
Friday: No school

Lunch
Milk is served daily.
Monday: Burritos, beans, corn, salad, fruit
Tuesday: Turkey, mashed potatoes, peas, salad, rolls, chocolate cake
Wednesday: Mac and cheese, ham, fried okra, salad, rolls, peanut butter bars
Thursday: Hot dogs, fries, pickles, corn on cob, fruit
Friday: No school

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TAX PLANNING

Written By
Richard E. Rodgers, CPA

USE AN IRA TO SAVE FOR RETIREMENT

Are you saving enough for a comfortable retirement? You can no longer rely on social security or a company pension to provide all the retirement income you will need. Perhaps it's time you considered an individual retirement account (IRA) as another option for setting aside more retirement dollars. Consider these basic IRA facts.

•**Deductible IRA.** If you are not covered by an employer's retirement plan, you may contribute up to \$4,000 to a traditional deductible IRA for 2006 (\$5,000 if you're 50 or older). If you're covered by a company plan, the amount you may contribute begins to phase out once your adjusted gross income (AGI) exceeds \$50,000 (single) or \$75,000 (married filing jointly). If you're not covered by a company plan, but your spouse is, the phase-out income range is \$150,000 to \$160,000. If you qualify, your IRA contribution is tax-deductible, and taxes on earnings and gains are deferred until you start taking withdrawals. This allows a tax-free compounding of earnings and gains. The IRS imposes timing restrictions on withdrawals; they must begin after age 70 1/2, and they're generally subject to a 10% penalty if taken before age 59 1/2.

•**Roth IRA.** A married couple with income of less than \$160,000 or a single person with income of less than \$110,000 may be eligible to open a Roth IRA. As you approach these levels, the IRS limits the amount of a Roth contribution you can make. Annual contribution limits are the same as for a traditional IRA, but contributions are not tax-deductible. Once you've had the Roth account for five years and you're at least 59 1/2, your withdrawals are completely tax-free.

•**Nondeductible IRA.** What if you don't qualify for either a deductible IRA or a Roth? You might consider a nondeductible IRA. Though the contribution isn't deductible, the taxes on the earnings and gains are deferred until you take withdrawals.

For more information regarding IRAs or retirement planning, contact our office.

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This Week's Devotional Message:



THE FAMILY STRUCTURE REMAINS THE BEST HUMAN RELATIONSHIP

Many households are quite diversified these days in the lifestyles and interests of the members, as well as in the biological sense because of stepchildren and half brothers and sisters living under one roof. Indeed, many families find it hard to remember the last time they all had dinner together. Some of this is unavoidable, as in the case of a father who must travel on business or a mother involved in committee work for a

worthy cause. However, the family members should make an effort to be together whenever possible, to discuss problems or just to have some kind of fun that spans the generation gap. Moreover, they should attend their house of worship regularly, for this will help to cement the bonds. The family circle should be an unbroken one; a center of love and a haven of refuge from the outside world.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

- HASKELL**
- East Side Baptist Church**
Danny Manross, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
 - Christian Church**
Dusty Garison, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
 - Church of God**
Bruce Ray, pastor
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m.
714 North First East, Haskell
 - Trinity Lutheran Church**
Ron Renegarbe, pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30
Hwy 380 East, Haskell
 - Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**
Art Flores, Interim pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
607 S. 7th, Haskell
 - First United Methodist Church**
Rev. Daniel Echols, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell
 - First Assembly of God**
Rev. J.C. Amburn
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - St. George Catholic Church**
Father George Roney
Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.
901 N. 16th, Haskell
 - Church of Christ**
Jim Yates, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - First Presbyterian Church**
Kelly Pigott, interim pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - Trinity Baptist Church**
Tony Grand, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.
114 S. Ave. D, Haskell
 - Hopewell Baptist Church**
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell
 - Greater Independent Baptist Church**
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell

- New Covenant Foursquare**
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell
 - Mission Revival Center**
Rev. William Hodge
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell
 - First Baptist Church**
Greg Gasaway, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - Church in the Park**
Rev. Tim and Suzann Townsend
Sun. Morn. 10:30 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Gazebo or Pavillion
 - Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church**
Dr. Larry Nail, pastor
Sun. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
1600 N. First St., Haskell
 - Cross of Christ Fellowship**
Joe and Loretta Stulir, pastors
864-5404
Sun. 10:30 a.m.
455 CR 410, Haskell
- WEINERT**
- First Baptist Church**
J. C. Baker, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert
 - Weinert Foursquare Church**
Rev. Robert Harrison
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert
- ROCHESTER**
- Church of Christ**
Steve Willis, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester
 - First Baptist Church**
Jim Davis, pastor
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:00 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester
 - Union Chapel Baptist Church**
Clovis Dever
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Rochester
 - Faith Chapel of Rochester**
Katherine Byrd, minister
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.
Hwy 6, Rochester

- First United Methodist Church**
Rev. Daniel Echols, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Rochester
 - SAGERTON**
 - Sagerton Methodist Church**
Terry O'Rear, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.
Sagerton
 - Faith Lutheran Church**
Deborah Nissen, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Sagerton
 - RULE**
 - First Baptist Church**
Josh Stowe, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1001 Union Ave., Rule
 - Primitive Baptist Church**
Dale Turner Jr., pastor
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule
 - Church of Christ**
John Greeson, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
811 Union, Rule
 - First United Methodist Church**
Terry O'Rear, pastor
Sun. Morn. Worship 8:30 a.m.
1000 Union Ave., Rule
 - Primera Iglesia Bautista**
Alfa y Omegas
Manuel Marin, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
500 Elm Street, Rule
 - Sweet Home Baptist Church**
Bill Trice, pastor
Sun. Morn. 11 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 5 p.m.
Gladstone Ave., Rule
 - West Bethal Baptist Church**
Rev. Robert Sweet
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
300 Sunny Ave., Rule
- PAINT CREEK**
- Paint Creek Baptist Church**
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
Paint Creek
- O'BRIEN**
- O'Brien Baptist Church**
Jim Reid, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p. Wed. 6 p.m.
O'Brien

Sonic Drive-In

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864-8533
Managers: Leon & Carolyn Herring

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Garage Sale

GARAGE SALE: Fri. and Sat., May 5-6. 8 til ? Clothes, washer and dryer, two swivel rockers, Radial arm saw. Lots of stuff. 918 N. 6th, Haskell. 18p

GARAGE SALE: Behind Dairy Queen. Storage #15. Saturday only. 18p

THE THROCKMORTON Chamber of Commerce's 7th annual community wide craft and garage sale for Sat., May 6, 7 a.m. Free maps will be available at 7 a.m. at the Throckmorton Visitor's Center, across from the courthouse. Maps will also be available at several local businesses which will open early for shopping convenience. There will be plenty of treasures and lots of bargains. 18c

GARAGE SALE: Sat., 7 a.m. to noon. Paint Creek Road. Red brick house on curve. Baby items, clothes, table and lots of misc. 18p

ESTATE SALE: Sagerton, Texas. May 5-6. Second brick house across from Lutheran Church. Collectibles, dishes, furniture, bedding, tools, Sears 6.5 h.p. electric start self-propelled mower, Troybilt 8 h.p. (large) tiller, spreader, weed eaters, chain saws, steel cabinets, small fuel tank on stand, \$50. Much more. Fri., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat., 8-5. No early birds. 18p

Lost & Found

MISSING: Black Lab from Weinert since April 9. Substantial reward for information leading to return. Joe Yates 940-673-8261 evenings and 864-2636 days. 18p

Miscellaneous

HOUSE LEVELLING and foundation repair. No payments until work is satisfactorily completed. David Lee & Co. 325-675-6369. 1-888-486-8588. 6fc

FREE ADULT COMPUTER classes provided by 21st CCLC Haskell County Library. Every Tuesday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more information contact Amanda Martinez at 325-721-5903 or Crystal Trotter at 325-721-5904. 10-19c

Jobs Wanted

GARCIA BLADE TRIMMERS for all your basic lawn care needs. Call 864-3144 leave a message. Adam Garcia Jr. 18-19p

HORSESHOEING. If you need a reliable and experienced farrier to provide you with excellent service at a reasonable price call me. Ken Rhodes 940-684-1510 home or 940-655-4885 cell. 20 years experience. Reliable fast service. Professional horsemanship. Crowell, Texas. 18-21p

Help Wanted

NOW TAKING applications for all positions at Sonic Drive In, Haskell. Apply in person. 25tfc

RICE SPRINGS Care Home is making a difference. We are taking applications for LVNs and CNAs. Contact Melissa at 864-2652. 18c

GIBSON CARE Center, Aspermont needs CNAs for all shifts. Call Melissa Prew, ADON at 940-989-3526. E.O.E. 9tfc

GIBSON CARE Center, Aspermont, needs CNAs for the 2-10 p.m. and 10 p.m.-6 a.m. shifts. Increased pay scale with benefits. Call Monte Hill, DON, 940-989-3526 E.O.E. 17-18c

GIBSON CARE Center, Aspermont, needs LVN and/or RN for the 2-10 p.m. and 10 p.m.-6 a.m. shifts. Increased pay scale with benefits. Call Monte Hill, DON, 940-989-3526 E.O.E. 17-18c

DRIVER NEEDED: Must have a CDL with Hazmat license. Preferably tanker endorsement. Call Jeff Fox at Agrilience in Knox City, 940-657-3585. 16-19c

NOW HIRING Correctional Officers. Starting pay \$8.75 per hour. Full benefit package available after 90 days. Blue Cross/Blue Shield, dental, vision, life, disability, Flexible spending account, employee assistance programs and 401 K plan. Couples offered same days off. High School diploma/GED required. No criminal record. Apply in person at The Geo Group, Inc. Dickens County Correctional Center, 2637 FM 6221, Spur, Texas 79370. For more information, call 806-271-3421. E.O.E. 16-18c

WES-T-GO now accepting applications for cashier. Apply in person at store. 400 N. Ave. E. 17-24c

PART TIME secretarial help needed. Apply at 306 N. 1st. 17tfc

NEED EXPERIENCED COOK. Apply in person at Haskell Memorial Hospital. 1 N. Ave. N. 18tfc

CERTIFIED NURSES AIDE position available for afternoon and night shifts. Full-time or part-time. Please apply in person at Brazos Valley Care Home, 605 S. Ave. F, Knox City. 18-19c

Help Wanted

LICENSED VOCATIONAL Nurses/Registered Nurses: Full-time/part-time positions available. Competitive pay with benefits. Please apply in person at Brazos Valley Care Home, 605 S. Ave. F, Knox City. 18-19c

For Rent

FOR RENT: Furnished rooms for rent. Nightly, weekly. Call Lone Star Lodging 864-2238. 21tfc

Real Estate

FOR SALE: Remodeled, brick 3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A, water well, large lot. 1203 N. Ave. L. Call Jolanda, 864-2604. 49tfc

HOUSE FOR RENT or sale. 940-864-3983. 18p

OWNER FINANCE: 1007 N. Ave. D, Haskell. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$16,975. Easy terms. Call 325-893-1973. 18-19c

OWNER FINANCE: 505 N. 2nd, Haskell. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$25,650. Easy terms. Call 325-893-1973. 18-19c

Public Notices

HASKELL CISD NOTICE CONCERNING MEETING WITH PRIVATE NON-PROFIT SCHOOLS
The Haskell Independent School District will hold a meeting for private non-profit schools to explain the Title I services available to eligible private school students and conditions for participating in such services. The meeting will be held at the Haskell Elementary Counselor's office on Tuesday, May 9, 2006. If you are a private non-profit school in this district and are interested in services available, please plan to attend. For further information, please contact Cindy McCulloch at 940-864-8007. 18c

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You may be getting old-if your children are on Medicare. You might not feel so old if you had a new Spring Air Back Supporter mattress. All sizes in stock and nobody beats our prices. Kinney Furniture in Stamford. 325-773-2232. 18c

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Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept.
is accepting donations to build **Fire Station #2** at 300 S. 1st
to house donated Texas Forest Service firefighting equipment and provide a larger training facility. If you would like information on making a donation or how you can help contact Fire Chief Bill Steele 940-864-2208; Randy Shaw 940-864-2023; or ask any Haskell fireman for details.
Donations may be mailed to:
Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept.
301 N. First St., Haskell, TX 79521

Many of you probably know Dad spent most of the last week of April in Covenant Hospital in Lubbock. As it turned out what brought him there was an infection that was a bit camouflaged. And what kept him there was a nasty fall, or rather a nasty landing, early on in his stay. While there Dad received competent and compassionate care from all levels of the hospital staff and students. As you can imagine he made some buddies along the way and even had a little fun.
But I am not writing about the care Dad received while in the hospital. I am instead writing about the tender kindness and care that he and Mom and the five of us felt during the ordeal.
Peggy and Lugene were there for Mom as soon as she got to the hospital. Throughout our stay in Lubbock they were gracious hostesses for Mom and me and later Shawn. When we took a break from the hospital we had two comfortable, homey respites where we could really refresh ourselves.
Our early visits from the Haskell Methodist preacher and three parishioners were the beginning of the arms and warmth of God to comfort and assure us. More special friends visited and knew how to comfort and just how long to stay.
Mom and Dad's animals received the basic food, water and petting. When it became necessary for Dee to be consoled, pet play dates were arranged. Their plants were watered, one time even twice in one afternoon, and their lawn was mowed. Someone gave Mom a generous cash loan knowing that she left quickly and unexpectedly on a Sunday. She had some clothes delivered by a visitor; I had a good Haskell contact willing to pass along the status improvements as they materialized. Many prayed for Dad, his caregivers, Mom, my siblings, my family and me. And, of course, once we were home well wishers bearing food began to arrive, each one so kind and sincere.
The Body of Christ could be seen, heard, felt, tasted and even smelled. It is a sense, an image, a spiritual experience I will not forget.
I love living in San Antonio, but I sorely regret being so far from Mom and Dad. The consolation is that so many of you love and care for each other like family. I grew an even deeper appreciation for your thoughtfulness and willingness. Thank you simply doesn't suffice, but it will have to do for now. God bless and keep you.
With warmest regards,
Kim Lane Cram

Haskell County REALTY
610 MAIN STREET, ROCHESTER. Great deal. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Brick home. Nice storage. Carport. Fenced yard. Corner lot. Priced to sell.
1206 N. AVE. J. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Large two car garage. Fenced. Corner lot with water well. REDUCED TO \$56,900.
206 N. AVE. M. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Fenced yard with dog run. \$39,900.
1104 N. 8TH ST. Newly remodeled, 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Beautiful brick home. Large open living area. Enclosed sunroom. Fenced backyard with water well. Many more amenities.
BRAND NEW HOME: 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Call for details.
13 AVE. K EAST: Immaculate home. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. Large living area. 75 ACRES approximately 7 miles from Haskell off of FM 618 South in southeast Haskell County. 25 acres cultivated. 50 acres pastureland. One tank. City water availability.
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903 N. AVE. G. 3-2-1. Immaculate three bedroom, two bath updated home. Has new metal roof, new central heating and cooling. Property has fenced yard with new storage building or shop.

1609 DERRICK. Like new, large beautiful den, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, master bath has shower and tub, C/HA. Reduced.

80 ACRES. Old CRP with Kline Grass which has 10 ac. pasture and 70 ac. of grass. Grass has some mesquites. There are bases remaining with the 80 ac. Located west of CR 427 on CR 463 southeast of Rule (near precinct barn.) \$425/ac.
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Hairgrove honored for achievements by A&M

Dr. Thomas B. Hairgrove of Haskell was among five outstanding alumni of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M University honored at campus ceremonies for his professional achievements.

The college annually recognizes former students who have contributed to society through the veterinary profession in a way that has brought recognition to themselves and, thereby, to the college and the university.

"Each of these alumni has represented the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences and the veterinary medical profession with great distinction," said H. Richard Adams, dean of the college. "We are proud to recognize their

outstanding accomplishments." Dr. Hairgrove, Class of 1974, is an active promoter of cooperative efforts between the veterinary medical profession and the beef industry. One of the first practitioners to embrace the Texas Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) program, he recently developed several area programs held throughout the year for veterinary practitioners to become more involved in BQA producer education meeting. These conferences cover disease detection, prevention and treatment as well as nutritional strategies and biosecurity measures.

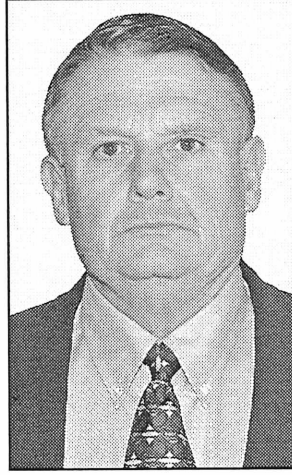
Hairgrove received the 2002 Veterinary Diagnostician of the Year Award by the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory and

the 2004 Merit Preventative Medicine Award. He is a member of numerous veterinary associations and serves on several state and national committees that focus on animal disease and prevention.

Hairgrove and his wife, Peggy, are active in both community and church activities in Haskell. He serves as Administrative Council Chair of the First United Methodist Church and has been president of the Haskell Chamber of Commerce, president of the Haskell CISD and president of Haskell Rotary Club.

A former Eagle Scout, he serves as the Eagle Scout mentor for the Haskell Boy Scouts of America.

The couple's son, Ross, is also an Eagle Scout and student at Texas A&M University.



DR. TOM HAIRGROVE

Entries sought for queen's pageant

The queen pageant for Wild Horse Prairie Days will be held Sun., May 21 at 2 p.m. in the Haskell High School auditorium. Girls may enter in four categories including Little Miss for Kindergarten through second graders; Young Miss for third through fifth graders; Junior Miss for sixth through eighth graders and Queen for ninth through twelfth graders.

The afternoon will feature younger contestants in Sunday dress

and queen contestants in formal dress.

Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for students to help offset pageant expenses.

Pageant coordinators and Wild Horse Prairie Days extend a special invitation to all young ladies who are Haskell County residents or who are affiliated with one of the ranches participating in the Wild Horse Prairie Days rodeo. Each contestant will need a sponsor to pay the \$25

entry fee. Interviews, pageant rehearsal and a luncheon with casual dress will be held for all participants Sat., May 20. Before the interviews, the girls will have a special session with tips for interviewing.

Winner of the queen category will receive a \$250 scholarship. All winners will receive a tiara and flowers; runners-up will receive flowers. All participants will receive a gift bag from area merchants. Winners will ride in the Wild Horse

Prairie Days parade and be introduced at both rodeo performances. All participants will be given the opportunity to ride in the parade and be involved with various activities during Wild Horse Prairie Days.

Applications are available at all Haskell County schools, the Chamber of Commerce Office and the Personality-Slipper Shoppe. Application deadline is May 12.

Early voting underway for city, school elections

Early voting for the upcoming City of Haskell election at Haskell City Hall continues through May 9.

Voting hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Election day is Sat., May 13 when polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at City Hall.

On the ballot for mayor are incumbent Ken Lane and Dan Hoover. Those on the ballot for city council member are Lonnie Meredith, Bobby Neil Smith, Jason Hall, Scott Langford, Sam Rodriguez and incumbent Jerry Stocks. Two councilmen will be elected.

In the City of Rule election, early voting may be done at Rule City Hall through May 9. The polls will open Sat., May 13 at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. More information may be

obtained by calling Carla at City Hall 996-2214.

Running in the mayor's race for the City of Rule are James Marquis and Bailey Ann Foster. Those running for Rule City Council are David Springs, Kathy Rolls, Robert Saffel and incumbent Patrick Pace. Two councilmen will be elected.

No city election will be held in Rochester or Weinert.

The Haskell CISD will hold an election for single member districts #4 and #5. On the ballot for district #4 (Rochester) are Larry Short and

incumbent Susan Turner; district #5 are Paula Garcia, Terri Klose and Tyke Meinzer.

Early voting for Haskell CISD will be conducted at the administration office in Haskell through May 9 from 8 to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. daily. Election day is Sat., May 13 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. with polls at the Haskell National Bank Community Room in Haskell and at the Rochester Fire Station.

No elections will be held for the Rule ISD and Paint Creek ISD.

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Maidens to play in Altus

The Haskell Maiden softball team will play two warm-up games before the playoffs. The first round of playoffs will be a bi-district series against Follett played in Altus, Oklahoma May 5-6. The game on Fri., May 5 will begin at 6 p.m. Saturday's game will begin at 1 p.m. followed by a third game, if needed.

Updated information may be found at http://haskell.region14.net/webs/hhs/maiden_softball.htm.

Turnrow talk.

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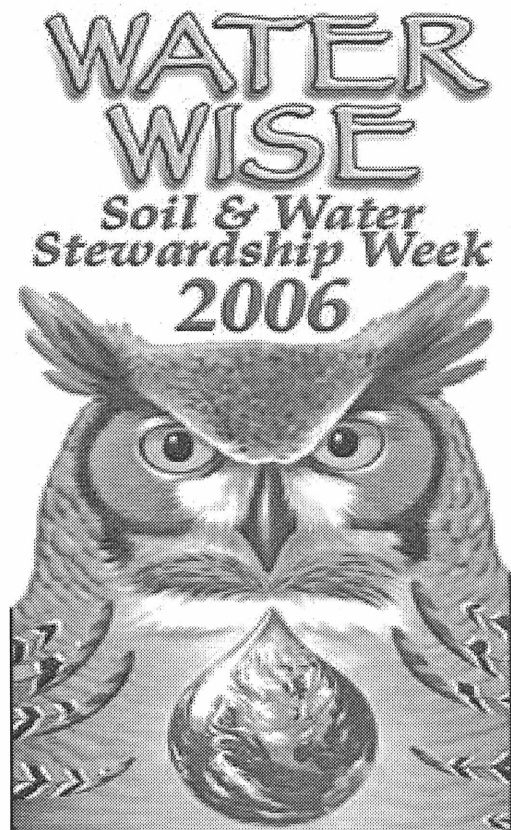
The Haskell Free Press

with Haskell Soil & Water Conservation District

May, 2006

8 PAGES

Haskell SWCD urges people to be water wise



Haskell SWCD wants to show you how to be water wise, during its annual Soil and Water Stewardship Week celebration. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) has proclaimed April 30 to May 7 as Stewardship Week, with the theme "Water Wise."

Many of us may take our water supplies for granted. But a large network of private and government agencies help protect, treat and deliver our water. In the United States, over 53,000 community water treatment systems deliver drinking water to millions of people. Over 13,000,000 private wells provide water to families and businesses. Agriculture, electric power generation, industry and transportation all depend on water resources.

F.A. Ulmer acts as chairman for Haskell SWCD. "We want to

help people in Haskell County learn how important it is to help conserve water but how easy it can be." During Stewardship Week, Haskell SWCD will be providing educational materials to the towns in Haskell County. Grades K-6 will receive activity booklets. Area churches will receive a leadership guide and litany. The district also sponsors the annual poster contest, essay contest and range and land judging contest.

Haskell SWCD is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts (www.nacdnet.org), which oversees the Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to promote conservation. NACD represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, which were established to encourage resource conservation across the country.

"Water is one of the most pressing resource issues facing our country," said Krysta Harden, Chief Executive Officer of NACD. "Conservation districts across the country help landowners, homeowners and businesses learn how to conserve water, from simple lifestyle adjustments to large scale projects. People can contact their local district for a wealth of useful information."

"Every person can help conserve water," says Ulmer. "It's easy, it helps the environment, and it usually saves money." Join Haskell SWCD during Stewardship Week to find out how.

You can learn more about NACD and Stewardship Week at www.stewardshipweek.com. You don't have to a wise old owl to find out how to be "water wise."

Haskell SWCD poster contest winners listed

Winning the district poster contest were 1. Samantha Wade, Paint Creek, sixth grade; 2. Garrett Brueggeman, Haskell, sixth grade; 3. Micah Thomas, Haskell, fourth grade.

Paint Creek

First grade: 1. Samantha Martinez; 2. Catherine Lemond.

Second grade: 1. Sara Edwards; 2. Taylor Hunt; 3. Jordan Davis.

Third grade: 1. Brad Winterstein; 2. Dalton Einhaus; 3. Ryan Reid.

Fourth grade: 1. Kadie McCord; 2. Caitlin Medford; 3. Shawn Myers.

Fifth grade: 1. Blake Edwards; 2. Katie Jones; 3. Demarcus Titus.

Sixth grade: 1. Katrina Buerger; 2. Samantha Wade; 3. Dalton Burnett.

Rule

Fourth grade: 1. Elizabeth Ewing; 2. Chris Lewis; 3. Michael Perez.

Haskell

Overall second grade: 1. Hannah Foster; 2. Travon Dessivia; 3. Kaylee Walker

Mrs. Dunnam's second grade: 1. Travon Dessivia; 2. Kaylee Walker; 3. Dylan Hanson.

Mrs. Hanson's second grade: 1. Hannah Foster; 2. Harley Foreman; 3. Katie McLemore.

Overall fourth grade: 1. Micah Thomas; 2. Colton English; 3. Lucy Carmichael.

Mrs. Everett's fourth grade: 1. Colton English; 2. Tarah Trotter; 3. Kaley Mathis.

Mrs. Gibbs's fourth grade: 1. Nate Dever; 2. Marlee Andrada; 3. Breiana Bell.

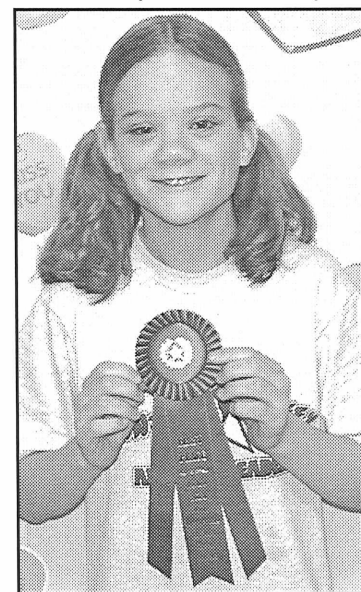
Mrs. Robert's fourth grade: 1. Micah Thomas; 2. Lucy Carmichael; 3. Braden Alves.

Overall fifth grade: 1. Tillie McGuire; 2. Maci Colley; 3. Ashley Adams.

Mrs. Adams' fifth grade: 1. Tillie McGuire; 2. Morgan Frierson; 3. Cannon Edwards.

Mrs. Fouts' fifth grade: 1. Ashley Adams; 2. Taylor Burson; 3. Caitlan Johnson.

Mrs. Johnson's fifth grade: 1. Maci Colley; 2. Cole Casey; 3.

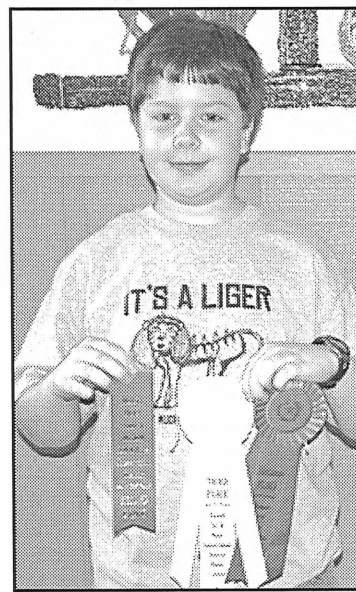


**DISTRICT WINNER
1ST PLACE
Samantha Wade
Paint Creek ISD 6th grade**

Carson Hadaway.

Overall sixth grade: 1. Lisa Hibbets; 2. Claire Carmichael; 3. Garrett Brueggeman.

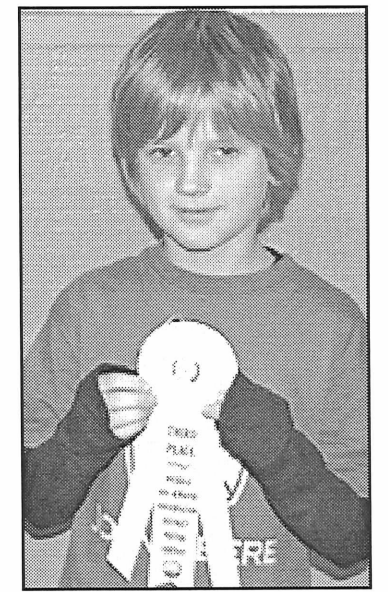
Mrs. Cypert's sixth grade: 1.



**DISTRICT WINNER
2ND PLACE
Garrett Brueggeman
Haskell ISD 6th grade**

Lisa Hibbets; 2. Garrett Brueggeman; 3. Sara Duncan.

Mrs. Sloan's sixth grade: 1. Claire Carmichael; 2. Mackenzie Thomas; 3. Sasha Walker.



**DISTRICT WINNER
3RD PLACE
Micah Thomas
Haskell ISD 4th grade**

Soil Stewardship Week April 30 – May 7, 2006

Proclamation

The well being of our people depends on the production of ample supplies of food, fiber and other products of soil.

The quality and quantity of these products depend upon the conservation, wise use and proper management of soil and water resources.

It is the concern and responsibility of every person to see that soil resources be conserved and managed properly and water quality and quantity be maintained to assure the welfare of all citizens.

Soil and water conservation districts provide a practical and democratic organization through which landowners are taking the initiative to properly use and protect these resources.

Soil and water conservation districts are sponsoring Soil and Water Stewardship Week as a commitment to protecting our renewable resources.

Therefore, I David C. Davis, County Judge of Haskell County, in full appreciation of the value of soil, water and wildlife resources and desiring to honor those who protect those resources, do hereby proclaim April 30 through May 7, 2006 as

SOIL AND WATER STEWARDSHIP WEEK

in Haskell County, Texas.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 4th day of April, 2006.



County Judge of Haskell County

Essays compete for scholarships

Each year the Haskell SWCD holds a Scholarship Essay Contest. The district

offers two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors. Included in this supplement

are some of those essays. These essays do not reflect the results of the judging.

Out smart the weather

by Cameron Short

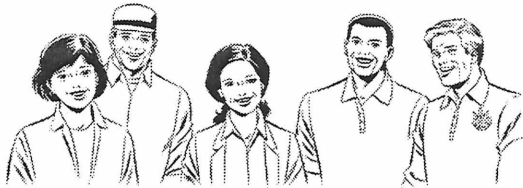
Many ways have been found to conserve water in our every day life. I have found a new way to conserve water while taking care of the lawn. One way to conserve water is to invest in a Weather-Based Irrigation Controller. These controllers water the yard based on what the weather is or has done at the selected time of irrigation.

One of the latest innovations in irrigation is the smart weather-based controller, a device that gives your plants the right amount of water for the time of year, climate, and weather. Weather-based controls take the work out of watering your lawn. Owners no longer need to worry about adjusting their sprinklers when it rains, or figuring out when to turn them back on after it rains. The information that is fed to the controller comes from variety of

sources, depending on the manufacturer. It can include an on site miniature weather station, sensors, and evapotranspiration signal sent via satellite, the internet, or microwave. When used in conjunction with a well-designed and well-maintained irrigation system "smart" irrigation control can reduce runoff by seventy one percent and reduce water waste by fifty nine percent, improve plant health, and save you money. The primary feature that differentiates a smart weather based controller from other types of irrigation controls is its ability to change the irrigation schedule, as needed, based on local weather information. The benefits of irrigation in response to changing weather is that your plants receive only the amount of water needed to keep them healthy and the

owner only pays for as much water as required by the landscape. Known as evapotranspiration, the rate at which the moisture is lost from the soil and plants changes daily due to variables such as temperature, sun exposure, humidity, and wind speed. Unfortunately, standard controllers apply the same amount of water each time they irrigate unless the schedule is changed manually. This often results in over-irrigation during the spring and fall and not enough irrigation during the hot summer months. Knowing the amount of water that needs to be replaced in the soil reduces the amount of water that is lost below the root zone, known as deep percolation, and prevents irrigation when the soil has sufficient moisture. In one study done in California the residents saved forty gallons per household per day after installation.

Learn about water. Conserve water.



Be **WATER WISE.**

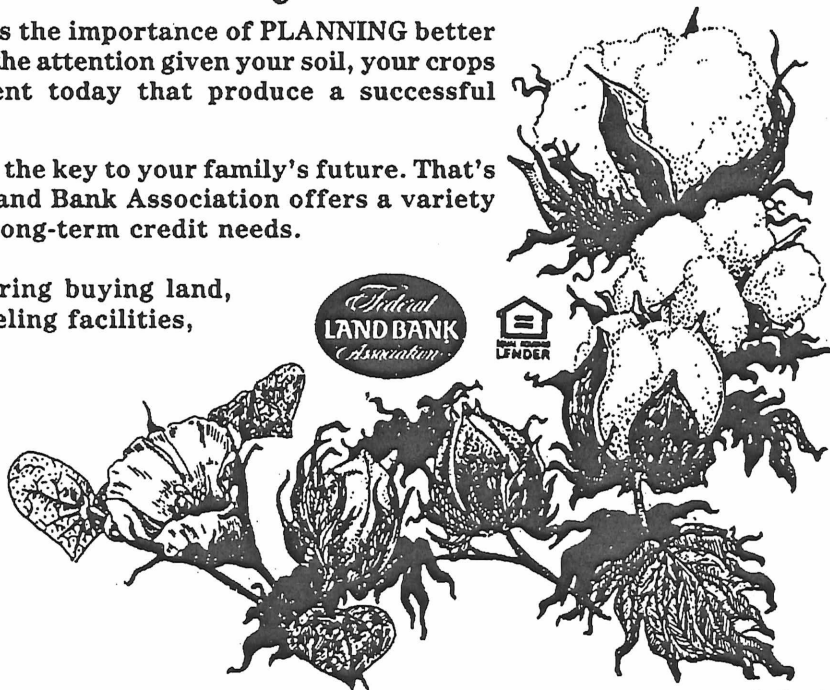
In many places, water is a finite resource; and that list is growing. How we manage this precious commodity will ultimately effect if, and when, we run out. With the technology now available, saving water has never been easier. All it takes is the right controller, and you too can be "smart" and use water wisely.

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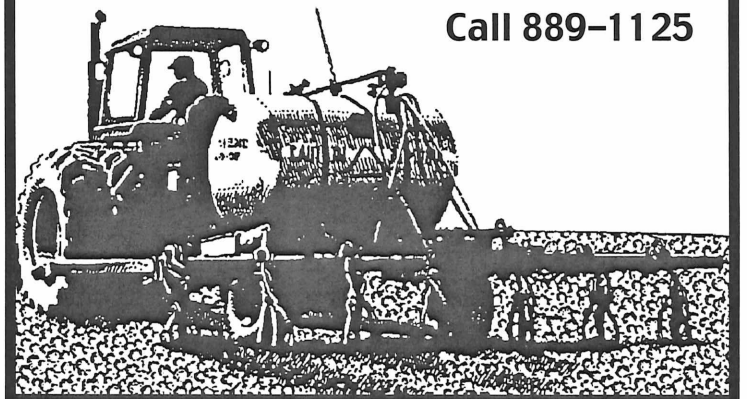
SALUTE TO FARMERS AND RANCHERS

We'd like to heap loads of praise on all the hard-working individuals who help put the daily bread upon our tables day after day.

We commend the entire farming and ranching industry for its diligence in adhering to the high standards of excellence in soil and water conservation.



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Water "Weise"

Water "Weise"
by Julie Hankins

My step dad and I do a lot of things together. We go fishing. Feed and water the cows. Wash our trucks and my dog together. Everything we do revolves around one thing. Something that is a precious resource, and a resource that we depend our lives upon. Water. My stepdad is the Weise cattle company. Our families' lives are all about farming and ranching. This is why water is such an important factor to us. Without water my family would be out of a job.

Growing up in a farming community I've been thinking of ways to be water wise, to help my family to agriculturally maintain water. To do this you must go by the three golden rules of water conservation-reduce, repair, and retrofit. First we can reduce by increasing uniformly of application, thereby allowing less water to be used. Also we can reduce by using weather dates to balance water applications with available soil moisture and crop water needs. To lessen water seepage by improve or repair application practices via surge valves, special nozzles on sprinkler systems, and soil

moisture sensors. Nearly 97% of the world's water is salty or otherwise undrinkable. Another 2% is locked away in ice caps and glaciers. That leaves just 1% for all of humanity's needs—all its agricultural, residential, manufacturing, community, and personal needs. The next rule is to retrofit. By this we can replace old lining diversion canals and ditches to minimize seepage and leaks. Efficient irrigation methods and scheduling are the key to maximizing water and fertilizer use efficiency in agriculture.

Tim Weise, my step dad, and I have shared this information with our friends and agriculturalists in our surrounding counties. Tim and I believe that if we practice these three golden rules, we will see a massive change in water conservation. I hope people choose to review our results and take part, after all this is our land and world that we live on. If our land suffers then so do we. So, please help us to spread the news to save our water and soil, to keep us all healthy. Together, my step dad and I, plan to continue to practice and share these rules to help people understand how big the issue is to be water wise.



Range and pasture, land, and plant contests winners named

The annual Haskell Soil and Water Conservation District, California Creek Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Wichita-Brazos Soil and Water Conservation District Range & Pasture, Land and Plant I.D. Contests were held Feb. 28 at the Avoca High School.

Schools participating in the contest were Anson, Haskell, Jacksboro, Jayton-Girard, Pecos, Stamford and Sweetwater.

In the Range & Pasture Judging Contest the Jacksboro team placed first, the Anson team

placed second and the Stamford team placed third.

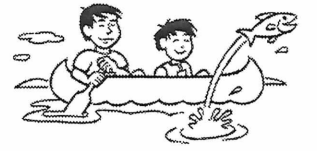
In the Land Judging Contest the Anson team placed first, the Sweetwater team placed second and the Jacksboro team placed third.

In the Plant I.D. Judging Contest the Anson team results include first place, Kaitlin Sprayberry; second place, Garrett Wheeler and third place, Lauren Devaney.

Participants from Haskell were Diana Mauricio, Ashley Foster, Samantha Lopez, Alexis Chavez,

Amy Hamilton, Jessica Herring and Leslie Tonche. Haskell's Land Judging Team came in sixth and the Range Judging Team came in fourth.

On hand to hand out awards to the teams and contestants were F.A. Ulmer, chairman of the Haskell SWCD and Dale Spurgin, chairman of the California Creek SWCD.

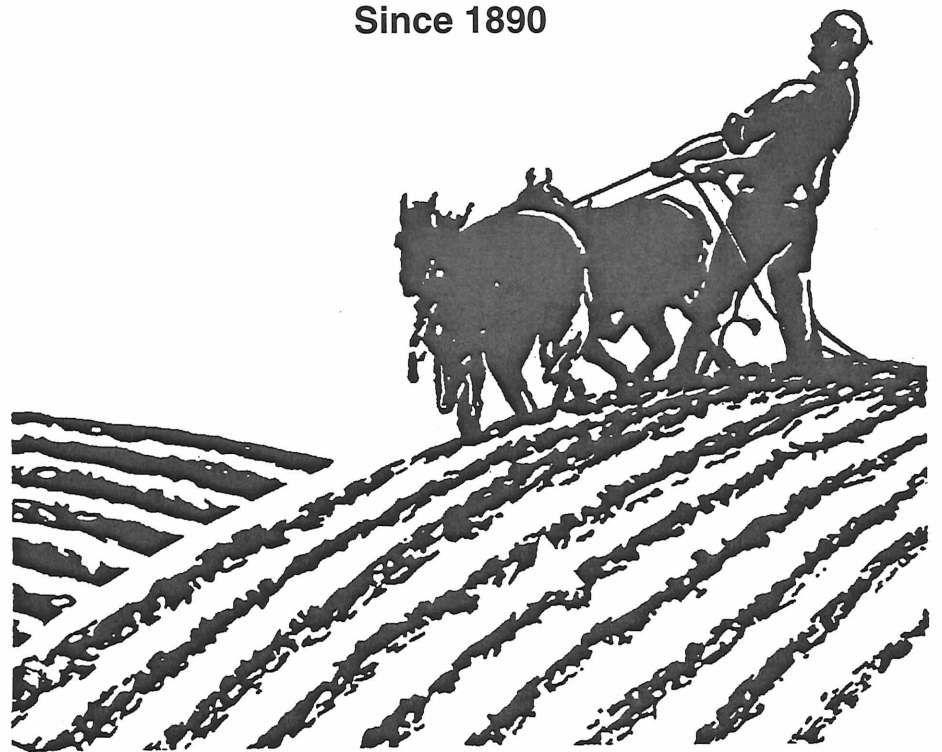


Soil Stewardship Week April 30TH - May 7TH

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Soil Stewardship Week

April 30 - May 7

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Spring training

by Caleb Hudgens

Each spring Americans, in the rush to awaken lawns from their winter sleep, use around 70 gallons of water outside the home on a daily basis. However, water conservationists say that lawns and gardens can be as healthy, if not healthier, by only using 35 gallons of water. The consequences of wasting an abundance of water to green grass and liven lawns can be seen in the

drastic decline in the fresh water supply. But no matter where or why we use water, there is a multitude of ways to train ourselves to become wise in the ways of water conservation that stop our wasteful water ways and ensure a wetter tomorrow.

When spring first begins, gardeners run to their tool sheds, grab the first water hose they see and sprint to their lackluster lawns to spend hours pouring gallons of

water into their hopes of beautiful, green grass. But when watering, gardeners can cut down on the amount of water wasted by deep-soaking their lawns. Watering sessions should be long enough for the moisture to soak down into the root system of the grass where it can be most beneficial to the lawn as opposed to watering four hours which results in a soggy lawn and water waste. An effective method to know when to

stop watering is to put an empty tuna can on the lawn. When the tuna can is full, the grass has received enough water. A healthy lawn is an achievable ambition, but it doesn't have to jeopardize the water supply.

A west Texas garden is seldom seen without shrubs and plants. To avoid wasting water when nourishing such plants, gardeners can use the mulch method. By applying mulch around the basis of trees, shrubs and in flowerbeds, the rate of evaporation will sharply decrease, cutting water requirements while discouraging weed growth. Training ourselves to conserve water through the mulch method would perpetuate the universal goal of water conservation while allowing us to enjoy a weed free garden.

The soaker-hose and drip-irrigation watering systems are also effective training methods we can use to become water wise.

Soaker hoses are simply hoses that seep water into the ground. In order for the method to be effective, they must be placed at the base of the tree, shrub or in a flowerbed to allow a slow trickle of water to soak the ground. This will ensure that not only will the plant's root systems be adequately nourished, but will also secure a lasting water supply to the gardener. Similarly, the drip-irrigation water system achieves a comparable goal.

The drip-irrigation system is simple and is mainly used with plants with high moisture needs. Gardeners can purchase the system, which is comprised of a removable metal head that is attached to a water hose and allows droplets of water to directly cultivate a plant's root system, but they can be made easily in the home with a plastic bottle and a needle. The needle can be used to puncture the bottle cap to produce a small hole, just large enough to allow water-droplets to pass through. Then, the bottle can be filled with water, capped with the punctured top and be buried upside down next to the base of the plant. This will allow water to slowly, but continuously, nourish the plant while avoiding drowning and water-logging due to wasteful watering. Not only will gardeners be conserving water, but they will also achieve their goal of a livelier lawn.

Becoming water wise is simple. It takes drive, ambition but above it takes the knowledge of simple water conservation methods. By training ourselves not to overindulge in our use of water during the spring, we will only be achieving our goals of healthier lawns and gardens, but we will also be securing local fresh water supplies and perpetuating the goal of water conservation.

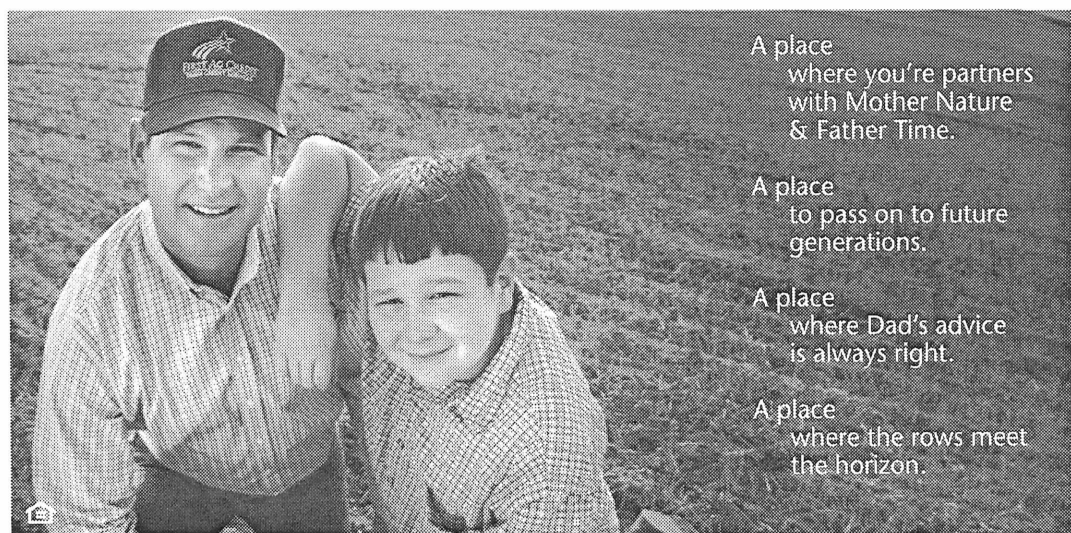
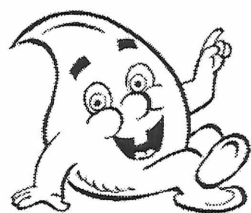
Water wise as water dies

by Jeremy Sorrells

Of all the necessities of life water is the most important yet least abundant and most wasted of the natural resources. With only .08% of the world's water at our disposal the human race is still expected to increase the demand for water by forty percent over the next two decades. This will make for a tough tussle around the water barrel, since we will be around seventeen percent over the total amount of fresh water available. With such a large strain on the world's water supply every amount of conservation will help. Numerous options are available

today from old tricks to new technologies for all water use indoor and outdoor, thereby making conservation of our precious water and money easier than ever. In the home water can be conserved with old tricks such as turning off the water while brushing your teeth or washing your hands and with new technologies such as "water smart" dishwashers, refrigerators, washing machines and toilets that use less water than their appliance ancestors. Outdoors water usage can be controlled by installing time controlled shut-off valves to restrict how long the water is left on. Other conservational measures include growing plants from your region and watering at night to prevent wasting water. With these tips your family can save hundreds of gallons a year which will be much easier on your

family pocketbook when the water bill shows up. This is why we need to spread the news of conservation because even though one person conserving helps twenty people can make a hefty difference. The word should be spread throughout the world of how easily they can change the world and save some money by using these simple conservation techniques to save our precious water. If we can not make up the gap between what here is and what we need some part of the world will end up suffering. Already twenty five percent of children don't live to see their fifth birthday and with a large water strain to come that number is only expected to rise. The only way to stop this terror from taking over the world is to start conserving our water today and stop wasting water before it cost lives.



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H2-Dough

by Kory Foster

When I was younger I remember, and I am sure many other people around these parts do to, running through the sprinklers on one of those sweltering, triple-figure degree, West Texas days. But activities such as "sprinkler running," watering the lawn, or even making use of your own bathroom are now close to being extremely limited due to growing constraints on our water supply. If we want to continue to use our water for everyday luxuries and necessities then something must be done now to prevent even heavier constraints in the future.

Water restrictions have been a growing problem in our part of the world for many years, and even though steps have been made to ease the problem, the problem still exists. Techniques for saving water are being used more widely such as, covering pools, and using water efficient devices such as low-flow toilets and high efficiency shower heads. Awareness though, is the key to successful water conservation. People need to know

that this is a problem and that it can only be solved through participation and action by everyone. Some may say, "We have no restrictions here, how does this affect me?" Well, water conservation doesn't only help the environment, it also aids in keeping our pocketbooks full. Conservation can help lower taxes and that is a key point in coaxing everyone on the bandwagon. When most people hear the word conservation they usually think of trees, rivers, lakes and wildlife, but if we add a dollar bill as railcar on this train of thought, we may get a better response from the general public.

Water helps keep us and everything around us going and living, so it is of the utmost importance that we create awareness of this growing threat to our lawns and our bathrooms. A few people aren't going to change our hydration dilemma by themselves; it is going to take a concerted effort to solve this growing crisis. So let's make a stand before we end up high and dry.

Renaissance water

by Lindsay Pannell

The Renaissance man is a person well rounded to say the least; he works like a slave, reads like a scholar and knows everything about everything. And yet where would such an accomplished man be with out his life-liquid? Every human, proficient or not, must have water to sustain life, but this precious commodity is going down the drain...literally.

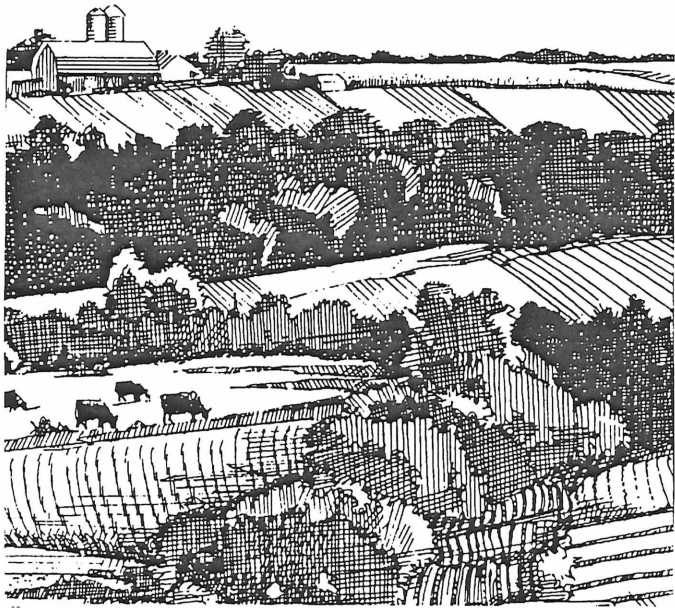
Water plays many functions for our daily life from brushing our teeth to keeping our car from overheating. In Venice they rely on the canals and other waterways for basic transportation; in China ten percent of their electricity is supplied by the Three Gorges Dam, the largest hydroelectric dam in the world. Humans use water everyday and now more so than any other time in history. We

are the most wasteful creatures on the planet, thinking ourselves as the "top of the food chain; and so self ordained that we may use and abuse the universal solvent on a whim. But what is being done to stop it? Pitiful pleas that one person can't make a difference and no one has enough time bring to by mind the laziness of our world. How much water would the average person use if they had to carry buckets to the nearest well or river, fill them up and trudge back to their house for a bath? Not many. A renaissance man would be concerned with conservation techniques such as rainwater harvesting were people collect pure, untainted rainwater in cisterns and therefore lower the demand for aquifer and other collected water and to save water by smartly irrigating our landscapes. For example, an

average lawn is watered twice as much as necessary and by watering half as much one saves water and the chance of drowning his/her scenery, also by using a drip irrigation, water can slowly seep into the ground thereby minimizes run off.

Water is our life; a person can live over two weeks with out food, but only three days without water. This beautiful, terrible fluid must be preserved at all cost; lest we pay the price of ruining our life source. Without clean, good water our life as we know it will alter drastically, by using helpful tips such as rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation, and day to day alterations like shorter showers we can be both efficient and prudent about our water. Both water and the renaissance man are alike in that both are scarce and both are immeasurably valuable.

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For the love of water

by Lindsay Spooner

Conservation is substantial when it comes to water. Water is one's life source, meaning each drop reserved is precious. Water makes up 60% of our body and about 75% of our brain. An average household bathroom claims 75% of the water used. The outdoors claims 50% of our water used. Water is something that shall be cherished for it is what keeps

us going. Every drop of water will count, be sure to encourage family and friends to follow water conservation tips.

A simple water shortage rule; all dripping faucets need to be replaced by washers. In case of curiosity, a washer is nothing more than a perforated disk of metal, used between a nut and a bolt to prevent leakage. If that is not working and I am not sure if

the home I reside in is leak free, I will do the following: check the water meter before, and after a two-hour period when no water is being used.

If there is a possibility that a toilet leak could occur, it can be checked with a simple household appliance. All that would be needed is food coloring. Just add 3-4 drops of food coloring in the water tank of the toilet. If color appears in the toilet bowl within 30 minutes, he/she has their self a leak. Remember there are ways around having to buy expensive parts or calling someone of expertise.

More common tips to proceed by are as follows:

- Use a broom when cleaning a driveway
- Adjust sprinklers to spray lawn not street
- Minimize grass area in the yard with low water use landscaping
- For tourist family attraction use native or low water use plants

Water conservation can range from indoor to outdoor use. The main underlying disadvantage of this problem is that few are grateful for the richness we as humans have in our life. As I have stated before, conservation is something that is substantial. Every one should share a love for water as I do. Water is not just something to drink and bathe with; it is a main resource we need to survive. Now do the part, and show one's appreciation by trying to find more ways to conserve water.

Reusable technology

by Mollie McKnight

There are thousands of resources on this earth to turn to when we need to technology to continue survival through conservation. We can never take back all the damage we have done to our water supply but by becoming a smarter more resourceful people we can save what water we have left. In order to reduce the amount of water we use we first must become informed of the various ways to reuse this great universal solvent.

Water is essential to all living organisms but we continually treat this wonderful substance as if it will never run out. People say to themselves, "We could always get our water supply from aquifers under the ground." But these aquifers have already been picked over by farmers and some have even been used to the point of becoming dried up. Where will we turn when there is no water left to use? The last place anyone ever thought to look is NASA. I became intrigued with the Water Processing System when I attended the Aerospace Scholars Program at NASA where I saw in depth the different inventions that go aboard the space shuttle, all of which recycle and reuse. The water processing system was formulated by NASA in order to reduce the amount of water that needed to be taken

aboard the space shuttle by recycling waste water. The water recycling process used on earth is a derivative of the first water recycler used in the space shuttle the only difference is the one on earth is a larger model. The water recycling system takes treated waste water and reuses it for other useful purpose such as; toilet flushing, agricultural use, and replenishing the ground water that we have already used up. This water recycling plant may sound a little disturbing at first because of the word waste, but the long term effects of are breathtaking. Even though the cost of a water recycling plant may be expensive or disgusting to some, but how much will one pay for water when there is none left. If every city was equipped with its own water recycling plant and people continued to watch how much water they use, we could stop the depletion and no longer worry about running out of water.

Water is a necessity that must be conserved and used wisely, not only for the time we are alive but through the generations if life is to continue on this beautiful planet. All the technology needed to stop earth from becoming dehydrated is at our fingertips. It's just a matter of taking the time to implement these new findings.

Conservation Pays!

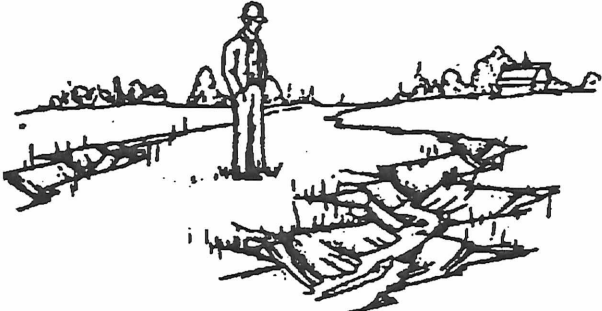
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A refreshing reminder

by Jessica Ortiz

Water is essential to our existence. Everyday we wake up we start the day by using water in some way. We also cook, wash, and clean with water. According to the Water Conservation Facts 70 percent of the earth's surface is covered in water. 97 percent of that water is salt water, and another two percent is either polluted, polar ice, or is inaccessible. That leaves approximately one percent of the earth's water for human use. The Water Conservation Facts also states that in the United States people use more than 380 billion gallons of water each day, which is about 1,668 gallons per person. It's scary to see how much of the earth's water is accessible to us and how much of that water we use each day. For this reason people should be willing to become wise in water conservation to allow the future generation to enjoy clean fresh water like we do.

As a water consumer I try to conserve our water by doing simple little tips I have learned growing up. For example, in the mornings when brushing my teeth and washing my face, I do not let the water run when am not using it. Also I choose to take showers rather than a bath, because you can save up to 27 percent more water by taking a shower instead of a bath ("Water Conservation Facts and Tips"). Water Conservation in the Bathroom states that the bathroom accounts for 75 percent of the water used inside the home, so by turning these simple tips into action we could help conserve our water.

Another tip for saving water in the bathroom is by replacing your toilet with a low flush toilet. A low flush toilet uses three and one half gallons per flush, which is one and one half gallons less water than our common household toilet. In the kitchen I conserve water by washing dishes by hand which saves twice as much the water used in a dishwasher. According to Water Conservation Tips in the Kitchen, if using a dishwasher you could save 14 to 17 percent more water by doing only full load in the dishwasher. However, water is not only use inside the house but outside as well. I use water outside to wash my car. When washing my car, I use a bucket of soapy water and a nozzle to prevent wasting water between washing and rinsing. This is the best way to wash a car according to Consumer Waters Center. I also enjoy watering my lawn which I do in the evening. Watering in the evening or early morning is the best time to water your lawn. Another tip for conserving water is to clean your driveway and sidewalks with a broom instead of using the water hose. These and many other tips are simply to do, yet could help save our water.

Water is an important necessity to our lives. With our limited supply of water we should all try to do our part to conserve our water. We can do this by applying the simple tips we know. If everyone contributes future generations will be able to enjoy fresh water, and the earth will continue to provide nutrients for plants and animals for the years to come.

The whys of being water wise

by Kerri Newton

As a child, I remember swimming in a horse trough in my back yard and running through the sprinklers on a hot summer day. However, due to lack of rain and over using this precious resource, future generations may not be able to enjoy the wonderful summer time activities as we did. We must wise up and realize that the dwindling water supply could be prevented if we just changed a few of our daily activities.

Being a farmer's daughter in a farming community, I understand the importance of caring for our surroundings. Our water isn't abundant enough to use however we please. Part of our responsibility is keeping people from overusing or mistreating our treasures and never becoming complacent with accomplishments already made. Efficient water use can have a major environmental, public health, and economic benefits by

helping to improve water quality, maintain aquatic ecosystems, and protect drinking water resources. By being more proficient and purchasing more water efficient products, we can also help moderate the effects of drought. Efficiency measures can also save the homeowner money on their energy bill.

Water supplies the entire world's basic essentials, and it is becoming increasingly scarce. Although two-thirds of the Earth's surface is water, less than one-half of one percent of that water is currently available for use. Simple activities such as not cutting the yard too short, taking showers instead of Jacuzzi baths, or putting mulch around trees can help the future enjoy the benefits we able to have today. Also, according to the American Water Works Association website, dripping faucets can waste about 2,000 gallons of water each year. Leaking toilets can waste as much

as 200 gallons a day and account for nearly 14% of daily water use. Regularly checking faucets and toilets for leaks is a wonderful precaution to take that could not only save valuable water but also save money on the monthly water bill. People in the past have made commendable improvements, and now our time has come to continue the efforts.

Water efficiency is the long-term ethic of conserving water resources through carrying out effortless practices that will improve our source of life. Through these practices, we will insure that water will be available for future generations. Water conservation makes sense for the environment and for your wallet whether your area's water supply is low or high. Understanding why and how to be water wise is the solution to an increasing problem. Making just one or two changes can make a major difference in our world.

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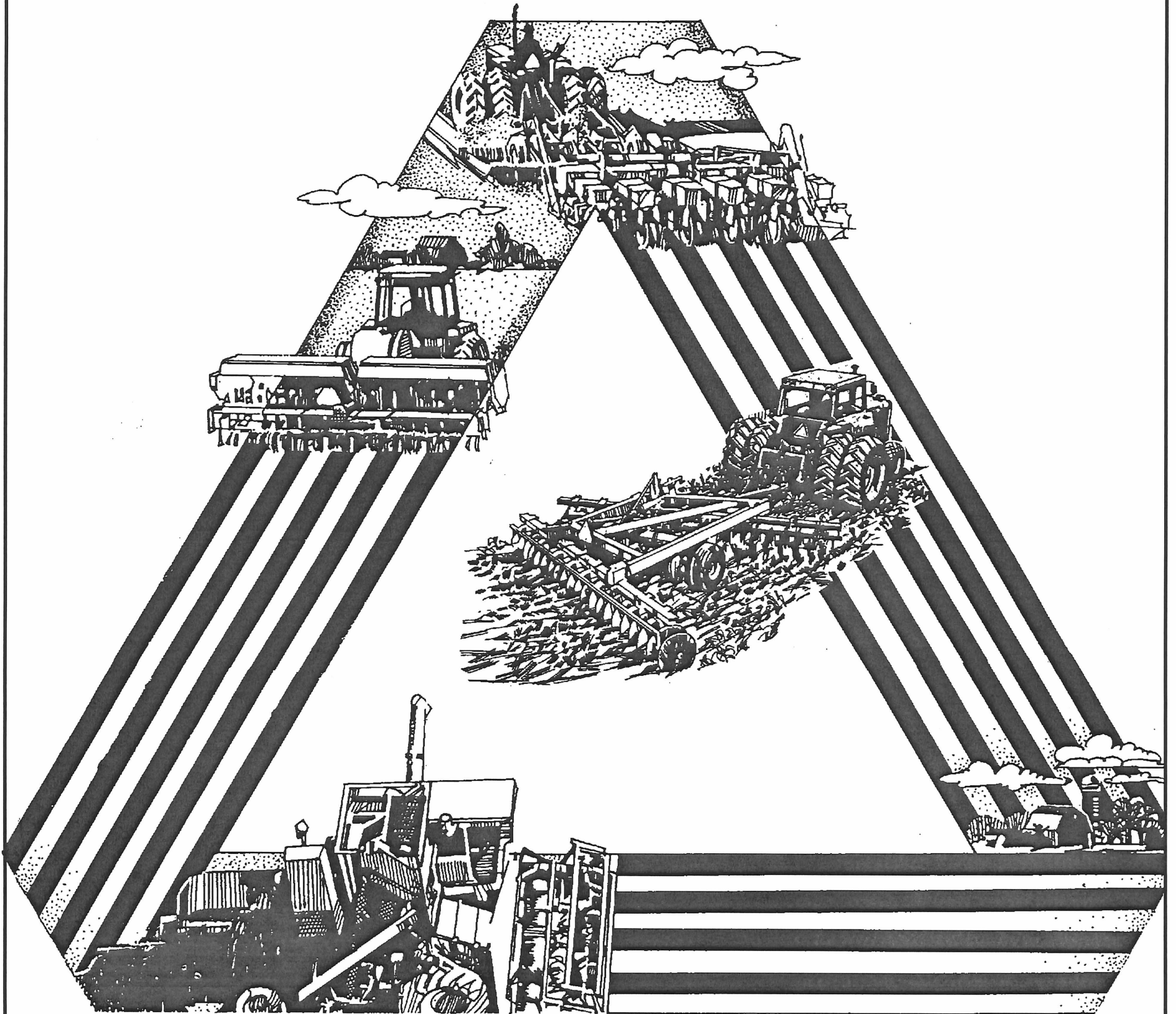
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