

| VALLEY WEATHER | | | |
|----------------|-----|----|-------|
| DATE | HI | LO | PREC |
| MAY 2 | 99 | 46 | ----- |
| MAY 3 | 63 | 37 | ----- |
| MAY 4 | 85 | 38 | ----- |
| MAY 5 | 92 | 43 | ----- |
| MAY 6 | 83 | 62 | ----- |
| MAY 7 | 97 | 68 | ----- |
| MAY 8 | 101 | 63 | ----- |

47
 JUNE 30, 2002
 BURNS MRS. LESLIE C.
 10902 VAN RUITON S.
 NORWALK CA 90650



Quitaque Mayoral Election Results
 Hamilton (I) - 37
 Mott - 15

50¢
 per copy

THE VALLEY TRIBUNE

VOLUME 41 NUMBER 46 BRISCOE COUNTY QUITAQUE, TEXAS 79255 THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2002

Honoring Those Who Served

Sponsored by the Valley Academics Program

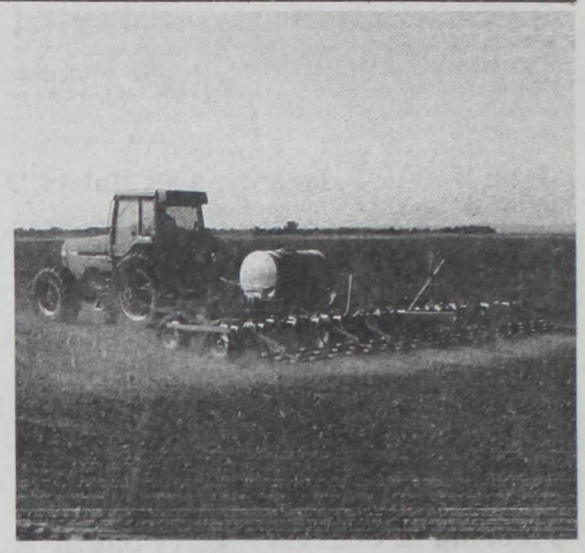


James Reddell Irby
 James Irby entered the Armed Forces on December 14, 1941. He served in the U. S. Army Air Corps. He trained at Ephrata, Washington, and Sioux City, Iowa in Heavy Bomber Training. James went overseas on October 28, 1942. He served in the Theatre of Operations in the Central Pacific and also in Engagements at Glibert and Marshall Islands. He was decorated with the Air Medal and four Clusters.
 James returned to the U. S. on July 4, 1944 and was discharged on February 28, 1947 at Fort Dix, New Jersey. He served a total of seventy four months and achieved the rank of Major



G.P. Driskill, Jr.
 G.P. Driskill, Jr. entered the Armed Forces on November 27, 1942. He served in the U.S. Navy Seabees. He trained at Camp Bradford, Virginia, and Oxnard, California. G. P. went overseas in March of 1943. He served in the Theatre of Operations in the Pacific and participated in the capture and occupation of Guam. He was decorated with a Bronze Star on Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon.
 He returned to the U.S. in October of 1945 and was discharged on December 15, 1945 at Camp Wallace, Texas. He served a total of thirty six and one-half months and achieved the rank of Electrician's Mate Second Class.

WASHINGTON BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL THIS WEEKEND AT FLOMOT YA'LL COME ON OUT & VISIT A SPELL!



Local Farmers Get Ready For Planting Season
 With recent rains and the promise of a new improved Farm Bill local farmers prepare their fields for the season. This farmer in the Gasoline area applies Treflan in preparation for planting.

Is Our Groundwater Source In Jeopardy?

Coalition Files Suit To Stop Shiner Designation
 A coalition of ag groups including the Texas Cattle Feeders Association (TCFA) filed a lawsuit on April 25, 2002 in Federal District Court in Albuquerque, N.M. that challenges the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's designation of critical habitat for the Arkansas River Shiner.

Cody Barclay Injured In Electrical Accident

By Earlyne Jameson
 Cody Barclay of Borger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Barclay, suffered second degree burns Tuesday morning, April 30th when working on high voltage electrical equipment that exploded at a plat in Guymon, Oklahoma. He was conveyed by an emergency flight to the ICU Burn Unit in Wichita, Kansas.
 He was wearing goggles, protective suit, gloves and a helmet, but because of intense heat he suffered facial, hand and arm injuries. He returned home, Friday but will be under medical care and treatment at the University Medical Center Burn Unit in Lubbock. He is employed by D.D. Rice Construction Company

Calendar of events

- May 9 - Turkey City Council meeting @ 7p.m.
- May 10 - Washington Bluegrass Festival in Flomot begins today
- May 11 - Terry Smith in concert at the Gem Theatre @ 7 p.m.
- May 12 - Mothers Day
- May 13 - Turkey Lions Club meeting @ 7 p.m.
- May 14 - Valley Board of Trustees
- May 14 - Quitaque City Council @ 5 p.m.
- May 14 - Quitaque Firemen's meeting
- May 14 - We the Women meeting @ 12 p.m.

GOOD GUY AWARD

Lawana Cruse and Margie Pinkerton would like to recommend Tommy Pinkerton and Ed Hammock for the "Good Guy Award". These boys drove from Talahenia, OK, which is down southeast of Oklahoma City to help the Turkey Roost Museum move tables for the Highway 70 Garage Sale and they moved several large hospital items from the clinic to the museum. They also took Ying Lyles' washpot down and brought it to the museum for these ladies. The pot was donated by Austene and belonged to her grandmother Nell Lyles. Way to Go "Good Guys", keep up the good work!

Christopher Taylor Among FCCLA Members Receiving Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Scholarship

Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo officials presented \$100,000 in scholarships to Family, Career and Community Leaders of America members during the Texas FCCLA State Leadership Conference on April 27 in Corpus Christi, Texas.
 Among the 10 scholarship recipients was Christopher Glen Taylor of Quitaque, a student at Valley High School. With his \$10,000 scholarship, Christopher plans to study mechanical engineering at Texas Tech University. He is the son of Kathryn and Walter Taylor.
 The show has presented more than 18,000 educational awards since its first scholarship in 1957. In addition to FCCLA scholarships, the show awards 4-H, FFA, Area Go Texan, Metropolitan, Opportunity and School Art scholarships as part of its current educational commitment of more than \$8.5 million. Since the show's educational program began in 1957, more than \$85 million has been committed to the youth of Texas through scholarships and educational programs.

Local Racers Exhibit Cars At Benefit Show

The Plainview Roadrunner Car Club hosted their annual Meals on Wheels Car Show May 4th and 5th. Over 150 cars were on display inside the Ollie Liner Center in Plainview. Three local drag racers took this opportunity to show off their cars to a crowd that normally doesn't see this type of car.
 Car show attendees were delighted early by the first car on display. Dale Ramsey's 1982 Super Pro Camaro with new custom graphic paint was the center stage car. The customized racer grabbed 2nd place in the competition class.
 Coy Franks of Flomot also placed in the competition class with a runner up trophy. His solid black 1982 Pontiac Firebird was a crowd pleasing entry.
 Barbara Mayfield of Silverton also displayed her 1987 Camaro. Her custom Shannon Jackson paint was awarded a first place trophy in the Mild-Custom class.

E-Mail
 The Valley Tribune
 taylor@caprock-spur.com

PUBLIC INVITED TO TEXAS PLAINS TRAIL MEETING IN TULIA MAY 14

The Texas Historical Commission, (THC) will host an organizational meeting on May 14 to assist the Texas Plains Trail Region in preparing an application for designation as a Texas Heritage Trail. The meeting will be held in the Tulia Chamber of Commerce in the Swisher Memorial Building, 127 SW Second St., Tulia, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration is requested and lunch will be provided.
 Purpose of the meeting is to help those interested in developing the region as a heritage tourism attraction to prepare their application for official designation, according to Janie Headrick, director of the Texas Heritage Trails Program.
 Anyone interested in promoting their historic and cultural resources to tourists, particularly museum directors, heritage society members, Main Street managers, chamber of commerce directors, convention and visitor bureau directors, city managers, economic development directors, historic site operators, county judges, county historical commission members and county extension agents in the region are urged to try to attend this meeting.
 Texas Plains Trail Region covers 51 North Central Texas counties, and includes Cottle, Childress, Collingsworth, Dickens, Hardeman, King, Motley, Briscoe, Floyd, and Foard counties.
 The Texas Heritage Trails Program is a regional tourism initiative of the THC. The program helps Texas communities promote tourism, revitalize local economies and foster community leadership through historic preservation.
 For more information on the meetings or the Program, contact Janie Headrick, director, at 512/463-5754. To register for the meeting, contact Lana Barnett at the Tulia Chamber of Commerce, 806-995-2296.

Here's A Texas You Can Mess With!
 Page 3
 The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD (Mess with it all you want)
 The Texas Crossword Puzzle proudly sponsored every week by:
THE SPORTSMAN BAR & GRILL
 Quitaque, America 1-806-455-1200



The Patriot

NEWS OF AND ABOUT VALLEY SCHOOL



2002 Bob Wills Day Queen, Katherine Pigg, daughter of Mary Pigg and the late Roy Pigg of Quitaque.



Childress Little Dribblers Tournament 2nd Place Winners. Front Row L to R: Armando Santos, Jose Galvan, Frankie Pozos, Cesar Mendoza, Jacob Hancock, Isaac Smith, Dalton Allen, Brady Ramsey, John Luke Shannon. Back Row: Coaches Philip Hancock & Mark Allen



Paducah Little Dribblers Tournament 1st Place Winners. Bottom Row L to R: Frankie Pozos, Dalton Allen, Armando Santos, Cesar Mendoza, Brady Ramsey. Top Row L to R: Coach Philip Hancock, Jose Galvan, Mitchell Farley, John Luke Shannon, Jacob Hancock, Isaac Smith, Coach Mark Allen.

RIM ROCK CANYON



This Week In Texas History!

May 5, 1718
Presidio and Villa de Bejar founded by Governor Martin de Alarcon

May 5, 1898
First contingent of Rough Riders arrived in San Antonio to begin training

May 7, 1824
State of Coahuila and Texas created by Mexican Constitution

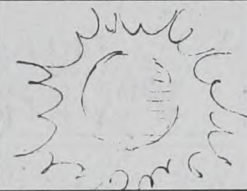
May 8, 1846
Battle of Palo Alto, first in the Mexican War, won by General Taylor near Brownsville

May 8, 1914
Mildred "Babe" Didrickson Zaharias born in Port Arthur. Called "the Greatest Woman Athlete of the 20th Century" She died September 27, 1956

May 9, 1846
Resaca de la Palma, second battle of the Mexican War, won on Texas soil

May 9, 1916
President Woodrow Wilson ordered militias of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona to be mobilized on the Mexican border.

DON'S MUFFLER SHOP
210 W. California
FLOYDADA
1-806-983-2273 or
1-877-212-8222
FREE ESTIMATES
HOME OF THE SWINGING MUFFLER



The hottest place on earth is Dallol, Ethiopia, with an annual mean temperature of 94 degrees.

By Clint Harmon

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

Monday, May 13
Breakfast: Sausage, Biscuits, OJ/Milk
Lunch: Corn Dogs, French Fries, Salad, Banana Pudding, Milk

Tuesday, May 14
Breakfast: Toast, Apple Sauce, OJ/Milk
Lunch: Frito Chili Pie, Pork & Beans, Onions, Cheese, Peaches, Milk

Wednesday, May 15
Breakfast: Cereal, OJ/Milk
Lunch: BBQ Chicken, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Milk

Thursday, May 16
Breakfast: French Toast Sticks, Syrup, Applesauce, OJ/Milk
Lunch: Ham & Cheese Sandwiches, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Chips, Milk

Friday, May 17
Breakfast: Donuts, OJ/Milk
Lunch: Pizza, Salad, Milk

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Robert Valdes
BIRTHDAY: 12-8-83
AGE: 18
PARENTS: Serafin & Seferina Valdes
FAVORITE QUOTE: ~ IF I COULD TRAVEL ANYWHERE, I WOULD GO... France
IF I COULD BE ANY ANIMAL, I WOULD BEA... Brown Tiger
MY PET PEEVE? Back stabbers
BEST ADVICE? Don't do drugs with friends.
WORST ADVICE? Don't cheat
WORST HABIT? Looking at girls
ROLE MODEL? My Dad
I'M THANKFUL FOR? My family
WHEN I GROW UP, I WANT TO BE ... Law enforcement officer
BEST CHARACTERISTIC? My 3 point shot.
FAVORITE HIGH SCHOOL MEMORY: Playing basketball & tennis



Levi Franklin Curry
BIRTHDAY: October 8, 1983
AGE: 18
PARENTS: Larry & Amanda Curry
FAVORITE QUOTE: "Success is the result of backbone not wishbone." Abraham Lincoln
IF I COULD TRAVEL ANYWHERE, I WOULD GO... To Hawaii
IF I COULD BE ANY ANIMAL, I WOULD BEA... Bear
MY PET PEEVE? People who never stop talking.
BEST ADVICE? Do it because you want to.
WORSTADVICE? We won't get caught.
WORST HABIT? ~
ROLE MODEL? My Parents
I'M THANKFUL FOR? Magan doing my homework.
WHEN I GROW UP, I WANT TO BEA... Champion Team Roper
BEST CHARACTERISTIC? Personality
FAVORITE HIGH SCHOOL MEMORY: My first high school Rodeo.

NATIONAL POISON CONTROL HOTLINE
1-800-222-1222

Valley FFA Attend Area I Convention

Valley FFA members will be attending the Area I Convention in Amarillo on May 10th and 11th. Valley will be represented by over ten members who will be competing for scholarships and awards. Matt Whittington will serve on the Courtesy Corp and Zack Ramsey is representing the Greenbelt District for Star Greenhand in Ag. Production. Katherine Pigg was elected Greenbelt District Reporter and will help run the convention. Valley will send for applications to the state degree check in Stephenville for Lone Star Degrees. Those applying are JC Pigg, Scarlett Sperry, Leigh Anne Nielsen, and Tessa Kelley. Hannah Boedeker is running for Area I State Officer Candidate. She is also competing for the R. yan Mott Scholarship and the John Justin "Standard of the West" Scholarship. Hannah is a finalist for the Houston Livestock Show Scholarship. Valley FFA will be having their annual chapter banquet May 16th at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend and RSVP's would be appreciated.

The term skyscraper was first applied to The Auditorium building. Built in Chicago, it was completed in 1889. It was ten stories tall.

Author Mark Twain held three patents—one for garment straps, one for a scrap book with adhesive-coated pages, and one for a game to help children remember history.

The world-famous Panama hat is actually made in Ecuador. The majority of them are distributed through Panama.

THE TURKEY HERITAGE FOUNDATION IS PROUD TO PRESENT IN CONCERT:

TERRY SMITH

"A SONGWRITER WITH A DIFFERENT TOUCH"



TERRY WILL BE BACKED BY:

Gary Williams- Fiddle, Kelly Leewright- Lead Guitar, Lucy Dean Record- Piano, Kelly Keltz- Bass, Louis Randell- Guitar, Jack Greubel- Drums
Jack was Floyd Cramer's drummer for 14 years. He was also drummer for Chet Atkins, Boots Randolph and others.

Opening act will be PAT SEIGLER of Matador.

WHERE: Gem Theatre in Turkey, Texas
WHEN: Saturday, May 11, 2002
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
ADMISSION: \$8:00
Call (806) 423-1273 for Ticket Information

By Shawn Wade

How To Figure Out

With the Farm Security and... approaching the finish line, figuring will impact growers has become... The most important aspect of... that while it is a significant ins... support that will be available for... mal in terms of how that support... With the reintroduction of... (on a decoupled basis), the co... and the continuation of the... program can be misunderstood... compared to year to year produ... First and foremost for grower... vided through the direct and... pendent on what crop a grower ch... In fact, the only portion of the... duction are those associated with... grower to receive loan level suppo... One important aspect of the fin... allowing 2001 crops grown on non... deficiency payments (LDP's) with... for the 2001 crop.

With that basic understanding... these phases will be implemented... following is based on current und... PAYMENT LIMITATIONS
For purpose of the FSRI, payme... limit the amount of support a single... each phase of the program.
The other new limitation, set fr... test that will exclude any person... ments whose three year average... \$2.5 million dollars. A person's... million can retain program eligib... average AGI from farming and rat... Of key importance to cotton is th... spouses, actively engaged in farm... maintained with no changes.
LOAN: Individual producers w... benefits provided through the ma... renews the \$75,000 per person li... deficiency payments and marketin... bill and adds the ability to redee... transferable generic marketing ce... DIRECT: The FSRI Act limits... ceive through direct, decoupled p... COUNTER-CYCLICAL: The... counter cyclical program paymen... MARKETING LOAN PROGR... essentially unchanged under the FS... the levels at which base commodity... 9 month loan repayment periods.
The following chart shows the a... gible commodities, excluding grade...

| Commodity | Direct Payment (lb) |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Upland Cotton (lb) | \$0.28 |
| ELS Cotton (lb) | \$0.35 |
| Corn (bu) | \$0.34 |
| Sorghum (bu) | \$0.34 |
| Wheat (bu) | \$0.32 |
| Soybeans (bu) | \$0.44 |
| Rice (cwt) | \$0.44 |
| Wool (lb) | \$0.08 |
| Hair (lb) | \$0.08 |
| Peanut (shel) | \$0.08 |
| Min. Oilseed (lb) | \$0.08 |
| Dry Peas (cwt) | \$0.08 |
| Lentils (cwt) | \$0.08 |
| Small Chickpeas (cwt) | \$0.08 |

| Direct Payment (lb) | 2002-2003 |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Corn (bu) | \$0.28 |
| Sorghum (bu) | \$0.35 |
| Barley (bu) | \$0.34 |
| Oats (bu) | \$0.34 |
| Wheat (bu) | \$0.32 |
| Soybeans (bu) | \$0.44 |
| Rice (cwt) | \$0.44 |
| Wool (lb) | \$0.08 |
| Hair (lb) | \$0.08 |
| Peanut (shel) | \$0.08 |
| Min. Oilseed (lb) | \$0.08 |
| Dry Peas (cwt) | \$0.08 |
| Lentils (cwt) | \$0.08 |
| Small Chickpeas (cwt) | \$0.08 |

DIRECT, DECOUPLED PAYMENT FORMULA: Direct, established for individual program... the table above. Direct payments... mula: (Direct Payment Rate) X (Curr... Acres) X (0.85)

BASES: Growers will have the AMTA Base acres plus any addition... update the AMTA base acres using... vated planted acres to all covered... **PAYMENT YIELDS:** Payment y... will remain at the current AMTA p... beans which will have a yield calcu... payment yield for the comparable... payment yields were established.

TIMING OF PAYMENTS: Direct... made as follows: An Advance paym... payment rate will be available begin... the year the crop is harvested, and... made in October of the year in which... **COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENT FORMULA:** Count... established for individual program... target prices shown in the table abov... using the Target Price established f... ret payment rate for the crop minus... of the 12 month marketing year (Aq... **CC RATE=** (Target Price) - (Dir... Rate or Average Price received by Gr... If triggered, CC payments will be... Rate) X (CC Payment Yield) X (Estal... **PAYMENT YIELDS:** Producers... current AMTA payment yield for pur... retaining their current AMTA paym... Anyone opting to update AMTA p... acres to reflect the average of 98 - 01... If elected, updated yields will be a... difference between current AMTA yie... acreage. The provision also provid... age yield for years in which the actua... average yield.

TIMING OF PAYMENTS: Count... tion will be made as follows: an Adv... the projected final CC payment rate... year in which the crop is harvested... jected payment beginning February... ance of the payment will be made at... year for the specific crop.

COTTON COMPETITIVENESS
of 1.25 cents is eliminated through Ju

Cotton News from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. By Shawn Wade

How To Figure Out The Farm Bill

With the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (FSRI) approaching the finish line, figuring out how and where the new legislation will impact growers has become the number one topic of conversation.

The most important aspect of the new bill for growers to understand is that while it is a significant improvement in the level and certainty of support that will be available for program crops, it is also a different animal in terms of how that support is structured and delivered.

With the reintroduction of target prices and counter-cyclical payments (on a decoupled basis); the continuation of direct, decoupled payments; and the continuation of the marketing loan there are lots of ways that the program can be misunderstood in terms of how much support is provided compared to year to year production of a given commodity.

First and foremost for growers to keep in mind is that support provided through the direct and the counter cyclical payments are not dependent on what crop a grower chooses to plant in any given year.

In fact, the only portion of the current bill that is tied directly to production are those associated with the Loan Program and the ability of the grower to receive loan level support on actual production amounts.

One important aspect of the final agreement was the inclusion of rules allowing 2001 crops grown on non-AMT A farms to be able to receive loan deficiency payments (LDP's) with beneficial interest requirements waived for the 2001 crop.

With that basic understating the task of sorting out just how each of these phases will be implemented and carried out can be attempted. The following is based on current understanding of the legislation.

PAYMENT LIMITATIONS

For purpose of the FSRI, payment limitations have been imposed which limit the amount of support a single producer is eligible to receive through each phase of the program.

The other new limitation, set for implementation in 2003, is a Means test that will exclude any person/entity from receiving farm program payments whose three year average Adjusted Gross Income is greater than \$2.5 million dollars. A persons/ entity whose AGI is greater than \$2.5 million can retain program eligibility if they receive .75 percent of the average AGI from farming and ranching.

Of key importance to cotton is the fact that the current rules regarding spouses, actively engaged in farming and the 3 entity rule have been maintained with no changes.

LOAN: Individual producers will maintain 100 percent access to the benefits provided through the marketing loan program. The FSRI Act renews the \$75,000 per person limit on benefits received through loan deficiency payments and marketing loan gains included in the 1996 Farm bill and adds the ability to redeem cotton entered in the loan with non-transferable generic marketing certificates.

DIRECT: The FSRI Act limits the amount a single producer can receive through direct, decoupled payments to \$40,000.

COUNTER-CYCLICAL: The FSRI payment limit on new decoupled counter cyclical program payments is set at \$65,000 per person.

MARKETING LOAN PROGRAM: Marketing loan provisions are essentially unchanged under the FSRI Act. The only real differences are in the levels at which base commodity loan rates are set and the change to a 9 month loan repayment period.

The following chart shows the applicable base loan rates for loan eligible commodities, excluding graded and nongraded wool and mohair.

Table with 3 columns: Commodity, Loan Rate 2002-2003, Loan Rate 2004-2007. Rows include Upland Cotton (lb), GRS Cotton (lb), Corn (bu), Sorghum (bu), Wheat (bu), Soybeans (bu), Rice (cwt), Barley (bu), and Peanut (lb/cwt).

Table with 3 columns: Direct Payment Rate 2002-2007, Target Prices 2002-2003, 2004-2007. Rows include Corn (bu), Sorghum (bu), Barley (bu), Wheat (bu), Soybeans (bu), Major Oilseeds (lb), Upland Cotton (lb), and Rice (cwt).

DIRECT, DECOUPLED PAYMENTS

PAYMENT FORMULA: Direct, decoupled payment rates have been established for individual program crops under the FSRI Act as shown in the table above. Direct payments will be made using the following formula: (Direct Payment Rate) X (Current AMTA Yield) X (Established Base Acres) X (0.85)

BASES: Growers will have the option to retain either their current AMTA Base acres plus any additional oilseed base they qualify for; OR, update the AMTA base acres using their 1998 - 2001 planted and prevented planted acres to all covered commodities.

PAYMENT YIELDS: Payment yield for the direct decoupled payment will remain at the current AMTA payment yield for all crops except soybeans which will have a yield calculated to reflect the average soybean payment yield for the comparable 81 - 85 time frame in which current payment yields were established.

TIMING OF PAYMENTS: Direct payments under this section will be made as follows: An Advance payment equal to 50 percent of the direct payment rate will be available beginning December 1 of the year prior to the year the crop is harvested, and the balance of the payment will be made in October of the year in which the crop is harvested.

COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS

PAYMENT FORMULA: Counter-Cyclical Payments (CC) have been established for individual program crops under the FSRI Act using the target prices shown in the table above. CC payments rates will be figured using the Target Price established for the individual crop minus the direct payment rate for the crop minus the higher of the Base Loan Rate for the crop or the Average Price received by Farmers for the crop at the end of the 12 month marketing year (August 1 - July 31 for cotton). CC payment rates will be calculated using the following formula:

CC RATE= (Target Price) - (Direct Payment Rate). (Higher of Loan Rate or Average Price received by Growers)

If triggered, CC payments will be aid using the following formula: (CC Rate) X (CC Payment Yield) X (Established Base Acres) X (0.85)

PAYMENT YIELDS: Producers will have the option to update the current AMTA payment yield for purposes of calculating CC payments or retaining their current AMTA payment yield.

Anyone opting to update AMTA payment yields for purposes of calculating their CC payment will be required to also update their AMTA base acres to reflect the average of 98 - 01 planted and prevented planted acres. If elected, updated yields will be assigned at the higher of 70% of the difference between current AMTA yields and a full yield update based on 98 - 01 yields on planted acreage OR 93.5% or 98 - 01 yields on planted acreage. The provision also provides a "plug" of 75% of the county average yield for years in which the actual farm yield is less than the county average yield.

TIMING OF PAYMENTS: Counter-Cyclical payments under this section will be made as follows: an Advance payment equal to 35 percent of the projected final CC payment rate will be available on October of the year in which the crop is harvested; An additional 35 percent of the projected payment beginning February of the following year; and the balance of the payment will be made at the end of the 12 month Marketing year for the specific crop.

COTTON COMPETITIVENESS PROVISIONS: Step 2 threshold of 1.25 cents is eliminated through July 31, 2006.

FARMING OUR GREAT STRENGTH

Keeping an Eye on Texas

Taking Flight

The Aircraft Pooling Board (APB) was created in 1979 by the 66th Legislature to establish and operate a pool for custody, control, operation and the maintenance of aircraft owned or leased by the state.



As of September 1, 2001, there were 36 aircraft owned by the state. This figure does not include 15 single-engine aircraft operated by the Texas State Technical College (TSTC) for pilot instruction in Waco. The APB operates nine passenger aircraft for use by all state agencies.

Through August of fiscal year 2001, APB aircraft had flown 2,581 flights with 8,652 passengers for a total of 609,160 miles and an average load of 3.62 passengers.

Source: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller (www.window.state.tx.us) and the State Aircraft Pooling Board, http://www.sapb.state.tx.us/

New Regulation Intended To Protect Horses

Horse enthusiasts with limited area on which to keep their animals can now be assured that nearby horses have tested negative for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA). EIA, also referred to as "Coggins" or "Swamp Fever", is an incurable disease that can be carried by biting flies from infected equines (horses, mules, donkeys or asses) to "clean" animals.

To combat the spread of EIA, the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory authority, in response to citizen petitions, enacted a new regulation that requires equids to have had a negative blood test for EIA within the previous 12 months, if the animals are boarded, stabled or pastured within 200 yards of equids owned by another person.

Owners may call the TAHC headquarters or their TAHC area office, to request assistance with this regulation," said Dr. Logan. "A TAHC representative will first ensure that the complainant's animals have up to date EIA test documents. Then TAHC staff will canvass neighboring premises to gain compliance with the testing requirements."

Current TAHC regulations require equids to be test-negative for EIA within the previous 12 months, if they are hauled to assemblies, such as fairs, shows, exhibitions, rodeos or trail rides. The 12 month EIA test rule also applies to equidae undergoing a change of ownership or entering the state. EIA-positive equine are permanently identified with a "74A" on their left shoulder and must either be euthanized, sold to slaughter or provided to an approved research facility, or remain quarantined for life, at least 200 yards from other equidae.

TSSWCB Offers Learning Resources To Districts, Schools, Public Organizations

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) offers a large selection of conservation related videos to the public for loan. Over 150 videos are available at no charge to soil and water conservation districts, public and private schools, and public organization.

The video library is a resource that we want the public to take advantage of," said Kris Parker, Director of External Customer Relations. "These are great learning tools on most every subject in conservation."

In addition to the video library, the TSSWCB offers two hands on educational models to loan. The Watershed Model shows students the effects of non-point source pollution and how it makes its way to lakes and streams. The Groundwater Flow Model shows a cross section of soil layers and illustrates how pollutants can travel in groundwater.

"Both educational models give the students a very clear picture of how pollution affects us and why it is important to take care of our land," Parker said.

The videos and models are available for a two week long period. The resources can be ordered by contacting your local soil and water conservation district or by contacting the TSSWCB Public Information and Education Department at 254-773-2250. A list of resources are available on line at http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us/infoed/resources.html.

American Lung Association of Texas YOUR Gift IS A WAY TO CONQUER LUNG DISEASE. Find out how you can help the 2.2 million Texans who suffer from lung disease. 1-800-LUNG-USA www.texaslung.org

Texas Cooperative EXTENSION The Texas A&M University System

By: Brandon McGinty, CEA-Ag, Briscoe County

How Does Age At Puberty Affect Performance And Economics?

Up to a point, not much, according to Montana researchers. They used a dynamic computer simulation and found little effect of increased age at puberty (AP) in heifers on either lifetime weaning weight per cow exposed or herd gross financial margin, as long as AP occurred by about 16 months. Beyond that performance and economics suffered.

By Cory Edwards, Briscoe County Extension Agent, FCS Tanning Health Issues

Summer's almost here and the dangers of tanning are a major concern. Sunshine, the natural source of tanning radiation, has long been known to cause skin damage. But, overexposure to ultraviolet, or UV rays from the sun and tanning bed lamps have been linked to skin cancer.

The melody of The Star Spangled Banner was originally known as Anacreon In Heaven.

GOOD TEXICAN COOKIN! Anita Hunter & husband, Brad Carter, will open the Flomot Cafe during the Bluegrass Festival in Flomot on May 10, 11 & 12. Fajitas, Enchiladas, & all the trimmings for Lunch Sat. and for Supper Fri. & Sat.

Washington Cattle Co. Bluegrass Festival Flomot, Texas MAY 10th, 11th & 12th ~ 2002 Main Stage Schedule. Friday 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. Sunday 9:30 a.m. - ????. EMCEE-BILL MYRICK**SOUND-FRANK CLEVELAND. ADMISSION: Friday \$6:00 * Saturday \$ 10:00 * Sunday FREE !!!

Vertical text from the left margin including 'May 9, 2002', 'RIGHT', 'Clayton Curry', 'QUOTE: Success', 'TRAVEL ANY', 'BE ANY ANI...', 'VE? People who', 'CE? Do it because', 'CE? We won't get', 'TT? -', 'L? My Parents', 'L FOR? Mgan', 'UP I WANT', 'mption Team Roper', 'ACTERISTIC?', 'HIGH SCHOOL', 'first high school', 'April 1', 'ley Gym', 'Close', 'm. Daily', 'Panama hat', 'in Ecuador. The', 'm are distributed', 'TION', 'CERT:', 'UCH', 'Guitar', 'ASS,', 'ms was also', 'hers.', 'tador.', 'as', 'ion'



CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON



Promoting Trade

America has the most productive, creative work force in the world. Our industries are diverse and our products are second to none. Now it is time we expand our reach to bring more of these goods and services to the global marketplace.

Ninety-six percent of the world's consumers live outside the United States, representing a vast market for American exports. Unfortunately, other countries are moving forward and promoting trade while we are standing on the sidelines.

For America to increase trade opportunities around the world, Congress needs to pass the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) bill. TPA gives the president the ability to negotiate trade agreements with the knowledge that while Congress retains its right to approve or reject a treaty, it will not try to amend or delay it. Without TPA, foreign governments have not been willing to sit at the negotiation table with the United States—they do not want to waste time crafting a complex agreement, only to see it changed.

While we delay, other countries are entering into agreements that exclude us. Our competitors in Europe, Asia and Latin America have sealed more than 130 free-trade compacts, yet we are party to only three—with Jordan, Israel, and with Canada and Mexico through the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Lack of free-trade agreements puts American exporters at a disadvantage. For example, a \$187,000 tractor made in America and shipped to Chile incurs \$13,090 in tariffs and duties upon arrival. The same tractor would face \$3,740 in tariffs if it were made in Brazil—and none if it were made in Canada. American businesses, farmers and ranchers cannot compete effectively with this kind of disparity.

Our inability to negotiate agreements with foreign countries is hurting U.S. industry and limiting economic growth and prosperity. TPA offers the United States the chance to reclaim momentum in the global economy by opening additional foreign markets and expanding opportunities for American producers and workers. For some 60 years, presidents and members of both parties in Congress have worked together to open markets around the world. Now, as we work to launch a new round of global trade negotiations, close cooperation is more critical than ever.

In Texas, we have experienced the benefits of NAFTA. Since the agreement was implemented in January 1994, Texas exports have grown much faster than the overall U.S. export of goods. Texas merchandise exports in 2000 totaled \$69 billion, up more than 22 percent from 1997 and nearly double the 1993 total of \$36 billion.

On the agricultural front, Texas ranks third among all 50 states in exports, with an estimated \$3.3 billion in sales to foreign markets in 2000. We are leading exporters of beef, poultry, feed grains and wheats. NAFTA has helped secure Texas' position as the No. 1 cotton exporting state. Since the agreement took effect, we have increased cotton exports to Mexico from 558,000 bales in 1995 to 1.5 million bales in 2000. But for farmers and ranchers in our state to continue to expand their exports, the United States must enter into trade agreements that will create opportunities for that growth.

TPA has been used since President Ford's Administration to implement trade agreements, but unfortunately that authority lapsed in 1994 and it has not been renewed.

At a time of increased tension in many parts of the world, American leadership on trade is more important than ever. Giving the president a strong hand to negotiate will ensure the continued growth of our economy and allow us to keep exporting three of our greatest ideals—freedom, free enterprise, and democracy.

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

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

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

Information Review: A copy of the APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD HEARING PROCEDURES, are available at the HALL COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT. Contact any employee of the HALL COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT.

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

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that reviews problems with appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes to solve problems.

If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (called a notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing. You'll receive written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening, Saturday or Sunday. Prior to your hearing, you may ask to review the evidence the CAD will use to uphold their determination. The CAD may ask you for a copy of the evidence you plan to present. The hearing will be informal. You or a designated agent may appear in person to present evidence or you may send a notarized evidence for the ARB to review at your hearing. The CAD representative. The ARB will make its decision based on the evidence presented. The CAD has the burden of establishing the property's value by a preponderance of the evidence presented. You can get a copy of a protest form from the appraisal district office at 512 main, Hall County Courthouse, Second Floor, Memphis Texas 79245.

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

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

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

More Information
You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at Hall County Courthouse-Memphis Texas 79245 (806) 259-2393 you can also get a pamphlet describing how to prepare a protest from the appraisal district or from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Division at P.O. Box 13528, Austin Texas 78711-3528.

Deadline for Filing Protest with the ARB*

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

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

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

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

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

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



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Lighthouse Electric Cooperative



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FIVE MEN MAKE FIVE MISTAKES

One man struck a match to see if the gasoline tank was empty. It wasn't.

One man patted a strange bulldog to see if it was affectionate. It wasn't.

One man sped up to see if he could beat the train to the crossing. He didn't.

One man touched an electric wire to see if it was dead. It wasn't.

One man cut out his advertising to see if he could save money. He Didn't.

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To see how We can make Advertising Pay for You!

The Valley Tribune, Quitaque, Texas, Thursday, May 9, 2002

New Medical School Economically Disadvantaged
Texas universities and medical schools are working to help economically disadvantaged students graduate from public or participating private universities. The program is eligible for the Joint Admission Program, which includes mentoring and other services and paid summer internships. Students who fulfill all the requirements are guaranteed admission to a Texas medical school. The program was approved by the Legislature to help students who are economically disadvantaged. Each of the eight medical schools and many of the state's private universities are administered by the Joint Admission Program and the Texas Medical and Dental Schools Council through the University of Texas. Detailed information on the program is available at <http://www.utmsi.edu>

NEW LAW MAKES MORTGAGE-APPROVAL EASIER
AUSTIN — Legislation passed last spring will make the mortgage-lending process a little easier for many Texas consumers. The new law requires mortgage brokers and loan officers to use standardized letters for pre-qualification and pre-approvals, which should help eliminate confusion while helping prospective homebuyers know where they stand. The Texas Association of Realtors identified significant inconsistencies in the methods used to communicate applicants' mortgage status, and supported legislation in the 77th session to clarify and simplify the process for Texas. Since the legislation became law on Sept. 1, 2001, the Texas Savings and Loan Department has published new standardized letters — one notifying applicants of their loan status and the other to advise whether credit has been approved. Copies are available through the agency's website, www.tslsd.state.tx.us. However, the new law does not apply to banks, credit unions, mortgage bankers and savings and loan companies. The new law also brings other new advantages for Texans looking to purchase a home. It's amazing what happens in such a short period of time in the Texas Legislature, but lawmakers in this past session made significant

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New Medical School Admission Program Assists Economically Disadvantaged Students In Texas

Texas universities and medical schools have formed a new partnership to help economically disadvantaged students prepare for a medical education.

Students who graduate from high school this spring and enter a Texas public or participating private university by next fall will be the first group eligible for the Joint Admission Medical Program, known as JAMP, which includes mentoring and other personal assistance, university scholarships, and paid summer internships.

Students who fulfill all the requirements of the program will be guaranteed admission to a Texas medical school and will receive additional scholarships for that part of their education.

The program was approved and funded by the last session of the Texas Legislature to help students who are highly qualified academically but are economically disadvantaged. Students will receive a \$2,000 scholarship per semester at a university beginning in the sophomore year, as well as a \$4,000 stipend to attend summer medical school internships at the end of the freshman, sophomore, and junior years.

Each of the eight medical schools in Texas, as well as 31 public universities and many of the state's private universities, are participating. The program is administered by the Joint Admission Medical Program Council and the Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service operated through the University of Texas System.

Detailed information on the program and the application process is available at <http://www.utsystem.edu/jamp>.

NEW LAW MAKES UNDERSTANDING THE COMPLEX MORTGAGE-APPROVAL PROCESS EASIER

AUSTIN — Legislation passed last spring will make the complex home-buying process a little easier for many Texas consumers.

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However, the new law does not apply to banks, credit unions, mortgage bankers and savings and loans.

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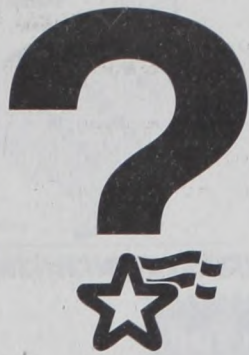
changes for Texas property owners," said Mary Frances Bureson, chairman, Texas Association of Realtors.

Bureson cited these examples of two more pro-consumer laws that emerged from the 77th session:

- **Home warranties.** In Texas and nationwide, it is common practice for a home seller to provide a residential service contract (home warranty) as a benefit to the buyer. However, because of a quirk in Texas law, homebuyers could unknowingly have their coverage rescinded during the first three days after closing. Legislation championed by the Realtors association fixes the problem, ensuring that home warranties become effective immediately when a buyer takes possession of a home.

- **Electronic signatures.** Passage of the Texas Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (UETA) paves the way for legally valid electronic signatures. Once the remaining few technological and practical hurdles have been cleared, Texas Realtors and their clients will be able to conduct real estate transactions almost entirely via the Internet, saving consumers time and headaches.

For more information on these and other issues, visit the Texas Association of Realtors' Web site at www.texasrealestate.com.



Have questions about federal government programs, benefits and services? Get the answers you can trust from the Federal Consumer Information Center. You've written our Pueblo, CO address for years. Now you can call us toll-free. We'll answer your questions directly or get you to the person who can.

Now the only question left is how to reach us. Simple. Just call toll-free:

1-800-FED-INFO
(That's 1-800-333-4636)

Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Eastern Time

Or visit:
www.pueblo.gsa.gov/call

A public service of this publication and the U.S. General Services Administration's Federal Consumer Information Center

Hall County Hospital Reports On 6 Months Of Chapter 9 Activities

On October 31, Hall County Hospital filed Chapter 9 Municipal Reorganization Bankruptcy following three successive years of \$300,000 operating losses. A major fund raising campaign had been supported by the Memphis and Hall County communities resulting in \$300,000 of Certificates of Deposit that were cashed and used to support the operation during the three years ending in June of 2001. The filing allowed Hall County Hospital and its leadership to focus on regaining profitability and better managing its resources.

Since the filing of the Chapter 9 petition, Hall County Hospital has begun and completed several steps critical to the return to profitability and positive cash flow. It has completely revised its charging processes to both increase selected prices and make the charging process more accurate. Staffing in Home Health and other areas has been significantly reduced. After many months of attempting to correct long standing billing issues, the board of Hall County Hospital elected in March to authorize interim Administrator Wayne Ogburn to engage a firm to perform all billing on behalf of the hospital, Home Health, and both clinics. Only two individuals, who register and admit patients, accept payments and perform the necessary data entry into the financial records, now staff the business office.

On March 1, Hall County Hospital became a Critical Access Hospital. This means that its bed complement was reduced to 15 acute beds and 5 swing or skilled nursing beds and its average length of stay over a year is required to be four days or less. In return for these minor restrictions, Hall County Hospital will be reimbursed its full costs under the Medicare program rather than the fixed payment per diagnosis used in other facilities.

The contract with the provider of personnel for the hospital's Outpatient Rehabilitation Program was renegotiated and now has terms that will allow the hospital to cover the costs of care provided by that program. The program has been extremely successful and will continue to be a part of the hospital's service complement for years to come. A Wellness Program has been included in the early evening hours and is available to individuals without a physician order. Unfortunately, the outpatient program primarily used by local nursing home residents program was discontinued in the fall prior to the filing of the Chapter 9 petition. This is the only program to close due to the hospital's financial difficulties.

Hall County Hospital has acquired, through a grant, the capability of performing endoscopies in the facility. Dr. Robert Clark, III has been trained in these procedures and can now do them at the hospital rather than sending patients to Amarillo. The hospital's emergency room has also received Level IV T trauma facility designation meaning it has been recognized as a Basic Emergency Facility by the Texas Department of Health and meets the requirements of the American College of Surgeons for this type of facility. Although the hospital is still short of cash, there is some progress being experienced. Recent deposits have been larger than those prior to the Chapter 9 filing and are expected to increase because of the improvements to be experienced by the changes in business office performance. The hospital's Save The Hospital Fund is still receiving contributions and these have increased moderately since the hospital's plight became widely known. Taxes remain unchanged though some in the community have suggested that an increase would be appropriate. Hall County Hospital receives a significantly smaller portion of its operating funds through taxes than most other public facilities in the Panhandle.

The Board of Hall County Hospital has provided strong leadership in these difficult times. Both Gaylen Ariola and Sue Garderhire acted on a volunteer basis as interim administrators prior to the arrival of the current interim administrator. Both of these committed individuals are now no longer a part of the board. Ms. Garderhire resigned in March and Mr. Ariola passed away April, leaving large, difficult to fill vacancies. Mr. Gayle Morrison was selected by the board to replace Ms. Garderhire and Mr. Hubert Jones has now replaced Mr. Ariola. Both are already making significant leadership contributions.

Testosterone Treatments For Men Now Available

Hormone replacement therapy isn't just for women. Men of all ages can experience a shortage of androgen hormones, such as testosterone, causing loss of sex drive, impotency, muscle weakness and fragile bones.

"The benefits and risks depend on the patient's age," said Dr. Glenn Cunningham, Chief of Endocrinology at Baylor College of Medicine.

For androgen deficient men, hormone replacement therapy can help strengthen libido and prevent osteoporosis. Pills to treat androgen deficiency have been available for years, but the large doses required to be effective can be toxic to the liver, and testosterone shots can be painful.

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| COMBO NO. 4 | SAUSAGE/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE | \$1.29 |



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