

Callahan County

Baird Star

Callahan County Star
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50¢

31¢ By Mail



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Volume 119, Number 7

Baird, Texas 79504

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Meeting Held by County Commissioners to Hear Discussion on Proposed Wind Farm Reinvestment Zone Designation

Pursuant to Texas Tax Code Section 312.201, a meeting was held for the public to speak or present evidence for or against the proposed designation of the Post Oak Wind Farm Reinvestment Zone which comprises 10,144 acres of land in Callahan County. This meeting, of the Commissioners Court on February 9, 2006 was called to order at 1:33 p.m. by Callahan County Judge Corn presid-

ing and held at the District Court Room on the 3rd floor in the Courthouse. Commissioners and staff present were Harold Hicks, Precinct No. 1, Bryan Farmer, Pct. No. 2, Tommy Holland, Pct. No. 3; Doris Grider, Pct. No. 4 and County Clerk Jeanie Bohannon, also ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court.

The firm of Todd Engleston with Renewal Energy Systems stated that Construction could start by the

middle part of 2006 and would create full-time employment for 10 people. The majority of the wind farm would be located in the Clyde I.S.D.

As public comment went, A.E. Butch Nelson spoke against the wind farm.

Also Alan Carmichael spoke for the wind farm explaining he lives in Nolan County and believes the farm of wind machinery would be a fabulous opportunity for the County.

A Reinvestment Zone was designated for certain real estate property within unincorporated Callahan County, Texas following a motion to adopt it by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Holland, with the motion carrying unanimously 5-0. The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Farmer and was adjourned at 1:50 p.m. Commissioner Holland seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner's of Callahan County Approve Payment of Bills for Young's Travel and Medicine for Smoke Inhalation

The commissioners of Callahan County met in regular session with Judge Roger Corn presiding and with Commissioners Hicks, Farmer, Holland, Grider, Alexander and County Clerk Jeanie Bohannon as ex-officio Clerk of the Court with the following business transacted, on Feb. 13, 2006 at 9:32 a.m.: Called to Order.

The minutes of January 23, 2006, Jan 23 hearing and February 6, 2006 read and approved as presented, with no public comment.

The purchase of a vehicle for Constable Bill Young and to be put in his name was discussed, but the Commis-

sioner Holland made a motion to not approve the purchase to be put in the County's name, the motion carried 5-0, with Commissioner Farmer seconding.

Tax Assessor-Collector Tammy Walker met with the Court to request approval of a bid in trust for some lots in Baird. The bid to accept the \$3000 from the Prophefer Family Living Trust for a part of lot 17, block 35 in Baird was accepted by a motion from Commissioner Holland which was seconded by Commissioner Hicks and the motion carried 5-0.

Continued Inside as Commissioners

Meals On Wheels In Need Of Donations

The Callahan County Nutrition Project as well as the Meals on Wheels is in need of donations, due to the increases in fuel, food and repairs and a need to stay in budget. The project delivers food to those who cannot travel to the Center to have their lunch and serves about 200 meals a day while the Center serves about 150. Donations to the program may be sent to the Callahan County Nutrition Project, Ste. 302 Courthouse Baird, TX 79504.

Your support of this project is much appreciated. Several fund-raisers are in progress at the present time, such as quilts, cook books. If you choose to donate in this way.

You may contact: Project Director Katie Dunn, 854-5658 at the Office in the Courthouse or one of the site managers, Bruce Bell, Baird Center 854-1937, Vicky Burns, Clyde 893-4556 or Kathy Anderson, Cross Ploaine, 254-725-6521.

Primary Early Vote Set at 3 County Sites 2-21 through 3-3

Three sites: the Callahan County Courthouse in Baird, the Justices' of the Peace Offices in Clyde and Cross Plains are the sites for the early voting for the Democratic and Republican Primary Elections, which will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 21. Both Republican and Democratic Primary elections will take place this year, at the above locations, according to Callahan County Clerk Jeanie Bohannon who also said that early balloting at any of the three early voting polls will be accepted for any voters in all of the seven county voting precincts.

The Republican and Democratic main Primary Election in Callahan County will be on Tuesday, March 7, at the six precinct locations listed but excluding Pct. 5, which will cast ballots at the Baird light Plant on the March 7th date. Polling will open at 7:00 a.m. and continue until 7:00 p.m. on that Tuesday.

The E-Slate electronic voting machines including the 10 new ones, approved for purchase by the County Commissioners in January, with the 17 original E-Slate machines are used as distributed among the six voting locations in Callahan County, with the majority placed at Clyde, Baird, and Cross Plains.

Republicans will be voting for three nominees for the primary on the ballot, including an open unopposed Justice of the Peace Precinct #1 slot which is held by Incumbent Clyde resident Roy Lee Chapman.

Those running on the Republican ballot for contested races are: Rodger Hart, Burlie Taylor and Robert Hill, all running for nomination for the Cross Plains Justice of the Peace office, and those running for the contested Cross Plains Pct. #4 Commissioner race are Larry Tennon, Reggie Pillans and Cliff Kirkham.

In addition to the already seated office-holders below those announcing their candidacy for the General Election's races are Donna Bell for County Clerk and Elvan Goode for Commissioner Pct. 4.

The Democratic Primary election voters will see seven various candidates seeking votes in seven separate nominations for candi-

dacy in the county's general election, including: County Judge, Incumbent Roger Corn, unopposed; incumbent Prec. #2 Commissioner Bryan Farmer, unopposed; incumbent District Clerk Sharon Owens, unopposed; incumbent County Treasurer Dianne Alexander, unopposed and incumbent #3 Justice of the Peace Steve Odom-unopposed.

- Locations for Primary Voting, March 7th, 2006
(Democratic & Republican)
Precinct #1-Clyde Lions Club Bldg.
Precinct #2-Eula Lions Club Bldg
Precinct #3 & #5, Baird Light Plant
Precinct #4-Cross Plains Community Center
Precinct #6-Clyde Southside Baptist Church
Precinct #7-Oplin Community Center

Baird Little League Announces Fundraiser

Baird Little League has made plans for its 2006 fundraiser. The Little League will be selling T-shirts featuring our three Little League teams, the Coyotes, Mustangs, and Cubs as well as two t-shirts designed for showing your support of the Baird schools, not particular to any one activity. They include the Bear Nation t-shirt which features a red, white, and black flag with a red bear paw on it, and the BHS Ironn Cross t-shirt. The t-shirts will sell for \$13 and \$17 (long sleeve). The order deadline is March 18, 2006. Order forms may be found at the gym during BYB games on Saturdays, or downloaded from the internet at http://eteamz.active.com/bairdcoyotes/handouts/ where color depictions of the shirts can be viewed. Forms may

be returned to the gym on Saturdays, to Baird Little League, PO Box 703, Baird, TEXAS 79504 or to Shane Deel.

D.P.S. Report

- 2-5-6 until 2-11-6
Cases Investigated
Warnings.....64
Complaints.....92
Driving while license invalid.....1
Possession of Marijuana..3
Minor in Possession of Alcohol.....2
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.....2
Accidents....
There were 3 investigated during this time span.

Baird Little League Signups Continue

Signups are continuing for Baird Little League for children 5-12. Forms have been sent home from school, may be downloaded from the internet at http://eteamz.active.com/bairdcoyotes/handouts/, or may be picked up Satur-

days during the Youth Basketball games. The forms may be returned along with the \$35 registration fee to the elementary office or the gym during the Youth Basketball games. Signups will continue through March 2nd.

Two from Baird Named to Texas A&M Dean's List

Texas A&M University has named its honor students for the 2005 fall semester, recognizing students for outstanding academic performance. The Dean's Honor Roll recognizes students taking at least 15 semester hours or first semester students taking at least 12 semester hours who have maintained at least a 3.75 grade point ratio (GPR) out of a possible 4.0 during the most recent grading period. The Distinguished Student designation recognizes

students who earned a 3.25 to 3.75 GPR ratio (GPR) out of a possible 4.0 during the most recent grading period.

Among those recognized were: Marian Krystal Windham, a senior from Baird working toward a Bachelor of Science, Animal Sciences Degree. Krystal is on the Dean's Honor Roll.

Ryan Kade Keller, a Junior from Baird working toward a Bachelor of Science Kinesiology (Lower) Degree. Ryan is on the Dean's Honor Roll.

Baird Head Start Now Accepting Applications

A free child development pre-school program is available to qualifying families through Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. Head Start.

Limited space is available for children three and four years old to help them make the transition to elementary school. Eligible children receive individualized teaching and a variety of educational

activities through Creative Curriculum. These stimulate mental, emotional, physical and social growth.

"Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. is a viable and substantial resource for Coleman, Brown, Callahan, Eastland, Comanche, McCulloch and Runnels County."

DEADLINE FOR CALLAHAN STAR: 5 P.M. TUESDAY BEFORE PAPER

Emergency Farm Loan Applications Being Accepted

"Applications for emergency farm loans caused by drought that occurred on April 1, 2005, and continuing, are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Anson," Richard G. Young said.

"Callahan is one of 19 contiguous counties in Texas recently named by the Secretary of Agriculture eligible for loans to cover part of actual production losses resulting from drought that occurred on April 1, 2005, and continuing."

Richard G. Young said, "Farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100% of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agricultural business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest is 3.75 percent."

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

"Applications for loans under the emergency designation will be accepted until September 25, 2006 but farmers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing and possibly over into the new farming season," Richard G. Young said.

FSA is a credit agency of the United States Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who meet U.S. citizen requirements and to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizenship requirements are met by holding a majority interest.

The FSA office in Anson is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Tx.D.O.T. Urges Motorists Not to Toss Lighted Objects From Vehicle

As wildfires and their continuing threat persist in our areas, the Texas Department of Transportation would like to remind everyone that tossing a cigarette or any type of smoldering item out of a car window is a criminal act subject to a fine.

As grass fire continues to pop up along the roadways and quickly spread to adjacent properties, T.X. Dot wants to ensure that the traveling public becomes aware that any smoldering item they throw out of the window can start a wildfire.

Spotlight On Health

Seven Reasons To Enjoy Yogurt Today For Tomorrow

A growing number of families are making dietary and lifestyle changes to improve their health today and help ensure good health in the future.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Americans typically consume more calories than they need-without meeting the recommended intakes for a number of nutrients.

Thus people need to choose meals and snacks that are high in nutrients, but low to moderate in calories. Americans seem to be catching on; according to a survey by the Grocery Manufacturers Association, 73 percent of consumers are buying more nutritious and wholesome foods and beverages-such as yogurt-than in the past.

Listed is the seven benefits of yogurt. From calcium and protein to active cultures and nutrients for growth, these benefits give the body an advantage today for tomorrow. Eating yogurt daily helps consumers:

1. **Be Fit:** Yogurt contains calcium, which can help with weight management.

2. **Be Vital:** Yogurt is a good source of protein for muscle maintenance.

3. **Be Comfortable:** Yogurt has active cultures that help milk digestion.

4. **Be Strong:** Yogurt is essential for strong bones.

Recipe Corner

Piña Colada Bars

1 package Krusteaz Lemon Bar Mix (1 pouch of complete crust and 1 pouch filling mix)

1/3 cup water

3 eggs

1 can (8 oz.) crushed pineapple, drained

3/4 cup sweetened flaked coconut

Preheat oven to 350° F. Press full pouch of complete crust firmly into bottom of lightly greased, 8x8x2-inch pan. Bake 8 minutes (crust will be pale). In medium bowl, whisk together full pouch lemon filling mix, water and eggs until well blended. Stir in pineapple and coconut. Pour over hot crust. Bake 25-30 minutes or until center does not jiggle when shaken and top begins to brown. Cool completely and cut into squares. Store covered in the refrigerator. Makes 16 bars.

5. **Be Nourished:** Yogurt contains important nutrients for children's growth.

6. **Be Proactive:** Yogurt provides friendly bacteria for your digestive tract.

7. **Be Happy:** Yogurt is a great-tasting and satisfying part of your healthy diet.

Each day, it's possible to enjoy all of these benefits by eating yogurt.

"More and more people are making an investment in their overall health," says Audrey Cross, associate clinical professor of public health at Columbia University's School of Public Health. "One way they're doing this is working more nutritionally dense foods, such as yogurt, into their diets."

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5-104

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James Rolshouse is licensed in MN with principal offices in Burnsville MN, but associates with experienced lawyers throughout the U.S.

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Eastland, Texas 76448

Dr. Wilson announces closure of his medical practice on March 3rd, 2006.

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Avi T. Deshmukh, M.D., F.A.C.S.
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Frank V. Terrell, M.D.
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Eastland Memorial Hospital

For Appointment call
(254) 629-2601

Caring for a seriously ill person is very stressful. Whether they are at home, in the hospital, or in a nursing home, it is a difficult time for the primary caregiver as well as the immediate family. Hospice care is an important source of help and support to patients, caregivers, and their families in this situation. A team of healthcare professionals and counselors works together to assist families in caring for their loved ones. However, one of the most valuable members of the hospice team is not a healthcare professional or a trained counselor. It is the hospice volunteer.



VEDA ADAMS

Hospice volunteers are individuals in the community who give their time and talents to help others in their time of need. After some training by the hospice team, they assist patients and their families in a variety of ways such as reading to patients, running errands, or delivering supplies. Volunteers also help without having direct contact with the patients. They bake cookies for grief support group meetings, address envelopes, and file charts.

Veda Adams of Olden has been a Girling Hospice volunteer for several months. A retired nurse, Mrs. Adams is able to give several hours a week visiting patients and has become a vital part of the team. Girling Hospice would like to thank Mrs. Adams for all her time, her delicious cookies, and her beautiful smile that blesses the patients, their families, and the Girling team.

Girling Hospice of Eastland is always in need of more volunteers. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the Girling Hospice Volunteer Program can call the Girling office at 629-1268.

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The Medical Page
Call 254-629-1707



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5-104

FREE

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Eastland Memorial Hospital
Teaching Conference Room

Speaker: Dr. Sandra Hazelip

Topic: "Go Red For Women - The Heart Truth"

*FREE Red Dress Pin
for each person
attending*

Reservations required
as space is limited
by calling
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Monday thru Saturday

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OBITUARIES

Jewel Rogers Thompson

Cross Plains-Jewel Rogers Thompson, age 92, passed away on Wednesday, February 8, 2006 in Abilene at Windcrest Alzheimer Care Center. Funeral services were at 2:00 p.m. Friday, February 10, 2006 at the First Baptist Church in Cross Plains with Ronnie White officiating; burial followed in the Gorman Cemetery in Gorman.

She was born on May 12, 1913, in Gorman to K.E. and Mary (Graves) Lawson. After completing high school she attended Business College in Abilene. She married Ted Rogers in 1930 in Eastland, TX and he preceded her in death in 1977. She married Leo Thompson in 1981, in Cottonwood, TX. Jewel

was a housewife, mother, and a member of the First Baptist Church of Cross Plains.

She is survived by her husband, Leo Thompson of Cottonwood; son, J.M. "Mike" Rogers and wife Bonnie of Cottonwood; daughter, Teddy McNeal and husband Denny of Abilene; step-sons, Bill Thompson of Dallas; AJohn Thompson of California; Brent Thompson of Dallas; John Thompson of California; Brent Thompson of Ft. Worth; sister, Opal Jones of Riverside, Tex; six grandchildren and numerous step-grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, first husband Ted, a son Danny, a sister Pauline and two grandchildren.

Albert Lovell

Cross Plains- Albert Lovell, age 84, died Friday, February 10, 2006 at the Abilene Regional Medical Center. Ranger Varsity Boys vs. Eula Played 02-10-2006 1st: Ranger 10, Eula 16; 2nd: Ranger 13, Eula 16; 3rd: Ranger 6, Eula 14; 4th: Ranger 12, Eula 17; Final: Ranger 43, Eula 63ery, following.

He was born February 27, 1921 in Cottonwood, Texas to Marvin Ray and Rosa Lee (Wilcoxon) Lovell. He graduated from Cross Plains High School and married Dorothy L. Fore on August 9, 1942 in Cross Plains. Albert served in the Sea Bees unit of the U.S. Navy. He worked as the County Tax Assessor for Callahan County for 26 years. He served as a deacon as well

John Garland Wells, Sr.

BAIRD- John Garland Wells, Sr., age 93, of Baird, Texas, died peacefully on Sunday, February 12, 2006 at home with family in Baird.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, February 14, 2006 at Parker Funeral Home in Baird. Interment was in Belle Plaine Cemetery.

Garland was born December 31, 1912 in Eastland County to William Nathan and Maude May (Caudle) Wells. He attended school at Scranton until he began farming the family land. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corp from 1942 to 1945 serving overseas in Guam. For some time he was stationed in Western Washington State. He married Tommie Jo McCoy in Colorado City, Texas on March 14, 1942. Taken by the greenery, mountains, and temperature climate of Puget Sound, he settled and raised his family in Mount Vernon,

Washington. After retiring from the Carnation Milk Company, he and Mrs. Wells returned to Baird in 1976.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Roy; and sister Lucille Blassingame.

He was of the Christian faith.

Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Tommie Jo (McCoy) Wells; three sons, all living on the West Coast, John Wells, Jr., of Puyallup, WA, Myron Wells of Ramona, CA, and Thomas N. Wells of Snohomish, WA.; one daughter, Verna Wells of Portland, OR; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces and nephews in Texas.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Hospice of the Big Country 4601 Hartford, Abilene, TX. 79605 or to the Cross Plains Fire Relief Fund, P.O. Box 699, Cross Plains, TX 76443.

He will be remembered for his wonderful smile, love of baseball and popcorn.

LOCAL BASKETBALL

BOYS AREA

Records -Cisco 21-9, 8-1. Hamilton 6-3. J.V. Score: Hamilton J.V. 51, Cisco J.V. 48, in Double OT.

Note: Cisco is District 10-2A Champion.

DeLeon 59, Eastland 57 in Triple O.T.
Eastland 8 6 13 8 22-57
DeLeon 12 0 13 10 24-59
Eastland - Huett 18, Cummings 10, Folsom 8, Cox 6, Thompson 6, Williamson 3.
DeLeon -Newton 22, Williams 13, McLearen 7, McCarty 6, Smith 4, Cisneros 4, Flores 1.

Records-DeLeon 14-15, 4-5; Eastland 4-5.

J.V. Score - Eastland def. DeLeon

Cisco 45, Hamilton 42

Cisco 4 14 14 13-45
Hamilton 14 9 11 8-42
Cisco - Sellers 4, Johnson 9, Morgan 5, Petree 11, Baxter 10, Jarvis 3, Busby 3.

Rising Star 64, Blanket 43

Blanket 8 20 10 5-43
Rising Star 19 13 17 15-64

Rising Star - Robbins 4, Claborn 10, Luna 4, Sanders 19, Foster 13, Spillman 7, Odom 2, Johnson 5.

Records: Rising Star 15-13, 9-4

J.V. Score: Blanket 37, Rising Star 34

BEARS AND CALLAHAN BELOW

as secretary/treasurer on the Finance committee for First Baptist Church in Cross Plains where he was an active member until the last couple of years.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Lovell of Cross Plains; sons, Eric Lovell and wife Joyce of Sana Saba; Al Lovell and wife Phyllis of Paint Rock; Bobby Lofell and wife Gail of Clyde; a sister-in-law Lillian Lovell of Midland; grandchildren, Bryan Lovell and wife Amanda, Amber Lancaster

and husband Bodye, Dana Lovell and fiance Chris Perez, Aaron Lovell, Andrea Lovell, Ashlyn Lovell; great-granddaughters, Avery Lancaster and Faith Lovell; 2 nieces, Rose Marie Carter and Alice Lovell. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and two sisters. The family received friends and relatives at 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 11, 2006 at the Higginbotham Funeral Home in Cross Plains for a time of visitation.

Baird I.S.D. Lunch Menu

Thursday, Feb. 16: Cheese Enchiladas, or Frito Pie, Refried beans, Spanish rice, Cornbread, Brownie. Broccoli, Hot Roll, Cookie.

Friday, Feb. 17: Chili Cheese Dog or Hamburger, French fries, Lettuce & tomato, Dessert.

Monday, Feb. 20: Chicken Nuggets or Steak Fingers; Mashed potatoes, Steamed

Wednesday, Feb. 22: Hot ham & Cheese melt or Tuna Salad Sandwich, Chicken Noodle Soup, Tator Tots, Fruit Cup, Pudding.

'Go Bears'

How To Help Cross Plains Fire Victims

Many have asked how to help our neighbors of Cross Plains whom have fell victim to the wild fires so to let everyone know there has been funds set up at the Texas Heritage Bank, the account is 942758. Also the First Baptist Church of Cross Plains. There has been boxes placed at Lawrence Brothers, Dollar General, Family Dollar, Dairy Queen, Thrifty s, First National Bank of Clyde, First Baptist. All household items are needed. If anyone has good, used furniture or appliances you would like to donate call Amy or Eddie Hart 893-2528 Sharon or Tony Gage 893-2698, Mark Burgess 370-9484, Lisa Harber 893-4319.

Robert Pritz New Waiver to Start School August 16 To Be Discussed at Baird School District School Board on February 16

Baird Independent School District wishes to announce their intent to apply for a waiver with the Texas Education Agency in order to begin the 2006-07 school-year earlier than the state requested date of August 21st, 2006. In addition to the wavier request, T.E.A. requires each school district to hold a public meeting to hear and discuss any opinion and concerns regarding an early start date.

The first day of instruction for Baird, I.S. D. is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 16, 2006. The waiver request and start date for the 2006 -07 school-year will be discussed at the February 16th School Board meeting beginning in the Baird I.S.D. Library located at 400 W. Seventh.

Everyone in the community is welcome and encouraged to attend. For additional information regarding Baird's 2006-07 proposed school calendar, please call the Superintendent's office at 854-1400, EXT. 303.

Emergency Farm Loan Applications Being Accepted

Applications for emergency farm loans caused by extreme wildfire threat that occurred on December 1, 2005, and continuing, are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Anson. Richard G. Young said. "Callahan is one of 9 primary counties in Texas recently named by the President of the United States eligible for loans to cover part of actual production losses resulting from extreme wildfire threat that occurred on December 1, 2005, and continuing."

Richard G. Young said, "Farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100% of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agricultural business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest is 3.75 percent."

"As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production to be eligible

for a FSA emergency loan," Richard G. Young said. Farmers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance program will have a figure in proceeds from those programs in determining their loss. "Applications for loans under the emergency designation will be accepted until September 11, 2006 but farmers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing and possibly over into the new farming season," Richard G. Young said.

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Masonic Lodge Consignment Auction Set for March 11 in Clyde

Clyde Masonic Lodge along with the help of local auctioneer Rocky Ash are planning on having a consignment auction on Sat., March 11th at 10:00 a.m.. The purpose of the auction is to raise funds for scholarships for a clyde and Eula senior. The Clyde Lodge has been giving the Marabough B. Lamar Metal and scholarship since 1989. There will be a 10% commission fee for anything consigned to the

auction. Donations of items will be accepted. We have already had donations of a rototiller, Ford 3 point 2 bottom moboard plow, high lift farm jack, round bale of fertilized coastal hay, a room refrigerated air conditioner, 2 smoked briskets, a used girls bicycle, a Cannon Copy machine. Anyone wishing to sign or donate something to this auction can Contact: Bill Giles at 893-4409, Bob Young at 893-4909

Callahan County: Local Boys Box Scores

Ranger Varsity Boys vs. Eula Played 02-10-2006 1st: Ranger 10, Eula 16; 2nd: Ranger 13, Eula 16; 3rd: Ranger 6, Eula 14; 4th: Ranger 12, Eula 17; Final: Ranger 43, Eula 63

Local Girls' Box Scores
Ranger Junior High: 7th

Girls vs. Baird Played 01-30-06 Away
1st: Ranger 9, Baird 7; 2nd: Ranger 6, Baird 4; 3rd: Ranger 10, Baird 3; 4th: Ranger 8, Baird 4; Final: Ranger 34, Baird 18

Remember to Renew Your Subscription

First Baptist Church
240 Race St
Baird, Texas 79504
(325) 854-1574
(Nursery provided for worship services)
Sunday School 9:45 am
Worship Service 11:00 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm
Wednesday Service 7:00 pm

Lady Bears 2006 Softball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Feb. 21	Hawley JV	Here	5:00
Feb. 23-25	Eula Tournament	There	TBA
March 3	Clyde JV	Here	4:30
March 7	Ranger	There	4:30
March 10-11	Breckenridge Tourn.	There	TBA
March 14	Gorman	There	4:30
March 16	Albany	Here	10:00
March 24	Eula	Here	4:30
March 28	Anson JV	There	5:30
March 31	Ranger	Here	4:30
April 4	Albany	There	4:30
April 7	Gorman	Here	4:30
April 11	Stamford	Here	4:30
April 14	Eula	There	10:00

Coaches: Julie Young and Amanda Whitaker
Girl's Coordinator: Clay Barnett
Principal: Vic Orlando
Superintendent: Cliff Gardner
Girl's Athletics: 854-1400 Ext. 317

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THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS NEWSPAPER AND THE NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA®



EBAA Iron, Inc. and EBAA Iron Sales made donations to all eight area fire departments on Friday, February 03, 2006. Jim Keefer and E.T. Bradley, along with their staffs, presented each department with checks totaling \$1,500.00 in appreciation of everything the departments do to protect the county. Representatives from each department were on hand for the presentation and several took a tour of the foundry afterwards.

Photo by Terry Simmons

Defensive Driving Class To Be Held February 20

Texas State Defensive Driving Class will be held at Pizza Inn 1001 E. Main in Eastland the 3rd Monday of each month. Next class to be held February 20 from 4 to 10 p.m. Call 1-800-644-5532 or Kay Hill 254-629-8159 State Licensed Instructor.

Texas Education Agency Approved and Certified Course

Ticket dismissal and Insurance discount.

Walk-ins welcome. Free meal included.

River of Life Food Pantry Open Saturday, Feb. 25

Our goal is to help families that are temporarily in need of assistance. If you would like to contribute to the Food Pantry, three items are needed this month: fruit juices, canned meat and macaroni & cheese. These items can be dropped off at the church's office entrance Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 5:00. The pantry will be open 9:00 - 11:00am on Saturday, February 25th. Applicants must come themselves with identification. A short form will be filled out. Our goal is to help families that are temporarily in need of assistance. The food pantry is located in the south building at River of Life Church, 103 Pogue Ave, in Eastland.

Texas Wildfire Disaster Recovery Aid Exceeds \$900,738

As of close of business Feb. 9, families and individuals who suffered damage from the recent Texas Wildfires have been approved to receive more than \$900,738 in assistance.

On Jan. 11, 2006, President George W. Bush declared nine counties stricken by wildfires as major disaster areas in the State of Texas. The presidential declaration made individual assistance available to affected individuals and businesses in the counties of Callahan, Cooke, Eastland, Erath, Hood, Montague, Palo Pinto, Tarrant and Wise.

Recovery Services Summary as of close of business Feb. 9, 2006:

371 individuals have reg-

istered for Individual Assistance.

\$900,738 has been approved through the Individuals and Household Program. Of that, FEMA has provided \$506,640 in Individual Assistance and \$394,098 in Other Needs Assistance.

358 applicants visited two mobile Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) that operated throughout the nine declared counties until Feb. 3, 2006.

209 home inspections have been requested. 204 inspectors are in the field.

Texas workers who lost their jobs due to the recent wildfires may be able to claim disaster unemployment benefits. To file a claim

or to talk with a representative, eligible applicants should call the Texas Workforce Commission Hotline at 1-800-939-6631, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Individuals located in the nine counties and who sustained losses should register with FEMA by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the hearing- and speech-impaired. Registrations also can be made online at www.fema.gov <<http://www.fema.gov>>.

Remember to renew your subscription to the newspaper

Free Redbud Trees For Planting In Texas

Ten free American redbud trees will be given to each person from TEXAS who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation during February 2006.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

"Redbuds will add lasting beauty to homes across Texas," said John Rosenow, Arbor Day Foundation president. "They offer clusters of rosy pink flowers in spring, dark green summer leaves turning to yellow in the fall, and a spreading, graceful form throughout the year. They'll also add to the proud heritage of Texas's 57 Tree City USA communities. For three decades Tree City USA has supported community forestry across Texas, and planting these lovely redbuds will add to this important

tree-planting tradition."

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book with information about tree planting and care.

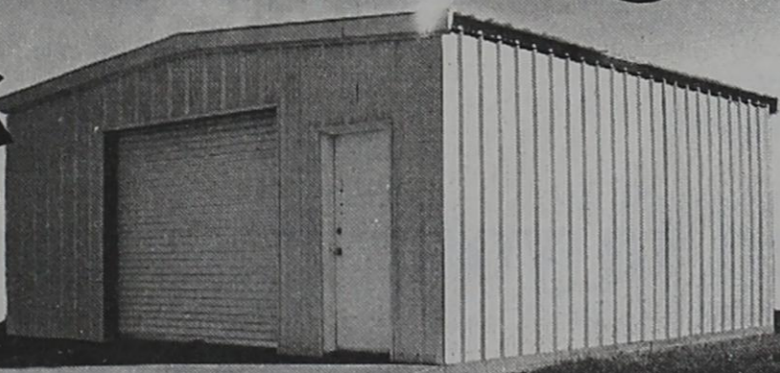
To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE REDBUD TREES, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Feb. 28, 2006 or join online at www.arborday.org.

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To be placed into the Gifts & Antique Section contact Gary Grady at 254-629-1707
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KOKOMO NEWS

By Zeld Jordan

Sunday was another day of high winds and blowing sand, and there were more fires in Eastland County. None of them right in our community, but close enough to cause us concern for family, friends and neighbors on the north side of Lake Leon and south of Ranger and between Cisco and Carbon, as well around Rising Star and May. We need to keep praying for rain. That seems to be all that is going to stop the fires and blowing sand. God will here us and answer with a good rain in His time.

Bro. James Hunter of Gorman was the guest preacher at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday morning with a wonderful message on love. Loving God, and our neighbors and showing our love for God by the way we treat others. Other visitors were Bro. Hunter, wife, Chris and their daughter, Suelyn, and Charles and Mary Jane Ellison of Hohenwald, TN. The special music „The Old Rugged Cross“ was beautifully rendered by Chris Hunter, Helen and Woodrow Browning and Daryl Hirst with Glynda Bond at the keyboard. “Happy Anniversary” was sung to Oren and Norma Webb who recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.

Those from the Kokomo Baptist Church going to Heritage Manor in Gorman for the church service on Sunday afternoon were Joe

and Glynda Bond, Woodrow and Helen Browning and Jimmy and Verna Lee Little.

The Sunday night church service was cancelled because of the concern about the fires that were burning round about us.

Bro. Jim Haggard of Strawn will be the guest preacher at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday, February 19.

Charles and Mary Jane Ellison of Hohenwald, TN have been visiting with Betty Little. Others enjoying supper with them on Thursday night were Charles and Carolyn Little, Bobby and Mary Jane Little, and Elbert and Coralea Bennett of Gorman. Other visitors were Karen Patterson of Eastland and Larry and Paula Morrow of Plains.

Jimmy and Verna Lee Little visited with an aunt, Veno Hale in the Comanche Medical Center on Sunday. We send Veno get well wishes and hope she will soon be able to come back to Heritage Manor.

Bobby and Mary Jane Little visited in Tyler on Friday and Saturday with their daughter and family, Arlene, Terry, Andrew, Jonathan, Michael and Lauren Barfield. Andrew has joined the United States Marine Corp. and left on Monday from Dallas for San Diego to begin his training. Please say a prayer for Andrew's safety.

Bobby and Mary Jane also met another daughter and

family, LaDawn, Stacy and Alexis Snapp, of Lewisville, in Arlington for a visit while enroute home Saturday.

Delmon Eaves and his sister-in-law, Verda Eaves of Carbon visited recently with his sister, Virda Mae Norris in White Settlement. Virda Mae is seriously ill. Remember her in your prayers.

John Scitern is home now following surgery in an Abilene hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Don O'Neal of Houston and Fannie Bell Hoy of Conroe visited during the weekend with their sister, Nancy Hendricks in Heritage Manor and with Sylvia Buchanan.

Jimmy and Verna Lee Little attended their granddaughter Breckley Little's basketball game in Eastland on Saturday evening and then visited with Ray Neal and Melissa Little and their little granddaughter, Kourtney Peacock of Abilene who was visiting with them.

Jimmy and Verna Lee Little visited with Oren and Norma Webb.

Jimmy and Maggie Nelson visited with Zeld Jordan on Thursday night and they enjoyed dinner at ZJ's to celebrate Jimmy's birthday.

Glenda and Leon Black visited with her mother, Zeld Jordan, on Saturday as they were on their way to their home in Abilene from Florida.

Oren and Norma Webb visited with Zeld Jordan on Monday.

May the Good Lord Bless you all.

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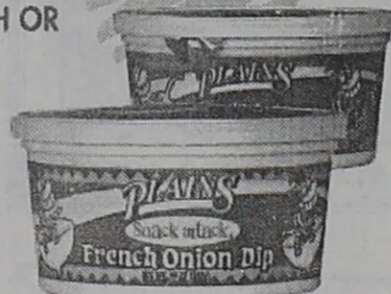


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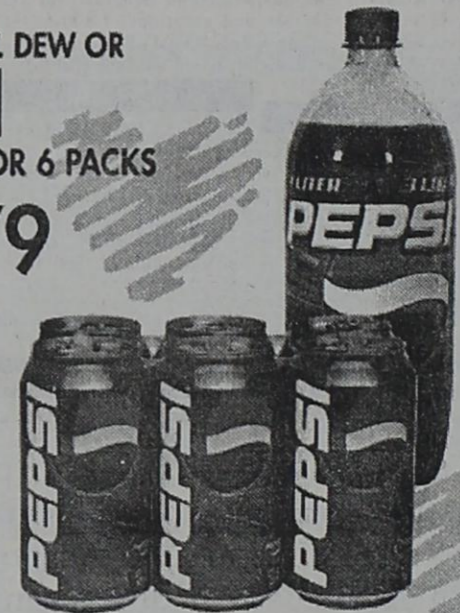


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Firefighters Battle Wildfires Through Weekend

Submitted By
Texas Forest Service
GRANBURY, Texas—
Wildfires across the western two-thirds of Texas stretched fire resources over the weekend. Texas Forest Service, along with cooperating federal and state wildfire agencies, supported local fire departments this weekend actively fighting wildland fires. Nine fires on Saturday

burned 224 acres and resulted in the loss of five homes, while 184 homes were saved. On Sunday, firefighters responded to 20 fires that burned more than 6,100 acres and destroyed four homes and several outbuildings. Local fire department suppression efforts saved 104 homes and numerous outbuildings.

Throughout the day, single engine air tankers and helicopters dropped over 450,000 gallons of water in coordination with the local fire departments. The largest fire was the Hwy 207 Fire that burned 3,000 acres in Carson County in the Texas Panhandle. The Cisco Fire in Eastland County burned 1,200 acres. Four homes were lost (two on

the Gunsight Fire in Stephens County and one on the I-10/794 Fire in Gonzales County) and one abandoned home near Eastland. Weather conditions in Texas continue to be dry and windy resulting in the extreme fire behavior seen on the ground by firefighters. "With our extremely dried and volatile fuels, we need everyone to do their part by being careful when participating in outdoor activities," said Nick Harrison, Texas Forest Service Regional Fire Coordinator.

Residents can help firefighters by observing the local burn bans. Homeowners are encouraged to visit the Texas Forest Service web site at <http://texasforestservicetamu.edu> or www.firewise.org to learn how to protect their homes from wildfire.

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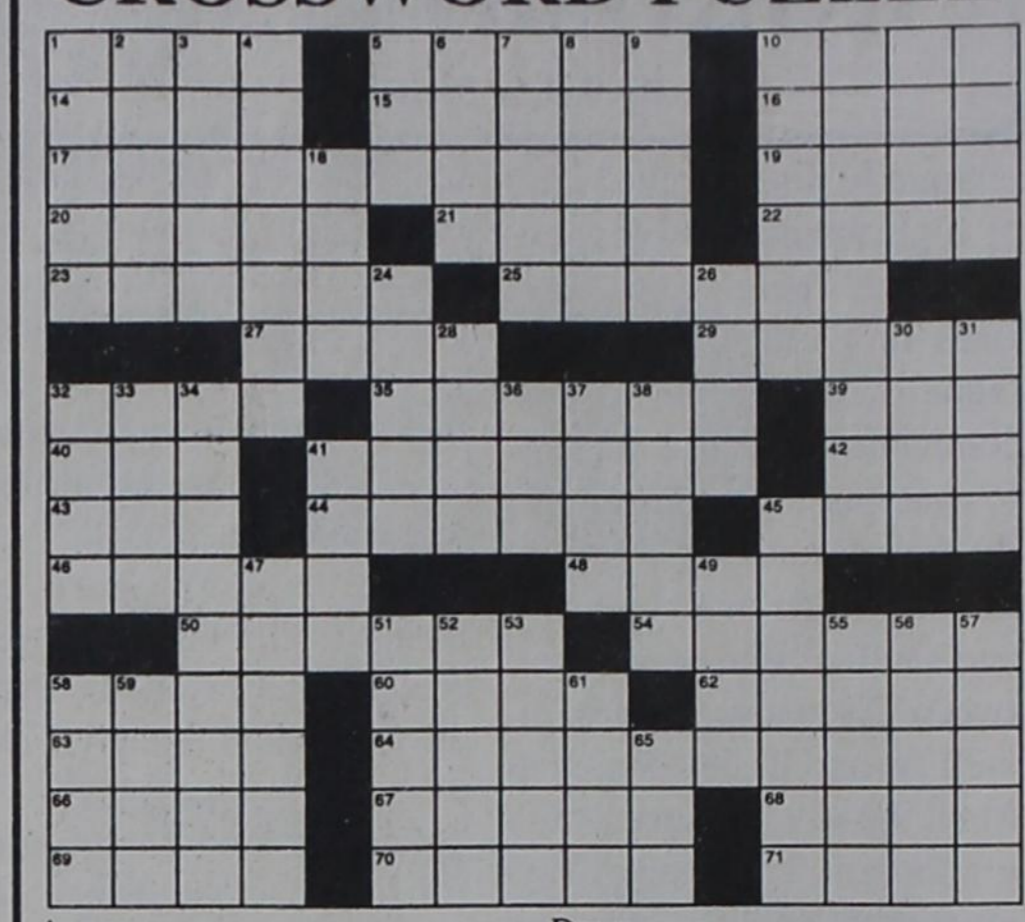
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 - Small island.
 - Border formed by a fillet.
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 - John __, U.S. naturalist.
 - Brawls or squabbles.
 - Mimics.
 - Cowboy's rope.
 - Brink or verge.
 - Remainder.
 - Reducing to burnt residue.
 - Egg holiday.
 - Let sink.
 - Garret.
 - Bullfighting maneuver.
 - Points of reference in measuring elevations.
 - Heavy harbor barge.
 - Inuit knife.
 - Counsels.
 - Possessive of "it."
 - Lick.
 - Class of enzymes.
 - Mosquito.
 - Sharp, rugged mountain range.
 - Cute little girl.
 - Bishop's vestment.
 - Rational parts of human souls.
 - In addition.
 - Fencing sword.
 - Frome, Edith Wharton novel.
 - Old sheep-marking tool.
 - Containing iron salts.
 - Bluish-black.
 - Soft food made from hulled grain.
 - Geographical region.
 - Grounds surrounding a house.
 - Tribes or family patriarch.
 - Escapade.
- Down
- Old Spanish gold coin.
 - Rich tapestry.
 - Overgrown tract of swamp.
 - Stretching or straining.
 - Slide over snow.
 - Carry on.
 - Muslim ruler's decree.
 - Horse-drawn vehicle in India.
 - Sprays down.
 - Brink or verge.
 - Turkish hospice for travelers.
 - Extremely skinny.
 - Untruths.
 - Before the present time.
 - Roman counterpart of Clotho.
 - Frivolous and lighthearted.
 - Small ornamental goblet.
 - Volcanic molten rock.
 - Very small quantity.
 - Bladder or sac.
 - Cupronickel coin of Botswana.
 - Counsels.
 - Prominent, successful person.
 - Contraction for "it is."
 - Not new.
 - Mesial plane dividing an animal body.
 - Herring.
 - Of the buttock muscles.
 - Honked a horn.
 - Lisa __, "Stay" singer.
 - Loom comblike attachments.
 - Hebrew unit of dry measure.
 - Pull fibers apart.
 - Outer Mongolian people.
 - Food consumer.
 - Skulk.
 - Maura Tierney ER character.
 - Falana, U.S. singer-actress.
 - Elementary and high school.
 - Gab or chatter.

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The Idle American

Commentary By Dr. Don Newbury

A Proposal for Change

A young man returned to his hometown after a visit to the state capitol. Eager to impress his friends, he bragged "I've been named advisor to the governor." Pressed for details of the lofty designation, he admitted, "They said if the governor ever needs my advice he'll ask for it."

I feel his pain as I humbly offer some suggestions for future Super Bowls, hopeful to bring out the best in people, not the worst.

For starters, all players and coaches should be sentenced to a full week at Disney World immediately following the game. Yes, both teams, winners and losers alike. Maybe game officials could be whisked away to an undisclosed tropical island.

Media representatives should be banned from contacting anyone connected with the game for a full week. If somehow they sneak into Disney World, cattle prods could be used to keep them at bay.

Somehow fans can live without "post-game commentary" for a week, or even forever. Instead, let's make a list of what's wrong with sports in general and professional sports in particular. It will be a long list.

Most post-game queries begin with "What did you think about this and so?" Asking Seattle Coach Mike Holmgren, what he thinks about the officiating is akin to asking a locksmith what he thinks about OnStar.

Holmgren, who thought he had "12th man support" on his side, now believes the Steelers, were augmented by 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th men. And the Seahawks have a boatload of "12th man" towels the Texas A&M Aggies can get cheap.

Implementation of the

Crossword Answers

D	A	S	T	S	W	I	T	H	I	S	L	E
O	R	L	E	K	A	R	O	O	M	U	I	R
B	R	A	N	N	I	G	A	N	S	A	P	E
L	A	S	S	O	E	D	G	E	R	E	S	T
A	S	H	I	N	G	E	A	S	T	E	R	
V	A	I	L	A	T	T	I	C				
P	A	S	E	D	A	T	U	M	S	H	O	Y
U	L	U	A	D	V	I	S	E	S	T	I	S
L	A	P	L	Y	A	S	E	S	G	N	A	T
A	R	E	T	E	D	O	L	L				
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B	L	A	E	K	A	S	H	A	A	R	E	A
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next suggestion will take a while. Since football is becoming ever faster and officials, speed remains about the same, officiating must be radically changed. Let the ever-improving and all-seeing cameras take over primary flagging chores.

The National Football League could revolutionize the sport with electronically-officiated games. Mere mortals could assume emergency roles, closeted away in steel-plated compartments. They would take over in the event that fuses blow, lenses fall out or hard drives stall.

Really, sports officials at all levels are to be pitied. They are ridiculed, and too often pummeled-literally. (When's the last time you heard a coach say, "You know, it was really a well-officiated game?")

We cut players slack. We cut coaches slack. And as fans, we carve out big slices of slack for ourselves, often trotting out the old "We're only human" line. From officials, though, we expect perfection.

Officials I have known over the years typically give their best efforts. Officiating is their passion, often an extension of playing and coaching days. As a whole, their honesty and integrity are to be admired.

I have witnessed many thousands of games, and only once did I feel "my team" was cheated by officials. Our opponent was given three shots at a two-point conversion to take a 22-21 win with 0:00 left on the

clock. I'll always believe officials were ready to throw as many flags as necessary to guarantee a home team win.

Our coach, the gentlest of men, remained calm. He assured me and others that on the morrow, the sun would rise in the east, follow its usual course across the sky and die in the west. And it did.

The zebras, as they are called, deserve our respect. Sports are becoming improbable to coach and impossible to officiate. And human error always finds ways to seep in.

We should be glad that a few brave souls step forward to don the striped shirts. (At Super Bowl XL, by the way, the seven officials had received highest ratings during the season. They have a total of 58 years of NFL officiating experience and have worked a total of 40 play-off games.)

What we need most right now, I suppose, is a new sports season. Baseball is at hand, and steroid use no doubt will capture many of the headlines. Until then, we'll have to "make do" with hockey's simmering gambling scandal.

Reviewing the Good Book, game officials learn that Jesus heads the list in matters of rejection. In Luke 9:58, He spoke of "the Son of Man having nowhere to lay his head."

Sometimes I imagine that officials feel the same way.

Poor guys in striped shirts! Wherever they go, whatever they do, their fate often hangs, "upon further review."

Dr. Newbury is a speaker and author whose column appears weekly in 125 newspapers in six states. He welcomes comments, and inquiries about his speaking, by phone at 817-447-3872, or email, newbury@speaker.doc.com

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From Acclaim Out of the Cradle, On to Eternity

By Wanda Lee Beck Skinner

Oh, The Trouble My First Haircut Caused My Mom.

Wow! Did My First Hair Cut Caused My Mom Trouble?

Snip, snip, snip went the sharp scissors; my first hair cut was being given. I was five years old. I was born with a lot of black hair but it all came out and I became bald headed. I was a female but everyone thought I was a boy because of the lack of hair.

At the age of about 18 months, my hair came back in thick, curly, and brunette. I was so proud of my hair.

It grew longer and longer. Mother spent more and more time putting it in long curls.

Summer came and I spent lots of time in the sun. My hair became dead looking on the ends. It became very hard to make the curls hold.

Mother's cousin who was a beautician was visiting us and on the spur of the moment

Mother and Grandmother

decided I needed a hair cut to bring the original beauty and life back to my hair.

This was a big make-over and very painless, that is until Daddy got home. He hit the ceiling.

According to him, no one should ever cut a little girl's hair unless all the family members agreed on that action before hand. Mother was shocked as she had assumed the decisions about that type thing was in her hands.

My first hair cut was probably the reason for their first big spat. I was very upset because they were unhappy. They soon kissed and made up but Mother and I both learned the importance of communications about family matters. It did not take long for the hair to grow long again. Mother took a lot of time to make sure every curl was in place before I went out in public. It brought a smile to her face when someone complimented my beautiful curls.

Pioneer News

By The Pioneer Quilting Club

We had most of our members at quilting Tuesday. We still miss Lessie and Charlene was a bit under the weather. We had our monthly meeting—discussed the re-hab quilt, what it sold for and what we might do this year. We quilted on Christy's "eight point star". I don't know the name of Glenda's top, but it was pieced by Vernon's aunt a long time ago. Jean Fore put in a "Dutch Doll" top belonging to Myrna Mitchell—one that Dorothy pieced.

J.D. and Sandy Hutton enjoyed a grilled out dinner Saturday with their children, Tabitha and Michael Jordan, Lauren and Hannah along with some friends in Cisco. Granny Sandy had lunch Tuesday with Lauren at school in honor of Grandparents Day. They had a great

fun on the playground.

Frankie Smith had for her company Roxie Nance and Shirley Harrellson, her daughters. They traveled to Abilene and spent the day. Jean Fore and Frankie attended the Sipe Springs musical Saturday night. A good time was had by all. Monday Frankie's company was Bernard and Ann from Desdemona. She enjoyed them very much.

Thursday, Glenda Phillips and Laverne Hutton went to

River of Life Food Pantry Open Feb. 25

Our goal is to help families that are temporarily in need of assistance. The pantry will be open 9-11 am on Saturday, February 25th. Applicants must come themselves with identification. A short form will be filled out. Our goal is to help families that are temporarily in need of assistance. The food pantry is located in the south building at River of Life Church, 103 Pogue Ave, in Eastland.

Clyde to visit their friend, Jerry Shedd. They all three went into Abilene for dinner. They enjoyed eating and visiting together. When returning to Clyde, Glenda visited with Jerry while Laverne went across the street and visited with her brother and wife, Bob and Nelda Dean before they returned home.

Monday evening before going to the Gospel meeting at Rising Star, Charlene Chesshir had Rick Popejoy, Cowan and Laverne, and Glenda for supper guest. She served a delicious meal.

Charlene Chesshir is a great-grandmother again. John and Summer had a baby boy, Stephen Anderson, born on Sunday morning. She is proud of all her "Grandbabies!"

Some welcome cool weather blew in on Friday. Not much moisture with it but we were proud of the .01 we got. Let us continue to pray for rain.

Word of wisdom: You will never "find" time for anything. If you want time you must make it. Charles Buxton

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Meet The Author Barbara Barton In Cross Plains February 21

Remember all those wild stories you've heard about "pistol packin' preachers?" Turns out those stories are true! Barbara Barton, author of Pistol Packin' Preachers, will speak on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m., at the Community Center, sponsored by the Friends of the Cross Plains Library.

Barton has written several books on the history of central and west Texas, and her latest book, Pistol Packin' Preachers, is certain to appeal to many for it tells the stories of some of the early-day circuit riders, who (as Elmer Kelton said in his Foreword to the book), "Often...carried a pistol in their saddlebags along with the scriptures, for they might face Indians or outlaws in addition to the sometimes-hostile elements... Occasionally the pistol lay on the pulpit along with the Bible to guarantee that a resistant flock listened to the message." These brave men traveled rough for many years, and sometimes literally died in the saddle, to serve the spiritual needs of the Texas settlers. They were also frequently called upon to help with medical problems, and many of them studied the healing arts (as they then ex-

isted) and became competent doctors. Barbara Barton relates the stories of these colorful frontier Texans in a lively and well-researched narrative.

Barbara taught math and science at the high school and college level until her retirement about twelve years ago. Since then Barton has had many articles on Texas history and rural life appear in publications such as Texas Highways and Ranch and Rural Living. She and her husband live in Knickerbocker, Texas, about fifteen miles southwest of San Angelo, and they also own a place east of Rising Star, Texas. When not writing or ranching, they enjoy spending time with their two children and three grandchildren.

We hope you'll join the Friends of the Cross Plains Library for another lively and entertaining Meet the Author evening on Tuesday, February 21. There's no charge to attend, though donations are always gratefully accepted, and light refreshments will be served after Barbara Barton speaks. Her books will be available for purchase and signing, and she'll be happy to visit and answer questions.

Tidbits...By H.V.O.

A RECENT issue of Comptroller (and candidate for Governor) Carole Keeton Strayhorn reminds that we are not doing a very good job of getting OUR message out to the right people. We're going to send her a note reminding her that Eastland is the home of Old Rip, the horned toad that slept for 31 years in the cornerstone of the courthouse, AND that Eastland is THE City of Museums...Here are the Texas "oddties" she listed: The Orange Show in Houston, the Beer Can House, also in Houston, the Concrete Brontosaurus near Canadian, the giant statue of Sam Houston near Huntsville; the World's Largest Jackrabbit at Odessa, the World's Largest Killer Bee at Hadalga, Barney Smith's (Eastland native) Toilet Seat Art Museum at San Antonio, The World's Largest Rattlesnake at Freer, The World's Largest Road Runner at Fort Stockton, the Dr. Pepper Museum at Waco, the Wooden Nickel Museum at San Antonio and the Atlas Missile Bunker (big hole in the ground) near Oplin...She also lists 27 aviation and aerospace museums in Texas...(P.S. to all would-be writers: please help spread the Eastland word, by sending short, pithy pieces to every publication you can think of, large and small. You'll be surprised how easily you can get published.)

AND DON'T ever forget that we have the best assortment of antique shops in the state; there's something for everybody and every taste. You'll find them around the square, and down the street a piece, and the folks who run them are helpful and fair.

HAVE YOU seen Jim and Bette Armstrong's 2006 TOAD calendar? It is a prize, with scads of horned lizard photos, every photo ever made of Old Rip and his history, the Iron toad, closeups that will knock your eyes out, and Bette's recipe for Horny Toad No Fail Sugar Cookies as well as a closeup of her famous toad racer. The Armstrongs relocated to Granbury after doing their part for Old Rip here...Wonder if they'll be here for the Annual Old Rip Unentombment which guesses to be Monday, Feb. 27th.

IMPRESSIVE WERE two recent memorial services held here. One was for a beloved cousin and the other for the mother of a neighbor/friend. It was a graveside service, closed with the song, "Come Home, It's Supper Time," by we'd guess, Johnny Cash. We'd never heard it before, but it was super appropriate for what must have been a pioneer mother who raised a number of children.

Children's Book Drive For Eastland Library

Residents and businesses of Eastland County we need your help. The Eastland Public Library is beginning a story time program for children.

If you have any new or lightly used children's books the library would very much appreciate the donation of these books at this time.

Since the library is currently in process of moving, donations should be directed through Star Toups at 631-0795. Or books can be dropped off through February 28th at the Wal-Mart service desk or Brookshires which are both located in Eastland.

The books that you donate will benefit all the children of Eastland County as they visit the library, so please be generous and help as much as you can with this book drive.

Also, be sure to check for further information on the story time program as the library settles into its new home.

This program will include, of course, story time with the children along with reinforcement activities such as songs, crafts and coloring pages.

Please bring your children ages newborn-4 years to our toddler story time adventures each month. Check the local paper and library for times.

Remember children must have supervision. We very much need your help and are depending on your generosity and support.

How Long Has It Been Since You've Read

By Wanda Lee Beck Skinner

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Did you memorize this verse as a child? Most of you will answer yes. God's love can change your life today, tomorrow and for all eternity.

When troubles and defeat

come, as surely they will, He feels our pain. He shares our rejoicing in times of victory and celebration. In every circumstance you can count on Him. Yes, Jesus loves me and you. His desire is for us to share that love with each other.

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Mostly Free Seventh Annual Texas Farm/Ranch/Wildlife Expo is Feb. 21-22

The seventh annual Texas Farm, Ranch and Wildlife Expo is set for Feb. 21-22 on the Taylor County Expo Center grounds. Show hours are 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., February 21 and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on February 22. The center is located at 1700 State Highway 36.

The event is sponsored by the Abilene Chamber of Commerce and Texas Cooperative Extension.

The show features new equipment exhibits, product demonstrations, educational meetings, a Women's Fair, the Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association's annual meeting and the Abilene Chamber of Commerce's annual membership luncheon. Highlights of the luncheon is the naming of the Taylor County Farm Family of the Year.

Thirteen Texas Dept. of Agriculture continuing units are offered during the educational seminars.

The Town and Country Women's Fair runs from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., February 21 in the Modern Living Mall.

The show's agricultural related educational programs begin at 8:00 a.m., Feb. 21, "Tools II"-Expanding the Wildlife Enterprise, a wildlife management seminar, will be in the Western Heritage Ranch House.

The Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association's annual meeting and membership luncheon runs concurrently with the morning's educational seminar's at 9:30 a.m., Feb. 21. The annual meeting is in the Big Country Hall.

Concurrent afternoon ses-

sions begin at 1:30 p.m. Topics and locations will be new landowner/agriculturist seminar, Extension classroom; and cotton production in 2006. Big Country Hall. Educational activities conclude with the first session of the Texas Parks and Wildlife hunter education programs at 5:00 p.m., in the Extension classroom.

Concurrent educational programs on Feb. 22 begin at 8:00 a.m. Included are a Texas Department of Agriculture recertification course in the Big Country Hall and a private applicator training and testing in the Western Heritage Ranch House.

Concurrent morning sessions start at 8:30 a.m. They are Ag Management via the Computer, Extension classroom and Red Cross Safety Training, Modern Living Mall.

The chamber of commerce luncheon will be at noon on Feb. 22 in the Big Country Hall. Keynote speaker is Wyman Meinzer, award-winning wildlife photographer from Benjamin.

The show's afternoon concurrent educational programs are conservation Planning and Cost Sharing-"Navigating the Alphabet Soup of Conservation Programs," 1:30 p.m., Western Heritage Ranch House; Weed Busters- A New Pasture Management System and Animal ID-It's coming, 2:00 p.m., Big Country Hall. The Session; II Hunter Safety Education program will be at 5:00 p.m. in the Extension Classroom.

Tarleton's Third Annual Science Olympiad set for February 25 in Stephenville

"Science rules" and the College of Science and Technology at Tarleton State University is out to prove it as they host their third annual Science Olympiad on Sat., Feb. 25th.

High school and junior high students who are up for the challenge of contests in astronomy, robotics, computer science, tower and bridge building and rocket engineering are invited to step up and test their skills.

Teams from five area junior high schools and seven area high schools have already signed up to compete in any of 16 events planned. Competition is divided into two categories, grades 6-8 and grades 9-12. The events relate to biology, chemistry, math, engineering, physics, astronomy, technical writing and many more.

Cross Timbers Basin schools like Tolar and Comanche have become regular competitors in the event and they do well against the exclusive private schools that are also veteran competitors. The top three finishers in each of the categories will advance to the State Olympiad held each April at College Station.

"We attract a lot of private schools because they are not eligible for U.I.L. contests,"

said Jason Jacks, one of the event coordinators. "We have representatives from Austin, Dallas, and Lubbock private school signed up for this year's event. They spend a lot of time during the year preparing for these Olympiads so it is always fun to see them match up against the smaller rural schools."

The contests topics continue to grow each year all aimed at sparking an interest in science and related fields. "CSI" fans will be interested in the forensics events. They use chemistry, biology and other sciences for problem-solving. Another contest "We've got You Number" promotes an interest in mathematics and draws off the popular detective series "Numbers."

"It's still too early to tell how well the Science Olympiad is working as a recruiting tool for Tarleton," said Jacks. "But we have noticed that some of the names of former competitors are showing up on class rosters. We hope that all...will go away with a very positive impression..."

Additional information on Tarleton's Science Olympiad including sponsorships, etc. can be found at www.tarleton.edu/scienceolympiad.

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Read the Classifieds

CJC Students from Callahan County Achieve President's and Dean's Lists

Eleven Cisco Junior College were from Callahan County were on the Deans List for Fall 2005 at C.J.C. and four Cisco Junior students from Callahan County were on the President's List for the fall.

The list includes students earning a 3.5 or better grade point average on a 4.0 system, for the Dean's List or a 4.0 straight A record on a 4.0 system for the President's list. One student from Baird was on the C.J. C. Dean's List: Rolland L. Rivers, Jr., and eight students from Clyde: Jamie L. Conway, Amanda R.

Davis, Tina M. Hensler, Orbin L. Purcell, Timothy W. Robinson, Sarah R. Smith, Shauna S. Stanfield and Kayla N. Teague. Two students from Cross Plains area were on the Dean's List: Stephanie K. Edington and Kelsey D. Richards.

Four students from Callahan County achieving the President's List are: From Clyde: Ramona J. Brown, Melissa D. Moore and Kari A. Raines. Also making the President's List was Joel N. McCready of Cross Plains

Eastland County Boys Varsity as of Friday, February 10th, 2006

DeLeon 59, Eastland 57 in Triple O.T.
Eastland 8 6 13 8 22-57
DeLeon 12 0 13 10 24-59
Eastland - Huett 18,
Cummings 10, Folsom 8, Cox 6, Thompson 6, Williamson 3.
DeLeon - Newton 22, Williams 13, McLearen 7, McCarty 6, Smith 4, Cisneros 4, Flores 1.
Records-DeLeon 14-15, 4-5; Eastland 4-5.
J.V. Score - Eastland def. DeLeon

Cisco 45, Hamilton 42
Cisco 4 14 14 13-45
Hamilton 14 9 11 8-42
Cisco - Sellers 4, Johnson 9, Morgan 5, Petree 11, Baxter 10, Jarvis 3, Busby 3.
Records -Cisco 21-9, 8-

1. Hamilton 6-3.
J.V. Score: Hamilton J.V. 51, Cisco J.V. 48, in Double OT.
Note: Cisco is District 10-2A Champion.

Rising Star 64, Blanket 43
Blanket 8 20 10 5-43
Rising Star 19 13 17 15-64

Rising Star - Robbins 4, Claborn 10, Luna 4, Sanders 19, Foster 13, Spillman 7, Odum 2, Johnson 5.
Records: Rising Star 15-13, 9-4

J.V. Score: Blanket 37, Rising Star 34

RISING STAR FOUNDATION GENERAL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION SUNDAY, MARCH 19th 1:00

The Rising Star Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of our community through education, economic development and the establishment of a full service community center. Our goal for this auction is to raise funding to be used towards completing the renovation of the Higginbotham Community Center.

Consignments of **general miscellaneous merchandise** will be accepted on a standard auction format with the following terms and conditions:
(A) consignment fees of 20%.
(B) most all merchandise will be accepted for this auction with the exception of such items as non-working appliances.
Donated merchandise of any usable variety will be accepted with the following terms and conditions:
(A) our heart felt thanks.
(B) a tax deductible receipt.
(C) free pick up where necessary.

Auction will be conducted at the Higginbotham Community Center and advertised throughout Central Texas. Auction services will be provided by Rising Star Auction Company. Auctioneers Danny Koonce TXS 10874 and Earl Ragland TXS 11772 For additional information contact: Rising Star Foundation at 254-643-3423 or email wahill@txol.net Rising Star Auction Company at 643-4600 or email rsac@eastland.net

RISING STAR FOUNDATION SPRING FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION SATURDAY, MARCH 18 11:00

The Rising Star Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of our community through education, economic development and the establishment of a full service community center. Our goal for this auction is to raise funding to be used towards completing the renovation of the Higginbotham Community Center.

Consignments of **farm equipment and related items** will be accepted on a standard auction format with the following terms and conditions:
(A) consignment fees of 5% on equipment selling in excess of \$10,000.
(B) consignment fees of 7% on equipment selling in excess of \$5,000.
(C) consignment fees of 10% on equipment selling in excess of \$1,000.
(D) consignment fees of 15% on equipment selling for less than \$1,000.
Consignments of miscellaneous farm supplies will also be accepted on a standard auction format with the following terms and conditions:
(A) consignment fees of 20% on all farm supplies.
Donated merchandise of any usable variety will be accepted with the following terms and conditions:
(A) our heart felt thanks.
(B) a tax deductible receipt.
(C) free pick up where necessary.

Auction will be conducted at the Rising Star Rodeo grounds and advertised throughout central Texas including radio, newsprint, mailed and posted flyers. Auction services will be provided by Rising Star Auction Company. Auctioneers Danny Koonce TXS 10874 and Earl Ragland TXS 11772 For additional information contact: Rising Star Foundation at 254-643-3423 or email wahill@txol.net Rising Star Auction Company at 643-4600 or email rsac@eastland.net

Baird '48 Study Club Meets in Home of Donna Bell on Mon., Feb. 13

The Baird '48 Study Club met in the home of Donna Bell on Monday, February 13, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. There were 15 members present.

President Linda Hart called the meeting to order. Secretary Dyanne Thompson called the roll and read the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion was made by Georgie Manion and seconded by Barbara Corn to approve the minutes. Minutes were approved as read.

Correspondence was read by Secretary Debbie McMurray. President Linda Hart asked for new business. New membership was discussed, and the subject will be continued next month.

Since there was no further business at this time, President Linda Hart introduced the program for the evening. Irma Crow gave a very informative message on "Women's Heart Health". She stated that keeping a heart healthy is a life long commitment. She continued with information on how to have a healthy heart, and lifestyle and the warning signs for a heart attack. Each member was given information from the American Heart Association. Frances Greenway continued the program with a poem about the heart and a program entitled "Honor the Heart."

Refreshments were served with a Valentine's theme by hostesses Cheryl Roach and Georgie Manion.

Members present were Donna Bell, Sandra Collins, Barbara Corn, Irma Crow, Frances Greenway,

Newspaper Deadlines
Tuesdays by 5 p.m.
Classifieds \$5.00 for 1 time and \$3.00 each time after 1st time (Not over 25 words)

Linda Hart, Pat Holland, Tereva Hunter, Georgie Manion, Debbie McMurray, Sally McGregor, Sue McNeil, Cheryl Roach, Dyanne Thompson, and Dana Voights.

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FARMERS AND RANCHERS MAY CONTACT U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE HAY HOTLINE FOR ASSISTANCE (877)429-1998

NUTRITION NEWS

Beef Up To Lose Weight?

by Shalene McNeill, PhD, RD (NAPS)—Losing weight means more visits to the gym and less of our favorite foods, right?

Not necessarily. Research published over the last year shows that adding lean protein to your diet boosts weight loss by providing essential nutrients with less fat, making dieters feel satisfied and full. The results also indicate that those who ate high-quality proteins while exercising lost more weight and had a leaner body.

With 29 USDA-defined "lean" cuts of beef to choose from, dieters can have their steak and eat it too. Here's why:

- In accordance with USDA guidelines, "lean" cuts of beef contain less than 10 grams of total fat, 4.5 grams or less of saturated fat and less than 95 milligrams of cholesterol per three-ounce serving.
 - A three-ounce serving of lean beef contributes less than 10 percent of calories to a 2,000-calorie diet but provides 51 percent of the protein, 38 percent of the zinc and 37 percent of vitamin B12.
 - The 29 lean cuts include traditional favorites such as T-bone steak, flank steak, tenderloin and 95 percent lean ground beef.
- Q. Isn't beef high in fat?**
A. No. Beef's overall fat profile is generally misunderstood. For example, half the fatty acids in

beef are monounsaturated fatty acids—the same heart-healthy kind found in olive oil. The important point to understand is that you can't single out one food for one fatty acid, because all foods with fat contain many fatty acids.

Q. Are these 29 lean beef cuts as lean as chicken?

A. Yes, many of them are. All 29 lean beef cuts have, on average, only one more gram of saturated fat than a skinless chicken breast per three-ounce serving. In addition, each lean beef cut is a nutrient powerhouse, with seven times more vitamin B12, six times more zinc and three times more iron than the same size serving of skinless chicken breast.

Q. Don't Americans eat too much beef as it is?

A. No. On average, Americans consume only 4.9 ounces of foods from the meat group daily, while the USDA MyPyramid recommends 5.5 ounces based on a 2,000-calorie diet. Studies show that 72 percent of adult females and 37 percent of adult males are not getting the minimum number of servings from the meat group, and therefore may not be getting the essential nutrients they need.

Shalene McNeill is a registered dietitian for the Texas Beef Council and President of the Texas Dietetic Association.