



FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL students and teachers rounded up 2,000 outdated telephone books as part of a recycling drive. Top efforts were made by the classes of Donna Landers, 691 books; Becca Henson, 545 books; and Cheryl Stone, 479 books. Pictured are Ricardo Portillo and mathematics teacher Nicole Crawford, who heads up the recycling project.

On the Edge of Common Sense

By Baxter Black, D.V.M.



JAKE WORKING OVERTIME

In an effort to make managing the 20 section ranch more efficiently, the boss bought Jake a Ranger, a 4-wheel drive muscle car ATV. The cowboys on this west Texas ranch were equipped with cell phones, of course. What modern cowboy isn't! They have replaced Copenhagen as the habit-forming addiction for the 'orally dependent.'

Jake received a call. It was a neighbor telling him that there was a calf out on the road to the highway, a mile from the west gate where Charles Goodnight lost a tooth chasing coyotes in the winter of '86 . . . down by the Quanah Wash. Jake sighed and reversed his direction. It was back three miles and over two. But, he thought, only a calf, maybe a week or two old. Probably got under the fence, Mama on the other side. Wouldn't be too tough.

Fifteen minutes later he approached Quanah Wash to find a 300 pound beefy bull calf in the bar ditch! King Richard III whined in his ear, "A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!" Making do with what he had, Jake tied the tail of his rope to the bumper on the Ranger and started after the calf. Down the bar ditch they flew! The bull was running along the fence line and Jake was maneuvering with one hand, trying to keep a wheel on the shoulder! Because he was going west on the wrong side of the road he was forced to rope

left-handed. Not easy with a right-hand-twist rope!

After four throws and misses the bull was wearing down and Jake caught him by the left front foot! Whilst moving into position he managed to tangle the rope in the Ranger's front wheel which immediately jerked his slack and killed the engine!

Our cowboy stepped out bravely and started down the rope thinking he could do a Fred Whitfield Flank Job and save the day. The bull calf bawled and, thinking HE could do the Pamplona re-enactment, charged up the rope at Jake! Now Jake is a big guy, but 300 pounds of crossbred cowhide and cojones comin' at you at the speed of beef made him pause and take notice! It was like standing in front

of the firing squad and saying "Okay! Take your best shot!"

The little bull flattened Jake, who managed to catch one hind leg on the way by. He held on through the brush and gravel till the bull reached the end of the rope!

It then became a wrestling match wherein points were exchanged for takedowns, reversals, and riding time. Somehow Jake found himself with a scissor-lock around the calf's head, a hind foot up his shirtsleeve from the inside, and both hands around the tail!

He weighed the odds, looked up at the darkening sky, slipped the loop off the foot and rolled over. "A management decision," he later explained, "we were both working overtime."

County

Cont. from p1-a

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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The Fairfield Recorder

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- ▶VFW Bingo, 7:30 pm, VFW Post 5872
- ▶AA & NA, 6:30 pm, FUMC Fairfield
- ▶National Association of Retired Federal Employees, 10:00 am, Sam's Restaurant
- ▶Freestone County Genealogical Society, 7:00 pm, Fairfield City Hall
- ▶Red Hat Society-Peaches of Freestone County, 6:30 pm, Sam's Restaurant

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- ▶Rotary Club, noon, Big Cedar Country Club
- ▶AA & NA, 8:00 pm, Trinity Lutheran Church Fairfield
- ▶AA, 7:00-8:00 pm, Lakeside United Methodist Church Annex, 515 FM 416
- ▶FISD School Board, 7:30 pm, FISD Admin Office
- ▶Fairfield City Council, 7:00 pm, Fairfield City Hall
- ▶Freestone County Historical Museum Board, 5:00 pm, Freestone County Museum
- ▶VFW & Ladies Auxiliary, 7:30 pm, VFW Post 5872
- ▶Freestone County Retired Teachers Association, 10:00 am, Whitaker Sessions Training Center
- ▶Worham Economic Development Committee, 6:00 pm, Worham City Hall
- ▶Worham City Council, 7:00 pm, Worham City Hall
- ▶Bi-Stone Antique Tractor Club, 6:30 pm, Whitaker Sessions Training Center
- ▶New Leash on Life, 5:30 pm, Sam's Restaurant
- ▶Free Blood Pressure & Blood Sugar Check, Fairview Healthcare, 10am-noon
- ▶Freestone County Cancer Support Group, 5:30 pm, Fairfield Conference Center, Fairgrounds

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- ▶Weight Watchers, 5:00 pm, Calvary Baptist Church
- ▶VFW Bingo, 7:30 pm, VFW Post 587
- ▶Blood Pressure Check, 11:00 am, Fairfield Senior Center

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- ▶Children's Story Time, 10:30 am-11:00 am, Mary Moody Northern Library
- ▶Out & About Christian Singles, 6:30 pm, First Baptist Church of Worham
- ▶AA & NA, 8:00 pm, Trinity Lutheran Church Fairfield
- ▶AA, 6:30 pm, FUMC Fairfield
- ▶Fairfield Lions Club, 7:00 pm, Fairfield Conference Center
- ▶Fairfield Library Association Board, 5:00 pm, Mary Moody Northern Library
- ▶NAACP Executive Committee, 6:00 pm, Dogan Center
- ▶NAACP General Meeting, 6:30 pm, Dogan Center
- ▶Dew School Board, 6:00 pm, Dew IDS Cafeteria

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- ▶AA, 7:00-8:00 pm, Lakeside United Methodist Church Annex, 515 FM 416

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- ▶Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, 8pm, Trinity Lutheran Church, Fairfield
- ▶Barnstomper, 7:30 pm, FJHS Cafeteria

To list calendar items, call 903-389-3334 or e-mail advertising@thefairfieldrecorder.com.

the county court, and he gave commissioners his take on the issue.

"This doesn't sit too well with me," he said. "When I took the job, part of the wages was that the county would provide a vehicle for me."

Miller's additional taxes on the added "income" would be about \$50 per month, and he said that with the raise he didn't get, it adds up.

"Can you compensate me for the loss of income?" he asked. "I don't blame the county for the laws, but I often respond to calls straight from home." Miller lives in the Butler area, and as part of his job description, can be called at any time for septic inspections, animal control, or to investigate illegal dumping.

Because a change in income was not on the agenda, commissioners could not address that particular part of the question.

"If it pleases the court, I would like everyone to brainstorm and come up with an answer," Miller said.

Commissioners voted to let Miller make the choice of leaving the vehicle at work, or pay the taxes. A decision would have to be made before the next payroll deadline of Feb. 11, or Mrs. Blanks says the taxes

will be automatically deducted.

Incorrect time sheets could mean incorrect paychecks for county employees, effective immediately.

Although county policy is to make no changes on the time sheets, in the past, the county payroll department has "adjusted" vacation, sick leave and comp time line items for employees when the wrong line item was indicated. The new system however, does not allow for changes without a delay, and Mrs. Blanks asked commissioners if she should create the delay when she sees a red flag, or let the time sheet go through exactly as it is submitted.

"They must fill out the time sheet correctly, or they will lose pay," she pointed out.

Commissioners decided to take no action, which essentially means time sheets will be processed exactly like they are submitted, regardless of mistakes.

On a special meeting agenda, time periods for temporary employees was discussed, but commissioners were unable to decide the issue, and asked for the item to be tabled.

Fighter pilot to give talk

The only air force ace from the Vietnam War, retired B/Gen. Steve Ritchie, will present a program in Palestine next week.

The program is from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Ben E. Keith, 2019 W. Oak Street.

Ritchie is the last United States Air Force pilot to achieve ace status by shooting down five enemy planes.

Political Calendar

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

DISTRICT CLERK
Janet Chappell-Inc.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 8
Charles Morgan

COUNTY CLERK
Sharon Gibson
Dianne Manning

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PCT. 3
Beth Ireland
Gibson-Inc.

REPUBLICAN PARTY

STATE REP.-DIST. 6
Byron Cook-Inc.

COUNTY CLERK
Linda Jarvis

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Re-Elect JANET CHAPPELL

FREESTONE COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK

Please vote in the **MARCH 2, 2010** Democratic Primary

Pol. Adv. Pd. By Janet Chappell, 191 PR 1127, Fairfield, Texas 75840

Buffalo Livestock

On Saturday, January 30, 2010, Buffalo Livestock Commission sold 661 head. There were 80 sellers and 53 buyers.

Slaughter Cows:
Cutter cows 50-58
Fat cows 52-56.50
Canner cows 34-52

Slaughter Bulls:
Heavy Bulls 57-63.50
Light Bulls 52-54

Cow/Calf Pairs and Bred Cows:
Choice Pairs 950-1050
Good Pairs 800-950
Plain Pairs 550-750
Bred Cows 3-6 yr. 580-850

Steer/Bull Calves and Year-

lings: Some plainer, hard to place calves below these figures.

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| 150-200 lb. | 110-160 |
| 200-300 lb. | 110-145 |
| 300-400 lb. | 112-125 |
| 400-500 lb. | 98-116 |
| 500-600 lb. | 95-105 |
| 600-700 lb. | 93-100 |
| 700-800 lb. | 85-95 |

Heifer Calves and Yearlings: Some plainer, hard to place calves below these figures.

| | |
|-------------|--------|
| 150-200 lb. | 95-135 |
| 200-300 lb. | 95-130 |
| 300-400 lb. | 92-117 |
| 400-500 lb. | 90-106 |
| 500-600 lb. | 88-100 |
| 600-700 lb. | 80-85 |
| 700-800 lb. | 72-83 |

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In-House Financing

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>2002 FORD F-150 X-CAB <small>V8, Auto, A/C</small></p> | <p>2002 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LTZ 4X4 <small>leather, 6cyl. auto, a/c</small></p> |
| <p>2005 CHEVY CAVALIER <small>4cyl. Auto, AC, 59k</small></p> | <p>2007 CHEVY IMPALA <small>V6, Auto, AC</small></p> |
| <p>2003 CHEVY SUBURBAN <small>V8, Auto, A/C</small></p> | <p>2005 CHEVY EXT. CAB <small>V8, Auto, AC</small></p> |

\$1,000 Down or Less

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 05 Ranger | 02 Taurus | 00 Camry |
| 04 Ranger | 02 Stratus | 00 Taurus |
| 04 Stratus | 02 Crown Victoria | 00 Taurus |
| 04 Taurus | 01 Taurus | 00 Taurus |
| 03 Century | 01 Taurus | 99 GMC Jimmy SLT |
| 03 Astro Van | 01 Taurus | 99 Malibu |
| 03 Regal | 01 Crown Victoria | 96 Cougar XR7 |

In-House Financing

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 07 Impala | 05 Chev 1500 X-Cab | 05 Impala | 03 Impala |
| 06 Mazda 6 | 05 Ford F-150 X-Cab | 05 Impala | 03 Suburban |
| 06 Impala | 05 Malibu Maxx | 05 Impala | 03 Taurus |
| 06 Taurus | 05 Cavalier | 05 Taurus | 03 Century |
| 06 Taurus | 05 Impala | 04 Explorer | 02 Trailblazer 4x4 |
| 06 Freestar | 05 Impala | 04 Grand Prix | 99 Suburban |
| 06 Chevy 2500 4x4 | 05 Impala | 04 Freestar | 99 Tahoe |
| 05 Dakota X-Cab | 05 Impala | 04 Jeep Liberty | 99 Expedition XLT 4x4 |
| 05 Trailblazer | 05 Impala | 03 Impala | |
| 05 Taurus | 05 Impala | 03 Chevy 2500 4x4 | |

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