



## Thirteen To Compete For Fair Queen

Thirteen young ladies from across the county have entered the Colorado County Fair Queen Contest slated for Sept. 9.

The contestants are competing for \$4,250 in scholarships to be awarded at the pageant.

To qualify for the contest, contestants are selling season passes to the 28<sup>th</sup> annual fair for \$20 each.

To help the contestants with their sales, citizens are asked to contact one of the following girls to purchase season passes:

Marinna Balderas, daughter of Debbie and Tim Luedecke, at (979) 733-9860;

Stefani Gertson, daughter of

Gail and Darrell Gertson, at (979) 234-5488;

Kayla Kana, daughter of Raymie and Mike Kana, at (979) 732-9118;

Whitney Mayo, daughter of Rebecca and Rick Mayo, at (979) 732-5839;

Ashlie Nawara, daughter of Kim and Weldon Nawara, at (979) 732-0943;

Kylee Nitschke, daughter of Libby and Randy Nitschke, at (979) 732-5436;

Simone Petrosky, daughter of Deborah and Greg Petrosky, at (979) 732-3564;

Terri Prihoda, daughter of Sherry and Raymond Prihoda, at (979)

263-5806;

Brandy Rossignol, daughter of Geneva and Terry Rossignol, at (979) 732-9307;

Megan Smith, daughter of Patti and Mike Smith, at (979) 992-2908;

Lauren Trojacek, daughter of Joan and Gerald Trojacek, at (979) 732-3520;

Cortney Urban, daughter of Rose and Larry Urban, at (979) 732-3217; and,

Kylee Werland, daughter of Kamla and Larry Hillmer, at (979) 732-5228.

The contestants are selling passes through Wednesday, Sept. 6.

Nashville recording artist Mark Chesnutt will be the headliner at this year's fair that will run Sept. 14-17.



Brandy Rossignol

## Sheridan News

By Velma Kutzer

The Sheridan School invites everyone to come out and enjoy a hamburger supper Tuesday, Aug. 29 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

The Sheridan Student Council is sponsoring a dine in or take out meal that will consist of a delicious hamburger, a bag of chips, dessert, and a soft drink.

Deadline for ordering advance tickets for the meal is Friday, Aug. 25. Classrooms will be open and teachers look forward to greeting you. The cost of the meal is \$5.

Parents are also encouraged to attend the Book Fair in the

school library.

The Book Fair will continue throughout the entire week so that students can browse as well.

The Sheridan Volunteer Fire Department has scheduled its second annual Gun and Rifle Drawing.

Fourteen firearms are on the list. Date for the drawing will be Saturday, Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. at the Sheridan Community Center.

A stew supper will also be held in conjunction with the drawing. For more information call 979-733-6522 or 979-758-4788.

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## USDA Announces New Insurance Tools

"These new insurances tools will help farmers and ranchers, especially with operations located in drought impacted areas, to improve their risk management capabilities," Designed to operate in a variety of range and pasture environments, these products utilize innovative technology to determine when a producer has suffered a loss."

The new insurance products, the Rainfall index insurance program and the Vegetation index insurance program, are offered by the Risk Management Agency (RMA) and are available through approved insurance providers.

These programs will provide livestock producers the ability to purchase insurance protection for losses of forage produced for grazing or harvested for hay.

The Rainfall index insurance program will be pilot tested in 220

counties in Colorado, Idaho, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, North Dakota and Texas and is based on rainfall indices as a means to measure expected production losses.

The Vegetation index insurance program will be pilot tested in 110 counties in Colorado, Oklahoma, Oregon,

Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and South Dakota and is based on satellite imagery that determines the productivity of the acreage as a means to measure expected production losses.

Together, these pilot programs will be available to provide coverage on approximately 160 million of the 640 million acres of grazing land and hay land in the United States.

Development of the two programs was provided through provisions of the

Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000, which established the development of a pasture, rangeland and forage program as one of RMA's highest research and development priorities.

Both insurance products are designed to allow maximum flexibility for the producer.

For instance, producers are not required to insure all their acres, but rather may elect to insure only those acres that are important to their grazing program or hay operation.

Further, producers are not required to insure the acreage for the entire crop year.

The crop year is divided into intervals and producers may elect to insure their acreage for only those intervals where the risk is the greatest.

Farmers and ranchers attending the Beef Cattle Short Course,

hosted by Texas A&M University on August 7th and 8th in College Station had the first look at the new program.

Both of these products will be available for sale from crop insurance agents beginning in late August 2006.

The sales closing date is November 30, 2006.

More detailed information about these two new pilot programs is available on the RMA Web site at: [www.rma.usda.gov](http://www.rma.usda.gov).

## Texas Crop Weather Report

### Agricultural Summary

The western third of Texas, from the Trans-Pecos and western Edwards Plateau through the Panhandle, received at least 0.25 inches of rain.

Wide areas of the Northern High Plains recorded up to two inches of precipitation, and isolated showers in that region added another two inches to the week's total.

Up to two inches also fell in several counties in the Low Plains and Trans-Pecos.

Spotty showers in coastal areas totaled 0.1 inches, and a small area near Galveston received two inches of precipitation. The remainder of the state was dry.

The rainy conditions in the Panhandle and Trans-Pecos brought some relief from the heat, but much of the rest of Texas reported temperatures at or over 100 degrees during the week.

Growers in the Northern High Plains were expected to accelerate planting of winter wheat in the wake of the welcomed moisture there.

Some hay grazer was planted in the Southern High Plains to help control blowing sand. Army worms and grasshoppers in the East further reduced forage.

### Field Crops Report

**Cotton:** The remaining dryland acres in the Southern High Plains were helped by the week's rains. Growers in the Northern High Plains were winding down irrigation in preparation for harvest.

Farmers harvested in the Blacklands, South Texas, Upper Coast, Coastal Bend, and the Lower Valley.

Some boll rot was reported in the Upper Coast due to wet conditions late in the growing season. Statewide, cotton condition was mostly rated fair to very poor.

**Corn:** Fields had dried down and growers were ending irrigation in anticipation of harvest in the Northern High Plains, where harvest for silage continued.

Producers baled failed corn for hay in the Blacklands and North East.

Harvest for grain neared completion in the Blacklands and South Central Texas. The corn condition statewide was mostly rated fair to very poor.

**Sorghum:** Irrigated fields in the Northern High Plains were heading out strongly.

Farmers began to harvest in the Southern Low Plains. Low yields were reported in the Blacklands.

Producers baled for hay in South Central areas, where their harvest for grain neared completion.

Statewide, sorghum condition was mostly rated fair to very poor.

**Peanuts:** Peanuts were maturing rapidly in the Southern High Plains. Peanut condition statewide was rated mostly good to fair.

**Rice:** Harvest neared completion in the Upper Coast. The condition of rice was mostly rated good to fair statewide.

**Soybeans:** Growers baled for hay in the North East. Statewide, the condition was mostly rated fair to very poor.

### Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

**Wine grape harvest** concluded in the Trans-Pecos with extremely low production. Pumpkins progressed well in the Northern High Plains, where harvest was expected to begin in about two weeks.

**Pecans:** A "weak" crop was reported in the Cross Timbers. Pecans were in the water stage (when the nut interior is filled with water) to nut-filling stage in the Trans-Pecos.

### Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Grass was greening back up in the Plains and Trans-Pecos, due to recent precipitation.

The Coastal Bend and Upper Coast, areas that have received a lot of rain in the last month, reported good hay production.

In most other regions, pastures were in critical condition, with diminishing water supplies, and hay was hard to find.

In response, producers provided supplemental feed, weaned calves early, and reduced herds, sometimes to minimum levels.

For some ranchers, the next step would be complete liquidation of their livestock.

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## AN OPEN LETTER TO VOTERS

Since January, I have been campaigning door-to-door and at events throughout the area. Many volunteers and campaign workers have been working, too. All of us have been gratified by the positive response from you, the voters. Thank you!

Our issues are clear – protect our rural areas and small towns, keep taxes low, preserve the sanctity of life, defend personal and property rights, secure the border, and fight crime and drugs.

There is a broader issue, though, that is on everyone's mind. We need a representative who represents us and is part of our communities.

After ten years in office, the incumbent is completely out of touch, despite his massive campaign ads every two years when he claims to represent "Rural Texas." He does not!

Already we have seen him on the wrong side of the Animal Tagging law and selling your water to San Antonio. The worst of it, though, is his complete disregard for local input.

In the coming weeks, I will have to challenge the incumbent's record of service. As a voter, you need to know who the incumbent represents and why he has neglected our interests.

Please remember that the office of State Representative belongs to you, not the incumbent officeholder. On November 7, I hope you will trust me with that office.

Sincerely,

Tim Kleinschmidt

Tim Kleinschmidt Campaign • 979-542-8037 • 3596 CR 405 • Lexington, TX 78947

Pol Ad.Pd for by Tim Kleinschmidt Campaign, Thomas O. Kleinschmidt, Treasurer.