

♥ Notes

By Neoma Williams

I'm not very involved with Hart Days anymore, except for this newspaper. It's been this way for a few years, as I try to cut back on what I do for civic organizations. I was very involved with Hart Days for more than 25 years.

I notified my readers a few years back that there is some Hart Days money in a CD and asked for suggestions what to do with the money. I got no response, and neither did any of the Hart Days Committee members at that time.

After being "run over," I think it would be a good idea for Hart to have a helicopter pad. I mentioned this a few times to some people, but with nobody's pushing it, it hasn't happened. I think this money would

Straley Tells Board 'Middle School Students Are Not Driven'

In explaining the STAAR scores to the school board at the July 15 meeting, Hart ISD Curricula Director Robin Straley said that the elementary scores have vastly improved. She said with the promotion of sixth-graders to middle school (these students have struggled for years with the state accountability tests), that she is expecting great strides from the elementary this coming school year. She attributes this to great teachers, but told the Board that it's a challenge to keep the students' passing the tests because of the turnover in teachers and administrators, and especially the challenges that come with rookie teachers.

She said that students, primarily in Grades 6-8 (this past school year), don't pose discipline problems, but are not driven. Some went to summer school for a self-paced improvement program, and some didn't even bother to finish their class work.

She said that parents were contacted, but no help was forthcoming. During the school year, she said that some of these students don't do their homework or attend tutorials.

She added that these middle school students have struggled in elementary and, it seems, will struggle in secondary.

be a good start for such a project.

This money (about \$7,000 unless some is needed to fund this year's celebration) has accumulated over about 25 years, and I think some of it may have come from another non-profit no longer operating.

In the days when carnivals would come for Hart Days, there was usually a few hundred extra dollars to

count on.

It's so easy to criticize what Hart Days Committee members have done over the years. One needs to have "been there." This is a volunteer organization, and often operated very haphazardly, depending on who shows up at the meetings.

I seldom know what changes are made concerning the celebration,

and you'd think I would since I own the newspaper. I think even if I published a daily, some would never think to notify me of any news, either Hart Days or otherwise.

There, I've gotten a bit of the frustration out, and I'm glad to see that some see fit to keep Hart Days going. It's important to the community, and notice how many people

who used to live here still show up.

If you have any suggestions about what worthy cause to fund with this extra money, let me know. Or contact Aurelia Perez. She and I have been involved with Hart Days for many years.

My father used to tell me it's so much easier to spend money than to make it.



INFLATABLES

SATURDAY

12 noon
to 6 p.m.

Carrasco Car Care

ARTS & CRAFTS

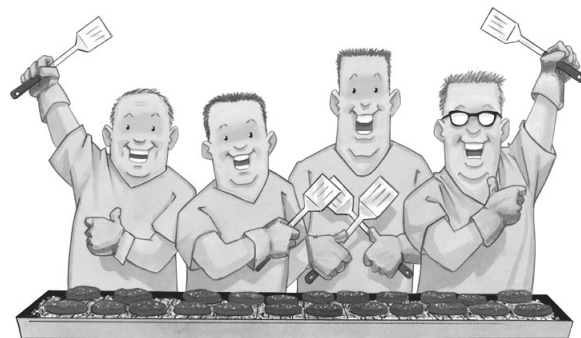
*The Hart Days Arts & Crafts Show will be
Saturday in the
fire station.*



Don't You Just Love Hart Days?

Paxton Tire & Service

Dimmitt



**Cook-off on Saturday.
Judging begins at 1 p.m.**



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