

Texas Registration, Inspection Stickers Partnering Up

CASTRO County is gearing up for a new Texas Two Step. Beginning March 1, 2015, the state will no longer issue vehicle inspection stickers and will move to a "Two Steps, One Sticker" program. Under the new system, Texas vehicle owners will need to pass inspection prior to renewing their registration. The familiar blue-bordered Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) registration sticker will serve as proof of both inspection and registration.

CASTRO County is prepared to make this transition as smooth as possible for our residents," said CASTRO County Tax Assessor-Collector PAMALA RICKERT. "During the first year of the program beginning March 1, 2015, all you will need to do is make sure you already have a valid passing vehicle inspection before you renew your registration in our office, online or by mail."

When vehicle owners renew their registration, the system will automatically verify whether the vehicle has a valid inspection. Without a passing inspection, the vehicle will not be eligible for registration renewal.

During the second year of the program, beginning March 1, 2016, vehicles' inspection and registration expiration dates will align to the date that is on the registration sticker. Once the expiration dates are aligned in that second year, you will have a convenient 90-day window to pass inspection first and then renew your registration before the end of the month listed on your sticker.

"When the 'Two Steps, One Sticker' program is fully implemented, Castro County residents will appreciate having just one sticker in the corner of their windshield and only one expiration date to worry about," said TxDMV Executive Director Whitney Brewster. "And be-

cause a passing vehicle inspection will be a requirement to renew your registration, more vehicle owners will comply with inspection requirements leading to safer and more environmentally sound cars on Texas roads."

The implementation of "Two Steps, One Sticker" is a result of House Bill 2305, which passed during the 83rd Legislative Session in 2013. The program is a joint effort by the TxDMV, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, in collaboration with the 254 county tax assessor-collectors' offices which process vehicle registrations continued to Page 6

December WTAMU Graduate Is New Ag Teacher



Thompson

Madilyn (Madi) Thompson graduated from West Texas A&M University in December 2014, and got a job as the new ag teacher at Hart ISD in January.

Born and raised in Pampa, Madi graduated from Pampa

High School in 2011. As a senior at Pampa High, after entering animals in the local stock show, she decided that she wanted to be an ag teacher, adding that she liked being a member of the Future Farmers of America. And, she said she'd been told, growing up, that she should be a teacher.

Classes her students at Hart are enrolled in include Wildlife Management, Ag Mechanics, Welding, Horticulture, and Livestock production.

She notes that she coordinated an election for the local FFA chapter. Members are Dylan Ramirez, Camarie Neudorf,

Eloy Marquez and Leandra Perez. Thompson is working with the students to compete in livestock judging in April.

Her husband, Schrade, is a student at WTAMU. He plans to work in the agriculture field after graduation. The couple live in Hart.

Schrade, a Pampa High School graduate, also grew up in Pampa. Ironically, the two did not know each other until their senior year. They got married in June 2014.

Madi's parents are Wendell and Charla Schults. She has a 13-year old sister. She said that her father taught her how to weld, and the two built a sheep and horse barn. Her hobbies include hunting.



A CELL TOWER'S GOING UP NEXT DOOR OR HADN'T YOU HEARD?

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ON PUBLIC NOTICES



Governments are required to publish their decisions in the newspaper – including their intent to build a structure nearby that you might not want. But some officials want to bury public notices on little seen, rarely visited government websites.

**If it is not in the newspaper,
how will you know?**