

# Panhandle Possesses Painter-Poet

by Jean Ann Behney

Lometa Sparks wrote her very first poem when she was about eight years old. "It was about diamonds in the snow, the way the snow glittered and glistened in the sun," she recalls. Her first works of art were crayola renderings of abstract designs in many brilliant colors.

"I loved words and colors from my earliest childhood days," confesses this bright-eyed 72-year-old Hansfordite. Both words and colors have always been Lometa's media for celebrating life and expressing her emotions.

She came to Hansford County as an infant in 1918 with her parents, Louis and Gladys Buchner. Lometa's mother had grown up here, the daughter of Joseph ("Uncle Joe") and Jincy Close. Gladys was reared by her step-mother, Permata, after her mother's death. Once grown, Gladys went to Austin but, in the words of her daughter Lometa, "She didn't make a good city person." Gladys returned to Hansford County with baby Lometa and her husband, Austin native Louis Buchner, whom she had met when he worked a harvest here. The couple took up farming near Gruver.

It was in elementary school that Lometa's fascination with words and colors was officially recognized by teachers. Her first grade teacher allowed her to "tell words" to classmates struggling in their readers because Lometa had an extensive vocabulary from the time she could read. Her second grade art teacher, Ann Beck, encouraged Lometa's drawing. "She told me constantly that I had ability," reminisces Lometa today, "and she loved my abstract designs, which she thought would be lovely on material."

At home, her parents were "very strict" about their children using correct English. "If you split an infinitive, somebody told you!" she says with a laugh. Lometa's mother wrote poetry herself and had a volume of her verses published under the title "My Garden."

One of Lometa's fondest memories is of the double box of crayons she would get once a year. "It was the greatest thrill in the world to get that box of crayons!" she recalls. Although she was not to begin painting seriously until she was a young mother, Lometa says she paints much better than she draws today.

After she married James Sparks, a local boy who delivered milk (during their courtship days she says she'd "jump in the truck and go with him--you can guess how shy I was!"), the couple farmed and then lived in Perryton for many years, where James owned a service station. James bought the Phillips service station in Spearman and then in 1950, the Sparks moved with their three boys out to their current home in the country.

"To get back to the farm was like heaven!" Lometa exclaims. "Raising three boys in town is a pain in the neck, but out on the farm they could get into all kinds

of harmless fun and there was always something to do." The Sparks' farm is near the old Joe Close homeplace, about 10 miles south of Spearman and four miles east.

"We started farming on a shoestring," Lometa explains, "and came into town to run the service station." Not long after this, her friend Elsie Mathews talked her into taking painting lessons from Dord Fitz, a traveling art professor well-known for his portraits. Lometa had ordered a "Famous Artist" at-home self-teaching course several years earlier, but says it was costly at \$3 a lesson.

"Dord Fitz was a master," she says. "I took lessons from him for 20 years." Many of the paintings she completed during Fitz's classes hang in the Sparks home today, and Lometa happily takes the visitor on a quick tour of her displayed works.

Included among the paintings are abstract designs, still lifes of flowers and fruit, portraits, outdoor scenes and even an intriguing painting with unusual color combinations that Lometa did based on a dream she once had. As we moved from painting to painting, Lometa described each work's style, its inspiration and the techniques she used in doing it.

"The values in a painting are the use of light and dark," she explains, "and the intensities are the use of bright and dull colors." She points out several paintings which were "homework assignments" given by artist Fitz to teach his students how to work with color and space.

Looking at a portrait of Lometa's granddaughter as a young child, I remark that the girl's large brown eyes seem to look right at me. "A good portrait is one in which the person's eyes follow you, wherever you are," affirms Lometa. Then she confesses that she actually finds painting noses more challenging than eyes!

Her masterpiece is a very large canvas in the dining room. It is an oil painting of vases and fruits done in the Baroque style, which was popular in 17th Century Europe. Against the very dark background, one apple gleams especially red and the viewer almost reaches out to touch it. "There are 16 pure (undiluted) colors in this painting," Lometa says, and she then demonstrates, using a dimmer dial on the nearby hanging light fixture, how even in the darkness the colors show up. Teacher Fitz was very complimentary about the results of the 15 to 20 hours Lometa spent working on "Harvest Bounty."

This artist confesses with a smile that she becomes attached to her own paintings, but adds that most of them are for sale. She has done many commission paintings as well. Several years ago, four Gruver ladies approached her about teaching a painting class, and Lometa still conducts these in her studio.

This studio is interesting of its own account, because it, along with James's office and the

Sparks' living room, was once the Darrouzett Depot. About 12 years ago, the Sparks heard through Lometa's brother-in-law, a Santa Fe employee, that the depot was going to be offered up for sale. The Sparks bought it and attached it to their main house, later adding a second story to part of it. "It was wonderful to get out of the kitchen to paint," says Lometa. "That's where I used to teach and do my own paintings and when supper time came, I had to clear it all up!"

Her studio is a well-lit, comfortable room with five large windows. For her evening painting class, Lometa uses daylight light bulbs. She and her students paint even their landscapes in the studio. She tried painting outside once and calls the experience a disaster: she almost ended up on a sandbar and then a storm came up, and the wind made it all impossible anyway!

Although she has used acrylics, this painter prefers oils because they blend better. "Acrylics dry out at a faster rate, so it's easier to make errors and harder to correct them, and the colors are more intense and harder to control," she adds.

What is the inspiration for these

paintings and the sheaves of poems Lometa has written? As she thumbs through some of the large volumes in which her poetry has been published through World of Poetry in California, she says thoughtfully, "I sort of hear the poems in my head, I think and I can see the painting in my mind's eye." The source for both can be anything from a dream to something she sees outdoors.

For example, Lometa describes a hawk that lived on top of a post

for almost a year. Each time she drove into town, she would see the bird sitting up there and she came to believe that it was the same hawk each time and that the post was its home. Then one day, the hawk was not there and Lometa saw its dead body at the foot of the pole. She has written several versions of a poem, one of them from the bird's point of view, about this hawk.

Both poetry and painting give Lometa a chance to express her

feelings and she says, "I just get the urge to do it and I do it." She cautions, however, that it is important to get that idea or feeling down on paper or canvas soon after being inspired. "I think you lose the freshness of anything if you don't do it when you are first inspired," she says. "If you mull it over too much, you end up losing the idea you want to get

See Poet Page 5



Lometa Sparks

WINTER

by Lometa Sparks

Winter made his debut silently  
Arrayed in crisp garments,  
With all-tones greyed.  
The lyric music accompanied by the quiet wind.

Softly strumming upon each delicate  
Ice-coated leaf.  
Grass played the soft background music  
For the leaves of tree and bush  
Each with a tone of its own,  
Swaying gently with the soft breeze of morning.  
Even the broad-leaved weeds doing their best.  
Looking like a dowager arrayed for the "Grand Ball"  
And singing in a lower key.

The Hansford  
**Plainsman**  
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Volume 21, No. 15      YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER      Sunday, February 11, 1990



Spearman Elementary School students recently completed a reading program designed to develop their reading skills and library skills. The ABC Reading Program, a voluntary reading program, consisted of students reading a book for each letter of the alphabet. [The title of the book had to begin with the letter the student was working on.] According to instructors Mrs. Ramon and Mrs. Pierson, this program was being used to encourage children to read at home and to use the library. As a reward for becoming members of the "ABC Club," the students were treated to a party. The party featured a cake specially

decorated by Peggy Varnon. Parents were invited to attend the celebration. Members of the ABC Club include Amanda Adams, Cary Cates, Jared Freeman, John Gage, Dib Kirk, Nicole Lazono, Angela Pipkin, Sally Pittman, Adrienne Simpson, Jenn Schnell, Kayla Taylor, Richard Varnon, Chelsey Villines, Dusty Vinson, Beau Bensingor, Brady Wooley, Chelsea Nollner, Daniel Ellis, Brandon Clyburn, Coley Griffin, Timmy Bynum, Michelle Laughlin, Danica Mahanay, Isela Huerta, Jordan Brockman, Andrew Cummings, Catrina Brooks, Ty West and Jennifer Whitefield.

## Vanderburg Runs For Justice of the Peace

Joyce Vanderburg has announced her candidacy in the Democratic Primary for the office of Justice of the Peace.

Vanderburg, 37, states that she is aware of all the duties of the office of Justice of the Peace and that she wants the opportunity to work for and serve the residents of Hansford County.

"I feel that one of the main responsibilities of a Justice of the Peace is to make fair and objective decisions. Honesty, fairness and equality are what this office should be based upon," she said. She cites 15 years' experience in accounting and bookkeeping as her primary qualifications for this job.

Vanderburg states that she has worked with the public in Hansford County for the past 17 years. She was employed by Ora Lee Blackburn for a 10 year period, and worked for Speartex Grain Company for three years. The past four years she has operated her home-owned business and has successfully dealt with people in a

tri-state area.

Vanderburg has been a resident of Hansford County for 22 years. Ernie, her husband, has been a lifelong resident of Hansford County, is engaged in farming and ranching and is an employee of Horizon Oil and Gas Company. They have been married 20 years and live seven miles southwest of Spearman.



Joyce Vanderburg

## Utah Doctor Sets Weekend Visit

As part of Hansford Hospital's doctor recruitment efforts, a physician from Utah was scheduled to spend the weekend in Spearman.

At Thursday night's Hansford County Hospital District Board of Directors meeting, Hospital Administrator Al LaRochelle told the board that Dr. Martin MacNeill was scheduled to arrive on Friday, Feb. 9 for interviews and would spend the weekend here. A reception and potluck meal welcoming Dr. MacNeill was set for Saturday, Feb. 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Alton Ellsworth home.

LaRochelle reported to the board, on doctor recruitment, saying responses to advertising efforts have been far fewer than in the past.

In other business, the board set new room rates for the Skilled Nursing Facility at \$192 per

patient day. LaRochelle reminded the board of recommendations made by Russell Altmiller, the district's auditor. It was explained that Medicare limits cost reimbursement to the facility's room rate, and that future Medicare reimbursement would be limited if the rates were not raised to meet the rate for a room in the hospital. The board noted that the increase would not adversely affect residents, since the amount of deductible they pay is not dependent on the room rate, but set by Medicare for all facilities.

Rosa Lee Butt brought a request from the Hospital Auxiliary for construction of a building to store their holiday decorations. LaRochelle suggested that hospital personnel construct the building, with the Auxiliary providing the materials. A site for the structure

was not selected by the board at this meeting.

Anne Snow, business manager, and LaRochelle described the benefits of a new computer system to the board. They noted that a new computer system could result in a monthly savings of \$475 for Medicare claims submission. On-site demonstrations and site visits are planned later this month to review two more systems in the ongoing effort to find a cost-effective system for the district.

Board members reviewed an application for the Indigent and Needy Program. No official action was taken by the board, pending further investigation of possible qualifications of the patient for Social Security Disability support.

The board also discussed long range planning for the Hansford County Hospital District. It was

suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed to investigate the long range health care needs of Hansford County, but the matter was tabled until it can be included on the agenda for a board meeting.

The board reviewed financial statements and went over each department's revenue and expense. Accounts payable were approved.

Attending the meeting were Alton Ellsworth, board president; Les Barkley, vice president; Rosa Lee Butt, secretary-treasurer; board members Jerry Hunt and John Trindle; Albert LaRochelle, hospital administrator; Kaye McFarlin, director of nursing; Carol Hergert, Manor director of nursing; and Anne Snow, business manager.





by Rita Curtis  
Librarian

## Library Book Notes

### STORYTIME--

The moon was the star of Hansford County Library's first Storytime of 1990. The preschoolers listened to the stories **Grandfather Twilight**, **Goodnight Moon** and **Mooncake**, watched the film-strip **Moon Man** and the film **Happy Birthday, Moon**. Each child was given two little "mooncakes" to take home as a remembrance of Storytime.

Moonchildren in attendance were: Garrett Martin, Chad Sherlock, Sarah George, Russell Sheets, Jessica McClure, Ryan Adkins and Jessie Trafton, who was a visitor from Amarillo.

All 4 and 5 year old children are invited to attend Storytime, which is held at the library from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. each Wednesday through March.

### THE READER'S CATALOG--

The library has purchased a copy of **The Reader's Catalog**, which lists over 40,000 of the best books in print in 208 categories. The price of each book is also

provided. Anyone who wishes to order books directly from the catalog may do so by using a toll-free number. This catalog is available for people who prefer direct-ordering books for themselves rather than special-ordering through area bookstores.

### NEW MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS--

Magazine subscriptions new to our library are: **Byte**, **In Health** (formerly **Hippocrates**), **Popular Mechanics**, **Popular Science**, **Parents**, **Bottom Line**, **Motor Trend**, **Money**.

### NEW ON THE BOOKSHELF--

**The Bad Place**, by Dean Koontz; **Devices and Desires**, by P.D. James; **Like We Used To Be**, by Jean Stubbs; **Picturing Will**, by Ann Beattie; **The Trail To Honk**; **Ballard's Bones**, by Sam Brown; **The Enchanted Land**, by Jude Deveraux; **Hollywood**, by Gore Vidal; and **Web Of Dreams**, by V.C. Andrews.

## Chamber Chatter

by Brett Whitford

January is gone and February has been just as busy. We would like to thank everyone that turned out for our annual banquet. We had a very good crowd. We would also like to say "Congratulations" to the 1989 award recipients.

Our 1990 Round-Up committee met on Monday, Feb. 5 at the chamber office. This was our first meeting, and we got a lot accomplished. We will be telling you more on dates and times and specific events as the time gets closer. The Round-Up committee consists of Stephanie Crossland, chairman; Linda Butt, co-chairman; Randy Kirk, member; and Sharron Swan, member. We have

a great Round-Up committee and they are planning a fun Round-Up - something everyone will be proud to be a part of.

On Monday, March 5 at 7:00 at the Spearman High School auditorium, there will be a "Meet-the-Candidate" type political forum. We hope you will turn out and hear what the candidates have to say! Our thanks to Lenis Simpson for taking care of this.

The next Spearman Chamber of Commerce membership meeting will be held on Friday, March 9 at noon at the Catholic Church Parish Hall. We will be serving Mexican Pile On and our sponsor is Five Star Equipment. We will have an added surprise, so plan on being there.

We want to welcome some new members of the Spearman Chamber of Commerce - Thriftway Market and Loyall and Ginger Turner. We appreciate you becoming a part of the chamber of commerce.

I would like to personally invite you to drop by the chamber office anytime and visit with us, tell us your ideas, and we will be happy to hear your input.

Until Next Time!  
Brett Whitford

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## Among The Neighbors

by Helen Fisher

The monthly observance for the residents of the Hansford Manor who have birthdays in January was held in the Activity room. The honorees this month were Mildred Daily, Ben Harris, Nova Foote, Myrtle Henderson and Ora Sanders.

The members of the Auxiliary who served as hostesses were Beth Phelps, Verna Gail Keim, Lorene Kunselman, Elsie Mathews, Barbara McClellan and Mary Fern Terry.

All those attending were highly entertained by the musical numbers by the talented Laquita Evans. She sang a variety of types of songs, all of which were pleasing to the guests.

New residents of the Manor during January were Jesse Davis, Annie Allen and Clara Conley of Perryton.

During each month Activity Director Jody Harnish and assistant, Ronda Gibson take a group of the residents to the Palo Duro Dam site and then treat them to ice cream. This always makes a welcome outing as being out in the country provides a change of scenery and they are interested in the development of the dam.

For the ladies, since cooking was always a part of their previous lives, a cooking class has been organized and once a month they prepare and serve a meal to guests of their choosing. It is prepared and served in the Activity room and is a great source of pleasure for them to once again

prepare a meal. About 20 of them participate in this.

Several new and interesting activities are planned for February and more details will be forthcoming in later issues.

\*\*\*\*

Virginia and Garland Head enjoyed overnight guests during the past week. Her sister, Catherine and Zane Hall of Pampa were here.

\*\*\*\*

Family members of F.W. Thomas are pleased to report that he is recovering from surgery. It was performed in Northwest Texas Hospital Thursday morning.

\*\*\*\*

Dolores Rylant was brought home on Thursday after a stay of several days in High Plains Baptist Hospital. She is recovering and well pleased that surgery will not be required. She assures her patrons that her Custom Dog Grooming Service will be reopened just as soon as she regains her strength.

\*\*\*\*

Beth Phelps and Ruth Bryan returned Tuesday from a pleasant long weekend with their two sisters. They met at the home of Mary Hazlewood in Fort Worth and were joined by Julia Billingsly of Lubbock.

Beth's daughter, Janice and Craig Thornhill came over from Dallas on Sunday. The families of Julia and Mary also came for a visit with them during their stay.

## Carlee Dixon Honored

Carlee Jane Dixon, journalism major, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Dixon of Spearman, is among 51 students from Texas Tech University selected for the 1990 **Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges**.

A Texas Tech committee of faculty, staff and past recipients

selected the students for the annual honor based on academic achievement, community service, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for success.

The 1990 honorees are from more than 1,400 higher education institutions around the nation and from several foreign countries.

## Gardening Show Set

AMARILLO-- Ways vegetable growers can be sure they follow the steps for safe gardening and produce a clean crop for their consumers will be explained during a special program here at 7 p.m. Feb. 13.

The program will be presented by the Potter County office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. It will be held at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, 6500 Amarillo Blvd. West.

The program is designed for small-acreage growers who sell

retail through farmers' markets and roadside stands, and for home gardeners, said Jim Smith, Potter County extension agent.

The program will show how to protect vegetable crops against pests and assure consumers of produce that is safe and wholesome. It will include scientific methods such as use of disease resistant varieties, selecting planting dates to avoid insects, ways to repel insects and choice of chemicals that aren't toxic to humans.

"There is a right way and a wrong way to do things, whether you are driving a car or applying chemicals to your garden," said Dr. Ronald Roberts, Extension Service vegetable specialist, who is on the program.

Roberts will demonstrate the use of protective equipment and proper techniques for applying chemical sprays to protect plants from diseases and insects. Participants also will learn how to read and follow pesticide labels to assure safe use.

A videotape, with Walter Cronkite as host, will present views of leading scientists and medical experts on the public's concern over environmental risks.

## Hospital Notes

### ADMISSIONS:

Saturday, Feb. 3 - None.  
Sunday, Feb. 4 - Glendon Etling.  
Monday, Feb. 5 - None.  
Tuesday, Feb. 6 - Pauline Winger, Leonard Jameson.  
Wednesday, Feb. 7 - None.  
Dismissed was Leonard Jameson.  
Thursday, Feb. 8 - Trey Porter.  
Dismissals were Glendon Etling and Viola Boyd.

### Bridal Shower

Honoring

Tammy Kay Wallner

Bride-Elect of Stephen Batton

Saturday, February 17

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

First State Bank

Selections at Sacks & ChaLors

Given By Hostesses



Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Tindell announce the engagement of their daughter, Teresa Sue, to Michael Dodson, son of Mrs. Lela Jane Dodson of Dimmitt and the late Theo Dodson. Grandparents of the bride-to-be are Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Fryrear and Mr. and Mrs. Ira Tindell, all of Spearman. The couple will wed April 14 in Lubbock and will make their home in Lubbock. Dodson is employed by Lanier Worldwide, and Tindell is a student at Texas Tech University, scheduled to graduate in May.

## Obituary

### Dr. R.H. Barker

Former Spearman resident Dr. R.H. Barker, 64, of Brownwood died Saturday, Feb. 3 at Brownwood Regional Hospital after a lengthy illness.

A retired college professor, Dr. Barker was born in Dallas Feb. 14, 1925 and served in the U.S. Army in the Philippines during World War II. He taught at Spearman High School for 15 years and had been a Brown County resident since 1984.

He retired from Eastern Kentucky University in 1985. He was married to LaVerne Perkins July 5, 1947. He was a member of Brownwood Primitive Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; a daughter, Patty LeBlanc of Miami, Fla.; a son, Robert H. Barker Jr. of Brownwood; four grandchildren, Jessica and Valerie LeBlanc of Miami and Chris and Brandy Parker of Brownwood; a sister, Marjorie

Estes of Bourne, Texas; two nieces, Mary Roach of San Antonio and Salley Lewis of Mesquite; and three great-nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday from Morelock Funeral Home Chapel in Brownwood with Elder Vance Rodgers officiating. Interment was in Jenkins Springs Cemetery under direction of Morelock Funeral Home of Brownwood.

### Birth Announcement

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Schmidt-Witcher of Spearman announce the arrival of a son, born Tuesday, Jan. 23 at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

He weighed eight pounds, 11½ ounces at birth and has been named Roger Michael.

\*\*\*\*

Stacy and Annette Conley of Spearman announce the birth of a son, Mason Lee, who was born December 29, 1989 at Perryton. He weighed seven pounds, 15½ ounces at birth.

Mason Lee was welcomed home by his sister, 3 year old DeLilah.

## SHS Places In Literary Meet

Spearman High School students captured fourth place overall at a recent UIL Literary Events practice meet, held at Dumas Saturday, Jan. 27.

Spearman students entered in Calculator and Number Sense categories combined to be named Best Math Team at the meet.

Individual winners included Ross Jarvis, second; Maria Gomez, third; Laura Dyess, fifth; and Ronnie Whittington, seventh in Calculator.

Jeff Hutchison took first place in Number Sense, and James Macias was the seventh place finisher in that event.

Cecely Porter claimed sixth place in Keyboarding. Maria Gomez finished fourth in Accounting, and Jarrett Swan was the second place finisher in Spelling. In fifth place in Literary Criticism was Laura Dyess, and coming in with a second place in Ready Writing was Jeff Hutchison.



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30!

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From: The Family

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## Hansford Heartlines

**Yuki,**  
Happy Valentine's Day!  
Love, Papa

**Mom:**  
I love you so very much!!!  
Happy Valentine's Day.  
Roxie

**Abbe,**  
-Happy Valentine's Day-  
Even though you are so far  
away, you'll always be close to  
my heart!  
Love,  
Aunt Cayla

**Kaysha,**  
-Happy Valentine's Day-  
You're the smile that  
brightens my day!  
Love,  
Aunt Cayla

**Brant,**  
-Happy Valentine's Day-  
To the cutest Red Head  
around! Happiness is having  
you for a nephew.  
Love,  
Aunt Cayla

**Happy Valentines Joe, Lynette,  
And Ray.**  
You are the center in our hearts.  
Mom and Dad

**Daniel,**  
Happy Valentine's Day!  
Love, Papa

**To: Jeri and T.J.,**  
You two are the stars in my  
sky. I love you. Happy  
Valentine's Day!!!  
Mom

**Akiko,**  
Happy Valentine's Day!  
Love, Papa

**Happy Valentine's Day**  
To all of my "A"s.  
Alisha, Amber, Albert my son  
And to the Albert I call "Hon"  
Love,  
Mom/She

**To Sue,**  
You are a "Super" Boss.  
You bring joy to my heart.  
I Love You,  
Delphine

**Lee,**  
Happy Valentine's Day!  
Love, Papa

**Kenna,**  
I'm so lucky God gave you to  
me. I'd love you even if you  
weren't mine. Thanks for  
being my firstborn and one of  
my two bestest friends!  
Mom

**Jennifer,**  
Happy Valentine's Day to  
my other bestest friend. Even  
if I could have chosen my  
second child, I would pick you.  
I wubble you!  
Mom

**Micah,**  
You make my heart do back  
flips and handsprings. Happy  
Valentine's Day to the next  
Mary Lou!  
Aunt Jodi

**Caden,**  
Happy Valentine's Day to  
the Ultimate Warrior who put  
a DDT on my heart!  
Aunt Jodi

1939  
C.L. loves Lewis  
1990

## Hansford Happenings

An **All School Reunion** meeting will be held Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 7:00 p.m. at IV's Hungry Cowboy. All ex-students from all Spearman High School classes are urged to attend.

A **blood drive** will be held Monday, Feb. 12 in the Catholic Church Parish Hall. Hours for donation are 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This blood drive is sponsored by the Hansford Hospital Auxiliary.

**State Representative Dick Waterfield** will speak at the Spearman PTA meeting on school financing and the effect of the Edgewood v. Kirby decision on the local school districts. Interested persons are invited to attend. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12 in the Spearman Elementary School choir room.

There will be a **.22 Rifle Shoot** Sunday, Feb. 11 at 1:30 p.m. at the Hansford Gun Club Range. Junior Shooters should bring their fathers. Entry fee is \$5.00 per entry. Awards will be given.

**Palo Duro Players** will meet Monday, Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hansford County Activity Center. All interested persons are invited to attend.

**Hansford Heart Association** will host its annual fund raising banquet Friday, Feb. 16 at 7:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Gruver. Anyone interested in becoming a Gold Star or Silver Star Sponsor for the Hansford Heart Association is encouraged to contact Teresa Barkley at 733-2395, or Mary Dixon (during office hours) at 659-3711.

The **Palo Duro River Authority** will meet in regular session on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 2:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Palo Duro River Authority, 511 S.W. 11th St., Spearman, Texas for the purpose of discussion and/or action on routine and other business. This meeting is open to the public.

### Senior Citizens \$1 Hearing Test

Thursday, February 15

Testing - 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If you have trouble hearing or understanding, this Test [which uses the latest electronic equipment] will determine your particular loss. Test is performed by State Licensed Hearing Aid personnel. You will see a hearing Aid so tiny it fits totally within the ear.

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## Two Spearman Churches Worship Together

by **Jean Ann Behney**  
Spearman's Faith Lutheran and First Presbyterian churches joined forces last Sunday to begin a weekly joint worship service with Presbyterian Minister Sam Steele preaching.

As Faith Lutheran's Treasurer Ann McClure explained, "We have been without a pastor since October, and since we have such a small group and so does First Presbyterian, we approached them about meeting together with Sam preaching, and last Sunday we tried it for the first time. It was great!"

Reverend Steele cautions that the two churches, both with between 40 and 50 members, are not merging and have no plans to do so. "Each will maintain its separate identity," he said. He went on to say that the two congregations will trade off meeting in one of the two church buildings month by month. While meeting at First Presbyterian, the Presbyterian liturgy, bulletins and hymnals will be used, with church organist Dorothy Baggerly providing the music. Next month, the combined congregations will meet at Faith Lutheran and use the Lutheran liturgy, bulletins and hymnals, and church organist Myrna Biggers will play.

"The way we are doing this is best put in the words of Ralph Blodgett," said Steele. "He said, 'We're gonna dance with the one that brung you!'" In other words, the church where the groups meet will determine the details of the worship service. Faith Lutheran's Bishop Mark Herbener and First Presbyterian's General Presbyter Lew Wilkins approved both churches' initial proposal to try combining their congregations for a trial six-month period. Eventually, Faith Lutheran hopes to be able to build up its membership

and finances and call for another Lutheran pastor. Right now, McClure said the group is concentrating on building membership.

Each week, offering plate contributions by members of both churches are collected in different colored envelopes, one for Faith Lutheran and one for First Presbyterian. Faith Lutheran's support of Steele for pulpit supply goes from Treasurer McClure to First Presbyterian Treasurer Laquita Evans.

Steele already pastored two churches before this arrangement with Faith Lutheran began, as he serves Trinity Presbyterian in Perryton each week as well as Spearman's First Presbyterian. Preaching to the combined Spear-

man congregations of Faith Lutheran and First Presbyterian each week, he said, does not change his call in the eyes of the Presbyterian Church.

"I'm not going to carry out all of the functions of a Lutheran pastor," commented Steele. "I will be available for Lutheran weddings and funerals, but if the people involved would rather have a Lutheran minister, Nate Hansen of Oslo will come." The Presbyterian pastor noted he is already making hospital and home visits to members of both congregations.

Steele added that preaching to Lutherans and Presbyterians at once has not changed his sermon topics or style of delivery. "I preach reformed theology. Martin

Luther is the father of that," he said. He does make his invitation to join the church specific for Lutherans or Presbyterians, however, saying, "I will be very clear on this in church!"

Both Steele and McClure described last Sunday's worship service as a "packed house." "Everybody I've talked to is very enthused about this," said McClure. "Sam already feels like a full-time pastor to us and we hope to attract new members to Faith Lutheran."

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across the state!

... I have always been proud of being from the Panhandle, and I think it's wonderful that someone with talent such as yours could put those feelings into words.

- Gay Cranfil Dumas, Texas

... it reminded me of just how wonderful small town life is.

- R.F. Dallas, Texas

... I love where you come from!

- H.B. Austin, Texas

... I am impressed ...

- J.W. Amarillo, Texas

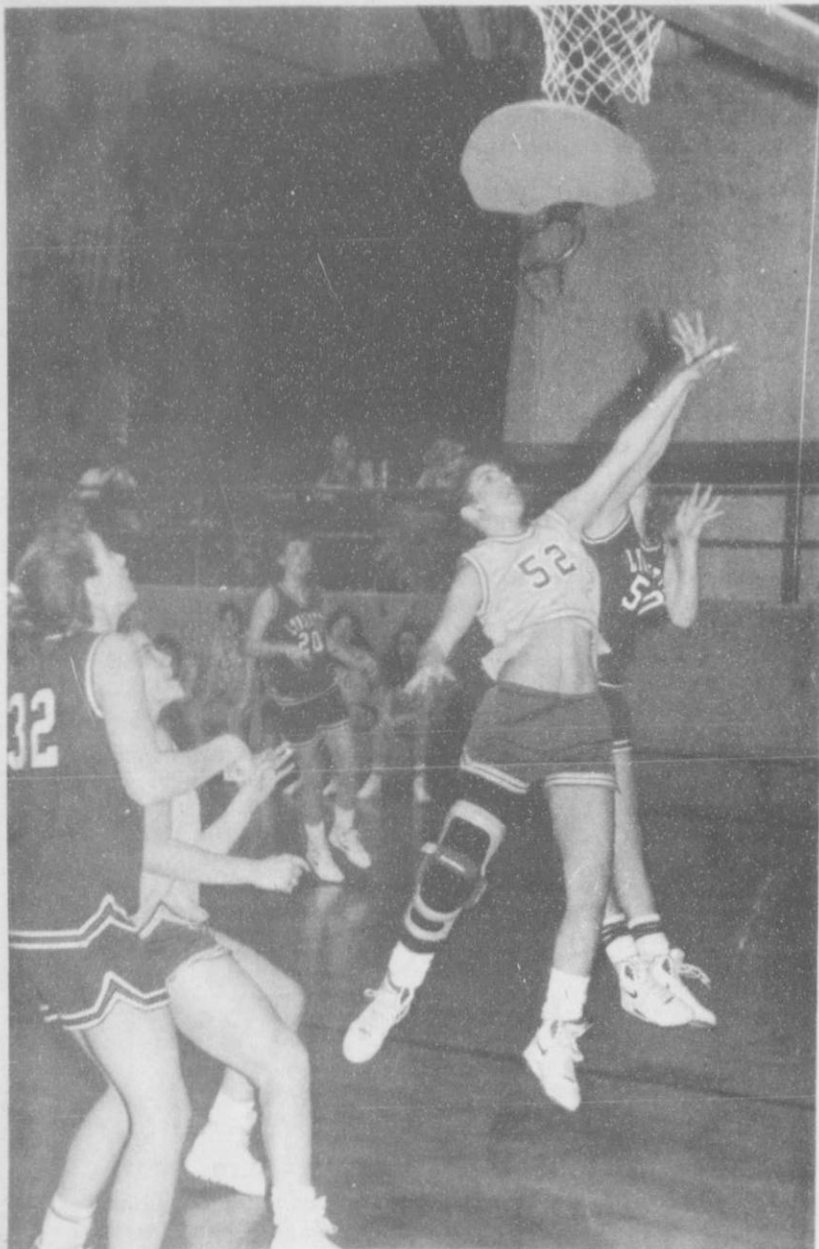
... Stan Cobb is a homespun philosopher ...

- Pat Riddle, writer  
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

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KIDS' STUFF---DR. COBB'S OFFICE---659-2215



# Basketball Roundup



Melody Schumann [50] puts up a lay up over her Panhandle opponent. Michelle Garnett [32] and Shannon Holton move in to get the rebound.

## VARSITY LYNX

The Lynx varsity boys basketball team played at Highland Park Tuesday, Feb. 6 and won the game by a score of 51-33. Scoring for the Lynx varsity were

Alan Howell	9
Brian Beck	8
Joel Shields	6
Tim Kizziar	4
Cody Pipkin	2
Clint DeArmond	2
Chad Riggins	2

## JV LYNX

The Lynx junior varsity boys were edged out by the Highland Park JV Tuesday, Feb. 6 at Highland Park. Final score in the game was 36-38. Scoring for the JV Lynx were

Russell Shaver	11
Chris Strawn	11
Mark Eakin	5
Justin Boyd	3
Darian Hawkins	2
Ross Jarvis	2
Khris Kelp	2

In their first game of the White Deer tournament, the Lynx JV boys were defeated by the Gruver JV, with a final score of 34 - 45. JV Lynx scoring against Gruver on Thursday, Feb. 8 were

Russell Shaver	19
Justin Boyd	10
Ross Jarvis	3
Darian Hawkins	2

## JV LYNXETTES

The Lynxette junior varsity beat the Highland Park JV girls Tuesday, Feb. 6 at Highland Park. Final score in the game was 36 - 28, and JV Lynxettes aiding in the scoring effort were

Cindy Melton	12
Michelle Garnett	10
Brandi Schneider	8
Shannon Holton	4
Lori Lieb	2

In their first game of the White Deer tournament, the JV Lynxettes trounced the Gruver JV by a score of 37-6. Scoring in the Thursday, Feb. 8 game were

Brandi Schneider	13
Melody Schumann	8
Holly Jarvis	5
Shannon Holton	5
Michelle Garnett	2
Lori Lieb	2



Mark Eakin [23] shoots for two against Panhandle. Ross Jarvis [41] and Russell Shaver [45] move in to get a possible rebound.

## VARSITY LYNXETTES

The Lynxette varsity basketball team soundly defeated the Highland Park girls varsity on Tuesday, Feb. 6 with a score of 45 - 24. Varsity Lynxettes scoring were

Tamri Townsen	10
Kyla Nelson	10
Joy Gafford	8
Laura Pearson	6
Michelle Cook	4
Jill Lusby	3
Laci Lasater	2
Vonda Benson	2

## Panhandle Events

### PERRYTON JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW

The Perryton-Ochiltree Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the annual Junior Livestock Show beginning Thursday, Feb. 8 at 4:30 p.m. with the weigh-in of animals. The lamb show will be held first on Friday morning at 9:00 a.m., followed by the swine show at 1:00 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 10, the steers will begin showing at 9:00 a.m. immediately followed by the heifer show. The Jackpot Heifer Show is open to all 4-H and FFA members. Saturday evening, the Wheatheart Shriners are sponsoring a buyers' supper, which will be followed by "The Parade of Champions." At 7:00 p.m. the livestock sale will begin.

### FIRST UMC - PERRYTON

First United Methodist Church of Perryton has announced that Dr. Kenneth Wyatt will be guest speaker Sunday, Feb. 18 during the 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship.

### TURKEY SHOOT - TULIA

A Turkey Shoot is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 11 beginning at 1:30 p.m. at Tule Lake. The lake is located two miles east of Tulia on FM 1318, then two miles north and one mile east.



Laci Lasater [23] finishes up a drive down the lane with a lay up. Joy Gafford [33] moves in behind to get the possible rebound.

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PUBLICATION COPY - COMMERCIAL AND SAVINGS BANKS  
 CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF CONDITION (Including Domestic and Foreign Subsidiaries) <508> STATE 08 (3-88)

LEGAL TITLE OF BANK: First State Bank, Spearman, Texas 79081  
 STATE BANK NO: 1107-37  
 FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT NO: 11 13 17844

CITY: Spearman, COUNTY: Hansford, STATE: Texas, ZIP CODE: 79081, CLOSE OF BUSINESS DATE: December 31, 1989

ASSETS	Dollar Amounts in Thousands			
	1989	1988	1987	
1. Cash and balances due from depository institutions:				
a. Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin	3,483	1,000	1,000	1.a
b. Interest-bearing balances	1,000	1,000	1,000	1.b
2. Securities	36,641	36,641	36,641	2.
3. Federal funds sold & securities purchased under agreements to resell in domestic offices of the bank & of its Edge & Agreement subsidiaries, & in IBFs:				
a. Federal funds sold	3,180	3,180	3,180	3.a
b. Securities purchased under agreements to resell	0	0	0	3.b
4. Loans and lease financing receivables:				
a. Loans and leases, net of unearned income	27,936	27,936	27,936	4.a
b. LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses	377	377	377	4.b
c. LESS: Allocated transfer risk reserve	0	0	0	4.c
d. Loans and leases, net of unearned income, allowance, and reserve (Item 4.a minus 4.b and 4.c)	27,559	27,559	27,559	4.d
5. Assets held in trading accounts	0	0	0	5.
6. Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases)	1,270	1,270	1,270	6.
7. Other real estate owned	58	58	58	7.
8. Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies	0	0	0	8.
9. Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding	0	0	0	9.
10. Intangible assets	0	0	0	10.
11. Other assets	1,620	1,620	1,620	11.
12. a. Total assets (sum of items 1 through 11)	74,911	74,911	74,911	12.a
b. Loans deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j)	NA	NA	NA	12.b
c. Total assets and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j) (sum of items 12.a and 12.b)	74,911	74,911	74,911	12.c
LIABILITIES				
13. Deposits:				
a. In domestic offices:				
(1) Noninterest-bearing	7,666	7,666	7,666	13.a.(1)
(2) Interest-bearing	54,388	54,388	54,388	13.a.(2)
b. In foreign offices, Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and IBFs:				
(1) Noninterest-bearing	0	0	0	13.b.(1)
(2) Interest-bearing	0	0	0	13.b.(2)
14. Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase in domestic offices of the bank & of its Edge & Agreement subsidiaries, & in IBFs:				
a. Federal funds purchased	0	0	0	14.a
b. Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	0	0	0	14.b
15. Demand notes issued to the U.S. Treasury	75	75	75	15.
16. Other borrowed money	0	0	0	16.
17. Mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases	0	0	0	17.
18. Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding	0	0	0	18.
19. Notes and debentures subordinated to deposits	0	0	0	19.
20. Other liabilities	1,623	1,623	1,623	20.
21. Total liabilities (sum of items 13 through 20)	63,752	63,752	63,752	21.
22. Limited-life preferred stock	0	0	0	22.
EQUITY CAPITAL				
23. Perpetual preferred stock (No. of shares outstanding)	0	0	0	23.
24. Common stock (No. of shares a. Authorized, b. Outstanding)	200,000	200,000	200,000	24.
25. Surplus	2,000	2,000	2,000	25.
26. a. Undivided profits and capital reserves	8,159	8,159	8,159	26.a
b. LESS: Net unrealized loss on marketable equity securities	0	0	0	26.b
27. Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments	0	0	0	27.
28. a. Total equity capital (sum of items 23 through 27)	11,159	11,159	11,159	28.a
b. Losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j)	0	0	0	28.b
c. Total equity capital and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j) (sum of items 28.a & 28.b)	11,159	11,159	11,159	28.c
29. Total liabilities, limited-life preferred stock, equity capital, and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j) (sum of items 21, 22, and 28.c)	74,911	74,911	74,911	29.
MEMORANDA: Amounts outstanding as of Report Date:				MEMO
1. a. Standby letters of credit, Total	0	0	0	1.a
b. Amount of Standby letters of credit in memo 1.a. conveyed to others through participations	0	0	0	1.b

NOTE: This report must be signed by an authorized officer(s) and attested by not less than three directors other than the officer(s) signing the report. We, the undersigned officer(s), do hereby declare that this Report of Condition has been prepared in conformance with official instructions and is true.

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER(S) AUTHORIZED TO SIGN REPORT: Robert C. Schnell, Assistant Vice President  
 DATE SIGNED: January 31, 1990

SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR: [Signatures]  
 DATE SIGNED: [Date]

STATE OF TEXAS, County of HANSFORD  
 I, [Notary Name], Notary Public, do hereby certify that I am not an officer or director of this bank.  
 My commission expires APRIL 7, 1992.

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 Charlene Blalock Hearing Specialist  
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**Ask For FREE Hearing Test**  
 Be sure to visit our next Service Center.  
 Thursday, Feb. 15, 1990  
 Hansford Nursing Center  
 707 S. Roland Spearman, Texas  
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 Golden Spread Hearing Aid  
 Formerly Beltone  
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 Amarillo 352-8961

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 APPRAISALS LICENSED & BONDED  
 Bobby Cook (806) 435-4265  
 Rick Riggins (806) 659-3819  
 TXS-039-007165 TXS-079-008146

**UPCOMING AUCTION**  
 THURSDAY, MARCH 8 - 9:30 a.m.  
 LIMITED CONSIGNMENTS WELCOME  
 Consignment Cut-Off February 12

Sale Location: North of Hansford Veterinary Clinic  
 We Are Agents and Agents Only  
 TERMS OF SALE: Cash All Accounts Settled Day of Sale.



The full moon is nine times as bright as the half-moon, since the surface of the visible half-moon is extremely rough and mountainous, which makes for more shadows and less reflected sunlight.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## REAL ESTATE

**FOR SALE:** Two Trailer House lots Call 659-5012. S15S-4tp

**FOR SALE:** 3 bedroom, 2 bath home Fireplace, large living area, drapes, mini-blinds, completely remodeled and large deck patio. Nice neighborhood, 1110 S. Barkley. Call 659-3800. S36-rtm

**FOR SALE:** 3BR brick home with storage house. Can see at 1007 S. Bernice or call 659-3402. S12-RTN

**FOR SALE:** 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Sunken living room, parquet floors, fireplace, covered patio, 2 car garage, sprinkler system, 2193 sq. ft. living space, excellent location. Call 659-3587 or 659-5022. S33-Rtn

**FOR SALE:** Two Bedroom House with garage and storage building. Priced to sell. 308 S. Hazlewood. Call 659-2764. S14-1tc RTN

**FOR SALE:** 3 Bedroom Stucco, Corner lot, Storm Cellar garage, storage room, and owner Financed. Call after 6 p.m. (405) 338-1484. See at 623 Bernice, Spearman. S15-6tc

**FOR SALE OR RENT:** 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath - Den - Fenced Yard. 505 Haney. Call 659-3308 after 6 p.m. S15-4tp

## FARM PRODUCTS/ LIVESTOCK

**Panhandle State University Performance Tested Bull Sale** Saturday, February 24, 1990 1:00 p.m. CST

University Farm, Goodwell, Okla. Bulls have been fed a Growing Ration. Selling 100 bulls - Angus, Charolais, Hereford, P Hereford, P Shorthorn, Salers, Simmental Bulls will be Fertility Tested (405) 349-2611 - Ext 262 or 221 (405) 349-2514 (Home) S14-7tc

## HOUSEHOLD GOODS

**FOR SALE:** Stove (built in microwave) in good condition. Call 659-3186. S14S-4tp

## MISC. FOR SALE

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## SERVICES

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SUN CITY, Perryton, TX. RTN

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Local Representative  
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Spearman, Texas  
35s-rtm

## FOR RENT

**TRAILER FOR RENT:** 3 Bedroom, 2 Full Baths, Fenced area. Close to swimming pool and Activity Center. Call 659-3186. S14S-4tp

**TRAILER SPACE FOR RENT:** in Spearman, \$50 a month. Call 435-5080. S43S-RTN

**FOR RENT:** 2 Bedroom mobile home - fenced (6 ft. wood privacy fence); off-street, 2-car parking slab; very reasonable. Call 659-3519 and leave name and phone number. S15-1tc RTN

**FOR RENT:** reasonable - 3 Bedroom - 2 Bath - Mobile Home with large fenced-in backyard. Close to both schools and swimming pool park. Call 659-3519 and leave name and phone number. S15-1tc RTN

## SITUATION WANTED

**BABYSITTING** in my home. Call 659-2881. S14-8tp

**WANTED:** House cleaning or yard work. Very good at both. Please contact Brenda Shield-knight at 659-3883. Thank you. S12-12tc

## HELP WANTED

**TEXAS REFINERY CORP.** needs responsible person now in Spearman area. Regardless of training, write W.K. Hopkins, Box 711, Ft. Worth, TX 76101. S15-2tp

## SALES PERSON WANTED

**THE SPEARMAN REPORTER, HANSFORD PLAINSMAN, AND GRUVER STATESMAN NEED A SALES PERSON. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE REPORTER AT 659-3434.**

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\$5 INVESTMENT  
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S44 1tc RTN (Sunday only)

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represented by  
**BOXWELL BROS. FUNERAL HOME**

519 S. Evans  
659-3802

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids for the following items will be received by the City of Spearman, Texas, at the office of the City Manager up until 2:00 p.m., February 20, 1990, and then publicly opened and read.

23 month contract for service of new uniforms and service of walk-off mats.

The city reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive informalities, and to accept the bid deemed to be the most advantageous to the city. All bids received after the closing hour will be returned unopened.

All bids shall be sealed and marked on the outer envelope of the type of bid being submitted.

Specifications and bidding documents may be secured from the office of the City Manager, P.O. Box 37, Spearman, Texas 79081. S14S & S15S

## Ask Bob Bullock

**Editor's note: Bob Bullock, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, answers questions from taxpayers in his monthly column. "Ask Bob Bullock." If you have a question about state taxes, write to: Bob Bullock, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Austin, Texas 78774, or call 1-800-252-5555.**

Dear Bob Bullock:  
I'm curious. If you have dinner in a restaurant where part of the building is located in the city limits and part of the building is outside the city limits, do you pay city sales tax on your meal?  
J.M.  
Dallas

Dear J.M.:  
You'd be surprised how many businesses are split by city limits and county lines. The sales tax rate you're charged depends on the location of the cash register. If the cash register is in the city limits, you pay city sales tax. If it isn't, you don't pay the city sales tax.

Dear Bob Bullock:  
My company hired an audio-visual firm to produce a slide program for sales presentations. The program cost more than \$8,000, plus tax. Should we have paid tax on this service?  
M.T.  
Dallas

Dear M.T.:  
The slide presentation is similar to a portrait taken by a photographer. While the audio-visual firm was providing a service for you, the end result was the slide program. The slide program is taxable just like the portrait is taxable.

Dear Bob Bullock:  
Do auctioneers collect sales tax at auctions?  
C.E.  
Irving

Dear C.E.:  
An auctioneer is treated like any other seller when it comes to sales tax collection. The auctioneer either should collect sales tax, or get a properly completed resale or exemption certificate from a buyer who claims he doesn't owe tax.

## UNRESERVED AUCTION

Thursday, Feb. 15 • 10 AM  
Spearman, TX  
Baker & Taylor Drilling Co.

WELL SERVICE RIGS CASING PULLING UNIT DOGHOUSES DRILLMOBILE PUMPS GENERATOR SETS TRUCKS Rig-Up Road Water Fuel Air Compressor Welding TRAILERS Lowboy Oilfield Road Tank Vans Equipment FRAC TANKS VEHICLES Cars and Pickups AIR COMPRESSORS HYDRAULIC POWER UNITS HYDRAULIC POWER TONGS CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT SHALE SHAKERS GAS COMPRESSORS PUMPING UNITS AND ENGINES FUEL TANKS Diesel Skidded LP Gas Tank PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT TUBING AND SUCKER RODS MISCELLANEOUS. MUCH MORE.

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Tel. (817) 665-4780 FAX (817) 665-9110  
Sale Site Tel. (806) 659-2503  
Inspection, Feb. 10 to 15, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
TXE 6759

## School Lunch Menu

JR. HIGH - ELEMENTARY MENU  
FEBRUARY 12 - FEBRUARY 16

**Monday**  
CHICKEN NUGGETS  
MASHED POTATOES/GRAVY  
GREEN BEANS  
BISCUITS/JELLY  
MILK

**Tuesday**  
CHILI  
CHEESE CUP  
PINTO BEANS  
HOMINY  
CRACKERS  
PEACHES  
MILK

**Wednesday**  
JUMBO CORN DOG  
MACARONI & CHEESE  
SPINACH  
1/2 ORANGE  
BANANA BREAD  
MILK

**Thursday**  
STUFFED BAKED POTATO  
CHILI  
BROCCOLI  
CHEESE SAUCE  
HOT ROLLS  
PEANUT BUTTER BLEND  
MILK

**Friday**  
HAMBURGER  
FRIES  
VEGETARIAN BEANS  
LETTUCE/TOMATO  
PICKLE/ONION  
CARROT CAKE  
MILK

**HIGH SCHOOL MENU**  
FEBRUARY 12 - FEBRUARY 16

**Monday**  
CHICKEN NUGGETS  
MASHED POTATOES/GRAVY  
SALAD BAR  
BISCUITS/JELLY  
MILK

**Tuesday**  
BOWL OF CHILI  
PINTO BEANS  
SALAD BAR  
CRACKERS  
PEACHES  
MILK

**Wednesday**  
2 CORN DOGS  
MACARONI & CHEESE  
SALAD BAR  
BANANA BREAD  
MILK

**Thursday**  
STUFFED BAKED POTATO  
CHILI  
SALAD BAR  
HOT ROLLS  
PEANUT BUTTER BLEND  
MILK

**Friday**  
HAMBURGER  
FRIES  
SALAD BAR  
CARROT CAKE  
MILK

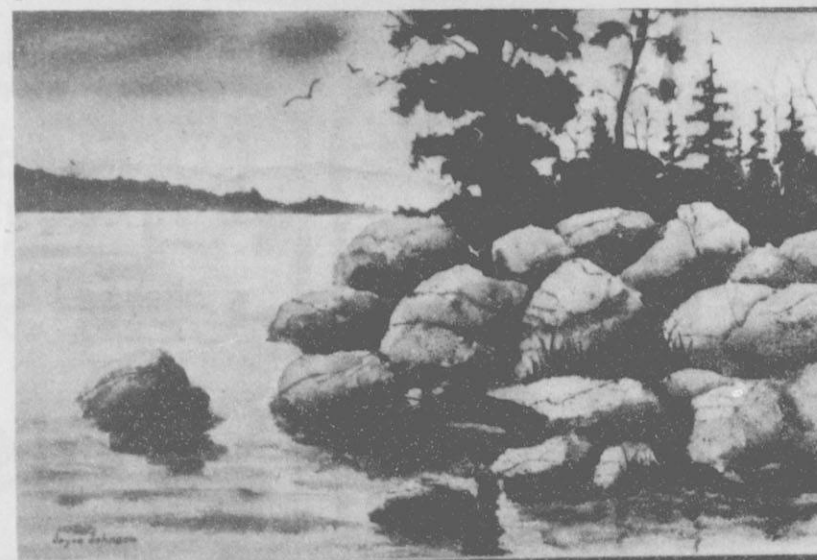
## Poet From Page 1

across."  
Lometa makes it clear that she enjoys life and she finds that poetry-writing and particularly painting are good therapy for worriers. "I defy you to paint and worry at the same time!" she declares. "When you paint, your entire mental capacity shifts into another gear and you can't think of outside things."

Lometa confesses that she has always had a horror of "passing through this life and not leaving any footprints in the sands of time." Lometa Sparks' paintings and poems will always show others where she has walked.

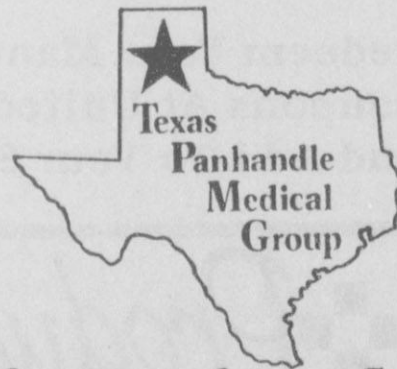


Martha Latham displays her hand painted sled and a handcarved cowboy figurine by her husband Orville. These items, along with others, are to be offered at an auction to benefit the Hansford Heart Association at its Friday, Feb. 16 banquet. The banquet is set for 7:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Gruver.



Joyce Johnson, artist from the Oslo Community, is showing her watercolor and pastel paintings during the month of February at No Man's Land Museum in Goodwell, Okla. The public is invited to view her artwork Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on weekends from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. through the end of the month. Johnson is a member of Southwestern Watercolor Society and Pastel Society of the Southwest in Dallas. Two of her pastel paintings were accepted and shown at the Pastel Society of the Southwest's 1989 membership show. This example of Johnson's work is titled "Rocks by the Lake."

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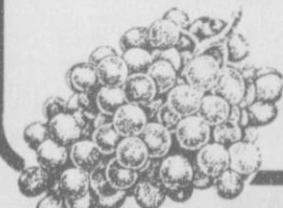
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