

REPORTER & STATESMAN

COMP 1
HANSFORD COUNTY LIBRARY
0120 N MAIN ST
SPEARMAN TX 79081

50¢

VOL. 93 • ISSUE 52

NEWS • SPORTS • PICTURES

SERVING HANSFORD COUNTY SINCE 1907

At A Glance

Farmers Reminded Of USDA Programs Deadlines

Hansford County Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director, Carol Laney, reminds area farmers and ranchers of pending application deadlines for emergency assistance programs and announces recently developed new emergency programs.

Application deadlines for programs previously announced this year are:

• 2000 Oilseed Program: \$500 million in payments is available to the more than 600,000 producers of the 2000 crops of certain oilseeds. Eligible oilseeds include canola, crambe, flaxseed, mustard, rapeseed, safflower, sesame, soybeans and sunflowers. Application deadline is January 12, 2001.

Local USDA Farm Service Agency offices will also begin accepting applications soon for the following programs:

• 2000 Crop Disaster Program (CDP): Funds will be made available to producers who have been affected by crop disaster. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

• 2000 Livestock Assistance Program (LAP): An estimated \$438 million is available to producers for grazing losses due to weather related disasters. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

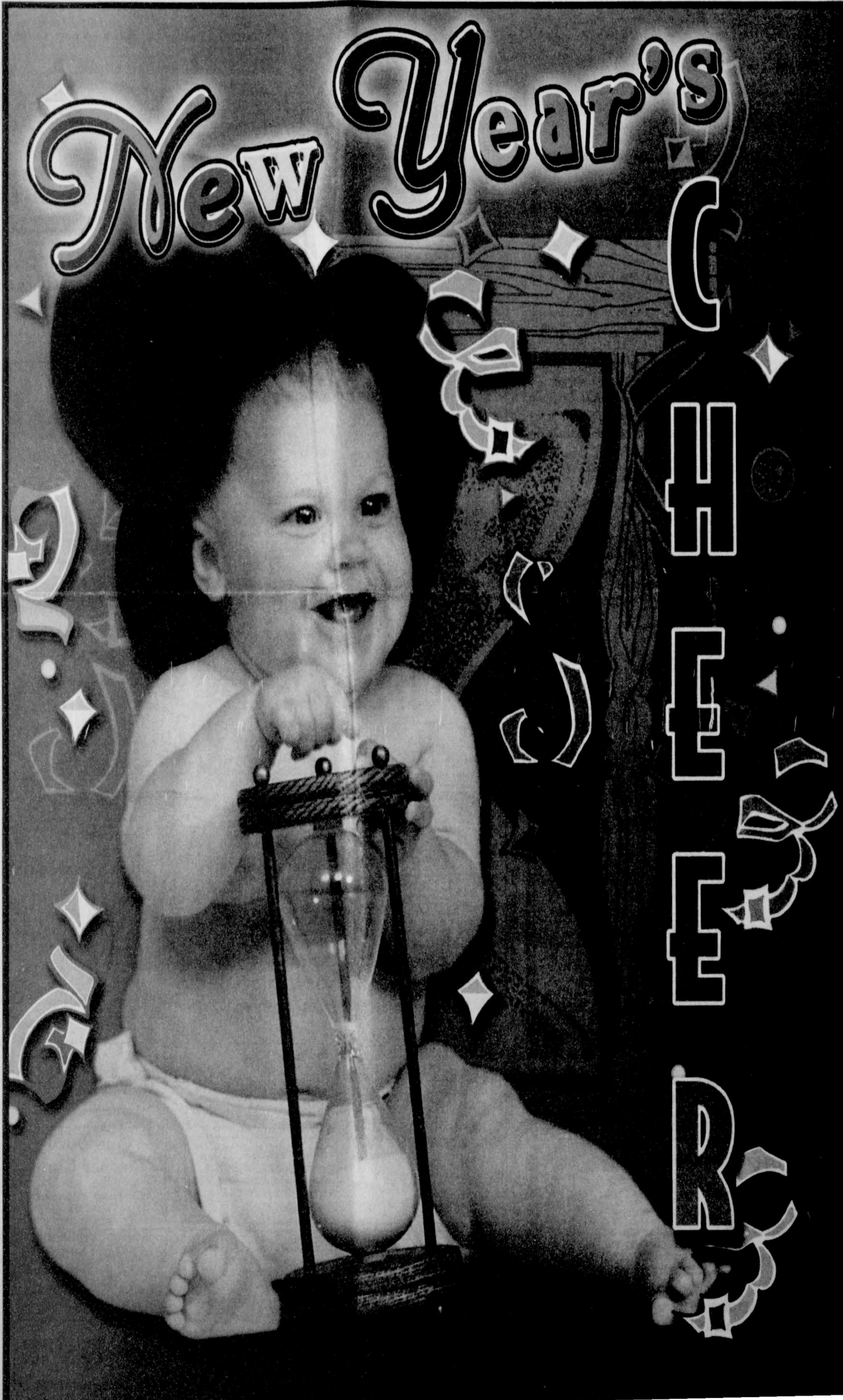
Producers should watch for new program announcements released from their local Farm Service Agency office. County offices will receive national guidance regarding new program delivery prior to program sign-up dates. Please contact the RSA office at 659-3036 for additional information about current program eligibility. New program eligibility and application information will be available in January.

College Hotline Available January 13 & 14, 2001

The Texas Association for College Admission Counseling (TACAC), the Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (TASFAA) today announced its 16th annual toll-free College Information Hotline (877-782-7322). Hotline 2001 will be available on January 13 and 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time). The College Information Hotline, which is the largest project of its type in the nation, provides information about post-secondary educational opportunities to students and their families.

The College Information Hotline is available to anyone in the state who has questions about any aspect of college admission, financial aid, degree programs, housing, student life and activities, or special programs. Callers may also request information from specific colleges and universities or information about any college in the United States. Spanish-speaking counselors and admission representatives from more than 25 public and private colleges and universities in Texas will be on duty.

In previous years, callers have predominantly been high school students and their parents, but an increasing number of information requests are beginning to come from middle school students, current college students, adults who did not complete college or have never attended, and veterans with questions about their benefits. In 2000, volunteers handled approximately 600-college admission and financial aid related calls.



Groundwater Conservation Reminds Well Owners to Check Well Valves

Richard Bowers, General Manager of the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, reminds well owners that on October 1, 1995, North Plains Groundwater Conservation (NPGCD) Rule 15 became effective. This rule requires a positive seal check valve, inspection port, low-pressure drain valve and an air relief valve on all wells within the District. The positive seal check valves became required equipment as of January 2000.

"As our staff completes field work and well inspections, we continue to find many wells which are still not in compliance with Rule 15," said Bowers.

"Since we are already ten months into the new year and five years past the time the Rule was initially passed, the Board of Directors will soon be considering taking civil action, including the assessing of monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 per violations per day against those well owners who are not in compliance with the Rule," added Bowers.

Several manufacturers have developed valves or units which meet all the required specifications of this rule. These units are generally referred to as "chemigation valves." The cost of these chemigation valves is very comparable to a standard check valve which may not meet all the specification of Rule 15. However, required items such as the inspection port, air relief valve and low-pressure drain can be added to the discharge pipe upstream if the proper check valve is installed and still comply with Rule 15.

The type of check valve installed

shall meet the following specifications:

1. The body of the check valve shall be constructed of cast iron, stainless steel, cast aluminum, cast steel, steel or of a material and design that provides a sturdy integrity to the unit and is resistant to the foreign substance being injected. All materials shall be corrosion-resistant or coated to prevent corrosion. The valve working pressure rating shall exceed the highest pressure to which the valve will be subjected.

2. The check valve shall contain a suitable automatic, quick-closing and tight-sealing mechanism designed to close at the moment water ceases to flow in the downstream direction. The device shall, by a mechanical force greater than the weight of the closing device, provide drip-tight closure against reverse flow. Hydraulic back pressure from the system does not satisfy this requirement.

3. The check valve construction should allow easy access for internal and external inspection and maintenance. All internal parts shall be corrosion-resistant. All moving parts shall be designed to operate without binding, distortion or misalignment.

4. The check valve shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and maintained in a working condition during all times in which any fertilizer, pesticide, chemical, animal or human waste or other

foreign substance is injected into the water system. The check valve shall be installed between the pump discharge and the point of chemical or foreign substance injection.

5. A vacuum-relief device shall be installed between the pump discharge and the check valve in such a position and in such a manner that insects, animals, floodwater or other pollutants cannot enter the well through the vacuum-relief device. The vacuum-relief device may be mounted on the inspection port as long as it does not interfere with the inspection of other anti-pollution devices.

6. An automatic low-pressure drain shall also be installed between the pump discharge and the check valve in such a position and in such a manner that any fluid which may seep toward the well around the flapper will automatically drain out of the pipe. The drain must discharge away from rather than flow toward the water supply. The drain must not collect on the ground surface or seep into the soil around the well casing.

a. The drain shall not be at least three-quarter inch in diameter and shall be located on the bottom of the horizontal pipe between the pump discharge and the check valve.

b. The drain must not extend beyond the inside surface of the bottom of the pipe unless special provision, such as a dam made upstream of the

drain, forces seepage to flow into the drain.

c. The outside opening of the drain shall be at least two inches above the grade.

7. An easily-accessible inspection port shall be located between the pump discharge and the check valve, and situated so the automatic low-pressure drain can be observed through the port, and the flapper can be physically manipulated.

8. The port shall allow for visual inspection to determine if leakage occurs past the flapper, seal, seat, and/or any other components of the checking device.

9. The port shall have a minimum four-inch diameter orifice or viewing area. For irrigation distribution systems with pipe lines too small to install a four-inch diameter inspection port, the check valve and other anti-pollution devices shall be mounted with quick disconnects, flange fittings, dresser couplings, or other fittings that allow for easy removal of these devices.

Rule 15 of the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District requires positive seal check valves on all wells within the District by January 2000. This applies to all wells capable of producing more than 25,000 gallons of water in 24 hours (approximately 17 1/2 gallons per minute).

The District does not intend to concentrate solely on the inspection of all wells for compliance with the new rule. However, wells will be routinely inspected when District

personnel visit fields during normal activities, such as water level collection time, well location checks when well permits applications are being reviewed, and at times when District services are provided, such as flow tests and pumping tests. In an effort to enforce the Rule, the Board has already adopted a schedule of civil penalties which would apply to violators of Rule 15. Also, as a matter of policy, the District will discontinue testing of existing wells and/or permitting of new wells for own-

ers/producers who are not in compliance with the Rule.

If you have any additional questions on the Rule, please feel free to contact the District at: North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, P.O. Box 795, Dumas, Texas 79029-0795 phone (806) 935-6401, fax (806) 935-6633. Many well drillers, pump installers and sprinkler dealers are familiar with the positive seal check valves required by Rule 15.

**Listen to
KRDF - 98.3 FM
Hot Country Stereo
'Till Midnight**

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**

from
Speartex Grain
Spearman 659-3711

McLaughlin Advances with Creative Memories



Delinda McLaughlin

had advanced into the top five percent of Creative Memories Leaders. McLaughlin will receive national recognition at the Creative Memories National Convention in Minneapolis, MN.

Creative Memories is an international direct-selling company headquartered in St. Cloud, MN. It offers photo-safe scrapbook albums, supplies

and hands-on workshops. Creative Memories originated the direct-selling photo preservation concept in 1987 and continues to lead the industry. Creative Memories has more than 40,000 Consultants in the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, United Kingdom, Australia and Taiwan who teach people how to organize their photographs and memorabilia,

how to chronicle their family history, and how to create safe and meaningful family scrapbook photo albums.

T·N·T ELECTRIC
Commercial • Residential • Oilfield

24 Hours - Seven Days A Week
Soon to be located at 205 Main Street in Spearman
P.O. Box 752 • Spearman, TX 79081
Mobile (806) 930-8102 - Local Call
Tom Temple

HAPPY NEW YEAR

from

721 W. 7th
Spearman, TX 79081
(806) 659-3566

*Hickerson
Jewelers*

222 S. Main
Perryton, TX 79070
(806) 435-2495

Happy New Year!
2001

from

H&H Water Well
Spearman, TX • (806) 659-5577

RING IN THE NEW YEAR

*Wishing you Peace, Joy and Happiness
through the coming New Year!*

\$ Interstate Bank, ssb
A Full Service Bank - FDIC Insured
322 Main Street • Spearman, TX 79081
Phone - (806) 659-2559 • Fax - (806) 659-3276

We will be closed Monday, January 1, 2001.

*As another year draws to a close,
we thank you for your friendship and goodwill
and sincerely wish you all the happiness
that a prosperous and successful New Year can bring.*

FSB
First State Bank

The Bank that has the Tradition of Strength and Service
One NE Court • Spearman, Texas • (806) 659-5565
We will be closed Monday, January 1, 2001.

member FDIC

**Wishing You
All The
Happiness
In 2001!**

Hi-Plains Auto
Spearman • 659-2506

SHS December Students of the Month

Clayton Vanderburg, son of Joe and Kim Vanderburg and Allison Haney, daughter of Warren Haney and Dora Juarez-Silat were named Spearman High School students of the month.

For three years, Vanderburg has been part of the football Academic All-District team. He also has had the honor of being on the 2nd team All-District Guard in 1998, 1st team All-District Guard in 1999, 2nd team All-District Noseguard in 1999, 1st team All-District Guard and 1st team All-District Noseguard in 2000.

He was 2000 football captain as well as 2000 Football Homecoming King.

He is also a member of FFA and of 4-H.

Vanderburg gives credit to all of his teachers for making his educational experience better. Vanderburg plans to attend West Texas A&M University majoring in business management.

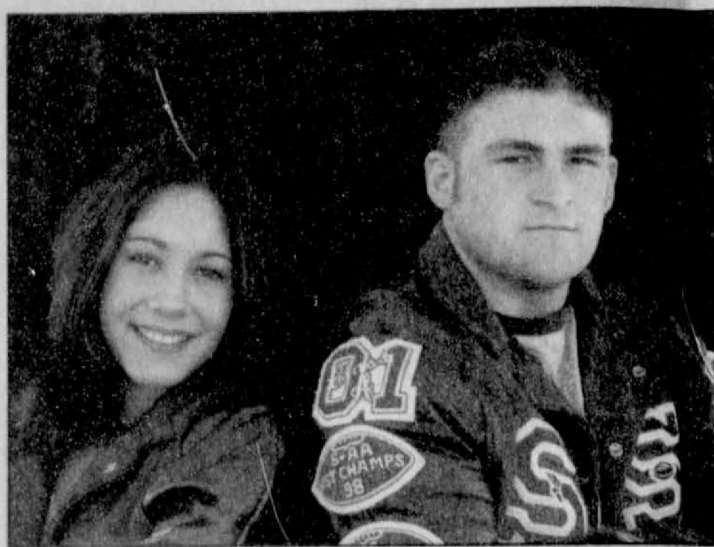
Allison Haney is actively involved in music and drama. She is a participant in Spearman High School One-Act Play. She was a member of the All-Star Cast that advanced to Area last year.

In choir, she was 19th chair as a District Soprano II, 12th chair All-Region and 4th Chair in Pre-Area. She will sing at Area in Odessa in January.

She sings in church as well as at football games and home basketball games. She has also had the opportunity to speak for the First Sunday devotion at the First United Methodist Church. She is a member of the CrossRoads Youth Bank. She works at the O'Loughlin Center.

She credits Mrs. Frances Pipkin as the most influential teacher in her years in school.

She plans to attend West Texas A&M University and major in Music Business.



Allison Haney and Clayton Vanderburg



Texas Farm Bureau President Donald Patman (middle) congratulates Elmo Dahl (left) as Ralph Willon (right), District 1 Director looks on. Dahl received the Pioneer Award for his many years of Farm Bureau service.

County Farm Bureau Leader Recipient of Award

A long-time Hansford County Farm Bureau leader received the Texas Farm Bureau's Pioneer Award at the organization's 67th annual meeting in Arlington.

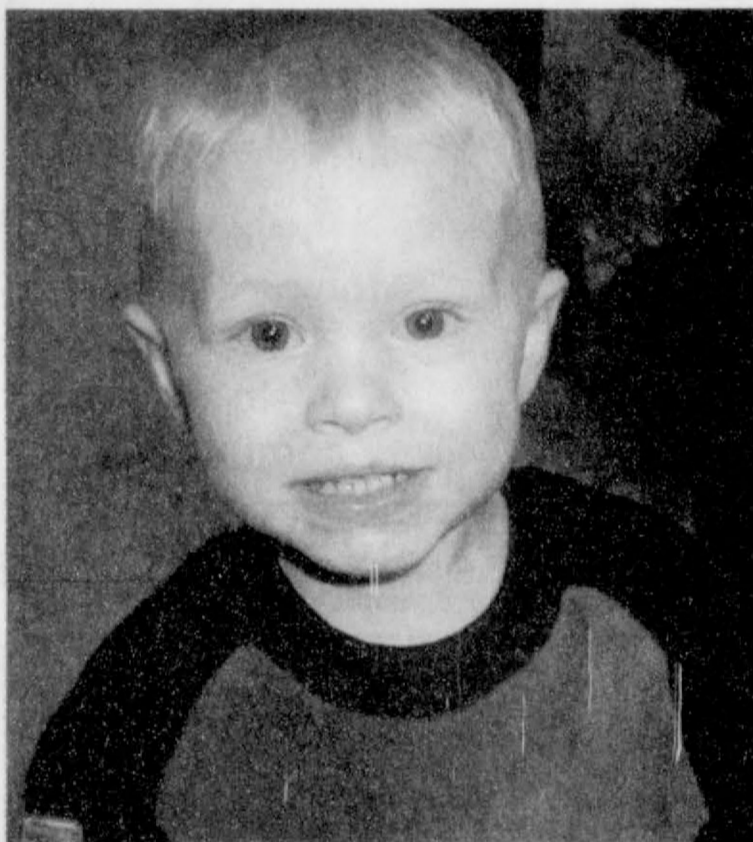
Elmo Dahl was one of 14 Texas Farm Bureau Pioneers named for the year 2000 at the November 26-29 convention.

Dahl has been a continuous member of Farm Bureau since 1953, when he began serving on the Hansford County Farm Bureau board of directors. Serving in every capacity except secretary, Dahl was president of the board four times and a delegate to 23 annual state conventions. During his service as president, the current county office building was completed.

Dahl has also been involved in many civic and church activities, including Cowboy Camp Meetings for eight years and the Oslo Lutheran Church council for at least 25 years. He served on the Soil Conservation Board for 25 years and the Gruver ISD Board for six years.

According to the Hansford County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, Dahl has exemplified what it means

to be an agricultural leader. He and his family have been active participants in the way of life most valued by Texas Farm Bureau, ensuring its continued importance as a voice for the agriculturalist in the North Texas area.



Say,
"Cheese"

Two-year-old Tyler Thoms would like to say "Merry Christmas" to his parents, Tab and Cody Thoms, and his grandparents, Mike and Skeeter Huffaker.

Monogramming
available at
Jo's This 'N' That
214 Main St. • Spearman
659-3999
Personalization &
Custom Computer
Designs Available

Eat & Be Merry At

MONEY'S

BBQ & STEAK HOUSE

Hotline for Friday & Saturday Nights - 435-3945

We do Priority Seating!
Give us a call before leaving, and we will save you a place in the Seating Line. When you arrive, check in with the hostess.

Remember, We R-TH-PLC-2-B!
Lots of Parking in Back!

Enjoy A Blizzard Of Savings

Now's The Best Time To Get A Great Deal On A New Zimmatic Center Pivot.

Take your choice of one of these money-saving options:
Hurry--To qualify, orders must be received by December 29, 2000.

1. Cash rebate up to \$1600* on systems delivered by March 30, 2001. *Based on new eight-tower Zimmatic system.
2. 0% down with delayed first payment due January 1, 2002. 7.50% low interest, five-year financing. Seven-year program also available.
3. 7.25% low interest with 5% down. Five-year financing with first payment due in 12 months. Three-, seven-, and ten-year programs also available.
4. 0% financing for 12 months. Low effective rates with just 10% down. Certain restrictions and conditions apply to each of these options. See your Zimmatic dealer for complete details.

Five Star Equipment, Inc.
Spearman, TX 659-3743

ZIMMATIC
Leadership and strength you can depend on today and tomorrow.

HAPPY New Year **HAPPY New Year** **HAPPY New Year**

Thank you for your patronage.

We look forward to serving you in the new year!

Golden Spread Sales Co.
414 S. Hwy 207 • Spearman, TX
659-3776

HAPPY New Year **HAPPY New Year** **HAPPY New Year**

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

cordially invites you to a

"Homecoming/Family Reunion" Celebration

at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, January 7th.

Please join us for singing and worship, followed by a covered-dish dinner.

Happy NEW YEAR

for

Panhandle Diner & Deli

217 Main Street • 659-3864 • Spearman, TX

We will close at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 30th, and will re-open on Wednesday, January 3rd.