

THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 13, 2003

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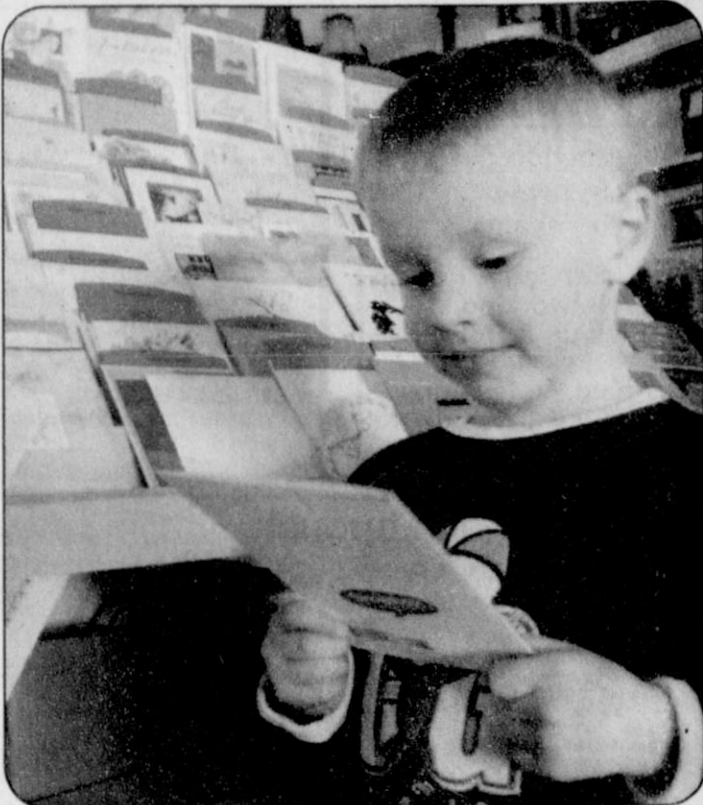
NEWS • SPORTS • PICTURES

PROUDLY SERVING HANSFORD COUNTY SINCE 1907

### 'I like this one'

What makes a perfect Valentine's Day card? If you are four-year-old Tyler Thoms, the answer is 'Dinosaurs.'

Tyler searched the cards at Celebrate to find just the right one for his mother, Tabitha Thoms.



### Goat Share Donations

The following have donated to the Goat Shares for the Hansford County Livestock Show: Bill Hunter, KRDF-FM, Mark's Seed Cleaning, Inc., Gruver State Bank, Morse Implement & Auto Supply, Craig & Tina Clyburn, Lynn Davis, Jason & Cindy Duvall, Burt & Lynell Williams, Pittman & Sons and Bill Pittman.

If you would like to make a donation to the Goat Shares, please contact Gina Gillispie at 659-5555 or Lenny Pecha at 659-5565. The Goat Share funds will be distributed evenly to those participants whose animals did not make the sale.

## Murphy Nominated for Director of the Year

Marsha Murphy, special education director for the Perryton Shared Service Arrangement, represented Region 16 for the Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education (TCASE) Special Education Director of the Year.

The award, which went to Gay Brown of Odessa, was presented at the TCASE mid-winter conference in Austin.

The award recognizes a special education director who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in providing services to students with disabilities, and whose work reflects the highest professional and ethical standards.

Murphy's nomination was initiated and endorsed by the five school districts she serves in the Perryton SSA, which include Perryton, Booker, Darrrouzett, Follett and Spearman.

Murphy was lauded for her innovative efforts in letters from Jerri Rook, Director of Special Education Services, Region 16 Education Service Center; Joline Wilson, Director, Eastern Panhandle SSA; Marita Carroll, Perryton Kinder principal; Paige Burgin, Spearman community member; and many others.

She has served as the director for the Perryton SSA for nine years. She was instrumental in the creation of the transition support group, which provides special ed

students with quality transition services and support, and in the implementation of a multi-disciplinary autism team. She also helped develop one of the foremost programs in assistive technology for the state of Texas.

Prior to becoming the Perryton SSA director, she was director of the Early Childhood Learning Center (now Perryton Kinder), where she implemented the first Head Start ESL/bilingual class for Perryton ISD.

Marsha earned her bachelor of science degree in special education and speech and language therapy in 1971, and her master of education degree in 1974. She received her master of education in administration in 1989.

Region 16 serves the 64 school districts with 220 campuses in a 26,000 square mile area, in the Texas Panhandle. Amarillo is the economic and geographic center of the Panhandle. Region 16 school districts have an average daily attendance of about 78,000 students, with individual districts ranging from fewer than 30 to more than 29,000 students and the total regional school staff numbering more than 11,400.

Marsha and her husband, Larry, Assistant Superintendent at Spearman I.S.D., have one daughter, Kathryn, a junior at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. The Murphys are members of the



Marsha Murphy

First Christian Church, and are very active in the community.

Marsha has served on the Hansford County Library Board for 24 years. She was a founding board member of the Golden Spread Senior Citizen Center, which has now merged with the O'Loughlin Center. She initiated and continues to serve the local "Meals on Wheels" program, and was instrumental in reviving a non-profit childcare center in Spearman by obtaining donations and serving on the advisory board.

## HCHD Awards Banquet Held

The H&M Employee Fund Board sponsored Hansford County Hospital District's Annual Awards Banquet in January. Among those presenting awards were Steve Hartgraves, Anne Snow, Lelia Bynum, and Helen Holt.

Employee of the Year 2002, Gilbert Salgado, Gilbert Salgado, a member of the Maintenance staff, has been working with the Hospital District since October 1991. His coworkers find him most helpful and friendly to everyone.

Leader of the Year 2002, Connie Gibson, R.N. Ms. Gibson is the Performance Improvement and Risk Management Director, Employee Health Director, Medical Staff Secretary, and HIPAA Coordinator of the Hospital District. She has worked for the Hospital District in many areas and capacities, most recently since July 2001. The recipient of the Leader of the Year Award is determined by the Hospital District's Department Managers.

Perfect Attendance award pins were presented to: Glenda Close, Wanda Schubert, Judy Anders, John Kunselman, Blanca Arenivar, Jim Miller, Linda Beeson, Vickie Stewart, Tom Armstrong, Rita Vasquez, Kim Hawley, Cleo Hughes, Vicki Risner, Guadalupe Fraire and Teresa Morales.

5 Years Service award pins were presented to: Linda Ellis, Reba Ooley, Guadalupe Fraire, Glenda

Close, Cecelia Randall, Geraldine Holmes and Susan Beams.

10 Years Service award pins were presented to: Mitzi Mires and Doris Hendricks.

15 Years Service award pins were presented to: Virginia Martin, Ernestina Salgado and Elsa Martinez.

20 Years Service award pins were presented to: Espetacion "Hope" Lopez and Nelva Snow.

Employee of Month February, Stacy Ruga, R.N.; Employee of Month March, Diana de la Cruz; Employee of Month April, Andy de la Rosa; Employee of Month May, Carmen Ortiz; Employee of Month July, Stacy de la Cruz, Lydia Rodriguez; Employee of Month September, Amanda Bowman; Employee of Month October, Jenny Diaz; Employee of Month November, Gilbert Salgado; Employee of Month December, Mary Silva

Manor CNA Class 2002: T. J. Vasquez, Sam Cogdill, Tracy Clift, Katrina Cole, Amanda Bowman

The H&M Employee Fund Board also presented Carol Sell a special award of appreciation.

Members of the H&M Employee Fund Board are Liz Hartsell, President; Cleo Hughes, VP; Jeanne Swan, Secretary; Vicki Stewart, Treasurer; Cindy Beck, Karen Devers, Tammy Herndon, and Rita Vasquez.



Gilbert Salgado  
HCHD Employee of the Year



Connie Gibson  
HCHD Leader of the Year

## A Time for Love

The Hansford County Reporter Statesman would like to congratulate the following Hansford County couples who have been married 50 years or more.

Dan & Sally Desimone - 50	Alton & Peggy Ellsworth - 56
Allen & Lera Beasley - 51	C.C. & Ora Mae Heath - 56
James & Faye Cunningham - 51	L.A. & Farena Williams - 56
Smokey & Mary Mayfield - 51	Douglas & Mary Ruth Connelly - 56
Wallace & Bonnie Bridwell - 51	Ed & Marge Papay - 56
Kenneth & Margaret Evans - 52	Hugh & Marie Bell - 56
Hix & Charlene Spivey - 52	Bob & Jane Vinson - 57
Mack & Patsy Bevell - 52	James & Ada Joyce Stedje - 57
Kermit & Rosemary McKee - 53	George Paul & Margaret Odom - 57
Harold & Flossie Boyd - 53	Melvin & Alma Ross - 58
John & Ynese Williams - 53	Flavil & Josephine Ayers - 60
William (Bill) & Marilyn Been - 53	Vernon & Norma Edens - 60
B.J. & Jonell Grayson - 54	J.D. & Rubyjo Wilbanks - 61
Don & Dorothy Hudson - 54	Bill & Bessie Swan - 61
Weldon & Elene Green - 54	C.J. & Eloise Renner - 61
Walter & Dorothy Woolley - 54	Bill & Juanita Logsdon - 61
Roy Lee & Betty Uptergrove - 54	Everett & Dixie Tracy - 61
Red & Jean Byrd - 54	John & Mary Jo Robinson - 62
Joe & Maxine Reiswig - 55	Carl & Peggy Archer - 63
John & Virginia Trindle - 55	Dave & Helen Hand - 65
Jimmy & Lois Shieldknight - 55	Floyd & Ruby Hull - 66
Buddy & Frances Murrell - 55	W.R. & Eulalie Grever - 68



The O'Loughlin Center in Spearman recently received a grant in the amount of \$19,285 from the Spearman Economic Development Corporation to purchase new equipment for the Gibner Fitness Center. The Center purchased three treadmills, two elliptical trainers, two recumbent bicycles and a 4-station protrainer weight machine.

Above: Don Townsend makes use of one of the new elliptical trainers at The O'Loughlin Center.

Above Right: Rosa Vasquez, Cayla Schroeder and Don Schroeder take a walk on the new treadmills.

Right: Teddie Whitefield (left) works out on one of the four stations on the new eight machine and Monty George takes a turn on a new recumbent bicycle.

The O'Loughlin Center offers memberships to those interested. Annual memberships are \$125 for an individual and \$175 for a family. Quarterly memberships are also available for \$40 for individuals and \$50 for families. Single-use fees are \$3, or \$4 if you wish to make use of the sauna and hot tub.



Laugh  
and  
Live



by Catherine R. Smith  
CathyRSmit@aol.com

My sweet friend Kathryn Murphy sent me the following article. I'm not sure who wrote it, but it has a great message. I hope you enjoy it.

### Are You A Reason, A Season Or A Lifetime?

People come into your life for a reason, a season or a lifetime.

When someone is in your life for a REASON it is usually to meet a need you have expressed. They have come to assist you through a difficulty, to provide you with guidance and support, to aid you physically, emotionally, or spiritually. They may seem like a godsend, and they are! They are there for the reason you need them to be.

Then, without any wrongdoing on your part, or at an inconvenient time, this person will say or do something to bring the relationship to an end. Sometimes they die. Sometimes they walk away. Sometimes they act up and force you to take a stand. What we must realize is that our need has been met, our desire fulfilled, their work is done. The prayer you sent up has been answered. And now it is time to move on.

Then people come into your life for SEASON because your turn has come to share, grow, or learn. They bring you an experience of peace, or make you laugh. They may teach you something you have never done. They usually give you an unbelievable amount of joy. Believe it! It is real! But, only for a season.

LIFETIME relationships teach you Lifetime lessons: things you must build upon in order to have a solid emotional foundation. Your job is to accept the lesson, love the person, and put what you have learned to use in all other relationships and areas of your life. It is said that love is blind but friendship is clairvoyant.

May God bless and keep you; May He make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

Catherine :)

## Spearman Chamber of Commerce Minutes

The Spearman Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met at noon at the Palo Duro Cafe on Thursday, January 9, 2003. Members present were: Missie Bates, Lenny Pencha, Robert Patrick, Kevin McDonald, Cindy Scribner, Rosi Martinez, Jason Cantrell, Paulette Laxson, and Gina Gillispie. Absent were: Justin Boyd, Debbie Eslick, Frosty Hickerson, Rosalee Bueno, Martina Miller, Mark Murray, and Rod Sumner. Also present was past president Sharon Cook.

Past president Sharon Cook called the meeting to order by welcoming the new board members. She thanked the board and stated that she had enjoyed being a director and serving as president the

past two years. She will be missed.

First agenda item: Lenny made a correction to the minutes for the November meeting. Correction states that the nominating committee presented a slate of new directors for the board to approve.

Next agenda item was to elect officers.

President: Nominations were Rosi Martinez, Missie Bates, Lenny Pencha, and Justin Boyd. There was a tie between Lenny and Missie. Missie was elected during the run-off.

Vice President: Nominations were Mark Murray, Kevin McDonald, and Lenny Pencha. Lenny was elected to the vice president's office.

Secretary: Nominations were

Jason Cantrell and Rosi Martinez. Rosi will serve as secretary.

Treasurer: Nominations for treasurer were Justin Boyd and Jason Cantrell. Justin was elected treasurer.

Committees will be as follows: Budget: Missie, Lenny, Justin, and Gina will prepare the annual budget for the next board meeting.

Calendar: Missie, Mark, Rosi, and Gina will prepare the calendar of events for the next board meeting.

Building: Missie, Robert,

Debbie and Gina will meet to discuss building maintenance and facade improvements for the future.

Spearman Connection: Kevin and Gina met after the banquet to discuss beginning a monthly chamber information letter on antden.com.

There was some discussion about Panhandle Day in Austin, February 24-25. Cindy Scribner will be in Austin during that time and will look into attending while she is there.

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**We will be closed on Monday,  
February 17th, in observance of  
President's Day**

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**Spearman**

**Apostolic Faith Church**  
822 S. Dressen • 659-2870  
Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Worship Service: 11 a.m.  
Sun. Eve.: 6 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Mtg: 7 p.m.  
Pastor - Roland Haney

**First Assembly of God**  
401 N. Bernice • 659-2265  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Worship: 10:35 a.m.  
Kid's Church: 10:35 a.m.  
Evening Worship: 7 p.m.  
Wed. Worship: 7:30 p.m.  
Youth: 7:30 Wednesday  
Pastor - Walter Greaser, Jr.

**First Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)  
29 S. Bernice • 659-2036  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 10:50 a.m.  
Minister - Gary Smith

**First Baptist Church**  
123 N. Bernice • 659-5557  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 11 a.m.  
Evening Worship: 7 p.m.  
Wed. Fellowship Meal: 6 p.m.  
Wed. Disc. Time: 6:30 p.m.  
Wed. Youth Mtg.: 8 p.m.  
Pastor - Patrick Six

**Church of Christ**  
121 S. Haney • 659-3244  
Sunday Bible Class: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship: 7 p.m.  
Bible Study Wed.: 7:30 p.m.  
KRDF Radio Program  
Living W/Christ: 7:50 a.m.  
Minister - Leonard Harper

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church**  
901 Roland • 659-2792  
Sat. Night Mass: 5:30 p.m.  
Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. - English  
(aired on KRDF-FM 98.3)  
Sun. Mass: 11:30 - Spanish  
1:30 p.m. - Gruver - Cristo  
Redentor Mass - Spanish  
Rev. Guillermo Morales

**First United Methodist**  
407 S. Haney • 659-5503  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 8:30 & 11 a.m.  
Jr. High Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday  
High School: 6 p.m. Sunday  
Kids Club: 3 p.m. Wed.  
Pastor - Ken Cole

**First Presbyterian Church**  
(Worships with Lutheran)  
1021 Cotter • 659-2033  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 11 a.m.  
(alternates monthly between Lutheran & Presbyterian Church Bldg.)  
Pastor - Beverly Cook

**Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
1101 Bernice • 659-2252  
(Worships with First Presbyterian Church)

**Union Church**  
31 S. Endicott • 659-2644  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 10:45 a.m.  
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.  
Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wed.  
Pastor - Bill Sparks

**Fellowship Baptist**  
1102 S. Archer • 659-2783  
Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Worship: 11 a.m.  
Sun. Evening Worship: 6 p.m.  
Youth/Adult Serv.: 7:30 Wed.  
Pastor - Gene Foster

**Primera Mision Bautista**  
502 E. 7th • 659-3991  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 11 a.m.  
Evening: 6 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7 p.m.  
Thurs. Visitation: 7 p.m.

**El Aposento Alto U.P.C.I.**  
1105 S. Roland Domingos  
Escuela-Domical - 10 a.m.  
Culto Evangelistico - 7 p.m.  
Jueves Oracion - 8 p.m.  
Mier. Estudio Biblico - 7 p.m.  
Pastor - A.G. Martell  
(806) 659-2153

**Gruver**

**First Baptist Church**  
402 E. Broadway • 733-2411  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 10:50 a.m.  
Disciple Training: 6 p.m. Sunday  
Prayer Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday  
Pastor - Scott Curry

**Church of Christ**  
209 King • 733-2760  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Worship: 10:20 a.m.  
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.  
Wed. Worship: 7:30 p.m.

**First Christian Church**  
510 King • 733-2960  
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.  
Youth: 7:30 Sunday  
Adult Bible Study: 7:30 Sun.  
Wed. Bible Study: 8:00 p.m.  
Pastor - Gary Gumfroy

**Oslo Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
6 Miles West & 12 Miles North of Gruver  
339-7709  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 11 a.m.  
Pastor - Paul Fiske

**Gruver United Methodist**  
Broadway & Garrett  
733-2651  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Worship: 8:30 & 10:50 a.m.  
Eve. Worship & UMY: 6 p.m.  
Pastor - Jerry Moore

**Spanish Cristo Redentor Church**  
Sunday Mass: 1:30 p.m.  
Friday Evening Mass  
Summer - 8:00 p.m.  
Fall/Winter - 7:30 p.m.

**Waka**  
Waka Church of the Brethren  
435-4198

**Morse**  
Morse Baptist Church  
733-2757  
Pastor - Mike Martin

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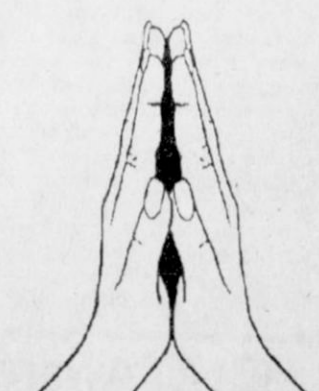
**Publication Policy**  
The deadline to submit news and advertising to The Hansford County Reporter-Statesman is Monday at 5:00 p.m. Items accepted after the deadline will be published at a later date, as time and space permit. Publication of all items is at the discretion of the editor.

**Letter Policy**  
The Hansford County Reporter-Statesman welcomes letters to the editor on any subject. All letters must be signed and will be published with the name of the writer. Letters must include an address and telephone number for verification. Letters should be kept at a reasonable length. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters. Any letter may be rejected for publication without reason. Letters that are libelous and/or slanderous will not be published. The deadline to submit letters is noon on Monday. Letters in support or opposition to political candidates will not be published. Persons wishing to publically support political candidates in this newspaper are invited to purchase an ad.

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# Happy Birthday!

*Editor's Note: This Happy Birthday list is run as a public service by the Hansford County Reporter-Statesman. We apologize if any names are misspelled. If you know of a name that needs to be changed, added or deleted, please call 659-3434. Thank you, Catherine*

**February 13**  
**Birthdays** - Rick Barkley, Rosi Chisum, Kristi Williams, Sherry Lee, Richard Ooley, Bill Watson, Catalina Espinosa, Esther Vargas, Mari Ann Bartimos, Maura Gaspar  
**Anniversary** - Mr. & Mrs. Eddy Rojas

**February 14**  
**Birthdays** - Alice Goodman, Ti Harbour, Nick Nelson, Janice Holt, C.W. Kirk, Tommy Thomas, Laura Umphress, Bubba Smith, Donna Ball, Lena Kathryn Harbour, Betsy Sutterfield, Kenneth Baker, Josiah Lee Vasquez, Courtney Wood  
**Anniversary** - Mr. & Mrs. Kip Francis, Mr. & Mrs. Roney Clark, Ricky & Cindy Dowdy, Hal & Jeanie Bennett, Terry & Tammy Burch, Mr. & Mrs. Omar Sutton, Mr. & Mrs. Salomon Tarango, Mr. & Mrs. Tony Swink, Mr. & Mrs. Rod Holland, Mr. & Mrs. Delfino Parra, Rev. & Rev. Joseph Weeks, Garrett & Mika Gumfory

**February 15**  
**Birthdays** - Lee Bradford, Heath Gammon, Donnie Thoreson, Claude Sheets Jr., Lynn Sheets, Brenda White, Marlane Nollner, Laura Dahl, Toby White, Kirk Adams, J. P. Prouty, Juanna Rosales, Colby Bedell, Rick Finley, Colleen Burkhammer  
**Anniversary** - Mr. & Mrs. Hoyt Biles, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Norton

**February 16**  
**Birthdays** - Johnny Pat O'Connell, David Parker, Mike Larson, Lynda Owens, Ismael Vela, Timothy Peck, Maylynn Ayers, Cliff Lang, Brittany Claxton, Diana Pepper, Rex Reid  
**Anniversary** - Mr. & Mrs. Jesus Espinosa, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Chritton, Mr. & Mrs. Augustine Mejia, Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Hohertz, Mr. & Mrs. Gene Fletcher, Eschol & Eulalia Blankenship

**February 17**  
**Birthdays** - Katie Jones, Manuel Ruiz Jr., Mark Guthrie, Lee Ann Schrader, Charles Hall, T.H. Rodriguez, Ernest Wayne Jr., Ric Smith, Isela Huerta

**Anniversary** - Oscar & Janice Noble, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Castillo  
**February 18**

**Birthdays** - Vickie Bullard, Carla Jo Riggins, Luke Stroud, Beau Roberts, Buck Sell, Edith Breland, Blan Rutherford, J.D. Poer  
**Anniversary** - Mr. & Mrs. Richie Fletcher

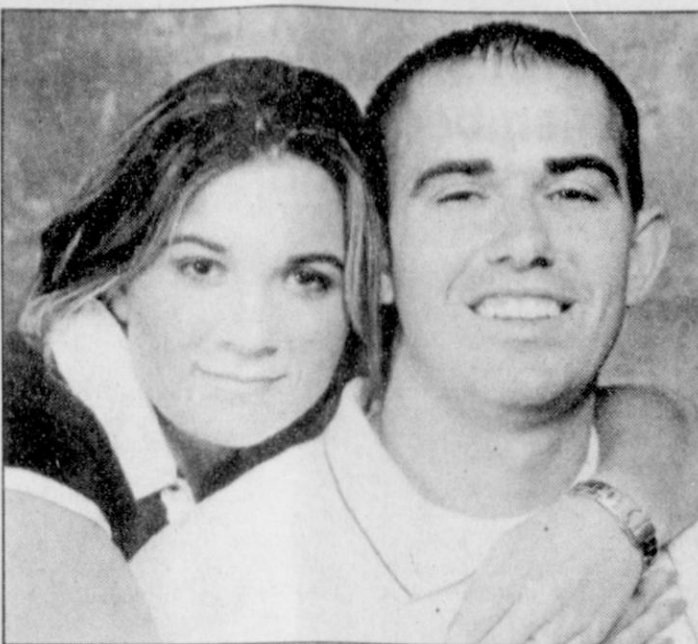
**February 19**  
**Birthdays** - Melissa Quillin, Delphine Etling, Bob Womble, Stephanie Hays, Bennie Brogdon, David Kellum, Sylvia Rosales, Niki Taylor, Robert Dean Meire, Chuck Ball, Sylvia Taranto  
**Anniversary** - Charles & Carol Hall, Mr. & Mrs. Dorsey Perez, Mr. & Mrs. Lupe Moreno, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Trosper

**February 20**  
**Birthdays** - Brant Armes, Ed Mayfield, Greg Stork, Tessa Yanke, Kathy Brown, John Antalek, Terry Morris, Melissa Holt, Brenda Moyer, Steve Shields, Clayton Hergert, Bill Volden, Cody Brandvick, Rosemary McKee, Jeannie Folwen, Pauline McGee, Richey Thompson  
**Anniversary** - Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Bruning, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Evans, Mr. & Mrs. Jon Hart

**February 21**  
**Birthdays** - Sandra Proffitt, Walter McDade, C.J. Renner, Lisa Meisner, Raul Ortega, Ann Thomas, Chandler Adkins, Tom Speck, C.J. Renteria  
**Anniversary** - Ken & JoAnn Schneider

**February 22**  
**Birthdays** - Russell Dahl, Rhonda Hicks, Betty Mathews, Ryan Mathews, Sherri Hall, Tim Cook, Bobby Jo Grayson, Paul Reimer, Sonny Kell, DeAnn Sparkman, Derylia Stedje, Connie Davis, Linda Coombs, Jack Sparks, Brenda Winegarner, Kreisun Dominguez  
**Anniversary** - Mr. & Mrs. Jason Bass, Mr. & Mrs. Freddy Walton

**February 23**  
**Birthdays** - Hailey Lamb, Randy Reid, Dave Clement, Janyth Smith, Cynthia Miller, Phil Larson, Aaron Hager, Kacee Smith, Elizabeth Pipkin, Jim McMahan, Maxine Cline, Jason Bartimos, Edolilna Garcia, Tommy Reger, Daryl Noble, Mollie Burnam, Alan Jones  
**Anniversary** - Mr. & Mrs. Richard Rasor, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Rodriguez, Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Boone



## Engagement Announcement

Leander Jr. and Reta Reinart of Hereford, Texas announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Stephanie Leann Reinart to Kyle Franklin McNett, son of Dean and Sandra McNett and grandson of Aubrey and Melba Rasor, all of Gruver.  
 The June 7th wedding will be at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Umberger with the reception to follow in the St. Mary's Parish Hall.  
 The bride is a 2001 graduate of Hereford High School and has attended Amarillo College.  
 The groom is a graduate of Gruver High School and attended Oklahoma Panhandle State University in Goodwell, Oklahoma. He is a crew chief in the United States Air Force.  
 The couple will reside in Italy following their marriage.

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 Sincerely,  
 Bob Boxwell

## HANSFORD HAPPENINGS

**AARP Offers Free Tax Help**  
 AARP Tax-Aide is in Spearman at the Hansford County Library, 122 Main Street, every Tuesday from 1-5 p.m. AARP Tax-Aide is a free, quality and confidential service that prepares tax returns and answers tax questions from February 4th through April 15th. Services are available to all taxpayers with middle- to low-income, with special attention to those age 60 and older. It is administered through the AARP Foundation, in cooperation with the IRS. For more information, call 1-888-AARP NOW (1-888-227-7669), or visit their web-site at [www.aarp.org/taxaide/](http://www.aarp.org/taxaide/), or contact Richard Gaines at 659-2853.

**Red Hat Club**  
 Any ladies interested in joining the "Red Hat Club" are asked to call Patty Spoonmore at 659-2294 or Marva Hohertz at 659-2061. There are no dues, no committees, no programs - just fun! The club meets the last Wednesday of each month at noon (subject to change). All ladies 50 and over are asked to wear red hats and purple clothing, and all ladies under 50 are asked to wear purple hats and red clothing.

**St. Patrick's Day Lad 'n Lassie Pageant**  
 The 11th annual St. Patrick's Lad 'n Lassie and Pre-Teen Pageant will be held March 16, 2003, at the Shamrock High School Auditorium in conjunction with the 57th annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Any child between the ages of birth to 8th grade are eligible to participate. The pageant will begin at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Entry fee is \$10 and must accompany an entry form and two photos. The entry deadline is March 3, 2003. For more information, contact Betty Lee at 256-5337 or Connie at the Shamrock Chamber of Commerce Office at 256-2501. For complete list of rules and requirements and entry forms, please send a SASE to: Lad 'n Lassie Pageant, % Saint Patrick's Association, PO Box 588, Shamrock, TX 79079.

**Spearman 5th Grade Science Fair**  
 The Spearman 5th Grade Science Fair will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2003 from 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the Activity Gym. Everyone in the community is invited and encouraged to attend in support of these young inventors.

**National Spelling Bee**  
 The Hansford County coordinator for the National Spelling Bee, an educational program sponsored by the Amarillo Globe-News and West Texas A&M University, is Cindy Blackman, Community Resource Coordinator for Spearman I.S.D. The national sponsors, the Scripps Howard Newspapers, permit students from public, parochial, charter, private and home schools to participate. Contestants cannot be in a grade higher than eighth before February 1, 2003 and cannot be older than 16 by the date of the national finals, May 28, 2003. The Amarillo Globe-News will provide an expense-paid trip for two to Washington, DC, where the area champion will represent the area sponsors in the National Spelling Bee, beginning May 26th. The top prize at the national level will be \$10,000. A study booklet is available from the Amarillo Globe-News at \$1.00 per copy. To order, contact Heather Sadler, Spelling Bee Editor, 900 Harrison, Amarillo, TX 79166-0001. The Hansford County Spelling Bee will be held on March 4th at 4 p.m. in the Spearman High School auditorium.

**Gruver Elementary Title I Program**  
 An Elementary Title I School-Parent Compact meeting will be held Friday, February 14th at 9 a.m. in the elementary lounge. All parents are encouraged to attend. A Spanish interpreter will be present. P.L. 1013-382 Section 1118(d) states that each campus served under Title I, Part A shall jointly develop with parents, for all students, a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire campus staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student achievement. The meeting will give parents input into the planning, design, and implementation of the school-wide Title I program in Gruver Elementary and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

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Buffet is all-you-can-eat, and includes salad bar

Friday Buffet - Fresh Water Catfish

Kitchen Closes at 8:00 p.m.

### Palo Duro Supper Club

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## Out At The Lake

by Dorothy Hudson

Lake Level--February 10, 2003--29.27 feet

Last Friday Ramon Cantu visited with a group of birders from the state meeting in Amarillo that were up trying to see some rare birds. Jim didn't find out what they saw, but the weather was bad enough to make most birds hide out.

Jim reported seeing a flock of mountain bluebirds in the snow, scrub jays, cedar waxwings, and Mandy saw the roadrunner. Their big surprise was seeing 19 mule deer in front of their house Sunday afternoon. With the exception of a little yearling with tiny little spikes, Jim didn't see any bucks. Now is the time to look for sheds.

From time to time I get a letter asking me about biographies I have written for the Hansford County Rootsweb page on the Internet. Almost a year ago, I had one from Mindy Cator-Mead, a great-granddaughter of Bob and Jennie Ludlow Cator. She mentioned she was especially interested in the background of Jennie, as she was a nurse and midwife in Portland, Oregon after she and Bob left Texas. We have so little information on Bob and Jennie Cator that hearing from a descendant delighted me.

In a later letter she wrote, "The family story that I have heard is that Jennie took the four children

and left on a train while Bob was on a cattle drive. My understanding was that he left everything behind to follow her. I know that she did not live on the family ranch in Corvallis. She visited but lived in Portland. My Great-Aunt Mahel apparently was expected to take care of the family at the ranch. She didn't much like it."

This is Mindy's version of Bob Cator's death. "I have been to see my Aunt Nell who is Arthur John Locke (Bob) Cator's granddaughter. She is 87 and lives in Medford. She had some additional information. In some of the stuff I had sent her from you, it mentions Charlie Cator, who left Texas to seek his fortunes. He was a nephew of Bob and Jenny but I would have to go back and look up the exact relationship."

"He came to visit at the ranch in the Corvallis, Oregon area and was quite the hit with my grandfather, Osbaldeston, who was probably around 10 or so. They were playing around one day and Charlie gave his supposedly unloaded gun to Os to hold. But it went off, hitting Bob in the foot."

"The gunshot wound became infected and Bob died of gangrene. Charlie ended up staying in the area and died in the 1970's. Aunt Nell did not know anything about Charlie's family."

## Sheriff's Warning About Membership Appeal Mailings, Telephone Scams

Responding to the increased number of citizens wanting to assist law enforcement officials and build a stronger partnership in the fight against crime, Sheriff R.L. McFarlin today announced that Hansford County Citizens are being invited to become Associate Members of the Sheriff's Association of Texas.

Membership appeals will go out in the mail shortly. The funding provides critically technical resources, training, and legislative support on key criminal justice issues.

In addition, dues will be used to support crime prevention and awareness programs, promote public safety, fight drug abuse, provide additional training for sheriffs and their deputies, and provide scholarships for children of law enforcement officers.

Contributions are tax-deductible.

"With government funding becoming increasingly difficult to secure, the Associate membership drive has taken on greater importance than ever before," said Sheriff McFarlin. "The funding is vital to helping us carry out our mission of making our communities safer places to live, work, and play."

Citizens not receiving a membership appeal or desiring more information can obtain it by con-

tacting the Sheriff's Association of Texas at: 1601 S. IH -35, Austin, Texas 78741, www.txsheriffs.org.

The Associate Membership program was begun to provide citizens with an opportunity to lend their support to more effective law enforcement and to better help local Sheriffs protect the lives and property of citizens.

"As the need for building stronger public-private law enforcement partnerships in this country continues to escalate, programs such as this continue to grow in importance," Sheriff McFarlin said. "I encourage every citizen receiving a membership appeal to consider joining forces with us by becoming an Associate member. It is valuable investment in our future."

Founded in 1874, the Sheriff's Association of Texas is a nonprofit professional and educational organization dedicated to the preservation of peace and the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Texas. Mr. Steve M. Westbrook serves as the Executive Director. Headquarters are located in Austin, Texas. The Sheriff's Association of Texas DOES NOT make solicitations by telephone. If you receive a phone call from someone who uses our name, please report it to your local sheriff or county/district attorney.

## Letter To The Editor

To the Editor:  
This is my first experience in writing a letter to the editor; however, this is something I want to share with the people of Gruver. My parents were here for a short visit and on Friday, January 31st, my Dad was driving around looking at our town. Being a big fan of Allsup's "fresh, hot coffee," he stopped in to get a cup. The man in front of him was also drinking coffee, and he paid for his plus my Dad's. I have no way of knowing who the man was, but he made a nice impression on a stranger, who just happened to be my Daddy!

There is a message in this for all of us; good deeds, no matter how big or small, say so much about a person. I am happy to be a part of a community with such friendly and caring people.

Sincerely, Lynda Knight, Gruver

## Thank You

There are a lot of beneficial organizations, but I can think of none as good, thoughtful and kind that brings smiles like Christmas-In-Action. I have always thought the happiness these people give to others was outstanding, but I never expected to be on the receiving end. The beautiful and sturdy ramp you made for my home lifted my spirits and heart tremendously. My family appreciates it, too.

Thank Christmas-In-Action, and God bless you for all your good deeds in helping others with your time, money and support. A special thank you to Beverly Cook and Roy Lee Uptergrove for all their time and work.

Donna Sheets

## Thank You

The Family of Larry Widener would like to thank everyone for the visits, flowers, cards, food & donations. Words just aren't enough for what everyone in the community did. Thank You

D'Anda & Brett Widener; Leslie, Brian, & Brice McLaughlin; Ted & Wanda Widener; Steve Widener

## Extension Clubs Plan Joint Meeting

The Extension Education Clubs of Hansford County are planning a meeting of all members Thursday, February 20, at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall of the Spearman Church of Christ. Local collectors will present a program entitled "In Praise of Pitchers," and members will enjoy lunch together.

Anyone interested in the program or in learning more about an Extension Education Club is encouraged to attend. Extension Education Clubs are open to everyone regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. Call any member or Peggy Winegarner for more information.

Town and County Club meets

the first and third Tuesday at noon or evening. Members include Judy Yarbrough, Janie Kunselman, Delinda McLaughlin, Wanda Wagner, Rhonda Covington, Carla Brown, Annetta McIver, Jo Linda Hutchinson, Charla Hargis, Cheryl Harper, Rosi Martinez, Rosetta Barrera, Shanna Kenney, Olivia Salgado, Elizabeth Miser, Sandy Foster, Brooke Greene, Deborah Jacobs, Shirley Kimbrough, Candy Ochoa, and Sylvia Renteria.

Happy Homes Club meet the first and third Thursday at 1:30 p.m. Members include Patty Sheppard, Adalya Barnes, Betty Uptergrove, Scooter Russell, Marguerite Nelson, Ethel Waggoner, Norma Jean Mackie,

and Ida Ray.

Primary objectives of Extension education Club is to strengthen, develop, coordinate, and extend adult education to improve quality

of living, develop leadership skills, and preserve the American home. Club programs are presented by the County Extension Agent or club members or resource people.

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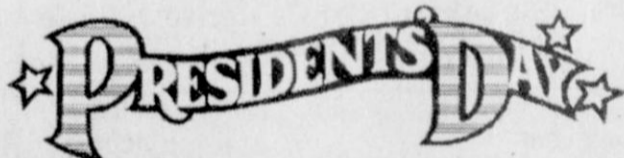
Kristin Beedy & Robert Whitehead - March 22  
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Adam Cherry (left) and Elsa Vargas were crowned 2003 Basketball King and Queen, respectively during Homecoming basketball ceremonies Friday at Spearman High School.

### Spearman Band Students Take Honors

Five Spearman High School students and five Spearman Junior High students received a superior or I rating at the Regional UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest held at West Texas State University Saturday.

Band students in the contest competed with students in all classifications A-AAAAA.

High school band students honored with superior ratings were Jarick Howard, Baritone; Aleisha Sweat, Clarinet; Gerdo Ruiz, Trombone; Joanne Tang, Flute; and Timberly Thomas, Trumpet.

Junior high band students winning superior ratings were Colby Odegaard, Alto Saxophone; Nicholas Avila, Trombone; Wendy Gaytan, Snare Drum; Cesar Macias, Trombone; and Clayton Smith, French Horn.

Receiving Excellent or II ratings were high school students Jessica Blan, Clarinet; Megan Dorton, Contra-Bass Clarinet; Bertha Ortiz, Clarinet; and Carlos Hernandez, Trumpet.

Junior high students awarded the II rating were Lizet Comacho, Clarinet; Jessica Diaz, Trumpet; Megan Evans, Alto Saxophone; Caitlin Garcia, Trumpet; and Wilma Macias, Trumpet.

### Gruver Bandsmen Earn Honors

by Todd Parker

Thirty member of the Gruver High School Houndsound Band attended the Region I UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest Saturday, February 8. Saturday was a very busy day as many of our band students could not participate in the event. The county stock show and the boys playoff game were scheduled the same day. Students were undeterred by the scheduling problems and did very well. All brought home a First Division Medal.

Members of the Woodwind Choir earning First Division medals were: Flutes - Diana Lopez, Gaby Rosales, Yadira Borunda, and Charlene Lopez; Clarinets - Gloria Lora, Mayra Hernandez, Graciela Hernandez; Alto Saxophone - Ivan Briones, Rachel Arreola; Bells - Ruth Arreola.

Members of the Brass Choir earning First Division Medals were: Trumpets - Joel Hernandez, Ofelia Rodriguez, Artemio Mundo, Ramia Ruiz; French Horns - Kallee Crawford, David Parker, Josepha Trejo; Trombones - Codie Scroggin, Misael Rosales, Noe Soto; Baritones - Stephen Salazar, Ben Williams, Travis Hodge, Jose Torres, Cecilia Rosales; Tuba - Steve Villegas; Percussion - Baldomero Garcia, Brad Clawson, Diego Luciano, and Miguel Lora.

Soloists at the contest were David Parker and Diana Lopez. Each student attempted some difficult music and earned Second Division.

Thanks go out to Kristi Holt for serving as piano accompanist for the solos. Thanks also to Mr. Santos Rivera (1994 Gruver graduate) for all his help working with the Brass Choir and especially the Woodwind Choir which he directed at the contest.



Diana Lopez was crowned 2003 Gruver High School Band Queen during a recent band concert by the Houndsound Band.

### Great Plains Future of Agriculture Symposium

Texas Cooperative Extension agricultural agents in five northern Panhandle counties have teamed up with Frank Phillips College, the Borger Chamber of Commerce and Borger Economic Development Corporation to host the "Great Plains Future of Animal Agriculture Symposium" on February 18.

The event will be held in the College's Center for Innovation and Technology, 1301 West Roosevelt. Registration will run from 8 to 9 a.m. and include time for refreshments and exhibits. Tickets at the door cost \$10. Seating will be limited to first 200 participants.

FPC, Dr. Herbert Swender, will welcome participants and open the program which features a keynote address during the morning and afternoon segments.

Dr. Gary Weber, Executive Director, Regulatory Affairs, National Cattlemen's Board and

Association, Washington, DC, will discuss biosecurity's impact on animal agriculture during the morning's keynote address. Lewis T. Britt, District Office Representative for Congressman Mac Thornberry of Amarillo will introduce Dr. Weber.

After the break, Dr. F.T. "Ted" McCollum, Jr., Extension beef specialist for the Panhandle and South Plains region, will discuss emerging issues in the beef cattle industry. McCollum is headquartered at the Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center in Amarillo.

A luncheon will be held at the Borger Dome, located at 118 Bulldog Avenue. The event will feature the nationally recognized J3 Chuck Wagon and catering from the historic 1890s-built wagon and the first one to be inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, Oklahoma City. After lunch, the keynote speaker

will be Jesse Majkowski, acting assistant secretary, Food Security and Emergency Preparedness, United States Department of Agriculture who will discuss emerging issues in food inspection and biosecurity.

Dr. Steve Amosson, Extension management economist for the Panhandle, will present the 2003 Beef Cattle Outlook. The specialist's office is located at Amarillo's A&M Research and Extension Center.

The symposium will adjourn by 3 p.m. For early registration or more details, contact one of the following Extension offices: Tom Benton, Hutchinson County, 806-878-4026; Burt Williams, Hansford County, 806-659-4132; Dan Cornett, Hemphill County, 806-323-9114; J. R. Sprague, Lipscomb County, 806-862-4601; and Scott Strawn, Ochiltree County, 806-435-4501.

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- Erin Temple

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# The Gruver Grapevine

by Harletta Carthel

## Lady Hounds Win District With Perfect Record

A scaring defeat of the Sunray Lady Cats Tuesday, February 4, gave the Lady Hounds a perfect 10-0 district record and, more importantly, the District 1-1A championship.

The Hounds' defeat of the Sunray Bobcats propelled them into a three-way tie for first place in district that was decided over the weekend in a trio of district playoff games.

Drawing a bye on the first round of play, the Hounds fell 48-54 to Stratford in a game to decide the district championship.

Playing Saturday afternoon, February 8, the Hounds playoff hopes were dashed in a loss to Booker for the runner up spot.

## Seniors Honored in Pre Game Ceremonies

2003 senior basketball players, managers, and cheerleaders were recognized in a pre-game ceremony at the last home basketball game of the year Tuesday evening.

Honored were Wade Stewart, Aaron Boyd, Hunter Beville, Amy Watley, Lisa Johnson, Christi Clift, Brandi Griffin, Ashleigh Sherrill, Kristina Christian, Bryn Lowe, Sammi Johnson, Katie Jones, Julie May and Christie McDowell.

## Son of Local Residents in Persian Gulf

Corporal Rodney McDowell, Jr. was deployed to the Persian Gulf January 9. His departure came three months before his duty was to have been completed.

## Junior High Teams Post Winning Records

The seventh grade Lady Hounds posted a 7-5 record during the 2002-2003 basketball season. Members of the team are Kailee Reed, Emily Williams, Denise Villegas, Lindy Weldon, Abbi Yanke, Raven Lambert, Dalila Santillan, Diana Solis, Whitney Moffett, Chelsea knight, Sorrele Blevins, Kayla Swink, Yadira Garcia and manager Morgan Ross.

The eighth grade Lady Hounds concluded their season with a 10-5 record. Members of the team are Kellyn King, Codie Scroggin, Bonnie Frick, Lauren Urban, Charlene Lopez, Sydney Been and Vicki Vela. Wynn Essler is the coach of both the seventh and eighth grade Lady Hounds.

The seventh grade Hound basketball team finished second in

district with a 6-5 record for the year.

Team members are Chandler Miner, Tony Lora, Seth Thompson, Tanner Sherrill, Cason Finley, Caleb Shults, Lorenzo Torres, Hugo Chavira, and Chase Jones.

The eighth grade Hounds were the district basketball champs with a perfect district record of 8-0 and an overall record of 12-3. Team members are Tucker Williams, Conrad Curry, Brian Johnson, Chris Sanchez, Drew Grotogut, Travis McDowell, Treymayne Martinez, Baldomero Garcia, Noe Soto, Artemio Mundo, Diego Luciano, and manager Justin Thompson.

## Get Well Wishes

Hugh Bell was transported to Hansford Hospital after falling on an icy driveway Saturday near noon.

He was able to return home after X rays revealed no broken bones.

## Welcome Anders Been

Rod and Mica Been proudly announce the birth of their son Curtis Anders Been.

The little lad was born Wednesday, February 5, at 6:30 p.m. He weighed 5 pounds and 15 ounces and was 19 and 1/4 inches long.

Anders has an older brother Cody Mac, 16, and an older sister Sydney, 14.

His grandparents are Tony and LaNetta Shapley and T. J. and Donna Been, all of Gruver. His great grandparents are Curt and Maxine Blankenship of Guymon.

## Barkley Sinks \$100 Shot

Rick (alias Charles Barkley) sank a mid-court shot that netted him \$100 in the Gruver Boosters Shot Out Contest. Barkley joins Mike Yanke and Brant Armes in local shooters taking home the big bucks during the basketball season. Gruver State Bank was a cosponsor of the fundraiser.

Gruver's keeper of the clock at home basketball games, Guy Paul Hindergardt swished one of two free shots last week during a half-time shootout while his brother Lady Hound Manager Scott Hindergardt, not to be outdone, also sank one of two free throws during half-time activities.

## Former Resident Update

2002 Gruver graduate Josh Abernathy is realizing his lifelong dream of being a tanker with the

United States Army. He is currently stationed in Germany.

Ryan Abernathy, 2002 Gruver graduate, has just returned to Canyon following a mission trip to India.

## One Act Play Preparations

"You Can't Take It with You" is the play chosen by director Gwen Parker for Gruver's entry in the spring one-act play competition. The comedy set in the 1930's is the story of a young lady, in love with her boss's son, who lives in fear of her sweetheart meeting her eccentric family.

The play will be presented for zone competition March 20 in Stinnett.

## Baby Gifford Makes Debut

Holly and Justin Gifford of Amarillo proudly announce the birth of their son Augustus (Gus) Gene Gifford. Born Friday, January 24, 2003, the little master weighed 8 pounds and 5 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Gus is the grandson of Joe T. and Linda Venneman of northern Hansford County and Liz and Gene Gifford of Amarillo.

The local "greats" include great grandmother Fannie Venneman and great, great, aunt Clementine Renner.

## Early Dismissal Slated

Gruver schools will dismiss at 12:30 p.m. Friday, February 21.

## Fan Shows Loyalty

Rod and Mica Been, Gruver Greyhound and Lady Hound fans, were in the cheering section for the Hounds' district playoff games Friday and Saturday. That is the norm, but what was not the norm was that super fan Mica had given birth to the couple's third child only 48 hours before. Ya' gotta love those Gruver fans!

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# GHS Basketball

## Lady Hounds Skin Lady Cats

February 4, 2003  
 Gruver 79, Sunray 48

One game away from a perfect district record, the Lady Hounds showed their skills in a 79-48 rout of the Sunray Lady Cats.

The Lady Hounds took an eight point first quarter lead and upped their winning margin each successive quarter in their total domination of the Lady Cats.

Brandi Griffin led the Lady Hounds with 18 points of which half was three-pointers, with Amy Watley, Lisa Johnson, and Teal Armes all scoring in double figures. Five other Lady Hounds added points in the balanced attack.

Individual Scoring: Brandi Griffin - 18, Amy Watley - 10, Lisa Johnson - 14, Teal Armes - 12, Blythe Finley - 5, Christi Clift - 6, Laina Grotogut - 3, Cassie Myatt - 9, Ashleigh Sherrill - 2.

## Hounds Down Sunray

Friday, February 4, 2003.  
 Hounds 55, Sunray 48

A cat and dog fight for most of the game, the Hounds did what they needed to do in the final period for a win to keep their playoff hopes alive.

While the Cats tied the score numerous times, the Hounds turned the tide late in the third quarter. Sinking a three-pointer in the final minute of the third period, Cass Cooper followed with three successful free shots while Hunter Beville added two more giving the Hounds a nine-point margin going into the decisive fourth quarter.

Cooper opened the final stanza with another three pointer, and the Hounds led by as much as 12 points in the quarter.

When Gruver's lead narrowed to six points at 3:17, Aaron Boyd's four free shots and Beville's addi-

tional two, kept the hounds in command.

Sunray's Kyron Trussel, who found himself in foul trouble early in the second quarter, fouled out at the midpoint of the fourth with two other Bobcats fouling out later in the period.

## District Title, Elks Slip By Hounds

Friday, February 7, 2003  
 Gruver 54, Stratford 48

With the district title on the line the Hounds comeback effort fell short as they were downed by Stratford, 54-48.

Even though the Hounds could not get their shots to fall for much of the first three quarters, they were able to narrow a deficit which had been as high as 12 points to 4 in the final quarter.

Down by 11 points going into the final period of play, the Hounds narrowed the Elks' lead to 7 by mid-quarter.

With Stratford leading by five at the two minute mark of the fourth

quarter, the Hounds resorted to fouling for ball control.

With free throws by both teams dominating the final two minutes, Stratford's lead varied from 5-7 points until the final 20 seconds, when sophomore Lance Williams nailed a three, leaving the Elks in command by only four points.

But that pad was enough for the Elks to take the game and the district title.

Individual scoring: Cass Cooper 13 (3 three pointers), Cody Mac Been 11, Carlos Borunda 6, Ryan Winger 4, Wade Stewart 5, Aaron Boyd 3, Lance Williams 4 (one three pointer.)

## Playoff Game For District Runner up

February 8, 2002

Gruver 46, Booker 54

A Saturday afternoon loss to Booker ended the Hounds' playoff bid.

Playing their final game for the hounds were seniors Aaron Boyd, Wade Stewart, and Hunter Beville.

## February 15 deadline for minority student scholarship program

The American Chemical Society, the world's largest scientific society, is seeking applications from minority students for its scholars program. The application deadline is February 15, 2003.

The ACS Scholars Program provides financial support to academically accomplished African American, Hispanic and Native American students in their pursuit of undergraduate studies in chemistry, chemical engineering, biochemistry, environmental science and related disciplines in two- and four- year college and university programs.

Up to 100 scholarships will be awarded to minority students seeking a career in chemistry. Freshmen can receive up to \$2,500 per academic year. Sophomores, juniors and seniors are eligible for up to \$3,000 per academic year.

In addition to financial aid, the Scholars Program, with the help of participating companies, offers students the opportunity to take advantage of mentoring and paid summer internships.

For more details on the ACS Scholars Program, including an online application form, please visit [www.acs.org/scholars](http://www.acs.org/scholars) or telephone 1-800-227-5558, extension 6250.

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## Bivins Seeks Better Compliance With Mandatory Auto Insurance Law

Legislation filed Monday, February 10th by State Senator Teel Bivins responds to a long-standing problem in Texas: A high level of non-compliance with the state's mandatory auto insurance laws.

"Whenever I visit with constituents at town hall meetings, or go through my mail at the office, a common complaint I receive is that too many people are not obeying the law requiring all Texas motorists to carry auto liability insurance," said Senator Bivins. "Historically, accident reports have shown about 20 percent of people involved in wrecks in Texas are either uninsured or haven't otherwise established financial responsibility. When it comes to non-compliance with auto insurance laws, Texas is a national

leader. I'm hoping my bill will eliminate that dubious distinction." Senate Bill 422 would create a Texas auto insurance verification program similar to one in use in Illinois. Since Illinois implemented its program in January 1990, the non-compliance rate in that state has dropped from approximately 17 percent to about five percent.

In the verification program proposed in Senator Bivins' bill, the Texas Department of Transportation would send letters to randomly selected owners of registered vehicles requiring them to provide proof of auto insurance or an alternate form of financial responsibility. If the vehicle owner has not responded with proof of insurance within 30 days, a warning notice would be sent. Failure to reply within 45 days after the

warning notice was sent, would result in the suspension of the owner's vehicle registration. To reestablish registration, the vehicle owner would have to pay a \$100 reinstatement fee and submit proof of insurance. For subsequent violations, the reinstatement fee would be \$200. The legislation also establishes a fine of no less than \$1,000 or no more than \$2,000 if the vehicle owner operates the vehicle while its registration is suspended for lack of insurance.

"It's obvious the current system of verification is highly vulnerable to avoidance. I believe my bill offers a way to dramatically reduce the success rate presently enjoyed by scofflaws who are imposing an undue burden on law-abiding citizens," said Bivins.

## Guard Against Latest Scams

Whether it be fake cashier's checks, ATM skimming devices or a faith-based investment hoax, be alert to the latest scams being perpetrated on innocent victims.

**Fraudulent Cashier's Checks**

With new computer technology, crooks find it easy to produce almost perfect copies of checks from banks and other financial institutions.

Law enforcement agencies advise that you never accept a cashier's check from a stranger unless you call the bank that issued the check and verify not only the check number, but also to whom the check was issued. Even though the number on the cashier's check could be a copy of a real number, you want to make sure that the number is on a check that has been made to you.

Many crooks will try to give out fake cashier's checks for purchases on the weekend when banks are closed and you can't verify the check. Bogus cashier's checks are becoming a major scam for many people who choose to sell their cars directly to buyers through classified ads. A potential buyer may approach you on the weekend with a check that may bear an official-looking logo in the name of a local bank and have the term "cashier's check" printed across the top of the check. The seller will assume this is a very safe check. Remember, a bank would never issue a blank cashier's check and

probably wouldn't issue a specific dollar amount if the sale is not done through normal retail channels. Do not part with the car until you have talked to the bank directly to verify the check. Additionally, don't depend on a "bank" phone number given to you by the purchaser. It could be the phone number to one of his partners involved with him in the scam. Check the number out in the phone book. If the buyer is reluctant to have the bank verify the funds, contact local law enforcement.

**ATM Skimming Devices**

A new problem, although not widespread, facing consumers and banks today is ATM skimming devices. These scams involve the use of one or more devices to record account and personal identification numbers (PINs) from your ATM card. The next thing you know, crooks are withdrawing money from your checking account. In some cases, skimming devices are placed on the card reader and the keypad without interfering with the operation of the ATM. Therefore, the customer receives his cash when making a withdrawal. In other cases, a non-functioning ATM is installed to capture cards and PINs. The con artists using skimming devices are not your petty thieves. They are part of a very sophisticated and competent organization.

The ATM industry is diligently working to protect ATM cards and assure the public that these cards are safe to use. With more than 360,000 ATMs nationwide, be aware as a consumer that if something doesn't look right at an ATM, don't use it. Go to another ATM.

**Faith-Based Scams**

It is estimated that more than 90,000 people nationwide have lost nearly \$2 billion to "faith-based" investment scams during the past three years.

According to state securities regulators, faith-based investment scams have risen dramatically. Con artists will use religion to promote their scams by using their interpretation of biblical prophecy to predict imminent financial or social crises. Some claim they will reinvest the money in a worthy cause.

Before making any such investment, check with your state securities regulator to see if this investment is licensed in your state. In Texas, you may log on to [www.ssb.state.tx.us](http://www.ssb.state.tx.us) or call 512-305-8300. Additionally, make sure the seller has provided you with written information fully explaining the investment and verify this information with your local banker or financial advisor.

Provided as a public service by the Independent Bankers Association of Texas and the Hansford County Reporter-Statesman.

## Academic UIL Results

**Spearman ISD**  
Spearman Elementary participated in the UIL Academic Meet in November. Listed below are the results.

**Second Grade**  
Creative Writing: Paige Pierson-1st, Rebekah Jones-4th

**Third Grade**  
Music memory: Team of Lexi Batton, Anna Sowder, Malory Martin-4th

Ready Writing: Tylo Farrar-1st

**Fourth Grade**  
Number Sense: Sawyer Sutterfield-5th

Spelling: Jessica Bueno-Ready Writing: Jessica Pinon-2nd, Nikki Boyd-5th

Music Memory: Team of Savannah Jones, Nikki Boyd, Tori Sheets-3rd

**Fifth Grade**  
Maps, Graphs, and Charts: Austen Griggs-1st, Andi Lynn Scarborough-3rd

Number Sense: Austen Griggs-4th, LeAnna Espinosa-6th

Art: Team of Andi Lynn Scarborough, Whitney Maestas, Tate Batton-2nd

Dictionary Skills: LeAnna Espinosa-1st, Tate Batton-3rd

Listening: Andi Lynn Scarborough-2nd

Spelling: Andi Lynn Scarborough-4th

Spearman Junior High placed 4th in the UIL Academic Meet. Listed below are the results from this meet.

**Sixth Grade**  
Mathematics: Cha'tae Avila-2nd  
Number Sense: Cha'tae Avila-2nd, Tyler Schnell-3rd, Brett Winegarner-6th

Maps and Graphs: Dylan Sumner-3rd, Kegan Garnett-5th, Tyler Schnell-6th

Dictionary Skills: Dee Dee Delarosa-6th

Oral Reading: Bond Pittman-5th  
Spelling: Ashley Close and Cha'tae Avila-tie for 1st

Music Memory: The team of Victoria Renteria, Hailey Six, and Tyler Harper-6th

Listening Skills: Raul Pena-5th

Calculator: Brenda Ortiz-2nd, Gabriel Moreno-5th

**Seventh Grade**  
Mathematics: Kylee Howard-6th

Impromptu Speaking: Amy Boyd-1st, Clara Kern-4th

Oral Reading: Amy Boyd-5th

Listening Skills: Jeremy Frost-3rd

Calculator: Dane Harbour and Austin Benton-tied for 4th

Spelling-Janica Ceniza-1st, Callie Cazares -5th

**Eighth Grade**  
Maps and Graphs: Nic Avila-6th

Impromptu Speaking: Christina Hunter-5th, Sharon Hancey-6th

Calculator: Saylee Flowers-2nd, Anthony Renteria-3rd

Spelling: Cara Gwin-3rd, Jessica Jarvis-4th

**Gruver ISD**  
Gruver Elementary and Gruver Junior High participated in the UIL Academic Meet in November. Listed below are the results.

**Second Grade**  
Storytelling: Korbin Irwin-1st  
Alex Logsdon-2nd, Callie Stedje-5th

Creative Writing: Irasema Soto-2nd, Damian Pierce-5th

**Third Grade**  
Ready Writing: Shelly Gibson-1st, Ali Tyler-4th

Spelling: Ashlynn Miner-1st, Madison McLain-4th

**Fourth Grade**  
Art: The team of Cambry Cooper, Zach Logsdon, and Colton Moffett-1st

Ready Writing: Cambry Cooper-2nd, Brianne Mitchell-3rd

Number Sense: Mary Hart-2nd, Gaitlin Guthrie-3rd, Shelby Williams-4th

**Fifth Grade**  
Music Memory: The team of Leigh Anne Winger, Cory Graves, Riley Urban, and Gage Parker-4th

Oral Reading: Megan Stedje-2nd

Art: The team of Mary Barron, Katie Gibson, Matti Yanke, and Megan Stedje-1st

Spelling: Katie Gibson-1st, Drew Mireles-2nd

Maps, Graphs, and Charts: Drew Mireles-1st, Luli Hernandez-2nd

Dictionary Skills: Katie Gibson-2nd, Mary Barron-3rd

Ready Writing-Katie Gibson-3rd

Listening Skills: Parker Grotegut-1st

**Sixth Grade**  
Spelling: Lindsey Mireles-2nd

Number Sense: Lynn Vela-2nd

Dictionary Skills: Lynn Vela-5th

Maps, Graphs, and Charts: Lynn Vela-6th

Ready Writing: Devlin Reynolds-1st, Lynn Vela-4th

Listening Skills: Miles Messer-1st, Devlin Reynolds-5th

**Seventh Grade**  
Impromptu Speaking-Chelsey

Calculator: Seth Thompson-1st, Chelsey Knight-1st, Seth Thompson-2nd, Yadira Garcia-3rd

Editorial Writing-Chelsey Knight-1st, Seth Thompson-3rd, Diana Solis-6th

Ready Writing: Abbi Yanke-5th, Maydeli Ortiz-6th

Spelling: Maydeli Ortiz-2nd, Dictionary Skills: Seth Thompson-1st, Maydeli Ortiz-3rd, Yadira Garcia-4th

Number Sense: Seth Thompson-3rd

Maps, Graphs, and Charts: Seth Thompson-1st, Tanner Sherrill-5th

Oral Reading: Abbi Yanke-6th

Science: Kayla Swink -6th

**Eighty Grade**  
Impromptu Speaking: Lauren Urban-3rd, Conrad Curry-5th

Calculator: Justin Thompson-1st, Charlie Slough-3rd

Modern Oratory: Victoria Vela-1st, Justin Thompson-2nd, Sydney Been-4th

Ready Writing: Victoria Vela-1st

Editorial Writing: Conrad Curry-2nd, Justin Thompson-5th, Victoria Vela-6th

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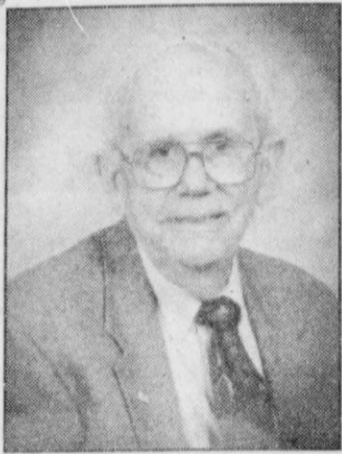
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The Hands have a son David Edward Hand, Jr. who also resides in Spearman, five grandsons, two great-granddaughters, and one great-grandson.

The secret to the Hands' longevity of wedded bliss - patience and love.



Gene Cudd

Gene Cudd has been recognized by Rotary International with the Paul Harris Fellow award for his support of the educational and humanitarian programs of that organization.

The award was presented to Cudd by District Governor of Rotary International, Don Shinn.

Cudd, who was born August 28, 1921, in Ochiltree County, Texas, grew up on a farm outside Perryton. At age 18, he began a lifetime career with the John Deere equipment business with his first job of cleaning in the Booker dealership.

From that modest beginning, he built his business, Hansford

Implement Company, which expanded to four locations covering fourteen counties and employing over fifty people.

Through the years, Cudd has been an avid supporter of the Perryton and Spearman communities. he has served as President of the Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber Ambassadors, City Councilman for the City of Spearman, past President of the Hansford County Shrine Club, a 50-year Mason, director of the Yucca Council of Girls Scouts, sponsor of the Boy Scout Chapter, Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year, a strong supporter of the Hansford County Stock Show, and

a member of the First United Methodist Churches of Perryton and Spearman where he has served in many capacities.

In business, he served as President of the Southwest Association of Farm Equipment Dealers, Director of the National Equipment Dealers Association, and organizing director of First National Bank in 1985. He has been an active member of Spearman Rotary for many years.

Cudd and his wife Francis have been married for 60 years and have two children Genette Henderson of Winston-Salem, North Carolina and Mike Cudd of Spearman, and five grandchildren.

## Spearman JH Basketball

Spearman vs. Highland Park  
February 3, 2003

### 7th Grade Boys

by Collin Gillaspie

The 7th grade Lynx pulled out a win with a score of 28 - 27. Jesse Moreno made a jump shot with 3 seconds left to put the Lynx up by one. They are going into their last game against Boys Ranch with 4 wins.

### 8th Grade Boys

by Collin Gillaspie

The 8th grade Lynx had a slow start but won with a score of 51 - 8. The Lynx had 9 out of 10 players score to pull out a big win. They are undefeated this season with one game remaining.

### 7th Grade Girls

by Brittney Bradley

The 7th grade Lynxettes came out with another win against the Hornets 48 - 8.

### 8th Grade Girls

by Brittney Bradley

The 8th grade Lynxettes finished their season with another victory 46 - 31. Way to go!

## Fly Fast... And Fly Free

by Bobby Eberle

It couldn't have been a more exciting morning. After an initial delay, the space shuttle Columbia was set to make history with its launch on April 12, 1981. Not having a VCR, I placed a tape recorder next to the television. So I could record every word and every sound of this unprecedented event. The countdown crept to zero; Columbia flew from the launch pad like a rock from a slingshot; and I was hooked.

From that moment, watching Columbia race into space, I could see my future path right before my eyes. From that moment, I was determined to be an astronaut. I followed the two-day mission from start to finish, gathering news clippings and watching every news report I could find. I knew the biographies of John Young and Robert Crippen by heart. I couldn't wait to fly into space, and my life from that moment forward was directed toward that goal.

America's space program is a shining example of ingenuity, creativity, and teamwork. We have accomplished so much, and, in such a visible arena, we have led the world. Yet, with all its successes, it is the tragedies that snap us back to reality.

I was not yet born when the first tragedy struck. On January 27, 1967, during a preflight test in an Apollo space capsule, a fire broke out and quickly spread through the oxygen rich confines. All three astronauts, Gus Grissom, Ed White, and Roger Chaffee were killed. America and the space program responded to this tragedy, and in only a year and a half from the time of the Apollo 1 fire, America became the first and only country to walk on the moon.

The next tragedy hit closer to home. On my way to my next class

in my senior year of high school on January 28, 1986, my heart sank as I heard that the space shuttle Challenger had "blown up." How could that happen? Space travel was "routine," wasn't it? After all, a civilian teacher was on that mission.

The fallout from that accident was widespread, and the space program ground to a halt for nearly three years. We lost seven daring individuals -- people who were the best of the best. They had their sights on the stars and the drive and determination to get there. The thoughts and prayers of all Americans were with them.

Following the Challenger investigation, there is no doubt that fixes were made, lessons were learned, and the space program emerged safer and refocused. After almost three years without a flight, the space shuttle Discovery put America back on track as it lifted off on September 29, 1988.

My own inspiration and drive were not affected by the Challenger accident, and I pursued my dream by majoring in aerospace engineering as an undergraduate. By enrolling in the work-study program, I was able to work in the space program while enrolled in school. I just couldn't believe it -- at only nineteen years old, I was working in the space program! I was fortunate enough to be on a work tour when America returned to space in September 1988, and I was filled with pride watching the shuttle lift off and head into earth orbit. America was back, and so was the space program.

During one of my work tours in Houston, a co-worker asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. "An astronaut," I answered without hesitation. She looked me right in the eye and said that I bet-

ter be prepared for many more years of school if being an astronaut was really what I wanted to do. I took her advice to heart, and shortly after getting my degree from Texas A&M, I enrolled at Rice University for graduate school.

In a classic example of not picking your career, but rather your career picking you, I realized at the end of graduate school that my calling was to another endeavor. I learned first hand the difference between doing what you want to do and doing what you were meant to do.

I have conducted tests for astronauts in the large underwater training pool, and I have floated weightless along side them in the KC-135. However, my head tells me that my destiny does not lie in being an astronaut, although my heart will always look to the stars with a sense of awe and adventure. To be an astronaut is to be an explorer in the greatest sense. They are heroes, and they are role models.

My heart goes out to the loved ones of the fallen astronauts, and it goes out to the entire space family. For the seven astronauts who perished on February 1, 2003, I know there are many prayers being sent your way. There are many Americans asking God to bless you and to let your souls rest in peace. I, for one, will not utter such words because I know the type of people you were. Instead, I will simply say, Goodbye. Fly fast... and fly free.

*Bobby Eberle is President and CEO of GOPUSA (www.GOPUSA.com), a news, information, and commentary company based in Houston, TX. He holds a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Rice University.*

## Panhandle Alliance, Inc. Annual Meeting

The first annual membership meeting of Panhandle Alliance, Inc. will be held February 20, 2003, at the Community Building in Sunray. Registration will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a chili supper, to be followed by the business meeting at 7:00 p.m. Anyone who is a member or prospective member is invited to attend. There will be a ground water model demonstration by Bart Wyatt of Panhandle Ground Water District that shows the dynamics of water movement between surface sources and the aquifer. There will also be other information available relating to various aspects of the activities of Panhandle Alliance, Inc. over the past year.

Panhandle Alliance, Inc. is a Texas nonprofit corporation that was founded with the mission statement of "Clean air, clean water, clean land, and quality of life." We are dedicated to efforts to protect our water, land, air, and quality of life in our rural communities. Panhandle Alliance, Inc. came into being in response to threats to our area by large, concentrated swine and dairy operations. There has been much infor-

mation made available in the recent past about our rapidly depleting water supply from the Ogallala Aquifer and the threats to our water supply, both from contamination and the efforts of certain entities to sell water from this area to other areas of the state and country.

All area residents who have concerns about our land, water, air, and quality of life are invited to attend and learn more about our

organization. New members are always welcome. The chili supper and informational meeting are open to the public, the business meeting, however, is for members only. The business meeting will be for the purpose of electing directors for the next year, updating members on the activities of the year, and any other business that the members may wish to bring to the attention of the board of directors.



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North Plains Groundwater Conservation District #2, (806) 659-3165 Flow Test Results:

1) Section 1, Block 1, WCRR Survey 1490 GPM at 2050 RPM: Run for 1 1/2 Hour. Appears to be very strong well. Date tested: Dec. 14, 2002.

2) Middle of Section 8, Block 1 WCRR survey 1578 GPM at 1874 RPM, 1532 GPM at 1841 RPM, 1439 GPM at 1787 RPM, 1349 GPM at 1767 RPM. Well run for 1 hour, no air detected. Date tested: Dec. 12, 2002.

3) West Part of Section 8, Block 1, WCRR Survey 943 GPM, at 1740 RPM, 1143 GPM at 1800 RPM. Well run for 1 hour, some air. Date tested: Dec. 12, 2002.

4) Middle of Section 3, Block 1, WCRR survey 2510 GPM at 1858 RPM small amount of air with some clay, 1660 GPM at 1742 RPM small amount of air with some clay, 1490 GPM at 1723 RPM very small amount of air, well test run for 1 1/2 hours. Date tested - Dec. 12, 2002.

Flow test was conducted by North Plains Groundwater Conservation District. Well logs and flow tests furnished upon request - Loyall Turner (806) 659-3165 or (806) 898-0481.

For more info or a brochure call Reagan & Brown Auctioneers at (806) 244-6776 or Jim Chandler with XIT Real Estate at (806) 249-4523.

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# Columbia, STS-107; Lost, but NEVER Forgotten



KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLA. - The STS-107 crew, waving to onlookers, exits the Operations and Checkout Building on their way to Launch Pad 39A for liftoff. Leading the way are Pilot William "Willie" McCool (left) and Commander Rick Husband (right). Following in the second row are Mission Specialists Kalpana Chawla (left) and Laurel Clark; in the rear are Payload Specialist Ilan Ramon, Payload Commander Michael Anderson and Mission Specialist David Brown. Ramon was the first astronaut from Israel to fly on a Shuttle.

by Lynn Vernon, Deputy Chief Information Officer for Johnson Space Center

On January 16th, 2003 at 10:39 EST the Space Shuttle Columbia and its crew of seven launched on a 16-day mission. This mission's primary focus was on what happens to the human body when it is deprived of gravity.

This mission was very important in many ways. It carried approximately 90 experiments from around the world that covered all aspects of Life Sciences from how a soybean plant grows in microgravity to studying affects to human lungs as well as three experiments related to fire and controlling fire.

For me this mission held a very special meaning and memory. After 17 years of working at NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC) I got to see my very first launch live at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC). I had many opportunities before but due to delays and other issues I did not get to see the other launches.

You could not have asked for a more beautiful day to see a launch. The sky was clear and the view from in front of the Launch Control Center at KSC was incredible. It is hard to describe the feeling of seeing the launch in person. It is incredible to see this 4.5 million pound, 184 foot tall vehicle slowly take off into space. You first see the ignition and vehicle going up into the sky and then you begin to hear and feel the rumble of the rockets. The first sensation I felt was through my feet and then deep inside as this incredible vehicle rockets towards space. At the same time of feeling pure excitement for what we were seeing there is this deep uncertainty and hope that nothing goes wrong during liftoff.

I can remember exactly where I was and what I was doing during the Challenger explosion on January 28, 1986. That event was very traumatic, especially since I had only been working at NASA for less than a year. Working together to recover from that incident was a long and hard road to travel but NASA did survive and came out better than before.

On February 1, 2003 I received a call from my father and one from my daughter telling me that the Space Shuttle Columbia had exploded upon re-entry. I could not respond and sat stunned for several seconds. I immediately hung up the phone and started watching the news. My thoughts were going from what happened, how did it happen, what about the crew on the International Space Station and why. I never expected to see something like this during reentry. Even though I did not directly know any of the astronauts onboard, they are all still like family. Working at NASA is a passion that stems deep from the heart of everyone that is here. We are a very close-knit family with one dream in common. We all have a dream and passion about mankind exploring space. I know that with the passion and dedication of all the team we will work through this and that NASA will be even better.

We all appreciate the outpouring of sympathy and support from everyone.



In memory of the Space Shuttle Columbia crewmembers who lost their lives on February 1, 2003, a massive collection of flowers, balloons, flags, signs, and other arrangements were placed at the Johnson Space Center (JSC) sign at the main entrance to the center.

## A Statement from the Families of Space Shuttle Columbia

On January 16th, we saw our loved ones launch into a brilliant, cloud-free sky. Their hearts were full of enthusiasm, pride in country, faith in their God, and a willingness to accept risk in the pursuit of knowledge --- knowledge that might improve the quality of life for all mankind.

Columbia's 16-day mission of scientific discovery was a great success, cut short by mere minutes --- yet it will live on forever in our memories. We want to thank the NASA family and people from around the world for their incredible outpouring of love and support.

Although we grieve deeply, as do the families of Apollo 1 and Challenger before us, the bold exploration of space must go on. Once the root cause of this tragedy is found and corrected, the legacy of Columbia must carry on --- for the benefit of our children and yours.

### Commander Rick Husband

Commander Rick Husband, 45, Air Force colonel from Amarillo, Texas. The former test pilot was selected as an astronaut in 1994 on his fourth try. He made up his mind as a child that that was what he was going to do with his life.

"It's been pretty much a lifelong dream and just a thrill to be able to get to actually live it out," he said in an interview before Columbia's launch, his second space flight.

### Pilot William McCool

Pilot William McCool, 41, Navy commander from Lubbock, Texas, and father of three sons. He graduated second in his 1983 class at the Naval Academy, went on to test pilot school and became an astronaut in 1996. This was his first space flight.

### Payload Commander Michael Anderson

Payload commander Michael Anderson, 43, the son of an Air Force man who grew up on military bases. He was flying for the Air Force when NASA chose him in 1994 as one of only a handful of black astronauts. He traveled to Russia's Mir space station in 1998. The lieutenant colonel was in charge of Columbia's dozens of science experiments. His home is in Spokane, Wash. Anderson often returned to his hometown to talk with school kids and to share his experiences in space.

### Astronaut Ilan Ramon

Ilan Ramon, 48, a colonel in Israel's air force and the first Israeli in space. His mother and grandmother survived Auschwitz death camp. Father fought for Israel's statehood alongside grandfather. Ramon fought in Yom Kippur War 1973 and Lebanon War 1982.

He served as a fighter pilot 1970s, 1980s and early 1990s, flew F-16s and F-4s. He was chosen as Israel's first astronaut in 1997, then moved to Houston the next year to train for shuttle flight. His wife and four children live in Tel Aviv.

Ramon was one of the pilots who bombed the Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981, reports CBS News Correspondent Robert Berger. Since his mother was a Holocaust survivor, he became a national hero, representing the tragedy and triumph of the Jewish people.

### Astronaut David Brown

David Brown, 46, a Navy captain, pilot and doctor. He joined the Navy after a medical internship, went on to fly the A-6E Intruder and F-18. He became an astronaut in 1996. Columbia's mission was his first space flight.

### Astronaut Kalpana Chawla

Kalpana Chawla, 41, emigrated to United States from India in 1980s and became an astronaut in 1994. Kalpana Chawla was a real success story in India. Just a couple of weeks ago, she was on the cover of one of India's leading magazines as an emigrant who had made good.

She had been quoted many times as saying that this is what she wanted to do, and she kept in touch with people back home, and many people wrote to her, wanting to go to the States and do what she had done. She was a real inspiration.

### Astronaut Laurel Clark

Laurel Clark, 41, a Navy diving medical officer aboard submarines, then flight surgeon who became an astronaut in 1996. On board Columbia to help with science experiments. She has 8-year-old son. Her home is in Racine, Wis.

"She wasn't just intelligent," her brother Dan Clark said. "She's just one of those people who made the right moves. She got along with people. She saw the path to be an astronaut was open - she went at it full throttle all the way."

You may mail condolences to the families of the STS-107 astronauts at:  
Columbia Families  
Mail Code CB  
NASA Johnson Space Center  
Houston, TX 77058

The United States, Texas, and NASA flags, in front of the Johnson Space Center's (JSC) Project Management Facility (Bldg. 1), fly at half-mast in memory of the seven Space Shuttle Columbia crewmembers who lost their lives on February 1, 2003.

