

THE NEWS

Social Security Outlook Mostly Unchanged: Depletion in 2041
 The financial prospects for the U.S. Social Security and Medicare program trust funds showed no marked deterioration in the past year, an annual report on the retirement and health care plans said on Wednesday.

Texas Summit Reaches Agreement on Security, Trade
 President Bush and the leaders of Canada and Mexico papered over trade and immigration disputes on Wednesday as they agreed to improve security and unify business practices to confront competition from Asia.

Minnesota School Shooter Bright But Troubled Teen
 A Chippewa Indian boy who carried out the deadliest U.S. school shooting in six years was a bright youngster beset by family tragedy who rebelled in both the clothes he wore and a fascination with neo-Nazi beliefs, according to details emerging Wednesday.

UK Troops Set to Stay in Iraq Until 2006 - Report
 British forces will likely be needed in Iraq until at least 2006, an influential parliamentary committee said on Thursday in a report that pointed to a series of post-war "mistakes and misjudgments."

Annan's Son Faces Fresh Allegations in UN Scandal
 The United Nations on Wednesday faced fresh allegations against Secretary-General Kofi Annan's son in the oil-for-food scandal but predicted the U.N. chief himself would be vindicated.

Arab Leaders Relaunch Peace Offer
 Arab leaders on Wednesday offered Israel normal relations in return for withdrawal to 1967 borders -- a condition which Israel has repeatedly rejected.

Monaco's Prince Rainier on Respirator in Hospital
 Monaco's Prince Rainier has been attached to an artificial respirator in hospital to aid his breathing because of a lung infection complicated by cardiac and kidney problems, his palace said Wednesday.

Silent Pope Appears But Health Concerns Remain
 A silent Pope John Paul appeared at his Vatican window on Wednesday but his pained and brief showing left serious concerns over his health.

Iraq Says 85 Militants Killed at Rebel Base
 The Iraqi government said on Wednesday its forces killed 85 insurgents at a rebel training camp north of Baghdad, in what would be one of highest guerrilla death tolls in the two-year insurgency.

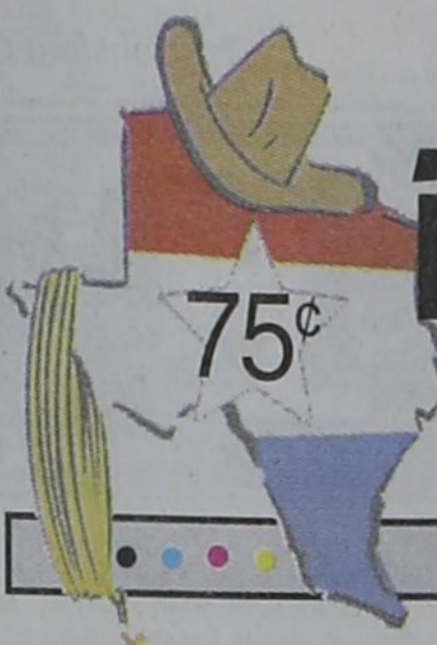
Europe Buries Qualms Over Wolfowitz at World Bank
 Europe buried misgivings over Washington's nomination of Iraq war architect Paul Wolfowitz to head the World Bank on Wednesday, making clear that it would not stand in his way.

EU Retreats on Deregulation to Save French Vote
 EU leaders sent a disputed bill to deregulate the European market in services back to the drawing board on Wednesday in a victory for French President Jacques Chirac but a setback for bold economic reform plans.

Pressure Mounting on North Korea for Nuclear Talks
 North Korea came under renewed pressure on Wednesday to return to six-country talks on its nuclear program as its premier, Pak Jong-ju, met Chinese President Hu Jintao in Beijing.

WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY NIGHT - Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of rain in the evening. Lows in the lower 30s. Northwest winds around 15 mph shifting to the northeast after midnight.
FRIDAY - Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of rain and snow in the morning - then a slight chance of rain in the afternoon. Cooler. Highs in the upper 40s. Northeast winds around 15 mph. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.
FRIDAY NIGHT - Mostly cloudy. Chance of rain in the evening - then a chance of snow and rain after midnight. Lows around 30. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation 40 percent.
SATURDAY - Cloudy. Chance of snow in the morning - then a chance of snow and rain in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 30s. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.
SATURDAY NIGHT - Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of snow. Lows in the upper 20s.
SUNDAY - Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s.
SUNDAY NIGHT - Partly cloudy in the evening then clearing. Lows in the mid 30s.



The Hansford County
Reporter-Statesman

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VOLUME 98 • ISSUE 12

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2005



THE NEWS DRIVEN

Hansford County Library receives Tocker grant

The Hansford County Library received word today that they will be receiving a grant from the Tocker Foundation once again this year. The Tocker Foundation was established in 1964 by Phillip and Olive Tocker as a general philanthropic foundation and to help disadvantaged high school graduates obtain a college education. In 1992, the foundation board decided to focus grant distribution to small rural libraries in Texas serving a population of 12,000 or less. The direction is to assist libraries in making service more accessible to individuals who by reason of distance, residence, handicap, age, literacy level or other disadvantage are unable to receive the benefits of public library services. Grants are distributed to assisting libraries to

serve as community information referral centers and provide literacy and bilingual programs. The foundation partners with community libraries to meet the particular needs of the community. Hansford County Library has been the recipient of at least one Tocker grant each year since 1995. This foundation has generously given our library over \$44,000 in grant monies during the past ten years. These grants have enabled our library to add a video collection for both children and adults, expand our children's audio book collection, expand our reference collection, purchase several additional shelving and display units, begin a collection in Spanish for both children and adults and purchase furniture for our computers.

Without the generosity of the Tocker Foundation, Hansford County Library would not be able to offer many of the services that we currently have for our patrons. The 2005 Tocker Grant will be used to purchase an additional book spinner for the younger children's portion of the library and two table top spinners to house children's audio books in the junior section. Many of the audio books in this section of the library are on the Accelerated Reading program at both the elementary and junior high campuses. These additional shelving units will alleviate crowding on existing shelves and make choosing a book or audio book much easier.



Artist Jon Birdsong, right, demonstrates a painting technique to Spearman High School art students. Mr. Birdsong was in Spearman on Friday, making presentations to two Spearman High School art classes during the day, and was featured at an art show at Zulu Art Academy Friday evening, with over 34 people in attendance.

TxDOT to host informational meeting

The Texas Department of Transportation is hosting an informational meeting on Thursday, March 31, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. at the Perryton Chamber of Commerce, 2000 S. Main in Perryton. The TxDOT is seeking public input regarding the current Transportation Improvement Plan for the district. This informational meeting will

also explain how the department plans transportation projects. They will cover transportation plans for all areas of the Panhandle and the city of Amarillo. An overall view of the planning process will be presented, as well as the criteria used for selecting individual projects. Draft versions of current transportation plans will be presented at the meeting for public comment.

The public is invited to speak regarding projects currently planned or any additional projects that might be proposed. Speakers will be limited to five minutes. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding any project may be submitted to the District Office at 5715 Canyon Drive in Amarillo.

Att. Gen. Abbott celebrates Sunshine Week

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott today commemorated "Sunshine Week" by praising the Legislature in its efforts to pass legislation that would require all public officials to undergo open government education, and would place the Office of the Attorney General in charge of certifying the training. The first-ever national Sunshine Week was observed March 13-19.

include a background of legal requirements for open records and meetings, as well as how the laws apply to a specific official's workplace. Coursework also would remind officials of their responsibility to request guidance from the OAG's Open Records Division in making decisions about whether certain requested information should remain confidential. In recent years, the Attorney General's Office has seen an explosion in the number of requests from public officials for open records rulings. In fiscal year 2004 alone, the OAG received 11,300 such requests - an almost 50 percent increase since 2002. The OAG issues an average of 45 open records rulings per day and

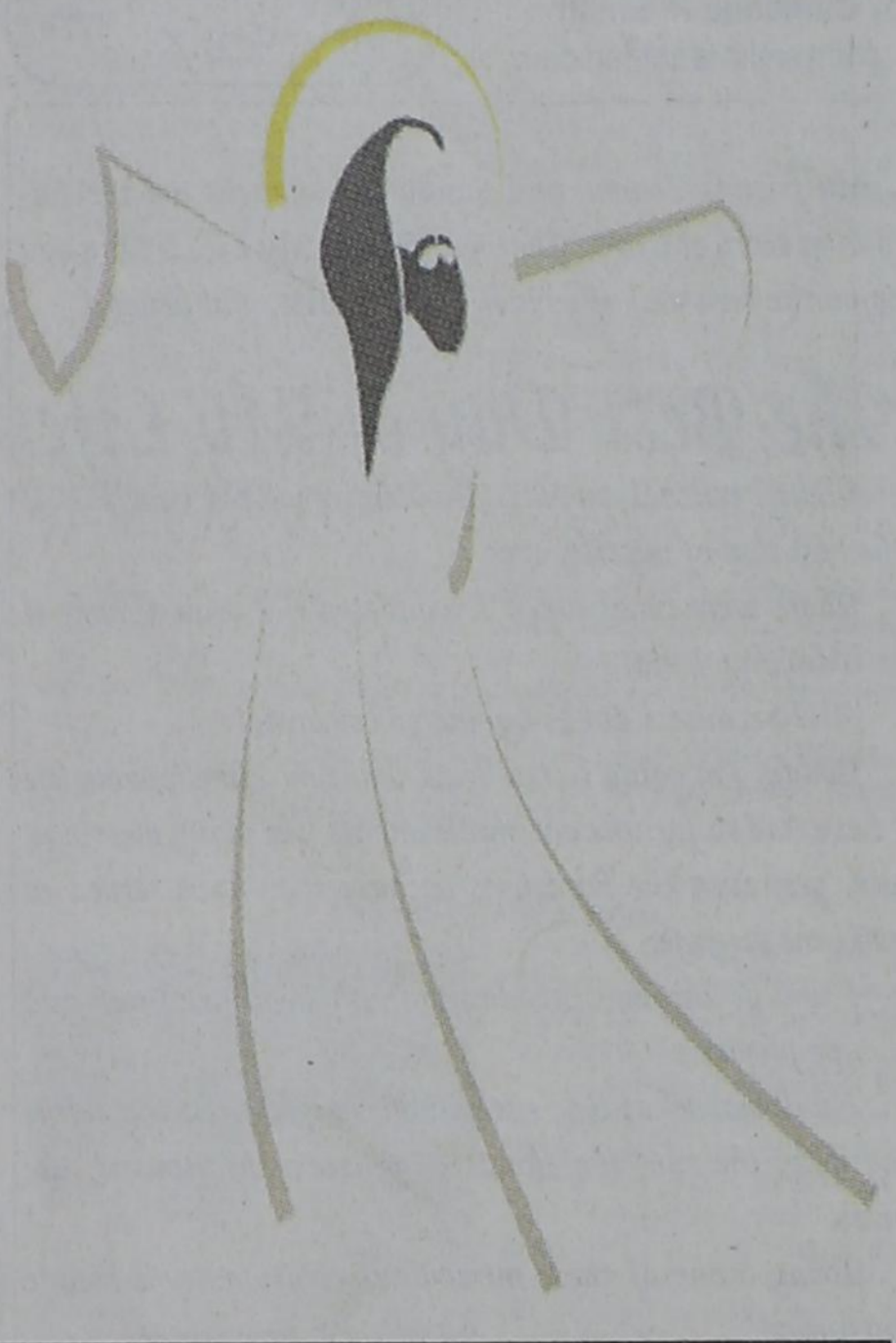
answers more than 10,000 calls per year on its Open Government Hotline. Abbott concluded: "Government officials are stewards of the public trust, and we have a duty to be as transparent as possible in the way the public's business is conducted. Making training available early can help prevent inadvertent compliance problems and ensure our government remains open to the interest of all Texans."

"I am committed to ensuring Texas government operates in the sunshine," Attorney General Abbott said. "One way we can do that is to strengthen open government laws so all public officials in Texas know what the law requires of them." The legislation, filed by Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, and Rep. Todd Baxter, R-Austin, would require public officials to take an open government education course conducted by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), or other training approved by the OAG. To ensure public officials stay abreast of the laws, they must take mandatory training every two years. The proposed training would

include a background of legal requirements for open records and meetings, as well as how the laws apply to a specific official's workplace. Coursework also would remind officials of their responsibility to request guidance from the OAG's Open Records Division in making decisions about whether certain requested information should remain confidential. In recent years, the Attorney General's Office has seen an explosion in the number of requests from public officials for open records rulings. In fiscal year 2004 alone, the OAG received 11,300 such requests - an almost 50 percent increase since 2002. The OAG issues an average of 45 open records rulings per day and

answers more than 10,000 calls per year on its Open Government Hotline. Abbott concluded: "Government officials are stewards of the public trust, and we have a duty to be as transparent as possible in the way the public's business is conducted. Making training available early can help prevent inadvertent compliance problems and ensure our government remains open to the interest of all Texans."

Women's Guild Holiday Bake Sale
 Fri., March 25th • Lowe's Marketplace
 8 a.m. until sold out



Richey Thompson, right, presents a Dallas Cowboys t-shirt to Marvin Bowers for his eleven years of service to Five Star Equipment.



Five Star hosts customer appreciation banquet

Five Star Equipment held their 17th annual Customer Appreciation Banquet on Thursday, March 3, 2005 at the O'Loughlin Center in Spearman with 213 people in attendance.

Musical entertainment for the evening was provided by the Green Family. Five Star Equipment opened for business in 1987 as a partnership between Richey Thompson, Buford Baker, Steven Poole, Steve Benton and Jan Williamson. Outside investors included Don Allen, J.W. Ward, Burton Schubert, Marshall Benton, Mike Garnett, Roy Pipkin, Billy Boatwright, Ward Spivey and Wood Craig. The business now supports 12 full-time employees and two part-time employees.

"The purpose of this banquet is to thank everyone for being a part of our business and to express our appreciation for their support," stated Richey Thompson. "It is our way of giving something back to our customers."

Moore retires from H&H Water Well Service



Don Moore recently retired from H&H Water Well Service, Inc. after 42 years of service.

Don Moore of Spearman recently retired after working for 42 years of service to H&H Water Well Service, Inc. Moore, who was known as a man of all trades, began working for Jerry and Steve Holton in April of 1963. When asked to sum up their feelings about Don, the employees at H&H responded, "Colossians 3:23 says it best - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord." Upon his retirement, Don plans to work full-time at his carpet business, Golden Spread Carpet Sales. "I will really miss all my friends at H&H," said Don, "but I am looking forward to working for myself."

Live, Laugh & Love



by Catherine R. Smith
cathysmith@antden.com

My friends Tommy and Sandy Russell sent me the following story entitled "The Best Day of My Life." May you enjoy the best day of your life this Easter, and beyond.

The Best Day of My Life

Today, when I awoke, I suddenly realized that this is the best day of my life, ever
There were times when I wondered if I would make it to today; but I did!
And because I did I'm going to celebrate!
Today, I'm going to celebrate what an unbelievable life I have had so far: the accomplishments, the many blessings, and, yes, even the hardships because they have served to make me stronger.

Words from Faith & Grace

by Cecil R. Biggers, Parish Lay Minister Candidate
The solemn trials of Lent have passed and the joy of Easter is upon us. In the early church, during Lent the new Christian candidates were instructed in the Faith and after the Easter eve vigil, on the Dawn of Easter morn, the Cross was raised from the sepulcher and placed at the altar. Then, the candidates were baptized and raised to a new life in Christ as the joyous Easter celebration of Christ's resurrection commenced.

Wolf Creek Heritage Museum Notes

Museum Happenings
Wes Reeves, representing XCEL Energy, visited the museum on Friday, March 18 and presented was a grant check of \$750. XCEL Energy has been a friend of the museum for several years assisting us with our many projects. Judge Willis Smith received the check on behalf of the museum board.

Lipscomb County History
Prairie Dog revisited
May 28, 1964
As time goes on, one cannot help thinking of the past, the days gone by, the "good old days."

This Week in History

1852- Uncle Tom's Cabin, serialized in an abolitionist newspaper the year before, is published in book form, and a million copies are sold within six months. According to Harriet Beecher Stowe, "God wrote it. I merely wrote his dictation."
1868- Sorosis, America's first professional club for women, is founded in New York City.

Texas crop and weather report

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by Panhandle Extension directors: Soil moisture is adequate to surplus. Temperatures were below average. Traces of rain and 8 to 15 inches of snow were reported. Conditions halted land preparation activities. Wheat was rated good to excellent and continued to make excellent growth.

Digital Camera Class

Learn to import scan and edit digital photos.
If interested, contact Cindy Blackman at 659-3233. Class time and dates will be set if there is enough interest.

AMYI FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Prairie Rivers Musical
The Prairie Rivers Musical is featured on the 3rd Saturday of each month (October through April) at Canadian Middle School. There is no admission charge. For more information, call (806) 323-6213.

Breast Cancer Screening Clinic
The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Comprehensive Breast Center will conduct a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic at Hansford County Hospital, 707 S. Roland, in Spearman on March 28, 2005. Breast cancer affects one in eight women.

Pringle-Morse CISD, Gus Birdwell Elementary and Spearman Jr. High Saving Register Tapes
Pringle-Morse CISD, Gus Birdwell Elementary and Spearman Jr. High are saving register tapes for educational equipment and sports equipment from Lowe's Marketplace stores.

Colt Cluck Memorial Tri-State Rodeo Scholarship
The Tri-State Rodeo is now accepting donations for the Colt Cluck Memorial Scholarship. Donations may be mailed to: Colt Cluck Memorial Scholarship, Tri-State Rodeo, PO Box 1414, Canyon, Texas 79015.

Pot O'Gold Dinner, Dance & Calcutta
The O'Loughlin Center will host their annual Pot O' Gold Dinner, Dance and Calcutta on Saturday, April 2nd at 7 p.m. For more information, call 659-3030.

Reel in a Cure
The Hansford Division Board of Directors for the American Heart Association will host a Reel in a Cure Heart Banquet on Saturday, April 16, 2005 at the O'Loughlin Center in Spearman.

ABC's of Computer Safety
The West Texas A & M University Small Business Development Center will be presenting the ABC's of Computer Safety on March 29, 2005. Randall Whipple of COA Technologies will be presenting a seminar to assist participants in using proven methods to protect their computer from virus attacks, email spam, popups and spy ware.

Project Graduation Fund Raiser
Project Graduation, an event sponsored by the parents of the Class of 2005 to provide a safe and memorable activity following commencement exercises, is hosting a Pizza Hut fund-raiser on Monday, April 11th, Tuesday, May 3rd, and Monday, June 7th.

Marjorie Urban Memorial Scholarship
The Marjorie Urban Memorial Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for the 2005-2006 school year. The committee anticipates this to be a \$1000 scholarship, funded at \$500 per semester. The scholarship is limited to students majoring in music or religion, but not limited to 2005 graduates.

Digital Camera Class
A digital camera class is being offered. Anyone interested in learning how to import, scan and edit digital photos is encouraged to attend. If interested, contact Cindy Blackman at 659-3233.

West Texas Economic Development Summit HUB
Texas Tech University will host their Third Annual West Texas Economic Development Summit HUB forum, which will be held from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30, 2005, at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center in Lubbock.

"Let Freedom Sing"
The Barbershop Harmony Society "The Wizards of Harmony," Liberal's Barbershop Chorus, presents "Let Freedom Sing" featuring the 12th Street Rag and Zing, on Saturday, April 2, 2005 at 7 p.m. in the Liberal High School Auditorium in Liberal, Kansas.

2005 Severe Weather Workshop Slated
The Amarillo National Weather Service, Amarillo Department of Emergency Management and Pantex will host a Severe Weather Workshop on Saturday, April 5, 2005. It will be held at the Civic Center Heritage Room in downtown Amarillo.

Perryton Girls Softball Association
The Perryton Girls Softball Association is now registering girls for the youth summer fastpitch softball leagues. They hope to offer leagues for girls ages 8-9, 10-12 and 13-15. Games begin around mid May and finish around the first of July.

Private Pesticide Applicator Training & Testing
A Private Pesticide Applicator Training and Testing session will be held on Monday, March 28, 2005. The training and testing will begin at 8 a.m. and end at noon.

Town & Country Extension Homemakers
The Town and Country Country Extension homemakers are collecting embroidery thread, small scissors and embroidery needles for women in South Africa. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Annetta McIver at 659-3533 or Judy Yarbrough at 659-3526.

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A Good READ



I am starting an experiment. It will test to see how many people in Spearman interested in learning more about our history and also about what may happen in the future. You will find each month at the Hansford County Library at least one new book, hand picked and discussed in this new monthly column. These non-fiction selections may reflect a bias towards American History, biography, economics, and subjects which are likely to impact the future of this country or region.
-Stinson Gibner

Flags of Our Fathers

by James Bradley

In late February, a memorial service in Fredericksburg, Texas, honored the marines and sailors who died 60 years ago in the Battle of Iwo Jima. Home of the National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg was also hometown to Admiral Chester Nimitz and to General Michael Hagee, the current commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps who attended the memorial services. The commemoration also included, on February 19th, a reenactment of the capture of Mount Suribachi. The capture of this 550 foot tall volcanic crater, the highest point on Iwo Jima, lead to the most famous photograph in the history of the Pacific war: a picture of six men raising the American flag.

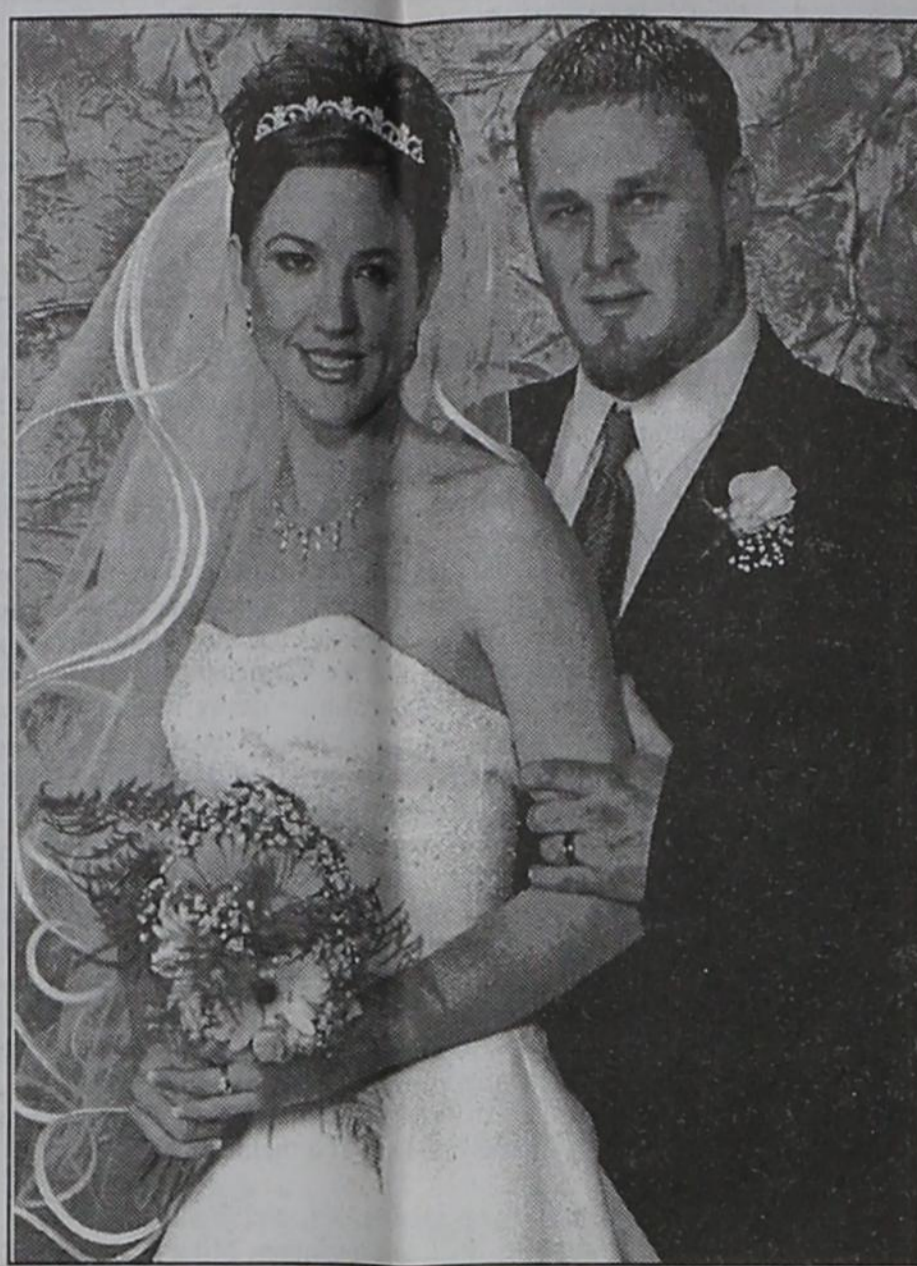
One of the six men in this photograph was John "Doc" Bradley. Only after John Bradley passed away did his son, James, discover the details of his father's involvement in this famous photograph. John had always deflected any questions about his service in the Pacific, refusing to answer questions from reporters or from his own family. James spent four years researching information about all six of the men in the photograph and about many of the other marines with whom they served. The fascinating result, *Flags of Our Fathers*, is a chronicle of these men and of the battle which would change them all.

Iwo Jima was not just another battle in the Pacific. More men died in the first day of this battle than were killed in two and a half months on Guadalcanal. The beach at Normandy was secured within 24 hours; but securing the beach on Iwo Jima took two weeks. In this battle, the victors incurred more casualties, about 26,000, than the 22,000 Japanese who were defeated. Reports about this battle reportedly brought tears to the eyes of President Franklin Roosevelt.

Flags of Our Fathers is a testament not only to the six men in the photograph but to all who fought on Iwo Jima and in the Pacific. Although that experience is beyond understanding, this book paints a vivid picture of the battle and some of the thoughts of the men fighting it. It provides insights into the training and bonding which allowed men to continue to perform their duties under such terrible conditions and their deep commitment to help each other. Admiral Chester Nimitz paid homage to these men by saying that, "Among the Americans who served on Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was a common virtue."

The first thirteen pages of *Flags of Our Fathers* is as moving a chapter as I can remember reading. The book reminds us once again of the debt we owe to those who sacrificed so much to defend our freedom.

Stinson Gibner graduated as valedictorian from Spearman High School during the late Ice Ages. After traveling to Rice University and then Pasadena, California in search of warmth, he came back to Texas. Stinson, now a frequent visitor to Spearman, currently lives in Houston, Texas where he has survived both natural and man-made catastrophes. In his spare time, he does quantitative financial risk management for Citigroup. He can be reached at psg@write.me.com.



Shields, Hudson wed

Kyna Karissa Shields of Spearman and Joseph Lee Hudson of Amarillo exchanged vows on February 12, 2005 at 12 noon in Amarillo, Texas with Judge Haven Dysart officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Lonnie and Le Ann Shields of Spearman. The groom's parents are Pamela and Richard Hudson of Amarillo. The couple will reside in Amarillo.

Cooper, Thomas wed

Johnny Cooper and Misty Thomas were united in marriage on Saturday, March 19, 2005 at 3 p.m. The ceremony was held at the park in Matador, Texas.

Johnny is the son of Darla Reed of Spearman and the late Dale Cooper. Misty is the daughter of Richard and Darlene Thomas of Matador. Johnny is a correctional officer for the Smith Unit in Lamesa. Misty is a teacher for a Head Start program in Brownfield. The couple will reside in Brownfield, Texas.

You're invited to attend a

Bridal Shower

honoring

Lindsey Dalluge

bride-elect of Clay Neff

on Saturday, April 2nd

from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

in the home of Linda Wilkerson
604 Barkley • Spearman

Ten years ago, doctors told my daughter she had two months to live. They were wrong!

Please join me in celebrating Leah's twenty-fifth birthday with a card party.

April 2, 2005 • 2-5 p.m.

15901 Outback Trail • Amarillo

Please include a special memory of Leah or words of encouragement. If you can't

attend, you may mail a card to:

Leah Baker Torrez, % Cassie Brown,
15901 Outback Trail, Amarillo TX 79118.

Call 806-622-8831 for directions.



JON HART DESIGN

Jon Hart Trunk Show

at Gordon's Drug in Spearman

Tuesday, March 29, 2005

12 noon - 6 p.m.

ALL monogramming is FREE on orders placed at the show - a savings of \$7 per item!

Many, many items will be on sale during the show.

Customers at the trunk show will be eligible to win

a \$25 gift certificate for a Jon Hart piece.

Also, those who place orders at the show will

receive a 40% off coupon for a gift item in our store.

DON'T MISS IT!

(Jon Hart is the #1 gift to buy for graduating seniors.)

College Corner

Honor Roll

Oklahoma State University

A total of 4,240 students were named to the Fall 2004 honor rolls at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, including 1,390 students who received all "A" grades and were named to the President's Honor Roll.

Full-time undergraduate students who completed 12 or more hours with a grade point average of 4.00 and with no incomplete grade, were placed on the President's Honor Roll.

Students who completed 12 or more hours with a grade point average of 3.50 or higher, with no incomplete grade or grade below a "C" were placed on the Dean's Honor Roll.

Claudia Vaquera of Spearman was named to the President's Honor Roll. Included on the Dean's Honor Roll were Brad Holt, Kaylee Holt and Brooke Salmans, all of Gruver.

Garden City Community College

Garden City Community College has released honor rolls for Fall 2004 semester.

Full-time students enrolled in eight or more credit hours, who attained grade point averages of 4.0 on a four-point scale, qualified for the President's Honor Roll; Dean's Honor Roll with a GPA of 3.2 to 3.999; or the Honorable Mention list with a GPA of 3.0 to 3.1999.

Included on the Dean's Honor Roll was Keilee Goodheart of Spearman.

Tarleton State University

The A Honor Roll and Distinguished Students list for the Fall 2004 semester has been released at Tarleton State University.

Students listed on the A Honor Roll for the fall semester maintained a 4.0 grade point ration (GPR) on a 4.0 system while taking a minimum of 12 hours.

Those designated as Distinguished Students include freshmen and sophomore students with a minimum GPR of 3.25 with no grade lower than C, and juniors and seniors with a minimum GPR of 3.50 with no grade lower than C who are in good standing.

Clara Shieldknight of Spearman was named to the Distinguished Students honor roll.

You're invited to attend a Bridal Shower

honoring

Amanda Anderson

bride-elect of John Gunning

on Saturday, March 26th

from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

in the home of Ginger Pittman
508 Roland • Spearman

Bridal Registry

- Amanda Anderson & John Gunning - 3/26
- Lindsey Dalluge & Clay Neff - 4/2
- Heather Murrell & David Houston - 4/9 (Gruver)
- Laura Conrad & Josh Harris - 4/23 (Gruver)
- Leah Mackie & Marc Strickland - 5/28
- Holly Hart & Marcus McLean - 5/28 (Gruver)
- Nicole Lozano & Wesley Clymer - 7/10
- Cami Winegarner & Jody Meason
- Mika McLain & Matt Devaney
- Loryn & Brady Woolley
- Kortney Henton & Eric Klein
- Jill Clement & Steve Crum

Celebrate

Gifts for all your celebrations!

203 Main St. • Spearman, TX

(806) 659-3350

1-800-663-8026

All Candles & Love dishes
50% OFF

Bridal Registry

Couples Currently Registered

- Amanda Anderson & John Gunning - 3/26
- Heather Murrell & David Houston - 4/9 (Gruver)
- Laura Conrad and Josh Harris - 4/23
- Leah Mackie & Marc Strickland - 5/28
- Holly Hart & Marcus McLean - 5/28
- Nicole Lozano & Wesley Clymer
- Cami Winegarner & Jody Meason
- Anna Leigh Mareno & Tom Kirk
- Kandi Keltz & Jared Johnson
- Branda Hicks & Mark Allen
- Mika McLain & Matt Devaney
- Loryn (Showalter) & Brady Woolley
- Kortney Henton & Eric Klein
- Jill Clement and Steve Crum

314 Main Spearman 659-2141

Gordon's
DRUG



Come in early for the best selection of beautiful, fragrant lilies. Order a dramatic centerpiece or floral basket for your Easter. And don't forget to check out our plush Easter bunnies!

All Occasion Flowers

202 N. Bernice (across from the Post Office)

659-5180 • Spearman

by Dorothy Hudson

Out At The Lake



On the drive to the lake (FM 760) notice the new calves in four different pastures.

Lake Level--March 21, 2005--31.86 feet (-0.09)

Jim's office gauge showed .33 inch of precipitation from last week's snow.

The fishing was not too strong. The Easter holiday, coming up this weekend, is not a big one at the Park usually, because of the uncertain weather. The restrooms will be opened.

Last Saturday Russell Shaver, while hiking near the bridge was fortunate to see six wood ducks. For the ones of us who do not get out to the Lake and must see it through Jim's eyes, I asked him if we still had water under the bridge. He said at around 27 feet that area becomes dry. Now men are still casting their nets from the bridge to catch shad.

The eagles are gone, and the turkey buzzards should be arriving. If you are near a prairie dog town, look for the burrowing owls, as they should be back.

Scouter alerted Jim by barking that an intruder had invaded their space. Jim got there in time to see shining eyes in a cedar tree, and then he hear a hiss and thought cat,

but just about as quick he realized Scooter was being sprayed by a skunk. He wondered if the hissing noise could be from the released skunk spray. I have been fortunate not to find out if the skunk spray makes a sound. The Park is posted against firearms in the Park, but

Jim and Ramon are excepted from the rule, and with the rabies epidemic now on they have killed 22 of the black and white furry creatures from the family of mustelids. Jim said he is hearing coyotes now fairly often. The coyotes are known to eat skunks, but I don't know it they help much in controlling the population.

Mike Wilhelm of Gruver sent me an excellent article from USA TODAY entitled "Mountain Lions on the Prowl Once Again" saying the once-scarce creatures are expanding their territory, heading east; some people are scared, others thrilled. Thanks, Mike, I will use it later.

Hansford Manor hosts 3rd annual Winter Olympics

by Merry Sparks

Friday, March 11th was a great day at the Manor. Residents were lined up all the way down the halls and volunteers and staff were scurrying here and there to prepare the kick off of our third annual Winter Olympics. These olympics are held in-house so that more Residents can participate. The games are user-friendly and adapted for the Residents.

The games began with the Tar Grip game and the Bean Bag Toss. A total of 26 Residents participated in the Tar Grip game. The winners were Tubby Hays, 1st place, Terry Petr, 2nd place and Louis Flowers 3rd place. A total of 25 Residents played the Bean Bag Toss. The winners were Tubby Hays, 1st, Ruth Benefield, 2nd, and Bucky Duniho, 3rd.

Then we were on to play Horseshoes. A total of seven played Horseshoes at a 6' distance and 19 Residents played at a distance of 3'. In the 6' division Terry Petr came in 1st, Ruth Benefield 2nd, and Robert Yanke, 3rd. In the 3' distance, Effie Branch came in 1st, Viola Boyd 2nd, and Marie Coates 3rd.

The next competition was in the basketball throw. Basketball 1 was at a distance of 6' with a tall goal. Basketball 2 was with a floor goal with a distance of 3'. A total of six Residents entered Basketball 1. The finalists were Bucky Duniho 1st, Viola Thompson 2nd, and Tubby Hays 3rd. A total of 22 Residents competed in Basketball 2. Clarence Willmon came in 1st, Marie Coates 2nd, and Pauline Winger 3rd.

Next up was Dartboard. A total of 22 Residents took their shots at the Dartboard. Ruth Benefield came in 1st, Viola Thompson 2nd, and Pauline Pshigoda 3rd. On from there we went to the bowling lane. Fifteen Residents competed in bowling. Viola Thompson came in 1st, Dorris Cluck 2nd, and Terry Petr 3rd.

Last but not least was the Chicken Toss competition. You should have heard that old rubber

chicken squall every time that a Resident grabbed it by the neck and tossed it into the box. It was hilarious !! When all of the squalling was over Viola Thompson was in 1st place, Louis Flowers 2nd, and Robert Yanke 3rd.

Throughout the day we would end up with ties in the games, so we would have tie breaking competitions. The Residents are very competitive and were well prepared. They came to win.

After lunch we had refreshments in the dining room. All scores had been tallied and medals that had been furnished for us by the Auxiliary were awarded to the winners. The man and woman with the most points earned in the olympics were awarded Mr & Ms Olympian. After all of the tie breaking games were completed, Viola Thompson earned the honor of Ms. Olympian and Clarence Willmon earned the Mr. Olympian honor. They were presented trophies that were provided by the Auxiliary.

It was a great, fun day for all involved. Even the Residents that did not participate enjoyed watching the others and cheering them on. Many thank you's go out to the nursing staff, dietary staff, activities staff, auxiliary volunteers, Judy Nelson, Judy Yarbrough, Verna Brown, and Mary Kay Harbour. Many thanks also go out to Claudine Laxton, who has become like another right hand and to the Hansford Hero team of Timberly Thomas, JoAnne Tang, Adriana Pinon, Jessica Villarreal, Krystal Waldron, Christina Hunter, Chasity Thomas, and Ashley Close. We feel very blessed to have so many in our community that give unselfishly of themselves and of their resources to enrich the lives of others. This is such a great place to give to because the recipients are people who have themselves given to others in their past. Thank you to one and all!



Ms. and Mr. Olympian - Viola Thompson and Clarence Willmon



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Thank you, Catherine Smith

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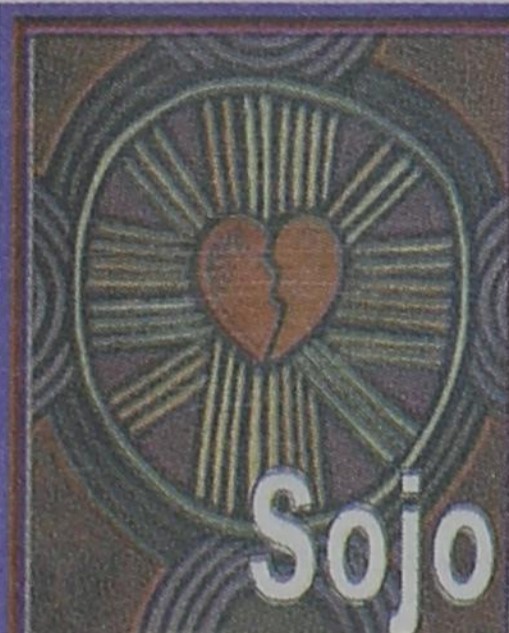
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Join us in the Sojo Circle

preaches not political correctness but compassion, community, and commitment.

Sojourners includes evangelicals, Catholics, Pentecostals, and Protestants; liberals and conservatives; blacks, whites, Latinos, and Asians; women and men; young and old. We are Christians who want to follow Jesus, but who also sojourn with others in different faith traditions and all those who are on a spiritual journey. We reach into traditional churches but also out to those who can't fit into them. We refuse to separate personal faith from social justice, prayer for peacemaking, contemplation from action, or spirituality from politics. Together we seek to discover the intersection of faith, politics, and culture.

SojoCircles are meant to help build spiritual and nurturing communities within churches, in local areas, and on college campuses which will create vehicles from which real social change can emerge. As communities of prayer. SojoCircles can provide the spiritual foundation for a change in our country and in the world. As communities of love, SojoCircle discussions will give rise to Spirit-led action for justice and peace.

You are invited to join, to connect, and to act.

For more information, contact Cathy Smith at 659-3434, 659-3477 or cathy.smith@antden.com.

Sojourners ministries grew out of the Sojourners Community an inner-city neighborhood in Washington, D.C. The biblical metaphor "sojourners" identifies God's people as pilgrims—fully present in the world but committed to a different order—and reflects their broadening vision. Rooted in the solid ground of prophetic biblical tradition, Sojourners is a progressive Christian voice that

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