



The Hansford County Reporter Statesman

PROUDLY SERVING HANSFORD COUNTY SINCE 1907

reporter@spearmanreporter.com

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THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2008

Top of Texas Quilt Shop Hop County Fair July 24-26, 2008

Ten quilt shops in our regional area have joined together for the 6th Annual Top of Texas Quilt Shop Hop, providing a fun-filled weekend for everyone who enjoys quilting and fabric arts. Door prizes, refreshments, as well as special free gifts for customers will be given to all who visit the quilt shops, Thursday, July 24th through Saturday, July 26th. Hours of business are: Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (CST)

Customers will receive a passport at the first stop visited. Completed passports with a stamp from each shop will be turned in at the last shop. Quilters going to all ten shops will be eligible for special prizes including a basket with 100 quilters' fat quarters, a \$75 gift certificate from each of the ten shops, and a basket filled with sewing and quilting notions. Total value for these prizes is over \$1,000.

In addition there will be a grand prize of a special quilt designed by the participating quilt shops. There will be a picture of this Round Robin Quilt at each shop. Patterns for a Mystery Quilt by Debbie Caffrey will be available at each quilt shop. Drawings for the grand prizes will be held on Sunday, July 27th.

Participating shops are: Fabric Dreams, Pam's Quilting Corner, R&R Quilts and More, Sister's Scraps - all of Amarillo; Cheryl's Quilt Corner - Guymon, OK; Down Home Quilts - Dumas; Jo's This 'n That - Spearman; Malouf's Fabrics - Friona; Sands' Fabrics - Pampa; and The Patchwork House - Clovis, NM.

For more information, contact Jo's This 'n That (ask for Jo) at 300 Main Street, Spearman TX 79081, or call 806-659-3999.

Weather Forecast

FRIDAY - Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s. South winds around 10 mph.

FRIDAY NIGHT - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 70s.

SATURDAY - Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s.

SATURDAY NIGHT - Partly cloudy. Lows around 70.

SUNDAY - Partly cloudy. Highs around 100.

SUNDAY NIGHT - Partly cloudy. Lows around 70.

MONDAY - Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s.

MONDAY NIGHT - Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s.

TUESDAY - Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s.

Texas Crop & Weather

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by Panhandle Extension directors: Temperatures were slightly below average. Soil moisture was adequate to very short with most areas reporting adequate. Corn varied from very poor to good with most areas reporting fair to good. Most areas reported corn tasseling, with a few fields entering the dough stage. Cotton varied from very poor to excellent with most areas reporting fair; the crop was squaring with a few reports of setting bolls. Peanuts were rated fair to good with most fields pegging. Sorghum varied in from very poor to excellent with most areas reporting fair to good. Soybeans were rated fair to good. Wheat varied from very poor to good with most areas reporting fair. The wheat harvest was nearly complete. Range conditions were mostly fair, with weed problems in some areas. Cattle were in good condition, though horn flies continued to pester some herds.

Rosa Lee Butt Memorial Auction to Benefit The Golden Spread Center

The Golden Spread Center and The O'Loughlin Center Boards are thrilled to be honoring the memory of Rosa Lee Butt as they host the Annual Golden Spread Auction. The 2008 Auction, The Rosa Lee Butt Memorial Radio Auction to benefit the Golden Spread Center, will be held on Saturday, August 2nd and Saturday, August 9th, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Perryton radio, KXDJ-FM. Chris Samples Broadcasting has generously donated these 8 hours of radio broadcasting for this event.

Rosa Lee Butt was involved in the early days of The Golden Spread Center, as early as 1978. Our community has benefitted from the efforts of the organizers of Golden Spread Center for 30 years. This auction celebrates this 30-year milestone as we recognize Rosa Lee Butt, who gave of her time and her resources to perpetuate this organization for the benefit of senior citizens in

the Spearman area. Please mark your calendars as this auction will be "live" on KXDJ-FM, on consecutive Saturdays, August 2nd and August 9th, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

If you have anything you would like to donate to this event, please call The O'Loughlin Center, 806-659-3030, or contact any board member. We will be able to receive your donations beginning Friday, July 25th, at the center, 508 S. Brandt, in Spearman. Your generous donations will be greatly appreciated!!

In the past, we have had great response to those creative donations, like "dinners, trips, events or anything special" or any car, boat, RV or golf cart. This event promises to be a fun-filled time that benefits the senior citizens of the Spearman area. Look around, you might have just the item we need for this special event!



Spearman Stingrays Win Swim Meet

Spearman Stingrays Swim Team hosted their WKSC home meet on Saturday, July 12th at the City Pool. More than 240 swimmers from five teams were entered, with each swimmer competing in 5-7 individual and relay events.

Final team totals for the meet were:
1st place team - Spearman - 862 points
2nd place team - Guymon - 673 points
3rd place team - Liberal - 299 points
4th place team - Garden City - 178 points
5th place team - Ulysses - 146 points
Congratulations, Stingray swimmers and coaches, for a job well done! Individual placings for events will follow soon.

Football 2-A-Days

Spearman High School football 2-A-Days begin Monday, August 4th at 4:30 p.m. for all boys in grades 9-12 who wish to play football.

Gruver High School football 2-A-Days begin Monday, August 4th at 8 a.m., and again at 12 noon for all boys in grades 9-12 who wish to play football.



Art Vargas, Maintenance man for Hansford County stands next to "Yard of the Week" sign placed in the County Courthouse yard. Art works hard and does an excellent job in keeping the yard looking nice.

Go Shopping & Save in Texas This Summer! Texas' Tax-Free Weekend Offers Shoppers Back-To-School Savings, August 15-17

In what has become a Texas tradition for visitors to the Lone Star State, Texas' annual tax-free weekend is scheduled for August 15-17, 2008. During tax-free weekend, the State of Texas grants shoppers a break from state and local sales tax, allowing lower prices on back-to-school shopping.

The savings begin at 12:01 a.m., Friday, August 15, and end at midnight on Sunday, August 17. Savings apply to individual clothing items costing less than \$100, including athletic shoes, hiking boots, dresses, shirts, jeans, pajamas, sports jerseys, and school uniforms. Shoppers can save approximately \$8 for every \$100 spent. Lay-away plans can

be used again this year to take advantage of the sales tax holiday.

"Tax-free weekend is an opportunity for Texans and visitors alike to experience significant savings," said Julie Chase, Chief Marketing Officer, Office of the Governor, Economic Development & Tourism. "In addition to the excellent shopping opportunities, travelers can take advantage of the weekend by treating their families to fun-filled activities that our Texas cities offer - from rivers and dude ranches to theme parks and museums."

Attractions and hotels across the state are also offering special deals this summer to

help visitors offset the cost of gas. Specials range from free hotel nights to discounts on admissions in such cities as Houston, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Austin and the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. For more information on travel discounts in Texas this summer, visit <http://www.TravelTex.com> and click on Travel Packages.

And for a complete list of tax-free items available during Tax-Free Weekend, August 15-17, visit http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs/tx98_490/tx98_490.html.

First Annual Big Fun Run 5K Race and Family Fun Walk Benefits Big Brothers Big Sisters

The Wheatheart Satellite of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Texas Panhandle will hold a 5K race and Family Fun Walk in conjunction with Perryton's Wheatheart Celebration on Saturday, August 23rd. All of the proceeds will benefit the local program.

The race, dubbed The First Annual Big Fun Run, will start at 8 am at Perryton High School; a one mile walk will begin at 8:30.

There will be five divisions for the race: 18 and under, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49 and 50+. Prizes will be awarded to male and female first and second place winners in each division. The deadline to pre-register is August 8th but registration will be available the morning of the event. The entry fee for individual runners is \$25; members of the Lone Star Runners Club or SWFTR pay only \$20. Individual walkers pay \$25. Entry fees include a t-shirt.

The 5K route will begin in front of the high school on Jefferson and follow a course up 9th Street, along several blocks of Main Street, down 19th Street with a detour on Eton and around Stark Park. The race continues on Grinnell in front of Wright Elementary and joins 19th Street again to pass Williams Intermediate School and concludes back at the high school. The community is encouraged to come out and cheer on the racers.

The Family Fun Walker Package is \$90 and includes four t-shirts. Pre-registration is required to guarantee youth size shirts. The route will follow the perimeter of the high school grounds. Some special fun is planned for these participants. Additional shirts may be purchased at the event for \$15 each.

Event sponsors are Weatherford, Lemon Law Office and Caprock Supply. The local Big Brothers Big Sisters' office serves Ochiltree and Hansford counties and the city of Booker. Over 110 children have been matched with caring mentors in school and community based programs this year. For more information about the program or to register call BBBS at 806-434-0016 or email bigsmagic@windstream.net for a registration form.

GISD JHIHS Boys Athletic Physicals Wednesday, July 30th

	Time(s):
Seniors	9:00 a.m.
Juniors	9:30 a.m.
Sophomores	10:00 a.m.
Freshman	10:30 a.m.
6 th , 7 th & 8 th Grade	10:30 a.m.

Instructions: Parents will need to attend the physicals with the athletes to sign appropriate forms. If you have any questions, you can contact Fred Tucker at (806) 733-0203.

Spearman Chamber of Commerce's

Yard of the Week

Norlan Winegarner
821 Haney
Rosa Ortiz
404 Hazelwood
Hansford County Courthouse
1 NE Court

If you have a yard you would like to nominate, please contact the Spearman Chamber of Commerce at 659-5555.

HYI

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Parish Nurse & Health Ministry Program

Basic Parish Nurse Prep Training for RN's and Health Advocate Training for Non-RNs will be held on July 24, 25, 31 and August 1 at Saint Stephen United Methodist Church in Amarillo, Texas. This non-denominational course is for registered nurses interested in training to become parish nurses for their churches. 34 contact hours will be awarded to RNs completing the four-day training. Also welcome are those who would like to attend for the valuable information and resources as health advocates including retired RNs, LVNs, allied health, clergy and others. Health advocates will receive no contact hours. Parish nursing provides a blending of nursing expertise and spiritual care in congregations as part of the ministry team. Registration fee will be \$350 for registered nurses and \$250 for health advocates/others. The fee will include training materials/books and lunch. The registration deadline is July 11, 2008. For more information, or to register, please contact Sharon Hinton, Rural Nurse Resource at 806-983-8096 or sth.mr@door.net, or Sandi McGinnis at 806-353-7988 (mcginnis@arn.net) or Sharon Tunnell at 806-355-7271.

Kwahadi Dancers Present Song of the Eagle

The Kwahadi Dancers present *Song of the Eagle* every Friday and Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Kwahadi Museum of the American Indian through July 20. A special one hour short performance with discounted tickets will be presented July 4. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. The museum is located on the north side of I-40 between Lakeside and Airport. For information or reservations, call the museum at 806-335-3175. The Museum is open summer hours 11 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Wed through Sat, and until 10 p.m. on show days, and is open 1 - 5 p.m. on Sunday afternoons.

Foreign Investors Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA. Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with in 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

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 July 24, 2008. Breast cancer affects one in eight women. The key to winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only. Call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Free Booklet from Narconon

Narconon reminds you that there is hope for those struggling with addiction and recovery is possible. Call today to receive a free booklet entitled *The Life Cycle and Mechanics of Addiction*. We offer free counseling, assessments and referrals to centers nationwide. Log on to www.stopaddiction.com or call 800-468-6933 before it's too late.

You're Never Alone - Narcotics Anonymous Group

Each year individuals struggling with drug and alcohol addiction make the resolution to quit using drugs. For many of them it is a resolution that they cannot keep. Narcotics Anonymous can help. Open meetings are held on Monday and Thursday nights from 8-9 p.m. at the First Christian Church (29 S. Bernice in Spearman) for the "You're Never Alone" group of Narcotics Anonymous. Anyone interested is invited to attend. Drug addiction can leave you feeling helpless and out of control - we can help.

Spearhead AA Group

The Spearhead AA Group meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Pittman-Shieldknight building. Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other to help solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety. For information, call 662-1111.

Music in the Gardens

Amarillo Botanical Gardens wraps up another summer of entertainment with the popular *Music in the Gardens*.

The final month of performances takes place in August every Monday night. The public is invited to come and see what's new in the gardens and then cap their evening off with an amazing outdoor concert in the amphitheater. Weekly performances will feature a wide range of musical styles, including classical, country, jazz, and opera. Visitors should bring their own lawn chairs, blankets and sunscreen.

Gates open at 7 p.m. with performances running from 7:30-8:30. Gates close at 9 p.m. Admission to *Music in the Gardens* is \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior (60+), \$2 for children ages 2-12, and free for children under 2 years of age. Free admission with a Membership Card.

Scheduled to perform in August: (Schedule subject to change)

- August 4 - Mark Fuller
- August 11 - Rebecca Smithe, A Touch of Broadway
- August 18 - Erma Hun and students, Country and Pop Music

August 25 - Jenny Richardson, Caberet Singer

Music in the Gardens is held at Amarillo Botanical Gardens, 1400 Streit Drive next door to the Discovery Center in the MediPark area.

For more information about Music in the Gardens or the Amarillo Botanical Gardens call: 806-352-6513.

Jo's This 'n That

Quitting Business Sale!!

Everything Must Go!

Everything 40% Off!

(90" and 108" muslin not included)

Some books 50% Off

One table 50% Off

Top of Texas Quilt Shop Hop

Thursday, July 24 - 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday, July 25 - 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday, July 26 - 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

300 Main Street • Spearman • (806) 659-3999

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Bevill
request the honour of your presence at the
marriage of their daughter
Brooke Anne
to
Andrew Mitchell
son of Mr. and Mrs. David McMurry
on Saturday, the twenty-sixth of July
two thousand and eight
at half past six in the evening
First Baptist Church
402 E. Broadway Gruver, Texas
Reception immediately following.

You are invited to a
60th Wedding Anniversary
honoring
Ben & Donna Cook
on Saturday, July 26, 2008
at 6:00 p.m.
at the **Hungry Cowboy Restaurant**
1020 S Highway 207 Spearman

You are invited to a
Bridal Shower
honoring
Kacee Smith
(bride-elect of Josh Ivy)
on Saturday, July 26, 2008
from 10:00-11:30 a.m.
in the home of Beverly Vinson
1109 Archer Spearman



Couples Currently Registered

- Crystal Milburn & Brandon Vanderburg - 8/16
- Shanda Graham & Doug Kerr - 8/23
- Sammie Stavlo & Wade Harkey - 9/6
- Kacee Smith & Josh Ivy - TBA
- Nicole Ramon & Eric Neumeier - TBA
- Kendra Hicks & Jason Cantrell
- Jennifer Laxson & Anthony Smith
- Miranda Barnhill & Travis Brown
- Meghan Blanek & Kevin Williams
- Cortney Chambers & Keith Winegarner
- Jentry Edwards & Clinton Williams
- Lourdes Vega & David Puebla
- Brooke Bevill & Andrew McMurry
- Megan Dorton & Justin Raymer
- Alma Martinez & Andy McElhannon
- Audrey Winegarner & Braden Gibson
- Jessica Adams & Kevin Black

Baby Registry

- Dustin & Rowena May Parks - 8/5
- Aaron & Bryn (Lowe) Weller - 9/6
- Radar & Betty Garcia - TBA
- Jessica Villarreal & Isaac Herndon
- Kyle & Audra McLaughlin
- Cristina (Cricket) Salgado & Ray Banaban
- Jeffrey & Danielle Jackson
- Karl & Amelia Cox
- Chris & Stephanie (Bowling) Barclay

Gordon's 659-2141
314 Main Spearman

Words from Faith & Grace

by Cecil R. Biggers, Lutheran Lay Minister



What do we expect from our relationship with God? We study 1 Kings 3:5-12, Psalm 119:129-136, Romans 8:26-39 and Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52. Solomon has a dream in which God asks, "What should I give you?" Solomon's answer was, "Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil..." Because Solomon wished to serve God as a good ruler of the people, God granted him wisdom and long life and riches. The Psalmist while lying on his couch at night reflects that God remembers him. This thought gives the Psalmist hope and inspires him to ask God's assistance in learning and keeping God's law.

Paul tells the Romans and us what we can expect from God (the Spirit). "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." Paul then says, "For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family." Dear Christian some read this scripture as being one of limitation, I submit to you that this is a scripture of inclusion. For God, our past, our present, our future are one. He sees and knows all. And those whom he has called through the Holy Spirit, He has justified, and those He has justified He has also glorified. The emphasis is that God adopts as his children those who hear his voice and obey. Paul then asks eight rhetorical questions, to emphasize our expectations. 1) What shall we say in response to this (God chose us)? 2) If God is for us, who is against us? 3) Will god not also, along with Christ, give us all things? 4) Who will bring any charge against God's elect? 5) It is God who justifies, forgives and reconciles us, who then condemns? 6) Is it Christ who condemns? 7) Who will separate us from the Love of Christ? 8) Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or the sword separate us from the Love of Christ. These are rhetorical questions, you know the answers, ponder these on your bed. Paul asserts that "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors, through Him who loved us." Paul concludes that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus Our Lord.

Jesus puts forth the parable of the mustard seed and the parable of the yeast to explain the Kingdom of God. He compares the Kingdom of Heaven to treasure hidden in a field, to a pearl of great price. Each of these parables is part of a pair, the mustard seed and the yeast, the hidden treasure and the pearl. The Word of God, for the Jew, the Torah, for the Apostle Matthew, Jesus Christ, the living Torah. Through the Holy Spirit the Word of God spread from 12 inner disciples to 1.6 billion people in our world, and it continues to spread and grow. Through grace you are brought to faith and into baptism from whence you emerge a citizen of the Kingdom of God! When the Spirit abides in you and you abide in the Spirit you must share this treasure you have found. What can we expect from our relationship with God? Everything!

May the Holy Spirit bless you and keep you now and forever.

Celebrate

Gifts for all your celebrations!

Bridal Registry

- Kacee Smith & Joshua Ivy - 7/26
- Crystal Milburn & Brandon Vanderburg - 8/16
- Shanda Graham & Doug Kerr - 8/23
- Sammie Stavlo & Wade Harkey - 9/6
- Nicole Ramon & Eric Neumeier - TBA
- Meghan Blanek & Kevin Williams
- Claudia Vaquera & Scott Sauer
- Cortney Chambers & Keith Winegarner
- Jentry Edwards & Clinton Williams
- Brooke Bevill & Andrew McMurry
- Tobi Barrera & Chris Guana
- Alma Martinez & Andy McElhannon
- Audrey Winegarner & Braden Gibson
- Jessica Adams & Kevin Black

Baby Registry

- Rowena & Dustin Parks - 8/5
- Bryn (Lowe) & Aaron Weller - 9/6
- Radar & Betty Garcia - TBA
- Amy Travis - TBA
- Cristina (Cricket) Salgado & Ray Banaban
- Adriane Watts & Corey Rex
- Stephnie (Bowling) & Chris Barclay
- Danielle (Close) & Jeff Jackson
- Amilia & Karl Cox

Celebrate

203 Main St. Spearman, TX
(806) 659-3350 1-800-663-8026

Notice of Regular/Special Meeting of the Hansford County Commissioners Court

Posted at 2:15 P.M. on July 22, 2008 By Donna Farris

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioner's Court of Hansford County, Texas, will meet on the 28th day of July, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. in the Law Library in the Courthouse in the City of Spearman, Texas. The subjects for discussion and/or action are listed on the agenda, which is attached to and made a part of this notice.

Benny D. Wilson, Hansford County Judge
Agenda for July 28, 2008

The following will be presented for action:

1. Approval of minutes. Approval of minutes from the July 14, 2008 Hansford County Commissioners' Court meeting.
2. Approval of Treasurer's report: Approval of expenditures and receipts from previous court date.
3. Payment of claims. Review and approve payment of previous months bills, including any part-time, overtime, or holiday salary payables.
4. Budget workshop.
5. Update from TCDRS (Retirement).
6. Discuss/Approve renewal rates for TAC HEBP Insurance.
7. Advertise for bids for pickup for Precinct 1.
8. Act on Audit Proposals for Outside Audit.
9. Approve Proposed Budget to be filed with County Clerk.

The following items will be presented for discussion:

1. Citizen's comment: With prior approval of County Judge.
2. County Judge's update: Inform court of day-to-day activities affecting the county.

Texas AgriLife Corn Field Day Scheduled for Aug. 7 at Etter

Researchers will talk about the latest progress in breeding drought-tolerant corn for food, feed and silage at a corn field day on Aug. 7 at the Texas AgriLife Research North Plains Research Field at Etter.

The field day, sponsored by Texas AgriLife Research and the Texas Corn Producers Board, will begin with registration at 9:30 a.m., said Thomas Marek, research field superintendent and AgriLife Research Irrigation engineer.

This field day is to show the progress of the AgriLife Research corn breeding program and the Southeast Regional Aflatoxin Testing program, said Dr. Wenwei Xu, AgriLife Research corn breeder in Lubbock.

The program begins with a walking field tour, where researchers from the Amarillo and Lubbock centers will speak on mite, insect and disease management; as well as aflatoxin and silage corn performance.

Seed company representatives also will be present to talk about the new commercial corn hybrids.

Lunch will be sponsored by the North Plains Water District in Dumas. It will be followed by keynote presentations by Dr. David Warner, science fellow and team leader for Monsanto Company. He will discuss development and commercialization of transgenic drought-tolerant corn hybrids.

Other luncheon speakers will address updates on the new farm bill, local water district conservation policy and the Ogallala Aquifer Initiative.

Additionally, participants interested in research details will have the opportunity to tour other corn, bioenergy crops and forage grass plots from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Marek said.

Continuing education units for pesticide applicators and certified crop advisors have been applied for and will be given at the field day, he said.

For more information, contact Marek at 806-677-5600 or by e-mail at tmarek@ag.tamu.edu, or Xu at 806-746-6101 or WXu@ag.tamu.edu.

TxDOT Announces Major Restructuring Plan

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) announced today a major restructuring of district support activities agency-wide. TxDOT is refining its statewide structure to ensure the department is organized to best meet the transportation needs of a changing and growing state. The objective is to eliminate duplication in job functions and to save money. Consolidating district support functions will result in a cost savings of about \$35 million per year. The restructuring will also improve department efficiency, accountability and transparency.

Regional Support Centers will be established in Fort Worth, Houston/Beaumont, San Antonio and Lubbock. These support centers will consolidate district support services in the areas of accounting and finance, vehicle maintenance, purchasing, automation, right-of-way, environmental services, and building and grounds. Districts will continue to focus on designing, building, operating and maintaining the transportation system. Divisions and offices in Austin will be restructured in a way that is responsive to the Sunset Review and actions by the upcoming 81st Legislature.

TxDOT implemented the restructuring plan to streamline operations, improve productivity and save money. To do this, the department must trim resources. But with the recent hiring restrictions and normal attrition, TxDOT employee counts are already at the anticipated level needed to complete the first phase of restructuring. The opening of the Regional Support Centers could mean that job locations and functional assignments will change for some employees in the districts and divisions.

TxDOT will work closely with all employees to identify new opportunities including, but not limited to, cross-training, re-training, and identifying job relocation opportunities. In addition, TxDOT is committed to utilizing available technology to create virtual office assignments that will provide more opportunities for employees directly affected by the restructuring. TxDOT will make every effort to minimize employee impacts. Patience, flexibility, and a willingness to share the responsibility for creating a modern agency structure are keys to success.

TxDOT is not cutting services. The goal is to provide services in a way that is smarter and less expensive. Local offices will continue to operate as usual, concentrating on the core business functions of construction, design and maintenance.

AgriLife Extension To Offer Beef Quality Updates in Abilene, Amarillo in August

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service will conduct two regional Texas Beef Quality Producer programs in Abilene and Amarillo on Aug. 15 and Aug. 25, respectively.

Both programs start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 2 p.m., following a catered lunch provided by the Texas Beef Council. Program sponsors along with AgriLife Extension are the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and Texas Beef Council. Four beef quality credits will be available at both programs.

The site for the Abilene meeting will be the Taylor County Fair and Expo Center at 1982 Lytle Way.

The Amarillo meeting is slated for the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at 6500 W. Amarillo Blvd.

"The Texas Beef Quality Producer Program offers a standardized way for beef producers to document and be recognized for the quality and management they've put into their cattle," said Dr. Bruce Carpenter, AgriLife Extension livestock specialist at Fort Stockton.

"As the industry continues to head toward value-based marketing and mandatory country of origin (COOL) labeling, part of the value of beef will no doubt be linked to good, reliable records starting at time of breeding through the final processing of the animal," Carpenter said.

"Beef enjoys a well-deserved reputation as a tasty and wholesome product. Nonetheless, quality and food safety remain big issues with consumers, and are driving forces in the industry here and abroad," he said.

"By becoming a certified Beef Quality Assurance producer, growers not only help keep consumer confidence strong, but also position themselves to capture some of the premium dollars which the program will undoubtedly generate along the way."

The program is free, but pre-registration two days prior to each program is requested for an accurate meal count. For more information and to pre-register, contact Stacy Fox at the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association at 817-332-7155 or sfox@texas cattleraisers.org.

Also, information can be found by contacting the AgriLife Extension offices in Taylor County at 325-672-9148 or the Amarillo center at 806-677-5600 or by going to www.texasbeefquality.com.

Spearman Booster Club News

Football 2-A-Days

Spearman High School football 2-A-Days begin Monday, August 4th at 4:30 p.m. for all boys in grades 9-12 who wish to play football.

Mandatory Drug Awareness Meeting

The Mandatory Drug Awareness meeting for incoming 7th Grade through 12th Grade boys and girls will be held on August 12, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Spearman High School Auditorium.

This is a mandatory meeting for all students who wish to participate in any UIL sanctioned event.

Lynx/Lynxette Booster Club Support

Any family, individual or business interested in advertising/supporting the football/basketball poster, basketball book and football programs for the upcoming year needs to contact Kellye Buchanan at 659-5102 ASAP. Time is about to run out to participate! Call now!

Lynx/Lynxette Booster Club Officers

President - Don Schroeder
 Treasurer - Tammy Benton
 Membership - Kellye Buchanan
 Ways & Means - not one
 Girls VP - Tiki Farrar &

Kellye Garnett

Boys VP - Tim Cooper
 If you are interested in being a Booster Club Officer, please contact Don Schroeder or Tammy Benton.

Lynx/Lynxette Merchandise

Patti Schnell has some discounted merchandise. New merchandise includes - coffee mugs, metal water bottles, rally towels and license plate covers.

Booster Club will also have shirts, hats, stadium seat, etc. Call Patti Schnell at 659-2919 if you would like to make a purchase.

SHS 2008-2009 Cheerleaders


Bond Pittman - Senior,
 Destiny Fisher - Senior,
 Pustlee Baker - Junior,
 Suttan Garnett - Junior,
 Leanna Espinosa - Junior,
 Morgan Ashmore - Freshman,
 Malory Martin - Freshman,
 Cassie Bowers - Freshman,
 Mascot - Andi Travis - Junior

SJS 2008-2009 Cheerleaders

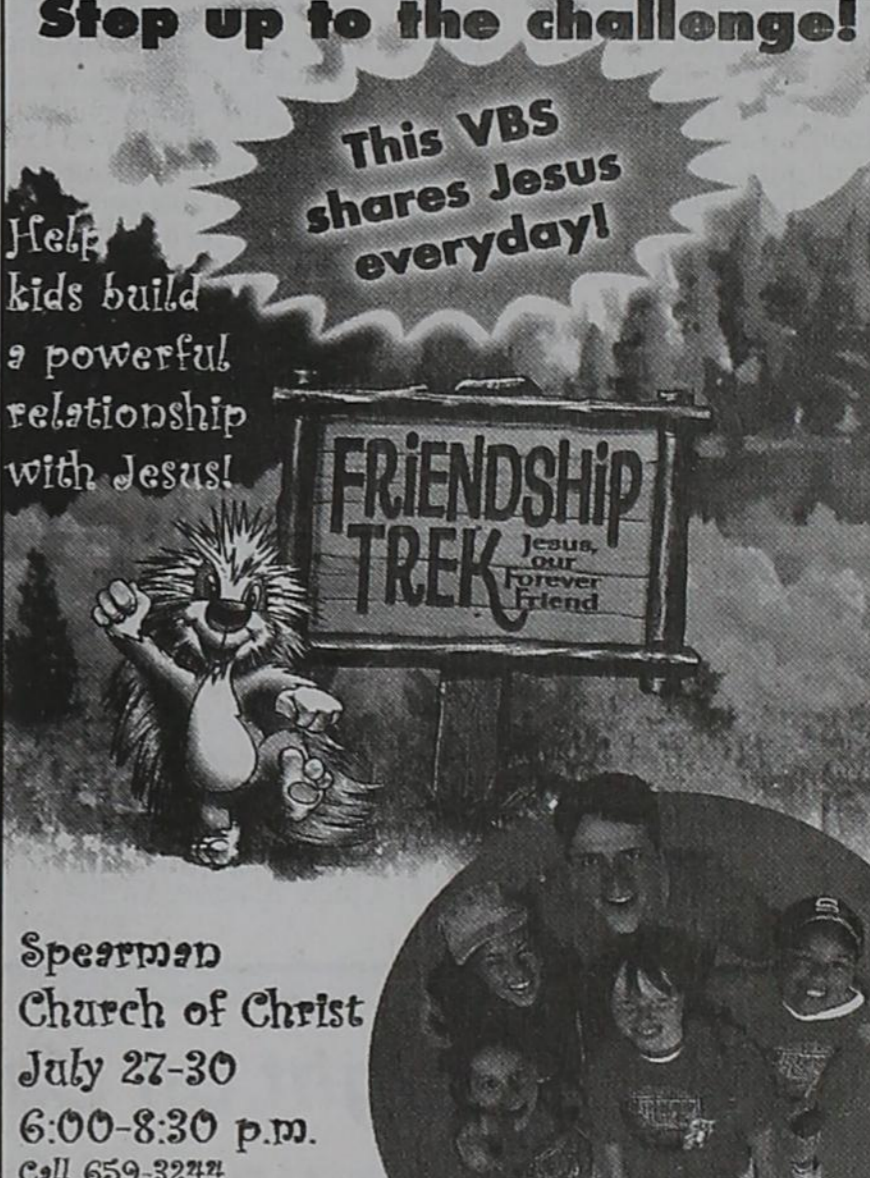
Erynn Saenz - 8th, Kyla Walker - 8th, Cynthia Mendoza - 8th, Sydney McDonald - 7th, Gena Hargrove - 7th, Kelsea Miller - 7th

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HANSFORD COUNTY

JACK HART

reprinted from the Aug. 6, 1995 issue of the *Amarillo Globe-News*; written by David Browser

Morse native Jack Hart was a 21-year-old P-38 pilot when he was introduced to the atomic age from an altitude of 33,000 feet.

It was only his third mission of the war after joining a photo reconnaissance squadron on Okinawa in August 1945. It wasn't until his early morning briefing on August 10th that he knew where he was going and what he was to photograph. His destination was Nagasaki, Japan. His assignment was bomb damage assessment photos of the atomic bomb that had been dropped the day before.

Hart was born on his grandfather's ranch near the community of Morse. He graduated from Gruver High School and headed for Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, where he enrolled in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

By 1943, the army was calling up advanced ROTC cadets and Hart was sent to California for training. Delays with orders and schedules brought the Iowa cadets back to campus, where Hart asked for a transfer to the Army Air Corps.

He went through preflight and primary training in California then headed for LaJunta, CO, for advanced training in B-25 bombers.

The novice pilots went to Oklahoma City for about two weeks then to Coffeyville, KS, to prepare to go overseas. It was in Coffeyville that he was introduced to the twin-fuselage, twin-engine, single-seat P-38. He was trained as a reconnaissance pilot. Instead of guns, the nose of his fighter held cameras.

The Texas Panhandle native finished first in his class. "They headed me right on overseas," he said. "The rest of the class finished up two weeks to a month later. They never did go over, most of them."

Hart left from San Francisco, flew to Hawaii, Wake, the Philippines and joined his new squadron in New Guinea. While at New Guinea, Hart received word that his older brother, a major in the Fifth Cavalry, had been killed on Leyte in the Philippines.

About mid-July, Hart arrived on the island where some of the bloodiest fighting in the Pacific had just taken place.

He flew reconnaissance missions over Tokyo and Yokohama, and then, on August 10th, he was told he was to fly over the site of the second atomic bomb blast.

"The way I remember it, all they told me was 'You're going to go up there to Nagasaki, and you're going to fly in there at 33,000 feet. You're going to take pictures, and then you're going to come back,'" Hart said. "I can remember what an easy flight it was. I didn't have a bit of trouble. I came right out on those check points there."

He said he was well trained in the procedures he had to follow. "You can go back to the training we had there at Coffeyville, KS," he said. "I took off there on one mission, flew to Canadian (TX) and shot the railroad yards there and flew out to Clovis, NM and shot the airfield out there. Then I flew back over Gruver (where he had graduated from high school only a couple of years before) and buzzed it pretty good, then went on to Coffeyville. If you can fly all that and it's just a breeze to you, then you're not going to have much trouble anywhere."

But Hart still puzzles over why he was chosen for the flight. "I've never figured out to this day why they picked me to fly up there and photograph that place," he said. "They had more experienced pilots than me, by a whole lot."

He flew from Okinawa to Nagasaki under clear skies. "It was a beautiful day," he said. "You couldn't have asked for a prettier day."

Flying up the Ryukyu Islands that separated the Pacific Ocean from the East China Sea and led to Kyushu, he turned, angling along the bays and islands of southwest Japan to Nagasaki.

The flight was uneventful as he made land fall, spotting the string of islands he used to check points on his way to his target. What Hart wasn't prepared for was the devastation he saw below him.

"I didn't have any idea I was going to see anything like the destruction that I saw," he said. "It was a clear day. You could see down there. You could see all those Japanese down there pawing in that stuff. That's something I wondered about for some time. They always talked about all that radioactivity and how it killed people, but they were down there digging in it. All over the place."

Hart had heard about the atomic bomb that had been dropped on Hiroshima only a few days before, and he knew another one had been dropped on Nagasaki the day before his flight - the B-29 bomber that had dropped the bomb on Nagasaki returning from its mission - but Hart admitted that he didn't know what an atomic bomb was until he saw below him the rubble of what had been a major city.

"I knew if it didn't end and they kept dropping those, there's no country that could have stood up to that," Hart said. "I think they were ready to keep on dropping them. It took a lot of guts for (President) Truman to make that decision to drop those bombs."

His thoughts, as well as those of others in his squadron, were of home. The war was over, and they would be going home. Hart's reconnaissance squadron had been brought in to photograph the Japanese shoreline and it appeared such sorties would not be needed.

"You can imagine, everybody was sitting there in Okinawa," Hart said. "Everybody immediately started thinking about home. The war was going to be over." Japan surrendered unconditionally a few days after Nagasaki.

Many of Hart's squadron went home and resumed their civilian lives. "All those thoughts of home didn't exactly materialize for me," Hart said. "They sent me on up there in the Occupational Army."

Hart spent another year in Japan. He now lives in Amarillo, though he still farms and ranches.

Editor's Note: Jack and his wife Bobbie continue to live in Amarillo. Hansford County is still the home of most of his family as both his son and his daughter live here. Jerry and Christi Hart with their family have a country home outside of Morse, and Ginger and Bill Pittman reside in Spearman. Bobbie also has a daughter in Spearman, Kitty and Frank Edwards.

Pictures and information for this feature may be submitted to the Reporter-Statesman (310 Barkley Street), mailed to WW II Memories, % Reporter-Statesman, 213 Main Street, Spearman TX 79081, emailed to reporter@spearmanreporter.com, or they may be given to Dorothy Hudson, 733-2562, 806 Cluck Avenue, Gruver TX 79040, or emailed to dhudson862@gruver.net.



Buy-In Waiver for Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs Underway in New Farm Bill

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will allow producers who would otherwise be ineligible for the new disaster assistance programs to become eligible by paying a fee as required by the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (the 2008 Act).

The 2008 Act requires producers who wish to participate in the new disaster programs to have crop insurance or non-insured crop disaster assistance (NAP) coverage for the land for which assistance is being requested, and for all farms in all counties in which they have an interest. Since the 2008 Act was enacted after the application periods had closed for those programs, producers who did not have such coverage could not comply with this requirement in order to be eligible for the new disaster programs. However, the 2008 Act authorizes a waiver that allows producers to pay a fee, called a "buy-in" fee, to be eligible for this new disaster assistance.

Every producer whose crops, including grazing lands, are not fully covered by crop insurance or NAP may take advantage of this one-time opportunity. The buy-in fee is due no later than Sept. 16, 2008, 90 days after the date of enactment, as required by the 2008 Act.

Those who miss this opportunity will not be eligible for disaster assistance. Producers are also reminded that the payment of the applicable buy-in fee does not afford the producer crop insurance or NAP coverage; it only affords eligibility for the 2008 disaster programs.

The crop insurance and NAP coverage requirements will be waived in 2008 for producers who did not obtain crop insurance or NAP coverage by the applicable sales closing date, if the producer files an application for waiver and pays a buy-in fee in an amount equal to the 2008 applicable NAP coverage or catastrophic risk protection plan fee for the crop or grazing lands.

Producers who meet the definition of "Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource," or "Beginning Farmer or Rancher," do not have to meet the Risk Management Purchase Requirement, and, therefore, are not required to pay the buy-in fee.

The buy-in fee for 2008 eligibility only for either the catastrophic risk protection

insurance (CAT) or NAP is \$100 per crop, but not more than \$300 per producer per administrative county, or \$900 total per producer for all counties less any previously paid fees for CAT and/or NAP.

Producers can contact their local administrative FSA County Office to file the application for waiver and pay the applicable fees.

The applicable buy-in form must be completed and applicable fees paid by Sept. 16, 2008. Payment of the applicable fees will allow the producer to be eligible for benefits for losses under Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program, Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), Tree Assistance Program (TAP), and Emergency Assistance Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP).

The 2008 Act authorizes funds to be used to make payments to farmers and ranchers incurring eligible crop production/quality losses under the SURE Program, grazing losses under LFP, livestock death losses under LIP, and losses suffered by producers of livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish under ELAP. The 2008 Act also authorizes TAP.

To be eligible for SURE, TAP, and ELAP, producers must meet the Risk Management Purchase Requirement by purchasing at least the CAT level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or NAP coverage for non-insurable crops. To be eligible for LFP, producers must meet the Risk Management Purchase Requirement by purchasing or obtaining for the grazing land incurring the losses where assistance is being requested, a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, including pilot programs such as the Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Program (PRF) or NAP coverage by filing the required paperwork and paying the administrative fee by the applicable State filing deadline. The Risk Management Purchase Requirement does not apply to LIP.

The SURE program will be available to eligible producers on farms in disaster counties, designated by the Secretary, including contiguous counties that have incurred crop production losses and/or crop quality

losses during the crop year. However, Congress determined that payments would not occur until the calculation at the end of the marketing year.

It also will be available to any farm where, during the calendar year, the total loss of production on the farm, because of weather, is greater than 50 percent of the normal production of the farm.

The LFP program will be available to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock, because of drought on land that is either native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or planted to a crop specifically for providing grazing. The LFP program will also be available to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock, because of fire on rangeland managed by a Federal agency, if the eligible livestock producer is prohibited from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland.

The LIP program will be available to eligible livestock producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality, because of adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary during the calendar year, including losses because of hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold.

The TAP program provides assistance to orchardists and eligible nursery tree growers who produce nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut or Christmas trees for commercial sale that lost trees, bushes, or vines, because of a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary.

The ELAP program will provide emergency relief to producers of livestock, honey bees and farm-raised fish, because of losses from adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary.

Because Congress did not provide a rulemaking exception for these programs, FSA must first publish a proposed rule seeking public comment, followed by a final rule. FSA is working to develop detailed regulations and software for these programs. Sign up for these programs is not expected to be held until this winter.

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Kids Safety Bulletin
By: Don C. Keenan

Pet Safety

Pets bring so much joy to our lives. They also become a good way to teach children the importance of giving and receiving love. However not every close encounter of the pet kind has a happy ending.

The Statistics Show the Importance of being aware of potentially dangerous animals in your neighborhood. Consider the following:

- Every year, dogs bite 4.7 million Americans, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- About 42 percent of dog bites occur among children less than 14 years of age (CDC)
- Most injuries to children under four years of age are to the head and neck areas (CDC)

To protect your children, teach them what to do in different situations:

1. Teach your children how to behave around dogs. Emphasize that they should only approach a dog if the dog is leashed and accompanied by an owner. If the dog is not on a leash and/or is not accompanied by an owner (for example, if the dog is leashed to a table outside with no owner in sight) your children should leave the dog alone.

If the dog is on a leash, with an owner holding the leash, teach your child to follow these important steps called the W.A.S.P. approach. This technique was created by 12 year old Kelly Voight, who was a victim of a dog attack:

W - Wait and watch the dog's body language. Understand how to tell the difference between angry, afraid, and happy dogs. Dogs show what they are feeling.

- A - Ask the owner for permission to pet the animal.
- S - Let the pet sniff you.
- P - Pet the dog in the direction of the fur and be very gentle.

2. Teach your child what to do if a dog becomes threatening:

a. Tell your child that if a dog appears threatening in any way, it is essential to always remain calm. Never scream. Remain completely still until the dog leaves or back away slowly without turning your back to the dog.

b. Never run away. The dog will chase anyone who runs.

c. If your child falls or is knocked to the ground he should curl into a ball. Emphasize the importance of protecting his face by putting his hands completely over his head and neck.

Learn More: For more information, visit the Web site started by Kelly Voight. Her non-profit organization, "Prevent the Bite," has an excellent web site, www.preventthebite.com. Other good resources include www.safekidssafedogs.com, and a site run by State Farm Insurance. www.statefarm.com/consumer/dogbite.htm.

NRCS Reminds Producers about Options for Expiring CRP Acres

Time is drawing near for the expiration of many Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts on the South Plains and High Plains regions of the state.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) wants to remind landowners with expiring CRP contracts to come by the local field offices to review their conservation compliance plans before making decisions on the future use of their land.

"The bulk of the state's expiring CRP contracts are located on the South Plains and Panhandle regions," said Mickey Black, NRCS assistant state conservationist in Lubbock. "It's important for landowners to understand USDA compliance before putting a plow in the ground. Producers should know the options available to them."

According to the Farm Service Agency (FSA), in this region there are over 78,000 acres in CRP contracts due to expire in October. Almost 680,000 acres of CRP will expire in October of 2009, and over 507,000 acres in October of 2010.

NRCS wants producers to know that it's never too early to start considering what to do with CRP land. Leigh Cranmer, NRCS agronomist in Lubbock said,

"Landowners have several options, including grazing or haying the existing grass cover, making enhancements to target wildlife, or putting it back into production. A grazing or haying system could be set up for relatively little cost, and would offer protection from erosion as well as benefiting wildlife. If crop production is the goal, serious consideration should be given to leaving sensitive areas and acres with a low potential for production in grass, and only farming those areas best suited for crop production."

NRCS can assist producers with livestock water facilities and cross fences if producers leave the land in the existing grass cover. Cost share assistance may be available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), administered by NRCS.

According to NRCS, if land is converted back to crop

production, it may be necessary for landowners to apply certain conservation practices on their land to ensure compliance with the Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985.

Conservation compliance could entail the implementation of a crop rotation that includes high residue-producing crops like wheat or sorghum, or the installation, repair and maintenance of structural practices like terraces.

NRCS, working with the local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, urges producers to contact their local NRCS field offices to discuss expiring CRP options and to check on eligibility for USDA benefits.

CRP is a voluntary program through which farmers and ranchers plant grasses and trees on marginal cropland acres in exchange for rental payments. The USDA Farm Service Agency administers CRP; NRCS provides technical assistance for the program.

For more information, call the USDA-NRCS office in your county, listed under USDA in the Yellow Pages, or access the information on the Texas NRCS website at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.



Joe Olivarez, who lives in Waca caught this catfish last weekend at Palo Duro Lake. He said it was the biggest fish he had caught, and he has been fishing in the lake since it opened. He said he weighed it on his scale, but the batteries were low and it registered 24 pounds, but looks a lot bigger, maybe 30 pounds.

Together in Texas

Starting Sept. 1, the state marriage license fee doubles from \$30 to \$60, except for couples who participate in a new marriage class.

Couples who take an eight-hour class get a certificate good for one year that will allow them to bypass the state marriage license fee. It will not exempt them from county fees, which are up to an additional \$12.

The state pays for the marriage classes, which may be taught by clergy members, mental health professionals or community organizations.

Source: Health and Human Services Commission, Lutheran Social Services of the South, Inc.

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We had so much fun last year that we're doing it again - it's amazing what we can manage to accumulate in just one year! **SAVE 25-75% off** loads of stuff. We have chairs, tables, lamps, shades, fabrics, fringe, trophies, jars, pictures, cabinets, decorative items, and whatever else we can dig out by sale time. . . find a project and save!

Stop by and see what we drag out Friday, July 25th, and Saturday, July 26th from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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Spearman ISD Kids Kamp 2008
All students in Spearman, Gruver & Morse invited to Kids Kamp 2008!
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July 30: Discovery Center Field Trip- This field trip is for students in grades 1-4 and will be a day of fun. Bring a sack lunch. After going through the Discovery Center we will eat lunch at the Medical Center Park. We will leave from the east parking lot at Spearman high school. Early registration is required and permission slips returned. \$20, grades 1-4, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bring lunch

August 4-7: Spearman Lynx Football Camp is sponsored by Ritchie Thornton and the Lynx coaching staff. The cost of camp is \$15 and will be held at Lynx stadium at Spearman High School. Camp will focus on fundamentals of football and technique. Grades 4-6, 8-10 a.m. Grades 7-9, 10 a.m. - Noon

August 4-7: We've Got Spirit Cheer Camp is sponsored by Spearman High School Cheerleaders. Registration is the first day of camp at 8:30 a.m. in the Spearman High School Cafeteria. The other two days of camp start at 9 a.m. and end at 11:45. Spirit sticks will be handed out each day at 11:45. \$10 per day or \$25 for all three days

August 12: Lyric Matinee will begin at 10:30 a.m. The movie will be an age appropriate for grades K-5. The price is \$6 and includes admission, coke and popcorn.

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