



The McLean News

TEXAS



Bank Of Commerce Building
Office No. 5, 201 N. Main St.

Published Weekly
Thursday, August 24, 2006

1-806-779-2141
1-806-248-7333

McLean ISD Welcomes New Employees



Patty Hall

Classes at McLean ISD started on August 16. Several new employees have been hired.

Patty Hall, a graduate of Texas Tech is the new Spanish I, II and special ed inclusion teacher. She has taught at Pampa High School and McLean High School.

Patty's husband, Steve, is a retired rancher and a third year law student at Oklahoma City University. Daughter SaraBeth is a graduate student in accounting at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, TX.

When asked why she was interested in McLean, Patty replied, "I feel that the kids in smaller communities deserve a high quality of education and I hope I can make a positive difference in the lives of some of my students. Mr. Hannon, as superintendent, was also a compelling reason for me to return to the district."



Lora Llewellyn

Lora Llewellyn, a graduate of WTAMU is the new McLean High School science teacher. Lara was interested in McLean because she "grew up in Hedley and loves small towns and the small town atmosphere. Her family includes her mother, Shelia, and two brothers: Joshi, age 12 and Cole, age 19.

Lora stated, "I feel like the administrators and faculty at McLean ISD are very dedicated and high quality. I am very excited about being in McLean! The community has been very welcoming already!"

Terry Maxwell, a graduate of Southwestern Oklahoma State University is the new math and Tech lab teacher. He has taught in Leedey, OK, Ft. Elliot, TX, Vici, OK and Taloga, OK. He has 30 years of teaching experience.

Terry and his wife Donna have three children, Brady and his wife Tammy



Terry Maxwell

have three boys, Brigit and her husband Cory Minden have 4 children and one on the way and Trevor and wife Heather.

Terry stated that he was interested in McLean because it was a "small town, great people, and (it was a) very clean and neat town".

Matthew McCabe is new to the technology department this year. He is a 2005 Clarendon High School graduate. He will graduate from Clarendon College in 2007. His parents are Stan and Lori Lessew of Clarendon. He has two older sisters. Matthew enjoys tennis and computer building.

Employees returning to McLean ISD this year are: ELEMENTARY-Dick Crockett, principal, Shelly Henderson, Pre-K, Diana Watson, kindergarten, Shelli Long, first grade, Kristi Glass, second grade, Sandi McLain, third grade, Kristi Crockett, fourth



Matthew McCabe

grade, Sharmin Perkins, fifth grade, Bobbi Stalls, sixth grade, Misty Hannon, seventh grade and Erin Shaw, eighth grade. Freda Holland is the elementary computer aid. Gay Hill teaches music. Tammy Hanes is the elementary secretary.

HIGH SCHOOL-Rhonda Patterson, Principal, Melissa Dickey, technology, Charles Graves, Coach & History, Benjamin Hausen, Coach & PE, Blaze Herring, Coach & English, Melissa Jones, HS Aid, Bill Layman, Ag, Jacqui Riley, English and Jessica Russell, computer. Pam Crockett is the High School Secretary.

BUSINESS OFFICE-Jimmy Hannon, Superintendent, Leslie Darsey, business manager and Dawn Roudybush P/R-secretary.

MAINTENANCE and bus personnel are Joe See Employees, pg.10

McLean Graduating Class Of 2020 Begins Pre-K



No tears, no crying, no hanging on to mom. Nine happy, energetic and excited Pre-K students started their first day of school August 16th. Students in the class are Dominic Azzazi, Kinzie

Cooper, Benjamin Crockett, Ethan Montgomery, Natalie Russell, Caden Simpson, Jackie Soto, Chance Thompson and Jacob Watson. Pre-K teacher is Shelly Henderson.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MCLEAN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP will be Sept. 2 at 1:30 PM at the McLean Golf Course.

DONATIONS ARE being accepted at the Bank of Commerce of McLean. You may mail your donations to Bank of Commerce, Po Box 29, McLean, TX, 79057. ATTN: Susan Corley. Make Checks payable to the Jim Reyna Medical Fund.

YOUNG @ HEART will meet Tuesday, Sept 5th at noon for a covered dish luncheon at the Young @ heart building.

ALIVE FOR 55 class for discount auto insurance still has a few openings. Call Mary Dyer (as soon as possible.) If you are interested. 779-2128.

3 on 3 BASKETBALL Tournament to benefit Jim Reyna Fund. 8 AM in the Old Gym, Saturday, August 26.

A.A. MEETING every Tuesday 8 PM at the McLean Cowboy Church, 119 E. Third.

MCLEAN CITY Council will meet in special session at 1:00 PM Monday, August 21 at City Hall. On the agenda is the Public hearing for the Proposed Tax Rate and the swearing in of James Troy

TIGERS SCRIMMAGE Lefors, tonight at 6 PM in Lefors.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND donations for dual credit courses may be made at the MISD business office.

THE QUILT raffle drawing for the Jim Reyna Transplant Fund will be Sept 5th at the noon luncheon at Senior Citizens. Ticket will be available until the time of the drawing.

ANGEL FOOD ministries pick-up day is Saturday, August 26 @ 12:30 at the Cowboy Church.

FIRE MEETING-every 1st and 3rd Thursday at the fire station.

On Line Tutorials To Aid "Students" With Homework At The Click Of A Mouse

Lovett Library of McLean, in conjunction with the Texas Public Library System, is offering a new program for Live Homework Help. This service is for anyone from 4th grade up, including those going back to school and those preparing for a GED.

All you have to do is log onto to the web site: www.hlc-lib.org/mclean, click Live Homework Help icon, choose a subject and grade level and be connected to a professional tutor for free. These tutors have had a 7 year background check.

They are teachers, retired teachers and professional people who are interested in education, according to Sally Bohlar, Librarian.

Sally went on to state that this web site is in compliance with the Children's Internet protection Act. This site

may be accessed from home or the library seven days a week from 1-11 PM. The Spanish version is accessible from 1-9 PM, Sunday-Thursday.

Georgia, Alabama, Kansas and a portion of California pays for this program for anyone who wishes to be on it.

MCLEAN CHURCH DIRECTORY

Church of Christ 4th & Clarendon
 Pastor Jim Reyna 779-2548
 Sunday Bible School 10:00 a.m.
 Worship 10:40 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible Class 7:30

New Life Assembly of God 4th & Main
 Pastor Z.A. Myers
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday night Service 6:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church 206 E. 1st
 Pastor Kelly Raymond 779-2175
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 & 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m.

United Methodist Church 2nd & Gray
 Pastor Thacker Haynes 779-2049 & 779-2337
 Sunday 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 a.m.
 Wednesday Choir 7:00 p.m.

Heald United Methodist Church
 Kallerville Road
 Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Trinity Church Railroad Street
 Pastor Lorry Perkins 779-3207
 Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.
 Life Groups-Sunday-5:00 p.m.
 Solid Rock Youth & Sunshine Children's Ministry
 Wednesday 6:00
 Adult Bible Study-Wednesday-7:00 p.m.

McLean Cowboy Church & The Arena of Life 119 E. 3rd
 Pastor Ronnie Ferguson, - 779-2135
 Worship Service Sunday morning 10:30 a.m.
 Bible Study Wednesday evening 7:30 p.m.
 AA Meetings on Tues. 8:00 pm

McLean Birthdays & Anniversaries

August 24 - Anita Day, Steve Brass, Daniel Syfrett.
 August 25 - Mary Richardson.

August 26 - Rickie Jasper.

August 27 - Gregg Mann, Robin Corley.

August 28 - Marjorie Fish, Chris Littlefield, Laverne Brooks, A.M. Dean, Kevin L. Smith,

Bobby and Judy Orrick (A).

August 29 - Johnny Day, Don Crockett, Clifford McDonald, Rae Simpson, Dianne Studebaker, Lucas Webb, Kevin Smith, Mark and Kim Cadra (A).

August 30 - Tony Hambright, Jackie Worsham, Keith Robinson, Shirley Ennis.

Broaddus-Joiner Wed In Pampa



Lana Richmond Broaddus of Amarillo and

Monty Paul Joiner of Amarillo (formerly of McLean) were united in marriage July 29, 2006. The sundown ceremony was held in the backyard of Larry and Debbie Stroud, uncle and aunt of the bride, of Pampa. Franklin McDonough of the Wells Street Church of Christ in Pampa officiated.

Attendants were flower girls K'Leigh Broaddus, daughter of the bride, and Halley Pate, niece of the bride. Julian Word, nephew of the groom, was ring bearer.

Parents of the bride are Phil and Carol Richmond of Pampa. The bride's grandparents are the late Bo and Helen Dyer and the late G.F. and Nina Richmond of Pampa.

Parents of the groom are Monty and Darlis Joiner of McLean. Grandparents of the groom are Vindle and Thelma Matthews of Amarillo and the late Bob Joiner and Marquetta Joiner of Pampa.

The bride is a graduate of Fort Elliott High School. She attended WTAMU and is currently employed with Xcel energy.

The groom is a graduate of McLean High School. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from WTAMU. He is employed with Bell Helicopter.

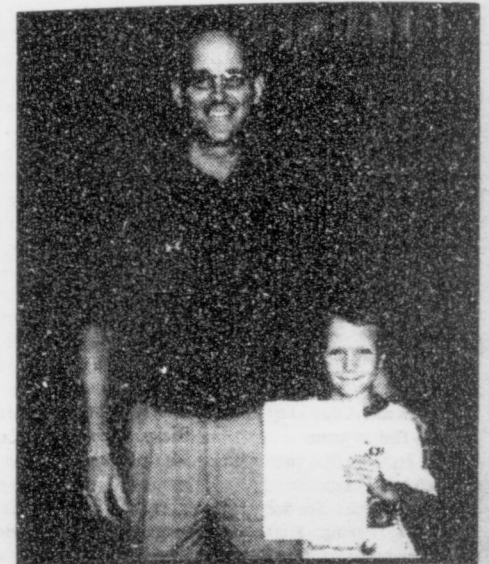
The couple will make their home in Amarillo.

McLean School Menu

BREAKFAST-THURS.-egg patties, bacon, toast & jelly, juice and milk. **FRI.**-cinnamon rolls, toast & jelly, juice and milk. **MON.**-muffins, toast & jelly, juice and milk. **TUES.**-scrambled eggs, bacon, toast & jelly, juice and milk. **WED.**-French toast, sausage, toast & jelly, juice and milk. **THURS.**(Aug 31)-Donuts, toast & jelly, juice and milk. **31.**-BBQ sandwich, tater tots, veggie sticks, fresh fruit and milk

LUNCH-THURS.-Fish nuggets, macaroni & cheese, carrots, pear halves and milk. **FRI.**-Hamburger, lettuce, tomato, pickie, onion, cheetos, sherbert and milk. **MON.**-Pizza Pocket, salad, corn-on-cob, rosie applesauce and milk. **TUES.**-Hot dogs, baked beans, potato wedges, brownies and milk. **WED.**-Chicken fajitas, peppers and onions, refried beans, salad, cake and milk. **THURS.**- (Aug

Summer Reading Program Completed by 41 Students



Danny Syfrett receives a \$50.00 savings bond from T Jay McEwen for reading the most books this summer.

Reading...The Sport of Champions has been the theme of the summer reading program at the library.

According to Sally Bohlar, Librarian, 77 people signed up for the program. Forty one completed the entire program. Sally stated, "The summer reading

program was a huge success."

In addition to the program, 13 people competed to see who could read the most books. Danny Syfrett won with a total of 290 books! He was presented with a \$50 savings bond from the Bank of Commerce in McLean.



Suzy Trout celebrates her 100th birthday with a party attended by a huge crowd of family and friends.



BANK OF COMMERCE

NOTICE

It has come to the attention of management of the Bank of Commerce that the Bank parking lot is being used after business hours for non business purposes. The parking lot is intended for the use of Bank employees and Bank customers during normal business hours. Any activity after business hours is prohibited by the Bank and therefore prohibited by law enforcement. Signs have been placed on the parking lot forbidding entrance after business hours, temporary fencing has been placed at each drive entering the parking lot, and the proper authorities have been notified of the Banks intention to close the parking lot after normal business hours. In placing this ad the Bank is also giving written communication that the parking lot is off limits after business hours. The Bank of Commerce and its management would like to improve the property and invites the community to visit and use the park during normal business hours.

If you have any questions in this matter, please contact T Jay McEwen at 806-779-2461.

MEMBER
FDIC





Donald R. Dorsey Services Held in Alanreed, Texas

Donald R. Dorsey, 85, died August 21, 2006 in Amarillo, Texas.

Graveside services will be at 11:00 AM today, Thursday, August 24, 2006 at the Alanreed Cemetery in Alanreed, Texas under the direction of Bailey-Ware Funeral Home. Tom Lapacka, son-in-law, of Pampa, Texas, will officiate.

Mr. Dorsey was born April 26, 1921, to Tony and Leona Dorsey in McLean, Texas. He married Catherine McBee on April 14, 1961, in Cheyenne, OK. They were married 45 years.

He was an auto mechanic in Lefors and a rancher in Alanreed. He was an accomplished musician who played the fiddle in bands all other the Panhandle. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and friend who will be missed by all.

Survivors include his wife, Catherine Dorsey, of Alanreed, Texas. Four sons: Don Charles Dorsey and Glen Dale Cunningham of Alanreed,

Texas, Billy Don Dorsey of Washington State and Travis Dorsey of Florida. Five daughters: Wanda Edgar of Amarillo, Linda Lapacka of Pampa, Donna Murray of Colorado, Glenda (Susie) Martin of Alanreed and Rose Yount of Pampa. One brother, Oran Dorsey of Alanreed, one sister, Dorothy Reagan of Reserve, NM. Twenty one grandchildren: Belinda, Debbie, Janet, Wade, Sara, Chuck, Rhett, Dustin, Chris Spannagel, Donya, Darren, Allendra, Alicia, Shane, April, Greg, Sherry, Chris Martin, Ricky, Michelle and Katy. Mr Dorsey is also survived by twenty-two great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Deimar Dorsey and his parents, Tony and Leona Dorsey.

The family requests memorials be made to Odyssey Hospice, 6900 I-40 West-Suite 150, Amarillo, Texas, 79106.

EDC Approves Projects For Park

The McLean EDC met Thursday, August 10 at 6 PM in the Library. The meeting was called to order by Betty Taylor. The invocation was given by Bob Glass. Katie Warner read the minutes from the last meeting.

Rosa Troy was voted on as a new member.

Butch Warner gave the treasurer's report.

The Park Pavilion

walkways were discussed. There was some concern about the slope on the handicap side. After the meeting, the committee of Bob Glass, Monty McLain and Butch Warner were to check on the walkway.

The park merry-go-round was decided upon. The EDC will purchase the "Super Whirl, a multi-colored merry-go-round.

Nikki Hambright was

chosen to paint the Pavilion name sign and to put Tiger Paw Prints on the concrete walkways. When it is finished, the pavilion will be named the "Pioneer Pavilion."

Killing weeds, installing pea gravel, painting and repairing of "The Phillips 66 Station" was discussed. Katie Warner was to get new material costs to discuss

and make plans, if any, by next meeting.

David Haynes brought estimates to resurface the tennis courts. He will bring more bids and it will be discussed with the city. Bob Glass, Monty McLain and Butch Warner were to check on the Tennis Courts after the meeting.

There was a discussion about more play equipment at the park.

The meeting adjourned.

Funds Needed For Dual Credit Courses

Dual Credit Courses will be offered online to the McLean High School Seniors for the 2006-2007 school year in conjunction with Clarendon College. English 1301 will be offered as a three credit hour college course during the fall semester. The MHS students who enroll for English 1301 will also receive high school credit

for English IV.

English 1302, College Algebra, and Macro Economics are dual credit courses that will be possibly offered during the Spring 2007 semester. Each course will cost \$258 per student. According to Rhonda Patterson, Principal at McLean High School, "There are six students currently who are

currently enrolled to take English 1301, but the costs of the courses are prohibiting some of the other students from enrolling. The students are unable to apply for financial aid for these courses because they are currently in high school."

A scholarship fund has been set up at the McLean ISD business office for

students wishing to take dual credit courses. The fall semester registration will begin on August 28, and the internet classes will begin on Aug. 30. Anyone wishing to contribute to the McLean High School dual credit scholarship fund may contact Jimmy Hannon, Superintendent, at 779-2301 or see him at the MISD business office.

McLean ISD Board Gives Kudos To Staff And Students For Receiving a Rating of Recognized

The McLean Independent School District Board of Education met for a Regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on August 21, 2006. Board members present were Terri Adams, David Fuller, Joe Riley, Randy Eddleman, Carey Richardson and Toni Bohlar. Also present were Superintendent Jimmy Hannon, Leslie Dorsey, Dick Crockett and Rhonda Patterson. Chet Bohlar was absent from the meeting. Late arrivals were David Haynes and Erin Bailey.

All votes are unanimous unless otherwise stated.

Joe Riley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and Carey Richardson gave the opening prayer.

There were no visitors present.

Motion by Toni Bohlar, second by David Fuller to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of July 17, 2006. Motion carried. Motion by Terri Adams, second by David Fuller to approve the monthly

financial reports for July and to sign the corresponding checks excluding The Flower Cottage bill. Motion carried.

Motion by Carey Richardson, second by Toni Bohlar to approve to pay The Flower Cottage; with 3 voting "FOR" and Terri Adams and Randy Eddleman abstaining.

At this time David Haynes entered the meeting requesting the Board to explore the possibility of having Girl's Softball offered as another extra-curricular sport. He was representing a group that would like to try the program on a trial basis. He stated that he had inquired and there was enough interest, and the 14 yr. old team was very competitive that had been playing all summer. He stated that in a couple of years the High School could have a very strong program, with a chance to prove a winning team. He went on to say that it would be a good team sport and it involves other girls that might not be interested in basketball or other sports, and

that there were lots of scholarships available. He felt the community would be in support. The Board wanted Mr. Hannon to study the feasibility of adding the program. Things to be considered were the Budget, what district we would play in, travel cost, and the need for considerable work to be done on the baseball field. This also raised the question

as to whether we would add Boy's baseball, and Mr. Hannon would have to check into Title 9 guidelines. Mr. Hannon will be in the process of gathering information regarding the softball program and will present it during the October regular Board meeting. The Board thanked Mr. Haynes for coming.

Mr. Hannon had received a letter stating the certified Total Taxable Value of \$159,403,902. from Pat Bagley of the Gray County Appraisal District. He explained the local revenue based on this certification at \$1.33/100 valuation would generate \$2,120,072, and that the proposed rate of \$1.37/100 valuation would generate \$2,183,833 which equals a difference of \$63,761. This is very good news and the District would be able to add over half a million dollars to next year's fund balance, depending on the Average Daily Attendance. There will be a public meeting next month to adopt the \$1.37 tax rate that Mr. Hannon recommends.

Mr. Hannon reported that Matt McCabe has everything installed as far as the new Technology additions. They are working out kinks with the new e-grade book and

attendance. As to date the spending for Technology is approximately \$108,433. These bills are being paid out of last year's fund balance of which the Board designated \$150,000.00 to be spent on Technology updates.

Mr. Hannon disclosed the 2005-2006 Accountability Rating for McLean ISD as receiving a rating of Recognized, which was an improvement over last year. The District also met the milestone for Adequate Yearly Progress on the No Child Left Behind, based on student performance. Kudos to the entire staff and students for working so hard.

Mr. Hannon was interested to know if the Board would like to sell the weed sprayer. The school does not have anyone on staff certified to spray, and the sprayer is just sitting. The Board agreed to take bids on the weed sprayer.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:38 p.m. to discuss a Student Drug Testing issue.

Mr. Crockett, Mrs. Patterson, and Mr. Hannon were then asked to exit the closed meeting. At this time the Board discussed the Superintendent Salary. Return to open session came at 8:53 p.m. No action was taken on either item of the Executive Session.

Under Other Business Mr. Riley informed the Board of some notes from the TASB convention. Mr. Hannon went over the Chapter 41 status, and asked that the President and Secretary of the Board sign the early agreement for Option 3. This will allow the See School Board. pg. 10

YOUR ROAD TO A NEW CAREER!

- Paid CDL Training!
- No Experience Needed!
- Earn \$35 - \$75K Yearly!

Stevens Transport offers the best comprehensive training program for new drivers! Get your career rolling and enjoy exceptional earnings and great benefits from the #1 premier transportation carrier!

For more information, call **800-333-8595**

Stevens Transport www.stevens-transport.com

USDA Rural Development HUD

Apartments

For Rent

1-2-3 Bedrooms

Financial Assistance Available

CITY OF McLEAN HOUSING AUTHORITY

711 North Wheeler, McLean, Texas
(806)771-2101

Mon. - Wed. - Fri.
9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

RED RIVER

Steakhouse

NOW OPEN!

Tuesday - Saturday 11 am to 9 pm
101 West Old Route 66 ☆ McLean, Texas
779-8940

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Will Frost & Company

City Council Meets in Regular and Special Sessions

The City Council of McLean met in regular session Monday, August 14th, 2006 in the City Hall.

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor and opened with an invocation at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Bob Martin, Molly McDowell, Betty Taylor, and George Shaw. Mindy Reeves was absent.

Others present: Toni Bohlar, Roby Lynn, Allen Mixon, Johnny & Anita Day, Jackie Worsham, Marjorie Fish, Pat Wilson, Ben Reeves, Randy Stewart, Duwain & Peggy Baer, Brad Dalton and Rex Peacock.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved. By unanimous consent the Council agreed to pay the bills.

McLean EDC - Alderman Taylor informed the Council that the EDC needs the approval of the Council to appoint Rosa Troy to the EDC Board. Motion by Alderman Shaw, seconded by Alderman McDowell to appoint Rosa Troy to be a member of the EDC board. Voting for was Aldermen Shaw and McDowell. Abstaining was Alderman Taylor. Motion passed.

Library - Sally Bohlar, Librarian, could not be present at the meeting, but had made available to the Council the Library's InterLibrary Loan Policy for their approval. Motion by Alderman McDowell, second by Alderman Shaw to approve the InterLibrary Loan Policy, with all voting in favor. Mrs. Bohlar also needed the approval of the Council to appoint James Troy to the Library Board. Motion by Alderman Taylor, second by Alderman Shaw to appoint James Troy to the Library Advisory Board. Voting for was Aldermen Taylor and

Shaw. Abstaining was Alderman McDowell. Motion passed.

Housing Authority - Bred Dalton, explained to the Council that Brenda Wallis had resigned and asked them to appoint Patty Brass to the Housing Authority Board. Motion by Alderman McDowell, second by Alderman Taylor to appoint Patty Brass to the Housing Authority Board of Directors, with all voting in favor.

Ordinance # 308 - Motion by Alderman Shaw, second by Alderman McDowell, with all voting in favor to adopt the following Ordinance # 308:

"An ordinance amending section 1 of Ordinance # 300, authorizing and directing the Director of Public Works to cause the erection of stop signs to include putting a stop sign at the intersection of Third & Wheeler, providing for publication, and providing for an effective date."

2006-2007 Public Budget Hearing - there were no comments from the citizens concerning the budget.

Review 2006-2007 Budget - The Mayor explained to the citizens in attendance that the Water Sewer and Gas Fund had an estimated projected income of \$604,828.00 and projected expenses in the amount of \$604,570.00 and in the General Fund the projected income was \$346,290.00 and the projected expense was \$254,967.00.

Approve 2006-2007 Budget - Motion by Alderman Shaw, second by Alderman Taylor to approve the 2006-2007 Budget as presented, with all voting in favor.

Compressor City Gas Well - The Mayor explained to the Council that several months ago a compressor had been tried out on the City well and it had doubled the production

of the well and depending on the price of gas, it could be an approximate 4 month period in which we could pay off the price of the compressor. Motion by Alderman Shaw, second by Alderman McDowell, with all voting in favor, to buy a compressor for the City Well.

Policies & Procedures - tabled until the August 21st special meeting.

Accept Alderman Watson's Resignation - Motion by Alderman Taylor, second by Alderman Shaw to accept Alderman Watson's resignation with regret, with all voting in favor.

Appoint Director - tabled until the August 21st special meeting.

Director's Report - Roby Lynn told the Council that everything was running smooth. The fire hydrant on Wheeler and the I-40 access road had been replaced. They were still looking into companies who can come in and fix the fire hydrants without shutting the water off.

Other City Business - The City had received a Quit Claim deed for a property here in town and the City Secretary will check with the County Clerk's office to see if it can be recorded. The City had received a letter concerning some property here in McLean that might be listed in the National Registry of Historic Places. The benefits for being placed in the registry would be that the property might be eligible for grants and tax credits.

Visitor Comments - Ben Reeves said that he was very concerned about the vandalism and destruction of personal property that was going on here in McLean. He said that he had quite a bit of damage to his property down town by vandals. Pat Wilson stated that they had lost a back window in their pick up and a storm door by vandalism. Mr. Reeves asked if a night watchman could be hired by the City. The Mayor explained that there were no funds in the budget for this and that if a law officer was hired, there would also have to be a City Attorney and City Judge hired, and that the City doesn't have the money to do this. Randy Stewart stated that maybe the money made

from the gas well after the compressor is put on could be used next year for this purpose. The citizens in attendance were all very concerned about the vandalism problem, and a discussion was held concerning possible solutions. The Mayor told them that he would talk to the Sheriff about this problem and see what could be done.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

The City Council of McLean met in a special session Monday, August 21st, 2006 in the City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bob Martin and opened with an invocation by Betty Taylor at 1:05 PM. The following members present were Bob Martin, Betty Taylor, Molly McDowell, and George Shaw. Mindy Reeves was absent. Others present were Roby Lynn, Toni Bohlar, Marjorie Fish, Jackie Worsham, Duwain and Peggy Baer, Rex Peacock, Ben Reeves, and Johnnie Allison.

The Public Hearing to Discuss Ad-Valorem Tax Rate was first on the agenda. Alderman Shaw explained that last years tax rate was .629428 and to receive the same amount of money this year we would need to have the tax rate of .648080 and the Council was looking at a rate of .68 for this years tax rate. The average increase would be approximately \$14.00 per household. There were no comments from the citizens present.

Alderman McDowell stated that she had received a complaint concerning the width of the sidewalk at the Pavilion, that it was not wide enough for a wheel chair. She said that she went up there and measured the sidewalk and that it was 48 inches wide and that it was more than wide enough for a wheel chair. Alderman Shaw stated that the state regulations require 36 inches. Alderman Taylor explained that the cost of the sidewalk went over the original price by \$200.00 due to the fact that they had made both sidewalks handicapped accessible. Motion was made by Alderman McDowell to approve the cost of \$2575.00 for the sidewalks. Aldermen Taylor and Shaw Abstained from voting. Alderman McDowell voted. The motion passed.

Concerning policies and procedures, Alderman Shaw stated that he would like to see the 4 step Disciplinary Action Policy that had been looked at a couple of months ago put into place. A copy was given to Director of Public Works Roby Lynn to show to the employees and this will be put on the agenda for Moinday's special meeting.

City Secretary, Toni Bohlar told the Council that the insurance adjuster had been out to look at the library roof but that she had not heard

from him concerning his recommendation. The roofers were at the Library last Friday and had repaired around the skylights again and that they had not leaked over the weekend. The Mayor asked that Sally Bohlar, Librarian, keep an eye on the problem and if it leaks again to let Roby know and have him look at the area to see if we can find out if it is coming from the skylights or elsewhere.

Alderman Taylor made the motion to appoint James Troy as Alderman. Alderman McDowell stated that she knew he had just been appointed to the Library Board and that maybe we should give him time to get used to that before we loaded him with more community involvement. She stated that when people become active in

the community and on committees etc., they tended to burn out quickly as they became overloaded. The motion was seconded by George Shaw. Voting for was Alderman Taylor and Shaw. Abstaining from voting was Alderman McDowell. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

SCHOOL BOARD
District to receive a 4% discount in the event that ADA dropped and we had to send payments to the state as a Chapter 41 district. The current enrollment numbers are 66 students in High School and 166 students in Elem./Jr. High. The Elementary is looking for an aide for 2nd grade, as they have 24 students and will need a class-size waiver. Mr. Crockett announced for the Board to attend Open House on Tuesday, August 22, at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Hannon went over the insurance proposals for 2006-2007. He had received 3 proposals for Property & Casualty. TASS bid \$17,668.00, Claims Admin. Services bid \$18,656.00, and Blackwell & Associates bid \$17,515.00. Mr. Hannon

recommended to accept the bid from TASS, and with a motion by Terri Adams, seconded by Randy Eddleman it passed.

Two proposals were received for Workers Comp. TASS bid \$6,913.00, and Claims Admin. Services bid \$4,850.00 in addition to any co-op claims. Mr. Hannon recommended going with CAS for Worker Comp coverage. A motion was made by Toni Bohlar, second by David Fuller to accept Mr. Hannon's recommendation for CAS. Motion carried.

Three proposals were received for Auto/Bus Insurance. TASS bid \$3,713.00, CAS bid \$3,600.00, and Farm Bureau bid \$2,250.00. Mr. Hannon recommended accepting the bid from Farm Bureau, and this passed with a motion by David Fuller, second by Carey Richardson.

Mr. Hannon had spoken with Kathy Lupton of TASS and she informed him that the \$200 fee for their Buy Board Agreement to purchase equipment online had been dropped. This service is now being offered for free and a Board resolution was required to become a member of the TASS Buy Board. The Board agreed to sign the resolution upon Mr. Hannon's recommendation, and the motion was made by Terri Adams, second by Randy Eddleman. Motion carried.

Carey Richardson inquired if there could be some updated playground equipment and improvements on the restrooms at the Football field.

Motion by Toni Bohlar, second by Terri Adams to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEES

Billingsley, Clay Cooper, Sally Seymour and Linda Smith.

Cafeteria personnel are Myrtle Billingsley, Rhonda Sparring and Linda Smith.

According to McLean weatherman, Sam Haynes, McLean had received 1.6 inches of rain during the period of August 20-the morning of Aug. 22.

The McLean Care Center
605 W. 7th P.O. Box 780
McLean, Texas 79057
806-779-2408, 779-2515 fax
Billy Ray Johnston, Administrator
Nita Massey, Asst. Administrator
Kim Daughtry, Director Nurses
Connie Baten, Asst. Director Nurses

DEAN'S PHARMACY
2217 PERMYTON PARKWAY 689-6896
WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SERVING OUR MCLEAN AND GROOM CUSTOMERS
Hours
9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
1:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Saturday
Special Discounts to Senior Citizens
On All Prescriptions

HARVEY'S PRECISION BODY SHOP
806-352-9662 FAX 806-352-9663
3026 BLACKBURN AMARILLO, TEXAS 79109

McLean Home Health
LYNN SWANSON, RN
Administrator
Director of Nursing
603 N. Grove St.
P.O. Box 47
McLean, Texas 79057

Want Results? GET CLASSIFIED!

Rates: 30c a word with a \$6.00 minimum. Bold, Caps, Lines & Boxes extra.
 Column style Cards of Thanks, \$6.00 (1 paragraph) & Up. Wedding Stones are free up to 300 words (30c a word over 300).
 No charge for engagement or wedding pictures, baby announcements or obituaries with their respective associated pictures.
 The News reserves the right to maintain editorial integrity.
Deadlines & Payment: All news and ads should be in the office by close of business Monday unless by prior approval. News releases are run on a space available basis. Payment is due in advance unless a credit account has been previously established.
 Errors: Check your ad immediately after the first publication! The News will not be responsible for mistakes after the first publication.
 The Groom-McLean News does not vouch for the legitimacy of any ad, job or money making opportunity advertised in this paper. We strongly recommend that you check out any offer before making a commitment or giving out any personal information.

Call Today at 248-7333 or 779-2141

CITY OF GROOM employees may be contacted for after-hour emergencies by calling Slim Finck at 248-1416 or paging him at 342-8312; or call Bobby Ratterree at 223-9565 or paging him at 342-8433.

OWN YOUR OWN business! Operating Café & Building for sale in Miami, Texas Great Opportunity. (See books) Shed Realty, Larene Paris. 806-868-6971.

GARAGE SALE: Gas edger, Breakfast table & 4 chairs, VHS recorder, Scroll saw, Portable refrigerator (car/house) More, 211 Choctaw, Groom, 10:00 AM Saturday.

POLITICAL CALENDAR

STATE OF TEXAS
 House of Representatives
 Republican Candidate
David Swinford

CARSON COUNTY

County Judge
 Republican Candidates
Lewis Powers

Democratic Candidates
Jackie West

County Treasurer
 Republican Candidate
Denise Salzbrenner

Democratic Candidates
Dea Schroeder

Tax Assessor-Collector
 Republican Candidates
Jackie Lewis

Justice of the Peace
 Precinct 1
 Democratic Candidates
Bill Hinson

Gray County

Gray County Clerk
 Republican Candidates
Susan Winborne

Justice of the Peace,
 Precinct 2
 Republican Candidates
Mary Ann Carpenter...

Co. Commissioners
 Precinct 4
James Hefley

The following candidates have paid a fee to have their names on this political calendar. Their disclaimer statements are on file at The Groom-McLean News for public inspection.

FOR SALE: '06 Toyota Tundra, DBL Cab, 206-2102

FOR SALE: 1992 3/4 ton Chev. Pick-Up 4x4, 350 auto, AC, 75,000 miles left on warranty on new engine and transmission. \$4250. 248-7389 or 206-5990.

'87 F250 XLT Lariat Ex-Cab, extras - trailer friendly - 50,000 on motor, (nice) Must See. \$3,000. Call 248-0139.

SHAMROCK LAUNDRY - 200 N. Wall, (Corner of 2nd & Wall). Coin operated, bring soap & change! Come wash and dry in Shamrock, Texas..

***Wheat, Triticale* Oats, Barley**
 Book Now while Selection lasts, Delivery Available. Gayland Ward * Hereford, TX 800-299-9273

CITY OF GROOM NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF GROOM PROPOSED 2006-2007 BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on the proposed 2006-2007 City of Groom Operating Budget. The hearing will be held on the 7th day of September, 2006 at 7:30 P.M. in the Groom City Hall, 203 Broadway, Groom, Texas. All tax payers and other interested persons are requested to be present and participate in said hearing. A copy of the proposed budget is on file in the Office of the City Secretary for public review.

Mary Sue Lyles
 City Secretary

ARBONNE anti-aging skin care products to try risk free call Kim Babcock at 248-8014.

PUBLIC NOTICE

1969 GMC
 VIN#:CS10DZA29089

1988 DODGE

VIN#
 1B3BU5638JD165026

1995 FORD

VIN#
 1FALP2U6SA181128

Vehicles above were accepted for storage in accordance with provisions VSF (V.C.S. 6687-9A).

This is to inform you the vehicles are stored at T & H Towing, LLC 303 West Front St. Groom, Tx 79039. 584-1492, 0593827 VSF. Vehicles will be deemed abandoned and sold for charges incurred by VSF if not claimed.

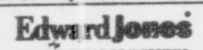
T & H TOWING, LLC

M C L E A N FEEDYARD is buying hay grazor and alfalfa hay for grinding. Please call Laphe at 806-779-2405.

I'M HAD.. At Banks who don't give house loans because of bad credit, problems or new employment. I do, Call L.D. Kirk, Homeland Mortgage, (254) 947-4475
 www.homedad46.com

STOCKS BOND MUTUAL FUNDS IRAS

Duane Harp
 Investment Representative
 1921 N. Hobart
 805-6753
 www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC



Edward Jones
 EXPERTS IN THE ART OF INVESTING

FOR ALL MY CUSTOMERS IN GROOM & MCLEAN

call **669-1202**

Keys Pharmacy
 928 N. HOBART PAMPX • MERLIN ROSE, R.P.H.

SERVICE YOU CAN TRUST!

- COMPLETE PRESCRIPTION SERVICE
- CONVENIENT MAILING SERVICE
- COMPETITIVE PRICES
- DRIVE UP WINDOW
- EMERGENCY 24-HOUR PHONE

669-3559

ATTEBURY GRAIN INC.



Serving you at the following locations:
 Groom..... 248-7544
 Lark..... 248-7591
 Grandview..... 669-3961
 The Corners.... 248-7011
1-800-299-7544

"We don't think there is a better place to haul your grain!"

McLean Care Center
 is
Now Accepting Applications for CNA's
All Shifts
Pleasant Working Conditions
Family Atmosphere.
We work with our employees to assure job satisfaction.

Starting Salary \$8.00 an hour

Contact Billy Ray Johnston at
806-779-2469 or Apply in Person

EEO

Black Diamond Park
Jewel of the Rockies
 A MASSIVE PLEASANT LAKE & COMPLEX WITH
 1000'S OF ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL SCENERY

BORDERS THE WALDENBURG GOLF COURSE AND LATHROP STATE PARK

10 Day Financing From the \$40's

TOLL FREE 866-364-6868
 BLACKDIAMONDPARK.COM

Spectacular Views From Every Lot!

Welcome To The 11th Annual Yoakum County *Kiss a Pig!*
Watermelon Round Up!
 All Day Music! US 82 & 380, Plains, Texas
 Saturday, Sept. 2, 2006 Stage Entertainment

Home of the World's Best Melons!

Classic Car Show! Cow Patty Bingo! Stage Arts & Crafts!
 BBQ Cookoff! Kids Inflatables! Free Melon Slices All Day!
 Stage Dancing!

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Makes this year the most exciting, surprising year ever for you and your family. Share your world with a young foreign visitor from abroad. Welcome a high school student, 15-18 years old, from France, Spain, Germany, Thailand, Mexico, Denmark, Japan, or Italy as part of your family for a school year and make an overseas friend for life.

For more program information or to select your own exchange student from applications with photos, please call
Places at 1-900-888-9040 WORLD HERITAGE IS A PUBLIC BENEFIT, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 www.world-heritage.org

DIABETICS!

IF YOU HAVE MEDICARE OR PRIVATE INSURANCE, YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE YOUR DIABETIC SUPPLIES AT **LITTLE or NO COST!**

We also carry Impotence & Arthritis Supplies

FOR INFORMATION CALL EASY ACCESS MEDICAL SUPPLY
1-800-679-1623
 (Not available in Alaska, HI, IL, IN, MI, NY, OH, PA, VA, WI, WY)

Urgent news for people who took

SEROQUEL

Seroquel, an antipsychotic drug also known as Quetiapine, has been linked to diabetes, pancreatitis, diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) and even death. If you or a loved one have experienced any of these health problems, call us now toll free at 1-800-THE-EAGLE for a free consultation. We practice law only in Arizona, but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.

GOLDBERG & OSBORNE
 1-800-THE-EAGLE
 (1-800-848-3442)
 www.1000theeagle.com

SUMMER SIZZLERS

ribeye steaks
preferred trim
bone-in beef
\$4.99 lb.

chuck roast
preferred trim
breakfast beef
\$1.79 lb.

Doritos® chips
assorted
reg. \$3.49
9-12.5 oz.
2\$4

Coke ½ Liter 2/\$5
6 pk

Sprite 24 pk. \$6.99

Dr. Pepper

Rocky Ford Cantaloupe **99¢** ea.

red ripe tomatoes **69¢** ea.

wheat bread
TenderCrest
Thin Sliced
24 oz.
2\$1

peanut butter
Polar Pan
assorted
17.6-18 oz.
2\$3

Smucker's grape jelly
32 oz. jar
2\$3

Malt-O-Meal cereals
select varieties
21-27 oz. bags
2\$4

Cottonelle tissue
reg. or ultra
12 roll rolls
\$5.99

Starline sodas
assorted
3 liter bot.
\$5

Frozen Foods

assorted **Patio dinners** **5\$5**
11-12.25 oz.

assorted **Hungry Man dinners** **2\$5**
12.5-20 oz.

best/cheese pizza/cheese or beef burrito
Little Juan Supreme **5\$4**
8 oz.

Dairy Case

100% fat
Grand's biscuits **2\$3**
10.5 oz.

Shedd's
cottage cheese **2\$4**
24 oz.

Shedd's reg. or ultra
orange juice **\$2.99**
gal.

Shedd's extra creamed
coffee creamer **\$1.79**
16 oz.

cake mixes
Duncan Hines
assorted
15.7-19.25 oz.
2\$10

cake frosting
Duncan Hines
assorted
6-10 oz.
2\$3

Blue Bunny
ice cream **2\$6**
1/2 gal. bot.

Blue Bunny
ice cream sandwiches **2\$7**
16-12 count

Imperial
quartars **3\$2**
16 oz.

- Cousins
angel food cake **2\$9**
10.5 oz. bot or 16 oz. pkg.
- Doritos
pancake mix **2\$4**
22 oz. bot.
- Classic
spring water **2\$5**
12 pack bot.
- West's
Onion or assorted Clamato **2\$4**
32 oz.
- Underwood
meat spreads **2\$3**
4.5-4.75 oz.
- Starline
cat food **2\$3**
2.5 lb. bag
- Petalina
fish liquid **2\$4**
23 oz. bot.
- assorted
laundry hamper or basket **3\$9**
1-2 piece
- Western Family
kitchen sponges **99¢**
1-4 count
- Western Family
alkaline batteries **2\$3**
1-4 count
- Western Family
household gloves **69¢**
each pair
- Western Family
dog treats **99¢**
1-2 count pkg.

12 oz Oscar Mayer
meat cotto salami or
Meat Bologna
4/\$5

12 oz Pkg.
Price's reg or lite
Pimiento cheese
\$3.09

1lb Pkg. all meat
Reg. or Bun Length
Ball Park Franks
2/ \$4

GROOM S & H GOCERY

Prices Effective Aug 24-30
NOT ALL ITEMS AVAILABLE
AT ALL STORES, WE
RESERVE THE RIGHT TO
LIMIT NOT RESPONSIBLE
FOR TYPOGRAPHIC OR
PICTORIAL ERRORS

drumsticks or thighs
Pilgrim's Pride grade A
89¢

chicken breasts **\$1.99**
boneless skinless
(previously frozen)

preferred trim boneless **striped pork chops** **\$1.99**

fresh boneless country style **pork ribs** **\$1.99**

fresh pork **spare ribs** **\$1.99**

preferred trim boneless **beef chuck steak** **\$1.99**

preferred trim boneless **beef chuck eye steak** **\$3.99**

salad size **avocados** **3\$1**

For MPH mild or spicy
guacamole mix **69¢**

New Mexico
green chili **69¢**
where available

new red **potatoes** **69¢**

fresh **jalapeños** **89¢**

yellow **onions** **3\$1**

crisp **celery** **69¢**
12 oz. pkg.

green **beans** **2\$99**

sliced size **cucumbers** **3\$1**

Greener Sel. Classic Roma
or Just Lettuce, 10-12 oz.
Dole salad **2\$3**

red or black **plums** **99¢**

California **oranges** **99¢**

fresh green **pears** **89¢**

Western Family
skin cream **2\$4**

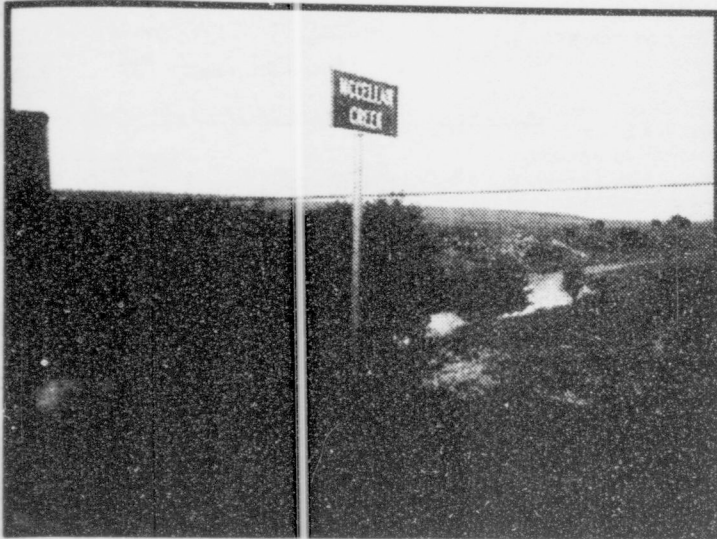
Western Family
cotton swabs **99¢**
100 count

The Groom News

Volume 81 Number 5

Groom, Texas 79039

Thursday, August 24, 2006



Roll On LK' Muddy! At the McCellan Creek bridge just north east of Groom, enough water was moving swiftly over the rocks and parched creek bed to actually make the sound of roaring water, not a sound heard often on the Texas high prairie these days!

And the rains came down..

Panhandle Area Receives Relief From the Drought

While most of the area has seen some rain in the past couple of weeks, the Groom vicinity has somehow missed the bulk of it until Saturday. Finally, the heavens seem to open and Groom received a wonderful series of showers over Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. At press time about 3-5 inches were reported over the area from Lark to Jericho, including Groom, proper. A few lightning strikes caused lights to flicker a time or two but for the most part, the rain was welcomed, any way it cared to fall.

While the rain is seen by most as a blessing, it

See Rain, pg. 2



The pastoral scene is not at some lake somewhere, it was taken at the corner of the Park on Collier Street. The high water crossing was roped off to keep traffic from flooding out.



School Bell Rings For 133 Students

THE CLASS OF 2019 has begun its journey down the long road of education. They are eager and excited to be members of Groom School. Mrs. Hutsell is their teacher. They are Ratan Gurr, K'Leigh Ashford, Matthew Bowen, Victory Brown, Brittany Stegall, Halle Barkley, Sydney Ritter, Madison Friemel, Cutter Babcock and Adrian Hendricks.

When the school bell rang last Thursday morning at Groom ISD, 133 children were present and accounted for. That is down by 2 students from last year's beginning count of 135. This year's kindergarten class has 10 students. They are Brittany Stegal, Sydney Ritter, Adrian Hendricks, Ratan Gurr, Matthew Bowen, Madison Friemel, Halle Barkley, K'Leigh Ashford, Cutter Babcock

and Victory Brown. Six seniors graduated last spring, and there have been a few move ins and move outs. The highest enrollment figures during the course of the 2005-2006 school years was 140. But according to Frances Payton, who serves as admissions clerk among her many other duties, for the best part of the year, the enrollment figures stood at 135.

Groom School was 1 of only 170 of the 845 schools in Texas recently notified that they had received a "Recognized" rating, based on their TAKS test and other factors, one being attendance. "I cannot stress how important it is for students to come to school," said Superintendent Stevens. "Of Course, we don't want

See School, pg. 2

City Hears From Residents On Plans to Clean-Up Dangerous Structures

The Groom city Council met in regular monthly business session with the following members and visitors present: Mayor Joe Homer, Aldermen: Chris Homer, Kenneth Weller, Matt Fields, Buck Babcock, Joe Rae Richardson, City Secretary Mary Sue Lyles, and visitors Raymond Brown, Dee Brown, Royce Brown, Jimmy Don Brown, Renee Brown, Ray Pool, Gay Neil Pool, Carson County Sheriff Tam Terry, Eddie Finck, Cecil Gwyn, Tony Treadwell, Bobby Cornett, Rick Prather, and John Bohr.

A Public Hearing concerning Dangerous Structures was held before the Council considered agenda items. Raymond Brown questioned the Council concerning their decision to pursue the clean up of his property at 96 and 98 Bosen Street. He presented pictures that he felt showed other places in the City that needed to be cleaned up and posed hazards. Ray Pool informed the Council that the shed on the property that he owns at 209 Ware Street will be taken care of

some time within the next 6 months. Royce Brown told the City Council that he felt the Used Oil Collection Center was not being properly maintained and informed the council that he was going to file a complaint with the EPA concerning the oil spill around the Used Oil collection center.

At the conclusion of the Public Hearing, the City Council addressed the agenda items.

The results regarding

See City, pg. 6

Groom Community Calendar

THE FIRST official holiday of the new school year will be on September 4, in celebration of Labor Day.

PATRIOT'S DAY is September 11.

MEET THE Tigers, Cubs, Cheerleaders and Coaches, tonight, Thursday August 24, 2006 at a Watermelon Feed in the park at 7:00 p.m. in the Park.

CROSS COUNTRY runners will compete in a meet at Thompson Park in Amarillo on Aug. 26th. The Groom competitors will also compete in Borger on Sept. 2.

TIGERS ARE scheduled to scrimmage the Hedley Owls on Aug. 25. Contact the school for the correct time.


Tuesday's
World Cotton
Prices
at
Carson County
Gin
is
4470

Thursday
Pro
with
Amarillo
Groom
When
the
the
Special
Selling

The Groom News

USPS 230-380
 Second-class Postage Paid at Groom, TX.
 Carson County, Texas, under the Act of Congress
 Of March 3, 1879
 Published Weekly except Christmas Week
 Publisher - Phillip J. Miller
 Groom Editor - Donna Burton
 McLean Editor - Bob & Janet Glass
 Postmaster: please send address changes to:
 Box 460, Groom, Texas 79039-0460
SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
 Annual Rate - \$25.00 per year
 Single Copy - 50¢
 Phone - 806-248-7333
 E-Mail with prior approval

MEMBER 2006



TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

CARD OF THANKS
 My sincerest thanks for the wonderful, tender, loving care given to me by family and friends after my recent accident. The food, the calls, the visits, and the prayers were very thoughtful and helpful. I also thank my co-workers for their patience and help. I want to offer a special thank you to my husband, Tony. You go far beyond the call of duty as a husband! I thank Heaven for you each and every day!
 Mary Treadwell

Water District Lowers Rate

The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District's Board of Directors voted last week to lower its tax rate 14 percent. The tax rate for the 2006-2007 fiscal year will be .0124 cents per \$100 valuation. The groundwater district has lowered its tax rate each of the last five years. In other action, the board adopted a budget of \$1.2 million and set a public hearing on September 20, for rules

Ill or Recovering
 Those who have been reported ill or recovering this week are Phil Miller, Linda Bohr and Sharolyn Kerlee.

A SCHOLARSHIP
 Fund has been established at the State National Bank in memory of Bertha Knight. Donations would be appreciated.

ATTENTION: A fund has been established at the State National Bank to benefit the Herman Leven Family. Contributions would be appreciated.

LOCAL HAPPENING



It's A Baby Girl

Cambree Grace Thompson, daughter of Darcee and Paul Thompson, was born Wednesday, August 2, 2006 at 8:20 AM at BSA Hospital in Amarillo, Texas. She weighed 6 pounds 15 ounces and was 19 inches long.

Cambree is welcome home by brothers: Therron, age 13; Grant, age 4; and Ethan, age 18 mo. Proud grandparents are Don and Mary Sue Lyles of Groom and Jay and Roxanne Thompson of Dumas.

Maternal Great-grandparents are Dan and Pat Ashford of Groom and Ruth and Eldon Lyles of Childress.

School

them here if they are really sick but we do encourage parents to do their best to schedule appointments and other reasons for unnecessary absences on days when there is no school. Every day in class is important for the success of our students."

Good luck to the 135 students enrolled for what may very well be the best school year ever!

Rain

must be respected. A teenager in Amarillo lost his life after being swept away in a drainage ditch. Parents should warn children of the danger of sudden flooding and fast moving water in ditches. Panhandle residents so rarely see this amount of precipitation in such a short time that we forget how dangerous it can really be.

The forecast is "bright" in the precipitation outlook. A 20-30% chance for showers is expected for the remaining week with a slight increase in the chance for rain over the weekend. Thursday (today) and Friday are supposed to be relatively dry and sunny, giving the ground time to really soak up some of the moisture.

The Texas panhandle had been experiencing one of the longest and driest droughts since 1953. This period of rain has caught the area up on its annual rainfall totals. Still the damage done by the drought will require more than a few inches of rain to heal, but this is a good start.

Birthday & Anniversaries

August 24 - Nancy Patterson, Tiffani Kling.

August 25 - Daryl Homer, Sandy Schaffer, Inez Weinheimer, Kim Kotara, Clay Ritter, Jennifer Weinheimer, Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Newsom (A).

August 26 - Adrian Hendrick.

August 27 - James Moraniec, Misty Homen,

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bohr (A).

August 28 - Janie Britten, Clay Britten, Jo Ann Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Babcock (A).

August 29 - Matthew Britten, Mr. and Mrs. John Homer (A).

August 30 - Jack Barnett, Brody Matthew Britten, Rosa Lopez.

Businesses, Parents, Grandparents & Friends... Are You Ready For A Winning Season?



Sign Up To Be a **SUPER FAN** On The Groom Sports Page!
 Call Today! 248-7333

Watch for the page to begin the week of the first game! Don't Miss It!

CARSON COUNTY GIN



Serving Carson County & The Entire Area
HIGHWAY 60 & COUNTY ROAD W
WHITE DEER, TEXAS
806-883-2535

COW POKES® By Ace Reid

<http://www.cowpokes.com>



"Naw, I never said these was long yearlin's, I said they was long since yearlin's!"

Sometimes things aren't quite what they seem. Be careful of banking on the net or investing with someone you don't know. If you have ANY questions, bring them to us.

STATE NATIONAL BANK

Member FDIC Groom, Texas 248-7531

Serving our community for 100 years.

The Insurance Texans Trust.



Strength

Rated A (Excellent) by A.M. Best Company

Tradition

Insuring Texans for generations after generation, more than 100 years.

Service

Exceptional claims service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Groom Day "South" Held

HURST, TX - The weekend before "real" Groom Day, a handful of former Groom residents planned their very own DFW Groom Day. Staci Kotara, Halee Kotara, Kenzi (Burger) Larson and Jolee Burger reunited and reminisced about times spent in Groom High School. They were joined

by Jolee's husband Andy and their 2 children Ronin and Jones as well as Kenzi's daughter Riley. The children marveled in awe as Jolee spoke of her graduating class of 10, as Staci told tales of dress making, as Kenzi spoke of outdated prom ware as Halee listed everyone in

her relatively large graduating class alphabetically. The group chose to have barbeque in honor of the traditional Groom Day Barbeque, and they all had Dairy Queen blizzards. Homecoming videos from 1989, 1990, and 1991 were the highlight of the celebration, as was a sneak

peak at Staci's new line of western-inspired apparel coming out in 2007. While not quite the same as the authentic Groom Day, this metroplex group had a great time recreating some of the wonderful things about Groom, Texas.

Board Passes Tax Rate

The Groom School Board of Trustees held their regular monthly meeting on August 8, 2006 with the following members present: Clifton Britten, Tony Rocha, Ron Kuehler, Tony Britten, Rodney Bohr, and Curtis Downs. Member Seth Ritter was absent. Also in attendance were Denise Adams and Neal Brown of Region 16 Service Center and Superintendent Terry Stevens.

In open forum, Superintendent Stevens discussed with the board some court cases dealing with student transfers in Texas and how it might effect Groom ISD.

Stevens also discussed the possibility of taking down Groom ISD's website, because of new regulations passed by the legislature regarding numerous postings that are to be on the website. He discussed the time element involved with putting all the required postings on this site.

No action was required on the Appraisal District Budget discussion.

A motion was made to approve the 2006-07 appraisal calendar.

In the Superintendent's report, Mr. Stevens informed the board of the Superintendent's discretionary hiring of two

new employees, Michele Bohr as school nurse and JoAnn Ratterree as full time janitor.

Stevens also discussed the TASB insurance claim and the repairs to be done to the football lights, the school housing roofs, and the repairs on the main roof of the school.

The preliminary academic rating of "Recognized" was discussed.

Neal Brown and Denise Adams lead the Board through the work on the budget.

Curtis Downs made the motion that was seconded by Tony Rocha to pass a

\$1.37 M & O tax rate, with a \$.083 I & S tax rate for a total tax rate of \$1.453 for the 2006-2007 school year. The motion was unanimous.

August 28, 2006 was set for a public hearing on the budget at 8:00 p.m.

The Board reviewed the 2005-2006 budget.

A discussion was lead by Superintendent Stevens on the preliminary Financial Integrity Rating System (FIRST) of Groom ISD.

With no further business, the Board adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

R&B
RODNEY BOHR
HOME PHONE: 817-211-1111
MOBILE: 817-211-1111
FAX: 817-211-1111

What Will Your Creditors Accept To Settle Your Debt?
CALL US TO FIND OUT
1-800-794-9700
Your life should be more than creditors, collectors and attorneys. We will help you take control of your finances and your future by settling your debts today.
ProVanta Corp
The First 25 Callers Who Enroll in Our Program Will Receive A Free Caller ID Manager (Retail Value \$69.97)

VOTE ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Dea SCHROEDER
DEMOCRAT
10th CARSON COUNTY TREASURER
Paid Pol. Ad. Paid by Dea Schroeder, P.O. Box 662, Panhandle, TX 79068

Rabbits Carry Disease Contagious To Humans

Jackrabbits and cotton tail rabbits could present a health problem in the Texas Panhandle this summer. A case of tularemia, also known as rabbit fever, has been found in Carson County.

State and local health officials confirmed a positive tularemia test in a cottontail found in a rural area north of Groom.

An unusual number of deaths in the rabbit population prompted health officials to test for tularemia, a bacterial infection in rodents and rabbits that can be transmitted to humans, according to Dr. Jim Alexander, regional Health Services zoonosis control veterinarian.

A Carson County resident reported an unusual number of dead rabbits in their yard prompting officials to test for tularemia. A case of tularemia was also confirmed earlier this summer near the Rick husband Amarillo Airport.

"Its very probable it will spread," officials said. "The most important thing now is damage management. Do not go close to sick or dead rabbits. The fleas and ticks in the region are potentially infected. Discourage rabbits in your yard."

See Rabbit, pg.6

Want Whiter Teeth?

Why mess around with all those home products when we can give you a whiter smile in just one visit.

- Teeth whitening
- General Dentistry
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Dentures

Call 874-5628 For Your Appointment Today

Richard Sheppard, DDS
Family Dentistry • Orthodontics • Implants • Bleaching
Located in the Community Services Building, Medical Center Campus in Clarendon

Begin Your Day At The Stop N Shop!
"Friendly Service with a Smile"

Your favorite Soft Drinks, Beer, Candy & Snacks.

Check out our assortment of simple gifts and souvenirs.

Come and See the New Changes!

Thinking About Toyota?

2007 Toyota Camry

THINK PAMPA!

IF YOU DON'T SHOP AT CULBERSON-STOWERS...YOU COULD MISS YOUR BEST DEAL!!

Culberson - Stowers, Inc.
SINCE 1927
805 N. Hobart • Pampa, TX 79065 • 806-665-1665 • 800-879-1665

TOYOTA moving forward

Bertha Knight Library Offers Homework Help Online

Children and teenagers in Groom never have to be stumped by a tough homework assignment again! Students from 4th grade to 12th grade and college introduction level can simply visit the Groom Library or the library's Web site from their home PC to get immediate, free help from qualified tutors. The Groom Library now offers Live Homework Help, an online tutoring service from Tutor.com that connects students to expert tutors in math, science, social studies and English via the Internet. Spanish speaking tutors are available in math and science. In the 2005-2006

school year, about 1 million students completed Live Homework Help sessions. Log On and Learn - This free service allows student to connect to an expert tutor either from the Bertha Knight Memorial Library or other Carson County Branch Libraries or from their home PC with a library card, 1:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m., seven days a week and receive homework help from a live tutor via the Internet. Live Homework Help is easy to use. Children and teens simply go to the library's Web site, click on the Live Homework Help link and the enter their grade level and subject they need help

in. In just a few minutes, students are connected to a tutor in an Online Classroom form one to one help in math (elementary, algebra, geometry, trigonometry and calculus), and science (elementary, earth science, biology, chemistry, physics), social studies (American History, World History, Political Science and more), and English (spelling, grammar, essay writing, book reports). Librarian Karen Case said, "This is a good tool for children in need of a little special help." The launch date is set for August 28, 2006. Students and tutors can review specific homework questions, as well as subject-specific concepts using features such as controlled chat, and interactive white board and shared Web browsing in the Online Classroom. Tutors can type math

equations using a special math tool, share educational Web sites and much more for a rewarding learning experience. All tutors are certified teachers, college professors, professional tutors or graduate school students from across the country. Every tutor has completed a third party background check and a comprehensive training program. Tutor.com currently provides tutoring services for over 1,300 public libraries and after school organization sites. To learn more about Tutor.com's services and for a complete client list, please go to www.tutor.com.



GROOM SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

For the week Aug 21-Aug 25 Groom School Cafeteria will serve the following:
BREAKFAST
 Monday: Cold Cereal, muffins, juice and milk.
 Tuesday: Pancakes, peanut butter, sausage, juice & milk.
 Wednesday: Breakfast burritos, hash brown potatoes, juice & milk.
 Thursday: Biscuits, gavy, bacon, juice, & milk.
 Friday: Do-nuts, cinnamon rolls, juice & milk.

LUNCH
 Monday: Burritos with chili and cheese, bean dip,

pineapple, chips & milk
 Tuesday: Steak finger or Fish Sticks, French Fries, applesauce, texas toast & Milk.
 Wednesday: Mexican Pile-On, Corn, Lettuce & Tomatoes, fruit cocktail, chips, graham crackers & milk
 Thursday: Turkey & noodles, mixed vegetables, pears, cheese zombies & milk.
 Friday: Sandwiches, lettuce, tomatoes, pickle spears, veg. beans & peaches, & milk.

CARSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEET.

The Carson County Commissioners held court on August 21, 2006 in the court house in Panhandle, Texas. In attendance were County Judge Lewis Powers, Commissioners Mike Britten, Kenneth Ware, Jerry Strawn and Kevin Howell.

After the call to order, a public hearing was held concerning the budget.

The first item discussed was proposed salaries. In the proposed budget a \$100 per month raise was included for elected officials as well as employees.

After discussion, Judge Powers moved to give employees the \$100.00 per month raise but no raise for elected officials. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. Commissioners Britten, Ware and Howell voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Strawn was opposed. The motion passed.

The Court discussed each individual budget submitted and made cuts and additions. Jackie West, Auditor, amended the proposed budget and re-submitted it to the Court.

Commissioner Strawn made a motion to adopt the amended proposed budget. Britten seconded the motion and all were in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Britten made a motion to set the proposed tax rate at .378864 per \$100 valuation. The vote was unanimous.

The first public tax hearing will be set for September 1, 2006 at 10:00 am in the Commissioners Courtroom.

Commissioner Strawn made a motion to set the second public tax rate hearing on September 5, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Courtroom. The vote was unanimous.

The final public hearing to adopt the new tax rate will be on September 11, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned until Aug. 28, 2006.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The GROOM ISD will hold a public meeting at 8:00 PM, August 28, 2006 in the Board Room, Groom High School, 304 W 3rd St. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1,370,000/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax Approved by Local Voters	\$0.083,000/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget	
The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:	
Maintenance and operations	17.79% increase
Debt service	3.08% increase
Total expenditures	17.12% increase
Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)	
	Preceding Tax Year Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$78,737,880 \$84,586,510
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$2,182,760 \$1,697,010
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$71,015,750 \$65,506,960
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$1,964,484 \$1,595,189
* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(B), Tax Code.	
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.	
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.	
Bonded Indebtedness	
Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$641,208	
* Outstanding principal.	
Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates	
	Maintenance & Operations Interest & Sinking Fund* Total Local Revenue State Revenue
Last Year's Rate	\$1,500,000 \$0.093000 \$1,593,000 \$7,996 \$1,896
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1,330,050 \$0.084803 \$1,414,853 \$7,432 \$1,822
Proposed Rate	\$1,370,000 \$0.083000 \$1,453,000 \$7,640 \$2,177
* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.	
Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence	
	Last Year This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$34,420 \$36,356
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$17,372 \$17,728
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1,593,000 \$1,453,000
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$276.74 \$257.59
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes	\$(19.15)
Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.	
Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.454853. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.454853.	
Fund Balances	
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:	
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$550,836
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$0

Carson County Sheriff's Report and Jail Occupancy Report

The following subjects were taken into custody last week on the followign charges:

Davison Eugene McDonald, 45, of Panhandle was arrested on outside warrants by Deputy Rick Armstrong on August 16, 2006 at Loves in Conway.

Terry Terrill Foster, 26 of Amarillo was arrested by Marshall Darrel Luster on Highway 60 on Aug. 16, 2006 and County Road KK for outside warrants.

Nikki Shalyn Marcum, 17 of White Deer was arrested by Marshal Derrel Luster on Aug. 17, 2006 two misdemeanor charges of Theft over \$50 and Fraudulent claim of a lottery prize over \$10,000.

Cole Palmer Young, 17, of White Deer was arrested on Aug. 17, 2006 by Marshal Derrel Luster. Charges or location of arrest not listed.

Juan Daniel Cano, 23, of Pampa was arrested by Deputy Rick Armstrong on August 17, 2006 3 miles east of Panhandle for driving while intoxicated with an open container.

Jared Adam Robertson, 18, of Pampa, Texas was arrested at the Ed's Liquor Store parking lot on Aug. 20, 2006 for driving under the influence, minor 1st offense and an unknown cins offense by Tanner Blackburn.

Charlie Michael Tyrell, 25, of Panhandle was arrested on Aug 20, 2006

by Officer Tanner Blackburn for a misdemeanor charge of furnishing alcohol to a minor by purchasing it.

Currently being held in the Carson County Jail on charges are the following:
Francisco Arroyo, 6-27-06, possession of marijuana.

Rosalio Rodriguez Barraza, 2-23-06, possession of a controlled substance.

Kevin Bell, 7-26-06, possession of a controlled substance.

Bernando Castro, 7-20-06, possession of a controlled substance.

Javier Correa-Lerma, 6-21-06, Possession of a controlled substance.

Ronald Rocha Daniels,

7-26-06, Possession of a controlled substance

Terry Terrill Foster, 8-16-06, Outside warrants.

Manuel Enrique Gutierrez, 5-26-06, Possession of marijuana

Arturo Magana Herrera, 5-31-06, evading arreste with a motor vehicle.

Joseph Christopher Hesley, 7-26-06, possession of a controlled substance.

Curtis Wayne Matlock, 5-27-06 Criminal NonSupport.

Alejandro Martines Ochoa, 6-13-06, Unauthorized use of a vehicle.

Javier Osornil Pena, 4-1-06, Possession of the Marijuana.

Jesus Manuel Perez, 8-

13-06, Tampering with a government document, and driving while intoxicated.

Justin Ray Reynolds, 6-22-06 less than \$50.

Victor Alfredo Rios, 6-28-06, Possession of a Controlled Substance.

Gene Wesley Rogers, 5-21-05, Driving While Intoxicated 3rd of more.

Carlos Santos, 6-05-06, Engaged in organized criminal activity.

Justin Scott Schimph, 6-26-06, evading arrest with a vehicle.

Shane Erick Snyder, 8-21-06, Assault, Threaten bodily injury.

Christopher Alan Stevenson, 7-21-06, Possession of marijuana.

Jose Luis Tapia, 6-28-06, Possession of a controlled substance.

Emmanuel Vaquez-Martinez, 5-26-2006, Possession of marijuana, more that 50 lbs, less than 2,000.

Manuel Jesus Velgara, 1-12-06, Possession of a controlled substance.

Tracy Lavon Williams, 8-12-06, Driving while intoxicated, with an open container, 3rd or more offense.

EQIP Meeting Scheduled To Begin

The McClellan Creek Soil and Water Conservation District invites the public and any groups or agencies with interest to participate in a Program Development Group (PDG) meetings to be held in the conference room at the USDA Service Center in Panhandle on August 29th beginning at 8 AM. The purpose of this meeting is to get comments and input from a broad range of local agencies, organizations, businesses, and especially farmers and ranchers that have an

interest in natural resources conditions and needs in Carson County.

The discussion in the Program Development Group will help the Local Work Group (LWG), which meets immediately following, to make final recommendations on the priority of resource concerns to be addressed, eligible practices, cost share rates, and ranking of applications.

Though the EQIP Program in Carson County in 2006, over \$137,500 of county base funding was approved to provide cost-share assistance for cropland practices including construction of terraces, diversion, and waterways, and planting cropland to grass. On rangeland, these practices included wells, submersible pumps, solar pumps, livestock pipelines, troughs, fencing, and brush management. These country base funds also were used to provide cost-share assistance with pivot conversions, replacing leaky underground irrigation pip and installing drip irrigation. An additional \$91,000 was approved through the EQIP program's Ground & Surface Water Fund to provide cost-share assistance for installing new center pivots on previously row-watered cropland.

The sign up period began to make application to participate in the 2007 EQIP program in Carson County. The deadline to make application is November 17, 2006. For more information, call the USDA Service Center, NRCS office in Panhandle at (806) 537-3533, ext 3.

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The Carson County will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 7.99 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on September 1, 2006 at 10:00 AM and September 5, 2006 at 10:00 AM at Commissioner Court 501 Main Panhandle TX.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR: Jerry Strawn, Kenneth Ware, Mike Britten, Kevin Howell, Lewis Powers

AGAINST:

PRESENT and not voting:

ABSENT:

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	7.08 % increase
Debt service	0.00 % increase
Total expenditures	7.08 % increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value as calculated under section 26.04, Tax Code

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 694,229,812	\$ 795,220,836
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$ 4,081,290	\$ 2,446,600
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 693,041,972	\$ 793,023,246
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 4,081,290	\$ 2,446,600

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness \$0

Tax Rates

Adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year	\$0.402054	per \$100 in value
Proposed tax rate for the current tax year	\$0.378864	per \$100 in value
Difference in the proposed tax rate and the adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year	\$(0.023190)	per \$100 in value
Percentage increase or decrease in the proposed tax rate and the adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year	(3.77)%	(Decrease)

These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

Comparison of Residence Homestead Values

Average appraised and taxable values on residence homesteads are compared from the preceding tax year and the current tax year.

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$47,529	\$ 50,848
Homestead exemption amount for the taxing unit (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled)	\$9,506	\$ 10,170
Average taxable value of a residence homestead (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled)	\$38,023	\$ 40,678

Comparison of Residence Homestead Taxes

The taxes that would have been imposed in the preceding tax year on a residence homestead at the average appraised value (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled) are estimated to be \$152.87. The taxes that would be imposed in the current tax year on a residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value in the current tax year (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled), if the proposed tax rate is adopted, are estimated to be \$154.11. The difference between the amount of taxes on the average residence homestead in the current tax year, if the proposed tax rate is adopted, and the preceding tax year would be an increase of \$1.24 in taxes.

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.

** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.

*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

City

the letters sent to the following properties about Dangerous Structures were:

Raymond Brown property at 96 & 97 Bosen - doors and signs up up, outside cleaned up.

Jim Huckert property at 301 Eastern. He will be in Groom at the end of August to take care of the property.

Robin Loner property at 305 Martin - Car will be hauled off as soon as the person he sold it to comes to pick it up, trees will be trimmed.

Curtis Whatley property at 94 Newcome - improperly vented wood burning stove removed, windows being replaced, outside being cleaned up.

Tommy Pool property at 107 Choctaw - no response.

A motion was approved to send Tommy Pool another letter asking him what his intentions are

regarding the property.

In other business, no action was taken on the request by Centramedia to place a receiver on top of the water tower as their representative was not present.

The bid date was extended on the city property located at 98 Broadway until October 6, 2006 and open the bids at the October 9, 2006 meeting. Also include in the bid requirements will be a clause informing bidders that the present tenants who are renting storage in the building will need to be given 90 days to vacated the buildings.

Matt Fields moved and Chris Welch seconded the motion to accept the quote as presented for 2006 employee health insurance from TML-IEBP.

Chris Welch moved and Joe Rae Richardson seconded the motion to

accept the following changes of the personnel policy:

Section 5-3 Vacation - Employees with fifteen (15) years or more of continuous service with the City as described above the eligible for fifteen(15) working day vacation leave with pay. Change to five (5) years.

Section 5-4: Sick Leave - Sick leave will accrue yearly and can be used toward early retirement. Accrued sick leave will count toward years for early retirement, but will not be reimbursed as paid days. Add Sick leave can be used for immediate family (spouse, child, parent) illness.

Section 10-3: Approval to Attend - Prior approval must be obtained from the Council in order for an employee to attend any type of conference, school or meeting for which the City will pay the expense. Change to Mayor. Delete - If approval is granted for an employee to attend in-

service training, the city may pay all or part of registration, lodging, travel and meal expenses. Meals will be compensated at the following rate: \$5.00 for breakfast, \$7.00 for lunch, and \$12.00 for dinner, for a total of \$24.00 per day. Change to per diem not to exceed \$35.00. Before reimbursement (add) for any other allowable expense is made, and expense voucher must be filed with the City Secretary (delete) giving a detailed account of all expenses, together with receipts (delete) for all expenses.

A motion was approved to sent out clean up letters to Jerry Thornton property at the Old Lucky 13; Keith Black property at 104 East 1st Street and the Hop Britten property at 201 Kirkman Street. No letter will be sent to Ray Pool as his property was already discussed with him.

The auditing firm of Cox, Allen & Co. will be changed for the 2005-2006

audit.

A motion was approved to approach the Groom Economic Development Corporation to see if they would like to split the cost of purchasing a banner from the Arena Association advertising Groom. The banner will be maintained by the Arena Association and will be put up and taken down by them during events at the arena. The cost for this service is \$300 per year.

The monthly bill and the financial statement were approved. Minutes from the July meeting were approved as presented.

A motion was made to set the first Public Hearing for Tax Rate Increase on Thursday, August 24 and the second Public Hearing for Tax Rate Increase and the Budget for the Public Hearing on the 2006-2007 Budget on August 31, 2006.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Rabbit Disease

According to health officials, Tularemia can spread by handling infected carcasses, being bitten by infected deer flies, horse flies, ticks or fleas, eating contaminated food, or breathing the bacteria.

Symptoms, usually appearing three to five days after exposure, include sudden fever, headaches, diarrhea, muscle aches, joint pain, dry cough, progressive weakness, ulcers on the skin or in the mouth and swollen or painful lymph glands.

The Texas Department of State Health Services made the following recommendations:

Report large die-offs of rabbits, rodents or other animals to public health agencies. Do not let pets roam loose. Do not handle unknown or wild animals, alive or dead, specifically rabbits. Use insect repellent when outdoors to prevent flea and tick bites. Use an effective flea and tick control product on pets. Treat lawns and property to prevent fleas and ticks. Avoid resting or camping near rodent or rabbit burrows. Eliminate sources of food and shelter for rodents around homes, work and recreational areas.

"Our best advice now is to avoid contact with wild rabbits and rodents and utilize a good flea and tick repellent for humans and pets," he said.

Ken Cearley, Extension wildlife specialist, said the bacterium can persist on skins or hides for more than a month and on carcasses for up to four months, so any dead animal suspected of carrying the disease should be handled with gloves.

"In my opinion, you would be better off not eating or handling rabbits that come from anywhere near the infected area," he said.

For more information, visit the Center for Disease Control Web site at: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/tularemia/facts.asp>

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The City of Groom will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 30.73 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on August 31, 2006 at 7:30 PM and September 7, 2006 at 7:30 PM at City Hall 203 Broadway.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR:
Chris Welch
Buck Babcock
Joe Rae Richardson
Kenneth Weller
Matt Fields

AGAINST:
PRESENT and not voting.
ABSENT:

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	18.06 % increase
Debt service	0.00 % increase
Total expenditures	18.06 % increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value as calculated under section 26.04, Tax Code

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 13,220,973	\$ 13,866,880
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 164,710	\$ 109,380
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 13,038,300	\$ 13,788,750
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 164,710	\$ 109,380

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness \$0

Tax Rates

Adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year	\$0.484250	per \$100 in value
Proposed tax rate for the current tax year	\$0.600000	per \$100 in value
Difference in the proposed tax rate and the adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year	\$0.115750	per \$100 in value
Percentage increase or decrease in the proposed tax rate and the adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year	23.90 %	Increase

These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

Comparison of Residence Homestead Values

Average appraised and taxable values on residence homesteads are compared from the preceding tax year and the current tax year.

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$45,000	\$ 50,000
Homestead exemption amount for the taxing unit (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled)	\$0	\$ 0
Average taxable value of a residence homestead (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled)	\$45,000	\$ 50,000

Comparison of Residence Homestead Taxes

The taxes that would have been imposed in the preceding tax year on a residence homestead at the average appraised value (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled) are estimated to be \$217.91. The taxes that would be imposed in the current tax year on a residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value in the current tax year (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled), if the proposed tax rate is adopted, are estimated to be \$300.00. The difference between the amount of taxes on the average residence homestead in the current tax year, if the proposed tax rate is adopted, and the preceding tax year would be an increase of \$82.09 in taxes.

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.

** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.

*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

FARMER'S EQUIPMENT

Grain Drills

Post Poles

806.665.8046

6600 M. S. Smith Blvd.
M. S. Smith, Inc.