

The McLean News



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

Published Weekly
Thursday, February 2, 2001

1-806-779-2141
1-888-849-6599

Mother Nature & Old Man Winter Bring More Nasty Weather To The McLean Area

Mother Nature brought in Old Man Winter and Jack Frost for a reunion in the Texas Panhandle this past weekend. The cold front mixed with moisture brought in rain and sleet that formed over one inch of ice. Snow flurries left an angelic picture on the landscape. However, the weight of the ice caused trees to bend and break under the excess stress. Powerlines also carried the heavy burden, some broke in the McLean

area, leaving people without lights and heat.

Area farmers and ranchers took extra precautions for livestock as temperatures dropped in the low 20's at one point.

I-40 west of Amarillo to New Mexico was shut down late Saturday night and reopened late Sunday.

The Red Cross Shelter at the First Baptist Church held three weary travelers as the highway

became slick and risky.

On Sunday, most of the local churches cancelled all services due to the weather. This was good news to all those who were going to miss part of the Super Bowl on Sunday night.

On Monday, school was cancelled much to the delight of every school age child.

The weather is expected to warm up and melt the ice just in time for another predicted blast to hit us again this weekend.



Bank of Commerce Welcomes New President, David Rieff

The McLean Bank of Commerce welcomes a new president. David Rieff became president and started work on January 24. Mr. Rieff will commute from Amarillo where he resides with his wife Sydney and two stepdaughters, Alison who is 16 and Andra who is 14.

Rieff graduated from high school at Cotton Center. He went on to attend and graduate from Texas Tech University in 1984.

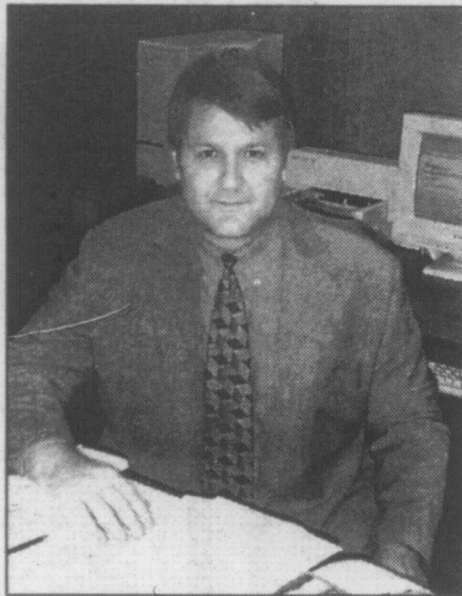
Mr. Rieff has been in the banking business for

17 years. His first job was at the First National Bank of Amarillo, where he spent 12 years.

He then went to work for Plains National Bank (PNB) for three and one half years. He worked as a consultant before coming to McLean.

Mr. Rieff stated that he had been met with good reception. "The bank has a dedicated staff and I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone."

Roger McCracken will remain at the bank with the same title of Executive Vice-president.



Junior High To Try New Curriculum At Semester

The McLean PTA will be introducing curriculum to be implemented this semester in McLean Junior High at our February meeting on the 13th at 7:00 in the school cafeteria. The curriculum, Wait Training, is designed to equip today's teens to postpone sexual activity, thus avoiding teen pregnancy. Some of the

topics include dating, marriage, reproductive anatomy, fetal development, pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Life skills such as communication, goal setting, relationships, and refusal skills are included. Parents and guardians are strongly urged to attend, as we want you to be aware of the information given to

your teens and encourage your teens to communicate with you about this issue.

This program is going to be presented to the 8th grade students, but parents with children in all grades are encouraged to attend.

Worth the Wait is a nonprofit organization created to address the problems associated with

early teen sexual activity in the Texas Panhandle. Their goal is to delay this onset of teen sexual activity and thus reduce the incidence of teen refusal skills are included. Parents and guardians are strongly urged to attend, as we want you to be aware of the information given to

See PTA, pg 8

REMINDERS

DON'T FORGET
Valentines day on
Wednesday February the
14th.

PRES. LINCOLN'S
Birthday is Monday the
12th of February.

PRESIDENT'S DAY is
Feb 19. Public Offices
and some businesses will
be closed

THE AREA
McLean/Alanreed Museum
Chili Dinner for February
6 has been changed to
March 6.

PIONEER Study Club
will meet today at 2:00
at the Grade School
Library.

LADIES Bible Study
tonight at 7:00 p.m. at
Pam Quisenberry's house.

JR HIGH Hedley
Tournament starts today.
Check schedule for times.

HIGH SCHOOL will
host the White Deer
Bucks on Feb. 2.

THE VFW
AUXILIARY will meet
on Feb. 6 at 7:00 p.m. at
the Post Building.

ASH WEDNESDAY
is on February 28th.

FEBRUARY 5 Shot
Clinic 2:00-4:30 p.m.

MCLEAN PTA
MEETING 7:00 p.m. in
the school cafeteria on
Feb. 13. A "Worth the
Wait" program will be
presented.

FAMILY READING
night every Monday night
at 7:00 in the Elementary
Jr. High library.

CITY COUNCIL
meeting on Feb. 12 at
6:00 p.m.

BREAST SCREENING
clinic will be held on
Feb. 12 at the library.
Call 359-4673 or 1-800-
377-4673 for an
appointment.

SPRING BREAK
March 12-16.

CITY COUNCIL
meeting will be held
on Feb. 12 at 6:00 p.m.

SPRING BREAK will
be held during
March 12-16.

McLean Birthdays Anniversaries
February 1
 Lorene Guyton, Marcie Ferguson.
February 2 -
 February 3 - Vance Coleman, Jeff Kingston,
 February 4 - Teresa Eubank.
 February 5 - Monty Joiner, Lester Lee, Bill Fuller.
 February 6 - Kelby McClellan.
 February 7 - Vestal Bailey, Maybelle Nash, DaShae Tolleson.



It's A Boy!

Joel and Kim Kingston of Hobbs, New Mexico announce the birth of their son, Caleb Andrew Kingston. he was born January 24, 2001.

He weighed 9 pounds and 11 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long. He is welcomed at home by

his big sister, Kelly. Grandparents are Gerald and Linda Smith of Pampa, and Bill and Billie Kingston of McLean. His great-grandmother is Geneva Kingston of McLean.

McLean School Menu
 February 5-9

Monday Breakfast: Hot or cold cereal, toast and jelly, peanut butter, fruit, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Frito pie, chili and cheese, pork-n-beans, salad, cherry cobbler, milk.

Tuesday Breakfast: Yogurt, graham crackers, toast and jelly, peanut butter, fruit, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Fish nuggets, tarter sauce, seasoned potatoes, cole slaw, hush puppies, fruit, milk.

Wednesday Breakfast: Blueberry muffins, toast and jelly, peanut butter, fruit, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, hot rolls, fruit, milk.

Thursday Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, ham, toast and jelly, peanut butter, fruit, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Sub sandwiches, ham, turkey, bologna, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, onions, fritos, fruit, milk.

Friday Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, toast and jelly, peanut butter, fruit, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Pizza, corn, salad, brownies, milk.

SAINT PATRICK

The Shamrock Saint Patrick's Celebration will be holding their Ninth Annual Lad n' Lassie Pageant and the New Pre-Teen Pageant on Sunday March 18, 2001 at 1:30 p.m. in the Shamrock High School Auditorium, located at 100 South Illinois. This pageant is open to all boys that are 0-9 years

of age and all girls that are 0-13 years of age.

Each contestant in every age group needs to provide a completed entry form along with two photos. The photos will be published in the local newspaper and used for the photo judging.

Entries must be received no later than March 1, 2001. For more information or an entry form, you may contact Betty Lee at 256-5337 or Lynette Kidd at 256-3044.

Joshua Acuna Returns From The Mediterranean

Marine Corps Pfc. Joshua B Acuna, son of Debbie and Antonio Acuna of 203 N. Sitter Drive, McLean, Texas, recently returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the 26th Maine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), home based at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

During the deployment, Acuna's unit defended U.S. policy and supported international interests in the Middle East and Europe.

Acuna's unit visited cities in Croatia, Italy, and Spain, where Marines had the opportunity to shop, sightsee and enjoy the local culture and cuisine. Marines also

participated in community relations projects.

Acuna's unit is an expeditionary intervention force with the ability to rapidly organize for combat operations in virtually any environment. MEUs are composed of more than 2,000 personnel and are divided into an infantry battalion, aircraft squadron, support group and command element. With this combination, Acuna's unit supplies and sustains itself for either quick mission accomplishment or clearing the way for follow-on forces.

Acuna is a 1995 graduate of McLean High School of McLean, Texas and joined the Marine corps in March 1999.

PTA

your teens and encourage your teens to communicate with you about this issue.

This program is going to be presented to the 8th grade students, but parents with children in all grades are encouraged to attend.

Worth the Wait is a nonprofit organization created to address the problems associated with early teen sexual activity in the Texas Panhandle. Their goal is to delay this onset of teen sexual activity and thus reduce the incidence of teen pregnancy. Worth the Wait promotes abstinence until marriage from a health-care perspective with a strong emphasis placed on the physical, emotional, and social benefits from this lifestyle.

got news?
779-2141

1-800-764-7661
 (1-800-POISON-1)
EMERGENCY 9-1-1

COWBOY CHURCH
 Come Worship God with us in this New Year
 Where: Red River Steakhouse
 Corner of Old 66 & Pampa Highway 273
 When: Every Sunday at 6:00 P.M.
 A Non-Denominational Service
 Everyone's Welcome
 Sponsored By: Red River Cowboy Ministries
 Bill & Jerry Billingsley 806-779-2456 or
 Mike & Leslie Darsey 806-779-2965

Family Healthcare
Clinic Of McLean
 211 N. Main Street
 Phone: (806) 779-2030
A "Hometown Clinic" offering the Highest Quality of Healthcare for You and your Family!
Clinic Hours:
 Monday - Wednesday - Friday
 8:00 - 1:00 & 2:00 - 5:00

Jerry Wilson P.A.

June Suggs, Receptionist

Dr. Craig Shaffer
Medical Director

The Clinic Will Be Closed December 5 through December 14

The Future of McLean
Lies In Our
Young
People!

Kaela Lee
 Daughter Of
 Doyle & Cindy Lee

BANK OF
COMMERCE
 A Subsidiary of GrayCo BancShares, Inc.
779-2461
FDIC

MEMBER
 F.D.I.C.

Cubs Cage Groom

The Jr. High Basketball teams traveled to Groom on January 22. The boys team proved who was leader of the Cubs by pouncing Groom with a 45-18 victory.

Tyler Hanes lead the board with 20 points. Zane Richardson earned 11 points. Terrence Fite added 12 points. Lucas Seymour had 2 points.

The McLean Cubs then hosted Samnorwood on January 24. The Cubs

lost the game with a score of 28-42. Terrence Fite held high score with 10 points. Tyler Hanes scored 9.

Zane Richardson earned 5 and Andy Ritchie scored 4.

The Cubettes were defeated as well with a loss of 11-34. Brooke

Seymour and Ashley McClendon tied with 4 points each. Amanda Fricks scored 3.

The Cubs and Cubettes will travel to Hedley today and Saturday for a tournament.

Tigers Blast Samnorwood

The McLean Tigers came away victorious over Samnorwood on January 21 with a score of 60-30.

Brad Sawyer lead the pack with 14 points. Terrel Hembree earned 9 points for the team. Shane Estes, Josh Seymour, Gabe Vega, and Chris Sparling all

added 8 points each for the Tigers. Randy Floyd put in 7 points. Ricky Smith added 4 and David Swafford scored 2.

The Lady Tigers also defeated Samnorwood with a score of 43-30. Shaley Steel topped the board with 13 points. Randi Riley earned 10 points for the ladies. Sarai Sawyer earned 8, while Kendall Newton added 6. Cesily Cadra put in 4 and Nikki Hefley added 2.

On January 26, the Tigers pounded Lefors to the ground on their own turf with a score of 77-18. Shance Estes led the pack with 20 points. Brad Sawyer put 16 points on the board. Ricky Smith and Chris Sparling added 7 points each. Randy Floyd scored 6. David Swafford, Gabe Vega, and Terrell Hembree all added 5 each for the team. Jay Wallis sunk 3. Reo Dennis added 2 and Bron Bohlar scored

with 9 points each. Randi Riley followed close behind with 8. Danille Dampier had 4. Nikki Hefley added 3 and Cesily Cadra scored 2.

Sarai Sawyer and Shaley Steel tied for top score

Armstrong County Museum & Gem Theatre



Claude, Texas

Saturday, February 17th at 7:30 pm

The Accordion Kings from San Antonio

Friday & Saturday, February 23rd & 24th at 7:30 pm

Community Heritage Theatre presents "The Odd Couple"

Tickets: \$8.00 adults \$3.00 children

Call 226-5409 for reservations

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AMARILLO, TEXAS 79109

Dear Family Member.

Dan, Sasha, Taylor Jamelle and Parker Daniel Fish of Alanreed are happy to announce a new addition to their family. Ashley Celeste Fish was legally adopted by Dan and Sasha on Monday, January 29, 2001 in Pampa, Texas. Ashley's new kin folks are grandparents Bob and Jeanette Fish of Alanreed and Bill and Judy Comer of Colorado Springs, Lynn Swanson, McLean; Aunt Marjorie Fish, McLean; & Aunt Juanita Fish, McLean. Cousins are Tony and Amy Polito, Clarendon; Ryan Swanson, McLean; Jay Dee, Becky, Jessie & Tavis Fish, McLean; Don & Evelyn Sanders, & Tuffy Sanders McLean and numerous cousins in Amarillo, Houston, and Dallas.

Also living in Amarillo are her sister and brother in law, Bill and Jennifer Terry, nephew Clavin Armbrister lives in Liberal, Kansas. Ashley has lived with San and Sasha Fish since her mother, Dixie Danelle Warner Comer passed away in July 1999. The family is planning a back yard party in the spring to welcome Ashley. She is 16 years old.

MFY McLean Feedyard Ltd



Live Active ~ Eat BEEF

Neal Odom 806-779-2405

email = MFY@ranches.org

McLean Tigers & Lady Tigers

McLean Home Health Agency

Taylor Food Mart

Mary Dwyer

B & B Electric
Bank Of Commerce
C & H Supply
Chamber of Commerce
Country Corner
Kirk's Auto
McLean Care Center
McLean Feedyard
McLean Plumbing
Windmill RV
The McLean News

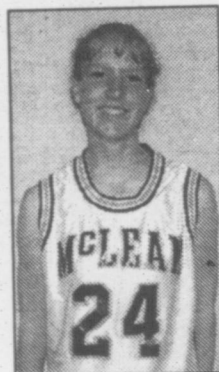
Puckett's Grocery
Red River Steak House

EPLA Inc. dba

Simpson Insurance Agency



Tiffany Kirkland



Shaley Steel



Randi Riley



Jennifer Greer



Third Grade Boy Scouts show off their hard earned prizes, after their annual popcorn sale.



These boys are really proud of themselves and plan to use their proceeds to attend the Pinewood Derby.

Boy Scouts Hold Annual Sale

The McLean Boy Scouts rounded out their popcorn sales time with the scouts receiving their prizes.

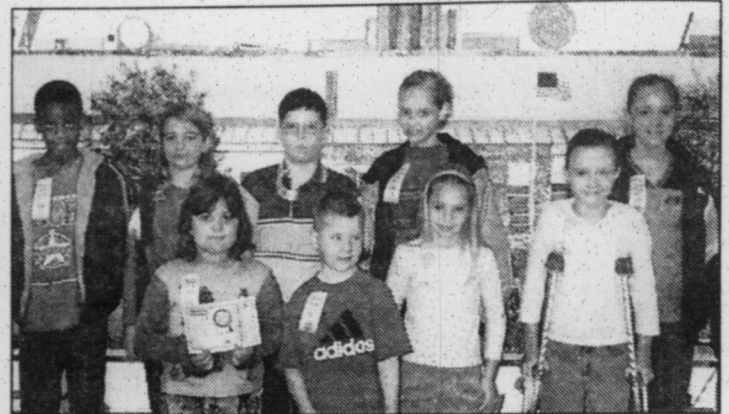
Lucas Webb was top

seller for this year. He sold over \$800.00 worth of popcorn.

The money raised by the popcorn sales goes for shirts for the scouts. It is also used for the

scouts to go to camp and their supplies for the pinewood derby.

The scouts participate in the pinewood derby in the spring at Pampa.



McLean Elementary-Jr. High Students of the Week
 January 22-January 26: Kindergarten Justin West; 1st Grade Rachel Greenwood; 2nd Grade Nichole McClendon; 3rd Grade Mark Jeffries; 4th Grade Dashae Tolleson; 5th Grade Autumn Dillman; 6th Grade Brooke Seymour; 7th Grade Talitha Newton; 8th Grade Mitchell Steward.



Tigers &
 Lady Tigers

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 Sunday Special
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New Movies
 Hope everyone kept warm during this freeze

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Good Neighbor Pharmacy Topics
 By Don Biggers • Right What The Big Drug Companies Don't Want You To Know.
 Starting back to school can be stressful. The change in daily schedules can cause your immune system to weaken. This is why it is so important to maintain your regular supplementation regimen with a good multivitamin complete with antioxidants such as Vitamins C, E, Beta Carotene, Selenium and Zinc. You may want to try our nutrigenesis Formula 2000. Echinacea and Zinc Lozenges.
 Both of these products are natural immune system boosters and may further protect your immune system from all the different pollutants we are exposed to daily. Echinacea is a natural herb best taken whenever you feel a scratchy throat coming on. Zinc Lozenges can help out the duration of colds by an average of 3 days. Please follow all label directions. For more information about natural herbal products talk to your hometown pharmacist.
 Thanks Don Your Shamrock Herbal Pharmacist
 Mahnken's Good Neighbor Pharmacy
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 Healthcare Participants Gladly Accepted

BLUE STUFF NOW AVAILABLE IN MCLEAN AND GROOM
 Newest Pain Relief known today, it will relieve your pain in 3-7 minutes guaranteed. Use for Arthritis (all Forms), Sciatic nerve, Carpal Tunnel, Migraines and Sinus Headaches, Bone Spurs and Shingles. It will relieve pain of any kind that you can rub ointment on, outside your body. It will work. Full refund if pain isn't relieved.
 Cathy Hembree is your new Distributor. To purchase this wonderful product or for a free sample come to the Hair Gallery at 119 N. Main in McLean or call 806-779-2404 or in Groom call Karen Brown for sample to purchase product at 248-7281 or 248-7210. If further assistance is needed call Emory Archer toll free 1-877-294-9333. Mr Archer is associated with Blue Stuff, Altus, Oklahoma.

McLean Church Directory

Church of Christ 4th & Clarendon
 779-2548
 Sunday Bible School 10 am
 Worship 10 40 am & 6 pm
 Wed Bible Class 7 30

First Assembly of God 4th & Main
 Pastor Quenton Newton 779-2221
 Sunday School - All Ages 9 30 am
 Morning Worship 10 45 am
 Sunday Night & Youth Services 7 pm
 Wednesday Night Service 7 00 pm

First Baptist Church 206 E. 1st
 Brian Quisenberry, Pastor 779-2175
 Sunday School 9 45 Worship 11 am & 7pm
 (Youth) & Wed Bible Study, Prayer Meeting 7 pm

United Methodist Church 2nd & Gray
 Pastor Thacker Haynes 779-2049 & 779-2337
 Sunday School 9 45 am Worship 10 50 am & 6 pm
 Sun. Sr. High Youth Alpha Chi 5 pm
 Wed. Choir 7 00 pm

Heald United Methodist Church
 Kellerville Road
 Sunday 9 15

Trinity Baptist Church 603 Commerce
 James Mantooth 779-3207
 Sunday School 9 45 am Worship 11 am
 Sunday Evening Worship 7 pm
 Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Wed 7 pm

**GOT SOMETHING TO BUY, SELL OR TRADE?
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CALL 248-7333 OR 779-2141 TODAY**

Rates: 20¢ a word with a \$5.00 minimum. "Cards of Thanks" \$5.00 up to 25 words. Wedding stories printed Free up to 300 words. Over 300 words - 20¢ a word. No charge for pictures.

Deadline for classifieds: Noon Tuesday, All others Monday, 5:00 p.m.
Payment is required at the time you place your ad unless you have an established 30 day account.



Errors: Check your ad on first publication. Not responsible for errors not called to our attention after first publication. The Groom-McLean News does not vouch for the legitimacy of any ad, job or money making opportunity. We suggest that you thoroughly check out any offer before making a commitment.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed Proposals addressed to Joe Homer, Mayor, City of Groom, P.O. Box 217, Groom, Texas, 79039-0217 for the construction of three groundwater monitoring wells and associated appurtenances entitled:

GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

will be received by City of Groom, in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 203 Broadway, Groom, Texas, until: FEBRUARY 13, 2001 7:00 PM

A cashiers check, certified check, or acceptable bidder's bond, payable to the City of Groom in an amount equal to not less than five percent of the bid submitted, must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the contract, the Bidder will, within fifteen days after receipt of Contract Documents, enter into a contract with the City of Groom and will execute bonds on the forms provided in the Contract Documents. Any bid received after the time and date listed above will be returned unopened and will not be considered.

Bidders are expected to inspect the site of the work and inform themselves regarding all local conditions.

Contract Documents are on file and may be examined in the office of the City of Groom, City Hall, Groom, Texas 79039-0217, phone (806) 248-7929.

Plans and specifications may be obtained from the Engineers, Brandt Engineers, Inc., 4537 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas 79110, phone number (806) 353-7233 in the following manner: Cost-Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), non-refundable, for each set of plans and specifications.

Performance and Payment bonds shall be set forth in the Contract documents.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any

informalities in the bidding. In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness, the Owner reserves the right to adopt such interpretations as may be most advantageous or to reject the bid as informal. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of 30 days from the bid opening date.

JOE HOMER, MAYOR
CITY OF GROOM,
TEXAS

CNA'S NEEDED: 6/2 shift \$7.00 with a differential of .50 cents. Non-certified \$6.50. If not certified, classes are available. 2/10 shift \$7.00 with a differential of \$1.25. Call Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude at 226-5121.

L.V.N. NEEDED: 2/10 shift \$11.25 with a differential of \$1.25. Call Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude, 226-5121.

HOUSE SETTLING? Cracks in brick or walls? Doors won't close? Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo, Tx.

JENNY'S ALTERATIONS Mending & Custom Sewing (Over 25 years experience). 408 Clarendon, McLean. Call for Appt. 779-3223.

NEEDED: Part time Laundry Help, Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude, 226-5121.

NEEDED: Cook, part time/full time. Call Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude, 226-5121

NEEDED: Full Time housekeeper. Call Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude, 226-5121.

JIM DAVIDSON
Century 21
Pampa Realty, Inc.
Business 669-0007
Home 669-1863

CUSTOM CRP Planting and Discing. Call Don Smith at (806) 248-7443.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
The State of Texas
County of Carson
By virtue of an Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable 100th Judicial District Court of CARSON COUNTY on the 11th day of January, 2001 by the Clerk thereof, in the case of:

GROOM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT VS. VELMA L. HODGES & LEE HARGRAVE

Cause # 7705 and to me, as SHERIFF directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell, at TEN (10) O'CLOCK on the 6TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2001 which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the OFFICIAL door of the Courthouse of said CARSON COUNTY, in the City of PANHANDLE, TEXAS.

the following described property, to wit:
Tract 1: .006250 Royalty Interest in the Heap Gas Lease No. 74200 located in Section 231, Blk B-2, H & GN Survey, Carson County, Texas.

Levied on the 12th day of January, 2001 as the property of VELMA HODGES AND LEE HARGRAVE

to satisfy a judgment amounting to \$404.29 plus all taxes, penalties, interest and attorney fees accrued to the date of the sale and all cost recoverable by law in favor of GROOM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, PANHANDLE GROUND WATER DISTRICT #3, COUNTY EDUCATION DISTRICT #3 FOR

GROOM I.S.D. AND CARSON COUNTY SUBJECT TO THE YEAR 2000 TAXES. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS 12TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2001.
s/Gary Robertson
Sheriff Carson County, Texas

E-MAIL OFFERS:
Treat e-mail offers the same as unsolicited telemarketing sales calls. Don't believe promises from strangers. A public service message from The Groom/McLean News.

HOW'S YOUR Credit Record? Federal law allows you to correct your credit record for free. A public service message from The Groom News and the Federal Trade Commission.

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK



TexSCAN Week of January 28, 2001

ADOPTION

NOTE: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoptions.
ANADOPTED CHILD is a treasure! A special part of our heart, all our love, affection and caring will be offered from the start! Sharon and Rick at 1-800-645-0118.

AUTOMOBILES

CHARITY CARS - DONATE your vehicle. As seen on Oprah and People Magazine. Tax deductible, free towing. We provide donated vehicles to struggling families 1-800-442-4451. www.charity-cars.org.

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DRIVERS WANTED

ACCELERATE YOUR FUTURE, run western or 48 states. Glass/heavy haul 3 years OTR/1 year flatbed experience. Combined Transport 1-800-290-2327. www.combinedtransport.com.

COMPANY PAID CDL training & first year income \$35K - Stevens Transport - OTR drivers wanted! Non-experienced or experienced. 1-800-333-8595. BOE.

DRIVER: COVENANT TRANSPORT * Coast to coast runs * Teams start up to 46 cpm * \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced company drivers. For experienced drivers, 1-800-441-4394; owner/operators 1-877-848-6615. For graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

DRIVER - OWNER OPERATORS and company drivers - Call now! Great pay and benefits. High weekly miles. West Coast lanes. Trucks governed at 72mph! Your choice - Late-model Peterbilt, Freightliners, Kenworths. Call today! 1-800-528-3675. John Christner Trucking. BOE.

DRIVER - OWNER OPERATORS Average 113 cpm in five-state area running AR, TX, OK, LA, and NM. We need 39 trucks to cover current obligation. \$1,000 sign-on bonus. Base plates provided. Generous fuel surcharge and a low-cost lease program. FFE has plenty of freight. Call 1-800-569-9298.

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DRIVERS 2-DAY ORIENTATION. Great pay, Miles, support staff. Home at your request. Class A CDL required. We'll be there for you. Continental Express. 1-800-727-4374.

DRIVERS...43CPM, TOP miles, homemade home time, assigned conventionals, CDL training & tuition reimbursement available for inexperienced drivers. Owner/operators welcome. USA Truck. 1-800-237-4642.

DRIVERS: ALLIED VAN Lines has openings in electronics and trade shows. Class A CDL with 1 year OTR experience. Tractor purchase available. Call 1-800-634-2200, Dept. ATXS.

TRUCK DRIVERS OTR - Solo, teams and owner/operators - Good miles, excellent equipment and benefits. One year OTR experience required. Gulf Coast Transport, 1-888-988-8666.

DRIVERS: NORTH AMERICAN Van Lines has openings in logistics, relocation, blanket wrap and flatbed fleets. Minimum of 3 months OTR experience required. Tractor purchase available. Call 1-800-348-2147, Dept. TXS.

DRIVERS - CFI HIRING OTR drivers company/student/owner operators. Company with one year experience start at \$32 cpm. Owner/Operators start at \$86 all miles (w/fuel surcharge). Also ask about our 2-week spouse training program in an automatic transmission truck. Call 1-800-CFI-DRIVE.

DRIVERS - INTERSTATE LEASING. Drivers and Owner/Operators wanted for various runs. CDL training available. Tuition reimbursement up to \$3,000. (EOE-m/f). www.swifttrans.com. 1-800-227-5751.

DRIVERS: OWNER/OPERATORS, Fleetwood Transportation is now leasing. Great lease package, we can help keep you loaded. Also need company drivers. 1-888-276-9923, www.ftwd.net.

DRIVERS-OWNER/OPERATORS: Run regional. Home weekly! Paid: Base plate, permits, fuel taxes. 81 cpm. Loaded and empty plus fuel surcharge. 1-800-454-2887. Arnold Transportation.

OTR DRIVER - MARTEN Transport Ltd. Can pay you with one year + experience. 33cpm. Call 1-800-395-3332, www.marten.com.

SWIFT TRANSPORTATION - INC. Drivers and Owner/Operators wanted for various runs. CDL training available. Tuition reimbursement up to \$5,000. (EOE-m/f). www.swifttrans.com. 1-800-284-8785.

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DRIVERS NEEDED. LOOK! Get your CDL and a great job. No money out of your pocket, if qualified. Earn up to \$800 or more. 1-800-301-6759.

A \$35,000 PER YEAR career! C.R. England needs driver trainees. 15 day CDL training. Housing/meals included. No upfront \$\$\$! Tractor Trailer Training. 1-888-781-8556.

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A BAD DAY is being in debt! Lower your payments and interest immediately and confidentially. Call ACCC now at 1-888-BILL-FREE, www.billfree.org. Non-Profit service.

BE DEBT FREE - years sooner! Low payments. Reduce interest. Stop late fees. Stop collectors. Family credit counseling. Non-profit Christian agency. Se hablo Espanol. Recorded message: 1-800-729-7964. Freequote. www.familycredit.org.

CREDIT CARD DEBT? Avoid bankruptcy. *Stop collection calls. *Cut finance charges. *Cut payments up to 50%. Debt consolidation. Fast approval. No credit check. Call 1-800-270-9894.

NEED CASH? \$500.00 cash by phone. Same day service. Checking account required. No credit checks. No up-front fees. Call toll free now. 1-888-891-6669.

LEGAL SERVICES

CONSUMER ALERT, DEFECTIVE hip implants are being recalled and injured are being compensated. Call Carl Waldman, attorney. Beaumont, Houston, 1-409-833-9151 or 1-800-833-9151. Like to refer.

HELP WANTED

AIR FORCE. GREAT career opportunities available for high school grads, ages 17-27. Plus up to \$17,000 enlistment bonus if you qualify! To request additional information call 1-800-423-USAF or visit www.airforce.com.

AVON - LOOKING for higher income? More flexible hours? Independence? Avon has what you're looking for. Let's talk. 1-888-561-2866.

CLAIMS PROCESSOR! \$20-\$40/ hour potential. Processing claims is easy! Training provided, most own PC. Call now! Medcor, LLC 1-888-568-7649, ext. 698.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE - PART time work, full time fun! Work with international exchange students and host families. Strong community spirit and warm hearts for teens. 1-888-552-9872.

PREMIUM INSURANCE AUDITOR/Inspector - Immediate ET/FT position with leading provider of insurance audits and sureties. Accounting, finance, construction background a plus. Set own hours, excellent compensation. Agents needed in all parts of Texas. CPCS, 2201 N. Central Expressway #125, Richardson, TX 75080. Fax 1-972-918-9377.

SHARE IN PROFITS, locate distressed properties. Free training and supplies. Call 1-800-695-3572. Hardboard siding settlement, you may be entitled to thousands. Free information, Homeowners For Justice, 1-800-695-3572.

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MISCELLANEOUS

ARKANSAS OZARK MOUNTAINS. Owner financing 3 wooded acres joining Buffalo River Park. Easy access to hunting, swimming, fishing. \$8,960, \$460 down, \$150 monthly. Owner 1-870-741-1930.

BABY KANGAROOS AND mini kangaroos. Houston, 1-281-399-9968, www.WallyPets.com. Telemarketers needed statewide work at home commission only, fax resume, 1-800-829-7019 or e-mail: jobs@dallastimes.com.

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Folge Folgers 34.38 OZ PAC SELECT GROUP Folgers Coffee \$4.99 <small>EXCLUDES DECAF</small>	Mazola 48 OZ CORN, CANOLA OR NIGHT BLEND COOKING OIL Mazola \$1.69	Tide 48 OZ, 198 OZ ULTRA LIQUID OR 87 OZ ULTRA 2 POWDER Tide Detergent \$5.99	Charmin REGULAR ROLL CONCOMET PRINTS Paper Towels 2 \$1 ROLLS	Charmin 4 ROLL PKG WHITE REG. ROLL BATH TISSUE Charmin 99¢	Zesta 16 OZ BOX KREMLER SALTINE CRACKERS Zesta 99¢
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NATIONAL BRANDS SALE

SPAM SELECT GROUP 13 OZ CAN \$1.89	Formale's REGULAR OR HOT TAMARIS 1.5 LITRE 99¢	Seasoning 1.5 LITRE 79¢	Black Pepper 1.5 LITRE \$1.99	Potatoes SELECT GROUP 5 LITRE 99¢	Fruit Snacks SELECT GROUP 3 LITRE 2 \$3	Swiss Miss SWISS MISS HOT COCOA MIX 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3	NEW TRAM CHICKEN ASSISTED CHOW MEIN 1.5 LITRE \$2.99
RANCH STYLE BEANS SELECT GROUP 15 OZ CAN 2 \$1	Tomatoes SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 69¢	Pico De Gallo SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3	Cocoa Puffs SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$4	Shake n Bake SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3	Shake n Bake SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3	Shake n Bake SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 99¢	Soy Sauce SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE \$1.29
Apple Juice SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$4	Juices SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$4	Blends SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$5	Quaker Oats SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$5	Shaker Oats SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3	Shaker Oats SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3	Shaker Oats SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 99¢	Water Chestnuts SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 99¢
Sunny Delight SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 99¢	Surf WASH WITH BLEACH 4.5 LITRE \$3.99	All Ultra WASH WITH BLEACH 4.5 LITRE \$3.99	Windex WASH WITH BLEACH 4.5 LITRE 2 \$5	Snap-On WASH WITH BLEACH 4.5 LITRE \$2.99	Shaker Oats SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$1	Shaker Oats SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$1	Glad Bags YOUR CHOICE 1.5 LITRE 2 \$4

Pepto Bismol 12 OZ BOTTLE 4.5 LITRE \$3.99	Arriid SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3	Pillident Tablets ECONOMY SIZE 1.5 LITRE \$1.99	Chicken Noodle SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 59¢	Tomato Sauce SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 4 \$1	Tomato Ketchup SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 99¢	BBQ Sauce SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE \$1.69
Shave Cream SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 99¢	Toothpaste SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3	Toothbrush SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3	Star-Kat Tuna SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$1	Star-Kat Tuna SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$1	Star-Kat Tuna SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$1	Star-Kat Tuna SELECT GROUP 1.5 LITRE 2 \$1

PRICES EFFECTIVE
February 1-February 7
Not all items available at all stores
We reserve the right to limit quantities
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Coke
Dr. Pepper
Sprite
12-Pack Cans
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PILGRIM'S PRIDE JUMBO PACK Split Fryer Breasts LB. 89¢	Hormel ALL VARIETIES FULLY COOKED READY TO EAT Hormel Entrees 17 OZ. PKG. \$4.69	Coke Dr. Pepper Sprite 3 Liters 2/\$3.00	Coke Dr. Pepper Sprite 6 Pack Cans \$1.79	Coke Dr. Pepper Sprite 1/2 Liter 2/\$5.00
PREFERRED TRIM BNLS FAMILY PACK PORK Sirloin Roast LB. \$1.29	Hormel HORMEL LINKS OR PATTIES Little Sizzlers 10-12 OZ. PKG. 99¢	Kraft Cheese 1.5 LITRE \$1.99	Sliced Salami 1.5 LITRE \$1.99	Ice Cream 1.5 LITRE \$2.99
SHANK PORTION BONE-IN Cook's Hams LB. 89¢	Hillshire Farm HILLSHIRE FARM ALL VARIETIES Smoked Sausage 1 LB. PKG. \$1.99	Hot Pockets 1.5 LITRE 2 \$4	Shredded Cheddar 1.5 LITRE 2 \$4	Shredded Cheddar 1.5 LITRE 2 \$3

TENDERIZED Pork Cube Steak LB. \$2.39	PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS Sirloin Pork Chops LB. \$1.59	PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS Chuck Roast LB. \$1.89	PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS Chuck Steak LB. \$1.99	FRESH Ground Chuck LB. \$1.79	BONE-IN CENTER CUT Cook's Ham Steaks LB. \$2.19	BONELESS Pork Stew Meat LB. \$1.99	BONELESS Pork for Stir Fry LB. \$1.99
DECKER Sliced Bacon 12 OZ. PKG. \$1.39	DECKER Meat Franks 12 OZ. PKG. 69¢	DECKER REGULAR OR THICK SLICED Meat Bologna 12 OZ. PKG. 99¢	DECKER LUNCHEON MEAT Variety Pack 1 LB. PKG. \$1.99	DECKER Cooked Ham 10 OZ. PKG. \$1.99	DECKER Chopped Ham 10 OZ. PKG. \$1.59	DECKER ALL VARIETIES SLICED White Turkey 1 LB. PKG. \$1.99	OWENS REGULAR OR HOT Breakfast Sausage 2 LB. ROLL \$3.39
LARGE ITALY Celery 2 \$1	LARGE MEX Brussels Sprouts 2 \$1	LARGE FRESH Broccoli 2 \$1	2 OZ. PEEL ONLY Nutritional 2 \$1	NO WAX Grapes 1 \$2.99	SUPERSWEET Cucumbers 2 \$1	ULTRA LIQUID Red Peppers 2 \$1	2 OZ. PEEL ONLY Carrots 2 \$1

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The Groom News

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Volume 74 Number 36

The Groom-McLean News 79039

Thursday, February 2, 2001

Freezing Rain & Sleet Make Trouble For Travelers



Just like a strange, slow moving caravan, these 18 wheelers gingerly pick their way along an extremely treacherous Interstate 40. Numerous vehicles were in the ditch after getting a little too much speed for the road conditions. Wrecker Services like Biven's Auto were in big demand.

The Texas Panhandle is really paying for the numerous mild winters it has had in recent years. Everyone remembers the 20+ inch snow that came Christmas. Most of the snow piles had finally melted by last week, nearly 30 days later.

Old man winter must not want us to forget him, because Saturday morning found the area hard hit by sleet, freezing rain and some snow. Texas Highway Department workers went into immediate action sanding overpasses and intersections. Crews went on 24 hour status and at presstime were still working to clear the roadways.

This type of precipitation has been especially difficult to clear because it is so packed and temperatures have remained so cold. Little melting occurred

when the skies cleared on Monday.

The weather had been a nightmare to DPS, Carson County Sheriff's Department, and Rescue Crews as well.

Trooper Gary Davis stated that they have worked about 10 actual accidents in the period beginning Saturday about 9 a.m. and ending about 2 a.m. on Monday morning. Numerous trucks jack-knifed creating travel hazards and delays and many, many vehicles have slid off the roadways. Two Tx DOT truck were involved in minor accidents.

Trooper Gary Davis and Trooper Roland McGill worked the area of I-40 from Jericho to Amarillo during this storm. Trooper Roland McGill was slightly injured in a fall late Sunday evening.

Ambulance crews made several runs relating directly to the weather,



Working almost round the clock, DPS and TX DOT workers were glad to see the sun.

most were minor injuries related to traffic accidents, and luckily did not require transport.

Sunday night the roads

were almost impassable. The local motel was full very early. The First Baptist Church opened its

See Weather, pg 2

Groom School Board Offers Part-Time Employment To Two 20+ Years Teachers To Solve Budget Woes

Groom I.S.D. School Board met last week to continue their discussion

on budget and program cuts.

Present were board members Dennis Babcock, Tony Britten, Kelvin Ollinger, Barry Fields, Clif Britten, and Tim Case, and administrators John Wilson, and Kevin Noack.

Interested citizens attending were Lynn Britten, Jiggs Britten,

Jane Horn, Jigger Britten, Curtis Downs, Chris Welch, Larry Raskens, Tony Treadwell, and Donna Burton, representing the Groom News.

President Babcock opened the meeting inviting visitors to speak during the Open Forum period. Several visitors spoke out in regard to possible program cuts.

No comments were heard from any board members before they adjourned to executive

session.

They returned to open session with the following motions:

1. To offer a part-time employment contract to Charles Burk at a salary of \$23,000.
2. To offer a part-time employment contract to Larry Porter at a salary of \$24,000.

Both motions received unanimous support from the board.

President Babcock stated that he felt that no

other program cuts would be required.

The meeting adjourned.

INTERESTED IN Education or Civic Responsibilities? Sign up for a place on the ballot for Groom ISD School Board or Groom City Council, beginning on Feb. 19, at the School Business Office or City Hall.

COMMUNITY CALENDER

THE NEXT GROOM ISD School Board meeting is scheduled for Feb. 13 in the Superintendent's Office at 7:00 p.m.

GROOM CITY Council will meet on Feb 13. at 7:00 p.m. in the Groom City Hall.

ASH WEDNESDAY is Feb. 28th.

THE NEXT AFTER Graduation planning meeting will be held Feb. 7th at 6:30 p.m.

GROOM Ambulance Service needs community minded people to take E.M.T. classes. Classes begin on Feb. 18. Sat. and Sun. classes. Call 248-7963 for more information.

GROOM 4TH AND 5th grade P.E. classes will be putting on a Basketball skills demonstration at halftime of the varsity girls game on Feb. 6.

TUESDAY PRICES AT ATTEBURY GRAIN CO.
Wheat-\$2.55
Milo-\$3.17
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The Groom News

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VALENTINE'S DAY
IS COMING

The City Of Groom

Has several health care items for residents who may need them temporarily.

They are: A wheelchair, 2 walkers, a potty chair, and a bath stool.

Local Happenings

Glynn D and Sybil Harrell, accompanied by Louise Mulkey of Panhandle, and Beverly and Jim Ingram of Panhandle, went to Lubbock on Friday to celebrate the birthday of their daughter, Glynda Eschle. They were joined by Erin Kate Wolf and Camden of Austin, Jason Eschle and Jerry Houchin of Lubbock for lunch at Cheddars Restaurant and visiting in the afternoon at the Eschle home.

Sheriff's Report

There were 2 persons booked into the Carson County Jail during the week of January 22 through January 28, 2001. Currently there are 8 persons incarcerated in this jail and 9 additional prisoners being held in other jurisdictions.

Arrests made this week are:
Harris Schuster, 18, Amarillo, Tex., DPS Traffic Warrants.
Cody Anglin, 19, Amarillo, Tex., Possession of Marijuana more than 2 oz. but less than 4 oz.

Groom Birthdays Anniversaries
February 1 - Amos H. Britten, Ashley Williamson.
February 2 - Bobby Caleb Pool, Mrs. Kelvin Ollinger, Jeff Jenkins, Leigh Hopkins.
February 3 - Amy Lynn Brown Williams, Mrs. Kenneth Payton, Leon J. Bohr, Jackie Rennie, Mr. and Mrs. Randy C. Sustaime (A).
February 4 - Tracy Banberry, Larry and Karen Reid (A), Mr. and Mrs. Leon Schaffer (A).
February 5 - Mrs. Robert West, Mrs. Alfred Homer, Mrs. Bill Hinson, Mike Friemel, Louis Leven, Jeanie Wakefield, Esmeralda Medellin.
February 6 - John Adam Stephens.
February 7 - Rick Prather, Mitzi Moraniec, Susan Noack, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Jones (A).

Groom ISD Earns Commended Status

Groom School was recently notified by the Texas Education Agency that it was 1 of 88 schools in the state of Texas to be recognized as "Commended", for the 1999-2000 school year.

In order to receive the recognition the school must be a title I campus. Groom has not been eligible for Title I (a federal program that subsidizes certain programs based on economic status of children) for several years.

Groom School was named commended by meeting the criteria for Title I and holding Exemplary status on the TAAS test results. Congratulations to the teachers and students of Groom School.

ILL OR RECOVERING
Bill Robertson, Georgann Hinson, Eileen McConnell, Joy Snyder, Bud Babcock, and Eddie Homen.

Card of Thanks
Our deepest appreciation to everyone who has called, visited, sent cards, prayers, and get well wishes our way. Joy is recovering at home. Thanks again for everything.

Rip and Joy Snyder

2000-2001 Groom ISD School Calendar
Feb. 12 Teacher In Service
March 12-16 Holiday
April 13-16 Holiday
April 13 Weather Make Up Day
May 11 Weather Make Up Day
May 25 Graduation
May 28 Teacher In Service

Groom School Menu
February 5-9

Monday Breakfast:
Cold cereal, muffins, juice, milk.
Lunch:
Burritos with chili, bean dip, fruit cocktail, tortilla pieces, milk.

Tuesday Breakfast:
pancakes, peanut butter, sausage, juice, milk.
Lunch: Steak, mashed potatoes, ranch style beans, hot rolls, strawberry short cake, milk.

Wednesday Breakfast:
breakfast burritos, hash brown potatoes, juice, milk.
Lunch: Mexican pile on, corn, lettuce,

tomatoes, pears, graham crackers, milk.

Thursday Breakfast:
Biscuits, gravy, bacon, juice, milk.
Lunch: Turkey and noodles, mixed veg., fresh orange slices, cheese zombies, milk.

Friday Breakfast:
Donuts, cinnamon rolls, juice, milk.
Lunch: Pizza, salad, peaches, crackers, milk.

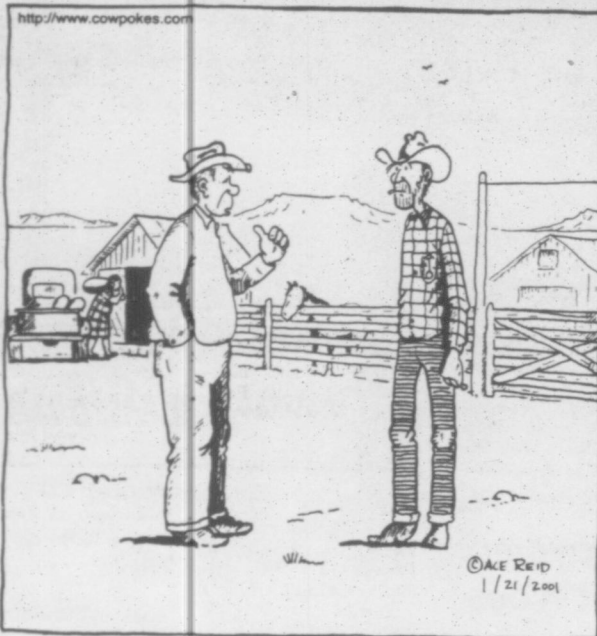
Weather

doors and about 50 people spent the night there. Members of the church and community donated food for the travelers.

A warm-up is predicted for mid-week, just in time to melt the ice in preparation for another storm expected by the weekend.

COW POKES®

By Ace Reid



"Jake, I'm gonna sell all my stock 'cause Maw's jist got too old to handle them 100 lb. sacks of feed!"

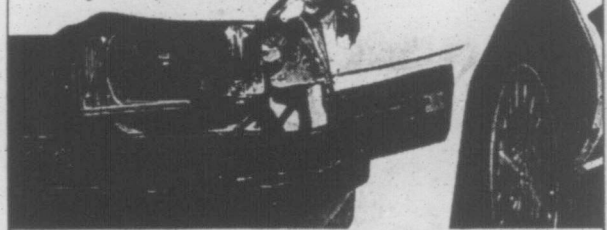
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Social Security & SSI Recipients Should Consider Direct Deposit

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for almost 50 million American will increase this month. Now, more than ever, it is wise for folks who receive SSI and Social Security to get their payments the 21st Century way. That means electronically, through Direct Deposit. Leave the 19th Century horse-and-buggy paper check method behind. Direct Deposit is the safest, simplest and most convenient way to receive a payment from the U.S. Treasury. Anyone who receives Social Security, SSI, Rail Road Retirement, or Veterans benefits is eligible to use Direct Deposit at a bank, credit union, or savings and loan. If you already have a bank account and want to sign up for Direct Deposit, simply tell your banker the next time you go to deposit your Federal payment. Most banks offer low cost or no-cost accounts to senior citizens and people with low incomes.

The U.S. Treasury has created a new type of account that is completely electronic. It is called the Electronic Transfer Account or ETA. Any financial institution who agrees to offer the ETA must allow any Federal payment recipient to open an account. ETA accounts include a minimum of four transactions per month at a bank or ATM and at point of sale (POS) stores such as grocery stores and other chain department stores. The monthly fee for an ETA may not exceed \$3.00. This account is accessed by an ATM card or at the bank teller window, and there is no check writing. The fees may be lower and more transactions may be allowed depending on the institution.

By January 1, 2001, Texas will have a total of 64 federally insured financial institutions at 670 locations offering the ETA. To find a location in your area, call your local bank or credit union. You can also call 1-888-382-3311 or go to www.eta-find.gov on the World Wide Web. Texans who receive federal benefits can call 1-800-252-9240 for information.

Panhandle Community Services Out Of Funds

Demand for utility assistance exceeds the \$456,000 available funds in the panhandle. Johnny Raymond, Executive Director, expressed concern about the large increase in families seeking assistance in paying their gas bill. "Because of the numbers of families already on our waiting lists, it became evident our funds would be exhausted by the end of February if the entire bill was to be paid. There was no way we could assist the numbers, therefore, a decision was made to pay for half of the current bill for those families meeting the 125% of the required poverty guideline. The family will have to make arrangements to pay the other half of the bill." Local PCS offices have available limited funds.

The first priority is to assure the utility will not be cut-off. Most utility companies are willing to work with families with payment schedules. After providing income documentation and a copy of the current gas bill, PCS staff will notify the gas company of the amount of assistance to be provided. Raymond stressed the need for individuals to contact the nearest PCS Office and set up an appointment. Staff members are working as fast as they can in meeting the demand for assistance. Every effort is being made so the greatest number of families qualifying for assistance will receive some benefit.

Anyone wishing to make a donation toward the utility assistance can make their check payable to Panhandle Community Services, PO Box 3215, Amarillo, Texas 79120, or take their check to the nearest PCS Office. PCS is a 501(c)(3) Community Action Agency and donations are tax deductible.

After Graduation Party Committee Organizes

A group of ten high school students and is supported by the Texas DOT, the Groom ISD, parents, and the Groom community. It is a drug and alcohol free party which is conducted as a "lock-in." Anyone interested in helping with the party is encouraged to attend the meetings and to volunteer!

The group is working on a different raffle idea as one of the major fund raisers. Karen Brown volunteered to head this project. Donna Barnett volunteered to help with the secretarial duties and Marcia Conrad volunteered to head the committee and be in charge of finances. Ideas are still welcomed. The next meeting will be on Feb. 7th at 6:30 p.m. at the school. Please join the group and offer your ideas, suggestions, and help. This party benefits

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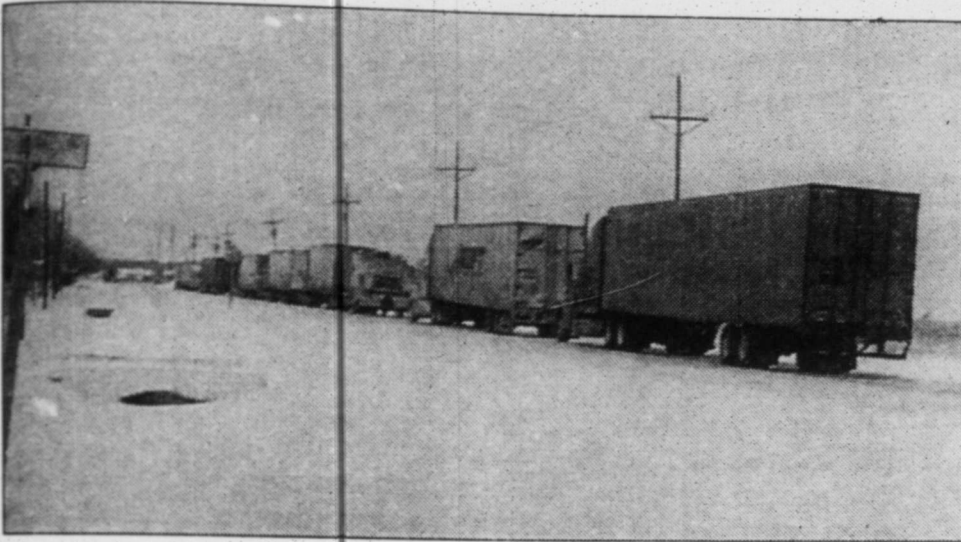
Upcoming Events
March 2-4, 2001

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Sawtooth Party

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Social Security & SSI Recipients Should Consider Direct Deposit

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for almost 50 million American will increase this month. Now, more than ever, it is wise for folks who receive SSI and Social Security to get their payments the 21st Century way. That means electronically, through Direct Deposit. Leave the 19th Century horse-and-buggy paper check method behind. Direct Deposit is the safest, simplest and most

convenient way to receive a payment from the U.S. Treasury. Anyone who receives Social Security, SSI, Rail Road Retirement, or Veterans benefits is eligible to use Direct Deposit at a bank, credit union, or savings and loan. If you already have a bank account and want to sign up for Direct Deposit, simply tell your banker the next time you go to deposit your Federal payment. Most banks offer low cost or no-cost accounts to senior citizens and people with low incomes.

The U.S. Treasury has created a new type of account that is completely electronic. It is called the Electronic Transfer Account or ETA. Any financial institution who agrees to offer the ETA must allow any Federal payment recipient to open an account. ETA accounts include a minimum of four transactions per month at a bank or ATM and at point of sale (POS) stores such as grocery stores and other chain department stores. The monthly fee for an ETA may not exceed \$3.00. This account is accessed by an ATM card or at the bank teller window, and there is no check writing. The fees may be lower and more transactions may be allowed depending on the institution.

By January 1, 2001, Texas will have a total of 64 federally insured financial institutions at 670 locations offering the ETA. To find a location in your area, call your local bank or credit union. You can also call 1-888-382-3311 or go to www.eta-find.gov on the World Wide Web. Texans who receive federal benefits can call 1-800-252-9240 for information.

Panhandle Community Services Out Of Funds

Demand for utility assistance exceeds the \$456,000 available funds in the panhandle. Johnny Raymond, Executive Director expressed concern about the large increase in families seeking assistance in paying their gas bill. "Because of the numbers of families already on our waiting lists, it became evident our funds would be exhausted by the end of February if the entire bill was to be paid. There was no way we could assist the numbers, therefore, a decision was made to pay for half of the current bill for those families meeting the

125% of the required poverty guideline. The family will have to make arrangements to pay the other half of the bill." Local PCS offices have available limited funds. The first priority is to assure the utility will not be cut-off. Most utility companies are willing to work with families with

payment schedules. After providing income documentation and a copy of the current gas bill, PCS staff will notify the gas company of the amount of assistance to be provided.

Raymond stressed the need for individuals to contact the nearest PCS Office and set up an appointment. Staff members are working as fast as they can in meeting the demand for assistance. Every effort is being made so the greatest number of families qualifying for assistance will receive some benefit.

Anyone wishing to make a donation toward the utility assistance can make their check payable to Panhandle Community Services, PO Box 3215, Amarillo, Texas 79120, or take their check to the nearest PCS Office. PCS is a 501-(c) (3) Community Action Agency and donations are tax deductible.

After Graduation Party Committee Organizes

A group of ten high school students and high school parents recently met to begin preliminary plans for the annual After Graduation Party. Several new ideas were presented with several parents volunteering to begin the necessary work. The group is working on a different raffle idea as one of the major fund raisers. Karen Brown volunteered to head this project. Donna Barnett volunteered to help with the secretarial duties and Marcia Conrad volunteered to head the committee and be in charge of finances.

Ideas are still welcomed. The next meeting will be on Feb. 7th at 6:30 p.m. at the school. Please join the group and offer your ideas, suggestions, and help. This party benefits

all high school students and is supported by the Texas DOT, the Groom ISD, parents, and the Groom community. It is a drug and alcohol free party which is conducted as a "lock-in." Anyone interested in helping with the party is encouraged to attend the meetings and to volunteer!

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Girls Beat Samnorwood

Groom High School Girls played Samnorwood last week and improved their District record with a win (4-1).

Candace Bohr lead the Ettes to the 66-26 victory scoring 20 points. Amanda Conrad contributed 12 points, Krisanne Davis 10,

Nichole Barnett 8 and Lauren Crowell 6. Cassie Ashford scored 4, Amanda Martin 3, Brin Burgin 2 and Jill Britten 1.

The Ettes are preparing for their toughest opponent in district, Hedley, there on Friday night.

Jr. High Cagers Compete In Miami Tournament

Groom Jr. High cagers competed in the Miami Junior High Invitational

tournament over the weekend. Both teams faced off with Hedley for their opening match up.

In the Cubettes game, Malorie Homen lead the scoring with 9 points, Magan Bivens scored 4, Katy Britten earned 2, and Gailynn Drewery also had 2 points. The Ettes lost to Hedley 48 to 20.

The boys ran into the same trouble, losing 53 to 16.

Brandon Jenkins lead the scoring with 6 points, Adam Britten and Kelby Noack scored 4 each. Thane Barkley scored

two. In their second game, Groom played Miami. The girls played a very good game and won 27-24.

Magan Bivens scored a whopping 19 points. Gailynn Drewery scored 6 points. Karla Howard and Malorie Homen scored 1 point each.

The cubs lost 11 to 25 in the Miami match up. Carter Wilson was high point with 3. Kelby Noack, Jeff Rios, and Blaine Britten each scored 2 points. Brandon Jenkins and Chance Barkley scored 1 point each.

The finals were canceled due to the weather.

Tigers Claw Eagles

We improved our record to 5-0 in district play last Friday night. Our defense was very good in limiting the eagles to only 6 baskets in the game. These next 3 games will be tough, but we are confident that we will take care of business. We play at Hedley Friday the 2nd and at home against McLean on Tuesday the 6th. We need everyone's support as we drive for the district championship. Against Samnorwood, Dewayne Gray had 24

points, 2-3 pointers, 10 rebounds, and 3 assist. Doug Fields had 4 points, and 1 rebound. Luke Pavlovsky had 3 points, 3 rebounds. Garrett Britten had 8 points, 4 rebounds, 3 steals, 3 assists, and 1 blocked shot. Russell Conrad had 9 points, 6 rebounds, 4 steals, and 3 assists. Lance Ollinger had 3 rebounds. Clay Britten had 2 points, 2 rebounds, 2 steals, and 3 assists. Cody Babcock had 7 points, and 3 rebounds.

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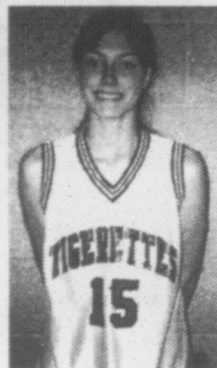
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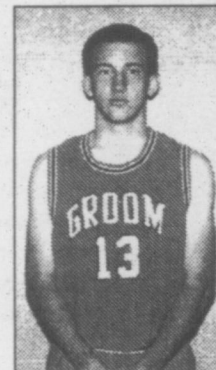
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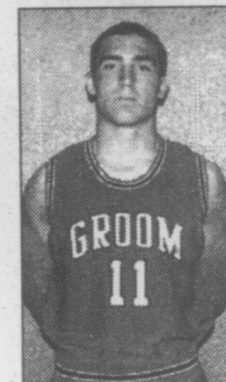
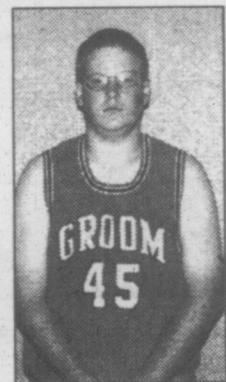
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If You Ask Me... And Nobody Did!

By Donna Burton

There is an old saying that "the squeaky wheel gets the grease." Well if you ever had a squeak in you now is the time to let it out.

Law makers have finally realized that their wonderful "Robin Hood" plan is not working.

Texas Education Commissioner Jim Nelson recently testified before the house Appropriations Committee that the "Robin Hood plan" is bankrupting many school districts.

Rapid growth in urban areas and rural districts who are losing population and money are struggling, something the Groom District knows about first hand.

Approximately one fifth of all Texas School Districts are at or near the \$1.50 per \$100 value, after tax cap, after losing revenue to either the "Robin Hood plan" or declining enrollment.

Acting Lt. Governor Bill Ratliff and House

speaker Pete Laney have said that a committee will be appointed after this legislature session to study the problem.

So between now and then everyone needs to squeak...long and loud!

Write, e-mail, phone, send smoke signals but let those law makers know that we are here, we are in need of their help, and we are voters and tax payers. Don't just write one letter, write several to the Governor, Lt. Governor, Education Commission, and members of the committee (when we find out who they are!).

Don't forget our local representative, too. His top priority was to introduce a bill to do away with constable positions! I guess it's important to some people, but it is sure not my top priority.

Keep writing through out this session. Keep calling. Keep e-mailing! We have to be noticed to get heard. Groom has

lost enough. We lose more everyday. We have always prided our selves on the value of education we give our kids, and we have never minded paying for it. But what is the real price we pay when we must choose between one program or another; when we have to opt for inexperienced "passing through" teachers instead of those who have made a commitment to our community and our students.

We are all losing and the state of Texas will get just what it pays for if something isn't done. So everyone...Start squeaking!



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JUNIOR HIGH ENDS SEASON

Groom Junior High ended their regular season last week with an awesome win against McLean, 38-13.

Malorie Homen earned 15 points to lead the Ettes in the scoring. Magan Bivens added another 13, Katy Britten continued 6, Kecia Howard 3, and Karla Howard 2.

EMERGENCY FARM LOAN APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

Gray County was declared eligible for Farm Service Agency disaster emergency loans on December 19, 2000. Applications for emergency farm loans for losses caused by drought and excessive heat that occurred January 1, 2000 and continuing are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA)

See Loan, pg. 6

Internet access growing faster, easier for Texans



Gary Stevens

It took 38 years for radio to reach 50 million American homes; 12 years for television. The Web took only four — and with it have come unprecedented entertainment, educational and economic opportunities.

Today, with the help of a new generation of communications technologies, what used to be the "World Wide Wait" is quickly becoming a new, wide-open window to the world. High-speed Internet access is the wave of the future, and companies are hurrying to upgrade and extend their networks worldwide.

But as we speed into this Information Age, we must make sure Texas' rural communities don't get left behind.

Until now, low population density and expansive geographic distances have made it difficult to provide some types of services to some areas. And if technology is to meet the needs of an economically diverse state like ours, then a "one-size-fits-all" approach simply may not work.

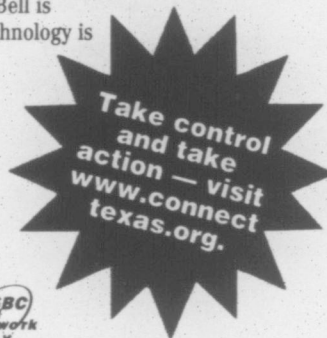
The good news is we don't have to depend upon a single option. Initial research conducted by a special committee of the Texas House suggests that a broad variety of technological capabilities is available out in the marketplace — today.

In addition to existing telephone lines — which can readily accommodate most e-transactions — a new breed of satellite and wireless systems are eliminating the geographic constraints of land-based networks. These advanced communications technologies are delivering swift, affordable alternatives to traditional telephone and cable Internet connections.

Texans deserve high-speed Internet access through the technology that best meets their individual needs. Luckily, with so many options available, it's clear that technology is becoming one of rural America's best allies. Southwestern Bell is proud to be working with Texas policymakers to ensure technology is converted into new services accessible by all Texans.

Gary Stevens

Gary Stevens
Director
External Affairs



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AGENDA FOR THE 107th CONGRESS

The 107th Congress' agenda is simple and clear: Work to emphasize quality public education, maintain our economic growth and global leadership and modernize our health care and Social Security systems. We want to produce results for families and children, men and women, all Americans. We seek bipartisan cooperation and will initially focus a great deal of thought and effort in the following areas:

Education: At the upper levels, our universities and colleges are the finest in the world. Students and researchers from across the globe come to the United States to study and learn. But at the secondary and elementary school levels, we have a wide disparity of quality and needs. Of course, our historical American tradition is for educational decisions to be sorted out at the local and community level, and local property taxes typically provide most of the funding for our schools. We want to ensure that local decision-making remains paramount, and that Washington does not dictate to local families and teachers how their children should be educated.

But the federal government can help in so many ways. Good examples of this are federal programs that encourage high school students to take challenging advanced-placement courses and federal incentives for mid-career or retired professionals to enter classrooms and teach where they can make a real difference. We will work with the new President to emphasize these targeted yet flexible approaches as an alternative to simply spending more money without results.

Restoring our military capability: At the Republican Convention, Vice President Cheney pledged to our military forces that help was on the way. We can deliver on that promise by focusing quickly on military readiness and modernization. While our forces are the best trained and equipped in the world today, it is still very difficult for them to adequately address the many missions they've been

Loan

office in Clarendon or at the FSA office in Pampa, Larry Goetze said today.

FSA Ag Credit Manager Larry Goetze is urging farmers who are interested in receiving an emergency loan to get

their applications in to FSA as soon as possible. Goetze said, "We hope farmers will get their applications in early rather than waiting until near the deadline which is August 20, 2001. The

longer they wait the more chance there is for long delays in getting their checks. If the applications come in early, we can avoid backlogs and speed up the process. FSA is a

credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living.

assigned. We must increase the size of our force, with an emphasis on combat troops and equipment. We are fortunate to have as our partners in the new administration Vice President Dick Cheney, Secretary of State Colin Powell and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. With their support and cooperation, we can identify the areas which need the quickest attention and move aggressively to fix the problems.

Tax relief: We have passed bipartisan tax relief bills in the last two years, only to see our work ended with the President's veto pen. Things have changed now. President Bush made tax relief a major theme of his campaign and he is preparing to send to the Congress a number of significant measures to provide this relief. One of those measures will be to cut tax rates across the board for all Americans. Another will be relief from federal taxes levied on families when a loved one dies. For millions of Americans, elimination of the federal tax penalty on marriage will also be a high priority item, and on January 22, I introduced legislation to end it. This year, I'm optimistic we will.

Social Security and Medicare Reform: Both of these are also high on our list. We have taken the lead, with key Democrats, including Louisiana Senator John Breaux, to reform Medicare and give seniors new prescription drug and other benefits and options, while at the same time putting the program on a sound financial track to keep it solvent and available for future generations of retirees. President Bush has a specific plan to implement a Medicare prescription drug benefit, in the context of overall reform, and I am confident Congress will take up the issue in short order.

Energy Independence: Finally, we share President Bush's commitment to developing and implementing a comprehensive national energy policy. We should continue our commitment to making our nation more fuel efficient and to developing new sources of energy. We must also explore and develop new production of the traditional resources that still meet the vast majority of our energy needs. We have gone from 36 percent dependence on foreign oil during the 1994 oil embargo that nearly crippled our economy to 56 percent dependence today. The alternative to expanding domestic production is a growing reliance on imported oil from OPEC nations that do not share our interests. With new exploration, conservation and tax incentives to the hundreds of thousands of small business oil producers who cannot survive the boom-bust cycle without them, we can reverse this trend.

A host of other issues awaits us, but these are some of the first that will be on the congressional agenda in this new year. I expect President Bush and Congress to seek sensible solutions that enjoy broad support across parties.

Area Obituaries

DALHART - C.L. Garner, 74 died Friday, Jan. 26, 2001, in Amarillo.

Services were held at 10 a.m. Tuesday in St. James Episcopal Church with Rev. Jerry Sncary, rector of the church, officiating. Burial was held in Memorial Park Cemetery.

Mr. Garner was born in Groom on September 9, 1929 to Charlie and Leta (Merrick) Garner. He graduated from Groom High School in 1944. During his senior year he won first place in the State Track Meet. He served in the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific during World War II and also served aboard USS Killeen (DD 593) during 1945 and 1946.

C.L. returned to New Mexico and the Texas Panhandle and on August 19, 1950 he married Alice Rineshine. He was bookkeeper for Munday-Cooper Lumberyard and a rancher for over 30 years. He then worked for Hi-Pro, a division of Friona Industries, in the Animal Health Division. He was known as "The Traveling Vet" and worked in the warehouse. He was preceded in

death by his parents and one son, Billy Frank Garner.

Survivors include his wife; a daughter, Terri Johnson and husband Gary of Dalhart; a son, Brad Garner and wife Linda of Amarillo; three sisters, Bethel Robinson of Panhandle, Mary Lou Dovel, and Judy Oakley, both of Amarillo; a brother, Kenneth Russell of Thousand Oaks, Calif.; and nine grandchildren, Lance Garner Tipton of

Big Springs, Texas, Natalie Garcia and husband Jr., Adriane Day and husband Ty, Garrett Johnson, all of Dalhart, Madison and Allison Garner and Keith McKean of Amarillo.

The family suggest memorials be to Dalhart Senior Citizens Center; Memorial Park Cemetery Fund; or St. James Episcopal Church.

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