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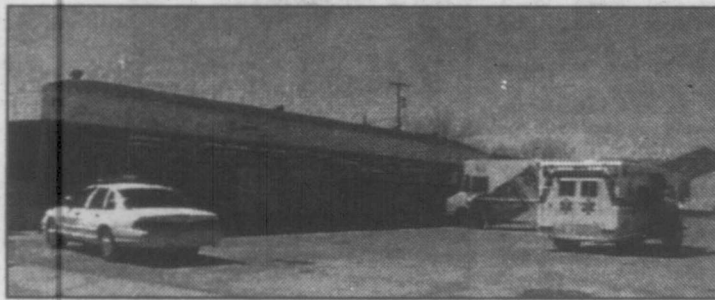
Bank Of Commerce Building
Office No. 5, 201 N. Main St.

Published Weekly
Thursday, March 22, 2001

1-806-779-2141
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Daring Noon Hour Robbery Of McLean's Puckett's Grocery Nets Arrest Of One Suspect

At approximately noon on Tuesday March 20 an armed man walked into Puckett's Grocery Store demanding money. Carolyn Henson, who was filling in for Assistant Manager Alta Mason, while on vacation, thought someone was playing a joke and reached for the knife that was held to her throat. The man said not to look back and to hand over the cash. She did so and he fled the scene in a dark colored car and was apparently apprehended somewhere around Red Mud Creek on his way to Pampa.



the store at the time and the only injuries were a cut on Carolyn's finger. The staff was noticeably shaken but otherwise

This man may also be a suspect in several robberies in Pampa this week. No customers were in

unharmed. At press time no names of suspects were given.

Quisenberry New Editor



Worth. She has been in ministry since 1994. She graduated in 1998 from Dallas Christian College with a BS in Ministry and Leadership. Pam and Brian have one daughter, Brina, who is married and lives in Ft. Worth. I have told Pam that McLean people are the best at helping one another out and I know you won't let me down.

I am starting a new position in Pampa and am excited about this new journey that I am about to begin.

I wish Pam all the best and I know she will do an excellent job.

Thanks for your encouragement as I served you and our great little town. God Bless You All.

Terri Adams

The Staff at The Groom/McLean News wish to thank Terri Adams for her fine work and welcome Pam Quisenberry to our team.

I'm proud to introduce Pam Quisenberry as the new editor of the McLean News. She and her husband Brian moved to McLean in August 2000, to begin pastoring at the First Baptist Church. Pam grew up in Ft.

Local Contestants Take Top Honors In Irish Rose Contest

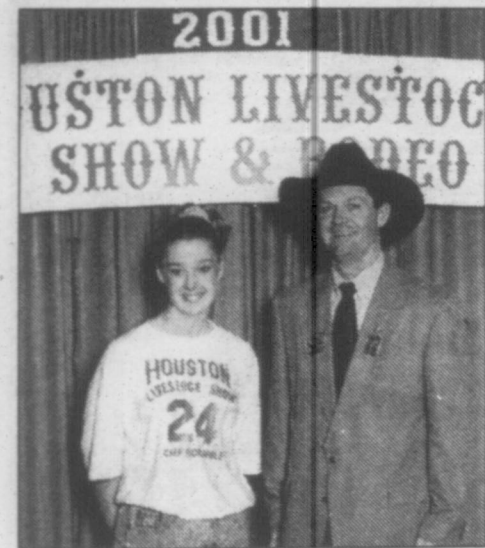
The Miss Irish Rose Pageant was held Saturday March 17, 2001 in Shamrock, Tx. There were nineteen contestants from Texas and Oklahoma. Two of the contestants were from McLean, Miss Teddra Simmons and Miss Cesily Cadra. All the girls looked beautiful in their formal gowns. Teddra wore an iridescent red straight line gown, Cesily wore a shimmering

midnight blue gown. Both our McLean girls were picked for the top ten and then the judges had the difficult task of narrowing that down to four contestants, both Cesily and Teddra were chosen. The top four contestants were asked impromptu questions and all did very well. Each of the top four won scholarships for furthering their education. The

See Contestants, pg 10



Cloe Smith Captures Scramble Calf At Houston Show



In one of the most chaotic, heartwarming, and exciting events of the March 3, 2001, twilight performance, Chloe Smith of McLean, Texas, took the Reliant Astrodome spotlight as one of the 14 winners in the popular calf scramble.

Chloe, a Gray County 4-H student at McLean High School, was one of 28 determined contestants who attempted to catch one of only 14 elusive calves, halter it, and bring it into the winners' square in the middle of the 1.86-acre arena.

In exchange for successfully capturing one of the calves, Chloe will receive a \$1,000 calf purchase certificate donated by Quickserv Corp. The certificate

will be used for the purchase of a registered beef heifer which she will raise under the supervision of Danny Nusser, her county extension agent.

"Each calf scramble participant has worked hard to earn his or her place on the arena floor and each is a winner before the scramble even starts," said Tom Baker, chairman of the Calf Scramble Committee and one of nearly 13,000 volunteers who make the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo a success.

"Those like Chloe who are successful in the scramble have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. For her, this is just the beginning of a year full

See Scramble, pg 10

REMINDERS

GIRL SCOUT Cookies are on sale at the bank.

GIRL SCOUT Sunday is March 25th. They will attend the Methodist Church.

THE PTA will meet Tuesday March 27th in the school cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

UIL CONTEST in Clarendon on Monday March 26th and Tuesday March 27.

ALANREED Cemetery Association will meet on April 2nd in the Alanreed gym at 7:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S BIBLE Study will meet Tuesday March 27th at 6:45 p.m. at Pam Quisenberry's.

SCHOOL BOARD will meet on March 26th at 7:00 p.m.

LITTLE DRIBBLERS tournament in McLean will be on March 30th and 31st.

HIGH SCHOOL & Junior High will have a track meet in Miami on March 30th and 31st.

MOM'S CIRCLE will meet March 28th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church.

LITTLE DRIBBLERS Tournament in Sannorwood will be on March 23 and 24.

COUNTRY CLUB Dance will be on March 24th from 8:00 - 11:30 p.m.

COMPUTER Classes, on March 22 at 1:30 p.m., Ellen will begin teaching beginning computers at the Library for free. Limited space, so call the Library at 779-2851.

JR. HIGH AND H.S. track meet on March 23 and 24.

LITTLE DRIBBLERS tournament in Sannorwood on March 23 and 34.

ONE-ACT PLAY goes to district on March 22.

COMET CLEANERS will do Free Pickup-Tues. and Free Delivery-Thurs. at Elizabeth's in McLean. Call 779-2445 for Info.

BRIEFS

Jessica Fish of McLean was recently inducted into the Chi Alpha Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society for community college students, at Seward County Community College. Membership is based on academic excellence, scholarship, leadership development, fellowship and service to community.

Dale and Mary Lou Glass along with granddaughter Sandi Kramer traveled south recently to visit their children. They took grandson Riley to Friendswood, Tx, back to their daughter, Angie and her family. They visited their daughter Mari Dale and her family in Plano. They visited with John and ate dinner. They also visited their daughter Jami in Ft. Worth, where they also went shopping and to the stockyards.

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McLean Birthday's & Anniversaries

March 22 -
 March 23 - Claire McDowell, Lexie Simmons.
 March 24 -
 March 25 - Samantha Jo Brown, Brian Fuller, Betty Tate, Tincy Gideon.
 March 26 - Heidi Lynn Syfrett, Colleen

Orrick Huseman, Ann Herndon.
 March 27 - Davey Ridgway, Joe Cooke, Patrick Martin.
 March 28 - Louise Watson, Jesse Swafford, Linda McDonald, Andy Ritchie, Mark Smith.

McLean School Menu

Monday Breakfast: French toast sticks, toast and jelly, peanut butter, fruit, juice, milk. Lunch: Chicken fajitas, peppers, onions, refried beans, salad, fruit, milk.

Tuesday Breakfast: Hot or cold cereal, toast and jelly, peanut butter, fruit, juice, milk. Lunch: Hot pockets, black-eyed peas, salad, fruit, milk.

Wednesday Breakfast: Waffles, ham, fruit, juice, milk. Lunch: Chicken strips, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, hot roll, fruit, milk.

Thursday Breakfast: Scramble eggs, sausage, toast and jelly, peanut butter, fruit, juice, milk. Lunch: Tomatoes soup, grilled ham and cheese sandwich, crackers, veggie sticks, pickle spears, fruit, milk.

Friday Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, toast and jelly, peanut butter, fruit, juice, milk. Lunch: Chili cheese burgers, french fries, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickles, cookies, milk.

PTA PLANS SCHOOL BOARD FORUM

The McLean PTA will be having a meeting on Tuesday, March 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The topic for this meeting is severe weather and what you can do to prepare for it or what you can do if you get caught in it. Someone from the Channel 7 weather team will be here to present this program.

The PTA will also be having a bake sale on April 12th at Taylor Mart and at the elementary after school. All members are asked to bake one or two items to donate (you can donate money instead) and we are asking the community to support this bake sale by purchasing some of the items...just in time for Easter!

The May PTA meeting will be a school board forum, so we are asking that you all plan to attend that meeting before the election.

Obituaries

Irene Williams, 87, of Amarillo, died, March 16, 2001.

Services were held on Monday March 19th at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel at the Rector Funeral Home, 2800 S. Osage St. Rev. Danny Logan, pastor of Bell Avenue Baptist Church officiated. Graveside services were held at 1:00 p.m. in Hillcrest Cemetery at McLean.

Mrs. Williams was born in Wheeler County. She moved to McLean in 1926 and was in the first class to graduate from McLean High School in 1931. She was a member of First Baptist Church at McLean for many years and taught the young married women's Sunday school class. She worked as a licensed vocational nurse at the McLean Hospital for several years before moving to Amarillo in 1977.

She married Leroy Williams in 1931 et

Sayre, Okla. Her husband died in 1993. Her son, Gene, died in 1935.

Survivors include two daughters, Barbara Wilson of Canyon and Marilyn Beckham of Houston; a brother, Daylon Johnson of Shamrock; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Earl Graham
 Earl Graham, 86, of Amarillo died on Friday, Feb. 23, 2001.

Services were held on Feb. 28 at the Blackburn Shaw Memorial Chapel with Dr. Stan Coffey of the San Jacinto Baptist Church officiating.

Mr. Graham was born in Quail. He served in the Army in World War

II. He moved to Amarillo in 1976 and operated restaurants in the Amarillo area. He was a member of the San Jacinto Baptist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Laquita Kooppenhafer of Klamath Falls, Or., and Earlene Busby of Amarillo; two sisters Mary Henley of McLean, and Nella Mae Hix of Delta, Colo.; two brothers Matt Graham of Cleburne and Tete Graham of Tucumcari, N.M.; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorial be made to assist with expenses.

UNDER INVESTIGATION



The county sheriff's department conducts their investigation of the Tuesday robbery. Local EMTs were also called to the scene, but luckily their services were not required.

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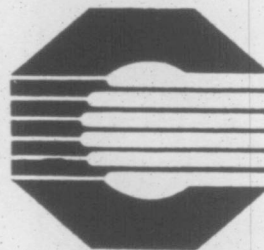
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MEMBER F.D.I.C.



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The McLean Mom's Circle recently met on Wednesday, March 7th at Trinity Baptist Church. Mexican Food was provided by several of the moms and Shawn Bybee read an inspirational chapter from a book about appreciating our kids while they are small. She also read a poem called Oatmeal Kisses which encouraged all of us to enjoy the small things and sometimes tense moments while raising our children because it passes by too quickly. Judy Lee and Betty Morgan kept the nursery of about 13 kids. Those in attendance were Shawn Bybee, Tonya Walker, Amy Herring, Sandy McLain, Heidi Syfrett, Diana Roosa, Cathy Payne, Luann Mantooth, Nama Webb, Maria Rodriguez, and Judith Ingle. The next Mom's Circle will be held on Wednesday, March 28th from 11-1 at the Methodist Church. A meal and child care will be provided. You only need to bring a drink for your child.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VOTES TO GO INACTIVE

The McLean Area Chamber of Commerce met on Monday night for a special meeting to discuss the future status of the COC.

Those present were Vonda Averett, Diana Roosa, Terri Adams, Danny and Linda Eggers, and Garth Thomas.

Vonda, acting-president, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Questions were answered regarding the current issue of the chamber going inactive or folding.

Terri Adams made the motion to go inactive immediately, however, letters are still to be sent to see if anyone is interested in stepping up to be on the board. She recommended a time limit of two weeks, April 12th being the deadline, for a response. Motion was seconded by Garth Thomas.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



WELL GLORY!

Anyone who has ever been around Buddy Payne for very long has heard that expression numerous times. When Buddy experiences a special move of the Lord, these are his first words. They have been repeated over and over since Buddy learned, as an honorary member of the CGMA, he will be appearing at the Tribute Manor Theater in Branson, Missouri for a Country Gospel Music Assn. program April 9-

15, Wait on the Lord. Buddy has heard that saying all his life, and 40 years of waiting has come to fruition with this event. Much of his life and career were spent singing country music. However, when he responded to the call of Christ for his life, all that changed. Buddy changed his venue, to country gospel. The Lord has used this tremendous baritone voice to sing. His praises for

High Winds Hit McLean

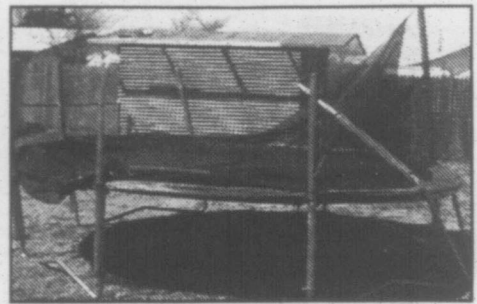
Thursday March 17, McLean was buffeted by winds reaching forty to fifty miles per hour. Besides the difficulty in just getting around, our town suffered property damage. A trampoline was blown from the yard of Billy and Shawn Bybee over two six foot fences to land right side up in the Rutherford's yard. The trampoline was battered and bruised but was still in one piece. Tin was torn off of carports. Street signs were blown down, and many residents lost shingles. The wind blew trash all over town, but really caused only minor damage.

the past 15 years.

Besides the Lord, Buddy gives credit to the love of a good woman. He and Effie have been married for 18 years. Effie is right beside him in everything he does, even singing with him when she can be persuaded.

They have given their testimony and done song services for churches all over the Tri State area, Arkansas, and Kansas.

Buddy and Effie ask for your prayers as they prepare to make the trip to Branson next month. Anyone interested in his music may contact him at: P.O. Box 554, McLean, TX 79057.



What is left of Bybee's trampoline!

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Wellington Activity Center To Open

While the excitement builds rapidly for the opening of the new Wellington Activity Center, committee members have chosen directors. David Cobb, a former coach of the Skyrockets was named the director. Chy Waters, a Hedley high school graduate, named the assistant director.

David Cobb is a 1994 graduate from Texas Tech. Cobb graduated with a bachelor's degree in History and Education. David has been married for six years to Stephanie and has a 15 month old daughter, McKennah. Cobb is certified in CPR and first aid. David has six years of experience in coaching all sports.

"Stephanie and I are looking forward to coming back and to help build a healthier community," said David.

Chy Waters is a 2000 graduate of Oklahoma Panhandle State University. Waters holds a degree in Health, Recreation, and Physical Education with an emphasis in Athletic Training. Chy is married to Eric Waters and has two daughters, Kealey and Kylie. Chy was a college athlete in both basketball and cross-country. Waters is a certified gymnastic coach and first aid and CPR certified.

The WAC will offer a variety of activities for all ages. Activities sponsored by the WAC include rock-climbing, basketball, volleyball, tennis, bowling, batting cages, racquetball, free weights, cardio-equipment, circuit-training, pool tables, and arcade games. Non-sponsored activities are aerobics and gymnastics by Flipin Farm of Shamrock. The WAC will be available for birthdays, lock-ins, reunions, leagues, and other events. Our goal is to "build strong minds, bodies, and futures."



McLean Elementary Jr. High Students of the Week March 5-9: Kindergarten Kaela Lee; 1st Grade Daniel Jeffries; 2nd Grade Sarah Shackelford; 3rd Grade Joshua Martin; 4th Grade Trent Darsey; 5th Grade Travis Fish; 6th Grade Brandon Phillips; 7th Grade Russell Anglin; 8th Grade Tyler Hanes.

PRESCRIPTIONS

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Mon thru Thurs 5:00, 7:35
Sat. Sun 3:15, 7:15, 9:50
Sun 3:15, 7:15

Hannibal

Rated R
Mon thru Thurs 7:25
Fri - Sat. 7:15, 10:05
Sun 7:25

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\$3.50 per person - Matinee Shows starting before 5:00
Children 3-11 or Senior citizens \$3.50. Adults \$5.00
MCMF FORTUNE 665-7141

SCRAMBLE

of challenges, hard work, and excitement," added Baker. "Many times the scrambler and his and her donor become lifelong friends because of the bond they have formed during the scramble year."

Although the scramble itself is entertaining, a serious side of the event begins once the Show is

over. The heifer becomes the basis of a year long project in which the scrambler must personally raise the heifer, groom, fit, feed, and care for her. Next

year, the scrambler will bring the heifer back to the Houston Livestock Show to participate in a special competition.

Throughout the year, the student must keep accurate and detailed records of the animal's progress, submitting records to both the Show and the donor chronicling the heifer's development. The winner's agricultural science teacher or county extension agent must supervise the entire project.

Once Chloe has fulfilled her year of commitment to the scramble program, she will be awarded a \$250.00 cash prize toward covering expenses.

Each year, approximately 360 calf purchase certificates are donated. Since the calf scramble was added to the Show in 1942, 15,350 youth have been awarded \$6,147,000 worth of purchase certificates for heifers.

Each year the Show benefits Texas youth through individual

scholarships and endowments to Texas colleges and universities. During the 2000 fall semester, 1,486 students were attending 84 Texas colleges and universities on Show-sponsored scholarships. Since the inception of its scholarship program in 1957, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo has committed more than \$77 million in educational support to the youth of Texas.

The 2001 Houston Rodeo runs Feb. 13 through March 4 and features 20 action-packed performances. The Show offers a diverse lineup of concert stars, the world's largest and highest paying regular-season rodeo, the world's largest livestock show, a world-class horse show, and educational exhibits. Tickets are available through all Ticketmaster outlets and The Reliant Astrodome box office.

McLean Care Center News

Activities began Sunday for the Residents with the Methodist Friendship Church. In the afternoon, they attended Church services with the Rev. Thacker Haynes and his congregation.

Monday activities included nail care and bingo. Betty Lowe volunteered to help us with bingo.

Tuesday morning, the Residents had craft time and dominos in the afternoon.

Wednesday morning we had Reminisce Circle. We were entertained by Lois Myers on guitar and Linda Eggers. They sang several specials. We all enjoyed the music. Thank you, ladies. In the afternoon, the Residents attended the Methodist Ice Cream social.

Thursday was beauty shop and bingo, Betty Lowe was here to help us.

Friday morning we had nail care. In the afternoon, we had the March Birthday Party. Our birthday people were Irene Pakan and Robert Williams. Robert is still in the hospital. The theme was green for St. Patrick's Day. Music by the Irish Tenors played during the party. Volunteers who helped serve were: Betty Lowe, Mary Dwyer, Lois Myers, Margie Fish, Betty

Heathington, Wanda Smith, and Laurie Travis Fish.

Saturday morning we went to Shamrock to watch the St. Patrick's Day Parade. We greatly appreciate Joe Billingsley for bringing a school bus and driving us there.

Those going were Fern Boyd, Sue Cubine, Sylvia McClellan, Leon Tate, Clarence Franke, Oleta Harris, Ova Williams, Charlie Weaver, Ruth Caudill, Lonnie Knulson, Mary Audleman, and Relia Ayers.

The volunteers going along to help were: Betty Lowe, Wanda Smith, Lois Myers, Betty Heathington, and three of her grandchildren. My volunteers have worked overtime this week. I can never thank them enough.

CONTESTANTS

third runner-up, Alicia Ward of Wellington was awarded a \$200 scholarship. The second runner-up was Cesily Cadra winning a \$300 scholarship. First runner-up Teddra Simmons receiving a \$700 scholarship. Miss Irish Rose for 2001 is Karlicia Odhams of Childress, Tx, she received a \$1000 scholarship. All of the contestants did a wonderful job and we are especially proud of our McLean young ladies for both placing in the top four.

Pioneer Study Club News

The Pioneer Study Club met Thursday, March 15th in the Church of Christ annex with Nama Webb as hostess.

Delicious brownies and lemon bars with coffee and raspberry tea were served to members and guest. Members present were: Jerry Corbin, Mary Dwyer, Mickey Jackson, Ruth Magee, Zelda McClellan, Betty Morgan, Beverly Odom, Lynn Reeves, Mindy Reeves, Ella Mae Reyna, Pat Stubbs, Ruth Trew, Nama Webb, and Mary Emma Woods. Guest were Ms. Lockridge and Ms. Burrows.

Pat Stubbs introduced guest speaker, Agent Connie Lockridge of the Pampa Police Department. Agent Lockridge gave pointers on ones safety when out in the public.

Don't look and or act like a victim, exhibit self-confidence, and make eye contact with individuals.

Stay alert- Be aware of your surroundings, walk near people or with someone, go into a store or other public place, park your vehicle in well lighted areas, lock your car doors and windows, check the inside of your car before you enter. Also look under your vehicle as you are

approaching it. Be sure to dress appropriately, avoid flashy clothes, jewelry or furs. Dress so you can

walk or run easily to avoid an attack.

Protect your valuables. Carry only what you need and carry necessary valuables close to your body. Carry a wallet in a front or inside pocket and if you carry a purse, hold it close to your body.

In conclusion, Agent Lockridge reminded members to follow their instincts.

Several brochures pertaining to child safety, personal safety, neighborhood watch, and road rage were available for members.

Thought for the day: "A gem cannot be polished without friction, nor a person perfected without trials."

Next club meeting will be dinner at the Red River Steakhouse, Thursday, April 5th, at 1:00 p.m.

Just for all my out of town customers in and around

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McLean Church Directory

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Sunday Bible School 10 am

Worship 10:40 am & 6 pm

Wed Bible Class 7:30

First Assembly of God 4th & Main

Pastor Dean Williamson 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

Rev. Brian Quisenberry, Pastor 779-2175

Sunday School 9:45, Worship 11 am & 7 pm

(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



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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.



OUTREACH Health Services needs a provider in Groom for 16.5 hours per week. Call 1-800-800-0697.

TO BE SOLD at Sheriff's Sale, 1991 Dodge Shadow, VIN # 1B3XP64K5MN509133.

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.

FOR SALE: '86, F250 XLT 4x4, '90 Rocky Diahatsu 4x4, both in good condition. 248-9010 or 898-2525.

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Attention Public Notice To Paul King

To: Paul Gene King
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable District Court, 100th Judicial District, Carson County Texas at the Courthouse thereof, in Panhandle, Texas, by filing a written answer, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation then and there to answer the Petition of DIVORCE filed on the 9th day of March, 2001, against Paul Gene King, and said suit being numbered 8978 on the docket of said Court,

and entitled;
IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF Edna Rose Leven King and Paul King the nature of which suit is request of DIVORCE.
The court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding on you.
ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of said Court of Panhandle, Texas, this 16th day of March, 2001.
s/ Celeste Bichsel

IMPORTANT NOTICE
YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY **EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY.** IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 AM ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF TWENTY DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION AND PETITION, DEFAULT JUDGEMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU.

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DRIVERS - OWNER/OPERATORS - Flatbed/dry box, say "no" to low pay and low miles! Say "yes" to Smithway Motor Xpress. Great pay, miles and home time. 1-800-952-8901.

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 - 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 GET REAL! Real pay, real miles, real people. 2-hour approval. Company paid medical for driver. Obtainable bonuses. Class-A CDL required. Continental Express 1-800-727-4374.

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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: SOLOS UP to 45 cpm, teams up to 41cpm. Contractors .81 all miles. Lease options available (no money down), fuel incentives and more! Call Burlington Motor Carriers, 1-800-583-9504.

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AMAZINGLY LOW PRICES - Wolff Tanning Beds. Buy factory direct. Excellent service, flexible financing available. Home/commercial units. Free color catalog. Call today, 1-800-842-1310.

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PART-TIME, GREAT supplemental income. Work with high school foreign exchange students in your community. Fax letter of interest to: 1-615-865-2284 or e-mail audine@facetheworld.org, or call 1-888-389-1213.

R&G COMMUNICATIONS GROUP. Immediate openings for C/S and I/R technicians with T/T. Units/hourly work. Rocky, 1-866-281-7444; Lonnie, 1-866-281-6444. Fax resumes, 1-866-281-9444. rodriguez25@aol.com.

LEGAL SERVICES
HIP REPLACEMENT Between July 1997 - January 2001 involving Sulzer Inter-Op Shell? Protect your legal rights! Free consultation and information. Main Street Law Firm - 1-800-220-3541. MSLF is a Minnesota law firm that associates with lawyers throughout the U.S.

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Imperial Spread 48 OZ. **\$1¹⁹** (CREAMY LIGHT TASTE)

Hunt's Tomato Ketchup 24 OZ. **79¢** (HUNT'S)

Folgers Coffee 11.5-13 OZ. **\$1⁷⁹** (SELECT GROUP (EXCLUDES DECAF))

Chicken of the Sea Chunk Light Tuna 6 OZ. **2 FOR 89¢** (CHICKEN OF THE SEA WATER OR OIL PACKED)

Wisk Detergent 83-100 OZ. **\$4⁹⁹** (REG. OR W/BLEACH LIQUID OR POWDER)

Assorted Doritos® or Lay's® or Wavy Lay's® 2.53 (REG. \$2.99-\$3.29) **2 FOR 5**

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Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Cocoa Puffs or Lucky Charms General Mills Cereal 13.7-14 OZ. **2 FOR 4**

Cocoa Puffs (SMART BUY)

Long or Thin Spaghetti Skinner Pasta 24 OZ. **\$1¹⁹**

Del Monte Assorted Spaghetti Sauce 26-26.5 OZ. **99¢**

Honey Boy Pink Salmon 14.7 OZ. **1⁷⁹**

Hefty Lawn & Leaf Bags 10 CT. **2⁶⁹**

Field Trial Chunks Dog Food 17.5 LB. **3⁹⁹**

Milk Bone Assorted Dog Biscuits 24-28 OZ. **2¹⁹**

Idaho Potato Flakes 13.5 OZ. **99¢**

Del Monte Assorted Tomatoes 14.5 OZ. **79¢**

Assorted Del Monte Pineapple 3 15-15.2 OZ. **2⁰⁰**

Chunk Chicken, Breast of Chicken, Turkey or Ham Hormel 5 OZ. **1³⁹**

Betty Crocker Cake Mix..... 89 cents Frosting..... 2/\$3.00

Del Monte Vegetables..... 2/\$1
Green Beans, Corn, Mixed Vegetables, Beets, Carrots, Sauerkraut, Spinach, French Green Beans

RUSSET Potatoes **1⁴⁹** 20 LB. BAG

FRESH ROMA Tomatoes 8 FOR **1⁰⁰**

DOLE AMERICAN BLEND Salad 12 OZ. **1⁷⁹**

CELLO PACK Carrots 2 1 LB. **79¢**

FRESH Cantaloupe LB. **59¢**

FRESH Green Onions 3 FOR **89¢**

FRESH Strawberries 1 LB. **2⁴⁹**

NEW CROP White Onions LB. **69¢**

TROPICAL Mangos EA. **89¢**

RED SEEDLESS Grapes **99¢ LB.**

Assorted Flavors
Root Beer
MM Orange
MM Grape
Cherry Coke
Red Splash
6 pack cans
\$1.49

FISH FILLETS, LIGHT & CRISPY FILLETS OR STICKS
Van De Kamp's 11-13 OZ. **2⁶⁹**
GREEN GIANT NIBBLER Corn on the Cob 6 EAR **1¹⁹**

DAIRY
FLORIDA'S NATURAL ASSORTED GRAPEFRUIT JUICE OR **Orange Juice** 64 OZ. **1⁹⁹**

KRAFT REG. OR LIGHT Velveeta 32 OZ. **3⁹⁹**

KRAFT SLICED AMERICAN Deli Deluxe 16 OZ. **3⁷⁹**

PILLSBURY ASSORTED HUNGRY JACK Biscuits 15-18 OZ. **99¢**

FRESH FRYER 10 LB. BAG Leg Quarters **29¢ LB.**

FRESH BOSTON BUTT BONE IN Pork Roast **1¹⁹ LB.**

FRESH Pork Steak 1 LB. **1²⁹**

MEATY PORK SHOULDER Country Style Ribs 1 LB. **1³⁹**

PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF Sirloin Tip Steak 2 LB. **2⁴⁹**

Boneless Beef Ribs 2.29 lb

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ASSORTED PEDIATRIC OR REG. **Robitussin** 1-4 OZ. **3⁹⁹**

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COLGATE ASSORTED Toothpaste 4.7 OZ. **1⁵⁰**

TENDERIZED BEEF Cube Steak 1 LB. **2⁰⁰**

BEEF FOR Stir Fry 1 LB. **2⁰⁰**

FRESH Ground Round 1 LB. **1⁹⁹**

WRIGHT BRAND Sliced Ham 1 LB. **2³⁰**

WRIGHT REG. OR PEPPER Stack Pack Bacon 1.5 LB. **2⁰⁰**

EL MONTEREY FAMILY PACK Burritos or Chimichangas 40 OZ. **2⁴⁰**

Beef Liver 1 LB. **1²⁰**

Ground Turkey 1 LB. **99¢**

LENTEN SPECIALS
MARKET CUT RED WINE Longhorn Cheddar Cheese 1 LB. **2⁴⁰**

SCHOONER BREADED Fish Sticks or Portions 1 LB. **1⁶⁰**

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GROOM S & H GROCERY

The Groom News

50¢

Volume 74 Number 45

The Groom-McLean News 79039

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Letter To The Community...

Groom Day's Future Pondered, While Looking At The Past

To All Citizens:
Each Year around this time we begin to consider very different options concerning "Groom Day." For instance: Should we have Groom Day every year or change and have it in 2 year or 5 year intervals? Should we have a vote? Then we have to consider who should vote on this dilemma. Should it be the people who come to Groom Day or the people who work so hard to make the weekend a success? Better still, shouldn't we all have a vote in what is going to be the future of the celebration?

If we begin to have the celebration every 2 or 5 years, do we take the chance that the attendance will begin to dwindle? After we have tried so hard to give every age group something to take part in that day.

We are all worrying

about the future of our school. Should the town consider not having Groom Day when it is now considered more of a homecoming or reunion for all?

Keeping this in mind, we thought we would write about the history of "Groom Day" and what we hope is our future.

In 1976, the bicentennial of our country together with the bank's anniversary was celebrated with the bank funding the entire event. Many people helped with that day, and in 1977, those same people formed a committee to help with an annual homecoming in the summer so anyone interested could set their vacations accordingly.

Groom Day is now set on the first Saturday of August.

The first few years we had a different theme, but the celebration was not named until 1980

See Groom Day, pg 3

DALLAM	SHERMAN	HANSFORD	OCHILTREE	LIPSCOMB	
6,222 5,451 +761 +13.9%	3,186 2,858 +328 +11.5%	5,369 5,848 -479 -8.2%	9,006 9,128 -122 -1.3%	3,057 3,143 -86 -2.7%	
HARTLEY	MOORE	HUTCHINSON	ROBERTS	HEMPHILL	
5,537 3,654 +1,903 +52.4%	20,121 17,869 +2,256 +12.6%	23,857 25,889 -1,832 -7.1%	887 1,025 -138 -13.5%	3,351 3,220 +369 -9.9%	
OLDHAM	POTTER	CARSON	GRAY	WHEELER	
2,185 2,278 -93 -4.1%	113,546 97,874 +15,672 +16.0%	6,516 5,579 90 -0.9%	22,744 23,957 -1,223 -5.1%	5,284 5,879 -595 -10.1%	
DEAF SMITH	RANDALL	ARMSTRONG	DONLEY	COLLINGSWORTH	
18,561 19,153 -592 -3.1%	104,312 89,673 +14,639 +16.3%	2,148 2,021 +127 +6.3%	3,828 3,896 -68 -1.7%	3,208 3,573 -367 -10.3%	
PARMER	CASTRO	SWISHER	BRISCOE	HALL	CHILDRESS
10,016 9,863 +153 -1.6%	8,285 9,070 -785 -9.5%	8,378 8,133 +245 +3.0%	1,790 1,971 -181 -9.2%	3,782 3,905 -123 -3.1%	7,588 7,552 +36 +0.5%
BAILEY	LAMB	HALE	FLOYD	MOTLEY	COTTLE
6,594 7,064 -470 -6.7%	14,709 15,072 -363 -2.4%	36,602 34,871 +1,731 +5.6%	7,771 8,497 -726 -8.5%	1,426 1,532 -106 -6.9%	1,904 2,247 -343 -15.3%

Census Reports Population Drop For Groom and Carson County

Remember all those probing questions we answered last year? The 2000 Census information is in the process of being released. Currently only the actual population numbers are being made available. Groom's population has dropped slightly from 1990 but not as much as one might have expected. In '90, 613 people were counted in Groom. New figures show the population of the city to be 587. That is a decrease of only 26 people.

While this is not part of the Census information The News thought it interesting that Groom's school population has decreased much more dramatically. In 1990

the school population was about 210 students. Today it is around 160.

No detailed information is available yet on ages of our population, types of households, etc. until sometime in April. We will be watching for this information and get it out to you just as soon as possible.

Groom Economic Development Corporation Approves Donation To Sorority For Storage Building For Gazebo Equipment

The Groom Economic Development Corporation met on March 15, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. at the Groom Community Center. Present were President Joe David Brown; Joyce Hutsell, Secretary; and members Kathleen Barkley, Sandra Britten, and Joe Rae

Richardson. Vice President Nathan Wieberg and member Rick Prather were absent. No visitors attended.

The minutes of the February 22, 2001 meeting were approved.

The motion was approved to grant Alpha Mu Xi Chapter of Beta

Sigma Phi an amount of \$400.00 to be applied toward a storage building contributing to the

maintenance of the civic organization's Gazebo Mini-Park beautification

See GEDC, pg 2

COMMUNITY CALENDER

THERE WILL BE a Diabetes Education meeting on Thursday, March 29, at 12:00 Noon in the War memorial Building in Panhandle. If interested contact the Carson County Extension Office at 537-3882, for more information and the reserve your seat.

DISTRICT UIL Competition will be on March 26 and 27.

LEFORS will host a track meet for Junior High Athletes on Friday, March 23.

ZONE ONE-ACT Play competition will be on March 20 at Lefors.

DISTRICT ONE-ACT Play will be in Clarendon on March 22.

HIGH SCHOOL Lefors Track Meet will be held on March 24.

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.

EMT CLASSES will begin on April 1 at the Community Center at 1:00 p.m. Come if you are interested.

CITY AND SCHOOL Election will be held at the school on May 5.

DISTRICT UIL will be on March 26 and 27 at Clarendon.

MARCH 30 and 31 is the Miami Track Meet.

TENNIS Tournament will be held on March 21 and 22 at Memphis.

KEEP GROOM Beautiful Cleanup Scheduled for May. Volunteers Needed! If you are interested in participating in or sponsoring this project, please contact David or Lanna Brown 248-7926. Date to be determined at organizational meeting. More information coming very soon.

TUESDAY PRICES AT ATTEBURY GRAIN CO.
Wheat-\$2.59
Milo-\$3.15
Corn-\$3.51
Soybeans-\$3.62
A Trace of Percipitation Reported



Pre-Schoolers Enjoy Story Time At Library

Groom Branch Library has had a fun group of pre-schoolers attending it's twice monthly Story Time. Volunteers lead the youngsters in storytelling, interactive play, singing, the

alphabet, counting, and early educational fundamentals. The 30 minute session will continue to meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month.

Some of the children

who have been attending are: Bryce Hubert; Tanner Olson; Cody and Tiffany Kling; Brooklyn and Devin Kerlee; Magan Ruthardt; Cassandra, Cheyenne, Alexis, and Erynn Brown; Nate

Roskins; Caroline Britten; Katlin Schuster; McKenna Britten; Nathan Ruthardt; Asia and Victoria Shaw; and Trent and Riley Welch.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Groom News

USPS 230-380

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
 Annual Rate Carson County \$20.00
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MEMBER 2001

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Armstrong County Museum & Gem Theatre

Claude, Texas



Saturday, April 21st at 4:00 pm & 7:30 pm
 The Light Crust Doughboys - a very popular show from Mesquite, Texas

Tickets: \$8.00 adults \$3.00 children
 Call 226-5409 for reservations

Come See Our Selections In The Gift Shop!

Local Happenings

THANK YOU CARD

To all my friends in Groom,

I thank you for your acts of friendship and kindness shown to me during my illness and surgery. I appreciated everything done or said that helped me through this difficult time. Thanks for the cards, food and flowers.

Thanks for everything!
 Eileen McConnell

Groom Birthdays Anniversaries

March 22 - Mrs. Donald Burgin, Sabrina Leven, John Webster Thomas.

March 23 - Mrs. Gary Don Babcock, Melvin Wills, Emma Weinheimer, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Earl Steed (A).

March 24 - Russell David Conrad, Brenda Diane Fields.

March 25 - Mrs. Tom Britten, Roman Friemel, Joyce Hutsell, Buck Babcock, Jessica Friemel, Thomas J & Mitzi Moraniec (A), Kim and Russell Lewellen (A).

March 26 - Brice Ruthardt.

March 27 - Laveda Wood.

March 28 - Clinton Adam Babcock, Billy Dan Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Leven (A).

Sheriff's Report

No one was booked into the Carson County Jail during the week of March 12 through March 18, 2001. Currently there are 9 persons incarcerated in this jail and 9 additional prisoners being held in other jurisdictions.

IF YOU HAVE printing, call The News at 248-7333 or 779-2141.

Davis Named To All-Conference

Carrie was named All-Conference in the Southland Conference Women's Indoor Track Championship in February for winning the bronze medal in high jump.

She competed in her first outdoor meet on March 15-17 at Texas A&M, placing 3rd in the heptathlon (800M Run, 100M Hurdles, 200M Run, High Jump, Long Jump, Shot Put, and Javelin) and 3rd in the open high jump. Carrie competes for University of Texas at Arlington.

GEDC

project on Broadway Street, subject to City approval and the results of a public hearing.

The motion was carried to call a public hearing in conjunction with the regular April meeting in order to form a budget account in the amount of \$1,500.00 for the maintenance and upkeep of beautification and advertising projects in the community.

Mrs. Britten reported that a potential new resident has thirty days to conclude his purchase of property or to accept a parcel of land for location of a mobile home in Groom. Mr. Richardson reported on the progress of the installation of another residence. He also reported progress on the future purchase of additional lots in Groom. Mrs. Barkley's projects of landscaping for signs, and correspondence with possible commercial investors were reviewed, and possibilities for a student survey through the school was discussed. Mrs. Hutsell reported that Mr. Wieberg's initial letters to potential builders located in Amarillo had been completed and that additional firms were being added. In addition, two property purchases are being legally processed at this time. Correspondence with all ex-students of the school is under consideration.

Candidates File For Place On May Ballot



It's A Girl

Irene Kotara is a new Great-great-grandmother! Charlotte Ann "Chardy"

Craft was born to parents Lindy and Jack Craft of Clarendon on March 8, 2001 at 2:23 a.m. She weighed 4 pounds and 3 1/2 ounces and was 17 3/4 inches long.

Other proud grandparents are Bill Craft of Clarendon and Wayne and Adela Kotara of Groom. Great-grandparents are Wallace and Floris Bichsel of Panhandle.

It's A Boy

Erin Kate and James Wolf of Austin are proud to announce the birth of their son, Keston Kyle Wolf on Tues. Marcy 6, 2001. Grandparents are Glynda Eschle of Lubbock and Johnny Eschle and Mrs. & Mrs. Clayton Wolf of Arlington. They have two other children Elysa and Camden.

Rosell Collingsworth and Peggy Baggerman visited Washington D.C. last week. They toured the White House, the Capital, and saw other memorial sites around Washington D.C.

They also attended Justin Collingsworth's graduation from the Uniform Division of the Secret Service. He has been assigned to the White House Branch of the Secret Service.

Groom School Lunch Menu

- Monday Breakfast:** Cold cereal, muffins, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Baked ham, sweet peas, scalloped potatoes, hot roll, milk.
- Tuesday Breakfast:** Pancakes, peanut butter, sausage, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Fajitas, lettuce, tomatoes, applesauce, milk.
- Wednesday Breakfast:** Breakfast burritos, hash brown potatoes, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Chili, cheese dogs, tator tots, pickle spears, apricots, milk.
- Thursday Breakfast:** Biscuits, gravy, bacon, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Beef stew, sandwiches, fruit cocktail, crackers, corn bread, milk.
- Friday Breakfast:** Donuts, cinnamon rolls, juice, milk. **Lunch:** Shaved ham or cheese, stuffed baked potatoes, broccoli with cheese sauce, hot sliced bread, sherbet, milk.

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Thank you for my legal work I have been doing for you each Wednesday in Groom since March of 2000. I will be out of town from March 19 through 25. I will be in my Groom office on March 14 and March 28. I am always available each Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri. at my office in Panhandle at 303 Euclid, 537-3591

Groom Day

when a contest was held with the winning name being "Groom Day."

The schedule for the weekend begins with a "Friday night kick-off," a parade on Saturday, Volleyball tournament, a barbecue at 5:00 p.m. followed by a dance.

The "Friday Kick-Off" in the past had a donkey race, a horse race, followed by "Punt, Pass, Kick" contest and track meet for the kids. On this night we have had an assortment of talent shows, melodramas, sky diving, and skits put on by the citizens and friends of citizens. Several years have seen a fireworks presentation in the stadium.

Now we also have basketball tournaments in the gym for all age groups. The tournament usually begins at 9:00 p.m. and goes until all have played.

The tennis tournament now begins on Wednesday or Thursday and continues through Saturday with all age groups participating.

Saturday morning finds people involved in 5K and 10K runs, different organizations having community breakfast, "flat rock" hunts, fun walks, balloons being blown up and floats being organized for the parade. The parade always begins at 10:00 a.m. and has quite an assortment of floats.

The class reunions that are being held sometime over the week usually have their "class floats" as some of our most important people since we are promoting homecoming and reunions.

After the parade the volleyball begins with as many as 28 teams participating in past years. All activities were scheduled for completion no later than 4:00 p.m. not to conflict with the meal that was set for 5:00 p.m.

In recent years, that has all changed because the meal is now served after the parade by 11:30 a.m. and completed at 1:30 p.m. All games, ranch rodeo, cutting horse contest, roping, cow patty bingo, and calcutta begin at this time not to conflict with the meal.

In the first years, the meal was free to all, with the meat and money being donated to keep the celebration going. As the years went on, it did not seem fair for the same individuals to always donate, so we began charging for the meal. At this time also, \$1.00 of the meal ticket helped defray the cost of the big tent near the volleyball tournament at the practice field. This tent was used for shade and the games Groom Day and other organizations ran to entertain the children. In

the past 3 years we began leasing "park toys" to entertain the children along with many games.

The meal preparation begins early in the week with volunteers collecting mesquite for the fires. In the past, the cookers were on school property,

but have since been moved to the Legion Hall. These cookers were made and donated to the "cause" by several volunteers. They are designed to be able to cook for 1500 people which we have had in the past. We now feed 900 people on average with the restaurants also having a major day in their year from folks who don't care for barbecue.

The meal preparations are carried on by the ladies of all organizations and churches in town. We now all meet at the school to chop, slice, and cook potatoes, beans, cole slaw, apricots, and pickles on the menu. Organizing the work and ladies in this way helps ensure enough help for all. The preparation begins sometime on Wednesday with the final cooking of beans coming off Saturday morning.

The fires are lit in the cookers on Friday night with several cooks staying with the meat all night. These cooks are relieved of duty to "collapse" about parade time on Saturday. At this time several volunteers begin slicing the meat in the school cafeteria for the meal to be served at 11:30. In the past, this proved to be very messy for the

clean-up committee and has since been changed to Circle B Meat Co.

While the parade is going on, Circle B has a crew slicing the meat to begin serving and continues while the meal is going on. This crew then cleans Circle B and the equipment used. The extra meat is stored and sold form there after the meal is over.

The Lions Club serves the meal and helps with the clean-up. All this work is done by volunteers and the GHS cafeteria employees stay with us every minute to ensure proper usage of all equipment.

The school is a major part of the entire celebration. We have used tables and chairs from all over the school to set up in the cafeteria and patio for the barbecue. Everything has to be cleaned and put back that day, because school usually starts within a 2 week time frame. The ag department has helped with portable stadiums and several other building projects. The coaching staff helps with all events on the football field.

Last year the meal was moved outside to the park because of construction in the school. It proved to be a great success, but cost extra because we rented chairs and tables to seat 350. The set up and clean-up is also done by different organizations of men and individuals who come home to help.

After the meal, in one part of town, the cow

patty bingo, volleyball, basketball, tennis, baseball, toys for the kids in the park, clean up, shuttle bus runs, craft shows, bingo, concession stands, class reunions, all booth for organizations

are opened for business. In another part of town, the calcutta for the roping, cutting horse contest, or ranch rodeo begins. All these functions have proved a

great success with the ranch rodeo lasting the longest.

Volunteers bring their "portable panels" to town early in the week to build a temporary arena for the weekend. The cattle and hauling for the events are also donated along with some of the prizes. Because of the rodeo's success a committee has been formed to make this a permanent event with a permanent arena. They are planning for the event to be sanctioned at some point in the future with an offer from Coors to help sponsor the rodeo. The event brings in many people who are not citizens, but helps bring in as much wanted revenue for the day. The committee has watched it grow stronger each year.

The dances are the only activity left for the day. A teenager dance is held on the tennis courts usually beginning at 8:30 p.m. with a D.J., drinks, ping pong tables, and games furnished by the Groom Day Committee. The adult

Thursday, March 22, 2001-THE GROOM NEWS-Page 3

dance begins at the same time at the Legion Hall.

When Groom Day began the dance and the raffle and donations were the only ways we had to fund all the activities. For several years if we had any money left in the treasury we voted to donate to the Summer Program or the Community Center to help finish the facility.

As the crowd grew we knew the Legion Hall was too small to accommodate the numbers for the dance. At this time we discussed with

Page Blackwell about adding onto the South side of the Legion Hall and doubling the capacity. This goal accomplished, we knew we had to help defray all costs of the building, so we eventually gave all proceeds of the dance to the Legion Hall. The Groom Day dance helps, but by no means covers insurance and other bills of the building.

At this date, the only funding for Groom Day is donation, cow patty bingo, and the raffle. The raffle, hopefully, brings in from \$2000.00 to \$2500.00 a year.

At the end of this history is a breakdown of expenses for the year 2000. Please keep in mind that all expenses are charged in Groom by our wonderful vendors until the weekend is over and we begin to settle all accounts. This includes all the prizes, groceries, meat, and equipment that we can get in our city.

In other words, everything we can buy in Groom, we do so.

One year Allsupps held an ice contest for the entire franchise. The Groom store sold more ice than any other store that summer and won! Groom Day was a major help for that contest and the staff was sent on all-expense paid vacation to Mazalan, Mexico for 4 days.

Every year we try to make a major equipment purchase for the celebration. This has consisted of food tents, painted panels, iron work, cookers, tables, shuttle, framework, picture stands, sandwich boards for posters and pictures, benches, and decorations. These in turn, are loaned out all year to all sorts of functions in the community.

For the past 3 years we have tried to keep some funding for a scholarship fund through the Amarillo Area Foundation. The fund needs to have \$10,000 to make it self-sufficient for life. The scholarship is based on community service only. Anyone graduating from Groom Schools is able to apply by letter to the Committee detailing their community service work. One scholarship a year would be given to those who qualify. The Groom Day Scholarship would be given even without an existing Groom Day Committee. We just have to make sure we

See Groom Day, pg 6



Slocum Welcomed To Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is pleased to welcome Dee Slocum as their full time interim pastor as they continue their search for a person to replace Byron Williamson.

Slocum has been a Southern Baptist preacher for 26 years. He resides in Amarillo with his 11 year old son, Terrell, who attends school at Western Plateau. He also has a married daughter, Jada Holland, 22, also of Amarillo.

He is the former pastor of the Highland Baptist Church in Amarillo for 22 years. He was the pastor of the Greenway Park Baptist Church, also in Amarillo, for 4 years.

His hobbies include golf, hunting, and fishing in his spare time.

He will be in Groom almost every day, ministering to the needs of the community, doing home and hospital visits.

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Texas Golden Spread High School All-Star Games Set For April 5-7

The 31st annual Texas Golden Spread High School All-Star Games will be held at the Cal Farley Coliseum in Amarillo, Texas on April 5, 6, and 7th, 2001.

Teams of the North, South, East, and West Squads will be coached by volunteers. Players will be represented from 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle, Bailey, Lamb, Hale, Floyd, Motley, and Cottle counties, and the counties of Eastern New Mexico bordering Texas.

Games will be scheduled at 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on April

5th, 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on the 6th, and 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., and 8:00 p.m. on April 7th.

There will also be a three-point shooting and slam dunk competition. Any senior girl or boy, regardless of whether they are selected for the All-Star Games, is eligible for these competitions. Please submit entries to Brent Sherrrod, P.O. Box 19395 Amarillo, TX 79109, or phone (806) 352-7348.

For further information call James Allen at (806) 378-8216.

Card Of Thanks

Dear Friends:

I want to express my love and appreciation for all the kindness that was shown to me while I was in the Pampa Regional Medical Center and since I have been home.

The prayers, so many of you have called, visited, sent cards, letters, so many dishes of delicious food, flowers, and the lovely bouquet of pretty balloons.

I could never thank you enough, so I'm asking God to bless you for me.

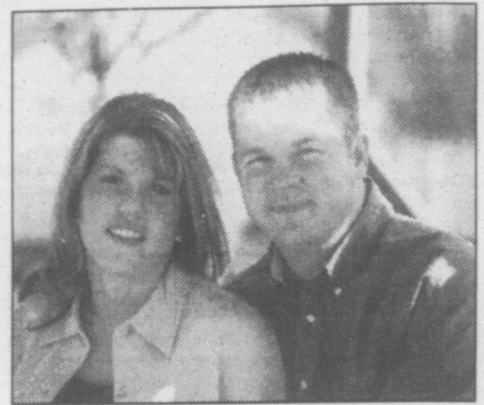
You are a group of very special people.
Bertha Knight

Stephanie Ollinger And Toby Tucker To Exchange Vows On July 21

Kelvin and Debbie Ollinger of Groom, Tx announce the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Renee to Toby Tucker the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Tucker of Ash Flat, A.R.

Stephanie will graduate in May from Texas Tech University with a dual degree in Marketing and Management. Toby is currently employed with Clyde ISD as a High School Boy's Sports Coach and Special Education Instructor.

The wedding will take place in Groom July 21, 2001.



Museum Camp Set For June 18-29 For Ages 7-12

The Carson County Square House Museum is inviting youth ages 7-12 to get a glimpse of the past this summer, while learning about advancements of today and the future. Students at "Line Camp 2001" June 18-29th will discover how early settlers faced challenges, just as in the 21st century we face challenges from agriculture to space exploration.

During this third annual program campers will participate in history and science theme days, take field trips to local attractions, and learn about community by visiting several of the county's historical places. They will play outdoor games and swim at the city pool in Panhandle. Counselors, high school

and college students, and adult volunteers will assist and supervise all activities.

Some of the activities campers will enjoy include: Dancing by the Adobe Walls Dancers from Borger; a Barbwire presentation by Delbert Trew of the Devil's Rope Museum; exploring Space with Gail Sanchez, Creating Rock Art; eating out from Pampa's "Out-N-Back Servers Chuckwagon"; and a living history program and campfire cooking with Hody "Long Bow" Porterfield of the Big Texan; and much more!

Scholarships are available for students who qualify. For more information on registration and fees contact the Carson County Square House Museum at 537-3524.

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If You Ask Me....And Nobody Did! By Donna Burton

Thought For The Day

Whew! I do love it when I get peoples attention! It seems my "public opinion poll" has created a stir! Some folks out there seem to have the idea that I have this all figured out and am suggesting that we close one school or the other. Not true!

What one needs to remember is that this poll was only designed to see

if there was enough public interest to even consider opening discussions between the two boards to explore the possibilities. It is not official, it is not binding, it is not anything, except just a poll. If you have been even semi-conscious in the United States the last 6 months, you know that polls are not "a vote"

and that you certainly cannot take what a poll says to the bank. This is not even a scientific poll. We are not interviewing a geographic, social-economic, ethnic cross section of our communities to ask their opinions, we are just asking anyone who wants

to check a box and then drop it off at the news office to do so.

What I intended to do with this information is just let the powers that be (i.e. Groom and Grandview-Hopkins superintendent and school boards) know that "x" number of people thought we should look at a possible merge and "x" number of people didn't think we should.

I am really flattered to know that some of you in the community think that I have the kind of power this would take to make anything in this town happen. However, I do not. What I do have is an opinion, just like everyone else. What I think only amounts to I vote out of the possible hundreds in these two communities.

I have always encouraged (as is the policy of this paper) voters, board members, and school officials to write "letters to the editors" to voice their opinions. The only stipulation is that they

must sign their name to it. (We don't publish anonymous letters.) So far, we have not had many takers. I can only assume one of three things from this.

1. They either don't feel that the issue is significant enough to respond to, in which case, why would they be so upset.

2. They do not want to go on record with what they think.

3. They are not sure what they think.

My hope is that it is the third reason. That would tell me that they are open to what the people (voters) want and are willing to listen.

To those who feel I am wrong to even pose the question as to whether or not it would be viable for Groom and Grandview-Hopkins to consider a merge... all I can say is this... My mother was not a formally educated person, but she did teach me that the only dumb question is the one that didn't get asked. I would hate to look back in a few years as both schools were getting shut down by the state and say to myself... "if only we had explored the possibility..."

I don't have all the answers. I don't even have all the questions. But last time I looked this was still a democracy. While I believe that one should either lead, follow, or get out of the way, I don't believe that we elect people to dictate. Officials have to consider the facts. Consider what the people want and then make an informed decision. All of us have the right to an opinion. This poll was only to see if the people who were being the most vocal were speaking for those who were remaining silent.

Please, try to see the poll for what it is. Stop reading things into it that are not there.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

To the wonderful person who turned in their poll ballot with the lottery tickets attached, how can I say thank you for the sentiment! It is nice to know that someone is praying for me, even if it is to shut up and leave town. But you know, I was always taught that we shouldn't ask God for selfish things.

May God Bless you & Keep you as sweet as you are,
Donna

Ideas are like rabbits. You get a couple and learn how to handle them, and pretty soon you have a dozen.

If you meet someone too tired to smile, leave one of yours; nobody needs a smile as much as those who have none to give.

Public Opinion Poll

Dear Residents of Groom ISD and Grandview-Hopkins ISD,

In light of response to our recent article concerning the possibility of a merge between our two schools, The News would like to gauge how you, the public, feel on this issue. Please check the statement that most likely mirrors your own thoughts and/or offer your own comments.

Yes, I think it is a good idea for the Groom School Board and Grandview-Hopkins School Board to explore the possibility of a merge between the two schools.

No, I would not be in favor of any discussion concerning the merger of Grandview-Hopkins and Groom schools.

Other comments concerning this subject _____

I am a resident of:

Groom Independent School District

Grandview-Hopkins Independent School District

Please clip and return to the Groom News office, P.O. Box 460 Groom, Tx 79039. You may slip it under the door after hours, if necessary. You also may call in your opinion at 248-7333.

Results of this poll will be published in a future ISSUE.

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Groom Juniors Hold Senior Ring Ceremony



Luke Pavlovsky checks his senior ring for a good fit.

Groom Day

have graduating seniors from an existing Groom High School.

In association with several individuals, the school, GEDC, and Groom Day, we updated the Student Directory and sent invitations to all students in the book for Groom Day 2000. We are hoping in some way to use this in conjunction with forming an alumni association for GHS.

I cannot fail to mention the churches and individuals who have given their facilities free of charge for the painting, construction, poster work, and everything it takes to decorate and prepare this town for the first Saturday of August. The planning all begins around March of every year with the month of July seeing us all working to clean and decorate for the party "Groom Day!"

Thanks to The Groom News, many articles are published about the day free of charge except for the ads and schedules. Each year a general "Thank You" note is published in the newspaper for all volunteer man hours and donations. That same "thank you" has never seemed enough to compensate for the time these amazing people have given. But, if you ever sat in the crowd and heard the "OOOH's" and "AWWWH'S" of the people during the fireworks, or seen the tears when the "Star Spangled Banner" is sang, heard the children

Do you remember the day you got your senior ring. Groom High School Class of 2002 will. These Juniors had their "Right to Passage" recently when a "ring" ceremony was held by Jostens for them.

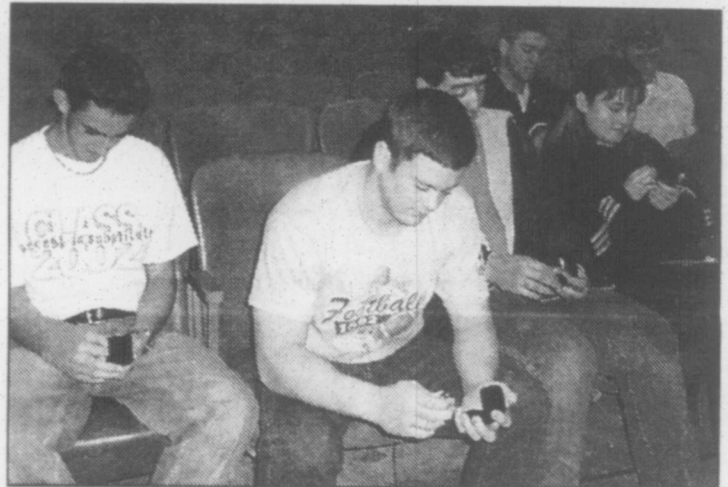
Today senior rings are many different designs. Students can not only select a different ring style from the rest of their classmates but choose the kind and color of stone for the center, as well as emblems for the sides of the ring. All different kinds of medals are used.

Prices range from around \$75.00 to several hundred, although most students select rings in the \$100.00 range.

If you see a junior, be sure to ask to see the beautiful new ring. They are Cassie Ashford, Nicholas Barnett, Cody Bivens, Candace Bohr, Garret Britten, Karri Britten, Trey Britten, Wyatt Britten, Ross Brooks, Dennis Cockrell, Krisanne Davis, Luke Pavlovsky, Clay Ritter, Jennifer Rumsey, and Hugh Weinheimer.



Junior Girls, Candace Bohr, Krisanne Davis, Cassie Ashford, and Nichole Barnett admire their latest piece of jewelry, their senior ring.



Garrett Britten, Trey Britten, Ross Brooks, Jennifer Rumsey, Clay Ritter, and Dennis Cockrell are very proud of their new rings.



Area Obituaries

John Clarence Schaffer
John Clarence Schaffer, 63, died Sunday, Feb 18, 2001 in Amarillo.

Services were held at the 11th Street Baptist Church in Shamrock with Bill Morrison, minister of the Wheeler Church of Christ, and Scott Porter of Shamrock officiating.

Schaffer was born in Gray County and attended school in Groom. He served in the Navy from 1956 until 1959. He lived in Spearman for several years before moving to Wheeler in 1989 and was employed by Wheeler County at the time of his death.

He married Sylvia Kraetz in 1957 in Sedro Wooley, Washington.

Survivors include his wife; four sons, John Schaffer of Houston, Dean Schaffer of Amarillo, Robby Schaffer of Wheeler, and Kenneth Schaffer of Erick, OK.; a daughter, Marri Jayne

Nielson of Austin; a brother, Sam Schaffer of Wellington; two sisters, Doris Body of Wheeler and Barbara Clark of Shamrock and eight grandchildren.

The family suggest memorials be to 11th Street Baptist Church in Shamrock or the American Liver Foundation.

1999 balance was \$2,649.37. Expenses for Groom Day 2000 included: pictures \$80.16, GHS \$283.10, insurance \$212.00, tents (park) \$649.50, park toys \$1075.00, flat rocks \$100.00, balloons \$77.00, t-shirts \$1468.10, meal (cash) \$1220.00, chairs & tables (rent) \$605.88, rodeo prizes \$4659.00, trip \$600.00, advertisement \$671.95, supplies \$118.49, groceries \$934.54, meat \$1493.95, porta-potty \$177.50, helium \$84.20, bingo \$143.87, ribbons \$87.68, fireworks \$3300.00, and teen dance \$304.00. Total expenses for 2000 were \$18,345.92. Income included: basketball \$100.00, teen dance \$259.00, tennis \$120.00, bingo \$176.00, tent \$262.00, fireworks \$284.00, cow patty \$400.00, rodeo \$4,744.00, raffle \$1958.00, booths \$100.00, dinner \$4,698.00, t-shirts \$1,508.51, and donations \$3350.00. Total income for Groom Day 2000 was \$17,859.51. The 2000 balance is \$2,162.96.

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