

Despite protestations to the contrary . . . Columnist is accomplished writer



HELEN FISHER
... Newspaper Columnist

What she does touches the lives of countless numbers of Spearman residences and that's no small feat for a self-professed retiree who, despite her protestations of limited time, manages to put together one of the best read columns in Hansford County.

Helen Fisher's "Among the Neighbors" is what is known as a personals column in the journalism trade. But she's quick to point out that she's no journalist, or a writer for that matter. But that self-assessment is belied by the readership her column carries out of both the Thursday and Sunday newspapers from Spearman.

The personable Hansford native appears to have a natural talent for the column, and a feel for what

people want and like to read.

In her own words, it also keeps her in touch with the public -- and, after a lifetime of public work, that's important to the venerable Spearman retiree.

Modest almost to a fault, Helen doesn't see her column as a popular feature. But she has found that she doesn't have to work as hard to get the column together as she did in the beginning.

In fact, a goodly number of the items which appear each week are called in by the folks who know she handles the items. And she keeps a pad and pencil by every telephone in the house to ensure she gets the information written down correctly -- and quickly.

"You wouldn't believe how

much time I spend on the phones," she states with a wry smile and twinkle in her eyes. "It's important to me that the information I have is correct and factual."

Helen's humor is obvious in any conversation with her and she sometimes lets that wit sneak out in her column. That -- and the number of names which appear weekly in it -- are probably what keep readers turning the pages to find the "Among the Neighbors" feature.

But, while Helen is the outlet for weekly writings which give individuals an opportunity to see their name in print, she herself is a very private person. And, if left up to her, this feature would never have been written.

"There's a lot more people out there who are more interesting than me," she states matter-of-factly. But it's a well-known fact that people who write for newspapers like publicity least of all.

A graduate of Spearman high school, Helen attended McMurry College for a time during the height of the Great Depression.

She later married, but lost a daughter and her husband before coming back to Hansford County where she was born and raised.

"I had a son to raise and I decided that a small community would be the best place to accomplish that," she notes. "I have to admit that I didn't really think I'd wind up spending the rest of my See "COLUMNIST" p-2



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The Hansford Report

by JAMES JARRETT



Let's talk for a bit on letters to the editor. In specifics, unsigned letters to the editor.

When I receive a letter the first thing I do is look to see if it's signed. If it isn't, I don't read the letter. It goes directly to the trash, it does not pass go and it doesn't get printed or get a follow up or anything.

Those are the rules. They will not change. Unsigned letters are trash. Period.

It's a hard line to take, but there are reasons for it. Reasons which every good editor knows, although we probably don't take enough time to get the message across to the public.

The biggest reason is one of responsibility. Publishers are responsible for every item printed in their paper.

People who send unsigned letters simply want someone else to be responsible for what they see as a gross injustice. As a publisher, I might concur -- would probably even print the letter. If it's signed.

If it's not signed, I won't even read it. I won't even know it exists because our secretary who opens the mail is instructed to chunk every unsigned letter to the editor. And, there are no exceptions.

If you want to get a point across, then sign your name. It can and will be withheld on your request with only initials.

However, it must be pointed out that the name will be released to

any person who has a direct bearing on the subject matter of the letter. It will not be released to somebody who is merely curious.

Don Quixote fought windmills. I don't mind a fight, but I'll not fight windmills. And that's usually what unsigned letters are.

All newspapers welcome letters to the editor. I wish we had more, whether they pat somebody on the back or question why things are being done as they are in our community.

A newspaper, by rights, is a public forum. Don't hesitate to send us a letter. But do sign it. If you don't feel you can then save your 22 cent stamp for something important.

Finally, after six months here in Hansford county, I got around to meeting Helen Fisher the other day. I really can't understand now why I waited so long.

The lady is charming, captivating and has a keen sense of humor. Better than that, she's a good listener and, have you ever noticed how some of the most intelligent people in the world are good listeners? At least those intelligent people who listen to me are, anyway.

During the course of the interview, Helen probably wound up listening more to what I had to say than answering any questions I asked. It goes to prove the old See "REPORT" p-2

In executive session Tuesday night . . .

City to consider employees wages

An executive session to discuss employees and pay raises is expected to draw the most attention at the city council meeting sched-

uled for Tuesday evening at 7:30 in the Spearman city hall.

The executive session will be to hear a report from Stephens Management Consultants regarding an updating of job classifications and the pay plan for city employees.

Following the executive session, councilmembers will return to open session to make any decisions regarding the report.

A total of five percent has been allowed in the current budget for employee pay raises, but councilmembers decided to postpone the increase until an assessment of the pay plan along with a report on both private industry wages in Spearman and surrounding city governments could be made by the management firm.

The first part of that report was delivered at the city's last meeting, Oct. 13 with the report on compar-

ative wages. Inconsistencies made in that report are expected to be addressed with an updating of the city's pay plan.

For the past week, the firm has been holding individual interviews with city employees and will make its report on findings there at Tuesday's closed door session.

The city entered into a pay plan over five years ago and has not updated it since that time, notes city manager Jim Murray.

The most glaring discrepancy the first report showed was within the police department where city patrolmen are on the low end of wage scales among area cities.

In other action this coming Tuesday, councilmembers will hold their second hearing on an application to the Texas Department of Community Affairs for a develop-

ment grant for improvements in Spearman.

Following that, councilmembers will consider a resolution authorizing an application to the TDCA for the funding of replacement of water lines within the city which would benefit low to moderate income residents.

In addition, the councilmembers will consider authorizing the city manager to act as the city's executive officer and representative in dealing with the TDCA on the community development application.

City fathers will also consider participation in a statewide telephone franchise study committee and will decide whether to remain as an intervenor in ongoing case involving water quality standards which has been filed by several See "CITY" p-2

Lynxettes host district cross country race

The Spearman Lynxettes will play host to the District 1-AA girls cross country race Wednesday afternoon as some 35 young ladies from Spearman, West Texas Consolidated and Panhandle compete for regional cross country berths.

The 2-mile run will be held on the grounds of the Hansford golf course beginning at 4:30 that afternoon with both varsity and junior varsity competition.

The winners from the meet will advance to regional girls cross country competition Nov. 7 in Lubbock, from there, regional winners will advance to the state finals at Georgetown Nov. 14.

As the date of the amendment election draws near, many Texans are beleaguering studying up on the proposed changes to the Texas Constitution.

There are 25 amendment proposals in all. The Texas League of Women Voters has published a non-partisan, objective amendment guide, to shed light on issues addressed in each amendment.

Amendment Six concerns economic development, authorizing the legislature to provide for state financing of the development and production of Texas products and businesses. Among the groups solidly in favor of the amendment is the Texas Department of Agriculture.

The amendment would allow the legislature to issue up to \$125 million in general obligation bonds and establish funds to foster the development of small businesses, development and production of new or improved products and the production, processing, and marketing of agricultural crops.

The purpose of the amendment, supporters say, is to create and preserve jobs in Texas -- spurring on economic recovery in the state. Helping new businesses to survive and get new products to the marketplace, proponents say, is the quickest and most economical way to increase revenue and produce jobs.

Opponents argue that Texas has a tradition of prohibiting the use of tax money for private purposes and it should not be abandoned. Government dollars should not be used to give selected businesses a competitive edge over others that

do not receive state subsidies, the argument continues. By investing its money in research, job training and higher education, Texas will promote long term growth without getting into competition with sources of private capital, opponents charge.

Amendment Seven would allow for the issuance of general obligation bonds to finance certain local public facilities. Specific users would be local governments, to help in the acquisition, construction, and repair of public facilities and grants for the planning and design of such facilities.

The newly created Texas Department of Commerce would be authorized to issue these bonds and administer the program.

Again, this measure is aimed at stimulating a depressed Texas economy. Supporters say that thousands of new jobs would be created and that current revenues of local governments are not adequate to pay for the public buildings and other facilities that would enhance the quality of life in communities around the state.

Local governments would repay the loans to the state as payments of principal and interest on the state bonds come due.

Opponents say the amendment would be expanding the state bureaucracy and also would drain the state's general revenues. The negative thinking also holds true the belief that local public improvements that are financially sound can be and should be financed by local governments.

Amendment Eight would authorize the issuance of general obliga-

tion bonds for projects relating to corrections institutions and mental health and mental retardation facilities.

A cap of \$500 million in bonds would be set, with proceeds used for acquiring or constructing new facilities or for major repairs to existing facilities.

The act also authorizes up to See "VOTERS" p-2

Renner named to Panhandle group office

B.J. Renner, Hansford county commissioner for precinct three in the northwest part of the county, has been elected as secretary-treasurer of the Panhandle County Judges and Commissioners Association.

The Hansford commissioner will serve for the upcoming 1987-88 year in that capacity. He was elected at a recent meeting of the association which was held in Amarillo.

Serving as president will be Carson county judge Jay R. Roselius with William Chamberlain, Donley county commissioner serving as vice-president.

The PCJCA is composed of the 27 counties across the top of the Texas Panhandle area and has approximately 150 members.

The association discusses and recommends solutions to problems that are common to the Panhandle area as well as the balance of Texas, notes Roselius.

In 20-13 encounter Friday night . . . Comanches slip past Lynx

The West Texas Consolidated Comanches had the Midas touch Friday night, turning a quartet of Lynx miscues into a golden crown as they effectively clinched the district 1-AA gridiron championship by edging out Spearman, 20-13, before a capacity crowd in Lynx stadium.

The win propels the Comanches into post-season play with a 4-1 conference mark and only one regular season game to play, that coming against Gruver next week.

Despite an overwhelming statistical edge, the Lynx find themselves at 2-2 on the year and all but out of contention for a shot at post-season play unless Stratford can beat White Deer in the regular season finale, forcing a 3-way tie which would be decided by a coin flip.

This unusual combination came about this Friday when White Deer upset heavily favored Panhandle, 21-14, to shake up what had looked to be a straight line up for the 1-AA post-season picks after contests this week.

The win ups the Bucks conference mark to 3-1 while Panhandle fell to 2-2. Stratford, who beat Highland Park by a 35-0 count Friday, is now 3-2.

If the Lynx can beat Panhandle



THIS LOOK SAYS IT ALL . . . Lynx head coach Don Mullins displays a look of frustration during Friday's Spearman-West Texas district clash, a game won on the scoreboard by the Comanches despite an overwhelming statistical advantage by the Lynx

this next week, then Stratford can edge out White Deer in the regular season finale two weeks away, a

3-way tie would exist with each team at 4-2 in district 1-AA play.

Should White Deer beat Stratford, then the Bucks will advance into the playoffs with a 5-1 record, their only loss to West Texas who would carry the 1-AA crown and first place.

A Panther win over Spearman would also end the Lynx's post-season berth hopes, leaving Spearman at the best, 3-3, when the season wraps up.

The best that Spearman can hope for is the 3-way tie and a Las Vegas chance at a coin toss to decide 1-AA's second place team.

Friday night, everything but the scoreboard belonged to the Lynx as West Texas capitalized on three Spearman turnovers and an errant punt snap from center to gain their district win.

While the two teams had four penetrations apiece, Spearman held a 15-13 first down edge.

But the true picture comes out in the yardage tally where the Lynx had 165 yards rushing, another 151 passing for a total of 316 offensive yards.

The Comanches -- whose longest drive was a 70-yarder which was given new life by a Lynx penalty -- wound up the evening with 81

See "LYNX" p-3

West Texas jv ekes out 8-6 win against Lynx jv

A 2-point conversion spoiled the only difference between the Spearman Lynx junior varsity and their West Texas Consolidated counterparts this past Thursday evening as the Stinnett squad eked out an 8-6 decision on their home field.

It was the first loss of the year for the jv Lynx whose record fell to 6-1. "Our kids showed some pretty good character," notes jv head

coach James Mireles. "This was the first time they had been behind in a ball game, but they kept on coming back and almost pulled it out."

A defensive struggle, Spearman gave up five fumbles during the game but managed to hold the surging WT offense on all but that one short drive which resulted in their go-ahead TD.

West Texas grabbed a Spearman fumble late in the second quarter of play in Stinnett and put together a 40-yard march to paydirt.

When they stepped across the line to paydirt, the clock read only 1:02 remaining before the half.

Lining up to kick the PAT, an errant snap sent the holder running and he found a WT receiver in the end zone to turn a bad situation into a 2-point conversion.

Edgar Nava ripped a 20-yard run mid-way through the fourth stanza to give Spearman a chance to knot things up.

But a 2-point conversion attempt went over the head of the Lynx receiver and Spearman wound up on the short end of that 8-6 encounter.

VOTERS

\$500 million in revenue bonds to be issued. (Issuance of revenue bonds, of course, does not require voter approval.)

Supporters point to court orders to improve conditions as a primary reason why the legislation is needed. Prisons and mental health facilities are overcrowded and major improvements are needed immediately.

Opponents argue the "spend now, pay later" theme is just a way of creating and expanding state debt.

Amendment Nine would provide that a member of the legislature is eligible to be elected or appointed and to serve in a different state office but may not receive an increase in compensation granted to that office during the legislative term to which he was elected.

Amendment 10 would allow the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation certain personal property not held or used or the production of income. local taxing authorities would, however, have the option of overriding the exemption and levy a tax against the property unless it was exempted by other laws.

Opponents say the legislation is special-interest, designed to help wealthy people and would shift the tax burden to homeowners. The "for" crowd notes that little tax revenue is being collected now on personal property and that the amendment would permit, not require, the legislature to grant tax exemptions so the legislature can limit exemptions.

DID YOU KNOW... ABOUT UMBRELLAS

What do whale bones, oiled cloth and royalty have in common? They are all part of the rich history of umbrellas. Here are some other little-known facts about them from totes, incorporated, one of the leading marketers of weather-protection products:

- In the Mediterranean area, umbrellas were initially used as sunshades even though they weighed about 4 lbs. and were made of whale bones and oiled cloth.
- The word umbrella comes from the Latin word, "umbra," meaning shade.

COLUMNIST

life here -- but it's been a good life and I certainly don't have any complaints."

While she was raising her son, Zack B. Fisher, Helen worked for the county in what was then a combination sheriff's office and tax office.

For nine years she worked with Hansford county sheriff J.B. Cook before leaving that to become what she terms a bookkeeper - stenographer for the Cluck family near Gruver.

That job lasted for some 25 years before her retirement in early 1985. Despite the fact that she had maintained her residence in Spearman, Helen found that a quarter century of working outside of the community had severed many of her contacts.

"I was visiting with Billy Miller one day in his office and we discussed a column," she remembers. "I guess that's how it started."

From that start, Helen's column has grown into one of the most popular and most-requested items in either the Thursday Reporter or the Sunday Plainsman. And, it's easy to see why.

The column is packed full of interesting stories about people in the Spearman community. Her occasional touch of humor helps to spice it up and readers like to see both.

Humor is something Helen is not short on and it comes through in her conversation.

She keeps herself busy during her retirement years not only with the column, but with a variety of other interests as well, ranging from farming and cattle to dabbling lightly in the stock market.

"I hope you realize," she said, "that my transactions are not what led the sell off of the stock market this past Monday. I'm not giving T. Boone Pickens any problems."

Her variety of interests, her background in the community and the fact that she's been where a lot of people are now -- involved in the community in everything from team ropings to PTA -- is what helps Helen add to the flavor of her column.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Buchanan -- and one of 10 children -- has come a long way from her school days in Hansford county.

But, if anything, it's been a

REPORT

adage within the journalism industry which simply states that the hardest person to interview is another writer.

We discussed a wide range of items and got into several philosophical areas as well. Without a doubt, she and I could settle all the problems of the world -- if the world would pay attention, that is.

During the course of one of our side trips away from the interview, Helen brought out how different people who read our respective columns often get something entirely different out of it than what we intended. Often, different readers get different ideas within their own ranks.

As an example, Helen related a short dissertation she had written which concerned the funeral home. It was intended to be humorous.

One reader was upset and felt that death was nothing to joke about, another admitted to a wry chuckle while yet another allowed as how they had to pick themselves up off the floor because they laughed so hard.

One sentence produced three different reactions. I've had the same problem with trying to hold a discussion with my wife, but that's another story.

Death, however, is probably one of those areas where a public writer does need to be careful.

It is, after all, the one great common denominator. It doesn't matter how rich or how poor, how omnipotent or how powerless a person may be, that person will die. It's a fact of life. Certainly not one to go around addressing every day, but a fact of life nonetheless.

I once made a firm promise to myself that there were three fields I'd never stray into. I didn't want to be a preacher, nor a politician nor a mortician.

I messed up once and became a politician. There are those who would argue that my column is sometimes a sermon.

Actually, if I had to go back on that promise to myself at all, why couldn't it have been in the one field where there's money to be made?

pleasant trip... not only for Helen Fisher, but for the countless lives she has touched in writing what she terms as her "little column."

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CITY

organizations against the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

City councilmembers are also expected to consider a resolution supporting the adoption of amendment 17 to the Texas State constitution, an amendment which limits governmental liability in some civil suits.

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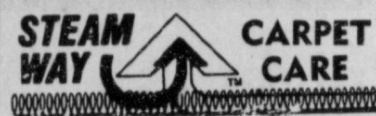
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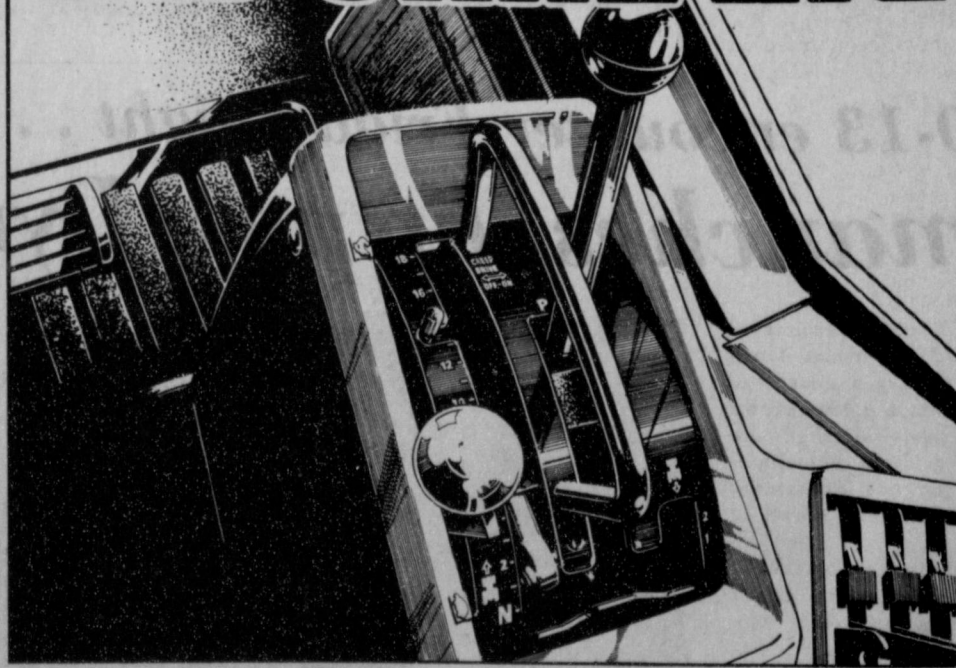
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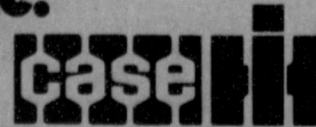
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LYNX

yards on the ground, another 82 through the air for a total of 163 offensive yards.

Shawn Cook paced the Lynx with 76 yards on 16 carries while Haskell Garrett totalled 70 yards on 12 totes and scored one TD.

Alan Beeson hauled in two passes for 87 yards, including an 81-yard pass-run combo to score the opening tally of the night.

Brett Davis finished the evening by completing seven of 10 passes for 151 yards, including the 81-yard touchdown strike.

All of the Lynx scoring came in the first half, while WT's was all accomplished in the second half.

Following the opening kickoff to the Comanches, Spearman held their 1-AA guest and forced them to punt from the Lynx 43.

Spearman set up shop on their own 8-yard line following the exchange, and, five plays later, Davis found Beeson on an aerial strike up the middle and the senior runningback turned receiver slip-

ped through the Comanche defense to find paydirt.

That play was snapped from the Lynx 19-yard line and was the first play from scrimmage following a fake punt which Davis turned into a first down.

Matt Tucker kicked the PAT and, with 7:45 left in the first quarter, Spearman owned a 7-0 edge.

Just before halftime, Spearman took over the ball on their own 46 as the Lynx scoring machine began to generate yardage again.

In 10 short plays, the Lynx marched the distance to the Comanche 21 where Garrett tightroped the sidelines on a sweep to score Spearman's second marker of the evening.

With 1:22 left before intermission, Tucker's PAT kick was wide right, but Spearman held a 13-0 advantage.

The Comanches were unable to do anything after that and the halftime score stood at 13-0, Spearman, as the two teams went into the lockers.

The tone for the second half was established early when Spearman fumbled the ball near midfield to

THE HANSFORD PLAINSMAN

seconds left in that third frame.

give up their first possession to West Texas on the Lynx 44.

A stalwart Spearman defense proved up to the task, however, and the Comanche scoring machine ran out of gas at the Lynx 18.

But two plays later, Spearman fumbled again, this time giving West Texas added life at the Lynx 25.

In five plays, WT signal caller Clayton Smith found wingback Stanley Aylor for a 12-yard TD strike.

With 3:14 to play in the third quarter, Mike Jones toed the PAT through the uprights to pull West Texas to a 7-13 score.

Following the kickoff, Spearman was held on their first series of downs and were forced to punt from their own 30-yard line.

But a high snap sailed off punter Davis' fingertips and the Comanches had another break, getting the ball on the Spearman 15-yard line.

Workhorse runningback Casey Boyer hit the Lynx line three times and on that final try sliced through from five yards out to knot the score at 13-ALL with just 10

A surging Lynx defense blocked the PAT book and that's the way things stood at that point.

Spearman took the ensuing kickoff but was unable to convert a first down and punted to the Comanche 30-yard line.

There they appeared to hold WT on three consecutive plays, only to have an illegal procedure call on the Comanche punt give West Texas new life as 15 penalty yards were stopped off against the Lynx.

This put WT on the Spearman 30 and, on the first play from scrimmage, Aylor took the handoff and scooted the distance to put the Comanches in the lead.

This time, Jone' PAT kick was good and West Texas held a 20-13 advantage with 6:56 left to play.

Spearman controlled the ball from that point, taking the kickoff at their own 34-yard line and setting up a goalward march.

With less than a minute to play, it appeared the Lynx might be pulling the game out as they set up with a first and goal from the WT

7-8 Lynx split WT contests

The Spearman junior high seventh and eighth grade Lynx split games with their West Texas Consolidated counterparts this past Thursday with the eighth grade crew dumping their Stinnett hosts by a 26-14 count while WT blanked the 7th grade Lynx in a 0-12 contest.

The win upped the eighth grade season record to 3-2 while the seventh grade mark fell to 1-3 for the 1987 season.

In seventh grade action, coach Ken Rutherford gave nods to offensive linemen Mike Hager, Armando Munoz and Justin Boyd for their play.

On the eighth grade side of the ledger, Brian Beck turned in a 8-yard line.

But Davis dropped back to pass and the Lynx offensive line was unable to contain a Comanche blitz. Davis attempted to pass, but made a high loop into WT defender Cory Lynch's hands in the end zone to kill the Spearman drive.

2-touchdown performance while Tino Garcia and Chad Riggins scored 6-point markers apiece.

Darwin Hawkins turned in a 2-point conversion to round out the scoring for the Lynx junior high squad.

Khris Kelp hauled in an interception while Jeff Wagner recovered a WT fumble to help pace the Lynx defensive crew.

"Our entire offensive line did a good job," declares Rutherford of the eighth grade effort.

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Positive Attitude



Don Townsen

... perhaps that's why First National Bank promotes the community involvement of their employees. And bank president, Don Townsen and his wife, Barbara, believe in leading by example. As a result, their community service work covers a wide range of activities.

"A bank should be a community service leader," declares the FNB president. "A community's economic health can be affected by a bank's posture, and every bank has a responsibility, almost an obligation, to give back to the community from which it derives its living. A healthy community means a healthy bank."

And he and his wife practice what he preaches. Don is a member of the Spearman ISD school board, he's on the board of the Golden Spread Senior Citizen's and serves as treasurer for the board of directors of the Spearman Chamber of Commerce.

In addition, he's on the Administrative Council of the First United Methodist Church and also teaches the senior high Sunday school class. He currently serves as vice-president of the North Panhandle Banker's Association and is a member of the Texas Panhandle Regional Development Corporation. He has also served as past chairman of the Hansford Y Sustaining Membership Drive.

Barbara, in addition to taking care of an active family consisting of five children, manages to find time to work on the board of directors of the Hansford Y. She also serves as treasurer for the Spearman PTA.

Don's 21 years in the banking industry also qualifies him as a banking leader in the Hansford county financial scene. That, coupled with his community involvement, makes him not only a valuable asset to First National Bank, but to all of Spearman and Hansford county as well.

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Among the Neighbors

By Helen Fisher

Mrs. Dickie Allen and daughter, Diana Parker, are back at home after a fascinating time in New York City.

They were part of a mother-daughter tour originating in Perryton and including Linn Ann Riley, another daughter.

The group flew by way of Dallas and crowded a great deal in a few days.

In addition to seeing all the tourist attractions, or a large number of them, they attended three Broadway shows.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon King of Ashboro, N.C. are visiting his aunt, Mrs. Annie Allen and his cousins.

Last week they accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Dee Allen to Red River for several days. Mr. King, who is in the lumber business, has enjoyed participating in several aspects of the cattle business.

Mr. and Mrs. Burl Buchanan returned late Monday from a combination business and pleasure trip.

They spent part of the weekend at Snyder where their daughter, Jana Beth, is her first year of teaching.

She is teaching math in junior high school and also physical education and some coaching, all of which she is enjoying.

On Monday Burl attended an

insurance seminar in Lubbock. They also visited Roger who is doing post graduate work at Tech.

Marcus and Jo Larson returned Wednesday from a 6-week tour in the north eastern states. They visited friends at LaCross, In. first, then by way of Niagara Falls they went to Corning, N. Y.

Here they joined the New England Fall-Color Tour, a group consisting of 53 R.V.'s and representing 28 states.

Two days were spent at Lake George, N.Y. then to Colchester, Ver. and to Lancaster, N Hamp. Wells, Ma. on the Atlantic occupied the next few days.

In Massachusetts they toured Boston, Salem and Plymouth. Going through Rhode Island, they found Old Mystic, Conn. to be fascinating.

Next was one week in New York City and New Jersey. The group disbanded, but the Larsons and several others went on to Lancaster and Gettysburg in Pennsylvania.

In Harper's Ferry, W.V. they visited his brother, Edward Larson. They reached West Virginia after a leisurely tour of Maryland and Virginia.

Of course they enjoyed the traditional tourists spots in Washington, D.C.

Through Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas and Oklahoma on into the Panhandle, they experienced the first windy days at Shamrock which made them feel that they were really back home.

CORAL PUNCH

- 2 cans (46 oz. each) Dole Pineapple Juice
 - 2 quarts lemonade
 - 1-1/2 quarts orange juice
 - 1 quart cranberry juice cocktail
 - 2 cups apple juice ice cubes
 - 1 lemon, thinly sliced
- In a large punch bowl, mix together pineapple juice, lemonade, orange juice, cranberry juice and apple juice. Add ice cubes. Float lemon slices on top for garnish. Makes about 2 gallons.

School Menu

Elementary & Jr. High Menu

- MONDAY, OCT. 26
 - CORN DOG
 - MACARONI/CHEESE
 - GREEN BEANS
 - FRUIT CUP
 - MILK
- TUESDAY OCTOBER 27
 - CHICKEN PATTIE
 - POTATOES/GRAVY
 - BUTTER BEETS
 - HOT BREAD/HONEY
 - MILK
- WEDNESDAY OCT. 28
 - HAMBURGER/BUN
 - FRIES
 - LETTUCE SHREDDED
 - COOKIE
 - MILK
- THURSDAY OCT. 29
 - BEEF BURRITO
 - PINTO BEANS
 - CHOPPED SPINACH
 - DICED PEACHES
 - MILK
- FRIDAY, OCT. 30
 - WITCHES STEW
 - GRILL GOBLIN SANDWICH
 - SKELETON PICKLE SPEAR
 - JACK O'LANTERN JELLO
 - MYSTERY MILK

High School Menu

- MONDAY, OCT. 26
 - CORN DOG
 - MACARONI/CHEESE
 - SALAD BAR
 - FRUIT CUT
 - MILK
- TUESDAY, OCT. 27
 - CHICKEN PATTIE
 - SALAD BAR
 - POTATOES/GRAVY
 - HOT BREAD/HONEY
 - MILK
- WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28
 - HAMBURGER/BUN
 - FRIES
 - SALAD BAR
 - COOKIE
 - MILK
- THURSDAY, OCT. 29
 - BEEF BURRITO
 - SALAD BAR
 - PINTO BEANS
 - PEACH SLICES
 - MILK
- FRIDAY, OCT. 30
 - WITCHES STEW
 - CREEPY CRACKERS
 - SQUEAKY-DOOR SALAD
 - DEVILISH DOUGHNUTS
 - MYSTERY MILK

Hospital Report

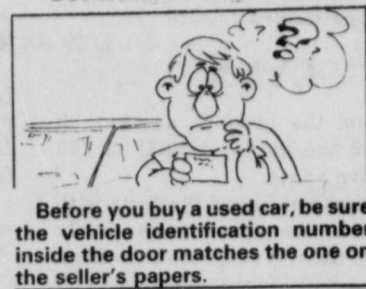
Patients in the Hansford Hospital are Orville Smith, Eldon Boese, Roy Russell, Bill Kuehl, Frankie Dominquez Jr., Floyd Davis, Scott Scroggs, Ruth Hutton, Chuck Newcomb, C.R. Jackson, Catalina Hernandez, and daughter. The Hansford Hospital had no dismissals.

TEAMS exam scheduled this week

Spearman juniors will take the Texas Assessment of Minium Skills testing in mathematics and English language arts this Tuesday and Wednesday in the auditorium of the Spearman high school, notes Marjorie Alford, high school counselor.

The TEAMS testings is designed to evaluate the students basic knowledge of mathematics, reading and writing skills and must be passed by students in order to receive a diploma following their senior year.

Those who do not pass it as juniors may retake the test at a later date in order to qualify for graduation.



Before you buy a used car, be sure the vehicle identification number inside the door matches the one on the seller's papers.

Wedding Shower
for
Shelley Strawn & Dirk Smith
Saturday, October 31
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
at the Blankenship Home
1121 S. Bernice, Spearman
Colors Yellow and Dark Country Blue
Wedding
Saturday, December 19
Given by Hostesses

Guaranteed lowest price in town!*

Beautiful Heirloom Portrait Package 1(8x10), 2(5x7s)* and 10 wallets for only...

SAVE \$5 **NOW ONLY \$3.95** plus \$2.00 Sitting Fee

~~\$10.95~~

* We Guarantee It! Ask photographer for details

Sitting Fee \$2.00 - Not included in price of advertised special. Advertisd special is only in blue and brown backgrounds. Advertisd special is in two (2) poses - our selection. Additional advertised packages are available at regular price. Additional charge for groups and scenic backgrounds.

LIMIT ONE SPECIAL PER FAMILY.

MCCRORY/TG&Y
521 Hwy 207 S.
Oct. 23-Oct. 24

HOURS
Fri.-10-2,3-7
Sat., 10-2,3-6

Philadelphia Carpet

is offering

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS to Celebrate Charlie's Carpet Connection 18th Anniversary Sale!

All Philadelphia Carpets on Sale Till October 31

Charlie's CARPET CONNECTION

1533 N. Hobart — Pampa, Texas

"I was afraid to look in the mirror"

"It's hard to wake up one morning and realize you're a blimp. I cringed every time I looked in the mirror. Then a friend at work told me about Diet Center. In three weeks I lost 17 ugly pounds. Now I feel so much better about myself I have more self-confidence and more energy."

Lose weight while you gain a whole new self image. Talk to a Diet Center counselor today.



Diet Center

We can change your life.

511 S. W. 11th
Spearman
659-2199

Visa & Mastercard

Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, Oct. 31

HALLOWEEN

Dinner and Dance

Enjoy Delicious Prime Rib at 6 p.m. then Dance to Eloy and the Troubadors from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Prize for Best Costumed Couple

Now Open Again - 2 to 5 p.m.

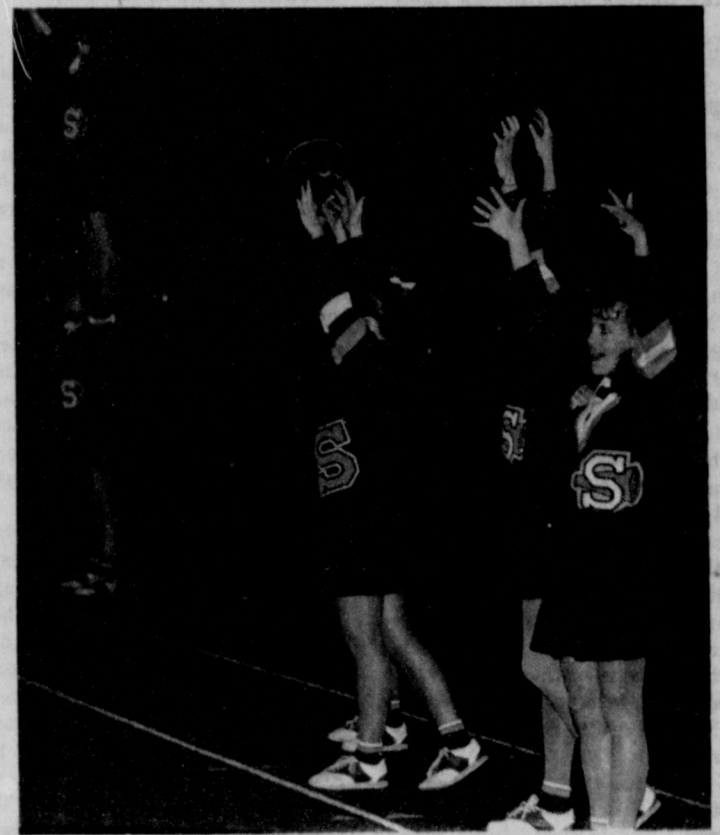
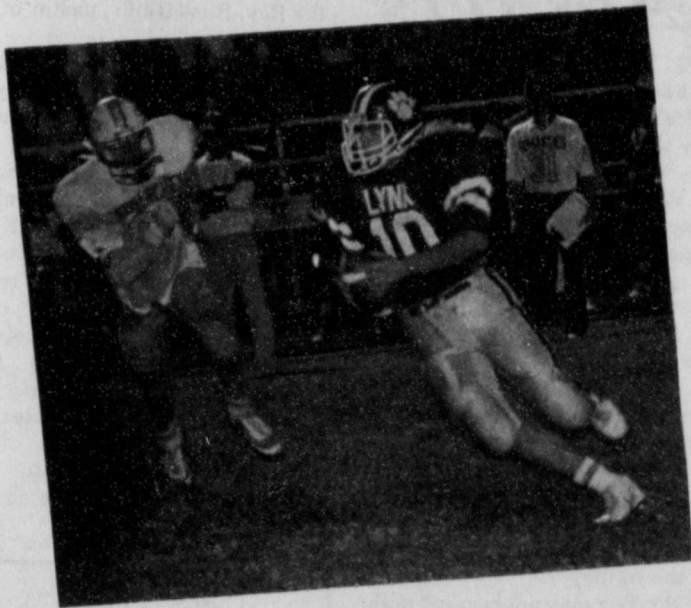
CATTLEMAN'S Supper Club

Spearman

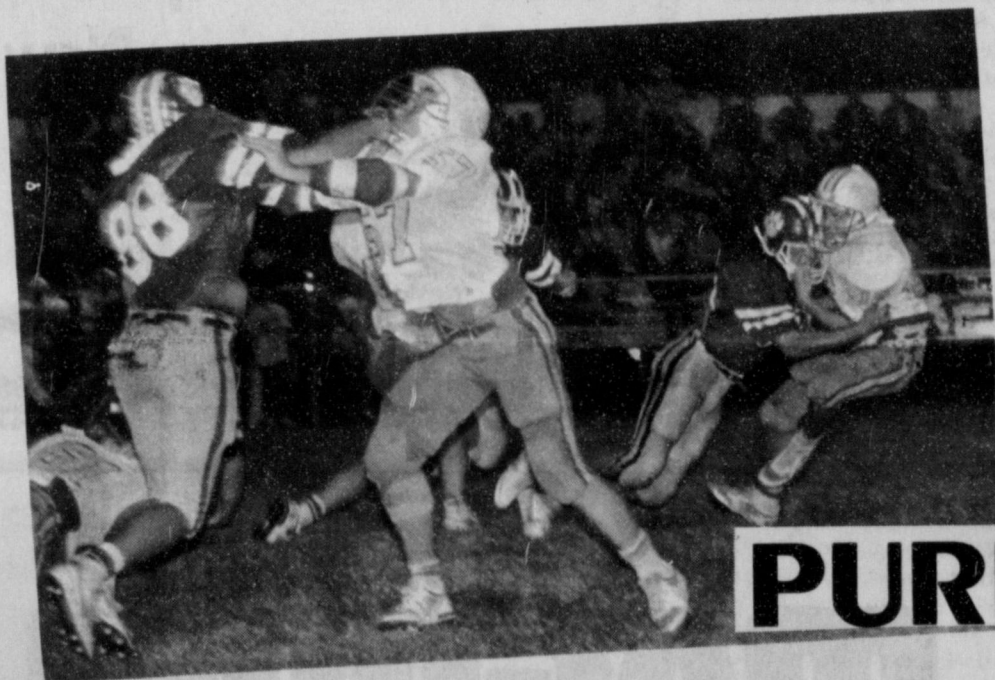
WE'RE PROUD OF YOU,

SPEARMAN LYNX!

NEVER HANG YOUR HEAD WHEN YOU'VE DONE YOUR BEST ...

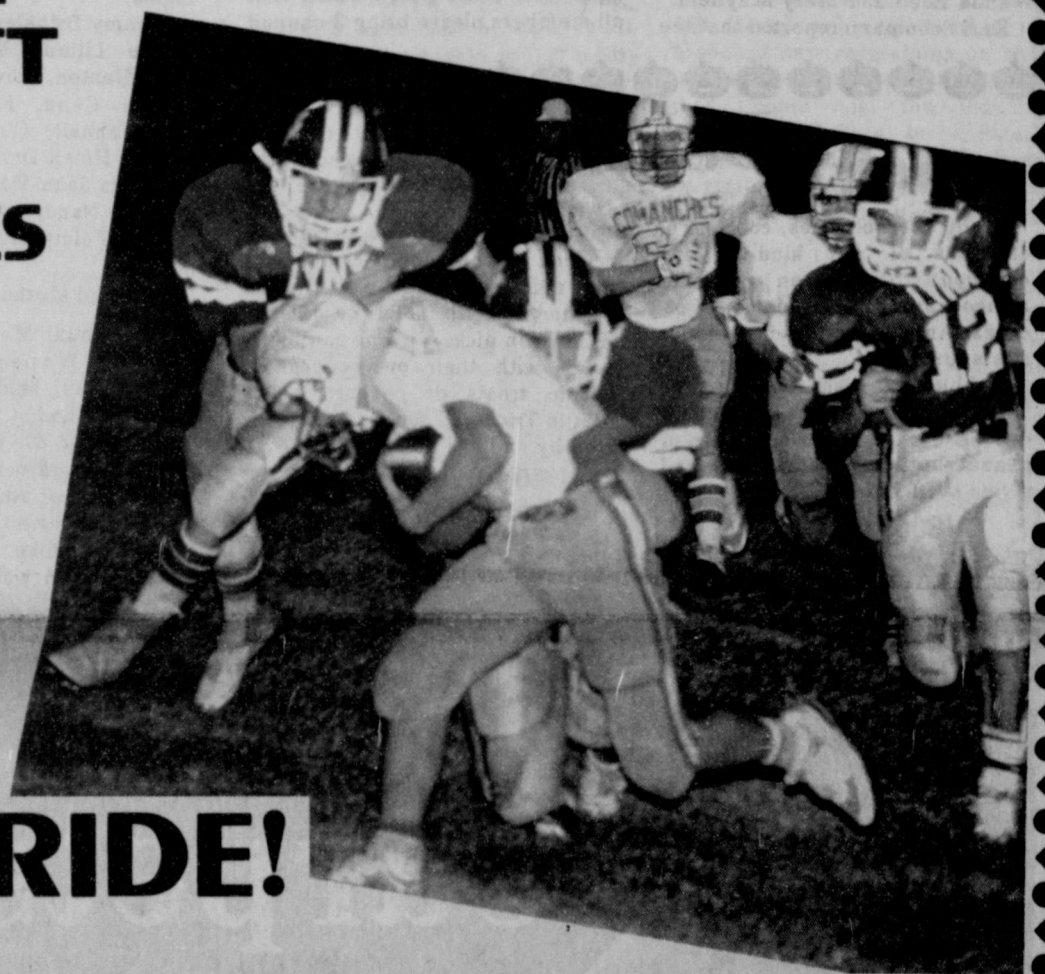


THERE'S AT LEAST TWO GAMES LEFT AND AT LEAST TWO MORE CHANCES





TO SHOW THAT

PURPLE PRIDE!



WE'RE BEHIND YOU ALL THE WAY, LYNX ... GO GET 'EM!

White House Lumber Co.
 306 Davis
 659-3792
 Spearman, Tx.

Tucker Water Well
 120 Hwy. 207
 659-3013
 Spearman, Tx.

J.G.'s
 306 Hancock
 659-3424
 Spearman, Tx.

First State Bank
 1 N.E. Court
 659-5565
 Spearman, Tx.

Spearman Jack & Jill
 123 W. Kenneth
 659-3190
 Spearman, Tx.

B&B Farm Industries
 703 Collard
 659-5507
 Spearman, Tx.

Gordon's Drug
 314 Main
 659-2141
 Spearman, Tx.


Thriftway
 605 Plains Shopping Center
 659-2522
 Spearman, Tx.

Golden Spread Sales
 412 Collard
 659-3776
 Spearman, Tx.


Spearman Cable T.V. Systems
 308 Main
 659-3363
 Spearman, Tx.

Hansford Implement
 Hwy. 207
 659-2568
 Spearman, Tx.

Beedy Furniture
 725 W. 7th
 659-3701
 Spearman, Tx.


Nursanickel
 Hwy 207 S.
 Spearman, Texas
 659-3737


B&B Sales
 205 N. Dillon
 659-5507
 Spearman, Tx.

Hansford Co. Farm Bureau
 307 W. Davis
 659-3133
 Spearman, Tx.

Archer Inc.
 Airport addition
 659-5272
 Spearman, Tx.

H&H Water Well Service
 Gruver Hwy
 Spearman, Tx
 659-5577

Jr. Lusby Cats
 W. Gruver Hwy
 Spearman, Texas
 659-3766

Spearman Jaycees
 Spearman, Texas

Mark Sheets Automotive
 RFD
 Spearman, Tx
 659-2773

Club News

Junior Girl Scouts

A new Junior Girl Scouts program is being headed up by a pair of Spearman women with the program open to young girls from 8 to 11-years old.

Kay Benton and Rhonda Buster are leaders for the Junior Girl Scouts which will meet the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the Girl Scout House at 22 S. Endicott in Spearman.

"We want the girls to know they are welcome to come and become a part of this group," declares Benton. "And their parents are also invited to be included in this with them."

The meetings will be held beginning at 3:45 p.m. on the designated meeting dates, notes the Girl Scout Leader.

WDSCC

The Women's Division of the Spearman Chamber of Commerce held its regular meeting at 12:00 p.m. Wednesday October 21, at the Cattleman's. President, Helen Melton called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Lynanne Maize.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Treasurer, Karen Babitzke gave the treasurers report.

Guests for the meeting were JoLinda Hutchison and Phillip Stumpf.

New members present were Wanda Reed and Mary Mayfield.

Kari Schumann reported that the

nominating committee had met and had chosen the following nominees for 1988 officers, Mae Wofford-President, Patti Schnell-Vice President, Karen Babitzke-Secretary, Cindy Rice-Treasurer, and Adela Lopez-Parliamentarian. There offices will be voted upon at the November meeting.

Helen reported that a fund has been set up for Ernest Newcomb at the First National Bank. The purpose of this fund is to buy Ernest a new camera. Helen asked if the Women's Division would be interested in donating to this fund. Helen Dry made the motion to donate \$50.00, seconded by Mae Wofford, and passed by the organization.

Helen reported that the Women Division could not get a temporary permit to have Bingo at the Halloween Carnival. Helen asked if we would be interested in having a Basketball Throw. There is already a goal at the County Barn that we could use. It was decided to go ahead and have the Basketball Throw.

Helen reminded all members that the Women's Division is in charge of the games at the Manor for the month of November. There will need to be 5 or 6 people to help each time. The games will be each Tuesday night from 6:30 p.m. to around 8:00 p.m. Nancy Graves has agreed to be chairman of this project.

Helen also reported that the Women's Division will be giving food baskets for Thanksgiving again this year. Helen asked that all members please bring 3 canned

food items to the November meeting. Linda Davis has agreed to be chairman of this project.

Last year the Women's Division helped decorate the Manor for Christmas. Helen suggested that we make wreaths out of the material and supplies we already have. Norma Jean has agreed to be the chairman. Norma Jean reported that there were 47 doors to be decorated. There will be a work night in the near future to put the wreaths together.

Sheri Benton reported that she had read in the readers Digest about Lifesaver Tags for children. The tags can be sewn into the childrens clothes or shoes. The tags would have their name, address, and their doctors name in case they should happen to get lost or need doctor assistance they would have this information on this person. Sheri reported that this might be a good community project for the Women's Division. Vicki Genn has agreed to check into these tags for us.

Alton Ellsworth was the lucky winner of the Red River Trip.

Our guest Phillip Stumpf gave the program on how he got his seeing eye dog, Dusty. It was a very interesting and informative program. The Women's Division would like to thank Phillip for sharing his story with us.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Members present were Helen Melton, Hazel Stumpf, Irene Snider, Altha Townsend, Adela Lopez;

Tammy Brinkley, Mae Wofford, Elaine Littau, Karen Babitzke, Sheri Benton, Loretta Cook; Vicki Genn, Frankie Donnell, Patti Schnell, Cindy Rice, Alice Peddy, Helen Dry;

Norma Jean Mackie, Kari Schumann, Nancy Graves, Arbeta Nobles, Felma Evans, and Lynanne Maize.

United Methodist Women

The Annual Meeting of United Methodist Women of the Pampa District was held at the First United Methodist Church in Stinnett, October 20. President Hallie Burrell of Shamrock presided. Rev. John Beard of Stinnett gave the welcome, followed by a prayer by Sandra McClellan.

The program was introduced by

THE HANSFORD PLAINSMAN

Vice-President Mildred Hickox of Borger. A memorial Service was presented by Bonnie Fabian of McLean. Special reports were given by Doris Akers of Follett and Jeanne Gramstorf of Farnsworth. Special music was presented by Donna Mills and Evelyn Fritz of Stinnett.

The featured speaker was Rev. William Fitzgerald, who has served for eight years in Nigeria in the Mission field of agricultural development. His slide presentation was very informative and inspirational.

In the business meeting conducted by President Hallie Burrell, 102 members answered the roll call.

The following slate of officers were installed for 1988 by Bonnie Fabian, President Mrs. Margaret Campbell, Borger; Vice-President Mildred Hickox, Borger; Secretary Linda Rogers, Borger; Treasurer Florence Blair, Borger; Program Resources Inez Trostle, McLean; Standing rules Billye Owens, Wellington.

Mission Coordinators will be Christian Personhood: Kitty Harrington, Borger; Supportive Community Harriett Woodward, Borger; Christian Global Concerns Mary Graham, Pampa; Christian Social Involvement Doris Akers, Follett;

Chairperson on Nominations Delores Bell, Follett; Patty Shepard, Spearman; Eddie Poole, Borger; Ruth Magee, McClean; Ethel Johnson, Pampa.

The benediction and table grace was given by Rev. Albert F. Lindley, Pampa District Superintendent. A luncheon was served by the Stinnett Units to conclude the meeting.

Wedding shower to honor Shelley Strawn

A wedding shower honoring Shelley Strawn, bride-elect of Dirk Smith, will be held next Saturday from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Blankenship home located at 1121 S. Bernice in Spearman.

Yellow and dark country blue will be the colors of the shower. The couple plan to be married Saturday, Dec. 19.

Hostesses for the shower include Carolyn Gressett, Mary Ann Lasater, Sheryl Meek, Barbara Collier; Eulalia Blankenship, Earlene Gee, Glenda Guthrie, Barbara McClellan, Linda Latta; Linda Rowland, Nellie Buchanan, Wanda Jones, Judy Nelson and Zetha Blackburn.

Services held for W. H. "Bill" Gandy

Funeral services for W. H. "Bill" Gandy, 86, were held Thursday morning at the First Baptist Church of Spearman with the Rev. Russ Gibbs, pastor officiating.

Mr. Gandy died Tuesday. Burial was in Hansford Cemetery by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Spearman.

Mr. Gandy, born at Sabine Parish, La., moved to Spearman in 1919. He was married to Kubah Norman in 1931 at Fannin County. She died in 1981. He was a retired farmer.

Survivors include three sisters, Emma Branch of Yuma, Ariz., Belle Crable of Tucson, Ariz., and Pearl Hurd of Lake Montezuma, Ariz.

Memorials may be to First Baptist Church or favorite charity.

Veteran Questions & Answers

Q - My ex-husband says I am the beneficiary of his National Service Life Insurance policy. Can I verify this?

A - Verification is possible only with the husband's permission in writing. This does not preclude a change in beneficiaries at a later date.

Q - My husband died of a service connected disability and I have filed a claim for Dependency and Indemnity compensation (DIC). My husband was a military retiree and was contributing to a monthly annuity for me under the Survivors Benefit Program (SBP). May I receive DIC from the VA and SBP from the military?

A - No. You may not receive both benefits. For every dollar of DIC you receive, you must waive a dollar of your SBP benefit. Should your monthly SBP benefit exceed the monthly DIC benefit, you will be entitled to receive the difference. The premiums paid into the SBP fund during your husband's lifetime which represent that portion of the SBP benefit which you must waive in order to receive the DIC benefit will be refunded to you in a lump sum. You are not required to elect the DIC benefit. You may elect to receive the total SBP benefit; however, SBP benefits are fully taxable whereas DIC benefits are exempt from taxation.



NEW MEXICO DEER HUNT SAVE \$
Six slots available due to unavoidable cancellations
Call (806) 355-2718 after 6 p.m.
g04-1tc s51-1tc

Ready or Not

Made to order cakes, cookies, or cupcakes of any kind for any occasion: Halloween Parties (school; church), Birthdays, Weddings, Anniversary, or just tomorrow's lunch.

Debbie is also making the "BIG" cookies! In the all popular chocolate chip and also sugar or peanut butter. Several sizes and styles available.

(806) 659-3328

Debbie's

Do you do your own decorating or cook for the public? Debbie's is expanding her line of Wilton products! With solid or filigree Halloween picks, anyone can make a hit with their own cupcakes, crispie treats or popcorn balls. "Little Trickers" top also in stock. Stop by and see us!

620 1/2 Bernice
Spearman, Tx

Gulistan Carpets

By J.P Stevens

is offering **SPECIAL DISCOUNTS** to Celebrate **Charlie's Carpet Connection 18th Anniversary Sale!**

All Gulistan Carpets on Sale Till **October 31**

Charlie's CARPET CONNECTION
1533 N. Hobart — Pampa, Texas

Introducing the new MAGNUM 7110



And the first all-new tractors from Case IH

Case IH put more into the new MAGNUM tractor line than any farm tractors developed in over twenty years. Here's why you'll get more out of it:

MAGNUM means more. Outstanding field performance from a new 505 cubic inch turbocharged engine with reserve power. MAGNUM power.

The MAGNUM tractor's powershift puts 18-speeds of shift-on-the-go workpower at your fingertips—standard. And only MAGNUM tractors offer a full powershift creeper transmission with six additional speeds from .5 to 2.1 mph... for more control and performance. MAGNUM performance.

The MAGNUM tractor's new larger cab has 48 square feet of window area... virtually unobstructed visibility... more seating comfort. MAGNUM comfort.

It all adds up: The Case IH MAGNUM 7110 tractor sets new standards for the 130 hp (97 kW) class... and for you. See us for details.

MAGNUM means more.

Five Star Equipment Inc.
Hi-Way 15 West Spearman **case ih**
659-3743

Your Home Is Full Of Hidden Dollars



Call 659-3434

Turn idle items into cash fast with a Want Ad

CLASSIFIED RATES
 Regular . . . Per Word-\$0.13
 Display . . . Per col. Inch-\$4.20
 Double rate for blind ads
 Minimum charges
 Cash \$4.00
 Charge \$4.50

CASH IN ADVANCE ADS
 •Work wanted •Trailers for Sale •Business Opportunities •No longer Responsible •Political Advertising •Child Care •Baby sitting •Garage Sales •Out-of-county Ads unless advertiser has established credit with •The Spearman Reporter

DEADLINES
 To place or cancel ads
 Friday - 12:00 p.m. Sunday edition.
 Tuesday - 12:00 p.m. Thursday edition
 The Spearman Reporter reserves the right to reject, edit, revise and properly classify all advertising submitted for publication. The Spearman Reporter also reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.
THE SPEARMAN REPORTER
 213 Main, P.O. Box 458
 Spearman, Texas 79081

HANSFORD COUNTY
 Planned Parenthood
 412 Davis
 659-2483
 Spearman, Tx
 Monday - Friday
 8:30 - 12:30

STEAM RINSE & VAC-Rinse and Vac Shampooer for rent at Gordons Drug. \$10.95 up to 24 hours.

Real Estate

FOR RENT: Nice 3 bedroom unfurnished house. Carpet, drapes, central air & heat. Elec. or gas hook up for cook stove. Cleaning deposit required. No pets. Call 659-3657. s51-rtm

FOR SALE OR RENT: Nice house in nice neighborhood. 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, office, lots of cabinet storage. Good condition! Call Sheila Watley at 659-3970. S50-rtm

HOUSE FOR SALE: 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath 2 car garage newly remodeled 1 block from school priced in the low 20's call 659-3987 S 51 rtn

COMPLETE MOBILE HOME Services available. Check our cheaper rates on transporting, escorting, and skirting anchors and cool seal for all makes. Large selection of new, used and repos. B & D Mobile Homes. Guymon, Ok. 405/338-5315. s47-2tc

\$99 total down payment for 1987 doublewide, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, delivered to your location. 120 months at 11% APR at \$333 per month. Cat Art at (806)376-5630. S49-9t

16x80 mobile home, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, fireplace, split level kitchen, lots of living space. Set up on corner lot with fenced back yard. Must see to appreciate. Located at 401 S. Hazelwood. Call 659-2354 after 5:00. s51-8tp

\$130 per month payment for 14-foot wide mobile home. Remodeled and ready for delivery. 12.77% APR at \$500 down for 60 months. Call (806)376-4612 and ask for Tim. S49-9t

ONLY! 259.78 per month for extra nice 1984 Las Brisas, 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Masonite siding, new carpeting and new tile. Assume payments or buy outright will also consider selling lot. Call 659-5116 after 5 p.m. 51-2tc

\$179 per month for 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Completely refurbished with new carpet. \$743 down at 12.77% APR. for 84 months. Free delivery and set up. Call A-1 Mobile Homes at (806) 376-5363. S49-9t

ABANDONED HOMES - Take over payments on 2 and 3 bedroom homes. Qualify by phone. 806/381-1352. Call collect. S46-rtm

FOR RENT: Trailer space in Spearman. All utilities, fenced and concrete walk ways. Call 435-5080. s46S-only rtn

\$206 PER MONTH for new 1988 doublewide. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Free delivery and set up. 13.75% APR at 240 months. \$1,591 down. Ask for Ruben at (806)376-8611. S49-9t

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom trailer. Has 2 full bathrooms, a fenced backyard with patio and storage building. Call 659-3186 day or night. S50-3tp

FOR SALE: 1984 Suburban-Excellent condition inside and out. New tires, low mileage, can be seen at 1007 S. Bernice or call 659-3402 after 5 p.m. s51-2tc

FOR SALE: light gold crushed velvet couch \$150! excellent condition. Call after 5:00 733-2958.

FOR SALE: Silvertone Chord Organ in good condition. For information call 659-2809. s49-7tp

HIRING! Government jobs - your area. \$15,000 - \$68,000. Call (602) 838-8885. EXT 4514. S47-9tp

PIANO FOR SALE
WANTED: Responsible party to assume small monthly payments on piano. See locally. Call credit manager 1(800)447-4266. s48-8tp

Auction

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, the 3rd day of November, 1987 at 10:05 a.m. the following described Royalty Interests will be sold at the door of the Hansford County Courthouse to the highest bidder for cash subject to any and all taxes!

TRACT ONE:
 An undivided .0244048 royalty interest in and to all oil, gas, and other minerals produced from Section 61, H & GN Survey Hansford County, Texas.

TRACT THREE:
 An undivided .0366071 royalty interest in and to all oil, gas, and other minerals produced from all of Sections 27 and 29, Block 1, Certificate No. 27, original grantee, Cherokee Furnace Company, Hansford County, Texas, containing 160 acres, more or less.

TRACT FOUR:
 An undivided .0117105 royalty interest in and to all of the oil, gas, and other minerals produced from all of Section 31, Block 1, Certificate No. 31, Cherokee Furnace Company Survey; all of the East half of Section 2, Block 1, Central & Montgomery Ry. Co. Survey, Certificate No. 206; all of the East half of the B Venneman Survey, Abstract No. 1269, containing 666.88 acres, more or less, in Hansford County, Texas.

All of the right, title, and interest of Jacqueline K. Thoreson, whether now owned or hereinafter acquired in and to (i) all oil, gas, and/or mineral leases and other minerals so produced, on the above described lands, (ii) the aforesaid leases, even though the Grantor's interest therein may be incorrectly described in Exhibit "A" or even though said leases cover lands other than (or in addition to) land described above, and (iii) all other oil, gas, and/or minerals or mineral leases and interests with which the aforesaid leases may be pooled or unitized, in whole or in part.

Grantor warrants that the undivided leasehold and royalty interests secured hereby equals a net revenue interest described in each of the aforesaid tracts.

These Properties are owned by Jacqueline K. Thoreson and are being sold by the U. S. Small Business Administration in foreclosure and proceedings.

Please contact Williams & Webb, Inc. at (806) 374-9387 or 2208 Canyon Drive Amarillo, Texas 79109 for additional information concerning this Auction.

Help Wanted

HELP WANTED:Service Station Attendant needed at Consumers. Fix flats, change oil and other odd jobs. Apply in person at 421 W. Kenneth.

WANTED TO BUY: House to be moved. Minimum 1200 sq. ft. 659-2808. s51s-4tc

For Sale

ARABIAN HORSES: Beautiful, well-mannered, reasonably priced. 87 stud colt, handled by children, \$400. Others ready to train! \$500 and up. Offers-trades, 435-9279 evenings. 51s-3tc

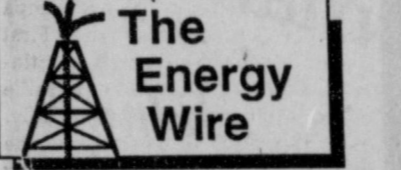
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids for the purchase of the following equipment will be received by the City of Spearman, Tx., at the office of the City Manager up until 2 p.m., Nov. 19 then publicly opened and read.

1. One (1) pickup truck with standard cab and bed.
2. One (1) four door police special sedan with a trade-in.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive informalities and to accept the bid deemed to be the most advantageous to the City. All bids received after the above closing hour will be returned unopened.

Specifications and bidding documents may be secured from the office of the City Manager, P.O. Box 37, Spearman, Tx. 79081. S50S-2t-Sonly



It was an industry at a crossroads in the Texas capital. Emotional rhetoric flowed in a gusher from oilmen as they debated whether to knock directly on the door of the federal government and ask for help or, as several of them put it, "go it alone."

Almost 1,000 members of the Independent Petroleum Association of America showed up last week at the group's annual meeting where the longstanding issue of asking for federal assistance was finally resolved, at least for IPAA. In the end, the organization -- citing numerous potential pitfalls and perhaps reflecting the independence in its title -- said no.

Spokesmen for Enserch Inc., the Dallas company that has spearheaded the effort to request relief from the International Trade Commission and the Commerce Department, said they would continue their effort in spite of a loss of what was viewed as critical support from IPAA.

"We're not throwing in the towel, let's put it that way," said Robert E. Ebel, vice president for international affairs with Enserch in Washington.

Other oil and gas associations, mostly based in Texas, also said they would go along with the effort in an attempt to convince the trade commission of broad industry backing for petitions seeking assistance

that probably would result, if successful in an oil import fee to stabilize oil prices.

Those groups included the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association, the National Stripper Well Association, the Petroleum Equipment Suppliers Association and the International Association of Drilling Contractors.

The issue, which bubbled under the surface throughout the three-day meeting, came to a head in two of the association's leading committees, where members were outspoken on both sides of the issue, but where those against the fort out numbered those in favor of it.

The crude oil committee, in the closest and perhaps most crucial of the actions, voted 11 to 6 against joining Enserch. The Executive committee then voted 37 to 0 against filing the petitions, following a vote to 23 to 14 opposing a show of support for the effort without joining it.

The statement adopted by the Executive committee, and later by the general membership, said Enserch was turned down because of a lack of agreement of whether the action is "desirable and, if desirable, what relief the industry should request." Another reason was that the action could generate negative public reaction, leading to unfavorable rather than favorable results.

"There are men hurting out there (in the industry) and hurting badly," said R. Harlan Krumme of Bristow, Okla., head of the National Stripper Well Association. "We can't hide our heads in the sand. We must take risks," he told the executive committee in urging cooperation with Enserch.

He implored the members to keep in mind their tradition as "risk-takers" and go after possible intervention by the federal government in a situation where nobody doubts that harm has resulted from foreign imports.

However, a majority in the association obviously felt that this particular prospect might be a dry hole.

At a pivotal annual meeting in Austin last week, the largest organization of independent oilmen set a clear course for future priorities in Washington and put drilling tax incentives at the top of their list.

After considerable and often heated debate, the Independent

Petroleum Association of America rejected joining an effort to directly request oil price relief from the federal government, an effort that smaller oil associations pledged to continue under leadership of Enserch Inc. of Dallas.

In a statement outlining the association's reasons for turning down a role in filing for relief with the Commerce Department and International Trade Commission, IPAA said it will focus on "other major issues that can be concluded favorably only with a united domestic petroleum industry."

The group's "limited resources should be focused where there is a reasonable probability of success," the statement said.

The first area of concern in the statement was "the broad area of federal taxes -- obtaining changes in the alternative minimum tax, tax credits for exploration and drilling, increased percentage depletion, restoration of the investment tax credit, repeal of net income limitations, elimination of the transfer rule and repeal of windfall profits tax."

The statement said IPAA also will focus on trying to head off proposed new regulations on hazardous wastes related to oil drilling that "could cost the industry billions of dollars to initiate." IPAA also will concentrate efforts on restoring and expanding natural gas markets and opening up federal lands.

U.S. oil production is expected to fall off an additional 130,000 barrels per day over the past two years, due in part to completion of projects in Alaska and California, according to IPAA's supply and demand committee.

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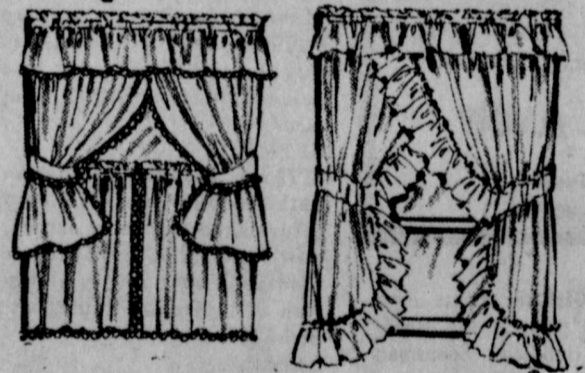
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