



The Hansford County Reporter Statesman

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Outstanding Leadership Speaker to be in Perryton

Another outstanding leadership speaker will be in Perryton on Thursday, January 10, 2008. Clark Dirt Contractors and Leadership Perryton will host Randy Pennington of Addison, Texas as he presents an entertaining, thought provoking, and motivating session called "On My Honor I Will: Proven Principles for Integrity Driven Leadership" at Frank Phillips College Allen Campus. Registration will be from 6-6:30 p.m. and the seminar will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. With the generous sponsorship by Clark Dirt Contractors, admission will be free of charge.

Randy Pennington of Pennington Performance Group helps leaders and organizations focus on results, relationships, and accountability. He is a twenty-year business performance veteran, author and consultant who has worked with many of the country's best known organizations and government agencies. He serves as an adjunct instructor in the Cox Business Leadership Center at SMU. Pennington is a frequent radio talk show guest/commentator on national media and the country's most elite newspapers. His first book received endorsements from Gerald Ford, Zig Zigler, and Stephen Covey. He earned the Certified Speaking Professional designation from the National Speakers Association in 1996. You can learn more about him at www.pennington-group.com.

Randy will be talking on "On My Honor, I Will," which is also the title of his first book. What if a blueprint existed for becoming a leader you always wanted to be ... one that achieves results and inspires trust? What if that blueprint had been field-tested by hundreds of thousands of leaders from all walks of life? What if this simple blueprint could make you more effective at work, within your community, or within your family? The blueprint does exist. Forty simple words will transform you into an integrity driven leader in your business and in your life. Come learn how to become the leader who inspires trust, respect, commitment, and results from others. He uses the Boy Scout oath as the basis of his talk.

This is a great way to take a different look at your life, family, business and community. Start the New Year with some new ideas. Come spend a short time for ideas that will last a lifetime. Don't miss the opportunity to hear Randy Pennington. You can apply what he talks about immediately. Individuals are invited. Businesses are encouraged to send employees to help build a positive attitude in the workplace and develop better team spirit. Admission is free. For more information contact the Perryton Ochiltree County Chamber of Commerce (435-6575).

Deadline Notice!

The deadline to submit news and advertising to the Hansford County Reporter-Statesman is Monday at 5 p.m. Items submitted after the deadline will be published at a later date, as time and space permit.

Items may be submitted by phone (806-659-3434), fax (806-398-9080), mail (Reporter-Statesman, 213 Main Street, Spearman TX 79081), or e-mail (reporter@spearmanreporter.com).

For more information, please contact Catherine Smith at 659-3434, or e-mail to reporter@spearmanreporter.com



USDA Issues Disaster Payments for Crop, Livestock and Feed Losses

Acting Agriculture Secretary Chuck Conner announced that USDA will begin issuing payments today to tens of thousands of farmers and ranchers across the country who suffered losses because of natural disasters.

"Numerous agricultural producers suffered financial hardships in recent years because of floods, wildfires, tornadoes and other weather-related disasters," Conner said. "These funds will provide assistance to producers affected by these disasters."

USDA is currently processing about \$1 billion in payments under the Crop Disaster Program, Livestock Compensation Program and Livestock Indemnity Program. Sign-up for these programs is ongoing. The programs provide payments to agricultural producers who suffered crop, livestock and feed losses in 2005, 2006, and before Feb. 28, 2007. But, producers must choose one year for which to receive payments.

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) provides benefits to farmers who suffered quantity and quality losses from natural disasters and related conditions that happened in 2005, 2006 and for 2007 crops if the crop

was planted or prevented from being planted before Feb. 28, 2007. At this time, USDA is only compensating producers for quantity losses under this program. Payments for the quality losses will not be distributed until early 2008, after sign-up for quality loss.

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) compensates livestock producers for feed losses resulting from natural disasters that occurred between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007. Producers who suffered losses caused by blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into 2007 are eligible.

Producers in primary or contiguous counties that were declared secretarial disaster areas or counties declared presidential disaster areas between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, are also eligible.

Additionally, USDA will soon issue more than \$11 million to Alabama, Florida, Idaho, Mississippi and Oklahoma through the LCP Catfish Grant Program. Alabama will receive \$3,121,477.94; Florida \$34,879.25; Idaho \$6,968.00; Mississippi \$8,123,840.88; and Oklahoma \$5,651.10. USDA also approved the following six states to receive funds through the Catfish Grant Program:

Arkansas, California, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana and Texas. USDA will distribute funds to the six states after they conduct sign-up and submit requests for payments.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) compensates livestock producers for livestock losses between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, that were caused by natural disasters, including blizzards that started in 2006 and continued into 2007. Producers in primary or contiguous counties that were declared secretarial disaster areas or counties declared presidential disaster areas between Jan. 1, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2007, are also eligible.

The U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007, signed into law on May 25, 2007, by President Bush authorizes CDP, LCP and LIP. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers the programs.

Farmers and ranchers can apply to receive benefits through these and other disaster programs by visiting their local FSA service center. Find more information about FSA disaster programs online at: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

Texas & Oklahoma Panhandle Crop Production Clinics

The 2008 Texas and Oklahoma Panhandle Crop Product Clinics have been set for the following dates: January 7 - Community Coliseum, Dalhart; January 8 - Moore County Community Building, Dumas; January 9 - Texas County Ag Exhibition Building, Guymon; January 10 - Hansford County Barn, Spearman; January 11 - Carson County Ag Building - Panhandle.

The clinics are being presented by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., DuPont Agricultural Products and the Texas Cooperative Extension. These clinics have been approved for CEU and CCA credits.

The program agenda is as follows: 9:30-10 a.m. - Registration and welcome; 10-11 a.m. - Program; 11-12 noon - Program; 12-1 p.m. - Lunch, sponsored by DuPont; 1-2 p.m. - Program; 2-3 p.m. - Program; 3 p.m. - Receive CEU or CCA certificate. Additional sponsorship is provided by Bayer Crop Science (Poncho Seed Treatments), Chemtura (Comite II) and Florida Food Products (Invite).

The Speaker's Schedule is as follows: **Station 1 (Pioneer Hi-Pred/DuPont)** - 10-11 a.m. - Herbicide Update; Lyons; 11-12 noon - Yield Mapping; Bowling/Jungman; 1-2 p.m. - Herbicide Update; Lyons; 2-3 p.m. - Yield Mapping; Bowling/Jungman; **Station 2 (Texas Cooperative Extension)** - 10-11 a.m. - Irrigation Management; New; 11-12 noon - Wheat/Grain Marketing; Bean/Amosson; 1-2 p.m. - Irrigation Management; New; 2-3 p.m. - Wheat/Grain Marketing; Bean/Amosson; **Station 3 (Collins Agronomics/Precision Planting)** - 10-11 a.m. - Strip-Till Best Management; Collins; 11-12 noon - Planter Upgrades; Crowe/Williams; 1-2 p.m. - Strip-Till Best Management; Collins; 2-3 p.m. - Planter

Upgrades; Crowe/Williams; **Station 4 (Servi-Tech Labs/Texas Cooperative Ext.)** - 10-11 a.m. - Fungicide Use in Corn; Roxann Bowling; 11-12 noon - Fertilizer Management; Vocasek; 1-2 p.m. - Fungicide Use in Corn; Bowling; 2-3 p.m. - Fertilizer Management; Vocasek.

Speakers for the event are: Dr. Robert Bowling and Scott Jungman - Benefits of Yield Monitor Mapping; Jack Lyons, CCA - Herbicides for Row Crops and Small Grains; Dave Collins - Best Management Practices for Strip-Till; Dr. Leon New - Irrigation

Management and Efficiency; Dr. Brent Bean and Dr. Steve Amosson - Wheat Management and Grain Marketing; Mr. Roxanne Bowling - Fungicide Use in Corn; Fred Vocasek - Fertilizer Management; Barry Crowe and Kevin Williams - Planter Maintenance and Upgrades.

Participants will be able to attend four of the eight topics sessions.

For more information, contact the Hansford County Cooperative Extension at 659-4130.

PTCI Prepares for HD Release

Throughout the last several months PTCI has been working to upgrade the cable infrastructure in Spearman and Booker to provide more advanced and dependable television service, and now announces their plans to launch high-definition (HD) programming within the coming months.

The launch of PTCI's new digital cable television service offers Spearman and Booker residents a high quality, state-of-the-art choice of television programming with more capabilities than previous technologies. Features of the new digital television include the availability of over 100 local, sports, premium and music channels as well as the ability to pause or record live TV to watch at their convenience, replaying or pausing whenever they want. The most highly anticipated feature is its capability for HD programming.

PTCI plans to release a total of 30 HD channels to their new digital television channel lineup. Although details of these channels have not been released, several channels will contain sports-related programming.

"PTCI looks forward to offering this new television service in Spearman and Booker as a way for residents to receive the most advanced television programming from a local company they can trust," said Ron Strecker, PTCI's CEO. "PTCI has made significant investments in providing services to the residents of Spearman and Booker and this new television service further indicates our commitment to these communities."

The mission of PTCI is to consistently provide affordable, high quality communication services which will enhance the quality of life for customers throughout the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandle areas.

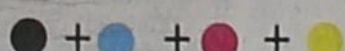
COMET THE GAME

Spearman Lynx/Lynxettes

1/3-5 JVB at Perryton JV Tourney
1/4 JVG (5), VG (6:30) vs. Stratford
1/7 7B (5), 8B (6), 9B (7:30) vs. Canadian
1/7 7G (5), 8G (6), 9G (7:30) at Canadian
1/8 JV G (5), VG (6:30) at Canadian

Gruver Greyhounds/Lady Hounds

1/3-5 JVB at White Deer Tourney
1/4 JVG (7:30), VG (6), VB (7:30) at Dalhart
1/5 JVB (3), VG (4:15), VB (5:30) vs. Texhoma
1/7 7G (f), 7B (5), 8G, 6), 8B (7) at Vega
1/8 JVB (4), VG (6:30) vs. Perryton
1/8 JVB (5:15), VB (8) vs. Stratford



Lullabies, Legends & Lies
by Parson Smith, the Prime Minister of Laughter

Looking ahead to 2008, let us remember and rejoice in one of the greatest of all natural laws... Murphy's Law. "Murphy's Law" states that if anything can go wrong, it will.

But Murphy's Law is not the end of all natural laws. Other philosophers have had some rather insightful ponderings.

For example there is "O'Tool's Commentary on Murphy's Law" which states... Murphy was an optimist.

Then there is "The Unspeaking Law". As soon as you mention something....

... if it's good, it goes away ... if it's bad, it happens.

And the "Nonreciprocal Laws of Expectations". Negative expectations yield negative results. Positive expectations yield negative results.

Howe's Law" states

Every man has a scheme that will not work.

All of us have fallen victim to "Etorre's Observation". The other line moves faster.

Which leads me to "Murphy's Law of Selective Gravity". An object will fall so as to do the most damage.

"Jenning's Corollary to Murphy's Law of Selective Gravity". The chance of the bread falling with the buttered side down is directly proportional to the cost of the carpet.

So, as we travel together through 2008, let's keep our chin's up and remember... even if things do occasionally go right, we will never get out of this world alive, anyway.

Until the next time,
God bless.

State Capital
HIGHLIGHTS

ABBOTT RENDERS OPINION ON HOUSE SPEAKER'S POWERS

AUSTIN - Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott released a long-awaited opinion on Dec. 14, regarding the powers of the speaker of the Texas House.

Questions arose over the limits of a speaker's power, and soon after the session ended, two Republican House committee chairs asked the state attorney general to address a list of issues and render this opinion.

In summary, Abbott said the Texas Constitution and Texas statutory law are silent as to whether the speaker, and likewise, the president pro tempore of the Senate, are subject to removal from office.

"Any interpretation of this question must be governed by court decisions," Abbott wrote.

In the closing days of the 80th session of the Texas Legislature, a number of Democratic and Republican state representatives tried to remove Rep. Tom Craddick, R-Midland, as speaker of the House.

It didn't work. Craddick fired one set of parliamentarians, then hired new ones to help him hold the powerful post.

It is normally a courtesy to allow members to address the whole House at appropriate times, and to make motions.

But a tactic used by Craddick under the advice of the new parliamentarians was to refuse to hear motions from the House floor, unless those motions came from members he considered friendly to him. Certain members stood at the microphone repeatedly in hopes of being recognized by the chair (Craddick or his designee) to make motions, but were denied.

Texas not chosen for FutureGen

The U.S. Department of Energy selected Illinois, not Texas, to host the FutureGen project, hailed by some as a near zero emissions coal-fired power plant.

In losing the bid, Gov. Rick Perry on Dec. 18 said though Texas was not selected, "our teams in Jewett and Odessa and our state officials deserve to be commended for developing impressive proposals to attract this project to the Lone Star State."

Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Michael L. Williams, who chaired the FutureGen Texas team, said, "There are many clean energy projects on the drawing boards and I



by Ed Sterling

NEW YEAR KICKS OFF WITH 22 NEW STATE LAWS

AUSTIN -- The 80th Texas Legislature last spring passed 22 pieces of legislation enacting state laws to take effect Jan. 1.

Here is a whittled down version of what just a few of those new laws do, based on analysis published by the House Research Organization and the Senate Research Center.

- HB 271 by Rep. Veronica Gonzales, D-McAllen, amends the Property Code by requiring a home seller to disclose to a buyer whether they are aware of any previous use of the residence as a methamphetamine lab.
- HB 310 by Rep. Tony Goolsby, R-Dallas, amends the Transportation Code so that a vehicle's license plate and registration transfer with the person selling or trading in that vehicle.
- HB 481 by Rep. Jim Jackson, R-Carrollton, amends the Transportation Code to allow the seller of a used vehicle to report the sale to TxDOT through the agency's Web site within 30 days, in lieu of filing a written and signed transfer notice. The bill also increases the penalty for the buyer of a used car that did not transfer the title within the 20-business-day grace period.
- HB 538 by Rep. Bill Callegari, R-Katy, amends the Tax Code to allow a property owner to postpone their appraisal protest one time without showing cause, and increasing the postponement period from 15 to 30 days.
- HB 1751 by Rep. Ellen Cohen, D-Houston, amends the Business and Commerce Code and Government Code by imposing a fee of \$5 on a sexually oriented business providing live nude entertainment. Up to \$25 million in money generated by the fee, per fiscal biennium, goes to the state's sexual assault program fund. The amount of money received from the fee in excess of \$25 million goes to the state's general revenue fund.
- HB 3495 by Rep. John Otto, R-Dayton, amends the Tax Code regarding the notice of an open meeting at which a governing body of a taxing unit will vote on a tax increase.

The notice now must include:

- Dates on which the first and second public hearings on the proposed tax increase were held;
- Total tax revenue raised at last year's tax rate;
- Amount of total tax revenue proposed to be raised excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll;
- Amount of total tax revenue proposed to be raised including the tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll;
- The proposed tax rate; and
- The mailing address of the location where the meeting to vote on the tax rate will be held.

A complete listing of new laws taking effect on Jan. 1 can be found by using the bill search function at www.legis.state.tx.us/.

Murdock named Census director

The U.S. Senate on Dec. 20 confirmed Steve H. Murdock as director of the U.S. Census Bureau.

Nominated for the federal agency post by President George W. Bush, Murdock has been based at the University of Texas at San Antonio, serving as director of the Texas State Data Center.

State agency warns of scammers

The Texas Department of Insurance cautions seniors to beware of suspicious sales practices by scammers who represent themselves to be insurance agents.

Be especially cautious of unsolicited contacts in which someone tries to obtain information by asking another to complete studies or surveys or asks nursing home personnel to gather the information, the state agency said.

Agents and companies must be licensed in Texas to sell insurance. To verify a license, call toll-free, 800-252-3439.

TCEQ approves penalties

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on Dec. 19 approved penalties totaling \$593,897 against 76 regulated entities for violations of environmental regulations.

Among those many violations were 13 for air quality, 14 for municipal waste discharge, 10 for public water system and seven for water quality.

Warning: think before giving drink

Alan Steen of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission reminds folks it is against the law to give alcohol to anyone under 21 (other than your child) even in your own residence, even with parent's permission.

Maximum criminal penalties for violators include up to a \$4,000 fine, up to one year in jail and an automatic suspension of a driver's license for six months upon conviction.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

WINTER

ACROSS

- How Eliza Doolittle might've pronounced Hedda Hopper's name
- Skater's turf
- Chancy
- Bluish green
- Having wings
- Type of drum
- Glee
- Not final or absolute
- White heron
- Winter activity for bears
- Small cave
- Two in cards
- Lennon's wife
- North or South
- Frosty, e.g.
- Between northeast and east
- Put clothes on
- Distinctive characteristic of cell phone
- Beethoven's most popular symphony?
- New Zealand parrot
- Emitted or beamed
- Dish of stewed meat
- Douse
- South in France
- African daisy
- Bay windows
- Acid in Greek
- Photo book
- Wise Men
- Ammo in winter
- _____ a caroler does
- Malaria symptom

DOWN

- Sketch
- Sandwich shop
- Blot or smear
- Object's reflective power
- Relating to ilium
- Social class
- One of Great Lakes
- Something that grows inward
- Popular 18th century card game of England
- Worry unnecessarily
- Up to present time
- A plant that lasts one year
- Repeat in music
- Throw up
- "_____ Mississippi, two Mississippi..."
- Remove fog
- Feeble old woman
- Effervescent liquor made from fermented milk
- Tai ethnic group of Southeast Asia
- Bullwinkle, e.g.
- Done to a failed marriage
- As opposed to wants
- Same as gumbo

These games are brought to you by the
Hansford County Reporter-Statesman

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
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Advertising
Open Display rates are \$4.00 per column inch. Classified Ads are \$6 for the first 25 words and 10¢ per word for each additional word. (Additional charge for boxed classifieds.) There is a \$1 charge per week if billed.

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Happy Birthday!

Editor's Note: This Happy Birthday list is run as a public service by the Hansford County Reporter-Statesman. We apologize if any names are misspelled. If you know of a name that needs to be changed, added or deleted, please call 659-3434.

Thank you, Catherine

January 3

Birthdays - Alta Fisher, Elmon Jacobs, Brandon Close, Darl Hergert, Lois Shieldknight, Charles Bartz, Martha Villalobos, Betsy Ward, Joe Morris, Rodger Ferguson, Lorraine Schick, Cristal Moreno
Anniversary - M/M J.D. Wilbanks, M/M Ronny Smith, M/M Buddy Lowe, Kiki & Dave Brabham

January 4

Birthdays - Allen Mires, Denise Ware, Janie Kunselman, Willis Boyd, Randall Mitchell, April TeBeest, Harold Crooks, Martina Miller, Lori Haight, Mandy Vernon
Anniversary - M/M Vernon Baker, M/M George De Santiago

January 5

Birthdays - Brice Lewis, Kent Remmel, LaNetta Shapley, Glenda Cambell, Scotty DeWitt, Becky Renteria, Linda Tope, Kim Stinson, Rick Cazares, Jacinda Perez, Kent Remmel
Anniversary - M/M Arnold Stork

January 6

Birthdays - Benny McCullough, Debbie Knight, Julie Logsdon, Valorie Hull, Joyce Sparks, Sam Boone, Teresa Pope, Alicia Davis, Ron Antalek, Kenny Kentron, Lesa Moffett
Anniversary - M/M Howard Nash

January 7

Birthdays - Brad Holt, Marsha Lowe, Lucy Pittman, Judy Virden, Mrs. Perry Hawkins, Michael Rodriguez, Pam Porter, Buddy Parker, Christina Bayless, Dorothy Nollner, Kimberly Irwin
Anniversary - M/M Howard Nash

January 8

Birthdays - Bob Bort, Miles Messer, Louise Vanderberg, Kirby Taylor, Eric Brown, Britt Jarvis, Connie Holmes, Jim Bass, Edna Marie Walker, Kiley Coombs, Helen Blain, Bill Etling, Desiree Harris
Anniversary - M/M Manuel Gomez, M/M Sonny Kell, M/M Bill Logsdon

January 9

Birthdays - Mary Schuman, Jerry Pat Davis, Willie Salgado, Larry Kelly, Kyle McLaughlin, Chrissy Bensinger, Barbara Rojas, Justin Johnson, Alex Logsdon, Devin Sibley, Andrea Woolley
Anniversary - M/M Roy Diaz

January 10

Birthdays - Mary Schuman, Jerry Pat Davis, Willie Salgado, Larry Kelly, Kyle McLaughlin, Chrissy Bensinger, Barbara Rojas, Justin Johnson, Alex Logsdon, Devin Sibley, Andrea Woolley
Anniversary - M/M Roy Diaz

January 11

Birthdays - Norma Edens, Marcy Hendrick, Gloria Knox, Chad Riggins, Karen Kirk, Bill

Pittman, Louise Kizzar, Shayla Jo Barber, Leeta Prather
Anniversary - M/M Melvin Bradley

January 12

Birthdays - Imogene Williams, Helen Fisher, Georgia McLeod, Francis Biles, Toni Archer, Dori Anderson, Britt Savage, Cory Anderson, Earl Wattier, Steve Stedje, Bryant Layton, Steve Ellis, Downing Salazar, Bradley Carlisle, Tara Davis, Brandlee James, Griffin Novak
Anniversary - Alton & Peggy Ellsworth, M/M Billy Miller, M/M Cliff Lang, M/M Jerry Overbey

January 13

Birthdays - Nancy Babbs, Debbie Knight, Justin Carthel, Trisha Fitzgerald, T.J. Johnson, Molly McCloy, Regina Biggers, Don Ed Watson, Laura Mackie, Susan Sheets Noel, Jana Buchanan, Sherry Allen, Nancy Wilson, Kim Vera, Jimmie Vernon, Diane Boyd, Tiffany Brown, June Mitchell, Abigail Hartgraves
Anniversary - Billy & Martina Miller

January 14

Birthdays - Debbie Coates, Ellen Reynolds, Cliff Barkley, Karsten Irwin, Charlene Spivey
Anniversary - Greg & Shonda Odegaard

January 15

Birthdays - Christopher Clawson, Tucker Henson, Nancy Boyles, Loyall Turner, Shannon Scroggs, Kim Jenkins, Brenda McLain, Jay McCormick, Kristi Wall, Carl Urban, Dustin Beck, Dorothy Sparks, Jennifer Poer, Remmington Smith, Gary Faries
Anniversary - Billy & Martina Miller

January 16

Birthdays - Viva Renner Pierson, Ynese Williams, Steve Reed, Irvin Davis, Jodi Wilson, Jason Babbitzke, Kelly Sue Cates, Norman Brack, Felix Sandavol, Clifton Morrison, Josh Schumann, Carlene Kirkpatrick, Eva Espinosa, Shirley Burton, Mike Babbs, Crispin Borunda, Viviana Huerta
Anniversary - M/M Roy Diaz

January 17

Birthdays - Derik Grotegut, Justin Johnson, Karen Kelly, Terry Sherrill, Bulch Schaefer, Jeffrey Spencer, Dana Booth, Sheri Benton, Frank Miller, Nancy Groves, Wayne Bayless, Tera Red, Jason Ridge, Justin Gifford

January 18

Birthdays - Daniel Boyd, Ervin Wright, Doyle Jackson, Curtis Davis, Candy Golden, Bradley Bell, Larry Evans, Shane Schneider, Bett Brown, Ole Dahl, Pat Randall, Jessica Blain, Robert Gilmore, Enrique Arreola

January 19

Birthdays - Paula Kizziar, Elvia Perez, Walter Murrell, Calvin Bodey, Carlton Nelson, Melissa Sutterfield, Curtis Ray Hays, Barbara Collier, Donna Murray, Rosa Linda Reger, Justin Harris, Billy Hays, Jose Favela Jr., Stacy DeLaCruz, Jeremy Vera, Bradi Brown
Anniversary - M/M Roy Diaz

Our Sympathy

W.E. "SPARKY" SPARKS

SPEARMAN - W.E. "Sparky" Sparks, 90, died Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

Services will be at 2:00 p.m., in the First Christian Church on Friday, January 4, 2008 with Reverend Frank Sutherland officiating. Cremation was by Boxwell Brother Funeral Home of Spearman.

Sparky was born on April 5, 1917 in Hitchland, OK. He married Loydell Moore on November 7, 1969. She preceded him in death in 2007.

Sparky was a farmer/rancher. He owned and operated Spearman Super Service for many years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Litchford and Cora Sparks; his wife; three brothers, Aubie Sparks, James Sparks, Roscoe Sparks; and three sisters, Opal Boxford, Owassa Valdez and Shirley Nan Talley.

Survivors include a daughter, Becky Peery of Fritch; a brother, Litch Sparks, Jr. of Stinnett; two sisters, Billie Jo Kelly and Mary Ann Snodgrass of Bakersfield, CA; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials to First Christian Church, PO Box 637, Spearman TX 79081.

HAROLD LEWIS BOYD

GRUVER - Harold Lewis Boyd age 83, died, Friday December 29, 2007.

Services were at 11:00 a.m., in the First United Methodist Church on Monday, December 31, with Reverend Neely Landrum officiating. Burial was in Gruver Cemetery under arrangement of Boxwell Brother Funeral Home of Spearman.

Harold was born in Fowler, Kansas, July 12, 1924. He married Flossie Dixon on March 25, 1947 in Perryton. She preceded him in death in 2005. He was a farmer/rancher, served in the U.S. Army as a veteran during World War II, and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Gruver.

He is survived by two sons, David Boyd and wife Kathy of Spearman, Lynn Boyd and wife Diane of Gruver, three brothers, Irvin Boyd and wife Helen of Gruver, Bernie and Harley Boyd of Mena Arkansas, six grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. Carol Burke a daughter preceded him in death in 2001.

The family request memorials be to Hansford Hospice, Gruver Fire Department / EMS, Spearman EMS or a favorite charity.

WILLIAM "BILL" RAY BEEN

GRUVER - William "Bill" Ray Been, 81, died Friday, Dec. 28, 2007.

Services were at 10 a.m. Wednesday, January 2, 2008 in Gruver United Methodist Church with the Rev. George Price officiating. Burial was in Gruver Cemetery by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Spearman.

Mr. Been was born April 10, 1926, in Wheatland, Mo. He married Marilyn Gilleylen on July 5, 1949, in Castle Rock, Colo. He was a mechanic and a cowboy. He served with the U.S. Navy during the D-Day invasion at Normandy.

Survivors include his wife, Marilyn Been; two sons, Danny Been and wife Cindy of Gardner, Colo., and Tim Been and Linda of Castle Rock; a daughter, Terry Hart and husband Kevin of Gruver; two brothers, T.J. Been and wife Donna of Gruver and Bob and Carol Snyder of California; a sister, Juanita Sprigg of Gruver; 14 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be to Gruver United Methodist Church or Hansford Hospice.

JOHNNY W. BENNETT

GRUVER - Johnny W. Bennett, 69, died Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

Services will be at 10:00 a.m., in the United Methodist Church of Gruver on Saturday, January 5, 2008 with Reverend George Price officiating. Cremation was by Boxwell Brother Funeral Home of Spearman.

Johnny was born on July 30, 1938 in Borger, Texas. He married Waynetta Hairgrove on April 9, 1960 in Stinnett. She preceded him in death in 1996. He was a tool pusher and worked in oil and gas exploration. He was a member of the United Methodist Church of Gruver.

He is survived by a son, Steve Bennett of Highland Ranch, CO; a sister, Paula Kizzlar of Gruver; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

AURORA VELA

SPEARMAN - Aurora Vela, 70, of Spearman died Tuesday, January 1, 2008.

A Rosary service was held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, January 3, 2008 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, January 4, 2008 at the church with Father Jose Gomez officiating. Burial will be in Hansford Cemetery.

Mrs. Vela was born Aug. 9, 1937, in LaCasita. She married Guillermo Vela Sr. on March 21, 1959.

She was a homemaker and a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the Alter Society Women's Guild since 1973. She was voted Woman of the Year by members of the Guild in 1986. She was a member of the Con Fraternity of Christian Mothers, volunteered as the CCD teacher for 10 years, a member of the Home Demonstration Club, volunteered for the Consignment Store and received her Certified Nurses Aid Certificate in 1990.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Guillermo Vela, Sr.; a son, Guillermo Vela, Jr.; her parents, Ciria and Santos Bazan; two brothers, Estlio Sr. and Santos Jr. Bazan; a son-in-law, Art Salazar; and a great-grandchild, Leandrew Grayson Moreno.

Survivors include nine daughters, Barbara an Ed Rojas, Dolores and Jose Moreno, Ciria Vela, Teresa and Tony Bennett, and Maria Luisa Vela, all of Spearman, and Bernarda and Jo Olivarez of Waka, Laticia Salazar of Gruver, Maria Acevedo of Chillocothe, and Sister Criselda Vela, FMI of Los Angeles; a son, Ted and Mary Vela of Gruver; and 21 grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to a favorite charity.

MONUMENTS

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Spearman

Apostolic Faith Church
822 S. Dressen • 659-2792
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship Service: 11 a.m.
Sun. Ev. • 6 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Mtg: 7 p.m.
Pastor - Roland Haney

First Assembly of God
401 N. Bernice • 659-2295
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship: 10:35 a.m.
Kid's Church: 10:35 a.m.
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Wed. Worship: 7 p.m.
Wed. Youth: 7 p.m.
Pastor - Bob Elder

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
29 S. Bernice • 659-2036
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 10:50 a.m.
Minister -

First Baptist Church
123 N. Bernice • 659-5557
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m.
Evening Worship: 7 p.m.
Men's Bible Study - Wed., 7 a.m.
Children's Choir - Wed, 6 p.m.
Adult Choir - Wed, 7 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.
Pastor - Jim Medley

Church of Christ
121 S. Haney • 659-3244
Sunday Bible Class: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Bible Study Wed: 7:30 p.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

901 Roland • 659-2792
Sat. Night Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. - English
Sun. Mass: 11:30 - Spanish
1:30 p.m. - Gruver - Cristo Rendentor Mass - Spanish
Rev. Guillermo Morales

First United Methodist
407 S. Haney • 659-5503
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Jr. High Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday
High School: 6 p.m. Sunday
Kids Club: 3 p.m. Wed.
Pastor - Neely Landrum

Grace Presbyterian Church (Worships with Faith Lutheran Church)

1101 Bernice • 659-2033
Pastor - Beverly Cook
Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)
1101 Bernice • 659-2252
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m.
(Worships with Grace Presbyterian Church)
Pastor - Beverly Cook

Union Church
31 S. Endcott • 659-2644
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wed
Pastor - Dr. Timothy Minor

Fellowship Baptist
1102 S. Archer • 659-2783
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m.
Sun. Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Youth/Adult Service: 7:30 Wed.
Pastor - James Washburn

Primera Misión Bautista

502 E. 7th • 659-3991
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m.;
Evening: 6 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7 p.m.
Thurs. Visitation: 7 p.m.
Pastor Joe Garcia Jr.

El Apoyento Alto U.P.C.I.

1105 S. Roland
Domingos: Escuela-Dominical - 10 a.m.
Culto Evangelistico - 7 p.m.
Jueves: Oracion - 8 p.m.
Mier: Estudio Biblico - 7 p.m.
Pastor - A.G. Martel
(806) 659-2153

Gruver United Methodist

Broadway & Garrett
733-2651
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 8:30 & 10:50 a.m.
Eve. Worship & UMY: 6 p.m.
Pastor - George Price

Spanish Cristo Rendentor Church

Sunday Mass: 1:30 p.m.
Friday Evening Mass
Summer - 8:00 p.m.
Fall/Winter - 7:30 p.m.

Oslo

Oso Lutheran Church (ELCA)
6 Miles West & 12 Miles
North of Gruver

339-7846
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 11 a.m.
Pastor - Arlen Lloyd

Morse

Morse Baptist Church
733-2757
Pastor - Mike Martin

He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.
Micah 6:8

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Our Sympathy

BESSIE IRENE POOL SWAN

SPEARMAN - Bessie Irene Pool Swan, 86, died Thursday, Dec. 27, 2007.

Services were at 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 29, 2007 in the Church of Christ. Burial was in Hansford Cemetery by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Swan married Bill Swan on Aug. 27, 1941, in Santa Rosa, N.M. He preceded her in death in 2005. She was a homemaker and member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include two sons, Ronald Swan and David Swan, both of Spearman; a daughter, Glenda Ujhley of Las Vegas; two brothers, Ed Pool of Higgins and James Pool of Midland; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be to American Cancer Society, 3915 S. Bell St., Amarillo, TX 79109, Hansford Manor, 707 Roland, Spearman, TX. 79081 or a favorite charity.

EMILY VIRGINIA EASTERLING

AMARILLO - Emily Virginia Easterling, 85, of Amarillo died Thursday, December 27, 2007.

Services were in O'Bryan-O'Keefe Chapel in Pascagoula, Miss., with Dr. Terry Cutrer and the Rev. Dennis Ray Smith officiating. Burial was in Jackson County Memorial Park Cemetery in Pascagoula. Local arrangements are by Blackburn Shaw Funeral Directors Coulter Chapel.

Emily Virginia Easterling was born December 29, 1921, in Bassfield, Miss. She was a beloved, generous and devoted mother and housewife. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Pascagoula for 35 years, Moffett Road Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala., for seven years as well as other Baptist churches in Springfield, Va., and Charleston, S.C., prior to moving to Pascagoula in 1964.

She was the oldest daughter of six siblings, growing up as a child during the Great Depression in central Mississippi. She was the valedictorian graduate of Bassfield High School, Class of 1940. She also was awarded a scholastic scholarship to Pearl River Junior College in 1941, but with the onset of World War II, she went to work for the U.S. Department of Agriculture AAA office in Prentiss, Miss., later moving to San Francisco in 1945 and worked in the office of the U.S. Navy Department at Mare Island Naval Shipyard and in the payroll and ordinance offices of the U.S. Navy Department in the Charleston Naval Shipyard in Charleston. She received numerous beneficial suggestion cash bonus and safety awards while employed at these various shipyards. She possessed a green thumb and among her favorite hobbies was working with her plants, flowers and walking along the beach front in Pascagoula.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Albert Ray Easterling Sr., on May 15, 1996; her father and mother, William Luke Anderson and Lela McPhail Anderson; a brother, James A. Anderson; and a sister, Ruth A. McBee.

Survivors include two sons, Albert R. "Buddy" Easterling Jr. and wife Karen of Amarillo and William V. "Bill" Easterling Sr. and wife Debra of Magee, Miss.; a grandson, Will Lewis and great-grandson, Cole Lewis; grandsons Philip Lewis of Magee, William V. "Bill" Easterling Jr. and wife, Ashley and their son, Caleb Ray Easterling of Mobile, Ala.; Robert D. Fishburn and wife Monica Lucio-Fishburn and their daughter, Isabella Karin Fishburn, all of Amarillo; Jascha A. Fishburn and wife, Anna P. Fishburn and their son, Lance J. Fishburn and daughter, Sydney Madison Fishburn, all of Spearman; a sister, Hazel A. Powell and husband Charles Wayne and extended family of Mobile, sister, Imogene A. Shaw and husband Douglas and extended family of Mobile.; a brother, Charles Anderson and wife Muriel V. Anderson and extended family of Hattiesburg, Miss.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

EUTIMIO NUÑEZ-FIERRO

SPEARMAN - Eutimio Nuñez-Fierro, 90, passed away Thursday, December 27, 2007 at his home in Spearman, Texas.

The son of Cecilio Nuñez and Josepha Fierro, he was born December 24, 1917 in Nuevo Casas Grandes, Chihuahua, Mexico. He moved to Hansford County, Texas in 1964 and farmed for Charles Brillhart.

Survivors include his wife of 69 years, Manuela Nuñez of Spearman; his daughter, Maria Pacheco and husband, Tony Pacheco of Spearman; two grandchildren, Anna Maria Fishburn and husband, Jascha of Spearman; and Tony Pacheco, Jr. of Austin, TX; and two great grandchildren, L.J. and Sydney Fishburn. Four brothers and four sisters preceded him in death.

Graveside services were held Saturday afternoon, December 29, 2007 at 2:00 PM at Hansford Cemetery, Spearman, with Rev. Barry Bennett officiating. Services were under the direction of Henson-Novak Funeral Directors of Guymon.

Memorials may be given to Hansford County Hospice, 707 South Roland, Spearman, Texas, 79081.

STANLEY WAYNE SMITH

TEXHOMA - Stanley Wayne Smith, 54, died Wednesday, December 26, 2007, in Amarillo.

Services were at 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 29, 2007 at Grace Southern Baptist Church in Guymon with Tom Freeman, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Texhoma Cemetery by Bunch-Roberts Funeral Home of Guymon.

Mr. Smith worked for Baker-Hughes Oil Tools in Lafayette, La., for many years. He returned to Texhoma in November 2007 to be with his family and friends for the remainder of his life.

Survivors include his mother and stepfather, Pauline and Clarence Thrasher of Texhoma; a sister, Sherry Diller of Gruver, Texas; a stepbrother, Jim Thrasher of Des Moines, Iowa; and two grandchildren.

The family suggests in lieu of flowers memorials be to Grace Southern Baptist Church in care of the funeral home, P.O. Box 1112, Guymon, OK 73942.

KENNETH C. BURKE

SPEARMAN - Kenneth C. Burke, 84, died Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2007.

Graveside services were at 2 p.m. Friday, December 28, 2007 in Hansford Cemetery with the Rev. Neely Landrum officiating. Arrangements were by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Spearman.

Mr. Burke was born Aug. 18, 1923, in Chaney, Okla., to Amos and Ruth Burke. He married Lorene White on Aug. 2, 1952, in Tucumcari, N.M. She passed away in 1990.

He was an equipment operator and retired from the U.S. Soil Conservation Service in 1991.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include two daughters, Debbie Hornsby of Spearman and Kenda Burke of Terrell; two sons, Gary Burke and wife Linda of Guymon, Okla., and Steve Burke and wife Mary of Seattle; two grandsons, Christopher Hornsby of Austin and Seth Feaser of Seattle; a granddaughter, Carmel Feaser of Seattle; a great-granddaughter, Leah Sparks, and a great-grandson, Aaron Sparks, both of Seattle; two brothers, Robert A. Burke of Lake Tanglewood and Richard Burke and wife Marva Jean of Perryton; and a sister, Peardean Skaggs of Amarillo.

The family suggests memorials be to Hansford Hospice, 707 S. Roland, Spearman, TX 79081; or a favorite charity.

WALTER EUGENE KINGHAM

WOODWARD, OK - Walter E. Kingham, 73 year old Woodward resident, died Tuesday, December 25, 2007 in the Woodward Regional Hospital. Graveside funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, December 28, 2007 in the Elmwood Cemetery in Woodward with the Reverend Tony Barros officiating. Burial will follow under the direction of the Billings Funeral Home, Woodward, Oklahoma.

Walter Eugene Kingham was born March 30, 1934 in Sweetwater, Oklahoma; he was the son of Oliver Eugene and Adilee Lidia (Robinson) Kingham. Walter grew up and attended school in Pampa, Texas. On July 11, 1952, he was united in marriage to Gloria Faye Bewley. To this union, two children were born, Karl Eugene and Kathleen. They made their home in Pampa and later moved to Lefors Texas. Walter went to work for Northern Natural Gas and Enron, working for over 30 years before retiring.

He loved to read, to travel and had traveled all over as a rock hound, attending rock shows, looking for semi-precious stones of all kinds.

He is survived by his wife, Gloria Faye Kingham of the home; one son, Karl Eugene Kingham and wife Katurah of Woodward; one daughter Kathleen Covington and husband Jerry of Woodward; two grandsons Dustin James Brown and wife Kim of Woodward; Cameron Lee Brown and wife Sarah of Woodward; three great grandchildren, Aubrey Nikole Brown, Anna Rose Brown and Waylon James Brown all of Woodward; two brothers, Frank R. Kingham and wife Alma of Okanogan, Washington; Edward Lee Kingham and wife Joan of Laredo, Texas; many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Alzheimer's Research with the funeral home accepting the memorials.

Remembrances may be made at www.billingsfuneralhome-woodward.com.

AUBREY DON PEDDY

CANYON - Aubrey Don Peddy, 73, of Canyon died Sunday, Dec. 23, 2007.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, in First United Methodist Church in Canyon with the Rev. John McClean and the Rev. Donna Johnston officiating. Arrangements are by Schooler Funeral Home, 4100 S. Georgia St.

Aubrey Don Peddy, or "Don" as he was known by friends and family, was born Oct. 17, 1934, in Amarillo to Aubrey and Elsie Mae Peddy. He graduated from Gruver High School and from Panhandle State University in Goodwell, Okla. While attending PSU, he was a member of the rodeo team and the football team.

After college, Don served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. When he returned home from the military, he began farming. He farmed and pastured cattle west of Gruver and the surrounding areas for more than 35 years.

Don was involved in the development and promotion of the Guymon PRCA "Pioneer Days Rodeo." The rodeo was an event he devoted much of his time and dedication to for more than 12 years.

An avid golfer, he recently worked at Palo Duro Creek Golf Course until his health prevented him from working.

He was a lifetime Mason, a member of the Elks Lodge in Guymon, a lifetime member of Panhandle State Alumni and a member of First United Methodist Church in Canyon, where he served as president of the Crusaders Sunday School Class.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include a daughter, Heather Dawn Carlton and husband Ron and their children, Quincy Kent and Aubrey Quade of Canyon; three special daughters by marriage, Perri West and husband Glen of Guymon and their children, Jordan Kimball of Amarillo and Winston Kimball and wife Kali and their daughter, Kaedyn of Guymon; Jonye Conger of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Susie Thomas of Gibbon, Neb.; a sister, Kathryn Goddard of Friona; a brother, Byron Peddy of Seminole; a niece, Julie Ann Goddard of Houston; three nephews, Jon Peddy Goddard of Houston, Tim Peddy of Seminole and Clifton Peddy of Sioux Falls, S.D.; and his former wife of 26 years and longtime friend, Sharon Peddy Baker of Amarillo.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be to the Don Peddy Memorial Fund at any Happy State Bank.

You are invited to a Bridal Shower

honoring

Audra Evans

(bride-elect of Kyle McLaughlin)

on Saturday, January 12, 2007

from 10:00-11:30 a.m.

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Baby Registry

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Audra Evans & Kyle McLaughlin

Jennifer Lawrence & Aaron Winegarner

Ty & Tarran West

Vanessa Biggs & James Watkins

Baby Registry

Chad & Shannon Scarborough - TBA

Jody & Cami (Winegarner) Meason - 1/19

Quentin & Kristin Shieldknight - TBA

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HWY 1

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Perryton ISD Students Seeking Memories of World War II
Students in Perryton are seeking individuals to interview for the KACV WWII/Texas Panhandle Outreach Project. Participants who are eligible to be interviewed are those that have memories from 1938-1946, especially World War II Veterans. Persons who would like their stories from WWII to be recorded on film should contact Lauren Carroll at (806) 434-0389.

Rushing Wind Emmas to Meet

Rushing Wind Emmas community will meet Saturday, January 12, at 6 p.m. at the Full Gospel Community Worship Center, West Loop 143 and 15th, in Perryton. There will be a potluck supper, training for sponsors, and a praise and worship service, and a nursery will be provided. For more information go to www.rushingwindemmas.org or <http://rwec.inet-member.com>.

Cowboy Poetry Breakfast

The Cowboy Poetry Breakfast on January 12 at the Big Texan will spotlight Janet Eggleston, the newest member of SWCPA, as the headliner. She won the Goodnight Cowboy Poetry Contest last summer during the Charles Goodnight Celebration at Claude. Janet teaches at Wolflin Elementary School. Her family often attends the breakfasts, driving from Hooker, Oklahoma. She will be followed by open mic presentations of other Southwest Cowboy Poets Association members relating experiences from the humorous to the tragic in the cowboy's daily life. Singers, musicians and tall-tale tellers will also entertain. If you enjoy or share the pride of southwest cowboy heritage and culture, be sure to mark your calendar for the monthly Cowboy Poetry Breakfast on January 12 at the Big Texan. As far as we know, these breakfasts on the 2nd Saturday each month are the only events of this kind in the whole country.

Out-of-School Examinee Registration

Individuals who are no longer enrolled in school and who have not previously met minimum expectations on all sections of the TAAS or TAKS tests, but have met all other graduation requirements, may retake the necessary sections. The TAAS and TAKS retests will be given on March 4 (ELA TAKS; Writing TAAS), March 5 (Math TAKS, Math TAAS), March 6 (Science TAKS; Reading TAAS), and March 7 (Social Studies TAKS). A student can register for the TAAS or TAKS tests online by accessing the web site at <http://k12testing.tx.ncspearson.com> or by completing a registration form. Registration forms may be picked up at the high school counselor's office between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration packets are due in Austin no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 25, 2008. Please Contact Krista Baird at 659-2584 if you have any questions.

Los individuos que ya no están matriculados en la escuela y que todavía no han cumplido los requisitos mínimas en todas las secciones del examen del TAKS, pero han cumplido todos los otros requisitos necesarios para graduarse pueden volver a tomar los exámenes necesarios del TAKS. Daremos el examen el 4 de Marzo (ELA TAKS; Escritura TAAS); 5 de Marzo (Matemáticas TAKS; Matemáticas TAAS) el 6 de Marzo (El TAKS de ciencia; Lectura TAAS), 7 de Marzo (el TAKS de estudios sociales). Un alumno se puede registrar para el examen de TAAS y de TAKS en el sitio <http://k12testing.tx.ncspearson.com> o también puede completar una forma de registración. Las formas de registración se pueden recoger en la oficina de la conejera en la escuela preparatoria entre las horas de 8:00 a.m. hasta las 4:00 p.m. Los paquetes de registración tienen que estar en Austin antes de las 5:00 p.m. del día 25 de Enero del 2008. Por favor si tiene alguna pregunta comunicarse con Krista Baird al 659-2584 si tiene alguna pregunta.

Frank Phillips College Holiday Hours

Frank Phillips College in Borger will close its offices at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 19, for the holidays. Offices re-open Monday, January 7. Registration for the Spring 2008 semester is Thursday, January 10.

'08 High Plains Irrigation Conference & Trade Show

The 2008 High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show will be held Jan. 16, 2008 in the Amarillo Convention Center. The conference will be presented by Texas Cooperative Extension and the Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association. CEU's will be offered for Pesticide applicators, certified crop consultants, certified irrigation designers.

Gruver Elementary Collecting Register Tapes

Gruver Elementary is again participating in the Lowe's Supermarket Register Tapes for Education program. Please help us earn free educational equipment by collecting register tapes from Lowe's. Only tapes dated September 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008 are eligible. You can deposit your tapes in boxes in the Gruver Elementary Lobby, Gruver Library, Gruver City Hall, Nite & Day Beauty Salon and Hitchin' Nails. Jo Alice Clawson is also collecting tapes at 711 Womble, or they may be mailed to PO Box 488, Gruver. Please call 733-2247 if you have tapes you would like to have picked up, or for more information.

You're Never Alone - Narcotics Anonymous Group

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

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 - ALIENS VS PREDATOR: REQUIEM
R -- Reiko Aylesworth
 - NATIONAL TREASURE 2
PG -- Nicholas Cage
 - PS I LOVE YOU
PG-13 -- Hillary Swank
 - ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS
PG -- (Animated)
 - I AM LEGEND
PG-13 -- Will Smith

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Our Sympathy

JAMES JOE VILLALOBOS



AMARILLO - James Joe Villalobos, 37, of Amarillo, formerly of Gruver, died Saturday, Dec. 22, 2007. Services were at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, 2007 in Gruver United Methodist Church in Gruver. Burial was in Gruver Cemetery by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Spearman.

Mr. Villalobos was born June 5, 1970, in Perryton. He was a 1989 graduate of Gruver High School and attended De Vry University. He attended Hillside Christian Church in Amarillo. He was a salesman. He was preceded in death by a brother, George Villalobos, in 1986.

Survivors include his parents, Joe and Paula Villalobos of Gruver; two brothers, Joe Villalobos Jr. and wife Martha of Spearman and Anthony Villalobos of Amarillo; two sisters, Janie Velazquez and husband Jose Luis of Irving and Adela Chantaca and husband Reyes of Dallas; his grandfather, Luis Pesina of Brownsville; and nine nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials be to benefit the family, James Villalobos fund, in care of Firstbank Southwest, P.O. Box 32552, Amarillo, TX 79120.

HARLEY D. CAPPS

VERNON - Harley Duane Capps, 84, of Vernon, died Saturday, Dec. 22, 2007, in Wichita Falls.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, December 26, 2007 at Wilbarger St. Church of Christ with Mr. Jay Hanley officiating. Burial was in Wilbarger Memorial Park under the direction of Sullivan Funeral Home of Vernon.

Duane was born June 19, 1923 in Thalia, TX. He was the son of the late Harley Capps and Maggie Self Capps. He married Edna Ruth Streit on September 7, 1947.

He was a graduate of Crowell High School and attended Abilene Christian University, Texas Tech University where he played football and was a member of the track team. He was a member of the Greenbell Ham Radio Club, Paint Horse Association. He helped organize the Wilbarger County 4-H Horse Club. During his retirement he enjoyed working his cattle, raising horses, fishing and McDonald's Coffee Club. He was a member of the Wilbarger Street Church of Christ. He was a grandson of Foard County Pioneer families, the Self family and the Pigg family.

Mr. Capps served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. He was retired from the Department of Public Safety.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth Capps of the home; one daughter, Harletta Carthel and husband Dan of Gruver, Texas; one son, Marshall Capps and wife Bernadette of Vernon; four grandsons, Justin Carthel and wife Lisa of Littlefield, TX, Samuel Capps of Lubbock, John Capps of Vernon and Kade Carthel of Lubbock; two granddaughters, Kiki Carthel Brabham and husband Dr. Dane Brabham of Temple and Rachel Capps of Vernon; and one great-granddaughter, Harlie Brabham of Temple.

He was preceded in death by a daughter-in-law, Karen Capps.

Memorials can be made to the Thalia Cemetery of Crowell Museum.

BECKY FREEMAN

GRUVER - Becky Freeman, 54, died Sunday, December 16, 2007, in Amarillo.

Memorial services were at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, December 19, 2007 in First Christian Church with Gary Gumfory, pastor, officiating. Private burial was in Gruver Cemetery by Brown Funeral Directors of Borger.

Mrs. Freeman was born Dec. 20, 1952, in Spearman. She was a cook's helper at Hansford County Hospital.

Survivors include her mother, Billie Nobles of Gruver; and a sister, Tammie Osbourne of Gruver.

Words from Faith & Grace

by Cecil R. Biggers, Lutheran Lay Minister

We enter the Season of AHA! Of discovery! Of Epiphany! We study Isaiah 60: 1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3: 1-12, and Matthew 2: 1-12. Isaiah gives a vision of Hope as God restores Jerusalem to glory for the benefit of all nations. The Psalmist sings of a King to Come, a Davidic king through whom the blessings of God shall flow to the world.

Paul imprisoned in Rome awaiting trial by the tyrant Nero writes that he is a prisoner for Christ Jesus. Paul wants all Christians to realize the enormous power of God which resides within them. He describes the grace which was granted him, and the mission entrusted to him. Jew and Gentile are sharers in the promise of Jesus Christ through the gospel. All believers now have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in Him. Grace is granted us by God that we may share it. Dear Christian, God can make His enemies prophetic voices for His truth!

Matthew shows us Magi seeking the child born King of the Jews. Now the magi were a Median tribe which came to be a tribe of priests in Persia. They were philosophers, healers, mathematicians, and astrologers. They interpreted dreams and foretold events. God had revealed to them the birth of His King. They appear at Jerusalem and ask, "Where is the child?" King Herod inquires of his chief priests and scribes, where the King is to be born. They cite Micah, in Bethlehem of Judah. Herod then called for the Magi and inquired when the star first appeared. He then sends them away to find the child and report to him. The Magi proceed eight miles south of Jerusalem and find the child.

As the Magi enter the house they see the child and Mary his mother, they kneel and pay homage. The gifts they present to the child, gold, frankincense and myrrh are symbolic. Gold is the gift for kings, frankincense is a gift for the priest who makes supplication to God, and myrrh is a gift for one who dies. The gifts they present were also practical. They were valuable and no doubt assisted the holy family in their flight and sojourn in Egypt to escape Herod. The Magi being warned about Herod return home.

August Caesar quipped about Herod the Great by saying, "It is safer to be Herod's pig than Herod's son". Herod was so fearful of losing power that he murdered his wife and her mother. He then assassinated his three sons. To him killing a few two year olds in Bethlehem was not a major undertaking.

The Holy Spirit revealed the coming of the King to non-Jews and to Jews alike. May the Holy Spirit surprise you this Epiphany Season!

You are invited to a
Baby Girl Shower
honoring the soon-to-be
granddaughter of
Andy & Janet Scarborough
on Saturday, January 5, 2007
from 10:00-11:30 a.m.
in the home of Lana Medley
802 S. Dressen Spearman

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... NO PRENDA LUCES, NI MOTORES, NI MAQUINARIA ALGUNA (PUEDE CAUSAR UNA EXPLOSION)

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Wolf Creek Heritage Museum Notes

by Virginia Scott

This has been a great year for us and we truly appreciate all the support each of you have given us. We need to thank some of our volunteers who have performed special projects for us. Leslie Yauck, Clay Tyson, and Lance Bussard have all performed Windmill maintenance for us. The wind has really been a challenge this year. Leslie we appreciate your expertise in finally tying the mill down against the wind. Terry Boughan and his wife Norma (in an early edition of the column, I typed Naomi, sorry Norma) erected our highway sign on Hwy 15. This revealed that the sign is either too little or the wrong color to read, we are in the process of redesign with the sign company.

Ronnie Schneider and Peg Herriage have and are contributing their gardening skills to our front flower beds. We will have a beautiful new look come spring.

Robert Imke took our collection of 78 vintage records and recorded them on CDs for us. If you want to reminisce with WWII and '20s music come on by.

To all our angels, we

appreciate your time on Sundays.

One last thought is of the great gift a local football team brought to us this weekend. Congratulations, Canadian Wildcats.

MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

I am not sure whether this is the last column of 2007 or the first for 2008. I guess I will go with the last of 2007 since I am writing it on New Year's Eve. You will read it on Thursday, Jan 3 in those papers who are publishing this week.

The museum was closed for Tuesday and Wednesday for celebration of the New Year. It has been quiet but plans for our new art exhibit is progressing. Jo Le Tennison of Higgins will have her art on exhibit during January and February. Ms. Tennison teaches in Follett. This is her first exhibit with us and we are very excited about it. Look for more information next week.

We must thank Ms. Polly Tubb for exhibiting her paintings with us since October. Everyone has enjoyed her beautiful paintings. Polly will be picking her work up this week to allow

the new year to start.

If you are from Follett, you know that Vernon and Dorothy Schoenhals have deserted us for warmer climates. I should be excited because Dort will not be thinking of things for me to do. However, I miss her orders. Hope they have good weather, and hurry back to us. This year should be a fun one.

We received some wonderful news this week which will be announced to everyone next week. It is one of the things that we applied for last year so that we could be eligible for certain national programs and grants. Stay tuned for next week's announcement.

HISTORICAL MUSINGS

I am leaving this year and starting the new year with the sharing of quotes from

famous American women. I hope you enjoy them.

You grow up the day you have your first real laugh -- at yourself.

Ethyl Barrymore

I have everything I had twenty years ago, only it's all a little bit lower.

Gypsy Rose Lee

Success is important only to the extent that it puts one in a position to do more things one likes to do.

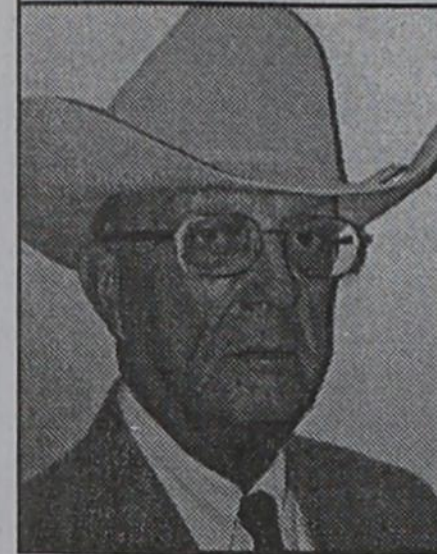
Saran Caldwell

I asked a man in prison once how he happened to be there and he said he had stolen a pair of shoes. I told him if he had stolen a railroad he would be a United States Senator.

"Mother" Mary Jones.

Start the new year with your black eyed peas and 13 grapes for good measure.

Sheriff Evans Announces Candidacy for Re-Election



I am announcing my candidacy for the office of Hansford County Sheriff for a second term.

I am honored and pleased to serve as your Sheriff. I want to thank you for the opportunity and ask for your support in the March 2008 primary.

by Dorothy Hudson

Out at the Lake

Lake Level--December 31, 2007--20.24 feet

Lake Palo Duro received 2 to 3 inches of snow in the recent snow storm. This added a tenth of an inch of moisture to the year's total. This morning the Lake had a lot of ice, but there were Canada geese and ducks out in the middle keeping the water stirred.

Jim is counting 4 eagles now. Two of them are mature and two are immature. He is also seeing a few mountain bluebirds.

He has not seen nor has he had any reports of the white fawn. Mandy did see 7 mule deer in their front yard. Scooter saw them before long and sent them off.

Ramon Cantu has seen 4 bobcat kittens near the office, and Wayne Cummings, who works at the gas plant in the north-eastern part of the county, saw 2 kittens above the bridge over the Palo Duro Creek.

Last week Joel Lee Lackey called to say that he saw an unknown bird in a tree in his front yard. Then he read last week's column and realized he was watching a Bohemian Waxwing.

Last Friday we awoke to snow that covered the roads and the grass. It was like a clean sheet of white paper. When I saw a single row of tracks marking it, it made

me remember when I was out in the snow on the creek. I would always try to read the tracks. Like learning a new language, you begin to recognize some of the most familiar words or tracks. There were tracks in muddy areas and on dusty trails, too, but I never could get fluent in the language of tracking.

Some months ago, Dale Rollins, who writes *Wildlife by Design* in the *Livestock Weekly*, highly recommended "Mammal Tracks and Sign: A Guide to North American Species" by Mark Ellroch. I saved the article, intending to order the book but then forgot it. With the snow, the nostalgia of reading tracks came back. I will order the book and leave it out at the office for any of you that get stumped by a track. For those of you who are curious, you can order the book through Amazon.com.

Wolf Creek Heritage Museum

Museum Hours: Monday thru Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday 2 to 4 p.m. Special hours upon request.

Museum Information: Hwy 305, Lipscomb; telephone: 806-852-2123; fax: 806-852-217; email: wolfcreek@amaonline.com; website: www.wolfcreekheritagemuseum.com

HANSFORD HOSPICE gives thanks to all who gave to the LIGHTS OF LOVE

- Hospice Care to those in need. Hansford Hospice expresses our deep gratitude to everyone for their kindness in giving to our organization.
- Barbara Cluck
 - Louetta McClellan
 - Teri Petr
 - Sandra Drake
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 - Mr. & Mrs. James Cunningham
 - Chuck & JoLaine Ball
 - Elva Sullivan
 - J.W. Gibner Trust/Lynn Gibner
 - Neil & Carol Pack
 - Dwayne & Shawn Thompson
 - Sonya & Charles Shieldknight
 - Marvin & Ruth Ann Jones
 - Kenneth Burke
 - Danny & Mary Jane Henson
 - Mary Alice Gibner
 - Brian & Kathryn Mancini

- Mr. & Mrs. Lee Roy Mitchell
- Mrs. M.D. McLaughlin
- Bill Miller
- Ruby Riley
- Mr. & Mrs. Jimmie Vernon
- William Porter
- William D. Martin
- Kevin & Rhonda Bynum
- H&H Water Well Service
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- Wilson & Joan McClellan
- Karen Thompson
- Rosetta & Ernie Sandoval
- Gene & Beverly Sparks
- Jo Ann Lee
- Don & Mary Allen
- Linda & Joe T. Venneman
- Burl & Nellie Buchanan
- Lawrence Tindell
- Verlin & Audene Beck
- Louis & Mary Miesner
- Jason Cantrell
- Norman & Holly Brock
- Hansford County Vet Hospital
- Nordeen Choehran
- Brad & Gyene Spivey

- Kenda Burke
- Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Bengel
- Dorthea Keys
- Grace Simpson
- Betty Jean & Irvin Davis
- Don & Gwen McLain
- Mark & Rita Holbrook
- Charles & Lola Newcomb
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- Chris Evans Family
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- Gary & Beth Evans
- Ryan Hill
- Phil Sanders
- Cheryl Hill
- Monte George Family
- Shane & Michelle Hill
- Judy Reed
- Dean & Linda Lieb
- Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Nelson
- Benito Puentes
- Hansford County Reporter-Statesman

If you would like to make a donation, please contact the Hansford Hospice office at 659-5811.

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AUCTION

SATURDAY
JANUARY 5, 2007
12:00 p.m. • BALKO, OK

Ron Gould & Family
The Gould's are moving to Shawnee and are offering their real estate and personal property for sale.
Directions: From intersection of Hwy. 83 and 270, go 4 3/4 miles west (Bryan's Corner)
Sale Order: Mobile Home, Real Estate, Personal Property

HOUSEHOLD
RCA 63" Big Screen TV; Kenwood 100Wx5 Surround Sound System w/Speakers; Matching Lane Divan, Loveseat, Recliner; Matching coffee table and two End Tables; Computer Desk; Dining Room Hutch; Whirlpool side-by-side Refrigerator; Whirlpool Washer/Dryer; GE Microwave; Gun Cabinet; New Brother XL 5340 Sewing Machine; Book Shelves; Iron Bunk Beds; Double Bed; Antique Fishing Equipment - Rods Reels, Lures; Kenmore Grill; 2 Picnic Benches

VEHICLES, HORSE TRAILER, FARM EQUIPMENT
2006 American Spirit 32', 3 horse slant, w/living quarters, 10' short wall, self-contained, tack room, escape door, storage; 2005 Chev 4500 Western Hauler 4Dr truck, duramax DSL., Allison auto, w/jake brake, two TV's DVD, CB, radar detector; 1979 Western Star Wrecker, rotator, 400 big cam, 10 sp. triple axle, zack 40K wheel lift; 1993 Dodge Dynasty Car, pwr, air; JD 4640 Tractor, 3 pt., pto, KD5500 loader, 8,400 hrs., duals; JD 8350 Grain Drill, 8" single disc w/vert. box; Sunflower 5-3 sweep plow w/pickers; 500 gal. propane tank; Approx. 150 joints 5/8-3/4 sucker rod; Lot misc. pipe; Hay fed on skids; 1 lot horse tack; Texas saddle, hand stamped; Stevens MDL 258B, 20GA, bolt action, clip gun

SHOP - NON-CLASSIFIED
1 lot tie down ratchets; 1 lot tie down straps; 2 24:5 chrome truck rims; 2 alum. truck steps; Tractor trailer elect., air connections; 1 lot boomers; 1 lot chrome exhaust extensions; 20 gal. parts washer; Lincoln 225 amp welder; Torch set gauges, cart; Craftsman cabinet tool chest; Hyd. shop press; A frame w/1 ton hoist; Set 4 air levelling system; Oil seal kit; 3 2:35-80

17 tires; 170T Reddy shop heater; Karcher 3100 PSI power washer, DSL. steam washer; Gray 5 1/2T floor air jack; Misc. parts for 379-359 pete trucks; Gas generator; 2" centrifugal pump; Battery charger; 1" tire impact; 1 lot pipe wrenches, tire tools, hand shop tools, shop grinders, drills, saws 3/4 drive sockets; 1 lot jack stands; Pipe threaders; Elect. gate opener; 50 Gal. DSL. tank 12V pump; 12' load ramps; 7.3 DSL engine parts - 6.2 dsl eng. parts (salvage); Stanley 17.5hp riding mower, 42" deck; Case 108 riding mower; Yardman push mower, 2 weed eaters; GMP remote helicopter

MOBILE HOME SELLS OFF-SITE NO TITLE, BILL OF SALE ONLY
1995 Liberty Mobile Home, 14x60, 2 BR, 1B, living, kitchen, axles and blocks. To be moved from Hwy. 412 & 283 (Log Cabin Corner - Hwy. 3)

REAL ESTATE
Legal: The West 160 AC of Sec. 28, T2N, R2OE, Beaver Co., Oklahoma; Tract I approx. 60 ac. native grass with 1,660 sq. ft. home, 1 1/2B, 3BR, kitchen, living, utility, 40x80 metal building w/440 sq. ft. finished basement, 1/4 mile hwy. frontage; Tract II approx. 100 ac. crop land, presently in wheat, growing wheat will go to the buyer; Tract I & II to be offered separately, then as a whole.

Terms: Abstract will be brought up to date of sale. Buyer to furnish warranty deed. Closing costs split 1/2 to seller, 1/2 to buyer. 10% down day of sale deposited with escrow agent, buyer to have 15 days to examine title. Buyer responsible for 2008 taxes, possession at closing. Buyer financing should be on order day of sale. Possession at closing. Property sells in its present condition.

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FOR RENT: 1BR apartment. Utilities paid. Call 659-2247. TFN(11-29-07)B

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FOR RENT: 2BR apartment, \$375.00 per month, water paid. Call Larry O'Neal at 580-772-5617 or 580-819-0007. TFN(7-06-06)B

FOR RENT: 1BR, 1B, apartment - washer/dryer hookup, central heat/air. \$375 deposit, \$375/month. Call 940-631-0894. TFN(7-5-06)B

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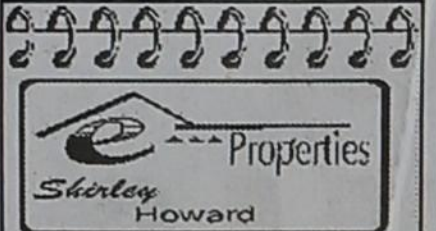
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Ben G. Scott, Broker

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TFN(10-25-07)

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Howard

904 Wilmeth, SPEARMAN - 5/3 5/3 5,182 sq. ft. FP. Basement.

115 Nelson Rd, SPEARMAN - 2/2/2 - 1,900 sq ft. 1/2 acre land - Country & City all at once!

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**Real Estate & Rental**

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK Spearman Property
306 Davis - Great storefront in desirable location. EX- 504 Roland - 3BR, 2B, storm shelter, stg bldg. 222 S. Haney - 2BR, 1B, newly remodeled

Gruver Property
813 Richardson - 2BR, 1B - BIG REDUCTION!
802 Womble - 2-3BR, carport, corner lot

Rental Property
Spearman - 1BR apartment
Gruver - 1BR, 1B home

Real Estate & Rental for all your real estate needs!
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(806) 733-5678

FOR RENT: 3BR apartment available Sept. 10th, \$450.00 per month (plus deposit), water paid. Call Larry O'Neal at 580-772-5617 or 580-819-0007. TFN(8-30-07)B

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
The City of Gruver will be selling:
1 Remington 870 Wingmaster Shotgun
1 Remington 870 Marine Magnum Shotgun
2 Armlight M15A2 Rifle 5.56 MM or 223 Remington
1 H&K USP 45 Caliber Pistol
1 Smith & Wesson 38 Caliber
1 lot 1000 rounds 357 SIG
1 lot 350 rounds 40 Cal
Sealed bids will be accepted until 5:00 pm January 9, 2007 when they will be opened and awarded. Bids will be considered individually or for the whole lot, the City reserves the right to accept the bid deemed most advantageous to the City of Gruver or reject any and all bids. Bidders must be Texas residents, sale will be through a Federal Firearms License Dealer, bidder will be

required to complete a FFL Form 4473 and undergo a background check.

The City of Gruver will be accepting sealed bids for one 2008, 1 ton truck - cab and chassis, utility bed, 2 wheel drive with standard cab, until 5:00 p.m. January 9, 2007 when they will be opened and awarded. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities and to accept the bid deemed to be most advantageous to the City of Gruver. Specifications and bidding documents may be secured from the Office of the City Manager, P.O. Box 947, Gruver, Texas 79040-0947.

2(12-27-07)B

LEGAL NOTICE

Hansford County Commissioner's Court will receive sealed bids until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 25, 2008 on the sell of one used Catapillar motor grader and two Catapillar loaders.

Bids will be opened on Monday, January 28, 2008 at the regular Commissioners' Court meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Call 806-736-0162; 806 330-1114; or 806-659-3144 to make appointment to see the 140 G series motor grader, call 806-736-5011 or 806-733-2923 to see the 930 Cat loader; and call 806-330-0121 or 806-659-3144 to see 916 Cat loader.

The Court reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
Benney Wilson
Hansford County Judge
3(1-3-08)B

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Spearman Independent School District

As required by law, the Spearman Independent School District will conduct a public hearing, open to the public, to discuss the district's educational performance for the 2006-2007 school year. The meeting will be held on January 14, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library. Parents and taxpayers are invited to attend this hearing, ask questions and provide comments regarding student performance issues.

2(1-3-08)B

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Eschol Blankenship - Broker

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1105 Haney, SPEARMAN - 3BR, 1B, 1 attached garage - \$30,000.

1118 Barkley, SPEARMAN - 3BR, 1 1/2B, 2 attached garage - \$45,000.

1104 Dressen, SPEARMAN - 3BR, 1B, 1 attached garage - \$62,500.

Gina Deal, Realtor
(806) 435-5444, office
(806) 202-0348, cell

1110 Dressen, SPEARMAN - 3BR, 1 1/2B, 1 attached garage. Price Reduced!

Deana Foster, Realtor
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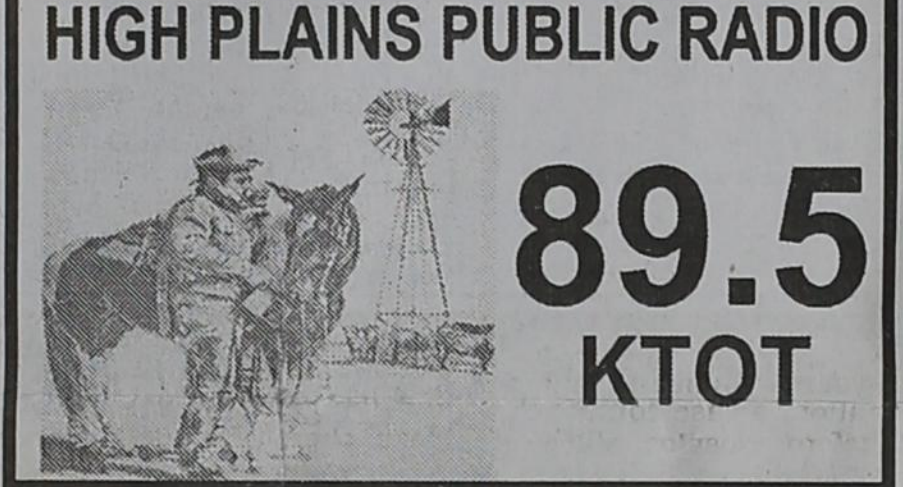
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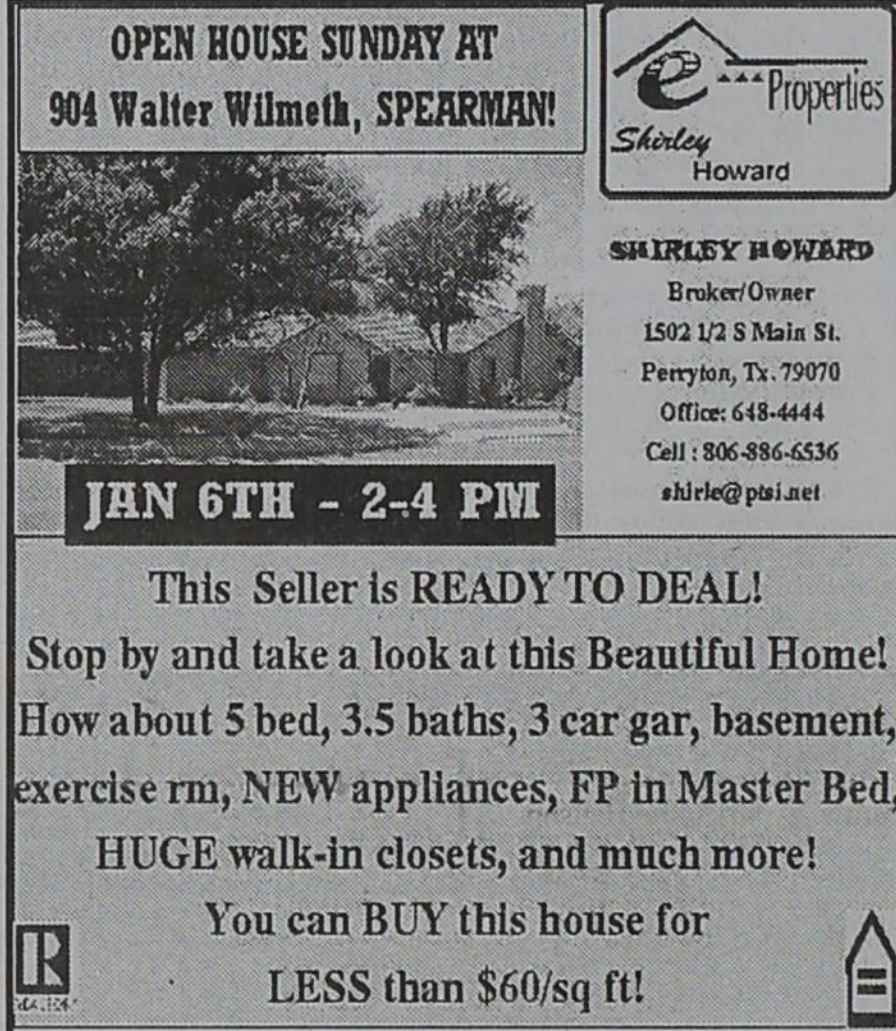
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TEXAS Health Matters

Smoking Cessation

If you're among the 18 percent of adult Texans who smoke, odds are good that "stop smoking" appears high on your list of New Year's resolutions. The Department of State Health Services has some tips for turning that resolution into a reality.

"Smoking remains the leading cause of preventable death in our state," says Dr. David Lakey, the state's health commissioner. "A person under 50 who stops smoking today cuts their risk of dying in the next 15 years in half. No one thinks it's easy to quit smoking, but the health benefits will make that effort worthwhile."

Dr. Lakey advises smokers to set a date and develop a plan to stop smoking.

"Nicotine is a powerfully addictive drug so you should think about how you're going to cope with withdrawal symptoms," Dr. Lakey says. "Different strategies work for different people. The important thing is to have options that will help you get over the craving to smoke."

Many people benefit from using medications or nicotine replacement products, such as a nicotine patch or gum. Studies have found that smokers who use prescription medications or nicotine replacement products when they try to stop smoking double their chances of success.

The Department of State Health Services offers these tips for dealing with the side effects of nicotine withdrawal:

Irritability or anxiety: Cut down on caffeine. Take deep breaths. Go for a stroll.

Trouble sleeping: Take a warm bath. Drink herbal tea or warm milk. Read.

Trouble concentrating: Simplify your schedule for a few days. Make a "to do" list. Take a break.

Increased appetite: Drink more water, especially out of a sip bottle. Eat slowly. Snack on carrots, pickles, grapes or rice cakes.

Constipation: Eat more fresh fruit, vegetables and whole grains. Drink 6 to 8 glasses of water a day.

Sore throat: Sip ice water. Suck on sugarless hard candy or lozenges.

Fatigue: Take a nap. Go to bed early. Try not to push yourself for two to four weeks.

"Remember that a withdrawal symptom or craving usually only lasts for a short time," Dr. Lakey says. "That feeling is going to pass in about 20 minutes whether you smoke or not."

It's also good to know what triggers your desire for a cigarette. For some people it's drinking coffee, driving or watching television. Try avoiding the activities or places that trigger your desire to smoke.

You can also replace your smoking habit with a healthy alternative, such as walking, drinking more water or eating more vegetables. The healthy activities will help you cope with nicotine withdrawal in addition to providing other benefits.

One of the most important things to remember is to be patient," Dr. Lakey says. "Most people make several attempts to stop smoking before they are successful."

Dr. Lakey also recommends finding a supportive friend or family member who can help you through the cravings.

The Department of State Health Services sponsors the American Cancer Society's Quitline, which provides free counseling, support and information. Call 1-877-937-7848 or visit www.yesquit.com for more tips and resources to help you stop smoking.

Area Conferences Slated in January

Crop Profitability Seminar

Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Ochiltree County will be hosting a crop profitability seminar for area producers on Jan. 14, 2008. The meeting will run from 1-3 p.m. at the Ochiltree County Expo Center.

Crop profitability outlook for the major and alternative crops will be presented by extension economists.

The program is free of charge. For more information, contact County Extension Agent Scott Strawn at 806-435-4501.

Irrigation Timing, Technology Headline Jan. 16 Conference

Producers trying to maximize water resources and meet the demand to produce more corn can find the latest information on irrigation technology and timing at the annual irrigation conference in Amarillo, said a Texas Cooperative Extension specialist.

The High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show is scheduled for Jan. 16 at the Amarillo Civic Center, said Leon New, Extension irrigation specialist and agricultural engineer.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$15 and includes a catered lunch.

Program topics will include pump efficiency, power and pumping cost; matching crop acreage to available irrigation; crop water management; crop production and economics; and biofuel crops.

This year's conference includes five experienced growers who will share how they have changed to confront the challenge.

Continuing education units have been applied for and will be offered for pesticide applicators, certified crop advisers and Irrigation Association certified irrigation designers.

For more information, call 806-677-5600.

Texas High Plains Grain Elevator Workshop Scheduled Jan. 22

The 20th annual Texas High Plains Grain Elevator Workshop is moving to the Ashmore Inn and Suites, located at 2301 E. I-40 in Amarillo, from its longtime location at the Amarillo Civic Center.

The workshop will be from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and has been submitted to the Texas Department of Agriculture for continuing education credits for commercial, non-commercial and private applicator licenses.

Pre-registration is requested by Jan. 15. The fee is \$35 and checks should be made to: Tri-State Chapter of GEAPS. Mail registration forms and fees to the atten-

tion of Ronda Fisher at: Texas Cooperative Extension, 6500 W. Amarillo Blvd., Amarillo, Texas 79106.

For more information, contact Cronholm at 806-291-5274.

High Plains Vegetable Conference Set for Jan. 24

The sixth annual High Plains Vegetable Conference will be held Jan. 24 in the Alumni Banquet Facility on the West Texas A&M University campus in Canyon, said a Texas AgriLife Extension Service specialist.

The program will begin with registration at 7:45 a.m. and time will be given to view exhibitor displays and posters, said Russ Wallace, AgriLife Extension vegetable specialist from Lubbock. Industry representatives will

also be given the opportunity to provide updates on what is new for 2008.

The program will include various experts who will provide the latest information on disease, insect and weed management for vegetables; transitioning to organic and sustainable agriculture; alternative crops; seedling establishment; economics; weed management in turfgrass; and laws and regulations.

Texas Department of Agriculture will offer 6.5 continuing education credits - four general, two integrated pest management and one-half on laws and regulations, and Master Gardeners will also qualify for continuing education credits, he said.

For more information, contact Wallace at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Lubbock at 806-746-6101.

Operation Christmas Greeting

The Hansford Hospital Auxiliary has begun their yearly fundraiser - Operation Christmas Greeting. Instead of mailing greeting cards, individuals who wish to may donate money to the Hansford Hospital Auxiliary and have their greeting published in this paper. The money is used to purchase equipment and supplies that are not budgeted at the Hospital and Manor.

Your donations can be mailed to Operation Christmas Greeting Chairman Judy Nelson, 130 Nelson Road, Spearman, Texas 79081. Checks should be made to Hansford Hospital Auxiliary and marked Operation Christmas Greeting. Thank you so much for supporting this fundraiser.



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