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The McLean News

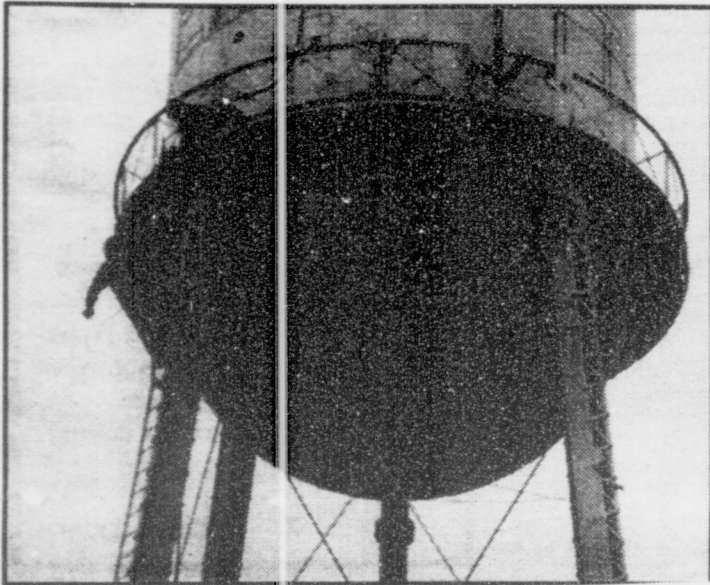


Bank of Commerce Building
Office No. 5, 201 N. Main St.

Published Weekly
Thursday, March 17, 2005

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

City Water Tower Gets Repairs



Not a job for the faint at heart! The McLean Water Tower get some much needed repairs. More repairs will follow in a couple of years

The City Council of McLean met for a regular meeting on March 14, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall. Those present were Frank Warner, Teresa Simmons, Betty Taylor, Jacque Riley, George Shaw and Mindy Reeves. Others present were Toni Bohlar, Jim Adams, Sally Bohlar, Allen Mixon, and Brian Grimes. Teresa Simmons gave the invocation.

All votes are unanimous unless otherwise stated.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Grant writer, Brian Grimes gave a presentation to the Council on the Home Program. After a discussion the Council voted no on the program.

Librarian, Sally Bohlar came before the Council with the Library Boards recommendations on the library computers and ports. The Council voted to do the recommended repairs on the computers, hub and ports not to exceed the amount of \$1300.00. Teresa Simmons abstained. Sally also told the Council that Jim Reyna had resigned from the Library Board and Peggy Baer had been voted by the Library Board to replace him. The Council approved the change. Teresa Simmons abstained.

The Council chose not to buy the Jersey Chip Spreader at this time as recommended by Jim Adams.

The Council approved the Economic Development Cooperation Financial statement.

A budget amendment was approved to pay for the new computers and software for the City Hall and City Warehouse from the Water, Sewer and Gas Fund.

The Council voted to update the travel expense and food allowance with a maximum of \$32.00 per day. Jacque Riley opposed. The vacation time for an employee was changed to three weeks from two weeks after eight years of service. The Council also voted to delete the Volunteer Training policy.

No action was taken on the temporary fill-in help.

In other business, Mindy Reeves inquired about the job description of employee Allen Mixon when he is not picking up trash. Jim Adams explained that he is to be mowing, working on sewer lines or other tasks that he is assigned.

Jim Adams also told the Council that the water tower is in the process of being repaired and he showed pictures to the Council of the inside of the tower. He stated that other repairs would have to be made in two or three years down the line.

Frank Warner told the Council that the new radios that the employees will be using will be able to have frequency with the McLean

Fire Department eventually.

Mr. Warner also expressed to the Council that he had received a letter from Cable One that stated after March 31, 2005, there will be no Channel 4 on the

cable. Cable One stated that Channel 4 wanted to charge \$30 per customer for their service and that Cable One had chosen not to do so out of fear that other Channels would soon do the same. The Council voted to pay the bills.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Kutter Anderson Earns Honors At Houston



Kutter Anderson, the son of Bill and Ronia Anderson placed second in the state of Texas with his Berkshire Hog, breed locally by O.L. Tucker of Lefors. Kutter advanced through two sifts in Brenham, Texas to advance

to the Houston Stock Show. There were 131 hogs in the Berkshire class at Brenham; 3200 hogs total. 27 went to Houston from this class. Out of seven breeds, 660 went to Houston.

Others who went to Houston from McLean

were Logan Sparling, who made the first sift at Brenham with his Hampshire Hog, but was cut from the second sift. Jamie Sanderson took her Yorkshire hog. Kevin Smith took a Chester hog and Mark Smith took a Durock hog.

School Board Offers Superintendent Job to Jimmy Hannon

The McLean I.S.D. Board of Trustees met for a special called meeting on March 14, 2005 in the High School Building. Those present were Ronnie Ferguson, Billy Bybee, Marshall Hanes, Terri Adams, Chet Bohlar and Bobby Richardson.

Board member David Fuller was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 7:18 p.m. Bobby Richardson gave the opening prayer.

The Board went into See JOB OFFER, pg. 8.

MCLEAN REMINDERS



JR. HIGH Track teams will travel to Motley County on March 22.

HIGH SCHOOL Track teams will go to Motley County on March 24.

THERE WILL no school on March 25 or 28 for Easter Holiday.

PINEWOOD DERBY will be held on March 28 at 6:00 p.m in the old gym.

SCHOOL BOARD meeting will be held on March 24 at 7:00 p.m.

THE FIRE Department is looking for volunteers, if you are interested you may talk to any fireman for more details.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE to e-mail your news, you may do so to its@centramedia.net

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Now accepting new patients

**McLean Volunteer
 Fire Department**

will be holding a
 Consignment Auction April 16

**Advertising Deadline
 is April 1**

Contact Fire Chief Clifford McDonald
 at 779-2192
 or James Hefley at 779-3134

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March 17 - Cynthia Glass
 McDonald, Christopher
 Flores, Patrick Windom,
 Bobby and Robbie
 Sanderson (A).
 March 18 - Faris Jake
 Hess, Jim McDonald,
 Karen Williams, Bob and
 Anita Thompson (A),
 Billie and Angie
 Billingsley (A).
 March 19 - Mildred
 Hill, Walt Bailey, Jennifer
 Barker, Mike Bybee,
 Raymond C. Baker.
 March 20 - Caroline
 Cole.
 March 21 - Linda
 Haynes, Miranda
 McMordie, Martin
 Graham.
 March 22 -
 March 23 - Clair
 McDowell, Lexie
 Simmons.

You are Invited!

I would like to extend a personal invitation for
 everyone to join us on Saturday night at
 Alanreed Baptist Church for Cowboy Church.
 We have been meeting there now for a little
 over a month and God is meeting there with us.

If you don't have a church home, please feel free
 to come and be a part of us, just as you are.

If you do have a church home, please feel free to
 come and worship with us, no strings attached.

May the rich blessings of God be upon you, and
 the salvation of Jesus Christ be apparent in your
 life.

Cowboy Church and the Arena of Life
 Ronnie Ferguson

THE DEVIL'S Rope
 Museum will open for a
 new season on March 1, 10
 am to 4 pm, Tuesday thru
 Saturday.



JOB OFFER

Executive Session at 7:20
 p.m.

The Board returned from
 Executive Session at 8:47
 p.m. A motion was made by
 Chet Bohlar, second by
 Marshall Hanes to extend an
 offer to Jimmy Hannon for
 the position of
 Superintendent of McLean
 I.S.D. All approved.

Terri Adams made the
 motion to adjourn the
 meeting, second by Bobby
 Richardson. Meeting
 adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

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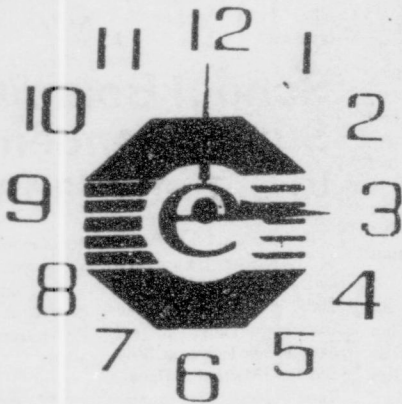
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**MCLEAN CHURCH
 DIRECTORY**

Church of Christ 4th & Clarendon
 779-2546

Sunday Bible School 10:00 a.m.
 Worship 10:40 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible Class 7:30

First Assembly of God 4th & Main
 Morning Worship 10:45 Children's Church 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday-Family Night 7:00 p.m.
 Children, Youth @ 6:30 & Adult Bible Study @ 7:00
 Sunday Evening 7:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church 288 E. 1st

Pastor Kelly Raymond 779-2175
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 & 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m.

United Methodist Church 2nd & Gray

Pastor Thacker Haynes 779-2048 & 779-2337
 Sunday 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
 Sunday Sr. High Youth Alpha Chi 5:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Choir 7:00 p.m.

Heald United Methodist Church

Kellerville Road
 Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Trinity Church 603 Commerce

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

Cowboy Church & The Arena of Life of McLean

Ronnie Ferguson, Pastor
 Saturday at 7:00 pm
 Historical Alanreed Baptist Church



McLean Flaming Hearts End Season

The three McLean girls Little Dribblers teams participated in the Shamrock tournament this past weekend. The Teeny Tiger team

ended their season against Miami. Those on the team were Jordan Cox, Dezeray Blaylock, Summer Ferguson, Monique Rosalez, Charlie Webb, Chelsie Jasper and

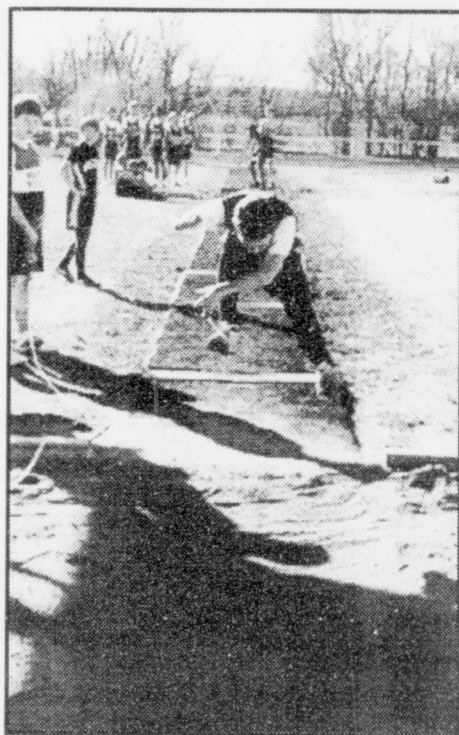
Bailey Herring. The 3rd and 4th grade Flaming Hearts team won third place. They were defeated by Miami 14-4. They won their second game against Kelton 6-5.

Final stats for the team are as follows: Kendra Richardson-35 points, 68 rebounds, 8 assists and 25% free throw; Miranda McMordie-26 points, 97 rebounds, 11 assists; Shelby Adams-6 rebounds and 1 assist; Kayla Lewis-7 rebounds and 4 assists; Tristan Davis-10 rebounds and 1 assist; Jacie Ketcherside-8 rebounds and 3 assists; and Hayley Burnett-26 points, 31 rebounds and 20% free throws.

"I am very proud of these girls," stated Coach Adams. "At the end of the season these girls played as a team and showed great sportsmanship in every game."

The 5th and 6th grade girls team, coached by Brian and Kelly Byron, won their fifth tournament. The girls finished their season 14-0.

Final points for this team were: Ashley Byron-160, Casey Graham-47, Erin Vassey-36, Nicole McClendon-22, Ashley Russell-20, Rudy Rodriguez-19, Saber Bohlar-17, Jamie Alvarez-16, Sami Staton-4, Reyna Smith-3 and Patricia Valles-2.



McLean Athletes Compete In Track Meet

Caleb Crawford stretches out as far as possible in the recent track meet in which he and other McLean athletes compete for gold.

McLean Tigers And Cubs

The Bank of Commerce
779-2461

C & H Supply
779-2209

The McLean Care Center
779-2469

Bailey Ware Funeral Home
779-2424

Kirk's Auto Supply
779-2654

The McLean Feedyard
779-2405

Trinity Church
779-3207



McLean Golf -ers Tee Off

The McLean Tigers earned first place honors at the Memphis Golf tournament on March 7 and 8. The team won first place out of ten teams with a team total of 326.

Zane Richardson tied for first place with a 77, Tyler Hanes tied for second place with a 78. Zach Richardson shot an 85, John Haynes shot a 96 and Jesse Parks shot a 126.

The Lady Tigers also competed at the Memphis

tournament. The girls on the team are Carrie Thompson, Brooke Seymour and Tamara Loya. "The girls are working hard and getting ready for district," stated Coach Farmer.



McLean Home Health
779-2485

MCLEAN TRACK SCHEDULE 2005

Date	Location	Division
Mar 4-5	Wellington	JH/HS Boys
Mar 10	Lefors	JH
Mar 11	Lefors	HS
Mar 22	Motley County	JH
Mar 24	Motley County	HS
Apr 1	District Wheeler	JH
Apr 2	Wheeler	HS
Apr 8	District Wheeler	HS
Apr 15	Area Panhandle	HS
Apr 29-30	Regional Levelland	HS
May 13-14	State Austin	HS

Red River Steak House
779-8940

Country Corner
779-2209

The McLean News
779-2141

Puckett's Grocery
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March 27 at 7:00 am
Pastor Ronnie Ferguson

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Following Service
by Mr. & Mrs. Allen Thompson of Channing

Easter Egg Hunt
for the children following service and breakfast.
RSVP by Thurs., March 24th
@ 662-9329 or 662-7211 for number of adults
and children attending.

Exit at 132 from I-40 go 4 miles north.
Bring chairs or blankets for your family.

McLean School Breakfast And Lunch Menu

McLean school menu for the week of March 21-25.

Monday: Breakfast: Biscuits, gravy, sausage, juice & milk.
Lunch: Burritos with cheese, toast, jelly, juice & milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast: Soft tacos with cheese, salad, pinto beans, dream bars & milk.
Lunch: Grilled ham & cheese

Wednesday: Hot or cold cereal, toast, jelly, juice & milk.
Lunch: Cheese-burger bake, scallop potatoes, peas and carrots, Texas toast, fruit & milk.

Thursday: Breakfast: Pizza, toast, jelly, juice & milk.
Lunch: No school

Friday: No school

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Lunch: No school


Friday: No school

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BONUS CASH	-500
XTRA BONUS	-1,000
REBATE	-3,000
SALE PRICE	\$24,882




2005 BUICK LESABRE

MSRP	\$30,700
C/S DISC	-1,700
REBATE	-2,000
BONUS CASH	-1,500
XTRA BONUS	-1,000
SALE PRICE	\$24,064



2004 CADILLAC DTS

MSRP	\$55,000
C/S DISC	-13,025
SALE	-814
XTRA BONUS	-1,500
SALE PRICE	\$39,601



2004 ENVOY - XUV - 4X4

MSRP	\$31,500
C/S DISC	-2,100
SALE	-500
XTRA BONUS	-1,000
SALE PRICE	\$28,793



2004 CHEVY TRAIL BLAZER 2WD

MSRP	\$28,500
C/S DISC	-8,104
SALE	-370
XTRA BONUS	-1,000
SALE PRICE	\$20,816




2005 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GTP

MSRP	\$30,500
C/S DISC	-1,000
REBATE	-2,000
BONUS	-2,000
XTRA BONUS	-1,000
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MSRP	\$18,120
C/S DISC	-470
REBATE	-1,000
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2004 CHEVY SILVERADO Z-71

MSRP	\$36,337
C/S DISC	-7,047
XTRA BONUS	-1,000
SALE PRICE	\$26,390




2004 GMC SIERRA Z-71

MSRP	\$36,145
C/S DISC	-8,000
XTRA BONUS	-1,000
SALE PRICE	\$26,055

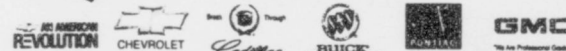


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Errors: Check your ad immediately after the first publication! The News will not be responsible for mistakes after the first publication.
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BIDS FOR lawn mowing for Carson County Courthouse War Memorial Building Library Squarehouse Museum will be taken thru 5:00 p.m. March 25th, 2005. Job description can be picked up in the Judges office in the courthouse.

PICTURES, NEWS or advertising? E-mail the newspaper at thegroomnews@arn.net but be sure to let us know what is coming!

PUBLIC NOTICE

McLean I.S.D. intends to apply for a waiver of the prohibition concerning the date of the first day of instruction for the 2005-2006 school year. McLean I.S.D. intends to start the first day of instruction on August 15. McLean ISD will have a public hearing concerning the date of the first day of instruction March 24th at the regularly scheduled school board meeting.

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24 oz. loaf
79¢

NABISCO
Oreos,
Ritz chips & crackers
2/\$5.00
Kraft cracker dip
11 Oz jar
2/\$4.00

COKE, DR. PEPPER & SPRITE
12 PACK 2/\$7.00
3 LITERS 4/\$7.00
32OZ POWER AID 99¢

SPLIT FRYER BREASTS
Family Pack
(previously frozen)
99¢ LB.

PORK CHOPS
DONE IN SIRLOIN CUT
FAMILY PACK
\$1.19 LB.

SMALL PACK ... \$1.39 LB.

DORITOS® CHIPS
Asst. \$3.29 size
9-13.5 oz.
2\$5 FOR

SKINNER PASTAS
Long/Thin Spaghetti
or Elbows,
16 oz.
69¢

SPAGHETTI SAUCE
Del Monte Assorted
26-26.5 oz.
79¢

CHUNK LIGHT TUNA
Chicken of the Sea, in Oil
or Water, 6 oz.
2\$1 FOR

TOSTITOS® DIPS
Assorted Salsas or Queso
13.5-16 oz.
2\$5 FOR

CHEER DETERGENT
Essential 88 oz. bot. or
63 oz. box
\$3.99

Frozen Foods

ASSORTED
EGGO WAFFLES
16.3-12.3 oz. **\$1.79**

SELECT GROUP
MARIE CALLENDER'S
DINNERS
21.4-21 oz. **\$2.99**

SMOOTHIE SELECT MEAT OR CHICKEN
VOILA! DINNERS
22 oz. pkg. **\$3.79**

SMOOTHIE SELECT GROUP BEEF OR
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ASSORTED EXTRA STRENGTH OR BACK & JOINT PAIN
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PHILIPS IN-CT, COMPLETE OR 200%
MILK OF MAGNESIA
3000 CHOLEST **\$3.59**

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1.6-1.6 oz. **2\$5** FOR

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NYQUIL OR DAYQUIL
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13.5 oz. **\$3.69**

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Post Assorted
13-16 oz.
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2\$3 FOR

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Garden of Eatin' or Jalapeno
15.5-16 oz. can
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17 oz. pkg. **\$2.69**

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Boneless Beef
\$2.79 LB.

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OR SAUCE
PASTAS
16.3-15.5 oz. can **\$1.00**

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MISSION ASSORTED
CUP RAMEN
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HORTHREY 12 BOTTLES
OR 6 BOTTLES BOTTLES
BATH TISSUE **\$3.49**

DRABBY
PAPER TOWELS
REGULAR ROLL **99¢**

Dairy Case

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Mission Pack
\$1.29

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BUTTERMILK
HALF GALLON **\$1.79**

PLAINS 1/2 SHARP CHOCOLATE
CHOCOLATE MILK
HALF GALLON **\$1.79**

DAIRY'S ASSORTED
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12 oz. pkg. **\$1.99**

YELLOW ONIONS
Michigan 1015 Sweet
\$1 2 LBS.

SIRLOIN TIP ROAST
Preferred Trim
Boneless Beef
\$2.69 LB.

RIBEYE STEAK
Preferred Trim Boneless Beef
\$5.99 LB.

SHURFINE 12OZ MEAT FRANKS **69¢**

PEYTON'S REG. OR THICK 12 OZ. **\$1.99**

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PEYTON'S REG. OR PORKEN 14 OZ. **\$1.29**

SMOKED SAUSAGE **\$1.29**

PEYTON'S 8 OZ. **\$1.29**

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LAND-O-FROST B'L-SHAVED 12 OZ. **\$2.39**

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REGULAR/GARDEN WASHED POTATOES
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BELL PEPPERS **69¢**

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MINI CARROTS **\$1.99**

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DOLE CLASSIC SALAD **99¢**

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JANAGOLD, PINK LIFT OR FOR
APPLES **89¢** LB.

GARDEN FRESH
BROCCOLI CROPPERS **99¢** LB.

CRISP FRESH
TURSHIPS **69¢** LB.

TROPICAL
KIWI **4\$1** 2 FOR

ANANAS
PEPPERS **2\$3** 2 LBS.

SHORT RIBS
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SCHOONER STICKS OR PORTIONS BREADED FISH **1.79** lb.

WISCONSIN LONGHORN MARKET CUT CHEDDAR CHEESE .. lb. **\$2.99**

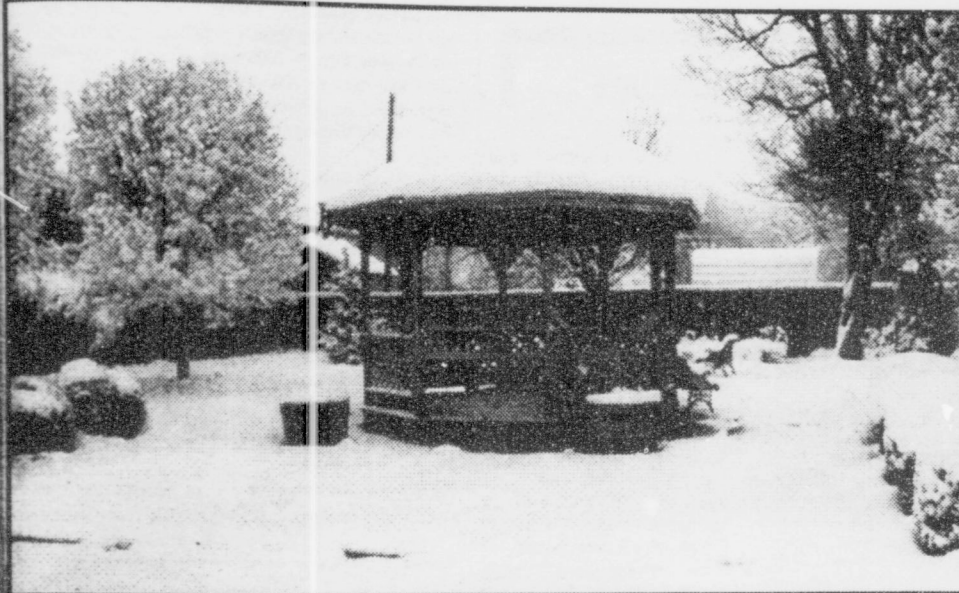
The Groom News

50¢

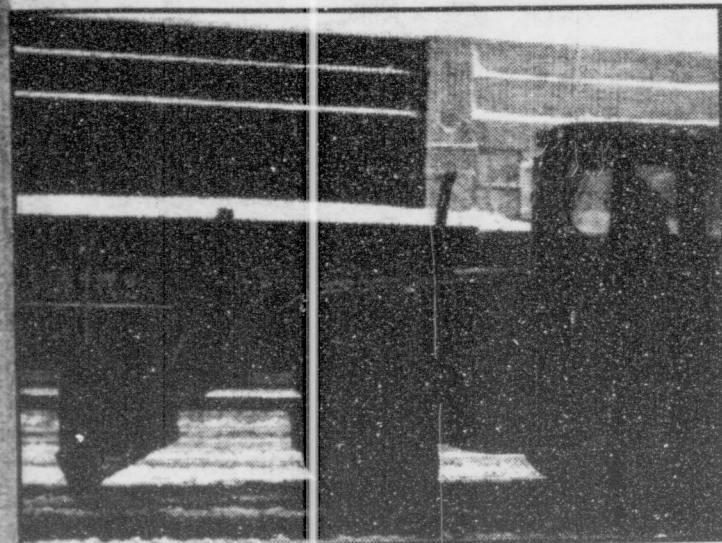
Volume 78 Number 34

The Groom-McLean News 79039

Thursday, March 17, 2005



Did You Say Spring Break Or Ski Holiday?



City employee, Donnie Evans, plows Main Street making it easier for residents to get to businesses.

Did you say Spring Break? Groom ISD students were not the only ones surprised to see upwards of 10 inches of snow when they awoke on Tuesday morning. The winter weather system had no respect for the students who were hoping to bask in the sun... at least somewhere. Although weather forecasters had predicted the storm, they

have been wrong about so many "predicted" storms this year that most were skeptical. Sunday was a balmy 75 degrees and had many Groom folks breaking out the lawn mowers and itching to plant something! The strong system has swept through the western states, dumping a huge amount of snow on the New Mexican mountains,

making "Spring Break" look more like "Ski Weekend". Here in Groom, the ground is still warm enough that the accumulation was melting even as more snow was falling. Temperatures are expected to warm back up for the end of the week,

See SNOW, pg. 2.

Groom ISD Board Offers Teachers 2005-06 Contracts

The Groom School Board of Trustees held their regular monthly meeting. In attendance were board members Clifton Britten, Ron Kuehler, Seth Ritter, Tony Britten and Rodney Bohr, Superintendent Terry Stevens and visitors Randy McDowell and Neal Brown of Region 16 ESC and Curtis Downs. Board members who were absent were Tim Case and Tony Rocha.

Minutes of the February 17th meeting were approved.

During open forum, Curtis Downs spoke on the Appraisal District evaluation.

Neal Brown, who works for the school through the Service Center, presented the Board with the quarterly investment report, financial reports, and expenditure reports. He also conducted a discussion concerning House Bill 2 and what to expect about funding.

Randy McDowell discussed with the board how, by law, Groom ISD

had to send out depository contracts to the local bank and to an outside bank. Bids had to be sent out by April, so we could receive them back by May. Contracts will be discussed in the regular June meetings.

Toni Pavlovsky was named Election Judge and Pat Ashford was named Election Clerk for the May 7th Groom ISD School Board election.

A discussion was held concerning the evaluation for the Appraisal District director.

The Board approved a stipend for the One Act Play Director. The amount of the stipend will be determined at a later time.

The Board discussed the estimates received for the concrete slab for the playground. A bid in the amount of \$6,535 for a 50' x 50' slab for the elementary playground was approved from Britten Construction. All members in attendance voted for the award with the exception of Clifton Britten, who

See BOARD, pg. 5.



Ashley Murray, Bekah Roskens, and Maddie Wieberg have the makings of a really good snowman, if they don't get too cold first!

GROOM COMMUNITY CALENDAR

GROOM LIONS Club will hold its annual Buffet Luncheon on Sunday March 20th to benefit the Groom Summer Program. Donations will be accepted for the meal which will be served from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.

PEE WEE basketball teams will be playing in a tournament in Memphis on March 17, 18, or 19.

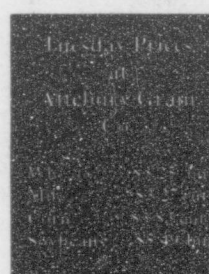
EASTER IS March 27th. Attend the Church of your choice. See page 2 for a list of Holy Week services.

DISTRICT UIL will be on March 22 & 23.

ALPHA MU XI will hold its annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 20th, 2:30 p.m., at Groom Memorial Park. Children pre-school through 3rd grade are invited to participate. Parents are encouraged to bring their cameras. The Easter Bunny has been scheduled to make an appearance.

Groom Arena Association will meet on March 21 at 7:00 at the Community Center. **ALL MEMBERS PLEASE ATTEND!**

SHAMROCK WILL be hosting a St. Patrick's Day celebration this weekend.



The Groom News

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

March 17 - Daniel Paul McLaughlin, Don Case, Nadine Thornton, Mrs. Michael F. Britten, Kim Lewellen, Mr. & Mrs. Evan Whitley (A).

March 18 - Joe David Brown, Mike Britten, Todd Weinheimer.

March 19 - Sam Gabriel Thomas, Kay Burk, Boe Smith.

March 20 - Mrs. C. Wayne Stroope, Vernon

Baggerman, Nancy Brumley, Colby Linquist, Mr. and Mrs. Jack West (A).

March 21 - Kenneth Babcock, Kay Case, Kay Lynn McLaughlin.

March 22 - Nila Burgin, Sabrina Leven, John Webster Thomas.

March 23 - Mrs. Gary Don Babcock, Melvin Wills, Emma Weinheimer.



A TRACK MEET will be held at Wheeler on April 1 & 2.

ILL OR RECOVERING

The following local residents are ill or recovering: Cindy Babcock, Willie Barnett, Shirley Fields, Shirley Lamberson, Jim Moraniec and Carolyn Moraniec

SNOW

hopefully in time for Alpha Mu Xi's Easter

Egg Hunt and the Lion's Club Luncheon.

Holy Week Services

The Immaculate Heart Of Mary
Catholic Church

Palm Sunday, Saturday Vigil Mass	5:30 p.m.
Palm Sunday, Morning Mass	8:30 a.m.
Holy Thursday, Mar. 24, 2005 Mass	8:00 p.m.
Good Friday, Mar. 25, 2005 Service	8:00 p.m.
Easter - March 26, Saturday Vigil Mass	8:45 p.m.
Easter Sunday Morning Mass	8:30 a.m.

First United Methodist Church

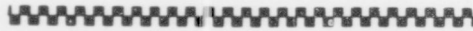
Easter Sunday Morning Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Easter Sunday Service	11:00 a.m.

First Baptist Church

Easter Sunday Morning Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Easter Sunday Service	11:00 a.m.

The Cross Ministries

Good Friday Services	
Rosary of the Sorrowful Mysteries	12:00 noon
Stations of the Cross	2:00 p.m.
Prayers of Divine Mercy	3:00 p.m.
Easter Sunrise Service	7:00 am



**MEMBER
2005**

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Local Happenings

Joe and Barbara Homer visited recently in Dallas and escaped to Branson Missouri over spring break.

Terry Stevens has been in Austin for meetings and to watch the legislative process concerning new school laws that will effect Groom ISD students.

Brice, Jeannie, Megan, and Nathan Ruthardt enjoyed skiing at Red River this past weekend.

Chance Barkley and family were recently in Houston for his heart surgery. We are happy to report that it seems to be a grand success.

Mary Sue was AWOL recently caring for a new grand baby.

AMARILLO B The one-day Advanced Topic Series course on Developing This Year's marketing Plan-Cotton, sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension, has been rescheduled to Monday, due to weather conditions.

The course will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday (March 21) at the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center, 6500 Amarillo Blvd. West.

Growing cotton is only half the battle, said Dr. Steve Amosson, area Extension economist. In order to be successful in their operations, producers also need to learn how to market the crop.

Participants will learn about breakevens, fundamentals, technical signals and seasonal trends in cash, basis and forward contracts for cotton. In addition, different marketing strategies for both pre- and post-harvest marketing will be discussed.

The course will utilize a combination of lecture, small group work and simulation exercises to maximize the learning experience similar to the Master Marketer training.

Instructors will be Dr. Carl Anderson, a recently retired Regents Fellow, professor and Extension cotton marketing economist in College Station; and Dr. Jackie Smith, professor and

Registration forms also are available through any Extension office, through Amosson or Margaret Freeman at (806) 677-5600.

RODNEY BOHR

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By Ace Reid



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Alpha Mu Xi Presents...

Easter Egg Hunt

March 20th, 2:30 p.m.
Groom Memorial Park
Pre-School - 3rd Grade

The Groom Lions Club

presents

A BUFFET LUNCHEON

March 20th

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

at the

Groom Community Center

supporting the

SUMMER PROGRAM FOR KIDS



Donations Are Appreciated!

Carson County Sheriff's Report

Last week was another busy week in the county. Our officers were kept busy transporting prisoners and taking reports. As of Monday morning we were housing 22 inmates in the county jail. There were 8 persons arrested during the week.

Early Tuesday morning Trooper Darrin Bridges stopped a vehicle at the 110-mile marker on I-40. Two males from Mexico were placed in custody for possession of a controlled substance. Justice of the Peace Randy Elliott who set a \$50,000 bond arraigned both men. They remain in custody.

At 1:00 on Tuesday Trooper Mike Smith stopped a vehicle and after a search arrested two men

from Michigan for possessing approximately 75 pounds of marijuana. Bond was set at \$15,000 each. The men were later released on bond.

At 2:30 on Tuesday afternoon we received a report of an altercation that occurred between two truck

drivers at Love's. After an investigation it was determined that no local charges would be filed. However one of the truck drivers was wanted for a felony in Tarrant County. He is being held in Carson County awaiting extradition to Fort Worth.

Trooper Chris Ray arrested a 39-year-old California man for speeding, no valid dl, and failure to identify on Wednesday morning. The man used his brother's identity instead of his own. If he had told the truth the

man would have been released with a couple of citations. His story telling landed him in jail where he sat his fines out.

At 6:30 PM on Thursday I took an attempted burglary report near the intersection of I-40 and FM 2373. An unknown person attempted to enter a residence by breaking out a window. When he was unsuccessful an attempt was made to enter through a garage exhaust fan. This particular house was built with security in mind and the intruder was unable to get inside. We also discovered that the phone lines had been cut on the outside of the house. I think that is a good idea to keep a cell phone handy when you are home. This way you will always be able to call for help.

Sgt. Heath Cates took a burglary of a habitation report in Skellytown on Thursday morning. The owner found a screen off of the window and found several valuable items missing from the house. This case remains under investigation.

On Friday Chief Deputy Scott Sutton took the initial report of an incident of sexual assault of a child, which took place in the County. The case is ongoing. I will report on the progress when the time is appropriate.

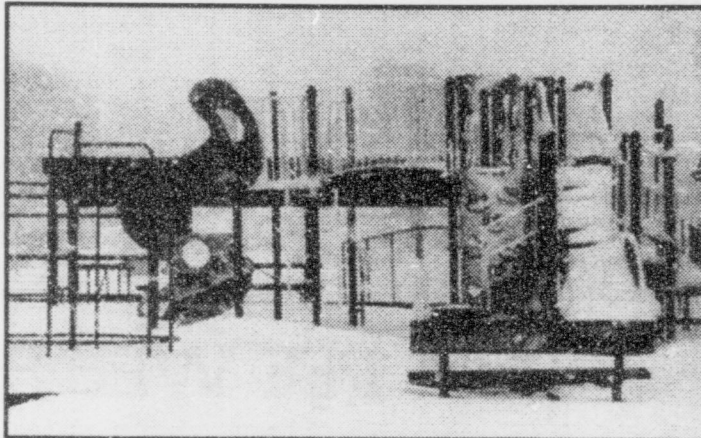
Tam Terry

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(NAPS)—Passive auto safety features include seatbelts, airbags and other systems designed to protect passengers in an accident. When shopping for an SUV, also look for "active" safety systems, those that help to prevent an accident. They include anti-lock brakes and electronic stability control, both of which increase a driver's level of control during accident avoidance. For more information, visit www.porsche.com.




The hitching posts at the Route 66 Steakhouse don't look very inviting when they are holding about 8 inches of snow.




Groom ISD's playground waits patiently for warmer weather and a few children to play on it.

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Groom Sparks Complete Season With Pair Of Wins

The Groom Sparks played their final two regular season games on March 12. Groom girls played Claude's 5th Grade winning 33-12. Maddie Wieberg scored 15 points. Hali Bohr and Bekah Roskens added 6 points each. Cheyenne Koschata scored 2. Sophie Leven 2 and Neva Corley 2.

In the game against Panhandle White. Groom won 37 to 29.

Maddie Wieberg scored 18 points, Hali Bohr 10, Bekah Roskens 5, Neva Corley 3 and Cheyenne Koschata 1.

In last game against Panhandle, the opposing team only had 5 girls playing. Each time one of their girls fouled out, Groom would remove one of their players in order to keep the game as fair as possible. The game ended

with the teams playing 3 on 3.

The Sparks will compete in a tournament at Memphis on March 17th, 18th and 19th. The times have not yet been announced.

Home Ideas

(NAPS)—Vinyl has taken the fence to a new level, offering homeowners decorative options to tailor fences to their individual tastes. Bufftech, a popular line of vinyl fencing from CertainTeed Corporation, offers a variety of colors, as well as lattice and fence styles to help homeowners personalize their landscaping. For more information, visit www.bufftech.com or call 800-782-8777.

School Lunch Menu

The Groom School Cafeteria will be serving the following for the week of March 21-March 25.

Breakfast:

Monday: Cold cereal, muffins, juice & milk.

Tuesday: Pancakes, peanut butter, sausage, juice & milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast burritos, hash brown potatoes, juice & milk.

Thursday: Biscuits, gravy, bacon, juice & milk.

Friday: No school

Lunch:

Monday: Char-broiled steak, scalloped potatoes, black-eye peas, hot rolls, chocolate no-bake cookies & milk.

Tuesday: Steak fingers, french fries, peaches, Texas toast & milk.

Wednesday: Mexican pile-on, corn, lettuce, tomatoes, pineapple, graham crackers & milk.

Thursday: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, sweet peas or carrots, hot rolls, jello & milk.

Friday: No school.

Marshall Sherwood

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Circle B Meat Co.
248-7332

Carson Co. Cotton Gin
883-2535

Route 66 Steakhouse
248-0235

Ray Morris Passes Away



GROOM - Ray Meade Morris, 93, of Groom passed away on Saturday, March 12, 2005. Cremation was held on Tuesday, March 15, 2005. No services are planned.

Mr. Morris was born on September 30, 1911 in Pratt, Kansas. He had been a resident of Groom for the past 10 years. He had been employed as a high-line worker as well as working as a rodeo cowboy, cattle hauler, and he was the owner of a ranch in Imperial Valley, California. Ray had made his home in Temecula and Marietta, California for many years before moving to Texas in 1994. He was

a member of The Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by a grandson, Steve Painter; by two brothers, Lee Morris and Claude Morris and one sister, Velma Childs.

He is survived by one daughter Nellie M. Painter and her husband Burl E. Painter of Groom; a sister Violet Tubbs of Monterrey California; 3 grandchildren Billy Ray Painter, Larry Edward Painter and Cheryl Ann Cervantes; 2 step grandchildren, Tony Edward painter and Johnny Richard Painter; 9 great grandchildren, Robby Wayne and Kimberly Cervantes; Randal and Matt Painter; 2 step grandchildren, Brady and

Christy Painter and 6 great-great grandchildren, Zachary, Shimp, Alora & Chazz Painter, Brittenie, Dakota & Tristen Painter.

Ray Morris also left behind lots of friends and special people, including Stan Immenschein, Art Fann and Judy Whitcomb.

The family suggests memorials to the Groom EMS, Box 217 Groom, Texas, 79039

March 18th Ends Sign-Up Period for 2005 Conservation Programs

Temple, TX—The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas announced that farmers and ranchers wishing to be considered for 2005 funding in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) should sign up by the close of business Friday, March 18, 2005. Landowners interested in the Wildlife Habitats Incentive Program (WHIP), Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) and the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) have until April 8, 2005, to sign applications.

The 2002 Farm Bill authorized the EQIP, WHIP, WRP, and GRP as tools to implement voluntary conservation. Each program offers financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and/or management practices on eligible land or preserve land through conservation easements.

"The \$83 million allocated for these programs will help farmers and ranchers

improve the natural resources on private working lands in Texas," said Dr. Larry D. Butler, USDA-NRCS Texas State Conservationist. "They will be used to solve locally identified resource problems in each county and will also fund special statewide concerns recommended by the Texas State Technical Committee such as water quantity, water and air quality, wildlife habitat, and treatment of invasive species. EQIP and WHIP offer cost share and incentives payments to producers applying approved conservation measures and GRP and WRP provide for the purchase a conservation easements."

Immediately following the end of the sign up period, applications will be ranked and those selected for funding will be approved. A conservation planner will develop a contract and conservation plan for each contract that is approved. Producers who have been awarded contracts can then begin

implementing the approved conservation practices this year. Local NRCS field offices have complete details for their county and this information can be found at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

Additional information and access to ranking criteria, practices, and cost-share rates for all programs can be found at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/.

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Daffodil Day Festival - Celebration 2005
Saturday, March 19, 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Round Rock Senior Center,
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• Crafts
• Entertainment
• Auction (1:00 p.m.)
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SCHOOL BOARD

abstained.
A sprinkler system for the playground was discussed.
The board entered executive session at 9:00 and came out of the meeting at 9:14. The following teachers were unanimously hired as follows:
*Marcia Davis on a term contract.
*Shirley Fields on a term contract.
*Leslie Floyd on a term

contract.
* Doug Galycan on a dual assignment contract.
* Pam Hutsell on a term contract.
*Steve Hutsell on a term contract.
*Matthew Johnson on a probationary dual-assignment contract.
* Michele Kelly as a 1/2 day term contract.
* Ande Ragsdale on a term contract.
* Larry Roskens on a term contract.
* Lisa Roskens on a term contract.
* Timothy Schisler on a probationary contract.
* Laura Stevens on a term contract.
* Susi Thompson on a term contract.

In the Superintendent's report the following items were discussed: TASB Insurance on the school property was down this year \$6,800 from last year. Stevens discussed HB2 and HB3 with the board. These are bills the Texas legislature is working on the support the education system in Texas and it's means of receiving funds. Stevens discussed the GHS Yearbook cost with the Board. He also informed the Board that the senior class will be presenting a proposal at the next board meeting.

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ISSUE UPDATE

with *Mac Thornberry*

It may be obvious to say that Social Security is one of the most important programs in the federal government. But, it is also true. Millions of people rely on Social Security for at least a portion of their retirement income. Millions more new retirees will begin receiving Social Security benefits in the very near future.

What is also obvious is that Social Security is in trouble. We cannot pretend that there is not a problem. The system is going broke and we must do something soon to fix it.

How best to fix the problem is the question. Finding the right answer is going to take some time and careful consideration. At the present time, I am not committed to vote for or against any particular plan. Although there are some proposals that sound good in theory, I learned a

long time ago that details are important.

Let me share a few things that demonstrate why the solvency of Social Security is in jeopardy. In 2008, the first of the Baby Boom generation will begin to retire. By 2018 Social Security will no longer be receiving enough revenue from payroll taxes to cover the cost of the benefits being paid out. How has this happened? Essentially, it is because our population is changing.

One change is that we are enjoying longer life spans. Thanks to modern medicine and better health habits, people are living

longer. That is great news, but we must recognize that the length of time individual retirees will draw Social Security is also increasing.

Another change is that there has been a decline in

our nation's birth rate since the Baby Boom era. That translates into fewer workers paying the Social Security taxes that fund the benefits for all of those retirees.

When you combine huge numbers of the Baby Boom generation living longer (and receiving benefits longer) with the lower birth rate, the math looks bad for the future of Social Security. For example, in the very early years of the program, there were more than 40 workers paying into the system for every 1 retiree receiving benefits. Today, the ratio is down to 3.3 to 1 and dropping.

We need to come up with a good plan to keep Social Security fiscally sound for the generations to come. For those of you currently receiving benefits, or about to start getting them, nothing will change. Every proposal that I have heard of makes it plain that people who are already retired or nearing retirement will not be affected. But, for the rest of us, every year we delay doing something about

Social Security increases the cost of solving the problem by \$600 billion.

As you consider what you would like to see done to strengthen Social Security, I urge you to do your own study. There will be plenty of advocacy groups and fund raising organizations putting out all sorts of information. Unfortunately, some of what you hear may be exaggerations and distortions.

Before I will agree to any plan, I want to hear from you - the people of the 13th District. Your opinions mean more to me than what anyone else, including any other elected official, has to say. Very soon, I will begin conducting a series of town hall meetings across our area. But whether you attend a meeting or write a letter, I appreciate your honest, constructive suggestions.

I also want you to know that you do not have to give money to any group or individual in order to let me know your thoughts about Social Security. You can always contact me through one of the addresses or

telephone numbers listed below.

Thank you for taking the time to read this today.

Washington...

2457 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-3706
Fax: (202) 225-3486

Amarillo...

905 South Fillmore
Suite 520
Amarillo, Texas 79101
Phone: (806) 371-8844
Fax: (806) 371-7044



Healthy Ideas

Sunflower Seeds—Best Source of Vitamin E

(NAPS)—Here's a bright thought: Sunflower seeds are considered the best whole food source of vitamin E—a nutrient the 2005 U.S. Dietary Guidelines identify as lacking in American diets.

For the first time, the Dietary Guidelines focus on eating nutrient-dense foods not only to reduce the risk of chronic disease, but also to improve the health of Americans. Vitamin E, which is hard to get from foods, is thought to boost immune function and improve short-term memory while preventing heart disease, Alzheimer's and dementia.

USDA data shows a one-ounce serving of sunflower seeds provides 84 percent of the Daily Value for vitamin E. The seeds are also rich in fiber.



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