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COUNTRY NEWS
 By Verna Fillingim



THE WHEELER TIMES
 PAGE 2—Thursday, March 24, 2005
 "Wheeler, town of friendship and pride."

Galations 5:22-23: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

Happy Birthday to Greg Bryant, Clay Hawley, Ashley Earl, Travis Goad, Gayle Singleton, George Reeves, Susie Umsted, Ray Corcoran, Jada Murray, Robert Bull, Lauren Weaver Chick, Cindy Weatherly, Blake Rives, Ryan Rives, Harold Hall, Tim Hall on March 27; Dian Williams, Phil Wiggins, Tara Buckingham, Ian Finsterwald, Trella Burton, Larry Garrison, Caitlin Rowell, Riley Bradstreet on March 28; Barbara Austin, Kelby Vise, Marti Meek, Cindy Hartsfield, Ruby Craig, Stormy Reeve, John Poteet, Bobby Jennings, Linda Wright, Koltin Hicks, Jennifer Schubert, Andy Vinson, Jamie Trimble, J'Shay McCasland, Brooklyn Buckingham, Kade Verden, Eleanor Helstad on March 29; Gene Hall, Dan Sams on March 30; Kristin Marion, Carol Meriwether and Readon Smith, Cassidy Andis, E. J. Pannell on March 31; Louise Hogan, Brendon Atwood C.J. Howard, Willie Bergin, Tom Swigart, Dennis Thompson, Robert Hall on April 1; Sid Talley, Alexis Morgenstern, Chelsea Selby, Zack McCasland on April 2.

Happy Anniversary to Jamey and Diane Brice, Larry and Sharon Zamora on March 27; Dr. Bob and Glenda Galutia on March 28; Preston and Elsie Glazner on March 30 (59 years); Darrell and Sue Gaines and Harrold and Margery Salmon on March 31; Kevin and Heather Shields, Dave and Becky Johnson and Dale and Carol Clawson on April 1; Dale and Janet Stevens and Dale and Melba Corcoran on April 2.

If you don't think God is in control and in charge, try stopping the snow or the wind.

Sood to see Sybil and Ivy Alexander eating lunch at Maxeys Wednesday with Shirley and Earl Jolly. Sybil and Ivy live at Lafors; they had a good visit.

Nice to have a letter from Mayme McElroy. She and Don had enjoyed a visit from Lajuana and Lance and Lucas and Annika from Alpine. Lance goes to college at Sul Ross. Josh McElroy has been a medic in Iraq; he emails them that he will be back in Ft. Bragg, N. Carolina, on March 25. Keep praying for our boys.

Lyndol and Joanie Loyd and girls will move to Orlando, Fla., in June. Lyndol will pastor a Methodist Church there.

Doctors checked Mitchie and Michael Kenny's little Katelynn Grace and found her doing well. She is 8 months old and a few months behind, because of being so very tiny and premature at birth. But a real miracle. There will be a dedication of Katelynn at the Nazarene Church in Nacogdoches on April 10. Lyndol and Noveline Loyd and Lyndol and Joanie Loyd and Abigale and Madeline plan to be there for the special service. Katelynn now weighs 13 lbs. 7 ozs.

Joetta Sword stayed last week with Ben and Aerielle Sword and Emily Lois at Stephenville to enjoy the new grandbaby and help out. Coming home Sunday afternoon. Glad to know Bobby Schubert is doing better. Keep praying!

"Breathe on me, Breath of God, Fill me with life anew, That I may love what you love, And do what you would do."

from our Sunday School book
 Easter is such a special time as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead and look forward to our resurrection in heaven. New blossoms on trees and flowers signify new life.

Rachel Montgomery and fiancé Michael were weekend visitors to Joe and Cathy Montgomery and Marshall and Mary Andis and others. Nice to see them at Maxeys and Wheeler Baptist.

So glad to hear that R. J. and Georgia Smith have gotten back together and out to Wheeler Baptist Church together. We will be praying all will go better this time. Love you!

Such a blessing that there was no wind to drift that beautiful snow. And so good the temperature did not get very cold so kept melting so didn't blow last Tuesday, March 15.

We had a great service at Wheeler Baptist church Sunday night. Aaron Manley and William Fondo spoke of their work in International Commission evangelizing African Countries, using mostly nationals, not Americans. Nationals are safer and are accepted better. But some Americans have helped. Aaron's wife of 8 months, Jennifer, was also there. Good to have them all there. Most of us can't go to Africa or other countries, but we can pray and give.

Correction: Elva Wood enjoyed a visit from Mrs. Jack Bailey from Pampa and her daughter, Angie Ware, last Saturday. (Angie did not go skiing with Kent and Jacob and friends.)

Nice to see Opal Hefley eating with son, Jack, and Bernice Hefley at Maxeys. Good she is still able to get out and about.

Suzie Hubble and Amy and Zane visited Elva Wood and James Hubble Saturday for a good visit. They are from Bridgeport.

Ruth Wiley visited Elva one day and took some bread and pie. Elva enjoys her frequent visits.

Ashley Bentley from Amarillo spent last week with grandpar-

ents, C. G. and Rosemary Dodd and also visited great-grandmother, Mary Margaret Dodd, very enjoyable visit.

I heard that Robert and Kir Andis have bought Rita Smith's lovely house. Will be moving in when all is finalized. That will be Zachary, Garrett and Cassidy, too. Best wishes. Their house has sold, so will be living with Marshall and Mary awhile.

Sincere sympathy to family and friends of Linden Laubhan, 72, in his death. Carol Cole of Canadian is a sister.

There was a big crowd out to Wheeler Methodist church Sunday noon for their delicious "Thanksgiving Easter" Dinner. Very good food and friendly people. They served about 130 people and did well. It funds their women's missions.

Sincere sympathy to family and friends of Melba Hill, 102, in her death Friday at Wheeler. Until recently she would sit out front at Wheeler Care Center, often reading and seemed alert and knew she was 102. Services were Monday, March 21, at Shamrock Church of Christ with burial at Shamrock Cemetery. Dorothy Glazner of Samnorwood was a daughter.

Sorry to hear that Stephanie (Lee) Sullivan, who is pregnant and the wife of Matt Sullivan, has very high blood pressure. They were taking her to Oklahoma City to try to help and will have to take the baby if can't get her B.P. down. Too early for the baby. Pray for Stephanie and baby boy.

So far, Stephanie Lee Sullivan's baby is doing o.k. if no more problems. And her blood pressure is down. Hopefully they won't have to take the baby till it can develop more. It is only 6 months so far.

Glad to hear that little Kaitlin Grace Kenney is doing well. She was born so tiny and premature that she is a few months behind, but getting there.

Novelene and Lyndon Loyd went to Guatemala City, Guatemala, with son, Lyndol and Joanie Loyd and Abigale, 8, and Madeline, 5, and some from their church in Hot Springs Village, Ark., in February—14 in all. They helped with pouring concrete for a new part for an orphanage in Guatemala and helped with painting and repairs.

Novelene took her sewing machine and helped with mending clothes for the children and making curtains for the dorms. There are 38 children in the orphanage. Other people also donated money and they were able to buy 14 bicycles for the kids to share. (They only had one). Wasn't that great! The Loyds spent a week in Guatemala.

Correction: April Jackson married Brandon Chancelor.

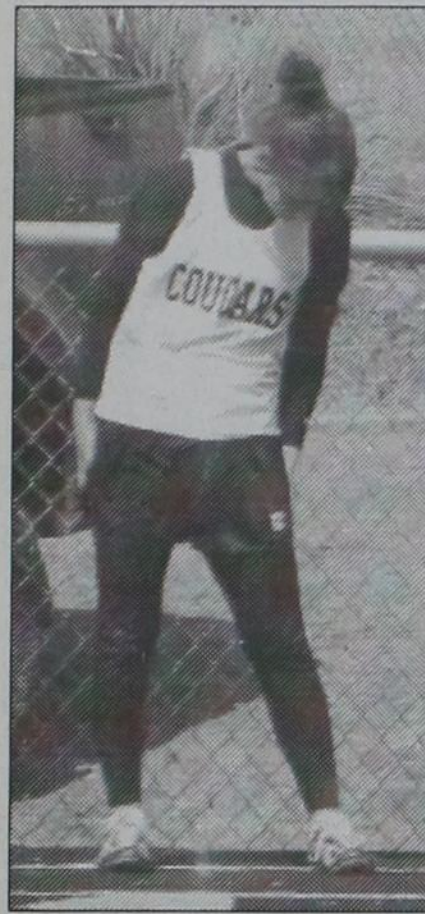
"Search out in me all hidden sin, and may your purity within so cleanse my life that it may be a temple holy fit for thee."

—from Daily Bread
 Food at Kim's Kitchen was very good. Nice to see Barbara and Bud Williams there.

Nice to see Christy Glassey from Amarillo and her mom, Debbie Glassey, and grandmother, Mrs. Doris Shirey, eating at Maxeys Friday night. Also Michelle Marshall and little cutie, Hope, 2, and a friend. Hope was so friendly. Also nice to see Chuck and Louise Hogan and Adrian Risner enjoying supper together.

Cheryl Richardson and Sue Gaines were the cooks for Wednesday night delicious Lasagna supper with French bread and tossed salad. Thanks! Others brought delicious desserts. Thanks!

Thursday was Golden Agers at Wheeler Baptist at noon, St. Patrick Day. Enjoying the good food and good fellowship were Bro. Dennis and Emma Williams, Adrian Risner, Betty Howard, Roy and Nell Bradstreet, Wesley and Helen Steen, Ella Mae Wood, Leona Coates, Ned Burrell, Martha Meek, (Continued Page 8)



Ft. Elliott's Sarah Zybach warms up.



Ft. Elliott's Lady Cougars watch the events at the Miami meet. Pictured are Sara Moon, Sarah Zybach, Tamara Hefley and Glory Hartsfield.



Wheeler's Katlin Rutherford runs leg two of the mile relay.



Josh Britt keeps the lead for Wheeler in the mile relay.



Wheeler's Aspen Hathaway and Ft. Elliott's Mayci Meadows participate in leg three of the mile relay.



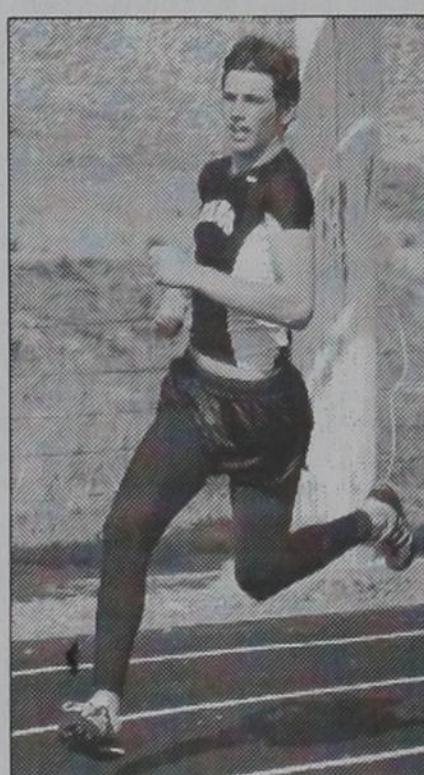
Lacee Henson and Amanda Bond placed 2nd and 1st in their events for Wheeler. Glory Hartsfield placed 3rd for Ft. Elliott.



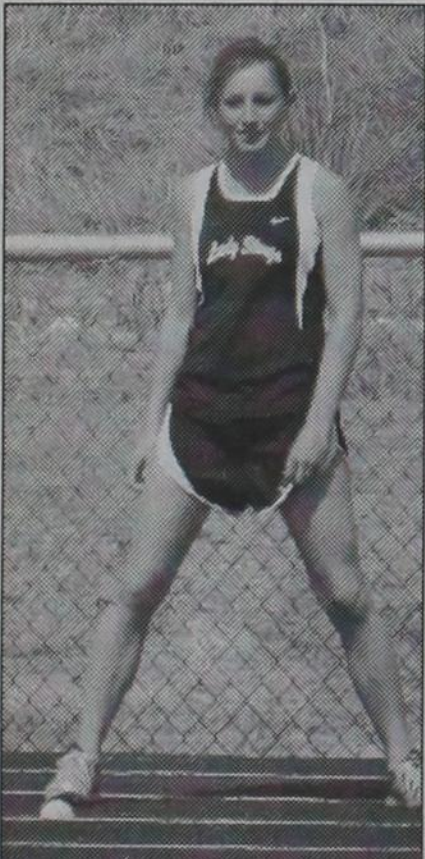
Wheeler's Hector Emiliano runs comes in first in the mile relay.



Lauren Fite represents Wheeler in the hurdles.



Wheeler's Steven McAlpine takes a curve at the meet.



Wheeler's Lezli Finsterwald prepares to compete.



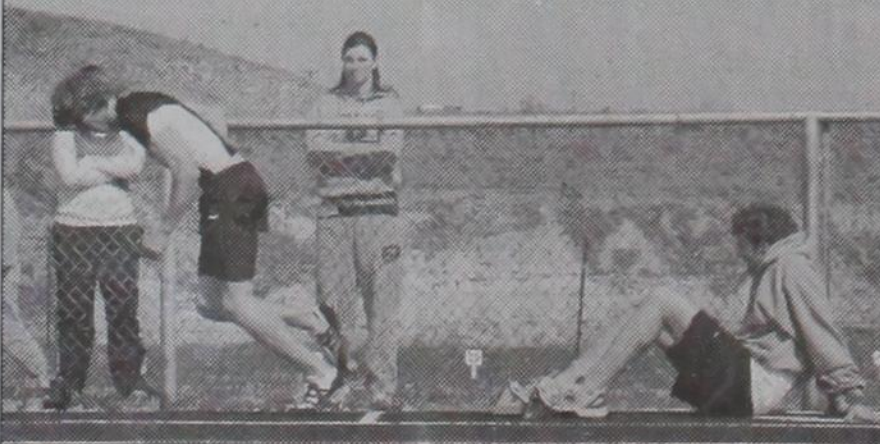
Wheeler's Samuel Hillhouse runs at Miami.



Wheeler's Cameron Burton is way out front in his leg of the mile relay.



Ft. Elliott's Shealee Coulter finishes the mile relay.



Wheeler's Tyler McWhorter gets a good start with help from Kelley Timmons.

Wheeler Girls Win First

Wheeler's Tyler McWhorter gets a good start with help from Kelley Timmons.

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Wheeler Church of Christ

The snow is falling ... hard! I just got a call from one of our children that school is going to let out early today because of that. Wasn't it just last week when our temperature gauge hit 85 degrees? The best explanation I heard was provided by someone at the grocery store: "That's what we get for living here in the panhandle!" I guess that is true. Living in this part of the world guarantees that every so often we will have these snowstorms or a tornado or months and months of no precipitation whatsoever. But it is home and we love it for that reason.

There is a certain appeal to "home." If we go away on a vacation to a place that is so beautiful that it might even be described as "paradise on Earth" we might momentarily enjoy being in that place, but after a bit of time away we will begin to get homesick.

Home is much more than just what meets the eye. Home is a place of comfort. Home is a place of familiarity. Home is a place where we can be ourselves. Home is a place where there are rarely any surprises. Home is a place where we know those around us. Home is ... home. That simple four-letter word is one of the most beautiful words in our vocabulary.

From a Biblical perspective, the word home also probably causes us to think of the story of the Prodigal Son from Luke 15:11-32. Where does this young squanderer of an inheritance want to go after he is all alone, hungry and surrounded only by pigs? He wants to go home. And as he winds his way sheepishly back home, his Father is there, ready to welcome him back with open arms. Go home!

Shawn D. Johnson

Services:
 Sunday Bible Study 10:00 A.M.
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:55 A.M.
 Sunday Night Worship 6:00 P.M.
 Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 P.M.

An Invitation: You are cordially invited to attend any of the weekly services of the Wheeler Church of Christ which meets at 1001 S. Alan Bean Blvd, in Wheeler, Texas

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Ft. Elliott's Calvin Lane competes at Miami.



Ft. Elliott's Mayci Meadows and Jordan Alls run at the Miami meet.



Tyler McWhorter finishes easily for Wheeler.



Tamera Hartline, Steven McAlpine and Sarah Zybach set on the sidelines.



Wheeler's J'Shay McCasland and Ft. Elliott's Randi Barr compete at Miami.



Wheeler's Cole Hathaway runs his leg of the mile relay.



Wheeler's Veronica Salazar runs in the Miami meet.



Wheeler's Chace Horton goes the distance at Miami.



Wheeler's Jesus Gonzalas competes at Miami.

Wheeler Boys Win Second!

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Tyler McWhorter ran the last leg of the mile relay and claimed first place for Wheeler.



Kelley Timmons and Jake Benefield represent Wheeler in this competition.

ALLISON NEWS

By Juanita Boydston

And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 1 John 1:4-7

Our weather here in Allison seems to have turned to winter again. Its been cold and very windy. And we have had some showers along yesterday.

Thursday, Glenn and Betty Boydston journeyed to Amarillo, Texas on business and shopping and they enjoyed a very delicious meal at Applebee's.

Wednesday, Opal and Juanita Boydston enjoyed visiting in the home of Glenn and Betty Boydston and had very tasty refreshments and ice cream and a couple games of spinners.

Saturday, Glenn and Betty Boydston traveled to Shamrock, Texas and enjoyed the Arts and Crafts shows there. They saw and talked with Diane Dukes, who had a booth there.

Pat and Alberta Helton, Melissa, Landon Helton and Travis Elmore, Danny, Lori, Dallan, Christian, and Ansley DeBose of Wheeler and Danny's brother, Jeff, and Patty and daughter, Chelsey, of Colorado Springs, Colorado enjoyed the St. Patrick's Day parade at Shamrock, Texas Saturday.

Alberta said this has been an annual family tradition, since she could remember her Dad, the late Albert Hartley, playing in the Annual Fiddler's Contest from early 1950's - 1980's. After the parade, the families enjoyed a picnic at the Shamrock Park.

Saturday evening, Vic, Jenny and Scott Helton of Glen Heights, Texas came to Pat and Alberta's for a visit. They enjoyed going to Canadian to the Cattle Exchange Steak House and as they were driving thru town, to reacquaint Vic with Canadian, noticed the Prairie Rivers Musical was in session, so we all enjoyed that. Vic Helton, the son of Melvin and Laverne Helton, grew up at Briscoe. Pat Helton worked for Melvin Helton as a teenager, so Vic and Johnny Rick both were always close to Pat and Alberta even as adults and lived in Pampa, Texas awhile before moving on with other careers. Pat, Alberta and Vic have enjoyed many evenings while living in Pampa playing music and attending church together. Vic, Jenny and Scott were guests for the weekend at his Aunt



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and Uncle's R.L. and Rozena Helton and was able to share several visits with May Helton, Mike and Melody Goad, Mac and Gaye Purcell, Royce and Dede Zybach and other relatives over the weekend, returning home Sunday afternoon.

Reydon Community Church has an Annual Homecoming Easter Celebration service each Easter. This Sunday, regular services Sunday morning beginning at 9:45 a.m. for Sunday School, Worship-Messge Service begins at 10:30 a.m., a bountiful Covered-Dish lunch served in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 with an egg hunt at 2:15 p.m. behind the church, at 2:30 p.m. begins an afternoon of great Gospel music and singing with Jack and Carolyn Selby of Pampa, Texas, Jerry and Jill Lister of Wheeler, Texas, Chester Cline of Anadarko, Oklahoma, Jean (Whitfield) Hone of Custer City, Helton Family, and many of the local families will be playing and singing thru out the afternoon. So you are welcome to join us for all or for as much of the day as you can and come and go as you need to.

Monday, Vance and Carol Boydston visited in the home of Opal and Juanita Boydston and they all enjoyed a game of spinners, altho Vance and Carol had just returned to Allison from a three weeks stay in Florida where they attended a wedding while there on the coast.

Tuesday, Glenn and Betty Boydston dropped by to visit with Opal and Juanita Boydston for awhile.

Tuesday, Allison received about 8 or 9 inches of snow. It was a very wet snow so we received good moisture from it.

Thursday, Vance and Carol Boydston visited in the home of Opal and Juanita Boydston and enjoyed a homecooked meal with them.

Opal Boydston was industrious and raked snow trails around the house and it melted faster. Later she raked thru more snow and helped it to go faster as well.

Friday, Pearl Harrison, Opal and

Juanita Boydston accompanied Louise Boydston to Canadian, Texas where they attended a Fellowship Meeting at the United Pentecostal Church. Pastor M.C. Mc Daniel also attended from Allison.

Sunday after morning services, Opal and Juanita Boydston accompanied Louise Boydston to Canadian, Texas where they had a tasty meal at Dairy Queen and then shopped some in Alco and then on to the Canadian United Pentecostal Church where they enjoyed the services they have at two every Sunday. Bro. Jerry Little does a great job of preaching the Word of God.

Sunday night after church, Opal and Juanita Boydston and Louise Boydston enjoyed a good visit in the home of Glenn and Betty Boydston and enjoyed a meal and snacks and yes a game of spinners. Good fellowship!!

Roma and Billy June Brown journeyed to Amarillo, Texas on Friday where Roma had a doctor's appointment. While in Amarillo, they visited Len Brown who was in the VA hospital and then they visited Charline Brown who was being taken to BSA, they visited her in ER. They enjoyed a very tasty meal at Braum's. They shopped some in Pampa on the way home. I'm glad to report that Len Brown was able to go home to Dumas, Texas and is doing fairly well. But as my writing today, Charline Brown hasn't been released from the hospital. We need to remember them both in our prayers.

Bill and Kay Donaldson journeyed to Amarillo, Texas where they stayed a couple of nights, Thursday and Friday in the home of Dawn and Katie Donaldson. Katie has recently had knee surgery. We are praying that all goes well with her. While Bill and Kay were in Amarillo they visited in the home of Lee and Sharon Hall.

Sunday, Nelda Dukes and Minnie Bell Vinson enjoyed a very delicious meal at Soto's before Nelda returned Minnie back to the Nursing Home. Nelda visited awhile with Minnie Bell till time for her to go to Briscoe where she

(Continued Page 8)

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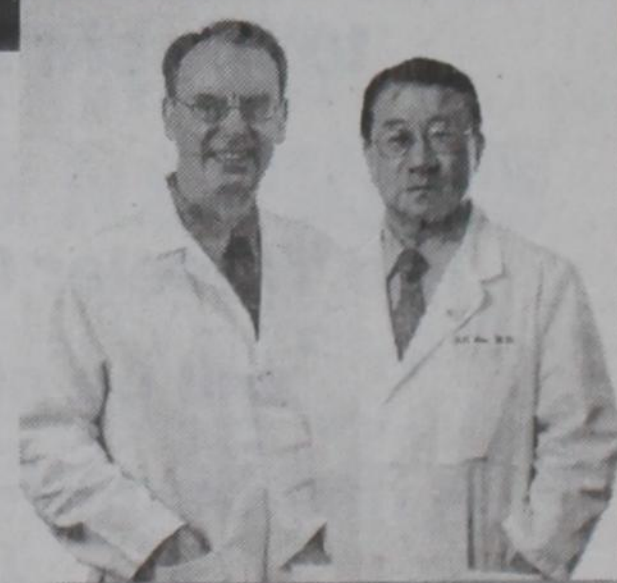
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AG FAMILY OF THE YEAR: Each year the Top O' Texas CattleWomen select an Ag Family of the Year. This year the John Spearman family of Pampa was selected. Shown here are John R., Jay and John.

Top O' Texas CattleWomen Select Ag Family Of The Year

Each year Top O' Texas CattleWomen honor a farming/ranching family during Ag Week. A week is set aside as Ag Week each year to call attention to the contributions of our family farmers and ranchers who contribute to the well-being of our national economy and stability of food and fiber in our communities.

We rely on agriculture for the necessities of life. From beef and pork to cotton and corn, agriculture is working harder than ever to meet the needs of Americans and others around the world. American agriculture is doing it better and more effectively.

One family who is doing this and has for a long time is the John Spearman family of Pampa, Texas. The Spearman family ranching operation began in 1911 by John R. Spearman III. That year, he came to Grey County to work the wheat harvest and stayed. He began renting land to farm for himself until he purchased the original home place in 1928. He raised Hereford Cattle and farmed wheat and red top cane.

John Spearman IV began operating the farm and ranch after his father's death in 1944. John married Angela Duncan in 1952. Angela is from another long time Gray County family. Her grandfather, J.N. Duncan, was the first mayor of Pampa. John and Angela have 4 children: John R., Margaret, Melinda, and Jay. John and all of his children are graduates of Texas Tech University. All of the children and their families live in Pampa/Miami area except Margaret who lives in Wyoming with husband Steve Horne.

At present, John, John R., and Jay are involved in the family business. The businesses involved are: Spearman Ranch, Spearman Cattle Co., and J.&J. Farms. Their operation has grown through the years and they have continued to purchase and lease land. They operate land in Gray and Roberts counties. The original home place

raised cattle fed in commercial feedlots for about 120 days. They purchase 450 to 500 pound steers and summer them in commercial feedlots. These days they use 4 wheelers as often as they do their horses to gather the cattle. They have 2 registered brands. One is a 3 which has been used on the ranch since 1945. The other is a S.

Everyone participates in this farming/ranching operation. John R. and Jay each have 2 sons and one daughter. The sons are vital in helping work the land and cattle and were driving tractors long before they had driver's license.

The Spearman family is active in water conservation. John, Sr., served on the board of directors of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District for 28 years, serving as president many of those years. John R. is currently serving on the board of directors. John drilled his first irrigation well in 1956. Currently all their irrigation is through center pivot systems.

They have belonged to the Texas Southwest Cattle Raisers Association since 1949. They are also members of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association. John's mother, Ruth Spearman, was a charter member of the Top O' Texas Cowbelles (which later became Top O' Texas CattleWomen). Angela, daughter Melinda, and daughters-in-law Janis and Lisa are also members of Top O' Texas CattleWomen.

In 1995, John, John R., and Jay were honored at the Ft. Worth Stock Show by the Fort Worth Star Telegram as "Texas Best in Corn and Other Feed Grains".

All of John and Angela's nine grandchildren are close in age and the best of friends. They all grew up in either Pampa or Miami. John R. and his wife Lisa, live on the

ranch at Hoover. They have three children: Amy, Reid, and Ryan. Amy is teaching at Highland Park in Amarillo. Reid is a student at the University of Wyoming in Laramie, and Ryan is a freshman at Miami High School. Melinda lives in Pampa and has three daughters: Mindee, Celeste, and Kristen. Mindee lives in Pampa with her husband Joel Ferland and daughter Tyler. Celeste lives in Lubbock with husband, Grady Locknane, and Kristen is a student at the Art Institute of Dallas. Jay and his wife Janis live in Pampa also and have three children: Jared, Jordan, and Jaclyn. Jared and Jordan are both students at Texas Tech University in Lubbock and Jaclyn is a senior at Pampa High School.

The cousins always have a great time when they are together at the ranch. They call it "Camp Spearman". They continually plan get-togethers with each other. They still enjoy branding days, as well as fun times such as picnics, cousin slumber parties, sledding, swimming, and jumping into Hoover Dam. They also enjoy the wildlife as well as hunting and fishing on the ranch.

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THE WHEELER TIMES
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"Wheeler, town of friendship and pride."

Letter to the Editor

Where does your food come from?

If you're like many Americans, the answer is the grocery store. And frankly, that disturbs me. The grocery store isn't where food comes from - it's just from where it's distributed. In reality, far too many people are unaware of the role of American agriculture in their daily lives ... and what it really takes to have food on their dinner table.

Just a few generations ago, most people were a part of - and had friends or relatives involved with - agriculture. Today, that's no longer the case. That's why I'm writing. Because agriculture is responsible for providing the necessities of life ... food, fiber, clothing, and shelter. And it's about time Americans recognize that contribution!

American farmers are working harder than ever, and it shows. Today, each American farmer feeds more than 129 people. And the need for food produced in the United States is dramatic. Agriculture is this nation's #1 export and vitally important in sustaining a healthy economy.

And it's not just the farmer who makes our food possible. The entire agriculture industry, all the way to the grocery store, are vital links in a chain that brings food to every

citizen - and millions of people abroad.

Frankly, it's easy to take agriculture for granted in America. Our food is readily accessible and safe. For this, we're unbelievably fortunate ... but that doesn't mean we don't have an obligation to recognize how it's made possible.

This March 20, 2005 is National Ag Day, hosted by the Agriculture Council of America. Ag Day is a good time to reflect - and be grateful for - American agriculture ... and to share that message with others.

Learn more about Ag Day at www.agday-org/

Rural Development Has \$14.3 In Grants

Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for the Value-Added Producer Grant Program. Funding in the amount of \$14.3 million is available to develop value-added agriculture business ventures and develop alternative sources of renewable energy which support President Bush's energy plan to develop alternative sources of renewable energy.

The Value-Added Producer Grant Program provides competitive grant funds for one of the two following activities: (1) to support the planning activities needed to establish a viable value-added marketing opportunity for an agricultural product or (2) to acquire working capital to operate a value-added business venture that will allow producers to better compete in domestic and international markets.

"This grant will help agricultural producers become more profitable throughout value-added agricultural business opportunities," said Daniel. "In addition, priority consideration will be given to those grant applications that have at least 51% of project costs dedicated to activities for a bio-energy project."

Grants are available to independent producers, agricultural producer groups, farmer or rancher cooperatives, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures. Eligible applicants applying under the renewable energy category must include energy projects generated through the use of agricultural commodities, wind, water or solar power. The maximum award for the planning grant is \$100,000 and the maximum award for the working capital grant is \$150,000. Applications must be completed and submitted no later than May 6, 2005. For more information on the Value-Added Producer Grant, please contact Billy Curb, Business and Cooperative Specialist, (254) 742-9775 or visit the website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting the web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

fundraiser

to benefit the HIBLER family after the fire that burned the 3 generation business here in Wheeler

The Wheeler Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the event that will be at the County Show Barn on Saturday, April 9th

A hamburger supper, sponsored by the Methodist Men, the Lions Club, and Heritage Feeders will kick off the evening with serving to begin at 6:00 p.m.

A live auction of items donated for this benefit, will be held immediately following the meal.

James Verden has donated a hog and the processing to be raffled.

2 winners will be drawn on April 9th at the fundraiser

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and are available at some local businesses or may be purchased at the benefit

Country (from Page 2)

Verna Fillingim, Mary Newman and Katie, Wes Bradstreet, Marie Baker. Next meeting of Golden Agers will be Thursday April 21 at noon.

Nice to visit with Ladell Atwood on the phone. They took Darville Atherton to Amarillo to the doctor Monday. His blood pressure is more stabilized now. Glad to hear that. Pray for Darville. Darville spent Monday night with Ted and Ladell at Pampa. They brought him back to his home east of Wheeler Tuesday in the snow storm.

I think I remember hearing Old Timers, but not my family, talk of drinking a Toddy for colds or what ails you. Would have some whiskey in it. Let me tell you about my toddy. I take a coffee cup with hot water and add a tablespoon or two of honey and pour in some vinegar to taste. Seems to help my throat and kill germs. I keep a covered cup in my bathroom and sip a little as I feel the need. Tastes pretty good, too. I sometimes add a little salt.

Burma Shave signs:
"Trains don't wander
All over the map
Cause nobody sits
In the engineer's lap."
"She kissed the hairbrush
By mistake
She thought it was
Her husband Jake."

Glad to hear that Davy Gilmer is doing some better and enjoying being home with wife, Shannon, and Adley. They have been planting a garden. They will still have to make trips to Houston for check-

ups. Keep praying for this little family. We love you!

Nice to see Ruth Wiley eating at Maxeys with daughters, Elizabeth Boring and Nancy and Steve Hampton.

Sylvia Shuler's mom, Laura Smith, 92, has been having rehab therapy since her stroke to strengthen her left side and be able to walk. It is hard. Pray for Laura.

My, what a wild, cold wind out of the north this Tuesday morning! March 22, Brrr! A big tumble weed in my front yard.

Glenda Hudson's friend, Peggy Newman, from Amarillo came down Friday to visit. They went to the St. Patrick's Banquet at Shamrock Friday night. They also visited Junior and Wanda Vinyard at Shamrock. Peggy spent Friday night at Hudsons. They all went to Shamrock to the parade Saturday. They went to Canadian Saturday night. They meant to go to the Prairie River Musical, but they decided they were too tired. They just got some ice cream and went back home. Sunday they went to church at Gageby and ate lunch at Soto's in Wheeler. Other visitors at Hudsons were Cheryl and Jeff Fraley and Steven and Sonya Hudson and Patrick.

Monday Ray and Glenda went to Amarillo to the VA for Ray's blood work and check up. He got a great report. They also visited Ray's mom, Lois Hudson, who is doing o.k.

There was a very nice baby shower for Bentley Grace, infant daughter of Tera and Justin Wesbrooks at Briscoe Cafeteria Sunday. Best wishes to all.

David Pearson visited his par-

ents at Stanford over the weekend. His brother, Glenn Pearson helped David on the carport he was fixing for his parents.

Becky Tipps from Amarillo visited Dick and Ruth Irvine and Casey Tipps a few days.

Ray and Glenda Hudson also visited Glenda's brother, Charlie Miller and wife, Sue, at Fritch.

Kenny and Jodie Striley's son, Andrew, spent last week with Charles and Lajo Crowover, grandparents, while on spring break from school. Jodie and Kenney came for the weekend and took Andrew back. Londa Crowover was a Sunday dinner guest also.

David Parnell of Canadian was very seriously hurt in an accident, when another vehicle crossed the center line and ran into him. He is a brother-in-law of Van Morrow, who lives on the Simpson place in Gageby area. Pray for David and his family.

I heard Rita Smith plans to move near son, Greg, and Ruth Smith. Best wishes to all.

Granddaughter Lindsey is having surgery Wednesday, March 23 at Amarillo to repair a herniated disk. Pray for Lindsey Criswell and her family as she recovers and takes care of her family. Many thanks to relatives and friends, who help out. God bless you everyone. Rita and David Pearson went up Tuesday afternoon to be there with Lindsey and to help with boys.

Glad to know Virginia Patterson at Mobeetie finally got over the "crud" and is feeling o.k. yea!

Congratulations to Brian and Laura Hughs of Canadian on the birth of their new baby boy, their first child. He is named Harrison Lynn and weighed 8 lbs. 13 3/4 ozs. and 21 1/4 inches long. Grandparents include Eddie and Leta Meadows.

Joe and Beverly Smith from Stinnett and Sally Griffin from Sanford went to Abilene to Payton Laughlin's 4th birthday party. Payton is the son of Rachel and Aaron Laughlin. Joe and Beverly and Sally came by and visited Patsy Smith. Also visiting Patsy were Dale and Kathy Smith from Kismet, Kan., and Jenny Mixon from McLean on Sunday. So Patsy got to have her three kids together. Also granddaughter, Shannon Gilmer came Monday.

Diane Sparks enjoyed a visit at Amarillo with her two brothers, Zane Henderson from Round Rock and John (Dutch) Henderson from Amarillo.

Buddy and Diane Sparks enjoyed going to the Mobeetie Revival Monday night.

Willia Fillingim will be going back to Amarillo Wednesday to Dr. Broker for a check-up on her surgery. It is doing well. She hopes to be dismissed to get to drive again.

Three men came and brought Willa 3 lop-eared rabbits that their kids were not taking care of. She was glad to have them.

Always good to see Jamey and Katie Click and Jshea and get out to Wheeler Baptist Church.

"God be with you till we meet again."



Begert Named To Statewide Board

The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) has elected Bret Begert of Fort Elliott Consolidated ISD to fill a vacancy on the TASB Board of Directors, representing TASB Region 16 until the close of the September 2005 TASB/Texas

Association of School Administrators Convention in Houston.

Begert, a self-employed rancher, has served seven years as a local trustee and is a former board secretary and president of Allison ISD. Selected by the AISD board to serve on the Fort Elliott board when the two districts consolidated, he has been board secretary since July 2003. Begert earned a bachelor's degree from West Texas A&M University and is president of the Texas Limousin Association and director of junior activities for the North American Limousin Foundation.

TASB was established in 1949 to serve local Texas school districts. School trustees are the largest group of publicly elected officials in the state. The districts they represent have a combined annual budget of \$33 billion, employ approximately 570,000 people, and serve more than four million public school students.

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9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Pampa Community Building
M.K. Brown Room
200 N. Ballard
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

For more information, please call 806-371-8844

Allison (from Page 5)

attended a baby shower for Justin and Tera Westbrook and baby. She received a nice big shower. Congratulations to Justin and Tera!

Louise Boydston flew to Phoenix, Arizona March 3rd where Mike and LaQuinta Hulse picked her up and drove to her granddaughter and husband, Cory and Michelle Phillips at Queens Creek, Arizona. They stayed the night and next day at their house before driving on to Tucson, Arizona. Louise enjoyed seeing the new great-grandson, Conner Jacob, while there. She stayed at Tucson, Arizona until March 15th. Had a great time. While there Heather Boydston and Josh Archer came to visit a couple of days before going on to Rocky Point, Mexico with Michael Hulse and a friend Melissa for a few days. The desert at Tucson was greener than had been in several years because of the rain they had received. Louise arrived in Amarillo on Tuesday after a long wait in Albuquerque, New Mexico for a clearance to come on to Amarillo because of the snow storm. She stayed the night at Kim's house with the children, then came on home to Allison on Thursday and brought Brittany and Chase home with her.

Kim and Kimber Thompson came on Friday night then they all went to Shamrock, Texas on Saturday morning and took Pearl Harrison to meet Darrel and Johnnie Harrison. They were taking Pearl to Stephenville, Texas to visit Mary Welch for a few days.

Kim Thompson and children left Saturday evening late to go home to Amarillo, where they picked up Chuck at the airport. He had been to Las Vegas, Nevada on a business trip. Kim also went Tuesday and came home on Friday.

Greg Boydston, Kaylaye and Gavin from Amarillo, Texas stopped by Louise's on Monday morning for a few minutes.

Louise Boydston traveled to Elk City, Oklahoma on Monday afternoon for a doctor's appointment. After surgery check-up.

God Bless and keep ya'll, till next time.

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