



# The Hansford County Reporter Statesman

PROUDLY SERVING HANSFORD COUNTY SINCE 1907

reporter@spearmanreporter.com

VOLUME 100 • ISSUE 47 WWW.SPEARMANREPORTER.COM THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2007

## Leadership With Change

One of the most sought after leadership speakers in America will be in Perryton on Thursday, December 6. Western Hot Oil and Leadership Perryton will host Phillip Van Hooser of Princeton, Kentucky as he presents an entertaining, thought provoking, and motivating session called "Leadership With Change" at Frank Phillips College Allen Campus. Registration will be from 6-6:30 p.m. and the seminar from 6:30-8:30 p.m. With the generous sponsorship by Western Hot Oil, admission will be free of charge.

Phil will be speaking on "Leading With Change." We all fully realize that life around us is changing. On-going change can be challenging to deal with, regardless of how motivated we might be. As leaders in our organizations, community and families we may often find ourselves wondering how we might be more proactive as we attempt to lead in ever changing environments. He will be discussing transformational leadership, understanding the nature of change, two truths impacting change, a common sense approach to managing change, and practical approaches to managing the stress brought about by change. You will enjoy this fun and motivational speaking style. To learn more about him go to [www.vanhooser.com](http://www.vanhooser.com)

This is a great way to take a different look at your life, family, business and community. Come spend a short time with ideas that will last a lifetime. Don't miss the opportunity to hear Phillip Van Hooser. 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).

## Spearman Jr. High Named One of The Best Public Schools in Texas

A ranking of 859 elementary, middle, and high schools that really make the grade. This is the fourth time Texas Monthly has published a list of the top public schools in Texas, and the second year in a row that they've presented the higher-performing schools ranked according to the number of subjects (such as reading, writing, math, science, and social studies) in which they excel.

Their partner in this effort is once again the National Center for Educational Accountability (formerly Just for the Kids), which analyzed student test results for the past three years as the basis for this year's ranking. Students at the elementary schools that are included here performed better, across all grades, on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test than did their counterparts at other schools around the state. Middle schools and high schools made the list because their students' improvement on the TAKS test was higher than predicted by their previous test scores.

Spearman Junior High was listed among the 859 schools. Their performance is as follows: Lowest grade - 6, Highest grade - 8, Reading - 1, Math - 0, Writing - 1, Social Studies - 0, total Eligible Subjects - 4, Total Number of High Performing Subjects - 2, Percent High Performing - 50.

The National Center for Educational Accountability (NCEA) looked at student test results for the past three years to create this year's higher-performing schools list. Using NCEA's own College and Career Readiness (CCR) benchmark as a measuring stick, the top 5 percent of schools are automatically included. The rest are added because they

perform better than predicted using statistical analysis. For elementary schools, this means students in all grades perform better on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) than in similar elementary schools in the state. Middle schools and high

schools are on the list because their students' academic growth on the TAKS is higher than predicted based on their previous test scores.

For a detailed explanation of the methodology behind the ranking, go to [just4kids.org](http://just4kids.org).

## Thornberry visits Hansford County

Representative Mac Thornberry held a town hall meeting in Spearman on Saturday, November 10, 2007. Although the turnout was light, those in attendance were able to voice their concerns to the Congressman.

After a brief message about his involvement in Washington legislation and concerns with bipartisan politics, representative Thornberry answered individual concerns from the audience.

Some of the topics included were immigration reform, problems with Medicare Part D medications, special education testing at grade level and veterans benefits. All topics were either explained by the congressman, or are to be given more research and consideration.

The meeting was held at the "Hungry Cowboy" meeting room. Tobe Shields, owner of the Hungry Cowboy, also furnished drinks and snacks for the event.

After the meeting was over, Mr Thornberry very graciously stayed for one-on-one conversations.



Representative Mac Thornberry poses with Hansford County judge Benny Wilson.

## Weather Forecast

THURSDAY NIGHT - Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy. Breezy. Lows in the upper 20s. Southwest winds 15 to 25 mph shifting to the west 10 to 15 mph after midnight.

FRIDAY - Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

FRIDAY NIGHT - Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of rain. Windy. Lows around 40. East winds 10 to 15 mph becoming south 20 to 30 mph with gusts to around 45 mph after midnight.

SATURDAY - Mostly cloudy. Chance of rain in the morning - then a slight chance of rain in the afternoon. Windy - warmer. Highs in the mid 60s. Chance of rain 30 percent.

SATURDAY NIGHT - Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s.

SUNDAY - Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s.

SUNDAY NIGHT - Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 20s.

MONDAY - Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 60s.

MONDAY NIGHT - Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 20s.

TUESDAY - Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s.

TUESDAY NIGHT - Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 20s.

WEDNESDAY - Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

## Dane Harbour Wins TCRA Bullriding Championship

Dane Harbour won the Texas Cowboy's Rodeo Association Bullriding Championship on Sunday, October 21, 2007 at the Amarillo National Center. Dane competed in rodeos in Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, and Kansas from April to October to win the title. His season earnings totaled \$11,235. Dane is a senior at Spearman High School and is the son of Roy and Denise Harbour.



## Gladiola Flower Club Home Tour

**ERIC CUDD HOME**  
9 MI. W, HWY. 15; 4 MI. N, HWY. 207; 1 MI. E, CR P

Eric and Tisha Ralston Cudd moved into the Ralston home in July of this year.



**FRANK DOMINGUEZ HOME**  
601 S. HANEY ST.

Frank purchased his home in 2004 from Donna Lackey Sheets.

The Lackey home was built in 1948-49 by contractor W.R. Hull. Alice Lackey designed the 3 bedroom home. John had his Real Estate & Loan Office there.

Frank has begun a "labor of love" as he does the renovating himself from the cottage effect over the front entrance to the soft black kitchen cabinets with cream colored texture. He has not changed any of the framework. The home has a western flair with antiques and collectables throughout the home. Don't miss the beautiful stained glass hanging in the front windows. His purchases are from Estate sales and antique shops.

He is looking forward to seeing you December 2nd from 2-5 p.m. during the Gladiola Flower Club Home Tour. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased at any of the

homes on the tour. Mr. & Mrs. Eric Cudd, Hwy. 15 West, then Hwy. 207 North; Rev. & Mrs. Neely

breezeway were enclosed, a fireplace installed and stone added to the exterior.

In the beginning, the home was heated with potbellied stoves burning wood and cow chips. Now the home has the conveniences of a modern home.

Before moving in, Tisha and Eric remodeled the home, adding another fireplace, a built-in entertainment center and reopening the enclosed staircase.

You don't want to miss this historic family home on Sunday, Dec. 2nd, from 2-5 p.m. during the Gladiola Flower Club Home Tour.

Other homes on the tour include: Mr. & Mrs. Carson Womble, 1106 S. Bernice; Rev & Mrs. Neely Landrum, 1017 Linn Dr.; and Mr. Frank Dominguez, 601 S. Haney.

Landrum, 1017 Linn Dr.; and Mr. & Mrs. Carson Womble, 1106 S. Bernice.



## COME TO THE GAME

### Spearman Lynx/Lynxettes

11/29-12/1 VG, VB at Miami Varsity Tourney  
11/29-12/1 JVG, JVB at Gruver JV Tourney  
12/3 7B (5), 8B (6), 9B (7:30) at Panhandle  
12/3 7G (5), 8G (6), 9G (7:30) vs. Panhandle  
12/4 JVG (5), VG (6:30), JVB (5), VB (8) vs. Sunray  
12/6-8 VG, VB at Vernon Varsity Tourney  
12/6-8 JVG, JVB at Spearman JV Tourney

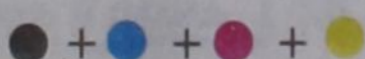
### Gruver Greyhounds/Lady Hounds

11/29-12/1 VG, VB at Fritch Varsity Tourney  
11/29-12/1 JVG, JVB at Gruver JV Tourney  
12/3 7G (4), 7B (5), 8G (6) & 8B (7) vs. Boys Ranch  
12/4 JVG (4), JVB (5-15), VG (6:30), VB (8) vs. River Road  
12/6-8 VG, VB at Hugoton, KS Varsity Tourney  
12/6-8 JVG, JVB at Spearman JV Tourney

## 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](mailto:reporter@spearmanreporter.com)).



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

One of the great things about living in a small town is the opportunity to associate with some really great people.

Some of the greatest people in our little towns are the folks that serve as Volunteer Fire Fighters. These people willingly risk life and limb to protect us and our property.

Firefighters in Spearman include... John Kunselman, Bret Burgin, Roger Close, Mike Bates, Buck Hughes, Ryan Wells, Bruce Stinson, Sergio Domingez, Dink Dorton, Johnny Ring, Ron Antalek, Mark Mathews, Tobe Shields, Randy Kirk, Bobby Lujan, Damon Sibley, Slade Floyd, Cody Pledger, Cesar Moreno, T.J. Evans, Danny Close, Dwayne Comp, Daniel Renfro.

The Gruver Fire Department includes... Sam Gruver, Jake McCullough, Benny McCullough, Robert Blevins, Lynn Boyd, Matt Johnson, Billy Kelly, Chris Johnson, Shane Goodson.

Diane Boyd, Aaron Boyd, Autumn Gruver, Todd Williams, Travis McDowell, Zack Christian, Melinda McCullough, Daniel Harris, Caleb Schultz, T. J. Vasquez, Canon Finley

And members of the Morse VFD are... Gary Urban, Joe Sanchez, Gene Gardener, Tom Dortch, Lonnie Clemmons, Seth Clemmons, Vernon Gardener, Roney Clark, Emmitt Schmidt, Chuck Newcomb

And many others who just respond as needed. (Now if I have missed anyone, I will gladly list you later. You were not intentionally left off the list.)

If you should happen to run into one of these folks, why not give them a big thank you from all of us. Our towns are better places for their service.

Until the next time,  
God bless.

**State Capital**  
**PROPERTY-TRACKING SYSTEM IMPROVES VISION OF EYES OF TEXAS**

AUSTIN - Texans now can register an inventory of their personal property, report property that has been stolen or check whether an item they are attempting to buy has been reported as stolen.

Trace.com, a subsidiary of MyThings Inc., is collaborating with the Texas Police Chiefs Association, the Texas Department of Public Safety and more than 500 local Texas police departments and sheriff's offices to make Texas stolen property files available to the public at www.trace.com/.

The Trace online database includes all identifiable property reported stolen to the FBI by Texas law enforcement agencies. Texans can access the Trace database, free of charge, to:

- Research items before purchasing them to determine whether or not they are stolen.
- Report recently stolen property to law enforcement.
- Create a secure, anonymous inventory of their valuable property that could aid in recovering the property if it is ever stolen.

**Windstorm coverage rates to rise**  
Mike Geeslin, Texas Insurance commissioner, OK'd windstorm insurance rate increases of 8.2 percent for residential and 5.4 percent for commercial properties, effective Feb. 1, 2008.

The Texas Windstorm Insurance Association had requested a 10 percent increase for both in a filing made this past August. Geeslin said the increase is part of a strategy to improve the financial health of the windstorm association.

**Parks agency touts upgrades**  
The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department says "Christmas came early this year" to dozens of state parks throughout Texas, thanks to lawmakers and voters who voted for more funding for parks.

Already, the agency said, many of the more than 200 new state park employee positions have been filled, repairs of long-neglected facilities have begun or will soon begin, and days and hours of park operations are being extended.

And, because of the

increased funding, park visitors will not only notice better maintained park facilities, but also will benefit from more interpretive programming, reopened camp grounds and trails, and better customer service.

The 80th Texas Legislature passed legislation to provide \$25.6 million for park operations and the hiring of park staff during the 2008-09 biennium.

Lawmakers also appropriated \$52 million in bonding authority to fund state park repairs, sending the measure to voters for approval. In the Nov. 6 election voters approved Prop. 4, allocating \$25 million to dry-berth the Battleship Texas to ensure its long-term preservation and another \$27 million for infrastructure repairs throughout the eight state park regions.

**Court emergency plan in works**

The Texas Supreme Court appointed a task force to begin design and implementation of an emergency program to prevent or manage disrupted court operations throughout the state in emergencies.

The 16-member "Task Force to Ensure Judicial Readiness in Times of Emergency" will identify existing gaps in court security, abilities to operate and other preparedness functions and response policies, procedures, and programs within the Texas judiciary.

The task force will develop an interim plan to fill gaps it identifies in the beginning, then design an emergency management program, oversee it and work with court officials and others outside the judicial system to install it.

"Normal court operations may be at risk during an emergency," Chief Justice Wallace B. Jefferson said. "Our courts must be able to quickly deploy personnel, equipment, vital records and technological support so that the rule of law is preserved and substantial rights are protected."

Denise Davis of Austin, special counsel with the Baker Botts law firm and former parliamentarian of the Texas House of Representatives, will chair the task force. The first meeting is scheduled for Dec. 13.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT RELEASES TRANS-TEXAS CORRIDOR IMPACT STUDY**

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration on Nov. 13 released a 1,072-page "draft environmental impact statement" for the proposed Trans-Texas Corridor/Interstate 69 project.

The draft statement examines a 650-mile long area stretching from far south Texas to extreme northeast Texas that someday could include a matrix of new roads, rail and utilities. Existing highways will be considered first when it comes to choosing where the project might be routed, TxDOT suggested.

The draft statement combines nearly three years of work with local officials and input from citizens, TxDOT said.

But there is more left to do. Opportunities for the public to be involved will be unprecedented over the next several months, TxDOT said.

**State offers Clean Bus rebates**

The state's environmental agency is accepting applications from school districts to reimburse costs for installing emission-reducing equipment on school buses.

In promoting the "Texas Clean School Bus" rebate program, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality said:

- More than 36,000 buses carrying an estimated 1.3 million students drive Texas roads every school day.
- More than one-third of these buses are more than 10 years old. Most older buses emit more pollution than most newer models.
- Exposure to diesel exhaust from school buses can aggravate respiratory problems, asthma and allergies.

In some cases, an \$800 retrofit can reduce emissions by 70 to 80 percent, said TCEQ Commissioner Larry R. Soward.

All public school districts and charter schools in Texas that operate one or more diesel-powered school buses or a transportation system provided by a countywide district are eligible to be reimbursed for costs of approved retrofits.

**Snake permits to be required**

People who sell, transport or possess venomous snakes not indigenous to Texas would have to purchase a \$60 permit under proposals the Texas Parks & Wildlife Commission may adopt Jan. 24.

Four species of python and one of anaconda likewise would be regulated and anyone who possesses one of the

controlled exotic snakes but does not sell it would be required to buy a \$20 "recreational controlled exotic snake permit."

People who buy one from a pet store could use their sales receipt as a temporary permit good for 21 days, giving them time to buy an official state permit.

HB 12, enacted by the 80th Texas Legislature, requires Parks & Wildlife to establish the permits.

**Unemployment rate matches low**

The Lone Star State's October statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 4.1 percent, down from 4.3 percent in September and 4.8 percent in October 2006.

For the third month in 2007, the jobless rate reached the lowest point since the current series began in 1976.

Non-agricultural employment grew by 24,200 jobs in October. Employers have added 206,400 jobs over the past 12 months for an annual growth rate of 2 percent, the Texas Workforce Commission reported Nov. 15.

The national unemployment rate is at 4.7 percent.

**Turkey, troopers signs of season**

Most people who drive personal cars and trucks over the Thanksgiving holiday will be paying \$3 or more for a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline.

While they are on the road, they most likely will see more state troopers than usual on duty, ticketing speeders and pulling over other motorists that catch their eye.

When many of the holiday travelers reach their destination, the cost of that home-cooked Thanksgiving meal they'll be eating, with turkey, the standard side dishes and dessert, is expected to run about \$4 per person.

**State will have more to spend**

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said Nov. 15 that the state will have \$83 billion for general revenue expenditures in fiscal 2008-2009.

That's about \$2 billion more than expected. Combs attributed part of the surplus to an 11 percent increase in state sales tax collections.

**State settles pharmaceutical case**

Pharmaceutical manufacturer Glaxo-Smith Kline, its parent company, SmithKline Beecham Corp., and a subsidiary, on Nov. 16 agreed to repay the state of Texas almost \$1.4 million for charging the state inflated prices for the prescription drugs Kytril, Zofran and Amoxil from 1994 to 2002.

Edward Johnson Auctioneers Auctioning - #16243  
**Daniel Boone Log Homes**  
Denton, TX • Sat, Dec. 8th  
26 New Log Home Packages to be auctioned.  
Take delivery up to one year.  
Package includes sub-floor, logs, windows, doors, rafters, roofing, etc.  
Daniel Boone Log Homes  
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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.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

- ACROSS**
- Editor's oversight
  - Sharp projection
  - Exclamation of contempt
  - End of the line
  - Yuletide
  - Micro
  - Sunrise on compass
  - Push for something
  - Curve like a bow
  - Take into consideration
  - Margarita garnish
  - Clean room intruders
  - A in IPA
  - 2 hours behind Los Angeles
  - African-American holiday
  - "Desperate" Longoria
  - Zoom in
  - Type of digital image
  - Nincompoop
  - Oui
  - A monochrome has only one
  - Pro, in proportion
  - More false
  - Pigeon call
  - In lieu of
  - Festival of
  - "Addams Family" cousin
  - Joy of "My Name Is Earl"
  - Cher or Celine Dion?
  - Holiday classic "It's a Life"
- DOWN**
- Christmas decoration
  - To give birth, used of sheep and goats
  - Ghost from "A Christmas Carol"
  - President of Nicaragua
  - AKA Jehoram
  - Knight's breastplate
  - Mountain valley, especially in Scotland
  - Sometimes found in a green olive
  - Intercontinental ballistic missile
  - Where the old woman lived
  - Shape with an ax
  - South American rodent bred for its fur
  - Gent
  - Consider an abstract concept to be real
  - Bristlelike appendage on grass
  - Artist Matisse

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

- Type of deadly flu
- Toys and games, e.g.
- Mistletoe tradition
- Zip, nada
- Walking
- '70s hair style, pl.
- Two of a kind
- Electric fish
- Christmas scene
- Felony, e.g.
- Plump
- Left out
- Where troops camp after day's march
- Noun formed from verb
- Slammer
- Used for shaping metal
- Boring
- One of the hip-bones, pl.
- Make more acute
- "... the land of the ..."
- Functions
- Songbird
- Police investigator

**CROSSWORD**

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Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Mon.-Wed. & 1-5 p.m.  
Closed Thurs. afternoon and all day Fri., Sat. & Sun.

Gary Smith - Publisher Catherine Smith - Editor  
Contributing Writers: Dorothy Hudson, Jim Derington, Merry Sparks, Cecil Biggers  
Contributing Photographer: Charlie Johnson

**Subscription Rates**  
In Hansford County - \$30.00 • Out of County - \$40.00

The Hansford County Reporter-Statesman (USPS 529660) is published weekly in Spearman, TX. Periodical postage paid in Spearman, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Hansford County Reporter-Statesman, 213 Main Street, Spearman, TX 79081.

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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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Gruver Chamber of Commerce  
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**TX** **TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION** **AWARD WINNER**



# HYI

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Gladiola Flower Club Home Tour

The Gladiola Flower Club Home Tour will be held on December 2nd from 2-5 p.m. Tickets are \$5 each and may be purchased at any of the featured homes. Homes will include: Mr. & Mrs. Eric Cudd, Hwy. 15 West, then Hwy. 207 North; Rev. & Mrs. Neely Landrum, 1017 Linn Dr.; Mr. & Mrs. Carson Womble, 1106 S. Bernice; and Mr. Frank Dominguez, 601 S. Haney.

### Rushing Wind Emmaus

Rushing Wind Emmaus Community will meet Saturday, December 8, at 6 p.m. at the Waka Christian Center in Waka, TX. There will be a potluck supper, training for sponsors, and a worship service. Members are asked to go to [www.rushingwindemmaus.org](http://www.rushingwindemmaus.org) or e-mail [rushwind@ptsi.net](mailto:rushwind@ptsi.net) for instructions to open the new internet database to update membership records.

### 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.

### Your Car Could Save a Life

**Donate your unwanted vehicle to the American Cancer Society**  
The end of the year is right around the corner. And for many people, part of wrapping up 2007 means looking for last-minute tax deductions. The American Cancer Society would like to remind you of a wonderful opportunity that may not only be of help to you with your 2007 tax deductions, but will also raise critical funds needed to help the American Cancer Society achieve our mission. The American Cancer Society's Vehicle Donation program, a year-round fundraiser for the Society, allows you to donate your used car, truck, van, motorcycle, or recreational vehicle to the American Cancer Society. In turn, the vehicle is auctioned off and the proceeds help fund cancer-fighting programs and lifesaving research. By donating your unwanted vehicle to the American Cancer Society by Dec. 31, 2007, you can take the allowed deduction on this year's taxes. Please consult your tax advisor for details. There is no "catch" to this program. The vehicle does not have to run. The Society only requires that the vehicle have inflated tires and all vital parts in place. To add to the simplicity of the program, the American Cancer Society arranges for the vehicle to be picked up at no charge to you. Call the American Cancer Society at 1-877-999-CARS (2277) and tell them you'd like to donate your vehicle. Or visit [cancer.org/donatemycar](http://cancer.org/donatemycar) for more information.

### '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.

### Spearhead AA Group

The Spearhead AA Group meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Pittman-Shieldknight building. Alcoholics Anonymous® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other to help solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety. For information, call 662-1111.

### Al-Anon

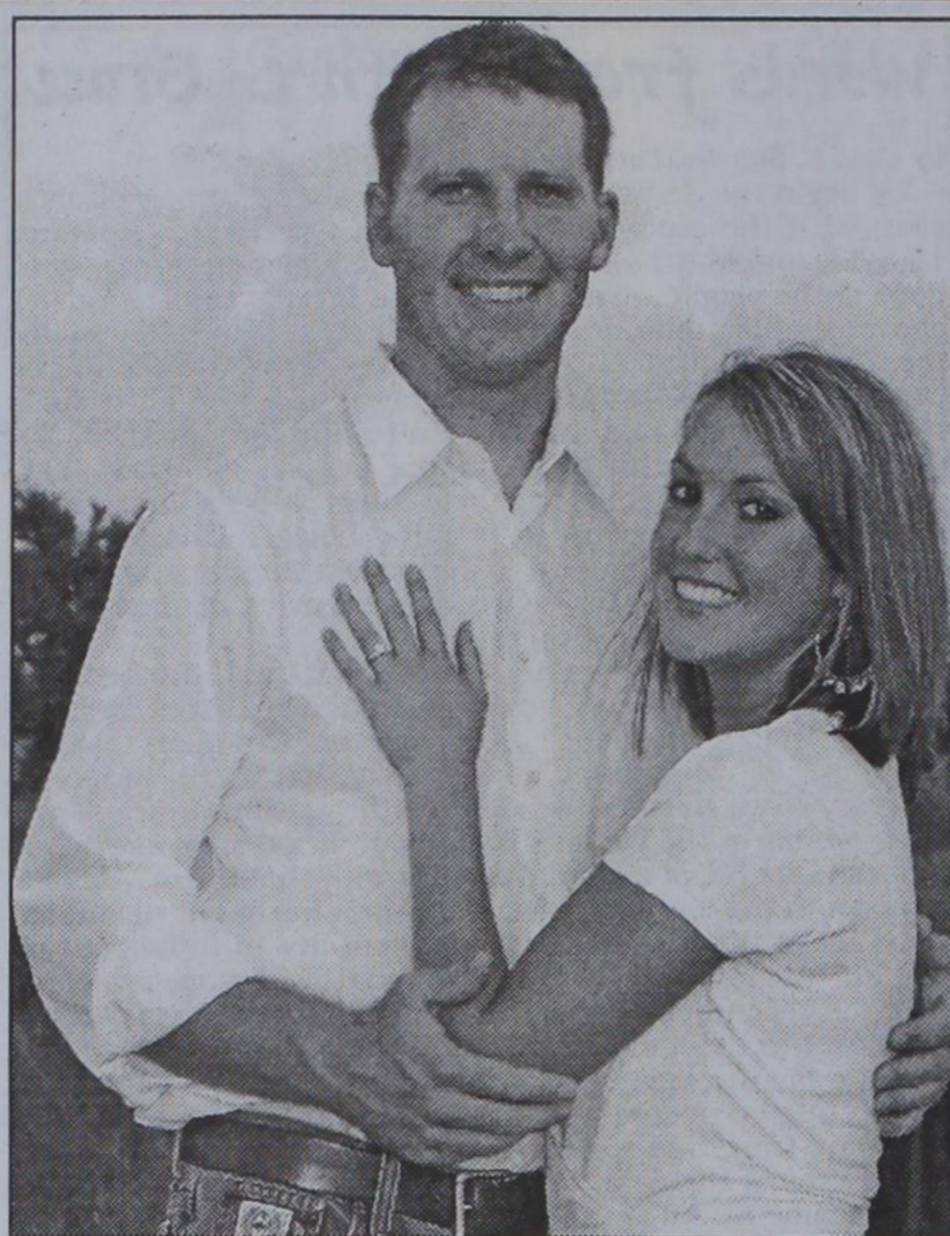
If you are concerned with someone else's drinking or addiction, the Al-Anon program can help you. Each Al-Anon Family Group has but one purpose - to help families and friends of alcoholics and addicts. The Spearhead Al-Anon Group meets every Tuesday night at 8 p.m. in the Pittman-Shieldknight Building, 511 SW 11th Avenue, Spearman. For more information, call 806-330-0349.

### Panhandle Crisis Center Outreach Office

Panhandle Crisis Center (PCC) has an Outreach Office and Resale Store at 306 Hancock, in Spearman. In case of emergencies, please continue to call the hotline, 1-800-753-5308. To schedule an appointment with a worker in Hansford County, call 659-3391 to leave a message, or call the hotline number above. Panhandle Crisis Center serves victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Call for more information regarding PCC's services. Hours for the Resale Store in Spearman are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

## ON THE AGENDA

- Spearman Fire Department meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Spearman Volunteer Fire Department.
- Gruver Fire Department meets the 1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month.
- American Legion and Auxiliary Post 254 meets the 1st Monday each month at 7 p.m. at the Senior Citizen Center in Perryton.
- Gruver Chamber of Commerce meets the 1st Tuesday each month at 12 noon at the El Vaquero.
- Hansford County Commissioners Court meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 10 a.m. at Hansford County Courthouse.
- Stationmaster's House Museum Board of Directors meets the 2nd Monday each month at 2 p.m. at the Stationmaster's House Museum.
- Spearman ISD Board of Trustees meets the 2nd Monday each month at 7 p.m. in the Spearman High School Library.
- Hansford Hospice meets on the 2nd Monday each month at 7 p.m.
- Palo Duro River Authority meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. at the P.D.R.A. office.
- Genealogy Club meets on the 2nd Tuesday each month at 7 p.m. in the home of Velma Sanders, 1015 Linn Drive, in Spearman.
- Women's Division of the Spearman Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meets the 2nd Wednesday each month at noon.
- Gruver City Commission meets the 2nd Wednesday each month at 5 p.m. in Gruver City Hall.
- Spearman Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meets the 2nd Thursday each month at noon.
- Pringle-Morse CISD Board of Trustees meets the 2nd Thursday each month at 7 p.m.
- Spearman City Council meets the 3rd Tuesday each month at 7 a.m. in the City Hall Chambers at City Hall.
- Women's Division of the Spearman Chamber of Commerce meets the 3rd Wednesday each month at noon.
- Gruver ISD Board of Directors meets the 4th Tuesday each month at 6 p.m. in the Board Room at Gruver High School.
- Hansford County Hospital District Board of Directors meets the 4th Wednesday each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room at Hansford Hospital.
- Hansford County Historical Commission Board of Directors meets the 1st Monday of January, April, July and October at 2 p.m. in the Zulu Museum building.




## Engagement Announcement

The parents of Karlon Kay Hooten and Lee Anthony Brandon are excited to announce the couple's engagement and upcoming marriage.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Lonny and Karen Hooten of Lockney. She is the granddaughter of Bill and Mary Louise McCarter of Lockney and C.J. and Dorothy Solomon of Lubbock and the late John L. Hooten. She is a 2001 graduate of Lockney High School and received a Bachelor of Business Administration from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in May 2005. She is currently employed by City Bank in Lubbock.

The prospective groom is the son of Andy and Jana Brandon of Quanah. He is the grandson of Jerry and Peggy Brandon of Quanah and Joe and Sandra Glover of Crowell. He is a 2002 graduate of Quanah High School and received a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies with a minor in Secondary Education from Texas Tech University in December 2006. He is currently employed by Spearman ISD.

The couple plan to marry December 29, 2007 at the First United Methodist Church in Lockney. After the honeymoon the couple will reside in Spearman, Texas.




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## Smith, Prewett Wed

Camille Smith of Dallas and Scott Prewett of Dallas were married Saturday, October, 20, 2007, at Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. The reverend Mark Wingfield officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Bobby and Dixie Smith of Spearman. Grandparents of the bride, Bert and Patty Sheppard of Spearman and Gwen Smith of Spearman attended the wedding.

The groom is the son of Graham and Pat Prewett of Arlington.

Maid of honor was Cayla Smith, sister of the bride. Matron of honor was Lindsey Savage, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Allison Atchley and Lindsay Claborn, friends of the couple.

Best man was Kevin Prewett, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Justin Jeter, Clayton Redinger, and Bowe Daniels, friends of the couple.

Flower girl was Ella Prewett, niece of the groom. Ring bearers were Houston Prewett, nephew of the groom, and Garrett Savage, nephew of the bride.

Serving as ushers were Lance Smith, brother of the bride, Jackie Claborn, and Brett Barber.



Mr. & Mrs. Scott Prewett

The wedding reception was held at the Dallas Arts Center.

The bride graduated from Texas Tech University and is employed by Stryker Communications. The groom graduated from Baylor Law School and is employed by Carnahan Thomas LLP.


Following a honeymoon to Playa del Carmen, Mexico, the couple resides in Dallas.

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# Gordon's



## Bridal Registry

**Couples Currently Registered**

Jennifer Lawrence & Aaron Winegarner  
Ty & Tarran West  
Vanessa Biggs & James Watkins  
Scott & Camille (Smith) Prewitt



## Baby Registry

Kyle & Stephanie McNett - 12/1  
Colby & Sandi (Rich) Wheeler - 12/2  
Chad & Shannon Scarborough - TBA  
Amber Backus & March Gonzales  
Nicole Worley & Antar Outley  
Amber Comp

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# Celebrate

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## Bridal Registry

Shower Dates  
Audra Evans & Kyle McLaughlin  
Bethany Harris & Nicholas Peterson - 1/5  
Vanessa Biggs & James Watkins  
Jennifer Lawrence & Aaron Winegarner

**Baby Registry**

Stephanie & Kyle McNett - 12/1  
Sandi (Rich) & Colby Wheeler - 12/2  
Shannon & Chad Scarborough - TBA  
Amber Backus & March Gonzales  
Amber Comp

We will be open every Thursday evening until 8 p.m. until Christmas!

# Celebrate

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# Davis, Dorsey Wed

Misha Davis of Spearman and Duane Dorsey of Houston were united in marriage on September 29, 2007 in a backyard ceremony at the home of Mike and Michele Davis at Lake Tangelwood with Caesar Rendle, friend of the bride and chaplain at Methodist Medical Center in Dallas (bride's former place of employment) officiating. Misha was given in marriage by her father, Mike Davis.

Misha is the daughter of Mike and Michele Davis of Spearman. Grandparents of groom are Tommy and Bernice Dorsey of Houston, Texas. Hal and Suzy Durden of Arkansas and the late Jean Durden.

Maid of Honor was Kit Cohorn of Portland, Oregon, college roommate of the bride. Bridesmaids were Jody Schauer of Washington, D.C., college roommate of bride; and D'lana Dorsey of Mesquite, Texas, sister of the groom.

Best Man was Mark Hall of Houston, Texas, college roommate of the groom. Groomsmen were Russell Humphrey of Waco, Texas, college roommate of the groom and Matt Davis of Amarillo, Texas, brother of the bride.

Ushers were Shawn Tryon of Houston, childhood friend of the groom, Darrell Gwin of Houston, friend of the groom, John Rathgeber of Houston, friend of the groom and Jason Dietz of Houston, friend of the groom.

Greeters were Leah Strickland, cousin of the bride, and Linh Nguyen, friend of the couple.

Music provided during the ceremony by Vienna conspiracy, a string quartet from

Amarillo. Special readings during the ceremony were provided by the groom's grandfather, Tommy Dorsey, Amanda Brooks and Jessica Britt college friends of the bride.

The bride carried a textured paved bouquet filled with the warm hues of fall including terra cotta, mango, burgundy and splashes of greenery. Fresh blooms of fall and green orchids, calla lilies, celosia and three varieties of roses created texture and depth. Her bouquet was tied off with a dual color french knot wrap and complimented with a family brooch that was her great grandmother's. These same flowers were hung in the aisles and adorned each of the tables for the backyard setting.

Misha wore a Paloma Blanca gown in the color pearl made of duchess silk which was accented with metallic gold chantilly lace around the waistline. Attached at the waistline was a diamond and pearl brooch that was borrowed from her grandmother, Elvanna Davis. The bodice featured a draped and pleated v-neckline and was detailed with a pick up style skirt which exhibited a chapel length train.

Something old was the brooch worn on her bouquet. It was her great grandmother's, the late Viola Hutton. She borrowed it from her grandmother Norma Jean Mackie. Something new was her dress. Something borrowed was the pearl necklace she wore. This was given to her mother on her wedding day by Misha's grandfather, the late Travis Davis. Something blue was a gift given to the bride by her bridesmaids.

Misha graduated from Spearman High School in 1998. She graduated from Texas A&M University in 2002 with a Community Health Degree, and from the University of Texas at



Mrs. Duane Dorsey

Arlington in 2004 with a Bachelor's of Nursing degree. She is employed by North Cypress Medical Center as an Emergency Room RN.

Duane graduated from Mayde Creek High School in Katy in 1991. He graduated from Southwest Texas State in 2000 with a Criminal Justice Degree. Duane is employed by Barcelona Sports as an Outside Sales Representative.

The guest were served light hors d'oeuvres while pictures were taken, then guest were treated to dinner catered by Bourbon Street. Music was provided through the evening by Wayne Williams of All About Music.

The couple took a trip to Hawaii, where they visited the islands of Oahu and Kauai. They will reside in Houston.

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by Dorothy Hudson

## Out at the Lake

Lake Level--November 26, 2007--20.78 feet

The 3 inches of snow that fell at the Park last Friday made for beauty for awhile, but it couldn't be counted for much needed moisture.

Jim has seen a pair of mature bald eagles several times. They were later than usual showing up this year. The warm fall has delayed the migration of the geese and ducks, too.

Some of the big limbs from the dead trees standing in the Lake have fallen. This has cut down on the number of good viewing spots for the eagles. Many of these limbs were used for the nests of the herons and cormorants. A few of the herons usually spend the winter, but most of the herons and all of the cormorants head south.

A fire ban has been posted at the Lake and also in the County. The recent fire at the Park burned 500 acres on the south side of the Lake. The fire was heading for the office and manager's home when it was contained. Jim was appreciative of all the neighboring fire departments that helped put the fire out.

At about the same time of the Park fire, an arsonist

was setting fires at the sides of the roads. Signs are posted offering a reward for information that leads to the apprehension of anyone setting the fires.

### Rattlesnakes (Cont)

The last two columns were repeated from 1996. I had been given three stories of snakes swallowing small snakes. It had all started over a memoir of a girl picking up what she thought were bird eggs. They hatched to baby snakes in her apron. Until that article, I had not realized some snakes laid eggs inside that hatched into snakes that were born alive.

Two of the stories involved men seeing a mother rattlesnake swallow her babies. Billy Jarvis saw the snakes race in the mouth as she kept it open.

In that case the snake then went down a hole and was not dug out, but he left and did not know what happened next. In Dwayne TeBeest's story he saw the babies slither into the open mouth. The female went down a hole but was dug out and killed. Then the snake was opened and the baby rattlers were killed.

Now 11 years later, a visit

with Nick Holt, a well known rancher of Hansford County, gives us another version of this extremely rare occurrence.

In 1933, Nick, a small boy, moved with his family to the Les Cator ranch on the Palo Duro Creek. His parents were Coy and Eva Alexander Holt.

One day when 12 year old Nick and his father were traveling to their home on the south side of the creek, they noticed a rattlesnake by the side of the ranch road. They stopped to kill it, but as they got to the snake, it and numerous baby snakes were going down a hole. Nick remembers crossing the creek and bringing back a shovel while his Dad guarded the hole.

They dug the snake out and killed her, but there were no small snakes to be found. They noticed a large hump on the dead snake's back about half way down. The hump was opened, and there were eleven 6 to 8 inch long babies alive and trying to wiggle away. They were killed, too.

I don't know if the experts still insist that rattlesnakes do not swallow their young, but I believe now that it does happen. However, I still puzzle over what happens next. Do the little snakes come back out or are they digested?

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# Manor Matters

by Merry Sparks

The holidays are quickly coming-quickly coming-quickly coming!! It is the same at the Manor!! We have been quietly behind the scenes planning Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday parties with the Residents. On Friday, Nov. 16th we have planned our annual Family Night Supper. We will serve supper to the families and closest friends of the Residents. We are looking eagerly forward to the evening. All that is required is that the families bring one of their favorite desserts to share. The evening will start at 5:30 and we hope that it will be a great time for fellowship and sharing with many thanks for the opportunity to be together.

The annual Christmas party for the Residents is scheduled for December 21st at 2:30. Gifts for the Residents (one gift only please) need to be delivered to the activity office by Monday, the 17th. We trust that Santa will find a sleigh to deliver them with. The ever faithful auxiliary bakes just dozens and dozens of cookies for dessert and we have a great time.

The past few weeks have been great!! Alyssa Holt sang at the birthday party for October and Joel Lee Lackey, Jr. Sparks, and Janie Kunselman provided music for the birthday party on November 9th. We even had some dancing! The Residents love their music!! Thank you each one !!

In October, the Town & Country Club, 4-H, and Morse 4-H hosted bingo. Thank You!! Residents love that bingo!! The Cloggers came on Oct. 9th to entertain and Margarette Evans held a flower arranging program. We also have had manicures, Wii Fun (ask anyone younger than 13 and they will tell you what that is) (I had to get a youngster to hook it up for me the 1st

time) ha!! It is soooo much fun though!! We are on the cutting edge with a video game that is wireless that we can bowl, play baseball, box, play golf and much more. The Residents laugh the loudest when we can get some staff to play baseball. You know how it is when they call "Batter Up" You have to take "the stance" then wiggle until your feet are just right. The Residents laugh and laugh.

We also have enjoyed the many, many volunteers that help on a regular basis. The First Assembly of God hosts afternoon services on Thursdays and Anne Whitaker leads a Bible study on Wednesdays and Margaret Novak helps on Wednesday afternoons with crafts. Of course everytime we transport Residents it takes many helpers and Claudine Laxton and Judy Yarbrough are great helpers along with a long, long list of others!! Thursday afternoon bingo requires many helpers as well as Monday night bingo.

Oh my!! I cannot forget all of the school kids that come to visit and help!! Gruver High School students escorted Residents (under the able leadership of Sharon & Les Barkley) to a visit to the Panhandle Plains Museum in Canyon. They were great helpers and we had a great, great time!! We have had visits from the Spearman Elementary children as well as the HOWL of Halloween hosted by the Spearman High School students. They were excellent helpers. They came all dressed up and were a big part of the fun of the night when we had Trick or Treat at the Manor.

Many, many thanks to all of you who help enrich the lives of the Residents at Hansford Manor. All that you do is appreciated!

## Hansford County Library Celebrates 75th Anniversary

At this very special time of year, members of the Hansford Library board and staff would like to express gratitude to a number of people including:

- All of those who helped with the 75th Anniversary Celebration - including members of the Twentieth Century Club for baking cookies, Prairie Garden Flowers and the Booker Public Library for floral centerpieces, Irene Snider for decorating the front entrance, Rod Sumner and Spearman Independent School District for the use of the brochure binder, and all who attended the reception.

- The Texas Library Association for awarding the Loan Star Grant used to purchase awnings for the front

of the building.

- The Mary Alice Stinson Gibner Endowment board for applying interest money toward the purchase of awnings for the side of the building.

- The County Commissioners and the City Council for increasing the monthly support to the library.

- The Twentieth Century Club and the Spearman Rotary Club for donations used to purchase both welcome mats.

- The Thriftshop volunteers who diligently donate their time and talent, to the public who contribute to the Thriftshop resales, and especially those who support the Thriftshop by making purchases.

- Citizens of Hansford County who generously contribute cartridges to the recycling program and all who continue to support the library through memorials and donations.

While it is true that the library operates on a very limited budget and depends largely on memorials, donations and community support, public funds are only used for budgeted items and every effort is made to

acquire funds from grants and outside sources for unbudgeted items. We appreciate all support and ask that you continue to honor Hansford County Library with memorials and donations. With your help, we will continue to be the best Library in Texas.

Indeed, we are especially grateful to live in a very generous and caring community.

### Thank You!

The family of Joyce Crum would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone who has shown such thoughtfulness in our time of loss. Your compassion is deeply appreciated.

The Family of Joyce Crum

### Thank You!

No words can adequately express our gratitude to all of the people who made Mother's life here on earth such a joy. Our special thanks to her friends who faithfully visited her, to Dr. Garnett for his thoughtfulness and concern, and to the nurses and staff at the Hansford Manor and Hansford Hospital for their loving care.

We are also indebted to all of you who offered prayers and support during our loss. The visits, flowers, memorials, and food helped ease the pain of our loss.

May God bless each one of you.

Kent & Glenda Guthrie & Family; Larry & Robbie Butts & Family; Terry & Patty Butt & Family; Irvin & Betty Davis & Family

### Thank You!

Words cannot express our sincere gratitude to everyone for their kindness, prayers, phone calls, food, flowers, contributions and words of comfort in the recent loss of our loved one, Doug Connelly. A special thank you to Hansford Hospice for taking such good care of Doug; to Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home for being so helpful and understanding in our time of sorrow; to Bro. Jim Medley for a service that helped give us comfort and peace; to Carol Pack and the ones who presented the beautiful music; to First Baptist Church for preparing such a wonderful meal; and to all our friends, neighbors and family members - may God Bless you. Your thoughtfulness will never be forgotten.

The Family of Doug Connelly



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10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### Attention

As of November 27, 2007, the Hansford County Courthouse, in Spearman, Texas, will have an interpreter available on Tuesdays to assist with the passport process. Please call (806) 435-8086 and ask for Araceli, if you have any questions regarding the requirement sin obtaining a passport.

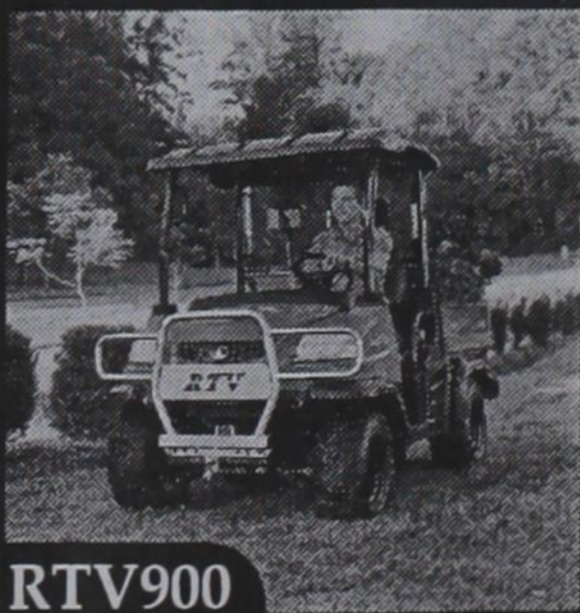
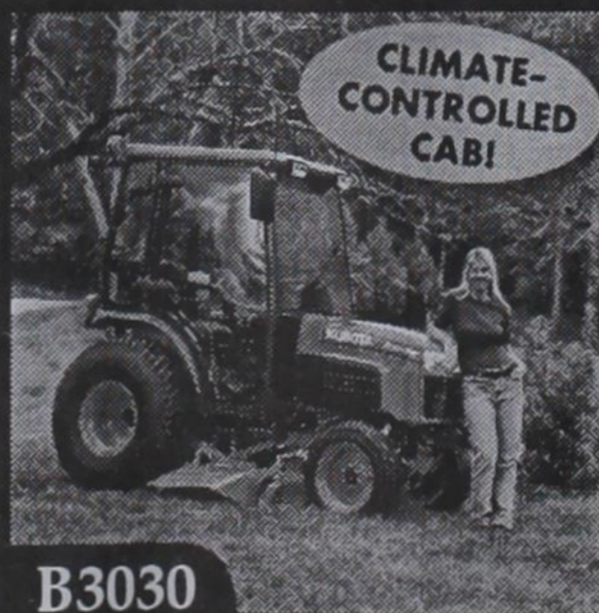
Thank you

### Atencion

A partir del 27 de noviembre el Juzgado del Condado Hansford, en Spearman, Texas, tendra disponible una interprete los martes para que ayude con el proceso de los pasaportes americanos. Por favor de comunicarse al (806) 435-8086 y pregunte por Araceli, si tiene alguna pregunta tocante los requisitos para obtener un pasaporte.

Gracias

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**HANSFORD COUNTY  
ORDER NO. 02-2007  
CONCERNING BURN BAN**  
November 28, 2007

EXECUTIVE ORDER OF HANSFORD COUNTY JUDGE

WHEREAS, by proclamation issued November 20, 2007 the County Judge of Hansford County declared a state of disaster for Hansford County, resulting from:

THE POTENTIAL THREAT OF WILDFIRES DUE TO DROUGHT

AND ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management;

THE COMMISSIONER'S COURT OF HANSFORD COUNTY, TEXAS NOW THEREFORE, orders the following regulations shall take effect immediately upon issuance of this order and shall remain in effect until the state of disaster is terminated:

1. The sale of 'restricted fireworks' is prohibited. Restricted fireworks include 'skyrockets with sticks' and missiles with 'fins' as provided in 352.051, Texas Local Government Code.

a. A person selling any type of fireworks including restricted fireworks, shall at every location at which the person sells fireworks in the county, provide reasonable notice of the order.

2. THE USE OF COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS IN AN OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT BY ANY PERSON IS PROHIBITED.

a. Any individual gainfully employed in a trade or profession that involves the use of combustible materials or use of possible fire sources in the outdoor environment directly related to the successful operation of the business's goals and/or objectives may continue to conduct business as usual utilizing the materials and/or potential fire sources in the outdoor environment as they deem necessary; provided that the individual shall take all necessary safety precautions to prevent the ignition of any fire or fires that are not essential to the conducting of day to day business activities. Any business owner, operator or individual involved in any business operation citing this section of this order that has not taken the necessary safety precautions and as a result, damage occurs from a fire caused by their business operations, shall be liable for any and all damages that may occur and they shall be issued a citation and fined as allowed by law.

3. THIS ORDER SHALL NOT APPLY TO AN OFFICIALLY AUTHORIZED PUBLIC DISPLAY.

In accordance with the Local Government Code, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.00.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS ORDER IS THE MITIGATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY HAZARD POSTED BY WILDFIRES DURING THE CURRENT DROUGHT AND SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS BY CURTAILING THE USE OF ALL COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS.

Benny Wilson, Hansford County Judge  
Ira G. "Butch" Reed, Commissioner Prec. 1  
Joe T. Venneman, Commissioner Prec. 2  
Tim Stedje, Commissioner Prec. 3  
Henson, Commissioner Prec. 4

Prior to conducting agricultural burns, you should contact the Hansford County Sheriff's Department (659-4140), the Spearman Fire Department (659-5511) or the Gurver Fire Department (733-2424).

**Wildfire Risk Can Be Doused if Education Action is Taken Now**

by Kay Ledbetter

AMARILLO - Dangerous. That's the one word fire officials and rangeland management specialists use to describe the combination of heavy grass growth and dry conditions.

"We have the potential for brush fires every year, but what's made it real extreme this year is the large amount of grass growth from all the rains," said Dr. Jim Ansley, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station rangeland ecology researcher in Vernon.

"And because of the high fuel loads and the weather fluctuations, the serious situation is expected to remain through March, in spite of the occasional bouts of moisture," said Dr. Wayne Hanselka, Texas Cooperative Extension range specialist in Corpus Christi.

"An inch of rain won't last no time," Hanselka said. "We would need good soaking moisture to minimize the danger, and even then between the rains the fuel will remain dry."

Communities surrounded by pastures and heavy grass growth need to take note and take action, Ansley said.

"(In) the smaller communities that don't have a lot of concrete and asphalt as buffers in terms of roads and parking lots, it would be a real good idea for community leaders to have a planning meeting quickly to assess their situation," he said.

This could be an emergency situation this year, Ansley said. Many communities have gotten away from thinking about fire dangers and long-term planning in the past 10 years because of the severe droughts that have left the fuel supply short.

But smaller communities, such as Ringgold near Wichita Falls that was heavily burned in Jan. 1, 2006, are surrounded by rangeland and need to be taking action, he said.

"I think it is important for the citizens to take the initiative on this," Ansley said. "Ask city leaders and see if meetings are planned or if there is a game plan at all."

Determine where the prevailing winds will come from and see if there are any short-term plans that can be implemented to provide extra firebreaks in the potential danger areas, he said.

"It's a stop-gap situation right now, but there might be some key areas that could be plowed, shredded or mowed."

Individuals also need to take some responsibility and exercise caution, Ansley said. Be careful lighting any outdoor fires, including barbecue grills or outdoor welding, which could spark the next wildfire.

"Be careful if you are driving on rangeland or off-road to not leave your car idling over dry grass and broomweed," he said. "The catalytic converter could produce enough heat to start a fire."

The same warning goes out to hunters, Ansley said. They should avoid fires and try to avoid off-roading if at all possible.

"We emphasize preparedness," Hanselka said.

In communities where four or five acres are surrounding houses, homeowners need to secure their homesteads and facilities against a wildfire, he said. Make sure all water hoses and firefighting tools work; make sure sprayers have water in them.

"Having the facilities and tools there, properly placed, can make a difference," Hanselka said.

Larger landowners need to think in terms of mitigation, fuel management and prescribed burning, Hanselka and Ansley both said.

Think about fuel management - shred it, graze it, burn it down - to keep from getting in a situation where fire can do significant damage, Hanselka said.

"As a tool in fuel management, removing that fuel is important," he said. "Whether it's a welding spark, thrown cigarette or hot box on a railroad, if the fuel is not there, it's not

going to go."

Hanselka said there are tools that land owners can use to mitigate and lower the risk. Winter is a peak season to do prescribed burning, and under the right conditions it can be effective in mitigating the dangers.

One action ranchers or large landowners might want to take is to make sure the roadside ditches are mowed adequately along their property line, Ansley said.

"If they haven't been, contact the highway department to make sure that gets done," he said. "In terms of impact, that is a relatively low-cost thing to drive the roads and make sure the bar ditches have been mowed."

With the increased grass growth this year, some ranchers may be considering prescribed burning to manage brush, Ansley said. But in this type of year, landowners need to first see if their county is in a burn ban. The Texas Forest Service has an updated list of counties enacting burn bans at <http://tfsfrp.tamu.edu/wildfires/decban.png>.

"If they are allowed to burn, I would strongly recommend on the large pastures of more than 100 acres that they use a parallel dozer lines about 200 feet apart as a fire guard on the downwind side of the pasture," he said. "In regions with cedars, the dozer lines should be wider, upwards of 500 feet apart."

Pre-burning between the parallel dozer lines creates a black line, Ansley said. This black line should be burned early in the morning or late in the evening when the humidity is increasing - to reduce the intensity of the fire because the goal is just to get it black and remove the fuel source.

"You have a much better chance of the keeping the prescribed burn under control if it burns up to the black line," he said. "It would be very risky under these conditions to try to light a back-fire off a single dozer line in a large pasture and try to send a head fire into that back fire and keep it all contained."

Hanselka warned that going through the procedure of making sure a prescribed burn is out, completely is also important.

"No cow patty left smoldering," he said.

If someone wants to do a prescribed burn, it is important to follow proper procedures, both Hanselka and Ansley said. Laws and other prescribed burn information can be found at <http://www.tamu.edu/ticc/prevention>.

"It is critical to contact local authorities, make sure you check the weather forecast on that day and make sure weather variables - temperature, humidity and wind speed - are measured at the site before deciding to burn," Ansley said.

"Know the conditions when it is not safe to burn," he said. "Also make sure you have a written burn plan that includes a map and have it with you during the burn."

More information about protecting against and preventing wildfires can be found at: <http://texashelp.tamu.edu/>

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## Hansford County FSA Reminds Voters of 2007 County Committee Election

Rick Hargrove, Executive Director for the Hansford County Farm Service Agency (FSA), reminds eligible voters that County Committee elections are underway. On November 2, 2007, FSA mailed ballots to all eligible voters. Completed ballots must be postmarked by midnight on December 3, 2007.

"FSA County Committees make decisions on commodity loans and payments; allotments, yields, marketing quotas, eligibility for conservation programs as well as disaster assistance," said Hargrove. "This Committee is the producer's voice in making national programs fit local situations -- representing the customers for the individuals USDA programs are designed to serve," he added.

Hargrove stressed that the FSA County Committee system will only work well if all of FSA's customers are actively involved in how the agency's programs are administered. FSA's County Committee system needs diverse representation -- small and large farm/ranch operators, truck farmers, specialty crop producers, livestock producers and local businessmen and women.

"Diversity is a must in today's changing world of agriculture -- from people on the business side of the operation to those who plant for specific markets. The County Committee should represent the demographics of the communities they serve," said Hargrove.

Hargrove encourages all eligible voters to cast their ballots this year. He emphasized that if you are eligible to participate in FSA programs, you are eligible to vote and; if you are eligible to vote, you are eligible to serve on the County Committee.

"While we try to send ballots to all eligible voters, we may have missed one or two," said Hargrove. "Persons who believe they qualify to vote in this election, and did not receive a ballot should contact our office," he said.

In Texas, the spouse of an eligible voter is also eligible to vote and a person under legal age can vote, if he or she operates a farm or ranch. No person can be denied the right to vote because of race, sex, age, religion, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, national origin, or marital or familial status.

"It is crucial that every eligible voter take part in this election because county committees are a direct link between the local agriculture community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The grassroots committees are comprised of and make decisions for producers and concerned citizens that live and work in the local community," said Hargrove.

Nominees for the Hansford County Committee are Rick Barkley. The elected person(s) will represent LAA 2.

For more information on County Committees and to determine voter eligibility, contact the Hansford County Farm Service Agency at 806-659-3036 or visit the national FSA Web Site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

## KACV Presents World War II: The Panhandle Project

KACV-TV, channel 2, presents the premiere of World War II: A Panhandle Project Friday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. This locally produced program features a selection of stories gathered as part of the Texas Panhandle World War II Stories project.

**About World War II: The Panhandle Project**  
When KACV created Texas Panhandle World War II Stories, the goal was to honor the memories of local residents who experienced the war, at home and on the front lines. Hundreds of stories have been gathered, and more are being added every day. World War II: The Panhandle Project will feature a selection of these interviews that highlight the significant impact of the war on our area.

And as part of the KACV Winter Membership Drive, for a donation of \$100, viewers can receive a companion DVD that features more local

interviews.

### Supporters

Texas Panhandle WWII Stories is made possible by the generous support of the following: Mary E. Bivins Foundation, C.J. & Syble Fowlston Charitable Trust, BWXT Pantex, Josephine Anderson Charitable Trust, Childers Place, Toot 'n Totum, Northwest Texas Health Care System, Wendy & Stanley Marsh 3, Roger Williams & Ana Estevez, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Mays Foundation.

World War II: A Panhandle Project is part of KACV's

Winter Membership Drive. The Membership Drive is generously sponsored by Blackburn Shaw Funeral Directors, John Chandler Ford, Gilliland Family Foundation, Texas Cattle Feeders Association and Barnes & Noble and is December 1-9.

For more information, visit [www.kacv.org/war](http://www.kacv.org/war) or call KACV at 371-5222 or 1-800-999-9243.

A copy of this release, other editorial, logos, photos and more information about The War production can be accessed through this project's Press Room at [www.kacv.org/war](http://www.kacv.org/war)



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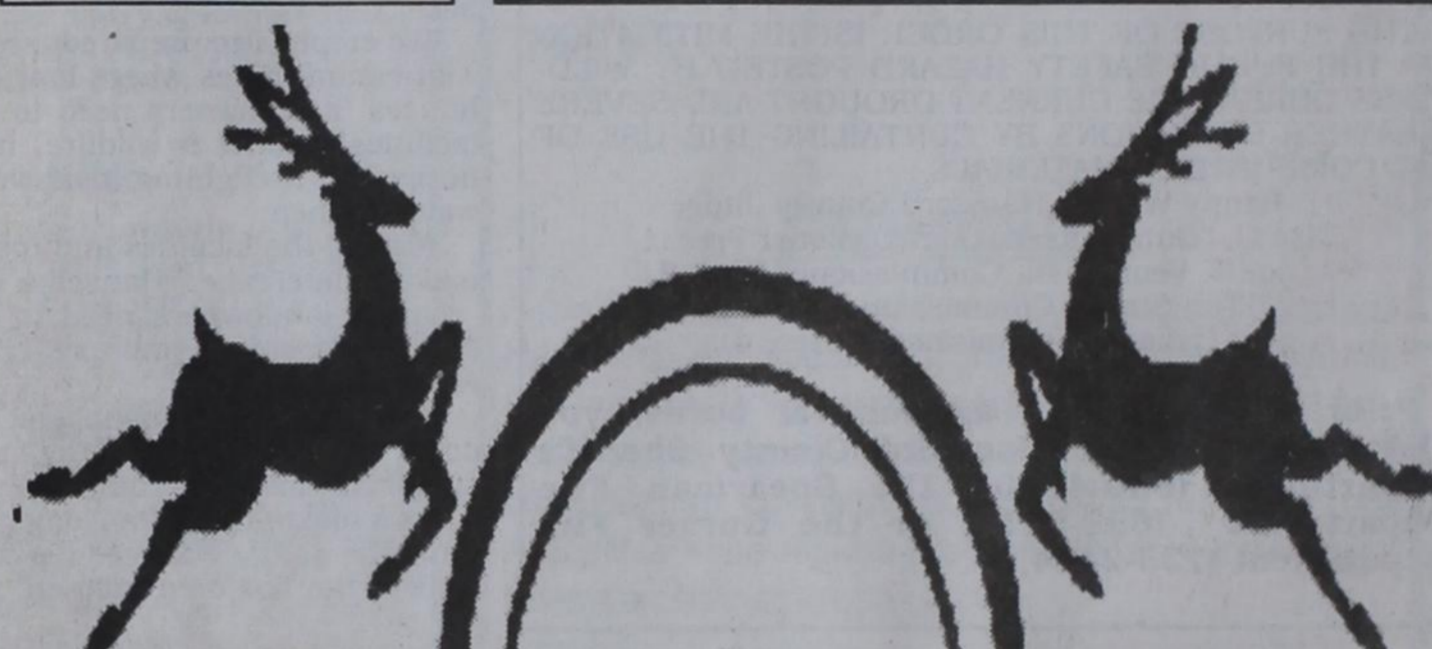


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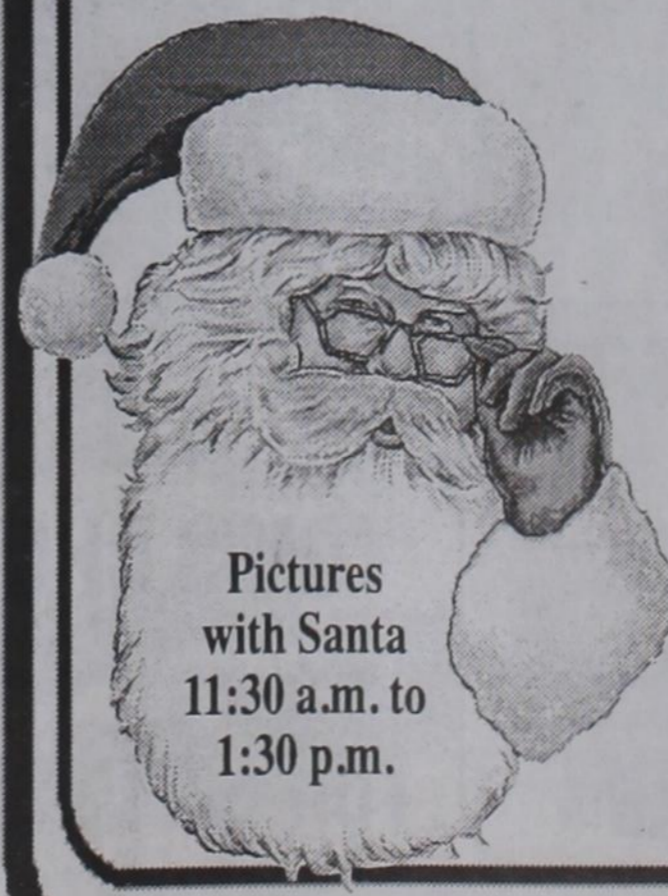
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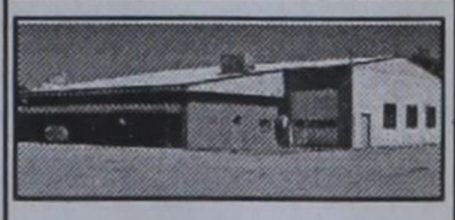
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# 2007 Gruver Greyhounds

By Les Giles, Amarillo Globe-News

Nazareth came out firing on all cylinders in the first half, and that quick start propelled the Swifts to a 49-34 Class 1A Division II area victory in front of 600 fans Friday night at Dick Bivins Stadium.

The Swifts scored on the first play when wide receiver Cameron Cluck threw a 70-yard pass to Sage Black.

"That's the first time this season we've used that play," said Swifts quarterback Nicky Rowland, who threw four TD passes and ran for two others.

"We came out strong against a good defensive team. We knew that we needed to get off to a quick start."

By the end of the first quarter Nazareth was in front 28-7, and at halftime enjoyed a 42-14 advantage.

The Swifts had 406 yards total offense in the first half and scored on their six possessions.

The second half was much different as Nazareth scored only a fourth-quarter TD on a 24-yard pass from

Rowland to Cluck with 2:44 remaining that secured the win on a night when it snowed heavily much of the game and left the Bivins Stadium turf covered in white.

"We came out flat in the second half," said Rowland. "We finally mounted a scoring drive late that put it away."

Following the long TD pass by Naz on the game's first play, Gruver answered when Chandler Miner returned the ensuing kickoff 87 yards to tie the game at 7-7.

But Nazareth answered by scoring on drives that covered 75, 40, 65, 70 and 86 yards.

"We just didn't come out with the intensity that we needed," said Gruver head coach Terry Felderhoff. "Nazareth is a good offensive team and they made a lot of plays in the first half."

"It's tough to fall behind by four touchdowns and then come back on them."

Rowland's scoring passes covered 10, 2, 19 and 24 yards. He ran 15 and 1-yard for the others as he wound

up 412 yards total offense. He completed 23-of-33 passes for 317 yards and added 95 yards rushing on 13 attempts.

The Swifts finished with 536 yards total offense, but only had 130 in the second half.

"We need to finish games off better," said Nazareth head coach Rocky Smart. "We came out great in the first half, but struggled in the second half. I give a lot of credit to Gruver. Their players came out in the second half and got after us."

"It's sometimes easy to get behind like they did and not finish strong. But they didn't do that."

"We didn't have the same kind of intensity in the second half that we did in the first. It's something that we have to correct if we hope to advance farther, because any opponent that we play from here on out is going to want to win as much as we do."

Gruver had 306 yards total offense, after getting just 99 in the first half. Miles Messer was the leading rusher with 71 yards on 14 carries while quarterback Seth Thompson completed 9-of-21 passes for 165 yards and three TDs.

**Score by Quarters**  
Nazareth 28 14 0 7 49  
Gruver 7 7 7 13 34

**Scoring**  
N-Sage Black 70 pass from Cameron Cluck (Taylor Schulte kick).

G-Chandler Miner 87 kickoff return (Justin Vasquez kick).

N-Cluck 10 pass from Nicky Rowland (kick failed).

N-Cluck 2 pass from Rowland (Rowland run).

N-Josh Braddock 19 pass from Rowland (Schulte kick).

G-Vasquez 13 pass from Seth Thompson (Vasquez kick).

N-Rowland 15 run (Schulte kick).

N-Rowland 1 run (Schulte kick).

G-Chandler Miner 3 run (Vasquez kick).

G-Tyler Wills 28 pass from Thompson (Vasquez kick).

N-Cluck 24 pass from Rowland (Schulte kick).

G-Taylor Williams 62 pass from Thompson (kick failed).

**Individual Statistics**

Rushing-Nazareth: Nicky

Rowland 13-95, Josh Braddock 8-54.

Miles Messer 14-71, Chandler Miner 14-47, Tony Lora 9-36, Seth Thompson 11-13.

Passing-Rowland 23-33-0-317, Cameron Cluck 1-1-0-70, Gruver: Thompson 9-21-1-165.

Receiving-Nazareth: Cluck 9-112, Braddock 6-68, Sage Black 4-125, Taylor Schulte 3-54, Thomas Schacher 2-

28. Gruver: Tyler Wills 3-42, Taylor Williams 2-75, Justin Vasquez 2-28, Miner 2-20.

**Statistics**

**Naz** **Gruv**  
First Downs 22 22  
Rushing 21-149 48-141  
Passing 387 165  
Total Yds 536 306  
C-A-I 24-34-0 9-21-1  
Punts 2-42 1-38  
Fumbles-Lost 1-1 2-0  
Penalties 8-90 0-0



Photo by Charlie Johnson

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