



HANSFORD COUNTY THE REPORTER-STATESMAN

THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 18, 2010

CELEBRATING 103 YEARS OF SERVICE TO HANSFORD COUNTY
HANSFORD COUNTY'S ONLY NEWSPAPER

75¢

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reporter@spearmanreporter.com

COME TO THE GAME

Spearman Lynx/Lynxettes

2/19 Varsity Lynxettes vs. Sonora (7 p.m.) at Lubbock Coronado (Area game)

Gruver Greyhounds/Lady Hounds

2/18 Varsity Lady Hounds vs. Lockney (6:30 p.m.) at Randall High School (Area game)

2/20 Varsity Hounds vs. Nazareth (2:30 p.m.) at Randall High School (practice game)

Villegas Accepts Hansford County Democratic Party Chair Position

For the first time in more than 14 years, Hansford County has a Democratic County Chairperson. Hansford County has not had a Democratic Party chairman since 1996, but Jessica Villegas, a 2005 graduate of Spearman High School, has decided to step up and take the position.

Legally, if a Texas county does not have a chairman for a political party, the voters in that county cannot vote in that party's primary. In Texas, as in other states, the primaries are set up by county party chairmen, not the Secretary of State's office, the agency that oversees the state's elections. Unfortunately, there isn't enough time to organize a Democratic primary for the March 2nd election.

Jessica researched online about why a Democratic primary was not scheduled for Hansford County. She found out that it was because of lack of a county chair.

She then contacted Brian Pendleton, Deputy Political Director for County Party Services for the Texas Democratic Party. He sent her an information packet, a to-do list, and a list of contacts.

Jessica's primary responsibilities include leading the county's Executive Committee; working closely with candidates, precinct chairs, and the TDP Staff; conducting primary elections and certifying results; and building a network of volunteers and precinct chairs.

Jessica is married to Steve and they have two daughters, Kaysee 6 and Faith 3. Her parents are Alfredo and Isabel Moreno. She currently works at Dr. Mark Garnett's clinic as a receptionist.

If you would like to be involved in the Hansford County Democratic party, please contact Jessica at jessica_yazmin_villegas@hotmail.com, or call 806-336-1021.

Weather Forecast

FRIDAY - Partly cloudy. Slight chance of light snow in the morning - then a slight chance of light rain in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 40s. North winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

FRIDAY NIGHT - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 20s. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph shifting to the southeast after midnight.

SATURDAY - Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of light snow and light rain in the morning - then a slight chance of light rain in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 40s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

SATURDAY NIGHT - Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of light rain and light snow in the evening - then a slight chance of light snow after midnight. Lows in the upper 20s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

SUNDAY - Mostly cloudy. Slight chance of light snow in the morning - then a slight chance of light rain and light snow in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 30s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

SUNDAY NIGHT - Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy. Lows around 20.

Texas Crop & Weather

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by Panhandle Extension directors: The region appeared to be locked in a holding pattern with another week of snow and moisture. Those producers growing crops, particularly wheat for grain, appreciated the extra moisture, but it caused problems for those trying to graze cattle on wheat pasture or haul hay. Most cattle on wheat were being fed hay, and mud was a big problem on roads and in pens. Most producers opted to feed hay in the early morning hours when the ground was still frozen. Warmer temperatures at the end of the reporting period were expected to stimulate wheat growth. Field work in preparation for sorghum planting was delayed due to the recent snow.

Local Citizens Propose Monument to Commissioners Court

by Catherine Smith

Several Hansford County citizens approached the Hansford County Commissioner's Court on December 14, 2009 about the possibility of erecting a monument on the courthouse square. The monument they proposed would include quotes by United States founding fathers, Hansford County citizens, and the Ten Commandments.

When approached, the Hansford County Commissioner's Court responded that the only kind of monument that could be erected on the courthouse square is a historical monument.

The group then approached the Stationmaster's House Museum to ask for their assistance. The Hansford County Historical Commission agreed to help with the monument, with a unanimous vote of approval.

On Monday, January 25, 2010, the Hansford County Commissioner's Court approved a motion to allow the placement of a historical monument on the courthouse square by the Hansford County Historical Commission featuring quotes by founding fathers and local citizens of Hansford County, including the Ten Commandments (after approval of the design) at no cost to the county for the monument or the installation of the monument.

The question, however, is would this monument violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution? If the monument has a predominately religious purpose, it is a clear violation of the Constitution.

Hartley County, Dallam County and Moore County all have monuments in front of the courthouse with the Ten Commandments. The Hutchison County Commissioners Court has recently been approached about placing a monument on courthouse property as well.

"One concern is that the placement of

all of these monuments in the Texas Panhandle will make national news, which will open us up for a lawsuit," commented a courthouse employee (who wishes to remain anonymous). "When a lawsuit is filed, it will be filed against the county, not the people who were responsible for the monument. That will end up costing the citizens of Hansford County court fees, as well as the removal of the monument."

If you have any questions regarding the Commissioners Court decision, you may contact Hansford County Judge Benny Wilson at 806-659-4100, Precinct 1 Commissioner Ira G. "Butch" Reed, Precinct 2 Commissioner Joe T. Venneman, Precinct 3 Commissioner Tim Stedje or Precinct 4 Commissioner Danny Henson. If you have any questions about the proposed monument, you may contact any member of the Hansford County Historical Commission (Jennie Blankenship, Helen Boyd, J.D. Wilbanks, Rubyjo Wilbanks, Joel Lee Lackey, Cindy Blackman, and Joanne Eaton).

See related "Letter to the Editor" on page 2.



Pictured above is the monument at the Moore County Courthouse in Dumas.

Hansford Food Pantry Reorganized

by Catherine Smith



Cecil Biggers

"City dwellers may look down on small town life and wonder what a small town could possibly have to offer. What is there to see and do? Why choose to live out in the middle of nowhere?" (The Benefits of Small Town America by Sophie S.)

The best thing a small town has to offer is a sense of community. With this sense of community, however, comes great responsibility.

Cecil Biggers, Lutheran Lay Minister for the Faith and Grace Church in Spearman, recently saw a need and began to do whatever he could to meet it. The need he saw is hunger in Hansford County, more accurately described as food insecurity.

To meet this need, Cecil approached the Spearman Ministerial Alliance. They then formed a 501c3 non-profit organization, Spearman Ministerial Alliance, Inc., with the purpose of running the Hansford County food pantry, to be known as the Hansford Food Pantry.

For the past several years, the Hansford County food pantry has been housed at the Hansford County Courthouse. No one was really in charge of it, and it was dependent on donations from local citizens, churches, and food drives by the schools and the local Boy Scouts.

In addition to the food pantry at the courthouse, the High Plains Food Bank mobile

It is not only for what we do that we are held responsible, but also for what we do not do.

John Baptiste Molière

unit has been making trips to the Hansford County barn in Spearman once a month with food deliveries. Currently they are serving about 80 families with food boxes. (In order to receive food through the High Plains Food Bank, recipients must first qualify through Panhandle Community Services, 806-376-5947).

"There is a greater need than we realize," commented Cecil Biggers. "The First Christian Church has been sponsoring Manna Ministry for a couple of years, but many people can't afford it. There is a need for something more."

"I first became aware of the need when told of a child who said they couldn't attend a covered-dish event because his family didn't have any food," continued Biggers. "That really got to me and I decided to do something about it."

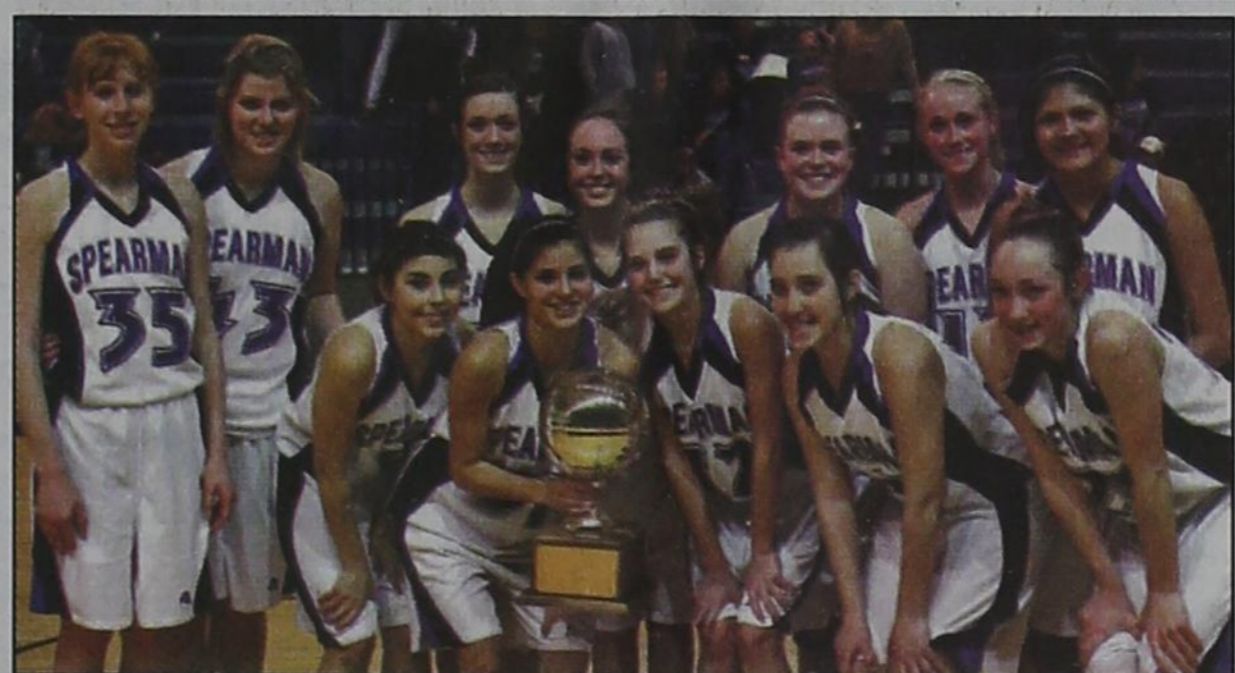
Biggers has donated the use of a building he owns, located at 210 Main Street in Spearman, to house the Hansford Food Pantry. A workday has been scheduled for Saturday, February 27th to help prepare the building for use. The Methodist Men have agreed to build shelves for the building, and they have already received donations of freezers, refrigerators and money.

Life is a gift, and it offers us the privilege, opportunity, and responsibility to give something back by becoming more.

Anthony Robbins

Much more will be needed once the Hansford Food Pantry is open, including volunteers to help operate and organize, as well as the obvious - food.

If you would like to make a donation, or would like more information, please call 806-659-5531.



The Spearman Lynxettes defeated Dimmitt 57-45 on Tuesday, February 16th in Canyon to take the Bi-District Title. The Lynxettes will play Sonora at Lubbock Coronado on Friday, February 19th at 7 p.m. for the Area Championship. (See related story on Page 6.)

Sheriff's Department Warns About Collect Calls

The Hansford County Sheriff Department and the Gruver Police Department have received reports from citizens stating they're experiencing collect calls from the Harris County Jail in Houston, Texas. These calls may or may not be coming from the Harris County Jail.

The call begins with a recorded message stating that it is a collect call from the jail. The recipient is then instructed to call back to a particular number, then press *72 or #69. If the recipient does this, his or her phone service is then forwarded to the other number. To possibly clear the forwarded phone number, dial *73 and wait for three quick tones before hanging up.

The person using that phone number then can place whatever calls he or she wants at your expense.

Be advised that these calls should be suspicious. If you receive one of these calls, just hang up. If they call back again, just hang up again.



Twelve Mission Petroleum tractor trailers were in the Alco parking lot in Spearman during lunch on Tuesday, February 16th. Mission Petroleum meets in Spearman for their quarterly meetings for the area.

Mission Petroleum Descends Upon Spearman

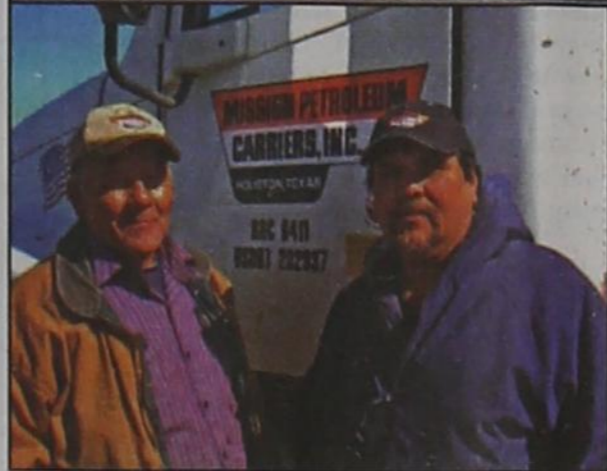
Mission Petroleum Carriers, Inc., a bulk commodity transport company operating throughout the continental United States, Canada and Mexico, was in Spearman on Tuesday, February 16th for their area quarterly meeting. Mission's primary focus is in the transportation of gasoline and diesel fuels and in the gathering and transportation of crude oil.

Mission operates terminals and satellite facilities in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Kansas, and on the Mexican border. They hold quarterly meetings in Spearman for

the Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and New Mexico offices.

Based in Houston, Texas, Mission has been providing customers with exceptional service since 1965. It employs 515 people, has 15 terminals, 325 tractors and 365 trailers.

Mission Petroleum would like to thank Alco for allowing them to use their parking lot for their trucks. They would also like to thank The Bunkhouse for allowing them to use the restaurant for their quarterly lunch meetings.



Arlington Barnes of Dumas, a mechanic for Mission Petroleum Carriers and Richard Martinez of Booker, a truck driver for Mission Petroleum Carriers were two of twenty-two attending the quarterly meeting on Tuesday, February 16th in Spearman.



Wolf Creek Heritage Museum Notes

MUSEUM HAPPENINGS
The Darrouzett students ignored the cold on Wednesday and journeyed to the museum to enjoy their art work. There were two groups and they had fun exploring the museum to see how the art was displayed and to see what was new in our regular exhibits. It is always fun to watch and listen to children's reactions to the art, discussing history, and their ideas.

Higgins came on Thursday and had a great time. They included an exploration of the Shepherd's wagon with their visit. They were interested in how the wagon was equipped for eating, sleeping, cooking, and visiting. To think the first RV was pulled by mules, oxen, and horses.

The stories are starting to come in and we are busy typing and cataloging. Be sure you get your story in for the history book. Look at it like the 2010 Census, we want a good record of Lipscomb County in 2010.

Every household should submit a story. The length is one page, double spaced - not long at all. Make sure

someone is preparing the story of the churches and schools, too. We have received only two churches and no schools as yet. The deadline is April 1st.

HISTORICAL MUSINGS

Since this is President's Day, I thought a historical tidbit pertaining to our government would be appropriate.

On February 15, 1876, Texas adopted the Texas Constitution of 1876. It was the sixth constitution Texas had been governed by since declaring independence from Mexico. The constitution of 1876 (one of the longest) reflects the influences of Spanish and Mexican rule, and the author's purpose was to undo the measures implemented during reconstruction. Despite having been amended more than 230 times, it remains the basic law of Texas today.

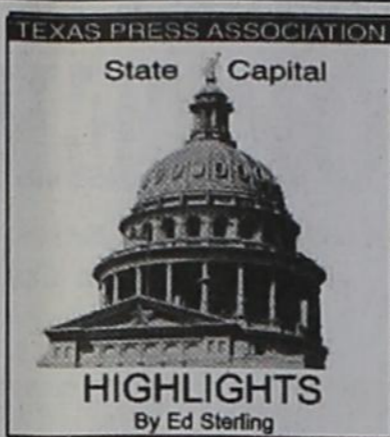
Weather tidbit to warm you. On February 12, 1899, Tulia reported the coldest temperature ever recorded in Texas - minus 23 degrees Fahrenheit. This was part of the "Big Freeze," a norther

that killed 40,000 cattle across the state overnight. This temperature was matched in Seminole in 1933. Our 17 degrees of this week sounds warm.

In Lipscomb in the February 10, 1888 issue of the Panhandle Interstate, the editors reported a visit by Deputy U.S. Marshal Stillwell and chief of police at the Cheyenne and Arapaho Agency, Indian Territory. They were accompanied by Charles Brelsford of KH Ranch. The purpose of the visit was to inform the town that the Cherokee Strip would most likely be opened to white settlement in the near future.

He reported that most of the Chickasaws, Cheyennes and Arapahoes had agreed to open their lands to the white man. The paper stated that "He (Stillwell) seemed well pleased with both our town and country, and predicts that the next twelve or sixteen months will witness the greatest rush of immigration to Northwest Texas that was ever known in the west."

The first Oklahoma Land Rush occurred approximately 16 months later on May 18, 1889.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS



by Ed Sterling

Medicaid pay could drop to meet budget demands

AUSTIN — Texas doctors, dentists and hospitals could find their Medicaid fees reduced by 1 percent if a budget reduction plan forwarded by the state Health and Human Services Commission is adopted.

HHS Commissioner Tom Suehs said health care providers, including nursing homes and group homes for the mentally disabled, could see a 2 percent reduction when treating adults.

Stephanie Goodman, spokeswoman for the commission, said the commission has not yet adopted the plan.

The budget-cutting proposal also includes reducing the number of beds for psychiatric patients, postponing hiring new food safety inspectors and trimming 10 percent from the money that trauma hospitals receive from the Driver Responsibility Program.

Suehs offered the \$304 million in reductions after a request from state leaders for agencies to find ways to trim 5 percent of their budgets to meet a projected budget shortfall.

Texas boosted Medicaid payments for pediatric care and child-dental care in recent years in response to a class-action lawsuit. Some fear that progress in Medicaid care could be undone if the reimbursements are trimmed.

Lottery bid deadline extended

Texas lottery officials have added another 30 days to the deadline for companies to bid on the contract to run the state lottery.

The extra time was added because of possible information-sharing between current lottery vendor GTECH Corp. and a lottery consultant.

Gary Grief, executive director of the state lottery, said companies now have an extra month to bid on the contract while state officials investigate the possible collusion.

GTECH had a contract with consultant Gartner Inc. during the time Gartner was helping Texas lottery officials write bid specifications for a new contract.

GTECH President Jaymin Patel said there was no sharing of information and no conflict of interest. But some state

officials believe GTECH might have had a competitive advantage because of the contract with Gartner.

Perry seeks federal reimbursement

Gov. Rick Perry said he will ask the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to reimburse Texas for holding illegal immigrants awaiting deportation or serving prison sentences for crimes.

Perry said Texas spends \$13.5 million a month on illegal immigrants, including approximately 9,000 in custody of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Perry said he intends to send a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano asking for the reimbursement.

There's precedent for the state seeking money back from Uncle Sam. For example, Gov. Ann Richards and others sued the federal government in 1994 seeking \$5 billion to care for, educate and incarcerate illegal immigrants.

Eventually \$42 million was provided to several states, including Texas, to cover some of those costs.

More details on new jobs program

State officials have launched a new "Texas Back to Work" project that offers incentive payments to businesses that hire unemployed workers.

Earlier this month, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and Texas Workforce Commission officials said as many as 15,000 unemployed workers could find jobs through the program.

Texas companies will be eligible for \$500 a month for four months for hiring someone who is receiving unemployment insurance or whose unemployment insurance benefits have expired.

Those hired must have earned \$15 an hour in their previous jobs, and only private-sector employers qualify for the benefit.

Dewhurst said the Legislature approved \$15 million for the program last session and that funding can be extended.

The Workforce Commission has applied for \$50 million in federal funding as well. The Texas unemployment rate is at 8.3 percent.

Anti-money laundering pact made

As part of a \$94 million settlement, Western Union has reached an agreement with Texas, California, Arizona and New Mexico to share information on wire transfers from the United States to fight illegal money laundering.

The agreement also creates the Southwest Border Anti-Money Laundering Alliance.

As part of the settlement, Western Union will provide information regarding certain wire transfers sent to or from authorized Western Union locations within Texas, share Suspicious Activity Reports about wire transfers to and from Texas and the other states and provide information about transactions suspected of having a connection to human trafficking operations.

Good Health Naturally

by Darlene Hopkins

I live in Hooker Ok. I am a mother and housewife by profession and a Master Herbalist by choice. I obtained my Herbalist and Master Herbalist Degrees from the School of Natural Healing in Springville Utah. Dr. John Ray Christopher started this school in 1953. I teach classes on Natural Health in Colorado, Kansas, Texas and Oklahoma.

If you have a question, you may e-mail me at theherblady01@yahoo.com.

Recently I was asked to pray for a 32-year-old man. He and his wife are getting ready to have their second baby. He was having some headaches and one eye was becoming blurry and giving him some problems, so he went to the doctors. The doctors could not find anything wrong so they sent him home. That evening while sleeping he suffered a stroke, his wife called 911 and he is in intensive care, he is partially paralyzed. It makes me think of another acquaintance that we have known for about 8 years. She is 52 and retired this past summer. She was moving to be near her family when she suffered a heart attack and died.

I write about this now, in hopes that the knowledge I have found will be of benefit to someone who reads this. I have taught about this herb for at least 10 years possibly longer. I have seen GREAT results with it, even after a stroke or heart attack. Dr. Christopher called it the number one first aid herb. It is Cayenne Pepper.

This Herb is a stimulant - it feeds the necessary elements into the cell structure

of the arteries, veins and capillaries so that they regain youthful elasticity and so that the blood pressure returns to normal. It equalizes the blood pressure, influencing the heart immediately. It also helps to cut the mucus throughout the body. It will increase a person's feeling of vitality and activity without any side effects. It kills germs. The most common use of this herb is as a gastric stimulant and a digestive aid. It helps rebuild the stomach tissue and stimulates peristalsis, helping one to assimilate and eliminate your food.

What a POWERFUL herb. It is something that most people have in their home. It is not something that grows in the tropical forest and costs a lot of money to get. I have used Cayenne Pepper in a number of emergency situations and it has worked.

Please read about this herb for yourself. It is hard to believe that it can do so much but is used so little. I have used it and continue to use it regularly.

Cayenne is rich in the vitamins A, C, iron, potassium and calcium. It also contains some B complex, magnesium, phosphorus and sulfur. We hear about how great vitamin E is. Cayenne is a rich source of Vitamin E.

I have found it is helpful with headaches. It stops bleeding quickly, healing a wound, lowers blood pressure and cholesterol, circulation, stroke, and heart attack.

Dr. Christopher was in his thirties when he was told by the medical doctors that he could not live past his for-

ties, because of his many health problems - hardening of the arteries, arthritis, stomach ulcers and an automobile accident (which damaged his body pretty badly). He lived into his 80's and he attributed his good health to Cayenne. He died after slipping on some ice - totally unrelated to any of his illnesses.

Cayenne, or capsacin, has been widely studied for its pain-reducing effects, its cardiovascular benefits, and its ability to help prevent ulcers. Cayenne also effectively opens and drains congested nasal passages.

Something that amazes me is that most people that I talk to, that have stomach problems such as ulcers, say they can not handle Cayenne. As a rule medical doctors eliminate hot foods from the diets of ulcer patients and people with delicate digestion, but research has shown that the opposite is true. Herbalists recommend Cayenne for such a problem.

Something I need to mention is that Cayenne should be used raw. Do not cook with it. It can be put on top of food after cooking, but if it is cooked it changes the Cayenne, and it then damages the body. I could go on and on, about the benefits of Cayenne Pepper. It is something so simple, so available, and so very valuable. And yet it is neglected. I believe it is because people do not understand or believe it works. Read about it; the internet is loaded with studies. Learn for yourself the benefits of this NUMBER ONE FIRST AID HERB... You will be glad you did!

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SPICES

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

ACROSS

- System of numbering pages
- Ampere
- Cloud above race-track?
- It surrounds lagoon?
- *Tabasco sauce and booze are found here
- Bolshevik
- *Chopped, as in peppers
- Tolstoy or DiCaprio
- Point of sacrifice
- Plump
- Voting document
- Prefix meaning wrongful or bad
- Whipping mark
- NHL's rival, 1972-1979
- Time past
- *Spray or spice
- Short for radians
- Nun's skullcap
- House pest
- Backward arrow command on computer
- *The other ingredient in little girls
- At the proper time
- Middays
- Via
- Grand
- *Spicy castaway on "Gilligan's Island"

DOWN

- It has no staying power?
- Relating to ear
- Nessie's hangout
- Part of small intestine
- *Classic American spice blend
- Competently
- Legendary West
- Space exploration mission
- *Popular pickling spice
- Archaic for "to"
- German card game
- High rocky hill
- Be deliberately unclear
- Country alliances
- One of a range in Europe
- Of crucial import
- Twisted, as in clothes
- Capital of Vietnam
- Supplementary component
- Overwhelming defeat
- *Where cardamom or peas live
- *Where cardamom or peas live
- *Where cardamom or peas live
- "American Idol"
- Enthusiastic approval
- "Cat" and "rat" do this
- It is sung
- Cab payment
- It's popular on "Dancing with the Stars"
- Threads used to keep a wound open
- *BBQ sauce typically goes on it
- Handgun
- Smartly dressed
- Model Campbell
- *Jamaican rub
- Colloquial approval
- Aggressive remark
- Asian strolling herb or Paris street
- Right to a property
- Cul de
- Aquarium scum
- *Swan Lake" step
- *Strong-scented perennial woody herb or Paris street

SUDOKU

PRESENTED BY

Where volunteering begins.

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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.

CROSSWORD

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Where volunteering begins.

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Happy Birthday!

February 18
Birthdays - Vickie Bullard, Carla Jo Riggins, Luke Stroud, Beau Roberts, Buck Sell, Edith Breland, Blain Rutherford, J.D. Poer
Anniversary - M/M Richie Fletcher

February 19
Birthdays - Melissa Quillin, Delphine Etling, Bob Womble, Stephanie Hays, Bennie Brogdon, David Kellum, Sylvia Rosales, Niki Taylor, Robert Dean Meire, Chuck Ball, Sylvia Taranto
Anniversary - M/M Dorsey Perez, M/M Lupe Moreno, M/M Larry Trosper

February 20
Birthdays - Brant Armes, Ed Mayfield, Greg Stork, Tessa Yanke, Kathy Brown, John Antalek, Terry Morris, Melissa Holt, Brenda Moyer, Steve Shields, Clayton Hergert, Bill Volden, Cody Brandvick, Rosemary McKee, Jeannie Folwen, Pauline McGee, Richey Thompson

Anniversary - M/M Wilson Bruning, M/M Charles Evans, M/M Jon Hart

February 21
Birthdays - Sandra Profitt, Walter McDade, Lisa Meisner, Raul Ortega, Ann Thomas, Chandler Adkins, Tom Speck, C.J. Renteria
Anniversary - Ken & JoAnn Schneider

February 22
Birthdays - Russell Dahl, Rhonda Hicks, Betty Mathews, Ryan Mathews, Sherri Hall, Tim Cook, Bobby Jo Grayson, Paul Reimer, Sonny Kell, DeAnn Sparkman, Derryla Stedje, Connie Davis, Linda Coombs, Jack Sparks, Brenda Winegarner, Kreisun Dominguez
Anniversary - M/M Jason Bass, M/M Freddy Walton

February 23
Birthdays - Hailey Lamb, Randy Reid, Dave Clement, Janyth Smith, Cynthia Miller, Phil Larson, Aaron Hager, Kacee Smith, Elizabeth Pipkin, Jim McMahan, Maxine Cline, Jason Bartimos, Edollina Garcia, Tommy Regar, Daryl Noble, Mollie Burnam, Alan Jones
Anniversary - M/M Richard Raser, M/M Joe Rodriguez, M/M Tommy Boone

February 24
Birthdays - Lori Messer, Linda Scroggs, Adam Holaday, Mani Noble, Tiffany Goodrich, Chuck Morgan, Sherry Boyd, Fernando Saldana, Glenda Close, Barbara Townsen, David Swink, Frances Davis
Anniversary - M/M Tom Cathey Sr., M/M Quentin Hart, Andrea & Gary Woolley

February 25
Birthdays - Marian Tomlinson, Lynna Renner, Don Schmer, Mike Brown, Leslie Paul, Crystal Carson, Loree Viola, Tabettha Thoms
Anniversary - Bob & Jackie Pearson

February 26
Birthdays - Debbie Davis, Bruce Knight, Suzie Womble, Burl Buchanan, Pam Edwards, Margie Schubert, Lynn Pierce, Marinell Webster, Deziree Hughes, Carol Poole, LaQuita Evans, Bob Meier, Kip Francis, Denise Paschel, Tony Holquin, Nicholas Cenicerros, Kay Ann Miller
Anniversary - Britt & Linda Jarvis

February 27
Birthdays - Roy Diaz, Colby Weldon, Sharon Sutton, Cindy Jenkins, Adrian Barrera, Rosie Jackson, Melinda Hall, Winnie Vernon, Clint Goodman, Lance Wood, Vanessa Vela, Lacey Salgado

February 28
Birthdays - Robert Blount, Max Davis, Karen Sparks, Shannon Bowling, Debbie Carter, James Lair, Sammy Don Jones, Edna Anderson, Willie Shields, Hal Bennett, Davis Nash, Parker Grotegut
Anniversary - M/M Gilbert Salgado, Tim & Jackie Nelson

February 29
Birthdays - Clifton Harden, Michael Holt

March 1
Birthdays - Lori Swink, Justin Ooley, David Stafford, Michael Rosales, Gary Cates, Ruby Mitchell, Mary Saldava, Nora Baca, John Duncan, Peggy Robinson, Caleb Miller, Danny Parker, Colt Close
Anniversary - M/M Robbie Dewberry, M/M Harold King, Norlan & Linda Winegarner, Jeffrey & Danielle Jackson

March 2
Birthdays - Wynn (Maupin) Essler, Justin Thompson, Tonni Yanke, Olive "Babe" Pendergraft, Wayne Barber, Matthew Baker, Carma Dorton, Bob Farr, Robin McCullough, Rachelle Moreno, Josh Winegarner, Ryan Hill, Sammy Renteria
Anniversary - M/M Joel Lackey

March 3
Birthdays - Sue Smith, Jackie Womble, Vicky (Papay) Cummings, Doris Brogdon, Kim Scroggs, Kelley Hart, Cass Lasater, Andy Scarborough, Brian Black, Darla Black, Amber Fox, Allan Taylor, Denise Schuman, Crystal Harris, Richard Melton, Paxton Pittman, Matti Wheelock, Pam Schnell, Sandra Reeves

Words from Faith & Grace



by Cecil R. Biggers, Lutheran Lay Minister

We begin the Season of Lent, a time for self-assessment and getting back to the basics of our Christian faith. We study Deuteronomy 16: 1-11, Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16, Romans 10: 8b-13, and Luke 4: 1-13.

Moses tells the people when they arrive in the promised land that they should make a "thank offering" to God from the first fruits of land God has given them. The believer is to make the offering and recite a "creed" which identifies the community to which the believer belongs, the people who are his kin, and the God to whom he offers worship and praise. This is an original 'thanksgiving.' Our Christian life is often tested by doubt and terror. We struggle between God as revealed to us and God who is hidden from our sight. We fear that our sin is too great for God's forgiveness; we fear that our faith is misplaced. During these times we should contemplate this original believer's creed. What faith community do I belong to, who are my kin as believers, what God do I place my trust in? There is comfort and peace with the Spirit.

Psalm 91, sometimes called the "soldier's psalm," is a song of praise to God who is the refuge and fortress of the believer. A God who cares for his children and delivers them from evil. In the history of the Church, this psalm came to be identified with God's Messiah. Notice in this week's lessons, that this Psalm is quoted by Satan in the third 'test' of Jesus.

Romans 10-11 can be read as a condemnation of the Jewish attitude toward religion. This is not Paul being anti-Semitic (he after all was a Jew's Jew); it is an attack on the idea that we earn "credit" with God by keeping the law, that we 'earn' our own salvation. Paul emphasizes that the good news in Jesus Christ is open to all. Paul cites Joel 2:32, "All who call upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered" and he cites Isaiah 28:16, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame". Paul emphasizes that if we believe in our heart that Jesus was raised by God from the dead, and we confess with our lips that Jesus is Lord, we are being saved. This is something an Orthodox Jew could not accept, and this was the source of Paul's grief for his people.

We then read of Jesus, who after his baptism by John, after being proclaimed as the Chosen of God, flees into the wilderness for forty days where he is 'tested'. Satan approaches Jesus with a series of three questions, which are prefaced, "If you are the Son of God...". The 'tests' of Christ are all related to the use of power to be great here in this world. The first was to seek the approval of his fellow men by providing them bread. Jesus' response, "Man does not live by bread alone". The second was to allow Satan to make him ruler of all the kingdoms of the world, if Jesus would only worship him. Jesus' response, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him". The third was to throw himself from the pinnacle of the temple so as to impress the crowds. Jesus' response, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." Jesus by these responses shows what course he will take as Messiah. He will not be the great provider, he will not be obedient to anyone but God, he will not use his power to 'amaze' people into following him; instead, Jesus becomes the suffering servant, the obedient Son of God. Consider dear Christian that you too will face tests which encourage you to rely on your own strength and actions to obtain your salvation. Remember that you are saved by God's grace through belief in Jesus Christ.

May the Holy Spirit keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus that you may pass your 'tests'!

Our Sympathy

MARY MAGDALENE PALMER
 BORGER - Mary Magdalene Palmer, 92, died Wednesday, February 10, 2010, in Spearman.
 Services were at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 13, 2010 in Minton/Chatwell Funeral Directors Minton Memorial Chapel with Richard Kasko, minister of Fritch Church of Christ, officiating. Burial was in Highland Park Cemetery.
 Mrs. Palmer was born September 3, 1917, in Personville. She was a retired school cook and a homemaker.
 Survivors include two sons, Troy Palmer of Cordell, OK, and Coyt Palmer of Amarillo; three daughters, Julia Fortune and Mary Shelton, both of Borger, and Mona Dees of Mount Home, AR; 12 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.
 The family suggests memorials be to High Plains Children's Home, P.O. Box 7448, Amarillo TX 79114.

RICHARD D. SMITH
 SPEARMAN - Richard D. Smith, 79, died Saturday, February 13, 2010.
 Graveside services were at 3 p.m. Monday, February 15, 2010 in Hansford Cemetery with the Rev. Neely Landrum officiating. Arrangements were by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Spearman.
 Mr. Smith was born October 13, 1930, in Ashland, KS. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and a former volunteer firefighter.
 Survivors include a daughter, Mary Smith of California; a son, Charles Smith of Nevada; close friend and former wife, Edna Smith of California; and five grandchildren.

GUILLERMO "WILLIE" VASQUEZ
 SPEARMAN - Guillermo Vasquez, 88, died Tuesday, February 16, 2010.
 Graveside services will be at Hansford Cemetery on Friday, February 19, 2010 at 11 a.m. Interment will be under the direction of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Spearman.
 Guillermo was born in Reynosa, Mexico on February 10, 1922. He married Julia Irlis on March 13, 1943 in Donna, TX. She preceded him in death in 2004.
 He was a farm laborer.
 Survivors include five sons, Julio Vasquez of Spearman, Benny Vasquez of Kansas City, MO, Israel Vasquez and Willie Vasquez of Spearman, and Roy Vasquez of Gruver; two daughters, Minnie Ureste of Friona and Linda Diaz of Gruver; a brother, Reyes Vasquez of Santa Rosa, CA; a sister, Tomira Martinez of Elsa, TX; 23 grandchildren; 52 great-grandchildren; and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

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 Sun. Eve: 6 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Mtg: 7 p.m.
 Pastor - Roland Haney

First Assembly of God
 401 N. Bernice • 659-2295
 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
 Worship: 10:40 a.m.
 Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
 Wed. Worship: 7 p.m.
 Wed. Youth: 7 p.m.
 Pastor - Jerry Pollard

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

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

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
 901 Roland • 659-2792
 Sat. Night Mass: 5:30 p.m.
 Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. - English
 Sun. Mass: 11:30 - Spanish
 1:30 p.m. - Gruver - Christo
 Rector: Rev. Guillermo Morales

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

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

Union Church
 31 S. Endicott • 659-2644
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wed.
 Youth Service: 6 p.m. Wed.
 Pastor - Don Baltazor

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

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

El Aposento Alto U.P.C.I.
 1105 S. Roland
 Domingos: Escuela-Dominical - 10 a.m.
 Culto Evangelistico - 7 p.m.
 Jueves: Oracion - 8 p.m.
 Mier. Estudio Biblico - 7 p.m.
 Pastor - A.G. Martelli
 (806) 659-2153

Gruver

First Baptist Church
 402 E. Broadway • 733-2411
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 10:50 a.m.
 Disciple Training: 6 p.m. Sunday
 Prayer Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday
 Pastor - Scott Curry

Church of Christ
 209 King • 733-2760
 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
 Worship: 10:20 a.m.
 Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
 Wed. Worship: 7:00 p.m.
 Minister - Gayford Cook

First Christian Church
 510 King • 733-2960
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
 Youth: 7:30, Sunday
 Adult Bible Study: 7:30, Sun.
 Wed. Bible Study: 8:00 p.m.
 Pastor - Gary Gumfory

Gruver United Methodist
 Broadway & Garrett
 733-2851
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 8:30 & 10:50 a.m.
 Eve. Worship & UMY: 6 p.m.
 Pastor - George Price

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

Oslo

Oslo Lutheran Church (ELCA)
 6 Miles West & 12 Miles
 North of Gruver
 339-7646
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 11 a.m.
 Pastor - Arlen Lloyd

Morse

Morse Baptist Church
 733-2757
 Pastor - Mike Martin

Waka

Church of Christ
 300 Rogers Ave.
 202-7126
 Sunday Worship: 6 p.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study: 6 p.m.
 Preacher - James Gordon

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

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HYI

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Medical Fund for Bruce Duncan
A medical fund has been established for Bruce Duncan at First National Bank, Spearman. If you would like to make a donation you may make a deposit with any teller or mail a donation to First National Bank, Bruce Duncan Medical Fund, PO Box 337, Spearman TX 79081.

March 4th Primary Early Voting
Applications for ballots by mail for the March 2nd Republican Primary must be received on or before Tuesday, February 23rd. Early voting will be held at the Hansford County Courthouse in Spearman and the branch office in Gruver City Hall from February 16th-26th, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The primary election day will be Tuesday, March 2, 2010 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Late Night Voting Information
Late night voting for the March 2, 2010 Republican Primary Election will be available on Thursday, February 18th and February 25th until 8 p.m.

Miss Irish Rose Pageant
Once again, Shamrock, TX will be hosting their annual St. Patrick's Celebration on March 19-21, 2010. One of the many highlights of this celebration is the crowning of Miss Irish Rose. This Scholarship Pageant is open to all young ladies who are between the ages of 14-19 and enrolled in high school. None of the contestants need to live in the Shamrock area, nor do they need to be currently holding a title or reign. The 2010 Miss Irish Rose, along with her three runner-ups and Miss Congeniality, will be receiving a scholarship to the college of her choice. For further information, please send a S.A.S.E. to Gaylynn Otts at PO Box 107, Shamrock TX 79079 or call Gaylynn at 806-256-5188. You can also call the Chamber of Commerce Office at 806-256-2501. The deadline for entry forms to be received is March 3, 2010.

Stock Show Sale, Add-Ons & Goat Share Donations
If you were unable to come to the stock show sale, add-ons and goat share donations can be taken at any time by email until March 15, 2010 at hansfordstockshow@gmail.com.

Ochiltree County Grain Sorghum Meeting
Texas AgriLife Extension will be sponsoring a grain sorghum meeting at the Ochiltree County Expo Center on Monday, February 22, 2010 for area producers. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Topics covered will include Sorghum Management, Insect Management, Hybrids, and Market Outlook. This meeting will offer 3 CEU's. For more information contact Ochiltree County Extension Agent Scott Strawn at 806-435-4501.

BBBS Walk for Kids' Sake 2010
Walk for Kids' Sake, the annual fundraiser benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters, will be held Saturday, February 20, 2010 at the Ochiltree County Expo Center. Anyone who would like to serve as a team captain or who needs more information should call 434-0016.

Concealed Handgun Course Offered
A concealed handgun course will be offered on Saturday, March 6th (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) and Sunday, March 7th (2-6 p.m.) at Mur Mur's Cafe in Spearman. The cost is \$125 for the instructional course with a certificate and targets provided. (The State fee is dependent on age and/or occupation and ranges from \$25-\$140 for a 5-year license.) If interested in attending this class, please contact Dee Mayfield at (806) 330-0269

Gruver Memorial Tournaments
The 5th and 6th grade Debby Chisum Memorial Basketball Tournament is Feb. 18th-20th. Everyone is invited to come and support the future Hounds and Lady Hounds!!

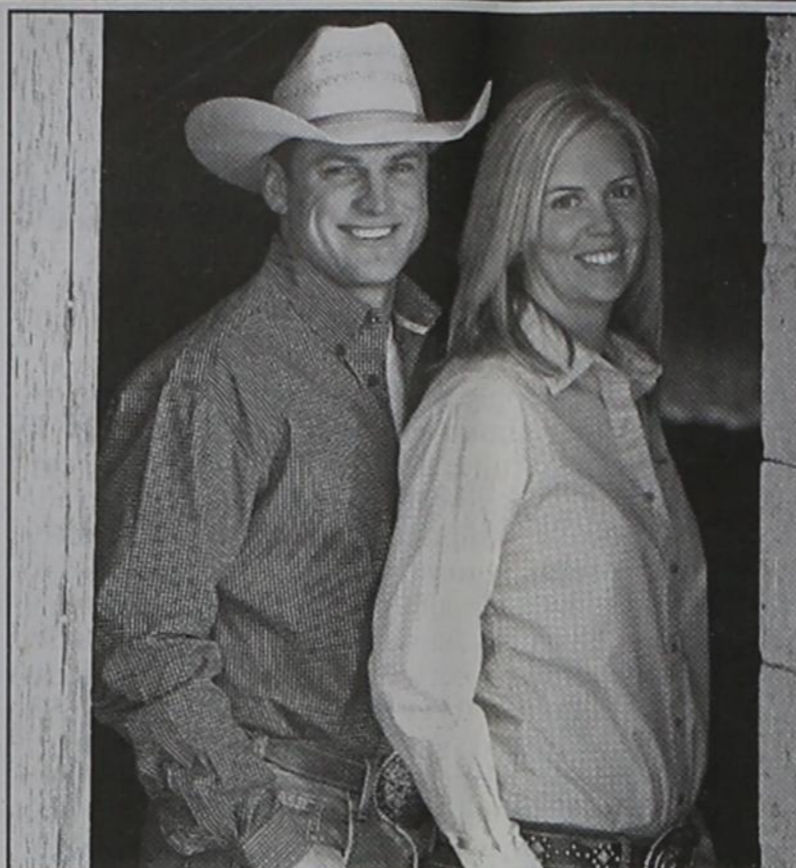
SHS All School Reunion July 2 & 3, 2010
The Spearman High School All-School Reunion will be held July 2nd & 3rd, 2010. If you have information regarding a specific class reunion, please contact the Hansford County Reporter-Statesman. We will list the specific information for each class reunion, as well as the information for the All-School Reunion in the newspaper as we receive it. Information may be mailed to: Reporter-Statesman, 213 Main Street, Spearman TX 79081; e-mailed to: reporter@spearmanreporter.com; faxed: 806-398-9080; or phoned in: 806-659-3434.

Spearman Chamber of Commerce Banquet
The Spearman Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2010 at The O'Loughlin Center, 502 S. Brandt, in Spearman. Further information will be available as the date grows nearer.

SPWA Seeks Volunteers
The Southwest Pioneer Windmill Association is seeking the next generation of volunteers to continue the work of restoring and maintaining the windmills of the SPWA. If you have an interest in windmills and their upkeep, and/or maintenance of the park, you are needed. For information, call Dwayne Mitchell, 270-0291 or Don Reed 330-0745.

Fire Department Donations
Persons wishing to make donations to the Fire Departments in Hansford County may do so at the following addresses: Spearman Fire Dept., Box 37, Spearman TX 79081; Gruver Fire Dept., Box 947, Gruver TX 79040 or Morse Fire Dept., Box 28, Morse TX 79062

Youth Writing Contest
Panhandle Professional Writers has announced its 2010 Youth Writing Contest. The competition is open to any student in grades three through twelve. Entries must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2010. Complete rules and entry forms may be found online at www.panhandleprowriters.org. There are three age groups: grades three through five, six through eight, and nine through twelve.



Engagement Announcement

Kevin and Ronda Holt of Gruver, Texas, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kaylee Elizabeth Holt to Trell Thomas Etbauer, son of Robert and Sue Etbauer of Goodwell, Oklahoma.

Kaylee is the granddaughter of Pat and Georgia Holt of Gruver and Pat Mosher and the late Ron Honey of La Junta, CO.

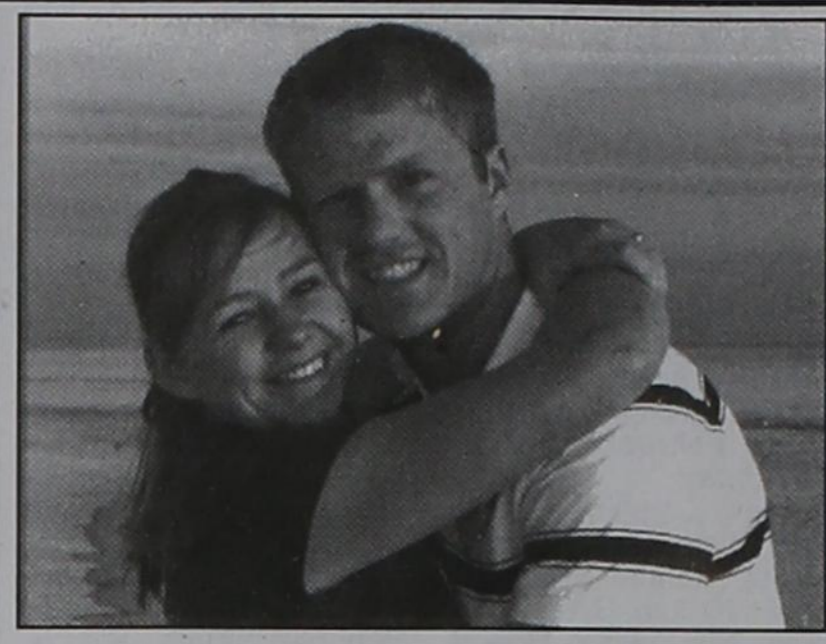
Trell is the grandson of Lyle and Bev Etbauer of Moorcroft, WY and Tom and Mary Ann Allsworth of La Junta, CO.

Kaylee and Trell plan to wed May 15, 2010, at the Gruver United Methodist Church.

Kaylee is a 2002 graduate of Gruver High School and graduated from Oklahoma State University with degrees in General Business and Marketing in 2006.

Trell is a 2004 graduate of Goodwell High School and graduated from Oklahoma Panhandle State University with a degree in Industrial Technology in 2008.

The couple will make their home in Hansford County, where they will farm and ranch.



Engagement Announcement

Melissa Ruth Bush of Sandusky, Michigan and Mark Stephen TeBeest of Gruver, Texas announce their engagement and approaching marriage.

Melissa is the daughter of Don and Sharon Bush of Sandusky, Michigan. She is the granddaughter of the late Theron and Lucile Bush and the late Edwin and Mary Gray.

Mark is the son of J.P. and Amy TeBeest and the grandson of Leona Stavlo all of Gruver. He is also the grandson of the late Joel Stavlo and the late Ted and Trudie TeBeest. The prospective groom is a 2005 graduate of Gruver High School and a 2008 graduate of Texas Tech University.

The couple is planning a March 6, 2010 wedding at Open Door Missionary Church in Sandusky, Michigan.

A reception for local family and friends is planned for April 11th at Oslo Lutheran Church.

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Melody (Shields) & John McCurry - 2/20
Ashlee Flowers & David Fox - 3/28
Kaylee Holt & Trell Etbauer - 4/13
Crystal Boyd & Douglas Walls - 4/10
Julie Bravo & Evan Cudd - TBSA
Amanda Thompson & Brandon Casdorff
Teela Cox & Marty Miesner
Lisa Espinosa & Dave Pope

Baby Registry

Misha (Davis) & Duane Dorsey (boy) - 2/20
Linda (Lackey) & Chris Ray (girl) - 2/20 (Amarillo)
Brooke (Salmons) & Mike Condry (boy) - 2/20
Angelica Briseno & Antonio Robledo (boy) - 2/20
Jenni & Josh Winegarner (boy) - 2/29
Janett (Ortiz) & Andres Hernandez (boy) - 3/13
Camille (Smith) & Scott Prewett (girl) - 3/27
Kacey (Smith) & Joshua Ivy (boy)
Megan (Dorton) & Justin Raymer (boy)
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Spearman Housing Authority

Projects for 2010

The Spearman Housing Authority is currently considering the following projects for 2010 pertaining to its 5 duplex apartment buildings and grounds:

- Repairing/Cleaning/Re-painting metal roofs
- Repairing/Caulking/Re-painting of soffits & trim & installation of covered guttering system
- Re-modeling front porches and sidewalks of 9 apartment entrances to improve accessibility
- Replacement of windows with Simonton Generations series welded vinyl replacement windows, or close equivalent (quote for each building)
- Replacement of cook stoves (gas, with electric ignition), overhead vent hoods with light, water heaters (tall, 30-gal., electric), refrigerators (17 c.f.) (All quotes for appliances should include delivery/installation charges and 48-hour service guarantee.)
- Installation of 4 separate sewer lines
- Installation of Housing Authority-wide watering system
- Installation of storm shelter (for up to 30 persons)

In addition, Spearman Housing Authority from time to time has need of electricians, plumbers, a/c & heating specialists, carpenters, general handymen and lawn care individuals/contractors. Interested parties may specify availability and apply to be added to our call list. Contact Beverly Cook at (806) 659-9990; leave message on answering machine, if necessary.

Spearman Housing Authority - (806) 659-9990

Letter To The Editor

I recently read an article in the High Plains Observer entitled "Ten Commandments At Hansford County Courthouse A Step Closer." From what I understand, an organization named the Hands and Feet of Christ and the Hansford County Historical Commission have teamed up to create a monument, which will include an inscription of the Ten Commandments along with other quotes and facts unique to Hansford County. In this particular article, the author states "The Supreme Court has ruled that this type of monument is legal, but should a legal challenge arise, there are organizations that volunteer to defend religious liberty issues such as this." I write this letter specifically to address an inaccuracy in the above-quoted statement.

However, before beginning, I feel I must make a few caveats. First, and foremost, I do not, in any way, intend for this letter to be construed as legal advice. I am not writing this letter as an attorney, but rather as a former citizen of Spearman, who believes it is important for people to be fully educated about the law. Second, I do not intend for this letter to express any religious opinion. I am a Christian, and I believe in the freedom of religion; however, as stated, I find it important that the law regarding freedom of religion and separation of church and state be properly represented.

The article makes the blanket statement that "The Supreme Court has ruled that this type of monument is legal." Thus, I read this statement (and undoubtedly many others did too) to say that the

Supreme Court has ruled that placing a monument inscribed with the Ten Commandments on government property is not a violation of the Constitution. That, however, is an inaccurate portrayal of the law in this area. [On a side note, the article provides no legal citation and merely states that the "Supreme Court" has ruled this type of monument legal without any reference to which Supreme Court - that is, the Texas Supreme Court or the United States Supreme Court. Therefore, I will assume the article was referring to the US Supreme Court, since its decisions are binding and generally used as guidance in the First Amendment arena.]

We are all generally familiar that the First Amendment of the United States Constitution contains religion clauses. More specifically, the First Amendment contains what is called an Establishment Clause, which states that Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, and the Free Exercise Clause, which states that Congress shall not prohibit the free exercise of religion. The Free Exercise Clause is more commonly known as the "freedom of religion," and the Establishment Clause is sometimes referred to as the separation of church and state. The guiding principle behind the Establishment Clause is government neutrality toward religion in the sense that a governmental entity cannot favor religion over non-religion or one religion over another. Therefore, when a governmental entity is seen as promoting a particular religion, questions arise as to

the constitutionality of that government's actions.

The most recent US Supreme Court cases dealing with this very issue were published in 2005. That year, the Court decided two cases in which people complained that the government was violating the Establishment Clause (that is, favoring religion over non-religion or favoring one religion over another) by placing a Ten Commandments monument on government property. In *Van Orden v. Perry*, a monument inscribed with the Ten Commandments was located on the Texas State Capitol grounds. The Ten Commandments monument was donated to the Capitol by a group of eagle scouts. In addition to the Ten Commandments monument, there were 17 other monuments and 21 historical markers located on the Capitol grounds. The other monuments and markers were non-religious in nature. Forty years after the monument's erection, Thomas Van Orden sued government officials claiming the Ten Commandments monument violated the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. The US Supreme Court determined that the Texas State Capitol grounds represented the several strands in the State's political and legal history. The inclusion of the Ten Commandments monument in this group of monuments had a dual significance - one partaking in both religion and government. Therefore, the Court determined the Ten Commandments monument did not violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. However, in this case, the

Court did not decide whether a monument that was primarily religious in purpose would violate the Constitution. The Court simply stated that it was clear from the record that there was no evidence the monument had primarily a religious purpose in this case. What the Court did not do, however, is rule that it is always proper to place a monument inscribed with the Ten Commandments on any government property.

On the very same day in 2005, the US Supreme Court decided *McCreary County, Kentucky v. American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky*. In *McCreary County*, two counties in Kentucky posted a version of the Ten Commandments on the walls of their courthouses. After suits were filed, the counties adopted a resolution and, as a result, hung a modified display of the Commandments surrounded by other texts containing religious references. After changing legal counsel, the counties revised these exhibits for a third time. The counties claimed a non-religious purpose and placed the Commandments in the company of other non-religious documents. Ultimately, the US Supreme Court determined that the Ten Commandments displays had a predominately religious purpose and, therefore, violated the Constitution. In making this determination, the Court stated "The question is what viewers may fairly understand to be the purpose of the display. That inquiry, of necessity, turns upon the context in which the contested object appears." Additionally, the Court made clear that the entire history surrounding the monument is relevant - a religious purpose cannot be hidden one way or the

other. An original religious purpose may not be concealed by later acts, nor may a newfound religious purpose be shielded by reference to an original purpose. The Court was careful, however, to state that it was not holding that a sacred text could never be integrated constitutionally into a governmental display on the subject of law, or American history.

Thus, in my opinion, *McCreary County* can be summed up as follows: the quintessential question in determining whether a Ten Commandments monument on government property violates the Constitution is what is the principal purpose behind the monument? If the purpose behind the Ten Commandments monument is primarily to promote the religious nature and history of the Ten Command-

ments, then the monument would likely be found to violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

As I stated at the beginning, my objective in writing this letter is neither to give legal advice nor to give a personal opinion on the decision to place the Ten Commandments at the courthouse. Rather, my objective is merely to provide an accurate account of the law surrounding this issue. Armed with this legal knowledge, however, I ask you to think about whether you believe the Ten Commandments monument, which will soon be placed at the Hansford County Courthouse, does, in fact, pass constitutional muster?

Sincerely,
Amber Ramon King
Houston, Texas

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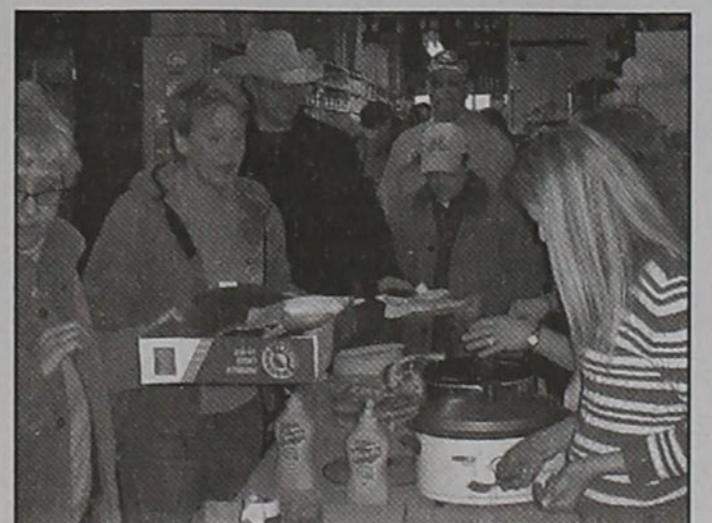
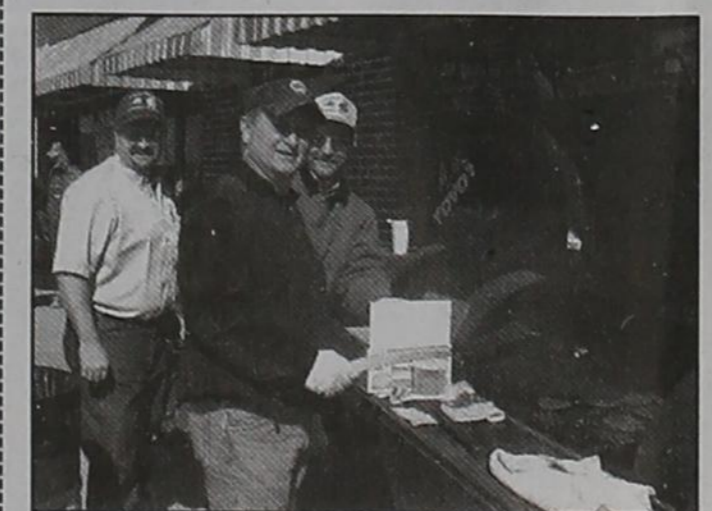
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Hansford County School News

GRUVER

February 12, 2010
Gruver 7 17 34 53,
Stratford 18 31 41 62

Scorers: G-Rily Urban 19, Blake Fitzgerald 13, S-Tyler Wright 27, Bryce Cummings 15.

Records: Gruver 22-5, 7-1; Stratford 10-3, 6-2.

JV Greyhounds 34,
Stratford 7

February 15, 2010
Gruver Greyhounds 67,
Farwell 54 (Practice Game)

District Standing/Play-offs

Girls: The Gruver Lady Hounds (27-4) received a Bye in the first round of District.

The Lady Hounds will play Lockney on Thursday, February 18th at 6:30 p.m. at Randall High School. The Lady Hounds will be the visiting team.

Boys: The Gruver Greyhounds (23-5) have a practice game on Saturday, February 20th at 20:30 at Randall High School against Nazareth.

SPEARMAN

February 12, 2010
Spearman 13 23 45 62,
Highland Park 6 16 34 47

Scorers: S-Tate Batton 21, Blayne Schroeder 16, HP-Joseph Williams 19, Bryan Ponder 14.

Records: Spearman 15-9, 8-1. Highland Park 5-21, 1-8. JV: Spearman 63, Highland Park 57.

February 15, 2010
Spearman Lynx 46,
Bushland 51

Scorers: S-Batton 20, Wilborn 17, B-Sickles 15, Harris 12, Matthews 12

Records: Bushland is 13-1, 10-0 in District 1-2A. Spearman is 15-10, 8-2.

What Happened: After leading by 14 points with 2:18 remaining, the Falcons had to hold on for dear life as Spearman closed out the game on an 11-2 run to make things interesting. What looked like a possible blowout late in the fourth quarter became anything but that as Spearman nearly pulled it out.

Running the District Table Falcons fend off Lynx, retain title

By Les Giles, Amarillo Globe-News

After leading by 14 points with 2:18 remaining, the Falcons had to hold on for dear life as Spearman closed out the game on an 11-2 run to make things interesting.

Bushland, which won its 12th straight game (51-46) after not playing until late December because of the football team's run to the Class 2A Division II state final, recorded its 19th consecutive league win dating to last season (10 this year).

What looked like a possible blowout late in the fourth quarter became anything but that as Spearman nearly pulled it out.

"Things weren't looking very good for us when we were 15 points behind (47-32) with just under four minutes to go," Spearman head coach Josh White said. "But our kids weren't going to go away. They were determined to play hard and see what happened. We got hot at the end and gave ourselves a chance, but we just kind of ran out of possessions."

Tate Batton sank four 3-pointers in the final quarter to lead Spearman's comeback, including three in the closing 2:07.

Tristan Wilborn's three-point play with 1:04 to go brought the Lynx within 49-43. Bushland's Michael Matthews missed the front end of a one-and-one with 42.6 seconds to play, and Brett Wilhelm did the same with 35.3 seconds left to give the Lynx a chance.

Batton then missed the front end of a one-and-one with 25.9 seconds remaining, but after a Falcon turnover, he nailed a long 3-pointer with 7.6 seconds left to bring the Lynx within three points at 49-46.

On the inbound play, Harris was fouled in the backcourt and calmly sank both free throws to clinch the victory.

"We made some bad turnovers late in the game that they converted into points," Bushland head coach Steve Rhodes said. "And missing the front end of those two one-and-ones didn't help, either. We haven't had a game like this in a while where we turned the ball over like that."

"Give Spearman a lot of credit. When we had them down by 14 points with just over two minutes to play, they could have folded, but didn't. They outplayed us at the end. Fortunately, Mason hit those two free throws with just over six seconds to go."

Brett Sickles scored 15 points and grabbed six rebounds to lead the Falcons, while Harris had 12 points and seven assists. Matthews added 12 points.

Batton led the Lynx with 20 points, including 14 in the final quarter, while Wilborn had 17.

Bushland 51, Spearman 46

Records: Bushland is 13-1, 10-0 in District 1-2A. Spearman is 15-10, 8-2.

Score by Quarters: Spearman 7 17 27 46, Bushland 13 26 37 51

SPEARMAN (15-10, 8-2): Tristan Wilborn 7 2-4 17, Blayne Schroeder 1 0-0 3, Cody Benton 1 0-0 2, Tate Batton 7 2-3 20, Chance Pack 1 0-0 2, Jesus Mendoza 1 0-0 2, Dakota Cator 0 0-0 0. Totals: 18 4-7 46.

BUSHLAND (13-1, 10-0): Brett Wilhelm 1 0-1 2,

Sawyer Cornelius 1 0-0 3, Mason Harris 4 2-2 12, Michael Matthews 4 2-3 12, Brett Sickles 6 3-6 15, Dean Smalligan 2 0-0 4, Caleb Mendoza 1 0-0 3, Tate Rhodes 0 0-0 0. Totals: 19 7-12 51.

3-point goals: Spearman 6 (Batton 4, Wilborn 1, Schroeder 1), Bushland 6 (Cornelius 1, Harris 2, Matthews 2, Mendoza 1).

Total fouls: Spearman 13, Bushland 15. **Fouled out:** None. **Technical foul:** None. **Attendance:** 350.

February 16, 2010
Spearman Lynxettes 57,
Dimmitt 45

Scorers: S-Ashmore 17, Walker 14, Farrar 8, Hanna 7, D-Quiroz 14, Bonilla 11, Cillie 7.

Records: Spearman 23-6, Dimmitt 17-6

What Happened: The Lynxettes came back from the half ready to take the championship. Dimmitt came within 51-45 with a minute remaining, but perfect free-throw shooting by Morgan Ashmore and Walker down the stretch preserved the win.

District Standing Playoffs

Girls: The Spearman Lynxettes (23-6) defeated Dimmitt (17-15) on Tuesday, February 16th to take the Bi-District Title.

The Lynxettes (23-6) will play Sonora (25-5) at Lubbock Coronado at 7 p.m. for the Area Championship. (School will dismiss at 2 p.m.)

State Standings Monday, Feb. 15, 2009

- 2A Boys**
- 1 New Waverly (26-3) (13-0), 2 Ponder (29-4) (13-0), 3 Clarksville (25-3) (13-0), 4 Kountze (30-2) (12-0), 5 Jim Ned (28-4) (8-1), 6 Hallettsville (30-1) (10-1), 7 Wall (31-1) (8-1), 8 Gladewater Sabine (28-5) (12-0), 9 Melissa (27-4) (12-0), 10 Santa Rosa (25-6) (11-0), 11 Bushland (12-1) (9-0), 12 Eastland (24-3) (9-0), 13 Jarrell (26-4) (10-1), 14 Edgewood (25-5) (12-1), 15 Little River Academy (23-7) (8-2), 16 Hearne (18-8) (8-1), 17 San Antonio Cole (24-6) (9-1), 18 Clyde (26-3) (7-2), 19 Poth (21-2) (9-0), 20 Hitchcock (23-8) (8-1), 21 Troy (26-4) (13-0), 22 Littlefield (25-2) (12-1), 23 Godley (20-6) (13-0), 24 Malakoff (21-6) (10-2), 25 Rosebud-Lott (22-4) (6-2)

- 2A Girls**
- 1 Winnsboro, 2 Brock, 3. Woodville, 4. Wall, 5. Krum, 6. Shallowater, 7. East Chambers, 8. McGregor, 9. Nocona, 10. Hempstead, 11. Hitchcock, 12. Poth, 13. Peaster, 14. Nixon-Smiley, 15. Ballinger, 16. Cisco, 17. Trinity, 18. Honey Grove, 19. Bangs, 20. Hico, 21. Jim Ned, 22. Gunter, 23. Teague, 24. Elysian Fields, 25t. San Saba, 25t. Salado

- 1A Boys, Div. 1**
- 1 Cayuga (13-2) (9-0), 2 Mumford (28-2) (9-0), 3 Merit Bland (26-2) (11-0), 4 Anton (26-1) (7-0), 5

- 6 Poolville (27-2) (9-0), 6 Sabinal (28-0) (9-0), 7 Italy (24-3) (9-0), 8 Tenaha (20-4) (11-0), 9 Clyde Eula (27-5) (11-0), 10 Wheeler (20-3) (8-0), 11 La Poyner (25-4) (7-2), 12 Wellington (20-4) (7-1), 13 Clarendon (19-6) (7-1), 14 Martin's Mill (23-8) (11-1), 15 Bronte (18-5) (8-2), 16 Medina (23-5) (9-0), 17 Gruver (23-4) (7-1), 18 Grapeland (19-3) (8-0), 19 Seagraves (15-6) (8-1), 20 Yantis (23-7) (13-1), 21 White Deer (22-6) (6-2), 22 West Sabine (18-1) (8-1), 23 Milano (21-6) (7-1), 24 Stanton (23-5) (6-0), 25 Spurger (21-5) (8-1)

1A Girls, Div. 1

1. Wellington, 2. Anton, 3. Sudan, 4. Nueces Canyon, 5. Port Aransas, 6. Gruver, 7. Thorndale, 8. Tahoka, 9. Snook, 10. Louise, 11. Canadian, 12. Muenster, 13. Smyer, 14. Martin's Mill, 15. Lovelady, 16. Hubbard, 17. Meridian, 18. Eula, 19. Evadale, 20. Falls City, 21. Irion County, 22. Goldthwaite, 23. Tolar, 24. Cayuga, 25t. Claude, 25t. Mart, 25t. Farwell

Amarillo Globe-News Ranking Friday, Feb. 5, 2009

Boys 3A-2A-1A

Team	Record
1. Bushland	11-1
2. Gruver	22-4
3. Clarendon	19-5
4. Wellington	19-4
5. Wheeler	20-2

Girls 3A-2A-1A

Team	Record
1. Wellington	27-1
2. Gruver	27-4
3. Panhandle	18-11
4. Canadian	25-3
5. Floydada	23-7

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Lynxettes - 2010 Bi-District Champions

Dimmitt and Spearman put on a display of playoff intensity in their Class 2A bidistrict playoff game at Canyon on Tuesday, February 16, 2010.

Spearman, which advanced to the quarterfinal round last season, gained its first lead in the third quarter on steals and baskets by Morgan Ashmore and Kyla Walker that helped propel the Lynxettes to a 57-45 win and a date with Sonora in the area round.

"This was the first playoff game for all but two of our girls," Lynxettes coach Junior Ashmore said. "We were tentative in the first half."

After trailing by six in the second quarter, the Lynxettes went on a run to tie the score 23-23 at the half, but settled down and shot better in the second half, Ashmore said.

"The steals got us going and then we relaxed and shot better in the second half," Ashmore said.

Dimmitt came within 51-45 with a minute remaining, but perfect free-throw shooting by Morgan Ashmore and Walker down the stretch preserved the win.

The Lynxettes shots 22-of-29 from the charity stripe. "I'll take that any time," coach Ashmore said.

Morgan Ashmore, held to four points from the field in the first half, led all scorers with 17 points. Walker added 14 for the Lynxettes.

Valeria Quiroz paced Dimmitt with 14 points and Haley Bonilla added 11 for the Bobbies.

Dimmitt, the third-place representative from District 2-2A, ended its season at 17-6.

Score by Quarters: Spearman 9 23 39 57, Dimmitt 8 23 34 45

SPEARMAN (23-6): Morgan Ashmore 10 7-7 17, Tylo Farrar 6 2-2 8, Kyla Walker 8 6-8 14, Leanna Espinosa 4 0-0 4, Shelby Hanna 6 1-4 7, Andi Linn Scarborough 0 2-4 2.

DIMITT (17-6): Kassi Riddle 3 0-0 3, Heloise Cillie 6 1-2 7, Haley Bonilla 5 6-6 11, Shea Myatt 0 2-2 2, Valeria Quiroz 8 6-11 14, Elida Bonilla 0 4-4 4, Brennah Lytal 4 0-0 4.

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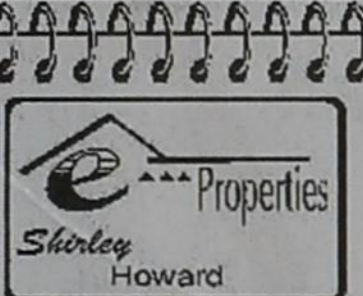
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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE FOR PROPOSALS

Competitive sealed proposals for multiple category construction contracts for the 2010 High School Renovations and Ag Science Restroom Addition, an addition to the Spearman Independent School District, will be received by the Board of Trustees until 2:00 PM, Local Time, Thursday, February 25, 2009, then publicly opened and read aloud. Proposals shall be addressed to the Owner, Rodney Sumner, Superintendent, Spearman Independent School District, 403 E. 11th Avenue, Spearman, Texas 79081. Plans and Specifications may be obtained or examined at the following locations at no charge:

Stephen L. Butler, Architect; A+E Design Group, Inc.; 300 T-Anchor View; Canyon TX 79015; Phone - (806) 655-9361; Email - slb.architect@mac.com

Huseman Builders, Inc.; Construction Manager; 1001 23rd Street; Canyon TX 79015; Phone - (806) 557-4088; Email husemang@arn.net

or ABC Blueprint; 906 S. Tyler Street; Amarillo, Texas 79101; Phone - (806) 376-5671; Web site - www.blueprinter.com. By submitting a proposal, the proposer agrees to waive any claim against Spearman Independent School District, Greg Huseman, or Stephen L. Butler, Architect made in connection with the administration, evaluation or recommendation of any proposal. 2/2(11/10)B

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Spearman, Texas, will receive sealed proposals for the depository and custody of the City funds from any banking corporation, association, or individual banker doing business within the City of Spearman, on March 11, 2010, at 11:00 a.m. at City Hall. Any banking corporation, association, or individual banker doing business in the City of Spearman desiring to submit a proposal to be designated as the depository for the funds of the City of Spearman shall deliver to the City Manager, on or before the date and time specified, its proposal for depository and custody of such funds, which must be accompanied by a statement of assets and resources of the applicant. The proposals must comply with the applicable statutes and be subject to the laws governing depositories. The City of Spearman reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive informalities and to accept the bid deemed to be the most advantageous to the City. All bids received after the above closing hour will be returned unopened. All bids shall be sealed and marked on the outer envelope of the type of bid being submitted. Specifications and bidding documents may be secured from City Hall, P.O. Box 37, Spearman, Texas 79081. 2/2(18/10)B

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by Dorothy Hudson

Out at the Lake



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These are five of eight eagles, seen last week, at Lake Palo Duro.

Picture--Yes. 5 eagles at the Lake.

Lake Level--February 15, 2010--15.99 feet (-0.09)

Now we are below the 16 feet level that has held for December, January, and half of February. Remember the record of July 9, 2008 of 15.67 feet.

The Lake has continued freezing, but we are expecting some warmer temperature that should take care of it. Jim mentioned that often some big fish had been caught in the last half of February.

He counted 8 eagles one day, and then found 5 for his picture.

In last week's column I miswrote Western Bluebirds instead of Mountain Bluebirds.

Although Mountain Bluebirds visit the Park almost every year, the Western Blue birds are infrequent visitors to our area. Hansford County is not one of the 6 counties in the Panhandle that have recorded their visits. Jim has seen the Eastern Bluebirds at the Lake but not in several years.

Hotel Lucern

We left off with the Hotel Lucern moving to Gruver in 1927 or 1928. It was empty, and the town children had found it a

place to play. Some one had moved it in to the new little town to be on the Rock Island Railroad which was being built from Liberal to Amarillo. By 1929 Gruver had three lumber yards, three gas stations, three grocery and general merchandise stores, and three grain elevators. It was expected to be the county seat, as it was located very near the center of the county.

Bill Etling, now 95 years, said there was a sign at the outskirts of town boasting Gruver to be the future home of 20,000 people. His father, William F. C. Etling, had raised a big wheat crop and decided to invest his profit in a brick building on East Main Street. He built it solid with the brick walls three bricks thick. Costing \$16,000, it was built to house two businesses, and soon it was leased out to a grocery store run by the Ragsdales of Hardesty, and a tailor shop.

In the meantime, the hotel found a tenant named Daisy Kate Tomlinson, who ran a telephone exchange there. Her husband was Jack Tomlinson, the town barber. Perhaps the hotel opened, too. We know that Katie Sell Weber, wife of Karl Weber, ran the hotel thru "the

Dirty Thirties" and on until 1942, according to her son Leland Weber.

Timing can be so important. Gruver boomed, but in October of 1929, the Stock Market in New York crashed. A depression began that gradually worked this way, causing the price of wheat to drop to around 25 cents. Live-stock prices also hit bottom. Then to make things worse, the Gruver area became part of the "Dust Bowl". Mr. Etling had trouble renting his building. After the first tenants left, Mrs. and Mrs. Wade Tackitt had a cafe there in 1938. One side became a pool hall until the operator drowned in Palo Duro Creek at flood stage. The family also used one side for a town home when the roads to their farm were bad, and Buddy Etling was attending the Gruver school. Bill said his father's investment in the building on main Street was the only bad investment his father ever made.

As Gruver gradually came out of the depression and drouth years, it was hit by another calamity. World War II started. During this time, the Etling building and Hotel Lucern became the new Gruver Hotel and Coffee Shop. To be continued.

Mr. & Ms. Hansford Manor Elected

Hansford Manor crowned the new 2010 Mr and Ms. Hansford Manor Valentine Queen and King at their Valentine Party on Friday, February 12th. Babe Pendergraft was elected Queen, Lola Salgado was 1st runner up and Anona Seitz was 2nd runner up. Pete Herrera was elected King, Ramon Cantu was 1st runner up and Robert Yanke was 2nd runner up. The crowning was a culmination of two weeks of voting by the staff, residents and visitors. Congratulations to our new king and queen.

We had a wonderful celebration that brought a joyous week to an end. Steve Mathews played music for the Residents. They always enjoy that. Staff members adopted secret resident valentines. They did such a great job of decorating the Resident's doors along with sneaking gifts to the Residents each day all week long. The Residents loved trying to find out who their valentine was. The Residents had to wait for the party for their valentine to be revealed. One told me that she thought she would just pop

if I didn't tell her who it was! The staff had so much fun watching the Resident's faces as they discovered a new prize each day and just the fun of trying to figure out who was doing the treating.

Back to the Queen and King-- Babe Pendergraft is a long time Resident of Hansford county. Her family told a funny story of her shooting over the head of a salesman to get him off of her property. (Of course there is a little more to it

than that, but I had a great time telling the story at the party.)

Pete Herrera had quite a story about him climbing trees and working in his yard after taking chemo treatments. The neighbors told him they would call 911 if he did not come down out of the tree - he told them to go ahead that way if he did fall while trimming the tree they would already be there ready and waiting.



Babe Pendergraft, Ms. Hansford Manor and Pete Herrera, Mr. Hansford Manor

Chamber Banquet

Thursday March 11th 2010

O'Loughlin Center 6:00pm

Victory In Volunteers

with Lilia Escajeda
Amarillo's Woman

of the
Year

Tickets cost \$20/plate or \$150/table
Dress code will be casual or wear your volunteer organizations dress. It will be a fun night to come together in recognition of all our successes in the past year and all the great things to look forward to in 2010

Call 659-5555 for tickets or questions

12th Annual

"Pot O' Gold"

Dinner, Dance & Calcutta

Saturday, March 27 • 7 p.m.
The O'Loughlin Center
502 S. Brandt • Spearman
Tickets - \$60 per person
Tenderloin Meal
Entertainment by "Insufficient Funds"
Grand Prize - \$2,500
Consolation Prizes & Calcutta
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