

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 10, 2000

213 MAIN
SPEARMAN, TX 79081

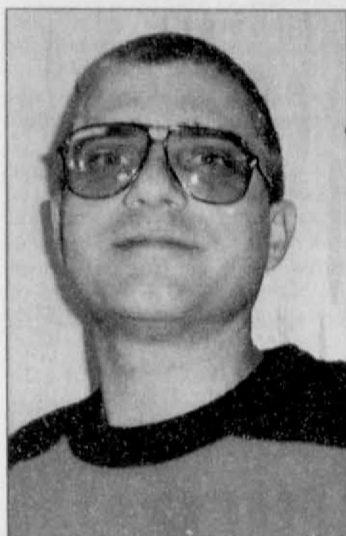
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VOL. 93 • ISSUE 6

NEWS • SPORTS • PICTURES

SERVING HANSFORD COUNTY SINCE 1907

Spearman EMS Hires New Director



Jay Lamb



Kevin McDonald

Spearman Emergency Medical Service (EMS) has announced the hiring of Jay Lamb as director and Kevin McDonald as paramedic. Lamb began duties on February 3 while McDonald began duties on February 7.

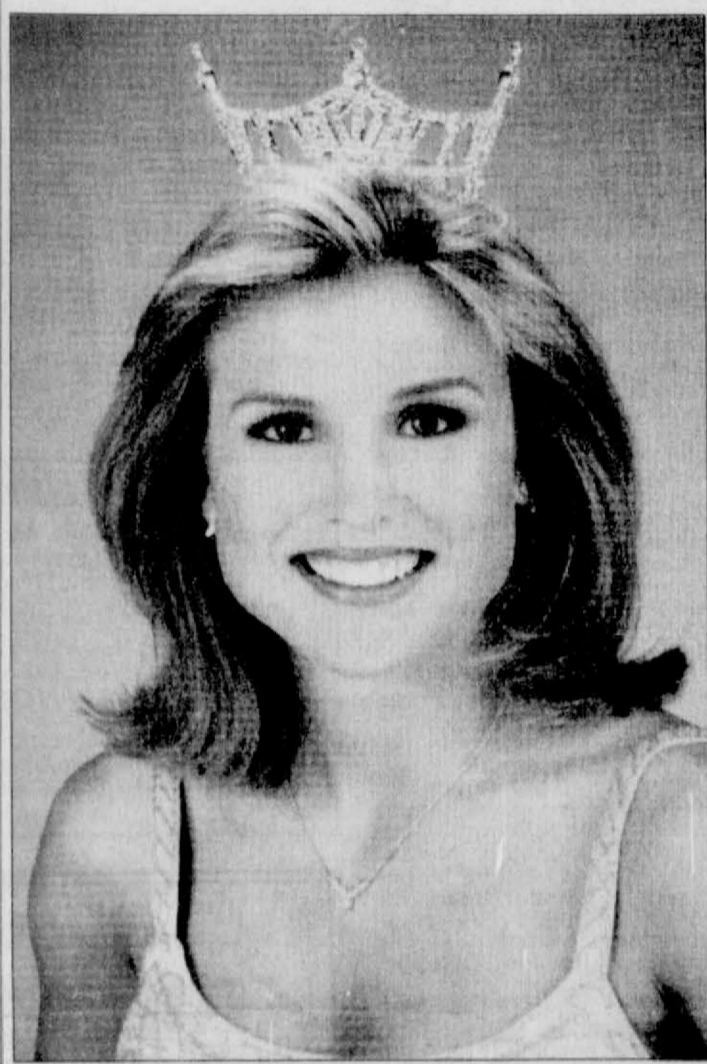
Lamb has been in EMS service since 1992. He served as the director of the Groom Volunteer Ambulance Service from 1992-1997. Being a licensed paramedic, he is also a certified EMS instructor/examiner. He has twelve years of experience as a high school math and physical education teacher having taught at Highland Park, Groom, and Pampa.

He and his wife, Tacy, an EMT, have three children Mackenzie 7, Rion 3, and Chelsey, seven weeks. The family enjoys camping, fishing, and the outdoors. They attend the Baptist Church.

McDonald moved to Spearman from Sunray where he served as a EMS and fire department volunteer. He is currently an EMT intermediate and will complete paramedic certification in six weeks.

He and his wife, Krystal, have two children, Sydney, 4, and Alex, 10 months. McDonald enjoys sports especially football, basketball, and softball. He collects sports cards and enjoys time spent with his family.

SHS Honor Society Slates Induction



Yanci Yarbrough, Miss Texas

Fifteen Spearman High School students will be inducted into the Edna Hartman Chapter of the National Honor Society on February 16, 2000. The induction will be at 2:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Yanci Yarbrough, Miss Texas, will be the guest speaker.

Students to be inducted are juniors: Coley Griffin, Natalie Pipkin and Richard Varnon.

Sophomores to be inducted are Tanner Beedy, John Brock, Erin Boxwell, Laura Camacho, Monica Canta, Matt Dunning, Amber Elliott, Cheryl Gibson, Laura Gillaspie, Steven Haney, Arthur Maestas and Clara Schieldknight.

Officers of NHS are Halee Beasley, president; Camille Smith, vice-president; Amber Ramon, secretary; and Kathryn Murphy, treasurer.

Senior members of the National Honor Society in addition to the officers are Dustin Barber, Jordan Brock, Stephanie Bynum, Evan Cudd, Tommy Dewberry, Cynthia Goodman, Kelsey Henton, Brooke Lesly, Jeremy Mackie, Lacie Miesner, Reagan Renner, Stephen Salgado, Mickey Schoenhals, and Sydney Woodington.

Junior members are Cary Cates, Randy Duffy, Jacob Harbour, David Holt, Dibrell Kirk, Nicole Lozano, Chelsea Nollner, Denise Paschell, Angela Pipkin, Kara Pipkin, Sally Pittman, Jennifer Schnell, Adrienne Simpson, Chelsey Villines and Brady Woolley.

The public is invited to attend the induction program.

SHS Bands Attend Region Solo & Ensemble Contest

The following band students received a 1st division rating of Superior at Region solo and ensemble contest on Saturday, February 5:

Junior High Solos: Holly Baker, Jessica Blan, Jessica Brown, Jena Cherry, Emily Delagarza, Jentry Edwards, Josh Evans, Jessica Freeman, Rebekah Goodson, Callie Hargis, Carlos Hernandez, Melissa Lesly, Pedro Lugo, Dana McLaughlin, Dusty Payne, Aleisha Sweat, Clete Vanderburg, Claudia Vaquera, Abby Winegarner

Junior High Ensemble: Clarinet Trio of Sami Cazares, Jentry Edwards, and Nekisha Whitefield

The following students received a 2nd division rating of Excellent: Junior High Solos: Christina Ochoa, Bertha Ortiz, Katie Reed, Alejandro Rios, Jeannette Vasquez, Nekisha Whitefield

Junior High Ensemble: Mixed Woodwind trio of Dusty Payne, Claudia Vaquera, and Emily Delagarza

High School Solos: Adriana Rios, Laura Camacho, Sarah George, Krystal Delagarza

Rasor Honored



Danny Womble congratulates Melba Rasor.

For more than 40 years, Aubrey Rasor of Gruver has served Hansford County and Texas Farm Bureau in a wide variety of capacities - including state director for the district. For his impressive tenure, he was honored recently with the 1999 District 1 Farm Bureau Pioneer Award. The 72-year old Rasor accepted the award at TFB's annual convention.

Rasor began his membership with Hansford County Farm Bureau in 1959. He has been an active member of the county board since 1960. He served three terms as county president, two terms as vice president and several years as secretary and treasurer.

The Panhandle farmer not only devoted years of his time to the county effort, but he also funneled his energies into numerous state activities. Mr. Rasor has been a member of Texas Farm Bureau's State Resolutions Committee and the search committee for a new TFB chief executive officer. He has given of his time on the policy

development, membership, and rural health committees. In 1987, Rasor was elected to the Texas Farm Bureau State Board of Directors, where he served for six years. He has attended many American Farm Bureau Federation conventions and worked on the AFBF wheat committee for two years.

Rasor has worked through the years with local youth in preparation for the organization's

Citizenship Seminar and Free Enterprise Speech Contest. He also spent 15 years as a 4-H counselor and sat on the regional 4-H council.

He still farms and currently works with his grandson.

Texas Farm Bureau's annual Pioneer Awards are presented to those members who have helped build the organization during their lifetime.

Emmaus Meeting

Rushing Wind Emmaus will meet in Borger on Saturday, February 12th at 6:30 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church, 200 N. McGee Street.

Everyone is invited to bring their family, spouse, and friends for an evening of praise, worship, and fellowship. Members of all churches are welcome to attend. A potluck meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and a nursery will be provided.

The Board of Directors will meet at 5:00 p.m. A sponsor's hour will follow the service.

A men's Walk to Emmaus will be sponsored by the Rushing Wind at the Waka Christian Center on February 17th-20th. John Harris of Hartley will serve as lay director and Rev. Steve Ulrey will be the spiritual director. Information may be received by calling (806) 435-2149.



Spearman High School debate winners (left to right) Syd Woodington, Amber Ramon, Tommy Dewberry, Angela Pipkin, and Cynthia Goodman bask in the display of trophies they won in competition at Amarillo High, Borger and Tascosa debate meets.

Debate Team Wins

The Spearman High School debate squad has captured several outstanding awards in meets held at Amarillo High, Borger High, and Tascosa High.

In the first meet of the new year, Angela Pipkin placed third at the Amarillo High School Tournament in Lincoln Douglas Debate. She also qualified for the Texas Forensic Association State Meet which will be held in El Paso during Spring break.

Six trophies were won by five SHS debaters who attended the

Borger High School Speech and Debate Tournament held January 29. Cindy Goodman was awarded the prestigious outstanding debater award for the highest speaker points in the tournament. Garnering third place in Cross-X debate were Goodman and Tommie Dewberry and Syd Woodington and Amber Ramon. Angela Pipkin took third place in Lincoln Douglas debate.

Dewberry and Goodman captured first place in a meet held at Tascosa High School on February

fourth and fifth with approximately 30 1A-5A schools competing. Their win qualifies them to compete in Cross-X debate at the Texas Forensic Association State Meet to be held in El Paso.

Evan Cudd, Stephen Salgado, Tommie Dewberry, Cindy Goodman, Syd Woodington, and Amber Ramon will be competing in the district UIL Cross-X meet on March 12, 2000 at West Texas High.

Among The Neighbors

by Helen Fisher

Former classmates are interested in learning that Chuck Grayson left January 18th for marine boot camp at San Diego. He is a recent graduate of Spearman High.

He will graduate April 16th and his grandparents, B.J. and Jonell Grayson, will fly out to attend the ceremony.

Chuck, who has made his home here with his grandparents most of his life, had not been away before for any length of time so probably will be homesick - if his boot camp exercises allow time.

His mailing address is: Recruit Grayson, Charles R.; Platoon 3034-I-Co; 3rd Btn - R.T.R.; Marine Corps R.D.; San Diego, CA 92140.

John and Laura Walsar returned last Thursday from a two weeks stay in Dallas where they had taken their nine month old daughter, Brittany. At the Dallas Children's Medical Center she had undergone open heart surgery to close holes in two heart chambers.

The surgery was successful but while in Dallas she contracted pneumonia and was returned to the hospital.

The Walsars are encouraged by her progress. Their cardiologist-pediatrician periodically flies to Amarillo as there is none in Amarillo and Brittany can be under his care.

LaDell Scroggs is back at home recovering from major surgery performed at Baptist St. Anthony's in Amarillo Friday before last.

Husband, son and daughter, Dallan, Darrell, and Julia, were in Amarillo during the surgery and weekend. Darrell and Julia have returned to Stillwater, OK where they are students at O.U.

It will be about six weeks before La Dell can resume her duties at the Hansford Abstract.

Ora Lee Blackburn has not heard from her granddaughter who lives in Kenai, Alaska regarding the huge avalanches that have been occurring there, some with fatal results.

Ora Lee's daughter, Elaine, and Bill Cessnum were enroute to Old Mexico for his medical treatment. Bill, who has cancer of lymph glands, was accompanied by his doctor.

Carolyn Kenealy and family are relieved to get the information that

her husband, Lawrence, has recovered from a severe bout of pneumonia and is able to resume his duties with the U.N. peace keeping mission.

He is in the German sector of Kosovo and was under the care of a German military doctor and a German military hospital for ten days.

Since mail is three weeks reaching the U.S. from there, and three weeks from here to Kosovo, the family is never sure what the current situation is.

Lawrence is in the southeastern part of the country, near Albania and events are such a contrast to American borders. He wrote of several people in a car trying to reach Kosovo and at the Albanian border, the guards on that side wanted money to let them cross;

saying the Ahad no money, the driver started on. The guard broke out the windows and climbed into the car trying to get money. Nearing the Kosovo border, the car finally got rid of him driving with broken windows to their destination.

Carolyn is looking forward to the last week in February when, during the school break, she will fly to Athens and meet Lawrence.

Linda and Tom Latta enjoyed the weekend entertaining their important guests - Megan, Travis and Kaitlin Stedje. The glowing fire in the fireplace added to the fun of stories, games and jokes.

Julie and Tim Stedje of Gruver attended the Valentine Ball at Perryton Saturday evening.

Four tired men from the First Baptist Church returned Sunday from Matamoros where they had been since January 29th. They worked on the childrens home there on building repairs. They worked diligently in spite of missing their usual "straw bossy" Roy Lee Uptergrove. He was unable to go as he is recovering from knee surgery.

Roy Lee has gone every year since the church started this project in 1975, except in 1980 when no one went, but they donated and sent a school bus for the home.

Those giving their time and effort this year were James Cunningham, Rick Patrick, Doyle Jackson and Buddy Benton.

Dwayne's weather report week of January 31st to February 5th shows the highest temperature was

on February 2nd at 69 degrees; the lowest also on February 2nd at 23 degrees - no precip.

Paul Greenberg, in his editorial on Wednesday for the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, dealt with a recent Federal Communication Commission Order (FCC order 99-393). The editorial was too lengthy for this space but quotes are shown in quotation marks - note there are some quotes within quotes.

Referring to the order 99-393 -- "Some 43 paragraphs into the order, there's a section innocuously titled 'Additional Guidance.' Rather than anything specific, like 'Gag Rule' ... from now on, religious stations will be henceforth and forthwith 50 per cent of their programming for 'educational, instructional, or cultural' purposes. And this new, faith-free zone may not include 'religious exhortation, proselytizing, or statements of per-

sonally-held religious belief' ... and so the FCC quietly slipped this little edict into an order about the ownership of a broadcasting license. The only thing clear about this latest decree is its animus toward the kind of religious programs that a lot of folks in this country get spiritual sustenance from.

Well, land o'Goshen, this is in the U.S. of A. - not a communist China or Cuba, and there is this first amendment thing that speaks of freedom of speech and religious freedom.

If memory serves right (sometimes it does, even for old ladies) some years back there was a public outcry about the filth on T.V. The use of profanity, vulgarity, nudity, licentiousness was appalling.

Wasn't it this same FCC that refused to take any real action referring to the freedom of speech in this country?

FCE Plans Annual Meeting

The Family & Community Education clubs of Hansford County are planning a meeting of all members on Tuesday, February 22nd at 12:00 Noon in the Fellowship Hall of Speelman Church of Christ. Kim (Nelson) Kennedy of Pampa will present a program on friendship and members will enjoy lunch together.

Anyone interested in joining an FCE club is encouraged to attend. FCE clubs are open to everyone regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. Call any member or Peggy Winegarner for more information.

Town & Country club meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday at noon or evening. Members include Judy Yarbrough, Janie Kunselman, Delinda McLaughlin, Jennifer Keim, Wanda Wagner, Rhonda Covington, Carla Brown, Martina Miller, Annette McIver, Cindy Duvall, Jolinda Hutchison, Charla Hargis, Debbie Eslick and Brooke Greene.

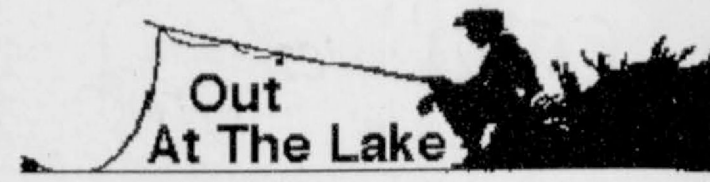
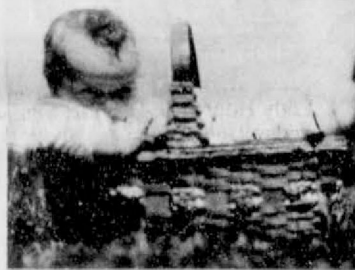
Happy Homes Club meets 1st & 3rd Thursday at 1:30 p.m. Members include Patty Sheppard, Adalyn Barnes, Betty Uptergrove, Wanda Stewart, Marguerite Nelson, Ethel Waggoner, Sterna Brown, Elsie Watley, Noima Jean Mackie, Annalee Pittman, and Peggy Greaser.

Primary objective of FCE club is to strengthen, develop, coordinate and extend adult education to improve quality of living, develop leadership skills and preserve the American home. Club programs are presented by the County Extension Agent or club members or resource people.

FCE sponsors 4-H scholarships, helps with Bingo at Hansford Manor, and sponsors the Veteran's Day program. If you have questions about FCE or wish to attend the luncheon, please call Peggy Winegarner, County Extension Agent at 659-4130 or 733-2901.

Guess What Young

Lady
Turned
80?!



by Dorothy Hudson

Lake Depth--February 7, 2000--50.98

Jim's Report: This is a drop of 1 4 inches for the month of January and leaves the Lake 28% full.

There were no campers this weekend. Catfish are now being caught; an 8 pound catfish was caught by a fisherman from Perryton. As far as is known, no one has been fishing for walleye. Last year in February the bridge was used by many who were fishing for crappie. Now one guard rail can be seen.

The Federal Clean Water Act requires the listing of any bodies of water that don't come up to the standard set by the Act. For the first time Lake Palo Duro has been placed on the list because of a possible problem with low dissolved oxygen. This could cause problems with aquatic life. We will hear more after the next samples of water are taken.

The Eastern Bluebirds only spent one day.. The mountain bluebirds are plentiful. Hiking through the cedar areas is a good way to see them. A pair of cardinals can sometimes be seen near the office. The bald eagles should be going into aerial displays soon so watch for them.

This morning Miles Gilbert, one of the co-authors of a book on Buffalo Hunters and Skinners, called from Arizona to get Bob Cator's date of birth. It made me

think of how little I had known about Bob Cator until I started seriously collecting Hansford County history. The... I found much written on him was wrong.

Soon I learned that Bob was a nick name and that his real name was Arthur John Locke Cator. When he served as sheriff (1890-1892) he signed his documents A. J. L. Cator. Born September 6, 1850 in Donegal, Ireland, Bob was the oldest of the sea captain Bertie Cator's seven children. Although English, he was born in Ireland at the home of his mother's parents while his father was away on an Arctic expedition.

Bob seemed to be the head and organizer of the buffalo hunting firm. Whereas we read that Jim, two years younger, killed 16,000 buffalo, nothing is written about how many Bob killed. He had a meat trade. Usually all we read is that the buffalo were shot, skinned and left to rot, but Bob and a few others, butchered out the choice cuts and tongues, which were smoked or put in brine, and then freighted to Dodge City or Granada in Colorado. Bob did much of the freighting. On the 1880 Census, Jim said he was Norman firm".

Married to Jennie Ludlow in August of 1882 at Dodge City, he lived in the county until 1892, when he Jennie, and their four children moved to Oak Ridge, Oregon.

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HELP!

My bear wandered away from the O'Loughlin Center during the New Year's Eve party. If you have seen If you can help, please call me (Shirley Lowe) at 733-2682 or The O'Loughlin Center at 659-3030. It was part of the decorations under the Christmas trees, and was not intended to be given away.

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Valentine's Day is Monday, February 14

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You are cordially invited to join in the
90th Birthday Celebration
for
Bessie Mitts
at the
First United Methodist Church
Gruver, Texas
on Sunday, February 20, 2000
from 2:00-4:00 p.m.
No Gifts Please.

Come help
Winnie Vernon
celebrate her
90th Birthday
on Saturday, February 26, 2000
at the First Baptist Church
Gruver, Texas
from 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Cards Please • No Gifts

The families of
Maylynn Schubert Ayers
invite you to celebrate her
80th Birthday
on Saturday, February 19, 2000
from 1:00-3:00 p.m.
at 1007 South Archer
Spearman, Texas
No gifts, please, just memories.

You are invited to attend a
Baby Shower
for
Margie (Evans) Slaten
on Saturday, February 19, 1999
at 2:00 p.m.
in the First State Bank Hospitality Room

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CHICKEN STRIP BASKET
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1108 Wilmet - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage. Brick w/fireplace, central heat/air. 2128 sq. ft. (0904-1231) - \$58,500
515 S. Evans - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage. 2 story, central heat/air. Mock fireplace, 1406 sq. ft. on main, 600 sq. ft. upstairs. - \$38,000
1018 S. Dessen - 3 bedroom, 1 bath, single carport. Central heat only. 1085 sq. ft. (1228-0328) - \$28,000

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120 King St. - 3BR, 1 3/4 B, 1 car garage, storm cellar.
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Gruver Property
905 King - 1 1/2BR, 1B, New Wire/Plumb
514 Cluck - 2BR, 1 3/4B, Carport
512 Cluck - 1BR, 1B (sells w/514 Cluck)
311 Chase - 2BR, 1B, 2 Car Carport
191 N. Cooper - 3BR, 2 3/4B, 2 Car Gar
602 Womble - 2BR, 1 3/4B - REDUCED
906 King - 4BR, 1B - REDUCED
401 Cluck - 2BR, 1B - REDUCED
King & Hwy. 15 - Vacant Lots
307 King - 5BR, 1 3/4B - REDUCED
1924 W. Hwy. 15 - 3BR, 2B, .64 acre
210 W. Hwy. 15 - 3BR, 2 1/4B, 1 acre
Rural Home - 3BR, 1B W/170 Acres

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417 Main, Gruver - Good Location
418 Main, Gruver

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FOR SALE: 717 Steele - 3BR, 1 3/4B, 2 car garage, new paint inside and out, large living area, ready to move into. Call 659-3987.
FOR SALE: 717 Steele - 3BR, 1 3/4B, 2 car garage, new paint inside/out, lg. living area, ready to move into. Call 659-3987.

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FOR RENT: 1BR apartment. Call 659-3260.
FOR RENT: One bedroom apartment. Call 659-5519.
FOR RENT: 1002 Bernice - 2BR, 1B, Central H/A. Call (806) 376-7110 or (806) 733-2617.

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED: Call 886-3122
HELP WANTED: IV's Hungry Cowboy is now accepting applications. Call 659-5151.
HELP WANTED: Hansford Manor has 2 shift positions available for a full-time LVN. Hours are from 6 a.m.-2 p.m. and 2 p.m.-10 p.m. Wages are based on experience along with great benefits. Applications may be picked up at Hansford Hospital, 707 Roland, Spearman, TX 79081. Inquiries will be directed to Kim Blevins, DON of Hansford Manor. For more information, please call (806) 659-2535.

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HOUSE SETTLEMENT? Cracks in brick or walls? Doors won't close? Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or (806) 352-9563 - Amarillo, TX.
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SMITH SERVICES: Garage clean-out, closet organizing, and address labeling. Call 886-3122.
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FOR SALE: Single garage door, frame, and opener - all work good. Call 659-3584.

AUTOMOBILES

FOR SALE: 1974 Chevy Malibu 4DR - low mileage, good condition. Call 659-3058 or 659-2812.
FOR SALE: 1998 Dodge Grand Caravan - 4DR, excellent condition, 22,000 miles. Call 659-2628.
FOR SALE: 1994 Acura Sports Coupe - 2 dr, black, automatic, power windows, locks, sunroof, premium sound system, great gas mileage. Runs good, good kid's car or second car. 69,000 miles - asking \$6,000. Call 659-3584.

PERSONAL

FABIANA: If you still live in Spearman, call Gerry. (316) 549-3783.

LOST/FOUND/FREE

REWARD: Reward offered for two lost dogs - male Pyrenees and female 1/2 Pyrenees. Both have collars and tags. Lost before Christmas from Britt Jarvis Ranch, 22 miles south of Spearman in Holt Community. These dogs are travelers! Call 273-7531 or 659-3329.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pringle-Morse CISD is accepting applications for the 2000-2001 school year for teachers with Elementary Certification through the sixth grade. Request an application at (806) 733-2507.
Pringle-Morse CISD considers applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, marital status, veteran or military status, the presence of a medical condition, disability, or any other legally protected status.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pringle-Morse CISD is accepting applications for a Bilingual Aide. Open until filled. Applications available at 100 5th Street, Morse, TX, or by calling (806) 733-2507.
Pringle-Morse CISD considers applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, marital status, veteran or military status, the presence of a medical condition, disability, or any other legally protected status.

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 6, 2000, at 10:00 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, PO Box 37, Spearman, Texas 79081.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Hansford County Hospital District will be accepting sealed bids on the wiring project for a new fire alarm system in the Hospital at Spearman, Texas. For specifications, contact John Kunselman or Leon Beck at 707 S. Roland or telephone (806) 659-2535. Bidders

performing the work are required to be electricians certified by the State, bonded, and have proof of commercial liability insurance coverage.
Sealed bids will not be accepted until February 23, 2000, and the deadline for submitting bids is 2:30 p.m. on February 25, 2000. Sealed bids can be submitted to Maintenance Department, Hansford County Hospital, 707 S. Roland, Spearman, Texas 79081, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., noting on the outside of envelope "Hospital Fire Alarm Wiring Bid - Do Not Open Except by Administration." Bids will be opened and considered by Administration at 707 S. Roland in the Administrator's office on February 25, 2000 at 3:30 p.m. Hansford County Hospital District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in part or as a whole.

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HANSFORD CO. - choice irr. 1/2 complete with underground pipe and return system, on pavement, approx. 8 mi. out of town.
HANSFORD CO. - 640 acres with 443 acres ex-C.R.P., domestic well and stock tank, strong irrigation area.
HUTCHINSON CO. - large block of land, comb. of irrigated, dryland and native grass, on pavement, two houses
NW OF STINNETT - choice 1/2 with 70 acres native grass, balance ex-C.R.P.

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Wed., 2/2 - Enchilada & Taco
Thurs., 2/3 - Brisket

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Friday & Saturday Night

Friday, Special - 1/28
All You Can Eat Fried Fish
Saturday, Special - 1/29
8 oz. Ribeye or 10 oz. Sirloin

Full Menu Available Anytime (Including Sunday)
Breakfast Burritos, Biscuits & Croissants
Home-made Cinnamon Rolls
Biti Pies - Coconut, Chocolate & Lemon Meringue

Love At First Sight

by Harletta Carthel

It was love at first sight when Linda and Don Stalcup saw the big brown eyes of the five-month old baby which would become their son. In an orphanage half a world away, the Hugoton couple met the reason for the mountain of paperwork they completed, the thousands of miles they had traveled, and the longing in their hearts.

Working through HIS KIDS Adoptions International, the Stalcup's chose the country of Cambodia to seek a child for adoption. Having been closed to adoption since August 12, 1991, Cambodia recently began to allow adoptions. The Stalcup's were particularly attracted to Cambodia since it allowed the adoption of the youngest infants in orphanages in contrast to other foreign countries.

In August, the Stalcup's received word that a child was waiting for them. As they flew to Cambodia they reviewed what they had learned of the country but even then were surprised. The conditions they found their son-to-be, Jack Avery, were even more deplorable than they had imagined. Housed in an old, dilapidated building without electricity, the orphanage was a bleak residence. Attendants were very young, and babies were not even diapered since there was no money for disposable ones, and no laundry washing cloth ones. The Stalcup's also noticed the blank stare of the young children there; the lack of light and love seemed to stare at them as they made eye contact.

Little Jack would be more fortunate; he would be housed in a small woven basket in his new parents' Cambodian hotel room surrounded by love as his parents made plans to return home. He would live in a small town in Kansas where he could play safely in his yard without fear of coming in contact with one of more than a million land mines still buried in his country. He could soon breathe fresh air rather than the continual stench, his malnutrition would heal with proper food, he would learn to read, and most of all, he would be part of a loving family.

Jack Avery will be celebrating his first Valentine's Day on Monday. He won't know much about paper hearts and lacy sentiments, but he will know love - the essence of Valentine's Day.



Don Stalcup and his wife Linda, formerly of Spearman, show their child, Jack Avery, Cambodia, his birthplace, on the map.

Breast Cancer Screening Clinic

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and Baptist St. Anthony's Health System in conjunction with Hansford County Hospital will conduct a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic at 712 South Roland, in Spearman on February 28, 2000.

Breast cancer affects one in eight women. The key to winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month.

Participants will receive a low-cost screening mammogram. Each woman screened will receive a breast health risk appraisal and individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only.

... (806) 356-1905 or toll free 1-800-377-4673 for more information.

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