



The Hansford County

# Reporter Statesman

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VOLUME 102 • ISSUE 27

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2009



**Brianna Navarrete recently attended the US Tumbling and Trampoline Assoc. National Championships in Amarillo. More than 100 teams competed, including the Spearman Sparklers Team, which was one of 7 Texas teams to compete. Brianna competed in all three events - tumbling, trampoline, and the double-mini. She tied for 7th in nationals in the double-mini event in her age group. Her family would like to thank all who supported her during her competition. They would like to extend a special thanks to her coaches, Meli & Channing Burgess, for all their hard work and giving her this opportunity to compete.**

## Plague wipes out prairie dog town West Nile virus case is reported

In recent weeks, the Panhandle has had two serious disease incidents. The first was confirmation of the first 2009 West Nile virus infection in Texas and the second is confirmation of "The Plague" in Hansford County. Authorities are asking everyone take a few extra precautions before outdoor excursions particularly this July 4th.

The Texas Department of Health announced last week that the plague has been confirmed in Northern Hansford County. A prairie dog town on land adjacent to Palo Duro Lake is reportedly wiped out, and residents and visitors to the area should be aware and take extra precautions to protect themselves and their pets from fleas which may carry the disease.

The plague is caused by a bacteria named *Yersinia pestis* and is spread by infected fleas or by handling sick animals. It is primarily a disease of rodents, but can also affect cats (most susceptible), dogs, or humans.

In humans, plague may occur in three distinct forms. Large swollen lymph nodes in the groin or arm pit area are associated with Bubonic plague, the disease that caused what is known as the Black Death in Europe in the 1300s. The Septicemic form of plague is a blood infection without the swollen lymph nodes. These two forms usually develop due to bites from infected fleas or from handling infected carcasses. Pneumonic plague is a respiratory infection. This last form is highly contagious between humans and also from animal to humans. All forms of plague are highly fatal unless antibiotic treatment is initiated promptly.

People who live near prairie dog towns should take precautions to keep their pets out of the towns. If that is not feasible, a good flea prevention program should be maintained. Dogs and cats can bring home-infected fleas. A child died recently in New Mexico, possibly due to fleas brought home by the family dog. Cats are also prone to infection resulting in a highly contagious pneumonic form of the disease. They may also develop swollen lymph nodes that can rupture and spread infectious fluid. Dogs may also develop the same syndromes but they are usually much more resistant to the disease.

The last known prairie dog die-offs in the Panhandle in which the animals tested positive for plague were in Sherman County in 2006, according to the Texas Department of Health Services.

While deadly, the plague is not new to the region.

"It's endemic in our environment," said James Alexander, regional zoonosis control veterinarian for Health Services Region 1. "The prairie dog periodically surfaces as the animal that gets nailed by it."

Health authorities are urging everyone to be extra cautious this summer with these infections being confirmed. Be sure to use flea control for your pets and avoid taking your pets to areas that might have been contaminated by rodents.

If you plan to visit Palo Duro Lake this summer, it is recommended that you not take your pets. But if you do, please avoid allowing them to run-at-large and keep them under your observation at all times. If possible limit your exposure to mosquitoes at dusk and dawn.

Dr. Alexander of Health Services Region 1 received a report of the most severe form of West Nile virus infection, West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease (WNNID), in Texas for 2009. The case was in Floyd County involving an 18-year-old individual. The case was reported in the late part of May and thankfully the illness was not fatal.

West Nile virus is spread by infected mosquitoes, and can cause serious, life-altering and even fatal disease. Enjoy the warm weather, but remember that mosquitoes carrying West Nile virus are already on the wing in some areas, so get out and use the mosquito repellent. Remember to check around your yard and dump out standing water where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.

Many veterinarians now vaccinate animals for the virus, but birds can carry the disease after being bitten by mosquitoes.

Citizens of the region are encouraged to practice the 4 Ds: drain standing water; avoid being out at dusk and dawn; dress appropriately with long sleeves and long pants; and use an effective mosquito repellent, such as one containing DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus or PMD the synthesized version of oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535.

Should you have questions or information related to animal or human exposure to these infestations, please contact your local health authority or law enforcement.

For more details related to West Nile or Plague check out the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov>.

## City of Spearman Purchases Pet Microchip Reader

The City of Spearman has acquired a "chip" reader for dogs and cats. They purchased a "HomeAgain" brand, but it will read most brands of microchip.

Pet owners who would like to have their animal "microchipped," will need to take their animal to the vet to have the chip implanted.

The chip will come provided with an original id number. When the chip is scanned, it will provide the name and contact number for the owner.

For more information contact the City of Spearman at 659-2524, or Hansford County Vet Clinic at 659-2100.



**What is HomeAgain?** HomeAgain is an advanced lost pet recovery service dedicated to the safety and well-being of your pet. Our system is best utilized when a microchip with a unique ID number is injected between the shoulder blades of your pet, which can be done by a veterinarian if your pet is not already microchipped. Once your pet is microchipped, the next step is to enroll your pet's microchip ID, description, and photo, along with your contact information, in the HomeAgain National Pet Recovery Database, which is critical to reuniting you immediately with your lost pet once he is found.

Once enrolled, your pet is entitled to all the additional benefits of the HomeAgain annual membership, including:

- \* unlimited updates to your pet or contact information online or by phone
- \* 24/7 access to our Lost Pet Specialists
- \* Rapid Lost Pet Alerts and Lost Pet Posters
- \* Medical Insurance for Lost Dogs or Cats from PetFirst Healthcare
- \* 24/7 access to the Pet Medical Emergency Hotline
- \* and more!

**I am planning an international vacation with my pet. What do I need to know?** The following are some helpful links for determining what you need to do in order to take your pet to another country.

\* National Center for Import and Export (NCIE) A part of the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), this organization regulates the import and export of animals in the US.

\* USDA Pet Export Information From the NCIE, this page contains specific information - including general instructions and links to further information - about the procedures for taking pets abroad.

\* Regulations by Country This page contains links to regulations in place in more than 100 countries.

**Does my pet have to be microchipped with a HomeAgain® brand microchip in order to utilize the HomeAgain service?** No - pets with any brand of microchip may enroll in the HomeAgain service.

**How do I enroll with HomeAgain?** You can enroll any pet with a microchip from the Web site [public.homeagain.com](http://public.homeagain.com) or by calling 1-888-HomeAgain [1-888-466-3242]. If your pet is not microchipped, find a veterinarian and ask them to implant your pet with the HomeAgain® microchip. The next step then is to enroll your pet. Once your pet is enrolled, you'll have access to the portfolio of services provided by HomeAgain to keep your pet safe and sound.

**Is it safe for my pet to have a microchip, a foreign object, inside his body?** Veterinarians have been implanting microchips in animals for years, and the process has been proven to be very safe. The microchip is made out of an inert, biocompatible substance, which means it won't cause an allergic reaction or degenerate over time. In addition, HomeAgain® is the only microchip on the market today that has the Bio-Bond™ patented anti-migration feature to help ensure that the microchip stays in place. Extensive testing and long-term use have shown the HomeAgain microchip is a safe and permanent method of identification for pets.

**Is the procedure to implant the microchip expensive?** While the price can vary from one veterinarian to another, implanting the microchip costs around \$45. This is a one-time fee; the microchip does not need maintenance or replacement. In addition, there is an annual fee of \$14.99 for your pet's HomeAgain membership.

**Will the microchip ever wear out or have to be replaced?** The microchip doesn't have an internal battery or power source. In fact, most of the time it's inactive. When the microchip scanner is passed over it, the microchip gets enough power from the scanner to transmit the pet's ID number. Since there's no battery and no moving parts, there's nothing to wear out or replace. The microchip will last your pet's lifetime.

**How big is the microchip?** The microchip is about the size of a grain of rice (12mm). You cannot see the microchip after it is implanted under the skin of your dog or cat.

### Weather Forecast

**THURSDAY NIGHT** - Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 60s. South winds 10 to 20 mph.

**FRIDAY** - Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 90s. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph.

**FRIDAY NIGHT** - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s. South winds 10 to 20 mph.

**INDEPENDENCE DAY** - Mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 90s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

**SATURDAY NIGHT** - Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Breezy. Lows in the upper 60s.

**SUNDAY** - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s.

**SUNDAY NIGHT** - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

**MONDAY** - Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s.

### Texas Crop & Weather

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by Panhandle Extension directors: The northwest counties received some rain, but most of the area was hot and dry. Soil moisture was short. Rangeland and pastures were fair. Corn looked good, was 100 percent emerged and growing well. Peanuts and sorghum were fair to good. Winter wheat was reported to be in fair condition in most of the region. The wheat harvest was from 35 percent to fully completed, depending on how much rain was received the last two weeks. Yields ranged from fair to good. Cattle were in good condition.

### Closed Notice

The Hansford County Reporter-Statesman will be closed July 29-August 12th. The deadline for the August 6th and August 13th issues will be Tuesday, July 28th at 5 p.m. Items submitted after the deadline will be published at a later date, as time and space permit.

Items may be submitted by phone (806-659-3434), fax (806-398-9080), mail (Reporter-Statesman, 213 Main Street, Spearman TX 79081), in person (310 Barkley Street, Spearman) or e-mail ([reporter@spearmanreporter.com](mailto:reporter@spearmanreporter.com)).

**Spearman Chamber of Commerce's**

## Yard of the Week

**Olie & Bonnie Bergan**  
1121 S. Bernice

**Jimmy Vanlandingham**  
701 Cotter

**Salomon Torengo**  
212 Brandt

If you have a yard you would like to nominate, please contact the Spearman Chamber of Commerce at 659-5555.

## Texas Alligator Ranch Welcomes 'King George'



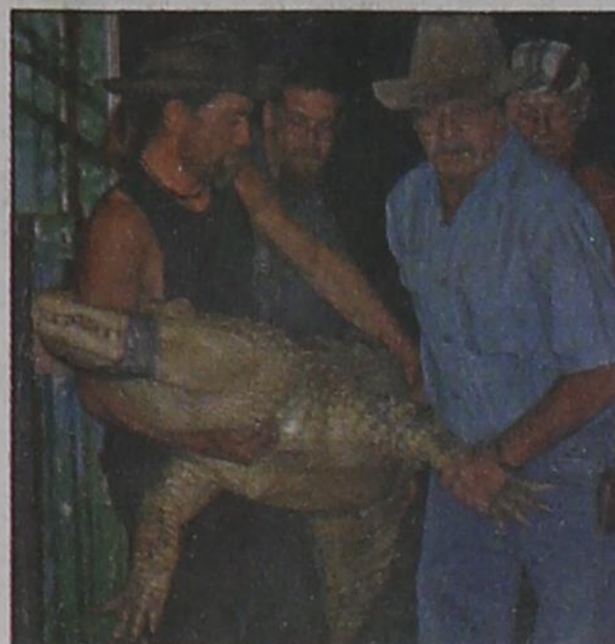
**ABOVE: Dean Coates (left), owner and operator of Texas Alligator Ranch in Spearman, welcomes his newest alligator 'King George.'**  
**BELOW RIGHT: Friends help 'King George' into his new home at the Texas Alligator Ranch, located at 10405 West Highway 15 in Spearman.**

The Texas Alligator Ranch of Spearman would like to welcome George to their family. Weighing in at 320 pounds, George is a 9 foot, 7 inch alligator. He was raised from an 8 in. hatchling in an alligator producing farm near Dallas. For ten years George has been in an 85°, dark pond, which is typical for alligator producing farms.

"Colorado Gators," from near Alamosa, was asked to take an alligator to Dallas for a Vacation Bible School for 3500 kids. Mr. Jay Young contacted Dean Coates, owner of the Texas Alligator Ranch, and wanted to use one of his gators for ease of the gator transport and legal means.

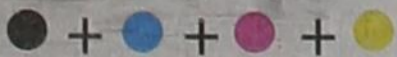
"Jay, thinking my alligator might not be big enough for the show, wanted a bigger one if he could get it," said Dean Coates. "After a few phone calls on the way to Dallas, I found a big alligator at an alligator farm within 30 miles of Dallas."

Out of the dark came "George," as the farmer called him, and 45 minutes later George was on a stage in front of 3500 kids. Crock Doc had been the theme of the class, and it was amazing to say the least, for the kids to be able to see a live alligator.



From the stage, George was carefully and comfortably packaged for his trip to Spearman's Texas Alligator Ranch, where he will be retired and available for everyone to admire. George is the biggest of the 25 alligators at the Texas Alligator Ranch, hence being dubbed "King George."

Continued on page 4





**Texas Senate Review**  
Senate Works Late To Save Bills 5/27/09

(Austin) The Senate worked late into the night to pass legislation that died in the House Tuesday because of a contentious fight over voter I.D. House opponents to the measure that would require photo identification to cast a ballot used parliamentary maneuvers to prevent consideration of that bill. As a consequence, many important pieces of legislation died at the midnight deadline on consideration of bills for the House. Wednesday, Senators looked for bills with broad enough captions to permit bills that already passed the Senate to be amended on. Senate rules that require amendments to be related, or germane, to the caption of the bill. Senators were under additional pressure as they faced a midnight deadline, the latest that bills could be considered before the body.

Some legislation that fell victim to the House deadline Tuesday include reform of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association, the sunset review of the Texas Department of Insurance, and a bill to draw down federal stimulus money for unemployment insurance. Governor Rick Perry has warned lawmakers that he will call a special session if they don't pass windstorm insurance reform, but Lt. Governor David Dewhurst said the issue could find new life. "In my judgment, and I'll have to check and see if they're germane, but we have one or two bills that we might be able to put the windstorm bill on," he said Wednesday afternoon.

That opportunity came just before midnight, when Senator Mike Jackson accepted an amendment to HB 4409 that added windstorm insurance reform language passed by the Senate in April. "We hopefully will be able to get over and work very quickly," said Jackson, referring to an inevitable conference committee with House negotiators. The Senate language uses bonding authority to offset damage claims in the event of a major hurricane, but House and Senate conference committee members will formulate the final language that each chamber will vote on.

Senators approved nearly 80 bills before the deadline, including the Department of Public Safety (DPS) sunset measure. HB 2730, sponsored by McAllen Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, makes a few changes at the agency. It would set up an office of Inspector General, within

DPS to detect and prevent criminal activity within the agency. The bill would move the Governor's Division of Emergency Management under DPS, and the director of that division would be appointed by the DPS board. The Sunset Commission would be charged with assessing the agency's progress toward reform recommendations made in 2008 relating to improving information technology and the driver's license division. The bill now heads back to the House so they can consider Senate amendments.

The Senate also approved a significant tax cut that will affect thousands of small business owners in Texas. HB 4765, sponsored by Houston Senator Dan Patrick, would raise the minimum floor for the gross margins tax from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000 for two years. That means businesses that gross less than a million dollars a year would be exempt from the franchise tax for the next two years. Patrick says this would exempt nearly 40,000 businesses that paid the tax last year, saving a total of \$170 million in taxes over the next biennium. After two years, the floor would be permanently set at \$600,000. This bill also heads back to the House for consideration of Senate amendments.

**Regular Session Ends, But Special Session Looms 6/1/09**

(Austin) Legislators gavelled out on the 81st Regular Session Monday, but certain important issues left on the table could bring them back before the next session in 2011. Lawmakers passed several important measures in the waning days of the session. They sent to the governor a new school accountability measure, one that emphasizes college readiness, and a new school finance plan that would add nearly \$2 billion to funds and allow for an \$800 teacher pay raise. The Senate and House both approved a change to the franchise tax that would exempt businesses that make less than \$1 million and another bill to fix the state's beleaguered windstorm insurance program. But it's what they didn't pass that has some Senators asking the Governor to call them back. "Now it's up to the governor to call us in to a short special session to address two issues: that would be the general obligation bonds at TxDOT and the other issue is the sunset schedule," said Senator Tommy Williams of the Woodlands. "And if he'll do that we can get in and get our

work done."

Legislation that would have preserved the Texas Department of Transportation and Texas Department of Insurance died in the House during the parliamentary stalling that took place in the final days of the session. The Senate later approved a "safety net" bill, one that would continue TxDOT and TDI for four more years, but the House couldn't push that measure through. Monday, the House amended a bill to continue those two agencies for two more years, in an effort to stage off a special session. When that measure came over to the Senate, many Senators, including the bill's sponsor Bryan Senator Steve Ogden, didn't agree with the parliamentary tricks the House used to extend agency deadlines. "It's preposterous to say that a technical correction to the funds consolidation bill, is the safety net bill for all these agencies to not go into sunset," said Ogden. "I thought it was kind of dishonest and I thought it was kind of an insult to the quality of work we've done over here."

Senators might still have accepted the measure, had the House passed a bill that would have given about \$2 billion in bonding authority to TxDOT. The House, however, suddenly adjourned their session without approving the bonds, leaving some Senators scratching their heads and others condemning them as irresponsible. "The House's actions wreck the TxDOT budget," said Ogden. "Without passing the authorization issuing those bonds they basically wrecked their budget. It's not right."

The Senate adjourned their own session without approving the measure to extend the sunset dates on TxDOT and TDI. This, said some Senators, practically guarantees a special session to deal with these important issues.

Should the governor not call a special session, TxDOT and TDI would cease to exist on September 2, 2010. Until that time, both agencies can conduct business as usual, giving the governor plenty of time to mull if and when to call a special session.

**Are You A Victim of Domestic Violence, Sexual Abuse or Physical, Emotional or Sexual Assault?**

Call Toll Free Hotline 1-800-753-5308

We can see individuals from Hansford County anytime upon request. Call 435-5008 or 1-800-753-5308 to set up an appointment in Hansford County. We operate a safe place for victims and their children to stay in times of crisis.

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**State Capital HIGHLIGHTS**

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry on June 25 summoned the 81st Texas Legislature back to Austin for a special session to begin July 1.

"After speaking with legislators I am calling a special session to extend the operation of five critical agencies and help reduce gridlock by continuing to provide options for financing our state's highways," Perry said.

Perry and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst share an optimistic goal for the special session to last only a couple of days.

The governor's call includes three goals for lawmakers. He wants them to pass legislation:

1. Extending the life of the five state agencies close to expiration: Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Department of Insurance, Texas Racing Commission, Office of Public Insurance Counsel and Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation.

2. Allowing the Texas Department of Transportation to issue \$5 billion in general obligation bonds to build roads.

3. Extending the authority of the Texas Department of Transportation and a regional mobility authority to use "comprehensive development agreements" to design, finance, build and maintain transportation infrastructure.

Perry lauded work done by lawmakers during the Legislature's regular session that ended June 1. He expressed satisfaction with the profit-margin tax cut given to 40,000 small businesses and the 40 percent increase in financial aid for college students "all without touching our state's rainy day fund." The rainy day fund, about \$7 billion set aside for emergency needs, was left untouched because lawmakers plugged gaps in the 2010-2011 state budget with \$12 billion in federal stimulus funding.

Back to the special session: Sen. John Carona, R-Dallas, chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security, filed SB 1 on June 26.

SB 1, if passed, would give the Texas Transportation Commission statutory authorization to issue road-building bonds that voters approved by constitutional amendment in 2007. It also would create a revolving transportation fund for local governments to borrow from.

**Road project is federally funded**

Texas will break ground June 30 on a local highway project on FM 60 in Burleson County, near Bryan. Funding comes from the federal gov-

**GOVERNOR CALLS SPECIAL SESSION TO BEGIN JULY 1**



by Ed Sterling

ernment's new American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The \$7.5 million, 2.8-mile project, is the first of 29 ARRA-funded mobility projects approved in March by the Texas Transportation Commission, the governmental body that oversees the Texas Department of Transportation.

**Tax break for disabled veterans**

Military veterans who reside in Texas and who have a 100 percent disability rating or are considered unemployed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs are temporarily exempt from paying property tax on the total appraised value of their home- stead, thanks to the passage of HB 3613.

The legislation, authored by Rep. John Otto, R-Dayton, and signed by the governor on June 19, makes the exemption effective for the 2009 tax year.

Comptroller Susan Combs on June 26 prompted local tax assessors to update property tax rolls to ensure eligible veterans receive the new tax break.

**TEA rejects standardization**

The Texas Education Agency has decided not to join 46 other states in adopt-

ing the Common Core curriculum, a set of voluntary national standards for math and English textbooks and curriculum. Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott's reasons for not joining: loss of local control, increased costs, and Texas has its own standards.

**Schieffer announces candidacy**

Democrat John Thomas "Tom" Schieffer of Fort Worth, a 61-year-old gas and oil industry lawyer, businessman, former Texas House member, former president of the Texas Rangers Baseball Club and former U.S. ambassador on June 24 announced his candidacy for governor. Party primaries will be held in March 2010.

**Former speaker arrested for DWI**

Former state Rep. Gib Lewis, D-Fort Worth, who served as speaker of the Texas House from 1983 to 1993, was charged with drunken driving after being arrested June 26 in downtown Austin.

**Marriage of Lt. Gov. is reported**

Lt. Gov. Dewhurst reportedly married Houston attorney Patricia Bivins, former wife of former state Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, in Houston, on June 27.

**SUDOKU**

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answer on classified page

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.

**GREEN LIVING**

**ACROSS**

- \*What a garden bed should do to vegetables
- Ostrich-like bird
- One thousandth of a kilogram
- Prefix for "between"
- Where yoga's done
- Space exploration mission
- Express contempt
- Anger
- Cowboy movie
- \*Homemade plant food
- \*Purpose of blue or green bin
- \_\_\_ Lanka
- Strategic board game
- Shine covering
- Withered
- Non-stick
- \*Most frequent complaint about compost piles
- Flower holder
- Donald Duck's girlfriend
- Famous song by "The Kinks"
- Make corrections
- Cuzco valley empire
- Bottomless pit
- Done to a road
- Not counterfeit
- Advice on shampoo bottle
- Fictional city-

- dwelling crocodile
- DNA transmitter
- Gapes wide open
- Shack or shanty
- \*Cow emission that creates greenhouse gas
- \*Popular homemade cleaning ingredient
- Kitchen tear-jerker
- A solution of sodium hydroxide
- Accepted or habitual practice
- Shrek and Fiona, e.g.
- "Game, \_\_\_, match!"
- Provided with clues
- Stepped
- Owns
- World of the dead
- Reduced Instruction Set Computer
- The A in A.D.
- Individual unit
- Oozes
- They're frowned upon in America's pastime
- \*What most cars do with pollutants
- Sea in Spain
- Embryo cradles
- Between black and white
- Officer training program

- Cain's unfortunate brother
- Frenchman's mother
- Marked by small-pox
- A strainer
- New York time
- Seals again
- \*A renewable energy
- Acrobat maker
- A growth on a mucous membrane
- It's in multi-level parking garages
- \*Socially responsible type of trade
- Inside a jacket
- Ancient Italic language
- African antelope
- Tear down
- One turns green with it?
- New \_\_\_, India
- American Indian people of Yucatan
- \*With hole in ozone layer, would-be sun-lovers fear it
- Harem guardian
- Natives of Wales
- Electric motor inventor Nikola
- Type of point or question
- Short for engineer
- Beginner
- \*Tilled the garden
- VA patients

These games are brought to you by the

**Hansford County Reporter-Statesman**

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**Advertising**

Open Display rates are \$4.00 per column inch. Classified Ads are \$6 for the first 25 words and 10¢ per word for each additional word. (Additional charge for boxed classifieds.) There is a \$1 charge per week if billed.

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# Happy Birthday!

**July 2**  
**Birthdays** - Lou Chapman, Janet Irwin, Luis Hermsillo, Joe Hermsillo, Keri George, Channing Burgess, Gary Ellsworth  
**Anniversary** - M/M Jimmy Valandingham, Burt & Lynell Williams, Ron & Loretta Cook, John & Debbie DeLaRosa

**July 3**  
**Birthdays** - Julie Gumpfory, Randy Lowe, Todd Williams, Charlie Lopez, Audene Beck, Lynn Sheets, Trudie Gordon, Meredith Benton, Ronda Gibson, Gene Reynolds, Trevor Shipley, Debra Galimore, Verlin Behne, Bill Porter, Cheryl Salgado, Henniretta Andrews  
**Anniversary** - Bill & Verna Strawn

**July 4**  
**Birthdays** - Barry Barkley, Donna Been, Gene Duncan, Mary Weldon, Farene Williams, Faye Cunningham, James Umphress, Ofelia Vela, June Patterson, Melvyn Bradley, Kim Swink  
**Anniversary** - Mike & Kathy Peck, M/M Walter Postoak, M/M Jerald Ray Scribner

**July 5**  
**Birthdays** - Sydney Clawson, Kent Benton, Mrs. George Rook, Mack McLain, Linda Walker, Jamie Davis, Tom Dortch, Dawn Bridges, Connie Gibson Dixon, Blayne Schrader, Alfonso Martinez, Melanie Elliott  
**Anniversary** - M/M Bill Been, Mike & Kathy Brown, M/M Anthony Wilkerson

**July 6**  
**Birthdays** - Alan Biggers, Scott Attwood, Monte Beck, Rickey Shields, Gene Dennis, Kimberly Ann Vasquez, Cody Benton

**July 7**  
**Birthdays** - Pat O'Connell, Steve Benton, Brenda Sue Bowling, Greg Meisner, Steve Lesly, Virginia Reyes, Magda Rivera, Brian Sparks, Justin Bowman, Daniel Ward, Karen Pierce, Mattie Davis, B.J. Hughes, Reid Swan  
**Anniversary** - M/M Kenny Bratton, Kelly & Johnie Fuller

**July 8**  
**Birthdays** - Buddy Benton, Janna Nickles, Aaron Hart, Craig Morris, Gay Pipkin, Luis Martinez, Jody Fowler, Samantha Prouty, Loree Espinosa, Kathy Lindsey  
**Anniversary** - M/M Rodney Clawson, Leo & Phyl-

lis Cummings, M/M Rod Fulce, M/M Greg Miesner

**July 9**  
**Birthdays** - Edith Smith, Donna Farris, Johnny Jo Roach, Sally Swan, Kyle Kirk, Sean Travers Baker, Donna Custard, Sharolyn Finley, Darlene Hoel  
**Anniversary** - M/M Richard Booth, M/M Dewey Taylor, M/M Jimmy Finley, Joanna (Moore) & Wayne Pierson, Kevin & Ann Rook, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Bagwell

**July 10**  
**Birthdays** - Steven Greever, Donna Sheets, Lorene Kunsleman, Carolyn Shields, Cathy Gafford, Mitch Gillian, Belinda Francis, Felex Lopez, Jolynda Vasquez, Justin Bass, Jerrill Key, James Sursa  
**Anniversary** - M/M Randy Kirk

**July 11**  
**Birthdays** - Louis Schnell, Marvin Jones, Danny Pope, Juanita Paul, Sharon Archer, Scott Russell, Kenneth Schaeffer, Debbie George, Zeke Henson

**July 12**  
**Birthdays** - Carolyn Fletcher, Larry Hicks, Justin Horton, Jenie Kirkland, J.W. Jenkins, Cheryl Long, Glenda Guthrie, Olga Gafford, Lucas Biggs, Stan Josephson, Dustin Irbeck, Charlie Spencer, Madison Schad, Colton Meek, Melinda Tidwell, Mandie Hunter  
**Anniversary** - Harold & Joyce Crooks

**July 13**  
**Birthdays** - Mary Schroeder, Ron Clark, Gary Burke, Rounder Jackson, Clay Schnell, Claude (Junior) Crossland  
**Anniversary** - Allen & Margie Alfred

**July 14**  
**Birthdays** - Scott Bullard, Jo Alice Clawson, Shelly Logsdon, Albert Baker, Linda Jarvis, Carrie Pearson, Rebecca Rosales, Butch Baker  
**Anniversary** - M/M Roy Stinson, Betty & Kenneth Redwine, Tim & Charollette Bynum

**July 15**  
**Birthdays** - Julie Imke, Carol Pack, Chris Jenkins, Sonya Nitsche, Maude McClellan, Ryan Renick, Julie Stork, Hazle Britt, Clarence Zabel, Samantha Baker, Kayla Schrader, Nelva Snow, Galen Coates  
**Anniversary** - Alvin & Becky Byers, M/M Jack Jackson, M/M Bob Gillispie, M/M Richard Shad, M/M Jerry Hayes

## Our Sympathy

### TIMOTHY ANDREW "TIM" BUSCHMAN

PERRYTON - Timothy Andrew "Tim" Buschman, 49, died Tuesday, June 23, 2009.

Services were at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 27, 2009 in Community Worship Center with the Rev. Michael Waterbury and the Rev. Kit Buschman officiating. Burial was in Ochiltree Cemetery by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Perryton.

Mr. Buschman was born Oct. 26, 1959, in Perryton, where he lived all his life. He married Tina Bates on May 23, 1981, in Hooker, Okla. Tim was a farmer and rancher. He was a member and elder of Community Worship Center, a member of Gideons International, served with Kairos prison ministry and as associate pastor of Full Gospel Church.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Lois Buschman, in 2003.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Andrew James Buschman and wife Angela of Amarillo and Austin John Buschman of Perryton; a daughter, Anita Joy Nine and husband Caleb of Slapout, Okla.; a granddaughter, Hallie Ann Nine of Slapout; a grandson, James Isaac Buschman of Amarillo; his father, Alvin Buschman of Perryton; and four brothers, Job Buschman of Lubbock, Kit Buschman of Amarillo, Terry Buschman of Spearman and Mark Buschman of Perryton.

The family suggests memorials be to Buschman Memorial Fund, in care of Community Worship Center, P.O. Box 845, Perryton, TX 79070.



### SELMA MARIE DAHL RNEAU

SPEARMAN - Selma Marie Dahl Rneau, 91, died Saturday, June 27, 2009.

Services will be at 10 a.m. today in Faith Lutheran Church in Spearman with the Rev. Charles Meyer, pastor of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Amarillo, officiating. Burial will be in Hansford County Cemetery by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Spearman.

Mrs. Rneau was born Nov. 8, 1917, in the Oslo community, northwest of Gruver, to John O. Dahl and Jensine K. Rasmussen Dahl, who were immigrants from Norway and Denmark. She was baptized and confirmed at Oslo Lutheran Church in the Norwegian language.

She attended public schools in Oslo and Gruver and attended college at Clifton Junior College in Clifton and Amarillo Business College.

During World War II, she worked at Hansford County ASCS office, and later was a carrier for the Amarillo Globe-News.

Selma served as Hansford County treasurer for 12 years, retiring in 1978. She married James Windell Rneau in Spearman on Oct. 24, 1948.

The family wishes to thank the Seville Estate Assisted Living Center and Odyssey Healthcare for their wonderful and loving care of our beloved mother.

She was preceded in death by her husband and her brother, John O. Dahl.

Survivors include three sons, Willie and wife, Cyndy, of Tomball, Gene Rneau of Amarillo and John and wife Becca of Wichita Falls; a daughter, Linda Short and husband Mike of White Deer; three grandsons; three granddaughters; a great-grandson; three sisters, Ingeborg Sogn of Guymon, Okla., Betsy Ward of Gruver and Doris Schibler of El Dorado, Ark.

The family suggests memorials be to Faith Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Bernice St., Spearman, TX 79081-3831; or Odyssey Health Care, 6900 W. Interstate 40, Suite 150, Amarillo, TX 79106.

### GUILLERMO "WILL" VERA

BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV - Guillermo "Will" Vera, 41, of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, formerly of Spearman, died Monday June 22, 2009 at the UVA Medical Center.

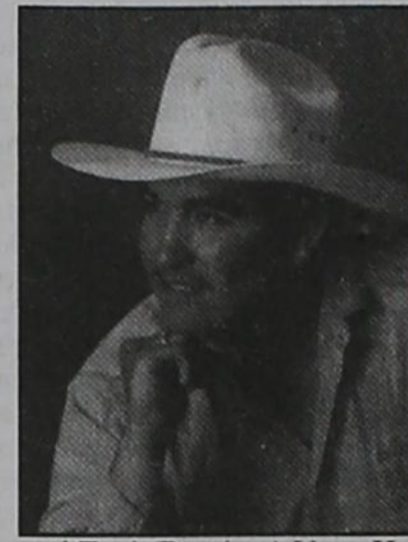
Funeral services were held Saturday, June 27, 2009 at 7 p.m. at Jones Funeral Home Chapel Winchester with Chaplain Mark Ransom and Lt. Scott Sturdivant officiating. Burial was at a later date in Texas.

Will was born June 30, 1967, in Spearman, TX to Pete and Toni (Ramirez) Vera. He married Delilah D. Mays on October 31, 2008 in Winchester, VA.

He was a Correctional Officer for NRADC, in Winchester. He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife of Berkeley Springs, WV; a daughter, Bailey D'Anne Vera-Williams of Valley De Oro, TX; a granddaughter, McKenna; two sisters, Isabell McLeod and husband Freddy, and Elvira Hill all of Amarillo; three brothers, Pete Vera, Jr. and wife Kim, Johnny Vera and wife Brenda and Ruben Vera and wife Sybil, all of Spearman; and many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Online condolences may be left at [www.jonesfuneralhomes.com](http://www.jonesfuneralhomes.com).



## MONUMENTS

### Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home

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Dear friends,  
When you buy a monument from us we make sure it is exactly what you want at a price you can afford. If it is not right, we will make it right. And you will not have to search the countryside to find us. We are here when you have a need.

Sincerely,  
Bob Boxwell

### MICHAEL ANDRUS ADAMS

Mike was stolen from our hands but not from our hearts. Born December 6, 1958 to Fred and Maurine Adams, in Salt Lake City, Utah. He died June 28, 2009 at his home in Chandler, Arizona. Mike married his best friend Sharon Nollner May 5, 1978. They have one son, Ryan Michael Adams and new grandson, Declan Michael Adams who most unfortunately will miss getting spoiled by Grandpa Mike. Sadie, his best four legged friend, will just have to catch up to him someday in heaven. Mikes infectious smile lit up his face, he was a true friend in every sense of the word, a devoted husband with all of his soul and a proud father and grandfather with every fiber of his being. A son, a brother, an uncle a friend. If you are one of the lucky ones who have crossed paths with Mike at one time in your life you will be forever blessed. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends at their cabin in Show Low, Arizona. He loved his family, he loved his life and lived it how he wanted, please share in our grief and celebrate his life as he would want us to. He is survived by his wife Sharon Adams, son Ryan (Vanessa) Adams, grandson Declan Michael Adams all of Phoenix, Arizona, mother Maurine Adams, Salt Lake City, Utah, mother-in-law Marion Nollner, Texas, sisters; Kathy (Phil) Gammell, Salt Lake City, UT, Debi Adams, Salt Lake City, Utah, Kris (Vern) Sorensen, Salt Lake City, Utah, brothers; Alan (Karrie) Adams, Salt Lake City, Utah, Gary (Cindy) Adams, Salt Lake City, Utah, Garth (Sue) Adams, Salt Lake City, Utah, 11 nephews and 8 nieces, and his boys Kenny, Kendall, Brandon, Eric, James and many more.

A visitation will be held at 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Thursday, July 2, 2009 at Falconer Funeral Home, 251 W. Juniper Ave., Gilbert, AZ 85233. Memorial Services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, July 3, 2009 at Sun Valley Community Church, 465 E. Ray Rd., Gilbert, AZ 85296. Arrangements are under the direction of Falconer Funeral Home. For more information, please see our website [www.falconerfuneralhome.com](http://www.falconerfuneralhome.com)

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### DAILY BIBLE READING, PRAYER & REGULAR CHURCH ATTENDANCE

<p><b>Spearman</b></p> <p><b>Apostolic Faith Church</b> 822 S. Drensen • 659-2870 Sunday School: 10 a.m. Worship Service: 11 a.m. Sun. Eve.: 6 p.m. Wed. Prayer Mtg.: 7 p.m. Pastor - Roland Haney</p> <p><b>First Assembly of God</b> 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</p> <p><b>First Christian Church</b> (Disciples of Christ) 29 S. Bernice • 659-2036 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 10:50 a.m. Minister -</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>Church of Christ</b> 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.</p>	<p><b>Sacred Heart Catholic Church</b> 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 Rendtorf Mass - Spanish Rev. Guillermo Morales</p> <p><b>First United Methodist</b> 407 S. Haney • 659-5503 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 8:30 &amp; 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</p> <p><b>Grace Presbyterian Church</b> (Worshippers with Faith Lutheran Church) 1101 Bernice • 659-2033</p> <p><b>Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)</b> 1101 Bernice • 659-2252 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m. (Worshippers with Grace Presbyterian Church) Pastor - Cecil Biggers, PLM</p> <p><b>Union Church</b> 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 Baltazar</p> <p><b>Fellowship Baptist</b> 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 - Philip Hudson</p>	<p><b>Primera Mision Bautista</b> 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.</p> <p><b>El Aposento Alto U.P.C.I.</b> 1105 S. Roland Domingos: Escuela Domical - 10 a.m. Culto Evangelistico - 7 p.m. Jueves: Oracion - 8 p.m. Mier: Estudio Biblico - 7 p.m. Pastor - A.G. Martell (806) 659-2153</p> <p><b>Gruver</b></p> <p><b>First Baptist Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>Church of Christ</b> 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 - Gaylord Cook</p> <p><b>First Christian Church</b> 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</p>
<p><b>Gruver United Methodist</b> Broadway &amp; Garrett 733-2651 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 8:30 &amp; 10:50 a.m. Eve. Worship &amp; UMY: 6 p.m. Pastor - George Price</p> <p><b>Spanish Cristo Redentor Church</b> Sunday Mass: 1:30 p.m. Friday Evening Mass Summer - 8:00 p.m. Fall/Winter - 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Oslo</b></p> <p><b>Oslo Lutheran Church (ELCA)</b> 6 Miles West &amp; 12 Miles North of Gruver 339-7646 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship: 11 a.m. Pastor - Arlen Lloyd</p>	<p><b>Morse</b></p> <p><b>Morse Baptist Church</b> 733-2757 Pastor - Mike Martin</p>

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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<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>PRAIRIE MOTORS INC.</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Hwy. 207 South • P.O. Box 430 Spearman, TX 79081 • (806) 659-2541 <a href="http://www.prairiemotors.com">www.prairiemotors.com</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>MurMur's Cafe</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">100 Roland St Spearman, TX. 659-3580</p>	<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>Hansford County Reporter-Statesman</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">"Proudly Serving Hansford County Since 1907" (806) 659-3434 310 Barkley • Spearman, TX</p>	<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>INTERSTATE BANK, sbb</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;"><a href="http://www.interstatebank.net">www.interstatebank.net</a> 322 Main • P.O. Box 146 Spearman, TX • 659-2559</p>

# HYI

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Medical Fund for Krystal Puentes

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

### Medical Fund for Rene Griffin

A medical fund has been established for Rene Griffin at First State Bank, Spearman. If you would like to make a contribution you may make a deposit with any teller or mail a donation to First State Bank, Rene Griffin Medical Fund, PO Box 247, Spearman TX 79081.

### 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.

### Medical Fund for Nancy DeLuna Jernberg

A medical fund has been established for Nancy DeLuna Jernberg of Stinnett. Nancy was diagnosed with a rare malignant brain tumor and will be undergoing treatment. If you would like to make a contribution you may make a deposit with any teller or mail a donation to H&H Federal Credit Union, 104 Main Street, Stinnett TX 79083.

### Rushing Wind Emmaus Community Meeting

Rushing Wind Emmaus community will meet Saturday, July 11, at 6 p.m. in Perryton at the First United Methodist Church, 321 S. Baylor. There will be a potluck meal, sponsors training, and a praise and worship service. Friends, and families are welcome to attend the monthly community meetings, and a nursery will be provided for the children.

### Understanding Infant Adoption Training

Children's Connections Inc., Panhandle Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and the Frank Phillips College Nursing and Allied Health Department are presenting an Understanding Infant Adoption Training on Tuesday, June 30, 2009 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the Frank Phillips College Center for Access and Innovation Conference Room, 1301 W. Roosevelt, Borger. Registration begins at 11:45 a.m. The following Continuing Education Credits will be awarded: Nursing - 4 and Social Workers - 4. The training is free and includes a free lunch. The registration deadline is June 25th. For more information, or to register, contact Karen Russell, Panhandle AHEC, 806-651-3482, or email krussel@mail.wtamu.edu.

### Abernathy High School Reunion

During the weekend of July 3-5, 2009, the Abernathy Ex-Students Association will be hosting a reunion for everyone who has attended Abernathy Schools. All past and present teachers are welcome to join the festivities, too. There will be individual class reunions during the weekend as well as a general assembly for everyone on Saturday afternoon, July 4th. For a schedule of events and contact information, contact us at [www.abernathyex-students.org](http://www.abernathyex-students.org) or PO Box 1, Abernathy TX 79311.

### Golden Spread Center Radio Auction Planned

The O'Loughlin Center will be hosting the Golden Spread Center's annual KXDJ-RM Radio Auction on August 22, 2009. Donations of handmade items, goods, services, good furniture, cars, boats, golf carts, etc. are greatly appreciated. Funds will benefit the Golden Spread Center. To make your charitable donation, call Jada Breeden at 806-659-3030.

### 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.

### Take Off Pounds Sensibly Meets

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) meets on Tuesdays morning at 8:30 a.m. at the First Christian Church in Gruver, Anyone interested is invited. Contact Marilyn Been at 806-733-2087.

### IRS won't e-mail you about your refund

If you get an e-mail about your tax refund that appears to be from the Internal Revenue Service, don't be fooled. It's probably coming from internet thieves looking to steal your personal information, like credit card or bank account numbers. "Many folks have tax refunds coming back this time of year, and crooks might take advantage of that fact," Sanford said if the IRS needs to contact you, they will generally send a notice or letter through the U. S. Mail. Delete bogus IRS e-mails or forward them to phishing@irs.gov.

### Third Marine Division Association

The Third Marine Division Association is holding its 55th Annual Reunion in San Antonio, TX on August 24-30th. Any Marines who have served in the Third Marine Division, or were attached to the Third Marine Division in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Iraq, Afghanistan and Peacetime, are invited to attend. For more information, call Mike Sohn at 210-654-3310, or e-mail at [jumint2@hotmail.com](mailto:jumint2@hotmail.com).

### Child Find

Your school district is looking for children ages 3-21 years who may be slow in developing communication skills, social interactions, walking skills and/or have major physical disabilities. We want to give your child the chance to receive the extra help he/she needs, if the disability interferes with his/her education. Please call your elementary campus to get more information or call Perryton SSA, 435-4412.

### Beware of FAFSA Web Scam

Seniors, senior parents, and parents of college students should use the web site [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) when filling out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. There is currently a website that has found an interesting way to get in the college-bound's pocket. Known as [fafsa.com](http://fafsa.com), the website charges a fee for submitting the application. There is no fee for submitting the fafsa form on the [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) site.

### Panhandle Crisis Center in Need of Volunteers

The Panhandle Crisis Center is in great need for Volunteers to operate our Spearman Resale Store on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The hours would be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Training would be provided and you would be helping us greatly as you work with the public selling items, receiving donated merchandise, and visiting with your hometown friends. If you are willing and able to help with a program that benefits Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault victims in your community, please call 806-435-5008.

### Region 16 ESC offers Free GED Preparation Software

Region 16 ESC is offering free GED preparation software for students interested in obtaining a GED. You will also have access to a free online GED prep program through the public library. If you are interested in finding out more information about these services, please contact: Cindy Blackman at 659-3233, Maria Carbajal or Margaret Rutman at 659-2231 or stop by the Hansford County Library.

### Panhandle Crisis Center Outreach Office

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

### Spearhead AA Group

The Spearhead AA Group meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Pittman-Shieldknight building. Alcoholics Anonymous® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. For more information, call 662-1111.

### You're Never Alone - Narcotics Anonymous Group

Each year individuals struggling with drug and alcohol addiction make the resolution to quit using drugs. For many of them it is a resolution that they cannot keep. Narcotics Anonymous can help. Open meetings are held on Monday and Thursday nights from 8-9 p.m. at the First Christian Church (29 S Bernice, Spearman) for the "You're Never Alone" group of Narcotics Anonymous. Anyone interested is invited to attend. Drug addiction can leave an individual feeling helpless and out of control - we can help.

## Words from Faith & Grace



by Cecil R. Biggers, Lutheran Lay Minister

We learn of the sufficiency of God's grace as we study Ezekiel 2: 1-7, Psalm 123, 2 Corinthians 12: 2-10, and Mark 6: 1-13.

We see more of the call of Ezekiel as a prophet. God addresses him as "Son of Man" or "Mortal"; he is called in the year 593 BCE, seven years prior to the fall of Jerusalem. Ezekiel is to prophesy as to the fall of Jerusalem because of its sinfulness. The people are stubborn and do not want to listen. God assures Ezekiel that the effectiveness of preaching does not depend on the response of the people. God tells Ezekiel that the people will know that "I am Yahweh" when they hear the word of God. This phrase appears after words of judgment, after oracles against nations, and after words of hope.

The Psalmist sings a simple song for God's help. He asks the Lord for mercy saying, "We have had more than enough of contempt."

Paul is defending his apostleship to the church at Corinth. He speaks of a man who has seen a portion of God's glory, that man is Paul. However, Paul does not argue his position based on this experience of God's glory, but rather argues his position from his weakness. Paul tells the Corinthians that he has a "thorn in the flesh" which keeps him from being too elated. Calvin thought that Paul's "thorn" was the spiritual temptations that he faced. Luther thought that Paul's "thorn" was epilepsy, severe headaches, or a recurrent malarial fever. Whatever the "thorn" was, Paul asked God to remove it three times. Each time God told Paul that God's grace was sufficient for him. We can learn that God's grace is sufficient to allow us to bear physical weariness, physical pain, spiritual pain from opposition and slander.

Mark shows Jesus returning to Nazareth as a rabbi. He enters the synagogue and reads a passage from the book of Isaiah. The people do not accept his teaching saying, "Is this not the carpenter?" "Is this not Mary's son". They despised Jesus. How could a craftsman, a workman be knowledgeable about the things of God? They ran Jesus out of town and wanted to throw him off a cliff. From this we can see that the accidents of birth, fortune, or pedigree have nothing to do with being a man. It is the internal, not the external that makes a man. The people of Nazareth did not recognize the Son of God because they could only see a carpenter.

May the Holy Spirit enable you to see the Son of God and understand that God's grace is sufficient for you also.

### Quote of the Month

*In journalism, there has always been a tension between getting it first and getting it right.*

Ellen Goodman

*It's not the voting that's democracy, it's the counting.*

Tom Stoppard

## You are invited to a Baby Girl Shower honoring Madelynn Nicole Lozano

daughter of Christin & Michael Lozano  
on Saturday, July 11, 2009  
from 10:00-11:30 a.m.  
in the home of Pat Cudd  
22 Golden Circle Spearman TX

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## King George

Continued from Page 1

Upon "careful" examination, it appeared that George had something wrong with his eyes - probably due to being in a dark environment for an extended period of time.

Hansford County Veterinary Hospital was contacted and asked to recommend an optometrist and reptile specialist. They suggest Dr. Levis.

"Dr. Levis explained that she had no experience with alligators, but she knew someone in Oklahoma City who might be able to help," said Dean Coates. "She made a house call to Spearman, took a couple of pictures, and said she would get back with me."

Dr. Levis responded, and George's eye sight should not be a problem.

If you are curious about his eye sight, you are welcome to come by and check it out! The Texas Alligator Ranch is located at 10405 West Hwy 15 in Spearman. Hours of operation are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. There is a \$3 admission fee. For more information, call 806-659-2924.

Dean Coates and the Texas Alligator Ranch would like to thank the veterinarian of Hansford County, and Dr. Levis for their help with King George.

### Thank you!

During the month of June, Hansford County Library completed a very successful summer reading program entitled "Deep in the Heart of Texas."

The library board and staff would like to thank the following for sharing their time and talent with the children of our community: Cindy Blackman, Betty Pugh, Eva McCloy, Gladiola Flower Club, Ann Allen, Margarette Evans, Judy Yarbrough, Muriel Boyd, Sabrina Landrum, The City of Spearman, The Jimmy Greene Family, Tobe & J.J. Shields and the Snow Shack, Spearman ISD, Perry Dixon, The David Johnson Family, Amarillo Globe-News and Bill Thorpe.



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8125 FM 3395 Toll Free: 1-800-585-6047  
Sanford, TX 79078 Email: [kirk@weatherford-construction.com](mailto:kirk@weatherford-construction.com)

### We will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th in observance of



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- Lisa Espinosa & Dave Pope - T&B
- Claire Zellers & Richard Varnon
- Adrienne Simpson & Brent Jackson
- Laura Gillaspie & Josh Powell
- Tanya Whatley & Brett Widener

### Baby Registry

- Christin & Michael Lozano - 7/11
- Haley Tindell & Felix Lopez - 7/18
- Brianne (Burkhammer) & Eric Eslick
- Tiffany Hand & Chancey Servantez
- Mika (McLain) & Matthew Devaney
- Teal Armes & Joe Lopez

## Celebrate

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(806) 659-3350 1-800-663-8026

# Palo Duro Canyon State Park Marks 75th Anniversary

## Boz Scaggs Concert, Free Park Admission Highlight Special Weekend

A park known to many as the "Grand Canyon of Texas" and beloved by generations who have visited its landmark features celebrates 75 years as a popular Panhandle travel destination near Amarillo, with special events and activities scheduled for the weekend of July 4-5.

To celebrate the 75th anniversary, the park is offering free admission to all visitors, waiving the customary \$5 per-person adult admission fee (children ages 12 and younger are always free). The park will also host a number of activities such as nature hikes and wildlife viewing tours along some of the park's numerous nature trails.

Highlighting the weekend's festivities will be a special edition of the musical drama "Texas" on the evening of July 4—including extra fireworks and music to honor the Fourth of July tradition—and a concert by Boz Scaggs and his band the evening of July 5. Both events are scheduled for the park's Pioneer Amphitheater. A portion of the proceeds from the concert will benefit the Partners in Palo Duro Canyon Foundation and the Texas Panhandle Heritage Foundation.

"Palo Duro Canyon has been important to everyone who has lived here, going back some 12,000 years,"

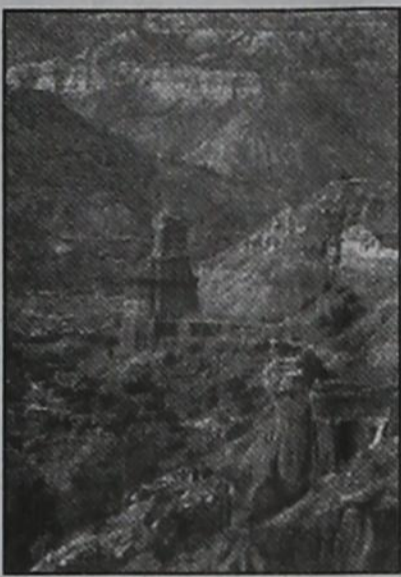
said park superintendent Randy Ferris. "From prehistoric man to the Comanche and Kiowa peoples, who considered it a sacred place, to ranchers who brought livestock here because of the water. In the 1930s, the Civilian Conservation Corp came here to restore access to this place and help build the economy. Everywhere you look, Lighthouse Rock is an icon to this region; people even name local businesses in honor of it. Now, Palo Duro Canyon State Park gives us a place to escape from our busy lives. You can still drive into the canyon, and imagine you are the first person ever to discover it."

Today, Palo Duro Canyon State Park covers 30,000 acres and ranks as the second-largest canyon in the nation. It includes numerous RV and primitive campsites, cabins, horseback riding and other popular features. The park is also a significant economic engine for the entire Panhandle region, each year generating more than \$9.7 million impact on sales, \$5 million on personal income, more than 100 jobs and \$19,500 in sales tax for Randall County alone.

Amarillo's legendary restaurant, The Big Texan, will also be on hand serving dinner each night of the anniversary weekend, available just prior to the play "Texas"

on Saturday evening, and then before the concert again on Sunday evening. Tickets to the play run from \$9.95 to \$29.95 with the steak dinner available for an additional \$16.95 each for adults and \$12.70 each for children; tickets to the Boz Scaggs concert cost \$50 to \$100 each depending upon the seat, but do include the steak dinner for each ticket holder.

For more information, contact Palo Duro Canyon State Park at (806) 488-2227, or visit the Web site at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/parks](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/parks). It is recommended that tickets to the show "Texas" or to the Boz Scaggs concert be purchased in advance, as seating is limited. For ticket information for either event, visit [www.texas-show.com](http://www.texas-show.com) or call (806) 655-2181.



# Wolf Creek Heritage Museum Notes

## MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

Well, I think I am back to my normal routine (knock on wood). My family is back to normal, as normal goes these days, and I appreciate all your thoughts and good wishes.

The museum ladies are busy cleaning and building a list of items we can contribute to a community-wide garage sale in August. Stay tuned for the exact date and details later this month. The museum will host the sale. Anyone else who wants to participate can buy a table and sell your stuff. It should be fun, and will enable us to clean our closets.

We have also completed our calendar for the year. A revised calendar is available here at the museum. We can mail upon request and I will publish it in our newsletter. Unfortunately, I am still without my computer, which had to be sent back to the manufacturer for a makeover. When I am back to normal I will try to bring us up to date.

**REMINDER:** Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 18th. We will be hosting a reception for Jean WEis and friends from 4-7 p.m. We will also be hosting a book signing for Elaine Littau and her new books.

## HISTORICAL MUSINGS

In my last column I talked about Carrie Nation and the temperance movement. Another group of ladies from that same period were the suffragists, fighting for the right to vote for women.

Two important events hap-

pened this week of June in 1918 and 1919 in Texas. In 1918, Horens Sparks Ward became the first woman in Harris County to register to vote. She married Houston lawyer William Henry Ward in 1908. In 1910 she became the first woman admitted to the Texas state bar.

Ward worked tirelessly in support of women's rights and penned moving newspaper essays and pamphlets for that cause. She was instrumental in the passage of the Married Woman's Property Law of 1913 by the Texas Legislature, and she campaigned with suffragist Minnie Fisher Cunningham for enfranchisement.

Texas women won an important victory in 1918 when the legislature permitted them to vote in primary elections. In a short span of less than three weeks, 386,000 women across the state registered to vote, and Hortense led the way.

In 1919, the Texas Senate ratified the national amendment granting women the right to vote. Texas thus became the first Southern state (and the ninth in the state) to ratify the nineteenth Amendment.

Woman suffrage had been discussed in Texas as early as the Constitutional Convention of 1868. The short-lived Texas Equal Rights Association (1893-96) helped organize a suffrage movement. The Texas Equal Suffrage Association state chapter of the National American Woman Suffrage Association led the

fight for suffrage from 1913 on, with the victory in 1918 as described above.

Feelings were running strong on both sides of the issue, with some women joining the Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage. However, in June 1919, a woman suffrage amendment was sent to the states for approval. The Texas House passed the amendment on June 23rd and the Texas Senate on June 28th. (source: Handbook of Texas online by the Texas State Historical Association)

The spirit of these women continues in Texas Women. This week with the Fourth of July is an excellent time for daughters and granddaughters to visit with their mother and grandmothers about women's rights and freedoms that our generations have had to fight for in our homes, workplace, and country. As with freedom in general, we sometimes take our freedoms for granted. Enjoy your Fourth of July and think about the cost that this holiday commemorates.

I leave you with a little poem written by W.E. Meredith in 1909 an example of our freedoms.

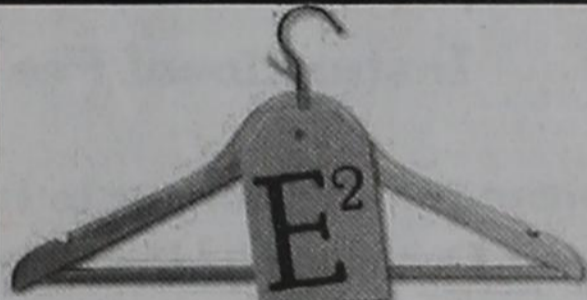
### Gone

*The Printer, The Devil,  
Whose head is not level,  
Went out on a strike  
Down the old Union pike.  
He was taken off the street  
Where he got seven dollars  
a week.*

*By a non-union editor  
And given a twelve fifty  
creditor.  
But he left the young Her-  
ald*

*Just beginning the world.  
The old union piker  
For more wages did hiker.*

Uniquely Yours...

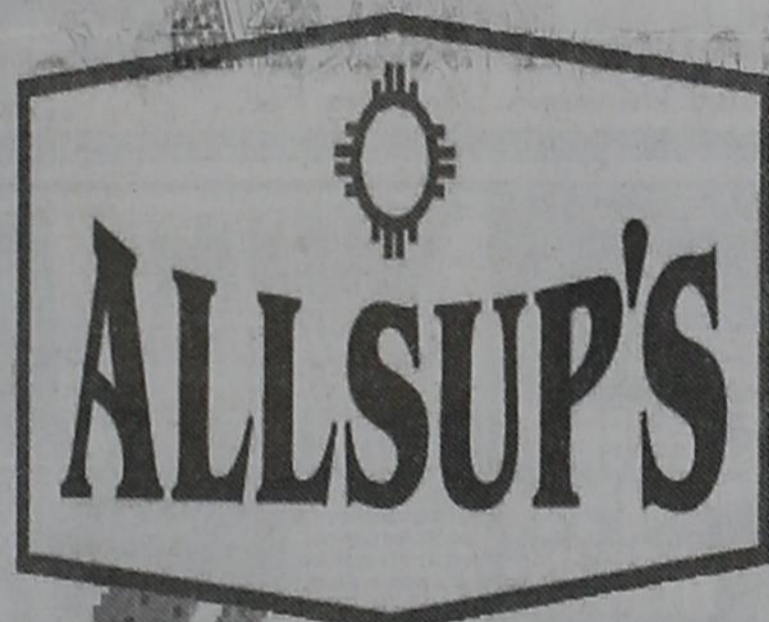


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### COMBO MEALS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>COMBO NO. 1</b> BACON/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE ..... <b>\$2.09</b>          | <b>COMBO NO. 6</b> 3 TAMALES, HOWLERS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP ..... <b>\$2.69</b>      |
| <b>COMBO NO. 2</b> SAUSAGE/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE ..... <b>\$2.09</b>        | <b>COMBO NO. 7</b> 2 HOT LINKS WITH BREAD & 32 OZ. TALLSUP ..... <b>\$2.59</b>  |
| <b>COMBO NO. 3</b> BBQ SANDWICH & 32 OZ. TALLSUP ..... <b>\$2.09</b>              | <b>COMBO NO. 8</b> 2 CORN DOGS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP ..... <b>\$2.69</b>             |
| <b>COMBO NO. 4</b> HOMESTYLE POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP ..... <b>\$2.79</b> | <b>COMBO NO. 9</b> CHIMICHANGA & 32 OZ. TALLSUP ..... <b>\$2.49</b>             |
| <b>COMBO NO. 5</b> SPICY POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP ..... <b>\$2.79</b>     | <b>COMBO NO. 10</b> 2 BEEF & BEAN BURRITOS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP ..... <b>\$2.69</b> |

### Farm Program Calculation Tools Now Available On-Line

Rick Hargrove, Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Hansford County announced today that new online research and planning tools are now available for farmers and ranchers to assist them in examining how the new 2008 Farm Bill programs apply to their crops and operations.

Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) is a new revenue-based guarantee program administered by FSA that assists farmers and ranchers in managing the risks inherent in agricultural operations. ACRE is an alternative to the traditional price-stabilizing Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

By visiting the FSA website at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov), growers can enter their crops, acreages and price/yield projections into an "ACRE Calculator" to evaluate potential results. The calculator tool and other information including eligibility resources can be found by navigating to the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program/ACRE pages shown in the menu bar on the left side of the FSA homepage.

"The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the five-year state Olympic average yield and the two-year national average price," said Hargrove.

The website also provides a 2008 Benchmark Yield History, ACRE Revenue Yield Maps and ACRE Price Values. The calculator can be used for one year and repeated to project multiple year results. Additional

ACRE background information includes fact sheets and descriptive charts to help explain this program's provisions and calculations.

August 14, 2009 is the deadline to elect and enroll in ACRE for the 2009 Crop Year. Note that once a producer elects to participate in ACRE, the farm is no longer eligible for the regular Direct and Counter-cyclical Program through the 2012 Crop Year, the last year covered by the 2008 Farm Bill.

Producers should carefully evaluate their participation in ACRE. Payments in ACRE are made only when both state and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments, receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates.

For more information about your options under ACRE and other new Farm Bill programs, contact the Hansford County FSA at (806) 659-3036 to schedule an appointment.

### 2009 Crop Year Uniform Grain & Rice Storage Agreement Policy

With the publication of the Marketing Assistance Loan (MAL) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) final rule on April 6, 2009, the regulation governing the MAL and LDP program was amended to incorporate a new policy for commercial storage. Beginning with the 2009 crop year, CCC will no longer require warehouse operators storing grain, rice, oilseeds and pulse crops to execute a

## Agriculture News

Uniform Grain and Rice Storage Agreement (UGRSA) as long as the warehouse where the commodity is stored complies with State warehousing laws or is federally licensed.

Commodities covered by a UGRSA are wheat, barley, oats, corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, long and medium grain rice, sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crabs, sesame seed, dry peas, lentils, and small and large chickpeas.

Commodities not covered by a UGRSA include peanuts, cotton, and sugar. CCC has separate storage agreements for these commodities. CCC reserves the right to execute a UGRSA if deemed necessary to protect CCC's interests. Storage deductions will no longer be applied at loan making.

The following States have an operating warehouse licensing program and warehouse operators will not be required to execute a UGRSA for MAL loan-making purposes, if in compliance with State laws: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

For MAL loan making purposes, non federally-licensed warehouse operators in States without an operating warehouse licensing program who are interested in providing storage services for commodities with CCC's interest will be required to execute a UGRSA with CCC.

Additional information

about Uniform Grain and Rice Storage Agreements is available at USDA Service Centers or: [http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_Notice/lp\\_2123.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_Notice/lp_2123.pdf)

### Wheatheart wheat conference scheduled for Aug. 13 in Perryton

by Kay Ledbetter  
The 11th annual Wheatheart Wheat Conference will update area producers on the carbon credit trading situation and how they might fit into the picture, as well as provide them with the latest information on the crop, according to Texas AgriLife Extension Service agents hosting the event.

"Area ag producers need to become aware of what carbon credits are, what 'cap-and-trade' is, and how to

potentially add a few more dollars of income to their farming operation," said J.R. Sprague, AgriLife Extension agricultural and natural resources agent in Lipscomb County.

The conference will begin with registration at 8 a.m. Aug. 13 in the Expo Building, 402 Expo Drive in Perryton. Jointly sponsored by the AgriLife Extension offices in Hansford, Hutchinson, Lipscomb and Hemphill counties, it will include a noon meal provided by Equity Exchange.

Presenters and topics will be:

-- Dr. Ed Bynum, AgriLife Extension entomologist in Amarillo, "Wheat Insects and Their Management."

-- Dr. Mark Welch, AgriLife Extension economist in College Station, "Wheat Marketing and Risk Management."

-- Dr. Steve Amosson, AgriLife Extension economist in Amarillo, "Carbon

Credits and Cap and Trade."

-- Dr. Brent Bean, AgriLife Extension agronomist in Amarillo, "Seed Wheat Quality and Seed Treatments."

-- Rick Kochehower, Oklahoma State University research and Extension agronomist in Goodwell, Okla., "Dual Purpose Wheats."

-- Levon Harman, Texas Department of Agriculture, "Laws and Regulations."

There will be three continuing education units offered for pesticide applicators -- one laws and regulations, one integrated pest management and one general.

For more information on the meeting, contact one of the following people: Sprague, 806-862-4601, [jsprague@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:jsprague@ag.tamu.edu) Burt Williams, 806-659-4132, [bwilliam@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:bwilliam@ag.tamu.edu) Tom Benton, 806-878-4026, [tbenton@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:tbenton@ag.tamu.edu) Kyle Barnett, 806-323-9114, [kw Barnett@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:kw Barnett@ag.tamu.edu)

# CONCEALED HANDGUN CLASS

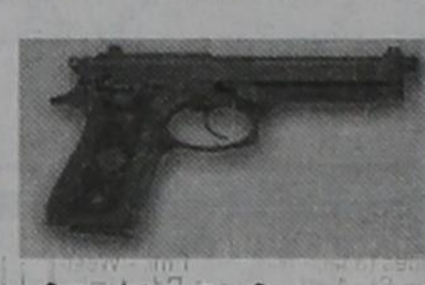
July 18 - 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
July 19 - 2-6 p.m.

MurMur's Cafe  
100 Roland St. - Spearman TX

Instructional Fee - \$125\*

For more information, or to register for the class, call Dee Mayfield at 806-330-0269.

## Concealed Handgun Licensing



\* Does not include Texas Department of Public Safety Concealed Handgun Licensing Fee.



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# Hansford Gun Club



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Adults & Juniors • Prizes Awarded  
Under 18 must be accompanied by parent or guardian.

For More Information, Contact  
Larry Hornsby at 659-3259.

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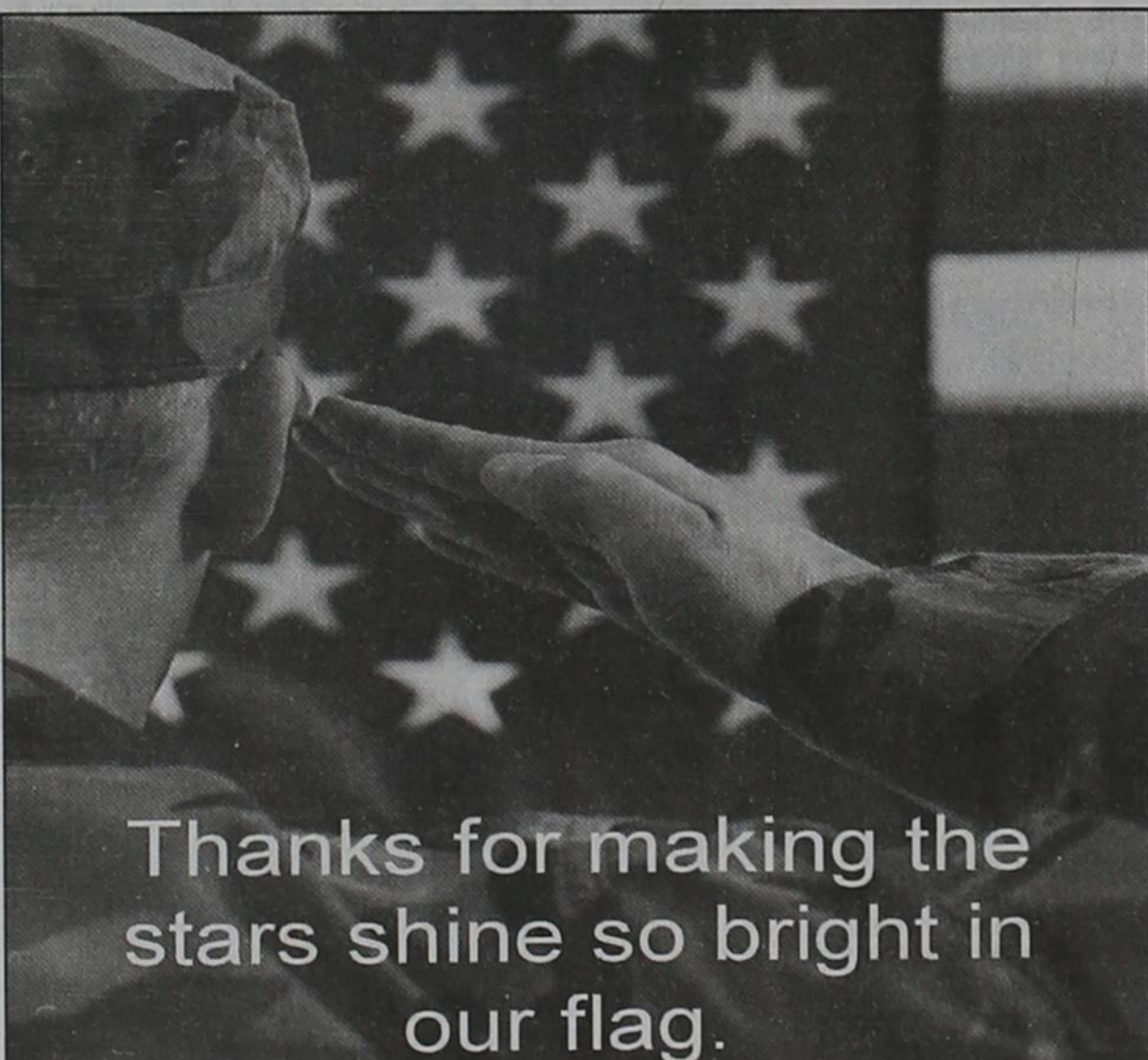
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**TFN(4/9/09)B**  
**FOR LEASE:** Available Soon - 2 Bedroom Apartment, \$400.00 month, water paid, **NO PETS!** Call Larry O'Neal at 405-285-8782 or 580-819-0007.  
**TFN(6/25/09)B**  
**FOR RENT:** Large 1BR apt. with washer/dryer hook-up, central AC/heat. \$375/month plus \$375 deposit. Call 940-631-0894.  
**TFN(7/2/09)B**

**HELP WANTED**

**HELP WANTED:** We have an immediate opening for a sprinkler tech. Generous pay with benefits. Apply in person at Five Star Equipment, Highway 15 West, Spearman. Must be insurable and have a valid drivers license. 806-659-3743. 4/6(18/09)B

**HELP WANTED:** First State Bank, Spearman, TX is taking applications for a New Account/Receptionist. Skills required are typing, computer, customer relation, ability to multi task, and telephone etiquette. Background in accounting, word processing and spreadsheets helpful. Good benefit program. Contact Ginger Turner at 806-659-5565 or email gturner@fsbspearman.com. First State Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer  
**TFN(6/4/09)B**  
**HELP WANTED:** Frontier Feedyard is accepting applications for office help. We need someone with computer and accounting skills. Cattle knowledge preferred. Contact Judy at 806-882-4251 or come by. **EOE**  
**2(6/25/09)B**

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**TFN(11/2/07)**

**FREE**

**FREE:** 6 Church pews. Call 806-435-3621. 2(7/2/09)B

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
 Hansford County Commissioners court will accept bids on one (1) new tractor for each of the four precincts with 95-140 PTO HP, with and without trade-in per-precinct, until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 10, 2009. Bids will be opened at the regular meeting on July 13, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Specifications can be obtained at the County Judge's office at 16 NW Court St., Spearman, TX 79081, or the office of the County Auditor, 17 NW Court St., Spearman, TX 79081.

The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Benny D. Wilson  
 Hansford County Judge  
 3(6-18-09)B

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Spearman ISD will accept sealed bid proposals to sale the following items declared surplus by the Board of Trustees. All proposals will be received until 11:00 a.m. July 6, 2009 at Spearman ISD, Larry Murphy, 403 E. 11th Avenue, Spearman, TX 79081. The District reserves the right to reject any and/or all bid proposals, and waive all formalities in bidding.

**SURPLUS ITEMS:**  
 1. Advance Tabco FLAG-304 stand and a la carte grill  
 2. GE Fry-lator electric  
 3. Frymaster Fry-lator gas  
 4. Electric Hot Food Box with stand Serial 16868  
 5. 12 - 2X2 ft light fixtures  
 6. 10 blue folding cafeteria tables  
 7. 100 estimated kindergarten chairs multi-color  
 8. 28 estimated elementary grade 3-5 desk/chair combined  
 9. 54 estimated high school desk/chair combined  
 10. 22 estimated junior high tan desk/chair combined  
 11. 2 weight rack frame for leg press without weights  
 1(7-2-09)B

**PUBLIC NOTICE TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

Special Education Records held by Perryton Special Education SSA is hereby giving notice that Special Education records of students with disabilities (including speech) who graduated or were dismissed from Special Education between June 2000 and May 2001 will be destroyed. These records involve students who attended the following schools: Perryton ISD, Spearman ISD, Follitt ISD, Booker ISD and Darrouzett ISD.

If you wish to obtain these records, please contact Perryton SSA, 402 Amherst, Perryton TX, phone (806) 435-4412. 2(7-2-09)B

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by Dorothy Hudson

# Out at the Lake



Jim Derington  
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Young porcupine

Lake Level--June 29, 2009--21.31 feet  
This weekend the Moose District had their 11th Annual Gathering and Meeting at the Palo Duro Park. Some of the campers that come for it stay the week, but most of the ac-

tivity is on the weekend. This year they brought a water slide with a pool at the bottom to add to the fun. In addition to the 11 RVs with the Moose, there were two other campers behind the dam, and one on the office side.

Jim saw one nice catch of 8 fish this weekend. The 2 to 3 pound catfish were just the right size for eating. The fisherman was using minnows for bait and a bobber on his line, which was an indication he wasn't trying for a big fish.

When Jim told me he had a picture of a baby porcupine, I realized no one else had

ever commented to me that they had even seen a young porcupine. A little checking showed that young porcupines have a lot of black hair and soft quills that quickly begin to harden. After a week, they begin adding ground vegetation to their diet and by 2 months are ready to go off alone. If you are a baby animal lover, you can google porcupines and find a cute little video on Youtube of a baby porcupine eating a slice of banana.

If you are driving around the Park, watch for fawns and watch for the bucks. They are not seen as often, but their

antlers are growing up higher than their ears now. It is interesting to watch the level of growth through the summer.

## Bubonic Plague in County

An observant man with the Texas Parks and Wildlife had noticed an active prairie dog town west of Palo Duro Park. In a few days he was back by it and noticed there were no prairie dogs scampering about. He was able to find fleas at the mouth of some holes. By having them tested, he found that they were positive for the plague bacterium *Yersinia pestis*. Since then, the sheriff's department has posted signs in the Park to warn visitors of plague in the area. It is not a cause for alarm, but it puts us in a precautionary situation.

People who live near a prairie dog town need to be cautious if they have family pets that wander through the area. It would be best to keep them out, but if that doesn't work a program for flea control is in order. A child died recently in New Mexico, possibly due to fleas brought home by the family dog. We do not have any prairie

dog towns in the Park, but there are four towns outside the area. However, remember that these little rodents like to migrate this time of year. That means if you bring your dogs to the Park to run free, you need to be very observant and have a flea control program in effect.

Although dogs and coyotes are mainly carriers, cats do get the plague. Watch them for unusual symptoms.

All forms of plague are fatal, unless antibiotics are quickly given. If you come up with flu-like symptoms, don't fool around with it. See your doctor.



Moose District Gathering

## Texas Comptroller's Office Schedules July Tax Help Seminars

A diverse economy, growing work force and friendly business climate attract more businesses to the Lone Star state every day. Texas Comptroller Susan Combs' office regularly presents free taxpayer seminars throughout the state to help new and existing business owners understand their state tax responsibilities.

Nineteen seminars will take place throughout July at various locations across the state. A complete list of locations, dates and times is available at [www.window.state.tx.us/tax-info/seminars.html](http://www.window.state.tx.us/tax-info/seminars.html).

At the seminars, taxpayers can learn about sales tax forms, filing and paying taxes electronically, taxable goods and services, e-services to help taxpayers manage their accounts online, the Comptroller's e-mail subscription service that alerts taxpayers when new tax information is posted online, and the array of other services and information available from the Comptroller's office to assist taxpayers. Comptroller repre-

sentatives will answer questions and provide assistance to attendees.

"A strong and diverse business community is the key to Texas' economic strength," Combs said. "We are committed to assisting Texas businesses by making taxes simpler, smarter, faster and, above all, transparent. We owe it to our taxpayers to provide the best customer service

possible."

For more information about the seminar in your area, call the Comptroller's field office in your area.

Those who are unable to attend the seminars can call the Comptroller's tax assistance line at (800) 252-5555. Tax forms and tax information can also be found on the Comptroller's Web site, [www.window.state.tx.us](http://www.window.state.tx.us).

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Lt. Col David McNulty  
US Air Force Active Guard Res.  
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In-laws: Gary & Cathy Smith

Tech 5th Grade  
Arlie V. "Smokey" Mayfield  
June 20, 1924-Sept. 11, 2008  
WWII - U.S. Army "Easy" Company  
254th Regiment, 63rd Infantry Div.  
Wife: Mary Mayfield; Children: Clint Mayfield, Cynthia Knox, Diane Reed, Fred Mayfield and Harriett Palmer

Pfc. Vance Neal Snider II  
US Army Active Duty  
M.O.S. Cavalry Scout  
stationed in Afghanistan  
Parents: Bobby & Kay Snider, Dumas  
Grandmother: Irene Snider, Spearman

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