

# The McLean News

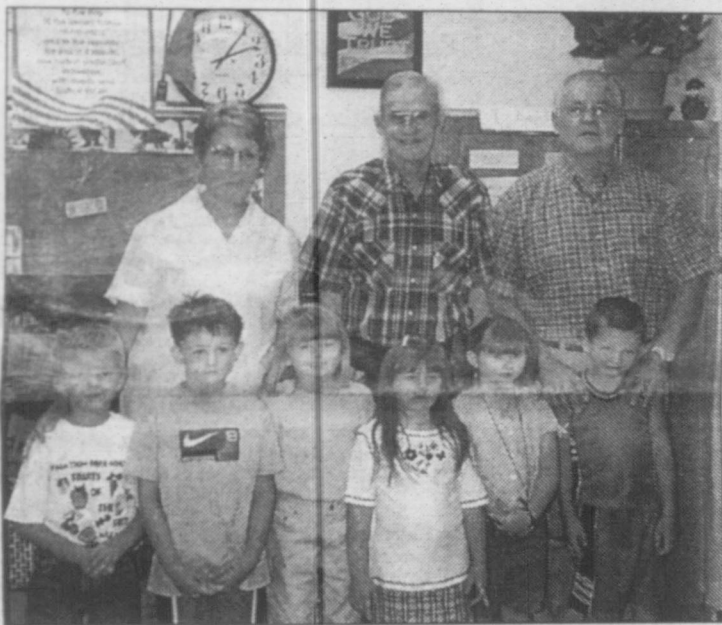


Bank Of Commerce Building  
Office No. 5, 201 N. Main St.

Published Weekly  
Thursday, August 16, 2001

1-806-779-2141  
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## McLean Residents Hang National Motto "In God We Trust" In Classrooms



The town of McLean broke new ground last week when they were the first town in the state of Texas to hang the National Motto, "In God We Trust" in Mrs. Sander's kindergarten classroom on August 10. Attendees included representatives from the Methodist, Assembly of God, Baptist, and Church of Christ churches. Also attending was the elementary principal, Dick Crockett, Mrs. Sanders, several of the incoming kindergarten children and their parents. It is planned to hang the motto in every classroom and office in the McLean ISD. This effort was begun by Archie Cooper who said, "More than a few times I have been on my knees praying through tears for God to turn our nation around."

See Motto, pg 10



## News Welcomes New Editor, Ella Mae Reyna

The McLean News in second grade, and would like to welcome Ella Mae Reyna. Ella Mae has lived in McLean for four years. She is married to Jim Reyna, the minister of the McLean Church of Christ. They have five children, James, who lives in Oklahoma City, Chris, who will be a senior, Ben, who will be a junior, Becca, will be

Jack, who is two years old. Ella Mae likes to crochet, draw and do calligraphy. She will be taking over as Pam Quisenberry will be taking a job as a teachers aid with McLean Elementary School. Be sure to stop by and welcome Ella Mae aboard. She will do a great job!

## Barbeque Raises Funds For Local Fire Departments

The McLean Fire Department in conjunction with the Lefors and Shamrock Fire Departments held their first annual BBQ to raise funds for upgrading equipment in their individual departments.



McLean Fire Department: (back) Robert McDonald, Joe Riley, David Tolleson, Clifford McDonald, Bill Anderson, Steve Bowlin, Joe Lamb, Jim McDonald, (front) Sue Burrows, and Linda McDonald.

The preparation of the food was shared with the McLean men cooking the meat. Between 300 to 350 people came out to eat and to hear the Magic City Cowboys, many of their members played with Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys. There were door prizes and a small impromptu

auction with lots of visiting and even some dancing. The funds raised from this event will be divided three

ways. The McLean Fire Department will use their share to remount the

rescue bed on a new cab and chassis. Next years BBQ will be held in McLean.

## Gray County Gears Up For Centennial

Gray County's Centennial planning for the fall of 2002 is underway. The next county-wide meeting will be Thursday, August 16, at 5:00 p.m., at the

Pampa Chamber of Commerce, with individuals and organization representatives urged to attend. Helping with the plans are Willie Mae

Mangold, Fairview Cemetery cataloging for DAR; Loralee Cooley, banners; and Madeline Gawthrop, logo contest by Pampa Art Club with deadline September 15,

2001. The logo entries should be no larger than 8 1/2 by 11 inches and must not be signed. The artist's name, address and

See Celebration, pg 10

## REMINDERS

**ATHLETIC Boosters** is hosting a Watermelon Feast on Thursday night at 5:30 on the football field. The event is free, so everyone please come.

**THERE WILL BE** a Senior Citizen luncheon on August 21st at 12:00, noon. Bring a dish and a friend.

**FIRST FOOTBALL** scrimmage of the year is on August 18th at 6:00 p.m. in Hedley.

**LADY TIGERS** Golf Tournament is August 18, at 9:00 a.m. It is a two man scramble, \$25.00 per pair, at the McLean Golf Course. Prizes will be awarded.

**FRESH START** Divorce recovery seminar is September 7th and 8th at the Paramount Terrace Christian Church, Amarillo. For more information call (806) 353-6615.

**SCHOOL STARTS** on August 21.

**MCLEAN SCHOOL CALENDAR**  
August 14-17, Teacher in service day.  
August 20, Staff preparation day.  
September 3, School Holiday.  
October 12, School Holiday.  
November 21-23, School Holiday.  
December 24-31, School Holiday.

**MCLEAN SCHOOL MENU**  
**AUGUST 21-24**  
 Tuesday Breakfast: Waffles or pancakes, sausage, toast, jelly, fruit.  
 Wednesday Breakfast: Cold cereal, toast, jelly, fruit, juice, milk.  
 Lunch: Steak fingers, french fries, gravy, Texas toast, corn, sherbet, milk.  
 Thursday Breakfast: Breakfast burritos, toast, jelly, fruit, juice, milk.  
 Lunch: Hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, onions, tator tots, cake, milk.  
 Friday Breakfast: Cinnamon rolls, toast, jelly, fruit, juice, milk.  
 Lunch: Pizza, corn on the cob, salad, cookies, milk.

juice, milk. Lunch: Nachos with meat, cheese, baked pinto beans, salad, jello, milk.  
 Wednesday Breakfast: Cold cereal, toast, jelly, fruit, juice, milk. Lunch:

Steak fingers, french fries, gravy, Texas toast, corn, sherbet, milk.  
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 Lunch: Hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, onions, tator tots, cake, milk.  
 Friday Breakfast: Cinnamon rolls, toast, jelly, fruit, juice, milk.  
 Lunch: Pizza, corn on the cob, salad, cookies, milk.

## 2001 Back To School Watermelon Feast

Thursday, August 16, 2001 - 5:30 p.m.  
 McLean Football Field At Concession Stand  
 "Locally grown melons"

Come out for social fun and meet some of the new teachers and coaches!

Everyone Welcome!

Sponsored by McLean Athletic Boosters

## Grand Opening



**McLean Flowers & Gifts**

August 20th, 21st 109 Cedar  
 Old Cowboy Cafe  
 779-2098

New Owners Mary & Donnie Basham

*There Will Be Door Prizes!*

### MCLEAN ALAN REED AREA MUSEUM

The McLean Alanreed Area Museum had 130 visitors from 27 different states. We had 84 visitors from Texas, 16 from Oklahoma, 10 from California, and four and five from New Mexico, Missouri, Arizona, and Tennessee. We had Emily Hickman, that writes the Art Newsletter in newspapers. She was accompanied by artist Bennie and Mabry Mc Mahan from Washington. Mabry used to work at the POW Prison Camp here in McLean. A couple from the Caiman Islands and also from Spain was in. We also had a couple from Holland saying they had small cars and walk a lot there. We also had a family of four from South Africa in to visit.

## Obituaries

### SHARON MAUPPIN

Sharon Mauppin of Arlington, died Monday, August 6, 2001 at Arlington.

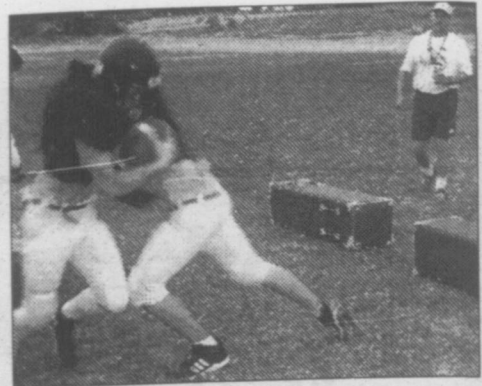
Graveside services were held on Saturday, August 10.

Sharon was born on September 27, 1943 in Shamrock, TX. She was a devoted wife, mother and her husband's business partner for 25 years.

Her mother, Maxine Stroud preceded her in death on July 14, 2001.

Survivors are her husband, Richard; son, Chad Mauppin of Ivanhoe; step-son, Bruce Mauppin of Ivanhoe; step-daughter, Kim Mauppin of Ft. Worth; four grandchildren; sisters, Janice Lindsey of Arlington; Carolyn McPherson of Neenah, WI; and step-father, Bill Stroud.

Sharon was the niece of Marjorie Fish of McLean.



Tigers practice their blocking in pre-season workout.

### Country Corner Texaco

Gas - Diesel-Deli  
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 Exit 142 -- 779-2391

**Sunday Special:**  
 Chicken Fried Steak  
 & Carrot Cake

### McLean Church Directory

**Church of Christ 4th & Clarendon**  
 779-2548

Sunday Bible School 10 am  
 Worship 10:40 am & 6 pm  
 Wed. Bible Class 7:30

**First Assembly of God 4th & Main**

Pastor Dean Williamson 779-2221  
 Sunday School - All Ages 9:30 am  
 Morning Worship 10:45 am  
 Sunday Night & Youth Services 7 pm  
 Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

**First Baptist Church 206 E. 1st**

Brian Quisenberry, Pastor 779-2175  
 Sunday School 9:45; Worship 11 am & 7 pm  
 (Youth) & Wed. Bible Study, Prayer Meeting 7 pm

**United Methodist Church 2nd & Gray**

Pastor Thacker Haynes 779-2049 & 779-2337  
 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 10:50 am & 6 pm  
 Sun. Sr. High Youth Alpha Chi 5 pm  
 Wed. Choir 7:00 pm

**Heald United Methodist Church**

Kellerville Road  
 Sunday 9:15

**Trinity Baptist Church 603 Commerce**

James Mantooth 779-3207  
 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11 am  
 Sunday Evening Worship 7 pm  
 Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Wed 7 pm

**Cowboy Church at Red River Steakhouse**

Cowboy Preacher - Kitchell Collins  
 779-2456 or 779-2965  
 Sunday Evening Worship - 7:00 p.m.  
 Children's Church, Sunday - 7:00 p.m.



### McLean Birthdays Anniversaries

August 16 - Stacia Howard, Evelyn Riley, Shaley Stalls, Xenia Buckhaults.

August 17 - Rachell Glenn Melville, Blake Crockett, Joe Burroughs, Dale and Mary Lou Glass (A).

August 18 - Kristina Carter, Ella Ann Hanes, Teresa Hastey, Rodney Luther Kennedy, Charlotte Bockmon, Lacy J. Ferguson, Brock and Kristie Crockett (A).

August 19 - Cynthia Hauck, B.J. Ketcherside.

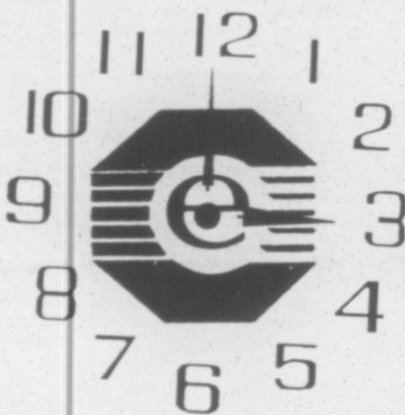
August 20 - Bill Skipper, Kassandra Marie Jackson.

August 21 - Noble Fish, Evelyn Sanders, Jean Smith, Quinton Brown, Traci Rigsby.

August 22 - Mary Terry, Susie Trout, Bob Thompson.

## DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME IN THE DAY?

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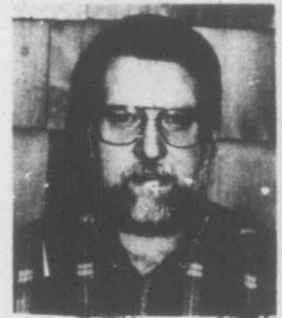
## DEAN'S PHARMACY

2217 Perryton Parkway 669-6896

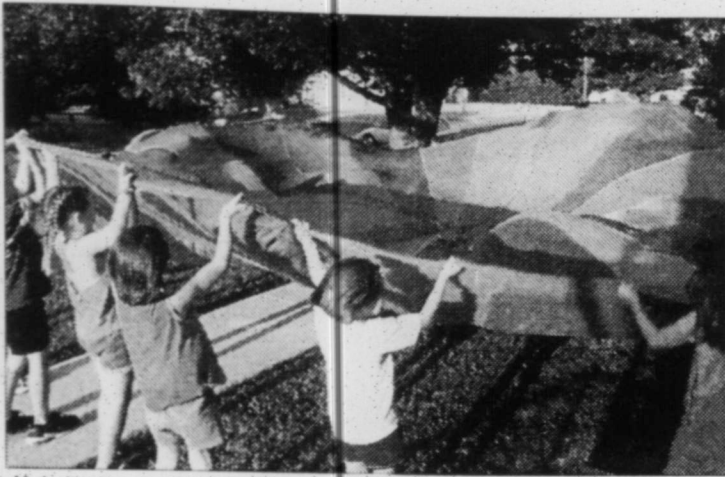
"Looking forward to serving our Groom-McLean customers."

9:00 - 6:30 Monday - Friday  
 9:00 - 1:00 Saturday

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Methodist Vacation Bible School kids enjoy a lot of fun.

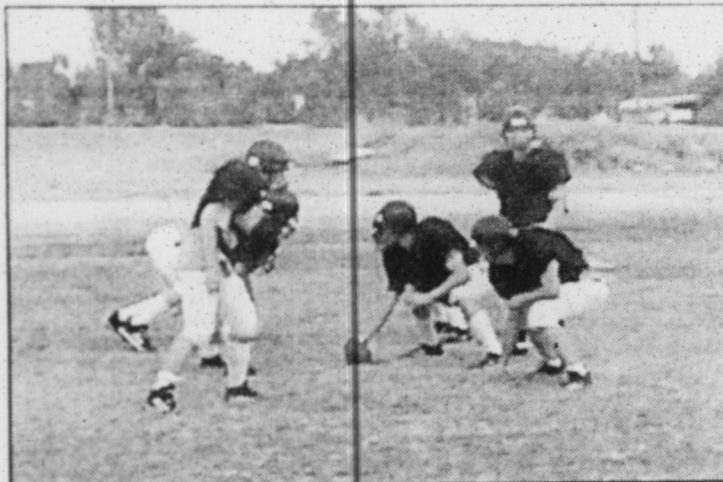
### Methodist Church Holds Vacation Bible School

McLean First United Methodist Church held their Vacation Bible School this past week. Their theme was the fruits of the spirit. The students enjoyed music and Bible stories and they made a variety of things in crafts. They made cute t-shirts with fruit on the front, they made bracelets, painted rocks, and decorated bowls.

Eighty kids and twenty-two helpers participated and raised approximately \$150.00 for the Angel program.



sponsored by the Methodist Church in December.



Tigers workout in full pads to prepare coming scrimmage.



The First Baptist Church mission trip: (back) Trey Skipper, Reo Dennis, Johann (front) Chase Barnes, Sarah Holland, Nick Jones, Bron Bohlar, Toni Bohlar, Amanda Hauck, Sean Connors, Lucas Biggs, and Butter, (seated) Randi Riley, Sandi Anderson, and Danielle Dampier.

### Baptist Youth Attend Mission & Camp

McLean First Baptist Church has had a busy July. Lucas Biggs, the Summer Youth Minister, has taken students to Panfork Camp, on a mission trip to Dallas, and has lead recreation for Vacation Bible School.

Summer Youth Camp was an exciting experience with nine youth and two adults. There was temperatures of 110 degrees and a water shortage, but they had loads of fun. Panfork Camp is located fifteen miles south of Shamrock and is a beautiful place. There were many fun games, Bible studies, and good food. For free-time there was a zip line, where you stepped into a harness hooked on to a steel line and zipped down the hill and over a creek to be caught on the other side and released to do it all over again. Or there was a swimming pool or just relaxing in the cabin.

The students grew in their faith through large and small groups and came home ready to share with others, which they did by going to the Oak Cliff Section of Dallas, to work with El Calvario Church. Twelve students and two adults worked through the challenges of being in a predominately Hispanic area and not being familiar with the language. They also faced the challenge of being in the city as opposed to a small town. The youth did some house painting and passed out flyers inviting all to a meal and worship service. While much of their time was spent working there was time to play too. They visited the Hard Rock Cafe and Hurricane Harbor before returning to McLean.

Vacation Bible School was a big hit with lights and sirens and emergency vehicles. The students learned how to be rescuers for Jesus. The First Baptist Church had 47 students attend with five decisions for Christ. The youth led the games and many church members stepped in to fill the drama, craft, snack and squad leader positions.

All in all, summer has been a blast. With Lucas here there has always been something to do, even if it was just watching a movie. Lucas will be going to Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth this fall to further his education and learn more about Youth Ministry. The First Baptist Church will miss him, but wishes him well.



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## Devil's Rope Museum News

By Davie Gipson  
July was a busy eventful month for the museum. We had 843 visitors from 38 states and 18 foreign countries. Of these 843 people, 156 were from Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Japan, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Scotland, Switzerland, Wales, and Malaysia.

We are not usually open on Sundays, but because the Harley-Davidson riders were still doing Old 66, we opened at 9:00 a.m. on July 1 and had 90 people register. We stayed open till 4:00 p.m. that afternoon.

Among our unusual visitors that were not asked to sign our guest book was one little snake that slithered in with the first guests on July 6. I want to thank Larry Wallis and the city employees for coming to my rescue even though the snake had been persuaded to leave before they got there. Then on Friday 13, a little black cat visited off and on all morning and finally decided we were no fun since we didn't offer milk.

We had bus tours from England on July 6th and 20th. They are always interesting and sometimes as hard for our Texas ears to understand as the people from France, Germany and such. We also had a tour from Oklahoma City on July 17. They had been to see Texas and had Cowboy Breakfast and were on their way home. On that day, we also had the back up people with the solar cars that zipped through town. We had visitors driving five classic cars from Houston that day. We had more antique cars on July 24. There were seven cars and eleven people. It is always good to see the old restored cars that are

so loved by their owners. Brings back the past when cars had personalities and didn't all look alike.

On July 20 a group of sixteen people from Norway were riding Harley's down Old 66 and having a lot of fun despite the heat. That day we also had a bus tour of 21 people from England.

Some of us got to sneak off to the New Mexico Barb Wire Show in Raton July 19th through the 21st. We enjoyed the respite from the heat and seeing the friends of the museum again.

**DON'T MISS THE GRAND OPENING OF MCLEAN FLOWERS & GIFTS ON AUGUST 20TH AND 21ST.**

### MOTTO

I believe getting our National Motto, In God We Trust, in our school rooms, offices and halls is a start in getting my prayers answered." This was approved by unanimous vote at a school board meeting in July.

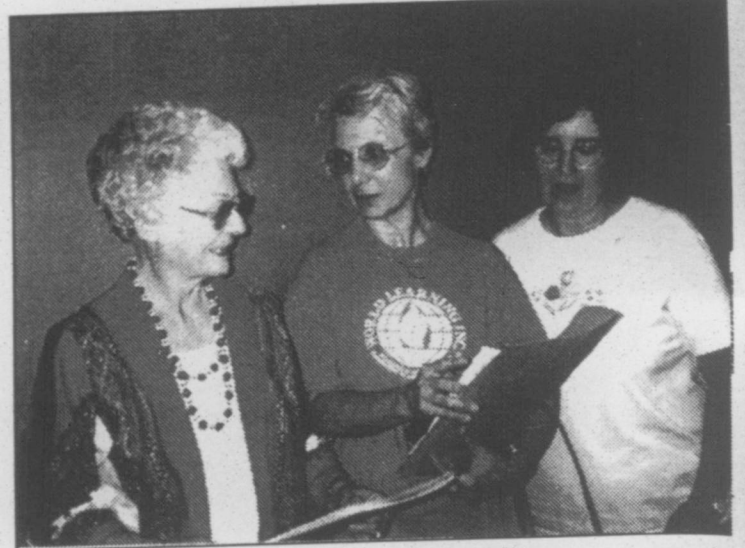
The posters were purchased from the American Family Association and paid for with donations from area churches, residents and the VFW.

Although, other states have undertaken this project, McLean is believed to be the first school district in Texas to do so. Various groups filed suit in Mississippi in an attempt to block the displaying of the National Motto claiming that it violated separation of church and state. However, the Mississippi Supreme Court found in favor of the school districts. This paved the way for other schools to do the same.

## CELEBRATION

phone number should be written on a separate sheet of paper, with all mailed in care of Gawthrop at Rt. 2, Box 74A. Prize for the winning logo is \$100.00

Assisting with the McLean plans for the event include Delbert and Ruth Trew, Ruth Magee, and Mindy Reeves. They are planning events throughout 2002, which include a special Rowe museum exhibit and the 100th anniversary of the McLean First United Methodist Church. The Lefors co-chairmen are Susan Oldham and Judy Williams who have planned the celebration on the weekend of July 5-7, 2002, during their all school class reunion.



Area chairs of local organizations will soon be preparing for the Gray County Centennial Celebration.

## Tips For Parents Of New College Students

It's that time again. Daughters and sons across the country are preparing to leave home for college. Parents from

California to Connecticut are thinking, "Free at last!" Or, more likely, "How can I possibly let her go?"

Relax. Several experts at Southwestern University have pooled their pearls of wisdom about how parents can survive their teenager's first year away from home, what they can do to help and when they need to take a backseat.

1. If you did your job as a parent, your teenager is ready to leave.
2. Realize that things have changed enormously since you were seventeen. You may like it, you may hate it, but it's true.
4. Allow your student to experience making decisions on his or her own. Freedom is one thing-being able to set limits has to be learned.
3. For a student trying to settle upon a choice of a course of study, the best advice is and has always been, "Do what you enjoy the most." Students pursuing areas of interest always do the best, and doing well always opens the most doors in the long run.
5. Don't insist on a career choice that fits your values and interests.
6. Don't be shocked when your son or daughter questions values that you cherish. It's a natural part of developing his or her own values.
7. Parents need to find ways to take care of themselves-it is vital to the health of a son or daughter that parents don't continue to make the student the center of

their lives.

8. Ask your daughter or son about something other than grades.

9. Encourage a balanced lifestyle, paying attention to studying, relationships with new friends, work, spiritual health and physical activity.

10. Realize that their first big experience with independence will make it extremely hard to follow schedules and curfews on visits home.

11. Your student should establish his or her own checking account. It provides a sense of money management.

12. Regarding finances, provide your student with what is needed and a little more without allowing irresponsibility. Make surprises treats rather than bail-outs.

13. Send a bag of groceries back to school with a friend or surprise your student with something he or she wants or needs that isn't part of the support you promised. Most importantly, send mail.

14. The hardest thing for parents to do is to let go. Don't meddle. Be willing to leave your student alone.

15. Encourage your child to stay on campus until Thanksgiving. This will give him or her time to develop relationships, play weekend activities and create a new community.



Kay Hensley frames a poster, "In God We Trust", for hanging in the Kindergarten classroom.



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Doing business without advertising is like winking in the dark - you know what you are doing, but nobody else does.



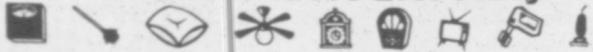
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email = MFY@ranches.org

## Got Something To Buy, Sell or Trade? CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS! Call 248-7333 or 779-2141 Today!



Rates: 25¢ per word with a \$5.00 minimum. "Cards of Thanks" are \$5.00 up to 25 words. Wedding Stories are printed FREE up to 300 words, over 300 words - 25¢ per word. No charge for pictures.

**Deadlines & Payment** - Deadline for classified ads-noon Tuesday. All other ads and news submissions must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday. Payment is due at the time you place the ad, unless you have an established account.

**Errors** - Check your ad for errors on the first publication. The News will not be liable for errors after the first publication. The Groom-McLean News does not vouch for the legitimacy of any ad, job or money making opportunity. We suggest that you thoroughly check out any offer before making a commitment or give out personal information.

**TUPPERWARE SALES**  
and Service. Now hiring full and part time. Call Elizabeth at 665-4390.

**HOUSE OR FOUNDATION SETTLEMENT?**  
Cracks in brick or walls? Doors won't close? Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling  
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Amarillo, Tx.

**AMARILLO BASED**  
Company is looking to expand in the Groom area, creating 10 full time positions: Starting pay is \$2000.00 a month if qualified. To book a personal interview call 354-6702.

**MCLEAN HOUSING**  
Authority is now accepting sealed bids on a sprinkler system for two sites. For more information you may come by the Housing Authority Office at 711 N. Wheeler or call 806-779-2101. Sealed bids are due in the Housing Authority Office, P.O. Box 449, McLean, TX. 79057, no later than 9:30 a.m. on August 22, and will be opened at the Special Board Meeting.

**MCLEAN ISD** is accepting sealed bids for a 1997-16' X 5' stock trailer. The trailer may be seen at McLean ISD from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Sealed bids are due in the Business Office, P.O. Box 90, McLean, TX 79057, no later than 12:00 noon on August 13th, and will be opened at the Special Board Meeting.

**SLASH YOUR Gas**  
Costs. Texas Fuel Savers/ Free Details. Call Jim Reyna. 779-2548.

**FOR SALE:** 36' Mac Don Header for John Deere Combine, 3 yr. old, good for sunflowers, set up now for 36' left windrow on good diesel 6600. \$10,000 for both combine and header only. \$9,000 for header only. For more information contact Bobby Jones, Groom, Texas or phone 806-248-7027, please leave message.

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DRIVER LICENSE: 806-468-1450  
WEATHER/ROAD 806-468-1488

**FOR SALE:** 22 sheets of metal, 36" width by 10' length. Call Burl Painter at 248-7376 for more information.

**NOTICE**  
The City of McLean is now accepting bids for Grass Lease property-description as follows: A 46 acre tract of land lying and being situated in Section 65 in Block 23, H&GN RY., Co. Survey Gray County, McLean, TX (near Sewer Plant). Approximate 40 acre tract of land lying and being situated in Section 66, Block 23, H&GN RY., Co. Survey Gray County, McLean, TX (near Landfill). The lessee will have the option of a three year lease and the right to the above grasslands as long as it does not interfere with the normal operation of the landfill or sewer plant.

Both properties will be bid together as one total bid, and all bids will be received until Friday, September 7, 2001, at 5:00 p.m. Send bids addressed to: City of McLean, "Grass Lease", P.O. Box 9, McLean, TX 79057. The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids to waive formalities and technicalities.

Bob Martin, Mayor  
City of McLean

**FOR SALE:** One Kenmore deep freezer, up-right, one antique O'Keefe and Merritt cook stove, and one dresser with mirror. For more information contact Robert Richards, 607 E. 6th Street, McLean, TX, or phone 779-2254.

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**FULL TIME** help needed in kitchen, call Palo Duro Nursing Home at 226-5121.

**LVN NEEDED** for 2-10 shift, part time or full time. \$12.50 with differential. Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude, TX, 226-5121.

**CNA'S NEEDED** for day, evening, and night shift. Certification classes offered. Salary for 6-2 shifts, \$7.00 non-certified and \$7.50 certified. Salary for 2-10 shifts, \$7.75 non-certified and \$8.25 certified. All salaries are with differential and are negotiable with experience. Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude, TX, 226-5121.

**NURSES UNLIMITED, Inc.** needs attendants to assist with personal care, meal preparation, and light house keeping. Part time basis. Please Call 1-888-859-0631, Mon.-Fri., 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**CUSTOM HAY BALING**  
Large round bales, small square bales. Call 806-874-9404 or 670-7044.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The City of Groom will accept bids on insurance coverage for all city buildings, automobiles, general liability, and public officials liability. Specifications are available at City Hall, 203 Broadway, P.O. Box 217, Groom, Texas 79039-0217. Sealed bids

will be accepted until close of business on Friday, September 7, 2001. Bid opening will be held at the regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2001. For more information, contact Mary Sue Lyles, City Secretary, 248-7929.

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Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

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# The Groom News

50¢

Volume 75 Number 12

The Groom-McLean News 79039

Thursday, August 16, 2001

## 152 Students Welcomed Back To Groom School

When school bells rang last Friday to kick-off the 2001-2002 school year, 152 students were in attendance at Groom ISD. This figure reflects a steady decline in student enrollment that Groom and other area districts have been experiencing over the last decade or two.

Since 1986, Groom has seen a decrease almost every year. In 1986, there were 230 students. In 1988, it dropped to 207. In 1991, Groom saw a slight increase of 218, only to drop by 27 students in two years later in 1996. In 1997 the enrollment was 181. Last years enrollment was 168. Groom has lost 15 students in the last two years to bring our total to 152.

"Everyone we were expecting has enrolled," stated Superintendent Kevin Noack, "unless we have new students move into the district, this is what we have to work with."

The Kindergarten class enrolled nine new students. They are McKenna Britten,

Cheyene Cockrell, Shaunna Corley, Eric Davis, Brooklyn Kerlee, Felicia Miller, Jacob Miller, Megan Ruthardt, and Katelyn Schuster. Groom graduated 15 students last May. Groom is also welcoming five transfers from the McLean School District.

While enrollment may be down a bit, spirits are very high with all new faces at school. Along with new teachers Lisa Roskens, Anna Knobloch and Susie Thompson that were reported on last week, other new personnel will round off the 2001-2002 staff.

Mari Treadwell and Melanie Britten have both been hired to serve as K-2 reading program aides. Their salaries are paid by a grant from the state of Texas. Melanie will also do double duty and serve as music instructor for the elementary students in grades K-3.

Cindy Babcock has been hired as a special education aide.

Shannon Fisher has been hired to teach all girls junior high and high school athletics.

See School, pg 2



Kindergarten Class: (front) Felicia Miller, Katelyn Schuster, Eric Davis, Cheyene Cockrell, Megan Ruthardt, (back) Shaunna Corley, Jacob Miller, Brooklyn Kerlee, and McKenna Britten.

## Court Votes Not to Increase Vehicle Registration Fees

On August 13, 2001, the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Carson County, Texas met in pursuant to adjournment with the members and officers present as follows: Hon. Lewis W. Powers, County Judge;

Commissioners, Mike Britten, Pr. #1, Kenneth Ware, Pr. #2, Jerry Strawn, Pr. #3, and Kevin Howell, Pr. #4.

Minutes of the August 6, 2001 meeting were read and approved.

The motion was passed to pay all claims.

Robert Fields of Duke Energy met with the court to ask permission to bore County Road "6" for a gas line in Precinct #1. The motion was passed to allow the request.

Commissioner Howell petitioned the court for a pay raise for road hand Tim Morse. Commissioner Strawn stated that the court had previously voted for a

See County, pg 3

## Area Showers Provide Welcome Relief To Heat

Groom and the whole panhandle area saw a welcome relief to the seven week heat wave that has had everything sizzling. Groom proper received around 3.4 of an inch over a 3 to 4 day period that began on Thursday, August 9 through Sunday, August 12. North of Groom near White Deer, rainfall totaled about 1 1/2 inches, while south of town near Goodnight only netted about 1/2 inch.

Temperatures did come down, which seemed to

improve everyone's attitude, to the mid 80's to mid 90's, although the humidity has sharply increased.

More rain is predicted for later in the week and the cloudy skies are certainly a welcome sight.

City of Groom officials stated that the water rationing will continue in effect until significant rainfall occurs. They will notify the public when the volunteer program comes to an end.

GROOM SCHOOL Counselor will be in Groom on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Parents should call for an appointment.

THREE TEACHER In Service days have been added to the Groom School calendar. They are: Aug. 27, Oct 29, and Feb. 15. Students will not attend school on these days.

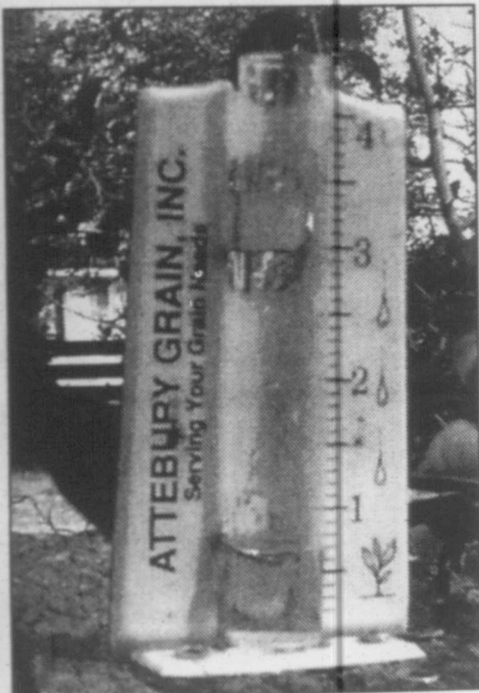
BIKE-A-THON will be held on Tuesday, August 21, at the City Park at 6:00 p.m.

GROOM TIGERS will scrimmage Follett at Miami on Saturday, August 18, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

## Community Calender

### Tuesday Prices At Attebury Grain Co.

Wheat.....\$2.61  
Milo.....\$3.60  
Corn.....\$3.78  
Soybeans...\$4.36  
Sunflowers..\$7.15  
3/4" to 1 1/4" of Rain



# The Groom News

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**MEMBER**  
**2001**  
**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**



Does any one recognize these "Retro" performers that must be left over from the 60's?

## Local Happenings

**ILL OR RECOVERING**  
 Ill or recovering this week are Page Blackwell, Bertha Knight, Paula Brown, Joy Snyder and Patti McLaughlin.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT**  
 There were eight persons booked into the Carson County Jail during the week of August 6 through August 12, 2001. Currently there are 18 persons incarcerated in this jail and additional 18 prisoners being held in other jurisdictions. This area has recently experienced the introduction of counterfeit money. Please look out for any money being passed, especially the larger bills. This Agency will soon be incorporating vehicle speed monitoring devices to help us make your community safer.

**CARD OF THANKS**  
 I would like to thank the ambulance crew for taking me to BSA. Thank you for caring about me. I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, flowers, food, teddy bears, and visits. I really missed my family and friends. It is good to be home. Thank you and may God bless each of you.  
 A special thank you to Marn and Neva Cheng's parents from Malaysia.  
 Paula Brown

Arrest made this week include:  
 Dennis Tims, age 33 of Mankato, MN-Possession of a controlled substance and evading arrest.  
 Sharone Smith, age 30 of Greenville, SC-Possession of a controlled substance and evading arrest.  
 Calvin Anderson, age 42 of Greenville, SC-Possession of a controlled substance and evading arrest.  
 Noe Vega, age 24 of Claude, TX-Indecency with a child and theft warrant-Potter County and aggravated sex assault warrant-Wheeler County.  
 Michael Towner, age 35 of Murana, AZ-Traffic warrants-DPS.  
 Richard Tow, age 37 of Hereford, TX-Possessions of controlled substance and possession of marijuana.  
 Edward Gollighugh, age 26 of Pampa, TX-Warrants-Randall County.  
 Torey Craig, age 22 of Canyon, TX-Driving while intoxicated-1st.

**SCHOOL**  
 In addition to this new personnel. LaVern Thomas will serve as custodian along with Shonda Ruthhardt, who will also help in the cafeteria.  
 Welcome back to all the students and personnel, and we hope you have a wonderful year.



### It's a Boy

Joseph Augustine was born on August 9, 2001 in Childress to Brian and Karen Asher. He tipped the scales at 9 pounds and 3 ounces, and was 21 1/2 inches long. He is welcomed home by siblings Zack, Gregory, and Anne Catherine. The Ashers live in Guthrie.  
 Grandparents include Patrick and Eileen Asher of Ft Worth and Robert and Alice Kuehler of Groom.

**CARD OF THANKS**  
 My sincerest thanks for the many prayers, cards, and calls during my recent illness.  
 Rosa Lopez

**NO SCHOOL** on Labor Day, September 3.

**CARD OF THANKS**  
 We wish to express our thanks to all who called, sent flowers, cards and food to our home. Thank you.  
 We want to express our thanks to Oran Durham for the eulogy, it was superb, and also to the singers who sang Precious Memories at the service.  
 It is rewarding to live in a community where so many people care. We love you all.  
 The Lloyd Littlefield Family

ATTENTION PARENTS OF GROOM ISD STUDENTS

**MEET THE TEACHERS NIGHT**  
 AUG. 21 - 7:00 PM

The teachers of Groom School would like to extend an invitation to the parents of our students to come to school for homemade ice cream and cookies and get acquainted with all the staff who will be assisting in the education your children this year.

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If you ask a question, you're a fool for a minute. If you don't ask a question, you're a fool for life.

- Groom Birthdays Anniversaries  
 August 16 - Pam Hutsell, Mr. and Mrs. David Lee Britten (A).  
 August 17 -  
 August 18 - Louis Ruthardt, Joshua Robinson, Daniela McCoy.  
 August 19 - Margaret Crowell, Trae Kepley.  
 August 20 - Jacey Richardson, Misty Homen, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Britten (A), Mr. and Mrs. Cobb Britten (A), Mr. and Mrs. Burl Painter (A).  
 August 21 - Mrs. Marvin Morrow, Lucille Vaughn.  
 August 22 - John Koetting, Regina Gray, Dondra Downs, Cassie Raylynn Leven, Dan Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Kotara (A).

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# COUNTY

proposed pay raise across the board and not step raises. Howell made a motion to increase the Precinct #4 salary by 4 steps on the pay schedule. The proposal died for lack of a second motion.

Judge Powers discussed a burn ban for the county. Powers said that he had received several requests from citizens throughout the county before the recent rains. Commissioner Strawn made the motion to table the request. The motion carried.

The court accepted an agreement with the Texas

Association of Counties for the health and employee benefits pool. The interlocal agreement was a renewal of a contract which was first accepted in 1980. Judge Powers made the motion to renew the terms. The motion was passed.

Judge Powers nominated Treasurer Jeannie Cunningham as Pool Coordinator for the benefits program. This nomination was granted.

Commissioners discussed motor vehicle registration fees. The motion was passed not to increase the current \$5.00 fee that is added to the license renewals and purchases.

Judge Powers presented the court with bids for asbestos surveying of the courthouse. The motion was passed to allow Apex Technical Services to inspect and take samples for asbestos locations throughout the building at a cost of \$3,375.00.

Cornell and Company

was awarded the bid for conducting and outside audit for the County. The motion was passed to give the audit to the Amarillo company at a cost of \$10,000.

Commissioners voted to pay the Panhandle Water Plan Group \$200 for the county's share of support for that service. The motion was passed to make the payment.

Tax Assessor-Collector Barbara Cosper met with the court to set the proposed tax rate. The commissioners voted to hold a public hearing on the proposal to increase the total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by .7999 percent. The motion was passed to set the proposal.

A motion was also passed to set the tax rate hearing for August 27, 2001 at 9:30 a.m.

Justice of the Peace Phyllis Tyler asked to court to approve an added \$4.00 fee to each offense in the Precinct #2 office. The legislature approved the assessment for a judicial court technology fund, but it had to be approved by the commissioners' court. A motion was passed to allow the increase.

Judge Powers read a letter to the court from the Texas Commission on Jail Standards commending Sheriff Gary Robertson for compliance to the laws set by the board.

The court adjourned until August 27, 2001.

Marrriages are made in heaven; so are thunder and lightning.

## Don't Forget Your Immunizations

Thursday, August 16, 2001-THE GROOM NEWS-Page 3

Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Children Attending Texas Schools and Child-Care Facilities

| Age   | Vaccine Requirement (at the time the child first enters the age group)  |
|---|---|
| Younger than 2 months                                       | No vaccines required  |
| 2 through 3 months  | 1 dose polio vaccine<br>1 dose DTP/DTaP vaccine<br>1 dose Hib vaccine   |
| 4 through 5 months  | 2 doses polio vaccine<br>2 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine<br>2 doses Hib vaccine  |
| 6 through 11 months   | 2 doses polio vaccine<br>2 doses Hib vaccine<br>3 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine  |
| 12 through 14 months  | 1 dose MMR vaccine received on or after 1st birthday<br>2 doses Hib vaccine<br>3 doses polio vaccine<br>3 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine<br>1 dose varicella vaccine on or after 1st birthday   |
| 15 months through 4 years                                   | 1 dose MMR vaccine on or after 1st birthday<br>1 dose Hib vaccine on or after 15 months of age (unless a primary series and booster are completed)<br>3 doses polio vaccine<br>4 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine (4th dose required at 18 months)<br>1 dose varicella vaccine on or after 1st birthday   |
| 2 years   | 1 dose hepatitis A vaccine (32 border counties only)  |
| 3 through 4 years   | 2 doses hepatitis A vaccine (32 border counties only)   |
| 5 through 6 years   | 3 doses polio vaccine, including 1 on or after 4th birthday<br>4 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine, including 1 on or after 4th birthday (Proof of pertussis vaccination not required for children 5 years or older.)<br>1 dose MMR vaccine on or after 1st birthday and 1 additional dose of measles vaccine (may be received as part of a second MMR)<br>3 doses hepatitis B vaccine<br>2 doses hepatitis A vaccine (32 border counties only)<br>1 dose varicella vaccine on or after 1st birthday for children born on or after Sept. 2, 1994   |
| 7 through 11 years  | 3 doses polio vaccine, including 1 on or after 4th birthday<br>3 doses DTP/DTaP vaccine, including 1 on or after 4th birthday, requirement for 1 within the last 10 years suspended<br>1 dose MMR vaccine on or after 1st birthday. Children born on or after Sept. 2, 1991, must have 2 doses of measles vaccine (may be part of a second MMR)<br>3 doses hepatitis B vaccine for children born on or after Sept. 2, 1992<br>2 doses hepatitis A vaccine for children born on or after Sept. 2, 1992 (32 border counties only)   |
| 12 years and older (in addition to those required at age 7) | Children born between Sept. 1, 1978, and Sept. 1, 1991, (inclusive) must show proof of 2 doses of measles vaccine within 30 days after their 12th birthday (may be part of a second MMR)<br>Children born between Sept. 2, 1988, and Sept. 1, 1992, (inclusive) must show proof of 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine within 30 days after 12th birthday<br>Children born between Sept. 2, 1988, and Sept. 1, 1994, (inclusive) must have 1 dose of varicella vaccine on or after 1st birthday within 30 days after their 12th birthday. If first dose is received after age 13, 2 doses required<br>Polio vaccine not required for students 18 and older |

While back to school needs often include notebooks, pencils and paper, clothing, shoes, backpacks and lunch boxes, one of the top items required is an up-to-date immunization record for children in schools and child-care facilities.

Immunization requirements remain the same for this year with one exception, said Monica Gamez of the Immunization Division at the Texas Department of Health (TDH). "TDH is deferring for one school year the requirement that students have a booster dose of tetanus and diphtheria (Td)." This 10-year booster is usually given to students at about age 14.

The action applies to Texas schools from July 1, 2001, to August 1, 2002.

Once the deferment is lifted, all students will be required to show proof of a Td booster. The deferment is due to a national shortage of adult tetanus and diphtheria vaccine that resulted when one of two manufacturers discontinued production.

Vaccines required at various ages for all children are polio; diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis or acellular pertussis (DTP/DTaP); Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib); measles, mumps and rubella (MMR); chickenpox (varicella); and hepatitis B.

A hepatitis A vaccine requirement affects only children attending school or child-care facilities in 32 counties along the Texas-Mexico border.

Children with proof of a previous hepatitis A infection do not need to be vaccinated.

All children attending public or private schools are licensed, certified or registered child-care facilities must have the required immunizations for their age group completed by the first day of attendance. State law gives local school districts and child-care facilities the option of allowing children to attend if at least one immunization in each series has been received, but the remaining required immunizations

must be received as soon as medically possible.

Children ages 5 and 6 for example, should have had the following immunizations to enter school: 3 doses of polio vaccine, including one on or after the fourth birthday; 4 doses of DTP/DTaP vaccine, including one on or after the fourth birthday (proof of pertussis vaccination not required for children 5 years or older); 1 dose MMR vaccine on or after the first birthday and one additional dose of measles vaccine that may be received as part of a second MMR; 3 dose hepatitis B vaccine; 2 dose hepatitis A vaccine (32 border counties only); 1 dose varicella vaccine on or after the first

birthday for children born on or after September 2, 1994.

## Armstrong County Museum & Gem Theatre



Claude, Texas

Saturday, August 18th at 7:30 pm  
Threadneedle Street (rescheduled)

Saturday, September 8th at 7:30 pm  
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**GROOM SCHOOL MENU**  
AUGUST 20-24

**Lunch**  
Monday: Lasagna, salad, fried okra, pineapple, bread sticks, milk.  
Tuesday: Steak fingers, french fries, applesauce, texas toast, milk.  
Wednesday: Mexican pile on, corn, lettuce, tomatoes, apricots, milk.  
Thursday: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, jello, milk.  
Friday: Sandwiches, pork and beans, fruit cocktail, chips, milk.  
**Breakfast**  
Monday: Cold cereal, muffins, juice, milk.  
Tuesday: Pancakes, peanut butter, sausage, juice, milk.  
Wednesday: Breakfast burritos, hash brown potatoes, juice, milk.  
Thursday: Biscuits, gravy, bacon, juice, milk.  
Friday: Donuts, cinnamon rolls, juice, milk.

**Groom Day Tennis Meet Results**

In Junior High girls singles, Katy Britten placed first. In the Junior High boys meet, first was Thane Barkley, second was Blaine Britten, and Kade Brown and James Reid tied for third place.  
In Junior High doubles, Thane Barkley and Blaine Britten placed first, and James Reid and Katy Britten placed second.  
In the men's tournament singles competition, Josh Crooks placed first, Mike and Chris Ollinger placed second, and Russell Conrad placed third. Mike and Russell Conrad won the doubles competition. Josh Crooks and Daniel Treadwell placed second and Chris Ollinger and Brad Sustaire placed third.  
In the women's single match, Brin Burgin was first, Nila Burgin was second, and Lainie Britten and Debbie Ollinger tied for third place. In the doubles

competition, Candace Bohr and Nichole Barnett placed first. Debbie Ollinger and Belinda Britten placed second, Nila and Brin Burgin placed third, and Lainie Britten and Claudia Nuramburger placed fourth.

**Time To Re-Register Brands**

On Thursday, August 30, 2001, the Clerk's office of Carson County will begin the process of renewing brands. Registered brand owners will have until Thursday, February 28, 2002 to renew their registration. On Friday, March 1, 2002, all brands that have not been renewed will become "open brands" for the general public. Any brand that is not renewed becomes "void" on March 1, 2002, in accordance with the Agriculture Code.

**Nuclear Workers Can File Claims**

Workers who are currently working at or have previously worked at Pantex or other nuclear weapons facilities can now file claims for radioactive related cancers and other diseases linked to the facilities. According to the Department of Labor website, \$150,000 in lump-sum compensation and related medical

expenses has been mandated by a new federal law for workers who developed cancer or radiation, beryllium or silica exposure. Workers are required to submit a Labor Department form to seek compensation. To speed up processing a worker should submit a package with employment history and any medical evidence supporting their claim.

A radiation dose construction by the government, estimating the workers radiation dosage, may be completed by the government. The Labor Department estimates claims will take three to six months. The new law also provides for payments to worker's survivors in certain cases.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE**

The GROOM ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, August 30, 2001 in Administration Office, 304 W. Third Street, Groom TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

**Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates**

|  | Maintenance & Operations | Interest & Sinking Fund* | Total      | Local Revenue Per Student | State Revenue Per Student |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Last Year's Rate   | \$1.500000               | \$0.120000               | \$1.620000 | \$5,078                   | \$2,668                   |
| Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service | \$1.415930               | \$0.110916               | \$1.526846 | \$5,071                   | \$2,676                   |
| Proposed Rate  | \$1.475930               | \$0.110916               | \$1.586846 | \$5,240                   | \$2,705                   |

\* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

**Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence**

|   | Last Year  | This Year  |
|---|------------|------------|
| Average Market Value of Residences                    | \$30,146   | \$31,484   |
| Average Taxable Value of Residences                   | \$14,751   | \$16,353   |
| Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value | \$1.620000 | \$1.586846 |
| Taxes Due on Average Residence                        | \$238.97   | \$259.50   |
| Increase (Decrease) in Taxes                          |            | \$20.53    |

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.586846. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.586846.

**Fund Balances**

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) | \$400,000 |
| Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)         | \$2,900   |

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GROOM, TX. 248-7586  
**OIL CHANGE & LUBE.....\$25.95**  
Includes 5 qts. oil, filter & top off fluid levels. 4x4 extra  
We carry most major brand of oil in quarts or by the case.  
In tires we carry TOYO NATIONAL & DATON at competitive prices. We have also started washing cars again!  
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Fast, Dependable Service  
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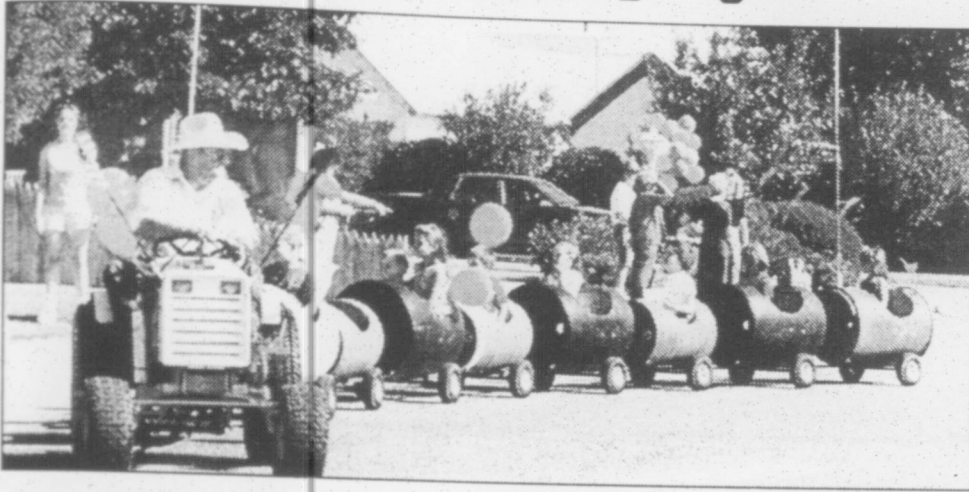
**Rezulin/Diabetes Drug Users**  
REZULIN has been linked to liver dysfunction and other health problems in numerous individuals. It was taken off the market 3-21-00 by its manufacturer, Parke-Davis, a division of Warner-Lambert. You or someone you love may be affected. If you wish to know your legal rights with regard to medical problems associated with the use of REZULIN, please contact our offices for a free legal consultation.  
JOHN G. EMERSON, JR.  
THE EMERSON FIRM  
Attorneys at Law  
2000 S. Gessner, Suite 800, Houston, Texas (832) 773-8800  
Email: jge@emersonfirm.com  
Licensed in the State of Texas. Not admitted to the State Bar of Texas.  
See other side of enclosure for contact information for other offices.

**Did you take Fen-Phen?**  
If you took Pondimin, Phentermine (Fastin, Adipex) or Redux and you have heart problems, valve leakage, murmurs, regurgitation, or PPH, then call us to discuss your legal rights for damages against the manufacturers and your eligibility for echocardiographic testing.  
**DAVID P. WILLIS - WILLIS LAW FIRM**  
3333 One Houston Center Houston, Texas 77010  
BOARD CERTIFIED PERSONAL INJURY TRIAL LAWYER  
Texas Board of Legal Specialization  
**1 (800) 468-4878 or 1 (800) 883-9858**  
Mr. Willis is likely to associate with other attorneys in the handling of this matter.

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for the ENTIRE FAMILY  
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- SELF-EMPLOYED OR NOT - NO INCREASE!  
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# Groom Day Activity Highlights



Kids enjoy a train ride and being part of the Groom Day Parade.



Who is teaching who? Dora Margaret Crowell just maybe showing grandson Sean a thing or two about dancing.



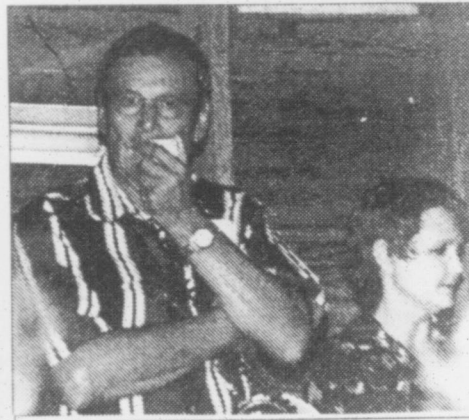
Lion's Club Queen, Macie Britten poses with Lion Martin Hermesmeier.



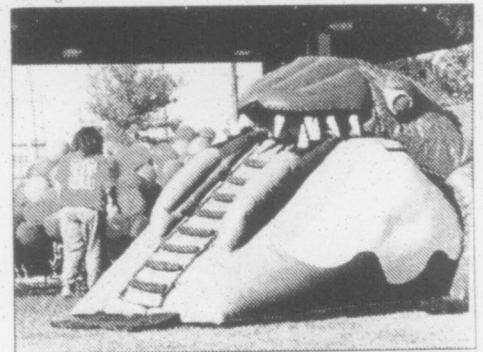
Frances Payton congratulates her grandson after the children's track meet.



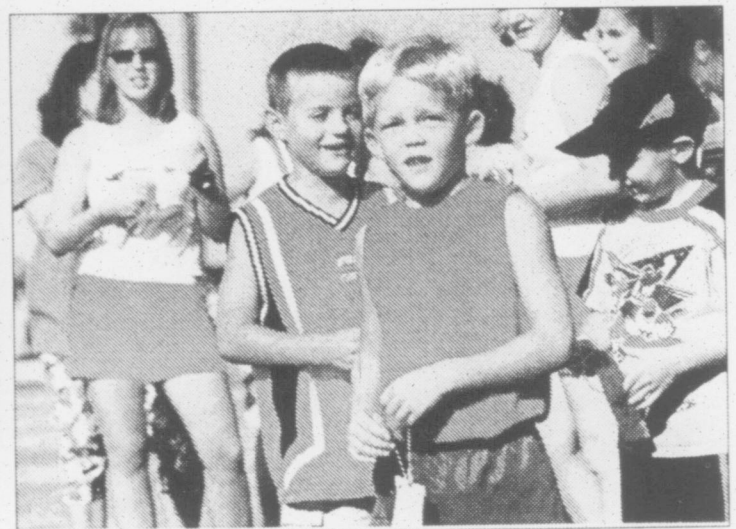
Jimmy Britten and Dale Stapp grill a pretty mean German sausage.



Cobb Britten yells "Sold" as he and assistant Phillis Jackson sell another treasure at the auction.



Gary Britten led the team that won the Groom Day Softball Tournament last week. (Right) Kyler Barkley proudly claims his ribbon in the Children's Track Meet.





D.A. "HAP" WATSON  
 GROOM-D.A. "Hap" Watson, age 80, died Thursday, August 9th, 2001.

Services were held at the First Baptist Church in Groom at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, August 11, 2001. The Reverend Bryan Knowles of Clarendon officiated. Burial was held at the Groom Cemetery.

Mr. Watson was born on May 18th in Clarksville, Texas and had been a resident of Groom for 47 years. He married Vernie Mitchell on March 1, 1941 in Lakeview, Texas. He served for the Army during WWII. He had retired after 23 years as a machinist for Pantex. He owned a Texaco Service Station in Groom for five years after retiring. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Groom, and also had been a member of Lions Club. He was a volunteer ambulance driver in Groom for several years. He was preceded in death by a brother, L.A.

Watson in February, 2000.

Survivors include his wife, Vernie Watson; son, Mike Watson of Claude, TX; three daughters, Lynne James of Happy, TX, Jocelyn Hopkins of Amarillo, TX, and Shelly Watson of Amarillo; two sisters, Jerrie Bolles of Plainview, TX, Lela Lester of Phoenix, AZ; three grandsons, and three great granddaughters.

The family suggest memorials be made to Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo, TX 79101 or to the Groom Ambulance Fund.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

You will now have to present your Social Security Number when you buy any hunting, fishing or any other Texas parks and wildlife recreational or commercial license.

The reason for the new requirement is to assist in child support collection enforcement under the Texas Family Code. Sales will begin with the new requirement on Aug. 15, 2001.

So deadbeat moms and dads will not be able to hunt or fish unless they take care of their responsibilities.

**MORE HAPPENINGS...**

Joy Snyder who had a hip replacement on August 6 has been transferred to BSA Rehab and is doing much better. They are in room 222 and the phone number is 212-5222.

**If You Ask Me... And Nobody Did** By D. Burton

It is a good thing that I went to school when I did because if I could turn back time and start school all over again, I would never make it through the first day. It is not that the classes would be too hard or that the pressure kids feel today to perform would be too much... it's just that the school supply decisions would kill me.

When I was in elementary school, there were very few options. A "Big Chief" tablet and a fat pencil were about all you needed. Sometimes you got to have your own box of 8 crayons, but there were no choices of colors. Red, Blue Green, yellow, orange, black, brown & purple. (Although, you could opt for the ones that were round or the ones that were flat on one side, although they were more expensive, so we never got to get those.) Paste was paste. No purple or blue sticks, roll-on, bottle or tubs.

The fat pencils were all red unless your mom went to some office supply and got green ones. The only real decision you got to make was which of your dad's old shirts you were going to take for an art smock. (Yes, there were some rich kids that got to have a real smock that actually fit.) There were no nap mats. We sat on the cold floor, in warm weather and cold. (Only dresses for girl back then too.)

When we finally graduated to skinny pencils we also got to buy map pencils and spiral notebooks. There was no tearing out of pages. If the list said 80 pages, that's what you got. If you were lucky, you did get to pick your favorite color. Your options again were usually red, blue or green.

By the time we finally graduated to pens, (about the 5th or 6th grade) you had only one option. Bic. If the teacher didn't specify, you did get to pick blue or black ink. There was no gel, roller, o-gravity, smelly ink, or anything but fine or medium. They were all clear and if you took the guts out of them, they made a heck of a great paper wasd shooter. (I still hold a couple of precision shot records at Stephen F Austin School in Amarillo to my knowledge.)

About that same time we got to have something so grown-up that picking it out required hours of study at T.G.&Y. That was the loose leaf notebook. By the time I was in junior high, there were at least a few options, and your notebook said a whole lot about who you were.

There were three basic kinds. 1. The basic fabric covered kind (usually blue denim in color). This type

could be written on and could be used a graffiti picture graph of the entire years' activities. 2. The plastic cover type. Usually came in basic colors (red, green, blue, orange & purple). These were more difficult to write on but it could be done. They were not as tough as the fabric kind, often would begin to

tear around the spine by Christmas. 3. The plastic kind in the same basic colors, but with a clear plastic closeable pocket on the front. These were usually selected by two types of kids. The geeks and the princesses. The geeks would fill these with pens, pencils, rulers, assignment pads, erasers, and compasses.

The princesses would fill them with hair bow yarn, combs, chapstick and other sissy girl paraphilia. Gradually over the year, these items would be replaced with notes passed in class decorated with hearts, flowers, and "S.W.A.K." The really big danger in these was that if you ever left them in a classroom, your mail was fair game for anyone to read. Which may have been what most of those girls wanted to happen in the first place. I never could figure it out.

Most of the time I opted for the cheap, fabric covered ones (mostly because that is what Mom said I had to

get!) But by the time May came, it would be a portable work of art. Most of the time the fabric was frayed around the edges and there would not be a corner that didn't have some secret message or doodle on it. The inside would be covered with messages to friends that they had read across the aisle from your desk. Stuff like "Did you study?" Or "He has Ralph's cooties!" You know important stuff. It was kind of like a poor

kids annual by the time school was out. Each squiggle invoked some intense memory.

The inside of the notebook was filled with a zipper pouch, (which by November contained two broken pencils, a microscopic eraser, and lint from some unknown source), some binder dividers with colored tabs, (usually only two had anything between them), and as many folded pieces of paper that you could shove in behind everything. God

help if anyone ever knocked it out of your hands.

A trip down the school supply aisle would probably be fatal. In this world of trapper keepers and organizers promoting everything from ecology to your favorite rock star I would have trouble picking a style much less what message I would be giving my peers by the decorations.

When my own kids were in school, I could rule out stuff by cost and didn't have to make decisions about what style of notebooks, spirals, pens or even paper. If I had to make those decisions based on the criteria that we used to set for ourselves, it would probably give me a stroke from the pressure. But maybe it's just me, I have trouble picking out a toothbrush, too. There are just too many options!



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 806-248-7977  
 Shop Your Hometown Convenience Store  
 Come by for after school treats!  
 Remember to fill up with Quality Texaco Fuel

**Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase**

The Carson County will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 7.999 percent. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on August 27, 2001 at 9:30 AM at Carson County Courthouse Commissioners Court Room/ First Floor.

- FOR** the proposal: Jerry Strawn Mike Britten  
 Kenneth Ware Kevin Howell
- AGAINST** the proposal
- PRESENT** and not voting
- ABSENT:**

The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

|  | Last Year | This Year |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Average residence homestead value  | \$45,500  | \$46,706  |
| General exemptions available   | \$9,100   | \$9,341   |
| <small>(amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)</small> |           |           |
| Average taxable value  | \$36,400  | \$37,365  |
| Tax rate (per \$100)   | 0.395418  | 0.324802  |
| Tax  | \$143.93  | \$121.36  |

Under this proposal, taxes on the average homestead would decrease by \$22.57 or 15.68 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would decrease by \$0.070616 per \$100 of taxable value or 17.86 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

**BACK TO SCHOOL**

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