The M. Lean News

HISTORIC ROUTE 66

Bank Of Commerce Building Office No. 5, 201 N. Main St. Published Weekly Thursday, March 23, 2006 1-806-779-2141 1-806-248-7333

Council Looks Into A New Water Vending Machine For McLean

The City Council of McLean met in regular session Monday, March 13, 2006 in the City Hall. The meeting was called to order by the mayor and opened with an invocation by Mindy Reeves at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Bob Martin, Mindy Reeves, Molly McDowell, Betty Taylor and Teres a Simmons. Others present were Jim Adams, Toni Bohlar, Patrick Phillips, Chet and Sally Bohlar and Bill Anderson.

Bill Anderson.
The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

The mayor called for Executive Seasion at 6:07 p.m. according to Section 551.071 for consultation with the attorney.

The meeting returned

to open session at 7:34 p.m. with no action taken concerning the executive session.

The mayor called for Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. according to Section 551.074 to discuss personnel matters.

The meeting returned

the meeting returned to open session at 7:39 p.m. Teresa Simmons made the motion that the City pay for professional evaluation for Jim Adams, Bill Anderson and Chet Book lar for as long as it takes to get the evaluation with a second by Mindy Ret ees, with all voting in favor. The mayor will made some phone calls to find a professional evaluator in Pampa.

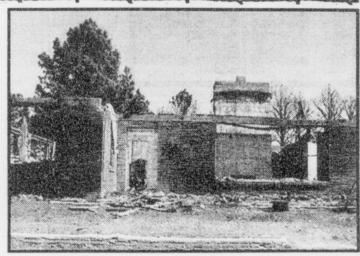
Motion by Molly McDowell, second by Mindy Reeves to accept Jan t Glass's resignation as Alderman with great regret. All voted for.

Motion by Betty Taylor, second by Teresa Simmons to accept the Animal Control Agreement with the City of Pampa. This is an ongoing agreement in case the City of McLean should ever be in need of their services. All voting for.

Policies and Procedures was tabled until next month for the council to go through the current policies and procedures and come to the next meeting with any changes and additions.

The water vending machine was tabled until next month. Jim Adams will go to some of the area towns and have a look at their systems and take

See Council, pg. 10



All that is left of Johnnie and Mary Ann Carpenter's home is part of the brick walls and the fireplace.

Funds And Donations Continue To Come Into McLean For Fire Victims

The fires are gone and now comes the aftermath. Governor Rick Perry flew over the devastated areas on Tuesday of last week. Congressman Mac Thornberry toured the areas on Monday. Both said they are encouraged by how quickly FEMA will respond to Texas.

Locally, farmers and ranchers are benefitting from the kindness of others.

Free hay is currently available at the McLean Feed Yard. You can call Ronnie Ferguson with the McLean Cowboy Church at 662-7211 for more information. Free hay is also available at the

Pampa Fairgrounds .
Brandon Wheeler with
Farm Bureau is
coordinating this effort.
Call 665-8451 for more
information.

The Lonestar Equine

Program is donating quality hay and blankets for horses. Along with this program is Texas A& M, who is offering their student services to come personally and help with the care of your horses. Even if it is just to feed and water, they want to come. The program is also offering free medications for your horses through your veterinarian. For more information on any of these services, call 806-

681-5858, 806-681-7885, 806-681-9424 or 779-2496. There will be a distribution sight in McLean under the direction of Becky Simmons

Loaves and Fishes has food items available for families who lost their homes to fire. Persons can go by 601 Commerce to nick un items.

pick up items.

Donations are also being excepted in several places. The McLean Fire Department is accepting donations to repair fire trucks. Please send donations to Box 212 in McLean, take by the bank

See Funds, pg 8

No City Election.....

Unopposed Incumbents To Serve Another Term

With only the incumbents signing up to run for city council aldermen positions, there will be no election.

Alderman, Betty
Taylor has served for
three years on the council.
While in office, Mrs.
Taylor said that the
council has made
decisions that have helped
the city. New equipment,
street repair and the
mandatory sewer plant
repairs are just a few of
the things that she has
been a part of.
One of the things that

one of the things that she states the council is currently working on is the moving of the \$.25 water well into a better location for everyone.

During the recent firestorm, Mrs. Taylor stated that the mayor kept everyone on the council informed and she, as a council woman, was ready to meet and make decisions if necessary. V/hen asked how she

When asked how she supports McLean perionally, Mrs. Taylor stated, "I try to buy as much in McLean as possible. I also want to help people in town, such as the fire victims. Money is sice, but sometime people need more. I just want to know what they need and help where I can."

Mindy Reeves has also served on the council for three years. While on the council, she believes that the two grants, one on the sewer plant and one with the water pipes are a few of the accomplishments she has been a part of. She also stated that she was excited that the mayor had some of the potholes filled last year and that the council has lived within it's budget.

Her main focus for her

next term will continue to be to clean up the town.

Mrs. Reeves serves as the Red Cross Chairman in McLean and stated that she had been focusing on that this past week. During the fires, Mrs. Reeves along with her husband and a friend stayed in Oklahoma, stating, "The fire department was more crucial to the city at that time."

Mrs. Reeves is active in the Young at Heart and says she volunteers in things that need

volunteers.

Teresa Simmons will enter her third year during her next term. She also considers the grant on the sewer plant to be a good accomplishment. "We have been able to purchase

See Incumbents, pg.9

Local Reminders

DONATIONS TO the fire department can be made to Box 212, taken to the bank or given at Cantrell's.

A FUND has been set up at the Bank of Commerce to benefit the families who lost their homes to fire. A TRACK MEET will be held on March 24 & 25 in Stratford.

ZONE ONE ACT Play will be held on March 28 in Follett.

MARCH 30 - FFA Land and Wildlife Judging in Paducah. Any person that has been displaced due to the Panhandle fires, please call 1-800-297-2270 for

TEXAS Panhandle Wildfires Benefit will be held on Friday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

PRAY FOR BAIN!

McLean Birthdays & Anniversaires

March 23 - Claire McDowell, Lexie Simmons.

March 24 - Pat Wilson. March 25 - Samartha Jo Brown, Brian Fuller, Betty Tate, Tincy Gideon.

March 26 - Heidi Lynn Wells, Colleen Orrick Huseman March 27 - Davey Ridgway, Patrick Martin. March 28 - Louise Watson, Jesse Swafford, Linda McDonald, Andy

Ritchie, Mark Smith.

March 29 - Linda

McDonald, Martha Smith,

Kristin Ellis.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!

I have no words that are adequate to express my appreciation for the people of this community. You are the best.

Anyway, thank you so much for you prayers, cards, food, concerns, etc. during my recent vacation in the hospital and my return home. You certainly made the situation more bearable. God Bless You.

THANK YOU TO FRIENDS NEAR & FAR!

OUR SINCEREST TRAMES TO ALL FOR THE MANY MAYS YOU HELPED BURBUG THE RECENT FIRE!. SO MANY OF US ARE IN YOUR DEST FOR THE KINDHESS SHOWN, FI DAI THE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKES TO THE SEMI-TRUCK LOADS OF HAY! A SPECIAL THANKS TO SHARON BRITTEN FOR NELPONG US HABL CATTLE.

LANE & SUSSE TWOMPSOM

McLean School Menus

for the week of March 27 - March 31 BREAKFAST

Monday: French Toast, Sausage, Toast & Jelly, Milk, Jarice Tuesday: Scrambled

Eggs, Bacon, Toast & Jelly, Milk, Juice Wednesday: Biscuits and Gravy, Toast & Jelly, Fruit, Juice, Milk

Thursday: Yogurt, Graham Crackers, Toast & Jelly, Juice, Milk Friday: Cinnamon Rolls, Toast & Jelly, Juice, Milk LUNCH
Monday: Sloppy Joes,
Fritos, Veggie Sticks,
Pickle Spears, Fruit, Milk
Tuesday: Oven Fried
Chicken, Ranch Potatoes,
Peas & Carrots, Texas
Toast, Milk

Wednesday: Taco Salad, Refried Beans, Cake, Milk Thursday: Pizza, Corn on the Cob, Salad, Jello, Milk

Friday: Hot Dogs with Chili, Baked Beans, French Fries, Fruit, Sherbet, Milk

Ferguson Speaks To Young At Heart About Angel Food Program

There were 27 members and guests present at the March 7 meeting.

Laura Garrison and Terri Whiteley with Accolade did blood pressure checks. Visitors included Andrea Copeland, Kaitoyn Copeland, and Dorothy McKee. Boots Stone wished Billie Kingston. Wayne Bullis, Gaylia Long, and Elizabeth Martin "happy birthday." She also thanked Inez Trostle for the

Julie Ferguson spoke about the Angel Food Ministries she is bringing to McLean. For \$25 per month anyone who is interested can order a variety of food items (worth between \$42-78). There is a different menu every month. Julie needs to receive a check by the deadline (usually the first week of the month). She will be picking up the food in Pampa and have it available at the Cowboy Church (about the fourth Saturday of the month). There are no qualifications, but the food must be ordered and paid for before the deadline. The have started accepting food stamps. For more information Julie can be reached at 779-2135

Funds

or you can drop it off at Cantrell's.

A fund has been established at the McLean Bank of Commerce to help the eight families who lost their homes.

A free variety show has been scheduled for Friday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the High School

auditorium. Although this is not a money making venture, information will be provided as to specific needs, where to go, or who to contact for help or who to contact if you want help. However, free donations will be accepted.

If you cannot attend, but would like to donate please send your donations to Texas Panhandle Fire Relief Fund, P.O. Box 33, McLean, Texas 79057 or if you want to donate hay, wire, labor or other materials, please call Dawn Roudybush or Leslie Darsey at 779-2301 or evening hours call 779-2377.

Study Club Learns About Cotton

The Pioneer Study Club met Thursday, March 16 at Elizabeth's. Hostess Mary Lou Glass served Mississippi fudge cake and chess cake along with mints and nuts, coffee and

Members present were Babe Brown, Jerry Corbin, Mary Dwyer, Shirley Ennis, Mickey Jackson, Zelda McClellan, Betty Morgan, Mindy Reeves, Betty Taylor, Rosa Troy, Angie Ware and Ruth Magee. Guests Donna Smith and Gary Oldham were welcomed.

Mary Dwyer introduced guest speaker Gary Oldham who is a long-time cotton farmer in the Samnorwood area. He read a poem that had been written by his grandfather called "Raising Cotton at Six Cents a Pound." Gary told the club about the organic cotton that he raises and how he markets it through SOS from Texas.

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 6 with Barbara Bode in charge of the program and Mindy Reeves as hostess.

MCLEAN CHURCH DIRECTORY

Church of Christ

Pastor Jim Reyna 779-2548

Sunday Bible School 10:00 a.m.

Worshin 10:40 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible Class 7:30

New Life Assembly of God 4a & Mail Pastor Mahlon Richardson Sunday School 9:30 a.m Worship Service 10 30 a.m. Sunday night Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Service - 7:00 p.m.

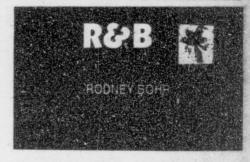
First Baptist Church
Pastor Kelly Raymond 779-2175
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m.

United Methodist Church
Pastor Thacker Haynes 779-2049 & 779-2337
Sunday 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Sr. High Youth Alpha Chi 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Choir 7:00 p.m.

Heald United Methodist Church Kellerville Road Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Trinity Church
Pastor Larry Perkins 779-3207
Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.
Life Groups-Sunday-5:00 p.m.
Solid Rock Youth & Sonshine Children's Ministry
Wednesday 6:00
Adult Bible Study-Wednesday-7:00 p.m.

Cowboy Church & The Arena of Life 119 E. 3rd
Ronnie Ferguson, Pastor - 7/2-2135
Sunday morning 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday evening 7:30 p.rii.





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Bank Of Commerce

McLean

Tigers and Ladies Take Fourth At Lefors Track Meet

The McLean Tigers and Lady Tigers recently participated in the Lefors track meet.

Tiger team finished 4th out of 10 in the rankings with a team total of 68 points.

In shot put, Cameron Taylor came in third with a distance of 36 feet 5 3/4

Manden Conklin finished third in the triple np with 38.5.

McLean finished first

in the 400 meter relay. In the 800, Jayme Welch took third with a time of 20.12.

Trey Skipper brought me a third in the 100 with a time of 12.00.

Jayrne Welch won first in the 400 with a time of

The Lady Tigers came home fourth in the rankings with a team total

In the Pole Vault, Brooke Seymour won first with a jump of 5-0.

DaSi ae Tolleson took second in the 100 Hurdles with a time of 18.91. She also won second in the 300 Hurdles with a time of 57.40

In the 100. Brooke Seymour won second with a time of 13.78 and Tamara Loya won third with a time of 14.40.

Both teams will travel to Strat ord for a meet on March 24 and 25

Brothers Take Top Awards At Pinewood Derby

On March 6, McLean Cub Scouts held their annual local Pinewood Derby at the old gym in McLean. There was a large crowd this year.

Amazing enough, the top three winners this year were all brothers. Jerod McClellan, third grade

Bear scout took first place Kelby in the race. McClellan, Weblo scout came in second. Little brother, Nolan McClellan, who is a first year Tiger scout took third.

Also taking a top prize this year for best looking race car was Danny Syfrett.

Participating in the race this year was Tiger scouts, Nolan, Charles and Also, Wolf



scouts Danny and Julian along with Bear scouts, Daniel and Jerod participated. Weblo

scouts Stormy, Shiloh and Kelby and the little scout buddy, David also participated. time and will qualify to enter the District Pine Wood Derby on April 1 in Clarendon

Incumbents

some equipment that the city desperately needed," stated Mrs. Simmons. "We also have done some great repairs on gas lines, improved trash pick up, and repaired the water tower.

Mrs. Simmons would also like to continue the city wide clean up during her next term.

Mrs. Simmons assisted some of the elderly residents of McLean during the recent fires. She stated she was also prepared to meet if

necessary.
"I pray for our town all the time," stated Simmons. "I pray for the council members, the

and the mayor employees." Simmons said she shops in McLean and goes to church here. "We are a wonderful town full of wonderful people

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From the Superintendent's Desk. Or society lody.
The McLean News
Tree Hall ware this is not always a good thing for our schools for the recent wildfires did just that. The collection of the recent wildfires did just that. The collection of the consider a bero. The men on considers a bero. The men on the society of the considers a bero. The men on the society of the considers and the society of the considers and the surrounding to the considers and the torus and the society of the considers and the surrounding to the considers and the surrounding to the considers and the su

Medicare D Sign Up Time Running Out For Those Already On Medicare

Medicare beneficiar es who have not signed up for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare program (Known as Medicare Furt D) have until May 15, 2006 to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

Currently-eligible beneficiaries who do not sign up by the deadline ust wait until the next open ennoblement period beginning November 15 to enroll in a plan, and will likely face higher premiums for not signing up when first eligible.

Medicare beneficiaries with private prescription coverage through a current or former employer or other source my defer signing up for Medicare Part D and avoid a high premium if their private prescription coverage is as good as, or better than, Medicare 's standard prescription benefit.

Anyone currently enrolled in, or elibible for Medicare Part A or Part B (or both) is eligible extra help from

government in paying their prescription costs under Medicare Part D. Persons who become eligible for Medicare after the enrollment deadline may enroll in Medicare Part D three months before their 65th birthday, the month they turn 65, or three months after turning

There are many Medicare prescription drug plans to choose from.

Beneficiaries compare plans to find one

that covers their medications at the best cost. Persons wishing to compare the medicare prescription plans may contact 1-800 MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), or may contact the Area Agency on Aging at (806) 331-2227 if local of 1-800-642-6008 if longdistance



(Left) Sand dunes have developed on burned land around McLean changing the landscape of the Texas Panhandle

Council

some pictures for the council so they can see the different systems.

The gas consultant was tabled until the May meeting so that Jim Adams can talk to the Railroad Commission's inspector and ask them about the consultant.

Motion by Mindy Reeves, second by Betty Taylor to amend the following Water, Sewer and Gas Budget item #224 dues and manuals from \$800.00 to \$3000.00 and to add expense to #241 pumphouse with a budget of \$13,000.00. All voting in favor.

No action was taken on Review and Score Management Engineer Proposals. The council will wait until a Grantworks representative can be in McLean to assist the council with this task.

In the Director's report, Jim Adams reported that a hydrant meter had been ordered at cost of \$1170.00 and will be in McLean in a couple of weeks. He reported that a compressor for the city gas well would take approximately days build time. council ask that this be put on the July agenda. The mayor and council thanked Jim Adams for all his efforts

helping with the fires

Sunday night. other husiness. Mindy Reeves informed the council that she knew of a man that was coming to McLean to look at buying the Texas Motel also informed the council, as an FYI, that she had gone to the Housing Authority meeting and that they were being faced with a difficult decision concerning the USDA Apartments on the west side of town. She said that there was no money for the upkeep on the apartments and they were run down and in need of repair and that the Housing Authority board was going to have to make a decision on whether to let the USDA foreclose on the apartments or to get a large loan to try to repair

the apartments that are still being paid for.

The mayor informed the council that he had a letter for the Gray County Appraisal District concerning a hearing on tax valuation concerning a company that falls within

the city's jurisdiction and he said that he would contact the Appraisal District for information.

He also told the council that he had received a letter from the Division of Emergency Management Office the Governor and they are going to have Governor's Homeland security Strategy Plan on May 2 - 7 and would like someone representing McLean to attend this meeting. The mayor suggested and the council agreed that Ken Hall be the representative since he's the County Emergency Management Coordinator and the mayor will contact Hall and ask him if he will attend as representative.

By unanimous con the council agreed to pay the bills.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Thanks and Appreciates all the volunteers, and the community for all their support Sunday, March 12, 2006. A job well done in the safe evacuation and return home of our residents.

McLean Care Center

Billy Ray Johnston, Administrator McLean Care Center



(Above) - A fireball shoots up in the sky during the fires

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS APRIL 2, 2006

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Deadlines & Payment: All news and ads should be in the office bly close of business Monday unless by prior approval. News releases are run on a space available basis. Payment is due in advance unless a credit account has been previously established. Errors: Check your ad immediately after the first publication! The News will not be responsible for mistakes after the first publication.

publication.

The Groom-McLean News does not vouch for the legitimacy of any ad, job or money making opportunity advertised in this paper. We strongly recommend that you check out any offer before making a commitment or giving out any personal information.

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LAUNDRY HELP Needed Full time at the Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude. Call 226-5121

MCLEAN ISD is currently seeking applications for bus drivers for morning and aftern on routes. Please aftern on routes. contact Jimmy Hannon, Superintendent, at the school Business Office at (806) 779-2301.

MCLEAN HOUSING Authority is accepting bids for the 2006 Mowing season for all the government apartments and the main office. Please submit bids to the McLean Housing Authority by March 30, 2006. The accepted bid will be contacted by

LOST: Wide Gold Band with Diamonds. Sentimental Value. Reward. 806-669-2217.

Editor Needed The Claude News

The Claude News needs very dedicated person interested in Claude, Texas, its people, its school, its law enforcement, city, etc. The person will be working with sister newspapers in Groom, McLean, White Deer and Panhandle. A great job for the right person! Call Phil at 248-7333 or 248-

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CITY ELECTION will be on May 13, 2006.

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FULL TIME cook needed. Call Palo Duro Nursing Home at 226-

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LA. RESTAURANT in Claude is for lease. Located next to the L.A. Motel. Comes fully equipped, ready to open. \$600 per month. Call Ray at 226-4981, Claude.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The McLean Emergency Medical Service is operating under a staffing variance that will expire on October 5, 2006

CITY OF GROOM employees may be contacted for after-hour emergencies by calling Slim Finck at 248-1416 or paging him at 342-8312; or call Bobby Ratterree at 248-0348 or paging him at 342-8433

> Now hiring on all shifts for L.V.N.'s and C.N.A.'s McLean Care Center

Contact Billy Ray Johnston, Administrator 779-2469



TexSCAN Week of March 19, 2006

\$5,000 REWARD is

being offered for information that leads to

the arrest and conviction

of the person or persons

responsible for the theft of

the saddles and tack taken

from south of Groom on Friday, night, March 17. Contact 248-7224 or the

Carson County Sheriff's

Deputy Drew Brassfield at 537-3511.

ADOPTION

It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond all and legal expenses in Texas adoption. medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.
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in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. Expenses paid. Toll free 247. Abby's
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AUCTIONS

ABSOLUTE AUCTION. The former Dollar General Building in McCamey, Tx is being auctioned March 25th at 10 a.m. Request information regarding this property. Call Paul Taylor III, 1-366-323-3111 or e-mail: paylor@rfd6.com. No reserve! No minimum. More info: www.ranchline.com. Emerson Auctioneers. Lic.#TAL15051

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The Groom Rews

Volume 80 Number 35

The Groom-McLean News 79039

Thursday, March 23, 2006

Election Set For May 13...

City of Groom Voters To Hold Contested Race



Lee Barkley



Matt Fields



Buck Habcock



Joe Rae Richardson



Clint Babcock



Sharon Jones-Britten



Several candidates came out last week to file for a place on the Groom City Council. Incumbents Don Case and Ellis Stapp had reviously filed for 2 of the 3 seats available. Buck Babcock, Joe Rac Rich rdson, Lee Barkley, Shar a Jones-Britten, and Mast Fields all filed on the lay, March 13, the fay to file. One ad fate, Clint Babcock, One to file on Monday

and has elected to run as a write-in candidate.

Buck Babcock grew up in the area. He is an active volunteer in the Groom Fire Department and for the Groom Ambulance Department. He and his wife, Jill, are expecting their first child.

Joe Rae Richardson is a lifelong resident of the area. He is a member of the Groom Economic Development Corporation. He is married to the

former Kim Fields. He owns Richardson Custom Baling and H & R Tractor Service

Lee Barkley has lived in Groom just about all his life. He works for R & B Ag Services. He and his wife, Lavonda have raised three children in Groom. They are Groom. enjoying being

grandparents.
Sharon Jones Britten is a life long resident of the area as well. She has

raised her family here. Three of her four grown children still live in the area and two children still live at home. She is involved in the family farming and ranching

enterprises.

Matt Fields is another live long Groom resident. He and his wife, Aimee have 2 children. He is employed by Pantex and has family farming and



Don Case

McClellan Bait House Destroyed By Fires

While the immediate fature of Lake McClellan is a little bleak, it will

com back, according to District Supervisor Ranger Tom Smeltzer

with the National Forestry

"As you many kas

the recent range fires. The historic permit office and living quarters were completely destroyed," stated Ranger Smeltzer. "There are many of the trails that are impassible and unsafe due to the falling trees and limbs and downed power lines."

Engineers will ooking the situation over this week. and an archeological team will study what to do about the

burned out buildings.
"I expect the lake to be for a while. possibly a couple of months, until we can figure out how to re-open the area safely," commented.

Area residents asked to discourage anyone from going to the area until it has been deemed safe.

Community Calendar

TO VOTE by mail in the run-off election for Carson County Treasurer. Request a ballot by April 4. Vote early in person until April 7 at the Carson County Clerks office.

NEXT THE AWANA's meeting will be on March 26, due to Soring Break. That night will be Camouflage night. Weer all your camouflage clothes!



GHS NATIONAL Honor Society Induction has been rescheduled for April 10.

GROOM LION'S Club will host a Buffet Groom's Summer Program for Kids on April 9th from 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. at the Groom Community Center. Keep watching the Groom News for more details





pretty lonely. It is , the entrance to the Lake McClellan ing across downed currently guarded by a sheriff's deputy to keep sight seers for stun power lines and falling trees.

The Gruom News

UN PS 230-380 Second-class Po tage Paid at Groom, TX.

Carson County, Tex s, under the Act of Congress Of March 3, 1879 sed Weekly except Christmas Week Publisher - Phillip J. Miller Groom Editor - Donna Burton McLean Editor-Terri Adams stmaster: please send address changes to: Box 460, Groom, Texas 79039-0460 SUBSCR PTION RATES: Annual Rate - \$25.00 per year Single Copy - 50¢ Phone 886-248-7333 E-Mail with prior approval







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Local Happenings

Anyone wishing to donate to the Groom Department or the Groom Ambulance Service may do so by contacting City Hall or mailing their donation to The Groom Fire Department at P.O. Box 467, Groom, Texas 79039 or The Groom Ambulance Department at P.O. Box 111, Groom, Texas 79039

Both entities had more expenses than usual due to the fires. Any help will be

City Election

Babcock, our write-in candidate, also grew up in the Groom area. He owns his own welding enterprise. He and his wife, Kim, have one son, Ethan.

Residents encouraged to vote. These candidates will be elected by a straight majority. So who ever gets the most votes will win one of the three seats available. No run-off elections are held in this type of election.

Early voting is also encouraged, either personal appearance or by mail. To apply for a ballot by mail, you must request the ballot by contacting the City of Groom office at 203 Broadway in Groom. The first day to vote early in person is May 1.

The School Board of Trustees had only enough candidates (Tony Britten and Tony Rocha) to fill the seats that they would have had available. There will be no school board election

A FUND has been established at the State National Bank for the benefit of Monte and Sandie Schaffer. They lost their home in the fires of March 12.

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CARD OF THANKS

To the Clarendon, Groot Howardwick Fire Departments,

We should like to express our deepest appreciation for your aid containing the grass fire on our properties in the Jericho area. Through the good work of your departments there was no damage to cattle or buildings, for which we are very grateful. Your are to be commended for your dedication to duty as well as for your professionalism.

Again, thank you, Stanley Lamb and Gaylen Fredericksen

ILL OR RECOVERING

The following folks are ill or recovering this week.

Ashford and Norris Hoyt.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS APRIL 2, 2006

Birthday & Anniversaries

Babcock, Melvin Wills, Emma Weinheimer, Haley Kuehler.

March 24 -Conrad, Brenda Fields.

March 25 - Mrs. Tom Britten, Roman Friemel, Joyce Hutsell, Buck Babcock, Jessica Friemel, Kim and Russell Lewellen

March Ruthardt March 27 - Laveda Wood.

March 28 - Clinton Adam Babcock, Billy Dan Hughes.

March 29 - Bill Ellington.

God Bless

The firefighters who battled so bravely and tirelessly to control all the "worst fires in Texas history." Some of them were sent to my house at I-40 and Eastern to firght the fire that started at that corner.

Miracles still do happen!

My home and car were saved. I pray for all those who were not so fortunate. And also for all those who helped them and me in so many ways as some the transfer

> God Bless you all! Bucille Britten

COW POKES°

By Ace Reid



"Neighbor, it's plain to see why my cows keep gittin' on yore place ... you ain't keepin' our fence fixed!"

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Carson County's Sheriff's Report



For Answers on Home Health Choices Come by our booth at the Good Health. Much Wealth - Your Choice Health Fair, March 30th in Clarendon

FREE Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Testing¹ See our ad in the Feist Yellow Book

Come & Celebrate With Dorothy Mansel On Hez 90th Birthday!

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 1:00-3:00 P.M. AT THE EASTRIDGE LAMES, ALEETING ROOM 5405 AMARILLO BLVD EAST, A WARILLO, TEXAS

YOUR PRESENCE AND SMILE IS THE UNLY GIFT REQUESTED

18th Annual

By Tam Terry, Sheriff

1. Mendoza-Hernadez, Scrgio, 19, of Wheeler, Texas born in Mexico. welder by trade. Trooper Mike Smith, DPS arrested Mendoza on 3/5/06 for public intoxication. Released on \$500.00 bono.

Espinoza, Ramon, 20, Wheeler, Texas, dairy worker, arrested 3/5/06 by Trooper Mike Smith for public intoxication. Released on \$500.00 bond.

Cedano-Sanchez, Carlos Omar, 23, Wheeler, Texas, born in Mexico. Arested by DPS Trooper Mike Smith on 3/5/06 on driving while intoxicated, on \$1500.00

Trantham, Brian Keith, 38, Conway Ark. arrested for possession of controlled substance by Chief Deputy Randy Elliott. Bond was set at \$40,000.00

5. Self, Bradley Lynn, 43, Clarendon, Texas, wheder by trade. Arcested by officer Tanner Our Sincerest Thanks!

The Groom Volunteer Fire Department wishes to extend their sincerest thanks to all the wonderful people who did so much to support the firefighting efforts.

Those who hauled helped us navigate get to the fires; < Sheriff's Department, Department of Highway Department,

water and fuel: the back roads to support from the City Employees, Public Safety. Dispatchers; those

good Samaritans who brought us or donated food and water and other supplies. Those who have given so generously of their time, money and most importantly.... prayers.

Blackburn on driving while intoxicated. \$1500 bond set.

6. Kerekes, Teena Marie, 36, Henderson, Nevada, self employed was arrested 2/13/06 for possession of marijuana, more than 50 pounds and carrying an unlicenced

7. Burnell, Charles Stuart, 26, of Virginia Beach, VA, an air brush artist. Was arrested by Trooper Mike Smith for more than 5 but less than 50 pounds. He was released on \$10,000 bond.

8. Sutton, Shane Parker, 25, of Virgina Beach, VA was arrested on 3/16/06 by Trooper Mike Smith. He is a landscaper. He was landscaper. He released on \$10,000.00

9. Mize. Jacob
Lawrence, 20, White
Deer, was arrested by
Carson County Deputy
Clarence Mebbitt for
unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. He is being held on \$20,000,00 bond

Horner, Michael Chad, 33, Panhandle, TX turned himself in for a warrant on driving while intoxicated, 3rd time or

248-7333

11. Segura, Pat Edward, 32, of Panhandle. A turf installer by trade, was arrested by DPS Trooper Dennis Brassfield

intoxicated, 2nd offense He was released on bond. 12 Buxton, Mike Zhan, 51, of Amarillo was arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, 2nd offense, by

driving while cated, 2nd offense.

Trooper Dennis Brassfield. He was released on bond

13. Campos Richard A. 23, of Corpus Christi, was arrested by Carson County Deputy Tanner Blackburn for Driving While Intoxicated and Deadly Conduct. He was released on \$4,000.00 bond.

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LUNCH MENU Groom School Breakfast and Lunch Menu for the week of

BREAKFAST: Monday - Cold Cereal, muffins, juice and milk

March 27-March 31.

Tuesday - Pancakes, peanut butter, sausage, juice and milk.

Wednesday -Breakfast burritos, hash brown potatoes, juice and

Thursday - Biscuits, gravy, juice, and milk. Friday - Do-nuts

cinnamon rolls, juice, and

LUNCH Monday - Chicken

Faiitas, Sauteed Onion & Green peppers, lettuce & tomatoes, fruit cocktail,

milk. Tuesday - Chili Cheese dogs, tator tots, pickle spears, pears and

GROOM SCHOO

Wednesday - Char-broiled steaks, scalloped potatoes, black-eyed peas, hot rolls, milk, rice krisnie treats.

Thursday -Enchiladas, Spanish Rice, Lettuce & Tomatoes, refried beans, chips, milk and sherbert.

Friday - Pizza, Salad Peaches, crackers, and

White Deer Fajita Dinner Set For Sunday, March 26

The 18th Annual Fajita Dinner in White Deer will be held Sunday, March 26, 2006. Everyone is invited to attend the special event at the Fellowship Hall, 101 West 8th Street. White Deer United Methodist

to a wonderful spring day to invite all to White Deer.

Serving the all you can eat fajita dinner will begin serving lunch at 11:00 a.m.

THANK YOU TO FRIENDS NEAR & FAR!

ONE SINCEREST THANKS TO ALL FOR THE MANY WAYS YOU HELPED DARRONG THE RECENT FIRES. SO MANY OF US ARE IN YOUR DERT FOR THE UNIDARESS SHOWN, FROM THE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES TO THE SEMI-TRUCK LOADS OF HAY! A SPECIAL THANKS TO SHAROM BRITTEN FOR HELPING IS HAVE CATTLE

LAME & SUSH THOMPSON

Card Of Thanks

To All Firefighters, Ambalance Crews and others who assisted in anymay during the hina threats:

Thank you for putting year lives on the line to protect us who could not protect aursolves. You do this so selflassley many times of the year.

Hereafter my prayers will bellow you phononon ! have the singe.

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Groom City Council Hears Financial Report, Sets Annual Rabies Clinic

The Groom City Council had their regular monthly meeting on March 8, 2006. Present were Mayor Joe Homer, Aldermen Ellis Stapp, Don Case, Kenneth Weller, and Chris Welch. City Secretary Mary Sue Lyles and Public Works Directory Slim Finck also were present. Visitors who attended were Tim with the Groom Youth Organization., Tanner Case, Tyler Case, Rick and Sharon Prather representing the Groom Volunteer Ambulance

Tim Case presented the financial statements the Groom Youth Organization The statements were accepted.

A motion was made and approved to donate

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on April 11, 2006 will be tested on April

6, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. at the Clerk's Office,

501 Main, Panhandle, Tx 79068 to

ascertain that it will accurately count the

votes cast for all offices and on all

s/ Celeste Bichsel

- DRIVE UP WINDOW

\$2200 to the Groom Youth Organization for baseball, basketball, and swimming programs.

The Annual Rabies Clinic has been scheduled for Thursday, May 4, 2006-from 1:00 to 6:00 pin in the Groom Fire Hall. Dr. Horne will be the veterinarian in charge.

The council approved Janie Britten and Flora Glyn Hammers as election judges for the May 13th City Election.

The council voted NOT to make any change in the employee policy that states "The City of Groom, Texas has resolved that a city en ployee, after the age of 65 years with 12 years or more of employment with the City of Groom, Texas shall have free water, sever, garbage collection

A motion was approved to give the east part of Lots 5 & 6, Block 4, OT to the Groom Economic Development Corporation for housing. The GEDC will be responsible for

and city maintenance, for

the rest of their lives."

having the property surveyed and for the lawyer fees for transferring the title. The west half of the lots will be maintained by the city for an ally.

Rick and Sharon Prather visited with the City Council about some of the concerns they have about the Groom Service. Ambulance Kenneth Weller moved and Chris Welch seconded the motion to table this item until the meeting. council asked Mr. Prather to come back on the next council meeting with a mission statement pertaining to the future of the service and a job description for an Executive Director.

A motion was approved to remove Bobby Ratterree from his probationary status as of March 15th

No clean up letters were sent, and the work list was reviewed.

Minutes of the February meeting and the financial statement were The meeting approved adjourned at 9:05.

Thornberry Pushes for Fire Aid House Leaders Promise to Help

(Washington D.C.) Mac Congressman Thornberry (TX-13) is optimistic that Congress will provide help to area residents for the damage caused by the wildfires that continue to plague the Texas Panhandle

Thornberry said he is receiving increasing support in the House for his proposal to attach wildfire recovery assistance to a spending bill currently making its way through Congress. The bill in question is a supplemental appropriations bill primarily intended to provide new funding for the Global War Terror and hurricane recovery efforts.

The U.S. House of Representatives is expected to vote tomorrow on its version of the supplemental appropriations bill. Fire aid amendments drafted by Thornberry could not be onsidered at this time, but Thornberry is encouraged by the support he is receiving for taking action before the bill is finalized

"I am grateful for the support my proposals have

While it looks like something out of a horror me ovie right now. Mother Nature has a wonderful way of healing itself. In a few weeks most of the damage will hardly be noticeable

Republicans and Democrats Key leaders have promised to help," said Thornberry.

Among the provisions Thornberry has proposed is: Compensation for

livestock owners for their losses through the Livestock Indemnity Program, and Funding and technical assistance through Emergency Conservation Program to rehabilitate farm and ranch land by removing debris. restoring fences and conservation structures, and providing water for

Livestock The Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) have been used in previous disasters, but the two programs do not receive continuous funding Instead, these two programs receive funding from Congress only on an "as needed" basis in response to specific emergencies.

Although amendments are not yet included in the legislation Thornberry noted that the passage of the supplemental appropriations bill by the House is just a first step.

The Senate will still need to adopt its version of the supplemental, and then conference committee will work out the differences between what the two chambers have

received from both passed. I think the chances are very good that, by the time we have the final supplemental

appropriations language ready to send to President, fire aid will be in the bill," said Thornberry

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Services Held For Lucille Merrick



Lucille Settle Merrick, 89, of Clovis, died March 19, 2006 at the Retirement Ranch in Clovis. NM. Services were held on . March 21, 2006 at the Groom Church of Christ with Kent Watson, of Claude Church of Christ officiating. Burial was Wednesday March 22, 2006 in Alva Municipal Cemetery, Alva, OK with Hartnell Johnson

VOTE * * * * * *

She was born July 4, 1916 in Driftwood, OK to Lizzie and Bert Settle and grew up on a farm at Byron. OK. She graduated from high school and attended Northwestern State College in Alva, OK where she graduated with a B.S. Ed. She was an Education Major. She married Orville Gore Stephenson on December 23, 1937. She taught in several rural schools in Oklahoma. Her last teaching job was in Groom, TX. She then worked with her husband in the Groom Drug Store which they owned and operated. Orville passed away in 1955, and she continued to operate the store until 1959. She married Henry Merrick in 1956 and they farmed after the sale of the drugstore

She was a member of

the Groom Church of Christ. She enjoyed other activities such as DAR. which she served as Regent for several years and was a charter member of the chapter in Pampa. She was active with the Candy Striper Girls at the Groom Hospital. She was an avid reader, seamstress, loved poetry and the computer, and had her regular chats with people far and wide. She dearly loved the Groom Senior Citizen Chow Line and loved and missed all her long time friends there

She was preceded in death by her parents; both husbands, a brother: Leroy Settle and 2 infant granddaughters, an infant great grandson, and I greatgrandson, Joshua Wheeler

daughters: Maxine Kelso and husband Ferman, of Clovis, NM, and Carolyn May of Arlington, TX; I

on; Steve Stephenson and Connie. stepdaughter: Marlys Melton and husband, Larry, of Frankston, TX. 9 grandchildren; Kelly Kelso, and family, of Aztec, NM,

Nicole Van Pelt and family of Panama City, FL, Sarah Warrick and son of Denison, TX, Stephon Stephenson and family, of Canyon, TX, Byron May of Pampa, TX, Dallas May and wife, Sarah, of Abilene, TX, Stephanie May of Arlington, TX, Lauren Melton and family of Frisco, TX and Jeremy Melton and family of Frankston, TX, 11 greatgrandchildren, 3 nieces, Sue, Donna and Karen Settle of Oklahoma

Honorary pallbearers are the grandsons.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

To Macie, Mistakes, like colds are contagious! In this business, when we make a mistake on someone's name or on their ariticle it just seems like we cannot get it right no matter how hard we try. We are very sorry that we twice made a mistake on the headline of your engagement announcement. We hope that you know that it was unintentional and we are very happy that you have found someone special. We will try again at a later date and pray that it will be correct.

Again, please accept our apology.

Donna Burton

POLITICAL CALENDAR

STATE OF TEXAS House of Representatives

David Swinford

CARSON COUNTY

County Judge... Republican Candidates Lewis Powers Democratic Candidates

Jackie West **County Treasurer** Republican Candidates Denise Salzbrenner Virgil Frick Democratic Candidates

Dea Schroeder

Tax Assessor-Collector Republican Candidates Jackie Lewis Justice of the Peace

Precinct 1 Democratic Candidates Bill Hinson

Gray County Gray County Clerk Susan Winborne Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 Republican Candidates

Mary Ann Carpenter... Co. Commissioners

James Hefley

Precinct 4

The following candidates have paid a fee to have their name on this political calendar. Their this political calendar. Their disclaimer statements are on file at The Groom-McLean News for

Sylvia Pool Services Held Monday, Burial Here

Sylvia Pool, 96. formerly of Groom, died Wednesday, March 15. 2006, in Mena, Ark.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Monday in Groom Cemetery.

Mrs. Pool was born in Crawford, Okla., and was a longtime resident of

Groom.

Survivors include a daughter. Betty Martin of Mena: two sons, Ross Pool of Harlingen and Larry Pool of Combes; two sisters, Margaret Leach of Tacoma, Wash., and Juanita Leddy of Galt.

"A Volunteer Fireman's Poem"

A fireman's life is one big surprise, Usually he laughs, sometimes he cries. There's always stress, toll and strife, Hoping he's good enough to save just one life.

His wife understands, when he mis If he runs out of church, don't think him a sinne Answering a call, is tops on his list, Regretting each one he's ever missed.

He tries and tries, but can't make us see, The happiest men, still work for free. Jumping from bed, fighting the cold, Knowing what to do, without being told.

He rushes to the station, jumps on a truck. Depending on skill, never on luck.

Putting his life on the line, for an unknown friend,
Hoping and praying, it won't be the end.

The Bravest Men In The World", the title is fitting, They all do their best, never think of quitting. They all know what to do, while the fires rage, They drop everything, at the sound of a po

The Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance Office as immediate openings for full time temporary ATTORNEYS, LOAN CLOSERS, PARALEGALS

positions are <u>EVENING SHIFT</u> at be able to make <u>full time commitme</u> Estate/Mortgage Lending Experience 525,195 - \$46.189 Bass solory plus locality pay, shift differential overtime and per diem. Travel May Be Required / Bilingual A Plus Muss have good Credit and Suitability Check is Required EOE / Veterans must submit DD-214

Mail, Fax or Email Resume ASAP to S84 - ODA, ATTN, HR Office 14925 Kingsport RD, Fort Worth, TX, 76155-Fex (817) 684-5621 PDCMS938A.6

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Amarillo - April 10 Master Teachers on DVD Complete K-12 Programs

Lubbock - April 11 San Antonio — April 18 San Antonio — April 19 San Antonio — April 20 Display Info: 1-800-874-3597, ext. 406 abeka org / 406

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To the registered voters of the County of Carson, Texas: Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, 2006, for the Runoff Election. This Election is to decide which Republican Candidate will proceed to the General Election.

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACES:

Precinct 101 Precinct 102 & 401 Precinct 302 Precinct 402 Precinct 103 & 301

Precinct 201 & 202

St. Mary's Hall - 411 4a ST., Groom. Antier Gym - 6m & Doucette, White Deer Panhandle High School, 106 W. 11s, Panhandle Community Center, 308 2nd ST, Skellytown Panhandle High School, 106 W. 11th, Panhandle War Memorial Building, 500 Main, Panhandle

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at the Carson county Clerk's Office in Panhandle between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. beginning April 3, 2006 and ending April 7, 2006

To request a ballot for early voting by mail please contact the clerk's office AS SOON AS POSSIBLE at 537-3873 or write to Celeste Bichsel, Early Voting Clerk, P.O. Box 487, Panhandle, Texas, 79068.

The first day the clerk's office can receive an application by mail is NOW. An Application for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business April 4, 2006.

Issued this the 13th day of March, 2006.

s/ Lewis W. Powers Carson County Judge



Sayre, OK 312 NE Highway 66 Mangurn, OK 1600 N. Louis Tittle McLean, TX 115 E. Commerce Erick, OK 123 S. Main FOOD STAMPS AND WIC VOUCHERS







Not liable for typographical or pictorial errors and reserve the right to correct printer errors. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

Prices Effective 7 Days March 22-28, 2006

WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.	TUES.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

1/8" Trim Boneless

Top Sirloin Steak



10 Lb. Bag Russet Potatoes

\$729



Chicken of the Sea Chunk Light Tuna

2/\$



Kraft Velveeta

32 Oz. Pre-Priced \$3.99 Regular or Light

\$388



Best Choice Frozen Vegetables

16 Oz. Assorted Varieties

\$100



Coke, Sprite or Dr Pepper 6 Pk Half Liter Bottles

2/\$5



Regular, 2%, 1%, Skim Prairie Farms
Milk
Gallon

2/\$5

GROCERY Ruffles or

Reg. 3.19-\$3.49



Malt-O-Meal Cereals

22.5-24.75 Select Varieties



Best Choice Salad Dressing 16 Oz. **Assorted Varieties**



Musselman' **Applesauce** 48 Oz. **Assorted Varietie**

Best Choice Bacon Bits



Hunt's **Tomatoes** 14.5 Oz. Assorted Varieties



Best Choice Deluxe Mac & Cheese 12-14 Oz. **Assorted Varieties**



Nabisco Snack Crackers 8-10 Oz. ssorted Varieties



Planter's **Peanuts** 16 Oz. **Assorted Varietie**

Mahisco Easy-Cheese 8 82



Best Choice Paper **Towels** Ultra Big Roll **Assorted Varieties**



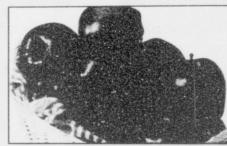
Lysol All-Purpose Cleaner 32-40 Oz. **Assorted Varieties**



RODUCE



Hot House Tomatoes



Large **Red Delicious Apples**



D'Anjou **Pears**



Green Giant Carrots 2 Lb. Bag



Bunch Broccoli

Fresh Cauliflower



Skippy Peanut Butter 9 Oz. Tube. 18 Oz. Jar Assorted Varieties



Gatorade Thirst Quencher 64 Oz. **Assorted Varieties**



Tropicana Twister

1.75 Liter **Assorted Varieties**



Best Choice Tea Bags 24 Ct. Family Size



Orville Redenbacher Popcorn 2-4 Ct. **Assorted Varieties**



Hefty Serve 'n Store 15-24 Ct. **Assorted Varieties**



Xtra or Nice'n Fluffy 93-128 Oz. **Assorted Varieties**



Best Choice Chunk Dog Food 17.6 Lb.

Nofty E-Z **Grip Cups** 30-58 Ct.

Lysol leaners 22-24 Oz. ect Varieties



Mr. Clean 40 Oz. Assorted **Varieties**

BAKERY



CAKE-A-RAMA

Brill Single Layer Cakes 25 Oz.

• German Chocolate
• Red Velvet

· Cookies 'n Cream

• Fudge

Cheese

8 Oz. Shredds, Chunks, Cubes **Assorted Varieties**



Jell-O Pudding or Gel Snacks

6 Pk. Assorted Varieties



Best Choice Longhorn Cheese

> 8 Oz. **Assorted Varieties**



Kraft American Singles 12 Oz. Pre-Priced \$1.99



Banquet Crock-Pot Classics

40-46 Oz. Assorted Varieties



Weight Watchers **Smart Ones**

6-11 Oz. Select Varieties



Weight Watchers **Smart Ones**

8.5-11.5 Oz. Assorted Varieties



T.G.I.Fridays **Appetizers**



Corn King **Sliced Bacon** 12 Oz.

State Fair

Corn Dogs

11.3-16 Oz. Assorted Varieties

1/8" Trim **Boneless Pork**

Split Fryer **Breasts**

Farmland Sausage 1 Lb. Hot or Mild

Oscar Mayer

Bologna or Salami

1 Lb. Assorted Varieties

Rodeo Hotdogs 12 Oz.

Oscar Mayer

Franks

Assorted Varieties

Rodeo 12 Oz.

Bologna or Salami **Assorted Varieties**

Oscar Mayer **Funpack Lunchables**

11.4-12.2 Oz. **Assorted Varieties** Oscar Mayer

Rodeo

Sausage

14 Oz.

Assorted Varieties

Boneless Tenderized

Pork

Cutlets

Cook's Center Cut

Ham **Steaks**

Mega Pack Lunchables 16.9-19.8 Oz. **Assorted Varieties**



Depend

Underwear

14-20 Ct.

Assorted Varieties

3M

Bandages

10-60 Ct.

ssorted Varieties

Hartz Mountain Pig Ears 3 Ct.

Kodak Max Flash HO Camera



Hiland **Orange Juice** Gallon

Red Diamond Tea Gallon

Hunt's Ketchup 24 Oz.



Whole, Stewed & Diced

Hunt's **Tomatoes** 14.5 Oz.





Dinty Moore Beef Stew 24 Oz.





Hormel **Tamales** 15 Oz.



McCormick Chili Seasoning 1.25 Oz. Pouch



McCormick Ground Cinnamon 2.37 Oz.

ADVANTAGE 3/22/06 P4