The McLean News

ROUTE

1-806-779-2141 1-888-849-6599

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

Published Weekly Thursday, August 8, 2002

McLean Reminder

HUNTER SAFETY Class, August 23, 24. Ages 12 and up. Shamrock City Hall annex Friday, August 23 - 6 p.m., Saturday, August 24 - 8 a.m. Cost \$10.00. You must attend both days. Call 256-3522

PHYSICALS WILL be given on Thursday, August 8 at 6 p.m. in the High School Office for incoming Freshman, 6th graders or any other students who die Physicals will be free fo competing athletics in 2002-03. The form may be picked up fron Coach Smith or at the offic and must be completed an signed by the parent prior t getting the physical.

REGISTRATION FOR a parent-taugh preschool will be held August 26 from 5 pm. to t p.m. at the McLean Lovet Memorial Library. Children must be four years old before September 1 to enroll. The preschool will begin September 3 and will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. A basic preschool curriculum will be taught. The preschool is free but the students will be responsible for their own supplies. There will be a short meeting after the registration for those interested.

HIGH MCLEAN Pre-Registration will be Thursday, August 8th from 10:00 - 1:00 for Junior and Seniors and Friday, Aught from 10:00-1:00 Freshman and Sophomores, Registration School Building.

THE MCLEAN Chapter of A.A., N.A. and ALANON will meet on Tuesday night at 8:00 p.m. at the Trinity Baptist Church. Anyone from the area is welcome to attend.

A cross-country roadtrip and "Thanks" stopped in McLean the week of July 28th. The 2002 Tracbar Yankee Expedition is a group of European families







Registration the High French Group, Tracbar, Visits Area In Vintage CarsTo Say Thanks To Vets

A cross-country roadtrip traveling across America to thank American veterans for their contribution to the war in Europe in World War II. It contains a convoy of thirty World War II-era Citroen

cars. These classic cars were brought to Los Angeles on a ship, but the driver and passengers flew on planes.

They had previously See School Board, pg. 9

Identity Theft Seminar Well Received Locally

On July 23, 2002 at noon, the McLean Young at Heart Senior Citizen organization hosted an Identity Theft Seminar. Experts from the area were the guest speakers.

The Keynote speaker was Janna Kiehl. She is the Director of the Better Business Bureau Serving the Texas Panhandle speaking were Sgt. David Johnson from the Potter County Sheriff's Department, Richard Saxton, Postmaster of Amarillo, and Roxanne Amarillo.

Identity theft is on the rise and is a serious problem. Anyone could be a victim of this crime According to the Federal Trade Commission it takes fourteen months, on average, for a victim of identity theft to notice the crime. There are precautions that you can take to stop yourself from becoming a victim. First, be careful about what you causually throw into the trash. Can someone legally dig through your trash

looking for tasty credit card reciepts, account numbers, or your social security

number? The U.S. Supreme Court implies that the answer is yes. In the decision California Greenwood, they stated that the "expectation of privacy in trash left for collection in an area accessible to the public... is unreasonable." In other words, when you throw something in the trash, it is available to anyone willing to overlook the disgusting smells and textures of your trash can or shred? The answer is easy anything that has a signature, account number, social security number, or medical or legal information (plus credit offers). This could include, address labels from junk mail and magazines, ATM receipts, bank statements, canceled and voided checks, credit and charge card bills, carbon copies, summaries and receipts, credit reports and histories, driver's licenses or

See Seminar pg. 10

Board Approves Hiring Of Two New Teachers

The Independent School District Board of Education met for a Special meeting at 7:00 p.m. on August 1, 2002 Board members present were Mike Darsey, Joe Riley, Toni Bohlar, Neal Odom. Steve Bowlin and Ronnie Ferguson. Others present were Supt. Bob Dick Crockett, Leslie Darsey, and Ben Reeves.

Absent from the meeting was John Holland.

Mr. Downs reported the certified taxable values received from Gray County Appraisal District for \$104,791, 586. He was pleased with these figures and stated that it would give the school a few more dollars to work with.

Motion was made by

Mike Darsey, second by Ronnie Ferguson to hire Stephanie Moore as a Math teacher. Motion carried. Ms. Moore was a very qualified candidate. She has a 2 year certification and has taught at Arizona State. Mr. Downs expressed a need to hire another full time teacher to help with PE, to coach boy's basketball, and possibly teach Social Studies. Since the tax evaluations were up, there would be enough funds to hire someone for those duties. The Board agreed that if another teacher was necessary to help out in areas where some teachers were being overloaded, then they were in favor of hiring one that would fit the position. The Board's other

See Visitors, pg. 10

Baptists Hold Bible School

By Terri Adams
"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." Philippian This was just on the memory verse the children McLEan Vacation Bible School a

the First Baptist Church last week.

An average of 35 kids a day attended the weeklong walk up Faith Mountain which was the theme of the event.

Different "actors" from the church did a drama program. The children learned of Abraham and Joshua, Ruecons Joshua, Ruecons Music time learned of Abraham and Issac, Joshua, Rueben, and Jesus. Music time was also a favorite part of VBS, where the children learned to "Walk by FAith and not by Sight", and a new version of "Jesus Loves Me".

Me". Friday was Family Night. The week ended with the children doing a program of songs for friends and family. The abilden were also dren were certificates.

certificates.

All week long the children gave an offering which will go to the Ministerial Alliance. It will be given to the pastors at the next Fifth

Sunday Service by the children in attendance.

A drawing was held

for a girl prize and a boy prize. To be eligible, the child's name was put in a can for each night they attended

VBS. Saber Bohlar wor the girl's prize, was an Ex was an Extreme Adventure backpack. Extreme Adventure backpack. jacob Jones won the boys prize, which was a giant inflated goat from on top of Faith Mountain.

USDA -BURAL DEVELOPMENT HUD APARTMENTS FOR RENT 1-2-3 BEBROOMS FINANCIAL ASSISTANTS AVAILABLE CITY OF MCLEAN **HOUSING AUTHORITY** 711 NORTH WHEELER MCLEAN, TEXAS

[806] 779-2101 Monday - Thursday 7:15am - 8:45am





McLean High School Cheerleaders for 2002-2003 are Lindsay Ruiz, Danielle Dampier, Krista Smith and Chloe Smith. Not pictured are Jennifer Greer and Sandi Anderson.

McLean High Cheerleaders Attend Camp In Oklahoma

The McLean High School Cheerleaders and Mascot attended cheerleading camp on June 18-22, 2002. The camp was held at the Oklahoma Panhandle State University and was sponsored by the National Cheerleaders Association: Twenty squads from various locations were involved in the competition

The McLean High School cheerleaders are Danielle Dampier, Junior, Jennifer Greer, Junior, Lindsey Ruiz, Freshman, Chloe' Smith, Sophomore; Krista Smith, Freshman; and Sandi Anderson, Mascot, Junior.

The squad went through eight evaluations and won the highest honor in all eight evaluations, a "Superior" ribbon. The team also "Spirit received three Sticks." A Spirit Stick is awarded to the squad which exemplifies the best spirit on any given day, as determined by the staff. The squad brought home one of the spirit sticks on the last day.

Individually, Sandi Anderson and Danielle Dampier earned awards. School mascots undergo one evaluation Sandi Anderson received a Superior Ribbon and a certificate noting that achievement. She received an award for "Best Props Artist" and a spirit stick Danielle Dampier was nominated as an All American Cheerleader for her jumps and also received certificate for that accomplishment.

Congratulations to the McLean High School Cheerleaders for their hard work and dedication and accomplishments!



Sandi Anderson and Danielle Dampier were happy with their performance at camp, earning several ho awards while representing McLean High School.

McLean Church Directory

Church of Christ 4th & Clarendon

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

First Assembly of God 4th & Main

St Assembly of Octo 4th o mails.

Pastor Dean Williamson 779-2221

Sunday School - All Ages 9:30 am
ing Worship 10:45 Children's Church 11:15

Sunday Evening 7:00

Wednesday Family Night 7:00 p.m.

Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study

2 Home Bible Studies

First Baptist Church 206 E. 1st Brian Quisenberry, Pastor 779-2175 Sunday School 9:45; Worship 11 am & 7pm (Youth) & Wed. Bible Study, Prayer Meeting 7 pm

United Methodist Church 2nd & Gray Pastor Thacker Haynes 779-2049 & 779-2337 inday 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

Trinity Baptist Church 603 Commerce
Pastor Larry Perkins 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 C 779-2456 or 779-2965 779-2456 or 779-2965 unday Evening Worship - 7:00 p.n ildren's Church, Sunday - 7:00 p.n

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Lovett Memorial Library News

Tuesday, August 6 --The Library will close at 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday, August 7 & 8 -- The Library will be closed

Tuesday, August 13 --The Library will close at 12 noon.

A book has been placed in the Library by Dorothy Sitter Foster in memory of Janie Cummings The book is titled Janie's Courage written by Inez Cummings Mr Cummings was a former superintendent of McLean

Basketball Camp Held For Athletes

participated Basketball Camp conducted from July 22 - 25, 2002. The age groups included last kindergartner's through the fifth grade Coach Andy Simpson emphasized the fundamental elements of basketball. They concentrated on shooting; passing, and dribbling

- The assistant coaches for

the participants. He divided the group into five teams and had them compete against one another

Coach Simpson said, "I was excited about these kids I saw definite improvement I really appreciate the parents' participation."

The new basketball season will begin in March



Cutter Anderson won a special Spiderman bicycle in a a drawing sponsored by Taylor Food Mart in McLean Left to Right. Cutter Anderson, Linda Syfrett, Store Manager

School Board

another certified teacher

. The question was brought up whether the District could give the five employees back their full salaries which had been cut Mr. Downs recently explained they could either hire the extra teacher needed or replace the salary cuts but not both. The Board authorized Mr. Downs to hire the teacher, motion by Neal Odom, second by Toni Bohlar. Motion carried.

The picnic was discussed briefly and will be held on August 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Neal Odom's to show the Board's appreciation of all the staff at McLean ISD.

Motion by Neal Odom, second by Mike Darsey to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried

Country Corner Texaco

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Chicken Fried Steak Banana Pudding

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McLean ISD School Supplies

Kindergarten: small bottle of elmers

glue #2 pencils

glue sticks

arge box of Kleener

Box of 8 crayons - basic colors

Pocket folder

Old shirt to paint

Supply box

1st Grade #2 pencils Glue sticks

box of 8 crayons

box of 16 or 24 crayons

Fiskars school scissor Blue pocket folder with

folder with pockets

school box small (no art cases)

Backpacks not necessary

2nd Grade

boxes of Kleenex (1 is for Music)

pair of pointed scisso

Box of Cravons

Map colors (colored pencils)

glue sticks

large white liquid glue

red grading pencils Wide rule notebook pape (no college rule)

package of #2 yellow

pocket folders -plain with brads (I yellow, I light green, 1 light blue)
4 pocket folders -plain
without brads (2 dark

green, 2 dark blue) large plastic supply box

(the plastic shoe box at Walmart for 88 cents

works great)

large pink erasers

large wide rule spirals (no college rule)

No ink pens, markers, or mechanical pencils, please (It is okay if the colors on the folders vary a little)

3rd Grade

boxes of kleenex

pair of scissors box of Crayons

bbox Map colors

pack of Markers

glue sticks

liquid glue

red grading pencils Wide rule notebook paper spiral notebook

pocket folders with brads

pkg. #2 pencils

large ziplock bag Ruler with inches and centimeters

4th Grade

Wide rule notebook paper Wide rule spiral notebook

pocket folders Box of Crayons

#2 pencils

pack of Colored pencils1 Glue

Highlighters

Ruler

Pointed scissors

Box to hold supplies

boxes of Kleenex No binders or notebooks

Koetting Construction

Remodeling House Levelling Brick & Stone Work New Construction

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Pampa Office Hours

Wednesday, 9-5 pm

100 W. 30th Ave , Suite 107

2 red grading pens or pencils

Map color pencil set

Box of Crayons Markers (optional)

yellow highlighters

pkgs of notebook paper

boxes of Kleenex

pair scissors

bottle of glue

school supply box

folders

6th Grade

Notebook paper, wide rule Notebook

folders

White glue

spiral notebook

pkg. of thin tipped colored markers

highlighters

pack of Map pencils

gum-type eraser 2 red pens for grading

7th Grade

Notebook paper (enough for the entire year)

1 packColored pencils

pack Highlighters #2 pencils (lead & mechanical; enough for the

2 2" notebooks with clear

view covers

entire year)

2 2" spiral subject notebooks

3 gum erasers pocket folders

boxes Kleenex

Compass

1 Protractor

Ruler

Ziplock-type bags (5 quart size: 2 gallon s Ballpoint pens

Scissors

Visitors

stopped in Amarillo at the VA Hospital where they presented the veterans with medallions and certificates of appreciation.

Jean Guyon, one of the travelers, said, "Without Americans coming into France, we don't know where we would be today."

Dorothy Magee, museum volunteer, opened McLean-Alanreed Musuem on a Sunday to accomodate some of these special travelers. Monday, two Frenchmen, Jean Guyon and Marcel Kerbourch stopped and admired the artifacts in the

The trip will end in New York City on August 8, 2002

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McLean Care Center BBQ Held Recently

The McLean Care Center held their annual BBQ Saturday, July 27. The guests were welcomed by the new administrator, Billy Ray Johnston. After the blessing, said by Mary Dwyer, the meal was served. As usual, the kitchen prepared a wonderful meal. The guests brought ice cream and fantastic desserts.

Two tickets were drawn from the raffle tickets by two young guests for the quilt and painting. Bill Gething won the quilt and Evelyn Thompson won the painting by Catherine Weaver. We appreciate everyone's

participation in this dinner.

Vegetables and fruit are coming off and some of our gracious friends are blessing home with fresh produce

Political Calendar

The Groom-McLean News sorized to present the names following candidates minuscue to present use failure or office, subject to the Elections to be held on Nov. 5, 2002. a fee of \$35.00 has been paid by each candidate for listing in this column from now till they are eleminated by the Primary election or the final election in November.

DEMOCRAT

For Carson County Justice of the Peace Bill Hinson

For Carson County Jeannie Cunningham

For Carson County Clerk & District Clerk Celeste Bichsel

REPUBLICAN

For Carson County Judge Lewis Powers

For Gray County Clerk Susan Winborne

For Gray County James Hefley

For Gray County Inspector Of Hides and Bill Reeves

Seminar

items with a driver's license number, employee pay stubs, pre-approved credit card applications, and utility (telephone, oills (telephone, gas, electric, water, cable TV, Internet). A good rule of thumb would be to shred all documents. Shredders are relatively inexpensive today worth the and are investment. Are you already a victim

of identity theft? If you have received a phone call or letter telling you that you have been approved or denied credit for accounts that you never requested, you no longer are receiving your credit card statements or you notice that some of your mail seems to be missing, or your credit card statement includes charges for things you know you never bought or a collection agency tells you they are collecting for an account you never opened, then someone may have stolen your identity. A local McLean resident related that he has been receiving statements from a major discount outlet for an account which he never opened. The charges have appeared from a town he has never visited. Ms. Kiehl and Mr. Saxton suggested that someone may have taken a pre-approved credit card letter from

his mailbox and used that to open an account in his name Sgt. Johnson indicated that identity theft is prolific even in the prison system where inmates have access to the internet via computers. With assistance from friends on the outside, they can perpetrate scams from within the prison walls.

If you believe that illegal activity has taken place you should: (1) Get a copy of your credit report. (2)

Contact each company where you think you might have been a victim. Talk to their security or fraud department and explain what has happened (3) If someone is using checks they've stolen from you or has set up a bank account in your name, contact the major check verification companies. (4) Document all contacts. Make notes of everyone you speak with; ask for names, department names, phone extensions; record the date you spoke to them. (5) File a report with your local police or the police where the identity theft took place. Get copy of the report in case the bank, credit card company, or others need proof of the crime later on. (6) File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission. Their toll-free number is 1-877-ID-THEFT (438-4338)

The McLean Young at Heart thanks those who attended this excellent 2hour presentation. There were fifty-two people in attendance. Dan Fish and Ryan Swanson set up the sound system for the event. The delicious luncheon was provided the Young at Heart group. Lynn Swanson says that The Young at Heart organization plans to have special programs of interest to the community every three months.

Family Reading **Night Winners**

Jim, Debbie, Sam, and Mike Krueger enjoyed a picnic, an evening of fishing, and paddle boating at a game ranch near Clarendon, Texas. The Krueger family won the trip when their name was chosen during a drawing at Family Reading Night last May. John and Freda Holland and Bud and Betty White were the hosts for the evening.



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Wedding Stories are printed FREE up to \$00 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 throughly check out any offer before making a commitment or give out personal information.

TRAILER HOUSE For Rent, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, fenced yard. \$200 deposit, \$250 g month rent. Call 248-7044

NEEDED FULL-tin cook 7 dishwasher. Call Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude, 226-5121 ask for Caroline.

NEEDED ACTIVITY Assistant, approximately 30 hours a week. Palo Duro Nursing Home, Claude, 226-5121.

NEED HELP? House cleaning, meal preparation, Home Fiealth Aid, Call Lavern, 248-

WINDSHIELD CHIP windshield replaced. Call (806) 256-2276. Also, wheel-alignment at Wollards Garage, 1109 N. Wall, Shamrock. Call Jackie at (806) 256-2461

GROOM ISD accepting applications for an instructional assistant to manage 3- and 4-year old child center. Apply Kevin Noack, Groom Kevin Noack, Groom ISD, 304 W. Third St.-Groom, Texas, 79039-0598, Tel 806.248.7557.

Groom ISD is accepting bids on the following supplies following supplies for 2002-2003 School year 2002-2003 School yellowed diesel fuel delivered pump to vehicle tank; brad supplies and milk (by the half-pint (by the half-pint individual servings in homogenized and low-fat milk and chocolate milk) delivered to the School delivered to the School Food Services Division located at 304 W. Third Street, Groom, TX 79039-0598. Bids and Street, 79039-0598. Bids should inquiries should be addressed to the Groom Independent School District at the above address, telephone 806.248.7557.

FOR SALE: House at 211 Broadway in Groom, TX. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, den, utility room, pantry, etc. Call Marshall Sherwood, Attorney at Law in Panhandle, Texas on Mon. Tues. Thurs. & Fri. at 537-3591. Call me at Groom, Texas, in my office on wed. at 248-7220.

FOR SALE: 14 x 80 FOR SALE: 14 x 80
Trailer de 2 lots, \$5,500
Located at 211
Bosen or call 248-0139
ask for Patcine.

ACCEPTING BIDS

The City of Groom will be accepting sealed bids on the property located at: 98 Broadway, lots 22-24, block 1, OT-

This property includes all the building from Broadway St. to the alley-which includes the alley-which includes the building formerly known as: the Witt building—the Old Clinic Building and Pharmacy, and Vivians. The building has three tenants at the time. The winning bidder must agree to honor the contracts City has with

City has with these tenants.

The City of Groom will also be accepting sealed bids on the following surplus equipment: (each lot is to be bid separately)

1) 2 electric motes:

1-75 Hp motor, 1-25Hp motor-both are 3 phase.
2) 430 foot of 6"

well casing & bolles.
3) Trailer mounted spray fig with 2-4 foot booms, 5 Hp motor & 2 handguns.

Anyone wishing to inspect the property will need to call City Hall at

248-7929 and make arrangements with the City Secretary for an tour. The inspection tour. The surplus property will be displayed at the city Barn located at the north end of the alley behind City

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive all bids and to waive informalities in the bidding. In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness, the Owner reserves the right to adopt suck interpretations. as may be most advantageous. Submit bids to Groom C., P.O. Box 217, 203 P.O. Box Groom, Texas must be Broadway, Groom, Texas 79039. Bids must be submitted by close of business on Friday, Aug. 2002. The bid held opening will be held during the regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2002 in City Hall. PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technology (Vocational)

Educational Programs 1. The Groom Independent School District offers career and District offers career and technology eduction program in Microcomputer Applications, Cisco Cisco Applications, Cisco Operations Systems, and Webmastering, Multimedia, and Desktop Publishing. Admission to this program is based on grade level, prerequisite el, prerequisite and class courses

availability.

2 It is the policy of the Groom Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in vocational program, services or activities as required by Title VI or the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 4972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of Act of 1973, as amended.

Groom Independent Call 806-24 School District not to 806-676-6503.

discriminate on the basis of race color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in it's employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act the 1973, as amended

The Groom lent School Independent District will take steps to assure the lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to a d m i s s i o n a n d participation in all participation in all educational and vocational programs.

programs.

5. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator/SEction 504 Coordinator Kevin Noack at P.O. Box 598, Groom, Taxes, 20020 Texas. 79039

HOME FOR SALE in Groom, 2 story home with basement, 3 bed, 1 organical and out. The state of the paint inside and out. The paint in

Thursday, August 8, 2002-THE GROOM NEWS-Page 11 HELP WANTED

McLean Care Center is in need of LVNs and CNAs. Please call Cindy at 779-

HOUSE FOR RENT 3 bedroom, with large living Room, huge front porch, 2 miles south of McLean on FM 3143. Call 918-633-7451 or 918-224-4043.

HOUSE FOR SALE: 2/1, propane tank, water well, about 1 acre, 9 miles north of McLean. 806-856-3137.

FOR SALE: Piano, Story & Clark Cabinet, newly completely restrung with Baldwin strings and stops. Shown by appointment only. 806-

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The Grandview-Hopkins Independent School District is accapplications for accepting driver. This position will offer a health insurance other benefits. If you are interested, please call 669-3831 for an

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August 4, 2002

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AUCTIONS

ABSOLUTE AUCTION: THE WOODLANDS, TX. Premier Home 1-800-558-5464. J.P. King Auction Co., Texas Ltd. W. Scott Swenson, Broker 80425652; J. Craig King Auc. #6960.

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POWERED WHEELCHAIRS FOR senior citizens 65 and older and the permanently disabled at no cost to the recipient, if they qualify, by calling R & A Medical, LLC, 1-800-468-5396.

Medical, LLC, 1-800-468-5396.

WOMEN ON HORMONES - Premarin, Prem or Prempro - these drugs may cause breast cancer, heart attack, death, stroke and blood clots. Confidential consultation. Grossman & Waldman, 1-800-873-480. 1-800-833-9121

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a medical biller. No experience needed. Computer
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cars, vans and R.V's, locally or nationwide. 18 years
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REAL ESTATE

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High fence game ranch liquidation. 150-180 B+C
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1-866-516-4868.

COMING VERY SOON. 100 acres - \$44,900. Trophy whitetails (5-deer limit), tree covered hills and draws, turkey, quail, small game, good water access. Other acreage available. E2 terms. call to arrange early appointment. Also available: 200 acres for \$87,900; 300 acres for \$129,900. Call Texas Land & Ranches, 1-866-899-5263.

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HIGH FENCE RANCH Liquidation - Acreage
available - \$29,900. Direct deeded access to
game preserve. Trophy Whitetail, exotics, fishing. Great recreational opportunity. Fisancing
available. Texas Land and Ranches. 1-886-

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LAKE LOT AND horse privileges. 12 acres - lake access w/boat launch, \$29,900. Beautiful parcel w/deeded private lake access. Gorgoous sunsy meadows adjacent to very private deep and clean 260 acre lake. One horse per 2 acres. Financing. Call Texas Land & Ranches, 1-888-676-5253. 676-5253

LAND BARGAIN: BEAUTIFUL N.E. Texas piney wood acreage. Private lake and horse stables. As low as \$24,900. Call Texas Land and Lakes, 1-800-707-8988.

Lakes, 1-800-707-8988.

NEW MEXICO MOUNTAINS. 140 Acres ONLY \$39,900, Gorgeous grasslands, mature tree cover, 6,500° elevation, snow-capped mountain views, year-round roads, nearby electric. Perfect for horse lowers. Great hunting property, adjacent to national forest. Excellent financing, Call today, SW Properties of NM, Inc., 1-866-350-5263.

RANCH SALE - 35 acres 559,900. Magnificent Colorado ranch at 8,000° elevation. Mix of meadows with spring-fed ponds, aspen and pines. Stunning views. Nearby Telluride. Good terms. Call Colorado Land & Ranches, 1-866-335-4809.

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EACH 100 G2 Gel Pen BIC MEDIUM BLACK OR BLUE
Cristal Pens 19 PACK 100 Pencil Sharpener 2 51 Mechanical Pencils ... set. 100

24 CT. 1 19 2.51 WESTERN FAMILY 2 CT. PB OR 7 COUNT COMBO PACK Erasers.... 2 S 1 Protractor. 2 5 1

Kiddy Scissors Plastic Compass 2 5 1 Paper Clips... 2 5 1 OR 100 CT. YMYL
Thumb Tacks. 2 S 1

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Grocery Specials

Creme Cookies 202 MG. 199 GENERAL MILLS 15 OZ Cheerios 2,14 GENERAL MILLS 15.25 OZ. 2.34 Honey Nut Chex GENERAL MILLS 18 CZ. Wheaties HONEY BOY 14.7 OZ CAN Pink Salmon Ranch Style Beans

Non-Foods

Paper Napkins 120 CT. 69¢ 3 FOR 1 Dog Food 2,55 Xtra Liquid RIGINAL OR MITH SCENT 128 OZ. BTL. 2,55 Nice'n Fluffy.... Clothes Hangers

Frozen Foods Pot Pies SANGUET MOZZARELLA 125 0Z 299
Cheese Nuggets 299



Chuck Roast 169	Ground Chuck 189
Pork Chops Preferred Ten Booken Centr Cut	Pork Roast 779
Hillshire : Smoked Sausage	Boncless Center Cut \$279
SWIFT PREMIUM BROWN'N SERVE Links or Patties	70z 99¢
Sausage 'N Biscuits	
Sliced Ham	239
Bacon	12 02 1 79
EL MONTEREY FAMILY PACK CHIMICHAE BURRITOS	INGAS OR 40 0Z 249
Longhorn Chedder	249





GROOM S & H GROCERY PRICES EFFECTIVE

August 3 - August 13
Not all items available at all stores
We reserve the right to limit quantities
Not responsible for pictorial or typographic errors.
We accept WIC, Credit Cards
& Lone Star Cards





The Groom Rews

50¢

Volume 76 Number 7

The Groom-McLean News 79039

Thursday, August 8, 2002

Community Calendar

GROOM SCHOOL will have registration on August 15. New students & elementary register at 1:00 pm. Junior High and High School register at 2:00.

GROOM ISD will begin it's fall semester on Aug. 19. The first holiday will be on Monday September 2!

GROOM DAY meat is available at Circle E Meat Co. Call 248-7332.

THE GROOM Library is open Monday-Thursday from 1:30pm to 5:30pm and Friday 9:00am to

Needed bowlers for romen's non-smoking women's non-smooth league. Morning weekly league. Mornin for 33 weeks. info, call Kathy Williams

NEED SCHOOL SUPPLIES? Grocery SUPPLIES? Groom
Groom's 100° birthday everything on your list. was everything a Centennial Check them out! Shop party should be Lots of at home!

GROOM DAY LOST &

FOUND
Found at Park
Size 1 1/2 Cybernet
Tennis Shoes Blue &
White; Blue & White
Skate Tennis Shoes no
size; Blue Nike Flip
Flops size 9 or 10; Jay
Jay the Plane small
childs flip flops; blue &
green umbrella.
Found at the Legion

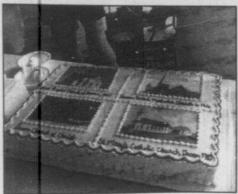
Found at the Legion Black & Red Canvas Chair.

Call 248-7018 after 6:00 to claim. Michele Bohr.

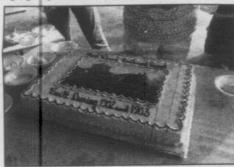
Monday Prices At **Attebury Grain** Co.

Wheat.....\$3.49 Milo......\$3.92 Corn......\$4.31 Soybeans...\$4.77 Sunflowers. \$9.50 A trace of moisture fell in the area this week.

Groom Centennial Golden!



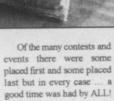
Birthday cakes with historical sites in Groom were the highlight of the birthday party.



party should be. Lots of delicious food, fabulous fireworks and games, and wonderful reminiscing and memories were the order of the day. Approximately 800 people attended the events that began on Wed. The Community Museum was a terrific success that drew people all day long. Those who attended enjoyed looking at old pictures and treasures from days gone by. Many events were recalled as each exhibit sparked a new memory. This is definitely an event that should be brought back.

The fireworks were a huge hit with all ages and the entertainment was very moving. The birthday cakes will talked about for years to come. They were decorated with computer generated pictures of historical sites in Groom. The committee did a wonderful job of bringing the theme of American & Proud and the 100th Birthday





Tennis Tourney - 5th Grade Boys Singles: 1st Tyler Case, 2nd Trevor Friemel.7th & 8 Grade Boys: 1st Thane Barkley, 2nd Koetting, 3rd Chad Barkley.

7th & 8th Grade Girls: 1st Karla Howard, 2nd Kecia Howard.

7th and 8 Grade See Groom Day, pg. 6



The Museum was like a giant family scrapbook... a little of this... a little of that and a whole lot great memories!



The Broom News

USPS 230-380
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Groom Editor-Donna Burton
McLean Editor-Ella Mae Reyna

master: please send address changes to: Box 460, Groom, Tx 79039-0460

SUBSCRIPTION RATES; Annual Rate Carson County \$20.00 Annual Rate elsewhere in the United States \$22.00 Phone 806-248-7333

Groom Church Directory

Groom Church of Christ Delton McGuire, Minister

248-7271
Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Bible Class, Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Bible Class, Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

R & L Fuel

GROOM, TX. 248-7586 OIL CHANGE SPECIAL

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 competiti ces. We have also started washing cars ago CALL OR COME BY FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Local Happenings

Visitors in the home of Bill and Norma Jean Homer last weekend were Daniel and Mary Jo Schacher, Brittney, Jacob, Kinzi & Justin of Lazbuddie.

Saturday, Bill, Daniel, Doug Kling, Buddy Weller, Jacob and Justin attended the Bull riding

attended the in Amarillo.
Sunday they all attended the Urbanczyk Reunion at T Park in Amarillo.

Class of '42 Celebrates 60th Year

Groom High Class of 1942 Groom School met at the home of Art Britten Friday evening, August 2nd, for a Britten Friday evening.
August 2nd, for a sandwich supper and visitation, and Saturday, Aug 3 to ride a float in the parade and eat barbecue together. This marked sixty years since graduation. Those attending one or both events were: Bill and Vernice (Long) Dillion of attending one or both events were: Bill and Vernice (Long) Dillion of Amarillo, TX; Perry Poteau, OK; Harold and Narcesia (Cramer) Baker of monroe, LA; Ted Major of Lubbock, TX and Art and JoAnn Britten of Groom.

BRITTEN

HOLDS REUNION
The family of Bernard
and Josephine Britten met
at the Community Center last S annual Sunday for their reunion. delicious meal of fried chicken, ham and the trimmings were enjoyed by J.O. and T.J. Barclay

of Vega; Judy Sage & Zach of Seminole; Sherri & Danny Wilhelm; Keith, Katie & Kara, Kathy, & Wayne Kathy, & Wayne Stoerner; Kaci Cooper; Madison Britten; Terry Britten; Sara & Cade Linquest all of Amarillo. Nelson Teresa; Brad & Tiffany Britten; James & Linda D Erma Britten: all of White Deer. Man, Cindy Hallie, Bryan, Cindy Hallie, Britten of Jeanie Matthew Britten of Kansas City; Jeanie Noggler, Rebecca & Cody from Bushland; Denny And Gaynell Babcock, Linday, Karah, Cody from Bushland; Denny And Gaynell Babcock, Linday, Karah, and Jerod; Janice & Donnie William & Jeffery from Canyon. Andy Schaefer, Jenny, Jessica and Alleyson of Mesquite, TX; Stephanie Davis of Minneapolis. Attending from Groom

Davis of Minneapolis.

Attending from Groom were A.J. & Leona Newsom; Jiggs and Janie Britten; Tom & Doris Britten; Tomy, Wamyth, Sherri & Karri Britten; Ray & Alice Britten; Ray & Alice Britten; Hop, Jan, Katy, and Brody Britten, Dustin & Buck Babcock; Clint and Kim Babcock; Clint and Kim Babcock; Gary, Cindy, Marcie, Cody & Tyler Babcock; Bunny York; Mark & Tammy Bivens, Cody & Megan; and Jessica Bates.

Groom Birthdays

Groom Birthdays & Anniversaries

Gary August 8 August 8 - Gary Britten, Craig Baker, Ben Weinheimer, Mr. & Mrs. Armando Medellin (A). August 9 - Mary Hutsell, Joseph Asher. August 10 - Ada Lou

Durham, Austin Cole Friemel, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Stephens (A).

August 11 - Mrs.
Dale Brooks, Ruby
Denton, Judy Babcock,
Evan Crowell, Jonathan
Shane Robinson.
August 12 - Daniel
Treadwell, Mr. and Mrs.
Willis Gray (A), Mr. and
Mrs. Gordon W. Schaffer
(A).

(A).

August 13 -August 14 - Christopher Burger, Rebecca England Britten,



1-800-764-7661 (1-800-POISON-1)

248-7531

EMERGENCY 9-1-1



Jackson - Britten To Wed

Barbara Fred and Barbara Neuman of Tomball, Texas and the Late Kenneth Jack along with James and Peggy Crow James and Peggy Crow of Panhandle and Melanie and Jerry Britten of Groom are pleased to Groom are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Jennifer Anne Jackson of Tomball, Texas to Dr. Jeremy B. Britten of Pearland, Texas.

The wedding has been set for November 30, 2002 at the St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Amarillo.

The bride-to-be attended Spring High

attended Spring High School in Spring, Texas.

She graduated from the Texas Woman's University in Houston with a Bachelor's Degree Woman's in Science and majored in Nursing.

in Nursing.

The prospective groom graduated from Panhandle High School in Panhandle. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from West Texas A & M University with a double Bachelor Of Science Bachelor Or majoring Bachelor Of Science degree, majoring in B i o l o g y a n d Biochemistry. He also graduated with honors from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center - Houston Medical School.



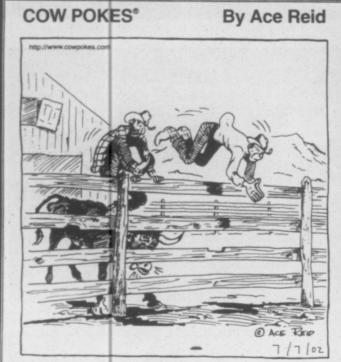
Nix Celebrates 90th **Birthday With Party**

Cleo Nix was honored with a 90th birthday party Saturday in her home in Groom. Cleo was born 6 miles north of Groom in 1912. In 1915, her family moved into Groom and she has

never lived anywhere else.

At the present time Cleo has 5 generations still at Groom and 4 generations have all been graduates of Groom High School.

Many friends, grandchildren, great grandchildren and greatgreat grandchildren, family, nieces and nephews came Amarillo, Fritch, Bedford, Willington, Lubbock, Pampa and Groom for Pampa and Groom for the celebration. Cleo's sister Virgie Vance of Oklahoma City, and her, brother Orville Franklin and his wife Mae Louise of Pampa also helped her of Pampa also helped her celebrate



"If that ol' renegade steer thinks he's got a right to privacy, I ain't gonna be the one to argue with him!"

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Erma Britten;
Cooper; Linda Paul;
Tyler Paul all of White
Deer. Max, Courtney
Hallie, Bryan, Cindy &
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City; Jeanie Hallie, Bryan, Cindy & Matthew Britten of Kansas City; Jeanie Noggler, Rebecca & Cody from Bushland; Denny And Gaynell Babcock, Linday, Karah, and Jerod; Janice & Donnie William & Leffent form Canada and Amatter forms. Jeffery from Canyon. Andy Schaefer, Jenny,

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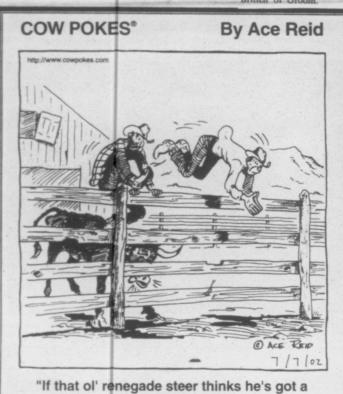


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THE STATE NATIONAL BANK

Groom, Texas

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Groom Day Highlights



The BBQ was well attended and njoyed by everyone. As usual, the food was





The children's track meet is always a highlight! A brief shower didn't dampen these youngsters spirits.

In getting rady for Groom Day, (see picture on left) we had an old fashioned cattle drive down. Old Route 66. Cowboys were preparing for the Ranch Rodeo and needed to move some cattle. It all went fine, except for one little black steer who wanted to stop off at Alisup's for cool one!

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The GROOM ISD will fiold a public meeting at 8:00 PM, August 29, 2002 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 neeting 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	\$0.110000 * \$1.610000	\$5,723	\$2,586	
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1.762511	\$0.109337 \$1.871848	\$6,599	\$1,662	
Proposed Rate	\$1,500000	\$0.109337 . \$1.609337	\$5,769	\$1,596	

ed to pay for bonded indebtedress on construction, equose bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

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

시계점 (등) 전문 전문화 (등) 이 사이를 보여 하는 사람들이 아이 사용했다. 전기생활	Last Year	This real
Average Market Value of Residences	\$31,484	\$32,520
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$16,484	\$17,520
	\$1.610000	\$1.609337
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$265.39	\$281.96
Taxes Due on Average Residence		\$16.57
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		

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 fax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.931848. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.931848.

Fund Balances

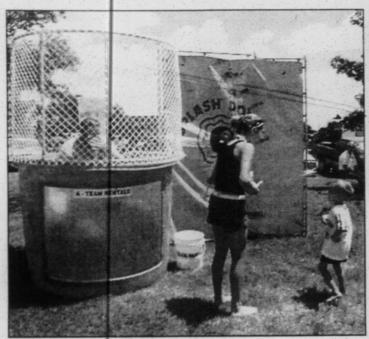
remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by stimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first The following estimated balances was a corresponding debt obligation, less



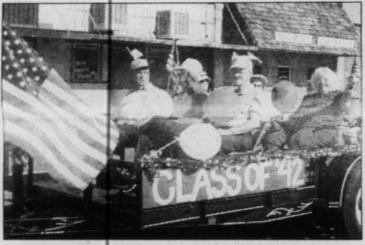
Bob Pool looks over faces of former Masonic Lodge



Pam Ashford has her hands full of fun with giant



Kevin Noack "bails in" to help out the Groom Cheerleaders dunking booth. Apparently there were more kids that wanted to see him "all wet" than dunking the pretty cheerleaders. Thanks for being a good sport, Kevin! The little boy with the big aim is Britian Simpson.



The Class of 1942 celebrated their 60th by getting together and riding a float in the

Texas Is Number One in Job Growth

While the nation, as whole, lost jobs during the first half of the year, the U Bureau of Labor Statisti reported that Texas had a net gain of 27,300 jobs. Of the ten largest states, only Texas and California have added employment over the past six months. Texas added almost eight times many jobs as California during this time period.

Co. Court Sets Tax Rate

The Carson County Commissioners met on July 29, 2002 with the following present: Judge Lewis Powers, Commissioners Mike Britten, Kenneth Ware, Jerry Strawn, and KEvin Howell Howell.
Minutes of the

previous meeting were read and approved. Department heads and

the court convened for a

workshop for the 2002-2003 budget. Due to a projected shortfall in tax revenue, commissioners revenue, commissioners were asking for cuts where possible. Around \$83,000 was cut or moved. All salary increases were denied except the maintenance personnel. That position was increased to a level 25C income after that General Fund - 284584 Lateral Road -.043467 Special Road/Bridge .065981

Total Tax Rate

The court will meet again on Aug 29, 2002 to adopt the 2002-2003 budget and set the effective tax rate. The next, regular meeting is scheduled for Aug. 12, 2002 2002 area was revamped to

area was revamped to combine personnel and contract lawn cars, creating a \$9,000 reduction in that budget. Tax Assessor-Collector Barbara Cosper presented the proposed 2002-2003



The Class of 1982 hasn't lost their affinity for fun! than their share during this float ride.



Decorating your bike and riding in the parade is generation. These youngsters were having the time of



Standing in line isn't so bad when you have the opportunity to visit with friends and acquaintances that you may not have seen in a while! And when at the end you know you will get the most delicious BBQ you ever put in your mouth!

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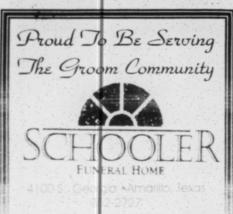
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Carson Co. Sheriff's Report

There were 10 persons booked into the Carson County Jail during the week of July 22 through July 28, 2002. Currently week of July 22 through July 28, 2002. Currently there are 10 persons incarcerated in this jail and an additional 11 prisoners being held in other jurisdictions. Persons listed are charged with criminal activity, but are not necessarily convicted. are no convicted.

Arrests made this

eek: Kenneth Lovejoy, 22, Texas: of Amarillo, Texas: Probation Revocation on Burglary of a Habitation. Forrest Gardiner, 34, of Panhandle: Harboring a

Runaway.

Fryrear, 57, of Cecil Fritch: Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

Lacy Kotara, 21, of Panhandle: Theft greater that @2500 but less than \$20,000.

\$20,000. Christopher Kitts, 31, Kinston, TN: False report to a Peace Officer & Possession of Drug

Paraphernalia.
Kent Kerbo, 33,
Clarendon, TX: Fail to
Appear on Possession of controlled substance Warrants -Randall

County. Garrison, 45, Public Borger, TX:

Intoxication

Raymond Moore, 25. Raymond Moore, 25, Borger, TX: Driving While Intoxicated, 1st & Possession of Marijuana less than 2 oz. Jason Watkins, 30, of White Deer: Public Intoxication & Theft Less than \$50.

than \$50. Scott Maxwell, 27,

Panhandle, Tx: Assault

into the jail during the week of July 29-Aug 4.

Marshall Sherwood

Attorney At Law Practicing Civil Law in Groom

Office Hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Wednesday's Only

248-7220 No Appointment Necessary

Stop by and see me! Business or just visiting. I do estate planning, living trusts, wills, probate, real estate,

partnerships and all law except di

Currently there are 12 person incarcerted in this jail and 9 prisioners person incarcerted in this jail and 9 prisioners being held in other jurisdeictions. While this department has not taken department has not taken reports there are rumors that we have traveling Con artists in the area. Be very cautious when dealing eith someone not located locally.

Arrests made: Franisco Mendoza, 43, of Pampa, Pampa PD warrent.

intent to deliver less than 400 grm. Possession of Controlled Substance with intent to deliver less than 28 grm. Posssession of Marijuana less than 2

grm. William Alexander, 29, Burnsvill, MN, money

Thursday, August 8, 2002-THE GROOM NEWS-Page 5

laundering more than \$3,000 but less than \$3,000 \$20,000.

JIM DAVIDSON Century 21 Pampa Realty, Inc. Business 669-0007 Home 669-1863



Ken Ruthardt Is Promoted To Major

Ken Ruthardt, son of Ken Ruthardt, son of Louis and Judy Ruthardt, was promoted to Major in the United States Air Force on July 1, 2002. Ken was promoted in the top 20 percent of his year group and is a candidate to attend Air College. A promotion ceremony was conducted at Barksdale Air Force at Barksdale Air Force
Base in Bossier City,
Louisiana on June 28.
Family attending the
ceremony include his
wife, Missy and daughter,
Taylor. Out of town
guests included Louis and

Judy Ruthardt, Bess Ruthardt, and Almeta and Dwain Currie. Ken and his family recently his family recently relocated to Hampton, Virginia where he is assigned to the Air Combat Command Inspection Team at Langley Air Force Base.



Groom Day

Doubles: Karla Howard and Thane Barkley, 2nd Kecis Howard and Chad Barkley

7th Grade Doubles: "1 Seth Koetting and Trevor Friemel, 2nd Tyler Case & Shandy Koetting.

High School Girls Singles 1st Mallory Homen, 2nd Katy Britten.

J.V. Boys: 1st Brandon Jenkins. 2nd Katy Britten.

Women's Singles: 1"
Sandie Conrad, 2nd Brin Burgin, 3rd (tie) Karen Fields, Lainie Britten

Men's Singles: 1" Tim place Randy Case, 2nd Broom.

Women's Doubles: 1" Nila Burgin & Brin Burgin, 2nd Michelle Bohr, Candace Bohr and Karen Fields., 3rd (tied) Sandie Conrad & Mallory Homen and Kim Richardson & Katy Britten.

Volleyball Results: The Cornett Team won the meet

Soft Ball Tournament: West Texas Gas Team lead by Robert Miller won the

series. 2nd was the Firestone team starting the Britten Boys (Gary Britten coaching) 3rd was the Shockers with Josh Crooks.

The baseball games were conducted with the help of Russell Lewellen and Bruce

At the Ranch Rodeo the I Bar Ranch of Goodnight won the event. Members were Steve Shaller, David

Shaller, Cody Grave, Ryan Burns and an unidentified member. 2nd place was the Ranch of Rafter S Clarendon. 3rd was the Ranch of Alanreed.

The top hand was Tim Mansfield for the Chris Britten Cattle Company.

Top Horse was owned by Duane Adcock of the Lazy 11 Ranch of Miami.

Parade Results: Groom S & H Grocery won the parade with their float depicting the ownership of the grocery store. Former and current owners and employees rode the float.

Kenneth Ware with the "Flag Pick-Up" placed 2nd and the GHS Student Body placed 3rd.

Raffle Results: Betty Housley won the \$600 trip raffle and Shirley Ann Fields on the afgan crafted by Porche Harden

More Results Next Week: Results were not available for the Cow Pattie Bingo or the Horse Shoe Tournament. The News will attempt have these result by next week

A very big community thank you to all who headed up the different events, prepared the food, set up, cleaned up and put up with all of us! Our 100th Birthday was truly

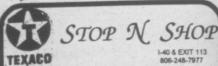
Thank You, Volunteers!

Groom's 100th birthday was a success! We would like to thank all the volunteers who took time out of their work to offer assistance in the making of that success. Whether you were there with your time, money, equipment or labor you all helped and we deeply appreciated everyone for your efforts. The Groom Day Committee

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> Office (806) 248-7550 Home (806)248-7315 Groom, Texas

Gary Stevens

Texas Needs Pro-Investment **Broadband Policy**

Despite broadband's possibilities are endless.

it should across Texas. communities that would otherwise be

For more information about high-speed Internet access, please visit www.connecttexas.org

SBC Southwestern Bell

promise, broadband investment isn't happening the way DSL isn't being made available to many attractive candidates for new investment.

Texas has suffered immensely from the recent technology meltdown. The Texas Workforce Commission recently reported the state lost over 38,000 high-tech jobs in 2001.

Recovery won't happen overnight, but there may be good news ahead. Broadband deployment can be an important catalyst for getting the Texas economy on track. But that won't happen unless the Texas Legislature adopts a state policy encouraging ongoing broadband investment.

Broadband is the technology that makes faster Internet connections possible. With broadband, a Bastrop business can videoconference with Dallas clients. A San Saba entrepreneur can run a distribution business from her home. The

Unfortunately, broadband investment isn't happening the way it could. Companies like SBC Southwestern Bell are eager to bring broadband's benefits to customers. While our flagship broadband offering is Digital Subscriber Line (DSL), we partnered with a satellite vendor to ensure greater availability of high-speed Internet access.

Investment has stalled due to Texas' uneven regulations. Cable companies, our chief competitors, operate almost regulation-free, helping them corner almost 70 percent of the high-speed market. Meanwhile, companies offering DSL must comply with rules intended for the traditional telephone business - a disparity that makes DSL more expensive to deploy and an uncertain investment.

The effect of the disparity is DSL isn't being made available to many communities that would otherwise be attractive for investment. While today's version of DSL won't ever be viable in certain locations, other high-speed technologies similar to DSL will be. It will be just as difficult to justify investing in any new services if policymakers continue to single them out for unique regulatory burdens.

In 2003, the Texas Legislature can send a strong signal to regulators: Texans want a robust environment for broadband investment. Lawmakers can accept the status quo - and watch broadband go to states with policies encouraging investment - or they can demand an environment to keep broadband benefits here in Texas.

Stevens MUCOL Gary Steven Director, External Affairs

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