

Deaths



Mrs. Bruce

Mary E. Bruce of Lampasas died June 1, 2011, at her residence. She was 82.
 Graveside services were June 6 at Oak Hill Cemetery in Lampasas with Minister Reid Schaub officiating.
 Mrs. Bruce was born Feb. 18, 1929, in Hollis, Okla., the daughter of William and Susie Arnold Gregory. She married James E. Bruce on Aug. 6, 1960, at Fort Bliss.
 Mrs. Bruce was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ. She attended nursing school and received her certificate. She interned in Hollis.
 She is survived by a daughter and her husband, Lisa and Sam Weed of Belton; two grandchildren, Jennie Salazar and husband, Michael, of Lampasas, and Joseph Nobles and wife, Katie, of Missouri; and three great-grandchildren, Jared, Sean and RaeLynne Salazar.
 She was preceded in death by her husband; by a daughter, Susie Bruce Moreno; four brothers, C.O., Elam, Bill and Forrest Gregory; and two sisters, Ruth Mayhugh and Reba Heck.
 Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

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Mrs. Kelley

Graveside services for Mary Patricia "Pat" Kelley of Lampasas are June 7, 2011, at 10 a.m. at Center

Farm loan applications accepted

Applications for emergency farm loans are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency in Lampasas County as part of a disaster declaration for damages and losses caused by drought occurring from March 1 to Dec. 31, 2010.
 Applications are for production losses. The final day to apply for the declaration is Nov. 28.
 Lampasas County is one in Texas recently named by the secretary of agriculture to be eligible for loans to cover part of actual production losses, resulting from the listed designation.
 Farmers may be eligible for loans up to 100 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue in business, whichever is less.
 For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.75 percent.
 As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production to be eligible for a FSA Emergency Loan. Farmers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance Program will have to consider proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

Cemetery near Lometa.
 Mrs. Kelley died June 4 at Regal Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. She was 65.
 She was born Jan. 11, 1946, in San Saba, the daughter of Denver Eugene and Velma J. Jennings Medders.
 She married Carl Kelley on Feb. 22, 1963, in Mineral Wells.
 Mrs. Kelley was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ.
 She is survived by her husband of Lampasas; two sons, Tommy Wayne Kelley and Dean Kelley, both of Lampasas; two brothers, Gene Medders and wife, Nola, of Shreveport, La., and Richard Medders and wife, Ponice, of Lometa; and two grandchildren, Jonathan Wesley Kelley and Thomas Wayne Kelley.
 She was preceded in death by her parents.

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Mr. Kersh

Donald Cliff Kersh, 64, of Lometa died June 3, 2011, at his residence.
 A gathering will be held June 10 at 6 p.m. at the home of his daughter, Kay Kersh, in Lometa.
 The body will be cremated.
 Mr. Kersh was born March 5, 1947, in Plainview, the son of Joy and Geneva "Jenny" Bruington Kersh.
 He attended Sul Ross State University and later earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture education from Tarleton State University.
 Mr. Kersh was a cowboy. He enjoyed horses and dancing.
 Survivors include two daughters, Kay Kersh of Lometa, and Jodi Jeffords and husband, John, of Euless; one son, Cody Kersh and wife, Becca, of Austin; his parents of Plainview; two brothers, Ronald Kersh of Kentucky, and Karnold Kersh of Plainview; and four grandchildren, Ben, Kaleb, Emily and Katie.
 He was preceded in death by a brother, Arnold Kersh.

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Officials see progress in local effort to recruit international software company

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 float a revenue bond -- with facilities-related debt backed by the company's strong credit rating, Stoldt said -- so Lampasas County and city taxpayers would not have been liable for the expense of debt service.
 To allay company representatives' concerns about finding adequate housing for employees, county and city officials planned to offer builders incentives for new construction. Those special offers could have included waivers of permit fees, utility tap charges and other related fees for builders who began work on residences within a short time.
 Also, if the technology company had agreed to build a center in Lampasas, the city would have applied for a grant of about \$250,000 from the Texas Capital Fund to pay for utility extensions to the proposed permanent business site. City leaders guaranteed Lampasas would pay for the utility extensions, Stoldt said, even if the city did not receive a grant.
 Stoldt and Mrs. Hargrove believe former Mayor Judy Hetherly's meetings with a number of state officials also helped Lampasas refer the company to a variety of state funding programs for business relocation.

A Texas Department of Agriculture economic development representative attended the second meeting of local public officials and company representatives. Lampasas was one of the only cities the company considered, Mrs. Hargrove said, to arrange a direct meeting with state officials about funding programs.
 "We did our homework," she said.
Future development plans
 The company ultimately opted not to build in Lampasas, Stoldt said, because it considered proposed lease rates too high and because it sought a higher incentive payment than what local entities could have offered. The city manager believes even an additional \$1 million in the financial package may not have convinced the company to open a Lampasas center.
 "To get a company this size -- and this attractive -- we've got to be able to pony up more money," he said.
 To help attract new businesses to Lampasas, some Lampasas City Council members have discussed reserving funds to extend utilities to the north end of the industrial park on U.S. Highway 183, Stoldt said. About five years ago, the cost estimate for sewer extensions to the site and for construction of a basic road through the business park was about \$2 million, he said.
 Stoldt and Mrs. Hargrove emphasized that city officials hope to use accumulated savings to fund business park development.
 "The staff is not proposing another bond election," the city manager said. "The city is not developing plans to put another bond issue before the public. We are looking at ways to do this with the resources we have without raising people's taxes."
 A developed industrial park, Mrs. Hargrove said, would increase the city's ability to attract new businesses.
 "If we had one good, solid site where the utilities were ready and the building pad is ready it would go a long way toward helping me market the city," the LEDC coordinator said.
 Although city and county leaders did not convince the technology company to add jobs in Lampasas, Stoldt and Mrs. Hargrove believe the recent effort has the city poised for future business recruitment projects.
 The "hit team" method, which involved public- and private-sector Lampasasans meeting with company representatives, and the team's approach to giving quality-of-life presentations, is well developed and needs few changes, Stoldt said. He and Mrs. Hargrove believe even small touches -- passersby outside City Hall greeting each other by name, Perks Coffee Bar and Eve's Cafe hosting private meetings during the company's site visits -- demonstrate that Lampasas is an attractive place to live and work.
 The last several months also have boosted Lampasas officials' network of contacts, such as those with the LCRA economic development department, Mrs. Hargrove added.
 She believes the cooperation she saw between entities during the recent business recruitment effort is the key to future growth.
 "Everybody was willing to do whatever it took, within reason, to get this company here, and it was a joy to me to see it," Mrs. Hargrove said.
 With the recent redesign of the LEDC's Web site -- lampasasedc.com -- growing interest in Lampasas at the retail conventions she attends and state awards the city has received recently, Mrs. Hargrove believes ongoing economic development efforts will bear fruit soon.
 "In the last three years the interest in Lampasas is really going up," the LEDC coordinator said. "I believe when the economy comes back we're going to see big growth."

Six LHS girls to attend citizenship event

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 Girls' State is to educate young women in the duties, rights, privileges and responsibilities of American citizenship.
 Dorothy Briggs, local Girls' State chairman, said the group tries to awaken within youth the conviction that a well-informed, intelligent, participating citizenry is vital to protect and preserve American institutions and democracy.

Girls' State is a mythical 51st state where, for a period, the citizens organize their own city, county and state governments. They choose their officials in accordance with regular election procedures.
 Girls learn the duties of the various city, county and state offices. They introduce and debate their own bills in a mock legislature, and justice is administered by their own law enforcement agencies and courts.
 Said Mrs. Briggs: "In Girls' State, the young citizens learn by doing."



PHOTO BY DAVID LOWE

School's out
 Some students at Kline Whitis Elementary School felt triumphant when classes ended Thursday afternoon, while others took a more casual approach to the start of summer vacation.

AA, AL-ANON meetings held

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are each Tuesday and Thursday at 8 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Lampasas.
 AL-ANON meetings are Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at the church's Hirst House. The group is for family and friends of alcoholics.

Killeen Mall
Ladies Night Out shopping FASHION
1st Annual LADIES NIGHT OUT!
June 9, 2011 6pm-9pm
Round up your girlfriends and head to the mall for Ladies Night Out!
Features: Free Goodie Bags for first 100 ladies to register
 Register to win prizes
 Zumba-thon
 Food
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 Custom apparel contest - friends are encouraged to attend together wearing clever t-shirts and items which will be judged for creativity and prizes awarded.
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Foot and Ankle Care

Lampasas native Dr. Dustin Smith has joined Coryell Memorial Healthcare System to better serve our community.
 He is available at 208 N. Broad Street in the Raab Family Chiropractic building to treat a wide variety of conditions of the foot and ankle.
 To schedule an appointment with Dr. Smith, please call 1-877-401-6365.
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