

Deaths

Mr. Bennett

James "Dennis" Bennett, 50, died at his residence in Lampasas on July 4, 2009.

A memorial service is July 21 at 3:30 p.m. at For Whosoever Will Ministries in Killeen with Bishop David Shaver officiating.

Mr. Bennett was born Feb. 23, 1959, in Tyler.

Arrangements by Chisholm's Family Funeral Home & Florist of Copperas Cove.

SHWMA meeting set Aug. 1

The Southwest Hamilton Wildlife Management Association will hold its annual meeting on Aug. 1 at 10 a.m. at the Meis Ranch at the intersection of County Roads 2965 and 2987.

Mike Miller, the association's Texas Parks & Wildlife biologist, will be on hand to discuss last season's harvest results, and spotlight surveys will be scheduled. Dues will be collected.

The association has more than 11,000 acres under management and is roughly bounded by an area west of U.S. Highway 281, south of Highway 84, east of County Road 2901 and north of County Road 2925.

In addition to cooperating with neighbors to manage wildlife and improve the habitat on ranches, participation through a Managed Lands Permit system also gives members the added benefit of extending their hunting season.

Prospective landowners and hunter members are welcome. Phone (214) 704-2328 or (254) 471-5788 for more information.

Kempner council meeting set

Kempner City Council will hold a second public hearing tonight at 7 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

The hearing is in connection with annexation of just over 7 acres of land to be used for a city park and includes the north side of U.S. Highway 190 including a portion of Taylor Creek.

Lampasas ISD trustees plan to meet

In a rare Tuesday gathering, trustees of the Board of the Lampasas Independent School District will meet tonight at 6 p.m. to set a date for a public hearing on the budget and proposed tax rate for the 2009-10 school term.

They also will discuss the proposed dedication plaque for the new Lampasas High School campus and Taylor Creek Elementary. Resignations and new hires also are on the agenda.

Following the meeting, the board will hold a budget workshop.

Public support group to begin at area church

Clear Creek Baptist Church will begin a new ministry on July 29, "The Lord's Way," a support group for the public, each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon.

Participants will gather to share their experiences and God's word. The group is a non-profit, non-licensed peer-to-peer support group to discuss any of life's issues, situations and experiences.

"We are not doctors, just individuals who would like to discuss issues that are weighing heavy on your heart," said a group spokesman.

"Come as you are and you will be treated with love and not judged. All we ask is that you come with an open heart and mind."

For additional information, contact Helen Smith at (254) 371-7209.

The church is located at 3350 FM 2657 in Kempner.

Council debates civic center plans

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tion possibly exceeding the budgeted amount by \$200,000. He added that several constituents have told him they oppose building an event center at Campbell Park, which includes Hanna Springs, because of the area's sulphur odor.

"I don't know if you've been down there lately, but with the heat and everything it smelled pretty bad," Grayson said.

Responding to budget concerns, Mayor Judy Hetherly -- who added that she considers the smell of sulphur "part of our heritage" -- said Lebow offered a conservative estimate, not actual bid prices.

Because of competition among contractors for scarce building projects, Stoldt said bid amounts

might be less than \$1.4 million. The addition to the Lampasas County Office Building, a project recently awarded to Guyco Inc., came in significantly less than county officials estimated, he said.

Bidding the project would not obligate the City Council to award a contract, Lebow said.

Stoldt added that rural development grants that could be used for a civic center may be available under the \$787 billion federal "stimulus" package.

Hotel/motel tax revenue has been earmarked for a civic center since 1977, City Council member Wanda Bierschwale said. Mrs. Bierschwale said even if the city builds just a pavilion-type civic center initially, that action would keep the project from getting delayed further. The first phase

could spur future expansion of the facility, she said.

"I think what we're doing is getting a seed, so to speak," Mrs. Bierschwale said.

Former mayor Jack Calvert, chairman of the civic center committee, said the first building phase would prove worthwhile only if the city is committed to enclosing the facility eventually.

Councilman John Cole said the hallway between two restrooms at the civic center, if built according to the proposal for the \$1.43 million project, may be too narrow.

"You need to make that as wide as you can," he said to Lebow, "and I don't think 10 feet is going to be enough even for that."

Cole said the hallway easily could become crowded during

large events if civic center patrons gathered there to seek air-conditioning.

Lebow said the hallway could be widened to 12 feet.

Cole later said the City Council needs to plan for annual operational expenses at an event center.

"I don't think you'll find anybody who says it will cover itself financially," he said.

Stubbs, noting ongoing preparation for a sports park off Farm-to-Market Road 580 West, added that he would like a list of the city's major capital outlays so the City Council can prioritize its projects.

Such a list will be developed during budget talks -- which begin the first week of August -- for the upcoming fiscal year, Stoldt said. If phase one of a civic center

began now, Stoldt said in a telephone interview after the recent meeting, the project budget would include \$400,000 borrowed through the hotel/motel fund.

The City Council took no action on the civic center at the recent meeting, but council members will discuss the matter further during budget planning sessions.

Debt service payments are scheduled to decrease by about \$69,000 for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 2011, and five years after that will drop by another \$67,500, Stoldt said. As a result, in either two or five years the city could borrow money for a civic center. The general fund would pay off those debts without a tax increase, the city manager said.

Gas rate compromise accepted

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ing and Housing Committee, presented VDL's land use recommendations.

Suggestions include expanding the Central Business District, creating a Master Streetscape Plan to prioritize public improvements in the VDL area and promoting a mix of retail and housing uses.

Mrs. Monroe also recommended lowering speed limits or installing medians or landscaping features to slow traffic, developing a "green zone belt" to connect W.M. Brook Park and Campbell Park and promoting street-level retail use when possible instead of using first-floor space for offices.

Councilman Evan Stubbs expressed concern that overly strict limits on first-floor offices could keep vacant downtown buildings from being sold. "That's the first step to killing downtown," he said.

Mrs. Monroe said VDL does not advocate denying potential property owners the ability to use downtown buildings for purposes other than retail. Volunteers do hope to increase small business activity substantially, though, Mrs. Monroe said, as only 8 percent of properties within VDL boundaries -- where 35 percent of land is zoned for retail -- are being used for retail purposes.

Cultivating a mix of downtown

land uses and attracting restaurants and entertainment venues to the area are essential to the revitalization of Lampasas, VDL board president Maryann Severn said.

"When we create downtown Lampasas as a destination point of beauty, of culture, everybody benefits," Mrs. Severn said.

After addressing regular agenda items, the council met in executive session for about 45 minutes. The council then unanimously approved an addendum to an Oct. 31, 2001, Economic Development Agreement with Windsor Foods as part of an option for the company to purchase electricity, through the city of Lampasas, on the open market.

Visiting general gives Fort Hood update

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Kiwanis members, his wife and four of his soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division based out of Fort Hood, Hammond took the microphone and relayed his message of "mission, soldier, family and team."

Hammond played a video created by soldiers about their 15-month deployment to Baghdad where, among other things, they highlighted the fighting and interactions with Iraqi civilians. The video also showed the soldiers' emotional return home.

It ended with a list of 94 names, each a fallen soldier.

"It was a situation where, when we first went in, the attacks were 38-50 some days," Hammond said. "We took it down to two, maybe three on some days."

"Magnificent men and women, volunteer soldiers putting their lives on the line for the people of Iraq to do one thing: protect them. Protect them so they can seek a better day, and I thought we succeeded in the mission we were given. I was very proud of them, and the world should be proud of them."

When the video concluded, Hammond asked one of his sol-

diers, decked in full combat gear with weapon in hand, to take the stage and explain his job.

As requested, the young man responded in typical military fashion.

Hammond referred to the soldier as "his best friend."

"The thing you need to know is that these soldiers are less than one percent of the population," Hammond said. "They are volunteers that put their lives on the line, and all they know is 'Yes, sir.' They don't cry, they don't gripe, they do their jobs, and they don't look for any glory."

"I don't think there is anywhere else in the world, [there is not] any other organization in the world that has the diversity we have and is as strong because of that diversity as we are."

A round of applause filled the room as Kiwanis Club members took to their feet following the presentation. Many in attendance thanked Hammond and his soldiers for a job well done.

Hammond, however, wanted to thank the parents of his men.

"Their moms and dads lend them to us, and it is my responsibility as a leader to take care of them and bring them home," he said. "I'm very grateful to American families

who do lend a member of their family to become a soldier.

"I'll be forever grateful."

Cattle Auction

The report from the July 15 sale at Lampasas Cattle Auction is as follows.

**Cattle and calves:** Estimated receipts 1,014 compared to 1,055 last week and 1,193 last year.

Compared to last week, feeder steers \$2-\$4 higher. Feeder heifers steady to firm, instances \$2 higher. Slaughter cows \$4-\$6 lower. Slaughter bulls \$3 lower on a limited test. Trade and demand good.

Bulk supply medium and large 1-2 300-700 lb. feeder steers and heifers. Slaughter cows made up 21 percent of the offering, slaughter bulls 1 percent, and feeders 78 percent.

**Feeder steers:** medium and large 1: 200-300 lb., \$129-\$134; 300-400 lb., \$111-\$120, few \$125-\$127; 400-500 lb., \$98-\$108; 500-600 lb., \$94-\$101.

Medium and large 2: 400-500 lb., \$91-\$96; 500-600 lb., \$85-\$93; 600-700 lb., \$90-\$92; 700-800 lb., \$86.

Medium and large 3: 200-300 lb., \$100; 400-500 lb., \$85-\$89; 600-700 lb., \$80-\$83.

**Feeder heifers:** medium and large 1: 300-400 lb., \$99-\$103; 400-500 lb., \$90-\$99; 500-600 lb., \$88-\$95; 600-700 lb., \$85-\$91.

Medium and large 2: 300-400 lb., \$87-\$91; 400-500 lb., \$87-\$90; 500-600 lb., \$85-\$88; 600-700 lb., \$77-\$85; 700-800 lb.,

\$75-\$80. Medium and large frame 3: 200-300 lb., \$83-\$92.

**Slaughter cows:** breakers, 75-80 percent lean, 1,200-1,600 lb. average dressing, \$35.25-\$39; boners, 80-85 percent lean, 1,200-1,600 lb. average dressing, \$36.50-\$38, high dressing, \$40.25-\$44.25; boners, 80-85 percent lean, 1,000-1,200 lb., average dressing, \$40.25-\$45, high dressing \$53, low dressing, \$38; lean, 85-90 percent lean, 1,200-1,600 lb., average dressing, \$35-\$38.75; lean, 85-90 percent lean, 1,000-1,200 lb., average dressing, \$35-\$39, high dressing \$42-\$43.50; lean, 85-90 percent lean, 800-1,000 lb., average dressing, \$30-\$33.25; lean, 85-90 percent lean, under 800 lb., low dressing, \$24.75.

**Slaughter bulls:** yield grade 1-2, 1,460-1,645 lb., \$53-\$56; high dressing, 1,330-1,865 lb., \$59.75-\$60.50; low dressing, 1,225-1,450 lb., \$46-\$49.

**Replacement cows:** medium and large 1-2, young to middle aged, 800-850 lb. cows 4 months bred, \$568 per hd.

**Cow/calf pairs:** medium & large 1-2: young to middle aged 915-1,250 lb. cows w/250-300 lb. calves, \$880-\$900 per pair; aged 900-1,115 lb. cows w/150-250 lb. calves \$625-\$790 per pair.

For all your advertising needs, phone Marie at 556-6262.