

Deaths



Mr. Farley

A memorial service for James Henry Farley, 74, of Lampasas is Oct. 9, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. at New Covenant Church in Lampasas with Pastor Darrell Feemster officiating. The body was cremated and the ashes will be buried at Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery following the service.

Mr. Farley died Oct. 4 at his residence.

He was born July 3, 1935, in Los Angeles County, Calif., the son of John A. and Ethel Albertson Farley.

Mr. Farley married Cora Williams on May 7, 1955, in Whittier, Calif. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps.

He was an elevator builder and helped construct a number of elevators in Los Angeles over a period of many years.

Mr. Farley was a reserve police officer in Alhambra, Calif., and later worked at the local HEB grocery store.

He was a member of New Covenant Church, the International Union of Elevator Constructors and the National Collie Club of America, where he held several offices.

Survivors include his wife; a son and his wife, James H. and D'Ann Farley Jr.; a daughter and her husband, Janet and Terry Estes; brothers, John W. Farley, Martin Farley and David Farley; a sister, Margaret Cottom; and two granddaughters, Corina Leblanc and Cynthia Leblanc.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Tom.

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Mr. Parker

Randolph Alexander Parker died Oct. 4, 2009. He was 99.

Funeral services were Oct. 7 at Niday Funeral Home in Houston with Melvin Hogan officiating. A graveside service followed at Naruna Baptist Church Cemetery in Burnet County.

Mr. Parker was born June 14, 1910, in Climax, Ga., the youngest of 14 children of Molly and Thomas Parker.

As a teenager he was admitted to a hospital in New Mexico to receive treatment for tuberculosis. After his recovery, he made his way to Camp Hood, where he met and married Dorothy Brown in 1942.

The Parkers moved to Houston in 1947, where he worked until his mid-70s in heavy construction.

His wife died in 1975, and in 1979, Mr. Parker married Lois Jones, who preceded him in death in 1980.

Mr. Parker enjoyed yard work, reading and playing the piano.

Survivors include a daughter and her husband, Sandra and Homer Tabor; grandsons Randy Tabor and wife, Ida, and Russell Tabor and wife, Jill; four great-grandsons, Mason, Braxton, Joshua and Benjamin; and numerous nieces.

He was preceded in death by six brothers and sisters.

Arrangements by Niday Funeral Home of Houston.

Officials consider alternatives for former LMS site

Continued from page 1
needed to run the district, and when you cut like that, somewhere in the future that has to be made up. It's just a totally unfair situation."

Also Monday, LISD Finance Manager Shane Jones told the board that the district received the highest level of recognition for its handling of financial matters through the School FIRST financial rating system. Of the four levels, the LISD earned the highest or "superior" rating.

Possible uses for the former Lampasas Middle School building also were discussed.

The superintendent considered input from various administrators as well as other district personnel.

Hoyer said the science labs at the building could house Lampasas County Higher Education Center classes as well as GED classes offered by Central Texas College.

The eighth-grade wing could be used for the district's alternative education program, currently at the Phoenix Center. A number of the portables at that site are not in good shape, said the superintendent.

The school's library and office could be a site for the technology department, also housed at the Phoenix Center. "That would be a good use of the facilities," said Hoyer.

The principal's office could be where special education facilities move to alleviate overcrowding at the present location.

The central office also could be relocated to the former LMS campus, which would allow the special education department to move into the District Administration building.

Possible renovations to the kitchen could allow the higher education center to use the space for culinary classes.

The newer gym and weight room are in use by the district's Step program, which promotes health and fitness for district employees and community members.

The gym also is used for dressing facilities for visiting football teams.

The older gymnasium might be considered for some city sports programs, and the vocational building could become a new home for the LISD maintenance department.

And a number of excess portable buildings could be sold, Hoyer said.

Hoyer said the LISD has received

a request for the former band hall and portable buildings behind it to be used for the Boys & Girls Club, whose lease at its current site expires at the end of December.

Officials will look at a fee schedule, lease agreement and rules for usage by the club and bring a recommendation to the board at its November meeting.

Hoyer also said considerations include maintaining the building, in the event enrollment growth warrants a separate fifth- or sixth-grade campus, or possibly selling the facility down the road.

"This is all preliminary. We are

just starting to look at the possibilities," said the superintendent. "No decisions have been made."

Trustees also signed a resolution nominating candidates for the 2010-2011 board of directors for the Lampasas Central Appraisal District. Nominees are Milton Kellner, Dave Hamilton, Mike Kriegel, Bob Wright and Ted Newsom.

In final business, a resignation was accepted from Cynthia Forsythe, a first-grade teacher at Taylor Creek, and Kara Brown was hired to fill that slot.

LAFTA president: Art vital to communities

By LISA CARNLEY Staff Writer

"With schools cutting back on art programs and teachers, it is more important than ever that the arts be emphasized in the community," said Nancy Gray, local artist and president of Lampasas Association for the Arts.

To that end, LAFTA's role in this weekend's Herb & Art Fest will tie in well with the October designation of National Arts and Humanities Month.

Ms. Gray said keeping children interested in art is the responsibility of every community member.

"Ask yourself, 'How do I put art in my kids' lives?'"

The Lampasas artist and consultant said there is a variety of ways to pique kids' interest and keep them engaged in art.

Some suggestions include:

- giving children paper and pencil or crayons to express themselves.
- teaching your child songs and singing them together.
- having pictures and books available for them to enjoy and value. Local libraries are a good source for books at no cost, Ms. Gray said.
- practicing photography, beginning with a disposable camera.
- reading and writing poems.
- offering your talents to community organizations that work with children in music, theater, dance or visual arts.

"Putting them in art classes and taking them to museums are great ways to get them interested," Ms. Gray said. "We live in such a great place. We are within three hours of major cities with art-centered attractions for kids. There are all

kinds of museums for art and science. Take the kids."

Ms. Gray said drama classes are another way to get youth into the arts. "Though there aren't any classes here, there are some in Killen. I would love to see a community theater get started here again."

Art is important, she said. "It helps organize a child's brain. Start them young. Even if they are just scribbling on paper. That is the beginning of art and writing, and it helps them think more logically and creatively, as well as outside the box."

Ms. Gray said statistics show the more creative a child is, the better and higher-paying job he or she will secure as an adult. Figures show those with high levels of arts learning experiences earned higher grades and scored better on standardized tests than those with little or no involvement in the arts, regardless of socioeconomic status.

"Having a big imagination is the key," she said. "As soon as a child feels like he is encouraged to express his imagination, the better off he is."

Ms. Gray said one can't underestimate the importance of art in a community. "Arts challenge individuals to think broadly, to attempt the new and to take risks."

Arts also contribute to a community's quality of life, she said, and provide an array of employment opportunities that range from software development to advertising designers.

"It is clear that arts serve a public purpose. It is what gets curiosity flowing; it encourages play; it encourages creative thinking. Art can affect people, and it gets them talking to each other."

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