



Howard Cheek's photo "Orchard Oriole" took the top prize in the Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine's 2011 photo contest in the plant/animal category.

Photographer takes winning shots

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The photographer took top prize in the plant/animal category of the Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine's 2011 photo contest with his shot "Orchard Oriole."

His entry will be on exhibit in the Lampasas Art Gallery on East Third Street.

Judges called the shot a perfect example of simplicity and elegance created by the combination of basic

composition and beautiful lighting. They also noted that technically, the subject was in perfect focus – a must for animal photos.

More than 700 submissions by 287 photographers were judged.

Other honors include a PBS interview in 2009 which aired later that year.

Cheek also contributes images regularly to the National Wildlife Federation for use in its publications, and he supports the Nature

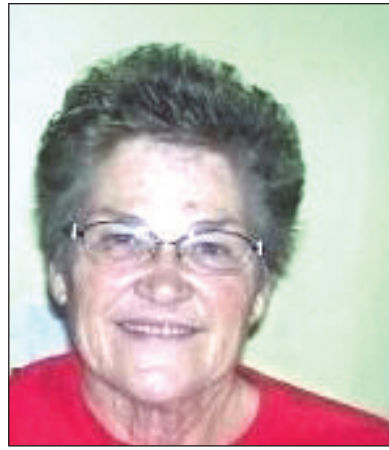
Conservancy's work around the globe.

Most recently, Cheek's photo of a cardinal was selected for the cover design of "Love Never Ends," a book by Connie Martin and Barry Dundas.

Cheek and two other photographers will be featured in "Candid Shots," an article in the March/April issue of National Wildlife magazine.

Photos he snapped of butterflies in his yard will highlight the two-page spread.

Deaths



Mrs. Pickett

Oma Jean Pickett, 71, of Henderson, Nev., formerly of Kempner, died Jan. 16, 2012, in a nursing facility near Henderson.

Funeral services were Jan. 23 in Copperas Cove. Burial was at Hillsdale Cemetery in Izoro.

Mrs. Pickett was born Sept. 24, 1940, in Lueders, Texas, to Velmer J. and Lola Oma Chambers Larence.

Survivors include two daughters and their husbands, LaNora and David Robison of Henderson, and Regena and Brad Mitton of North Las Vegas, Nev.; four grandchildren, David Crum, Stacia Baldwin, Kaitlyn Mitton and Kyle Mitton, all of Nevada; one great-grandson, Richard Baldwin III of Nevada; two brothers, John Larence and Jay Larence of Mineral Wells; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her stepfather, Doyle Mason; three brothers, Ronnie and Arthur Larence and Danny Lee Mason; and by a sister, Donna Kay Hall.

Clarification

Incorrect information was supplied to the Dispatch Record by the Lampasas County district clerk's office about recent grand jury indictments.

Robert Lee Gulino and Paul Oneal Potter, 32, were on the grand jury list, but were not indicted, said District Clerk Terri Cox.

Candidate forum slated in Burnet

On Feb. 11 from 1-4 p.m., voters in Burnet and surrounding counties will get to meet and greet candidates running for offices from Congress to county commissioner at the Burnet Community Center, 401 E. Jackson St.

Candidates are invited to meet the public, but only those candidates with one or more opponents in the primary will participate in a question-and-answer forum.

Honorable Dan Mills, judge of the 424th District Court, will be the moderator.

Beverages will be served. The event is sponsored by the Republican Club of Burnet County.

Blackland Income Growth conference slated in Waco

The Blackland Income Growth Conference Feb. 7 in Waco at the Extraco Events Center, 4601 Bosque Blvd., will feature a variety of presentations on beef production.

Dr. Jason Cleere, Texas AgriLife Extension Service beef cattle specialist, will provide insight on purchasing herd bulls, including providing producers with bull value/cost analysis, quality traits, selection tools, management and fertility testing.

Other topics will cover finances and management; producing safe, wholesome beef; and pasture management after drought.

"We are celebrating 50 years of educating agricultural producers in the Blacklands region, and this year's conference features several informative sessions on production agriculture," said Ron Woolley, conference coordinator and AgriLife Extension district director at Stephenville.

Registration is \$20 per person and includes lunch.

Several sessions will award continuing education units. Download a conference brochure at <http://stephenville.tamu.edu/blackland-income-growth/conference-information>.

Ann (Gusty) Pollock

Anne (Gusty) Pollock, age 96 of Lometa, TX died Thursday January 19, 2012 at Rollins Brook Community Hospital. Anne Augusta was born in Lometa, TX June 22, 1915. She was the last survivor of four daughters: Agnes Louise, Mary DeRose and Ada Elizabeth, born to Ida Elizabeth (Wittenburg) and J.L. "Kirk" Buttrill. She attended school in Lometa and the University of Texas. She married Daniel J. Pollock in Good Shepherd Catholic Church November 26, 1936. They had two children: Patricia Ann (deceased) and Dan Pollock and wife Leanne of Lometa. Her grandchildren are: Danny Pollock and Michelle Pollock, James Daniel Titus and wife Rene, John Kirk Titus and wife Kathleen, Patrick Joseph Titus and wife Edna, Mark Samuel Titus and wife Susan. Her great-grandchildren are: Emily, Kaitlyn, Jonathan, Madeline, Bailey, Elliot, Owen, Quincy Faith, James and Elizabeth Titus.

As a widow, Gusty returned to ranch on family property in Lampasas County listed in the Texas Family Heritage Program. She, with the help of Juan Romero and his family, for over 30 years operated the home place into her 90's. She later moved to the comfort and love of the Brister Care Home in Lometa for her final years. Gusty was active in civic affairs, county historical events and family. She was a woman who embodied authenticity, honor and strength.

Visitation is Friday January 27, 2012 from 7-8 p.m. at Sneed Funeral Chapel.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday January 28, 2012 at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Lometa with burial to follow at Lometa Cemetery. Following the burial there will be a meal at the Good Shepherd Family Life Center in Lometa.

Honorary pallbearers are: Robert Butler, Doug Brister, Bud Harris, Bub Hooten, Tommy Ketchum and Joe Wittenburg.

Memorials may be sent to Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Lometa or the Wounded Warrior Project.

Sneed Funeral Chapel in charge of arrangements.

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