







VOLUME 8, NO. 51

400 Bolivar Street, Suite 311 in Historic Wilfong Building - Sanger, TX 76266

Thursday, November 26, 2020



# Linda Tutt H.S. opens up grocery store

Linda Tutt High School in Sanger has partners like Texas Health, opened up a grocery store Albertsons and First Refinside the school. The uge Ministries, the school school was recognized last was able to complete the week by CBS Channel 11

It's meant to help put extra food on the table for they come from low sostudents and their families. cioeconomic

deeds.

school say they have a can earn points for posiwalls?" said principal An- can earn points for doing

With the help of local or helping to clean." grocery store in an extra

"A lot of our students, families." accept money, just good students to earn the ability to shop for their families. chores around the building

Paul Juarez, the Executive Director of First Refuge Ministries said he hopes the idea is implemented in other rural ar-

"These points were actually given by the students, so we walked But the store doesn't Love said. "It's a way for through here and decided that a can of green beans was one point," said "How often can a Through hard work you Juarez. "It gives us a picture of what can be. So if grocery store inside their tive office referrals. You we can do this inside other

(Continued on pg. 10)

## Keeping memory alive

#### REMEMBERING A HERO, STEPHEN RORY BAKER

The following article is about a young man and his tragic death that brought together the Sanger community and many individuals for years. Sanger grieved, was brought together, and inspired by what happened on that August day in 1964. As you read this story, set your heart and mind to that day. A beautiful sunny day with school set to begin the following week. Try to grasp the feelings, the mood, the dedication, and the affect it had on those who

Sanger has always been a good place to be from. Many families arrived in early years to the community and raised their families with the hope of a good life for their families; good schools, rich black soil for farming, and good people. Sanger, incorporated in 1886, began growing the community with the early settlers providing boarding houses, businesses, and a school for the children. Roots of these families still remain in this now progressively growing community.

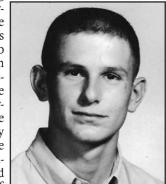


Howell Greene was an early settler in the new town of Sanger. He was the second or third postmaster, and a cobbler working to keep the townsfolk's shoes in good condition. Greene was instrumental in local affairs, a good businessman, and well respected in the area. Thus, the Greene family became a part of Sanger's ear-

Jimmie Greene Baker's parents were James and Alice Greene, and were life-long residents of Sanger. Jimmy was a half-sister to Alton Lee Greene who shared a father but a different mother, Martha. Jimmie married Clifford Baker and they had two children, Elaine and

Stephen Rory Baker is primarily remembered by Sangerites of the 40s, 50s, and 60s. Stephen was beginning his junior year in high school when a tragic event occurred on August 27, 1964 which ultimately took the

life of this outstanding young man. A quarterback-sneak was the final event of Stephen's life. He was taken to Parkland Hospital in Dallas that late Thursday afternoon where the doctors performed surgery to release pressure in his brain, but early Saturday morning he succumbed to his injury. Classmates crowded the emergency room of Parkland awaiting good



news from the doctors, but it was not to be.

Stephen's was the first and only sport-related death in Sanger ISD history. He suffered a severe concussion in a football game with Alvord the previous season and was uncertain if he would be able to return to the sport which he loved and exceled. He did return the following year in 1964 to the grid-iron and his life was tragically cut short. A memorial scholarship was established and has been awarded each year to a student that met requirements as demonstrated by Stephen in

Memories from fellow classmates and friends tell his story. Everyone's primary thoughts began with what a friendly and kind young man he was. He was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church.

(Continued on pg. 4)

## Darby Dean makes history at OU

Sanger's Darby Dean made history in No. 18 Bedlam Oklahoma's match against No. 14 Oklahoma State Saturday

Dean became the first woman to drive the Sooner Schooner in school history. The Sooner Schooner has been an OU tradition since first appearing in 1964

"The most indescrib-

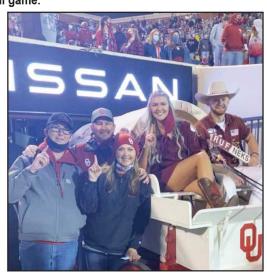
(Continued on pg. 10)



Darby Dean was recognized on national TV (ABC) during the OU and Oklahoma State football game.

Darby at the OU game on Saturday night with her Sooner Schooner Driver patch.

Darby with her parents Tammy and Scott Dean and brother Grant. Her sister Brittany Briggs watched the proud moment on TV in Sanger.





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#### OBITUARIES.

#### Susan Renee Deaton

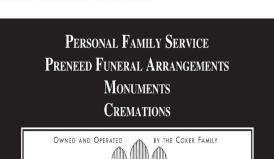
July 10, 2001 - November 16, 2020

Susan Renee Deaton, 19, of Denton, passed away on Monday, November 16, 2020, in Cooke County, Tex-

as, along with her unborn son, Camdyn Blake Thompson. The daughter of Steven Ray Deaton and Christy Byrd, Susan was born on July 10, 2001, in Muenster, Texas.

Susan is survived by her mother, Christy Byrd of Valley View and her father, Steven Deaton of Denton; two brothers, Kyle Godwin of Valley View and Steven Deaton, Jr. of Denton; and her grandparents, Andy and Diana Brock of Denton, Texas.

Susan's visitation was Tuesday, November 24, 2020, at Coker Funeral Home in Sanger. Graveside services were held at 11 am on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, in the Pavilion at the Sanger Cemetery. Pastor Chris Watson officiated the services.



SANGER 458-3311 · JACKSBORO 567-3778

Coker Funeral Home



Beverly Joyce Stack

October 28, 1940 - November 17, 2020

Beverly Joyce Stack, 80, of Sanger, passed away Nov. 17, 2020, in Gainesville.

Beverly was born to Jesse J. and Evelyn Prine Watkins in Midland Oct. 28, 1940. She married Bobby Ray

Stack and enjoyed living the life of a lady wrangler. Beverly was an Honorary Mention to the Cowgirl Hall of Fame.

Beverly is survived by five sons, Robert Williams and wife, Terri, of Sanger, Jerry Williams and wife, Kay, of Paradise, Jay Williams and wife, Dee, of Sanger, Johnny Stack and wife, Cindy, of Denton and Glenn and wife, Betty, of Sanger; one daughter, Jeanie Miller and hus-

band, Tom, of Alvord; 24 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; and brother Bob Watkins of Florida.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bobby; and sons Jimmy and Doug Williams and Mike Stack. There was a service for Beverly at 2 p.m. Saturday,

Nov. 21, at the Slay Memorial Chapel in Aubrey. Jason Hicks officiated.

Online condolences may be shared at slaymemorialfuneralhome.com.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital at stjude.org/promotion/impact-giving-pm.html.

#### Harold Gene McFerrin

August 23, 1944 - November 4, 2020

Harold Gene McFerrin, 76, went home to be with the Lord Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020. A celebration of life was held Saturday, Nov. 7, at Trinity Fellowship Church. Harold was born Wednesday, Aug. 23, 1944, in Co-

manche to Wilmer Eugene and Erma Lee (Stevens) McFerrin. After serving in the United States Army as a Military Policeman during the Vietnam War, he went on to become a Texas DPS officer. He married his wife, Peggy Hobbs McFerrin, Friday, June 5, 1970, in Tolar. After a brief time living in Austin, Harold and Peggy moved to Decatur, where he lived the rest of his life.



Due to his love of old cars, Harold was a founding member of the Wise County Antique Auto Club. He was also passionate about helping kids, so he coached soccer, and eventually, he became the head coach of the McCurdy Rams Pee Wee Football team. He was a huge Decatur Eagles fan and could be heard by all as he was cheering on those who participated in the many activities he attended. Harold was an active member in his church and served as a deacon, and then an elder, for many years. He was a loyal friend who was always willing to lend a helping hand, and he never met a stranger. He touched the lives of many people, especially his family and will be greatly missed.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are his wife of 50 years, Peggy McFerrin; two daughters, Melanye

Ballard and her husband, Kelly, of Decatur and Sharla Douglas and husband, Ian, of Fulshear; one son, Chip McFerrin and wife, Brandi, of Sanger; grandchildren Cole and Marley Ballard, Liam and Loughlin Douglas, Mason, Jett, Cruz and Cash McFerrin; two sisters, Pam Smith of Weatherford and Terri Campbell of Tennessee; and many other extended family members and beloved

He was preceded in death by his parents; and his grandson, Christson Ballard.

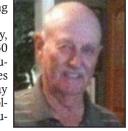
#### Billy Jack Kruger

June 28, 1936 - November 18, 2020

Billy Jack Kruger passed away Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at his home. He was born in Aubrey, Texas to Alvin and Florine Kruger on June 28, 1936. Billy

married Marie Bottoms on January 14, 1953. He enjoyed hunting and carpentry.

Visitation was held Sunday, November 22, 2020 from 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM at DeBerry Funeral Directors. Funeral services were held at 2:00 PM, Monday also at DeBerry's. Interment followed at Belew Cemetery in Au-



Billy is survived by his wife Marie, Son Billy Don and wife Elizabeth of Sanger, TX, son Randy and wife Sonja Kruger of Sanger, TX and daughter Diana and husband David Inman of Justin, TX as well as 9 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren. 1 grandson proceeded in death.





The Sanger News is published weekly, each Thursday, by Lemons Publications Inc. Subscriptions are \$23 per year for residents of Denton County. Please call or email to start your new subscription.

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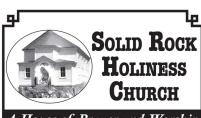
The weekly deadline to submit news articles, photos, and letters to the editor is Tuesday by 3 p.m. Items accepted after the deadline will be published as time and space permit. The weekly deadline to submit display advertising is Tuesday at 3 p.m. The weekly deadline to submit a classified ad is each Wednesday at 10 a.m.

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Freedom Life Church 1609 Duck Creek Road - Sanger Pastor - Gary Sweatman

- 940-300-6169

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Ridin' For the Brand Cowboy Church 5926 FM 455 West, Pastor: Dr. Roger Marsh, 940-458-3076

NT Trinity Cowboy Church 9901 FM 2164, Sanger Pastor Ken Peterson

Blue Mound United Methodist I-35 @ Milam Rd exit 473 • Sanger 940-382-0825 Pastor Marc Cornzao

Galilee Baptist Church 300 E. Willow St. • Sanger Reginald Logan, Sr.

**Gribble Springs Baptist** Sanger • 458-3274 • 6933 FM 2164 Pastor - Bro. Scott Finley gribblesprings.com

Grace Bible Church 1012 N. 5th Street, Sanger Pastor Tommy Bosworth gracebiblesanger.com 940-268-3243

New Life Church 1350 Milam Rd East • Sanger 458-3310 • Lead Pastor Jim Mann

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**Trinity Chapel Church** 1999 Cowling Rd. Sanger, 458-2628 Pastor - Richard Hanshew

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#### MORE OBITUARIES.

Tommy G. Sides U.S. VETERAN June 1, 1934 - November 19, 2020

Tommy G. Sides, 86, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma passed away on Thursday, November 19, 2020 in Oklahoma City, OK. He was born in Denton on June 1, 1934 to Mary Gordon and Joseph Sides.

Tommy served in the US Army and was discharged during a force reduction.

Tommy was a very good Husband, Father and all-around good person. He never liked school and quit in the 8th grade. He retired from the Wichita General Hospital in Wichita Falls, TX with 21 years of ser-

vice and also worked for the Haggar Clothing Company in Dallas, TX and retired with 20 years of service, he worked in Shipping and Receiving for both companies. . Needless to say, he was a "Hard Worker". He was married to Reba Dorman and they had one son, Gary. Reba had 3 children from

her first marriage, Cindy, Belinda & Roy. Tommy & Patricia married on September 3, 1976. Patricia had 3 children from a first marriage, Ed, Bryan & Troy Scott. That marriage has lasted for 43 years. Tommy was the last surviving child of 7, Gordon Sides, Lovada Mullins, Juanita Miller, Katherine Scoggins,

Burnis Sides, Jocelyn Johnston (Tommy's Twin). Granddaughters, Shayla Sides, & Marisa Scott, Rachael King, Grandsons Jeremy Sides, Chris Scott & Randy Stanford and a Great Granddaughter, Janiyah Blue (Shayla's Child). Tommy had a great capacity to love and he loved all of these kids, grandkids, great grandkids and more. He will be so very greatly missed by all.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Sides, of Oklahoma City, Sons, Gary Sides, Edward Scott and Bryan Scott, grandsons, Jeremy Sides, Chris Scott & Randy Stanford, Granddaughters, Shayla Sides, Marisa Scott & Rachael King, Great Granddaughter, Janiyah Blue

Tommy is preceded in death by his mother and father, sons, Troy Scott, Roy Dorman, brothers, Gordon Sides, Burnis Sides, sisters, Lovada Mullins, Juanita Miller, Katherine Scoggins, Jocelyn Johnston.

A Graveside Service was held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at Jackson Cemetery in Krum, Texas with Rev. Sam Redfern officiating.

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### **Financial FOCUS**



#### **Financial Moves** for the Recently **Divorced**

our society, but that doesn't To get back on your feet, make it any easier to navigate. If you've recently finalized a divorce, you've of funds for unexpected likely been coping with undrops in income and/ certainty and tension, but or spikes in expenses. If you can still avoid turning an already difficult situa- may want to keep three tion into one that's even to six months' worth of more challenging. How? expenses in emergency By making the right finan- savings, although even cial and investment moves, much smaller amounts including the following:

Establish your separate financial presence. Even when you were mar- ment plan contributions. ried, you and your spouse might have maintained some separate accounts. ing on sharing resources But if you only had joint and expenses with your accounts, now is the time to open your own check- now, you may be solely reing, savings and credit ac-sponsible for your retire-

Update your budget.It's likely your bud- up your retirement plan get needs updating. Your household income may be lower or may need to professional about setting be adjusted for alimony or child support (paid or received). your living expenses may could play a role in the have shifted, either higher benefits you can receive. because you're no longer Once you are eligible splitting expenses such as for benefits, if you were

housing or utilities, or possibly lower because you're no longer supporting your ex's spending Understanding your new budget will help you feel better informed about your financials options and more in control of your new situation.

Prioritize emergency savings. Divorce is expensive and may have Divorce is common in depleted your savings. you may want to build an easily accessible source you're not retired, you can boost your feelings of financial security.

Evaluate your retire-When you were married, you may have been countspouse in retirement. But ment, so if you can afford it, you may want to ramp contributions. You may want to consult a financial and achieving new goals.

Think about Social Additionally, Security. Your divorce

ried, you might be able to by your own benefit. If your ex passes away and you remarry only after age 60), you could receive 100% of their benefit in could be beneficial if your ex-spouse had a higher income or spent longer in the labor force. Since rules can be complicated, contact your local Social Security office to better understand your situation, and keep a

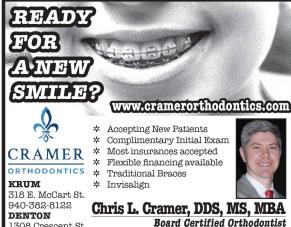
Security number. Review your beneficiary designations and legal documents. You'll likely need to revise the beneficiary designations on your retirement accounts and life insurance policies. These designations carry a lot of weight and can even supersede the instructions in your will. And, speaking of your will, you'll

record of your ex's Social

married at least 10 years likely need to revise it too, and you haven't remar- along with other legal documents, such as a living receive up to 50% of your trust. Consult with your ex-spouse's benefits, offset legal professional to make these revisions.

It can feel like a long vou haven't remarried (or road to stability after a divorce - but by following the above suggestions, you may be able to make the place of your own. This trip a little less bumpy and hopefully shorter – as

> Allen Chick is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones in Sanger. He can be reached at 940-458-7866.



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## Stephen Baker (Continued from pg. 1)

#### MEMORIES FROM **CLASSMATES AND FRIENDS**

"Before the game began, the Sanger Indians' football team had dressed and were waiting at the elementary school next to the field. The Carroll football team was using the Sanger field house to suit up. I was sitting on the sidewalk with my back against the building wall, facing east, and noticed Stephen walking past me, from right to left. He had tape around his wrists and I believe he was carrying his helmet. And then, I was playing left end and remember him calling a quarterback sneak in the huddle. The field at that time was oriented north and south, and we were moving the ball toward the south end zone from somewhere around our 40-yard line. At the completion of the play I turned around to return to the huddle and noticed he was on the ground, surrounded by the team. I recall he was on his back with his head pointed toward the south end zone. My father was living in New York City at the time, and the story of this eventual tragedy had been reported in the New York Times newspaper. "(Mike Martin '66)

"It was August 27, 1964 and we were playing Carroll in a practice game. Our quarterback had suffered two blood clots on the brain and had to have brain surgery after going down from a quarterback sneak in the game. We were told he was not expected to live.

'Friday, August 28, 1964, we were back at Parkland Hospital in Dallas and learned things were very bad. Most of our team and classmates were able to look through a window into his room and his face had no look of life left.

"My sister woke me on Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. to tell me he had died. It was terrible and I just sat stunned. During the game I had talked with him several times and he seemed alright. When I got in the game and we ran a pass that didn't work, he ran a quarterback sneak, came back to the huddle and then fell down. I walked over beside him and he could still understand Coach Hicks. He tried to get up but don't think he knew what he was doing. Then he got worse, and started breathing very hard. Stephen was one of my best friends. I am deeply sorrowed by the loss of a wonderful friend and athlete. I can't really express how I feel.

'Stephen was a well-liked classmate and liked by everyone. He had a wonderful personality and was excellent in every sport he played." (Information taken from a journal kept by Larry Campbell of the events in August 1964, '67).

"I was the football center of that game August 27, and hiked that final ball in his last football game. I will never forget. "(Eddie Draper '67)

"He was my friend, mainly at church, and was a good Christian young man with many friends in high school. In early March of 1964, our coaches had us do several Kennedy youth-fitness tests mandated by that president to evaluate teen health. One of these events was two laps around the football field which that year was still in a north/south direction before being realigned to west/east. We were put into groups of about a dozen each and timed for the two laps. In my group Billy Roy Switzer was far in the lead, I was second over half-way, until Stephen passed me on the second backside lap to take second. This was typical of Stephen's athletic work ethic as a quarterback and team leader.

Prior to this in the fall of 1963, at a game in Alvord was Stephen's first head injury where he was put in the I didn't want him to be embarrassed. I'll never forget Decatur hospital for several days. Being two years older that laugh and how it was the first time for most of us and not a football player, I was not as close to him as to experience a great loss. We had no idea how to deal many in our high school. In early August 1964, while with it. I forgave myself for laughing because I knew it leaving Sunday night church I asked Stephen if he was was just a way to cover what we were really feeling. I



SANGER, DENTON COUNTY, TEXAS 76266.

FOLLOWING FOOTBALL INJURY

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LAST RITES HELD FOR STEPHEN BAKER

Last rites were held for Last rites were held for Stephen Rory Baker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Baker, Sunday, Aug. 30, 1964, at 2:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Sanger, with the Rev. Ronnie Mallow, pastor, officiating, assisted by the Rev. Ross O. Ward of Ashdown,

Arkansas, He was born Jan. 30, 1948.
Stephen, 16-year old Junior quarterback for Sanger High School, died at 6:45 Saturday morning, Aug. 29, at Parkland Hospital in Dallas after. suffering a head injury in a practice scrimmage Thursday

ight. He was president of his class, an active member of the First Baptist Church at Sanger, a letterman on the Indian Foot-ball and Basketball Teams, a Freshman and Sophomore clas favorite, sweetheart of the and respected by all who

Interment was in the Sanger Cemetery under the direction of Coker Funeral Home.
Active pallbearers we. Ed
Yeary, Jimmie Peabody, Cal
Harberson, Billie Harberson,
Ronald Dell, Eddie Romines,

THURSDAY, SEPT. 3, 1964

Dickie Scoggins and Howard. Honorary pallbearers were the remainder of the football squad, ::

to be cleared to play that season after his concussion in don't think Cal ever recovered from this loss. He looked late 1963. He said he was and looked forward to again leading the team. Within a week he had the next concussion on the playing field, and was in the hospital several days before his death. I was told that a number of his friends, sophomores, juniors, and others, kept a his accident. We were at a scrimmage, I believe. We three-day vigil in the hospital waiting room before his untimely death.

'I was pleased when the school named the field in his honor. My opinion is that it would be best to keep the "Baker" designation at the site of the original field, in part due to the 55 years that have elapsed. I know the track has the Arledge name to honor Herb, which I also support leaving intact." (Richard Muir '64)

"My memories of high school are vivid, but very insignificant. When I remember Stephen, I remember a 15-16-year-old boy, very quiet, very sweet. I remember the night he was injured in Alvord and he was taken to the hospital in Decatur. For a while after he came to, he couldn't see. I visited him the next day. He played basketball that year after his injury and I remember him being fast and taking lots of risks on the court---flying through the air---playing every minute like the game depended on it. I don't remember anything about baseball, but I am sure he went at it the same way.

The rest of my memories are strange. He went down on the field and when I saw who it was, I looked up at Mrs. Baker. Her hair was in curlers and she put both her hands over her face and lowered her head to her knees. The next thing I remember was sitting in a small waiting room at Parkland Hospital but have no idea how I got there. The room was full of kids from Sanger, and I think there may have been kids from the opposing team. I don't think at that point any of us knew that Stephen was already gone. Maybe they were keeping him alive by machines or did they even do that back then?

'Someone must have told us how bad it was because I remember looking at Cal Harberson and his eyes were red but he wasn't exactly crying, and he laughed. laughed, too. We knew it wasn't funny but I think he was trying to cover the fact that he was crying and

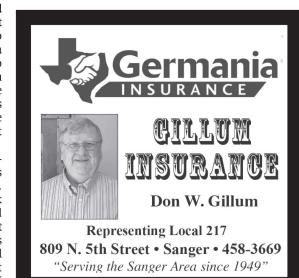
at life differently after that." (Vickie Cole Jenkins '66)

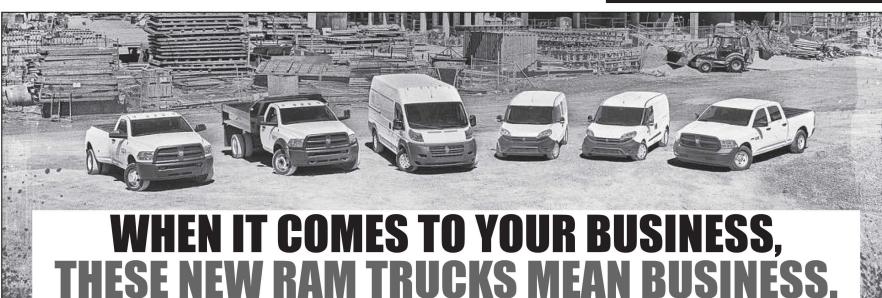
I started school in Sanger the year that Stephen had were all on the drill team. I never had the privilege of meeting Stephen and getting to know what a great person that he must have been. It really does bother me that they are doing away with his memory because that is what is basically happening. The last time I visited Sanger I drove by the old field and noticed that they were demolishing the place. I thought that maybe they were just going to transfer to the new field. I am saddened by all of this and know that his memory must live on." (Jane Sparkman '66)

It was a very warm day in August 1964. I was a freshman in high school. We had our first scrimmage game with Carroll on a Thursday afternoon.

Stephen was tackled and lay on the field motionless. I thought "this can't be." We all went to Parkland Hospital and sat silent waiting to hear from the doctors.

(Continued on pg. 5)





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#### Baker

(Continued from pg. 4)

There was a small window we could look through. Stephen lay there, his eyes open but no response. I walked off many times that night and would come back with no change. I remember going to another room where the family was sitting. The look on Jimmie's face

That evening seemed like an eternity. A nurse came out and told us his vitals were better and we needed to go home and rest. I really believe she knew what was

Up in the morning hours, the phone rang and my daddy answered. It woke me up and I knew it had to be bad. Eddie had called. Daddy came in and sat down on the bed and told me Stephen had died. He sat with me for a while. First time I saw my Daddy cry.

Many tears were shed in the next days and longer. It was a very sad school year. Thank goodness we had loving parents and as a high school, we were all very close. This is how we got through it.

The one questions in our minds was "why Stephen?" I'll never forget that voice or that beautiful smile. After 56 years I still tear up when I speak of Stephen. I just hope that when we are all gone, he is never forgotten." (Linda Harvey Hewlett, '68)

"I was 12 years old when that tragic event happened. I was riding my bicycle when I saw Coker's ambulance going down a street fast. I followed the ambulance and when I got to the football field about a minute later, the ambulance was going across the field and put the fallen player on the gurney and loaded him for the trip to Dallas." (Jimmy Waggoner '70)

"You could ask anyone in the small town of Sanger and the schools in the early to mid-60s about Stephen Baker and they would all have their special memories. It makes me sad that his legacy has faded away. There are many in Sanger and in the schools, who have no idea of who Stephen was and some things that made him so

"I was lucky enough to have know Stephen from the time he began first grade until the time he lost his life he was a junior in high school. He had been a friend playing the game of football (that he loved) as a junior in high school.

'My brother was in his class, my mother was a den mother in cub scouts, and I went to all their meetings. Plus, I was a bit of a tomboy and thought I was just one of the boys and would always play with the boys when they were at our house. Stephen was also on Little League teams with my brother.

"One of my memories is when I was sitting on a blanket with another one of the sisters of a player watching their game and talking as little sisters do when Stephen hit a foul ball down the first base side of the field and the ball grazed my mouth. I still have a scar inside my mouth from the fat lip I got from that ball. Stephen felt so bad and he taught me a great lesson about watching the game.

'Stephen was a gentleman and a stand-up guy. He was like another big brother. There was a time when someone said something about me that Stephen did not like, and he was a real stand-up friend and took up for

"Stephen had a love for all sports, but really loved football. He had a couple of concussions and as I remember there had been talk about him not playing again, but he pressed on with the desire to play. It was a different time and not near as much was known about head injury and concussions, plus the helmets were not like they are today. Stephen just knew he loved the game and he could not imagine life without football. He was the leader of the team.

his life and they put school off for a week because evnock over this loss. He lost his life and it was so very important to the town and the school wanted this to be remembered forever. There is not one of us that thought there would be a time in the future when he would be forgotten. Years later one of my boys was playing middle school football and one of the scrim-

mages he had on a #10 jersey. I got a big lump in my throat! Afterward I told him I did not want to see him in sick feeling anytime I see a football jersey with the #10.

His number #10 was retired and put in the trophy case, the football field was named after him, and there was a scholarship set up in his name which is still active 56 years later.

"As time passes, memories fade, not for the ones who knew him, but for his legacy. I feel that we need are. It should make our team stronger if we had the fire in their hearts that Stephen had for the game." (Myrl Yeary Webb '67)

"Some of the things I remember about Stephen is he was devout Royal Ambassador and a member of First Baptist Church of Sanger. He and our neighborhood gang played baseball, football, basketball, and even made a track in our neighborhood. Our neighborhood was part of the Harold Easley Addition which at the time didn't have many homes. So, we had plenty of room for our mischievousness. Stephen's dad was a carpenter in the neighborhood which allowed him to hang out with us.

Stephen loved the game of football and was a great athletic quarterback. In his freshman year, he obtained two concussions during that season and because of this, the doctors highly recommended that he no longer play football. But, with his persistent begging to play, his parents finally allowed him to participate. During a football scrimmage with Carroll High School at Sanger, Stephen received another head blow that knocked him out. If I recall, he died that night in the hospital. The following day the entire football team, coaches, and administration met in the Sanger Library for community counseling. (Note: Stephen had head surgery at Parkland Hospital and died Saturday morning after the event Thursday afternoon).

Stephen was loved and respected by everyone he came into contact with. His devotion to athletics and football in particular, was as much of his life as life itself." (Ken Cook, '67)

"The year Stephen died I was in the 8th grade and and hero of mine for many years. I was raised in the First Baptist Church in Sanger as was Stephen. In fact, his mother was one of my early Sunday school teachers and his uncle was one of my dad's best friends. I knew Stephen for all my life even though he was older

'Stephen was very active in the First Baptist Church and because in small churches, youth from junior high and high school had activities together, I was able to interact with him and other older kids every Sunday. He always was a great leader that treated everyone the same even if you were much younger. Stephen was a good athlete and leader in sports. I also wanted to be just like him when I got in high school. He was quarterback and wore number #11 (Note: Stephen's football jersey was #10) Eleven was my number and I played quarterback ust like Stephen. He had been class favorite as a freshman and Sophomore years and FHA Sweetheart. He was respected by all who knew him. He was one of the heroes that I wanted to do everything like Stephen

"I remember when he collapsed on the field in scrimmage and everyone waiting to hear that his surgery was a success. Everyone was hoping to hear that he was better. I was at a church camp that weekend and heard on the radio that Stephen had died. We were all devastated. I remember going to the funeral and having to sit in another part of the church because there was an overflow crowd. He influenced a lot of people in Snager

'As a senior in high school, I was very proud to receive the Stephen Baker Scholarship Award in 1969. "The whole town was stunned when Stephen lost Now 50 years later, I am still proud of this recognition. To me it was recognition that I was meeting my goal to be like him. If you win the award and you don't know who he was, you should be proud to uphold Stephen Baker's example of being an athlete who was a leader, friend, and example for others to follow. You are helping to keep the memory of a great Sanger Indian Stephen Baker alive." (Rusty Armstrong '69, 1969 Stephen Baker Scholarship Award winner)

\*12

"I was standing at the end of the field by the elethat jersey again so I explained my reasons. I still get a mentary school on my bicycle when it happened. Must have been Darlene, Jimmy, Becky, and I --- can't imagine who else it would have been. Just remember the panic! So terrible!"

(Janis Ready '70)

"I remember Stephen's mother, Jimmie Baker, tellto hold on tight to our history. Our history is who we ing me that the night before Stephen's game, there was a big storm and she, Clifford, and Stephen went to the cellar. While they were waiting for the storm to pass over, they all three had such a good talk. It was something she said had not happened in years because having a teenager and the parents being older had created more non-communication. Jimmie and Clifford were left with this memory after Stephen's death." (Jacqueline Hall Campbell '71)

"I was the tailback on the football team in 1964. I remember Stephen was the quarterback for this scrimmage game against Carroll High School. He called for a quarterback sneak, I began to run, and looked back and he went down. We knew it was not good as he had a concussion in Alvord the previous year and no one was sure if he could ever play football again. It was such a moment in time and something all the school students have never forgotten. Stephen's memory should be kept alive." (Billy Roy Switzer '67)

(Continued on pg. 6)









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### Baker

(Continued from pg. 5)

\*15

"Stephen was a good guy. He loved football and was a great athlete. Even though I was younger, I always looked up to his abilities and everyone liked him. I remember that his parents didn't want him to play football again in 1964 as he had suffered a concussion in Alvord the previous football season. Everyone was very sad at the loss of a friend." (Joe Mack Norris '74)

\*16

"Indeed, Stephen was a great friend, and loved by all. Stephen played second base on our little league baseball team during the summer. His dad, Clifford, was our coach and would drive us around in the back of his pickup. Do you know how Stephen got those two front silver teeth? We were all on the tennis court at the old school when Billy Jack McReynolds and Stephen collided. Jack got a large cut in his head, and Stephen lost those two front teeth." (Robert Howard, '66)

\*17

"Such a tragic loss of a fine young man. My memories include shock and then sorrow that we lost one of our own. It was a terrible night." (Donna Smith Mayes, '66)

\*18

"He was my friend, and a good Christian young man with many friends. In the fall of 1963 at a game in Alvord, he suffered his first head injury and was in the Decatur Hospital for several days. In August 1964 while leaving Sunday night church, I asked him if he was to be cleared to play football that season after that concussion, he suffered in 1963 and he said he was and was looking forward to again leading the team. Within a week he had the next concussion playing on the field and was in the hospital several days before his death. A three-day vigil was held in the hospital waiting room before his untimely death. '

\*19

"I was playing tailback position and remember Bobby Payne being on the field. Stephen called a quarterback sneak play and as we started the play, it stopped. I realized that Stephen had gone down. It was something always in the back of our minds if he would be okay. But he was not." (Billy Roy Switzer, '67)

\*20

"I remember what a cute and sweet boy he was." (Sandy Thomas Bowles, '63)

\*21

"I remember making pimento sandwiches with him and maybe Larry Campbell or Cal Harberson. They were to be sold at the basketball tournament in Sanger. I also remember the accident. Bill Hicks (coach), and John (Lowrey, coach) coming to my mother and dad's house to spend the night so they could get to Parkland Hospital quickly." (Vicki Lowrey, wife of Coach John Lowrey)

\*22

Stephen's story has been a meaningful part of the heritage at SHS which has become all but forgotten. The title of this article could have been 'A Fading Inspiration', or 'How Communities Lose Their Identify'. Let's not forget." (Chet Switzer, '76, Proud Stephen Baker Scholarship Award Recipient).

\*23

"Stephen was my friend from as early as I remember being in church with him. When we began school in first grade and through-out high school, we typically were seated one behind the other due to our names hitting the alphabet just right. He was kind and caring.

"The day of August 27, a Thursday, the students had registered for the 1964-65 school year. Later in the day there was a scrimmage with Carroll and the drill team had been at the field practicing when the football teams showed up. We took the sidelines and as the game began, I believe we all had thoughts in our mind that Stephen had taken the field in the quarterback role, and hoped he would be okay. That was a lot to think of at our mostly 16 years of age, but we all remembered the previous year of him going down in Alvord with a concussion. I remember the play began, and then it seemed to stop abruptly in my mind. The boys gathered around and we could see someone lying on the field and we just knew. Stephen was transported to Parkland Hospital and everyone that had the opportunity jumped in cars and headed to Dallas. Stephen passed away early Saturday morning. How many tears were lost by so many during that time?

"We were young and had never encountered the passing of a classmate. There just wasn't anything to compare it to in losing your friend and classmate." (Tona Batis, '66)

The old football field located by the I35 freeway was named Stephen Baker Field after his death to honor his memory. There was a memorial plaque and a field sign to designate the name of the field. After the new high school field was built, Stephen Baker Field was used for other events, and in recent years the bleachers were taken down, and there is no longer a field honoring the only student to lose his life playing a sport for a Sanger ISD team.

This article is written to inspire and renew the memory of Stephen's life lest he not be forgotten. Those that grew up with Stephen will never forget.

Article submitted in conjunction with Sanger Area Historical Society, Chet Switzer and Tona Batis.

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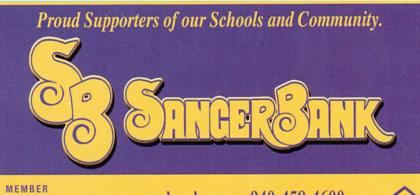
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Pellegrino's Italian Ristorante in Sanger was established in November, 2006. We feel grateful and honored to be celebrating 14 years with our loyal customers, family, supporters, and friends we have made



throughout the years. After running our restaurant business in Los Angeles, California, we were excited to continue in the North Texas area after relocating from the west coast in 2005. Ramiro Rivera, Owner & Chef, has over 25 years of experience in the business cooking the best Italian dishes. With his love for cooking & passion for customer service, Pellegrino's has been able to succeed and continue to offer the Sanger community and beyond with delicious Italian food.

Throughout our fourteen years of business, we have proudly participated with our surrounding community in various capacities. From catering and hosting special occasions like weddings, birthdays, graduations, dinner rehearsals, anniversaries, family reunions and galas to partnering with organizations such as The Lions Club, Sanger Education Foundation, Sanger ISD, The Corvette Club, Sanger Downtown, and Chamber of Commerce. Pellegrino's is excited to continue the work we have been

doing for years to come. We want to thank each and everyone who has created relationships and beautiful memories and helped us reach this great milestone. Cheers to 14 years and many more!

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Back row, left to right: Head Coach Derek Hilliard, Coach Tanner Rankin, Riley Holder, Carly Schmucker, Bella Ringenberg, Morgan Hartman, Chloe Malone, Tayte Frazier, Coach Tracy Sykes, Coach Jeremy Harvey, Coach Allison Taylor. Middle row: Karleigh Monden, Phoenix Dillin, Lexi Roberts, Abby Odom, Elaine Pomeroy, Kate Couch. Front row: Tinley Frazier, Ryan Searles, Mercedes Ibarra and Alyssa Wadsworth.



#### SHS BASKETBALL:

# Lady Indians lose to Argyle

halftime on Friday 19-17, but the Lady Eagles hit several 3-pointers to take a double-digit lead in the third guarter. Sanger ended up losing 52-38. "We had a great start in the first half and I thought we did a good job slowing them down. The third quarter killed us, giving up 21 points," said Sanger coach Derek Hilliard.

Sanger: 9, 10, 7, 12: 38 Argyle: 12, 5, 21, 14: 52

Sanger: Abby Odom 2 Kate Couch 2

Sanger led Argyle at Bella Ringenberg 13 Chloe Malone 14 Elaine Pomeroy 3 Phoenix Dillin 2

> Argyle: Timmons 9 Bacon 1 Campbell 4 Crabtree 9 Lumsden 26 George 3

Lexi Martin 2

Sanger beat Frisco Lebanon Trail on Saturday 47-32. "Proud of how we bounced back after a tough

against Argyle. We did a good job spreading the ball around against their zone," said Hilliard.

Sanger: 12, 15, 9, 11: 47 Lebanon Trail: 11, 6, 4, 11: 32

Sanger: Rylee Holder 3 Carly Schmucker 2 Bella Ringenberg 16 Chloe Nalone 7 Elaine Pomeroy 2 Phoenix Dillin 2 Morgan Hartman 5 Lexi Martin 10

Sanger lost to Peaster on Monday 75-68. "I was proud of how our kids handled pressure and adversity today. We may not have come out on top, but we learned alot today about who we are and got better," added Hilliard.

Sanger is 4-2 in non-district and played Decatur on Tuesday. The result wasn't available before press

Sanger: 17, 21, 18, 12: 68 Peaster: 22, 20, 16, 17: 75

Sanger: Abby Odom 2 Carly Schmucker 7 Kate Couch 4 Bella Ringenberg 22 Chloe Malone 13 Elaine Pomeroy 7 Lexi Martin 13

Dec. 1

Dec. 4

Dec. 8

12/3 Thursday

12/7 Monday

12/12 Saturday

12/14 Monday

1/7 Thursday

1/14 Thursday

1/21 Thursday

1/25 Monday

1/30 Saturday

2/8

Monday

Monday

#### Sanger Lady Indians **Varsity Roster** 2020-2021

#1	Rylee Holder	JR.	5'9"
#2	Abby Odom	JR.	5'5"
#4	Tayte Frazier	JR.	5'5"
#5	Carly Schmucker	SO.	5'8"
#10	Kate Couch	JR.	5'7"
#12	Bella Ringenberg	JR.	6'2"
#15	Chloe Malone	SR.	5'9"
#22	Karleigh Monden	SO.	5'6"
#23	Elaine Pomeroy	SO.	5'6"
#24	Phoenix Dillin	SR.	5'8"
#25	Morgan Hartman	JR.	5'9"
#32	Lexi Martin	SO.	5'6"

Head Coach: Derek Hilliard Head Assistant Coach: Tracy Sykes Assistant Coaches: Allison Taylor, Tanner Rankin, Jeremy Harvey Mgr. Mercedes Ibarra, Ryan Searles, Alyssa Wardsworth Video: Tinley Frazier Trainer: Ava Nelms

5:00/5:00/6:15

5:00/5:00 / 6:30

5:00/6:00 / 7:00 5:00/6:15/ 7:30

5:00 / 6:15 / 7:30

5:00/6:00 7A,8B / 8A,7B

10:00/11:00 7B,8B / 7A,8A

7B,8B / 7A,8A

7B,8B / 7A,8A

11:00 / 12:15

5:00/6:00

5:00/6:00

JVP/JVG/V

JVG/JVP/V

JVP/JVG/V JVP/V

JVG/JVP/V

2020-2021 SHS LADY INDIANS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

2020-2021 SANGER MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Away

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Away

#### 2020-2021 SHS INDIANS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	<u>OPPONENT</u>	SITE	GOLD	PURPLE	VARSITY
TUESDAY	12/1/20	WICHITA FALLS	номе	5:00 PM	6:15 PM	7:30 PM
FRIDAY	12/4/20	@GLEN ROSE	AWAY	5:00 PM	6:15 PM	7:30 PM
SATURDAY	12/5/20	KRUM	HOME	12:00 PM	1:15 PM	2:30 PM
TUESDAY	12/8/20	BELLEVUE	HOME	х	х	5:00 PM
FRIDAY	12/11/20	@FW WESTERN HILLS	AWAY	5:00 PM	6:15 PM	7:30 PM

#### 2020-2021 SANGER MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

		<u>7B</u>	<u>8B</u>	<u>7A</u>	<u>8A</u>
12/3	Krum	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
12/7	@ Gainesville*	5:00	5:00	6:00	6:00
12/14	Bridgeport	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
1/7	@ Aubrey*	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
1/14	Van Alstyne	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
1/18	@ Krum*	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
1/25	Gainesville	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
1/30	Melissa	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
2/1	@ Bridgeport*	5:00	5:00	6:00	6:00
2/6	Anna	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00
2/8	Aubrey	5:00	6:00	5:00	6:00

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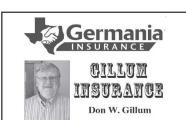
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## **SUPER BOWL CHAMPS!**



Sanger Youth Football had four teams in the Super Bowls this past Saturday in Whitesboro. The 6th grade won their third championship in a row and the 4th grade were back-to-back champions. The 2nd and 5th grades lost close contests.

#### Sanger Super Bowl Results:

2nd grade lost to Pottsboro 18-12 4th grade won vs Aubrey 14-8 5th grade lost to Gunter 22-20 6th grade won vs Krum 14-8

ASSISTANT COACHES Jake Clark Trent Typton Jake Luke Jarrod Roberts Cory Smith Coty Alambai Zepeda Ryker Smith Mason Grammer Clark Lane Caleb Kirby Cruz York Guy Camden Piekarski Cutter Roberts Trayson Tipton Twohia Sheldon Ray Mercer Rodrigo Garcia Kolton Blanchard 34 Cason Alambar 35 54 Ethan Grant 62 Foster David

HEAD COACH David York

HEAD COACH Greg McRobb ASSISTANT COACHES Michael Boerner Zach Thompson Chad Hendricks Michael Brown **Dusten Croft** 

Daniel Madrid jr Clayton Luke Max Taylor Jacob Thompson 11 Kevin Hines Collett Kyle Ogunwuyi 18 Bola

Yancey Kooper Rhodes 23 Ayden McNeill 24 Martin Austin Kyle Kemp Isaac Facio Creedon Boerner

Noah William Kerlin 45 Cole Webster 55 77 Gabe Saylor Nathan Rizer Lindsey Joshua





Rizer

Luke

Dillin Pineda

Aslinger

Levi Dylan

Tucker

Nolan

78

### spreading holiday cheer

#### supporting the SISD Backpack program!

Who: CX Teams and families What: Bring food items\* and place in the basket for your favorite CX team
When: Until December 4th Where: Baskets will be located inside the CX gym!

## Who WILL WIN? WHAT WILL IT BE?

The team with the most items in their basket by December 4th, will get to see their coaches KISS a FARM ANIMAL!

\*Items Needed

Canned items: beans (pinto, kidney, pork & beans), corn, green beans, pears, peaches, ruit cocktail, apple sauce.

Ramen Noodles: beef and chicken favors Tuna Helper

Snacks: goldfish, chips, granola bars, breakfast bars, and peanut butter crackers Jars: peanut butter, jelly (plastic jars only)

Items will be delivered and donated to the program to help local families.



Carissa Aguayo Olivia Finch Avery Farmer Stoney Newman

Carissa Gosdin Kinley Praesel Kelsea Allan Daisy Lopez Ochoa Mckynzee Blevins Taryn White Zoey Clearman Amy Manzanares

Coaches: Diana Aguayo Andrea Praesel



## SHS Varsity Basketball Player Profiles:

NAME: Carly Schmucker GRADE: 10th NUMBER: 5 POSITION(S): Guard PARENTS' NAMES: Jeremy and LoriAnne Schmucker SIBLINGS: Drew 19, Jack and Joseph 17, Ally 14, Molly 12, Joshua 9

HOBBIES: Sports and watching Grey's Anatomy HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN SANGER: 12 years - moved here from Denton

FAVORITE COLLEGE TEAM: Texas A&M

**FAVORITE WEATHER SEASON: Summer** FAVORITE MOVIE(S): The Rocky and Creed movies FAVORITE BAND(S)/MUSIC GROUP(S): Taylor Swift, Harry Styles and Country Music in general

FAVORITE PRO TEAM: Mavs

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CLASS: Math MOST INFLUENTIAL HS COACH: Coach Sykes

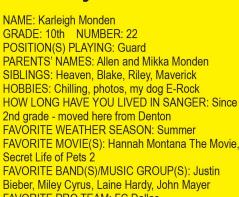
MOST INFLUENTIAL HS TEACHER: Mrs. Campbell

MOST INFLUENTIAL YOUTH COACH: My Dad

MOST INFLUENTIAL SPORTS FIGURE: Michael Jordan BEST THINGS ABOUT PLAYING BASKETBALL: Having an amazing team, the competitive-

ness of the teams and the overall game in general.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR BASKETBALL THIS SEASON: To get better as the season goes on; make the playoffs and get one of the top ranks in district.



Bieber, Miley Cyrus, Laine Hardy, John Mayer FAVORITE PRO TEAM: FC Dallas MOST INFLUENTIAL HIGH SCHOOL COACH: Coach Mac and Webb

MOST INFLUENTIAL HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER: Mrs. L. Patton and Mrs. Murrell

MOST INFLUENTIAL YOUTH COACH: Coach Crystal MOST INFLUENTIAL SPORTS FIGURE: Sydney Leroux BEST THINGS ABOUT PLAYING BASKETBALL: Abby Odom

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR BASKETBALL THIS SEASON: To get faster.

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THE OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL IN THE CITY

OF SANGER, TEXAS, FOR AN ELECTION HAV-

ING BEEN HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020, DE-

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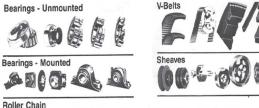
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We're hiring! ESS is hiring substitute teachers, substitute nurses, paraprofessionals, and food service workers to become part of the Sanger ISD family for the 2020-2021 school year.

If you or someone you know is interested, go to



www.sangerisd.net



#### **H.S. Store**

(Continued from pg. 1) schools it will do a whole lot to help other small towns."

Students will learn about having sales when

they have too much product, and of course, what to expect in their own first

"We all had our first jobs and it taught us how to work, and what you got for your work," said

Thomas Muir, Sanger's City Mayor.

The store will also hold food drives weekly for the community and act as a supplement to other food insecurity programs in the area.



Paul Juarez, Executive Director of First Refugee Ministries



Linda Tutt High School grocery store manager Hunter is interviewed by CBS 11 News.



**Mayor Thomas Muir** 



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able experience ever," Dean told ES-PN's Holly Rowe. "I wish I had words to answer the question but I don't. It's just a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity." The game was nationally televised ABC. The telecast highlighted Dean driving the Sooner Schooner after a touchdown by OU. Darby is a member of the OU

Dean

(Continued from pq. 1)

RUF / NEKS Lil' Sis. The mission of the OU RUF/NEKS and RUF/ NEK Lil' Sis is to support the athletic teams at the University of Oklahoma by generating crowd enthusiasm and actively engaging with their fans. They are ambassadors and represent the University at a variety of alumni, civic and charitable events and are committed to displaying a positive and collegiate image at all times that reflects the values of the University of Oklahoma.

Darby posted a thank you. "I've been thinking all day of the right words to say and I realized that I'm never going to have the perfect words, but I do have so much to be thankful for. In this season of thanksgiving I'd like to begin this post by saying thank you to all of my friends, family and advisors who have supported me from the very beginning of this whole process. You have constantly encouraged & inspired me and I will never be able to thank you enough for that.

To all of the past and present RUF/NEK Lil' Sis, thank you. Two years ago our leadership proposed the idea of us getting our own shotguns so that we could become equals with the guys on gun line. You all were the spark behind this flame and I am eternally grateful for you. Every woman before has paved the way for all of the women in this organization and without y'all we wouldn't have the opportunities we do today.

To all of the little girls, young women, and even older women chase your dreams. You are never too young or too old to make a difference and inspire others. You are just as capable as any other person and never let anyone tell you different. Challenge the status quo. Just because it's never been done, doesn't mean it can't be

"Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear." - Franklin D. Roosevelt

