Community Briefs

Senior citizens get pets for free

Lubbock Animal Services will let people who are 60 or older adopt a dog or cat free because Pets for the Elderly Foundation will pay fees. "Pets for the Elderly Foundation saves the lives of many innocent animals and gives elderly persons a new lease on life," said Tony Randal, member of the board of trustees.

Adoptions may be conducted from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Information is available by calling Denise Jones, educational officer, at 775-2710.

Goodwill holds style show

Goodwill Industries of Lubbock has scheduled its sixth annual style show at 11:30 a.m. today at Lubbock Country Club to celebrate a 100-year Goodwill tradition of putting people to work in local communities. Tickets are $35, and table sponsorships for eight begin at $400. For information, call Goodwill at 744-9419.

Lubbock Goodwill is joining 200 Goodwills worldwide with the goal of putting 20 million people to work by 2020. Proceeds from the style show fund-raiser will benefit Goodwill's training programs in the community.

Discovering history

Technology enables public to view pieces of the past

This painting, "The Destruction of Mission San Sabá in the Province of Texas and the Martyrdom of the Fathers Alonso de Terreros, Joseph Santiesteban," is the first professional painting of a historical scene in Texas. Painted six years after the event in 1765, historians believe the painting to be the work of Jose de Paez.
Mission San Sabá was built in 1757 by the Spanish in an attempt to convert American Indians to Christianity. But bands of Wichita, Comanche and Caddo warriors killed two priests and burned the mission to the ground 10 months after its completion.

The site’s 1993 discovery and archaeological excavation after years of being lost is part of 21 archaeological sites across the state showcased at www.texasbeyonddiscovery.net.

The Web site’s purpose, according to designers and archaeologists at the University of Texas, is to bring archaeology to the everyday person in language he or she can understand.

Grant Hall, associate professor of anthropology at Texas Tech, was one of four people who discovered the old mission. He wrote the section about its discovery for the Web site.

“1997, we took the largest field school (at Tech), which was about 35 students, and completely excavated it,” Hall said. “That’s the subject of the Web site. It focused on that major excavation in 1997.”

In a farmer’s field about 243 miles south of Lubbock, Hall recalled, they found the burned wooden pillars in the soil as well as other artifacts. Archaeologists had been searching for the lost mission since 1965, he said.

“We found it in a real healthy crop of alfalfa,” Hall said. “There was literally nothing really obviously there. But, we were there when the visibility was really good, and we found some shards of Spanish pottery.”

Though the site was damaged severely from an archaeological standpoint by plowing, artifacts were recovered.

“There were stumps left where the posts burned down to the ground,” Hall said. “We mapped an outline of the mission and found items like musket balls.

SEE SAN SABA, PAGE B2
SAN SABÁ: Archaeologists plan to rebuild Texas presidio

FROM PAGE B1

“One of the unusual items was ... part of a gold-plated sundial with a maker's mark from 1580. That's 200 years before the mission. It was made by a German instrument maker named Alrich Schup, who had Jesuit ties. It's strange how it got from Germany to the New World. I don't think we'll ever be able to find the direct linkage.”

In the next year, he'll put information up on the Web site about his excavation of Presidio San Sabá, the fort built to protect the mission. Though this presidio was rebuilt in the 1600s, it was not put back together correctly, he said.

He and other archaeologists will take down the '30s structure and rebuild it on the original foundations, he said, and he will put up a page on texasbeyonddhi-story.net.

The Lubbock Lake Landmark also is represented on the Web site. Sue Shore, education program director for Lubbock Lake Landmark, said that it was one of the first Texas archaeological areas featured on www.texasbeyonddhi-story.com.

“A lot of the information on the landmark is information they've compiled over the years,” she said. “Texas Memorial Museum did a major excavation here in 1951 where they did lots of archaeology and geology. Texas Archaeological Society does a field school every year, and they did one out here in 1983.

“Basically what is discussed with the landmark is the basic information on the Web site and subsequent cultural information. You'll see a lot of interesting pictures from the '50s.’

Hopefully, Web sites such as this one and the landmark's other Web site will start to turn around archaeology's tarnished public image of a secret society.

‘One of the things that we work on hard is who our audience is.’

Stephen Black
www.texasbeyonddhi-story.com editor

“It's important in that, in some ways, archaeology has gotten a bad rap because it wasn't public enough,” Shore said. “A lot of people saw it as a secretive science, and that we don't want anybody around. Now, we're interested in protecting a site from vandalism, but this information is very important to us all as a collective people.”

Stephen Black is the editor for the Web site and a research archaeologist for the Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory for University of Texas at Austin.

He said he and other archaeologists built the Web site in October to bring the knowledge and pictures of artifacts from places such as Mission San Sabá, Lubbock Lake Landmark and others to the public.

“We have all this stuff, but we're a warehouse, not a museum,” Black said, describing the university's J.J. Pickle Research Campus. “So archaeologists are aware of what we have, but the general public probably would never see any of it. We wanted to let the public have access to what we have, and the only practical way to do that is through the Internet.”

The site's pages are accessed 700 to 800 times a day, he said — up from the initial 300.

“More and more people are finding out about us,” Black said. “One of the things that we work on hard is who our audience is. Most of the people are not fellow archaeologists. They're members of the general public. So, we've got sections for kids and teachers.

“These days, the Web is becoming more and more where to go to find information. We want people to say, 'Hey, here's what we've learned. Here's the information the archaeology in your part of the state.’”

REPLICAS: Museum plans four planes

FROM PAGE B1

“I think the museum knows how to build the replicas, it has decided to build three more to form a squadron of four. Michels said.

The completed Ki-51 replica sits in storage at the Texas Air Museum in Lubbock.

Dennis Michels, board member of the Caprock Chapter, discusses the various parts of the plane. The team had to paint the engine oil on the plane, said, because the Japanese word for engine in the '30s would result in death, he said.

As the plane taxied down the runway at the 2001 air show, Laing said, the director of the Río Hondo museum was taken by surprise.

He did not recognize it as his own plane,” Laing said. "He came to the air show and asked, 'Where did that plane come from?'

Now that the museum knows how to build the replicas, it has decided to build three more to form a squadron of four. Michels said.