

From the archives of Liberal's hometown newspaper since 1886. Researched and compiled by A.J. Coleman, L&T Reporter

1963 **Tragic accident kills 4 in Liberal**

"Taut cable kills four in automobile," read the Times front page headline. A man, his wife and two of their children were killed when their car snagged a cable stretched between two pieces of construction equipment. The cable sheared off the top of the car.

R.V. Holloway, 42, a Houston truck driver, his wife, Melba 22, their son, Michael, 15 months, and daughter Tammie, 3, were killed. Another daughter, 4 was in critical condition with head injuries.

A bulldozer was pulling a ditching machine with the cable, the accident investigator said. There was 11 feet between the two machines. The investigator said that the driver of the car had tried to maneuver between the two pieces of machinery without seeing the cable.

"Find second can of toxic tuna," read the fishy headline of the Southwest Daily Times.

In Detroit, a second can of toxic tuna from the same pack suspect of causing the deaths of two Detroit women, the Department of Health reported that a toxic substance resembling botulism was detected in the swollen tin found on the shelf. Both causing death had been packaged at the same plant.

The A&P food store chain withdrew all of its own brand of tuna from its stores following the finding of the Type E Botulism a rare seafood poisoning in the tuna can after two Detroit deaths.

"LHS speech group gets four I's at district contest," read the headline of the Times.

The five students from Liberal High School who competed in the annual District Speech contest in Dodge City Friday brought home four I rating and three II ratings. Students in the various forensic and dramatic events are rated I to IV with an I superior and a II excellent. Those receiving I ratings are eligible for the state contest at Fort. Hays. Receiving I ratings were Sandra Clancy and Paula Wilson.

In Jackson, Miss., the racism issue was at its peak. In 1963, both sides of the conflict were making sure they did their part for the whole issue to remain peaceful. The matter of the "Negros" voting was a huge debate. "Negro registration drive continues," reported the Southwest Daily Times. "Negros returned in small groups to the courthouse to register to vote. Some 25 to 30 Negroes lined up outside of the courthouse where they were being admitted one

by one to take registration tests. Shortly before noon Police Chief Curtis Larry, speaking over the loudspeaker, told Negroes who had formed a double column on the walkway leading into the courthouse to break into smaller groups. They did so. For the first time, the FBI was on the scene taking photographs of Negroes as they approached and left the courthouse. In Jackson, Gov. Ross Barnett called the registration drive “ dangerous to the community as a loaded bomb resting in a street in the heart of the city.” He condemned “hired outside agitators who he said exhort crowds into a frenzy and then seek to march in a body to the circuit clerk’s office to register.”