

Star-Telegram

Shlachter, Baker & Nishimura: Mrs. Baird's sponsors food program for kids

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There's nothing like a little extra bread, and this year Mrs Baird's is rolling out the dough.

Thanks to a \$6,000 gift from the Fort Worth baker, the Tarrant Area Food Bank's BackPacks for Kids program will be providing extra rations over the holiday season.

BackPacks for Kids sends kids home with enough nutritious food each weekend to make sure they'll have enough to eat. The program covers 16 schools in eight school districts — Fort Worth, Arlington, Azle, Haltom City, Hurst, Grandview, Hico and Hamilton. Fifty to 180 youngsters are served in each school.

"Providing food during school breaks for the Backpack program was not an option this year without a sponsor," said Bo Soderbergh, Tarrant Area Food Bank's executive director. "Mrs Baird's is helping to make a real difference."

New Bobcat owner

Dig it. Bobcat of Fort Worth has a new owner.

Walter Berry, president of Berry Cos. Inc. in Wichita, Kan., is taking over the local distributorship as well as locations in Irving and Longview. The Fort Worth store is at 2727 E. Loop 820 South.

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As for the North Texas presence, Berry said that while things are still slow, he was glad to be able to take advantage of the downturn.

"We wouldn't be having this conversation if things hadn't dipped," Berry said. "Opportunities. come along."

New book, play on Ivins

Political columnist Molly Ivins, who died in January 2007, is back in the news.

A lengthy biography, *Molly Ivins: A Rebel Life*, was released in November, and now a March 19 opening has been announced for a one-woman play, *Red Hot Patriot: The Kick-Ass Wit of Molly Ivins*, to be performed at the nonprofit Philadelphia Theatre Company by actress Kathleen Turner.

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A news release says tickets go on sale Feb. 1 for the one-month run. For information, see www.philadelphiatheatrecompany.org.

Staff writer John Austin contributed to this report.

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