

Muleshoe Journal

Volume 86, No. 27

Muleshoe, Texas

50¢

July 7, 2005

Independence Day festivities are a success

Muleshoe was the place to be Monday, as a large number of area residents joined in the fun and festivities.

"I think it was great!" Heather Foley, president of the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture said, referring to this year's activities and the public response.

Local businesses, such as Carolyn's Christmas Creations, which hosted many of the activities on its parking lots, were notably busy throughout the day, and local vendors were kept busy selling everything from roasted corn to burgers.

Among the activities was the arm wrestling competition, which featured a partial upset as last year's Men's Division champ, John "Jr." Garza, fell to Orlando Camareno.

Garza took home the second place trophy.

First place in the Women's Division was retained by Rachel Gutierrez, with the second place win going to Leah Bell.

There were 19 contestants in the Men's Division, and four contestants in the Women's Division.

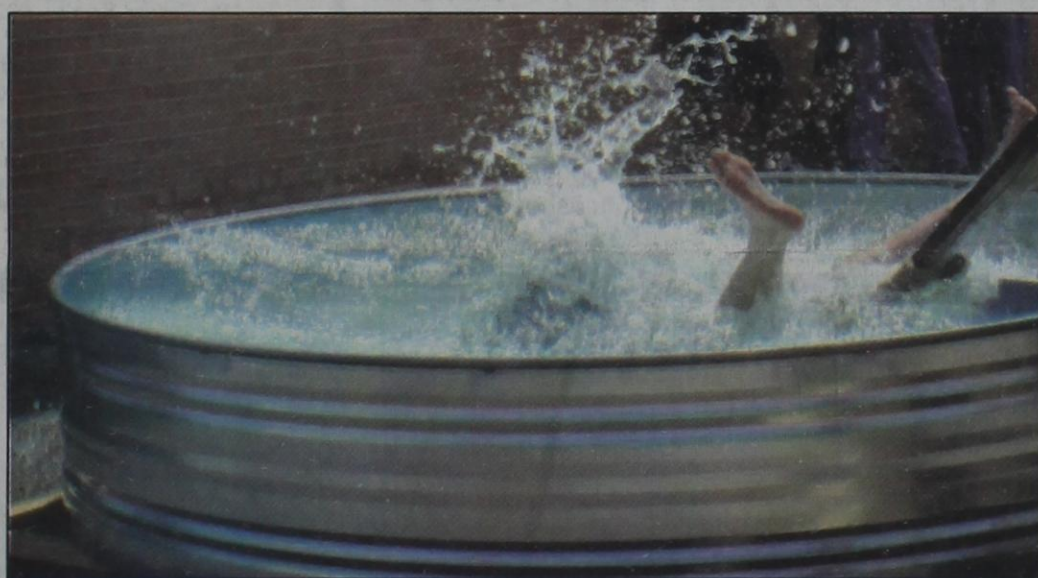
In the parade, the first place trophy went to the float entered by Bailey



Families, flags and fun!

Families, flags and fun were the order of the day in Muleshoe Monday, July 4, as many from Bailey County traveled to the county seat to join in the Independence Day festivities. Pictured above, a family decked out in its patriotic best awaits the start of the parade with flags in hand. Pictured below, good-natured — and very wet — Bailey County Sheriff Richard Wills spends some time in the dunking booth. Muleshoe Mayor Cliff Black also spent time in the booth... and in the water. Pictured on the top right is the Bailey County Electric entry in the parade, while Wayne Swart is pictured just below it on his 1948 Farmall. Pictured on the bottom right is Steve Bell with his team's equipment for the brisket cookoff, constructed from an irrigation well cover and an old bath tub which was reportedly found in a ditch. Other photographs on page 12, and throughout the newspaper.

Photographs by Larry Thornton



Continued on page 8

Local Weather

Thurs.
I. T-Storms.. 91/63

Fri.
I. T-Storms.. 93/61

Sat.
I. T-Storms.. 88/59

Sun.
I. T-Storms.. 91/59

Mon.
Mt. Sunny.... 92/59

Tue.
Sunny..... 93/59

Wed.
Sunny..... 93/61

Give It A Thought

Question....
When did the statement "I can" change to "they can?"

Words to ponder from Beverly

Missed your paper?
Call Yolanda Martinez at 272-4536, between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Superintendent expresses concerns about funding

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Muleshoe Independent School District Superintendent Gene Sheets continued to express concerns about the school finance bill currently before the Texas State Legislature during Thursday's regular school board meeting.

Sheets described the current State House bill as "terrible," and said the State Senate bill is better, but still lacks the funds necessary to adequately finance Texas schools.

But while state legislators are quick to point out that schools, such as Muleshoe ISD, are to receive an additional \$288,000 to

\$330,000 in revenue next school year, according to a tabulation sheet the superintendent presented to the board and had already sent to state officials, the additional costs the state is passing along in the form of

'We're in the hole \$300,000 before we get started...'

— Gene Sheets

unfunded mandates will total an estimated \$605,000. "We're in the hole \$300,000 before we get started," Sheets said. The superintendent noted that while the proposed

state school finance bill included an insurance and salary increase for teachers, funding for an increase for "nonprofessionals" within the school district was not included, leaving the school district to pick up the slack. Sheets estimated these additional costs to the district at \$125,000. Sheets also indicated there would be additional state-mandated expenses the school district would be facing as well, but for which the estimated costs were yet to be determined.

Among these expenditures are:

- The cost of elections for Tier II increases
- New public liability insurance for teachers that must be paid by the district
- New shared textbook costs
- Required fingerprinting for new school district employees
- The installation of lap belts in school busses
- New mentor program
- New leadership program for principals

well, but for which the estimated costs were yet to be determined.

Casting call announced

Area residents who wish to try for their own moment in the spotlight are invited to "race" over to Portales, N.M., Monday, July 11, to take part in tryouts for the CBS reality television show "The Amazing Race."

The tryouts are to begin

at 5:30 p.m., New Mexico time, and are being held in conjunction with News Channel 10 of Amarillo, which will have producers at Big Valley Ford/Dodge/Jeep of Portales to record local team auditions.

Applications for the two-person teams are available at that location.

• New hearing requirements for probationary teachers

• New reporting requirements for school districts

While not state mandated, Sheets noted that the proposed education bills didn't include any funds for school facility improvements.

Even though all of these financial questions have yet

to be answered, the superintendent pointed out there was no danger of Muleshoe schools not opening as scheduled for the upcoming school year.

He explained that if a school finance bill was sent to the governor and vetoed, the state's school district's would proceed

Continued on page 3

Muleshoe ISD Proposed State Funding	
Additional Revenue...	\$288,000 - \$330,000
Additional costs for 130 teachers	
Teacher salary increase	\$200,000*
<i>(\$1,500... includes health insurance pass through)</i>	
Educational Excellence incentive	\$ 80,000*
TRS school contribution increase	\$ 30,000*
Normal benefits increases	\$ 40,000*
State funding loss	\$ 30,000*
<i>(Gifted/Talented and Career & Technology Education)</i>	
Drop-out Prevention Program	\$ 40,000
Normal 3% inflation	\$ 60,000
<i>(Insurance, utilities, fuel, etc.)</i>	
Health insurance pass-through	\$ 50,000
<i>(For non-professionals)</i>	
Non-teacher salary increases	\$ 75,000
Total	\$605,000
* State mandated expenditures	

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MULESHOE MOTOR CO.



“Operation Keep Cannon” paraphernalia at chamber office

Individuals interested in showing their support for the “Operation Keep Cannon” campaign can find a limited supply of signs, bumper stickers and badges at the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce office. Stop by the office any weekday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The office is closed from noon to 1 p.m.

Muleshoe Motor car show

The first annual Muleshoe Motor Co., Inc., All Ford Car Show has been scheduled for July 9, with proceeds supporting the Bailey County “Meals on Wheels” program. Individuals wishing to participate may register at Muleshoe Motor Co. There is a \$20 registration fee prior to July 1, and a \$30 fee after that and on the day of the show. Awards will be given for a variety of categories. For more information contact Muleshoe Motor Co., Inc., at 1-800-432-7617, or email david.hill@muleshoemotor.com.

Rabies clinic

A rabies clinic has been scheduled for July 12, from 4-6 p.m. at the Earl Ladd Fire Station in Muleshoe.

Community band members sought

Danny Rodriguez and D.J. Dominguez are looking for individuals interested in forming a community-wide band to play at community events, social occasions, outdoor concerts and various other events. This is not a paid position at this time.

The duo hopes to gather numerous musicians to play all types of music, including jazz, big band, funk, pop and rock. They are also looking for singers.

Charts are available and reading music isn't necessary, but would be helpful since some of the music is “challenging.”

All types of instruments will be used and every musician is encouraged to make contact.

“From brass to woodwinds, drums to electric guitars, every instrument can be utilized. Even if you haven't played in 15 or 20 years, give it a try,” he said. “We really want this band to be something special and fun for the community.”

If you're interested in more information about the concept, contact Danny Rodriguez at 272-3345 or D.J. Dominguez at 272-6814.

Golf scramble

Bailey County EMS Organization is hosting a 4-person golf scramble on July 30, at the Muleshoe Country Club. The cost is \$40 per person, cart not included. Mixed and ladies teams are encouraged to participate. To sign up or for more information, call 806-272-4390.

Compassionate Care fundraiser

Compassionate Care of Muleshoe will be holding its second annual city-wide garage sale on July 23, at the First Assembly of God, 521 S. First, Muleshoe.

Individuals wishing to participate in the event are encouraged to “empty their closets and help others in the process” by purchasing space and setting up their own indoor sale.

Contact Davis Pollard at 806-946-9241 for additional information.

Bula School, Enoch-Bula reunion

A reunion has been planned for Bula School and the Enochs-Bula community on July 23 at the Holiday Inn Park Plaza, at 3201 S. Loop 289, in Lubbock.

Reservations are required and must be made not later than July 15.

For additional information, contact Brenda George at 1002 N. 21st, Slayton, TX 79364, by calling 1-806-828-4078, or emailing “brgeorge@sbcglobal.net”.

“Carrying On” County history

Orders for the reprint of the Bailey County history book “Early Bailey County History” are being taken now by members of the “Carrying On” Committee of the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture.

The book, originally printed in 1978, was compiled by seventh and eighth grade students in the Muleshoe Junior High Historical Society.

The price for the pre-ordered hardback books is \$50. If you would like to order a book send your checks to: Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture, “Carrying On Committee,” P.O. Box 356, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

Benefit concert

A benefit concert has been set for Sunday, July 10, at 6 p.m., at the First Baptist Church of Muleshoe featuring a

presentation on the work of Chris and Stephan Shelburne in Uganda. The concert will include a performance by a community gospel quartet, and the Shelburne Men's Quartet. Admission is free, but a love offering will be collected to benefit the Shelburnes' continuing mission work.

Friena Stick Horse Rodeo

A stick horse rodeo has been set for July 16, beginning at 2 p.m., at the Friena City Park. Stick horses will be provided for the four-person teams. Divisions for the event are: Pee-Wee, ages 4-7; Junior, ages 8-11; and Senior, ages 12-16. There is a \$20 entry fee per team. Call 806-250-3491 for additional information.

Drivers License Office closed

The Drivers License Office in Muleshoe will be closed July 11-15. It will also be closed July 27-29.

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Muleshoe Journal USPS 367820
Established February 23, 1924. Published by CJB Publications, Inc.
Every Thursday at 201 W. Ave. C, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
Periodicals Postage paid at Muleshoe, TX.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Muleshoe Journal, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
We are qualified members of:
Panhandle Press Association, National Newspaper Association,
West Texas Press Association and Texas Press Association © 2005

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MAEF grant writing class planned

The Muleshoe Area Education Foundation is planning a grant writing class for those interested in learning grant writing skills.

The class will be open to all area citizens, including those who may be working with other organizations that could benefit from grants and those who have an interest in seeing an education center established in Muleshoe.

Grants are a money source that can assist projects in being accomplished that might not otherwise be undertaken or completed. They are available from both governmental and private foundation sources.

Understanding the techniques necessary to identify where funding for a project may come from and then successfully applying

and receiving funding will be the focus of the class.

"Developing a resource of interested people with the skills to assist our foundation, as well as other organizations in the community, to receive grant money to fund various projects seems a worthwhile effort," said Barbara Finney, MAEF chairperson.

The MAEF is exploring the level of interest in the community and wishes to hear from anyone who would like to learn grant writing skills.

A date has not been established for the class, but qualified instructors have agreed to participate. Anyone interested in the grant writing class should call Sharon Grant at 272-7540 or 272-7566.



New business welcomed by chamber

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture dropped by MB Express to welcome it to the local business community on June 27, it's opening day. Pictured above owners Ramiro Ramirez, preparing to cut the ribbon, and Yolanda "the Burrito Lady" Ramirez, holding the grand opening plaque received from the chamber, are joined by chamber representative Carolyn Johnson, on the far left, and chamber president Heather Foley, and MB Express employee Evelyn Orozco and chamber representative Leah Bell. Not pictured is MB Express employee Josh Ramirez.

School board takes action

Continued from page 1

under last year's finance legislation.

In other business Thursday, the school board:

- Received a financial report in which said 97 percent of the school taxes budget for collection at the end of May had been received.

- Conducted the required public hearing for the 2005-06 budget and proposed tax rate, at which no one appeared to address the issue.

- Adopted the 2005-06 budget, based on a tax rate of \$1.37 per hundred, at the superintendent's recommendation.

- Approved student handbooks for DeShazo Elementary, Dillman Elementary, and Muleshoe High School.

- Approved the Student Code of Conduct and the

MISD Employee Handbook.

- Approved the renewal of the district's Student Accident Insurance Policy.

Although the school district's premium reportedly

increased from last year's amount — due to large insurance claims that had been filed — it was noted that the increased expense was lower than the amount quoted by the second lowest insurance provider.

"It's something we've done for a long time and I don't think we can just walk away from it," school board president David Tipps said.

- Accepted new band instructor Ray Bell's resignation.

- Approved the hiring of four new teachers: Brad Walker, who will be taking Bell's position; Sandra Mendoza, Head Start; Tammie Smith, second grade; and athletic trainer Brian Mullens.

Judge Stone attends Austin judicial seminar

Judge Debbie Stone of Muleshoe was certified at the recent 20-hour Justice of the Peace Stage III Seminar held June 26-29, in Austin.

The seminar was sponsored by the Texas Justice Court Training

Center, a division of Texas State University — San Marcos, officed in Austin.

The seminar was the one of three held for newly elected or appointed justices of the peace so they can fulfill their continuing judicial education

requirements as set forth in the Texas Government Code.

The seminar addressed the topics of juvenile law and truancy, civil Procedure, property code, miscellaneous issues, and traffic and inquests.

Health

Use insect repellent wisely to avoid health risks

Submitted by Mandi Seaton, Bailey CEA-FCS

Along with the summer sunshine and warmer temperatures can come a few unwanted guests—mosquitos, biting flies, and ticks. These pests are not only annoying, but can sometimes pose a serious risk to public health as we have seen with West Nile Virus and Lyme disease.

There are many forms and concentrations of insect repellents available to help

reduce the risk associated with mosquitos, biting flies, and ticks. Most repellents rely on the active ingredient DEET. DEET doesn't kill bugs, but it's vapors discourage them from landing or climbing on you. The higher the concentration of DEET, the longer lasting the protection in provides. DEET is generally acknowledged to be the most effective repellent there is.

When purchasing an insect repellent, check the container to ensure the product bears an EPA-approved registration number. Never use a product that has not been approved by the EPA.

Follow the directions on the repellent carefully; use only the amount directed, under the conditions

specified, and for the purpose listed. Store insect repellent away from children's reach.

More tips for safe use of insect repellents include:

- Read and follow all directions and precautions on the product label.

- Do not apply over cuts, wounds, or irritated skin.

- Do not apply to hands or near eyes and mouth of young children

- Do not allow young children to apply this product, and do not apply to children's hands. When using on children, apply to your own hands and then put it on the child.

- Do not spray in closed areas. Avoid breathing a repellent spray, and do not use near food.

- Use just enough repellent to cover exposed

skin and/or clothing.

- Do not use under clothing.

- Avoid over-application of the product.

- After returning indoors, wash treated skin with soap and water.

- Wash treated clothing before wearing it again.

- Wash hands after application.

For more information on insect repellents, contact Mandi Seaton, Bailey County Extension Agent—Family and Consumer Sciences, 306 West Second, Muleshoe, TX 79347, 806-272-4583.

History Notes

The first Muleshoe High School football game was held in 1924.



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465 **Facts About The BIBLE** BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the book of Judges, intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

JEPHTHAH
IN THE DAYS WHEN ISRAEL IS UNDER SEVERE SERVITUDE TO THE AMMONITES, LIVES JEPHTHAH, A YOUNG MAN OF GREAT, STRONG COURAGE, AND SKILL WITH ARMS.

...THOU SHALT NOT INHERIT IN OUR FATHER'S HOUSE, FOR THOU ART THE SON OF A STRANGE WOMAN!
...BUT THE CAREFREE LIFE OF THE YOUNG HUNTER HAS COME TO AN END!
...OUR FATHER HATH THIS DAY DIED!
...THY MOTHER WAS NOT OF ISRAEL—GET THEE HENCE FROM OUR HOUSE!
...AND JEPHTHAH, CAST OUT BY HIS HALF-BROTHERS, GOES TO THE LAND OF TOB, BORDERING ON THE WASTE-LAND OF THE DESERT.
...BUT, AS WORD OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO JEPHTHAH, SPREADS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY-SIDE, MANY OF THE CAREFREE AND IDLE YOUNG MEN DECIDE TO JOIN HIM.
BEHOLD! IS IT NOT AS I TOLD THEE? YONDER LIES THE CAMP OF JEPHTHAH— WITH SUCH A LEADER, WE SHALL SURELY LEAD A MERRY LIFE!

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Obituaries

Alice Mae Kelton

A church service for Alice Mae Kelton, 83, of Muleshoe, was held Thursday, June 30, 2005, at Trinity Baptist Church of Muleshoe with the Rev. Bennie Wright officiating. Burial followed in Bailey County Cemetery, Muleshoe.

Kelton died Tuesday, June 28, 2005, in her residence. She was born Oct. 12, 1921, in Muleshoe, and married Omer Kelton in Amarillo on July 2, 1947. He preceded her in death on Feb. 18, 1981. She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Elva Weaver in 2001, and by one sister and three brothers.

Kelton was a lifetime resident of Bailey County. She was a homemaker, a farmer and a member of the Trinity Baptist Church of Muleshoe.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law — Loyce and David Metcalf of Muleshoe; a son and daughter-in-law — Richard and Ollie Kelton of Lubbock; eight grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to Muleshoe Meals onWheels, 300 S. First, Muleshoe, TX 79347 or Vista Care Family Hospice, 4418 Olton Road, Plainview, TX 79072.

Donna Jean Durham

Funeral services for Donna Jean Durham, 52, of Lubbock were held Friday, July 1, 2005, at the First Baptist Church of Sudan. Burial followed at Sudan Cemetery.

Durham died Wednesday, June 29, 2005, in Lubbock. She was born Feb. 18, 1953, in Littlefield and raised in Sudan. On May 6, 1969, she married Larry Durham in Littlefield.

Durham worked for Lubbock Independent School District at Mahon and Rush Elementary Schools, and was an active member of the Caprock Chapter of AMBUCS.

She was preceded in death by her mother — Wanda Hill.

Survivors include her husband — Larry Durham of Lubbock; two sons and daughters-in-law — Mike and Heidi Durham of Lubbock, and Randy and Meredith Durham of Baytown; a daughter — Kayla Durham of Lubbock; her father — Connie Hill of Sudan; a brother and sister-in-law — Ronnie and Joyce Hill of Ransom Canyon; and a sister and brother-in-law — Sandra and Ed Henley of Lorenzo; and three grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the Caprock Chapter of AMBUCS, P.O. Box 93871, Lubbock, TX 387

W. Lewis Scoggin

A church service for W. Lewis Scoggin, 86, of Muleshoe, was held Tuesday, July 2, 2005, at the First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe, with the Rev. Monty Leavell officiating. Burial followed in Lazbuddie Cemetery.

Scoggin died July 3, 2005, at his residence. He was born on July 22, 1918 in Eddie County, N.M., and married Mary Swinford in Melrose, N.M. on June 6, 1945. She preceded him in death on June 24, 1999. He then married Grace Prater in Muleshoe on June 6, 2000.

Scoggin had lived in Muleshoe since 1948, and was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe

Survivors include his wife — Grace Scoggin of Muleshoe; three sons and daughters-in-law — Kearney and Jackie Scoggin of Muleshoe, Verlyon and Jewellene Scoggin of Alamogordo, N.M., Jerry and Jeanene Scoggin of Las Cruces, N.M.; a sister — Dorothy Anderson of Carlsbad, N.M.; 13 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.



W. LEWIS SCOGGIN

Ollie C. Cornish

Funeral services for Ollie Cornish, 65, of Levelland were held Friday, July 1, 2005, at the First Baptist Church of Levelland with the Rev. Robert Finch, the Rev. Billy Ray Finch and minister Ann Finch officiating. Burial followed in the City of Levelland Cemetery.

Cornish died June 25, 2005, in Lubbock. He was born on Feb. 25, 1940, to Denvil and Mae Ella Reeves Cornish in Limestone County. He married Billie Jean Lewis in Muleshoe in 1959, and moved to Levelland from Enochs in 1971.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife and a daughter.

Survivors include three sons — Marvin Lewis of Dumas, Ollie Lynn Cornish of Levelland and Denvil Cornish of Lubbock; and five daughters — Linda Jean Cornish, Debra Ann Phillips, Gennie Cornish and Carolyn Cornish, all of Lubbock, and Rita Cornish of Levelland; 18 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Cary Edwin Latham

A funeral service for Cary Edwin Latham, 59, of Sulphur, Okla., formerly of Earth, were held July 4, 2005, at the First Baptist Church of Sulphur, with the Rev. William Malphrus and the Rev. Wayne Edgar officiating. A graveside service was held July 6, 2005, at Earth Memorial Cemetery with the Rev. Lyndon Latham officiating.

Latham was born on July 22, 1945, and married Julia Varner Jones at Muleshoe in 1963. In 1970, they moved to Oklahoma, where Latham was a rancher and later owner of the Sulphur Farm and Ranch Center.

Latham died on July 2, 2005. He was preceded in death by his father — Austin Latham; a daughter — Clarissa Latham; and a brother — Randy Latham.

Latham is survived by his wife — Julia Latham of the home; his mother — Berniece Latham of Lubbock; two sons and daughters-in-law — Clint and Marla Latham of Norman, Okla., and Mike and Stacy Latham of Sulphur; a daughter and son-in-law —

Caryn and James Chung of San Jose, Calif.; a brother — Gaylord Latham of Muleshoe; a sister — Linda Hunt of Lubbock; and seven grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to Chromosome 18 Registry, 7155 Oakridge Dr., San Antonio TX 78229, or First Baptist Church Building Fund, Sulphur, OK 73086.

Benefit concert set for July 10

A benefit concert has been set for Sunday, July 10, at 6 p.m., at the First Baptist Church of Muleshoe featuring a presentation on the work of Chris and Stephan Shelburne in Uganda.

The concert will include a performance by a community gospel quartet, and the Shelburne Men's Quartet.

Admission is free, but a love offering will be collected to benefit the Shelburnes' continuing mission work.

Rabies clinic set for July 12
A rabies clinic has been scheduled for July 12, from 4-6 p.m. at the Earl Ladd Fire Station in Muleshoe.

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On the move into harm's way

A fast moving train carries a convoy of military equipment through Muleshoe Thursday morning. As Bailey County winds down from this year's Independence Day celebration, let us not forget that just as our young men were moving into harm's way back in 1776, the members of our military are currently engaged in the struggle for independence and freedom in the Middle East. May God watch over them, protect them and bring them home safely when their work is done.

Hospital Report

The Muleshoe Area Medical Center has released the following list of admissions:

- June 22 — No report.
- June 23 — Manuela Martinez and Ernest Templar.
- June 24 — Raymond Davenport.
- June 25 — Eva Caldera.
- June 26 — Abel Ruiz.
- June 27 — No report.
- June 28 — No report.



Cookoff winners

The team of "3 1/2 Men and a Grill," pictured above, took first place in the first annual Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Brisket Cookoff Monday.

You re Invited!

Benefit Concert
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A love offering will be taken to benefit Chris & Stephan Shelburne's work in Mbale, Uganda

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- Working with the Mbale, Uganda, Mission Team

Featured singing group will be a Community Gospel Quartet
Brady Mason, Joel Sinclair, Carl Vaughn and Curtis Shelburne

The program will also include some songs by the Shelburne Men's Quartet and mission pictures from Mbale, Uganda.

Agricultural News

Beef markets should not feel brunt of Texas cow linked to mad cow disease

Cattle trading throughout the Lone Star state shouldn't be impacted after a cow linked to Texas tested positive for mad cow disease, a livestock economist said Thursday.

"I don't think it's going to make that much difference because this is a national market," said Dr. David Anderson, Texas Cooperative Extension livestock marketing economist. "The futures market already had built that trading in after the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) first announced they were doing the retesting."

Trading activity Thursday saw live cattle contracts for June finish at \$82.77 per hundredweight, up 40 cents

per hundredweight (cwt).

Texas is the nation's largest beef producing state with more than 5.7 million head of cows. The more than 13 million head of beef and dairy cattle and calves in the state are valued at more than \$10 billion.

The USDA said Wednesday the second case of mad cow disease came from a 12-year-old beef cow in Texas. Its location was not revealed.

The cow originally tested negative in November 2004 but was ordered to be retested by the inspector general. A second test that came back positive was confirmed by a laboratory in Weybridge,

England.

Jim Robb, director of the Livestock Marketing Information Center in Denver, said the second case found in the U.S. "certainly adds uncertainty to the market place and the unknowns."

"But it's clear that consumers recognize it's not a human health concern," he said. "This seems to be an isolated case and the USDA and researchers have said (all) along there will be some isolated cases (since the 1997 ruminant feed ban). The U.S. risk assessment said a small number of animals will be found. I think if this unfolds as anticipated, it's clearly related to an older animal born before the ban. It's isolated as most

BSE cases are."

After the Agriculture Department's announcement on June 24 confirming the second case of mad cow disease, cattle futures finished the following Monday on a high note. Fed-cattle futures were up 35 cents a hundred pounds to finish at \$82.52 per hundredweight (cwt). Fed cattle are those ready for slaughter at 1,200 pounds. Boxed beef leaving the packinghouse was up 68 cents per hundredweight at market close at \$134.83 per cwt.

Anderson said many fire walls are in place to protect the U.S. beef supply.

"A number of safeguards have been put into place and have worked," Anderson said. "These safeguards have prevented higher-risk animals from entering the food supply. I think many people are confident that USDA has several measures in place to protect the nation's food supply."

Robb said he doesn't feel it will deter beef grilling activities during the July 4 holiday weekend.

"I don't think (mad cow disease) is on the front of consumers' minds."

Cotton Report

The U.S. planted area for all cotton in 2005 is estimated at 14.0 million acres, up three percent from 2004. Upland cotton acreage totaled 13.8 million acres, also up three percent.

Growers intend to increase American-Pima cotton planted area seven percent from 2004, to 266,000 acres.

Upland growers in the Southeastern States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia) planted 2.99 million acres of upland cotton, an increase of one percent from the previous year and two percent more than they had originally intended in March.

After a cool, wet early spring, an extended period of dry weather moved across most of the Southeast. By early-June, all states were the same as or slightly ahead of the normal planting pace.

In the Delta States — Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee — producers planted 3.88 million acres, an increase of 13 percent and one percent more than they had originally intended in March. Nearly all planting was complete by the end of the May.

All states, except Louisiana, reported at least 65 percent of the crop in good or excellent condition. In Louisiana, only 46 percent of the crop was rated good or excellent, due to thrips infestations migrating from mature wheat fields.

Pesticide applications increased the condition of the crop the following week to 67 percent good to excellent. Conditions in the states were mostly good to excellent in mid-June, with Tennessee reporting 84 percent of the crop in good or excellent condition. Arkansas and Tennessee percent squaring were ahead of their 5-year averages, while the other States were slightly behind the normal pace.

Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and New Mexico upland acreage planted totaled 6.16 million, a one percent decrease from last year. Producers in Texas planted 5.80 million acres, down one percent from 2004. Planting in the Rio Grande Valley was completed in early-April under favorable conditions. By the end of April, planting was near completion in south Texas.

Unseasonably cool weather in the southern Great Plains delayed planting activities as producers waited for soil temperatures to warm up before resuming planting. Planting progress was behind their five-year average through mid-June.

On June 13, crop condition

in Texas was 51 percent good to excellent, 35 percent was rated fair, and 14 percent was rated very poor to poor.

Upland planted acres in Arizona and California are estimated at 740,000 acres, seven percent below last year. Thunderstorms during early spring, in addition to the Sierra Nevada mountain snow pack, contributed to favorable water allotments.

As a result of the thunderstorms and below normal soil temperatures early in the season, planting remained behind normal through early-May. The return of warm, dry conditions allowed producers to plant at a more rapid rate.

In mid-June, the crop condition in California was rated 53 percent good to excellent, 45 percent was rated fair, and two percent was rated poor.

In Arizona, 78 percent of the crop was rated good to excellent, 18 percent of the crop was rated fair, and four percent was rated very poor to poor.

Growers planted 266,000 acres of American-Pima

cotton. This is a seven percent increase from last year's crop, but 49 percent above two years ago. California accounts for 230,000 of these acres, up 15,000 from last year.

Texas' producers planted 22,000 acres, while Arizona and New Mexico plantings were 4,000 and 10,000 acres, respectively.

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What Should You Do When "User Resources Are Low"?

My computer just gave me a warning. A box with a big red light popped up at the bottom of the screen: "Warning! User Resources Are Low!" A few clicks of the "mouse" and a quick re-boot of the machine, and I'm back in good shape.

A few months ago, I installed a neat program that works in the background monitoring a number of the different functions of my computer. I wanted a program that would warn me before my machine goes brain-dead and

fender gets dented. The plumbing goes caput. Here's another bill to add to the stack. Here's one more form from one more mindless bureaucrat. Here's one more task. Here's one more commitment. Your head aches. Your stomach aches. You are "sick and tired" even if you're not sick and shouldn't be all that tired.

Better listen to the message! "Warning! Your User Resources Are Low!"

What to do? The suggestions are endless, and more easily given than applied, but here are a few...

Unplug for a day or two (or even an hour or two when a mini-vacation is all you're allowed). Take some time off. Take a vacation that's really a vacation—free of deadlines and schedules and busy-ness. Learn to prioritize. Not all busy-ness is all that important. Nor, for that matter, is all business. Take a walk. Take some time to remind yourself that who you are and what you can do are not the same things. Realize that your net worth and your real worth are not even distantly related. Learn to say, "No!" kindly but with conviction. Call a dear friend. (Phone calls are cheap compared to therapists!) Don't be too proud to call for help, professional and otherwise, when you need it. Count your blessings. Read the Psalms. (You'll recognize yourself in some of them!) Read a good book. Close your eyes and listen to beautiful music. Sing a song. Hug your little ones! Hug your not-so-little ones. Let God hug you. He doesn't need a reason to love you. He already does. Thank him!

But don't ignore the "Warning!"

Curtis Shelburne is minister of the 16th & D Church of Christ in Muleshoe.



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

crashes because of some problem I fail to recognize. The program works really well.

"Warning! User Resources Are Low." It's important to pay attention to that message if it pops up on your computer. It's much more important to recognize it when it pops up in your life. It will.

Do you manage from time to time to get yourself overwhelmed, overbooked, overdrawn, stressed out, distressed, and generally depressed by it all? Who doesn't?

And then the message begins popping up in any number of ways. You are snappy with your family. Even the dog isn't too excited to see you coming. You find finding fault becoming your default mode. Lots of normally minor irritants are in contention to become "the straw that broke it." And you're "it."

The car breaks. Again. The

Agricultural News

Johannes announces first USDA farm bill forum and topics

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johannes has announced the first Farm Bill Forum and the topics on which the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be seeking input from America's farmers, ranchers and rural residents regarding the development of the 2007 Farm Bill.

"The next farm bill will affect America's entire agricultural community," said Johannes. "That's why I want to ask America's farmers and ranchers how our farm policy is working and how we can make it better. I believe very strongly that they deserve a voice in this process."

The first Farm Bill Forum will be held in Nashville, Tenn., on July 7 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. CDT at RFD-TV Northstar Studios. The public is invited to attend and participate in the forum, which will be broadcast live on RFD-TV. In addition to a c c o m m o d a t i n g approximately 300 in the audience, the forum also will accept calls from across the nation.

Johannes made the announcement in remarks to the State Convention of the Illinois FFA in Springfield, Ill. The 2002 Farm Bill, which authorizes many of the programs operated by USDA, expires

with the 2007 crop year.

Johannes noted that in his remarks that he was approaching the Farm Bill Forums with an open mind. "I do not begin this process with preconceived notions about the direction future farm policy should take," said Johannes. "We will use the feedback we receive to help us determine the best course for a new Farm Bill."

Throughout 2005, USDA officials will participate in the Farm Bill Forums that will be held across the country. The dates, locations and times of the forums will be announced as they are scheduled and be available on the USDA website at <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill>. The public will be invited to attend the forums and to present oral comments.

As the current Farm Bill covers a diverse array of program areas, six topics have been identified to provide a framework for the forums. The primary topics addressed at the forums will

reflect various concerns affecting rural America such as commodity, conservation, and rural economic development issues. In addition, some forums will be dedicated to other important programs authorized by the farm bill such as food assistance, research and education programs.

USDA will be seeking public discussion on farm policy considerations regarding:

- The competitiveness of U.S. agriculture in global and domestic markets.
 - Challenges facing new farmers and ranchers as they enter agriculture.
 - Appropriateness and effectiveness of the distribution of farm program benefits.
 - Achievement of conservation and environmental goals.
 - Enhancement of rural economic growth and opportunities to expand agricultural products, markets and research.
- The public will be invited to provide comments on six

specific questions based on these policy considerations:

1. How should farm policy be designed to maximize U.S. competitiveness and our country's ability to effectively compete in global markets?
2. How should farm policy address any unintended consequences and ensure that such consequences do not discourage new farmers and the next generation of farmers from entering production agriculture?
3. How should farm policy be designed to effectively and fairly distribute assistance to producers?
4. How can farm policy best achieve conservation and environmental goals?
5. How can Federal rural and farm programs provide

effective assistance in rural areas?

6. How should agricultural product development, marketing and research-related issues be addressed in the next farm bill?

Comments will be accepted at public forums and may also be submitted electronically via the Internet at the USDA home page (<http://www.usda.gov/farmbill>) by selecting "Farm Bill Forums," by email to FarmBill@usda.gov or by mail to Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johannes, Farm Bill, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3355.

USDA will review the public comments received by Dec. 30, including any analyses, reports, studies and other material submitted with the comments, that address the six questions.

Bridal Shower



MITZI PALMER

Palmer-Miller shower held

A bridal shower honoring Mitzi Palmer, the prospective bride of Jon Colby Miller, was held Sunday, June 5, in the home of Judy Wilbanks of Muleshoe.

Palmer is the daughter of Wayne and Kathy Palmer. The prospective groom is the son of Jon Colby Miller and Mike and Pamela Miller.

Hostesses for the event included Nancy Barrier, Vicki Burch, Jan Crawford, Debbie Gallman, Diana Harrison, Pat King, Tonya Pool, Sherri Shipman, Judy Wilbanks, Vicki Black, Sandi Chitwood, Paulette Foster, Donna Green, Patti Kent, Ann McElroy, Marilyn Riley, Rickie Warren and Linda Wood.

In attendance were Pamela Miller, the prospective groom's mother, Kathy Palmer, the prospective bride's mother, Dorothy St. Clair, the prospective groom's grandmother, and Aaron Dockery, the maid of honor, Kristine Isaacson and daughter Lauren, Valinda Miller and daughters Railey and Kyndal, Jana St. Clair and Janis Woodall.

The table was adorned with fresh flowers. Crystal appointments held chocolate-covered strawberries and baklava, mixed nuts and mints, and flavored ice tea.

Gifts received included a decorative lamp, a coverlet and crystal canisters.

TBWEF board releases assessment details

At the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation board of directors meeting held in Abilene, Chief Financial Officer Tina Ballard reported the assessment collections for 2004 exceed 96 percent statewide and that collection of assessments for 2005 has started following receipt of certified acreage from USDA's Farm Service Agency.

Anyone planting cotton in the state of Texas is required by law to notify TBWEF of the location of that cotton. For the vast majority of growers, that notification is achieved through certification of acres with FSA.

After the final certification date, FSA transmits files to TBWEF detailing acreage, ownership and location for all cotton.

TBWEF board members openly expressed gratitude and thanks to FSA personnel at all levels for the valuable and cooperative work they do, providing a major contribution to the success of all boll weevil eradication programs across Texas.

2004 assessment collection percentages for the six zones in PCG's 41-

county area, as of June 24 2005, are:

- Panhandle — 99.4 percent; Western High Plains — 97.5 percent; Southern High Plains — 97.2 percent; Northern High Plains — 97.1 percent; Northwest Plains — 97.1 percent; and Permian Basin — 96.0 percent.

Education

Puckett receives masters

Amanda Puckett received her masters of science in applied cognition and neuroscience on Saturday, May 8 from the University of Texas at Dallas.

She is a 1998 graduate of Howe High School. In 2002, she received her bachelors of science in neuroscience from the University of Texas at Dallas, graduating with highest honors, summa cum laude. She received Dean's Award in neuroscience and was the only UTD student to be awarded the Eugene McDermott Scholarship as a sophomore rather than as a junior.

Following graduation, Amanda is continuing to pursue her doctorate in neuroscience at the University of Texas at Dallas. She has won a



AMANDA PUCKETT

poster award at the International Conference on Auditory Cortex in Magdeburg, Germany, and has been invited to participate in the 18th annual Summer Institute at Dartmouth College.

Amanda is the daughter of Logan and Kathy Puckett of Houston and the granddaughter of Alice and Jack LeBleu of Howe, and Barbara Puckett of Muleshoe.

Births

Landon Smith

Michael and Regina Smith of Muleshoe are proud to announce the birth of their son, Landon Michael, on June 29, 2005, at 8:09 p.m., at the Lamb Healthcare Center, Littlefield.

Landon Michael weighed 7 pounds - 5 ounces, and was 21½ inches in length at birth.

He has one brother, Dustin, and one sister, Ashley.

Landon Michael's grandparents are Robert and Sylvia Smith of Muleshoe, and Samuel and Arlene Zimmerman of Fleetwood, Pa.

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2005 Reunion...

The 2005 Muleshoe High School Reunion, which was held at the Oneita Wagnon Senior Citizen Center July 2, drew about 400 former students.

Photos by Leah Bell



Muleshoe Independence Day activities...

Continued from page 1

County Electric Cooperative. Second place went to Rancho Santiago with its mule-driven chuck wagon and riding mules. And third place went to the Boehning Dairy float.

Among the other activities centering in downtown Muleshoe Monday was the chamber's first annual Brisket Cookoff.

First place went to the team "3 1/2 Men and a Grill" — E.P. Rodriguez, Martin Rodriguez and Jesse Vargas, all of Muleshoe, and Jerry Rodriguez of Denver City.

Second place went to "Ironhead Cook" — Barry Wilson of Muleshoe.

Third place went to the team "Rub-a-dub-dub... Three Men in a Tub" — Steve Bell, Kenneth Turney and Tim McCormick, all of Muleshoe, which also deserved an honorable mention for "Most Outlandish Smoker," having constructed its smoker out of an irrigation well cover and an old bathtub.

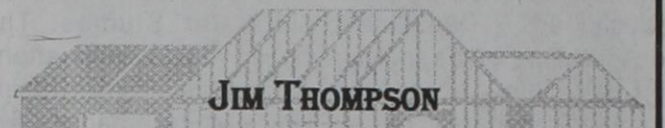
Fourth place went to "Grill Doc" — Chris Larson.

Judges for the event were

Muleshoe Mayor Cliff Black, chamber representative City Manager David Terral King, who conducted Brunson, County Judge the brisket auction after the Sherri Harrison and awards presentation.

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Property rights amendment urged

The state's largest farm organization is calling for an amendment to the Texas constitution that would clearly define "public use," as it pertains to the taking of private property.

A recent decision handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court hammering private property rights spurred Texas Farm Bureau to action on behalf of Texas landowners.

In a June 29 letter to Texas Gov. Rick Perry, Kenneth Dierschke, TFB president, requested that Perry add the proposed amendment to the agenda during the first-called special session of the 79th Texas Legislature.

"Private property rights were dealt a devastating blow by the United States Supreme Court on June 23rd," the letter said. "The court ruled that eminent domain used for private business development is a legal use of condemnation authority."

"The TFB completely disagrees with the court's opinion. Under their definition of public use, land can now be condemned any time a governmental entity can show that a positive economic benefit will result from the condemnation. We believe this is a gross misinterpretation of the intent of our founding fathers."

"The entire purpose of allowing eminent domain for only a 'public use,' was to place limitations on this power. The decision of the U.S. Supreme Court on Kelo v. New London has now removed any meaningful limit on this awesome power to take someone's property."

The agenda of the special session is under the sole

control of the governor. Only items placed on the call of the special session by the governor of Texas can be considered by the legislature.

"We believe this issue is of the urgency and importance to

warrant immediate action by the legislature to protect private property rights across Texas," said Dierschke, adding that the constitutional amendment should be on the Nov. 8 general election ballot.

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If you've had great service from an individual or business in our community, get them recognized for their excellent customer service by nominating them for the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce's Business or Employee of the Month award! Write down their name and a brief description of why they deserve the award (use extra paper if you need to), clip this form and mail it to the Chamber office, P.O. Box 356, or drop it off at the Chamber office, 115 E. American Blvd., Mon.-Fri., 10 am to 4 pm. The "employee" selection can be different than the "business" selection.

Employee of the Month

Reason: _____

Business of the Month

Reason: _____

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Senior Citizen News

By Nelda Merriott

The Oneita Wagon Senior Center was the site for gathering Muleshoe High School Ex-Students on Friday evening.

A good number stopped by the center to visit and get an early start on the big reunion, which covered from 1985 on back.

On Saturday morning, at 9 a.m. on July 1, Ex-Students registered at the senior center, with more than 400 registering for the reunion.

Laughter resounded as classmates found each other and hugs were passed around!

Refreshments were served and the center provided a cool and inviting place for sharing memories and renewing friendships. The center remained open until 4 p.m.

On Thursday, July 7, at 1 p.m., our first computer class will be held in our new computer lab. All interested senior citizens (ages 60 and

up) are invited. We'll learn the basics and how to access the internet, and we'll discuss the various areas about which we want to learn. Our instructor will be Patty Banks.

On Friday, July 8, at noon, W. T. and Pat Watson will bring special music for the seniors, beginning at 11:30 a.m. until about 12:30.

After their performance, a video will be shown which was provided by Jimmy Wedel. It is "Winged Migration" a documentary on migratory birds with breathtaking views taken from airplanes and other means. The scenery and information is awesome.

On Tuesday, July 12, at 6 p.m. an open meeting of the Bailey County Senior Citizens Board of Directors will be held at the center.

On Tuesday, July 12, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. the Senior Citizen Dance will be held.

That's always a fun evening with many new

folks coming each week as well as our regular folks. Many have marked their calendars for the July 19 "Elvis sighting."

At noon on the 13th, Mandi Seaton, Bailey County extension agent will bring information on our nutrition program.

At noon on July 15 our July birthdays will be celebrated at the center. James and Ann Sinclair will bring the music and we'll sing-along.

We are still working on our outing to see "Texas" on July 23.

On Friday, July 29, the Senior Circle line dancers from Highland Medical will again be with us to entertain at 11 a.m., then after lunch our senior citizens are invited to join them and learn more "line dancing for exercise." Their leader is Lyniece Hill, an R.N.

The menu for the upcoming week is:

Monday, July 11 — Beef burrito with white rice, squash casserole, lettuce and tomato, chips with hot sauce and fruited gelatin.

Tuesday, July 12 — Cube steak with mushroom sauce, mashed potatoes, broccoli, tossed salad with 1000 island dressing, bran muffin and lemon cake

Wednesday, July 13 — Lasagna, italian vegetables, tossed salad with ranch dressing, garlic bread and banana bread.

Thursday, July 14 — Cornflake chicken, potatoes, greens, tossed salad with french dressing, cornbread and frosted cake.

Friday, July 15 — Hamburger steak in brown gravy, rice with squash, wheat roll, and golden congealed salad.



Determination!

Strength aside, the expressions on the faces of the contestants revealed that it was determination that carried the day during this year's arm wrestling contest, held Monday afternoon during the July 4th celebration in Muleshoe. A total of 19 men and four women entered the second annual event held at Carolyn's.



Births

Julia Grey Rennels

Mr. and Mrs. Payton Rennels of Wimberley are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Julia Grey Rennels.

Julia was born on May 18, 2005, at 4:20 p.m. at St. David's Hospital of Austin. She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces at birth, and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Grandparents are Jack and Magann Rennels of Muleshoe, and Don and Debbie Vickers of Apollo Beach, Fla.

Julia's great-grandmother is Marnice Burns of Sun City, Fla.



JULIA GREY RENNELS

History Notes

The first girl born in Bailey County was Mary Snyder, in 1908. The first boy was Francis B. Gaede, also in 1908.

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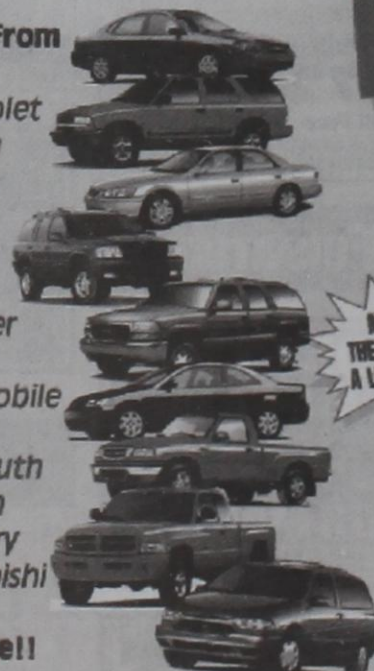
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Muleshoe All Stars, ages 11-12

Pictured above, from left to right, are: Jaden Herrera (Sox), Jon Perez (Athletics), Coach Adrian Perez, Tyson Turnbow (Twins), Coach William Orozco, Joey Perez (Rockies), Joey Ramirez (Rockies), Rico Alarcon (Twins), Cooper Washington (Twins), Isaac Baca (Rockies), Saul Elizalde (Rockies), Mgr. Mark Washington, Aaron Pope (Rockies), Dameon Snell (Twins) and Isaias Guerra (Sox).

Muleshoe All Stars, age 9-10

Pictured on the right, from left to right, are: Front row — Christopher Lozano, Matther Ray Barron, Elias Leal, Christopher Cage, Ignacio Elizalde and Brittany Prater; middle row — Matthew Ambriz, Flipe Espinoza, David Gonzales, Lupe Campos, Ramon Mendoza and Ryan Nickels; back row — Coach Lipe Campos, Coach Jorge Barron and Coack Derek Prater.



Muleshoe All Stars, age 7-8

Pictured above, from left to right, are: Front row — Paul Castillo, Devin Carter, Anson Castanon, Logan Long, Cade Box and J.J. Gandara; middle row — Nathan Rejino, Daniel Campos, John Gruben, Dustin Lennon, James Gruben and Grey Johnson; and back row — Coach Donald Gruben, Coach Shawn Rejino and Coach Julian Domenguez.



Firefighters hold water battle...

The Muleshoe Volunteer Fire Department took part in some water sports during Monday's festivities.

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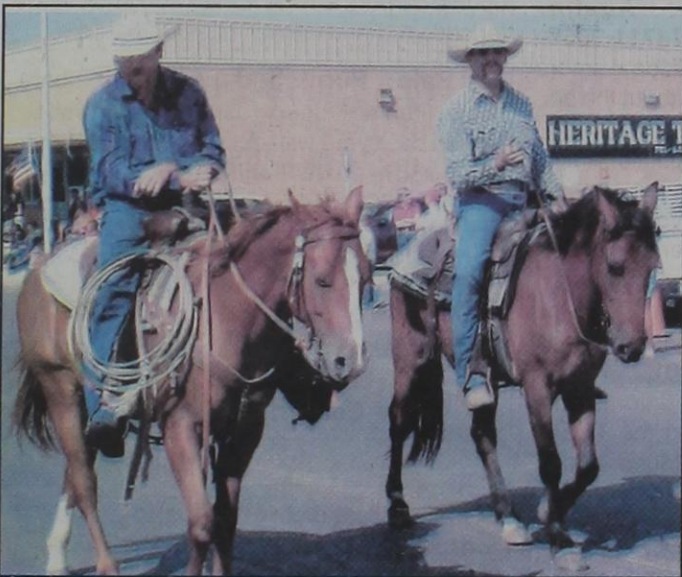
FIRST PLACE WOMEN'S DIVISION - RACHEL GUTIERREZ
 SECOND PLACE WOMEN'S DIVISION - LEAH BELL

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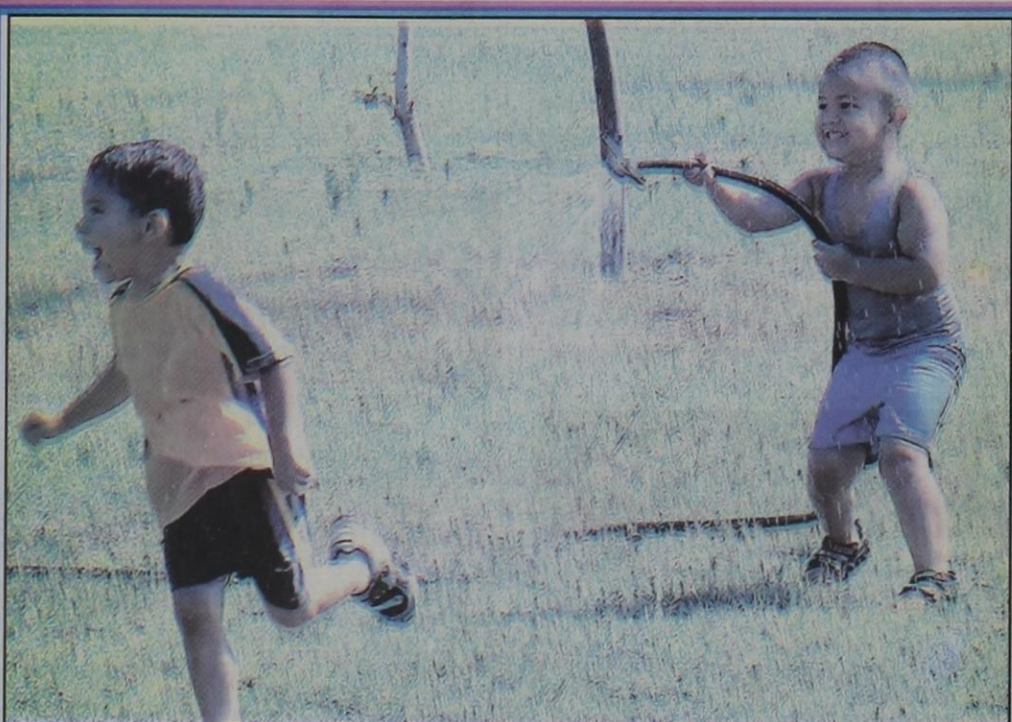
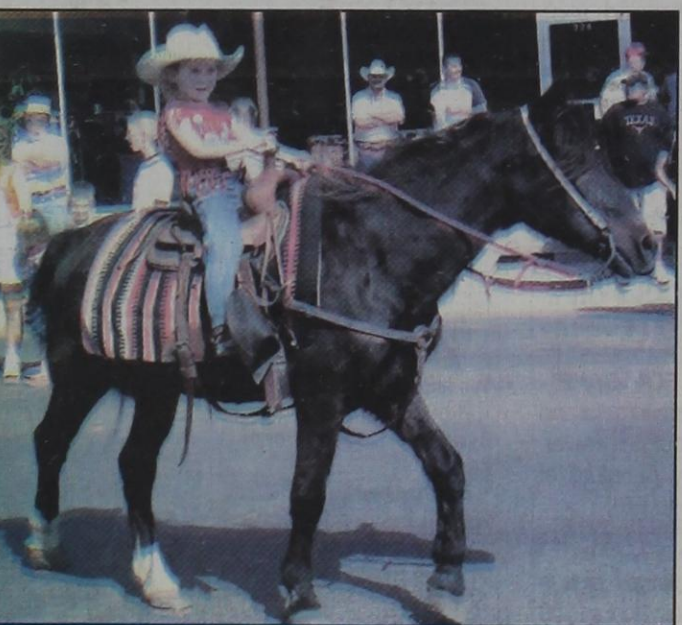
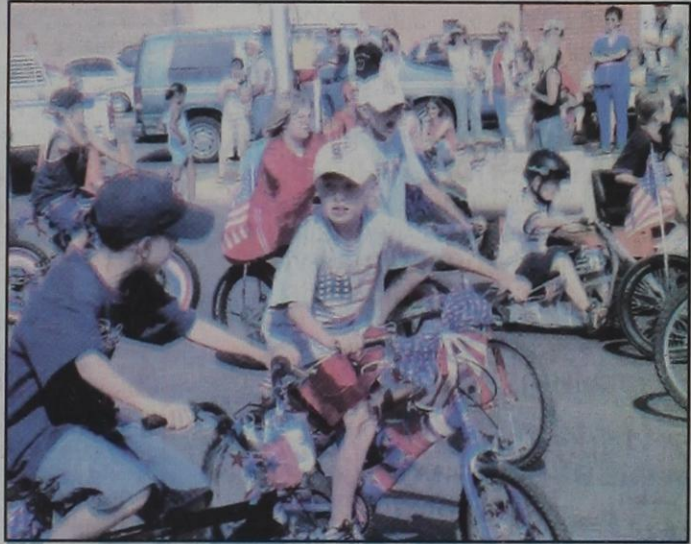
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Independence Day 2005



Photographs by Larry Thornton



TMC at play on a hot day...

The Texas Migrant Council hosted a day in the park Thursday, June 30, for youngsters participating in its program. Pictured above a youngster who had been spraying others with a water hose chases another, while youngsters in the picture to the right are more interested playing ball.

Photographs by Larry Thornton



Happy Birthday, Pete!

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture held a 40th birthday party for "Pete" during Monday's Independence Day celebration, inviting the public to stop by for a piece of cake. Pictured above, from left to right, are: Terral King, Noelia "Shorty" Flores, Patrick Foley, Heather Foley and Leah Bell.



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