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Muleshoe Journal

Volume 86, No. 9

Muleshoe, Texas

50¢

March 3, 2005

New county judge, clerk take office

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

A new judicial era began in Muleshoe Monday, as County Judge Marilyn Cox passed her gavel and robe to former County Clerk Sherri Harrison. During Monday's ceremonies, Paula Benton also took the oath of office as the new Bailey County Clerk.

District Clerk Rebecca Espinoza, Dep. County Clerk Misty Prater, and Dep. Tax Assessor Angela Arreola also took oaths of office.

At the end of January, Cox — who has served on the Bailey County judicial bench for more than 14 years — announced that she would be retiring with the intent of traveling with her recently retired husband Reagan.

Prior to being appointed to fill the remaining term of Judge Cox, Harrison served as the Bailey County Clerk for six years. When asked to explain her decision to apply for the county bench, Harrison said, "I have a background of serving the citizens of Bailey County, and I wanted to do so in a different roll."

Harrison said her decision to sit on the



County Judge Sherri Harrison and County Clerk Paula Benton taking oath of office.

county judicial bench wasn't an easy one. Although she has been a state certified legal assistant since 1994, and has sat in on Bailey County judicial hearings, as well as the commissioners' court, while serving as the county clerk, Harrison recognized the seriousness of her new position.

As important a position as that of county clerk is, the fact that the county judge has the power and duty to incarcerate lawbreakers, depriving them of their freedom, can't be taken lightly.

During Monday's commissioner's court, which followed the ceremonies that took place in the courtroom, Cox expressed her deep appreciation for the assistance she has received from the Bailey County commissioners.

"I appreciate each one of you," Cox said, noting that the cooperation she has received from the other elected officials has made her job easier than that of judges in other Texas counties, "you have always been patient and gracious with me."

"If there is anything I can do in the future," she added, "let me know."

Among the business items handled during Cox's final commissioners court were the bonds placed upon the individuals who had pledged their service to Bailey County a few minutes earlier.

Cox explained that while Harrison, Benton and their deputies were already bonded, a mix up at the bonding

Continued on page 3

Nurse Koelzer honored for service to the community

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

For the third time in four years, a Muleshoe Area Medical Center employee is being honored.

On Feb. 22, Judy Koelzer, RN, was surprised at work by representatives of Covenant Health Services of Lubbock, Texas, recognizing her for her service to the hospital's patients, other hospital employees and the Muleshoe community.

As a result of the award, Koelzer will be honored at a banquet within the state prior to traveling to St. Joseph's awards ceremonies in Orange County, Calif., where she is one of the nominees for a national service award.

Previously, Muleshoe PA Dr. Gail Hargrove was honored by Covenant, a division of the St. Joseph Health System, followed by Suzzane Nichols, the MAMC Human Relations director.

According to MAMC administrator James Bone, approximately 400 employees from 10 regional hospitals affiliated with Covenant Health Services were among the nominees for the award. Of those individuals, four employees were selected to represent

one of the four areas covered by St. Joseph's Values in Action program: Excellence, Service, Justice and Dignity.

According to Bone, Koelzer's award was for her service to the community. In the documentation that accompanied Koelzer's nomination, other local

"If I am ever sick... I want Judy taking care of me."

employees and supervisors recognized her leadership qualities as the charge nurse on the hospital's 3-11 shift, as well as her compassion and work ethic.

"She is the first to 'dig in' to any task, pleasant or not. She is always eager to teach anyone willing to learn or even show an interest in learning," the nomination letter said.

The letter adds that Koelzer "has a knack for identifying vulnerable people and meeting their needs."

"If I am ever sick," one co-worker wrote, "I want

Continued on page 10

Local Weather

Thurs.
Pt. cloudy... 64/34

Fri.
Pt. cloudy... 65/31

Sat.
Pt. cloudy... 65/35

Sun.
Few Shwr.... 65/36

Mon.
Few Shwr... 65/34

Tue.
Few Shwr... 68/35

Wed.
Few Shwr... 67/35

Give It A Thought

If you do nothing else in life, take care of your feet - because they take you how many miles through life?

Words to ponder from Beverly

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

School finance plan widens gap between rich, poor students

(Editor's Note: This is the last of a three-part series explaining the "Robin Hood" funding plan used by Texas schools.)

By Gene Sheets
MISD Superintendent

The Texas House of Representatives unveiled their school finance plan last week. Revisions and amendments are to be put forward and voted on the week of March 1. These amendments may change the analysis below.

Although there are several very good improvements in the plan, there are serious concerns that should make most of the schools in West Texas and the Panhandle very nervous. This new plan would result in a windfall for a handful of Texas school districts while the majority of districts would have to settle for a modest boost in spending that barely keeps up with inflation.

Every school district would see an increase in funding, but the biggest

increases would go to wealthy districts. Most poor school districts will receive about three percent in new revenue in this plan. Some of these don't qualify for the increase because of the new formula, but only receive three percent because of a "Hold Harmless" put in place to protect all schools.

Many schools will get a three percent increase in revenue, but not a 3 percent NET increase. The plan says a district has to spend one percent of its total local and state revenue on incentive pay. They must also

"There needs to be an amendment for increased funding for full-day Pre-Kindergarten..."

restore the \$500 health insurance benefit to teachers. This benefit appears to be lost to other school employees. Assuming inflation to be two percent, if a district receives three percent increase, they are in the hole before they start. So they really won't receive 3 percent NET increase in revenue.

Wealthy school districts,

Continued on page 22



Norm Brantley

Vanna Wood struts her stuff...

In what can only be described as a "game show gone awry," Muleshoe students were treated to a bit of hilarity Friday as school officials and parents joined in the fun at a pep rally that hopefully won't make the "prime time television season." Pictured on the left, Vanna Wood — purported to be a distant relative of Assistant Superintendent Don Wood — struts her stuff to roars of student laughter. Turn to page 11 for additional pep rally photographs.

Two file for Muleshoe municipal seats

Only two candidates have filed for the municipal seats up for grabs in the May 7 Muleshoe General Election.

According to city

officials, Dist. 3 incumbent Earl Behrends has refiled for his seat, and Mark Beard has filed for the Dist. 4 seat.

March 7 is the final filing date. Individuals

wishing to vote in the election may register until Thursday, April 7.

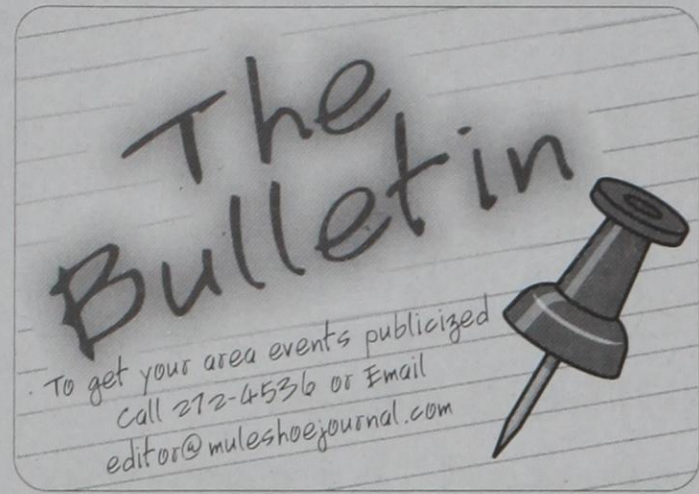
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BC Extension Office offers diabetes program

Bailey County Extension Office and the Bailey County Diabetes Coalition will sponsor a six-week series of educational programs on diabetes beginning March 15, 2005 called "Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes," which will address feelings of worry about what the disease really is and what it means for those who are afflicted with diabetes, concerns about health problems that might develop and frustrations about lack of information.

In the Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes classes, attendants will get the facts from diabetes experts and professional educators, be allowed to ask often unanswered questions, learn in a supportive, caring environment and take home recipes and references that can be shared with friends and family. Those attending will get the encouragement they need to make positive life changes and learn how to do well and be well with diabetes.

For more information contact Mandi Seaton, Bailey County Extension Agent—FCS, 306 West Second, Muleshoe, TX 79347 or call her office at 806-272-4583.

Old yearbooks wanted

Former Muleshoe students or anyone with old yearbooks, including parents who still have their kids' old yearbooks, are invited to contribute them to the Muleshoe Heritage Center. They will be placed in the Depot for people to take a mental stroll down memory lane.

To donate, call the Depot, Monday through Friday, from 1 to 5 p.m. and ask for Delores. The number is (806) 272-5873. So far, yearbooks from 1953, 1954, 1955, 1969 and 1971 have been donated.

Muleshoe graduates sought

The Ex-Student Association is looking for 1924 - 1985 graduates and former students for an all school reunion to be held on July 2, 2005.

Call 806-272-3233 or send name, address and phone numbers in by March 15, 2005, to Muleshoe Ex-Student Association, P.O. Box 100, Muleshoe, Texas 79347.

The next meeting is Feb. 24, at 6:30 p.m. at the Oneita Wagon Senior Center.

Fine Arts Night to Shine

Fine Arts Night will be at 6:30 p.m., March 31, at the High School auditorium. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1 for students. The choir will perform at 6:30 p.m. There will be a live auction and the band will perform afterward.

Attention MHS students

Applications for the Kristy M. Landers Memorial Scholarship are available from the MHS counselor. Final day to apply is March 16.

Muleshoe AA meetings set

Those looking for help with problem drinking can do so at open AA meetings being held at 7 p.m. each Saturday at 121 W. Ave. C (next door to the Mental Health Mental Retardation [MHMR] near Main Street). For information about these meetings or AA in general, call Bobby F. at 272-8948 or 272-4433.

Judge's scholarship

The Texas Justice Court Judges Association has created a scholarship in the name of Judge Herman Morrison, whose memory is being honored with this educational subsidy.

To be eligible for the Judge Herman Morrison Memorial Scholarship, students must be related to a member of the Texas Justice Court Judges Association.

For more information, contact Gayla Gear at Muleshoe High School 272-7304 or call the office of the Justice of the Peace at 272-4300.

Chamber seeks event information

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture website is being developed and needs the help of community members. Site designer Stacy Thompson needs local and area people to let her know about upcoming events of any nature in Muleshoe. Thompson suggests that events should be called in at least one month in advance for the calendar to be effective. Churches, organizations, clubs, schools, business, individual, etc. events will be publicized on the site if received in time to do so. Call your events in to Thompson at 272-3652 or email thompsn@fivearea.com.

'Wild at Heart' offering free oil changes

"Wild at Heart" men's ministry of New Covenant Church is offering free oil changes to the elderly, disabled and single mothers with children this holiday season. The ministry is designed to fulfill the gospel's call to take care of those less fortunate than ourselves.

To qualify, one must be over 60 years of age, be disabled or be a single mother with children living at home. The oil change will be provided by a local business and will be free. If you, or anyone you know of needs their vehicle services and meet the criteria, call (806) 965-2787 and a certificate will be sent to them.

Little League Sign-up

Parents wishing to sign-up their children for Little League may do so Thursday, March 3, or Thursday, March 17, from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Muleshoe Junior High, during the Little Dribblers basketball games. There is a \$25 sign-up fee, and parents are asked to remember to bring the birth certificate of the youngsters being signed-up. Contact Jorge Barron, 272-3577, or Adrian Perez, 272-5650, for additional information.

Gardening workshop scheduled

A gardening, mini-farming workshop has been scheduled for April 5, 12, 19 and 26, at the Garden & Art Center. The workshop will cover several gardening topics including organic, no-till and beds. For additional information call 767-3724, or email Ken Hargesheiner at "minifarms@aol.com".

Sophomore cookie dough and pie sale

The Muleshoe High School Sophomore class will be holding a cookie dough and pie sale as a fundraiser until March 14. To receive additional information or to place an order, contact any Senior or Sophomore class member or sponsor, call the school at 272-7303, or email the order to April Smith at "asmith@muleshoeisd.net" or Debbie Connor "dconnor@muleshoeisd.net". Other class sponsors include Linda Cogliandro and Sid Morris. Cookie dough and pies will be delivered about two weeks after the end of the sale.

First Baptist of Earth to hold revival

First Baptist Church of 101 NE 1st, Earth, has scheduled a revival for March 4-16 with the message being presented by Dr. Joel Gregory of Ft. Worth, Texas, and Jeff and Cindy Petillo of FBC, Farmington, N.M., assisting with the music and worship. Services will begin at 7 p.m. each night. Also during the revival, there will be a Bible study at noon on March 4, and an 8 a.m. Brotherhood breakfast on March 5. The 10:30 a.m. service on March 6 will be followed by a Fellowship meal. For additional information call 806-257-2036.

Lesser Prairie Chicken meeting set

The Resource Conservation and Development, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and Texas Cooperative Extension and Muleshoe Service Center's Farm Service Agency, and Natural Resource Conservation Service, invite you to attend a meeting to learn more about lesser prairie chicken management and to have the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments on currently available government programs and incentives. The meeting will be held at the Muleshoe, Bailey County, Five Area Telephone Coop. Building on March 8 at 7 p.m.

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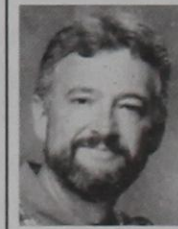
Thanks for reading!

The Psalmist Is Right: Joy Comes in the Morning

Sometimes—and now that I think about it, maybe most of the time—I think the little things in life are the biggest and best of all.

Oh, I know, some of the things that will one day, in the perspective of a whole life, seem really small seem pretty large right now. I'm thinking of those things that Jesus called "the cares of the world." Those cares are weedy things that quickly grow up and choke the joy right out of your life if you let them take root. I know. And so do you.

cursing the darkness and the red ink, and gone to bed in a bit of a snit. But then the next morning he rolled out of bed and made coffee and ventured out of his humble abode to get the morning paper. He was probably still a bit stiff and fussy and was muttering something under his breath about how when he was a boy you had to land the thing on the porch. But when he bent down, the crisp air of a fine winter morning stopped him in his tracks, and he straightened, and he stretched, and he saw, twinkling brightly just above the outlined hill overlooking his little village, the blue fire of the morning star set like a jewel into the deep velvety blue of the crown of a new day. One twinkle of that star chased away for awhile all his doom and gloom, and his old chariot and depressing bank statement just didn't seem to matter much. Shoot, he had overdraft protection down at Galilee National anyway.



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

My son's car that I should've sold months ago but didn't—too busy, ya know?—that vehicle has now blown a head gasket. I'm figuring that's at least a \$600 weed. Rats and rattletraps!

And I've been trying to catch up on the better part of a year's worth of bank statements that piled up while I was impersonating a carpenter, and I see the balance shaping up, and up is not where it's headed. Seems to me like it's kind of crashing down at a fairly alarming rate. You've seen some weeds like that, right?

Those—and so many other—dratted and dredded weeds aren't, in the whole scheme of things, all that large. You've faced larger before and what really matters in your life hasn't been choked out yet. You'll soon get past these, too, and you'll largely forget about them as the beautiful things in your life green up again. And they will.

The old psalm-writer was right, you know. "Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes in the morning." I figure he'd probably been working on his bank statement late at night and

And he was right. It's nice, though unusual, when cars aren't killing us with recurrent repairs and the ink on my bank statement is blacker than it is red.

But the little things that I often let bug me are small indeed compared to the little blessings that God gives us that really make life precious.

A crisp winter morning. A glimpse of that morning star.

A good book. A warm smile.

A little "in her sleep" bark that lets you know that the little brindle puppy asleep on your couch is chasing rabbits while you're chasing check numbers.

And the reminder that chasing rabbits is probably a bunch more important in the whole scheme of things anyway. And so you go to bed, and you drink in delicious draughts of God's precious gift of sleep, and joy really does come in the morning.

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

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Deputies sworn in...
County deputies also took oaths of officer during Monday's ceremonies at the courthouse. Pictured on the left, from left to right, are Rebecca Espinoza, who will serve in the district clerk, Misty Prater, deputy county clerk, and Angela Arreola, tax assessor.

Commissioners' Court... continued from page 1

company had delayed the arrival of the bond documents, requiring the commissioners to postpone the documents' approval until their next meeting on March 14.

The commissioners also discussed a change in billing procedures at the county, specifically the use of procurement cards by the commissioners rather than a

credit card that was required to be in the judge's name and required her to handle certain types of transactions that would be more easily handled by the individual commissioners.

The commissioners' court also discussed the replacement of the large window in the County Extension building. Three bids

had been received on the project, which Cox said had first been discussed almost two years ago.

The commissioners approved the low bid of \$734.99, from Small Town Remodeling, which will include the cost of materials to replace the window and the damaged wood surrounding it.

Lamplight... by Larry Thornton

Years ago, I volunteered to help a friend complete his household chores by washing the dishes while he dried them and put them away.

Afterward, we were about to return to our play when his mother recall that she needed something from the store for a dessert she was preparing for that night. I remember that she grabbed her purse and headed out the door but paused long enough to tell my friend that the fish also needed to be fed.

This family had a large fish aquarium with fish in its living room. After raising the hood, my friend and I sprinkled the fish food across the top of the tank and watched as all the fish came to the top to eat. Suddenly, our plans to play outside seemed to disappear. There we were... in the living room with gallons and gallons of water, an open aquarium full of fish... and the closest adult was next doors at my house. Friends, when you're a 10-year-old boy it doesn't get any better unless there's ice cream involved.

Now, I won't bore you with a lot of the little details,

except to say that the clean up required several towels and the water level in the tank had to be topped off by the end of our brief "in-house" fishing excursion.

A few minutes later, my friend's mother returned with the items for the dessert, which included among other things angel food cake. Then she announced that since my hands were so clean from washing dishes, I could help by tearing the cake into bite-sized pieces.

Needless to say, this turn of events took me completely by surprise. Although I knew my hands had recently been in water, I also knew they weren't as clean as she thought, and I knew that I should wash again before I handled the food. But I remember thinking that if I told my friend's mother that I needed to wash my hands she'd somehow learn that just minutes earlier we'd been up to our elbows in the fish tank. So, I did what I was told and began tearing up the cake... without re-washing my hands. As I recall, when I ate some of the dessert that night I halfway expected it to taste at least a little fishy.

To my knowledge, my friend and I never shared this event... or the extra special seasoning that the dessert contained... with our parents. After all, no one went to the hospital or started sprouting gills or anything, but that doesn't mean that the events of the day were "our little secret." You see, I Kings 8:39, NIV, tells us that God alone knows the hearts of all men, including 10-year-old boys.

In the seventh chapter of the Book of Joshua, we see where Achan the son of Carmi took items devoted to God from the City of Jericho and hid them under the floor of his tent. As a result, when the Israelites attacked the City of Ai, they were defeated. Although Achan believed that his sins were committed in secret he forgot that it is impossible to conceal our transgressions from God Almighty, to whom all sin is abhorrent, and that others may suffer the consequences of our personal sins.

The Bible tells us that God is faithful and just, but when you're a sinner like me it's even more important that our heavenly Father is a merciful God who is willing to forgive us our misdeeds if we will only repent.

Commentary

Compromise is not a dirty word

By Rev. Alvin Petty
Calvary Baptist Church,
Friona

Modern Americans must learn anew the art of helpful compromise. Jesus said, "The children of this world are wiser in their own time than are the children of light. Therefore be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."

In this life the art of compromise is needed in everything to achieve good goals. Abraham Lincoln, a wise politician and statesman, hated slavery, but seeing the explosive trouble that was coming he proposed a plan of federal compensation to pay Southern slave owners for freeing their slaves and allow them to economically survive the transition from a

slave dependant agriculture to a free method of production.

This was a great compromise aimed at saving the South as well as the North. The ardent abolitionists in the north and the hot-headed States Rights advocates in the south would not have such a compromise with "evil" for the sake of the common good.

Each demanded that their side have it all their way. So the Civil War killed hundreds of thousands of our brothers and sisters. The slaves were treed into a terrible form of economic slavery in an impoverished southland. The same destructive spirit of "No Compromise" rules our land today. Here is one example.

The "morning after" birth control pill has been proven safe and 80 percent effective in preventing pregnancy if taken as prescribed. Most western countries allow its use. Conservative political and religious forces are working together to keep it off the market in the United States, saying it might be unsafe and might increase sexual licentiousness. It is estimated that it would decrease the 1.3 million American abortions per year, 50 percent the first year. It seems to me that thoughtful pro-choice and conservative anti-abortion people would seek common ground here for the common good.

The "No Compromise" position on either side does more harm than good.

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If you're still interested in looking at the Journal's old photos, they have been moved to the Oneita Wagnon Senior Center on Main Street. Everyone is welcome to look through them and take the ones you want!

Congratulations Buster & Happy!

Happy says... "It's your turn to get up and take care of them puppies, Buster!"

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 — 2 Corinthians 8:21

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Agricultural News

Can agriculture survive the decline of the Ogallala Aquifer?

By Vivien Gore Allen,
Texas Tech University
Department of Plant
and Soil Science,

Texas High Plains agriculture, including crops and livestock, contributes more than \$5.5 billion annually in revenues but is highly dependent on water pumped from the Ogallala aquifer. More than 95 percent of water withdrawn from the Ogallala in the Southern High Plains is used for irrigation but today that water source is declining at an alarming rate with some wells already dry.

Withdrawal rates exceed one foot per year while the potential for recharge is generally less than one inch. As the depth-to-water increases, more energy is required to pump water to the surface, thus, increasing costs and lowering profitability for producers.

About 20 to 25 percent of the U.S. cotton crop is produced in this once vast grassland. Most of this cotton is produced in monoculture systems that are economically risky and contribute to wind induced soil erosion and depletion of ground water resources. Although large numbers of cattle are found in this region, other than grazing of wheat pastures prior to entering area feedyards,

little integration of livestock and crop production has existed. Complementary benefits of integrating crop and livestock production could improve nutrient cycling, reduce soil erosion, improve water management, interrupt pest cycles, and allow economic risk to be spread out through diversification.

In 1997, scientists from Texas Tech in partnership with other universities, government agencies, producers, and area industries worked together to design and implement a longterm systems oriented field study that has compared the cotton monoculture typical of the region to an integrated cotton, forage, and livestock system for grazing by stocker steers. Both systems used a subsurface drip system to deliver irrigation water.

No-till planted cotton in the integrated system was grown in alternate rotation with small grains for grazing by the steers. A water-use efficient warm-season perennial grass used for grazing and autumn seed production makes up one half of the integrated systems acres. This research was funded primarily through the USDA-SARE program. Results of the first five years are published in the

March-April issue of the *Agronomy Journal*.

The integrated crop and livestock system has used 23 percent less water for irrigation, 40 percent less nitrogen fertilizer, fewer inputs of other chemicals, and has improved profitability by about 90 percent, compared with the cotton monoculture.

Cotton grown in rotation with small grains reduced soil erosion potential to below critical levels while soil erosion potential for the cotton monoculture exceeded maximum levels recommended for a sustainable system.

Inclusion of forages in the system improved soil microbial activity and increased carbon sequestration compared with the cotton monoculture. Integrating cotton and livestock production reduced economic risk through diversification of income with multiple marketable products compared with the cotton monoculture.

The agricultural future of the Texas High Plains depends on development and adoption of alternative strategies that can protect natural resources and reduce demands for water and that can provide economic returns to sustain producers and rural communities.

Births

Alize Devine Rodriguez

Veronica Martinez and Mark Rodriguez of Muleshoe, Texas, announce the birth of their daughter Alize Devine Rodriguez on Feb. 11, 2005, at 5:36 a.m. at Muleshoe Area Medical Center.

Alize weighed eight pounds, three ounces at birth, and was 19 inches in length.

Paternal grandparents are Mike and Debbie Rodriguez of Muleshoe. Maternal grandparents are Lisa Valle and Augustin Martinez, both of Muleshoe.

Maternal great-grandparents are Joe and Virginia Estrada, and Marcial Manuela Martinez, all of Muleshoe.

Paternal great grandparents are Julio Hurtado and Joe and Ester Rodriguez of Muleshoe. Alize's paternal great, great grandmother is Florinda Hurtado.



Alize Rodriguez

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Annual Beef Council report summarizes checkoff events

Texas beef producers funded checkoff programs in 2004 that continue to complement the global effort to reach consumers with beef promotion, education and research, said Dan Dierschke, Austin producer and chairman of the Texas Beef Council.

TBC published its annual summary of 2004 checkoff projects in a state-national report now available to Texas producers. This annual report describes beef checkoff activities funded by Texas producers through the \$1 per head beef checkoff program. Under the law that guides the checkoff, 50 cents of each Texas checkoff dollar

must go to the Cattlemen's Beef Board for national promotions.

The TBC board of directors, made up of Texas beef producers, invests the other half dollar in state activities as well as additional national and international beef marketing programs.

"In a year when beef demand soared a significant eight percent, Texas beef producers impacted consumers, foodservice, retail, health professionals, teachers and students, exporters and foreign consumers with information on beef," Dierschke said. "The Texas checkoff also helped fund research on

new innovations for the beef industry and provided Texas beef producers with total quality management protocol. All told, the checkoff operated in a year of many successes for the Texas beef industry."

Texas beef producers can review the projects funded through their checkoff dollars by requesting a copy of the TBC's annual report. It is available from TBC at 1-800-846-4113 or by email at atbeef@txbeef.org.

TBC also will distribute copies at beef producer meetings in 2005. And producers also can view the annual report online at www.texasbeef.org.

Texas milk production totals remain unchanged for January

Texas milk production totaled 526 million pounds during January, unchanged from last year's production of 526 million pounds. December 2004 production totaled 496 million pounds. The number of milk cows

during January averaged 318 head.

Production per cow averaged 1,655 pounds during January, five pounds less than last year but 100 pounds above December 2004.

Milk production in the 23 states participating in the monthly survey totaled 13.2 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from production in these same states in January 2004. December production, at 13 billion pounds, was up 1.2 percent from December 2003.

Production per cow during January averaged 1,637 pounds, 13 pounds above a year ago. The average number of milk cows in the 23 states was 8.08 million head, 38,000 head more than last year but 5,000 head less than December 2004.

High school rodeo finals set for May 12-15

The Texas High School Rodeo Finals has been set for May 12-15, at Gonzales, Texas. This rodeo is available to any 6th-8th grade child in the State of Texas. The top three contestants from the state competition will advance to the National Finals, to be held in Gallup, N.M., with

scholarships totaling \$50,000 to be given out. If this year's State Finals is a success the Texas High School Rodeo Association will adopt this division into their general membership next year. For more information contact George Gregory at 512-237-5575 after 6 p.m. or email: thsra6@yahoo.com

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REPRESENTATIVE SALES

600 head of cattle, 228 hogs and 303 sheep and goats for a total of 1,131 livestock sold at the Feb. 26th sale. Market steady on light stocker cattle; feeder cattle 1-3 lower due to lower futures trading this past week. Pairs and bred cows were steady along with packer cows and bulls.

Muleshoe Cattle Market

The Muleshoe Cattle Market is brought to you each week by Muleshoe Livestock Auction, located east of Muleshoe on U.S. 84. Muleshoe Livestock conducts sales every Saturday, beginning with hogs, sheep and goats at 10 a.m. and cattle following at approximately noon.

FOR INFORMATION ON SALES OR TO CONSIGN CATTLE, CALL (806) 272-4201

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Brant Lookingbill, Friona	5	Hol. bulls	440 lbs.	at \$105.00
Sylvester Mayfield, Clovis, NM	1	Char. str	245 lbs.	at \$150.00
Bryan Jackson, Canyon	1	Blk. bull	370 lbs.	at \$136.00
Bill Benham, Muleshoe	1	Char. str	420 lbs.	at \$120.00
Kirby Cattle Co., Sudan	1	Blk. bull	425 lbs.	at \$131.00
Pat Moberly, Littlefield	2	Blk. bulls	448 lbs.	at \$121.00
Jack Tarver, Portales, NM	1	BMF str	505 lbs.	at \$115.00
GTT Corp, Hereford	4	Mxd. str	561 lbs.	at \$120.00
GTT Corp, Hereford	12	Mxd. str	619 lbs.	at \$114.50
GTT Corp, Hereford	23	Mxd. str	713 lbs.	at \$101.00
GTT Corp, Hereford	18	Mxd. str	799 lbs.	at \$97.75
Melvin Jennings, Morton	1	YWF str	640 lbs.	at \$114.00
Norris Conklin, Muleshoe	2	Blk. str	645 lbs.	at \$113.00
Norris Conklin, Muleshoe	11	Blk. str	794 lbs.	at \$97.75
Norris Conklin, Muleshoe	6	Blk. str	938 lbs.	at \$90.25
Wayne Tunnell, Muleshoe	4	Blk. hfr. cls	per hd. 193 lbs.	at \$340.00
Carl White, Lubbock	1	Blk. hfr	320 lbs.	at \$130.00
Pat Moberly, Littlefield	2	Blk. hfrs	305 lbs.	at \$126.00
Pat Moberly, Littlefield	5	Blk. hfrs	470 lbs.	at \$116.00
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GTT Corp, Hereford	25	Mxd. hfrs	647 lbs.	at \$103.50
GTT Corp, Hereford	17	Blk. hfrs	607 lbs.	at \$108.50
Bill Benham, Muleshoe	1	Blk. pair		\$1085.00
Fuzzy Farms, Springlake	1	Red cow P7		\$920.00
Aaron Drager, Clovis, NM	1	Red cow P5		\$800.00
Bill Verden, Earth	1	Blk. cow P7		\$810.00
Tommy Tatum, Friona	1	Blk. cow P5		\$700.00
Hoot Greenwood, Hobbs, NM	1	Red cow	885 lbs.	at \$53.00
Keaton Hutto, Tahoka	1	Blk. cow	1355 lbs.	at \$52.50
Fuzzy Farms, Springlake	1	Gray cow	1195 lbs.	at \$52.25
Francis Watson, Springlake	1	WF cow	1133 lbs.	at \$51.50
Bo Brown, Muleshoe	1	Char. bull	1675 lbs.	at \$67.00

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Sports

Lady Mules end season with a trip to the 'Big House'

By Delton Wilhite
Sports Writer

Just prior to the seeding game with Levelland, Sadie Sudduth asked her dad, Coach Carey Sudduth, "How many more games before we get to play in the 'Big House'?" The Lady Mules began to use that phrase as their motto through the playoffs.

The Lady Mules returned to the "Big House" this past weekend for the Texas Region I Girls Basketball Tournament. The "Big House" Sadie was referring to is Texas Tech's United Spirit Arena.

The Lady Mules had become giant killers as almost every team they played towered over them. The Pilot Point Lady Cats were no different as they started three girls who stood six foot tall or taller.

The Lady Cats sister act of Sunnie Davis and Janelle Davis are 6'2" and 6'0" respectively. Courtney Darwin completes the trio at 6'0".

Darwin averaged more than 16 points a game and the Davis sisters added 20 more as the Ladycats averaged 49.3 points per game and held their opponents to only 37.

Pilot Point led the Lady Mules 37-39 going into the final period but "the Queens of the Fourth Quarter" clamped on the defense. Kasey Wood set the place on fire and drained three treys in the final period. The Lady Mules outscored Pilot Point 22-12 to defeat the Ladycats 59-51.

Twelve hours after knocking off Pilot Point the Lady Mules had to face the Canyon Lady Eagles. They have been ranked number one in class 3-A since dropping down as the 4-A defending champions last

year. They defeated the Lady Mules in the finals of the regional tournament last season.

Canyon went on to win the 3-A state championship and returned this year to meet the Breckenridge Lady Bucks in the regional semi-finals. Canyon

'I cannot say enough about these kids...they are super. They show heart and passion and bought into the program early on...'

Coach Shana Sims

continued their dominance of 3-A basketball with an 81-41 win.

Canyon's size advantage and 3-point shooting proved to be too much for the Lady Mules. Canyon would get the ball inside and the Lady Mule defense would double down on them as they had done all season. Canyon's size allowed them to find the open guard and she would drain a trey.

Canyon made 11-of-19 three pointers, 13 two-point buckets and were 11-of-13 from the line. They defeated the Lady Mules 39-74 to return to the state tournament in Austin.

Lindsey Wood and Jamie Carpenter were chosen to the Region I All-Tournament Team. Following her selection to the elite team L. Wood said, "I did not think that I had played my best in these last two games and never dreamed I would be chosen."

"It has always been a dream of mine to play in the state tournament and we got so close last year. But we did fulfill our dream of returning here again this year. I really do not think anyone gave us much of a chance of getting back here when the season started."

With tears not far away Jamie Carpenter said, "Since I was a little girl

basketball has been my sport. I dreamed of being on a team that went to state."

"But I have discovered that to be on a team where you really get to know the girls, have fun with them, to play the game with as well as you know how and to goof off with was really what

I found my dream to be."

"I found all those things with the girls on this team. I will miss the game, the girls and the relationships

we have formed this season. This year may have even been more special as no one gave us a chance of getting back to this level."

"We surprised everyone, even ourselves. With each game we pushed ourselves and got better as a team. That became the reward in itself. The farther we went the more we believed in the team and what we could accomplish."

Not known for her offensive play Carpenter continued by saying, "I think they are crazy for choosing me to the all-tournament team. But it was awesome for me to get to double figures in my final game and am honored at being chosen. That really rounds out the year and eases some of the pain."

The Lady Mules spotted Pilot Point 12 points in the opening five and half minutes. Coach Shana Sims called time out after the Ladycats had claimed a 10-point lead to calm her team.

Carpenter finally broke the ice for the Lady Mules with a free throw. The Lady Mules held the Ladycats to a single bucket in the closing minutes of the period.

Ashley Dickson went to the baseline for a pass and found Kelsy Friskup open at



Photo by Norm Brantley

Lady Mule Lindsey Wood displays some fancy footwork during the recent game against Pilot Point.

the elbow for Muleshoe's first two of the game. Amber Cowart drove the baseline on the Lady Mule's next possession and dished to Carpenter in the lane.

The Lady Mules trailed 5-14 to open the second frame. The pressure defense began to pay dividends as Cowart picked off a Pilot Point pass. Cowart pushed the ball to Brandi Wood and she drove the base line to open the quarter.

Friskup added back-to-back buckets in a 30-second span to cut the lead to 11-14. Lindsey Wood made it a one-point game as she picked off an in bound pass and quickly laid the ball up.

"It was a very scary start for us as we spotted them a 12-point lead," said Kelsy Friskup. "We are known for our comebacks and tonight was no different. We finally started making them earn their points with our defense."

"We had to over come

foul problems tonight. Losing Lindsey (Wood) to fouls with a minute and a half left in the game was pretty scary. Fortunately we have players that can come in the game and make good things happen for us."

The Ladycats went on a 5-2 run to push their lead to 18-22 before Friskup scored on a fast break. L. Wood picked off her second in bound pass and scored to tie the game at 22-22.

Dickson scored in the lane, Kasey Wood converted a pair from line and Kate Lepard hit a 12-foot baseline jumper to give the Lady Mules a 28-25 lead at the intermission.

The fouls began to pile up on the Lady Mules in the third period. Pilot Point came charging back to out score the Lady Mules 14-9 and took a 37-39 advantage into the final quarter.

The Ladycats extended their lead to 5 in the first minute of the final quarter with three free throws.

Friskup drove from the

left wing and was stopped short. She saw K. Wood all alone in the corner calling for the ball. Coach Simms, the players on the bench and all the Muleshoe fans threw their arms in the air signaling the shot was a trey.

"After I hit the first three, I just felt like I could keep hitting them," said Kasey Wood. "I did not even have to think about the last two shots they just went in."

The Ladycats could not control the fire that K. Wood's 3-pointer ignited. In the next two minutes the Lady Mules scored nine points while Pilot Point only made one.

K. Wood made two more 3's in less than 30-seconds during the two minutes and finished the period with 5-of-6 from the line for a total of 14 points in the final quarter.

B. Wood and Cowart were a perfect 6-of-6 at the stripe in the final minutes. Pilot Point tossed the ball out of bounds with only three seconds left in the game. B. Wood took the in-bound pass and just hung on to the ball as the final seconds ticked away.

Continued on page 8.

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Go Mules! Fight Mules! Win Mules! Go Mules! Fight Mules! Win Mules!

Sports

Lady Mules meet, defeat Abilene Wylie Lady Bulldogs

By Delton Wilhite
Sports Writer

The Lady Mules and the Abilene Wylie Lady Bulldogs met in Lamesa for the regional quarter-final game to determine which team would enter the "Sweet Sixteen."

The winner would advance to the Region I Tournament in Texas Tech's United Spirit Arena.

The two teams battled for 24 minutes and only three points separated the two teams. The Lady Mules have become the queens of the fourth quarter as they rule the final eight minutes of the game.

The Lady Mules continued the trend and out scored Wylie 22-8 in the final period to run away from the Lady Bulldogs 61-44.

"I have been calling these girls a bunch of over achievers," said Lady Mule coach Shana Simms. "But now I believe that we all have under estimated how good they really are."

Kelsy Friskup showed courage by playing in the game as she also battled a severe case of the flu. Kate Lepard and Ashlie Dickson stepped into her place to take on the Twin Towers of Wylie. Courtney Laing and



Norm Brantley

Coach Simms accepts the trophy.



Norm Brantley

Lady Mule Kelsy Friskup takes a shot.

Regan Burks were listed at 6'1" and 6'0" respectively.

"With Kelsy (Friskup) being sick this week the bench really stepped up and played big tonight," said Ashley Dickson. "Amber (Coward) really stepped up

on offense and knocked down 10 points in the first half."

"Our fourth quarter just killed them tonight. We go into every game saying just survive until the fourth quarter and the game is

ours."

"Wylie is good big team and we knew we had a battle on our hands. They swatted us pretty good a couple of times but we got up and just kept after them. We get to go play in the 'Big House'

(United Spirit Arena) now and that has become our motto."

Amber Cowart came off the bench for the added firepower on offense and canned a pair of treys in the second period and 10 of her

career high 13 points.

"I will admit to being a little scared going in to the game tonight," said Amber Cowart. "Coach Simms had told us it would be like playing ourselves. They are a very good team and like to press you the full court."

"The thing that makes our team so special is that everyone has a huge heart and we really work well together. We are so excited about getting to go play in the 'Big House'."

Wylie opened the game with a five point run in the first three minutes before the Lady Mules settled into the game. Friskup trailed Brandi Wood down the floor on a fast break and put back her missed shot to break the ice for the Lady Mules.

The Lady Mule press forced Wylie to turn the ball over on the Muleshoe end of the court. B. Wood was fouled shooting a baseline hook shot and made both charity tosses to put the Lady Mules on top to stay at the 3:16 mark of the first period.

Abilene would tie the game on four occasions during the game but never led again. They over took the Lady Mules at 12-12

Continued on page 8

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Sweet Sixteen win for the Lady Mules... Continued from page 8.

later in the first period, at 14-14 as the second period began and at 29-29 and 31-31 in the third.

Mule fall to Eagles

By Delton Wilhite
Sports Writer

None of the Mules had any post season experience as they met the Canyon Eagles last Tuesday night in Hereford. Canyon's senior forward, Kyle Lovorn burned up the net from behind the arc in the second period with four 3-pointers and 18 points in the period.

That was enough for the Eagles to soar away from the Mules 57-76 and take the bidistrict gold ball back to Canyon with them.

"Both teams started slow but we took it to them early", said Mule coach Ralph Mason. "The Lovorn kid really burned us in the second period and we just could not come back. Canyon has a very good team and they were prepared to play tonight."

"I was happy that we were able to get back in the playoffs this year and would have liked to see us go a little deeper in the tournament. We will miss our seniors but they helped build a foundation for next year's team."

The Mules played tough defense in the opening period and held the potent Eagles to just six points. Canyon broke the ice with a pair of free throws before Chris Kindle drove the lane and dropped in a one-handed floater from eight feet.

Kory Atwood answered an Eagle bucket with a pair of charity tosses to keep the game tied. Brady Black found Kindle cutting through the back door for the Mules first lead of the game at 6-4.

The Eagles tied the game at six each as time was running down.

Trevor Turnbow had enough time to catch and shoot from behind the arc before time expired to put the Mules in front 9-6.

Tyler Sheets interrupted

Lindsey Wood stole the Wylie in-bound pass following B. Wood's free throws and drove the

an Eagle 14-point scoring run in the second period with a trey to give the Mules their final lead of the night at 12-10.

The Eagles led 12-20 before Kindle found Arsenio Geter open on the blocks. Geter would make two more buckets before the half ended and Brant Hamilton made a freethrow. The Mules trailed 19-29 at the intermission.

The Eagles had their second consecutive 23-point period in the third frame as they out scored the Mules 23-15 to take a 34-51 cushion into the final quarter.

Turnbow and Sheets canned back-to-back treys to open the final period and cut the Eagle lead to 40-53.

Geter answered an Eagle three-point play with one of his own. Geter made a strong move to hoop and was fouled. He got the ball to go down and added the charity toss.

Then, Geter showed his versatility with a hook shot in the lane. Landon Wilson stopped an Eagle seven-point run with a pair of charity tosses. And Trent Black stuck back an offensive rebound as the clock began to wind down on the Mules.

Turnbow hit a 15-foot jumper and Kindle added a charity toss before Sheets drained a deep 3-pointer to end all scoring. Lovorn led all scoring with five 3's and 27 points for the Eagles. Geter paced the Mules with 14 points and Turnbow had three 3's and 13 points.

Sheets dropped in four treys for 12 points and B. Black added six. Kindle made five points, T. Black, Atwood and Wilson had two points each and Hamilton chipped in one for the Mules. The Mules finished the season with 17 wins and 14 losses.

baseline for an easy bucket. L. Wood picked off the ensuing Wylie in bound pass and shoveled the ball to B. Wood under the basket.

Her positioning was wrong to turn and shoot the ball so she made a two-handed scoop shot up over her head. B. Wood kissed it in off the glass to end a six-point 30-second scoring flurry that gave the Lady Mules a 12-7 lead. B. Wood finished the period with a second circus shot to break a 12-12 tie.

Wylie fired their best shot at the Lady Mules in the third period with a five point run to open the second half. They tied the score twice

early in the period but the Lady Mules finished the period with an 8-5 run to lead 39-36 going into the final quarter.

The Lady Mule full court defense caused Wylie to run short on gas in the final quarter. Kasey Wood picked off a Wylie pass but misced on her shot. B. Wood was there for the put back.

On the next trip down the floor, L. Wood saw her sister K. Wood headed south down the floor like a bird in the wintertime. L. Wood hit her with a three-quarter court pass that seemed to take all the wind out of Wylie's sails.

The Lady Mules held

Laing and Burks to a combined 26 points.

"I can not say enough about each one of these kids, as they know the role they play on this team," continued Simms. "Amber (Cowart) really came in and gave us huge boost tonight with her 10 points in the second quarter."

"The defense that Dickson and Lepard played on their big girls was phenomenal. Brandi (Wood) had to take over getting the ball down the floor as they had their best defender on Lindsey (Wood). The minutes that Chelsi (Hawkins) gave us allowed Jamie (Carpenter) and Lindsey (Wood) to

catch their breath." "We have a good team." Concluded Simms.

B. Wood led all scorers with 24 points and made 7-of-8 freethrows. Amber Cowart had a career high 13 points with two treys and was 5-of-6 from the line. L. Wood dropped in nine points, Friskup eight, Dickson three and Carpenter and K. Wood chipped in two each.

The Lady Mules were 23-of-29 from the line.

The Lady Mules met the Pilot Point Lady Cats in the semi-final round of the Region I Tournament at the Spirit Arena on Friday night.

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Lady Mules... Continued from page 6

"What a comeback the girls made tonight," said Simms. "We spotted them 12 to start the game but it was Kasey's (Wood) night to step up. When she made that first three I knew we had it and the momentum began to change."

The Lady Mules held the Davis girls to 11 points on the night but Darwin got loose for 21.

Friskup set the pace for the Lady Mules with 12 points in the first half and 19 in the game. K. Wood added two free throws in the second period to go with her 14 points in the last period for 16 total points. B. Wood had nine points, L. Wood and Dickson made four each and Carpenter dropped in three. Cowart and Lepard chipped in two apiece as the Lady Mules joined the Elite Eight and faced Canyon in the finals.

The Lady Mules had success early against Canyon as L. Wood used her quickness to drive the lane and was fouled shooting. She made both shots from the line and then grabbed the Lady Eagles in bound pass and drained a 15-foot jumper.

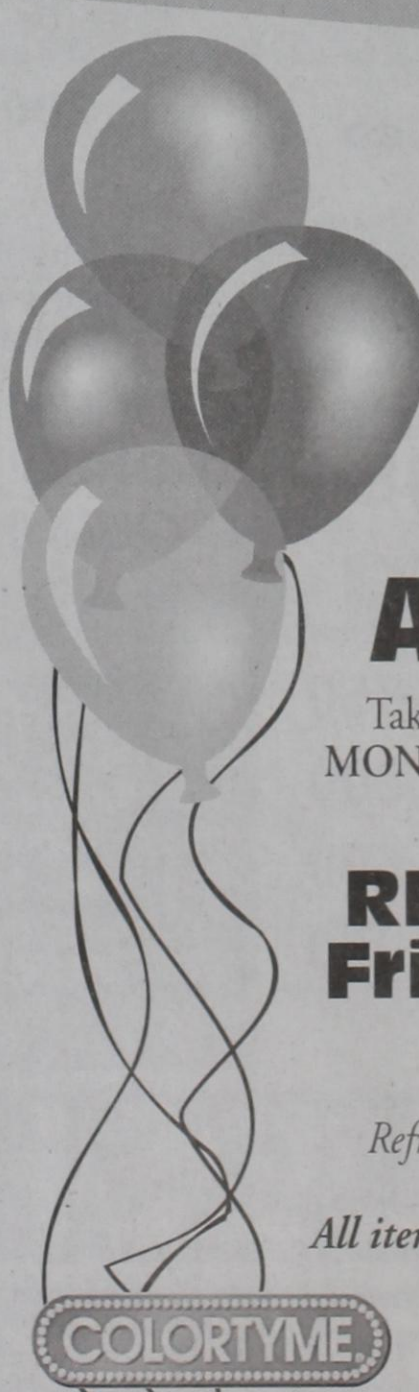
Canyon roared back with nine unanswered points before Friskup scored on the inside. Carpenter got open in the lane and managed to keep the ball on the rim until it decided to fall through as the period ended. The Lady Mules trailed 10-17.

Canyon opened a 20-point lead with just under three minutes left in the half. The Lady Mules continued to scrap but could not dent the Canyon juggernaut. Carpenter knocked down a pair of treys in the final stanza and B. Wood had a 3-pointer.

Carpenter led the Lady Mules with 10 points, L. Wood made nine and B. Wood had seven. Friskup dropped in six points; Cowart five and Dickson chipped in two.

"You always hate to end on a loss," said Simms. "But there is only one team that ends the season happy. I can not say enough about these kids...They are sup r. They show heart and pas ion and bought into the pro ram early on." The

Lady Mules finished the season with a record of 25 ins and nine losses.



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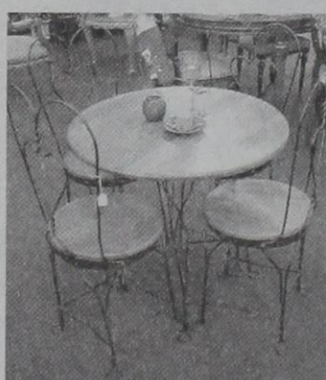
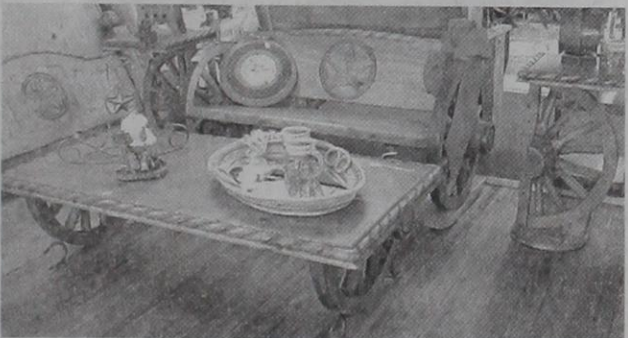
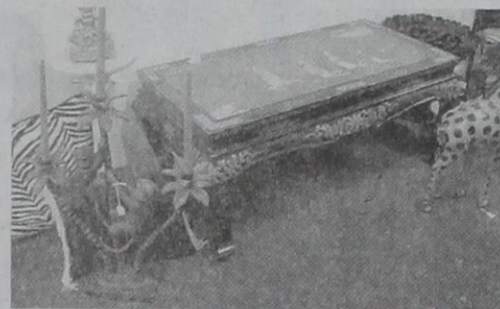
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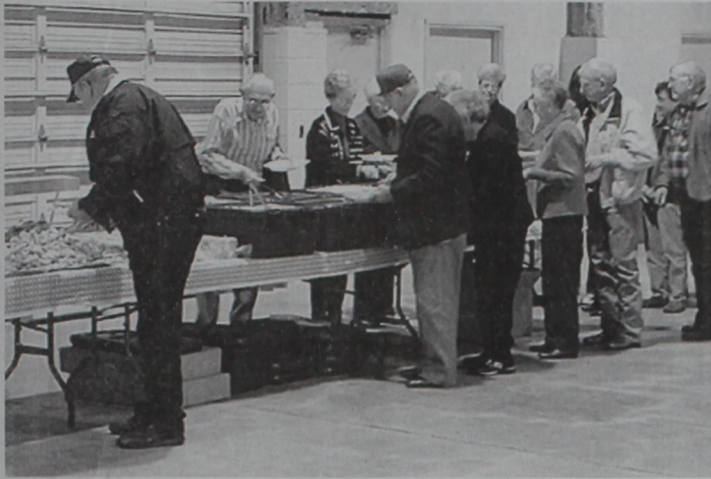
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Five Area Feed

Members of the Five Area Telephone Cooperative gathered in Muleshoe Saturday for the annual meeting. Among the activities were the traditional catered meal, pictured above, door prizes and the business meeting. During the business meeting, Dist. 5 Director Johnny Ferguson, Dist. 6 Director Wayne Swart, and Dist. 7 Director Jon Gandy were reelected to office. In his report to the membership, General Manager Sandy Vandevender said 2004 was a good year for the cooperative, adding, "It's important in that the phones work well in the rural area." He also spoke about the employees of the cooperative, saying, "So far, I haven't found any that compare with our group."



Sweet sixteen...plus

An assortment of... beauties joined in the celebration at the Muleshoe Lady Mules' pep rally Friday afternoon. While some suggested that the fathers of the Lady Mules volunteered their services, it quickly became evident that a team of professional NBA-quality cheerleaders had stopped by to lend a hand. If anyone discovers which basketball team sent it's "lovely ladies" to Muleshoe, please drop them a note of "thanks... but no thanks."

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Take Charge America offers last-minute tips for taxpayers

The infamous Tax Day is right around the corner... For those of you taxpayers who promptly file your taxes as soon as you receive forms in the mailbox, April 15 may be just another ordinary day. However, for others who are dreading the tax deadline because they haven't yet begun to prepare or file, Mike Sullivan, director of education for Take Charge America advises not to panic because it's not too late.

According to Sullivan, there are several things that taxpayers need to remember when preparing their taxes. He offers the following five tips that should not be overlooked:

- File taxes electronically and choose direct deposit
- According to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), more than 61 million people filed their taxes through E-file in 2004. If done electronically, transactions can be completed more quickly and refunds will be received sooner than if filed through the US Postal system. By choosing direct deposit, refunds will be received oftentimes in two weeks or less. In addition, refund checks are not susceptible to getting lost or stolen through the mail.

- Taxpayers should also determine whether or not they qualify for "Free File."

Companies that are members of the Free File Alliance provide free filing to eligible taxpayers. If accessed by way of www.irs.gov <<http://www.irs.gov>>, you can see which companies provide the service free and which

charge fees.

If you are eligible, the company you choose will file your tax return electronically with online software free of charge. But beware: these companies provide the service in hopes of selling additional services to the taxpayer — so resist the temptation.

- Don't be fooled by Refund Anticipation Loans (RALs)

Fees charged by lenders who offer RALs are extremely high and, combined with tax preparer fees and electronic filing fees that are normally a part of the deal with the lender, you may pay 10 percent or more of your refund to get your refund 7-10 days sooner than you would by simply filing electronically using Free File.

According to the Center for Responsible Lending, fees may be as high as \$180 to \$250. To make matters worse, if the amount of your refund is less than the loan and fees, you will owe the lender money which may result in extra interest if not paid immediately. Failure to pay in a timely manner could damage your credit. By taking loans against your return, you are paying interest to borrow your own money. Remember, the refund you are about to receive is not a "gift" — it is your money. You should never pay additional costs to get your own money sooner.

- Remember to include student deductions

Depending on your family income and tax liability, you may be eligible for a tax credit for dependent college students as a result of the

Hope Scholarship Credit or the Life-time Learning Credit. Other possible education-related deductions may be available for those who have paid tuition and fees, student loans and other expenses. Check out IRS Publication 970 for details and eligibility.

You should also beware of recent tax law changes, including the following:

- Donating vehicles

Over the past few years, donating vehicles to charity has become the latest way to pull one over on the IRS. Donors deducted the maximum Blue Book value, despite the condition of the vehicle. But no more. Tax laws for donated vehicles have changed, effective January 2005...so if you didn't donate before year-end 2004, you should check the rules carefully for future donations. Even for 2004, you should beware...the IRS will not necessarily accept your valuation without proof of condition.

- Teaching professionals

Elementary and secondary school teachers, as well as principals, instructors, counselors and aides can still deduct up to \$250 in school supplies without itemization through 2005.

- Child tax credit

The Working Families Tax Relief Act has been extended to allow some parents to claim \$1,000 per child under the age of 17. Check to see if you qualify.

- Sales tax credit

Taxpayers of states without state income taxes, including Alaska, Florida, Nevada, South Dakota, Texas, Washington and Wyoming

can claim state sales tax deductions, which can be calculated from receipts or IRS state tables. Residents of other states may choose to deduct sales tax instead of state income tax.

- Tsunami relief contributions

Monetary donations made by Jan. 31, 2005 to tsunami relief funds can be included in charitable deductions on 2004 tax returns. All donations must be itemized. If other types of donations have been made, such as food or clothing, these items can be deducted as 2005 contributions.

- It's not too late to invest in IRA accounts

The deadline for traditional or Roth IRA contributions to be considered for the 2004 tax year is April 15, 2005. The maximum

amount that people under the age of 50 can contribute to IRA accounts is \$3,000. The maximum for people ages 50 and higher is \$3,500. Keep in mind that these amounts will increase in the next two years.

Filing taxes doesn't have to be a high-stress endeavor. With a little planning and research, you can find many resources to make your life easier. Visit www.irs.gov <<http://www.irs.gov>> for additional resources, publications on specific topics and a list of free tax preparation resources. These free services include the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) for those earning \$36,000 or less, Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) and the Armed Forces Tax Council (AFTC).

For more information on these services, call 1-800-829-1040.

Founded in 1987, TCA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization headquartered in Phoenix, Ariz., committed to helping consumers gain control of their finances and offers a variety of services including education, budget and financial counseling, and when necessary, debt management.

TCA also serves as an effective resource for the business community. We help financially distressed consumers re-organize their finances and return hundreds of millions of dollars annually to financial institutions, professional service providers, and businesses of all sizes and descriptions that may otherwise have been lost to the economy in bankruptcy.



WJH Students of the Week

The names of the Watson Junior High Students of the Week for the week of Feb. 28 have been released. Among the students honored are: Back row, left to right — Juan Vidana, Chris Toscano and Amelia Clemmons; Front row, left to right — Ariel Castorena, Cristal Quintanilla and Craig Black.

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FRIDAY-SUNDAY, MARCH 11-13

FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH

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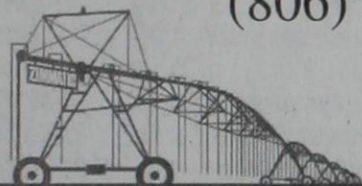


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It's Time for the Muleshoe Journal's 11TH ANNUAL CUTEST BABY CONTEST

Enter any child born in 2004 who you fell in love with at first sight - children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends, etc...

This year's contestant will appear in the March 24 edition of the Muleshoe Journal. A panel of unbiased judges will pick the MOST ATTRACTIVE PICTURE to be the 2004 Cutest Baby. All baby pictures will be printed in this Easter edition of the paper. Babies need not be born in this area.

Bring your favorite photo along with \$13 to the Muleshoe Journal office at 201 W. Ave. C, Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or mail the coupon below along with your child's photo and \$13 to Cutest Baby Contest, c/o Muleshoe Journal, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, Texas 79347. You may pick up your baby's picture during office hours after Monday, March 28, 2005. NOTE: Arrangements must be made to return photos by mail.

ENTRY DEADLINE

Friday, March 18 at 5 pm



Winner will receive a \$50 Savings Bond for being selected 2004's Cutest Baby!

Please provide phone number or address (it will not be published) so that we may contact you if we need additional information.

Baby's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

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Place of Birth: _____

Mom & Dad's Name: _____

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Nursing Home News

Janelle Turner visited Park View this week. She made homemade soup and cornbread from Alliene and G.R. Lasiter.

Anita Johnson directed a craft class Thursday morning. Residents participating included Gladys Wilson, Cathy Wilson, Wilma Hughes, Jim Kee, Diane Copley, Gladys Wright and Mary Johnson.

Jim Kee, Residents' Council president, directed a council meeting Tuesday afternoon.

Sunday morning, the Muleshoe Church of Christ directed a communion service.

Buster Kittrell and Harold Burge taught the Bible study Sunday morning.

Monday morning, the residents participated in a "Tribute to Presidents of the Past and Present," with patriotic and presidential artifacts and decorations including Mt. Rushmore. Our thanks to Jimmy Dutton and Jim Kee for providing material and information.

Bro. Gary and Judy Hubbard directed a devotional and music and praise service Tuesday morning. Delphine Gruda also attended and participated.

Beverly Wagnon, Pat Clark, Pat Watson, Jan Crawford, Dolores Garrett, Josie Ovalle, Mary Jo Burge and Dianne Brown, and Eva Nell Dale shampooed and set the ladies hair. Angela Babcock gave nail care.

Peggy Dent visited all of the residents and did special things for them Wednesday afternoon.

Our deepest sympathy goes to the families and friends of Alta Gore and Sally Vargas. We share your loss.

Frieda Locker was visited by Dan and Donna Locker and Karen this week.

Morris and Robbie Nowlin were visited by their daughter and son-in-law during the week, and Mr. and Mrs. Ronny Shafer.

Mr. Prater was visited every day by his wife Pat Prater, also by his mother Mrs. Lewis Scoggins.

Wednesday morning, Harold and Mary Jo Burger, and Buster and Wanda Kittrell served coffee, juice and donuts to the residents at coffee time. Harold shared words of wisdom and laughter.

Following coffee time, Buster Kittrell, Eva Nell Dale and Sherry Wisian directed the singspiration and devotional time. Anna B. Lane and Jo Ellen Cowart also participated.

Anna B. Lane and the Activity Department sang with the Special Care residents Wednesday morning.

Glenda Jennings and Jackie Scoggins directed our sing-a-long Wednesday afternoon.

Pay Angeley visited Grant Wabington Monday.

Scholarships available for military families

The Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund honors the bravery and dedication exhibited by Americans in the U.S. Armed Forces who have sacrificed life or limb in the defense of the United States by providing college scholarships to their children. Toward that end, Freedom Alliance is now accepting applications for the 2005-2006 academic year.

The application deadline for the 2005-2006 academic year is June 30, 2005.

Freedom Alliance is accepting applications from dependent children of U.S. military personnel who have been killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty during the War on Terror and other military actions. Students must be enrolled at an accredited college, university or vocational school.

Over the years, the Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund has provided college scholarships to students whose parents have been killed or permanently disabled in such conflicts as the 1983 terrorist attack on the Marine Corps barracks in Beirut.

In recent years, scholarship assistance to the dependent children of military personnel who were in the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

For more information about the scholarship fund or to download an application, visit <http://www.freedomalliance.org> or call (800)475-6620.

Peggy Dent visited Park View Wednesday and volunteered her time and talents.

Janet Denton of Friona entertained with music and song in the Day Room Friday afternoon. Sharon Rector also participated.

Tipps listed on Baylor honor roll

Megan Tipps of Muleshoe is among more than 2,000 Baylor University students recently named to the Dean's Academic Honor List for the 2004 fall semester.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must be an undergraduate with a minimum grade-point average of 3.7 while enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours.

Baylor ranks among the nation's top one percent in the number of freshman National Merit Scholars enrolled, and is one of nine Texas colleges or universities and one of only 262 institutions in the country with a Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

Chartered in 1845 by the Republic of Texas and affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Baylor is the oldest continuously operating institution of higher learning in the state.

Baylor ranks among the nation's top one percent in the number of freshman National Merit Scholars enrolled, and is one of nine Texas colleges or universities and one of only 262 institutions in the country with a Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

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- 2003 Pontiac Vibe Stk# 81480\$11,900
- 2004 Pontiac Grand Am SE Stk# 81498\$12,900
- 2003 Chevrolet Camaro Stk# P6034A\$13,900
- 2002 Mercury Grand Marquis LS Stk# 81497\$13,900
- 2003 Lexus ES300 Stk# G9123A\$27,900

2004 GMC Sierra SL Ext Cab Stk# 91164  **\$259/mo***

- 2002 GMC Sonoma SLS Ext Cab Stk# 91178\$11,900
- 2001 Ford F150 XLT Ext Cab 4x4 Stk# G8541B\$17,900
- 2002 GMC Sierra SLE Stk# 69025A, 4dr\$18,900
- 2001 GMC Denali Ext Cab AWD Stk# G9116A\$20,900
- 2003 Ford F150 XLT Super Crew 4x4 Stk# G9090A\$23,900
- 2003 Ford F150 Lariat Super Crew Stk# G9118A\$23,900
- 2003 GMC Sierra SLE 3/4 HD Crew Cab Stk# G8684A\$24,900

2003 Chevrolet Tahoe LS 4x4 Stk# G9038A  **\$399/mo***

- 1999 Toyota Rav4 Stk# P5553A\$6,900
- 2004 Buick Rendezvous CX Stk# 91185\$16,900
- 2003 Ford Escape XLT 4x4 Stk# G8641B\$17,900
- 2003 Chevrolet Trailblazer LS Stk# G8708A\$17,900
- 2004 Chevrolet Blazer LS 4x4 Stk# 91182\$17,900
- 2001 GMC Yukon SLT 4x4 Stk# G9124A\$20,900
- 2002 GMC Yukon SLT 4x4 Stk# 91183\$26,900
- 2002 GMC Yukon Denali XL AWD Stk# P6030A\$29,900
- 2003 Hummer H2 Luxury Edition Stk# 91172\$40,900

Hospital Report

Muleshoe Area Medical Center reports the following patients:

Feb. 17
Betty Johnson, Andrew Rivera, Karen Tunnell and Jacquetta Kirkland.

Feb. 18 — No report available.

Feb. 19 — No report available.

Feb. 20
Brady Byrd, Alina Cadena, Victoria Castillo, Irene Free and Gloria Muniz.

Feb. 21
Laverna Brewer, Beatrice Garcia, Alma Rivera and Breanna Rivera.

Feb. 22
Shannon Chapman, Alma Pierson and Lucille Wills.

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DeShazo Elementary Honor Rolls released

The DeShazo Elementary Honor Rolls for the fourth Six-week period of 2004-05 has been released. Among the students honored are:

A Honor Roll

3rd Grade
Bailey Bales, Johnny DeBruin, Eli Leal, Mercedes Morin, Arthur Recio, DonAnn Rempe, Eliot Reyes, Diana Salcido, Liliana Vasquez and Shaylee Winchell.

4th Grade

B'Anca DeLeon, Alexa Fuentes, Marissa Hernandez, Ryan Johnson, Jessica Kube, Daniela Mendoza, Garrison Myers, Frank Recio, Cas Stevens, Sheridan White and Sarah Whitworth.

5th Grade

Alyssa Leal and Belinda Pacheco.

A, B Honor Roll

3rd Grade

Ace Alvarez, Isaac Ballenger, Britton Beall, Rosa Burciaga, Alexis Cortez, Marissa Cortez, Edwin Delgado, Daniel Diaz, David Diaz, Matthew Dickerson, McKenna Dunham, Emily Flores, Esmeralda Flores, Destiny Garcia, Vanessa Garcia, Hadlea Geissler, Marion Gutierrez, Savana

Hanaway, Anthony Mendoza, James Mendoza, Dallas Morrison, Ryan Nikkel, Adrienne Precure, Michael Railsback, Isaias Salas, Nathan Stanford, Erica Strawn, Javier Velasquez, Keelee Whitaker, Keenan Wilson, Brendon Wright and Cristian Zaragoza.

4th Grade

Alexia Acosta, Morgan Burris, Chris Cage, Brenda Ceballos, Osmar Diaz, Adrian Estrada, David Flores, Tessa Garner, Hailee Gonzales-Diaz, Autumn Heller, Stephanie Infante, Ashley Jaime, Chris Lozano, Alex Mendoza, Francly Montes, Veronica Morales, Carlos Nunez, Claudia Orozco, Priya Patel, Mari Quintana, Brenna Quiroz, Jonathan Ramirez, Yanira Regalado, Aaron Reyes, Sam Sirkel, Ross Steinbock, Jose Vargas, Alondra Villarreal, Elisa Wiseman, Caleb Wood and Tony Zubia.

5th Grade

Angel Alvarez, Matthew Ambriz, Issac Baca, Douglas Bartholf, Baylee Bessire, Robert Brewster, Lucia Bustillos, Tyler Cain, Marielena Campos, Devon Cantrell, Mateo Castillo, Sabrina Chavez, Adrienne

Fulton, Damian Gardea, Weston Griswold, Louis Guzman, Jodee Hall, Rashelle Hall, Lourdes Mar-

tinez, Michael Martinez, Dominique Mata, Aldo Mendoza, Patrick Mendoza, Ricky Morin, Manuel Muniz,

Madeline Precure, Yagaira Sowder, Ashley Thomas, Norma Cassidy Torres, Max Vargas and Stephanie Vasquez-Scott, Alexis Sosa, Catie Posada.

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NWR burn schedule set

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service plans to conduct several prescribed burns on the Muleshoe National Wildlife Refuge between March 2005 and April 2005. The goal of the prescribed fire operation is to enhance and restore wildlife habitat on the Refuge.

The 2005 Annual Prescribed Fire Plan includes 11 areas on the refuge. Approximately 1,000 acres are the target for prescribed burning.

The prescribed burn plan addresses a wide range of factors such as safety, weather, fuel conditions, smoke impacts and also resources needed to conduct the burns.

These burn treatments restore the grassland and savannah habitat, control invasive species and will increase the diversity of native plants and wildlife. Other benefits include protection of communities and watersheds by reducing fuels and thus the potential threats of a wildfire.

"We want to maintain fire in the refuge's ecosystem and, as nearly as possible, mimic its role as a natural occurrence," said Refuge Manager Harold Beierman. "Residents of the surrounding areas need to be aware of the period of the burns to lessen any impacts on their daily routines."

Refuge road closures will be imposed during the burn periods. For more information the public may

contact the refuge between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, by calling 806-946-3341.

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Riley appointed to hospital board

A representative of the Muleshoe Area Hospital District Board of Directors has announced that Marilyn Riley has been appointed the board's Place 4 seat.

Riley will be filling the seat that has been vacant since the death of board member Arline Phelps, who died on Feb. 14.

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XPB621112	'01 Ford F-150 PU	\$2,102.95	\$21,995	\$19,892.05
XPC37344	'01 Ford F-150 PU	\$3,190.37	\$27,995	\$24,804.63
XAB70656	'02 Ford F-150 PU	\$3,376.33	\$25,995	\$22,618.67
XPB06062	'03 Ford F-150 PU	\$1,043.62	\$23,995	\$22,951.38
OP210761	'04 Chevy Impala	\$2,176.01	\$22,995	\$20,818.99
ZA921975	'00 Chevy Tracker	\$1,048.01	\$9,995	\$8,946.99
ZA265550	'02 Chevy 2500 PU	\$1,947.01	\$23,995	\$22,047.99
YE275695	'04 PT Cruiser	\$1,758.79	\$17,995	\$16,236.21
DE127950	'05 Dodge Stratus	\$2,295	\$16,995	\$14,700
DE127961	'05 Dodge Stratus	\$2,430	\$16,995	\$14,565
YA521317	'02 Dodge Quad. 4x4	\$1,972	\$29,995	\$19,023
YP508665	'04 Dodge Dakota	\$2,904.54	\$22,995	\$20,090.46
XPC28941	'99 Ford Explorer	\$1,111.50	\$17,995	\$16,883.50



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Club News

Mulshoe Ex-Students Association convened Thursday, Feb. 24, 2005, for their regular meeting.

Members present approved minutes from the last meeting held Feb. 3.

July 2 was confirmed as the date of the all-school reunion encompassing 1920-1985. Appointed committees then gave various reports.

Betty Cowan reported she is currently updating names of more than 4,200 ex-students of Mulshoe High. She qualified that this number includes those who are deceased and that the number is expected to be around 3,200 living ex-students by the time the reunion takes place.

Fuston McCarty reported that his research indicates catering for the event should be handled locally by United Super-

market as their quoted price is about half the price of other caterers, including Danny's Fens & Hens and River Smith's both of Lubbock.

Also discussed briefly were decorations and awards for the event. Both committees are working to finalize details.

The Association passed a motion to ask John Gully to "MC" the event.

They also passed a motion to have all registration activities, including a continental breakfast, at the Oneita Wagnon Senior Citizen's Center. Ernest and Mary Ramm will take care of providing the food for Saturday morning.

The Association passed a motion to keep the fee \$20 per person for the reunion. This fee takes care of all group-meal costs and other miscellaneous costs.

Virginia Bowers asked the audience to help her by providing names and addresses of ex-students. Darlene Henry motioned that the Association not only reimbursement Bowers for the five years she

has personally paid the Association's fee on the Post Office Box, but that the Association take over making that payment each year. The motion passed.

Jo Mayhugh addressed the audience with a pro-

posal to seek hotel/motel tax funds to help defray the cost of mailing reunion information to ex-students. The motion to seek these funds was passed and Mayhugh was placed in charge of the committee to

meet with the City Council. With no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting of the Mulshoe Ex-Students Association will be at 6 p.m. March 10 at the senior center on Main Street.



Drop and roll

Bermea Construction of Friona spent the better part of last week mending the Oneita Wagnon Senior Center parking lot and alley. Here they are dropping a load of potash right next to the Center.

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Club News

By Monica Posadas

SCAC met on Feb. 21, 2005, at 7 p.m. at Hillary Tipps's house.

President Nic Green called the meeting to order at 7:05. Chaplain Barry Morris said a prayer; Joel Salcido read the minutes from the last meeting in place of Secretary Kory Atwood and Treasurer Jordan Bonds gave the treasurer's report.

Nic then introduced the February Citizen of the Month, Ruby Green. She volunteers at the hospital answering phones, bakes for funerals to help out at her church, and helps out at the

Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Green gave a speech about the positive things volunteers in a community can do and how important they are.

Old business discussed included the work of Food Pantry volunteers. Those present expressed appreciation to everyone who participated. The next date to help out will be Thursday, March 3.

New business included a discussion about the Annual Auction Bake Sale. The date has been changed to Saturday, March 19. A sign-up sheet was passed around for workers (an-

nouncers, deliveries and phone).

If any SCAC member didn't sign up, they are asked to do so by talking to Mr. Mardis. The importance of everyone participating can't be stressed enough. The committee chosen last month (Paje McRoberts, Myles James, Brady Black and Amber Cowart) will meet to begin organizing the event.

Nominations were taken for March Citizen of the Month. Our next meeting will be held at Jordan Bonds's house March 21, 2005, at 7 p.m.. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Lazbuddie honor rolls released

The Lazbuddie ISD honor rolls for the fourth six-week period has been released. Among the students honored were:

Elementary "A"

Lacey Jesko, Haley Beasley, Cutter Glover, Katlyn Hicks, John Ryan Isaacson, Madison Jesko, Ashton Mason, Austin Mason, Allison Weaver, Chandler Barnes, Kolten Morris, Emily Agee, Jarrod Jesko and Todd Nichols.

Elementary "AB"

Houston Cox, Haldon Ivy, Haley Ivy, Jonathan Jesko, Celeste Lucio, Albert Moran, Callie Anstead, Luis Godinez, George Harder, Leslie Carlile, Cotton Fleming, Criselda Galvan, Anna harder, Colten Ingram, Shea Scott, Paola Estrada, Mario Galvan, Jordan Mason, Kylie

McGehee, Kenton Randolph, Justin Schacher, Tony Suderman and Luis Tafoya.

Junior High "A"

Jordan Hernandez, Colton Weaver, Ryan Mason, Kayle Jesko, Jacob Schacher and Chase Timms.

Junior High "AB"

Joseline Garcia, Jose Lule, Lacy Russell, Tina Suderman, Lydia Campos, Katie Chavez, Darin Ivy, Logan Mason, Kinzi Schacher, Richie Aguilar, Juan Carlos Guillen, Arturo Lucio, Brittany Sexton, Helena Suderman and RaJon Thorn.

High School "A"

Chelsee Nichols, Brittney Schacher, Rochelle Smith, Addie Treider, David Campos, Susie Juarez, Brett Mimms, Kayle Parham

and Melanie Winders.

High School "AB"

Laura Beliz, Regina Mata, Esteban Pacheco, Brianna Sanchez, Erica Derma, Mica Brandvik, Wesley Welch, Cory Contreras, Mandy Haney, Ana Hernandez, Adam Pierce and Amanda Schaeffer.

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Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce And Agriculture

REMINDS EVERYONE

Man, Woman, Business & Farm Family
of the Year Nominations Are Due!

It is, again, time to submit your nominations for the **MAN, WOMAN, BUSINESS & FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR** for 2004. Please start sending your selections to the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce office, P.O. Box 345, by **March 15th** so we can get selections made for the Annual Chamber Banquet coming up in April. We will have more on details of the banquet forthcoming.

MAN OF THE YEAR:

WOMAN OF THE YEAR:

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR:

FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR:

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Dollar-saving tips offered for dairies

Today more than ever, producers are apt to have neighbors who do not know or understand dairy farming. Dairy producers here and across the nation have had lawsuits filed against them as a result.

Spending some time and effort to build neighbor relations may not eliminate friction between neighbors, but it can certainly help.

The very first thing to do is get to know your neighbors. When someone new moves in, introduce yourself and explain a little about your operation. Invite them over for a tour. If you have implemented biosecurity measures to limit the potential for outside visitors to accidentally bring disease onto your farm, explain this.

Everyone today is aware of heightened security. Leave your business card with a number and encourage them to call you with any questions or concerns they might have. Don't think that if they don't know you, they won't complain.

If your neighbor has a complaint wouldn't you rather he asked you to fix the problem rather than going to a regulatory agency? It is far easier to complain about someone that you perceive as an anonymous big business owner, rather than the guy who came over to introduced himself and made you feel welcome to the neighborhood.

Next practice best management practices every day. This should be occurring anyway, but if you have a new neighbor, you might let them know that you will attempt to spread

manure only on days that the wind won't carry odor to his place.

Ask neighbors to give you a call if they have any special events planned so you can avoid spreading manure on those days. Being considerate goes a long way in minimizing complaints.

At least once a year, conduct a farm audit to make sure that your nutrient management plan still is right for your dairy. If you've increased cow numbers, decide if you need to increase your lagoon. Drive around the perimeter of your farm and look for anything that might attract attention. When everything looks neat and tidy this projects an "I care" image.

Another thing is to keep good records. Write down what you did, when and where. These records come in handy when determining if something you did on your farm was the cause of a complaint and records may help identify solutions.

Spending time building neighbor relations may not prevent all friction, but it certainly has helped keep some situations from escalating.

2005 farming survey is underway

In 2004 Texas producers planted 5.85 million acres of cotton, 2.21 million acres of sorghum and 1.83 million acres of corn. Texas producers also harvested 3.50 million acres of wheat and 5.35 million acres of all hay. How much will be planted and harvested in 2005, and how will it compare to last year's acreage?

The Texas Agricultural Statistics Service is preparing to gather information on crop intentions for the 2005 crop season.

About 6,000 Texas farmers are being asked to take part in this survey. Selected farmers will be called or personally visited by an interviewer from Feb. 26 to March 14.

State and National survey results will be available in the "2005 Prospective Plantings" report from Washington, D.C., on March 31, at 7:30 a.m.

All reports are available on the Internet within minutes of the scheduled release time at <http://www.usda.gov/nass>. The results will also be printed in the "Texas Agricultural Facts" publication. If you have any questions, call Cynthia Price or Jerry Ramirez at 1-800-626-3142.

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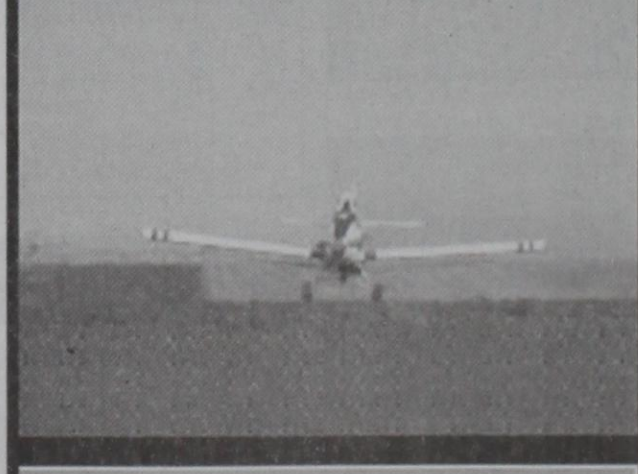
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Deadline 5 p.m. Friday

TERMS: CASH, CHECK, VISA, MASTERCARD

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Bluish Carnival Punch Bowl, Sherbet Glasses, Lots of Carnival Glass, Blue Glass Canister, Norman Rockwell Cups **APPLIANCES/ELECTRONICS:** Kenmore Washer/Dryer, Magnavox Portable TV, Clarinette Stereo System, Large Bradford Chest Freezer, Small Freezer, Small Electric Appliances **HOUSEHOLD:** Coffee Grinder, Normandy Cookware, Wood Salad Bowl, Linens, Sheets, Towels, Dish Towels, Tupperware, Corolle White Dishes, Pots, Pans **YARD/TOOLS:** Firewood, Sawhorses, Wheelbarrow, Extension Ladder, Step Ladder, Edger, Self-Propelled Lawn Mower **MISC:** 2 Brass Lamps, Thomas Organ, TV Cart, 4-Drawer File w/Safe, Baskets, Lg. Thermometer, Card Table, Shade Awning for Travel Trailer, Exerciser, Books, VCR Tapes, Lots More!

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Texas Farm Bureau insurance company is looking for a man or woman to represent our company in the Lamb County area as an insurance agent. The individual we seek is probably employed but may be experiencing job dissatisfaction due to lack of potential for professional and economical growth. All solicitors welcome. Two years training income, bonuses, assigned accounts, continuing education. Send resume to Lamb County Farm Bureau, Attn: Glen Morton, 708 W. Delano, Littlefield, Texas 79339. 806-385-4489.

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For Sale - Big round bales of Beardless Wheat Hay. \$85/ton. 806-965-2801 or 806-638-2612.

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You read this ad. Chances are your neighbors did, too! Our classified section offers affordable rates and results in a hurry. Give us a try! Selling it or trading it beats dusting it, doesn't it? Call 272-4536.

Our old photos have been moved to the Oneita Wagnon Senior Center

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE:

These Texas Lottery Commission scratch-off games will close on March 2, 2005. You have until August 29, 2005, to redeem any tickets for these games: #446 WEEKLY GRAND (\$2) overall odds are 1 in 4.56, #453 TRIPLER BINGO (\$2) overall odds are 1 in 4.05, #454 \$35,000 CROSSWORD (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 3.12, #474 VEGAS NIGHTS (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.29, #477 LIFE IN THE CASHd(-LANE (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.07, #490 WILD 8'S (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.77. In addition, #499 SET FOR LIFE (\$10) with overall odds of 1 in 3.49 will close March 14, 2005. Players have until September 10, 2005, to redeem any tickets for the SET FOR LIFE game. The odds listed

here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$999,999 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-37-LOTTO or visit the Lottery Web site at www.txlottery.org <<http://www.txlottery.org>> for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A scratch-off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. Play Responsibly. Remember, it's just a game. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education by contributing to the Foundation School Fund. Published in the Muleshoe Journal on March 3, 2005.

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BEST PLACES TO WORK ON THE SOUTH PLAINS

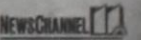
WORKSOURCE OF THE SOUTH PLAINS WANTS TO RECOGNIZE YOUR BUSINESS AS ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO WORK ON THE SOUTH PLAINS AT OUR

4TH ANNUAL GALA ON TUESDAY, APRIL 19TH

BUSINESS AWARD WINNERS WILL BE FEATURED ON KCBD NEWSCHANNEL 11 AND WEBCOM. THE GRAND PRIZE WINNER WILL RECEIVE AN EMPLOYEE TRAINING FUND FROM WORKSOURCE OF THE SOUTH PLAINS.

GO TO kcbd.com TODAY TO SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION.

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE 4TH ANNUAL GALA AND AWARDS RECOGNITION CEREMONY, PLEASE CONTACT LISA SPEARS AT WORKSOURCE OF THE SOUTH PLAINS AT 806.744.1987.



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Classifieds

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Deadline 5 p.m. Friday

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



HELP WANTED

Wilbur-Ellis, Littlefield-Delivery driver needed. DOT Hazmat with a Class A CDL, pre-employment drug screen. Apply in person 1 mile west from Littlefield on US 84 on north side of highway.

Production position available. Now accepting applications for production position at Hi-Pro Feeds. Company insurance, 401K, paid holidays. Must pass drug screen. Apply in person at Hi-Pro Feeds in Friona.

Silverhawk Security has positions open for security guards. Must be 18, have diploma or GED, with no criminal record. Pays \$7.00/hr. Call (806) 295-8357 or come by security office at Excelin Friona, Texas.

AGP Grain Marketing, LLC will be hiring an accounting clerk to work in the Bovina, Texas office. Applicants must have basic computer skills with some experience in Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Word. Please send resume to the attention of Yolanda McFarland, P.O. Box 850, Bovina, TX 79009.

Sonic Drive - In is now accepting applications for dependable, mature, enthusiastic, friendly cooks for night shifts. Apply in person at 1633 W American Blvd. EOE

First United Methodist Church is accepting applications for a church secretary/treasurer. For more information, call 272-5517 and ask for Monty.

PARK VIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER
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Muleshoe, Texas
(806) 272-7578
Dishwashers & Nurse Aides needed. Apply in person at Park View Health Care Center at 1100 W. Ave. J., Muleshoe

NOW HIRING! MINSA IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS IN THE MAINTENANCE DEPT. INCLUDING ELECTRICIANS
Some previous maintenance or welding experience preferred. Apply in person at WorkSource 201 S. Main, Muleshoe. EOE

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If you are interested in employment we are accepting applications at all stores or visit us online at www.tcls.com for an online application. Pre-Employment Drug Test Required
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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR WATER QUALITY LAND APPLICATION PERMIT AMENDMENT OF INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER PERMIT NO. WQ0003032000 APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. Minsa Corporation, P.O. Box 484, Muleshoe, Texas 79347-0484, which operates a masa (corn) flour manufacturing plant, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a major amendment to Permit No. WQ0003032000 to authorize an increase in the permitted irrigation area from 86.5 acres to 92 acres based on a recent survey of the existing irrigation area and to increase the total Kjeldahl nitrogen application rate from 21 pounds per acre per month (lb/acre/month) to 50 lbs/acre/month, due to the current production rate of 7,500 metric tons per month. The current permit authorizes the disposal of process wastewater (cooking, steeping, and washing) and boiler blowdown from a milling operation, at a daily average flow not to exceed 300,000 gallons per day via irrigation of 86.5 acres. This permit will not authorize a discharge of pollutants into water in the State. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on June 13, 2003. The facility and land application site are located adjacent to U.S. Highway 84, approximately 1.8 miles southeast of the intersection of U.S. Highway 84 and U.S. Highway 70, and approximately 1.5 miles southeast of the City of Muleshoe, Bailey County, Texas. The facility and land application site are located in the drainage area of Black Water Draw which is a tributary of the Double Mountain Fork Brazos River in Segment No. 1241 of the Brazos River Basin. The designated uses for Segment No. 1241 are high aquatic life use and contact recreation. The TCEQ executive director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if used, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, executive director's preliminary decision (as contained in the technical summary and/or fact sheet), and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at the Muleshoe Public Library, 322 West Second, Muleshoe, Texas. **PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application.** The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit written or oral comment or to ask questions about the application. Generally, the TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing. **Written public comments and requests for a public meeting should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 within 30 day of the date of newspaper publication of the notice. OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING.** After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who requested to be on a mailing list for this application. The mailing list will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the executive director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court. A contested case hearing

will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. Issues that area not raised in public comments may be considered during a hearing. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION.** The executive director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing requested or a timely request for reconsideration if filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration if filed, the executive director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and requests to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. **MAILING LISTS.** In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to obtain additional information regarding this application. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific application; (2) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (3) the permanent mailing list for specific county. Clearly specify which mailing list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific application. **INFORMATION.** If you need more information about this permit application of the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-681-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us. Further information may also be obtained from Minsa Corporation at the address stated above or by calling Jose Luis Rebolledo at (806) 272-5545. Published in the Muleshoe Journal March 3, 2005.

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MISC.

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806-894-7099

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Muleshoe is currently accepting bids for the purchase of Real Property owned by the City. Bid packets containing the Legal and Physical Property description are available at City Hall. Bidders may bid on any or all properties within the Bid Packet. Bids are due on or before 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 10, 2005 at City Hall. Bids must be returned in a sealed envelope marked "Real Property Bid". The City of Muleshoe reserves the right to reject any and all bids received. Published in the Muleshoe Journal March 3, 2005.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD, CALL YOLANDA AT 272-4536

ESTATE AUCTION

Living Estate Sale, Littlefield, TX., Dr. O.W. Still, 601 E 12th St., Mar. 4, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Mar 5, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Mar. 6, 1 - 3 p.m. Lots of fishing equipment, side by side refrigerator, regular refrigerator, 2 freezers, sewing machine, antique furniture, large fountain, green plants, king and queen size beds, Maytag washer/dryer and more. Call Bill and JoJo at 806-252-0503.

March 4 - 5 Brown Bag Sale. All you can stuff in a brown bag for \$3. Heritage Thrift Shop, 401 Main, Muleshoe.

Huge Indoor Garage Sale at Bargain Barn, 216 Main, across from Higginbothams. Open Fri. and Sat. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Clothes, household items, furniture and lots more.

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3BR/2-1/2 BA/2 Car GA. Brick home, 603 4th St., Earth, TX. Well kept home boasting great floorplan w/roomy kitchen, cozy den, workshop and cement storm cellar. Only 1 block from pool.

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REAL ESTATE

RE/MAX Lubbock has buyers for ranches, recreational properties, and feedyards. We also have a couple of listings in Kent and Garza Counties. If you or someone you know is interested in selling your property or would like more information on our listings please call or visit my website: Caleb Elliott, Ranch and Rural Property Specialist (806) 789-5966, www.remax-texas.com/ caleb.elliott.

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Agricultural Real Estate

- **Back On Market** - House **NEW** in May of 2003. Richland Hills addition. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, office, large living area, sprinkler and flowerbeds on timer front and back, beautifully landscaped, everything is new and modern. **JUST MOVE IN** - No painting or repairs. Only one like this in the Muleshoe area.
- **Lamb County** - 1077 acres, 13 wells, 9 center pivots, soils suitable for peanuts and potatoes. Nice home, shop and other out-buildings.
- **Earth** - 3 bedroom stucco house, 2 bath, double garage, shop/storage building. **SOLD Very affordable.**
- **Parmer-Castro Co. Line Near Lazbuddie** - 320 acres, 2 sprinklers, 2 wells. Good livestock farm.
- **Bailey County** - 361 acres on pavement. 2 circles, 4 wells, 235 allotted acres, 64 acres of C.R.P. Good set of working pens. A **GOOD LIVESTOCK FARM!** \$450 per acre.
- **Muleshoe** - Large 4 bedroom/3 1/2 bath home, 2 fireplaces, basement, garage. Lots of extras.
- **Parmer County - Lazbuddie Area** - 1,595 acres, 3 half-mile pivots, all electric wells, good allotments, best soil.
- **Earth Area** - 125 Acres, center pivot with 2 wells. Lays good. Good soil.
- **Southeastern Bailey County** - Near Lamb, Hockley, Cochren County lines. 357 Acres 2 Sprinklers, 7 Wells, allotments. Excellent livestock place.

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Website: www.vicoland.com

House for Sale: Owner will finance, 3 BR/2 Bath, CH&A, 2 car detachable garage, den w/ fireplace, on corner lot. 700 N.E. 2nd Place, Earth. Call Milton 806-790-0827.

FOR SALE, TRADE OR LEASE—50,000 sq. ft. building 2 mi. west of Muleshoe on HWY. 84. 3 restrooms, 1000 sq. ft. office, 6 covered loading docks, 2 very large coolers, all concrete & steel. 2 irrigation wells sitting on 10 acres. We own nothing and can carry paper. Being used for potato processing and has all equip. to do that. View property anytime. If interested call 806-364-0164 or write Box 1381, Hereford, TX 79045.

Byrd Realty Ronald Byrd
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HAVE BUYERS!! NEED MORE MULESHOE HOME LISTINGS!!

- **Just Listed:** 320 acres NE of Muleshoe, 2 sprinklers systems, 4-wells, mobile home, priced for immediate sale! Call for details.
- **168 acres dryland.** Priced at \$250 per acre.

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RICHLAND HILLS - PARKRIDGE AREA

- NICE LOTS AVAILABLE, CALL FOR DETAILS!!!!
- VERY NICE 3-2 1/2-2 Brick Home, Cent. A&H, built - ins, FP, 272' lv. area, basement, spktr. sys., 2 stor. bldgs. MUCH MORE!! \$165K!! RH - 2

HIGHLAND AREA

IN CONTRACT

LENAU - COUNTRY CLUB AREA

- 2-1-2 carport Home, floorplan, heat, win. evap. air, stor. bldg., fenced yd.!! MORE !! \$33.5K !! L-1
- Very NICE 2-1 1/2-2 Brick home, Central A/H, built-ins, basement, utility, fenced yard!! MORE! \$52,500!! HL-1

HIGH SCHOOL AREA

- VERY NICE 3-2-2 + 2 carport Brick Home, corner lot, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, 234' lv. area, fenced yd.!! MORE!! \$84K!! HS - 5
- 3-1-1 carport home, cm lot, cent. A&H, therm win & drs, metal trim. More!! \$47K!! HS-8
- VERY NICE 3-2-2 Brick corner lot, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, spktr. sys., cov. patio, stor. bldg., fenced yd., 2350'lv. area!

COMMERCIAL

- 525' frontage on S. Hwy. 214, 24' x 50' shop, 24' x 30' office, chain link fence!! \$21K!
- IRRIGATION SUPPLY - Bldgs., land, equip, inventory!!! PRICED TO SELL!!!
- GOOD INCOME PROPERTY - approx. 3490' bldg., paved parking, good net lease!! PRICED TO SELL!!!
- VERY NICE 2300' bldg., cent. A&H, 175' frontage on Hwy. 84 & 70!! MUCH MORE!! PRICE REDUCED \$72.5K !!
- GREAT BUSINESS LOCATION - 19,360' building, paved parking, 3.44 acres, Hwy. 84/70 !!! LET'S LOOK TODAY!!!
- 4.2 acre tract at edge of town, 40' x 60' metal insulated bldg., 2 other sheethirn bldgs., chain link fenced area, numerous uses!! \$59,500!!!

RURAL

- S. OF FARWELL - 4-3-2 Brick Home, 69.6 acre tract, cent. A&H, built - ins, 4560' lv. area, 350' basement w/ vault, 2940' garage/workshop, 2000' loft over garage, 6' well, barns, & corral!! MORE!! \$339K!!
- PARMER CO. -340 ac. tract & 163 ac. tract, good soil, allotments, & yields, lays good, 2 wells & 2 circle spktr. on 340 & 2 wells & 1 circle spktr. on 163!! PRICED TO SELL!!!
- PRICE REDUCED - 108 acres or 7 acre tract on Hwy. 70, approx. 2100' off area, 16,900' comm bldg. w/loading dock, 3,400' warehouse, new well, 2,800' runway!!!

School district funding.. Continued from page 1

on the other hand, would get the biggest increase in revenue. Prior to any changes made in the amendments on March 1: Property-rich Alamo Heights ISD would get an eight percent increase. Property-poor Edgewood ISD would see a three percent increase. Highland Park ISD in Dallas would get a 52 percent increase. The 35 districts slated to receive the biggest spending boosts fall into the state's property-wealthy category. They include Seminole ISD with a 21 percent increase, Carthage ISD and Calhoun County ISD with a 13 percent increase.

These property-wealthy school districts were already receiving more revenue per student than property-poor school districts. This will only widen the spending gap between rich and poor students in Texas. We need to decrease property taxes in Texas, but not so that wealthy districts will benefit more than poor districts.

The answer is for the state to contribute a larger percentage of the revenue than current levels. Then, bring poor districts up to the level of wealthy districts, which are at a spending level that would produce world-quality education for all children.

Here are some of the property-poor districts in the Panhandle that will fall further behind and their percentage increases include the following: Amarillo — 4.85 percent; Canyon — 6.74 percent; Levelland — 3.06 percent; Lubbock — 4.9 percent; Muleshoe — 3.00 percent; Pampa — 3.99 percent; and River Road — 3.74 percent. Property-poor schools may have to use the new "Enrichment Tier" to try to meet the court's definition of adequacy. This enrichment tier is intended to be in addition to funding for basic needs in the schools.

The "Enrichment Tier" is not equalized to the 98 percent, so wealthy districts will be able to raise much more revenue than poor

districts to enhance their district's programs. The most resources are going to the districts with the least needs. We need to have an amendment to HB2 that equalizes funding for the enrichment tier at the 98th percentile of wealth.

There is no provision for facilities in HB2. There needs to be an amendment to include revenue for facilities so that school districts will be able to make long-range planning for adequate facilities for their students.

There is an increase in the transportation allotment.

This is a great improvement for school districts. Schools receive resources for transportation from the state. These have not been updated since 1984. So schools are grossly under funded for transportation.

There needs to be an amendment for increased funding for full-day Pre-Kindergarten. With the large, poor, non-English speaking population of the Panhandle and West Texas, we must provide full-day Pre-Kindergarten for those who want it to try to bring these children "up" to the same level of other

students. Research has shown that full-day Pre-Kindergarten is one of the wisest investments we can make in our schools. It is one of the most beneficial programs offered in schools today to help all students start on the same level.

Schools face increased pressure for students to pass the TAKS test in order to be promoted to the next grade. However, funding has been reduced for programs to help students who fail or who are struggling with the TAKS test. An amendment to HB2 needs to reinstate these

funds. One of the more interesting provisions in this bill is for the state to move quicker to address low-performing school districts. There are 25 districts out of 1040 districts in Texas that are rated "Low-Performing." Most of these districts are charter schools (21 out of 25 of them are Charter schools). I agree that the state needs to move quicker to address those schools. Instead, there seems to be a push by the legislature to establish even more charter schools in Texas.

Team up for the fight!

One in three Americans will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. The American Cancer Society Relay for Life gives everyone the opportunity to fight back and to make a difference in the battle against cancer.



Teams come from businesses, clubs, families, friends, hospitals, churches, schools, and service organizations. Be part of a relay team and make a difference.

This year's event will be held April 29-30 at the Benny Douglass Stadium of Muleshoe.

Among the teams that have already signed up for the event are:

Muleshoe Police Department "Cops Against Cancer", Karen Carpenter; Strides Against Cancer, Ester Lozano; Muleshoe Area Medical Center "Lips and Hips," Charla Cogdill and Sondra Scolley; and Mix,

Debbie Shurbet.

United Supermarket "United for a Cure," Charity Price; Muleshoe High School Students, Brittany Fuqua; Orozco Family, Robert and Dolores Orozco; and Friends and Family of Billy Gibson and Sylvia Kennemer "Intimidators," Kim and Jay Cook.

Dillman Elementary, Donna Burton; and Dillman Elementary, Dani Heathington.

For more information about Relay for Life contact Kim Cook, Bailey County event chairperson at 272-5080, 272-5845, or 806-241-0083, or Ester Lozano at 272-6780.

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<p>2004 CHEVROLET AVEO LS #3399</p>  <p>12,700 miles</p> <p>\$160/mo¹ or \$9,399</p>	<p>2003 CHEVROLET SILVERADO HD2500 CREW SWB #3433</p>  <p>33,995 miles</p> <p>\$391/mo¹ or \$22,995</p>
<p>2003 KIA SEDONA EX MINI-VAN #3421</p>  <p>12,390 miles</p> <p>\$255/mo¹ or \$14,999</p>	<p>2001 HONDA ODYSSEY EX MINIVAN #3431</p>  <p>47,398 miles</p> <p>\$272/mo¹ or \$15,995</p>
<p>2002 HONDA ACCORD EX #3430</p>  <p>12,911 miles</p> <p>\$287/mo² or \$14,495</p>	<p>2003 OLDS ALERO GL COUPE #3190</p>  <p>12,911 miles</p> <p>\$153/mo¹ or \$8,995</p>

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