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Muleshoe Journal



Striving to be your source for local news

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Muleshoe, Texas

50¢

January 17, 2008

Liquor election tabled for state's opinion

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

The question of whether a "local option" liquor election could be held in Bailey County has been referred to the Texas Secretary of State's office, according to County Judge Sherri Harrison.

The issue was discussed during Monday's regular commissioners' court, and arose from a petition received from supporters of such an election, including Precinct 4 Commissioner

Juan Chavez.

At the meeting, the judge presented her letter to the secretary of state's office, which asked "Whether or not an election can be held to legalize the sale of alcohol for off-premise consumption only in what used to be Justice of the Peace Precinct 4, Bailey County."

In the background information that she provided, the judge noted that a 1903 election prohibited the sale of alcohol in Castro County,

'I'm not comfortable ordering the election today, with what I found out last week' — Judge Sherri Harrison

at a time when what later became Bailey County was still part of Castro County.

It further states that a 1948 election prohibiting the sale of alcohol in Bailey County passed as well. And further, that a 1993 election to change the county's "dry status" in Precinct 4 failed.

The commissioners'

court combined the county's four separate justice of the peace precincts into one precinct in 2004.

According to Harrison, information she received from the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission suggests that the election can only be held in the county or the city, and not

only in Precinct 4.

In response to the possibility that a liquor election could be held in Muleshoe, Precinct 1 Commissioner Butch Vandiver mentioned an agreement by which the ranch property that became the City of Muleshoe was donated with the stipulation that alcohol sales wouldn't be allowed.

In contrast to the information received from the judge, Chavez said it was his understanding that

the 1993 election "set the status" and that the liquor election could be ordered in Precinct 4 alone.

However, the judge said it was her understanding that only an election that "passed" could set the status and allow a future election to take place. "I'm not comfortable ordering the election today, with what I found out last week," Harrison said.

If the judge is correct,

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City council receives 'clean' audit report

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

The Muleshoe City Council received a "clean" audit report from Randall Field, P.C., during Monday's regular meeting.

In the report, which covered the period ending Sept. 30, 2007, Field said he was issuing a "clean opinion," adding, "That's what you want," and noting that no problems were encountered that need to be brought to the city council's attention."

However, after the council voted to approve the report, Mayor Cliff Black raised the issue of when the report would be completed next year, and available for the council members to study prior to it being presented

for the board's approval.

In the report, Field noted that the city's total combined net assets were \$6,740,446 at the end of September, an increase of \$250,278.

The fund balance for 2007 was reported as \$388,493.

In other business, the city council:

- Received a report from Police Chief Brian Frieda concerning his department's activities during the past month.

Frieda also reported that his department has been working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the abduction of Johnny Martens by his mother, Margaretha Friesen of Mexico, in September.

He said a recent Bailey County grand jury had indicted the mother an arrest warrant has been issued for her.

The police chief also said Johnny had been located in Mexico, and that steps were being taken to hopefully return the child to his father in Muleshoe in the near future.

- Approved a contract with the Muleshoe Country Club with a 4-1 vote after Council member Earl Behrends voiced his concerns about a portion of the contract that would provide a set number of memberships, and a number of free games per month, for city employees.

In his presentation concerning the new

Continued on page 5



Monument to Muleshoe education...

In a shot reminiscent of the Marine Corps flag raising on Mt. Suribachi, steel workers were busy Friday, Jan. 11, raising the supports for the addition at Watson Junior High. Like the event on Feb. 23, 1945, that raised the hearts of a nation at war, the work of the men depicted above will be a monument to Muleshoe ISD's ongoing battle against ignorance for decades to come.

Photograph by Larry Thornton

Livestock show set for this week

The Bailey County Junior Livestock Show is set for this week at the Bailey County Coliseum, beginning on Friday, Jan. 18, with the various shows, and ending on Saturday, Jan. 19, with the premium sale.

The posted schedule of events is as follows:

Friday, Jan. 18

- Dairy, Beef Heifer and Steer Show — 8 a.m.
- Goat and Sheep Show — 10:30 a.m.
- Gilt and Barrows Show — 1 p.m.

• Jimmy Dale Showmanship Award — following swine show.

Saturday, Jan. 19

- Buyer's Meal — 11 a.m.

Premium Sale — noon

For additional information, contact any member of the Bailey County Jr. Livestock Show board or the Bailey County Extension office.



Photograph by Anne Dayton

Local Weather

Thursday

Pt. Cloudy..... 42/19

Friday

Pt. Cloudy..... 48/18

Saturday

Pt. Cloudy..... 49/22

Sunday

Sunny..... 57/21

Monday

Sunny..... 55/19

Tuesday

Pt. Cloudy..... 51/22

Wednesday

Pt. Cloudy..... 52/24

Give It
A Thought

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the comb Mother
Nature gives you
once your hair
has fallen out.

Words to ponder from Beverly

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Call the carrier Bobby Flores at 806-891-3950 (leave a message) or call the Journal at 272-4536, between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m.



Sonic sign: Free enterprise... or an eyesore?

New sign gets councilman's attention

The Muleshoe City Council took on a "brighter" note Monday as the question was raised about what could be done about the latest signage on West American Blvd. — a large LCD display that Sonic of Muleshoe has put up.

Council member Earl Behrends initiated the discussion, reporting that he'd received complaints about the sign and asked City Manager David Brunson

"I thought it was the second coming..."

if it was in violation of any municipal codes.

Behrends said he was driving down American Blvd. recently when the sign was turned on. "I thought it was the second coming," Behrends said.

Asking Police Chief Brian Frieda if anyone

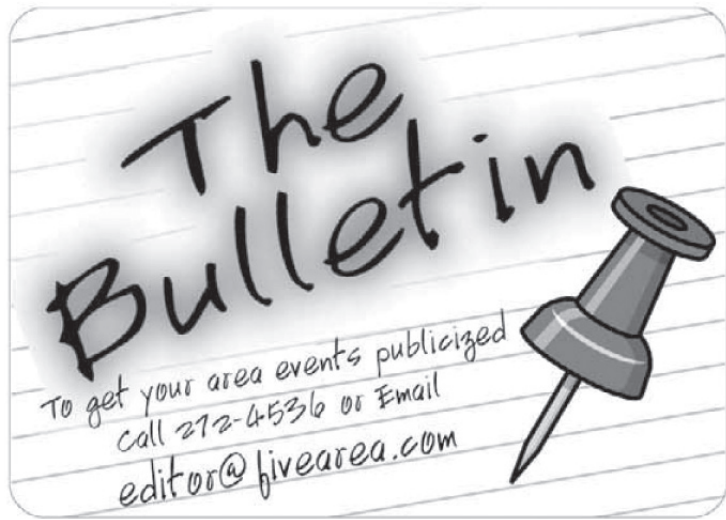
had contacted the police department about the sign and its brightness, the police chief said he wasn't aware of any complaints to his department, but agreed with Behrends and several others in attendance at the meeting, and also expressed concerns about the "law enforcement colors" — the bright, flashing red and blue lights it displays.

Continued on page 3



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Fire department fund raiser

The Muleshoe Fire Department will holding its annual fund raiser, a chili and bean supper, on Saturday, Jan. 26, from 6-9 p.m., at the Earl Ladd Fire Station. Tickets are \$5 each.

Girl Scout cookies

It's that time again! For more than 80 years, the Girl Scouts have been raising money to fund troop activities by selling cookies — an experience that helps girls build strong skills, values and friendships. This year is no different, with Saturday, Jan. 19, kicking off the annual Girl Scout cookie sales. Cookies are \$3 per package, and may be ordered by calling 806-745-2855, or by faxing 806-748-0769.

Premium, product sale

The Bailey County Junior Livestock Show Premium/Product Sale will be held on Saturday, Jan. 19, in the Bailey County Coliseum, beginning at noon. Anyone interested in donating a product for the sale, please turn your product in at the Bailey County Coliseum on Friday, Jan. 18, by 6 p.m. in order to get it listed in the sale catalog.

Project Graduation bake sale

Project Graduation will be having a bake sale on Tuesday, Jan. 22, at the Watson Junior High gymnasium during the basketball games.

Project Graduation will be having a brown bag special, a hamburger, chips and drink for \$6, on Friday, Feb. 1, at the junior high gym during the basketball games, also, homemade ice cream will be available at the basketball games.

Editorial

Something to cheer about

We can't help but applaud the federal court that upheld Texas' Moment of Silence" statute earlier this month.

For that matter, the individuals such as Attorney General Greg Abbott, Solicitor General Ted Cruz, Gov. Rick Perry, and the state legislators who supported the initial change to the statute back in 2003 deserve a bit of applause as well.

In case you are unaware of the recent events, a couple in north Texas challenged the 2003 revision in the state's "Moment of Silence" statute that included "prayer" among the silent activities in which students in public school could participate.

Going beyond allowing a student a brief period in which he or she could spend some undisturbed time in mental preparation for the days' work, the statute expressly protects a student's choice to seek God's help in preparing for the school day.

But, as do far too many in this nation's move away from He who made this nation possible in the first place, a Texas couple objected to the inclusion of the word prayer in the state statute, apparently joining others who have fallen for the mistaken belief that anything even remotely associated with our heavenly Father violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

Forget the fact that this nation was built on prayer. Forget the fact that our society becomes more violent every day as a result from its turn from the Almighty. Forget the fact that Godless children are killing themselves and others in record numbers. The fixation this north Texas couple and others have that ridding the nation of its relationship with the Creator will somehow benefit either the current generation, or the next, is utterly wrong.

Requirements for college news releases

If your college student is graduating or has made the Dean's or President's list, in order for that information to appear in the *Muleshoe Journal*, we must receive notice from the respective educational institution.

Your son or daughter must sign a release so the information can be sent to us.

Have them visit their bursar's office to sign a form indicating they wish to share their good news!

Once permission to share information has been granted, the college or university should send the info via email to: editor@fivearea.com.

Llano Estacado Cotton Conference to be held

The Llano Estacado Cotton Conference is set for Jan. 24, at the Bailey County Coliseum.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and the program at 8:30 a.m.

The conference is sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Bailey, Parmer, Lamb and Castro Counties.

This year's conference will address: Regional and county-wide cotton projects, variety selection, pest management, boll weevil eradication, record and a cotton market update.

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with Extension specialists, industry representatives, and

other growers throughout the day. They will also be able to visit commercial exhibits throughout the day. Five continuing education units (CEUs) will be issued to private, commercial, and non-commercial pesticide applicators who attend this conference.

A registration fee of \$15 will be payable at the door. The fee will provide for lunch, educational materials, and access to commercial exhibits.

For more information contact Curtis Preston, Bailey County extension agent, at (806)272-4583 or Monti Vandiver, extension agent-IPM, at (806)481-3300.

Livestock, crop program eligibility date extended

The eligibility criteria for 2007 livestock and crop year losses has been expanded, for farmers and ranchers who suffered recent livestock or crop losses caused by natural disasters, announced Kim Hanlin, Executive Director for the Bailey County Farm Service Agency.

On Dec. 26, Pres. George W. Bush signed the Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2008.

The 2008 Act amended the previous Feb. 28, 2007, date and now allows for crops planted for harvest prior to Dec. 31, 2007, to be included for loss purposes under the Crop Disaster Program.

Similarly, under the Livestock Indemnity Program and the Livestock Compensation Program, the 2008 Act extends the date livestock and livestock feed losses could have occurred in a primary or contiguous county named in a secretarial or presidential disaster declaration to Dec. 31, 2007.

"This date change does not make 2008 crops planted in 2007 eligible for CDP, however it does benefit farmers in that it expands the eligibility criteria to include crops planted in 2007 that were intended for harvest in the same crop year, and it adds 10 months to the amount of eligible time livestock losses can be considered for the new programs," said Hanlin.

Producers should visit their local USDA Farm Service Agency office to apply for benefits under these new disaster assistance programs, added Hanlin.

Sign-up for livestock

disaster assistance under LCP and LIP began Sept. 10, 2007.

Sign-up for crop disaster assistance under CDP began Oct. 15, 2007, and applies to farmers who suffered quantity losses to their crops.

Ending dates for the sign-up period have not yet been determined.

For more information about LCP, LIP and CDP, contact the Bailey County FSA at 806 272 4538 or online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> under "Disaster Assistance Programs."

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Letter to the Editor

Assistance sought locating grave

To the Editor:

Hi, my name is Carmelo Leroy Cazarez. I was born in Muleshoe in December 1972. My father's name was Daniel Cazarez, he passed away in September of 1978, and was buried in the old part of the cemetery.

Neither my siblings nor I are able to remember the location of his grave site, and unfortunately our mother passed away 10 years ago.

We would like to know if there is anyone of your readers who may have known our father, or could

tell or show us the location of his grave.

I have been back to look for it, but I know the area has not been kept up, and many grave markers are missing.

If there is any way you could either print this or help us out, it would be greatly appreciated, as we would like to buy a headstone for him.

I know it's been almost 30 years but if anyone could help us it would be wonderful. Thanks.

Leroy Cazarez
leroycaz@yahoo.com

Commissioners' court... Continued from page 1

the alcohol election petitioners would be required to re-file their petition, specifically designating their request for the election to be held county wide or within Muleshoe.

Either way, according to the judge, if a valid petition with sufficient signatures is received, Harrison said she would have no choice but to order the election.

In other business, the commissioners' court:

- Tabled consideration of a burn ban until its Jan. 28 special meeting.

Prior to the vote, the Judge Harrison said the efforts county residents had been making to notify the authorities when brush and other items were about to be burned had helped significantly.

At a previous commissioners' court, Muleshoe Fire Chief Richard

Ronek addressed the court about the problems arising from trucks being dispatched to controlled burns.

- Received a departmental report from Sheriff Richard Wills who reported that the number of paying prisoners was down, apparently due to the holidays and winter weather.

When Precinct 2 Commissioner C.E. Grant asked about a restraining order that had been requested in one of the New Mexico counties that has been housing prisoners in Bailey County's jail, the sheriff noted that most of the out-of-county prisoners preferred to be incarcerated in Muleshoe because they felt safer, received better meals and had better living conditions.

- Approved a motion that would allow the Sheriff's Department to provide

working inmates for non-profit organizations at the discretion of the sheriff.

- Received a report from Jackie Wayne Burris of Bailey County Emergency Medical Services, who reported that more than \$12,000 had been billed out in December for ambulance services, and more than \$15,000 had been collected.

Burris also addressed the board concerning the need to expand the building housing the EMS. Burris said he had approached representatives with the Muleshoe Area Hospital District about a 25-year lease of the existing building, and said the grant funds the service receives annual could be dedicated toward paying for the construction.

However, Grant expressed concerns about finding the funds needed to pay for the construction in the middle

of a budget year, while Vandiver said the issue would best be discussed at next month's meeting.

- Approved payment of county bills.

- Set the terms for county court and justice court for 2008.

- Approved the November 2007 treasurer's report, and received the December 2007 report.

- Approved in-county travel forms.

- Appointed the commissioners as road overseers.

- Approved an easement request from North Muleshoe Dairy for an eight-inch waterline to be buried in the vicinity of CR 1038, after the location was checked on a map.

- Approved the first budget amendment for FY 2008.

- Approved the minutes from its Dec. 10 meeting.

Does 'brighter' side of reality need a dimmer switch?

On the bright side, it could serve as Muleshoe's "black box" should our sleepy little town ever get caught in a horrific snow storm and become lost to the world. That's what I have to say about Sonic's new super bright digital LCD sign.

While it undeniably attracts a lot of attention, in fact it's hard to look away, I don't see anything wrong with having it light our way through town. Las Vegas depends on such signs! But I might have to start attending "Bright Lights Anonymous" to keep from falling under its spell and becoming addicted.

Others aren't as forgiving or find it as entertaining as I.

Muleshoe's city council members have been hearing a slew of complaints from Muleshoe citizens. Councilman Earl Behrends even jokingly commented that the sign might be indicating the second coming of Jesus - now that's funny.

What's really funny however is how much stir a bright sign can cause in a small town.

It's not like the lights are causing seizures in children, a problem Japanese Pokemon cartoons had back in 1997 in Tokyo due in most part to the rapid change of colors and "bright flashing

Tinkering with reality

By Leah Bell



lights." This problem made CNN.

Those kids had to watch at least 20 minutes of the light show before showing symptoms. We simply have to pass by the sign.

The folks we should be concerned about are the good people at Mohawk Auto and those across the street at the Farm Bureau office and Winchell Insurance.

During the work day, it must be impossible to turn away once you catch a glimpse.

And even more so, we should be worried about the employees of Sonic themselves.

Those of us passing by can look away, although Wanda Hooten said it best - it does sort of put you under its influence and distract you from other important issues like politics.

Note, anything that can distract me from the political antics I'm being bombarded with currently is OK in my book.

My point is, we can surely try to avert our eyes for that short period of time.

But who will protect those in direct contact with the animated light bright all day? Who will save our "children?"

What's next? Will Muleshoe be the first city in America to have a "No excessive staring" law on the books? Will I soon be charged with reckless driving due to "failure to look away?"

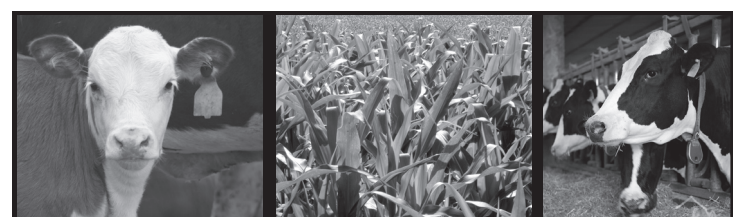
My defense will be simple, "But officer, I couldn't!"

I take a lighter look at this issue for two reasons (pun intended) because: it just strikes me as funny and because that sign has

done its job so effectively a person who makes her living in the advertising game just has to applaud the folks who designed and built the crazy thing.

You can't help but notice the sign which leads you to look at the Sonic building which might just re-trigger that midnight hunger pain you've been trying to ignore since 9 p.m. and suddenly, a stop at the Sonic sounds pretty good. Amazing.

While I agree they could turn down the wattage about fifty percent, I don't want them to remove the sign. Muleshoe can use the publicity since Ol' Pete is still out of commission.



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Sign...

Continued from page 1
Brunson wasn't aware of any municipal codes being broken, he indicated there was a possibility that TxDOT regulations were being broken, and said he would check into the matter.

Don't forget to pick up your photographs

Do you have any blank spots in your photo albums? Photographs that have been submitted for publication in the Muleshoe Journal may be picked up during regular business hours following publication of the photograph. At this time, a large number of photographs have been accumulated, at the Muleshoe Journal office and may include your missing photographs. Why not drop by and look through the file?

Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

We will be having a pancake breakfast with all the trimmings on Saturday, Jan. 26, here at the Oneida Wagon Senior Center, 219 S. Main.

Serving will begin at 6:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the meal with us.

The cost will be \$5 for adults, and \$3 for children 10 and under. You may pick up a carry out if you so desire.

We still have tickets for the \$10,000 giveaway. If you

have not made a donation for ticket we say thank you for supporting the center. If you need a ticket see us at the center or contact one of the senior citizens.

Several have tickets to sell. Just call or come by the center, we want you to participate with us on this project.

The group playing Bunco, really had a great time Tuesday. If you want to learn to play, come join the group.

Our sympathy and prayers go to Leroy Cansler

of Littlefield with the loss of his wife, Brenda. Leroy and Brenda were a regular couple at the Tuesday night dances.

Sandy will be playing for the dance on Tuesday, January 22. Make plans to come and enjoy the fun.

The birthday party for our January birthdays will be on Thursday, Jan. 24. You should get a call inviting you to come and celebrate with us at lunch.

Menu for Jan. 21-25:
Monday, Jan. 21 — Beef brisket, scalloped potatoes,

pinto beans, salad, wheat roll, and fruit and jello.

Tuesday, Jan. 22 — Chicken casserole, mashed potatoes, carrots, salad, wheat roll and fruit cobbler.

Wednesday, Jan. 23 — Grilled steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, wheat roll and chocolate pudding.

Thursday, Jan 24 — Beef with vegetables, rice, salad, wheat roll, cake and fruit.

Friday, Jan. 25 — Fish or chicken strips, gravy, beans, coleslaw, cornbread and fruit salad.

Publication of Obituaries

Obituaries printed in the Muleshoe Journal are printed free of charge and contain the following types of information: date and details of funeral and place of burial; date and place of birth and parents names; date of marriage; limited biographical information, including the highest level of schooling achieved, service in the Armed Forces, profession (and retirement information if applicable); names of relatives who have preceded the person in death; names of survivors (including husband and wife, parents, in-laws, brothers, sisters, grandparents (only the number of grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren) will be included; and where memorials may be directed. We will be pleased to run a one column black and white photo at no charge. A larger photo or a color photo will cause the obit to be paid. Please keep in mind that everything must be submitted by your funeral home.

BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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The Awaited One by Max Lucado

We were a wreath of Light around the stable, a necklace of diamonds around the structure. Every angel had been called from his post for the coming, even Michael. None doubted God would, but none knew how He could, fulfill his promise.

"I've heated the water!"
"No need to yell, Joseph I hear you fine."

Mary would have heard had Joseph whispered. The stable was even smaller than Joseph had imagined but the innkeeper was right- it was clean. I started to clear out the sheep and cow, but Michael stopped me. "The Father wants all of creation to witness the moment."

Mary cried out and gripped Joseph's arm with one hand and a feed trough with the other. The thrust in her abdomen lifted her back, and she leaned forward. "Is it time?" Joseph asked.

She shot back a glance, and he had his answer.

Within moments the Awaited One was born. I was privileged to have a position close to the couple, only a step behind Michael. We both gazed into the wrinkled face of the infant. Joseph had placed hay in a feed trough, giving Jesus his first bed.

All of God was in the infant. Light encircled His face and radiated from His tiny hands. The very glory I had witnessed in His throne room now burst through His skin.

I felt we should sing but did not know what. We had no song. We had no verse. We had never seen the sight of God in a baby. When God had made a star, our words had roared. When He had delivered His servants, our tongues had flown with praise. Before His throne, our songs never ended. But what do you sing to God in a feed trough?

In that moment a wonderful thing happened. As we looked at the baby Jesus, the darkness lifted. Not the darkness of the night, but the darkness of the mystery. Heaven's enlightenment engulfed the legions.

Our minds were filled with the Truth we had never before known. We became aware for the first time of the Father's plan to rescue those who bear His name.

From An Angel's Story (originally published as Cosmic Christmas)
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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Obituaries

Jenice Pollard

Funeral services for Jenice Elva Pollard, 85, of Granbury were held on Monday, Jan. 14, at Lakeside Baptist Church of Granbury. Burial followed at Holly Hills Memorial Park.

Pollard died on Thursday, Jan. 10, 2008. She was born on Sept. 12, 1922, in Ada, Okla., and married Lloyd Pollard in 1939.

They farmed cotton in Bula, and moved to Granbury after retirement.

She was preceded in death by her husband — Lloyd Pollard, her parents, seven brothers and three sisters.



JENICE ELVA POLLARD

Survivors include a sister — Fern Lamar of Morton; two sons — Larry Pollard of Granbury and Lamar Pollard of Seymour; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Juanita "Hill" Smith

Graveside services for Juanita "Hill" Smith, 77, were held on Saturday, Jan. 12, at The Princeton Cemetery.

Smith died on Jan. 9, 2008. She was born on Aug. 5, 1930. She was preceded in death by her husbands — Edd Parker and Charles Smith; a son — Terry Parker; three brothers — Truman, Troy and Charles Lorraine; and her parents.

Survivors include a daughter and her husband — Judy and Terry Ziola; a son and his wife — John Michael and Pam Parker; a son — Larry Parker; a sister and her husband — Dixie and Johnny Perkins; a sister-in-law — Florence Miller; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Smith retired from working at Collin Community College.

Mule Moments

Show a 'giving' heart throughout the year

By Alicia Porter

Mohandas Gandhi, Indian political and spiritual leader, stated, "You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty."

Around the holidays, people everywhere can see this truth more than ever. Precious time and resources are finally given to those who need them most and probably have needed for quite some time.

This is great, but why does it take the holiday season to evoke some care out of a community?

All year people have needs that the rest of the community can easily help them with. People are not poor around Thanksgiving and Christmas alone—they are poor year round.

Another issue this brings to mind is giving to school organizations. I have a significantly better chance of selling something to benefit the debate team, the choir, or the band during the holidays than I do in June.

The holidays often bring out the kindness. Though this is a hasty generalization and is not true of all people, it happens more often than not.

I heard a plea on the radio for donations to the Lighthouse Mission in Clovis. This is truly disturbing.

Now, before the entire town attacks me with pitchforks and torches, I do not mean that asking for charity is a bad thing. It is a truly disturbing thing that the community is not already helping and these non-profit organizations, leaving them begging for the assistance they should have been given long ago. It is an individual's obligation to society to give what and when one can.

It is saddening to see people who cannot help

themselves being ignored at any time during the year. It takes but a moment to lend a helping hand, but it can have an immeasurable impact on the lives of the needy.

Though it is a great thing to help people during the holiday season, it appears that people forget to donate or neglect their responsibilities.

Some people who have the resources, time, and potential to give every month only give once — during Christmas, when they are reminded.

If I have the ability to help someone around me, I will, and I would hope the same would be true of the rest of the community; however, it is shocking that people will not reach into their pockets for small monetary donations even around the holidays, which is not true of everyone.

How many people truly rejoice in giving to a cause? Very few see the good they can do.

Though one person cannot do all the good that the world needs, the world needs all the good they can do.

Now only one plea is left to be made: Please help when you can.

I am not asking for everyone to try to move mountains, I just want this community to assist where they can, when they can, and how they can—not only during the holiday season.

Adult education is available now

Muleshoe Adult Education, located at 203 Main, is enrolling for the spring semester. Call 272-7540 for additional information.

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Muleshoe city council...

Continued from page 1
City Manager David Brunson said the new agreement cleaned up the previous circa 1950s agreement, and "more adequately defines the property we lease to the country club."

It also addresses some liability issues and sets the period of the lease at 20 years instead of 99, he said.

Municipal Attorney Slater Elza said the new contract "means what it says, and says what it means."

"Instead of having an understanding," Elza said, "why not put it here (in

writing)."
Although no one representing the country club was in attendance Monday, the city manager said it's governing body apparently didn't have any problems with the agreement.

• Were informed that the filing period for the May 10 municipal election will be from Feb. 9 until March 14. According to the city manager, the positions up for election are Place 3, currently held by Earl Behrends, and Place 4, held by Sharon Grant.

• Approved the minutes from the Dec. 10 meeting.

Project Graduation bake sale

Project Graduation will be having a bake sale on Tuesday, Jan. 22, at the Watson Junior High gymnasium during the basketball games.

Project Graduation will be having a brown bag special, a hamburger, chips and drink for \$6, on Friday, Feb. 1, at the junior high gym during the basketball games, also, homemade ice cream will be available at the basketball games.

Girl Scout cookie sales start Jan. 19

It's that time again! For more than 80 years, the Girl Scouts have been raising money to fund troop activities by selling cookies — an experience that helps girls build strong skills, values and friendships. This year is no different, with Saturday, Jan. 19, kicking off the annual Girl Scout cookie sales. Cookies are \$3 per package, and may be ordered by calling 806-745-2855, or by faxing 806-748-0769.

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The Aldridge Law Firm of Farwell is pleased to introduce our new attorney

Jeanine Backus was born in San Diego, Calif. Her father, Roger Elliott, was born and raised in Clovis. He joined the U.S. Navy in the 1960's and was stationed in San Diego, where he met, and married, her mother, who raised three kids there. Jeanine was the youngest of the trio.

Jeanine attended San Diego University, then the California Western School of Law in San Diego. She lived there until April 2005, when she moved to Clovis. At first, she worked for Southwest Cheese's Human Resources Department.

Then she joined the Aldridge Law Firm at its Farwell office in March 2006. She lived in Clovis until May 2006, when she married Ron Backus and moved to Muleshoe. Ron, a native of Nazareth, Texas, works at Agrilience in Muleshoe as a salesman.

The couple had their first child, a son named Kellen, on Feb. 7, 2007.

In July 2007, Jeanine took the Texas Bar Exam, passed it, and was sworn in on Nov. 5, 2007, by District Judge Gordon Green at the Parmer County Courthouse.

Jeanine, now an associate attorney with the Aldridge Law Firm, continues to live in Muleshoe.

Our law firm is proud to introduce our new attorney.



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Sports



Photograph by Stacy Conner

A Lady Mule encounters the Friona defense.

Varsity ladies defeat Bushland, 41-34

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Lady Mules experienced both ends of the sports spectrum this past week. They felt the thrill of victory in Bushland Tuesday night and the agony of defeat at home Friday night against Friona.

They came back from a seven-point deficit with four minutes left in the game against the Bushland Falcons for a 41-34 win. The victory by the Lady Mules handed Bushland their only defeat in the first loop of district.

The Lady Mules almost pulled off their second upset of the week when they hosted the Friona Squaws. The two teams were tied for third place going into their final game of the first round.

Chi Hernandez almost sent the game to overtime when her put back attempt of Ashley Grumbles miss bounced on the rim twice before falling outside the hoop with six ticks left on the clock.

Time ran out with the Squaws leading 30-28. The defeat put the Lady Mules in fourth place as they start the second lap of district Tuesday, Jan. 15.

The Lady Mules got off to a fast start in Bushland and jumped out to an 8-2 lead.

The Lady Falcons came rolling back to tie the game at 8-8. Ashley Cisneros made a perfect pass inside to Gizell Vasquez and she turned and kissed the ball off the glass to break the tie as time expired.

Morgan Smith and Sarah Johnson led the charge for the Lady Mules in the second period as they powered to a 22-8 advantage. Smith scored on a fast break and Johnson dropped in a 15-foot jumper. Smith added a bucket from the elbow just before Johnson drained a 3-pointer for a 19-8 lead with five minutes left in the half. Smith capped the Lady Mule scoring with a free throw.

The Lady Mules entered the second half leading 22-18 but Bushland opened the half with a trey to cut the

Lady Mule lead to a single point. The Lady Mules only scored three in the third period while the Falcons caught up and took a 27-25 lead. Vasquez scored as time ran out to keep the Lady Mules close.

The Falcons opened a 34-27 lead in the first four minutes of the final frame but the Lady Mule defense did not allow them to score again.

Grumbles made her only points of the game just as the clock moved below the four-minute mark. She dialed in from long distance and connected for a trey to cut the Bushland lead to 34-30.

That 3-pointer seemed to ignite the Lady Mules. Smith made one of two from the line to trim away another Lady Falcon point and then raced out on a break to make it a one-point game with two minutes to play.

Smith gave the Lady Mules their first lead since early in the third period when she raced down the floor on a fast break and dropped in the lay up with 1:40 left in the game. She would add three of four from the line; Kelsey Tipps added a pair and Johnson made one as the Lady Mules nailed the door shut on the Lady Falcons.

Smith led the charge for the Lady Mules with eight of her 16 points coming in the final quarter. Johnson dropped in eight points, Hernandez seven and Vasquez made five. Grumbles had three points and Tipps two.

The Lady Mules just could not get their shots to fall at home against the Squaws on Friday night but played tough defense and stayed in the game. They scored six points in each of the first two periods and only trailed 15-12 at the intermission.

Smith made a half-court pass to Hernandez standing in the lane. Hernandez chip shot cut the Friona lead to 15-14. Grumbles tied the game at 15 each with a charity toss. She kept the game tied at 17 after a Friona basket.

Johnson drained a

3-pointer to put the Lady Mules up 20-17 and added a charity toss before the period ended with the Lady Mules in front 21-19. Hernandez made it a three-point lead as the final quarter began.

Hernandez slashed across the lane on a dribble and fired up a left handed jumper. Her bucket gave the Lady Mules a 25-20 margin. The Squaws tied the game at 27-27 with a 3-pointer near the three-minute mark.

Friona made five of 12 free throws in the final period but it was enough to get past the Lady Mules.

Hernandez made six of her 15 points in the final quarter to lead the Lady Mules. Johnson dropped in six, Grumbles had five and Vasquez and Smith chipped

in one point each. The 3-3 Lady Mules started their second trip around the district Tuesday night when the second place River Road Lady Wildcats came for a visit. They travel to Amarillo Highland Park Friday, Jan. 18. The Tulia Hornets will visit the Lady Mules the following Tuesday.

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Freshmen ladies' victory flies away in game against Bushland

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The freshmen Lady Mules seemed to have the Lady Falcons of Bushland caged in the first half. But they flew away in the second half to take the win 46-35.

Devine Orozco got the Lady Mules off to a fast start with back-to-back buckets to put the Lady Mules on top 4-0. Alejandra Gomez completed an old-fashioned three-point play by knocking down the free throw after

Eighth grade Mules fall to the Falcons

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The eighth grade Mules reversed the tables on the Bushland Falcons and tied the game at 12-12 at the half. The Mules struggled to get untracked in the third period while Bushland poured in the points. The Mules could not recover in the final quarter and the Mules fell 36-20.

Saul Elizalde and Carlos Sosa made a bucket each in the opening quarter as the Mules fell behind 8-4. Elizalde made two baskets in the second period as the Mules came charging back.

Mateo Castillo and Sergio Vasquez added a bucket

scoring in the paint.

Abigail Regalado scored on an in bound play before the quarter ended with the Lady Mules leading 9-5.

Gomez scored six in the second quarter as the Lady Mules kept pace. Erika Rodriguez and Jenna Whitworth scored their only points of the game to keep the Lady Mules on top 19-15 at the intermission.

The Lady Falcons score eight points as the third period got underway. Gomez broke the run with her first bucket of the second half. She converted two charity toss before Sandy Mojica nailed the Lady Mules first 3-pointer of the game.

The Lady Mules trailed 30-29 going into the final quarter. Ariel Castorena dialed in from long range and Gomez added a bucket and a free throw for the Lady Mules only points of the period.

Bushland out paced the Lady Mules 16-6 for the win.

Gomez set the scoring pace with 18 points. Mojica and Orozco added four each. Regalado, Rodriguez and Whitworth chipped in two apiece.

The Lady Mules traveled to Amarillo Highland Park to tangle with the Lady Hornets. They return home January 21 to host the Tulia Hornets.

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Sports

Mules drop to 2-2 in district play

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Mules dropped to 2-2 and third place in the District 2-2A race when they dropped back-to-back games. The Mules were in Bushland last Tuesday and fell to the Falcons 44-35.

The Falcons made more free throws in the contest than the Mules were allowed to attempt. Bushland went to the line 27 times and made seventeen points to only 13 tries by the Mules.

The second undefeated district team, Friona, visited the Mules Friday night. The Mules battled Friona to a 52-52 tie after four periods. The clock was set to four minutes for the over time.

Patrick Precure grabbed a long rebound and fired a three-quarter court strike to Brian Poynor racing to the basket. Poynor gave a head fake and put the ball in the hoop.

The whistle blew and a foul was call on Friona. Poynor collected the charity toss for an old fashion three-point play. The extra period ended with the score knotted at 61-61.

The clock was reset to four minutes and the battle resumed. Poynor nailed a 3-pointer with seven ticks left on the clock to cut the Friona margin to 67-68.

The Mules were forced to foul to try and get the ball back. Friona made both free throws and the Mules' half-court shot missed the mark.

Victor Vasquez answered a Bushland trey that opened the contest. Precure added a pair of shots from behind the arc and added a pair of free throws to lead the Mules to 13-9 first period lead.

The Falcons heated up in the second quarter and out scored the Mules 14-8. Precure continued with the hot hand and made a bucket and a trey during the frame. The Mules trailed Bushland 23-21 at the intermission.

Both teams went cold

during the break and Poynor made all four of the Mule points during the frame. Bushland score six points to add two points to their lead. The Mules tailed 29-24 starting the final eight minutes.

Lane Wood made it a two point game as the final period began. Cooper Washington powered up for an offensive rebound and went back up for the put-back to keep it a two-point game at 31-29.

The Mules did not score for four minutes while the Falcons took a 31-27 lead. Precure broke the run with pair of free throws. Colt Ellis stole the ball and drove the floor for the hoop. As he went up he was hammered from behind. He made both shots from the line to cut the Falcon lead to 37-33 with a minute and a half left in the game.

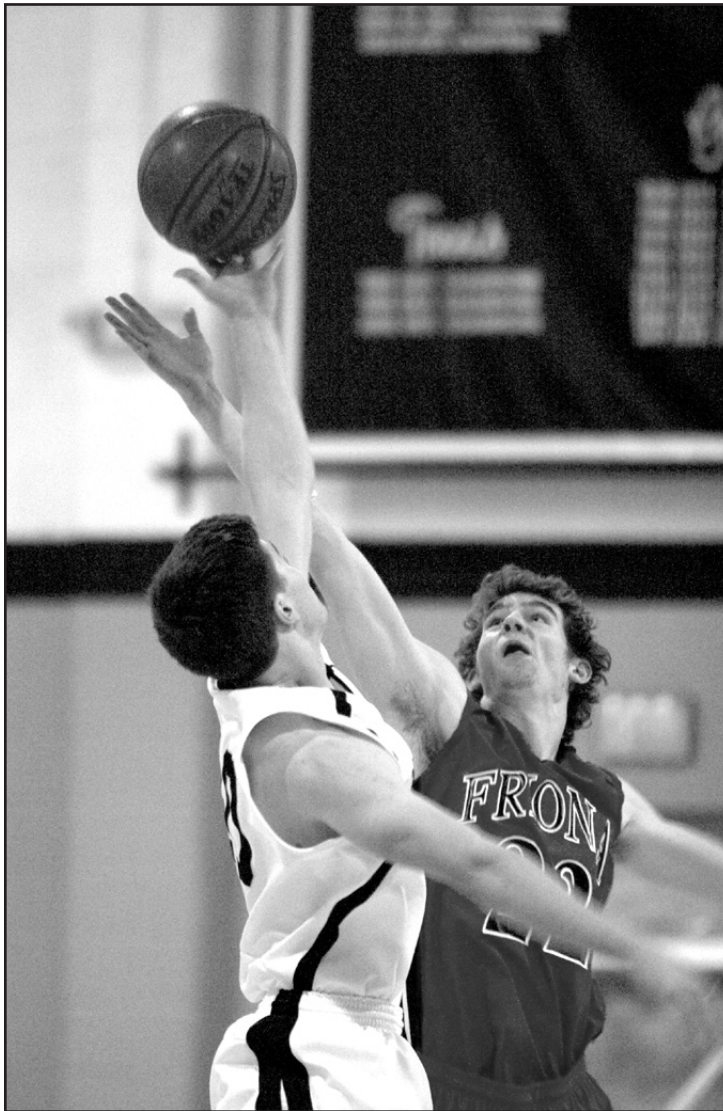
Colby Carpenter made a perfect pass to Washington on the blocks. Washington powered up through a bevy of defenders and kissed the ball off the glass to cut the margin to just three points.

The Mules shooting went quite after that and the Falcons added free throws to clinch the win.

Precure scored 13 of his 15 points in the first half to lead the Mules. Poynor dropped in eight points, Washington had five and Vasquez added three. L. Wood and Ellis chipped in two each.

Carpenter set the tone of the battle with Friona early in the contest. He picked a Chieftain's pocket and got the ball to Precure for a chip shot to open the game. Friona rained three treys on the Mules parade to take a 17-13 lead into the second quarter.

The Mules made up most of the ground they lost in the second period. Vasquez opened the period with a bucket and had eight points in the frame. Poynor dropped in a trey and the Mules went



Photograph by Stacy Conner

to the locker room trailing 26-25.

Ten seconds into the second half Precure gave the Mules the lead with a 3-pointer behind a double screen. Carpenter pushed the Mule advantage to four with a bucket as the Mules went on a 7-0 run to open the half. The Mules led 41-39 when the quarter ended.

The Mules shooting from the charity line all but dried up in the fourth quarter as they only made four of 11 attempts.

Vasquez continued to have the hot hand and pumped in seven of the Mule's 11 points.

Friona made seven of eight from the line in the final quarter to catch the Mules. The Chieftains continued to knock down charity tosses in the two extra periods to take the win.

Vasquez led the Mules with 24 points. Garrett Riley,

Precure and Poynor dropped in 11 points each. Carpenter added six points, Washington added two and Wes Wood and L. Wood chipped in one each.

The Mules hosted the River Road Wildcats Tuesday night and traveled to Amarillo Highland Park to face the Hornets to wrap up their first round of district. They open their second round of district when they host the Tulia Hornets the following Tuesday.

JV Mules defeat the Chieftains

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The JV Mules turned up the heat early on the Friona Chieftains Friday night, holding them to just two points in the opening quarter and then held on to squeak by Friona 51-50.

Tyson Turnbow scored three buckets in the opening frame to set the scoring pace for the Mules. Jared Skipworth made two baskets and Caleb Conner picked up a single basket, the first of the evening, as the Mules jumped out to a 12-2 lead after one quarter.

However, Friona came charging back in the second quarter with 22 points. The Mules hit three treys in the period with Turnbow sandwiching a bucket between a pair of 3-pointers. Brett Poynor made his first trey of the evening and Nathaniel Chavez converted on from the charity line and a bucket for three points in the period.

Stevie Cisneros and Caleb Conner each added a deuce to give the Mules 18 in the frame. The Mules had hung on to a 30-24 lead at the intermission.

Poynor made all seven of the Mule's points in the third period while holding Friona to eight. He opened the quarter with a monster trey, then added two from the



Photograph by Stacy Conner

A JV Mule passes the ball during a recent game.

charity line and finished with a bucket.

Friona was forced to foul in the final eight minutes and the Mules converted just enough to hang on to the win. Poynor went to the line three times and converted four-of-six before adding a bucket.

Chavez made two of five from the line but each point was key for the victory. Cisneros dialed in from downtown for the Mules only 3-pointer in the last quarter.

Turnbow made a bucket and added the winning

basket from the line with only seconds left in the game.

Turnbow led the Mules in scoring with 17 points. Poynor joined him in double digits with 16. Chavez and Cisneros added five points apiece. Skipworth and Conner made four each in the win.

The River Road Wildcats traveled to Muleshoe on Tuesday. The Mules travel to Amarillo Highland Park to meet the Hornets Friday and return home Tuesday to host the Tulia Hornets.

Dr. J.W. Haltom

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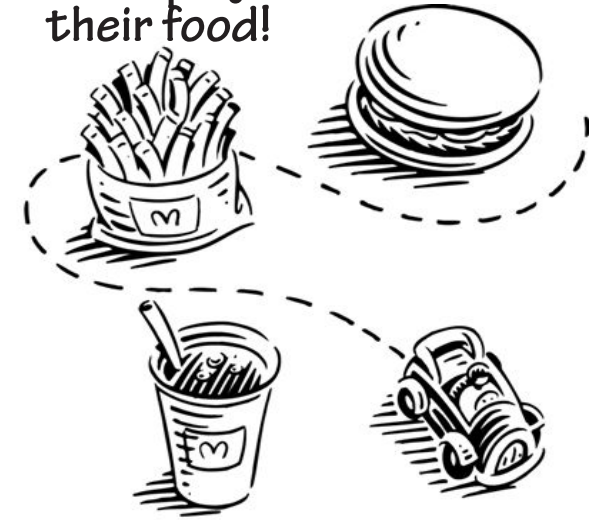
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Muleshoe Cattle Market

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.

REPRESENTATIVE SALES - SAT., JAN. 12, 2008

1034 head of cattle, 122 hogs and 368 sheep and goats for a total of 1524 livestock sold at the Jan. 12 sale. Market lower in some instances. \$10 lower compared to a week ago, this due to higher grain futures. They were up the limit on Friday. Pairs & bred cows steady. Packer cows 1-3 lower.

FOR INFO. ON SALES OR TO CONSIGN CATTLE - 272-4201

Seller, City	#	Type	Wt.	CWT or PH
S-W Cattle, Hobbs, NM	5	Blk. str.	320 lbs.	at \$141.00
S-W Cattle	5	Blk. str.	427 lbs.	at \$110.00
S-W Cattle	11	Mxd. str.	484 lbs.	at \$111.00
S-W Cattle	15	Mxd. str.	570 lbs.	at \$105.50
S-W Cattle	11	Mxd. str.	652 lbs.	at \$97.50
Larry Jesko, Muleshoe	3	Char. bulls	320 lbs.	at \$123.00
Royce Blair, Plains	1	Char. bull	190 lbs.	at \$300.00
Royce Blair, Plains	1	Char. bull	455 lbs.	at \$109.00
Jack Tarver, Portales, NM	3	Mxd. str.	480 lbs.	at \$110.00
Ken Williams, Morton	5	Blk. bulls	527 lbs.	at \$100.00
Ken Williams	5	Mxd. bulls	571 lbs.	at \$92.50
Max Demel, Pep	2	Mxd. bulls	583 lbs.	at \$92.00
Tom Bowers, Seagraves	2	Blk. bulls	620 lbs.	at \$94.00
John Hill, Abernathy	4	Blk. str.	635 lbs.	at \$96.00
Marc Langford, Farwell	4	Mxd. str.	639 lbs.	at \$95.00
Marc Langford	5	Mxd. str.	794 lbs.	at \$92.00
Teresa Howard, Rogers, NM	3	Mxd. str.	740 lbs.	at \$93.00
GRH, Inc., Muleshoe	26	Mxd. str.	650 lbs.	at \$90.00
GRH, Inc.	8	Mxd. str.	739 lbs.	at \$94.25
Donnie Helmer, Clovis, NM	6	Corr. str.	629 lbs.	at \$54.00
JCL Inc., Sudan	6	Blk. str.	274 lbs.	at \$116.00
Larry Jesko	3	Yell. hfrs	310 lbs.	at \$112.00
S-W Cattle	7	Mxd. hfrs	401 lbs.	at \$101.00
S-W Cattle	18	Mxd. hfrs	559 lbs.	at \$90.50
Megan Hill, Abernathy	3	Blk. hfrs	315 lbs.	at \$110.00
Teresa Howard	2	Blk. hfrs	505 lbs.	at \$90.50
Ken Williams	9	Blk. hfrs	534 lbs.	at \$92.50
Ken Williams	12	Blk. hfrs	575 lbs.	at \$87.00
Tom Bowers	2	Red hfrs	633 lbs.	at \$88.75
Broken Arrow Inc., Muleshoe	19	Mxd. hfrs	658 lbs.	at \$89.25
Broken Arrow Inc., Muleshoe	8	Mxd. hfrs	750 lbs.	at \$83.75
Larry Jesko	4	Char. pairs		\$935.00
Larry Jesko	1	Char. cow P8		\$835.00
Oscar Ronquillo, Muleshoe	1	Blk. pair		\$875.00
Jim Pat Claunch, Muleshoe	7	Blk. cows P7-8		\$670.00
Jim Pat Claunch	3	Blk. cows P8		\$705.00
Jim Pat Claunch	2	Blk. cows	1248 lbs.	at \$45.00
Bushy Dairy, Pickton	1	Hol. cow	1400 lbs.	at \$49.00
Ferry Oberhaus, Dimmitt	1	Hol. cow	1345 lbs.	at \$46.00
Kennedy Cattle, Muleshoe	1	Blk. cow	1370 lbs.	at \$46.00
Hip O Cattle, Muleshoe	1	Spot cow	1270 lbs.	at \$45.00
Mike Lee, Pearland	5	Blk. cows	1550 lbs.	at \$42.25

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Ideas and Dreams for All

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The words below describe parts of Dr. King's life, ideas and dreams. **Can you find and circle all of them?**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Coretta Scott
Mrs. Rosa Parks
"We Shall Overcome"
unfair laws
Nobel Peace Prize
"I Have a Dream"
segregation
nonviolent
peace
kind
gentle
rights
bus
equal
smart
minister
arrested
freedom
marches

Pop Quiz!
Read each statement. Put an "X" in the box in front of the correct one.















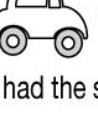
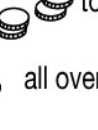






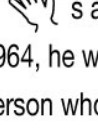
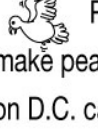
When Martin Luther King, Jr. was a boy, he:

- went to school with white children.
- skipped two grades in school.
- picked a lot of fights with other kids.
- felt he should settle problems in a peaceful way.
- was not interested in his father's work at the church.
- wondered why people were treated differently.

When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a man, he:

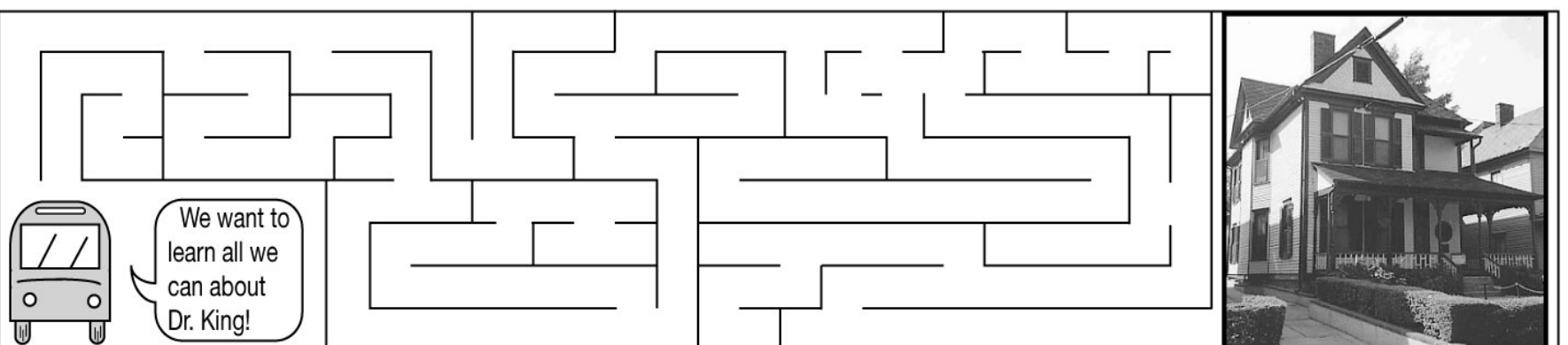
- became a minister of the church to help people.
- became an astronaut and rode in a rocket.
- started a riot by breaking a store window.
- helped organize peace marches for equal rights.
- believed that all people are equal.
- sailed all over the world.

Check out books about the life of Dr. King at your school or local library!

Let me tell you a story about a  named Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He was a great . He was born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15, 1929. His father was a minister. Martin liked to read . He was very smart and skipped two grades. He delivered  to earn . Martin began to  that all  were not treated the same. White  and black  went to different s, and black  had to sit in the back of the . Dr. King knew many laws that were unfair to black . He told them to  or ride together in s. They did not give any more of their  to es until they had the same rights as white  all over the  heard about this fight for equal rights and the new minister and leader named Dr. King. He began to travel to s to get  to change laws in non-violent ways.  marched, prayed, spoke and joined s and sang the song "We Shall Overcome." In October of 1964, he was awarded the Nobel  Prize. It is given each year to the person who has done the most to make peace in the world. Dr. King gave a speech during a march in Washington D.C. called "I Have a Dream." It was about freedom and equal rights for all people. When he was shot and killed, people all over the world were sad and shocked. But, Dr. King's ideas and dreams live on in all of us!

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We want to learn all we can about Dr. King!

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Weddings



MR. AND MRS. JAMES CLARK

Pierson, Clark wedding held

Stephanie Elizabeth Pierson and James Joshua Clark were united in marriage on Jan. 1, 2008, with the Rev. Jack Stone officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Michael Pierson of Silverton, Colo., and Elizabeth Hochbrueckner of Stamford, N.Y. She is the granddaughter of Ed and Sharon Pierson of St. Charles, Mo.

The groom is the son of Gary and Brenda Clark of Muleshoe.

He is the grandson of

John and Margaret Stevens of Muleshoe and Ned and Billie Clark of Canyon.

Marissa Davis of Lubbock, served as maid of honor. Cody Clark of Lubbock, brother of the groom, served as best man.

The flower girls were children of the couple, Zoie Pierson and Jaimie Clark.

The bride is employed by Park View Nursing Care Center. The groom is employed by Earl Ladd & Sons.

The couple will reside in Muleshoe.

Texas 4-H is celebrating 100 years

Texas 4-H is celebrating its 100th anniversary from September 2007 through August 2008.

In 1907, Tom Marks met with 12 young men and formed a Corn Club, in order to teach young people the newest practices for raising corn.

This meeting, in Jacksboro, Texas, was the first 4-H meeting in Texas. Later, in Milam County, the first girl's Tomato Club met. Edna Trigg organized this club to teach improved home canning practices.

These two programs became the foundation for today's Texas 4-H program which still teaches innovative, research-based methods of farming, food preservation, and much more.

In all 254 Texas counties, youth are involved in learning life skills, leadership, volunteer service, self confidence, and commitment to their Country.

In 1957, a district banquet to honor South Plains 4-H Gold Star winners was sponsored by Rural Electric Cooperatives in the region. On Nov. 19, 2007, the South Plains District celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Gold Star Banquet.

Past 4-H Gold Star recipients from Bailey County include:

1936 — Opal Snitker and Anice Haley; 1938 — Ila Lee Herrington; 1939 — Wilma Louise

Snider; 1940 — Evelyn Mueller; 1941 — Vernedeem Weaver; 1942 — Jean Williams; 1943 — Edith Henry; 1945 — Peggy Cummins; 1946 — Ivydell Evans; 1947 — Katherine Black; 1958 — Mary Jean Gross and Mike Pollard; 1959 — Trudy Davis and Myke Murrah; 1960 — Mary Ann Greene and Nelson Shipman; 1961 — Stanley Black and Goldialu Goucher; 1962 — Kearney Scoggin and Joyce Adams;

1963 — Sharron Hutton and Joe Adams; 1964 — Bruce Little and Marsha Buhrman; 1965 — Verlyon Scoggin and Ruth Duckworth; 1966 — Dennis Newton and Jona Kay Goucher; 1967 — Jeri Scoggin and Darla Kendall; 1968 — Bryan Brady II and Barbara Wilhite; 1969 — Terry Pollard and Diane Crawford; 1970 — Tani Murrah and Terry Dale Wheeler; 1971 — Linda Mason and Larry Vinson; 1972 — Lavern Carpenter and Bobby Henderson; 1973 — Benny Floyd and Connie Floyd; 1974 — Tim Wheeler and Ruth Ramm; 1975 — Jimmy Henderson and Alta Ramm; 1976 — Sharla Farmer and Curtis Carpenter; 1977 — Curtis Hunt and Sheila Hunt; 1978 — Greg Harrison and Belinda Wheeler; 1979 — Jimmy Gleason and Delia Shaw; 1980 — Jacinda Gleason and Kelly Harrison; 1981 — Tamara Gilliland and Timothy D. Sain; 1982 — Jay Lance Gleason and Jeanne Donae Parker; 1983 — Zanna Huckaby and Shelley Sain; 1984 — Tracy Tunnell and Jodie Wheeler; 1985 — Britta O'Tay and Scotty Spies; 1986 — Jamie Wheeler and Holly Huckaby; 1987 — Carrol Copley and Colin Tanksley; 1988 — Melissa L. Toombs and Wade K. Wheeler; 1989 — Tiffany Maree Angeley and Charla D'Ann Holt; 1990 — Janson Harmon and Cynthia N. Bennett; 1991 — Larry D. Robertson and Melissa Ann Bennett; 1992 — Shane Schuster and Marianne Toombs; 1993 — Christy Holt and Audra Lee; 1994 — Monty Turney and Carolyn Schuster; 1995 — Kimberly K'Ann Griswold; 1996 — Joshua Tooley and Justin Lee; 1997 — Katie Black and Keila Kennedy; 1998 — Jill Gladden and Ky Kennedy; 1999 — Robin Tooley; 2000 — Lindsey Altman and Cade Hooten ; 2001 — Cydni Vandiver; 2002 — Ashley Beggs and

Kelsey Beggs ; 2003 — Brett Bamert and Cami Jo Vandiver; 2004 — Brady Rex Black and Marlie Beth Black; 2005 — Madison Myers; 2006 — Courtney Mardis and Dal Whalin; 2007 — Austin Bamert and Jackson Myers.

4-H began in the 1900s to share agricultural advances with rural

communities through young people. Today, 4-H creates opportunities for urban, suburban, and rural youth to develop into mature adults and engaged citizens.

For more information about 4-H, contact Curtis Preston or Mandi Seaton, County extension agents, Texas AgriLife Extension Service, at 272-4583.

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Thank You!

The Lazbuddie Robotics Team would like to thank the following businesses and people for their financial support. We greatly appreciate the donations to help with project costs and expenses for the trip to the State competition. The community support has been wonderful!

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Baby Showers



RHONDA KLINE

Kline honored at baby shower

Rhonda Kline was honored with a baby shower on Dec. 9, at the home of Sherri Kennedy.

Hostesses for the event included Sherri Kennedy, Keila Morris, Rayan Doshier,

Brandy Rose, Kayla Nickels, Tiffany Boehning, Brenda Black, Jamie Myers, Linda Schuster, Carren Black, Katie Bynum, Vicky Black, Suzie Claunch, Melinda Schuster, Misty Angeley, Krystal Bennett, Pat Angeley, Mandy Myers, Sheryl Altman, JoEllen Cowart and Amy Thane.

The hostess gift was a travel set.

Among the guests were Rickie Warren, Rebecca Reynolds, Reagan Reynolds and Reese Reynolds.

Births

Jenna Friesen

Andy and Aundra Friesen of Farwell announce the birth of their daughter, Jenna Beth, on Jan. 9, 2008, at 4:10 p.m., at Lamb Healthcare Center.

Jenna Beth weighed seven pounds, three ounces at birth, and was 18-1/2 inches in length.

She has two siblings — Shane, 6, and Coby, 3.

Her grandparents are Cris and Mary Friesen, and Lawrence and Connie Giesbrecht, all of Muleshoe.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding..."
Proverbs 3:5, NIV

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In Christ, No Separation Need Be Permanent

I have no business writing this column right now. First, it's due right now. Columns I write "under the gun" tend to look that way. Second, I'm too tired, sleep-deprived, and emotional to write rationally. But . . .

We left #3 son Stephan at the airport this morning to head back to Uganda, East Africa, where he's been doing mission work since 2004. He was home for fundraising and furlough,

And, yes, I know I'm a wimp. Knowing it doesn't help.

I know my parents sent my oldest brother and his family off to Malawi, Africa, a number of times spanning over twenty years during a time when the communication we enjoy across continents today wasn't even dreamed of, and when life in Africa was even more primitive than today.

Most missionaries are now able to come home somewhat more often than in the old days.

And the Mbale team has encouraged their team members who are single to come home more often than the families. Yes, in many ways, the world is much smaller than it once was.

But we're thrust again into that now-familiar stage where I head home and see the vehicle he's been driving, the winter coat he left behind (it's pretty much useless in Uganda), and a jillion other reminders that he was just here and isn't now. And I get a lump in my throat.

Some separations are infinitely worse. My heart breaks for parents who've had to go home and see such reminders and know their kids weren't coming back. Not in this life.

I also think of parents sending kids to Iraq or other such places. Africa's not safe. (Neither is the U.S., by the way.) But I'd pick Africa over Iraq or Afghanistan. Usually.

Bottom line? God loves our kids even more than we do. No matter how we feel, we have a Father who always cares. No matter how serious the separation. Miles traveled apart. Worse, hearts walled apart. Or even hearts separated because one no longer beats in this life.

In Christ, no separation is permanent. In that, we should, we do, find great hope and deep comfort.



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

home for the holidays, which was a real blessing.

My wife and I have done this before—watch sons walk down toward the gate at the airport to head halfway around the world. Each time we've been awed by the Lord and his people who have made this work possible. We are utterly amazed at the doors God has opened.

But watching the young man or men walking toward the plane never gets much easier.

Oh, some of the physical preparations do. Practice helps. Packing is an art. It's also work. And the airlines, along with the bureaucracies who give us the illusion of security, can't make up their minds about luggage contents, weights, etc. But my master packer wife knows the drill and experience helps.

And, yes, it's easier sending a son (or daughter) off when you know it's not his first rodeo.

But the operative words that don't change no matter how often you do it are these: "sending a son (or daughter) off."

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

Eighth grade Mules...

Continued from page 6 each as the Mules out scored the Falcons 8-4 to tie the game at 12-12 at the intermission.

Castillo made the only two points for the Mules in the third quarter while the Falcons poured in 17 points. The Mules shut down the Falcons to only four points in the final quarter.

But the Mules could not make up all the ground they had lost. Vasquez made his second basket of the night and Hector Flores made his

only basket of the match. Sosa chipped in two from the line to cap the Mules seven-point period.

Elizalde led the Mules with six points. Castillo, Sosa and Vasquez made four points each and Ambriz chipped in two points.

The Mules hosted the Amarillo Highland Park Hornets Monday night and will play in the Sudan Tournament January 17 and 19. The Mules return to District 2-2A action the following Monday in Tulia.

Seventh grade ladies take a loss

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The seventh grade Lady Mules started out strong when the Bushland Falcons came for a visit. The Lady Mules put 10 on the board to lead 10-8 at the quarter break. The Lady Mules only made two points in each of the last three quarters.

The Lady Falcons flew home with a 26-16 win over the Lady Mules.

Bushland scored the first two baskets of the game but Daniella Mendoza made back-to-back baskets. She drove the left side of the lane for her first basket and then stole the ensuing in

bound pass and made the short jumper to tie the game at 4-4.

Gisella Perez kept the Lady Mules even following a Bushland bucket. She drove the right side of the lane for a lay up. Sheridan White pulled down an offensive rebound and stuck it in the hoop to tie the game at 8-8.

White raced down the floor on a break after Mandy Scolley grabbed a defensive rebound and headed down the floor. The single defender had to stop the ball so Scolley dropped the ball off to White for the easy deuce and a 10-8 Lady Mule lead going into

Continued on page 12



Lazbuddie students honored

Lazbuddie Elementary honored some of its students, pictured on the left, in the Student Spotlight for Jan. 18. The students are: Ethan Martinez, Pre-Kindergarten, the son of Dee and Joanna Martinez; Marrena Hunn, Kindergarten, the daughter of Tanya Hunn; Julie Chavez, second grade, the daughter of Teodoro and Julia Chavez; Tara Flores, fourth grade, the daughter of Ricky and Erin Flores; Houston Cox, fifth grade, the son of Brandon and Valerie Cox; and Josephine Samarron, fifth grade, the daughter of Jose and Marie Samarron.

Eighth grade ladies' fast start not good enough for a win

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The eighth grade Lady Mules got off to a fast start against the visiting Lady Falcons of Bushland. They could not keep up the fast pace and dropped the home game 29-15 to Bushland.

Melissa Casanova committed picked a Lady Falcon's pocket and drove the floor for a lay up to open the game against Bushland. Samantha Reyna scored on

an in bound play as the Lady Mules opened a 4-0 lead early in the period.

Alyssa Leal was fouled after grabbing an offensive rebound and attempting to put the ball back up. She made both shot from the foul line. Dominique Mata finished a fast break to give the Lady Mules an 8-4 advantage.

The Lady Falcons fired back with a pair of buckets to tie the game at 8-8. Reyna curled in the lane to briefly

break the tie. Bushland scored just prior to the buzzer to start the second quarter with a 10-10 tie.

Reyna scored the only two Lady Mule points in the second quarter and they trailed 15-12 at the intermission. Ivana Agundis made the only bucket during the third period for the Lady Mules.

Bushland only score three points to lead the Lady Mules 18-14 going into the final

quarter.

Leal converted one from the line for the only Lady Mule points in the final period. The Lady Falcons poured in 11 to take the win.

Reyna led the Lady Mules with six points. Leal added three points and Agundis, Casanova and Mata each chipped in two.

The Lady Mules traveled to Amarillo Highland Park Monday and return home to meet Tulia on Jan. 21.

1/17 overflow

Senator discusses war with Texans on the front line

Wherever I go around our state, I'm impressed by the deep appreciation that Texans have for the service of our military men and women—particularly those serving in harm's way abroad. Everyone supports our soldiers, and they all want the troops to know that.

I had an opportunity in early January to deliver that message myself to our warriors on duty in two front lines in the war on terrorism, in Iraq and Afghanistan.

I was also able to evaluate progress, particularly in Iraq, and make certain our military is getting the resources it needs to keep terrorism away from our country.

There are almost 160,000 Americans now in Iraq. Another 25,000 serve in

Seventh grade Mules defeat Bushland

By Delton Wilhite
Sports writer

The seven grade Mules improved to 3-1 on the season by defeating the Bushland Falcons last Monday night. The Falcons put on a charge in the third period to tie the game at 18 in an attempt to defend their home floor.

The Mules responded in the final quarter to bring home the 24-20 win. The Mules screwed down the defense so tight the Falcons could only score two in the final quarter.

Ryan Johnson scored two buckets in the first period and Shawn Atwood dropped in a basket to give the Mules a 6-2 lead going into the second quarter. Both teams scored four points each in the second period.

Johnson added a deuce in the quarter and Jaxiel Lopez made his only basket of the game. The Mules led 10-6 at the intermission.

Atwood made two buckets in the third period and Johnson added a basket as the Falcons poured in the points. Xavier Reyes made his only bucket of the game to keep the game tied at 18-18.

Tough defense held Bushland to a single basket in the final quarter. Johnson and Atwood made one bucket each to push the Mules back in front. Reyes and Johnson each converted a charity toss in the final period.

Johnson led the Mules in scoring with 11 points. Atwood made six of his eight points in the second half; Reyes added three points and Lopez chipped in two.

The Mules hosted the Amarillo Highland Park Hornets Monday night and play in the Sudan Tournament Jan. 17 and 19. The Mules return to district action Jan. 28 in Friona.

Seventh grade Lady Mules...

Continued from page 10 second quarter.

Shots would not fall for the Lady Mules the rest of the game. Perez made her second basket of the night in the second quarter. Jessica Kube did the honors in the third period and Scolley made the Lady Mule final basket of the night.

Perez, Mendoza and White led the Lady Mules with four points each. Scolley and Kube chipped in two apiece for the Lady Mules.

The Lady Mules traveled to Amarillo Highland Park to face the Lady Hornets. The Lady Mules return home to host the Lady Hornets of Tulia on Jan. 21.



Texas Times

By U.S. Sen.
John Cornyn

Afghanistan. Since one in ten active duty military call Texas home, it's easy to find Texans in every area of both countries.

My first stop was Afghanistan, at Bagram Air Base, a former Soviet military complex. I was briefed by Major General David Rodriguez, previously at Fort Hood, who now commands the 82nd Airborne Division. He told me we have doubled our combat forces in Afghanistan over the past year and are taking the fight to the enemy.

We're making progress, but al Qaeda and the Taliban are resilient. We agreed—we can't let up.

I went onto a remote forward outpost, Firebase Torkham Gate, near the Khyber Pass, on Afghanistan's border with Pakistan.

Over lunch, I got a firsthand report on the conflict from several Texans, including Staff Sgts. Christopher Torres and Daniel Warden of San Antonio, Clifton McFatrige of Fort Worth, and Sgt. Cory Messingham of Lewisville. These men are doing a great job under dangerous conditions.

Later, back in Bagram, we met with Air Force Brigadier General James "Bill" Hyatt, originally from San Marcos, commander of the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing.

We met again with Texas troops who are servicing and flying the A-10 Warthogs and F-15 Eagles that support our ground forces in eastern Afghanistan.

From Afghanistan I flew

on to Iraq. This was my third visit to Iraq and my first since President Bush sent 30,000 additional American troops there last year. There is no doubt that the security situation in Iraq has improved dramatically since they arrived.

On my first morning, I sat down with Lt. Gen. Ray Odierno from Fort Hood. He's now Commanding General of the Multinational Corps Iraq and reports directly to Gen. David Petraeus.

He shared details on progress in lowering the violence in Iraq—and importantly, in reducing American casualties.

We saw that vividly when I traveled by military convoy to a market in a section of western Baghdad that only months ago was beset by intense fighting and bombing.

Today, the atmosphere is calm, terrorists have been killed or driven away, and the market is operating again. I was able to walk around, visit shops and have tea with local Iraqis who told me how grateful they are for America's steadfast determination to defeat al Qaeda in Iraq.

With two other senators, I later met with leading Iraqi politicians to discuss the slow progress of reconciliation among the major ethnic groups in Iraq—Shiites, Kurds and Sunnis.

We emphasized that Iraqis need to reach an agreement soon so that our American sons and daughters can come home. We continually encountered Texas troops.

At Maverick Security Station in Baghdad, for example, we shared a meal with Private First Class Cody Chandler of Houston and Staff Sgt. Clayton Vaughn of Alvin. They were proud of their efforts in Iraq.

The men and women I met are away from their families, sometimes on a second or even a third deployment, living under

adverse conditions.

They were candid, as soldiers are, in discussing the challenges they face in the field. But every single one was proud of his service, and rightfully so, and had a better appreciation for the contribution our forces are making for world peace than do many politicians in Washington.

I came home convinced

that our military has al Qaeda on the run in both Iraq and Afghanistan. It has taken time, but we've now got the policy right and it is succeeding.

More importantly, our troops know that. They also know that their patriotism, their sacrifice and their service to their country is appreciated by all of us back in Texas.

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