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Muleshoe Journal



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Muleshoe, Texas

March 19, 2009



Out on a limb

Sometimes, you have no other choice... to get the work done you have to go out on a limb. Pictured above, Roberto Querrero sends wood chips flying as he cuts a tree limb on South Third St. during Tuesday's warm temperatures.

Photograph by Larry Thornton

Space problem at local police department soon to be solved

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor
"Space..."

To the fictional crew of the Starship Enterprise© it's "the final frontier" to be explored, but to the officers of the Muleshoe Police Department it's something much more "down to earth," it's the room they need to do their job.

Anyone who has tried to stuff a basketball into a shoe box can tell you that only a certain amount of equipment can occupy a certain amount of space and at the police department the space has been filled to the brim for several years.

"We're very thankful that we have what we have," Police Chief Brian Friedasaid, but he couldn't help but comment on the appreciation the entire department has for the new building to



Det. Cassie Crandell works at her desk in the office she shares with Sgt. Shane Kirk.

be provided through the city's issuance of certificates of obligation.

At this time, the city council has authorized a contract for the construction of a modular building from Morgan Building Systems, to be placed in the 100 block of West Ave. C, expected to more than double the department's current 2,200 square-foot facility. Groundwork for the new

facility is expected to begin in the near future.

"The officers are like a kid on Christmas morning, waiting to open a present," he said.

While the officers have continued to do their best in their current, cramped headquarters, it should be no surprise that more is needed... more storage room, interview room, office space, and other areas from dispatch to a conference room.

At this time the lack of space in the police department allows for a dangerous amount of clutter. For example, a suspect brought in the questioning need only reach around in

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MAHD board holds roundtable with auditor, advisor

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Members of the Muleshoe Area Hospital District's board of directors met in a "work session" conference call with the district's auditor and financial advisor on Friday morning in an effort to iron out some of the differences that have stalled attempts to put together a bond package to fund the district's rural health clinic expansion hopes.

Tom Shirey of Consolidated Financial Resources, Inc., and Michael Oatman of Parrish, Moody & Fikes, PC, were joined by Tom Mayfield of National Healthcare Capital, LLC, in a teleconference call with the board that focused on the clinic expansion, but also touched on the suggestion that the board not "close its mind" to the possibility of rolling in the restructuring of

the 13 years of remaining bond debt against Park View Nursing Care Center.

At a board meeting in mid-2008, the hospital board voted against including the existing bond debt in the financial package being prepared by CFR, and when Shirey reported to the board a couple of months ago, his update only covered a package with the restructured bond debt.

Without the

restructured bond debt, the package would be reduced by a couple of million, bringing it down to an amount that could possibly be handled through a banking institution rather than through the issuance of certificates of obligation.

It was also noted that the figures that had been pulled together for CFR may need to be updated due to Dr. Grant Nitzel's recent decision to work fulltime out of

the rural health clinic. This additional resource, along with Dr. Francis Lansang's increasing number of Medicare patients, CEO Ray Mason said.

In other business during Friday's special meeting, Rhonda Thomack of the Sanford & Tatum Insurance Agency appeared before the board to discuss the district, and employee's insurance premiums.

Continued on page 3



Motorcycle rally set for this weekend

The roar of motorcycles will fill the area around Muleshoe this weekend as the 27th annual Muleshoe Roadriders Motorcycle Rally gets underway at the Bailey County Coliseum.

This year's "family-oriented" event will get underway Friday with registration opening at 7:30 p.m., and an "indoor light show" set to begin at 9 p.m.

Saturday's events will include tour runs — first bike out at 8 a.m., and last bike in at 12:30 p.m., field events and bike games starting at 1 p.m.; a parade at 3:30 p.m.; and the awards ceremony following the parade.

Approximately 280 bikers registered for last year's rally, according to member Daniel Guzman.

"It's a good club, and we really enjoy helping the community," he said when addressing the Muleshoe City Council at its March 9 meeting.

Most sales tax allocations decrease

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Earth grabbed the gold again in this month's race for the sales tax award among communities in the Bailey County area, according to figures received from the Texas State Comptroller's office.

Although the community made famous in the title of evangelist Wayne Bristow's book,

Eighteen Miles from Earth, didn't rake in the largest sales tax allocation check — a prize reserved for Littlefield, Earth's percentage of sales tax increase when compared with March 2008 totals were significantly higher, 24.56 percent.

Unfortunate for Littlefield, it might have received the largest allocation, but its figures showed a significant

drop as well, as a 7.31 percent decrease when compared to the amount it received in the same period last year.

Still, Littlefield's decrease wasn't at the bottom of the pack, a place held this month by Morton with a sales tax allocation check that was \$1,157 less, a 12.29 percent drop.

As for the Bailey
Continued on page 3

Sales Tax Results

City	Net Payment	Same period Prior year	Percent Change
Muleshoe	\$36,531.01	\$36,071.70	1.27%
Dimmitt	\$21,708.38	\$23,897.65	-9.16%
Morton	\$ 8,255.09	\$ 9,412.09	-12.29%
Littlefield	\$55,256.86	\$59,614.97	-7.31%
Olton	\$ 8,925.79	\$ 9,398.73	-5.03%
Sudan	\$ 3,276.83	\$ 3,204.29	2.26%
Earth	\$ 3,515.89	\$ 2,822.44	24.56%
Farwell	\$ 7,106.60	\$ 7,993.66	-11.09%
Bovina	\$ 6,186.07	\$ 5,577.04	10.92%
Friena	\$23,486.17	\$21,899.90	7.24%

Moving steel...

Contractors and work crews were taking full advantage of this week's warm temperatures and the schools' spring break at both Muleshoe High School and Dillman Elementary's campuses.

Pictured on the right, workers were busy Tuesday putting up more steel at the Muleshoe High School construction site.

Photograph by Larry Thornton



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Youth softball sign ups

Sign ups for girls fast pitch softball will be in the Watson Junior High gymnasium foyer on March 26 from 6-8 p.m.

Girls, ages 7-16 as of Dec. 31, 2008, are eligible to play. Contact Julie DeBruin at 806-946-6236 or Chris Kennemer at 806-786-0778 for additional information.

AA meeting

Those looking for help with problem drinking can do so at open AA and Al-Anon meetings being held at 7 p.m. each Friday at the First United Methodist Church, at 507 W. 2nd. Please use the west side entrance. For information call 806-965-2870.

Blood drives set for March 20

The First Assembly of God of Muleshoe, 521 S. First Street, is hosting a blood drive on Friday, March 20, from 3:30-6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Building. Call Basil Nash, 272-3017, to make an appointment.

You must be at least 16 years of age, with a signed parental consent form, be in good health, have a valid drivers license, and weigh at least 110 pounds to donate blood.

Fine Arts Night to Shine

The Muleshoe Fine Arts Boosters' annual Fine Arts Night to Shine is set for Monday, March 30, at 7 p.m., at Kerry Moore Auditorium. There will be performances by the Muleshoe High School One Act Play, Choir, and Band, and displays by the visual arts department.

A live auction will be held in the auditorium during a break in the performances with items such as beauty services, automotive services, autographed MHS footballs, season tickets to the 2009 football season as well as many other interesting and valuable items.

The cost of the performance is \$2 per person, school-age children through adult. For more information contact Nick Stephenson or Lorissa Mason at the high school.

Other March 28 events

In addition to the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Banquet several other special activities are planned on Saturday, March 28.

The Oneita Wagnon Senior Center, at 319 S. Main, will hold a fundraising lunch featuring a Mexican pile-on from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

Also, at 3 p.m., the Muleshoe Heritage Center, on N. American Blvd., will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Stegall School and the Bundrant half-dugout. Refreshments will be served.

Summer youth program

WorkForce Solutions of the South Plains has summer employment opportunities available for Muleshoe area youth, ages 14 to 24.

For more information about Summer Employment for Youth, contact WorkForce Solutions of Muleshoe at 806-272-7540. To help more area youth with this service, WorkSource will be extending its business hours, and will be open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m., on March 18-20.

Clowning around at the library

Skeeter the Clown, with the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus will be in town on Friday, March 20, at 10:30 a.m., at the Muleshoe Public Library, where he will give a presentation on the history of the circus and clown entertainment. There will also be a drawing for free circus tickets.

For more information contact the chamber office at 272-4248.

Preaching 'politically correctly' is not easy

I just talked to a friend who's mighty close to boiling over. Since we're the kind of friends who prefer to boil over together rather than letting off steam on the general populace, he vented, and I listened, offering helpful comments and keen insight.

Don't broadcast this, but I don't know anyone I'd rather hear preach. He knows what he's doing and is uncommonly good at it.

He's also a member of a professional organization in another field (not ministry), has become well-respected in that field as well, and was recently invited to give the sermon at a prayer breakfast for their statewide convention.

Nice honor! And he was feeling honored — until a list of rules for the sermon came in the mail. Among other things, he is to refrain from using the name of Jesus and is not to quote from the New Testament. They're looking for a "To Whom It May Concern" sort of sermon, something dedicated to "An Unknown God."

Some folks work hard to be politically correct. You've never seen a religious legalist as religiously legalistic as a



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

true purveyor of political correctness.

My preacher friend is no newcomer to public speaking in general. He's almost housebroken, even without a list of rules. He's not given to long altar calls even at church. I don't think the convention folks would have to worry about their hashbrowns getting cold as he intoned, "Every head bowed, and every eye closed..."

I doubt he'd feel a serious need to run through the plan of salvation lest some poor soul choke on a chicken bone during the convention and it be everlastingly too late. I've never heard him say "Jesus" in more than two syllables, and his sweet wife does not have pink hair.

My first advice to him was to say, "Thanks, but no thanks," and give the whole thing back to the Indians (make that "Native Americans.")

It was his first reaction, too, but that might reinforce the wrong image the rule-writers

Engagement

Myatt, Ross engaged

Steve and Darla Myatt of Muleshoe announce the engagement of their daughter — Cassie Sue Myatt of Lubbock, to Chad Michael Ross, also of Lubbock.

The prospective bride attended high school in Gruver and graduated in 2004. She is a 2008 graduate of Texas Tech University with a bachelors in honors studies and English. She is currently in the MBA program at Texas Tech Rawls College of Business and will graduate in May 2010.

She is employed as a graduate teaching assistant in the Marketing Department of Rawls College of Business.

The prospective groom is the son of John and Carolyn Ross of Plainview. He attended high school in Plainview, and graduated in 2002. He is a 2007 graduate of Texas Tech University with a bachelors in English with a concentration in creative writing and a bachelors in Spanish. He will graduate in May of 2009 with a masters in English and creative writing.

He is a graduate instructor in the English Department of Texas Tech University.

The wedding ceremony has been set for May 30, 2009, at 7 p.m., in the home of John and Carolyn Ross, with a reception to follow at the same location.

Don't forget 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.

At this time, a large number of photographs have been accumulated, and may include your missing photographs.

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Corrections

In last week's issue, the election story incorrectly noted the Muleshoe area Hospital District election would be to "increase its tax rate from 40 cents to 55 cents."

The election is to ask voters to "increase its tax rate cap from 40 cents to 55 cents."

The *Muleshoe Journal* regrets the error and apologizes for any problems it might have caused.

already seem to hold.

My final suggestion was that he trash the letter and do well what he was going to do well anyway. What can they do? Jail him? I doubt they'll feel a need to once he's done his thing.

But I had another thought. Maybe he should cover all the bases. Shoe-polish his face so as not to offend anyone of color? (On second thought, that would be truly offensive.) Go in drag so as not to offend any gals? (Oops, worse!) Burn some incense to Buddha? (That might offend a fire marshal.) Work in a good word

about Mohammed or the Dalai Lama? I dunno.

He'll steer the right course. They really don't need to worry.

I know what I'd do. As I walked in, I'd locate the thin, nervous-looking, pinched off paragon of political correctness stationed somewhere near the door. I'd hand her a couple hundred copies of "Just As I Am," wink at her, and say, "Okay, watch me close, and just after I say, 'Every head bowed,' hand these out."

I wouldn't use them. But I bet I'd have her very prayerful attention during the sermon.

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Writer continues with teachings from Book of Hebrew

Having introduced this subject, I feel honor bound to continue it until I make my views known, and give reasons why I hold such views.

For I don't want to be misunderstood, neither do I want to impose my views on anyone. But I will answer any question that anyone might have.

I have no intention of trying to build a body of "believers," but I have long wanted to express myself on things that might be of interest to at least some of the

Something worth saying...
By Glen Williams

readers. I like the title, "Something Worth saying."

It was given by personnel of the *Journal*, and I appreciate it. So I will try to never say things that are not "worth saying."

I hope I may have matured some these past several years, for

I've had more time for study and unbiased thought. As you know, looking at things from the outside, free from personal involvement, is quite different from the inside.

And in the final analysis the thing that really matters is, what is truth?

I don't say that I understand more truth than other folks, but I do say that truth is what I seek.

So we turn again to the Book of Hebrews and try to find a premise upon which to develop these fundamentals of the New Testament, and to clarify and lend support for some things we have already written we copy verses 13 and 14 of chapter nine:

"For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes

of an heifer sprinkling the unclean sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

Then the next verse speaks of Christ being "the mediator of the New Testament." So here we have the New Testament as opposed to the Old Testament, which, in my judgment, is a very important matter. But I have never heard it discussed. Time and space will not permit it in this writing, so I will try to get to it sometime soon.

In the meantime when I introduced the matter of the Eunuch of Ethiopia being unable to understand the scriptures unless some man guide him my intent was to show what I thought was the basic purpose of the ministry — to help guide those that need help.

And I still believe that. For I think its apparent that different people have different abilities to do different things. Thus our whole system balances its self.

I have never had any intention to use these writings to advance my religious or political ideology or any other of my personal ideas.

In that connection I read recently that teaching by parables is not a good way to teach, it is not the best way to teach it is the "only" way to teach. And I rather think that is true.

So back to the Eunuch, when he first appeared on the scene he was riding along by himself

reading scriptures and was confused about the meaning of what he was reading.

But when Philip joined and preached Jesus to him he apparently understood it. And he became obedient to what he had heard, after which he "went on his way rejoicing."

Another "little" part of it has brought us to see and understand how Christ "offered himself without spot to God," and that he has purged our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

In conclusion, I hope that saying "our conscience" is not saying too much.

Police department space...

Continued from page 1 any direction to find something to use as a bludgeon.

"It's going to be a modern, safe and professional environment for the officers to work in," Frieda said.

In a profession in which the "one-on-one" encounters of an interview can often determine whether a case moves forward to prosecution or fizzles out, the interview rooms in the new facility will greatly enhance the department's investigative work.

The current facility, which was used to store the city's fire trucks at one time, was remodeled almost 30 years ago to house both the police department and the municipal court, according to Frieda. Since that time, there have been a lot of changes in police work, especially in law enforcement technology.

For one thing, the

building wasn't wired to handle the amount of electronic equipment in use, the police chief said, and an attempt to meet professional accreditation requirements is pointless.

"I'm looking forward to providing a place for the officers to work," Frieda said.

Processing evidence for latent prints has to be done in the department's dimly small break room, making it more difficult to maintain a proper chain of custody in the event the processing officer is called to assist another officer.

"This will be a place the community can be proud of," Frieda added.

As for the officers... well, they're looking forward to the day they can show visiting officers the community of Muleshoe cares enough about their work to provide the space they need to get the job done.

Hospital district board meets...

Continued from page 1

Although the hospital district's staff had looked into the possibility of moving to an insurance provider other than FirstCare, at Friday's meeting Mason reported such a plan appeared to be cost prohibitive.

He also noted that the suggestion of maintaining the district's current \$750 deductible would increase the district's premiums by an estimated \$62,000.

"We don't have any other recourse than to stay with FirstCare," Mason said.

Currently, the hospital district pays a premium of \$279 per employee, with the remainder being paid by the employee, approximately \$39 per pay period.

Mason also said the board is going to consider what to do about a group of district employees who owe a total of about \$152,000 on past due accounts.

Sales tax... Continued from page 1

County seat, Muleshoe — which took the prize in last month's sales tax race, couldn't repeat the trend, falling to the middle of the pack, but still with a slight increase in sales tax revenue.

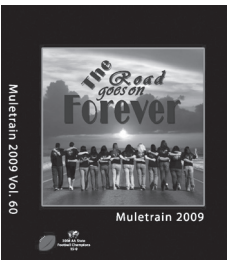
This month's sales tax distributions are from

revenue collected in February resulting from January sales.

According to the state comptroller's office, payments totaling \$292.1 million were distributed in March 2009, a .7 percent decrease from last year's totals.

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Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

We are certainly enjoying this beautiful weather. The moisture is not enough but was good to get what we got.

Next week is a busy week for us. If anyone has a suggestion for additional activity here at the center, please feel free to come and visit with us.

We are always open to good constructive suggestion.

Tuesday, March 24, is our senior dance night. The friends from the surrounding area come and enjoy the fun and fellowship.

If you would like a good clean fun night out in Muleshoe, just come to one of the dances. Good music, a pot luck supper, and plenty of exercise. The dance begins at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 25, La Shea Mason with NursCare will be bringing our Nutrition program for the month during the lunch hour. So make plans to come for lunch and enjoy her program.

Thursday, is the birthday party at the center.

Plan to come for lunch and enjoy the fellowship as we recognize the special senior citizens for March.

Friday, March 27, Wayne Pierson will be speaking to the senior citizens on information about the hospital.

This should be a program you would want to hear. So make your calendar, call a friend and come have lunch at the Center.

Remember you can bring a guest under 60,

they will just have to pay more.

Saturday, March 28, is another big day at the center.

A lunch will be served beginning at 11 a.m. and continue until 2 p.m.

The menu will be a taco salad, with all the trimmings and a fruit cobbler. The cost will be five dollars.

We are expecting special guests from the foundations that helped us to renovate the building and have what we have today.

So plan to come out and visit with us on Saturday.

The center will open at 9 a.m.. There will be a domino tournament starting at 9:30 for all you domino players.

Prizes will be awarded. La Shea Mason and NursCare will be the

sponsor.

March 23-27 Menu
Monday, March 23 — King ranch chicken, beans, salad, chips, salsa and chocolate pudding.

Tuesday, March 24 — Smothered pork chops, scalloped potatoes, peas and carrots, salad, wheat rolls and cake.

Wednesday, March 25 — Grilled steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, wheat roll and apple cobbler.

Thursday, March 26 — Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, fruit and cookies.

Friday, March 27 — Fish or chicken strips, gravy, beans, coleslaw, cornbread and fruit salad.

Saturday, March 28 — Taco salad, beans, rice, chips, salsa, peach cobbler. Serving from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. The public is invited.

Addresses for charitable giving

- Muleshoe Heritage Foundation Center, P.O. Box 201, Muleshoe, Texas 79347, (806) 272-4429 or 5873.
- MOST Scholarship (given to all graduating MISD seniors yearly), c/o Superintendent Gene Sheets, 514 W. Ave. G, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Oneita Wagnon Senior Center, P.O. Box 292, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Hope Chest, P.O. Box 175, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Muleshoe Hospital Auxiliary, c/o Muleshoe Area Medical Center.
- Bailey County Food Pantry, P.O. Box 175, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Meals on Wheels, 300 1st St., Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Lazbuddie EMS and Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 125, Lazbuddie, TX 79053
- Park View Nursing Care Center, 1100 W. Ave. J, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- New Mexico Children's Home, 1356 NM 236, Portales, N.M. 88130-9411
- Muleshoe Masonic Lodge No. 1237, P.O. Box 521, Muleshoe, TX 79347
- Olton Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 1055, Olton, TX 79064
- Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery, Inc., 104 E. Ave. C, Muleshoe, TX 79347, or call 272-5727
- Muleshoe Area Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 62, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
- Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture, 115 E. American Blvd., Muleshoe 79347.
- Bailey County Child Welfare Board, P.O. Box 243, Muleshoe TX 79346, or call 272-3204.

BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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Facts About The BIBLE

MEAT AND MILK NOT TO BE EATEN AT THE SAME MEAL!



THREE TIMES THE BIBLE SPECIFICALLY STATES "THOU SHALT NOT SEETH (BOIL) A KID IN HIS MOTHER'S MILK" (EXODUS 23:19, EXODUS 34:26, DEUT. 14:21). THIS WAS GOD'S LAW AND OBEY TO IT WAS BY ACCES AND TO THIS DAY THE ORTHODOX HAVE NO MEAT AND MILK AT THE SAME MEAL. MANY PEOPLE THINK THIS WAS A CRYSTAL BALL - THAT MILK AND MEAT TOGETHER WOULD NOT DIGEST WELL, ESPECIALLY IN THE HOT DESERT CLIMATE - WHICH IS NONSENSE. MILK AND MEAT, BOTH HIGH PROTEIN FOODS, DIGEST AS EASILY TOGETHER AS THEY DO APART. HOT WEATHER OR COLD, BUT THERE WAS A GOOD REASON IN HEBREW FOR THIS LAW - VERY UNPREDICTABLE WEATHER WE EXAMINE A CUSTOM OF THE ISRAELI WOMEN WHOSE MILK THEY USED TO GET INTO THE TEMPLE...

MOSES CONSTANTLY REMONSTRATED HIS PEOPLE TO STAY PURE IN GOD'S LAW - TO HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH HEATHEN IDEOLOGIES. HE WOULD MEN WERE FORBIDDEN TO GO WITH THE SUGGESTIONS OF BAALY WHICH ASKED OF HIS "KINGDOM OF CANTON" FROM EARTHLY TO BE BY HIS OWN BY THE SHAKY LOGIC OF INTER-MARRIAGE - SO HE ORDERED THEM TO AVOID ALL CONTACT WITH HEATHEN NEIGHBORS TO KNOW IN ANY OF THEIR WAYS. HE BROUGHT INTO THE LAWS OF HIS PEOPLE - JUST AS HE BROUGHT SIBYLIC SIGHTS TO GOD'S ACTUAL, SO DID HE BRING TO HIS PEOPLE THE LAWS OF HIS PEOPLE. HE BROUGHT INTO A SAVORY SAUCE TO BE COOKED THAT THE OTHER MEN TEND TO PROSTITUTE'S COULD HARDLY WAIT TO GRAB AND EAT IT BEFORE THE DONOR WHO HAD BROUGHT IT, LEFT THE TEMPLE.

NEVER A DAY WENT BY THAT SOME HEATHEN FAMILY DIDN'T TURN UP AT THE TEMPLE WITH THIS DELICIOUS JOY, CONVINCED THAT GOD WOULD BLESS IT AND SO SMILE DOWN ON THEM WITH FAVOR. IF ANY WOMAN THEN THAT MOSES ORDERED HIS PEOPLE TO HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS DELICIOUS "FOOD" - EVEN THE IDEA THAT SOME ISRAELITE MIGHT OFFER TO GOD THE SAME THING THAT WAS OF THE "FOOD" - EVEN IF GOD WAS UNTHINKABLE, HE SHALL NOT DO AS THE HEATHEN DO. WHEN THE ORDER OF THE DAY "SO THAT ISRAEL MIGHT CONTINUE" - A PHEWIAK (SPECIAL) PEOPLE... ABOVE ALL THE NATIONS THAT ARE UPON THE EARTH! (GEN. 1:14-15)

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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Obituaries

Juan Pineda

Funeral services were held for Juan Luis Pineda on March 14, 2009 at the Chapel of the Angels, Angel Funeral Home with Harvey Baskett officiating. Burial followed in Llano Cemetery.

Pineda was born on Jan. 4, 1954, in Galveston to Concepcion and Frances Pineda.

He is survived by his wife — Maria Pineda of the home; three sons — Freddy and Tony John Pineda, and Artemio Contreras; two daughters — Jaime Plains and Veronica Lujan; two brothers — Lupe Pineda of Muleshoe and David Cavazos of Oklahoma; and a sister — Cecilia Reyna of Amarillo.

Arlie Rials

Church services for Arlie W. Rials, 87, of Muleshoe, were held on Wednesday, March 18, at Trinity Christian Center Church with the Rev. Reydon Stanford of Muleshoe officiating. Burial followed in Bailey County Cemetery.

Rials died on Saturday, March 14, 2009, in Amherst. He was born on Aug. 20, 1921, to Edwin Odis and Valerie D. Rials in Henrietta, and married Nina Freeman in Sweetwater, on July 19, 1945.

He was preceded in death by a son — Billy Rials in 1989, and a grandson.

Rials had lived in Muleshoe since 1947 having moved from Sweetwater. He was a

member of Trinity Baptist Church in Muleshoe, had worked for Western Auto for 30 years and was self employed for more than 13 years.

He was a member of The American Legion and had served in the U.S. Army.

Survivors include his wife — Nina; three daughters — Wanda Adkins of Dallas, Pat Wadman of Denver, Ind., and Sylvia Kennemer of Muleshoe; two sisters — Edwina Goode of Spencer Okla., Catherine Ward of Toyko; and 14 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society, 3411 73rd St., Lubbock, Texas 79423.

Weddings



Cox, Douglass wed

Jeanne Lee Cox and John Kirkland Douglass, Jr., both of New York, N.Y., were united in matrimony on March 30, 2008, at Mission Chapel at the Villa Antonia at Lake Travis, Texas, with the Rev. Mike Morris officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Ray Cox of Muleshoe. She is a 1994 graduate of Muleshoe High School. She attended TCU and received a bachelor of arts degree in theater arts in 1999 from the University of Texas, at Arlington. She currently works in investor relations at the New York City hedge fund.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Kirkland Douglass, Sr., of Prairie Village, Kan. He received a bachelors degree in physics from Yale University in 1995, and a juris doctorate from the Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1999.

He currently practices patent law as intellectual property counsel for Raritan, Inc.

The bride's attendant of honor was her brother,

James Edwin Cox.

The groom's attendant of honor was his brother, Mitchell McColley Douglass.

Greeters for the event were Joanna Longwell and Suzanne Miller. Ushers were Neal Dube, Travis Dube, Joshua Longwell, Brian Glenney and Anthony Robinson.

Music for the ceremony and the reception that followed was provided by D.J. Terry Dean. For the wedding, he played selections from Yo-Yo Ma, and for the reception, which was held in the courtyard, a selection from Harry Connick, Jr.

The vocalist for the wedding was Kolken Murphy, a friend of the bride.

The bride wore a long, delicate silver silk Shantung wedding gown by Adrienne's.

The groom wore a black tuxedo with a tie made from the same fabric as the bride's gown.

Sterling Affairs catered the reception.

The couple honeymooned at Kauai, Hawaii, before returning to their residence in New York, N.Y.

Healing the invisible wounds of war

As the home to 15 major military installations, including the largest active duty military installation in the United States at Fort Hood, one in ten military service members calls Texas home.

Every year, thousands of Texans train, deploy, and serve their nation in the Armed Forces. In Texas, our pride in our men and women in uniform runs deep. We value their contribution and we know how critical the sacrifices they make are to our greater good and our national security. It's no wonder we say "Texas defends America."

With more than 1.7 million veterans also calling Texas home, Texas knows better than any other state what military service is all about. There are scores of organizations and individuals across our state who lend their support to military families, returning troops, and veterans.

Our medical professionals at VA hospitals and clinics treat our wounded warriors and help them return to service or transition to civilian life.

But even in a state like Texas where we wholeheartedly support our troops and care for their families, there is always more that can be done to ensure our military personnel and veterans are receiving the best care and benefits possible.

One area that requires greater attention and more resources is mental health. Sadly, there is a rising trend in the "invisible wounds" of war that impact an increasing number of Texans who have served in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as their family members.

Recent studies indicate as many as one in five U.S. veterans is expected to suffer from one or a combination of these "invisible wounds" of war, including depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and mild traumatic brain injury.

A study by the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center reports that service members spend more time in the hospital for mental health disorders than for any other condition.

Left untreated, these mental health conditions often result in other problems including feelings of despair, helplessness, and isolation, as well as substance abuse, spouse/child abuse, and even suicide.

In 2008, the Army reported the highest number of suicides since it began recording data in 1980. In January 2009



alone, reports indicate 24 soldiers committed suicide.

Here in Texas, a recent string of suicides within one Recruiting Battalion prompted me to take action. Since 2001, the Army's Houston Recruiting Battalion has lost four Army recruiters to suicide; all were combat veterans.

After learning of these tragedies, I expressed my serious concern to Army Secretary Pete Geren and called for an in-depth investigation. Shortly thereafter, Secretary Geren directed Brigadier General Frank Turner to lead a far-reaching Army probe into the suicides.

Last month, I visited a recruiting station in Houston to meet with recruiters from this battalion and hear from them directly about their recruiting experiences and daily challenges. BG Turner joined me and updated me on actions taken by the Army as a result of his investigation.

The Army has taken several steps to improve the environment within the Houston Recruiting Battalion and implement suicide prevention measures to address problems uncovered by BG Turner's investigation. Sadly, the rising trend of suicides is not limited to this unit; it has become a serious problem Army-wide.

Having asked the leadership of the Senate Armed Services Committee to host a

hearing to examine this recent trend, I was pleased when the Committee recently announced it will hold a hearing March 18 on the issue of recruiter suicides, as well as the broader mental health issues facing our military.

I will be participating in this hearing to tell the story of these fallen recruiters, as well as to help shed light on the alarming rate of soldier suicides, find solutions, and provide additional support to our troops and their families.

On my part, I will also continue to look for ways to dedicate additional federal resources and attention to research and treatment of the complex mental health conditions affecting our service members. I was pleased to support the Dignified Treatment of Wounded Warrior Act, which was signed into law last year. This new law takes several steps to improve the health care and benefits for recovering veterans, troops, and their families.

Of note are provisions that expand the treatment and research for traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder

and traumatic eye injuries, along with a guarantee that combat veterans who request mental health evaluations receive them within 30 days of their request.

While the military and Department of Veterans Affairs have made significant strides in identifying the "invisible wounds of war," we can always do better. We need to reach out to our wounded warriors and ensure they have the proper care to make a full recovery.

This month is Brain Injury Awareness Month, and organizations and individuals across the country will work together to raise awareness and understanding of brain injuries. I hope that as Texans continue to embrace and support our wounded warriors, veterans, and their families, we also strive to learn more about the "invisible wounds" of war and help our loved ones who may be suffering from these conditions to get help as early as possible.

Through early detection, treatment, and the love and support of family and friends, we can save the lives of brave men and women in uniform who have sacrificed so much for our safety and well-being.

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Sports

Lady Mules open district season against Littlefield

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

It must be softball season as the Lady Mules opened their district season one day after the largest snow of the year fell in Muleshoe.

Coaches Jason Cole and Rachel Alvarado worked hard on Saturday morning getting the Lady Mules' home field in playable condition.

Val Olivas and April Gardea combined to pitch a three-hit game and allowed the Lady Cats of Littlefield no runs. The Lady Mules completed the shut out by scoring 19 runs on 11 hits.

The Lady Cats sent four to the plate in the top of the first and none got past second base.

April Gardea and Erika Rodriguez led off the bottom of the first with a walk each. Gardea stole second base and went home on a passed ball for the Lady Mules first run. Rodriguez scored on a sacrifice grounder to second base by Ali Eagle.

Olivas had to fight off a hard-hit ground ball right

to the pitching circle to start the second inning. She picked up the ball after batting it down with her glove and tossed it to Ashley Johnson at first base for the first out.

April Gardea snagged a line drive at second for the second out. Back-to-back walks put two Lady Cats on base before Olivas tracked down a pop up in foul territory between the plate and first for the final out of the inning.

The Lady Mules could not score in the bottom half of the second inning.

The first Lady Cat of the third inning sent a towering fly ball to center field. Rodriguez raced to the landing zone and camped under the ball until it fell out of the sky. Back-to-back singles and a walk loaded the bases with Lady Cats with just one out.

A fly to center was snagged by Rodriguez for the second out and she fired a strike to Gardea at second to double off the runner and end the inning with two stranded on the bases.

The Lady Mules exploded for 13 runs in the bottom half of the third as they sent 19 batters to the plate. Lupita Andrade led off for the Lady Mules and batted three times in the monster inning.

She walked on four pitches and stole second. Gardea lined out to short and Rodriguez grounded out to second. Andrade scored on a passed ball to start the Lady Mule scoring rally.

Olivas, Alvarado and Eagle all walked to load the bases. BreAnn Baca sent a ground ball just inside third for a single and brought Olivas home.

Natalie Regalado swung at the first two pitches and all the Lady Mules were moving on the next pitch.

Regalado swung but the catcher failed to hang on to the ball. She raced to first for the steal and Alvarado and Eagle came home on the passed ball and the throw to first.

The short stop bobbled Andrade's ground ball long enough that all the

Lady Mules were safe. Gardea also stole first following a swinging third strike. Rodriguez picked up an RBI with a Texas leaguer that fell in the gap between short stop and left field.

Olivas blast to short was mishandled and the Lady Mule rally continued to live. Tori Alvarado sent a triple to the fence just inside the line in left field to empty the bases except for her. She could have walked home on a single to left by Eagle.

Eagle scored the Lady Mules 13th run of the inning on a slow roller to short by Regalado.

Gardea took over the pitching circle in the top of the fourth. Olivas went to short and Eagle took over at second. Olivas scooped up a ground ball at short and fired to Johnson at first for the first out.

The second Lady Cat sent a ground ball to second where Eagle made a clean play and threw to first for the second out. A single and a hit batsman put two Lady Cats on the bases.

Alvarado did not have to take a step to field the pop fly over the plate to end the inning.

Olivas singled to left after two Lady Mules made outs in the bottom of the fourth. Alvarado banged a single to left off the bag at third and Olivas went to third on a throwing error. Eagle scored Olivas with a single to center and Baca singled to left center to bring Alvarado home.

Gabby Perez doubled to left field to score both Eagle and Baca for the final two Lady Mule's runs.

The Lady Cats needed 11 runs in the top of the fifth inning to extend the

game. Instead they went in order with Gardea getting the first batter to pop out to Sandra Lara at second. Gabby Perez scooped up a ground ball down the first base line and stepped on the bag for the second out. Rodriguez tracked down a fly ball to left for the final out of the game.

The Lady Mules were in Abernathy to meet the Lady Lopes for their second game of district. They will be at home March 23, 28 and 31.

Bushland will visit on March 23, the Dimmitt Bobbies will be in town on March 28, and the Lady Winds of Floydada visit on March 31.

JV ladies fall to Littlefield in fourth inning

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The JV Lady Mules jumped out to an early lead against the Littlefield Lady Cats in their first district game. Littlefield scored 10 runs in the fourth inning to defeat the Lady Mules 13-10.

Ivana Agundis struck out three in the first inning to hold the Lady Cats scoreless. Agundis helped her own cause with a single to left to lead off for the Lady Mules. She went to second on a passed ball.

Dominique Mata brought Agundis home with a fly ball single to right center to put the Lady Mules on top.

Yagiaria Rodriguez reached on an error by the pitcher on her tap back to the pitching circle.

Jennifer Vasquez took the count full before drawing a walk. Sabrina's pop up to third was dropped. Crystal Olivas singled to right field to pick up two RBIs.

Jenna Whitworth beat out a dropped third strike to first base and Agundis walked in her second at

bat in the inning.

The Lady Mules scored five runs by the end of the first inning.

The Lady Cats scored one in the top of the second inning and two in the top of the third. The Lady Cats exploded for 10 runs in the top of the fourth inning to take the lead.

The Lady Mules made a strong come back in the fourth inning. Samantha Reyna reached on an error

by the first baseman. She stole second before Mata drew a walk.

The Lady Mules put on the hit and run. Rachele Hall slapped the first pitch to left field for a single and picked up an RBI.

Rodriguez sent a ground ball single to left to score a run. Vasquez sent a fly ball to deep center field to bring two runs home.

Olivas sacrificed home

Vasquez with a ground ball to second. The Lady Mules had scored five runs but still short.

The Lady Mules traveled to Abernathy Monday and return home for games with Bushland, Dimmitt and Floydada during the month of March.

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Sports

And the hits just keep on coming for the varsity Mules

With a title like that one would have to think this article would be about the 2008 Mule football team. You would be exactly correct.

However there are Mules and Lady Mules all over the place making hits but not on another team but on baseballs, softballs, tennis balls and golf balls.

But this is about the Mule football team, seems the farther from the season we get the more I think about their amazing season. This is not about the big hits they made on offense and defense but it is about all the honors that have come to the Mules.

Coach David Wood told his young charges on their trip back from Grand Prairie, "Guys get ready because there are going to be a lot of individual honors coming your way. Just enjoy it but do not allow it to change you."

Coach Wood knew exactly what he was talking about and the individual honors have poured in for the Mules. I will try to bring you up to date as many of these honors are not well known. That is unless you are a computer guru and know all the football websites that follow Texas high school football.

Several of the Mules have been honored more than once in the post season.

Wes Wood threw for 4,546 yards, the third best in the history of Texas high school football. He completed 278 of 439

From the Stands

By Delton Wilhite

attempts and threw 64 touchdown passes with only eight interceptions.

W. Wood was chosen as the Ford Built Tough Class 2A Player of the Year. He was presented his trophy by former Cowboy great Larry Brown and even got a couple of hugs from Cowboy cheerleaders.

That same weekend W. Wood received the Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame-Special Achievement Award for his 64 touchdown passes that set a new Panhandle record.

The Texas Sports Writers Association chose W. Wood as their Player of the Year as well as their first team quarterback. Lane Wood was chosen as the TSWA Co-Defensive Player of the Year for his 153 tackles, 11 for losses, eight pass break ups and nine big hits.

L. Wood was also chosen to the TSWA first team as a line backer and to the second team on offense. He had 137 carries for 1501 yards and 14 touchdowns and caught 65 passes for 806 yards and eight touchdowns. L. Wood accounted for 2307 total yards of the Mules offense.

Victor Vasquez was a first team TSWA Receiver with 78 catches for 1350 yards and 23 touchdowns.

Marshall Head was picked to the first team TSWA as a Guard. He graded 92 percent as an offensive line with 39 knockdown blocks and 16 chop blocks.

Austin Bamert was picked as the first team Center. He also graded 92 percent with 44 knockdown blocks and 11 chop blocks. Offensive linemen seldom get the recognition they deserve but it was good to see Head and Bamert make the first team.

Cooper Washington made the second team as a Defensive End. Ray Ramirez was third team Wide Receiver. Head and

Vasquez were picked to the third team defense as a Line Backer and Defensive Back respectively.

W. Wood was chosen as the Associated Press Offensive Player of the Year in Class 2A. He was also the first team Quarterback. Bamert and Head made the first team as Offensive Linemen and Vasquez was first team Receiver.

Washington was chosen by the AP as a first team Defensive Lineman with 73 tackles, 15 tackles for losses, five sacks, 35 quarterback pressures and one fumble recovery. Vasquez was named as

a second team Defensive Back.

Ray Ramirez was Honorable Mention as a Receiver and Head and L. Wood were honorable mention Linebackers.

Closer to home the Mules dominated the District 2-2A All District Team. W. Wood was the Offensive MVP and L. Wood was the Defensive MVP. L. Wood was first team Running Back, Head and Bamert were first team Offensive Linemen. Washington, Ramirez and Vasquez were first team Receivers.

Vasquez was first team defensive Secondary. Washington and Joseph Strader made the first team as Defensive End

and Tackle respectively. Strader and Nathaniel Chavez were chosen as second team Offensive Lineman and Wide Receiver.

Making the second team on Defense were Ramirez in the Secondary and Bamert at Linebacker. Joe Vargas and Juan Gonzales were picked to the second team as Defensive End and Tackle respectively.

Sergio Montejano and Adolfo Salcido were named as All District Honorable Mentions as Offensive Lineman. Alex Godinez and Head were Honorable Mentions at Outside Linebacker and Adrian Muniz was named to the Secondary. When

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Winning Women! World Leaders!

I went to the library to study the history and achievements of women around the world. It was harder than I thought it would be! I found lots of books and magazines filled with information about men's leadership, hard work and contributions to the worlds of politics, arts and sciences. Yet, women's names, until recently, have been harder to find because many careers and paths were not open to them for many years. A few women, such as Eleanor Roosevelt and Marie Curie, were credited with helping their husbands or bosses.

Today many women work full-time in the home. Others combine this work with jobs outside of the home. Women today are better educated than ever before. If they decide to build a career they can hold more challenging and higher-paying jobs. They work alongside men in many fields that were once closed to them. Through the years a lot of women have worked hard and taken chances to help form new ideas, rights and freedoms. They have made the world a better place.

Read the clues below to learn about some women who are well-known all over the world for their contributions to leadership and politics. **Can you fill in the puzzle with the word that completes each sentence?**

1. **Ruth Bader Ginsburg** is a Justice on the U.S. Supreme _____.

2. **Shirley Chisholm** was the first Black woman elected to the U.S. _____.

3. **Eleanor Roosevelt**, the wife of President Franklin Roosevelt, cared for and helped so many people that she was known as "First Lady of the _____."

4. **Margaret Thatcher** was the Prime Minister of Great _____, (a job very much like that of America's President).

5. **Hillary Clinton** is our country's new Secretary of State. Her job is to travel and talk to world leaders. She was the First Lady, a Senator from New York and a candidate for the office of U.S. _____ in 2008!

6. **Indira Gandhi** was the Prime Minister of _____.

7. **Golda Meir** was the Prime Minister of _____.

8. **Susan B. Anthony** worked hard for women's voting _____.

These women are famous for their contributions in the fields of health and medicine. **Read about them, then find and circle their names in the puzzle.**

Women in Health and Medicine

Next week, **Reading Club Fun** is about women leaders in adventures and science. Don't wait... sign up for the reading club today! It's free!

Our Free Printable 2009 Books and Movie page is ready for your family on our website: www.readingclubfun.com

Join our free international reading club to help your kids keep reading. Enjoy our new seasonal newsletter and list of new kids' books and movies.

Connect the dots to see the symbol of the American Red Cross.

1. **Clara Barton** - started The American Red Cross, which provides emergency assistance to people facing disasters; they also teach people how to perform first aid

2. **Elizabeth Blackwell** - first woman to graduate from medical school with an M.D. and become a doctor

3. **Mother Teresa** - nun who organized missions in 123 different countries to help the poor, sick and dying - won the Nobel Peace Prize

4. **Dr. Julie Gerberding** - Director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; responsible for keeping America safe from diseases

5. **Florence Nightingale** - a pioneer of nursing, she changed the way we take care of our soldiers during wartime

6. **Alice Hamilton** - studied how metals and chemicals might affect people who worked with them; first woman on staff of Harvard University in Massachusetts

Famous Authors!

These women have reached and affected millions of people through their writings. **Read each clue, then write the last name of the author in the puzzle:**

1. Harriet Beecher _____ wrote **Uncle Tom's Cabin** to help people see that slavery was wrong.

2. J.K. _____ is best known for her **Harry Potter** book series. There have been several movies made as well.

3. Anne _____ wrote a diary that told of two years of hiding from the Nazis while living in an attic with her family.

4. Katherine _____ wrote **Bridge to Terabithia** and a number of other books, and has received many awards.

5. Louisa May _____ wrote **Little Women**, a story about being the best that one can be.

6. Emily _____ was one of our country's first and greatest poets. She published over 1,700 poems in her lifetime!

1. Dickinson

2. Stowe

3. Alcott

4. Frank

5. Rowling

6. Paterson



The Sudan Buzz



Letter to the Editor

Former council person talks about Sudan's street signs

To the Editor:
The Sudan Lion's Club decided to put street signs in the town of Sudan a number of years ago. They put the regular signs on all the streets, but wanted something special for the highway. They had a western design put on the metal cut-out made for part of the highway signs, but ran out of money for all of them.

Then the Lion's Club disbanded without ever getting the project finished. All the while I was on the Sudan City Council, I kept waiting until I thought we would have enough money for the project, but the opportunity never came. After I retired from the council, I talked with some of the citizens of Sudan and they helped by donating money to finish the project. Muleshoe Metal Art did a wonderful job on helping design and making them for us. On Barron Street we did a Locomotive. The city was built around the railroad.

Main Street has the tractor hauling a load of cotton. Sudan Street has the state of Texas, with a star indicating where Sudan is located. Temple Street represents the churches in Sudan. Short Street represents the ranch and farm families working with stock. Barnes Street represents the families who broke out the ranch land to farm. Hay Street represents the families and prayer. And McCarty Street represents the families coming in the covered wagon.

Peggy Ray,
Sudan

Reciting verses at KFC

Students attending KFC (Kids for Christ) at the First Baptist Church of Sudan recite scripture verses during a recent gathering.



Sudan Happenings

March 16-20
• Spring Break

One Act play scheduled for Saturday

The Sudan High School One Act Play Company will present a community production of *Moon over Buffalo* on Saturday, March 21, from 5 -6 p.m., at Sudan High School.

Tryout clinic to be held

Sudan's Cheerleading Tryout Clinic to be held Monday, March 23, from 6-7 p.m.

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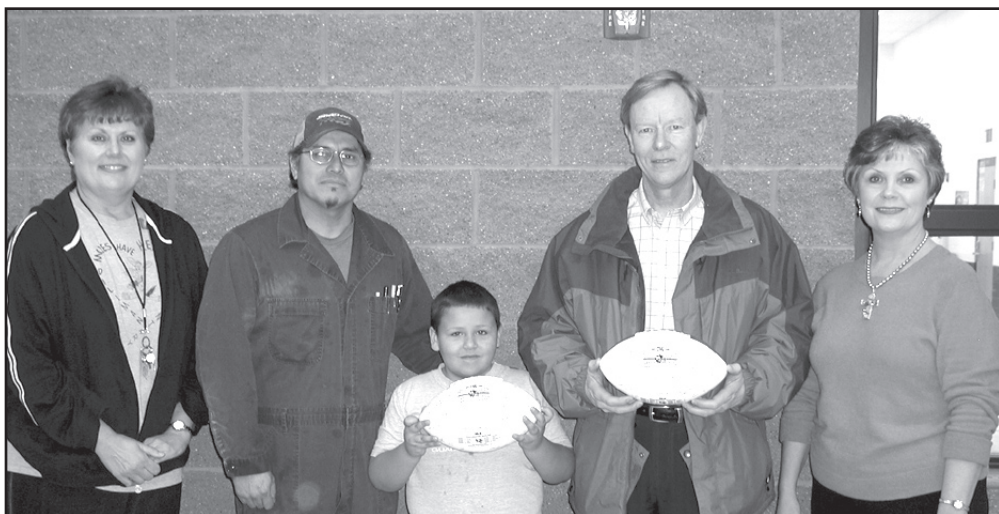
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Athletic Booster Club football winners...

The Muleshoe Athletic Booster Club sold raffle tickets for two footballs autographed by the State Champion Muleshoe Mules. The drawing was held Wednesday, March 11, at city hall. Coach David Wood drew the winning tickets. The winners of the footballs were Hunter Lara, the son of Marissa and Scott Eubanks, a second grade student at Dillman Elementary; and Mark Morton. Pictures are attached. Pictured above are Diane Skipworth, booster club member; Eddie Alvarado, Athletic Booster Club president; Hunter Lara; Mark Morton; and LeAnn Gallman, Athletic Booster Club treasurer.

From the stands

Continued from page 7
the Lubbock Avalanche Journal announced its All-South Plains Class 2-A Team W. Wood was the Offensive Player of the Year and L. Wood was the Defensive Player of the Year. Vasquez and Ramirez were named as Receivers and Bamert and Head were picked as Offensive Linemen.

The Defensive team included Washington, Defensive End, Head, Outside Linebacker Strader, Defensive Lineman and Vasquez, Defensive Secondary.

The Amarillo Globe News Class 2A-3A Golden Spread Super Team named W. Wood as Player of the Year and Quarterback for the elite squad. Vasquez and Ramirez were picked as Wide Receivers.

Head was named as an Offensive Lineman. Washington was picked as a Defensive Lineman and L. Wood was named as a Line Backer.

Vasquez was honored as a Utility Player on the All-Texas High School Football Team (all classifications) for being a two way threat with five interceptions on defense and 1,000+ yards

receiving on offense. W. Wood was named as the Texas Football's Class 2A 2008 Player of the Year.

TexasPrepInsider 2008 All West Texas Team (all classifications) named W. Wood as their MVP. Honored on the first team offense were Vasquez as a Wide Receiver and Bamert as the Offensive Lineman. Head was chosen to be the second team as an Offensive Linemen.

WestTexasPigskin.com named L. Wood as their 3A-A Player of the year for his 1500+ yards rushing, 14 touchdowns, and 806 yards receiving. He also added 153 tackles with 11 being for losses as an inside linebacker.

The Offensive Player of the Year was W. Wood. Vasquez was named a first team Wide Receiver. Bamert was picked as a first team Offensive Lineman. Head made the second team as an Offensive Lineman.

Six members of the 2008 Mule football team were recently inducted as part of the 2008 class to The West Texas High School Football Hall Of Fame. Garrett Riley was the first

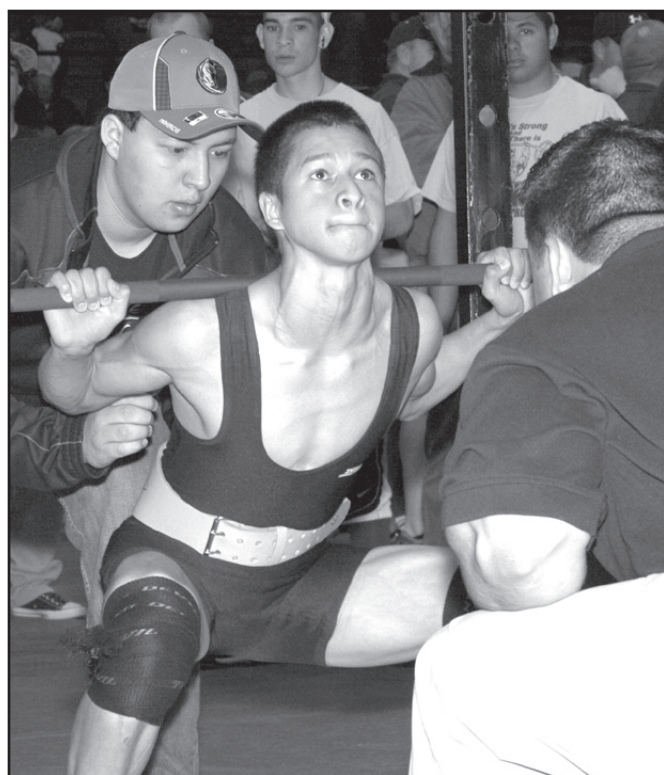
Mule to be inducted into this very prestigious Hall in 2007.

Austin Bamert, Marshall Head, Victor Vasquez, Cooper Washington, Lane Wood and Wes Wood now have joined Riley to place seven Mules in the Hall. They join earlier members of the Hall of Fame; E.J. Holub, Edwin "Wahoo" McDaniels, Roy Williams, Zach Thomas, Donnie Anderson and Sammy Baugh.

Depending on when you were born dictates which of these earlier greats you recognize. Of course some of us have seen them all play! Now what does that mean?

W. Wood was picked to the West Texas High School Hall of Fame Dream Team. He joined Colt McCoy at quarterback on the Dream Team. McCoy holds the career passing record with 9344 yards and W. Wood holds the single season touchdown passing record with 64.

A good coach friend of mine always said, "Individual honors come from great team success." The 2008 Mules proved my friend to be absolutely right.



Concentrate!

Concentration is more than a board game... it's the path to victory. Mule Eddie Herrera, pictured on the left, center, competes in the regional powerlifting meet held recently at Levelland.

Photograph by Stacy Conner

Subscribe to the Journal! Call 272-4536

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; **L i m i t e d** 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.

Don't get hit with a penalty! "Render" your taxable property by April 15.

A "rendition" is a report to your county appraisal district that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on Jan. 1 of this year.

Who must file a rendition?

You must file a rendition if you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income—such as the inventory and equipment used by a business. If you render late, don't render or file an incomplete or false rendition, a 10 percent to 50 percent penalty may be imposed.

Are there any advantages to you?

The advantages of filing a rendition are:

- ☞ You give your opinion of your property's value. The appraisal district must notify you in writing of any value change and explain how you can protest that value to the appraisal review board.
- ☞ You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address. If your bill is mailed to the wrong address, the law still holds you responsible for paying your taxes on time or paying extra charges for late payments.
- ☞ You can also file a "report of decreased value" to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of the value of your property in 2008. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 2009.

What's the deadline?

The last day for filing 2009 renditions is April 15. You can get an automatic extension to May 15 if you ask for it in writing on or before the April 15 deadline. The chief appraiser may grant an additional 15 days after May 15 for an owner who shows good cause in writing.

Where do you file?

File renditions with your local appraisal district at:

Bailey Central Appraisal District
302 Main Street
Muleshoe, TX 79347
806-272-5501

For more information, stop by your appraisal district and pick up

"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies and Responsibilities"



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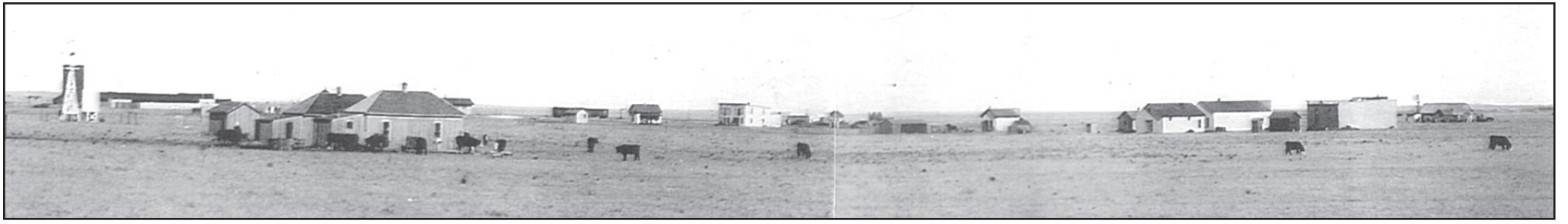
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Muleshoe, circa 1916

Roy H. Elrod Jr. (Lt. Col. USMC, Retired), formerly of Muleshoe and Bailey County, dropped by the Muleshoe Journal Monday, March 9, with the composite photograph above.

According to Elrod, the son of Roy and Nina Elrod, who was born on Bailey County in 1919, and was subsequently issued the county's fourth birth certificate, the photographs that were placed

together for this landscape shot were taken by his aunt, Faye Wallace Elrod, who later married R.B. Boyle, around 1916.

The structures, pictured from left to right, according to Elrod, are the railroad water tank; the E.R. Hart Lumber Company; two houses built by rancher E.K. Warren (At the time of the photograph, the left house was occupied by the Hoskins family,

and the right by William Kennedy who later became the Bailey County Judge); a railroad car; a one-pump gas station; and the original Gupton Hotel.

Pictured from right to left are an unidentified building; the Blackwater Valley State Bank; the M.P. Smith General Store and postoffice; the M.P. Smith house; and a house owned by M.P. Smith and rented to Roy Sr, and Nina Elrod.

Survey indicates residual moisture is available

Spring-like temperatures in late February and early March, coupled with below-normal rainfall, are just some of the challenges producers are facing as they prepare their fields for the 2009 growing season.

However, there is one bit of good news: current soil moisture conditions are better than they were in 2008 within the 15-county High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 service area.

Those are the findings from the joint annual pre-plant soil moisture survey conducted by the High Plains Water District and the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service.

"Many areas of the Water District service area received above-average rainfall in 2008. Some significant rainfall amounts were received after crops matured in the fall. Because of this, most of the rain was not used by the plants and is available as deep moisture this season," said Gerald Crenwelge, USDA-NRCS soil scientist.

Annual pre-plant soil moisture survey data were collected by Water District and USDA-NRCS personnel from Jan. 19 to Feb. 9.

The overall average 2009 pre-plant soil moisture deficit was 2.15 inches in the upper three feet of the soil and 3.38 inches in the upper five feet of the soil. This is the amount of water needed, either by irrigation or rainfall, to bring these respective portions of the soil profile to field capacity prior to planting.

In comparison, the average pre-plant soil moisture deficit was 2.54 inches in the upper three feet and 3.62 inches in the upper five feet at the start of the 2008 crop year.

That's a difference of 0.39 of an inch and 0.24 of an inch, respectively.

A total of 198 permanently-installed soil moisture monitoring sites were read this year. Each site is representative of the crops and farming practices in the area in which they are located. Moisture meters were used to gather readings for each six-inch interval in the upper five feet of

soil.

Results of the 2009 survey are shown in soil moisture availability and deficit maps published in the March issue of The Cross Section, the district's monthly newsletter. The maps are also available for online viewing at http://www.hpwd.com/news/cross_section.asp.

Printed copies of the newsletter are also available by contacting the High Plains Water District headquarters in Lubbock.

Since many areas within the High Plains Water District have had little or no rainfall in 2009, producers are encouraged to conserve existing soil moisture whenever possible.

"As we begin the year with little precipitation, it is very important to conserve the moisture currently present in the soil. Reducing the number of tillage operations will generally help conserve soil moisture. Shallow depth tillage practices that do not turn moist soil to the top of the ground will also prevent moisture loss," Crenwelge says.

Producers may also

consider installation of furrow dikes to maximize benefits of irrigation and/or rainfall.

Furrow dikes are small mounds of soil that are mechanically installed in the furrow to create a small basin in front of each dam. When rainfall occurs in amounts exceeding the soil's infiltration rate, furrow dikes hold water in the small reservoir until it can soak into the soil.

Furrow dikes are also used in conjunction with LEPA center pivots to keep irrigation water on the field, which helps reduce water waste ("irrigation tailwater").

Both High Plains Water District and USDA-NRCS personnel recommend producers check soil moisture conditions prior to planting.

An illustrated step-by-step procedure to determine soil moisture is found in the High Plains Water District's Water Management Note, Estimating Soil Moisture By Feel and Appearance.

Printed copies are available by calling the district office at (806)762-0181.

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Pizza with ENMU

hosted by Vanessa Rollings, recruiter

EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY

Thursday, March 26, at 5 p.m.
Muleshoe High School Library

Join ENMU President Steven Gamble for a pizza social and learn more about Eastern New Mexico University!

We will be available to provide information on:

- Admission Requirements
- Majors
- Financial Aid
- Scholarships

For more information:
vanessa.rollings@enmu.edu
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EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY

Student Success
that's what it's all about!

Don't Forget to Enter Your Cutest Baby
Deadline: Thursday, March 19, 2009 at 5:00 pm

The Muleshoe Journal's 15th Annual Cutest Baby Contest

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!!! LAST CHANCE

Winner will receive a \$50 Savings Bond for being selected 2008's Cutest Baby!

Enter any child born in 2008 who you fell in love with at first sight - children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends, etc.

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

This year's contestants will appear in the March 26 edition of the Muleshoe Journal. A panel of unbiased judges will pick the most attractive picture to be the 2008 Cutest Baby. All baby pictures will be printed in this edition of the paper. Babies need not be born in this area. Journal employees and their families are not eligible to win.

Bring your favorite photo along with \$15 to the Muleshoe Journal office at 201 W. Ave. C, Monday-Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or mail the adjacent coupon along with your child's photo and \$15 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 31, 2008. NOTE: Postage must be paid to return photos by mail.

Baby's Name: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Weight at Birth: _____ Length at Birth: _____
 Place of Birth: _____
 Mom & Dad's Name: _____
 Grandparent's Name: _____
 Contact Info: _____

Entry Deadline: Thurs., March 19 at 5 pm