



School board approves
GMP increase...
Page 3



Lady Mules take
bi-district trophy...
Page 6



More Shattered
Dreams photographs
on back page

Muleshoe Journal



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Muleshoe, Texas

May 14, 2009

Liquor sales, MAHD tax rate cap fail at the polls

The Muleshoe residents who turned out for the May election turned down the two questions on the ballot.

With the only candidates filing for local and area board positions being the incumbents, the May 9 election was quickly trimmed down to an "issues ballot," leaving the voters to decide whether the City of Muleshoe should be "wet," allowing the sell of alcohol for off-premises consumption; and whether the Muleshoe Area Hospital District's 40 cent tax rate cap should be increased to 55 cents per \$100 valuation.

Although the liquor election was held by the Bailey County, voting

May Election Results		
Voting Day	Alcohol Sales	MAHD Tax Rate Cap
Early vote		
For...	193	235
Against...	298	285
May 9		
For...	221	148
Against...	245	260
Totals		
For...	414	383
Against...	543	545

was restricted to residents within Muleshoe's city limits. Of the 957 voters to cast ballots on the issue, 56.74 percent voted against the measure.

When a similar issue was placed before the entire county at the November 2008 general

election, 1,241 — or 55.9 percent — of the 2,220 ballots cast were against the issue.

According to the Texas Secretary of State's website, although the issue can be readdressed through another

Continued on page 2

Muleshoe, Bailey County meet 'Storm Ready' requirements

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor
The City of Muleshoe and Bailey County are ready for rain, wind... and just about anything else Mother Nature sends this way, according to the National Weather Service.

At Monday's regular meeting of the Muleshoe City Council, Jody James of the NWS announced

County court to canvass liquor vote

The Bailey County Commissioners Court set May 20, at 10 a.m., as the date and time to canvass the vote from Saturday's local option liquor election during Monday's regular meeting.

Other election-related action taken by the court included accepting the resignation of Early voting election Judge Pat Kirk, and appointing Julie Cage to the position.

Continued on page 2

that Muleshoe and Bailey County had been recognized as being "StormReady," having completed the application and inspection process needed their designation as "Storm Ready" communities.

According to information provided by James, a warning coordination meteorologist, the NWS' StormReady" program

is designed to improve a community's level of response to a weather-related disaster.

"Ninety percent of all presidentially declared disasters are weather related," James said.

Through it evaluation of a community's preparedness, and its emphasis on education, awareness and planning, the Storm Ready

Continued on page 2



Prom 2009

Breaking with Muleshoe tradition, local students traveled to Clovis Saturday, May 9, for the annual Junior-Senior Prom. Pictured above and to the left, students follow the meal with a music and dancing.

Photographs by Larry Thornton

City in middle of sales tax pack

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

A drop in its March sales tax collections tossed the City of Muleshoe into the center of the pack for this month's allocations from the Texas State Comptroller's Office, according to figures released Friday.

Muleshoe merchants collected \$1,396.51 less in March 2009 than they did in the same period of last year, a drop of 2.28 percent, that placed them forth from the top in monthly race for the allocation dollar.

However, when added to totals from

Sales Tax Results			
City	Net Payment	Same period Prior year	Percent Change
Muleshoe	\$59,594.56	\$60,991.07	-2.28%
Dimmitt	\$24,835.38	\$26,043.82	-4.64%
Morton	\$ 8,704.50	\$ 9,632.33	-9.63%
Littlefield	\$82,997.99	\$84,244.16	-1.47%
Olton	\$12,267.89	\$15,104.74	-18.78%
Sudan	\$ 3,854.40	\$ 4,330.82	-11.00%
Earth	\$ 5,138.56	\$ 5,345.84	-3.87%
Farwell	\$ 7,866.22	\$ 8,486.25	-7.30%
Bovina	\$ 9,274.46	\$ 6,762.90	37.13%
Friena	\$35,360.35	\$33,981.39	4.05%

the preceding months, Muleshoe is next to the top in the percentage of increase in sales tax collected for the year-to-date at 7.64 percent, representing an increase of \$17,444.75.

The area community

Shattered dreams...

It happens so quickly. One moment you're celebrating life, and the next you come to the reality that death is waiting just around the corner for you to make the wrong choice.

Students at Muleshoe High School demonstrated how the wrong decisions about alcohol and drugs could have an eternal impact on a student's life, and the lives of the student's friends and family, as they portrayed the victims in a two-vehicle accident with injuries and fatalities on Wednesday, May 6.

This year's event included participation by local emergency services agencies, local businesses that could be expected to become involved in an actual fatality accident, and even medical transportation by AeroCare.

that took the brass ring in this month's allocation race is Bovina with a 37.13 percent increase. However, even with this percentage increase, with year-to-date totals of \$35,383.45, Bovina falls far below the region's top sales tax revenue producers — Littlefield at \$328,517.82, Muleshoe at \$245,508.78, and Friena at \$139,456.38, in the total revenue collected.

Following Bovina in the monthly percentage increase was Friena which has a 4.05 percent increase and Littlefield which showed the least amount of drop in the remaining communities, a 1.47 percent decrease from the amount collected during the same period last year.

May's sales tax allocations to local governments represent March sales that were reported to the State Comptroller's office in April by monthly tax filers and January, February and March sales reported to the comptroller's office in April by quarterly tax filers.

According to Texas Comptroller Susan Combs, the state collected \$1.65 billion in sales tax revenue in April, down

Continued on page 2



Temporary tragedy...

At the end of the program, the participants of this year's Shattered Dreams got up, cleaned up, and walked away, but not all tragedies are so "temporary." Pictured above, Muleshoe Senior Wes Wood portrays a fatality victim in the Shattered Dreams accident on May 6, while on the left local law enforcement officers, Sgt. Shane Kirk and Lt. Benny Parker, console his parents, David and Jody Wood, after they arrive at the accident scene.



Photographs by Larry Thornton



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Wood reception

A reception honoring MISD Assistant Superintendent Don Wood for his years of service in Muleshoe. has been set for Thursday, May 14, from 2-4:30 p.m. at the administration building.

Bailey County Relay for Life

The Bailey County Relay for Life has been scheduled for Friday, June 12, from 7 p.m. until 2 a.m., at the Muleshoe High School Benny Douglas Stadium. Last year, the Bailey County Relay raised \$32,000, a higher goal has been set for this year, according to county chairperson Jill Morris.

As part of its fund raising activities, the Relay for Life Team "Kick it 2 the cure" is holding a garage sale at 312 W. Ave. C, in Muleshoe, starting Friday, May 15, at noon and again on Saturday, May 16, at 9 a.m.

Armed Forces Appreciation Day

An Armed Forces Day Appreciation Tribute will be held at the Jennyslipper Mule-Putt Golf Course on Saturday, May 16, at 6 p.m. with special speakers and patriotic music. It will be followed with free games for all military plus all others for a fee of \$1 per game.

City council... Continued from page 1

helps reduce the injuries, fatalities and even property damage resulting from severe weather.

According to James, Muleshoe and Bailey County are part of only a handful of communities across the South Plains and southern Panhandle that have received the StormReady recognition.

In other business Monday, the city

council:

- Discussed the possible need for the city to adopt zoning ordinances.

At this time, City Manager David Brunson said, Muleshoe doesn't have any zoning ordinances in place; however, there are a few areas with "deed restrictions."

He said this was an issue on which the council would need to

spend a considerable amount of time before taking action.

"There's been one incident since I've been here where a zoning ordinance would have been a benefit," Brunson said.

"It would be a long process," he added. He also said the council needed to consider all the things such ordinances would affect.

Mayor Pro Tem Irene

Mason and council member Gary Parker said the idea deserved consideration.

Prior to the council tabling the issue until next month's regular meeting, Municipal Attorney Slater Elza said, "They (zoning ordinances) don't do much but cause trouble, unless you enforce them."

Sales tax... Continued from page 1

3.1 percent compared to April 2008.

"State sales tax revenue declined in April as most major sectors of the economy continue to struggle," Combs said. "Although year-to-date revenue is up 1.3 percent for fiscal 2009, decreases in monthly collections are expected to continue this year."

Combs said local governments will receive \$541.8 million in Mays sales tax allocations, down 2.3 percent compared to May 2008. So far this calendar year, sales tax allocations to cities,

counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts are up 0.5 percent compared to a year ago.

Combs sent May sales tax allocations of \$367.1 million to Texas cities, down 2.8 percent compared to May 2008. Calendar year-to-date, city sales tax allocations are down 0.03 percent compared to the same period last year. Texas counties received sales tax payments of \$32.5 million, up 0.2 percent compared to one year ago. Calendar year-to-date, county sales tax

allocations are 4.5 percent higher than last year, according to a press release from Comb's office.

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Excuse me, Maam, is this seat taken?

To say that I have misgivings about this week's column is a major understatement.

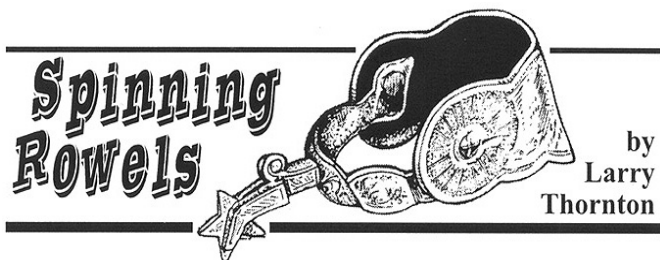
In fact, sometimes, the topic of a column should be buried so deeply it never has a chance of seeing the light of day, and by the time I'm through writing this one I'll have to make a decision about either hitting the "saved" button or grabbing a shovel.

Several years ago, a friend of mine wrote a column about an incident when she was selling ads for her newspaper, unaware that as she walked down the street a piece of lingerie that apparently had found its way into the leg of her slacks was trailing along behind her.

As I recall, she mentioned encountering several of her "friends" that day and apparently none of them had the intestinal fortitude needed to whisper into her ear that she was showing more than she should.

At the time she was utterly embarrassed by the event, and I recall that must have been the most embarrassing column I'd ever read... but that was long before Friday's events.

For the past year or so, legislatures across the nation have been discussing the need to



restrict cellphone usage in moving vehicles, and to be honest it wasn't until last Friday that fully recognized the perils associated with the operation of a cell phone... and I wasn't even driving.

My wife and I had stopped for a late lunch at an out-of-town restaurant. (The name of the restaurant and its community are being withheld in the event a warrant has been issued for an extremely red-faced "John Doe" seen fleeing the restaurant.)

Anyway, we'd enjoyed our meal, and I decided I'd make a pit stop before heading back to Muleshoe.

Although I'd eaten in this restaurant before, I'd never used its facilities, and was in the process of following the signs to their location when my cellphone rang.

I pulled out my cellphone, saw that it was from the *Journal*, silenced it with the intent of calling back after finishing my business, and pushed through the door in front of me.

A quick glance around

didn't show anything unusual... no one having difficulties washing their hands — about a month ago I'd encountered someone having such problems due to his hand being swollen three-times normal size as a result of a Brown Recluse spider bite.

But as I briefly glanced around the thought passed through my mind, "This is different... no urinals."

So I walked over to the line of stalls, the first of which was occupied.

Still nothing seemed out of sorts, and with my mind occupied with a myriad of other things, I went into another stall, shut the door... and was about to "take care of the afore-mentioned business," when the door to the restroom opened and two people entered talking.

Under most conditions, someone entering a restroom isn't a cause for concern, but they hadn't spoken two words apiece before I knew exactly why there weren't any urinals, and as each of the young ladies took a

Continued on page 3

Commissioners' court takes action...

Continued from page 1 In other business, the court:

- Approved the county treasurer's March report and received the April report.

- Approved soil conservation worksheets \$995.

- Approved a resolution concerning an application to participate in the "Go Texan Rural Community Bookstrap Bucks program, which will provide funds to be used by the Muleshoe Rotary Club's annual roping event.

- Accepted the resignation of Terrel King as the county's emergency management coordinator, and appointed Larry Thornton to the position.

- Approved payment of county bills totaling #07,308.20.

Elections...

Continued from page 1 election petition, with changes in the option, within a one year period, the Bailey County Commissioners Court has the option of requiring the proponents to pay for the new election.

In the hospital district's election, 58.73 percent of the voters cast their ballots against raising the tax rate cap.

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School board approves GMP increase

By Jessica Thornton
Journal Intern

Muleshoe Independent School District's board of trustees approved a \$127,202 increase to the guaranteed maximum price for renovations of the Muleshoe High School auditorium that were not included in the original construction price.

The increase was due to the additions of a new video, sound, and lighting system for the auditorium bringing the GMP for the high school renovations to \$15,572,102.

The trustees continued with renovation matters as they discussed proposals for roofing, asbestos, and air-conditioning proposals at three of the district campuses.

The first matter the trustees approved were three roof replacement proposals for Dillman Elementary, DeShazo Elementary, and Watson Junior High with architect approval of submittals.

The bids received were \$445,000 for the base proposal from Advantage USA for the junior high.

And the proposals for Dillman and DeShazo, which were submitted by Hamilton Roofing in the amount of \$244,969 for Dillman and \$302,170 for DeShazo to replace the roofing on the older and existing parts of both buildings.

Another proposal on the agenda was the asbestos abatement proposal from Zavala Environmental for the high school campus and DeShazo campus in the

amount of \$44,300 for the base proposal.

Another renovation matter that was discussed was the proposed replacement of the HVAC units at Dillman, DeShazo, and Watson, with the proposal from Control Tech Corporation with the total amount being \$395,051.

The current AC units would be replaced with either Trane or American Standard so all AC units on all campuses would be the same make for easier maintenance.

The units being replaced at Dillman are on the older part of the building as the newly built and renovated part of Dillman already has more energy efficient AC units.

The replacing of the AC units will start at

Dillman and DeShazo on June 1 and be complete before the start of the new school year in the fall.

The work at the junior high cannot start until July 1 due to summer school being in session, but will still be completed before the start of the next school year.

Other items on the agenda included:

- The consideration of accepting a donation from Muleshoe State Bank for \$25,000 to purchase two basketball score boards that will hang in the center court in the new high school gymnasium. The board then approved the purchase of the score boards from Daktronics for \$29,352.

- MHS students were recognized for the efforts and for advancing on to regional competition in either UIL Academics or in athletics.

Concerts set

Watson Junior High will be hosting a choir concert on Monday, May 18, at 7 p.m.

Also, on Tuesday, May 19, the Spring Band Concert is set for 7 p.m.

Whitebird to perform

Richland Hills Baptist Church will be hosting award-winning Christian Country singer Peter Whitebird on Wednesday, May 13, at 7 p.m.

The church is located at 1631 W. Ave. D, in Muleshoe.

The performance is open to the public.



Muleshoe Animal Clinic
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Spinning Rowels

Continued from page 2
stall on either side of mine my horror only intensified.

A large number of headlines flashed through my mind in half a second's time, the least embarrassing of which merely referred to the man arrested in the woman's restroom as an idiot.

Years ago, some people commented on the location of "the king of rock and roll's" death, noting how terrible it must have been to die, all alone in your restroom, but at that moment it didn't seem nearly as bad as dying in middle

of a fully-occupied ladies room.

Of course, I'm only guessing that it was fully occupied. After all, I didn't take the time to count shoes.

These thoughts were followed by my frantic escape plans...

Do I stay in the stall until the restroom is vacant? Not a good idea... the only way to make certain is to "count shoes," and I just quick look would put me "eyeball to eyeball" with someone curious about the old boots I was wearing, followed by a shrill scream.

Or, do I try a run for

the door with the hope of reaching safety before someone else exited a stall... Obviously, this plan precluded a stop at the lavatory to wash.

Granted, other options were possible, but a glance around didn't reveal a handy firing squad or noose.

Deciding on the "quick flight" solution, I gritted my teeth and exited the stall... only to encounter the woman who had been in the first stall.

I can only imagine the expression on her face matched those of the other occupants as a male voice said, "Excuse me, wrong restroom."

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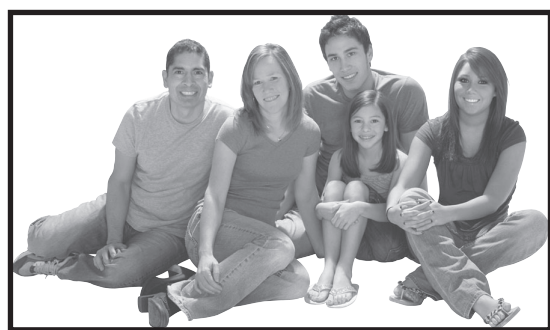
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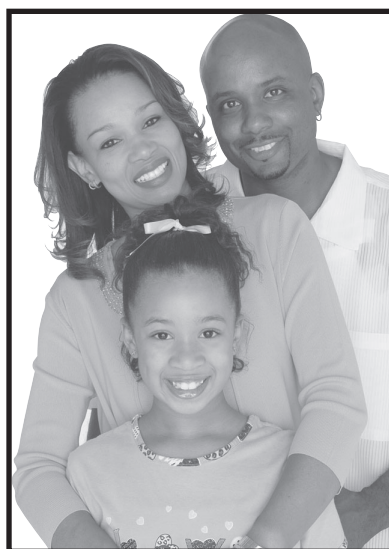
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Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn
Our donations for tickets are going real good. Perhaps you would like to support the center by giving a \$100 donation for a ticket that could be good for \$5,000, \$3000, or \$2000. We only have 300 to give so come on in and visit with us.

We had a very busy week at the center last week. Our crowds were great.

On Wednesday we enjoyed the program brought by Chris Cotton from Park View.

On Thursday, Wayne Pearson introduced the new administrative personnel for the hospital. We invite all of you back anytime.

Thanks to all of you who voted in the election.

Perhaps it did not go like you wished, but be glad you voted. Hopefully our hospital

can find a way to stay open. I was here when we did not have one, and that is not good.

Friday, May 15, Kathy Melton with Legacy of Love Hospice, will present a program at noon.

Mark your calendars and plan to come have lunch and enjoy the program.

Tuesday, May 19, all of you Bunco players call your friends and come play. Be sure and be here by 10 a.m.

Everyone is having a great time playing and visiting with friends. Interim Home Health assists with the game. We appreciate their help.

Tuesday, May 19, Linda Bomer with the Extension Office will be presenting a program on nutrition. Make plans to come and enjoy her presentation.

We appreciate Linda for taking the time to

help us out on presenting her program.

Our May birthday party will be Thursday, May 21. You will receive a phone call inviting you to come and let us honor you.

Our telephone caller is a dedicated, caring senior citizen and we appreciate her help very much.

After lunch stay and play Bingo. LaShea Mason with NursCare Home Health is our caller and we have a great time. Come and join us. We ask that you bring a can of food for the food bank. Be sure the can is not out dated or dented.

They are very appreciative of the help we give them at the food bank.

Menu for May 18-22:

Monday, May 18 — Chicken prima vera, sliced carrots, salad, wheat roll and Jello™.

Tuesday, May 19 —

Salmon patties, seasoned potato wedges, greens, salad, cornbread and cake.

Wednesday, May 20 — Grilled steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, wheat roll and cherry cobbler.

Thursday, May 21 — Chalupas, refried beans, rice, cheese, lettuce, tomato, onions, peppers, chips, salsa and birthday cake.

Friday, May 22 — Fish or chicken strips, gravy, pinto beans, coleslaw, cornbread and fruit salad.

Do you have story or photo ideas? Let us know! 272-4536



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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

IT TOOK A CASE OF LEPROSY AND AN EARTHQUAKE TO STOP THIS KING!



UZZIAH, SON OF AMAZIAH, ASCENDED THE THRONE OF JUDAH AT THE AGE OF SIXTEEN TO REIGN FOR FIFTY-TWO YEARS (2K9-757 B.C.). DURING THIS REIGN, HE SERVED AS A WISE AND PIOUS KING. HE REBUILT JERUSALEM, STRENGTHENED ITS WALLS, ENCOURAGED THE ARTS, WAS VICTORIOUS IN BATTLE WITH HIS NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND, IN FACT, RAISED THE KINGDOM BACK TO THE POWER AND GLORY IT ENJOYED IN KING SOLOMON'S DAY! HOWEVER, WHEN HE MADE HIS ONE AND ONLY MISTAKE, IT WAS AS STUPID AS WERE HIS MANY TRIUMPHS! ELATED BY ALL HIS GOOD DEEDS, HE DECIDED HE SHOULD ALSO BE HEADMAN IN THE TEMPLE. CERTAINLY ON HIGH OCCASIONS—AFTER ALL, OTHER KINGS DID THIS, DIDN'T THEY? WHO BETTER TO SERVE GOD IN THE HOLY OF HOLIES THAN UZZIAH HIMSELF, WHO HAD DONE SO MUCH FOR HIS KINGDOM? BUT...

...WHEN HE MADE THIS ATTEMPT, HE WAS WARNED BY THE HIGH PRIEST, AZARIAH, THAT ONLY A PRIEST COULD LAWFULLY ENTER THE HOLY PLACE AND OFFER INCENSE ON THE ALTAR (2K9 CHRON. 26:17-19). UZZIAH WAS ENRAGED AND ABOUT TO USE FORCE WHEN, THE BIBLE TELLS US, GOD, IN HIS ANGER, INTERVENED AND UZZIAH WAS SMITTEN WITH LEPROSY, THEN AND THERE! NOT ONLY THAT—THE DIVINE WRATH WAS SO TEMPESTUOUS THAT IT CAUSED AN EARTHQUAKE WHICH SPLIT THE ROOF OF THE TEMPLE AND SENT ONE HALF OF A MOUNTAIN, SITUATED TO THE WEST OF JERUSALEM, CRASHING INTO THE VALLEY BELOW, WHICH DESTROYED AND COMPLETELY COVERED UP THE ROYAL GARDENS! THIS WE HAVE ON THE WORD OF JOSEPHUS, THE ANCIENT HISTORIAN OF THE JEWS, WITH FURTHER CORROBORATION IN THE BIBLE (AMOS 1:1) (ZECH 1:18). FROM THAT DAY ON, UZZIAH HAD TO LIVE IN SECLUSION AS A LEPER. HIS SON, JOTHAM, ADMINISTERING THE AFFAIRS OF GOVERNMENT IN HIS FATHER'S NAME, A RATHER FORCEFUL REMINDER TO ALL ISRAEL THAT, NO MATTER HOW GREAT, NO ONE COULD GET AWAY WITH BREAKING GOD'S LAW!

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6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST
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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Obituaries

Virgie Pruitt

Virgie Maudene Pruitt was born on Sept. 15, 1937, in Muleshoe, to William Monroe Burris and Virgie Laflo Williford Burris.

On March 7, 1954, she married Jasper Lee Pruitt in Needmore. Virgie has lived in Muleshoe, Austin, Katy and Gila Bend, Ariz.

She passed away at home in Katy, with her family and other loved ones by her side on Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

Survivors include her children — Vicki and Thomas Hewitt, Penny and Matt Probstfeld, Katrina Pruitt and Anna Sanchez; her grandchildren — Brandon Burns, Brent Burns, Jonathan Hewitt, Mathew Probstfeld II, and Andrew Probstfeld; her great-grandchildren — Trenton Hewitt and



Virgie Maudene Pruitt

Payton Hewitt; brothers and sisters — Joanne Shrum, Wallace Burris and Sue Herring; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jasper Lee Pruitt; and by her parents, and six brothers and sisters.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, May 9, at the Bolin Chapel at First Baptist Church, in Katy, with the Rev. John Weaver officiating.

Interment followed in Katy's Magnolia Cemetery.

Floyd Houston

Graveside service for Floyd E. Houston, 86, of Littlefield, formerly of Earth, were held on Monday, May 11, at Dawson County Cemetery of Lamesa.

Houston died on Friday, May 8, in Lubbock. He was born on July 30, 1922, to Isaac and Florence Houston in Redoak.

They preceded him in death as well as three brothers — Leonard, Carl Le, and R.C. Houston, and two sisters — Levana McNeese and Larue Kemp.

Houston had been a resident of Littlefield since 2003 having moved

from Earth, where he was a barber for many years.

He was a Baptist and had served as Dist. Dep. Grand Master in the International Order of Odd Fellows. He had served his country in the U.S. Air Force in World War II.

Survivors include a daughter — Jennye Kincaid of Merkel; a stepson — Leroy Brothers of San Diego, Calif.; a brother — Elbert Carby Houston of Big Spring; and three grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Dorothy Lovelady

Funeral services for Dorothy Ann Lovelady, 67, of Farwell were held on Monday, May 11, at Steed-Todd Chapel of Clovis, N. M., with Charles Carman officiating. Burial followed at Texico Cemetery.

Lovelady died on May 7, 2009, at her home in Farwell. She was born on Feb. 10, 1942, in Amarillo, to Alonzo L. and Pearl Mae Pittman.

She went to school in Childress, married Roy W. Lovelady, on May 9, 1959, in Childress and moved to the Farwell area in 1960, where she was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by a son — Donald Ray Lovelady; a grandson; her parents, a brother — Stephan Pittman; sister — Virginia LeMaster and a sister-in-law — Oni Mae Pittman.

Survivors include her husband — Roy W. Lovelady of Farwell;



Dorothy Lovelady

a son and his wife — Roy and Debbie Lovelady of Muleshoe; a daughter, Cathy Lovelady of Muleshoe; six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren; three brothers — Wesley Pittman of Moore, Okla., Jimmy Pittman of Midwest City, Okla., and Gary Pittman of LaPorte; and a sister — Shirley McCoy of Hope, Alaska.

Thanks for reading!

Correction Policy

Although the *Muleshoe Journal* tries to be accurate in the news stories and releases it publishes, the newspaper recognizes that errors occasionally occur.

An effort will be made to correct typographical errors, or misstatements of facts, in news stories voluntarily submitted for publication as soon as possible — if brought to the newspaper's attention in a timely manner, but

will not include rerunning the news story or related photographs.

Corrections necessary from inaccurate or illegible information provided to the newspaper will not be published free of charge.

Paid publication items — whether advertisements, obituaries or items that don't meet the criteria for free publication — may be rerun if the original publication includes significant error.

NOTICE

The Constitution and By-Laws of Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery, Inc. Do Not permit the use of any vases or urns other than the bronze vases approved by the cemetery. No wooden or wire Trellis' or stands for flowers or ornaments may be used to hold flowers except for funerals and certain holidays -- such as Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Christmas Day. Placing potted flowers, plants, summer wreaths, or baskets will not be tolerated except on those days. Same shall be removed by the caretaker at his discretion. The digging of holes for any purpose whatsoever is strictly prohibited. The use of glass, ceramics or any breakable flower receptacle is not to be used, also including solar lights, wooden crosses, or ceramic statues. No one allowed in cemetery from dusk to dawn. No Alcoholic Beverages Allowed!

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Dorothy Urbain

A memorial service for Dorothy Jean Urbain, 77, of Firestone, Colo., was held on Saturday, May 9, at the family home. Burial was in Louisville Cemetery.

Urbain died on Tuesday, May 5, 2009, at Boulder Manor Care Center. She was born on Nov. 18, 1931, in Huntley, Neb., to James O. and Ruth Ann Howsden.

On Aug. 8, 1953, she married Francis Urbain in Westminster, Colo. They lived in Louisville, Colo., for several years before moving to Firestone in 1973.

Urbain was a member of the American Legion

Auxiliary in Firestone as well as the VFV Auxiliary.

Survivors include two sons and their wives — Lloyd and Teri Urbain of Fairfield, Calif., and Leon and Laura Urbain of Berthoud, Colo.; and a daughter and her husband — Linda and Albert Lee of Muleshoe; and three sisters — Delores Bay, Doris Samson, and Detta Shanahan; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the American Legion Auxiliary Post 1985, c/o Howe Mortuary, 439 Coffman St., Longmont, Colo. 80501.

Births

Sophia Bellar

Justin and Laryn Bellar announce the birth of their daughter — Sophia Pearl Bellar, on March 2, 2009.

Sophia weighed five pounds, 13 ounces at

birth. She has two brothers, Evan and Jordie.

Her grandparents are Jerry and Pam Bellar, and bobby and Janelda Moore, all of Sudan.



Sophia Pearl Bellar

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Sports

Muleshoe's ladies bring home the bi-district trophy

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The 10-10 Lady Mule softball team arrived at the Canyon High softball field with time to spare before their bi-district playoff game.

They were matched against the 19-5 Sanford-Fritch Lady Eagles.

The Lady Mules sat in the stands relaxing while watching the Canyon Lady Eagles go through their practice drills and contemplating their upcoming game.

The rest, relaxation and reflection must have been exactly the right combination. The Lady Mules took down the Lady Eagles 8-6 in a game that took two-extra innings.

"We showed up very early here today," said Lady Mule softball coach Jason Cole. "We just sat in the stands and relaxed for a while. But the girls came ready to play and with out me saying a word to them they went and dressed and set up their warm up stations."

"These girls play for each other and when some one did make an error you could hear the others encouraging her. April Gardea feeds off of that in the pitcher's circle and then in turn the other players feed off of her as she puts the ball close to the plate," he said.

The Lady Mules jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the top half of the first inning on a two-run homer into the teeth of a stiff northeast breeze by Val Olivas.

Much later, Ali Eagle walked to lead off the top of the ninth inning. BreAnn Baca blasted a line drive to right field that skipped past the right fielder to the fence for a triple. Eagle raced around the infield and home to break the 6-6 tie.

The right fielder mishandled the ball after she chased it to the fence and was slow in getting the ball to the infield.

Baca looked at Coach Jason Cole after rounding second base. He was windmilling her home and she slid into the plate beating the tag for an insurance run.

Brenda Rodriguez



Photograph by Stacy Conner

The 2009 Muleshoe Lady Mules receive the Bi-District trophy at the Canyon playoffs.

scooped up a ground ball at second and tossed to Gabby Perez at first for the first out of the bottom of the ninth.

Olivas had to go deep in the hole at short for a ground ball and gunned it to Gabby Perez at first for the second out.

Gardea gave up a walk and a Lady Mule error put runners on first and second with two out.

Baca analyzed the situation and knew what to do if a ground ball came her way. She dug the grounder out of the dirt at third and stepped on the bag for the final out of the game.

The Lady Mules raced to the mound to celebrate their first Texas State Playoff win.

Gardea's fifth pitch of the game was popped high in the sky by the lead off hitter in the bottom of the first inning. B. Rodriguez drew a bead on the pop fly at second base and used both hands to secure the ball for the first out.

The second batter singled to left field for the Lady Eagles first base hit of the game. Eagle cut her down attempting to steal second by throw a strike to Olivas covering second. Olivas had to wait to make the tag as the ball had arrived well ahead of the base runner.

Gardea continued to fire the ball over or near enough to the plate to

force the batter to swing. She fouled off two pitches before poking a dribbler off the end of the bat back to the pitching circle. Gardea gathered up the slow roller and tossed to Perez for the final out.

The Lady Mules failed to convert a walk and a Sanford-Fritch error into runs in the top of the second inning.

The first Lady Eagle batter popped up in foul territory and the foul ball was corralled by Eagle for the first out in the bottom of the second.

Gardea hit the next batter with an inside pitch. A double put runners at second and third with one out.

An infield error allowed a runner to score and the batter was safe at first. Olivas scooped up the ball at short and fired a strike to first for the second out but the sacrifice scored the second run to tie the game at 2-2.

Lupita Andrade raced toward the foul line in right to snag a fly ball for the third out and keep more runs from crossing the plate.

Neither team could push across a run in the third inning so the score remained tied at 2-2.

Andrade slapped a one out single just over the second baseman's reach into right center. Gardea followed with a single just over the shortstop to put Lady Mules at first and second.

Erika Rodriguez laid down a bunt for an infield hit that scored Andrade. Olivas sacrificed Gardea home with a ground ball to short. The Lady Mules led 4-2 after three and half innings.

Natalie Regalado made a running Willie Mays style basket catch in left field for the first out of the bottom of the fourth inning.

Gardea snagged a hot shot back into the circle

E. Rodriguez and she fired the ball in to Olivas. The base runner slide down after rounding third as Olivas gunned the ball home to Eagle at the plate. She had to go meet the Lady Eagle for the tag and the third out. The Lady Eagles trailed 5-4 after five innings.

E. Rodriguez drove a ground ball single through the hole between short and third to lead the top of the sixth inning. Olivas ground ball was fielded by the short stop and E. Rodriguez was forced out at second.

Olivas went to second on a passed ball. A pair of errors by the Sanford-Fritch infield allowed Olivas to score and push the Lady Mule lead to 6-4.

Eagle looked like a gun fighter out of the old West. She leaped to her feet behind the plate and gunned down her second Lady Eagle of the game attempting to steal second base. It was the third out and held the Lady Eagles scoreless in the bottom of the sixth.

The Lady Mule went in order in the top of the seventh inning.

B. Rodriguez scooped up a ground ball and delivered a strike to Perez for the first out of the bottom of the seventh. A double and an error allowed to two Lady Eagles to cross the plate. Eagle threw out her third Lady Eagle attempting to steal second to end the inning tied at 6-6.

The Lady Mules could not convert a Sanford-Fritch error to a run in the top of the eighth.

Gardea hit the first

Continued on page 7

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Sports

What does it take to be the 'Coach of the Year?'

People ask, "What does it take to be the Coach of the Year?"

Well, I have to say I really do not know. I have watched a lot of coaches do their jobs on the side lines and it seems that each one has their very own style.

Some act like Gen. Patton and appear to bully their teams into doing the right things.

Others are more laid back and seem to do all of their work during practice and will take an occasional time out to change strategy or remind the team what needs to be done.

Then there variations all the way in between as I think I have given the extremes in coaching. Different styles seem to be required for different situations in coaching as it is in business, teaching and even preaching.

But one thing I do know is that I personally know a Coach of the Year. I also believe he was most deserving of all the honors he has personally received as well as the team he coached this season.

Of course you know that I am talking about

From the Stands

By Delton Wilhite

the Muleshoe football coach, David Wood.

I think Muleshoe's superintendent, Dr. Gene Sheets, may have hit the nail on the head when he was talking about Coach Wood at the community celebration of the Mule State Championship held in the Bailey County Coliseum.

Dr. Sheets said, "Coach Wood seems to have the ability to look in a person's eyes and know their souls."

When Coach Wood started the 2008 football season, he had six returning lettermen and seven new coaches.

There was doubt in the minds of the prognosticators as to whether the Mules would even win a District Championship much less advance very deep in the Texas State Playoffs.

But as they say the rest is history, the Mules

ground up everyone that got in their path and after 84 years of football in Muleshoe they brought home a Texas State Championship with a perfect 15-0 record.

When I reflect on the season I still wonder, even out loud at times, how did they do that? Let's take a quick look at the Mules. They were undersized on both sides of the ball, slow and did not have a Division I prospect in the lot.

But they were quick, willing to learn, played as a team and had all the determination of a Mule. The coaching staff worked hard to come together as a team.

They learned the offensive and defensive systems the Mules had been employing. And they also brought ideas that were incorporated into the offensive and defensive schemes as the season progressed.

I have to believe Coach Wood and the returning coaches had to work overtime to bring new the new coaches along as quickly as possible. But Coach Wood also had the good sense to listen to their ideas once everyone was on the same page. He saw the value in what they brought with them and I also believe he saw that when he had looked into their eyes before

asking them to join the Muleshoe staff.

Coach Wood is quick to tell you that he did not do it all by himself and that the Coach of the Year honors heaped on him should probably say Coaching Staff of the Year!

In previous articles I have highlighted the individual honors that have been accorded individual Mule players. But I have not mentioned all the honors that have been bestowed on Coach Wood. So I thought you might like to see as complete a list as I have found.

But first you might also like to know Coach Wood's record as head coach of the Mules. In his 13 years in Muleshoe he has racked up a record of 107 wins and 47 losses. Just for comparison I looked back to the 13 years prior to his coming to Muleshoe. The Mules had five coaches during that period and their total record was 35 wins, 93 losses and two ties. Just thought you might like to see that!

Coach Wood was named by the Texas Sports Writers Association as the Class 2A Coach of the Year. The Lubbock Avalanche Journal named him as their Class 2A Coach of the Year. Amarillo Globe News followed suit naming Coach Wood as the Class 2A-3A Coach of the Year for their Golden Spread Super Team. West Texas Pigskin.

com could not decide so they had a tie between Coach Wood and Coach David Flowers of Bushland for their Class 3A-A Coach of the Year. (Hmmm 35-20, think that is 'nuff said!)

Well, I am very glad to call Coach Wood a friend and am glad he made the decision 13 years ago to come to Muleshoe. I have to say that I am gladder that he has made the decision to stay.

He has had numerous offers through the years that have included his dream job when he first came to Muleshoe and he has turned them all down.

I believe that Coach Wood, his wife Jody, daughter Brandi and sons Tyler, Wes and Caleb all feel Muleshoe is their home town. Muleshoe is fortunate to have them.

Thanks for all you do, Coach!



Valerie Olivas prepares to tag a runner during the bi-district game. Photograph by Stacy Conner

Varsity softball

Continued from page 6
Mules a gold glove Bi-batsman and the second singled down the left field line to put runners at first and second. Gardea struck out the third batter for the first out. E. Rodriquez came charging from center field toward second base to make a running shoe top catch that froze the runners.

The Lady Eagle batter smashed a line drive directly at B. Rodriquez. She protected herself with her glove and made the catch for the third out to keep the score tied at 6-6. That set up the monster ninth inning that earned the Lady

Mules a gold glove Bi-district trophy.

"If I had to name players of the game today," continued Coach Cole. "It would have to be the defensive play by Erika Rodriquez and Val Olivas. But BreAnn Baca's triple in the ninth inning was a huge hit."

"I am just so proud of these girls," concluded Coach Cole. "They have come a million miles this season and played their best game of the season today."

The Lady Mules are scheduled to play the District 4-2A champion Alpine Lady Bucks in a best two-out of three

playoff series in the Area round of the Texas State Playoffs.

There are two games scheduled for Thursday, May 14, at Midland College. The first will start at 4 p.m. and the second will begin 30 minutes after the completion of the first game.

A third game, if needed, is tentatively scheduled for 1 p.m. on Saturday.

The Lady Bucks finished the season at 25-7 and 11-2 and have been sitting idle since April 24 when they won a playoff game for the number one spot in district with Kermit.

Sudan High School One-act Play Company proudly presents a command performance
Ken Ludwig's Broadway comedy hit, **"Moon Over Buffalo"**
"Cutting by Keith Robertson"
"Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc."
I guarantee you will enjoy the play and be glad that you came. Audiences have been rolling with laughter at the play's creative humor.
- Jonathan Robertson
Said of the Broadway production...
"Audiences are rolling with laughter."
- Boston Herald
Tuesday, May 19th
7:15 P.M.
Sudan High School Auditorium.
Admission is \$1.00
Help send them off to State Competition in Austin, May 28th!
Info: 227-2431 x125
jonathanrobertson@sudanisd.net
Proceeds from this performance will go to a scholarship fund for One Act Play Students

ATTENTION

Businesses, Parents and Citizens

It's that time again and so we're gearing up for our annual graduation sections? Do something special for your graduates, we can design an ad to tell your graduate how special they are to you.

If you have a graduate in Sudan, Lazbuddie or Muleshoe, contact Terry Brewster at 806-272-4536 or 806-893-0473 cell.

Deadline is May 18 for Sudan and Lazbuddie and May 25 for Muleshoe Graduate!

We can personalize an ad for your Grad!!!

The Public is Invited to an.....
Armed Forces Day Appreciation Tribute

Saturday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m.
Jennyslipper Mule-Putt Golf Course

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Mr. Joe Ambriz, Army Veteran and Commander, Post 8570 VFW
Troy Watson, Army Sgt., Iraq & Civilian Consultant, Baghdad
Darrell McCamish, Master Sgt. Cannon Air Force Base

Mule-Putt will then be open for games
Military plays free - Others \$1.00

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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., MAY 9, 2009

609 head of cattle, 160 hogs and 551 sheep and goats for a total of 1320 livestock. Market steady on both stocker calves and feeder cattle with good demand. Pairs and bred cows fully steady with good demand. Packer cows and bulls steady compared to a week ago.

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

Seller, City	#	Type	Wt	CWT or PH
B&M CATTLE, LUBBOCK.....	4	BLK STRS.....	500.....	\$114.00
AARON KIZER, TAHOKA.....	2	MXD STRS.....	525.....	\$116.00
KBLR, INC., HALE CENTER.....	3	BLK STRS.....	535.....	\$118.00
KBLR, INC., HALE CENTER.....	3	MXD STRS.....	658.....	\$98.50
GREG YOUNG, MULESHOE.....	3	BLK BULLS.....	602.....	\$99.00
BRIAN CLEAVENGER, ANTON.....	4	BLK BULLS.....	603.....	\$98.00
DALE HAND, CLOVIS.....	3	BLK STRS.....	687.....	\$97.25
TOM BOWERS, SEAGRAVES.....	.....	BRIN STR.....	720.....	\$94.00
AARON DRAGER, CLOVIS.....	13	BLK STRS.....	831.....	\$91.75
ROBBIE KIZER, LUBBOCK.....	19	BLK STRS.....	923.....	\$87.25
AARON KIZER, TAHOKA.....	2	CHAR HFRS.....	435.....	\$95.50
TONY WINN, PLAINS.....	2	CHAR HFRS.....	455.....	\$95.50
KELLY CURE, OLTON.....	9	MXD HFRS.....	603.....	\$88.50
KELLY CURE, OLTON.....	11	MXD HFRS.....	657.....	\$85.00
AARON DRAGER, CLOVIS.....	4	BLK HFRS.....	614.....	\$92.00
MICHAEL PINKERT, LEVELLAND.....	3	BLK HFRS.....	627.....	\$92.00
L.W. SHAFER, MULESHOE.....	3	CHAR HFRS.....	800.....	\$85.00
ROBBIE SOWDER, LUBBOCK.....	30	BLK HFRS.....	857.....	\$83.00
ROBBIE SOWDER, LUBBOCK.....	.....	BLK.....	PAIR.....	\$1100.00
ROBBIE SOWDER, LUBBOCK.....	3	BLK.....	PAIR.....	\$1025.00
ROBBIE SOWDER, LUBBOCK.....	3	BLK COWS.....	P8.....	\$735.00
ROBBIE SOWDER, LUBBOCK.....	.....	BLK BULL.....	1430.....	\$83.00
PAULA NIX, SPRINGLAKE.....	.....	BLK COW.....	P8.....	\$850.00
PAULA NIX, SPRINGLAKE.....	3	BLK COWS.....	P8.....	\$790.00
EDR CATTLE, WHITEFACE.....	.....	RED COW.....	1230.....	\$54.00
HECTOR MENDOZA, ANTON.....	.....	RED COW.....	1170.....	\$53.50
RAYMOND HALL, MORTON.....	RWF COW.....	1130.....	\$51.00
L.W. SHAFER, MULESHOE.....	RWF COW.....	1590.....	\$50.00

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Who Is It?

I've never, ever seen a book that didn't deserve at least 1 look.

A true book about U or me would be called a biography.

Another may have stories and poetry, information or mystery.

Every book has got a hook. Take 1 into your reading nook.

Getting the book is simple U see, just check it out at the library!

To see the name of each book my friends are reading right now, look at the letter beneath each blank and put the letter that comes before it (in the alphabet) on the blank.

1. This book is funny! The author is Jeff Kinney.

E J B S Z P G B

Just about every book has one main character or person. Study the pictures below. Do you know who owns each group of things?

3. This book is a Newbery Award Winner. Neil Gaman is the author.

4. This is a very interesting book by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.

2. This book by James Ponti is popular. It has been made into a movie.

S B D F U P X J U D I N P V O U B J O

U I F H S B W F Z B S E C P P L

U I S F F D V Q T P G U F B

Favorites Through the Years

Hey this book looks tasty inside too!

Next week, Newspaper Fun is all about Memorial Day!

It's free!

Sign up for the reading club today!

These older, favorite books need their titles completed. Study their covers for clues, then fill in the blanks. Ask Mom or Dad to help you if you get stuck.

Our new, free Spring "mud" puzzle is ready on our website: www.readingclubfun.com
Come to print it out!

Plan a fun book and movie night with your friends. For example, your group can find out about King Kong, the giant ape, by borrowing books from your library to read about him. Then, borrow the movie to watch it together! Compare the book and movie.

Now, help me find my way to Skull Island.

Do you think I'll find King Kong hiding there?

Lights, Camera, Action!

Newspaper Fun! Created by Animills LLC © 2009

Writer says: 'First we need to decide, what is an alien?'

I haven't spent my years cutting rafters, for I am not a carpenter.

It's the principles involved to which I would direct our attention.

I would like to speak in more detail about life as we live it here in the flesh. But having introduced the following scripture regarding aliens I feel I should first comment briefly on it.

"That at that time ye were aliens and strangers from the from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world."

First we need to decide, what is an alien? What time does Paul speak of, and who is he talking about?

Note, he consistently says "ye." On these points another friend taught me another good lesson-

Something worth saying...

By Glen Williams

several years ago.

I joined the church in August of 1948, and for several years I kept hearing brethren speak of "dead alien sinners" and associating this and other scriptures with it. And that's the point the brother spoke to me about. It was at a meeting down state, and with a large crowd present.

I guess I had either spoken or written something about "dead alien sinners" that caught this man's attention. So he said he would like to speak with me.

He was a lawyer and former member of the state legislature. He served a district that

joined the one Lyndon Johnson served, and they were good friends. So we went up into his office ~ he locked the door.

He called my attention the word "alien" and said, "I just want to explain, an "alien" is not necessarily a sinner and an alien sinner is not a dead sinner. An alien is a noncitizen, not a dead person... either physically, spiritually or otherwise. "Alien" has reference to citizenship, not to death.

That one truth opened the doors to much thought and many truths that I had as then not seen in many years of Bible study. And I'm sorry to say, have seldom heard taught.

If we read the remainder of the chapter, and a few verses of the next one, we note that Paul speaks of Christ having made peace through his blood to "you who were afar off, and to them that were nigh." This obviously speaks of Jews and Gentiles, and...

"Therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God."

"And," so he said, "we both have access to the Father by one spirit." A far more blessed condition than they had "at that time" when they were aliens, without Christ, Gentiles in the flesh and strangers from the covenants of promise.

Who did Paul have reference to? Everyone except the Children of Israel — that is, in a

general sense. They were a chosen and special people. They were given the Land of Canaan for a perpetual inheritance, and were ordered to drive others out of the land.

Now this may sound a littlerough, and not exactly like God as we picture him. But the following is a few quotations from the seventh chapter of Deuteronomy. It applies to seven nations, and names them.

"Thou shalt smite them and utterly destroy them. Ye shall destroy alters, and break down their images. Thou shalt make no marriages or covenants with them, nor show mercy unto them for thou art an holy people unto the Lord thou God."

"He did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because you were more in number than any people, for ye were the fewest of all

people — but because the Lord loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers."

That is the relationship the Children of Israel sustained with the Lord at that time. It is the relationship the obedient sustain, as spiritual Jews, in this time.

However, the 12 tribes later divided, 10 tribes moved away and became mixed with other people and pretty well lost their identity.

Two tribes, Judah and Benjamin, remained and became the Kingdom of Judah, with a few priests of Levi — which gave them a legitimate ministry.

They are the Jews of the Bible, and are the people that was in Canaan at the time Christ came.

But this is the time that I must quit.



The Sudan Buzz

Invitation issued for 'Moon over Buffalo' command performance

The One-act Play Company of Sudan High School invites the community to come and experience the hilarious comedy of Ken Ludwig's Broadway comedy hit, "Moon Over Buffalo".

"The Sudan OAP Company will produce a command performance of their contest play

before they head-off to State competition in Austin, and would love to fill the auditorium," a play representative says.

For those who have not been to Sudan High School, the auditorium is a state-of-the-art 700 seat auditorium with comfortable seating, an acoustically-tuned

house.

The production will begin at 7:15 p.m.

There is a band concert from 6-7 p.m., after which the house will be cleared. Admission is \$1.

The play has produced no less than four awards at every level of competition.

Three different

students have received a best actor or actress award, totaling five, and one actress received the Best Actress award at Regional.

Audiences have reportedly been rolling with laughter at the play's creative humor.

"We guarantee you will enjoy the play and

be glad that you came," said the representative.

The production will be Tuesday, May 19, at 7:15 p.m. in the Sudan High School Auditorium.



Sudan muffins...

Sudan ISD hosted Muffins for Mom on Wednesday. There were 46 parents who came to have breakfast with their children.

Sudan's 19th annual Memorial Day service set

Sudan will hold its 19th annual Memorial Service on Monday, May 18, at 10 a.m., at the Sudan Cemetery.

In the event of inclement weather, the location will be moved to the Sudan High School Auditorium.

The schedule will be as follows:

Welcome... Tom Sisson

Invocation... Terry Wilson

Presentation of Colors... Color Guard, Cannon Air Force Base

Pledge of Allegiance ... Sam Merryman or Al Harrison

National Anthem... Bans and Kenneth Richards

Patriotic Music... Kenneth Richards

Speaker... Larry Springer

Music Selections... Band

Benediction... Robert Roecker

Taps... Trumpets Sections

Retiring of Colors... Color Guard.

Thanks for reading!



The cast of "Moon over Buffalo"

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An Approaching Thunderstorm: When to Seek Safe Shelter: Lightning can strike as far as 10 miles from area where it is raining. That's about the distance you can hear thunder. If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance. Seek safe shelter immediately.

Local Shelter Locations

MULESHOE PUBLIC LIBRARY
322 W. 2nd St.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
507 W. 2nd St.


BAILEY COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Know the signs of a tornado: Weather forecasting science is not perfect and some tornadoes do occur without a tornado warning. There is no substitute for staying alert to the sky. Besides an obviously visible tornado, here are some things to look and listen for:


- Strong, persistent rotation in the cloud base.
- Whirling dust or debris on the ground under a cloud base -- tornadoes sometimes have no funnel!
- Hail or heavy rain followed by either dead calm or a fast, intense wind shift. Many tornadoes are wrapped in heavy precipitation and can't be seen.
- Day or night - Loud, continuous roar or rumble, which doesn't fade in a few seconds like thunder.
- Night - Small, bright, blue-green to white flashes at ground level near a thunderstorm (as opposed to silvery lightning up in the clouds). These mean power lines are being snapped by very strong wind, maybe a tornado.
- Night - Persistent lowering from the cloud base, illuminated or silhouetted by lightning -- especially if it is on the ground or there is a blue-green-white power flash underneath.

Weather Advisory...


SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH

 Tells you when and where severe thunderstorms are more likely to occur. Watches are intended to heighten public awareness and should not be confused with warnings.


SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING

 Issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate immediate danger to life and property to those in the path of a storm.

TORNADO WATCH

 Tells you tornadoes are possible in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms. Watches are intended to heighten public awareness and should not be confused with warnings.

TORNADO WARNING

 Issued when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Warnings indicate immediate danger to life and property to those in the path of a storm.



What You Should Do...

- Watch the sky and listen to radio and television for further information. Remain alert for rapidly changing conditions.
- Know the area in which you live. Use a road map of your area to track storm path.
- If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning. Take shelter inside sturdy structure.

- ✦ Go to safe shelter in a sturdy building.
- ✦ Continue to listen to radio and television for further information. Postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are imminent.
- ✦ Unplug appliances not necessary for obtaining weather information. Unplug air conditioners. Power surges from lightning can overload compressors.
- ✦ Avoid using telephone or appliances. Do not take a bath or shower. Use phone ONLY in an emergency.
- ✦ LISTEN! Be aware of your Local Early Warning System.



- ✦ Watch the sky and listen to radio and television for further information. Remain alert for rapidly changing conditions.
- ✦ Know the area in which you live. Use a road map of your area to track storm path from weather bulletins. Remember: Tornadoes occasionally develop in areas in which a severe thunderstorm watch or warning is in effect.
- ✦ LISTEN! Be aware of your Local Early Warning System.

- ⚡ In a home or building, move to a pre-designated shelter, such as a basement.
- ⚡ If an underground shelter is not available, move to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Stay away from windows.
- ⚡ Get out of automobiles. Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car. Instead, leave it immediately.
- ⚡ Continue to listen to radio and television for further information.
- ⚡ LISTEN! Be aware of your Local Early Warning System.



StormReady communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through better planning, education, and awareness. No community is storm proof, but StormReady can help communities save lives.

Muleshoe Early Warning System...

-  WARNING: Repeated blast of the siren in short succession (High-Low) (Up/Down).
-  ALL CLEAR: Solid long blast, stop for 15-30 seconds followed by second long blast.

THERE ARE THREE (3) SIRENS LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE CITY.

FACT: The City has the ability to send audible signals from Police/Fire and EMS vehicles to alert the community of WARNINGS and the ALL CLEAR if the Alert System were to become disabled.

A Public Service Message from

City of Muleshoe
215 S. First, Muleshoe
272-4528

Five Area Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
302 Uvalde, Muleshoe
272-5533

We can be safe or we can be alive... not both

We can be safe, or we can be truly alive. Not both. Opting for "safety" is an illusion both unsafe and pathetic, a gag gift all wrapped up with three bedraggled ribbons: fear, arrogance, and control.



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

When safety is our highest goal, we betray a fear of life and, deeper still, a lack of trust in the God of life. Then we're well on our way to becoming our own gods. Why? So we can control our own lives and the lives of those around us.

Law-based religion is wrapped up in those three constricting ribbons.

Fear that if we don't keep all the right laws, we'll be lost.

An unwillingness to trust the God who through his Son has done the work of salvation.

An arrogance so

blinding that we actually think that we can save ourselves.

A deep desire for the control we'd gain if we could demand what we've earned rather praising God for what we've been given.

A longing for control over others we think we've bested in religious rule-keeping.

To trust in God's grace means to stand alongside all who hope only in grace — shoulder to shoulder, above no one. Ah, a bitter pill, God's grace. Amazing indeed.

But it's not safe. It's deadly to pride.

We long for the "safe" way.

The one-talent man in Jesus' Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25) should be our patron saint.

Afraid of his master and desiring above all to be "safe," he buried what his master gave him. We'd call him smart and conservative. We'd honor him for being careful in his ritual, fastidious in his life, flawless in his law-keeping. Jesus called him a "worthless servant." He made God sick.

The illusion of safety, along with its three ribbons, shows up everywhere. Full of ourselves, we're sure that if we follow the right books on child-raising, eat the right stuff, adhere to the right exercise program, be afraid of all the right things (Twinkies and

cigars, for example), adopt exactly the right strategy to control our business, our families, our lives.

...If we do it all right, well, then we'll live to be a prosperous and healthy 120.

Seeing our own deaths as largely theoretical, we deep down think we could live forever right here — if we did everything right. No one has yet, but we just might. With complete confidence in our ability to plan, control, and execute, we trust ourselves with a faith dwarfing the finest cathedral.

I repeat the words of Eileen Guder: "You can live on bland food so as to avoid an ulcer, drink no tea, coffee, or other stimulants in the name of health; go to bed early; stay away from night life; you can stay off the freeway, avoid all controversial subjects so as never to give or take offense; mind your own business; avoid involvement in other people's problems; spend money only on necessities and save all you can. You can do everything the safe way and still you can break your neck in the bathtub, and it will serve you right."

Apart from God safety is a myth. And pretty disgusting.

Have a story or photo ideas? Let us know! 272-4536

"Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They will be a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck..."

Proverbs 1:8-9, NIV

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Wedding Announcements



Darrell Dewitt Lewis and Natalie Brooke Longhofer.

Longhofer, Lewis to wed

Clarence and Sadie Lewis of Muleshoe Texas wish to announce the up incoming marriage of their son, Darrell Dewitt Lewis, to Natalie Brooke Longhofer.

The prospective bride is the daughter of Timothy and Darae Longhofer of Amarillo.

She is an Amarillo High School graduate. She attended Hardin-Simmons University and then attended West Texas A&M University to earn a bachelor degree in nursing.

Lewis graduated from Muleshoe High School in 2001, and earned a degree from West Texas A&M University.

The wedding is set for Saturday, June 27, at 7:30 p.m., in Amarillo.

Bridal Shower



Mitci Hawkins

Hawkins bridal shower held

Mitci Hawkins was honored with a bridal shower on April 18, in the home of Lyn Vandiver in Muleshoe.

Hawkins is the daughter of Keith and Brenda Hawkins of Portales, N.M.

The prospective groom is Josh Bartlett, the son of Frank and Kay Bartlett of Midland

Hostesses for the event included Ashley Albertson, Pam Atwood, Sharon Burris, Shelli Carpenter, Jo Ellen Cowart, Amy Gilleland, Virgie Hartline, Kay Leopard, Ruth Locker, Janet Morgan, Rhonda Myers, Shani Nichols, Jamie Sanders, Lyn Vandiver and Jody Wood.

The hostess gift was a comforter set, bedding, and a gift card.

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.



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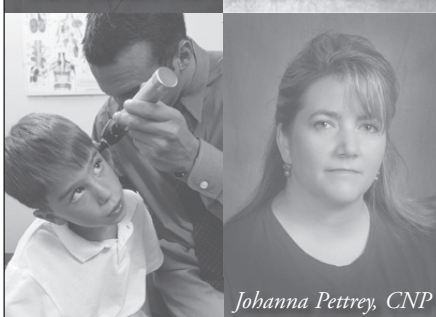
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USDA extends certain conservation reserve program contracts

Kim Hanlin, executive director of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Bailey County, announced recently that FSA will offer certain producers the opportunity to modify and extend their Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts that are scheduled to expire on Sept. 30.

"USDA is committed to safeguarding the nation's natural resources and this program will help protect millions of acres of American topsoil from erosion and enhance the quality of our water," said Hanlin.

According to Hanlin FSA can only extend

approximately 1.5 million acres out of a total 3.9 million acres expiring this year. This extension will ensure that FSA meets the statutory CRP acreage limitation of 32 million acres established in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

CRP is a voluntary program for agricultural landowners. CRP protects millions of acres of American topsoil from erosion and is designed to safeguard the Nation's natural resources.

Participants receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term,

resource conserving covers on eligible farmland.

A general CRP sign-up is not scheduled during fiscal year 2009. However, producers may continue to enroll relatively small, highly-desirable acreages, including land that is not extended, into Continuous CRP. Continuous CRP includes such practices as filter strips and riparian buffers.

FSA will notify participants by letter beginning May 6. The sign-up for this voluntary extension will begin on May 18 and run through June 30.

Farmers and ranchers may apply for this extension at their FSA county office. FSA administers CRP on behalf of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

CRP contracts with the highest environmental benefit or with the highest potential for soil erosion will be selected. CRP contracts can not exceed 15 years in the aggregate and chosen CRP contract holders will generally be offered a three to five year extension.

Producers electing to extend their contract period will receive their current contract rental rate. All or a portion of the

acreage under contract may be included in an extension, but no new acreage may be added.

Through CRP, FSA enters into long term (10-15 year) contracts with agricultural producers to protect highly erodible and other environmentally-sensitive land.

Participants convert enrolled land to grass, trees, wildlife habitats

and other conservation uses.

The program has reduced soil erosion by over 400 million tons, protected over two million acres of wetlands and resulted in buffers established on over 100,000 miles of streams and rivers.

For more information about CRP contact the Bailey County FSA office at 808 272-4538.

Two sets of twins graduate from Wayland

By Teresa Young
WBU

Guests at Wayland Baptist University's spring commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 9, may have felt they were seeing double — twice.

Two sets of twin sisters shared graduation honors after sharing four years of college together at WBU.

Heather and Hannah Dillard of Lubbock earned degrees in psychology and religion and education, respectively, while sisters Ashley and Kelsey Beggs of Muleshoe took home diplomas in political science and international management.

Their differences in study preferences is just one thing that proves that twins don't share everything in their lives, though both sets of sisters admit they do share a special bond and a sort of sixth sense between them that ordinary siblings don't typically experience.

That's why when both sets of sisters set out to pick colleges a little over four years ago, they opted to share an alma mater rather than split. But it didn't start out that way.

"We had narrowed down our schools to Wayland for me, and Hannah wanted to go to (a sister Baptist school)," said Heather. "We visited both campuses again and she decided she liked Wayland better."

They were happy with the final decision to attend the same university. But they knew from the start sharing a room wasn't in the cards.

"We discovered our senior year in high school that we didn't want to live together," Hannah laughed. "We wanted to be able to see each other and be happy to be together."

The Beggs sisters' story is somewhat similar.

"We didn't really want

to go to school together," said Kelsey. "I think we were ready to be our own people and not be defined as the twins, as sisters."

The girls applied to schools that piqued their interest, wanting to go farther from home. But when the financial aid wasn't adding up, they researched Wayland on the recommendation of their pastor, Dr. Stacy Conner — also a Wayland trustee — and his wife. They applied and came for a campus visit late in the spring of their senior year at Muleshoe High School.

"By the time we left that day, we pretty much had a full ride for the fall semester, which really helped since both of us were going at the same time," Ashley said. But she admits, she kept the dream of going away in her mind. "I said I was going to transfer probably every semester of school, but I never did. When we started thinking about it, there was no point in leaving. We had friends here, and great professors."

"We can go talk to anyone, faculty and staff, at any time, and you just don't get that at other schools," Kelsey added in agreement. "Everyone tried to talk us out of transferring because they knew it was best for us here. It's that family that everyone talks about."

The Beggses were also adamant that they not share a room, prone to common but harmless sisterly fighting. They lived down the hall from one another often, but enjoyed the camaraderie with other Wayland girls.

Still, there's something about the twin bond that kept both sets of sisters strong while in school. The ability to always have a friend, and family, nearby

was a plus, and even while being in close proximity, the college experience grew all four.

"We realized how different we are... similar but pretty different. I don't think we even knew that until we got to college, because we had done things together all growing up," Heather said. "We've learned we're different, and that's OK. We don't compare ourselves as much anymore."

For the Beggses, their different personalities have become more pronounced, and their differing interests led to varied activities and friends in some instances. Still, they knew their twin would always be there.

Both sets of sisters say the common aggravation of twinship is being mistaken for the other — both sets look nearly identical but are genetically not — though sometimes it does make for humorous situations. Both possess mirror twin traits — Ashley and Hannah are left-handed, while Kelsey and Heather are right-handed — but their differing personalities solved the mystery once folks on campus got to know them.

Have they ever pulled off the stereotypical twin switch while in college?

"We tried to switch places in high school, and it wasn't very successful, so we never tried it at college," Ashley said. "Since our classes and interests were so different, it wouldn't have really helped us."

The Dillard's just laughed, and Heather admitted others have tried to talk them into trying it.

"We don't look enough alike to do that, really. I always wanted to do it, but we couldn't make it work," Hannah said.

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