



**Muleshoe teams
hit the courts**
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**Spinning Rowels:
Deck the halls...**
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**The Muleshoe Journal
office will be closed
on New Year's Day**

Muleshoe Journal



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Muleshoe, Texas

December 31, 2009

Candidates file for county office

By **Larry Thornton**
Managing Editor

The ring has been set in place, and local candidates have until Jan. 4 to toss in their hats, according to Bailey County Clerk Paula Bennett.

This year, a total of eight elected offices are up for grabs, most of which have at least one candidate who have filed to date.

The Bailey County offices up for election in 2010, and candidates who have filed as of Dec. 28 include:

- County Judge — Sherri Harrison (incumbent)
 - County Treasurer — Shonda Black (incumbent)
 - District Clerk — Elaine Parker (incumbent)
 - County Clerk — Paula Bennett (incumbent)
 - Commissioner, Precinct 2 — C.E. Grant (incumbent) and James Brown
 - Commissioner, Precinct 4 — Juan Chavez (incumbent)
 - Justice of the Peace — Deb Stone (incumbent), Debra Redwine and Julian Dominguez.
- All of these positions have a four-year term of office.
- An additional position

which is up for election in 2010, that of Bailey County Attorney, is for a two-year unexpired term.

Former County Attorney Jeanine Backus resigned in August, citing family reasons following the Bailey County Commissioners' Court's denial of her request for a salary increase.

After Backus' resignation, the court appointed attorney Jacky Claborn to fill the position until the 2010 election.

At this time, no one has filed for county attorney.

While candidate packets are available from the Bailey County Clerk's Office, where the candidates are required to file their appointment of campaign treasurer prior to filing with the appropriate county party chairman.

The Democratic Party Chair is Linda McConagill, due to the recent resignation of Daniel Patterson.

The Republican Party Chair is Carroll Precure.

The 2010 primary election day is March 2, and the runoff day is April 13.

The 2010 general election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 2.

County's junior livestock show set for Jan. 15-16

Area youth and youngsters, along with a variety of animals and adults, will be gathering at the Bailey County Coliseum in just a few weeks to participate in the 2010 Junior Livestock Show.

According to the Bailey County AgriExtension office, the schedule for

this year's livestock show is as follows:

- Jan. 15**
 - Dairy cattle and steer show — 8:30 a.m.
 - Goats and sheep show — 10:30 a.m.
 - Swine show — 1 p.m.
- Jan. 16**
 - Meal — 11 a.m.
 - Premium sale — noon



Snowdrift 'mining' in Muleshoe

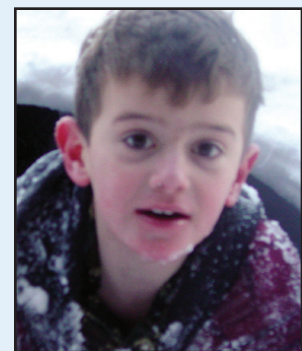
It takes a mere dusting of "dry" snow for a snow angel, and snowmen, forts and a decent snowball require a bit more of the wet stuff.

But it takes not only a good wet snow accompanied by a bit of wind to form a snowdrift big enough to tunnel through.

Such was the case last week, when Muleshoe's Puckett family found a drift with just the right specifications.

Pictured to the left, and below, the Puckett clan experiences some time in the snow.

"Mom, where are you?"



2009: MEMORABLE MOMENT

Championship ring presentation

A large crowd of Mule football fans turned out Thursday night, Feb. 12, for one last big Hoorah, as the UIL Texas State Championship medals and rings were presented to all involved in the 2008 Mules' 15-0 run.

Pictured on the right, Coach David Wood hugs his son, Wes Wood, quarterback of the state championship team.



2009: A year of highs and lows

By **Larry Thornton**
Managing Editor

Part 1

Looking back at the Muleshoe Journal's top stories of 2009 brings on both elation and sadness.

The Muleshoe community started off the year with several

high notes, including the ongoing celebration of the varsity Mules, who brought home the state championship, but the year ended on a low note, with the death of two of the community's business leaders — Hector "Jesse" Leal in November, and Frank Ellis in December.

One of the surprise stories in the first half of 2009 was the re-filing of a petition to allow the sale of alcoholic beverages in Muleshoe. Although an election item placed on a county ballot was defeated in November's election, the issue returned to the polls in a city-wide election held on May 2009.

When the election wheeled around, however, the majority of local voters followed the November vote and tossed the idea out.

Other stories included:

- The Bailey County Commissioners voted to join the National

Association of Counties with hopes of passing along prescription savings to all county residents.

Although the association offers other services to county governments, such as lobbying against

unfunded mandates and a cooperative purchasing program, a representative of the organization. The prescription card program was in place in June.

- The reaction of local residents to the inauguration of Pres. Barack Obama. "We are blessed to live in a country, where no matter how different

the in-going and outgoing views, we are able to make a peaceful transition," Dist. Judge Gordon Green said in mid-January.

- An attempt by the Muleshoe Area Hospital District's board of directors to increase its cap rate began with the idea of totally removing the cap — allowing the district the option of increasing to the state's 75 cent cap, but after the board members "tested the waters" in February and March they decided to change their election item, sending a request for a 15 cent increase to the hospital district's 40 cent per hundred valuation cap.

However, when the modified request went before the voters in May, the issue was soundly defeated.

- Panda Ethanol's efforts to build a plant in Bailey County disappeared with its

Continued on page 3

2009: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

JUST IN!! NEW SHIPMENT OF JEWELRY AND PURSES ALL 1/2 OFF

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USDA implements new crop disaster assistance program

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that USDA has implemented the new Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) in accordance with the 2008 Farm Bill.

Vilsack also encouraged producers to visit their USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office beginning on Jan. 4 to participate in the program if they suffered crop production losses during the 2008 crop year.

"This program is an important component of the farm safety net and will provide financial assistance to producers who have suffered crop losses due to natural disasters," said Vilsack. "Producers will receive payments beginning in January, in time to help them with planning for next year's crop."

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses.

The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue.

The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm.

Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible for

SURE, producers must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance.

In addition, producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops.

For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision.

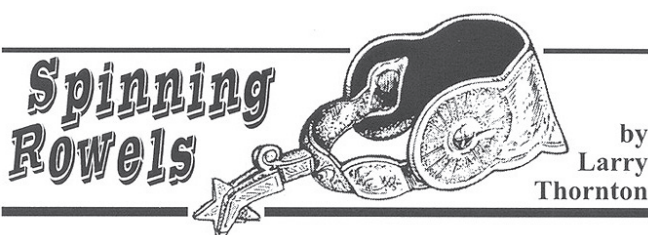
Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

In addition to meeting the risk management purchase requirement, a producer must have a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation.

Regardless of a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster.

For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit your local FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.



Decking the halls with illegal substances

Yes... I know Christmas has past, and we're supposed to be looking toward the new year, but I couldn't let the recent arrest of two women in Missouri sneak through under the radar.

In case you missed hearing about it, a couple of women in Missouri were arrested by state troopers for possession of marijuana, some of which had been gift wrapped for Christmas.

Isn't that just precious?

Christmas has always brought to mind a variety of seasonal plants ranging from holly to evergreens, and poinsettias to mistletoe, but I've never considered marijuana among the holiday herbage.

We could laugh about the idea of replacing Santa's milk and cookies with some "herb-filled" brownies, but I figure we're looking at a whole new courtroom defense strategy.

First, there were defendants who were found "not guilty by reason of insanity."

This was followed by pleas for acquittal because of the "burning bed syndrome."

Then, there was the "child abuse" defense of Joseph and Erik Menendez.

Of course, if we jump back a little further, there was comedian Flip (Geraldine) Wilson's "the devil made me do it" defense, but that tends to date me... so we won't go there.

And now, with this most recent arrest, don't be surprised if we see the "I got it from Santa" defense rear its head.

I can see the defense attorney standing before the jury, explaining that with the ever-rising fuel costs, the jolly ole elf from the far north has apparently replaced his traditional "coal and switches" with bricks of ganja (that's marijuana for those who were born either before or after the "age of Aquarius" Oops, that dates me also).

"Your honor, and members of the jury, my clients are

innocent!" the defense attorney proclaims. "Unbeknownst to either of them, someone crept down their chimney — a couple of nights prior to Christmas, and left these packages under my clients' Christmas tree. My clients have been victimized by Santa Claus."

Granted, the attorney would also have to deal with the fact that his clients' receiving coal and switches, or even the herbal equivalent, means they aren't innocent, and are in fact "naughty," but that shouldn't be too difficult a snowdrift to climb with a jury gullible enough for the "Santa defense."

Stand up comedians have hinted at Rudolph's alcohol consumption because of his red proboscis for decades, but it won't be long before defense attorney's will be making similar allusions about Santa's "high" flying adventures.

On the other hand, there's probably few of us who haven't complained about the US Postal Service at one time or another — like the IRS, but imagine what Santa's Christmas Eve deliveries would be like if Rudolph, et al, ate a bale of "non-blue stem" super grass prior to making their annual journey south.

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Publication of Obituaries

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

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Sandra Aven, Publisher
saven@hearstnp.com

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Larry Thornton, Managing Editor
editor@muleshojournal.com

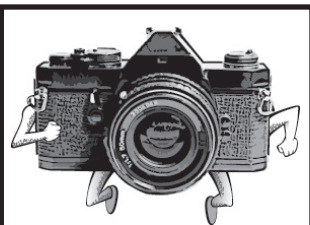
Terry Brewster, Ad Representative
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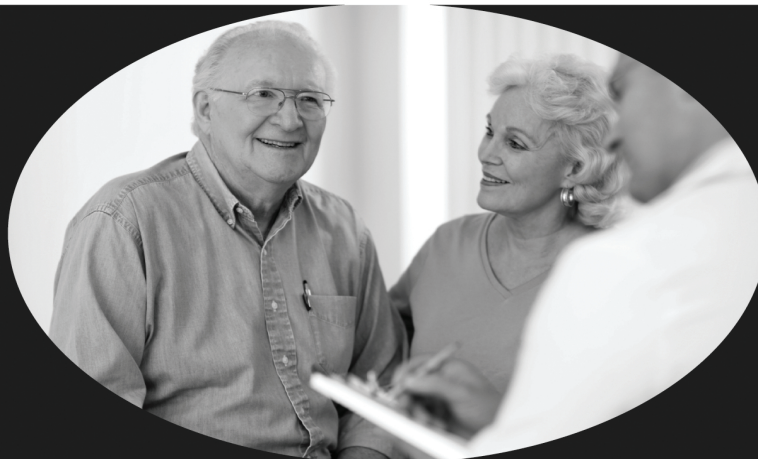
Don't forget your photographs

Have some of your photographs "run off?"

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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Tradition of excellence in UIL academics

A day of excitement, nervousness, and anticipation describes the day of the UIL competition for Dillman Elementary second grade students, DeShazo Elementary third through fifth grade students, and Watson Junior High School sixth through eighth grade students.

The recent Elementary and Junior High UIL contests saw much success for Muleshoe students. Our students and their UIL sponsors worked diligently in preparing for the competition.

More than 100 junior high students participated in UIL Academic contests, and 79 students in second through fifth grades

School News By Dr. Gene Sheets

of our elementary students competed in the contests.

The junior high One-Act Play won second place. Our elementary won second place overall, and our junior high won third place overall.

What is UIL Academics? The University Interscholastic League (UIL) offers the most comprehensive literary and academic competitive program in the nation.

It offers more than any other UIL division in terms of activities, with 22 high school and 19 elementary and 19

junior high contests. More than a half million students participate in UIL academic contests.

Why is UIL Academics important? These activities, which exist to complement the academic curriculum, are designed to motivate students as they acquire higher levels of knowledge, to challenge students to confront issues of importance, and to provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of specific skills.

Each year, more than 1,000 elementary and junior high schools

offer the UIL's academic contests as a part of their enrichment program for students.

Muleshoe ISD is excited to have so many students involved in UIL Academic competition. There are events to cover any student's abilities, whether it is Math, English, Social Studies, Science, Art, Music, or Speaking.

Everyone works extremely hard to do well at the junior high school and elementary UIL district contests. These contests prepare our students to be able to compete at the high school level, where we have historically been very successful over the years.



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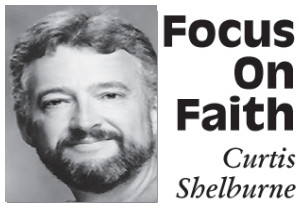
Singing the right tune for the New Year

Although I certainly wish for you and yours a happy and blessed New Year, I confess that I'm rarely terribly excited about New Year's fanfare. (I like almost any reason for some days off and time with friends and good food, so I'm not a total New Year's grinch by any means.)

But, to me, by far the most impressive thing about New Year's Day is that it is the seventh day of the 12 days of the Christmas season.

Our society gets almost everything backwards, so why should we be surprised if it gets Christmas end-first and whomper-jawed?

We celebrate what someone has called Hallowthankmas, and



it's a good thing Santa's sleigh flies, or it would be skidding on Halloween candy in the street and mowing down pint-sized goblins.

I'm glad that more folks are re-discovering the wisdom of the church across the centuries and observing Advent, a time of preparation for Christ's coming. Christmas Day arrives on the 25th, and the 12 days of the Christmas season follow.

"Glory to God in the highest," the angels sang. The thing, you see, about Christmas is that it centers on something only God could pull off, and the only proper

response to what he has done is to praise him.

The angels sing, and we join them! God has done something absolutely apart from our puny power, completely out of our reach.

It was more likely that one of those shepherds at Bethlehem would cipher out the Theory of Relativity ahead of Einstein than that we could come up with a plan to save this fallen world.

Christmas — the real thing — is a moment of rare sanity for the human race as we get over ourselves, focus on what God has done, and realize we can't add to his Gift, or improve it, or in any way earn it.

All we can do is accept it. We learn that since the Child came at Bethlehem, everything has changed. It's all new.

But then comes New Year's, and, if we're not careful, we fall right back into our old ways. Focusing on our power and glorifying man is "business as usual" for the human race.

We take center stage again and glorify not the Almighty but honor instead our puny might and our pathetic attempts to "make something" of ourselves.

I won't be so unkind as to point you to old New Year's resolutions and ask, "How's that working out for you?"

If mankind could have just "tried harder" to get it (meaning, life) right, we'd not have needed a Savior.

A law-giver and a law, a man-centered religion, a really good self-help book, would have been just fine. Then we could look down on others who haven't worked as hard.

And we could forget not just the angel's song but also the grand hymn "Amazing Grace." "Glory to me in the highest" would be our tune instead.

Alas, "trying harder" never really works or honors God. Trusting God and living life to thank him for what he is building in our lives does.

2009: The Year in review

Continued from page 1 parent company, Panda Energy, filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

• In March, the City of Muleshoe signed a contract for the construction of a new police department. The building, which greatly expanded the department's working space, was in place and the move was made in December.

• And, in April, after a wait of more than a year, the dialysis unit at Park View Nursing Care Center was finally approved for Medicare and Medicaid patients. Previously, the Muleshoe Dialysis Center been approved for patients with private insurance.

Although the idea of housing the first dialysis center in a nursing home was believed to be a major benefit in Park View's financial struggles, as the year ended it was noted at a MAHD board meeting that it had played a part in only a couple residents' decision to make the move to Muleshoe.



Moving day...

Movers transport one of the Muleshoe Independent School District's portable buildings after their sale to Lockney ISD.

Happy New Year!



Dec. 31, 4 am – 11 pm
Jan. 1, 7 am – 12 am

May happiness and good cheer be yours in 2010!!!



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— John 1:14

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Thank you for enabling us stay in business for the past twelve years. We have enjoyed being your gift headquarters and are excited to now offer you a full service floral shop as well.

We have heard the rumors that we are going out of business. If someone tells you we're closing, please do us a favor and say, "It ain't so!"

Because of the success of our floral shop, the challenges of the recession, and family health issues— we are now attempting to restructure our business. We are about to make some major changes in our operations. Some may even surprise you.

This restructuring, however, will still allow us to offer unique gift items, great florals at affordable prices, even more unique Christmas merchandise and wait until you see our Valentine offerings.

We hope that 2010 is kind to you. We look forward to a mutually beneficial business relationship. Thanks for your support.

Buck and Carolyn Johnson
Carolyn's Christmas Creations
Muleshoe, TX

Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

The Oneita Wagon Senior Citizens Center will be closed on Friday, Jan. 1. Happy New Year to all.

May you have a safe and happy holiday.

The center will open next year, on Monday, Jan. 4, at the regularly scheduled time.

Our prayers and love go to Buster and Wanda Kittrell on the loss of her mother.

All you Bunco players call your friends and come to play on Tuesday, Jan. 5. Be sure to be here by 10 a.m.

Our appreciation to LeAnn and Interim Home Health for assisting with the fun time.

If you play or would like to learn to play, mark your calendar and come to the center to have fun.

We welcome our Bridge

players on Tuesday, Jan. 5. We are pleased to have you come and enjoy the center.

Wednesday is our steak day at the center. Sherlon has done a wonderful job cooking the steaks while Joe is gone, but Joe will be back by next Wednesday.

Thursday is Bingo day at the center. Our appreciation goes to LaShea Mason and IntregaCare for sharing their time in coming and calling Bingo for us.

I do not know what we would do at the center without all our volunteers.

Pat your self on the back for being such a great group of senior citizens.

Kenneth, thanks for fixing the Christmas lights on top of the building, we could not do with you.

Menu for Jan. 4-8:

Monday, Jan. 4 — Chicken gumbo on rice, sliced carrots, salad, garlic bread and apple crisp.

Tuesday, Jan. 5 — Hamburgers, baked beans, cheese lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickles, salsa, chips and pudding.

Wednesday, Jan. 6 — Grilled steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, wheat roll and peach cobbler.

Thursday, Jan. 7 — Beef tips and noodles, oriental veggies, salad, wheat roll, fruit and cookies.

Friday, Jan. 8 — Fish or chicken strips, gravy, beans, coleslaw, cornbread and fruit salad.

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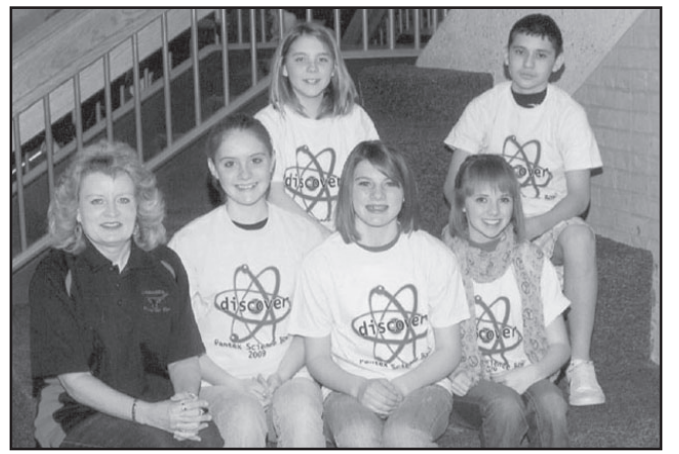
2009: MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Lazbuddie science teams...

The Lazbuddie Independent School District's seventh-grade and eighth-grade science bowl teams made it to the double elimination round in competition at the Pantex Science Bowl and won the Sportsmanship award, worth \$250.

Seventh grade team, pictured above on the left, left to right, include — Debbie Weir, Shyann Rainey, Haley Beasley, Ashton Mason, Katlyn Hicks and Alex Lopez.

Lazbuddies eighth grade team — not pictured, includes Debbie Weir, Jessica Estrada, Shay Scott, Karina Galaviz, Ian Thompson and Ana Harder



Best wishes to one and all for making this a great year. May your New Year be bright and shining with Joy. To those we've served, our thanks.

-Linda, Josie, Anna, & Fayla

Très Bella Salon

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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI
JERUSALEM: ANCIENT FORTRESS WHICH STOOD UNCONQUERED IN THE HEART OF ISRAEL SINCE THE DAYS OF JOSHUA, WAS FINALLY TAKEN 500 YEARS LATER BY THE NEWLY ANOINTED KING DAVID (CIRCA 1000 B.C.)...
...THE JEBUSITES, WHO LIVED IN THIS STRONGHOLD HIGH ON MT. ZION, WERE SO CONFIDENT THEIR FORTRESS COULD NOT BE SUCCESSFULLY ASSAULTED THAT THEY INSULTED DAVID'S ARMY BY ONLY MANNING THE WALLS AND BATTLEMENTS WITH MEN WHO WERE BLIND AND FITFULLY LAZE!
BUT DAVID'S MEN FOUND A TUNNEL, LEADING FROM AN OUTSIDE WATER SUPPLY SPRING, DIRECTLY INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY! IN THE DARK OF NIGHT, DAVID LED HIS TROOPS THROUGH THE TUNNEL, TOOK THE JEBUSITES UNAWARES, AND CAPTURED THE FORTRESS WHICH WAS TO BECOME HIS CAPITAL—THE "CITY OF DAVID!" AND SINCE THAT DAY, JERUSALEM HAS BEEN CONTINUALLY FOUGHT OVER—RIGHT UP INTO MODERN TIMES!
NEXT WEEK: I CAN A MAN BE CALLED WISE WHO HAS A THOUSAND WIVES?
Illustration of King David's army attacking Jerusalem.

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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

New laws to improve appraisal process take effect Jan. 1

On Tuesday, Gov. Rick Perry highlighted several new laws that take effect Jan. 1, which institute important reforms to the appraisal process to help property taxpayers.

"In addition to cutting taxes for 40,000 small business and leaving billions of dollars in our Rainy Day Fund this last session, we also implemented measures that will provide greater protection for property owners by adding transparency and fairness to the appraisal process," Gov. Perry said.

HB 8 and 3612 by Rep. John Otto and SB 771 by Sen. Tommy Williams are among several bills that will improve the appraisal process, and include provisions that impose limits on what is considered a comparable sale for appraisal purposes; create an expedited arbitration process; and require substantial evidence to increase an appraisal after a successful appeal.

These changes will improve the fairness and accuracy of the appraisal process and increase the

oversight of appraisal districts to ensure they are following uniform appraisal practices and procedures.

HB 1038 by Rep. Ken Paxton ensures appraisers continue to consider all comparable properties when appraising a home, including those recently sold at foreclosure or that have decreased in value.

Additional measures to strengthen the appraisal process include the passage of Propositions 2 and 3 by Texas voters in November.

Proposition 2 will

ensure that residential property is appraised only based on its use as a homestead (instead of being appraised based on a hypothetical alternate use).

Proposition 3 will allow the Legislature to adopt uniform statewide appraisal standards in the future. Both of these measures will increase transparency and accountability in the appraisal process.

For a list of all Texas laws effective on Jan. 1, visit www.legis.state.tx.us.

"Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding, for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold..." Proverbs 3:13-14, NIV



From Everyone at
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Welcome the
New Year...
May you find the door
open to happiness in the
days ahead!

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Democrats' health care bill is a tale of broken promises

As the year comes to a close, the American people have seen this administration and Congress go on a massive spending spree that has sent our national debt skyrocketing and caused our employment rate to plummet.

Now they want to put government in charge of our health care. Is it any wonder that a growing chorus of patients and doctors, seniors and hospitals, taxpayers and small businesses are rejecting the Democrats' health bill?

At the beginning of the debate, Pres. Barack Obama made several promises about the bill. He pledged that any legislation would cost less than \$900 billion. We now know that is false.

He vowed that it wouldn't add a dime to the deficit. Also false. He insisted that no one who likes their insurance program today would lose it. Again, false. He claimed that no one making less than \$250,000 would see higher taxes. False.

It is an outrage that this bill will raise taxes in about a week and continue for four years before the rest of the programs are implemented.

That is why I authored a motion to send this bill back to committee and require that everything in it start together.

If the programs don't start until 2014, then the taxes should start then, too. Unfortunately, the Hutchison motion was tabled by the majority in the Senate.

Let's walk through the taxes that are set to start in just a few weeks: \$22 billion in taxes on prescription drug manufacturers; \$19 billion in taxes on medical device manufacturers; \$60 billion in taxes on



insurance companies. And what comes in 2011, 2012, 2013?? You guessed it, more taxes!

In 2013, the taxes on high benefit plans, (\$149 billion); limits on what can be deducted from income for medical expenses (\$15 billion); and the new Medicare payroll tax impacting individuals who earn more than \$200,000 and couples who earn more than \$250,000 (\$54 billion) take effect.

After years of taxes and increases in health insurance premiums, increases in the cost of prescription drugs and medical equipment, finally, in 2014, Americans then see the rest of the bill become law.

But wait! With the rest of the bill also come the mandates and penalties - \$28 billion in taxes on employers and \$8 billion in taxes on individuals.

When Americans asked for reform, they wanted relief from rising costs. Unfortunately, they won't get it under this bill.

And that is why my motion was so important. If our motion had been enacted, no taxes would begin unless the American people are able to see something in return.

The time has come to bring Republicans back to the table. I am a champion of legislation that would provide a tax credit worth \$2,000 per individual and \$5,000 per family for the purchase of health insurance every year.

Allowing small businesses to pool together to purchase health insurance would increase the size of the risk pool, lower premiums, and give employers more affordable options for their employees. Medical

malpractice reform that curbs lawsuit abuse would lower costs by over \$50 billion annually.

Using the private sector — not Washington bureaucrats — to reduce costs and increase access is what the American people want and deserve.

It's not too late to give it to them. The key is putting the newest budget-busting bill aside and enacting a true bipartisan agreement that accomplishes our goals in a fair, fiscally accountable way.



Ongoing success...
Jessica Carpenter, one of the South Plains College - Muleshoe Center's School of Nursing's success stories, was "pinned" during ceremonies on Dec. 11, 2008, but the center offered a variety of classes throughout 2009.

May our wish for a prosperous New Year touch each and everyone of our friends.
Happy New Year

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Happy New Year!
Good Luck
Good Wishes
Good Cheer
in the
New Year.

-David, Sharon &
All the gang

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2009: MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Century plus celebration...
Tennie McCormick, pictured on the left, celebrated her 102 birthday on Feb. 4, 2009.

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.

WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS FREEDOM.

OR fitness 2 Cor. 3:17, 18
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We know we'll reconnect with him at the end of each life's road. We'll see his cherished face again when we release our earthly load.

Thanks for all the acts of kindness. He will be missed by all of us, including you.

Sally Ellis
Trey Ellis Family
Dan Ellis Family
Todd Ellis Family

Sports

Freshmen Mules defeat Friona's Braves, 51-34

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The freshmen Mules served notice early to the Friona Braves they would defend their home floor. The Mules opened a 13-5 lead in the first quarter and continued to pound away for a 51-34 win.

Caleb Wood banged home a 3-pointer and added two buckets in the first period to lead the Mules in scoring.

Ryan Johnson made a pair of baskets in the paint and Xavier Reyes added a bucket. The Mules led 13-5 after one quarter.

The Mules lost five points from their lead

in the second quarter as Friona made a comeback.

Wood made his second trey of the night and Reyes made two buckets. The Mules led 20-17 at the intermission.

Johnson, Atwood and Garrison Myers made two baskets each in the third frame.

Alex Mendoza and Wood made a bucket each as the Mules ran away from the Braves 16-5 in the third quarter to take a 36-22 lead into the final quarter.

Johnson made five from the charity line and a bucket in the final quarter. Mendoza added

two baskets and Osmar Diaz and Jaxel Lopez dropped in a bucket each.

Johnson set the scoring pace for the Mules with 15 points. Wood with his two 3-pointers added 12 points.

Reyes and Mendoza dropped in six points each and Atwood and Myers made four apiece. Diaz and Lopez chipped in two points each.

The Mules took the Christmas holidays off but will be in action in Portales on Jan. 7.

They will travel to Floydada on Jan. 11 and will host the Tulia Hornets on Jan. 18.



Keep away...

Lady Mule Alyssa Leal passes the basketball during the game against the Morton Maidens.
Photograph by Stacy Conner

Eighth grade Mules turn deficit into victory

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The eighth grade Mules came back from a one-point deficit in the first quarter to take a 40-30 win over the Friona Braves in their final game of 2009.

Eli Leal made a basket in the opening period and dropped in a pair of free throws to lead the Mules in the first quarter.

Matthew Barron found the range from 3-point land and AJ Barron added a basket.

The Mules trailed 10-9 after one quarter.

Leal lit up the score board with three baskets and three charity tosses in the second quarter. Blaine Hurtado knocked down a pair of 3-pointers and Visente Solano made a bucket.

The Mules had run away from the Braves 17-6

in the period and led 26-16 at the intermission.

The third period turned out to be a dead heat as both teams put 10 points on the board.

Joel Regalado led the Mules with two baskets.

M. Barron, Hurtado and Leal made a bucket each as the Mules hung on to a 36-26 advantage going into the final quarter.

The Mules only added four points in the fourth quarter but held the Braves to the same number. Regalado and David Diaz both made buckets in the final quarter.

Leal paced the Mules with 15 points. Hurtado dropped in eight points and Regalado added six.

M. Barron made five points and A. Barron, Solano and Diaz had two-points each.

The Mules will have the Christmas holidays off with their families but will be back in action Jan. 11. in Floydada. against the Whirlwinds.

They will play in the Sudan Invitational Tournament Jan. 14-16, and will host the Tulia Hornets on Jan. 18.

Seventh grade mules falls to Friona

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The seventh grade Mules fell to the Friona Braves in their final outing of 2009. The Mules played host and the Braves took advantage of the Mules 44-24.

Friona took an early three-point lead in the first period. Saul Sanchez paced the Mules with a pair of baskets in the quarter.

Paublo Flores and Braden Bessire made a basket each and JJ Gardea made one from the free throw line.

The Mules fell farther behind as the Braves scored 16 points and held the Mules to five. Sanchez made a bucket and a charity toss and Flores added a basket. The Mules trailed 28-14 at the half.

Sanchez made all five

of the Mules' points in the third quarter with a basket and a 3-pointer.

The Mules were held to five points in the final quarter but they stopped the double digit production of the Braves for a three-point quarter.

Sanchez and Bessire made a basket each and Gardea chipped in free throw. Sanchez led the Mules with 14 points. Flores and Bessire dropped in four each and Gardea chipped in two.

The Mules will enjoy the Christmas holidays with their families and will not be back in action until Jan. 11, at Floydada against the Whirlwinds.

They will participate in the Sudan Invitational Tournament Jan. 14-16 and return home Jan.18, to host the Tulia Hornets.



Mine!

Lady Mule Janae Pyle fights for the ball during a February 2009 basketball game.

Photograph by Stacy Conner

Happy New Year!

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HAPPY NEW YEAR - May 2010 be the best year ever!!!

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Jan. 2 Estacado (Here) Jan. 5 Lockney (Here) Jan. 8 Childress JVG 5:00 pm, VG 6:30 (There) Olton JVB 5:00, VB 6:30 (Here)

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State housing agency awards \$1.6 million in federal stimulus weatherization funds to South Plains region

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and State Rep. Joe Heflin have announced a major award to a regional nonprofit organization designed to generate a wide array of jobs that will help jump start the region's construction industry, while increasing home energy efficiency for low income households, reducing their cost burden, and creating a healthier environment.

TDHCA awarded \$1.6 million in federal stimulus funding to South Plains Community Action Association to weatherize the homes of low income residents living in Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lynn, Motley, Terry, and Yoakum counties.

"I am extremely pleased to see these federal stimulus funds reaching communities in my district," said Representative Heflin in making the announcement. "In addition to reducing the utility cost burden on households who can least afford it, these funds will create construction jobs and safer, more energy efficient homes for the residents of West Texas. I am confident that TDHCA and South Plains Community Action will make good use of these

funds."

The award represents a portion of \$288 million in weatherization stimulus funds the state is allocating to 45 cities, counties, and eligible nonprofit organizations across the state to weatherize the homes of an estimated 40,000 low income Texans.

The awards were made through the Department's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and were provided on a one-time basis to the state through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The Recovery Act provided approximately \$314 million more in funds than what TDHCA typically administers each year for weatherization activities. By comparison, the Department annually weatherizes approximately 3,700 homes using current funding levels of approximately \$13 million.

"The state has been given an extraordinary opportunity to make an enormous difference in the everyday lives of Panhandle residents," said Michael Gerber, TDHCA Executive Director, "actions that will lower their energy consumption, create healthier surroundings, and reduce the state's overall demand for

energy. We also pledge to ensure these funds are administered in a responsible, accountable manner at the state and local levels."

WAP is designed to help low income customers control their energy costs through the installation of weatherization materials and consumer education. Income eligible households spend 12.2 percent of their income on home energy costs, compared an average of 3.7 percent. Households assisted through WAP typically save over \$400 on utility costs each year, savings can be enjoyed for as long as 15 to 20 years.

Primary efforts focus on caulking; weatherstripping; the installation of ceiling, wall, and floor insulation; patching holes in the building envelope; duct work; and the possible repair or replacement of energy inefficient heating and cooling systems.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is the funding source for this one-time allocation of weatherization funds. In addition to the substantial increase in funds, the Recovery Act contains two provisions that will extend TDHCA's ability to reach those in need.

Under the Recovery Act, the income limit for eligibility increases from 150 percent to 200

percent of federal poverty guidelines. TDHCA currently sets its income limits at 125 percent to ensure these funds, which are normally quite limited, reach deeper pockets of need.

Additionally, the Act raises the monetary cap that may be spent on each household from \$2,500 to \$6,500. The Department, which combines WAP funds from DOE and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, currently caps assistance per household at \$4,000.

For more information about weatherization efforts eligible under the Act, or to learn more about WAP in general,

please visit the section's web site at www.tdhca.state.tx.us/es/wap.htm.

To contact the nearest contract service provider, use a land-based phone and call (888) 606-8889; callers will automatically be routed to the WAP provider serving their county. Cell phones will not make this automatic connection.

As stimulus funds flow, there will be a variety of procurement opportunities and new jobs created. All fund recipients must post any procurement opportunities on the Department's Web site at www.tdhca.state.tx.us/recovery/bids.htm.

Also, as TDHCA

administers these funds, it will provide regular reports on job creation.

About The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs is the state agency responsible for affordable housing, community services, energy assistance, colonia housing programs, and disaster recovery housing programs. It currently administers over \$2 billion through for-profit, nonprofit, and local government partnerships to deliver local housing and community-based assistance to Texans in need.

NEWSPAPER POLICIES

EDITORIALS are the opinion of the newspaper. They are written by staff members of the Muleshoe Journal. They are not signed because they express the position of the publisher, owners and the newspaper staff.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are written by readers of the newspaper. They are brief expressions of opinion, most concerning issues of local interest. Letters must be legible. They may be edited for content, length and space, or number of endorsements. All letters must be signed by the writer and must include a daytime telephone number for verification. Third party and unsigned letters will not be published.

COLUMNS are the personal opinion of the writer whose byline appears. Columns from readers should address an issue of local concern and general interest. Columns may be edited for content, length and space.

Letters to the Editor and Columns can be sent to:

Editor - Muleshoe Journal

P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, Texas 79347

FAX 806.272.3567 or e-mail editor@muleshoejournal.com



The Sudan Buzz

Best wishes in the upcoming year from Sudan

Well Christmas is over and the decorations will start coming down soon. I hope everyone had a nice Christmas.

My husband, the cat Bandit, and myself had a very nice but quiet day our neighbor who was going to be by himself came over and had lunch with us.

The snow was very pretty. I think we got around 4 to 6 inches here in town. It is still on

Buzzing away...
By Norma Burnett



the ground and doesn't seem to be melting very fast.

When I was a little girl my daddy always said that if snow stayed on the ground longer than 5 days that it was waiting on another one to come along. I think

that is suppose to happen Tuesday, Dec. 29.

The New Year will soon be here and we will have to remember to put 2010 on everything.

I sure hope that 2010 doesn't pass by as fast as 2009 did.

Well everything is

very quiet here, not very much happening so I guess I had better stop all this rambling and Wish Everyone a Happy New Year.

I hope all that are not feeling well will soon be feeling better.

I also want to express sympathy to the Larry Springer family in the loss of their granddaughter.

See all of you next year!

Buzz-A-Licious Recipes

Chicken Casserole

1 chicken, stewed, boned and cut in pieces	4 cups Ritz™ cracker crumbs (Reserve 1 cup for topping)
1 can of mushroom soup	Mix all ingredients together and pour into 9x14 pan.
1-1/2 cups Velveeta™ cheese	Sprinkle crumbs on top.
3 eggs, beaten	Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees.
1-1/2 cup celery, cut fine	
3 cups chicken broth	

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Neugebauer: Speaker Pelosi leaves town on the wings of a job killing agenda

Cong. Randy Neugebauer issued the following statement after voting against the Democrats' "Son of Stimulus" legislation:

"It has been a long and trying year for the American people. Many American families and small businesses are struggling to pay their bills every day, yet Speaker Pelosi and the liberal Congress in Washington continue to borrow and spend their tax dollars with reckless abandon.

"Just when you thought the federal government had borrowed and spent more than enough this year, another "stimulus" package is coming

our way, courtesy of Speaker Nancy Pelosi. This legislation pumps billions into the very same programs included in the original economic stimulus legislation that became law earlier this year, despite the fact that many of these programs have unspent funds from the first stimulus."

"The first "stimulus" certainly hasn't been successful in creating jobs, so I don't understand how borrowing more money to put into the same government programs is going to have a different result."

"The Democrat leadership is transferring unspent or returned TARP bailout money

to this new stimulus package, but that money is supposed to go toward debt reduction. Each dollar spent in this package will have to be borrowed, adding \$150 billion in new debt.

"We owe it to the American taxpayers to devote repaid or unspent TARP funds to debt reduction, not to use them as a slush

fund to pay for another Washington spending binge."

"It's time for Congress to stop the spending. When Congress resumes in the New Year, I will return to Capitol Hill to fight to hold the line on spending. I won't give up and will continue fighting for families in 19th Congressional District."

"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

Proverbs 3:9-10, NIV



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.

NO SALE Jan. 2nd see you on Jan. 9th

We appreciate your business. Wishing you a prosperous New Year.

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



We've written up a list of things...

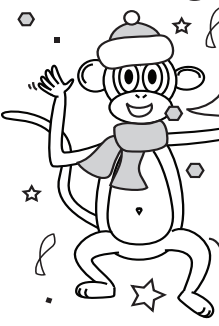
...to improve upon during the new year!

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☆ Ringing In the New Year Around the World ☆

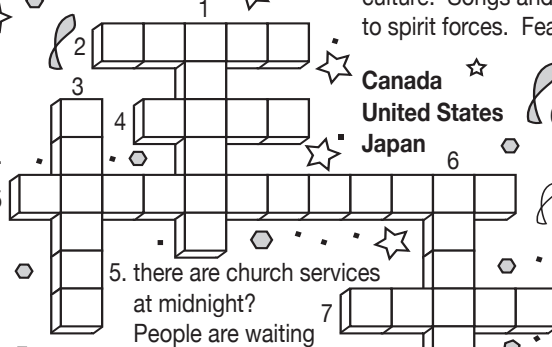


I'm going to stay awake until midnight on New Year's Eve! It will be hard to keep my eyes open that late, but I want to see the new year come in.

Have you made your New Year's Resolutions yet? I have promised myself to write more stories in the new year. I want to read more books than I did last year. I'm going to ice skate, bike and hike more in the new year too! Hmm... maybe I'll keep my bedroom a little neater too. A happy, healthy New Year to you and your family!

New Year's Day is celebrated everywhere in the world, but not always on the first day of January and not in the same way! **Where would you be celebrating New Year's Day if:**

- it is in the fall? It is a time to pray, think about the old year, forgive, and attend synagogue services. The period opens with Rosh Hashanah and ends 10 days later with Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year. Although it's a solemn time, families have festive meals together.
- everyone's birthday is celebrated? There is a very large feast with a red tablecloth and red candles. There may be 12 vegetarian courses - one for each year in the Zodiac. Little presents of money are given to the children.



Canada
United States
Japan

Iran
China
Egypt
Israel

- the Iroquois of this country are gathering for their Midwinter Festival? It starts five nights after the new moon in January. They follow rituals for renewal of life and culture. Songs and dances are devoted to spirit forces. Feasts are shared.

- the New Year is celebrated in the summer? In ancient times in this country people waited until heavy rains flooded the Nile River and valley. When the water retreated, it would fill man-made canals in the fields so they would be ready to grow grain again. Until then, people celebrated.

- the Emperor prays for the country? Houses are cleaned. Rice cakes are ready. Ropes of twisted rice straw show strong ties. Businesses and shops are closed. Children play and fly new kites.



If I plan my trip right, I might be able to celebrate the New Year in many countries and try many foods!

Where in the World?

Fill in the name of the country where some New Year foods are:

- fresh apples dipped in honey, challah bread, chicken soup
_ _ R _ _ L _
- fish (to increase riches), white cabbage (silver money), carrots (gold)
_ G _ M _ _ Y
- boiled eggs, caviar, smoked meats, soup, tea
_ R _ S _ _
- boiled beef, venison, corn soup, doughnuts, cookies, breads
_ C _ N _ D _
- wheat noodles, thick vegetable soup, fish, white rice with red beans
_ _ A _ A _



Midnight Sights!

toasts Year ring bring leave sight passed

Fit the words into the poem:

When clocks strike midnight
oh, what a _____!
On New Year's Eve
Father Time will _____,
People will sing,
church bells will _____,
The party hosts,
will all give _____,
We think how fast
the year has _____,
Time's on the wing,
watch what the future will _____,
We give a cheer,
in comes Baby New _____!

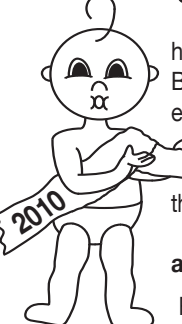
My New Year's resolution is to sign up for the reading club.

Don't wait... sign up for this great club today!

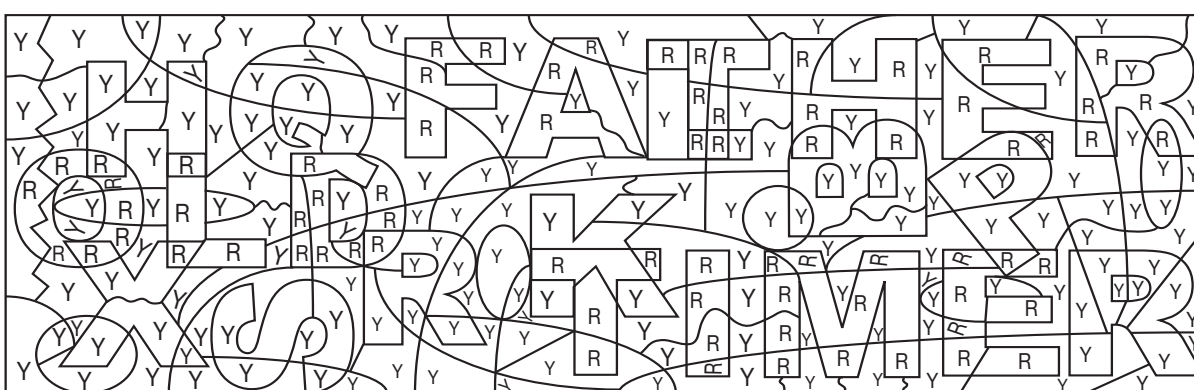
It's free!

Let us help you to keep kids reading throughout the new year! Join our free international reading club: www.readingclubfun.com Enjoy our seasonal newsletters and lists of the new kids' books and movies.


The Magic Hour



It is the magic hour of midnight! Baby New Year is excited, full of energy and ready to start the new year of 2010. **Who is weary and leaving to rest?**
R = Red Y = Yellow



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Living in the presence of God

Someone once told me his belief in God was so strong that it went beyond faith.

Maybe what he meant was that his faith was so strong... so impregnable to doubt, that he never questioned God.

But, the truth is that unless you have stood in the physical presence of God the Father, or God the Son, the only way you can believe is through faith.

Hebrew 11:1, NIV, says, "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

The Old Testament, talks about God going before the children of Israel in a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night as they journeyed to the Promised Land. And it talks about God meeting with Moses at the Ark of the Covenant to give his commands for the Israelites.

And in the New Testament, the Bible talks about the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit

Lamplight By Larry Thornton

that all Christians have. Jesus said, "I'll be with you always," and he does this through the presence of the Holy Spirit within believers.

But, the phrase being "in the presence of God" isn't referring to any of these. So what does it mean? How can we live in the presence of God?

2 Timothy 2:19, NIV, says, "Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: 'The Lord knows those who are his, and, everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.'"

Other things need to be taken into consideration, but one of the most important factors in how we "live in the presence of God," is determined by our attitude to the counsel of the ungodly.

Do you remember what it was like when you were

a teenager, or maybe even a little younger, and your parents told you not to hang out with this person or date that person?

Sometimes this was because your parents recognized something about this person that you couldn't or didn't want to see... that he, or she, was trying to lead you down the wrong path.

Proverbs 1:10, NIV, says, "My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them."

And, Proverbs 3:7, NIV, says, "Do not be wise in your own eyes, fear the Lord and shun evil."

In 1949, the actor Robert Young appeared in a television show that ran until Sept. 17, 1960. The show, about an insurance agent and his family was named, "Father Knows Best."

But when you compare Young's performance

with that of our heavenly Father, you have to recognize that the screen version was the work of its writers, directors and cast members, while the Holy Bible, and all that it contains is from a Father who truly does know what is best for us.

We also have to remember is that "ungodly counsel" in these modern times, doesn't always come from people in the same room. We have telephones, cell phones, music, movies, television, and the internet, all of which are readily accessible for Satan to use to lure the children of God out of God's presence.

We must put the ways of sinners behind us. It's not good enough that we turn from the counsel of the ungodly, we have to leave the sinful ways behind also.

We can't muddy our souls with the sins of immorality one moment, and in the next moment expect to walk in the presence of God.

Addresses for charitable giving suggested

- 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 Home, 1100 W. Ave. J, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
- New Mexico Children's Home, 1356 NM 236, Portales, N.M. 88130-9411.
- 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.

CLASSIFIEDS Deadline is Monday at 5 PM to place a Classified ad. Call 272-4536.

HELP WANTED

Seeking part-time Retail Merchandiser to service Hallmark product at the Muleshoe Alco and United stores. Apply at <http://hallmark.canidatecare.com>.

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FOR SALE

305 Chevrolet Irrigation Motor in good shape, \$1,000. Call 806-925-6421.

Girl's white bedroom suite, headboard full/queen & bed frame, dresser (double) & matching mirror and nightstand, wrong set ordered, \$550. 806-438-0081.

Holiday guests? Double or full size pillow top mattress set, NEW!!! Haven't used, still wrapped up. \$120. Twin size mattress set, \$100. 806-549-3110.

Hammond home organ. Call 806-925-6421.

Mahogany finish complete 6-pc bedroom suite, solid wood construction with dove-tailed drawers, List \$2900, forfeit \$850. 806-549-3110.

Your classified ad here Call 272-4536

Stylish ultra suede sofa and loveseat set, brand new, stain resistant. 806-438-0081.

King size or California king pillow top mattress and foundation. BRAND NEW!!! with original tags. \$260. 806-549-3110.

FOR RENT

519 W. Ave E2 bedroom, 2 bath, central air & heat appliances included, tenant pays utilities. \$525/month plus \$525 deposit. Call 956-821-3082 or 956-624-6805.

1985 359 Peterbilt w/sleeper and 1985 Wilson Hopper bottom trailer. Call Charles 806-946-8448 for more info.

John Deere Tractor 4010, 6 row breaking plow, 5 foot blade, 15 foot tandem disk, 4 foot haimie. Call 272-4153 or 272-4826.

ONLY ONE PAYMENT left on this huge leather reclining sectional, solid hard wood frame, lifetime warranty, List \$3600, only owe \$1500. Will transfer lifetime warranty, 806-549-3110.

AUTOMOTIVE

1988 Olds. Cutlass Supreme. Runs good. \$900, OBO. 946-6593 or 272-3784.

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER

Very nice home for sale by owner on 16 acres, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 806-549-9243.

Nice brick home in Lazbuddie area. 3400 sq. ft. 3-2-2 on 8 acres. Lots of updates. 806-946-7442.

PETS

Found Black Lab, male, housetrained, can't keep, needs good home. Call 806-946-7866.

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(806) 786-5426

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Near Muleshoe - 90 acres grass seed farm, 2 center pivots, popular varieties of foundation seed.
West Camp - 320 acres non-irrigated on pavement, 1 stock well, 3 other wells located on property.

Lamb County
North of Earth - 320 acres on pavement, 2 sprinklers, 6 wells, good direct payment.
Northwest of Earth - 160 acres, excellent soil, lays good, 3 wells, center pivot, good set of pens.
320 Acres Near Earth - 2 sprinklers, 5 wells all tied together lays perfect, excellent soil, good fertility.
NEW LISTING - Springlake area - 320 acres, good soil, 4 wells, 2 sprinklers, good direct payment.

Parmer County
Lazbuddie - 108 acres with 2 irrigation wells, with or without sprinkler, good soil, lays good.

Rural Residential
Lamb County - Springlake area, 2650 sq ft on approx. 4 acres, brick, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, good cellar, 30x70 barn, lots of trees.
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This ad is just a small sample of the properties that we currently have for sale. Please check our website and give us a call! We need your listings both large and small, all types of ag properties. (ESPECIALLY CRP)

COCHRAN CO. - 283 acres recreational land, sandhills, muledeer. PRICE REDUCED!
COCHRAN/YOAKUM CO., TX - 2400 acres including 625 acres CRP, 3 pivots, good water.
STEGALL CRP - 160 ac., 154.7 acres in CRP.
LAMB COUNTY GRAIN FACILITY - Approx. 2.5 million lbs. grain storage, elevator leg, grain dryer, scale, office, pavement.
CHOICE DRYLAND/BAILEY CO., TX. - 160 acres, all weather road.
LAMB CO., TX. - permitted 400 acres, currently in grass, CRP and dryland farming, irr. wells on property, access by county road with railroad/hwy. 84 frontage. Also listed 265 acres available within two miles of property. PRICE REDUCED!
SUNNYSIDE, TX. - 320 ac. with two wells and two sprinklers one mile off of hwy. 385, county road on two sides.
HWY. 1057 CASTRO CO. - permitted for dairy, 1,168 ac. with one mile hwy. frontage, irr. wells, sprinklers & preon. pens, adjoins the Castro Co. 4,949 acres in four tracts.
PERMITTED - Castro Co., Tx. - 1808 acres +/-, 7,200 cow dairy permit (4,000 milking), preon. pens permitted for 10,000 head, fully developed with pivot sprinklers, irr. wells, homes, barns, grain storage with dump pit and elevators, hwy. frontage, well developed. Additional 4300 acres +/- in three tracts, optional, irr., permitted. Can divide!
SPRINGLAKE, TEXAS - 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, brick with metal roof, large family room, dining area, kitchen, utility, carport, central heat/air, adjacent vacant lot. Priced to Sell!
SPRINGLAKE, TEXAS - 3 bdrm, 3 bath, basement, brick with metal roof, 3,581 sqft +/-, family room with fireplace, large game room with fireplace, formal living room, dining room, kitchen, utility, lots of storage, double garage, central heat/air.
SUDAN CRP - 204.5 acres northwest of Sudan, Texas. 196 acres currently enrolled in CRP. Located between Littlefield and Muleshoe, Texas north of Hwy 86.

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- VERY NICE 4-4-2 Brick Home on corner lot, approx. 3500' lvg. area, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, auto. spklr., large finished basement!! MUCH MORE!! PRICE REDUCED \$249K \$225K!!
- NICE 2-1-3 carport Home, carpet, tile, fans, fenced yd., storage bldg. MORE!! \$45K!!
- 2 NICELY REMODELED DUPLEX UNITS & 1 NEW Duplex unit!! PRICED TO SELL!!
- NICELY REMODELED 3-2-2 Brick, new Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, 3125' lvg. area, spklr. sys., fenced yard, MORE!! REDUCED \$200K
- NICE 3-2-1 Brick Home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, office, auto. spklr., fenced yd., garage/workshop/storage bldg. in back yd.!! \$H7,000 PRICE REDUCED \$110,000.00!!
- 4 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 2 car garage, geothermal (cent. A&H), built-ins, FP, approx. 5100', loads of storage, workshop/storage, RV port, auto. spklr., REDUCED TO \$185K!!
- 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2 car garage, Cent. A&H, built-ins, basement, fenced yard!! \$79,900!! PRICE REDUCED \$74,900!!
- VERY NICE 3-1 1/2-2 Brick home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, fireplace, thermal windows & doors, metal trim, workshop/storage, fenced yd., MUCH MORE!! \$139,500!!

RURAL

- VERY NICE 4-3 doublewide (2006) on 7.38 acres, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, fenced yd., 25' x 40' Metal Bldg. septic system, domestic well, on pavement close to town!! \$152K \$130K!!
- Nice 3-2 Home at edge of town on .8 acre tract, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, efficiency apt. or guest cottage, horse barn & corral!! PRICE REDUCED!! \$82,500
- NICE 4.8 acre homesites, close to town, deed restricted!! \$17,500!!
- NICE 3-2-5 carport Home on 2 acres, Cent. heat, Cent. evap. air conditioning, fans, utility, cellar, large shop, stor. bldg., MORE!! PRICE REDUCED \$109,500!!
- CLAY'S CORNER - VERY NICE 3-2 3/4-2 Home on 5 acres, approx. 2500' lvg. area, remodeled, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, whirlpool tub, fenced yard, 600' workshop/storage!! \$185K !!
- Nice 3-1 Home, on 1.99 ac. tract, an approx. 1000' basement, an approx. 29' x 60' shop/storage, and a 28' x 29' shop/storage building with attached shed!! NICE TREES!! \$89,000!!

COMMERCIAL

- NICE commercial bldg. w/approx. 3300' plus 1040' upstairs, Cent. A&H, 2 restrooms, MORE!! \$39,500!!
- NICE OFFICE/SHOP/WAREHOUSE on .7 acre on N. Hwy. 214, Cent. A&H, insulated shop & warehouse, has 1-3/4 bath & 1-1/2 bath!! MUCH MORE!! PRICED TO SELL!! \$85K!!
- 1900' Off Bldg., 106' x 140' lot on Hwy. 70 and 84!! \$79.5K!! PRICE REDUCED \$62K!!
- VERY NICE CHURCH BLDG. WITH PARSONAGE - Possible Owner Finance!! Price Reduced!!
- GOOD INCOME PROPERTY-LONG TERM LEASE-Approx. 8,075' office bldg. w/approx. 20,000' paved parking area!! PRICE REDUCED \$350K.
- 4.2 acre tract at edge of town, 40' x 60' metal insulated bldg., 2 other sheet iron bldgs., chainlink fenced area, numerous uses!! \$59K!!
- FORMER RICHLAND HILLS TEXACO - 1414' Bldg. + 1080' canopy + 16,530' asphalt paving!!
- Approx. 1080' metal building including an office and 3 bay garage/workshop area plus chain link fenced area!! \$39,500!!

HIGH SCHOOL AREA

- VERY NICE 3-2-2 Brick home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, FP, approx. 2336' lvg. area, auto. spklr., fenced yd, MORE!! \$125K!!
- 3-1 1/2-2 w/workshop, wall furnace heat, window refrig, plus efficiency apt, storage bldg, fenced yard, corner lot. \$77,000!!
- 2-1-1 car detached garage, Cent. A&H, built-ins, nice carpet, den, MORE!! \$49,500
- VERY NICE 3-3-2 CARPORT Home, Cent. A&H, built-ins, fireplace, approx. 2653' living area, covered deck & patio, workshop/storage, cellar!! Auto. spklr. (front yd.) \$140,000!!
- 3-1-1 Home, Cent. A&H, fenced yard, storage building \$39,500!!

State comptroller to begin new reviews of county appraisal districts

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs recently released a list of the first set of county appraisal districts (CADs) that will receive a new type of state review, which begins in 2010.

The new Methods and Assistance Program (MAP) reviews, required by House Bill 8 (HB 8) passed by the 81st Legislature, will begin in January. They will examine CADs' governance; taxpayer assistance; operating procedures; and appraisal standards, procedures and methodology.

"For the first time since the Property Tax Code was enacted in 1979 all county appraisal districts are subject to review once every two years, and we will work closely with CADs to help them appraise property accurately and according to law," Combs said.

Appraisal districts will receive MAP reviews in alternate years, starting with reviews of approximately half

of the CADs in 2010, including Bailey and Cochran Counties, and the remaining CADs in 2011, including Parmer and Lamb Counties.

MAP reviews are intended to make property appraisal practices more accurate and uniform across the state. School districts, cities, counties and other taxing jurisdictions set local property tax rates based on the appraisals performed by CADs.

"The comptroller does not set local property taxes. Tax rates are set by local elected officials to help fund local services and operations," said Debbie Cartwright, director of the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division. "The comptroller's role is to assist appraisal districts to comply with the law and generally accepted appraisal practices, to train appraisal review board members and to help property owners understand how to protest their property values if

they disagree with the CAD's appraisal."

HB 8 also changed the frequency of the Property Value Study (PVS) for school districts from yearly to every other year. The comptroller uses the PVS to check the accuracy of local property values reported by school districts for school funding purposes.

Beginning next year, for school districts located in county appraisal districts that are undergoing a MAP review, local property values reported to the state by the school districts will automatically be used to determine school funding.

For school districts located in counties that are not undergoing a MAP review, the PVS will determine whether local values or state-calculated values are used for school funding.

Following a MAP review, a CAD will receive a report containing the comptroller's recommendations.

The CAD will have one year to comply with the recommendations.

"The Property Tax Assistance Division will assist CADs throughout the process, giving them the information, tools and resources they need to improve their operations," Cartwright said.

If a CAD fails to comply with the comptroller's recommendations within one year, the CAD will be reported to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation for enforcement.

"We are committed to helping county appraisal districts achieve market-value appraisals; follow legal requirements and generally accepted appraisal standards; and provide superior customer service that enables Texans to understand their property taxes, along with their rights and responsibilities as taxpaying home and business owners," Combs said.

Gov. Perry activates state resources

Gov. Rick Perry has directed the activation of state resources, including Texas Military Forces personnel and high profile vehicles, as a precautionary measure as a severe winter storm threatens many Texas communities. These resources will be used to provide assistance to motorists and others in the coming days.

"Another severe winter storm is bearing down on Texas communities and will create dangerous driving conditions as travelers make their way to and from holiday celebrations. I urge Texans in the projected path of this storm to remain cautious, pay attention to changing weather conditions and heed warnings from your local officials," Gov. Perry said.

"We will continue to closely monitor this storm to ensure state resources can quickly assist the impacted communities, and I appreciate the brave men and women who are always ready to respond to events that place Texans in harm's way," he said.

The National Weather Service is predicting a severe winter storm system will affect Texas communities, stretching from El Paso to Dallas/Fort Worth, starting Tuesday and extending over the next few days. Local law enforcement, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Texas Military Forces will assist motorists and perform any necessary rescues.

Aviation assets are on standby should they

be needed to assist with surveillance and potential rescues.

The following state resources responding include:

- Four teams of 17 Texas Military Forces personnel and five high profile vehicles have been activated and prepositioned; one team each in Abilene, Amarillo, Lubbock and

Wichita Falls.

- All TxDOT district offices in the affected area stand at a high level of readiness and are prepared to provide assistance as needed to motorists and to clear snow from the roadways.

- The DPS Disaster Districts in Abilene, Amarillo, Lubbock and Wichita Falls are

prepared to fully activate and support their districts, and all DPS troopers in the impacted and surrounding area are prepared to provide assistance to motorists and others.

The State Operations Center is fully activated and working with the National Weather Service to closely monitor this severe weather event.



Sudan One Act Play competes...

The Sudan High School One Act Play competed at the the District 5-A Zone competition at Farwell on Saturday, March 28, 2009. The students performed Ken Ludwig's "Moon over Buffalo."

Happy New Year!

Dawn & Roger say....



Thank you for your continued loyalty throughout the year. We appreciate you all.

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Auction Calendar

Tuesday, January 12, 2010 - Sale Time: 9:00 a.m.
Bishop Farms—Owner
Located: Edmonson, Texas - Selling: Combines, Cotton Equipment, Tractors, Trucks, Farm Equipment

Wednesday, January 13, 2010—Sale Time: 9:30 a.m.
Squires Farms—Owners
Located: Springlake, Texas—Selling: Combines, Cotton Equipment, Tractors, Trucks, Farm Equipment

Thursday, January 14, 2010—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Jeff Rainey Estate—Owners
Located: Lamesa, Texas—Selling: Tractors, Cotton Equipment, Farm Equipment

Saturday, January 16, 2010—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Bobby Pool—Owner
Located: Groom, Texas—Selling: Farm Equipment

Tuesday, January 19, 2010—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Barker Farms—Owners
Located: Plainview, Texas—Selling: 160 Acres Dry Land, Farm Equipment, Hog Equipment

Wednesday, January 27, 2010—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Jerry Ford—Owner
Located: Lockney, Texas—Selling: Cotton Equipment, Tractors, Farm Equipment

Saturday, January 30, 2010—Sale Time: 10:00 a.m.
Mitchell Farms—Owner
Located: Hart, Texas—Selling: Tractors, Cotton Equipment, Farm Equipment

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